

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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November 13, 2012  
Start: 2:47 p.m.  
Recess: 3:06 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers  
City Hall

B E F O R E:  
CHRISTINE C. QUINN  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Maria Del Carmen Arroyo  
Charles Barron  
Gale Brewer  
Fernando Cabrera  
Margaret Chin  
Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.  
Elizabeth Crowley  
Inez E. Dickens  
Erik Martin Dilan  
Daniel Dromm  
Mathieu Eugene  
Julissa Ferreras  
Lewis A. Fidler  
Helen D. Foster  
Daniel R. Garodnick  
James F. Gennaro  
Vincent J. Gentile

## A P P E A R A N C E S

## COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Sara M. Gonzalez  
David G. Greenfield  
Daniel J. Halloran III  
Robert Jackson  
Letitia James  
Peter Koo  
Brad Lander  
Jessica S. Lappin  
Stephen Levin  
Darlene Mealy  
Michael C. Nelson  
Domenic M. Recchia, Jr.  
Diana Reyna  
Joel Rivera  
Ydanis A. Rodriguez  
Deborah L. Rose  
Eric A. Ulrich  
James Vacca  
Peter F. Vallone, Jr.  
James G. Van Bramer  
Albert Vann  
Mark S. Weprin  
Jumaane D. Williams  
Rubin Wills

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

Rev. Joel A. Gibson  
Direct of Member & Faith-Based Services  
Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Pledge of  
3 Allegiance. I pledge allegiance to the flag of  
4 the United States of America, and to the Republic  
5 for which it stands, one nation, under God,  
6 indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

7 Roll call.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Arroyo.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Here.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Barron.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Brewer.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Cabrera.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Chin.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Comrie.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE, JR.:

20 Present.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Crowley.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Dickens.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Here.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Dilan.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Here.  
3 COUNCIL CLERK: Dromm.  
4 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.  
5 COUNCIL CLERK: Eugene.  
6 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.  
7 COUNCIL CLERK: Ferreras.  
8 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Here.  
9 COUNCIL CLERK: Fidler.  
10 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Here.  
11 COUNCIL CLERK: Foster. Garodnick.  
12 Gennaro.  
13 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here.  
14 COUNCIL CLERK: Gentile.  
15 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.  
16 COUNCIL CLERK: Gonzalez.  
17 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Here.  
18 COUNCIL CLERK: Greenfield.  
19 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Here.  
20 COUNCIL CLERK: Halloran.  
21 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN III: Here.  
22 COUNCIL CLERK: Ignizio. Jackson.  
23 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Here.  
24 COUNCIL CLERK: James.  
25 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Koo.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

COUNCIL CLERK: Koppell.

Koslowitz. Lander.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

COUNCIL CLERK: Lappin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Here.

COUNCIL CLERK: Levin. Mark-

Viverito. Mealy. Mendez. Nelson.

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Here.

COUNCIL CLERK: Palma. Recchia.

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA, JR.: Here.

COUNCIL CLERK: Reyna.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Here.

COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.

COUNCIL CLERK: Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.

COUNCIL CLERK: Sanders. Ulrich.

Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.

COUNCIL CLERK: Vallone.

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE, JR.: Here.

COUNCIL CLERK: Van Bramer.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Vann. Weprin.

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Williams. Wills.

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COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Present.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Oddo. Rivera.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: We have quorum.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you,

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a quorum is present, my colleagues, please rise

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for the invocation being delivered today by

14

Reverend Joel A. Gibson.

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REV. GIBSON: As religious or

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spiritual or cultural individuals, we pause before

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the work begins to open ourselves to that which is

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beyond us, before and after us, and always with

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us. It is our desire that this power be here in

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our midst, and what we think, say, and do may be

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to a purpose greater than our own needs or

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gratification. First our thoughts and prayers go

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to all those persons afflicted by the ravages of

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Hurricane Sandy. May we commit ourselves and do

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everything humanly possible to relieve their

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2 suffering and pain. And we give thanks for our  
3 first responders, and for the thousands of others  
4 who have been, and are in those places of  
5 brokenness, working to make lives whole again.  
6 While being grateful for whatever relief we enjoy  
7 or comfort we maintained, may that same reality be  
8 our dis-ease until all those harmed by this storm  
9 can have their lives and livelihoods restored.  
10 Today also we turn our hearts and minds to the  
11 children of this city. We have been given no  
12 greater charge or more sacred trust. Do know that  
13 we are also a grateful people and we lift up our  
14 thanks. We thank you for the numerous and great  
15 resources of this city, both in material and human  
16 form, that make us rich, though at times we  
17 exploit and lose sight of them. We thank you for  
18 pricking our conscience, it makes us lay the  
19 foundation for a time of charity and justice, not  
20 tomorrow, but today. We thank you for setting us  
21 at tasks which demand our best, and for leading us  
22 to accomplishments which make better the lives of  
23 those we serve. Be among us in ways that barriers  
24 which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear  
25 and hatreds cease. Help us to confront one



