

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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September 30, 2009

Start: 1:30 pm

Recess: xx:xx am

HELD AT: Council Chambers
City Hall

B E F O R E:
JOEL RIVERA
The President Pro Tempore

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Maria del Carmen Arroyo
Tony Avella
Charles Barron
Gale A. Brewer
Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.
Bill De Blasio
Inez E. Dickens
Erik Martin Dilan
Mathieu Eugene
Simcha Felder
Julissa Ferreras
Lewis A. Fidler
Helen D. Foster
Daniel R. Garodnick
James F. Gennaro
Vincent J. Gentile
Alan J. Gerson
Eric N. Gioia

A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Sara M. Gonzalez
Vincent Ignizio
Robert Jackson
Letitia James
G. Oliver Koppell
Jessica S. Lappin
John C. Liu
Melissa Mark- Viverito
Darlene Mealy
Rosie Mendez
Kenneth Mitchell
Michael C. Nelson
James S. Oddo
Annabel Palma
Speaker Christine C. Quinn
Domenic M. Recchia, Jr.
Diana Reyna
James Sanders, Jr.
Larry B. Seabrook
Helen Sears
Kendall Stewart
Eric Ulrich
James Vacca
Peter F. Vallone, Jr.
Albert Vann
David I. Weprin
David Yassky

A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

Christine C. Quinn
Introducing Carol Enseki
Speaker
New York City Council

Domenic M. Recchia, Jr.
Introducing Carol Enseki
Chair
Committee on Cultural Affairs, Libraries and
International Intergroup Relations
New York City Council

Albert Vann
Introducing Carol Enseki
New York City Council Member

Committee Clerk
Reading Proclamation regarding Carol Enseki

Thank you from Carol Enseki:

Christine C. Quinn
Speaker
New York City Council

Erik Martin Dilan
New York City Council Member

Albert Vann
New York City Council Member

Letitia James
New York City Council Member

Domenic M. Recchia, Jr.
New York City Council Member

Brooklyn Delegation of New York City Council

Jeff Rodus
Finance Department
New York City Council

A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

Paul Ganzee
Board of Trustees
Brooklyn Children's Museum

Margaret Walton
Board of Trustees
Brooklyn Children's Museum

Georgina Ngozi
President
Brooklyn Children's Museum

Erik Martin Dilan
Introducing New York Legal Assistance Group

Committee Clerk
Reading Proclamation regarding New York Legal
Assistance Group

Christine C. Quinn
Speaking on New York Legal Assistance Group

Acknowledging:
Camilla Shading
Former Counsel
Working for New York Legal Assistance Group

Elise
New York Legal Assistance Group

Thank you:

New York City Council and its members

Julissa Ferreras
Introducing Flushing Meadows Soapbox Derby

Introductions:

Jeff Aubrey
Assembly Member

A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

Jarrett Curvette
Flushing Meadows Soapbox Derby Winner

Committee Clerk
Reading Proclamation regarding Flushing Meadows
Soapbox Derby

Mr. Henry
Executive Director
Flushing Meadows Soapbox Derby

Thank you:

New York City Council

Volunteers
Flushing Meadows Soapbox Derby

Greg Coles
The Children's Place
Flushing Meadows Soapbox Derby

Mr. Dixon
District Leader

Jeff Aubrey
Assemblyman

Claudette Henry
Flushing Meadows Soapbox Derby

Ms. Dees
Flushing Meadows Soapbox Derby

Ms. Hooks
Assistant Director
Flushing Meadows Soapbox Derby

Mike Vincentia
Parent
Flushing Meadows Soapbox Derby

A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

Theo Perverde
Parent
Flushing Meadows Soapbox Derby

Zachary Lynch
Participant
Flushing Meadows Soapbox Derby

Gerard Perverde
Participant
Flushing Meadows Soapbox Derby

Leah Grey
Participant
Flushing Meadows Soapbox Derby

Jeff Aubrey
Speaking on Flushing Meadows Soapbox Derby
Assembly Member

Speaker Quinn thanks:

Inez Dickens
Majority Whip
Chair, Ethics Committee
Ethics Training

General Counsel's Office
Ethics Training

Speaker Quinn
Introducing Corporal Nicholas Bonavita
US Army 436th Movement Control Battalion
Fort Wadsworth
Staten Island

Reverend Patrick Henry Young
Invocation
First Baptist Church

A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

Speaker Quinn
Speaking concerning Intro 951-A

Thank you:

Vincent Ignizio
New York City Council Member

Robert Jackson
New York City Council Member

Terza Nazza
Council Staff

Asia Chambourg
Council Staff

Jan Atwell
Council Staff

Vincent Ignizio
Speaking on Intro 951-A
New York City Council Member

Thank you:

Christine C. Quinn
Speaker
New York City Council

Robert Jackson
New York City Council Member

Daniel R. Garodnick
New York City Council Member

Robert Jackson
Speaking on Intro 951-A
Chair
Committee on Education

A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

Thank you:

Vincent Ignizio
New York City Council Member

Council Staff

Mayor's Office

Christine C. Quinn
Speaking concerning Intro 1042-A
Speaker
New York City Council

Thank you:

Alex Pustilnik
Council Staff

Rob Newman
Council Staff

Oona Peterson
Council Staff

Rose Previte
Council Staff

Gale A. Brewer
New York City Council Member

Bloomberg Administration

Peter M. Vallone, Jr.
New York City Council Member

Peter M. Vallone, Jr.
Speaking on Intro 1042-A
Chairperson
Committee on Public Safety

A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

Thank you:

Gale A. Brewer
New York City Council Member

Christine C. Quinn
Speaker
New York City Council

Gale A. Brewer
Sponsor of Intro 1042-A
New York City Council Member

Thank you:

Peter M. Vallone, Jr.
New York City Council Member

Christine C. Quinn
New York City Council

Christine C. Quinn
Speaking on Sunset Park Rezoning
Speaker
New York City Council

Thank you:

Gail Benjamin
Council Staff

Amy Levitan
Council Staff

Sara M. Gonzales and her staff
New York City Council Member

Sara M. Gonzalez
Sponsor, Sunset Park Rezoning
New York City Council Member

A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

Thank you:

Tony Avella
New York City Council Member

Melinda R. Katz
New York City Council Member

Gail Benjamin
Land Use Counsel

Amy Levitan
Land Use Staff

Amanda M. Burden
Commissioner
Department of City Planning

Ms. Kapoor
Borough Commissioner
Department of City Planning

Staff of City Planning

Commissioner Osterio
Department of Housing Preservation and Development

Staff
Department of Housing Preservation and Development

Community Board 7

Randy Pierce
President
Community Board 7

Ginny and Tom Murphy
Residents
Sunset Park

A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

Christine C. Quinn
Congratulations
Bill de Blasio on nomination to Public Advocacy
position
John C. Liu on nomination to the Office of the
Comptroller

Kendall Stewart
Speaking on Resolution 2172
New York City Council Member

Thank you:

Christine C. Quinn
Speaker
New York City Council

Julene Beckford
Council Staff

Israel Rodriguez
Council Staff

Damien Butvick
Council Staff

Eric Botcha
Council Staff

Vincent J. Gentile
Speaking on Introduction 1087
New York City Council Member

Inez E Dickens
Speaking on COIB Training
New York City Council Member

Thank you:

Speaker's Office

A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

Liz Fine
Speaker's Office

Jim Carris
Speaker's Office

Introducing:

Nadir Joshua
Counsel
Committee on Standards and Ethics

Letitia James
Speaking in support of ACORN
New York City Council Member

Gale A. Brewer
Speaking Earned Paid Sick Leave Bill
New York City Council Member

Introducing:

Emily Allen
Intern
Public Service Scholar
Hunter College

Shawn De Sharma
Intern
New York University

Benjamin Solitaire
Intern

Melissa Mark-Viverito
Sponsor, Intro 1089
New York City Council Member

Vincent J. Gentile
Sponsor, Intro 1087
New York City Council Member

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SPEAKER QUINN: All right. We're going to start our ceremonials. And we have three and a half today, we'll figure that out later and first I want to call up Council Members Recchia, Vann, Dilan, James, and Carol Enseki, please. Carol? Oh she's coming, okay. All right, while Carol and the team from the Brooklyn Children's Museum makes their way up, we are here today to thank Carol so much for her service to the Brooklyn Children's Museum.

