

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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Thursday, May 16, 2024  
Start: 2:04 p.m.  
Recess: 3:06 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: Adrienne E. Adams, Speaker  
Amanda Farías, Majority Leader

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Adrienne E. Adams  
Joann Ariola  
Alexa Avilés  
Diana I. Ayala  
Chris Banks  
Joseph C. Borelli  
Erik D. Bottcher  
Justin L. Brannan  
Gale A. Brewer  
Selvena N. Brooks-Powers  
Tiffany Cabán  
David M. Carr  
Carmen N. De La Rosa  
Eric Dinowitz  
Amanda Farías  
Oswald Feliz  
James F. Gennaro  
Jennifer Gutiérrez

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING  
COUNCIL MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

Shahana K. Hanif  
Kamillah Hanks  
Robert F. Holden  
Crystal Hudson  
Rita C. Joseph  
Shekar Krishnan  
Linda Lee  
Farah N. Louis  
Kristy Marmorato  
Christopher Marte  
Darlene Mealy  
Julie Menin  
Francisco P. Moya  
Mercedes Narcisse  
Sandy Nurse  
Chi A. Ossé  
Vickie Paladino  
Keith Powers  
Lincoln Restler  
Kevin C. Riley  
Carlina Rivera  
Yusef Salaam  
Rafael Salamanca, Jr  
Pierina Ana Sanchez  
Lynn C. Schulman  
Althea V. Stevens  
Sandra Ung  
Inna Vernikov  
Nantasha M. Williams  
Julie Won  
Kalman Yeger  
Susan Zhuang

## NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

## A P P E A R A N C E S

## INVOCATION DELIVERED BY:

Reverand Sully Guillaume-Same,  
St. Thomas Episcopal Church, located at 1405  
Bushwick Avenue, Brooklyn NY 11207

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

4

SERGEANT POLITE: Testing one, two, one, two.  
Today's date is May 16, 2025 - Stated Meeting is  
being recorded in the Chambers by Keith Polite.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Council Members, please take  
all conversations outside.

Quiet on the floor, please! Quiet on the floor  
today!

AUTOMATED: RECORDING IN PROGRESS

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Ladies and gentleman, welcome  
to today's Stated Meeting. At this time, please place  
all electronic devices, all electronic devices to  
vibrate or silent mode.

Madam Majority Leader?

MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Good afternoon, and  
welcome to the Stated Meeting of Thursday May 16,  
2024. I am Majority Leader Amanda Fariás, and I would  
like to thank you for joining us. If you would like  
to follow along, the agenda for today's meeting is  
posted on our website.

On behalf of the body, I welcome the members of  
the public who have joined us here today. During  
Stated Meetings, only members of the Council may  
speak. Members of the public shall remain silent. If

2 you wish to express support of any remarks, you may  
3 make the silent approval gesture.

4 I want to remind my colleagues that decorum is to  
5 be respected at all times. Insulting each other is  
6 not appropriate, all remarks are to be addressed to  
7 the Chair, and members shall not speak unless  
8 recognized by the Chair. It is essential that even if  
9 we disagree, we treat each other with respect.

10 Members are reminded that affixing signs on  
11 furniture or on the walls of the Council is  
12 prohibited. Council members may display signs and  
13 other visual aids by holding them up when recognized  
14 to speak, provided such signs are germane to the  
15 question before the Council or the remarks during the  
16 period of General Discussion, and further provided,  
17 such signs are concealed when the member's time has  
18 expired.

19 CITY CLERK: Please join us for the Pledge of  
20 Allegiance.

21 SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise!

22 ALL: (PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE)

23 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Roll call?

24 CITY CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Present

2 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: (NO RESPONSE)

4 CITY CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Presente

6 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Here

8 CITY CLERK: Council Member Banks?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Present

10 CITY CLERK: Council Member Bottcher

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Present

12 CITY CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Here

14 CITY CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here

16 CITY CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Present

18 CITY CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Present

20 CITY CLERK: Council Member Carr?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: (NO RESPONSE)

22 CITY CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Here

24 CITY CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Here

2 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Present

4 CITY CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Present

6 CITY CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: (MEDICAL)

8 CITY CLERK: Council Member Guti rrez?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTI RREZ: Presente

10 CITY CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Here

12 CITY CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Present

14 CITY CLERK: Council Member Holden?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here

16 CITY CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Present

18 CITY CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Present

20 CITY CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Here

22 CITY CLERK: Council Member Lee?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Here

24 CITY CLERK: Thank you

25 Council Member Louis?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present

3 CITY CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Present

5 CITY CLERK: Council Member Marte?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Here

7 CITY CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Present

9 CITY CLERK: Council Member Menin?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Present

11 CITY CLERK: Council Member Moya?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Present

13 CITY CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Present

15 CITY CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Present

17 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Present

19 CITY CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: (NO MIC) Present

21 CITY CLERK: Council Member Powers?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Here

23 CITY CLERK: Council Member Restler?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Here

25 CITY CLERK: Council Member Riley?



2 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Present

3 CITY CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: (PARENTAL)

5 CITY CLERK: Council Member Salaam

6 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Present

7 CITY CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present

9 CITY CLERK: Council Member Carr?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Present

11 CITY CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Present

13 CITY CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Here

15 CITY CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Here

17 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ung?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Present

19 CITY CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: (ABSENT)

21 CITY CLERK: Council Member Williams?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here

23 CITY CLERK: Council Member Won?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Present

25 CITY CLERK: Council Member Yeger?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here

3 CITY CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Here

5 CITY CLERK: Council Member Borelli?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Yeah, present.

7 CITY CLERK: Council Member Farías?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Present

9 CITY CLERK: Speaker Adams?

10 SPEAKER ADAMS: Present

11 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you, we will now

12 have today's Invocation which will be delivered by

13 Reverend Sully Guillaume-Same of St. Thomas Episcopal

14 Church located at 1405 Bushwick Avenue in Brooklyn.

15 REVEREND GUILLAUME-SAME: Good afternoon. Years

16 ago, a man inspired by God by the name of Jeremiah

17 encouraged people to love and pray to the Lord for

18 the city in which they were living regardless of

19 their immigration status. He urged them to seek the

20 peace and prosperity of that city, because their own

21 welfare and the city's welfare were inseparable.

22 Today we are standing here in this chamber,

23 regardless of creeds or birthplace, as one united by

24 the same ambitious prosperity for our city on which

25

2 the future of our children and grandchildren depends  
3 heavily.

