

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

----- X

TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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February 15, 2017
Start: 2:02 p.m.
Recess: 3:30 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chamber - City Hall

LETITIA JAMES
Public Advocate

MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO
Speaker for the Council

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Inez D. Barron
Joseph C. Borelli
Fernando Cabrera
Margaret S. Chin
Andrew Cohen
Costa G. Constantinides
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.
Elizabeth S. Crowley
Laurie A. Cumbo
Chaim M. Deutsch
Inez E. Dickens
Daniel Dromm
Rafael L. Espinal, Jr.
Mathieu Eugene
Julissa Ferreras-Copeland
Daniel R. Garodnick
Vincent J. Gentile
Vanessa L. Gibson
David G. Greenfield

Barry S. Grodenchik
Corey D. Johnson
Ben Kallos
Andy L. King
Peter A. Koo
Karen Koslowitz
Rory I. Lancman
Brad S. Lander
Stephen T. Levin
Mark Levine
Alan N. Maisel
Steven Matteo
Darlene Mealy
Carlos Menchaca
Rosie Mendez
I. Daneek Miller
Annabel Palma
Antonio Reynoso
Donovan J. Richards
Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Deborah L. Rose
Helen K. Rosenthal
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.
Ritchie J. Torres
Mark Treyger
Eric A. Ulrich
James Vacca
Paul A. Vallone
James G. Van Bramer
Jumaane D. Williams
Ruben Wills

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

Invocation Delivered by:
Pastor Corey-Easterling
Southern Baptist Church
810 Stanley Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11207

2 [sound check, pause]

3 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Alright, we're
4 going to get started with ceremonials. First, the
5 Lehman High School Football League come on up.
6 Council Member Andy King is doing a ceremonial today
7 to honor Lehman High School Football Teams, the
8 Lions, the PSAL champions. [cheers/applause] pause]

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Go Lions, go Lions,
10 go Lions. Council Member Jimmy Vacca, would you
11 please join me upfront. The Bronx Delegation, would
12 you please join me upfront. The City Council please
13 join me upfront. Young man, both sides. [background
14 comments] Just trying to figure out what all is going
15 on today, huh? We'll start with a Knicks fan. Yeah,
16 I'm still a Knicks fan. I'm a Mets fan. It's all
17 good, but more importantly we are—we are leading the
18 Lions fans today. So Madam Speaker and to everyone I
19 want to welcome—I want to welcome Principal Greg
20 Fuchek and Coach Christopher Detullio—Detullio, and
21 the—and the Lehman Lions for successfully having a
22 great year with only loss throughout the whole
23 season, and technically speaking this being the PSA
24 Division A city champions is a great accomplishment
25 for all of these young men. [applause] Not only are

2 they great athletes, you can tell by their appearance
3 they're also good students as well. But I do tell a
4 secret, and I'm telling on myself a little bit. The
5 Lehman Lions, their high school is actually located
6 in Council Member Jimmy Vacca's district, and I got
7 the call. Why? Because this great team in order to
8 be a great team you got to beat the champions, and
9 they won the championship by beating last year's
10 champions Truman High School, actually in my
11 district. So that's my relationship to you guys, but
12 I wish you greatness in what you've all been able to
13 accomplish this year. We're looking forward to you
14 going on-going to high school-college, and those of
15 you who will continue to play we wish you much
16 success in your athletic and academic year. With that
17 all being said, can we all just put our hands
18 together again for Lehman Lions, the high school'
19 [cheers/applause] PSAL Division A champions. Before
20 I ask Council Member Vacca to speak, we're going to
21 read the proc and then I'm going to pass you the mic.
22 Can you please read the proc, please?

23 CLERK: Council City of New York
24 Proclamation. The Council of the City of New York is
25 proud to honor the Lehman Lions Football Team from

2 Herbert H. Lehman High School for their superb
3 teamwork that lead to the their outstanding victory
4 in the 2016 Public School's Athletic League PSAL from
5 Herbert H. Lehman High School for their superb
6 teamwork that led to their outstanding victory in the
7 2016 Public Schools Athletic League, PSAL Fall
8 Championship; and

9 Whereas, Herbert H. Lehman High School at
10 3000 East Tremont Avenue in the Bronx was founded in
11 the—in the 1970, the same year that its football
12 team, the Lehman Lions joined the PSAL. From the
13 start, being a member of the Lions Football team has
14 enriched the school experience for fans and players
15 alike through greater academic and community
16 engagement, lower absenteeism and higher grades and
17 test scores and more college found graduates. Today
18 with the leadership of Principal Greg Fuchek and
19 their truly dedicated faculty and staff, Lehman High
20 School continues to prepare its students for the
21 great future ahead of them; and

22 Whereas, on December 3, 2016, the Lehman
23 Lions made history when their team work, grit and
24 determination won the PSAL Gold Championship. This

2 was Lehman's High School's first championship since
3 the school was founded 46 years ago; and

4 Whereas, this triumph was the finale of
5 the Lehman Lions very exciting season thanks to the
6 hard work and profound dedication of head football
7 coach Christopher Ditullio, Assistant Varsity Coach
8 Mike Turo; Offensive Coordinator Joshua Soto;
9 Defensive Coordinator, Ozzy Garcia; Wide Receivers
10 Coach Marques (sp?) Palma Garcia; Athletic Trainer
11 Jenny Placentia; and Athletic Director Patrick Soro
12 (sp?); and

13 Whereas, this season's Lehman Lions
14 include 32 stellar players Gene Tapia, Sharif Betay
15 (sp?), Danny Sanchez, Harris Haruna, Justin Estrada,
16 Sadeek Vincent, Richard Martinez, Chris Navaro,
17 Amanas Constanzo, James Dylan, Javier Aquino, Arias
18 Rodriguez, Errol Walker, David Reyes, Javier Mareno,
19 Carlos Soto, Via Trimlasky (sp?), Greg De Mullens,
20 Mario De La Cruz, Marlie Isaac, Thomas Clark, Justin
21 Rodriguez, Tyler Rodriguez, Mark Duplessy, Donald
22 Hickson, Corey Washington, Danny Cologne, Jaylin
23 Duplessy, Jason Ruiz, Evan Garcia Perkins, Diante
24 Atkins and Gavin Edmonson with their physical
25 prowess, firm academic foundation and their

2 collective commitment these young players remain a
3 great source of pride not only for everyone at Lehman
4 High School, but also the community at large.

5 Now, therefore, be it known that the
6 Council of the City of New York is proud to honor and
7 congratulate the Herbert H. Lehman High School Lions
8 Football team upon winning the 2016 Public School
9 Athletic League Gold Championship. Melissa Mark-
10 Viverito Speaker for the Entire Council, Andy L.
11 King, Council Member 12th District the Bronx.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: [cheering] Go
13 Lions. I'm going to give it to Jimmy Vacca to say a
14 few words.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Thank you, thank
16 you. I'm really proud of the Lehman, and I have to
17 tell you that all the gentlemen you see here today
18 come not just from Lehman High School, they come from
19 the Lehman High School campus where we now have six
20 school, and Chancellor Farina as one of her many
21 initiatives has all these schools collaborating and
22 working together to get all the facilities in the
23 building being used by every one of its students, and
24 it's working out real well. So we have Lehman High
25 School. We have Bronx River Academy. We have

2 Schuyler Hill, Schuylerville. We have Renaissance,
3 Westchester Square Academy, and Pelham Lab. Those
4 are the six schools at Lehman, and all of them are
5 here. One of the principals is here I see, and I'm
6 proud to be supportive of them and—and wish them
7 well. You know, it's not whether you win or lose,
8 it's how you play the game, but I do say winning is
9 great. It feels good. So, lots of luck guys. Thank
10 you so much.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Coach. We have our
12 coach. Let's give up for Coach. [cheers/applause]

13 COACH DITULLIO: It's certainly an
14 amazing group of kids, and you said it's the way you
15 play the game and I just want to attest to that, that
16 on top of the winning, it also has to do with the way
17 they played the game. Reps will come at the end of
18 the game and just talk about their sportsmanship as
19 they write that. So on top of football, they're
20 going to be successful in life, and that's the most
21 important thing, and I just wanted to thank them for
22 allowing me and the coaches to be part of the ride,
23 and the coaches. Without them one man cannot do this
24 job. So with all the coaches I just wanted to thank

2 them as well. Appreciate you all. Thank you so
3 much. [cheers/applause]

4 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Also, we have the
5 mothers of them, Ms. Tabby and Ms. Christine.
6 They've been wonderful. They're making sure they
7 manage this team. So congratulations again. So I
8 our Lehman's champions. Can we get a picture right
9 quick. [applause]

10 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Alright, thank
11 you very much. Congratulations. Keep up your
12 studies, and we'll see you soon I'm sure. Keep-keep
13 winning, keep winning. Thank you. [pause,
14 background comments] Alright, we just have one more
15 ceremonial today. [pause] Council Member Mark Levine,
16 if we could ask the representatives from Brotherhood-
17 Sister Sol to come up. [pause] Alright, so I'm
18 going to pass it off to Mark Levine. Again, he
19 recognizing Brotherhood-Sister Sol celebrating the
20 meaningful work that they do serving African-American
21 and Latino youth and their families. Thank you for
22 your service, and we will hear more about that from
23 our colleague. [pause]

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Well, I am so
25 honored to represent to Brotherhood-Sister Sol uptown

2 in the Seventh Council District. You've got fans
3 already here. I can hear the cheering beginning.
4 There are a lot of wonderful youth serving
5 organizations in New York City that help children
6 with academics, with college prep, with personal
7 growth, with vocational training, and that's--those
8 are wonderful organizations, but Brotherhood-Sister
9 Sol is that and so much more in--in a way that I have
10 never seen another organization do it. They help
11 young people find their voice. They help them form
12 their own values, and help them act on them, and they
13 give agency and they give them a sense of empowerment
14 and those are lessons, which stick with a young
15 person for their entire life whatever they do, and
16 they have model that's deeply rooted in--in the
17 cultural richness of the neighborhood and of the kids
18 who are part of the organization. This non-profit is
19 led by some of the most dynamic leaders you will ever
20 meet anywhere. We have four of them here with us. We
21 have Wendy De Jesus, Cidra Sebastien. We have Jason
22 Ono--thank you [laughs] who are here leading the
23 organization, and they are so talented they could be
24 doing anything they want with their life, but they've
25 chosen to dedicate their talents to building this

2 great non-profit, and the City Council has been
3 partnering with them to take their work to the next
4 level with the brand new home, which they'll be
5 building in the years ahead. So as they prepare for
6 this new era and as we mark Black History Month, we
7 wanted to honor this incredible organization with
8 these wonderful leaders. Thank you so much for your
9 work.

10 JASON ONO: [off mic] Thank you, Mark.
11 [cheers/applause] We'll hear from you in a minute,
12 but we're going to ask the clerk to read the
13 proclamation.

14 CLERK: Council City of New York
15 Proclamation.

16 The Brotherhood-Sister Sol has provided a
17 network of support and guidance for Harlem's youth to
18 face a range of challenges and pressures; and

19 Whereas, for more than two decades the
20 Brotherhood-Sister Sol has committed itself to
21 comprehensive youth development that helps youth
22 survive and excel as independent thinkers, and
23 thoughtful leaders within their community; and

24 Whereas, the Brotherhood-Sister Sol
25 impacts the lives of our local youth through after

2 school programming, youth organizing, job training
3 and internships, outreach opportunities, environment
4 education and a youth run farmers market; and

5 Whereas, over 350 members ages 8 through
6 22 have been given the opportunity to build life long
7 bonds of brotherhood and sisterhood and a commitment
8 to personal and community transformation; and

9 Whereas, through its dedicated staff's
10 emphasis on a theory of change model, they have given
11 voice to our youth to acquire knowledge and skills,
12 speak their minds and offered access and support to
13 make dreams into reality.

14 Now, therefore, be it known that the
15 Council of the City of New York is proud to honor the
16 Brotherhood-Sister Sol for its tremendously positive
17 impact on the youth in our community at large.

18 Melissa Mark-Viverito, Speaker for the Entire
19 Council, Mark D. Levine, Council Member Seventh
20 District Manhattan. Alright. [cheers/applause]
21 [background comments]

22 KHARY LAZARRE WHITE: Thank you very,
23 very much on behalf of the Brotherhood-Sister Sol for
24 this proclamation. As you heard, the Brotherhood-
25 Sister Sol provides support, guidance, love and

2 education to young people, teaches them to perform
3 discipline and order in their life, and then provides
4 opportunities so that they can develop agency, and be
5 social change majors, and obviously today more than
6 ever in the political climate that we're in, we need
7 young people in general, but specific Black and Brown
8 young people from throughout the city to speak out as
9 social justice makers to articulate a new vision, a
10 more progressive vision for our country, and so we're
11 really pleased to receive this proclamation. While
12 we are based in Harlem, we work citywide in many
13 districts in the Council, and we will be building a
14 new building that would not have been possible
15 without the support of this body in general, without
16 the support of BLAC and its leadership, without the
17 support of Mark Levine, and his contributions, and
18 most certainly without the support the Speaker. Your
19 vision and your commitment to our program has meant a
20 tremendous amount. We will be building a state-of-
21 the-art building that will be a model for field. It
22 would not have happened without the Council. It
23 would not have happened without the your leadership,
24 and we deeply, deeply appreciate your support.
25 Thankyou for the proclamation. Thank you for your

2 support of our work. [applause] [background
3 comments, pause]

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Again,
5 congratulations to all those that are getting
6 proclamations and being celebrated today and that
7 concludes our ceremonial. [pause]

8 MALE SPEAKER: Alright, Duncan. (sic)
9 [pause] [background comments]

10 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Could I have your
11 attention, please? Can I please have your attention.
12 Quiet on the floor, please. Quiet on the floor,
13 please. At this time please place all electronic
14 devices to vibrate. Will all non-Council employees,
15 non-Council employees please leave the main floor of
16 the Chambers. There is additional seating upstairs
17 in the balcony. Thank you.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [gavel]
19 Everyone, please have their seats. Thank you so
20 much. Al rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

21 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: All rise.

22 [Pledge of Allegiance]

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Please be seated.

24 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: To—

25 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Madam Speaker.

2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Today we begin
3 today's session with this:

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
5 [shushing for quiet]

6 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Dear Senator
7 Thurman, I write to express my sincere opposition to
8 the confirmation of Jefferson B. Sessions as a
9 Federal District Court Judge for the Southern
10 District of Alabama.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: My professional
12 and personal roots in Alabama are deep and lasting.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Anyone who has
14 used the power of his office as the United States
15 Attorney to intimidate—

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: --and kill the free
17 exercise of the ballot by citizens shall not be
18 elevated to our court.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Mr. Sessions has
20 used the awesome powers of his office in a shabby
21 attempt to intimidate and frighten elderly African-
22 American voters. That ain't right.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: For this
24 reprehensible conduct he should not be reward with a
25 federal judgeship.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I regret that
3 a longstanding commitment prevents me from appearing
4 in person to testify against this nominee.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: However, I have
6 attached a copy of my statement opposing Mr.
7 Sessions' confirmation.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: And I request
9 that my statement, as well as this letter be made a
10 part of the hearing record. I do sincerely urge you
11 to uphold the confirmation of Mr. Sessions.

12 Sincerely, Coretta Scott-King.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND:
14 Coretta Scott-King could not testify in public as she
15 refused to be silent. Instead her statement
16 containing her concerns on the nomination of Mr.
17 Sessions' statement. I will read a part of it. The
18 irony of Mr. Sessions' nomination is that the
19 concerns he will be given life tenure to dealing with
20 a federal prosecution, which a local sheriff
21 accomplished 20 years ago with clubs and cattle
22 prods. Twenty years ago when we marched on the Selma
23 Governor the fear of voting was real as the broken
24 bones and bloody heads in Selma and now bear our
25 witness. I thank the Speaker and my fellow women of

2 the Council today. You represent the silent voices
3 all over city, all over our country. I also thank
4 our fellow Council Members in this Council who always
5 show us the respect that was not extended to Senator
6 Boren. Today together we thank and nevertheless
7 pursue.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Roll call.

9 CLERK: Barron.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Present.

11 CLERK: Borelli. Cabrera.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

13 CLERK: Chin.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

15 CLERK: Cohen.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Here.

17 CLERK: Constantinides.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Here.

19 CLERK: Cornegy.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Presente.

21 CLERK: Crowley.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: [off mic] Here.

23 CLERK: Cumbo.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Present.

25 CLERK: Deutsch.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Here.

3 CLERK: Dromm.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

5 CLERK: CLERK: Espinal.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Here.

7 CLERK: Eugene.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Present

9 CLERK: Ferreras-Copeland.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND: [off
11 mic] Here.

12 CLERK: Garodnick.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: [off mic]
14 Here.

15 CLERK: Gentile.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.

17 CLERK: Gibson

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Here.

19 CLERK: Greenfield.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: [off mic]
21 Here.

22 CLERK: Grodenchik.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Here.

24 CLERK: Johnson.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Here.

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2 CLERK: Kallos.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Here.

4 CLERK: King.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Present.

6 CLERK: Koo.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

8 CLERK: Koslowitz.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

10 CLERK: Lancman.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Here.

12 CLERK: Lander.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

14 CLERK: Levin. Levine.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: [off mic]

16 Present.

17 CLERK: Maisel.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Here.

19 CLERK: Mealy.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Here.

21 CLERK: Menchaca.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Presente.

23 CLERK: Mendez.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.

25 CLERK: Miller.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Present.

3 CLERK: Palma.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: [off mic] Here.

5 CLERK: Reynoso.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Present.

7 CLERK: Richards.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Present.

9 CLERK: Rodriguez. Rose.

10 CLERK: Rose.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.

12 CLERK: Rosenthal.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.

14 CLERK: Salamanca.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present.

16 CLERK: Torres.

17 CLERK: Treyger.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.

19 CLERK: Ulrich. Rodriguez.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.

21 CLERK: Vacca.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.

23 CLERK: Vallone.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

25 CLERK: Williams.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: [off mic] Here.

3 CLERK: Wills.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: [off mic] Here.

5 CLERK: Matteo.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: [off mic] Here.

7 CLERK: Van Bramer.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

9 CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

10 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [off mic] Here.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Quiet

12 in the Chambers. All rise for the invocation. The

13 invocation will be delivered by Pastor Corey

14 Easterling of Southern Baptist Church at 810 Stanley

15 Avenue in the Borough of Brooklyn.

16 PASTOR COREY EASTERLING: Please bow your

17 heads. Dear wise and loving father, first let us say

18 thank you on behalf of those that are gathered here

19 today. Thank you for the many abundant blessings

20 that you have shown to us. Thank you for life itself

21 and the measure of health in which you have given.

