

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

-----X

TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

-----X

April 29, 2010
Start: 2:31pm
Recess: 4:09pm

HELD AT: Council Chambers
City Hall

B E F O R E:
JOEL RIVERA
President Pro Tempore

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- Council Member Maria del Carmen Arroyo
- Council Member Charles Baron
- Council Member Gale A. Brewer
- Council Member Fernando Cabrera
- Council Member Margaret S. Chin
- Council Member Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.
- Council Member Elizabeth S. Crowley
- Council Member Daniel Dromm
- Council Member Mathieu Eugene
- Council Member Julissa Ferreras
- Council Member Lewis A. Fidler
- Council Member Helen D. Foster
- Council Member Daniel R. Garodnick

A P P E A R A N C E S

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council Member James F. Gennaro
Council Member Vincent J. Gentile
Council Member Sara M. Gonzalez
Council Member David G. Greenfield
Council Member Daniel J. Halloran III
Council Member Vincent M. Ignizio
Council Member Robert Jackson
Council Member Letitia James
Council Member Peter A. Koo
Council Member G. Oliver Koppell
Council Member Karen Koslowitz
Council Member Brad S. Lander
Council Member Jessica S. Lappin
Council Member Stephen T. Levin
Council Member Melissa Mark-Viverito
Council Member Michael C. Nelson
Council Member James S. Oddo
Speaker Christine C. Quinn
Council Member Domenic M. Recchia, Jr.
Council Member Diana Reyna
Council Member Joel Rivera
Council Member Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Council Member Deborah L. Rose
Council Member James Sanders, Jr.
Council Member Larry B. Seabrook
Council Member Eric A. Ulrich
Council Member James Vacca
Council Member Peter F. Vallone, Jr.
Council Member James G. Van Bramer
Council Member Albert Vann
Council Member Mark S. Weprin
Council Member Thomas White, Jr.
Council Member Jumaane D. Williams

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

John Doherty
Commissioner
NYC Department of Sanitation

Michael Wiltshire, Ph.D.
Principal
Medgar Evers College Preparatory School

Billy Yip
Reverend
Chinese Herald Christian Crusade

1
2 SPEAKER QUINN: All right, we're
3 going to start the ceremonials right on time, an
4 hour-and-a-half late. Thank god the Sanitation
5 Department doesn't pick up the garbage the way we
6 run the City Council. And if I could ask all of
7 my colleagues to come up for the first of our
8 ceremonials, which is a very important one,
9 recognizing our ever-present Sanitation
10 Commissioner, John Doherty on the occasion of his
11 50th anniversary. [applause, cheers] So let's
12 give our Commissioner--Tish, you're our Sanitation
13 gal, come on over.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: [off mic]
15 He's only 49.

16 SPEAKER QUINN: So I just want to
17 take a second before we hear from Tish, and then
18 have the proc read and then hear from the
19 Commissioner just to thank Commissioner Doherty
20 for all of his great service to the City of New
21 York. And I've always found the fact that John
22 Doherty as our Sanitation Commissioner to be
23 particularly inspiring, 'cause it sends a message
24 to all City workers that if you start off as an
25 entry level City worker, we have tremendous

1
2 respect for you. And if you work hard, and you do
3 your job well, you can end up running an important
4 City agency. So you're an inspiration to every
5 City worker.

6 JOHN DOHERTY: [off mic] Thank you.

7 SPEAKER QUINN: So thank you very
8 much, Commissioner. Tish? [applause, cheers]

9 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: As most of
10 you know, the Commissioner just celebrated his 39th
11 birthday, we all want to say Happy Birthday to
12 him, and want to thank him for all of his service
13 to the City of New York, he is truly an
14 inspiration and truly the epitome of public
15 service. Commissioner, thank you and
16 congratulations.

17 SPEAKER QUINN: And if the Clerk
18 could read, please read the proclamation before we
19 hear from the Commissioner.

20 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Council,
21 City of New York Proclamation. Whereas the
22 Council of the City of New York is proud to honor
23 Commissioner John Doherty for 50 years of
24 outstanding service with the New York City
25 Department of Sanitation, the world's largest and

1
2 most diverse cleaning and collection agency. And
3 whereas born and raised in Staten Island,
4 Commissioner Doherty [cheers, outcry, laughter]
5 Commissioner Doherty launched his career with the
6 Department of Sanitation on March 1, 1960. His
7 career with the Department is not only impressive
8 due to its length but also its depth of
9 experience. He began as a sanitation worker,
10 sweeping the City streets with a rolling trash can
11 and a pickax in hand. [laughter] He then rose
12 through the ranks of the Department and honed his
13 expertise in many roles, including Assistant
14 Foreman, Foreman, District Superintendent and
15 Borough, Assistant Borough Chief. He quickly
16 advanced himself within the Department to
17 positions of increasing responsibility, such as
18 Assistant Chief of Snow Operations, Chief of
19 Bureau Operations, Director of the Bureau of
20 Cleaning and Collection (the Department's largest
21 division) Deputy Commissioner for Operations and
22 First Deputy Commissioner. And whereas,
23 Commissioner Doherty is only the fifth person in
24 the Department of Sanitation's history to rise
25 through the ranks to become Commissioner, from

1
2 1994 through 1998, he served as the 40th
3 Commissioner. After a three year sabbatical, he
4 returned in February 2002 to serve as the 42nd
5 commissioner. And whereas, over the course of the
6 last five decades, the span of Commissioner
7 Doherty's career has reflected the Department's
8 own incredible transformation. Since the early
9 days of pickaxes, incinerators and landfills, it
10 has seen tremendous improvement in technology and
11 equipment. But equally important, the
12 Department's workers have changed both the
13 public's view of them and the way we view, the way
14 they view themselves. Now, therefore be it known
15 that the Council of the City of New York most
16 gratefully honors and congratulates John J.
17 Doherty on the occasion of his 50th Anniversary
18 with the New York City Department of Sanitation.
19 [applause, cheers] Christine C. Quinn, Speaker
20 for the Entire Council; Letitia James, Council
21 Member 35th District Brooklyn; Deborah Rose,
22 Council Member 49th District Staten Island; James
23 S. Oddo, Minority Leader, 50th District Staten
24 Island; Vincent M. Ignizio, Council Member 51st
25 District Staten Island; and many other members of

1

2 the City Council.

3

4

5

SPEAKER QUINN: [off mic] And we
can get snow removal first [laughter] we signed
the proclamation.

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

JOHN DOHERTY: Well, thank you,
Madam Speaker, and all members of the City
Council. You know, when I look back on my 50
years, almost 30 of them have been attending
meetings at this Council before [laughter] before
some of the Council Members and their
predecessors, I either sat next to a Commissioner
that I worked for, or I sat there as a
Commissioner. And over the years, even though
when we had differences at times, it was never
personal, it was always something, I think, that I
respected the Council Member, and they respected
me over the years. And I think I really
appreciated with that. And when I meet with young
people in my Department, and when they have to
come to the City Council, I always try to tell
'em, "It's only a job, don't worry about what they
say, don't get excited" [laughter] "They have a
job to do, we have a job to do, and we end up at
the end of the day working together to achieve our

1

2 goals for the City and the people that we work
3 for." Thank you all very much for this tribute.
4 [applause, cheers]

5 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you,
6 Commissioner. Congratulations. Yay! Alright,
7 next is, keeping on a Tish James roll, Medgar
8 Evers Preparatory. Yay! [applause, cheers]

9 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: C'mon, kids.

10 SPEAKER QUINN: Where's Medgar
11 Evers? Prep.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: [off mic]
13 C'mon up, kids. Come on up, scholars. [pause,
14 background noise] They're coming. C'mon,
15 Principal, this is Principal--[pause, background
16 noise] It was around here somewhere, thank you,
17 thank you.

18 SPEAKER QUINN: You get, get in the
19 middle, Tish, you get--[pause, background noise]

20 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: So--as we
21 mourn the death of Benjamin Hooks and Dr. Dorothy
22 Irene Height, two civil rights icons. They have
23 laid the groundwork for this moment. Medgar Evers
24 College Preparatory was honored recently by the
25 College Board, they received an Inspiration Award

1
2 and a check for \$25,000, at a celebratory assembly
3 at the school. Ever year, the College Board
4 presents three exceptional secondary schools, not
5 in the borough, not in the state, but in the
6 nation. [applause] They recognize schools that
7 have made great strides in improving the academic
8 environment for all students in raising
9 expectations and preparedness for high education.
10 Less than ten years ago, Medgar Evers College Prep
11 had a 60 percent graduation rate, and less than 15
12 percent of its students graduated with regent's
13 diplomas. Today, under the leadership of Dr.
14 Michael A. Wiltshire, a Ph.D. in mathematics, one
15 of the few members of color who have a mathematics
16 in this nation, have brought Medgar Evers
17 Preparatory School to a graduation rate of--drum
18 roll, dddddddddddd--95 percent! [applause, cheers]
19 In 2009, at the National Association for the
20 Advancement of Colored People, President Barack
21 Obama spoke specifically about this high school,
22 recognizing this school's overall achievement and
23 use of innovative approaches to education success.
24 When I heard President Barack Obama mention my
25 school, I started screaming, I was so proud. This

1
2 school has traveled internationally, it's a
3 wonderful school, and it's an honor and a
4 privilege, Speaker Quinn, to celebrate this aware
5 with my scholars here. So, on behalf of all New
6 Yorkers throughout the nation, well all, all
7 Americans, I just salute each and every one of
8 you, I just want you to know how proud I am of
9 you. Thank you for honoring your parents, thank
10 you for honoring our community, thank you for all
11 that you do. May God continue to bless you. I
12 just want to recognize Miss Yvonne Adora, Ms.
13 Angela Smith, Mr. Delroy Burnett, Dr. Elston
14 Little, Miss Keisha Lewis, Miss Diane Achi, Miss
15 Ann-Marie Abraham, Mr. Robert Cologne, Dean
16 Richard Jones, Mr. Horace Smith, and Dr. Brenda
17 Green. And Speaker would you like to say a few
18 words. Speaker Quinn. [applause]

19 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
20 much. Well, Tish, I--I want to thank you first,
21 because I didn't know how unbelievably well Medgar
22 Evers Prep was doing, so thank you for bringing
23 them to us today, so I could know another great
24 school in New York City that I can go out and brag
25 about on a regular basis. So know that will

