

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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June 26, 2015
Start: 1:53 p.m.
Recess: 3:51 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: LETITIA JAMES
Public Advocate

MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO
Speaker for the Council

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- Maria Del Carmen Arroyo
- Inez D. Barron
- Fernando Cabrera
- Margaret S. Chin
- Andrew Cohn
- Costa G. Constantinides
- Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.
- Elizabeth S. Crowley
- Laurie A. Cumbo
- Chaim M. Deutsch
- Inez E. Dickens
- Daniel Dromm
- Rafael L. Espinal, Jr.
- Mathieu Eugene
- Julissa Ferreras-Copeland

Daniel R. Garodnick
Vincent J. Gentile
Vanessa L. Gibson
David G. Greenfield
Vincent Ignizio
Corey D. Johnson
Ben Kallos
Andy L. King
Peter A. Koo
Karen Koslowitz
Rory I. Lancman
Brad S. Lander
Stephen T. Levin
Mark Levine
Alan N. Maisel
Steven Matteo
Darlene Mealy
Carlos Menchaca
Rosie Mendez
I. Daneek Miller
Annabel Palma
Antonio Reynoso
Donovan J. Richards
Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Deborah L. Rose
Helen K. Rosenthal
Ritchie J. Torres
Mark Treyger
Eric A. Ulrich
James Vacca
Paul A. Vallone
James G. Van Bramer
Mark S. Weprin
Jumaane D. Williams
Ruben Wills

[sound check, pause, background comments]

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: May we come to
order?

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet please.

[background comments]

[pause]

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: I now call to
order the recessed meeting of June 10th, 2015, which
is being held today on June 26. Roll call.

CLERK: Arroyo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: [off mic] Here.

CLERK: Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Present

CLERK: Thank you. Cabrera.

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: [off mic] Here.

CLERK: Chin.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

CLERK: Cohen.

COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Here.

CLERK: Constantinides.

COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Here.

CLERK: Cornegy.

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Still here.

CLERK: Crowley.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: [off mic] Here.

CLERK: Cumbo.

COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Present.

CLERK: Deutsch.

COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Here.

CLERK: Dickens. Dromm.

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

CLERK: Espinal. Eugene.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Present.

CLERK: Ferreras-Copeland.

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND:

Present.

CLERK: Garodnick. Gentile.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.

CLERK: Gibson. Greenfield. Johnson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Present.

CLERK: Kallos. King.

COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Present.

CLERK: Koo.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

CLERK: Koslowitz.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

CLERK: Lancman. Lander. Levin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

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2 CLERK: Levine.
3 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Here.
4 CLERK: Maisel. Matteo.
5 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Here.
6 CLERK: Mealy. Menchaca.
7 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Presente.
8 CLERK: Mendez.
9 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.
10 CLERK: Miller.
11 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Here.
12 CLERK: Palma.
13 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: [off mic] Here.
14 CLERK: Reynoso.
15 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: [off mic] Here.
16 CLERK: Richards.
17 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Present.
18 CLERK: Rodriguez. Rose.
19 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: [off mic] Here.
20 CLERK: ROSENTHAL: [off mic] Here.
21 CLERK: Torres.
22 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Here.
23 CLERK: Treyger. Ulrich. Vacca.
24 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: [off mic] Here.
25 CLERK: Vallone.

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: [off mic] Here.

CLERK: Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: [off mic] Here.

CLERK: Wills. Espinal.

COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Here.

CLERK: Lancman.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: [off mic] Here.

CLERK: Ignizio.

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Here/

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Legally

married in the eyes of the United States of America
and present.

[applause/cheers]

CLERK: Wills.

[background comments]

CLERK: Oh. Sorry. Speaker Mark-

Viverito.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [off mic] Here.

CLERK: We have a quorum.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: We now adjourn

the recessed meeting of June 10th, and we'll now call

the State Meeting of June 26th into order. [gavel]

All rise for the pledge.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: All rise.

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[PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE]

CLERK: Arroyo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Still here.

CLERK: Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Present

CLERK: Thank you. Cabrera.

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: [off mic] Here.

CLERK: Chin.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

CLERK: Cohen.

COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Here.

CLERK: Constantinides.

COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Here.

CLERK: Cornegy.

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Here.

CLERK: Crowley.

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: [off mic] Here.

CLERK: Cumbo.

COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: [off mic] Present.

CLERK: Deutsch. Dickens. Dromm.

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

CLERK: Espinal. Eugene.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

CLERK: Ferreras-Copeland.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND: Aye.

CLERK: Garodnick.

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.

CLERK: Thank you. Gentile.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.

CLERK: Gibson. Greenfield. Johnson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Here.

CLERK: Kallos. King.

COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Present.

CLERK: Koo.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

CLERK: Koslowitz.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: [off mic]

Here.

CLERK: Lancman.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: [off mic] Here.

CLERK: Thank you. Lander. Levin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

CLERK: Levine.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Here.

CLERK: Maisel. Matteo. Mealy.

Menchaca.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Presente

CLERK: Mendez.

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CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.
CLERK: Matteo.
COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Here.
CLERK: Miller.
COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Here.
CLERK: Palma.
COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: [off mic] Here.
CLERK: Maisel.
COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: [off mic] Here.
CLERK: Reynoso.
COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: [off mic] Here.
CLERK: Richards.
COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Here.
CLERK: Kallos.
COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Here.
CLERK: Rodriguez.
COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.
CLERK: Rose.
COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.
CLERK: Deutsch.
COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: [off mic] Here.
CLERK: Rosenthal.
COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: [off mic]

Here.

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CLERK: Torres.

COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: [off mic] Here.

CLERK: Treyger. Ulrich. Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: [off mic] Here.

CLERK: Vallone.

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

CLERK: Williams.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: [off mic] Here.

CLERK: Thank you. Wills.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: [off mic] Here.

CLERK: Ignizio. Ulrich.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Present.

[background comments]

CLERK: Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [off mic] Here.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Quiet
in the Chambers. Please rise for the invocation. It
will be delivered by Reverend Council Member Fernando
Cabrera from the 14th Council District
[applause/cheers] who hails from the Borough of the
Bronx. Quiet in the Chambers.

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SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: All rise.

[pause]

REVEREND/COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Father,
we stand before you, and as council members we're
truly humble, and we find it a true privilege to
serve in the capacity as council members. And, God,
we just ask you today for your blessing in this
budget in this budget that's going to touch young
people, seniors, the elderly, those who are hurting
in our community, oh, God. We bless the Speaker. We
bless the Mayor for the leadership. We bless all the
chairs, and we bless, Lord, the staff that gave of
themselves day and night to work so hard to make this
day possible. We thank you for all these things in
your mighty name, and everyone says--

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Amen.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
Palma.

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: It is my honor to
spread--to spread the invocation full upon the
record.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Adoption of
Minutes. Council Member gentile.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Motion that the
3 Minutes of the Stated Meeting of May 27th, 2015 be
4 adopted as printed.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the
6 Chambers, please. Quiet in the Chambers. Messages
7 and Papers from the Mayor.

8 CLERK: M 304 submitting Mary A. Valverde
9 for appointment to the Art Commission.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Communication
11 from City, County and Borough Offices. Oh. Oh,
12 Messages and papers from the Mayor.

13 CLERK: M-304 submitting Mary A. Valverde
14 for appointment to the Art Commission.

15 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Sorry, give me a
16 second. Rules, Privileges and Elections.

17 CLERK: M-305 submitting Ellen Hoffman
18 for appointment to the Tax Commission.

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Rules, Privileges
20 and Elections.

21 CLERK: M-316 City Debt and Reserves

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Received order
23 printed and filed.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Communication
25 from City, County and Borough Offices.

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2 CLERK: Preconsidered M306, Chancellor
3 Amendment to the Five-Year Capital Plan.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Finance.

5 CLERK: Preconsidered M-307, transfer
6 fund between agencies.

7 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Finance.

8 CLERK: Preconsidered M-308, Budget
9 modification.

10 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Finance.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Petitions and
12 Communications.

13 CLERK: None.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Land Use Call-
15 Ups.

16 CLERK: M-309 to M-314.

17 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
18 General Orders. I'm sorry, coupled on call-up vote
19 roll call.

20 CLERK: Arroyo. Barron.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye.

22 CLERK: Cabrera.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the
25 Chambers, please. Quiet in the Chambers.

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2 CLERK: Chin.
3 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.
4 CLERK: Cohen.
5 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: [off mic] Aye.
6 CLERK: Constantinides.
7 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Aye.
8 CLERK: Cornegy.
9 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye.
10 CLERK: Crowley.
11 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.
12 CLERK: Cumbo.
13 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: [off mic] Aye.
14 CLERK: Deutsch.
15 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: [off mic] Aye.
16 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.
17 CLERK: Espinal.
18 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Aye.
19 CLERK: Eugene.
20 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.
21 CLERK: Ferreras-Copeland.
22 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND: Aye.
23 CLERK: Garodnick.
24 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.
25 CLERK: Thank you. Gentile.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

CLERK: Gibson.

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Permission to explain my vote?

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Okay. Thank you, Madam Public Advocate. I just like to speak up in reference to the finance name item that relates to the St. Augustine Apartments in the Bronx. Is that on this.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Excuse me, Council Member Gibson. Unfortunately, this is not the time to explain you vote--

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: [interposing] Okay.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: --it's Land Use Call-Ups.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Okay. I vote aye. Thanks.

CLERK: Greenfield. Johnson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

CLERK: Kallos.

COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.

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CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

CLERK: King.

COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Aye.

CLERK: Koo.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

CLERK: Koslowitz.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: [off mic]

Aye.

CLERK: Lancman.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: [off mic] Aye.

CLERK: Thank you. Levin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

CLERK: Levine.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Aye.

CLERK: Maisel.

COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Yes.

CLERK: Matteo. Mealy. Menchaca.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Aye.

CLERK: Mendez.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.

CLERK: Matteo.

COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: [off mic] Aye.

CLERK: Miller.

COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.

CLERK: Palma.

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COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: [off mic] Aye.

CLERK: Reynoso.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: [off mic] Aye.

CLERK: Richards.

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye.

CLERK: Rodriguez.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

CLERK: Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: [off mic] Aye.

CLERK: Rosenthal.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: [off mic] Aye.

CLERK: Torres. Treyger. Ulrich.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Yes.

CLERK: Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

CLERK: Vallone.

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

CLERK: Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS. [off mic] Aye.

CLERK: Wills.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Madam Public

Advocate. I'd like permission to vote on all call-
ups and I'd like permission to vote on all coupled
general orders and resolutions.

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PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: I abstain. Thank
you.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

CLERK: Ignizio. Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [off mic] Yes.

[pause]

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Today's Land Use
Call-Ups were voted--were adopted by a vote of 43 in
the affirmative and 0 in the negative with on
abstention. Quiet in the Chambers. And now we'll
hear from the Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you, Madam
Public Advocate. I'm going to ask my colleagues to
please rise a moment.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Please rise.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: It--we have not
met since the unfortunate action that took place of
terrorism in South Carolina. So we open this meeting
by remembering the nine men and women who were
murdered in that act of terrorism in South Carolina.
This heinous act is once again a reminder of the

1 kinds of bigotry and hate, which exists and which we
2 must commit ourselves to ending everyday. So I
3 definitely want to ask for a moment of silence as we
4 remember all of those who were killed. [Moment of
5 silence observed] Thank you, my colleagues. Today,
6 as we do remember those, but today is also obviously
7 a kind of an odd juxtaposition. But today is
8 obviously a day of celebration. Today in a truly
9 historic meaningful and correct decision, the Supreme
10 Court ruled finally and at last ruled that marriage
11 equality is the law of the land. For too long our
12 LGBTQ brothers and sisters have been denied this
13 basic human right, but no more. [Speaking Spanish]
14 Today, we have edged a little closer to perfection.
15 [Speaking Spanish] Today is a day, which will be
16 remembered long, long after we are all gone. This
17 decision is a cause for celebration, but it is also a
18 cause for reflection. This has been an extended
19 struggle going back decades, but through it all
20 activists and allies persevered knowing that the
21 cause of marriage equality is not only a moral and
22 human right, it is also constitutional right. It's
23 time to rejoice, and I thank the dedicated
24 organizers, lawyers, community leaders and millions
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2 of people from every state and territory all over the
3 country who made this day possible. [Speaking
4 Spanish] For my brothers, for friends, for my staff
5 members. [Speaking Spanish] For members of the LGBT
6 Caucus, their friends, their family and their staff.
7 [Speaking Spanish] But for everyone else across this
8 vast country of ours, and in Puerto Rico, today you
9 finally have justice. [Speaking Spanish] Today we
10 have affirmed that love is love. [Speaking Spanish]
11 And today, we finally have marriage equality.

