

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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Thursday, August 3, 2023

Start: 2:32 P. M.

Recess: 4:03 P. M.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

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

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING
COUNCIL MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

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

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING
A P P E A R A N C E S

Reverend Derrick Shahem Johnson Sr.,
Founder and Pastor, The Black Liberation Church
located at 91 Claremont Avenue, New York, NY
10027

2 SERGEANT PETUVI: This is a microphone check for
3 the Stated Meeting being recorded in Chambers by
4 Nazli Petuvi (phonetic) on August 3, 2023.

5 [AUTOMATED] RECORDING IN PROGRESS

6 CITY CLERK: Ladies and gentlemen, quiet on the
7 floor, please, quiet on the floor, please!

8 At this time -- at this time -- please place all
9 electronic devices to vibrate or silent mode.

10 Mr. Majority Leader?

11 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS:

12 [GAVELING IN] [GAVEL SOUND]

13 Good afternoon, and welcome to the Stated Meeting
14 of August 3, 2023. I am Majority Leader Keith
15 Powers; I would like to thank everyone here for
16 joining us. I want to give a special shoutout to my
17 interns who are sitting in the front row upstairs.
18 And, for everyone else, if you would like to follow
19 along, the agenda for today's meeting is posted on
20 the City Council website.

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

23 SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise!

24 CITY COUNCIL: [PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE]

25 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Roll call?

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Present

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Present

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Presente

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: I'm here.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Barron?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Bottcher?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Present

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Here

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Present

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Present

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Carr?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Present

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Here

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6

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Here

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Farías?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Present

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Present

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: (NO RESPONSE)

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Presente

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Here

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Present

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Holden?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: (MATERNITY)

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: (ABSENT)

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Kagan?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: Present

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: (ABSENT)

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Lee?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: (ABSENT)

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Louis?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Marte?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Present

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: (NO RESPONSE)

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Menin?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Here

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Moya?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Here

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Here

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Here

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Present

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Here

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Restler?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Here

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Richardson Jordan?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN: Here

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Riley?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Present

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Presente

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Here

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Here. Here

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

15 Council Member Ung?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Present

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Velázquez?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER VELÁZQUEZ: Present

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Here

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Williams?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: (ABSENT)

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Won?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Present

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Yeger?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Borelli?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: (ABSENT)

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Powers?

6 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Here

7 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Speaker Adams?

8 SPEAKER ADAMS: Present

9 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, we will now
10 have today's invocation, which will be delivered by
11 Reverend Derrick Shahem Johnson Sr., Founder and
12 Pastor, The Black Liberation Church located at 91
13 Claremont Avenue in Morningside Heights, welcome.

14 SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise!

15 CITY CLERK: All rise.

16 REVEREND JOHNSON: To all dignitaries, elected
17 officials, public servants, staff, and guest,
18 especially the youth assembled, good afternoon.

19 First giving honor to God, who is the head of my
20 life, I would like to invoke the aid of deity. May
21 the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
22 be acceptable in your presence, O Lord, my strength
23 and my redeemer. We are thankful for all of the holy
24 sacred texts that have withstood throughout the ages
25 of time, from ancient Mesopotamia to ancient Egypt;

2 the four major religions of the Far East; the three
3 major Abrahamic faiths, and there is so much, much
4 more. We thank O mighty God, the creator for all of
5 God's worthy servants. May peace rest upon them.
6 Please accept my prayer in the Christian faith. Let
7 us pray.

8 Most holy and most glorious, lord God, we thank
9 you for your grace, and we thank you for your mercy.
10 We thank you for sending your Christ into this world
11 and the person of your Yeshua Jesus the Christ. And
12 we thank you for leaving us with your holy spirit to
13 rest, rule, and abide with us henceforth and
14 forevermore. We thank you for waking us up this
15 morning to your marvelous light, and we thank you for
16 the breath of life. We pray that everyone under the
17 sound of my voice, that you, O mighty God, renew our
18 minds with just a portion of your infinite wisdom.
19 Lord, God, we pray that we will not be just hearers
20 of your word, which is the logic and reasoning of
21 you, O mighty God, but that we will be doers of your
22 word. We pray that you forgive us for our sins, and
23 that you bless us with your power to discern good
24 from evil and the discipline to be obedient to the

2 will that you have given us, and to stand on truth
3 and advocate for good.

4 Many of us are dealing with sickness and
5 distress, bereavement, mental, physical, spiritual
6 issues and challenges. So, we pray that you bless us
7 from the crown of our heads to the soles of our feet.
8 May you bless our families, our communities, our
9 nation, and bless this world, and all those who have
10 gone before us. Please bless our ancestors, Lord
11 God. We ask all of these in the name of all your
12 worthy servants in the name of Yeshua, Jesus the
13 Christ, and in your most holy and glorious name,
14 Amen.

15 The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once
16 quoted, "The church must be reminded that it is not
17 the master or the servant of the state, but rather
18 the conscience of the state. It must be the guide and
19 the critic of the state, and never its tool..."

20 A wise man in Harlem by the name of CJ once told
21 me, "There's only two ways to do business, good
22 business and bad business," and it is my prayer today
23 that before O mighty God, that you do good business
24 on behalf of the people. May God bless you and may
25 heaven smile upon you. Peace and blessings.

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MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, I will now call on Council Member Shaun Abreu to spread the Invocation in full upon the record.

COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Thank you, Majority Leader, thank you, Majority Leader.

I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to Reverend Johnson of the Black Liberation Church in West Harlem for blessing us with his presence today.

Born and raised in Harlem, Reverend Johnson has worked extensively to protect and advance our arts and culture. He is a photographer with a distinguished career in the entertainment industry. He is also a community board member, youth coach, and gun violence survivor. It is an honor to have you here today, Pastor. Through your ministry, civic advocacy, and youth mentorship you have served the city of New York and the people of Upper Manhattan with the utmost distinction and care. There is no doubt that your love for our community has infused your service with immense beauty. I make a motion for unanimous consent to spread the invocation in full upon the record.

2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We will now
3 call on Council Member Chi Ossé for the Adoption of
4 Minutes.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: I move that the minutes of
6 the Stated Meeting of June 30, 2023 be adopted as
7 printed.

8 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We will have
9 Messages & Papers from the Mayor?

10 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

11 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Communications from City,
12 County & Borough Offices?

13 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

14 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Petitions and
15 Communications?

16 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

17 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Land Use Call-Ups?

18 COUNCIL CLERK: M 172, 893 Eagle Avenue Rezoning.

19 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: We're on Land Use Call-
20 ups.

21 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on Call-Up Vote. I now
22 ask that the Clerk take a roll call vote on today's
23 Land Use call-up.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?
25

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Present. Oh...

3 Yes.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

5 Council Member Louis?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Permission to vote on all
7 Land Use and General Order Calendar items? And I
8 would also like to disclose for the record that my
9 brother works for the MPA, and my sister is a student
10 at CUNY.

11 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: You can go ahead.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Thank you.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: I would like to vote
15 aye on all call-ups, and with permission, I would
16 like to vote on all coupled items on the General
17 Order Calendar and all resolutions?

18 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Thank you. I vote aye
20 on all.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Menin?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Hi, I would like to request
23 permission to vote on all Land Use call-ups and all
24 other items on today's General Orders Calendar? I
25 vote aye on all, thank you.

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you, Council Member Menin.
3 Council Member Sanchez?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: I would like to vote aye
5 on all call-ups, and with the permission... with
6 your permission, I would like to vote aye all Coupled
7 General Orders.

8 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: I vote aye. And I would
10 like to disclose on the record that my sibling
11 attends... or is an employee at CUNY.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.
13 Council Member Moya?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Yes, Mr. Majority Leader, I
15 request permission to vote on all items on today's
16 Agenda?

17 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.
20 Council Member Abreu?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye on all.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Aye on all. Aye on all.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.
25 Council Member Avilés?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye on all.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye on all.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: I vote aye on all Land

7 Use call-ups, and with permission, I request the

8 opportunity to vote on all items on the General

9 Orders Calendar?

10 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: I vote aye.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

13 Council Member Barron?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye on all.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

16 Council Member Bottcher?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Aye on all.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye on all.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Carr?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Aye

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye

4 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Farías?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye on all.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Holden?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: (MATERNITY)

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: (ABSENT)

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Kagan?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: Aye

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: (ABSENT)

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Lee?

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

18

2 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: (ABSENT)

3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Marte?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Aye

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Aye

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Restler?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye, yes.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Richardson

18 Jordon?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN: I vote aye.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Riley?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Ung?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Velázquez?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER VELÁZQUEZ: Aye

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Vernikov?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Williams?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: (ABSENT)

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Won?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Yeger?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Borelli?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: (ABSENT)

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Powers?

19 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Aye

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Adams?

21 SPEAKER ADAMS: I vote aye.

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS:

23 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Today's Land Use Call-Ups

24 are adopted by a vote of 45 in the affirmative and

25 zero negative.

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

4 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you, Majority Leader. And
5 good afternoon, everyone.

