

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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Thursday, April 10, 2025

Start: 3:04 p.m.

Recess: 4:19 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Adrienne E. Adams, *Speaker*

Joann Ariola

Alexa Avilés

Diana I. Ayala

Chris Banks

Erik D. Bottcher

Justin L. Brannan

Gale A. Brewer

Selvena N. Brooks-Powers

Tiffany Cabán

David M. Carr

Carmen N. De La Rosa

Eric Dinowitz

Amanda Farías

Oswald Feliz

James F. Gennaro

Jennifer Gutiérrez

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING
COUNCIL MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

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

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING
A P P E A R A N C E S

INVOCATION

Delivered by: Rabbi Avraham Walkin,
House of Worship CHAZAQ located at
141-24 Jewel Ave, Kew Gardens Hills NY 11367

2 SERGEANT POLITE: Testing one, two. Today's date
3 is April 10, 2025. Today's Stated Meeting is being
4 recorded in the Chambers by Keith Polite.

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

7 Ladies and gentlemen, at this time, to minimize
8 disruptions, please place all electronic devices, all
9 electronic devices to vibrate or silent mode.

10 Madam Majority Leader.

11 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: [GAVEL] Good afternoon,
12 and welcome to the Stated Meeting of April 10, 2025.
13 I am Majority Leader Amanda Farías, and I would like
14 to thank you for joining us. If you would like to
15 follow along, the agenda for today's meeting is
16 posted on our website.

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

23 I want to remind my colleagues that decorum is to
24 be respected at all times. Insulting each other is
25 not appropriate, all remarks are to be addressed to

2 the Chair, and members shall not speak unless
3 recognized by the Chair. It is essential that even if
4 we disagree, we treat each other with respect.

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

7 SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise!

8 ALL: [PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE]

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Roll call?

10 CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Present.

12 CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Presenté.

14 CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

15 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Here.

16 CLERK: Council Member Banks?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Present.

18 CLERK: Council Member Bottcher

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Present.

20 CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Here.

22 CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.

24 CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

25 MAJORITY WHIP BROOKS-POWERS: Present.

2 CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: (NO RESPONSE)

4 CLERK: Council Member Carr?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Here.

6 CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Here.

8 CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Here.

10 CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Here.

12 CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: I'm back.

14 CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Presenté.

16 CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: (MEDICAL)

18 CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: (ABSENT)

20 CLERK: Council Member Holden?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here.

22 CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Present.

24 CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Present.

2 CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Here.

4 CLERK: Council Member Lee?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Here.

6 CLERK: Council Member Louis?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present.

8 CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Present.

10 CLERK: Thank you.

11 Council Member Marte?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Present.

13 CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Present.

15 CLERK: Council Member Menin?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Here.

17 CLERK: Council Member Moya?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Here.

19 CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Present.

21 CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

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

23 CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Present.

25 CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

2 MINORITY WHIP PALADINO: Here.

3 CLERK: Council Member Powers?

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

5 CLERK: Council Member Restler?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: (NO RESPONSE)

7 CLERK: Council Member Riley?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Present.

9 CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present.

11 CLERK: Council Member Salaam?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Present.

13 CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present.

15 CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Present.

17 CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Here.

19 CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Here.

21 CLERK: Council Member Ung?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Present.

23 CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: (NO RESPONSE)

25 CLERK: Council Member Williams?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I'm here.

3 CLERK: Council Member Won?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Present.

5 CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Here.

7 CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

8 MINORITY LEADER ARIOLA: Here.

9 CLERK: Council Member Farías?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Present.

11 CLERK: Speaker Adams?

12 SPEAKER ADAMS: Present.

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you. We will now
14 have today's Invocation, which will be delivered by
15 Rabbi Avraham Walkin from the House of Worship
16 CHAZAQ, which is located at 141-24 Jewel Avenue in
17 Queens.

18 RABBI AVRAHAM WALKIN: Honorable members of the
19 Council, distinguished guests, and beloved members of
20 our community, thank you for the opportunity to offer
21 this invocation during this sacred season of
22 Passover.

23 In the Jewish tradition, Passover is a time when
24 we remember the journey from slavery to freedom, a
25 story not only of the past, but a timeless call to

1 action. As we read in the Haggadah each year, and I
2 quote, "In every generation, we are obligated to see
3 ourselves as if we personally came out of Egypt."
4 This is not just a historical memory, it is a moral
5 challenge. It reminds us to stand with the oppressed,
6 to lift those who are burdened, and to ensure that
7 freedom is not just a story we tell, but a reality we
8 build together.
9

10 The Talmud teaches us that every human being is
11 created B'tselem Elohim – in the image of God. May
12 that sacred truth guide us to treat every person with
13 dignity and every voice with respect.

14 As you sit here to make decisions that shape
15 lives, may you be granted wisdom to see what is
16 right, strength to see what is just, and compassion
17 to hear what is not always said. Grant our leaders
18 the clarity to see beyond division, and courage to
19 act with integrity, and the humility to serve with
20 compassion. May they be ever mindful that each policy
21 affects real lives, families, children, elders, and
22 neighbors, and that true leadership is measured not
23 by power, but by service. Let this council be a place
24 where diverse perspectives come together, not in
25 conflict, but in collaboration. Not for personal

2 gain, but for the benefit of all who call this city
3 home. May peace dwell in our gates, justice in our
4 streets, and hope in every heart. And let us all say,
5 amen.

6 ALL: Amen

7 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you. I would now
8 ask Council Member Jim Gennaro to spread the
9 Invocation on the Record.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you, Madam Majority
11 Leader.

12 Thank you, Rabbi Walkin, for giving today's
13 Invocation. Rabbi Walkin is a pillar of the Orthodox
14 community in my district. He is a highly dedicated
15 and motivated speaker and outreach professional with
16 more than thirty years of experience running and
17 directing impactful programs for adults and teens of
18 all ages. Currently he serves as director of Chazaq's
19 JWave Teen Division Young Adult Division where he
20 continues to inspire and guide the next generation.

21 Rabbi Walkin and his wife, Rebbetzin Ahuva, are
22 the proud parents of five wonderful children.

23 Once again, Majority Leader, I thank, Rabbi
24 Walkin for being here today, and I make a motion for
25

2 unanimous consent to spread the Invocation in full
3 upon the record.

4 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you. We will now
5 ask Council Member Chris Banks for the Adoption of
6 Minutes.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: I make a Motion that the
8 Minutes of the Stated Meeting of March 26, 2025 be
9 adopted as printed.

10 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Messages and Papers from
11 the Mayor?

12 CLERK: None.

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Communications from City,
14 County & Borough Offices?

15 CLERK: Preconsidered M 119, Board of Elections
16 Commissioner Appointment.

17 SPEAKER ADAMS: Rules, Privileges and Elections.

18 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Petitions and
19 Communications?

20 CLERK: None.

21 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Land Use Call-ups?

22 CLERK: None.

23 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you. We will now
24 have Communication from Speaker Adrienne Adams.

2 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you very much, Madam
3 Majority Leader, and good afternoon, everyone.

4 I want to begin by acknowledging the fatal fire
5 that took place in Council Member Mealy's district on
6 Tuesday, which resulted in the death of one person.
7 My heart goes out to their family and loved ones
8 during this tragic time.

9 I also want to acknowledge the horrible tragedy
10 out of the Dominican Republic that killed over 200
11 people when a roof collapsed during a concert at Jet
12 Set Nightclub in Santo Domingo. New York City is home
13 to the largest Dominican community, and we extend our
14 deepest condolences to them during this difficult
15 time.

16 Last week, the Council released its official
17 response to the Mayor's Fiscal Year 2026 Preliminary
18 Budget. Our council has been consistent in
19 championing a budget that invests in New Yorkers.
20 During last year's budget process, we worked
21 alongside residents across the city to fight hard to
22 restore full library service, protect child care and
23 educational programs, along with other critical
24 services New Yorkers rely on. We also secured major
25 housing investments at a pivotal time when our city

1
2 faces a daunting housing crisis that demands greater
3 resources and actions to address.

4 There is far more at stake this year with a
5 destructive force in the White House that is
6 attacking working families in our city and throughout
7 the country. The Council's Preliminary Budget
8 Response lays out a balanced, responsible, and
9 forward thinking path for our city and New Yorkers to
10 achieve stability. Our investments are focused in
11 several areas that respond to some of our city's most
12 significant challenges— NYCHA and affordable housing,
13 3K and other early childhood programs, our public
14 schools, CUNY, mental health solutions, programs that
15 reduce recidivism, our parks, cultural institutions,
16 libraries, and other vital services for New Yorkers.

17 When we meaningfully invest in our communities
18 and prepare the city for the chaos coming from
19 Washington, we can create a future where we all
20 thrive and no one is left behind.

21 Our goal as a government is to serve the public
22 and improve the quality of life for the people we
23 serve and represent. Donald Trump's never ending
24 stream of chaos, which includes the recent gutting of
25 the Department of Health and Human Services and its

1 Head Start and child care offices runs totally
2 counter to that purpose.
3

4 The Trump administration also managed to do the
5 unthinkable, slashing funding to the World Trade
6 Center Health Program that provides care to tens of
7 thousands of first responders and survivors of the
8 health impacts from 9/11. Trump's cuts dishonor the
9 thousands of New Yorkers we lost on 9/11, our brave
10 heroes and survivors. They continue to suffer from
11 debilitating health impacts, and they deserve our
12 government's support.

13 Though there are reports that some firings and
14 cuts were reversed, others have not been. None of
15 this was necessary. In just three short months, Trump
16 has managed to make life more difficult, dangerous,
17 and expensive for working families. His allegiances
18 are clear, they are not to the working people, but
19 all to himself.

20 Just yesterday, we held a press conference
21 outside the Trump building on Wall Street to raise
22 alarms about the disastrous impacts of Trump's
23 tariffs. While the Mayor failed to stand up for our
24 city and New Yorkers, this council made our voices
25 heard. These tariffs would constitute the largest tax

1 hike in over fifty years, hiking the prices of common
2 goods and harming small businesses, working families,
3 and everyday New Yorkers and Americans. Our economy
4 was on a steady course to recovery, but this tariff
5 plan has threatened our trajectory and unnecessarily
6 hurt our economy.
7

8 While the president paused many tariffs for
9 ninety days, the administration must stop sabotaging
10 our city and national economy.

11 As the Council laid out in our Preliminary Budget
12 response last week, there was already some risk from
13 naturally occurring economic uncertainty, but the
14 most significant risk to our economy is now the
15 unnecessary volatility caused by the Trump
16 administration's actions.

17 The Council's Budget Response identified \$1.9
18 billion to preserve for new needs and budgetary
19 risks, including the direct attacks by Trump on our
20 city's budget. But let me be clear, our city and
21 other local and state governments across the country
22 can only do so much to blunt the most devastating
23 consequences of Trump-inflicted damage to our
24 economy. And this is on top of Trump and his allies
25 coming after Americans' healthcare, food assistance,

2 jobs, housing, and retirement funds while raising
3 prices on essential goods.

4 Trump's allies in the New York congressional
5 delegation have an obligation to put the People of
6 New York first. New Yorkers certainly deserve better.

7 April is National Sexual Assault Awareness Month
8 during which we raise awareness and advance public
9 education about the prevalence of sexual assault
10 across the country. As a city, we must continue to
11 empower survivors and support them with necessary
12 resources and pathways to recover while working to
13 prevent sexual assault.

14 It is also Autism Acceptance Month which
15 celebrates and uplifts the voices of people with
16 autism. New York will always be a city that supports
17 the well-being of people of all abilities and
18 spectrums of neurodiversity.

19 We're also celebrating Arab American Heritage
20 Month. Join us in uplifting the many contributions of
21 our Arab Americans across all communities throughout
22 this month and beyond.

23 Friday is the start to Black Maternal Health
24 Week, a time when we recognize the stark inequities
25 in maternal health outcomes that disproportionately

1 affect Black women and birthing people. In addition
2 to convening a Maternal Health Steering Committee,
3 our women-majority council has been consistent in
4 championing accessible maternal health care through
5 our investments in mental health and doula care, as
6 well as the Guaranteed Income pilot we launched last
7 year. There is still much more work to be done to
8 secure the health and stability our mothers and their
9 children need.
10

11 This week is also National Library Week, a time
12 to celebrate these pillars of our neighborhoods.
13 Libraries are information hubs that New Yorkers of
14 all ages rely on for knowledge, resources, and
15 connection. For all that our libraries provide us,
16 they deserve full funding in our City budget.

17 April 13 is Vaisakhi, one of the most significant
18 days for the Sikh community and a day where many
19 Sikhs chose to be baptized. I hope all who observed
20 had a wonderful day of reflection and celebration.

21 And happy early birthday to Council Member
22 Crystal Hudson who is celebrating on the 14th,
23 (APPLAUSE) and Council Member Julie Won whose
24 birthday is on the 17th. (APPLAUSE)

25 Now let's move on to our Stated Agenda.

2 First, we will vote on the following Finance
3 items:

4 A Preconsidered Resolution, sponsored by Council
5 Member Justin Brannan, establishing a new forty-year
6 Article XI Tax Exemption for one lot in Council
7 Member Rita Joseph's district.

8 Preconsidered Resolution, also sponsored by
9 Council Member Brannan, establishing a new forty-year
10 Article XI Tax Exemption for one lot in Council
11 Member Althea Stevens' district.

12 Next, we'll vote on the following appointments:

13 Resolution 820, sponsored by Council Member Keith
14 Powers, would approve the appointment by the Council
15 of Lauren Stossel as a member of the New York City
16 Board of Correction.

17 Resolution 821, also sponsored by Council Member
18 Powers, would designate Dr. Patricia Marthone for
19 appointment by the Mayor as a Director of the New
20 York City Health + Hospitals Corporation.

21 An appointment by Public Advocate Jumaane
22 Williams of Leah S. Goodridge as a member of the New
23 York City Planning Commission.

24

25

2 And a Preconsidered Resolution approving Mark
3 Landis to the Office of Commissioner of Elections at
4 the Board of Elections.

5 Today, we will also vote on the following
6 Resolutions:

7 Resolution 333-A, sponsored by Public Advocate
8 Jumaane Williams, calling on the New York State
9 Legislature to pass, and the New York State Governor
10 to sign, S.28A/A.1006, which would eliminate the
11 subminimum wage for employees based on their
12 disability or age. We thank our staff member
13 Elizabeth Artz.

14 Resolution 59-A, sponsored by Council Member
15 Selvena Brooks-Powers, calling upon the Metropolitan
16 Transportation Authority to conduct a comprehensive
17 Environmental Impact Study on the viability of the
18 proposed QueensLink project.

19 Resolution 187, sponsored by Council Member Kevin
20 Riley, calling upon the Metropolitan Transportation
21 Authority to conduct a comprehensive Environmental
22 Impact Statement for the proposed Gun Hill Road
23 Electric Bus Depot Charging Facility. We thank our
24 staff member John Basile.

1 Resolution 729, for which I am the lead sponsor,
2 would condemn President Trump's targeting of
3 diversity, equity, and inclusion or DEI programs and
4 policies at the federal level, and express support
5 for such programs and policies at the city and state
6 level. Putting an end to DEI programs and policies at
7 the federal level can negatively impact everyone by
8 undermining diversity that benefits us all while
9 blocking opportunities for those historically denied
10 them. Our diversity is one of our greatest strengths.
11 This systemic attack on diversity by Trump and his
12 allies are trying to turn back the clock on progress
13 in our country. They want to take away opportunity
14 from those without their inherited wealth and
15 privilege. In fact, it is clear from their actions
16 that they want to return this country to the status
17 quo before the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and
18 1960s. They are dismantling DEI and using it as an
19 excuse to attack programs and opportunities for *all*
20 working families. It is morally reprehensible, and no
21 one should be fooled by this scam. They are trying to
22 take away funding for our children's education and
23 the services that *all* American families need. It is
24 imperative that our City stands up for New Yorkers
25

1 and our city's values. We cannot allow this fraud to
2 divide us when the attack is on all of us. Anti-
3 discrimination protections help us build towards the
4 just and equitable future that we *all* deserve. We
5 thank our staff member Wiam Diouri.
6

7 Next, we will vote on Resolution 836 that I am
8 sponsoring to authorize my ability as Speaker to
9 commence legal action on behalf of the Council to
10 defend against the Adams' administration's violation
11 of Local Law in collusion with the Trump
12 administration and attacks by the Trump
13 administration against the city of New York.

14 The chaos created by the Trump administration—
15 taking money away from the City's bank accounts,
16 violating constitutional rights, and advancing its
17 *extreme* deportation agenda has negatively impacted
18 our great city.

19 Fear has permeated communities, undermining the
20 safety of our neighborhoods and small businesses.
21 Trump has shown a willingness to engage in full-on
22 assault of our city's residents, our budget,
23 independence, and our values.

24 This Mayor has been compromised into being
25 complicit. His administration's latest executive

1
2 order inviting ICE onto Rikers Island is the latest
3 example. This will make New York City less safe with
4 New Yorkers fearful of seeking help from our police
5 department.

6 And let's be clear, this is about the Mayor
7 fulfilling his end of the bargain to Trump, selling
8 out New Yorkers in exchange for the dismissal of his
9 federal corruption case. As stated by Judge Ho,
10 quote, "Everything here smacks of a bargain:
11 dismissal of the Indictment in exchange for
12 immigration policy concessions." This is the result
13 of promises made becoming promises kept and the Mayor
14 putting his personal interest in Trump's extreme
15 agenda above our city's and New Yorkers. It is the
16 Council's responsibility to stand up for New Yorkers
17 and we intend to continue doing so. We thank our
18 staff member Nwamaka Ejebe.

19 Today, we'll also vote on the following pieces of
20 legislation:

21 Introduction 671-A, sponsored by Council Member
22 Carmen De La Rosa, would authorize the Department of
23 Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) to waive the
24 civil service examination fee for high school
25 students in New York City and for individuals who are

1 first time applicants. We thank our staff member Rie
2 Ogasawara.
3

4 Next, we will be voting on a pair of bills to
5 streamline tree maintenance:

6 Introduction 800-A, sponsored by Council Member
7 Nantasha Williams, would require the Department of
8 Parks and Recreation to develop criteria by which
9 they prioritize tree maintenance. The Parks
10 Department would also be required to post a
11 description of the criteria used to prioritize tree
12 maintenance on its website. Thank you to our staff
13 members Kris Sartori, Patrick Mulvihill, and Nick
14 Widzowski.

15 And Introduction 978-A, also sponsored by Council
16 Member Williams, would require the 311 Customer
17 Service Center, in coordination with the Parks
18 Department, to provide 311 customers who submit tree
19 pruning related requests with certain information,
20 including links to relevant maps and information
21 about a program to train and certify volunteers in
22 tree pruning. Thank you to our staff members Irene
23 Byhovsky and Erik Brown.

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 25
2 We will also vote on several bills that will
3 strengthen transparency and oversight of the NYPD's
4 use of technology:

5 Introduction 168-A, sponsored by Majority Leader,
6 Amanda Fariás, would require that the NYPD, upon
7 request, provide The Department of Investigation with
8 an itemized list of all surveillance technologies
9 currently used by the Department and to provide
10 information on all data access and retention policies
11 for data collected by such technologies. The
12 legislation also requires the NYPD to provide DOI
13 with semi annual updates on all newly acquired or
14 discontinued surveillance technologies.

15 Introduction 233-A, sponsored by Council Member
16 Crystal Hudson, this legislation would require the
17 New York City Police Department (NYPD) to publish on
18 its website a written policy that establishes
19 procedures and regulations for the Department's use
20 of facial recognition technologies. The legislation
21 would also require that the NYPD conduct an annual
22 audit of the Department's use of facial recognition
23 technology, share the findings of such audit with the
24 Department of Investigation, and post such findings
25 on the Department's website.

1 And Introduction 480-A, sponsored by Council
2
3 Member Julie Won, would update language in the
4 existing public oversights of surveillance
5 technology, or the POST Act, to require the NYPD to
6 publish impact and use policies for each individual
7 surveillance technology it uses and make clear which
8 entities use the data gathered from their
9 technologies, how the data is protected, and the
10 potential impacts of these surveillance technologies.
11 We thank our staff members Josh Kingsley, Jeremy
12 Whiteman, and Rob Calandra.

13 Next, we will vote on a package of legislation
14 that stems from my 2024 State of the City:

15 The first five-year streets master plan was due
16 in December 2021. Since then, the City has
17 consistently fallen short on its milestones,
18 including the miles of protected of bus lanes and
19 bike lanes required to be built each year. The
20 Council has consistently pressed DOT to provide
21 updates to their progress, but they have been
22 unwilling to do so. Today's legislation will advance
23 greater transparency on the status of projects that
24 contribute to the streets master plan to promote
25 accountability.

1 Next, Introduction 1114-A, sponsored by Council
2
3 Member Julie Won, would require DOT to maintain a
4 capital tracker for its projects, updated three times
5 a year with more granular data about each of its
6 projects. This tracker will provide greater
7 transparency into DOT's capital planning process than
8 is currently provided by the citywide Capital
9 Projects Dashboard. We thank our staff members Jessie
10 Foong and Mark Chen.

11 And Introduction 1105, sponsored by Majority Whip
12 Selvena Brooks-Powers, would require DOT to provide a
13 road map of all projects planned for that year that
14 will contribute to the requirements of the streets
15 master plan. The Department would be required to
16 provide updates three times a year. Additionally, DOT
17 would be required to provide monthly updates on the
18 progress of projects during their construction phase.
19 We thank our staff member Mark Chen.

20 Introduction 807-A, also sponsored By Majority
21 Whip Brooks-Powers, would require the New York City
22 Emergency Management to disseminate localized
23 emergency preparedness materials in locations that
24 are prone to flash floods. This aims to increase
25 public awareness on flash flood risks to boost

1 registration for the emergency notification system.

2 Additionally, NYCEM would be required to develop
3 guidance for facilitating safe evacuation before
4 flash flood emergencies. We thank our staff members
5 Rachel Cordero, Josh Kingsley, and William Hongach.
6

7 And, finally, Introduction 694-A, sponsored by
8 Council Member Sandy Nurse, would create a permanent
9 long term strategic planning process for establishing
10 and maintaining a citywide public bathroom network.
11 The relevant agencies would be required to produce a
12 strategic planning report to be updated every four
13 years with the goal of providing at least 2,120
14 public bathrooms by the year 2035, at least half of
15 which would be publicly owned. It would also require
16 the agencies to post a comprehensive online map of
17 all public bathrooms in the city. We thank our staff
18 members Jayasri Ganapathy, Erica Cohen, and Rachel
19 Cordero.

20 Thank you very much for your attention,
21 colleagues, now I turn back over to our Majority
22 Leader.

23 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you, Speaker Adams,
24 we will now move into Discussion of General Orders,
25 and I would like to first recognize Council Member

1 Hudson, followed by Council Member Won, Council
2 Member Nurse, then Council Member Williams.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Thank you so much,
4 Majority Leader.

5 Today, this body is voting on Introduction 233 as
6 part of a package of bills introduced to strengthen
7 the POST Act and enhance transparency surrounding the
8 NYPD's use of surveillance technology during
9 investigations.

10 The use of facial recognition technology is
11 growing rapidly in police departments across the
12 country. Given that the NYPD is the highest funded
13 police force in the nation, it's no surprise that New
14 York City is among the leading users of facial
15 recognition as a surveillance tool. However, the use
16 of this technology in policing raises serious
17 concerns from wrongful arrests due to inaccuracies in
18 the software, to the broader normalization of
19 increased surveillance, and the erosion of privacy
20 rights.

21 These harms are not felt equally. They
22 disproportionately impact the communities most
23 affected by over policing, particularly Black and
24 brown men. As technologies evolve, government has an
25

1 obligation to ensure they don't step on our civil
2 liberties. Intro 233 requires the NYPD to develop and
3 publish a clear policy outlining the Department's
4 procedures and regulations for the use of facial
5 recognition technology.
6

7 This policy must then be published on the
8 Department's website, making it easily accessible for
9 all New Yorkers to understand their right safeguard
10 their privacy and better understand how the NYPD is
11 using surveillance technology.

12 Additionally, Intro 233 promotes greater
13 transparency by requiring the NYPD to conduct regular
14 audits of its use of facial recognition technology.

15 This bill is about increasing transparency,
16 holding the NYPD accountable, and protecting the
17 privacy and civil liberties of all New Yorkers. I
18 urge everyone to pass Intro 233 and the bills
19 introduced by my colleagues, Council Member Won and
20 Majority Leader Fariás, to protect our constituents
21 from departmental overreach and to ensure
22 transparency, accountability, and the protection of
23 privacy rights for all New Yorkers. Thank you.

24

25

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
3 Member Won, followed by Council Member Nurse, then
4 Council Member Williams.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Colleagues, I urge you to
6 vote in favor of Introduction 480, part of a critical
7 package of bills that builds on the original public
8 oversight of tech surveillance technology, or POST
9 Act, to ensure that the NYPD surveillance practices
10 are transparent and accountable to the public.

11 Intro 480 closes key gaps in the original POST
12 Act by requiring NYPD to publish clear, separate
13 impact and use policies for each surveillance
14 technology the agency uses.

15 These policies will now include essential details
16 about how each tool functions, who has access to the
17 data, and what safety risks or civil rights impacts
18 may exist.

19 Intro 480 also ensures how NYPD tracks how and
20 when surveillance data is shared externally with
21 other government agencies on the local, state, and
22 federal level— in a time like now where Ranjani
23 Srinivasan, Mahmoud Khalil, and Yunseo Chung— all
24 students who were surveilled and detained even though
25

1 they were on student visas or were green card
2 permanent residents.
3

4 This is a time where we must have transparency
5 into how surveillance technology is being used by our
6 government and what data tracking of ourselves are
7 being shared with what different levels of government
8 such as ICE and Homeland Security.

9 Intro 480 is just one part of the solution. In
10 this bill package, Intro 168, from Majority Leader
11 Fariás, gives the other department more oversight, as
12 well as Intro 233, from Council Member Hudson.

13 So together this package creates additional
14 oversight on surveillance technologies used by NYPD
15 to ensure transparency and public accountability. We
16 worked closely with the NYPD and the advocates to
17 arrive at the right language that we were comfortable
18 with to achieve these goals.

19 I want to give a special shoutout to my brother,
20 David Siffert of Stop Spying, and Ivey Dyson from
21 Brennan Center for Justice, who worked tirelessly
22 with our office to help Intro 480 to get to this
23 point.
24
25

2 Let's pass Intro 480 and its companion bills and
3 make meaningful steps towards a modern and
4 responsible surveillance oversight in New York City.

5 Additionally, I would like to highlight (TIMER
6 CHIMES) Intro 114, which is a DOT bill that we also
7 should push to have transparency in our capital
8 projects. Thank you.

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
10 Member Nurse, followed by Council Member Williams,
11 then Majority Whip Brooks-Powers.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Thank you, Majority Leader.
13 Today, we are voting to make New York City flush
14 with public toilets. We are not just Flushing, Queens
15 anymore, we are "flushing" everywhere.

16 This bipartisan bathroom bill will create the
17 first citywide public bathroom network. By 2035,
18 we'll have a network of over 2,100 public toilets,
19 more than doubling what we have now.

20 Every single person walking around New York City
21 should be free to pee in a private, clean, and
22 functioning bathroom. No one should have to
23 experience the humiliation or stress of having to
24 relieve themselves out on the street. New York City
25 has 8.8 million residents, but just over a 1,000

1 public bathrooms. That is one toilet for every 7,000
2 people, and I believe we can do better.

3
4 The consequences of the failure to plan for more
5 public toilets are thousands of predominantly Black
6 and brown New Yorkers getting criminal and civil
7 summonses, tickets, and fines simply for having a
8 bladder.

9 Thirty-four years ago, four homeless men filed a
10 lawsuit against the City demanding safe and better
11 access to public toilets. Since then, our city has
12 grown, our budget has grown, but somehow we have not
13 managed to address this issue.

14 Through Intro 694, for the first time, our city
15 agencies will not only have to actually come up with
16 a plan to maintain and expand a citywide public
17 bathroom network, but they'll have to plan every four
18 years. Right now we don't have a plan, we don't have
19 a strategy, we have a hodgepodge of agency-specific
20 processes that create a disjointed, stunted, and some
21 might say foul approach.

22 This bill was developed out of the Free to Pee
23 Coalition, the original foreman who sued the city,
24 inspired a diverse coalition of menstruators,
25 pregnant people, parents, caregivers, homeless

1
2 people, older people, and workers who came together
3 to demand our city plan for this basic human need.

4 I thank you for all the colleagues who have
5 supported, and I encourage you all to vote, yes,
6 today. Thank you, Majority Leader. (TIMER CHIMES)

7 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
8 Member Williams, followed by Majority Whip Brooks-
9 Powers, then Council Member De La Rosa.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Today, I'm proud to
11 sponsor two bills that are rooted in transparency,
12 access, and accountability because that's what New
13 Yorkers deserve from their government. Intro 800 and
14 Intro 978, two bills that are about something pretty
15 simple, making it easier for New Yorkers to
16 understand how their government works and making sure
17 residents aren't left in the dark.

18 For so many of us, when we think about trees in
19 our neighborhoods, we think about beauty, about
20 shade, about air quality. But I'll be honest, most of
21 the calls I get about trees come when something goes
22 wrong— when a limb falls, when a tree looks like it's
23 about to tip over, when folks call 311 and they wait,
24 and they wait, and they wonder what happens next.

1 Today with Intro 800, we are saying residents
2 deserve to know how tree maintenance decisions are
3 made, what the process is, and what gets prioritized.

4 With Intro 978, we're saying when a neighbor
5 calls 311 about a tree concern, they shouldn't just
6 get a case number, they should get resources, they
7 should get clarity, and they should get connected,
8 because that's what builds trust, and that's what
9 government looks like, especially good government.

10 I want to thank my colleagues in the Council, the
11 Speaker, and all the residents who have raised these
12 concerns for years.

13 And lastly, I want to thank and acknowledge my
14 soras of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated who
15 have joined us for the third Annual Delta Day at City
16 Hall. Thank you so much, Majority Leader, for your
17 grace.

18 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Majority Whip
19 Brooks-Powers, followed by Council Member De La Rosa.

20 MAJORITY WHIP BROOKS-POWERS: Thank you.

21 Today, I am proud to stand before you as the
22 Council votes on a package of bills that reflects our
23 shared commitment to transparency, public safety, and
24 transit equity.
25

1 My bill, Intro 1105, responds to DOT's consistent
2 delays in meeting its legally required benchmarks
3 under the streets master plan. Last year, DOT reached
4 less than half of the bus lane mileage required by
5 law. This bill will require the agency to publish
6 more frequent and detailed updates on timelines,
7 budgets, and community board engagement. And together
8 with Intro 1114, sponsored by Council Member Won,
9 this creates a centralized, online tracker so the
10 public and the Council can hold DOT accountable.
11

12 Intro 807 addresses the increasingly urgent risk
13 of flash flooding in communities like Southeast
14 Queens. This legislation requires New York City
15 Emergency Management to identify suitable shelter
16 locations in flood prone areas, and proactively
17 inform residents through outreach, mailers, and in
18 person visits so they know where to go and what to do
19 before the next storm hits.

20 Finally, Resolution 59 calls for a full
21 Environmental Impact Study of the QueensLink
22 Proposal, which would reactivate the long-abandoned
23 Rockaway Beach branch. It's an opportunity to further
24 study the potential impacts of this project on
25 transit equity in our city.

2 I want to thank my colleagues for their support.
3 This work is about building a safer, fairer city for
4 every New Yorker in every borough.

5 I urge my colleagues to vote yes on these
6 critical pieces of legislation.

7 And echoing Council Member Williams, I welcome my
8 sorors to the People's House, and that is the women
9 of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated. Thank
10 you.

11 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
12 Member De La Rosa.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Thank you.

14 I want to thank Speaker Adams and colleagues for
15 your support and attention to this important piece of
16 legislation, Intro 671, which we will be voting on
17 shortly.

18 As Chair of the Committee on Civil Service And
19 Labor, we have been tracking and sounding the alarm
20 on the high vacancy rates across our City agencies.
21 Despite the Council's best efforts to fight against
22 mayoral PEGS and cuts, a 5% vacancy rate average
23 across the board remains today, translating to over
24 15,000 empty desks, unanswered phone calls, and the
25

1 redistribution of responsibilities to an already
2 overworked and burnt-out municipal workforce.

3 The Civil Service Exam is required for 80% of the
4 City's government position. It is unthinkable that as
5 we try so hard to staff our agencies and hire to fill
6 the gaps in our city work workforce, there remains
7 financial barriers that can make hiring unfeasible
8 and inequitable.

9 Fees for exams can range from \$40 to a \$101, and
10 that's just the cost of an entry exam. Exam takers
11 can expect to incur hidden costs such as study
12 materials, transportation to and from interviews,
13 exams, and more.

14 Inaccessible fees should not deter high school
15 students or new applicants from seeking civil service
16 careers. That's why the Council is looking to pass
17 Intro 671, which will require DCAS to waive the Civil
18 Service Examination fee for individuals who are
19 enrolled at any public, private, or Charter high
20 schools in New York City or who are first-time
21 applicants for civil service.

22 Intro 671 says to New Yorkers, "We want you to
23 work for New York City, and we are optimistic about
24 the positive outcomes of a favor application process
25

2 for the future of civil servants who are urgently
3 needed in our city.”

4 I urge you to vote in favor of this legislation
5 at this time. Thank you.

6 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you.

7 Seeing no one else signed up to speak, the last
8 thing I will ask for, colleagues, is to also vote,
9 yes, on Intro 168, my companion bill to Council
10 Member's Won and Hudson on the POST Act.

11 Report of Special Committees?

12 CLERK: None.

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Report of Standing
14 Committees?

15 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Civil Service
16 and Labor, Introduction 671-A, Civil Service Exam fee
17 waivers.

18 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
19 Orders.

20 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Finance,
21 Preconsidered LU 271 and Reso 845 and Preconsidered
22 LU 272 and Reso 846, tax exemptions.

23 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

24

25

2 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Fire and
3 Emergency Management, Introduction 807-A, Flash flood
4 preparedness.

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

7 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Governmental
8 Operations, State & Federal Legislation, Introduction
9 694-A, citywide bathroom strategy.

10 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
11 Orders.

12 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Land Use, LUs
13 244 through 246, Brownsville NCP?

14 SPEAKER ADAMS: Approved with Modifications and
15 Referred to the City Planning Commission pursuant to
16 Section 197-(d) of the New York City Charter.

17 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Parks and
18 Recreation, Introduction 800-A, tree maintenance.

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

21 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Public Safety,
22 Introductions 168-A, 233-A, and 480-A, surveillance
23 technology.

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

2 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Rules,
3 Privileges and Elections, Resolution 820,
4 recommending the appointment of Lauren Stossel, New
5 York City Board of Corrections.

6 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

7 CLERK: Resolution 821, recommending the
8 designation for appointment of Dr. Patricia Marthone,
9 Health + Hospitals, Corporation.

10 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

11 CLERK: M 117 and Resolution 847, approving the
12 appointment of Leah Goodridge, City Planning
13 Commission.

14 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

15 CLERK: Preconsidered M 119 and Resolution 848,
16 recommending the appointment of Mark Landis, Board of
17 Elections.

18 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

19 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Technology,
20 Introduction 978-A, tree pruning.

21 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
22 Orders.

23 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Transportation
24 and Infrastructure, Introduction 1105-A, streets
25 master plan.

2 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
3 Orders.

4 CLERK: Introduction 1114-A, capital project
5 tracker.

6 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
7 Orders.

8 CLERK: General Order Calendar, Resolution
9 appointing various person Commissioner of Deeds.

10 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

11 I now as that the Clerk take a roll call vote on
12 all of the items coupled on today's General Order
13 Calendar.

14 CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: I vote aye on all.

16 CLERK: Council Member Salaam?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: I vote aye on all.

18 CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

20 CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye.

22 CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye.

24 CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

25 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Aye.

2 CLERK: Council Member Banks?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye.

4 CLERK: Council Member Bottcher?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHER: Aye.

6 CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye.

8 CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes.

10 CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

11 MAJORITY WHIP BROOKS-POWERS: Aye.

12 CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye on all.

14 CLERK: Thank you.

15 Council Member Carr?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: No on Introduction 480-A, M

17 17 and accompanying Resolution 847, and Resolution

18 820, and aye on the rest, thank you.

19 CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye on all.

21 CLERK: Thank you.

22 Council Member Dinowitz?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye.

24 CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye on all.

2 CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: I vote aye on all with
4 the exception of Introduction 480-A, M 17 and
5 accompanying Resolution 847, on which I vote no.

6 CLERK: Thank you.

7 Council Member Gutiérrez?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye on all.

9 CLERK: Thank you.

10 Council Member Hanif?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: (MEDICAL)

12 CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: (ABSENT)

14 CLERK: (Repeating) Council Member Hanks?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: (ABSENT)

16 CLERK: Okay, we'll come back.

17 Council Member Holden?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye on all except for
19 Introductions 480-A, Resolution 820, and M 117 with
20 accompanying Resolution 847, of which I vote no.

21 CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye on all.

23 CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye on all.

25 CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye on all.

3 CLERK: Council Member Lee?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye.

5 CLERK: Council Member Louis?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye on all.

7 CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: I vote aye on all with
9 the exemption of Introduction 480-A, Resolution 820,
10 M 17 and accompanying Resolution 847, I vote no.

11 CLERK: Council Member Marte?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye on all.

13 CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye on all.

15 CLERK: Council Member Menin?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye.

17 CLERK: Thank you.

18 Council Member Moya?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: (NO RESPONSE)

20 (Repeating) Council Member Moya?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: (NO RESPONSE)

22 CLERK: Okay, we'll come back.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

24 Oh, thank you, Council Member Moya.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Thank you.

2 CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Can I get 30 seconds? I
4 just wanted to thank the people who worked hard on my
5 bill, Ryan Hickey from my team, and the bill drafters
6 Jessica Boulet and Jayasri Ganapathy, my Director of
7 Communications, Patricia Santana, and all of the
8 organizers in our coalition. I just wanted to thank
9 Council Member Rita Joseph, who also advanced public
10 bathroom legislation that this built on, so thank
11 you. I vote aye.

12 CLERK: Thank you.

13 Council Member Ossé?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: I vote aye on all.

15 CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

16 MINORITY WHIP PALADINO: I vote aye on all except
17 for Introduction 480-A, Reso 820, M 0117, with
18 accompanying Resolution 847, in which I vote no.

19 CLERK: Thank you.

20 Council Member Powers?

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

22 CLERK: Council Member Restler?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye.

24 CLERK: Thank you.

25 Council Member Riley?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye.

3 CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye on all.

5 CLERK: Thank you.

6 Council Member Sanchez?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye on all.

8 CLERK: Thank you.

9 Council Member Schulman?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye.

11 CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye on all. And, also,
13 everyone, it is Child Abuse Prevention Month, so
14 please make sure we continue to love on our children.

15 CLERK: Council Member Ung?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye on all.

17 CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: I vote aye on all except
19 no on Intro 480-A, Resolution 820, M 0117 and
20 accompanying Resolution 847, thank you.

21 CLERK: Council Member Williams?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye on all.

23 CLERK: Council Member Won?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye.

25 CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: I vote aye, except M 117,
3 abstained.

4 CLERK: Thank you.

5 Council Member Ariola?

6 MINORITY LEADER ARIOLA: I vote no on Introduction
7 480-A, Resolution 820, M 0117, with accompanying
8 Resolution 847, and aye on all the rest, thank you.

9 CLERK: Council Member Farías?

10 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: I vote aye on all.

11 CLERK: Speaker Adams?

12 SPEAKER ADAMS: Aye on all.

13 CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: (ABSENT)

15 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All items on today's
16 General Order Calendar have been adopted by a vote of
17 47 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative, and 0
18 abstentions; with the exception of Introduction 480-
19 A, which was adopted by a vote of 40 in the
20 affirmative, 7 in the negative, and 0 abstentions;
21 and Resolution 820, which was adopted by a vote of 41
22 in the affirmative, 6 in the negative, and 0
23 abstentions; M 117 and Resolution 847, which was
24 adopted by a vote of 39 in the affirmative, 7 in the
25 negative, and 1 abstention.

Introduction and Reading of Bills?

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

MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, we will now move in to the Discussion of Resolutions, and I would first like to recognize Minority Leader Ariola, followed by Council Member Riley, then Council Member Vernikov.

MINORITY LEADER ARIOLA: Thank you.

There was a time when the term Sanctuary City was not so controversial. We all know how, when, and why it started. But at some point, as irrational fears over mass deportation hit a fever pitch around a decade ago under the Obama administration, a common sense policy to protect victims of crime somehow turned into laws passed now on how to protect people who commit them.

In 2014, a law was passed barring federal immigration and customs enforcement from keeping offices at Rikers. Because of that law, who knows how many people wanted for murder, rape, drug, and sex trafficking, people on the terrorist watch list, or who were known members of transnational criminal gangs who committed crimes and entered this country

1
2 illegally, have continued to commit crimes while they
3 remain here, and have been able to remain free in our
4 city.

5 How does allowing criminals to roam free keep us
6 safe? Who exactly are we protecting by not
7 cooperating with federal law enforcement agencies?
8 Our immigrant neighbors came to this country to find
9 a better life. (TIMER CHIMES) They work hard, and
10 they deserve to be protected, allowing ICE to once
11 again be present at Rikers, even under the limited
12 conditions outlined, and the executive order will
13 help us do that. Thank you for the time.

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you. I will now
15 recognize Council Member Riley, followed by Council
16 Member Vernikov, then Council Member Avilés.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Thank you, Majority Leader.

18 I'll be really quick. Today, urge my colleagues
19 to support Resolution 187, which calls on MTA to
20 conduct a comprehensive Environmental Impact Study on
21 a proposed Electric Bus Depot Charging Facility on
22 Gun Hill Road in my district.

23 A comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement
24 will provide necessary insights into how this
25 facility will affect our environment, health, and

2 daily lives in District 12. It's crucial that we take
3 the time to analyze these impacts before moving
4 forward, and this is about protecting our community's
5 well-being and ensuring that projects work for us and
6 not against us.

7 And I just urge all my colleagues to support this
8 resolution. Thank you.

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
10 Member Vernikov, followed by Council Member Avilés,
11 then Council Member Cabán.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Thank you.

13 Today we voted on Resolution 837, which will
14 empower the Speaker to sue on behalf of the City
15 Council for any alleged challenges on the Mayor's
16 part to our Sanctuary City Status. I, along with my
17 colleagues, are vehemently against any resolution
18 that would not work to curb the disastrous
19 consequences that Sanctuary City Status has brought
20 upon our city.

21 I'd also like to note that at no point have the
22 people of this city been afforded the opportunity to
23 vote on Sanctuary City policies, despite the fact
24 that the people are the ones most affected by it.
25 Instead, they've been subjected to mandates and tone

1 deaf laws handed down by this body. It's
2 disheartening that this body is happy to tax and
3 regulate the tax paying citizens of this city out of
4 their homes to make room for illegal newcomers who
5 should not even be here in the first place. The real
6 humanitarian crisis is the one we're placing on New
7 Yorkers. For this body to have the ability to sue to
8 stop any attempt to fix this self-created problem is
9 a slap in the face to every single constituent we
10 represent. (TIMER CHIMES) I cannot and will not
11 support it. Thank you.

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
14 Member Avilés, followed by Council Member Cabán.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Today our immigrant
16 communities are under attack, not just by a federal
17 administration trying to force an unconstitutional
18 and violent mass deportation agenda on us from above.

19 No, our Sanctuary City Status is under attack
20 once again by our mayor, who thinks of himself as
21 above the legal system, above democracy, and above
22 protecting the safety of working class New Yorkers.

23 Mayor Adams is attempting to enact an executive
24 order to use the City's resources to establish ICE
25 operations on Rikers Island, flouting a decade of

1 precedent and violating our Sanctuary City
2 protections.

3
4 Sending the First Deputy Mayor to do his bidding
5 keeps the Mayor squarely in the quid pro quo area. It
6 is clear that this mayor is bowing down to the Trump
7 administration to keep his end of his deplorable deal
8 to trade immigrant New Yorkers to save his own hide.

9 We, as a Council and representatives of the
10 people of New York, not the wealthiest wannabe
11 dictators of this country, have a responsibility to
12 stand up against this destructive executive order,
13 (TIMER CHIMES) And I am proudly voting in favor of
14 Resolution 836.

15 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
16 Member Cabán.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Thank you. I also want to
18 speak on the Resolution regarding Sanctuary Cities
19 and just debunk some of the rhetoric that we are
20 hearing widespread with some facts.

21 The reality is that Sanctuary Cities are safer
22 for everyone. Sanctuary policies allow immigrants to
23 report abuses and engage with public safety officials
24 without fear of deportation. Sanctuary City Policies
25 allow immigrants to feel more comfortable acting as

1 witnesses in criminal investigations. And on average,
2 fewer crimes are committed per capita in counties
3 with sanctuary policies compared to cities who do not
4 have Sanctuary City Policies.
5

6 Also, as a seven-plus-year public defender, I can
7 tell you that when an undocumented immigrant or
8 somebody that does not have permanent legal residence
9 here is convicted, found guilty of what they are
10 accused of, they automatically enter a deportation
11 proceeding process. So the rhetoric that's being told
12 of otherwise, is just patently false. So I'm hoping
13 that we all stand in truth, on data, and reality when
14 we vote on items like this, and support the Sanctuary
15 City Policies... (CROSS-TALK)

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Council Member your time
17 has expired...

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: that continue to make us a
19 safer city. Thank you.

20 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Seeing no one else signed
21 up to speak, we will now have a voice vote on today's
22 resolutions. If you wish to vote against or abstain
23 from any of today's resolutions, please notify the
24 Legislative Documents Unit by email or by approaching
25 the dais.

2 I will now read today's Resolutions into record.

3 Resolution 59-A calling upon the Metropolitan
4 Transportation Authority to conduct a comprehensive
5 Environmental Impact Study on the viability of the
6 proposed QueensLink project.

7 Will all those in favor say aye?

8 ALL: Aye

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: All opposed say nay?

10 ALL: (SILENT)

11 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Any abstentions?

12 ALL: (SILENT)

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: The ayes have it.

14 Resolution 187 calling upon the Metropolitan
15 Transportation Authority to conduct a comprehensive
16 Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Gun
17 Hill Road Electric Bus Depot Charging Facility.

18 Will all those in favor say aye?

19 ALL: Aye

20 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: All opposed say nay?

21 ALL: (SILENT)

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Any abstentions?

23 ALL: (SILENT)

24 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: The ayes have it.

25

2 Resolution 333-A calling on the New York State
3 Legislature to pass, and the New York State Governor
4 to sign, S.28A /A.1006, which would eliminate the
5 subminimum wage for employees based on their
6 disability or age.

7 Will all those in favor say aye?

8 ALL: Aye

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

10 ALL: (SILENT)

11 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

12 ALL: (SILENT)

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

14 Resolution 729 condemning President Trump's
15 revocation of diversity, equity, and inclusion
16 programs and policies at the federal level, and
17 expressing support for such programs and polices at
18 the city and state level.

19 Will all those in favor say aye?

20 ALL: Aye

21 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

22 ALL: (SILENT)

23 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

24 ALL: (SILENT)

25 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

2 Preconsidered Resolution 836 authorizing the
3 Speaker to take legal action on behalf of the Council
4 of the City of New York to defend against the Adams
5 Administration's violation of Sanctuary City Laws and
6 the Trump Administration's attacks on the City of New
7 York.

8 Will all those in favor say aye?

9 ALL: Aye

10 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

11 ALL: (SILENT)

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

13 ALL: (SILENT)

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

15 We will now move into General Discussion. I would
16 now like to recognize Council Member Banks, followed
17 by Council Member Zhuang, then Council Member Brewer.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Thank you, Madam Majority
19 Leader.

