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CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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August 29, 2018
Start: 1:42 p.m.
Recess: 2:45 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: LAURIE A. CUMBO
Majority Leader

COREY D. JOHNSON
Speaker

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- ADRIENNE ADAMS
- ALICKA AMPRY-SAMUEL
- DIANA AYALA
- INEZ D. BARRON
- JUSTIN BRANNAN
- JOE BORELLI
- FERNANDO CABRERA
- MARGARET S. CHIN
- ANDREW COHEN
- COSTA G. CONSTANTINIDES
- ROBERT E. CORNEGY, JR.
- CHAIM M. DEUTSCH
- DANIEL DROMM
- RAFAEL L. ESPINAL, JR.
- MATHIEU EUGENE
- VANESSA L. GIBSON
- MARK GJONAJ
- BARRY GRODENCHIK
- ROBERT HOLDEN
- ANDY L. KING
- PETER A. KOO
- KAREN KOSLOWITZ

COUNCIL MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

RORY I. LANCMAN
BRAD S. LANDER
STEPHEN T. LEVIN
MARK LEVINE
ALAN N. MAISEL
STEVEN MATTEO
CARLOS MENCHACA
I. DANEEK MILLER
FRANCISCO P. MOYA
BILL PERKINS
KEITH POWERS
ANTONIO REYNOSO
DONOVAN J. RICHARDS
CARLINA RIVERA
YDANIS A. RODRIGUEZ
DEBORAH L. ROSE
HELEN K. ROSENTHAL
RITCHIE J. TORRES
RAFAEL SALAMANCA
RITCHIE J. TORRES
MARK TREYGER
ERIC A. ULRICH
PAUL A. VALLONE
JAMES G. VAN BRAMER
JUMAANE D. WILLIAMS
KALMAN YEGER

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A P P E A R A N C E S (CONTINUED)

David Sullivan
Monsignor at the Roman Catholic Parish of Our
Savior, Executive Director at Catholic Charities

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[gavel]

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: At this time please place all electronic devices, all electronic devices to vibrate. Will all non-council employees please leave the main floor of the chambers, there's additional seating upstairs in the balcony, thank you. Madame Majority Leader.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Good afternoon and welcome to the stated meeting of August 29th, 2018. I'm Majority Laurie Cumbo. Please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: All rise.

[Pledge of Allegiance]

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Please be seated, roll call.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Adams?

COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ampy-Samuel?

COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ayala?

COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron?

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Present.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Borelli? Brannon?
Cabrerera?
COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Chin?
COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Cohen?
COUNCIL MEMBER: COHEN: [off mic] Here.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Constantinides?
Corney?
COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Fresh in from
the beach I am here.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Deutsch?
COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Here.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Diaz?
COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: [off mic] Here.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Dromm?
COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Espinal? Eugene?
CM EUGENE: [off mic] Here.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Gibson?
COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: I'm here.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Gjonaj? Grodenchik?
COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: [off mic] I'm
here.

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Present.

Here.

Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Holden?

COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Kallos? Borelli?

COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: [off mic]

COMMITTEE CLERK: King? Koo?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Koslowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: [off mic]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Lancman?

COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: [off mic] Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Lander? Levin? Levine?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: [off mic] Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Maisel?

COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: [off mic] Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Menchaca?

COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Presente.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Miller?

COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: [off mic]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Moya? Perkins?

COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Powers?

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COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Reynoso?

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: [off mic] Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Richards?

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rivera? Rodriguez?

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: [off mic]

Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rose? Rosenthal?

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Salamanca?

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: [off mic]

Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Torres?

COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Treyger?

COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ulrich? Vallone?

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: [off mic] Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Van Bramer?

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Williams?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: [off mic] Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Yeger?

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COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Matteo? Cumbo?

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Johnson?

SPEAKER JOHNSON: [off mic] I'm here.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: We have a quorum.

We will now have today's invocation which will be delivered by Monsignor Kevin Sullivan of Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New York located at 1011 First Avenue in Manhattan. I'd also like to note that Monsignor Sullivan is a resident at the Roman Catholic Parish of our Savior located at 59 Park Avenue in Manhattan and we are so honored to have you here, please rise.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: All rise.

KEVIN: So, let's just... let's just bow her heads for a moment. All mighty god as we gather this afternoon to take important action for the safety of our children let us remember that they are also your children made in your image and thus meriting the utmost protection and nurturing. We thank you for the creative ways that this council, it's leadership and others in the city and state have been able to come together to resolve a threatening

1
2 and unnecessary impasse. All mighty god allow us a
3 moment to celebrate the small but important victory
4 on behalf of the children of our city. We also ask
5 your presence to continue to prod us toward tackling
6 even more troubling and critical issues that impact
7 the lives of New Yorkers especially the poorest and
8 most vulnerable. Lord help us to be humble enough to
9 recognize that our city and state are not immune from
10 the alarming divisiveness that afflicts our nation
11 but lord help us to dare to be hopeful and confident
12 enough that with your help the concern for the common
13 good of all might overcome the pettiness that tempts
14 each of us to assign too much blame and take too much
15 credit. Lord I remind you that you are all powerful,
16 so my prayer is a hope that you do your job. All
17 mighty god as we focus today on the safety of our
18 children in the zones outside our schools, we ask
19 your grace and providence that as we begin a new
20 school year they may be safe, nurtured and well
21 educated inside our schools and on every street and
22 in every neighborhood of this city may our young
23 people also be safe from speeding bullets, thrashing
24 knives and devastating drugs. And lord I would be
25 remiss today if I did not ask a special grace and

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2 blessing from you for those times for forgiveness,
3 for those times that our institutions and in a
4 particular way my catholic church has failed to
5 protect children and in-shameably [phonetic]
6 mishandled and covered that up. And so, lord while we
7 pray for the grace of forgiveness it's even more
8 necessary that we beg for the strength that you
9 compel us to affirm purpose of amendment that does
10 not merely speak hollow words but strong committed
11 actions that shout never again. All mighty god we
12 conclude again with a thank you for helping us to
13 achieve today's step and we ask for your ongoing
14 wisdom, guidance and prodding, god please make our
15 city a place where your likeness and image is seen
16 even more clearly in those who are most vulnerable
17 and most poor. All mighty god we ask this not merely
18 on this hot August afternoon, not merely tomorrow but
19 forever and ever, amen.

