

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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FEBRUARY 5, 2016
Start: 12:23 P.M.
Recess: 1:43 P.M.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO
SPEAKER

LATISHA JAMES
PUBLIC ADVOCATE

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

INEZ D. BARRON
JOSEPH C. BORELLI
FERNANDO CABRERA
MARGARET S. CHIN
ANDREW COHEN
COSTA G. CONSTANTINIDES
ROBERT E. CORNEGY, JR.
ELIZABETH S. CROWLEY
LAURIE A. CUMBO
CHAIM M. DEUTSCH
INEZ E. DICKENS
DANIEL DROMM
RAFAEL L. ESPINAL, JR.
MATHIEU EUGENE
JULISSA FERRERAS-COPELAND

DANIEL R. GARODNICK
VINCENT J. GENTILE
VANESSA L. GIBSON
DAVID G. GREENFIELD
BARRY S. GRODENCHIK
COREY D. JOHNSON
BEN KALLOS
ANDY L. KING
PETER A. KOO
KAREN KOSLOWITZ
RORY I. LANCMAN
STEPHEN T. LEVIN
MARK LEVINE
ALAN N. MAISEL
STEVEN MATTEO
DARLENE MEALY
CARLOS MENCHACA
ROSIE MENDEZ
I. DANEEK MILLER
ANNABEL PALMA
ANTONIO REYNOSO
DONOVAN J. RICHARDS
YDANIS A. RODRIGUEZ
HELEN K. ROSENTHAL
RITCHIE J. TORRES
MARK TREYGER
ERIC A. ULRICH
JAMES VACCA
PAUL A. VALLONE
JAMES G. VAN BRAMER
JUMAANE D. WILLIAMS

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

Pastor Gilford Monroe
Mount Zion Church of God

2 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Ladies and gentlemen
3 can I have your attention please, can I please have
4 your attention please. Quiet on the floor, at this
5 time please place all electronic devices, all
6 electronic devices to vibrate. Will all non-council
7 employees, non-council employees please leave the
8 main floor of the Chambers. There is additional
9 seating upstairs in the balcony, thank you.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Members please
11 have your seats. Visitors please have your seats.
12 All of those in the balcony please have your seat.
13 Please remove your hats. All of those in the back
14 please find a chair. If you are not council staff
15 please retire to the balcony. Please find seats,
16 please find seats. May we have quiet in the
17 Chambers. Please find seats. Gentlemen please
18 remove your hats. Gentlemen please remove your hats,
19 thank you. Quiet in the Chambers, quiet in the
20 balcony, please have, please find a seat, please find
21 a seat. Could we please close that back door
22 Sergeant of Arms? The black door, thank you, thank
23 you so much. Thank you may we all rise for the
24 pledge of allegiance. Quiet in the Chambers.

25 [Pledge of Allegiance]

1 CITY COUNTY STATED MEETING 5

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Please be seated.

3 Roll call.

4 CLERK: Barron

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Present.

6 CLERK: Borelli. Cabrera.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

8 CLERK: Chin.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

10 CLERK: Cohen.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Here.

12 CLERK: Constantinides.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Here.

14 CLERK: Cornegy.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Here.

16 CLERK: Crowley.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.

18 CLERK: Cumbo.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Present.

20 CLERK: Deutsch.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Presenta

22 CLERK: Dickens.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Here.

24 CLERK: Dromm.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

1 CITY COUNTY STATED MEETING

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2 CLERK: Espinal

3 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Here.

4 CLERK: Eugene.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.

6 CLERK: Ferreras-Copeland.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND: Here.

8 CLERK: Garodnick.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.

10 CLERK: Gentile.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.

12 CLERK: Gibson.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Here.

14 CLERK: Greenfield.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Here.

16 CLERK: Gradinchik.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Here.

18 CLERK: Johnson.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Present.

20 CLERK: KALLOS.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Here.

22 CLERK: King.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Present.

24 CLERK: Koo.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

1 CITY COUNTY STATED MEETING

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2 CLERK: Koslowitz

3 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

4 CLERK: Lancman.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Present.

6 CLERK: Lander. Levin. Levine.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER Levine: Here.

8 CLERK: Masiel.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MASIEL: Here.

10 CLERK: Mealy. Manchaca. Mendez.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.

12 CLERK: Miller. Palma

13 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Here.

14 CLERK: Reynoso. Richards.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Present.

16 CLERK: Rodriguez.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.

18 CLERK: Rose. Rosenthal.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.

20 CLERK: Torres.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Here.

22 CLERK: Miller.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Here.

24 CLERK: Treyger. Ulrich. Vacca

25 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Yes.

2 CLERK: Vallone.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

4 CLERK: Williams.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.

6 CLERK: Wills. Borelli.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Here.

8 CLERK: Matteo.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Here.

10 CLERK: Van Brammer.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMMER: Here.

12 CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

13 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Here.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quorums having

15 been achieved please rise for the invocation and

16 please remove your, thank you. An invocation

17 delivered by Pastor Gilford Monroe of the Mount Zion

18 Church of God 7th Day at 203 East 37th Street in the

19 Borough of Brooklyn, quiet in the Chambers.

20 PASTOR GILFORD MONROSE: Let us pray.

21 All father who art in heaven in whom we live and move

22 and have our being. Lord as we take this moment to

23 remember the safety of our fellow citizens of this

24 City. The Police Officers harm in the line of duty

25 in the Bronx, the victims of the crane crash, the

2 families and close friends we thank you for
3 protection. And now as we look to you oh god to have
4 mercy on this nation, the great state of New York and
5 this populated New York City, our law makers who
6 carry the burden to maintain our wonderful freedom.
7 Grant us domestic tranquility in the face of reckless
8 evil. Arise oh god and save us from ourselves. We
9 pray for each member of the City Council, the
10 Speaker, the Public Advocate, Republicans and
11 Democrats, staff members both present and absent.
12 Give our lawmakers divine wisdom to pass laws that
13 are merely sound and financially responsible. We
14 pray for the help and safety. Help us to remember
15 the (inaudible) not only the rich and the middle
16 class. Be with us as we face difficult times ahead.
17 May today's session be productive and pleasing in
18 your sight and now let the words of our mouth from
19 the medication of our hearts be acceptable in your
20 sight. Oh lord our strength and our redeemer, amen.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Amen. Please be
22 seated and now a motion to spread the invocation in
23 full will be done by a trio of Council Members brief
24 motion lead by Council Member Williams, Eugene and
25 Cumbo in that order.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I motion to
3 spread the invocation in full upon the record. I
4 also just want to acknowledge the fantastic work that
5 Pastor Monroe does in my district. He is one of the
6 go to Pastors that for a whole host of issues. When
7 we had the uprising over the Kamonie Gray (sp) issue
8 on Church Avenue was bit of actions going on. He was
9 the first person I called and we both went out there
10 to try to see what we can do to help. He's been out
11 with me at 11 o'clock at night, 1 o'clock in the
12 morning trying to talk to young people in a way that
13 can help deal with some of the violence in the
14 district. He's always there and I hope we take
15 advantage of Pastors like him and I hope he sets a
16 great example for other Pastors, thank you.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
18 Eugene.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you very
20 much motion to spread the invocation in full on the
21 record. I want to commend and thank Pastor Gilford
22 for everything that's he's doing for the community.
23 Not only for our community but for all communities.
24 Also to bring everybody together regardless of the
25 faith, religion and believe. He's a true (inaudible)

2 in the City he's in who is serving not only Brooklyn,
3 Manhattan but the all 5 Boroughs and I'm so proud to
4 serve the district where his Church is located, thank
5 you very much.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you,
7 Council Member Cumbo: Thank you I to want to make a
8 motion to spread the invocation and I just want to
9 say to Pastor Monroe, thank you for being here,
10 thank you for all the work that you do on behalf of
11 our communities. You have been an exceptional leader
12 in the efforts to end gun violence throughout our
13 City as well as in our community and Crowne Heights.
14 You have also been an invaluable resource in creating
15 community with our Jewish members of our community,
16 our Caribbean member of our community and our African
17 American community and you have continuously given of
18 your life and time to bring the diverse communities
19 of Brooklyn, New York and the City New York together
20 as it is an honor to have you here before us in the
21 City Council. Thank you for your work and your
22 service.

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you, thank
24 you Pastor Monroe for your service. Adoption of
25 minutes.

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2 CLERK: None.

3 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Messages and
4 papers from the Mayor.

5 CLERK: M368, preliminary expense budget
6 fiscal year 2017.

7 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Finance.

8 CLERK: M369 to M372, various budget
9 reports.

10 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Finance.

11 CLERK: M373, preliminary capital budget
12 fiscal year 2017.

13 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Finance.

14 CLERK: M374, capital commitment plan
15 fiscal year 2016.

16 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Finance.

17 CLERK: M375, City debt and reserves.

18 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Received order
19 printed and filed.