6 Before we begin, I want to take a moment to
7 remember the lives of New Yorkers who died while on
8 the job.

9 Sixty-three-year-old Bernard Gonzalez Perez, who
10 was a supermarket worker in Council Member Abreu's
11 district, was killed last month while sweeping the
12 sidewalk.

13 Yesterday, 26-year-old police officer, Alexis
14 Martinez, was taken from us in the Soundview
15 neighborhood of the Bronx. Our hearts are heavy, and
16 the entire city is saddened by their losses.

17 We are also mourning the tragic loss of 28-year-
18 old O'Shea Sibley, who was killed while dancing at a
19 gas station in Brooklyn. O'Shea and his friends were
20 targeted for being gay, and for joyfully and openly
21 expressing themselves in a public space. We cannot
22 detach this violence from the climate of
23 discriminatory and hateful rhetoric against our
24 LGBTQIA+ communities that has been permeating
25 throughout the city and this entire nation. This

1 cannot be allowed to continue and escalate to
2 violence that makes all of us less safe. We must
3 work to protect each other and our communities, so
4 that all of us can be safe in the expression of our
5 full identities without the fear or threat of
6 violence.
7

8 We lost 44-year-old Ida Sanchez Tello, a pregnant
9 mother of three children, who was injured in an
10 apartment fire in Council Member Vernikov's district
11 about a month ago. She was taken to the hospital in
12 critical condition and passed away just days later.

13 We also lost 59-year-old Mildred Montesino to a
14 house fire in Majority Whip Brooks-Powers district.
15 Mildred was a beloved mother and grandmother who
16 worked hard to raise her two children and six
17 grandchildren in Brooklyn. Our hearts, once again,
18 are with their families during this very difficult
19 time.

20 Recently, we learned about the loss of John
21 Castic, a 27-year-old man who was found dead in the
22 Newtown Creek in Council Member Gutiérrez's district.
23 His death comes more than a month after another 27-
24 year-old, Karl Clemente, was found in the same creek
25 after last seen leaving the Brooklyn Mirage. I want

1
2 to remind all New Yorkers to please stay vigilant and
3 keep each other safe.

4 Now I want to take a moment to address the
5 ongoing situation outside of the intake for emergency
6 shelter at the Roosevelt Hotel. Over the past
7 several days, dozens of people seeking asylum in our
8 country have been forced to remain on the streets --
9 even overnight -- waiting for shelter. We know that
10 there continues to be a dire need for more federal
11 support, and we will continue to advocate for what
12 our city deserves. Yet, there are actions that we as
13 a city must undertake by working together to address
14 this situation and support our communities and those
15 in need. This is about helping long-time New
16 Yorkers, our communities, and people seeking asylum.
17 Responding to this challenge cannot solely be focused
18 on finding space or requesting more federal funding,
19 it requires an all-of-the-above approach. Because
20 what we face is not the result of a single issue.
21 These interconnected issues are far more complicated
22 and demand comprehensive solutions that can only be
23 achieved by all of us working together.

24 We must come together around all of the necessary
25 solutions for more federal funding, better

1
2 homelessness, and housing solutions; better
3 management of key services, and investing more wisely
4 in evidence based solutions that work to address
5 homelessness.

6 July 28th was Peru's Independence Day. Last week,
7 the City Council hosted the first ever Peruvian
8 Heritage celebration right here at City Hall, and we
9 thank Council Members Shekar Krishnan, Jennifer
10 Gutiérrez, and Alexa Avilés for co-hosting this
11 event.

12 Throughout the month of August, colleagues, we
13 have so many cultural holidays that are important to
14 recognize:

15 On August 6th, we will celebrate Jamaican
16 Independence Day...

17 [BACKGROUND NOISE]

18 SPEAKER ADAMS: We'll wait... we will celebrate
19 Jamaican Independence Day. Our city is home to a
20 vibrant, flourishing Jamaican community that has
21 contributed so much to the success of New York.

22 August 10th is Ecuadorian Independence Day.
23 Ecuador, in case you didn't know, was the first
24 country to declare independence in Latin America back
25

2 in 1809. Ecuadorian New Yorkers have contributed to
3 the culture and fabric of our city.

4 August 14th is Pakistan Independence Day. This
5 year marks the 76th anniversary of Pakistan's
6 independence from British colonial rule.

7 On August 15th, we will observe both Indian
8 Independence Day and Korean Independence Day, also
9 known as Gwangbokjeol.

10 August 19th is Afghanistan Independence Day,
11 which commemorates the Anglo-Afghan Treaty of 1919
12 and the end to British influence in the country.

13 August 24th is Ukraine Independence Day. And we
14 are reminded of Russia's ongoing attacks against
15 Ukraine that began last March. As a city, we remain
16 united in supporting the 150,000 Ukrainian New
17 Yorkers who call our city home, and stand in
18 solidarity with Ukraine's right to peace and
19 serenity.

20 August 31st, is not only my wedding anniversary,
21 but it is also...

22 (CHEERS)

23 SPEAKER ADAMS: But, it is also... But it also
24 Trinidad and Tobago Independence Day. And I am so
25 very proud to represent a diverse Trinidadian

1 community in my own district, the great 28. We
2 recently passed legislation to create Trinidad and
3 Tobago Street, and I look forward to celebrating that
4 with our community.
5

6 Additionally, I also want to recognize August
7 21st, it is National Senior Citizens Day! I call --
8 and you should call also -- seniors the jewels of our
9 communities. And we would not be here today without
10 their sacrifice. Seniors, we appreciate you and
11 everything you have done for all of us.

12 Women of the Council, August 26th, is not just my
13 husband's birthday, but it is also Women's Equality
14 Day!

15 (CHEERS)

16 SPEAKER ADAMS: Yes! (CLAPPING) which was created
17 thanks to the advocacy of New York Congresswoman
18 Bella Abzug. As the first women majority council, we
19 are proud of the progress we have achieved together,
20 and we remain committed to advancing women's equality
21 right here and around the world.

22 August is also National Breastfeeding Month. And
23 since we just gave birth to baby number six right
24 here in the Council, this week is also World
25 Breastfeeding Week. Accessibility includes having

2 lactation room available and better workplace support
3 for new mothers and parents. As the first women
4 majority council, we are so proud to have made
5 progress towards equitable maternal health care. And
6 we will continue to work to secure even more support
7 for birthing people everywhere.

8 And on August 11th, we will celebrating the
9 official 50th Anniversary of Hip Hop!

10 [APPLAUSE]

11 SPEAKER ADAMS: Hip Hop was born in the Boogie
12 Down Bronx -- put those x's down. Debatable? Okay.
13 But, it was also shaped and molded by all five
14 boroughs of New York City. Those of us who were
15 actually raised in Hip Hop culture understand how it
16 has become a defining soundtrack in our lives. We
17 are so fortunate that so many of the giants and
18 pioneers of this global phenomenon are still here
19 today. I am going to shoutout my homeboy, LL Cool J
20 of Hollis Queens, who will be rocking the bells at
21 Forest Hills Stadium on Saturday! Get your tickets,
22 shameless plug, just sayin'.

23 [LAUGHTER IN CHAMBERS]

24

25

2 SPEAKER ADAMS: So, please join us recognizing and
3 celebrating Hip Hop's 50th Anniversary in your own
4 way.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Around The Way Girl...

6 SPEAKER ADAMS: Around The Way Girl, that's right,
7 don't tell people my stories, Chi Ossé.

8 On August 8th, my office will be hosting the
9 Melanin Summit: Changing the Color of Capital,
10 alongside the Black Institute and Department of Small
11 Business Services. The goal of this summit is to
12 connect MWBEs with CDFI, so that we can advance
13 equitable lending and facilitate new business
14 partnerships.

15 August, in case you didn't know, is Black
16 Business Month. So, I invite everyone to join us for
17 this historic summit next Tuesday.

18 Now is the moment we have all been waiting for,
19 it's time to celebrate August birthdays right here in
20 the Council.

21 In the month of August, we are celebrating the
22 birthdays of Council Member Marjorie Velázquez on
23 August 11th, Council Member David Carr on August
24 28th! Council Member Inna Vernikov on August 30th!

2 And Council Member Darlene Mealy -- on my anniversary
3 -- August 31st!

4 [APPLAUSE]

5 Today is also the birthday of our amazing Deputy
6 Chief of Staff for Communications, Mandela Jones!

7 [APPLAUSE]

8 SPEAKER ADAMS: I hope all of you August babies
9 have a great birthday with your families and loved
10 ones.

11 Before we continue, I want to give a special
12 welcome to interns who are observing our Stated
13 Meeting today from Senator Chuck Schumer's office!

14 [APPLAUSE]

15 SPEAKER ADAMS: From Council Member Dinowitz's
16 office!

17 [APPLAUSE]

18 SPEAKER ADAMS: And the best interns in the world,
19 stand up, mine, of course, representing the great 28
20 in Queens!

21 [APPLAUSE]

22 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you to all of our interns.
23 We welcome you to City Council Chambers, welcome,
24 interns, you are wonderful.

25 Now, let's move on to our Stated Agenda.

2 First, we will vote on the following Finance
3 items:

4 A transparency resolution approving new
5 designations and changes of certain organizations
6 receiving funding in the Expense Budget.

7 Next, we will vote on the following Land Use
8 items:

9 Ocean Crest Rezoning will rezone a site in
10 Majority Whip Brooks-Powers' district from an
11 existing R4-1 to R6-A. This approval will facilitate
12 a 100 percent affordable homeownership project with
13 up to 89 units. I want to thank Majority Whip Brooks-
14 Powers, the community builders, Governor Hochul,
15 Mayor Adams, Congressman Gregory Meeks, Senator James
16 Sanders, Assembly Member Khaleel Anderson, Deputy
17 Mayor Maria Torres Springer, and HPD for their
18 partnership and collaboration to get this project
19 across the finish line.

20 And 7120 New Utrecht Avenue Rezoning will
21 facilitate a new mixed use eight-story building with
22 approximately 88 housing units, including 26
23 affordable units under MIH in Council Member
24 Brannan's district.

1
2 Also, 56 William Avenue will facilitate one new
3 two-family home in Minority Leader Borelli's
4 district.

5 A new 696 seat primary school in Council Member
6 Lynn Schulman's district -- 1160 Flushing Avenue--
7 will facilitate a new mixed used industrial and
8 commercial development in Bushwick.

9 The Council is modifying the rezoning area to
10 remove additional properties along Wyckoff Avenue
11 where there is no agreement or commitment in place to
12 provide industrial space. In line with
13 recommendations from Brooklyn Community Board Four
14 and the Brooklyn Borough President in Council Member
15 Gutiérrez's district.

16 We are also voting on two landmark designations:
17 Linden Street Historic District, a cohesive and
18 distinctive block of 32 rowhouses in the Bushwick
19 neighborhood in Brooklyn in Council Member
20 Gutiérrez's district.

21 And (Former) Colored School No. 4, a three-story
22 midblock building in the Chelsea neighborhood of
23 Manhattan. Built by the City's Public School Society
24 in the late 1840's, the public schoolhouse served
25 Black children exclusively until the public school

1 system closed the segregated school in 1869 in
2 Council Member Bottcher's district.

3 We will vote on the following resolutions:

4 First we will vote on Resolution 237-A, sponsored
5 by Higher Education Committee Chair, Council Member
6 Eric Dinowitz, calling on the New York State
7 Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, the
8 Fair College Admissions Act. This state bill would
9 prohibit legacy admissions preference at
10 undergraduate colleges in New York State, declaring
11 such policies as inequitable and discriminatory.

12 Thank you to our staff members Chloe Rivera and
13 Regina Paul.

14 We will also vote on a pair of resolutions:

15 Resolution 694-A, sponsored by Civil Service and
16 Labor Committee Chair, Council Member Carmen De La
17 Rosa and Resolution 729-A, sponsored by Chair De La
18 Rosa and Council Member Amanda Fariás, to express the
19 Council's support for the Writers Guild of America
20 and the SAG-AFTRA unions respectively in their fights
21 for fair contracts. Thank you to our staff members
22 Elizabeth Arzt and Rie Ogasawara.

23 There will be several pieces of legislation on
24 today's Agenda:
25

1 Introduction 289-A, sponsored by Council Member
2 Carlina Rivera, requiring the Department of
3 Transportation to develop and regularly update a
4 searchable bicycle infrastructure map with all bike
5 lanes in New York City. The map must contain
6 information about current or planned obstructions on
7 bike routes and feature the location of open streets,
8 bike parking infrastructure, micro mobility stations,
9 and information on how to report bike lane issues.

10 Thank you to our staffers Mark Chen, Samuel
11 Breitbart, Kevin Kotowski, and John Basile.

12 Introduction 689-A, sponsored by Public Advocate
13 Jumaane Williams, in relation to elimination of
14 Department of Building permit and or filing fees for
15 green building projects undertaken on one to three
16 family homes. Green building projects would include
17 projects or renovations that will produce, from
18 utilization of renewable resources, a decrease in
19 carbon emissions in at least half of the building's
20 prior admissions. Thank you to our staffer Taylor
21 Zelony.

22 Introduction 384-A, sponsored by Majority Whip
23 Selvena Brooks-Powers, creation of an Office of The
24 Homeowner Advocate within the Department Of Housing
25

1 Preservation and Development to provide information,
2 resources, and assistance to homeowners. The Office
3 of the Homeowner Advocate would also be required to
4 report annually on homeowner inquiries received,
5 actions taken to address these inquiries, and make
6 recommendations for services for homeowners that are
7 not currently available. Thank you once again to
8 staff member Taylor Zelony.
9

10 In continuation of the Council's efforts to
11 legislate against the harms of lead-based paint, we
12 will vote on several bills, sponsored by Deputy
13 Speaker Diana Ayala, to increase inspection,
14 remediation, and enforcement against these hazards:

15 Introduction 5-A would require building owners to
16 produce records of lead-based hazard inspections,
17 investigations, and remediation work including x-ray
18 fluorescents testing after August 2025.

19 Introduction 6-A would expand the remediation
20 requirements for lead-based hazards for turned over
21 units to include remediation prior to turnover where
22 a child under six years old resides.

23 Introduction 750-A would shift the City's
24 inspection process to be more proactive by requiring
25 HPD and DOHMH to annually identify and inspect

1 buildings where children live, and where there might
2 be a risk of exposure to lead-based hazards given a
3 building's violation history. Thank you again,
4 Taylor Zelony.
5

6 Finally, the Council will vote on Introduction
7 31-C, sponsored by Consumer and Worker Protection
8 Committee Chair, Council Member Marjorie Velázquez,
9 which will establish a permanent outdoor dining
10 program. After an extensive process of engagement,
11 with many thoughtful conversations with the various
12 stakeholders, we are voting to create a newly revised
13 permanent outdoor dining program that will continue
14 to serve our restaurants, residents, and visitors.
15 During the COVID-19 pandemic outdoor dining became a
16 lifeline for small businesses and New Yorkers seeking
17 socialization and normalcy through a temporary
18 program that expanded the opportunity beyond limited
19 capacity primarily in Manhattan. This legislation
20 incorporates lessons learned from this temporary
21 program by making increased accessibility and
22 inclusivity to outdoor dining permanent while
23 addressing concerns to strike the right balance for
24 restaurants, neighborhoods, and all New Yorkers.
25 This legislation makes it possible for many

1
2 restaurants to participate, eases the bureaucratic
3 barriers, and makes the cost of participation
4 affordable while focusing on regulations to enhance
5 orderliness and uniformity missing from the temporary
6 program. This permanent program, under Local Law,
7 will serve and support our neighborhoods,
8 restaurants, residents, and city for years to come.

9 Introduction 31-C will allow sidewalk cafés to
10 operate year-round, and for the first time
11 permanently, allow roadway cafés to operate most of
12 the year, specifically the warmer eight months of
13 April through November. This makes the cost for
14 restaurants to participate in the outdoor dining
15 program more affordable and lower compared to the
16 pre-pandemic outdoor dining licensing and revocable
17 consent process, reduces the required processes and
18 timeliness for restaurants to receive approval from
19 the city agencies and entities in conjunction with
20 zoning changes. Approved by the Council in 2022,
21 this permits more neighborhoods and restaurants
22 within them to be eligible for participation in
23 outdoor dining than the previous pre-pandemic
24 sidewalk café program and provides time for
25 restaurants to transition allowing them to continue

1 their outdoor dining operations even after this Local
2 Law takes effect -- as long as they apply for a
3 license and submit a petition for revocable consent
4 on or before the date set forth by the Department of
5 Transportation, which cannot be less than three
6 months after the rules go into effect. We thank our
7 staff members -- particularly Rachel Cordero, David
8 Seitzer, Sarah Swaine, and Natalie Meltzer.
9

10 Thank you very much for your attention. Now I
11 turn it back into the hands of our majority leader.

12 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, Speaker Adams.

13 We will now move into Discussion of General
14 Orders. We will first hear from Council Member
15 Brooks-Powers, followed by Council Member Rivera.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Thank you.