20 [applause]

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you
22 Monsignor Sullivan for that very honest, thought
23 provoking and powerful prayer. I'd like to ask
24 Speaker Corey Johnson to spread the invocation on
25 record.

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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2 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you Madame
3 Majority Leader. I want to thank Monsignor Kevin
4 Sullivan for of course being here today, for... and I
5 make a motion that the invocation be spread in full
6 upon the record. As you mentioned Madame Majority
7 Leader Monsignor Sullivan has been the Executive
8 Director of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of
9 New York since 2001, he was immediately tasked when
10 he took that job with consoling families of those
11 lost on 9/11 and he has made a tremendous impact on
12 our city leading Catholic Charities. Monsignor
13 Sullivan testified here at the City Council a little
14 more than a month ago when we conducted an oversight
15 hearing on the Trump administration's policy
16 separating immigrant children from their families.
17 Monsignor Sullivan strongly spoke up, stood up for
18 these children, he traveled to the border to meet
19 with children who had been separated from their
20 parents, he was texting me from the border saying
21 when I get back we need to do something on this
22 together and I am grateful of his acknowledgement
23 today asking for forgiveness, forgiveness and
24 hopefully justice for those who have been hurt and
25 victimized and abused. So, thank you again Monsignor

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2 Sullivan for everything you do for New York City and
3 their families and thank you for coming here on such
4 notice to deliver that powerful invocation. And with
5 that I ask that the message... that the motion... the
6 invocation be spread in full upon the record.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Speaker
8 Johnson. We will now have adoption of minutes.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Messages and
11 papers from the Mayor.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Communication
14 from city, county and borough offices.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Petitions and
17 communications.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Land Use Call-
20 Ups.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, we
23 will now have communication from the Speaker.

24 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you again Madame
25 Majority Leader, good afternoon. Before we begin with

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2 today's agenda I'd like to send my best wishes to
3 Shomin Zhu [sp?], a member of our community
4 engagement division who is leaving us today, he will
5 take on... they will take on a new challenge as the
6 Senior Community Affairs Unit, thank you Shomin for
7 your service and we wish you the best of luck, let's
8 give Shumin a round of applause.. Shomin, sorry.

9 [applause]

10 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Shomin, I apologize,
11 thank you so much, thank you. Now on to today's
12 agenda, we scheduled this emergency stated meeting to
13 vote on a bill creating a school speed camera
14 program. The bill we're going to be voting on today
15 will keep New Yorkers safe, most importantly it will
16 keep kids who are walking to and from school safe, it
17 will save lives and it is the least that we can do
18 for children in New York City and for their parents.
19 This bill will create a local speed camera program
20 allowing the city to issue violations for speeding,
21 this law will allow the city to issue violations for
22 speeding in school zones. If you're going more than
23 ten miles over the speed limit, you'll be hit with a
24 50-dollar penalty and hopefully you won't do it
25 again. We've seen the numbers and we believe this is

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2 a real deterrent. Though we are mirroring the state
3 program, we are improving the state program in two
4 key ways. Number one, the number of cameras is not
5 capped in this bill and number two, the Department of
6 Transportation can expand the hours of operation.
7 This is an emergency and our team worked hard to
8 explore every possible solution. I'm confident in our
9 ability to create an effective local speed camera
10 program. The council has strong home rule authority
11 on this issue, I promised that we would do everything
12 in our power to make sure kids were safe by the first
13 day of school and that is what we are doing here
14 today. This was a team effort, we needed help from
15 both the Cuomo and De Blasio administrations, we
16 presented it to them and they both worked
17 cooperatively with us to get this done. The Mayor
18 issued a message of necessity so that we could vote
19 on this bill today without the normal aging period
20 where the bill typically has to lay on our desks for
21 eight days that was waived so that he could sign this
22 bill by Tuesday before the first day of school. The
23 Governor stepped up in a very significant way to help
24 us with a critical aspect of this program in giving
25 us access to state DMV records so that violations can

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2 be processed quickly and accurately and he did that
3 by executive order, I am grateful for the partnership
4 with Mayor De Blasio and his team, I see Jeff Lynch
5 and his team here who worked very hard on this, I'm
6 grateful for Governor Cuomo and his team, Alphonso
7 David, his counsel and I am grateful, I am enormously
8 grateful and I really want to give... I want to give a
9 big round of applause to our amazing, amazing,
10 amazing staff, they have been working literally 16 to
11 18 hours a day the last seven days through the
12 weekend to get this done, this was not... this would
13 not have been done without James Giovanni, Rick
14 Arbello but especially Rob Newman and Kelly Taylor
15 who have worked every single day constantly through
16 many difficulties and I want to thank...

17 [applause]

18 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Rob and Kelly and James
19 and Rick.