1  
2 another without hatred or bitterness, and to work  
3 together with mutual forbearance and respect, that  
4 being healed of our divisions we may live in  
5 justice and peace. And finally, may you help us  
6 finish the good work here begun, strengthen our  
7 efforts to blot out ignorance and prejudice, to  
8 abolish poverty and the sense of want. Enable  
9 those who are elected servants of all the citizens  
10 of this great city to be willing to listen and  
11 learn and then lead, and hasten the day when all  
12 of us, with many voices in one united chorus will  
13 affirm our commitment to the proclamation that all  
14 your children are all one family, in need of each  
15 other. Amen.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council  
17 Member Chin?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you,  
19 Rev. Joel Gibson. I want to make a motion to  
20 spread the invocation in full upon the record.  
21 Thank you.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.  
23 Yes.

24 SPEAKER QUINN: I would ask my  
25 colleagues to rise again, please. Well first,

1  
2 before I say a few words about the hurricane, we  
3 had some nice news, which is a good thing, and I'm  
4 so glad that Eric is here. Council Member Eric  
5 Ulrich and his wife had a beautiful, healthy baby  
6 girl, Lily, during ... right after the storm ended,  
7 so congratulations. I told him if he named her  
8 Sandy, we were going to have ACS take her away, so  
9 he was wise enough not to do that. But Eric,  
10 congratulations. And this is obviously the first  
11 Stated Meeting since Hurricane Sandy hit our city  
12 and our region so very, very hard, and as we all  
13 know, we had to reschedule the meeting a number of  
14 times. I think no one could ever have imagined  
15 when we were last in this chamber together that we  
16 would come back to this building after the worst  
17 hurricane in the history of our city, that hit our  
18 city, we'd come back after 113 people in the  
19 region had died, after over 40 people had died in  
20 our five boroughs as a result of this storm. We  
21 had no idea. That is the city we are in now, a  
22 city where we are going to have to work even  
23 harder to make sure that every person who was  
24 impacted by this storm and remains impacted by  
25 this storm gets everything they need from the City

1  
2 of New York, the State of New York and the Federal  
3 government, so that they can rebuild their lives  
4 the way that they want to. In the short term we  
5 have to work as hard as we can to make sure every  
6 New Yorker who still doesn't have power or heat  
7 gets it immediately, that people who don't have  
8 access to food and gasoline and other supplies get  
9 those supplies as quickly as possible. I want to  
10 take a moment just to thank all of our colleagues  
11 who have ... who represent people in zone A and the  
12 other parts of zone B that were hard-hit by the  
13 storm. I could go on at great length with many,  
14 many examples about all of our colleagues, but I  
15 think you all know them. And I have to say there  
16 are a lot of moments where I've been proud to be a  
17 member of the New York City Council, but the  
18 unending commitment, the tireless work, the focus,  
19 the ability to work and work and work, to not  
20 always get the answer or the response you want or  
21 you need for your constituents, but in the face of  
22 that, every one of our colleagues whose districts  
23 were hardest-hit has remained positive, grateful  
24 and united. You have made me prouder today than I  
25 have ever been before to be a member of the New

1  
2 York City Council. So to all of you, we thank you  
3 for your leadership and offer our unending support  
4 for those of us who are in parts of the city that  
5 were not as hard hit. For those colleagues who  
6 represent those other parts of the city, I want to  
7 thank you too. You've been out there in the  
8 districts with our colleagues, your staffs have  
9 been out there, the donations of money through  
10 telethons or gifts, you know, food, blankets,  
11 coats, from your constituents, have gone out to  
12 our colleagues' districts, reminding them that  
13 they are not alone and that we are one city  
14 pulling forward towards recovery and rebuilding.  
15 I also want to take a moment to thank our staff  
16 people. First and foremost they're not here,  
17 because they're still out working on recovery  
18 issues, Edgar Moya, Walter Algarin, Howard Pollack  
19 and Ramon Martinez, who staffed our OEM desk  
20 around the clock. I know I speak for all of you,  
21 they were always there when you called or emailed,  
22 and moved as quickly as humanly possible, and at  
23 times seemingly more than that, to get issues  
24 addressed. We have other staff who are now on the  
25 ground in districts that have been impacted,