[Applause]

SPEAKER QUINN: She has been at the museum since 1989. How long have you been President?

MS. CAROL ENSEKI: 12 years.

SPEAKER QUINN: President for 12 years. And I think as many of us know the Brooklyn Children's Museum recently launched its new home which is bright yellow but a totally green building and a really wonderful experience for children when you go in there. When I went to the ribbon cutting Carolyn and the others thought it was a good idea for me, Domenic and the Mayor to hold a big snake. But when you go into the

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2 museum, I mention that, because it's an incredibly
3 hand's on experience for children and they get to
4 learn so much. So Carol, your museum is a big
5 part of the Council Family. You're a big part of
6 the Council family. So we just wanted to thank
7 you for doing such a great job to seeing the
8 project through to the end and for bringing such a
9 wonderful new home for such a terrific cultural
10 institution in our City and Brooklyn. So thank
11 you very much.

12

Let me call on our Cultural Czar,
13 Domenic M. Recchia, Jr. to see if he has anything
14 to add which he rarely does on the subject of
15 Brooklyn or museum, but maybe this time.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Thank you
17 Speaker Quinn. And Carol I just want you to know
18 it's been a pleasure working with you for the
19 children, not only of Brooklyn, but for the entire
20 City. Your dream came true. The expansion
21 happened. And it's because of the hard work that
22 you have done. I want to thank all my colleagues
23 in the Brooklyn Delegation, especially your
24 Councilman Al Vann.

25

[Cheering, applause]

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Who's an
3 outstanding Council Member and as Chairman of the
4 Cultural Affairs Committee I say you will be
5 missed. I will miss seeing you come up asking for
6 money because you never stop.

7 [Audience laughter]

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: But I just
9 wanted you to know that you were very, very
10 effective. You have a heart for children but you
11 always kept your eye on the bigger picture in
12 getting that building done. And I know the future
13 has a lot of in store for you, enjoy it, whatever
14 you have planned to do, but I want you to know our
15 doors are always open, come on back because you
16 will be missed. And I will personally miss you.
17 God bless you.

18 [Applause]

19 SPEAKER QUINN: Al?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Thank you
21 Madam Speaker. I would only ditto what our Czar
22 has said. Under your watch the museum has grown,
23 a very great museum became even greater. You've
24 expanded the capital program is fantastic. So as
25 much as we appreciate it, locally, we know that

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2 people from all over the world, actually, come in
3 specifically to our museum in Crown Heights. So
4 on behalf of myself, personally, and on behalf of
5 the people we represent in the 36th thank you for
6 your service. Thank you for your professionalism.
7 Thank you for your caring for the children. Thank
8 you.

9 [Applause]

10 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you Al and
11 thank you Ramon and Jeff, here is Carol's
12 proclamation. And before we hear from Carol if I
13 could, while we take some photos, ask the Clerk to
14 please read the proclamation.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council, City of
16 New York, Proclamation.

17 Whereas, the Council of the City of
18 New York is very proud to pay tribute to an
19 individual who has devoted more than 20 years--

20 SPEAKER QUINN: [Interposing] Could
21 we just get a little quiet please.

22 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Sit down please.
23 Sit down.

24 [Gavel banging]

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Extraordinary

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2 potential in children throughout the City, Carol
3 Enseki, and

4 Whereas, Carol Enseki joined the
5 Brooklyn Children's Museum in 1989 and has served
6 as its distinguished President since 1997, during
7 this tenure she spearheaded the museum's efforts
8 to increase educational opportunities for urban
9 children through interactive science and cultural
10 exhibitions and programs, innovative use of
11 collections and strategic collaborations with both
12 local community organizations and national
13 partners.

14 Under her direction the museum has
15 promoted family involvement in learning, provided
16 science and cultural educational opportunities,
17 and fostered greater out of school learning
18 opportunities for youth. And,

19 Whereas, Ms. Enseki's commitment to
20 increasing opportunities for youth in under-served
21 communities has led to the expansion of the museum
22 team, Brooklyn Children's Museum's free after
23 school education and leadership program for young
24 people in the communities of central Brooklyn.
25 This program now regarded as a national model and

1
2 has been recognized with many awards including the
3 Coming Up Taller Award from the President's
4 Committee on the Arts and Humanities; National
5 Award for Museum Service from the Institute of
6 Museum and Library Services; and the Award for
7 Excellence in Programming from the American
8 Association of Museums, and

9 Whereas, under Ms. Enseki's
10 leadership Brooklyn Children's Museum launched a
11 capital campaign in 1999 which generated more than
12 \$79 million in public and private funds to support
13 a major expansion of the institution's facility,
14 programs and endowment. When the Brooklyn
15 Children's Museum reopened in 2008 it debuted new
16 exhibitions, expanded programs and visitor
17 amenities and became New York City's first
18 certified green museum. And

19 Whereas upon Ms. Enseki's
20 department from the Brooklyn Children's Museum,
21 she can be proud of the legacy of service she has
22 provided.

23 Now therefore be it known that the
24 Council of the City of New York's entire Brooklyn
25 Delegation most gratefully honors Carol Enseki for

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2 her outstanding contributions to the Brooklyn
3 Children's Museum and all of New York City.

4 Christine C. Quinn, Speaker for
5 the entire Council, Domenic M. Recchia, Jr.,
6 Chair, Cultural Committee; Council Member 47th
7 District Brooklyn, Albert Vann; Council Member 36th
8 District Brooklyn, Erik Martin Dilan; Brooklyn
9 Delegation Co-Chair, Council Member 37th District
10 Brooklyn; Letitia James, Brooklyn Delegation Co-
11 Chair, Council Member 35th District Brooklyn.

12 SPEAKER QUINN: Yeah. And now from
13 the woman of the hour, Carol.

14 [Applause]

15 MS. CAROL ENSEKI: Thank you so
16 much. Whenever I go into the museum now I'm so
17 proud of the building itself but I think what I
18 realize is that it's just a home for children in
19 Brooklyn and New York City. So I think what we're
20 thrilled about and I'm recall proud of having been
21 part of is making a new home for the next
22 generation of children who will have a chance to
23 really benefit from the support that we've
24 received from all of you here in the Council.
25 Thank you Speaker Quinn, also our Brooklyn

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2 Delegation and with its leadership with Council
3 Member Dilan and Council Member James. And
4 Council Member Vann who is our own Council Member
5 in the neighborhood, and also I wanted to
6 recognize our Cultural Czar--

7 [Cheering, applause]

8 MS. ENSEKI: --as we all call him,
9 Council Member Recchia. And also really the
10 entire Brooklyn Delegation. You have given us so
11 much support for the cultural work that we do, the
12 science education work, the youth development
13 work, and also the arts and cultural work. And
14 personally I'm particularly proud that when you go
15 into the museum today you see children and
16 families from every walk of life, every
17 neighborhood and I think that, for us, is quite an
18 achievement, where children are learning about
19 each other's cultures, communities and I think
20 we'll be more comfortable in contributing to the
21 cohesiveness of the City going forward. So that I
22 think is really a gift that we're giving to
23 children.

24 I'd also just like to acknowledge
25 Jeff Rodus--

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[Cheering]

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MS. ENSEKI: --who has been--and

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the Finance Department of the Council who has been

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a partner in making this happen because it's quite

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challenging to work with all the agencies. But it

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has been a team process with our trustees, Paul

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Ganze [phonetic] is here to represent our Board

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of Trustees and Margaret Walton as well. And I

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wanted to just say that it's very hard to leave

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such an incredible place after 20 years but with

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our new President and CEO who's stepping in,

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Georgina Ngozi, that I feel very comfortable that

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the museum will be left in terrific hands. And it

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may be the smoothest transition of executive

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leadership on history for the City of New York and

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beyond. So I would just love to introduce, you

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know, also Georgina Ngozi. But thank you all and-

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[Cheering, applause]

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MS. ENSEKI: Our success is the

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result of your support and generosity. Thank you.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Right, and they'll

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still be asking Domenic, don't worry about it.