4 Let us pray. We praise you, God, creator of the  
5 universe and mankind. We thank you for your constant  
6 passion to save your creation, keep your children  
7 united, and make them prosperous. We thank you, O  
8 Lord, for all our city elected officials from all  
9 walks of life, especially of those gathering here in  
10 these chambers to represent your people from our five  
11 boroughs and make decisions on their behalf. We thank  
12 you for blessing them with the desire and courage to  
13 lead and serve your people in the city of New York.  
14 Continue to pour your abundant blessings in this  
15 place and upon each one of them, so that they may  
16 always be empowered and guided by your love and the  
17 pursuit of the American dream for all. Be present  
18 among them, O Lord, through the power of your holy  
19 spirit, so that by their decisions and all the  
20 decisions may reflect your will for your people. Pour  
21 your blessings upon our city and our residents. Keep  
22 our city strong and safe. Please, O Lord, keep a  
23 special eye on the recently displaced Bushwick  
24 families and the owners of businesses destroyed by  
25 the recent fire in Bushwick; continue to guide the

2 leaders of our city, and lead them to be successful  
3 in standing up for our people and country's  
4 prosperity. Amen

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARIAS: Thank you. I would now  
6 like to ask Council Member Sandy Nurse to spread the  
7 Invocation on the Record.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Thank you uh Majority  
9 Leader.

10 Just a few words, the Reverend Father Sully  
11 Guillaume-Same is a devoted husband, father of three  
12 sons, and a priest in the Episcopal Anglican Church.  
13 Born and raised in Haiti, West Indies he attended  
14 school and received two bachelor degrees, one in  
15 Theology from the Roman Catholic Seminary, and the  
16 other in Sociology from the State University of  
17 Haiti.

18 Father Sully firmly believes in the benefits of  
19 education, using any opportunity to engage young  
20 people to remain in school.

21 In 2002, as a Roman Catholic priest, Father Sully  
22 immigrated to the United States to further his  
23 studies. Father Sully earned an MA in Religious  
24 Studies from Fordham University and MS in Leadership  
25 from Duquesne University Pennsylvania. In 2010, he

1 left the Roman Catholic Church to continue in  
2 ministry as an Episcopal priest.

3 June 2024 will mark Father Sully's 25th  
4 anniversary in the priesthood. During his first 10  
5 years of Ministry, he served as a Roman Catholic  
6 missionary; however, he has since served as an  
7 Episcopal parish priest for the past 15 years. And  
8 for the past 11 years, Father Sully pastored the  
9 congregation of the St. Thomas Episcopal Church in  
10 Bushwick, New York as its ninth rector.

11 Father Sully is keenly aware that the local  
12 churches must be relevant to the people of their  
13 neighboring communities to be impactful and bring  
14 about change. And it is with this understanding and  
15 vision that he's dedicated his service to fostering  
16 better relationships and partnerships between his  
17 local church and its neighboring community of  
18 Bushwick.

19 Father Sully is fluent in Haitian-Creole, French,  
20 and English and has extensive experience working with  
21 and ministering to people from diverse backgrounds.

22 The Church of St. Thomas, where he is the chief  
23 pastor, is home of people from 19 different countries  
24 and cultural backgrounds.  
25

2 I want to especially thank Father Sully for all  
3 their support of the families who have been displaced  
4 from the fire - it was 50 people - and businesses  
5 that were burned down - in recently hosting a  
6 clothing drive and in their support for new mothers  
7 regularly through their ministry. So, thank you so  
8 much for being here.

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: We will now have the  
10 Adoption of Minutes by Council Member Shekar  
11 Krishnan.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: I make a motion that  
13 Minutes of the Stated Meetings of April 11, 2024 and  
14 April 18, 2024 be adopted as printed.

15 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Messages and Papers from  
16 the Mayor?

17 CITY CLERK: M 41, City debt and reserves?

18 SPEAKER ADAMS: Received, Ordered, Printed and  
19 Filed.

20 CITY CLERK: M 42 through M 47, various budget  
21 documents?

22 SPEAKER ADAMS: Finance

23 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Communications from City,  
24 County, and Borough Offices?

2 CITY CLERK: M 48, Statement of Debt

3 Affordability?

4 SPEAKER ADAMS: Received, Ordered, Printed and  
5 Filed.

6 CITY CLERK: M 49, interest and discount rates?

7 SPEAKER ADAMS: Finance

8 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Petitions and  
9 Communications?

10 CITY CLERK: None

11 Majority Leader Land Use Call-ups?

12 CITY CLERK: None

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, we will now  
14 have Communication from Speaker Adrienne E. Adams.

15 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you very much, Madam  
16 Majority Leader, and good afternoon, everyone.

17 Before we begin, I want to take a moment to  
18 remember the life and legacy of Don Lee, a community  
19 activist who passed away earlier this month. Don, who  
20 grew up in Chinatown, was a dedicated public servant  
21 who recently served as the board chair of Homecrest  
22 Community Services in Brooklyn. He worked tirelessly  
23 to support his neighbors and amplify the voices of  
24 his community, especially our city's Asian-American  
25 community. His impact will be felt for generations,

1  
2 and he will be dearly missed. May he forever rest in  
3 power.

4 There is a new COVID-19 variant going around  
5 called FLiRT or KP.2. Though we're better prepared to  
6 manage treatment for COVID-19, it's very important  
7 that we continue to stay vigilant be mindful of  
8 recommended vaccines, take necessary precautions, and  
9 do practice good hygiene.

10 Earlier this month, we observed Yom HaShoah or  
11 Holocaust Remembrance Day. And on May 5th, we  
12 celebrated Cinco de Mayo; May 10th was National Small  
13 Business day; May 14th was Israel Independence Day;  
14 and and today is Delta Day at City Hall. So, I want  
15 to welcome the sisters of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority,  
16 Incorporated to Council Chambers. May 18th,  
17 colleagues, is Haitian Flag Day (SPEAKING FOREIGN  
18 LANGUAGE).

19 Last week, Council Chambers was packed with  
20 members of the Divine Nine for the Council's second  
21 Annual National Pan-Hellenic Celebration. I want to  
22 thank Majority Leader Amanda Farías, Majority Whip  
23 Selvena Brooks-Powers, and council members Nantasha  
24 Williams, Kevin Riley, and Yusef Salaam for co-



2 hosting such a wonderful celebration to highlight the  
3 contributions and impact of our Divine Nine.

4 I want to wish a very happy birthday to Council  
5 Member Jim Gennaro, who celebrated May 3rd  
6 (APPLAUSE) and Council Member Erik Bottcher, whose  
7 birthday was on the 9th (APPLAUSE).

