The New York Times Rejects Agreement, Urges Passage of Right To Know Act

The New York Times rejected Speaker Mark-Viverito's agreement, saying her "defense of the deal is unpersuasive." The agreement removes the meaningful reforms and accountability of the Right To Know Act, which the Times urged the Council to pass into law.

Key Accountability Reforms	Right to Know Act	Agreement
Backed by rule of law: court order can compel NYPD compliance if not followed, with required data reporting to allow public & Council to provide credible oversight with evidence.		×
Requires NYPD to identify and explain reason for encounter in ALL non-emergency pedestrian stops, vehicle stops, checkpoints, searches, contact with potential crime victims & witnesses. The agreement guts requirement for officers to ID in all of the above but two: checkpoints and consent searches.	Obama Task Force Endorsed	×
Explicitly requires plainclothes officers who are not undercover to identify themselves. Plainclothes officers who refuse to ID themselves are engaged in many abusive policing encounters (i.e. USPS Worker Glen Grays, James Blake)		×
Requires NYPD to provide contact information for CCRB on business card so civilians can report comments or complaints.	Obama Task Force Endorsed	×
Guarantees notification of the right to refuse consent to a search without legal basis and objective proof of person's informed consent. The agreement maintains status quo, continuing coercive and deceptive searches, and "word of civilian" vs. "word of officer" in disputes.	Obama Task Force Endorsed	×

^{*}Obama Task Force = policy provisions endorsed by the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing.