

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

STATED MEETING

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December 19, 2013  
Start: 02:47 p.m.  
Recess: 06:33 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers  
City Hall

B E F O R E:  
CHRISTINE C. QUINN  
Speaker for the Council  
JOEL RIVERA  
Majority Leader

COUNCIL MEMBERS:  
MARIA DEL CARMEN ARROYO  
CHARLES BARRON  
GALE A. BREWER  
FERNANDO CABRERA  
MARGARET S. CHIN  
LEROY G. COMRIE, JR.  
ELIZABETH S. CROWLEY  
INEZ E. DICKENS  
ERIK MARTIN DILAN  
DANIEL DROMM  
MATHIEU EUGENE  
JULISSA FERRERAS  
LEWIS A. FIDLER

DANIEL R. GARODNICK  
JAMES F. GENNARO  
VINCENT J. GENTILE  
VANESSA L. GIBSON  
SARA M. GONZALEZ  
DAVID G. GREENFIELD  
DANIEL J. HALLORAN III  
VINCENT M. IGNIZIO  
ROBERT JACKSON  
LETITIA JAMES  
ANDY KING  
PETER A. KOO  
G. OLIVER KOPPELL  
KAREN KOSLOWITZ  
BRAD S. LANDER  
JESSICA S. LAPPIN  
STEPHEN T. LEVIN  
MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO  
DARLENE MEALY  
ROSIE MENDEZ  
MICHAEL C. NELSON  
JAMES S. ODDO  
ANNABEL PALMA  
CHRISTINE C. QUINN  
DOMENIC M. RECCHIA, JR.  
DIANA REYNA  
DONOVAN RICHARDS  
JOEL RIVERA  
YDANIS A. RODRIGUEZ  
DEBORAH L. ROSE  
ERIC A. ULRICH  
JAMES VACCA  
PETER F. VALLONE, JR.  
JAMES G. VAN BRAMER  
ALBERT VANN  
MARK S. WEPRIN  
JUMAANE D. WILLIAMS  
ROBEN WILLS



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[gavel]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Roll call.

[background comments, pause]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Arroyo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Cabrera.

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Chin.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Comrie. Crowley.

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dickens.

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dilan.

COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dromm.

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Eugene.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ferreras.

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STATED MEETING

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Fidler.

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gibson.

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Garodnick.

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gennaro.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gentile.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gonzalez.

COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Greenfield.

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Halloran. Ignizio.

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Jackson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: James.

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: King.

COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Koo.

STATED MEETING

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.  
3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Koppell.  
4 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Here.  
5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Koslowitz.  
6 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.  
7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lander.  
8 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.  
9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lappin.  
10 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Here.  
11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Levin.  
12 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.  
13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mark-Viverito. Mealy.  
14 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Present.  
15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mendez.  
16 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.  
17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Nelson.  
18 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Here.  
19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Palma.  
20 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Here.  
21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Recchia.  
22 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: For the last  
23 time; here.  
24 [laughter, collective "aww", applause]  
25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Reyna.

STATED MEETING

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Here.  
3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Richards.  
4 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Present.  
5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rodriguez.  
6 COUNCIL MEMBER RORIGUEZ: Here.  
7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rose.  
8 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.  
9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ulrich. Vacca.  
10 Vallone.  
11 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Almost no  
12 longer here.  
13 UNKNONW MALE: Van Bramer.  
14 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.  
15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Vann.  
16 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Here.  
17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Weprin.  
18 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Here.  
19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Williams.  
20 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.  
21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Wills. Oddo. Rivera.  
22 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Here.  
23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Quinn.  
24 SPEAKER QUINN: Here.  
25 CORMINGE [sp?] present.

[pause]

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: My colleagues please rise for the invocation being delivered today by Reverend Joseph Tolton.

REVEREND TOLTON: The peace of God be with you today. God of grace and God of mercy we recognize, acknowledge, and embrace your majesty. God who is sovereign we solute your diverse manifestations and celebrate each of your majestic names. Throughout this year these public servants have made a deep and wide investment of their total being in developing policies that would strengthen the lives of New Yorkers. And on this day I pray God that you reward each of them personally. In 2013 these public servants have fought for better more productive public schools that our children may be educated and prepared to thrive in our global village driven by innovation. God I pray that in return you will impart onto each of them a new creative and inspired idea as they prepare for what their individual next chapter will be. These public servants have fought for better wages for labor, opportunities for the middle class, and prosperity in our small and corporate business



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2 communities. In return I pray God that there would  
3 be no lack in their lives. May their cupboards be  
4 filled and may they be blessed with abundance for  
5 their service. This year these public servants have  
6 fought for fair policing practices that uphold the  
7 civil rights of every New Yorker. I pray God that  
8 in return you bless them with divine protection.  
9 These public servants this year have maintained  
10 diligence in the need for gay, lesbian, bisexual,  
11 and transgender New Yorkers to be safe as we live  
12 our truth without shame. In return I pray God that  
13 in the marriages, unions, relationships, and  
14 covenants of these public servants that there might  
15 be joy, peace, stability, and fulfilment. Every  
16 individual within this body of organizers has said  
17 yes to the awesome call and challenge of public  
18 service. For their courage and commitment I pray  
19 God that you promote each one of them and take them  
20 to the next level in every dimension of their  
21 lives. This I pray in the name of all that is good.  
22 Amen.

23 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you very  
24 much. Council Member Brewer.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I move to spread  
3 the invocation by Reverend Tolton in full upon the  
4 record and I just want to thank the reverend, the  
5 location where he preaches he's phenomenal and the  
6 building was landmarked many years ago. It is the  
7 home of a wonderful food pantry, a church, a  
8 synagogue, a theatre, and it's very telling and  
9 very appropriate that this wonderful reverend will  
10 be part of such a phenomenal institution. Thank you  
11 very much.

12 SPEAKER QUINN: If I could call on  
13 Council Member Mendez.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Thank you Madam  
15 Speaker. Angeline Theresa DiFiore known to family  
16 and friends as Terry was a Brooklyn kid born on  
17 January 15<sup>th</sup>, 1949 in a hospital on Washington  
18 Avenue not far from the Brooklyn Museum. She used  
19 to say she went four blocks to the right to grade  
20 school, four blocks to the left to high school, and  
21 15 blocks to college, Brooklyn College of course.  
22 Other than to travel she left Brooklyn for only  
23 three years when her family moved to Long Island.  
24 As soon as she could she moved right back to  
25 Brooklyn. Terry didn't know from the woman's

1 movement although she grew up on the cusp of it and  
2 lived right through it. But she broke glass  
3 ceilings all over the place. She was a girl playing  
4 basketball with the guys at Farragut Park. She was  
5 one of the top female referees of woman's high  
6 school and college basketball. She was the second  
7 woman code inspector hired at HPD and they gave the  
8 girl the village so that they would keep her safe.  
9 I've been told that Tony Clipman's[phonetic]  
10 favorite, she was Tony Clipman's[phonetic] favorite  
11 inspector. She rose to be Deputy Chief Inspector of  
12 Manhattan before she moved to HPD's division of  
13 alternative management programs. At DAMP where she  
14 realized she had to fight to get the vacant  
15 position of Director of Till Tech over men who had  
16 been there longer. She did and she got the  
17 position. After she left HPD in 1996 she consulted  
18 as a construction manager for several years,  
19 another nontraditional job for a woman. And finally  
20 using the site safety manager license that she had  
21 earned in the early 1990s she worked to keep  
22 construction jobs sites safe for workers and the  
23 general public by ensuring that construction was  
24 done following the rules and regulations of the  
25

1 federal occupational safety and health  
2 administration yet another nontraditional job for a  
3 woman. Last week Terry lost her battle with PSP,  
4 progressive supranuclear palsy. It is a rare brain  
5 disorder that causes serious and progressive  
6 problems with control of gait and balance and  
7 thinking problems. It is a debilitating disease.  
8 Terry is survived by Sandra Abramsom her wife of  
9 two years and her partner for 15 years prior to New  
10 York state passing the Same Sex Marriage Act. Sandy  
11 hired me in my first full time job as a tenant  
12 organizer of St. Nicholas neighbor preservation  
13 corporation in Brooklyn. I've met a lot of  
14 incredible out individuals in the housing and  
15 tenant rights movement and I am a better person  
16 because of all of them. So to those of you who are  
17 still here Sandy Abramsom, Sully  
18 Rollen[phonetic], Harriet Cohen, Michael McKee,  
19 Margarita Lopez, and Christine Quinn thank you. And  
20 like Terry you all continue to break glass  
21 ceilings. And for you Terry, thank you for making  
22 Sandy so happy. God speed. Keep an eye on us and we  
23 promise to keep an eye on Sandy for you. Thank you.  
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STATED MEETING

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. If I could ask everyone to stand for a moment please.

[pause]

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you Madam Speaker we now move on to adoption of the minutes. Council Member Weprin.

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Thank you Mr. Chair. I move that the minutes of the stated meeting of November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013 be adopted as printed.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So ordered. Messages and papers from the Mayor?

COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Communications from city, county, and borough offices?

COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Communication from City, County, and Borough Offices?

COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Petitions and Communications?

COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

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STATED MEETING

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Land Use Call-Ups?

COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Communication from the Speaker.

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. Let me first recognize that we have family members with us today. We have members of Mike Nelson's family up here in the front; his daughter and wife.

[applause]

SPEAKER QUINN: So we want to thank them very much for being with us. In the back we have someone who has been an inspiration not just to Council Member Jim Gennaro but to many of us in her valiant struggles and an inspiration in much of the tobacco control legislation we've done. They both have been. Jim Gennaro's wonderful wife Joann and his beautiful daughter Christina.

[applause]

SPEAKER QUINN: So thank you for being here and thank you for all of your inspiration. Before I talk about each in great detail of the 26 pieces of legislation we're passing today no I'm only kidding. But we are passing 26 pieces of

1  
2 legislation today which for council historians like  
3 Garry Allman is a record. This is the most pieces  
4 of legislation passed in any one council meeting in  
5 the city council's history.

6 [applause]

7 SPEAKER QUINN: This year is also the  
8 year in which this city council passed more bills  
9 than any city council ever has in one year. So  
10 those are two things to be proud of.

11 [applause]

12 SPEAKER QUINN: But obviously this is  
13 the last stated council meeting for myself, shhh,  
14 and a number of city, other city council members.  
15 And I just want to take a moment to mention some  
16 things about the council members who will not be  
17 returning and then open it up to other council  
18 members and then I'll say a few words and we'll  
19 move on to legislation. First this is going in  
20 numerical order so there is no Manhattan bias but  
21 in district 5 Council Member Jessica Lappin and I  
22 think many of us have known Jessica for a long time  
23 since she started off as a staff member here for  
24 the former speaker. She has been a very strong  
25 chair of our aging committee. She pushed forward

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2 the silver alert system, fought to get changes made  
3 on the city and state level for senior adult  
4 daycare centers, places that were really abusing  
5 seniors and their families, fought not only to get  
6 senior money back in the budget but to get it  
7 expanded last year, the only thing to be expanded.  
8 And on top of that created five new schools in her  
9 district. So congratulations Council Member Lappin.

10 [applause]

11 SPEAKER QUINN: Our Manhattan Borough  
12 President Elect is an exiting Council Member Gale  
13 Brewer who is presently the chair of our Gov. Ops.  
14 Committee but kind of the creator and mother of our  
15 Technology Committee. And there are too many  
16 technological advances and in transparency,  
17 technological advances to highlight but Gale thank  
18 you for all of them and I think even at two stated  
19 meetings ago you said you were excited about one of  
20 them which is quite an accomplishment when it comes  
21 to legislation. In the 7<sup>th</sup> district Council Member  
22 Robert Jackson who is chair of our Education  
23 Committee and the co-chair of the black, latino,  
24 and Asian Caucus. And they always say you know just  
25 don't talk the talk, walk the walk. Nobody



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2 opitimizes that better having walked to Albany for  
3 our children and been just as doggit and focused  
4 every day in the council for our public school  
5 children is Robert Jackson.

6 [applause]

7 SPEAKER QUINN: So congratulations  
8 Robert. In the Bronx we have Council Member Oliver  
9 Koppell the chair of our Mental Health Committee.  
10 It was a very strong advocate in the budget to make  
11 sure that funding for people with mental health  
12 challenges was never fogotton. He is the author of  
13 our fire safey bill as well as many pieces of  
14 legislation in Albany and having been a former  
15 assembly member and former attorney general Oliver  
16 was always very helpful in the democratic caucus  
17 giving us... he's not here, much perspective. So  
18 we'll tell him we talked nice about him when he  
19 wasn't here. Our majority leader from district 15  
20 in the Bronx Joel Rivera.

21 [applause]

22 SPEAKER QUINN: He, when elected to the  
23 council was the youngest person ever elected at 22  
24 years of age. He, when he was chair of our Health  
25 Committee he helped move the transfat ban along

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2 with Council Member Vallone and others and calorie  
3 labeling in New York City restaurants as well as  
4 working with Jim more recently on raising the age  
5 to purchase tobacco in New York. So Joel  
6 congratulations and thank you. In Queens in  
7 district 19 Council Member Halloran. Dan has had a,  
8 a long record of service in the council, the police  
9 department, the fire department, OMB, and as an  
10 eagle scout so we wish Dan the best of luck.

11 [applause]

12 SPEAKER QUINN: The council will be  
13 without a Peter Vallone but we will have a Vallone  
14 soon and want to thank Council Member Peter Vallone  
15 Jr. who has been the long time chair of our Public  
16 Safety Committee. He was one of the leaders in the  
17 fight to keep the 9/11 terror trials out of New  
18 York City. He's the author of a law that makes it  
19 illegal to sell graffiti tools to minors and many  
20 other anti-graffiti efforts. We know that's been a  
21 personal passion for Council Member Vallone. So  
22 thank you very much.

23 [applause]

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STATED MEETING

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SPEAKER QUINN: Jim Gennaro, the chair of our Environmental Protection Committee and I think it's fair to say... [interpose]

[applause]

SPEAKER QUINN: There is no elected official in the history of the city of New York who knows as much or has done as much to protect the environment of New York City and the planet as Jim Gennaro has done and we've been lucky to have been led by you in those efforts.

[applause]

SPEAKER QUINN: We don't know if his oil and whatever that crazy magazine you were in, those cover, you know centerfold days will continue but we will watch them. In district 27 Council Member Leroy Comrie Jr. most recently the chair of our Land Use Committee, the Deputy Majority, the Chair of the Queens Delegation... [interpose]

[applause]

SPEAKER QUINN: Leroy is, has been appointed and will soon be the Deputy Borough President of Queens.

[applause]

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2                   SPEAKER QUINN: And as that applause  
3 indicates Leroy is one of the nicest sweetest  
4 people you ever got the ability to work with any of  
5 us, a fellow Leo and he and I spoke our own  
6 language in leadership. When Leroy didn't like  
7 something he'd go; [grunt] and somebody just say is  
8 that a one grunt or a two grunt how much you hate  
9 this legislation. And he always helped us work it  
10 out. So thank you very very much Leroy. In Brooklyn  
11 in the 34<sup>th</sup> district Council Member Diana Reyna who  
12 is... [interpose]

13                   [applause]

14                   SPEAKER QUINN: ...the chair of our Small  
15 Business Committee. She has focused on ways to  
16 advocate and help the 220 thousand small businesses  
17 in our city. She has been one of the loudest and  
18 strongest voices for real affordable housing in  
19 Brooklyn. She has been unwavering in her efforts  
20 around minority and women owned businesses and to  
21 reduce solid waste and have fair, just solid waste  
22 plans. And I know she didn't finish everything she  
23 wanted to do on that so those of you who are  
24 returning save Diana a seat because watch out she  
25 just said she's coming back on that issue. And I

1  
2 will help in any way I can Diane. Council Member  
3 Tish James our Public Advocate Elect who...

4 [interpose]

5 [applause]

6 SPEAKER QUINN: ...this, this was a  
7 seamless transition. She is the chair speaking of  
8 sanitation of our Sanitation and Solid Waste  
9 Committee. She was the lead sponsor of the safe  
10 housing law which I've spoken much about what I  
11 think is really one of the greatest accomplishments  
12 of the city council. She was also the former chair  
13 of our Contracts Committee and no one will ever  
14 forget Tish at the oversight hearing on the snow  
15 storm. And I will leave that at that. At district  
16 36 Al Vann the chair of Community Development  
17 Committee.

18 [applause]

19 SPEAKER QUINN: He is, he is our  
20 majority whip. He's a public school teacher, long  
21 time member of the assembly. He served as an  
22 elected official in one capacity or another for 40  
23 years in, as chair of our Community Development  
24 Committee and in all of his work he's focused most  
25 significantly on helping low income New Yorkers and

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reducing poverty in our city and empowering people.

And Al... [interpose]

[applause]

SPEAKER QUINN: I just want to say you are somebody who has lived a life of service to this city. You're a role model for all of us. And I know you inspire and give all of us courage because you have stood up not just when it was easy but when it was hard and really dangerous and at times put your life on the line. So thank you Al for changing this city for us.

[applause]

SPEAKER QUINN: In district 37 someone who didn't think he would quite as busy as he was when he said yes to chairing Housing and Buildings. His name's Eric Martin Dilan. And in that capacity he's worked to create housing laws and policies that empower tenants but are fair to owners. He's gone through many construction related issues very effectively with Council Member Lappin. They took on the issue of cranes when they were in enormous danger in the City of New York. And that was not easy but both of them together made an enormous difference to make building safe in the city of New

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York. So Eric thank you for always keeping up with one of the busiest agendas ever. Council Member Sara Gonzalez.

[applause]

SPEAKER QUINN: Sara is the chair of our Juvenile Justice Committee and I just want to make note that in addition to being a sponser of extending rent stabilization and fighting very hard for literacy programs when they were mergers around agencies that take care of juvenile offenders. Not necessarily a group that has a lot of advocates. No one was more focused on the details and making sure that those young people got the attention and care they could to start their lives over and Sara you really were a voice for those children when no one was really watching out for them. So thank you Sara.

[applause]

SPEAKER QUINN: The shrinking violin of the New York City Council Charles Barron.

[applause]

SPEAKER QUINN: Charles, oh get your fingers out of your ears. Charles you are somebody who is true to your convictions, has the courage

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of his convicitons, certainly not afraid to stand alone, and is loud and strong and clear for the issues, the communities, and the things that you believe in. And thank you for always being that in every Stated Council meeting.

[applause]

SPEAKER QUINN: And no I don't care how much you beg you can't take Thomas Jefferson statue home.

[laughter]

SPEAKER QUINN: I don't care what you say. The chair of our Youth Services Committee Lou Fidler and Assistant Majority Leader.

[applause]

SPEAKER QUINN: There's a lot of accomplishments we could mention as it relates to Council Member Fidler but I know that the one nearest and dearest to his heart is the funding that was just baselined for runaway and homeless youth in the city's budget. That program...

[interpose]

[applause]

SPEAKER QUINN: ...exists and is now baselined and those children have places to sleep



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2 because Lou stood up for them. And I am always very  
3 fond of telling folks that it was not a member of  
4 the LGBT Caucus who got that program established  
5 for homeless and runaway and LGBT youth or fought  
6 the hardest for it but it was and is Lou Fidler and  
7 I think that speaks volumes. So thank you very much  
8 Lou.

9 [applause]

10 SPEAKER QUINN: It's so great that  
11 Mike's family is with us today. Mike Nelson someone  
12 Mike, Jimmy, and I were elected on the same day in  
13 1999. Mike is chair of the Civil Service and Labor  
14 Committee and also the Jewish Caucus. He has been a  
15 tremendous advocate for better local preventive  
16 health care from flu shots to mammograms to blood  
17 drives. He was also chair of our Waterfront  
18 Committee and fought hard for access to the  
19 waterfront and to make sure we had a real plan for  
20 how to develop the waterfront and he's also focused  
21 on legislation to bring real penalties to  
22 architects and engineers who's falsely certified  
23 building plans which is very dangerous. Thanks. So  
24 thank you so much Mike.

25 [applause]

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: And in district 47  
3 Council Member Domenic M. Recchia, Jr.