12 [cheers, applause]

13 Today is the last Stated Meeting for some
14 time. Hopefully, we will all take some well-deserved
15 vacations, and it's the last Stated Meeting for two
16 very valued staff members here in the City Council,
17 Alonzo Carr and Pascale Bernard. [cheers, applause]
18 Back in 1990, Alonzo was one of the first people
19 hired in the Council's newly created Land Use
20 Division. Alonzo is retiring after 25 years of
21 dedicated and devoted service to the Council, and has
22 been involved in almost every Land Use proposal,
23 which has ever come before the Council. And after
24 ten years of service to the Council, Pascale, Deputy
25 Director of our Community Engagement Division is

1 moving over to the City's Human Rights Commission of
2 which we have been incredibly strong advocates, where
3 she will be Deputy Commissioner. Pascale, yep.

4 [applause] So today obviously Pascal's mother can be
5 very proud of her daughter taking on a key role in
6 our city's fight against anyone who might engage in
7 unlawful discrimination against any of our residents.

8 Pascale's mother came to this country from Haiti. We
9 also wish--we wish Alonzo and Pascale the very best
10 in their future endeavors, and we will miss them both
11 greatly. So thank you both for your years of
12 service. Are they here or are they. [cheers,
13 applause] Thank you guys.

14 Now, onto the business of the day. The
15 day--the day, not night. The day. [laughter]
16 Passing a budget. [cheers, applause] TimeHop last
17 night--Joe--Joe sent it to me. TomHop yesterday was
18 an image of us here at 11:30 at night a year ago
19 still waiting for the Budget books. So I think
20 we're--we've come a long way. Very excited. So this
21 budget is the culmination of a lot of hard work, and
22 before we get into some of the details I definitely
23 want to thank a few people. First, I want to thank
24 our wonderful Council Finance Chair Julissa Ferreras-

1 Copeland. [cheers, applause] So hold on. I want
2 the--I want the staff to stay standing, guys. So
3 let's stay standing a minute because we're going to
4 have to stand for someone else soon as well. So,
5 once again I want to thank Julissa for the hours of
6 substantive hearings that we had. Very substantive
7 and pointed. I definitely want to thank the Budget
8 Negotiating Team for their hard work throughout this
9 process and hours--[cheers, applause]--and hours of
10 meeting early in the morning and late into the night.
11 Thank you. I also want to recognize the Boroughs
12 Delegation Chairs and all our Council colleagues who
13 invested so much time and energy [cheers, applause]
14 advocating for a budget, which truly helps people
15 across the city. And last but not least, I want to
16 thank the wonderful Finance staff led by the
17 incredible Latonia McKinney. [cheers, applause]
18 Yay. [background comment] It is daytime and there
19 are no three men in the room here. This is three
20 women of color [cheers, applause] with an inclusive
21 and Democratic City Council where everyone was part
22 of the conversation. [cheers, applause]. I want to
23 read the names of the Finance Staff because
24 definitely we want to thank them as well, and they're
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2 all here in the room. Thank you guys so much. We
3 have Tanisha Edwards, Chief Counsel; Ray Majewski,
4 Deputy Director and Chief Economist; Regina Poreda
5 Ryan, Deputy Director; Paul Scimone, Deputy Director;
6 Nathan Toth, Deputy Director; Rebecca Chasan,
7 Assistant Counsel. [applause] We have Emre Edev, John
8 Russell, Chima Obichere, Eisha Wright, Aliya Ali, and
9 if you're not standing, stand up--[cheers, applause]-
10 -if you're not standing, yes stand up. So Jessica
11 Dobson Ackerman, Maria Enache, Aliya Ali, Christopher
12 Eshleman, Crilhien Francisco, Sarah Gastelum, Kenneth
13 Grace, Brittany Morrissey, James Reyes, Steve
14 Reister, Jonathan Seltzer, Dohini Sompura, Ann
15 Donner--[cheers, applause]--Paul Sturm, Norah Yahya,
16 Nicole Anderson, Maria Pagan, Loretta Castalano and
17 Jia Feng. Thank you all very much. [cheers,
18 applause] Yay. You guys have been absolutely
19 fantastic, long, long hours. Thankfully, our
20 colleagues joined in and fed you. So thank you for
21 all to my colleagues that helped on that. [laughs]
22 They liked that.

23 So this on-time fiscally responsible
24 budget is one that will uplift New Yorkers, and make
25 a difference in every New Yorkers across this great

1 city. It's a budget, which defends the vulnerable,
2 will keep our economy on track and prioritizes public
3 safety. It's a budget that will invest in our youth.
4 They are the future of our city, and this budget
5 builds on their tomorrow by investing in their today.
6 Creating 50,000 summer youth jobs and 6,000 year-
7 round youth jobs as well as expanding after school
8 programs, and many, many more items. It's also a
9 budget, which will invest in education by bringing
10 breakfast to more than 500 elementary schools and
11 nearly 37,000 students. We know that children get
12 the most out of their education when they have the
13 nutrition they need to focus and succeed. And that
14 is why the Council has advocated so strongly for this
15 crucial initiative and continuing to expand
16 universally lunches, breakfast, food in the schools
17 in general. Each of these were Council priorities,
18 and we're happy to have successfully fought for them.
19 Additionally, thanks to this budget, all our
20 libraries will be open to New Yorkers six days a
21 week. [cheers, applause] With over \$40,000 in new
22 funding that is going to help provide for that.
23 We're also committing real resources for our seniors.
24 Seniors are one of the fastest growing populations in
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1
2 our city, and we must assure that older New Yorkers
3 have resources to age with dignity. This budget
4 commits to over 5,000 new units of senior housing
5 within five years with on-site social services. And
6 because we know elder abuse is a growing issue in our
7 city, we will invest \$2.3 million to combat it. We
8 know that parks and green spaces are some of the most
9 important keys to having livable neighborhoods.
10 Every community deserves a park they can be proud of,
11 and that is why this budget includes \$1.65 for the
12 Park Equity Initiative to nurture parks across the
13 city to meet their potential as vibrant community
14 spaces. This is a budget, which will uplift NYCHA
15 residents by providing funding for NYCHA senior
16 centers, which are essential resources in the NYCHA
17 community. For too long NYCHA has contended with
18 disinvestment and neglect. This funding is part of
19 our efforts to restore NYCHA as the cornerstone of
20 affordable housing in our city, and engage with
21 residents in a meaningful way. And speaking of
22 engagement, the budget also includes \$375,000 to
23 bring participatory budgeting to NYCHA.
24 Participatory Budgeting is a powerful tool to
25 increase grassroots and civic engagement in our

1
2 community, and we're excited that we're able to pilot
3 this in NYCHA working with NYCHA residents to make
4 their voices heard in this exciting process.

5 This is also a budget, which will
6 continue the City Council's critical work on
7 immigration. If Washington, D.C. can't get its act
8 together, then we will continue to lead. We're going
9 to expand City Council's Unaccompanied Minors
10 Initiative, which has provided free lawyers to
11 children who have escaped horrific violence in their
12 home countries. We're also dedicating an addition
13 \$1.5 million to an Immigrant Health Initiative, which
14 will focus on decreasing health disparities, and
15 increasing access to health services for immigrant
16 New Yorkers. Cities across the country have taken
17 note on our work on immigration, and today we're once
18 again affirming our commitment. When New York City
19 leads, more--others follows, and in our immigration
20 no one has done that more than New York City Council.

21 And finally, this is a budget, which
22 invests in public safety and criminal justice reform.
23 It is a--we cannot have one without the other. That
24 is why this budget includes \$1.4 million for citywide
25 bail fund. Many New Yorkers charged with minor non-

1
2 violent offenses end up being locked up in pre-trial
3 detention solely because they cannot afford bail. So
4 this bail fund is critical and it will save the city
5 a great deal in incarceration costs. We're proud to
6 have advocated for and we're proud to be leading the
7 way on criminal justice reform. This bail fund
8 combined with the City Council's summons reform
9 proposals will change lives and alter trajectories
10 for the better. So I want to thank--on those forums.
11 Obviously, on the libraries we have everyone to
12 thank, but obviously the Chair of our Cultural
13 Affairs Committee Jimmy Van Bramer and the Majority
14 Leader. [cheers, applause]. On all the wonderful
15 immigration work we have Carlos Menchaca. So I want
16 to thank him for that. [cheers, applause] And Rory
17 Lancman, who's been a great, great partner in all of
18 the criminal justice reform that we're seeking to do
19 and the Bail Fund in particular. [applause] And we
20 can name everyone, you know, on the jobs from all the
21 advocacy that we've done. Obviously thank Council
22 Member Jumaane Williams, as well as Julissa Ferreras-
23 Copeland and others.

24 At the same time, we recognize and
25 appreciate all the fine work of our police officers

1
2 and the work they do for us each and every day. So
3 for two years we've been calling for an expanded
4 police force, which would allow for more community
5 policing and better interactions. And because of the
6 City Council's efforts the NYPD will add almost 1,300
7 more officers to the force, and civilianize an
8 additional 400 positions on top of the 200 that we
9 did last year. In total, it will be approximately
10 1,700 more officers on the street keeping New Yorkers
11 safe. These officers will help make the NYPD more
12 proactive, not reactive crime fighting force in our
13 city.

14 All in all, this budget assures that
15 while we are investing and raising the headcount,
16 we're investing in key social services, job
17 opportunities, education, and others. Because that
18 is how we assure strong communities get even
19 stronger. And again, I want to thank all of you, all
20 of my colleagues for being so involved, for being so
21 engaged, for being so vocal, being true partners with
22 me as we prepare--as we prepare to vote on this
23 budget. And I want to thank the de Blasio
24 Administration and all of their staff for their good
25 faith negotiations throughout this process. As we

1
2 said, this was an open collaborative process, and
3 today we can be proud of what we've accomplished
4 because this City Council is making a difference.
5 Thank you. And with that, I will ask our colleague,
6 Chair of our Finance Committee Julissa Ferreras-
7 Copeland to say a few words.

8 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
9 you, Madam Chair. Today I rise as a Black Latina.
10 Often as young girls we're referred to as youth at
11 risk or not really good at math. Today, we serve as
12 a symbol that not only are we good at math, we're
13 great as elected officials. [cheers, applause] I
14 want to thank our Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito
15 through her leadership and skill in negotiating at
16 the negotiating table. The City Council can
17 decisively declare this year's budget on time,
18 inclusive, transparent, and a fiscally--and fiscally
19 responsible budget that will provide vital services
20 to uplift New Yorkers in every neighborhood across
21 the five boroughs. Thank you to every council
22 member from the Boogey Down Bronx all the way to
23 Staten Island. [cheers, applause] In marking this
24 achievement we must also thank the Administration for
25 their readiness to engage in work collaboratively

1
2 with us. Every member of the City Council can be
3 proud of the Fiscal 2016's Adopted Budget because it
4 is clear that we had a strong hand in its creation
5 and priorities it reflects for our city. Thank you
6 to every one of you. We did this together and it was
7 a job well done. I want to thank our very talented
8 and dedicated Finance Division. I won't call them by
9 name because we already did that, but they know how
10 much work it takes to be able to adopt a budget like
11 this. And many of them were here 'til 5:00. They
12 didn't get her at 5:00. They left at 5:00, and came
13 back at 8:00. They took showers. But, at this time
14 there's a very special and important person. She has
15 many titles. She's a daughter, wife, mother, but
16 today, with her leadership she's Director of the
17 Finance Division, Ms. Latonia McKinney. [cheers,
18 applause] This is--this is Latonia's second budget
19 as the leader of the Finance Division and her
20 experience, professionalism and skill have paved the
21 way for an efficient and extremely successful budget
22 process. Thank you again, Latonia, for an excellent
23 job done. I also want to acknowledge that Chris
24 Eshleman is leaving to the Port Author--to the Port
25 Authority to be a Senior Economist, and hopefully

1
2 he'll help them get their act together. [laughter,
3 applause] Again--again, I want to thank all my
4 colleagues. We did this together. This is a great
5 day. Thank you, Madam Speaker, and to all young
6 Black Latinas, as I refer to myself, we can
7 absolutely do this well. Gracias.

