

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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Tuesday, February 24, 2026

Start: 1:40 P.M.

Recess: 2:41 P.M.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: *The Majority Leader (Council
Member Shaun Abreu) presiding as
the Acting President Pro Tempore*

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Julie Menin, Speaker
Shaun Abreu
Shirley Aldebol
Joann Ariola
Alexa Avilés
Chris Banks
Gale A. Brewer
Selvena N. Brooks-Powers
Tiffany L. Cabán
David M. Carr
Carmen N. De La Rosa
Eric Dinowitz
Elsie Encarnación
Harvey D. Epstein
Amanda C. Farias
Simcha Felder
Oswald J. Feliz

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

COUNCIL MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

James F. Gennaro
Jennifer Gutiérrez
Shahana K. Hanif
Ty Hankerson
Kamillah M. Hanks
Crystal Hudson
Rita C. Joseph
Shekar Krishnan
Linda Lee
Farah N. Louis
Virginia Maloney
Christopher Marte
Darlene Mealy
Frank Morano
Mercedes Narcisse
Sandy Nurse
Chi A. Ossé
Vickie Paladino
Lincoln Restler
Kevin C. Riley
Yusef Salaam
Pierina A. Sanchez
Justin E. Sanchez
Kayla Santosuosso
Lynn C. Schulman
Althea V. Stevens
Shanel Thomas-Henry
Sandra Ung
Inna Vernikov
Nantasha M. Williams
Julie Won
Phil Wong
Susan Zhuang

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING
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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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SERGEANT AT ARMS: Ladies and gentlemen,
can I have your attention, please? Can I have your
attention, please? Quiet on the floor, please.
Council Members, please take your seats. At this
time, please place all electronic devices, all
electronic devices to vibrate.

Mr. Majority Leader?

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: [GAVEL] Good
afternoon and welcome to the Stated Meeting of
February 24, 2026. I am Majority Leader Shaun Abreu,
and I would like to thank you for joining us.

As a reminder, decorum must be respected
at all times.

If you would like to follow along, the
Agenda for today's meeting is posted on our website.

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

SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise!

ALL: [PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE]

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Roll call?

CLERK: Council Member Aldebol?

COUNCIL MEMBER ALDEBOL: Here.

CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Present.

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Presenté.

CLERK: Council Member Banks?

DEPUTY LEADER BANKS: Present.

CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.

CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Present.

CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Present.

CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Here.

CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz

COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Here.

CLERK: Council Member Encarnación?

DEPUTY WHIP ENCARNACIÓN: Presenté.

CLERK: Council Member Epstein?

COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: (UN-MIC'D) I'm

here.

CLERK: Council Member Farías?

COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Present.

CLERK: Council Member Felder?

COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: (NO RESPONSE)

CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

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COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Here.

CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: (NO RESPONSE)

CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Presenté.

CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Here.

CLERK: Council Member Hankerson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANKERSON: Here.

CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

MAJORITY WHIP HANKS: Present.

CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Present.

CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Here.

CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Here.

CLERK: Council Member Lee?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Here.

CLERK: Council Member Louis

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present.

CLERK: Council Member Maloney?

COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: Present.

CLERK: Council Member Marte?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Present.
CLERK: Council Member Mealy?
COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: (NO RESPONSE)
CLERK: Council Member Morano?
COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: (INAUDIBLE)
CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?
COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: (ABSENT)
CLERK: Council Member Nurse?
COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: (UN-MIC'D) Here.
CLERK: Council Member Ossé?
COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Present.
CLERK: Council Member Paladino?
COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: (NO RESPONSE)
CLERK: Council Member Restler?
COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Here.
CLERK: Council Member Riley?
COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Present.
CLERK: Council Member Salaam?
COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Present.
CLERK: Council Member Justin Sanchez?
COUNCIL MEMBER JUSTIN SANCHEZ:
(INAUDIBLE)
CLERK: Council Member Pierina Sanchez?
COUNCIL MEMBER PIERINA SANCHEZ: Present.

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

CLERK: Council Member Santosuosso?

COUNCIL MEMBER SANTOSUOSSO: Here.

CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Here.

CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Still here.

CLERK: Council Member Thomas-Henry?

COUNCIL MEMBER THOMAS-HENRY: Present.

CLERK: Council Member Ung?

DEPUTY LEADER UNG: Present.

CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

MINORITY WHIP VERNIKOV: (NO RESPONSE)

CLERK: Council Member Williams?

DEPUTY SPEAKER WILLIAMS: Present.

CLERK: Council Member Won?

COUNCIL MEMBER WON: (NO RESPONSE)

CLERK: Council Member Felder?

COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: (UN-MIC'D) Here.

CLERK: Council Member Wong?

COUNCIL MEMBER WONG: Here.

COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Present.

CLERK: Thank you. Council Member Won is present.

CLERK: Council Member Morano?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Here!

Council Member Zhuang?

COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Here.

CLERK: Council Member Carr?

MINORITY LEADER CARR: (NO RESPONSE)

CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Present.

CLERK: Speaker Menin?

SPEAKER MENIN: Here.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Invocation?

CLERK: None.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Adoption of
Minutes?

CLERK: None.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you.

We will now ask Council Member Chris
Marte for the Adoption of Minutes.

COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: I make the motion
that the Minutes of the Stated Meetings of January
29, 2026, and February 12, 2026, be adopted as
printed.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Messages and
Papers from the Mayor?

CLERK: M 41, mayoral appointment?

2 SPEAKER MENIN: Referred to Rules.

3 CLERK: M 42, City debt and reserves?

4 SPEAKER MENIN: Received, Ordered,
5 Printed, and Filed.

6 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Communication from
7 City, County, and Borough Offices?

8 CLERK: Ms 43 and 44, budget
9 modifications?

10 SPEAKER MENIN: Referred to Finance.

11 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Petitions and
12 Communications?

13 CLERK: None.

14 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Land Use Call-ups?

15 CLERK: Ms 45 through M 47?

16 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled on call-up vote. I
17 would now ask that the Clerk take a roll call vote on
18 today's Land Use Call-ups.

19 CLERK: Council Member Aldebol?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ALDEBOL: Aye.

21 CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: I vote aye.

23 CLERK: Thank you.

24 Council Member Avilés?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye.

2 CLERK: Council Member Banks?

3 DEPUTY LEADER BANKS: Aye.

4 CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes.

6 CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Please come
8 back to me.

9 CLERK: Sure.

10 Council Member Cabán?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye on all.

12 CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye.

14 CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz

15 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye.

