

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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January 19, 2023  
Start: 2:31 p.m.  
Recess: 3:46 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: Adrienne E. Adams, Speaker

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- Shaun Abreu
- Joanna Ariola
- Alexa Avilès
- Diana I. Ayala
- Charles Barron
- Joseph C. Borelli
- Erik D. Bottcher
- Justin L. Brannan
- Gale A. Brewer
- Selvena N. Brooks-Powers
- Tiffany Cabàn
- David M. Carr
- Carmen N. De La Rosa
- Eric Dinowitz
- Kamillah Hanks
- Robert F. Holden
- Crystal Hudson
- Kristin Richardson Jordan
- Rita C. Joseph

## COUNCIL MEMBERS: (CONTINUED)

Ari Kagan  
Shekar Krishnan  
Linda Lee  
Farah N. Louis  
Christopher Marte  
Darlene Mealy  
Julie Menin  
Francisco P. Moya  
Mercedes Narcisse  
Sandy Nurse  
Chi A. Ossè  
Vickie Paladino  
Keith Powers  
Lincoln Restler  
Kevin C. Riley  
Carlina Rivera  
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.  
Pierina Ana Sanchez  
Lynn C. Schulman  
Althea V. Stevens  
Sandra Ung  
Marjorie Velàzquez  
Inna Vernikov  
Nantasha M. Williams  
Julie Won  
Kalman Yeger

## A P P E A R A N C E S

Venerable You Lin  
Director of Fo Guang Shan New York  
Temple/International Buddhist Society

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CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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SERGEANT AT ARMS: This is a sound check for the Stated Meeting. Today's date is January 19, 2023, being recorded by Danny Wong in the Chambers.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet on the floor please. Quiet on the floor please. Council Members please take your respective seats. Quiet on the floor please. Quiet please.

At this time, please place all electronic devices to vibrate. Mr. Majority Leader.

MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: [GAVEL] Good afternoon and welcome to the Stated Meeting of January 19, 2023. I am Majority Leader Keith Powers and I would like to thank everyone for joining us here today. If you would like to follow along, the agenda for today's meeting is posted on the City Council website.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Please join us for the Pledge of Allegiance.

MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Roll call.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Abreu?

COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ariola?

COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Avilès?

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CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÈS: Presente.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ayala?

COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron?

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Bottcher?

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you Council Member.

Bottcher.

COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Brannan?

COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer?

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Brooks-Powers?

COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Cabàn?

COUNCIL MEMBER CABÀN: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Carr?

COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: De La Rosa?

COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dinowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Here.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Farias?  
COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: Present.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Feliz?  
COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Presente.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Gennaro?  
COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Gutièrrez?  
COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÈRREZ: Presente.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Hanif?  
COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Here.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Hanks?  
COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Present.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Holden?  
COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Hudson?  
COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Present.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Joseph?  
COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Here.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Kagan?  
COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: Present.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Krishnan?  
COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Here.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Lee?  
COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Here.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Louis?

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Marte?

COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Mealy? Menin?

COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Moya?

COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Narcisse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Nurse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Ossè?

COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÈ: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Paladino?

COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Restler? Richardson-Jordan?

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON-JORDAN: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Riley?

COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rivera?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Salamanca?

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present.

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CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Sanchez? Schulman?

COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Here.

COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Apologies, Sanchez  
present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Stevens?

COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ung?

COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Velàzquez?

COUNCIL MEMBER VELÀZQUEZ: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vernikov?

COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Williams?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Won?

COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Yeger?

COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Borelli?

COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Powers?

COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: I am present and quite  
confused about what is going on at Joe Borelli's  
household right now but I am actually in fact here.



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COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Speaker Adams?

SPEAKER ADAMS: I too am quite confused by Joe Borelli and I am present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Restler?

COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Here.

MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We are now going to have today invocation delivered by the Venerable You Lin, Director of the Fo Guang Shan New York Temple/International Buddhist Society located at 154-37 Barclay Avenue in Flushing Queens. Welcome.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise.

VENERABLE YOU LIN: Auspicious greeting to the State Leaders, Council Members and Guests. I'm You Lin from Fo Guang Shan New York Temple. Thank you for inviting me. I'm honored and humbled to share an invocation for today's meeting.

Let us now pray to the name of our spiritual leaders of great compassionate God and Buddha. At the beginning of the new year, you will look upon everything in the past as a yesterday that has passed away. Everything in the future as today that is newly born.

Oh great compassionate God and Buddha, in the new year, please grant that every word we say may be

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2 compassionate, kind and encouraging. That everything  
3 we do may be acceptable to most people and beneficial  
4 to the masses. That every intention we have may be a  
5 blessing to others and transfer a merit to them.  
6 That every action we take may be beneficial to the  
7 nation and of assistance to the world. That we may  
8 be willing to contribute our body and mind to society  
9 that we may be willing to share everything we own  
10 with others.

11 Oh great compassionate God and Buddha, please  
12 give us strength. Allow us to progress on the way to  
13 enlightenment wholeheartedly without regret. A new  
14 spirit, the new year. Allow us to start everything  
15 new. [SPEAKING IN OTHER LANGUAGE 7:06-8:07].

16 Lastly wishing everyone a Happy New Year.

17 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you and Happy New  
18 Year. Thank you for being with us here today. I'm  
19 going to call on Council Member Sandra Ung to spread  
20 the invocation today on the record.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Thank you Majority Leader  
22 Keith Powers. Venerable You Lin has been a valued  
23 spiritual leader in my hometown of Flushing and the  
24 greater community in New York City. Through her work  
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1  
2 and teachings at Fo Guang Shan Temple, where my  
3 family has worshipped for many years.

4 It is my wish that the members of the City  
5 Council take her words to heart as we begin our  
6 collective work here today. I also want to take this  
7 opportunity to wish all my colleagues a happy and  
8 healthy Lunar New Year. Thank you.

9 And I would like to thank Venerable You Lin for  
10 being here today and make a motion that the  
11 invocation be spread in full upon the record.

12 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you Council Member  
13 Ung. We will now have the adoption of minutes by  
14 Council Member Tiffany Cabàn.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÀN: I make a motion that the  
16 minutes of the Stated Meeting of December 21, 2022,  
17 be adopted as printed.

18 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll go to  
19 Messages and Papers from the Mayor.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

21 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Communication from City,  
22 County and Borough Offices?

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered M109 Board of  
24 Elections appointment.

25 SPEAKER ADAMS: Rules, Privileges and Elections.

2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Petitions and  
3 Communication.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered M's 110 and 111  
5 Board of Correction appointments.

6 SPEAKER ADAMS: Rules, Privileges and Elections.

7 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Land Use Call-Ups.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: M112, 213-227 West 28<sup>th</sup> Street  
9 Parking Special Permits.

10 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on Call-Up Vote. I  
11 would now ask that Clerk take a roll call vote on  
12 today's Land Use Call-Up items.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Abreu?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ariola?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Aye.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Avilès?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÈS: Aye.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ayala?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Bottcher?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Mr. Majority Leader, I  
3 request permission to vote on all items on today's  
4 General Order Calendar?

5 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Aye on all.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Brannan?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Brooks-Powers?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Aye.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Cabàn?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÀN: Aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Carr?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Aye.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: De La Rosa?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Dinowitz?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Farias?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: I vote aye on all.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Feliz?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gennaro?

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CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Gutierrez?  
COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Hanif?  
COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Hanks?  
COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Holden?  
COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Hudson?  
COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Joseph?  
COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Kagan?  
COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: Aye.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Krishnan?  
COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Lee?  
COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Louis?  
COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Marte?  
COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Mealy? Menin?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Moya?

COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Narcisse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Nurse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ossè?

COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÈ: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Paladino?

COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Restler?

COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Richardson-Jordan?

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON-JORDAN: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Riley?

COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rivera?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Requesting permission to  
vote on all items on today's General Order Calendar.

MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you. I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Salamanca?