8 Last Sunday was one of my personal favorite  
9 holidays, it was Mother's Day. Yay, mothers! And as  
10 the first mother and grandmother to serve as Speaker,  
11 this holiday is especially meaningful to me and many,  
12 many of the mother's, daughters, mother figures, and  
13 mothers to be right here in this Council. To all of  
14 the mothers, who are the heart and soul of our  
15 families, communities, and this city, I truly hope  
16 that you had a very, very happy Mother's Day.

17 Now let's move on to our Stated Agenda.

18 First we will vote on the following Finance  
19 items:

20 A Preconsidered Resolution, sponsored by Council  
21 Member Justin Brannan, authorizing a full 30-year  
22 Article XI tax exemption for the preservation of 12  
23 buildings in Council Member Hudson's, Council Member  
24 Avilas', and Council Member Hanif's districts.

1           A Preconsidered Resolution, sponsored by Council  
2 Member Brannan, renewing a partial Article VI tax  
3 exemption for the preservation of one building in  
4 Council Member Salaam's district.  
5

6           A Preconsidered Resolution, sponsored by Council  
7 Member Brannan, authorizing a full 40-year Article XI  
8 tax exemption for the preservation of seven buildings  
9 in Council Member Rafael Salamanca's district.

10          Preconsidered Resolution, sponsored Council  
11 Member Brannan, authorizing a partial 40-year Article  
12 XI tax exemption for the preservation of two  
13 buildings in Council Member Stevens' district.

14          Next, we'll vote on the Following Land Use items:

15          The Timbale Terrace Empire State Development  
16 Corporation grant application; NHPD requests for the  
17 Council's support for the City's application  
18 requesting \$4 million in capital funding from the  
19 Empire State Development Corporation, or ESDC, under  
20 the Restore New York Communities Initiatives for the  
21 reconstruction and redevelopment of the Timbale  
22 Terrace project in Council Member Salaam's district.

23          97-22 Cresskill Place Disposition, an application  
24 for the disposition of city-owned property in Council  
25 Member Williams district. The Council will be

1  
2 modifying this application to limit the disposition  
3 to residential use.

4 817 Avenue H Rezoning will facilitate a new nine-  
5 story mixed use building with 42 housing units, 11 of  
6 which are affordable under MIH Option One, community  
7 facility space, and 20 accessory off-street parking  
8 spaces in Council Member Louis's district. The  
9 Council is modifying this application to reduce the  
10 rezoning area to require a transition in height from  
11 the development site to neighboring homes, and to  
12 strike MIH Option 2 and add the deep affordability  
13 option.

14 Lastly, two applications in Council Member Ossé's  
15 Brooklyn District that will facilitate a 100%  
16 affordable housing development - 281-3114 Marcus  
17 Garvey Boulevard, and application to facilitate two  
18 nine-story 100% affordable mixed-use buildings with  
19 155 housing units, as well as community and  
20 commercial spaces; 1289 Atlantic Avenue Rezoning, a  
21 100% affordable 14-story mixed-use building with 112  
22 housing units, ground floor community and commercial  
23 spaces, and 39 accessory off-street parking spaces.  
24 The Council is modifying this application to strike  
25 MIH Option 2 and add the deep affordability option.

1 Today we will also vote on the following pieces  
2 of legislation:

3 Resolution 15, sponsored by Council Member Julie  
4 Menin, is a Resolution calling on the New York State  
5 Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, the  
6 New York Child Data Privacy and Protection Act and  
7 the Stop Addictive Feeds Exploitation (SAFE) for Kids  
8 Act. Thank you to our staff members Sara Sucher and  
9 Christie Dwyer .

10 Introduction 341-A, sponsored by Council Member  
11 Mercedes Narcisse, would amend the Student Health  
12 Report, which is submitted annually to the Council by  
13 the Department of Education, to include reporting on  
14 the number of students with sickle cell disease or  
15 trait. This report is important, because nearly 65%  
16 of public school students identify as Black or Latino  
17 and sickle cell disease is most prevalent in people  
18 of African ancestry. We thank our staff member Nadia  
19 Jean-Francois.

20 Lastly, we'll vote on Introduction 110-A,  
21 sponsored by Council Member Alexa Avilés, which  
22 would require the Mayor's Office, or an agency  
23 designated by the Mayor, to provide an annual report  
24 to the Council on the implementation of the Permanent  
25

1 Affordability Commitment Together or PACT Program.  
2 The information provided would include the developer  
3 partner and property manager selected to manage the  
4 property, hired subcontractors, total repair cost for  
5 each conversion, the number of days it took a  
6 developer to resolve work orders, and more. This  
7 legislation will bring needed transparency to NYCHA  
8 residents, the Council, and the public about the  
9 impact of the PACT Program. We thank our staff  
10 members Jose Conde, Charles Kim, Daniel Kroupe, and  
11 Connor Mealy.  
12

13 Thank you very much for your attention now, I  
14 turn it back over to our majority leader.

15 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, Speaker Adams.

16 We will now move into Discussion of General  
17 Orders

18 I'd like to recognize Council Member Narcisse,  
19 followed by Council Member Avilés, and Council  
20 Member Ossé.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Thank you, Madam Chair.

22 Let me begin by expressing my gratitude to Speaker  
23 Adams and all my colleagues as we move toward the  
24 passage of Intro 341 - and I will be remiss not to  
25

1            mention Chair Joseph for helping to shape the bill as  
2  
3            well, so thank you.

4            As a former ER nurse, I know that effective  
5            treatment begins with accurate diagnosis. The  
6            legislation is our way of diagnosing the gaps in our  
7            health care system - particularly in how we address  
8            conditions like sickle cell disease and sickle cell  
9            traits - and any other disease to that matter, which  
10           disproportionately affects African American  
11           communities and other minorities. We aim to shed  
12           light on these disparities specifically with sickle  
13           cell disease and sickle cell traits, bringing them to  
14           the for forefront of our health policy discussion. By  
15           mandating comprehensive health reporting, this bill  
16           allows us to pinpoint where the needs are greatest  
17           and to strategize on how to meet them. We are setting  
18           the stage for a more equitable distribution of health  
19           resources, ensuring that every student, regardless of  
20           their background, has access to care they need and  
21           they deserve. With the passage of this bill, we are  
22           making a strong statement that, in New York City,  
23           healthcare disparities are unacceptable, and that we  
24           are committed to ensuring that no community is left  
25           behind. Thank you once again, Madam Speaker, and my

1  
2 colleagues, and to everyone who has supported this  
3 crucial initiative. I urge you to vote yes, and be  
4 assured that, together, we are making a lasting  
5 impact on the health care system in New York City,  
6 and that caring our for our children should be our  
7 priority. Thank you.