20 [applause]

21 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I want to note that
22 while we spent the last few days deep in this it
23 pales in comparison to the time advocates have
24 dedicated to this cause. I want to thank Paul Steely
25 White from Transportation Alternatives for his

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2 organizing and hard work and I especially want to
3 thank the incredible leaders and families at Families
4 for Safe Streets particularly...

5 [applause]

6 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Particularly I want to...
7 I want to thank Mary Beth Kelly who I see here who
8 lost her husband almost 12 years ago, I want to thank
9 Lizzy Ramon who lost her son, I want to thank Sophia
10 Russo and I don't believe Sophia is here today, but
11 she lost her four-year-old daughter Ariel. I want to
12 thank Jane Martin Lavaud who's here who lost her
13 beautiful daughter Lenora, I want to thank Debbie
14 Kaun, her husband is here, they lost their son and I
15 want to thank Rita Barravecchio and Rita's not here,
16 but I see others who are here. I see Joan Dean, I see
17 Amy Cohen holding a beautiful son and grandson, Sammy
18 and I see... and I see other family members, yes, who
19 lost his son. The amount of pain is immeasurable and
20 unimaginable for anyone of us who has not had to live
21 through the trauma inflicted upon them that they
22 still must live with every single day. I want to
23 thank them for their testimony here yesterday, I was
24 incredibly moved emotionally, personally and your
25 courage is an inspiration to me that will stay with

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1
2 me not just today but whenever we talk about saving
3 lives in New York City. This is not academic, this is
4 not about numbers and statistics, this is about real
5 lives and real loss and real grief and hopefully real
6 action. Without all of you we would literally not be
7 here today, we wouldn't be here today I know that.
8 Again, the suffering is unimaginable to me but the
9 fact that each one of these family members has so
10 selflessly channeled their overwhelming grief toward
11 ensuring others won't have to suffer in a similar way
12 is a testament to their amazing character and their
13 amazing strength. I would ask that each one of us
14 stand and have a moment of silence for the families
15 here today and for the families who are not
16 represented here today but who have lost loved ones
17 to traffic violence in New York City. Thank you.
18 There are lives at stake here, children's lives and
19 now it falls on us as elected officials to fulfill
20 our solemn obligation, to do what's right by children
21 in New York City and for the families who are still
22 traumatized by the unimaginable loss that is
23 unspeakable in many ways. I urge all of my colleagues
24 to keep that in mind as we vote on this legislation
25 today. Thank you, Madame Majority Leader.

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2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Speaker
3 Cory Johnson. We will now move into discussion of
4 general orders starting with Council Member Ydanis
5 Rodriguez followed by Council Member Ampry-Samuel.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.
7 First of all, thank everyone that has been working so
8 hard the last couple of days to make a new law in New
9 York City that will allow our municipality to create
10 our own speed camera program. A... you know a crisis
11 sometimes provides opportunity and this is a moment
12 that we can say that a time where legislatures in
13 Albany were, were not responsible, the City Council,
14 the 51 Council Members led by Speaker Johnson and all
15 of us say we can make our own law and this is what
16 we're doing here today. So, by the leaders of this
17 movement are the Families for Safe Streets. As we
18 heard in the testimony every 36 hours one individual
19 is killed by drivers in our city, that increased that
20 situation to level of epidemic and a crisis and we
21 feel that when the students will come back on
22 September 5th they.. the, the students and the parents
23 in the whole city will know that they can walk the
24 street knowing that they're safe, that the camera
25 will be working, that we care for them. So, I just

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wanted again to thank all... everyone especially Families for Safer Streets and what we are showing today is also that even at a time when sometimes we don't agree from the city and the state with the governors and the Mayor with the leadership, with the Speaker and everyone we were able to bring both sectors together, the city and the state to agree to work with executive order that now allows this council to work with this bill so, hopefully this will be not only an opportunity to maintain the speed camera but to expand the speed camera to make any schools in our city safe for our students [Spanish dialogue]. Thank you.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Madame Majority Leader

I was remiss and I apologize, Chair Rodriguez has been a leader on this issue for a very, very long time, a huge proponent, someone who held a hearing two weeks ago, held another hearing yesterday and I, I want to acknowledge his leadership, long standing leadership and advocacy in standing with Transportation Alternatives and Families for Safe Streets and working on Vision Zero upgrades and safety improvements all... [cross-talk]

1 CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Uh-huh... [cross-
3 talk]

4 SPEAKER JOHNSON: ...across the city and in
5 passing numerous pieces of legislation in his almost
6 five years as Transportation Committee Chair, I'm
7 really grateful Ydanis for your leadership here
8 today.

9 [applause]

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member
11 Ampry-Samuel

12 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Thank you
13 Madame Majority Leader. Today we are voting on a bill
14 that will protect children while they travel to and
15 from school and that sounds so simple and the fact
16 that we have had to figure out how to make this
17 possible over the past several weeks is a little
18 disheartening for me as a new member of the City
19 Council. When I ran for office I truly believed that
20 introducing laws that make sense and protects some of
21 our most vulnerable citizens would be supported and
22 this speed camera fight was a serious wakeup call
23 about politics and egos in our city and state but
24 today I really must say that I am proud to support
25 this bill and have been a part of it but I'm proud to

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2 be a part of this council and today I realized this
3 is why I ran for office because it's not always easy
4 but when you come together and stick together with a
5 real plan with true leadership in place and I want to
6 thank our Speaker for his leadership standing against
7 so many obstacles this is what being a member of
8 office is all about, these days and even though it's
9 not... this is a permanent law but we still have to get
10 it right on a state level, it's a proud moment for
11 everybody and I'm just thankful to be able to be a
12 part of this and again I just want to thank everyone
13 who was involved because it wasn't easy but even
14 though it's, it's, it's difficult at time but today
15 is a good day as we approach next week at the start
16 of school in New York City. So, thank you again and I
17 look forward to the work that lies ahead.