1
2 happen. [applause] Two, I just want you to know
3 how proud we are of all of you for your tremendous
4 progress, you know, you could have seen your 60
5 percent graduation rate as a reason to give up and
6 let it slip to 40 or 30. That happens sometimes,
7 not just with schools, but in life, you fail on
8 test, and you say forget about it. You guys
9 didn't do that. You said, "60's not good enough,
10 and we're going to make it 95, and eventually I
11 know it'll be 100." And that is a real role model
12 for us, for adults out there in the workplace, to
13 remember that. If you mess up one thing, you just
14 try again, you can always get it better. And I'm
15 just thinking while I'm standing here and looking
16 at this wonderful group of students and teachers,
17 how diverse it is, that I feel bad for the
18 Governor of Arizona, 'cause she just doesn't get
19 it. She doesn't get it, but we are blessed to
20 have all of you here today and reminding us about
21 what's great about New York City. So thank you so
22 much, Tish, for bringing us this reminder.
23 [applause, cheers]

24 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: And they are
25 socially active, and they too are concerned about

1

2 this rule, this law in Arizona. And so this
3 school does it despite the fact that they do not
4 have a gymnasium, they do not have an auditorium.
5 They have a closed space and we are looking to
6 expand Medgar Evers Preparatory, because President
7 Barack Obama said so. And now [laughter] without
8 any ado, the Principal, Ph.D. mathematics, in
9 education, one of few, and he brought this school
10 so far, ladies and gentlemen, Principal Michael
11 Wiltshire. [applause, cheers]

12

MICHAEL WILTSHIRE: Madam Speaker,
13 thank you so much, Councilwoman James, thank you
14 so much for the support that you have given our
15 school over the years. Medgar Evers College
16 Preparatory School is really a unique school. Let
17 me just give you a little bit about the background
18 for our school. I became principal in 2001. At
19 that time, our graduation rate was 60 percent, now
20 we're up to 95 percent. But I think the other
21 important aspect of our school that we need to
22 highlight: this year, we have 259 students who
23 will be writing 500 AP examinations. We have
24 perhaps one of the largest advance placement
25 program maybe in New York City. But we also have

1
2 an affiliated program with Medgar Evers College
3 where, each year, many of our students complete
4 one semester, two semester, and even three
5 semesters of college. And our students go on to
6 some of the most prestigious colleges and
7 universities in this country. Let me just mention
8 a few this year: Cornell University, Brown
9 University, NYU, Columbia, and UPenn, and the list
10 goes on and on. But that's just to say that, you
11 know, our school, we do prepare our students to be
12 successful in college. We have also one of the
13 better performing arts program, and even though we
14 don't have a gym and an auditorium, I must tell
15 you that we are in New York City second place
16 girls track and field champion [applause, cheers],
17 we are Brooklyn champion, girls champion, track
18 and field for two years [applause, cheers] and the
19 achievement goes on and on. But just to say that
20 we truly believe that no obstacle will prevent us
21 from achieving our goal. It'd be great if we have
22 these facilities, it would only make us ten times
23 greater than we are now, but we are still
24 struggling, and we're still continuing to achieve.
25 These students here is just a sample of how we

1
2 have turned and changed the life of the students
3 in our community. Just let me say this: 80
4 percent of our students qualify for free and
5 reduced lunch. So, our accomplishment is not
6 based on extra money we have been able to use. We
7 have done this on a bootstrap, to get the, reach
8 the level of accomplishment that we have. So,
9 today I want to thank you for recognizing us, we
10 get very little recognition but that's okay. We
11 are very thankful and we're very grateful for this
12 opportunity. Thank you.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Thank you.
14 [applause, cheers] Read the proc.

15 SPEAKER QUINN: If the Clerk could
16 please read the proclamation.

17 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Council,
18 City of New York Proclamation. Whereas on April
19 19, 2010, the Medgar Evers College Preparatory was
20 honored with the 2010 College Board Inspiration
21 Award, and a check for \$25,000, at a celebratory
22 assembly at the school. And whereas the College
23 Board Inspiration Award is bestowed upon schools
24 that have made great strides in improving the
25 academic environment for all students; to raise

1
2 aspirations and foster greater preparedness for
3 higher education. And whereas, less than ten
4 years ago, Medgar Evers College Prep had a 60
5 percent graduation rate, and less than 15 percent
6 of its students graduated with New York State
7 Regents diplomas. And whereas, when Dr. Michael
8 A. Wiltshire became the school's principal in
9 2001, a curriculum emphasizing academic rigor was
10 introduced. This curriculum included the addition
11 of 16 advanced placement courses, and the
12 establishment of a dual enrollment program with
13 Medgar Evers College, City University of New York,
14 as well as access to college courses and research
15 internships that enable students to earn college
16 credits starting in the eleventh grade. And
17 whereas, by 2009, these and other changes to the
18 academic environment, Medgar Evers College Prep
19 graduation rate had reached 95 percent. During
20 President Barack Obama's address to the NAACP last
21 year, he spoke specifically about Medgar Evers
22 College Prep, recognizing the school's overall
23 achievement and its use of innovative approaches
24 to education success. And whereas, Medgar Evers
25 College Prep provides a stellar example of

1
2 academic achievement for all young people of
3 color, for the community of Crown Heights, and for
4 all New Yorkers. And now therefore be it known,
5 that I, that the Council of the City of New York,
6 most gratefully honors Medgar Evers College
7 Preparatory for their outstanding service and
8 contributions to the City of New York. Christine
9 C. Quinn, Speaker for the Entire Council; Letitia
10 James, Council Member 35th District Brooklyn.

11 SPEAKER QUINN: Yay,
12 congratulations everybody. [applause, cheers]
13 Keep up the great work, congratulations,
14 everybody. Thanks. Yay. Alright, Bill, get one
15 of the students with the proclamation. [pause,
16 background noise] Alright, congratulations,
17 everybody. Our next ceremonial, which I think is
18 our last one, is going to be led by Council Member
19 Gale Brewer. Congratulations, everybody. [pause,
20 background noise] All right, our final
21 ceremonial. Shhh! If we can just have a little
22 quiet while folks are exiting, and let me give the
23 mic over to Gale Brewer.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you
25 very much. This is an exciting time for history.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

We are celebrating an exhibit that is going to be taking place with El Museo and with the New York Historical Society. [cheers] Two [applause] Two, one in the district of Melissa Mark-Viverito and one in my district, and the fact of the matter is these are two wonderful institutions. The exhibit will be about the great contributions of the Latina/Latino and all Hispanics who have come to the City of New York. I don't think this has been done before in this type of celebration. So, I am delighted that these two great institutions are going to be working together. That's a first in this case. And the topic and subject is dear to every New Yorker's heart. So, thank you very much the leaders of the two institutions and everybody who cosponsored the proclamation. Madam Speaker. [applause]

SPEAKER QUINN: And do you want to hear from the folks from the institutions. I don't know if you guys want to, you're holding it, so we'll start with Museo del Barrio.

JULIAN ZUGAZAGOITIA: Thank you. So, on behalf of El Museo and New York Historical Society, we really want to thank the Council for

1
2 everything they have done supporting arts,
3 supporting our communities, and in the
4 understanding also that institutions like
5 Historical Society, New York Historical Society
6 and Museo del Barrio, we are providers of
7 educational opportunities for our kids. And this
8 exhibition in particular, it's unprecedented
9 collaboration in which we're going to celebrate
10 New York and we're going to celebrate the
11 contributions of Hispanics and Latinos from 1600
12 to almost yesterday. [cheers, applauses] So,
13 thank you.

14 SPEAKER QUINN: And before I give
15 the mic to the New York Historical Society, I'll
16 just say, I want to thank both of your
17 institutions for your tremendous cultural service
18 to the City. I want to thank both of your
19 institutions, too, having a real commitment to
20 diversifying the cultural exhibits and
21 institutions in the City. And I would just ask
22 one request: that you send the program or
23 pamphlet of the exhibit to the Governor of Arizona
24 [laughter] with an invitation that maybe if she
25 came and went to it, she would learn a little bit

1
2 that would help make her not the total governor
3 that she is at this moment in time. So, and if
4 you guys, if that might be a little too in-the-
5 face for the institutions, give us a copy of the
6 program, and we'll send it over. [applause] Let
7 me give the mic to Melissa Mark-Viverito before we
8 hear from the Historical Society.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Oh,
10 well, I'm proud to be a sign, I signed onto this
11 proclamation, and I appreciate all the work.
12 Obviously Museo del Barrio is in my district, very
13 proud. I had a meeting the other day with the New
14 York Historical Society, this exhibit is going to
15 be an incredibly, incredibly wonderful
16 contribution to the City of New York, and I'm very
17 glad that it will be housed at El Museo del
18 Barrio, so I would definitely encourage everyone
19 to come. And thank you all for the contributions
20 that you make. The Abraham Lincoln exhibit that
21 was happening, it was a wonderful exhibit as well,
22 so thank you for all your efforts, both
23 institutions.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: I just want
25 to say it's been such a pleasure to get to know

1

2 and work with all of these institutions, both El
3 Museo and the Historical Society, are two of my
4 favorite. Thank you for all the work that you do,
5 and for this groundbreaking exhibit. And we just
6 cannot say enough about our Latinas in the City
7 Council, and, and--[cheers, applause] and that was
8 a very good plug, wasn't it? [-laughter] And all
9 across the City of New York, thank you so much,
10 our cultural institutions really are the backbone
11 of our City, and we love, love, love all of you.

12 SPEAKER QUINN: And see there's
13 culture outside of Queens, Jimmy, I told you that
14 many years ago. [laughter] And you didn't
15 believe me. So now let's hear from the Historical
16 Society.

17 LOUISE MIRRER: I'd like to thank
18 all of you, thank you very much Speaker Quinn,
19 thank you our representative, our wonderful
20 representative, Gale Brewer. And all of the City
21 Council for this wonderful, wonderful honor. We
22 were thrilled to collaborate and I just second
23 everything that my great colleague and friend
24 Julian has said. Thank you.

25 SPEAKER QUINN: And if we could ask

1

2 the Clerk to read the Proclamation.

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

SPEAKER QUINN: Shhhh.

