

STATED MEETING

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CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

STATED MEETING

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Thursday, March 16, 2023

Start: 2:22 P.M.

Recess: 3:28 P.M.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Joann Ariola
Alexa Avilés
Diana I. Ayala
Charles Barron
Joseph C. Borelli
Erik D. Bottcher
Justin L. Brannan
Gale A. Brewer
Selvena N. Brooks-Powers
Tiffany Cabán
David M. Carr
Carmen N. De La Rosa
Eric Dinowitz
Amanda Farias
Oswald Feliz
James F. Gennaro
Jennifer Gutiérrez
Shahana K. Hanif
Kamillah Hanks

STATED MEETING

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

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

MONSIGNOR KEVIN SULLIVAN,
Church of Our Saviour located at 59 Park Avenue,
New York, NY 10016

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STATED MEETING

SERGEANT RODRIGUEZ: This is a microphone test for the Stated Meeting by Edery Gonzalez Rodriguez in the Chambers. Today's date is March 16, 2023.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet on floor please, quiet on the floor please! At this time, please place all electronic devices, all electronic devices to vibrate or silent mode.

Mr. Majority Leader?

MAJORITY LEADER POWERS:

[GAVELING IN] [GAVEL SOUND]

Good afternoon, and welcome to the Stated Meeting of March 16, 2023. I am Majority Leader Keith Powers. I would like to thank everyone for joining us today. If you would like to follow along, the Agenda for today's meeting is posted on the website.

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

MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Roll call.

COUNCIL CLERK: Abreu?

COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Present.

COUNCIL CLERK: Ariola?

COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Present

COUNCIL CLERK: Avilés?

COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Presente

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COUNCIL CLERK: Ayala?
COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Here
COUNCIL CLERK: Barron?
COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here
COUNCIL CLERK: Bottcher?
COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Present
COUNCIL CLERK: Brannon?
COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: (NO RESPONSE)
COUNCIL CLERK: Brewer?
COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here
COUNCIL CLERK: Brooks-Powers?
MAJORITY WHIP BROOKS-POWERS: Present
COUNCIL CLERK: Cabán?
COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Present
COUNCIL CLERK: Carr?
COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Present
COUNCIL CLERK: De La Rosa?
COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Here
COUNCIL CLERK: Dinowitz?
COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Here
COUNCIL CLERK: Farías?
COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Present
COUNCIL CLERK: Feliz?
COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Presente

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2 COUNCIL CLERK: Gennaro?
3 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: (NO RESPONSE)
4 COUNCIL CLERK: Gutiérrez?
5 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Presente
6 COUNCIL CLERK: Hanif?
7 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Here
8 COUNCIL CLERK: Hanks?
9 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Present
10 COUNCIL CLERK: Holden?
11 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here
12 COUNCIL CLERK: Hudson
13 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Present
14 COUNCIL CLERK: Joseph?
15 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Present
16 COUNCIL CLERK: Kagan?
17 COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: Present
18 COUNCIL CLERK: Krishnan?
19 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Here
20 COUNCIL CLERK: Lee?
21 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Here
22 COUNCIL CLERK: Louis?
23 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present
24 COUNCIL CLERK: Marte?
25 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Here

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COUNCIL CLERK: Mealy?
COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: (NO RESPONSE)
COUNCIL CLERK: Menin?
COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Here
COUNCIL CLERK: Moya?
COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: (NO RESPONSE)
COUNCIL CLERK: Narcisse?
COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Present
COUNCIL CLERK: Nurse?
COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Present
COUNCIL CLERK: Ossé?
COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Present
COUNCIL CLERK: Paladino?
COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: (NO RESPONSE)
COUNCIL CLERK: Restler?
COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Here
COUNCIL CLERK: Richardson Jordon?
COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN: Present
COUNCIL CLERK: Gennaro?
COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here
COUNCIL CLERK: Riley?
COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Present
COUNCIL CLERK: Rivera?
COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: (NO RESPONSE)

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COUNCIL CLERK: Salamanca?
COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present
COUNCIL CLERK: Sanchez?
COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Present
COUNCIL CLERK: Schulman?
COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Here
COUNCIL CLERK: Stevens?
COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Present.
COUNCIL CLERK: Ung?
COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Present
COUNCIL CLERK: Velázquez?
COUNCIL MEMBER VELÁZQUEZ: Here
COUNCIL CLERK: Vernikov?
COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Here
COUNCIL CLERK: Williams?
COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here
COUNCIL CLERK: Won?
COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Present
COUNCIL CLERK: Yeger?
COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here
COUNCIL CLERK: Borelli?
COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Present
COUNCIL CLERK: Powers?
MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Here

1 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Adams?

2 SPEAKER ADAMS: Present

3 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: We will now have today's
4 Invocation delivered by Monsignor Kevin Sullivan,
5 Church of Our Savior located at 59 Park Avenue in
6 Manhattan -- in a fantastic city council district.

7 SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise.

8 MONSIGNOR SULLIVAN: So, let's begin by bowing our
9 heads and praying. Oh, mighty, heavenly God, you have
10 created us, and you walk with us on this early
11 journey. This afternoon we give you thanks for the
12 wonderful people who work hard for our city; those
13 here present, those elected, those appointed, watch
14 over them, protect them.

15 We ask you to watch over this great city, and we
16 need your help. Even though there is darkness that
17 confronts us, may your light guide us.

18 And, unfortunately, the ugliness, the too much
19 mars the beauty of your creation. May you be
20 gracious and your graciousness shield us from the
21 scars of divisiveness that afflict us. May your
22 presence heal us. May the hate that too often spews
23 forth from our "un-social" media be overcome by your
24 love.
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2 Oh, mighty God we are in a season in which our
3 great religions reflect and recommend the best of our
4 values and beliefs. For Christians, we are in the
5 midst of the 40 days of lent; Muslims, in a week,
6 will begin the holy time of Ramadan, and then shortly
7 thereafter, Jews will celebrate Passover. May these
8 holy seasons not divide us one from another, but
9 unite us together for the common work of watching
10 out, especially for the poorest and most vulnerable
11 among us.

12 And, oh mighty God, we know that there are many
13 who draw their inspiration not from you, but from
14 other spiritual realities that are part of them. We
15 know that even though they may not express belief in
16 you, they are made in your image and likeness, and,
17 so, may respect their spirituality and their beliefs
18 also.

19 And as we think about the great issues that
20 confront us as this city, help us to focus even more
21 clearly. And we ask that no one be hungry, that all
22 may have a decent place to live, that our air and
23 water be clean and healthy, our children well
24 educated, our families so diverse; may they be strong
25 and loving, and may decent jobs available to all.

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2 And, so, help us this day to create a just society.
3 We promise that we will work hard, but we know that
4 challenges need your infinite power. And, so, we
5 give you thanks this afternoon, and we will do so
6 tomorrow, and we do so forever, and ever. Amen.