8 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you, Council  
9 Member. I'd like to recognize Council Member Avilés,  
10 followed by Council Member Ossé.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Thank you. Today we are  
12 voting on Intro 110-A, a piece of legislation long in  
13 the works stemming from my time as former Chair of  
14 Public Housing. In that role, a running theme was  
15 lack of transparency at NYCHA. Perhaps nowhere is  
16 this more true than with the PACT Program or  
17 Permanent Affordability for Commitment Together.

18 For those of you who may not know, PACT is a  
19 program that sells off management of our precious  
20 public housing stock to private management. Our city  
21 has invested billions in this program with \$1.4  
22 billion dedicated between Fiscal 2024 and 2026. The  
23 goal of course is to improve NYCHA's bottom line. But  
24 while the program has been running since 2017, with  
25 more developments in the pipeline for conversion, we

1  
2 actually have very little understanding around how  
3 it's performing and whether it is serving the  
4 residents of public housing effectively. We deserve  
5 to know how public dollars are being spent,  
6 especially if we are going to continue to invest  
7 billions into this program.

8 Intro 110 aims to improve transparency, allowing  
9 us to understand fundamentally whether the needs of  
10 public housing residents are being met. Annually,  
11 starting from this fall, we will be able to  
12 understand some basic questions regarding PACT: Have  
13 evictions for tenants in these developments  
14 increased? Are tenants experiencing arbitrary  
15 increases in fees? Are repair needs being met and  
16 being met in a timely fashion? All of this and more.

17 I'm proud to have advanced this legislation, and  
18 I hope that this is a first step in bringing greater  
19 transparency to a very opaque process and authority.

20 Of course this would not be possible... to the  
21 many NYCHA residents, thank you for your persistence  
22 and your tenacity, to the Residents to Protect Public  
23 Housing, to the Red Hook Justice Center, Community  
24 Voices Heard, and so many more. And, of course, I  
25 want to thank staff who worked on this legislation



1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

2 25 especially Connor Mealey, and to my staff  
3 Christina Bottego, and a big thank you to the Public  
4 Housing Chair, Chris Banks - and to the Speaker for  
5 their support on this legislation, (TIMER CHIMES)  
6 and lastly, to all the committee members on Public  
7 Housing, thank you for your support. I urge you to  
8 vote yes.

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: I'd like to recognize  
10 Council Member Ossé.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Thank you, Madam President.

12 I would like to speak about two of the rezonings  
13 in my district that are on the Agenda.

14 There's no question that New York City is going  
15 through a housing crisis, primarily thanks to a dire  
16 shortage. And it has a significant impact on my  
17 constituents in communities of Bed-Stuy and North  
18 Crown Heights. This is an emergency, and we have to  
19 tackle the shortage without delay. The 281-311 Marcus  
20 Garvey Development will include two mixed-use  
21 buildings with a total of 154 dwellings.

22 I'm excited about this project, because it will  
23 be 100% affordable housing, uh, targeting units to  
24 those who are formally homeless and those with AMI's  
25 in 30% to 80% range. Rents in this development will

1 be as low as \$215.00 for a studio for those who are  
2 formally homeless and no higher than \$2,665 for a  
3 three bedroom unit for those in the 80% AMI level.  
4 That is bananas in Bed-Stuy, so I'm really happy  
5 about those rent prices. The development will bring  
6 in more affordable units to my district, which will  
7 provide more opportunities for our residents to  
8 remain in their communities.  
9

10 The 1289 Atlantic Avenue Development will include  
11 a 14-story mixed-use building with ground floor  
12 retail space, 112 dwelling units, and 41 residential  
13 parking spaces. I'm excited for the pedestrian plaza  
14 adjacent to the northern entrance to the Atlantic  
15 Avenue "L-I-double-R" station, and I'm also pleased  
16 that this development will go further than MIH by  
17 making use of HPD's mix and match program - 62 of the  
18 proposed 112 units of housing, which is more than  
19 half, in this project will be affordable to  
20 households making less than 60% AMI, uh, that means  
21 studios for \$1,200 a month right next to a subway  
22 station, uh, and three bedrooms for under \$2,200. If  
23 any of you want to move to Bed-Stuy, now you can. The  
24 remainder would be available to households making  
25 between 90 and 130% AMI, meaning studios for less

2 than \$2,000. I want to thank Council and Land Use for  
3 making this possible, and I urge all of my colleagues  
4 to vote on both of these wonderful projects. (TIMER  
5 CHIMES) Thank you.

6 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, Council  
7 Member.

8 Seeing there are no more members signed up to  
9 speak, we're moving to Report of Special Committees.

10 CITY CLERK: None

11 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Reports of Standing  
12 Committees?

13 CITY CLERK: Report of the Committee on Education,  
14 Intro 341-A, sickle cell reporting?

15 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General  
16 Orders.

17 CITY CLERK: Report of the Committee on Finance,  
18 Preconsidered LU 75 and Reso 423 through  
19 Preconsidered LU 78 and Reso 426, tax exemptions?

20 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders

21 CITY CLERK: Report of the Committee on Land Use,  
22 LU 59 through LU 63, zoning amendments?

23 SPEAKER ADAMS: Approved with Modifications and  
24 Referred to the City Planning Commission pursuant to  
25 Section 197-(d) of the New York City Charter.

2 CITY CLERK: LU 64 and Reso 427 through 167 and  
3 Reso 430, 281-311 Marcus Garvey Boulevard?

4 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

5 CITY CLERK: LUs 68 and 69 zoning amendments?

6 SPEAKER ADAMS: Approved with Modifications and  
7 Referred to the City Planning Commission pursuant to  
8 Section 197-(d) New York City Charter.

9 CITY CLERK: Preconsidered LU 179 in Reso Timbale  
10 Terrace ESDC Grant Application?

11 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

12 CITY CLERK: Report of the Committee On Public  
13 Housing, Intro 110-A NYCHA Permanent Affordability  
14 Program?

15 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General  
16 Orders.

