

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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December 19, 2024

Start: 2:07 p.m.

Recess: 3:47 p.m.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Diana Ayala
Shaun Abreu
Joann Ariola
Chris Banks
Joseph Borelli
Erik D. Bottcher
Justin L. Brannan
Gale A. Brewer
Selvena N. Brooks-Powers
Tiffany Cabán
David M. Carr
Carmen N. De La Rosa
Eric Dinowitz
Oswald Feliz
James F. Gennaro
Shahana Hanif
Kamillah M. Hanks
Robert F. Holden
Crystal Hudson

COUNCIL MEMBERS: (CONTINUED)

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

A P P E A R A N C E S

Rabbi Yaacov Behrman, Founder, The Jewish Future Alliance, Liaison for Chabad Headquarters located at 842 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11213

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: This is a pre-recorded
3 test for the Stated Meeting of December 19, 2024,
4 being recorded by Dain Hope in the Chambers.

5 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet on the floor,
6 please.

7 Ladies and gentlemen, at this time,
8 please place all electronic devices, all electronic
9 devices to vibrate.

10 Quiet on the floor, please.

11 Madam Majority Leader, it's all yours.

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Good afternoon,
13 and welcome to the Stated Meeting of December 19,
14 2024. I am Majority Leader Amanda Farías, and I'd
15 like to thank you for joining us. If you would like
16 to follow along, the agenda for today's meeting is
17 posted on our website.

18 On behalf of the Body, I welcome the
19 members of the public who have joined us here today.
20 During Stated Meetings, only Members of the Council
21 may speak. Members of the public shall remain silent.
22 If you wish to express your support for any remarks,
23 you may make the silent approval gesture.

24 I want to remind my Colleagues that
25 decorum is to be respected at all times. Insulting

2 each other is not appropriate. All remarks are to be
3 addressed to the Chair, and Members shall not speak
4 unless recognized by the Chair. It is essential that
5 even if we disagree, we treat each other with
6 respect.

7 CITY CLERK: Please join us for the Pledge
8 of Allegiance.

9 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: All rise.

10 ALL: [PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE]

11 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Roll call.

12 CITY CLERK: Abreu.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Present.

14 CITY CLERK: Ariola.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Present.

16 CITY CLERK: Avilés.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Presente.

18 CITY CLERK: Ayala.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Here.

20 CITY CLERK: Banks.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Present.

22 CITY CLERK: Bottcher.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Present.

24 CITY CLERK: Brannan.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Here.

2 CITY CLERK: Brewer.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.

4 CITY CLERK: Brooks-Powers.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Present.

6 CITY CLERK: Cabán.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Present.

8 CITY CLERK: Carr. De La Rosa. Dinowitz.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Here.

10 CITY CLERK: Feliz. Gennaro.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here.

12 CITY CLERK: Gutiérrez. Hanif.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Here.

14 CITY CLERK: Hanks.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Present.

16 CITY CLERK: Holden.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here.

18 CITY CLERK: Hudson.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Present.

20 CITY CLERK: Joseph.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Present.

22 CITY CLERK: Krishnan.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Here.

24 CITY CLERK: Lee.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Here.

2 CITY CLERK: Louis.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present.

4 CITY CLERK: Marmorato.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Marte.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Present.

7 CITY CLERK: Mealy. Carr.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Here.

9 CITY CLERK: Menin.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Here.

11 CITY CLERK: Moya. Narcisse.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Present.

13 CITY CLERK: Nurse.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Here.

15 CITY CLERK: Ossé.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Present.

17 CITY CLERK: Paladino.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Here.

19 CITY CLERK: Powers.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Here.

21 CITY CLERK: Restler.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Here.

23 CITY CLERK: Riley.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Present.

25 CITY CLERK: Rivera.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present.

3 CITY CLERK: Salaam.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Present.

5 CITY CLERK: Salamanca.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present.

7 CITY CLERK: Sanchez.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Present.

9 CITY CLERK: Schulman.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Here.

11 CITY CLERK: Ung.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Present.

13 CITY CLERK: Stevens.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Here.

15 CITY CLERK: Vernikov. Williams.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Present.

17 CITY CLERK: Won.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Here.

19 CITY CLERK: Yeger.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here.

21 CITY CLERK: Zhuang.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Present.

23 CITY CLERK: Borelli.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: (INAUDIBLE)

25 CITY CLERK: Thank you. Farías.

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Present.

3 CITY CLERK: Speaker Adams.

4 SPEAKER ADAMS: Present.

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you. We
6 will now have today's invocation which will be
7 delivered by Rabbi Yaacov Behrman, founder of the
8 Jewish Future Alliance and liaison for Shabbat
9 Headquarters located at 824 Eastern Parkway in
10 Brooklyn.

11 RABBI YAACOV BEHRMAN: Thank you, Majority
12 Leader, Speaker Adams, and, of course, my good friend
13 and Council Member from Crown Heights, Crystal
14 Hudson, for this honor.

15 Mi shebeirach avoteinu, Master of the
16 Universe, who created the world with boundless
17 blessings, empower us to see and embrace all that is
18 good and beautiful in New York City. Bless us to
19 honor the dignity of difference in this global city
20 of remarkable diversity. Grant us the courage to
21 celebrate our individuality and heritage without
22 fear, staying true to our values while respecting one
23 another so that we may recognize that those not made
24 in our image are nonetheless made in your image. At
25 this pivotal moment in history, guide the leaders of

2 this city to honor you by first honoring one another.
3 Through acts of collaboration, may we transform
4 opponents into allies and become your family on earth
5 as you are our parent in heaven. As my teacher, the
6 saintly Lubavitcher Rebbe, would say, we are one
7 people living in one city under one administration
8 and under one God. Beloved God, bless the Members of
9 New York City Council with kindness and strength. May
10 they govern this great city with wisdom, justice,
11 grace, and compassion, honoring your name and
12 bringing your blessing to New York City. Thank you.

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: I will now ask
14 Council Member Crystal Hudson to spread the
15 invocation on the record.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Thank you,
17 Majority Leader Fariás. I'm honored to welcome Rabbi
18 Yaacov Behrman to Council Chambers today. I move for
19 unanimous consent to spread the invocation in full
20 upon the record.

21 I invited Rabbi Behrman to deliver
22 today's invocation in commemoration of the street co-
23 naming we're approving today to rename President
24 Street between Brooklyn and New York Avenues as
25 Lubavitcher Rebbe Way. Rabbi Menachem Mendel

2 Schneerson, known as the Lubavitcher Rebbe, was the
3 seventh leader of the Chabad Lubavitch movement and
4 one of the most transformative figures in modern
5 Jewish history. After escaping the Holocaust and
6 arriving in the United States in 1941, the Rebbe's
7 leadership expanded Chabad Lubavitch's global reach,
8 establishing countless institutions, kindergarten
9 schools, drug rehabilitation centers, care homes, and
10 synagogues. Central to the Rebbe's teachings was an
11 unwavering emphasis on acts of goodness and kindness.
12 His ability to meet people where they were, engaging
13 them with warmth and heartfelt communication
14 regardless of their background or status, set him
15 apart. Here's a story about the Rebbe that I hold
16 dear, one that embodies not only his enduring legacy
17 but also the very spirit of Brooklyn. In 1968,
18 Shirley Chisholm became the first black woman elected
19 to the United States Congress. She was assigned to
20 the Agriculture Committee, an assignment intended to
21 sideline her influence. Chisholm was disheartened.
22 Besides, what does someone from Brooklyn know about
23 agriculture? At this moment, the Rebbe reached out to
24 meet with her. Chisholm shared her frustrations and
25 her desire to serve her community's underserved. The

2 Rebbe, seeing an opportunity where others saw a
3 setback, encouraged her to use the committee to
4 address America's surplus of food while feeding the
5 hungry. Inspired by this conversation, Shirley
6 Chisholm championed legislation that led to the
7 Federal Food Stamp Program, an initiative that
8 continues to feed millions of Americans to this day.
9 It is stories like this that remind us of the Rebbe's
10 profound ability to inspire action, build bridges,
11 and help others see the potential for good in every
12 challenge. I'm proud to represent a District that is
13 home to the worldwide Chabad Lubavitch headquarters
14 and is now home to Lubavitcher Rebbe Way.

15 Thank you, Rabbi Yaakov Behrman, for your
16 guidance, advocacy, and assistance in making this
17 honor a reality.

18 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: We will now have
19 the Adoption of Minutes by Council Member Chi Ossé.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: I make a motion that
21 the minutes of the Stated Meeting of December 5,
22 2024, be adopted as printed.

23 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Messages and
24 Papers from the Mayor?

25 CITY CLERK: None.

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Communication
3 from City, County, and Borough Offices?

4 CITY CLERK: M84 and M85, Commissioner of
5 Elections Appointments.

6 SPEAKER ADAMS: Received, ordered,
7 printed, and filed.

8 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Positions and
9 Communications.

10 CITY CLERK: None.

11 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Land Use Call-
12 Ups.

13 CITY CLERK: None.

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you. We
15 will now have Communication from Speaker Adrienne
16 Adams.

17 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you very much,
18 Majority Leader, and good afternoon, everyone.

19 Before we begin, I do want to acknowledge
20 the loss of several New Yorkers who died while on the
21 job earlier this month. Frankley Duran, a restaurant
22 worker, was fatally shot at his shift in Council
23 Member Nurse's District. We also lost Jose Ramirez, a
24 construction worker who was killed in an equipment
25 accident in Council Member Power's District. Our city

2 is also mourning the tragic deaths of five New
3 Yorkers to fatal fires, including incidents in the
4 Districts of Council Members Lee, Brewer, Banks,
5 Moya, and Bottcher. My thoughts are with their
6 families and their loved ones during this very
7 difficult time.

8 December 16th was Bangladesh Victory Day,
9 which commemorates the independence of Bangladesh and
10 the enduring fight for freedom. On this day, we honor
11 the history, culture, and contributions of our
12 Bangladeshi communities. I hope everyone had a
13 meaningful Bangladesh Victory Day.

14 Next, please join me in wishing a very
15 happy early birthday to Council Member Carmen De La
16 Rosa. Is she here? She's a Christmas baby, everybody.
17 Happy early birthday. And since we're mentioning
18 babies, I just want to mention that since we last
19 met, we are aunties and uncles to two more babies so
20 we give a round of applause to Baby Sanchez and Baby
21 Gutiérrez. More babies, more babies, more babies.

22 Before we continue, Colleagues, please
23 join me in saying farewell to our Colleague, Council
24 Member Kalman Yeger, as he heads to his next chapter...

25 CHAMBERS: [APPLAUSE]

2 SPEAKER ADAMS: In the New York State
3 Assembly. We're grateful for your contributions,
4 Council Member Yeger. You and I came in to this thing
5 together. I wish you well, and I thank you for your
6 contributions to the City on behalf of all New
7 Yorkers. Congratulations.