7 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

8 And I want to say a few words, and I will spread
9 the Invocation.

10 I want to thank Monsignor Sullivan for being
11 today, especially during the Easter season, and, of
12 course right before our fantastic holiday, St.
13 Patrick's Day tomorrow. I think I speak for many of
14 us when I say Monsignor Sullivan has been a fantastic
15 partner and a fantastic religious leader here in the
16 City, and I want to thank him for his service. I
17 also would be remiss to not mention that as a
18 constituent of mine, Monsignor Sullivan also helped
19 with continent issues in my district as well as been
20 a fantastic partner in that right as well. And with
21 that I want to spread the Invocation on the record,
22 and thank him, and thank [INAUDIBLE] for being here
23 with us as always, and thank you to him, and the
24 Cardinal and everyone for everything that they do for
25 the City of New York.

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2 We are now going to the Adoption of Minutes by
3 Council Member Julie Won.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: I make the motion that the
5 Minutes of the Stated Meeting of February 16, 2023,
6 be adopted as printed.

7 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

8 We will now go to Messages & Papers from the
9 Mayor.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Preconsidered Ms 130 through 133:
11 Board of Health appointment.

12 SPEAKER ADAMS: Rules, Privileges and Elections.

13 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Communications from City,
14 County & Borough Offices.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Ms 134 and 135: Comptroller
16 Reports.

17 SPEAKER ADAMS: Received, Ordered, Printed and
18 Filed.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: M 136: Elections, Commissioner
20 appointment.

21 SPEAKER ADAMS: Rules, Privileges and Elections

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: We will have Petitions
23 and Communications.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

25 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Land Use Call-Ups?

1 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

3 We will now have Communication from Speaker
4 Adrienne Adams.

5 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you, Majority Leader.

6 And good afternoon, everyone.

7 Before, we begin, I want to take a moment to
8 remember the lives of several New Yorkers who died
9 while in the workplace. This week, we are sending our
10 love to the family of Felix Thomas Bontia, a 47-year-
11 old car wash worker who was killed in a hit and run
12 while on the job in Council Member Stevens district
13 in the Bronx.

14 Sueng Choi, a deli worker who was killed during a
15 robbery on the Upper East Side in Council Member
16 Menin's district.

17 And a construction worker who died after a
18 construction wall collapsed at a demolition site in
19 SoHo in Council Member Marte's district.

20 Our hearts are with them and their loved ones and
21 communities during this very difficult time.

22 All New Yorkers deserve to be safe, and our
23 vision of safety for our city must include closing
24 Rikers Island. Rikers is undermining public safety
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2 in New York City by worsening mental health
3 conditions and leaving people worse off after being
4 there. It exposes everyone there, both staff and
5 people detained to violence and trauma that maintains
6 cycles of harm rather than interrupting them. With
7 over half of those detained diagnosed with a mental
8 health issue, Rikers has become a de facto mental
9 health facility, which exacerbates the existing
10 challenges for people to successfully reenter their
11 communities.

12 The law is clear -- that the City must close
13 Rikers and transition to borough-based jails by 2027.
14 The inconsistent statements from the administration
15 over the past days have unacceptably created
16 questions where there should be none. Rikers must
17 close by 2027, and we cannot allow it to continue
18 undermining public safety across our city.

19 There are tangible and active steps that the
20 administration should take to ensure that we move
21 forward in a timely fashion. The success of
22 transforming our jail system to one that promotes
23 safety and successful outcomes requires collective
24 action. The city must address mental health with the
25 appropriate responses that divert people from the

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2 jail system to get the treatment that helps them
3 succeed.

4 We also must bolster pretrial an alternative to
5 incarceration programs that help reduce recidivism.
6 We can stop the revolving door and improve public
7 safety through these proven solutions. Reentry
8 programs also have to be a priority to help New
9 Yorkers successfully return to communities with job
10 opportunities, supportive housing, and other
11 resources that remove barriers to stability for
12 people.

13 We know that opening pathways to economic
14 opportunity and self-sufficiency are critical.
15 Success will require the courts and all stakeholders
16 to in the legal process to utilize these programs and
17 eliminate case delays that are keeping people in jail
18 longer.

19 Safety can only be truly delivered with a
20 commitment from the administration -- and all of us -
21 - to take the necessary steps towards finally,
22 *finally* closing Rikers.

23 This week marks three years since the first known
24 COVID-19 related death in New York City. Since then,
25 we have lost nearly 45,000 of our own family,

1 friends, and neighbors. As a city, we will continue
2 to honor their memory and support the critical work
3 of protecting the health and well-being of all New
4 Yorkers. Daddy, I salute and miss you.

5
6 On Tuesday, we celebrated National Equal Pay Day
7 with the Women's Caucus, PowHer New York, CWA Local
8 1180, and advocates. It was an opportunity for us to
9 come together and take stock of the progress we have
10 made to advance pay equity here and across the
11 nation. In New York, for every dollar that a man
12 makes, women earns an average of .74¢. The disparity
13 is even wider for women of color. Asian American
14 women make .69¢ for every dollar that a white man
15 earns. For Black women, that's .63¢, and for Latina
16 women, it is .49¢ for every dollar. Women make up
17 60% of our frontline and municipal workforces, yet
18 the women, who keep our city running, and many others
19 are not being paid equally for equal work.

20 Last year, we began to make progress with the
21 release of our Pay Equity Report and the subsequent
22 legislative package we passed to address systemic pay
23 disparities and occupational segregation within our
24 own municipal workforce. But, we know there is so
25 much more work to do. I look forward to our work

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2 together as a council to advance equal access to
3 opportunity and achieve pay equity for all.

4 On March 25th, the Council will kick off
5 Participatory Budgeting Vote Week. Through April
6 2nd, New Yorkers over the age of 11 can vote for
7 their favorite proposals to be funded. This year, a
8 majority of council districts are participating in
9 PB. I am excited to see all of the projects that New
10 Yorkers created to improve their local park, school,
11 library, or other public spaces. Thank you to all of
12 the council staff who worked on the Participatory
13 Budgeting. Every New Yorker who has engaged in this
14 process, we thank you as well.

15 This week, the Council celebrated Holi, the Hindu
16 Festival of Colors with a beautiful event in the
17 council chambers that highlighted the rich culture
18 and contributions of our Hindu community. Thank you
19 Council Members Joann Ariola and Lynn Schulman for
20 cohosting this celebration.

21 On Tuesday, the Council celebrated Irish culture
22 and heritage right here in The People's House. And
23 as we approach St. Patrick's Day tomorrow, I look
24 forward to marching with you in celebration of our
25 Irish communities. Thank you to the Irish Caucus,

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2 including Majority Leader Keith Powers and Council
3 Members Eric Bottcher, Justin Brannan, and Bob Holden
4 for cohosting our council event, especially for the
5 great corned beef and cabbage.

6 This month, the Council will also be hosting a
7 Bangladeshi Independence Celebration on March 21st,
8 and a women's HERstory celebration on March 29th. I
9 invite all New Yorkers to join us here in the council
10 chambers as we honor the diverse communities that
11 make up our city's gorgeous mosaic.

12 There are a few more notable days I want to
13 recognize:

14 March 10th, was Harriett Tubman Day in honor of
15 the abolitionist who escaped slavery and helped so
16 many others escape to freedom. She died on this day
17 110 years ago in 1913.