8 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Yes. Uh, I--I
9 forgot to--I just want to thank everybody. Ramon
10 Martinez. We want to thank Ramon for all his work as
11 well. [cheers, applause] Another one with many
12 titles. Let the council members fill in the blanks.
13 [laughs] So with that, I end communication from the
14 Speaker. Again, thank you all to my colleagues. It
15 really is a great, great day on many, many fronts.
16 Thank you.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Discussion of
18 General Orders. Council Member Eugene.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you, very
20 much, Madam Public Advocate. I would like to take
21 the opportunity to thank Speaker Melissa Mark-
22 Viverito, and also Mayor Bill de Blasio for their
23 leadership in passing a budget that truly meets the
24 need of all New Yorkers. And I especially would like
25 to thank the Speaker and all my colleagues for

1
2 increasing the number of jobs in the Summer Youth
3 Employment Program for seven years in a row for a
4 total of 50,000 jobs for our young people during the
5 summer. Thank you very much. [cheers, applause]
6 That--that was a big victory, and also I want to
7 thank my colleagues, and also the Speaker and also
8 the Chairman of Finance for creating 6,000 jobs for
9 our young people all year round. Thank you very
10 much. [cheers, applause] And I would also like to
11 thank Mayor de Blasio for restoring after school
12 summer program slots for 34,000 children. That was
13 a big victory for our children, for our parents, and
14 also for New York City. And to all my colleagues and
15 to all the advocates who have joined me in the fight
16 for the restoration of funding in programs for the
17 young people. From the bottom of my heart on my
18 behalf and on behalf of all the young people and
19 their parents, thank you. Thank you very much. With
20 this program we can ensure that all children are
21 provided the resources that they need to get back in
22 our workforce, and also to become the leaders of
23 tomorrow. And again, to all of you thank you very
24 much, and I'm very proud to be a member of this great
25 institution that is working very hard to make a big

1
2 difference, and to improve the quality of life of all
3 New Yorkers. Thank you so much. I vote aye. Oh,
4 thank you very much. [laughter] You know, I'm sorry
5 I didn't get to vote.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
7 Gibson.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you, Madam
9 Public Advocate. I simply want to express my firm
10 support for Preconsidered Land Use Item 245, which
11 relates to the new construction of 112 units of
12 rental housing for low-income households and people
13 living with special needs in my district called St.
14 Augustine Apartments. I am truly thankful to have
15 had the opportunity to work with Catholic Charities
16 and all of the organization, Church Family at St.
17 Augustine's Our Lady of Victory. I'm really, really
18 impressed because when you talk about the lack of
19 affordable housing, and the lack of opportunity for
20 many New Yorkers, this project is going to make a
21 significant difference. I'm extremely pleased that a
22 significant portion of the 112 apartments in this
23 building will be three-bedroom apartments. There are
24 many of my large families that need three-bedroom
25 apartments. That's not common in this city, and I'm

1
2 thankful that because of the work of Catholic
3 Charities and St. Augustine's they have recognized
4 that in my district in Morrisania this apartment
5 building is going to make significant investments in
6 affordable housing across the city. So thank you so
7 much, and I encourage my colleagues to please
8 continue to support this. Thank you.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
10 Council Member Chin.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you Public--
12 Madam Public Advocate. I want to begin by thanking
13 our Finance Chair, Council Member Ferreras-Copeland,
14 and our Speaker for their incredibly strong but
15 always thoughtful advocacy throughout the budget.
16 But we realize that the Department for the Aging has
17 been asked to cut \$3 million of baselined Council
18 programs from its budget without the opportunity to
19 reinvest. Those funds and other needs our Speaker
20 and Finance Chair went to bat with us to make sure we
21 got that money put back, and then we did and then
22 some. I believe this budget reflects a new game
23 changing way of thinking about senior services. For
24 the second year in a row we've expanded the program
25 for our most vulnerable population. We still have a

1 long way to go to bring senior services to the level
2 it deserves. One in five seniors lives in poverty.
3 Many are being squeezed out of their neighborhoods or
4 unable to get medical and homecare services they
5 need. This year we said enough to wait list seniors.
6 With \$4.8 million investment in homecare by the Mayor
7 and \$3 million investment by the Council for case
8 management, seniors can finally stop standing in line
9 for vital services. [cheers] This year, we said
10 our oldest citizens should not be our hungriest. So
11 we invested \$1.2 million to ensure our seniors are
12 able to have something to eat over the weekend. This
13 year we said let's expand successful programs like
14 NORC, Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities and
15 programs for low-income immigrant seniors across the
16 city. By my count, in total we were able to get
17 about \$20 million increase in funding for new senior
18 services. And more than half of that money was
19 invested by the Council. So Julissa, Melissa, I want
20 to thank you for this huge win for seniors, and I
21 also want to thank all my colleagues for your support
22 of seniors especially to Paul Vallone, Karen
23 Koslowitz, Chaim Deutsch, Jimmy Vacca, Vincent
24 Gentile, Jumaane Williams who made sure this budget
25

1 included new funding for some of the city's most
2 urgent need--urgent needs. And finally, thank you to
3 Latonia--

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
5 Council Member, can you please wrap it up?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: --our Budget
7 Director, and I'll--

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
9 Thank you.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: --say that later in
11 the vote.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: [laughter] Thank
14 you. I get two minutes.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
16 Menchaca.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you,
18 Madam Public Advocate. So today I beam with lots of
19 pride. Today, love win. [Speaking Spanish] I also
20 beam with pride of our work together with our Speaker
21 and the Council colleagues and staff on this budget--
22 victories in this budget for New York's immigrant
23 communities including services to seniors and
24
25

1
2 domestic violence survivors. Survivors of labor
3 trafficking and extending more success to IDNYC--

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
5 [shushing for quiet].

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: The list goes
7 on. But this budget process also revealed the
8 significant deficiency in our shared commitment to
9 educating our adult immigrant New Yorkers. Tens of
10 thousands of individuals waiting sometimes for more
11 than a year for English language courses at a time
12 when we are still registering people for DACA. And
13 adult literacy funding reduction of at least \$3
14 million, that our numbers show, will cause dozens of
15 service organizations to lose funding next week.
16 That means with this budget, thousands of desperately
17 needed English learning seats will be shut down.
18 Look, the Administration and the Council we did our
19 best. We need to do better. This year's budgeting
20 process revealed that we may be aligned in our
21 designed in our desire to serve immigrants. But we
22 are failing on our delivery. Convolutioned funding
23 streams, uncertain year-to-year funding levels,
24 overlapping and shifting agency commitments leave too
25 many immigrants outside the reach of our care. The

1
2 essential community based organizations that deliver
3 literacy services face unpredictable funding and ever
4 shifting agency roles and accountability. Our
5 mission--our mission is clear. Anyone who desires to
6 learn and improve their English proficiency, to find
7 a better job, to help their child in homework in
8 school or to launch a campaign and organize their
9 community, to simply tell their story. Or, like
10 Maria from Sunset Park who tells me that she wants to
11 find love. We cannot deny anyone of this desire. So
12 I ask you in this next year to join me. Thank you.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
14 Council Member Van Bramer.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank you very
16 much Madam Public Advocate. I want to really thank
17 our Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito and our Finance
18 Chair Julissa Ferreras-Copeland for leading the
19 charge and making what I'm about to say a reality.
20 This budget includes record amounts of funding for
21 our three public library systems. As the Speaker
22 said, over \$40 million to provide six-day service
23 citywide. But in addition to that, over \$300 million
24 in capital funding including for the first time ever
25 libraries in the Ten-Year Capital Plan. This is a

1 significant, significant increase, a dramatic
2 statement of support for our public libraries.
3 Nearly \$400 million in total new funding for public
4 libraries in this budget that we're about to adopt
5 that wasn't in the budget six months ago. That's an
6 incredible victory, an incredible leap forward for
7 our public libraries. And again, I thank our
8 Speaker, our Finance Chair and Costa Constantinides,
9 our Chair on the Subcommittee on Libraries at least
10 for another two hours. And I also want to mention
11 that in this budget we are significantly for the
12 second year in a row increasing funding for our
13 cultural organizations, particularly those smaller
14 community-based organizations that are reaching out
15 to disenfranchised communities. The Cultural
16 Immigrant Initiative more than doubled this year over
17 the \$1.5 million we started out last year. Again,
18 thanks to our Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito for
19 helping make that possible. And in this budget,
20 there is over \$150 million in capital funding going
21 to our cultural organizations. Today is a very good
22 day for libraries and culturals, and I'm excited to
23 vote on this budget, and applaud and congratulate all
24
25

1
2 of my colleagues for supporting it. Thank you very
3 much.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
5 Johnson.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam
7 Public Advocate. I wanted to rise today to thank the
8 Speaker and the Finance Chair for their incredible
9 support and advocacy in securing more funds both from
10 the Administration and here at the City Council for
11 public health. The City Council realized many months
12 ago that there was \$26 million in potential funds
13 going to be lost due to baselining. Over 500 local
14 community organizations who are at risk. And with
15 Council Member Cohen, the Chair of the Mental Health
16 Committee, we worked with the Speaker and the Chair
17 and we--this Council got all of that money back to
18 ensure that our community based organizations that
19 provide services across the city would be able to
20 continue with that work. Some of those initiatives
21 were things for Women's Cancer; Family Planning;
22 Hepatitis B and C; HIV and AID; the NYU Dental Van;
23 the Obesity Prevention Initiative; Infant Mortality.
24 These were important things, and the City Council
25 this year under this Speaker and this Finance Chair

1 secured money for an Immigrant Health Initiative,
2 money for an access of the Health Care Initiative.
3 And the City Council stepped up and put nearly \$4
4 million to support the Governor's blueprint to ending
5 the epidemic of HIV and AIDS here in New York City
6 and New York State. I want to thank them for their
7 incredible support. And the hallmark of a great
8 democracy is the health of the people who live there,
9 and the access to care. This City Council stood up
10 on behalf of New Yorkers that need access to
11 healthcare services. I want to thank the Speaker and
12 the Finance Chair for their great support. Thank
13 you.
14

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
16 Gentile.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Thank you.
18 Today brings us to another crescendo moment in--in
19 our budget process. This is my twelfth such
20 crescendo moment here in the Council, but the music
21 this year as opposed to other years I've been here is
22 playing a loud and happy tune for this budget. It's
23 a major victory for all New Yorkers. It's a budget
24 that will make our city safer and increase community
25 policing so communities know their officers and the

1 officers know their neighbors. It's a budget that
2 opens the doors of opportunity for our youth from
3 full six-day library service to more school crossing
4 guards to summer youth and full-time year-round
5 positions for our youth. It's a budget that
6 safeguards our senior citizens by expanding existing
7 elderly abuse programs and eliminating wait--waiting
8 lists for the homecare program. So whether it was
9 individually or collectively, we all have put many
10 hours into this process and we emerge successful.
11 More than successful. So thank you to our Speaker
12 Melissa Mar-Viverito, our Finance Chair Julissa
13 Ferreras-Copeland, the Finance staff, our Mayor and
14 all of my colleagues here in the City Council on a
15 job well done. Our work during this budget prior--
16 period will have lasting impact on New Yorkers today
17 and for many more years to come. So when it's
18 appropriate, when it's appropriate, I will proudly
19 vote yes.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
22 Council Member Levin.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: [off mic] Thank
24 you. [on mic] Thank you, Madam Public Advocate.
25 May Speaker, I want to thank you very much for--there

1
2 are several items I want to address in this budget.
3 Overall, as my colleagues have said, this is a
4 magnificent City budget this year. In particular, I
5 want to thank you for advancing the cause of
6 breakfast in our schools, breakfast in the classroom.
7 This the first time that the city has made a real
8 commitment to expanding breakfast where we could have
9 many more children accessing a healthy meal at the
10 beginning of their day. I want to acknowledge the
11 New York Coalition Against Hunger, Joel Berg, Food
12 Research and Action Center, and my cousin Madelyn
13 Levin who worked there, and share our strength for
14 all their advocacy. In addition to that, I want to
15 acknowledge that this budget includes \$1.6 million in
16 increased funding for anti-hunger initiatives. I
17 want to acknowledge Dohini Sompura from Finance staff
18 for that. And I just wanted to acknowledge those
19 great things in addressing hunger here in New York
20 City in this budget.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
22 Barron.