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Best of luck all; take care, best of luck. She's

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2 been trained well. All right. Well we'd expect
3 no less from Carol.

4 [Off mic]

5 SPEAKER QUINN: Carol says she'll
6 be back. Okay. thank you very much and
7 congratulations, best of luck to the Brooklyn
8 Children's Museum and the--oh yeah, and the next
9 ceremonial is from the Brooklyn Delegation Co-
10 Chair Erik Dilan. And Eric is recognizing the
11 work of the New York Legal Assistance Group so if
12 the folks from NYLAG who are here could make their
13 way up that would be terrific.

14 Brooklyn Children's Museum move it
15 on out, quick, go my way. Move it, move it.

16 Well let me, before I turn the mic
17 over to Council Member Dilan, I just wanted to
18 take a second to thank you and everyone from NYLAG
19 who is here. You all do tremendous work in the
20 City of New York on behalf of those who often have
21 no resources to find this type of assistance and
22 representation on their own. You are somebody who
23 I am sure you are well aware, gets referred to
24 often by the City Council and are a part of our
25 reference and resource manual. So thank you and

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2 your staff for helping us help New Yorkers every
3 day.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: And just
5 briefly I want to thank the people of NYLAG who
6 provide a tremendous amount of support for tenants
7 who need legal assistance in Housing Court, for
8 the many sites that they have throughout the City
9 of New York, for the legal services that they
10 provide for the many immigrants that are in need
11 of legal services especially in this time, in the
12 Country's history. A lot of the work that you've
13 done have helped ease the deportation or in some
14 cases prevented deportations. And without a group
15 like yours there would be a lot of displaced
16 families. So we really just want to publicly
17 thank you all for your work. And I do have to say
18 for the record that the former Counsel to the
19 Housing and Buildings Committee is now there at
20 NYLAG--

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[Off mic]

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COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: --yeah. I
want to give a special shout out to Camilla Shadig
[phonetic].

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SPEAKER QUINN: Counsel alum, there

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2 we go.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Counsel alum doing good. So thank you and I just wanted to-- while, you want to give her a chance or you want--

SPEAKER QUINN: [Interposing] Well--read the proc first.

COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Oh okay.

SPEAKER QUINN: If we could have the clerk read the proclamation and then we'll hear from NYLAG. If we could get a little quiet, Jim Carris, a little quite please from the General Counsel's Office.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet.

[Gavel banging]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council, City of New York Proclamation.

Whereas, in the great mosaic of New York, more than 2.5 million Hispanics call New York City home, to help them fully and productively integrate themselves, the New York Legal Assistance Group provides free legal services to more than 5,000 Hispanic immigrants each year, and

Whereas, the New York Legal

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2 Assistance Group is collaborating with local
3 community organizations, including the Cypress
4 Hills Local Development Corporation and PS 123, to
5 expand its reach to low income Hispanics in need
6 of free legal services. The low income Hispanic
7 community is in need of legal services related to
8 immigration, public benefits assistance and
9 domestic violence, and

10 Whereas the New York Legal
11 Assistance Group is a nationally recognized
12 provider of legal services in the areas of
13 immigration law, public benefits assistance and
14 domestic violence, and

15 Whereas New York Legal Assistance
16 Group services clients from every Hispanic country
17 identified by the Pew Hispanic Center, including
18 clients from Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Chile,
19 Columbia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican
20 Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala,
21 Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay,
22 Peru, Puerto Rica, Uruguay and Venezuela,

23 Now therefore be it known, that the
24 Council of the City of New York honors the New
25 York Legal Assistance Group for its important work

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2 and we proclaim this 30th day of September in the
3 year 2009, New York Legal Assistance Group
4 Appreciate Day in the City of New York.

5 [Cheering, applause]

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Christine C.
7 Quinn, Speaker for the entire Council, Erik Martin
8 Dilan, Council Member 37th District Brooklyn; Rosie
9 Mendez, Council Member 2nd District Manhattan;
10 Melissa Mark-Viverito, Council Member 8th District
11 Manhattan; Joel Rivera Council Member 15th
12 District, the Bronx; Diana Reyna, Council Member
13 34th District Brooklyn and Queens; Sara M.
14 Gonzalez, Council Member 38th District Brooklyn;
15 Maria del Carmen Arroyo, Council Member 17th
16 District, the Bronx; Julissa Ferreras, Council
17 Member 21st District Queens; Maria Baez, Council
18 Member 14th District the Bronx; Annabel Palma,
19 Council Member 18th District the Bronx.

20 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
21 much. And Elise, thank you for all of your work
22 and we'd love to--if you'd make a few comments.

23 ELISE: Sure. Thanks. On behalf
24 of the New York Legal Assistance Group I'd like to
25 thank City Council Members, Speaker Christine

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Quinn for the special honor during Hispanic

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Heritage Month. You know, the attorneys at NYLAG

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work tirelessly on behalf of our clients.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Can we just get a

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little quiet please?

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SERGEANT AT ARMS: Sit down please.

8

Quiet please.

9

ELISE: The attorneys at the New

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York Legal Assistance Group work tirelessly on

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behalf of our clients. We're particularly proud

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of the work that we do with immigrant New Yorkers,

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especially Latino community. We'd like to thank,

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you know, the City Council for recognizing the

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importance of free civil legal services for

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immigrants, both documented and undocumented

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immigrants in New York.

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We'd like to thank you for

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recognizing the hard work that we do and for the

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continued funding to allow us to do this great

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work. We're looking forward to making stronger

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ties with City Council 'cause the immigrants that

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we serve, you know, we know historically they're

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very--they don't access services. It's hard for

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them to know their rights. And we know when you

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2 reach out to your constituents and to your
3 communities that this is how you get the word out
4 that they have rights and can access us. Thank
5 you.

6 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you.

7 [Applause]

8 SPEAKER QUINN: And again, thank
9 you for all your service and all the referrals you
10 take from all our offices. Thank you very much.
11 Okay and our next ceremonial is right here,
12 Julissa Ferreras. So let me give--if the folks
13 from the Soapbox Derby can come on up.

14 [Pause]

15 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Hello,
16 this is the Executive Director.

17 [Off mic]

18 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: These are
19 our champions.

20 [Cheering, applause]

21 [Off mic]

22 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Well good
23 afternoon. For me it's truly an honor to be able
24 to host and to invite and acknowledge the Flushing
25 Soapbox Derby, an organization that has promoted

1
2 not only wonderful skills in engineering and
3 developing our young people but has also done a
4 great job in making sure that we have a trans-
5 generational accomplishment. So at 8:00 in the
6 morning a couple of weeks ago in the summer when
7 the parents and these young people were putting
8 together their soapboxes from scratch and racing
9 them, so that they could qualify for the Akron,
10 Ohio Championships. And they not only went to
11 Akron but they won. And they came back third
12 place and were the champions.

13 [Cheering, applause]

14 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: And I'd
15 also like to take this time to acknowledge a very
16 special guest of ours, our Assembly Member Jeff
17 Aubrey. Thank you.

18 [Cheering, applause]

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council, City of
20 New York Proclamation.

21 Whereas the Council is proud to
22 honor the Flushing Meadows Soapbox Derby, in
23 recognition of three of their racers reaching the
24 All American Soapbox Derby, and

25 Whereas since its inception in

1
2 March 1987 the Flushing Meadow Soapbox Derby has
3 fostered renewed interest in one of our nation's
4 oldest and often forgotten pastimes. On July 25th,
5 2009, one of the Flushing Meadows racers won third
6 place in the All American Soapbox Derby in Akron,
7 Ohio, and

8 Whereas the All American Soapbox
9 Derby was founded in 1934 in Ohio. Since then the
10 Derby has grown to include racers from 35 states
11 and 7 countries. The goals of the Soapbox Derby
12 program are to teach youngsters some of the basic
13 skills of workmanship, the spirit of competition,
14 and the perseverance to continue a project once it
15 has begun, and

16 Whereas it is with great pride that
17 we honor the Flushing Meadows Soapbox Derby, an
18 organization that has taught countless children
19 the values and benefits of hard work. The
20 organization's exemplary contributions to the
21 children of New York demonstrate the traits that
22 have contributed to making our great City what it
23 is today.