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: --a

groundbreaking exhibition that explores for the very first time the historic ties between New York and the Spanish speaking world. And whereas, in addition to more than 400 documents, art, objects and maps from the New York Historical Society, El Museo del Barrio and other collections worldwide, this exhibition will include a new documentary film by award winning filmmaker Rick Burns, covering Hispanic migration post-World War II, and a media installation featuring individual stories

1
2 of contemporary Latino communities, that bring the
3 exhibition into the present. And whereas, the New
4 York Historical Society and El Museo del Barrio
5 are to be commended for fostering greater
6 understanding of Hispanic heritage and its
7 enduring narrative thread that strengthens the
8 fabric of American society and progress. Now
9 therefore, be it known that the Council of the
10 City of New York encourages everyone to see Nueva
11 York this fall and thereby proclaims this April
12 29, 2010 as New York Historical Society and El
13 Museo del Barrio Appreciation Day. Christine C.
14 Quinn, Speaker for the Entire Council [cheers,
15 applause]; Gale A. Brewer, Council Member 6th
16 District Manhattan; Melissa Mark-Viverito, Council
17 Member 8th District Manhattan; Annabel Palma,
18 Council Member 18th District The Bronx; and many
19 other members of the City Council.

20 SPEAKER QUINN: And I'll just say,
21 New York Historical Society and El Museo del
22 Barrio Appreciation Day doesn't come around all
23 the time, so make the best of it. [laughter] And
24 that concludes our ceremonials.

25 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: At this time,

1
2 we're going to ask all non-staff to kindly move up
3 to the balcony, place all your cell phones on
4 vibrate. Thank you.

5 [pause, background noise]

6 [gavel]

7 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Good
8 afternoon, ladies and gentlemen, I call today's
9 Stated Meeting of April 29, 2010 to order. Please
10 rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

11 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: All rise.

12 [pledge of allegiance]

13 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Roll call.

14 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Arroyo.

15 Barron.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: [off mic]

17 Here.

18 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Brewer.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: - -

20 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Cabrera.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

22 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Chin.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

24 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Comrie.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Present.

1

2

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Crowley.

3

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.

4

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Dickens.

5

Dilan. Dromm.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

7

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Eugene.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.

9

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Greenfield.

10

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: [off

11

mic] Here.

12

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Ferreras.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Present.

14

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Fidler.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: [off mic]

16

Here.

17

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Foster.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Here.

19

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Garodnick.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: [off

21

mic] Here.

22

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Gennaro.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: [off mic]

24

Here now.

25

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Gentile.

1

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: [off mic]

2

3 Here.

4

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Gonzalez.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: [off mic]

6

Here.

7

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Halloran.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Present

9

in body if not mind.

10

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Ignizio.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: [off mic]

12

Here.

13

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Jackson.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: [off mic]

15

Here.

16

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: James.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: [off mic]

18

Here.

19

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Koo.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Here.

21

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Koppell.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Here.

23

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Koslowitz.

24

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: [off

25

mic] Here.

1

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Lander.

2

3

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: [off mic]

4

Here.

5

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Lappin.

6

Levin.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

8

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Mark-

9

Viverito.

10

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: [off

11

mic] Here.

12

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Mealy.

13

Mendez. Okay. Mendez. Okay. Nelson. Palma.

14

Recchia.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: [off mic]

16

Here.

17

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Reyna.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Present.

19

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Rodriguez.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.

21

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Rose.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Present.

23

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Sanders.

24

[background noise] Seabrook.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Here.

1
2 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Ulrich.
3 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Here.
4 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Vacca.
5 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.
6 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Vallone.
7 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.
8 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Van Bramer.
9 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.
10 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Vann.
11 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: [off mic]
12 Here.
13 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Weprin.
14 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: [off mic]
15 Here.
16 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: White.
17 Williams.
18 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I am
19 here.
20 [pause]
21 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Oddo.
22 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: [off mic]
23 Here.
24 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Rivera.
25 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Here.

1

2

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Speaker

3

Quinn.

4

SPEAKER QUINN: [off mic] Here.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Quorum is

6

present, everyone please rise for the invocation

7

being delivered by Reverend Billy Yip from the

8

Chinese Herald Christian Crusade.

9

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: All rise.

10

BILLY YIP: Dear Almighty God,

11

thank you for all the elected officials here in

12

this chamber. They are not only chosen by the

13

people to represent them, but they have also been

14

chosen by you as a channel of blessings to the

15

people in this great City. As they gather here

16

today to share, discuss and decide on the

17

wellbeing of the people of this great City, I pray

18

for your special guidance for this sessions.

19

Bless the heart and bless the mind. May each one

20

of them a blessing to the people they represent,

21

and bless each one of them with peace, joy,

22

wisdom, courage and strength in the service to the

23

people. In the name of the Almighty, we pray.

24

Amen.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council

1

2 Member Chin, motion to spread the invocation.

3

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you to
5 Reverend Billy Yip. I'd like to make a motion to
6 spread the invocation in full upon the record.

6

Thank you.

7

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.
9 Adoption of the minutes, Council Member Gentile.

9

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: A motion
11 that the minutes of the Stated Meeting of March 3,
12 2010 be adopted as printed.

12

13

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.
15 Messages?

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

14 SPEAKER QUINN: If I could just
15 before we move on, ask my colleagues to stand
16 again for a moment, please. Sorry, I didn't do
17 that sooner, Mr. Majority Leader. I want to note
18 that since our last meeting, two giants of the
19 Civil Rights Era have passed away, after lifetimes
20 of service to the cause of civil and equal rights.
21 On April 15, 2010 Benjamin Hooks at the age of 85,
22 who led the NAACP for 15 years, died of heart
23 failure. Born in 1925, Benjamin Hooks was a
24 Baptist minister, a gifted orator and a sergeant
25 in the Army during World War II. He was a lawyer

1
2 and he was the first African-American to be
3 appointed and then elected to the Criminal Court
4 bench in Tennessee. During the 1950s and '60s,
5 Mr. Hooks participated in sit-ins, boycotts and
6 other demonstrations sponsored by the NAACP.
7 Eventually, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., recruited
8 him to be on the board of the very important
9 Southern Christian Leadership Conference. In
10 1977, he became the head of the NAACP and then led
11 that organization until 1992, during which time
12 rising political conservatism threatened many of
13 the gains previously achieved. When asked where
14 did his inspiration to fight social injustice and
15 bigotry come from, he replied that in part it
16 stemmed from his experience guarding European
17 prisoners of war while overseas during World War
18 II. He noted powerfully that the foreign
19 prisoners were allowed to eat in "whites only"
20 restaurants, while he and the other black soldiers
21 were barred from entering, even though they were
22 guarding them. Mr. Hooks was buried last week in
23 his birthplace and hometown of Memphis. On April
24 20, 2010, Dorothy Height, another giant of the
25 Civil Rights Era passed away at the age of 98.

1
2 President Obama called her the Godmother of the
3 Civil Rights Movement, who served as the only
4 woman at the highest level of the Civil Rights
5 Movement, witnessing every march and milestone
6 along the way. When Dr. King delivered his
7 historic, "I Have a Dream" speech at the March on
8 Washington in 1963, Dorothy Height stood just to
9 his left. She was one of the last living links to
10 the social activism of the New Deal Era and her
11 career, which included 40 years as President of
12 the National Council of Negro Women, spanned from
13 anti-lynching protests in the early 1930s to the
14 inauguration of Barack Obama in 2009. Her work
15 with the National Council included issues of
16 voting rights, poverty, and in later years,
17 battles against HIV and AIDS, and to support those
18 individuals who had HIV or AIDS. In the late
19 1920s, while in her Pennsylvania high school,
20 Dorothy won a trip to the national finals of the
21 Elks Contest on the U.S. Constitution. She was
22 the only black contestant and all white jury
23 awarded her first prize, a four year college
24 scholarship. She applied to Barnard in 1929 and
25 was accepted, but just before classes began, she

1
2 was summoned to New York by a college
3 representative and told that her acceptance was
4 indeed earned, but unfortunately the college had
5 already met its quota of "two negro students that
6 year." Too distraught to call home, she took her
7 acceptance letter and the subway downtown to NYU,
8 where she was accepted at once. Although she
9 received over three dozen honorary doctorates
10 throughout the years, the degree that mattered
11 most was when in 2004, 74 years after turning her
12 away, and at the age of 92, Barnard bestowed on
13 Dorothy an honorary bachelors degree that was so
14 wrongfully denied to her so many years before.
15 Her funeral was held this morning and her eulogy
16 was delivered by President Barack Obama. Let me
17 call on Council Member Debbie Rose, the Chair of
18 Civil Rights Committee, to make a few comments,
19 and then we have, unfortunately, two more
20 individuals to remember. Yes. [pause] Oh, I'm
21 sorry. That's fine, no, no.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: I may repeat
23 some of the things that the Council, that the
24 Speaker said, but it is not because it doesn't
25 bear repeating. She's a--Dorothy I. Height was an

1
2 icon, and so was Dr. Benjamin Hooks. Good
3 afternoon. I am so honored and humbled to stand
4 here today to commiserate on the lives of two
5 icons in this country: Dr. Benjamin Hooks and Dr.
6 Dorothy Irene Height. Many people would describe
7 these two individuals as civil rights legends.
8 However, I would submit to that these individuals
9 were so much larger than that. What Hooks and
10 Height truly represented was the fight to realize
11 America's true greatness and promise. As such,
12 each of their lives was dedicated to fostering a
13 level playing field for all. Dr. Benjamin Hooks,
14 a judge, a businessman, a lawyer and a minister,
15 he was the son of the South, born in Memphis,
16 Tennessee in 1925. Not coincidentally, education
17 played a critical role in young Hooks' life. His
18 paternal grandmother, Julia Britton Hooks,
19 graduated from Berea College in Kentucky in 1874,
20 and was the, and was only the second American
21 black woman to graduate from college during that
22 period. Hooks enrolled in LeMoyne-Owen College, a
23 historically black college in Memphis, Tennessee
24 in 1941, to study pre-law courses and later
25 graduated from Howard University in Washington,

