

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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June 14, 2018
Start: 2:28 p.m.
Recess: 4:43 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: LAURIE A. CUMBO
Majority Leader

COREY D. JOHNSON
Speaker

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Adrienne Adams
Alicka Ampry-Samuel
Diana Ayala
Inez D. Barron
Justin Brannan
Joe Borelli
Fernando Cabrera
Margaret S. Chin
Andrew Cohen
Costa G. Constantinides
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.
Chaim M. Deutsch
Daniel Dromm
Rafael L. Espinal, Jr.
Mathieu Eugene
Vanessa L. Gibson
Mark Gjonaj

COUNCIL MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

Barry Grodenchik
Robert Holden
Andy L. King
Peter A. Koo
Karen Koslowitz
Rory I. Lancman
Brad S. Lander
Stephen T. Levin
Mark Levine
Alan N. Maisel
Steven Matteo
Carlos Menchaca
I. Daneek Miller
Francisco P. Moya
Bill Perkins
Keith Powers
Antonio Reynoso
Donovan J. Richards
Carlina Rivera
Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Deborah L. Rose
Helen K. Rosenthal
Ritchie J. Torres
Rafael Salamanca
Ritchie J. Torres
Mark Treyger
Eric A. Ulrich
Paul A. Vallone
James G. Van Bramer
Jumaane D. Williams
Kalman Yeger

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

2 CLERK: Today's date, test, test 1, 2, 1,
3 2. Today's date is June 14, 2018. Today's hearing is
4 on the Stated and is being recorded by Sherese.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Shhhhhh

6 CLERK: Okay everyone. Ladies and
7 gentlemen, can I have your attention please. Quiet
8 on the floor please. Can I please have your
9 attention please. Quiet on the floor please. Quiet
10 on the floor. At this time, please place all cell
11 phones and electronic devices to vibrate. Will all
12 non-Council employees, non-Council employees please
13 leave the main floor of the Chambers. Thank you.
14 Madam Majority Leader, it's all yours.

15 [pause]

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I'm calling the
17 Stated Meeting to order. Roll call.

18 CLERK: Adams?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Present.

20 CLERK: Ampry-Samuel?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Present.

22 CLERK: Ayala, Barron?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Present.

24 CLERK: Borelli?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Present.

2 CLERK: Brannon, Cabrera, Chin?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

4 CLERK: Cohen?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Here.

6 CLERK: Constantinides?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Here.

8 CLERK: Cornegy?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Presente.

10 CLERK: Deutsch?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Presente.

12 CLERK: Diaz?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Presente.

14 CLERK: Dromm, Espinal, Eugene, Gibson?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Here.

16 CLERK: Gjonai, Grodenchik?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: I'm here.

18 CLERK: Holden?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here.

20 CLERK: Kallos, King?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Present.

22 CLERK: Koo?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

24 CLERK: Koslowitz?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

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2 CLERK: Lancman?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Here.

4 CLERK: Lander?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

6 CLERK: Levin?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN:

8 CLERK: Levine, Maisel?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Here.

10 CLERK: Menchaca?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Presente.

12 CLERK: Miller?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Present.

14 CLERK: Moya?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Present

16 CLERK: Perkins?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Here.

18 CLERK: Powers?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Here.

20 CLERK: Reynoso, Richards, Rivera?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present.

22 CLERK: Rodriguez?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.

24 CLERK: Rose?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Present.

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2 CLERK: Rosenthal?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.

4 CLERK: Salamanca?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present.

6 CLERK: Torres?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Present.

8 CLERK: Gjonaj?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Present.

10 CLERK: Treyger?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.

12 CLERK: Ulrich, Vallone, Levine?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Here.

14 CLERK: Van Bramer?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

16 CLERK: Williams?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.

18 CLERK: Yeger?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here.

20 CLERK: Matteo?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Here.

22 CLERK: Cumbo?

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Present.

24 CLERK: Speaker Johnson?

25 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Here.

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2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Supplemental
3 Messages and Papers from the Mayor?

4 CLERK: None.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Supplemental
6 Communication from City, County and Borough Offices?

7 CLERK: Preconsidered M60, M61, and M62,
8 two Budget Modifications and the Chancellor's five-
9 year capital plan.

10 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Referred to Finance.

11 CLERK: M63 from the Queens borough
12 president appointing Eduardo Cordero, Sr. to the New
13 York City Council's Charter Revision Commission.

14 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Received, ordered,
15 printed and filed.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Supplemental
17 Petitions and Communications?

18 CLERK: None.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Supplemental Land
20 Use Call-ups?

21 CLERK: None.

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I would like to
23 call on Council Member Lancman.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Thank you. In
25 light of the fact that my daughter's graduation

2 ceremony is going to be starting soon, I wonder if
3 you might indulge me and allow me to vote and be on
4 my way?

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Congratulations
6 and permission granted.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Thank you and I
8 vote aye on everything and let me disclose on the
9 record that the Youngesho [phonetic] of Hillcrest is
10 funded in the budget that we are adopting and I am
11 associated with this entity as a congregant and if I
12 may just say a hearty thank you to Latonia, Regina,
13 Isha [phonetic] for their tremendous assistance to me
14 throughout this process, a fond farewell to Ramon.
15 It's hard to imagine the institution without him and
16 a special thank you to our Speaker who delivered for
17 me and for the City of New York in a way that all of
18 us can be proud of and grateful for. I vote aye.
19 Thank you very much.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Supplemental
21 Communication from the Speaker? Supplemental
22 Discussion of General Orders?

23 SPEAKER JOHNSON: So on the Supplemental
24 Communication from the Speaker, I'm gonna make some
25 remarks today on the budget. Good afternoon, it has

2 been a long few weeks but we made it. We now
3 officially have a budget.

4 [applause]

5 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I am incredibly proud
6 of this budget that we have worked on so diligently
7 and we all did it together. Literally all 51 members
8 worked on this budget together for something for
9 every neighborhood across the City, every Council
10 District, every Borough, we worked to try to get some
11 really good things in this budget. With this budget
12 we are strengthening our City's social safety net for
13 the poorest New Yorkers and making an impact on all
14 of those who need it most. We identified priorities
15 across the five boroughs and through a united front,
16 we negotiated with the administration. We stuck
17 together and now we have a budget that will benefit
18 everyone in this City. We wanted to focus on the big
19 picture and some of our significant achievements in
20 this budget are exactly that. There is so much in
21 this budget to be proud of, especially fair fares,
22 increased budget reserves, school accessibility for
23 disabled children, a significant increase in fair
24 student funding and an increased number of units year
25 to year on permanent supportive housing. With this

2 budget, we also wanted to send a message to all New
3 Yorkers. We are listening to you. One signature
4 piece of this budget of course is fair fares. There
5 are nearly 800,000 New Yorkers living at or below the
6 federal poverty line who will be eligible for this
7 program. Now working mothers like Shanee Raaman
8 [phonetic] who I've talked a lot about will be able
9 to take their kids to school, without worry, get the
10 chills saying it, without worrying about begging for
11 a swipe. The \$106 million included for the fiscal
12 2019 budget and the commitment by the De Blasio
13 administration to continue to fully fund the program
14 in the out years will literally open turnstiles and
15 doors to the neediest residents of our great city.
16 Another signature piece of this budget is school
17 accessibility. Listening to mothers like Rebecca
18 Coschenco [phonetic] who testified here at the
19 Council, tell her story of carrying her daughter up
20 the stairs of PS321 in Brooklyn to get her to
21 computer class proved to me that we have a long way
22 to go and that we have to act and act now. Access
23 should not be limited to children because they are
24 different or disabled. What we are doing now is
25 adding \$150 million in capital funding to increase

2 accessibility for disabled children in our City
3 schools. That is responsive government and it is one
4 that I am proud to be part of. We are doing the
5 right thing. These amazing New Yorkers are why we do
6 what we do. It is because of days like today that
7 remind me why I entered politics that when we
8 accomplish something of this magnitude by making a
9 difference in so many New Yorkers lives, this is what
10 makes it all worth it and I know that each and every
11 one of you in this body feel the same way. You have
12 been fantastic partners throughout this entire
13 process. Thank you all for being great colleagues
14 and for being great friends. I especially want to
15 thank the Chair of the City Council's Finance
16 Committee, Danny Dromm. Where is Danny?

17 [applause]

18 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I'm so proud of Danny.
19 He sat through hundreds of hours of testimony and has
20 been a key partner for me in this entire process. I
21 love him very much. I also want to thank the Chair
22 of our new Subcommittee on the Capital Budget,
23 Vanessa Gibson for all of her hard work.

24 [applause]

2 SPEAKER JOHNSON: For the first time I
3 think ever, we got a right sized capital budget. We
4 got excess appropriations taken out to actually
5 accurately portray what our capital spending is, not
6 in a front loaded way but in an accurate way and
7 Vanessa spent countless and countless hours from the
8 moment we started this new session on January 3 and I
9 really want to thank her for her leadership and both
10 of them for their hard work over these past few
11 months on making this happen. The Council's Finance
12 Team also deserves a huge thank you for their
13 tireless work.

14 [applause]

15 SPEAKER JOHNSON: They toiled long hours
16 to get it at this point, Latonia McKinney especially.
17 Where is she? There she is over there. Take a bow.
18 Take a bow.

19 [applause]

20 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I don't want to get too
21 personal about Latonia but I want to tell you just
22 this. In the last week and a half, she was here on
23 the weekends, late at night, 10 o'clock at night, 11
24 o'clock at night, midnight with her daughter here
25 with her

2 [applause]

3 SPEAKER JOHNSON: So she had her daughter
4 here and she was that committed to making sure this
5 got done and she's an amazing mother and she's an
6 amazing finance director for this New York City
7 Council.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yeah mothers.

9 [applause]

10 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Yes. I would also like
11 to thank Chuck Davis and the Appointments and
12 Investigations Unit as well as our great Ethics
13 Counsel, Patrick Bradford and the Office of the
14 General Counsel

15 [applause]

16 SPEAKER JOHNSON: For vetting all of the
17 groups receiving discretionary funding in the budget
18 today. Thank you so, so much. I want to highlight a
19 few other things that I think are important for us
20 and there are many, many great things in this budget
21 but there are a few things that I want to just
22 recognize that we all should be very, very proud of.
23 We have been planting seeds in this budget for
24 tomorrow by helping young people and where is the
25 Chair of our Youth Services Committee, Debbie Rose?

2 She's sitting right here in front of me. She has
3 been relentless, tireless, incredible throughout this
4 entire process, on the outside game, on the steps of
5 City Hall in meeting with advocates and on the inside
6 yelling and screaming at BNT about young people. A
7 pain in the neck in a good way because we got
8 results, we got For Compass [phonetic] which is gonna
9 help elementary school after school programs across
10 the city, \$14.2 million.

11 [applause]

12 SPEAKER JOHNSON: We restored \$15 million
13 for 22,800 slots for summer programs for students in
14 middle school citywide. We increased the Council's
15 deep and long commitment especially from the black,
16 Latino and Asian caucus on summer youth employment,
17 getting an additional \$10.3 million to increase
18 available jobs for young people this summer to 75,000
19 jobs plus an increase in the minimum wage for those
20 folks in the program. We restored \$19 million for
21 the Work, Learn, Grow Jobs Program for this next year
22 providing in-school career readiness training and
23 paid employment opportunities to teens and young
24 adults year round. That is a lot of good stuff for
25 the young people of New York City. We got some great

2 essential services for New Yorkers. I want to thank
3 Chair Carlos Menchaca of the Immigration Committee.
4 I don't know if he's here or not here but we got \$12
5 million to fund adult literacy programs city wide
6 which this Council

7 [applause]

8 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Really, really believes
9 in. Oh, he's right over there. Congratulations,
10 Carlos. We, \$12.3 million to create the number of
11 parks maintenance works extending the open period for
12 city pools and beaches and financing tree stump
13 removal. I want to thank Chair Grodenchik and former
14 chair of the Parks Committee, Mark Levine for their
15 leadership on this. Jimmy Van Bramer, \$60 million in
16 new library capital funds and \$16.7 million in
17 additional new funding for city libraries, all three
18 systems, more than what the library systems actually
19 ask for. We got them more than that and so I'm
20 really glad for that. We got an additional \$3.5
21 million for extra sanitation services across the city
22 where there is a high need and we strengthened the
23 social safety net. Besides the money that the city
24 is going to have to put forward for significant NYCHA
25 repairs in the future, we got \$40 million in

2 increased infrastructure funding for NYCHA. We
3 increased the number of supportive housing and I want
4 to thank Chair Ampry-Samuel for her amazing work

5 [applause]

6 SPEAKER JOHNSON: On public housing
7 throughout this entire, entire process. On
8 supportive housing we got an increase of permanent
9 supportive housing units. Previously the commitment
10 was 500 units a year. We moved that up to 700 units
11 a year and we're gonna get it done more quickly and
12 we are getting a very big building in Steve Levin's
13 district that is gonna provide a significant number
14 of new supportive housing units for the homeless
15 individuals across New York City who've had such a
16 hard time. I want to thank Steve for his leadership
17 on this. Runaway Homeless Youth, \$3 million to
18 create 60 new shelter beds for young LGBT folks from
19 the ages of 21 to 24 years old, Ritchie Torres,
20 Vanessa Gibson, Rafael Salamanca, Steve Levin, Danny
21 Dromm and the LGBT Caucus deserve credit on that.