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2 people who have been there since right after the  
3 storm organizing, supporting and helping, and  
4 other staff people who have been organizing buses  
5 that go out there every day and will continue to  
6 go out to hard-hit districts. So I just want to  
7 again just offer all of our colleagues who are in  
8 the hardest-hit parts our constant and unending  
9 support. We will be with you in any way you need,  
10 until every last person in your district, every  
11 last business in your district, gets what they  
12 need to get back on their feet. So I'd ask all of  
13 us to stand in a moment of silence to remember the  
14 40-plus New Yorkers who have been lost, the 113  
15 people from our region who have been lost, the  
16 people who still suffer, because their homes are  
17 lost, their businesses are lost, they don't have  
18 heat, they don't have power, but also in our  
19 moment of silence, to send out as much strength  
20 and patience and fortitude as we can to our  
21 Council members who are also suffering, their  
22 homes were hurt, their families were hurt, and  
23 their constituents are suffering. (pause) Thank  
24 you, Mr. Majority Leader.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you,

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2 Madam Speaker. Council Member Reyna. Adoption of  
3 the minutes.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: And Speaker,  
5 to you, thank you for your leadership. I'd like  
6 to make the motion that the minutes of the Stated  
7 Meeting of September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011 (sic) be adopted as  
8 printed.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.  
10 Messages and papers from the Mayor?

11 COUNCIL CLERK: M940 withdrawing  
12 the name of Nicholas Scoppetta, New York City  
13 Conflict of Interest Board.

14 SPEAKER QUINN: Received, ordered  
15 printed and filed.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:  
17 Communication from city, county and borough  
18 offices.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Pre-considered  
20 M941, proposed fiscal year 2013 appropriation  
21 changes.

22 SPEAKER QUINN: Finance.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: M942, submitting  
24 the annual report of activities.

25 SPEAKER QUINN: Received ordered

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printed and filed.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Petitions  
and communications.

COUNCIL CLERK: None.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Land Use  
call-ups.

COUNCIL CLERK: None.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:  
Communication from the Speaker.

SPEAKER QUINN: Just briefly, I  
want to note we are voting on a budget  
modification today, I want to thank Preston  
Niblack, Jeff Rodus, Nathan Toth, Emre Edev. This  
is a budget modification that will move \$500  
million of emergency spending into the capital  
budget to help fix the public hospitals that were  
damaged in the storm, and the public schools that  
were damaged in the storm. I want to thank our  
Chair, Council Member Domenic M. Recchia, for his  
work on this as well, and also I just want to note  
that we are voting on three Land Use items today,  
I want to thank Gail Benjamin and her entire  
staff, the West Harlem rezoning, Chelsea Market  
rezoning, and the Civic Center action. I want to

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2 thank Leroy Comrie, Council Member Chin, Council  
3 Member Jackson, and let me call on Council Member  
4 Chin, if she'd like to say a few words. You don't  
5 have to if you don't want to.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you,  
7 Madam Chair. First I also wanted to thank all the  
8 colleagues that have called and come down to my  
9 district to help. A lot of devastation that we  
10 really need to work on rebuilding. On the Civic  
11 Center, we had a hearing today, I wanted to thank  
12 Chair Levin and Chair Comrie, and I also want to  
13 thank Council Member Barron for raising an  
14 important issue, we were having the hearing about  
15 the building at 22 Reade Street, that that was  
16 part of the discussion that Congress was having  
17 about having a museum for the African memorial  
18 burial ground on that site, and that's something  
19 that we did not know beforehand, so that at  
20 today's hearing we did ask for the Committee to  
21 not support the sale of that building, so that  
22 will be up for a vote later, and I just wanted to  
23 thank all the Council staff for really helping us  
24 on this issue. Thank you.

25 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, let me



1  
2 call on Council Member Jackson regarding West  
3 Harlem.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you,  
5 Madam Speaker. I rise in my colleagues this  
6 afternoon in order to support the West Harlem  
7 rezoning. As you know, this West Harlem rezoning  
8 process started about five years ago, after we  
9 voted and approved the rezoning of a certain area  
10 of West Harlem for Columbia University's  
11 expansion. And thereafter, Scott Stringer, our  
12 Borough President, had a discussion with me and  
13 put forward a position in order to rezone West  
14 Harlem in order to protect the integrity of the  
15 community of West Harlem, and I supported that.  
16 And it went through an entire process where it was  
17 approved by the City Planning Commission and with  
18 several amendments to it, with respect to 140  
19 Fifth Street and other areas. The bottom line is  
20 this: this is about protecting the integrity of  
21 our community as far as all of West Harlem,  
22 considering the expansion of Columbia University  
23 it's about a \$7 billion project over the next 15-  
24 20 years. But I'd like to thank several  
25 individuals that were involved in this process, so

1  
2 let me start with our Land Use Committee staff,  
3 Gail Benjamin, Ann McCoy, and of course Amy  
4 Levitan, I thank all of them for the work that  
5 they've done, for the meetings that they have  
6 attended, with me and discussions that they've had  
7 with myself and my staff, and obviously, the City  
8 Planning Commission for their cooperation in  
9 attending meetings with the Baptist Ministers'  
10 Conference, we have several members that are here  
11 up in the audience that are concerned about some  
12 of the issues and concerns concerning the West  
13 Harlem rezoning, with respect to economic  
14 provisions that they seek along with affordable  
15 housing. And we're going to try to work on that  
16 for future issues and concerns in Harlem and  
17 Washington Heights. But also for Carolyn Grossman  
18 and Adam of the City Planning Commission, and Ed  
19 Marshall, along with Rose Pierre from the Borough  
20 President's Office, and of course our local  
21 people, Reverend Georgiette Thomas, who is the  
22 Chair of Community Board #9, and the Land Use  
23 Chairs, Pat Jones and Javier Carcamo. I  
24 appreciate all of the work they have done, along  
25 with my staff, Joanna Garcia, David Ordone and

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2 other staff members that have worked on this. But  
3 I say to all of you that this is a process that  
4 has evolved and is continuous, so when we work  
5 together on behalf of the community we represent,  
6 then we will win in the long run. So thank you,  
7 Madam Speaker.

8 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, RJ, and  
9 that concludes communications from the Speaker.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you  
11 very much, Madam Speaker, we now move on to  
12 discussion of general orders. First we have  
13 Council Member Jackson.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Sure, I  
15 rise again, my colleagues, to talk about the whole  
16 issue ... I'm sorry, are we voting on the Land Use  
17 22 Reade Street today? Yes. I co-Chair the New  
18 York City Council Black, Latino and Asian Caucus  
19 and its executive committee has taken the position  
20 in order to support the bifurcation with respect  
21 to 22 Reade Street as part of the African-American  
22 burial ground for the museum there. We  
23 wholeheartedly support that understanding that  
24 many African-Americans that were brought to this  
25 country were brought over by slaves ... as slaves,

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2 and even though we were enslaved, we're not  
3 slaves. And in fact we have stood up loud and  
4 clear in order to help build this country, and as  
5 you know, Wall Street was built by people that  
6 come from Africa, that's why it was called Wall  
7 Street. And right where the African-American  
8 burial ground is, at 22 Reade Street, that's going  
9 to be, hopefully real soon, a museum that will  
10 deal with the burial ground and African-Americans  
11 that have come here as slaves to the United States  
12 of America. So I ask all of you to support that  
13 understanding that the Black, Latino and Asian  
14 Caucus of this particular body, and there are 26  
15 members of us, we support the bifurcation, and 22  
16 Reade Street being part of the African-American  
17 burial ground museum. Thank you very much.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you,  
19 and next we move on to Council Member Barron.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you  
21 very much. I rise to add on to what Council  
22 Member Jackson said. I want to thank Council  
23 Member Chin for moving on this expeditiously, and  
24 seeing to it that that property will not be sold,  
25 and I also want to thank Council Member Jumaane

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2 Williams and Council Member Inez Dickens and Leroy  
3 Comrie and Council Member Jackson, all who  
4 supported that. The very ground that we stand on  
5 now, over 20,000 bones of African people are  
6 spread throughout this area, we fought years ago,  
7 ten, 15 years ago, to stop them from building  
8 another building on the site where the burial  
9 ground is now, and we saved 427 of our ancestors.  
10 We cannot continue to disrespect those who built  
11 this city, and indeed built this country. New  
12 York State was a slave state, in 1827 it abolished  
13 slavery, in 1840 it really stopped, and we have  
14 been feeling the effects of slavery ever since.  
15 And some of us still fight for reparations and  
16 restitution from corporations. So we want to  
17 thank the City Council for stopping the sale of  
18 this property, all those involved, we thank you  
19 very much. I also want to differ with my  
20 colleague from Harlem on the Harlem rezoning.  
21 According to Rev. Dr. Curtis and Cogsville and  
22 others, that this rezoning would really be almost  
23 like a predatory zoning and a wedge development,  
24 setting the stage for those to come in and profit  
25 off of Harlem and gentrify Harlem, and so they

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2 were hoping that they can get a written commitment  
3 now on economic development and commitment to the  
4 people of Harlem, and not have to wait later after  
5 bids are out and fight with developers to have  
6 that done. So we were hoping that that would be  
7 held up now, and then we can go forth later when  
8 that commitment is written in now, and not later.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you  
10 very much. Seeing no others, we'll now move on to  
11 reports of standing committees.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the  
13 Committee on Finance, pre-considered resolution  
14 1570 and 1571, proportion of each class of real  
15 property for fiscal 2013.

16 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
17 orders.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Pre-considered  
19 resolution 1572, amounts necessary for the support  
20 of the government of the City of New York.

21 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
22 orders.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Pre-considered reso  
24 1573, organizations to receive funding in the  
25 expense budget.