22 Thank you for the ability of being involved in useful

23 work, and for the honor of bearing appropriate

24 responsibility. In scripture you have shared with us

25 that citizens are to respect and obey the governing

2 authorities. You have placed and established these
3 various authorities to promote peace, justice and
4 order. Therefore, we pray for Public Advocate. We
5 pray for all City officials, and to us—to all
6 assembled Council that is standing here today. I ask
7 that you would graciously grant them wisdom to
8 governing the conflicting interests and issues of our
9 times, a sense of welfare and true need of all
10 people. Grant them a key first for justice and
11 rightness, a confidence for what is good and fitting.
12 Grant them the ability to work together with harmony
13 that even if there's disagreement, it is disagreement
14 with honesty and above all, grant them personal peace
15 in their lives and in their family. I pray for the
16 agenda that is set before them today. Please give
17 them assurance of what will please you, and what will
18 benefit those who live in and around this great city
19 of New York. All of these merits we pray. Amen.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Amen. Please be
21 seated. A motion to spread the invocation. Council
22 Member Inez Barron.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you, Madam
24 Public Advocate. We would like to thank Pastor Corey
25 Easterling for bringing that invocation to us. He is

2 the pastor at Southern Baptist Church, and it is
3 located in my community.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
5 Excuse me, Council Member. Quiet in the Chambers,
6 please. Please. We apologize, Council Member.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you
8 Southern Baptist Church is located in the 42nd
9 Councilmanic District, and it adjoins one of the
10 largest NYCHA developments in New York City.
11 Southern Baptist Church has a long history under the
12 pastoring of the predecessor Bishop Williams. A long
13 history of doing great work and bringing folks
14 worship services to the residents of that community.
15 So we certainly want to thank Pastor Easterling for
16 bringing the message, and I make a motion to spread
17 the invocation in full on the record. Thank you.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

19 Adoption of Minutes. Council Member Dromm.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: I move that the
21 minutes of the Charter Meeting of January 4, 2017 be
22 adopted as printed.

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Messages and
24 Papers from the Mayor.

2 CLERK: M-478 Preliminary Mayor's
3 Management Report.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Received Order,
5 printed and filed.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Petitions and
7 Communications.

8 CLERK: [pause] Communication from City,
9 County and Borough Office, M-479, Malini Cadambi
10 Daniel for reappointment to the Equal Employment
11 Practices Commissions.

12 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Rules, Privileges
13 and Elections.

14 CLERK: And there are no petitions and
15 communications, Madam Public Advocate.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Land
17 Use Call-ups.

18 CLERK: M-480 through M-482.

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Roll call.

20 CLERK: Barron.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye

22 CLERK: Borelli.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: [off mic] Aye.

24 (sic)

25 CLERK: Cabrera.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

3 CLERK: Chin.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

5 CLERK: Cohen.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

7 CLERK: Constantinides.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Madam

9 Public Advocate, I would like to vote aye on all
10 call-ups, and with your permission I'd like to vote
11 on all coupled general orders and resolutions.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]

13 Yes. Yes,

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: I vote

15 aye on all.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

17 CLERK: Cornegy.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: [off mic]

19 Aye.(sic)

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

21 CLERK: Crowley.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member

23 Crowley.

24 CLERK: Cumbo.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Aye.

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2 CLERK: Deutsch.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Aye.

4 CLERK: Dromm.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

6 CLERK: Espinal.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: [off mic] Aye.

8 CLERK: Eugene. Ferreras-Copeland.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND: [off
10 mic] Aye.

11 CLERK: Garodnick.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

13 CLERK: Gentile.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

15 CLERK: Gibson

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Aye.

17 CLERK: Greenfield.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member

19 Greenfield. Grodenchik.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: [off mic]

21 Aye.

22 CLERK: Johnson.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: [off mic] Aye.

24 CLERK: Kallos.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.

2 CLERK: King.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: [off mic] Aye.

4 CLERK: Koo.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye, and Madam Public

6 Advocate, with permission I would like to vote all

7 items the Land Use and also in the General Item

8 Calendar-General Calendar.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I vote aye on all

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Quiet

12 in the Chambers, please. Quiet in the Chambers.

13 Thank you.

14 CLERK: Koslowitz.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I vote aye on

16 all call-ups and with permission I'd like to vote all

17 coupled general orders and resolutions.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I vote aye.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing] [shushing for
22 quiet]

23 CLERK: Lancman.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: [off mic]

25 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Aye.

3 CLERK: Lander.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Madam, Public

5 Advocate I vote aye, and I request permission to vote

6 aye on all items on the General Order and Resolution

7 Calendar.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: I vote aye.

10 Thank you.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

12 CLERK: Eugene.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I want to request

14 your-your permission to vote on all items and call-

15 ups and that of today. (sic)

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes. PUBLIC

17 ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing] [shushing for quiet]

18 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: And I vote aye.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you much.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the

22 Chambers. Quiet down.

23 CLERK: Levine.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Madam Public

25 Advocate, I'd like to vote aye on all call-ups and

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30

2 with permission I vote on all coupled general orders
3 and resolutions.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: I vote aye.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

7 CLERK: Maisel.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Maisel. [

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Yes. [background
10 comments]

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes, yes.

12 CLERK: Mealy.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I vote aye. (sic)

14 CLERK: Menchaca.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Aye.

16 CLERK: Miller.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Miller.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.

19 CLERK: Palma.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

21 CLERK: Reynoso.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Aye.

23 CLERK: Richards.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye.

25 CLERK: Rodriguez.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye and with
3 permission I would like to vote aye on all General
4 Orders.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

7 CLERK: Rosenthal.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Aye and I
9 would like to vote aye on all call-ups, and with
10 permission I'd like to vote on all coupled General
11 Orders. Congratulations. I vote aye. Thank You.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing] [shushing for
14 quiet]

15 CLERK: Salamanca.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

18 CLERK: Torres.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Aye.

20 CLERK: Treyger.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

22 CLERK: Ulrich.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.

24 CLERK: Vacca.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

2 CLERK: Vallone.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Madam Advocate,
4 permission to vote on today's calendar.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye on all call-
7 ups and no on 1326-A, no on 1317-A, 1323-A, 1333-B,
8 1344-A and 1315-A and aye on the rest.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Okay.

11 CLERK: Williams.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Williams.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

15 [pause] Greenfield

16 CLERK: Greenfield.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: [off mic]

18 Aye.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

20 CLERK: Matteo.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Permission to
22 vote on all General Orders.

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

24

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: I vote yes on
3 Land Use, no on 1315-A, 1317-A, 1323-A, 1326-A, 1333-
4 B, 1334-1344-A and 179-A.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

6 CLERK: Van Bramer.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

9 CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

10 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: I vote aye.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing] [shushing for
13 quiet] [pause] Thank you. Today's Land Use Call-Ups
14 were adopted by a vote of 43 in the affirmative and 0
15 in the negative. Quiet in the chambers as we now
16 hear from the Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito. Quiet,
17 please.

18 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you, Madam
19 Public Advocate and Buenos tardes, good afternoon to
20 everyone. First of all, she's not here physically in
21 this room, but I do want to wish [speaking Spanish]
22 to my mother whose birthday is to day.

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Happy birthday,
24 mom.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: And we don't mind
3 sharing ages. She's turning 70. It's big milestone
4 for her today.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
6 [shushing for quiet]

7 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: But she will be—
8 she will be at the State of the City tomorrow. We
9 actually hope everyone will be joining us there as
10 well. We'll definitely have to—I'll be happy to see
11 you at the King Theater, the beautiful renovated
12 Kings Theater in Brooklyn for that and my last State
13 of the City address. So I hope to see all of my
14 colleagues and you, Madam Public Advocate there
15 tomorrow and anyone who is this room. So before I
16 will begin, before we begin, I want to take a moment
17 to speak on an issue that is very important to this
18 council. Over the past week we have heard troubling
19 reports of sweeping immigration enforcement actions
20 around the country including right here in New York
21 City. These raids are destabilizing the communities,
22 are tearing families apart and undermining local
23 efforts to ensure the safety of our residents. So
24 today we once again reaffirm this council's
25 commitment protect the immigrant New Yorkers from

2 federal immigration action. I encourage all of you
3 to communicate with your districts on available
4 outreach services and plans to educate immigrant
5 constituents on their rights, and resources, and I
6 reiterate-reiterate our promise to immigrants around
7 the city that we are here for you. We're going to
8 fight for you, and we are with you, and so that is
9 really important, and we will be hearing more in the
10 next couple of days of what we're looking to do. On
11 a lighter note, we have some good news from members
12 and soon-to-be members of Council to celebrate today.
13 Congratulations to State Senator and former Council
14 Member Bill Perkins, who will be rejoining us after
15 winning the special election for District 9
16 yesterday, and congratulations to Council Member
17 Steve Levin and his wife Ann on the birth of their
18 daughter Frances Oakley Cowell-Levin. [laughs]
19 [applause] So we have a lot on the agenda today, but
20 as--

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
22 [shushing for quiet]

23 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: --we indicated,
24 tomorrow will end up being a long day for me
25 personally, but for many of us. To the extent that

2 we can keep our comments short today, I would
3 personally appreciate, but we do have some really
4 important legislation that I know we're proud of and
5 proud to roll out. So I will begin delineating
6 those. So first and foremost, we're going be voting
7 on 40 co-namings of streets and thoroughfares
8 throughout the city. Co-namings honor individuals of
9 what called New York City home and commemorate events
10 that have an impact on the lives of New Yorkers and
11 many, many co-namings today among those--some of New
12 York City's bravest firefighters Michael Fabian, and
13 a member of the New York City finest, and Police
14 Sergeant Paul Tuozzolo. Both of them died in the
15 line of duty. Our staff, this always a lot of work,
16 and I want to thank Patrick Mulvihill, Chris Sartori,
17 Jeff Baker, Ed Adkins, Jim Wilcox--

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
19 [shushing for quiet]

20 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: --Chima Obichere,
21 and Kenneth Grace, and additional to that in the
22 spirit of recognizing history around the city we will
23 also be voting today on landmark designation status
24 for the Sullivan-Thompson Historic District in the
25 SoHo area of Lower Manhattan. I want to thank Louis

2 Cholden-Brown, and Roxanne Early for their work on
3 this, and Council Member Corey Johnson represents
4 this district and has been a leading advocate for its
5 landmarking. So he can say a few words on this.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam
7 Speaker. As we vote on the designation of the
8 Sullivan-Thompson History District, I want to
9 recognize some of the outstanding work of some of the
10 people that have gotten us to this point. I have
11 been working with Council Member Margaret Chin in
12 calling for this since my days in office, and I want
13 to thank her for her outstanding advocacy. I want to
14 thank the Landmarks Preservation Commission and the
15 Chair, Chair Srinivasan, for their excellent work on
16 this application as well as the Subcommittee on
17 Landmarks, [coughs] Public Siting and Maritime Uses
18 for the support. And I, of course, want to thank the
19 people and organization in South Village who have
20 been pushing us towards this moment for well over a
21 decade. To name the Greenwich Village Society for
22 Historic Preservation, and Community Board 2 have
23 both been true leaders. This is a very, very
24 important day. The community has been fighting for a
25 very long time, and it's not been an easy road. This

2 area represents some of the rich cultural immigrant
3 history of New York City, and I am grateful that we
4 got here today. Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

5 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you. The
6 Council will also consider Introduction 179-A
7 sponsored by Council Member Jumaane Williams, which
8 will strengthen street number posting requirements
9 and increase the civil penalty for failing to comply
10 with such requirements. And for staff I want to than
11 Guillermo Patino, Megan Chin, Jose Conde, and Sarah
12 Gastelum. Housing and Buildings Committee Chair
13 Williams will give some brief remarks on the bill—
14 brief remarks on the bill.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Did you say
16 brief? [laughter]

17 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [off mic] Brief.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you very
19 much.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
21 Brief.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I want to
23 thank—thank the Speaker for supporting this bill, and
24 Council—and Borough President Gale Brewer. I think
25 many of us rise and totally like carbon ray (sic) and

2 not finished. [laughter] But I think we think
3 we've all been frustrated trying to find the--the
4 house number or commercial building number as we're
5 walking down the street. We can only magnify that if
6 you are an emergency worker, and have to get some
7 place or go through some agitation of something that
8 is actually life and death. This bill is not about
9 the fines. It provides a 30-day cure period. It's
10 about getting those numbers up on commercial
11 buildings and on private homes because somebody--

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
13 [shushing for quiet]

14 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAM: --we know that
15 seconds or--and minutes mean a lot when it comes to
16 life and death. So I want to thank my Deputy Chief
17 of Staff Nick Smith. Today is his birthday. So
18 happy birthday to him. We'll give a little round of
19 applause for him. [applause] They want to know how
20 old you are. I don't know if he wants to say it, but
21 I want to thank him, Laura Popa, Matt Gewolb, Megan
22 Chin, Jose Conde, Sarah Gastelum, Jeff Vega, Ed
23 Adkins and Jim Wilcox, and I've got to give a special
24 shout-out to my girlfriend who had this idea a few
25 years back.

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2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: I think this is
3 the first time a Council Member—

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
5 Acknowledged it.

6 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Right,
7 acknowledges are—

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
9 Publicly. Whoa.

10 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Well, that's
11 nice. Okay.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [laughing]
13 [background comments]

14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Oh, wow, this is
15 big news on the floor, Jumaane. What happened?
16 Everybody is—

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
18 Playing play-offs.

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Wow. [background
20 comments] [laughs] Next up we have Introduction
21 975-A sponsored by Council Member Allen Maisel, which
22 raise the fine for failure to remove an abandoned or
23 damaged utility pole. Terza Nasser and on the staff
24 side I want to thank Terza Nasser, Kelly Taylor,
25 Gafar Zaaloff, Jonathan Messarano and Emily Rooney.

2 Council Member Maisel, do you want to speak to the
3 legislation? [pause] It is your first legislation,
4 right?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: No.

6 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: No, I'm sorry.
7 I'm thinking of Grodenchik. I apologize.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: There's always—
9 there's always confusing with Mr. Grodenchik.
10 [laughter] Well, in any event, as usual I like to
11 keep things brief. This is an important bill for my
12 district and for many communities in the city because
13 it will force the utilities to start taking care of
14 these proliferation of telephones and Con-Ed utility
15 poles that are all over the place. A new pole goes
16 up, the old poles stay in place. It's a danger.
17 It's unsightly and it has to be taken care of. So I
18 want to thank my staff and the Speaker's staff for
19 her support in this legislation, and I think that
20 it's going to make a big improvement in the quality
21 of life for my district and in the city. Thank you.

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you.

23 Introduction 834-B, sponsored by Council Member
24 Andrew—Andrew Cohen will increase penalties for the
25 operation of ATVs and dirt bikes. First offenses

2 will be fined \$500 with an additional \$1,000 penalty
3 for any subsequent offenses. For staff I want to
4 thank Deepa Ambekar, Kelly Taylor, and Matt Gewolb.
5 This has become a safety and quality of life issue
6 for many residents, and I invite Council Member Cohen
7 to comment on the bill.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Thank you, Madam
9 Speaker. This issue first came to my attention. I
10 represent Van Cortlandt Park, and I had a problem
11 with ATVs tearing up the turf and--and doing property
12 damage, but ultimately in my first year in office I
13 learned that there were--there were nine deaths
14 related to the illegal operation of All Terrain
15 Vehicles in the Bronx, two of which are--just blocks
16 from my office. These are--they're dangerous to
17 drivers. They're dangerous to pedestrians, and as I
18 said, they're dangerous to property. This
19 legislation will increase penalties. It's another
20 tool in law enforcement tool basket to try to get
21 these vehicles off our streets. I do also want to
22 thank the staff, particularly Deepa Ambekar for her
23 hard work in getting this bill here today. So thank
24 you very much.

2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you. One
3 of our major packages today helps to ensure that all
4 New Yorkers are able to access city services.
5 Introduction 1181-A, which I sponsored, states that
6 city agencies who work directly with the public will
7 be required to provide materials in at least 10
8 languages spoken citywide. This will include the six
9 languages from the existing relevant Executive Order
10 as well as four additional languages that will be
11 determined by agency data. Each agency will also be
12 required to develop language access implementation
13 plans that describe how services will be provided,
14 and how those services meet the needs of their
15 constituents. There will also be outreach to
16 language communities outside of those generally
17 included in language access plans, and finally, the
18 law would also require the reporting on the
19 implementation of these requirements.

20 Introduction 289-A sponsored by Council
21 Member Laurie Cumbo would require the Department of
22 Housing, Preservation and Development to make all
23 applications and corresponding instruction materials
24 available in English, Arabic, Chinese, Haitian-Creole,
25 Korean, Russian and Spanish. The agency would also

2 be required to provide a notice listing all of the
3 languages in which applications are available through
4 all application forms on HPD's website and areas of
5 HPD offices that are open to the public. And
6 finally, Introduction 1420—I'm sorry, 1240-A,
7 sponsored by Council Member Danny Dromm would require
8 any city agency that sends wireless emergency alerts
9 to issue them in the two most commonly spoken
10 languages in New York City unless exigency or federal
11 rule prohibits such an issuance. This legislation
12 would also require the Office of Emergency Management
13 to issue notice—notify—I'm sorry—notify NYC
14 notifications in at least seven of the most commonly
15 spoken languages in the city. For staff I want to
16 thank Megan Chin, Melika Duvali, Gillermo Patino,
17 Jose Conde, Patrick Mulvihill, Sarah Gastelum, and
18 John Russell. I'm very proud of the work this
19 Council has done to open up information and service
20 opportunities to so many communities, and I invite my
21 colleagues Council Members Danny Dromm and Laurie
22 Cumbo to speak on this package of legislation.
23 Council Member Dromm.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you very
25 much, Madam Speaker. In times of emergency

2 disseminating information as broadly as possible is
3 critical to the safety of all New York City's diverse
4 communities. Obtaining accurate information and
5 following the official instructions are vital steps
6 to weathering emergency situations. Unfortunately,
7 non-English speakers are vulnerable to situations
8 where they receive incomplete or incorrect
9 information. In some cases our immigrant neighbors
10 may receive no relevant information at all. Given
11 how critical this information can be to saving life
12 and property, this situation needs to change now
13 before the next emergency. Intro 1240-A tremendously
14 expands emergency outreach efforts by requiring that
15 alerts and notices be given in multiple languages.
16 This legislation accomplishes two important goals.
17 First the city emergency alerts issues through
18 commercial cellular service systems will need to be
19 in at least the two most commonly spoken languages in
20 the area covered by the alert as much as practicable.
21 Second, the city's multi-media notif--notification
22 system, which aggregates information from other
23 sources will need to offer each notification in no
24 few than the city's seven most commonly spoken
25 languages. I want to thank all my staff for working

2 on this, and thank you, Madam Speaker for always
3 putting the needs of our immigrant community way up
4 ahead. Thank you.

5 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Council Member
6 Cumbo.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you, Melissa
8 Mark-Viverito. As demand for affordable housing
9 increases demonstrated by the thousands of
10 applications for every lottery, immigrant New Yorkers
11 are being disenfranchised. Language is too often a
12 barrier faced by everyday New Yorker, but Intro 289
13 is bridging the gap to advance our city's commitment
14 to accessibility and affordability for all New
15 Yorkers. In a city of more than 8.5 million
16 residents, we must adapt city services to meet the
17 basic needs of our changing population where more
18 than half of all New Yorkers speak a language other
19 than English at home. We pride ourselves as One NYC
20 committed to providing all New Yorkers with an equal
21 opportunity to obtain an education, secure
22 employment, and now apply for affordable housing. I
23 want to thank Council Member Jumaane Williams for
24 voting—voting my bill out of his committee. Thank
25 you to Edward Adkin, Deputy Director for

2 Infrastructure in the Legislative Division, and Megan
3 Chin, Legislative Counsel for the Committee on
4 Housing and Buildings. I also want to congratulate
5 Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito and Council member
6 Dromm on their bills to develop a language access
7 implementation plan and issuing wireless emergency
8 text alerts in common languages spoken in New York
9 City. This package of legislation will ensure that
10 our city can communicate directly with limited
11 English proficient and immigrant New Yorkers with
12 citywide programs, services and emergency
13 notifications. Thank you.

14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you. The
15 final package of legislation being voted upon today
16 reflects months of collaboration between the City
17 Council and the Administration. The Nuisance
18 Abatement Law was created in the 1970s, a law to
19 target pornography in Times Square, but in recent
20 years the Police Department has used it in ways that
21 were never intended. As the NYPD's use of these laws
22 has changed, the laws themselves have stayed mostly
23 the same, and this has led to serious issues that
24 were illustrated by a series of articles publishes by
25 he Daily News and for Publica last year. I want to

2 thank Brian Crowe, Deepa Ambekar, Beth Golub, and Rob
3 Philander. This has been a lot of, a lot of, a lot
4 of work and conversation. I'm glad that we were able
5 to get a partnership of the administration, the NYPD
6 in particular. This package of 13 bills, the
7 Nuisance Abatement Fairness Act comprehensively
8 reformed the Nuisance Abatement Law both to modernize
9 these laws and to make sure that they are used
10 appropriately. The Nuisance Abatement Law is a
11 powerful tool that can be used to shut down
12 problematic locations, but it must be used fairly,
13 and it must be used only when it is truly-

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
15 [shushing for quiet]

16 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: --justified.
17 These bills will ensure just that. Introduction
18 1308-A sponsored by myself and Council Member Corey
19 Johnson would limit the use of orders that shut down
20 locations without giving defendants the opportunity
21 to be heard before a judge. These types of orders
22 will be permitted only for nuisances involving
23 prostitution. Certain violations of the Building
24 Code and problematic commercial locations in which
25 there is a significant risk of eminent physical harm

2 to the public. There is no need to deny those who
3 risk losing their homes or their businesses even one
4 chance to let their side of the story be heard. In
5 fact, our research has shown that the fair majority
6 of American cities that have similar laws do not
7 permit ex parte orders, and these other city's
8 nuisance abatement schemes continue to be effective.
9 The bill will ensure that our Nuisance Abatement Law
10 continues to be effective without trampling on
11 anybody's due process rights. Council Member
12 Johnson, if you would like to say a few words.
13 You're okay? Okay. Thank you.

14 Introduction 1315-A sponsored by Council
15 Member Garodnick and myself--

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
17 [shushing for quiet]

18 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: --addresses the
19 Nuisance Abatement actions that mirror cases already
20 proceeding in separate court systems. This is a
21 simple matter of fairness and efficiency. Nobody
22 should be subject to two identical legal proceedings
23 for the same bad act, and it is simply a waste of
24 resources to continue to pursue both for me. I want

2 to thank Council Member Garodnick for his partnership
3 on this bill.

4 Introduction 13-and-and thank you to
5 Johnson and Garodnick who have asked to speak at this
6 time. Introduction 1317-A, sponsored by Public
7 Safety Chair Vanessa Gibson and myself would
8 eliminate misdemeanor possession of drugs and all
9 misdemeanors related to marijuana from the Nuisance
10 Abatement Law. Once again, this bill is about
11 fairness and proportionality. Sources of drug
12 dealing can should be shut down, but locations where
13 drugs or marijuana are simply used should not be the
14 subject to this drastic remedy. Council Member
15 Gibson is the sponsor of this bill. Do you want to
16 say a few words?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Just quickly.
18 Thank you very much, Madam Speaker and madam Public
19 Advocate. Good afternoon to all of my colleagues.
20 I'm very, very excited at today's package today on
21 the Nuisance Abatement Fairness Act. As many of you
22 recognize, fairly recently this City Council's
23 successful efforts to curb the use and distribution
24 of K2 also known as synthetic marijuana, this
25 Nuisance Abatement Law is also an equally powerful

2 tool that can swiftly put an end to ongoing illegal
3 activities in many of four communities. However, it
4 has recently become very clear that the wide and
5 disproportionate usage of this law has negatively
6 impacted many law abiding New Yorkers and New Yorkers
7 of color in particular. The Nuisance Abatement
8 Standards Act will institute important and necessary
9 guidelines for the NYPD and keep innocent New Yorkers
10 from being unjustly barred from their homes and/or
11 businesses. In particular, I am proud to introduce a
12 sponsor Intro 1317, legislation that will exclude
13 possession of controlled substances or marijuana from
14 the Nuisance Abatement Law. Punishing substance
15 abusers has never been the purpose of this law.
16 Intro 1317 makes it abundantly clear that this law is
17 intended to address those harming our communities by
18 making and selling illegal substances and should not
19 be used to address individual users. I want to thank
20 the Speaker for her leadership, her consistency, and
21 commitment on this issue. I'm proud to have worked
22 with all of the sponsors of this package of bill. I
23 want to thank the NYPD and this administration for
24 coming to the table to work with us. I want to
25 recognize the legislative counsel team of Brian

2 Crowe, Matt Gewolb, Beth-Beth Golub, Deepa Ambekar
3 and Robert Calandra. I'm very, very proud of this
4 package. We are continuously focused on restoring
5 justice in our justice system, and in this package we
6 recognize a balanced approach to achieving public
7 safety and improving the quality of life for all New
8 Yorkers, and with that, I also want to vote aye on
9 all call-ups, and with permission, Madam Public
10 Advocate, I'd like to vote on all coupled general
11 orders and resolutions. Thank you very much, Madam
12 Public Speaker.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you.

15 Introduction 1318 sponsored by Council Member
16 Grodenchik and myself would require the Law
17 Department to verify the ongoing occupancy of those
18 persons alleged to have caused or permitted-permitted
19 nuisances within 15 days of filing a nuisance
20 abatement action. This is your first bill, Barry,
21 right? Right, oh, there you are. You moved over.
22 Okay.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: [off mic] But
24 thank you for noticing. (sic)

2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Okay, so I want
3 to-[laughter] say, go, Barry, go, go, go.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Thank you,
5 Madam Speaker and Madam Public Advocate and we
6 certainly excuse the floor for confusing me with the-
7 the dapper member from the East Side, Mr. Garodnick.
8 That happens often, but being compared to Mr. Maisel,
9 is a first and most likely a last. I want to thank
10 the Speaker and Vanessa for spearheading this package
11 of legislation to curb the abuse of Nuisance
12 Abatement Laws. My bill is very simply it will
13 require the Law Department to confirm ongoing
14 occupancy of those alleged to have caused a nuisance.
15 What has happened in the past is that while things
16 worked their way through the system, people leave.
17 They're no longer there, and then the next people
18 come along and they are abused because-because
19 someone else before them had done something wrong and
20 illegal. So this will change that and it will
21 require verification, and this is my first bill. I
22 want to thank my Counsel Steve Behar who is with us
23 today for his patience and his work getting us here
24 today, and I wan to thank everybody who worked on
25 this legislation. Thank you.

2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you.

3 Introduction 1320-A sponsored by Council Member Corey
4 Johnson would require that laboratory reports be
5 filed in a drug-related nuisance abatement action,
6 and Intro 1321-A, also sponsored by Council Member
7 Johnson and myself would require that for any drug-
8 related nuisance abatement action on drug-related
9 incident must be based on information supported by
10 the observations of a police or peace officer.
11 Council Member Johnson.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam
13 Speaker. Briefly on 1320-A, this is really important
14 because unfortunately many New Yorkers have faced
15 drug-related nuisance abatement actions when there
16 have been drugs present even though supposedly there
17 were drugs. And there is an instance where there was
18 a—a woman in 2011, a woman a mother of five based an
19 action on the basis that she had 45 cups of cocaine
20 in her apartment. That wasn't the case. Those cups
21 contained finely crushed egg shells that she used as
22 part of her West African religious tradition. Lab
23 tests verified that finding, but those tests were not
24 submitted along with her nuisance abatement action,
25 which caused her a tremendous amount of hardship and

2 her family hardship. So we need to ensure that
3 there's actually testing that's done as part of these
4 actions to make sure drugs are actually there. In
5 1321-A, as the Speaker said, right now the NYPD
6 relies up confidential informants to give them
7 information if drugs are being sold at premises.
8 That's fine, but to bring forward a case now there at
9 least cannot be one witness who is an actual police
10 officer. An undercover officer or a uniformed
11 officer not solely relying upon informants, but
12 actually having a member of the NYPD be there. These
13 are important fixes to our Nuisance Abatement Law and
14 I think it's going to create a more just process.
15 Thank you very much.

16 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you.
17 Introduction 1323-A sponsored by Council Member Karen
18 Koslowitz and myself would prohibit permanent
19 injunctions barring persons from any property.
20 Instead limiting such relief to one year in most
21 cases. Allowing permanent exclusions of people from
22 their family homes—families home in a drastically
23 disproportionate remedy that undermines the
24 possibility of rehabilitation. Limiting these
25 exclusions to one year will ensure fairness and

2 proportionality and recognize the possibility of
3 rehabilitation. So we thank Council Member
4 Koslowitz. For some background on this next
5 introduction, the Padlock Law was passes by the
6 Council in the 1980s and permits the NYPD to shutter
7 a home or a business without any judicial review.
8 The NYPD has indicated to the Council and to the
9 public that they have not utilized the Padlock Law in
10 at least 15 years as they instead used the Nuisance
11 Abatement Law to address problematic locations. Intro
12 1326-A sponsored by General Welfare Chair Steve Levin
13 and myself would repeal the Padlock Law in its
14 entirety. This truly draconian law has fortunately
15 been unused for many years, and it is time
16 permanently eliminate it. So we thank Council Member
17 Levin, who we said--and congratulated earlier. He is
18 home with his new daughter. I cannot speak on this
19 legislation. Intro 1327-A sponsored by Council
20 Member Mark Levine and myself--

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
22 [shushing for quiet]

23 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: --would require
24 comprehensive reporting on the NYPD's use of the
25 Nuisance Abatement Law including the use of orders

2 that shut down locations while cases are pending.
3 The relationship between nuisance abatement actions
4 and 311 or 911 calls and the rates of those actions
5 by precinct. Council Member Mark Levine.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Thank you so
7 much, Madam Speaker. It surprises me that people
8 that are in the era COMPSTAT there are still areas of
9 police work, which are not reported to the public,
10 and that includes nuisance abatement actions. Our
11 bill will change that by requiring twice year that
12 there be a report that includes not only the number
13 of-of actions, but disaggregated by nuisance type, by
14 precinct as well as information on 311 and 911 recent
15 complaints by precinct so that we can compare actions
16 through the complaints by the public, and because
17 we're concerned that these be done expeditiously, we
18 also will be collecting data on the medium and mean
19 time between the nuisance itself, and the action s by
20 the authorizing agency. I'm proud to be cosponsoring
21 this with the Speaker, and I want to express my
22 gratitude to the staff who worked hard on this
23 including Brian Crowe, Deepa Ambekar and, of course,
24 my own Amy Slattery. Thank you. [pause]

2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Okay,
3 Introduction 13--thank you Council Member Levine.
4 Introduction 1333-B sponsored by Council Member
5 Donovan Richards and myself would establish a four-
6 month statute of limitations for all nuisance
7 abatement actions, and thank you for waiving your
8 time, Council Member Richards. Introduction 1338-A
9 sponsored by Council Member Rafael Salamanca and
10 myself--

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
12 [shushing for quiet]

13 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: --would require
14 the Law Department to verify that sealed records are
15 not used in NAL actions. This bill would ensure that
16 those defendants who we are now giving--who we are now
17 giving their day in court will actually be properly
18 notified of their court date as well as providing a
19 check to ensure that the NYPD does not use sealed
20 records in nuisance abatement cases.

21 Introduction 1339-A, sponsored by Public
22 Housing Chair Ritchie Torres and myself would require
23 judges to review and sign all nuisance abatement
24 dispositions and direct that the purpose of any
25 disposition is to abate a specific nuisance, and not

2 simply punitive damages or more generally deter that
3 behavior. News reports have indicated that many
4 defendants in NAL cases who risk losing their homes
5 or their businesses, are not represented by lawyer,
6 requiring judges to review all these settlements and
7 directing them to commit to all the committees that
8 are necessary to correctly deter a nuisance by
9 providing necessary check and balance on the
10 government's powers. Council Member Ritchie Torres.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: I'll waive my
12 time just for the sake of--yes.

13 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Yeah, I
14 appreciate that and last up Introduction 1344, and
15 we'll see if Council Member Williams will be so
16 generous. Councilman--[laughs].

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: His girlfriend
18 will.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: What am I going
20 to say now? I've got to say--

21 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Wait, last up,
22 Introduction 1544-A sponsored by Housing and
23 Buildings Chair Jumaane Williams and myself relates
24 to the violation of the State's Alcohol Distribution
25 Laws, which are often used against businesses that

2 allegedly sell alcohol to minors. This bill would
3 require four such instances to constitute a nuisance
4 unless the violation was against a location that did
5 not have a license to sell alcohol in the first
6 place. This the last bill in the package sponsored
7 by Council Member Williams. Do you want to ask
8 anything?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Very brief. We
10 can do it. No, I do want to say because usually when
11 we do these people have an automatic-

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
13 [shushing for quiet]

14 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: --pushback of
15 no. I think the last time I was very acrimonious.
16 This time because of the leadership of the Speaker,
17 the Mayor we have a very good working relationship,
18 and even though we have the Police Department on
19 board, if there are people pushing back, I think I
20 would ask those folks to look at any one of these
21 bills that we passed in the past seven years, and say
22 which one of those has handcuffed police or made it
23 to that state. We continue to celebrate the historic
24 state that we've had. This is about equity and
25 justice, and with that I'll just say thank you Brian

2 Crowe, Council Member Gibson the Chair of Public
3 Safety, Rob Calandra, Matta Gewolb, Laura Popa and
4 Nick Smith from my side. (sic) Thank you.

5 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you and I
6 believe that ends communication from the Speaker.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [coughs] The
8 General Order discussion. Council Member Barron.
9 [coughing]

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Yes. I just
11 wanted to make brief remarks about the Sullivan-
12 Thompson Landmarkers to make note that there was a
13 significant area of that area-of that landmarking,
14 which was inhabited by African-American. They were
15 so-called partially free African-Americans who paid a
16 fee to the city in order to own land, and the land
17 that they owned became known as Little Africa, and it
18 was an enclave for persons who were initially free.
19 They settled there, they developed the land, and then
20 in the 1840s as those persons moved forward, moved
21 northward rather, there were others that came from
22 the south, and grew the numbers there. So it is a
23 significant part of the African-American history, and
24 I just wanted to make a comment on that plus this is
25 the African-American History Month. Thank you.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

3 Council Member Cumbo. [pause] Speaking on the street
4 name, you are?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Yes, of course.

6 [pause] I would like to speak on today a very
7 important bill. It would be the co-naming of the
8 intersection of Clermont and Willoughby Avenues in
9 honor of the late Reverend Dr. John L. Pratt, Senior.
10 Reverend Dr. Pratt was a mentor, teacher, a staunch
11 advocate for affordable housing, social and economic
12 justice and public servant. He served as pastor of
13 Ryan-Shiloh Baptist Church for 32 years. A former
14 member of Brooklyn Community Board 2, Advisory Board
15 Member for Cumberland Diagnostic and Treatment
16 Center, a member of the Fort Greene Support Rescue
17 Group and President of the Brooklyn Council of
18 Churches among other leadership roles. Reverend Dr.
19 Pratt accepted the challenge to serve the Fort Greene
20 Clinton Hills community. His legacy will continue to
21 live on through the men and women he inspired to keep
22 praying, caring and loving regardless of the
23 circumstances. Thank you and it's an honor to
24 recognize such a proud champion and hero for our
25 community that has been there for us during the good

2 times, but there's so many of his parishioners and
3 community members particularly during the challenging
4 times. Thank you.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. May
6 he rest in pace. Council Member Chin.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you, Madam
8 Public Advocate. I'm pleased to join my colleague
9 Council Member Corey Johnson to realize the
10 completion of the third and final phase of the South
11 Village Historic District. The designation of the
12 Sullivan-Thompson Historic District reflects the hard
13 work of local advocates like the Greenwich Society
14 for Historic Preservation and leaders in Community
15 Board 2 who have fought tirelessly to see the history
16 of immigrant and working class New Yorkers, their
17 tenements and institutions preserved to tell the
18 story of some of the greatest social, cultural and
19 artistic movements of the 20th Century. I am pleased
20 that this crucial component of the Lower Manhattan
21 Historic fabric has finally reached the New York City
22 Council, and I encourage my colleagues to vote in
23 favor of protecting this invaluable historic
24 resource. Thank you.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

3 Seeing none other seated in the balcony this
4 afternoon are members of African Communities together
5 an organization of African immigrants fighting for
6 civil and [applause] and opportunities for families
7 in the U.S. and in Africa. Thank you. Quiet in the
8 Chambers, please. Thank you. Special-Report of
9 Special Committees.

10 CLERK: None.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Reports of
12 standing committees.

13 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
14 Finance, Preconsidered LU 557, 567, and Reso 1375
15 through Preconsidered LU 572 and Reso 1380, Tax
16 Abatements.

17 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Could you hold on
18 a second. Okay, Coupled on General Orders.

19 CLERK: Report of the Committee of
20 Governmental Operations, Intro 1181-A, Access for
21 Limited English Proficiency.

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
23 coupled on General Orders.

24

25

2 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
3 Housing and Buildings, Intro 179-A, Display of Street
4 Numbers.

5 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
6 coupled on General Orders.

7 CLERK: Intro 289-A, Housing Applications
8 in Multiple Languages.

9 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
10 coupled on General Orders.

11 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Land
12 Use, LU 559 and Reso 1381 through LU 566 and Reso
13 1388 on page 5, various applications, Council
14 District No. 9.

15 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
16 General Orders.

17 CLERK: Preconsidered LU 573 and Reso
18 1389, Sullivan-Thompson Historic District.

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
20 General Orders.

21 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Parks
22 and Recreation, Intro 1449-A naming of 40
23 thoroughfares in public-public places.

24 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
25 coupled on General Orders.

1 CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

66

2 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Public
3 Safety, Intro 834-B All Terrain Vehicles.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
5 coupled on General Orders.

6 CLERK: Intro 1308-A Temporary orders.

7 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
8 coupled on General Orders.

9 CLERK: Intro 1315-A, Proceedings and
10 Fines for Public Nuisances.

11 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
12 coupled on General Orders.

13 CLERK: Intro 1317-A, Possession of a
14 Controlled Substance.

15 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
16 coupled on General Orders.

17 CLERK: Intro 1318-A, Verification of
18 Occupancy.

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
20 coupled on General Orders.

21 CLERK: Intro 1320-A, Requiring
22 laboratory reports.

23 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
24 coupled on General Orders.

25

2 CLERK: Intro 1321-A, Officers to
3 personally witness drug violations.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
5 coupled on General Orders.

6 CLERK: Intro 1323-A, exclusions of
7 natural persons.

8 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
9 coupled on General Orders.

10 CLERK: Intro 1326, Padlock Law.

11 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
12 General Orders.

13 CLERK: Intro 1327-A, Nuisance Abatement
14 Actions.

15 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
16 coupled on General Orders.

17 CLERK: Intro 1333-B, Public Nuisance
18 definition.

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
20 coupled on General Orders.

21 CLERK: Intro 1338-A, Corporation Counsel
22 Procedures.

23 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
24 coupled on General Orders.

2 CLERK: Intro 1339-A, Restricting certain
3 orders and dispositions.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
5 coupled on General Orders.

6 CLERK: Intro 1344-A, Alcoholic Beverage
7 Law.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
9 [shushing for quiet]

10 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
11 coupled on General Orders.

12 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
13 Technology, Intro 1240-A, Electronic Emergency
14 Notifications.

15 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
16 coupled on General Orders.

17 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
18 Transportation, Intro 975-A, abandoned poles.

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
20 coupled on General Orders.

21 CLERK: On the General Order Calendar
22 Resolution Appointing Various Persons Commissioners
23 of Deeds.

24

25

2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
3 General Orders, and at this time I ask for roll call
4 on all items on the Public General Order Calendar.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the
6 Chambers please for a roll call.

7 CLERK: Barron.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Permission to
9 explain my vote.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes. PUBLIC
11 ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing] [shushing for quiet]

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Extremely
13 briefly. I just want to highlight Dr. Roscoe Brown
14 who, although he was relegated to a segregated Army
15 Air Corps unit, rose to become the commander of the
16 100 Fighting Squad of the 332nd Fighter Group and
17 went on to become President of Bronx Community
18 College and the Hostos Program at CUNY, and we are so
19 pleased to know that he's being honored and I vote
20 aye.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

22 CLERK: Borelli.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye on all
24 except Intro 1315, 1317, 1323, 1326, 1333, 1344 and
25 179-A.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

3 CLERK: Cabrera.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: I want to thank
5 Council Member Barron for acknowledging Dr. Roscoe
6 Brown, who was the President of Bronx Community.
7 It's in my district, and was a true, true hero and
8 championing and we're going to be dedicating a park
9 in his behalf. That's all. With that I vote aye on
10 all.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

12 CLERK: Chin.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye on all.

14 CLERK: Cohen.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: May I explain my
16 vote.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: I just want to
19 echo the comments that my colleagues Council Member
20 Barron and Cabrera. Roscoe Brown was a constituent of
21 mine, and a very good friend. So his passing was
22 felt very deeply, and I'm proud that we're doing
23 this—naming this after him. Thank you. I vote aye.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

25 CLERK: Cornegy.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye.

3 CLERK: Cumbo.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Aye.

5 CLERK: Deutsch.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Aye on all

7 except for 1308-A, 1315-A, 1317-A and 1323-A.

8 [pause]

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

10 CLERK: Dromm.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye on all.

12 CLERK: CLERK: Espinal.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: I vote aye.

14 CLERK: Ferreras-Copeland.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND: Can I

16 go?

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND: The

19 nuisance created by home and businesses used for drug

20 dens and prostitution are complaints that are in two

21 of my constituencies. These locations present-

22 present serious case of concerns. My position on the

23 Nuisance Abatement bill is simple. These bills do

24 not change the ways in which police officers enforce

25 our criminal laws. In fact, they do not affect the

2 criminal system at all. These go with people who are
3 at risk of losing their homes or businesses. At
4 least one of their cases will be heard in court.
5 Importantly our ability as council members and as a
6 city to respond to constituent complaints regarding
7 problematic locations remains the same. I'd like to
8 thank the Speaker and her staff for helping me work
9 through this because it's obvious that my district
10 has very, very high numbers of sex trafficking, and
11 this is of concern to me. So today I vote aye on
12 this bill. Thank you.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

14 CLERK: Garodnick.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

16 CLERK: Gentile.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

18 CLERK: Greenfield.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank you.

20 May I explain my vote?

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Madam Public

23 Advocate, I vote aye with the exception of 1315,

24 1317, 1321 and 1326 and 1333, and I'd like to

25 especially congratulate Council Member Johnson and

2 Chin on not only the historic district, but also how
3 quickly they managed to make a historic district
4 pass. I think it was actually record time in the
5 Land Marks Preservation Commission. That was a very
6 significant achievement, and something that's very
7 important to our constituents. So congratulations.
8 I want to congratulate all of my colleagues including
9 Council Member Grodenchik. Did I get it right,
10 Barry? Okay. Thank you and Council Member Cumbo.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Than you.

12 CLERK: Grodenchik. Johnson.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

14 CLERK: Kallos.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.

16 CLERK: King.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Aye on all.

18 CLERK: Lancman.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Okay.

20 CLERK: Maisel. Mealy.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: How do you vote
22 Council Member Mealy?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I vote aye on all.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

25 CLERK: Menchaca.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Aye on all.

3 CLERK: Miller.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: I vote aye.

5 CLERK: Palma. Reynoso.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Aye.

7 CLERK: Richards.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Congratulations
9 to Council Member Grodenchik on his first bill and I
10 vote aye.

11 CLERK: Salamanca.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: I vote no on
13 1344 and aye on all.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

15 CLERK: Torres.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Aye on all.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

18 CLERK: Treyger.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

20 CLERK: Ulrich.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: I vote aye on all
22 with the exception of 1315, 1317, 1323, 1325, 1333,
23 1339 and 1344 and 179-A.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

25 CLERK: Crowley.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
3 [shushing for quiet] Council Member Crowley. [pause]

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Sure. [background
5 comments] [pause]

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: I vote aye on all
7 with the exception of 1315-A, 1323-A, 1326, 1344 and
8 1333.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

10 CLERK: Vacca.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: I vote aye on all
12 except 1315-A, 1323-A, 1326-A, 1333-B, 1344-A and
13 179.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

15 CLERK: Williams.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: [off mic] I
17 vote aye on all.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

19 CLERK: Van Bramer.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: I vote aye on
21 all.

22 CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

23 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [off mic]

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: So we now need a
25 little time to add up. We want to again congratulate

2 Council Member Levin on Frances Oakley Cowell-Levin.

3 We also want to congratulate Council Member Williams

4 on his new girlfriend. [laughter] You notice I said

5 new. [laughter]

6 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: If you was to

7 mind your business, you'd know she wasn't new.

8 [laughter/cheering]

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Okay, the word

10 recycled comes into mind. [laughter] [pause]

11 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank God for

12 ten minutes. [pause]

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: I want to thank

14 the members of African Communities Together for

15 visiting us. Thank you so much for coming. Thank

16 you. [pause] My Speaker's State of City is at 11

17 o'clock promptly at Kings Theater in the Borough of

18 Brooklyn on Flatbush Avenue. Any other

19 announcements? No. [pause] What? I--

20 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Come on, guys,

21 come on, guys. [laughs]

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

23 Women's History Month is coming. Okay, all items on

24 today's General Order Calendar were adopted by a vote

25 of 46 in the affirmative, 0 negative and 0

2 abstentions with the exception of Intro 179-A, which
3 was adopted by a vote of 42 in the affirmative, 4
4 negative and 0 abstentions, and Intro 1314-A, which
5 was adopted by a vote of 39 in the affirmative, 7-7
6 negative and 0 abstentions, and Intro 1317-A, which
7 was adopted by a vote of 41 in the affirmative, 5
8 negative and 0 abstentions, and Intro 1323-A, which
9 was adopted by a vote of 39 in the affirmative, 7
10 negative and 0 abstentions and Intro 1326, which was
11 adopted by a vote of 39 in the affirmative, 7
12 negative and 0 abstentions, and Intro 1333-B, which
13 was adopted by a vote of 40 in the affirmative, 6
14 negative and 0 abstentions, and Intro 1344-A, which
15 was adopted by a vote of 40 in the affirmative, 6
16 negative and 0 abstentions, and Intro 1318-A, which
17 was adopted by a vote of 45 in the affirmative, 1
18 negative and 0 abstentions. Thank you very much.
19 Introduction and Reading of Bills.