17 CITY CLERK: General Orders Calendar, LU 59 and  
18 Reso 432 and LU 60 and Reso 433, 817 Avenue H  
19 Rezoning?

20 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

21 CITY CLERK: LU 63 in Reso 396, 97-22 Cresskill  
22 Place Disposition?

23 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

24 CITY CLERK: LU 68 and Reso 434 and LU 69 and Reso  
25 435, 1289 Atlantic Avenue Rezoning?

2 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

3 I now ask that the Clerk take a rollcall vote on  
4 all of the items coupled on today's General Orders  
5 Calendar.

6 CLERK: Council Member Marte?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Permission to explain my  
8 vote?

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: I vote aye on all. And I  
11 want to thank the Speaker Adrienne Adams for  
12 recognizing Don Lee. He was a legend and a lion of  
13 Chinatown. Born and raised in that community, he's  
14 done everything in his power to make sure that the  
15 most vulnerable represented restaurant workers that  
16 are being displaced... he's been out at pickets,  
17 hunger strikes, and he was the founder of Homecrest,  
18 an organization that takes care of our seniors in  
19 Brooklyn and in Chinatown. And he is remembered by  
20 his wife and his daughter and everyone who knew him  
21 as a friend. He didn't always agree with me, but that  
22 is why I respected him, because he always represented  
23 the citizens of Chinatown. Thank you so much.

24 CLERK: Thank you

25 Council Member Abreu?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye

3 CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: I vote aye.

5 CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: I vote aye.

7 CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye

9 CLERK: Council Member Banks?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye on all. Permission to  
11 explain my vote?

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Permission granted

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Thank you. I want to first  
14 of all thank, uh, Council Member Avilés on Intro  
15 110. I believe that this particular legislation is  
16 groundbreaking. And not only that, it also will allow  
17 for the exposure of this get rich scheme, which is  
18 the RAD/PACT program, which I believe will be  
19 important to make sure that we get to the bottom of  
20 what is going on with the RAD/PACT program, and it  
21 will allow the Public Housing Committee to answer or  
22 as the questions that are needed. I believe the  
23 residents of NYCHA have long overdue demanded this,  
24 and I congratulate Council Member Avilas on getting  
25 this legislation through, thank you.

2 CLERK: Council Member Bottcher

3 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHER: Aye on all.

4 CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye

6 CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye on all. I just want  
8 second the concern and the love for, uh, Don Lee. He  
9 died in Argentina while on vacation. May he rest in  
10 peace.

11 CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Aye on all, and  
13 congrats to all passing bills today.

14 CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye on all.

16 CLERK: Council Member Carr?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Aye on all.

18 CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye

20 CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye

22 CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye on all. I just want to  
24 congratulate everyone passing bills, thank you.

25 CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: (MEDICAL)

3 CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye

5 CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye

7 CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye on all.

9 CLERK: Council Member Holden?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye on all.

11 CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye on all, and I also  
13 just want to express my condolences for the loss Don  
14 Lee, who I saw recently in my district advocating for  
15 older adults, and he will definitely be missed.

16 CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye on all.

18 CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye on all, and I also  
20 express my condolences for Don Lee, and my thoughts  
21 and prayers are with his family.

22 CLERK: Council Member Lee?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye on all. And I also want  
24 to express my condolences, we will miss Don Lee. Love

25



2 him, he was such a fierce advocate for the community,  
3 thank you.

4 CLERK: Council Member Louis?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye on all. I also want to  
6 share my sentiments to Don Lee and his family.

7 CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Aye on all.

9 CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye on all.

11 CLERK: Council Member Menin?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye on all.

13 CLERK: Council Member Moya?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

15 CLERK: Thank you.

16 Council Member Narcisse?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye on all. Thank you to

18 Madam Speaker, the legislative body, and of course

19 Nadia Jean-Francois and Saye Joseph from my team.

20 Thank you so much... and Frank Shea, thank you.

21 CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: I vote aye.

23 CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Aye on all.

25 CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye on all.

3 CLERK: Council Member Powers?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye

5 CLERK: Council Member Restler?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye, and congratulations  
7 to Council Member Avilés on another great bill.

8 CLERK: Council Member Riley?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: (NO MIC) (INAUDIBLE)

10 CLERK: Thank you

11 Council Member Rivera?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: (PARENTAL)

13 CLERK: Council Member Salaam

14 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: I vote aye on all.

15 CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye on all.

17 CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye on all, and I'd like  
19 to congratulate Council Member Avilas on a terrific  
20 transparency bill, thank you.

21 CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye on all.

23 CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye

25 CLERK: Council Member Ung?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye on all, and also want to  
3 express deepest condolences for the passing of Don  
4 Lee. He was a true community advocate.

5 CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: (ABSENT)

7 CLERK: Council Member Williams?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye on all.

9 CLERK: Council Member Won?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye on all.

11 CLERK: Thank you

12 Council Member Yeger?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye

14 CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye

16 CLERK: Council Member Borelli?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye on all.

18 CLERK: Thank you

19 Council Member Farías?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye on all.

21 CLERK: Speaker Adams?

22 SPEAKER ADAMS: I vote aye.

23 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All items on today's

24 General Order Calendar are adopted by a vote of 48 in

25

2 the affirmative, 0 in the negative, and 0  
3 abstentions.

4 Introduction and Reading of Bills?

5 SPEAKER ADAMS: All bills have been referred to  
6 committees as indicated on today's Agenda.

7 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you. We will now  
8 move into the Discussion of Resolutions. Seeing no  
9 one signed up to speak, we will now have a voice vote  
10 on today's Resolution.

11 If you wish to vote against or abstain from  
12 today's Resolution, please notify the Legislative  
13 Documents Unit by email or by approaching the dais.

14 I will now read the today's Resolution into the  
15 Record. Resolution 15 calls on the New York State  
16 Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, the  
17 New York Child Data Privacy and Protection Act  
18 (S.3281/A.4967) and the Stop Addictive Feeds  
19 Exploitation (SAFE) for Kids Act (S.7694/A.8148).

20 Will all those in favor say aye?

21 ALL IN FAVOR: Aye

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: All opposed say nay?

23 ALL: (SILENT)

24 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Any abstentions?

25 ALL: (SILENT)

MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: The ayes have it.

We will now move into General Discussion, and I would like to recognize Council Member Louis, followed by Council Member Hanif.

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Thank you, Majority Leader.

Today I'm introducing several bills and resolutions that tackle pressing women's health disparities and concerns. These pieces of legislation seek to prioritize the well-being of our community members.

As we observe National Women's Health Week, it is important to recognize some critical needs for women across the city to thrive.

My bill's Intros 891, 892 and 893 aim to increase transparency surrounding the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's Maternal Mortality And Morbidity Committee, support lactating individuals, and establish a screening program for endometriosis and polycystic over ovarian syndrome.

