GCTF Proposal
Use Manual On-Auto Off Lighting

Implemented
Local Law 48 of 2010

Summary
Local Law 48 of 2010 amends the New York City Administrative Code to require manual on-auto off lighting (“vacancy sensors”) in appropriate spaces.

Vacancy sensors result in greater energy savings than auto on-auto off lighting (“occupancy sensors”). Occupancy sensors turn on lights even if room use is transitory or daylighting is available, whereas vacancy sensors do not.

New Requirements or Changes

Amendments to Section 28-1001.2 of the New York City Administrative Code:

- Manual on-auto off lighting sensors and controls will be installed in spaces that are typically lit by natural light or that people often enter only briefly
- Manual on-auto off occupant sensors and controls shall be installed that
  - Only enable lighting to be turned on by manual control
  - Automatically turn lighting off within a maximum of 30 minutes of all occupants leaving a space
  - Enable lighting to be turned off by manual control
  - Do not have an override switch that converts from manual-on to automatic-on functionality

Enforcement
These new requirements are part of the New York City Administrative Code. They will be enforced by the Department of Buildings in the same manner as any other element of the code.

Implementation
This proposal is not expected to have any significant impact on capital costs. This proposal was also estimated to generate financial savings that will pay for the capital costs in less than three years depending on the building type.

There are no implementation issues with this proposal. Vacancy sensors are widely available from manufacturers of lighting controls.