

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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Recessed Meeting from May 25, 2016
HELD on June 8, 2016
Start: 11:15 a.m.
Recess: 12:23 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: LETITIA JAMES
Public Advocate

MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO
Speaker for the Entire Council

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Inez D. Barron
Joseph C. Borelli
Fernando Cabrera
Margaret S. Chin
Andrew Cohen
Costa G. Constantinides
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.
Elizabeth S. Crowley
Laurie A. Cumbo
Chaim M. Deutsch
Inez E. Dickens
Daniel Dromm
Rafael L. Espinal, Jr.
Mathieu Eugene
Julissa Ferreras-Copeland
Daniel R. Garodnick
Vincent J. Gentile

Vanessa L. Gibson
David G. Greenfield
Barry S. Grodenchik
Corey D. Johnson
Ben Kallos
Andy L. King
Peter A. Koo
Karen Koslowitz
Rory I. Lancman
Brad S. Lander
Stephen T. Levin
Mark Levine
Alan N. Maisel
Steven Matteo
Darlene Mealy
Carlos Menchaca
Rosie Mendez
I. Daneek Miller
Annabel Palma
Antonio Reynoso
Donovan J. Richards
Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Deborah L. Rose
Helen K. Rosenthal
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.
Ritchie J. Torres
Mark Treyger
Eric A. Ulrich
James Vacca
Paul A. Vallone
James G. Van Bramer
Jumaane D. Williams
Ruben Wills

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

2 [sound check, pause, background comments]

3 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Ladies and gentlemen,
4 can I have your attention, please, can I have your
5 attention, please. At this time, please place all
6 electronic devices, all electronic devices to
7 vibrate. Will all non-Council employees please leave
8 the main floor of the Chambers. Can I have some
9 quiet on the floors. Council Members, can I have
10 some quiet on the floor please? Thank you.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: The recessed
12 meeting of May 25, 2016 is now called to order. Roll
13 call.

14 CLERK: Barron.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Present.

16 CLERK: Borelli. Cabrera.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

18 CLERK: Chin.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

20 CLERK: Cohen.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: [off mic] Here.

22 CLERK: Constantinides.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Here.

24 CLERK: Cornegy.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aqui.

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2 CLERK: Crowley.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: [off mic] Here.

4 Who asked that question.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [shushing for
6 quiet]

7 CLERK: Cumbo.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: [off mic] Present.

9 CLERK: Deutsch. Dickens.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Here.

11 CLERK: Dromm.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: [off mic] Here.

13 CLERK: Espinal.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Here.

15 CLERK: Eugene. Ferreras-Copeland.

16 Garodnick. Gentile.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.

18 CLERK: Gibson.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Here.

20 CLERK: Greenfield.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: [off mic]

22 Here.

23 CLERK: Grodenchik.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Here.

25 CLERK: Johnson. Kallos.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Here.

3 CLERK: King.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Present.

5 CLERK: Koo.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

7 CLERK: Koslowitz.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: [off mic]

9 Here.

10 CLERK: Lancman. Lander.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: [off mic] Here.

12 CLERK: Levin. Levine. Maisel.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: [off mic]

14 Present.

15 CLERK: Mealy. Menchaca. Mendez.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: [off mic] Here.

17 CLERK: Miller.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Present.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]

20 [shushing for quiet]

21 CLERK: Palma.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: [off mic] Here.

23 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Keep it down, please.

24 Keep it down.

25

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2 CLERK: Reynoso. Richards. Rodriguez.
3 Rose.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: [off mic] Here.

5 CLERK: Rosenthal.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.

7 CLERK: Salamanca. Torres.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Here.

9 CLERK: Treyger.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.

11 CLERK: Ulrich. Vacca.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.

13 CLERK: Vallone.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

15 CLERK: Williams. Wills. Matteo.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: [off mic] Here.

17 CLERK: Van Bramer.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: [off mic]

19 Here.

20 CLERK: Speaker Mark Viverito.

21 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [off mic] Here.

22 CLERK: We have a quorum.

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

24 Supplemental Messages and papers from the Mayor.

25 [shushing for quiet]

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2 CLERK: M 411 submitting Larry Dais for
3 appointment to the Civil Service Commission.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Rules, Privileges
5 and Elections.

6 CLERK: M 412 submitting Allen Cappelli
7 for appointment to the Civil Service Commission.

8 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Rules, Privileges
9 and Elections.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Supplemental
11 Communication from City, County and Borough Offices.

12 CLERK: None.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Supplemental
14 Petitions and Communications.

15 CLERK: None.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Supplemental Land
17 Use Call-Ups.

18 CLERK: M 4--413 and M 414.

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on Call-
20 up Vote. Roll call.

21 CLERK: Barron.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye.

23 CLERK: Borelli.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: I'd like
25 permission to vote aye on all call-ups and with

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2 permission I'd like to vote on all coupled general
3 orders.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: I vote aye.

6 Thank you.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

8 CLERK: Cabrera.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

10 CLERK: Chin.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

12 CLERK: Cohen.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

14 CLERK: Constantinides.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Aye.

16 CLERK: Cornegy.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye.

18 CLERK: Crowley.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: [off mic] Aye.

20 CLERK: Cumbo.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Aye.

22 CLERK: Deutsch.

23 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Do you have the
24 supplemental? That's--

25

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2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
3 [shushing for quiet] Quiet in the Chambers.

4 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: We need it quiet,
5 please.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the
7 Chambers. Quiet down.

8 CLERK: Dickens.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: [off mic]

10 CLERK: Dromm.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

12 CLERK: Espinal.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: I vote aye.

14 CLERK: Eugene.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: [off mic] Yes.

16 CLERK: Ferreras-Copeland.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND: [off
18 mic] Aye.

19 CLERK: Garodnick.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
21 [shushing for quiet]

22 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Keep it down, please.
23 Keep it down.

24 CLERK: Gen--

25

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2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member

3 Garodnick.

4 CLERK: Gentile.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

6 CLERK: Gibson. Greenfield.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

8 CLERK: Grodenchik.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: [off mic]

10 CLERK: Johnson.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]

12 [shushing for quiet]

13 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: May we quiet down

15 in the Chambers, please. Quiet down. Thank you.

16 CLERK: Kallos.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.

18 CLERK: King.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Aye.

20 CLERK: Koo.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

22 CLERK: Koslowitz.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

24 CLERK: Lancman.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: [off mic]

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2 CLERK: Lander.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: [off mic]

4 CLERK: Levine.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: [off mic]

6 CLERK: Maisel.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: [off mic]

8 CLERK: Menchaca.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: [off mic]

10 CLERK: Mendez.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: [off mic] Yes.

12 CLERK: Miller.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.

14 CLERK: Palma.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: [off mic] Aye.

16 CLERK: Reynoso.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Aye.

18 CLERK: Rodriguez.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ:

20 CLERK: Rose.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: [off mic]

22 [laughter] Yes.

23 CLERK: Rosenthal.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: [off mic] Aye,

25 yes.

2 CLERK: Torres.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Aye.

4 CLERK: Treyger.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

6 CLERK: Vacca.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: [off mic]

8 CLERK: Vallone.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: [off mic]

10 CLERK: Williams.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: [off mic]

12 CLERK: Matteo.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: [off mic]

14 CLERK: Van Bramer.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

16 CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

17 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [off mic]

18 [background comments]

19 CLERK: Council Member Richards, Land Use

20 Call-Ups.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye on all.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Garodnick.

23 CLERK: Council Member Garodnick.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

25 [pause]

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Today's Land Use
3 Call-Ups were adopted by a vote of 41 in the
4 affirmative and 0 in the negative. Quiet in the
5 Chambers.

6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Keep it down, please.
7 Keep it down.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the
9 Chambers.

10 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet, please.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Supplemental
12 Communication from the Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito.
13 Quiet in the Chambers.