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
3 orders.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Pre-considered M941  
5 and resolution 1585, proposed fiscal year 2013  
6 appropriation changes.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
8 orders.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Pre-considered LU  
10 724 and reso 1577, Creston Avenue Apartments,  
11 Bronx.

12

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
13 orders.

14

COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the  
15 Committee on Land Use, LU 708, unenclosed sidewalk  
16 café, Manhattan.

17

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and re-  
18 referred to the Subcommittee on Zoning and  
19 Franchises.

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COUNCIL CLERK: LU 710 and LU 711,  
21 special West Chelsea District.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Approved with  
23 modifications and referred to the City Planning  
24 Commission pursuant to the rule 11.70B of the  
25 rules of the Council and section 197D of the New

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York City Charter.

COUNCIL CLERK: LU 715 and LU 716  
on page three, West Harlem rezoning.

SPEAKER QUINN: Approved with  
modifications and referred to City Planning  
Commission pursuant to the rule 11.70B of the  
rules of the Council and section 197D of the New  
York City Charter.

COUNCIL CLERK: LU 721 and  
resolution 1578, disposition of two city-owned  
properties in Manhattan.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
orders.

COUNCIL CLERK: LU 722 and  
resolution 1579, zoning resolution, Manhattan.

SPEAKER QUINN: Motion to file  
pursuant to a letter of withdrawal.

COUNCIL CLERK: LU 723 and  
resolution 1580, unenclosed sidewalk café, Queens.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
orders.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: General  
order calendar.

COUNCIL CLERK: LU 710 and reso



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1581 and LU 711 and reso 1582, special West Chelsea district.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

COUNCIL CLERK: LU 715 and resolution 1583, and LU 716 and resolution 1584, West Harlem rezoning.

SPEAKER QUINN: I'm sorry, hang on one second. Can you just confer with Gary Altman for a second? I think we misread something, I'll need to go back and re-read it for the record. Let's just do it all again, the second time is the charm.

COUNCIL CLERK: LU 721 and resolution 1578, and LU 722 and reso 1589 (sic), zoning resolutions.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

COUNCIL CLERK: LU 723 and reso 1580, unenclosed sidewalk café, Queens.

SPEAKER QUINN: Motion to file pursuant to a letter of withdrawal.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: General order calendar.

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COUNCIL CLERK: LU 710 and reso 1581, LU 711 and reso 1582, special West Chelsea district.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

COUNCIL CLERK: LU 715 and reso 1583, and LU 716 and reso 1584, West Harlem rezoning.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

COUNCIL CLERK: Resolution appointing various persons commissioner of deeds.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders and at this time I'd like to ask for a roll call on all items that are coupled on the general order calendar, please.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL CLERK: Arroyo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: May I be excused to explain my vote?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I forgot to

1  
2 mention one thing. In order to maintain domestic  
3 tranquility in my home, this is my 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
4 with my lovely wife Inez. So I just wanted to be  
5 on the record, and this ... what do you mean, God  
6 bless her, Chuck? You think you all have it bad.  
7 I love you, Inez. To stay in character, I vote no  
8 on LU 716, no on LU 710, no on LU 711, and no on  
9 LU 715, and aye on all the rest.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Brewer.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Nelson.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: I vote aye.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Cabrera.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Chin.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Comrie.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE, JR.: Aye.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Crowley.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Yes.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Dickens.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Dilan.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Dromm.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Eugene.

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COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Ferreras.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Fidler.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Foster.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye. And

12

I'd like to disclose that Christ Church, my father

13

is the senior pastor, the Rev. Wendell Foster.

14

Thank you.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Garodnick.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Gennaro.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Yes.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Gentile.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye on

21

all.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Gonzalez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Greenfield.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Halloran.

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN III:

Permission to explain my vote?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN III: First

I just want to thank the Speaker, she was instrumental in prodding Con Edison and the Parks Department along in the districts that were in the B zones, and I know she worked tirelessly and her staff did an incredible job, they were up 24/7, received phone calls 24/7, and handled them perfectly, and I thank her for her leadership. I'm going to vote to abstain on resolutions 1570, 1571, 1572 in deference to our Minority Leader who is not here to vote no on those items for us, and so I just want to thank the rest of this body, I know everyone has chipped in and helped, but especially I'd like to salute my colleague, Eric Ulrich, who did an incredible job in a district that was devastated by this hurricane. His leadership was exemplary and it showed exactly why his constituents overwhelmingly re-elected him to the role that he serves in now. Thank you.

COUNCIL CLERK: Ignizio. Jackson.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: James.

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Koo.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Lander.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Lappin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Levin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

Mealy.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Recchia.

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA, JR.: Aye

on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Reyna. Rodriguez.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Sanders. Ulrich.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Thank you,

I'm going to abstain on pre-considered reso 1570,

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1571 and 1572, and aye on all others.

COUNCIL CLERK: Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Vallone.

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE, JR.: I  
also abstain on pre-considered resos 1570, 1571  
and 1572 and aye on the rest.

COUNCIL CLERK: Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Vann.

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Weprin.

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Williams.

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

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank  
you. First, happy Obama Tuesday to everyone, and  
second I want to thank the Speaker and the staff  
et al, too many to mention, for the constant flow  
of information to us, and although thankfully my  
district was not hit as hard as others, in my  
effort to try to help other people, it's very

1  
2 beneficial to have the calls and the flow of  
3 information, and although I don't want to mention  
4 the staff because I'll forget someone, I do want  
5 to mention Ramon Martinez, who was the person I  
6 reached out to the most, and even though he has a  
7 long sigh at the other end sometimes, he always  
8 picks up to get me the information that I need,  
9 and my prayers for the colleagues in the districts  
10 that they're in, I vote aye on all, and I also  
11 want to say thank you to Council Member Barron,  
12 Chin, Levin and Comrie for bringing up an issue  
13 and dealing with an issue that when it came to the  
14 African burial ground, I was very disappointed and  
15 felt disrespected that the city would come and  
16 speak about its historical perspective,  
17 particularly 22 Reade Street, and not even mention  
18 the fact that it abutted the African burial  
19 ground, nor that it was under consideration for a  
20 national landmark. I felt as if they were  
21 completely ignoring me and the history that I  
22 have, and I represent a district where the names  
23 of the streets are after people who owned people  
24 who looked like me. Very often in my public  
25 school education there were things missing from



1  
2 that, I feel we have to make sure this stuff is  
3 honored and put out in front, and I'm happy to  
4 also co-sponsor legislation with Jimmy Van Bramer  
5 to put markers near Wall Street where they had  
6 open-air slave markets. This is a history that  
7 for some reason people are trying to get pushed  
8 aside, and when it's brought up, people try to  
9 tell us to please forget. So I'm proud to be a  
10 Council Member here today and I'm proud that we  
11 have done the right thing. So thank you.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Wills

13 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Aye.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Reyna.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Rivera.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

19 SPEAKER QUINN: I vote aye.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All items  
21 on today's general order calendar were adopted by  
22 a vote of 42 in the affirmative, with zero in the  
23 negative and zero abstentions, with the exception  
24 of pre-considered resolutions 1570, 1571 and 1572,  
25 which were adopted by a vote of 39 in the

1  
2 affirmative, with zero in the negative and three  
3 abstentions, and Land Use items 710, 711, 715 and  
4 716, and the companion resolutions, which were  
5 adopted by a vote of 41 in the affirmative, six in  
6 the negative and ... zero in the negative and zero  
7 abstentions. We now move on to introduction and  
8 reading of the bills.

9                   SPEAKER QUINN: All bills are  
10 referred to committees as indicated on the agenda.

11                   COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Hold on one  
12 second, please. We have to recalculate the votes.  
13 Okay, the revised Land Use bills were adopted by a  
14 vote of, Land Use item 710, 711, 715 and 716 and  
15 the companion resolutions were adopted by a vote  
16 of 41 in the affirmative with one in the negative  
17 and no abstentions. We now go to introduction and  
18 reading of the bills.

19                   SPEAKER QUINN: All bills are  
20 referred to committees as indicated on the agenda.

21                   COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All right,  
22 discussion of resolutions, there are no  
23 resolutions, so we now move on to general  
24 discussion. We have Council Member Brewer is  
25 first, followed by Council Member Jackson.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I just want  
3 to echo the thanks, as a district that did not  
4 have the same hurricane impact, my constituents,  
5 as the Speaker indicated, have been unbelievably  
6 generous, and I want to thank them and all the  
7 other New Yorkers who have volunteered either  
8 supplies, money or their own time. It really is  
9 very heartwarming and makes you proud to be a New  
10 Yorker. I think Sarah Jessica Parker said that,  
11 proud to be a New Yorker, we all are, and I just  
12 want to thank from the bottom of my heart every  
13 single person. Also I want to thank the staff of  
14 the City Council has been phenomenal, and the  
15 Speaker mentioned colleagues, but they've done  
16 something else, colleagues, they have told us  
17 where to bring the supplies, where to bring the  
18 volunteers, and they have been very specific. So  
19 there's another relationship that has developed,  
20 which is the issue of working together just on the  
21 truck deliveries and the incredible warmth and  
22 hospitality that has ensured. Second, I want to  
23 mention on the issue of elections, I think some of  
24 you have had questions, I certainly have. So we  
25 are having a hearing that is in Governmental