18 March 23rd is Pakistan Day, which commemorates
19 the adoption Lahore Resolution that led to the
20 formation of the nation of Pakistan. I join all
21 Pakistani New Yorkers who celebrate this day of
22 freedom and independence.

23 March 25th is Greek Independence Day. And we join
24 our city's vibrant Greek communities in observance of
25 this important day.

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2 And, finally, March 22nd, will mark the start of
3 Ramadan for our Muslim communities. As our Muslim
4 neighbors fast from sunrise to sundown, I want to
5 extend my best wishes as you observe the Blessed
6 Month, Ramadan Mubarak.

7 Finally, please join me, colleagues, in wishing a
8 very Happy Birthday to Council Members Chi Ossé on
9 March 19th...

10 [APPLAUSE and CHEERING]

11 Council Member Lincoln Restler, on the 19th!

12 [APPLAUSE and CHEERING]

13 And, Council Member Nantasha Williams on the
14 29th!

15 [APPLAUSE and CHEERING]

16 I hope you all have a wonderful celebration.

17 I also want to give a shoutout today, joining us
18 here in The People's House is the School Construction
19 Authority, WMBE Advance Mentorship students are in
20 the balcony!

21 [APPLAUSE and CHEERING]

22 Welcome again.

23 Now, let's move on to our Stated Agenda. First we
24 will vote on the following finance items:

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2 A transparency resolution approving new
3 designations and changes of certain organizations
4 receiving funding in the expense budget.

5 Next, we will vote on the following Land Use
6 items:

7 Otis Elevator Building - 260 Eleventh Avenue,
8 will facilitate a mixed-use office and ground floor
9 retail development expansion that will integrate and
10 interconnect building segments to operate as a single
11 building in Council Member Bottcher's district.

12 Next, 1 East Tremont Avenue Rezoning will
13 facilitate the construction of a 14-story mixed-use
14 building with approximately 205 affordable units,
15 including 61 supportive housing units, ground floor
16 commercial and community space, and approximately 14
17 parking spaces in Council Member Feliz's district.

18 Next is 1880-1888 Coney Island Avenue Rezoning,
19 as a result of the applicant having withdrawn this
20 application, the Council will be voting to file these
21 Land Use items to remove them from our calendar.

22 Lastly, we will vote on the following pieces of
23 legislation:

24 Resolution 501 B sponsored by Council Member
25 Brannan will call upon the New York State Legislature

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2 to pass, and the Governor to sign, legislation that
3 allows for the conversion of commercial house units
4 to residential units, and creates the affordable
5 housing from Commercial Conversions (AHCC) tax
6 benefit program. Thank you to our staff members Jose
7 Conde and Audrey Son.

8 Next, 167 A sponsored by Council Member Nurse,
9 calling upon the New York State Legislature to pass,
10 and the Governor to sign, legislation expanding New
11 York's 40-year-old container deposit law to include
12 non-carbonated beverages, wine and liquor. It will
13 double the refundable deposit from .05¢ to .10¢
14 further incentivizing the removal of recyclable
15 plastic and glass bottles from New York's waste
16 stream. Thank you to staff member Ricky Chawla.

17 Resolution 515, sponsored by Council Members
18 Nantasha Williams, Amanda Fariás, Shekar Krishnan,
19 and Shahana K. Hanif recognizes the month of the
20 Ramadan annually in the City of New York and
21 celebrates the significant role of Muslims in the
22 multicultural fabric of New York City communities.
23 Thank you staff member Regina Paul.

24 Introduction 210-A, sponsored by Council Member
25 Joann Ariola and Majority Whip Selvena Brooks-Powers

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2 would keep our city's waterways clean and clear by
3 amending the New York City Charter to create a marine
4 debris disposal and vessel surrendering office. This
5 will make it easier to clear City shores of vessels
6 often abandoned in the outer boroughs, in
7 environmental justice communities like Jamaica Bay,
8 Coney Island, the Arthur Kill and the Kill Van Kull.
9 Thank you to our staff member Brad Reid.

10 Next, Introduction 876-A sponsored by our Housing
11 and Buildings Committee Chair, Council Member
12 Sanchez, would amend language in the existing Green
13 Building Law to bring it line with Local Laws 97 of
14 2019 and 154 of 2021. Various amendments including
15 changing certain energy and consumption requirements,
16 updating the definition section, changing the
17 baseline inflation year, and streamlining
18 administrative and reporting requirements, and we
19 thank our staff member, Audrey Son.

20 Introduction 124-A sponsored by Rafael Salamanca,
21 will ensure that New Yorkers residing in shelters
22 operated by The Department of Homeless Services and
23 The Human Resources Administration, have access to
24 housing specialist to help them secure permanent
25 housing.

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2 Introduction 431-A, also sponsored by Council
3 Member Rafael Salamanca, will require DHS to provide
4 customer service training to all staff members and
5 providers who are working with the public to protect
6 the well-being of people experiencing homelessness.
7 This biannual staff training will include techniques
8 to improve professionalism, increase cultural
9 sensitivity, implement a trauma enforced approach
10 with interactions with shelter residents and
11 escalation. We thank our staff member David Romero.

12 Introduction 421-A, sponsored by Council Member
13 Nantasha Williams, will require Administration for
14 Children's Services to post on their website and
15 submit to the Speaker, a quarterly report on the
16 amount of time that children spend in the Nicholas
17 Scoppetta Children's Center, a temporary residence
18 for children removed from their parents or guardians
19 and other ACS temporary placement facilities.
20 Currently, there is little publicly available data on
21 the length of stay of children placed in these
22 facilities; the longer children remain in temporary
23 facilities, the greater likelihood of a negative
24 psychological impact. Advocates have testified that
25 children often spend weeks or even months in

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2 temporary placement facilities. Last year, ACS
3 testified that 40 children at the children's center
4 have been there for more than 30 days, which was more
5 than half of the total census at the time. This
6 reporting requirement will help the Council to
7 identify trends and make informed recommendations in
8 relation to these temporary placement facilities.

9 Thank you to our staff member, Aminta Kilawan.

10 Next, Introduction 918-A, sponsored by our Health
11 Committee Chair, Council Member Lynn Schulman, would
12 require the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
13 (DOHMH) to develop and implement a citywide diabetes
14 incidence and impact reduction plan. DOHMH would be
15 required to report annually on the number of adults
16 with diabetes in NYC as well as its strategies and
17 efforts to reduce the prevalence and impact of
18 diabetes. Thank you to staff members Christopher
19 Pepe, Sara Sucher, Mahnoor Butt, and Danielle Glants.

20 Lasty, we will be voting on a pair of bills that
21 will increase access to resources for our City's
22 youth. This council has prioritized policies and
23 efforts to help our students and the following
24 legislation builds on our work to open doors of
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2 possibilities for young people who represent the
3 future of our communities.

4 Introduction 403-A sponsored by Education
5 Committee Chair, Council Member Rita Joseph, would
6 require the Department of Education (DOE) to provide
7 information to high school students regarding IDNYC
8 municipal identifications, including information on
9 the program, enrollment, and the application form.
10 IDNYC cards are available to all residents aged 10
11 and up, regardless of immigration status, and offer
12 access to city services and benefits as well as our
13 incredible museums, zoos, and other attractions. We
14 thank our staff member Nadia Jean-François.

15 And Introduction 236-A sponsored by Economic
16 Development Committee Chair, Council Member Amanda
17 Fariás, would codify the New York City Ferry Discount
18 Program to be no greater than half of the regular
19 priced fare and extended to city high school
20 students. This would make students eligible for
21 reduced ferry fare at the beginning of next school
22 year. The current regular fare is \$4.00, and the
23 discounted fare is \$1.35. We thank our staff members
24 Alex R. Paulenoff and William Hongach.

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2 Thank you so much for your attention, now I turn
3 it back into the hands of our Majority Leader.

4 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, Speaker Adams.
5 We are now going to move into the Discussion of
6 General Orders.

7 We will first hear from Council Member Lynn
8 Schulman.

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

11 Today, I am thrilled that we will be voting on
12 Intro 981-A, which will call upon the New York City
13 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to develop
14 and implement a citywide Type 2 diabetes Incidence
15 and Impact Reduction Plan to combat diabetes in New
16 York City. This is the first legislation of its kind
17 in New York City, and it is an ambitious effort to
18 reduce Type 2 diabetes, which is a preventable and
19 reversible chronic disease. Diabetes was considered
20 an underlying health issue that contributed to the
21 devastating outcomes of COVID-19, which is one of the
22 many reasons I am extraordinarily proud of this
23 moment. I want to thank Speaker Adrienne Adams for
24 her leadership on this issue, my many colleagues who
25 signed on as co-sponsors, and a very big thank you to

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2 the Health Committee staff for their amazing work in
3 shaping and shepherding this bill, Christopher Pepe,
4 Sara Sucher, Mahnoor Butt, and Danielle Glants, Sarah
5 Liss, Jeff Baker, who I want to thank, he doesn't get
6 thanked that often, Lorraine Valentin from the
7 Community Engagement Division, and I want to also
8 thank my wonderful team, particularly Jonathan
9 Boucher my Chief of Staff, and Kevin McAleer my
10 Legislative Director. Thank you.

11 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

12 We will now hear from Council Member Amanda
13 Fariás.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: Thank you, Majority
15 Leader.

16 I have some very exciting news for you all today.

17 [LAUGHTER IN CHAMBERS]

18 That's the last pun, I promise.

19 We are voting on Introduction 236-A, which will
20 guarantee our students affordable access to our New
21 York City Ferry System. Students will soon be able
22 to set sail for just \$1.35, keeping the ferry
23 affordable and accessible for our youngest New
24 Yorkers who rely on it most. The New York City Ferry
25 has created connections for everyday New Yorkers that

1
2 were never possible before. My district is home to
3 the very first ferry stop in the Bronx in Soundview,
4 which continues to have some of the highest ridership
5 rates citywide. I am so excited to get this bill
6 passed today and to make transit [BACKGROUND NOISE]
7 [INAUDIBLE] more of a reality for communities like
8 mine in Council District 18 and across the city.
9 Many of my colleagues and I know the struggle with
10 commuting when you are just a kid who is trying to
11 get to and from school on time. Thank you to
12 everyone for helping me lessen the struggle and for
13 prioritizing the needs of our public school students.
14 I want to flag that this is a wonderfully bipartisan
15 bill that I am really proud of. Shoutout to our
16 students from The Harbor School who have joined us in
17 the balcony today.

18 [APPLAUSE and CHEERING]

19 And, thank you to my co-prime sponsor, Council
20 Member Stevens, team NYCDC, my committee staff, and
21 Speaker Adrienne Adams and my colleagues for voting
22 in favor of it today. And, lastly, congrats to all
23 of my colleagues on their bills, thank you.

24 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.
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2 We will now hear from Council Member Brooks-
3 Powers.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Thank you.

5 I am so excited to be co-sponsor on Introduction
6 210, alongside my colleague Council Member Joann
7 Ariola.

8 The City has a responsibility to preserve the
9 safety and beauty of our waterfront. But, as my
10 constituents in the Rockaways know, abandoned vessels
11 and marine debris are not just an eyesore. They are
12 environmental risk and a danger to community members.
13 That is why this bill is so important. Setting up an
14 Office of Marine Debris Disposal and Vessel
15 Surrendering will empower the administration to
16 address this problem and remove dangerous debris from
17 our shores. We are making an long-term commitment to
18 New Yorkers to remove and dispose of debris and also
19 to prevent this from happening in the first place.
20 We look forward to working with the administration to
21 stand up this office quickly and ensure its an
22 effective operation. I thank Council Member Ariola
23 for her advocacy on this issue, and, of course,
24 Speaker Adrienne Adams for her leadership, and my
25 colleagues for their support of this critical

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2 legislation. With that, I ask my colleagues to vote
3 aye. Thank you.

4 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

5 We will now hear from Council Member Nantasha
6 Williams.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you so much.

8 I am also really excited to be passing two
9 measures today. First, Introduction 642, which will
10 require ACS to report on data of length of stay of
11 children in the Children's Center. I visited the
12 Children's Center a few weeks ago, and we certainly
13 do not want our children to stay in there longer than
14 they have to. I do know the administration is
15 working really hard to address this issue -- as most
16 of the children I have seen there typically have
17 extenuating needs.

18 I am also really excited to be passing Resolution
19 515, uh, which is honoring the month of the month of
20 the Ramadan. Ramadan, as many people know, is a
21 month of fasting, worship service, communal
22 gathering, and superiority development allowing
23 Muslims to devote themselves to faith and come closer
24 to Allah. It is important to recognize this because
25 for cultural visibility. Muslims are such a fabric of

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2 New York City, and I just want to thank Manzata (sp?)
3 Udine (sp?) who is here from [INAUDIBLE] for
4 championing this Resolution. And I encourage all of
5 my colleagues to vote yes on this both measures.
6 And, thank you, Speaker Adams for advancing these
7 very important measures.

8 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

9 We will now hear from Council Member Feliz.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Thank you, Majority
11 Leader.

12 Our city is going through a well-documented
13 affordable housing crisis. A well-documented crisis
14 that we can resolve by building affordable housing.
15 I am proud to support the 521 521 East Tremont
16 project, L U 172 in my district, that we are voting
17 on today. I am proud to support it, because it
18 brings that affordable housing that we desperately
19 need -- nearly 200 affordable units, including units
20 for our seniors -- we can never, ever forget about
21 our seniors. But, it also does more than that. The
22 property currently has a health care facility, and
23 the development will allow the health care facility
24 to expand, serve more people, and provide more
25 services. They are going to lease the space, and

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2 they are also going to get the opportunity to own it
3 -- to purchase it.

4 Affordable housing, expansion of a health care
5 facility, and even more than that, the East Tremont
6 region in the Bronx, is a region with a lot of needs.
7 And the developer has committed to providing a
8 community space, and is also open to selling the
9 space at a below market rate to a local youth
10 organization. And we have already started
11 conversations about bringing a baseball league to the
12 space to bring sports, opportunity, and to bring some
13 fun baseball for our teenagers and our youth in the
14 region.