22 [applause]

23 SPEAKER JOHNSON: The emergency food
24 assistance program, the highest number ever for EFAB,
25 feeding hungry New Yorkers in food pantries that are

2 not in the network, for the food bank of New York
3 City, for city harvest, we know that in the
4 wealthiest city in the United States of America, too
5 many people are still going hungry in our city and
6 this money is gonna help feed so many New Yorkers. I
7 am so proud of this funding getting at base line,
8 getting an increase, the Council investing on our own
9 side and this has been a labor of love between Barry
10 Grodenchik and Steve Levin and I am really proud of
11 them for this.

12 [applause]

13 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Senior affordable
14 housing, we got a \$500 million commitment for senior
15 affordable housing target into four HPD development
16 sites and 2 NYCHA sites through the city. This is an
17 issue that East Brooklyn Congregations and Metro IF
18 have been organizing around for years. The entire
19 BLAC deserves a lot of credit on this and I want to
20 thank them for their leadership

21 [applause]

22 SPEAKER JOHNSON: So this is a good
23 budget and it's a budget that everyone should feel
24 proud of and should feel good about. I didn't go
25 through everything. I'm sure many members are gonna

2 talk about things that are important to them but
3 those are some of the things that I am most proud of
4 so that's the good part. Here's the bad part, last
5 but absolutely not least, Ramon Martinez. Where is
6 he? I mean what can I say about him? He is a
7 legend. He is an institution. He has dedicated a
8 significant part of his life to this institution. He
9 is someone who I have relied upon for the last five
10 and a half months, seven days a week, probably more
11 than 50 times a day. He has served every Speaker of
12 this body from Peter Vallone to Gifford Miller to
13 Christine Quinn to Melissa Mark-Viverito to now me
14 and his departure is a huge, serious loss for this
15 institution. We love him, most of the time. We will
16 miss him. I am very happy for him and his family. I
17 wish him well on his next act. He can tell you
18 privately how I almost passed out when he told me
19 that he was leaving. I looked like I had seen a
20 ghost but even with his impending departure, he has
21 worked day in and day out here throughout this entire
22 budget process, here most nights until 10, 11 o'clock
23 at night, midnight. Back here at 6 o'clock in the
24 morning being responsive to every member of this body
25 on everything that matters to them and their

2 districts. He has the respect, I believe of every
3 member of this body, of all of the former Speakers
4 that he's served under, and of all the former Council
5 Members that he helped throughout the years and
6 because he has the respect and gratitude of all of
7 us, he should have the respect and gratitude of all
8 8.6 million New Yorkers because he has delivered on
9 behalf of every neighborhood of this city, on every
10 Council district of his city, on every borough in
11 this city. He has been someone who has told me
12 things I haven't wanted to hear, but he's done it in
13 a completely professional way. I am still in a total
14 state of denial. Literally, it's hard to even talk
15 about this and so I am very grateful. Before we give
16 him a round of applause

17 [Laughter]

18 UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN: You know he hates
19 this stuff.

20 SPEAKER JOHNSON: For the invisible Chief
21 of Staff, we are presenting him with an invisible
22 proclamation today. We love you Ramon Martinez.

23 [applause and cheers]

24 RAMON MARTINEZ: Whatever.

2 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Okay, he's gonna get
3 upset. If folks don't quiet down, Ramon's gonna
4 amend Schedule C and Reso A. Madam Majority Leader,
5 I believe that concludes my time and my Speaker's
6 remarks today. Thank you very much.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Speaker
8 Johnson and Ramon, if I would have known it was your
9 last day, I would have gotten you flowers.

10 [Laughter]

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Supplemental
12 Discussion of General Orders?

13 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I'm still in shock.
14 Could you repeat that Madam Majority Leader?

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Supplemental
16 Discussion of General Orders?

17 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
18 orders, oh no, keep going.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Supplemental
20 Report on Special Committees?

21 CLERK: None.

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Supplement Report
23 of Standing Committees?

24 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
25 Finance, preconsidered M60 and Reso 400 through M62

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2 and Reso 402, Budget Modifications and the
3 Chancellor's Capital Plan.

4 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
5 orders.

6 CLERK: Preconsidered Reso 397, 398, and
7 399 Base Percentage, Base Proportion and Organization
8 Funding.

9 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
10 orders.

11 CLERK: M42 and Reso 403 and 404, Expense
12 Revenue Contract Budget.

13 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
14 orders.

15 CLERK: M43 and Resolutions 405 and 406,
16 Executive Capital Budget.

17 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
18 orders.

19 CLERK: M44 and Reso 407, Community
20 Development Program.

21 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
22 orders.

23 CLERK: Preconsidered M64 and Reso 408,
24 Fixing the Tax Rate.

25

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2 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
3 orders.

4 CLERK: Preconsidered LU 122 and Reso 409
5 through preconsidered LU 125 and Reso 412, Tax
6 Exemptions.

7 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
8 orders.

9 CLERK: M45 through M48, Various Budget
10 Documents.

11 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled to be filed and
12 at this time I would like to ask for a roll call vote
13 on all of the items on today's Supplemental General
14 Order Calendar voting on this year's fiscal budget.

15 CLERK: Adams

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Permission to
17 explain my vote? As a member, one of the newest
18 members of this New York City Council, this great New
19 York Council Member, a member of the budget
20 negotiation team and the Finance Committee, I must
21 say this is one of my proudest hours in life. Mega
22 congratulations to our Speaker Corey Johnson for
23 groundbreaking, groundbreaking legislation that will
24 take place here today, to our Finance division lead
25 by our Olivia Pope, Latonia McKinney, all of our

2 committees, all of our constituents, our grass roots
3 organization, we do this work because of you and we
4 proudly, proudly stand here because of you. You
5 strengthen us. We do this for you. I proudly,
6 without hesitation, vote aye on all.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Congratulations
8 on your first budget.

9 CLERK: Ampry-Samuel

10 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Permission
11 to explain my vote?

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
13 granted.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: I just want
15 to say, just echo what Council Member Adams said and
16 just give a special shout out to Latonia for her
17 amazing work and she know exactly what I mean by
18 saying you go, my sister. She know exactly what I'm
19 talking about and just a special shout out to her
20 team but I also want to recognize my own Budget
21 Director, Everton Smith for his amazing strength and
22 his personality and character. I love you Everton
23 and we were able to get through this together and I
24 look forward to next years and so with that I vote
25 aye.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Oh, wait,
4 wait, wait. Sorry, I got to go back. I am
5 disclosing on the record of the Council proceedings
6 that Mahouka [phonetic] Bridges Academy is funded in
7 the budget we are adopting and my brother is
8 associated with this entity and that Central Brooklyn
9 Economic Development Corporation is funded in this
10 budget we are adopting, and my brother is associated
11 with this entity and with that I vote aye.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

13 CLERK: Ayala

14 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: I vote aye and I
15 am also disclosing on the record of the City Council
16 proceedings that Park East High School is funded in
17 this budget that we are adopting and my child is a
18 student at Park East High School and that AHRC is
19 funded in this budget that we are adopting and my
20 partner is associated with this entity.

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

22 CLERK: Barron

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Permission to
24 explain my vote?

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
3 granted.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you, first
5 I want to, I'm disclosing on the record of the
6 Council proceedings that Man-up [phonetic] is funded
7 in the budget we are adopting and I am associated
8 with this entity and secondly in regards to the
9 budget, I am so pleased with what we have done here
10 as a body. I don't know, as I've looked at what we
11 have done if there's anything that I have hesitation
12 or reservations about and you know, I have a very
13 critical posture that I generally take.

14 [Laughter]

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: No.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: So I'm really
17 very pleased with all of the work that my colleagues
18 have put in under the leadership of our Speaker Corey
19 Johnson, the great documents that we have produced,
20 because it tells us a budget is a reflection of what
21 you really think is important for the people and this
22 is a document of which we can be extremely proud so I
23 vote aye on all. I'm especially pleased, I want to
24 also thank Ramon. Ramon, where are you, for the
25 assistance that you gave. I wish you nothing but the

2 best as you move on and do whatever it is that you
3 want to do and people think that, you know, you've
4 got this hard exterior and that may be but we know
5 that inside you really work very hard for the people
6 and we do appreciate that, all the work that you do
7 on behalf, and I don't know how you recall all the
8 things that 50 people and the Speaker bring to you to
9 do but you always respond and we thank you for that
10 and I'm especially pleased that we were able to raise
11 the money that's going to Community Child Care
12 Centers to \$600,000. It's very important. We've
13 maintained the Vallone scholarship funds and I just
14 have great expectations for this City moving forward
15 that we'll be able to implement all the things that
16 we want to do and make great improvements so that the
17 social justice issues will be resolved as well and
18 that we can move forward on that. Thank you very
19 much.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, a
21 stamp of approval from Council Member Barron is
22 perhaps the highest order you can receive, Speaker
23 Corey Johnson.

24 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Did someone record what
25 Inez just said? Thank you Inez.

2 CLERK: Borelli

3 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Permission to
4 explain my vote?

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
6 granted.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: This is like the
8 confessional in Catholic School, I'm disclosing on
9 the record of the Council proceedings that the
10 College of Staten Island is funded in the budget we
11 are adopting and I am associated with this entity and
12 PS1 is funded in the budget we are adopting and my
13 wife is an employee of this entity. With that said,
14 I just want to congratulate Ramon on his new job and
15 congratulate the Speaker on his first budget but
16 Ramon, I just want to say, politicians get, you know,
17 grief for being yes men sometimes and that the true
18 geniuses in this businesses are the ones who could
19 say no just the right way and do it correctly and
20 thank you very much for being a friend. I vote aye
21 on all except preconsidered 397, 388, 408 and M64.

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

23 CLERK: Brannon

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNON: Permission to
25 explain my vote?

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
3 granted.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNON: I'm very, very
5 excited to be voting on my first budget as an elected
6 official, one that strengthens our City's social
7 safety net for the poorest New Yorkers, also looks
8 out for seniors, homeowners, young people. It's
9 really got something for everybody and it's fiscally
10 prudent which is great. Congratulations to the
11 entire Finance Team that works hard behind the
12 scenes, obviously to Speaker Corey Johnson for
13 including all of us in this budget in a real
14 transparent and fair way and to Ramon Martinez who is
15 my constituent and I'm proud to say that he is.
16 Thank you.

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you and how
18 do you vote?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNON: Oh, aye on all.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

21 CLERK: Cabrera

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Permission to
23 explain my vote?

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
25 granted.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: I am disclosing
3 on the record of the Council proceeding that Kips Bay
4 Boys and Girls Club is funded in the budget we are
5 adopting and I am associated with this entity. Also,
6 I would like to give a special thanks to our speaker.
7 Let me just say, I been here, this is my 9th magic.
8 I'm still trying to catch up to Karen Koslowitz. I
9 think this is here 15th, right?

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: 20th

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: 20th, 20, I'm
12 cutting it short, two decades. I have never spoken
13 at this moment when we get to speak during the budget
14 because I was never really fully content with the
15 budget but this budget has been nothing but amazing.
16 To see also the way you gather us together, the
17 delegation, so proud of all the delegations working
18 together that BNT, you guys were simply amazing. To
19 see all the Finance staff, Ramon, thank you for
20 bearing with all my screaming and howling about
21 certain things but in particular, I want to thank you
22 for the community boards. What the Mayor was not
23 willing to do, you did. I just got off talking to 50
24 chairs of community boards and they wanted to express
25 to you and to my colleagues, thank you for supporting

2 them. They feel affirmed, they feel supported, they
3 feel like the work that they are doing, it matters.
4 I salute you, I thank you. This is the best budget I
5 have ever seen in the Council. Thank you so much and
6 with that I vote aye on all.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: And thank you for
8 your work on community boards.

9 CLERK: Chin

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Permission to
11 explain my vote?

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
13 granted.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: First of all, I
15 also wanted to add my voice to congratulate our
16 Speaker and Chair Dromm on your leadership and
17 determination on this great fair responsible budget
18 and personally I think that Corey, you made us proud
19 because you fought for us like with the
20 administration and as the Chair of the Aging
21 Committee, when the administration failed to
22 recognize that a thousand seniors are still on
23 waiting lists for case management, guess what? City
24 Council and you stepped up. The City Council this
25 year stepped up for our seniors because senior

2 centers were telling us that yes, last year, we did
3 fantastic with the Year of the Senior and we got the
4 model budget baseline money but the model budget did
5 not include some meal reimbursement or raises for the
6 kitchen staff and all along we've been telling the
7 administration, you need to take care of that. They
8 didn't but the Council with our Speaker stepped up
9 and we gonna take care of some of it but I hope that
10 the administration will continue to work with us and
11 listen to us and make sure that our seniors are taken
12 care of and so I thank you Speaker for supporting all
13 the capital project in my district, especially the
14 Seaport Museum and the Museum of Chinese in America.
15 Also, I wanted to thank all the Finance staff,
16 especially Latonia, Regina, Doheeny [phonetic],
17 Daniel for always watching out for our seniors and
18 making sure that I'm happy [laughter] and of course,
19 Ramon. Ramon, I've known you for nine years and
20 Ramon thank you for not cursing in front of me

21 [Laughter]

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: And I wish you the
23 best, I truly do and I am gonna miss you and thank
24 you so much for all your help and finally, I just
25 wanted to thank my Deputy Chief of Staff Vincent

2 Thang [phonetic]. This is his third budget and he's
3 leaving me to go to law school but he worked so hard
4 for our district and I wanted to thank him. Vincent.

