

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

OF THE

STATED MEETING

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Thursday, October 9, 2025

Start: 4:12 p.m.

Recess: 5:12 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: *The Deputy Speaker (Council Member Ayala) presiding as the Acting President Pro Tempore at this meeting*

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Adrienne E. Adams, *Speaker*

Joann Ariola

Alexa Avilés

Diana I. Ayala

Chris Banks

Erik D. Bottcher

Justin L. Brannan

Gale A. Brewer

Selvena N. Brooks-Powers

Tiffany Cabán

David M. Carr

Carmen N. De La Rosa

Eric Dinowitz

Amanda Farías

Simcha Felder

Oswald Feliz

James F. Gennaro

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING
COUNCIL MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

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

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

A P P E A R A N C E S

INVOCATION

Delivered by: Rev Stephanie Jaeger, Trinity
Lutheran Church, located at 309 St Paul's
Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10304

2 SERGEANT POLITE: Testing one, two, one,
3 two. Today's date is October 9, 2025. Today's Stated
4 Meeting is being recorded in the Chambers by Keith
5 Polite.

6 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Members, please take
7 your seats.

8 AUTOMATED: Recording in progress.

9 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Ladies and gentlemen,
10 at this time, please place all electronic devices,
11 all electronic devices--Oh, we're not starting yet?

12 (PAUSE)

13 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Ladies and gentlemen,
14 could I have your time, for real this time?

15 At this time, please place all electronic
16 devices, all electronic devices to vibrate.

17 Madam Deputy Speaker, it's all yours.

18 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Thank you. [GAVEL]

19 Good afternoon, and welcome to the Stated
20 Meeting of October 9, 2025. I am Deputy Speaker Diana
21 Ayala, and I would like to thank you for joining us.
22 If you would like to follow along, the agenda for
23 today's meeting is posted on our website.

24 On behalf of the body, I welcome the
25 members of the public who have joined us here today.

2 During Stated Meetings, only Members of the Council
3 may speak. Members of the public shall remain silent.
4 If you wish to express support of any remarks, you
5 may make the silent approval gesture.

6 I want to remind my colleagues that
7 decorum is to be respected at all times. Insulting
8 each other is not appropriate, all remarks are to be
9 addressed to the Chair, and Members shall not speak
10 unless recognized by the Chair. It is essential that
11 even if we disagree, we treat each other with
12 respect.

13 CLERK: Please join us for the Pledge of
14 Allegiance.

15 SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise!

16 ALL: [PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE]

17 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Roll call?

18 CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Present

20 CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Presenté

22 CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

23 CLERK: Council Member Banks?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Present

25 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: (NO RESPONSE)

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

CLERK: Council Member Bottcher?

COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Present

CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Here

CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here

CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

MAJORITY WHIP BROOKS-POWERS: Present

CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Present

CLERK: Council Member Carr?

COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: (NO RESPONSE)

CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Here

CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Here

CLERK: Council Member Felder?

COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Here

CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Here

CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here

CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: (NO RESPONSE)

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Here

CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Present

CLERK: Council Member Holden?

COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here

CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Present

CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Present

CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Here

CLERK: Council Member Lee?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Here

CLERK: Council Member Louis?

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present

CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Present

CLERK: Council Member Marte?

COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Present

CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Present

CLERK: Council Member Menin?

COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Present

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

CLERK: Council Member Morano?

COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: (NO RESPONSE)

CLERK: Council Member Moya?

COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Present

CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Present

CLERK: Council Member Morano?

COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Here!

CLERK: Thank you

CLERK: Council Member Carr?

COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Present

Council Member Nurse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Present

CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Present

CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

MINORITY WHIP PALADINO: (NO RESPONSE)

CLERK: Council Member Powers?

COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Here

CLERK: Council Member Restler?

COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Here

CLERK: Council Member Riley?

COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: (NO RESPONSE)

CLERK: Council Member Salaam?

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Present

CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: (ABSENT)

CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?

COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: (NO RESPONSE)

CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Here

CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Presenté

CLERK: I'm sorry, Schulman?

COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Here

CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Here

CLERK: Council Member Ung?

COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Present

CLERK: Council Member Riley?

COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Present

CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Here

CLERK: Council Member Williams?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Present

CLERK: Council Member Won?

COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Here

CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Here

CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

MINORITY LEADER ARIOLA: Present

CLERK: Council Member Farías?

COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Present

CLERK: Speaker Adams?

SPEAKER ADAMS: Present

CLERK: We have a quorum.

DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Thank you.

We will now have today's Invocation,
which will be delivered by Reverend Stephanie Jaeger
of Trinity Lutheran Church, located at 309 Saint
Paul's Avenue in Staten Island.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise!

REVEREND JAEGER: Deputy Speaker, with
your understanding, I first would like to thank City
Council Member Camilla Hanks, who represents the
beautiful and diverse District 49 on the North Shore
of Staten Island, where I have the privilege to live
and to serve as pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church.

Trinity is a historical congregation, and
we have a long-standing commitment to address hunger,
poverty, and, more recently, work for the rights and
dignity of immigrants in our city. I want to thank

1 you, Council Member, personally for this opportunity
2 to give the Invocation; it is a profound honor. And I
3 want to thank all of you, Speaker, Deputy Speaker,
4 all of the Council Members. And I also want to name
5 the staff, the staff who are here; I want to thank
6 you for your dedication and your persistence, what
7 you show, all that you bring to build an ever better,
8 ever more equitable, ever more livable city of New
9 York. I want you to know that I see you, that the
10 people of New York see you, and that our hearts are
11 filled with gratitude. But more importantly than
12 that, the Divine sees you, the Divine sees you and
13 your work, and seeks your well-being for the sake of
14 the city you serve. It is an understatement to say
15 you are serving in complex times—times where you
16 lead New York City and-- where you, who lead New York
17 City, and we who live in it are confronted with
18 difficulties, with challenges beyond our imagination,
19 conflict, disrespect, acts of intimidation and
20 domination, disappearing financial resources, and now
21 consequences of a federal shutdown. These pressures
22 impact your lives. These pressures impact the lives
23 of the most vulnerable in our beloved city. And these
24 pressures, too, cause internal moral injury for all
25