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Sanchez?  
3 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye.  
4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Schulman?  
5 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye.  
6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Stevens?  
7 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye.  
8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ung?  
9 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye.  
10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Velàzquez?  
11 COUNCIL MEMBE VELÀZQUEZ: Aye.  
12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Vernikov?  
13 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye.  
14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Williams?  
15 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye.  
16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Won?  
17 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye.  
18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Yeger?  
19 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye.  
20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Borelli?  
21 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: I vote aye.  
22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Powers?  
23 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Aye.  
24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Adams?  
25 SPEAKER ADAMS: Aye.



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2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. Today's Land  
3 Use Call-Ups are adopted by a vote of 50 in the  
4 affirmative and zero in the negative. We will now  
5 have communication from Speaker Adrienne Adams.

6 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you Majority Leader and  
7 good afternoon everyone. I hope you and your  
8 families are safe, healthy and well.

9 I want to begin by briefly discussing the Mayor's  
10 preliminary budget for fiscal year 2024. Last week,  
11 the Mayor released his preliminary budget and the  
12 Council is reviewing its details to prepare a more  
13 comprehensive response and hold oversight hearings on  
14 agency budgets.

15 As a body, we made clear that the budget vision  
16 put forward in the November plan that largely  
17 remained intact in the new financial plan is  
18 unacceptable and not in the best interest of New York  
19 City. Our city is currently facing multiple crises  
20 that require smart investments to support New Yorkers  
21 being healthy and safe. Communities across our  
22 cities rely on essential services from their city  
23 government that the proposed budget is undermining  
24 the cuts to crucial city funding for CUNY, libraries,  
25 early childhood education, social services and so

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2 much more are not a recipe for success. This Council  
3 cannot and will not support this counter productive  
4 approach.

5 As part of our budget oversight, we will examine  
6 the efficiencies in the current city spending to  
7 ensure it is fulfilling the priorities of New  
8 Yorkers. We will also work with our partners  
9 throughout the city to further aluminate the impact  
10 of the Mayor's preliminary budget on New Yorkers  
11 lives and ability to thrive.

12 As a city, we must prioritize investments that  
13 maintain essential services. When budget decisions  
14 fail to solve ongoing city agency staffing challenges  
15 that have hindered the delivery of services to  
16 address the housing crisis, food insecurity and our  
17 many other challenges, there is a real problem. Our  
18 communities and residents need an effective,  
19 functioning city government. The Council's vision is  
20 focused on fulfilling this obligation and building an  
21 equitable city that makes New York City a cleaner,  
22 healthier and safer place for all. The coming weeks  
23 and months will require us as a body to unite behind  
24 efforts that successfully delivery results for New  
25 Yorkers.

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2 I look forward to rolling up our sleeves to  
3 engage in this work together and helping to achieve  
4 that goal for the city.

5 On Monday, our country celebrated the life and  
6 legacy Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., whose  
7 struggle for racial and economic justice continues  
8 today. This is an important day. Not just to  
9 reflect on the continued progress we've made as a  
10 society but to recommit to the unfinished work and  
11 our daily efforts that fulfill Dr. King's vision.

12 The vast inequalities that Dr. King lamented more  
13 than a half a century ago, persists today in many of  
14 our own neighborhoods that continue to struggle with  
15 under investment. That is why the City Budget is  
16 such an important focus for us. As elected  
17 officials, we can advance Dr. King's vision for  
18 economic and racial justice by delivering important  
19 investments and policies for our communities and all  
20 New Yorkers.

21 As we remember and commemorate Dr. King's  
22 extraordinary life, let us not forget or distort his  
23 mission for justice, equality, and collective  
24 liberation.

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2 As we were celebrating Dr. King and his message  
3 of love, our city sadly experienced several acts of  
4 hate that must be loudly condemned. Homophobic and  
5 transphobic messages and vandalism related to drag  
6 story hour continued to be directed at Council Member  
7 Krishnan and his family in front of their home. It  
8 is unacceptable behavior that we must not tolerate.

9 Over the weekend, antisemitic graffiti was found  
10 Forest Park in Council Member Schulman's District.  
11 This hate targeting our Jewish communities is equally  
12 vile and unacceptable and we unequivocally denounce  
13 it. It is especially harmful as we approach  
14 International Holocaust Remembrance Day on January  
15 27<sup>th</sup>, when we honor the memory of millions of Jewish  
16 people and other victims who were murdered during the  
17 holocaust and make a solemn pledge never again.

18 We will not be silent in the face of hate. We  
19 must work together across our diverse communities to  
20 combat hate in our city and around the world. I also  
21 want to say a few words about our city's approach to  
22 helping asylum seekers and long time New Yorkers  
23 facing similar challenges in our homeless shelter and  
24 other social service systems. It is without question  
25 that our city needs more funding and coordinating

1 support from our federal government to fulfill our  
2 obligation to support people, including solutions to  
3 expedite work authorization. Yet, New York City's  
4 government also has an obligation to address the  
5 challenges with policies and services within our  
6 control.  
7

8 The Council is focused on ensuring our own  
9 government simultaneously takes responsibility for  
10 improving city services, which is why we released an  
11 important report on various issues and continue to  
12 advance solutions through legislation and other  
13 means. This should be a moment of unity, not one  
14 that pits asylum seekers against others.

15 Before I continue, I want to take a moment to  
16 remember the life of John Wright Founder of the  
17 Wright group who passed away earlier this week. John  
18 was an incredible advocate for New York City who  
19 championed equity and support for our communities.  
20 His work with nonprofit organizations, arts and  
21 cultural institutions, human service providers and  
22 criminal justice organizations benefited countless  
23 New Yorkers. We will always remember his legacy and  
24 the impact he had on the people of this city. Our  
25 warmest thoughts are with John's family, friends,

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2 colleagues and everyone who was fortunate enough to  
3 have known him.

4 I also want to acknowledge the loss of several  
5 New Yorkers who died while on the job over the past  
6 several weeks. Duane Patterson, a beloved 61-year-  
7 old bouncer and air force veteran from Inwood.  
8 Aboubacar Toure, an auto shop worker from Harlem and  
9 Police Officer Steven Hernandez who served our city  
10 as public servant and was assigned to 121<sup>st</sup> Precinct  
11 in Staten Island. Our hearts are heavy with each of  
12 their deaths and we send our deepest condolences to  
13 their families and loved ones during this difficult  
14 time.

15 On a much brighter note, January 15<sup>th</sup> is Founders  
16 Day for the Sisters of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority  
17 Incorporated. This year, we celebrated 115 years on  
18 the 15<sup>th</sup> of service and sisterhood and to my sisters  
19 across the country and across the world including  
20 Council Member Farias. Happy Founders Day.

21 January 22<sup>nd</sup> marks the start of Lunar New Year.  
22 This year we are celebrating the year of the rabbit,  
23 which symbolizes longevity, peace, and positivity.  
24 On Tuesday, Council Members Sandra Ung, Linda Lee,  
25 Julie Won and I, hosted Lunar New Year and our

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2 celebration right here in the Council Chambers where  
3 we honored community leaders and were treated to  
4 beautiful cultural performances. It was a great  
5 celebration and I want to thank everyone who attended  
6 and helped to make it a success. I wish all New  
7 Yorkers who are celebrating a happy, healthy and  
8 prosperous Lunar New Year.

9       On January 22<sup>nd</sup>, we will observe Row v Wade Day,  
10 which celebrates the anniversary of the landmark  
11 decision that granted the federally protected right  
12 to safe and legal abortions. This year should have  
13 been the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Roe v Wade but the  
14 United States Supreme Court overturned our legal  
15 right to safe, reproductive healthcare, putting  
16 millions of lives in danger across this country.

17       We've done our part in New York to safeguard and  
18 expand access to abortion by passing the historic NYC  
19 Abortion Rights Act and investing an unprecedented \$1  
20 million to support abortion care access for those who  
21 cannot afford it.

22       Our women majority council enacted legislation  
23 requiring the city to provide free abortion  
24 medication at health clinics. And this week, the  
25 Administration announced its implementation efforts.

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2 This Roe v Wade Day we remain steadfastly committed  
3 to making sure everyone can safely and legally access  
4 abortion and reproductive health care.

5 January is National Human Trafficking Prevention  
6 Month, during which we raise awareness about human  
7 trafficking, strengthen efforts to combat it and  
8 empower and support survivors. According to the  
9 state department, more than 27.6 million people  
10 around the world are subjected to human trafficking,  
11 especially those who are most vulnerable.

12 This underscores the importance of providing  
13 compassionate care and support for people fleeing  
14 violence and persecution, including asylum seekers in  
15 our city. And finally, I want to wish a happy  
16 belated birthday to Council Member Alexa Avilès,  
17 Feliz Cumpleaños.

18 Also, yesterday was the birth of my amazing First  
19 Deputy Chief of Staff Faiza Ali. I hope you both had  
20 a great celebration with your family and your loved  
21 ones. We also recognize the birthday of Council  
22 Member Althea Stevens. Happy Birthday to all of you.

23 Alright, now lets move on to our stated agenda.  
24 We'll be voting on the following finance items: A  
25 Preconsidered Resolution sponsored by Council Member



1  
2 Justin Brannan to authorize an Article 11 exemption  
3 for one building in Park Slope Gowanus. And a  
4 transparency Resolution approving new designations  
5 and changes of certain organizations receiving  
6 funding in the expense budget.

7 Next, we will voting on the following land use  
8 items. 97-27 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue Commercial Overlay, will  
9 facilitate the redevelopment of the existing food  
10 bazaar supermarket into a mixed use building with 82  
11 housing above an expanded new supermarket in Council  
12 Member Moya's District.

13 58-02 Northern Boulevard Rezoning, an application  
14 to facilitate a new two story 8,000 square foot auto  
15 showroom in the Woodside neighborhood of Queens in  
16 Council Member Won's District. The Council will be  
17 voting on a Resolution to disapprove this  
18 application.

19 The Gowanus Green Empire State Development  
20 Corporation grant that HPD requests for up to \$5  
21 million in capital funding from the Empire State  
22 Development Corporation under the Restore New York  
23 Communities Initiative to support the first phase of  
24 the Gowanus Green affordable housing development in  
25 Council Member Hanif's District.

1  
2 And for 34 Morningside Avenue Cluster, we'll be  
3 voting on a technical correction to Council  
4 Resolution 261 from last year, related to the Urban  
5 Development Action Area Project and for approval of a  
6 new 40 year Article 11 tax exemption. The tax  
7 exemption will apply separately to each individual,  
8 property in the disposition area in Council Member  
9 Richardson Jordan's District.

10 Next, we will be voting on the following pieces  
11 of legislation. First, we'll consider a package of  
12 Resolutions in support of the people of Puerto Rico  
13 following the devastation and destruction caused by  
14 Hurricane Maria and Hurricane Fiona, which  
15 highlighted longstanding infrastructure problems on  
16 the island and galvanized calls for political self-  
17 determination.

18 Resolution 387, sponsored by Deputy Speaker Diana  
19 Ayala, calls on the United States Congress to repeal  
20 the Merchant Marine Act of 1920, commonly known as  
21 the Jones Act.

22 Resolution 392-A sponsored by Council Member  
23 Tiffany Cabàn, declares support for a democratically  
24 governed public entity that will provide reliable and  
25 affordable electrical power to the people of Puerto

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2 Rico and support for the immediate cancellation of  
3 the contract with LUMA Energy.

4 Resolution 57-A sponsored by Deputy Speaker Diana  
5 Ayala, calls on Congress to pass, and the President  
6 to sign, a bill in support of self-determination for  
7 Puerto Rico. Thanks for our staff member Regina  
8 Paul.

9 Next, as part of the Age in Place NYC package,  
10 Introduction 672-A sponsored by Aging Committee Chair  
11 Crystal Hudson and Co-Sponsored by Council Members  
12 Linda Lee and Lynn Schulman, requires the Department  
13 for Aging or DFTA to identify the community serviced  
14 by each older adult center and the prevalent spoken  
15 languages of each community and to notify each older  
16 adult center of those languages at least once  
17 annually. The bill require DFTA to direct each older  
18 adult center to develop and conduct programming in  
19 each of the identified languages.

20 Introduction 673-A sponsored by Council Member  
21 Hudson, would entitle any person 60 years of age or  
22 older facing eviction or termination of tenancy in  
23 Housing Court to full legal representation at no  
24 cost. This bill would also require DFTA to establish  
25 a housing support program to provide tailored case

1  
2 management services to these older adults who are at  
3 risk of eviction or foreclosure. The bill also  
4 directs the Office of Civil Justice to work with  
5 older adults to educate and inform them about their  
6 rights in Housing Court.

7 Introduction 674-A sponsored by Chair Hudson,  
8 would require DFTA to create and maintain a Know your  
9 Rights pamphlet for older adults who are at least 60-  
10 years-old to inform them of their rights and improve  
11 access to resources. The pamphlet would describe  
12 each topic and provide the name, address, contact  
13 information and website of the relevant agency and  
14 community-based organization that an older adult may  
15 contact to obtain additional information. DFTA would  
16 also be required to conduct outreach on the pamphlet  
17 and report annually on its outreach efforts. Thank  
18 you to our staff members Christopher Pepe, Chloe  
19 Rivera and Daniel Kroop.

20 Next, Introduction 660-A sponsored by Higher  
21 Education Committee Chair Eric Dinowitz, would  
22 require the Mayor's Office for People with  
23 Disabilities or any office designated by the Mayor to  
24 establish a program to help students with  
25 disabilities who are entering institution of higher

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2 education in obtaining accommodations by providing a  
3 system for students consent to the sharing of  
4 information about their special education services  
5 and providing student advocates for related support.  
6 The bill also requires the designated office to  
7 conduct outreach on the program and to submit an  
8 annual report to the Mayor and the Speaker of the  
9 Council as well as post it on its website and we  
10 thank our staff member Regina Paul and Christina  
11 Yalamate (SP?).

12       Next, Introduction 855 sponsored by Majority Whip  
13 Selvena Brooks-Powers, would require additional  
14 disclosure from independent expenditure committees,  
15 also known as Super Packs that spend money supporting  
16 or opposing local ballet proposals. Specifically,  
17 these organizations would have to report information  
18 about their funding sources to the Campaign Finance  
19 Board.

20       In addition, they would have to identify  
21 themselves by name, along with their top three donors  
22 in their literature, advertisements and other  
23 communications. By adding these new disclosure  
24 requirements, this bill would ensure that Super Packs  
25 that spend money on ballet proposals are subject to

1  
2 the same rules as those that fund candidate  
3 elections. Thank you to our staff member CJ Murray  
4 and Ericka Cohen for your work.

5 And finally, we're voting on Introduction 559-A  
6 sponsored by Consumer and Worker Protection Committee  
7 Chair Council Member Marjorie Velàzquez. The Skip  
8 the Stuff Bill would decrease plastic waste in New  
9 York City by prohibiting food service establishments,  
10 third party food delivery services and third party  
11 courier services from providing eating utensils,  
12 napkins, condiment packets and extra eating  
13 containers to customers with their take out and  
14 delivery orders unless the customer has specifically  
15 requested those items from the restaurant or third  
16 party platform facilitating the order. And we thank  
17 you to our Staff Members Sara Swain and Natalie  
18 Meltzer.

19 Thank you all for your attention and I will turn  
20 it back into the hands of the Majority Leader.

21 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you Speaker Adams.  
22 Before we go forward, I want to echo your comments on  
23 John Wright. He was an amazing guy, very big soul  
24 and for the cultural institutions here in the city, a  
25 great advocate. He will be sorely missed and

1  
2 obviously a lot of us are very deeply upset about the  
3 loss and want to send his family and friends our  
4 condolences.

5 With that, we're now going to move into General  
6 Orders. We are going to begin with Council Member  
7 Dinowitz followed by Council Member Brooks-Powers.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Thank you Majority  
9 Leader. You know I've been teaching in our public  
10 schools for 14 years. Year after year, I would see  
11 my students with disabilities work hard with their  
12 supports and their accommodations, as outlined in  
13 their IEP. They'd go off to college, only to have  
14 those supports abruptly taken away from them.  
15 Transitioning to higher education is tough enough for  
16 any high school senior and we should be doing  
17 everything we can to support our students in every  
18 way so that they can thrive in college.