15 This is a great project. It is a project that my
16 community is proud to support. I want to thank
17 Community Board 6, for all of their input on this. I
18 also want to thank the developer for the many
19 conversations, all which were very productive, and
20 for really listening to the people of the central
21 Bronx. I also want to thank Speaker Adams for all of
22 the support, Land Use Chair, Rafael Salamanca, The
23 Zoning Chair, Keven Riley, for helping make this
24 possible. I encourage all to vote yes on L U 172. It
25 is going to bring housing, it is going to bring

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2 sports, and opportunity to East Tremont in the Bronx.
3 Thank you.

4 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

5 Do we have anyone else signed up to speak on
6 General Orders? We have Council Member Ariola.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Thank you. I would like
8 to wish a Happy St. Patrick's and San Giuseppe's Day,
9 which is upcoming next week, and actually tomorrow is
10 St. Patrick's Day.

11 Today, Majority Whip Selvena Brooks-Powers and I
12 are putting forth Intro 210. The health and
13 cleanliness of our waterways from Pelham Bay to
14 Jamaica Bay the New York City's waterways are
15 littered with abandoned vessels and marine debris
16 that are not only unsightly, but they are detrimental
17 to the health of our waterways. Every day, these
18 vessels leak oil and other chemicals into our water
19 while the debris creates microplastics and other
20 hazards to our sea life.

21 Introduction 210, which would create a dedicate
22 Office of Marine Debris Disposal and vessel
23 surrendering, through this creation of that office,
24 we as a city will be able to better plan the removal,
25 and if possible, recycle any debris or vessels left

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2 along our shores. Additionally, this office will
3 establish a dedicated location for boat owners to
4 leave unwanted vessels providing viable alternative
5 to abandonment. And it will also develop
6 recommendations for enforcement against people who do
7 choose to illegally abandon their boats. This would
8 be a tremendous step forward towards improving the
9 waterways that all New Yorkers enjoy, and we
10 hopefully will be able to enjoy moving forward. I
11 would like to thank Speaker Adams for her leadership,
12 Chair James Gennaro of the Environmental Protection
13 and Resiliency and Waterfronts Committee for
14 shepherding this bill to the floor, as well as the
15 Council's legislative staff, and my amazing Chief of
16 Staff, Phyllis Inzerillo for all their hard work.
17 This is a bipartisan bill, so I want to thank all of
18 my colleagues who have cosponsored this bill. And,
19 thank you for your time, and I hope that all will
20 join us in voting yes on this bill.

21 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, Council Member
22 Ariola.

23 Seeing no one else signed up, we will now move in
24 to the Reports of Special Committees.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

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2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Reports of Standing
3 Committees?

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of The Committee on
5 Economic Development 236-A Ferry Service.

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

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of The Committee on
9 Education, Introduction 403-A, IDNYC Applicants?

10 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Amended and Coupled on General
11 Orders.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of The Committee on
13 Environmental Protection and Resiliency and
14 Waterfronts, Intro 210-A, Marine Debris Disposal
15 Office?

16 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
17 Orders.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of The Committee on
19 Finance, Preconsidered Resolution 530, Transparency
20 Resolution?

21 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of The Committee on General
23 Welfare, Introduction 124-A, HRA DSS Housing
24 Specialist?

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

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Introduction 431-A, Shelter
5 Personnel Training?

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

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Intro 642-A, Children's Center
9 Reporting?

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

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee on Health,
13 Introduction 918-A, Citywide Diabetes Reduction Plan?

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Amended and Coupled on General
15 Orders.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of The Committee on Housing
17 and Buildings, Intro 876-A, Green Building Standards?

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

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of The Committee on Land
21 Use, L U 168 and Reso 536 and L U 169 and Reso 537,
22 1880-1888 Coney Island Avenue Rezoning?

23 SPEAKER ADAMS: Couple to be filed pursuant to
24 Letter of Withdrawal.

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2 COUNCIL CLERK: LU 172 and Reso 538 through L U
3 178 and Reso 540 on page 5, various zoning
4 amendments?

5 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: On the General Orders Calendar,
7 Resolution Appointing various persons Commissioner of
8 Deeds?

9 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

10 I know ask that the clerk take a rollcall vote on
11 all of the items coupled on today's General Orders
12 Calendar?

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Louis?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye on all.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: I would like the record to
19 reflect that in the Transparency Reso, Sanitation is
20 being funded, and my son works for Sanitation.

21 I am an aye on all, except for Into 876, for
22 which I am a no.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye on all.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

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COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Barron?

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I want to disclose that my son works for Brick Arts and Media in Brooklyn as a camera operator.

And I want to congratulate my council member from the Bronx for 100% affordability, and having a sports thing, I want to let you all know he did challenge me to come play baseball with him, that will be the first defeat he suffers in his life.

[LAUGHTER IN CHAMBERS]

But, I accept the challenge, and it is going to be problematic for you, my brother.

[LAUGHTER IN CHAMBERS]

But, congratulations, and aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Bottcher?

COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Aye on all.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Carr?

COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: I would like to disclose on the record that in the Transparency Resolution, we are funding CUNY, and my husband is a student at CUNY. And, with that, I vote, no 876-A, and aye on the rest.

COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member De La Rosa?

COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye on all, and congrats, Oswald.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Fariás?

COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: I proudly vote aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Hanif.

COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye on all.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you
Council Member Holden?

COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: I would like to disclose
on the record, my son works for CUNY, under
Transparency Reso that we are voting on today.

And I vote aye on all, except for Intro 876-A,
thank you.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Kagan?

COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: I would like to disclose
for the record that my daughter is a CUNY student,
and we are funding CUNY through Transparency
Resolution.

I vote yes on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Lee?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Marte?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye on all, congratulations
3 Oswald, and congregations to the students at The
4 Harbor School for all of their advocacy.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

6 Council Member Mealy?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye on all.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Menin?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye on all.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Moya?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: (NO RESPONSE)

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Congratulations to
14 Council Member Ariola and Council Member Brooks-
15 Powers, because when I go to that ocean to removing
16 that debris has been hard and tough, so I say
17 congratulations for that and to all of my colleagues.

18 Aye on all.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you

20 Council Member Nurse?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Aye on all.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Aye on all.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Paladino ?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: (NO RESPONSE)

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COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Restler?

COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye on all. And a special congratulations to Amanda on a great bill. Many young people in my community are very happy.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Richardson Jordan?

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Riley?

COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: (NO RESPONSE)

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?

COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye on all.

Congratulations to my colleague, Council Member Feliz.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Ung?

COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Velázquez?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER VELÁZQUEZ: I would like to
3 disclose on the record, my brother is a board member
4 at Samaritans of New York and my husband is a Deputy
5 Commissioner at DEP.

6 Aye on all.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye on all, except 876-A
9 and Resolution 167.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Williams?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye on all. And
12 also disclosing for the record that I am a CUNY
13 student.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Won?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye on all.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Yeger?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye on all with the
18 exception of Introduction 876.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Borelli?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: I vote no on 876 and aye
21 on the rest.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Majority Leader Powers?

23 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: I vote aye on all.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Adams?
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2 SPEAKER ADAMS: Congratulations to all my
3 colleagues who are passing amazing legislation today.