1
2 D.C. After serving during World War II, Hooks
3 enrolled at DePaul University College of Law in
4 Chicago, to study law and became committed to
5 breaking down the practices of racial segregation
6 that existed in the United States. "At that time,
7 you were insulted by law clerks, excluded from
8 white bar associations, and when I was in court, I
9 was lucky to be called Ben," he recalled in an
10 interview with Jet Magazine. "Usually it was just
11 'boy'." On November 6, 1976, the 64 member Board
12 of Directors of the NAACP elected Hooks Executive
13 Director of the organization. In the late 1970s,
14 the membership had declined from a high of 500,000
15 to only about 200,000. Hooks famously told Ebony
16 Magazines soon after his formal induction in 1977,
17 "Black Americans are not defeated. The Civil
18 Rights Movement is not dead. If anyone thinks
19 that we are going to stop agitating, they had
20 better think again. If anyone thinks that we are
21 going to stop litigating, they had better close
22 the courts. If anyone thinks that we are going to
23 stop demonstrating and protesting, they had better
24 roll up the sidewalks." This zeal to make a
25 difference in the lives of people of color would

1
2 define his tenure as the NAACP President, as he
3 shifted much of the organization's focus to
4 increasing educational and job opportunities for
5 blacks as recession gave way to economic recovery
6 in the late '80s and early '90s. Dorothy Irene
7 Height. The Hat Lady, Madam Justice, the
8 Godmother of the Civil Rights Movement, and many
9 other monikers came to describe Dorothy Irene
10 Height. Yet words really do little justice to the
11 heights that this American heroine was able to
12 reach. Dorothy Irene Height was born in Richmond,
13 Virginia in 1912, and at a early age, Dr. Height
14 began her activism. In high school she entered
15 Elks Oratorical Contest, I think I need to go
16 back--Oratorical Contest on the Constitution of
17 the United States, and chose to write her oration
18 on the Thirteenth, Fourteenth And Fifteenth
19 Amendment of the Constitution. This was just,
20 this was just a foreshadowing on things to come.
21 Strangely encouraged by her--strongly encouraged
22 by her family to further her education, Dr. Height
23 was admitted to Barnard in 1929, but upon arrival
24 was denied entrance. And the Speaker spoke about
25 that. And not to be denied, Dr. Height pursued

1
2 her studies instead at NYU, earning a bachelor's
3 degree in 1932, and a master's degree in the
4 following year. After graduate school, Dr. Height
5 started working as a case worker with the New York
6 City Welfare Department, and at the age of 25 she
7 joined the National Council of Negro Women. And
8 in 1957, Dr. Height was elected President of the
9 National Council of Negro Women, and would go on
10 to serve in that role for 40 years. And that was
11 an organization that represented five million
12 women. It was in this capacity that I had the
13 pleasure of meeting and beginning a working
14 relationship with Dr. Height. My mother, Muriel
15 Carrington, was a founding member of the National
16 Council of Negro Women on Staten Island, so at an
17 early age I was working with phenomenal female
18 leaders to effect change in my community. In my
19 early adult years, I would become President of the
20 Staten Island chapter of the National Council of
21 Negro Women, and it was during that period that I
22 began to fully appreciate Dr. Height's passion and
23 commitment. Her 6:00 a.m. phone calls are
24 legendary. They would begin with, "Miss Rose,
25 this is Dr. Height." But evidently I was in good

1
2 company. It is noted that the American leaders
3 regularly took Dr. Height's counsel, from
4 President Dwight Eisenhower, Jimmy Carter, Bill
5 Clinton, to President Barack Obama, Dr. Height was
6 ranked among the big six civil rights leaders,
7 which were all men: A. Philip Randolph, Dr.
8 Martin Luther King, Jr., Whitney Young, Roy
9 Wilkins, James Farmers and John Louis. Dr. Height
10 was also on the platform when Dr. King delivered
11 his "I Have a Dream" speech, yet she was the only
12 peer not allowed to speak because she was a woman.
13 26 years later she would be honored guest and
14 seated on the stage at the inauguration of the
15 first African-American President of the United
16 States, Barack Obama. These moments symbolize Dr.
17 Height's life, legacy and fight to open doors for
18 women and minorities. Dr. Height was noted to
19 say, "Greatness is not measured by what a man or
20 woman accomplishes, but by the opposition he or
21 she has overcome to reach his goals or her goals."
22 And indeed it was Dr. Height and Maya Angelou and
23 Betty Shabazz, and other leading women of color
24 that I would meet during my tenure as President of
25 the National Council of Negro Women, that would

1
2 inform my growth, and the growth of other women of
3 color, to be activist in their communities, and to
4 ultimately stand up for their rights and the
5 rights of all of their community members. And I
6 stand here today as an elected official from the
7 borough of Staten Island as a result of that
8 relationship. So I can truly say I'm proud to
9 have had this opportunity today to say thank you,
10 for Reverend Dr. Hooks' and Dr. Dorothy Irene
11 Heights's life of service to this nation. And I'd
12 like to close by saying, "Good night, Irene,"
13 which was Dr. Height's favorite song.

14 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. Thank
15 you very much, Chairperson Rose. Let me also
16 unfortunately note that this past Monday on April
17 26, James Neil, 45, a veteran MTA track worker was
18 killed on the job when he slipped and fell in the
19 rain onto the third rail, which had just been
20 powered up for the morning rush. His death is the
21 first line of duty fatality for the MTA since
22 2007. James Neil like so many dedicated MTA and
23 other New York City public workers often do
24 dangerous work every day to keep our City running.
25 Our thoughts and prayers go out to him and his

1
2 friends and family in this time of loss. I also
3 want to note that yesterday we learned of the
4 death of Harry Wieder, 57, and I know Harry was
5 somebody that many people, if not all, actually
6 members of this City Council knew and had worked
7 with in one way or another over the decades he'd
8 been active in New York. He was hit and killed by
9 a taxi as he crossed Essex Street on the Lower
10 East Side, after leaving a Community Board Three
11 meeting, where he was a long time member. Harry
12 was a very active member of the disabled
13 community, an active and passionate LGBT activist,
14 he's somebody that I knew for a very, very long
15 time, first met in 1991 when I was running Tom
16 Duane's campaign. And I'll just say, Harry was
17 somebody who was never limited by his disability,
18 there was no march too long, Harry was in it;
19 there was no even that was too difficult, he got
20 there. Nothing ever held Harry back in his
21 advocacy. He's somebody who has stood up tall to
22 every Mayor, every Council Speaker, every elected
23 official, anybody who ever got in his way, trying
24 to move issues forward for the LGBT and disabled
25 community. And it's actually hard to think of

1
2 taking up those issues in the time ahead without
3 Harry being around. His funeral is tomorrow in
4 Queens where his parents still are, and where he
5 was raised. It's at noontime, and I would urge
6 all of my colleagues to join us there. Let me now
7 call on, one second, call on Council Member, our
8 Deputy Majority Leader, Leroy Comrie, who
9 unfortunately wants to acknowledge the passing of
10 one of his staff members.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: I want to
12 humbly ask to include in the moment of silence the
13 life and accomplishments of one of my mentors, a
14 community leader, a person that only worked for me
15 so that he can continue his community service.
16 And that's Jefferson Diggs, who joined the
17 ancestors on April 13th at the age of 76. I have
18 extended condolences to Jeff's wife Sonia and his
19 entire family on behalf of the Council and the
20 City. I was honored that despite a lifetime of
21 public service, Jeff chose to stay in service by
22 serving as a community liaison on my staff when I
23 was elected to office. I often told people that
24 Jeff really didn't work for me, but he was just
25 continuing his much needed role as a community

1
2 elder and an activist. I was just blessed that he
3 chose to do it under my banner. I can tell you
4 that I had many career days and opportunities
5 where people were disappointed that I showed up
6 instead of Jeff. Jeff was a resplendent
7 storyteller, he was a historian, he was truly a
8 trailblazer. He was one of the first African-
9 American reporters to write for the New York Daily
10 News, and he was one of the first wave of student
11 lunch counter sitters in 1960 that led to the
12 historic desegregation in North Carolina. Jeff
13 was a renaissance man, a writer, musician, a
14 theologian, a counselor, and he could talk to you
15 all day. Jeff was a member of what should be
16 called the African-American community's greatest
17 generation, who paved much harder roads than our
18 generation will ever know. I know that Jeff's
19 most important lasting contribution was his
20 ability to help generations of young people in the
21 Southeast Queens community see their connection to
22 our people's past and realize their role in its
23 future. And even more importantly, he had a gift
24 for making people take pride in themselves.
25 Jefferson Diggs will absolutely be missed and

1
2 absolutely not forgotten. Please join me in a
3 moment of silence for Jefferson Diggs.

4 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, Council
5 Member Comrie. [moment of silence] Thank you,
6 Mr. Majority Leader.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you.
8 Messages and papers from the Mayor?

9 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: None.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:
11 Communication from City, county and borough
12 offices?

13 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: None.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Petitions
15 and communications.

16 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: None.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Land Uses
18 call ups?

19 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: M 88 and M
20 89, sidewalk cafés.

21 SPEAKER QUINN: If we could couple
22 those, please, and have a roll call on the Land
23 Use call up.

24 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Arroyo.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

1

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Barron.

2

3

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: May I vote

4

on all general order - -?

5

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Well, I

7

vote aye on the Land Use call ups, and I vote aye

8

on all of the general order items, except for

9

Preconsidered Intro 182, I vote no.

10

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Okay.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you.

12

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Brewer.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: [off mic]

14

Aye.

15

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Cabrera.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

17

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Chin.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

19

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Comrie.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: [off mic]

21

Aye.

22

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Crowley.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

24

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Dickens.

25

Dilan. Dromm.

1

2

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

3

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Eugene.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

5

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Ferreras.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.

7

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Fidler.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: [off mic]

9

Aye.

10

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Foster.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye.

12

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Garodnick.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

14

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Gennaro.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Mr.

16

Leader, I vote aye, and I ask consent to vote on

17

the entire general order calendar.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: I vote

20

yes.

21

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Gentile.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Yes.

23

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Gonzalez.

24

COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: [off mic]

25

Aye.

1

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Greenfield.

2

3

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

4

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Halloran.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Vote aye.

6

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Ignizio.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Aye.

8

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Jackson.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: [off mic]

10

Aye.

11

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: James.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: [off mic]

13

Aye.

14

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Koo.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

16

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Koppell.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Aye.