16 CLERK: Council Member Encarnación?

17 DEPUTY WHIP ENCARNACIÓN: Aye.

18 CLERK: Council Member Epstein?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: (NO RESPONSE)

20 CLERK: Council Member Farías?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye on all.

22 CLERK: Council Member Felder?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Aye.

24 CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye on all.

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

CLERK: Council Member Epstein, Land Use
Call-ups?

COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: Aye.

CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Gennaro?

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: (NO RESPONSE)

CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: (UN-MIC'D) Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Hankerson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANKERSON: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

MAJORITY WHIP HANKS: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Lee?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Louis?

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye.

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

CLERK: Council Member Maloney?

COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Marte?

COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: (NO RESPONSE)

CLERK: Council Member Morano?

COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: (ABSENT)

CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: I vote aye.

CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: I vote aye.

CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Restler?

COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: (NO RESPONSE)

CLERK: Council Member Riley?

COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Salaam?

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: I vote aye.

CLERK: Council Member Justin Sanchez?

COUNCIL MEMBER JUSTIN SANCHEZ: Aye.

2 CLERK: Council Member Pierina Sanchez?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER PIERINA SANCHEZ: Aye...

4 (CROSS-TALK)

5 CLERK: Council Member Santosuosso?

6 Oh, excuse me. Thank you, Council Member
7 Sanchez.

8 Council Member Santosuosso?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER SANTOSUOSSO: Aye.

10 CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye.

12 CLERK: Thank you.

13 Council Member Stevens?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye.

15 CLERK: Council Member Thomas-Henry?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER THOMAS-HENRY: Aye.

17 CLERK: Council Member Ung?

18 DEPUTY LEADER UNG: Aye.

19 CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

20 MINORITY WHIP VERNIKOV: Aye.

21 CLERK: Council Member Williams?

22 DEPUTY SPEAKER WILLIAMS: I vote aye.

23 CLERK: Council Member Won?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye.

25 CLERK: Thank you.

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

Council Member Wong?

COUNCIL MEMBER WONG: I vote aye.

CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: I vote aye,
except LUs 3, 4, and 5.

CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers, this
is Land Use Call-ups.

COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Oh, sorry.
Aye.

CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Carr?

MINORITY LEADER CARR: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Aye.

CLERK: Speaker Menin?

SPEAKER MENIN: Aye.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Today's Land Use
Call-ups are adopted by a vote of 46 in the
affirmative and 0 in the negative.

Thank you. We will now have communication
from Speaker Menin.

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2 SPEAKER MENIN: Thank you, Majority
3 Leader, and good afternoon, everyone. I'm so glad
4 everyone was able to make it here safely to work
5 today.

6 I first want to begin by acknowledging
7 the winter storm that showered our city literally in
8 snow. With the first blizzard in 10 years and almost
9 20 inches of snow in many areas, yesterday we had a
10 full snow day for New York City Public Schools. I
11 want to say first of all, we are very grateful to all
12 of the sanitation workers who work tirelessly
13 throughout the night and continue to do so. And for
14 all the city workers who are clearing crosswalks,
15 plowing streets, and laying tens of millions of
16 pounds of salt throughout the five boroughs. As you
17 know, we have a hearing on Friday for the Sanitation
18 and Disability Committees, and so it'll be a great
19 opportunity for all of you to have your constituents
20 come and testify at that time.

21 A winter storm aside, we have continued
22 to work towards a New York that is safer and more
23 affordable for all of our residents. I want to give a
24 couple of updates on some of the things that we have
25 done in the past couple of weeks.

1 This past week, we hosted a really
2 productive roundtable with Muslim community leaders
3 and Council Member Hanif to discuss ways the Council
4 and we can combat Islamophobia and secure funding for
5 halal food. During the holy month of Ramadan, it was
6 a great opportunity to hear specific, actionable
7 items from a wide range of Muslim community leaders.
8 Particularly during the holy month, no family should
9 be worrying about access to halal meals. And
10 certainly with the rise in Islamophobia, that is not
11 something that we are going to tolerate in our city—
12 even a single instance has no place in our streets,
13 on our subways, in our schools, on social media. As
14 allies to this community, our voices must be loud.
15 And as elected officials in the city, our actions
16 must be effective. We've already formed the Committee
17 to Combat Hate, chaired by Council Member Yusef
18 Salaam. And we already have legislation in the
19 pipeline that would make the five boroughs safer for
20 our Muslim communities. We are also in a landmark
21 moment for political representation. We have the
22 first Muslim mayor, we have the first Jewish Speaker
23 of the City Council, and I think this is a historic
24 25

1
2 opportunity for communities across the city to come
3 together.

4 On a lighter note, last week we were
5 very proud to announce that a childcare center in my
6 district is set to open later this year. When it
7 comes to accessing affordable, accessible childcare,
8 the five boroughs are facing a real decrease in
9 supply. We know the demand is high, but the supply is
10 low. In the last decade, we've lost 853 childcare
11 providers in New York City. And yet at the same time,
12 there is a real heightened competition for seats.

13 As a mother, this issue is personal to
14 us. As a woman-led council, this is something that I
15 know so many members care very deeply about, as
16 childcare clearly gives our children the strongest
17 possible start in life and puts them on a path to
18 learn and grow. So I was pleased to join the Mayor at
19 the opening of this new childcare facility in my
20 district. It's obviously our responsibility to
21 fulfill the promise of an affordable, accessible, and
22 equitable city. And I know the City Council is going
23 to do great things ahead in fulfilling this mission.

24 A week ago, we also felt the passing of
25 one of our nation's great civil rights activists,

1
2 Reverend Jesse Jackson. On Saturday, I had the great
3 honor of speaking at a truly moving memorial service
4 that honored the irreplaceable contributions that
5 Reverend Jackson made to the cause of liberty,
6 justice, and equality.

7 Reverend Jackson turned words into deeds,
8 not simply because of the millions of people around
9 the country and world that heard them or the platform
10 he spoke from, but by the hope that those words
11 awakened and the change that they unleashed. His
12 words brought together the communities of the Rainbow
13 Coalition to conquer the injustices of our society.
14 And while Reverend Jackson's voice may be resting,
15 the charge that he gave us rings loudly throughout
16 our country and throughout the world.

17 Ahead of tomorrow's hearing held by the
18 Committee to Combat Hate, I want to speak about the
19 bills that we've introduced. In the past few days,
20 we've had very productive conversations with
21 Commissioner Tisch and updated our legislation to
22 account for the Department's feedback. In short, the
23 bills that we are hearing tomorrow establish clear
24 considerations for buffer zones around the entrances
25 and exits to houses of worship and to schools,

2 considerations that both protect access as well as
3 strongly protect protesters' First Amendment rights.