1 of us, as the values of community and country on
2 which our families, past and present, have built our
3 lives now seem like shaky ground. It's in the face of
4 these destabilizing pressures, the divine word that
5 comes to me is the word spoken by the Hebrew prophet
6 Habakkuk, who said in the face of similar times,
7 "Yet, and yet there is still a vision for the
8 appointed time, there is still a vision for the
9 appointed time, whatever may be happening around us,
10 there is still a vision," the Divine says. There is
11 still a vision of a beloved community where humanity
12 overcomes inhumanity, where solidarity shatters the
13 arrogant idol of domination, and where mutual
14 understanding and mutual regard dispel violence.
15 Where love of neighbor dismantles all hatred and all
16 fear. Whatever rancorous forces may be challenging
17 your well-being, the well-being of the City, our
18 people, our souls, whatever may be challenging you in
19 this moment, there is still a vision, the Divine
20 says. There is still a vision of a city that is good
21 and that is just. Beloved, beloved City Council
22 Members, you are the keepers of that divine vision.
23 You are the stewards of the good and the just city
24 that the people of New York hope for and are willing
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1 to work for alongside you. This afternoon, know you
2 are not alone. You are not alone, and I ask you to
3 hear my prayer and blessing in this season of
4 challenge. May you feel the presence of the Divine
5 power. May you feel the Divine power give you clarity
6 of mind, strength of spirit, and a fortitude of body,
7 so that you may continue—so that you may continue to
8 realize the divine vision for our city, the good
9 city, the just city of New York. Amen.

11 (PAUSE)

12 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Thank you. And with
13 that, I would like to ask Council Member Camilla
14 Hanks now to spread the Invocation on the record.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Today, it is my
16 honor to recognize a remarkable faith leader and in
17 service, Reverend Doctor Stephanie Jaeger, pastor of
18 Trinity Lutheran Church in Stapleton, my hometown and
19 my home church that I went to as a child. Founded in
20 1856, Trinity stands as one of Staten Island's oldest
21 congregations. Under Pastor Jaeger's leadership, it
22 continues to serve as a steadfast beacon of
23 compassion, creativity, and community.

24 Through her ministry, Pastor Jaeger has
25 reimaged what it means for a church to be part of a

1
2 civic fabric of our borough. Trinity Lutheran is not
3 only a place of worship, but a hub for the arts,
4 education, and social justice where the hungry are
5 fed, the marginalized are welcomed, and we are called
6 to live with dignity and purpose. Her work extends
7 beyond the pulpit through initiatives that strengthen
8 our neighborhoods, foster dialogue, and bring people
9 together in a shared humanity. We are grateful for
10 Pastor Jaeger's enduring commitment to the people of
11 Staten Island and for reminding us that through
12 today's Invocation and the power of compassion,
13 courage, and faith in action, I moved for unanimous
14 consent to spread this Invocation in full. Thank you,
15 Deputy Speaker Ayala.

16 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Thank you.

17 We will now ask Council Member Crystal
18 Hudson for the Adoption of Minutes.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: I make a motion
20 that the Minutes of the Stated Meeting of September
21 25th, 2025, be adopted as printed.

22 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Messages and Papers
23 from the Mayor?

24 CLERK: None.

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2 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Communication From
3 City, County, and Borough Offices?

4 CLERK: None.

5 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Petitions and
6 Communications?

7 CLERK: None.

8 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Land Use Call-ups?

9 CLERK: None.

10 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Thank you. We will
11 now have Communication from Speaker Adrienne Adams.

12 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you very much,
13 Deputy Speaker, and good afternoon, everyone.

14 On Tuesday, we remember the survivors and
15 victims of the horrific October 7th attacks on Israel
16 by Hamas. The horrific events of that day and those
17 that followed have brought immense pain and grief
18 that continues to reverberate throughout our diverse
19 communities here in New York City. After a
20 devastating number of months, I am heartened by the
21 reports of an emerging peace deal that can bring an
22 end to the violence for Palestinians and Israelis.
23 And the return of the hostages. We cannot become numb
24 to such violence. And we must continue to insist that

1
2 peace is possible, recognizing our shared humanity,
3 to work towards a future where all of us are safe.

4 October 5th was World Teachers' Day.
5 Teachers are some of the most important figures in
6 our children's lives, responsible for their education
7 and development. Their contributions to our society
8 are vast, and we must continue to support this
9 critical workforce with the resources they need.

10 October 11th is National Coming Out Day,
11 which was first observed in 1988 in support of our
12 LGBTQIA+ communities. It celebrates coming out as an
13 act of liberation that confronts silence and
14 ignorance and combats homophobia. Visibility is
15 critical, and that's why we stand with our LGBTQIA+
16 communities.

17 October 13th is Indigenous Peoples Day,
18 when we recognize the culture, knowledge, and
19 contributions that Indigenous people have made
20 throughout history and continue to do today.

21 On this day, we also celebrate our city's
22 Italian communities and their contributions. Earlier
23 this week, the Council hosted its annual Italian
24 Heritage Month celebration right here in Council
25 Chambers. We thank everyone who participated.

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2 October is National Domestic Violence
3 Awareness Month, a time when we uplift survivors of
4 domestic violence. Here in New York City, thousands
5 of domestic violence cases are reported each year.
6 Yet, we know there was an undercount due to the
7 trauma and stigma associated with domestic violence,
8 resulting in survivors living in fear and silence. I
9 am so proud of the work this Council has done to
10 prioritize meeting the needs of survivors. We must
11 all continue our work together to end gender based
12 violence and advance solutions that keep survivors
13 safe and help them recover.

14 For all those celebrating Sukkot this
15 week, I wish you all a Chag Sukkot Sameach.

16 Next, I want to take a moment to
17 recognize Beckett Zahedi, a 16-year-old scholar from
18 Carroll Gardens who built—Get this—get this now, I
19 just told you Beckett was 16, right? Colleagues,
20 Beckett built a free tool called “Realer Estate”
21 Realer-- Get it? “Realer Estate” to help New Yorkers
22 find rent-stabilized apartments—16 years old! I'm so
23 impressed with Beckett and his commitment to helping
24 fellow New Yorkers secure affordable housing.