23 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: [off mic] Quiet,
24 please.

25

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you, Madam
3 Public Advocate. I do want to commend the Speaker,
4 the Finance team and all of those who worked so hard
5 for the work that they were able to do on behalf of
6 the Committee on Higher Education to bring support to
7 the programs such as the Center for Puerto Rican
8 Studies, Dominican Student Institute, Dominican
9 Studies Institute, the Murphy Institute, Food Policy
10 and the Creative Arts Team. I thank you so much for
11 that, and to my colleagues for supporting and
12 continuing to endorse the CUNY Merit Scholarship
13 Program by adding an additional \$7 million. So I do
14 support. I think that's great support showing for
15 Higher Education, and I just wanted to thank all of
16 those worked so diligently to make that a reality.
17 Thank you.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
19 Reports of Special Committees.

20 CLERK: None.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Reports of
22 Standing Committees.

23 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
24 Finance, Preconsidered M-307 and Reso 768 transfer of
25 city funds.

1 CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 45
2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
3 General Orders.
4 CLERK: Preconsidered M-308 and Reso 769
5 Budget Mod.
6 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
7 General Orders.
8 CLERK: Preconsidered Reso 761 and 762,
9 Base Proportion and Adjusted Base Proportion.
10 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
11 General Orders.
12 CLERK: Preconsidered Reso 763,
13 Transparency Reso.
14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
15 General Orders.
16 CLERK: M-79 and Reso 770 and 771,
17 Expense Revenue Contract Budget Fiscal Year 2016.
18 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
19 General Orders.
20 CLERK: M-28 and Reso 772 and 773,
21 Capital Budget.
22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
23 General Orders.
24 CLERK: M-281 and Reso 774, CD Budget.
25

1 CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 46

2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on

3 General Orders.

4 CLERK: M-286 and Reso 775, Ten-Year

5 Capital Strategy.

6 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on

7 General Orders.

8 CLERK: Preconsidered M-306 and Reso 776,

9 Chancellor's Amendment.

10 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on

11 General Orders.

12 CLERK: Preconsidered M-315 and Reso 777,

13 Fix--Fixing the Tax Rate.

14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on

15 General Orders.

16 CLERK: Preconsidered LU 245 and Reso

17 778, St. Augustine Apartments.

18 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on

19 General Orders.

20 CLERK: Preconsidered LU-246 and Reso

21 779, Atlantic Plaza Towers.

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on

23 General Orders.

24 CLERK: M-228 to M-287 on page 12.

25

2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled to be--
3 coupled to be filed.

4 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Land
5 Use, LU 218 and Reso 780, Property Tax Exemption.

6 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
7 General Orders.

8 CLERK: LU 238 and Reso 781 through LU
9 240 and Reso 783, Sidewalk Cafes.

10 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
11 General Orders.

12 CLERK: LU 241 and Reso 784, Landmark
13 Designation.

14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
15 General Orders.

16 CLERK: LU 242 and Reso 785, Disposition
17 of City-Owned Property.

18 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
19 General Orders.

20 CLERK: LU 243 and Reso 786, Aeration
21 Facility.

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
23 General Orders.

24 CLERK: LU 244 and Reso 787, UDAAP Bronx.

2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
3 General Orders.

4 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Rules,
5 Privileges and Elections, Preconsidered Reso 766
6 approving changes to certain committees.

7 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
8 General Orders.

9 CLERK: On the General Order Calendar
10 Resolution appointing various persons commissioner of
11 deeds.

12 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
13 General Orders, and at this time I ask for a roll
14 call on all items on the Coupled General Order
15 Calendar.

16 CLERK: Arroyo.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

18 CLERK: Barron.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Permission to
20 explain my vote?

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: The Council's
23 charge is to produce legislation and help shape and
24 approve a budget. We hold hearings to be more
25 informed on how the policies and practices affect the

1
2 lives of these people. The adopted budget reflects
3 the priorities and programs that are rendered to the
4 public. It's an amalgamation of many compromises.
5 This body has many of the deficiencies in the initial
6 budget, and well-deserved kudos go for that. But I
7 believe that the injection of \$170 million for new
8 police officers is a misdirection of appropriations
9 of significant funds. The policy and practice of
10 broken windows underlines the functioning of the New
11 York Police Department. Hearings have informed us
12 and Commissioner Bratton has confirmed that stop and
13 frisk historically has resulted in many illegal
14 discriminatory arrests that ultimately have resulted
15 in tens of thousands of Black and Latino men being
16 criminalized because of low-level offenses. The
17 historic racism that is systemic throughout this
18 country and continues to surface in so many
19 situations, also exists in the NYPD. This is not a
20 feeling, but a fact. Police officers continue to use
21 the banned chokehold, which can prove deadly.
22 Realizing that the most severe punishment with the
23 CCRB is the loss of vacation days. Commissioner
24 Bratton opposes making the chokehold illegal. The
25 interactions of police and residents in my community

1
2 are often negative. An officer put a seven-month
3 pregnant woman in chokehold because he says that she
4 grilling [sic] and he called for backup. The
5 solution for the ailments of our community is not to
6 inflate a system that has not corrected its
7 deficiencies, shortcomings, abuses and yes even
8 allows for violations of its own policies. But to
9 first as a body empowered to bring legislation to
10 take action and enact the laws that will protect the
11 residents of our communities from the offenses of
12 police officers who break the law. And so often avoid
13 prosecution and continue to patrol our streets with
14 impunity shielded by their community. This body I
15 think can take greater action to remedy that
16 situation. I cannot support 1,700 more officers on
17 the street and a counter--a counter terrorism unit
18 that controls and demonstrations.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Madam Council
20 Member could you please wrap up your comments.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Yes. One last
22 sentence. I believe that this designation of 17--
23 \$170 million to increase police is a fatal flaw and I
24 vote no. Thank you.

25

1
2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member,
3 could you please explain your vote one more time?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: What numbers,
5 please? Specify.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: The budget.

7 [background comments]

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Correct. That
9 includes the \$170 million for the Police. M-279 and
10 Reso 770. Any others? Thank you.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you.

12 CLERK: Thank you. Cabrera.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Permission to
14 explain my vote?

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: [coughs] Thank
17 you. I am disclosing on the record of the Council
18 proceedings that Kips Bay Boys and Girls Club is
19 funded in the budget--

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
21 [shushing for quiet]

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: --we're adopting
23 and my church is associated with this entity and with
24 the Department of Education funded in the budget we
25 are adopting, and my child may work at these schools

1
2 as a substitute teacher and my son-in-law is a DOE
3 school counselor. On another note, Madam Speaker,
4 thank you so much for adding the police officers. In
5 my district we are in desperate need, and for every
6 other district that is not interested in having the
7 police officer in districts, send them our way
8 because we could surely use them. I'm very proud of
9 this budget.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]

11 [shushing for quiet]

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: This is the best
13 budget I have ever seen the city passed. So I
14 commend you, and I commend my colleagues. Thank you
15 so much and I vote aye on all.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

17 CLERK: Chin.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Permission to
19 explain my vote?

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: I wanted to
22 continue my thank you to all the wonderful Finance
23 staff and, of course, to Latonia McKinney, the
24 Finance Director and also to Regina Poreda and, of
25 course, Dohini Sompura, our Finance Analyst who is

1
2 brilliant and passionate about aging issues, and
3 without whom we could not have done this work. And
4 finally, to all my staff in my district and
5 legislative office for their support. And, of
6 course, my Chief of Staff Yume Kitasei, who's
7 wonderful at doing budgets. And I proudly vote yes
8 on this budget, and I congratulate all my staff, and
9 to all my colleagues. Thank you.

10 CLERK: Cohen.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

12 CLERK: Constantinides.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Madam
14 Public Advocate, may I be excused to explain my vote?

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: I'm
17 disclosing--

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
19 [shushing for quiet]

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: --on the
21 record of the City Council proceedings that P.S. 85
22 is one of the schools that I fund in my district
23 along with all the others we are adopting. My child
24 is a student at that school and at Queens College, in
25 the budget that we are adopting and I was associated

1
2 with that entity. I want to congratulate our
3 Speaker, our Finance Chair Julissa Ferreras-Copeland-
4 -trying to get that out [laughs] and Latonia McKinney
5 and all the Finance staff on a strong budget that
6 makes our streets safer and that's equitable for all
7 New Yorkers. It makes each and every one of us
8 better whether it's our seniors, our library patrons.
9 I just want to congratulate our Speaker for her great
10 leadership. Thank you.

11 CLERK: Cornegy.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Permission to
13 explain my vote?

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: I'd like to
16 thank our Speaker, the Finance Chair. I'd like to
17 thank the Finance staff for the hard work put in on
18 behalf of the Committee on Small Business, especially
19 worker cooperatives. I'd also like to send a special
20 shout-out and thank you to my Legislative and Budget
21 Director Dynishal Gross for working collaboratively
22 with all the entities aforementioned. And for a
23 quick solid budget thank you.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: How do you vote?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: I vote aye.

1
2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

3 CLERK: Crowley.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: I am disclosing
5 for the record of the Council proceedings that first
6 I have two sisters who are teachers and work in two
7 different schools for the Department of Education.
8 My younger son Owen, who recently graduated from high
9 school, will no longer be a DOE student, but he's
10 about to enter City University of New York in
11 September. And New York Public Library in the budget
12 we are adopting my domestic partner is associated
13 with that entity. I'd like to thank the Speaker for
14 this budget. The addition of physical education
15 teachers will go a long way at helping our kids fight
16 childhood obesity, and build a healthier lifestyle
17 for them. I want to make sure that I also thank the
18 Speaker and my colleagues for the addition in funding
19 for Rikers Island, which I believe will go a long
20 ways at fighting the culture of violence there. And
21 I'd also like to thank everybody for the addition of
22 police officers, which is something that I've been
23 working on for a number of years. And I do believe
24 will go a long ways at making New York City safer. I
25 vote aye.

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PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

CLERK: Cumbo.

COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Permission to explain my vote?

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I again with my colleagues want to thank the Speaker as well as the entire Finance Division and staff as well as our Council Member Julissa Ferreras. It is a good feeling indeed to see so many women of color presiding over our budget and making very powerful decisions. I just want to say that I want to thank Finance for listening to our suggestions throughout this process. I look forward to working with the Administration on the RFP and procurement process to make sure that we have more transparency and equality moving forward. Because we saw how challenging this budget process was with so many of our daycare centers looming in terms of learning what their fate was going to be. And so with that, I also want to thank my colleagues for supporting my initiative to expand the Anti-Gun Violence Initiative to also include the arts. And that is so very important for us to give our young people the opportunity to say

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2 yes to opportunities that will channel their
3 energies. And with that, I want to say aye.

4 CLERK: Deutsch.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Yeah, okay, I
6 want to--I am disclosing on the records in the
7 Council proceedings that Montessori Dezacor that is
8 funded in the budget that we are adopting and my
9 child is a student in the school. And that
10 Kingsborough Community College is funded in the
11 budget we are adopting my child is a student at that
12 school. And I want to thank the Speaker of the City
13 Council Melissa Mark-Viverito and the Finance staff
14 and all my colleagues in the City Council for a well
15 done budget. As well, I want to thank also our
16 Public Advocate and my Brooklyn Borough President for
17 their advocacy and everything for what we are seeing
18 now in the budget. And I want to thank everyone for
19 a great job and happy weekend.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. How
21 do you vote?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Oh, aye on all.

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

24 CLERK: Cumbo.
25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I am disclosing on
3 the record to the Council that the New York City as
4 funded in the budget, and I am a member of that
5 entity.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

7 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: [off mic] Quiet
8 please.

9 CLERK: Dromm.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Whatever.

11 [laughter]

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Continue with
13 roll call.