24 Now therefore be it known that the
25 Council of the City of New York gratefully honors

1
2 the Flushing Meadows Soapbox Derby for its
3 wonderful service and wishes it continued success.

4 Christine C. Quinn, Speaker for the
5 entire Council; Julissa Ferreras, Council Member
6 21st District Queens.

7 [Applause]

8 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: And this
9 is Jarrett Curvette [phonetic] our Champion. So
10 this is our third placer here.

11 [Applause and cheering]

12 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: I would
13 like to give an opportunity to Mr. Henry who is
14 the Executive Director of the Flushing Soapbox
15 Derby.

16 MR. HENRY: Thank you Julissa. On
17 behalf of the Flushing Meadows Soapbox Derby we
18 would like to thank the council for the
19 proclamation. We're diligently working to help
20 our young people to grow and learn. This program
21 promotes the work of parents, with children, to
22 complete a project, to work on a project and
23 complete it and carry it through to its final
24 completion.

25 I would like to thank all of the

1
2 volunteers who work with this program because it
3 couldn't be done without the volunteers that come
4 every year and support us. Greg Coles from The
5 Child's Place; Mr. Dixon from our District leader;
6 our Assemblyman Jeff Aubrey; my wife Claudette, I
7 want to recognize her, - - Dees. And Ms. Hooks
8 who's our Assistant Director.

9 I also want to say a word about our
10 young people here who have worked very hard to win
11 this event this year. They come every year. They
12 work very hard to put their cars together with the
13 support of their parents. I want to recognize
14 Mike Vincentia in the back and Theo Perverde
15 [phonetic] who is Gerard's father. And I want to
16 recognize our young people, Zachary Lynch, Gerard
17 Perverde. Leah Grey, for their--and thank them
18 for their hard work and effort and let them know
19 that small town America still exists in New York.
20 And New York still favors its communities and its
21 young people. And that's what we work to promote.
22 Thank you very much.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Thank
24 you.

25 [Applause]

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: And if we
3 can have a few words from our Assembly Member.

4 ASSEMBLY MEMBER AUBREY: Gee, it's
5 kind of different than Albany, you know?

6 [Laughter]

7 ASSEMBLY MEMBER AUBREY: It's a
8 little closer, more comfortable I think. Better
9 watch out, I might like it here.

10 [Laughter]

11 ASSEMBLY MEMBER AUBREY: We've been
12 working on soapbox derby in our community for over
13 30 years. It was started by a gentleman who
14 volunteered just like Mr. Foster and decided that
15 he wanted to do something to help young people and
16 give them a sense of accomplishment. And this has
17 continued all those years passed on, baton to
18 baton, there's always been someone, some group of
19 people who have decided that they would give of
20 their time, selflessly, without asking for
21 anything, for the sake of our children.

22 And those children have rewarded us
23 by coming back and being volunteers in the
24 program. We think it's the best vehicle that we
25 can even imagine for young people and their

1
2 parents to get together and do it. The sense of
3 competition is great but the spirit of cooperation
4 is even better. Thank you very much.

5 [Applause]

6 SPEAKER QUINN: Congratulations
7 everybody. Okay thank you. You're going to need
8 a wheelbarrow to more that out of here it's so
9 big. Congratulations. And then we have one more
10 recognition. And...

11 [Pause]

12 SPEAKER QUINN: All right so. Hang
13 on one sec; we're just waiting for the Minority
14 Leader to come in. While we're waiting for our
15 last ceremony, let me thank our Ethics Committee
16 Chair for conducting the ethics training today
17 with the General Counsel's Office. Thank you
18 Majority Whip and Chair Inez Dickens for taking
19 care of that for us. We're stalling for Jimmy
20 Oddo.

21 [Pause]

22 SPEAKER QUINN: Oh and the Chair
23 pointed out which I did not know, that we're going
24 to do the co-ed training again in six months to
25 keep us on our toes. So. And then I think Inez

1
2 will call for it again six months after that.
3 Thank you Inez. All right. So let me ask Vinnie
4 Bonavita to come around from behind the desk and
5 also Nicholas Bonavita to come up and join myself
6 and the Minority Leader. Now I think everybody in
7 this Chamber knows for a long time Vinnie Bonavita
8 and his whole family who have been true public
9 servants to this City. But we're joined today by
10 Corporal Nicholas J. Bonavita who lives in Council
11 Member Gentile's District. Vinnie if you could
12 come up and join us for a second. He is the
13 brother of our own Vinnie Bonavita of Legislative
14 Documents. And Corporal Bonavita is with the US
15 Army's 436th Movement Control Battalion from Fort
16 Wadsworth on Staten Island and is currently
17 attached to the 72nd Infantry Brigade from Houston,
18 Texas. And on Friday, the day after tomorrow,
19 Nick is deploying to Iraq for a 14 month
20 deployment. He's also celebrating his 2nd wedding
21 anniversary today. So.

22 [Applause]

23 SPEAKER QUINN: Corporal, we just
24 wanted to take a moment to thank you for your
25 service. Thank you for your commitment to this

1
2 City and this country and hope you know that every
3 time we gather in this room over the next 14
4 months in our invocation we will say a special
5 prayer for you to make sure that you come home as
6 quickly and safety to your brother and your whole
7 family, all of whom hold a very special place in
8 our hearts. So thank you very much and we wish
9 you Godspeed and all the safety in the world. And
10 I knew the Corporal wouldn't because no soldier
11 ever wants to talk, he'd just say he's doing his
12 job. But thank you. I do have--I do though ask
13 the Corporal to do one thing. You know, Vinnie
14 sometimes struggles with health issues and in my
15 opinion doesn't listen to the Speaker or Barbara
16 Skiffiti when we tell him to take care of himself.
17 So. I've told Corporal Bonavita he needs to order
18 Vinnie to do everything the doctor says. And all
19 of us in the room are going to commit to nag
20 Vinnie even more in the 14 months that the
21 Corporal is deployed. So thank you and thank you
22 very much.

23 [Pause]

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ladies and
25 gentlemen, can I have your attention please? At

1
2 this time, please place all cell phones and pagers
3 to vibrate. Will all non-Council employees and
4 lobbyists please leave the main floor of the
5 chambers? Thank you.

6 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:
7 All right. Everyone please rise for the Pledge of
8 Allegiance.

9 [Leading Pledge of Allegiance]

10 I pledge allegiance to the flag of
11 the United States of America and to the Republic
12 for which it stands, one nation under God, with
13 liberty and justice for all.

14 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:
15 Roll call.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Arroyo.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Here.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Avella.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER AVELLA: Here.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Baez.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BAEZ: Here.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.

1

COMMITTEE CLERK: Comrie.

2

3

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Here.

4

COMMITTEE CLERK: Crowley.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: [No

6

audible response]

7

COMMITTEE CLERK: de Blasio.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER de BLASIO: [No

9

audible response]

10

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dickens.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Here.

12

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dilan.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: [No audible

14

response]

15

COMMITTEE CLERK: Eugene.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.

17

COMMITTEE CLERK: Felder.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Here.

19

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ferreras.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Here.

21

COMMITTEE CLERK: Fidler.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Here.

23

COMMITTEE CLERK: Foster.

24

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Here.

25

COMMITTEE CLERK: Garodnick.

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.
3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gennaro.
4 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here.
5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gentile.
6 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.
7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gerson.
8 COUNCIL MEMBER GERSON: Here.
9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gioia.
10 COUNCIL MEMBER GIOIA: Here.
11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gonzalez.
12 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Here.
13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ignizio.
14 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Here.
15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Jackson.
16 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Here.
17 COMMITTEE CLERK: James.
18 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Here.
19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Katz.
20 COUNCIL MEMBER KATZ: [No audible
21 response]
22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Koppell.
23 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Here.
24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lappin.
25 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Here.