I'm also calling on the Department of Education and Reso 409 to prioritize menstrual equity for women to permit students excused absences while experiencing symptoms of menstrual disorders. And in Reso 410, we're calling on the state to surround to

1  
2 create curricula to surround endometriosis and the  
3 effects of systemic racism and gender-based  
4 disparities.

5 Additionally, Reso 408 to seek... sorry, Reso  
6 408 to recognize May 28th as Menstrual Hygiene Day in  
7 the city of New York.

8 Additionally with the recent violence and  
9 assaults taking place among scholars citywide, I am  
10 introducing 407, a resolution calling upon the state  
11 to require Mental Health training at all teachers  
12 colleges. It is imperative for our educators to be  
13 trained and equipped to handle the traumatic  
14 experiences faced by peers and to help navigate the  
15 challenges that scholars are facing in and out of the  
16 classroom. Colleagues, I urge you all to sign on to  
17 these pieces of legislation to foster inclusivity,  
18 advance gender equity, and make our city more  
19 equitable and compassionate for the generations to  
20 come.

21 I want to thank Speaker Adams for making mental,  
22 maternal and menstrual health a priority in her last  
23 State of the City, and I look forward to passing  
24 these pieces of legislation with my colleagues, thank  
25 you.

1 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you. I would like  
2 to recognize Council Member Hanif, followed by  
3 Council Member Menin, and Council Member Williams.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Thank you, Majority Leader.

5 Today I'm excited to introduce Intro 870  
6 alongside Brooklyn Borough President Reynoso, Parks  
7 Chair Krishnan, and Mental Health, Disabilities, and  
8 Addictions, Chair Lee.

9 This bill seeks to address accessibility issues  
10 in our city's parks, which can prevent New Yorkers  
11 with disabilities from fully enjoying these critical  
12 spaces. During Lupus Awareness Month, I'm proud to be  
13 advancing legislation that would help... that would  
14 further disability justice in our city. This bill  
15 would require the Parks Department to assess Park  
16 facilities for compliance with Americans with  
17 Disabilities Act standards, for accessible design,  
18 produce an annual report on the accessibility of each  
19 Park and the Department's plans to address out of  
20 compliance facilities, and create and publish a map  
21 online depicting each park and the accessibility  
22 information captured by the report.

23 I encourage my colleagues to join this bill as a  
24 sponsor. Thank you  
25

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Council Member Menin,  
3 followed by Williams, and Sanchez.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Thank you, Majority Leader.

5 Today I'm introducing two bills that affect the  
6 health of New Yorkers and address over \$1 billion  
7 owed to New York City.

8 The first bill, Intro 894 co-sponsored with  
9 Council Member Ung, will require the Department of  
10 Finance to create a 90 day amnesty program for  
11 parking violations and judgments from the  
12 Environmental Control Board - which includes  
13 Sanitation, Buildings, and Fire Department  
14 violations. Unpaid parking violations alone total a  
15 whopping \$1 billion with almost 30% of tickets not  
16 being paid in 2022. My bill ensures that the City  
17 creates an amnesty program for those subject to  
18 default judgments to pay the base penalty and have  
19 interest and additional fees waved. This will bring  
20 relief to struggling New Yorkers where helping the  
21 City quickly raise hundreds of millions of dollars in  
22 revenue. We simply cannot afford to leave money on  
23 the table as the Administration proposes cuts to  
24 vital City programs.



1           The second bill, Intro 895, co-sponsored with  
2 Council Member Schulman, requires all schools and  
3 child care providers to have EpiPens on site. As a  
4 mother, I remember back in 2007 when one of my sons  
5 ate just one bite of fish and suffered an  
6 anaphylactic shock reaction that almost killed him.  
7 Thankfully he was treated with two EpiPens which  
8 saved his life. At that time, I learned that New York  
9 City ambulances were not actually required to have  
10 EpiPens, and I spent several years working on a bill  
11 at the state level - which now mandates that every  
12 New York City ambulance have life-saving EpiPens on  
13 them. But, we really should not leave anything to  
14 chance, especially as there are over two million  
15 people in New York City with life threatening food  
16 allergies. We need to make sure that every student  
17 has quick access to a life-saving EpiPen. And I  
18 respectfully ask my colleagues to join with me on  
19 these two pieces of legislation, thank you.  
20

21           MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, Council Member  
22 Schulman.

23           I will call on Council Member Williams, followed  
24 Council Member Sanchez, and then Council Member  
25 Nurse.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you, Majority  
3 Leader.

4 I just wanted to welcome my illustrious sorors of  
5 Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated to the  
6 Council Chambers for the second Delta Days at City  
7 Hall, and also my wonderful scholars from The  
8 Institute for Health Professions at Cambria Heights,  
9 who also participated in a very important discussion  
10 around engaging our youth. Thank you so much for  
11 joining us today.

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Council member Sanchez,  
13 followed by Council Member Nurse, then Council Member  
14 Zhuang.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Thank you Majority  
16 Leader. I first want to shout out three of our  
17 interns who are here today Kadeem (INAUDIBLE),  
18 Mohammed Diallo, and Bladimir Marte( phonetic) from  
19 the Claremont International High School - who by the  
20 way are constituents of Council Member Rafael  
21 Salamanca, Council Member Feliz, and Council Member  
22 Marmorato. Welcome!

23 I want to ask my colleagues today to join me in  
24 signing on to Introduction 904, the Billingsley  
25 Structural Integrity Bill, which would work to

2 transform DOB (Department of Buildings) into a  
3 proactive, data driven agency that keeps us safer  
4 through the establishment of a risk-based inspection  
5 system.

6 This is an Introduction in connection to the  
7 Billingsley collapse, which happened on December 11th  
8 at about 1 p.m. when children were going home from  
9 school and people were shopping in the bodega  
10 downstairs. The building had dozens of a of DOB  
11 violations and hundreds of HPD violations. And what  
12 did we do with this information? Did we give this  
13 building any special treatment? Do we treat buildings  
14 that we know are in disarray and disrepair and  
15 dangerous conditions for New Yorkers? Do we treat  
16 them any differently? The answer today, is that DOB  
17 does not. We do not proactively go after these  
18 owners, and this is what this bill seeks to change.

19 So I hope that folks join me in signing on to  
20 Intro 904, thank you.

21 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Council Member Nurse,  
22 followed by Council Member Zhuang, then Council  
23 Member Riley.