18

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Koslowitz.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

20

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Lander.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

22

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Lappin.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPING: Aye.

24

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Levin.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

1

2

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Mark-

3

Viverito.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: [off

5

mic] Aye.

6

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Mealy.

7

Mendez. Nelson.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Aye.

9

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Palma.

10

Recchia.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Permission

12

to vote on all call ups and Land Use items.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: I vote aye

15

on all.

16

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Reyna.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye on all.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Included

19

in that is also general order calendar.

20

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Rodriguez.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

22

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Rose.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

24

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Sanders.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Permission

1

2 to vote on previous Land Use call ups. Aye, I
3 vote aye--

4

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

5

6 aye on all.

7

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: And

8

resolutions and general call ups.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

10

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Yes, aye

11

on all.

12

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Seabrook.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Yes, Mr.

14

Majority Leader, I'd like to vote aye on all

15

general orders, Land Use call ups--

16

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: --

18

resolutions.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: And

20

resolutions.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Aye on

22

all.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Got you.

24

[pause]

25

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Ulrich.

1

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.

2

3

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Vacca.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

5

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Vallone.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: [off mic]

7

Aye.

8

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Van Bramer.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

10

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Vann.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye.

12

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Weprin.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

14

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: White.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER WHITE: Ask

16

unanimous consent to vote on all Land Use items.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER WHITE: And I also

19

vote on all resolutions and coupled general

20

orders, I vote aye.

21

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Williams.

22

[pause] Williams.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

24

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Oddo.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO;; [off mic]

1

2 Yes.

3

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Rivera.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

5

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Speaker

6

Quinn.

7

[pause]

8

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Today's

9

Land Use call ups were adopted by a vote of 46 in

10

the affirmative, with zero in the negative.

11

Communication from the Speaker?

12

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. I want

13

to note today that I'm going to speak on the

14

legislation we're voting on, but we are also later

15

on the meeting voting on a couple of very

16

important resolutions. We will hear from the

17

sponsors and chairs of the committees of that

18

later, but I just wanted to make sure to remind my

19

colleagues of that today. First, we're voting on

20

a piece of legislation, a Preconsidered Intro

21

coming out of our Consumer Affairs Committee, and

22

I want to thank the Chair of the Committee, Karen

23

Koslowitz, for her work on that. The sponsor of

24

the bill, Council Member Gale Brewer. Lacey

25

Clarke who worked very, very long and hard on this

1
2 bill; Damien Butvick who also worked super hard on
3 it; Alix Pustilnik; Laura Popa; Rob Newman; and my
4 district office chief of staff, Kate Seeley-Kirk;
5 as well as all of the neighborhood residents who
6 are up in the balcony, who've worked on this issue
7 for a long time. This is a piece of legislation
8 that seeks to balance the needs of the tour bus
9 industry, which his very important to keeping our
10 tourism industry robust and profitable in the City
11 of New York, with the needs of the many and
12 growing number of neighborhoods that double-
13 decker, open air tour buses go through in our City
14 to conduct tours. We want to find a way to make
15 sure those tour buses can roll through the streets
16 of our neighborhoods in a quieter way, in a way
17 that is less disturbing to neighborhood residents.
18 That's why we're going to follow the lead of most
19 of the other international tourist hotspot cities
20 by requiring that the tour buses use and install
21 headphones on them, so that when the tour guide is
22 conducting a tour, saying what building or
23 monument or landmark is on your left and your
24 right, only the tourists in the tour bus hear that
25 tour, not all of the residents on the street, or

1
2 whose apartment windows the tour bus is passing.
3 We want to thank everyone who worked on this bill,
4 took a bit of work to get the right balance
5 between the needs of the industry and the needs of
6 the residents, we think that we got that balance
7 right, and I want to thank everyone who worked on
8 it. Let me first call on the Chair of our
9 Committee, Karen Koslowitz, who's been very busy
10 already, in her short time back with us; and then
11 the sponsor of the bill, Council Member Gale
12 Brewer.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Thank
14 you, Speaker Quinn. This legislation is really a
15 great piece of legislation. It relieves the
16 constituents of noise that they hear on the 27th
17 floor of their apartment buildings throughout the
18 City where the tour buses go. I want to thank
19 Council Member Brewer for her hard work on this
20 piece of legislation and for her support, and for
21 authoring this bill. Thank you very much.

22 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you,
23 Chairperson Koslowitz. Council Member Brewer.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you
25 very much, Madam Speaker, and certainly Karen

1
2 Koslowitz, Chair of the Committee, and all the
3 members of the Speaker's staff, particularly Lacey
4 Clarke and Kunal Malhotra from our office. This
5 particular piece of legislation is really from the
6 ground up. It is responsive to the needs, as has
7 been said earlier, to those who hear the same
8 voice describing our great City, but describing it
9 some 500,000 times. And the fact of the matter
10 is, whether you're on the second floor in Brooklyn
11 or Manhattan, you are on the second floor or the
12 27th floor, the noise, despite how great the
13 testimony about our City may be, reverberates.
14 311 in the last year has had some 7,000 complaints
15 about not just buses, but the kind of noise that
16 emits from vehicles, buses being one of them. The
17 fact of the matter is also this is focused only on
18 open air buses, that was brought to our attention
19 by the testimony at the hearing. It is not
20 necessary to put headsets into all buses, only
21 open air. I want to talk specifically for a
22 moment about the tour guides. Tour guides are an
23 essential component of tours. You cannot describe
24 our beautiful City and all the nuances without the
25 tour guides. Unfortunately, due to the fact that

1
2 this legislation cannot include employment issues,
3 it's not something that at any time in history
4 this City Council has legislated the employment
5 between employer and employ--employee and
6 employer. So that aspect is not in the bill, it
7 cannot, it cannot be included. However, no tour
8 will be worth a tourist's time unless there is a
9 tour guide. And we know that, without the
10 discussion in person, there won't be not only the
11 discussion of the historic monument, but also it
12 wouldn't be in sync because traffic is always
13 changing the timing of a bus. So we will monitor
14 very carefully to be sure that the tour guides are
15 part of any tour, and I'm sure the tourists will
16 also go where there is a qualified tour guide. So
17 I want to thank everybody involved, certainly the
18 community, and I think as the Speaker indicated,
19 as there are more tours, more tourists, there'll
20 be more wonderful neighborhoods, and they will all
21 be quiet for their quality of life for the
22 neighborhood concerned. And I also want to add
23 that Senator Tom Dwayne has written a letter in
24 support. Thank you very much.

25 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, Council

1
2 Member Brewer. I want to now talk about two
3 pieces of legislation that are coming out of our
4 Juvenile Justice Committee, I want to thank the
5 Chair of that Committee who is no surprises the
6 sponsor of both of these pieces of legislation. I
7 want to thank Alix Pustilnik, Lisette Camilo, and
8 Will--what's Will's last name, Sara? Handash
9 [phonetic] sorry about that ill, I couldn't read
10 the handwriting--for their work on this
11 legislation. I said it before, but I just, it
12 bears repeating, there is probably no greater
13 advocate for young people who are unfortunately
14 gotten slightly off track, ended up in the
15 Juvenile Justice system, than Sara Gonzalez. It's
16 a group of people who don't often have a voice in
17 City government, and Sara works incredibly hard to
18 make sure they're never forgotten at City Hall.
19 So, Sara, thank you very much for doing that. And
20 Intro 37-A and 153-A, which require expanded
21 reporting by the Department of Juvenile Justice,
22 about the census of young people who are there,
23 and also the different times when they use
24 discipline measures, restraints, solitary
25 confinement, things of that nature, as well as

1
2 reports of allegations of child abuse or neglect.
3 Having this extra information before us in the
4 Council, out in the open publicly, is going to
5 help all of us do a much better oversight job to
6 make sure that when children do have to end up in
7 these type of juvenile justice situations, they
8 are getting the best care and the most likely
9 opportunity to be rehabilitated and get back on
10 the right track. So, again, let me thank you so
11 much Chairperson Gonzalez, and call on the Chair.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Mayor
13 Bloomberg--thank you, Speaker--Mayor Bloomberg in
14 his State of the City address made a number of
15 encouraging remarks regarding the need to reform
16 our juvenile justice system by placing a greater
17 emphasis on holistic rehabilitation and
18 alternative to detention programming, something my
19 DJJ Committee and the City Council as a whole had
20 been advocating for quite some time, under the
21 leadership of Speaker Christine Quinn. In order
22 to further the progress we as a Council have
23 achieved to this end, the Council will today vote
24 on two important local laws: Introduction 37-A
25 and 153-A, which will require the Department of

1
2 Juvenile Justice to regularly report demographic
3 and other data on the young people being held in
4 their facilities. Such data, which includes age,
5 gender, race, ethnicity, zip code of residency,
6 frequency of use of mechanical restraint,
7 allegations of abuse, and more, will allow the
8 Council, Administration and advocates to better
9 address the needs of this vulnerable population.
10 Furthermore, the dissemination of this data will
11 foster greater transparency, that the public,
12 concerned advocates and elected officials, will be
13 able to benefit for when calling for the sort of
14 reform we would all like to see take place.

15 Finally, today's Juvenile Justice resolution,
16 cosponsored by Council Member Lander, calls on the
17 State to find more equitable terms of payment for
18 the City's placement of young people in Office of
19 Children and Family Service facilities. While the
20 number of youth New York City sends to Office of
21 Children and Family Services has declined, the
22 rate at which the City has charged has increased.
23 I thank Councilman Lander for joining me on this
24 important matter and for his concern, both for our
25 youth and City taxpayer dollars. I would also

1
2 like to take this opportunity, again, to thank our
3 Speaker, Christine Quinn, for all her support, and
4 Chairwoman Palma for her dedication and
5 partnership towards improving conditions for youth
6 in detention. Commissioner Mattingly of Agency
7 for Child Services for his collaboration in making
8 these reforms a reality, and the Juvenile Justice
9 Committee staff, Lisette Camilo our counsel, and
10 William Handash, policy analyst. Thank you for
11 your hard work. Thank you to my legislative
12 director, Miguel Hernandez, who also pushes really
13 hard on this legislation. And I also want to
14 thank all my colleagues that are members of the
15 Committee for all your support, and as a whole the
16 entire Counsel. And I urge my colleagues to vote
17 yes on these measures. Thank you.

18 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
19 much, Sara, and I echo your thanks to Miguel, as
20 well, for his hard work. Want to thank the Land
21 Use Committee for their work on the matters we're
22 taking up today, and also the Chair of State and
23 Federal Legislation Committee Helen Foster for her
24 work on two SLRs. And that concludes
25 Communications from the Speaker.

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Okay,
3 discussion of general orders? Seeing none, we'll
4 move on to reports of special committee.

5 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: None.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Okay,
7 reports of standing committees?

8 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Report of
9 the Committee on Consumer Affairs, Preconsidered
10 Intro 182, sound devices on buses.

11 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
12 order with a message of necessity.

13 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Report of
14 the Committee on Finance, Preconsidered Reso 206,
15 organization funding.

16 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
17 orders

18 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Report of
19 the Committee on Juvenile Justice, Intro 37-A,
20 Juvenile Justice reporting requirements.

21 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
22 on Juvenile Justice. And these two need to step
23 away, the Sergeant is going to remove you.

24 Please, Mr. Majority Leader, try to focus in a
25 professional manner, that the Minority Leader is

1

2 disrupting, yes, please.

3

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Jimmy,

4

Jimmy.

5

SPEAKER QUINN: With the Chief of

6

Staff.

7

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Intro 153-A,

8

Juvenile Justice.

9

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled

10

on general orders.

11

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Report of

12

the Committee on Land Use, Intro 99, private bus

13

services.

14

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general

15

orders.

16

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: LU-64 and

17

Reso 211, and LU-65 and Reso 212, sidewalk cafés.

18

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general

19

orders.

20

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: LU-67 and

21

Reso 213, and LU-68 and Reso 214, dispositions of

22

property.

23

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general

24

orders.

25

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: LU-79 and

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

Reso 215, unenclosed sidewalk café.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled to be filed pursuant to a letter of withdrawal.

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: LU-81 and Reso 216, Kings County Hospital Center.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: LU-82 and Reso 217, zoning map amendment.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Report of the Committee on State and Federal legislation, SLR1, training of fire officers.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Preconsidered SLR2, animal population control.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: General Order Calendar.

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Resolution appointing various persons Commissioner of Deeds.

1
2 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
3 order, and at this point I ask for a roll call on
4 all items that have been coupled on the order
5 calendar. Just want to remind my colleagues about
6 the resolutions later on.

7 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Arroyo.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye on all.

9 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Brewer.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: [off mic]

11 Aye.

12 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Cabrera.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

14 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Chin.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

16 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Comrie.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: [off mic]

18 Aye.

19 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Crowley.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

21 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Dromm.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

23 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Eugene.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

25 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Ferreras.

1

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.

2

3

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Fidler.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: I vote aye
on all, with the exception of SLR1, on which I
vote no for the reasons I stated in Committee
yesterday.

5

6

7

8

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Foster.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: I'd like to
vote aye on all, and aye on all the remaining
items on the calendar, and I'd like to thank
Speaker Quinn and Chuck for looking out for things
while I was out due to two deaths and my mother-
in-law almost dying, but thank god she's in
Savannah recovering. So, thank you very much.
And of course to my staff who covered everything
in my absence.

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

[pause]

19

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Garodnick.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

21

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Gentile.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

23

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Gonzalez.

24

COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: [off mic]

25

Aye on all.

1

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Greenfield.

2

3

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

4

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Halloran.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN:

6

Permission to vote on all.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So--

8

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Vote aye

9

on all the resolutions for the general order, all

10

the matters before the general calendar. And with

11

regards to the resolutions, I vote to abstain on

12

Reso 39-A, to abstain on Reso 80-A. Oh, alright,

13

okay.

14

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Ignizio.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Aye.

16

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Jackson.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: [off mic]

18

Aye on all.

19

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: James.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: [off mic]

21

Aye on all.

22

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Koo.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

24

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Koppell.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Aye on

1

2 all.

3

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Koslowitz.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye on

5

all.

6

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Lander.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

8

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Lappin.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

10

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Levin.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

12

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Mark-

13

Viverito.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: [off

15

mic] Aye on all.

16

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Nelson.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Aye on all.

18

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Reyna.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: [off mic]

20

Aye on all.

21

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Rodriguez.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

23

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Rose.

24

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

25

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Sanders.

1

2

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Aye on

3

all.

4

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Ulrich.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye on all.

6

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Vacca.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: [off mic]

8

Yes.

9

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Vallone.

10

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: [off mic]

11

Aye.

12

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Van Bramer.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

14

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Vann.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye on all.

16

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Weprin.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Nay on

18

Intro 182 and aye on the rest.

19

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Williams.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye on

21

all.

22

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Oddo.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

24

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Rivera.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye

1

2 on all.

3

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Speaker

4

Quinn.

5

SPEAKER QUINN: [off mic] Aye on

6

all.

7

[pause, background noise]

8

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All items

9

on today's general order calendar were adopted by

10

a vote of 46 in the affirmative, zero in the

11

negative and zero abstentions, with the exception

12

of Intro 182, which was adopted by a vote of 44 in

13

the affirmative, with two in the negative, and

14

zero abstentions; and SLR1 which was adopted by a

15

vote of 45 in the affirmative and one in the

16

negative with zero abstentions; and the revised

17

Land Use call ups were adopted by a vote of 46 in

18

the affirmative, with zero in the negative.

19

Introduction and reading of the bills?

20

SPEAKER QUINN: All bills as, are

21

referred to Committees as indicated on the agenda.

22

I just want to make note that the hearings on the

23

Executive Budget begin on May 13th. That agenda

24

is, that schedule is also attached to the agenda,

25

and people need to make note of whether they're

1
2 Finance Committee members, etc., etc., and
3 attendance for those hearings. Thank you.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Okay, thank
5 you. Discussion of Resolutions, we first have
6 Council Member Melissa Mark-Viverito. Discussion
7 of Resolutions.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:
9 Sorry, thank you. No, I just wanted to thank, I
10 know, I wanted to thank the staff. I know we've
11 spoken a lot about this Resolution. Obviously,
12 the importance of it of making a statement, for
13 the need for comprehensive immigration reform, and
14 also denouncing the law that was recently passed
15 in Arizona. So I really want to thank Danny
16 Dromm, as Chair of the Immigration Committee. I
17 also want to thank the Speaker for her strong
18 support of these issues. That I also want to
19 thank the staff that really worked hard 'cause
20 actually this one took a little bit longer than we
21 expected, a lot of back and forth, and to all the
22 Committee Members for their patience. So, with
23 that, I really hope that we pass this strongly,
24 overwhelmingly, I'm sure we will, to send that
25 message to Arizona, that New York is not Arizona,

1
2 we embrace our immigrant communities, and that we
3 need national comprehensive immigration reform.
4 So, I support the boycott, I support that we have
5 an expedited study of this legislation and this
6 law to make sure that it gets rolled back. Thank
7 you very much.

8 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, just--

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you,
10 thank you very much. Speaker Quinn?

11 SPEAKER QUINN: Yeah, Mr. Majority
12 Leader, just since we have some important
13 resolutions today, if we could just do the
14 speaking in sections based on each resolution, as
15 opposed to in roll order, so we're now doing
16 Resolution 162-A, which is the one dealing with
17 immigration affairs. And I know we just heard
18 from the author, Council Member Melissa Mark-
19 Viverito. I want to add my thanks to Julian
20 Beckford from the staff who worked on it. Let me
21 next call on Council Member Dromm, and then if we
22 could hear people on 162-A, do a vote on that, and
23 then move on to the others. Thank you.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Okay. Thank
25 you very much, Madam Speaker, it's good to be able

1
2 to speak on this measure. Yes, we were able to
3 react very quickly to what went on in Arizona, and
4 include that in our Resolution. We must make sure
5 that any of the immigrants who live in our
6 communities feel safe here, and having this
7 resolution in there also makes the safe that we
8 will fight any attempt to impose a law like this
9 on our residents in New York State. And to send a
10 clear message that this type of racial profiling,
11 which is exactly what the Arizona bill is all
12 about, is, is called for what it really is. So, I
13 also want to say thank you to my legal staff, to
14 Julian Beckford, to Israel Rodriguez, to my Chief
15 of Staff, and to Council Member Melissa Mark-
16 Viverito. Thank you.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
18 very much. Next we'll move on to Council Member,
19 Council Member Jackson.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you,
21 Majority Leader. My colleagues, I rise today as a
22 member of the City Council, as all of you know, I
23 co-chaired the New York City Council's Black,
24 Latino and Asian Caucus, and we are 27 strong.
25 But I'm not speaking to you as the co-chair of the

1
2 Caucus, I'm speaking to you as a member of the
3 City Council, whether you're black, Latino, Asian,
4 white or other, it doesn't matter. In Arizona,
5 any one of you can be targeted. And in fact, that
6 shouldn't happen in Arizona, it shouldn't happen
7 anywhere in our great country. We have to stamp
8 out discrimination wherever its head may rise.
9 And I say to all of my colleagues, I ask you to
10 support Melissa and all the other members that
11 have signed onto this Resolution, to stand united
12 that New York City will not stand for
13 discrimination anywhere in our great country.
14 Thank you.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
16 very much, we're just trying to get organized, and
17 so we're separating the Resolutions up here. Next
18 we have Council Member Rodriguez, followed by
19 Council Member Halloran, and then Council Member
20 Sanders on Resolution 162-A; and then we'll move
21 on to the other conversations on the other
22 Resolutions.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Well, I
24 really appreciate everyone for being at the press
25 conference today at the step supporting this

1
2 Resolution 162-A. As my colleague Jackson,
3 Melissa and the Speaker - - and I, what happening
4 in Arizona is something that is not acceptable.
5 Regardless, I mean, I believe in everything for
6 the best, and I believe that the bill that has
7 been signed by the Governor of Arizona will turn
8 the whole discussion of the immigration law. I
9 believe that this is a call for President Obama to
10 all religious leaders, elected officials,
11 community activists, to come together and to
12 understand. And I call especially on my friends
13 and brothers here, by supporting or by saying
14 nothing or doing nothing about this bill, is
15 saying that we were supporting the Apartheid in
16 South Africa. And I believe that as New Yorkers,
17 we are to stand in one voice and send a message
18 loud and clear that we are not supporting this
19 bill, I mean this new law. I will be also
20 introducing a Resolution later on with another
21 colleague. It's calling on a boycott on the
22 Arizona State, and that Resolution will be
23 introducing in our next Stated Meeting--

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you.