17 I am so excited today that we will pass a bill of
18 crucial importance to my community and to communities
19 all across the City, Introduction 384, which would
20 create an Office of the Homeowner Advocate. We need
21 to invest in homeownership, such that when New
22 Yorkers in low income neighborhoods and communities
23 of color buy a home, they know the City has their
24 back. That is why I am proud to co-sponsor this
25 legislation, which would create the Office of

1 Homeowner Advocate within HPD to provide support to
2 homeowners alongside nonprofits that are currently
3 providing services to homeowners. It would also help
4 homeowners to access resources and create a public
5 awareness campaigns about the rights and
6 responsibilities of homeowners. A special shoutout
7 to the original prime sponsor, former Council Member
8 I. Daneek Miller.
9

10 We will also vote through a Land Use item in my
11 district, the Ocean Crest Rezoning, which will result
12 in a 100% affordable homeownership project in my
13 district. I want to express my appreciation to Jesse
14 Batus (phonetic) of the Community Builders and the
15 team at NEA Myer (sp?) for their partnership and for
16 rising to the call for affordable homeownership.
17 Together we have made a number of commitments on this
18 historic project that will benefit the community
19 including 50% hiring from Community Board 14, 35%
20 MWBE utilization, a mutually agreed upon labor
21 monitor, targeted outreach to NYCHA residents to
22 provide them with homeownership opportunities,
23 infrastructure investments, and the commitment to
24 engage... to explore workforce opportunities. I
25 thank Speaker Adrienne Adams and her Chief of Staff,

1
2 Jeremy John, for their leadership and guidance
3 throughout this process. I also thank the Land Use
4 staff and everyone at central staff [TIMER CHIMES]
5 who worked on this. And I am ever grateful to my
6 local elected partners including Congressman Gregory
7 Meeks, Senator James Sanders, Assembly Member Khaleel
8 Anderson, and Borough President Donovan Richards. I
9 also thank the Administration including Deputy Mayor
10 Torres Springer, Chief Advisor Ingrid Lewis-Martin,
11 Chief of Staff Camille Varlack, and the staff at HPD.
12 Thank you as well to our state partners, the
13 Governor's staff, including Stacy Lynch, Karen Keogh,
14 and the staff at HCR, and especially Speaker Carl
15 Heastie for his commitment to homeownership and
16 recognizing the need. I am always thankful for my
17 community and its members from the community boards
18 to local civic organizations to everyday residents.
19 That is who sent me to City Hall, and that is who I
20 fight for when I walk through these doors of City
21 Hall each day.

22 I want to close by recognizing that the City's
23 Black population has declined by nearly 200,000
24 people in the past two decades. So many of these New
25 Yorkers, low income New Yorkers, and New Yorkers of

2 color are being priced out of the City. Legislation
3 like this, and projects like Ocean Crest, will help
4 ensure more of these New Yorkers have the ability to
5 stay and the stability, most of all, to stay. I look
6 forward to working with the Administration to expand
7 resources for homeowners in communities like mine,
8 and making the American dream more accessible here in
9 New York City. Thank you.

10 And I would like to disclose that I am a member
11 Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

12 And congratulations to all my colleagues who are
13 passing bills today, thank you.

14 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

15 We will now hear from Council Member Rivera,
16 followed by Council Member Gutiérrez.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you.

18 Good afternoon, everyone. Today we will vote on
19 a piece of legislation that I am glad to have
20 sponsored, Introduction 289 will require DOT to
21 create a searchable map of every bicycle lane in New
22 York City with information about bike network
23 disruptions and the location of temporary bicycle
24 lanes. The map will also have information about the
25 location of open streets, bicycle parking

1
2 infrastructure, micro mobility share programs and
3 stations, and information on how to report bicycle
4 lane issues. New York has expanded its bike network
5 to over 1,500 miles of bike lanes including hundreds
6 of miles of protected bike lanes. Effective
7 operation, including predictable routes and trips,
8 detours, and other provisions during disruption has
9 to be part of the City's infrastructure strategy to
10 really create this network to be more... safer and
11 more accessible and a means of getting around town.
12 Eighteen bike riders were killed in the first six
13 months of 2023, putting New Yorker on track to have
14 the second the second deadliest year to date for
15 cyclist on record. Additionally, on June 7th, the
16 100th New Yorker fell victim to traffic violence
17 marking the earliest occurrence of such a tragic
18 event since 2014. Thousands of New Yorkers commute,
19 do business, shop, and visit this city through the
20 five boroughs by bicycle each day. And that is
21 deserving of the same information and alerts alerted
22 to motorists and transit riders. We must
23 dramatically speed up street re-designs and use all
24 of the tools at our disposal to continue to bring
25 safer streets to New York City. That include

2 piloting and implementing new technology and shared
3 street designs, pedestrianizing open spaces, and
4 increasing bus and bike lane networks. Our city's
5 bike lane network is a transportation system like any
6 other, and cyclists really do deserve real-time data.
7 It can prevent a morning commute from becoming a
8 treacherous journey. So, I want to thank all of my
9 colleagues and advocates, of course my crew, the
10 Legislative team, and I really do urge all of my
11 colleagues to vote aye. Thank you for your support.

12 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

13 We will now hear from Council Member Gutiérrez.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Thank you.

15 I am excited to have two Land Use items this
16 month. Land Use item number 247, which establishes
17 Linden Street as a Historic District. And Land Use
18 item 243, a mixed-use rezoning at 1160 Flushing
19 Avenue in Bushwick. Linden Street, which is a
20 variety of architectural styles from the late 19th
21 century, is a rare well-preserved reminder of South
22 Bushwick's past, a neighborhood in which so many
23 landmarks have been lost to fires and gentrification,
24 this designation is cause for celebration. I want to
25 thank Landmarks Chair Louis and my partner in

2 Bushwick, Council Member Nurse, for their support in
3 pushing this through to a vote.

4 We are also voting on 1160 Flushing Avenue, where
5 the applicant has contractually committed to mixed
6 commercial industrial development in collaboration
7 with our CBO partner, Evergreen Exchange. This
8 commitment aligns with the goals of Evergreen's North
9 Brooklyn BOA planning study, uh, district 34 Land Use
10 policy, and priorities established through extensive
11 community engagement, and multiple studies within the
12 North Brooklyn Industrial Business Zone. This area
13 is a vital industrial hub, and the neighborhood must
14 retain its manufacturing uses.

15 Today I also want to acknowledge our summer
16 interns: Oliva, Kelly, Jay, and Chris who are also
17 upstairs, who are helping us to run this office in
18 the summer more smoothly. Thank you so much.

19 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

20 We will now hear from Council Member Barron.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you very much, my
22 colleagues. I know you all miss me, and probably
23 some of you are suffering from deep depression, but
24 it will be all right.

2 I just wanted to speak on Introduction 31-C very,
3 very challenging choice for me to vote no. But, the
4 reason being is these sidewalk cafés work, but the
5 roadway cafés in many of our communities and many my
6 constituents said that they really didn't want it --
7 its causing chaos, not only with parking, but also
8 causing some health issues. And, in many instances,
9 they are even underutilized, but are still just
10 taking up a whole lot of space. So, it's the roadway
11 cafés that I am going to have big, big problems with,
12 so that is the reason why I'll be voting no on
13 Introduction 31-C.

14 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Please hold applause.

15 Do we have anyone else signed up at this moment
16 for General Orders?

17 Okay, we will now move into today's Agenda. We
18 will move into the Reports of Special Committees.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

20 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Report of Standing
21 Committees?

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee on
23 Consumer and Worker Protection, Introduction 31-C,
24 sidewalk cafés.

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

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee on
5 Finance, Preconsidered Resolution 726, transparency
6 resolution?

7 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee on Housing
9 and Buildings, Introductions 5-A and 6-A, lead-based
10 paint remediation?

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

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Introduction 384-A, Creation of an
14 Office Of The Homeowner Advocate?

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

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Introduction 689-A, ling fees for
18 green building projects?

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

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Introduction 750-A, proactive
22 inspection requirements?

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

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee on Land
3 Use, L U 239 and Resolution 733 through L U 242 and
4 Resolution 736, various rezonings?

5 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: L U 243, 1160 Flushing Avenue?

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

10 COUNCIL CLERK: L U 244 and Resolution 737, 56
11 William Avenue?

12 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Preconsidered L U 247 and
14 Resolution 738 and Preconsidered L U 248 and
15 Resolution 739, Landmark designations?

16 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Preconsidered L U 249 and
18 Resolution 740, primary school?

19 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee on
21 Transportation and Infrastructure, Introduction 289-
22 A, bicycle infrastructure map?

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

2 COUNCIL CLERK: General Orders Calendar? L U 243
3 and Resolution 741, 1160 Flushing Avenue?

4 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Resolution appointing various
6 persons, Commissioner of Deeds?

7 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

8 I know ask that the clerk take a roll call vote
9 on all of the items coupled on today's General Orders
10 Calendar.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Aye on all with the
15 exception of Introductions 5-A and 6-A.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Okay, thank you.

17 Council Member Avilés?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye on all.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye on all.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Barron?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote on no on L U 241
23 and 242, 7120 New Utrecht Avenue Rezoning. It is
24 only 25% affordability and 75% market. And I vote no
25

2 on Introduction 31-C as previously stated. Aye on
3 all the rest.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

5 Council Member Bottcher?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: No on 31-C, and aye on
7 all of the rest.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

9 Council Member BRANNAN?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I am voting aye on all.

13 But, I just want to talk about 31-C for a minute. I

14 feel that it has compromise in its execution. And I

15 do want to thank the staff. I do hope that the

16 rulemaking does take into account many of the

17 concerns. Obviously, people are concerned about

18 noise, uh, they are concerned about the hours that

19 the roadsides will end, they are concerned, I think,

20 also about the issue of how commercial and

21 residential have different needs. Obviously,

22 residential is more dense often in terms of people

23 living there and experiencing the outdoor cafés. I

24 am also concerned, because, uh, the storage for the

25 restaurants, what happens in the time between

1
2 November and April when they're not outdoors? How
3 will they be storing their tables/chairs? I am
4 concerned about something that is maybe not a concern
5 to anybody else, but when we do take down the
6 current, very large in some cases, outdoor cafés,
7 what is going to happen to the planters, the wood,
8 and the things that have, uh, been in construction
9 for these many months? Can it please go not to the
10 landfill, but to something perhaps with schools or
11 places where they are in need of such materials? I
12 am also concerned, because Manhattan has the
13 commercial rent tax all the way from Murry to 96th
14 Street, so the small businesses already pay a tax.
15 And I want to make sure that those that are paying
16 for their outdoor cafés have a reasonable opportunity
17 that is not too high. Some people would like it
18 higher, I do not.

