

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

----- X

TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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May 8, 2019
Start: 1:30 p.m.
Recess: 3:25 p.m.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: JUMAANE WILLIAMS
Public Advocate

LAURIE CUMBO
Majority Leader

COREY JOHNSON
Speaker

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Adrienne E. Adams
Alicka Ampry-Samuel
Diana Ayala
Inez D. Barron
Joseph E. Borelli
Fernando Cabrera
Margaret S. Chin
Andrew Cohen
Costa G. Constantinides
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.
Laurie A. Cumbo
Chaim M. Deutsch
Ruben Diaz, Sr.

Daniel Dromm
Rafael L. Espinal, Jr.
Mathieu Eugene
Vanessa L. Gibson
Barry S. Grodenchik
Robert F. Holden
Corey D. Johnson
Ben Kallos
Andy L. King
Peter A. Koo
Karen Koslowitz
Rory I. Lancman
Brad S. Lander
Mark Levine
Alan N. Maisel
Steven Matteo
Carlos Menchaca
I. Daneek Miller
Francisco P. Moya
Bill Perkins
Keith Powers
Antonio Reynoso
Donovan J. Richards
Carlina Rivera
Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Deborah L. Rose
Helen K. Rosenthal
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.
Ritchie J. Torres
Mark Treyger
Paul A. Vallone
James G. Van Bramer
Kalman Yeger

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

Raymond Vargas
Deputy Grand Master
Bronx Masonic District

William Sardon
Grand Master
New York Masons

Imam Zafeer Ali
Director of ICNA Al Markaz Masjid
Jamaica, Queens

2 [Check, check, this is a prerecorded
3 sound test for the Stated Meeting on May 8, 2019.
4 It's being recorded by Michael Leonardo.]

5 [pause]

6 [crosstalk]

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JUMAANE: Test, test, can
8 I please have your attention as we begin the
9 ceremonials. This is a special one for me. Although
10 I'm not from the Bronx, I belong to a large member
11 organization that makes me feel very special, yes
12 sir. So today the New York City Council is proud to
13 celebrate the Bronx Masonic District Centennial by
14 honoring the Bronx Freemasons for 100 years of
15 extraordinary service and enduring contributions to
16 the Bronx and to our entire City. Masonic lodges
17 have called the Bronx home since as far back as 1797
18 and the Bronx Masonic District was formally
19 established in 1918. For an entire century now,
20 members of the Bronx District Lodge have exemplified
21 fellowship and service to their community.
22 Charitable events like your four annual blood drives
23 and your annual holiday seasons Toys for Tots drive
24 have all become part of the fabric of your
25 communities. Your annual safety I.D. registration

2 drive helps make people feel welcome and safe in
3 their neighborhoods. Your work has positively
4 impacted thousands of Bronx residents of all ages and
5 backgrounds. I am confident that you will continue
6 doing great work on behalf of your community so with
7 that I want to call up Council Member Andy Cohen who
8 will present the proc on behalf of Council Member
9 Mark Gjonaj who couldn't be with us today due to a
10 death in his family and we send out our condolences
11 and warm, heartfelt love to Council Member Gjonaj.
12 I'd like, is Raymond Vargas, William Sardoni, Sardon,
13 sorry, Andy.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Thank you very
15 much. Thank you for your help, Rob. I really
16 appreciate it. I will just add that, how
17 disappointed Council Member Djonaj was that he was
18 not able to be here today and how effusive he was in
19 his admiration for the organization and all the good
20 work that you do. I don't know if we got it all but
21 the toy drives, helping the Boy Scouts, blood drives,
22 really just being all around good people civically
23 engaged so he is deeply grateful for all the work
24 that you do and on behalf of the City Council, I'm
25 gonna present you with this Proclamation.

2 RAYMOND VARGAS: Thank you sir.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: And I'm gonna ask
4 first we'll ask Ray who is the Deputy Grand Master to
5 say a few words and then we'll ask Bill.

6 RAYMOND VARGAS: On behalf of the Bronx
7 District, we want to thank the New York City Council
8 for giving us this Proclamation. Although we don't
9 publicly go out there and do our things to get press
10 or anything like that, you know, we do it for the
11 love of our community, for the love of our brothers
12 and for the love of our family because we love the
13 Bronx and we love our community and we will continue
14 to do what we do and thank you and God bless you all.
15 God bless our troops and God bless the City of New
16 York.

17 [applause]

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JUMAANE: Thank you,
19 before we have you speak, we'd just like to have the
20 clerk read the Proclamation.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council, City of New
22 York Proclamation. In celebration of the Bronx
23 Masonic District Centennial, the New York City
24 Council is proud to honor the Bronx Freemasons for

2 100 years of extraordinary service and enduring
3 contributions to the Bronx and beyond; and

4 Whereas the Bronx has been the proud home
5 to various Masonic Lodges since as early as 1797, the
6 Bronx Masonic District was formally established in
7 1918 with a dozen original lodges including four that
8 continue to function successfully today. Wyoming
9 Lodge number 492, Guiding Star Angle Lodge number
10 565, Pelham Lodge number 712 and Hebron Lodge number
11 813; and

12 Whereas over the past 100 years, members
13 of the Bronx District Lodges have served their
14 district and the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted
15 Masons of the State of New York with distinction as
16 District Deputy Grand Masters, Grand Lodge Officers,
17 Grand Chaplains, Grand Representatives, Assistant
18 Grand Lecturers, Presidents of the Masters and Past
19 Masters Association and Masters of their respective
20 lodges; and

21 Whereas from the start, Bronx Freemasons
22 have been committed to service and fellowship in the
23 borough and have remained proud of that legacy.
24 During the holiday season, the Bronx Freemasons host
25 annual Toys for Tots drives and provide hundreds of

2 gifts for Bronx children. The Bronx Freemasons also
3 host four blood drives annually in City Island and
4 have successfully collected hundreds of pints of
5 blood each year. In addition they host annual safety
6 I. D. registration drives collecting vital
7 information for families that may require them in
8 times of need; and

9 Whereas, through their annual charity
10 ball, the Bronx Masonic District raises thousands of
11 dollars annually that are donated to various Bronx
12 organizations including Boys and Girls Scouts, the
13 Masonic care community, houses of worship and
14 countless service oriented institutions that
15 positively impact thousands of people and many
16 generations of Bronx resident; and

17 Whereas by providing humanitarian work
18 benefitting residents both in and outside the
19 boroughs, the Bronx Freemasons continue to
20 demonstrate the importance of community service and
21 also inspires others to shape their community for
22 current and future generations;

23 Now Therefore Be It Known that the New
24 York City Council gratefully honors the Bronx Masonic
25 District in celebration of its 100th anniversary and

2 its outstanding service and enduring contributions to
3 New York City. Corey Johnson, Speaker for the entire
4 Council, Robert E. Cornegy, Jr. Council Member 36th
5 District, Brooklyn, Andrew Cohen Council Member 11th
6 District, the Bronx, Mark Gjonaj Council Member 13th
7 District, the Bronx, and all of the members of the
8 Bronx delegation of the New York City Council.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JUMAANE: Now, we'd like
10 to, before we close, hear from Grand Master William
11 Sardon.

12 WILLIAM SARDON: Thank you sir. It's a
13 pleasure to be here today. As the Grand Master of
14 Masons for all of New York, I'm very happy to say
15 that I speak on behalf of over 40,000 Masons who are
16 in New York State alone with 50 other district and
17 the Bronx obviously being the best.