24

25

1 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Thank you, Majority Leader.  
2 Today I'm introducing one bill for consideration and  
3 a of couple resolutions.  
4

5 Intro 899, would require the Department of  
6 Sanitation to do a public education campaign on how  
7 property owners can restrict unsolicited advertising  
8 on their properties. This comes from many complaints,  
9 surprisingly enough, about supermarket coupon  
10 booklets and other unsolicited materials being  
11 haphazardly stuffed in front gates and other parts of  
12 entrances, creating a lot of waste. The bill would  
13 require DSNY to post sample signs on their website  
14 for download and printing by the public.

15 I'm also introducing two resolutions today, one  
16 is calling on the State to pass legislation requiring  
17 at least one member of the State Board of Parole be a  
18 formally incarcerated person. It's only common sense  
19 for someone with lived experience in the criminal  
20 justice system to be at the table.

21 The second resolution calls on the Governor to  
22 pass legislation that retroactively adjusts the  
23 compensation of formally incarcerated individuals who  
24 were unjustly convicted. Wrongful convictions are  
25

2 devastating to families and communities, and this is  
3 but one way to repair harm.

4 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you.

5 I will now call on Council Member Zhuang,  
6 followed by Council Member Riley, then Council Member  
7 Lee.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Thank you. Today I want to  
9 introduce Intro 907. For too long, squatting has gone  
10 unaddressed. According to the state law, if the  
11 squatter stays in a property for 30 days, the  
12 squatter is given tenants' rights and allowed to  
13 stay. The property owner loses control of their own  
14 home, forced to spend thousands of dollars and years  
15 in housing court to evict the squatter. It's not  
16 about large real estate corporations, it's about  
17 small home owners, and even the tenants who are at  
18 risk of losing their home, while balancing a mortgage  
19 and expensive legal battles. Often squatters attack  
20 majority migrant and immigrant communities across the  
21 city, because the squatter knows the immigrant  
22 community has language barriers, and they do not know  
23 where to look for help. Now people are afraid to even  
24 take a vacation. They are afraid that when they come  
25 back their home will be occupied by someone else.

1  
2 When the squatting incidents get reported, it's  
3 classified as a landlord/tenant issue, which gives a  
4 direct path to housing court. There is insufficient  
5 data about squatting. There are limited ways in which  
6 people can protect themselves. Squatting is illegal,  
7 we must classify it as a criminal act. We cannot  
8 allow squatters to be above the law. Since I was  
9 sworn in, my office received numbers of squatting  
10 cases. In my district a union worker was forced to  
11 continue paying thousands of dollars on a mortgage  
12 for a home that he and his hospitalized wife cannot  
13 live in. The house been burned down four times by  
14 squatters who have caused a lot of issues in the  
15 neighborhood. Our city must do everything in our  
16 power to protect homeowners, tenants, and (INAUDIBLE)  
17 public safety by working to stop squatters and  
18 provide data for those instances.

19 My bill will require city agencies such as NYPD,  
20 HPD, 311... (CROSS-TALK)

21 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Council Member, your time  
22 has expired, please wrap up.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: So, we want to protect the  
24 public safety, and I also I want to thank Council  
25

2 Member Riley who co-sponsored this bill. Please  
3 consider this bill, thank you.

4 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you so much. I  
5 would like to recognize Council Member Riley,  
6 followed by Council Member Lee, then Council Member  
7 Bottcher.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Thank you, Majority Leader.

9 I'm honored to be here before you today to  
10 introduce three pieces of legislation crucial to  
11 addressing issues affecting our city.

12 As we discuss ways to support affordable housing  
13 for all, we must also take meaningful steps to  
14 advocate for homeowners who are deeply impacted by  
15 this crisis. Home ownership is a cherished dream for  
16 New Yorkers, uh, representing physical shelter,  
17 emotional security, and financial stability. But  
18 achieving this dream means little without safeguards  
19 to ensure it remains a lasting reality. To this end,  
20 I am asking for your support for two bills that  
21 address the complexities homeowners are facing when  
22 owning and maintaining a residential property in our  
23 city.

24 Intro 907 was drafted in partnership with Council  
25 Member Zhuang to require relevant agencies to issue a

1  
2 quarterly report on squatting in New York City. I  
3 look forward to collaborating across the aisle on  
4 this matter, and I extend my gratitude to my 21  
5 colleagues for their bipartisan support as cosponsors  
6 on this bill.

7 Secondly, I introduce Intro 901, which aims to  
8 create a homeowner assistance program for the Office  
9 of Financial Empowerment. This program would support  
10 New Yorkers inheriting residential properties,  
11 ensuring that they have the tools and resources to  
12 safely manage their homes.

13 In addition to the previously mentioned home  
14 ownership bills, I introduce Resolution 417, which  
15 calls on New York State to ensure the return of fines  
16 and reparation payments to wrongfully convicted  
17 people in a timely manner. Justice impacted  
18 individuals deserve to be repaid promptly to  
19 compensate for the losses they have suffered and to  
20 support their needs navigating and re-entry. As a  
21 city, we must ensure that all New Yorkers have the  
22 opportunity to thrive regardless of their wrongful  
23 conviction status. I encourage my colleagues to sign  
24 on and support these bills, thank you.



1 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: I'd like to recognize  
2 Council Member Lee, followed by Council Member  
3 Bottcher, then Council Member Brewer.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Good afternoon, Madam  
5 Speaker, Majority Leader, and colleagues. It is an  
6 honor today to be introducing legislation in response  
7 to our city's growing maternal mental health crisis.

8 Intro 890 would establish a three-year pilot  
9 program of postpartum support groups focusing  
10 especially on the most disadvantaged community  
11 districts in our city. In addition, we're introducing  
12 a number of resolutions calling upon the state  
13 government to require more of health insurance plans,  
14 psychiatry residency programs, OBGYNs, and Medicaid  
15 Managed Care organizations. I want to thank the  
16 Speaker for her leadership on this issue, and for  
17 declaring this a priority during her State of The  
18 City Address. Thank you all, and I hope you can join  
19 in this effort.

20 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: I will now call on  
21 Council Member Bottcher, followed by Council Member  
22 Brewer, then Council Member De La Rosa.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Thank you, Majority  
24 Leader.  
25

1 Today I'm introducing, in partnership with Yusef  
2 Salaam and Manhattan Borough President, Mark Levine,  
3 legislation that will require the New York City  
4 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to staff each  
5 police precinct with a licensed social worker.  
6

7 Today in New York City, probably several times  
8 all over the city, there have been individuals taken  
9 into precincts for petty crimes, booked,  
10 fingerprinted, photographed, and, uh, just put out on  
11 the sidewalk. And it's very likely that no one during  
12 any of that sequence of events asks much about the  
13 person's circumstances- if they're um suffering from  
14 substance use disorder, mental health issues - do  
15 they have family in the city or the region that they  
16 could be reconnected with? That's what social workers  
17 do. This would be a profound step forward for public  
18 safety in New York City. And we'll be sending around  
19 an email, uh, asking folks to sign on. And we're  
20 looking forward to discussing this with everyone  
21 further.