4 So to be clear, these bills do not
5 infringe on protest rights, labor rights, or create
6 any new criminal penalties. What they do is really
7 protect the safe access to these institutions as well
8 as increase transparency for congregants, for
9 students, and for protesters alike. Because what
10 happened at Park East Synagogue and in Kew Gardens
11 should never happen again. Incorporating the NYPD's
12 input reinforces our commitment to the public safety
13 of all New Yorkers, and we are grateful for that—we
14 can move forward with the agency's support.

15 Turning to moments of cultural
16 significance, there are a lot of them, so get ready.
17 In a few days, we're going to celebrate Dominican
18 Independence Day. Yay, yay, yay.

19 (APPLAUSE)

20 SPEAKER MENIN: New York City is so proud
21 to be home to such a dynamic Dominican community. We
22 must honor the community's many contributions to our
23 city and well beyond. Tomorrow, and I hope every
24 member will be able to join us, we're going to be
25 hosting a Dominican Republic Independence Day

1 celebration right here in the Council Chambers at
2 5:30. And I want to thank all of the council members
3 who have organized this annual celebration.
4

5 March is almost here, and that means
6 we're celebrating Women's History Month. So I am so
7 proud to lead our historic Women's Majority Council,
8 which has demonstrated to the City and the world what
9 strong women's leadership looks like. Women are the
10 cornerstone of society and the backbone of our
11 families. When women are healthy, safe, and have
12 access to opportunities, we all succeed. I look
13 forward to continuing our progress together to
14 advance solutions to support women across the city,
15 to address disparities and inequities, and create a
16 more equitable city. So happy Women's History Month
17 to all.

18 March 1st is also Independence Movement
19 Day, an important day for our Korean American
20 community in commemoration of the March 1st movement
21 for liberation and independence. So please join our
22 Korean American community in celebrating this
23 important day.

24 March is also Greek American Heritage
25 Month and Irish American Heritage Month—so both. We

2 look forward to celebrating the contributions of both
3 our Greek and Irish communities here in New York City
4 and around the world.

5 This year, Purim is being observed on
6 Monday evening and Tuesday of next week. But earlier
7 this morning, we brought the joy of Purim to the
8 Council with a Hamantaschen and tasting by the
9 Rotunda, joined by JCRC and so many council members
10 of every faith. I really want to wish everyone a very
11 happy Purim. I there may still be Hamantaschen out
12 there, I'm not sure. Hopefully, everyone got to
13 participate in it.

14 Before we continue, please join me in
15 wishing a very happy birthday to Council Yusef
16 Salaam.

17 (APPLAUSE)

18 SPEAKER MENIN: And on Zoom, Council
19 Member Selvena Brooks-Powers.

20 (APPLAUSE)

21 SPEAKER MENIN: Now we're going to move on
22 to our Stated Agenda.

23 First, we'll vote on the following Land
24 Use items:

25

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 23
2 • 217-14 24th Avenue will facilitate the
3 development of a new eight-story residential and
4 senior housing building with approximately 248
5 apartments, including 55 affordable units under MIH
6 Option 2 and 65 senior housing units, in Council
7 Member Vickie Paladino's district.

8 • 63-12 Broadway Rezoning will allow the
9 development of a new nine-story mixed-use commercial
10 and residential building with approximately 67 units,
11 approximately 17 of which will be affordable in
12 Council Member Julie Won's district. The Council is
13 modifying this application to strike MIH Option 2 and
14 to add MIH Option 3.

15 • Seaside Park and Community Arts Center
16 is an application by New York EDC to facilitate the
17 improvement and reactivation of the Seaside Park and
18 Community Arts Center Outdoor Amphitheater—that is a
19 mouthful—in Council member Kayla Santosuosso's
20 district.

21 • Prospect Farm Acquisition approval of
22 the Parks Department's acquisition of a community
23 garden, in Council Member Shahana Hanif's district,
24 allowing the garden to be eligible for public
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1 services and capital improvements through the Green
2 Thumb Program.

3
4 • Constellation HPD will facilitate the
5 development of eight new affordable home ownership
6 buildings on vacant city-owned land, including 96
7 affordable homeownership units to be developed by
8 Habitat for Humanity in partnership with HPD in the
9 Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brownsville, East Flatbush, and
10 East New York neighborhoods in Council Member Darlene
11 Mealy and Chris Banks' districts.

12 • 1417 Avenue U will facilitate the
13 development of a new seven-story mixed-use building
14 with approximately 76 units, 23 of which will be
15 affordable under MIH Option 2, in Council Member Inna
16 Vernikov's District. The Council is modifying the
17 application to strike MIH Option 1 and require MIH
18 Option 2.

19 • Landmarks Preservation Commission
20 designation of two historic districts in Council
21 Member Rita Joseph's district.

22 • Beverley Square West Historic District
23 and Ditmas Park West Historic District, located in
24 Flatbush, Brooklyn, are characterized by freestanding
25

1 houses built in the late Queen Anne, early Colonial
2 Revival, and Shingle styles.

3
4 Today, we will also vote on the following
5 pieces of legislation:

6 • Resolution 210, sponsored by Council
7 Member Shahana Hanif, would condemn the fatal
8 shootings of Renée Nicole Good and Alex Jeffrey
9 Pretti by federal immigration authorities. Thank you
10 to our staff, Nicole Catá and Rebecca Barilla, for
11 your work on this introduction.

12 • Introduction 257-A, sponsored by
13 Council Member Rita Joseph, would allow open street
14 partners to request special activation opportunities
15 during holidays or other periods of high pedestrian
16 activity. Thank you to our staff, Mark Chen and
17 Jessica Boulet.

18 • Introduction 68-A, sponsored by
19 Majority Leader Shaun Abreu, would require news rack
20 owners to provide their e-mail address to the
21 Department of Transportation, permit electronic
22 communication, and improve enforcement options. Thank
23 you to staff Mark Chen.

24 • Introduction 448-B, sponsored by
25 Council Member Althea Stevens, would modernize the

1 structure and responsibilities of the Youth Board.

2 Thank you to staff members Rie Ogasawara and

3 Elizabeth Arzt.

4 • Introduction 291-A, sponsored by
5 Council Member Farah Louis, would require the
6 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to regularly
7 report on deaths by suicide in New York City and on
8 suicide related behaviors amongst youth. Thank you to
9 Sara Sucher and Justin Campos from our team.
10

11 • Introduction 203-A, sponsored by
12 Council Member Jennifer Gutiérrez, would require the
13 Department of Education to report quarterly on
14 invoices received from early childhood care and
15 education providers that the DOE has contracted with
16 to provide these services. Thank you to Alejandro
17 Carvajal, Chloë Rivera, and Katie Salina for their
18 help.

19 • Introduction 2-B, sponsored by me,
20 would create a 90-day default timeline for emergency
21 procurements subject to extension with approval by
22 the comptroller and Corporation Counsel—so cutting
23 down on long-term no-bid contracts. Thank you to the
24 staff, Alex Paulenoff, Johari Frasier, and Alex
25 Yablon.