1

COMMITTEE CLERK: Liu.

2

3

COUNCIL MEMBER LIU: Here.

4

COMMITTEE CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:

6

Here.

7

COMMITTEE CLERK: Mealy.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: [No audible

9

response]

10

COMMITTEE CLERK: Mendez.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.

12

COMMITTEE CLERK: Mitchell.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER MITCHELL: Here.

14

COMMITTEE CLERK: Nelson.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: [No audible

16

response]

17

COMMITTEE CLERK: Palma.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Here.

19

COMMITTEE CLERK: Recchia.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: [No

21

audible response]

22

COMMITTEE CLERK: Reyna.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Here.

24

COMMITTEE CLERK: Sanders.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: [No

1

2 audible response]

3

COMMITTEE CLERK: Seabrook.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Here.

5

COMMITTEE CLERK: Sears.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER SEARS: Here.

7

COMMITTEE CLERK: Stewart.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER STEWART: Here.

9

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ulrich.

10

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Here.

11

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vacca.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.

13

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vallone.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

15

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vann.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: [No audible

17

response]

18

COMMITTEE CLERK: Weprin.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Here.

20

COMMITTEE CLERK: White.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER WHITE: Here.

22

COMMITTEE CLERK: Yassky.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER YASSKY: [No audible

24

response]

25

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dilan.

1

COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Here.

2

3

[Pause]

4

COMMITTEE CLERK: Oddo.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Here.

6

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rivera.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Here.

8

COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

9

SPEAKER QUINN: Here.

10

THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

11

Okay everyone; please rise for the invocation to

12

be delivered by Reverend Patrick Henry Young from

13

the First Baptist Church.

14

REVEREND PATRICK HENRY YOUNG:

15

Let's bow our heads.

16

SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise.

17

REVEREND YOUNG: Let's bow our

18

heads. Eternal creator, we thank you for this day

19

and the privilege of service to humanity. Give

20

these leaders from various Boroughs of New York

21

City wisdom and knowledge to do the assignment

22

they are elected to do for all people of this City

23

of New York.

24

Guide their hearts and minds to do

25

the work of excellence as well as equality of life

1
2 for all persons of this City. Provide the
3 strength and stamina they need to perform the
4 various tasks. Let peace and justice abide in the
5 hearts of these leaders in this Council Chamber.

6 In the great name which is greater
7 than any other name, the giver of life, the
8 eternal one, Amen.

9 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:
10 Council Member Ferreras.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: I motion
12 to spread the invocation full upon the record.

13 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:
14 So ordered. Adoption of the minutes, Council
15 Member Brewer.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes I would
17 like to move that the minutes of June 30th, 2009 be
18 adopted as printed.

19 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:
20 Messages and papers from the Mayor?

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

22 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:
23 Okay. Communications from City, County and
24 Borough Offices?

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered

1

2 M1570, transfer of City funds between agencies.

3 SPEAKER QUINN: Finance--

4 SERGEANT AT ARMS: [Interposing]

5 Quiet please?

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: M1571 through

7 M1623 on page 8, base station licenses.

8 SPEAKER QUINN: Transportation.

9 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

10 Petitions and communications?

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

12 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

13 Land Use call ups?

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: M1624 through

15 M1627.

16 SPEAKER QUINN: These are all
17 coupled on a call-up vote and if we could please,
18 Mr. Majority Leader, have a roll call on the
19 coupled Land Use Call-up please.

20 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

21 So ordered. If we could get some silence in the
22 chamber as well.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Arroyo.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Avella.

1

COUNCIL MEMBER AVELLA: Aye.

2

COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron.

3

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: May I be

4

excused to--not to explain my vote, to, you know--

5

THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

6

[Interposing] Yes. Council Member Barron.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you.

8

I request unanimous consent about aye on all items

9

except for Land Use 1190 and accompanying Reso

10

2204, 1191 and the accompanying Reso 2205, I vote

11

no, and aye on all other Land Use items and all

12

other general order calendar items.

13

THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

14

So ordered.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you.

16

COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

18

COMMITTEE CLERK: Comrie.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: [No audible

20

response].

21

COMMITTEE CLERK: Crowley.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: I vote

23

aye.

24

COMMITTEE CLERK: de Blasio.

25

1

2

COUNCIL MEMBER de BLASIO: Aye.

3

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dickens.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: [No

5

audible response].

6

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dilan.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Aye.

8

COMMITTEE CLERK: Eugene.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

10

COMMITTEE CLERK: Felder.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Yes.

12

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ferreras.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.

14

COMMITTEE CLERK: Fidler.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Aye.

16

COMMITTEE CLERK: Foster.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: What is

18

this? Aye.

19

COMMITTEE CLERK: Garodnick.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

21

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gennaro.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: I vote yes

23

and Mr. Acting Public Advocate, I request the

24

opportunity to vote on all items on today's

25

general order calendar.

1

2

THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

3

So ordered.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: I vote

5

yes.

6

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gentile.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

8

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gerson.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER GERSON: I vote aye

10

and with permission, I'd like to vote aye on all

11

matters on today's calendar.

12

THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

13

So ordered.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER GERSON: Thank you.

15

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gioia.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER GIOIA: [No audible

17

response].

18

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gonzalez.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye.

20

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ignizio.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes.

22

COMMITTEE CLERK: Jackson.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye on

24

all.

25

COMMITTEE CLERK: James.

1

2

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Aye.

3

COMMITTEE CLERK: Katz.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER KATZ: [No audible

5

response]

6

COMMITTEE CLERK: Koppell.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Aye.

8

COMMITTEE CLERK: Lappin.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: [No audible

10

response].

11

COMMITTEE CLERK: Liu.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER LIU: Yes.

13

COMMITTEE CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye.

15

COMMITTEE CLERK: Mealy.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: [No audible

17

response].

18

COMMITTEE CLERK: Mendez.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: [No audible

20

response].

21

COMMITTEE CLERK: Mitchell.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER MITCHELL: [No

23

audible response].

24

COMMITTEE CLERK: Nelson.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: [No audible

1

2 response].

3

COMMITTEE CLERK: Palma.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

5

COMMITTEE CLERK: Recchia.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: [No

7

audible response]

8

COMMITTEE CLERK: Reyna.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye.

10

COMMITTEE CLERK: Sanders.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: [No

12

audible response]

13

COMMITTEE CLERK: Seabrook.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Aye.

15

COMMITTEE CLERK: Sears.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER SEARS: Mr. Public

17

Advocate, I vote aye on all call-ups and with your

18

permission, aye on all coupled general orders.

19

THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

20

So ordered.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER SEARS: Thank you.

22

COMMITTEE CLERK: Recchia.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Aye.

24

COMMITTEE CLERK: Stewart.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER STEWART: Aye.

1

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ulrich.

2

3

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.

4

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vacca.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

6

COMMITTEE CLERK: Seabrook.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Yes Mr.

8

Majority Leader. I'd like to request to vote aye

9

on all Land Use call-ups and aye on all generally

10

coupled orders and to be excused please?

11

THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

12

So ordered.

13

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vallone.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

15

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vann.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Present. Aye

17

on all.

18

COMMITTEE CLERK: Weprin.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

20

COMMITTEE CLERK: White.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER WHITE: I vote aye

22

and I'd like permission to vote on all coupled

23

general orders.

24

THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

25

So ordered.

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER WHITE: I vote aye
3 on all Land Use call-ups and all coupled general
4 orders. I vote aye.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Yassky.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER YASSKY: I too
7 request permission to vote on all coupled general
8 orders as well.

9 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:
10 So ordered.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER YASSKY: Then I vote
12 aye on all the Land Use call-ups and on the
13 coupled general orders.

14 C: Dickens.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

16 [Pause]

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lappin.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Oddo.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rivera.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

24 SPEAKER QUINN: Aye.

25 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

1
2 Ladies and gentlemen, today's Land Use call-ups
3 were adopted by a vote of 42 in the affirmative
4 with 0 in the negative. Communications from the
5 Speaker.