25 Thank--

1

2

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: And on
next Thursday--

3

4

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council
Member, we got to move on, we have multiple
members--

5

6

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: On next
Thursday, we calling to a protest in--

7

8

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council
Member--

9

10

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: --front
of Steve Levy's breakfast--

11

12

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council
Member, we're going to have to cut you off, I
apologize.

13

14

15

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: --
Thursday at 8:00 a.m.

16

17

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: We have to
move on to the next presenter, which is Council
Member Halloran.

18

19

20

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Mr.
Speaker, Ms. Speaker, Mr. Chair, I appreciate the
comments from everyone. I would actually ask them
all to actually read the legislation, which
mirrors the federal immigration language that is

21

22

23

24

25

1
2 already there. So, if everyone has a problem with
3 what the sovereign State of Arizona is doing, I
4 suggest we worry about the budget crisis in the
5 State of New York and the City of New York first
6 and foremost, and not waste time talking about
7 what people in another state, who have a
8 significant problem that the federal government
9 has not addressed, start addressing. I don't
10 think it's the purpose or the intent of this
11 legislative body to dictate to another state how
12 it should behave legislatively. I also don't
13 think that we sitting here in New York understand
14 the problems of the border State of Arizona, which
15 has had crime quadruple in the last five years at
16 the borders. And I am not for a minute
17 suggesting, having been a former criminal defense
18 attorney, that profiling may not happen as a
19 result of this law, and the law needs to be
20 improved, but I am suggesting that we leave it to
21 the members of Arizona to determine what Arizona
22 should do, and we press the federal government to
23 take care of its federal problems.

24 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL: Thank you
25 very much, Council Member. Next we have Council

1
2 Member Sanders, followed by Williams, and Koo and
3 then James.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: [laughs]

5 My colleague has done a great job in speaking
6 about state's rights, but I seem to remember that
7 those rights have been misused in days gone by, so
8 I'm always leery when I hear that. Yes, there is
9 a problem of, of immigration and the federal
10 government should do everything that we need to do
11 about it. But I also believe that the law that
12 had been carved up in Arizona is so wide that it
13 can fit a bunch of people in it, and it is, at its
14 core, will be anti-American. Yes, I am proudly
15 from Africa, yes I am proudly from America. And I
16 don't want somebody stopping me on the streets and
17 making, and making their own judgment call of what
18 it is. We need to look at this, and it does need
19 to be condemned, and New York City needs to
20 condemn it, as the federal government gets hot on
21 this issue of immigration reform. And let's
22 resolve that matter.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
24 very much. Next we have Council Member Williams.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank

1
2 you. I was a little taken aback, but you know,
3 my, my parents are immigrants, I'm a first
4 generation Brooklynite. My district has upwards
5 of 85 percent immigrants, so this does hit home.
6 The country, as a matter of fact, has a history of
7 pitting people against each other, and actually
8 using and abusing, from the Chinamen, Chinese men
9 building the railroad, to the slavery, the slaves
10 building America, to Jim Crow in the South. And
11 I'm happy that the people who are not from the
12 South helped fight against Jim Crow. Because once
13 you see injustice someplace, you need to actually
14 fight against it, whether it's in your state or
15 not in your state, because it tends to be
16 pervasive. And it can travel from state to state,
17 from city to city. And as New York City, a city
18 of immigrants, we have to stand up as loud as we
19 possibly can. We're the first person who should
20 stand up as loud as we possibly can, 'cause we
21 know better than anybody what immigrants do for
22 this country, and if we begin to take out
23 immigrants, we'd have to leave everybody, except
24 the Native Americans, who we decimated.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you

1

2 very much. Next we move on to Council Member Koo.

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Mr. Majority Leader, Speaker Quinn and Minority Leader Oddo, thank you. I am a product of immigration, having come to United States, putting myself through school and opening a small business, I have led the American Dream. I love this country, and I intend for that my families has wonderful opportunities because they live here in this great city. I understand many of my colleagues are repulsed, concerned and anger about what's going on in Arizona. I share their concern. However, I have a problem with exerting one, exerting our energy and time in what happens in other states, rather than focusing on our problems we face in the City. I want to continue our efforts to find ways to create jobs, lower taxes, raise revenues,
- -

20

21

22

23

24

25

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council Member if you could wrap up.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: --and education, and transportation. And--

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Can you wrap up, Council Member?

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Yeah, I'm
3 finishing, yeah.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Okay,
5 alright, thank you. Just a reminder, everyone--

6 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I vote yes on
7 this Introduction.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: - - right,
9 right.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: We're not
11 voting yet on the Resos yet. Just want to remind
12 all the members that we only have one minute
13 designated for reso, the conversation on
14 Resolutions, it's not like general discussions or
15 discussion of general orders where you have two
16 minutes. So it's only one minute, and since we
17 have multiple people who want to express their
18 opinions, we want to keep to the clock. Thank
19 you. Next we have Council Member James.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Thank you.
21 We have the ability to multi-task, and this is a
22 national issue, and not an issue that should be,
23 not a issue that is, should be left to the states.
24 This legislation will do nothing but drive workers
25 further underground. It will continue to

1

2 criminalize the undocumented. What we need in
3 this country, obviously, is comprehensive
4 immigration. No one is speaking about immigration
5 as it relates to Canada. Why is only immigration
6 as it relates to the southern borders? It is
7 unconstitutional, it's a violation of human
8 rights, it's illegal and a violation of the human
9 rights of all undocumented workers. I oppose this
10 legislation and we should stand together to
11 condemn it.

12 [pause]

13 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Okay, at
14 this point in time, seeing no others to speak on
15 this--Oh, Council Member Chin.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you. I
17 rise to urge all my colleague, we got to take the
18 time to fight against racism and injustice. We
19 have to take the time to do that. We have to take
20 the time to ask the President, take the lead of
21 comprehensive immigration reform; we got to take
22 the time to fight against what's going on in
23 Arizona. We got to take the time. Okay? Thank
24 you.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you

1
2 very much, Council Member. Seeing no others at
3 this point in time, we're going to take a vote
4 only on Resolution 162-A and if you're voting yes,
5 then obviously just voice your vote; if you're
6 voting no or abstaining, don't forget you do need
7 to come up to the Clerk and document your vote so
8 that way it will be on the record. So at this
9 point in time, I will be calling the vote for
10 Resolution 162-A, an amended Resolution calling
11 upon the United States Congress to pass, and
12 President Obama to sign, a just and humane
13 comprehensive immigration reform bill in 2010,
14 amended and adopted by the Committee on
15 Immigration. All in favor say aye.

16 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All opposed
18 to say nay.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER: [off mic] Nay.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: And all,
21 any abstentions? Okay, so the ayes have it, and
22 anyone who voted in opposition, just please state
23 for the record with the Clerk's. Next we will be
24 talking on Reso, since we're separating them,
25 we're going to be moving on to Reso 39-A, and Reso

1
2 80-A. This one we have Council Member Van Bramer
3 that wants to speak and say a few words.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank
5 you very much, Mr. Chair. This is an issue of
6 civil rights and public health. It is an issue
7 where gay men and men who have had sex with men
8 are denied the ability and the right to donate
9 blood, and at a time when there are crises that
10 call out for blood donors, there are hundreds of
11 thousands, if not millions, of gay men who are
12 willing, able and ready to donate blood to help
13 save lives. It is time for the federal government
14 and the FDA to remove the ban preventing gay men
15 from donating blood. It is absolutely a disgrace
16 that gay men would have to go to work, see the
17 signs that everyone else sees, asking folks to
18 donate blood, and when we would be the first to
19 rush to the barricades to help save others' lives,
20 we are prevented from doing so simply because we
21 are gay. It doesn't make sense. This would help
22 save lives and help ease the crush for those blood
23 organizations that require more donations not
24 less. I urge everyone to vote for this. Thank
25 you.

1

2

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you.

3

Council Member Jackson.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you,

5

Majority Leader. I rise in order to support this

6

Resolution. And knowing that, as my colleagues

7

have spoken earlier, all blood that is taken from

8

an individual, no matter who it is, whether or not

9

it's a gay, a lesbian, it doesn't matter, or

10

straight, black or white, Asian, small or tall, it

11

doesn't matter, it's tested. Meaning it's run

12

through the system. So, I ask everyone who

13

opposes this, and this is the true question the

14

true test, if in fact you were dying, and you

15

needed to have that pint of blood, knowing that it

16

came from a gay man, knowing that it was tested,

17

and it's okay, would you say no?

18

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you,

19

thank you very much. Next we have Council Member

20

Sanders, followed by Council Member James.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: On this

22

Resolution, it's very simple. Is there science

23

that supports this argument. The science says

24

that it does not matter who the blood comes from.

25

Under those conditions, anyone who's against this

1
2 is against science. It just makes sense to do it.
3 Why are we even having a conversation when the
4 science is telling us a rational move is to accept
5 blood, safe blood, from anyone that we can get it.
6 Let's do this. Let's get into science and away
7 from madness that may have driven us here before.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
9 very much. Council Member James.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: I find that
11 we are, if we are truly to fight, if we are truly
12 committed to fighting oppression and
13 discrimination, then we must fight it whenever it
14 rears its ugly head. Whether it rears its ugly
15 head in any debate with respect to immigration,
16 with respect to giving blood, with respect to
17 marriage, we must always raise our hands because
18 civil rights and human rights are things that
19 should be conferred upon all people. I support
20 this legislation and urge my colleagues to do the
21 same, stand up for the human rights of all people.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
23 very much. Seeing no others on either of these
24 Resolutions, I, we'll call them up independently
25 for individual vote. We'll go with Resolution 39-

1
2 A first, which is an amended Resolution urging the
3 United States Congress to reintroduce and pass
4 legislation that would amend the Public Health
5 Service Act with respect to facilitating the
6 development of microbicides for preventing
7 transmission of HIV and other diseases. Again, if
8 you vote in the affirmative, just state that; if
9 you vote in the negative or abstain, please come
10 up to the Clerk and document your, your vote for
11 the record. All in favor for Reso 39-A say aye.

