

**LOCAL LAWS  
OF  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
FOR THE YEAR 2011**

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**No. 15**

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By Council Members Vann, Comrie, Brewer, James, Mark-Viverito, Arroyo, Williams, Gennaro, Ferreras, Lander, Dickens, Dilan, Gentile, Jackson, Greenfield, Barron, Sanders Jr., Rivera, Levin, Foster, Seabrook, Rose, Eugene, Koslowitz, Chin, Gonzalez, Nelson, Reyna, Rodriguez, Van Bramer, Mealy, Mendez, Wills, Crowley, Palma, Cabrera, Vacca, Ulrich, Koo and Koppell.  
Passed Under a Message of Necessity from the Mayor.

**A LOCAL LAW**

**To amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to the sale of tax liens.**

*Be it enacted by the Council as follows:*

Section 1. Subdivisions a and a-1 of section 11-319 of the administrative code of the city of New York, as amended by local law number 68 for the year 2007, are amended to read as follows:

a. A tax lien or tax liens on a property or any component of the amount thereof may be sold by the city as authorized by subdivision b of this section, when such tax lien or tax liens shall have remained unpaid in whole or in part for one year, provided, however, that a tax lien or tax liens on any class [1] *one* property or on class [2] *two* property that is a residential condominium or residential cooperative, as such classes of property are defined in subdivision [1] *one* of section [1802] *eighteen hundred two* of the real property tax law, may be sold by the city only when the real property tax component of such tax lien or tax liens shall have remained unpaid in whole or in part for three years or, *in the case of any class two residential property owned by a company organized pursuant to article XI of the state private housing finance law that is not a*

*residential condominium or a residential cooperative, as such class of property is defined in subdivision one of section eighteen hundred two of the real property tax law, for two years, and equals or exceeds the sum of five thousand dollars or, in the case of abandoned class [1] one property or abandoned class [2] two property that is a residential condominium or residential cooperative, for eighteen months, and after such sale, shall be transferred, in the manner provided by this chapter, and provided, further, however, that (i) the real property tax component of such tax lien may not be sold pursuant to this subdivision on any residential real property in class [1] one that is receiving an exemption pursuant to section 11-245.3 or 11-245.4 of this title, or pursuant to section four hundred fifty-eight of the real property tax law with respect to real property purchased with payments received as prisoner of war compensation from the United States government, or pursuant to paragraph (b) or (c) of subdivision two of section four hundred fifty-eight-a of the real property tax law, or where the owner of such residential real property in class one is receiving benefits in accordance with department of finance memorandum 05-3, or any successor memorandum thereto, relating to active duty military personnel , or where the owner of such residential real property in class [1] one has been allowed a credit pursuant to subsection (e) of section six hundred six of the tax law for the calendar year in which the date of the first publication, pursuant to subdivision a of section 11-320 of this chapter, of the notice of sale, occurs or for the calendar year immediately preceding such date and (ii) the sewer rents component, sewer surcharges component or water rents component of such tax lien may not be sold pursuant to this subdivision on any one family residential real property in class [1] one or on any two or three family residential real property in class [1] one that is receiving an exemption pursuant to section 11-245.3 or 11-245.4 of this title, or pursuant to section four hundred fifty-eight of the real property tax law with respect to real property purchased with payments*

*received as prisoner of war compensation from the United States government, or pursuant to paragraph (b) or (c) of subdivision two of section four hundred fifty-eight-a of the real property tax law, or where the owner of any two or three family residential real property in class one is receiving benefits in accordance with department of finance memorandum 05-3, or any successor memorandum thereto, relating to active duty military personnel, or where the owner of any two or three family residential real property in class [1] one has been allowed a credit pursuant to subsection (e) of section six hundred six of the tax law for the calendar year in which the date of the first publication, pursuant to subdivision a of section 11-320 of this chapter, of the notice of sale, occurs or for the calendar year immediately preceding such date. A tax lien or tax liens on any property classified as a class [2] two property, except a class [2] two property that is a residential condominium or residential cooperative, or a class two residential property owned by a company organized pursuant to article XI of the state private housing finance law that is not a residential condominium or a residential cooperative, or class [3] three property, as such classes of property are defined in subdivision [1] one of section [1802] eighteen hundred two of the real property tax law, shall not be sold by the city unless such tax lien or tax liens include a real property tax component as of the date of the first publication, pursuant to subdivision a of section 11-320 of this chapter, of the notice of sale. Notwithstanding any provision of this subdivision to the contrary, any such tax lien or tax liens that remain unpaid in whole or in part after such date may be sold regardless of whether such tax lien or tax liens include a real property tax component. A tax lien or tax liens on a property classified as a class [4] four property, as such class of property is defined in subdivision [1] one of section [1802] eighteen hundred two of the real property tax law, shall not be sold by the city unless such tax lien or tax liens include a real property tax component or sewer rents component or sewer surcharges component or water rents component or emergency repair*