14 CLERK: Council Member Dromm.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Permission to
16 explain my vote? Permission to explain my vote?
17 Madam Chair. Madam Chair.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you. First
20 let me start off by--

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
22 [shushing for quiet]

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: --thanking our
24 Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito, and our Finance Chair
25 Julissa Ferreras-Copeland for the fantastic job they

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2 have done bringing this budget in. We're most
3 grateful for their efforts and for all the work that
4 they have done. I also want to take a moment to
5 thank you Regina Poreda Ryan and Norah Yahya to the
6 Finance Staff to the Education Committee for always
7 keeping us informed. And for working so closely with
8 me and so collaboratively. In addition to some of
9 the items that the Speaker mentioned in the Education
10 Budget, as Council Member Crowley has said, we have
11 included 50 new physical education teachers. I want
12 to thank her for her collaboration for the hearing
13 that we held. And I believe that part of that was
14 that the outcome was that we got the 50 teachers. I
15 want to thank all of my colleagues for the \$3.6
16 million in extra Teacher's Choice money that we are
17 able to provide to our teachers when they are so
18 beaten up by what's happening up in Albany. This is
19 a show and a sign of respect for all of our teachers
20 in the New York City Public School system.
21 Additionally, the \$12 million for special ed teams
22 and finally after 22 years of work having an LGBT
23 liaison in the Department of Education is a huge step
24 forward. And while I'm at it, let me say that 42
25 years ago I started marching in the Manhattan Pride

1
2 Parade. And at that time homosexuality was considered
3 to be a mental illness. I never thought that I would
4 live to see the day when it would be removed from a
5 list of mental disorders to be able to march in a
6 parade where we have the President of the United
7 States and Supreme Court declaring that we have, in
8 fact, a legal right to marry. In addition to that,
9 let me also say that today is the funeral for
10 Clementa Pinckney, who was killed in the massacre in
11 Charleston, South Carolina. And that reminds us that
12 much work remains to be done, and we are all in the
13 battle together. We are all in this fight together
14 for equal rights for everybody. And on this great
15 day we must also take time to recognize that terrible
16 tragedy. And with that note, I vote aye. Thank you
17 very much.

18 CLERK: Cumbo.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: New York
20 University is funded in the budget we are adopting
21 and I am a member of that entity.

22 [background comments]

23 CLERK: Espinal.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: I proudly vote
25 aye.

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CLERK: Eugene.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Can I explain my
vote?

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you very
much. I would like one more time to thank the
Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito and Mayor de Blasio.
We can all agree that we have a good year, and I'm so
proud to be part of this wonderful institution. I'd
like to thank our Speaker's Chief of Staff Ramon
Martinez. Mochas gracias, Ramon. The outstanding
team from our finest division that--

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: interposing]
[shushing for quiet]

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: --works very
hard. And I want to thank our Director Latonia
McKinney as well as Paul Scimone, Nathan Toth, James
Reyes and Jessica Dodson. I would like also to thank
the Chair of the Finance Committee Julissa Ferreras-
Cope--Cope--

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Copeland.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: --Copeland. Thank
you very much. I'd like to thank also our hard
working team of the Youth Services Committee Kimberly

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2 Williams and Michael Benjamin. I would like also to
3 thank my staffer Debbie Weis [sic] and Also Vanessa
4 Alderman. [sic] Thank you again to everyone and
5 especially to all my colleagues to all they have done
6 to make our city great. People from all over the
7 world come to our city because they know they will
8 find enriching opportunities. And the new
9 advancement in our budget will continue to improve
10 our city for everyone. Thank your very much. With
11 that I vote aye.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

13 CLERK: Ferreras-Copeland.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND: Can I
15 have permission to explain my vote?

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes. Madam Chair.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND: I just
18 wanted to also take this time to acknowledge our
19 constituents and voters who send us here to this body
20 to do the right thing. And while we all worked on
21 this budget together, we must not lose sight of how
22 and why we got here. So today we're doing a great
23 thing, and I vote aye. Thank you.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

25 CLERK: Garodnick.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Thank you and
3 a couple of disclosures on the record.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes, sir.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Thank you.
6 I'd like to disclose on the record for the Council
7 proceedings that the Stuyvesant Town Cooper Village
8 Tenant's Association that is funded in the budget
9 that we are adopting I'm a resident of that
10 community, and member of the association. That
11 Planned Parenthood that is funded in the budget we
12 are adopting, and while we have no relationship with
13 that organization, my wife is the Associate General
14 Counsel of the Planned Parenthood Federation of
15 America. And the Peter Stuyvesant Little League is
16 funded in the budget we are adopting, and my four-
17 year-old son is a participant in that entity. And
18 he's done a very nice job. [laughter] Thank you and
19 I vote aye. I want to also congratulate the Speaker
20 and Chair Ferreras-Copeland on a lot of hard work,
21 and also the first budget in the ten years that we
22 have been here, Madam Speaker, and which we have done
23 this during daytime hours. And we appreciate that
24 very much. Thank you and I vote aye. applause]

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PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Continue roll
cal.

CLERK: Gentile.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: I vote aye on
all.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

CLERK: Gibson.

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Permission to
explain my vote?

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you, Madam
Public Advocate. I, too, echo the sentiments of--

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
[shushing for quiet]

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: --my colleagues.
Thank you Madam Speaker. Thank you to our Finance
Chair, our incredible Finance Division. It has been
a pleasure to all of my colleagues working with you
again, the second year to deliver an early and
fiscally responsible budget that benefits all New
Yorkers and makes essential investments in many
important areas of growing concern; enhancing
services for our seniors and our youth; expanding
opportunities and public safety efforts; and many of

1
2 the other programs that matter. I want to thank
3 everyone for their collective support in helping to
4 get the uniform headcount raised at the Police
5 Department and civilianization of our police
6 officers; raising the headcount for school crossing
7 guards that we care so much about; enhancing human
8 services; eliminating the Department for the Aging
9 waiting list for home care; investing in our children
10 through an in-classroom breakfast program; enhancing
11 programs for summer youth; creating a year long Youth
12 Employment Program; libraries opening six days a
13 week; funding park equity and maintenance that we all
14 cared about. And I want to thank all of my
15 colleagues for helping to support the Prisoner Rights
16 Project Initiative that I worked with Council Member
17 King on to provide support for the detainees at
18 Rikers Island. Very important. And I also want to
19 make a personal point of gratitude to our Speaker for
20 putting in and making sure that we get the last leg
21 of funding to bring the first ever Bronx Children's
22 Museum in the great Borough of the Bronx. [applause]
23 Thank you so much.

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2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
3 [shushing for quiet] Please refrain from applause.
4 Please refrain from applause.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: I want to really
6 thank the Finance staff for their commitment and
7 dedication. Their tireless efforts and truly their
8 labor of love. Thank you Latonia McKinney, Tanisha
9 Edwards, Rebecca Chasan, Regina Poreda Ryan, and to
10 my Finance staff and Public Safety Ellen Eng and
11 Eisha Wright. Thank you so much and to my staff
12 Edwin Hermelin [sic] and Dana Wax. I proudly vote
13 aye on all.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

15 CLERK: Greenfield.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: May I explain
17 my vote?

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank you,
20 Madam Public Advocate. First, I just also would like
21 to add my sincere gratitude to Alonzo Carr for 27
22 years of outstanding service in the Land Use
23 Division. [applause] Thousands--thousands of
24 projects, hundreds of council members that he's
25 helped and the fashion quota of the New York City

1 Council is going to go down because he is certainly
2 one of the best dressed staffers. Alonzo, we're
3 going to miss you. Thank you very much. I want to
4 thank, of course, the Speaker of the City Council.
5 I've been part of six budgets. This was the most
6 transparent and collaborative budget that I've been a
7 part of, especially the great work that was done by
8 Finance Chair Julissa Ferreras-Copeland. And the
9 patience exhibited on the Budget Negotiating team,
10 all those members. I want to thank them as well. I
11 think our budget--Brooklyn Budget Delegation Co-
12 Chairs, Mary Treyger and Darlene Mealy for all their
13 hard work. I want to thank Mr. Fix It, Ramon
14 Martinez. That's spelled M-A-R-T-I-N-E-Z for all the
15 reporters out there. [laughter] I want to thank the
16 great Finance staff, Latonia McKinney, Regina Poreda
17 Ryan, Nathan Toth and Kenny Grace for putting up with
18 my many questions and inquiries and concerns. And
19 Brittany and Jessica and John and Crilhien and my
20 personal staff Becky Stern my Budget Director, Danny
21 Poston my Chief of Staff, and Juwani Dushan, who is
22 my Senior Aid for spending many hours with me. Some
23 days as early as 7:00 a.m. and as late as 2:00 a.m. I
24 want to really congratulate all of us on an
25

1
2 outstanding budget. I'm really thrilled about more
3 cops, better libraries, cleaner parks, increased
4 senior services, money for our veterans. I want to
5 thank Council Members Espinal and Levine for their
6 leadership on the Holocaust Survivor Initiative. I
7 want to thank my colleagues for supporting me on the
8 New York City Clean Up Initiative. And I really
9 would like to thank as well the sergeant-at-arms who
10 did yeoman's work and worked overtime, and keeping
11 the people who were not supposed to be in, out, and
12 those of us who were in, from being kicked out. And
13 I'm very grateful for that, and I vote aye on all
14 General Orders and Call-Ups.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

16 CLERK: Johnson.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Permission to
18 explain my vote?

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: I want to thank
21 a few people as well. Of course, the Speaker and the
22 Finance Chair who have been thanked and they deserve
23 it. I really want to highlight the Finance folks
24 that have been incredibly helpful to me. Latonia
25 McKinney, Regina Poreda Ryan, Crilhien Francisco, who

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2 is the Finance Analyst for the Health Committee, and
3 has done an incredible job. I want to thank the man
4 himself Ramon Martinez. Joe Taranto from the
5 Speaker's staff. Nathan Toth from the Capital
6 Division. I want to especially thank my Legislative
7 and Budget Director Louis Cholden-Brown who has done
8 an incredible job. He and Yume from Council Member
9 Chin's office really guided the Manhattan Delegation
10 in organizing us. And he has been an incredible
11 asset to me, and everything that we've done. Not
12 just in the healthcare arena but looking out for the
13 district in every way, in childcare slots, senior
14 centers. We are--I am incredibly grateful for him,
15 his loyalty and hard work, and lastly, I want to
16 thank my Manhattan Delegation Co-Chair, Margaret
17 Chin, for the great relationship that we have being
18 able to do this work together for the Delegation and
19 the people of the borough. And with that, I proudly,
20 proudly vote aye on this year's budget and all of the
21 resolutions that are before us. Thank you.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

23 CLERK: Vacca

24 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: I'd like to
25 explain my vote.

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PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: I vote aye on all.

I want to join in thank the Speaker and Julissa Ferreras-Copeland for their hard work and I, too, do not recollect having a budget vote so early and so promptly. And I thank them both. I do wish to identify, though, that part of the--part of the budget is an allocation for City University, which includes Queens College as part of the Technology Program, and I'm an Adjunct Professor at Queens College. But I vote aye on all.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

CLERK: Kallos.

COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Permission to explain my vote?

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Thank you to Speaker, Finance Chair Julissa Ferreras-Copeland, Finance Director Latonia McKinney. Finance staff including John Russell and my Budget Director Sushan Torite [sp?] who goes Sushi, for a budget that will make life easier, better and safer for New Yorkers of all backgrounds now and in the future. It contains

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2 key items, and I am proud of including supporting
3 schools with access to food, wraparound services--

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
5 [shushing for quiet]

6 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: --and crossing
7 guards. Making us safer by hiring more police
8 officers, and billions of investment to managing debt
9 responsibly and restoring aging infrastructure. I
10 wish to disclose that my mother is disabled with
11 Parkinson's and with federal, state and city non-
12 profit services. I like so many other New Yorkers
13 with members of their families with disabilities
14 could not be here today. My mother is a recipient of
15 services from Blackstone [sic] Neighborhood House and
16 Del Rote [sp?]. I am also one of 35,000 New Yorkers
17 from all five boroughs who uses facilities such as
18 Asphalt Green. I've been a member of the Asphalt
19 Green Triathlon team. I also participate in numerous
20 races including the New York Road Runners and Bike
21 New York's annual Five Borough Bike Tour, all of
22 which are receiving funding in this year's budget.
23 And last but not least, as a free and open source
24 software developer who has developed websites using
25 City Serum [sic] for client relationship management,

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2 I'm proud to support progressive technology projects.
3 Which will make necessary improvements to the code of
4 City Serum so that governments and non-profits here
5 and around the country can better serve the people of
6 this great nation. Shabbat Shalom and I vote aye.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

8 CLERK: King.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KING. Permission to
10 explain my vote?

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: First I want to say
13 I'm disclosing on the record Council--

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
15 [shushing for quiet]

16 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: --proceedings that
17 1199 SEIU Training Fund, which is receiving funding
18 from this budget. My wife is--sits on the Trustees
19 of this entity. Also, I'd like to just say thank to
20 the Supremes, Letitia, Julissa and Latonia for their
21 gold record today by voting on the budget when the
22 sun is shining. So to everybody who helped to make
23 this budget work, I want to thank my colleagues and
24 everyone in City Hall that made this budget a
25 success. Thank you.