20 Today, I'm introducing two important bills that
21 address critical issues impacting tenants and
22 consumers in our city. These measures aim to improve
23 transparency and fairness and housing stability in
24 tax preparation.

25

1 Introduction 1232 requires Human Resources
2 Administration to send automated notifications to
3 both tenants and property owners who when Rental
4 Assistance Applications are approved, tenants will be
5 informed about the amount issuance date and delivery
6 method of their grant. While property owners will
7 receive timely information to process payments
8 efficiently, this bill ensures that tenants are kept
9 informed and helps maintain housing stability by
10 reducing delays and confusion.

12 Introduction 1231 requires tax preparers to
13 provide itemized statements of all charges, including
14 state and federal returns, software filing fees, and
15 refund anticipation loans and checks.

16 These statements will be available in both
17 physical and electronic formats, promoting
18 transparency for consumers. This bill protects
19 consumers from hidden fees and ensures tax preparers
20 have clear billing practices to avoid
21 misunderstandings.

22 Both bills are designed to empower New Yorkers by
23 ensuring that they have information they need to
24 navigate complex systems. These measures promote

1
2 fairness, transparency, and accountability in housing
3 and tax services.

4 I urge my colleagues to support these important
5 bills, which will help make our city more just,
6 equitable, and responsive to the needs of all
7 residential consumers.

8 And also want to thank those council members who
9 signed on Council Member Feliz, Council Member Menin,
10 Council Member Louis, Council Member Brooks-Powers,
11 and Council Member Narcisse. Thank you, Madam Chair.

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
13 Member Zhuang, followed by Council Member Brewer,
14 then Council Member Avilés.

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

17 Today, I'm here to talk about American history,
18 which is missing in most of our textbooks and society
19 related to my Resolution 844.

20 Many workers who built the Transcontinental
21 Railroad are Chinese, but you will not see any
22 Chinese railroad workers in the group photo making
23 the completion of the railroad in 1869.

24 However, 100 years later, nearly 2,000 pounds of
25 bones from Chinese workers were found from the desert

1 of Central Pacific Railroad sections. Under each
2 railroad sleeper, there's a skeleton of a Chinese
3 railroad worker right here in our city.
4

5 In 1876, Chinese railroad workers arrived to
6 Brooklyn to work on the Long Island Railroad. Leland
7 Stanford made a lot of money from the Central Pacific
8 Railroad, which was built by Chinese workers. He used
9 his wealth to co-found Stanford University.

10 However, after less than twenty years later, he
11 endorsed the Chinese Exclusion Act. It was the first
12 major US law to restrict immigration based on
13 national origin and race. The first federal law
14 prohibited all immigrants of Chinese labors and
15 denying Chinese and other Asian residents already in
16 The US become from becoming citizens.

17 We cannot erase the contribution of immigrants
18 who gave everything to our country. Let's remember
19 the history, not repeat the history today.

20 Chinese American history needs to be cherished
21 and respected. I'm grateful to be here to share the
22 forgotten history of America and make May 10th
23 Chinese American Railroad Workers Memorial Day.

24 I want to thank my colleague, Council Member Bob
25 Holden for his assistance on this resolution, and I

2 thank all my colleagues who co-sponsored (TIMER
3 CHIMES) this resolution, and please support
4 Resolution 844. Thank you.

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
6 Member Brewer, followed by Council Member Avilés,
7 then Council Member Joseph.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you very much.

9 I'm calling to your attention Intro 123- with
10 Council Member Gutiérrez.

11 It would require all city agencies to use a new
12 and improved database for The Freedom of Information
13 Law requests, and better track response times in an
14 effort to speed up the sharing of public information.

15 It is true DORIS, which is the municipal library
16 basically, does have such a database, and all
17 agencies should use it, but at least nine do not.

18 You should know, for example, that the Department
19 of Correction closes requests for government
20 documents after an average of 484 days. And The
21 Mayor's Office is 283 days to respond. That is not
22 acceptable.

23 And I want to say there's a new report. Thank
24 you, Reinvent Albany, New York City Government
25 Flouting Freedom of Information Law - and it talks

2 about requesting records from the New York City
3 agencies are skyrocketing – 170,000 requests last
4 year.

5 When I passed Open Records, that was some years
6 ago, the portal was supposed to answer some of these
7 questions. I think also the Agency should put more
8 information up on the Open Data Platform. That would
9 help a lot.

10 So I hope you will sign on to Introduction 1235.
11 It is outrageous that 16% of FOIL Requests are still
12 open after a year in this administration.

13 I also want to say thank you to all who supported
14 Mark Landis, who will be the Manhattan Rep on the
15 Board of Elections. I'm sure he'll do a great job.
16 Thank you.

17 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
18 Member Avilés, followed by Council Member Joseph,
19 then Council Member De La Rosa.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Thank you, Majority
21 Leader.

22 I want to take a moment to bring your attention
23 to an important resolution I'm introducing today,
24 Resolution 839.

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 64
2 This resolution is in support of state
3 legislation that would establish a SNAP and Cash
4 Assistance Fraud Victim Compensation Fund, an issue
5 I'm sure you all deal with on a daily basis in your
6 offices.

7 In my district, residents have lost thousands of
8 dollars of resources they depend on for food.

9 It is of critical importance that we pass this
10 here in New York State before the close of the budget
11 season, so that the appropriate allocations can be
12 made to protect New York City families who otherwise
13 will literally go without food.

14 For those of you who don't know, the Office of
15 Temporary Disability reports that between August 2023
16 and December 2024, \$65 million in theft has occurred
17 for SNAP benefits.

18 For those of you who may not be aware, the
19 federal program that reimbursed the victims of SNAP
20 fraud ended on December 2024. And I do not need to
21 tell this group that with the Trump administration,
22 no hope is coming for victims of SNAP fraud.

23 While the federal government's fix of simply
24 adding security chips to the card would bring
25 enormous relief to the system, New York State must

1 step up— as federal action that would protect working
2 families is unlikely.

3 Please sign on to this resolution, and urge your
4 state colleagues to pass A.03578/S.00403. Thank you.

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
6 Member Joseph, followed by Council Member De La Rosa,
7 then Council Member Cabán.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Thank you, Majority
9 Leader.

10 I'm proud to introduce bill Introduction 1240,
11 alongside colleague, Council Member Louis. This bill
12 would require the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice
13 (MOCJ) to establish a holistic needs assessment
14 program with consent. This assessment would offer to
15 people in custody of Department of DOC following a
16 Supreme Court arraignment. The assessment would
17 identify mental health, physical health, substance
18 abuse, intellectual disabilities, domestic violence
19 and abuse history, history of trauma, emotional
20 dysregulation, and other psychosocial conditions or
21 circumstances at the time of a arrest.

22 This assessment will be provided to a person's
23 criminal defense attorney within 14 days. MOCJ will
24 not be allowed to share any confidential information.
25

1
2 It would be required to publish a report twice a year
3 on January 1st and July 1st by race, age, gender, and
4 relevant health information.

5 The report must be submitted to the Speaker of
6 the Council and the Mayor, and we're looking to make
7 this a holistic approach based on the public's March
8 2025 report to safely reduce the to jail population.

9 Today, I'm also introducing a resolution
10 recognizing the month of March annually as Music in
11 Our Schools Month in the city of New York. Resolution
12 842 is an initiative to highlight the vital role that
13 music education plays in our academic, social, and
14 emotional development of our students. By celebrating
15 this month, we affirm our commitment to ensuring that
16 every child, regardless of zip code or background,
17 has access to a high quality music program in school.

18 Music in Our Schools Month serves as a powerful
19 reminder of the importance of equitable music
20 education. It is an opportunity for educators to
21 showcase their work, for students to share their
22 talents, and for communities to celebrate the
23 transformative power of music.

24

25

2 Music fosters creativity, discipline,
3 collaboration, and self expression— skills that are
4 essential for success in every walk of life.

5 As we face growing challenges in public education
6 funding, this resolution calls attention to the need
7 to preserve and expand access to music and the arts
8 in all of our public schools. (TIMER CHIMES) Thank
9 you, Majority Leader.

10 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
11 Member De La Rosa, followed by Council Member Cabán,
12 then Council Member Banks.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Thank you.