8 CHAMBERS: [APPLAUSE]

9 SPEAKER ADAMS: Finally, as this is the
10 last Stated Meeting of 2024, I want to take a moment
11 to acknowledge the impact of the Council's work this
12 year to make a difference in the lives of New
13 Yorkers. We have remained laser-focused on the work
14 of the people in our city, consistently delivering
15 results for working-class New Yorkers. We advanced a
16 legislative package to address the disparities in
17 maternal health outcomes by increasing maternal
18 mental health services to confront a major driver of
19 maternal mortality. We launched a first-of-its-kind
20 guaranteed income program for expectant mothers to
21 improve maternal health and reduce child poverty. We
22 reduced unnecessary regulations and fines for small
23 businesses and updated the City's outdated commercial
24 zoning regulations to support economic growth and
25 opportunities for small businesses, the industrial

2 sector, and growing industries to create and sustain
3 jobs for New Yorkers. This Council fought together
4 with the people of our city against budget cuts to
5 essential services, restoring funding for full
6 library service, cultural institutions, and to chart
7 a path forward that improves early childhood
8 education for the city's families. Through these
9 efforts, the CUNY Reconnect program that we launched
10 two years ago hit the milestone of re-enrolling
11 40,000 former working-age students in college to
12 access new opportunities for career advancement. To
13 ensure that New Yorkers can access opportunities
14 across our city, we expanded Fair Fares to reach even
15 more low-income New Yorkers. We advanced holistic
16 solutions to public safety by increasing police
17 transparency and accountability while expanding
18 services for underserved victims of crime. This City
19 Council established and opened our state's first
20 trauma recovery centers that help survivors of
21 violence access the help to recover that stops cycles
22 of crime and trauma in communities. And over the last
23 month, we have delivered historic solutions to make
24 housing in our city more affordable to working-class
25 New Yorkers. First, we passed the FAIR Act to prevent

2 residents seeking apartments from being forced to
3 unfairly pay fees for brokers they did not request
4 that are serving landlords' interests. Then, we
5 passed zoning reforms with 5 billion dollars secured
6 for our City for All Housing Plan to advance more
7 housing, greater affordability, and infrastructure
8 investments. This was one of the most significant
9 advancements of housing solutions in New York City
10 history, paving the way for 82,000 new homes over the
11 next 15 years and billions of dollars to address
12 housing and infrastructure issues within our
13 communities. The accomplishments of this Council
14 throughout this year are way too numerous to list,
15 and our Body has united as a pillar of city
16 governance that is committed to delivering results
17 for New Yorkers. And while there is more work ahead
18 of us, I'm proud, just my Colleague Narcisse, of the
19 foundation for success that we have built, the impact
20 it will have on future generations of New Yorkers,
21 and the continued work that we have started and we
22 will build upon.

23 Thank you, colleagues, for your hard work
24 to create a stronger, more equitable City for All.
25 And as we continue to celebrate the holiday season, I

2 hope everyone has a happy Christmas, Hanukkah,
3 Kwanzaa, or any holiday that you celebrate with your
4 family and your loved ones, and I wish you all a
5 very, very happy, healthy New Year.

6 Before we move on to our Stated Agenda, I
7 would like to acknowledge that we are joined by my
8 former Colleague, Jimmy Van Bramer, and his family
9 today.

10 CHAMBERS: [APPLAUSE]

11 SPEAKER ADAMS: We are also joined by the
12 family member of Council Member Yusef Salaam. Welcome
13 to the People's House.

14 CHAMBERS: [APPLAUSE]

15 SPEAKER ADAMS: Now let's move on to our
16 Stated Agenda. First, we'll vote on the following
17 Land Use Items, Kingsbridge Armory ESDC grant, a
18 request for the Council's support for the allocation
19 of up to 2 million dollars in capital funds from the
20 Restore New York Communities Program, administered by
21 the Empire State Development Corporation, to help
22 facilitate the future renovation and adaptive reuse
23 of the landmark Kingsbridge Armory..

24 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet on the floor,
25 please.

2 SPEAKER ADAMS: In Council Member
3 Sanchez's District.

4 Next, we'll vote on the following Finance
5 items, a Pre-Considered Resolution to appropriate new
6 City revenues in Fiscal Year 2025, and implement
7 revenue budget changes reflected in the City's
8 November Financial Plan.

9 Introduction 1090-A, sponsored by Council
10 Member Justin Brannan, would authorize nine existing
11 Business Improvement Districts throughout the city to
12 increase the amount they can expend annually.

13 Introduction 1098, sponsored by Council
14 Member Keith Powers, would authorize an increase in
15 the amount the Madison Avenue Business Improvement
16 District can expend annually.

17 A Pre-Considered Resolution to approve a
18 40-year full exemption from real property taxes for
19 45th Street Partners, a four-building portfolio with
20 80 residential units located in Council Member
21 Bottcher's District.

22 A Pre-Considered Resolution to approve a
23 40-year full exemption from real property taxes for
24 The Perennial, which will consist of the adaptive
25 reuse of a former hospital building, resulting in a

2 145-unit affordable senior building in Council Member
3 Schulman's District.

4 A Pre-Considered Resolution to approve a
5 40-year partial exemption from real property taxes
6 for 3044 Albany Crescent, a five-story building with
7 36 rent-stabilized residential units located in
8 Council Member Sanchez's District.

9 A Pre-Considered Resolution to approve a
10 40-year full exemption from real property taxes for
11 73 Loisaída, a housing development fund corporation
12 that comprises a multifamily building in Council
13 Member Rivera's District.

14 And a Pre-Considered Resolution to
15 approve a 40-year partial exemption from real
16 property taxes for Crotona VII, a project that
17 consists of a 155-unit building in Council Member
18 Salamanca's District.

19 Today, we will also vote on the following
20 pieces of legislation. Resolution 11, sponsored by
21 Council Member Crystal Hudson, would call on the
22 United States Congress to pass and the President to
23 sign the National Infrastructure Bank Act of 2023. We
24 thank our Staff Member, Nick Connell.

2 Resolution 227, sponsored by Council
3 Member Gale Brewer, would call on the Congress to
4 pass and the President to sign a renewed farm bill
5 that increases funding for lifesaving food aid. We
6 thank our Staff Member, Nina Rosenberg.

7 A Pre-Considered Introduction, sponsored
8 by Council Member Shekar Krishnan, to co-name 109
9 thoroughfares and public spaces based on requests of
10 communities and Council Members whose Districts where
11 they are located. We thank our staff members, Patrick
12 Mulvihill and Christopher Sartori.

13 Introduction 103-A, sponsored by Council
14 Member Joann Ariola, would require the Department of
15 Transportation to notify affected Council Members 10
16 days prior to the removal of parking spaces that will
17 be repurposed for a street-level bicycle corral
18 requested by a local business, a car share program,
19 or a bike share program. We thank our Staff Members,
20 Mark Chen, Kevin Kotowski, John Basile, and Connor
21 Mealey.

22 Introduction 104-A, also sponsored by
23 Council Member Ariola, would require the Department
24 of Transportation to consult with the Fire Department
25 before approving Open Street applications and retain

2 certain bicycle lane projects, which is already
3 required for major transportation projects. FDNY
4 would also be required to confer with affected local
5 firehouses to ensure DOT has key information when
6 implementing such projects. This can help ensure
7 those projects do not impede local emergency
8 responses. We thank our Staff Members, Mark Chen,
9 Kevin Kotowski, John Basile, and Connor Mealey.

10 Introduction 1111-A, sponsored by Council
11 Member Lynn Schulman, would change the frequency with
12 which the Campaign Finance Board recalculates
13 contribution and expenditure limits to account for
14 changes in the Consumer Price Index. The Board would
15 recalculate contribution and expenditure limits once
16 every local general election instead of every four
17 years to account for two-year terms that occur every
18 20 years. We thank our Staff Members, Jayasri
19 Ganapathy, Erica Cohen, and David Seitzer.

20 Introduction 532-A, sponsored by Council
21 Member Justin Brannan, would expand a local program
22 established by Local Law 2 of 2016 where non-public
23 schools can seek reimbursement from the City for
24 costs related to employing security guards. Thank you

2 to our Staff Members, Rachel Cordero and Josh
3 Kingsley.

4 Resolution 576, sponsored by Majority
5 Leader Amanda Farías, would call on the New York
6 State Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign
7 legislation amending the tax law to authorize the
8 City of New York to offer a tax credit for businesses
9 to incentivize the creation of workforce development
10 and training programs for newly arrived immigrants.
11 We thank our Staff Member, Rebecca Barilla.

12 Resolution 521, also sponsored by
13 Majority Leader Farías, would call on the United
14 States Department of Labor to expand the number of
15 Occupational Safety and Health Administration, or
16 OSHA, authorized outreach trainers in New York City's
17 10 designated languages. Thank you to our staff
18 member, Elizabeth Arzt.

19 Resolution 468, sponsored by Council
20 Member Crystal Hudson, would call on the New York
21 State Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign
22 the Empire State Licensing Act, which provides all
23 New Yorkers with access to professional,
24 occupational, commercial, or business licenses,
25 permits, certificates, or related registrations,

2 regardless of an applicant's citizenship or
3 immigration status. We thank our Staff Member,
4 Rebecca Barilla.

5 Resolution 522, sponsored by Council
6 Member Julie Menin, would call on the New York State
7 Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign the Good
8 Jobs Guarantee Act, which would establish certain
9 workforce training programs and increase employment
10 opportunities for New Yorkers. We thank our staff
11 member, once again, Elizabeth Arzt.

12 And Introduction 265-A, sponsored by
13 Council Member Rita Joseph, would require City
14 agencies to make their best possible efforts to
15 expedite administrative processes related to
16 providing continuing City-administered health
17 insurance coverage when an employee transfers from
18 one agency to another. The bill would also require
19 agencies to provide detailed information regarding
20 accessing City-administered benefits when an employee
21 begins work. We thank, again, our staff member,
22 Elizabeth Arzt and Rie Ogasawara.

23 Thank you for your attention, Colleagues.
24 I turn it back over to our Majority Leader.

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you,
3 Speaker Adams. We will now move into discussion of
4 General Orders, and I'd like to recognize Council
5 Member Hanks followed by Brewer.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Thank you, Majority
7 Leader. I am both deeply moved and proud to see City
8 Hall featuring the display that honors the
9 extraordinary legacy of the Black Angels, Black
10 nurses who broke barriers and risked their lives to
11 care for patients and conduct clinical trials that
12 cured tuberculosis. These courageous women carried
13 out their groundbreaking work in Staten Island at Sea
14 View Hospital, where their dedication saved countless
15 lives and left an indelible mark on the nursing
16 profession. This display is part of the Staten Island
17 Museum's powerful exhibition, Taking Care, the Black
18 Angels of Sea View Hospital, which celebrates their
19 lives, work, and enduring impact of these
20 trailblazing women. Seeing stories showcased at City
21 Hall provides a profound reminder of the rich Black
22 history rooted in Staten Island and the invaluable
23 contributions of the Black community in our city. I
24 want to thank Speaker Adrienne Adams for her vision
25 and partnership in ensuring this important piece of

2 history is recognized and shared with more New
3 Yorkers. This contribution between City Hall and
4 Staten Island Museum exemplifies how we elevate the
5 stories of unsung heroes. Thank you very much, Madam
6 Speaker.