20 CLERK: M376, preliminary Mayor's
21 management report.

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Received order
23 printed and filed.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Communication
25 from City County and Borough offices.

1 CITY COUNTY STATED MEETING

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2 CLERK: None.

3 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Petitions and
4 communications.

5 CLERK: None.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Land Use call
7 ups.

8 CLERK: M377, Sidewalk café.

9 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Roll call.

10 CLERK: Barron.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye.

12 CLERK: Borelli. Cabrera.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Permission to
14 vote on Land Use call ups, general orders and
15 resolutions.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: I vote aye on
18 all.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

20 CLERK: Chin.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

22 CLERK: Cohen.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

24 CLERK: Constantinides.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Aye.

1 CITY COUNTY STATED MEETING

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2 CLERK: Cornegy.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye.

4 CLERK: Aye.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.

6 CLERK: Cumbo.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member

8 Cumbo.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Aye.

10 CLERK: Deutsch.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Aye.

12 CLERK: Dickens.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

14 CLERK: Dromm.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye

16 CLERK: Espinal.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Aye.

18 CLERK: Eugene.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

20 CLERK: Ferreras-Copeland.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND: Aye.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: He's voting for

23 all of us.

24 CLERK: Garodnick.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

2 CLERK: Gentile.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

4 CLERK: Gibson.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: I vote aye.

6 CLERK: Greenfield.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

8 CLERK: Gradinchik.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Aye.

10 CLERK: Johnson.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

12 CLERK: KALLOS.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.

14 CLERK: King.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Aye.

16 CLERK: Koo.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

18 CLERK: Koslowitz

19 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

20 CLERK: Lancman.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Aye.

22 CLERK: Lander. Levin. Levine.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER Levine: Aye.

24 CLERK: Masiel.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER MASIEL: Aye.

2 CLERK: Mealy. Manchaca.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Aye.

4 CLERK: Mendez.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.

6 CLERK: Miller.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.

8 CLERK: Palma

9 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

10 CLERK: Reynoso.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Aye.

12 CLERK: Richards.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye.

14 CLERK: Rodriguez.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

16 CLERK: Rose. Rosenthal.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Aye.

18 CLERK: Torres.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Aye.

20 CLERK: Treyger.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye

22 CLERK: Treyger. Ulrich. Vacca

23 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

24 CLERK: Vallone.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

2 CLERK: Williams.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

4 CLERK: Matteo.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Yes.

6 CLERK: Van Brammer.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMMER: Yes.

8 CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Today's Land Use
10 call ups are adopted by a vote of 45 in the
11 affirmative and 0 in the negative. Quiet in the
12 Chambers please, and now will hear communication from
13 the Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito.

14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you Madam
15 Public Advocate. Before we begin today I want to
16 take a moment to acknowledge last night events. In
17 the Bronx around 8 p.m. last night 2 NYPD officers
18 were shot while in the line of duty. Many of us were
19 hearing about it as we were attending the Mayor's
20 State of the City. This was an egregious act of
21 violence that we will not tolerate, if you don't
22 tolerate violence in particularly you're not against
23 the men and women of the NYPD. Today were joining
24 all New Yorkers in wishing the quick and full
25 recovery of both officers who exemplify the best of

2 our City and we honor and respect their courage and
3 commitment to New Yorkers. We all know about the
4 sacrifice that officers make each and every day to
5 keep us safe and they always deserve our support.

6 This week New York City lost also a... a
7 lost a great young man in an up and coming journalist
8 of color, Michael Feeney (sp). Michael began working
9 at the Daily New in New York, 2009 were he covered my
10 neighborhood of El Vaho East Harlem. He was elected
11 President of New York's chapter of the National
12 Association of Black Journalist in 2011. He was set
13 to begin his dream job as a report for CNN but
14 tragically passed away on Sunday, so definitely want
15 to recognize the work and our prayers are with
16 Michael's family and friends at this time.

17 Before we get to today's business I'd
18 like to bring also everyone's attention the crane
19 collapse that just happened not far from here in
20 Margaret Chin's district. While were still getting
21 details we obviously have a very hazardous situation
22 near, nearby on Worth Street. I want to thank all
23 the first responders in our City who were at the
24 scene of the collapse helping others. That is
25 something that already Margaret and I have spoken

2 about obviously we have to figure out what did we
3 learn from a tragic incidents like this. Our
4 thoughts and prayers are with everyone there and
5 wishing them, those that are hurt the best.

6 On our agenda today the Council's going
7 to voting a legislation to coning 42 streets through
8 fairs and public places. There include streets and
9 parks named for community leaders, clergy, dedicated
10 public servants and in the case of detective Randall
11 Holderway (sp) and NYPD Officer who bravely serviced
12 our City and sacrificed his life to keep his fellow
13 New Yorkers safe. Detective Holder serviced in the
14 police department for 5 years. All those 5 years
15 were served in the district that I represented, East
16 Harlem and last October he was shot and killed in the
17 line of duty. The brave men and women New York City
18 Police Department put their lives on the line in
19 order to protect us for Detective Holder, this
20 tribute in the Bronx will be a small yet enduring
21 token of our gratitude. Additionally, will be voting
22 on legislation requiring the Department of Parks and
23 Recreation to establish discounted annual membership
24 fees, a department run recreation centers for
25 seniors, youth and people with disabilities. When I

2 chaired the Committee on Parks and Recreation we did
3 a lot of advocacy on recreational centers and making
4 sure the fees were affordable for New Yorkers in need
5 of recreation opportunities. This legislation
6 follows in that same mission. This City Parks
7 Department has a variety of quality programming for
8 all of our residents and this bill will help ensure
9 that everyone has access to them. I definitely want
10 to thank on the staff side; Chris Atoria, Patrick
11 Mulvihill, Ed Adkins and Jeff Baker, Chair of the
12 Parks Committee, Council Member Mark Levine is the
13 sponsor of this legislation and I would like him to
14 say a few words.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Thank you Madam
16 Speaker and thank you for carrying the torch on this
17 important issue for so many years. Our Parks
18 Department, 35 recreation centers are incredible
19 resources with everything from indoor pools to
20 basketball courts, art studios, dance studios, weight
21 rooms, even libraries and there used by no fewer than
22 3.5 million people every year. They are especially
23 important for 2 key groups; our veterans and New
24 Yorkers with disabilities. Many of whom need to use
25 the facilities of our rec centers for physical

2 rehabilitation or generally to maintain their health
3 and many of whom can benefit from the social
4 interaction that our rec centers offer. To many
5 veterans and people with disabilities are living in
6 isolation because of physical or emotional
7 challenges. But there's a barrier, memberships cost
8 \$150 a year and for those in poverty that can be
9 insurmountable. Shamefully, that applies to too many
10 of our veterans and people with disabilities. No
11 fewer than 70,000 veterans it's estimated relied on
12 food pantries and soup kitchens last year, that's
13 almost 1/3 of all the vets in the City and 30% of New
14 Yorkers with disabilities aren't employed, that's
15 many times the rate for the population at large. So
16 to help lower the barriers for these important groups
17 our bill would require that there be a 75% discount
18 off the standard rec center fee in any park rec
19 center. For veterans, for people with disabilities
20 and for good measure of the bill codifies existing
21 discounts for young people and seniors. I want to
22 thank the Speaker for her leadership on this issue, I
23 want to thank a colleague, Council Member Eric Ulrich
24 who chairs the Committee on Veterans Affairs who's a
25 partner in this effort and I want to thank Chris

2 Artoria, Patrick Mulvihill, my Legislative Director,
3 Amy Slattery and the entire legislative affairs team
4 for their help on this bill, thank you.