4 I vote aye on all.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

6 All items on today's General Order Calendar are
7 adopted by a vote of 48 in the affirmative, 0 in the
8 negative, and 0 abstentions, with the exception of
9 Intro 876-A, adopted by a vote of 42 in the
10 affirmative, 6 in the negative, and 0 abstentions.

11 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: We are going to move into
12 the Discussion of Resolutions.

13 I am going to call Council Member Sandy Nurse.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Thank you.

15 Good afternoon, colleagues. Today I am excited
16 to advance Resolution 167-A as part of our ongoing
17 efforts to build a more equitable and sustainable
18 waste management system. This Resolution calls upon
19 the New York State Legislature to pass, and the
20 Governor to sign, Senate Bill S237, also known The
21 Bigger, Better Bottle Bill.

22 [APPLAUSE and CHEERING]

23 I want to recognize one of my favorite
24 environmental justice groups, the wonderful Canning
25

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2 Community of 'Sure We Can'. They are up in the
3 balcony. I can't see you all, but I can hear you.

4 [APPLAUSE and CHEERING]

5 Over its 40-year history, New York's Bottle Bill
6 has proven to be a highly effective program to reduce
7 litter and increase recycling rates -- not to mention
8 sustaining an entirely underappreciated set of
9 environmental workers known as canners. The city is
10 home to an estimated 10,000 canners, our neighbors
11 who collect cans and bottles from the streets to make
12 a living. In 2020, the Bottle Bill helped recycle
13 5.5 billion containers, totaling 242,000 tons at no
14 cost to local governments [TIMER CHIMES]... All
15 right.

16 [LAUGHTER IN CHAMBERS]

17 Well, thank you all for your support, I hope you
18 all vote aye, thank you.

19 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: You convinced me.

20 Before we move on to voting on resolutions, I
21 just want to do the Introduction and Reading of
22 Bills.

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

25 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

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2 Anyone else signed up to speak on Resolutions?

3 Council Member Hanif?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Thank you. (NO MICROPHONE)

5 [INAUDIBLE] that the body is considering Council
6 Member Williams's Resolution 523 to recognize the
7 holy month of Ramadan annually in our city. As Muslim
8 city council member from Brooklyn, I am excited to
9 cosponsor this Resolution. The contributions of
10 Muslim communities are far reaching, and I am
11 especially grateful for the contributions of Black
12 Muslims for laying roots for racial justice as
13 integral to our faith work. New York City has the
14 largest Muslim community in the United States, so you
15 cannot miss us.

16 It is my hope that with the passage of this
17 Resolution that New Yorkers will learn about all of
18 the ways Muslims celebrate and strengthen community
19 and spiritual ties during Ramadan, which includes, of
20 course, more than just fasting. I have especially
21 appreciated efforts to write letters to incarcerated
22 Muslims, advocate for a Green Dean, which is to
23 protect our planet for climate injustices, and
24 strengthen Muslim mutual aid networks. I encourage
25 my colleagues to vote in support, thank you.

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2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

3 We will now hear from Council Member Ari Kagan.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: Thank you.

5 I would like to express my strong opposition to
6 the Resolution 167, which is calling on New York
7 State Legislature to pass, and the governor to sign
8 legislation that will increase the bottle deposit at
9 the amount of 10¢ per container from the current .05
10 ¢.

11 So, basically, in the time of the very high
12 inflation and rising costs of everything, we are
13 creating additional pain on cash register for all New
14 Yorkers. It will have almost no effect on recycling.
15 So, I am urging everyone to vote no on this
16 Resolution 167. Thank you

17 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you again for.

18 Anyone else signed up to speak?

19 Okay, we will now have a voice vote on today's
20 Resolutions. If you wish to vote against or abstain
21 of any of today's Resolutions, please notify the
22 Legislative Documents Unit by email or approaching
23 the dais before the vote.

24 I will now read the Resolutions into the record.
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2 Resolution 167-A calls upon the New York State
3 Legislator to pass, and the governor to sign, Senate
4 Bill 237, Legislation to amend Environmental
5 Conservation Law in relation to returnable bottles.

6 Will all those in favor please say, aye?

7 [AYES]

8 Will all opposed say, nay?

9 Any abstentions? Please come down? Any
10 abstentions?

11 The ayes have it.

12 Resolution 503-B, calls upon the New York State
13 Legislator to pass, and the governor to sign,
14 legislation that allows for the conversion of
15 commercial units to residential units, increase the
16 affordable housing from Commercial Conversions (AHCC)
17 tax benefit program.

18 Will all of those in favor please say, aye?

19 [AYES]

20 Will opposed say, nay?

21 Any abstentions?

22 The ayes have it.

23 Resolution 515, recognizing the month of Ramadan
24 annually in the City of New York and celebrating the
25

1
2 significant role of Muslims in the multicultural
3 fabric of New York City communities.

4 Will all of those in favor please say, aye?

5 [AYES]

6 All opposed, please say, nay?

7 Any abstentions?

8 The ayes have it.

9 We will now move into today's General Discussion.
10 We will begin with Council Member Hanif.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Thank you.

12 I am proud to introduce Intro 963 today to ban
13 elephant captivity in New York City. I would like to
14 thank Council Member Abreu, Council Member River,
15 Council Member Richardson Jordan, Council Member
16 Krishnan, Council Member Cabán, Council Member
17 Avilés, Council Member Gutiérrez, and, Council Member
18 Nurse for joining me as co-prime sponsors.

19 This bill sets strict minimum standards for any
20 facility holding elephants. And if they are unable
21 to comply with them, compels the release of the
22 elephants to a suitable sanctuary where their needs
23 can be better met.

24 Scientific studies have shown that elephants are
25 cognitively, emotionally, and socially complex beings

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2 who suffer in confinement. In captivity elephants
3 have been known to experience painful physical
4 ailments, emotional trauma, and brain damage from
5 being unable to roam freely and interact with other
6 elephants, as they would in their natural habitats.

7 In 2017, New York State and New York City banned
8 the use of elephants in circuses. Banning elephant
9 captivity builds on those laws and is the natural
10 next step to take.

11 I want to emphasize that I am introducing this
12 bill with love for the Bronx Zoo, which is a
13 treasured New York City institution that I have been
14 visiting since I was a child. I look forward to
15 engaging with them here. I am grateful to Voters For
16 Animal Rights and the Non-Human Rights Project for
17 their collaboration and support for this bill. I
18 encourage my colleagues to sign on as sponsors.

19 Thank you.

20 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

21 We will now go to Council Member Barron, followed
22 by Council Member Carr.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you very much.

24 My colleagues, I just want to bring your
25 attention to -- this is budget time! And I want to

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2 start with the budget from the democratic president
3 of the United States of America. By the way, it's a
4 \$6.8 trillion budget. And guess what? There's \$842
5 billion for the military. And only \$90 billion for
6 education.

7 The state budget, by the way, there is a \$32
8 trillion state debt, uh, federal debt by 2024. And
9 the state budget is \$227 billion -- not enough money
10 for... nothing for NYCHA and poor folks. The rich
11 will get richer! The poor will get poorer under this
12 parasitic capitalist system and these budgets.

13 And, finally, our local budget -- \$102.7 billion
14 -- not enough for NYCHA, education, and so many
15 other.. Mental Health... Don't be fooled by the
16 pittance that they give you. It is not enough. And
17 guess what? There's a 10-year \$150 billion capital
18 plan, and that's a shame.