1 Thank you for your attention to this; I
2
3 am now going to turn it back over to our Majority
4 Leader.

5 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Speaker
6 Menin. We will now move into Discussion of General
7 Orders, beginning with Council Member Hanif, followed
8 by Council Member Banks.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Thank you, Majority
10 Leader.

11 Today, I am proud to vote yes on the
12 Prospect Farm Acquisition in Windsor Terrace,
13 Brooklyn. This action transfers Prospect Farm into
14 permanent public ownership under the Parks
15 Department, protecting a beloved community-built farm
16 and shared green space for generations to come. This
17 public ownership secures its long term environmental
18 stewardship and collective farm model while
19 safeguarding the site from displacement.

20 Prospect Farm also sits directly adjacent
21 to the DOT Seeley Street Bridge reconstruction
22 project, which will involve significant design and
23 accessibility considerations. Because of that
24 proximity, strong and binding interagency
25 coordination is essential to ensure that planning for

2 both sites is thoughtful, transparent, and responsive
3 to community needs. For that reason, I was encouraged
4 to receive a joint letter from DOT Brooklyn Borough
5 Commissioner Keith Bray and Parks Acting Deputy,
6 Marit Larson, committing to coordinate interagency
7 planning and meaningful community engagement
8 following the acquisition.

9 This acquisition represents a rare
10 opportunity to preserve a community-built open space
11 as permanent public land while setting a strong
12 standard for cross-agency coordination and public
13 engagement. I urge my colleagues to vote 'yes'.

14 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council
15 Member Hanif.

16 And as a reminder to everyone, please
17 keep your remarks within two minutes.

18 Council Member Banks, followed by Council
19 Member Louis.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Thank you, Mr.
21 Majority Leader.

22 First of all, when I took office, I made
23 it a priority to ensure that development in the 42nd
24 Council District created real opportunities for our
25

1
2 community to own part of its future. Today represents
3 that kind of moment.

4 The Consolation project reflects what
5 development should look like when it's intentional,
6 community-rooted, and focused on opportunity. It
7 creates new pathways to affordable home ownership.
8 And not just housing, but ownership. That distinction
9 matters. Ownership allows families to build equity,
10 establish stability, and generate wealth that can be
11 passed down from generation to generation, right here
12 in the 42nd Council District. You know, our residents
13 deserve not just to live in their community, but to
14 have a meaningful stake in its future. That's why I
15 was able to-- I was fortunate enough to allocate
16 \$100,000 in total to support this project. And I
17 believe deeply in what it represents, sustainable
18 design and long-term affordability for work and
19 families. These constellations will be transformative
20 for the 42nd Council District, and they signal that
21 we are moving forward with growth that is resident-
22 centered, that strengthens neighborhoods, and creates
23 lasting opportunities.

24 I look forward to continuing to champion
25 projects like this throughout the 42nd Council

1 District, and I urge my colleagues to support this.
2
3 Thank you.

4 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council
5 Member.

6 Council Member Louis, followed by Council
7 Member Stevens.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Thank you, Mr.
9 Majority Leader.

10 Good afternoon, colleagues. Today, we
11 will be voting on Intro 291, a critical measure that
12 strengthens our city's response to the suicide
13 epidemic through transparency, accountability, and
14 data-driven action.

15 Suicide impacts New Yorkers across every
16 age group and background, including young people,
17 older adults, veterans, and individuals who face
18 barriers to care and support.

19 This bill requires the Department of
20 Health and Mental Hygiene to publish an annual
21 comprehensive report on suicides in New York City,
22 with data disaggregated by age, race, ethnicity,
23 gender, method, and geography. This information is
24 essential to identifying where risk is concentrated
25 and ensuring that prevention resources are deployed

1
2 effectively and equitably. This legislation
3 represents a turning point in addressing this crisis
4 with urgency that transcends age groups and
5 backgrounds.

6 We've all heard the reports in the past.
7 Just this past year, we've seen a 14-year-old girl
8 jump from an Upper East Side school due to scorn on
9 her personal beliefs; a teenage boy from Staten
10 Island pushed to the brink due to non-stop bullying
11 at his school; and let's not forget Kalief Browder.

12 We must rectify our policies that do not
13 meet the urgency or complexity of this crisis that we
14 face. I thank Chair Cabán and Council Member Linda
15 Lee for their leadership in advancing thoughtful
16 mental health solutions, and the advocates and
17 organizations—Samaritans NYC, The Judd Foundation,
18 Five Borough Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars, who
19 helped negotiate a sound and responsible policy. I
20 urge my colleagues to vote yes on Intro 291. Thank
21 you.

22 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Council Member
23 Stevens, followed by Council Member Gutiérrez.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Good afternoon.

25 I'm honored today to continue to uplift the voices of

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 32
2 young people across our city by passing Intro 448-B
3 today.

4 The Youth Board plays an essential role
5 in elevating the lived experience of young New
6 Yorkers across education, healthcare, workforce
7 development, and community life.

8 With Intro 448-B, we are modernizing and
9 strengthening the Board to ensure it operates as an
10 effective accountability advisory board.

11 This bill essentially establishes term
12 limits, reducing the size of the board to improve
13 focus and efficiency, ensuring borough representation
14 and youth-serving expertise, and creating a stronger
15 feedback loop for DYCD through formal recommendations
16 and public reporting. In short, it ensures that
17 youth-informed ideas are not just heard, but actually
18 acted upon.

19 To the young people of New York City,
20 your leadership is not the future; it is the present.
21 And today, we are strengthening the foundation that
22 ensures your voice shapes this city in real and
23 lasting ways.

24 I urge all of my colleagues to support
25 this legislation. Thank you.

1 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Council Member
2 Gutierrez, followed by Council Member Joseph.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIERREZ: Thank you so
4 much.

5
6 Good afternoon, today I'm really proud to
7 pass one bill that is taking a small step, but an
8 important step, in really bringing the City to
9 helping to stabilize our childcare. This Council is
10 certainly not new to advocating for quality early
11 childhood education as well as universal childcare,
12 but under the leadership of Speaker Menin, we're
13 really setting the tone early on in this bill.

14 I just want to thank Speaker Menin for
15 trusting me with this. It was her bill in the last
16 session, and it will require the Department of
17 Education to report on when they pay providers, if
18 they pay providers late, if they are unable to pay
19 providers, and what the issues were.

20 Intro 203 really seeks to help stabilize
21 and support providers who too many times suffer in
22 silence. And what that looks like is quarterly public
23 reports on payments, including special education--
24 including payments made to special education
25 providers. It really locks transparency into law, and

1
2 it helps to have an ongoing understanding of whether
3 providers aren't getting paid-- Excuse me, having an
4 ongoing understanding of whether providers are
5 getting paid shouldn't have to be long.