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2 Operations and it may be other committees,  
3 December 5<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m. in this hall, and second,  
4 we're going to work with colleagues on a  
5 conference call tomorrow, details will be coming  
6 to your office. Please give us your input. Thank  
7 you very much.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you,  
9 next we move on to Council Member Jackson,  
10 followed by Council Member Williams.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Well,  
12 thank you, Majority Leader. My colleagues, I rise  
13 right now in order to say thank you, thank you to  
14 everyone and all New Yorkers and many people from  
15 around the country and world that have contributed  
16 to the relief effort of the people in New York  
17 City. My district that I represent in northern  
18 Manhattan was not devastated like other  
19 communities in lower Manhattan, in Brooklyn, in  
20 Queens and on Staten Island. So what I did with  
21 some of my staff, is we have gone out to Staten  
22 Island to work in the relief effort, out to Far  
23 Rockaway and lower Manhattan, when people were  
24 waiting for FEMA to arrive with food and water, to  
25 try to do anything we can to be helpful. But the

1  
2 struggle continues every single day, and the  
3 relief efforts are not over. So, you know, we  
4 need to think about what we can do to help those  
5 that are in need. But also I rise today to say  
6 that I got a call from my daughter two days ago,  
7 she went into labor and she delivered a healthy  
8 grandson for me. So, and he was born on Veterans'  
9 Day at 8:37, and they didn't have a name, so we  
10 were calling him Baby Boy Owens, but now they've  
11 decided on the name and the name is Amir Lee  
12 Owens. So congratulations to my family and  
13 everyone, and hey, life goes on and is continuous.  
14 Thank you very much.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you,  
16 next we have Council Member Williams, followed by  
17 Council Member Garodnick.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank  
19 you, once again, when it comes to Hurricane Sandy  
20 obviously we all know what happened, and I hope, I  
21 think I give the Mayor some credit for the initial  
22 prep and the initial response. Obviously I  
23 believe we were woefully unprepared for anything  
24 after that, and I hope there's a huge lesson  
25 that's learned. And I also want to thank all the

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2 uniformed workers, Sanitation, Police, EMT and  
3 Fire, for their responses in my district and  
4 throughout the city, particularly my commanding  
5 officers, Rodriguez, Fitzgibbon, Lehr and Raul,  
6 who all stayed in constant contact with me,  
7 letting me know what was going on in the district,  
8 seeing how we could make sure the district stays  
9 safe. And I also want to thank Occupy Sandy,  
10 although Mayor Bloomberg hasn't yet, they have had  
11 a phenomenal, phenomenal system of volunteers and  
12 supply stream that have helped out throughout the  
13 city, so thank you for that. I do want to call  
14 attention to Intro 966, in times otherwise that  
15 are not the storm, we often have flooding in the  
16 areas after smaller storms that I believe would be  
17 eliminated if we can get the catch basins better  
18 cleaned, and this bill just asks for the filing of  
19 a semi-annual report on catch basin cleanup and  
20 maintenance. It's hard to find out when they were  
21 done, sometimes it takes years to get to one, we  
22 should have some better information so we can get  
23 to the ones that are clogged before they fill up  
24 and flood our streets. Thank you very much.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you

1  
2 very much. Next we have Council Member Garodnick,  
3 followed by Council Member Rose.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Thank  
5 you very much. Today I'm introducing two bills  
6 that will help to bring the public into the  
7 legislative and rule-making processes, and another  
8 that would allow businesses to more expediently  
9 address 311 complaints that are made against them.  
10 Each bill would also advance the city's use of  
11 available technology. Intro 953 would require  
12 DOITT to allow business owners to opt into  
13 receiving 311 complaint notifications that are  
14 made about those very businesses. Most businesses  
15 want to do the right thing, and they want to know  
16 when they have done something wrong. So let us  
17 give them a chance to know what the complaints  
18 are, delivered to them anonymously so that they  
19 can avoid problems and avoid a fine. Intro 952  
20 addresses another important issue, rather than new  
21 laws and rules acting as a gotcha mechanism to  
22 extract fines from unsuspecting businesses, why  
23 not allow them, or any member of the public, to be  
24 better informed about rule changes so that they  
25 may stay in compliance and avoid unnecessary

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2 fines? We have to face the fact that nobody  
3 really reads the City Record. DOITT would create  
4 notification alerts when, for example, legislation  
5 is introduced, scheduled for a hearing or signed  
6 into law, or a new rule is introduced or passed.  
7 This alert system would be similar to the  
8 notifications that New Yorkers currently receive  
9 regarding train and bus service changes, emergency  
10 parking suspensions or storm warnings. Intros 952  
11 and 953 are two commonsense business-friendly  
12 bills, I certainly encourage my colleagues to sign  
13 on. I believe Council Member Wills is the number  
14 two and I know this is something that Council  
15 Member Greenfield believes is the strongest-  
16 possible commonsense ... if he ... oh, all right, he's  
17 going to be number three, thank you very much.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you  
19 very much. Next we have Council Member Rose,  
20 followed by Council Member Cabrera.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Thank you. I  
22 want to thank the Speaker and my City Council  
23 colleagues for your overwhelming response to the  
24 tragedies that Staten Island suffered during  
25 Hurricane Sandy. Your response was not only