5 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you Chair
6 Levine. We will also be voting to set the salaries
7 of all the Cities elected officials, including
8 Council Members. Today were also considering a
9 package of bills that would implement crucial and
10 profound ethics reforms long recommended by good
11 government groups. Together these reforms will
12 increase transparency and fairness, reduce the
13 potential for conflicts of interest and improve the
14 process for considering future changes in
15 compensation for local elected officials. These
16 bills will make the position of a Council Member full
17 time and excepts for some narrow exceptions eliminate
18 outsider and then come underscoring the dedication
19 and high ethical standards Council service demands.
20 We spent a considerable amount of time discussing the
21 restriction of outside income and the outside income
22 reform were passing today are ground breaking. This
23 is an issue that were going to continue to monitor
24 and I'm sure there will be much discussion in the
25 future. We also ending the practice of providing

2 allowances or Lulu's as they were once called for
3 Committee Chair and other leadership positions.
4 Creating a more equitable environment for Council
5 Members. We're continuing our commitment to
6 transparency by mandating the posting of financial
7 disclosure forms online for all elected officials.
8 Finally were changing the timing of future
9 commissions so they would be more likely to recommend
10 prospect of pay increases and will give those
11 commission more time to deliberate on these important
12 matters. I would like to thank all the staff that
13 helped us on this; Lori Wynn, David Sitser and Snetta
14 Deshmuck, and I want to ask Council Members Kallos,
15 Majority Leader Van Brammer, Vacca and then Garodnick
16 to say a few words about this, these pieces of
17 legislation. Council Member Kallos.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Thank you
19 Speaker. This Council came in on a progressive wave
20 of reform that under the leadership of Speaker
21 Melissa Mark-Viverito has included rules reform,
22 consensus driven hearing upon super majority bills
23 sponsorship. Legislation and engagement online,
24 equitable and transparent distribution of members
25 items along with the long sort after reforms that

2 were here to vote on today. To dully give credit
3 where it is due, without her progressive leadership
4 none of today's reforms let alone previous reforms
5 would be possible. In a city most famous for
6 (inaudible) we've come a long way from taminay hall,
7 especially in this Council. Editorial boards,
8 advocates and the people have demanded an end to the
9 corruptive influences of campaign dollars, conflict
10 of interest, member items, outside income lulu's and
11 more. The City Council has created a model public
12 matching campaign finance system in the country and a
13 conflict of interest board that continues to rule out
14 corruption to this day. In our first year in the
15 Council we created an equitable and transparent
16 formula for the distribution of discretionary funding
17 for Council Members know as member item funding.
18 Today were considering a package of reforms that
19 would mean New York City Council Members will be
20 working full time for the people without the
21 influence of stipends or outside income. We're
22 voting on 4 pre-considered introductions today in
23 governmental operations, sorry that we voted in
24 governmental operations a Committee who's chairman
25 ship I sort partly in order to shepherd though these

2 reforms with 2 pre-considered resolutions that were
3 voted out of Rules Committee under acting Chair Mark
4 Levine. The 4 bills are based on recommendations of
5 the 2015 Quadrennial Commission. The 1st bill which
6 I've introduced with Council Member Garodnick,
7 Reynoso, Richards, Cohen and Chin would prohibit
8 outside income with rules further delineating what
9 earned income is acceptable. This is coupled with
10 the rules reform that I've also introduced that would
11 eliminate payment in lieu also known as lulu's.
12 These reforms that have been long sort by editorial
13 boards, government groups and the people are reforms
14 that I am proud to sponsor. The 2nd bill sponsored
15 by Council Member Vacca and myself would increase
16 transparency by making a financial the financial
17 disclosure forms of elected officials available for
18 the public to view on the conflict of interest board
19 website. In 2010, I was an advocate and I worked
20 with New York Public interest group, groups Bill
21 Mahoney to use freedom of information law to put the,
22 there the Albany's outside income online. We put it
23 up on (inaudible) website and then soon Japcop
24 adopted it, it's amazing to have the leadership of
25 Jimmy Vacca and the Technology Committee and for him

2 really brining this reform forward, I do not think
3 there's anyone better suited or a better champion for
4 it. The 3rd bill sponsored by Council Member Van
5 Brammer would change the timing of the appointment of
6 the quadrano commission from the 2nd year of an
7 election to the 3rd and would give the quadrano
8 commission an additional time to deliberate an issue
9 they recommendations. The final bill sponsored by
10 our Speaker would increase the salaries of the Mayor,
11 Public Advocate, Borough Presidents, Controller,
12 District Attorneys is recommended by the Commission.
13 The bill would also increase the salaries of Members
14 of the Council as well as the Speaker of the Council
15 as recommended by the Commission both an additional
16 increase to account for prohibiting most outside
17 income and changing status of Council Members to full
18 time. These bills (inaudible) an important reforms
19 and won't increase the transparency, effectiveness
20 and the efficiency of the City's government every
21 dollar is a worthy investment in a government that
22 works full time for the people without the influences
23 of stipends or outside income. Thank you to
24 Committee Council Samita Dishmuk, Laurie Wynn, James
25 Sabotty, Committee Alum, David Sightser as well as

2 Rob Newman, Matt Gowaub and Kathleen Hon. I urge you
3 to vote yes on all.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you Council
5 Member, Majority Leader Van Brammer.

6 MAJORITY LEADER VAN BRAMMER: Thank you
7 very much Madam Speaker and Chair Kallos and all of
8 my colleagues I am in deed very proud to serve in
9 this City Council. My bill Intro. 1078, improves the
10 workings of the quadranial advisory commission
11 appointed every 4 years by the Mayor to examine
12 compensation of New York City elected officials. The
13 most recent commission recommended improvement so the
14 commissions timeline. This bills follows through on
15 those recommendations and in some cases does even
16 more. Presently quadranial commission pointed are
17 appointed in the first half of January and they must
18 issue a report by March 15. The commission asked for
19 an additional month but this bill give the commission
20 even more time requiring a report after 120 days
21 approximately 4 months. Presently the quadranil
22 commission is appointed in the 2nd year of a 4 year
23 cycle. This bill changes it to the 3rd year. This
24 makes it more likely that the commission
25 recommendations take effect in the session after

2 which they are voted on and approved addressing
3 issues associated with changes to compensation. All
4 of these changes help to improve the mechanics of our
5 City's Government. I'm proud to be a sponsor of this
6 bill and proud of the larger package of reforms,
7 thank you very much.

8 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you
9 Majority Leader and Council Member Vacca.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Yes, thank you
11 Speaker and thank you all and my bill just requires
12 that City Council financial disclosures forms be
13 posted online. I think it provides the ultimate step
14 towards transparency and accountability and we as
15 public officials certainly want that. Many times
16 right now if a member of the public wants our
17 financial disclosure form they must go and file a
18 foil request, freedom of information act, this will
19 eliminate that necessity and it will be available
20 through the internet at will. So I urge my
21 colleagues to vote yes on the bill and I thank the
22 Speaker and the Government Operations Committee and
23 the Rules Committee for considering the legislation,
24 thank you.

2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you Council
3 Member. And finally since this is our 1st Stated
4 Meeting in February this year I wanted to also
5 mention that as we all know it's Black History Month.
6 Across the City we will be celebrating in a variety
7 of ways all month long. Later this month I'm holding
8 an event in my district of El Vaho East Harlem to
9 share some incredible news that's been covered in the
10 New York Times and in other media and that has just
11 come in time for this month. The rediscovery of
12 remains at the Harlem African Burial ground located
13 below the MTA bus depot that is now been
14 decommissioned, there on 126th Street. The site was
15 long believed to have been a burial ground as so this
16 discovery has been a vindication for the community.
17 Anyone who's interested we will be sending out the
18 information. We're going to be able to talk to the
19 task force and learn more about the work that has
20 engaged for several years at this point. For several
21 years my office has actively convened the task force
22 of community residents which now will continue to
23 meet regularly as we consider options to memorialize
24 this site moving forward. So again if anyone wants
25 any information please let me know and also I think

2 Council Member Kallos was speaking before and I just
3 wanted to remind everybody I don't know if people
4 know that it is his birthday today, his 35th birthday
5 as I look over you know give him slight eye there.
6 So congratulations Ben and enjoy the day and with
7 that and I end communication from the Speaker.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you, happy
9 birthday Ben. Discussion of general orders, seeing
10 none report of special Committees.

11 CLERK: None.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Reports of
13 standing Committees.

14 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
15 Finance Reso. 956-A, Fulton Mall special assessment
16 district.

17 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
18 coupled on general orders.

19 CLERK: Report on the Committee on
20 Governmental Operations, pre-considered Intro. 1055,
21 salaries for elected officials.

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
23 general orders.

24 CLERK: Pre-considered Intro. 1069,
25 making the City Council full time.

2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
3 general orders.

4 CLERK: Pre-considered Intro. 1077,
5 disclosures forms of elected officials.

6 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
7 general orders.

8 CLERK: Pre-considered Intro. 1078,
9 quadrinal advisory commission.

10 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
11 general orders.

12 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Land
13 Use Lu#320 and Reso. 986, sidewalk café.

14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled to be
15 filed pursuant to letter of withdrawal.

16 CLERK: LU#327 and Reso. 987 and LU#328
17 and Reso. 988, special zoning permit.

18 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
19 general orders.

20 CLERK: LU#329 and Reso. 989 thru LU#331
21 and Reso. 991, 150 Wooster Street.

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
23 general orders.

24

25

2 CLERK: Report on the Committee on Parks
3 and Recreation, Intro. 856-A, Parks recreation center
4 fees.

5 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
6 coupled on general orders.

7 CLERK: Pre-considered Intro. 1054,
8 naming of 42 through fares and public places.

9 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
10 general orders.

11 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Rules,
12 Privileges and Elections, pre-considered Reso. 971,
13 outside earned income of members.

14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
15 general orders.

16 CLERK: Pre-considered Reso. 980,
17 modifying allowances for offices of the Council.

18 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
19 general orders.

20 CLERK: M363, approving the appointment by
21 the Mayor of Shin Pew Ti(sp) art commission.

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
23 general orders.