18 [Laughter]

19 We have Lou George has been with us for
20 most of the time and has made a lot of things happen
21 for us in the Bronx. I'm very proud of everything we
22 do. Masonry does a lot of things for our communities
23 throughout our State. Those in the Bronx take it
24 upon themselves to take that extra step and I'd also
25 like to point out that we have pictures and statutes

2 around here of George Washington who was also our
3 brother Mason and just a few days ago on April 30 we
4 did a reenactment of brother George Washington taking
5 his oath of office right here in Federal Hall and the
6 Bible that he took his oath of office on was brought
7 down from a Masonic Lodge and Chancellor Livingston
8 brought that Bible. We have that Bible still today
9 and I took my oath of office yesterday on that Bible
10 as I began my second term so Masonry is deep rooted
11 in not only the Bronx, New York City, but the entire
12 country as well as the world. It is an honor for us
13 to be here today. We thank everybody for taking the
14 time out of their busy schedules to be with us.
15 We're very proud of Masonry. God bless each and
16 every one of you. God bless our great Masonic
17 fraternity and God bless the United States of
18 America. Thank you very much.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JUMAANE: We can assemble
20 for a photo if we can just move in closer and while
21 we're doing that, I'd just like to send a special
22 shout out to two of my favorite Masons, my Dad,
23 Robert E. Cornegy, Sr., 33rd degree Mason, also
24 Maurice Phillips on his actual anniversary of his
25

2 passing which is today and a big shout out to my
3 Lodge, Phil McCollins Lodge, Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

4 [pause]

5 [crosstalk]

6 [pause]

7 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet on the floor
8 please. Quiet on the floor please. Ladies and
9 gentlemen at this time please place all electronic
10 devices, all electronic devices to vibrate. Will all
11 non-council employees, non-council employees please
12 leave the main floor of the chambers. There's
13 additional seating upstairs in the balcony. Thank
14 you. All yours.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Good afternoon
16 and welcome to the stated meeting of May 8, 2019.

17 [gavel] I am Majority Leader, Laurie Cumbo. Please
18 rise for the pledge of allegiance.

19 [Pledge of Allegiance]

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Roll call.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Adams?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Present.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ampry-Samuel?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Present.

25

1 CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 12

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ayala?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Present.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Present.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Borelli, Brannan,

7 Cabrera

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Chin?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cohen.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Here.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Constantinides?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cornegy?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Present.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Deutsch?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Here.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Diaz?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Present.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Dromm?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Espinal? Eugene?

24 Gibson?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: I'm here.

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gjonaj, Grodenchik?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Here.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Holden?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Kallos?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Here.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Constantinides?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Present.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: King?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Present.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Koo?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Koslowitz?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Present.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lancman?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Here.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lander?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Levin, Levine?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Here.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Maisel?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Here.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Menchaca?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Presente.

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Miller?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Present.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Moya?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Present.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Perkins?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Presente.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Powers?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Here.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Reynoso?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Here.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Richards?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Present.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rivera?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rodriguez?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rose?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rosenthal?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Salamanca?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Torres?, Treyger?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ulrich?, Vallone?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Van Bramer?, Yeger?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Matteo?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Here.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cumbo?

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Present.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Johnson?

11 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I'm here.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We

13 will now have today's invocation which will be

14 delivered by Imam Zafeer Ali, Director of The Circle

15 of North America Markaz Masjid in Jamaica, Queens.

16 IMAM ZAFEER ALI: [Inaudible] May peace

17 and blessings be upon you in the name of God, the

18 most gracious, the most merciful. Let's pray. We

19 thank you Ali, almighty God, for all your favors and

20 blessings. We thank you for the position we hold,

21 the opportunities and responsibilities we have to

22 serve your people in New York City. Our Lord, we ask

23 you to guide and help our City Council Speaker, Corey

24 Johnson, Public Advocate, Jumaane Williams, Majority

25 Leader, Laurie Cumbo, Council Members and our city's

2 public servants to lead the City in best manner and
3 in the right direction. Almighty God, give them the
4 strength and ability so they can treat our New York
5 residents equally, justfully and respectfully. In
6 this blessed month of Ramadan and fasting, we ask you
7 our Lord to shower us, our City and nation with your
8 mercy. We ask you to protect our nation and world
9 from all evil. We ask you Ali, to help us all, to
10 keep us all, our family, our school, colleges, our
11 official buildings and our houses of worship, safe
12 and protected. We ask you to make us good humans,
13 better citizens, loving caring for all. We ask you
14 God to bless all of us. Our Lord, accept our
15 supplication, Amen.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Amen, thank you
17 for your beautiful prayer and we will now have
18 Council Member Miller to spread the invocation on
19 record.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you Madam
21 Majority Leader. I make a motion to spread the
22 Invocation in full upon the record for Imam Zafeer
23 Ali, originally from India, and a graduate of the
24 Islamic University of Madinah in Saudia Arabia since
25 2001. He has served as Imam and Director of the

2 Islamic Learning Center of North America better known
3 as ICNA in Jamaica Queens. He is a renowned
4 religious leader, scholar, leader, teacher and guide
5 and is recognized for his thoughtful community
6 leadership, activism, interfaith activities and the
7 works of the ICNA family. I personally want to thank
8 him for always opening the doors to ICNA to the
9 community and some of the programs that are going on
10 there, we've had the pleasure of doing, representing
11 all types of human rights, immigrant rights and
12 serving in the community so it is a pleasure to stand
13 here today and also most importantly to have an
14 opportunity to worship under his tutelage and
15 leadership. Thank you so much and the invocation so
16 be spread.

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so
18 much, Council Member Miller. We will now have the
19 adoption of minutes by Council Member Koslowitz.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Thank you.
21 Motion that the Minutes of the Stated Meeting of
22 March 28, 2019 be adopted as printed.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you and now
24 we will go into Messages and Papers from the Mayor.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK: M152 through M159,
3 Various Budget Documents

4 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Finance.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: M160 City Debt and
6 Reserves.

7 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Received, ordered,
8 printed and filed.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Communication
10 from City, County and Borough Offices.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered M161 and
12 M162, Civilian Complaint Review Board Appointments.

13 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Rules, Privileges and
14 Elections.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Petitions and
16 Communications.

17 SPEAKER JOHNSON: None.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Land Use Call-
19 ups.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: M163 through M166,
21 Various Applications.

22 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I asked for a coupled
23 vote on the, couple these items on a call-up vote and
24 at this time I want a roll-call vote on all of

25

2 today's land use call-ups. We're only voting on land
3 use call-ups right now.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Holden?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Madam Majority
6 Leader, I request unanimous consent to vote on all
7 land use call-ups and all items on the general order
8 calendar.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
10 granted.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Thank you, I vote
12 aye on all.

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Levine?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Thank you and
16 Madam Majority Leader I also would like permission to
17 vote on all land use call-ups and coupled items on
18 the general order calendar and all resolutions.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
20 granted.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Thank you, I vote
22 aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Adams?, Ampry-Samuel?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: I vote aye.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ayala?

1 CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 20

2 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye on all.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Borelli?, Brannan?,
6 Cabrera?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Chin?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cohen?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Constantinides?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Aye.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Miller?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Madam Majority
16 Leader?

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Permission to
19 vote on all call-up items coupled and general orders.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes, permission
21 granted.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you, aye.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cornegy?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye.

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Deutsch?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Aye.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Diaz?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Yes.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Dromm?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Espinal? Eugene?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gibson?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Aye.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Grodenchik?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Aye.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Kallos?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: King?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: I vote aye on all

18 except for Land Use 379 and 380.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Koo?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Koslowitz?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lancman?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Aye.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lander?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Levin

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Maisel?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Aye.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Menchaca?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Aye.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Moya?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Aye.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Perkins?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Aye on all.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Powers?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Permission to

14 explain my vote.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission

16 granted.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Thank you, one of

18 the items that we're voting on today is in my

19 district. It is the, will be the new headquarters

20 for J. P. Morgan in New York City.

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: At this time

22 we're gonna just focus on the land use call-ups and

23 there'll be an opportunity to do that following.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Oh, sorry about

25 that. Thanks.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: No problem.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: I vote aye.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Adams?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: I vote aye.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Reynoso?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Aye.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Richards?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rivera?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rodriguez?, Rose?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rodriguez?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Salamanca?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Torres?, Treyger?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ulrich?, Vallone?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye on all.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Van Bramer?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye on all.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Yeger?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Matteo?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Aye.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cumbo?

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I vote aye.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rosenthal?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Aye.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Johnson?

10 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I vote aye.