19 So, this bill that we're voting on today,  
20 Introduction 660-A requires the Mayor's Office for  
21 People with Disabilities in consultation with the  
22 Department of Education and other relevant  
23 stakeholders to develop and manage a program to  
24 assist students with disabilities who are graduating  
25 high school to obtain accommodations at college and

1  
2 ease their transition to higher education. With this  
3 bill, thousands of students every single year are  
4 going to benefit. As a result, I believe the  
5 students with disabilities, the very students we  
6 should be supporting the most, they're going to see  
7 greater success in college.

8 I want to thank my legislative director Adam  
9 Staropoli. My Chief of Staff Jenna Klaus,  
10 Committee's Policy Analyst Regina Paul, Senior  
11 Finance Analyst Nina Hyatt and Cristina Yelamate for  
12 their work on this bill. I want to thank as well my  
13 colleagues who are sponsors and of course encourage  
14 everyone here to vote on 660. Vote yes today. Thank  
15 you very much.

16 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you Council Member  
17 Dinowitz. We'll now go to Council Member Brooks-  
18 Powers followed by Council Member Velàzquez.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Thank you. Today,  
20 the Council will take an important step towards  
21 transparency and democratic accountability in our  
22 elections. Currently, when a Super Pack spends  
23 thousands for or against a candidate, they must  
24 disclose where the money came from and include paid  
25 for by notices on advertisements. But when the Super



1  
2 Pack spends money on a ballot measure, the pack is  
3 not subject to these requirements. This discrepancy  
4 doesn't make sense. Ballot measures have major  
5 implications for our city. For example, in 2019 the  
6 city adopted rank choice voting in local elections.

7 Last year, voters approved a series of ballot  
8 measures in 2022 to support racial justice in New  
9 York, including the establishment of the Mayor's  
10 Office of Racial Equity. Organizations have spent  
11 millions to impact voter decisions on the city's  
12 ballot measures. When big money is spent to  
13 implement our elections, whether for a candidate or a  
14 ballot proposal, the public should know who is  
15 spending the money. Disclosures how we mitigate the  
16 impacts of dark money in New York City. That's why  
17 alongside Council Members Farias, Cabàn and others,  
18 I'm sponsoring Introduction 855. This bill will make  
19 our campaign finance law more consistent and improve  
20 transparency and accountability in our elections.

21 I want to thank my colleagues for their support  
22 and I look forward to the passage of this  
23 legislation.

24 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you and I'll go to  
25 Council Member Velàzquez.

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER VELÁZQUEZ: Thank you Majority  
3 Leader Powers, Speaker Adams, fellow Council Members.  
4 I want to thank many of you for signing on in support  
5 of Intro. 559-A, better known as Skip the Stuff.  
6 Feels good huh?

7 This bill aims to reduce the amount of  
8 unnecessary plastics and other items that food  
9 establishments give to customers. In the US, over  
10 100 million plastic utensils are used daily and some  
11 analysts estimate that Americans waste \$40 billion.  
12 That's right, \$40 billion plastic utensils per year.

13 While many of us try to recycle or save these  
14 items for the future, most of them end up in  
15 landfills where they can enter our water system and  
16 harm our ecosystem. Reducing this waste will  
17 hopefully help our environment at no cost to  
18 businesses, consumers or our city.

19 This bill has been a real labor of love and an  
20 opportunity to engage with many people across New  
21 York City. Specifically, we have NRDC, Surf Rider  
22 and WCF. By far, the greatest part of this has been  
23 to hear from children. I think about PS 188 in the  
24 Lower East Side. I think about all the schools in my  
25 district and the importance of the environmental

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2 issues and getting to work with them to testify at  
3 the Committee hearing and engaging in the policy  
4 process.

5 I'm honored by the overwhelming support from the  
6 Council and the passage of this bill and the ability  
7 to pass such a meaningful piece of legislation that  
8 will have positive impacts for generations to come.

9 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. Just seeing  
10 if there is anyone else who would like to speak on  
11 General Orders. Seeing nobody else, we'll now move  
12 to the Report of Special Committees.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

14 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Reports of Standing  
15 Committees.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee on  
17 Aging Intro. 672-A cultural programming at older  
18 adult centers.

19 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and coupled on general  
20 orders.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Intro. 673-A housing court  
22 support for older adults.

23 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and coupled on general  
24 orders.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Intro. 674-A, Know Your Rights  
3 pamphlet for older adults.

4 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and coupled on general  
5 orders.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee on  
7 Consumer and Worker Protection Intro. 559-A, third  
8 party courier service and plastic utensil use.

9 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and coupled on general  
10 orders.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee on  
12 Finance Preconsidered Reso. 457 Transparency  
13 Resolution.

14 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on general orders.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered LU 163 and Reso.  
16 466 property tax exemption.

17 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on general orders.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee on  
19 Governmental Operations Intro. 855-A, contributors to  
20 municipal ballet initiatives.

21 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and coupled on general  
22 orders.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee on  
24 Higher Education, Intro. 660-A Higher Education  
25 translation services.

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2           SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and coupled on general  
3 orders.

4           COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee on Land  
5 Use LU 155 and Reso. 467, 97, 27, 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
6 Commercial Overlay.

7           SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on general orders.

8           COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 156 and Reso. 468 and LU 157  
9 and Reso. 469 5802 Northern Boulevard rezoning.

10          SPEAKER ADAMS: Motion to disapprove.

11          COMMITTEE CLERK: LU's 158-161 various  
12 applications.

13          SPEAKER ADAMS: Approve with modifications and  
14 refer to the City Planning Commission pursuant to  
15 Section 197 of the New York City Charter.

16          COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 162 and Reso. 470 Gowanus  
17 Green ESDC Grant application.

18          SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on general orders.

19          COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered LU 164 and Reso.  
20 471 34 Morningside Avenue Cluster technical  
21 correction.

22          SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on general orders.

23          COMMITTEE CLERK: General orders calendar  
24 resolution appointing various persons commissioner of  
25 deeds.

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2 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on general orders. I now  
3 as that the Clerk take a roll call vote on all of the  
4 items coupled on todays general orders calendar.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Abreu?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ariola?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Aye on all except for  
9 Preconsidered Reso. 0457 and Intro. 559-A, for those  
10 I vote no.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Avilès?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÈS: Aye on all.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ayala?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Barron?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote - I abstain on LU  
17 155 and Reso. 467. I abstain on LU 156 and Reso.  
18 468. I abstain on LU 157 and Reso. 469. I vote yes  
19 on 162-470, 164-471, and 163-466. I want to commend  
20 Council Member Hanif for the 100 percent  
21 affordability and Council Member Kristin Richardson  
22 Jordan for the nearly 60 percent affordability and  
23 your negotiations are what this Council needs and  
24 what the community needs. So, I commend both of you  
25 on that and I vote aye on all the rest.

1 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Brannan?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye on all.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye on all and  
5 congratulations to everyone who passed bills today.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Brooks-Powers?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Permission to  
8 explain my vote?

9 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: First, I want to  
11 thank Council Member Velàzquez for her work on Skip  
12 the Stuff, which I am proud to co-sponsor. This  
13 legislation will have a meaningful impact on New York  
14 City's footprint. It is good for the environment and  
15 as Council Member Velàzquez pointed out, it is good  
16 for our restaurants bottom lines as well.