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PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

CLERK: Did he vote?

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Ah. [background
comments] PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
[shushing for quiet] For the baby [shushing for
quiet].

CLERK: Koo.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Permission to
explain my vote?

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes, but do it
silently, quietly.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you, Madam
Public Advocate.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: First of all, I want
to thank the three wonderful women in the room, the
Speaker and our Finance Chair and also Latonia, the
Director of Finance for their wonderful work for us.
And I also want to thank, of course, the central
staff and my--my Chief of Staff in my office, Elaine
Chong for her--a lot of work on this budget. So with
that, I also want to thank everyone. Have a good
summer and mochas gracias. And I vote yes for
everything. [laughter]

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2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: I love it. Thank
3 you.

4 CLERK: Koslowitz.

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

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: This is--I'm
9 not competitive, but this is 17th budget. [cheers,
10 applause] And I have to say in the last 5-1/2 years
11 since I came back it's nice to go home seeing the
12 light instead of the dark. [laughter] I want to
13 thank the Speaker, Julissa, Latonia, Ramon, the
14 entire Finance people for what you did. Thank you,
15 thank you, thank you, and I am very pleased to vote
16 aye on this great budget.

17 CLERK: Lancman.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: May I explain my
19 vote?

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Thank you.
22 There are so many things to commend about this
23 budget, and the Speaker's leadership. But I just want
24 to focus on your commitment to transforming the civil
25 and criminal legal system through use of the budget

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2 and our authority as a--as a City Council. It really
3 truly is visionary. I commend you for that. I
4 can't, unfortunately, commend you for the budget
5 getting done during daylight hours. When I was up in
6 Albany, I recall doing the budget in daylight hours.
7 Although, in that case we had been up all night, and
8 we did it at sunrise. But still, it was daylight.
9 In all seriousness, I'm honored to vote yes. Let me
10 also disclose on the record that I am member of the
11 Young Israel of Hillcrest Synagogue, which is funded
12 in the budget that we are adopting. Thank you.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

14 CLERK: Levin.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Permission to
16 explain my vote?

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

18 [interposing] [shushing for quiet]

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you, Madam
20 Public Advocate. I just want to acknowledge the
21 people that made this wonderful and significant
22 budget happen, Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito, Finance
23 Chair Julissa Ferreras-Copeland, Latonia McKinney,
24 Ramon Martinez, Regina Poreda Ryan, Tanisha Edwards,
25 Dohini Sompura, and Roma who's here, Brittany

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2 Morrissey, Nathan Toth, Kenny Grace, Paul Scimone,
3 Norah Yahya, James Reyes, and I want to acknowledge
4 Pascale Bernard, Alonzo Carr and Alisha Brown who
5 have made such wonderful contributions to this New
6 York City Council. And with that, I vote aye on all.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

8 CLERK: Levin.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: [interposing] I'm
10 sorry, I'm sorry, I'm sorry. I have to acknowledge
11 for the record that my wife is a student at CUNY
12 Grade Center and--and the Council is funding CUNY in
13 this budget. Thank you.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

15 [background comments]

16 CLERK: Levine.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Permission to
18 explain my vote, Madam Chair.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Well, I'm just so
21 proud to be a member of this body today. So proud of
22 the leadership of our Speaker and our Finance Chair.

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]

24 [shushing for quiet]

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: I'm proud of the
3 process that led us to this moment, so open and
4 democratic and transparent. I'm proud of this
5 budget, which delivers for New Yorkers in every
6 corner of the city from all backgrounds, especially
7 from the needy. I'm grateful for the way the Council
8 Speaker and this body stood up for parks averting
9 what would have been the layoff of 150 Parks
10 maintenance workers and gardeners so desperately
11 needed in our park system. I'm thrilled with
12 partnering with my colleague, Mark Treyger in
13 dramatically expanding the Parks Equity Initiative.
14 I am thrilled with partnering with a colleague and
15 great leader, Council Member Rafael Espinal, and
16 creating the Holocaust Survivors Initiative. And I
17 wish that New Yorkers who are--who have lost faith in
18 our government in Albany and people who have lost
19 faith in our Congress in Washington, I wish they
20 could be in this Chamber right now. And could see
21 how this body works through its differences, how we
22 stuck to our principles. But in the end produced a
23 budget that we can all be proud of. And I want to
24 particularly thank my Budget Director Amy Slattery
25 who labored tirelessly--did the labor for our office.

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2 I want to thank, of course, Latonia McKinney and the
3 great Finance team including Sarah Gastelum, Nathan
4 Toth, Ken Grace, Paul Scimone, and James Reyes. I
5 want to particularly single out one member of the
6 Finance Team Chima Obichere, who is about as smart--

7 [background comments]

8 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: You're cheering--
9 are you cheering for China in the balcony? Is that
10 right? Excellent. Chima who is about as smart, as
11 determined, as dedicated and most of all as caring of
12 a professional as I've had the pleasure to work with.
13 Lastly,--

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
15 Council Member, could you bring your comments to a
16 close?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Yes. Lastly, I
18 want to thank the indomitable Joe Taranto and the
19 City Council's Mr. Sunshine Ramon Martinez.

20 [laughter] Thank you. [background comments]

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: How do you vote?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: I'm proud to vote
23 aye on all.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

25 CLERK: Maisel.

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[background comments]

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

CLERK: Matteo.

[laughter]

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

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: I want to start off by--

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]

[shushing for quiet]

COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: --thanking Finance staff. I want to thank my two Staten Island colleagues, Council Member Rose and Delegation Chair Minority Leader Ignizio, who worked so hard to make sure that Staten Island was well represented in this budget. I have a few disclosures on the record. Richmond University Medical Center is funded the budget and we are adopting my brother's association associated with RUMC. Holy Rosary Church Food Pantry is funded in the budget, and my sister-in-law is associated with that entity. UAU is funded in the budget, and my children and niece are participants, and employees. I.S. 51 is funded in the budget, and

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2 my child goes to I.S. 51. Susan Wagner is funded in
3 the budget, and my child attends that school as well.
4 Union [sic] High School is funded in the budget we
5 are adopting and my nieces are students of that
6 school. As you can see, we're well represented in
7 schools.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
9 [shushing for quiet]

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: And Illuminart is
11 funded in the budget and my child is a participant in
12 that entity. And with that, I vote no on
13 Preconsidered Resos 761, 762, 777 and M-315 and aye
14 on the rest.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

16 CLERK: Levine.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: In my enthusiasm
18 for the budget, I neglected to read a disclosure on
19 the record. So, I do want to disclose on the record
20 for the Council proceedings that the Columbia
21 Secondary School is funded in the budget we are
22 adopting, and my child is a student at that school.
23 Thank you.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

25 CLERK: Mealy.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: May I explain my
3 vote?

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I just want to say
6 thank you Madam Speaker--

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
8 [shushing for quiet]

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: --for an excellent
10 budget. It was on time and great. I want to thank
11 the whole Finance Department for a great job this
12 year making sure that we get everything that our
13 community needs. I want to thank my co-leader Mark
14 Treyger for working together and the whole Brooklyn
15 Delegation for being cohesive. And I want to thank
16 my co-leader Elizabeth Crowley also. We did a great
17 job for women's issues this year, and I want to thank
18 our Speaker for putting the funds in the Human Rights
19 Committee Department now to make sure that we get
20 equal justice everywhere. And I want to thank--just
21 say a special thank you for Tanisha Edwards for
22 Atlantic Towers. And I know that it was very hard,
23 and I was very hard, but I thank you all for Speaker
24 and Tanisha Edwards. And I want to thank Ramon.

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2 Where is he? He say I'm his special project, but I
3 know what I need for my community.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
5 [shushing for quiet]

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: So I give him a
7 whole lot of flack, but I want to thank him just as
8 well. He know me. So I want to thank this whole
9 body for doing what we supposed to do, handle the
10 budget and get our--and get what our communities
11 need. Thank you.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: How do you vote?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: And--and the
14 Speaker here, and I vote aye on all. And Madam
15 Speaker, I do take Ramon through some issues.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Just for the
18 record. [laughs]

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

20 CLERK: Menchaca.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Permission to
22 explain my vote?

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: So I also want
25 to--

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2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]

3 [shushing for quiet]

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: --list my--and

5 add my thanks to the Speaker, to the Finance Chair,

6 to the Finance Director and all of the incredible

7 staff, Crilhien and Regina. You all were so

8 incredible during these last days, and so I thank

9 you, and I feel supported by all of you. Joe and

10 Amelia and Ivan and Catalina and all of the

11 Immigration Committee staff. Thank you so much for

12 being by my side. My district staff Vladimir

13 Martinez, my new Chief of Staff David Estrada,

14 Gabriel Herrera, Osmana Mercedes, Julian Morales and

15 the rest of our staff thank you so much for

16 supporting me. While we were here, you were taking

17 care of the District Office, and I never, ever want

18 to not thank you for doing that work. And so, I also

19 want to mention that in all the work that we were

20 doing for immigrant communities the Day Laborer

21 Workforce Initiative is one of those things that is

22 going to be so special. And thanks to the Speaker

23 this is funded. This Day Laborer Initiative is going

24 to give infrastructure to what's already been created

25 and really give access to these workers for legal

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2 services, healthcare, et cetera. NYTHUP [sic]
3 continued. Thank you. Unaccompanied Minors
4 continued. This is funding unique in its kind, and
5 we are committed to continue doing that. Thank you
6 to all those who supported the LGBT Youth All Borough
7 Mental Health Initiative. This is going to truly
8 save lives. We are doing something that is all about
9 the whole person, and that is something that we need
10 to acknowledge. And finally, I want to say that to
11 all of the PB projects that are in this budget, this
12 Capital Budget book continues to expand with these PB
13 dollars and these PB projects. And each of those
14 projects has a constituency where someone voted on
15 them, and that is people power. So let's continue to
16 grow those millions of dollars. And so this is a
17 message to the Administration that we hope to partner
18 with you, and making that a bigger part of this
19 budget. And none of this could happen without the
20 leadership of one person, the person at the top, and
21 that's Melissa Mark-Viverito. Thank you so much.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: How do you vote?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Oh, and I vote
24 aye on all. [laughter]

25 CLERK: Mendez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Yes.

CLERK: Miller.

COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: I vote yes.

CLERK: Palma.

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: I vote aye.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Bless you again.

[laughs]

CLERK: Reynoso.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: No blessings for me, Madam Chair. My awesome finance staff said yes. So now I have to disclose on the record that she works for Opportunities for a Better Tomorrow, which is funded in the budget that we are adopting today. And I do want to say I want to thank the Speaker and the Finance Chair specifically regarding industrial business zones, economic development, the youth jobs, community learning schools and libraries. And, I want to give a huge shout-out to Lacey Talbot for all her hard work. She's my Legislative and Budget Director, and I proudly vote ayes.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

CLERK: Richards.

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: I would like to explain my vote.

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PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Permission to explain my vote? Just first off, I would like to--

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
[shushing for quiet]

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: --thank the Speaker for her leadership and inclusiveness in this entire budget process. I'm very grateful to have worked in this body, and with so many colleagues who feel so passionately about different issues that are making a difference in everyday New Yorkers' lives. And I also just want to say the Speaker has dispelled the myth that government is working in the dark. We--that all we do is operate in the dark. We actually are working in the light today, and passing the budget in the light for everyone. I also would like to thank my--my staffers who worked tirelessly to ensure that--that I can be and that our budget can be successful this year. First I'll start off with my Chief of Staff Frank Joseph. My Budget Director, and this was her first year, Mercedes Buchanan. It was her first year doing the budget, and I did not give her any advice or--or tell her what to do. I wanted her to figure her way out, and she did a phenomenal

1
2 job with it. I want to thank her. Also, Jerrel
3 Burney, and also our intern Danny Schumpert who this
4 year my budget could not have been possible without
5 getting it done. So thank you all and happy summer.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: How do you vote?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: I vote aye,

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]

9 Thank you.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: -- Madam Public
11 Advocate.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

13 CLERK: Rodriguez.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: I vote aye.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

16 CLERK: Rose.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: [off mic]
18 [interposing] I need to disclose that-- [sic]

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes, wait. Wait
20 a minute, Council Member Rose.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: I need to
22 disclose--

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: --that two of
25 my daughter was--my daughter participate in a tennis

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2 program that we funded through the Inwood Tennis
3 Program. Also, she participated in the music
4 program, and we also fund the Catholic Charities in
5 the Northern Manhattan Cultural Center.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
7 Council Member Rose.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Thank you.
9 Permission to explain my vote?