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Today's land use

12 call-ups are adopted by a vote of 44 in the

13 affirmative and 0 negative. We will now have

14 Communication from Speaker Corey Johnson.

15 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you Madam

16 Majority Leader. Good afternoon, I want to thank you

17 all for being here today. We have a busy agenda

18 ahead of us. I want to acknowledge that today is a

19 very sad, sad day for our City. Earlier this morning

20 a fire in Harlem took the lives of six family

21 members. Andrea Pollidore died alongside her step-

22 son and four young children after a fire broke out in

23 the kitchen of their apartment. Details are still

24 emerging but our fire commissioner, Daniel Nigro,

25 said it's believed to be an accident. This is a

2 horrific, horrific tragedy. It is heartbreaking and
3 I know I speak for everyone here when I say our
4 condolences to the surviving members of the Pollidore
5 family. This fire took place in Council Member
6 Perkins' district and I know that he is working with
7 the FDNY and OEM to help the community in this very
8 painful and difficult time. I ask everyone here to
9 please keep this family in their thoughts and
10 prayers. I also want to thank the FDNY for their
11 efforts. About 100 members of the fire department
12 responded to the scene within three minutes and tried
13 valiantly to rescue the family but the fire was too
14 much. Again, our deepest condolences go out to the
15 Pollidore family and as we always do here at Stated
16 today, we're gonna acknowledge those sadly who have
17 succumbed to 911 related illnesses.

18 This week, I mean this is hard, this week
19 I'm sad to report we have lost nine first responders,
20 nine first responders from 911 related illnesses.
21 They are Air Force National Guardsman Mark Pelton, 52
22 years old; Belmore Merrick, EMS Chief; Thomas
23 DeFrancheski [phonetic], 61 years old; New Jersey
24 State Police Sergeant Brian McCoy, 57 years old;
25 Captain Howard Vanetski [phonetic] a 23 year veteran

2 of the Fire Department; NYPD Detective Charles
3 Humphrey; NYPD Officer Patrick McGovern, 43 years
4 old, a 19 year veteran of the police force; NYPD
5 detective Lisa Rossotto [phonetic], 51 years old;
6 NYPD office Jeffrey Healey, 52 years old and a 21
7 year veteran of the NYPD; NYPD detective Lawrence
8 "Larry" Cummings, 74 years old. These are heroes.
9 These are people who served our City and my
10 condolences go out to them to their friends and to
11 their family. I want to take this time to applaud
12 the work of the New York Congressional Delegation in
13 pushing for fully funding the 911 victims'
14 compensation fund. I urge the rest of Congress to
15 finally please follow their lead. This is an issue
16 for New York City. It's an issue for the entire
17 country and it is so important that we take care of
18 these people who sacrificed so much for our City in
19 one of the darkest, most painful moments of American
20 history and one of the most painful moments our City
21 has ever had to deal with.

22 On Tuesday, Lawrence J. Hanley, the
23 international president of the Amalgamated Transit
24 Union passed away suddenly. He began his career as a
25 bus driver in Brooklyn and he quickly became involved

2 in the labor movement. He spent his life fighting
3 for worker's rights and for that we all owe him a
4 huge debt of gratitude. We extend our deepest
5 condolences to his family. In addition, New York
6 City lost two long-time public servants this past
7 weekend. Queens' district attorney, Judge Richard
8 Brown, passed away Saturday. He was 86 years old and
9 he had spent decades in public service including at
10 the State legislature. He worked so hard on behalf
11 of this City. He loved this City with all of his
12 heart, decades of public service at every level of
13 government and I am extraordinarily grateful for
14 Judge Brown's service and I wasn't able to be there
15 yesterday for his service. I was in Albany but I
16 heard it was beautiful and that people were really
17 able to remember what an amazing man he was, public
18 servant he was.

19 On Sunday the City Council lost our
20 beloved colleague and friend, Lew Fidler. From 2002
21 to 2013, Lew represented the 46th District in
22 Southern Brooklyn but his advocacy extended far
23 beyond his neighborhood. Lew was a champion for
24 young people that society often neglected and he
25 saved many, many lives. He was a voice for the

2 voiceless. Being chair of the Youth Services
3 Committee was one of Lew's proudest accomplishments
4 and he put his heart and soul into advocating for New
5 York City's children and teenagers. The idea that we
6 needed to have adequate emergency and transitional
7 housing for runaway and homeless youth was barely a
8 blip on the radar screen until Lew Fidler came along.
9 He toured shelters relentlessly, talked and met with
10 young people, worked with service providers and
11 fought like hell for the City to fund beds and
12 services for those in our system that society had
13 forgotten. Importantly, Lew made sure that LGBTQ
14 youth had places to stay where they would feel safe
15 and accepted. Lew believed that every young person
16 deserved mentorship and job opportunities and he
17 called for the expansion of the Summer Youth
18 Employment Program. It became a mantra of his during
19 every budget season that he served in the New York
20 City Council. He was also a champion for our
21 environment at a time when legislatures were just
22 beginning to understand it was imperative to act in
23 order to take care of our planet. Lew sponsored
24 groundbreaking legislation banning Styrofoam,
25 expanding the designation of recyclable plastics and

2 requiring DSNY to do significant outreach and
3 education on the importance of recycling. For Lew
4 saving our planet meant taking care of our children
5 and future generations. For Lew, it was always about
6 kids and I know that because of the love he had for
7 his own two kids, Max and Harry, and for his wife,
8 Robin. I know we all loved Lew and we are going to
9 miss him. We lost one of our own. He was smart. He
10 was funny. He was very funny. He was kind. He
11 loved a good argument and loved the Mets. He was
12 totally committed to New York City and to his family.
13 I was looking back actually when I got the news over
14 the weekend and I found a message that he sent me a
15 week after being elected Speaker and he said when,
16 how quickly can you pass a bill to raise the age for
17 young people to be able to stay in the youth shelters
18 and not go into the adult shelters and the day of the
19 hearing he showed up here and he sat through, he sat
20 on the riser right there. He sat through the entire
21 hearing and he talked to every single young person
22 after they testified. This was one of his life
23 missions. He was so deeply committed to this and
24 when I go around the City of New York, when I go to
25 the Ali Forney Center or to Covenant House or to any

2 of these organizations that do this work, Lew Fidler
3 is literally their hero. He was their hero, their
4 champion, their pit bull whose advocacy and passion
5 on this issue did not just last for the time that he
6 was on the New York City Council but five and a half
7 years after he was out of the City Council, still
8 showing up at events, still showing up at youth
9 shelters, still coming to budget hearings and to
10 oversight hearings. He led with his heart. Lew
11 Fidler was one of a kind. I am deeply grateful for
12 his friendship. I'm deeply grateful for everything
13 he did for this body, for his district in Brooklyn,
14 for the borough that he loved and for the City of New
15 York which he was a champion for and I want to give a
16 big round of applause to our friend and colleague,
17 Lew Fidler.