14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you, Madam
15 Public Advocate, and good morning to all my
16 colleagues. Before I just say my brief remarks, just
17 to remind everyone that at the end of today's meeting
18 we will again stand in recess. Important to note. So
19 there's obviously a lot happening today. So I'm
20 going to keep this extremely brief. Today, the City
21 Council will be voting on legislation to implement
22 reasonable mandatory timelines for the designation of
23 historic districts and landmarks. Intro 775-A
24 sponsored by Subcommittee Chair Peter Koo and Land
25 Use Chair David Greenfield will help inform

2 neighborhood residents, homeowners and advocates
3 about potential actions by the Landmarks Preservation
4 Commission by implementing a one-year timeline for
5 individual landmarks, and a two-year timeline for
6 historic landmarks. This timeline will create a more
7 responsive and predictable landmarks process, and
8 will bring the New York City Landmarks Law up to date
9 with preservation ordinances around the country
10 including Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco and
11 Miami. I want to thank Council Members Koo and
12 Greenfield for their work on this bill, and Dylan
13 Casey and James Lloyd in our Land Use Division.
14 Today, we're also going to be voting on four home
15 rule messages requesting the New York State
16 Legislature to pass the following bills: Legislation
17 by Senator Savino and Assembly Member Joyner to
18 authorize the New York City Department of Parks of
19 Recreation to enter an agreement to operate the Bronx
20 Children's Museum in a portion of a building located
21 in Mill Pond Park in the Bronx in my district
22 actually. Legislation by Senator Golden, Assembly
23 Members Marquee and DenDekker to provide special
24 accidental death benefits to DSNY employees,
25 Sanitation employees. Legislation by Senator Lanza

2 and Assembly Member Cusick to permit the construction
3 of new one or two-family residential dwellings on
4 unmapped streets without the review of the Board of
5 Standards and Appeals if certain criteria are met.
6 And legislation by Senator Golden and Assembly Member
7 Abbate to provide disability benefits for FDNY
8 employees seriously injured in the line of duty.
9 These bills will help support all city residents, and
10 I urge the State Legislature to take action on these
11 bills. Again, these are home rule messages that we
12 will be voting on today as well as Intro 775-A, which
13 is the Landmarks Bill, and with that I end
14 Communication from the Speaker.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Supplemental
16 Discussion of General Orders. Seeing none,
17 Supplemental Report of Special Committees.

18 CLERK: None.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Supplemental
20 Reports of Standing Committees.

21 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Land
22 Use, Intro 775-A, Landmarks Preservation Commission.

23 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
24 coupled on General Orders.

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2 CLERK: LU 362 and Reso 1108, Sidewalk
3 Cafe.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
5 General Orders.

6 CLERK: LU 384 and Reso 1109 and LU 385
7 and Reso 1110, Property Tax Exemptions.

8 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
9 General Orders.

10 CLERK: LU 386 and Reso 1111, UDAP Bronx.

11 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
12 General Orders.

13 CLERK: LU 387 and Reso 1112 and
14 Preconsidered LU 396 and Reso 1113, Tax Exemptions.

15 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
16 General Orders

17 CLERK: Preconsidered LU 397 and Reso
18 1114, Christopher Park, Council District 3.

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
20 General Orders.

21 CLERK: Report of the Committee on State
22 and Federal Legislation, Preconsidered SLR 4, Bronx
23 Children's Museum.

24 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on General
25 Orders.

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2 CLERK: Preconsidered SLR 5, Employee
3 Benefits, Sanitation Department.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
5 General Orders.

6 CLERK: Preconsidered SLR 6, Fire
7 Department Pension Fund.

8 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
9 General Orders.

10 CLERK: Preconsidered SLR 7, Certificates
11 of Occupancy for Unmapped Streets.

12 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on General
13 Orders, and at this time I ask for a roll call on all
14 items on the Supplement General Order Calendar.

15 CLERK: BARRON.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Permission to
17 explain to my vote.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes. Quiet in
19 the Chambers.

20 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: [interposing] [off
21 mic] Keep it down, please.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you.
23 Regarding LU 387, I just want to say that I wanted to
24 encourage my colleagues to vote in the affirmative on
25 that. It is a renewal--a renewal of a project-based

2 development, and 235 units will be at 60% of the AMI,
3 five units a 60 to 80% of the AMI. The developer
4 does own other properties--

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
6 [shushing for quiet].

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: --in the
8 community--

9 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: [interposing] Keep it
10 down please.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: --and has a
12 decent record of having provided service to them, and
13 where the issues were raised by residents of concern,
14 he has addressed those issues, or has a timeline to
15 resolve those issues, and there is a very potent
16 smell, which has to be addressed and corrected, and
17 he's working with DEP on that regard. So I encourage
18 my colleagues to vote in the affirmative on that, and
19 regards 775-A, I will be vote in the negative on
20 that. I don't believe that we have the ability. I
21 think we should have allowed further opportunities--

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
23 Excuse me, Council Member. Quiet in the Chambers,
24 please. Quiet in the Chambers. I apologize, Council
25 Member.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you. I
3 think we should have provided an opportunity for an
4 extension to have been granted, but I vote aye on all
5 the rest. Thank you.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

7 CLERK: Cabrera.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye on all.

9 CLERK: Chin.

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

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you. Today
14 we are considering legislation to fundamentally
15 change the landmarking process in our city. This
16 process, which has been in place for decades has
17 successfully preserved scores of sites in my district
18 and across the City. Intro 775-A seeks to establish
19 time limits on the process to landmark buildings in
20 historic neighborhood. I want to acknowledge my
21 colleagues Council Member Koo and Council Member
22 Greenfield for being receptive to the concerns that
23 many council members had about the original text
24 Intro 775. They listened to our concern. I'm
25 pleased that the current version Intro 775-A no

2 longer contains the five-year moratorium, and it
3 extends the deadline to landmark buildings in
4 historic districts. However, many concerns of the
5 community have yet to be addressed. Landmarking is a
6 process that can take a lot of time and resource on
7 the part of the city and the community. By placing
8 the time frame that can only be extended with a vote
9 from the LBC and the consent of the property owner,
10 the provisions of the bill will create incentives for
11 delay in the process. While I understand the desire
12 for a more efficient landmark designation, Intro 775-
13 A as written will make it harder for advocates and
14 residents to preserve the neighborhoods that make our
15 city special, and that is why I'm voting no on Intro
16 775-A, and aye on the rest. Thank you.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

18 CLERK: Cohen.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: [off mic]

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [laughs]

21 CLERK: Constantinides.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Aye on
23 all.

24 CLERK: Cornegy.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: I vote aye.

2 CLERK: Crowley.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Could I have
4 permission to explain my vote?

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Thank you. I
7 vote aye on all. I want to thank the Speaker and
8 this body. As the Chair of the committee has
9 oversight of the Fire Department for extending the
10 benefit. God forbid a firefighter was to get injured
11 seriously while working. It's important that this
12 benefit for them and their families. So I'm very
13 grateful for this, and I hope that we could work
14 together to extend a similar type of benefit with the
15 PBA. So it's important [background comments] that we
16 recognize that the union work with the City here to
17 help cover some of the costs, and we hope that we'll
18 do the same with the PBA. Thank you.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: How do you--

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: [interposing]

21 And I vote aye on all.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

23 CLERK: Cumbo.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I vote aye.

25 CLERK: Deutsch.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Aye on all.

3 CLERK: Dickens.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

5 CLERK: Dromm.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: I vote aye on all
7 with the exception of Intro 775-A.