7 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you. I'd
8 like to recognize Council Member Brewer followed by
9 Schulman then Zhuang.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you very
11 much. I just want to thank those who support
12 Resolution 227, which, as the Speaker indicated,
13 calls for a renewed Farm Bill, increasing funding for
14 lifesaving food aid. We know how many New Yorkers are
15 experiencing food insecurity. We know that cuts to
16 food security will increase the need for emergency
17 food assistance at food banks, and soup kitchens
18 already have long lines. The last Farm Bill was
19 written in 2018 and expired in September after a one-
20 year extension, leaving the farmers in limbo. Speaker
21 Mike Johnson unveiled a stopgap emergency spending on
22 Tuesday. I hope it goes through. Mr. Trump is playing
23 craziness. It includes 10 billion in aid to farmers,
24 which is less than they hoped for. We need a real
25 renewal. I want to thank the Staff, my Staff, Shula

2 Warren and Cynthia Hornig, but also Joel Berg,
3 Hunger-Free America, for your leadership in the fight
4 against food insecurity. I want to thank both
5 Congressman Espaillat and Commissioner Park for
6 writing in the op-ed today in the Daily News, a
7 better Farm Bill that feeds families, absolutely
8 correct, and also, Madam Speaker, thank you for
9 clubhouses, you funded those, the smaller ones, and
10 people are so, so appreciative. Thank you.

11 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you,
12 Council Member.

13 Just a reminder to Members on the floor,
14 we have six Resolutions up today. If you're speaking
15 on a Resolution when I call you in General Orders,
16 you can then wait for the moment to speak on
17 Resolutions for one minute. No problem.

18 I'd like to recognize Council Member
19 Schulman followed by Zhuang then Riley.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Thank you,
21 Majority Leader. I want to ask my Colleagues to
22 please vote for Intro. 1111, which, as the Speaker
23 indicated, changes the frequency with which the
24 Campaign Finance Board recalculates contribution and
25 expenditure limits. When the City Council first

2 passed the Campaign Finance Act, the provision that
3 capped expenditures for Council and citywide offices
4 called for the cap to be increased every four years
5 based on the Consumer Price Index. The four-year
6 figure came from the fact that citywide and Council
7 offices have four-year terms as a general rule.
8 However, the law did not account for an anomaly that
9 occurs every 20 years in which Members of the Council
10 serve two two-year terms because of redistricting of
11 Council lines as a result of the U.S. Census. To
12 rectify this issue and bring equity to Council
13 elections that occur within this rare circumstance,
14 Intro. 1111 changes the frequency with which the
15 Campaign Finance Board recalculates contribution and
16 expenditure limits to account for changes in the
17 Consumer Price Index from once every four years to
18 once every local election. I want to thank Speaker
19 Adams and Chair Restler for their support of this
20 bill to bring equity to City Council elections. Thank
21 you.

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you. I'd
23 like to recognize Council Member Zhuang followed by
24 Cabán then Avilés.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Thank you, Madam
3 Majority Chair. Thank you. I'm speaking in support of
4 the street co-renaming bill I sponsored for Lai Wan
5 "Mary" Chin Way. Lai Wan "Mary" Chin moved to
6 Bensonhurst, Brooklyn, in 1969 with her husband,
7 Moorman Chin, and their daughters. Actually, one of
8 their daughters is here today, Susan Chin, probably
9 sitting in the back. Susan. And also, they were one
10 of the first Asian families to move into the
11 neighborhood after purchasing a laundromat, it's
12 correct, laundromat, (INAUDIBLE) Chinese business.
13 The Chin family even had to leave in their laundromat
14 after they had a fire in their home. Yeah. It's also
15 become a home for the many Asian American families
16 moving into the neighborhood. At the time, there was
17 no English as a second language class available for
18 immigrants, so she taught herself the language and
19 also practiced with neighbors and customers. As a
20 result, the laundromat quickly became a community
21 resource center. As other Asian families moved to the
22 area, she became a neighborhood resource with many
23 people asking for if she knows where the doctors,
24 where the schools, also she helped the neighbors call
25 the utility companies to resolve all the issues. She

2 even received awards at her daughter's elementary
3 school graduation from the local Lions Club for
4 volunteering and assisting immigrant families. Her
5 laundromat became a social service center for the
6 community. After that, after her husband passed away,
7 she continued the legacy to still help more people.
8 As the first Chinese American person elected to
9 represent Brooklyn in the City Council, Lai Wan
10 "Mary" Chin paved the way for me and so many other
11 Chinese American community members in the
12 neighborhood. That's why I'm proud to sponsor this
13 street co-renaming, and please vote yes. Thank you.

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing
15 Council Member Cabán followed by Avilés and Abreu.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Thank you. Welcome
17 to former Council Member and my friend, Jimmy Van
18 Bramer. Welcome Kim, Debbie, and Dawn. I am so
19 excited that today we have a street co-naming in
20 honor of the legacy and life of the late Elizabeth
21 Emily White Markham by establishing Elizabeth White
22 Markham Way at the corner of 44th Street and 28th
23 Avenue. Elizabeth, born in 1940 in Queens, was a
24 dedicated community leader, activist, and mentor who
25 called Astoria home for over 50 years. She raised her

2 children and lots of other children, including
3 community leaders in our District, with resilience
4 and commitment, working in local supermarkets,
5 advocating for workers' rights, volunteering in
6 organizations like the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, a
7 fierce advocate for LGBTQ+ rights. Elizabeth was the
8 mother of longtime public servant and former Council
9 Member Jimmy Van Bramer. Again, welcome to you and
10 your family, glad that y'all are here with us today.
11 Elizabeth became a visible and vocal supporter of
12 marriage equality, marching in Pride parades and
13 lobbying politicians. Elizabeth's legacy is one of
14 public service and unwavering love for her community
15 and family. Astoria is stronger thanks to Elizabeth's
16 contributions to our community. We are proud to honor
17 her legacy, which serves as an example for the
18 generations of Queens kids to come so thank you and
19 thanks to my Colleagues for supporting.

20 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing
21 Council Member Avilés followed by Abreu then Won.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Today we are
23 voting on three street co-namings in my District. The
24 first is for Donna Maxil, who was born and raised in
25 Brooklyn on 17th Street and raised her family there

2 as well. Over the years, her name became synonymous
3 with 17th Street. Donna, having been impacted by
4 cancer, founded the 17th Street Cancer Crusade. This
5 annual event, which Donna planned and cooked for each
6 year, raised significant money for the American
7 Cancer Society through a large street fair that came
8 to be an annual community event that all looked
9 forward to. Donna put her heart into all her efforts,
10 and becoming a paraprofessional at her alma mater of
11 PS124, and later the President of the 72nd Precinct
12 Council, was deeply beloved and respected by her
13 family and community and, in fact, I'd like to lift
14 up Ms. Annette Hendrickson, who we also recently
15 lost, whose last words to me were to make sure that
16 we honored Donna.

17 We are also voting on a re-naming for Don
18 Lee, who was a tireless advocate in fighting against
19 anti-Asian hate and working towards justice for
20 victims of hate crimes. Underlying his professional
21 and activist endeavors was his leadership at
22 Homecrest Community Services, a non-profit
23 organization serving immigrant seniors, their
24 families in South Brooklyn. Taking over from its
25 founders, he served as the organization's board chair

2 for over 20 years. I am so proud to see 70th Street
3 and 15th Avenue be named after the great Don Lee.

4 And finally, we are voting on renaming
5 for St. Philip's Episcopal Church at the corner of
6 80th Street and 11th Avenue. For generations, St.
7 Philip's has been vital to the community, providing
8 food drives, holiday meals, safe space, drug recovery
9 programs, and more to at least three generations of
10 Brooklynites. We are glad to have them in our
11 District and look forward to their contributions
12 being memorialized through this renaming. Thank you.

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing
14 Council Member Abreu followed by Won and Ossé.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Thank you, Madam
16 Majority Leader. Today we dedicate street co-namings
17 to two remarkable individuals whose lives embody
18 compassion, service, and the pursuit of justice,
19 Thich Nhat Hanh and Monnie Callan.

20 Thich Nhat Hanh, a global apostle of
21 peace and mindfulness, left a lasting impact on our
22 community and beyond. In the 1960s, he lived on West
23 109th Street while teaching at Union Theological
24 Seminary in Columbia University. He gave lectures at
25 local venues like Riverside Church and the Beacon

2 Theater and stood alongside the Rev. Dr. Martin
3 Luther King Jr., who later nominated him for the
4 Nobel Peace Prize. His work continues to inspire
5 generations to embrace peace and understanding.

6 Monnie Callan was a lifelong advocate for
7 her community, a dedicated social worker, and a voice
8 for workers' rights and universal healthcare. She
9 fought hard to preserve low- and middle-income
10 housing through the Tenants Association at her
11 Mitchell-Lama Complex. Her decades of service at
12 Montefiore Medical Center and her leadership as a
13 union delegate and community organizer made her a
14 beloved figure in our District. Her legacy reminds us
15 of the profound impact one can have by lifting up
16 others.

17 We are profoundly grateful to honor these
18 extraordinary individuals here in our District. Their
19 legacies inspire us to build a more compassionate and
20 just society. Thank you.

21 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing
22 Council Member Won followed by Ossé.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Thank you, Majority
24 Leader. There are numerous co-namings that we're
25 celebrating today, and I want to make sure that we

2 recognize my predecessor, Council Member Jimmy Van
3 Bramer's mother. We're co-naming Ms. Elizabeth Betty
4 Markham. She was known to have been the wind under
5 the wings of Council Member Jimmy Van Bramer, a force
6 of love, acceptance, and justice all over Western
7 Queens. She passed away this past July, and I'm so
8 proud to see the co-naming by Council Member Cabán,
9 since it is now in her District that was previously
10 in District 26, represented by me, and I am just so
11 grateful.

12 And I also want to recognize Chief
13 Porteus and Detective Cohn for stopping by to
14 celebrate Detective Mary Foley's Street co-naming,
15 whose work and lifelong dedication for the residents
16 of the 18th Precinct is historic and recognized.
17 Thank you so much.

18 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing
19 Council Member Ossé.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Thank you, Majority
21 Leader. I am thrilled to officially co-name three
22 blocks in my District after Clara Hayes, Joseph
23 "Scooter Joe" Willins, and Miriam Carter.