19 And, so, Department of Transportation, okay,
20 fine, that you're going to be doing this outdoor
21 inspections, make sure you have enough inspectors!
22 This is all based on having good oversight. I have
23 to say, right now, when I have some outdoor cafés
24 that are not operating, I cannot get rid of them.

25

2 So, I am a yes, but I am yes with, please,
3 rulemaking, oversight, and pay attention to some of
4 the issues that have been brought to the agency's
5 attention. Thank you very much.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

7 Council Member Brooks-Powers?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Permission to
9 explain my vote?

10 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: I just want to take
12 a moment to also add to my thankyou. I would like
13 to thank Council Member Rafael Salamanca and Council
14 Member Riley for their partnership, guidance, and
15 most of all friendship in this [INAUDIBLE] process.
16 And I would also like to thank all of my colleagues
17 for their continued support, calls, and checks during
18 the process as well. With that, I vote aye on all.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye on all.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Carr?

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

24 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

25

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: I would just like to confine
3 my remarks to Introduction 31-C. I think the portions
4 of this bill as they pertain to the sidewalk cafés
5 are truly excellent. It took a moribund, onerous,
6 expensive process, and it really made it much better
7 while retaining community and council member input.
8 And it is to the credit of the Chair, who is the
9 prime sponsor of the bill, that it turned out that
10 way alongside all of the staff on both sides of City
11 Hall that have worked on this. And I am such an
12 admirer of it that it would make a roadway skeptic --
13 dining skeptic, like myself, support this bill if it
14 were identical in terms of the procedures, but
15 they're not. And, then, this is a crucial component
16 for the roadway dining portion, which is the call-up
17 option that we have under the sidewalk café rules.
18 And I think that is something that we needed to have.
19 I know there are reticence about doing it, because it
20 would require a referendum to amend the Charter in
21 that way. But, I think when we are considering
22 converting ,you know, lane miles of public space to
23 the benefit of a particular commercial entity, a
24 restaurant, that it is not a bad thing to ask the
25 public their opinion on such a grant of an ability.

1 But, also, in addition to that, it requires us as we
2 give this authority to DOT as a legislative entity,
3 basically, we are giving them a blank check. And I
4 don't want to judge the situation based on my
5 relationship with this mayor and this DOT, which is
6 very good, it's about what is the worst case scenario
7 between a relationship between a council member and
8 an executive agency? And we have to make sure that
9 in the future all of the processes are going to allow
10 the community input and the council member input to
11 be heard, and more importantly, to be heeded. And
12 that is one of the reasons why I cannot bring myself
13 to support this legislation. Because, I don't want
14 to trust or hope that the agencies will listen and
15 heed to me or my successors. I want to be able to
16 know that for sure. And a call-up would ensure that.

17 So, I will be a no on Introduction 31-C, as well
18 as Introductions 5-A and 6-A, and aye on all the
19 rest.
20

21 And I am simply going to disclose on the record,
22 that in the transparency resolution we are voting on
23 today, CUNY is funded, and my spouse is a student
24 [TIMER CHIMES] at CUNY. Thank you.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

2 Council Member De La Rosa?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye on all.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye on all.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Farías?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye on all.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye on all.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye on all.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye on all.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye on all.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Holden?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye on all, except for

18 Introduction 5-A, Introduction 6-A, and Introduction

19 31-C. And I want to be associated with the remarks

20 of Council Member Carr on 31-C. Thank you.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

22 Council Member Kagan?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: Permission to explain my

24 vote?

25 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: So, I would like to talk
3 about Introduction 31-C. Already some of the
4 concerns were mentioned about minuses of this
5 legislation in terms of taking parking spots, too
6 much power to the DOT, and date of replacing all the
7 wooden sheds is now November 1st, 2024. I would
8 prefer it to be happening this year. But, I believe
9 the plusses outweigh the minuses in this legislation,
10 because finally we are doing away with these wooden
11 sheds. They will be replaced with removable chairs
12 and umbrellas. So, I also like the simplifying
13 changes for sidewalk cafés. But, at the end of the
14 day, I decided to vote yes on Introduction 31-C, and
15 yes on all, with the exception of Introduction 5-A
16 and Introduction 6-A.

17 Also, my daughter is a student at CUNY and this
18 transparency resolution is funding CUNY. So, I am
19 declaring that my daughter is a student of CUNY.
20 Thank you.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

22 Council Member Marte?

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

25 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

1 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: My district has the second
2 highest density of outdoor dining sheds in New York.
3 My constituents know what works and what doesn't. We
4 just don't have one bad actor, we have hundreds. We
5 just don't have one example of a good outdoor dining
6 program and what it might look like, we have dozens.
7 We have met with city agencies and industry
8 stakeholders about this issue for over a year. We
9 have gone on walkthroughs and have developed
10 alternatives. And I am deeply disappointed that the
11 recommendations from the people with the most
12 experience of living next to and on top off -- and
13 outdoor dining sheds -- were ignored. We even asked
14 for a compromise, but we were rejected.

16 Midnight closings for outdoor dining is not for
17 dining. They're for drinking and partying. This
18 keeps up the working class people of my district
19 while gentrifiers are outside partying outside their
20 windows.

21 The four-year window for review is undemocratic
22 and allows bad actors to get away with it for years
23 without repercussions, especially as we see City
24 struggle to enforce even existing regulations.

2 To the thousands of Lower Manhattan residents who
3 oppose this legislation, I am sorry that we have
4 failed you today. I am still grateful for your
5 advocacy and will continue to fight to make sure your
6 voices are heard.

7 For these reasons, I vote no on Introduction 31-
8 C, and aye on all the rest, thank you.

9 [APPLAUSE]

10 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Okay, please hold your
11 applause, thank you. You can use your hands or
12 something else, thank you.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I vote aye all (sic). And
15 I would like to vote no 31-C. And I would like to be
16 associated with the remarks of my colleague, Mr.
17 Carr.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

19 Council Member Narcisse?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Permission to explain my
21 vote?

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: While I am thinking
24 deeply about 31-C, we came to a point where we are
25 divided. But, me just sitting here, even if this

2 decision is tough, we have to understand our... I
3 mean, why we were making this decision even when it
4 is tough. Uhm, while so many talk about the sheds,
5 uhm, what they have been going through. But, I do
6 believe in the process in our City and the agency
7 responsible... And not only during our time, but for
8 those that come after us to be responsible and hold
9 people accountable. And, one of the reasons that I
10 feel at ease to say yes 31-C, is because that we have
11 a chance in our community board where each community
12 board will have the opportunity to review how the
13 businesses are doing in our community. It is a
14 challenging time for small businesses. And while we
15 all say the rhetoric, the small businesses are the
16 backbone of the community, so we have to stand by
17 what we say. So, we need businesses in our
18 community, and that understanding led me to say yes
19 and aye to all, thank you.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Aye on all.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Permission to explain my
24 vote? Just kidding, aye. Aye on all.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you, Council Member...

2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: And I was going to
3 decline it anyway. So...

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye on all except for
6 Introduction 5-A, 6-A, and I vote no on Introduction
7 31-C, and I vote on no Resolution 237.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

9 Council Member Restler?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye on all... Aye on all,
11 with the exception of 31-C, for which I am a no.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

13 Council Member Richardson Jordon?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN: Aye on all.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Riley?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye on all except
23 Introduction 31-C.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

25 Council Member Ung?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye on all.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Velázquez?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER VELÁZQUEZ: Permission to explain
5 my vote?

6 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER VELÁZQUEZ: Good afternoon, there
8 are many people who deserve credit for getting this
9 bill up for a vote. But, for the sake of time, I
10 want to thank Speaker Adams, Mayor Adams, and all of
11 the New Yorkers have shared their voices on this
12 important issue. This was truly a collaborative
13 effort. This is a great way to celebrate Restaurant
14 Week by passing legislation creating a permanent
15 outdoor dining program. During the pandemic, outdoor
16 dining was a lifeline for our city, having helped
17 keep businesses open with the City was shutdown. The
18 program kept people employed and gave our local
19 communities an opportunity to connect with one
20 another and be outside of our homes safely. What the
21 Open Restaurant Executive Order proved is that not
22 only were there potential benefits for consumers, but
23 also an opportunity for the food service and
24 restaurant industry to benefit. This bill is a
25 combination of bringing everyone to the table in

1 creating a uniform program that considers the unique
2 circumstances in each borough and neighborhood.