25 Beckett, where are you? Stand up there.

2 COUNCIL: (CHEERS AND APPLAUSE)

3 SPEAKER ADAMS: We need more of you, and
4 we're thankful and grateful for you. Thank you,
5 Beckett!

6 Now I'd like to wish a very happy
7 birthday to Council member Julie Menin, whose
8 birthday was on the 6th.

9 COUNCIL: (CHEERS AND APPLAUSE)

10 SPEAKER ADAMS: Council member Bob Holden,
11 whose birthday is on the 12th.

12 COUNCIL: (CHEERS AND APPLAUSE)

13 SPEAKER ADAMS: And Council Member Justin
14 Brannan, who will be 21 again on the 14th.

15 COUNCIL: (CHEERS AND APPLAUSE)

16 SPEAKER ADAMS: Finally, we send love and
17 congratulations to our very own Council Member Oswald
18 Feliz, who welcomed baby Matthew. Congratulations!

19 COUNCIL: (CHEERS AND APPLAUSE)

20 SPEAKER ADAMS: Now, let's move on to our
21 Stated Agenda.

22 Arverne East Amendment an Article XI
23 would amend a previously approved HPD development
24 composed of 11 buildings and approximately 1,320
25 affordable homes to increase home ownership units and

1
2 provide real property tax exemption to both home
3 ownership and rental units in Majority Whip Brooks-
4 Powers' District.

5 Station Plaza Jamaica City Map change
6 would facilitate the construction of two pedestrian
7 plazas in downtown Jamaica as part of the Station
8 Plaza Enhancement Project in Council Member Williams'
9 District.

10 Claremont House: 1640 Anthony Avenue
11 would facilitate the development of a new 13-story
12 building with 65 affordable home ownership units in
13 Council Member Feliz's District.

14 And 535 Morgan Avenue Rezoning would
15 facilitate the opening of a supermarket in a vacant
16 one-story retail building in Council Member
17 Gutiérrez's District.

18 Next, we'll vote on the following Finance
19 item:

20 A Preconsidered Resolution, sponsored by
21 Council Member Justin Brannan, would establish a new
22 partial 40-year Article XI tax exemption for an 80-
23 unit project in Council Member Salamanca's district.

24 Next, we'll vote on the following items
25 on the Committee on Rules, Privileges, and Elections:

2 Resolution 1050-A would amend the Rules
3 of the Council to improve clarity and consistency
4 with Council practices and precedent.

5 Resolution 1099 would make changes to
6 chairs and membership of certain committees of the
7 Council. We thank our staff, Jeff Campagna.

8 Next, we'll vote on the following
9 legislation:

10 Introduction 1122-A, sponsored by
11 Council member Jennifer Gutiérrez, would require the
12 Office of Technology and Innovation to develop and
13 publish on its website an internet master plan for
14 the City to improve access to broadband internet in
15 homes throughout the City. We thank our staff members
16 Irene Byhovsky and Erik Brown.

17 Introduction 928-B, sponsored by Council
18 Member Sandy Nurse, would require the Department of
19 Transportation, in consultation with the Department
20 of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Department of
21 Environmental Protection, and the Mayor's Office of
22 Climate and Environmental Justice, to conduct a pilot
23 project on the use of cool pavement. Thank you to our
24 staff member, Mark Chen.

1 Introduction 1265-A, sponsored by Council
2 Member Pierina Anna Sanchez, would require the
3 Housing Connect portal for affordable housing
4 lotteries to provide users with notification by e-
5 mail and text of updates to their applications.
6 Additionally, the bill would permit a user to
7 designate a representative who would receive
8 notifications on their behalf. We thank our staff
9 members, Keith Felsenfeld, Austin Malone, William
10 Eck, Jose Conde, and Dirk Spencer.

11 Next Introduction 925-A, sponsored by
12 Council Member Farah Louis, would require biennial
13 inspections of steam radiators located in apartments
14 where a child under six lives. If an inspection
15 reveals a defect or damage to a steam radiator, the
16 building owner would be required to correct it within
17 14 days. Any condition considered hazardous to life
18 or safety would require the building owner to remove
19 the steam radiator from service within 24 hours of
20 the inspection and repair or replace the steam
21 radiator within seven days.

22 I want to take a moment, colleagues, to
23 acknowledge the Kuravsky family, who are here with us
24 today, seated right here. They lost their baby boy
25

1
2 two years ago from injuries from a malfunctioning
3 steam radiator. And as I said earlier, my heart is
4 with you. Our hearts are with you. Binyomin Zachariah
5 should still be here with us today. But I do thank
6 you for your courage and commitment to ensuring the
7 safety of countless New Yorkers, particularly the
8 children. We thank our staff members Rachel Conte,
9 Austin Malone, William Eck, Jose Conde, and Dirk
10 Spencer.

11 Introduction 1208-A, also sponsored by
12 Council Member Gutiérrez, would require the
13 Commissioner of Social Services and the Commissioner
14 of Housing Preservation and Development to issue a
15 biannual report on the availability of air
16 conditioning in a homeless shelters. Thank you to our
17 staff members, Aminta Kilawan and Penina Rosenberg.

18 Introduction 1232-A, sponsored by Council
19 Member Chris Banks, would require the Human Services
20 Administration to make available as a part of the
21 application for emergency assistance grants for
22 rental assistance, processes by which applicants may
23 authorize HRA to send a text or an e-mail
24 notification to the applicant or the building owner
25 or a managing agent designated by the building owner

2 upon the approval of the application. We thank our
3 staff members, Aminta Kilawan and Alejandro Carvajal
4 (phonetic).

5 Introduction 1372, sponsored by Deputy
6 Speaker Diana Ayala, would require that the rent
7 contribution for CityFHEPS recipients not exceed 30%
8 of the household's total monthly income, regardless
9 of whether the household receives public assistance
10 or has earned income. We thank our staff members,
11 Christina Yellamaty, Aminta Kilawan, Penina
12 Rosenberg, and Justin Campos.