*charges component, where such emergency repair charges accrued on or after January first, two thousand six and are made a lien pursuant to section 27-2144 of this code, as of the date of the first publication, pursuant to subdivision a of section 11-320 of this chapter, of the notice of sale, provided, however, that any tax lien or tax liens that remain unpaid in whole or in part after such date may be sold regardless of whether such tax lien or tax liens include a real property tax component, sewer rents component, sewer surcharges component [or], water rents component or emergency repair charges component. For purposes of this subdivision, the words "real property tax" shall not include an assessment or charge upon property imposed pursuant to section 25-411 of the administrative code. A sale of a tax lien or tax liens shall include, in addition to such lien or liens that have remained unpaid in whole or in part for one year, or, in the case of any class [1] one property or class [2] two property that is a residential condominium or residential cooperative, when the real property tax component of such lien or liens has remained unpaid in whole or in part for three years, or, in the case of any class two residential property owned by a company organized pursuant to article XI of the state private housing finance law that is not a residential condominium or a residential cooperative, when the real property tax component of such lien or liens has remained unpaid in whole or in part for two years, and equals or exceeds the sum of five thousand dollars, any taxes, assessments, sewer rents, sewer surcharges, water rents, any other charges that are made a lien subject to the provisions of this chapter, the costs of any advertisements and notices given pursuant to this chapter, any other charges that are due and payable, a surcharge pursuant to section 11-332 of this chapter, and interest and penalties thereon or such component of the amount thereof as shall be determined by the commissioner of finance. The commissioner of finance may promulgate rules defining "abandoned" property, as such term is used in this subdivision.*

a-1. A subsequent tax lien or tax liens on a property or any component of the amount thereof may be sold by the city pursuant to this chapter, provided, however, that notwithstanding any provision in this chapter to the contrary, such tax lien or tax liens may be sold regardless of whether such tax lien or tax liens have remained unpaid in whole or in part for one year and, notwithstanding any provision in this chapter to the contrary, in the case of any class [1] *one* property or class [2] *two* property that is a residential condominium or residential cooperative *or, beginning January first, two thousand twelve, in the case of any class two residential property owned by a company organized pursuant to article XI of the state private housing finance law that is not a residential condominium or a residential cooperative*, such tax lien or tax liens may be sold if the real property tax component of such tax lien or tax liens has remained unpaid in whole or in part for one year, and provided, further, however, that (i) the real property tax component of such tax lien may not be sold pursuant to this subdivision on any residential real property in class [1] one that is receiving an exemption pursuant to section 11-245.3 or 11-245.4 of this title, *or pursuant to section four hundred fifty-eight of the real property tax law with respect to real property purchased with payments received as prisoner of war compensation from the United States government, or pursuant to paragraph (b) or (c) of subdivision two of section four hundred fifty-eight-a of the real property tax law, or where the owner of such residential real property in class one is receiving benefits in accordance with department of finance memorandum 05-3, or any successor memorandum thereto, relating to active duty military personnel*, or where the owner of such residential real property in class [1] *one* has been allowed a credit pursuant to subsection (e) of section six hundred six of the tax law for the calendar year in which the date of the first publication, pursuant to subdivision a of section 11-320 of this chapter, of the notice of sale, occurs or for the calendar year immediately preceding such date and (ii) the sewer rents component, sewer

surcharges component or water rents component of such tax lien may not be sold pursuant to this subdivision on any one family residential real property in class [1] *one* or on any two or three family residential real property in class [1] *one* that is receiving an exemption pursuant to section 11-245.3 or 11-245.4 of this title, *or pursuant to section four hundred fifty-eight of the real property tax law with respect to real property purchased with payments received as prisoner of war compensation from the United States government, or pursuant to paragraph (b) or (c) of subdivision two of section four hundred fifty-eight-a of the real property tax law, or where the owner of any two or three family residential real property in class one is receiving benefits in accordance with department of finance memorandum 05-3, or any successor memorandum thereto, relating to active duty military personnel,* or where the owner of any two or three family residential real property in class [1] *one* has been allowed a credit pursuant to subsection (e) of section six hundred six of the tax law for the calendar year in which the date of the first publication, pursuant to subdivision a of section 11-320 of this chapter, of the notice of sale, occurs or for the calendar year immediately preceding such date. For purposes of this subdivision, the term "subsequent tax lien or tax liens" shall mean any tax lien or tax liens on property that become such on or after the date of sale of any tax lien or tax liens on such property that have been sold pursuant to this chapter, provided that the prior tax lien or tax liens remain unpaid as of the date of the first publication, pursuant to subdivision a of section 11-320 of this chapter, of the notice of sale of the subsequent tax lien or tax liens. A subsequent tax lien or tax liens on any property classified as a class [2] *two* property, except a class [2] *two* property that is a residential condominium or residential cooperative, *or a class two residential property owned by a company organized pursuant to article XI of the state private housing finance law that is not a residential condominium or a residential cooperative,* or class [3] *three* property, as such classes of property