18 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Madame Majority Leader
19 I apologize again to interject but I... again I, I
20 should have recognized in that hearing we had a few
21 weeks ago that Chair Rodriguez had chaired we heard
22 legislation from Council Members Ampry-Samuel, Lander
23 and Gjonaj who were all... [cross-talk]

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Uh-huh... [cross-
25 talk]

1 CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

2 SPEAKER JOHNSON: ...searching for ways
3 before the school season started to protect kids and
4 each one of them were being thoughtful and creative
5 about ways to bring immediate relief and preventative
6 measures to the schools. Council Member Lander
7 couldn't be here today but he is a long standing
8 advocate and ally of Families for Safe Streets and
9 Council Members Ampry-Samuel and Gjonaj worked very
10 hard on their bills and have showed leadership in
11 pushing these measures and I want to acknowledge all
12 the Council Members who were introductory co-sponsors
13 of this; Chair Rodriguez, Council Member Alicka
14 Ampry-Samuel, Council Member Brad Lander, Council
15 Member Mark Gjonaj, thank you.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much
17 Speaker Johnson. We will now have report of special
18 committees.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Reports of
21 standing committees.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee
23 on Land Use LU 157 and Reso 508, property tax
24 exemption.

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2 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
3 orders.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: LU's 164 and 165, 1601
5 Dekalb Avenue rezoning.

6 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Approved with
7 modifications and referred to the City Planning
8 Commission pursuant to rule 11.70B of the rules of
9 the council and section 197D of the New York City
10 Charter.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee
12 on Transportation, Pre-Considered Intro 1089, speed
13 cameras.

14 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
15 orders with a message of necessity from the Mayor, I
16 want to thank Mayor De Blasio for this message of
17 necessity.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: On the general order
19 calendar, Intro 720, site safety training.

20 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Laid over and I'd now
21 like to ask for a roll call vote on all of the items
22 on today's general order calendar.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Adams?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Aye on all.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ampry-Samuel?

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COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ayala?

COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron?

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Borelli?

COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: No on Intro

1089.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Brannon?

COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNON: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Cabrera?

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye on all and

also I'd like to say thanks to Brian Hodge who was an
intern in my office and this is his last week and
he's present here today so I want to thank him for
all his hard work but I just want to say, you know I
just had my grandson, my fifth one born two Fridays
ago and I rejoice in this moment because just in a
few years he'll be going to school and just the
thought of what the families that are here present
had to go through, we must do our best and I, I
congratulate the Speaker, I commend you for your
leadership, all the political volley balls that you

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1
2 had to do literally this week and to the Chair and to
3 the... on this amazing work, thank you so much.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Chin?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye on all.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Matteo?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: No on 1089, aye
8 on the rest.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cohen?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: [off mic] Aye.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cornegy?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Deutsch?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Pass.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Diaz?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Permission to
17 explain my vote?

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
19 granted.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Thank you my
21 Chairlady and my colleagues. Since yesterday we have
22 seen and experienced how sensitive and emotional it
23 has been for all of us especially for our Speaker. We
24 have... we practically saw our Speaker go into tears
25 yesterday while listening to the testimony of

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2 mothers, wives and relatives that have lost their
3 loved ones because of negligence and irresponsible
4 drivers. There's nothing, nothing we could do to
5 return their lost ones to those ladies and to
6 everyone else that have lost someone because of
7 negligence of a driver. The least... the least we could
8 do Madame Chairlady support our Speaker in this
9 magnificent and great piece of legislation and vote
10 yes with the hope expecting that this bill will
11 prevail all the mothers, all the wives, other human
12 beings to go through their pain on this sort... we are
13 hurt hear people testifying. So, I'm proudly vote yes
14 in support of this bill and in support of my Speaker,
15 the honorable Cory Johnson. [Spanish dialogue]...

16 [cross-talk]

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you

18 Reverend Diaz... [cross-talk]

19 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: ...[Spanish dialogue]

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you

21 Reverend Diaz... [cross-talk]

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: ...[Spanish

23 dialogue]... [cross-talk]

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: And how do you

25 vote?

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COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: You all vote yes.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Gracias and how do you vote Reverend Diaz?

SPEAKER JOHNSON: He voted yes... [cross-talk]

COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: I vote for yes.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Okay, thank you.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dromm?

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: In memoriam and in honor of the six children during the nine years that I've been a council member who have died on Northern Boulevard in the Jackson Heights community I proudly vote yes.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Espinal?

COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: I proudly vote yes.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Eugene?

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I vote yes.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gibson?

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Permission to explain my vote?