24 Mrs. Hayes moved to New York City at the
25 age of 18 with 28 dollars in her pocket. After

2 working many years at the Macon hardware store, she
3 bought the business and the building with her husband
4 from its original owners. She dedicated her life to
5 serving her community with her hardware and variety
6 store. She prepared and gave away meals for people in
7 need for over 30 years and gave discounts to those
8 who needed supplies from her store. She provided jobs
9 to those who needed and also received rewards and
10 citations for her community involvement. She is
11 documented as maintaining one of the longest running
12 businesses owned by an African-American woman in Bed-
13 Stuy.

14 Scooter Joe served in the United States
15 Marines and later joined the NYPD in 1966. His
16 intimate involvement and knowledge of the
17 neighborhood made him a tremendously effective
18 officer in Bed-Stuy. He was well-known for his
19 compassionate heart. He specialized in community-
20 oriented policing long before they became
21 institutionalized. He retired from the NYPD in 1986
22 but continued to stay embedded and actively involved
23 in the Bed-Stuy community for the rest of his life.

24 And finally, Miriam Carter founded the
25 drum and bugle corps called the Carter Cadets in her

2 home in 1949. Until her death in 1963 and for a
3 decade after, the Carter Cadets played a critical
4 role in the lives of many African-American youths in
5 Brooklyn. They participated in numerous competitions
6 and traveled to Washington, D.C. in 1961 to
7 participate in Bayard Rustin's first March on
8 Washington. Thank you and congratulations to all the
9 families.

10 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you. Seeing
11 no one else signed up to speak.

12 Report of Special Committees.

13 CITY CLERK: None.

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Reports of
15 Standing Committees.

16 CITY CLERK: Report of the Committee on
17 Civil Service and Labor. Intro. 265A, City Employee
18 Benefits.

19 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and coupled on
20 General Orders.

21 CITY CLERK: Report of the Committee on
22 Finance. Intro. 109-0A, Business Improvement District
23 Expenditures.

24 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and coupled on
25 General Orders.

2 CITY CLERK: Intro. 1098, Madison Avenue
3 Bid.

4 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

5 CITY CLERK: M83 and Reso 700, Budget
6 Modification.

7 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

8 CITY CLERK: Pre-Considered LU200 and
9 Reso. 701 through Pre-Considered LU204 and Reso. 705,
10 Tax Exemptions.

11 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

12 CITY CLERK: Report of the Committee on
13 Governmental Operations, State and Federal
14 Legislation. Intro. 1111-A, Contribution and
15 Expenditure Limits.

16 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and coupled on
17 General Orders.

18 CITY CLERK: Report of the Committee on
19 Land Use. Pre-Considered LU205 and Reso. 706,
20 Kingsbridge Armory.

21 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

22 CITY CLERK: Report of the Committee on
23 Parks and Recreation. Pre-Considered Intro. 1153,
24 Naming of 109 Thoroughfares and Public Places.

25 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

2 CITY CLERK: Report of the Committee on
3 Public Safety. Intro. 532-A, School Security Guard
4 Services.

5 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and coupled on
6 General Orders.

7 CITY CLERK: Report of the Committee on
8 Transportation and Infrastructure. Intros 103-A and
9 104-A, Street Parking Spaces and Open Street
10 Applications.

11 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and coupled on
12 General Orders.

13 CITY CLERK: Resolution Appointing Various
14 Persons, Commissioner of Deeds.

15 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: I now ask that
17 the Clerk take a roll call vote on all of the items
18 coupled on today's General Orders Calendar.

19 CITY CLERK: Sanchez.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Permission to
21 vote on all items on today's agenda.

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Permission
23 granted.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: And permission to
25 explain my vote.

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Go ahead.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Thank you. Only
4 the Kingsbridge Armory could bring me to the meeting
5 today. Thank you, Speaker, for welcoming my child
6 into the world and all my Colleagues.

7 Built in 1917, used over the years as a
8 military hub, a concert space, food distribution hub
9 during COVID-19, the Armory has been functionally
10 vacant for 25 years. It's said to be one of the
11 largest in the world. You could fit six football
12 stadiums inside of the Kingsbridge Armory. It
13 represents the vast potential of our community and,
14 with EDC and a community working group, I led a nine-
15 month community engagement process in 2023 that
16 engaged more than 4,000 people and culminated in a
17 community vision plan. Throughout this year, EDC has
18 been reviewing responses to an RFP and is in the
19 process of selecting a developer. Today's vote is a
20 resolution to support EDC's pursuit of a 2-million-
21 dollar grant from New York State, not a vote on any
22 specific project or land use actions. Those will come
23 to us. I hope Colleagues will join me in support of
24 this effort to make any future project financially
25 sound. And while we do not yet know what the project

2 will be, we do know that past projects failed because
3 they did not have adequate financing. I remain
4 committed to and welcome my Colleagues' support to do
5 everything possible to promote a successful
6 redevelopment of the Kingsbridge Armory.

7 Also, I met a new human, and did I
8 mention she's amazing?

9 With that, I vote aye on all, with the
10 exception of 103-A, on which I vote no. Thank you,
11 Majority Leader.

12 CITY CLERK: Thank you. One moment.
13 Brooks-Powers.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Permission
15 to explain my vote?

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission
17 granted.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: I just
19 wanted to acknowledge the street co-namings today,
20 that of Pat Simon, who was for a long time on the
21 board for the Ocean Bay Community Development
22 Corporation, a community leader and key stakeholder,
23 and I'm so honored to be a sponsor in support of that
24 co-naming for Beach 54th Street and Pat Simon Way, in
25 recognition of her life and her legacy.

2 And also, I'd like to acknowledge that I
3 am a co-prime sponsor on Intro. 103 and 104. Intro.
4 104, in particular, came about from a visit with
5 then-Commissioner Laura Cavanaugh to the Big House in
6 Far Rockaway, one of my firehouses, and we heard of
7 concerns about their safety in getting to and from
8 locations when they're not brought up to speed in
9 terms of major changes, major projects. And so, with
10 that, I'd just like to say that I vote aye on all.

11 CITY CLERK: Thank you. Rivera.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you so much,
13 Madam Majority Leader. I just want to congratulate my
14 Colleagues on their legislation and, of course, for
15 all the street co-namings, I have some fabulous ones
16 coming up. I vote aye on all except for Intro. 103,
17 in which I vote no. Thank you.

18 CITY CLERK: Abreu.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye.

20 CITY CLERK: Ariola.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: I vote aye on all
22 except for Intro. 111-A.

23 CITY CLERK: Avilés.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: I vote aye on all
25 except for 532-A and 103-A.

2 CITY CLERK: Ayala.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: I vote aye.

4 CITY CLERK: Banks.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Permission to
6 explain my votes?

7 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission
8 granted.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Thank you, Madam
10 Majority Leader. The co-naming bill on today's agenda
11 honors the lives of some of the brightest and most
12 dedicated leaders of the 42nd Council District. I'm
13 deeply honored to have worked with the families of
14 Antonio Fields, Florence M. Hall, Gail Fedrick, to
15 pass this important legislation. These three
16 exceptional individuals made a lasting impact on the
17 people of neighborhoods of the 42nd Council District,
18 and they are truly deserving of this recognition.
19 Antonio, Florence, and Gail were more than just
20 advocates. They were pillars of strength, fierce
21 leaders, shining examples of what it means to serve
22 others. Today's bill does more than rename streets in
23 their honor. It reaffirms the values that they
24 embody, dedication, service, and love for their
25 community. In passing this bill, we renew our

2 commitment to these values and ensure that their
3 stories will continue to inspire and shape the future
4 of our city. I'm proud to be a part of the City
5 Council that celebrates the legacies of our community
6 leaders and congratulate my Colleagues for their
7 dedicated work on their respective street namings
8 across the city.

9 To the families of Antonio, Florence, and
10 Gail, thank you for sharing these incredible people
11 with us. Their legacies will live on, and today we
12 make sure that their names will never be forgotten.

13 I'm especially proud to introduce this
14 Antonio Fields Way, Florence M. Hall Loop, and Gail
15 Fedrick Way. Thank you, and happy holidays to all my
16 Colleagues. Aye on all.

17 CITY CLERK: Thank you. Bottcher.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Aye on all with
19 the exception of 103-A and 104-A, on which I'm a no.

20 CITY CLERK: Thank you. Brannan.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye.

22 CITY CLERK: Brewer.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you. I do
24 want to mention Linda Carter Cooper, whose sign will
25 be at 84th and Amsterdam. Her husband spoke very

2 movingly earlier. She was a tenant leader, election
3 poll worker, and she found every person in need in
4 the neighborhood and got them the assistance they
5 were so desperately desiring. I also want to say that
6 I vote yes on all except 103-A and 104-A. Thank you
7 very much.

8 CITY CLERK: Cabán.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: I vote no on 532-A,
10 103-A, abstain on 104-A, aye on the rest.

11 CITY CLERK: Thank you. Carr.

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

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission
15 granted.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Thank you, Majority
17 Leader. I just want to make comments that I think
18 will dovetail with the comments made earlier by our
19 colleague from the North Shore, because in today's
20 street codenaming bill, we are, among several that
21 we're doing in my District, designating Brielle
22 Avenue at the entrance to the Sea View Campus in
23 honor of the Black Angels, and the Sea View Campus
24 was home to the city's tuberculosis hospital for many
25 decades, and TB is documented as having caused the

2 most deaths of any infectious disease in our history
3 as a race, as a people in this globe, and the reality
4 is that there were very few places where folks could
5 go for treatment and care, and the city, I guess,
6 chose to exile these souls to the wilderness of
7 Staten Island, but they had the most tremendous of
8 care given to them by these women, including local
9 heroes like Virginia Allen and Curlene Jennings
10 Bennett, who gave the best standard of care that
11 could have been given at the time that they were
12 serving there, and they did it at great personal
13 risk, because this is one of the most infectious
14 diseases that humanity has ever faced, and they did
15 so with dignity, and they brought tremendous love and
16 compassion to the people struggling with this
17 illness, and helped bring about the demise of TB as
18 something that is endemic in our community and so
19 they are to be saluted, and I thank the Congresswoman
20 Nicole Malliotakis for recommending this concept to
21 me, and very proud to be doing this street co-naming.

22 With that said, I'll be voting no on
23 Introduction 1111-A, and aye own the rest. Thank you.

24 CITY CLERK: De La Rosa.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye on all.

2 CITY CLERK: Dinowitz.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye on all.

4 CITY CLERK: Feliz. I vote aye on all, and
5 wish everyone happy holidays, Merry Christmas, and
6 Happy New Year, everybody.

7 CITY CLERK: Gennaro.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

9 CITY CLERK: Gutiérrez. Hanif.

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

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Permission
13 granted.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Thank you. I vote
15 aye on all, with the exception of Intro. 103-A and
16 Intro. 104-A, on which I vote no.