4 [applause]

5 SPEAKER QUINN: I don't know...

6 [interpose]

7 [applause]

8 SPEAKER QUINN: I don't... [interpose]

9 [applause]

10 SPEAKER QUINN: I don't know how many  
11 other people in this room have more than one  
12 Domenic Recchia in their life but none the less his  
13 message is always Council Member Domenic M. Recchia  
14 Jr., not to be confused with your other friend  
15 Domenic Z. Recchia the 3<sup>rd</sup> but... And Domenic has  
16 been our culturer. He's been our finance chair. In  
17 the past couple of budgets when we've had to wait  
18 those extra day or so that's because we sent  
19 Domenic in to fight for that last bit of money the  
20 administration didn't know that they wanted to give  
21 either to CASA or to school aids or other important  
22 programs. He's brought his experience as a school  
23 board member to making our work on behalf of  
24 schools a million times better and more  
25 comprehensive. I think even the other members who's

1  
2 districts were hard hit by Sandy would agree that  
3 nobody was out there more, nobody through their  
4 heart and soul into it more than Domenic Recchia in  
5 his district. In fact the million dollar drive that  
6 brought backpacks and, and, and markers and pens  
7 and notebooks to children who lost those in their  
8 schools or homes during the storm was because of  
9 Domenic's advocacy. A couple of years ago the  
10 effort to fix the mistake made by the Department of  
11 Finance in assessments was led by Domenic. And  
12 Domenic I, I know everyone will agree with this.  
13 Whether it's fighting for Coney Island, fighting  
14 for seniors, fighting for Staten Island, fighting  
15 for cultural institutions or libraries nobody,  
16 nobody puts more heart into the fight than Domenic  
17 M. Recchia, Jr. So... [interpose]

18 [applause]

19 SPEAKER QUINN: And last but not least  
20 and I want to recognize that his fiancé Kim  
21 Peterson is here with us. So let's hear it for Kim,  
22 oh there's Kim. Carrie was blocking her is our  
23 minority leader Jimmy Oddo. Jimmy, Mike, and I...  
24 [interpose]

25 [applause]

1  
2           SPEAKER QUINN: Jimmy, Mike, and I were  
3 elected on the same day February 16<sup>th</sup> in 1999.  
4 Jimmy and I worked as staff members together, were  
5 on the Health Committee together before I was chair  
6 and when I was chair. We had some of our most, I  
7 think if I do say so myself memorable Health  
8 Committee hearings in those days where we  
9 adjourned, kicked commissioners out of the room,  
10 made them come back, made them swear that they had  
11 not told the truth earlier in the hearing and then,  
12 and on and on. I won't go through all the details.  
13 But Jimmy is somebody who probably as much if not  
14 more than me loves this institution, believes in  
15 its power, knows the difference that we can make in  
16 the lives of New Yorkers, someone who has made sure  
17 the issues of his district whether it was traffic  
18 or women not having access to mammograms, or the  
19 high rate of breast cancer, or school children in  
20 non-public schools not being able to go to school  
21 because there wasn't nurses or the need for real  
22 parks and real schools and real affordable housing.  
23 Well those are all of the issues that Jimmy has  
24 championed as a Council Member. It's the ones he  
25 will fight for as Borough President. I don't think

1  
2 the Mets will do any better just because you're  
3 Borough President but let me tell you. You know  
4 people have often, sometimes called Staten Island  
5 the forgotten borough which I don't, I know isn't  
6 true from my persepective but there is no way that  
7 will ever be true when Jimmy becomes the Staten  
8 Island Borough President. I just want to say you  
9 know during, there's a lot 9,000 you know million  
10 stories I can tell about Jimmy Oddo but the one in  
11 some ways that's most, one of the ones that's most  
12 pointent for me is during hurricane Sandy Jimmy  
13 literally leaving his house, getting in his truck  
14 which you, we say like it's an emergency vehicle,  
15 it's just a jeep yeah and driving to a friend's  
16 house because they were in the attic and didn't  
17 know if they were going to survive. And when Jimmy  
18 told me he was going to do that. I didn't know if  
19 Jimmy was going to make it there and back. When we  
20 discussed him calling his friend back and saying go  
21 in the kitchen and get the biggest knife you can  
22 find so if they have to cut their way out of the  
23 attic into the roof they have something. It was  
24 really heroism and Jimmy I just want to thank you  
25

1  
2 for that heroism that day and every day on the New  
3 York City Council. So that is... [interpose]

4 [applause]

5 SPEAKER QUINN: Okay. So that is from,  
6 through all five boroughs or exiting Council  
7 Members. Let me next call on Fernando Cabrera and  
8 then any other Council Members that want to say  
9 anything and then I will come back for a few words  
10 and then we will move on to legislation. Thank you.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Thank you so  
12 much Madam Speaker. As the co-chair of the Black,  
13 Latino, Asian Caucus I first want to give you  
14 thanks for all your support. And today I rise.

15 [laughter]

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: And I'm going  
17 to ask all of the members of the Black, Latino,  
18 Asian Caucus if you could stand with me because I  
19 want to take a moment to honor our co-chair of the  
20 Black, Latino, Asian Caucus, Robert Jackson.

21 [applause]

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: We want to  
23 honor you and thank you for seven years of  
24 exceptional service as, as the Black, Latino, Asian  
25 Caucus co-chair. Committees that you served, you

1  
2 were the chair, you still the chair of the  
3 Education Committee, Contracts, and also you're  
4 serve in the Contracts, Finance, Housing and  
5 Building, Land Use, and Zoning and Franchises,  
6 Rules, Privilege and Elections, Sanitation and  
7 Solid Waste Management, and Standards and Ethics.  
8 Hallmarks of your co-chairmanship includes campaign  
9 for fiscal equity, labor, "stop, question, and  
10 frisk" policy reform, justice for Central Park 5,  
11 African Burial Ground Museum, minority and woman  
12 owned business enterprises, right to worship, solid  
13 waste management plan, immigrant justice at ICE,  
14 FDNY diversity, living wage, five borough taxi  
15 plan, jobs to build on. We thank you for all of the  
16 work that you have done. We honor you. And we're  
17 looking forward to seeing what you're going to do  
18 next in the future. God bless you.

19 [applause]

20 ROBERT JACKSON: I'm, I'm honored and to  
21 serve all of you and as a co-chair of the Black,  
22 Latino, and Asian Caucus for the past eight years.  
23 You know you can't do it by yourself. There's 27 of  
24 us that work together along with all of the staff  
25 and, and members of the city council in order to

1  
2 try to do the best we can. Had only for the people  
3 that we represent which are majority black, Latino,  
4 and Asian but for all people of New York City. And  
5 I thank you very much. I'm humbled.

6 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Next we have  
7 Council Member Levin followed by Council Member  
8 Oddo. Or no, I'm sorry. Actually we have Council  
9 Member Rubin Wills first sorry.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Mr. Majority  
11 Leader I ask for permission to vote on all of Land  
12 Use Callups on General Order Calenders.

13 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPOR: So ordered.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Thank you. I vote  
15 aye on all.

16 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Now we have  
17 Council Member Levin followed by Council Member  
18 Oddo.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Mr. Majority  
20 Leader... [interpose]

21 SPEAKER QUINN: Let's just hold for a  
22 minute just till we finish the pictures so, and  
23 then, so we don't miss anybody.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Okay Madam  
25 Speaker.



1  
2           SPEAKER QUINN: No problem.

3           [pause]

4           SPEAKER QUINN: Great. Oh Rose. Here  
5 comes Rosie.

6           [background comments, pause]

7           SPEAKER QUINN: Great! Yay!

8           [applause]

9           SPEAKER QUINN: Council Member Levin.

10           COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you Madam  
11 Speaker and Mr. Majority Leader. I just wanted to  
12 take a moment to, to offer my, my deepest thanks to  
13 all of the members for whom this is your last  
14 stated meeting. And I want to thank you Madam  
15 Speaker and all of my colleagues for teaching me  
16 what it means to be an elected official, what it  
17 means to serve our constituents, the citizens of  
18 the city of New York honorably and honestly and,  
19 and to fight for the things that matter. And I want  
20 to just truly acknowledge your work and, and thank  
21 you for, for what you have taught me. In particular  
22 I want to thank Speaker Quinn for your leadership  
23 and, and for keeping all of us on the right, on the  
24 right track and, and telling, you know giving us  
25 great, great guidance. And I also want to

1  
2 acknowledge two colleagues in particular Dominic  
3 Recchia and Eric Dilan who have really served as  
4 big brothers to me and have, have taken me through  
5 this, through this, this, these past four years in  
6 a way that, that I will never forget. So I want to  
7 thank you all very very much and I will, I will  
8 truly miss you. Thank you.

9 [applause]

10 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you very  
11 much Council Member and Minority Leader Jimmy Oddo.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: I, I hope my  
13 colleagues don't mind if I take a few moments to  
14 sort of reminis a little bit. I know it's probably  
15 not hard for you to imagine that even as a kid I  
16 was kind of wound a little tightly and was pretty  
17 intense and had a chip on my shoulder. In my little  
18 sort of big fish in a small pond at St. Darthy's  
19 was a little bit of a tough guy. So at our  
20 graduation after spending nine years with my  
21 classmates when I started to cry, actually started  
22 to bawl my eyes out my classmates were shocked and  
23 they started to cry and the parents saw all of us  
24 crying and they started to cry. And I, I don't want  
25 to have a Brett Farve moment here but... [interpose]

[laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: I just, I've been here for 22 years, first seven as a staffer and then 15 as a member. And it's, it's been the blessing of my life. And I've been thinking about how I could capture and explain to each and every one of you what this has been like and, and show my appreciation and I keep coming back to one story. And it's, it's kind of difficult. From the moment I was a staffer I always found stated meetings to be just this adrenaline rush. It's always been such a great day here. The energy, the protest, the press conferences, and even when I was a staffer I use to bounce in and out of this building and I use to say to Connie Tininey[phonetic], the great Connie Tininey[phonetic] let me see what kind of trouble I could find. And one stated council meeting ten years ago for some reason I didn't do that and I spent most of the day, most of the morning in my office. And when it was time to come on the floor instead of making the left outside of the minority leader's office and coming straight into chambers I made a right and I took the long way down, went down the stairs, went past room nine saw our friend

1  
2 Jeff Rhoda just sitting on the bench. I remember  
3 slapping him in his knee and I walked past a few  
4 steps and I heard rat-a-tat-tat and it was a  
5 fraction of a second but you try to process and I,  
6 it sounded to me like when you have folding chairs  
7 and they slide and they hit one after another. And  
8 the next image I have in my mind is being down the  
9 hall with the door in front of me heading to the  
10 basement. Survival instinct takes over. I was going  
11 to get out of there and get to safety. And then the  
12 next thing I know I was running up the stairs to  
13 where that noise came from to those glass doors  
14 over there. And I, Karl always yells at me that I  
15 was, I opened the door and was yelling at Speaker  
16 Miller to get out and he was telling him stay down.  
17 I tell you this story not because I think it's  
18 particularly heroic I tell you this story because I  
19 did what each and every one of you would have done  
20 if someone came into your home and was threatening  
21 your family. And that's the gift that you all have  
22 given me. I never had hatred in my heart but I had  
23 my fair share of ignorance and you guys have  
24 stripped that from me. And I come from a place, I  
25 had a great childhood, but I came from a place that

1  
2 I looked like everyone, everyone looked like me, I  
3 sounded like everyone, everyone sounded like me.  
4 And I walk out of here and some of the people I'm  
5 closes to aren't white, aren't catholic, aren't  
6 straight. And you've taught me to be a better  
7 person. And for all the frustrating moments I've  
8 had in this body what you all have given me is a,  
9 an absolute gift. And I hope in my next chapter in  
10 my life there's somebody that I work with, with the  
11 energy of RJ. I hope I get to work with people who  
12 are as inherently good human beings as Leroy Comrie  
13 and Annabel Palma. I hope I work with people who  
14 have the passion of Jimmy Gennaro. I hope I have a  
15 friend who I could go to whose advice is always  
16 sound who I respect immensely who I can speak to  
17 about the most serious things and then in a dime  
18 switch and talk about rotisserie baseball like Lou  
19 Fidler. I hope I have someone who challenges how I  
20 think the way Charles Barron did. And I will close  
21 my thank you's with two people. To my best friend  
22 in this body the cosiment team player, a person who  
23 made this job even more fun when it was fun and  
24 made it bearable when it was unbearable. That's  
25 Vinny Ignizio. And to Christine Quinn and my friend

1  
2 for 20 years. For 14 months I had to hear every one  
3 of your faults and everyone of your weaknesses on  
4 the radio, on TV, and in person. And I want you to  
5 know that you are smart, you are funny, you are  
6 good. And my only wish for anyone in this body is  
7 for them to have had the blessing of being your  
8 friend as you have given to me. And I know you have  
9 great things ahead. And I want to thank you for  
10 everything you've done for my district. And I want  
11 to thank you for making me a better person. So God  
12 bless each and every one of you.

13 [applause]

14 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Council Member  
15 Rodriguez is next.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: First of all  
17 I would like to say Happy Holiday to everyone and  
18 thank you all my colleague for allowing me to do a  
19 lot of things together. One thing that I know we  
20 all have learned is always do the right thing so  
21 that we can go to sleep in peace and wake up in  
22 peace. Second I would like to ask permission to  
23 vote aye on Land Use and all general orders.

24 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: I vote aye.

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Okay thank you.

We now move on to Council Member Jackson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you. My colleagues I rise in order to say thank you for the... [interpose]

[background comments]

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: ...the member that says my colleagues I rise. So you guys are going to miss that.

[laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: But so I am so pleased and blessed and I thank all of you for my service of 12 years and I've had fun, it's been a lot of fun and I've enjoyed every minute of it. I say to you that I thank you for all of the staff that have your years of experience and understanding in dealing with all of the issues and concerns. And Madam Speaker I say to you that too many committees that I was on, I was on eight different committees, I was co-chair of the Black, Latino, and Asian Caucus, I represented the Caucus on the budget negotiating team and I tell people in my district that I spent 95 percent of my time here at city hall representing them and representing the

1  
2 people of the city of New York. And it's important  
3 to note though that this is just another chapter in  
4 our lives. And moving forward and we look back and  
5 reflect on all of the friendships and all of you,  
6 all of you my colleagues and I'm going to turn to  
7 you, you're all my brothers and sisters. And I  
8 really mean that from the bottom of my heart. And  
9 to give you an example of that and I tell that to  
10 other people is because I've given blood, I've  
11 given plasma, I'm registered in the bone marrow  
12 bank, and I'm registered that if I am brain dead I  
13 will give my organs to help other people to live.  
14 And when someone does that they are truly from a  
15 human being point of view we're all brothers and  
16 sisters. And I love you all. Believe me even it's  
17 the ones that I'd wrestled with and fought with  
18 and what have you so forth. But I think positive in  
19 that things will work out. And Christine Quinn let  
20 me just say that we didn't agree all the time but  
21 you are a leader. Regardless of what some of the  
22 people may say from a negative point of view you  
23 are a leader, you have stood up, and you stood  
24 tall. And as far as my relationship with you as the  
25 leader of this body and as a member of the City



1  
2 Council I thank you. My district thanks you. And I  
3 remember one thing reflecting when several years  
4 ago when the mayor was going to layoff 6,000  
5 teachers and about 27 members of this body signed a  
6 pledge that we would not pass the city's budget  
7 unless the money was restored. And I pleaded with  
8 my colleagues on this floor that if you sign that  
9 pledge please stand up now and 20 out of 27 members  
10 stood up tall with me. That sent a message to this  
11 administration and to you Madam Speaker that we  
12 were serious about taking care of business. And  
13 under your leadership 120 million dollars was  
14 restored and there was no layoff of any educators  
15 in the City of New York. I thank you on all, behalf  
16 of all those people.

17 [applause]

18 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: And let me just  
19 say to Chuck, Ramone, and all of the staff, Rob  
20 Newman all of you. You do a fantastic job on behalf  
21 of all of the members.

22 [applause]

23 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Some members  
24 may think differently but the majority of them know  
25

1  
2 the tough work that you do 24 hours a day on behalf  
3 of the members, 51 members of this body.

4 [applause]

5 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: And whoever,  
6 whoever the next speaker is I would hope that they  
7 know that the years of institutional memory that  
8 this staff has is for the betterment for the people  
9 of the City of New York. Let me thank a couple of  
10 people personally. I have 11 staff members on my  
11 immediate staff; Joanna Garcia, my chief of staff,  
12 David Adorno, my legislative and budget director,  
13 Chioma Ohakam, Coordinator of Scheduling and  
14 Planning, Francis O'Connor, my public relations and  
15 media person, Darial Quinsec[phonetic] is my policy  
16 analyst and legislative analyst. And then my  
17 community staff; Juan Rosa, my director of  
18 community affairs, Sara Mortgage[phonetic], my  
19 executive assistant, Martin Collins, my senior  
20 community liaison, Elizabeth Pyanno[phonetic],  
21 Shelly Williams, and Hyel Sanchez[phonetic]. Those  
22 are the ones when I was spending 95 percent of my  
23 time here at city hall taking care of the business  
24 of the constituents that we represent in Northern  
25 Manhattan. And so also the Education Committee

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staff; Asia Schanberg, Jan Atwell, Joan Pavoni[phonetic]... [interpose]

[applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Regina Poreda Ryan, Cristina Parodi, San Miguel let me thank all of you because you were fighting to make sure that this body represented by our speaker and all of us was fighting on behalf of the 1.1 million children of New York City. So I thank you on behalf of the million children that we represent. But also with the land use staff; Gale Benjamin, finance staffs... [interpose]

[applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: ...Preston Niblack. And the legal, the legal staff. Let me thank all of you and I can't mention everyone's name but I say to all of you, you are an integral part of this body that make it work. Jeff and everyone. And I can't mention all of the names but all of you. You act as one on behalf of all of us and on behalf of all of my colleagues we love you all. God bless you.

[applause]

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: We wish you the  
3 best next year and beyond to you and your families.  
4 Thank you very much.

5 [applause]

6 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you very  
7 much. We have Council Member Julissa Ferreras.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: And I have to  
9 follow that. I just want to say thank you. It's  
10 been an amazing experience working with many of  
11 you. And I just wanted to thank everyone for  
12 helping us making the dinner caucus an amazing time  
13 here. So thank you. And I'm going to return to my  
14 newborn. So with permission I'd like to vote aye on  
15 all call-ups and permission on all general orders.

16 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Thank you.

18 [applause]

19 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Next we have  
20 Council Member Barron.

21 [background comments, laughter]

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: And don't try to  
23 put the two minute clock on. To my colleagues and  
24 my 12 tumultuous years with you. You've been very  
25 controversial.

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[laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: And I tried to keep you in line but it was very difficult. I do want to say this; that I voted no for so many of your projects and I will be voting no on some more today. However I do appreciate that when my projects came before you you voted yes.

[laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Which by the way Council Member Dickens helped me to surpass her as the number one Council Member... [interpose]

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Objection.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: ...and bring in... [interpose]

[laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: You're out of order.

[laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: And bringing real affordability to our district. But on behalf of the, the district of East New York and the other parts of my district, Brownsville/Canarsie, I do want to thank you for this. That we have brought in two new 80 million dollar schools. We were able to

1  
2 renovate three parts, 17.5 million dollars. We were  
3 able to say that in that district we have a  
4 workforce development program that young people are  
5 running and they're on staff, they have their  
6 places. Millions of dollars that we were able to in  
7 this body when they said 50 percent of the black  
8 men were unemployed we put forth together Robert  
9 Jackson, Bill Perkins, and many of us a workforce  
10 development program that hired 6,000 people in the  
11 city, 6,000.

12 [applause]

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I want to thank  
14 you for 2.5 million for my black male initiative in  
15 CUNY. Thank you... [interpose]

16 [applause]

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: ...for supporting  
18 that every year, for supporting the 604 million  
19 dollars that when I was Chair before I was a some  
20 crazy shape of the imagination removed from the  
21 chair. I don't know how that happened but when you  
22 had that moment where you lapsed in good judgement.  
23 Before that I had 8 years as chair of the Higher  
24 Education Committee and we were able to secure a

1  
2 604 million dollars for capital money for CUNY  
3 buildings. And I thank you for that.

4 [applause]

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I thank you for  
6 the millions that we secured for Fiterman Hall and  
7 was able to rebuild Fiterman Hall a student  
8 building that was destroyed by a BMC, at BMC during  
9 the, the 9/11. They destroyed the building. We were  
10 able to do that. I want to thank Domenic Recchia  
11 for working with me to make sure that we secured  
12 800 thousand dollars for the theatres of color  
13 because we weren't getting our fair share. Ozzy  
14 Davis may he rest in peace was a part of that and  
15 we thank you for doing that for our theatres. But  
16 we'd think we'd want more but we thank you for the  
17 start. So I just wanted to come before you to say  
18 that I will always be black... [interpose

19 [laughter]

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: ...radical,  
21 revolutionary. I will always be a socialist, anti-  
22 capitalist, imperialist, I went to Cuba, I went to  
23 Venezuela, I went to Zimbabwe brought the president  
24 to you and you didn't appreciate it. Robert Mugabe  
25 who's taken the land back from whites in Africa.

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For all of those who are my heroes Evo Morales of Bolivia, these are my heroes.

[applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: And I Chage Evera[phonetic], Fidel Castro, those are my heroes. The Black Panther Party and all of the members and the political prisoners. I wanted to come to you to say that's who and what I am. And that's what I will always be. And I thank you for not punishing me too much.

[laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Just enough but there's no amount of capital money, no amount of expense money that I will ever give into to violate my principles and positions on my.. [interpose]

[applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: So with that I got something special. I have an assignment for those who're still here. Got to get rid of homeboy back here. Jefferson's got to go and on the real side we shouldn't just have white men's pictures up on the walls.

[applause]



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STATED MEETING

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: They're not the only ones in this town. And I think George Washington who did enslave us too I think that part of the horse's anatomy is, is, is, it's good for him to be pictured like that.

[laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: So I just want you to really diversify the artwork at city hall because on the real side when our children here when black and Latino children come here they should see images of their heroes as well and not just these.

[applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: So I want to say that as I depart I will leave in you with a better half who's going to come forth, you think I was something when she finishes with you you're going to ask me to come back.

[laughter, applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: That's my wife. That's my wife.

[applause]

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COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I want to thank my chief of staff Joy Simmons who had to take all the heat.

[applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you Joy. My legislative director Monique Washington Indigo.

[applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: You've done great. So my, all of my staff did great. We did great in the neighborhood. We're going to continue to work. I think that I'm sure that Governor Cuomo and Shelly Silver can't wait till I get to Albany.

[laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: So I'll try not to disappoint them and get there as soon as I can. And I'm sure Speaker Quinn will give them a recommendation. She said those wonderful things. We got that on tape so we're going to take that up to Albany so that they can hear it. Chuck we had a great relationship. We kept it real. We kept it very real. Ramone we kept it real. I mean you're really cutting me but you kept it real.

[laughter]

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COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: And I want to say to Jimmy Oddo you probably don't remember this but when there was a racial motivated violence in Staten Island some whites jumped and beat up a, a young black woman, you, I came out to Staten Island and you sat with me and we made sure we took a stance against that kind of racism. And you joined me in that. And that wasn't the easiest thing to do.

[applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: And for all of the whites like Peter Vallone and others who don't like me I'm going to endorse you in your neighborhood... [interpose]

[laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: ...so that nobody will ever ever vote for you ever. I'm going to get a poster of me and you. So any white person in here that doesn't like me I'm coming to your neighborhood with a poster with you and I and I'm going to tell your constituents before I speak I'd check with Peter.