18 [applause]

19 And to his wife, Robin, and two sons, Max
20 and Harry, we send our deepest condolences. I know
21 there was a funeral service yesterday. Again, I was
22 in Albany, but I heard it was very beautiful and I'm
23 thinking of his family at this very painful and
24 difficult time and finally I want to add that Robert
25 Pear, a *New York Times* reporter passed away last

2 night from a sudden stroke. I was a huge fan of his
3 work. He's probably the most accomplished healthcare
4 writer in the United States of America. He covered
5 the Affordable Care Act and had been writing for the
6 *New York Times* for 40 years. Readers and his
7 colleagues have been writing tributes all day long on
8 social media and what they've said is he's probably
9 one of the greatest journalists to ever have his name
10 in the *New York Times* but also they say he was the
11 kindest human being because they said he was the
12 nicest guy to all of his competitors. He would help
13 his competitors with stories and it is a big loss for
14 this country to lose someone of that sterling
15 reputation who is covering issues of importance to
16 the United States of America. We extend our deepest
17 sympathies to his colleagues, his friends and his
18 family so in honor of the Pollidore family, National
19 Guardsman Mark Pelton, Chief Thomas DeFrancheski
20 [phonetic], Sergeant Brian McCoy, Captain Howard
21 Vanetski [phonetic], Detective Charles Humphrey,
22 Officer Patrick McGovern, Detective Lisa Rossotto
23 [phonetic], Officer Jeffrey Healey, Detective Larry
24 Cummings, Lawrence J. Hanley, District Attorney and
25 Judge Richard Brown, the amazing Council Member Lew

2 Fidler and Robert Pear, I ask that we all rise and
3 take a moment of silence.

4 [pause]

5 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you. I want to
6 acknowledge that May is Asian Heritage month. New
7 York City's Asian community dates back to the early
8 1800's and it has always been instrumental in making
9 our City the greatest city in the world. I am proud
10 of my own Asian heritage. I'm a quarter Korean and I
11 encourage everyone to learn more about the different
12 Asian cultures and their contributions to our City
13 and to our country. We are also in the midst of
14 Ramadan so I want to take a moment and wish all of
15 our Muslim friends and neighbors and constituents an
16 easy fast Ramadan Mubarak and this Sunday is Mother's
17 Day and I want to acknowledge all of the amazing
18 mothers here in the City Council. I'm really
19 grateful for everything you all do. I think everyone
20 knows how much I adore my own amazing Mom. I love
21 her. She's my best friend and I couldn't, I couldn't
22 do anything I do without her so I want to thank you
23 all. To all the Council Members and to the staff
24 members and to anyone who is here at the City Council
25 that is a mother, I want to thank you for the work

2 you do every single day in making our world a better
3 and more loving place. You're raising the future of
4 New York City and we're grateful to you so Happy
5 Mother's Day so I want to dive into the agenda for
6 today.

7 The Council will vote on the following
8 Article XI property tax exemptions approved by the
9 Council's Committee on Finance: Putnam Gardens in
10 Council Member Cohen's district, 2997 Marion Avenue
11 in Council Member Cohen's district, Soundview Park
12 Townhouses in Council Member Diaz Sr.'s district,
13 Apex Place Phase 1 in Council Member Koslowitz's
14 district, Apex Place Phase 2 in Council Member
15 Koslowitz's district and we're gonna vote on the
16 following land use actions: 270 Park Avenue, an
17 application in Council Member Keith Power's district,
18 a zoning text amendment to facilitate a new 70-story
19 office building that will serve as the new
20 headquarters for J. P. Morgan Chase Bank. This is
21 the first site to take advantage of the East Mid-Town
22 rezoning which passed in the Council in 2017. I know
23 that Council Member Powers worked very closely with
24 the applicant, with the community board, with the
25 borough president, with all of the stakeholders

2 throughout this entire process and I'm really proud
3 of the amazing job that he's done, the responsible
4 way he's handled this, the thoughtful nature and how
5 he's approached, since it was complicated and not
6 easy and went on from the first day he was elected to
7 the Council so I'm really grateful for his
8 leadership. Keeping one of the largest private
9 employers in New York City in mid-town is a big deal
10 so I want to thank him for his leadership and I want
11 to thank J. P. Morgan for listening carefully
12 throughout this process.

13 We will be voting on two applications in
14 Majority Leader Laurie Cumbo's office, 1050 Pacific
15 Street rezoning. It's gonna create 103 units of
16 housing, 31 of which will be affordable units and
17 1010 Pacific Street rezoning. It's gonna facilitate
18 124 units of housing, 39 which will be affordable.
19 We're gonna vote on 1640 Flatbush Avenue rezoning.
20 It will enable the development of a mixed use
21 building with 114 units of housing including 29
22 affordable units in Council district 45, former
23 Council Member, current Public Advocate Jumaane
24 Williams' district and the Council will be modifying
25 the application to remove mandatory inclusionary

2 option two and add mandatory inclusionary option one.
3 We're gonna vote on 1921 Atlantic Avenue, a series of
4 applications to allow for the development of 14-story
5 mixed use building with 236 units of affordable
6 housing in Council Member Ampry-Samuel's district and
7 I want to thank the staff who worked on all of these.
8 Rosa Kelly, Brian Paul, Chelsea Kelly and Raju Mann,
9 the director of our land use division.

10 Moving on, the Council will be voting on
11 the following pieces of legislation and resolutions.
12 Resolution 828 sponsored by Council Member Carlos
13 Menchaca, the chair of our Immigration Committee,
14 commends the New York State Office of Court
15 Administration for promulgating rules that require a
16 judicial warrant for any civil arrest in New York
17 State court and it calls on the legislature to pass
18 and the Governor to sign the Protect our Courts Act
19 in order to protect people from civil arrest while at
20 such court proceeding. The new OCA rules in this
21 bill in Albany will help ICE stay out of our courts
22 which is important. Their presence in and around our
23 courthouses breaks trust between immigrant
24 communities and local law enforcement and courts and
25 I'm really proud we're doing this today. I want to

2 thank the staff who worked on this, Harbani Ahusia
3 [phonetic] and Elizabeth Kronk.

4 We're gonna vote on Introduction 562
5 sponsored by Council Member Mark Treyger which would
6 require that owners of multiple dwellings post notice
7 in the common area of the building stating the
8 relevant hurricane evacuation zone number for that
9 building and providing information on the presence of
10 evacuation centers. Congratulations, Mark, and I
11 want to thank the staff who worked on this bill, Brad
12 Reed and Joshua Kingsley.

13 Introduction 1533, sponsored by Public
14 Advocate Jumaane Williams would extend the June 1,
15 2019, compliance deadline by which workers and
16 supervisors must obtain a portion of the training
17 required by Local Law 196 of 2017 to December 1,
18 2019, and allows the Department of Buildings to
19 further extend that deadline by another six months if
20 necessary. I want to thank the staff who worked on
21 this bill, Gene Zilca [phonetic] and Meghan Chin.

22 The next package of bills is near and
23 dear to my heart because we're dealing with really
24 critically important housing issues and I'm very
25 proud we're taking action today to protect tenants.

2 All too often, landlords who are using unscrupulous
3 methods to get people out of their apartments to try
4 and increase or unlock the value of their buildings
5 use multiple strategies to get that done. These
6 methods which the *New York Times* exposed about a year
7 ago in a detailed and meticulous series include
8 construction as harassment, taking advantage of lax
9 enforcement of laws meant to protect tenants,
10 landlords lying about the existence of tenants on
11 construction documents, landlords making unfair
12 buyout offers to tenants and a lack of due process in
13 housing court proceedings. Today, we are doing
14 something about that. Building upon the Council's
15 work last session to address tenant harassment, the
16 Council is passing 17 pieces of legislation that
17 addresses these unscrupulous methods and finally hold
18 unscrupulous landlords accountable. The first three
19 bills we will be voting on are by Council Member
20 Helen Rosenthal. I want to congratulate her.
21 Introduction 1279 will require the Department of
22 Buildings and the Department of Housing, Preservation
23 and Development to verify that building owners are
24 correcting dangerous building and housing maintenance
25 code violations. Introduction 1280 would require

2 that construction permit applications contain a
3 statement signed by the owner and applicant
4 identifying any occupied units in the building and
5 the bill would also establish specific civil and
6 criminal penalties for lying on these forms to obtain
7 a building permit. Introduction 1107, when a
8 building owner wants to do major construction in a
9 building with residential tenants, the owner must
10 submit a tenant protection plan with the building
11 permit application. This bill would shift the
12 responsibility of retaining a design professional to
13 prepare a tenant protection plan from building owners
14 to contractors. It would require statements by
15 building owners and contractor regarding the
16 occupancy of a building and the scope of work of a
17 construction project. Next up we're gonna vote on
18 Introduction 1242 sponsored by Council Member Diana
19 Ayala which would expand the Department of Housing,
20 Preservation and Development's online property owner
21 registry by requiring inclusion of a Department of
22 Building violation related to construction as
23 harassment including violations of work without a
24 permit and work in violation of a stop work order.
25 It would also require each fee to include rent