13 Next, we'll vote on two bills that build
14 on our efforts to improve wage transparency and pay
15 equity in our city:

16 Introduction 982-A, sponsored by Council
17 member Tiffany Cabán, would require private employers
18 with more than 200 employees working in the city to
19 submit a pay data report to an agency designated by
20 the Mayor to improve wage transparency.

21 Introduction 984-A, sponsored by Majority
22 Leader Amanda Farías, would require a designated
23 agency, in coordination with the Commission on Gender
24 Equity and other relevant agencies, to conduct an
25 annual pay equity study on private employers with 200

1 or more employees. The study would use the pay data
2 submitted by employers to evaluate whether there are
3 disparities in compensation based on gender, race, or
4 ethnicity. We thank our staff members, Sarah Swaine
5 and Rachel Cordero.
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7 Introduction 1390-A, sponsored by Council
8 Member Lynn Schulman, would amend New York City's
9 cooling tower testing requirements by requiring
10 building owners to test for the presence of microbes
11 at least every month during periods of the year when
12 cooling towers are in use. This bill is being passed
13 after the City experienced its worst Legionnaires
14 outbreak in a decade this summer, which resulted in
15 seven deaths and 90 people hospitalized. Thank you to
16 our staff members, Christopher Pepe and Sara Liss.

17 Lastly, we'll vote on several pieces of
18 legislation that will reform the City's nonprofit
19 contracting and payment processes. For too long, the
20 City has failed to pay nonprofit organizations with
21 City contracts to deliver services in a timely
22 manner. These long-standing issues have resulted in
23 service interruptions, organizations accruing debt,
24 layoffs, and even organizations shutting down
25 altogether. In my State of the City Address this

2 year, I announced a series of proposals to improve
3 this process and support the stability of nonprofit
4 organizations. I'm proud of these major reforms that
5 will help nonprofits focus on delivering the services
6 that New Yorkers rely on them for.

7 Introduction 1249-A, sponsored by Council
8 Member Justin Brannan, would require all Human
9 Services agencies to submit annual reports on
10 contract registration during the previous fiscal
11 year. An agency would be required to submit a
12 corrective action plan if it registered 250 or more
13 contracts or contracts valued at over \$25 million in
14 the previous fiscal year, and more than half of its
15 contracts or contract value were registered 90 days
16 or more after their start dates. We thank our staff
17 members Alex Paulenoff and Rachel Cordero.

18 Introduction 1248-B, sponsored by myself,
19 would establish an Office of Contract Services, the
20 head of which would be the director of Contract
21 Services, who would serve as the City Chief
22 Procurement Officer. The office would have the
23 authority to coordinate citywide procurement
24 activities for mayoral agencies, including reviewing
25 contract guidelines, conducting pre-audit and post-

1 audit reviews of contracts, and providing training
2 and technical assistance on procurement matters.

3 Introductions 1247-B, sponsored by myself
4 and Council member Julie Won, would require immediate
5 advance payment of 50% of the value of a nonprofit's
6 contract with the City as an advance upon
7 registration by the Comptroller. The bill excludes
8 emergency contracts, specific contracts processed by
9 the Department of Homeless Services for Temporary
10 Housing Assistance, and any contracts processed by
11 the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice and
12 residential foster care and emergency domestic
13 violence contracts. We thank our staff members, Alex
14 Paulenoff, Rachel Cordero, and Nicholas Connell.

15 Thank you very much for your attention. I
16 turn it back over to our Deputy Speaker.

17 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Thank you, Speaker
18 Adams. We will now move into the Discussion of
19 General Orders, and we will be calling on Council
20 Member Louis, followed by Council Member Cabán and
21 Council Member Banks.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Thank you, Madam
23 Deputy Speaker. Good afternoon, colleagues. Today,
24 the Council has the opportunity to pass legislation
25

1 that will save lives and ensure that no family
2 endures a preventable tragedy in their home. It is
3 beyond time for our city to stop turning a blind eye
4 to the crisis of steam radiators. The devastating
5 tragedies and significant life-changing injuries
6 caused by steam radiators remind us that no family,
7 like the Kuravsky family from Brooklyn, or Alex
8 Pacheco, and the Ambrose sisters from the Bronx,
9 should ever have to face such pain because of
10 unexpected or unsafe heating systems.

12 Introduction 925 mandates the inspection
13 and repair of steam radiators in apartments and
14 buildings across our city. This is a vital measure to
15 protect our most vulnerable—children—and strengthen
16 housing safety and to hold landlords accountable. The
17 City already requires inspections of lead paint and
18 window guards for apartment buildings, so it is
19 beyond time for steam radiators to be included in the
20 Housing Maintenance Code. With numerous incidents of
21 radiator explosions and malfunctions spanning all the
22 way back to the 1930s, it is time to implement
23 inspections of this harmful risk in our aging housing
24 stock. I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of
25 Introduction 925, as it is our duty and obligation

2 to protect all New York residents, no matter where
3 they live.

4 I want to thank the Kuravsky family for
5 their steadfast advocacy, the Committee Counsel,
6 Austin Malone, and my staff, Daniel Heredia, for
7 their hard work on this legislation. Thank you.

8 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Council Member
9 Cabán?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Thank you.
11 Injustice persists when it's allowed to hide in the
12 shadows. And with our pay equity package, we're
13 pulling back the curtain. Yesterday was Latina Equal
14 Pay Day, marking how far into the year Latino workers
15 must work to earn what white non-Hispanic men made
16 last year.

17 Nationally, Latinas earned just .57¢ on
18 the dollar. So the Cabán-Farías Pay Equity Package
19 directly tackles these inequities. By requiring large
20 employers to report pay data and mandating vigorous
21 analysis, we're giving policymakers the tools to
22 close wage gaps at their root.

23 I'm deeply grateful to Majority Leader
24 Amanda Farías. Pal Her (phonetic), New York, Legal

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1
2 Momentum, and all the advocates who helped make this
3 possible.

4 And I'm grateful today to be supporting
5 the passage of Baby Binyomin's Law, because every New
6 Yorker should be safe in their home. To Binyomin's
7 family, to Alex and Bessie, thank you again for
8 turning your son's legacy into safety for every child
9 in New York. You have done a very heroic thing.

10 Our job as Council is to protect New
11 Yorkers, and today we are doing just that. Thank you.

12 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Thank you. Council
13 Member Banks?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Thank you, Madam
15 Majority Leader.

16 I'm happy to speak in support of my
17 bill, Introduction 1232, which requires the Human
18 Resource Administration to send an automated text or
19 e-mail notification for an application for the
20 emergency assistance grant program, related rental
21 assistance, is approved. These notifications would go
22 to both the tenant and the building owner or
23 management agent, providing key details such as the
24 approved grant amount, estimated issuance, the date,
25 and the payment method.

1
2 In my district, HRA-related issues make
3 up a large number of these cases that my office
4 handles. Time and time again, we've seen both tenants
5 and property managers left in the dark, unsure if aid
6 has been approved or when payment is coming. This
7 bill addresses the communication gap, ensuring that
8 no family loses their home simply because no one knew
9 help was already on the way.

10 I thank my colleagues for their support
11 and urge them to support Introduction 1232. I also
12 want to thank my staff for their dedication in
13 helping to bring this across the finish line. And
14 also, I want to acknowledge Alejandro, Sara, and all
15 the Legislative Division, Central staff, and all the
16 contributions to help shape Introduction 1232 into
17 this thoughtful, common-sense piece of legislation
18 today. Thank you.

19 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: We will now hear
20 from Council Member Sanchez, followed by Council
21 Member Gutiérrez.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Thank you so
23 much, Deputy Speaker.

24 I also want to start with thanking Alex
25 and Bessie for turning your pain into purpose that is

2 going to save lives across the city of New York. And
3 thank you to Council Member Louis for your fierce
4 advocacy of Introduction 925 and to our Speaker for
5 shepherding it forward. Especially as I think we both
6 have a child who is about 10 months old--eight. We
7 see the pictures of Binyomin, and we imagine our
8 current babies, and so I just want to thank you for
9 getting us here today.

10 Today, we're also passing Introduction
11 1265, which will begin to address some of the deep
12 frustrations that New Yorkers have with Housing
13 Connect, the City's affordable housing lottery
14 platform. Citywide, our housing lottery receives just
15 about 670 applications for every single unit of
16 housing listed, and just one lease is issued for
17 every 1,000 applications that are submitted.

18 Every day in my district, we serve dozens
19 of these applicants, our neighbors who are desperate
20 to find an apartment. But the technology that our
21 city uses to get people into affordable housing has
22 made it harder, not easier, for New Yorkers to find
23 an apartment that meets their needs. Applicants today
24 are inundated with too much information, like housing
25 that they're not eligible for; they're given false

1
2 hope—40% of all applications are flagged as
3 ineligible, and supportive community-based
4 organizations are not equipped with the tools that
5 they need to support applicants.

6 Introduction 1265 will limit the tsunami
7 of unnecessary and misleading information that
8 applicants receive. It will flag important actions by
9 e-mail and text, and it will create a new
10 representative role to ensure that those with limited
11 technological proficiency do not miss important
12 actions and deadlines when applying for affordable
13 housing.

14 Finally, it will require HPD to solicit
15 feedback from organizations that are doing the work
16 on the ground so that we can continue to improve
17 Housing Connect.

18 Introduction 1265 is a (TIMER)...
19 special shout out to UNHP and my staff. Thank you,
20 Madam Deputy.

21 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Thank you.

22 Council Member Gutiérrez?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Thank you,
24 Deputy Speaker.

1
2 I would also like to express my support
3 and congratulations to Council Member Louis and my
4 condolences to your family for passing this
5 important, important legislation. Thank you.

6 Today, we are correcting yet another
7 costly mistake of Mayor Eric Adams—the Internet
8 Master Plan developed by lots of experts, advocates,
9 and celebrated globally, was unceremoniously
10 abandoned by the Adams administration. But in its
11 place, we got a short-term program with no vision, no
12 permanence, and no accountability. We lost four years
13 of potential progress and spent over \$100 million
14 without delivering permanent solutions. Broadband is
15 one of the reasons I was excited to chair this
16 Committee and the Internet Master Plan has been a key
17 pillar of my tenure as chair.

18 This legislation resurrects the Internet
19 Master Plan and requires the City to set clear
20 timelines, provide public reporting in prioritized
21 community driven infrastructure, not just for the big
22 players.

23 Broadband is no longer a luxury, it is
24 the foundation over almost everything. Passing this
25 bill means New York City can once again lead, not

2 lag, in building equitable, reliable, and affordable
3 Internet access.

4 I'm also honored to pass legislation,
5 pushed by Deputy Speaker Ayala, that addresses
6 extreme heat in our shelter system. For tens of
7 thousands of New Yorkers, families, children, and
8 seniors, a heatwave should never become a death
9 sentence. Yet today we don't have a clear picture of
10 how shelters are equipped to provide relief to so
11 many of its tenants.

12 Intro 1208 requires the City to report
13 twice a year on the availability and functionality of
14 AC in shelters, to notify council members of those
15 outages and conduct a one-time assessment of the cost
16 to make sure that every shelter can keep residents
17 safe. This is about dignified housing. It's about
18 communication. And I'm really proud to be passing
19 this bill. And it's the first step towards ensuring
20 that every New Yorker in a shelter is protected from
21 extreme heat. Thank you.

22 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Thank you.

23 Report of Special Committees?

24 CLERK: None

25

2 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Report of Standing
3 Committees?

4 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Civil
5 and Human Rights, Introductions 982-A and 984-A, pay
6 data reporting and pay equity?

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

9 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
10 Contracts, Introduction 1247-B and 1249-A, contract
11 awards and agency action plans?

12 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on
13 General Orders.

14 CLERK: Introduction 1248-B, Office of
15 Contract Services?

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

18 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
19 Finance, Preconsidered LU 404 and Reso 1089, tax
20 exemption?