are defined in subdivision [1] *one* of section [1802] *eighteen hundred two* of the real property tax law, shall not be sold by the city unless such tax lien or tax liens include a real property tax component as of the date of the first publication, pursuant to subdivision a of section 11-320 of this chapter, of the notice of sale. Notwithstanding any provision of this subdivision to the contrary, any such tax lien or tax liens that remain unpaid in whole or in part after such date may be sold regardless of whether such tax lien or tax liens include a real property tax component. A subsequent tax lien or tax liens on a property classified as a class [4] *four* property, as such class of property is defined in subdivision [1] *one* of section [1802] *eighteen hundred two* of the real property tax law, shall not be sold by the city unless such tax lien or tax liens include a real property tax component or sewer rents component or sewer surcharges component or water rents component *or emergency repair charges component, where such emergency repair charges accrued on or after January first, two thousand six and are made a lien pursuant to section 27-2144 of this code*, as of the date of the first publication, pursuant to subdivision a of section 11-320 of this chapter, of the notice of sale, provided, however, that any tax lien or tax liens that remain unpaid in whole or in part after such date may be sold regardless of whether such tax lien or tax liens include a real property tax component, sewer rents component, sewer surcharges component [or], water rents component *or emergency repair charges component*. For purposes of this subdivision, the words "real property tax" shall not include an assessment or charge upon property imposed pursuant to section 25-411 of the administrative code. Nothing in this subdivision shall be deemed to limit the rights conferred by section 11-332 of this chapter on the holder of a tax lien certificate with respect to a subsequent tax lien.

§ 2. Subdivisions a-2 and a-3 of section 11-319 of the administrative code of the city of New York, as added by local law number 68 for the year 2007, are amended to read as

follows:

a-2. In addition to any sale authorized pursuant to subdivision a or subdivision a-1 of this section and notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary, beginning on December first, two thousand seven, the water rents, sewer rents and sewer surcharges components of any tax lien on any class of real property, as such real property is classified in subdivision one of section eighteen hundred two of the real property tax law, may be sold by the city pursuant to this chapter, where such water rents, sewer rents or sewer surcharges component of such tax lien, as of the date of the first publication, pursuant to subdivision a of section 11-320 of this chapter, of the notice of sale: (i) shall have remained unpaid in whole or in part for one year and (ii) equals or exceeds the sum of one thousand dollars *or, beginning on March first, two thousand eleven, in the case of any two or three family residential real property in class one, for one year, and equals or exceeds the sum of two thousand dollars, or, beginning on January first, two thousand twelve, in the case of any class two residential property owned by a company organized pursuant to article XI of the state private housing finance law that is not a residential condominium or a residential cooperative, as such class of property is defined in subdivision one of section eighteen hundred two of the real property tax law, for two years, and equals or exceeds the sum of five thousand dollars*; provided, however, that such water rents, sewer rents or sewer surcharges component of such tax lien may not be sold pursuant to this subdivision on any one family residential real property in class one or on any two or three family residential real property in class one that is receiving an exemption pursuant to section 11-245.3 or 11-245.4 of this title, *or pursuant to section four hundred fifty-eight of the real property tax law with respect to real property purchased with payments received as prisoner of war compensation from the United States government, or pursuant to paragraph (b) or (c) of subdivision two of section four hundred*



*fifty-eight-a of the real property tax law, or where the owner of any two or three family residential real property in class one is receiving benefits in accordance with department of finance memorandum 05-3, or any successor memorandum thereto, relating to active duty military personnel, or where the owner of any two or three family residential real property in class one has been allowed a credit pursuant to subsection (e) of section six hundred six of the tax law for the calendar year in which the date of the first publication, pursuant to subdivision a of section 11-320 of this chapter, of the notice of sale, occurs or for the calendar year immediately preceding such date. After such sale, any such water rents, sewer rents or sewer surcharges component of such tax lien may be transferred in the manner provided by this chapter.*

a-3. In addition to any sale authorized pursuant to subdivision a or subdivision a-1 of this section and notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary, beginning on December first, two thousand seven, a subsequent tax lien on any class of real property, as such real property is classified in subdivision one of section eighteen hundred two of the real property tax law, may be sold by the city pursuant to this chapter, regardless of whether such subsequent tax lien, or any component of the amount thereof, shall have remained unpaid in whole or in part for one year, and regardless of whether such subsequent tax lien, or any component of the amount thereof, equals or exceeds the sum of one thousand dollars *or beginning on March first, two thousand eleven, in the case of any two or three family residential real property in class one, a subsequent tax lien on such property may be sold by the city pursuant to this chapter, regardless of whether such subsequent tax lien, or any component of the amount thereof, shall have remained unpaid in whole or in part for one year, and regardless of whether such subsequent tax lien, or any component of the amount thereof, equals or exceeds the sum of two thousand dollars, or, beginning on January first, two thousand twelve, in the case of any class two residential property*