17 I want to lift up the co-naming of Samiya
18 Spain in my District. Samiya was a 19-year-old woman
19 who was a beloved member of the Wyckoff Gardens
20 community. On March 17th of this year, she was killed
21 in a local bodega after rejecting the advances of a
22 young man. Every woman, everyone, deserves to be safe
23 in our city in every corner. Saying no is a
24 fundamental right, and walking away should never be
25 met with retaliation. Samiya's death, an act of

2 femicide, has shaken our community and underscores
3 the urgent need to root out gender-based violence. I
4 want to thank her family and the Wyckoff Gardens
5 Tenant Association for their partnership on this co-
6 naming. Samiya is deeply missed in our community, and
7 I'm grateful for the opportunity to honor her memory.
8 Thank you.

9 CITY CLERK: Thank you. Hanks.

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

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission
13 granted.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Thank you, Madam
15 Majority Leader. Today, I want to highlight the
16 extraordinary leaders that we are choosing to honor
17 with street co-namings. As my colleague, Council
18 Member Carr, said, the Black Angel's Way at Sea View
19 Hospital is recognizing the incredible contributions
20 of African-American nurses who played a vital role in
21 curing tuberculosis. One of those is Miss Virginia
22 Allen, who helped deliver three of my four children.
23 Youngest Hanks is here with us today. Additionally,
24 we want to honor Sajda Musawwir Ladner from Universal
25 Temple of the Arch, George Doyle, Geraldine Parker.

2 These amazing Staten Islanders have made a lasting
3 impact in our community and my District, particularly
4 Geraldine Parker, who in particular holds a special
5 place in my heart, where we met as she was a tenant
6 leader and president for the Stapleton Houses until
7 June of 2022 in her death. Her words continue to
8 guide me at City Hall and remind me to live up to the
9 ideals and values that these leaders embodied. These
10 street co-namings are a testament to their legacies
11 and their profound influence on myself, Staten
12 Island, and beyond. Thank you.

13 CITY CLERK: Holden.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye on all with
15 the exception of Intro. 1111-A, of which I vote no.

16 CITY CLERK: Hudson.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: I vote aye on all
18 with the exception of introductions 103 and 104, for
19 which I vote no.

20 CITY CLERK: Council Member Hanks.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: I vote aye on all
22 with the exception of 1111-A. Thank you.

23 CITY CLERK: Thank you. My apologies.

24 Joseph.

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Permission to
3 explain my vote?

4 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission
5 granted.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Thank you, Madam
7 Majority Leader. This bill, Intro. 265, ensures City
8 employees maintain continuous health insurance when
9 transferring between agencies and receive clear
10 guidance on accessing benefits. This issue is
11 personal to me. When I transitioned from being a
12 public school teacher to a Council Member, I found
13 myself without health insurance for months, right
14 when I needed it for a routine checkup after my past
15 open-heart surgery. This legislation addresses gaps
16 like the one I faced, ensuring a seamless benefits
17 transition to City employees. I urge my Colleagues to
18 vote yes and support the workers who keep our city
19 running.

20 Also, I want to lastly honor those who
21 will be celebrating for our remarkable individuals
22 from District 40 with the passage of today's street,
23 co-naming Leroy Johnson Way, Fernande Valme Way,
24 Justin Bunyan Way, and Justin T. Hackley Way. These
25 individuals shape our communities with their advocacy

2 and leadership. Co-naming these streets ensure their
3 legacies live on. Thank you to my Team, Central
4 Staff, and community advocates who have made the
5 introduction and passage of these bills today.

6 I vote yes on all except for Intro. 103
7 and Intro. 104-A, and I vote no.

8 CITY CLERK: Thank you. Krishnan.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye on all
10 except for Intro. 104, for which I vote no.

11 CITY CLERK: Thank you. Lee.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye on all. Happy
13 holidays. Congrats on all the street co-namings, and
14 we wish you well, Council Member Yeger.

15 CITY CLERK: Louis.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye on all, and
17 congratulations to Council Member, now Assembly
18 Member-elect, Kalman Yeger.

19 CITY CLERK: Marmorato.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: I vote aye on
21 all with the exception of 1111-A, I vote no.

22 CITY CLERK: Marte.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: I vote aye on all
24 except Intro. 103A. Kalman, we'll miss you. Take
25 care.

2 CITY CLERK: Thank you. Mealy.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I vote aye on all,
4 and just want to wish everyone a blessed holiday and
5 never forget the reason for the season. Please look
6 on some who do not have, stop by, give people a
7 plate, because you never know who is in need, even
8 though they do not look like they need. Some of them
9 do need so thank you, Madam Speaker. Have a nice
10 holiday. And I already voted aye on all. Thank you.

11 CITY CLERK: Thank you. Menin.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye.

13 CITY CLERK: Moya.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

15 CITY CLERK: Thank you. Narcisse.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Permission to
17 explain my vote.

18 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission
19 granted.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Thank you. Thank
21 you, Madam Chair, and thank you for the Speaker, the
22 greatest Speaker that I know, because that's the one
23 I work with, to have a woman leadership, yes, 34
24 women, and we passed so many bills. I said to my
25 Colleagues who are not clapping, I'm going to clap

2 until end, because I love it to have the fact that we
3 have 34 women here, and we can work together, and for
4 the men that gets it, thank you.

5 Today I'm proud to introduce three street
6 co-naming, honoring remarkable individuals who
7 dedicated their lives to serving our communities, and
8 really embodying the values of compassion, caring,
9 and hard work. One of them is Dorothy Turano, and I
10 had a pleasure to work with her as well. She's a
11 trailblazer. She served as a District Manager of our
12 Community Board for 38 years, advocating in South
13 Brooklyn. She served in the school building, she
14 served in the community, name it, she was part of it,
15 so I'm so happy to be here to be able to do that.

16 I have Perry Kokotas, from Greek, but he
17 plays such an instrumental role in our community. He
18 opened doors of his restaurant. By the way, he worked
19 his way from being a dishwasher assistant to a person
20 that own his own business in the community, and when
21 he had that business, he opened the doors for
22 everyone, the seniors every night. If you don't have
23 a meal, you know you can go to that diner on Austrian
24 Avenue.

2 I want to say thank you to my Colleagues
3 in advance, that you're going to vote yes for that,
4 and then I have to say thank you to my Colleague,
5 Farrah Louis, that helped me to introduce this for
6 Marie Cesar Way. This woman is a legacy that she
7 plays such an instrumental role in everyone that come
8 from wherever you came from. If you don't have a
9 meal, she get the meal for you. If you don't have a
10 job, she looks for the job for you. She traveled the
11 way with you, and she's going to be missed.

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Council Member,
13 if you could wrap it up.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: So I'm going to
15 conclude that to say thank you, madam, and I'm
16 looking forward for my Colleagues to support to say
17 yes to those three names.

18 And I vote yes, of course.

19 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Council Member,
20 your time has expired. Thank you.

21 CITY CLERK: Thank you, Council Member
22 Narcisse. Nurse.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Love going after
24 Council Member Narcisse. I vote aye on all except for
25 103-A, 104, and 532-A. Thank you.

2 CITY CLERK: Thank you. Ossé.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: I vote aye on all
4 with the exceptions of 103-A, 104, and 532-A. Thank
5 you, in which I vote no.

6 CITY CLERK: Paladino.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye on all
8 except 1111-A. Thank you. I think I put too many ones
9 in there.

10 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Okay, I'm good.

12 CITY CLERK: We got it.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: One less. 1111-
14 A. There you go.

15 CITY CLERK: Thank you. Powers.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: I vote aye.

17 CITY CLERK: Thank you. Restler.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Permission to
19 explain my vote.

20 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission
21 granted.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye on all with
23 the exceptions of 103-A and 104-A, for which I vote
24 no.

25

2 I'd just firstly like to commend and
3 thank Council Member Hanif for recognizing Samiya
4 Spain, who was killed tragically on the border of our
5 Districts this past year. She had an exceptionally
6 bright light and our community misses her dearly.

7 And in Council District 33, we are
8 renaming street corner on McGinnis Boulevard and
9 Bayard Street after Matthew Jensen, who was a beloved
10 teacher at PS-110. Late one evening, walking home
11 from his birthday party, he was killed by a speeding
12 car on McGinnis Boulevard, and I can say truly, as
13 much as we miss him dearly, his death has not been in
14 vain. His loss galvanized the Greenpoint community,
15 and we have spent the last five-plus years fighting
16 and fighting and fighting to make McGinnis Boulevard
17 safe, and right now, as we speak, the Department of
18 Transportation is implementing the final components
19 of the McGinnis Boulevard redesign, and that is truly
20 in Matt Jensen's honor, and that is his legacy so we
21 miss him greatly, and we look forward to honoring him
22 properly at the corner of McGinnis and Bayard in the
23 near future and just thank my Colleagues for their
24 support of this renaming. Thank you.

25 CITY CLERK: Thank you. Riley.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye.

3 CITY CLERK: Thank you. Salaam.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Permission to
5 explain my vote?

6 MAJORITY LEADER FARIAS: Permission
7 granted.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Good afternoon,
9 everyone. Today, as we co-name the various street
10 names of our city, I want to highlight one that is
11 representative of our hip-hop culture. Today, we vote
12 on the co-naming of the intersection of 109th Street
13 and Fifth Avenue to honor a man whose voice became a
14 global anthem for celebration, unity, and
15 unapologetic joy. It's only right that we rename this
16 corner Isaac Freeman III, a.k.a. Fatman Scoop Way, in
17 recognition of a culture giant who represented the
18 very heartbeat of Harlem, who was also a personal
19 friend of mine. Fat Man Scoop was more than just a
20 voice. He was an energy, a movement, a force that
21 carried Harlem's spirit to every arena and every
22 stadium across the world. His voice commanded
23 attention, not just because it was loud, but because
24 it was powerful, undeniable, and rooted in
25 authenticity, and that's Harlem. That's who we are.

2 But beyond the music and the accolades, this moment
3 is about legacy. This street sign will stand as a
4 reminder to every child, every dreamer, every hustler
5 walking these blocks that you don't have to leave
6 Harlem behind to be great. You can take Harlem with
7 you and still win. So today, we honor not just Fatman
8 Scoop's career, but his impact. We thank him for
9 reminding us that our voices matter, that Harlem's
10 creativity is limitless, and that no matter where we
11 go in this world, we bring Harlem with us. And on
12 that, I vote aye on all.

13 CITY CLERK: Thank you. Salamanca.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye on all.

15 CITY CLERK: Thank you. Schulman.

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

18 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission
19 granted.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Thank you.