19 There should be no poverty in New York State.
20 There should be homeless having their life's
21 gatherings gathered up off the streets and put into
22 homeless shelters, where they don't have mental;
23 health; they don't have permanent plans for permanent
24 homes; and they don't have workforce development.
25 This is a shame.

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2 Remember a budget is a moral document, not just a
3 bunch of numbers. It is a moral document on your
4 political values over your political pragmatism.

5 Vote your heart and deal with our people. Let's
6 not make the same mistake we made last year. [TIMER
7 CHIMES].

8 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

9 We will now go to Council Member Carr, followed
10 by Council Member Narcisse .

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: thank you Majority Leader.

12 I just want to just want to wish, uh, to our
13 Irish Caucus colleagues and New Yorkers a Happy St.
14 Patrick's Day. And a particular thank you to the
15 caucus for honoring one of Staten Island's own,
16 Assemblyman Mike Cusick, earlier this week.

17 I want to wish a Happy St. Joseph's Day, Buona
18 Festa to everyone in New York City, particularly my
19 fellow Italians and all of the Joes out there. I
20 know we have many them in our lives.

21 [LAUGHTER IN CHAMBERS]

22 Including our own minority leader, Joe Borelli.
23 I hope everybody enjoyed the snacks that we had over
24 in the members lounge and the rotunda. We are going
25 to do it again next year. And I want to congratulate

1 our two winners: Tutto Calcio and La Torre Bakery.

2 There was a route for Queens this year somehow.

3 Clearly I did not fix the contest.

4 [LAUGHTER IN CHAMBERS]

5 So, congratulations to the two bakeries from
6 Council Member Paladino and Council Member Ariola's
7 districts, respectively.

8 [APPLAUSE]

9 Thank you so much, Buona Festa.

10 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, and Happy St.
11 Joseph's Day, and thank you for the new tradition
12 here in the City Council from the Italian Caucus.
13 Thanks so much.

14 We will now hear from Council Member Narcisse,
15 followed by Council Member Brooks-Powers.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Good afternoon, and
17 thank you Madam Honorable Speaker for giving me the
18 opportunity to put my Introduction in here... and
19 all of the staff.

20 As a business owner, it has been very difficult,
21 especially after COVID. So, I am saying it, 969 it
22 is important to pass economic growth, if you want to
23 help, and host central... This is about host a
24 central portal for all New York City community
25

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2 development financial institutions and run and
3 education campaign targeting small business and
4 certified MWBEs to show them to how helpful CDFIs can
5 be to their growth and to sustain their business.

6 I also asking that you join me in 968. This bill
7 would require the Department of Health and Mental
8 Hygiene ("DOHMH") to develop a professional education
9 program regarding sickle cell disease, in
10 consultation with the New York City Health and
11 Hospitals Corporation. You know, as a nurse, I am
12 deep on that one. I coming [INAUDIBLE] health.
13 Sickle cell disease is estimated to occur in 1 out of
14 500 African-Americans. There is no cure for sickle
15 cell right now. But, the disease and symptoms can be
16 managed with proper care and lifestyle. This program
17 will inform New Yorkers of their health care options
18 and increase awareness. I believe it would be a
19 critical, encouraging to all New Yorkers, especially
20 the health field, to talk about sickle cell disease
21 and get prevention care.

22 So, my colleagues, I am asking for your support,
23 so, please help me get this through with your votes,
24 I am counting on you to support me. This is about
25 our health, this is about our economic machine, which

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2 is small business. The rhetoric all of the time is
3 that it is a backbone of a community. So, thank you.
4 Thank you, Madam Speaker, thank you.

5 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

6 We will now hear from Council Member Brooks-
7 Powers, followed by Council Member Brewer.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Thank you.

9 I wanted to briefly speak about a bill that I am
10 proud to introduce today, Intro 962. As Speaker
11 Adams said in her State of the City, access to public
12 pools and swimming program must be considered a
13 matter of justice. One out of three Black students
14 cannot swim. While only one of ten white students
15 cannot. More than a dozen council districts do not
16 contain a public pool. We need to change this to
17 invest in pools and education and ensure all New
18 Yorkers, especially those in underserved communities,
19 can learn to swim in their neighborhood.

20 This legislation will require that the
21 administration identify new locations for pools in
22 the City, partially in environmental justice
23 communities, require The Parks Department to offer
24 swimming programming at City pools, and require Parks
25

1
2 to develop a plan to make DOE school pools open to
3 the public year-round.

4 I am also sponsoring Resolution 532, alongside
5 Deputy Speaker Ayala, which requests the state to
6 recognize the asylum seeking crisis as an emergency
7 and increase the flow of funding to the City to
8 address it. The City needs more recourses to ensure
9 we can continue to welcome those who need our help to
10 the city, to ensure that everyone who arrives here
11 can do so with dignity and build a life in New York
12 City. Communities like the one I represent have been
13 overwhelmed. But we are not showered with critical
14 resources. We have a duty to asylum seekers and New
15 Yorkers alike. We have worked to help tens of
16 thousands of asylum seekers so far, and we continue
17 to do so as long as they come to New York City. But,
18 we need assistance from our state and federal
19 partners to serve newcomers effectively over the long
20 term. I encourage my colleagues to join me on this
21 Resolution. I look forward to working with my
22 colleagues on both pieces of legislation, and I thank
23 Speaker Adams for her legislation. And, I just want
24 to once again [TIMER CHIMES] underscore this asylum
25 seeker resolution, and I really encourage our

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2 colleagues to sign on. Communities like mine are
3 very much saturated with shelters right now, and it
4 only going to get worse. So, while the state is
5 working on their budget, we call on Governor Hochul
6 and our state colleagues to prioritize this as well,
7 thank you again for.

8 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

9 We will now hear from Council Member Brewer,
10 followed by Council Member Bottcher.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you very much.

12 I have three Intros today, two of them on the
13 issue of noise. And I know that one of that has to
14 do with sirens. It's a hard issue to attack in terms
15 of making a difference. But, I met with the Police
16 Department, went out in their particular car, and I
17 think this rumbler is one way to go. So, we are
18 going to meet with the ambulance -- both the H+H,
19 and, of course, Fire Department, and with the union
20 to see if they are supportive. It is mostly the
21 ambulances that cause the most 3-1-1 complaints.

22 The other issue we get complaints, of course, is
23 the issue of trying to figure out how to deal with
24 the leaf blowers... the gas powered... I believe
25 there are also electric ones. And it is a hard

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2 issue, because The Parks Department uses them, supers
3 use them, owners use them, et cetera. But, they are
4 incredibly noisy. And, again, how many calls can you
5 get to 3-1-1? -- Many.

6 And, then, finally, 961. The issue there, I am a
7 big supporter of archives. I don't know if people
8 have gone through that process, but we need the City
9 of New York, municipal library, to have information
10 about the history of New York City. And I turns out
11 that The City Council and other officials; although,
12 agencies are part of the social media account
13 archives, elected officials are not. And, so, the
14 issue would be, every year, that we would give the
15 information of our social media to the municipal
16 library, and then they would archive it in the proper
17 manner. It needs some tweaking in terms of who
18 actually is going to collect all 51 and make us to
19 the work. But, the idea is that the archive is
20 important. Thank you very much.