24

25

2 CLERK: On the general order calendar,
3 resolution appointing varies persons commissioner of
4 deeds.

5 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
6 general orders and at this time I ask for a roll call
7 vote on all the items on the coupled, general order
8 calendar.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the
10 Chambers.

11 CLERK: Barron.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Permission to
13 explain my vote.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you Madam
16 Public Advocate. I do want to say that as we have
17 co-naming that are included here, I want to pay
18 special tribute to Tanaya Copeland who lived in my
19 district, she was a 2nd year student at Long Island
20 University hoping to become a Nurse and she was
21 tragically murdered, she was just 19 years old so we
22 want to acknowledge that. She was a member of the
23 Royal Knights Marching Band and she hoped to become a
24 Nurse. There's a scholarship that's been started in
25 her honor and to here memory will live. Also I want

2 to acknowledge the work that had been done by Dean
3 Griffith. He was an employee at Medgar Evans
4 College. He was the Dean of Student Affairs and had
5 started another program to encourage students to go
6 onto higher education and finally as regards to the
7 pay increase I think that there well deserved. We've
8 been working full time and this is an acknowledgement
9 of that and I also think that we need to look to make
10 sure as we've talked about before that our staff is
11 considered in these kinds negotiations, so thank you
12 I vote aye.

13 CLERK: Borelli.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye on all
15 expect pre-considered Intro.#1055.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

17 CLERK: Chin.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Permission to
19 explain my vote.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: The legislative
22 package that we are voting on today acknowledge the
23 heavy responsibility by making members of the City
24 Council full time official. This Council is also
25 taking responsible, appropriate and timely step of

2 limiting the outside earned income of its member. I
3 strong believe that these measure along with others
4 to increase accountability and transparency will
5 improve this legislative body which I am proud to
6 call myself a member. Our constitutes deserve
7 nothing less than full time public servants working
8 hard to solve problems that affect everyone in our
9 City and today we are delivering on that promise. I
10 also like to speak in support of co-naming Bowling
11 Greene in my district as Evacuation Day Plaza. For
12 more than a century Evacuation Day was a major
13 holiday in New York City commemorating the end of a
14 brutal 7 year occupation of much of Manhattan Island
15 and Brooklyn by the British. On November 25, 1783,
16 General Washington rode his horse down Broadway to
17 Bowling Greene as the last of the British occupying
18 force boarded ships back to England. Celebrated
19 every year Evacuation Day symbolizes to New Yorker
20 the triumph of self-determination and democracy over
21 Tierney. By co-naming Bowling Green Evacuation Day
22 Plaza, we are making an important moment in the
23 history of lower Manhattan and the entire nation.
24 For it is on that day for it was on that day
25 Evacuation Day that a truly independent nation

2 emerged free to engage in the great American
3 experiment that continues today. I would like to
4 thank Patrick Mulvihill and Jeff Baker on the Counsel
5 staff as well a Parks Committee Chair, Mark Levine,
6 our Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito and advocates for
7 this important day in American and New York history,
8 thank you.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: And I vote aye on
11 all.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

13 CLERK: Cohen.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

15 CLERK: Constantinides.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Aye.

17 CLERK: Cornegy.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: I vote aye.

19 CLERK: Aye.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye on all with
21 the exception of pre-considered Intro. 1055, I vote
22 no on that.

23 CLERK: Cumbo.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Permission to
25 explain my vote.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes, quiet in the
3 Chambers.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: As we celebrate
5 Black History month a period dedicated to honoring
6 the contributions of African Americans to our
7 community and throughout American history. Three
8 street co-naming proposals that I introduced last
9 year to recognize Carey Gabay, Dean Derrick Griffith
10 and Reverend Clarence Norman Sr. are amongst the 42
11 thorough fares in public places included in this bill
12 that we are voting on today. Through the practice of
13 law, education and ministry, 3 New Yorkers have made
14 an undeniable impact within the 35th Council District
15 which I proudly represent. I am proud that we can
16 pay tribute to the legacies of Carey Gabay, Dean
17 Derrick Griffith and Reverend Clarence Norman Sr. By
18 placing street signs in their honor within the very
19 communities that they served in their lifetime. I am
20 pleased that we are joined by the families of
21 Reverend Clarence Norman Sr., his son Clarence Norman
22 Jr., Beverley, Dawn and Kendra Norman. I'd also like
23 to recognize that we have been joined by Griffith
24 Family and we have also been joined by the Gubay
25 Family and I also want to recognize that we've been

2 joined by Reverend Darryl Bloodsaw, Senior Pastor for
3 First Baptist Church of Crown Heights as well as
4 Demetrius Large, Chairman of Community Board 9.
5 We've also been joined by Bill Howard who is the
6 President of the West Indian Day Carnival
7 Association. Briefly I just want to let you know a
8 little bit about these dynamic men because these are
9 stories that you don't hear about on the news when we
10 talk about African American men. When we talk about
11 Reverend Clarence Norman Sr. his way is going to be
12 acknowledged on Rogers Avenue between Eastern Parkway
13 and Union Street in the Borough of Brooklyn. He has
14 lead the First Baptist Church of Crowne Heights for
15 over 60 years, 62 to be exact. The First Baptist
16 Church now has approximately 2,000 members. He
17 worked as a teacher in 2 Bedford Stuyvesant public
18 schools, served as a Chaplin of the State Division of
19 Parole and was founder of the local development
20 cooperation of Crown Heights in 1987 which helped
21 develop over 800 units of housing for seniors and low
22 income families.

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
24 could you.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Yes ma'am.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Conclude your
3 remarks and come back towards the end.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Yes I will.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: And I also want to
7 add that the type of development that Reverend
8 Clarence Norman Sr. was instrumental in creating is
9 the type of development that was prevalent in our
10 communities so many decades ago when people that
11 looked just like the people in the communities were
12 responsible for doing the development in our
13 neighborhoods. I also want to recognize Mr. Gubay
14 very quickly. Mr. Gubay grew up in public housing in
15 and attended public schools in the Bronx.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
17 can we add you to the general discussion, you'd be
18 the first speaker?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Yes ma'am

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you, moving
21 on. Your vote, how do you vote?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I vote aye.

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

24 CLERK: Deutsch.

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: No on pre-
3 considered Intro. 1055, no on pre-considered Reso.
4 971, I abstain on Intro. 1069 and yes on everything
5 else.

6 CLERK: Dickens.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye on all.

8 CLERK: Dromm

9 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye on all.

10 CLERK: Espinal

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Aye on all.

12 CLERK: Eugene.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I vote aye.

14 CLERK: Ferreras-Copeland.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND: I vote

16 aye on all.

17 CLERK: Garodnick.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

19 CLERK: Gentile.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

21 CLERK: Gibson.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Permission to

23 briefly explain my vote.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you Madam
3 Public Advocate, I want to speak very briefly on pre-
4 considered Intro. 1055 the street thorough fares and
5 co-naming. Certainly, I want to just say that the
6 Bronx is affectingly known as the birth place of hip
7 hop and I'm really, really delighted that today in
8 this bill we will be recognizing 1520 Cedric Avenue
9 as the birth place of hip hop, recognizing in 1973 DJ
10 Cool Herc spun records at a birthday party in the
11 community room of 1520 Cedric Avenue in Marvis
12 Heights of the Bronx. We are very proud of the long
13 legacy that hip hop has provided to our culture, to
14 the diversity of our great City and certainly to the
15 recognition of the Bronx. I really want to thank our
16 Bronx Borough President, Ruben Diaz Jr., Windows of
17 Hip Hop, Melissa Lebron, Jacob Morris, Leroy
18 McCarthy, as well as DJ Cool Herc and his sister who
19 gave that party that day in 1973. I want to recognize
20 all the pioneers and trailblazers of hip hop, I'm
21 very excited that this is the beginning of our
22 efforts to begin the process of opening our very 1st
23 hip hop museum in the Bronx. I also want to
24 recognize that were also renaming a street in honor
25 of fallen NYPD Detective Randolph Holder as well Dr.

2 Derrick Griffith, Reverend Clarence Norman Sr. and
3 also back to the Bronx in Morris Height a phenomenal
4 woman name Loretta Rodocks Smith (sp) who was a part
5 of the Mount Hope Housing Company Morris Heights
6 Health Center and did a lot in our community. Was a
7 2nd mother to me and I'm so honored that today we
8 will be recognizing the block that she owned her home
9 for 30 years in her memory so, with that I am proud
10 to vote aye on all and I want to thank our Speaker
11 for her incredible leadership on this package of
12 bills on reform and accountability and added
13 responsibility for us as a Council, I look forward to
14 future conversations and think that this package is
15 appropriate for all of us and I'm very proud to be a
16 part of this Council. I vote aye on all.