21 First, I want to acknowledge that we have here today
22 in Chambers Rajbir Singh and Mohinda Singh who are
23 here with us representing the 114th Street Gurdwara
24 in Richmond Hill, which brings me to my first street
25 co-naming at the corner of 114th Street and 101st

2 Avenue as Guru Tegh Bahadur Marg Ji Way. Guru Tegh
3 Bahadur Ji, the ninth guru of Sikhism, was a poet,
4 philosopher, and warrior whose teachings of love,
5 compassion, and justice resonate deeply across
6 generations. The Baba Makan Shah Lubana Gurdwara in
7 South Richmond Hill stands as a testament to his
8 enduring legacy, serving as a hub for spiritual
9 growth and community development. This co-naming
10 honors his spiritual leadership and contributions to
11 the vibrant Sikh community in South Richmond Hill.

12 Second is the co-naming of the corner of
13 117th Street and Merrill Avenue as Alfie's Way in
14 recognition of Alfio Muto and the enduring legacy of
15 Alfie's Pizzeria. For over 50 years, this beloved
16 institution has been a cornerstone of South Richmond
17 Hill, providing delicious food with a sense of family
18 and belonging. Alfio Muto was a philanthropist, a
19 neighbor, and a friend to those in the community.
20 From feeding first responders after 9/11 to helping
21 anyone in need, his generosity and kindness embodied
22 the best of our community. Today, his children carry
23 forward his legacy, which will now live on with this
24 street co-naming. Thank you. Aye on all. Sorry.

25 CITY CLERK: Thank you. Stevens.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye on all except
3 532-A, 104-A, and 103-A, of which I vote no.

4 CITY CLERK: Thank you. Ung.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye on all.

6 CITY CLERK: Thank you. Vernikov.

7 CITY CLERK: No on 1111-A, and aye on the
8 rest, and Mazel Tov, Assemblymember-Elect Kalman
9 Yeger. We will miss you.

10 CITY CLERK: Williams.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye on
12 all.

13 CITY CLERK: Won.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: I vote aye on all
15 except for 103-A, 104-A, and 532-A.

16 CITY CLERK: Thank you. Yeger.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: May I have the
18 excuse to explain my vote?

19 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Permission
20 granted.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you. I won't
22 have to do that much longer. I appreciate it. I
23 thought I'd maybe get up and make a motion, but
24 you're probably not, won't be that as entertaining to
25 you as it is to me.

2 I just want to rise briefly on Intro. 532
3 and just speak about the genesis of it in the history
4 and my gratitude to Councilman Brannan for pushing
5 this to the end and to the Speaker for making sure
6 that this got passed today. This was an effort that
7 began over a decade ago when my very wise
8 predecessor, Councilman David Greenfield, saw the
9 need that was being unaddressed, which was that not
10 every child in New York City was safe in their school
11 and had that safety. The public schools have the
12 school safety officers, but non-public schools had
13 nothing, and every parent deserves to know that when
14 their child goes to school, they're going to be safe,
15 and every child deserves to have that peace of mind
16 of walking into a building with a uniformed person in
17 front who's there to keep them safe. This program is
18 an incredible job producer as well. It requires that
19 the wages be prevailing, which means good union jobs.
20 This was an effort that was done over the last couple
21 of years to raise the level of conversation about
22 this because we've seen what's happened in other
23 parts of this country, and thank God, thank God, not
24 in New York, but having somebody stand in front of a
25 school to protect those children is the most

2 important, I think, thing that we can do, and I'm
3 very grateful to the Members of this Body who are
4 supporting this bill today. I vote aye on that. I
5 vote aye on all, with the exception of Intro. 1090
6 and Intro. 1098. I'm sure you don't want my speech
7 about BIDs, but BIDs are taxes. There you go. And on
8 Campaign Finance Bill, Intro. 1111, I'm going to vote
9 in favor of it, but I understand why my Colleagues
10 who are voting no are doing so, and it's because a
11 number of years ago, this Council increased, not in
12 this session, increased the amount of public funds
13 that would be spent on campaigns by hiking the
14 expenditure limit that's necessarily tied to that
15 amount, and therefore, it's going to cost taxpayers
16 more. I will vote in favor of it simply because the
17 expenditure limits do need to be raised every two
18 years, and I thank you very much, Madam President.

19 CITY CLERK: Zhuang.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: I vote aye except
21 Intro. 1111-A. We'll miss my Colleague, Kalman Yeger,
22 here.

23 CITY CLERK: Thank you, Council Member.
24 Borelli.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: I vote aye on
3 all, except 1111-A, and want to extend warm wishes to
4 all my Colleagues for the holidays, and I certainly
5 wish best of luck to Kalman Yeger, who not always the
6 most popular guy in this Chamber, but oftentimes says
7 things that need to be said and represents the
8 interests of small groups of people around the city
9 who don't often get a voice, so good luck to you, and
10 keep doing that in Albany.

11 CITY CLERK: Farías.

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: I vote aye on
13 all.

14 CITY CLERK: Thank you. Speaker Adams.

15 SPEAKER ADAMS: Aye.

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Okay. All items
17 on today's General Order Calendar are adopted by a
18 vote of 50 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative, and
19 0 abstentions, with the exception of Introduction
20 103-A, which was adopted by a vote of 35 in the
21 affirmative, 15 in the negative, and 0 abstentions,
22 and Introduction 532-A, which was adopted by a vote
23 of 44 in the affirmative, 6 in the negative, and 0
24 abstentions, and Introduction 1111-A, which was
25 adopted by a vote of 41 in the affirmative, 9 in the

2 negative, and 0 abstentions, and Introduction 104-A,
3 which was adopted by a vote of 38 in the affirmative,
4 11 in the negative, and 1 abstention, and
5 Introductions 1090-A and 1098, which was adopted by a
6 vote of 49 in the affirmative, 1 in the negative, and
7 0 abstentions.

8 We will now move into Introduction and
9 Reading of Bills.

10 SPEAKER ADAMS: All bills have been
11 referred to the Committee as indicated on today's
12 Agenda.

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, we
14 will now move into the Discussion of Resolutions.

15 Seeing none signed up.

16 We will now have a voice vote on today's
17 resolutions. If you wish to vote against or abstain
18 from any of today's resolutions, sorry folks, give me
19 one second. Okay. If you wish to vote against or
20 abstain from any of today's resolutions, please
21 notify the legislative documents unit by email or by
22 approaching the dais. I'll now read today's
23 Resolutions into the record.

24 Resolution 11 calls on the United States
25 Congress to pass and the President to sign HR 4052,

2 the National Infrastructure Bank Act of 2023. Will
3 all those in favor say aye?

4 CHAMBERS: Aye.

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: All opposed say
6 nay.

7 CHAMBERS: [SILENCE]

8 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Any abstentions?

9 CHAMBERS: [SILENCE]

10 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: The ayes have it.
11 Resolution 227-A calls on Congress to
12 pass and the President to sign a renewed farm bill
13 that increases funding for life-saving food aid. Will
14 all those in favor say aye?

15 CHAMBERS: Aye.

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: All opposed say
17 nay.

18 CHAMBERS: [SILENCE]

19 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Any abstentions?

20 CHAMBERS: [SILENCE]

21 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: The ayes have it.
22 Resolution 468 calls on the New York

23 State Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign
24 Senate Bill Number 5964 and Assembly Bill Number
25 8263, also known as the Empire State Licensing Act,

2 which provides all New Yorkers with access to
3 professional, occupational, commercial, or business
4 licenses, permits, certificates, or related
5 registrations, regardless of an applicant's
6 citizenship or immigration status or lack thereof.

7 Will all those in favor say aye?

8 CHAMBERS: Aye.

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say
10 nay.

11 CHAMBERS: [SILENCE]

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

13 CHAMBERS: [SILENCE]

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

15 Resolution 521 calls on the United States
16 Department of Labor to expand the number of
17 Occupational Safety and Health Administration
18 authorized outreach trainers in New York City's 10
19 designated languages. Will all those in favor say
20 aye?

21 CHAMBERS: Aye.

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say
23 nay.

24 CHAMBERS: [SILENCE]

25 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

2 CHAMBERS: [SILENCE]

3 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

4 Resolution 522 calls on the New York
5 State Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign
6 Assembly Bill Number 10225 and Senate Bill Number
7 9376, also known as the Good Jobs Guarantee Act,
8 which would establish certain workforce training
9 programs and increase employment opportunities for
10 New Yorkers. Will all those in favor say aye?

11 CHAMBERS: Aye.

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say
13 nay.

14 CHAMBERS: [SILENCE]

15 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

16 CHAMBERS: [SILENCE]

17 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

18 Resolution 576 calls on the New York
19 State Legislature to introduce and pass on the
20 Governor to sign legislation amending the tax law to
21 authorize the City of New York to offer a tax credit
22 for businesses to incentivize the creation of
23 workforce development and training programs for newly
24 arrived immigrants. Will all those in favor say aye?

25 CHAMBERS: Aye.

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIAS: All opposed say
3 nay.

4 CHAMBERS: [SILENCE]

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARIAS: Any abstentions?

6 CHAMBERS: [SILENCE]

7 MAJORITY LEADER FARIAS: The ayes have it.

8 We will now move into General Discussion,
9 and I would like to first call on Council Member
10 Hudson followed by Carr then Hanks.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Thank you so much,
12 and good afternoon again. Today is a bittersweet day
13 for me. My Chief-of-Staff, Casie Addison, is leaving
14 the Council at the end of this year after three years
15 as my Chief-of-Staff and more than a decade in City
16 government. Casie first joined the Council working in
17 what was then the Policy and Innovation Division in
18 Central Staff. She then became a Policy Analyst,
19 staffing the Committees on Public Safety and
20 Contracts. She's probably the only person I've met in
21 my life who was a proud, self-proclaimed contracts
22 nerd, although I'm sure Council Member Brewer might
23 be a close second. She then spent a few years working
24 for Public Advocate Jumaane Williams running his
25 legislation and policy shop during the pandemic where

2 she notably worked to pass the Racial Impact Study
3 Bill that has fundamentally changed land use in our
4 city and, much to his dismay, Casie then left his
5 office when I asked her to become my Chief-of-Staff
6 when I first entered the Council. Casie is a
7 brilliant, compassionate, hard-working, strategy-
8 oriented leader, someone who has delivered every
9 single day for the more than 170,000 New Yorkers who
10 call District 35 their home. She deftly navigated an
11 influx of nearly 3,000 newly-arrived migrants in
12 Clinton Hill to ensure they had culturally-sensitive
13 services, and she addressed quality-of-life issues
14 that came from this sudden residential increase, and
15 she kept my office running smoothly and efficiently
16 when I went on parental leave last year. I'll never
17 have the words to truly express my gratitude, but I
18 hope you know that I couldn't have made it through
19 these first three years without you. From the bottom
20 of my heart, thank you, Casie.