2 overcharge information from the State and incorporate
3 that information into this registry if that
4 information becomes available to HPD from the State.
5 It's a very important bill so congratulations Diana.
6 We're gonna vote on two bills introduced by Council
7 Member Alicka Ampry-Samuel. Introduction 1277 will
8 require the Department of Buildings to perform
9 preliminary inspections to verify the occupancy
10 status of a building when the claim on a building
11 permit application that the building is unoccupied
12 and Introduction 1241 currently under DOB's
13 professional certification program, design
14 professionals may sign off on building permit
15 applications without review by DOB. This will would
16 expand liability for false professional
17 certifications to the offending registered design
18 professional supervisor as well as the professional
19 personally. Introduction 1278 sponsored by Council
20 Member Carlina Rivera would require the Department of
21 Buildings to approve tenant protection plans prior to
22 construction and to periodically inspect construction
23 sites to ensure compliance with the plan.
24 Introduction 1275 sponsored by Council Member Keith
25 Powers will deny permits for one year for a building

2 following a determination that a false statement
3 about the occupancy status was made on a construction
4 application for that building or following a
5 determination that the work was conducted without a
6 permit while such building was occupied. We're gonna
7 vote on three bills by Council Member Robert Cornegy
8 who is the chair of our Housing and Buildings
9 Committee. Introduction 1258, currently the only way
10 for a tenant to know when they are being evicted is
11 by being served with court papers. This is basic due
12 process for anyone being sued. Unfortunately, we
13 have heard many reports of tenants not being notified
14 when a landlord starts an eviction proceeding against
15 them. This bill would require the Department of
16 Consumer Affairs annually audit the records of at
17 least 20% of license process servers who have served
18 notices for a housing court proceeding. This bill
19 would require that DCA post on its website and notify
20 process serving agencies when a process server's
21 license has been suspended, revoked and a license
22 renewal is denied. Introduction 59, owners often try
23 to persuade tenants to vacate their units by offering
24 them a sum of money, a practice known as a buyout
25 offer. This bill requires that landlords offering

2 buyouts to tenants disclose that there is no
3 guarantee that the tenant will find a similar
4 apartment in the same community district with the
5 same number of bedrooms, for the same rent that the
6 tenant is currently paying and that additional
7 factors may impact their ability to obtain other
8 housing and Introduction 1257 would require DOB to
9 issue a stop work order if an inspector is unable to
10 gain access to a construction site and has reason to
11 believe that the work is being done in violation of
12 the law. Introduction 1247, sponsored by Council
13 Member Fernando Cabrera, would require owners of
14 residential buildings to provide copies of any notice
15 of violation issued against a property to the
16 residents of that property. Additionally, the
17 Department of Buildings must create a pamphlet or
18 flyer explaining the adjudication process for such
19 violations to be distributed with copies of notices
20 of violations so tenants can participate in the
21 adjudication process. I know Council Member Cabrera
22 worked hard on this bill and I want to congratulate
23 him for its passage today. Introduction 977,
24 sponsored by Council Member Antonio Reynoso, would
25 permit the Department of Buildings to sanction

2 registered design professionals if a professionally
3 certified application that is submitted to DOB
4 contains an error that results in a stop work order.
5 It would also require that DOB maintain a database of
6 registered design professionals who have been
7 excluded, suspended or otherwise sanctioned by DOB.
8 Introduction 1171, sponsored by Council Member
9 Ritchie Torres, will require the Department of
10 Buildings to obtain information from the Department
11 of Finance and the State in order to identify cases
12 of false statements regarding occupied and rent
13 regulated housing. Several audits are also required
14 by this bill. DOB would be required to conduct an
15 audit of an owner's entire portfolio of properties if
16 the owner has been caught either failing to obtain a
17 building permit or submitting false statements
18 regarding occupied and rent regulated housing on an
19 application for a building permit. DOB would also be
20 required to audit 25% of buildings on the Department
21 of Housing, Preservation and Development's
22 speculation watch list for compliance with building
23 permanent requirements on an annual basis and audit
24 all buildings owned by landlords who have submitted
25 an unusually high number of amended building permits.

2 If DOB finds that an owner has made a false
3 statement, DOB must notify the City Council, the
4 Department of Investigation, the Division of Housing,
5 Community and Renewal and the tenant protection unit
6 and also refer the matter to the relevant district
7 attorney and attorney general for potential criminal
8 prosecution and report on the punitive actions it
9 took in every case in which it found evidence of a
10 falsified application for a building permit.

11 Introduction 975 sponsored by Council Member Justin
12 Brannan would require the Department of Buildings to
13 deny construction permits for buildings with a
14 significant number of open dangerous building and
15 maintenance code violations. The law would allow for
16 permits for work to correct the violations or for
17 emergency work and finally we'll vote on two bills by
18 Council Member Mark Levine, Introduction 1274 will
19 require owners of multiple dwellings to provide
20 tenants with a previous four years of rent history
21 from the State where available for their apartment,
22 very important, and Introduction 551 which would
23 require that where owners enter into buyout
24 agreements with their tenants the owners must submit
25 certain information about the terms of the agreement

2 with the Department of Housing, Preservation and
3 Development within 90 days. A lot of staff worked on
4 this package of bills for a long time and I want to
5 thank all of them. They're here somewhere I believe.
6 I want to thank Austin Brandford, Gene Zilca,
7 Christopher Chartory [phonetic], Audrey San, Gesere
8 Aganapathy [phonetic], Brenda McKinney, Nicholas
9 Connel, Megan Chin, Brad Reed, Jeff Baker and Laura
10 Poppa. I want to thank the amazing staff for their
11 really hard work on this complicated package of
12 bills. I was in Albany yesterday. I met with
13 Speaker Hasty. I met with the Housing Committee
14 Chair, Steve Cymbrowitz in the Assembly. I met with
15 Majority Leader Andrew Stuart Cousins and the focus
16 of those meetings was a strengthening of our rent
17 laws over the next six to seven weeks and ensuring
18 that we do not lose more rent regulated units. We
19 repealed vacancy decontrol to get rid of the vacancy
20 bonus. We eliminated MCI's and IAI's. We pushed for
21 good cause eviction and all the other bills that
22 tenants have been pushing for years. It was a very
23 good day and sadly we don't have authority because of
24 the EarthStat law over our rent laws but we do have
25 authority in this area so to use this package of

2 bills coupled with hopefully the strengthening of our
3 rent laws, will make a big difference on behalf of
4 tenants. We're in a housing crisis. We're in a
5 homelessness crisis. We have to keep people in their
6 homes and we're in the midst of an affordability
7 crisis so I am really grateful and the person who ran
8 this package of bills for us is Rob Newman, my
9 counsel, so I'm really grateful for his hard work and
10 leadership in shepherding this through after I
11 brought this to him a little more than a year ago
12 after I saw the *New York Times* story so I want to
13 thank everyone. Before we conclude today's agenda,
14 Jake Kern is leaving. He works in the Press office.
15 It is his last Stated and he has been a press
16 officer. He is moving to D. C. to get back into grad
17 school and I've known him since he was a volunteer on
18 my first campaign in 2012. He was a high school
19 student. He was an intern in my office before he
20 applied for a job here and I am really grateful for
21 everything that he's done and I want to say good
22 luck, Jake, so thank you.