21 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

22 CLERK: Report of the Committee on General
23 Welfare, Introduction 1208-A, homeless shelter air
24 conditioning?

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

4 CLERK: Introduction 1232-A, emergency
5 assistance grant approvals?

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

8 CLERK: Introduction 1372, rental
9 assistance vouchers?

10 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

11 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Health,
12 Introduction 1390-A, air cooling towers?

13 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on
14 General Orders.

15 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Housing
16 and Buildings, Introduction 925-A, steam radiators?

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

19 CLERK: Introduction 1265-A, city housing
20 portal?

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

23 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Land
24 Use, LU 365 and Resolution 1090 through LU 367 and
25 Resolution 1092, Claremont House?

2 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

3 CLERK: LU 369 through LU 371, Jamaica
4 Neighborhood Plan?

5 SPEAKER ADAMS: Approved with
6 Modifications and Referred to the City Planning
7 Commission pursuant to Section 197-(d) of the New
8 York City Charter.

9 CLERK: LU 372 and Resolution 1093 through
10 LU 396 and Resolution 1098, various applications?

11 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

12 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Rules,
13 Privileges, and Elections, Resolution 1058-A, Rules
14 Amendments?

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

17 CLERK: Preconsidered Resolution 1099,
18 Committee changes?

19 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

20 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
21 Technology, Introduction 1122-A, broadband internet
22 accessibility?

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

2 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
3 Transportation and Infrastructure, Introduction 928-
4 B, pilot project on cool pavement?

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

7 CLERK: General Order Calendar, Resolution
8 appointing various persons Commissioner of Deeds?

9 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

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

13 CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: I vote aye.

15 CLERK: Thank you.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: on all.

17 CLERK: Thank you, Council Member.

18 Council Member Salamanca?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: (ABSENT)

20 Council Member Salamanca?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: (ABSENT)

22 CLERK: Council Member Farías?

23 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: I vote aye on
24 all.

25 CLERK: Thank you.

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Council Member Moya?

COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: (NO RESPONSE)

CLERK: Council Member Moya?

COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

CLERK: Thank you, sir.

Council Member Vernikov?

COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye on all,
except no on Introductions 1372-A, 982-A, and 984-A.

CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Gutiérrez?

COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye on all.

CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Abreu?

CITY COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

CITY COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Banks?

COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Bottcher?

COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Aye.

CLERK: Thank you. One moment.

Council Member Brannan?

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye on all

CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I vote aye, and I want to state that I have to leave, so I would like to vote yes on all General Orders. I want to speak out of turn and say that the entire city mourns the loss of Saul Zabar. Thank you very much.

CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

MAJORITY WHIP BROOKS-POWERS: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Carr?

COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: No on 982-A, 984-A, and 1372, and aye on the rest. And Happy Columbus Day to all.

CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member De La Rosa?

COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye

CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Dinowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Felder?

COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

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

4 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Go ahead.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Thank you.

6 The benefits of home ownership
7 opportunities are countless and well-documented. Home
8 ownership opportunities provide residents with a path
9 to building equity, achieving stable housing,
10 achieving economic stability, and so much more.
11 Despite these benefits, for too long, too many
12 families in the Bronx haven't been able to achieve
13 these benefits due to a lack of home ownership
14 opportunities in the borough. A borough that has some
15 of the lowest home ownership rates in the entire
16 city.

17 The Claremont Housing Home Ownership
18 Project tackled this issue directly with almost 70
19 brand new home ownership units. So I encourage
20 everybody to vote yes, and I vote aye on all. Thank
21 you.

22 CLERK: Thank you.

23 (PAUSE)

24 Council Member Gennaro?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

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CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Hanif?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Did you get that?

CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Gennaro, we got
you.

Council Member Holden?

COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye on all, except
Introductions 982-A and 1372-A, of which I vote no.

CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Hudson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Lee?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Louis?

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: I vote aye on
3 all, with the exception of Introductions 1372-A,
4 Introduction 982-A, Introduction 984-A, and
5 Resolution 1058-A, for which I vote no, thank you.

6 CLERK: Thank you.

7 Council Member Marte?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: I vote aye on all,
9 except Resolution 1058-A, for which I vote no.

10 CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I vote no on
12 Resolution 1058-A, Introduction 982-A, and 984-A, and
13 I vote aye on all.

14 CLERK: Thank you.

15 Council Member Menin?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye on all.

17 (PAUSE)

18 CLERK: Council Member Morano?

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

21 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Granted.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Thank you.

23 I wanted to speak today, not in anger,
24 but with a sense of duty and maybe a touch of Staten
25 Island skepticism.

1 This package, the Rules package before
2
3 us, may have started with good intentions, but it
4 lands in a place that makes this Council, in my view,
5 less democratic and not more democratic. It
6 centralizes power at the top and takes it away from
7 the 51 of us who were each elected to represent 51
8 very different districts.

9 Under these rules, individual Members
10 will have less freedom to introduce and advance
11 legislation, less ability to bring their
12 constituents' concerns to the floor, and less time to
13 make their case publicly. The people who sent us here
14 didn't elect a bureaucracy; they elected a voice.
15 These rules make it harder for that voice to be
16 heard, and let's be honest, the input of the
17 Republican members, and I'd argue several Democratic
18 members as well, wasn't sought in any meaningful way
19 in crafting these changes. I think that's a missed
20 opportunity. We all serve the same city, and good
21 rules should be built on a broad consensus, not speed
22 or convenience.

23 Most importantly, a number of the votes
24 that will decide this matter today are from members
25 who won't even be here in January. With all respect,

2 I don't think a group that's about to leave should be
3 locking in the procedures that the next Council will
4 have to live under for the next four years. Thomas
5 Jefferson once said, "The earth belongs to the
6 living, not to the dead. No generation," he warned,
7 "has the right to bind future generations to its own
8 rules." That's good advice for legislatures, too.

9 So while I appreciate the effort that
10 went into this, I'll be voting no, not out of
11 partisanship, but out of principle, because I believe
12 the next Council deserves the right to write its own
13 rules. Thank you.