3 Introduction 31-C provides the peace of mind for our
4 businesses to have a permanent program and the space
5 for our city to move forward and continue to evolve
6 this program and how we utilize our spaces.

7 We heard your concerns from restaurant owners,
8 workers in the food industry, constituents, and local
9 businesses outside the industry that would be
10 impacted by this legislation. Having spent the past
11 year negotiating and modifying the bill to be as
12 inclusive and equitable as possible, meeting the
13 needs of the different types of restaurants and
14 eateries across our city. The pandemic changed our
15 lives, changed the way we live, and the way we do
16 business for better or for worse. But, as New
17 Yorkers, we continued to fight, and we evolved
18 through these dark times. We now have an opportunity
19 to build a stronger New York, not only an opportunity
20 to revitalize our barren streetscapes, but also by
21 giving our food and restaurant industry, particularly
22 small business owners -- mom and pop stores -- around
23 the five boroughs the tools to not only bounce back
24 from the hardships created by COVID, but also to help
25

2 propel our local and state economy into a brighter
3 future.

4 So, with that, I vote aye on all. And, also, uh,
5 I want to disclose on the record my husband works at
6 [TIMER CHIMES] DEP and my brother is a board member
7 of the [INAUDIBLE] of New York.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

9 Vernikov?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye on all except no on
11 Introductions 5-A, 6-A and Introduction 31-C, thank
12 you.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Vernikov... Thank you, Council
14 Member.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Won?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Yeger?

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

20 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you.

22 Uhm, a lot of... A lot of concerns that
23 colleagues, uh, have about this bill, including, uh,
24 members who voted for it, is.. Uh, with respect to
25 how this will play out. Our wise council member from

1
2 Manhattan who spoke earlier, uh, brought up a number
3 of very important issues, and I agree with every
4 single one of them; although, we are coming to a
5 different conclusion. I do very much want to
6 associate myself with Council Member Brewer's remarks
7 and Council Member Carr's remarks. At the end of the
8 day, we are the policy makers. We make the policy.
9 And when we do a bill and we give it over to an
10 agency and say, *you make the policy*, what they are
11 supposed to do be doing is executing the policy that
12 we have devised here. We have not done that. We
13 have left open hours of operation issues; we have
14 left open issues with congested streets; we have left
15 open issues that, as Council Member Marte brought
16 out, with respect to the particularities of
17 neighborhoods that are 500 years old versus
18 neighborhoods that are 50 years old. There is a big
19 difference. I talk about this all of the time, the
20 one size fits all rule does not work in New York
21 City. It just doesn't. We are too big and too
22 complicated of a city. When we do one bill, and it
23 says that this is going to be the policy from the tip
24 of Staten Island all the way up to the Bronx, and all
25 the other boroughs in between, it just doesn't work.

2 Not on this kind of bill. So, I will, uh,
3 respectfully, with great admiration for those who
4 have worked on this issue, but, uh, I do believe that
5 the wrong conclusion has, uh, come out of it. I vote
6 aye on all, with the exception of Introduction 31,
7 and I'm a no 5 and 6, thank you very much.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Powers?

9 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: I vote aye.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Adams?

11 SPEAKER ADAMS: Aye on all.

12 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: All items on today's
13 General Order Calendar adopted by a vote of 45 in the
14 affirmative, 0 negative, and 0 abstentions; with the
15 exemption of Introductions 5-A and 6-A, which are
16 adopted by a vote of 35 in the affirmative, 7
17 negative, and 0 abstentions; Introduction 31-C
18 adopted by a vote of 34 in the affirmative, 11
19 negative, 0 abstentions; and Land Use items 241, 242,
20 and accompanying resolutions, adopted by a vote 44 in
21 the affirmative, 1 negative, 0 abstentions.

22 We will now move into the Introduction & Reading
23 of Bills.

24 SPEAKER ADAMS: All bills have been referred to
25 committee... [CROSS-TALK]

2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Hold on, hold... Sorry,
3 hold on one second. We will take a moment to have a
4 recess.

5 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Okay, [GAVEL SOUND]...

6 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet, please!

7 SPEAKER ADAMS: Settle down, please, settle down.

8 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Okay. I have to read a
9 revised vote:

10 The vote on Introduction 5-A and 6-A was adopted
11 by a vote of 38 in the affirmative, 7 negative, and 0
12 abstentions, apologies for that. It has now been
13 corrected for the record.

14 We will now move into the Introduction & Reading
15 of Bills.

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

18 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

19 We will now move into the Discussion of
20 Resolutions.

21 I will first call on Council Member Dinowitz,
22 followed by Council Member Fariás.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Thank you.

24 Today, I encourage my colleagues to pass
25 Resolution Number 37-A, calling on the New York State

1
2 Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, the
3 Fair College Admissions Act, which would prohibit
4 legacy admissions preferences at undergraduate
5 institutions in New York State. According to
6 Princeton University researchers, the legacy
7 preference is worth an estimated 160 point boost on
8 the SAT. And college board staff reports increased
9 admission odds by 45 percent. Through legacy
10 preference, universities perpetrate a social status
11 quo. It gate keeps exactly who is allowed into
12 college classrooms, and from there, of course, who is
13 allowed into future boardrooms, of lucrative
14 workplaces, and positions of decision making -- All
15 spaces traditionally lacking representation from
16 marginalized communities. But, today, we have an
17 opportunity to create more equitable futures, to
18 dismantle barriers, and to uplift first-generation
19 college students, lower income students, students of
20 color, undocumented students, [TIMER CHIMES] and
21 students from immigrant families. By passing this
22 resolution, we are sending a powerful message to
23 young people of our city and state that the highest
24 ambitions are indeed possible. And I just want to
25 say a quick thank you to Jenna Klaus, Adam Staropoli,

1
2 Regina Paul, Christina Yellamaty, and Chloe Rivera
3 for their work on this resolution.

4 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

5 We will now hear from Council Member Farías,
6 followed by Council Member De La Rosa.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Thank you, Majority
8 Leader.

9 Today we are voting on Resolution 729, a
10 resolution from myself and Council Member De La Rosa,
11 along with additional support from colleagues, uh,
12 which expresses this council's expressing unwavering
13 support of striking SAG-AFTRA members in their
14 pursuit of a fair and just contract.

15 Earlier this week, we rallied in City Hall Park
16 to showcase to the motion picture and television
17 producers that New York City is and always has been a
18 union town, and they must come back to the table and
19 engage in good faith negotiations. When they come to
20 us and ask for tax breaks, they always say it's to
21 protect workers, but they have shown us time and
22 again that it's actually about their bottom line. As
23 a former teamster and Local 210 member, the Chair of
24 the Committee on Economic Development, and someone
25 who represents a large studio in my district, I look

1 forward to voting in this resolution today for
2 workers.
3

4 A final huge thank you to all of those who are
5 bravely on strike, and to everyone who testified at
6 this week's hearing. I encourage all of my
7 colleagues here to vote aye, thank you.

8 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. And finally,
9 [TIMER CHIMES] we will hear from Council Member De La
10 Rosa.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Thank you.

12 First, I want to thank the colleagues who have
13 expressed support for the striking Writers Guild of
14 America and SAG-AFTRA members who are on the picket
15 lines, uhm, and have been for the past 14 weeks. At
16 today's Stated, we are proud to move forward with
17 Resolution 694 and Resolution 729 in support of WGA
18 and SAG-AFTRA contract negotiations. Maybe we will
19 finally get a new season of *Abbott Elementary* or
20 *Stranger Things* if this works out. This is the first
21 time in 63 years that the sister unions have gone on
22 strike together. And it is indicative of the massive
23 movements in labor that we have witnessed in recent
24 months. It is a hot labor summer, as we know, where
25 we reverted a UPS teamster strike; the NYSNA private

2 sector nurses just secured a historic contract that
3 they have fought for for far too long. And more
4 movements continue to grow across our city. New York
5 City is home to a large media and entertainment
6 industry with over 185,000 New Yorkers employed in
7 the industry. Corporate greed has no place here, and
8 we are proud to stand with 170,000 creatives who
9 walked off the job and are pushing for better wages.

10 We are asking for the AMPTP to come to the table
11 in good faith and negotiate for our workers. And we
12 have the opportunity to support these workers right
13 now. We have a message to those who seek to do
14 business in our city, we are a city who puts workers
15 first. Bob better sell that yacht quickly, and make
16 sure that our workers are taken care of. I ask my
17 colleagues to vote aye for these resolutions.

18 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

19 We will now call on Council Member Riley.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Thank you, Majority Leader.

21 I am excited to introduce Introduction 1157...

22 [CROSS-TALK]

23 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Council Member Riley, we
24 are going to save that for General Discussions. This
25 is in Resolutions right now.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: I'm sorry.

3 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Yeah, that's okay, we've
4 got you on the list.

5 Anyone else on today's resolutions?

6 Okay, we will now have a voice vote on today's
7 resolutions. If you wish to vote against or abstain
8 from any of today's resolutions, please notify the
9 Legislative Documents Unit by email or by approaching
10 the dais.