[laughter, applause]

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STATED MEETING

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COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Now, finally I want to leave y'all with something special. You know I never salute or Pledge Allegiance. I never do that because there's racism in this country and there's no freedom and justice for all and my mama told me never pledge to a lie. So that's why I don't pledge. But I have written a pledge for you...

[laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: ...that you can use to replace the pledge here. Do you know that the Pledge Allegiance, Chuck put your head up it's not that bad.

[laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: The Pledge Allegiance was revised four times and it was originally written by a Christian socialist. And the children used to pledge like this; they would salute and then when I said to my country they would go like that. But since it looked like a hale Hitler sign they made them put their hands over their heart. So there's been a lot of revisions to the pledge so I leave you with this special pledge just for you. And so I'll give you copies so when

1  
2 the pledge comes up you can say this instead of  
3 that.

4 [laughter]

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: You ready?  
6 Repeat after me. I pledge allegiance..

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Look your're  
8 scared.

9 [laughter]

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Look at that.  
11 Look, you can't even play with me. Y'all are  
12 scared.

13 UNKNOWN MALE: We know you too well.

14 [laughter]

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I pledge  
16 allegiance..

17 [members repeat]

18 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: ...to rid this  
19 nation...

20 [members repeat]

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: ...of racism  
22 sexism classism..

23 [members repeat]

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: ...and all forms  
25 of discrimination for which this nation stands.

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STATED MEETING

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[laughter, members repeat]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I pledge to  
fight...

[members repeat]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: ...for the  
eradication of poverty...

[members repeat]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: ...and an  
equitable distribution of wealth, income, and  
opportunity.

[laughter, members repeat]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Finally, I  
pledge to unite this nation...

[members repeat]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: ...under human  
rights...

[members repeat]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: ...until there's  
liberty and justice for all.

[members repeat, applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: [laughter] Thank  
you.

[applause]

1  
2 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Now Council  
3 Member James you have the tough job to follow that.

4 [laughter]

5 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Well hopefully  
6 when children of all races come into this place  
7 they will see me seated where you are Deputy  
8 Leader. So I just want to say thank you. The phrase  
9 is simple and the words few but behind these words  
10 lie an abundance of an appreciation for the  
11 memories, associations, friendship, and respect for  
12 all of you in this institution. Now I recognize  
13 that I'm not going far. In fact I hope to be  
14 allowed the privilege of officiating at stated  
15 council meetings but today it is done, complete,  
16 final. Yeah, no more updates on Atlantic yards.

17 [laughter]

18 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: And yes Madam  
19 Speaker no more chains and no more passion from  
20 this seat and in this space. I hope this body  
21 continues some of the initiatives that I started;  
22 infant mortality, the food pantry initiative,  
23 making sure that our low income children have  
24 quality child care. But there are still plenty of  
25 city time like consultants to investigate and I

1  
2 look forward to continuing that of investigation  
3 from across the street. So my thoughts are gently  
4 wrapped in prayers for all of you. May angels  
5 continue to watch all of you as so many have done  
6 for me over the past ten years and during my life  
7 and definitely during this campaign. May all of  
8 your hearts be filled with happiness. And on behalf  
9 of all New Yorkers I want to thank you but I  
10 particurally want to say a few words to my speaker.  
11 Christine Quinn who from time to time we disagreed  
12 but you have been a woman who has the abilities to  
13 survive so many different struggles that life has  
14 had to offer. You have had the strength to endure  
15 the pain and disappointment that life sometimes  
16 face. You have had the challenge to concur any  
17 challenge that is put before you. And you have  
18 demonstrated the leadership to stand up and to make  
19 change and to take charge of a situation when most  
20 men fail. Chris Quinn you have been the backbone of  
21 this institution and for that I say thank you on  
22 behalf of all New Yorkers. Thank you for your  
23 service, thank you for your leadership. I know that  
24 God has a special place for you in the future.  
25 Thank you all.



[applause]

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you.

Thank you very much. Next we have Council Member Leroy Comrie and our future Deputy Borough President from Queens.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Thank you. I rise... [interpose]

[laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: ...this afternoon to, to say good bye in this stage of my career. And I want to thank all of you for blessing me with the opportunity to serve. I want to thank my constituents for allowing me to succeed. My predecessor Archie Spigner. I actually started in the city council in 1982 so I got you beat by a couple years Dromm, almost as long as Gary. You know I've had an opportunity to experience so much as a staffer and as a member and experiencing the ups and downs of this council, experiencing what the power of this council can do, experiencing leadership, having to work with all of you to try to make this city a better place. I, I need to thank my staff. I'll take a minute to read their names starting with my first Chief of Staff Joshua

1  
2 Rivera, Rance Huff, Reggie even though, Reggie,  
3 Reggie Thomas even though he went over to the  
4 mayor's office. I know he's here somewhere. You  
5 know my Senior Advisor Joseph Goldbloom, Derrick  
6 Davis, Margaret Danson, Millie Rivas, Al Camus,  
7 Jamal Wilkerson, Katherina Thompson, Andy Laine,  
8 Greg Rose, and my super volunteer, I had another  
9 super volunteer in my district office, Mylene  
10 Thompson that did the notary. Came in almost every  
11 twice a week. And, and often times more to take  
12 care of people. I've been blessed in my life and  
13 I've been blessed by being in service here in this  
14 city council. I want to thank the members that I've  
15 had an opportunity to work with; the first speaker  
16 Gifford Miller who allowed me to be Majority Whip  
17 and then to my colleague and friend Chris Quinn who  
18 has been a truly a, a jewel to this city. And the  
19 best chapters of her career have yet to be written.  
20 To, to allow us to be the council both Gifford and  
21 Chris gave us the opportunity to be members, gave  
22 us the opportunity to if we had a passion about an  
23 issue whether you were from Staten Island or  
24 Brooklyn whether you are a person that had a  
25 chairmanship or a person that didn't have an issue

1  
2 at all, if you felt in your heart you wanted to get  
3 something done and you did it in a way that  
4 expressed the need for it, the realization for it  
5 Chris listened to you and heard you and allowed you  
6 to get it done. This body has had arguments, we've  
7 had disputes, but we've all tried to focus on  
8 making this city better. If you recall when we came  
9 in 2002 we were expected to fail. There were over  
10 20 to 30 of us that came in 2002. We were the first  
11 class after term limits, 9/11 happened, we were  
12 expected to fail, we were expected not to be able  
13 to move this city forward. We were expected not to  
14 be able to deal with the deficits that we had. But  
15 we were able to move this city forward. We took  
16 hard decisions, we had to raise taxes. It was the  
17 hardest thing we ever had to do as an elected  
18 official to raise taxes just before you're going  
19 for reelection. But we did it as a body and that  
20 helped us turn this city around. And we led this  
21 fight thanks to the wonderful staff that we've had  
22 here. And I can't think the staff enough. They  
23 deserve an individual round of applause.

24 [applause]  
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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: And I, I'm not going to name names there are too many to names but the legislative staff, the finance staff... I've been privileged to chair the Rules Committee, the Consumer Affairs Committee, and finally the Land Use Committee and my term here in the council the staff here is second to none.

UNKNOWN MALE: That's right.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Even though they had mayoral agencies to contend with... [interpose]

UNKNOWN MALE: That's right.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: ...we led the fight to, to rescue this city. We red led the fight to save and create opportunities for this city to grow. We led the fight to come up with ideas that the mayor's office would eventually adopt or budget later because they refused to acknowledge our good ideas when we came up with them. You know they, we had an opportunity to create, create initiatives and create opportunities for people. The foreclosure problem we identified first. Lou Fidler and Eric Dilan... [interpose]

UNKNOWN MALE: That's right.

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: ...and, and, and  
3 other members here helped me when we realized that  
4 foreclosures were becoming a major problem in this  
5 city which led to the foreclosure initiative that  
6 was started here in the council which the mayor  
7 then adopted and co-opted and now has become the  
8 center for New York City neighborhoods. We started  
9 it here. We started to, to, and we were first  
10 rescued NICHE back in '03 when they had a problem  
11 and we went back and recued the teachers a couple  
12 of times. We rescued the unions more than a few  
13 times with different policies. We led the fight to  
14 restore the city. We started initiatives in the  
15 council; the black male initiative as Charles said,  
16 the immigration initiative, Dominic the great chair  
17 and when he was chair of Cultural Affairs started  
18 the, the CASA initiatives and other initiatives,  
19 infant mortality initiatives, the things that Lou  
20 did with youth, the things that we did for after  
21 school, the work force initiative that we started  
22 Charles back with Bill Perkins and James Sanders  
23 when we realized that the, that there was a report  
24 that showed what we already knew, that minorities  
25 were well out of the work force and underreported.

1  
2 We started initiatives where we employed thousands  
3 of people were we able to create opportunities for  
4 people. It's been a pleasure working here. It's  
5 been a pleasure working with members and if I  
6 started naming members names I'll get in trouble.  
7 So I'm not going to name because every one of you  
8 I've had a great working relationship with.  
9 Everyone of you have had time to spend with both  
10 personal, personally and professionally as we tried  
11 to figure out what we needed to do to improve this  
12 city. I've been honored to be in this position. I'm  
13 honored to have worked with all of you. I would  
14 remind you, everyone that this is the only  
15 democratic body that people can come in with an  
16 idea and get it proposed as legislation. And I hope  
17 that that spirited democracy, that spirit of  
18 comrodery, and working for the better purpose can  
19 retain in the next class. I hope that the abilities  
20 of this council understanding that we are the, the  
21 straw that stirs the pot. We are the people that  
22 make this city run. We are the people that actually  
23 do the invesigations and oversight to ensure that  
24 this city moves in a positive way. It only happens  
25 when you develop the relationships and a respect

1  
2 for each other to allow that happen, to allow that  
3 to happen and that happened here. That happened  
4 where Jimmy Oddo and a Charles Barron and a Peter  
5 Vallone can sit and, and have arguments but still  
6 come out and, and come up with resolutions. Where  
7 Diana Reyna and, and Maria Baez I can't, I have to  
8 mention Maria and Madelyn. They're not here, I'll  
9 mention Maria and Madelyn. Those, those were two  
10 women that took no shortcuts from anybody and got a  
11 lot done for their districts and was able to make  
12 opportunities for a lot of people. And I want to  
13 mention them and you know because they were great.  
14 You know also you know that Jimmy mentioned the day  
15 that, that, that we lost our colleague but he was a  
16 character and he is missed. You know he brought  
17 James Davis brought something to this body, an a  
18 energy and electricity that, that I will never  
19 forget and God rest his soul. You know and I, and  
20 there's a lot more that I want to say but I know  
21 other members are speaking. But the thing that I  
22 want to really express is that this is a place to  
23 get things done. This is a place where at the end  
24 of the day you need to work together to make sure  
25 that you are fighting for the needs of this city

1  
2 you, that you're fighting for the needs of your  
3 constituents and that you figure out a way to fight  
4 in, in a way that's positive, in a way that's  
5 focused on facts and focused on making sure that at  
6 the end of the day you have an result that we can  
7 all be proud of. Thank you for allowing me to be  
8 here as a council member. Thank you for putting up  
9 with me.

10 [applause]

11 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: And I look  
12 forward to continuing the final way to help this  
13 city. Thank you very much.

14 [applause]

15 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you very  
16 much Leroy. Up next we have Council Member Sara  
17 Gonzalez.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER SARA GONZALEZ: Thank  
19 you. It's not very often that I speak so I want you  
20 to bear with me. I am incredibly grateful for the  
21 11 years and 1 month that I have served on this  
22 body. I know that I have touched a lot of lives and  
23 I want to share a little something you because a  
24 lot of folks couldn't understand the passion that I  
25 have with juvenile justice. The first time that I



1  
2 went to one of the detention sights we were  
3 walking, touring, the small spaces where they keep  
4 the children. And I went into a room that locked  
5 behind me, that had no window, that basically was a  
6 little tiny little space. My tears came out because  
7 I said this is the future how do we lock them up  
8 here and not think that this is going to effect  
9 their lives and the trama that it causes for the  
10 family. I remember someone stating; but Council  
11 Member they're just little criminals. And I said no  
12 they're not. They're somebody's children. And so  
13 that really prompted me to continue to work in that  
14 area and I'm grateful that we were able to do with  
15 the support of the speaker and the council members  
16 here who worked so hard on this; Annabel Palma and  
17 all the folks that were there to do close to home.  
18 Because we have to keep our children close. We have  
19 to know that these children in the future are going  
20 to impact someone's life and that yes they do  
21 deviate from their character. I don't care who you  
22 are some day you're going to make a mistake and if  
23 you end up in a detention center then you need to  
24 have what you need and that's what I fought for for  
25 so many years. I want to be able to thank my staff

1  
2 Anthony Alexis, my chief of staff. And I also want  
3 to mention Luisa Ruda [sp?] who was my top person  
4 for a long time and retired and all the folks in my  
5 office; Jordan and, and, and Mike, Miguel, and Mike  
6 and all of them because I love them dearly and  
7 nobody does anything alone. But more than anything  
8 I want to leave this body knowing that I came to  
9 Sunset Park when I was a year old, the district  
10 that I represent and to serve the district in the  
11 manner which I have certainly tells me that my dad  
12 was right; that when you touch people's lives they  
13 too will touch yours. And that's what I got from  
14 the experience and I was so inspired. And though I  
15 leave I know as the saying goes. It's better to  
16 love and lose than never love at all. So I thank  
17 all of you. God bless you and let's keep on  
18 truckin'.

19 [applause]

20 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Council Member  
21 Halloran.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Thank you Mr.  
23 Majority Leader. I too would like to thank the  
24 speaker for all of her hard work and devotion to  
25 this body. We don't often agree on, on issues but

1  
2 there has been no harder worker in city government  
3 than the speaker has been over these last four  
4 years that I have observed so I thank her for her  
5 service. I'd also like to thank Leroy Comrie I'm  
6 glad to know he will be my Deputy Borough  
7 President. He is a, a man of the utmost integrity,  
8 the utmost compassion, and most importantly the  
9 utmost gumption. He can get anything done when he  
10 sets his mind to it and has been a friend and a  
11 mentor to all in the Queens Delegation. We would  
12 have been lost without him. What can you say about  
13 Jimmy Oddo that hasn't already been said? He is  
14 someone who has risen above party politics to get  
15 things done. He is someone who I'm honored to have  
16 called a friend for four years. He is going on to  
17 be the Borough President of Staten Island but he is  
18 far more than that. He is one of the few loud  
19 republican voices in the city of New York. And  
20 although we don't always agree even though we're in  
21 the same party there is no man in this body who has  
22 earned more respect from me in over four years than  
23 Jim Oddo. To Vinny Ignizio and to Eric Ulrich my  
24 colleagues on the republican aisle. Thank you  
25 Vinny, the best to you as you come into being the

1  
2 speaker, the speaker, the Minority Leader sorry.  
3 Sorry we're not that, we're not that good yet. You,  
4 you will do a great job.

5 [laughter]

6 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: I'm very, I'm  
7 very impressed with everything that you've done.  
8 Peter Koo who was with us for a while and is no  
9 longer has always been a good friend and I  
10 appreciate it. There are several people in this  
11 body who've gone out of their way to be not just,  
12 just great council members but good people. In  
13 particular Sara Gonzalez, Annabel Palma, and  
14 Darlene Mealy thank you for the smiles, for the,  
15 for the thank you's, for all of the things that  
16 you've done. I appreciate it. To two people who are  
17 on the complete opposite end of my spectrum;  
18 Jumaane Williams and Brad Lander you guys I have  
19 enjoyed working with you. I have enjoyed going back  
20 and forth with you and I know the city will be  
21 better because you will continue to fight from your  
22 perspective. To Peter Vallone who is probably the  
23 person most politically aligned with me  
24 interestingly enough on the city council when it  
25 comes to public safety issues. You have been the

1  
2 best chairman of any committee in my opinion with  
3 one, with one possible exception and I, I'm so  
4 honored to have served in the Public Safety  
5 Committee for you. The City of New York is safer  
6 because of you and the city owes you a great debt  
7 and I'm sorry that you are not the Borough  
8 President. You certainly had the fight in you and  
9 you did a, a spectacular job. The person whom I  
10 might say is the greatest committee chair has  
11 nothing to do with the accomplishment persay of the  
12 committee but the level of care given to that  
13 committee and that's Oliver Koppell. I don't think  
14 I have ever met a man who has spent more time  
15 parsing out issues and trying to get to the root of  
16 problems than Oliver Koppell.

17 [applause]

18 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: He is someone  
19 who again is on the opposite end of the political  
20 spectrum from me although we tend to agree on some  
21 of the liberty issues and, and freedoms that we say  
22 dangerously close to eroding at times. But Oliver  
23 cares. He cares in a way that I've probably never  
24 met in a public servant and I, I am honored to have  
25 served in a committee with him. I'm thankful to my

1  
2 other committee chairs of course. You've all shown  
3 a great deal of gumption when it was needed and  
4 have done the right thing as far as I can tell even  
5 when we've disagreed. There are other friends Andy  
6 King, Fernando Cabrera, Ruben Wills, RJ you've all  
7 been there and, and, and had kind things to say and  
8 I appreciate it. Tish James our back and forth will  
9 not continue and I regret that but I know you will  
10 be an incredible advocate for the public and  
11 therefore will fulfill your role spectacularly.  
12 Joel thank you for everything you've done. Doctor  
13 Mathieu Eugene thank you for your friendship. It  
14 has been appreciated. Dan Garodnick I wish you the  
15 best of luck in all that you do. And, and my friend  
16 Mark Weprin it was good to have a colleague who  
17 shared so many of the boarder areas with me to work  
18 on issues. You were fantastic. There was two people  
19 I, I think in this, in this chamber who always have  
20 been there for the, all of us and that's the city  
21 clerk Mike McSweeney who has been a spectacular...

22 [interpose]

23 [applause]

24 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: ...manager of  
25 all of the city records and in particular keeping

1  
2 us on track and the head of security Karl Diabla  
3 who has kept us safe for these four years. I'd like  
4 to thank my staff including my three former chiefs  
5 of staff; Paul Guillo, Denis Ring, Chrissy  
6 Voskerichian, Victor Mimoni, Lynn Meltzer, Amy Tan,  
7 Kevin Ryan, Erica Goldstein, Page Lawrence, John  
8 Mauldin, Meg Mapes[phonetic], Steve Stites, Fae  
9 Broncos Meir, and Dan Show[phonetic] who've worked  
10 so hard for the district 19 people. And to my  
11 successor Paul Vallone I wish him nothing but the  
12 best. I know he comes from good stock. I know he  
13 has experience with this body even though it's been  
14 tangential and I'm sure he will continue to work  
15 hard in the Vallone tradition. I'd like to thank  
16 all of my colleagues. It has been an honor to serve  
17 with you. And I'd like unanimous consent to vote on  
18 the items today. I vote aye on all with the  
19 exceptions of 1162, 1208, 1210, and 1204-A to which  
20 I vote aye.

21 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you. We  
22 now move on to Council Member King. Hold on one  
23 second. Hold on a second. Council Member can you,  
24 Halloran can you repeat your vote for the, for the  
25 clerk.

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Absolutely. I  
3 vote aye on all with the exceptions of 1162-A,  
4 1208-A, 1210-A, and 1204-A.

5 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you. Next  
6 we have Council Member King.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: I rise. Jackson  
8 will always have a special place in my heart as  
9 each and every one of you. When I first came into  
10 the chambers a year ago I was blessed that from the  
11 speaker on down the people sat me down and had a  
12 conversation even just how to read this. And as, as  
13 important as, as simple as it might seem if you had  
14 never had an opportunity to go through the law to  
15 find out how do you sign onto legislation and be a  
16 co-sponsor it can be kind of overwhelming and  
17 frightening the first time. So I want to thank  
18 everyone who shared me love before I got into the  
19 council, when I got here and gave me guidance, for  
20 Recchia who came up to my campaign office and gave  
21 me you know, told me where the potholes or else I  
22 won't blow myself up when I got here. I appreciate  
23 you for that. Jackson I will continue to rise in  
24 honor of you for all that you've helped me through  
25 and, and being a part of education, the speaker for



1  
2 your leadership and telling me what I should be  
3 doing and what I should not be doing. And I'm, I'm  
4 truly grateful and honored to each and every one of  
5 you. And the staff that's remaining, and the staff  
6 that are moving on, and all of you that are writing  
7 another chapter in your life, in your book of life  
8 I wish you all well. I look forward to us all  
9 continuing to working together and with all the  
10 love in my heart I thank you. I thank you Ramone. I  
11 thank you Chuck. And I thank everyone that's,  
12 that's made the city a better place to live in and  
13 we're going to let them do a whole lot more from  
14 what you gave us and left us with to move on in the  
15 next class. Thank you again and God bless you all.

16 [applause]

17 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you very  
18 much. Next we have Council Member Dilan.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Thank you Mr.  
20 Majority Leader and I'll be very brief. I have a  
21 suggestion that even Charles Barron would love. We,  
22 we came into this council 12 years ago together.  
23 Charles dutifully brought his hammer and his nail  
24 and I have a suggestion for someone who was a pace  
25 setter and will hopefully look like the, the

1  
2 members that come here will hopefully look like her  
3 and that's our speaker Christine Quinn was the  
4 first woman to lead this body, the first openly gay  
5 person to lead this body, and those are two things  
6 that you could never say in the past. And Chris you  
7 are a trend setter in that regard. And the highest  
8 honor I think any of us could have is to have that  
9 picture on the wall. And I believe you deserve  
10 that. To each and every one of my colleagues it's  
11 been my life's honor to serve with each and every  
12 one of you. To the people in the 37<sup>th</sup> district who  
13 have sent me here it, it's, it's my life honor that  
14 you sent me here. To each and every one of my  
15 colleagues you know it's been great, it's, it's  
16 been a hell of a ride. I don't think I could say  
17 anything more than that. I've enjoyed every minute  
18 of it. Thank you very much.