6 This system was previously so opaque that
7 it took external reporting. And we're really excited
8 that we're dedicating our resources and that the
9 Administration is on board.

10 Late impartial payments really create
11 silent suffering for providers. And while there have
12 been small administrative improvements, we really
13 want to be able to uplift the importance of
14 transparency. We've had many providers have to
15 shutter their doors since the pandemic and before,
16 specifically because they cannot rely-- the City has
17 been in debt to providers. These chambers have been
18 flooded with providers, advocates, and parents who
19 are saying the same thing to us. So we are listening
20 to them. We are prioritizing them. So really proud to
21 work alongside the Speaker, alongside Chair Dinowitz
22 as well—we heard this bill in his committee.

23 And I thank you all for your support.

24 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: (TIMER) Council
25 Member Joseph?

1 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Thank you,
2
3 Majority Leader.

4 The Open Street Program has evolved into
5 one of the most meaningful investments we have made
6 in our community life. What began as a temporary
7 measure has become a permanent reminder that our
8 streets can and should serve people first. They are
9 spaces where children play safely, families gather,
10 local artists perform, and small businesses see
11 increased foot traffic and opportunity.

12 Intro 257-A strengthens that vision. This
13 bill allows community organizations to request
14 special activation days beyond regular Open Street
15 hours, including moments like Memorial Day,
16 Juneteenth, July 4th, Labor Day, Halloween, and other
17 times of significant pedestrian activity.

18 These are not just dates on the calendar;
19 they are cultural touchpoints. They are celebrations
20 of history, heritage, and neighborhood pride,
21 creating flexibility within the programs or
22 empowering communities to activate their streets when
23 it matters most, when energy is high, when families
24 are outside, and when local businesses can benefit
25 from increased engagement.

1 This legislation recognizes something
2
3 simple but powerful—our streets are public space,
4 and public space should reflect the vibrancy,
5 diversity, and spirit of the people who call this
6 city home.

7 Today's passage reinforces our commitment
8 to safer streets, stronger local economies, and
9 deeper community connections. Thank you.

10 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council
11 Member.

12 Seeing no one else signed up to speak for
13 General Discussion, we will now move to Reports of
14 Special Committees.

15 CLERK: None.

16 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Report of Standing
17 Committees?

18 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
19 Children and Youth, Intro 448-B, Youth Board?

20 SPEAKER MENIN: Amended and Coupled on
21 General Orders.

22 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
23 Contracts, Intro 2-B, emergency procurements?

24 SPEAKER MENIN: Amended and Coupled on
25 General Orders.

2 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
3 Education, Intro 203-A, early childhood care?

4 SPEAKER MENIN: Amended and Coupled on
5 General Orders.

6 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Land
7 Use, LU 1 and Reso 329, property acquisition?

8 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled on General Orders.

9 CLERK: LU 2 and Reso 330 through LU 6 and
10 Reso 334, Constellation?

11 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled on General Orders.

12 CLERK: LU 7 and Reso 335 through LU 11
13 and Reso 339, Seaside Park?

14 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled on General Orders.

15 CLERK: LUs 12 through 16, 395 Flatbush
16 Avenue?

17 SPEAKER MENIN: Approved with
18 Modifications and referred to the City Planning
19 Commission.

20 CLERK: LU 20 and Reso 340 and LU 21 and
21 Reso 341, 217-14 24th Avenue Rezoning?

22 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled on General Orders.

23 CLERK: LUs 28 and 29, 14-10 Beach Channel
24 Drive?

2 SPEAKER MENIN: Approved with
3 modifications and referred to the City Planning
4 Commission.

5 CLERK: LU 31 and Reso 342 and LU 32 and
6 Reso 343, landmark designations?

7 CHAIRPERSON MENIN: Coupled on General
8 Orders.

9 CLERK: LUs 33 and 34, 33-01 11th Street
10 Rezoning?

11 SPEAKER MENIN: Approved with
12 Modifications and Referred to the City Planning
13 Commission.

14 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Mental
15 Health and Substance Abuse, Intro 291-A, Report on
16 Youth Suicide?

17 SPEAKER MENIN: Amended and Coupled on
18 General Orders.

19 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
20 Transportation and Infrastructure, Intro 68-A, news
21 racks, and Intro 257-A, Opens Streets Program?

22 SPEAKER MENIN: Amended and Coupled on
23 General Orders.

24

25

2 CLERK: General Order Calendar, LU 17 and
3 Reso 344 through LU 19 and Reso 346, 1417 Avenue U
4 Rezoning?

5 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled on General Orders.

6 CLERK: LU 22 and Reso 347 and LU 23 and
7 Reso 348, 63-12 Broadway Rezoning?

8 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled on General Orders.

9 I would now ask that the Clerk take a
10 roll call vote on all of the items coupled on today's
11 General Order Calendar.

12 CLERK: Council Member Aldebol?

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

15 CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: I vote aye, with
17 the exception of Intro 247-A; Land Use item 3 and
18 accompanying Resolution 331; LU 4 and accompanying
19 Resolution 334; LU 5 and accompanying Resolution 333,
20 for which I vote no.

21 CLERK: Thank you.

22 (PAUSE)

23 CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: I vote aye on all.

25 CLERK: Council Member Banks?

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

DEPUTY LEADER BANKS: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: I vote aye on all, with the exception of LU 3, LU 4, and LU 5, with all of the accompanying resolutions.

CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Cabán?

COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Encarnación?

DEPUTY WHIP ENCARNACIÓN: I vote aye.

CLERK: Council Member Epstein?

COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Farías?

COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Felder?

COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Aye on all, except Intro 257 for which I vote no.

CLERK: Thank you.

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Council Member Feliz?

COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: I vote aye on all.

CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Gennaro?

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: (NO RESPONSE)

CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Hankerson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANKERSON: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

MAJORITY WHIP HANKS: I vote aye.

CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Lee?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Louis?

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Maloney?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Marte?

COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: (NO RESPONSE)

CLERK: Council Member Morano?

COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Aye on all, with the exception of LUs 3, 4, 5, and accompanying resolutions, on which I abstain, and on Intro 257-A, on which I vote no.

CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Narcisse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: (ABSENT)

CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: I vote aye.

CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: I vote aye.

CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: I vote... Excuse me, I vote aye on all, except for Land Use 3, 4, 5, and 6, with the exception of all the resolutions, for which I abstain. And, I'm sorry, I vote no on Introduction 257-A and Reso 210.

CLERK: Thank you. Council Member Restler?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Riley?

COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Salaam?

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: I vote aye.

CLERK: Council Member Justin Sanchez?