5 [applause]

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Oh, I vote, I have
7 to disclose on the record that PS-3 is funded in this
8 budget because it's in the Speaker's district, funded
9 in the budget that we are adopting and my husband
10 Alan Tung is a teacher, a proud teacher in that
11 school and I vote aye on all. Thank you.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.
13 Important to make Margaret happy.

14 CLERK: Cohen

15 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Permission to
16 explain my vote?

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
18 granted.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Thank you, I just
20 really want to say that it is a privilege to work
21 with the Council's Finance staff. I want to say
22 congrats to our Speaker and to our Finance Chair,
23 Danny Dromm and I want to say thank you to Ramon for
24 his service and with that I vote aye.

25 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

2 CLERK: Constantinides

3 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: May I be
4 excused to explain my vote?

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
6 granted.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: All
8 right, I am disclosing on the record of the Council
9 proceedings that P.S. 85Q is funded in the budget we
10 are adopting and my child is a student at P.S. 85. I
11 also am disclosing that P.S. 151Q is funded in the
12 budget we are adopting and my wife is associated with
13 this entity. I really want to congratulate our
14 Speaker, Corey Johnson, for really, not only what we
15 were able to accomplish with this budget but the way
16 you went about this budget, the way you made sure
17 that every member felt part of it, the way you fought
18 as hard as you possibly could for the things that
19 mattered for all New Yorkers and took the big picture
20 view from day 1 that set the tone so congratulations
21 Speaker, congratulations Finance Chair, Danny Dromm,
22 Latonia McKinney, to all my colleagues, and to Ramon
23 Martinez who I've known 13 years. I met him on
24 Christmas Eve of 2006 when I was a staffer. I
25 appreciate the fact that, [Inaudible in

2 background][laughter] that said it all, I appreciate
3 that you always said you told us the truth whether we
4 wanted to hear it or not, never B.S.'d me. I'm
5 grateful for that. Thank you for your service to the
6 people of the City of New York, Ramon. You'll be
7 sorely missed.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: And how do you
9 vote?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Oh, I
11 vote aye on all.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

13 CLERK: Deutsch

14 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Thank you very
15 much. Before I ask you for permission to explain my
16 vote, I just want to, I'm disclosing for the record
17 of the Council proceedings that I am a close friend
18 with the Majority Leader that's presiding over
19 today's meetings so I just want to ask you now if I
20 can explain my vote?

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: [Laughter]
22 Permission to explain your vote.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Thank you so I'm
24 disclosing to the record of the Council proceedings
25 that Brooklyn College is funded in the budget we are

2 adopting and my children are students at the school
3 and I just want to thank our great Speaker, Corey
4 Johnson, for listening to our concerns, the concerns
5 in our districts and responding and as a orthodox Jew
6 and as a person who observes the dietary laws and
7 only eats kosher, I'm proud to say that we have
8 brought back the pork into our district so thank you
9 much.

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: And how do you
11 vote?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Aye on all.

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

14 CLERK: Diaz

15 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Permission to
16 explain my vote?

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
18 granted.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Thank you, Madam
20 Chair, ladies and gentlemen, I would like to disclose
21 on the record of the Council that my son, Ruben Diaz,
22 Jr. is currently serving as the Bronx borough
23 president and the budget that we are about to conform
24 to the Bronx for many of its programs and that my
25 other son, Samuel work for NYCHA is funded on the

2 budget that we are adopting and my other son,
3 Zamwotis [phonetic], is associated with the entity
4 too.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Saying that, Madam
7 Chair, I came here six months ago and I was expecting
8 different things. I'm proud and proud of the family
9 that I have met. I'm proud that when I came as a
10 Black Puerto Rican with kinky hair and broken
11 English, I met Ramon, one of my race. Not only a
12 well prepared person but also acknowledgeable of what
13 he was doing and I am proud, I was proud. A Hispanic
14 was the second of one of the highest is Ramon's
15 highest person, Hispanic in the administration. Now,
16 Ramon is leaving, Hispanic will be left with nobody.
17 I hope that the Speaker notice this. We all think
18 probably one of our own get to places. I'm Puerto
19 Rican, Ramon's no Puerto Rican but I'm Hispanic and
20 Ramon is Hispanic and I'm so proud that to have met
21 Ramon. He's opened policy door, respectful to
22 everyone and to me and to the Hispanic community,
23 losing Ramon in this Chamber, in this body is a
24 great, great, great loss so I want to leave that
25 clear with them. I would like to vote yes in all

2 except Resolution 397, 398 and Resolution 408 and 64.

3 Mr. Speaker, thank you for all the respect and love

4 that you have shown to me. Mr., the Chairman of the

5 Finance Committee, thank you for also for the respect

6 you are showing and the treatment that you offered to

7 me and to all of you. Thank you very much.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

9 CLERK: Dromm

10 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Permission to

11 explain my vote?

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission

13 granted.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you very

15 much and I would like to start off by also thanking

16 our Speaker. He has done a fantastic job of bringing

17 this body together and really producing a budget

18 which all New Yorkers can be proud of. He has been

19 so wonderful to me personally and I love him an awful

20 lot and I think that all New York will benefit from

21 the work that he has done here in the Council. His

22 strategy of, you know, aiming for several large scale

23 programs for fair fares, for \$225 million in reserves

24 has been a very smart move for this Council. You

25 know, \$125 million in funding that will go into

2 school budgets, \$150 million in capital funding for
3 disabled students, \$2 million to make sure that our
4 neediest schools have at least one guidance
5 counselor, so important to get students into college
6 and to deal with the issues that they bring with them
7 on a daily basis into our schools, \$15 million to
8 restore summer SONYC, \$2 million for LGBT community
9 services, \$16 million for district attorney's office,
10 \$1.8 million for trans equity programs and the list
11 goes on and on. This is a truly progressive budget,
12 one that really protects the social safety net as was
13 promised by the Speaker. He's a man of his word and
14 I want to thank him. I, of course, want to thank all
15 of the members of the Finance Committee, Latonia
16 McKinney. I also want to thank Rebecca Chasen,
17 everybody else I don't have enough time to thank all
18 the names. I want to thank Ramon Martinez as well
19 for his guidance for the nine years that I've been
20 here in the Council. He's a friend and I love him
21 very much as well. I just want to say for me this
22 has been a real journey of personal growth and I'm
23 just so proud to be a part of this Council and
24 finally let me also thank my staff back in the
25 district office, Carolyn Tren [phonetic], Eether

2 [phonetic] Cardoso, Sebastian McGuire, Michael
3 Madelyn, Kee Vinyee [phonetic] and Jacqueline Cosme
4 [phonetic] for keeping the ship afloat while I was
5 here in the Council and finally to Melanie Hertzog,
6 the budget director, the OMB budget director on her
7 first budget as well. Thank you very much, Madam
8 Majority Leader.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you and we
10 thank you for your leadership.

11 CLERK: Rodriquez

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIQUEZ: Permission to
13 explain my vote?

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
15 granted.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIQUEZ: First of all,
17 I need to disclose in full disclosure to say that my
18 daughter is a member of the Association of Dominican
19 Classical Art and also the Swimming Team [Inaudible],
20 a institution that are funded with the budget and
21 that we are adopting today. Second I would like to
22 thank Latonia, members of Finance, the Finance Chair,
23 Danny Dromm. Ramon, thank you for your years serving
24 our body and also the City and Speaker Johnson, you
25 know the good things about this budget is that we

2 didn't lose anything. We as [Inaudible] and your
3 leadership of being sure that we and staff were able
4 to establish fair fare. I know that only is defining
5 your leadership in this body for the next four years
6 and for more years to come so with that. Thank you
7 and I vote aye.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

9 CLERK: Espinal

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Permission to
11 explain my vote?

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
13 granted.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: I am disclosing
15 on the record of the Council proceedings that CUNY is
16 funded in the budget we are adopting and my brother
17 along with 200 other thousand students, is a student
18 at CUNY and I also just want to congratulate the
19 Speaker on the phenomenal job he's done in getting
20 his budget passed. As everyone said and stated all
21 the reasons on why this was a great budget, I have to
22 say I'm not surprised. I didn't expect any less so
23 I'm just feeling good about what he was able to
24 accomplish and congratulations on all your success
25 and all of us here in the body as well and also I

2 just want to tell Ramon he'll be missed greatly from
3 helping me navigate the East New York rezoning to
4 helping me making sure that New York is able to dance
5 again. He's always been by my side so thank you
6 Ramon for all of that and whatever.

7 [Laughter]

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: And how do you
9 vote, Council Member?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: I vote aye.

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

12 CLERK: Eugene

13 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: May I have the
14 permission to explain my vote?

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
16 granted.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you very
18 much. First and foremost we all know that the budget
19 is a great budget but it is a wonderful budget
20 because of the leadership of Speaker Johnson who is a
21 shining star. Thank you very much and
22 congratulations Speaker Johnson and congratulations
23 also to the team and all the Finance Team, especially
24 Latonia and all of you, my colleagues from BNT, thank
25 you very much. This is wonderful budget that

2 addresses the core issues of all New Yorkers and also
3 that we'll fulfill the need of all of our
4 constituents living in New York City and will
5 increase the quality of life and to Ramon [Inaudible]
6 Spanish?], Ramon thank you so very much. I cannot
7 count how many times that I come to you for advice
8 when I'm dealing with some issue that I don't know
9 what to do. You have been always there for me and I
10 know for many other members also and giving me the
11 right information, the right advice that always
12 helped me move on in everything that I've been doing.
13 Thank you very much. Good luck and God bless you and
14 God bless your family. Thank you, with that I vote
15 aye on all.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

17 CLERK: Gibson

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Permission to
19 explain my vote?

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
21 granted.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you Madam
23 Majority Leader. Good afternoon to all of my
24 colleagues and I to want to join the chorus in just
25 expressing my sincere appreciation to our phenomenal

2 Speaker, a job well done. I want to thank our
3 Speaker for his commitment, his compassion and his
4 consistency. I want to thank him for his passion for
5 recognizing his purpose and executing a plan for all
6 New Yorkers. This is truly a budget that we can all
7 be so proud of and I'm so honored and privileged to
8 serve in this body. I'm honored to serve as the
9 Chair of the new Subcommittee on Capital. We've done
10 phenomenal work in the area of capital as the Speaker
11 has alluded to on rescindments of excess
12 appropriations and stopping the front loading and we
13 have much more to come with this Subcommittee. Most
14 of this work could not have been done without a
15 collective village and I want to thank the village of
16 the Finance Unit lead by Latonia McKinney and I want
17 to recognize the Deputy Directors, Regina Parada-Ryan
18 [phonetic] and Nathan Toll. Thank you for helping me
19 as a new chair to navigate the system. I appreciate
20 you walking with me and working with me and I want to
21 thank our counsel, Rebecca Chasen and all of the
22 finance staff. Thank you, thank you, thank you. I
23 want to recognize our amazing Finance Chair, Danny
24 Dromm. Congratulations on your first budget. You
25 did well. Thank you so much. We have done amazing

2 work colleagues and we should be proud. We stood
3 firm. We never sought sight of what was important.
4 We never, never lost focus. We stood tall among many
5 and we listened to New Yorkers and everything that
6 we've talked about from fair fares to fair student
7 funding to school accessibility, summer youth which
8 was a personal priority of mine, (shout out to
9 Council Member Rose), the summer SONYC and COMPASS,
10 adult literacy, guidance counselors in our schools,
11 capital money for libraries and expense. The Speaker
12 kept his promise and showed love to the Bronx by
13 giving money for Orchard Beach so I want to thank you
14 for that. I want to thank you for the Bronx Museum
15 and the Bronx Museum of the Arts and the Bronx
16 Children's Museum. I'm looking forward to much work
17 ahead and this is really a testament in your first
18 year, Corey, of your leadership and it has been an
19 honor working with you. You are my friend and I
20 thank you so much from the bottom of my heart. I
21 proudly vote aye on all. Thank you.

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council
23 Member Gibson.

24 CLERK: Gjonaj

2 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Permission to
3 explain my vote?

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
5 granted.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: First of all, let
7 me just continue with the accolades for our Speaker
8 at the helm. Thank you for you for mastering the art
9 of negotiations and keeping true to your promise and
10 commitment. This was an incredible process and I'm
11 just so grateful to have been able to be a part of it
12 alongside of the many colleagues here. To Councilman
13 Dromm and the staff and Council leadership,
14 congratulations, I'm sure you're all due for a long
15 summer vacation and the Speaker's gonna make that
16 possible. To Ramon Martinez, your loss is a loss
17 that this institution is gonna feel your loss.
18 Wherever you go, it will certainly be their gain and
19 I am a man of God and I believe there is one. I hope
20 wherever that is that they require you to wear a suit
21 and tie

22 [Laughter]

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: And in the words
24 that I can repeat of the famous or infamous or the
25 myth or the legend himself, whatever and boom. I

2 vote aye on all with the exception of Resolution 397,
3 398, 408 and M64. Oh, and also if I can disclose,
4 I'm disclosing on record on the Council proceeding
5 that P.S. 175 funded in the budget we are adopting,
6 my wife is associated with the entity and the
7 Department of Education that is being funded in the
8 budget and we are adopting, my sister is associated
9 with the entity. CUNY is funded in the budget we are
10 adopting and my son attends CUNY and Bronx Parent
11 Housing network is funded in the budget we are
12 adopting and my brother is associated with this not-
13 for-profit. Thank you.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

15 CLERK: Holden

16 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Permission to
17 explain my vote?

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
19 granted.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: I am disclosing
21 on the record of the Council proceedings that CUNY is
22 funded in this budget that we are adopting and my son
23 is an employee of this entity. Also, New York
24 Presbyterian Hospital is funded in the budget that we
25 are adopting and my son is associated with this

2 entity and finally Sunnyside Community Services is
3 funded in the budget and we are adopting this and my
4 mother is associated with this entity. I've been on
5 the City Council for six months and I met an amazing
6 man, Danny Dromm, who has been here constantly during
7 these hearings, amazing guy. He probably slept here
8 in the 250

9 [Laughter]

10 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Because every
11 meeting that I attended, he was there and he's been
12 there the whole day and to Corey, thanks for
13 answering my late night texts. Even though they some
14 were ridiculous, you still answered them and you're
15 an amazing Speaker, an amazing politician, an amazing
16 leader. I thank you for your service and hopefully
17 you'll be mayor one day.

18 [crosstalk]

19 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: I know that,
20 hopefully. Think about it. Also, I want to thank
21 Karen Koslowitz, a breakout right there. All right,
22 go on. Karen Koslowitz, who I've known since the
23 50's, right, Karen? All right, 80's.

24 [Laughter]

2 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Karen's been a
3 friend going back, way back to the Andy Stein days
4 and I want to thank Karen for her leadership on the
5 Queens delegation and Ramon, thank you so much for
6 your leadership, for guidance and thanks for only
7 yelling at me once in six months. Thanks so much and
8 I want to vote aye on all except 397, 398, M64
9 accompanied by Resolution 408. Thank you.

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

11 CLERK: Brannan

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: I wanted to
13 change my vote. I'm voting aye on all except for
14 preconsidered Reso 397, 398, M64 and 408.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

16 CLERK: Grodenchik

17 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: I was getting
18 worried there. Madam Majority Leader, may I explain
19 my vote?

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
21 granted.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Thank you,
23 first I know as the Speaker has noted on occasion
24 that I am a man of few words

25 [Laughter]

2 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Some of my
3 colleagues may disagree on that. I am disclosing on
4 the record of the Council proceedings that Queens
5 College is funded in this budget we are adopting and
6 my son is newly enrolled at Queens College. I've
7 also recently driven on newly repaved streets in my
8 district.

9 [Laughter]

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: I'm a card
11 carrying member of the Queensboro Public Library and
12 I used the men's room this week at P.S. 18Q all of
13 which are funded in this budget.

14 [Laughter]

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Too much
16 information, you're right. I want to start off by
17 saying that, I want to thank the Speaker and I really
18 want to thank him and I want to thank Danny and I
19 want to thank Vanessa as well. The second, first
20 press conference the Speaker held right after he
21 became Speaker, the second thing that he mentioned
22 was emergency food and before people get on the
23 subway, before they get to school, before they go to
24 their summer job, before they do all those things
25 that we as New Yorkers love, before they love those

2 parks and use those parks which we added almost \$17
3 million dollars in funding to, they have to be well
4 fed and Mr. Speaker on behalf of myself and the
5 hundreds of thousands if not a million persons who
6 are going to benefit because the funding was doubled,
7 was baseline funding was more than doubled and we're
8 spending almost \$25 million on emergency food in this
9 budget, I want to thank you from the bottom of my
10 heart and you have my undying gratitude on that among
11 many, many other things. I would be remiss if I did
12 not mention my partner in good deeds, Mr. Steve
13 Levin, who sits behind me and he has been absolutely
14 wonderful. I also want to thank the Food Bank for
15 New York City for their partnership and Rachel
16 Sabella [phonetic] but she's been a hero of mine. I
17 have to say thank you to Latonia and the entire
18 Finance staff for answering all my questions even
19 though some of them were quite, just didn't
20 understand a few things here and there so thank you.
21 Ramon, I would tell a story or two but this is a G-
22 rated channel so

23 [Laughter]

24 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: I just want
25 to say thank you. We're both kids from Queens and

2 we've grown up a little in the intervening years but
3 my undying thanks to you and Godspeed wherever you
4 may be going although I think that's somewhere on the
5 internet by now as well.

6 [Laughter]

7 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Lastly, I'm
8 going into overtime, Majority Leader.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Expected.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: This is the
11 last meeting that my Deputy Chief of Staff and Budget
12 Director, Dev Awasthi, will be with us. He will be
13 entering the University of Connecticut's law school
14 this coming, on August 20. He's leaving me flat,
15 just like Margaret Chin's Deputy Chief of Staff but I
16 did want to acknowledge him. He's done a great job
17 for the people of the 23rd District and I will miss
18 him very, very much. With that, I thank he deserves
19 a round of applause.

20 [applause]

21 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: With that, I
22 vote aye on all and I thank you for your indulgence.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

24 CLERK: Barron

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you, I'm
3 disclosing on the record of the Council proceedings
4 that Medgar Evers College is funded in the budget we
5 are adopting and my son is associated with that
6 entity. Thank you.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

8 CLERK: King

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: May I have
10 permission to explain my vote?

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
12 granted.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: I rise today in the
14 last time to honor Ramon Martinez who is the fixer of
15 the New York City Council but also the librarian of
16 the New York City Council. For those of us who have
17 been here under his tutelage, we've learned, we've
18 grown, we found out where the bathroom was on day 1,
19 not day 2 and he's been very instrumental in guiding
20 all of us and forgot how to get things done as a City
21 Council Member and so to Ramon I say thank you

22 [Laughter]

23 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: To the Finance
24 Committee, it doesn't get done if ya'll don't crunch
25 the numbers and help us get these things on these

2 spreadsheet so thank you to all, each and every one
3 of you for late nights but more importantly for the
4 guidance of everyone in the Council spending
5 countless hours trying to figure out what was best
6 for the City of New York, to transform all our
7 residents and our constituents, to the Speaker who
8 came in and set a new and great tone to help us get
9 things done without going into the late night hours
10 of June, I want to say thank you. On behalf of me,
11 Borelli and a few others in here, someone said, we
12 want to congratulate you [Mr. King turned away from
13 mike [Inaudible]]. With that, I vote aye.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
15 Council Member King.

16 CLERK: Koo

17 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: May I explain my
18 vote?

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
20 granted.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: So I want to
22 congratulate all my colleagues on another successful
23 budget season. We have many great things in this
24 budget for New Yorkers. We succeeded in creating
25 fair fares which is an important benefit for low

2 income New Yorkers. As Technology Committee Chair, I
3 especially want to thank

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Quiet in the
5 Chambers.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Our Speaker, Corey
7 Johnson, for commitment to technology through digital
8 inclusion and digital equity initiatives. These two
9 initiatives will go a long way in ensuring that New
10 Yorkers are ready for the 21st Century. I'm
11 especially happy to see the creation of the Property
12 Tax Reform Commission so that we can finally start a
13 dialogue about how homeowners can continue to enjoy
14 life in the Big Apple without having to fear whether
15 or not their next hike will push them over the edge
16 of affordability. Now it's time for fair property
17 tax reform. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, thank you
18 Finance Chair, Danny Dromm, and the delegation chair,
19 Karen Koslowitz, and Latonia McKinney, [Inaudible]
20 and the entire finance division and the Council will
21 be especially sad that Ramon Martinez is leaving us
22 so I hope he will enjoy his new endeavor. I think
23 but he will miss us.

24 [Laughter and crosstalk]

2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I'm sure you will
3 miss us so whatever you do, we wish you the best and
4 thank you everyone. Thank you.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I think you are
6 correct, Council Member Koo.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Yeah, I vote aye on
8 all.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

10 CLERK: Koslowitz

11 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: May I be
12 excused to explain my vote?

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
14 granted.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I have said
16 this many times, this is my 20th budget and let me
17 tell you something. It is my best budget. It was
18 done in such a professional way. I want to thank the
19 Speaker for giving us back our institution. This
20 budget went fast, faster than before. The only
21 budget dance we had this time was Debbie Rose who
22 danced in her chair whenever she got something for
23 our children.

24 [Laughter]

2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: That is the
3 only budget dance we had. Corey, thank you for
4 everything. I think you made every New Yorker happy.
5 I know I have been getting calls and texts from
6 people thanking me for everything. We love you, love
7 you and to Ramon, I know Ramon probably close to 30
8 years, when he had hair.

9 [Laughter]

10 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: And I loved
11 him then and I love him now. I know this isn't
12 goodbye but I wish you the best of luck. I know I
13 will see you again and to Latonia and the Finance
14 Center, you are terrific, really terrific. You
15 really came through. You were there for us,
16 answering all our questions when we had them and to
17 Danny Dromm, my good friend for many years. Danny,
18 you were wonderful. Thank you so very much and to my
19 Budget Director, Amanda Menichin,

20 [applause]

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Thank you for
22 being there for me. Sometimes I drove her crazy but
23 she went through it and thank you for everything you
24 do. Thank you. I vote aye.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council
3 Member.

4 CLERK: Lander

5 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Request
6 permission to explain?

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
8 granted.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you very
10 much. I also proudly vote aye on all on this budget.
11 Corey, Rebecca Coschenko, from P.S. 321 who you've
12 spoken about is a resident of my district and that
13 school and what it means that a person can come here
14 and wait their turn to testify and be last and still
15 get heard in a way that changes the budget in a
16 profound and meaningful way is really something so
17 thank you. It's also not lost on me that Johnny
18 Rockmond is a member of Fast Food Justice which we
19 helped to create by making it possible for fast food
20 workers to work together and when people organize,
21 good things happen. That is really encouraging. I'm
22 also pleased this budget is supporting the young
23 people of Integrate NYC who do so much amazing work
24 and I'm especially excited about the Wild Turkey
25 Relocation program.

2 [Laughter]

3 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: You know, I think
4 the fact that in this Chamber the Republicans work
5 hard at humane solutions to problems, then we vote on
6 and support them together is pretty special so I want
7 to say thank you and congrats to the Minority Leader.
8 A big thank you to the Finance staff, of course.
9 Ramon, I feel like Stockholm syndrome or something,
10 you know, where the captives come to love the captor.

11 [Laughter]

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: I'm thinking
13 about the, I'm thinking about those times when Chris
14 like ripped me a new one and you were there to like
15 scrape me off the floor and like get me out of the
16 room with my dignity not quite intact. There is no
17 one who has done more to steward this institution and
18 it's roll under the Charter in our city than you and
19 as a member of it, I am deeply grateful so thank you
20 so much for all that work. I'm disclosing on the
21 record of the Council proceedings that Barrett High
22 School Early College is funded in the budget that
23 we're adopting and my Rosa is a student there, that
24 Planned Parenthood of New York City is funded in this
25 budget and that my wife works there and that Women

2 for Afghan Women which is really an extraordinary
3 organization helping Afghan refugees in New York City
4 and supporting their families back over there is
5 funded in the budget and my wife is on the Board of
6 that organization. Thank you so much again and I
7 proudly vote aye on all.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

9 CLERK: Levin

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Permission to
11 explain my vote?

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
13 granted.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you Madam
15 Majority Leader. I am disclosing on the record of
16 the Council proceedings that CUNY is funded in the
17 budget and we are adopting and my wife, Ann Carol, is
18 associated with CUNY. I want to take this
19 opportunity to thank our amazing Finance staff,
20 Latonia McKinney, Regina Parada-Ryan, Doheeney
21 Simpura [phonetic], [Inaudible], Daniel Kroop, Nathan
22 Toth, Kenny Grace, Kaitlyn O'Hagan, James Rheis
23 [phonetic], Paul Simone, Rebecca Chasen, Emory Adou
24 [phonetic], Raymond Jeski [phonetic], Iesha Wright,
25 Ikrelan Prince Goth [phonetic], Elizabeth Hoffman,

2 Chima Obidera [phonetic] and all of the other Finance
3 staff for your amazing hard work in this budget. I
4 want to thank my staff Budget Director Edward
5 Parlino, Jonathan Buchee [phonetic], Elizabeth Adams.
6 Speaker, Chair Dromm and Chair Gibson, this budget
7 has had a real impact on members of the City Council
8 as we've been talking about this over the last week
9 and that's, that's, that's unusual and I've been
10 thinking about why that is. People have had an
11 emotional reaction to this budget and I think it's
12 because well you said Speaker where it's what we got
13 into this in the first place for. Everyone here,
14 every staff member here got into this line of work to
15 help people and this budget helps people. This
16 budget, whether it's fair fares, whether it's EFAP
17 and I want to congratulate Barry Grodenchik.
18 Supportive housing, summer SONYC, Bridging the Gap
19 social workers, all of the senior programs, the youth
20 programs, everything that you have done, Speaker, in
21 this budget has been geared towards helping New
22 Yorkers and as Council Member Barron said, it's a
23 reflection of who we are as a city and we can all be
24 very proud of that and I want to thank you from the
25 bottom of my heart and as representative of the 33rd

2 District for your passion to the things that matter
3 in this city. Thank you, and to Ramon Martinez, you
4 know, in the last eight and a half years and I'll
5 just ask for a couple more seconds, I can't even
6 count the number of times that Ramon has helped me
7 and by extension the residents of the 33rd District.
8 They're really too many times to count and he's been
9 a real bedrock for this Council during good times and
10 bad times and I know that he's done that for
11 enumerable Council Members and he really is, he's
12 always looked out for the integrity of this body and
13 for the institution itself and I think that we have a
14 lot to be grateful for so Ramon thank you for
15 everything on behalf of the residents of the 33rd
16 District. We greatly appreciate it. Thank you, and
17 with that, I vote aye on all. Thank you.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

19 CLERK: Levine

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Thank you.

21 Permission to briefly explain my vote, Madam Majority
22 Leader?

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
24 granted.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Excellent, well I
3 want to start by acknowledging the absolutely
4 relentless leadership of Speak Johnson in negotiating
5 a budget that I am so proud of that we all be so
6 proud of that is a huge win for the city. I'm so
7 grateful for your leadership and I want to
8 acknowledge our phenomenal Finance Chair, Danny
9 Dromm, who really embodies what it means to do budget
10 making driven by values. Thank you for the brand of
11 leadership which you exemplify, Danny, and I am so
12 thrilled about the wins for public health in this
13 budget that are really gonna impact the lives of
14 immigrants who are struggling to navigate the health
15 system and to access health care and New Yorkers
16 living with HIV and low income expectant mothers and
17 many, many others. I'm so proud of that impact for
18 public health in the city and it wouldn't have been
19 possible without the work of our world class Finance
20 Team, the awe inspiring Latonia and Regina and I have
21 to give a shout out to Janet Merrill on the Health
22 Committee's Finance Team who really broke through
23 walls for us to make great things happen for public
24 health in this city and Kenny Grace who's again and
25 again and again and again delivered for my office and

2 my district and we're grateful to him and a shout out
3 to my Chief of Staff, Aya Keefe, and my Budget
4 Director, Amy Slattery, without whom I could do none
5 of the great things that we have achieved together
6 and lastly to the City Council's own Mr. Sunshine.
7 Yes, I'm talking about you, Ramon. Thank you for
8 being an endless source of flattery and warmth and
9 optimism and encouragement.

10 [Laughter]

11 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: I don't know
12 where I'm gonna get my moral support from now that
13 you're gone.

14 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Council Member Levine,
15 we're supposed to tell the truth on the floor of the
16 New York City Council.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: I'm not under
18 oath, but thank you. I will miss you terribly and
19 lastly some formalities I need to disclose on the
20 record of the Council proceedings that Columbia
21 Secondary School is funded in the budget we are
22 adopting and my child is a student at this school and
23 right on the two minute mark I am proud to say, I
24 will be voting aye on all. Thank you.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council
3 Member.

4 CLERK: Maisel

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Permission not to
6 explain my vote? I vote yes.

7 [Laughter]

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you for
9 always keeping it brief.

10 CLERK: Menchaca

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Permission to
12 explain my vote?

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
14 granted.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you, so
16 the Speaker, where is he? To the left, I'll come
17 back to him. There is so much pride for me right now
18 as I look at this budget because this is more and
19 more becoming what it needs to be, a people's budget.
20 This budget has so many fingerprints from our
21 neighborhoods that we represent, from fair fares to
22 the day laborers, the worker cooperatives, the adult
23 literacy movement that grows every single year to
24 prove a point that our communities need education, to
25 our new investment in libraries that are gonna really

2 be felt on the ground and we are gonna be there to
3 shepherd that commitment next year, to our new
4 expansion of the bail fund that we've been working so
5 hard here in the City Council to now include a new
6 pilot for immigrant bail which is gonna be a game
7 changer as we continue to respond to the federal
8 government, Trump's deportation machine, the \$210
9 million of capital budget projects that came from the
10 people of New York that were designed by our
11 neighbors on the ground as young as 6th graders that
12 are now so excited about their role in government and
13 that all the people in our neighborhoods can vote, no
14 matter their immigration status. That doesn't just
15 happen, it happens because of values and leadership
16 and it is this Speaker that has continued to push
17 that and I'm so proud. You texted me earlier and you
18 asked me a question and I'm responding yes, without a
19 doubt and so I want to say that as we think about the
20 future and we thank the Finance Team and we thank
21 Council Member Dromm, our Finance Chair and Vanessa
22 Gibson and all the Council and the BNT that worked so
23 hard and the entire staff, I want to say, let's get
24 ready for the next budget. I think what we need to
25 do is also remember that the kind of response that

2 this budget allows us to do is true in its commitment
3 to our immigrant families and so I want to say thank
4 you for that work and finally I want to say in my
5 disclosure, Falcon Works Artist Group, Inc. and
6 Portside are funded in the budget this year that
7 we're adopting and my domestic partner, Ahmed, is
8 associated with these entities. Thank you all.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

10 CLERK: Miller

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Permission to
12 explain my vote?

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
14 granted.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you so
16 much, Madam Majority Leader.

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: You're welcome.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: I would first
19 like to begin and my best to the Prince. I would
20 first like to begin by disclosing on the record of
21 Council proceedings that Alpha Phi Alpha Seniors
22 Center is funded in this budget and that my mother is
23 a associated with the Alpha Phi Alpha Seniors Center
24 so now on behalf of myself, I will say that these
25 last, this session while being the most productive as

2 a Council for myself, has been very, very difficult
3 physically and emotionally. I'm just returning from
4 medical leave and emotionally knowing that things are
5 going on that impact our communities throughout the
6 city as the Co-Chair of the Black, Latino, and Asian
7 Caucus, knowing that there are a number of issues
8 that, and values that our communities are concerned
9 about and demand, it was just pressing on me but
10 knowing that we had the type of leadership and caucus
11 that we had was able, allowed me to really feel
12 comfortable about moving forward and I will tell you
13 that there were times that I put off the surgery to
14 say that we have to do this, we have to do that and
15 certainly I am not leaving until the budget is done
16 but I just couldn't hold out. Knowing that I had my
17 partners in government, my colleagues such as Council
18 Member Danny Dromm and certainly the leader of our
19 Speaker Corey Johnson, that we were going to put
20 forth a budget that reflected the needs and the
21 values of the entire City of New York and so I think
22 that our values are certainly reflected here and I am
23 really excited by that. Latonia to you and your
24 team, thank you so much for all that you continually
25 do and to Vanessa Gibson, thank you for your

2 leadership as well. Ramon, thank you. Thank you for
3 being everything that others have said but most of
4 all being the gatekeeper of the integrity of this
5 great body here in your own unique way so good luck
6 to you in all your future endeavors and as we say
7 that this budget truly reflects all, on behalf of the
8 Muslim empowerment collective throughout the City of
9 New York, that for the first time is reflected in
10 this budget. I would like to say Eid Mubarak to all.
11 Thank you.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: And how do you
13 vote?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: I vote aye on all
15 except for preconsidered Reso 397 and 398. Thank
16 you.

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

18 CLERK: Moya

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Permission to
20 explain my vote?

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
22 granted.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I want to take this
24 opportunity to really thank the Speaker.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Quiet in the
3 Chambers.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: For being a first
5 time Council Member here to see you work and fight so
6 hard for all of us and the issues that matter most
7 from fair fares to funding our libraries to making
8 sure that we had suitable funding streams for
9 unaccompanied minors, your leadership has lead the
10 way for us to be a very strong body and I'm just
11 proud to be part of this today and thank you for all
12 that you've done. To Chair Dromm, he does yeomen's
13 work. You have stood at every single one of these
14 hearings. You lead the way for this body and we're
15 extremely thankful for all of the great work that you
16 have done and to the Finance Staff who without them,
17 I don't think we get anything done. I'm just proud
18 to be part of this team that we have here and looking
19 forward to a great future because millions of New
20 Yorkers are gonna benefit from the budget that we
21 have passed today and to Ramon, you're the backbone
22 of this institution, bla, bla, bla. Good luck to
23 you, my brother.

24 [Laughter]

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: And how do you
3 vote?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye on all.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

6 CLERK: Perkins

7 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Thank you,
8 congratulations to everyone. I vote aye on all.

9 It's good to be back.

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Glad to have you
11 back. Thank you.

12 CLERK: Miller

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: I'd like to add
14 preconsidered Reso 408 that I will be voting on as
15 well.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

17 CLERK: Powers

18 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Permission to
19 explain my vote?

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
21 granted.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Thank you and I
23 want to start, I will be voting aye and I'm start by
24 disclosing on the record of the Council that Mt.
25 Saini is funded in this budget that we are adopting

2 and my mother is associated with this entity. More
3 importantly as my first budget I have to say it's
4 been a very exciting experience. Congratulations
5 also to all my colleagues who are, have the
6 opportunity to work on and vote on their first
7 budget. Of course, congratulations to the Speaker on
8 a great budget as his first as a Speaker. I think it
9 proves, I think everybody somewhere here have found
10 something in this budget that they can go back to
11 their community and be very proud of. It has big,
12 city wide initiatives like fair fares which will help
13 people rise out of poverty but also all the sort of
14 issues that we talked about in our communities and we
15 can go back. Even I went to a community board
16 meeting last night and they were very happy with the
17 community board money as well. One thing I said in
18 Finance Committee I'd repeat again is that it's
19 remarkable how some of this reflects things that we
20 heard while sitting here and taking testimony and I
21 noted, I think Council Member Lander brought it up,
22 but the accessibility money was directly out of
23 testimony from somebody who came here and came to the
24 public testimony. Fair fares was because people who
25 came and talked to us constantly about the need to

2 cover the cost for those who are in poverty. Many
3 other of the colleagues here came to me and told me
4 their personal stories, why this was important to
5 their districts, and it became important to us as we
6 negotiated it so I think it reflects so much of the
7 stories that we hear in New York City every single
8 day. I wanted to say a very big thank you to the
9 Speaker for listening to the body and working through
10 a budget to make sure all of our needs were met. I
11 want to thank Council Member Dromm, somebody I love
12 so much, who worked so hard, and sat here through
13 every single hearing to make sure that the needs were
14 met of New York City. Thank you to the Sub-Committee
15 Chair, Vanessa Gibson, as well for really focusing on
16 the capital budget so thank you. I'm very pleased.
17 I think many of us are and, of course, wherever Ramon
18 Martinez is right now, he is somebody that as I
19 entered the City Council and was in awe and very
20 gracious to be able to join such a great institution,
21 I knew that the people make the institution and that
22 there are people here who make this institution great
23 because they care about what the City Council means,
24 not just today but in the future and in the past and
25 as Karen Koslowitz votes on her 20th budget, she

2 knows just like many of us how important that staff
3 is to make sure that keeps us going so thank you to
4 Ramon wherever he is. I'm sure he's embarrassed by
5 this entire day.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: He's in back
7 of you.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: He's behind me.

9 [Laughter]

10 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Don't take his
11 picture and to the Finance staff, you guys are
12 really, the underappreciated heroes of these budgets
13 that we do and just like Danny Dromm, you sit through
14 so many of the testimonies here and do so much work
15 so thank you. Of course, I vote aye on the budget.
16 Thanks.

17 CLERK: Reynoso

18 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: I vote aye on
19 all.

20 CLERK: Richards

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Permission to
22 explain my vote?

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
24 granted.

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: All right,
3 first I'm disclosing on the record on the Council
4 proceedings that Chandler Prep Academy is funded in
5 the budget we're adopting and my spouse is associated
6 with this entity and also we're funding Springfield
7 Park in the budget where D3 plays on the swings so I
8 wanted to make sure I put that out there. I also
9 wanted to congratulate the Speaker on his first
10 budget and this budget surely is a reflection of all
11 New Yorker's values so I want to congratulate you. I
12 want to congratulate the Finance staff and also my
13 Chief of Staff, Manuel Silver, and my Budget
14 Director, Jordan Bishop, on a job well done in this
15 budget and lastly I'll close out by just thanking
16 Ramon Martinez for his friendship. I've been here 15
17 years now and it's my 15th budget, Karen, believe it
18 or not, but it's been an honor to work with him and
19 to get to know him and to also seek advice from him.
20 He's someone that we've often been able to go to for
21 advice both on personal but also professional growth
22 so I want to thank him for his friendship and I'll
23 leave with, since we're doing Ramon's greatest hits
24 today. I will leave with one of his most infamous
25 quotes "pigs get fat and hogs get slaughtered" so

2 thank you, Ramon. Congratulations on your next
3 endeavor. I vote aye on all.

4 [Laughter]

5 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Never heard that
6 before.

7 [Laughter]

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

9 CLERK: Rivera

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Permission to
11 explain my vote?

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
13 granted.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So first I want
15 to disclose on the record of the Council proceedings
16 that the New York City Police Department is funded in
17 the budget that we are adopting and my mother is a 36
18 year employee of this entity. Very proud of her,
19 she's probably on the M23 on her way home so I want
20 to, of course, thank you to the Speaker for your help
21 and support in his first six months of my first year.
22 I voted for you on January 3rd which was my birthday
23 and very pleased that that gift has brought so much
24 friendship and support from you. Of course, I gotta
25 thank Latonia and the analysts that we don't think

2 enough, people like Krillian [phonetic] and Jeanette
3 and Sarah, of course, Nathan and Regina. Thank you
4 all for your assistance in passing my first budget as
5 a Council Member. I remember being a staffer,
6 participating, watching you all move and learning
7 from someone like Ramon. Ramon Martinez, enjoy
8 whatever beach you're gonna be streaming the next
9 Stated from, okay. Just wear your sunscreen and put
10 a hat on. I know that the New York City Council will
11 be in good hands with your next successor and I just
12 want to thank you for all of your work. The budget
13 we passed, I'm so proud of it. Food pantries and
14 senior centers, environmental initiatives, quality of
15 life, the Lower East Side Girl's Club, health and
16 hospitals, New Irecan [phonetic] Poets Café,
17 Anthology Film Archives, parks and schools. Thank
18 you, Danny, thank you, Vanessa. Thank you to my
19 Budget Director, Katie Lobe [phonetic] and thank you
20 to all of my colleagues and the staff here for making
21 this seem as breezy as possible. I love you all and
22 I proudly vote aye on all.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

24 CLERK: Rose

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Permission to
3 explain my vote?

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
5 granted.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Thank you. Speaker
7 Johnson, I'd like to start first by thanking you for
8 your vote of confidence when you made me the Youth
9 Committee Chair, giving me the opportunity to serve
10 and elevate all of the youth of New York City.
11 Speaker, I want to thank you so much for just caring
12 for everybody in New York City and we have a lot to
13 celebrate in this year's budget and I want to start
14 my celebratory remarks with again a thank you to the
15 Speaker for his vision and leadership which led to
16 major victories for all New Yorkers and a budget that
17 benefits all. In addition to the items my colleagues
18 have spoken about, I have to give a big shout out to
19 our youth. Our city's young people are among the
20 biggest winners in this budget and this really did
21 turn out to be the year of the youth. More than
22 20,000 families will be able to enroll their middle
23 school children in summer SONYC programs. That was a
24 fear that they had. The baselining of COMPASS after
25 school programs means that many families and

2 community providers can make long term plans and
3 reassure our families who depend on these
4 organizations. For our runaway and homeless youth,
5 \$3 million will be baselined for 60 new shelter beds
6 for runaway and homeless youth and these will serve
7 young people up to the age of 24 in facilities that
8 are LGBTQ affirming and supportive. An expansion of
9 the summer youth employment program as capacity for
10 an additional 5,000 young people for a total of
11 75,000 slots, while the work, learn, grow restoration
12 will provide former SYAP participants with career
13 readiness training and paid employment opportunities
14 for up to 25 weeks from October to April and I want
15 to thank the Black and Latino, Asian Caucus and
16 Jumaane Williams for all of their help in that fight.
17 I thank all of you who advocated with me, including
18 the Speaker and my City Council colleagues and the
19 advocates. I have a lot to say so I just wanted to
20 say thank you for all of the gains that we made with
21 youth in the youth part and then I want to thank you
22 Finance Division, Danny Dromm, Vanessa Gibson,
23 Latonia McKinney, Regina Nathan, Iesha Wright, and
24 Jessica Ackerman for their help with this budget and
25 then there's the inimitable Ramon Martinez. I was

2 really shocked this morning to find out that he was
3 leaving and the loss of this institutional knowledge
4 will be irretrievable. He is the archival vessel of
5 all City Council issues, personalities and secrets
6 and I will miss being summonsed to his office like a
7 bad child.

8 [Laughter]

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: I will miss you
10 Ramon. You were my mentor, my protector, my
11 supporter and my friend and you taught me how to
12 fight for myself within these institutional walls and
13 to channel the angry black woman within. This is
14 truly the end of an era. I will miss you my friend
15 and no more herding cats for you and with that I vote
16 aye on all and I have to disclaim that I'm closing on
17 the record of the City Council proceedings that the
18 New York City Department of Sanitation is funded by
19 the budget we are adopting and my son is associated
20 with that entity. Thank you.

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: And how do you
22 vote? Oh,

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye on all.

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

25 CLERK: Rosenthal

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Permission to
3 explain my vote?

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
5 granted.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: And I vote aye
7 on all. Council Member Rose, I just want to pick up
8 on the herding cats notion. You know, the thing
9 about Ramon is that, is that, he, the reason he's so
10 special is because, Ramon, you get who the Speaker is
11 and convey the Speaker's wishes but also what's right
12 for New York City and what's right for each member
13 and I think that's why everyone feels so strongly
14 about miss, you know, the thought of your not being
15 here. You know, I know for the upper west side
16 school rezoning issues, you really helped me through
17 it both with sage advice and also therapy sessions
18 and I really appreciate that but it's under this
19 Speaker that I feel you were most who you are which
20 is very generous, very generous with your advice and
21 with information and I saw a different Ramon and I
22 really do think that was our new Speaker bringing the
23 best out in you and so I appreciate the Speaker for
24 that but appreciate you very much. You know, for
25 this budget negotiating team, my colleagues, I really

2 want to thank my colleagues on the team who were
3 willing to take on some very challenging issues. It
4 was an honor to work with you. Danny and Vanessa,
5 thank you for your leadership. Corey, the way you
6 brought us through it and us through the
7 understanding. If I could have Council Member
8 Maisel's two minutes

9 [Laughter]

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: The way you
11 brought us through understanding what was on the
12 Mayor's mind, what was on your mind, I just think you
13 brought out the best in us and I, it was an honor to
14 serve on the team with you but I'm not done with you
15 yet. I do just want to give a shout out to my Chief
16 of Staff, Marissa Mock, who's deep understanding of
17 the upper west side and passion for its residents is
18 unsurpassed so Speaker Johnson, thank you. You are a
19 quick study and it truly is a pleasure working with
20 you and your team. You brought out the best in the
21 Finance team, the best in the BNT, really with the
22 unifying goal of serving all 8.5 million New Yorkers.
23 I especially want to thank you for keeping your eye
24 on the ball for survivors of sexual violence and your
25 keen ear and ability to synthesize the needs of 50

2 members and all of these issues is remarkable and
3 lastly I want to thank the wisdom of Council Member
4 Karen Koslowitz. Thank you.

5 CLERK: Salamanca

6 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Permission to
7 explain my vote?

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
9 granted.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Thank you, I'm
11 disclosing on the record of the Council proceedings
12 that St. Vincent's De Paul Residence is funded in the
13 budget we are adopting and my father's associated
14 with this entity and that the New York City
15 Department of Parks and Recreation is funded in the
16 budget we are adopting and my wife and my stepson are
17 associated with this entity and Universal Pre-K is
18 funded in the budget we are adopting and my son is a
19 student in this entity and then finally I just want
20 to congratulate you Mr. Speaker, Chair Dromm, and
21 Chair Gibson on your first budget. Mr. Speaker, you
22 make sure to address all members asked and you were
23 inclusive. I thank you, the Bronx thanks you and
24 Orchard Beach goes thank you. Thank you and
25 congratulates to Latonia, the Finance staff and all

2 BNT members and Ramon, from day one when I joined the
3 Council, you have been a mentor, a teacher, an
4 adviser and a friend and as my colleague, Council
5 Member Richards said, you've always reminded us that
6 pigs get fed and hogs get slaughtered. Thank you,
7 Ramon, you'll be missed. I vote aye on all.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

9 CLERK: Torres

10 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Permission to
11 explain my vote?

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
13 granted.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: There are too
15 many achievements to list but I'm just proud to
16 support a budget that includes fair fares. I mean to
17 think that as many as 800,000 New Yorkers every
18 single day will pay less for public transit and will
19 have freed up dollars for housing, for food. It's
20 the most significant action the City Council has
21 taken in recent memory to address the affordability
22 crisis in our city and the singular driving force
23 behind fair fares was our Speaker, Corey Johnson. I
24 think it is a monumental legacy achievement and you
25 are a natural at this role. You were tailor made for

2 it. You're one of most gifted communicators I've
3 ever met in my life and not only is it a marvel to
4 see you at work but it's an honor to be led by you
5 and I'm happy that the budget is in the hands of the
6 gay mafia, both an LGBT Speaker and an LGBT Finance
7 Chair.

8 [Laughter]

9 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: And then finally,
10 Ramon, I don't know how Ramon could be both the Chief
11 Operating Officer and the Chief Executive Officer of
12 the Council and a fixer and a therapist and a scold
13 to 51 members. You're one of the few people in
14 government who has an iconic status. Most people
15 know the legend, but I think we're among the few who
16 actually knows the person and I would not be in
17 elected office without you. I will confess, you are
18 one of the few people who actually terrifies me.

19 [Laughter]

20 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Hence the
21 avoidance of your phone calls.

22 [Laughter]

23 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: But it's with
24 deep love and gratitude that I say good bye. Thank
25 you for everything you've done for me and I vote aye.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council
3 Member.

4 CLERK: Treyger

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

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
8 granted.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: So a few weeks
10 ago we were in a very, very different place in terms
11 of the budget negotiations but I, I had a firsthand
12 look at our Speaker in action. The Speaker never
13 once buckled, not once waivered, not once flinched
14 and when you saw that firsthand up close, you know,
15 we see people speak on the steps of City Hall and the
16 cameras and that's great but when you see that type
17 of leadership in the room, that's inspiring and that
18 fires you up. It does take much to fire up Treyger
19 but it fires you up.

20 [Laughter]

21 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: And I believe
22 that leadership, that leadership got us to the finish
23 line. Speaker Corey Johnson, you are an
24 extraordinary leader and you got this budget done.
25 Congratulations to you. I want to also congratulate

2 our education champion Finance Chair, Danny Dromm,
3 who really makes up the education dream team.
4 Without Danny Dromm we wouldn't have had these
5 extraordinary education accomplishments. I want to
6 thank Chair Dromm for that. I want to thank Chair
7 Gibson for her leadership. I want to thank Majority
8 Leader Cumbo for her leadership. I want to thank
9 Latonia and the entire Finance Division. Every time
10 there's a budget negotiation back and forth, new
11 numbers have to get crunched, new analysis have to be
12 prepared, new briefings have to be made. The Finance
13 folks worked all day and night. They are
14 extraordinary and a special shout out to our
15 Education Committee staff as well. I want to thank
16 Ramon Martinez and also Jason Goldman for their
17 extraordinary help and partnership. I want to thank
18 BNT. I want to thank the Brooklyn Delegation Co-
19 Chair Antonio Reynoso. Our meetings were not as long
20 this year. I am very proud of the Brooklyn
21 Delegation. I want to thank my Chief of Staff, Anna
22 Scaife, who literally worked around the clock making
23 sure our priorities were advanced. There's some
24 major education victories here, \$125 million of fair
25 student funding increase, more social workers,

2 guidance counselors. The Speaker led the way, \$150
3 million in capital to increase accessibility and
4 again I now have to really turn to Ramon Martinez so
5 this, this is my closing. Ramon, I remember calls to
6 you. I was making calls to him, particularly earlier
7 in my tenure, venting mostly about the Mayor

8 [Laughter]

9 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: And Ramon told
10 me, Treyger, this is not a sprint, this is a
11 marathon. This is a long game, long process and
12 those words sunked in. I don't believe I've met
13 anyone else that has a better grasp and better
14 knowledge of the channels of City Hall in order to
15 get things done and close a deal and he is by far the
16 most honest broker throughout any process and you
17 want him on your side fighting to advance a cause and
18 for a person who has the reputation of being so
19 tough, it's very telling that his door in his office
20 is always open literally and figuratively. You will
21 be missed and I am very grateful for your mentorship
22 and for your wisdom and with that, Majority Leader, I
23 vote aye on all.

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you and
25 Public Advocate Letitia James, please forgive me for

2 allowing the members to go over their two minute
3 timeframe.

4 CLERK: Ulrich

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: All right, I got
6 a few things to say today.

7 [Laughter]

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Well, may I be
9 excused to explain my vote, please?

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
11 granted.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Well, this is my
13 tenth budget and it's very different than my first
14 budget when Ramon gave me a yellow post-it with about
15 \$2 million, the number 2.2 written on it and I
16 realized that I was number 50 out of 51 and I don't
17 want to say who 51 was but that's not important.

18 [Laughter]

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: I've come a long
20 way and I grew really to respect and admire Ramon as
21 a friend and as a confidant. I drove him absolutely
22 insane on many, many occasions, on may bills and
23 issues and funding and things that we wanted to do in
24 my district and outside of my district that he told
25 me I had no business being involved in but, you know,

2 he really is a terrific person. When my grandfather,
3 who was like my dad, passed away, I remember how
4 upset I was and I remember walking out of the church
5 with my family and Ramon was in the back of the
6 church and I remember when Tom Ognibene, the former
7 minority leader passed away, walking out of the
8 church. He was also like a father to me and I
9 remember seeing Ramon sitting in the back of the
10 church so if you ever want to find him in church,
11 he's in the last row.

12 [Laughter]

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: But, he's a very
14 respectful person and he learned from the best, Kevin
15 McCabe who was Peter Vallone's chief of staff, who as
16 Ramon was a tough Irishman from Ozone Park. There
17 are lots of them and Ramon's just done a phenomenal
18 job protecting this body and this institution and the
19 members that serve here. We have the privilege to
20 serve our constituents and we're empowered in many
21 ways by Ramon so thank you Ramon for everything that
22 you've done for me and for this body and Jason, I
23 don't know why you want the job but I saw him earlier
24 and I hear that he's one of the people in line for it
25 but Ramon is leaving some really big shoes to fill.