19 [applause]

20 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Next we have  
21 Council Member Williams.

22 [applause]

23 UNKNOWN MALE: Yes.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Thank you. I wake  
25 up every day still hyped like I won the lottery

1  
2 when I come to work. So it's still very exciting to  
3 me and I want to make sure I said to the people who  
4 are leaving it was an honor to serve with all of  
5 you. Even though we don't agree at times I think we  
6 did it in a way that many people should look at.  
7 And I can't think everyone personally but I did  
8 want to say it to a couple people. I wanted to make  
9 sure I said to Council Member Al Vann that it can't  
10 be understated what your legacy has meant for New  
11 York City,... [interpose]

12 [applause]

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: ...what it's meant  
14 for Brooklyn, what it's meant for people who look  
15 like me.

16 [applause]

17 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: I know if it  
18 wasn't for the things that you did at a time where  
19 it was extremely difficult someone like me would  
20 not be in the city council. And I cannot thank you  
21 enough for that. I wanted to say thank you to  
22 Council Member Lou Fidler who put me on the  
23 community board and never once asked me to vote a  
24 way that I didn't feel was the right thing to do.  
25 So I appreciate that. I also wanted to say that

1  
2 Council Member Charles Barron even though we also  
3 don't agree on everything the things that you talk  
4 about and your voice is very much needed in New  
5 York City. I want to say thank you for bringing up  
6 things that many of us have been afraid to talk  
7 about and I know you will bring that excitement to  
8 the state. And they need to hear it up there as  
9 well. Lastly I wanted to say because it's on the  
10 record something that Speaker Quinn obviously we  
11 definitely didn't agree on everything but that  
12 should never be mistaken for your work ethic, for  
13 your ability and willingness to work hard, and to  
14 be the leader that you were. People try to mistake  
15 their beliefs for how well someone is doing in the  
16 job they believe they should be doing. I think you  
17 were a stalwart in leadership. People don't  
18 appreciate how difficult your job is. I do what,  
19 whatever you decide there's going to be somebody  
20 throwing blows and you took those blows very well.  
21 And there are many things that were done that you  
22 will not get credit for. So I want to say  
23 congratulations on your time served and I wish you  
24 and Kim the very, very best. Thank you.

25 [applause]

1  
2 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you very  
3 much Council Member. Next we have Council Member  
4 Inez Dickens.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Thank you  
6 Majority Leader. I, I just wanted to take this time  
7 to thank all of my colleagues those that are  
8 leaving this body, the people's house. Domenic you  
9 have been a phenomenal finance chair. You  
10 represented each and every one of us which was a  
11 damn difficult task.

12 [laughter]

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: But you did it.  
14 I, I want to, to thank those of us that served in  
15 leadership, for educating me, and directing me  
16 because I came into leadership as a novice newly  
17 elected to the body. And you took me under your  
18 wings Council Member Fidler, Council Member Comrie,  
19 Mayor Elect de Blasio, and Council Member Al Vann.  
20 Al I, you hold a special place in my heart for the  
21 work that you have done on behalf of all the  
22 citizens first of state and now of the City of New  
23 York. You have taken the lead when it was  
24 difficult. You have stood up as a beacon. And for  
25 those that don't know the leadership that you gave

1  
2 to the borough of Manhattan Community College in  
3 order for it to stand and be recognized today as a  
4 leader in, in education providing an associate's  
5 degree, the foundation for many of the students to  
6 go on to their Bachelors, their Bachelorette.  
7 Speaker Quinn you have been a very special friend.  
8 You invested in me the ability to be a part of  
9 leadership knowing that I was a freshman. You would  
10 stop the meetings in order for me to learn. That  
11 allowed me to grow, to understand, to learn a sense  
12 of fairness and fair play, and the ability to be a  
13 better leader not only in my district that I  
14 represented but for the entire city of New York. As  
15 part of that I must mention the Minority Leader  
16 Jimmy Oddo who and when I first took office I said  
17 republican, ehh republicans but you Vinny Ignizio  
18 subsequently later, Eric Ulrich, but Jimmy you are  
19 a special friend. You, you taught me much and I  
20 love you for it. I love you for being the fair  
21 player that you've always been. I haven't always  
22 agreed with everything you're a little conservative  
23 for me... [interpose]

24 [laughter]

25

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: ...but that's  
3 alright. That's alright. There are many things,  
4 many more things we agree on and the conscience of  
5 this body, who's the conscience of this body?

6 [background comment]

7 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Well yes but  
8 I'm going to mention Charles Barron. And that's,  
9 no, no I got to give it to him.

10 [applause]

11 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: We've got to  
12 give it to him. We don't always agree on everything  
13 but we raises the consciencness and he raises  
14 issues that many of us don't. But I want to correct  
15 him on one thing.

16 [laughter]

17 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: I do want to  
18 correct him on thing, one thing; that Inez Dickens  
19 is number one of 51 members in affordable housing  
20 for the village of Harlem.

21 [applause]

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: You're number  
23 one in Brooklyn but in the council stand up and  
24 acknowledge it Council Member Barron. I am number  
25 one.

[laughter, applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: And it's

already been mentioned as, in the Baptist church as

we say precedence has been established. We've

talked about the many initiatives that we fought

for. We've talked about how we've put money into

NICHE under the leadership of Council Member Rosie

Mendez who has fought for our affordable housing.

Eric Dilan who has stood tall for housing, who has

fought hard. I must mention Manhattan delegation.

Under the leadership of now Borough President Elect

Gale Brewer... [interpose]

[applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: ...and Council

Member Dan Garodnick who took the leadership of, of

Manhattan delegation and fought for all of us. I

thank you. Jessica Lappin you fought for our senior

centers.

[applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: And no one has

mentioned it but I must mention that. And the staff

I want to mention just for a moment the staff. I

want to mention all of you. I want to mention

Barbara.



[cheering, applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: See Preston

Niblack takes credit and Ramone Martinez takes credit and Chuck Meera[phonetic] takes credit and Rob Newman[phonetic] takes credit and Jeff Rhoda takes credit and Liz Fine takes credit but you know what it's Barbara who sees that we get it all done.

[applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: So Barbara I

don't know where you will be next year but I wanted to publically say to you thank you for all that you've done, for all the flack that you've taken from 51 members and I include the speaker, from 51 members when we came in there angry and upset, when we had a lot of problems in our districts, when we got tickets and we wanted you to do something and you couldn't, when we were angry with you because we couldn't park in the parking lot I wanted to say thank you to you Barbara. Thank you to you for standing up to us who thought that we were the boss when we found out it was all you in the beginning.

[laughter, applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: I, I wanted

just mention Diana Reyna who has taken the lead on

1  
2 MWBES, who has fought for our small businesses, who  
3 I believe in whatever she moves onto next she will  
4 take that fight and that tenacity, that dedication,  
5 and that loyalty will always go with here. And the  
6 person that has taken on contracts Darlene Mealy.  
7 Thank you Darlene even though we're going to be  
8 working together next year I just want to say thank  
9 you to you. And thank you to all the colleagues  
10 that are coming back because the next four years we  
11 got hard work, difficult decisions to make, and  
12 it'll be under a new administration for the first  
13 time in 20 years we will have a progressive  
14 democratic mayor which we have not had and a  
15 democratic city council. Chris you've taken a lot  
16 of hard knocks but you've been one phenomenal  
17 leader in this body, in this house whether everyone  
18 agreed with your path the goal that you were  
19 looking at, what you wanted to achieve was what we  
20 were all faced with and agreed with. We may have  
21 differed on the path but that's alright. It's the  
22 way we get, it's the ability to get to the goal and  
23 you did that. You did take a lot of hits, some were  
24 unfair, most were unfair, there were some that may  
25 have been justified... [interpose]

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[laughter]

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COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: ...but that's, that's for all of us. So to all of you I say I wish you a very blessed, blessed holiday season and as we talk about the holiday let's remember those that are unfortunate, those that are homeless, and I want to, want to mention Council Member Ruben Wills because he is ill today, because he stood up and lived for several days as a homeless person. He, he slept on the streets, he slept in the subways, he lived as a homeless person for several days and as a result...

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[applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Yes, give it to him.

[applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Because I don't know if I would have had the courage to do what he did. When he came in here he looked ill and Eric Dilan said to me; my God what has happened? That's because he was coming from walking the streets and washing windows, window, windshields of cars to make a dime. He went to, went into the street without any money, with no food, he ate from the

23

24

25

1  
2 streets with those who actually live on the  
3 streets. So Ruben thank you because you are raising  
4 our awareness and our consciousness for what this  
5 city is faced with today.

6 [applause]

7 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: So thank you  
8 council members. You've been phenomenal, you're  
9 great. Thank you all for your ability because each  
10 of you are leaders in your districts and in this  
11 house. God bless us as we move forward. Thank you.

12 [applause]

13 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you very  
14 much. Next we have Council Member Domenic Recchia  
15 followed by Council Member Vincent Ignizio.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Thank you.  
17 Today will be our last official action taken as  
18 city council members. I am grateful for the  
19 opportunity to serve the city council and 47<sup>th</sup>  
20 district. I am thankful that an opportunity to  
21 serve with the members of this great body. In my 12  
22 years in the city council Charles you're leaving,  
23 you're not staying? I was just going to say good  
24 about you.

25 [laughter]

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Just imagine  
3 Charles if you would have voted yes how much money  
4 you would have gotten your district.

5 [laughter]

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Only joking. In  
7 the 12 years here as chair of Cultural Affairs and  
8 then as Finance chairman it was great, great  
9 opportunity. This was all done working hand in hand  
10 with my fellow council members. I want to thank all  
11 of you for your dedication and commitment to public  
12 service. It has truly been a privilege to serve  
13 with all of you. We worked hard to make this city  
14 better for our constituents and the generation upon  
15 generations of New Yorkers who will call this city  
16 home in the years to come. I want to first start  
17 off by thanking my chief of staff Ashley Owens, my  
18 staff Thomas Lynch and Romney. I want to thank my  
19 district office staff. They've been great. I want  
20 to thank my former chiefs of staff Tiffany  
21 Rasberry, Cameron Beckon[phonetic], Josh Nachowitz,  
22 Deborah Nussbaum because they've been great. But I  
23 want to thank my other staff and that is the  
24 Finance staff.

25 [applause]

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Let's give them  
3 a round of applause. Under the leadership of  
4 Preston Niblack, First Deputy Jeff Rhoda, Tanisha  
5 Edwards my outstanding attorney, Ray Majewski  
6 outstanding economist.

7 [applause]

8 COUCNIL MEMBER RECCHIA: We don't, we  
9 have a great economist and his crew are, they're  
10 fabulous. Latonya McKinney, Nathan Toth, Regina  
11 Ryan, Scott Crowley, and all the unit heads and all  
12 of them, everyone that, all the analysts that work  
13 in the finance division I want to thank you from  
14 the bottom of my heart because you made me the  
15 person that I am today. And you made this finance  
16 staff shine. And all the members here should be  
17 thankful for all of you. I want to thank you. Keep  
18 up the good work. I will miss you all especially  
19 during the budget time.

20 [laughter]

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: I want to thank  
22 Ramone Martinez for his years of dedication.

23 [cheering, applause]

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: I want him to,  
25 thank him for always keeping me in place especially

1  
2 during the Coney Island rezoning. Thank you Ramone.  
3 I also want to thank Chuck Meera[phonetic]. Chuck  
4 you've been great.

5 [applause]

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: I also want to  
7 thank Mayor Michael Bloomberg for working with me,  
8 for all that you have done for my district and my  
9 constituents. I want to thank First Deputy Mayor  
10 Patty Harris because it was years working with you  
11 that we achieved great accomplishments for the arts  
12 in New York, for the culture institutions and for  
13 working with us and realizing that the Cultural  
14 After School Adventure Program is probably the best  
15 program you have funded with this city council. I  
16 want to thank the other staff when the mayor. I  
17 want to thank Kata Mahthir and Annette Smith for  
18 all that you've done working with me over the  
19 years. To our wonderful Land Use Gale Benjamin.  
20 Gale... [interpose]

21 [cheering, applause]

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: ...thank you for  
23 making Coney Island rezoning one of the best  
24 rezonings this council ever passed. It's because of  
25 you that millions of people are coming to Coney

1  
2 Island and because of you what many people thought  
3 I could never accomplish we did it together with  
4 the city council. Thank you very much. To Jimmy  
5 Oddo the Minority Leader. You done a great job.  
6 Your leadership is all about holding all of the  
7 republicans together, working with us not against  
8 us. The people in Washington should take a look at  
9 what this city council and how we work together. We  
10 could disagree but in the end we have to agree for  
11 the best interest of the people of this wonderful  
12 city. And I want to thank you. You've been great.  
13 And for the people of Staten Island they are  
14 blessed to have you as their next Borough  
15 President. And finally I have to thank someone for  
16 all that she has done for this city, what she has  
17 done for my district, Madam Speaker Christine Quinn  
18 thank you for making me your Finance Chairman.  
19 Thank you for believing me and having faith and  
20 confidence that we could work together. The many  
21 people in Coney Island will never forget how hard  
22 you worked during super storm Sandy. When we had no  
23 food, we had no water you came through. In the  
24 hours of that morning, late that night you called  
25 and you said how could we help and you and your



1  
2 staff were there. Last Thanksgiving no one could  
3 ever forget the thousand turkeys you helped us get,  
4 the food, and the dinner we had for thousands of  
5 people in my district.

6 [applause]

7 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: You, I could  
8 never forget it because you were there for me and  
9 for my district. But also you've helped many people  
10 and the rezoning of Coney Island's going to go down  
11 as one of the greatest rezonings because it's all  
12 about jobs, you created jobs, you made it happen.  
13 We have programs to educate people and these  
14 programs are in place and they're still working  
15 today. And Coney Island's a better place because of  
16 you. You've been a great friend. You're a great  
17 person. You will be missed. I can never forget what  
18 you have done and I will miss you. I will not be  
19 saying good bye. I will see you later but God  
20 should bless you in your life and you and Kim for  
21 many years to come. And I will never forget when we  
22 were passing the budget and marriage equality  
23 passed and the tears that came from you touched my  
24 heart and I will never forget that night because  
25 everyone in the great state should realize that you

1  
2 were at the forefront of that fight. And that was a  
3 fight that you fought day in and day out. We would  
4 go up to Albany to fight for funding for this  
5 wonderful city but you always were up there saying  
6 I have to go talk to this Senator or this  
7 Assemblyman about marriage equality. Chris your  
8 dream came true because of what you have done.  
9 Thank you. Thank you. God bless you. Thank you  
10 ladies and gentleman.

11 [applause]

12 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you.  
13 Council Member Ignizio.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Thank you very  
15 much Mr. Speaker. You know it's not often that we  
16 have someone in public life that's held up as high  
17 as some of our esteemed colleagues here today. And  
18 I rise to speak about Minority Leader  
19 Odgnabinny[phonetic] Odgnabinny[phonetic]?

20 [laughter]

21 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: He was here so  
22 but Minority Leader Oddo who we all know in this  
23 body optimizes integrity, honesty, and loyalty. And  
24 he has the uncanny ability to see through it all,  
25 find what's right, and say that's what I'm going to

1  
2 get behind regardless of who's proposing it. He  
3 didn't see republican, democrat. He didn't see  
4 black, white. He just saw what was wrong and what  
5 was right. And that was given to him and instilled  
6 in him by his parents who are very proud of him  
7 today as we all are Jim. I get the honor of writing  
8 with him and talking to him on the phone more than  
9 any people should speak ever in their lives..

10 [interpose]

11 [laughter]

12 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: ...but there is a  
13 deep caring in this man. And any kids out there who  
14 are thinking about public service look at this  
15 great city council today. Listen to what we're  
16 saying about our colleagues. Now it's fashionable  
17 for the press to say; oh all they do is name  
18 streets. But you know what tell that to the little  
19 kid who was on the street corner, I'm sorry who was  
20 not on the street corner last night because of Lou  
21 Fidler. Tell that because of the black man who had  
22 no opportunity but received that opportunity  
23 because of things like Charles Barron did. This is  
24 a body that has done great work in the city. And we  
25 ought be proud of it. And I think many of us are.

1  
2 And everyone of us my friends is a, there's the  
3 passion of Robert Jackson, there's the belief and  
4 fortitude of Charles Barron, there's the caring of  
5 Christine Quinn, there's the intelligence of faith  
6 of Tish, there's the fairness of Eric Dilan,  
7 objectivity of Gale, and yes the integrity and  
8 loyalty in Jimmy Oddo. The people in the City of  
9 New York are in better shape because we all come  
10 from all walks of life. They're in better shape  
11 because we speak from both the conservative and  
12 the, and the liberal points of view. They're in  
13 better shape because you learn as Jimmy Oddo said  
14 about the plight of the gay community from someone  
15 who's gay, of the plight of the black community  
16 from someone who's black, and we all come in this  
17 room and we say share with me ladies and gentleman,  
18 share with me what happened. One of my best friends  
19 in this body ironically to anybody is Charles  
20 Barron. And people would say; what, Charles Barron,  
21 are you kidding me? You know why? Because he didn't  
22 just say you know as he does to many you and he's  
23 very entertaining and I'll give you that. But you  
24 know what he did when I first got here. I don't  
25 know if you remember it. He took me in here, over

1  
2 here to this table and he said let me explain to  
3 you why I say this or I say that and he did. And  
4 you'll have a greater appreciation because of that.  
5 And that's everyone in this body. We all learn from  
6 each other and we all create better legislations,  
7 better budgets that ultimately serve the people of  
8 the City of New York. My concern and yes I guess  
9 I'm talking about the 800 pound gorilla in the room  
10 is tomorrow. This body is deeply fractured and for  
11 reasons understandably so. There is a political  
12 battle going on here. But my colleagues whomever  
13 ends up leading this house please let's not lose  
14 and forget this moment. Colleagues saying what a  
15 great job other colleagues are doing,... [interpose]  
16 [applause]  
17 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: ...people who  
18 want to work with other people, people who say we  
19 can make a better city together. And I'm not here  
20 trying to lecture anybody and who the heck am I to  
21 speak well I'm just saying what I believe in my  
22 heart. I know we have raw emotions now but whomever  
23 comes out and sits in that chair please let's rally  
24 behind him and bring this body back together under  
25 the family that we truly need to be. Because

1  
2 remember it's not about any of us. It's about the  
3 millions of people and the millions of kids that  
4 are waiting to see what we're going to do to make  
5 their lives better. I'm sorry I'm going on too long  
6 and I'm going to cut myself off but we don't have  
7 the luxury of being reckless because one month from  
8 now we get a budget document that we're all going  
9 to have to work on. I love my colleagues. I can go  
10 to every one of them and say the what I love about  
11 them, some, what I don't love about them and  
12 everything in between. But when you approach it  
13 honestly and you approach it with caring like we do  
14 in the spirit of a holiday season this was a great  
15 day. And they don't do this in Albany. Trust me I  
16 was there. I'm sorry Charles. And they don't do  
17 this in Washington. They would rather tear each  
18 other down than prop each other up. And we don't do  
19 that in this body. Let's not do it in the next  
20 body. And ladies and gentleman I appreciate you  
21 hearing me. I hope I didn't preach to you but all  
22 I'm saying is that there's a better day ahead and  
23 we will all work together. And I want to say that  
24 I'm a better person because of the lessons I  
25 learned from Minority Leader Jimmy Oddo. He's a, a

1  
2 model for this delegation. He's a model for this  
3 council and quite frankly a, yes he's one of my  
4 closest friends but he has the respect of everyone  
5 here. And Jimmy thank you and God bless you. I love  
6 you.

7 [applause]

8 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Council Member  
9 Gennaro.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you I, I,  
11 I'm, I'm really compelled to say to Vinny; Amen  
12 Vinny. Thank you for that, for that, for your  
13 wonderful remarks. Today is a day of thanks for me  
14 for 24 years in this body, for 31 years in city  
15 government, a day to give thanks to the people who  
16 believed in me, to the people who got me here, to  
17 the people who sustained supported me, and to the  
18 people who helped me succeed once, once I was here.  
19 And that group of people begins with my family. My  
20 son Rich dedicated two years of his life to run my  
21 campaign, all the aspects of it to get me here. He  
22 was the brain of the operation. I thank him today  
23 for the sacrifice he made and while that is a debt  
24 that I could repay Rich did okay. He is very  
25 happily married for the last six years to someone

1  
2 he met on my campaign. So I got elected to the  
3 council and got a loving daughter-in-law and he got  
4 his wonderful wife Chisty so we're square.

5 [laughter]

6 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: But we would  
7 never have won without our secret weapon my lovely  
8 wife Joann who joins us today.

9 [applause]

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: I always say  
11 that door-to-door wins the war in campaigns and  
12 Joann brought in 1,000 door-to-door, a thousand  
13 door-to-door petition signatures, door-to-door  
14 signatures from triple prime voters, faithfully did  
15 transit stops in the mornings, phone banked until  
16 her fingers and voice were raw, and fed our army of  
17 volunteers, and gave our entire campaign operation  
18 which we ran out of our house to save money for  
19 voter contact. Joann was the heart of the operation  
20 and I thank her in a special way today. Thank you  
21 Joann. Our daughter Christina also here today was  
22 only four when I opened my campaign committee and  
23 filed with the CFB and was six when we prevailed  
24 and Joann and I tried our best to give her the  
25 attention she needed and deserved during those



1  
2 tender years but when you're running as an  
3 insurgent against the Queens democratic  
4 organization and against a very good candidate  
5 there is no such thing as a day off or even the  
6 thought of a day off. So she made a sacrifice that  
7 was not of her choosing and that's on me. May Lord  
8 have mercy on me. But, but, but her blithe presence  
9 brought such delight to the circus of campaign  
10 staff and volunteers that swirled through our home  
11 and made us all family. She was indeed the soul of  
12 the campaign. Thank you sweetheart.