*owned by a company organized pursuant to article XI of the state private housing finance law that is not a residential condominium or a residential cooperative, as such class of property is defined in subdivision one of section eighteen hundred two of the real property tax law, a subsequent tax lien on such property may be sold by the city pursuant to this chapter, regardless of whether such subsequent tax lien, or any component of the amount thereof, shall have remained unpaid in whole or in part for two years, and regardless of whether such subsequent tax lien, or any component of the amount thereof, equals or exceeds the sum of five thousand dollars; provided, however, that such subsequent tax lien may not be sold pursuant to this subdivision on any one family residential real property in class one or on any two or three family residential real property in class one that is receiving an exemption pursuant to section 11-245.3 or 11-245.4 of this title, or pursuant to section four hundred fifty-eight of the real property tax law with respect to real property purchased with payments received as prisoner of war compensation from the United States government, or pursuant to paragraph (b) or (c) of subdivision two of section four hundred fifty-eight-a of the real property tax law, or where the owner of any two or three family residential real property in class one is receiving benefits in accordance with department of finance memorandum 05-3, or any successor memorandum thereto, relating to active duty military personnel, or where the owner of any two or three family residential real property in class one has been allowed a credit pursuant to subsection (e) of section six hundred six of the tax law for the calendar year in which the date of the first publication, pursuant to subdivision a of section 11-320 of this chapter, of the notice of sale, occurs or for the calendar year immediately preceding such date. After such sale, any such subsequent tax lien, or any component of the amount thereof, may be transferred in the manner provided by this chapter. For purposes of this subdivision, the term "subsequent tax lien" shall mean the water rents, sewer rents or sewer surcharges component of*

any tax lien on property that becomes such on or after the date of sale of any water rents, sewer rents or sewer surcharges component of any tax lien on such property that has been sold pursuant to this chapter, provided that the prior tax lien remains unpaid as of the date of the first publication, pursuant to subdivision a of section 11-320 of this chapter, of the notice of sale of the subsequent tax lien. Nothing in this subdivision shall be deemed to limit the rights conferred by section 11-332 of this chapter on the holder of a tax lien certificate with respect to a subsequent tax lien.

§ 3. Section 11-319 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding new subdivisions a-4 and a-5 to read as follows:

*a-4. In addition to any sale authorized pursuant to subdivision a, a-1, a-2 or a-3 of this section and notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary, beginning on March first, two thousand eleven, the emergency repair charges component or alternative enforcement expenses and fees component, where such emergency repair charges accrued on or after January first, two thousand six and are made a lien pursuant to section 27-2144 of this code, or where such alternative enforcement expenses and fees are made a lien pursuant to section 27-2153 of this code, of any tax lien on any class of real property, as such real property is defined in subdivision one of section eighteen hundred two of the real property tax law, may be sold by the city pursuant to this chapter, where such emergency repair charges component or alternative enforcement expenses and fees component of such tax lien, as of the date of the first publication, pursuant to subdivision a of section 11-320 of this chapter, of the notice of sale: (i) shall have remained unpaid in whole or in part for one year, and (ii) equals or exceeds the sum of one thousand dollars or, beginning on January first, two thousand twelve, in the case of any class two residential property owned by a company organized pursuant to article XI of the state private housing finance law that is not a residential condominium or a residential cooperative, as such class of property is defined*

*in subdivision one of section eighteen hundred two of the real property tax law, for two years, and equals or exceeds the sum of five thousand dollars; provided, however, that such emergency repair charges component or alternative enforcement expenses and fees component of such tax lien may not be sold pursuant to this subdivision on any one, two or three family residential real property in class one, except a three family residential property in class one where such property is subject to the provisions of section 27-2153 of this code and is not the primary residence of the owner. After such sale, any such emergency repair charges component or alternative enforcement expenses and fees component of such tax lien may be transferred in the manner provided by this chapter.*

*a-5. In addition to any sale authorized pursuant to subdivision a, a-1, a-2 or a-3 of this section and notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary, beginning on March first, two thousand eleven, a subsequent tax lien on any class of real property, or beginning on January first, two thousand twelve in the case of any class two residential property owned by a company organized pursuant to article XI of the state private housing finance law that is not a residential condominium or a residential cooperative, a subsequent tax lien on such property, may be sold by the city pursuant to this chapter, regardless of the length of time such subsequent tax lien, or any component of the amount thereof, shall have remained unpaid, and regardless of the amount of such subsequent tax lien. After such sale, any such subsequent tax lien, or any component of the amount thereof, may be transferred in the manner provided by this chapter. For purposes of this subdivision, the term "subsequent tax lien" shall mean the emergency repair charges component or alternative enforcement expenses and fees component, where such emergency repair charges accrued on or after January first, two thousand six and are made a lien pursuant to section 27-2144 of this code, or where such alternative enforcement expenses and fees are made a lien pursuant to section 27-2153 of this code, of any tax lien on property that becomes*

*such on or after the date of sale of any emergency repair charges component or alternative enforcement expenses and fees component, of any tax lien on such property that has been sold pursuant to this chapter, provided that the prior tax lien remains unpaid as of the date of the first publication, pursuant to subdivision a of section 11-320 of this chapter, of the notice of sale of the subsequent tax lien. Nothing in this subdivision shall be deemed to limit the rights conferred by section 11-332 of this chapter on the holder of a tax lien certificate with respect to a subsequent tax lien.*