17 CLERK: Greenfield.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye on all.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

20 CLERK: Gradinchik.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Aye.

22 CLERK: Johnson.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

24 CLERK: KALLOS.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.

2 CLERK: King.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Aye on all.

4 CLERK: Koo.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye on all.

6 CLERK: Koslowitz

7 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye on all.

8 CLERK: Lancman.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Aye.

10 CLERK: Levin.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Permission to
12 explain my vote.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Madam Public

15 Advocate today we are voting to... to rename a portion
16 of my district in honor of 1st Sergeant, Army 1st
17 Sergeant Bobby Mendez who was killed on April 27,
18 2006 by an improvised explosive device on his sons'
19 12th birthday when he was stationed in Bagdad, Iraq.
20 Bobby Mendez, 1st Sergeant Bobby Mendez was assigned
21 to the 2nd Special Troops Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 4th
22 Infantry Division in Fort Hood, Texas and he served
23 our Country for 18 years before his ultimate
24 sacrifice to our Country and we are proud in the 33rd

25

2 district to honor this street in, name this street in
3 his honor, thank you very much.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: How do you vote.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: I vote aye on all
6 and all Land Use call ups.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Madam Speaker
9 permission to briefly explain my vote.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: I will be voting
12 aye on all but I want to acknowledge the presence
13 today of an incredible group of young people who are
14 either up in the balcony of their students from a
15 school in my district, Edwards A. Reynolds High
16 School, AKA Westside High and the teacher Renae
17 Mills, thanks to them the Council's going to be co-
18 naming today West 103rd Street for a famous resident
19 that few knew had roots in our City and that is the
20 renowned artist Norman Rockwell. He's an icon of
21 painting known worldwide for his painting of rural
22 America but his roots here in the City had a deep
23 influence on his work, he went on to paint powerful
24 images of the Civil Rights Movement and of FDR For
25 Freedoms and there's no doubt that his experience

2 going up on the Westside in a diverse community with
3 people of all backgrounds profoundly influenced his
4 work and I'm happy now that people around the world
5 would be reminded of his origins on West 103rd
6 Street, thanks to the students at this school.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you, how do
8 you vote?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Aye on all.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you, thank
11 you, thank you and welcome.

12 CLERK: Masiel.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MASIEL: No on 1055, yes
14 on everything else.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

16 CLERK: Mealy.

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

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I want to just
21 take this time to say thank you to the Norman Family
22 that all what they do our formal County leader here
23 just as well and beautiful family and Reverend
24 Clarence Norman Sr. Way that is an awesome street
25 naming that I know the whole community will love and

2 just to think about who your father and your family
3 was, your father was like a quiet giant. He would
4 tell you yes and he'll tell you no and you leave not
5 knowing which way you going but then he'll say I got
6 you and he was always fair and true and I just hope
7 that your father had left a legacy to other minister
8 to know to be fair, be precise, be true and because
9 he lead his whole life like that and I just want to
10 say thank you for sharing him with us, this whole
11 City of New York and I vote aye on all.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

13 CLERK: Menchaca.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Permission to
15 explain my vote.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: I will also be
18 voting aye on all and you know I just want to say
19 that the arguments around the pay raises are good and
20 solid on transparency and all the reforms, it's about
21 time. I want to offer another added layer to this
22 discussion and really talk about how in the last 2
23 years we have repointed this institution to a more
24 progressive direction and that was because of a
25 direct result of the body that's before us, it's more

2 diverse, it's younger, but we've lost some gender in
3 our, in our body and I think about how we have to
4 make this position more attractive and the salaries
5 are going help. When I think about the people I'm
6 working with and our communities, the mothers, the
7 young people first generation immigrants, their
8 looking at the world of possibility in front of them.
9 Many of them look to be lawyers and doctors. Many of
10 them because of high salaries but for public service.
11 We would need to compete in this world of.. of work
12 and I'm hoping that we send some strong messages to
13 especially families and single mothers, we need their
14 voices here to continue in that direction and when we
15 open up the doors of government, I think this is an
16 action in that, in that direction so thank you so
17 much for the work to the Speaker and all the staff, I
18 vote aye on all, thank you.

19 CLERK: Mendez.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Permission to
21 explain my vote.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Thank you Madam
24 Public Advocate, I vote aye on all and I want to
25 thank our Speaker and this body for bringing real

2 reform to this distinguished institution. I also
3 want to say that I can't do my job without my staff.
4 I am only as good as they are so I want to
5 acknowledge the work they do every day to make me
6 better than who I am. I want to also bring up that
7 we've had more equity our we've had more in ours in
8 the last two years in our base for our offices but
9 with some of us in Manhattan it's not enough because
10 of the rising rents. Four individuals took pay cuts
11 to come and work in my office and I have 2 single
12 moms and they struggle every day, I try to do the
13 best that I can but I really respect them and I
14 really love them and to my colleagues, thank you for
15 making this a better institution.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you, we to
17 want to thank the staff and recognize that they are a
18 reflection of all of us and we could not be in this
19 position but for the staff of the City Council and
20 all elected officials, thank you. Continuing with
21 roll call, quiet in the Chambers.

22 CLERK: Miller.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Permission to
24 explain.

25 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you Madam
3 Public Advocate, first of all I'd like to vote aye on
4 all but I'd also like to acknowledge during our
5 street co re-naming during black history, the
6 fantastic work of Mr. John Watusi Branch. John
7 Watusi Brank who was the founder of the World
8 Renowned Afrikan Poetry Theatre in Jamaica Queens
9 have changed lives through art cultural heritage of
10 many young people and residents of Queens not only
11 through those things in theatre and all the things he
12 was able to do there but many trips that he has taken
13 and re-introduced people to the motherland of Africa.
14 Many of his writing still stand out and it is a honor
15 to have introduced a legislation that will make this
16 175th Street in Jamaica Avenue hints forth known as
17 John Watusi Branch Way, thank you.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

19 CLERK: Palma

20 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

21 CLERK: Reynoso.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: With a shout out
23 to the Department of Sanitation, I vote aye on all.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

25 CLERK: Richards.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye on all.

3 CLERK: Rodriguez.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Thank you to
5 the Speaker for her great leadership, thank you to my
6 colleagues for all the work that we do in the body
7 and I vote aye.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

9 CLERK: Rosenthal.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Permission to
11 explain my vote.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Thank you, I
14 vote aye on all. I do hope that we can find a way to
15 make the reforms that we've voted on and passed today
16 permanent. Most of importantly that the vote for
17 salary increases be prospective as it is written into
18 our US constitution for a federal elected officials
19 that lulu's be eliminated, that it be a full time job
20 and that our COIB disclosure forms be posted online
21 and I would just like to say Madam Speaker you
22 mention this today but I want to agree with you that
23 between the rules reform that you have followed
24 through on your promise on all of them and the
25 actions that we are taking today, I do believe that

2 you have solidified your legacy as a reformer and I
3 thank you for that.

4 CLERK: Torres.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Aye on all.

6 CLERK: Treyger.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye

8 CLERK: Ulrich.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Voting no on pre-
10 considered Intro. 1055 and aye on all others and I
11 want to thank Council Member Mark Levine for
12 including veterans in the discount bill today at
13 Parks Concessions.

14 CLERK: Vacca.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye on all.

16 CLERK: Vallone.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Permission to
18 explain my vote.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: As many of you
21 know I've expressed my concerns about the unequal
22 impact today's action will have on the future of this
23 institution. True good government reforms do not
24 prohibit income from certain professions while
25 permitting other forms of income to do and that's

2 exactly what we just accomplished. After much
3 discussion, the Speaker and my fellow Council Members
4 have committed to maintain an open dialogue at future
5 democratic conferences regarding this issue. As a
6 result, we are not going forward with todays proposed
7 amendments and we are going to continue in our
8 efforts to ensure that every hard working person,
9 small business owner, or professional or not unduey
10 impacted and therefore discouraged from public
11 service. I want to thank my colleagues for their
12 support during this process and as always I look
13 forward to working with our Speaker. Personal thank
14 you to each of you for listening to me on this and to
15 all the others in our good government group who did
16 stand with us on some of these still remaining
17 issues. Therefore, Madam Advocate I am voting no on
18 Intro. 1055 and Reso. 971, I'm abstaining from Intro.
19 1069 and I vote aye on the rest, thank you.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

21 CLERK: Williams.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: May I please
23 explain my vote.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you very
3 much. I know that I'm not going to try to debate the
4 motion of this because I know that there's a lot of
5 emotion I think my colleague said it, can I see the
6 clock, can you close the door? Thanks, so as my
7 colleague I think said it well when he said he
8 believe that people may rather cut us in half and put
9 us in Central Park but what I do want to say is that
10 and make sure that when people are discussing this
11 they make sure to mention the deliberation that this
12 body actually went through, as has been pointed out
13 we have the ability to do even higher than this and
14 we chose not to rightfully so, the decisions were
15 made with a lot of deliberation. We pretty much
16 followed all of the commission recommendations. We
17 did not take increases in exchange for reforms. As a
18 matter of fact the vast majority of reforms we are
19 taking have no monetary attachment to it. We did
20 take the recommendation to do away with lulu's which
21 are an average of about \$9000, so that there made
22 this not necessarily at 32% increase and then on top
23 of that as the commission said as the commission said
24 at the hearing, they put in the suggestion to make
25 full time pay and did not put a monetary attachment