8 CLERK: Espinal.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: I vote aye.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

11 CLERK: Ferreras-Copeland.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND: MA'AM

13 CLERK: Garodnick.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: No on 775-A and
15 aye on the rest.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

17 CLERK: Gentile.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

19 CLERK: Gibson.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Permission to
21 briefly explain my vote?

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you, Madam
24 Public Advocate, and good afternoon to all my

25

2 colleagues. Thank you Madam Speaker. I just quickly
3 want to--

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
5 [shushing for quiet]

6 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: --speak in
7 support of--

8 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: [interposing] Keep it
9 down, please.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: --all of our
11 preconsidered SLRs, the home rule messages we're
12 sending up to Albany. I certainly want to thank our
13 Speaker and all of the members of the Bronx
14 delegation. This legislation that will solidify an
15 agreement between the Parks Department as well as the
16 Bronx Children's Museum. It's going to bring us one
17 step closer in the borough of the Bronx to opening
18 the very first ever children's museum in the Bronx.
19 It is a long time coming. I am thankful for everyone
20 who has done such a tremendous job along the way. I
21 certainly want to thank our Speaker, the Bronx
22 Borough President, and the Bronx Children's Museum
23 and all the Board members for their tremendous work.
24 And I, too, want to echo the sentiments of Chair
25 Crowley in commending the FDNY and certainly

2 Sanitation for recognizing the accidental death
3 benefit and disability benefits that we're going to
4 support in Albany, and I, too, look forward to
5 continuous discussion with the NYPD to make sure that
6 we can bring equity to the Disability Pension system
7 for Police Officers who have joined the department
8 from 2009 until now. In addition, congratulations
9 Council Member Koo, Council Member Greenfield, and I
10 will be voting aye on all. Thank you, Madam Public
11 Advocate.

12 CLERK: Greenfield.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: May I explain
14 my vote?

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank you
17 very much. Nobody likes deadlines. I remember back
18 when I was a kid, and I'd have a book report that was
19 due at the end of the week. I would always get a
20 little bit anxious. I know that my law students when
21 I give them a final, and I say that it's due on
22 Friday, at 5 o'clock, I get half of the finals at
23 4:57. The reality is, however, that deadlines work,
24 and that's why every single government agency has
25 deadlines. Community boards have deadlines, the City

2 Planning Commission has deadlines, the Council
3 deadlines, our budget has a deadline. We do this
4 because it is the ultimate in good government is to
5 have deadlines. The idea that we've had 95 items
6 languishing on the Landmarks--

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
8 [shushing for quiet]

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: --
10 Preservation Commission Calendar for over 50 years
11 because there were no deadlines is absurd. And
12 that's why we're moving today to pass Intro 775-A,
13 which will establish deadlines and bring the
14 Landmarks Preservation Commission into compliance
15 with every single other government agency. I want to
16 just quickly thank the Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito
17 for her leadership, and especially for her support of
18 the Landmarks law and for working with our
19 outstanding staff and our Chair Peter Koo to issue a
20 report and retrospective about the past and the
21 future of how we can strengthen the Landmarks Law. I
22 want to thank Peter Koo for his great leadership as
23 the Chair of the Landmarks Subcommittee and for
24 partnering with me on this legislation. He's the
25 prime sponsor, and I'm grateful for his support and

2 advocacy. I want to thank Peg Breen, the President
3 of New York Landmarks Conservancy. We made a
4 terribly important concession to her, which wouldn't
5 have happened without her and that is we took out the
6 moratorium. I want to thank my outstanding Land Use
7 staff, Land Use Director Raju Mann; Deputy Director
8 Amy Levitan; General Counsel Julie Lubin; Dylan
9 Casey; James Lloyd, my own staff Bennie Pearlstein
10 (sic) Elana Chava and Steven Snowder. I just want to
11 point out that East New York, which is one of the
12 most complicated rezonings in the history of New York
13 took 19 months. We're giving the Landmarks
14 Preservation Commission, I'm wrapping up two years to
15 do historic districts. That's plenty of time even by
16 their own admission. Please vote for good government
17 today. Thank you.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: And we have a
19 deadline here, too. Thank you.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: God bless. I
21 vote aye on all. [applause]

22 CLERK: Grodenchik.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: [off mic] I
24 vote aye on all.

25 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [laughs]

2 CLERK: Johnson.

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

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: I want to rise
7 today to vote against--

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
9 [shushing for quiet]

10 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: --Intro--

11 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: [interposing] [off
12 mic] Quiet, please.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: --775-A. While
14 I believe this bill is well-intentioned, it's my
15 belief that it has a number of serious flaws that
16 were not addressed. I do want to thank Chairs
17 Greenfield and Chair s Koo for working constructively
18 and hard over the last five days to try to make some
19 of these changes. Some of the things that we were
20 asking for we're not able to get done, and that
21 disappointing to me, but it was all done in good
22 faith, and I appreciate the conversations I was able
23 to have with my colleagues. My district has a number
24 of historic districts, whether it be the Chelsea
25 Historic District, the Greenwich Village Historic

2 District, the West Chelsea Historic District, the
3 Ganza Ward Historic District, the list goes on.
4 Nearly all of those historic districts were not voted
5 on within two years. It took longer for votes to
6 happen because not all historic districts are created
7 equal. Some historic districts are one or two blocks
8 long. Some historic districts are 30, 40, 50 blocks
9 and take an enormous amount of time to get the
10 research done so that Landmarks can make an informed
11 decision. I am not against timelines. I know that
12 Chair Greenfield and Chair Koo were actually willing
13 to look at the timeline issue and push it a little
14 bit. The issue for us was ensuring--the issue for me
15 and other advocates was ensuring that there was no
16 gap between when the expiration of the timeline
17 happened, and when the next Landmarks could occur.
18 So that an unscrupulous developer could get
19 demolition alteration permits to alter their
20 building. Our Landmark Law is in its 51st year.
21 It's one of the things that has made our city great.
22 I am not against reform, but I think this bill has
23 serious flaws. I do want to congratulate Chairs
24 Greenfield and Koo, and with that I vote no.

25 CLERK: Kallos.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Permission to
3 explain my vote.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes. [shushing
5 for quiet]

6 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: The Landmarks
7 Preservation Commission has cleared a 50-year backlog
8 during this term alone with thousands of properties
9 being evaluated each year. Last year soon after we
10 celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Landmarks Law,
11 legislation to eviscerate it was introduced with a
12 five-year moratorium as safe harbor for developers to
13 building luxury housing as their raise affordable
14 housing. Later that year, we heard from 70 grew ups-
15 -groups throughout New York City, more than 50 of
16 whom testified against the legislation. We also
17 heard from the Real Estate Board of New York in
18 favor. I don't recall a single landlord showing up
19 in support of the legislation. With so much
20 oppositions, communities throughout New York sighed
21 in relief with legislation that they thought was
22 defeated in committee. Late last Thursday,
23 Introduction 775-A was posted on the Council website
24 and calendared for yesterday morning at 9:30 a.m.
25 That was the Council's notice that the voice of

2 opposition of more than 70 groups representing
3 communities in all boroughs was outweighed by the
4 voice of Real Estate Board of New York. I and the
5 Preservation Committee are grateful that the
6 moratorium has been removed from the bill, but
7 disappointed that it's been replaced with further
8 curtailment of the Landmarks Preservation Commission
9 by taking their power and the Council's power and
10 giving it to landlords who will now have to consent
11 to extensions of time on their property. I support
12 timelines for landmarks and historic district. I am
13 concerned about what happens when the Landmarks
14 Preservation Commission is unable to meet a one and
15 two-year timeline. With properties falling off the
16 calendar and into demolition, the day of as happened
17 in my district. Land Use staff has suggested that
18 the Landmarks Preservation Commission can simply use
19 a new loophole that they could create to de-calendar
20 and re-calendar the same day, which shouldn't be a
21 loophole. It should be in the legislation. If this
22 extension had been added to the legislation this
23 Council would have had my support as well as the
24 preservation advocates. By the Land Use Division's
25 own report, one-fifth of all landmarks and historic

2 districts would not have made the cut. Can you
3 imagine passing another law that would harm one in
4 every five New Yorkers.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member,
6 please bring your comments to a close.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Sure. I vote no
8 on Introduction 775-A and all on--aye on all others.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

10 CLERK: King.

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

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: I'm going to be
15 voting aye on everything, but when it comes to 775-A
16 as a co-sponsor on it, I've gotten more information
17 that shows that there is some concerns in regards to
18 how--where the timeline is. So I just want to say if
19 we can revisit, if there is a problem where landlords
20 or anybody else is misusing the timeline to get rid
21 of some of our great historic properties to build
22 anything else other than preservation of these
23 properties, that we will relook and revisit this
24 conversation. So with that, I'm voting aye. Thank
25 you.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

3 CLERK: Koo.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Madam Public

5 Advocate may I explain my vote?

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Last year we
8 celebrated the 50th anniversary of the New York City
9 Landmark Law, but this celebration was tempered with
10 the knowledge that nearly 100 properties have been
11 set into perpetual limbo Under the LPC calendar, many
12 as long as the Landmarks Law has created. In a city
13 that takes such enormous pride in its history,
14 architectural and label character, the kind of a
15 notion is unacceptable. Clearly the Landmarks Law is
16 a predictable time table that provides reasonable
17 expectations for both the community and property
18 owners. With this goal in mind, Intro 775-A is a
19 bill I proposed with Council Member Greenfield and
20 many other council members to impose deadlines on the
21 amount of time it takes the LPC to decide on a
22 landmark or historic district. There has been much
23 debate about how long these timelines should be--and
24 whether a lot--there should an ability to extend them
25 if LPC is unable to come to a position. I want to

2 assure my colleagues that these timelines are not
3 arbitrarily picked out of the hand. We carefully
4 examine the average and lead-in times for individual
5 landmarks and historic districts in order to come up
6 with a fair timeline. And we have listened to
7 critics of the bill. We understand that landmarking
8 is a timely process that requires research,
9 consultation and consensus. That's why we have
10 decided to change the original version of this bill
11 to do the following: We remind you of the debate
12 over timelines. We have completely removed the
13 moratorium allowing for items to be re-calendared.
14 In recognition of the need for more possibilities in
15 timelines for land owners needing to complete what
16 prior to destination--

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member,
18 could you bring your comments to a close?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: All right. Since I
20 am the proposed--the original proposal of the bill,
21 may I use an extra two minutes, one minute. Okay.
22 Yeah.

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: How do you vote?
24
25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I--I haven't
3 finished my--yes. [laughter] I have two.
4 [background comments]

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council member--

6 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Usually the--the--

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Could you--could
8 you--Council Member, could you make your remarks at
9 the General Discussion and you could have additional
10 time.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Yes.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: How do you vote
13 now, an we'll and you can finish your remarks later?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Well, I just want to
15 do my thank yous, okay.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Okay. [laughter]

17 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Yeah.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER: He's the sponsor.

19 [background comments]

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Okay, okay, okay.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Yeah.

22 [cheers/applause] Usually, the signs that will do as
23 a--

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the--

25 COUNCIL MEMBER: Go ahead, go ahead.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the
3 Chambers.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: On the Speaker
5 that's fine.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Yes.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member,
9 the floor is yours for an additional minutes.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Yeah. [laughter]
11 Well, I want to thank the Speaker and all the council
12 members, and all--especially I want to thank Council
13 Member Greenfield for his excellent common sense
14 advocacy, and I want to thank Land Use Division
15 especially Director Raju Mann, Deputy Director Amy
16 Levitan, General Counsel Julie Lubin, Deputy General
17 Counsel Dylan Casey, and also James Lloyd and also I
18 want to thank Peg Green--Peg Breen and, of course, my
19 own staff. My Chief of Staff Elaine Chan, Scott
20 Seiber (sp?) and--and all the members of my staff,
21 and I vote yes on all the bills. Thank you.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: And you're
23 welcome. Thank you. [laughs]

24 CLERK: Koslowitz.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I vote aye.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

3 CLERK: Lancman.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: I vote aye and
5 with permission if I can also vote aye on the Call-
6 ups.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Thank you.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

10 CLERK: Lander.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Request
12 permission to explain my vote.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you. I'm a
15 strong supporter historic preservation and the
16 Landmarks Law, and last session I was proud to chair
17 the Subcommittee now chaired well by Council Member.
18 And in that term we fought some big battles against
19 real estate interest fighting back against
20 preservation especially in the Downtown Brooklyn
21 Skyscraper District, and the churches on the Upper
22 West Side. But as a strong support of preservation I
23 believe that this sensible and positive and
24 constructive legislation, and I support it. But my
25 time as chair, I am highly confident that the

2 timelines in this bill, one year for individual and
3 two years for districts is plenty of time. The
4 research gets done. The outreach gets done, a vote
5 can be taken. There isn't a need for more time, and
6 I just--if the votes were there to extend that amount
7 of time, the votes are in place to designate the
8 building as a landmark, which is what our
9 responsibility is to do. I would have had a big
10 problem if the moratorium had remained in this bill.
11 The idea of removing a building from consideration
12 for five years was problematic. So I'm grateful to
13 Chairs Greenfield and Koo for taking it out. But
14 deadlines in my experience actually increase
15 productivity. They make us all move faster and get
16 our work done than we would if you know you have an
17 extension and another extension and another extension
18 We all you spent a whole lot more time on that term
19 paper. We will actually be able to get more
20 designations, more landmarks and more districts
21 designated as a result of this. I believe it is a
22 pro Landmarks bill, but I do want to call people's
23 attention along with this bill our--the Council put
24 out a great report on strengthening the Landmarks
25 Law. This is recommendation number 1, but there are

2 2 through 7 that codify community board roles.
3 Studies support for landmark assistance, provide
4 formal protection for calendared properties, create
5 new mechanisms for protecting buildings, integrate
6 planning and preservation better, and make more
7 information public. So I'm happy to vote today--
8 today for step one, but I really urge all members and
9 members of the public to read that report, and let's
10 get busy on steps 2 through 7 as well. I vote aye on
11 all.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

13 [bell]

14 CLERK: Levin.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Permission to
16 explain my vote.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: And I ask
19 permission to vote aye on all Land Use Call-Ups. I'm
20 going to vote aye on all items except for Intro 775-
21 A, and on that item I'm going to be voting no. I
22 want to--I want to say a few words about it. Most of
23 us agree that improvements are needed in modifying a
24 lengthy process, but these new deadlines would
25 discourage the type of careful deliberation and

2 outreach that we want to consider--that we want in
3 the consideration of landmarking some of the most
4 important buildings and areas in our city and in our
5 communities. There are better alternatives for those
6 concerned about delays in designation, and the
7 creating of backlogs like exist today. For example,
8 community groups have suggested increasing the
9 staffing at LPC to speed up the process, and at the
10 end of the prescribe timelines to empower LPC to take
11 transparent action before the public voting yes, no,
12 or to continue with the consideration of a building
13 or district if more time is, in fact, needed.

14 Otherwise, we face the possibility of automatic
15 ineligibility for landmark designation. We open the
16 door for developers and land owners to essentially
17 have veto power over landmarking. Thus, opening the
18 doors for developers that wish to bulldoze our
19 landmarks or those that considered to be landmarks,
20 or those considered to be landmarks, considered as
21 potential landmark. Intro 775 will have the effect of
22 making it slightly more difficult to preserve
23 important pieces of our city's history, culture and
24 scenic areas, and I--I--I wan to say just as a--an
25 aside, you know, the Landmarks Law in New York City

2 that's been in place for 50 years was a hard fought
3 law to get in place. There were communities, there
4 were active citizens like Otis and Nancy Pearsall who
5 are still my constituents that fought every step of
6 the way tooth and nail to get that law passed. We
7 need to make sure that we're preserving all of that
8 law's abilities [bell] to keep our--our city's
9 heritage safe and secure and--

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
11 Council Member, could you bring your comments to a
12 close?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: --with that I vote
14 no 77--775-A, and aye on all the rest. Thank you.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

16 CLERK: Levine.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: I will be voting
18 aye on all with the exception of Intro 775-A, and
19 with your permission, I'd like to vote aye on all
20 Land Use Call-Ups.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes. Thank you.