§ 4. The opening paragraph of subdivision b of section 11-319 of the administrative code of the city of New York, as amended by local law number 68 for the year 2007, is amended to read as follows:

The commissioner of finance, on behalf of the city, may sell tax liens, either individually, in combinations, or in the aggregate, pursuant to the procedures provided herein. The commissioner of finance shall establish the terms and conditions of a sale of a tax lien or tax liens. [Enactment of the local law that added this sentence shall be deemed to constitute authorization by the council for the commissioner of finance to conduct a sale or sales of tax liens through and including December thirty-first, two thousand ten. Subsequent to December thirty-first, two thousand ten, the city shall not have the authority to sell tax liens.] *Enactment of the local law that added this sentence shall be deemed to constitute authorization by the council for the commissioner of finance to conduct a sale or sales of tax liens through and including December thirty-first, two thousand fourteen. Subsequent to December thirty-first, two thousand fourteen, the city shall not have the authority to sell tax liens.*

§ 5. Paragraphs 6 and 9 of subdivision b of section 11-319 of the administrative code of the city of New York, as added by local law number 26 for the year 1996, are amended to

read as follows:

6. [The rate of interest on any tax lien certificate shall be the rate fixed pursuant to section 11-224(g) of the code on the effective date of the local law that added this sentence.] *The rate of interest on any tax lien certificate shall be the rate adopted for nonpayment of taxes on real property pursuant to subdivision (e) of section 11-224.1 of this title on the effective date of the local law that added this sentence.*

9. The commissioner of finance may establish requirements for a purchaser of a tax lien to provide any information and documents that the commissioner of finance deems necessary, including information concerning the collection and enforcement of tax liens. *The commissioner of finance shall require the purchaser of a tax lien to provide the owner of property on which a tax lien has been sold pursuant to this chapter a detailed itemization of taxes, interest, surcharges, and fees charged to such owner on all tax lien statements of amounts due or bill of charges. Such fees shall be bona fide, reasonable and, in the case of attorney fees, customary.*

§ 6. Paragraph 10 of subdivision b of section 11-319 of the administrative code of the city of New York, as added by local law number 98 for the year 1997, is amended to read as follows:

10. [Any] *(i) Before January first, two thousand twelve, any tax lien or tax liens that are sold pursuant to this chapter on property owned by a company organized pursuant to article XI of the state private housing finance law [with the consent and approval of the department of housing preservation and development that are sold pursuant to this chapter] shall be deemed defective. On and after January first, two thousand twelve, any tax lien or tax liens that are sold pursuant to this chapter on any class two residential property owned by a company organized pursuant to article XI of the state private housing finance law that is a residential condominium or*

*residential cooperative, shall be deemed defective.* For the purposes of this paragraph, property owned by such company shall be limited to property owned for the purpose, as set forth in section five hundred seventy-one of the state private housing finance law, of providing housing for families and persons of low income.

*(ii) No later than May first, two thousand eleven, the commissioner of finance, in consultation with the commissioner of housing preservation and development, shall notify by mail any class two residential property owned by a company organized pursuant to article XI of the state private housing finance law that is not a residential condominium or residential cooperative, of the authority of the commissioner of finance to sell the tax liens on such property. Such notification shall include information relating to the lien sale process, including, but not limited to, actions homeowners can take if a lien is sold on such property; the type of debt that can be sold in a lien sale; a timeline of statutory notifications required pursuant to section 11-320 of this chapter; a clear, concise explanation of the consequences of the sale of a tax lien; the telephone number and electronic mail address of the employee or employees designated pursuant to subdivision f of section 11-320 of this chapter; a conspicuous statement that the owner of the property may enter into a payment plan for exclusion from the tax lien sale; and credits and property tax exemptions that may exclude a property from a tax lien sale and any other credit or residential real property tax exemption information, which, in the discretion of the commissioner, should be included in such notification.*

*Upon such property owner's written request, or verbal request to 311 or any employee designated pursuant to subdivision f of section 11-320 of this chapter, a Chinese, Korean, Russian or Spanish translation of such notice shall be provided promptly to such property owner.*

§ 7. Subdivision b of section 11-319 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new paragraph 11 to read as follows:

*11. No later than September first, two thousand eleven, the appropriate agency shall promulgate rules identifying or describing any existing procedures governing challenges to the validity of any real property tax, sewer rent, sewer surcharge, water rent, emergency repair charge or alternative enforcement expense or fee.*