17 I also want to acknowledge and commend Council  
18 Member Dinowitz on his bill today. Establishing a  
19 program to help high school students with  
20 disabilities as they transition to higher education.  
21 As someone with a nephew with special needs in  
22 school, I know how important it is that we provide  
23 members of the disability and special needs  
24 communities the services they need to succeed in  
25

1  
2 educational environments. And finally, I'd like to  
3 congratulate Council Member Hudson for all of her  
4 work and her office has put into move forward the age  
5 in place package. There are so many exciting policy  
6 ideas in this package. We all know how crucial it is  
7 for the city to provide for and protect our older  
8 adult community, so I'm proud to be a co-sponsor in  
9 this package. And with that, I vote aye on all.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Ariola?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: I would just like to  
12 disclose for the record that my son works for the  
13 DSNY.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Cabàn?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÀN: Aye on all.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Carr?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: I vote no on Preconsidered  
18 Resolution 457 and Introduction 559-A and aye on the  
19 rest. Thank you.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. De La Rosa?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye on all.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Dinowitz?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye on all.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Barron?



1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I wanted to disclose that  
3 my son is a camera operator for a brick media  
4 Brooklyn. Brick Arts Media Brooklyn Incorporated.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Farias?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: I'd like to disclose on  
7 record that my parent works at NYU Langone and a  
8 sibling is a student at MS 127, that may be funded  
9 within this transparency resolution and I vote aye on  
10 all.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Feliz?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye on all.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gennaro?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gutièrrez?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÈRREZ: Aye on all.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Hanif?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye on all.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Hanks?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye on all.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Holden?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: I vote aye on all except  
23 for Preconsidered Reso. 457, which I vote no. I also  
24 would like to disclose on the record that my son  
25 works for New York Presbyterian and my other son

1  
2 works for CUNY as a lecturer and that's in the  
3 transparency Reso. Thank you.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Hudson?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Permission to explain my  
6 vote?

7 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Thank you. I would like  
9 to thank Speaker Adams for her commitment to older  
10 adults and I'd also like to thank Nick Connell,  
11 Nicole Brandstet(SP?), Indiana Porta, Andre Vasquez,  
12 Jeff Baker, Jeremy John, Chris Pepe, Chloe Rivera,  
13 Dan Kroop, my staff, Andrew Wright and Casey Addison  
14 as well as my colleagues from the Aging Committee who  
15 are also on these bills. Council Members Schulman,  
16 Lee, Dinowitz and Richardson Jordan and I'm really  
17 proud to be passing bills that are part of the Age in  
18 Place NYC package today and thanks to all of my  
19 colleagues for voting on it as well. Thank you. And  
20 I am eye on all with the exception of LU 155 and I'd  
21 like to disclose on the record that my partner is  
22 employed by Planned Parenthood Federation of America,  
23 which I believe is being funded in the Transparency  
24 Resolution. Thank you.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Joseph?

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COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Kagan?

COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: Permission to explain my vote?

MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: Thank you. So, I'm going to vote no on Intro. 559-A because I believe that small businesses like café restaurants should not be punished for condiment or napkins in the take out order. We need to support our small business, especially after this devastating pandemic and this bill is also basically my declaration of all restaurants, café, social bars, etc.. So, I'm voting no on Intro. 559-A. I'm also voting no on Preconsidered Resolution 0457 and also Resolutions 387, 392-A. And I wanted to disclose that my daughter is a student in CUNY college and I vote yes, aye on everything else.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you Council Member.

Krishnan?

COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Lee?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Louis?

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COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Marte?

COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Mealy? Menin?

COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Moya?

COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Narcisse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye for all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Nurse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ossè?

COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÈ: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Paladino?

COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye on all except for  
Intro. 559-A and Reso. 457 and which I vote no.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Restler?

COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Richardson-Jordan?

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON-JORDAN: Permission to  
explain my vote.

MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON-JORDAN: So, I just  
want to echo some of the sentiments around the senior

1  
2 care package. I'm very proud of what's come out of  
3 our Aging Committee. Yes, the Know Your Rights  
4 Pamphlet, which was indicated at the top of our  
5 Stated today. But also, the part of the package is  
6 deep cultural programming for senior centers.  
7 Culturally relevant programming, which is really  
8 important.

9 Also, part of the package is housing stability  
10 for our seniors who are at risk of eviction and  
11 foreclosure. So, I just want to commend Council  
12 Member Hudson and Aging Committee and I'm happy to be  
13 part of that.

14 Also speaking of housing, I want to say thank you  
15 to Chelsea Kelly and Land Use for the technical  
16 correction on the 34 Morningside project. I want to  
17 say that this is now seven buildings. Seven, that  
18 have either been approved, come through, or slated to  
19 be approved that meet our community standard and one  
20 outlier.

21 Thank you to this body for their support. Aye on  
22 all.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Riley?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye on all.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Salamanca?

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COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Sanchez?

COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: I'd like to disclose on the record that my sibling works at CUNY BMCC and with that, aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Schulman?

COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Stevens?

COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: I would like to disclose for the record that my daughter is a student at CUNY and also works at New York Presbyterian and aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ung?

COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Velàzquez?

COUNCIL MEMBE VELÀZQUEZ: I'd like to disclose, my husband is a Deputy Commissioner at DEP and my brother is a Board Member of Samaritans of New York. Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Vernikov?

COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: No on Preconsidered Reso 457. No on 559-A and aye on the rest. Thank you .

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Williams?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Permission to explain  
3 my vote.

4 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I didn't have any  
6 prepared remarks but I just wanted to say my  
7 condolences to the Wright group. Me and John go back  
8 since the state days and it's really hard to find  
9 people in this business that actually care about you  
10 as a person and your wellbeing. So, it's really a  
11 loss to both the lobby world and the cultural world  
12 in New York City and I just wanted to send my  
13 condolences to his friends and family. And I vote  
14 aye on all.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Won?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye on all.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Yeger?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: May I be excused to  
19 explain my vote?

20 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you Mr. President.  
22 I just want to very briefly discuss Intro. 559. As  
23 some members have spoken here to for about it and  
24 their reasons for voting no. I'm voting no on it as  
25 well and I think this go to a thing that we've had in

1  
2 the city for the last several years about the  
3 micromanaging of small businesses. I get the idea  
4 that we don't want to overburden the way stream.  
5 It's also important to keep in mind that the  
6 businesses that give these items out, have - or in  
7 this bill excuse me, have uh, are prohibited from  
8 giving it out unless the customer requests it. But  
9 if a business says to the customer, would you like  
10 ketchup packets or mustard packets, etc., and then  
11 the customer says yes, is that a request? Or is that  
12 an answer in the affirmative? We know that the  
13 agencies that enforce these kinds of laws are out  
14 there every day hunting, hunting for summonses to  
15 write. We know that. We know that because the  
16 constituents call us. They call every one of us  
17 about these summonses that they get, which they deem  
18 unfair and which are unfair. And of course, the  
19 answer is always go to Oath and we all know that oath  
20 finds you guilty no matter what. But I also want to  
21 point out that we as required, we put out a fiscal  
22 impact statement that says that we anticipate there  
23 will be no impact on revenues, right? So, there's no  
24 fines going to be issued because we assume full  
25 compliance. Okay, sure and we also anticipate that



1  
2 there will be impact on expenditures from the  
3 enactment of this legislation.

4 In other words, it's not going to cost the city  
5 any money to go around enforcing this. Does anybody  
6 really believe that?

7 So, I'm voting no on that because it's just a  
8 dumb bill and I am also abstaining on Resolution 457.  
9 Thank you very much.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Borelli?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Thank you. I vote aye  
12 on all, except Preconsidered Reso. 0457 and Intro.  
13 559-A. Thank you.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you Council Member.  
15 Powers?

16 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: I vote aye.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Adams?

18 SPEAKER ADAMS: I would like to disclose for the  
19 record that I am a member of the Greater Allen A.M.E.  
20 Cathedral, which is included in this transparency  
21 resolution and also, congratulating Council Member  
22 Dinowitz on his important legislation. I too have a  
23 nephew with special needs heading to college who I am  
24 very, very proud of and I'm so happy to be a part of  
25 a body that will pass this legislation in his behalf

1  
2 today. Thank you very, very much. I vote aye on  
3 all.

4 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: All items on today's  
5 General Order Calendar are adopted by a vote of 50 in  
6 the affirmative, zero in the negative and zero  
7 abstentions with the exceptions of Resolution 457  
8 adopted by a vote of 42 in the affirmative, seven  
9 negative and one abstentions. Intro. 559-A adopted  
10 by a vote of 43 in the affirmative, seven negative  
11 and zero abstentions.