COUNCIL MEMBER JUSTIN SANCHEZ: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Pierina Sanchez?

COUNCIL MEMBER PIERINA SANCHEZ: Aye.

CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Santosuosso?

COUNCIL MEMBER SANTOSUOSSO: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye on all.

CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Stevens?

COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye.

CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Thomas-Henry?

COUNCIL MEMBER THOMAS-HENRY: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Ung?

DEPUTY LEADER UNG: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

2 MINORITY WHIP VERNIKOV: Aye on all, with
3 the exception of Intro 257, and I abstain on Land Use
4 items 3 through 5 with the accompanying resolutions
5 331 through 333. Thank you.

6 CLERK: Thank you.

7 Council Member Williams?

8 DEPUTY SPEAKER WILLIAMS: I vote aye.

9 CLERK: Council Member Won?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye.

11 CLERK: Thank you.

12 Council Member Wong?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER WONG: Aye on all.

14 CLERK: Thank you.

15 Council Member Zhuang?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye on all.

17 CLERK: Council Member Carr?

18 MINORITY LEADER CARR: I do respectfully
19 abstain in LUs 3, 4, 5, and 6 with accompanying
20 Resolutions 331, 332, 333, and 334, no on
21 Introduction 257-A, and aye on the rest.

22 CLERK: Thank you.

23 Council Member Abreu?

24 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Aye.

25 CLERK: Speaker Menin?

SPEAKER MENIN: Aye.

(PAUSE)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: All items on today's General Order Calendar are adopted by a vote of 47 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative, and no abstentions, with the exception of:

- Introduction 257-A, which was adopted by a vote of 41 in the affirmative, 6 in the negative, and 0 abstentions.

- LUs 3, 4, 5 with accompanying resolutions, which were adopted by a vote of 41 in the affirmative, 2 in the negative, and 4 abstentions.

- LU 6 and Resolution 334, which was adopted by a vote of 46 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative, and 1 abstention.

Introduction and Reading of Bills?

SPEAKER MENIN: All bills have been referred to committees as indicated in today's Agenda.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you.

We will now move into Discussion of Resolutions.

Council Member Hanif?

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Today, I rise in
3 strong support of the resolution I authored
4 condemning the fatal shootings of Renée Nicole Good
5 and Alex Jeffrey Pretti.

6 In December, the Department of Homeland
7 Security launched Operation Metro Surge, which saw
8 the deployment of over 3,000 masked and armed federal
9 agents in the Twin Cities, which destabilized and
10 traumatized our neighbors.

11 We saw residents exercising their First
12 Amendment right to protest and to observe federal
13 actions. This action ended in the fatal shooting of
14 Renée Nicole Good and Alex Jeffrey Pretti. Pretti had
15 his phone raised to record the multiple officers'
16 actions before he was pepper sprayed, pinned to the
17 street, and shot 10 times.

18 We also lift up those who have been
19 killed by ICE detention in 2026 alone: Luis Gustavo
20 Núñez Cáceres, Geraldo Lunas Campos, Víctor Manuel
21 Díaz, Parady La, Luis Beltrán Yáñez-Cruz, Heber
22 Sánchez Domínguez, and the shooting of Keith Porter
23 Jr, killed by an off duty ICE officer outside of his
24 apartment.

2 Federal immigration actions have caused
3 irreparable harm and pervasive violence. (TIMER) We
4 condemn these killings, and we affirm that New York
5 City will protect... (CROSS-TALK)

6 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council
7 Member...

8 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: continue to protect
9 immigrant communities and uphold constitutional
10 rights.

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

13 I would like to issue a correction on LUs
14 6 and Resolution 334; it was adopted by a vote of 45
15 on the affirmative, 0 in the negative, and 2
16 abstentions.

17 Next, we have Council Member Epstein.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: Thank you,
19 Majority Leader.

20 I want to thank the Speaker and all of
21 the staff for the work they are doing. I know it is
22 Black History Month, so there are a lot of events
23 going on in the neighborhood. We have one in our
24 district on Thursday at William (sic) (***Transcriber**
25 **Note: Wilmer**) Jennings Art Gallery.

1
2 I want to thank Council Member Hanif for
3 her resolution condemning the murders of Alex Pretti
4 and Renée Good by ICE. It is trauma that we see in
5 our country, and the trauma continues every single
6 day.

7 We also have to figure out how to keep
8 New Yorkers safe, and there's been a little
9 conversation-- I introduced a bill about glue traps,
10 and there's a lot of information around the CDC about
11 the health and issues related to glue traps. I look
12 forward to larger conversations in this body about
13 it.

14 And I just want to make sure that people
15 know that Council Member Marte and I are really
16 focused on our overlap in our neighborhood. And on
17 Thursday night, we're bringing our nonprofit partners
18 together who want to hear-- we want to hear from them
19 directly to hear what their concerns are. It's an
20 opportunity to hear directly from them about concerns
21 that they have in our district. And I hope that
22 everyone (TIMER)... (CROSS-TALK)

23 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council
24 Member.

COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: enjoys the end of Black History Month. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Seeing no one else signed up to speak on Resolutions, we will now have a voice vote on today's Resolution.

If you wish to vote against or abstain from today's Resolution, please notify the Legislative Documents Unit by email or by approaching the dais.

I will now read today's Resolution into the record: Resolution 210 condemns the fatal shootings of Renée Nicole Good and Alex Jeffrey Pretti by federal immigration authorities.

Will all those in favor say aye?

ALL: Aye

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: All opposed say nay?

COUNCIL: (SILENT)

COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Nay

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Any abstentions?

ALL: (SILENT)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: The ayes have it.

1
2 We will now move into General Discussion,
3 starting with Council Member Thomas-Henry.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER THOMAS-HENRY: Thank you.

5 In this final week of Black History
6 Month, I rise to honor the foundation and
7 infrastructure we are standing on, built on the
8 belief that our communities in Queens deserve more.
9 In our neighborhood, service has always been rooted
10 in who we are; it lives in neighbors organizing,
11 parents advocating, elders mentoring, and community
12 leaders building pathways where none existed.