6 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
7 much. We are voting on two important pieces of
8 legislation today as well as an important
9 rezoning. First Intro 951-A which requires the
10 New York City Department of Education to provide
11 the MTA with certain student enrollment
12 information. Let me thank Terza Nazza, Asia
13 Chambourg and Jan Atwell who all worked on this
14 piece of legislation. This legislation was
15 drafted and sponsored by Council Member Vinnie
16 Ignizio and passed through the Education Committee
17 with the leadership of Robert Jackson. I want to
18 thank both of them.

19 This is a fairly simple commonsense
20 bill that will hopefully make parents, students
21 and educators lives easier. It will require that
22 the Department of Education communicate changes,
23 additions in where students go to school to the
24 MTA. That way if there's a new school, a big
25 growth in enrollment, the MTA can plan ahead with

1

2 bus routes, etcetera, to accommodate the students.

3

4

5

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25

I want to thank Council Member Ignizio for making the connection between constituent work and legislative work. This bill comes out of a direct experience where this type of coordination did not happen in Council Member Ignizio's District and his constituents suffered. He of course addressed that problem but went on to introduce legislation that will hopefully prevent it. I think this is a great example of the connection we can make between our Districts in this case, over the bridge, to City Hall. So thank you Vinnie and thank you Robert for moving it so quickly.

Let me call on the sponsor of the bill, Council Member Ignizio and then the Chair of the Committee, Council Member Jackson.

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Thank you very much Madam Speaker. I appreciate your help and assistance in moving this along as well, as well as Chairman Jackson who's a friend and someone who saw the value of this. This bill is fairly simple as the Speaker said. It's just about fostering better communication as we all say

1
2 we want between agencies and between
3 jurisdictions. And it's about getting more for
4 the--bigger bang for the buck in having efficiency
5 of bus service throughout the City.

6 I think it will go a long way and I
7 think, you know, really this is a bill that is
8 simple in its context but ultimately will help a
9 lot of the school children. And in particular I
10 want to thank my friend Dan Garodnick for
11 supporting it as well. Thank you all very much.

12 SPEAKER QUINN: Chair--I'm not sure
13 what that joke's about but Chairperson Jackson.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you
15 Speaker Quinn. Clearly what this bill shows is
16 that when we work together with the Executive
17 Branch, things can move and they can move very
18 quickly. One important aspect on this is that
19 people of Staten Island are going to be well
20 served by this. And it opens the door up to any
21 other locations that may have a problem in the
22 future.

23 But also another positive aspect,
24 it costs the tax payers of New York City zero.
25 That's even better in these tough economic times.

1
2 So let me thank all of the staff involved, along
3 with my colleague Vincent Ignizio and the Mayor's
4 Office for working together in order to move the
5 system as quickly as possible in order to bring
6 about this new law. Thank you very much.

7 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you
8 Chairperson Jackson. We're also voting on Intro
9 1042-A today. I want to thank Alex Pustilnik, Rob
10 Newman, Oona Peterson and Rose Previte for their
11 work on this legislation. This bill was sponsored
12 by Council Member Brewer, also worked on by the
13 Bloomberg Administration and I want to thank them,
14 and taken through the Public Safety Committee
15 under the leadership of Chairperson Vallone who I
16 also want to thank.

17 1042-A seeks to make graffiti
18 removal in the City of New York easier. It will
19 take the system that we now have where you have to
20 affirmatively get every property owner to give you
21 written permission to remove graffiti from a
22 building. Instead we will up front reach out to
23 property owners, ask them if they want the
24 graffiti on their buildings removed. If they
25 don't want it removed, if they believe it's art or

1
2 whatever, they have the ability to keep it on
3 their property.

4 They have 35 days and then an
5 extension for 15 more if needed, to say to the
6 City; yes we want to keep this graffiti on our
7 building. If they don't, the City will then go
8 and remove that graffiti at no cost. This is
9 incredibly important because graffiti when it is
10 allowed to stay on buildings, more graffiti will
11 come and it creates a sense of lawlessness that
12 can cause worse crimes in a neighborhood. 1042-A
13 will help us eradicate graffiti in the City and
14 make government more efficient and easier and move
15 the graffiti removal system in the City to one
16 that focuses on the needs and wants of the
17 majority of New Yorkers who don't want graffiti up
18 but yet protects the needs of the minority of New
19 Yorkers who do want to keep graffiti on their
20 building.

21 I again really want to thank Gale
22 Brewer for this very thoughtful piece of
23 legislation that actually in the same way that
24 Council Member Ignizio's did, takes real life
25 experience. She's had, in her District, going

1
2 from building to building trying to get them to
3 sign the waiver, figures out how to--and we know
4 Gale gets the waiver because she just keeps coming
5 back, but this is a way to streamline and make the
6 system work better. So thank you for being
7 another example of that connection. And before I
8 call on the Chair, I said earlier he's made the
9 City cleaner and safer and I want to thank him
10 again. Let me call on Chairperson Peter Vallone
11 and then Council Member Gale Brewer.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Thank you.
13 I'd just like to commend Council Member Brewer for
14 making a law that was already on the books much
15 more effective. She's been at the forefront of
16 the fight against graffiti, whether it comes to
17 making etching acid illegal for minors to being
18 out in her District all the time cleaning
19 graffiti. So she--this is really going to go a
20 long way to cleaning graffiti in the City. And I
21 want to thank the Speaker also who really did get
22 behind this bill and ensure its passage. So
23 congratulations to both of you.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank the
25 Speaker and thank Chairman Vallone. And I think

1

2 together we were all trying to think about quality
3 of life issues that are important. I think that
4 this 1042-A will do the following. It will
5 empower the community because now the community
6 can call 311. The City will send a letter to an
7 owner. The owner will respond stating that I
8 would like to get some free assistance for my
9 building, either power washing or correctly
10 painted.

11 The issue is that to the credit of
12 the City, I think with a Federal grant, there are
13 now trucks that can go around and power wash and
14 provide paint. And amazingly, professional staff
15 to work with the owner. But the problem has been
16 that those of us with the Police Department,
17 graffiti officers and me and my staff, door to
18 door, and people don't sign waivers.

19 So you get on the truck, you go
20 down the street and you miss half the buildings
21 'cause you don't have a waiver. It's not
22 efficient and it doesn't get rid of graffiti. So
23 now we would be able to take the empowerment from
24 the community 'cause the community will call to
25 state that they would like to have graffiti

1

2 removed. We'll have an address and we can do
3 entire neighborhoods and the same time in a much
4 more efficient fashion.

5 So I think this is good for the
6 homeowner, for the property owner and for the
7 small business. I do hope that the City will go
8 to the evening hours 'cause a lot of the graffiti
9 is on security gates which are only down during
10 the evening. But I think this would give the
11 impetus to be able to do that.

12 So this is good for the community,
13 good for the property owner who will not have to
14 lay out any money at all for this and obviously
15 good for all of us who care about quality of life
16 in all five Boroughs. Thank you very much
17 Chairman Vallone and Madam Speaker.

18 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very much
19 Council Member Brewer. And lastly, we are voting
20 today on a Sunset Park rezoning. This is a
21 rezoning of 128 blocks in Sunset Park. This
22 rezoning accomplishes a number of goals. Let me
23 thank Gail Benjamin and Amy Levitan and the rest
24 of the staff in Land Use who worked on this. Let
25 me congratulate Council Member Sara Gonzalez who

1
2 put a tremendous--she and her staff, a tremendous
3 amount of work into this rezoning, side by side
4 with their Community Board and residents in her
5 District. And I really want to congratulate and
6 applaud her efforts.

7 As a result of this zoning, a
8 neighborhood that has no height limitations will
9 now have height limitations. There'll be a
10 process in place to facilitate more affordable
11 housing--

12 [Whistle being blown]

13 [Audience members shouting]

14 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

15 Quiet in the balcony please.

16 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet please.

17 SPEAKER QUINN: Okay we're going to
18 need quiet in the chambers--

19 [Gavel banging]

20 SPEAKER QUINN: --or we're going to
21 have to remove everyone.

22 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

23 Quiet in the balcony.

24 SPEAKER QUINN: Either quiet or
25 you're going to have to--

1

[Audience members shouting]

2

3

SPEAKER QUINN: Officer please
remove the people from the chambers.