§ 8. Subdivisions b, c, and d of section 11-320 of the administrative code of the city of New York, subdivisions b and d as added and subdivision c as amended by local law number 26 for the year 1996, are amended to read as follows:

b. *1.* A tax lien shall not be sold unless the commissioner of finance, or his or her designee, notifies the owner of record at the address of record and any other person who has registered pursuant to section 11-309 of this chapter, or pursuant to section 11-416 or 11-417 of this [code] *title*, by first class mail, of the intention to sell the tax lien. If no such registrations have been filed then such commissioner, or his or her designee, shall notify the person whose name and address, if any, appears in the latest annual record of assessed valuations, by first class mail, of the intention to sell the tax lien. Such mailed notice shall include a description of the property by block and lot and such other identifying information as the commissioner of finance may deem appropriate, the amount of the tax lien, including all taxes, assessments, sewer rents, sewer surcharges, water rents, any other charges that are made a lien subject to the provisions of this chapter, *as well as an estimate of* the costs of any advertisements and notices given pursuant to this chapter, any other charges that are due and payable on the date specified in such publication, a surcharge pursuant to section 11-332 of this chapter if the tax lien is sold, and interest and penalties thereon, and shall be mailed to such owner and such other persons *four times*: not less than *ninety*,



sixty, thirty and ten days prior to the date of sale. Such notice shall state that if default continues to be made in payment of the amounts due on such property, the tax lien on such property shall be sold as provided in section 11-319 of this chapter. If, notwithstanding such notice, the owner shall continue to refuse or neglect to pay the amounts due on such property, the commissioner of finance may sell the tax lien on such property as provided in section 11-319 of this chapter.

2. (i) *Such notices shall also include, with respect to any property owner in class one or class two, as such classes of property are defined in subdivision one of section eighteen hundred two of the real property tax law, an exemption eligibility checklist. Within ten business days of receipt of a completed exemption eligibility checklist from such property owner, provided that such receipt occurs prior to the date of sale of any tax lien or tax liens on his or her property, the department of finance shall review such checklist to determine, based on the information provided by the property owner, whether such property owner could be eligible for any exemption, credit or other benefit that would entitle them to be excluded from a tax lien sale and, if the department determines that such property owner could be eligible for any such exemption, credit or other benefit, shall mail such property owner an application for the appropriate exemption, credit or other benefit. If, within twenty business days of the date the department mailed such application, the department has not received a completed application from such property owner, the department shall mail such property owner a second application, and shall telephone the property owner, if the property owner has included his or her telephone number on the exemption eligibility checklist.*

(ii) *Any such property owner who returns to the department of finance a completed exemption eligibility checklist prior to the date of sale of any tax lien or tax liens on his or her property and who subsequently submits a completed application for the appropriate exemption,*

*credit or other benefit either prior to, on or up to ninety days after such sale, shall have his or her application reviewed by the department of finance. If, prior to the date of sale, the department of finance determines that such property owner is qualified for such exemption, credit or other benefit or will be qualified as of the date of sale, then the tax lien or tax liens on his or her property shall not be sold on such date. If, on or after the date of sale, the department of finance determines that such property owner is or was qualified for such exemption, credit or other benefit as of the date of sale, then any tax lien or tax liens on his or her property that were sold shall be deemed defective.*

*(iii) Not later than thirty days prior to such date of sale, the department of finance shall submit to the council a list, disaggregated by council district, of all properties for which property owners returned a completed eligibility checklist to the department of finance at least thirty-five days prior to the date of sale, but for which property owners have not yet submitted a completed application for the appropriate exemption, credit or other benefit.*

*(iv) Not later than thirty days after such date of sale, the department of finance shall submit to the council a list, disaggregated by council district, of all properties for which property owners returned a completed eligibility checklist to the department of finance prior to the date of sale, but for which property owners have not yet submitted a completed application for the appropriate exemption, credit or other benefit.*

*(v) Upon the written or verbal request of such property owner, the department of finance shall provide prompt assistance to such property owner in completing an application for the appropriate exemption, credit or other benefit.*

*3. The notice provided not less than ninety days prior to the date of sale shall also include information relating to the lien sale process, including, but not limited to, actions*

*homeowners can take if a lien is sold on such property; the type of debt that can be sold in a lien sale; a timeline of statutory notifications required pursuant to this section; a clear, concise explanation of the consequences of the sale of a tax lien; the telephone number and electronic mail address of the employee or employees designated pursuant to subdivision f of this section; a conspicuous statement that the owner of the property may enter into a payment plan for exclusion from the tax lien sale; and credits and property tax exemptions that may exclude certain class one real property from a tax lien sale. Such notice shall also include information on the following real property tax exemptions, credit or other benefit:*

*(i) the senior citizen homeowner exemption pursuant to section 11-245.3 of this title;*

*(ii) the exemption for persons with disabilities pursuant to section 11-245.4 of this title;*

*(iii) the exemption for veterans pursuant to section four hundred fifty-eight of the real property tax law, with respect to real property purchased with payments received as prisoner of war compensation from the United States government;*

*(iv) the exemption for veterans pursuant to paragraph (b) or (c) of subdivision two of section four hundred fifty-eight-a of the real property tax law;*

*(v) the state circuit breaker income tax credit pursuant to subsection (e) of section six hundred six of the tax law; and*