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

1 CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

2 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you Madame
3 Majority Leader and good afternoon to all of my
4 colleagues. On behalf of my district in the Bronx I'm
5 proud to support today's legislation. I want to
6 recognize our Speaker for his incredible leadership,
7 for remaining firm and not losing site of what is
8 important, speed cameras in school zones have been
9 proven measures of slowing down drivers and keeping
10 our children, our educators and parents safe as they
11 travel to and from schools. We have the data and we
12 know that it works and I applaud all of the
13 stakeholders for being involved for their relentless
14 efforts, to the Governor and his staff for the
15 executive order, the Mayor and his staff for the
16 message of necessity in allowing the council to put
17 forth this incredible bill, this leadership effort
18 because we simply could not sit back and allow
19 nothing to happen. The fact that there was a
20 stalemate in the state republican led by the state
21 senate was really a call to action for us here in the
22 council and I really want to thank the staff to Rob
23 Newman and Kelly Taylor to Transportation
24 Alternatives and certainly Families for Safe Streets,
25 we appreciate your advocacy. I've had the honor of

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working with many of our parents during my time serving as Chair of Public Safety and the stories are heartbreaking and we want to prevent more stories from happening. So, we appreciate your efforts to turn your pain into a plan with a purpose and that is to prevent injuries and fatalities across this city. This is the right thing to do, it is the reasonable thing to do, the most common sense measure that this council could put forth and I could not be more proud to be a member of this body in supporting this on behalf of my district so thank you Speaker, thank you to all of the staff for your relentless hours of making this happen today, we appreciate you and we salute you and we applaud you and I proudly vote yes, thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council Member Gibson.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gjonaj?

COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Grodenchik?

COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: With best wishes to everybody for a happy and safe Labor Day weekend remembering all that labor has done to grill this great nation. I vote aye on all.

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MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Holden?

COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Koo?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Koslowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: May I be
excused to explain my vote?

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
granted... [cross-talk]

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I just... I just
want to say on behalf of all the children and parents
in this city thank you to the New York City Council
and thank you so much to our great Speaker for this
legislation. I know people will be breathing easier
tonight, with that I vote aye.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Lancman?

COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: [off mic] Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Levine?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Maisel?

COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: [off mic] Yes.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Menchaca?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: I vote aye on
all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Miller?

COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Moya?

COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Perkins?

COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Powers?

COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Reynoso?

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Richards?

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rodriguez?

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rosenthal?

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Permission to
explain my vote?

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
granted.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: I... I want to
let... I want to speak about my gratitude to the
families; the mothers, the wives, the fathers, all

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

1
2 the family members who keep their legislature's feet
3 to the fire day after day, month after month, year
4 after year making sure that another family doesn't
5 have to go through what they've been through. They
6 are persistent, they are tireless and I'm grateful
7 for them and their fortitude and courage. I'm also
8 grateful for the opportunity to have stood on West
9 72nd Street with Families for Safe Streets to let
10 upper West siders know about why we're in this
11 situation that we're in, the shenanigans that
12 politicians and the state senate think are okay to
13 play and lastly I am grateful to our Speaker, to our
14 Mayor and the Governor for taking action, for saying...
15 for calling it what it is which is ridiculous
16 shenanigans and instead giving us this opportunity to
17 do the right thing, to vote yes, to have this bill
18 and to bring our safety cameras back. So, with that I
19 vote aye, thank you.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Salamanca?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Permission to
23 explain my vote?

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
25 granted.

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COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Thank you. I just want to thank the... this body, the Speaker and the, the co-sponsors of this bill, you know today I'm extremely proud to be a member of the New York City Council. Today we're righting a wrong, something that our New York State Senators cannot do in Albany we're doing in the city of New York and today this bill means a lot to me as my four year old son had his first meet and greet with his teacher because next week he's going to start class with Universal Pre-K and so it means a lot to me and rewarding to know that as a member of this New York City Council we delivered for our youth and our young kids to make sure our, our streets are safer and with that I vote aye on all, thank you.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Torres?

COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: I proudly vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Treyger?

COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Permission to explain my vote?

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

1 CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

2 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Last summer a
3 teenager was killed in my district by a reckless and
4 heartless hit and run driver and the community and I
5 in graves end have been insisting and demanding that
6 the DOT install, install a speed camera near our
7 school on Avenue T in my district which also happened
8 to be in the district of Senator Marty Golden which
9 him and his conference have only shown inaction,
10 inertia, ineptitude and indifference to the lives
11 that have been lost and impacted by reckless speeding
12 particularly near our schools. So, I just want to say
13 to the Speaker thank you for your extraordinary
14 leadership not just with words but with actions and
15 deeds, you've brought both city and state leaders
16 together and you have found a, a path forward after
17 pledging that we will explore every legal avenue,
18 every option available to the City of New York. So,
19 Senator Flanagan I hope you're watching this maybe
20 from your golf club, this is what leadership looks
21 like, this is what making sure our kids, are seniors,
22 and our families are safe, this is what this looks
23 like. I proudly vote aye.

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council
25 Member Treyger.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Ulrich?

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: I am voting aye, I normally vote against the cameras because I think that they are solely used by the city to generate revenue but I have to tell you that as a parent and with school just around the corner it frightens me to think that they will not be reactivated and that cars can be speeding around the schools. I support speed cameras and red light cameras around schools, senior centers and anywhere else in the city where we have vulnerable populations and I think that's where they should be placed and that's why I'm voting yes today because I care about the safety of our children and, and my heart really breaks for those parents that are here today, I'm very, very sorry for your loss and hopefully what we're doing today will prevent future tragedies from occurring so, I'm voting yes.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vallone?

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye on all and god bless our children.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Van Bramer?

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Permission to explain my vote?

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MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission

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granted.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank you.