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: I want to say thank
12 you to the Speaker, to the Finance Chair Julissa
13 Ferreras-Copeland, who in the middle of this whole
14 process got married. I want to thank the Finance
15 staff, Latonia McKinney and all of her wonderful
16 staff. My colleagues who worked so hard to ensure
17 that the interest of the residents in New York--of
18 New York City were reflected in this budget. I want
19 to thank my staff for the hard work that they did,
20 and I want to say that my constituents are very, very
21 happy today on Staten Island because of this
22 inclusive budget. And I feel left out because I have
23 no disclosures, but I want to vote no on
24 Preconsidered Reso 761, 762, 777 and no on M-315, and
25 I vote aye on all the rest.

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PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: And have a goods
summer colleagues. Thank you.

CLERK: Rosenthal.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Permission to
explain my vote?

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Like my
colleague Council Member Levine, I--I really wish our
constituents could be in this room today. The--this--
this is a functioning [laughs] government body, and
it's pretty darn impressive. And it's all due to the
leadership at the top. Our Speaker Melissa Mark-
Viverito, who--whose whole ethos is of collaboration
and of equal--equal funding for all the council
members. It's above and beyond, and it's--it's true
facts. For anyone whose lost faith in government,
come look at this budget. So to all the women in--at
the top, I express my gratitude and congratulations.
I'm particularly excited for some of the programs
that are funded in this budget that completely
visionary. The funding for the American Museum of
Natural History, which is going to provide a brand
new STEM program in collaboration with their expense

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2 funding for after school programs and for NYCHA
3 Family Day to bring families into the museum is
4 extraordinary and very exciting. Also, for Student
5 Voter Registration Day, thank you colleagues for
6 helping us to get this off the ground. We hope that
7 20,000 new young people will be registered to vote at
8 the end of this program. That's going to be so
9 exciting. For--to the Mayor, I--I really commend his
10 efforts to fund the Human Services contracts better
11 so people can earn a living wage. To Jumaane
12 Williams and--and Chair Ferreras-Copeland for
13 expanding SYPM, the year-round jobs. I look forward
14 to working with you to get this funding baselined.
15 And for the hope that all young people who sign up
16 for a job can get one. And lastly, again to the
17 Speaker for her visionary willingness--

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
19 Council Member--

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: --to fund age-
21 friendly NORC, a future NORC program at Amsterdam--at
22 NYCHA Amsterdam Houses. I'm very, very grateful for
23 that. Thank you.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: How do you vote?
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2 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: oh, aye on
3 all.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

5 CLERK: Torres.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: I guess
7 Permission to explain my vote?

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: First, I want to
10 commend the Speaker and the Finance Chair for their
11 extraordinary leadership. I'm so proud that the
12 budget appropriates \$300 million for NYCHA over the
13 next three years. And every single one of those
14 dollars will go toward roof replacement, not ribbon
15 cutting. Real good projects and I happen to think
16 that the productivity of the City Council is a sharp
17 contrast to the dysfunction in Albany. And, I think
18 the Council is living proof that if women ran the
19 world, we'd be a much more functional body. Thank
20 you. [cheers, applause]

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [laughs] Three
22 snaps to that. Keep going. [laughs]

23 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Amen.
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2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: How did you vote,
3 sir? You progressive council member, how did you
4 vote?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: I happily vote
6 aye.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thanks.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: I do.

9 CLERK: Treyger.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Permission to
11 explain my vote?

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes, sir.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: I'd like to
14 disclose that P.A. 212 is being funded in this
15 budget, and my brother-in-law there is a part-time
16 employee. I'd like to thank the Speaker. I'd like
17 to thank the Finance Chair, the Finance Director, the
18 Finance team. I'd definitely like to thank as well
19 my Co-Chair Darlene Mealy and the entire Brooklyn
20 Delegation as well. It was certainly a very
21 collaborative deliberative process. I want to thank
22 the Finance teams for their patience with the
23 Brooklyn Delegation. We had wonderful, thoughtful
24 great discussions. But, I want to say that this is a
25 budget that will truly be seen and felt in a positive

1 way by all, across the five boroughs from corner to
2 corner, and that's what makes me so proud to say that
3 I will be voting aye on all. Thank you very much.
4

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

6 CLERK: Ulrich.

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

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes, sir.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Thank you, Madam
11 Public Advocate. I want to disclose on the record--

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
13 [shushing for quiet]

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: --the proceedings
15 of the Council--

16 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: [interposing] Quiet
17 please.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: --that I am
19 graduate student at Baruch College. Many people don't
20 know that, but they are getting funding in this
21 year's budget through the CUNY Initiative and several
22 other parts of the budget that we are adopting. My
23 spouse is also an employee at Saint Francis College
24 in Brooklyn Heights, which is also receiving funding
25 in today's budget. I want to also before I vote

1
2 thank the Speaker and Julissa Ferreras for an
3 outstanding, outstanding job. And also Karen
4 Koslowitz. She's not here. I think she left, but
5 she really did a fine job taking over the delegation
6 midstream and helped shepherd us through the budget
7 process as one cohesive team and unit--

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
9 [shushing for quiet]

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH:--and she does a
11 great job. She's a great friend and a great
12 colleague. I want to thank her as well. But I want
13 to thank all of my colleagues for supporting the
14 Veterans Initiative this year, which was more than
15 doubled. For the first time in a very, very long
16 time both the Council and the Administration have
17 made a significant investment in helping veterans get
18 access to mental health coverage, to legal service to
19 job placement in very holistic way. And in a very
20 meaningful way, we are going to be able to deliver so
21 many services and programs to the more than 230,000
22 veterans who live throughout the five boroughs. So
23 this is going to make a big difference in the lives
24 of those veterans and their families, especially
25 homeless veterans. We made a commitment in this city

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2 to end veteran homelessness, and I join with the
3 Administration in fulfilling that commitment and
4 bringing that to fruition. So I want to thank them
5 as well. I voting no on Preconsidered Reso 761, 762,
6 777, Preconsidered M-315 and aye on all others and I
7 thank you.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
9 Congratulations.

10 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet please. Quiet
11 please.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Continuing.

13 CLERK: Vallone.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Permission to
15 explain my vote?

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: So,
18 congratulations, Madam Speaker and our Finance Chair
19 and I especially see your vision of allowing 1,300
20 new officers take to our streets. And to Vanessa
21 Gibson a big shout-out for public safety for seeing
22 that to happen. Council Member Ulrich,
23 congratulations on all your hard work with our
24 veterans. It's finally--it's a great start, but it's
25 a--it's a great way to see that vision start to

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2 happen with you. And Council Member Chin, I will
3 stand with you everyday as we fight for our seniors.
4 It's the Chinese-Sicilian connection that has been
5 shining through, and I will happily do that everyday.
6 So congratulations to everyone for working so hard.
7 I have a couple of disclosures I'd like to throw on.
8 Alley Pond Environmental Center is funded in the
9 budget and my daughter has chained herself to the
10 doors to save all the animals in there. So she
11 volunteers with that entity. San Andrea Molino
12 Athletic Association is funded in the budget and I
13 attempt to coach the second grade soccer team there.
14 So I want to disclose that. And I also have in the
15 budget the Sports and Arts Schools Foundation, Queens
16 LGBT Health and Human Services and New York Junior
17 Tennis League are all associated with my--with my
18 father and my brother. So I vote aye on all except
19 no on M-315 and the accompanying Reso 777 and Reso
20 761 and Reso 762. Thank you, Madam Advocate.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

22 CLERK: Williams.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: May I please
24 explain my vote?

25 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you very
3 much. First, I'd like to congratulate Speaker
4 Melissa Mark-Viverito, Chair Julissa Ferreras-
5 Copeland and, of course, Latonia McKinney who helped
6 to put it all together. I was happy to be a member
7 of the Budget Negotiating Team and I was proud to be
8 a part of the budgeting that was happening there.
9 Proud to see women of more color leading the charge
10 and creating one of the most transparent times to
11 talk about this that I've seen since I've been here.
12 I was proud to work on getting the additional jobs.
13 I was proud to see Chair Ferreras' year-round jobs as
14 well the jobs for the task force. The things we did
15 for housing and seniors were fantastic, and I think
16 we did a great job shepherding the budget. I also
17 want to say that I have been and I am now in support
18 of the additional officers. I have been in support
19 of additional officers since I became elected to the
20 City Council. I do want to say I think that there
21 was an opportunity we could have grabbed for a great
22 narrative by funding all of the jobs in Summer Youth
23 for everyone who wanted one. We could have funded
24 the jobs at the same level that we did with the
25 police. I think we all know and we all say how

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2 important jobs and income are to dealing with the
3 issues in these communities. Unemployment for young
4 people is about 21%. For Black and Latino young
5 people it's 46%, and I believe as critical. Even
6 when we talk about education, it's usually people to
7 get education to get better jobs. And based on the
8 history that I see here, when the lean times come,
9 those are the positions and those are the programs
10 that we are going to cut first. I think it would
11 have been a fantastic message to New York City and to
12 the country if we had said we funded 1,300 cops, and
13 every young person in the city who wanted a job could
14 have one. I know the perfect budget is elusive, and
15 I know that we keep striving for it. So
16 congratulations to everyone in the Finance staff, and
17 also my staff Nick Smith, the Deputy Speaker. And
18 with that I vote aye.

19 CLERK: Ignizio.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: If I may explain
21 my vote please.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes, sir.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Thank you very
24 much and first as I did in the Finance Committee, I
25 want to thank the taxpayers of the City of New York

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2 and the businesses in the City of New York that
3 afford us the tax dollars--

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
5 [shushing for quiet]

6 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: --for which this
7 budget is created. I want to thank my good friend,
8 Julissa Ferreras-Copeland and her great job as
9 Finance Chair and our Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito.
10 This is a very open process, and for those that
11 question when they hear that from some of my
12 colleagues because they're--maybe they're friends and
13 they're on one side of the aisle. I'm telling you
14 that from the other side of the aisle, this was an
15 extremely open process where delegations were
16 empowered, where individual members were empowered
17 and our voices were heard. That's not to say
18 everybody got everything they wanted. I'm sure
19 everybody can look in the budget and say I wish I had
20 gotten this more. I wish this was less or whatnot.
21 But it's--it should be noted for the taxpayers of the
22 City of New York that this is a far more open process
23 than it's been and will continue to be. And I'm
24 grateful to the leadership of--of the Speaker and the
25 Chair of Finance for seeing that through. And I

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2 think that you all deserve a round of applause for
3 that. It really was very open process. [applause]
4 With that, I have some disclosures of my own. My
5 daughter attends P.S. 36--

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
7 [shushing for quiet]

8 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Keep it down, please.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: --my daughter
10 attends P.S. 36 in--in my district and that school
11 was funded in this budget along with just about every
12 other school in my district. As some of you know,
13 I'm leaving sometime this summer to become the CEO of
14 Catholic Charities on Staten Island. So I had the
15 Conflict of Interest Board rule on what disclosures I
16 had to make. That has been--it has been vetted.
17 The non-profit organizations are housed at the MIV
18 where I'll be running our tenants. Those tenants are
19 P.S. IS [sic] 25. The State Island Friendship Club
20 at Red Hook Hospitality and P.S. 3 annex, and any
21 other Catholic Charities funding in the budget, I
22 need to disclose where I am going. Some of those
23 entities are funded by me, and have been funded by
24 the Council for decades. With that, I'm voting no on
25 Resolution 762, and Tax Fixing Resolutions 761, 777

1
2 and M-315. And I want to thank the Staten Island
3 Delegation comprised of Debby Rose, Steve Matteo and
4 myself who really listened to anyone in Staten Island
5 that wanted to come and talk to us about the needs of
6 the borough. And we believe we responded with them,
7 and we hope that the programs that have provided
8 funding in this budget will help many people from--
9 from seniors and children and everyone in between.
10 Thank you very much, and I vote aye.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

12 CLERK: Van Bramer.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Briefly to
14 explain my vote.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: I just want
17 to say once again thank you to the Speaker Melissa
18 Mark-Viverito, Finance Chair Julissa Ferreras-
19 Copeland for this epic budget when it comes to our
20 public libraries, and the tremendous amounts for
21 cultural and the arts, particularly capital. And
22 also on behalf of the people of Long Island City,
23 thank you, Madam Speaker, the Hunts Point Library is
24 looking very good as a result of today's budget. I
25 also want to thank Latonia and sitting right next to

1
2 Aliya Ali who has been a big help to us in the
3 Cultural Affairs Committee. And then my Chief of
4 Staff Matt Wallace and Deputy Chief of Staff Cody
5 Reiter for all their hard work on this budget as
6 well, and I proudly vote aye on this budget.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

8 CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

9 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: I vote aye and I
10 also in my comments earlier I was obviously going to
11 really thank every single one. But I failed to
12 mention obviously a good partner in all of this as
13 well is our--the Chair of our Public Safety Committee
14 Vanessa Gibson who really took the charge in being
15 able to support all the priorities that we laid out
16 in our Budget Response, and that we've gotten
17 favorable response to. So thank you, Vanessa, for
18 your leadership on the Public Safety Committee.
19 [applause] And again, thank you. I know there's
20 some sort of a big party going on outside. I'm not
21 sure if it's still going on. The Mayor is marrying
22 gay couples, and I was hoping we could--maybe some of
23 us get out there. But thank you again to my
24 colleagues and have a great, great afternoon.