13 [applause]

14 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: My mom and dad  
15 who are peacefully living out of state in  
16 retirement were not spared. They were summoned to  
17 Queens, forced to do senior centers, phone banking,  
18 and of course door-to-door. They hated it like  
19 anything.

20 [laughter]

21 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: But their love  
22 for me and their wish of my success was much  
23 stronger than their dislike of politics. Both my  
24 parents are now a blessed memory and I carry them  
25 today with me and always. And on those days when I

1  
2 miss them the most I will counter it, a local  
3 constituent will tell me about the time my parents  
4 knocked on their door or called them. This is my  
5 parents way of checking in on me and saying hi. God  
6 bless them. And I would be remiss if I didn't think  
7 two dear friends who went all out for me because  
8 they believed in me and helped me believe in  
9 myself. Our dear mayor Ed Koch and my good friend  
10 Bobby Kennedy Jr. I have a bunch of stuff written  
11 about them but I got to keep moving but thank them  
12 so much for doing what they did for me. And as many  
13 people know I worked on environmental issues here  
14 at the council as staff for 12 years before I  
15 became a member. So I well know that we members are  
16 just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the  
17 good work that gets done by the council here at  
18 city hall and all of our district's offices and in  
19 the community. Thank you staff. Thank you. And I'm  
20 so grateful to and will always be indebted to my  
21 terrific staff who are here today. My long time  
22 Chief of Staff David George, Jr. who's lovely wife  
23 Meagan is expecting their first child.

24 [applause]

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: So thank... Where  
3 my Legislative Director Bill Murray and my  
4 Communications Director Paul Leonard. Thank you for  
5 being here for all the wonderful service that you  
6 provided. Wherever you are thank you guys and last  
7 but certainly not least my Deputy Chief of Staff  
8 Council Member Elect Costa Constantinides who will  
9 make this council,... [interpose]

10 [applause]

11 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: ...his  
12 constituents, and this city proud when he takes  
13 office in January. Good job Costa right there.  
14 Always, always by my side. I'm also most grateful  
15 to the staff members of my colleagues and the great  
16 central staff of this body who served with such  
17 dedication, professionalism, and distinction. Thank  
18 you. I want to have a very special shout out to  
19 Chuck and Ramone and Karl Diabla who treat me like  
20 a brother and the feeling is more than mutual.  
21 Thank you guys so very much. And I thank Mayor  
22 Bloomberg and his entire team for their dedicated  
23 service to our city. It's well known that I have a  
24 deep respect for and very productive professional  
25 relationship with the mayor and his administration

1  
2 particularly with respect to his visionary PLANYC  
3 and I honor him and his administration for their  
4 partnership and friendship. Now to my council  
5 colleagues, my beloved council colleagues. Just, I,  
6 I can't name everyone but some of these people go  
7 back before I was in public life. And I want a  
8 special shout out to the Vallone family; to senior,  
9 to junior, to Paul, to Perry, to Tina. So thank you  
10 to the Vallone Family. They've just been wonderful  
11 for me through, throughout the years. To the Weprin  
12 family Saul, David, and Mark thank you so much I  
13 was President to the Saul Weprin Democratic Club  
14 and that was you know kind of like my onramp to  
15 politics. So thank you to the Vallones. To, to my  
16 good friends who flank me Jimmy Vacca and Dan  
17 Garodnick we chat on all kinds of stuff that's off  
18 the record and I love them both like brothers and I  
19 could have better sort of seat mates right next to  
20 me. It's really been great. Better than my last  
21 person who used to sit next to me but we're not  
22 going to mention his name. So...

23 [laughter]

24 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: A special shout  
25 out to our, our, our, our great Queens delegation

1  
2 chair and my good friend Leroy Comrie. So grateful  
3 to have him as my colleague. My dear friend and  
4 brother Jimmy Oddo also treats me like a brother  
5 and I just thank you Jimmy so much and how much you  
6 mean to me and to this body. And so just, and  
7 you're doing this other thing I know. Good luck  
8 with that. That should, that should go great. And  
9 speaking of going great Tish I want to congratulate  
10 you on your elevation to higher office and I'm, I'm  
11 just so proud of you, so proud of all my, of all my  
12 colleagues for the, for, for their support, for  
13 their friendship, for their love and I fare the all  
14 well. To speaker Quinn if I go on I'm going to  
15 completely, completely lose it but for your love,  
16 your friendship, your support to me as a colleague  
17 and as a friend has been a blessing and a treasure.  
18 You're leadership of the city has been unparralled.  
19 And the entire city owes you a debt of gratitude.  
20 And you'll certainly have my gratitude and  
21 friendship forever. Thank you very much. I love  
22 you.

23 [applause]

24 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: And may God  
25 bless you and Kim and your family always. And I'll

1  
2 close where I began by paying thanks to my  
3 wonderful family; to my beautiful daughter  
4 Christina, to my dedicated son Richard and his wife  
5 Christy, and to my loving wife Joann. You have  
6 given me the gift of yourselves, the gift of your  
7 love, and the gift of teaching me what's really  
8 important which is you, which I celebrate and  
9 cherish every day one day at a time. And my prayer  
10 for all of you is that you know that no matter what  
11 life brings that there is a purpose and that God  
12 will take care of it in his own most perfect way.  
13 God is good always. Thank you very much.

14 [applause]

15 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Okay we're  
16 changing up the order a little bit because there's  
17 a, members have to, to leave and vote. So we're  
18 calling on Maria Del Carmen Arroyo next followed by  
19 council Member Anabel Palma, Fernando Cabrera, Andy  
20 King, Jimmy Vacca, Vanessa Gibson, and, and Oliver  
21 Koppell.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: May I ask  
23 consent to vote on the general order calendar  
24 resolutions?

25 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye on all.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Annabel Palma.

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Permission to  
vote on today's general order calendar resolutions?

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye on all.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Fernando  
Cabrera.

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Permission to,  
permission to vote on all items couple in  
resolutions in the calendar.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye on all.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: And then we  
have Council Member Andy King.

COUCIL MEMBER KING: Permission to vote  
on all Land Use call-ups and resolutions on today's  
agenda.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER KING: I vote aye.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Council Member  
Jimmy Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: I ask permission  
to vote aye on all calendar items and resolutions.

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STATED MEETING

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So ordered.  
Council Member Gibson.

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you. I  
just want to wish everyone good luck. God speed.  
Happy holidays to all and I would like permission  
to vote on all items on the general calendar order.  
I vote yes.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Okay. Council  
Member Koppell.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: I just want to  
pay tribute to my colleagues and because I have to  
leave I ask unanimous consent to vote on all items  
on the general order calendar.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: And I vote aye  
on all of those items and resolutions. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: There must be a  
big meeting in the Bronx I guess.

[laughter]

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Council Member,  
Council Member Koo. No, what is it.

[background comments]



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STATED MEETING

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Peter, did you, ought of said did you want vote or did you want to speak?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Speak.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Let's get through the voters... [interpose]

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Sure.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: ...first. Okay thank you Peter. I appreciate it. Just give me a, bear with us. Council Member Crowley.

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: I vote aye on all except for I abstain on 1054-A.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So... [interpose]

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: I really have the number. And I wish everybody merry Christmas, happy Kwanza, happy New Year.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So ordered. Thank you. Council Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: With permission I vote aye on all call-ups and general orders.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank you. I vote aye.

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STATED MEETING

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Council Member Weprin.

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Yes with unanimous consent I'd like to vote on all the Land Use call-ups on general order calendar. Yes. I vote aye on all.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes. Council Member Garodnick.

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Thank you. With permission I'd like to vote on all land use call-ups in the general order calendar.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER GARDONICK: And I'd like to vote aye. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Council Member Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLAMS: I'd like to request your unanimous consent to vote on all Land Use items and all items I vote aye with the exception of 1056 which I abstain. I did want to speak a little bit up with the e-cigs but I can't do that now. I didn't know how I was going to vote until I came here. I think there was just too much information that I don't have and need more of when

1  
2 it comes to the e-cigs. I am concerned about a lot  
3 of things. And I think it's a good bill but I think  
4 it's being rushed and so for that reason on the e-  
5 cigs I'm going to have to vote no.

6 [applause, cheering]

7 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: But aye on all  
8 the rest.

9 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you very  
10 much we now have Council Member Greenfield.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank you  
12 Mr. Leader I request a unanimous consent to vote in  
13 all the items, Land Use and call-ups. Thank you. I  
14 vote aye and I wish everyone a happy holidays.

15 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Okay. Council  
16 Member Vann.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Yeah unanimous  
18 consent to vote on all items before us. I vote aye  
19 on all.

20 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So ordered. And  
21 Council Member Crowley again.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Correction on  
23 the bill I'm abstaining on is 1056-A not 1054.  
24 Thank you.

1  
2 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you.  
3 Council Member Barron.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote no on  
5 LU994, no on LU995, no on LU996, no on LU996-1, no  
6 on LU996-2, no U, no on LU996-3, no on LU997, 998,  
7 and 999. And aye on all the rest.

8 [applause]

9 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: But is there  
10 anything left over Charles?

11 [laughter]

12 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: I didn't, I  
13 didn't think there was. Council Member Gentile.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Yes, I ask  
15 permission to vote on all general orders. I, I vote  
16 yes on all except for Intro 1056-A, I vote no,  
17 Intro 1204-A the hotel tax, I vote no, and Intro  
18 1210-A the e-cigarettes I vote no.

19 [applause, cheering]

20 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you.  
21 Council Member Melissa Mark-Viverito.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: I also  
23 want to vote. I just want to thank all the  
24 colleagues that have served and that are on their  
25 way out. I do wish them the best and thank them for

1  
2 their contributions to this body and to this city.  
3 It really has been a pleasure. We have motivated  
4 each other and challenged each other and really  
5 grown from those experiences and it makes us a  
6 better body when we're able to do that. It makes us  
7 better people. I also wish everybody a great  
8 holiday and with that I'd like to take a moment to  
9 vote aye on all items and on the issues on the  
10 general order calendar except for Intro 1056-A on  
11 which I vote no. Thank you.

12 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you very  
13 much Council Member. Just as a quick reminder to  
14 our friends and visitors in the audience. Where,  
15 loud applause or, or cheers or outbreaks are not,  
16 not allowed in the chambers during the stated  
17 council. So just a reminder. Thank you. We move on  
18 back to the normally scheduled program which would  
19 be Council Member Koo would be next.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you Mr.  
21 Majority Leader. I have to apologize I'm not as  
22 theatrical or entertaining as some of our other  
23 council members no.

24 [laughter]

25

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: As Council Member  
3 Barron here. Well people say life is a stage. No,  
4 we are doing it right here now. And I, I'm say life  
5 is a journey too. I spent two thirds of my journey  
6 receiving a higher education, raising the family,  
7 and starting a business. And four years ago my  
8 community allowed me to use my one, the last one  
9 third of my journey to do a public service. So far  
10 I'm say it I enjoying my, this political journey.  
11 But I must disagree with Council Member Barron on  
12 certain points. Our country is a great country  
13 because we have democracy, because rules of law,  
14 and then the last thing, the most important part is  
15 this is a capitalist country. Freedom or do  
16 business. Freedom to make money. As long as the  
17 country allows everyone opportunities to make a  
18 good living there's nothing against it. We  
19 shouldn't make rich people be ashamed of  
20 themselves. That being said I want to thank my  
21 family, especially my wife, for allowing me to do  
22 this final journey. Because actually he, she likes  
23 sightseeing journey of Belgium, this journey. And I  
24 also want to thank the mayor despite of some  
25 council member said he's not good mayor. But Mayor

1  
2 Bloomberg has been a really good mayor and he will  
3 be remembered in history as a good mayor in New  
4 York City, in the New York City. And I also want to  
5 thank Speaker Quinn. Despite of some other people  
6 say I think she's a good speaker a very fast  
7 speaker. And I also thank, want to thank all the  
8 leaderships. All the leaderships because I know  
9 it's late so I don't want to mention all the names.  
10 I learned a lot from them. I also want to thank all  
11 the central staff for doing a wonderful job. They  
12 provide continuity for city government. And lastly  
13 I want to thank all my colleagues. I have learned a  
14 lot from them and they have teach me a lot. And  
15 also my staff. I want to wish everyone a really  
16 rewarding journey ahead. And my last thing is I  
17 wanted to say to my, me beloved Cuncilman, Council,  
18 Council, Chairman Leroy. Chairman Leroy there's  
19 always a happy meal ahead for us, ahead of us. Get  
20 it. The happy meal is always there. [laughter] Some  
21 of you may not get a joke but one time when I said  
22 that no happy meal Leroy everybody laugh.

23 [laughter]

24

25

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: To that I want to  
3 wish everyone a happy, happy holiday and merry  
4 Christmas. Thank you.

5 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you very...  
6 [interpose]

7 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: And one last thing.  
8 I want to vote yes on all items today.

9 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Okay. Council  
10 Member Koo voted yes on all items on today. Okay.  
11 Next we have. We're going to take three more votes  
12 and then we're going to go back to the Speaker and  
13 we have Council Member Sara Gonzalez... [interpose]

14 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye on all.

15 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you. You  
16 got that guys? Okay Council Member Mike Nelson.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: I just wanted to  
18 explore the next council to go forward strongly  
19 against NICHE actually. And to just stay on top of  
20 all the issues that we've read about, we've heard  
21 about, we tried to make certain laws to change, to  
22 make sure those people who live in public housing  
23 don't have to be afraid to go out at night and  
24 don't have to be uncomfortable during the day. And  
25 it's been a very bad situation for all of them. So



1  
2 that should be something the next council strives  
3 to do. And in eight years I'll be 76 years old and  
4 I still have the spirit in 76 probably to come back  
5 to this seat.

6 [laughter]

7 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: And make sure  
8 you guys and gals did that for the people of public  
9 housing. I vote aye on all except 1210-A.

10 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Okay. Council  
11 Member Ulrich, and then Council Member... okay these  
12 are still voters voting so Council Member Ulrich  
13 followed by Council Member Ignizio.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Thank you Mr.  
15 Majority Leader. I request unanimous consent to  
16 vote on all Land Use call-ups and items on the  
17 general order calendar.

18 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So ordered.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: I vote aye on  
20 all with the exception of Intro 10, I'm sorry 1210-  
21 A, 1404-A, and I would like to abstain on Intro  
22 1056-A which is the building code revision or  
23 something that landed on my desk this morning.  
24 2,600 pages, I have not read it... [interpose]

1  
2 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: You haven't  
3 read it?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: if I haven't  
5 read the bill I'm not going to vote on it. I'm  
6 abstaining.

7 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Well wait till  
8 you read it, read it before you vote.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Okay. You'll be  
10 waiting a long time for that but...

11 [crosstalk]

12 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Council Member  
13 Ignizio.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: And before,  
15 before I go I, I just want to... [interpose]

16 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Oh.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: I just want to  
18 add my, a toast to Jimmy Oddo who will be  
19 remembered and we both have the same mentor as the  
20 best Minority Leader this body has ever seen. And I  
21 say that from the bottom of my heart. And Tom  
22 Augnomitty[phonetic] may not be happy about that  
23 but he's on the M train back to Middle Village and  
24 I know that we all love and revere him dearly but  
25 Jimmy, when you think of the Minority Leader you

1  
2 think of Jimmy Oddo. He's done a magnificent job.  
3 He's been a great friend. I remember walking in his  
4 office, I just turned 24 years old, I was just  
5 elected, he probably said in his head; who the hell  
6 is this kid coming in here. And I was elected in a  
7 special election and he told me I don't want to see  
8 you here. And I said what do you mean. He said  
9 there are no votes at city hall. Unless you have to  
10 be here for your committee assignments and meetings  
11 you belong in your district serving your  
12 constituents. And I'll never forget that. And I'll  
13 never forget by the way Christine Quinn  
14 congratulations now get back to work.

15 [laughter]

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: That was  
17 something that Chris had told me when I sworn in.  
18 So I got the, the baptism by fire but I learned  
19 from the best of the best and I am so proud and  
20 honored to have served with these fine gentlemen  
21 and women here. I know that they have enriched the  
22 life for it so thank you very much.

23 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you.

24 Council Member Ignizio followed by Council Member  
25 Fidler.

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes if I just  
3 may vote on all Land Use. [off mic comments] Sorry  
4 everybody. I vote no on Inro 1162-A, no on 1208-A,  
5 no on 1210-A, no on 1204-A, and aye on all others.  
6 Thank you.

7 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you very  
8 much. Council Member Fidler.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Majority Leader  
10 Rivera may I have the unanimous consent of the body  
11 to vote no on everything Charles Barron proposed  
12 today?

13 [laughter]

14 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: There you go.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: I also sitting  
16 here I, I realize the most important accomplishment  
17 that we've had in our 12 years in the council is  
18 convincing Jimmy Oddo that it's okay to get  
19 married. So I want to say that. Now on a much more  
20 serious basis I, I want to say a few thank you's  
21 and I'm going to try, especially considering that  
22 95 percent of the folks have left. I'm sure they're  
23 all heading out to my toy drive tonight in Brooklyn  
24 right? Some, some, some thank you's and do it  
25 briefly. I want to thank Speaker Christine Quinn

1  
2 and a John Lindsey was running for mayor in,  
3 reelection for mayor in 1969 and he said that being  
4 mayor of New York was the second toughest job in  
5 America. I honestly think he was wrong about that.  
6 I think being Speaker of the City Council is the  
7 second toughest job in America. I think Christine  
8 Quinn did a magnificent job doing it and I think  
9 she probably paid a price for having done the job  
10 so well. And I certainly want to express my thanks  
11 to her for that job. I mean that from the bottom of  
12 my heart. I'm not going to single out many people.  
13 I do want to thank Chuck and Ramone really well the  
14 front line of so much of the abuse that was thrown  
15 our way. Inez stole my thunder and I wanted to  
16 thank Barbara Scaffidi because we all know that  
17 Barbara is truly in charge here.

18 [laughter]

19 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: To my friend  
20 for life Jimmy Oddo. I want to thank him for  
21 teaching me and so many others of us that partisan  
22 politics doesn't need to interfere with working  
23 together and getting things done. And I know that  
24 we did a lot of those things together and I wish  
25 they would learn that lesson in Washington and

1  
2 Albany a little bit better. We certainly learned  
3 those lessons here. I want to, I'm not going to,  
4 because I only have 11 more days in my term I'm not  
5 going to thank each member of the staff personally  
6 and individually. I'll try and do that over the  
7 next few days. But to the central staff, to finance  
8 staff, the legal staff, the policy analyst staff,  
9 to all of you thank you. To my district office  
10 staff, and my city hall staff thank you. I know and  
11 everyone of us here should know that whenever we  
12 get to look good you are truly the wind between,  
13 beneath our wings. You are the ones who make it  
14 possible for us to look good and I really, really  
15 thank you all from the bottom of my heart. I want  
16 to thank Karl and the security staff, anyone who  
17 was here on the day that James Davis was shot.  
18 We'll understand just really how important what  
19 they do has been and I, I just, it's, it's really a  
20 thankless job that they do. And I, I do really  
21 appreciate it Karl and to all of you. To my  
22 colleagues, to my friends and colleagues I want to  
23 thank you all for the relationships that we have  
24 built here. I hope they are going to last for many  
25 many years to come. I think that they will always

1  
2 last in my heart, my, my newly mended heart. And  
3 [laughter] you know I, I know we'll work together  
4 in some capacity or another and if not then we'll  
5 just be friends I hope. A word of advice to those  
6 that we're leaving behind and those that are coming  
7 in the door. 12 years goes fast, 8 years goes even  
8 faster. And I just want to council you not to waste  
9 any of that time to, to work every day for the  
10 things that you believe in and things that will  
11 make lives better in the city of New York. And  
12 especially this piece of advice which is to find  
13 something that you feel passionately about and try  
14 to make a true difference on that issue. If you can  
15 do that with just one issue you will be able to  
16 look back after your time here be it 12 years, 8  
17 years, 4 years whatever and know that you didn't  
18 waste your time, that is was worthwhile. For me as  
19 the speaker mentioned earlier that issue was  
20 runaway and homeless youth. And I know that there  
21 are thousands of kids, maybe even tens of thousands  
22 of kids. Okay they will not be without hope,  
23 without a place to sleep, without a meal because of  
24 the work that you all did and the staff all did and  
25 we did together as a council. I know that I want to

1  
2 say on their behalf thank you to each and every one  
3 of you for making that happen. It means a lot to  
4 me. It should mean a lot to you. I know it means a  
5 lot to them. And so in conclusion it's not good bye  
6 it's see you later. In the words I believe his last  
7 speech on the floor of the council Speaker Gifford  
8 Miller and the, the immortal Lieutenant Commander  
9 Spock I want to say to all of you live long and  
10 prosper and I'll see you all tonight at New York  
11 City's largest toy drive. Thank you. I love you  
12 all.

13 [applause]

14 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you very  
15 much Council Member. Council Member Richards.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Good  
17 afternoon. I just wanted to... Well permission to  
18 vote on all Land Use and General Order call-ups.