14 We tout the diversity of this Council, because in
15 every one of us, we carry the many cultures and
16 people that form the melting pot of this city.

17 This council has the most Dominican
18 representatives ever, and today we carry with us the
19 deep pain of our people. For the past three days, the
20 Dominican Republic has been in duelo, or mourning,
21 due to the tragic roof collapse at the iconic Jet Set
22 Nightclub in Santo Domingo. One could never expect
23 that such a joyous occasion could turn into a
24 nightmare that we are living today, a nightmare that
25 we cannot wake up from.

1 The governor of my hometown, Monte Cristi, Nelsy
2 Cruz, who many people and politicals knew as the face
3 that received them on delegation trips, tragically
4 passed away. In her final moments, she called the
5 president of the Dominican Republic for help for the
6 hundreds she knew needed it. That is the spirit of
7 the Dominican people.

8 As of today, there are a reported 221 lives that
9 have been lost, and so many more injured, making this
10 one of the most devastating events in recent
11 Dominican history. We can expect those numbers to
12 unfortunately grow as they have for the past few
13 days. We lost Merengue legend, Ruby Perez, MLB greats
14 like Octavio Dotel, people visiting from all over the
15 world, and so many Dominicans who were known for
16 their joy.

17 We cannot be more grateful to those on the ground
18 aiding in the rescue and recovering, saving lives and
19 finding those underneath the rubble.

20 We mourn for the families that will sit for
21 dinner and holidays with an empty seat at the table.

22 (SPEAKING FOREIGN LANGUAGE)

23 Please keep the Dominican Republic, the families
24 of the victims, and the many souls we lost in your
25

1 prayer. May those we lost be guided to glory, and
2 those impacted find peace in this incredibly
3 difficult time. Thank you. (TIMER CHIMES)

4 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you, Council Member
5 for that message on our shared community.

6 Recognized Council Member Cabán, followed by
7 Council Member Banks, then Council Member Vernikov.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: To start, I just want to
9 take a quick moment to echo the outpouring of love
10 and solidarity to my Dominican neighbors that are in
11 a lot of pain right now, and I appreciated your
12 words, Council Member De La Rosa.

13 Today, I, along with several colleagues from the
14 LGBTQIA+ Caucus, am introducing a resolution firmly
15 opposing President Trump's executive order from
16 January 29th attacking rights and protections for
17 transgender students. The order is a direct assault
18 on the rights of transgender and gender nonconforming
19 students, which targets their ability to be
20 recognized, respected, and supported within our
21 schools.

22 This resolution expresses the Council's
23 unequivocal opposition to President Trump's executive
24 order restricting protections for transgender
25

1 students, and calls on the New York State Department
2 of Education to ensure that all schools in New York
3 City continue to uphold policies that protect the
4 rights and dignity of transgender and gender
5 nonconforming students regardless of federal
6 directives.
7

8 New York City has long prided itself on its
9 commitment to inclusion, equality, and respect for
10 all students, whatever their gender identity. Our
11 schools must remain a place where every student feels
12 respected and empowered to be their true self.

13 I want to thank Elizabeth Artz from the
14 Legislative Division for her work on this resolution,
15 and I urge my colleagues to sign on. Please join me
16 in standing up for our students and affirming that
17 discrimination has no place in our schools. Thank
18 you.

19 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
20 Member Banks, followed by Council Member Vernikov,
21 then Council Member Mealy.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Thank you so much, Madam
23 Majority Leader.

24 I want to take a moment to speak about Principal
25 Brown of PS 202, who's been serving the school as

1 Assistant Principal for the past two years and was
2 appointed Interim-Acting Principal this school year.

3 Over the past several days, I have heard from
4 staff members, parents, and students alike, many whom
5 have tearfully shared how Principal Brown has
6 profoundly impacted their lives. Her leadership has
7 been nothing short of transformative, and it's clear
8 that she has earned the respect and admiration of the
9 entire school community. Principal Brown is truly a
10 jewel in our community, and she has worked tirelessly
11 to bring stability, confidence, and hope to a school
12 that not too long ago struggled with a lack of moral
13 leadership and continuity. In just eight months,
14 we've seen tangible improvements with her at the
15 helm. While there is still work to be done, progress
16 has been made.

17 However, it has come to my attention that the
18 administration, under Chancellor Ramos and
19 Superintendent Collins, is considering removing
20 Principal Brown from her position at this crucial
21 time— at the tail end of the school year.

22 Imagine that. I ask, how much sense does that
23 make to uproot and disrupt the lives of our children,
24

1
2 especially after all the hard work and growth that
3 has taken place under Principal Brown's leadership?

4 Principal Brown is more than just a leader. She's
5 a dedicated educator who has fostered a sense of
6 community and stability for both staff and students.

7 At a time when our schools need consistent
8 leadership, I urge the Chancellor, Superintendent
9 Collins, and administration to reconsider this
10 decision. Our children, our educators, and our
11 community deserves the continual leadership from
12 Principal Brown. Thank you very much.

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
14 Member Vernikov, followed by Council Member Mealy,
15 then Council Member Sanchez.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Thank you, Majority
17 Leader.

18 Last week, our community experienced the tragic
19 loss of a young mother, Natasha Saada, and her two
20 small daughters, Deborah and Diana.

21 They were taken from us so needlessly by a
22 reckless, deranged driver who should have never been
23 on the road to begin with. My heart and prayers go
24 out to the Saada family. May they be comforted among
25

2 the mourners of Zion, Baruch dayan ha'emet. Thank
3 you.

4 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
5 Member Mealy, followed by Council Member Sanchez.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: It is with a heavy heart
7 that I call attention to the tragedy that occurred in
8 my district on the night of April 8th.

9 There was a massive fire in the Bedford-
10 Stuyvesant portion of my district at 520 McDougall
11 Street that took the life of our beloved 77-year-old
12 Cheryl Griffin. She was a strong, valued member and a
13 staple to our community. I can remember her always
14 saying that she was a member of the Unity Democratic
15 Club, in which I'm a member of just as well, and
16 that's where Shirley Chisholm announced that she was
17 running for president.

18 Cheryl was a valued, valued community asset. And
19 I just want to say to her family, once again, my
20 deepest condolences to the family, friends of our
21 district and the Griffin family, and my prayers go
22 out to Dominican Republic, all that was lost. And we
23 have to make sure that we pray for the ones who are
24 still here, that they can stay strong for the others.

2 And I thank you for this... thank you, and my
3 condolences to all my Dominican colleagues. Thank
4 you.

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Lastly, I would like to
6 call on Council Member Sanchez.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Thank you, Majority
8 Leader, and thank you, colleagues, and Speaker Adams
9 (LOST CONNECTION) (INAUDIBLE). Thank you for
10 acknowledging, in your remarks what happened in The
11 Dominican Republic, and I want to associate myself
12 with Council Member De La Rosa's comments.

13 We're devastated by this horrific tragedy at Jet
14 Set Club, 221 precious lives lost too soon.

15 And the only thing I want to add is that New York
16 City is invited to a vigil that will be taking place
17 in Council Member De La Rosa's district this Friday
18 at 7:00 p.m. at Quisqueya Plaza. And if it rains, the
19 vigil will be at Alianza Dominicana.

20 May those lost find comfort in this time of
21 sorrow. Thank you.

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: I will now call on
23 Speaker Adrienne Adams to close today's Stated
24 Meeting.

25 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you, Majority Leader.

1 Before we conclude, I just want to recognize our
2 members of Delta Sigma Theta who are here today. Oh,
3 they are probably still taking pictures. They were
4 here today. I wanted to recognize them and wish them
5 a happy third Annual Delta Day from the City Council.
6

7 In addition to this, I wanted to take a moment
8 also to wish our Jewish neighbors a peaceful and
9 joyous Passover, which starts on Sunday evening at
10 sundown.

11 I also wanted to bring our colleagues' attention,
12 I believe Council Member Bottcher has left, but there
13 was a helicopter crash at Pier 40 in his district
14 about an hour ago. We want to recognize that we know
15 that one person did perish. And we are praying for
16 all of the families of the victims of that crash this
17 afternoon.

18 With that, the Stated Meeting of April 10, 2025
19 is hereby adjourned.
20
21
22
23
24
25

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 May 17, 2025