5

So, first Speaker Johnson mentioned Lizzy Ramon who

6

is here in the balcony and I just want to once again

7

thank her for her leadership in Queens in particular

8

long before I was elected to the New York City

9

Council I took part in a march on Queens Boulevard

10

where the ghost bike dedicated to her son was

11

installed, may there never be another ghost bike

12

installed in New York City but I also wanted to tell

13

the story of Noshat Nahian as we talk about all of

14

the children who we've lost. Several years ago,

15

Noshat Nahian who was eight was walking across

16

Northern Boulevard with his 11-year-old sister to go

17

to PS152 in Woodside, Queens, they did not make it

18

across Northern Boulevard and Noshat Nahian died at

19

eight years of age. A couple of days after that in a

20

brutally cold night there was a memorial service for

21

Noshat Nahian and I went, and I saw his mother and

22

even though she did not speak English the pain on her

23

face was unreal... [cross-talk]

24

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Uh... [cross-talk]

25

1 CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

2 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: ...and I never
3 ever want another mother or father to experience that
4 pain. I know the parents in the first row in the
5 balcony have experienced that pain. So, what we do
6 today is incredibly important, it is so remarkably
7 important and simple in so many ways that it took
8 this long, that it takes such a fight to protect the
9 lives of children is in and of itself disgraceful but
10 the fact that this body is taking a leadership role
11 is I hope some sense of hope and promise delivered to
12 the families here today and others. I do want to make
13 sure that we thank Make Queens Safer which has fought
14 this fight in Queens for so long, Transportation
15 Alternatives and Families for Safe Streets and
16 everyone and let me just say we should have speed
17 cameras in front of every single school 24/7, make no
18 mistake. Thank you and I vote aye.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you for
20 your very moving words, thank you.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Williams?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: May I be
23 excused to explain my vote?

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
25 granted.

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you very
3 much. First, grace, peace and blessings to the
4 families who have joined us and thank you for letting
5 us not forget your loved one's names and turning pain
6 into purpose. I want to say thank you to Council
7 Members Rodriguez, Ampry-Samuel, and Lander for their
8 leadership and especially Speaker Johnson for his
9 leadership on this... on these bills and this measure
10 in finding a creative way to respond when there's
11 lack of leadership from the state. Too often
12 municipalities are forced to try to find a way to
13 fill in when the state will not respond, this is an
14 excellent example of that. I have reservations about
15 some of the things we've done around Vision Zero and
16 speed cams, but I believe this bill in particular
17 there is not much that can be said for anyone to
18 disagree on why these cameras should be in schools
19 and so I'm proud to vote aye on this bill and fill in
20 the gap where leadership wasn't there. I do want to
21 just say it's, it's good to see the Mayor and the
22 Governor and the Speaker finding a common theme of
23 which to respond to, it shows what can happen when we
24 agree on something, I believe it also shows the
25 expedience that things could happen during an

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2 election year but I hope this kind of collaboration
3 will move forward on a whole host of issues that are
4 challenging our city and other cities across the
5 state. I vote aye on all, thank you.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Yeger?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Madame President
8 may I be excused to explain my vote?

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
10 granted.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you Madame
12 President. Very few New Yorkers are untouched by
13 vehicle violence, I think... I think it's, it's hard to
14 find somebody who doesn't have a family member or
15 friend or somebody who's had somebody who was hit by
16 a car at some point or got into a car crash of some
17 kind. A number of years ago a young cousin of mine
18 was struck and killed by a car a block away from my
19 parent's home and my story is like everybody else's
20 story, the pain of the advocates who are survivors of
21 those who were killed by cars is immense. I was here
22 yesterday in this chamber and watched the hearing and
23 its real and they've been working hard to get a
24 measure of not just calm for themselves but a measure
25 of, of... a resolution of things that can be done to

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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2 reduce speed in New York City and to reduce the
3 instances where this can occur. That's why I support
4 speed bumps outside and near every single school,
5 I've asked for them in some cases from DOT takes
6 months sometimes longer until they even go out and
7 check whether or not a location is appropriate for
8 one not just in the eight months that I've been a
9 council member, my predecessors done it, as a
10 community board member for 18 years, my community
11 boards done it. So, perhaps at some point the DOT can
12 look into things that are traffic harming solutions
13 that are more than just speed cameras that raise
14 revenue. This bill in my view is not within the
15 purview of the council, as you know those who have
16 heard me in the past I have immense respect for this
17 body and our powers and authorities and I don't vote
18 for measures that I do not believe are within our
19 legal authority to do, this is such a measure and my
20 reasoning for that is more than I get in the
21 remaining ten seconds but I'll be as quick as
22 possible, 96 hours ago and for the last 15 years
23 prior thereto it was never thought that this body had
24 the right to do this. Up until 96 hours ago we did
25 not believe we had that right to do it, Madame

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President I'll wrap up very quickly. I respect greatly the wise legal minds who are far wiser than I who believe we have the right to do this but, in my view, and perhaps not as wise as those who believe otherwise, we don't and so with that I'm not going to be able to vote for this. I again have an immense respect for those who feel otherwise but I can't vote for it. I would also be remiss if I didn't mention my thanks to the Daily News for letting me know about today's meeting and yesterday's hearing, I'm very grateful to the members of the press for letting the members of this council know about it and with that I vote no on Intro 1089 and aye on all remaining matters. Thank you, Madame President.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Madame Majority Leader

I just want to put on the record that I disagree with the Council Member's legal interpretation for the record and I also want to put on the record that other Council Members as we discussed earlier today were given what we consider appropriate notice on a complicated matter. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Dually noted,

thank you.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Deutsch?

1 CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

2 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Thank you,
3 permission to explain my vote?