11 I will now read today's resolutions into the
12 record:

13 Resolution 237-A, calling on the New York State
14 Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, the
15 Fair College Admissions Act (A.1423-A/S.1470-A),
16 which would prohibit legacy admissions preferences at
17 undergraduate institutions in New York State.

18 Will all those favor please say aye?

19 [AYE]

20 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Will all opposed say nay?

21 Any abstentions?

22 The ayes have it.

23 Resolution... Preconsidered Resolution, the next
24 Resolution, Preconsidered Resolution 729-A,

25

2 expressing unwavering support of striking SAG-AFTRA
3 members in their pursuit of a fair and just contract.

4 Will all those in favor please say aye?

5 [AYE]

6 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: All opposed say nay?

7 Any abstentions?

8 The ayes have it.

9 We will now move into today's General Discussion.

10 I want to first call on Council Member Ariola.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Today, I am welcoming some
12 very special guests in to City Hall, please stand,
13 Jason Youngberg and his uncle Michael Coughlin.
14 Jason, who is entering...

15 [APPLAUSE]

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Yup... Jason is our
17 Council Member for the Day. He is entering the 7th
18 grade this fall at the... [CROSS-TALK]

19 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Okay...

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: at the St. Francis de
21 Sales Catholic Academy in Belle Harbor, Queens, and
22 he is the winner of our Veterans Community...

23 [CROSS-TALK]

24 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Oh, Council Member Abreu,
25 just hold on one second, we have one more resolution

2 we have to vote on. You can... I will let you
3 finish, and then we are going to... just please
4 stay, we need to take one more vote. But, you can
5 finish, go ahead.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Jason wrote an essay about
7 his Uncle Mike, a 9-year veteran of the US Army, who
8 served in Operation Iraqi Freedom before becoming a
9 member of New York's Finest, protecting Americans at
10 home and abroad while in uniform. However, that was
11 not enough, just recently, Mr. Coughlin donated his
12 kidney to his local parish priest, Father Jim
13 Cunningham. And after years of battling a deadly
14 illness, Father Cunningham is on the road to
15 recovery. As Jason... Yes...

16 [APPLAUSE]

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: And Mr. Coughlin is here
18 with us today as well. Jason said in his essay. "My
19 Uncle, Mike Coughlin, is the definition of a hero."
20 And it is my great honor to recognize that hero today
21 in City Hall, and to also recognize Jason Youngberg,
22 who was able to encapsulate that story of heroism so
23 perfectly. Congratulations to both of you.

24 Thank you for the time.

25 [APPLAUSE]

2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: I think he is going to be
3 your successor one day, Council Member Ariola.

4 We are going to now just move to a vote on
5 Resolution 694-A. I will read it: It calls on the
6 Alliance of Motion Pictures and Television Producers
7 to engage in good faith negotiations that will result
8 in a fair contract for all Writers Guild of America
9 members.

10 Will all those in favor, please say aye?

11 [AYE]

12 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: All opposed?

13 Any abstentions?

14 The ayes have it.

15 We will go back to General Discussion now.

16 I am going to now call on Council Member
17 Gennaro...

18 Okay, we will move to Council Member Nurse,
19 followed by Council Member Riley.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Sorry, I wasn't organized.

21 Okay, today I am introducing three bills on which
22 I am seeking your support on:

23 The first is I'm not 1153 with Council Member
24 Hanif. It is a reporting bill to provide more
25 transparency around the practices and costs involved

1 with homelessness sweeps and other removals. Not
2 only are homeless sweeps deeply counterproductive and
3 ineffective, they are expensive, dangerous, and most
4 importantly, they often result in civil and human
5 rights violations.
6

7 Secondly, Introduction 1154, a bathroom bill that
8 compliments the work of Council Member Rita Joseph's
9 bill, uh, and mandates the City to, among other
10 things, set a goal of creating one toilet per every
11 2,000 people by 2035; identify public and private
12 sites that can be utilized for public toilets, and
13 create a public map of existing and planned toilets
14 with their design features.

15 And, lastly, with Council Member Cabán,
16 Introduction 1152 would require the City to support
17 access to our underutilized industrial areas for food
18 production and distribution hubs and related
19 industrial food activities in order to increase the
20 resiliency of our localized food system. As the
21 pandemic and other natural disasters have made clear,
22 we must make concrete steps towards increasing food
23 security and resiliency in New York City. I hope to
24 have your support on all three bills. And I look
25 forward to discussing them with you all, thank you.

2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

3 We will now call on Council Member Riley,
4 followed by Council Member Gutiérrez.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Thank you, Majority Leader.

6 I am calling on my colleagues for their support
7 for two bills I am introducing today.

8 Introduction 1157, which will rename
9 Williamsbridge Square in my district to Marcus Garvey
10 Square. Marcus Garvey was a Jamaican born visionary,
11 publisher, journalist, and political advocate who
12 united continents in lifetime. I would like to
13 celebrate this piece of legislation with a group from
14 my district called the Jamaican Progressive League,
15 in my district, for not only their partnership and
16 their advocacy for this piece of legislation, but
17 also for their deeply committed work to empower our
18 community with health, education, and resources. I
19 urge my colleagues to sign on to Introduction 1157
20 and join this rich history.

21 The last bill I am asking my colleagues to sign
22 on is Introduction 1158, which is in relation to
23 accessibility for the deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-
24 blind community in the implementation of text-to-911.

25

2 Expanding equity and access to culturally
3 competent systems for people with disabilities is
4 crucial for fostering inclusivity and equal
5 opportunities. This bill requires annual reports to
6 now include information on the outreach efforts for
7 hiring and retaining deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-
8 blind accessibility experts. In addition, by
9 expanding reporting requirements for the
10 implementation of Next Generation 9-1-1, we will be
11 able to access the technology we are using to better
12 understand the interconnected needs of our diverse
13 communities. Introduction 1158 requires the
14 description of the public education plans for
15 informing people who are deaf, hard of hearing, and
16 deaf-blind of the availability of Next Generation 9-
17 1-1. I encourage my colleagues to support these two
18 pieces of legislation today. Thank you so much.

19 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

20 We will now hear from Council Member Gutiérrez,
21 followed by Council Member Cabán.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Thank you.

23 This week the Bushwick Williamsburg and larger
24 community of District 34 were shocked by the tragic
25 events that resulted in the loss of two lives in East

1 Williamsburg. I am heartbroken by these deaths, and
2 our hearts are with the families and loved ones of
3 Karl Clemente and John Castic. And I just want to
4 thank Speaker Adams for acknowledging them in her
5 remarks.
6

7 These tragedies highlight the critical need for
8 safety measures in our industrial areas. The
9 industrial business zone has seen a significant
10 expansion of nightlife in recent years, but lacks the
11 infrastructure investments necessary for safe growth
12 such as lighting, signage, connectivity and public
13 transportation. Without these measures, the
14 expansion of nightlife creates additional pressures
15 and challenges in industrial areas. We must strike a
16 balance of managed growth and public use to ensure
17 the safety of all New Yorkers.

18 I am also proud to introduce Introduction 1144,
19 Know your Rep, a bill that was derived from my
20 longtime Bushwick and Woodridge organizer, Juan
21 Mayancela. The bill would require all building
22 owners to provide information to their tenants about
23 their elective representatives, as well as DOB and
24 HPD contacts. This bill will help to create
25

1 transparency and support tenants in advocating for
2 their rights.

3
4 And, finally, I just want to thank Speaker Adams
5 and her team, and Council Member Avilés, Council
6 Member Krishnan, Council Member Dinowitz, Council
7 Member Ariola, and Council Member Restler for co-
8 sponsoring and attending the Council's Colombian
9 Independence Day celebration on July 20th. It was a
10 great event, and as the Council's first Colombian, it
11 was a big honor to bring it here to City Hall, and we
12 look forward to next year. Thank you.

13 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

14 We will now hear from Council Member Cabán,
15 followed by Council Member Hanif.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Thank you.

17 If you have been following the news closely, you
18 probably know that in Florida and other places run by
19 right-wing bigots, including some places in New York
20 State, those in power are sending big government
21 censors into schools and libraries to strip people of
22 their freedom to read. That includes not just
23 banning books, but also changing curricula to teach
24 such offensive absurdities as *the benefits of chattel*
25 *slavery* for the kidnapped Africans ripped from their

2 homes, families, languages, and cultural traditions
3 who were then relegated to the legal status of
4 livestock.

5 Today along with Council Member Abreu, I have
6 introduced a resolution that will state clearly and
7 proudly that such racist and other queerphobic human
8 rights violations have no place in New York City.
9 Our libraries already offer free digital library
10 cards, nationwide, to help those living under
11 authoritarian oppression to circumvent the right-wing
12 book bans being inflicted on them. With this
13 resolution, the world will know that this council
14 will defend the freedom to read, that we will defend
15 inclusive democracy; that we will defend the lives of
16 queer New Yorkers and New Yorkers of color; and that
17 we are putting powerful bigots on notice.