13 Our community has never waited for
14 systems to save us. We built systems of our own.
15 Leaders like Helen M. Marshall, the first Black woman
16 to represent my city council district, who later
17 served as the first Black Queens Borough President,
18 earning the distinguished title of Mayor of Queens.
19 But long before her title, she insisted that the
20 government show up for the people, and that
21 insistence became a foundation for what we see today.
22 She governed with deep neighborhood knowledge and
23 turned advocacy into policy. Her fight for integrated
24 schools, senior and youth services, healthcare
25 investment, and scholarship opportunities did not

1 just shape legislation; it changed lives. Her legacy
2 helped build institutions that became lifelines.
3 Elmcors, an institution that Marshall was a key figure
4 in founding, has served our community for over 60
5 years, growing into one of the largest Black-founded
6 community-based human service organizations in Queens
7 and a safe haven for generations of young people.
8 The Langston Hughes Library and Cultural Center,
9 where she served as the first director, has stood for
10 over 55 years as a cultural anchor, preserving Black
11 history, amplifying Black literature, and affirming
12 the intellectual life of our community. And the Louis
13 Armstrong House Museum, where she helped establish,
14 has been open to the public for over 20 years. Her
15 advocacy allowed the home of Louis and Lucille
16 Armstrong to stand as a living testament to the
17 excellence rooted in Corona and East Elmhurst. This
18 infrastructure lives in East Elmhurst; it lives in
19 Corona. It lives in the families who were able to
20 (TIMER) purchase homes and build businesses. And it
21 creates this... (CROSS-TALK)

22
23 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council
24 Member, your time... (CROSS-TALK)

25 COUNCIL MEMBER THOMAS-HENRY: Thank you...

2 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Your time is up...

3 COUNCIL MEMBER THOMAS-HENRY: As we honor
4 Helen M. Marshall.

5 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you so much,
6 Council Member. We will now hear from Council Member
7 Brooks-Powers, followed by Council Member Riley.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: (NO
9 RESPONSE)

10 (PAUSE)

11 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Council Member
12 Brooks-Powers, are you online?

13 We will go with Kevin Riley for now and
14 come back to Council Member Brooks-Powers.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Thank you, Majority
16 Leader.

17 Today, I'm proud to introduce a two-bill
18 package focused on strengthening the pharmaceutical
19 supply chain resiliency and protecting access to life
20 saving medication for New Yorkers.

21 In District 12, we have seen a troubling
22 rise in pharmacy closures. Seniors are traveling
23 farther for prescriptions. Families are facing delays
24 in essential medication. Residents managing chronic

2 conditions have come to our office worried about
3 where they will turn next.

4 These concerns reflect the broader
5 vulnerability in our city's public health
6 infrastructure. Between 2010 and 2021, USA Today's
7 Network, citing data from UC Berkeley and the
8 University of South Carolina, reported that nearly
9 one-third of US counties lost pharmacies. New York
10 was among seven states where more than half of
11 counties saw declines. This is a public health issue.
12 When pharmacy access disappears in one community, it
13 weakens the health and stability of our entire city.

14 The first bill, Intro 715, directs the
15 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to conduct a
16 citywide pharmacy census, track closures, publish an
17 accessible pharmacy map, and study the feasibility of
18 a city-administered drug stockpile, while also
19 building workforce and industry development pathways
20 to strengthen local capacity.

21 Second, Resolution 327, The Health
22 Stockpile Act, supports the statewide legislation,
23 led by Senator Kevin Parker, to establish a strategic
24 reserve of essential drugs, vaccines, and medical
25

1
2 supplies, ensuring New York is prepared when
3 disruptions or emergencies arise.

4 Together, these measures address both
5 immediate access gaps and long-term preparedness. I
6 urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this
7 package. Access to medicine is not optional. It is
8 fundamental to public health, equity, and resilience
9 in New York City. Thank you, Majority Leader.

10 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Council Member
11 Brooks-Powers?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Thank you
13 for that, Majority Leader.

14 Today, I'm proud to introduce Intro 691,
15 legislation that addresses a problem that we have
16 seen time and time again—truck rules that exist on
17 paper but are not consistently enforced on our
18 streets.

19 New York City has clear truck routing
20 rules. We have clear commercial vehicle parking,
21 stopping, and standing regulations. But too often,
22 when residents report illegal truck parking on
23 residential blocks or trucks traveling off route,
24 they are told enforcement cannot occur because
25

1 officers are unfamiliar with the specific rules. This
2 bill fixes that gap.

3 Intro 691 would require the New York City
4 Police Department, in consultation with the
5 Department of Transportation, to provide formal
6 training on commercial vehicle parking enforcement
7 and truck routing rules. This is about accountability
8 and clarity. When communities are dealing with
9 blocked sidewalks, double-parked tractor-trailers,
10 idling trucks near schools, and heavy vehicles
11 cutting through residential streets, enforcement
12 cannot depend on guesswork—it must be grounded in
13 consistent, city-wide training.

14 I look forward to working with my
15 colleagues to advance this important effort, and I
16 welcome your support and co-sponsorship. Thank you.

17 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Council Member
18 Gennaro, you'd like to make a motion?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you, Mr.
20 Majority Leader. I make a motion to request unanimous
21 consent to vote on all items.

22 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: There is a request
23 for unanimous consent to allow Council Member Gennaro
24

2 to vote on all items on today's Agenda. Are there any
3 objections?

4 ALL: [SILENT]

5 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Seeing no
6 objections, the motion is granted.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you very
8 much, Mr. Majority Leader.

9 I vote aye on all items, with the
10 exception of Resolution 210, on which I vote no.

11 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Council Member
12 Mealy, would you like to make a motion?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I ask for
14 unanimous consent [to vote] on all items.

15 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: There is a
16 request for unanimous consent to allow Council Member
17 Mealy to vote on all items on today's Agenda. Are
18 there any objections?

19 ALL: [SILENT]

20 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Seeing none, the
21 motion is granted.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Thank you. And,
23 may I... I vote no on Intro 257-A and Resolution 210,
24 and Land Use Calls 2, 3, 4, and 5. Thank you.

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2 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Council Member
3 Banks, followed by Council Member Morano, for General
4 Discussion. And I'm going to issue a new correction
5 of the vote very soon.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Thank you,
7 Majority Leader.

8 Today I'm introducing two pieces of
9 legislation aimed at protecting homeowners and
10 improving the way our city manages the streets.

11 Intro 689 addresses a serious flaw in
12 our tax lien notification process. The security of
13 home ownership in New York City is too often
14 jeopardized by insufficient notice before the sale of
15 tax liens. We have seen the consequences of this
16 failure, including in my council district, where a
17 constituent and property owner, Fillmore Brown, lost
18 his home over a single unpaid water bill. That should
19 have never happened due to a lack of communication or
20 a communication breakdown.

21 This bill strengthens due process
22 protections by requiring the Department of Finance to
23 provide notice through multiple verified channels,
24 certified mail, e-mail, phone outreach where
25 necessary, in-person contact, and to document all

2 notification attempts for five years to ensure
3 accountability. It also establishes a critical
4 safeguard that if a return receipt is not received
5 prior to a lien sale, the relevant council member
6 must be notified, creating a final opportunity for
7 intervention before the homeowner loses their
8 property.

9 This legislation not only weakens
10 enforcement but also strengthens fairness, and it
11 ensures that revenue collection does not come at the
12 expense of due process and housing stability.