12 Land Use item 155 and accompanying Resolution  
13 1467 adopted by a vote of 48 in the affirmative, one  
14 negative and one abstention. Land Use items 156 and  
15 157 with accompanying Resolutions adopted by a vote  
16 of 49 in the affirmative, zero negative and one  
17 abstentions.

18 We'll now move into the Introduction and Reading  
19 of Bills.

20 SPEAKER ADAMS: All bills have been referred to  
21 committees as indicated on today's agenda.

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll now  
23 move into the discussion of Resolutions. We have one  
24 Council Member signed up. We'll now turn to Council  
25 Member Tiffany Cabàn.

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÀN: Thank you. We like to  
3 call Puerto Rico the sixth borough but unlike the  
4 other five, on any given day in Puerto Rico,  
5 thousands to hundreds of thousands of people live  
6 without electricity, cheaply and poorer areas. And  
7 in the wake of the battering winds of Hurricane Maria  
8 and Fiona, a tsunami of shock doctrine disaster  
9 capitalism has hit Puerto Rico courtesy of Washington  
10 DC and Wall Street.

11 After the hurricanes, the government of Puerto  
12 Rico agreed to a partial privatization of the energy  
13 sector and awarded the contract to a newly hatched  
14 consortium, Luma energy and under that deal, public  
15 funds go towards maintaining the islands fossil fuel  
16 dependent electric grid and supplying dividends for  
17 Luma owners in the US and Canada.

18 And as always with these schemes, this has only  
19 made matters worse. Since Luma's takeover, outages  
20 have only become longer and more frequent and that  
21 means schools ill-equipped to handle constant  
22 outages. Veteran people at risk of dying when their  
23 medical equipment fails and restaurants losing  
24 inventory and having to close and much, much more.  
25 And not only that, over the course of one year alone,

1  
2 Puerto Rican's have been subjected to seven rate  
3 hikes. And so, that's why Reso. 392 calls for that  
4 cancellation of the contract.

5 Can I go an extra 20 seconds Majority Leader?  
6 He's not even listening; I should just keep going  
7 right? Alright.

8 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: When the Majority  
9 Leader's not paying attention, you can keep going.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÀN: I'm going to wrap.  
11 Alright, so ultimately however, Luma itself is just a  
12 symptom of a bigger problem. Colonialism Puerto  
13 Ricans remain subjects not citizens of the United  
14 States, utterly at the mercy of its ruling class.  
15 Their resources are plundered. Their democracy is  
16 stamped out. Their human rights are strangled and  
17 there could be no clear sign of this in the dramatic  
18 out migration in the past decade. And of course, the  
19 colonial decision makers don't mind losing the  
20 population. It makes profitable land grabs that much  
21 easier.

22 And so, that's why I'm supporting Deputy Speaker  
23 Ayala's Resolutions 57 and 387 -

24 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you Council  
25 Member.

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÀN: Respectively in support of  
3 enacting the Puerto Rico self-determination act and  
4 repealing the Jones Act.

5 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you Council  
6 Member.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÀN: And Puerto Rico must be  
8 free. So, thank you Deputy Speaker.

9 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you and apologies,  
10 we were clarifying a vote, which I'm just going to  
11 read to the record as clarification.

12 We're going to first call on Council Member  
13 Hudson just to clarify her vote.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: For LU 155, I abstain.  
15 Thank you.

16 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. So, with  
17 that, we have a clarification. Land Use item 155 and  
18 Resolution 467 were adopted by a vote of 48 in the  
19 affirmative, zero in the negative and two  
20 abstentions. Thank you.

21 We are now going to have a voice vote on today's  
22 Resolutions. If you wish to vote against or abstain  
23 from today's Resolutions, please notify the  
24 legislative documents unit by email or approaching  
25

1  
2 the dais before the vote. I'll now read the  
3 Resolutions into the record.

4 Resolution 57-A calls on Congress to pass, and  
5 the President to sign a bill in support of self-  
6 determination for Puerto Rico. With all those in  
7 favor, please say aye.

8 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

9 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: All opposed, say nay.

10 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Silence.

11 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: And the abstentions.

12 The aye's have it. Resolution 387 calls on the US  
13 Congress to repeal the Merchant Marine Act of 1920,  
14 commonly known as the Jones Act. Will all those in  
15 favor please say aye.

16 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

17 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: All opposed, please say  
18 nay.

19 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Silence.

20 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Any abstentions?

21 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Silent.

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: The ayes have it. The  
23 Resolution 392-A calls supporting a democratically  
24 governed public entity of providing reliable and  
25 affordable electrical to the power to the people in

1  
2 Puerto Rico and supporting the immediate cancellation  
3 of the contract with Luma Energy. All those in  
4 favor, please say aye.

5 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

6 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: All opposed say nay.

7 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Silent.

8 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Any abstentions?

9 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Silent.

10 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: The ayes have it. We  
11 will now move into – thank you for that, we will now  
12 move into today's general discussion. We are going  
13 to start the general discussion with Council Member  
14 Barron and he will be followed by Council Member  
15 Narcisse.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you my colleagues.  
17 I just rise to share with you another perspective on  
18 Dr. Martin Luther King. When we talk about Dr.  
19 Martin Luther King, you hear things like social  
20 justice, equality. What you won't hear is a Black  
21 radical socialist. What you won't hear, he was  
22 anticapitalism. What you won't hear, he was  
23 antiimperialist wars.

24 Dr. Martin Luther King is a victim of being  
25 frozen in history with a capitalist propaganda

1  
2 machinery does is they freeze Black leaders and  
3 appoint in their development that the White society  
4 is comfortable with.

5       So, they were comfortable with Dr. King when he  
6 said, I have a dream when he wanted to integrate but  
7 by 1967 and 1968, his dream turned into a nightmare,  
8 so he said now I have a radical vision. He said  
9 perhaps to Harry Belafonte, perhaps I'm integrating  
10 into a burning house. That burning house was a  
11 colonial capitalist society. Dr. King said, I worked  
12 very hard to integrate, to reform the systems of the  
13 South. A little change here, a little change there  
14 but now I think differently. There needs to be a  
15 radical rearrangement of the entire society. A  
16 revolution of values.

17       When Dr. King came to New York and spoke out  
18 against the war and Vietnam, he couldn't find a Black  
19 church to speak in. He had to speak at Riverside.  
20 Now, they all have in comfortable Dr. King programs  
21 and talking about social justice. In Dr. King's last  
22 year when he was marching to Washington, he said, no  
23 more speeches. No more photo-ops. He was marching  
24 in a poor peoples campaign, wanted to set up  
25 resurrection city to make sure that the \$60 billion



1  
2 antipoverty program was passed that John Konias (SP?)  
3 had put in. Dr. King was a revolutionary, evolved  
4 from integration to revolution. But they won't talk  
5 about it because they want to be comfortable with  
6 having a dream.

7 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you Council  
8 Member.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I think.

10 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll now go  
11 to Council Member Narcisse followed by Council Member  
12 Sanchez.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Thank you Majority. I  
14 appreciate the time. I want to say thank you for the  
15 speech. Sometimes we hear, we understand and we look  
16 forward to addressing the inequities in our  
17 community. The Intro for 884, I'm going to ask my  
18 colleagues to help me to support.

19 As a former triage nurse, I understand you must  
20 first diagnose a problem before you can prescribe  
21 treatment. In just over a year of touring our city  
22 hospitals and jails, and in my capacity as the Chair  
23 of the Committee on Hospitals, one thing struck me.  
24 There does not appear to be a clear understanding on  
25

1  
2 what it is our city's mental health bed capacity or  
3 what are our overall needs?

4 This lack of clarity severely effects our ability  
5 to properly treat those with mental illness and  
6 assist behavioral health clients. With one in five  
7 New Yorkers experience a mental illness annually, the  
8 need to provide services to those in need is  
9 outstanding. Therefore, I hope you will join me, my  
10 colleagues, you will join me and make sure that we  
11 address this inequity that we're talking about.