4

5

[Audience members shouting]

6

THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

7

Have a good day. Now get out.

8

SPEAKER QUINN: Okay.

9

[Pause]

10

SPEAKER QUINN: Let me go back.

11

This rezoning will put in place height

12

limitations. It will allow more types of

13

businesses to come to Sunset Park and will also

14

through inclusionary zoning create the potential

15

of more affordable housing. I just want to stress

16

there are presently no height limitations in this

17

neighborhood at all. No protections for buildings

18

being built right next to existing low-rise

19

residential ones of any height.

20

Now there'll be limitations of

21

about 50 feet and 70 feet on the avenues. This is

22

a victory for this neighborhood and for Council

23

Member Gonzales. Let me call on Council Member

24

Gonzalez.

25

[Applause]

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Thank
3 you. Thank you Speaker Quinn.

4 [Applause]

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Thank
6 you. It has been my mission since I first took
7 office to preserve and bring more affordable
8 housing to the District. Besides defending low
9 rise residential neighborhoods from out of context
10 high rise developments, rezoning can also be used
11 to create more affordable housing.

12 For me this rezoning process began
13 in 2005. Immediately following the rezoning in
14 the South Slope. I made it a priority of my first
15 term to work with Community Board 7 to bring about
16 a comprehensive rezoning plan for Sunset Park.
17 Over a 2-year period I lobbied the Speaker and my
18 colleagues on the Council to get them on board.

19 I worked with the Borough
20 President's Office to get their full support. I
21 began a series of meetings with top Administration
22 officials to convey my concern that Sunset Park
23 was being squeezed out by development pressures
24 moving south from Park Slope and north from Bay
25 Ridge following their rezonings.

1
2 Two and a half years ago the need
3 for a rezoning plan was seen by the community when
4 we came together to protest a developer who wanted
5 to erect a 12-story building on a block of 2-story
6 row houses. In that instance I was successful in
7 negotiating directly with the developer who agreed
8 to an unprecedented height reduction by cutting
9 his building in half, matching the height of the
10 block-long courthouse beside it. This success
11 energized the community and set them on track to
12 protect Sunset Park with a rezoning plan.

13 In a rezoning plan, community input
14 is vital. And it is the growing voice of the
15 community that helped bring this plan to fruition.
16 I was pleased with the community's step to the
17 plate and joined with Community Board 7 to become
18 full participants in this process. I partnered
19 with the prestigious Pratt Center for Community
20 Development to hold a series of workshops
21 throughout Sunset Park to first explain the
22 rezoning plan to residents and then gather their
23 views on the plan and how it should look.

24 And I want to refer to a memo that
25 I have in front of me from March 2007 where it was

1
2 sent to Council Member Sara Gonzalez from Brett
3 Lander, Pratt Center for Community Development.
4 Proposal to assist Sunset Park Alliance of
5 Neighbors on Contextual Rezoning of Sunset Park
6 and Options to Preserve and Create Affordable
7 Housing. Now this memo exists and it talks about
8 a group, the group that is protesting today, where
9 they agreed to work exactly with what we are doing
10 today. And I have it in front of me.

11 Other than facilitating necessary
12 elements of the process and helping others to
13 navigate the bureaucracies, I kept a certain
14 distance from meetings, hearings or deliberations
15 so that my vision would not influence the outcome.
16 Community Board 7 passed this unanimously. The
17 Borough President has given it his stamp of
18 approval. The Subcommittee on Zoning and Land Use
19 Committee have voted overwhelmingly to approve it.
20 This plan is the community's plan.

21 I look forward to its
22 implementation. I would like to thank Chairs
23 Avella and Katz and the members of the staff on
24 Zoning and Land Use committees, especially Speaker
25 Quinn, Gail Benjamin, Amy Levitan, for all your

1
2 time and attention to this matter. I want to
3 thank Commissioner Burden, Borough Commissioner
4 Kapoor and the staff of City Planning and
5 Commissioner Ostero [phonetic] and the staff of
6 HPD for working with me. I would especially like
7 to thank Community Board y, its chair Randy
8 Pierce, our local residents, in house we have
9 today, Ginny and Tom Murphy who are lifelong
10 residents of Sunset Park. I urge my colleagues to
11 vote yes. Thank you.

12 SPEAKER QUINN: That concludes
13 communications from the Speaker.

14 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:
15 Thank you very much Madam Speaker. Discussion of
16 general orders--

17 SPEAKER QUINN: [Interposing] Oh
18 I'm sorry. I just forgot--just one last thing. I
19 think I just want to take a moment to congratulate
20 Council Member Bill de Blasio on being the
21 Democratic nominee for Public Advocate--

22 [Applause, cheering]

23 SPEAKER QUINN: And... I know, I
24 know he was afraid he was too tall for the job but
25 the voters rose about his height, but we look

1
2 forward after you win in November to working with
3 you in your new capacity. And also
4 congratulations to the Democratic nominee for the
5 Office of Comptroller, John Liu.

6 [Applause, cheering]

7 SPEAKER QUINN: And I think I've
8 already said to both of you, get a little rest and
9 then all of us have a long list of things we need
10 you to do. So thank you both. Congratulations to
11 both of you and best of luck. And that actually
12 concludes communications from the Speaker.

13 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:
14 Thank you very much. Discussion of general
15 orders? Seeing none, we'll move on to Reports of
16 Special Committees.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

18 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:
19 Reports of Standing Committees?

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the
21 Committee on Education in Intro 951-A providing
22 student enrollment to the MTA.

23 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
24 on general orders.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the

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Committee on Finance, Intro 1058, Time Squares
Business Improvement District.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered
Reso 2201, organization funding.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered
M1570 and Reso 2202, transfer of City funds
between agencies.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the
Committee on Land Use, LUs 1109 and Reso 2203
through LU 1208 and Reso 2210, various
applications.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: LUs 1209 and Reso
2211 through LU 1216 and Reso 2217, various
applications.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

1
2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the
3 Committee on Public Safety, Intro 1042-A, graffiti
4 removal.

5 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
6 on general orders with a message of necessity.

7 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:
8 General order calendar.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Resolution
10 appointing various persons, Commissioner of Deeds.

11 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
12 orders and at this point I'd like to ask for a
13 roll call on all the items that have been coupled
14 on the general order calendar please.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Arroyo.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Avella.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER AVELLA: Aye on all
19 except no on Land Use number 1190 and Reso 2204;
20 and Land Use number 1191 and Reso 2205, on those
21 two Land Use items I vote no.

22 C: Baez.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BAEZ: [No audible
24 response].

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer.

1

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

2

3

COMMITTEE CLERK: Comrie.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye.

5

COMMITTEE CLERK: Crowley.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

7

COMMITTEE CLERK: de Blasio.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER de BLASIO: Aye.

9

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dickens.

10

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

11

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dilan.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Okay. I'd

13

like to vote aye on all except for Intro 1042-A in

14

which I vote no.

15

COMMITTEE CLERK: Eugene.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

17

COMMITTEE CLERK: Felder.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Yes.

19

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ferreras.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.

21

COMMITTEE CLERK: Fidler.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: May I be

23

briefly excused to explain my vote?

24

THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

25

Yes you man.

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: First I
3 want to congratulate Councilwoman Gonzalez. I
4 know, having just accomplished the down zoning in
5 my community that there's always somebody who's
6 not happy with something they should be happy
7 with.

8 Second I want to thank all of you
9 and the Speaker in the budget negotiating team for
10 the budget modification in which we are, thanks to
11 the use of stimulus funds, able to move City tax
12 levy money both to our District Attorneys and to
13 shelter beds for homeless children. And I think
14 that is a wonderful thing that we're doing today.

15 Having said that I want to vote aye
16 on all with the exception of Land Use 1208 and
17 Reso 2210 in which I vote no.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Foster.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye on all
20 except Intro 1042-A, I vote no.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Garodnick.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gentile.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gioia.