23 [applause]

24 So that concludes today's agenda for
25 today's Stated meeting and I look forward to

2 proceeding with today's votes. Congratulations to
3 all my colleagues who are passing bills. Thank you
4 Madam Majority Leader.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much
6 and congratulations to all of those who have put
7 forward really impactful legislation today. We will
8 now have Communication with our General Orders and we
9 are going to begin general orders with Council Member
10 Carlina Rivera.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you so
12 much. Thank you Mr. Speaker for your leadership and
13 of course for the support of all the amazing,
14 talented central staff that you just named. We
15 honestly can't do our work as legislators if it
16 wasn't for all of you and, of course, on finalizing
17 this package of bills that focuses on protecting the
18 tenant. We have many responsibilities but one of
19 most sacred duties is, of course, to protect the
20 residents of New York City from illegal and egregious
21 behavior. As a housing organizer at [Inaudible]
22 lower east side and, of course, a tenant service
23 provider, I've heard horror story after horror story.
24 In a neighborhood like the lower east side which is
25 ravaged by gentrification with thousands displaced

2 over the years, we have seen some of the worst cases
3 when it comes to private landlords, frivolous
4 litigation, deprivation of services and most relevant
5 I think to this package is harassment and the many
6 times that construction is weaponized as harassment
7 so my bill 1278A heightens scrutiny of tenant
8 protection plans and increases enforcement of our
9 building code standards. TPP's they exist to really
10 preserve the quality of life of New Yorker's and that
11 *New York Times* article, that series from May 2018, it
12 featured a photograph in the print edition of a press
13 conference that I was at on Ridge Street where the
14 conditions were borderline unlivable and why this
15 issue is so personal to me is that that building was
16 directly across the street from the building where I
17 spent almost my entire life so this issue has become
18 incredibly important to me. I've seen my
19 neighborhood change and really, I just want to thank
20 everyone for the work. That work lead me here, right
21 to the City Council and I thank everyone for their
22 support and I thank you in advance for voting yes on
23 these 17 bills that we so desperately need. Thank
24 you.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so
3 much, Council Member Rivera. We will now move into
4 Reports of Standing Committees.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: None, oh report of the
6 Committee on Finance, preconsidered LU 405 and Reso.
7 871 through preconsidered LU 409 and Reso. 875 tax
8 exemptions.

9 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on General
10 Orders.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee
12 on Fire and Emergency Management, Intro 562A
13 Evacuation Center Information.

14 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on
15 General Orders.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee
17 on Housing and Buildings, Intro 59A through Intro
18 1533 on page 6, housing package.

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

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee
22 on Land Use LU 386 and Reso. 876 through LU 389 and
23 Reso. 879, 1921 Atlantic Avenue.

24 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on General
25 Orders.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 390, 270 Park
3 Avenue.

4 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Approved with
5 modifications and referred to the City Planning
6 Commission pursuant to Section 197-(d) of the New
7 York City Charter.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 391 and Reso. 880
9 through LU 394 and Reso. 883, Pacific Street
10 Rezoning.

11 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on General
12 Orders.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee
14 on Rules, Privileges and Elections, preconsidered
15 M161 and Reso. 884, approving the redesignation of
16 Joseph Puma, Civilian Complaint Review Board.

17 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on General
18 Orders.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered M162 and
20 Reso. 885 approving the redesignation of Nathan N.
21 Joseph, Civilian Complaint Review Board.

22 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on General
23 Orders.

24

25

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: On the General Order
3 calendar, LU 379 and Reso. 886 through LU 390 and
4 Reso. 888.

5 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on General
6 Orders.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Resolution appointing
8 various persons Commissioner of Deeds.

9 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on General
10 Orders and at this time I'm asking for a roll call
11 vote on all of the items on today's General Order
12 calendar.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Adams?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Aye on all.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ampy-Samuel?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Permission
17 to explain my vote.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
19 granted.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: I am very
21 proud of the development at 1921 Atlantic Avenue.
22 This project has really truly incorporated the voice
23 of the community in Ocean Hill and Bed Stuy and the
24 leadership at Community Board 3. This was a win for
25 everyone. Families who are homeless had an

2 opportunity to find a beautiful, safe space for their
3 families and those who are looking for affordable
4 housing and the developers also won. Their small
5 NWBE company headed by a African American woman who
6 we are very proud of. It also includes affordable
7 space for local community based organization,
8 cultural art space and an urban farmer as well as a
9 focus on access to the healthy food. Again, thank
10 you for this opportunity and I am so, so, so, so, so
11 excited about what's to come at 1921 Atlantic Avenue
12 and just briefly Intro 1277 and Intro 1241 which I
13 did sponsor, I just want to say thank you to the
14 Speaker and the whole Council on your leadership.
15 This speaks directly to this body for being
16 accountable, transparent and responsive to the needs
17 of New Yorkers. The bill expands sanctions, not just
18 to the individual but firms. There's a process for
19 reinstatement and compliance training and my favorite
20 part, a database to include the names of those who
21 have been violators and their firms. While the State
22 is doing what they have to do, I'm so glad to be a
23 part of this body and my colleagues for doing what we
24 supposed to do in this City and that's doing the
25 right thing so thank you very much.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you and
3 congratulations.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ayala?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye on all.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye on all
8 with the exception of Land Use 379, 380 and Land Use
9 391 through 394 and the accompanying Resolutions on
10 which I'm voting no and to my sister, Alicka Ampry-
11 Samuel, way to go. That's a great project,
12 congratulations.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Borelli?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Permission to
15 vote on all Land Use call ups.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
17 granted.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: I vote aye and
19 with respect to the others, I vote aye on all except
20 for 59A, 551A, 975, 1258, 1277, 1278, 1280 and M162
21 and the accompanying Resolution 885. Congratulations
22 to all the sponsors, even those that I voted against.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cabrera?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: I vote aye. I
25 want to thank the Speaker and also Chair Cornegy for

2 your support on my bill and I congratulate all my
3 colleagues. Aye on all.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Chin?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Congratulations to
7 my colleagues on the strong tenant protection bills
8 and I vote aye on all. Thank you.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Matteo?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: No on M162, 885,
11 59A, 551, 975, 1258, 1277, 1278, 1280 and aye on the
12 rest.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cohen?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Constantinides?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: I vote
17 aye.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cornegy?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Congratulations
20 to all my colleagues on this great bill, on the great
21 package of bills on tenant protections. Aye on all.

22 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Mr. Chair, you were key
23 in making it happen so thank you.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Deutsch?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Aye.

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Diaz?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Yes on all except
4 Resolution 828A. I'm voting no on that one, yes on
5 the rest. Have a good day.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Dromm?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Espinal?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: With many
10 congratulations to Alicka Ampry-Samuel for bringing
11 affordable housing into our side of the world I vote
12 aye.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Eugene?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I vote aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gibson?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: With my warmest
17 congratulations to all of my colleagues that have
18 introduced our bills related to tenant protection and
19 keeping rents affordable in our City and insuring
20 that our tenants are not harassed by unscrupulous
21 landlords, certainly many residents in my district
22 would positively be impacted by this package so I
23 want to thank our Chair of Housing and I vote aye on
24 all. Thank you.

25 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Grodenchik?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Aye.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Kallos?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: King?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: I'd like to vote
8 aye on all except for Land Use 379 and 380 and
9 congratulations to everyone who passed legislation
10 today to improve the lives of the City of New York.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Koo?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I vote aye and I
13 want to congratulate the council members who passed
14 the bills today. Thank you.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Koslowitz?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye on all.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lancman?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Aye.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lander?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Maisel?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Yes.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Menchaca?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Aye on all.

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Moya?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Aye.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Perkins?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Congratulations
6 to all whose bills have been passed. I vote aye on
7 all.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Powers?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Permission to
10 explain my vote.

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
12 granted.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Thank you, I'll
14 now talk about my project, 270 Park Avenue

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I appreciate your
16 passion.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Yeah, well I am,
18 I am proud of this project today because a few years
19 ago my predecessor in this body did a rezoning in
20 east mid-town with the intention of creating and
21 preserving jobs right here in mid-town, right there
22 in mid-town, near Grand Central, near Penn Station,
23 in a transit rich area but to also really modernize
24 an area that desperate needed new office space and be
25 able to preserve the jobs that we're trying to keep

2 here in New York City. This is the first project.
3 We're getting 14,000 plus jobs. They're gonna stay
4 here in the east mid-town in New York City. J. P.
5 Morgan considered options all around the tristate
6 area. We're getting 6,000 construction jobs, all
7 union. We're maintaining all the building service
8 workers that are working there today. They will have
9 places to work and they'll be back on site, hundreds
10 of them. \$42 million for public ground improvements
11 in mid-town around Grand Central, thousands of new
12 sidewalks and expansion space around this site and
13 much more. I'm happy with this. I want to thank my,
14 actually my predecessor Dan Grodenack [phonetic], the
15 borough president and many others who worked
16 tirelessly to rezone that area and thank you to all
17 the staff here, my staff, for their help to help get
18 this project through and to send a sign that New York
19 is always willing to embrace those who are here to
20 create jobs if they be willing and active
21 participants in our process here and I want to thank
22 J. P. Morgan for their cooperation throughout this
23 process in being a responsible company here in New
24 York City, our largest employer and today we are
25 maintaining them here for the very long future and

2 very happy with the work that we are doing here today
3 so with that, thank you, and I vote aye on all.