25 [cheers, applause]

1
2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: We're not done
3 yet.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: We're not done
5 yet, totally. We're still--

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: We're still--
7 excuse me, we're still in session.

8 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: We have some
9 resolutions I think.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: All items on
11 today's General Order Calendar were adopted by a vote
12 of 47 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative and 1
13 abstention, with the exception of Resolution 761,
14 which was adopted by a vote of 42 in the affirmative,
15 5 negative and 1 abstention. And Resolution 762
16 which was adopted by a vote of 42 in the affirmative,
17 5 negative and 1 abstention, and M-315 and Reso 777,
18 which was adopted by a vote of 42 in the affirmative,
19 5 negative, 1 abstention. And M-279, Resolution 770
20 and 771, which was adopted by a vote of 46 in the
21 affirmative, 1 negative and 1 abstention. The
22 Revised Land Use Call-Ups was adopted by a vote of 48
23 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative. Introduction
24 and Reading of Bills.
25

1
2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: All bills are
3 referred to committees as indicated on the Agenda.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
5 [shushing for quiet]

6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Keep it down, please.
7 Keep it down.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Discussion of
9 Resolutions.

10 [background comments]

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Oh, I now
12 formerly declare the Executive Expense Revenue
13 Contract Budget, the Executive Capital Budget for
14 Fiscal Year 2016, and the Capital Program for the
15 three succeeding fiscal years all as modified and all
16 in accordance with the relevant sections of the New
17 York City Charter as hereby adopted on the 26th Day
18 of June 2015 at 3:40. [cheers, applause] Thank you.
19 We are still--and now Council Member Ulrich on the
20 resolution.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Yes, my
22 colleagues, please vote yes on Reso 747-A declaring
23 June as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Awareness
24 Month in the City of New York. It's very important
25 not only for veterans, but for all folks--

1
2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
3 [shushing for quiet]

4 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: --who suffer from
5 PTSD issues and their family members who deal with
6 them. I forgot to mention earlier I want to thank
7 another member of the Council who is leaving today,
8 the Policy Analyst in the Veterans Committee, Kevin
9 Ryan who has done a phenomenal job. Today is
10 actually his last day at the Council, and Kevin we
11 wish you all the best. You've done a great job for
12 the Veterans Committee and the Small Business
13 Committee. We want to thank you for your service to
14 the Council, and I ask my colleagues to support Reso
15 747-A. Thank you.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you,
17 Council Member. Seeing no other--on Resolution 747-A
18 an amended resolution recognizing this and every June
19 as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Awareness month in
20 New York City. All those in favor say aye.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER: [in unison] Aye.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: All those
23 opposed? Any abstentions? The ayes have it. And
24 Preconsidered Resolution 760, a resolution
25 recognizing an honoring the 25th anniversary of the

1
2 July 26, 1990 signing of the Americans with
3 Disabilities Act of 1990. All those in favor say
4 aye.

5 COUNCIL MEMBERS: [in unison] Aye.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: All those
7 opposed? Any abstentions? The ayes have it.
8 General Discussion. Council Member Gentile. You
9 pass. Council Member Gibson.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you Madam
11 Public Advocate. Very quickly I just want to extend
12 a couple more thank yous I forgot. Truly this
13 process--

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
15 [shushing for quiet]

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: --was inclusive
17 and transparent, and I would not have been as
18 successful as I was without the hard work and
19 guidance of Ramon Martinez, Joe Taranto, Amelia Adams
20 and the voice of the Council Eric Koch and Robin.
21 Thank you so much for helping me. I want to
22 congratulate one of my staff, my outgoing Budget
23 Director, Eddu Hermerlin [sp?] who is moving onto a
24 new chapter of public service. He has been with me
25 from the beginning--

1
2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
3 [shushing for quiet]

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: --of my entire
5 tenure as an elected. He has been by my side walking
6 this journey of public service with me, and publicly
7 and privately to Eddu Hermelin, thank you so much.
8 I'm grateful that God brought you to me and in my
9 life, and I will miss you. He's going back to Albany
10 to work in the State Assembly.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Why?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: And I am grateful
13 for the work that he has done. And also [laughter]
14 and also, I want to thank my District staff for
15 really, really making sure that the staff and the
16 Office was taken care of while we were here at City
17 Hall. And to all of you, happy summer. We will see
18 each other again. To our Minority Leader, Vinny
19 Ignizio, may God continue to bless you in your new
20 role. Pascale Bernard, I love you, my sister and I'm
21 going to continue to see you, and everyone. Thank
22 you so much. Happy summer and God bless you all.

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
24 Council Member Johnson.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Madam Public

Advocate, I rise today to discuss this historic decision that we received this morning. 46 years ago this weekend gay and lesbian people rose up in Greenwich Village in my district on Christopher Street and said we have had enough of police brutality and of being targeted. And before this morning, 15 states across our country did not allow gay and lesbian people to get married. And today's decision makes our country a more perfect union. Gay people, and I am one of them, did not need the Supreme Court to tell us that we were equal. We have fought for years for our rights. I came out when I was 16 years old. I grew up in a town 3,000 people 30 miles north of Boston, Massachusetts. I came out six months after Matthew Shepard was brutally murdered in Wyoming. In my home state, Massachusetts was the first state in 2003 to make marriage equality a reality. Four years ago, the State of New York caught up. And today is a day that gay and lesbian young people, youth will remember. They will know that the Supreme Court said that there is a Constitutional right for LGBT people to marry the person that they love. Today is about love. This

1 movement has always been about liberation, and love.
2
3 And even though we now have marriage across the
4 country, there are still battles to be fought.
5 Runaway homeless LGBT youth and HIV and AIDS epidemic
6 violence against transgender people. The battle will
7 continue, but this is a day that we will all remember
8 in this City Council with six members and with the
9 many people that served in this body that came before
10 us have been at the forefront in saying equality is
11 deserved for LGBT people. So this should send a
12 message to the entire world [bell] that gay and
13 lesbian people will and must be treated equally.
14 Congratulations. We hope there are many, many happy
15 couples across the country this weekend. Than you,
16 Madam Public Advocate.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Congratulations.
18 [cheers, applause] Council Member Kallos.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: I join with my
20 colleagues. Today is an historic day with the
21 Supreme Court's landmark decision. For the first
22 time in our country's history, the institution of
23 marriage is now open to all couples who seek. It is-
24 -Just Scalia asked, Whoever thought intimacy and
25 spirituality were freedoms? I'm proud to say that

1
2 wee did and today's decision is a big step forward to
3 recognizing our freedom nationwide. I agree with the
4 court's majority when they wrote that changes
5 understandings of marriage are characteristic of a
6 nation where new dimension of freedom become apparent
7 to new generations. Rather than weakening the
8 institution of marriage, we are strengthening it, and
9 improving it. Consistently making it more equal and
10 more accessible. Today, the Supreme Court recognized
11 what 37 states, the District of Columbia and the
12 rapidly growing majority of Americans already have,
13 the freedom to marry is fundamental right guaranteed
14 by our Constitution. I applaud the justices who
15 stood up for fairness, and all those in this city and
16 around the country who worked for decades to bring us
17 to this moment.

18 I'm also proud today to rise and speak in
19 favor of Introduction 840, legislation that would
20 make our sidewalk ramps safe and accessible for
21 everyone. There are 889,219 New Yorkers with
22 disabilities and nearly one million residents 65 or
23 older. I want to live in a city where they can
24 navigate freely instead of being trapped on--by
25 dangerous conditions. A recent survey by the Center

1
2 for the Independent of the Disabled found that 75% of
3 curb cuts in Lower Manhattan were inaccessible. This
4 legislation would fix that. Please sign on and let's
5 enjoy today. Thank you.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Williams. I'm
7 sorry. I apologize. Council Member Williams.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I did want to
9 give a heartfelt good-bye to Alonzo Carr from the
10 Land Use Committee. I think he's done a wonderful
11 job. It's always been a pleasure speaking and
12 getting information from him. I do want to give a
13 special shout-out to Pascale Bernard. I don't know
14 if she is here. She had been instrumental in the gun
15 violence work that the Council has done. I met her
16 first when I was Executive Director of Tenants and
17 Neighbors, and she was a phenomenal person then. I
18 was proud to work with her here in the Council. And
19 on today, I have always believed that all human
20 beings are created equal by God and thus deserve to
21 be treated with love, dignity and respect, and I've
22 always thought that everyone's union by the 14th
23 Amendment should be respected. Whatever you think, I
24 think the Supreme Court has now decided that that is
25 actually true. I want to say congratulations to all

1
2 of my colleagues. I also look forward to unveiling
3 of the marker at Stonewall Inn as an historic
4 landmark. Thank you.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
6 Levin.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you, Madam
8 Public Advocate. I want to quickly thank a couple of
9 people that I neglected to mention before, Rebecca
10 Chasan and Ray Majewski of the Finance Division as
11 well as the entire Finance. I want to acknowledge my
12 staff, Casey Adams, my Deputy Chief of Staff, Rami
13 Metal, my Chief of Staff and Matt Ojala, who left my
14 office, but was instrumental in this budget. I want
15 to acknowledge and thank my colleague Vinny Ignizio
16 on our years of working together in bipartisan work
17 here at the Council. I want to express my sympathy
18 and solidarity with those victims of violence and
19 terrorism today in France, Tunisia and Kuwait. We in
20 the New York City Council stand with them, and to my
21 brothers and sisters in the LGBTQI community, I
22 congratulate today. You know, it's an oft used
23 quote, "The arch of the moral universe is long, but
24 it bends towards justice." By Martin Luther King,
25 Jr. Today is a fitting example of that arc bending

1
2 towards justice. I congratulate you and your
3 families. And lastly, I said before that I wanted to
4 acknowledge Louis Cholden-Brown. I misheard Council
5 Member Corey Johnson and I thought that he was
6 leaving the Council, but just for the record, Louis
7 is not leaving the New York City Council. And thank
8 you all. Congratulations and have a wonderful
9 summer.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. We
11 welcome him back. Council Member Rosenthal.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: [off mic]

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Okay. The BLAC
14 Caucus will be meeting in the next room. Council
15 Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito to close.

16 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you, Madam
17 Public Advocate, and I hope everyone has a wonderful
18 summer. I know that I'm looking to a vacation that I
19 haven't had since I became Speaker. So let's make
20 that happen. So everyone have a great, great
21 afternoon, and maybe some people I'll see you at the
22 Stonewall Inn. I think there's a big party going on
23 over there. So have a great afternoon, everybody.

24 [gavel]

25 [background comments]

C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Date June 30, 2015