19 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Alrighty. I  
20 vote aye on all Land Use items and I abstain on  
21 1056 and vote aye on the rest of all the general  
22 order call-ups. Just wanted to say thank you to  
23 Speaker Quinn. We're passing a Sandy tracker bill  
24 today and I wanted to thank her for her certain her  
25 guidance and, and, and, and work on all the Sandy



1  
2 related things in my community. There's also some  
3 other folk. And just thank you in general for being  
4 a friend, being someone who we could call on on any  
5 issue and whether we agreed on all that, that's  
6 another question but at the same time you were  
7 always receptive and always listened to our  
8 concerns. So thank you for all of your service. And  
9 I also wanted to thank some other members from your  
10 staff. Ramone Martinez, Preston Nieblack, Tanisha  
11 Edwards, Margaret Nelson[phonetic] in particular  
12 for their work on the Sandy tracking bill and for  
13 all of their service here. I also wanted to end by  
14 thanking our Queens Delegation Chair Leroy Comrie  
15 who served and done a lot for Southeast Queens and  
16 wanted to say we have big shoes obviously to fill  
17 with you living, leaving here but we will fight  
18 and, and, and certainly carry on your legacy here  
19 and make sure that Southeast Queens brings home  
20 their fair share of, of resources. So thank you to  
21 all the colleagues Domenic, Recchia, so many of you  
22 who have given guidance when I came in although I  
23 was here for 10 years prior. You know when you come  
24 in here it's still a world that you're adjusting  
25 to. And I'm, I'm thankful for all of your guidance

1  
2 and help and God speed and I wish you all well.

3 Thank you.

4 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you very  
5 much. Next we have Council Member Eugene.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you very  
7 much Majority Leader. I just want to take the  
8 opportunity to all, to say to all my colleagues who  
9 are leaving right now thank you for your service to  
10 the city council and thank you also for your  
11 service to the good city of New York. Each one of  
12 you, you are special. You are special and you have  
13 contributed to the city council and you have  
14 contributed to make you New York City a better  
15 place. It is, you know the beauty of the city  
16 council is to see people from different  
17 ethnicities, different background, different faith  
18 working together to better the life of people that  
19 we are serving. And I can say that with you the  
20 city's better, with you people and New York City  
21 are better off. My father usual, usually say that  
22 life is a long process of learning and I can say  
23 that the city council is a true school. After  
24 serving in the city council you are ready to serve  
25 anywhere and to fit anywhere. And you are all will

1  
2 be a great asset for any institution where you are  
3 going. And let me say that, that all of you, you  
4 went above and beyond your duty. Not only serving  
5 the people of the good city of New York but even  
6 when there is a disaster, any type of trouble in  
7 the city, like Sandy, even in other countries like  
8 Haiti, Japan, and Philipines, we all come together  
9 to alleviate the suffering of all you know people  
10 that I, who are in need. For all that, to all of  
11 you from the bottom of my heart thank you. Thank  
12 you very much. To the speaker thank you so much for  
13 your leadership. Thank you for your dedication and  
14 your love to serve New York City. And I want to  
15 take the opportunity also to say that without your  
16 wonderful staff you couldn't do it. To all the  
17 members of your wonderful staff thank you. Thank  
18 you so much. To all of you have a bless, safe, and  
19 happy holiday. Thank you.

20 [applause]

21 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you very  
22 much. Next is Council Member Karen Koslowitz.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Thank you.  
24 You know four years ago I decided to run for city  
25 council for two reasons. One reason was when I walk

1  
2 through my streets and I saw all the work that was  
3 done and that I could say I did it. For all the  
4 legislation that was put forth I could say that's  
5 my legislation. But one of the most important  
6 reasons that I ran again was because of Christine  
7 Quinn. I served with Christine in the city council  
8 in 1991 she was Chief of Staff to Senator Tom  
9 Twain[phonetic] and we worked on domestic  
10 partnership. And look how far we've come with  
11 domestic partnership. Another issue we worked on at  
12 that time was aids. Aids was rampid through the  
13 city. People were dying left and right and we  
14 worked on that, we created an agency and today look  
15 at the numbers compared to 1991. And that was with  
16 Christine Quinn. And then she left. And then she  
17 came back in 1999 as a Council Member and I had the  
18 pleasure of working with her until term limits. I  
19 was term limited so to all my colleagues who are  
20 leaving I know what the feeling is. You don't know  
21 what tomorrow holds but trust me it will be great.  
22 You will go, my grandma always had a saying; you  
23 close one door and another door opens and it will  
24 happen to you. And then I came back and I have to  
25 tell you Christine the last four years has been

1  
2 wonderful. I consider you my friend. I will walk  
3 with you through life from today until ever. Thank  
4 you for everything you have done for the council,  
5 for me, and for the people of the city of New York.  
6 I love you.

7 [applause]

8 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I, can I just  
9 say one more thing. To the staff I have to say also  
10 I consider you my family. Whenever there was a call  
11 made to you you came back. You cared about my  
12 community and my colleagues' community. And to all  
13 of you thank you so much for everything.

14 [applause]

15 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you very  
16 much. We're going to shift the order only for  
17 people who are going to vote and not speak and for  
18 those who want to speak we're going to stay within  
19 the normal order out of respect for people who have  
20 raised their hands earlier. So the next person who  
21 asked to, to vote is Council Member Dickens.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Permission to  
23 vote on the general order Calendar.

24 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye on all.

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STATED MEETING

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you very much. Council Member Koslowitz you voted right? Did you vote?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: No.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: No, okay she didn't vote.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I vote aye on Land Use call-ups and general order calendar. Aye.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Okay thank you. Next we have Council Member Mendez.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Thank you. This has been a particularly rough year for me. I started off this year with my good friend Marie Christopher a tenant activist passing away and I end it with a good friend Terry DiFiore passing away. More so I have to say good bye to my friends and my colleagues. For those of you who don't know I like to fight for change but I only like change when it's the change that I want.

[laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: And so it is bittersweet because I don't want you guys to leave. And for some of you you know district may want you back, you love your jobs and you'd like to do it

1  
2 but there's this little law that prevents you from  
3 doing it and I never really quite understood that  
4 law. But I wanted to just say a few more things.  
5 Yesterday I held my last hearing in this  
6 legislative session as the chair of the Public  
7 Housing Committee and to all of you who will be  
8 receiving packets of all the capital projects that  
9 have been completed and not completed so that we  
10 can keep track of them. And with that I also want  
11 to say to my good friend and my co-chair of the  
12 Woman's Caucus Jessica Lappin I will miss you  
13 dearly. And to my friend and sister and my speaker,  
14 Christine Quinn. I met you 27 years ago while we  
15 were doing housing work together. You were straight  
16 then.

17 [laughter]

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Thank you for  
19 coming over to our side. And thank you for coming  
20 over to our side because you make the LGBT  
21 community proud.

22 [applause]

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: But from the kid  
24 from the projects I have to say under your  
25 leadership Chris we have done so much for public

1  
2 housing. I don't know if you really realize it and  
3 I know people out there don't realize it. During  
4 the last eight years 175 million dollars from this  
5 city council to public housing.

6 [applause]

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: 98 million in  
8 capital member items that we passed in our district  
9 under your leadership. 77 million dollars in  
10 initiatives to stop the closing of senior centers,  
11 to stop the closing of our community centers and to  
12 deal with the repair back order log in public  
13 housing. We did that and you helped us do that  
14 Chris.

15 [applause]

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: So on behalf of  
17 everyone in the projects in case they're not saying  
18 it I'm saying. Thank you so much. And you make me  
19 proud. You make young women and girls and women in  
20 this city proud and you make the LGBT community  
21 proud and I will miss you. Thank you.

22 [applause]

23 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you very  
24 much Rosie. Up next we have Council Member Peter  
25 Vallone.



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STATED MEETING

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COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Thank you. My Christmas gift is I will be very brief. I want to thank the speaker. She is someone who gets things done and she works her tail off and I think today is a, is the perfect example of that and something she doesn't get cred it for we have all thanked the staff because we could not have done anything, anything we've accomplished without the staff..

[interpose]

[applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: ...but she hired the staff. She brought you here and she deserves credit for this great staff. Let's hear for the staff of these people. My colleagues we have had some awesome debates. It's been great but we have stayed friends throughout. That means so much to me, to the press who has to listen to us yammer like right now on and on. We, we will be home for Christmas I'm hoping.

[laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: So hang in there. Hang in there. The staff as I said we couldn't have done anything without you guys. My own personal staff and your staff just, just, just

1  
2 amazing. I want to thank you for allowing me the  
3 privilege, the privilege of being Public Safety  
4 chair for the last 12 years. My middle name is  
5 Fortunate a lot of people wonder what the F stands  
6 for and that's what it is. And, and I am truly  
7 truly fortunate to have met and worked with all of  
8 you. It is an honor and a privilege to have served  
9 with you for the last 12 years and to call you all  
10 friends. And just everybody merry Christmas and God  
11 bless. Thank you all very much.

12 [applause]

13 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Council Member  
14 Brewer.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you very  
16 much. It's certainly been an honor and a privilege  
17 to serve with Speaker Quinn to work in concert to  
18 have a large permanent legacy of improvement and  
19 progressive change. I think what we do is we share  
20 a lot of constituent crazinesses. We know all the  
21 frequent flyers on the West side.

22 [laughter]

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I do want to  
24 make sure that I thank my staff because they  
25 deserve all of the credit for what we have

1  
2 achieved. I want to mention Schuler Warren, Will  
3 Colegrove... [interpose]

4 [applause]

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: ...Gabriel

6 Valeez[phonetic], Jesse Bodine, Mozabra  
7 Rodriguez[phonetic], Ann Cunningham. And from past  
8 years Assembly Member Brian Kavanagh, Bruce  
9 Lie[phonetic], Sam Wong[phonetic], Allie Davis,  
10 Josh Vosian[phonetic], and Thomas Hunt[phonetic]  
11 just to name a few. But I really want to also thank  
12 and have great admiration for the Speaker's staff.  
13 I know that Government Operations. I've had the  
14 pleasure of chairing Council David Seitzer, Policy  
15 Analyst Tim Madisoft[phonetic], and former Council  
16 Seth Grossman and Matt Gelb. The legislative  
17 division is fantastic. And I want to thank Rob  
18 Newman, Alex Vetasnic[phonetic], Laura Popa, Tarise  
19 Anazer[phonetic], Jeff Baker who worked on so many  
20 issues certainly the open data bill and certainly  
21 all the work they did on paid sick days. From  
22 finance division Preston Niblack, Jeff Rhoda,  
23 Nathan Toth, Scott Crowley, James Reyes, Latonya  
24 McKinney who saved childcare, Regina Ryan, John  
25 Russell, Tanisha Edwards, and many more because

1  
2 they work so hard with me on the millions of  
3 dollars for capital projects, for schools, and  
4 parks, and cultural. And also I want to thank all  
5 their work with the Manhattan Delegation where we  
6 worked on discretionary and nonprofits and all the  
7 challenges. And the speaker mentioned in her press  
8 conference earlier today about tenants and housing  
9 and that is the work also thanks to the budget  
10 division. We had these wonderful housing clinics  
11 and thanks to Chair Dilan. I'm very proud of all  
12 the work we did on creating new park land, historic  
13 districts, landmarks. And I want to thank Gale  
14 Benjamin and her amazing staff for helping us with  
15 all of those issues.

16 [applause]

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I'm very partial  
18 to technology as you all know and I want to thank  
19 Chris Lawler[phonetic] and his IT team because they  
20 make it possible for us to have a... [interpose]

21 [applause]

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: ...smooth  
23 implementation of technology, webcasting, and I'm  
24 so excited of course about the webcasting. And as  
25 you know the whole city is going to have to be

1  
2 webcasting within 90 days. I want to thank the  
3 General Counsel's office Liz Fine, Jim  
4 Karris[phonetic], Chuck Davis, Danielle  
5 Balberro[phonetic] for all of their work. And I  
6 want to thank the Director of Security Karl Diabla.  
7 I want to thank the Sergeant at Arms Rafael, Raffy  
8 Perez[phonetic].

9 [applause]

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: And before him  
11 Elias Cabrera and all of the staff who are so nice.  
12 And in communications Jamey McShane, and Bill  
13 Alertiez[phonetic] and everybody in communications  
14 and Christine McLaughlin and her staff made our  
15 beautiful, beautiful... [interpose]

16 [applause]

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: ...flyers and  
18 leaflets. And I want to thank Ed O'Malley[phonetic]  
19 who worked with me when I was here in 1978. That's  
20 when I started with Ruth Messinger and Pauge  
21 Torro[phonetic] and I think Ruthy's, Ruthy I loved  
22 because she was there then too. And I want to thank  
23 Chuck Meera[phonetic] and Ramone Martinez as well  
24 as Margaret Nelson and Gary Altman[phonetic] and  
25 all the wonderful people in the Speaker's office. I

1  
2 also want to thank of course the members of the  
3 Manhattan Delegation. We worked together. Co-chair  
4 Dan Garodnick recently and the great, great lake  
5 Phil Reed. We owe a great deal of debt to the mayor  
6 and to his exceptional commissioners for their  
7 leadership, their management, and the  
8 implementation of the laws and policies. We didn't  
9 always agree but we made the city a better place. I  
10 know many of them before they were appointed but  
11 all had been helpful to me, to my staff, and to my  
12 constituents most importantly. I wish them all the  
13 best. I am most proud of the work we've done on  
14 paid sick leave and today we are passing the final  
15 bill to make the technical changes to improve that  
16 law. We actually have passed, I passed 37 laws and  
17 20 resolutions and I want to thank the Speaker and  
18 her staff and everyone here, all my colleagues for  
19 making that possible. I'm excited about the open  
20 data law and as the speaker mentioned all the work  
21 that she has done also on transparency and  
22 broadband and technology, text messaging. Local  
23 source, our local food sourcing law will save 200  
24 jobs so far and many more to go. We worked on  
25 accessible pedestrian crossing. We've worked on

1  
2 pedestrian safety with Council Member Vacca.  
3 Bicyclists who have commercial work to do are  
4 slowed down. Tenant protection, building  
5 inspections, banned smoking in the parks, worked on  
6 illegal hotels, much, much more. But so I want to  
7 thank all of you for 12 great years working in  
8 service to the city that we love. It started with  
9 the fresh democracy council. I just want the new  
10 folks to know that we had forums. We had forums. It  
11 is bittersweet to be moving on from the best job  
12 and the most fun I've ever had in government. And I  
13 also recall the words of Mayor David Dinkins when  
14 he left office. Mayors come and go but the life of  
15 the city must endure. So it is with us and wish  
16 each and every one of my colleagues the best of  
17 your endeavors and I look forward to working with a  
18 new council. As Manhattan Borough President I look  
19 forward to working with Jimmy Oddo in particular  
20 and I want to thank my husband Cal Schneider. Thank  
21 you.

22 [applause]

23 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you,  
24 thank you very much. Council Member Eugene to vote.

25

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you  
3 Majority Leader. I want to request the unanimous  
4 consent to vote on all the Land Use call-up and all  
5 the item. And today's agenda. Thank you very much.  
6 I vote aye on all.

7 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you very  
8 much. Council... [interpose]

9 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you.

10 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Council Member  
11 Dromm.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you very  
13 much. I want to take this opportunity also to thank  
14 my colleagues for making these first four years in  
15 the council such a wonderful experience especially  
16 to Leroy Comrie who's leaving as our delegation  
17 chair. But I, I waited today to be able to speak on  
18 my friend Christine Quinn and to thank her for all  
19 that she has done for the LGBT communities. I don't  
20 know if people realize how extremely difficult it  
21 is for a lesbian woman to achieve the achievements  
22 that Speaker Christine Quinn has done and what  
23 great hope she gave the gay community throughout  
24 all of her years of public service. I've known  
25 Speaker Quinn for 22 years and in fact we used to



1  
2 walk the streets of Jackson Heights at 1:00 in the  
3 morning going from disco to disco turning off the  
4 music and handing out flyers so that people would  
5 feel safe on the streets. And we were actually  
6 looking for the murderers of Julio  
7 Rivera[phonetic], a young Latino gay man who was  
8 killed by three white supremists, skin heads out  
9 hunting. And that was the word that they used for a  
10 homosexual to kill. And I also know Christine Quinn  
11 from the days GLID, Gay and Lesbian Independent  
12 Democrats where much of the leadership in the gay  
13 community today came out of that club. And  
14 including Rosie, myself, Jimmy, Tom Dwayne, and all  
15 of us were in that club. And just to say that as a  
16 person who has led a life of personal example to  
17 all of us. And I can remember being in a very  
18 conservative district in Queens where you know 20  
19 years ago it wasn't popular to speak on LGBT issues  
20 and you spoke eloquently of your relationship with  
21 Kim and it was such a big hit in that community and  
22 you really were able to win people over. And that  
23 is your legacy. And I know that you know one of the  
24 big things for me as a former educator has been  
25 LGBT history. And when that book on LGBT history is

1  
2 written your picture, your face, and all the good  
3 deeds that you have done for our community will be  
4 included in that book. Thank you very much for all  
5 you have done for our community.

6 [applause]

7 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Council Member  
8 Lappin.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: So I haven't  
10 been here as long as Jimmy Oddo but I have spent  
11 the last 15 years working for the City Council; for  
12 the first eight working for Speaker Gifford Miller  
13 and the last eight as an elected member of this  
14 body and I love this institution. It is an  
15 incredibly powerful and meaningful place and I've  
16 been very honored to be a member here. I ran for  
17 the City Council in the first place because I  
18 wanted to try and make a difference in real and  
19 meaningful concrete ways and, and I believe that I  
20 did. And I'm very very proud of all of the work  
21 that we've done together really; adding school  
22 seats, opening new parks, and the FDR memorial on  
23 Roosevelt Island which is fabulous. Regulating  
24 crisis pregnancy centers, saving senior centers as  
25 Inez was nice enough to mention, protecting the

1  
2 historic fabric of our city, and Rosie was always  
3 on Landmarks with me, and passing meaningful  
4 construction safety legislation after the cranes  
5 collapsed on the East side. But I would say just as  
6 meaningful are really the friendships and that's  
7 why I'm choked up today. I feel like I'm graduating  
8 college.

9 [laughter]

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: You know really  
11 really excited about what's next but it's you know  
12 sad to leave people behind. So, not that we'll all  
13 be leaving each other behind. But some of you who I  
14 served with as staff; Ramone, Jeff, Chuck, Barbara  
15 who was at my wedding. The people who aren't here  
16 today like Peter Ryder, and Moira Kenny...

17 [interpose]

18 [applause]

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: ...Scott Melvin,  
20 and Torrance who I saw, and Wayne. And then the  
21 people who I've gotten to know more recently in the  
22 last few years; Jamie and Preston and, and Rob it's  
23 just been wonderful to work with you all and, and  
24 all of my colleagues that are still here. It has  
25 been really just an honor to serve with all of you.

1  
2 It's an incredibly talented and special group of  
3 people. And Christine you are just you know  
4 passionate and warm and tough and smart and a true  
5 leader. And no matter what you do next you're going  
6 to continue to lead. I have my own dream team some  
7 of whom are here today. Linzy and Mia, Michelle,  
8 Tiana, and Ethel who guys you've worked so hard,  
9 so, so hard on behalf of our constituents. And of  
10 course Jane. Nobody's worked harder than Jane.

11 [applause]

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Who Chuck once  
13 kicked out of a staff meeting. Do you remember  
14 that? I know you're so happy that I brought that  
15 up.

16 [laughter]

17 [background comments]

18 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: You know Jane  
19 you, you have just... All those late night phone  
20 calls from Betty Cooper Wallerstein and the  
21 countless hours of the Lexington Democratic Club  
22 and petitioning out on those hot days for a lot of  
23 people who are actually here in this room today all  
24 over the city. You're just, I love you so much you  
25 know that?

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[applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: She was my boss originally and a great boss at that. She still is. I have sat here many times and actually looked up at those words by Lincoln; A government of the people, by the people, for the people, and have had this opportunity to be part of this American experiment of democracy was really special. And I will never forget the first vote I cast here and how sort of that weight of responsibility you feel. And, and eight years later I, I still feel that same way, so humbled and really odd to be here. So thank you all.

[applause]

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you Jessica. Council Member Mealy. Council Member Mealy.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I vote aye on all and I wish everyone a bless and prosperous New Year. And I love you Speaker Quinn and all my colleagues. Peace.

[laughter]

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you very much Council Member. Next we have Council Member

1  
2 Chin followed by Council Member Rose, followed by  
3 Council Member Lander.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you. I just  
5 want to take this opportunity to really thank all  
6 my colleagues. I have such a wonderful first term  
7 and I'm you know really looking forward to coming  
8 back. And I wanted to thank my speaker, our speaker  
9 Chris Quinn. I mean we met more than 20 years ago  
10 when I was running for the city council and you  
11 were the, the campaign manager for Tom Dwane. He  
12 made it in and I didn't and it took me another 20  
13 years but I'm just blessed that I have the  
14 opportunity to serve with you. And I thank you for  
15 being so supportive of me in my first term  
16 especially with so many Land Use projects and also  
17 tragedy that happened in the district. And my  
18 community and myself we really thank you for  
19 supporting us and working with us to fight for  
20 justice for Private Danny Chen. And I think that  
21 the family, the parent really appreciate you being  
22 there when we had the hearing on the resolution and  
23 my colleagues for voting to support the resolution  
24 and co-naming that we did in the last stated  
25 hearing. So Chris good luck and just you know bless

1  
2 you and whatever you do you have our love. And we  
3 know you'll be fine and you'll be great. I also  
4 want to take a moment to thank Council Member  
5 Comrie, the chair of the Land Use. Even though I'm  
6 not on Land Use but it seems like I'm always there.  
7 And your word of encouragement and support it was  
8 tremendous. He said Margaret just fight for what  
9 you want and they'll listen. With all the Land Use  
10 project that, that we have went through I really  
11 appreciate the support that you have given me.  
12 Another colleague Council Member Domenic Recchia  
13 with all the, you know the China Town bid, the SOHO  
14 bid and all those hearings that you have to endure  
15 but you was so supportive to sit down with me to  
16 meet with the opposition, meet with the supporter,  
17 and I really enjoy sitting with you at those budget  
18 hearings and to really see your commitment to  
19 making sure that program that served the city gets  
20 funded and the people who come to City Hall to  
21 testify you were there from beginning to end to  
22 listen to every single one of them. Especially  
23 those kids, the rap kids. They always get their  
24 funding because they were here and I, and I thank  
25 you for your support on the budget process. And of

1  
2 course to all the, the council staff, the, the  
3 central staff you know Gale, the Land Use staff,  
4 Chuck always calling me to see what we need help on  
5 and I really appreciate that, and of course Ramone  
6 you know helping us and giving us guidance on all  
7 those Land Use that I have to endure. And my  
8 brother Robert Jackson, you know chair of the  
9 Black, Latino, Asian Caucus and chair of the  
10 Education Committee to really thank you for like  
11 taking care of me as a little sister. You're  
12 probably one of the few people who will always love  
13 me.