21 CHAMBERS: [APPLAUSE]

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, Casey.
23 I'd like to recognize Council Member Carr followed by
24 Yeger then Narcisse.

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Thank you, Majority
3 Leader. I just wanna wish all Colleagues a Merry
4 Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy Holidays. May
5 this time of year be nothing but the best, and I wish
6 you nothing but good things for the coming new year.

7 I want to just say a few words about our
8 departing Colleague and future Assemblyman, Kalman
9 Yeger. I first met Council Member Yeger when he
10 joined this Body as a Member in 2018, and I was
11 serving as Chief-of-Staff to my predecessor, but I
12 only really got to know him well in the time that I
13 joined this Body as a Member, and he is one of the
14 smartest, fiercest, most fearless, and wise people
15 that I've ever had the privilege of knowing in this
16 business, and indeed in life. He has probably
17 forgotten more about government and politics than I
18 could ever hope to learn, and he has been a stalwart
19 figure for his community, and for the principles with
20 which he believes. Sometimes his own conservatism, I
21 think, puts the Republican Conference to shame. He is
22 a fantastic human being. He is a man of integrity. He
23 is a man of conviction and character, and the only
24 solace I have that he's leaving this Body is that he
25 will continue to serve the public as a member of the

2 New York State Legislature, and he will be fighting
3 for all New Yorkers, and in particular, the
4 constituents I represent in Staten Island, and of
5 course, my new adoptive home Borough of Brooklyn, as
6 Council Member Restler never ceases to remind me, and
7 I really wish Kalman only the best moving forward,
8 because he will only be giving the best to all of us
9 as he continues to represent us in his future
10 capacity so God bless you, my friend, and God bless
11 your family, and may only good things come before
12 you. Thank you.

13 CHAMBERS: [APPLAUSE]

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Council Member
15 Yeger.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Best thing would
17 probably just be not to follow that, and let those
18 words stand, and be good enough. Thank you very much,
19 Councilman. I appreciate those words very much.

20 And so now that the end is near, and I
21 face my final curtain, as Frank said. You know, I
22 think a lot about this building, and it's a building
23 that I cherished since I was a little kid. I was, in
24 my single digits, used to come here, sit on the
25 steps, and hope, have an ice cream while my father

2 worked across the street, and hope that Mayor Koch
3 would come out and say hi to me, and I came here to
4 work here as a teenager for a freshman Member to
5 Council who learned as I learned, and taught me when
6 Speaker Valone was the Speaker. And this is a
7 building where giants walked. I talk about that all
8 the time before us, people who were far greater than
9 we are, but who had great aspirations for what would
10 come after them. This is the building where Fiorella
11 LaGuardia ran the city. This is a building where my
12 mentor, Fernando Ferrer, worked in this Chamber, and
13 in the Chamber across the hall in the Board of
14 Estimate Chamber. This is a building where Lou Fidler
15 was in this room. There are names I'm not going to
16 mention, there are so many others, but this is the
17 place where it gets done for the people. And you
18 know, I'm sure people notice, I looked at the ceiling
19 a lot when I was talking about President Lincoln last
20 time, but you look at the Seal of the City, and the
21 Seal that's on the ceiling, it has the Dutchman and
22 the Native American looking at each other. It's not
23 the same Seal that you have on your business card.
24 It's a Seal that they're talking to each other.
25 People who differ in opinion should be able to talk

2 to each other. It's what I've always tried to do. And
3 I appreciate that from time to time I've had
4 different opinions, possibly, from some Members of
5 this body, although I'm shocked to find out that my
6 popularity was in question, Minority Leader. We'll
7 talk about that later. But I do believe that you
8 should be able to talk to people who don't agree with
9 you on 100 percent of the time. If you can find an
10 ally on 20 percent, then that's your 20 percent ally,
11 not your 80 percent enemy. And if you can find an
12 ally on 80 percent, then that's your 80 percent ally
13 and not your 20 percent enemy. You should find
14 somebody and people who you can work with on every
15 single thing, and there are Members of this body, and
16 I'm looking at them, who know that we have worked
17 together on things that others may not know about,
18 but we've done it together for the service of the
19 people of New York.

20 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Council Member.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: And I will wrap up
22 very quickly. I will just remind Madam Chair that
23 when Council Member Brannan, I'm sorry. When the
24 gentleman who sat behind me left, he got six minutes.
25 I'm not asking for the same thing. I will just be

2 very brief, and I will wrap up and then you don't
3 have to do it anymore with me so it'll be okay for
4 everybody. The thoughts of what we are sent here to
5 do, right. It's to stand up for our neighbors. That's
6 what I have done, and I've done it in a way that I
7 hope that they have found that they've gotten their
8 money's worth. What we should be doing every single
9 day is thinking about the 180,000 or so people who
10 sent us here and only them and nothing else. If you
11 vote for your conviction, it doesn't, you don't have
12 to agree with me, but vote how you feel in your head.
13 The people who gave you that megaphone want you to
14 act. You'll be okay, and you will every single time,
15 and that's what I've tried to do, and I hope I've
16 done it well. And as Frank said, the record shows I
17 took the blows, but I did it my way and I appreciate
18 you all, and thank you very much.

19 CHAMBERS: [APPLAUSE]

20 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you.

21 Recognizing Council Member Narcisse followed by Cabán
22 then Avilés.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: I want to say

24 thank you, thank you again to Madam Speaker for

25 giving me the opportunity to serve in the capacity of

2 Chair of a Hospital Committee. Now we're coming to
3 the end of the year. I am so appreciative to work
4 with all of you. I cannot call one name in here that
5 I say that I'm uncomfortable to work with. Even
6 though you can be in different side, like my
7 Colleague just mentioned. I don't know if you know my
8 history. The reason I'm sitting here actually is
9 because of Kalman Yeger. When we used to go way back
10 in South Brooklyn, we caused some good trouble. And
11 he has changed somewhere along the way a little bit,
12 being more conservative, but I want to say that we
13 always agree to disagree on matters, and I want to
14 say thank you to you, and I had the opportunity, not
15 knowing that one day I was going to serve in the same
16 Council with you and to all our friends that knew how
17 we caused some trouble, but we're always respectful
18 to each other so I want to say thank you. Happy
19 holidays to everyone.

20 But I have to mention someone that's very
21 important and dear to South Brooklyn, Terry Cadet.
22 She served with all her heart, and I remember, the
23 reason I say thank you again to Madam Speaker, is the
24 Sickle Cell Bill. I remember when I passed it, she
25 suffered sickle cell disease, and she was saying so

2 many thank you and thank you to all my Colleagues
3 that make it possible so today is a time to reflect
4 because we are at the end of the year. When we're
5 coming back, who knows? I hope all of us, every one
6 of us will come back because you never know in life.
7 But the year's end, we're going to end it with a
8 special positive note, is respect with each other and
9 understand each other, care for each other, love for
10 each other because you never know what the next
11 second is going to bring so happy holidays, whatever
12 you celebrate, may God be with you, and thank you
13 all, my Colleagues.

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing
15 Council Member Cabán followed by Avilés and Holden.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Thank you. Today
17 I'm introducing legislation Intro. 1148, which would
18 require DSS to provide receipts to applicants for any
19 public benefits and services. These receipts would
20 include information like the date of the application,
21 what documents the applicant provided, whether the
22 app is complete, and if not, what other information
23 the applicant must supply. For years, our essential
24 agencies have been starved of the resources they need
25 due to chronic underfunding and understaffing by this

2 Administration, leaving them ill-equipped to serve
3 our constituents effectively. This very simple
4 measure will ensure accountability, transparency, and
5 peace of mind for New Yorkers who rely on these life-
6 affirming benefits. These aren't just bureaucratic
7 processes, they are lifelines for our neighbors who
8 deserve to have their basic needs met, and it's our
9 responsibility as a City to uphold the dignity of
10 every applicant and ensure they receive the respect
11 that they deserve, and so I encourage my Colleagues
12 to sign on.

13 I also wanted to say solidarity with the
14 striking workers at Amazon and New York City and all
15 of the Boroughs. Amazon has proven itself to be an
16 abusive and exploitative employer with a track record
17 of serious labor violations and, after months of
18 worker-led organizing and negotiations, Amazon
19 refuses to come to the negotiating table in good
20 faith. Today, the Amazon Teamsters took a historic
21 step by striking and demanding what they deserve, a
22 fair workplace and good faith negotiations.

23 I also want to say that in response to
24 that bravery, the NYPD chose to defend Amazon's
25 corporate greed instead of protecting working New

2 Yorkers, and I condemn their use of the SRG and
3 violence at the Amazon Teamsters picket line where
4 workers were peacefully and lawfully striking. The
5 NYPD blocked the picket line, they threw punches at
6 picketers, and they made violent arrests of
7 protesting workers. I condemn both Amazon and the
8 NYPD for denigrating the rights of workers under
9 federal labor law to organize, strike, and
10 collectively bargain in good faith and again,
11 solidarity to the workers.

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing
13 Council Member Avilés followed by Holden then
14 Paladino.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Today, I'm
16 introducing two pieces of legislation I hope you will
17 all support. The first is a resolution calling on the
18 President to take action on the collection of
19 biometric data to harm and suppress people. This is
20 especially important to address in the brief window
21 of time before the next Trump presidency. We know
22 that in 2020, during the first T1 Administration, he
23 expanded the collection of biometric data for those
24 seeking US citizenship. Now emboldened with a
25 promised shock and awe approach to immigration

2 policy, we can anticipate the worst with regards to
3 broad and sweeping data collection that will not only
4 put Americans at risk, but risk the violation of our
5 constitutional rights.

6 Secondly, I'm introducing a zero-
7 emissions port feasibility study. While New York City
8 lags behind other port cities like Los Angeles on
9 making bold and transformative changes that bring us
10 closer to our climate goals, New York City now has a
11 unique opportunity to reframe our thinking around
12 port operations as we undergo planning work, such as
13 at the site of the Brooklyn Marine Terminal. This
14 once in a generation project can and should be
15 recreated as a green zero emission working waterfront
16 that considers not only the land, but its people. We
17 can have livable, breathable communities that
18 generate dignified, productive employment for our
19 community members. I encourage you all to sign on to
20 resolution 690 and Intro. 1143.

21 I'd also like to mention standing in
22 solidarity with the Amazon Teamster workers and all
23 workers fighting for justice. Thank you.