4 Thanks.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Reynoso?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: I vote aye on
8 all.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Richards?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye on all.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rivera?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rodriguez?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Vote aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rose?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rosenthal?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Aye.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Salamanca?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye on all.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Torres?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Aye on all.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Treyger?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Permission to
25 explain my vote.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
3 granted.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Thank you
5 Majority Leader. I want to thank Speaker Johnson and
6 my colleagues for moving Intro 562 forward for a vote
7 before the Council today. This vital piece of
8 legislation is coming forward at a critical time as
9 our planet is warming at record speed, creating
10 unpredictable and inclement weather patterns leading
11 to an increase in natural disasters. We learned from
12 the City's responses to super storm Sandy that
13 critical information like how, when and where to
14 evacuate to never trickled down to the most
15 vulnerable communities at their front lines of the
16 storm's devastation. During Sandy, my district along
17 with other coastal neighborhoods throughout the City
18 did not have adequate access to information about
19 evacuation procedures, when to go, where to go, how
20 to get there or where the nearest emergency center
21 was located. Amid the chaos and confusion, we saw
22 many high rise apartment building residents who did
23 not or could not evacuate stranded without power,
24 some time for days. As a matter of fact, 37% of
25 residents in Zone A, flood Zone A, did not evacuate

2 under mandatory evacuation orders. My bill a direct
3 response to those painful lessons learned will help
4 close a dangerous communication gap between
5 government and residents. As the impact and threat
6 of climate change grows, we must insure all New
7 Yorkers have access to this kind of critical life-
8 saving information. With Sandy there were over 285
9 fatalities, during Katrina over 1,800, with Hurricane
10 Maria over 3,000 fatalities. Emergency preparedness
11 is key to planning for future emergencies and my bill
12 expands on the safety measures necessary to
13 facilitate safe evacuations should another natural
14 disaster occur. Intro 526 will bring us a step
15 closer to this objective by mandating that apartment
16 buildings will be required to post hurricane
17 evacuation and shelter information and have it
18 available all year round, not just during or right
19 after a natural disaster and it will be accessible in
20 multiple languages as well. I thank my colleagues
21 for their support and I vote aye and congratulations
22 to all my colleagues on their great bills today.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ulrich?, Vallone?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye on all.

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Van Bramer?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye on all.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Yeger?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye on all with
6 the exception of 551, 1247 and 1257. Thank you.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cumbo?

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I vote aye.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Johnson?

11 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I vote aye on all.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Please allow for
13 a moment while we tally the votes and also we have to
14 make sure that no one else leaves at this time
15 because we are concerned about keeping quorum.

16 [pause]

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: All items on
18 today's General Order calendar are adopted by a vote
19 of 46 in the affirmative, 0 negative and 0
20 abstentions with LU's 391, 392 with accompanying
21 Resos. Give us one moment. I'll begin again, LU's
22 391, 392 with accompanying Resos which was adopted by
23 a vote of 45 in the affirmative, 1 negative and 0
24 abstentions. LU's 393, 394 with accompanying Resos,
25 45 in the affirmative, 1 negative and 0 abstentions

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2 and M162 plus Reso. 885, 44 in the affirmative, 2
3 negative and 0 abstentions, LU's 379, 380 and
4 accompanying Resos., 44 in the affirmative, 2
5 negative and 0 abstentions. Intros. 59A, 975A,
6 1258A, 1277A, 1278A, 1280A which was adopted by a
7 vote of 44 in the affirmative, 2 negative and 0
8 abstentions. Intro 551A which was adopted by a vote
9 of 43 in the affirmative, 3 negative and 0
10 abstentions. Intro 1247A which was adopted by a vote
11 of 45 in the affirmative, 1 negative and 0
12 abstentions and Intro 1257A which was adopted by a
13 vote of 45 in the affirmative, 1 negative and 0
14 abstentions. The revised Land Use call-ups vote is
15 46 affirmative and 0 negative.

16 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Introduction Reading of
17 Bills.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: We're now going
19 to move into Introduction and Reading of Bills.

20 SPEAKER JOHNSON: All bills have been
21 referred to Committees as indicated on today's
22 agenda.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: We will now move
24 into the discussion of Resolutions. Are there any
25 members who wish to speak on today's Resolutions?

2 Seeing none, I will begin with reading our first
3 Resolution onto the record.

4 An amended Resolution 828-A commending the New
5 York State Office of Court Administration for
6 promulgating rules that require a judicial warrant
7 for any civil arrest in a New York State court and
8 calling on the State Legislature to pass, and the
9 Governor to sign, the "Protect Our Courts Act"
10 (A.2176 / S.425), in order to further protect certain
11 interested parties or people from civil arrest while
12 going to, remaining at, or returning from the place
13 of such court proceeding. All in favor, say aye.

14 CITY COUNCIL: Aye.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: All opposed?
16 Abstentions? The ayes have it. Thank you and we
17 will now move into general discussion. I have on the
18 docket for general discussion beginning with Council
19 Members King, followed by Kallos, followed by Yeger.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Good afternoon all
21 and thank you Madam Majority Leader. Last week Mayor
22 Bill de Blasio announced a ban on our alcohol
23 advertising on City property, including bus shelters,
24 newsstands, phone booth, WiFi LinkNYC, kiosks and
25 recycling kiosks. Why, as the Deputy Mayor

2 [Inaudible] said, alcohol advertisement can influence
3 how much alcohol people drink and how young they are
4 when they start. This executive order closes a
5 loophole and reaffirms this administration's
6 commitment to advance policies that promote health
7 equity and build healthier communities. While I
8 applaud these efforts as well as MTA's decision in
9 2017 to ban these ads on our buses, subways, we need
10 to go a step further. As someone who is a youth
11 advocate, educator and firmly believes that our
12 children are our future as we all do believe and have
13 our own children in our household, today I introduced
14 some legislation that will amend Chapter 5 of Title
15 28 of the Administrative Code which will ban alcohol
16 advertisements within 500 feet of any school. The
17 reasons why, the same reason as the administration
18 that we need to promote equity, build healthier
19 communities and assure our boys and girls are not
20 influenced by pictures and messages designed to make
21 alcohol look cool. How often do you look at a school
22 and right across the street a bodega is advertising
23 Budweiser, Heineken in addition to the hooker bars,
24 smokes and so forth so I'm asking us all to do our
25 part and help us save our children by signing on this

2 piece of legislation that can stop advertisement and
3 can do the most harmful thing to our children, start
4 them to drinking alcohol at an early age. If we can
5 do this with City builders, if we can ban Budweiser
6 on any [Inaudible] bus stop but not stop the bodega
7 right down the street or across the street from a
8 school, then we're a failure to our schools and our
9 children that attend schools so I'm asking us all
10 today, let's be consistent and I ask you all to sign
11 on to our Intro today to make sure that we save the
12 lives of our children. Thank you.