2 to that, so that is quite deliberative to say were
3 going to take all of what you're saying not in
4 exchange for reforms but the one thing you said that
5 we should do and did not attach a monetary
6 compensation to we did that. So it is a fair
7 discussion of whether or not it should be full time
8 or not, it is not fair to say that they should be no
9 monetary compensation for taking away full time,
10 taking away outside income and making it full time.
11 I just hope that as this is discussed, people see the
12 deliberation that actually went into this. We took
13 it very, very responsibly, wanted to make sure
14 everything was justifiable and I also want to thank
15 the Speaker for her leadership. She is going to take
16 the brunt of whatever criticisms comes but folks you
17 know she is speaking on behalf of the entire body.
18 There is a leadership team where much of this
19 deliberation went into and we all support her and we
20 thank her for supporting us and with that I vote aye
21 on all.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

23 CLERK: Matteo.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: No on 1054, yes
25 on the rest. Sorry 1055.

2 CLERK: Van Brammer.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMMER: I vote aye.

4 CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

5 [pause]

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: All items on
7 today's general order calendar were adopted by a vote
8 of 47 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative and 0
9 abstentions with the exception of Intro. 1055 which
10 was adopted by a vote of 40 in the affirmative, 7
11 negatives, and 0 abstentions and Intro. 1069 which
12 was adopted by vote of 45 in the affirmative, 0
13 negative and 2 abstentions and now Introduction and
14 reading of bills.

15 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: All bills are
16 referred to Committees as indicated on the agenda.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: An updated vote
18 and resolution 971 which was adopted by a vote of 45
19 in the affirmative, 2 negative, 0 abstentions and the
20 revised Land Use call up vote is 47 in the
21 affirmative, 0 negative and now there's no further
22 discussion of any other resolutions and now to
23 general discussions and again I apologize to Council
24 Member Cumbo who was cut off by time may she continue
25 to talk about the great work of 3 individuals in my

2 former district, Dr. Derrick Griffith for all the
3 work that he did at Medgar Evers, of course my
4 spiritual father Reverend Clarence Norman Sr. and
5 Carey Gabay who lost his life as... as a result of a
6 senseless act of violence, quiet in the Chambers,
7 Council Member Laurie Cumbo.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you Public
9 Advocate. I want to acknowledge that we have been
10 joined by Dr. Derrick Griffith's mother who is here
11 with us today. Dr. Derrick Griffith Way will be
12 located on Montgomery Street between Bedford Avenue
13 and Franklin Avenue in the Borough of Brooklyn. Dr.
14 Derrick Griffith served as the Acting Dean of Student
15 Affairs and Enrollment Management at Medgar Evers
16 College and prior to his position he served as an
17 Assistant Provost for student success in the Office
18 of Academic Affairs. He oversaw and managed the Smart
19 Scholars Early College a collaboration between Medgar
20 Evers College and Medgar Evers College Preparatory
21 High School which allows high school students to
22 enroll in Medgar Evers College courses, giving them a
23 head start in their college careers. He joined
24 Medgar Evers College after serving as the Executive
25 Director of Brown Work, a Brooklyn based community

2 organization working to increase college access among
3 residents of public housing developments. Prior to
4 that position he served as founding Director and
5 Principal of Cuny Prep Transitional High School
6 administered by Cuny Office of Academic Affairs where
7 he oversaw the Adminsitration of Cuny Prep, a model
8 school that continues to offer out of school youth
9 between the ages of 16 and 18 an opportunity for full
10 time study. I want to add that before he was
11 tragically killed on an Amtrack train, he was in the
12 process of receiving his Phd in Urban Education at
13 Cuny Graduate Center. Dr. Rudy Crew and members of
14 Medgar Evers College came to the graduation to accept
15 the degree on his behalf. I also want to acknowledge
16 at this time that Carey Gabay Way will be on Clinton
17 Avenue between Willoughby Avenue and Myrtle Avenue in
18 the Borough of Brooklyn. Carey Gabay grew up in the
19 Boston Secor houses, a Bronx public housing project.
20 He graduated from Harvard where he studied Government
21 and in his senior year was elected President of the
22 Undergraduate Council, the main body of student
23 government. He attended Harvard Law School and
24 worked at several firms in New York specializing in
25 corporate finance law. In 2011 he became an

2 Assistant Counsel for Governor Andrew M. Cuomo. Hew
3 was appointed 1st Deputy Counsel for the Empire State
4 Development Corporation, the State's main economic
5 development agency.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Yes ma'am.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: The clock has
9 run.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I'm going to
11 conclude my comments. On the evening before the
12 west, excuse me on the evening before of the
13 (inaudible) celebration he was killed by a stray
14 bullet in a shootout in Crown Heights as an innocent
15 by-stander. Governor Cuomo created the Carey Gabay
16 Fellowship that is awarded every 2 years to an
17 Attorney who will work on anti-gun violence
18 initiatives. Also the Carey Gabay scholarship
19 program was created by Governor Cuomo that will
20 provide.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: 5 full time
23 scholarships.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: To the State
3 University of New York annually.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I just want to
6 acknowledge that all of their families are here and I
7 also want to acknowledge that we have also lost 1st
8 Lady Ms. Elore Norman and we want to acknowledge her
9 life as well as all of the work and accomplishments
10 that she have done and hopefully we can extend the
11 street co-naming to her in the future and thank you
12 all for being here.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you and I
14 apologize to the families but there is a clock and we
15 have to do everything here in this Chamber in decency
16 and in order and I apologize, Council Member Miller.
17 Excuse me Council Member Cornegy.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Thank you Madam
19 Public Advocate for recognizing Brooklyn first. I'm
20 proud to be joined by Borough President Eric Adams
21 and my great colleagues Laurie Cumbo and Corey
22 Johnson who lead our Health and Women's Issues
23 Committee respectively. To introduce a bill today to
24 significantly expand our support for women who choose
25 breastfeeding to nourish their children. We applaud

2 the right that women have in our State and nurse
3 their children wherever they choose. At the same
4 time we know that nursing is not easy. Women who
5 make this choice for their families need both rights
6 and meaningful support. Breastfeeding mothers are
7 among the New Yorkers that use our City job centers,
8 snap centers, they wait sometimes for hours in health
9 clinic waiting rooms and HRA offices. These are
10 places it can be challenging to nurse and impossible
11 to pump. Intro. 1063 will require the creation of
12 dedication lactation rooms in these public serving
13 City offices. These rooms won't be bathrooms,
14 they'll be clean, comfortable, dedicated, lactation
15 rooms with seating and outlets near a source of
16 running water where a mother can handle the important
17 business of feeding her children or pumping milk in
18 privacy and peace. Mothers are demanding and when in
19 similar spaces in airports and we've seen the
20 powerful message of usefulness of setting aside a
21 advertising space for lactation in my district office
22 in Brooklyn and at Brooklyn Borough Hall. Now is the
23 time to expand this resource and give members of the
24 public the facilities they're required for employees.
25 This introduction already has the support of

2 breastfeeding advocates including Worksites for
3 Wellness, Laleche League of New York, Brooklyn
4 Perinatal Network and Advocates for New York City
5 Social Service Users such as the Urban Justice
6 Center. I hope it will soon have the support of all
7 of you. Please join us in making this important step
8 for the nursing mothers of New York City by signing
9 on to Intro. 1063, thank you.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: And now Council
11 Member Miller.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you Madam
13 Public Advocate. I'd like to take this opportunity
14 to, thank you, to shout out my Legislative Director
15 and Legislative and Communication Director for the
16 past 2 years Mr. Ali Rasoulinejad. Today is not his
17 last day but it's his last Stated day. Surprise,
18 surprise another one of the young ones have gone off
19 to flying the coup. Ali is a graduate of Beington
20 (sp) University and American University who came to
21 us by way of Congressman Hakeem Jeffries after
22 volunteer for Council Member Helen Rosenthal. Over
23 the past 2 years we've had the opportunity to work on
24 very important working legislation such as the
25 employee protective provision and the grocery worker