14 [laughter]

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: But, and I look  
16 forward to serving with Gale as my Borough  
17 President. It, it's been such a pleasure having you  
18 know that opportunity again. And also Council  
19 Member Lappin it was a pleasure serving on the, the  
20 Aging Committee with you as the chair that we've  
21 done so much especially to bring to light the issue  
22 of the adult daycare and hopefully we can get some  
23 regulation over there. And thanks again to all my  
24 colleagues and I wish everyone a happy holiday and  
25 merry Christmas. Thank you.



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[applause]

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COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Oh can I have  
permission to vote... [interpose]

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[laughter]

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COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: ...on all the  
general order item I vote aye on all. Thank you  
very much.

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you very  
much.

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[applause]

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Next we have  
Council Member Rose and if you're speaking and want  
to vote do it at the same time so that way you  
don't have to get called again. Council Member  
Rose.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Thank you. I, I  
want to say that this, my first term as a freshman  
has been marked by the opportunity to work with  
legends. The Council Members that are leaving the  
chambers today for the last time are truly legends.  
I read about you before I was elected and I was  
impressed by the work that you did and I wanted to  
emulate you and I hope that I, I was able to do so.  
I, I want to say that you know navigating the rough

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2 waters of city government was made easier because  
3 of the caliber of colleagues that I have here in  
4 council and central staff. I want to thank the  
5 central staff. I want to especially thank the  
6 following members who put up with me, treated me  
7 delicately but firmly, and I want to thank, I want  
8 to thank Ramone who I've, I've teased over the four  
9 years. Every time Ramone called me I felt like I  
10 was being summoned to the principal's office.

11 [laughter]

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: And I, as with  
13 being summoned to the principal's office you often  
14 learn a lesson. And I want to thank Ramone for the  
15 lessons that you know he taught me. I want to thank  
16 Chuck for being especially accessible and helpful  
17 in, in my daily maneuverings here. And to Preston  
18 and Jeff who probably thought that the endless  
19 questions were never going to cease I want to thank  
20 you and Latonya and Tanisha. And I want to thank  
21 Gale Benjamin and her staff for helping me get  
22 through the biggest project, that's the Euler  
23 project that Staten Island's ever seen, a 625 foot  
24 wheel, 150 outlet stores, and a hotel, and a  
25 partridge and a pear tree.

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[laughter]

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COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: I want to thank you for helping me through that process. I want to thank Domenic Recchia the newest member of the Staten Island delegation for... [interpose]

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[laughter]

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COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: ...for recognizing that Staten Island had some special needs and, and for helping us meet some of those needs. My tenor here has been, I'm honored and humbled to have worked with such a distinguished and all this body of professionals, humanitarians, and selfless advocates for the people of New York City. I thank you for a rich experience. I know that all of you are going to be sorely missed and the skills that you brought to us. I want to thank you all for your leadership in all of the special ways that you have. I have to recognize chair Jackson for his leadership of the Black Caucus. And all of you I would love to name you by, by name so those of you that are here, that's remaining, Lou Fidler, Leroy Comrie, Diana Reyna, Robert Jackson, and my Minority Leader who is now my Borough President I am humbled and, and excited about what's going to

1  
2 happen on Staten Island, Domenic Recchia my  
3 Congressman to be, Gale Brewer, Jessica Lappin  
4 thank you for what you've done for our seniors, and  
5 for Tish James our public advocate. I thank you  
6 all. You've made this very special. And to  
7 Christine Quinn who is a phenomenal woman who had a  
8 tough job. It was like herding cats and you  
9 actually mastered it. And I thank you Chris for the  
10 opportunity. And Joel Rivera... [interpose]

11 [applause]

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: ...who it was hard  
13 to keep order with so many steller performers. So  
14 I, I thank you all and I vote aye on all and I  
15 wish you all a healthy and safe holiday.

16 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you very  
17 much Council Member. We're going to shift a little  
18 bit for a second. Council Member Dromm has to vote  
19 then we go back to Council Member Lander.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you. I'm  
21 one of those who've forgotten. I vote aye on all  
22 Land Use items and all general order calendar  
23 items. Thank you.

24 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So ordered.  
25 Council Member Lander.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you very  
3 much. I just want to echo the sentiments that so  
4 many folks have said. The passion today expressed  
5 by the departing members of this body in what  
6 Jessica and Gale and Jimmy and Lou and, and Robert  
7 had to say. Your passion for public service, for  
8 the people of this city, for this body as an  
9 institution, for the trust that has been placed in  
10 us is deeply, deeply moving and humbling. I know  
11 what you've done in your districts and what you've  
12 done here and what you've done in your leadership  
13 is extraordinary and really inspiring and I  
14 appreciate the emotion, and the depth, and passion  
15 of your remarks today. I do want to single out my  
16 chairman. It was an honor serving as a subcommittee  
17 chair under Chair Comrie. And Land Use, Domenic you  
18 have been a mentor to me and I look forward to  
19 continuing to work closely with you in your next  
20 step. And Madam Speaker while I know that the last  
21 year hasn't been an easy year for, for anyone. In  
22 some ways I am inspired by your passion, by your  
23 smarts, by the leadership that you've shown in this  
24 body, and I have real, real deep personal respect  
25 for you. And I thank you for what you have given

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2 these past years to the people of the city of New  
3 York very, very deeply and genuinely. I'm not going  
4 to do the staff by name but I have been so lucky to  
5 have so many of you take time with me, help me  
6 figure things out, tell me when I'm way off base,  
7 and I'm really, really very deeply grateful for it.  
8 I look forward to continuing to work in different  
9 ways with everybody in the room. Thank you very,  
10 very much. I request unanimous consent to vote aye  
11 on all items on today's calendar.

12 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So ordered.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: I vote aye on  
14 all.

15 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Okay. Thank you  
16 very much. Seeing no others I'll be the last to say  
17 just a few words. I apologize Madam Speaker. She  
18 anxiously was about to get up. I was going to make  
19 a very long speech but you know in, in hindsight I  
20 decided to make it as short as I possibly can.  
21 Being elected in 2001 as the youngest ever elected  
22 it was a great experience for me over the past 12  
23 and a half years to begin the City Council to  
24 serve. There's so many of you. You have taught me  
25 so much over the years and you really shaped who I

1  
2 am as a person. I want to thank each and every  
3 single one of you for that. You know they say life  
4 is about of, about our experiences and they say  
5 never take for granted any day or any person that  
6 you meet because tomorrow is never promised to you  
7 and the people you meet are those who shape who you  
8 are and those that are the, the people that will  
9 guide you through life. So you know with that being  
10 said I just want to thank everybody. It's been a  
11 tremendous, tremendous learning experience. It  
12 feels like the last day of school like Jessica  
13 said. It feels like we're the class of 2013. I feel  
14 like we should have caps and gowns and you know  
15 have a graduation ceremony over here because some  
16 of us are graduating and moving on into the next  
17 chapters of our lives and it's going to be  
18 something to celebrate and not something to be sad  
19 over. Because like I said you know this has been a  
20 great honor you know for all of us to be Council  
21 Members. You know to sit in our seats and to debate  
22 the issues of the day and to stand here to talk  
23 about how we need to save fire houses, how we need  
24 to save senior centers, how we need to protect our  
25 youth and improve education, and to thank all the

1  
2 activists and the advocates who have been there  
3 every year during the budget season to remind us  
4 you know what a 70 billion dollar plus budget means  
5 to the people of the city of New York. So again I'm  
6 going to keep it short, just wanted to say thank  
7 you. And to the class of 2013 thank you, thank you,  
8 thank you.

9 [applause]

10 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: And now of  
11 course... [interpose]

12 CHAIRPERSON QUINN: Thank you.

13 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: ...we saved the  
14 best for last.

15 [laughter]

16 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Speaker Quinn.

17 SPEAKER QUINN: Just a couple quick  
18 things before we move onto the agenda which even  
19 though most people voted I do actually technically  
20 have to read into the record so [laughter] bear  
21 with me on that. First of all I just want to say a  
22 couple of quick thank you's. I have a lot I could  
23 say but trust me I wouldn't get through it so... I  
24 want to thank all of my colleagues for all of their  
25 support. I want to thank the staff.



1  
2 [applause]

3 SPEAKER QUINN: I'm not saying much and  
4 I'm not even getting through it. There is no group  
5 of people who get less financial compensation for  
6 what they do than all of you. There's no group of  
7 people who have put their heart and their soul into  
8 making this city and world a better place. There is  
9 no group of people that has had my back and  
10 everybody's back 24/7, 365 days a year than all of  
11 you. I wish I had words to say thank you. I wish  
12 everytime a constituent that was attractive, a  
13 little snotty there... [interpose]

14 [laughter]

15 SPEAKER QUINN: I wish everytime a  
16 constituent came to any one of us that we could  
17 take a film and audio of it and send it to all of  
18 you. I wish all of you could have seen that little  
19 girl who lost control and bawled uncontrollably  
20 much like me on primary day when she got to see  
21 this woman who was running for mayor. I wish you  
22 had seen my neighbor wait for me outside my door a  
23 couple of nights ago to tell me how well her son  
24 was doing in high school and the difference we had  
25 made, my district office, in their housing life. I

1  
2 wish all of you could have felt the hug I got one  
3 day from a domestic violence survivor who we helped  
4 deal with her batterer in jail, put her batterer in  
5 jail. You will never have gotten all of that but I  
6 want you to know there's a million of those. And  
7 this city is a better place because of all of you.  
8 And I just wanted to say thank you. I want to thank  
9 you on behalf of 8.4 million New Yorkers who you  
10 have slaved for and you have made this city a  
11 better, more fair, and more just place. And I am so  
12 proud of the administration we ran here. We were  
13 tough, we didn't take any shit. What the hell. You  
14 know what I'm saying it's my last... [interpose]

15 [applause]

16 SPEAKER QUINN: And sometimes we didn't  
17 take that in public and sometimes we didn't take it  
18 in private but we got things done and we made this  
19 city a better place. And when you leave whatever  
20 you're last day is be so incredibly proud, be  
21 incredibly proud that a city that is the greatest  
22 city in the world is better because of all of you.  
23 I'll end by saying you know this is a city where  
24 all of my grandparents came from Ireland with  
25 nothing. My maternal grandfather John Callahan came

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2 here with a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade education, Kim Catullo my  
3 wife who snuck who didn't say she was coming has  
4 heard this story a million times. He came over with  
5 a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade education. He was a milkman. Many of  
6 his brothers spent years in and out you know of the  
7 drunk tank as it's occasionally a problem in our  
8 family. But he rose to the rank of Battalion Chief  
9 in the New York City fire department. He drove  
10 Mayor Laguardia to fires. And he would end every  
11 family gathering with this, and this is what I will  
12 leave you with and I hope it reminds you of the  
13 greatness of our city. Goodbye, goodluck, and God  
14 bless you. And that's all I have to say. And I vote  
15 aye on all.

16 [applause]

17 [pause]

18 [applause]

19 SPEAKER QUINN: So from Jimmy Oddo's  
20 eighth grade graduation to here let's get back to  
21 the agenda.

22 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So now that  
23 officially concludes communication from the  
24 Speaker.

25 [laughter]

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Now we can actually get onto the business of the day. We now move on to discussion of general orders. We have Council Member Jackson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you Majority Leader and I thank you for being, chairing out... [interpose]

SPEAKER QUINN: You didn't rise.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Oh no. I didn't rise. Sorry I rise in order to speak on this particular item. Pat Jones who is one of the street co-namings was a woman who chaired Community Board 9 and chaired also the West Harlem Local Development Caucus in this community of benefits agreement with Columbia University. She passed away. One day they found her, she failed to show up for a meeting and everyone was trying to call her and she passed away at her home. And she's done so, so much for our community and West Harlem that clearly, clearly in everyone's mind she's deserving of a street co-named for her. And I just wanted to say publically on the record that for people like Pat Jones who really really deserve it I'm so proud as a member of this body in order to put forward

1  
2 her name for a street co-naming in her honor. To  
3 her family I want you to know she's done a  
4 fantastic job for our community and I'm so proud to  
5 do that. And I thank you Majority Leader for  
6 leading us on the continuous basis at all stated  
7 meetings.

8 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you very  
9 much. Council Member James.

10 COUCNIL MEMBER JAMES: Today we are  
11 passing several pieces of legislation out of the  
12 sanitation and solid waste committee. The first  
13 bill it's in regards to the polystyryin foams  
14 sponsored by Council Member Lou Fidler and myself.  
15 The bill will call upon the Department of  
16 Sanitation Commissioner to, to determine the  
17 recyclability of foam within the existing  
18 department of sanitation infrastructure. If the  
19 material is deemed to be recyclable then the  
20 commissioner must designate it and include it in  
21 our residential recycling program. If the  
22 commissioner determines that it's not recyclable  
23 then the material will be banned from food service  
24 establishments and other locations. Several notable  
25 changes have been made to this bill since this

1  
2 committee, since we last heard it in committee  
3 including a hardship expansion for small businesses  
4 and nonprofits and a six month grace period before  
5 tickets can be issued. In addition the second bill  
6 is proposed intro 1162 which I am the prime sponsor  
7 in conjunction with the mayor and this bill  
8 establishes a commercial composting program for  
9 large restaurants, grocery stores, caterers and  
10 other food, food related establishments. Beginning  
11 July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 the commissioner will be required to  
12 regularly examined and determine the amount of  
13 composting capacity within one hundred miles of the  
14 city and to require composting at large food  
15 generators, commencerate with the available  
16 composting capacity. This bill also includes a six  
17 month grace period. In addition I'm proud to have  
18 sponsored the LIU expansion. I look forward to a  
19 new sports facility at LIU and Fort Green. And I  
20 thank, I want to also lastly thank my staff Asia,  
21 Barbara, Phillis, Gigi, Julissa, Fernando, Gina,  
22 and Alfred Giotto who has passed on, and of course  
23 Kate Seely-Kirk, Dan Avery, and Jared  
24 Hoger[phonetic]. Thank you.  
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2 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you very  
3 much. Seeing no others for general discussions,  
4 discussion of general orders we'll now move on to  
5 reports of special committees.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

7 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Reports of  
8 Standing Committees.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the  
10 Committee on Civil Service and the Labor Intro  
11 1208-A, employee sick time.

12 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on  
13 general orders.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the  
15 Committee on Community Development Intro 891-A,  
16 annual report on poverty.

17 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on  
18 general orders.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the  
20 Committee on Consumer Affairs Intro 876-A, sidewalk  
21 café.

22 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on  
23 general orders.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Intro 1039-A, sidewalk  
25 cafés.

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STATED MEETING

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on general orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Intro 1177-A, record keeping requirements for secondhand dealers.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on general orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee on Contracts Intro 193-A, emergency procurements.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on general orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee on Environmental Protection Intro 867-A, environmental hazard remediation program.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on general orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Intro 1160-A, reducing pollutants from waste hauling vehicles.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on general orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered Reso 2084, environmental review for Intro 1160-A.

SPEAKER QUINN: Preconsidered, coupled on general orders sorry.



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STATED MEETING

161

COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the  
Committee on Finance Intro 172-A, fire department  
fees.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on  
general orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Intro 1040-A.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on  
general orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Intro 1171-A, sale of  
tax leans.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on  
general orders with a message of necessity.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Intro 1186, Hudson  
Yard's business improvement district.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on  
general orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Intro 1204-A,  
occupancy tax.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on  
general orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered Intro  
1227.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
orders.

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STATED MEETING

COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered Intro  
1228, preliminary mayor, management report.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered Reso  
2090, organization funding.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General  
Orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered LU 1003  
and Reso 2096.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the  
Committee on Fire and Criminal Justice Services  
Intro 1174-A, New York City fire code.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on  
general orders with a message of necessity.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered Reso  
2081, environmental review Intro 1174.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the  
Committee on Governmental Operations Intro 951-A,  
notice of final rule.

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STATED MEETING

163

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: M1338, Mayor's veto of Intro 951 A.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled to be filed.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee on Health Intro 933-A, animal abuse registry.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on general orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Intro 1210-A, electronic cigarettes.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on general orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee on Housing and Buildings. Intro 1056-A, various building codes.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on general orders with a message of necessity.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Intro 1102-A, hazardous material storage.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on general orders.

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STATED MEETING

COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the  
Committee on Land Use LU 961 and Reso 2097 through  
LU 963 on Reso 2099.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 987 and Reso 2100.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 989 and Reso 2101,  
Long Island Resolution.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 994 through LU 999  
on page nine, Coney Island.

SPEAKER QUINN: Approved of the  
modifications and referred to the City Planning  
Commission pursuant to the, to rule 11.7ob of the  
rules of the council in section 197d of the New  
York City charter.

COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 1,000 and Reso 2102  
and LU 10,000, 1001 in Reso 2103, tax exemption.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
orders.

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STATED MEETING

165

COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 1002 in Reso 2104,  
sidewalk café.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: report of the  
Committee on Parks and Recreation Preconsidered  
Intro 1216.

SPEAKER QUINN: Adopted and re-referred  
to the Committees on Parks and Recreations.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered 1217,  
naming of six thoroughfares in public places.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
orders with a message of necessity.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the  
Committee on Public Safety Intro 859-A, police  
department reports in parks.

SPEAKER QUINN: Couple, amended and  
coupled on general orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the  
Committee on Sanitation and Solid Waste Management  
Intro 1060-A, use of polystyrene items.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on  
general orders with a message of necessity.

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STATED MEETING

COMMITTEE CLERK: Reso 2058-A,  
environmental review for Intro 1060-A.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on  
general orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Intro 1162-A,  
commercial organic waste.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on  
general orders with a message of necessity.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered Reso  
2087, environmental review Intro 1162-A.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the  
Committee on Small Business Intro 1213-A, replacing  
fines with opportunities to cure.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on  
general orders with a message of necessity.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the  
Committee on Transportation Intro 1055-A, police  
department reports concerning vehicle collisions.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on  
general orders.

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STATED MEETING

167

COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the  
Committee on Veterans Into 1159-A, veteran owned  
businesses.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on  
general orders.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: General order  
calendar.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Into 635-A, online  
publication of commuter van information.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 994 through LU 999,  
Coney Island.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
orders.

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

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
orders. And if we need a roll call left we can do  
it now but I think we may not.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I vote, I vote  
aye and I want to thank the speaker and everyone

1  
2 for support of the paid sick days technical changes  
3 bill. And I vote aye. Thank you.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Comrie.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: I vote aye and  
6 congratulations to Council Member Fidler and Reyna  
7 for all of this changes that made the styrofoam  
8 bill acceptable to both members. And to all of the  
9 members that have bills today. Aye on all.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Dilan.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Just want to take  
12 a moment to thank all the folks who helped, all the  
13 280 professionals who helped get the New York City  
14 Building Code before us today. A lot of these  
15 professionals whether they from architectural  
16 trades, construction trades, engineers really put  
17 all their services for the, gave all their services  
18 to the city for free I want to thank them for that.  
19 I want to thank Commissioner Bob Limandri and his  
20 staff at the buildings code for getting us to this  
21 point today. And... [interpose]

22 [applause]

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: ...that's fine  
24 yeah. I want to take the time to thank the  
25 committee staff of the Housing and Buildings



1  
2 Committee Bob Latham, Ed Akin[phonetic], Guillermo  
3 Patino who... [interpose]

4 [applause]

5 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: ...who got us to  
6 this point today. And just want to also thank two  
7 people from the outside who has helped me with the  
8 building codes since I became chairperson in 2006  
9 that's Kathy Cudahy and Dorothy Harris from the ICC  
10 I really appreciate all the guidance that you've  
11 given me. And I want to thank a group of people who  
12 never get thank from the floor but that's my, I  
13 know it's, this is a little bit inappropriate Madam  
14 Speaker but my, my district office staff Andres  
15 Ledesma, Rick Arbelo who works at city hall, Jackie  
16 Reyes, Rafael Sardou, Elvin Santiago who won a bet  
17 because I shed a few tears today. I, I do have a  
18 José Riverra on my staff... [interpose]

19 [laughter]

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERRA: ...no relation.  
21 To each and every one of them thank you for all the  
22 service that you've given to my constituents. I  
23 really appreciate you. With that I vote aye on all  
24 except for Intro 1210-A, which I vote no.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Fidler.

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: I, I in the  
3 emotion in the moment I did forget to thank very  
4 significant people and that is my family; my wife  
5 Robin and my sons Max and Harry. I think everyone  
6 of us who's here, who's still her has to  
7 acknowledge that families all make sacrifices in  
8 order for us to be able to do what we do. And I  
9 sure as hell didn't want to leave the floor today  
10 without saying that. On the styrophoam bill I want  
11 to thank from the bottom of my heart Rob Newman and  
12 Laura Popa, and Jarret Hova for the work that they  
13 did. But I have to single out in the face of  
14 literally a million dollars spent trying to defeat  
15 this bill. And if it weren't for my council Brad  
16 Reed finding out the truth doing all the work that  
17 he did I doubt we would be here today doing this  
18 very important thing for our city and for our  
19 environment.

20 [applause]

21 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Yeah you, he  
22 deserves that round of applause. I, I hope you'll  
23 at least get a pen from the mayor. [laughter] And  
24 with that I proudly vote aye on all.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gennaro.

1  
2 COMMITTEE MEMBER GENNARO: Mr. Leader I  
3 would ask for the opportunity to speak on my vote.