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council
14 Member King. Council Member Kallos, again followed
15 by Council Member Yeger.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: I believe in
17 climate change. I believe it was caused by humans
18 and that we can do something about it. It's time for
19 New York City to join nearly 400 cities, districts
20 and countries across the world representing over 34
21 million people collectively that have recently
22 declared or officially acknowledged the existence of
23 a global climate emergency. Please join
24 Environmental Committee Chair Costa Costantinides and
25 I on Resolution 864 declaring a climate emergency,

2 calling for an immediate emergency mobilization to
3 restore a safe climate and continue much of the work
4 that our Environmental Committee Chair Costa has
5 already been doing with this Council in leading our
6 great nation and the world. Thank you.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
8 Council Member Yeger.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you Madam
10 President. I'd just like to briefly echo
11 Mr. Speaker's remarks earlier. Very grateful for
12 those who have expressed their condolences on the
13 passing of former member of this body, Lew Fidler.
14 As Mr. Speaker said, he was a hero to many. He was
15 my leader. He was my friend. He was my mentor. He
16 started a lot of careers in public service, including
17 my own so if anybody wants to blame him for that,
18 feel free but he was a tremendous public servant. In
19 every way he lived, he lived to serve the people and
20 even to his last moments we were speaking the day
21 before he passed away just about public service and
22 about things that I was planning and I'm gonna speak
23 about one of them right now but again I am grateful
24 for everybody here in this chamber, the extended
25 Council family and to my fellow New Yorkers for their

2 kind words over the last few days. Madam President,
3 I am introducing today Introduction 1556 along with
4 Councilman Chaim Deutsch and a number of other
5 members of this body who have already signed on.
6 This is the House of Worship Security Act and it's
7 quite simple in its application. It is structured
8 similarly to the Non-public School Safety Act that
9 was enacted a number of years ago in this body
10 sponsored by my predecessor, Councilman Greenfield
11 and what it would provide is that any house of
12 worship in this City which wishes to hire a private
13 security guard can submit for reimbursement to the
14 City of New York. What we've seen over the last
15 several months, especially over the last several
16 months, from most significantly Pittsburgh, New
17 Zealand, Sri Lanka, San Diego, too numerous to
18 mention churches all across these United States that
19 have been subject to attack. People who go to the
20 one place and Madam President, I know my clock is
21 gonna tick out, I just beg your indulgence, people
22 who go to the one place where they know that

23 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Madam Majority Leader,
24 I ask that Council Member Yeger have as much time as
25 he needs, given he spent a significant amount of time

2 talking about his friend and our former colleague,
3 for Council Member Fidler so I would ask that Council
4 Member Yeger has as much time as he wants to to
5 discuss the bill that he is introducing today.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you
7 Mr. Speaker.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Carry on.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: The one place
10 where I believe that it is universally accepted that
11 people are safe without worry behind them is in the
12 sanctuary of prayers that they attend, whatever
13 religion they are and what we've seen over the last
14 several months in particular, Jews, Christians,
15 Muslims, in their houses of worship viciously
16 attacked, targeted, people praying. This bill, if
17 enacted, would give people in our City the comfort
18 knowing that they can go into their house of worship
19 and feel safe. It's not to say that our police can't
20 protect us. It's to say that the resources of the
21 police department are limited. We know that, that
22 they can't put a police car in front of every house
23 of worship. They can't put a police officer standing
24 in front of every house of worship. It's another way
25 to look at it, an opportunity to hire a private

2 security guard and ask the taxpayers, us and the
3 people we represent to pay a little bit to get this
4 done. I would urge my colleagues to sign on to
5 Introduction 1556 to get this done for the people of
6 New York. Mr. Speaker, again thank you for your
7 indulgence, Madam President, and for allowing me to
8 express my thoughts on Lew. Thank you.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council
10 Member Yeger. We'll now go to Council Members
11 Treyger, Reynoso, and Eugene.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Thank you
13 Majority Leader and I just also want to just dedicate
14 some time to also pay tribute to my colleague and
15 friend, former Council Member Lew Fidler, who was a
16 champion for education, champion for our youth in so
17 many different ways and I just want to share with my
18 colleagues and the public that one of the last
19 messages I received from Lew Fidler was about over a
20 week ago when he messaged me. He worked for the
21 borough president and he was working on a project to
22 fund mobile showers to help homeless individuals who
23 are in need and he wanted to make sure that that was
24 advancing in the Brooklyn Delegation and in the City
25 Council. That's the type of person Lew Fidler was

2 and will always be and just to know Lew, we're gonna
3 work to make sure that that happens in this budget
4 and so our prayers and our thoughts are with his
5 beautiful family and all those impacted by this
6 tremendous loss to Brooklyn and to New York City.
7 Thank you very much.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you and
9 Council Member Reynoso.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Just want to
11 also acknowledge the work that Council Member Lew
12 Fidler did and I just want to talk about the time
13 when I had originally met him. When I was 22 years
14 old I was running to be a county committee member. I
15 was born into politics and it's where I met Lew
16 Fidler who was extremely loyal to the party leader at
17 that time and I was an insurgent, new to the game,
18 and many rules were being changed the day I went to
19 the county committee meeting and I remember
20 specifically Lew Fidler standing up and thinking a
21 lot of the changes that were being made were
22 unnecessary and unjust. A person who morally sided
23 with me, even though we were on different camps when
24 it came to the work that we were doing in county
25 committee and I've never forgotten that day when he

2 stood up and I felt like he was an ally with me at
3 that moment. Just how morally sound he was in
4 pushing issues that he thought were important so I
5 also want to make sure that we don't forget his
6 memory and the work that he did for young people but
7 for always standing up for what was right when he
8 thought there was an injustice being done so I wanted
9 to take time to just say that story because it's
10 never left my mind since I've known him and it will
11 never be forgotten even after so thank you again for
12 taking the time, for allowing me to speak on the life
13 of Lew Fidler.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you and
15 finally Council Member Eugene.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you very
17 much. I just want to take a minute or so to pay
18 tribute to former colleague, Lew Fidler. When the
19 Speaker said that Lew Fidler was a hero, a champion
20 for youth, he was right because I remember when I was
21 leading my non-for-profit organization, a youth
22 organization that was not in Lew Fidler's district,
23 the organization Youth for Education [Inaudible], I
24 went to see former Council Member Lew Fidler to ask
25 him for his support for my organization. He did

2 support my organization. He became one of the
3 strongest supporters of my organization that was not
4 in his district and that was remarkable and when I
5 became a City Council Member, I was a member of the
6 Youth Services Committee, I witnessed his dedication,
7 his love in serving young people and making sure that
8 all the young people they have the resources that
9 they need to grow up and to become positive citizens.
10 When I became the chairman of the Youth Services
11 Committee, I was also inspired by Lew Fidler and I
12 just want to take this moment or so to join my
13 colleagues and the Speaker to pay tribute to Lew
14 Fidler. Thank you very much.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council
16 Member Eugene. I just want to close out with, many
17 of you may have seen the little three year old girl
18 who was tragically murdered and I wrote a statement
19 about it and I just wanted to read it. It says the
20 African proverb says the ruin of a nation begins in
21 the homes of its people. A mother, Sharon Coleman
22 and her entire village are traumatized and forever
23 broken as they mourn the loss of their angel, Zoe.
24 While no prayers or condolences can bring her back or
25 comfort her family, we can no longer condone or

2 simply accept the killing of black women or children
3 because of the very real symptoms of the post-
4 traumatic slave syndrome that impacts all of us each
5 and every day. I am outraged, angry, saddened and
6 depressed. The most powerful way that we can
7 demonstrate that black lives matter is to show that
8 black lives matter to us, especially our babies. As
9 matriarchs all over the world are getting ready to
10 celebrate Mother's Day with their family and
11 children, this black mother deserved to celebrate
12 this holiday and special occasion with her angel.
13 Please continue to express your outrage and do not
14 accept this type of behavior as your norm. Our
15 silence equates to our acceptance and we should not
16 accept this. I do not accept this and I certainly
17 want to, as a Mom, my heart and my prayers go out to
18 this mother and her entire family and the devastation
19 that all of us must be feeling at this time. Thank
20 you and I will now call on Speaker Corey Johnson to
21 close today's meeting.

22 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I'm grateful for Lew
23 Fidler and I'm thinking of his family in the Stated
24 Meeting of March, of May 8, 2019, is hereby
25 adjourned.

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2 [gavel]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Date June 6, 2019