14 With that, I vote no on Resolution 1058,
15 and Introduction 982-A, 984-A, and 1372-A, and aye on
16 all the rest.

17 CLERK: Thank you.

18 Council Member Nurse?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: I vote aye on all.

20 CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: I vote aye on all.

22 CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

23 MINORITY WHIP PALADINO: Cheers to you,

24 Frank Morano. I vote no on 982-A, 984-A, 1372-A, and

25

2 Resolution 1058-A. Again, kudos to you, Council
3 Member Morano.

4 CLERK: Thank you, Council Member.

5 Council Member Powers?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: I'm an aye on all.

7 CLERK: Council Member Restler?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye on all, and I
9 just want to especially congratulate Council Member
10 Louis on her legislation today.

11 CLERK: Council Member Riley?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye on all, and I
13 want to congratulate the Speaker, Council Member
14 Williams, and Council Member Gennaro on their
15 neighborhood plan that they're going to be having
16 approved today.

17 CLERK: Council Member Salaam?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: I vote aye on all.

19 CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: (ABSENT)

21 CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye.

23 CLERK: Thank you.

24 Council Member Schulman?

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COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Permission to explain my vote?

DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Permission granted.

COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Thank you. I'm very proud today to pass my bill, 1390-A, to help prevent Legionnaires' disease, especially in warmer weather. And it's something that's going to hold building owners more accountable than they are now and increase inspections and maintenance. So I'm very proud of that. I want to thank everybody for their support on this, particularly the Speaker. I also want to congratulate Farah Louis on her legislation, and I want to congratulate the Speaker and Nantasha Williams on the development in Jamaica, which is phenomenal, and it has been years in the making.

With that, I vote aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye on all, except for 1058-A, on which I vote no.

CLERK: Council Member Ung?

COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye on all.

CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Williams?

1 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye on
2
3 all.

4 CLERK: Council Member Won?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye on all.

6 CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: I vote aye on all,
8 except Resolution 1058-A, I want to vote no.

9 CLERK: Thank you.

10 Council Member Ariola?

11 MINORITY LEADER ARIOLA: I vote no on
12 Introductions 982-A, 984-A, 1372-A, and 1058-A. Aye
13 on all the rest.

14 CLERK: Speaker Adams?

15 SPEAKER ADAMS: I vote aye on all.

16 (PAUSE)

17 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: All items on
18 today's General Order Calendar are adopted by 49 in
19 the affirmative, 0 in the negative, and 0
20 abstentions, with the exception of the following:

21 Introduction 982-A, which was adopted by
22 a vote of 41 in the affirmative, 8 in the negative,
23 and 0 abstentions.

24

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1 Introduction 984-A, which was adopted by
2 a vote of 42 in the affirmative, 7 in the negative,
3 and 0 abstentions.
4

5 Introduction 1372-A, which was adopted by
6 a vote of 42 in the affirmative, 7 in the negative,
7 and 0 abstentions.

8 Resolution 1058-A which was adopted by a
9 vote of 41 in the affirmative, 8 in the negative, and
10 0 abstentions.

11 Introduction and Reading of Bills?

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

14 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: There are no items
15 on today's Resolution Calendar, so we will now move
16 on to General Rule Discussion, starting with Council
17 Member Cabán, followed by Council Member Restler, and
18 then Council Member Stevens.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Thank you.

20 Rikers Island is a human rights disaster.
21 It is unfathomably and unacceptably the largest
22 mental health provider in New York City and a place
23 where too many of our neighbors have died waiting for
24 care, not justice. New Yorkers are already
25 disappeared inside those walls, so it cannot also

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 50
2 become a deportation machine. That's why I'm
3 introducing legislation to keep ICE and federal
4 agents from setting up offices in New York City jails
5 to target immigrants and undermine our sanctuary
6 city.

7 New York City must not cooperate with
8 these modern-day masked stormtroopers who terrorize
9 our communities. Let's be clear—ICE beats up
10 seniors, ICE separates children from their parents,
11 ICE shackles pregnant mothers; they deport
12 journalists; they ignore judges; and they defile our
13 democracy. And we cannot allow their viciousness to
14 take root inside of our own facilities with our
15 city's blessing.

16 Our job as Council is to protect New
17 Yorkers. So I'm calling on my colleagues, let's keep
18 ICE out of Rikers, out of our jails, and away from
19 our communities. Hands off, New York. Thank you.

20 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Council Member
21 Restler?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Thank you so
23 much, Deputy Speaker.

24 I firstly just want to note that there
25 are news reports that our Attorney General has been

1
2 indicted. You know this is a baseless, preposterous,
3 disgraceful politicization of our justice system. We
4 all know Letitia James as a former Council Member
5 serving here in this body, as our Public Advocate,
6 and now as our distinguished Attorney General. And
7 she has been a proud fighter for dignity and justice
8 for the decades that I have known her. I am proud to
9 stand by Tish yesterday, today, tomorrow, and always.

10 Unrelated, I'm introducing a bill today
11 about outdoor dining. I like outdoor dining a lot,
12 uh, I hope you all do, too. Unfortunately, we've seen
13 the number of restaurants that participate in outdoor
14 dining has declined quite precipitously in the last
15 few years. We were at nearly 8,000 during the
16 pandemic, and today, we're at well under 1,500. And
17 so we're introducing legislation to bring this
18 program back as a year-round initiative. We make it
19 easier for businesses to participate. We expand the
20 frontage that businesses can take advantage of. And a
21 variety of other reforms to simplify, improve, and
22 most of all increase participation in outdoor dining.
23 I'm grateful to the folks who are co-prime sponsoring
24 this legislation with me today, and hope that this is

1 something that we can push into law in the months to
2 come. Thank you so much.

3
4 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Thank you.