22 CLERK: Maisel.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: [off mic] Aye.

24 CLERK: Menchaca.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Permission to
3 explain my vote.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: So on Intro
6 775, I also want to just mention that communities
7 around New York City have not all been given the same
8 attention from LPC, and I think this--what this does
9 is give us an opportunity in Sunset Park for the work
10 that we've doing in historic districts in our
11 neighborhood, the work that this neighborhood has
12 done on its own, and has been praised by LPC to make
13 sure that it gets its timely answer. And so with
14 this I vote yes, and I know there are still a lot of
15 concerns on the floor in the ground--in--in our
16 neighborhoods, and one of those is resources, and I
17 hope that this Council continues to, like Brad sys,
18 look at all the other recommendations that have been
19 put as we move forward. With that, I vote aye on
20 all. thank you.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

22 CLERK: Mendez.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Permission to
24 explain my vote.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes. Quiet in the
3 Chambers.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: I will be voting
5 yes on all items and no on 775-A. My objections to
6 775-A are based on two counts. One on deficiencies
7 in the bill, things I would have liked to see in the
8 bill. I would have to have seen more time for land
9 marking buildings, and historic districts. I would
10 have liked to ensure that there are no loopholes
11 where buildings will be demolished. And the other
12 part is based on process. This hear--there was a
13 hearing on this legislation back in September.
14 Changes were made to the bill since then. The public
15 has not had an opportunity to comment on this and, in
16 fact, this bill was noticed for a hearing Thursday,
17 and the hearing was held yesterday. It gave us very
18 little time to work with the chairs to make time to
19 make the changes we wanted to the bill. I do want to
20 thank Chair Greenfield. He met with us later
21 Thursday. We spoke on Friday and--and again on
22 Monday, but we still did not have enough time to get
23 what we wanted into the bill. We could have taken
24 this bill off and voted later on this month so that
25 we could all have gotten a little bit more

2 comfortable, and maybe make some of the changes we
3 would have liked to see on this bill. For all those
4 reasons, I am voting no on 775-A. Thank you.

5 CLERK: Miller. Palma. Reynoso.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Permission to
7 explain my vote.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: I'd just like to
10 give a shout-out to Marissa Salsa, my mother. It's
11 her birthday today.

12 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Oh, happy
13 birthday.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Yay. [applause]
15 Yay, and I vote aye on all.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Happy
17 birthday.

18 CLERK: Richards.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: I vote aye on
20 all.

21 CLERK: Rodriguez.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Permission to
23 explain my vote.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: First of all,
3 I believe that 775 would definitely make the
4 landmarks preservation to work faster in a particular
5 timeframe on buildings that we have identified that
6 have the merits to be landmarked. I hope that this
7 is only a beginning of important reforms that we
8 should make in our city. It doesn't make sense that
9 we have buildings in our city. I can say I have like
10 three of those, the Coliseum Theater building at the
11 beginning of the 20th Century at 181st and Broadway,
12 a Baptist Church built at 184 and Wadsworth at the
13 beginning of the 20th Century. And even though the
14 community come and the community board and preserve
15 and present all the merits, there's still been a lot
16 of resistance in the previous administration and the
17 current Landmark Commission to work on the landmark
18 on those buildings. So what I hope is that as we are
19 empowering the Landmark Commission into work in a
20 particular timeframe, everyone understands especially
21 those voices in those institutions advocating
22 individuals that are very vocal on preserving as much
23 as we can historical site. But also we work with
24 those voices making the reforms we need so that we--

2 so that we can expand the criteria that has been used
3 to do landmark in our city. With that, I vote aye.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

5 CLERK: Rose.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

7 CLERK: Rosenthal.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Permission to
9 explain my vote.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: I vote aye on
12 all with the exception of 775-A, which I wish I could
13 support because I think in many ways it brings us a
14 much more efficient landmark process, and I
15 appreciate the hard work that was done on that. I'd
16 like to attach my comments to Council Member Chin and
17 just add that my concern is with the few bad apple
18 owners who look for any opportunity to demolish a
19 building or historic ornamentation as soon as they
20 see a window of opportunity. I look forward to
21 continued conversation to close that loophole in
22 particular. Thank you very much.

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

24 CLERK: Salamanca.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Permission to
3 vote on all the Land Use Call-Ups?

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: And aye on
6 all.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

8 CLERK: Torres.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Permission to
10 explain my vote.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: I'll start by
13 making the same observation that my colleague Council
14 Member Reynoso made yesterday at the committee that
15 when you have items that have been calendared for a
16 longer period than we've been born, it might be fair
17 to conclude that we might have a problem. And so the
18 legislation sets deadlines, and it bases those
19 deadlines on the real world practice of the Landmarks
20 Commission. It bases them on what the Landmarks
21 Commission itself has told this is a reasonable time
22 table for consideration. And so none of the
23 deadlines in Intro 775 can be regarded as arbitrary.
24 What would be arbitrary is continuing a status quo
25 that imposes no deadline and demands no

2 accountability. You know, individuals are like
3 institutions, and are not expected to make a decision
4 within a year or within two years, then you probably
5 will not make a decision within a year. It does not
6 mean as some have implied that it could not or should
7 not have been made within a year. As far as I'm
8 concerned, good governance is about setting clear
9 rules including clear deadlines, and applying those
10 rules with consistency, fairness and predictability,
11 and this precisely what Intro 775 does. I reject the
12 notion that landmarking is so complex. It has to be
13 above deadlines. Passing an \$80 billion budget is
14 pretty complex. We're expected to get it done by the
15 end of June and we will get it done. Right.
16 Mandatory inclusionary housing hundreds and hundreds
17 of pages of dense zoning language. I would never
18 want to read it much less write it, but we were
19 expected to get it done, and we got it done. There's
20 nothing remotely unreasonable about deadlines. I
21 proudly vote aye.

22 CLERK: Treyger.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Permission to
24 briefly explain my vote.

25 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: So as I
3 mentioned yesterday's Land Use hearing, I hear, you
4 know, a lot of, you know, valid concerns from my
5 colleagues about landlords and preservation. But one
6 of the landlords that I have been dealing with in my
7 district to preserve the historic structures in New
8 York City Parks Department. And I am hoping to be
9 alive to see the day that we landmark the Coney
10 Island Boardwalk, and with that, I vote aye on all.
11 [laughter]

12 CLERK: Ulrich.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: I ask for
14 unanimous consent to vote on all Land Use items--

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
16 Yes.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: --and orders on
18 the general calendar. I vote aye

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

20 CLERK: Vacca.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: I vote aye on all.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

23 CLERK: Vallone.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Madam Advocate,
25 a moment to explain my vote.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: The--although I
4 am voting for Intro 775 today, I must echo the
5 concerns made by preservationists and civic
6 associations across the city. Most importantly is my
7 concern focusing on the new automatic withdrawal
8 provision that now permits applications to be removed
9 simply because the LPD did not make a decision within
10 the new timelines. A timeline without a requirement
11 for decision does not solve the problem. I also have
12 strong concerns requiring written concurrence of the
13 owner and the chilling effect this will have on the
14 process. But, as a supporter of preservation, I must
15 add that this legislation has already impacted my
16 district by forcing the LPC to move on the backlog of
17 calendared items, which have led to the landmarking
18 of two sites that have languished for years in my
19 district: The Hawthorne Court Apartments and the
20 Lydia Ann Bell and William Ahle's House have now been
21 landmarked. Therefore, I vote aye on all. Thank you,
22 Madam Advocate.