2 retention provided overpaid sick leave and other
3 important issues. We've continued to work on vital
4 campaigns together such as commuter rail equity and
5 other transportation issues and it has been an honor
6 and privilege to work with him over the past 2 years
7 and I wish him well in his new endeavor as the, what
8 are you going to be doing next? The Assistant
9 Director of Government Affairs for the Department of
10 Transportation, so thank you it's been a pleasure.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you,
12 Council Member Williams.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you first
14 I want to send my prayer for quicker and speedier
15 recovery for the 2 officers that were shot and as we
16 discussed there must be discussions and continuous
17 discussions of better policing and safer streets.
18 It's very important to remember the dangers that
19 these officers face and I also am sadden to hear
20 about today's crane collapse and want to send my
21 prayers to those families as well and I look forward
22 to in my capacity as Chair of Housing and Buildings
23 to try to find out what exactly happened and how we
24 can continue to make sure that these increase in
25 deaths go down, it's a big problem. On a slightly

2 brighter note I'm proud that we passed a bill to
3 renaming East 49th Street and 4th Avenue in my
4 districts as Alfred J. Vigliante Way. Mr. Vigliante
5 is the co-founder of East 49th Street Black
6 Association 1972 was also a multi decorative World
7 War II Veteran, awarded the purple heart, the bronze
8 star, combat infantry men badge and the good conduct
9 medal. He was commander of the veterans of foreign
10 affairs, organized charities fundraisers, food
11 drives, developed programs such as local drum and
12 bugle corps for underprivileged children. He was an
13 advisor to Kings County Cadet Youth Program. He
14 helped raise funds for Kings County Hospital and
15 assisted in obtaining much needed medical equipment
16 for the Brooklyn Veterans Affairs Hospital. He also
17 developed a local program to support Brooklyn
18 returning from Brooklyn veterans returning from
19 Vietnam and support the Brooklyn families of the POWs
20 and MIAs from that war. As founder of the Block
21 Association he promoted the first beautiful garden
22 contest and helped organize the arts and crafts in
23 reading mobile workshops for the neighborhood
24 children and I'm proud that we can do that for him
25 and his family, thank you.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
3 Dickens.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Thank you Madam
5 Public Advocate, I join with Council Member Williams
6 in offering prayers for the Police Officers in the
7 Bronx and that they did not sustain life threatening
8 injuries, unfortunately this incident once again
9 highlights the dangers that our Officers face daily.
10 God rest in peace Michael Finney. I join my
11 colleagues in congratulating all supporters here on
12 street renaming's but I must acknowledge the great
13 civic political and social work and the soul reaching
14 accomplishments of Reverend Clarence Norman Sr.
15 Thank you Norman Family for years of public service.
16 I thank my colleagues and Madam Speaker for your
17 leadership, thank you.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
19 Barron.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank Madam
21 Public Advocate. First I want to add my voice to my
22 colleagues who have acknowledge the great work of
23 Reverend Norman Sr. He was a (inaudible) in our
24 community and we appreciate all that he has done. As
25 we acknowledge the designation of black history month

2 I call our attention to the words of Dr. John Henrik
3 Clarke. If you start your history in slavery
4 everything else looks like progress, so let's look
5 beyond the civil rights movement and slavery back to
6 mother Africa. The oldest ancestor remains were
7 found in Africa in 1973. Paleo archeologist
8 unearthed fossilized skeletal remains of what is none
9 as "Dinknesh" in Afar, Ethiopia and I had the
10 pleasure of going to see that when I was in Ethiopia.
11 40% of the skeleton have been reassembled and women
12 it's been determined it was a woman, it was female
13 skeletal and it's about 3 million to 3.5 million
14 years old. She stood upright and walked erect.
15 Other remains have been found in Kenya and Tanzania
16 and a witness to the fact that this region is the
17 birthplace of man. So civilization began in Africa.
18 Social, economic, educational and political systems
19 have their origins of Africa. Playto, herodotus
20 pythagoras, hyprocaties (sp) travel to the
21 Universities of Jen and Timbuktu. Last week New York
22 Times noted that it has been confirmed that 10,000
23 years before the Romans used calculations, those
24 calculations were proven to have been discovered in
25 the region of Mesopotamia and used to develop the

2 formula that calculates the speed and path of the
3 planet of Pluto which it appears goes a certain
4 distance and appears to stop and then appears to go
5 backward. So we know that those calculations came
6 from Africa and it has been acknowledge it has been
7 quite advanced calculations. So there's much to be
8 said about the significates, importance, breadth and
9 depth of Africa's foundations and we certainly need
10 more than a month and I echo my the comments of my
11 colleague Rosie Mendez in regards to the staff, thank
12 you Madam Public Advocate.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you Council
14 Member, Council Member Treyger.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Thank you Public
16 Advocate, I'd like to also commend and congratulate
17 the Norman Family for their work in for the Families
18 tradition, thank you very much. Also prayers are
19 with the Officers that were shot and injured and
20 hopefully will make a full speedy recovery. I'd like
21 to express my tremendous gratitude to all 48 of my
22 colleagues as well as the Public Advocate for signing
23 on to my resolution 985, calling on the Landmarks
24 Preservation Commission to designate the Regalman
25 Boardwalk often referred to as the Coney Island

2 Boardwalk as the scenic Landmark and this was done
3 without lobbyist, this was done without a multi-
4 million dollar conservancy. This was done at the
5 grass roots level and I want people to know that the
6 Boardwalk was not always accessible to all. It was
7 only until the turn of the 20th century that... that
8 this Boardwalk was open to all people. There was a
9 time in place in Coney Island when African Americans
10 could not use public restrooms; there was a time in
11 place when Jews could not stay at hotels in parts of
12 the Coney Island. Only until the City of New York
13 purchased that land at the turn of the 20th century
14 where it became the peoples playground. So American
15 cultural icons from Woody Guthrie to Woody Allen were
16 inspired by featured by Coney Islands beautiful
17 destination and geography. While the original Luna
18 Parks, Steeplechase Parks, Dreamland and Astro Land
19 captured both American and International imagination
20 with their skeptical, it was the Boardwalk that was
21 accessible to all visitors in Coney Island hay day.
22 When over a million people visited each day. For
23 immigrants, the poor and the marginalized, Coney
24 Island was the poor man's Rivera, the nickel empire,
25 the \$.50 admission fee to Steeplechase Luna may have

2 been out of reach but the \$.05 fare was the only cost
3 of entry to what the New York Times then called the
4 brilliant drama of the melting pot at play. Along
5 the Boardwalk sample shows of carnival performances,
6 food vendors and the possibility of meeting someone
7 new supplied the method.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
9 can you bring your comments to a close?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: I finish by
11 saying this, hobbled by fires and changing
12 demographics, Coney Island became a target for
13 envious developer and urban planners with autocratic
14 visions what New York should be and many of it
15 spectacular features have been lost in time. The
16 Regalman Boardwalk however remains and the nearly
17 unanimous support on this resolution at introduction
18 should serve as a wake-up call to the Landmarks
19 Preservation Commission and to this Major. Past
20 errors and failing to preserve historical.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Structures in
23 Coney Island cannot be repeated, we must protect the
24 Boardwalk for our past.

25 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: And for our
3 future, thank you.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you sir,
5 Council Member Koo.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you Madam
7 Public Advocate and Speaker. I immigrated to country
8 in 1971. I worked at Dunkin Donuts and Kentucky
9 Fried Chicken at nights to put myself through school.
10 I became a Pharmacist and was fortunate enough to be
11 able to open my own business. After a while I was
12 even able to expand my business and open more stores.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Were still
14 session.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Throughout those
16 many years I was always involved in my community. I
17 joined my community board, I ran a local business
18 association, I went for City Council. I didn't do it
19 just for the money, in fact in my first term I
20 donated my City Council salary to non-profits in my
21 community. I realized that this is not (inaudible)
22 most member rely on their salary income, I mean
23 Council's salaries to support their families. I one
24 of a small number of members here today who earn
25 income outside the Council but I spend my entire life

2 building my business and it was my experience as a
3 small business owner that lead me here. If we
4 completely eliminate outside income, how many others
5 small business owners, or lawyers or doctors, how
6 many would be willing to give up their careers they
7 have spent their lives building to run for office for
8 4 to 8 years and were are not just talking about
9 income but also licensing. This professions requires
10 shorter number of hours work to maintain an active
11 license. The New York City Council is great because
12 of it's diversity not just of color, creed and
13 character but of experience. Our democracy
14 encourages participation from all walks of life. Let
15 not limit our talent pool. I do understand that
16 outside income raises about conflict of interest, so
17 for these reasons while I oppose, while I oppose
18 complete band on outside income I support a cap on
19 outside income.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you,
23 Council Member Menchaca.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you
25 Public Advocate and I just want to point everyone to

2 Intro. 1072 a very exciting intro that I'm leading
3 with Council Member Reynoso and Lander. This is a
4 local law to amend the administer of code of New York
5 to change the way that bicyclist interact with our
6 intersection pedestrian control signals. Currently
7 if you remember maybe a local neighborhood
8 intersections like for example 4th Avenue. Along 4th
9 Avenue some of those intersections allows for
10 pedestrians to have a 3 to 7 second lee time over the
11 cars. This legislation would allow, legally allow
12 for bicyclist to use that same 3 to 7 seconds to get
13 ahead of the cars and traverse the intersection
14 safely. Looking forward to talking to the member
15 about it. If your excited about it now please sign in
16 and on the bill but were looking to talk to advocates
17 who have really thought about this with me and my
18 staff, thank you so much to Gina Ronowitz (sp), who
19 is on my team thinking through this and I look
20 forward to working with all of you on this very
21 important bill.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you,
23 Council Constantinides, Costa.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Thank you
25 Madam Public Advocate. Teaching people how say