2 I want to thank the Speaker, my friend Corey Johnson,
3 who I also drive insane. I drive a lot of people
4 insane, in case you haven't noticed but Corey is
5 normally used to getting a call from me somewhere
6 around midnight. I've had about five or six Johnnie
7 Walker Blacks

8 [Laughter]

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: So if you ever
10 really want to have a good laugh, you can, you can
11 get one of those phone calls too. Just send me a
12 text and I'll shoot you a call. Anyway, no but Jimmy
13 and Steve get those calls too just in case you want
14 to know. No, he's done a phenomenal job. It's his
15 first budget but it really is one of the best budgets
16 out of the ten years that I've been here. My
17 constituents have been through so much especially
18 after Hurricane Sandy but they have gotten the
19 resources and the support that they so rightfully
20 deserve and that they need because of the great
21 leadership of our speaker and our Finance Chair,
22 Danny Dromm and my good friend, Steve Matteo, who
23 really is just a wonderful friend and a phenomenal
24 advocate for his borough. His constituents are very,
25 very lucky to have him but I consider myself very

2 lucky to work alongside him. I want to thank the
3 Finance staff for the great job that they do. They
4 now lock the door on the 15th floor so I can't get in
5 because my door,

6 [Laughter]

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: The suite and
8 they changed. I used to have access. My card used
9 to work on that door and then one day I went to use
10 it and then the door wouldn't open but I hope they
11 did that for everybody else too. It wasn't just for
12 me, okay. I don't know.

13 [crosstalk]

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Anyway, no but
15 they do a phenomenal job and I want to thank my Chief
16 of Staff, Kevin Tschirhart, and Matt Pecorino, my new
17 Budget Director. They've done a great job and it's
18 an honor to be here. It's an honor to serve. I love
19 my job. I love what I do. I don't dance nearly as
20 well as Corey does and I won't put those videos on
21 YouTube or social media but I am very happy to be
22 here and I love what I do and I love working with all
23 you great people so that you very much and have a
24 great summer. Thank you. Oh yeah, I gotta vote too.
25 All right, I gotta disclose something too, all right.

2 Well, you made a mistake here. I'm disclosing on the
3 record of the Council proceedings that St. Francis
4 College is funded in the budget we're adopting and
5 you have it says my wife, my soon to be ex-wife. I
6 don't know if we could put that on there but

7 [Laughter]

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: I'm in the middle
9 of a divorce so I just, I want to disclose that on
10 the record. No, it's a matter of public record.
11 It's nothing to be ashamed of. It happens to a lot
12 of people but listen, it's 2018, all right, soon to
13 be ex-wife and are associated with this entity, all
14 right. Kiwanis club, I'm a member of Kiwanis club
15 too is funded in the budget we're adopting and I'm
16 associated with this entity. Okay, I think that
17 covered that, let's get, let me vote, hold on.

18 [Laughter]

19 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Madam Majority Leader,
20 I ask that you keep members to the clock for the rest
21 of this session.

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes, there is a
23 bit of TMI going on, yeah.

24 [Laughter]

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Well, I would
3 need more than two minutes to tell you what happened
4 but

5 [Laughter]

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Or in my case,
7 what didn't happen so

8 [Laughter]

9 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Council Member Ulrich,
10 how do you vote?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: I'm voting aye on
12 all except preconsidered Resos 397, 398, 408 and M64.
13 Thank you for your indulgence, your patience and I
14 love you all. Thank you. Thank you.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, thank
16 you, thank you, next member.

17 CLERK: Vallone

18 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Sure, I have to
19 follow Eric after that. Madam, may I have a moment
20 to explain my vote? Laurie, my dear, thank you.

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
22 granted.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: First of all, I
24 guess I'd like to disclose that my son's soccer team
25 is going for his back to back championship and

2 clearly his coach is the reason for all these
3 championships

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Who's that?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: I don't know,
6 it's funny you should ask who his coach is but it
7 happens to be his dad so I have to disclose on the
8 record that St. Andrew Avellino Senior NCO programs
9 are funded in this budget as well as Sports and Arts
10 Schools Foundation, LGBT Health and Human Services,
11 New York Junior Tennis League and Citizen Schools
12 which my father and brother are associated with so
13 I'd like to say to our leader and to our Speaker as a
14 friend and a brother, from day one you treated every
15 one of us with respect, with friendship, with open
16 arms. You listened to us and this budget is a true
17 testament to that reflection of the commitment of
18 every Council Member and for me that was a brand new
19 experience and I appreciate that and I've been able
20 to experience what being a full member of a Council
21 can really do for each of us and for our districts
22 and now we're able to bring back these type of
23 victories city wide and to communities that are
24 personally depending on each one of us to really
25 fight for them and you allowed us to fight for them

2 and every one of them are in this budget so really is
3 and I think this is what Steven was saying before,
4 why there's such joy in this city is cause each one
5 of us can really bring back these type of victories
6 and to Karen, our Delegation Chair, and to every
7 member of this Council, I heard how hard each one of
8 you and Karen put that request in to rename the CUNY
9 scholarship and I think Council Member Barron and
10 Treyger for education.

11 [applause]

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: You know, the
13 story on that was that it was Dad's last year as
14 Speaker and he wanted to create with the Council,
15 they had the very first dreamer's scholarship because
16 there was no ability for kids to get to CUNY with any
17 financial aid before that and he didn't fight for
18 that to be named and Karen's surprised as did this
19 Council, my father on his last budget saying, you
20 know what, we're renaming this after the man who
21 fought for it. He rarely gets emotional and when we
22 called him yesterday and when Karen spoke to him
23 yesterday, an 83 year old proud man celebrating his
24 60th anniversary with my mom, got pretty emotional on
25 the phone so I thank everyone of the Council Members

2 for doing that. Council Members Barron, thank you,
3 Treyger thank you for that. That was a big victory
4 for our students. Everyone talks about the dreamer
5 scholarships, that was the first one and again I
6 thank you to all. Margaret, great victories for the
7 seniors, no better fighter can we have for the
8 seniors than Margaret Chin and I'd like to say to
9 everyone here again thank you for that. It's a proud
10 day for all of us. Ramon, I'd like to close by
11 saying you have worked with every Vallone. You have
12 stood by, really this institution. You have fought
13 for the respect of the Council and to make sure that
14 we were an equal body and that was I think your
15 greatest passion and strength is that no matter who
16 was the speaker, no matter who the Council Members
17 were and that's where your passion would always be is
18 to respect this body and this institution and if
19 anyone got in your way, they heard it, but it was
20 because it was the better of the good for the City to
21 make sure that we were an equal body. You did that
22 with a unique group of people at the very beginning
23 and you carried that tradition on for all these years
24 so thank you for always being a friend to our family,
25 a friend to this Council and a friend to this city so

2 God bless you and thank you very, very much. To
3 vote, I do have to vote so I'd like to vote aye on
4 all except for preconsidered Resolutions 397, 398,
5 408 and M64 and a big congratulations to my Budget
6 Director who is now my Deputy Chief of Staff, Ahmed
7 Nazaar. Well deserved, Ahmed.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

9 CLERK: Van Bramer

10 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Permission to
11 explain my vote?

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
13 granted.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank you
15 very much. First of all I want to say a big thank
16 you to my Chief of Staff, Matt Wallace, who not only
17 has participated now in eight budgets with me but did
18 so this year as a brand new father and so he's been
19 balancing having a beautiful new baby boy Gabriel
20 while he is also working on this budget so I want to
21 thank him for his amazing work on behalf of me and
22 the district that we serve. I want to say to our
23 Speaker, Corey Johnson, I have watched him over these
24 last several months. He is indeed a terrific leader.
25 It is not easy to bring all of the desperate voices

2 in this body together and he allows us to have our
3 individual voice while certainly being an effective
4 and forceful leader. That is a delicate balance that
5 is a difficult dance sometimes but he does it. He
6 does it well and I want to thank him for his
7 leadership. It's been incredibly rewarding to be a
8 part of this experience in this Council. I want to
9 congratulate my colleague to the east, Danny Dromm on
10 his great work here as well and, of course, Karen
11 Koslowitz for her leadership in Queens. I am so
12 excited about this budget for so many reasons. In
13 this budget that we are voting on right now, there
14 are over \$300 million in new money, new money for
15 culture of the arts and libraries in the City of New
16 York. That is an amazing victory on behalf of the
17 people of the City of New York, I am so thrilled that
18 with Speaker Johnson's help, we have in this budget
19 added incredible amounts of money in terms of
20 cultural capital. We have bolstered the expense
21 budget for the Department of Cultural Affairs and our
22 program groups and we increases CASA's once again for
23 the fifth year in a row, I inherited a \$5 million
24 CASA program. It is now \$15.5 million, CASA alone,
25 765 different schools in the City of New York now

2 have after school cultural programming just from CASA
3 alone and of course our libraries, huge victories for
4 our libraries. I want to thank the Speaker again for
5 some of the personal items, \$6.5 million to
6 completely renovate the Woodside Library, a great
7 amount of money and capital for LaGuardia Community
8 College, Rainey Park, so many other victories. This
9 is an amazing, amazing day and I want to thank the
10 Speaker again. To Ramon Martinez, Ramon I know that
11 you have a reputation for being a tough guy, for
12 being the no guy, but I also know that you care
13 deeply about the people that we serve, this City, you
14 care about the issues and I know that you like
15 libraries and I know that you are an avid reader and
16 I want to thank you for the work. Though you live in
17 Brooklyn now, you'll always be a kid who ran around
18 Woodside and Sunnyside and made your start in the
19 neighborhoods that I get to represent now in the City
20 Council. I also want to thank you personally because
21 you have provided a lot of advice over the years and
22 though I took little of it,

23 [Laughter]

24 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: I want to say
25 thank you because I think you were coming from a good

2 place and trying to mentor and trying to coach and
3 you're one of the few people to talk to me about my
4 own personal growth in this body over the years and I
5 also want to say, you did help me in a number of ways
6 and I'm grateful and our district benefitted from
7 that, I benefitted from that and when I first started
8 in the Council and I think you know this and I was
9 starting to figure out how to be a Council Member and
10 how to get things done in this body, I wasn't sure of
11 who to go to and another Council Member who has since
12 retired said to me, go to Ramon, talk to Ramon. He
13 won't always tell you yes, he won't always tell you
14 everything you want to hear but he will be as honest
15 as anybody can be in this building about whether or
16 not he can get it done and from that very beginning
17 in that very meeting when I walked into your office
18 and told you that story, that has been the case so I
19 want to say thank you on behalf of everything. It is
20 impossible to see all of what's happened here without
21 you being a part of it and it's difficult to see how
22 the next three and a half years will happen without
23 you being in that room but I want to say thank you
24 for everything you meant to me, to my district and to
25 the city. With that I vote aye on all.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

3 CLERK: Williams

4 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: May I be
5 excused to explain my vote?

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
7 granted.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you,
9 first of all I'm gonna repeat what I said in
10 [Inaudible] caucus which was when I learn the details
11 of this budget, I was almost glad that I lost,
12 almost, because this was an amazing budget and I do
13 want to give Speaker Johnson a lot of credit for the
14 leadership that he showed during this budget, most
15 importantly of which I believe we showed that we are
16 a strong, independent body and when we stick together
17 we really can be the counterweight to this Mayor and
18 any mayor and administration which is what we're
19 supposed to be and I hope that's the legacy that
20 moves forward from this budget so thank you for that.
21 Of course, congratulations to Latonia, Council Member
22 Dromm and Gibson, my Deputy Chief of Staff, Farah
23 Louis. This is her first full budget. She got a
24 taste of it last year when Nick Smith was stolen by
25 the Mayor in the middle of the budget season so

2 congratulations to her. Of course, the fifth is
3 awesome, some of the issues but I just want to point
4 out the Metro IF EBC, the funding that was put in for
5 that, CMS being baselined, the crisis matter system
6 dealing with gun violence being baselined by the
7 administration. I want to thank the Speaker for
8 helping me complete the first youth center in my
9 budget, [Inaudible] Youth Center and safe program for
10 [Inaudible] Corporation to protect and preserve the
11 affordable units we have in our district. Shout to
12 Debi Rose and the Speaker and everyone for the youth
13 jobs that have been put in this budget. It is
14 amazing. Several year, when I came in, I think we
15 were under \$30,000 and a few years ago we put a new
16 money for police officers, a lot of us, including
17 myself made a big push that we have to put a
18 commensurate amount of funding into other things.
19 Youth jobs was one of those and thanks to the
20 leadership of so many, I'm glad I was able to lend my
21 voice through the Black, Latino, Asian Caucus, the
22 Progressive Caucus, the youth Chairs, particularly
23 Debi Rose. This year, we're now up to \$75,000. We
24 made a commitment back then that we would keep going
25 till we hit \$100,000 and my hope is that continues

2 word to the body of the congeniality that is seen
3 here. I hope we take that continuing. It does get
4 harder when there is no money so hopefully we'll
5 remember how we feel today, what can happen when we
6 move together. Lastly, Ramon, dude, you just shocked
7 everybody man. I want to say, it's been an amazing
8 time dealing with you ever since I came here. This
9 is my ninth year and the biggest compliment that I
10 can pay is that there is not, there isn't too many
11 people in this business that no means no and yes
12 means yes and that is what I found with you and
13 truthfully maybe means maybe. You have never in the
14 nine year that we've agreed, disagreed, you haven't
15 misguided me, you haven't lied. When you said
16 something, I could take it to the bank. That means a
17 lot in this business cause it's not too many people
18 like that and I know you're known as a tough guy.
19 You're a soldier to whatever Speaker you work to
20 sometimes rightness or wrongness may take a back seat
21 to your job but I think the secret that you don't
22 want people to know is that you actually care deep
23 down and that comes out as well so it's been an honor
24 to serve with you. I think it's gonna be a huge loss
25 to this body. We've agreed and disagreed but I'm

2 just proud that nine times out of ten when we would
3 agree or disagree, we sat down and came to something
4 that we both agreed, or the tenth time was a dozy but
5 all the rest of the time I think was pretty good so
6 I'm just honored by that. I don't know who'll keep
7 me from running in the fields but we shall see. I
8 wish you the best of luck and congratulations to you
9 and your family and with that I vote aye on all.
10 Wait, I'm disclosing on the record of this Council
11 proceedings that Bergen Basin Community Development
12 Corp. also known as Millennium Development Senior
13 Center is funded in the budget we are adopting and
14 the best mother in the world which happens to be my
15 mom is associated with this entity. I vote aye on
16 all. Thank you.