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

24 CLERK: Williams.

25

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

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you very
6 much. I just want to reiterate some of, but not all
7 of what I said in the committee yesterday. I have
8 many projects that I'm hoping to be landmarked. So
9 I'm hoping to still get some support, but I have had
10 the history of being in the Landmarks Subcommittee
11 for a number of years, and what I saw there, as I
12 mentioned yesterday, was not--was not pretty. There
13 was just so much--it seemed arcane and arbitrary at
14 times with no real structure of how to get it
15 through, and no real reason to listen to council
16 members or even owners. I fee like this bill is a
17 great step toward dealing with those issues. I did
18 have an issue, even though I was on the bill with the
19 five-year moratorium. I thought that would be the
20 one thing that would help develop this, but it's been
21 taken out, and I wanted to clarify one thing I
22 mentioned about our position. We should always have
23 opposition, but to me some of the opposition that I'm
24 hearing now particularly from some of the groups that
25 I consider friends and allies, says to me that it's

2 more about any type of adjustment that this specific
3 adjustment. It seems that they want nothing to
4 change on how this landmark procedure moves forward.
5 I see nothing here that helps developers. I also see
6 nothing here that takes away LPC's power. The only
7 thing they have to do is act within a year or re-up
8 the calendar. That is the only thing that we've
9 changed here. They still have all the powers and
10 capabilities. The only problems will come if they
11 don't act. That is not a fault of the Council or of
12 this bill, but an act of what they're doing. This is
13 following the guidelines that they said works. With
14 that, with an automatic extension is what people
15 think would work, I'll be happy to support--

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
17 [shushing for quiet]

18 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAM: --and sign onto
19 bill that comes forward to do that. My guess is that
20 even if that that that was included there will be
21 some that still would not have wanted this bill to
22 pass. But with that, I don't think--I think the
23 changes are--are good, and I look forward to
24 continuing to see how we could streamline the process
25 even better. With that, I vote aye on all, and I

2 would like to ask unanimous consent to vote on all
3 Land Use Call-Ups.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: thank you.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

7 CLERK: Matteo.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Aye on all.

9 CLERK: Van Bramer.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye on all.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

12 CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

13 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: I vote aye on

14 all. [background noise, pause]

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. All
16 items on today's General Order Calendar were adopted
17 by a vote of 48 in the affirmative 0 negative and 0
18 abstentions with the exception of Intro 775-A, which
19 was adopted by a vote of 38 in the affirmative, 10
20 negative and 0 abstentions, and the Revised Land Use
21 Call-Ups were adopted by a vote of 48 in the
22 affirmative, 0 negative and 0 abstentions.

23 Supplemental Introduction and Reading of Bills.

24 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: All bills are
25 referred to committees as indicated on the agenda.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: There are no
3 resolutions on the calendar. Let us begin with
4 general discussion beginning with Council Member
5 Ferreras-Copeland.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
7 you. Today, we introduce a reso--a resolution asking
8 the Department of Homeland Security to grant
9 temporary protective status to Ecuadorian immigrants
10 in the United States. On April 14th, Ecuador
11 suffered a 7.8 magnitude quake that killed 660 people
12 and has caused--

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
14 [shushing for quiet]

15 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND: --
16 unimaginable hardship. New York City is home to over
17 140,000 Ecuadorian Nationals including many thousands
18 in my district who have all felt the devastation of
19 what happened that day. My office has heard stories
20 of families affected, struggling to rebuild their
21 lives. [background comments] Today, I joined the
22 call to the Secretary to the Department of Homeland
23 Security to designate Ecuador for temporary
24 protective status to allow Ecuadorians to stay here
25 away from tremendous hardship, and enable them to

2 support their home. I am proud to be joined by my
3 colleague Speaker Mark-Viverito, Council Member
4 Carlos Menchaca, Daniel Dromm, Rafael Espinal,
5 Mathieu Eugene, Peter Koo, and Antonio Reynoso who
6 have all seen the contributions of this community and
7 feel a duty to support them. I thank the Speaker
8 once again for her swift response, and for using her
9 authority to help Ecuadorian communities in this time
10 of need. I also want to thank the Mayor for his
11 support as well as Congressman Crowley for his voice
12 in Washington. Council Members, I ask you all to
13 sign onto this resolution today. Thank you.

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

16 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you so
17 much. First, the last day I think my colleagues for
18 all their--

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
20 [shushing for quiet]

21 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: --work of
22 support during my--my time. I neglected to mention
23 one, that I did receive a lot of support from across
24 government and even most importantly there was a lot
25 of staff in this body that gave me well wishes, and I

2 forgot to thank them. I want to make sure I said
3 thank you to them. Their well wishes mean a lot to
4 me as well. I did want to wish my Muslim brothers
5 Ramadan Obarach (sp?) during this time of healing,
6 renewal and fast. Also, my Jewish brothers and
7 sisters Hagshama Shova--Shavuot (sp?) which
8 commemorates the revelation of the Torah Mt. Sinai,
9 the Jewish people and occurs on the 50th day of the
10 49 days of counter. The Omar Shavuot is one of the
11 three Biblically based Poma rich (sic) holidays known
12 as Shalosh Regalim. I hope I pronounced all of those
13 right, and I hope everyone enjoyed their holiday.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Speaker Melissa
15 Mark-Viverito.

16 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Yes, because I'm
17 going to have to probably step away in second. I
18 know there's more to general discussion, but please
19 to ask my colleagues to stick around. We do plan to
20 have BNT and Delegation. So please do not leave, and
21 we will be calling on all of you, and obviously I
22 forgot to mention at the beginning of my remarks, but
23 let's keep Muhammad Ali in our prayers. An
24 incredible athlete, activist, and humanitarian. So
25 with that, thank you to my colleagues.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
3 Council Member Levin.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you very
5 much, Madam Public Advocate. First, I want to
6 acknowledge I was remiss in not acknowledging my
7 colleagues Chairs Greenfield and Koo on working with
8 all of our us in the communities to strengthen Intro
9 775-A. So I want to acknowledge--

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
11 [shushing for quiet]

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: --their
13 collaborative work. In addition, today I'm honored
14 to introduce a resolution with Council Member Carlos
15 Menchaca calling on the President and the State
16 Department to resettle at least 10,000 Syrian
17 refugees in the United States by the end of September
18 2016. The State Department reaffirmed this
19 commitment in March, the fifth anniversary of Syria's
20 civil war, but as of May 30th, the Administration has
21 admitted just over 2,500, and has yet to announce how
22 many refugees will be resettled here in 2017. As
23 such, the resolution also calls on the State
24 Department to strengthen its commitment to some of
25 the most vulnerable victims of conflict by increasing

2 the number of refugees to be resettled in our
3 country, the United States to 65,000 by end of 2017.
4 As we approach the June 20th recognition of World
5 Refugee Day, we must make strong--make a strong
6 statement that in--in New York City and in the United
7 States, we reject anti-immigrant sentiments and
8 welcome refugees with open arms. And as world
9 leaders, and as a country with the highest
10 aspirations, compassion and generosity the U.S. must
11 fulfill its promise to assist these individuals and
12 families. I want to thank Shaina Ward at Refugee
13 Council U.S.A. for her advice as well as Council
14 staff, Will Hungach (sp?), Julie Bero, who is my
15 Legislative Director; Audriana Garcia and Jean
16 Aronowitz. I hope you will join me and Council
17 Member Menchaca in calling for the United States to
18 honor its proud history of welcoming refugees by
19 signing this resolution. Thank you very much for
20 your consideration, and also, I just want to say
21 regardless of our political affiliations or which
22 candidate we are supporting--