*(vi) the active duty military personnel benefit pursuant to department of finance memorandum 05-3, or any successor memorandum thereto.*

*Upon such property owner's written request, or verbal request to 311 or any employee designated pursuant to subdivision f of this section, a Chinese, Korean, Russian or*

*Spanish translation of such notice shall be provided promptly to such property owner.*

c. Such [notice] *notices* shall advise the owner of such property of his or her continued obligation to pay the amounts due on such property. No other [notice] *notices* or [demand] *demands* shall be required to be made to the owner of such property to authorize the sale of a tax lien or tax liens on such property pursuant to section 11-319 of this chapter.

d. 1. The commissioner of finance or his or her designee shall, within ninety days after the delivery of the tax lien certificate, notify any person who was required to be notified of such sale pursuant to section 11-320(b) of this chapter, by first class mail, that such sale has occurred. Such notice shall state the date of the sale of the tax lien, the name and address of the purchaser of the tax lien, the amount of such lien, a description of the property by block and lot and such other identifying information as the commissioner of finance or his or her designee shall deem appropriate, and the terms and conditions of the tax lien certificate, including the right to satisfy the lien within the time periods specified in this chapter. *Such notice shall also include the telephone number and electronic mail address of the employee or employees designated pursuant to subdivision f of this section.*

2. *Any written communication from the purchaser of the tax lien or liens to an owner of property, on which a tax lien has been sold pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, shall include the following information:*

*(i) an explanation of the roles of the purchaser of the tax lien and the employee or employees designated pursuant to subdivision f of this section;*

*(ii) the names and contact information, including the telephone number, electronic mail and mailing addresses of such persons; and*

*(iii) a statement informing such owner that he or she may be eligible to enter into a*

*forbearance agreement with the purchaser of such tax lien.*

*3. The requirement to send such written communication shall be subject to federal, state and local debt collection laws.*

*4. Failure to provide notice pursuant to this subdivision shall not affect the validity of any sale of a tax lien or tax liens pursuant to this chapter.*

§ 9. Section 11-320 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding new subdivisions g and h to read as follows:

*g. No later than one hundred twenty days after the tax lien sale, the commissioner of finance shall submit to the council a list of all properties, identified by block and lot, noticed for sale pursuant to subdivision b of this section. Such list shall also include a description of the disposition of such properties that shall include, but not be limited to, whether an owner entered into a payment plan with the city pursuant to section 11-322 of this chapter, whether an owner satisfied the tax lien or liens, whether ownership of the property was transferred, provided that such information is available to the city, or whether the property was distressed, as defined in subdivision four of section 11-401 of this title, or removed from the sale pursuant to the discretion of the commissioner of the department of housing preservation and development.*

*h. 1. On a quarterly basis, a purchaser of tax liens shall provide to the council a list of all properties on which tax liens have been sold where, subsequent to such sale, there has been a transfer of ownership of the property, provided that a purchaser of tax liens has knowledge of such transfers, for the following groups:*

*(i) all properties on which liens for emergency repair charges or alternative enforcement expenses and fees have been sold to such purchaser pursuant to subdivision a-4 of section 11-319 of this title; and*

*(ii) all class two residential property owned by a company organized pursuant to article XI of the state private housing finance law that is not a residential condominium or a residential cooperative on which any tax lien has been sold pursuant to subdivision a, a-2 or a-4 of section 11-319 of this title.*

*2. When available, a purchaser of tax liens shall include the names and contact information of the new owners of record of such properties.*

§ 10. Section 11-322 of the administrative code of the city of New York, as amended by local law number 26 for the year 1996, is amended to read as follows:

§ 11-322 Postponement or cancellation of sales; *installment agreements*. *a.* It shall be lawful for the commissioner of finance, or his or her designee, to postpone or cancel any proposed sale of a tax lien or tax liens on property that shall have been advertised and noticed for sale prior to the date of sale. For purposes of this section, the words, "date of sale" shall have the same meaning provided in section 11-320(e) of this chapter. The city shall not be liable for any damages as a result of cancellation or postponement of a proposed sale of a tax lien or tax liens, nor shall any cause of action arise from such cancellation or postponement.

*b.* *In accordance with rules promulgated by the commissioners of finance and environmental protection, a property owner may enter into agreements with the departments of finance and environmental protection for the payment in installments of any delinquent real property taxes, assessments, sewer rents, sewer surcharges, water rents, or any other charges that are made a lien subject to the provisions of this chapter. The proposed sale of a tax lien or tax liens on property shall be cancelled when a property owner enters into an agreement with the respective agency for the payment of any such lien. Such rules shall also provide that such property owners be given information regarding eligibility for real property tax exemption programs prior to*

*entering into such agreements.*

*1. If payments required from a property owner pursuant to such an agreement are not made for a period of six months, such property owner shall be in default of such agreement, and the tax lien or tax liens on the subject property may be sold, provided, however, that such default may be cured upon such property owner's bringing all installment payments and all current charges that are outstanding at the time of the default to a current status, which shall include, but not be limited to, any outstanding interest and fees, prior to the date of sale. If such default is not cured prior to the date of sale, such property owner shall not be eligible to enter into an installment agreement for the subject property for five years, unless there is a finding of extenuating circumstances by the department that entered into the installment agreement with the property owner.*