1  
2 heartfelt, it was immediate and it was what we  
3 needed. I want to thank you for being there at a  
4 time that was very emotional for my constituents,  
5 and for a while we weren't quite sure if help was  
6 on the way. But the City Council made sure that  
7 that happened and that we got what we needed. And  
8 so I just want to say, you know, a heartfelt thank  
9 you on behalf of not only me and my district, but  
10 my colleagues, Vinny and Jimmy, who are still at  
11 ground zero, trying to make a difference for  
12 people who are trying to put their lives back  
13 together, and I'd really like for us to think  
14 about, before we totally rebuild, that we think  
15 about how we're going to protect New York City and  
16 the boroughs from a similar incident recurring.  
17 Thank you.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you  
19 very much. Next we have Council Member Cabrera,  
20 followed by Council Member Levin.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Thank you  
22 so much. I want to take a moment to publicly  
23 thank Madam Speaker and Ramon for opening the  
24 doors, working with the Mayor's Office and EDC,  
25 the Kingsbridge Armory, where we have faith-based

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2 organizations and churches to be able to have a  
3 staging area, and so far we have had over 100  
4 tons-worth of supplies that have come through the  
5 Kingsbridge Armory, helping those who were most  
6 affected, and we have food, water, bleach and  
7 batteries, and everything you can think of go  
8 through there. And I also want to thank the  
9 Police Department for the fabulous job that they  
10 did at the gas stations. They had a very  
11 difficult job to do, and they did it so well.  
12 Thank you so much.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you.  
14 Next we have Council Member Levin, followed by  
15 Council Member James.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you,  
17 Mr. Majority Leader. I want to acknowledge Madam  
18 Speaker and her staff for being just incredible in  
19 the response to this storm and being there, being  
20 communicative to the members, making sure that we  
21 all knew what was going on, and for being so  
22 hardworking, Howard Pollack, Edgar Moya, Walter,  
23 Ramon and Chuck have been absolutely incredible.  
24 And I just want to get the message to those that  
25 are in the affected areas and that are still in

1  
2 need of food and supplies and water and clothing,  
3 that this entire city is with them 100% and that  
4 we're in it for the long haul, and on behalf of  
5 the people that live in the 33<sup>rd</sup> district, we are  
6 at your service, and do not hesitate to call us,  
7 we will be able with you rebuilding and helping to  
8 get you back on your feet, and our thoughts and  
9 prayers are with all of you. Thank you.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you  
11 very much. We next have Council Member James.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Thank you.  
13 She was about 10, and all she wanted was a pink  
14 coat. You see, all of her clothes and personal  
15 belongings washed away in the storm, and when she  
16 and I, laughing and digging through a mountain of  
17 donated in clothes in a church in the Rockaways  
18 found a pink coat, her eyes lit up. And then  
19 there was the woman in Coney Island, her accent  
20 was heavy. I believe she was from Russia. You  
21 see, she grew up near the ocean and when she  
22 immigrated to this country she wanted to live by  
23 the sea. But two weeks ago the ocean turned on  
24 her and her life turned upside down, and so this  
25 past weekend all she wanted was a plate of food.

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2 And then there was the young black guy who walked  
3 into the church, and he just said he wanted to  
4 look around. But something told me he wanted  
5 more, and as we talked about hip hop and Jay Z, he  
6 confided in me he just wanted some gloves because  
7 his hands were cold. You see, my colleagues, at  
8 the end of the day we're all just one big city and  
9 we all need one another, and this tragedy,  
10 unfortunately, in my ... based upon what I have  
11 seen, really brings out the best in all of us, and  
12 I just really want to thank the Speaker and the  
13 staff for their leadership. It really moved me.  
14 Every weekend the buses were packed from people to  
15 Wall Street to no street, individuals who just  
16 wanted to lend a hand, from the Rockaways to  
17 Staten Island to Seagate to Coney Island, no one  
18 really cared about your station in life. We were  
19 all just one New York City. Thank you, Madam  
20 Speaker.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you  
22 very much. Seeing no others, I want to thank all  
23 my colleagues for working hard in the aftermath of  
24 Hurricane Sandy, I want to thank the Speaker and  
25 her team for their hard work, and this meeting is

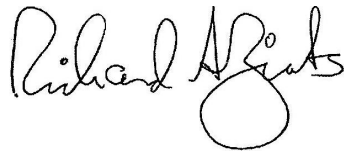
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now adjourned.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Richard A. Ziats, certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.



Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date November 20, 2012