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

18 CLERK: Yeger

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

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
22 granted.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you Madam
24 President. I worked here in this body when Council
25 Member Koslowitz voted for her third budget and for

2 several years thereafter. I don't remember exactly
3 when I met Ramon. I was a young aid. I don't
4 remember if it was through a Council Member or
5 through a borough president. I do remember he had
6 hair, he had a suit. I don't think there was ever a
7 time that Ramon scolded me in a way that made me feel
8 like less of a human being. I think everything he
9 always did was to try to educate me and make a better
10 person, a better future public servant which I hope I
11 am now. I want to thank him for a number of things.
12 In the last couple of months, especially, he told me
13 when he knew I was wrong, those rare occasions.
14 Tried to convince me that he was right, on the rare
15 occasions, even rarer occasions when he knew I was
16 right, he still tried to convince me that he was
17 right and I appreciate that as well. Council Member
18 Williams, you were very true when you said no means
19 no and yes means yes. There are very few people in
20 this business who do that. Ramon is one of them.
21 When I hugged him earlier, he said something, I don't
22 remember, I think he said, it will be okay or it will
23 be all right and that may be the first time. I'm not
24 sure I believe him. We'll find out but you will be
25 missed. You're probably, I think you're the only

2 person in this building, well the only person in my
3 life who calls me young man when he sees me and I
4 appreciate that as well. I still have my hair and I
5 do have a suit but Ramon you will be missed by myself
6 on behalf of the people I represent and it's always
7 strange when I look at you and I say that. On behalf
8 of this Council, I think that you have been without
9 question since my knowledge of this Council 25 years
10 ago, 24 years ago, you've been the only constant that
11 has made this body to the incredible branch of
12 government that it is. I'm grateful to you, onward
13 and upward. Godspeed, thank you. I vote aye on all
14 with the exception, I'm sure this is a shock to
15 Resolution 397, Resolution 398, preconsidered
16 Resolution the communication M64 and Resolution 408
17 on which I respectfully vote no. Thank you Madam
18 President.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

20 CLERK: Deutsch

21 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Thank you, I'd
22 like to change my vote. I'd like to vote no on Reso
23 397, 398, 408 and on M64. Thank you.

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

25 CLERK: Matteo

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: May I be excused
3 to explain my vote?

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
5 granted.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: So, let me start
7 off by saying I am very happy that Eric had a chance
8 to let it all out. Now you know the call at 12
9 o'clock that I get and Corey gets and it's some
10 Johnnie Walker in there and we have no idea where he
11 goes with it but you got a little taste of it today.
12 Yeah, we'll give it a call later. We'll finish. I
13 want to start off by thanking the Finance staff. I
14 said in the community hearing, we have the best
15 Finance staff around. None of this can happen
16 without the leadership of Latonia and everyone on the
17 Finance staff. I've worked with you as a staff
18 member and now as an elected official and I can't
19 thank you enough for your dedication and your
20 expertise to get us where we are. I want to thank my
21 staff led by my Budget Director and Deputy Chief of
22 Staff, Angela Lesan, my Chief of Staff, David Carr,
23 and my Chief Operations and the Minority Leader
24 Office, Pete Spencer. Ramon, we've known each other
25 a long time. Since 2004, you have been more than

2 anything, a friend. I will never forget how you were
3 there for me when my father passed away last year,
4 how you were with me since I was a staffer, as an
5 elected official. I'm gonna miss our 8:30 meetings
6 where other members come in and go, the minority
7 leader's in there again with Ramon. We've had some
8 great success together. You have put this
9 institution first over any one person and that's why
10 you have been such a great Chief of Staff to this
11 institution. You have made the City Council a better
12 place because you have been here for so long and for
13 what you have done. I'm gonna miss you. We are all
14 gonna miss you and we love you and I'm very happy for
15 you and your family and I wish you nothing but the
16 best, my friend. I will, you know, it's been a long
17 day but I will, I think everyone knows I am an ardent
18 supporter of trying to get property tax relief for
19 our constituents. There's no question. I'm
20 disappointed that we didn't get a property tax rebate
21 in this year's budget. You know, it has to be said
22 but I have to thank the Speaker. The Speaker's been
23 with me and all of us who have advocated for property
24 tax relief since day one and you have an ardent
25 supporter and fighter for that and while we didn't

2 get the rebate this time, we're gonna continue to
3 fight for property tax relief for our constituents
4 and rebates in the upcoming budgets and I know the
5 Speaker will be leading the charge as he did this
6 year. It's not always being the Minority Leader in a
7 48 member Council and on BNT but this Speaker has
8 just done a great job working with me and my
9 delegation to make sure that this budget is for
10 everyone. We don't agree on everything, that's no
11 shock to anyone but we came together in this budget
12 to make sure that my constituents in Staten Island,
13 Joe's constituents in Staten Island, Eric's
14 constituents in Queens were, their needs were met and
15 I can't thank you enough for your leadership and for
16 your partnership, Mr. Speaker. Everyone knows how
17 close we are in our friendship but you made sure that
18 our three districts were a huge part of this budget
19 locally and our constituents appreciate it. We're
20 gonna have a lot of great announcements coming out
21 and so, and even with the turkeys that announced
22 yesterday that we made Brad Lander very happy so with
23 that I'm going to vote yes on everything except I'm
24 going to vote no on 397, 398, 408 and M64.

25 CLERK: Cumbo

2 [applause]

3 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I am disclosing
4 on the record of the Council proceedings that the New
5 York City Department of Education is funded in the
6 budget we are adopting and my sisters are employed as
7 teachers with DOE. Speaker Corey Johnson, Corey,
8 four years ago when we were first elected to this
9 body, I could never imagine fast forwarding that we
10 would be in the positions that we're in today and I'm
11 incredibly proud of you. Four years ago we talked
12 about what we were gonna do in the Council,
13 legislation that we wanted to pass, how we wanted to
14 help people, how we wanted to be able to change and
15 transform the City of New York and this budget does
16 exactly that. This is a game changing budget that is
17 going to change the lives of so many marginalized New
18 Yorkers and you listened. Whether it was a senior
19 center, a train ride, a bus ride, you were there to
20 hear people and to lead a body of the 50 most
21 ambitious people in the City of New York in a really
22 ambitious City, is amazing and it's a testament that
23 all of your colleagues here have spoken about this
24 extraordinary gain for the entire City of New York.
25 You set a new precedent in terms of budget

2 negotiations and we are finally now an equal partner
3 in government and as the song says, starting from the
4 bottom, now we're here and I wanted to add as Chair
5 of the Women's Issues Committee formerly before
6 Council Member Helen Rosenthal, I'm so excited that
7 this budget represents so much for women, whether it
8 is increases to DOVE as far as domestic violence,
9 making sure that the anti-sexual assault initiative
10 is funded to fair fares where so many women, as you
11 noted, were at train stations with their children
12 asking for a swipe, to making sure that our City is
13 broadened for women, particularly our CUNY child care
14 centers. These are all tremendous wins for the City
15 of New York and we thank you and the dynamic men of
16 the Finance Team and here. It's so great the work
17 that you're doing but I really have to highlight the
18 women here. It's revolutionary for people to see
19 women in roles that they stereotypically do not and
20 to see Latonia McKinney and Vanessa Gibson and many
21 of the other women that serve on the Finance
22 Committee is game changing for so many women. Young
23 girls are gonna look up to see what they can be and
24 so I'm so very proud of the dynamic women who are
25 changing the roles in terms of what women can be and

2 I want to thank at this time, Ramon Martinez. This
3 place is not gonna be the same without you. You're
4 one of those individuals that ironically, because we
5 play tough guy, I'm excited to see when I come to
6 work. It's always an opportunity for banter, gossip,
7 wanting to push in another capital project or talk
8 about something. There's a game you play when you're
9 a child where you flip a coin to see if it's gonna be
10 heads or tails and from that you get to pick who's
11 gonna be on your team first and I think everybody in
12 this room would always pick you first because you are
13 that muscle, you are that stand-up guy, you are that
14 person that you always want by your side when you're
15 going into battle and so people may think that you're
16 this tough guy but you're really an extraordinary man
17 and I see you've been joined by your friends and
18 colleagues, former Council Member Dominick Recho who
19 was chair of finance as well as culturals during his
20 tenure and your good friend, Jeff Rodus [phonetic],
21 and when I came to the Council, you all were
22 certainly the institution and I thank you for all
23 that you've done for me and I thank you for all that
24 you've done for this body and as touch as you are,
25 I'll just by saying I like to wear sometimes often

2 very colorful clothing and who now is going to try on
3 my clothes now that you are gone.

4 [Laughter]

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: So I thank you so
6 very much for that, Ramon Martinez, and I proudly
7 vote aye on the most extraordinary game changing
8 budget in New York City's history. Thank you.

9 CLERK: Matteo

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Thank you, I just
11 have to disclose some things on the record. My two
12 oldest children go to Susan Reicher High School we're
13 funding under the budget, my brother works at RUMS
14 University. We're funding them. My two oldest
15 worked in the summer youth program and my youngest
16 attends P.S. 30 all of which we are funding in this
17 budget. Thank you.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

19 CLERK: Speaker Johnson

20 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I very, very proudly
21 vote aye on everything on the calendar today. I
22 lastly, of course, want to thank Ramon again, thank
23 Latonia again and the entire, literally every single
24 member of the Finance Division. All of you have
25 worked incredibly hard throughout this entire

2 process. You work incredibly hard throughout the
3 entire year in our budget negotiating meetings and in
4 democratic conference. Each one of you are
5 invaluable in knowing so much about the committees
6 that you cover, the areas in the budget that we fund
7 and we actually couldn't have made these very
8 important decisions without the incredible knowledge
9 that literally every person I look at from the
10 Finance Division was able to share with us. Are the
11 up in the back too and upstairs as well. Literally,
12 every single one of you have been really, really
13 wonderful and incredible and you've heard the thanks
14 from the members here today but I want to tell you.
15 I came by, I think, and I tried to thank you all
16 individually on the 15th floor. Not everyone was
17 there but I got to thank many of you individually and
18 I just want to tell you that, you know, the Council
19 is only as strong as it is because of the great staff
20 that we have here and I want you to know that every
21 day we appreciate that and the last person I want to
22 thank is someone who learned a lot during the process
23 through Ramon and through Latonia and someone who I
24 consider to be a key person for this body, Jason
25 Goldman, the Deputy Chief of Staff, who worked with

2 almost all the members in the staff so I proudly vote
3 aye and with that, Madam Public Advocate, are we done
4 or is there more to do? You're gonna read the,
5 please

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes we are and
7 I'm gonna take a majority leader privilege and I just
8 want to thank my staff as well, Jason Hurr and
9 Crystal Hudson for negotiating their first budget.

10 SPEAKER JOHNSON: And I want to thank
11 Eric Bottcher, my Chief of Staff.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, all
13 items on today's general order calendar were adopted
14 by a vote of 49 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative
15 and 0 abstentions. With the exception of Resolution
16 397 which was adopted by a vote of 38 affirmative, 11
17 negative and 0 abstentions and Resolution 398 which
18 was adopted by a vote of 38 affirmative, 11 negative
19 and 0 abstentions, and M64 and Res 408 which was
20 adopted by a vote of 38 in the affirmative, 11
21 negative and 0 abstentions. I now formally declare
22 the Executive Expense Revenue Contract Budget, the
23 Executive Capital Budget and the Community
24 Development Program Budget for Fiscal Year 2019, all
25 as modified and all in accordance with the relevant

2 sections of the New York City Charter as hereby
3 adopted as of 4:40 p.m. on this 14th day of June,
4 2018.

5 [applause]

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, you
7 may be seated. We're not quite done yet. I know.

8 SPEAKER JOHNSON: We have no one for
9 general discussion do we? Anyone who please
10 colleagues, not today. I'm gonna ask anyone who
11 signed up for general discussion to please, please
12 wait for another week, please.

13 [applause]

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: We have another
15 Stated on June 28.

16 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Okay.

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Supplemental
18 Introduction and Reading of Bills.

19 SPEAKER JOHNSON: All bills have been
20 referred to committees as indicated on the agenda.

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Supplemental
22 Discussion of Resolutions.

23 CLERK: None.

24

25

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Supplemental
3 General Discussion. We have three. We'll do them
4 quickly and we'll stick to the time.

5 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Or all three need to
6 speak unless it's completely necessary.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Are there any
8 that are willing to

9 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Just read who they are
10 and if they decide to

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member
12 Barron.

13 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: She will hold her
15 comments for the 28th. Thank you Council Member
16 Barron. Council Member Rose?

17 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: She will also
19 hold her comments for the 28th. Council Member
20 Williams.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I apologize but
22 five years ago today my father passed away and I'd
23 like to lift his name up and wish all fathers Happy
24 Father's Day. Thank you.

25 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you.

2 [applause]

3 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you and we
4 are sorry for your loss. Speaker Johnson will now
5 close the meeting.

6 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Today's Stated Meeting
7 will continue to be held in Recess. Thank you all
8 very much.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

10 [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 July 12, 2018