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you.

23 I will now call on Council Member Brewer,  
24 followed by Council Member De La Rosa, and  
25 then Council Member Avilés.

1 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you very much.

2 Resolution 397 calls on the Mayor to appoint  
3 family court judges to fill the judicial vacancies.  
4 He has appointed two recently. There are more  
5 vacancies. The reason this is particularly important  
6 is... and we've had oversight hearings on Family  
7 Court. There are so many problems in Family Court -  
8 backlogs. And it's terrible to have backlogs in any  
9 court, but when you're dealing with families and  
10 children and separation, and tremendous emotional  
11 challenges, it is really important to have enough  
12 judges so that there's less of a backlog. So, that's  
13 an incredibly important position.

14 Number two, Resolution 398 asks the state  
15 legislature to pass two bills to establish a New York  
16 City grant program for laundry equipment at schools.  
17 I've been talking about this forever. The issue is  
18 not enough schools have a laundry. There are too many  
19 children in many districts that come from... are  
20 unhoused essentially in shelters or hotels. They do  
21 not have access to any kind of laundry, and the  
22 teachers and the principals are taking the clothes  
23 home in order to make sure that the children are  
24 clean and they are not bullied. So, I feel very, very  
25

1  
2 strongly that the DOE should get the funding or do it  
3 themselves - make the electrical possible, work to  
4 have a washer/dryer, and anything else that can help  
5 clean the clothes, so the teachers don't have to take  
6 it home, and children are not bullied. Thank you very  
7 much.

8 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Council Member De La  
9 Rosa, followed by Council Member Avilés, then Council  
10 Member Narcisse.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Thank you.

12 Colleagues, I ask you to consider Intro 865,  
13 which I am introducing today, to require the  
14 Commissioner of Consumer and Worker Protection to  
15 establish and maintain an online publicly available  
16 data base that complies with information related to  
17 workplace fatalities that occur in New York City.  
18 This bill would also require the direct employers,  
19 contractors, and subcontractors to provide the  
20 commissioner with additional information in relation  
21 to such deaths. A failure to report such information  
22 would be punishable by a civil penalty of not less  
23 than \$1,000 and no more than \$2,500 for each  
24 violation. Construction worker deaths in New York  
25 City continue to rise - even though workplace deaths

1 across the state continue to decline. The New York  
2 City Department of Buildings, as we know, is  
3 understaffed. And OSHA inspections are well below the  
4 pracademic number for workers who face dangerous  
5 conditions. Twenty-four construction workers died in  
6 2022, compared to 20 in 2021, and 13 in 2020.

7 Violations at these worksites coincide with worker  
8 fatalities, pointing to a trend of unscrupulous  
9 employers who put work over safety. Our Introduction  
10 creates a set of data for us to follow up on these  
11 deaths to hold employees accountable and financially  
12 liable for underreporting these deaths. Our goal is  
13 that not one more life is lost, and no one expects to  
14 go to work and not come back home. This is another  
15 level of protection for our workers who we have  
16 memorialized not too long ago with NYCOSH and CLC, to  
17 ensure that employers take heed at worksites and  
18 employees know that, should something happen, there  
19 are additional accountability measures to reduce  
20 these incidents at worksites. I ask you all to  
21 consider this legislation, thank you.

22  
23 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Council Member Avilés,  
24 followed by Council Member Narcisse, and then Council  
25 Member Mealy.

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

2 54 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILES: Thank you.

3 I just wanted to thank the Speaker for noting  
4 and remembering Don Lee. I didn't take the  
5 opportunity earlier, but his loss runs truly deep in  
6 both Chinatowns... actually all three Chinatowns  
7 across New York City. But, his legacy is so much  
8 deeper. I will say Don welcomed me with open arms,  
9 with a great smile, and a lot of compassion. And his  
10 true love and commitment to the AAPI community, to  
11 their thriving as a community, was so refreshing. And  
12 he was willing to work with anyone who truly believed  
13 in lifting up people. So, it was truly my honor to  
14 have Don and his incredible organization, Homecrest  
15 Community Services, as part of my district. I want to  
16 thank you all - and Homecrest, thank you for the work  
17 you do. Thank you to Don's family for giving us this  
18 incredible human whose legacy will run deep forever  
19 in New York City, and thank you to this body for  
20 remembering and working with him - and to the whole  
21 community, thank you.

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Council Member Narcisse  
23 and followed Council Member Mealy.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: thank you Madam Majority  
25 Leader.

1           Colleagues, I'm proud to sponsor Intro 897, which  
2 aims to enhance the inclusivity and accountability of  
3 our city's health care service community by ensuring  
4 that at least three members represent health care  
5 stakeholders to vulnerable populations. We can better  
6 address the unique needs for low income communities,  
7 people of color, older adults, and the LGBTQIA+  
8 community. This bill also mandates transparency in  
9 implementing committee recommendations, and involves  
10 the community through surveys and hearing. I urge you  
11 to support this bill to create a more equitable,  
12 *equitable* and responsive health care system for all  
13 our residents in New York City. I would be remiss  
14 not to give credit to Miss Davis who always helped me  
15 with sickle cell disease. So, thank you to everyone  
16 for contributing in order to make it possible, thank  
17 you.

18  
19           MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Finally we will hear from  
20 Council Member Mealy.

21           COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Yes, I just want to give  
22 condolences to the family of Gerald Nelson, Chief of  
23 Brooklyn North, retired. He was a good friend, I  
24 worked with him for five years, and today at the  
25 Greater Allen A.M.E. Cathedral of New York, where he

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is laid right now... I just want to let the community know that he really loved the community, and thinking about... he was in the church, and he brought that over as being the Chief of Brooklyn North and a Chief of 73rd precinct council. The City has lost a good one, and I just want to give my condolences to his family and the family of blue, the NYPD, thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Seeing no one else to speak, I'll now call on Speaker Adrienne E. Adams to close today's Stated Meeting.

SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you, Madam Majority Leader. The Stated Meeting of May 16,2024 is hereby adjourned.

(GAVEL SOUND) (GAVELING OUT)



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 May 30, 2024