18 So, we all deserve the freedom to read, and I am
19 asking my colleagues to please support Resolution
20 727, thank you.

21 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

22 We will hear from Council Member Hanif, followed
23 by Council Member Brewer.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Thank you so much.

25

1 I would also like to share that I am joined by my
2 summer interns as well. They have been here all day
3 attending all of the rallies. I am so excited for
4 them to see local government in work.
5

6 I am proud to be introducing two bills today:

7 Introduction 1145, which I am introducing
8 alongside Deputy Speaker Ayala, requires the
9 Administration to publish data related to the respite
10 centers and the HERCS, including sites, population,
11 demographics, length of stay, and discharge details.
12 Up until now, the Administration has not shared this
13 data with the Council or the public, leaving us with
14 an unclear understanding of how these locations are
15 functioning. Given deteriorating conditions,
16 including lack of showers or air conditioning at some
17 sites, this information is critical.

18 Introduction 1153, which I am introducing
19 alongside Council Member Nurse, requires the
20 Administration to publish data on homelessness
21 encampment sweeps, including where and how they are
22 conducted, what City resources are used to carry them
23 out, and their long term impacts. Sweeps are cruel,
24 an ineffective tool in the battle to end homelessness
25 in our city. We must understand how this

2 administration is utilizing them. I encourage my
3 colleagues to join these bills as a sponsor. Thank
4 you.

5 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

6 We will now hear from Council Member Brewer,
7 followed by Council Member Fariás.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you.

9 I am speaking on Introduction 1135, it is a big
10 idea to establish a Wards Island Affordable Housing
11 Task Force. I want to thank Council Member Ayala for
12 joining me.

13 So, Wards Island is right next to Randalls
14 Island, for those of you who don't know it. It has
15 lots of land on it. It is something that could be
16 like Welfare Island which became Roosevelt Island,
17 with thanks to Ed Logue (phonetic), and there is no
18 reason why we cannot do the same thing, and it would
19 take some years. A city, state task force, the state
20 has their New York State police there, and, of
21 course, it has the very large psychiatric hospital.
22 Parks has materials there. Odyssey House and Help
23 USA have homeless shelters. The fire department has
24 a very small training program. And, of course,
25 Randalls Island has wonderful playing fields there.

2 So, I am saying that I hope that you will join me
3 in saying that if we want big ideas, that I think
4 having a task force to talk about where we could have
5 affordable, permanent Mitchell-Lama light (sp?)
6 housing, would be an example of something that the
7 City Council could be proud of initiating.

8 I also want to thank our wonderful interns, Jenna
9 McCormick (phonetic) from Hunter College, Gregory
10 Seewald (phonetic) from Marist College, Esther
11 Omolola (phonetic) from Hunter College, Tene Odrago
12 (sp?) from Deerfield Academy, thanks to Prep for
13 Prep, Alex [INAUDIBLE] from Binghamton University,
14 Rita Heinz from the Lab School and SYEP, and Zach
15 Harwayne (phonetic) from Brooklyn Tech. Interns,
16 thank you very much!

17 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, we will now
18 hear from Council Member Farías, followed by Council
19 Member Kagan.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: Thank you, Majority
21 Leader.

22 I would like to start by saying thank you to
23 Speaker Adams for honoring Alexis Martinez today in
24 your opening remarks. I am deeply saddened that we
25 have lost a dedicated NYPD officer and a neighbor or

1
2 my district due to a violent domestic dispute. Alexis
3 Martinez was only 26 years old when he left us far
4 too soon. My office and the Soundview community will
5 continue to grieve this enormous loss. I send my
6 sincerest condolences to his family, friends, and his
7 colleagues during this heartbreaking time.

8 The first bill I would like to bring to all of
9 your attention is Resolution 728, which calls on our
10 partners in the state to create a linkage fee for
11 largescale residential or commercial projects and a
12 trust that would receive this fee to fund job
13 training, education, and employment programs to
14 support the surrounding communities that these
15 projects take place in. Linkage fees are charged by
16 the local government on real estate developments with
17 the purpose of generating local funding to address
18 the important workforce aspects of these projects
19 such as job training programs. This resolution
20 advocates for all residential or commercial
21 construction that exceeds 100,000 square feet in a
22 community to be charged with a linkage fee to offset
23 the impact projects of this size can have on a
24 community.

1 Secondly, I am introducing Introduction 1139,
2 which will allow rideshare drivers to opt in to place
3 ads in the interior of their cars and allow them to
4 maintain a passive income alongside their work as a
5 driver. This bill puts drivers first, and gives them
6 the opportunity to put more money in the back of
7 their own pockets by making a percentage of revenue
8 from the advertisements in their cars. This is
9 especially timely with more fees incoming to our
10 drivers from the outer borough communities like mine
11 because of congestion pricing. I hope you will all
12 join me in safeguarding our drivers from additional
13 fees, and allow them to bring in more revenue each
14 month by signing on to Introduction 1139, thank you.

16 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, we will now
17 hear from Council Member Kagan, followed by Council
18 Member Vernikov.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: Thank you, today I would
20 like to introduce Introduction 1149, this bill
21 require The Department of Sanitation to provide an
22 adequate supply of water while street sweepers are in
23 operation unless the Commissioner of Environmental
24 Protection has determined that there is a water
25 shortage emergency or made another water supply-

1 related determination. I believe it is very
2 important, because several times street sweepers in
3 New York City are cleaning the streets without water
4 in their tanks, creating large dust clouds. I have
5 personally witnessed this several times. This poses
6 a significant challenge for pedestrians, especially
7 those with asthma and respiratory diseases as the
8 dust can exacerbate their health issues and make it
9 difficult for them to navigate the streets safely.
10

11 Also, I would like to express my deepest
12 condolences to the family 15-year-old Markel Artis
13 who drowned last week in a section of Coney Beach
14 without lifeguards. We need to do much better as a
15 city to recruit more lifeguards. So, likely we need
16 to increase their salaries. And we also need to make
17 a much bigger effort to have more free swimming
18 courses everywhere and to recruit lifeguards. My
19 heart goes out to the community. We cannot have
20 large sections of the beach, not just Coney Island,
21 but all over the city, without lifeguards.

22 And, finally, I would like to mention another
23 tragedy, a 15-year-old boy, Foridun Mavlonov, whose
24 family immigrated from Uzbekistan, was killed simply
25 walking on a peaceful Bensonhurst street in middle of

1 the day. So, again, we need to increase the number
2 of police officers, and we need to fight for bigger,
3 better public safety in New York City. And, again,
4 my condolences to the community, and I hope the
5 perpetrator will be arrested very soon and will face
6 justice, thank you.
7

8 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: We will hear from Council
9 Member Vernikov, and finally Council Member Holden.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Thank you, this past
11 weekend, O'Shae Sibley was at a Brooklyn gas station,
12 in my district, with friends late Saturday night and
13 was stabbed to death. Stabbed to death while filling
14 up gas at a gas station -- at a gas station -- and
15 had the nerve to dance. O'Shae was stabbed, it
16 seems, because someone didn't approve of his dancing,
17 of his lifestyle, of his identity, because he was
18 gay. This was his offense. This is pure hate. I
19 would like to extend my deepest condolences to the
20 family and friends of the victim and to everyone
21 affected by this tragedy. Whenever acts of violence
22 took place in the Jewish community, I always stood up
23 for its victims. Whenever acts of hate and violence
24 took place in an Asian community, I always stood up
25 for its victims. Today, I stand with the LGBTQIA+

1 community to condemn this horrific act of hate, thank
2 you.

3
4 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, we will now
5 hear from Council Member Holden.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Thank you, Majority Leader
7 Powers.

8 The two bills Queens Borough President Donovan
9 Richards and I introduce today protect our
10 communities and preserve the integrity of our
11 neighborhoods.

12 Introduction 1146, This bill would require the
13 owner of any vacant building that is not continuously
14 guarded or not sealed and kept secure against
15 unauthorized entry to seal building openings using a
16 material other than plywood. Plywood on abandoned
17 buildings creates an eyesore, contributing to
18 neighborhood blight. By banning plywood, we can
19 encourage better alternatives that maintain the
20 quality of life in our neighborhoods.

21 Also, Introduction 1147, requires owners of
22 vacant residential properties undergoing foreclosure
23 to provide a \$5,000 to the Commissioner of Finance.
24 This bond will serve as safeguard ensuring that
25 necessary housing maintenance, building repairs, and

1 sanitation violations are addressed promptly during
2 periods of vacancy and foreclosure action. By
3 holding owners accountable, we prevent neglected
4 properties from becoming blights on our streets,
5 maintaining the beauty and safety of our
6 surroundings. I thank borough president, Donovan
7 Richards for working with me on these bills, and I
8 urge all of my colleagues to sign on, thank you.

9
10 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, Council Member
11 Holden. Seeing no one else, I am now going to call
12 on Speaker Adrienne Adams to close today's Stated
13 Meeting.

14 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you, Majority Leader Powers.
15 The Stated Meeting of August 3, 2023 is hereby
16 adjourned. [NO GAVEL HEARD]

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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 August 12, 2023