12 The best way our community can respond is just,  
13 just give me a second, I just lost my thought for a  
14 minute. The best way we can do that is making sure  
15 that we pass legislation that would make sense for  
16 our city. I firmly believe that the taskforce is  
17 needed to provide transparency and clarity on a  
18 crucial issue, which our city must be [INAUDIBLE  
19 59:04] in addressing two many New Yorkers suffering  
20 with mental illness, struggling every day to get  
21 support in our system.

22 So, please, I'm asking you to support me in this  
23 because we need to address mental health in our city.  
24 Thank you so much.

25 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: And for John, it's a  
3 great loss in our city and to me coming from art and  
4 my daughter just graduated from Julie Art and I was  
5 excited to get them to meet together. That's  
6 personal and I want to let everyone know. When you  
7 have a good person in our community, that's helping  
8 and support and uplift, especially with arts, so I  
9 support that. Thank you.

10 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll go to  
11 Council Member Sanchez followed by Council Member  
12 Holden.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Thank you. Thank you so  
14 much Majority Leader. So, two things. Our city  
15 first of all is in a deep housing crisis and it is  
16 not one that is felt equally by all New Yorkers. The  
17 most recent housing vacancy survey shows a vacancy  
18 rate of 12.6 percent for apartments renting over  
19 \$2,300 per month. There's not an emergency with  
20 those units but the vacancy rate for low cost  
21 apartments is functionally zero.

22 This is unsustainable and the answer, is clear.  
23 We need to stabilize our lowest income and working-  
24 class New Yorkers and expanding FHEPS eligibility can  
25 do that. I hope my colleagues will join me, Deputy

1  
2 Speaker Ayala, Council Member Avilès and Council  
3 Member Hanif and other in supporting a package of  
4 bills heard yesterday, introduced today, Intro. 878,  
5 893, 894 and Reso. 465 to relieve FHEPS requirements  
6 and expand access.

7 Next, I am so, so proud to introduce Intro. 875.  
8 To reduce STI infection rates across the City of New  
9 York and save lives by making rapid testing services  
10 available in all five boroughs and launching an  
11 education campaign. The Bronx has over 23,500 people  
12 living with HIV in 2021.

13 This is over three times higher than the overall  
14 New York State rate and the highest within New York  
15 City. With rates more than double those in Brooklyn,  
16 Queens and Staten Island. In 2021, the Bronx also  
17 had the highest rates of HIV and AIDs deaths. This  
18 is unbelievable to be facing this crisis in 2021.  
19 Where one in eleven White gay men will face HIV  
20 positivity but one in two African American men will  
21 face HIV positivity and one in four Latino men.

22 These disparities are stark. They are  
23 unacceptable and anything and everything we can do to  
24 change that reality must be done. So, I'm proud to  
25 introduce 875 and I hope my colleagues will join me

1  
2 in honor of the national HIV AIDs awareness month  
3 that's going to be observed on February 7<sup>th</sup>. Thank  
4 you.

5 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll now  
6 hear from Council Member Holden followed by Council  
7 Member Brooks-Powers.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Thank you Majority  
9 Leader. Today I ask my colleagues to support Intro.  
10 882, 883 and Reso. 461. As always, I try to focus my  
11 legislation on quality-of-life bills that will  
12 improve New York City for all residents.

13 Intro. 882 deals with mylar balloons which are  
14 increasingly causing power outages when they float up  
15 the power lines and short it. And it happened in my  
16 district and it happens all over the city. ConEd had  
17 brought that to my attention. It's a huge issue.  
18 These mylar balloons should come up, should have a  
19 consumer warning on them and that's what this bill  
20 does.

21 And also, the balloons should be weighted, so  
22 they just don't float up into the atmosphere and  
23 certainly into the power lines. Reso. 461 is asking  
24 the MTA to provide discounts to seniors, students,  
25 and people with disabilities on express buses during

1  
2 rush hour. And finally Intro. 883 repeals the laws  
3 that legalize motorized E-scooters and E-bikes. We  
4 rushed into that legislation legalizing them without  
5 a plan and without regulations in place.

6 This has led to anarchy on our streets with these  
7 devices or the driver's disobeying traffic laws,  
8 driving on sidewalks and getting into collisions with  
9 pedestrians and motorists. To give you some numbers,  
10 in 2022, there were 790 crashes of E-bikes and E-  
11 scooters resulting tragically in 842 injuries and  
12 nine fatalities. These devices were legalized in  
13 2020 by the state legislature and then the New York  
14 City Council. Since then, we have seen an increase  
15 in fires due to them.

16 Last year, FDNY investigated nearly 200 fires  
17 caused by lithium-ion batteries. These batteries  
18 have resulted in 100 injuries and six fatalities. In  
19 2021, we saw 104 fires, nearly 80 injuries and four  
20 fatalities. In 2020, there were 44 fires and 20  
21 injuries. One second, I'll be finished.

22 If you look at the numbers, it's evident that  
23 things increase due to the state and city legalizing  
24 these devices without ensuring they were safe. So,  
25 in the meantime, we need these vehicles off our

1  
2 streets until the city can determine how they can be  
3 regulated. Thank you and I urge my colleagues to  
4 support these bills. Thank you.

5 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you Council Member  
6 Holden. We'll now go to Council Member Brooks-Powers  
7 followed by Council Member Avilès.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: First, I'd like to  
9 disclose that I'm a member of the Allan A.M.E.  
10 Cathedral and that we voted to fund them today.

11 Today, I'm proud to be introducing a bill  
12 alongside Council Member Krishnan. This bill will  
13 encourage the installation of bollards being short  
14 post can help improve street safety citywide. Each  
15 year, hundreds die and thousands are injured in car  
16 accidents, car crashes, excuse me. Infrastructural  
17 upgrades, physical changes to our streets can help  
18 slow down drivers and decrease the number of crashes.  
19 Bollards can calm traffic, mark our bike lanes and  
20 protect pedestrians. This bill will require the DOT  
21 to study effectiveness of bollards, create guidelines  
22 for their installation and place them at more  
23 intersections throughout the city.

24 I ask for my colleagues support on this bill and  
25 look forward to continuing the conversation around

1  
2 how to ensure our streets are safe and I'd just like  
3 to conclude by also extending a Happy Founders Day to  
4 my sorority sisters, the ladies of [INAUDIBLE  
5 1:05:41] Incorporated alongside with Council Member  
6 Natasha Williams. Thank you.

7 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. I'm going to  
8 separate you too I think shortly. We're going to go  
9 to Council Member Avilès followed by Council Member  
10 Farias.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÈS: Hello, I wish to uplift  
12 and support my incredible colleague Council Member  
13 Tiffany Cabàn's comments about Puerto Rico. No two  
14 La colonia, no to imperialism [SPEAKING IN OTHER  
15 LANGAUGE 1:06:08]. And now let's abolish la junta.

16 So, it's been just a year into my term as an  
17 elected representative for Council District 38 and at  
18 this point of reflection, I really want to  
19 acknowledge the many, many colleagues I am so proud  
20 to work alongside in this struggle for justice equity  
21 and returning democracy to our people. So, gracias,  
22 thank you to each of you.

23 As we know, New York City is not the blue bastion  
24 so often portrayed in the national media. For  
25 example, anti-immigrant rhetoric is alive and well



1  
2 here and has begun to take shape. As the primary  
3 narrative that the administration and others will  
4 pursue in order to justify this devastation fiscal 24  
5 austerity budget proposal. I assure you this is a  
6 false narrative and wrong.

7       The shock and awe of system of governance is  
8 alive and well here in the five boroughs. We saw  
9 this during the '23 budget process. We see it again  
10 during the proposed budget modifications and we see  
11 it again with the public service retirees being  
12 threatened with the loss of their promised healthcare  
13 benefits. The challenge many of us are facing after  
14 a barrage of assaults on our communities, namely in  
15 dismantling and defunding the social safety net at  
16 all levels of government. We will not just take what  
17 you can, get while you can get it form of government.  
18 No matter how long – how the term cost to our  
19 communities and our city.