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
5 granted.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Thank you. Thank
7 you for agreeing to being nice to me today. So, I
8 just want to start off by saying that people have a
9 mentality that when New York State or New York City
10 adds red light cameras, speed cameras, issuing over
11 zealous parking tickets, raising taxes, raising the
12 cost of meters, etcetera, I could go on and on, they
13 believe it's all about revenue and I could understand
14 because sometimes I believe that it's all about the
15 revenue and people lose trust in the city and states
16 and are sick and tired of being nickeled and dimed.
17 With that being said although I originally had some
18 concerns in general, but my concerns and my mind has
19 been totally changed over and I believe that having
20 speed cameras in reducing or eliminating any injury
21 and of course any tragedy is something that we need
22 to take action on. If the state doesn't do it we need
23 to do everything possible that the city should do it
24 and if need be we should take off and if we do get
25 sued we should go out with our, our staff members and

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2 direct this traffic in our schools to send a message.
3 Sitting on the Transportation Committee here in this
4 City Council and having attended and question.. and
5 ask questions in all the hearings, I paid attention
6 to every detail and the parents who are sitting up
7 there in the mezzanine who testified really shouldn't
8 be here advocating, those tragedies should have not
9 of happened. I having five children and two
10 grandchildren will never know and should never know
11 and no one should ever know what it feels like losing
12 a loved one and although I still don't believe that
13 relying on technology alone is the answer, we need as
14 a city to add extra layers of protection which I
15 mentioned at the hearing which includes expanding
16 busing to all our elementary students so this way
17 parents aren't forced to walk or drive the children
18 to school to reduce that vehicle traffic as well as
19 pedestrian traffic at schools by expanding bus
20 service. In addition to that making sure that every
21 single school in our city has a school crossing guard
22 and thirdly we need to make sure that we also expand
23 those traffic control officers in areas where there
24 is high prone accident locations near schools to have
25 those traffic control officers directing traffic and

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making sure that there is a smooth traffic pattern near and around our schools. So, I will continue to advocate for these three things and I have a bill on two of those which is one expanding bus service as well as expanding traffic control officers throughout the city near our schools. So, with that being said I will vote today, proudly vote today aye on making this happen and making sure that our school children are protected and I would like thank the Transportation Chair Ydanis Rodriguez for spending hours at the hearings and I want to thank the advocates and the parents who are here with us from Families, Families for Safe Streets and we're here for you. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Cumbo?

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I proudly vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Johnson?

SPEAKER JOHNSON: I proudly vote aye and for those that didn't know this bill needed a super majority today of 34 because of the message of necessity and I am glad that we far surpassed that number to enact this very important law.

1 CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, all
3 items on today's general order calendar were adopted
4 by a vote of 44 in the affirmative, zero negative and
5 zero abstentions with the exception of Intro 1089
6 which was adopted by a vote of 41 affirmative, three
7 negative and zero abstentions. We will now have
8 Introduction and reading of bills.

9 SPEAKER JOHNSON: All bills have been
10 referred to Committees as indicated on the agenda.

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: There are no
12 Resolutions on today's agenda, so we will now move
13 right into general discussions. We have, and we will
14 begin with Council Member Vanessa Gibson of the
15 Bronx.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you very
17 much Madame Majority Leader and as my colleagues are
18 leaving I just want to take a very quick opportunity
19 to make a very important announcement. It is with
20 such a bitter sweet moment for me... [cross-talk]

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Quite in the
22 chambers... [cross-talk]

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: ...as the Council
24 Member of district 16 that our team is saying
25

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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2 farewell today to our Chief of Staff, Dana Wax. For
3 over three years Dana... [cross-talk]

4 [applause]

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: ...has served as a
6 dynamic hard working and amazing Chief of Staff
7 leading both our legislative and district offices and
8 it has not been easy but Dana has done it with love,
9 with compassion and truly her heart has been in this
10 job and so it comes at a time when we say farewell to
11 Dana as she opens up a new chapter of public service
12 working for a city agency and I just want to say on
13 behalf of our staff how much we love and appreciate
14 Dana, I would not have been able to get through a
15 three year rezoning, Jerome neighborhood rezoning
16 without Dana at my side, she's hard working, she's
17 dynamic, she's amazing and I know she's going to do
18 well. Often in our tenure as elected officials there
19 are people that are called into our lives and put in
20 our path for a time, a reason and a season and as
21 this season comes to a close I know that the new
22 season that Dana will now put forth in another city
23 agency is going to be even better and even greater
24 and so Dana we wanted to say on behalf of our team,
25 team Gibson how much we love you, we appreciate you

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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2 and I know that only the best is yet to come, may god
3 bless you and keep you in his mercy and grace and we
4 know that our paths will cross again. So, if everyone
5 could please join me in giving a warm round of
6 applause for my Chief of Staff... [cross-talk]

7 [applause]

8 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: ...Dana Wax...

9 [applause]

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Congratulations

11 Dana, we are so proud of you and we know that
12 whatever agency that you're going to you'll be able
13 to prep them thoroughly for a line of questioning
14 from Council Member Gibson. Next, we have Council
15 Member Barron.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you Madame
17 Majority Leader. I just wanted to take time to pay
18 tribute to the great singer, songwriter, performer
19 Aretha Franklin and make note of her passing, she was
20 inducted into so many halls of fame and so many
21 tributes and honors and awards and Grammys that she
22 won and what she did which is outstanding for me was
23 that she was not just a performer but she was very
24 much involved in the civil rights movement and for me
25 persons who are in the public eye, who have the

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2 public attention and who then bring that attention to
3 issues that they think are important are, are the
4 type of people that I like to pay tribute to. So, I
5 just want to provide this information, she provided
6 money for civil rights causes and groups often times
7 covering their pay roll, she gave benefit
8 performances on behalf of those groups and when
9 Angela Davis was jailed in 1970 she said that Angela
10 Davis must go free, black people will be free, I've
11 been locked up for disturbing the peace in Detroit
12 and I know that you've got to disturb the peace when
13 you can't get no peace. So, one of her songs became
14 sort of an anthem and that song is Respect, which we
15 know is spelled r-e-s-p-e-c-t and I certainly want to
16 give tribute to her and say that she gave the, the
17 thrust for us to receive respect not just for
18 individual people but for our movement. Thank you.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much
20 Council Member Barron. We'll now hear from Council
21 Member Carlos Menchaca.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you
23 Majority Leader. The powerful prayer of Monsignor
24 Sullivan at the start of this stated meeting still
25 echo in my mind as I rise to speak to you. He prayed