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: --I think
25 yesterday was an important day in United States

2 history. For the first time a woman has become the
3 President--a presumptive presidential nominee of a
4 major--a major party here in the United States, and I
5 think that that is a landmarked [cheers/applause]
6 and wonderful day in U.S. history. Thank you.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Girls rule the
8 world. Council Member Cumbo.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you. I am
10 pleased to be here today. I want to first start by
11 recognizing that we've had a great loss in our nation
12 and in our world with the passing of the great boxer
13 Muhammad Ali, who was a strong champion for civil
14 rights. He exhibited the very best in terms of what
15 we look for in role models. Even during his
16 challenges, he continued to be a leader, and to carry
17 his life with dignity and with grace, and continues
18 to inspire people all over the world. I also want to
19 unfortunate recognize the tragic killing of two
20 ladies in Brooklyn, New York, Chanel Mercurius who
21 was 16 years old--

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
23 [shushing for quiet]

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: --who was fatally
25 shot and killed by someone that she knew, as well as

2 Michelle Marks, 23 years old who was also killed by
3 someone that she knew. Our women continue to be so
4 vulnerable in our communities, and we have to do more
5 as the city of New York to protect our young women,
6 to protect our girls. And it is very much the role
7 of all society, particularly men to have a role in
8 protecting the women and children of their
9 communities. On a--on a positive note, I want to
10 recognize that we have some wonderful news in terms
11 of U.S. Army Reserve Officer Deshauna Barber who
12 became the first ever military member to win Ms. USA,
13 and I'm so very proud we recognize women in uniform
14 here in the City Council, and I'm proud to see her
15 accomplishments. She says as the commander of my
16 unit I'm proud, I'm powerful, I'm dedicated, and
17 gender--

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
19 [shushing for quiet]

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: --and gender does
21 not limit my role in the United States Army. But
22 also following on Council Member Steve Levin, I was
23 very proud to be in Brooklyn New York as Hilary
24 Clinton secured more delegates necessary to clinch
25 the Democratic nomination more than any other women--

2 woman in history. And I want to say it was important
3 for her to select Brooklyn, New York because this
4 dream [bell] began in 1972 with our very own Shirley
5 Chisholm---

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
7 Council Member--

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: --who created the
9 concept or the idea that all people can run for the--

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
11 Council Member.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: --President of the
13 United States of America.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you so much,
16 Public Letitia James.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

18 [laughs] Council Member Gibson.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you very
20 much Madam Public Advocate. I want to draw my
21 colleagues' attention to Intro 1207, which I'm proud
22 to join with our Chair of Public Housing Council
23 Member Ritchie Torres. This bill relates to amending
24 the Administrative Code of the City of New York in
25 relation to reporting on persons who have been

2 permanently excluded from public housing. We know
3 that this is a conversation that's had a lot of
4 debate, a lot of contention. And certainly as the
5 Housing Authority faces huge financial debt as well
6 as a number of policy changes, I think it's important
7 for us as a Council to better understand those in
8 individuals and families who have been permanently
9 excluded from the New York City Housing Authority.
10 So I ask all of my colleagues to join us in
11 supporting Intro 1207. I, too, want to wish our
12 colleagues and families a Happy Ramadan Moballah.
13 (sp?) I also want to join with extending our
14 thoughts and prayers to the family and friends and
15 colleagues of the honorable, the great visionary
16 Muhammad Ali. I also want to recognize that June is
17 Gun Violence Awareness Month in the city of New York,
18 and we had a very incredible announcement last week
19 with the Speaker, Council Members Cumbo, Jumaane
20 Williams, Donovan Richards, Margaret Chin. We had
21 the Manhattan District Attorney. The Public Advocate
22 join us, our City Comptroller, and we collectively
23 come together every day to fight against gun violence
24 in our communities. Certainly in the month of June
25 we are all working collectively together to make sure

2 that we can eradicate this crisis that we call a
3 health crisis. And I think this budget we want to
4 make sure that it's reflective of our values of one
5 of the important tools that we can identify to reduce
6 gun violence, and this jobs, summer youth and youth
7 employment for our young people across this city. So
8 I want to thank all of our colleagues for their
9 efforts, their advocacy and my final two words: Women
10 lead. Thank you.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
12 Cabrera.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Thank you so
14 much. I would like to draw your attention to six
15 bills and resolutions I will be introducing today.
16 First is Bill 7871. This proposed law will--or bill
17 will re--require automated external defibrillators in
18 private schools and police cars. Bill 7481, this
19 proposed--proposed law will require libraries to
20 reform demographic information of card holders. Reso
21 8167, this resolution calls on the MTA to carry out
22 the nation's system allowing Metro card purchasers to
23 voluntarily donate to a fund for low-income New
24 Yorkers and the means to collect unused Metro Cards
25 and donate them to low-income New Yorkers.

2 Currently, there are no programs to assist low-income
3 people with the cost of public transit. San
4 Francisco, Seattle, and London have created such
5 programs. Reso 7804. This resolutions call on the
6 state to pass 83137, Legislation producing retro
7 activity to the original eligibility date for the
8 SCRIE program to ensure that seniors are not priced
9 out of their homes and communities. Bill 7753, a
10 local law in relation to traffic signal prevention
11 system to reduce emergency response times in areas
12 where they are above the city's average. And finally,
13 Reso 7400. This Resolution calls on the State to
14 pass S5338-A enacting the Pharmaceutical Cost
15 Transparency Act requiring prescription drug
16 manufacturers to file a report disclosing financial
17 information on prescription drugs with a wholesale
18 acquisition cost of \$10,000 or more annually or per
19 course of treatment. Thank you so much.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
21 Council Member Barron.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you, Madam
23 Public Advocate. I stand to call my colleagues'
24 attention [background comments], as has been noted by
25 some of my colleagues, to the great Muhammad Ali. He

2 was a man who was ostracized, a man who was
3 demonized, a man who was marginalized, and we
4 sometimes like to come and look at the end of a
5 person's life. We have come to accept what it is
6 that they stood for, but I want us to look at his
7 life when he was under attack by this country.
8 Because he refused to reject his religious leader.
9 He refused to let people keep him locked what he
10 called was a slave man. He demanded respect. He
11 fought and he did not take down the banners for those
12 things that he believed in, and at the end of his
13 life we began to say this is a man who is worthy of
14 our respect because he did not allow himself to be
15 compromised. He did not believe that the war was a
16 just war. He said, No, Viet Cong ever called me the
17 N word. And he understood that we had a battle here
18 in this country to fight for justice and to fight for
19 our fair share. He continued that fight throughout
20 his life. He refused to allow people to say we're
21 going to interfere with your ability to earn money if
22 you don't do what it is that we want you to do. He
23 never took down the banner. He never changed the
24 standards that were so important to him. So he was
25 certainly a role model, and I wonder how many people

2 are able to in some degree follow that and say it
3 doesn't matter if I'm threatened with a loss of
4 income, if I'm not allowed to travel any place else
5 within the world because they're holding my passport.
6 We look at it now in retrospect, but it really was a
7 great sacrifice that he made, a sacrifice because he
8 believed in what it was that he believed in, and he
9 didn't care that other people were trying to force
10 him to reject that. He was not going to do that.
11 So, he was the greatest. He was not--

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
13 Council Member--

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: --intimidated.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: --please
16 conclude.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Yes, and I
18 encourage us to celebrate him. We will have a
19 ceremony at Sonny Carson Park in East New York on
20 Friday at 6:00. You're welcome to come, and finally
21 I just want to remind people that tomorrow we will
22 have the Father's Day Pledge at 12 noon on the steps
23 of City Hall. Thank you.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
25 Council Member Menchaca.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you,
3 Public Advocate, and I want to--

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
5 [shushing for quiet]

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: --I want to
7 speak about three different resolutions. It feels
8 like on a daily basis immigrants are being attacked
9 very publicly.