5 Council Member Stevens?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Good afternoon,
7 colleagues. Today, I'm proud to introduce two pieces
8 of legislation that reflect our commitment to
9 transparency, safety, and equality across New York
10 City:

11 The first bill is 1423, requiring the
12 Department of Transportation to provide a public
13 inventory of all city-owned retaining walls under its
14 jurisdiction. Retaining walls are a critical part of
15 our city's infrastructure. When there is neglect or
16 poor maintenance, the result can be dangerous for
17 families and communities. By requiring the DOT to
18 track and share this information publicly, we're
19 ensuring that our residents have the right to know
20 the conditions of the space they live near and that
21 the maintenance isn't just reactive, but proactive.

22 The second piece of legislation, 1424,
23 I'm introducing alongside my colleagues in the Hood
24 Caucus, Council Member Riley, and Council Member
25 Williams. This bill will prohibit the denial of

2 criminal victim services to individuals based on the
3 *perceived* notion of a gang affiliation. Far too
4 often, victims of violence, particularly young Black
5 and brown men, and their families are denied care,
6 support, or counseling because of how they're
7 labeled. But trauma doesn't discriminate, and neither
8 should our services. We can't claim to value public
9 safety while deciding who deserves healing from our
10 City. I urge my colleagues to sign on to both pieces
11 of legislation as we continue to reimagine public
12 safety in our city and protect our communities, who
13 often are pushed into the margins. Thank you.

14 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Thank you.

15 Council Member Zhuang?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Thank you. I'm
17 proud to introduce Introduction 1425 Safer Parks for
18 NYC. Every day, probably a lot of my colleagues also
19 get complaints from constituents. Actually, in my
20 district, I see weapons in my district parks, mopeds
21 running around in the parks, and even dirt bikes
22 almost hitting seniors and children. I speak to the
23 local precinct almost every single day. And
24 fortunately, I'm able to get some patrolling in my
25 parks. But what shocked me the most was that this

1 summer, only four Park Enforcement Patrol Officers
2 covered all of Brooklyn. PEP Officers are peace
3 officers. They don't carry weapons, but they are
4 there to prevent crime. Did you know they also
5 oversee the free programs in our parks? As far as we
6 know, we don't have enough PEP and Park Rangers to
7 cover all of our parks—probably not even enough for
8 half our parks. This bill will require the Parks
9 Department to give us quarterly updates on how many
10 PEP Officers and Rangers are on the staff, where they
11 are assigned to, and why. This kind of information is
12 the information our City Council needs to make better
13 choices for our communities. Thank you to Council
14 Member Shekar Krishnan for cosponsoring this bill.
15 And I also want to thank local DC 37 workers who are
16 here today, and also the Vice President of Local 983,
17 Ralph Baselice, and the President of Local 983, Joe
18 Puleo, Senior Legislative Counsel Kristoffer Sartori,
19 Policy Director of my team, Katelynn Ulrich, and all
20 the constituents who rallied to support this bill.
21 And I urge my colleagues to sign onto this bill.
22 Thank you.

23
24 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Thank you.
25

1 Council Member Abreu, followed by Council
2 Member Morano, and then Council Member Hanif.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Thank you, Deputy
4 Speaker.

5 I've known Saul Zabar for as long as I
6 can remember. Most of my immediate family works for
7 Zabar's, and my mom's office was across from Saul's
8 for over 20 years. Thanks to that, I got to know Saul
9 very well. I loved him, and I loved everything he
10 represented. He was a person with exacting standards,
11 deep generosity, and a real commitment to our
12 community. He shaped the Upper West Side like no one
13 else, and we'll always be grateful to him for it.
14 Thank you very much.

15 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Council Member
16 Morano?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Thank you, Madam
18 Deputy Speaker.

19 When I hosted a radio show, there were a
20 few topics I learned to approach with extreme
21 caution: religion, politics, and the Israeli-
22 Palestinian conflict. So today, I guess I'm hitting
23 the trifecta. It's one of those subjects where
24 people's feelings run so deep that honest dialogue
25

1 often turns into a debate club championship. But
2 every now and then, something happens that deserves
3 recognition, no matter where you stand. And today is
4 one of those moments. For the first time in a long
5 while, there's a real chance that hostages will be
6 coming home and that innocent civilians, both Israeli
7 and Palestinian, will be spared more heartbreak. Now,
8 I realize that praising President Trump in this
9 Chamber may not win me many lunch invitations, but
10 facts are facts. His persistence, his energy, and his
11 unrelenting belief that the art of the deal applies
12 even in the hardest places on earth have helped bring
13 about the first phase of a ceasefire that could save
14 lives. We don't know yet if this will hold, and
15 there's still much to be done. But by any fair
16 measure, this is progress, and progress is something
17 worth celebrating. So rather than argue about
18 politics or prizes, maybe we can all agree on this—
19 that anytime people stop shooting and start talking,
20 the world takes a small step towards sanity. And in
21 today's world, that alone feels like a miracle. So
22 for every child, every person, that's one step
23 farther away from danger for every family that's
24 spared, I think that's a great thing. Thank you.
25

DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Thank you.

Council Member Hanif?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Thank you, Deputy Speaker. I also want to acknowledge Alex and Bessie Kuravsky, whom I met two years ago. I am just blown away by how you both channeled your pain and anger into advocacy and fought for your son, and you're fighting for every child and every New Yorker who is susceptible to a tragedy like this. And from now on, the inspections will definitely allow us to detect faults earlier.

The weekend before last, our sky was overrun by people taking luxury helicopter rides to the Ryder Cup. Our office received hundreds of calls and emails describing how everything from naptime to work calls was impossible due to the incessant sound of choppers. I want to say on the record that this is unacceptable—shame on the companies and the agencies responsible. Council Member Restler and I sent a letter with Assemblymember Simon and State Senator Gianaris to the EDC, urging accountability and safeguards to prevent a repeat of this disruption. New Yorkers deserve peaceful skies, not constant noise pollution for someone's weekend leisure. It's

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time to end non-essential helicopter flights. Thank
you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Thank you. I will
now call on Speaker Adrienne Adams to close today's
Stated Meeting.

SPEAKER ADAMS: I would love to, Deputy
Speaker. Thank you. The Stated Meeting of October
9th, 2025, is hereby adjourned.

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 no interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date October 26, 2025