2 Constantinides at one (inaudible) at a time. But I
3 rise today to highlight a street renaming in our
4 district for Demetrios Costanza. He was able to
5 create one of the first Greek language TV stations
6 here in New York City and provide Greek Americans
7 with an opportunity to get the news in their language
8 and to understand what was going on in their
9 community, to be involved with the world around them
10 and to be an access to City information so I want to
11 make sure we honor him today and I want thank my
12 colleague, our Majority Leader Jimmy Van Brammer for
13 his efforts today to put the street renaming in for
14 the National Herald which is one of the oldest Greek
15 newspapers in this Country, we celebrated their 100th
16 anniversary last year and so there, you know they've
17 had a long history of providing again Greek Americans
18 opportunities to be involved with the world around
19 them and get the information they need so, thank you
20 Majority Leader Van Brammer for your efforts as well,
21 thank you.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: I apologize
23 Council Member Constantinides, Council Member King.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Good evening and
25 good afternoon, thank you Madam Public Advocate. 1st

2 to the Norman Family is to know the father is to know
3 the son. His spirit is shining down on the family
4 and I can say thank you for sharing him with us.
5 Secondly, to my colleagues today I want to steer your
6 attention to Reso. 981, it is actually the 1st piece
7 of legislation I'm submitting in as the Chair of
8 Libraries and I'm asking us all to support it and
9 what it's designed to do is make, asking the
10 Department of Education to make sure there's a
11 dedicated space for libraries in all our schools
12 across the City of New York which is sorely needed,
13 we know libraries is the hub of education for all of
14 us and harbors our history so we make sure that we
15 keep things intact and in making sure our children
16 have access to that learning environment so that's my
17 resolution, I'm asking everyone to sign on to it. In
18 addition, we've talked about black history month, I
19 was so honored this last week to have a black history
20 celebration in my district with a couple hundred
21 children who had an opportunity to meet Claudette
22 Colvin. For those who don't know who Ms. Claudette
23 Colvin is, she was actually the pioneer that
24 spearheaded the Gail... Breyer vs... The Gail Case that
25 opened up the bus boycott in Alabama Montgomery in

2 1956, people believed Rosa Parks was the catalyst but
3 actually was a 15 year old sister Claudette Colvin
4 who 1st defied the Montgomery bus systems that I'm
5 not getting up going anywhere. She came to tell her
6 story, to tell the truth on stories, untold and we
7 are so grateful so on the record I just wanted to
8 thank Ms. Claudette Colvin for what she did to
9 inspire a movement that changed America from forever.
10 So with that being said I want to thank everybody,
11 black history month and to the BLAC Caucus we have a
12 general meeting after this meeting so god bless and
13 thank you again.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you Council
15 Member Chin.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you Madam
17 Public Advocate. First of all I wanted to thank the
18 Speaker and my colleagues for all your support for
19 this morning crane tragedy and our hearts and prayers
20 goes out to the victims and the families and we will
21 work together to make sure that we... we stop this kind
22 of tragedies from happening again. I wanted to bring
23 my colleagues attention to do 2 bills that I'm
24 sponsoring. The 1st on is Intro. 1062 along with
25 Council Member Menchaca, Johnson, Koo and Vacca.

2 This bill will require the administration for
3 Children Services to provide language classes to
4 children who are removed from non-English speaking
5 homes. Intro. 1062 ensures that children from
6 immigrant families who are put into the foster care
7 system have every opportunity to reunite with their
8 family and not have to talk to their family through
9 interpreters. Second, I also want to talk about
10 Intro. 1061, legislation that will allow the sale of
11 plants and flowers during Asian moon and New Year.
12 With Luna New Year just 3 days away many vendors and
13 stores in my district are selling specific plants and
14 flowers that are essential to celebrating the New
15 Year. However, many times they do not have to right
16 vending licensing to sell the plants without getting
17 into trouble, so this legislation will give the
18 vendors some reprieve and ensure that enforcement is
19 sensitive to the needs of this large cultural holiday
20 and I want to thank Andrea Vasquez and Lebonny Rockman
21 for all the work they've put into these bills and I
22 ask my fellow Council Members to sign on and I want
23 to wish everyone a happy and healthy Luna New Year,
24 the year of the monkey, thank you.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: And Happy Luna
3 New Year to you Council Member Chin, Council Member
4 Gibson.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you very
6 much Madam Public and I want to thank you and Madam
7 Speaker and all of my colleagues certainly last night
8 shooting in the Bronx in PSA 7 affected many of us
9 and I join with all New Yorkers in asking for
10 continued thoughts and prayers of healing, comfort
11 and strength for both Officers 2 years on the job as
12 well as PSA 7. I want to shout out Captain Jerry
13 O'Sullivan for his leadership as Commanding Officer
14 of PSA 7. I also want to say much love and respect
15 to the families of Dr. Derrick Griffith and Reverend
16 Clarence Norman Sr. as well as Brother Carey Gabay.
17 We continue to keep you all in our prayers and thank
18 you for sharing your loved ones with us and the rest
19 of our great City. I want to call my colleagues
20 attention to Reso. 979, which is a resolution I've
21 introduced and I ask for your support calling upon
22 our State legislature and the Governor to sign state
23 legislation in the assembly and the senate that would
24 provide safeguards against wrongful convictions by
25 requiring our law enforcement to implement evidence

2 based eyewitness identification procedures and
3 recordings of custodial interrogations. I think it's
4 very important as we look at changes and obviously
5 accountability and making sure that things are done
6 in a fair and equitable manner. We certainly know
7 that custodial interrogations are important so this
8 is legislation before the state that I am introducing
9 (inaudible) and I ask my colleagues certainly for
10 support and I want to thank my staff as well. I know
11 many of talked about it but my team, team Gibson
12 (inaudible) Gibson as we call ourselves on they are
13 my backbone and I do this work as a part of a team,
14 they are my family. We spend more time than I spend
15 with my own family so I want to thank my district
16 office staff and my team here at 250 for always
17 having my back standing and walking with every step
18 of the way as I do the work to serve the people of
19 district 16, thank you very much.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
21 Eugene.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you very
23 much. I just want to (inaudible) my colleagues to
24 express my thanks to the families of the Clarence
25 Norman Sr., thank you so very much for much for

2 everything that Clarence Norman Sr. has done for the
3 community. Not only as a religious leader a
4 community leader but also as a mentor for so many of
5 who are serving in government and I want to thank you
6 also for everything he has done for not only our
7 community for everybody in New York City and he
8 remind us that we as people we have to do everything
9 that we can do every single day to better the
10 community where we are living. We have to do
11 everything that we can do to improve the quality of
12 life and to empower other people. That's exactly
13 what he has been doing for all that, thank you so
14 very much, he has been a committed, devoted servant
15 of people. Thank you very much for the bottom of my
16 heart, thank you.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: And now as I
18 close.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: And Madam Public
20 Advocate but I did see that you did cut him and now
21 I'm going to very, very, very, very fast. I just
22 want to ask my colleagues to support the resolution
23 that I'm to introducing today is resolution 978 I
24 believe to ask the City of New York to recognized the
25 1st week of February as the week of Cardiovascular

2 Disease. We all know that cardiovascular disease is
3 a disease that destroys so many people, productive
4 people, people while working hard to support the
5 City, the government and to provide for their family
6 and we want people to know that prevention is the
7 best medicine if we use prevention we can make sure
8 that people stay healthy in New York City and the
9 continue to work hard not only to pay taxes for the
10 government to be able to provide a services but also
11 to sustain and maintain their families, thank you
12 very much.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you, I
14 apologize Council Member Eugene. And now as I close
15 I want to wish the speedy recovery to the 2 Officers
16 who were injured in the Bronx last night and also the
17 co-naming of our public streets will serve as the
18 lasting tribute to the great legacy of all those who
19 have passed including but not limited to Dr. Derrick
20 Griffith, Mr. Carey Gabay and of course to my
21 spiritual father Reverend Dr. Clarence Norman Sr.
22 May the record reflect that Reverend Norman and Mrs.
23 Norman are together in heaven and may they rest in
24 peace and now closing remarks from our Speaker
25 Melissa Mark Viverito.

2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you Madam
3 Public Advocate and again thank you to all my
4 colleagues. The set of reforms we did today very
5 exciting and we go off knowing that we did great work
6 here today, so with that have a great weekend
7 everybody.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Date FEBRUARY 15, 2016