4 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

5 COMMITTEE MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you.  
6 First of all I, I, this is not on the agenda but I,  
7 I, I think we should give Kim a round of applause.  
8 I know the speaker gave my wife a round of  
9 applause. I want to Kim a round of applause.

10 [applause]

11 COMMITTEE MEMBER GENNARO: And I wanted  
12 to thank some staff members that I, I left out when  
13 I was speaking earlier. These are people that have  
14 forged a real bond with me, that talked to me about  
15 what's going on in my life. And they're, they're  
16 just wonderful people. And that would be Jimmy  
17 McShane and Margaret Nelson, and Rob Newman, and  
18 Laura Popa, and also Samara Swanston, and Jeff  
19 Baker, and Jeff Rhoda who has never not asked about  
20 my wife when I see him, never ever, he always asks.  
21 And Bill Elitrees[phonetic], and Gary Altman, and I  
22 want to give a special thank you to Lou Fidler for  
23 being such a champion on the styro bill. Is, it,  
24 it, it's happening because of him and it's, it's a  
25 great environmental accomplishment and he really

1  
2 deserves a lot of, pretty much all the credit and  
3 of course the staff that he mentioned. And also to  
4 Eric Dilan for the building code which is a very  
5 big deal and he's been a great colleague as has Lou  
6 Fidler. And once again I thank the Speaker for her  
7 leadership and her love and with that said this is  
8 my last vote. Here it goes. Wait for it. Wait for  
9 it. Aye on all.

10 [pause]

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Jackson.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: May I be  
13 excused to explain my vote?

14 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you so my  
16 colleagues I rise in order to explain my vote for  
17 the last time in my term of office. But Lou you are  
18 clearly a fighter and one of my colleagues with  
19 respects to this particular bill on banning  
20 polystyrene and you know I've heard all the various  
21 positions and what have you so forth. And I'm glad  
22 that ammendments were made to the bill in order for  
23 us to move forward where I can vote on it. But you  
24 know as I say the proof is going to be in the  
25 pudding down the road on whether or not you know

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people really follow through with the honesty and integrity in which the bill is going forward. So time will tell. So, but also I, I need to say there are some individuals that I did not say thank you to. Where's Christin McGlocklin are you still here? Her staff, they're just fantastic on behalf of all of us in New York City. And obviously you were talking about Chris and the IT department. They're just so fantastic. They work so hard. Where's Karl? Karl is still here?

[applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: You know I had situations in my office, situations where my office, where people threatened staff and we, NYPD was involved and you know orders of protections and stuff like that. And anytime that we were in trouble we'd call Karl and they, the staff and they, Sargent of Arms they just took care of business so I thank you for keeping us safe as members of the City Council of New York. Alex Rias is standing here. Alex is the Director of the Caucus. Alex I thank you for your service and obviously... [interpose]

[applause]

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: ...in dealing  
3 with new members of the Black, Latino, and Asian  
4 Caucus, understanding that there are 26 members  
5 that are coming in and each one is an individual  
6 and each one is the leader in their own right and  
7 it's going to be very difficult but I know you're  
8 up to the challenge. And everyone talked about a  
9 lot of people but Peg Torro[phonetic], Camille  
10 Francis, Andrea Clock[phonetic], Ed O'Malley,  
11 Marcelo, and Jeannie and all of the people that  
12 handle our payroll and our HR. And I say to you  
13 Chris that when I went down and met with Peg, and I  
14 said Peg you know and my staff I want to know are  
15 they entitled to unemployment insurance and she  
16 said yes they are. I said well that's good because  
17 you know they don't have a job unless they're  
18 picked up by other people. And I said well let me  
19 ask you a question. What about myself? Am I  
20 entitled to unemployment? And she said  
21 unfortunately you're not because you're not an  
22 employee you're elected. I said oh okay I just  
23 wanted to know.

24 [laughter]

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: But also I  
3 think that some of you mentioned your family. Lou  
4 you mentioned your family and let me just say that  
5 my family, they have put forward with all of my  
6 activity and I just thank them, my wife Faika Alli  
7 Fifai Jackson, My daughter Sadia Raheem Jackson, My  
8 daughter Asmahan Raheem Jackson, and my daughter  
9 Sumia Raheem Jackson. And you may say you heard me  
10 mention their names Sadia Raheem, Asmahan Raheem,  
11 and Sumia Raheem Jackson because I am a muslim and  
12 my name is also Raheem Jackson so... And some people  
13 say well you don't look like a muslim. And I ask  
14 the question, I beg the question what does a muslim  
15 look like? A muslim looks like everyone in this  
16 room. But religion never came into being in me  
17 being elected. My constituents wanted to know what  
18 I stood for on education, on housing, on the issues  
19 that impact them, safety and security, immigration  
20 reform, all of the major issues, jobs, and they  
21 wanted to know what I was going to do. And that's  
22 very, very important. So with that I vote aye on  
23 all and especially Lou Fidler's bill who up to  
24 recently I said you know I wasn't going to vote for  
25 it but we turned around and you know when we stick

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together and come together and compromise then we  
can move forward. Lou I love you man. Take care. I  
vote aye on all.

[applause]

COMMITTEE CLERK: James.

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: May I be excused  
to explain my vote.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: In my life's  
journey I found my passion, public service. And I  
will never work again. I look forward to serving as  
the next public advocate and I thank all of those  
who made history possible by electing the first  
woman of color in New York City.

[applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: And as a first  
woman of color and hopefully as I seat, as I sit in  
that chair I hope that we apolster that chair...

[interpose]

[laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: ...because as you  
know I am a woman of color with great abundance.

[laughter]



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COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: You don't want, you don't want apolstered because of bed bugs.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Well, well I'll have to cut you off Tish real quick. Is it's rumored that Council Members get to purchase their chair on their way out. And since this is the chair I've been sitting on for the past... [interpose]

[laughter]

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: ...four or five years I'm, I'm going to be taking this chair with me.

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Well I thank you all for breaking through the glass ceiling and I look forward to seeing you in my career. I vote aye on all. Thank you all.

[applause]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Lappin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: There, there are two thank you's that I also forgot. Since I was a, one of the Land Use Subcommittee chair's on my first term I, I got to work very closely with the outstanding Land Use staff here at the City Council, Gale Benjamin and Carol and, and the whole team. So thank you.

1  
2 [applause]

3 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: And, and  
4 certainly the staff that has been on the Aging  
5 committee over the last four years which has  
6 changed but both, both sets have been really  
7 outstanding people. And I didn't mention Andy. Some  
8 of you've gotten to meet my husband. He's just so  
9 awesome and my treasurer so he's really happy that  
10 this is all over. But a real partner in life. So,  
11 and, and with that for the last time I'm going to  
12 vote aye on all except for 1216 and 1217 on which I  
13 abstain.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Levin.

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

17 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you Mr.  
19 Majority Leader. There are a couple of folks that I  
20 did not mention before that I would like to take  
21 this opportunity to thank as well. I want to thank  
22 Chuck Meera[phonetic] and Ramone Martinez[phonetic]  
23 who were really, had such amazing patience with me  
24 over the last, over this term and on every Land Use  
25 deal Ramone was, was with me every step of the way

1  
2 up 'till 1:30 this afternoon and I think that's why  
3 we're all late today. So I apologize for that. But  
4 thank you very much Ramone. The Land Use staff  
5 Gale, Amy, and Carol, Elanzo, Pete, everybody at,  
6 at Land Use who is also with me every step of the  
7 way. The great finance staff Preston and Jeff and  
8 Latonya and everybody at finance also very, very  
9 patient with all of us. And I want to thank Barbara  
10 Scaffidi. She did her best to make sure that I paid  
11 my parking tickets, not always with the best  
12 success... [interpose]

13 [laughter]

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: ...but she, she  
15 tried, she tried.

16 [background comments]

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: That's next yes.  
18 And, and, and I want to acknowledge the Education  
19 staff who have been so great Jan, and Regina, and  
20 Asia, and everybody. And lastly I want to  
21 acknowledge to chairman that I, that I was able,  
22 able to have the privilege of serving on their  
23 committees. Actually excuse me three chairman who  
24 this is their last stated meetings is Chair Leroy  
25 Comrie of Land Use and Chair Robert Jackson of

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Education and Chair Jim Gennaro of Environmental Protection who taught me a great deal and I'm very thankful. And with that Madam Speaker I vote aye on all and thank you.

[pause]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Mendez.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: I vote aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Recchia.

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: I'd like to explain my vote. I want to also thank my family; my wife Kim, my daughters Brianna, Danielle, and Juliana for always supporting me. I'd also like to thank Karl. He did a great job him and his staff. I'd also like to thank Jamie McShane. Right? And the whole press office. They do a great job.

[applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Okay. I vote no on 1204-A, I abstain on 1056-A, and aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Reyna.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Permission to explain my vote.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: I know there's  
3 several bills in this package, in today's agenda  
4 and I just wanted to thank the staff that have  
5 dedicated all their time, effort, endless nights,  
6 making sure that this was an effort that took a  
7 long time but has come to fruition, the regulatory  
8 review process that has led to what would be a  
9 package of many different bills trying to assist  
10 what would be the small business industry from all  
11 walks of life. And we have heard from so many of  
12 them and they have sacrafised so much and we hope  
13 that we can continue that agenda with the next in  
14 council. I want to just thank my colleagues for  
15 their relationship on a personal professional  
16 level. You have been an amazing body and to be part  
17 of history in this chamber. I am the daughter of  
18 Dominican parents who came here in the 70, in the  
19 60s. And I expressed to them the day I got  
20 inaugurated in front of them that I was very  
21 thankful that they left a country that was under a  
22 dictatorship and to see how far we've come as a  
23 family and how much they have earned of love and  
24 respect. Four daughters all of university and they  
25 who were just considering themselves to be farmers

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and agriculturists. And they laugh because today we  
move bills here in this chamber pushing an  
organic's... [interpose]

[laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: ...agenda. And they  
consider that to be, what would be the lowest of  
agendas in, back home. And it's a very different  
world. And to be free and protect those liberties  
is something that I hold true to my heart. And I  
just wanted to just take the time to thank all of  
the staff here in this institution. You are the  
living breath that this building is comprised of  
and I can't thank you enough for all of the hours  
you spend trying to make us look bad and protect  
us. And we know that we all come as members  
representing each of our communities and we all  
have a passion for something and someone and a very  
heavy agenda to protect our communities. And sure  
enough it's always a negotiation and it's never 100  
percent happy but I can sure assure you my  
community is so much better today than when I was a  
child. And I can see the footage in my head  
vividly. And today I stand proud having represented  
the 34<sup>th</sup> district, first woman to represent that

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district, first Dominican in the state of New York to be elected as, as a woman. And I just wanted to thank... [interpose]

[applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: ...my community for having made history and for giving me that privilege and to our Speaker I stand tall and proud and I had mentioned to you when we first stepped into this chamber to elect you as our speaker. You will always stand tall and proud. And to everyone who has worked for me. It was rumored that I was a tough boss.

[laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: I take honor in those words. I expect nothing but the best and I know that they will go far. And I know that I have expected much from them and I know that they will continue to give forward and forge forward and rise even beyond my expectations because they have given me their best. And to the committee staff that I have sat on, and served, and chaired I thank you and for everything we have accomplished in this council. To my colleague, colleagues you are family. And to my loving husband and my two kids I

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was a single woman coming in and I'm leaving a married woman with a family.

[laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: And it is incredible to see how the years have gone by and there is not a moment I regret and there is so much reconciliation and looking back. And it's taken a long time to get to this point where there is relief. Because I did a job and my constituency has said it's been a job well done. And there was a woman last night who went out of her way to share with me in a toy drive. You represented us and you never saw color, you never saw ethnicity. You represented us equally. And that was always my agenda. Thank you. I vote aye on all.

[applause]

[pause]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vallone.

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: If I may be briefly excused today we give a... [interpose]

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: ...Christmas gift to our animals and create an animal abuse registry here in New York City. It's my last bill and



1  
2 perhaps the one I'm most proud of. You know  
3 yesterday we read about a dog that jumped onto the  
4 tracks and stayed with its owner until, and while a  
5 train passed over their heads. And that dog was  
6 going up for adoption, luckily it's not. But had it  
7 been up for adoption like so many other animals  
8 anyone could have adopted that animal including  
9 people who have convicted of animal abuse. And now  
10 because of this registry these people will have to  
11 register much like the gun offender registry and  
12 the sex offender registry. And they will be  
13 prevented from ever getting legally another animal  
14 to abuse. And I want to thank the people in this  
15 room for, for supporting this.

16 [applause]

17 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Yes, thank you.  
18 I'm you know when we do these things in New York  
19 City they are often times copied and so hopefully  
20 the animals around the country and the world will  
21 be protected because of what we do here. It's one  
22 of the things my mother wanted to make sure I got  
23 done before we left so I can go home and eat again.  
24 She's a huge animal rights activist. I'm told the  
25 Mayor may veto and my fellow animal rights activist

1  
2 Rosie Mendez has assured me she will shepherd this  
3 through the override of the veto since I'm gone.  
4 And in the few seconds I have left as Public Safety  
5 Chair I want to thank those who kept us safe here  
6 in the Council our Sargents, and Karl who was just  
7 standing there a moment ago, the police officers  
8 who are here all the time keeping us safe.

9 [applause]

10 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: And especially  
11 Richie. Richie behind me over here who kept us safe  
12 on that fateful day when we lost our colleague.

13 [applause]

14 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: And again our  
15 staff who kept our sanity safe. And my, my staff,  
16 my chief of staff for eight years Johnathan Chung  
17 who will now be working for the luckiest Council  
18 Member here Peter Koo and my current chief of staff  
19 Janolds[phonetic] and Schutt who are both here.  
20 And, and again thank you for what, what you're  
21 doing on behalf of animals today. And it has been  
22 truly an honor and a pleasure. God bless and merry  
23 Christmas.

24 [applause]

25 [pause]

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Oddo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Can I be temporary excused to explain my vote?

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Like many of my colleagues during the emotion I forgot to thank a few people. I just want to start with a few folks on staff. Chuck and, and Ramone and Jeff who are just, just fabulous, fabulous people who made this job really a whole lot of fun. And we did a lot of good work together but we also had a lot of laughs. And I think Charles said it earlier about keeping it real. You guys are just good folks. To my friend Gale Benjamin I will miss the conversations in the Minority Leader's office. Preston Niblack, Rob Newman, and to Laura Popa in particular who worked on lots of wonderful legislation that we did. And we put her through hell and back on the metal bat bill. But she did a really outstanding job. I just want to thank my staff Steve Matteo who's my chief of staff who was Council Member Elect who's going to come in here in January and do a fabulous job, Chis Diseeko[phonetic] my, my brilliant legal council is coming with me to borough hall. To the

1  
2 great Connie Tinnini[phonetic] who if you folks  
3 know a nicer human being than Connie  
4 Tinnini[phonetic] I want to meet that person  
5 because she's absolutely the best. And my dad fell  
6 this morning and broke his leg and he's in the  
7 hospital but he'll be reading the Staten Island  
8 Advance tomorrow and when he reads some of the  
9 wonderful things you said about me that will make  
10 him feel much better. And I want to thank mom and  
11 dad. And lastly Chris Quinn and I fell, each of us  
12 fell in love with a wonderful woman by the name of  
13 Kim and I want to shout out to Kim Catullo and send  
14 her my love and to the Catullo just absolutely  
15 wonderful, wonderful people. And take care of my  
16 friend. And it's to my Kim who was here and left I  
17 walked in her a single man and I'm going out an  
18 engaged man Diana Reyna.

19 [applause, cheering]

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: And to my friend  
21 Jessica Lappin it's a good thing that Kim Peterson  
22 lives in Queens because if she lived in Staten  
23 Island she probably would not have voted for me for  
24 borough president. So she's almost as happy as your  
25 husband but she's got to live on with business for

1  
2 a few more years. So I want to thank her for making  
3 my life complete and allowing me to do all this  
4 good stuff. So with that said for the last time I  
5 vote aye on all with the exception of Intro 1162-A,  
6 1208-A, 1210-A, and 1204-A on which I vote no.

7 Thank you everybody.

8 [applause]

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Vallone.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Apparently I  
11 forgot to vote up here. Apparently I'm also the  
12 only person leaving the council still single which  
13 is also depressing.

14 [laughter]

15 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: If I couldn't  
16 be more depressed... No.

17 [laughter]

18 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Single and  
19 satisfied.

20 [laughter]

21 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: I'm not, not  
22 going to comment.

23 [laughter]

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STATED MEETING

UNKNOWN MALE: There may be a moment here. Tish you're single. Peter you're single. Tish Peter, Peter Tish.

[laughter]

SPEAKER QUINN: Out of order. Just vote Peter.

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: I'm going to forget to vote again.

[laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: I vote no on 1204-A and 1208-A and probably vote aye on all the rest. Thank you all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rivera.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yeah I just want to say thank you to a couple of the staff members here. We have Preston of course, Jeff, Chuck, Ramone, Gale Benjamin from Land Use, Barbara who has been the, the gate keeper downstairs, Karl for keeping us all safe, and of course Gary as well. But I want to say a special thank you to Speaker Quinn because she has been the lightning rod for all of us here in the City Council. And if any of us messed up she's the one that took the hit. So Christine thank you for being the leader that led

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2 us through all the storms and, and led us very  
3 bravely and very courageously. And I also want to  
4 thank one person that didn't get too many thanks  
5 today and that's Kim Catullo for allowing Christine  
6 to... [interpose]

7 [applause]

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: ...to be the  
9 punching bag of the city of New York and for giving  
10 her to us you know for the past few years. And  
11 today we give her back to you. Thank you Kim. I  
12 vote aye on all.

13 [applause]

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

15 [pause]

16 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Okay so all  
17 items on today's, all items on today's general  
18 order calendar were adopted by a vote of 51 in the  
19 affirmative, zero in negative, and zero abstentions  
20 with the exceptions of LUs 961, 962, 963, and the  
21 accomponing Resolutions which were adopted by a  
22 vote of 50 in the affirmative, with one in the  
23 negative, and zero abstentions. And Gary's running  
24 up here very quickly.

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2 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Okay and on  
3 Intro 951-A the question was should the council  
4 override the, the mayor's veto and the council  
5 overvoted and now we move on to LU, LUs 994 through  
6 999 and the accompanying Resos were adopted by a  
7 vote of 50 in the affirmative, one in the negative,  
8 and zero abstentions. And Intro 1204-A was adopted  
9 by a vote of 44 in the affirmative, with seven in  
10 the negative, and zero abstentions. And Intro 1056-  
11 A which was adopted by a vote of 44 in the  
12 affirmative, two in the negative, and five  
13 abstentions and Intro 1217 was adopted by a vote of  
14 50 in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and  
15 one abstentions. And Intro 1208-A which was adopted  
16 by a vote of 47 in the affirmative, four in the  
17 negative, and zero abstentions. And Intro 1210-A  
18 which was adopted by a vote of 43 in the  
19 affirmative, eight in the negative, and zero  
20 abstentions. And Intro 1162-A which was adopted by  
21 a vote of 48 in the affirmative, three in the  
22 negative, and zero abstentions. And that's all she  
23 wrote. So that's it for...

24 [applause]  
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2 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Now we have  
3 introduction and reading of the bills.

4 SPEAKER QUINN: All bills are referred  
5 to committees as indicated on the agenda. And folks  
6 who are still here don't leave. There's a couple of  
7 Resolutions.

8 [laughter]

9 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: We just have a  
10 couple of Resolutions now. We have, and we're going  
11 to vote on each separately so Resolution 1649,  
12 resolution recognizing October 11<sup>th</sup> as the day of  
13 the girl child in New York City adopted by the  
14 Committee on New Services. Anyone want to speak on  
15 this item. All in favor, seeing none, all in favor  
16 say aye.

17 COLLECTIVE RESPONSE: Aye.

18 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Any opposed say  
19 nay. Any abstentions. The ayes have it. Resolution  
20 1741, hurricane Sandy related unemployment claims  
21 adopted by the Committee on Civil Service and  
22 Neighbor. All in favor say aye.

23 COLLECTIVE RESPONSE: Aye.

24 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Oh, anyone want  
25 to speak on it. No? All in favor say aye.

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COLLECTIVE RESPONSE: Aye.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Any in the negative say nay. Any abstentions? The ayes have it. Resolution 1954, to provide free internet access at its three major airports. All in favor say aye.

COLLECTIVE RESPONSE: Aye.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Any opposed say nay. Any abstentions? The ayes have it. Resolution 1988-A, joint Committee on Public Ethics, JCOPE amended and adopted by the Committee on Governmental Operations. All in favor say aye.

COLLECTIVE RESPONSE: Aye.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Any opposed say nay. Any abstentions? The ayes have it. Resolution 2057, grant temporary protected status to the designation of the Phillipeans and eligible phillipeno nationals adopted by the Committee on Immigrations. Any, all in favor say aye.

UNKNOWN FEMALE: Aye.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: All in favor say aye.

COLLECTIVE RESPONSE: Aye.

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STATED MEETING

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: There's only like five left so I guess I didn't hear it. Any, any in the negative say nay. Any abstentions? The ayes have it. And now we move on to general discussion. We have Council Member Jackson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: My colleagues it's time to go.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: He rises for the last time.

[laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: But I want to say that I've worn this button that says Robert Jackson, City Council for 13 years and people ask me when I joined this City Council, Leroy said; Yo man the election is over. Take the button off. And I said it doesn't say Elect, it doesn't say vote for, all it says is who I am Robert Jackson, City Council. Now at the last stated meeting I'm retiring my button.

[applause, cheering]

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Good night.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So he's no longer known as Robert Jackson I guess.

[laughter]

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STATED MEETING

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Anyone else for  
general discussions. Seeing no others for the last  
time this meeting is adjourned.

[gavel]

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           January 10, 2013