21 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

22 We will now hear from Council Member Bottcher,
23 followed by Council Member Velázquez.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHE: If you were to walk up
25 to a bunch of New Yorkers on the street right now and

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2 ask them what really gets on their nerves when they
3 walk around the city, a lot of them would say the
4 scaffolding that seems like it's on every block. We
5 have over 280 miles of scaffolding in New York City;
6 4,000 sidewalk scaffolds in New York in Manhattan
7 alone. So, today, I am joining a bunch of my
8 colleagues in introducing a package of legislation,
9 my three bills:

10 The first would set a time limit of six months,
11 when you put up your scaffolding, you've got six
12 months to pull your permits to start work.

13 The second bill would update the lighting
14 requirements on sidewalk sheds, because they haven't
15 been updated since the advent of LED technology. You
16 can light a sidewalk shed much better and much more
17 ecologically friendly ways. So, we are upping the
18 number of lumens that would be required.

19 And, then, thirdly, we are going to increase the
20 standards for scaffolding when it is in a park or a
21 playground. I've got a playground in our district
22 where for years there has been scaffolding covering
23 part of the basketball court, because the building
24 there needs to fix... next to it, needs to fix
25 their wall. So, we are going to up the standards so

1
2 that they would have to be high, it would have to be
3 one of the newer models.

4 So, these are just a few. I want to thank all of
5 my colleagues, Manhattan borough president, Mark
6 Levine, and all of my colleagues for being part of
7 this. New Yorkers have been waiting a long time for
8 these kinds of reforms.

9 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

10 We will hear from Council Member Velázquez,
11 followed by Council Member Stevens.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VELÁZQUEZ: Good afternoon,
13 colleagues. Today I am happy to be introducing two
14 new pieces of legislation. A Resolution in support
15 of improved environmental worker protections in the
16 fashion industry, and a bill to help contract workers
17 get permanent job placement.

18 Intro 979 will create an educational campaign for
19 contract workers to inform them and create a better
20 accessibility to fulltime positions working at city
21 agencies.

22 I know we all have made complaints about staffing
23 shortages, and making sure that contract workers are
24 aware of the available opportunities that exist not
25 only helps them, but can help our city as a whole.

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2 The fashion is responsible for up to 8% of global
3 carbon emissions and is responsible for 20% of the
4 estimated 300 million tons of plastic produced
5 annually. Their rate emission is more than the
6 international airplane travel and the shipping
7 industry combined. The work of many fashion houses
8 lack environment and worker protections, regulations,
9 and oversight and allows for bad actors to take
10 advantage of vulnerable populations -- including the
11 use of sweatshops, child labor, and outright slavery.
12 The Resolution 535, supports the New York State bill
13 known as the Fashion Sustainability and Social
14 Accountability Act, which seeks to address the
15 impacts of the fashion industry by requiring sellers
16 and manufacturers in New York with a worldwide
17 revenue of \$100 million dollars or more, to be
18 accountable to standardized environmental and social
19 due diligence polices. Noticeably, the bill includes
20 [INAUDIBLE] requirements supply chain mapping to show
21 good faith efforts to map 50% of the supply chain
22 focusing on suppliers with higher social
23 environmental risks, a social and environmental
24 sustainability report describing what a company does
25 to identify, prevent, and account for outcomes for

1
2 their work, also it provides estimated timelines and
3 benchmarks for improvement, and it discloses
4 environmental and social impacts of their work --
5 including median wages of workers, or prioritized
6 supplies, and how their wages compare with local
7 minimum and living wages -- as well as respecting
8 workers' rights.

9 Legislation like this will not only help [TIMER
10 CHIMES] New Yorkers, but can see a global impact
11 process.

12 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

13 We will now hear from Council Member Stevens,
14 followed by Council Member Schulman.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Good afternoon,
16 colleagues.

17 Most folks don't know that DYCD has their own set
18 of shelters in their portfolio. And today, I have
19 two sets of bills that address some of the many
20 issues that our homeless and runaway youth face each
21 and every day.

22 Intro 976, is a reporting bill that would tack
23 the LGBTQ+ homeless population for young people.
24 And, our second bill, Intro 977, which would help
25 streamline the intake process in drop-in centers.

1
2 I would like all of my colleagues to sign on to
3 these bills to show support for a population of young
4 people who are often not seen, heard, or talked
5 about. And, so, I encourage everyone to sign on to
6 those two bills. Thank you.

7 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

8 We will now hear from Council Member Schulman and
9 finally Council Member Joseph.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Thank you.

11 I am proud today to introduce a law to amend the
12 administrative code of the city of New York, in
13 relation to information on free cardiopulmonary
14 resuscitation courses (CPR) available to the public.

15 Approximately 300,000 to 450,000 people die every
16 year from cardiac arrest. And cardiac arrest have
17 increased by 800% in New York City since COVID. CPR
18 can double or triple a person's chance of survival,
19 and I am very happy to introduce this bill, Intro
20 975. Thank you.

21 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

22 And, finally, we will hear from Council Member
23 Joseph.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Thank you, Majority
25 Leader.

1
2 Today I am introducing Introduction 964, which
3 requires the Mayor's Office of Food Policy to develop
4 and implement a plan to prepare farmers' markets in
5 the city for use in winter weather.

6 Farmers' markets have long been a sign that
7 winter weather is breaking and warmer days are on the
8 horizon. But, we must do more to ensure that our
9 communities have access to fresh food and support mom
10 and pop farmers.

11 Secondly, I would like introduce Introduction
12 965, along with my colleague, Council Member Restler,
13 would require the Department of Transportation to
14 increase the pace at which it installs protected
15 bicycle lanes to 100 miles per year for the next six
16 year.

17 The year 2021 was the deadliest year for on the
18 road in New York City. In fact, according to
19 Transportation Alternatives, a 124 pedestrians, 50
20 motorcyclists, 19 cyclists, and 15 people on moped
21 and e-bikes were killed in New York City. This bill
22 is a step in the right direction, and I urge my
23 colleagues to sign on to help keep our neighbors
24 safe.

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2 Lastly, I want to introduce Resolution 354, to
3 call upon the state to pass, and the governor to
4 sign, an act that requires MTA to extend the eligible
5 usage hours for student metro cards. Right now, the
6 hours are only from 5:30 a.m. until 8:30 p.m.
7 Instead, we would love to move it to 5:00 a.m. until
8 10:00 p.m. S7492 is an act that prohibits the MTA
9 from penalizing a student for using a metro card when
10 school is not in session.

11 As a forever educator, I ask my colleagues to
12 sign on, so that we, students from Kings County to
13 Kings Bridge, will be able to get to school and
14 extracurricular activities regardless of the time
15 while free from fear. Thank you.

16 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: I will now call on
17 Speaker Adrienne Adams to close today's Stated
18 Meeting.

19 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you, Majority Leader.

20 The Stated Meeting of March 16, 2023, is hereby
21 adjourned.

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS:

23 [GAVEL SOUND] [GAVELING OUT]
24
25

C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Date March 29, 2023