13 Intro 688 focuses on the functionality of
14 our streets. Construction projects and permitted
15 closures are sometimes necessary, but too often they
16 result in avoidable congestion that delays buses,
17 disrupts businesses, and burdens surrounding blocks.
18 This bill requires permit holders to establish and
19 enforce designated "no standing" zones along detoured
20 routes to preserve safe and efficient (TIMER) traffic
21 flow. Thank you. I urge all my colleagues to support
22 and vote for these bills. Thank you.

23 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council
24 Member. Council Member Morano, followed by Council
25 Member De La Rosa.

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Thank you,
3 Majority Leader.

4 First, hats off to the men and women of
5 the Department of Sanitation who did an extraordinary
6 job with this recent snowstorm in which my district
7 in Staten Island saw 30 inches of snow, based on what
8 the Department of Sanitation said to me this morning—
9 30 inches of snow.

10 My constituents woke up this morning with
11 hundreds of them without power, thousands of them not
12 able to leave their block because they were snowed
13 in, or a variety of other reasons, and tens of
14 thousands either having to report to school as
15 teachers, principals, other staff members, or to take
16 their kids there as parents.

17 The decision to open schools today for
18 traditional rather than remote education was a poor
19 one. Some people have said it goes down in history
20 with New Coke and the decision to put hydrogen in the
21 Hindenburg as one of the worst decisions in history.

22 Our schools were—in Staten Island anyway—
23 were totally unprepared to have in-person education
24 today. If ever there was a case for remote education,
25 today was the day. And the proof is in the pudding. I

1 spoke with all of our principals. Multiple schools
2 reported 15 to 20% attendance. One high school had
3 180 staff members out. Several schools had 45 to 65
4 members out. Bus stops weren't shoveled. Yellow buses
5 never showed up. Stop and drop lanes were unusable.
6 Snow banks blocked crosswalks, special needs schools
7 couldn't safely unload wheelchairs, IS24 was without
8 power for two hours, and the kids sat in the
9 cafeteria. What is the possible educational value of
10 opening schools today? One principal told me that if
11 they had remote education, they would have had 96%
12 attendance.
13

14 I hope that we can take a look at local
15 autonomy and allow a little bit of flexibility for
16 school districts that don't have a subway and are
17 car-dependent. (TIMER) Thank you.

18 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you. Council
19 Member De La Rosa?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Thank you so
21 much, Mr. Majority Leader.

22 Tough act to follow from my colleague,
23 but on a lighter note, I'd like to take a point of
24 privilege to recognize Kiana Diaz, who currently
25 serves as my Chief of Staff. She began her career in

1 public service over a decade ago, right here in the
2 City Council as an intern for former Council Member
3 Rodriguez, and she is now my Deputy Chief of Staff,
4 serving those same communities. She's been an ever-
5 present voice for our community, and tomorrow is her
6 last day with the Council. Even as she transitions to
7 her new role as District Manager for Manhattan
8 Community Board 12, we know that her phone will never
9 stop ringing because requests for budgets, seeking
10 assistance, and community concerns come with the
11 comfort of knowing her as a familiar face. If Gale
12 Brewer knows every blade of grass in Manhattan, then
13 Kiana knows every tree branch in northern Manhattan.
14 She's our very own mini Gale Brewer. She has seen our
15 community grow, and now, as a new mother, we are
16 proud to see her as she grows on her own.

17 City Hall, and many people who have come
18 to know and love Kiana in her time at the Council,
19 will miss her, and we are lucky that she won't be too
20 far away. We wish her the best of luck in her new
21 chapter, and we want her to know that her presence
22 has made a mark in our city, in our community, and
23 personally in my own life. Kiana isn't just my Deputy
24 Chief of Staff; she is family, and we are--not
25

1 technically family, but figuratively family, and we
2 will miss her tremendously. Our loss is CB 12's gain,
3 and we wish her all the best. Thank you, Kiana.

4 (APPLAUSE)

5 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Congratulations,
6 Kiana.

7 (APPLAUSE)

8 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Council Member
9 Brewer, followed by Speaker Menin.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: That was a big
11 compliment, and she'll be a terrific district
12 manager. I won't compliment or say anything about the
13 previous district manager.

14 Okay...

15 (LAUGHTER)

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I know too much
17 about that.

18 So, Intro 690, which would basically
19 enhance the POST Act...

20 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Please keep it
21 down in the Chambers, thank you.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Public Oversight
23 of Surveillance Technology is a POST Act, and that
24 talks about oversight of the use of technology for
25

2 law enforcement at the Police Department. So this
3 particular Intro extends that opportunity to have
4 oversight for all other agencies that are relevant to
5 investigations.

6 I look forward to your support. Thank you
7 very much. It's a controversial bill. Take a look at
8 it.

9 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council
10 Member.

11 Speaker Menin?

12 SPEAKER MENIN: Thank you. I just want to
13 take a moment to say that we have been joined by
14 Errol Louis and his incredible class of journalists
15 from the CUNY J-School.

16 (APPLAUSE)

17 SPEAKER MENIN: I want to ask them to
18 stand so that we can salute you.

19 (APPLAUSE)

20 SPEAKER MENIN: Please stand up.

21 (APPLAUSE)

22 SPEAKER MENIN: You are going to be-- you
23 are the fourth estate that keeps, honestly, all of us
24 honest and accountable, and we look forward to
25 working with you. We know you are going to be the

1 next city press corps here. So, welcome to the
2 Chambers.
3

4 (APPLAUSE)

5 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you. Before
6 the Speaker concludes, I would like to issue another
7 correction on today's roll call:

8 All items on today's General Order
9 Calendar have been adopted by a vote of 49 in the
10 affirmative, 0 in the negative, and 0 abstentions,
11 with the exception of:

12 • Introduction 257-A, which was adopted
13 by a vote of 42 in the affirmative, 7 in the
14 negative, and 0 abstentions.

15 • LUs 3, 4, and 5 with accompanying
16 Resolutions, which were adopted by 42 in the
17 affirmative, 3 in the negative, and 4 abstentions.

18 • LU 6 and Resolution 334 was adopted by
19 a vote of 47 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative,
20 and 2 abstentions.

21 • LU 2 and Resolution 330 were adopted by
22 a vote of 48 in the affirmative, 1 in the negative,
23 and 0 abstentions.

24 I will now call on Speaker Julie Menin to
25 close today's Stated Meeting.

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SPEAKER MENIN: Thank you, Majority
Leader.

The Stated Meeting of February 24, 2026,
is hereby adjourned. [GAVEL] Thanks, everyone.

*** TRANSCRIBER'S NOTE:**

• Revised Land Use Call-Up Vote:

48 affirmative, 0 negative

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 no interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date March 20, 2026