10 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Keep it down, please.
11 Keep it down.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: And this
13 Council has the opportunity to join many other
14 municipalities and state legislatures in support of
15 those immigrant communities. Reso 1100--1105 where
16 both Council Member Levin and I are calling on the
17 President to by 2017 increase the numbers of refugees
18 from the Syrian community to 65,000. I also want to
19 applaud Council Member Julissa Ferreras-Copeland on
20 her work and our consistent work for the Ecuadorian
21 community both in our communities, but also for the
22 TPS status. And finally, the Speaker has introduced
23 a Resolution 1097. This resolution calls on the
24 Unites States Congress to pass and the President to
25 sign legislation that would raise the number of U

2 Visas available annually and establishing a uniform
3 protocol for law enforcement to review the victims'
4 certification requests. These are all measures that
5 all of us can take pride in as a City Council and
6 continue to voice our support for our immigrant
7 communities that we so cherish. And finally, I just
8 want to leave with a quote from something Abraham
9 Lincoln, our president, said that America will never
10 be destroyed from the outside.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
12 [shushing for quiet]

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: If we falter
14 and lose our freedoms, it will be because we
15 destroyed ourselves, and these are moments and
16 opportunities that every time we see hate, we stand
17 up, we rise and we speak against it. And this
18 Council has the opportunity to send these resos out
19 in--in full support of our immigrant community.
20 Thank you.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
22 Council Member Dickens.

23 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet, please. Keep
24 it down.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Thank you.

3 Thank you, Madam Public Advocate. I ask for your
4 support to my colleagues for Reso 1102. As many of
5 you already know, my family has a long tradition of
6 political and legal activism. However, there are
7 many New Yorkers who are made to believe that the
8 mistakes they made in life prevent them from
9 correcting the course of their future. Thousands of
10 formerly incarcerated New Yorkers a felony conviction
11 silences their voices forever for changing their own
12 communities. Completing your debt to society should
13 be followed with the restoration of your rights,
14 primarily the right to vote. Voting is our civic
15 duty. Regardless of who you are, this is your right.
16 People make mistakes, but as Americans we still have
17 a voice and a duty to this country. As stated, where
18 people can find second choices in life. We owe
19 individuals the right to know they are still part of
20 the process. This body has worked tirelessly to
21 break down barriers that prevent formerly
22 incarcerated from acquiring work, housing and other
23 essential services. Do we expect them to remain
24 silent? This is an important year, for as a nation
25 we will be selecting our 46th president. Just eight

2 years ago, we selected the first African-American
3 president in our nation's history, and this year we
4 have the opportunity to select our first female
5 president, and with the options we have for the
6 highest office of the land, and the proposals we've
7 been given on both sides, I believe that every vote
8 matters more now than ever. I've asked my
9 colleagues. I think it's important to join in
10 signing onto Reso 1102. In addition, Christopher
11 Park. Today, we will be transferring city parkland
12 to federal parkland to forever memorialize the Civil
13 Rights battle that started at Stonewall Inn. And I
14 thank you for the support of doing this. It's very
15 important that the Civil Rights struggle for LGBT and
16 Q rights will forever remain memorialized. Thank
17 you.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
19 Mealy for a vote.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I vote on all Land
21 Use Call-Ups and I vote aye on all.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Back
23 to general discussion. Council Member Mendez.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Thank you, Madam
25 Public Advocate. I want to remind all my colleagues

2 that tonight the LGBT Caucus will be hosting the
3 Council Pride Event here in Chambers. I also wanted
4 to say a few things about Muhammad Ali. I grew up
5 watching him fighting on TV, and read his history
6 and--and it's important to note that it's easier to
7 take a stand when there's no repercussions. But
8 Muhammad Ali became a conscientious objector during
9 the prime of what would be the height of his career
10 and was banned from boxing for 3-1/2 years. So it
11 was a difficult decision. It was a right decision,
12 and those are the hard choices to believe in what is
13 right and suffer the consequences. So having said
14 that, rest in peace, Ali Bumbaye.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
16 Council Member Greenfield.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank you
18 very much for your time. I appreciate it.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: You're welcome.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: First, I want
21 to start off by wishing all Muslims who are
22 celebrating in New York City a Ramadan Kareem, and I
23 have learned first hand from one of my colleagues
24 about the personal religious sacrifice that is done
25 during this time and I have great respect for that,

2 and I wish them a meaningful Ramadan as well. And to
3 my Jewish colleagues and Jewish constituents and
4 Jewish residents I want to wish them a happy Shavuot,
5 the holiday that starts Saturday night and ends
6 Monday night celebrating the Jews getting the Torah.
7 I would also like to thank Governor Andrew Cuomo for
8 his executive order banning--banning New York State
9 doing business with companies that are engaged in the
10 anti-Semitic BDS effort that would seek to destroy
11 the State of Israel, and I would encourage my
12 colleagues in the New York City Council to sign onto
13 Council Member Andy Cohen's resolution in support of
14 legislation that we have in the state as well. And
15 finally, I do also want to congratulate Secretary
16 Clinton on her historic victory yesterday. It really
17 was a very important moment in our country, and I'm
18 very proud of her achievement as a woman, and also
19 proud that we are well on our way to be getting back
20 the White House for a New Yorker since we haven't had
21 it since FDR. And I want to congratulate my
22 colleague Council Member Laurie Cumbo for making the
23 front page of the New York Times happily waving and
24 smiling in the background at Secretary Clinton's
25 victory party. I was there last night, but I did not

2 make the front page of the New York times.

3 [laughter] And certainly I don't blame the editors
4 for their decision. I think they made the right call
5 with their photo placement. Thank you all and have a
6 wonderful day.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
8 Council Member Eugene for a vote.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you very
10 much Madam Public Advocate. I want to request the
11 commission to vote on all Land Use Call-Ups and all
12 other--any kind of today. I vote aye on all.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
14 Koo--

15 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: --for two
17 minutes. [laughter]

18 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: How about one minute
19 yeah. I want to use this occasion to thank all my
20 colleagues in supporting the--the Landmark Bill.
21 Today is truly a historic landmark day. Thank you.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
23 Council Member Kallos.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: I rise today to
25 introduce a resolution that actually would do

2 something. So many people today interact online, and
3 I'd love for them to be able to interact with us
4 online. Instead of just being able to come during
5 day time hours and take a day off work, and wait for
6 hours so that they can speak for two minutes. What
7 if we were a little bit more like what they're used
8 to? What if they could like our legislation. What
9 if they actually liked it? What if they could
10 comment on it? What if they could engage our
11 legislation online. That's what a resolution I've
12 introduced with Council Member Jimmy Vacca would do.
13 It's in the Rules Committee. We hope that you will
14 sign on and that we can get a hearing quickly because
15 this means that all the people in the city who don't
16 have the time to come out to our hearings could
17 actually engage in the way they're used to, which is
18 sharing it on their social media platform of choice
19 whether it's Facebook, Instagram or Twitter and then
20 being able to comment online from the comfort of home
21 or their phone or work. That's the kind of the
22 Council I think we can be. Thank you.

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: All items on
24 today's General Order Calendar were adopted by a vote
25 of 15 in the affirmative, 0 negative and 0

2 abstentions with the exception of Intro 775-A, which
3 was adopted by a vote of 40 in the affirmative, 10
4 negative and 0 abstentions. Revised Land Use Call-
5 Ups were adopted by a vote of 50 in the affirmative
6 and 0 negative and 0 abstentions, and may we always
7 remember that the best way to make your dreams come
8 true is wake up. That's a quote by Muhammad Ali.
9 May he rest in peace. Happy holidays to all, and we
10 now stand in recess. [gavel]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Date June 25, 2016