20 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: All bills are
21 referred to committees as indicated on the agenda.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: And now we have
23 the revised Land Use Call-Ups, but that vote is 46 in
24 the affirmative and 0 abstentions. Thank you, and
25 now a discussion of resolutions, and the resolutions

2 reads as follows: Preconsidered Resolution 1373,
3 resolution authorizing the Speaker to file or join
4 Amicus Briefs on behalf of the Council in litigation
5 challenging any of President Donald Trump's executive
6 orders and actions relating to immigration. Any
7 speakers? Seeing none, all of those in favor say
8 aye.

9 COUNCIL MEMBERS: [in unison] Aye

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Any opposed? Any
11 abstentions? And the ayes have it. General
12 discussion beginning with Council Member Williams.
13 [pause]

14 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you.
15 First, I did want to mention I disagreed with my
16 colleagues in the State on many, many occasions. I'm
17 particularly disappointed in what they did a few days
18 ago. First, I don't think they put any effort into
19 researching the bag-the bag fee. We spent a lot of
20 time here researching it. They spend mostly on
21 conjecture of non-factual information of who would be
22 affected and who wouldn't, but that aside, where we
23 disagree with it, to do what they did to this Council
24 is disappointing to say the least. I really think
25 they should be ashamed of specifying this city and

2 this Council in particular. I was hoping that the
3 Governor would have vetoed the bill. Unfortunately,
4 he didn't, but I—I don't know what we can do now. I
5 know we're exploring it. I just wanted to put on
6 record how disappointed I am that my colleagues many
7 of them have much respect. They decided to
8 disrespect us here in the City Council, and the
9 second I did want to say I think the less—
10 congratulations again to Mark Levine and Council
11 Member Vanessa Gibson and the Speaker and the Mayor,
12 and what they announced they announced this past
13 Sunday, it cannot be understated how important free
14 legal services to our tenants facing eviction are. I
15 think it will change the scope or the landscape in
16 rentals and evictions in the city. And on top of
17 that, the Mayor announced 10,000 new low and
18 extremely low-income AMIs to his housing market. It
19 is something—the housing plan is something that we
20 have been fighting for and pushing for in the City
21 Council. I'm pleased to have let my—lent my voice to
22 that. When it comes to homelessness, the two things
23 that are most important is preserving what we have,
24 and making sure what we create addresses the issues
25 on the ground. Thank you.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
3 Council Member Miller.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you, Madam-
5 Madam Public Advocate, and as the Chair of the Civil
6 Services Committee on Civil Service and Labor, I am
7 glad to see that they are considering withdrawing
8 their-their nomination of the Secretary of Labor,
9 someone who was obviously been a-a-a as a CEO of the
10 major fast food franchises being the biggest affront
11 to labor that the country has seen, and I think that-
12 I'm hoping that this downward trend will begin to
13 really take a better look at some of the nominations,
14 and-and the advocacy will continue. But certainly
15 this is a-a large affront on labor, someone who has
16 said that they would rather hire robots than people
17 in the past, and-and certainly this is a step in the
18 right direction, and it shows what happens when we
19 organize and we continue to resist.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: And the last
21 speaker is Council-No? Okay. Council Member Cornegy
22 followed by Council Member Cumbo.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: I'm especially
24 excited about today's street co-naming not just
25 because it's the second time I'm doing a street co-

2 naming, but because this is actually someone I'm
3 really excited about. Jacquelyn A. Berrien was the
4 former Chairwoman of the Equal Opportunity
5 Commission, and a civil rights lawyer who served with
6 the ACLU and the NAACP's Legal Defense and
7 Educational Fund. Jackie, though, was so much more
8 than her resume. She was a wife to her husband Peter
9 Williams and a friend of mine, and so many others
10 fortunate enough to know her. Today's street co-
11 naming honors someone that has dedicated their entire
12 life to service and civil rights, and I look forward
13 to presenting this to the community in the very near
14 future. Thank you, Madam Public Advocate.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you and may
16 she rest in peace. Council Member Laurie Cumbo.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: [pause] Thank you
18 Public Advocate. I want to bring everyone's
19 attention to my lactation room introduction. This is
20 a local law to amend the Administrative Code of the
21 City of New York in relation to requiring that city-
22 owned buildings and spaces with specific occupancy
23 classifications contain lactation rooms. The
24 presence of such a lactation room shall not interfere
25 with such an individual's right to breast feed in

2 public. Breast feeding is an individual right, and
3 they may do that in public or in safety and in a
4 sanitary environment. I would like to acknowledge
5 the incredible women throughout this city and beyond
6 that's unequivocally breast feeding their children
7 any time and any place. More than 20 years ago the
8 State of New York was the first in the nation to
9 amass a law to protect a mother's right to breast
10 feed in public. I want to thank borough President
11 Eric Adams, Council Member Robert Cornegy, Council
12 Member Corey Johnson for their steadfast dedication
13 on this issue, and standing with the New York City
14 Council and mothers all over the city of New York to
15 protect their rights to nurse their child, and
16 expanding access to public spaces that will now
17 become safe havens. With this legislation moving
18 forward, any construction that's going to involve
19 city-owned funding is going to have to incorporate a
20 lactation room into the architectural plans and
21 design. This is revolutionary for families all over
22 our city, but I also would like to bring your
23 attention to another piece of legislation that I've
24 been working on for some time is the Mayor's Office
25 to Prevent Gun Violence. The most challenging aspect

2 of being a New York City Council Member is receiving
3 the call that a member of your community has been
4 killed as a result of senseless act of violence. The
5 City of New York is home to 8.5 million residents,
6 and yet the gun violence epidemic is wreaking havoc
7 in our community. The City of New York has been a
8 leader on so many issues, and gun violence should not
9 be an exception. With my colleagues we proudly
10 introduced the legislation to create the first ever
11 Mayor's Office to End Gun Violence in the nation in
12 partnership with co-prime sponsors, Council Members
13 Jumaane Williams, Vanessa Gil-Gibson, Fernando
14 Cabrera, Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito, Mayor de
15 Blasio, advocates and gun violence interrupters.
16 This is going to change New York City, and cities all
17 over the country. Thank you.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Thank
19 you. Council Member Miller.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you, Madam
21 Public Advocate. Today I have introduced legislation
22 Intro 1473, a local law to amend the Administrative
23 Code that would effectively reduce the amount of time
24 commercial vehicles may park on our city streets from
25 3 hours to 90 minutes. This is in response to many

2 complaints from residents that are both in my--on both
3 my community boards that continue to receive
4 complaints about commercial vehicles taking over the
5 streets blocking fire hydrants, preventing homeowners
6 from using their public streets as well as running--
7 in the summer time running their--their engines for
8 air condition and heat in the summer. This situation
9 is getting more and more critical as truck traffic
10 continues to increase from nearby airports and
11 ongoing construction and development in local
12 communities. Allowing these vehicles to park three
13 hours also deters enforcement from occurring.
14 Different officers, different shifts overlapping, and
15 they have to observe the vehicles. So, I am sure
16 many of you are dealing with the same situation in
17 your districts, and the fact of the matter is that we
18 are now seeing all too--lack of enforcement
19 throughout. I know that my colleagues in the outer
20 boroughs specifically have similar issues with trucks
21 parked for days at a time without being summonses. In
22 fact is that most of these trucks operators think
23 that is the proper course of just doing business.
24 Fines cannot be increased by this body, and we hope
25 that this tool 1473 would be another tool in the

2 toolbox in enforcement, and removing these trucks
3 from our streets. I ask that my colleagues sign on,
4 and thank you, Madam Public Advocate.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you and to
6 close, the Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito.

7 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you to all
8 my colleagues for their patience today, and for being
9 quick, and thank you all and look forward to seeing
10 you tomorrow in Brooklyn. With that, we are
11 recessed. [gavel]

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: But we have to
13 hold. One last announcement on the vote. Council
14 Member Williams, meet my boyfriend in the back. He's
15 Commanding Officer Taylor. [laughter]

16 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I see him.
17 [background comments]

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: And Intro 1315-A,
19 which was adopted by a vote of 38 in the affirmative,
20 8 negative and 0 abstentions, and Intro 1317-A, which
21 was adopted by a vote of 40 in the affirmative, 6
22 negative. [background comments]

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: That's okay. And
24 Intro 1333-B, which was adopted by a vote of 39 in
25 the affirmative, 7 negative and 0 abstentions, and

2 1344-A, which was adopted by a vote of 39 in the
3 affirmative.

4 CLERK: [off mic] And 7 negative.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: 7 negative and 0
6 abstentions, and--

7 CLERK: It's just the way that I got it.
8 (sic)

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Okay and Intro
10 1321-A, which was adopted by a vote of 45 in the
11 affirmative, 1 negative and 0 abstentions.

12 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [interposing]
13 Madam, Public Advocate, I meant to say adjourned, not
14 recessed. We are adjourned.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Adjourned and
16 recessed. [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 March 3, 2017