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1
2 for hope when he spoke of the family separation
3 crisis we all experienced this summer and the
4 aftermath we are still trying to address. Our
5 Washington crisis vividly and viciously demonstrate
6 how easy it is for the federal government to abuse
7 our immigration laws and allow for enforcement agents
8 to act with impunity. It is now more critical than
9 ever that the New York City continue to use our
10 constitutional right to define our cooperation with
11 immigration enforcement, enforcement agencies, an
12 agency that is terrorizing our immigrant neighbors
13 forcing many of them to go back into the shadows. The
14 council, this council has done much over the years to
15 show its commitment to protecting the rights of all
16 New Yorkers making them feel safe to use city
17 resources and participate in civic life no matter
18 their immigration status. In 2014 we passed detainer
19 laws that began to untangle city enforcement from
20 civil immigration enforcement then in 2017 the
21 council passed even more expansive detainer laws
22 including Local Law 228 which prohibits the use of
23 city resources, property and information obtained on
24 behalf of the city in the furtherance of federal
25 immigration enforcement. In addition to these

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1
2 detainer laws, the council has also passed
3 legislation to provide free immigration lawyers to
4 all detained immigrants who need it, bar immigration
5 enforcement entities from entering nonpublic city
6 property with impunity and barred city resources from
7 going to immigration enforcement, enforcement
8 entities. Now I proudly introduce Intro 1092, which
9 will make it illegal for the city of New York to
10 enter into revenue contracts with any entity engaged
11 in immigration enforcement. With this law the city of
12 New York will be prohibited from providing goods or
13 services for fee or any in kind payment for entities
14 engaged in federal immigration enforcement. We as a
15 municipality, municipality have the power and the
16 constitution to define our roll, to define our
17 relationship with agencies like this and this council
18 should take pride in the sanctuary that we have
19 created for all our neighbors living through one of
20 the most radical immigration enforcement systems in
21 recent memory and until we get comprehensive
22 immigration and forum at the federal level the city
23 of New York will continue to stand up for it's
24 residents regardless of their immigration status and
25 continue to pass legislation and policies that limit

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1
2 cooperation with the federal government's inhumane
3 enforcement agenda. I urge you all to get on this
4 bill, we have a hearing next week on the 6th,
5 Thursday, thank you.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council
7 Member Menchaca and we will now close. As the
8 Majority Leader I just wanted to thank all of our
9 colleagues for finding it not robbery to come today,
10 I know that this time is often time that we're able
11 to catch up with family, with friends, our health and
12 so I'm so happy that so many of you came today for
13 such an important vote. As a new mom dropping my son
14 off for the first time in day care this was really so
15 important for me to be here today because he's been
16 given the opportunity to go to school safely and so
17 it's important that we continue that for all children
18 all across the city of New York and beyond. And I
19 also want to join my colleague, Council Member Inez
20 Barron in recognizing the phenomenal career of Aretha
21 Franklin who was certainly an inspiration to all of
22 us who died at the age of 76 unfortunately of
23 pancreatic cancer, she was known as the Queen of Soul
24 and she was a dynamic singer and so many of her songs
25 inspired the feminist movement such as Respect,

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Natural Woman, I Say a Little Prayer and we want to recognize this phenomenal woman who utilized her voice, her national treasure to inspire an entire generation, winning 18 Grammy awards, three American Music awards, three NAACP awards, she is certainly a national treasure and an inspiration to all of us and I'll just leave you with one quote she said, "we all require and want respect, man or woman, black or white, it is our basic right" so, I thank all of you today and I thank Aretha Franklin for giving so much of her life and inspiring so many of us to do the important work that we do and I thank all of you for being here today, the children of the city of New York thank you. And with that we will have Speaker Cory Johnson close out today's meeting.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you Madame Majority Leader. I want to thank Council Member Barron as well for her moving remarks related to the Queen of Soul, Aretha Franklin and I just before she passed was alerted to that amazing quote about Angela Davis so to hear Council Member Barron read that quote today I thought was very important. She was a civil rights leader, an icon... [cross-talk]

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2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Uh-huh... [cross-
3 talk]

4 SPEAKER JOHNSON: ...she is someone who
5 didn't forget where she came from, she was still
6 living in Detroit being active in her local
7 community, speaking up about civil rights matters and
8 I am enormously grateful for the inspiration she's
9 been not just to women of color across this country
10 but to all people across this country. She was a
11 beautiful woman, she was a natural woman, she did
12 command and demand respect and our country is a much
13 greater place because of the Queen of Soul, because
14 of Aretha Franklin, she was bailing people out of
15 jail who were getting involved in civil rights
16 demonstrations long before anyone ever talked about
17 bail reform, Aretha Franklin was doing it. She was a
18 trailblazer, she was an icon and one of my best
19 memories is being on the mall watching her perform at
20 President Obama's inauguration with that big,
21 beautiful bow on top of her head so rest in peace and
22 power Aretha Franklin and with that today's stated
23 meeting of August 28th, 2018 is hereby adjourned.

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

25 [gavel]

C E R T I F I C A T E

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify that there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date

August 31, 2018