20       After one year of service, I know that our  
21 choices as leaders cannot be to do nothing. Not only  
22 must we uphold a promise we made to serve our  
23 communities but where we can make the most impact,  
24 which is at home.

1  
2 We must deconstruct the style of governance that  
3 leaves us feeling that change is not possible.

4 Please support Resolution 456 in support of the  
5 federal legislation that enables states to reimburse  
6 SNAP benefits to recipients.

7 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you Council Member  
8 and happy belated birthday. We'll now go to Council  
9 Member Farias followed by Council Member Hanif.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: Thank you Majority  
11 Leader. I have two Resolutions being introduced  
12 today that I want to urge all of my colleagues to  
13 sign on to. The first is Reso. 459 calling upon the  
14 state and the governor to sign into law that  
15 municipalities are prohibited from requiring all  
16 employers to check work status through the federal  
17 electronic verification system. This bill is  
18 designed to help our immigrant communities, not only  
19 access more employment opportunities but also keep  
20 the jobs they already have.

21 In 2010, 80,000 immigrants across the nation lost  
22 their ability to work because of this system in New  
23 York State. Over 34,000 employers currently still  
24 use this verification system to check on their  
25 employees and potential employee status. This system

1  
2 is the complete opposite of what our city needs,  
3 especially in the middle of a crucial need for  
4 economic and workforce development. That is why we  
5 need to ensure that municipalities like New York City  
6 are banned from using this system.

7 As a transit advocate, I'm excited for the second  
8 Reso. 460 calls on the state and Governor to fully  
9 fund the MTA in the states upcoming fiscal year 2024  
10 budget in an effort to ensure that the MTA operates  
11 more frequent bus and train service statewide. Six  
12 minute service would create a faster, safer, and more  
13 accessible system for our outer borough communities  
14 like mine and so many of our districts rely on buses  
15 and trains to get us to work and back home safely to  
16 our families.

17 I urge all of you to support our colleagues in  
18 the state who are advocating to fix the MTA and  
19 provide greater accessibility and affordability to  
20 New Yorkers who need it most. I look forward to  
21 seeing all of you sign on. And lastly, happy Lunar  
22 New Year and happy Founders Day to all my sisters of  
23 Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated. Thank you.

24

25

1  
2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you and now we'll  
3 go to Council Member Hanif followed by Council Member  
4 Ossè.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Thank you so much. Last  
6 Tuesday, Sarah Schick was stuck and killed by a truck  
7 while riding a bicycle in Gowanus on 9<sup>th</sup> Street and  
8 Second Avenue in my district. She was only 37 years  
9 old. I want to send my deepest condolences to her  
10 husband, her two sons and all of her loved ones.  
11 This tragedy is made all the more painful knowing  
12 that it was avoidable. Six people have now died on  
13 9<sup>th</sup> Street in the last 18 years. It is a location  
14 that the DOT has identified as unsafe. We cannot  
15 wait any longer to take action.

16 Tomorrow, I'll be doing an on site walk through  
17 with DOT and I'll be demanding we make desperately  
18 needed infrastructure improvements to avoid any more  
19 tragedies. From 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue to Smith, the bike lane  
20 is currently marked only by paint. We need to make  
21 it hardened with cement barriers in order to make it  
22 legitimately protected and prevent future crashes. I  
23 am committed to making my District one where people  
24 can get from place to place safely without fear. We

1  
2 cannot accept traffic violence as anything else but a  
3 policy failure. Thank you.

4 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll go to  
5 Council Member Ossè followed by Council Member  
6 Krishnan and finally Council Member Hanks.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSE: Thank you Majority Leader.  
8 I just wanted to share my love and my deep  
9 condolences to the family and loved ones of John  
10 Wright. When I was appointed to the Chairmanship on  
11 the Committee on Cultural Affairs, Libraries and  
12 International Intergroup Relations, John became a bit  
13 of a mentor for me, in terms of showing me to the  
14 cultural community of New York City, which is a  
15 beautiful vibrant one. And if you know me or even if  
16 you don't, you may know that I don't really like  
17 lobbyists. I find them very annoying. However, John  
18 Wright was not one of those lobbyists. He was  
19 someone that didn't do his job because it was a job,  
20 he did it because he cared for the organizations and  
21 communities that he worked with and for. Whether it  
22 was cultural organizations in the creative field or  
23 whether it was you know Black economic development,  
24 organizations like restoration plaza. So, he will be  
25 missed. It was such unfortunate news to hear about

1  
2 what happened this week and if there's a message that  
3 I would like to leave with the rest of my colleagues  
4 in terms of how we can honor John in his beliefs and  
5 in his fight and in the work that he did, is to you  
6 know, I hope we can continue to respect and champion  
7 our cultural community because it makes our city  
8 vibrant every single day and John shared that  
9 vibrancy with myself and that community as well. So,  
10 thank you.

11 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you Council  
12 Member. We'll now go to Council Member Krishnan and  
13 finally Council Member Hanks.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Thank you Majority  
15 Leader. First, I just want to say that I am proud to  
16 co-sponsor the legislation being introduced by  
17 Majority Whip Brooks-Powers about bollards in our  
18 city and would urge all our colleagues to sign onto  
19 it.

20 Now, I also want to just say a few words. First,  
21 thanking all our colleagues here across the city and  
22 state as well as everyone in my community who reached  
23 out with words of support and solidarity after the  
24 appalling display of hate outside my home on Martin  
25 Luther King Day no less with my children present too.

1  
2 And it's just a glimpse of the kind of hate that our  
3 LGBTQIA+ communities experience everyday and  
4 especially our trans communities in particular. So  
5 many false, utterly false assertions are made about  
6 drag story hour programming at our public libraries  
7 and the fact of the matter is, the only – about and  
8 the horrific things that our children are supposedly  
9 experience at this programming. Yet the only  
10 horrific things that our children are hearing are the  
11 offensive words, slurs, and the acts of hate that  
12 they're seeing by these individuals who are coming to  
13 protest these events. And I think it's just a moment  
14 also for me to extend my solidarity to other Council  
15 Members who have experienced the same things at their  
16 homes. Council Member Bottcher, Council Member  
17 Hudson and to really take a minute to urge all of our  
18 colleagues together to fight by the side of our  
19 LGBTQIA+ communities against such hate in particular.

20 As Speaker Adams, Council Member Bottcher,  
21 Council Member Hudson and I had said earlier in a  
22 statement, the harmful homophobic and transphobic  
23 extremism targeting drag story hour events and the  
24 New Yorkers who support them, including Council  
25 Members is vial and dangerous. We will not stay

1  
2 silent or accept these shameful acts and attempts to  
3 intimidate and spread hate. Especially after recent  
4 incidents that have devolved into violence and put  
5 New Yorkers in harms way.

6 This City Council is proud to support children's  
7 programs that promote inclusivity, literacy and joy.  
8 We are proud always to fight by the side of our  
9 LGBTQIA+ communities against such hate. Thank you.

10 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you Council  
11 Member. We'll now close out with Council Member  
12 Hanks.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Thank you Majority Leader.  
14 On December 23<sup>rd</sup>, right before Christmas, our  
15 community tragically lost three young children in a  
16 house fire in my district. I just wanted to say for  
17 the record their names. Cera Miles six, Ashley Miles  
18 5, and Aiden Miles 5. I wanted to thank FDNY, NYPD  
19 who worked tirelessly to revive these children and  
20 save their lives. I also want to thank the Mayor,  
21 Speaker Adrienne Adams and Council Member Barron and  
22 all my colleagues in the Council who called and  
23 offered words of support. These children will be  
24 memorialized, laid to rest on Saturday January 21<sup>st</sup>  
25 in Brooklyn. Please keep your thoughts and prayers



1  
2 with this family and especially the ten-year-old that  
3 is still in critical condition. Thank you so much.

4 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We will now  
5 call on Speaker Adrienne Adams to close out today's  
6 Stated Meeting.

7 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you Majority Leader. The  
8 Stated Meeting of January 19, 2023 is hereby  
9 adjourned. [GAVEL]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Date JANUARY 27, 2023