24

25

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing
3 Council Member Holden followed by Paladino then
4 Riley.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Thank you,
6 Majority Leader. And I just want to wish my
7 Colleague, Kalman Yeger, Godspeed. Kalman was the
8 first person, first Council Member to call me when I
9 got elected in '17, and I didn't know him, he didn't
10 know me, but he called out of the blue, and he said,
11 you know, you're kind of like me, but when you meet,
12 we'll discuss things, but what I found out, that he
13 knew the Council, because I got the short orientation
14 in the Council. My race wasn't certified, because it
15 was so close in '17 so I got the half-day orientation
16 and I missed out on a lot of things, but Kalman
17 filled in the blanks on that over the years. But one
18 thing I remember during Dem Conference, I was
19 speaking about property tax interest. I thought it
20 was fair. I said, oh, it's a good rate, whatever it
21 was, 2 percent, and Kalman, of course, jumped in
22 later on, after the Dem Conference, and said, you
23 know, you shouldn't do that. It should be nothing, it
24 should be half percent, whatever, and I changed my
25 vote, or I changed my mind. Well, that didn't sit

2 well with leadership at that time. Remember Ramon?
3 Ramon called me into his office, the Chief-of-Staff
4 to Corey Johnson, and he called me into the office,
5 he says, you know, you have to tell me when you're
6 going to change your vote, and I said, well, you
7 know, I didn't know, I don't know all the ins and
8 outs of this, but he goes, what made you change your
9 vote? I said, Kalman Yeager, and somehow, somehow
10 that triggered something. I don't know what went on
11 before, but he says, if you continue to listen to
12 Kalman Yeager, you'll never get anywhere. Well, I
13 didn't get anywhere, but I still listened to Kalman
14 Yeager, because he really is a knowledgeable council
15 member, and we're going to miss him, and I don't know
16 if that's going to be an empty chair for a while, but
17 you're the best, man, really. Yeah, you're terrific.
18 Thanks. Thank you.

19 CHAMBERS: [APPLAUSE]

20 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Get some tissues.
21 I'd like to acknowledge Council Member Paladino
22 followed by Riley then Brewer.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Well, I want to
24 start off also. This is about Kalman. It's about us.
25 It's about the time of year that it is. It's a time

2 of reflection and a time of coming together. I just
3 want to say, Kalman, I too remember when I first got
4 elected, and that was three years and 11 months ago.
5 He is a unique, he is brilliant, he is articulate, he
6 has been a friend, he has been a mentor, he's been a
7 teacher. He's been there for just about everybody,
8 and his common sense, logical way of thinking, and
9 his articulation at every single hearing that we have
10 here, these meetings that we have, just stunned and
11 overwhelm me sometimes, and you are going to be a
12 void that's going to, I don't think, really be
13 filled. So with that, I want to say to you, Kalman, I
14 do remember our very first phone conversation, and I
15 won't go into it here, but I do want to say to you, I
16 love you, and I think that you have, you could teach
17 us all a really good lesson, and thank you, thank you
18 for allowing me to be part of your life for the last
19 three years and 11 months. Thank you. Everybody,
20 Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and all the best to
21 each and every one of us. Thank you.

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing
23 Council Member Riley followed by Brewer then Ariola.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Thank you, Majority
25 Leader. Today I'm proud to introduce two important

2 pieces of legislation. Intro. 1156, which ensures
3 fair wages and benefits for construction workers on
4 City-funded projects. These workers are the
5 foundation of our city, and they deserve a fair
6 compensation. This bill promotes job stability,
7 reduces income inequality, and strengthens our local
8 economy by balancing economic growth with workforce
9 needs, ensuring it benefits everyone equitably. I'm
10 grateful to my colleagues and the NYC District
11 Council of Carpenters for supporting prevailing
12 wages. Let's do the work to make sure that this
13 actually becomes reality.

14 Second, I'm also introducing Reso. 696,
15 designating the Friday before Mother's Day as
16 Community-Based Organization Day. CBOs provide
17 essential services, childcare, social support, and
18 casework for our most vulnerable residents. These
19 non-profits reflect our city's diversity and
20 resilience. Yet, their workers face challenges like
21 low pay, job stress, and high turnover rates. I'm
22 proud to co-prime this resolution with Council Member
23 Williams and Stevens, and this resolution was
24 inspired by one of my constituents, Reverend Dr.
25 Kendricks, whose dedication to our community reminds

2 us of the importance of honoring CBOs. CBO Day will
3 celebrate these vital organizations citywide and
4 amplify their voices. Thank you, and I urge your
5 support for these measures to uplift those who build
6 our city and care for our communities.

7 And lastly, I would just like to say good
8 luck to my Colleague, Kalman Yeger. You've been a
9 blessing. I remember coming in and you sat behind me,
10 and I did have a story similar to Holden at that
11 time, but I won't take too much time to talk about
12 that, but thank you, everyone.

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Acknowledging
14 Council Member Brewer followed by Ariola then Salaam.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you very
16 much. I'm talking about Intro. 1145. It's a local law
17 to require electric bicycles and electric scooters
18 that are part of shared systems, like Citibank and
19 Lime, to have speedometers and to limit electric
20 speed assistance for new riders. How can we tell
21 people to stay under certain speeds if they don't
22 even know how fast they're going? The companies that
23 run shared systems need to put speedometers on their
24 devices. And people who are new to power devices,
25 like tourists, should start slowly. This legislation

2 says stay under 10 miles per hour on your first three
3 electric bike rides.

4 And I want to say to Council Member
5 Holden, I'm sure Ramon Martinez is listening. Thank
6 you very much.

7 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing
8 Council Member Ariola followed by Salaam, then
9 Dinowitz.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Thank you,
11 Majority Leader. I started off this session this year
12 talking about Reso. 5 so I want to just end this
13 session with talking about Reso. 5. I understand the
14 concerns that my Colleagues have. I want to thank the
15 Council Staff and the Colleagues that are on the
16 Reso. for their support. But Reso. 5 is an equity
17 bill. It is not a vaccine, anti-vax bill. And I'm
18 going to continue to have conversations with all of
19 my Colleagues so they can understand that this is a
20 civil rights issue and not an entitlement issue.

21 That being said, I want to say to my
22 friend, Kalman Yeger, that I am going to miss you
23 dearly. And this time when I voted, I wanted to honor
24 you by not voting for the SBS bills, but I couldn't.
25 I wanted to honor you by not voting for the street

2 renamings, but I wouldn't. So, I just have to honor
3 you by saying, I will pay forward everything that I
4 have learned from you. Your generosity, your
5 kindness, your knowledge, your willingness to help,
6 your insane ability to sit at a table and not eat
7 because it's not kosher, your love for your religion,
8 and your love for the people that you serve. Thank
9 you, Kalman, for being my friend. Thank you for
10 always being our friend. We can always count on you,
11 and thank you, because you're going to continue to be
12 our friend and do not leave the group chat. Wishing
13 you all the best.

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Council Member
15 Salaam followed by Dinowitz.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Thank you. You
17 know, I was sitting here and it occurred to me that
18 there's a thing called bring your child to work day,
19 and I got the opportunity to have my mother be here
20 with me today and it's just an honor for her to be
21 here. I also wanted to congratulate my Director of
22 Budget and Legislative Affairs, Mufazzal Hossain, for
23 his offer of admission to Oxford University. Yes,
24 indeed. Starting next October for a Master's in
25 Sustainable Urban Development. He's still

2 deliberating because he wants to figure out whether
3 he can get the scholarship so he can attend so I just
4 want to congratulate him and encourage us to pray
5 that all his dreams and aspirations come true. Thank
6 you.

7 Oh, and I would also like to say to
8 Kalman Yeger, it's been an honor. I see you and I
9 recognize the fact that you've been fighting and what
10 you said about 20 percent, 80 percent, I'm going to
11 keep that. I like that. That's powerful. Thank you.

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing
13 Council Member Dinowitz followed by Williams.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Thank you,
15 Majority Leader. Kalman, I just want to say that I'm
16 so grateful to have gotten to serve with you. When I
17 got to the City Council in the middle of 2021, I got
18 in at a time when most Members were full speed ahead
19 on their way out the door, and you took the time
20 then, as you do every day now, to sit with me and
21 lend me an ear, be someone I can talk to, ask for
22 advice and, although we often reach different
23 conclusions, by the way, Minority Leader's not here,
24 but I think you're very popular, despite what he
25 says. I know that when I speak to you, your advice or

2 your counsel or everything you're saying is rooted in
3 a value system and not rooted in what I think a lot
4 of politicians get caught up in, which is outside
5 forces, outside politics. I know you're someone who
6 cares about your community and, by the way, knows and
7 appreciates the Bronx, having worked there for so
8 long, which I personally appreciate, and I'm
9 certainly going to miss someone who cares so much
10 about their values, about their community, and cares
11 about the institution, and I know that you're moving,
12 I'll say laterally, to the New York State House, but
13 moving to another position and, although we won't be
14 serving together anymore, I'm certainly going to be
15 calling on you for advice when I need it, and I hope
16 you have a good time hanging out with and working
17 with a different Dinowitz so I wish you the best as
18 you make your way over to the State House.

19 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing
20 Council Member Williams followed by Schulman.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you. The
22 Speaker always wishes everyone else a happy birthday,
23 and it was just her birthday, so just happy birthday,
24 Madam Speaker.

2 I just wanted to acknowledge that Lehman
3 College is here. I know they are located in Council
4 Member Dinowitz's District so shout out to my CUNY
5 fam. Faculty is here, and I know some students,
6 Maurice, Mason, Monique, Will, Mary, and Sarah. Thank
7 you for joining us. If you're still here, a lot of
8 students and faculty are really excited about
9 engaging with the Council so anytime they ask, I
10 always say, sure, you're welcome so thank you for
11 being here, and look forward to having more students
12 come and see what we do in the Council and happy
13 holidays, everybody.

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Council Member
15 Schulman.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Yes, I wanted
17 to, I can't see, my back is to him, but I wanted to
18 say goodbye to, I'm not good at goodbyes, and I just
19 want to say when I first joined the Council, that
20 Kalman Yeger was one of the first people to welcome
21 me with open arms, literally and figuratively, and I
22 want to thank him for that, and for everything that
23 he has helped me with and he's helped me with a lot
24 of things, especially since I have an Orthodox
25 constituency, and was very helpful with that, and I

2 just want to end it by saying there's a, for those
3 who are old enough to remember, and it's not most of
4 the people in here, but there is a comedy group
5 called the Marx Brothers from the 1930s, and they
6 were very famous, and one of the famous lines from
7 them was, hello, I must be going so Kalman, I know
8 you're saying hello, you must be going, and I hope
9 that we stay in touch. Thank you.

10 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you. Seeing
11 no one else signed up to speak, and I also want to
12 thank Council Member Riley and Williams for
13 remembering to acknowledge the Speaker on the floor
14 for her birthday, and this was my last Madam
15 President from Kalman Yeger, so thank you so much,
16 and good luck in the Assembly.

17 With that, I'll now call on Speaker
18 Adrienne Adams to close today's Stated Meeting.

19 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you, Madam Majority
20 Leader. Happy holidays, Colleagues.

21 The Stated Meeting of December 19, 2024,
22 is hereby adjourned.

23 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: BLAC members,
24 there's a meeting in the Committee Room, BLAC.

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 December 23, 2024