12 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All opposed
14 say nay. Any abstentions. Okay, the ayes have
15 it. Next, we'll vote on Reso 80-A, an amended
16 Resolution calling upon the United States Food and
17 Drug Administration to reverse their longstanding
18 prohibition on homosexual men donating blood, as
19 amended and adopted by the Committee on health.
20 Again, all in favor say aye.

21 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All opposed
23 say nay. Any abstentions. Okay, the ayes have
24 it. The last Resolution we'll be discussing today
25 is Preconsidered Reso 201, and we have Council

1

2 Member Lander to speak on that Reso.

3

4 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you
5 very much, and thanks especially to Council Member
6 Gonzalez for taking the lead on this important
7 resolution and issue. Right now, if a young
8 person gets in trouble, and they're sentenced to
9 detention, the State pays the City; but if we
10 believe that an alternatives to incarceration
11 program or rehabilitation program is what will
12 make sense, which in so many cases it is what will
13 help somebody, the State does not. And so there
14 is a very perverse incentive to do exactly the
15 wrong thing from a public policy point of view,
16 from a community point of view. This change is
17 possible, State Senator Velmanette Montgomery has
18 been taking the lead in Albany, it's in the Senate
19 budget resolution, and we need to push the
20 Assembly and push the Governor to follow Council
21 Member Gonzalez's lead and give us an equitable
22 and smart formula to make sure that our young
23 people have the opportunity for rehabilitation and
24 alternatives, and not foolishly use the dollar
25 reasons to sentence them to incarceration that
makes no sense, and I urge a vote of aye. Thank

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

you very much.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you very much. Seeing no others on this Reso, Preconsidered 201, Resolution calling upon the New York State Legislature and Governor Patterson to develop a more equitable method of billing New York City for placement of its youth in State run facilities, in order to allow the City to reinvest moneys into alternative to placement programs. All in favor say aye.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All opposed say nay. Any abstentions? The ayes have it. The Resolutions are done, we move onto general discussions. Council Member Williams is first.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you very much. I have two bills I believe I'm very excited to be presenting my first two bills. [cheers] Thank you, thank you. Extremely controversial. Extremely controversial. [laughter] The first one is an Intro just asking that the City Charter be amended to require Department of Ed schools to donate school lunches that have not been

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

consumed. I'm very surprised that it's not done now, they actually just throw the food away or bleach it, and I think there's a lot of people that who can actually use that food. The second is a Resolution calling on the United States to make Haitian recipients of temporary protected status, eligible for federal public benefits. Once they receive the status, I think they should be able to receive benefits that people who are here legally can receive, so they can be very productive members of society. So, those are my two extremely controversial bills. Thank you very much.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you very much. [cheer] Council Member Comrie.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Colleagues, I would like you to look at Resolution 192, which is actually a Resolution that Council Member Inez Dickens has introduced, but as she could not be here today, and I am clearly strongly supporting this Resolution, I would like you to look at it. It calls upon the Department of Education to do a feasibility

1
2 study on the possibility of leasing or buying
3 clothes that are unused Catholic schools,
4 throughout New York City, for charter schools.
5 Recently, in all of our districts, there is an
6 attempt by the City to collocate charter
7 schools within public schools. While I have
8 some good charter schools in my district, it
9 is ridiculous that in these challenging
10 economic times that we are giving our City's
11 children, whether they're educated in a
12 community public school or a charter school,
13 every resource they need to grow into
14 productive, healthy, intellectually curious
15 individuals. Overstepping our City's public
16 schools and providing one child an education
17 at the expense of other children, is
18 unacceptable. Education is the only way to
19 move our City and country forward. We must
20 find new ways to accommodate every child's
21 individual growth and every school's plan to
22 maximize our children talents. I believe the
23 best way to do this is to have more school
24 space, not less. I hope all of you will agree
25 and join Council Member Dickens as a cosponsor

1
2 of Resolution 192. The attempt by the City to
3 relocate and push in charter schools on public
4 schools is doing a major disservice to schools
5 all over the City; it's also inflicting a lot
6 of problems with the charter school community
7 fighting with the indigenous public school
8 community, and we need to find an alternative
9 way. In my district alone, we're losing four
10 Catholic or private schools. That space could
11 be utilized this September to house charter
12 schools, giving them their own space and their
13 own responsibilities. Please sign on to this
14 Resolution. Thank you.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
16 very, thank you very much. Next we move on to
17 Council Member Brewer.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you.
19 I just want to join the Speaker in my sadness
20 that Harry Wieder has died. He was certainly
21 somebody whom all of us respected. I also
22 want to mention that there are two interns
23 here from Baruch College: Eric Chen and
24 Janice Chan, who are both here. And finally,
25 I want to thank the Office of the General

1
2 Counsel of the City Council, because they have
3 come up with an absolutely stunningly
4 beautiful, along with the staff that does
5 graphics, of who is the harassment, or I
6 should say the anti-harassment and the
7 discrimination, or anti-discrimination
8 officers of the New York City Council, each
9 beautiful sign will be mailed to the district
10 offices and will give our staff the
11 opportunity to know anonymously whom to call
12 if they have any concerns. I want to thank
13 the staff. I have lots of bills to sign onto,
14 you all can read 'em all. Thank you.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
16 very much, next we'll move on to Council
17 Member Nelson.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: I have good
19 news. Two out of three of the Navy Seals,
20 United States Navy Seals, were found innocent
21 last week. Petty Officer First Class Julio
22 Huertas and Petty Officer Second Class
23 Jonathan Keefe. I want to thank nine of my
24 colleagues for signing onto my letter that
25 went to our federal colleagues, as well as the

1
2 Armed Forces Committee. Not that it may have
3 had an effect, but you know, at least we were
4 on the right side of the angels with this one.
5 I want to congratulate the United States of
6 America for this, too, because the morale
7 going out to our fighting men and women was
8 not very positive, because some terrorist got
9 a bloody lip, and I think some of his ribs
10 were hurting. I really feel terribly sorry
11 for that. Not. Not many of us could be Navy
12 Seals--not you, calm down Sanders--a Marine,
13 we have in here. Very few can make that rank.
14 So it's truly those guys and gals who are out
15 there fighting for us, again, so we can be on
16 this floor complaining and arguing the merits
17 of salt in food and sugar in soft drinks.
18 These are the people that are making this all
19 possible. So congratulations, thank you, my
20 colleagues, that signed on to that letter.
21 And now we have one more to go. We have
22 McCabe coming up in about two weeks. Let's
23 hope he's found innocent, too. It'd be a
24 great morale booster for our fighting men and
25 women. Thank you.

1

2

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you.

3

Next we have Council Member Melissa Mark-

4

Viverito.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:

6

Thank you. Defying the call for keeping it

7

parochial here in the City Council, and all

8

due respect to my colleague, I wanted to bring

9

to the attention of this body a piece of

10

legislation, HR 2499, which is currently

11

making its way through Congress, that will

12

pave the way for Puerto Rico to become our

13

51st State. Which obviously I'm not in

14

agreement with. As you all know, the Puerto

15

Rican people have rejected the idea of

16

statehood on many occasions over several

17

decades; however, the Congress insists on

18

continuing to dive this debate forward. HR

19

2499 in both its contents and the process

20

behind it is deeply troubling. Congresswoman

21

Nydia Velazquez and Congressman Luis Gutierrez

22

have both stated publicly that this bill is

23

currently being rammed through the Congress

24

with closed door negotiations and little

25

opportunity for debate and discussion. Any

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

piece of legislation which will have such lasting impact on the millions of Puerto Ricans on the island and in the States so many of who live right here in New York City, needs more time for debate and the consideration of differing viewpoints. Particularly from our Puerto Rican member of Congress. There is clearly an incentive to move HR 2499 so quickly through the Congress, since extended debate would only further expose some of its most problematic provisions. Under this law, Puerto Rican citizens would be asked to vote yes or no on whether to maintain the current status of Puerto Rico. This is in contrast to previous occasions when voters were asked to choose between the current status, statehood and independent status. Many see this legislation as a sham, a trick to fast track statehood with no debate. Should Puerto Ricans vote not to the current commonwealth status, Puerto Ricans would then have to vote in a second referendum where the only two choices would be complete independence or statehood. Does this sound confusing? Pos

1
2 claro que si [phonetic]. We should allow the
3 Congress to hijack the voting process in this
4 way, especially without a robust debate that
5 includes all perspectives and all members of
6 Congress. Not only does HR 2499 defy a true
7 democratic process by stifling debate, it is
8 an affront to all those Puerto Ricanos and non
9 Puerto Ricanos who have been clamoring for a
10 community driven process--

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council
12 Member.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: --
14 that should be at the heart of the status
15 debate and help drive a solution once and for
16 all. It is well understand that the current
17 status--

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council
19 Member.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: --is
21 not sustainable endlessly. Thank you.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you.
23 Council Member Jackson.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you,
25 Majority Leader. My colleagues, I rise again

1
2 to, to let you know that there's a citywide
3 rally at Foley Square, I believe, on, at 11:00
4 a.m., asking the Administration for
5 immigration rights. And so there's labor
6 unions, religious organization, and people
7 from all faiths and organizations that are
8 coming together to send a message loud and
9 clear that the people of New York City are
10 united for immigration reform, and also
11 against the legislation that was passed in
12 Arizona. So I ask all of my colleagues in the
13 City Council, and State Legislature, and the
14 federal government, and also the community
15 boards, to come out and support immigration
16 rights for all New Yorkers and people across
17 our country. And I ask all those in the
18 listening audience to come out on May 1st to
19 the Immigration Rally in Foley Square in
20 downtown New York. Thank you.

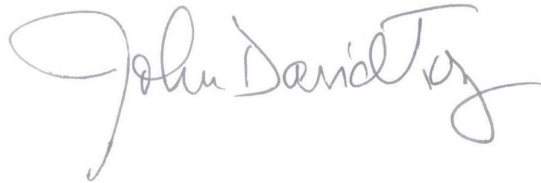
21 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
22 very much. Seeing no others, this meeting is
23 now adjourned.

24 [gavel]

25

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, JOHN DAVID TONG, certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John David Tong". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Signature_____

Date May 19, 2010