*2. An installment agreement shall provide for payments by the property owner on a quarterly or monthly basis, in the discretion of the appropriate commissioner, for a period not less than eight years and not more than ten years, provided that a property owner may elect a period less than eight years. There shall be no down payment required upon the property owner's entering into the installment agreement with the respective department, but the property owner may elect to make a down payment.*

*3. Beginning January first, two thousand twelve, any property owner who has entered into an installment agreement with the commissioner of environmental protection pursuant to this subdivision and who has automated meter reading shall receive a consolidated monthly bill for current sewer rents, sewer surcharges and water rents and any payment due under such installment agreement.*

*4. No later than September first, two thousand eleven, the commissioners of finance*

*and environmental protection shall promulgate rules governing installment agreements, including but not limited to, the terms and conditions of such agreements, the payment schedules, and the definition and consequences of default.*

§ 11. Subdivision a of section 11-245.8 of the administrative code of the city of New York, as added by local law number 9 for the year 2006, is amended to read as follows:

a. [The department shall mail to the owners of all class one properties and class two residential properties held in the condominium form of ownership, notice, each year, of the availability of the following residential real property tax exemptions:

1. the senior citizen homeowner exemption pursuant to section 11-245.3 of this chapter;

2. the exemption for persons with disabilities pursuant to section 11-245.4 of this chapter;

3. the alternate exemption for veterans pursuant to section four hundred fifty-eight-a of the real property tax law;

4. the exemption for gold star parents pursuant to section 11-245.7 of this chapter;

5. the school tax relief (STAR) exemption pursuant to section four hundred twenty-five of the real property tax law; and

6. any other residential real property tax exemption which, in the discretion of the commissioner, should be included in such notification.]

*The commissioner of finance or his or her designee, shall provide a notice relating to the lien sale process to all property owners, included with the notice of value sent to property owners by the department of finance pursuant to section 1511 of the New York city charter and, in addition, no later than October thirty-first of each year, to any property owner who is delinquent*



*in the payment of any real property taxes, assessments, or any other charges that are made a lien subject to the provisions of chapter three of this title, except sewer rents, sewer charges and water rents, if such delinquency, in the aggregate, equals or exceeds the sum of one thousand dollars. This notice shall include, but not be limited to, actions homeowners can take if a lien is sold on such property; the type of debt that can be sold in a lien sale; a timeline of statutory notifications required pursuant to section 11-320 of this title; a clear, concise explanation of the consequences of the sale of a tax lien; the telephone number and electronic mail address of the employee or employees designated pursuant to subdivision f of section 11-320 this title; a conspicuous statement that an owner of any class of property may enter into a payment plan for the satisfaction of delinquent real property taxes, assessments, sewer rents, sewer surcharges, water rents, and any other charges that are made a lien subject to the provisions of chapter three of this title, or exclusion from the tax lien sale; and credits and property tax exemptions that may exclude certain class one real property from a tax lien sale. Such notice shall also include information on the following real property tax credits or real property tax exemptions:*

- 1. the senior citizen homeowner exemption pursuant to section 11-245.3 of this chapter;*
- 2. the exemption for persons with disabilities pursuant to section 11-245.4 of this chapter;*
- 3. the exemptions for veterans pursuant to sections four hundred fifty-eight and four hundred fifty eight-a of the real property tax law;*
- 4. the school tax relief (STAR) exemption pursuant to section four hundred twenty-five of the real property tax law;*
- 5. the enhanced school tax relief (STAR) exemption pursuant to subdivision four of*

*section four hundred twenty-five of the real property tax law;*

*6. the state circuit breaker income tax credit pursuant to subsection (e) of section six hundred six of the tax law; and*

*7. any other credit or residential real property tax exemption, which, in the discretion of the commissioner, should be included in such notice.*

*Upon such property owner's written request, or verbal request to 311 or any employee designated pursuant to subdivision f of section 11-320 of this title, a Chinese, Korean, Russian or Spanish translation of such notice shall be provided promptly to such property owner.*

§ 12. This local law shall take effect immediately.

THE CITY OF NEW YORK, OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK, s.s:

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a local law of The City of New York, passed by the Council on .....March 2, 2011..... and approved by the Mayor on .....March 16, 2011.....

MICHAEL M. McSWEENEY, City Clerk, Clerk of the Council.

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO MUNICIPAL HOME RULE §27

Pursuant to the provisions of Municipal Home Rule Law §27, I hereby certify that the enclosed Local Law (Local Law 15 of 2011, Council Int. No. 26A) contains the correct text and was passed by the New York City Council on March 2, 2011, approved by the Mayor on March 16, 2011 and returned to the City Clerk on March 16, 2011.

JEFFREY D. FRIEDLANDER, Acting Corporation Counsel.