1

COUNCIL MEMBER GIOIA: I vote yes.

2

3

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gonzalez.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye.

5

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ignizio.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes.

7

COMMITTEE CLERK: Jackson.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye on

9

all.

10

COMMITTEE CLERK: James.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: May I be

12

excused to explain my vote? I first want to thank

13

all of my colleagues--

14

THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

15

[Interposing] Yes you may.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: --for voting

17

on two Land Use items, two projects in my District

18

which will create affordable housing, the Navy

19

Green project and 470 Vanderbilt which will

20

provide also supported housing. I thank all of

21

you for your support and I vote aye on all.

22

COMMITTEE CLERK: Katz.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER KATZ: [No audible

24

response].

25

COMMITTEE CLERK: Koppell.

1

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Aye.

2

3

COMMITTEE CLERK: Lappin.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

5

COMMITTEE CLERK: Liu.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER LIU: Yes.

7

COMMITTEE CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye

9

on all.

10

COMMITTEE CLERK: Mealy.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: [No audible

12

response].

13

COMMITTEE CLERK: Mendez.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye on all

15

and with permission I'd like to vote aye on all

16

the Land Use call-ups.

17

THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

18

So ordered.

19

COMMITTEE CLERK: Mitchell.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER MITCHELL: Aye.

21

COMMITTEE CLERK: Nelson.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Aye on all

23

with unanimous permission I'd like to vote aye on

24

all Land Use call-ups.

25

THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

1

2 So ordered.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Palma.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye on all.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Recchia.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: I'd like
7 to explain my vote. First of all I want to thank
8 Sara Gonzalez for doing an outstanding job for her
9 community and I know how tough it is and you
10 really deserve to be recognized for doing an
11 outstanding job.

12 Second, I would like to disclose
13 that Mark Twain Intermediate School is receiving
14 funding in this mod that we're voting on and that
15 my daughter Brianna Recchia attends Mark Twain
16 Middle School for the gifted and talented. And I
17 vote yes.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Reyna.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: I vote aye
20 on all and congratulations to Sara Gonzalez.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Stewart.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER STEWART: Aye on
23 all.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ulrich.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye on all.

1

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vacca.

2

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye on all.

3

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vallone.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

5

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vann.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: [No audible

7

response].

8

COMMITTEE CLERK: Weprin.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye on all.

10

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ignizio.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: No on Land

12

Use 1208, aye on all others.

13

COMMITTEE CLERK: Oddo.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: [No audible

15

response].

16

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rivera.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye on all.

18

COMMITTEE CLERK: Comrie.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: I need to

20

amend my vote and I didn't ask for permission to

21

vote on Land Use call-ups, aye, and I had voted in

22

Committee on Land Use 1208 with Resolution 2210,

23

so I'm voting no consistently on Land Use 1208 and

24

Resolution 2210. I vote no. I vote yes on the

25

1

2 rest of the general order calendar.

3 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

4 So ordered.

5 [Gavel banging]

6 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet please.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

8 SPEAKER QUINN: Aye on all.

9 [Pause]

10 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

11 All items on today's general order calendar were
12 adopted by a vote of 46 in the affirmative with 0
13 in the negative with 0 abstentions with the
14 exception of Intro 1042-A which was adopted by a
15 vote of 44 in the affirmative with 2 in the
16 negative and 0 abstentions and Land Use 1208 plus
17 Reso 2210 which was adopted by a vote of 43 in the
18 affirmative with 3 in the negative and 0
19 abstentions. Land Use 1190 plus Resolution 2204
20 which was adopted by a vote of 44 in the
21 affirmative and 2 in the negative and 0
22 abstentions. And Land Use number 1191 plus
23 Resolution 2205 which was adopted by a vote of 44
24 in the affirmative with 2 in the negative and 0
25 abstentions. And the revised Land Use call-up

1
2 vote is 46 in the affirmative and 0 in the
3 negative.

4 Introduction and reading of the
5 bills.

6 SPEAKER QUINN: All bills are
7 referred to Committees as indicated on the agenda.

8 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:
9 Discussions of Resolutions, Council Member
10 Stewart.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER STEWART: Thank you.
12 I want to call your attention to Reso 2172. I
13 would like for us to thank the Speaker Christine
14 Quinn, counsel Julian Beckford and Israel
15 Rodriguez and Damien Butvick and Eric Botcha
16 [phonetic] for working on this Resolution. This
17 is, unequal policy forces tens of thousands of gay
18 and lesbian Americans to face a terrible choice
19 between leaving the country to be with the person
20 they love or remaining here in the United States
21 separate from their partner. There are at least
22 19 countries that allow their citizens to sponsor
23 long-term same-sex partnership for immigration
24 benefits. They are Australia, Belgium, Brazil,
25 Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany,

1
2 Iceland, Israel, The Netherlands, New Zealand,
3 Norway, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden,
4 Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

5 As we move forwards towards a
6 comprehensive immigration bill it is vital, I said
7 it is vital, that the immigration reform includes
8 relief for families headed by same-sex couples.
9 And brothers and sisters, I'm asking you to show
10 your support for this resolution.

11 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:
12 Thank you very much.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER STEWART: 2172.

14 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:
15 Council Member James? No? Okay. So now we move
16 on.. Council Member Gentile.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Thank you.
18 Council Members Brewer, Vallone, Vacca and Barron
19 joined me on the steps this morning along with
20 residents and advocates from across the City to
21 support Intro 1087 which I'm introducing today
22 which would finally mandate oversight of cell
23 antenna emissions and help enforce Federal
24 regulations regarding their radiation.

25 [Gavel banging]

1
2 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Settle down
3 please, sit down.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: It was
5 good, a good start, right?

6 [Pause]

7 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:
8 Okay so at this point in time we're going to call
9 for a vote on today's resolutions. We have
10 Resolution 2145, Resolution calling upon the New
11 York State Assembly to pass Assembly Bill 2565 and
12 the Governor to sign A2565 and its companion bill
13 S2664, legislation that would amend the Social
14 Series Law to provide that persons living with
15 clinical, symptomatic HIV and AIDs who are--who
16 see shelter assistance or an emergency shelter
17 allowance shall not be required to pay more than
18 30% of their household's monthly income towards -
19 - or costs including rent or utilities. All in
20 favor say aye.

21 [General response of aye]

22 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:
23 All opposed say nay.

24 [None]

25 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

1
2 Any abstentions? The ayes have it. The next
3 Resolution is--

4 [Applause, cheering]

5 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

6 The next resolution is 2172, resolution calling
7 upon the United States Congress to pass the
8 Uniting American Families Act of 2009 or other
9 legislation which would provide a mechanism under
10 the immigration and nationality Act to allow the
11 United States citizens and legal permanent
12 residents in by national same-sex relationships to
13 sponsor their foreign-born partners for lawful
14 permanent residence status in a manner consistent
15 with the legal requirements and rights currently
16 enjoyed by opposite-sex couples. All in favor say
17 aye.

18 [General response of aye]

19 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

20 All opposed say nay.

21 [None]

22 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

23 Any abstentions?

24 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

25 The ayes have it as well. Now we move onto

1
2 general discussion. We have Council Member Inez
3 Dickens.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Thank you.
5 I want to thank my many colleagues who came to the
6 COIB training session this afternoon. My
7 intentions are that we should bring COIB back to
8 our house within six months to address our many
9 concerns. Thank you to the Speaker's Office, Liz
10 Fine and Jim Carris for their invaluable
11 assistance in the planning.

12 I also want to introduce to my
13 colleagues, my new attorney, Nadir Joshua for the
14 Standards and Ethics Committee. Nadir, please
15 stand so that the Council can see the person that--
16 -I--give him a little stronger hand than that.

17 [Applause, cheering]

18 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: So that
19 this is our attorney that will address our ethics
20 and employment questions that need to be
21 addressed. Thank you.

22 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:
23 Thank you very much. Next we have Council Member
24 James?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: For nearly

1
2 40 years ACORN has helped improve the housing
3 opportunities for millions of people. They have
4 raised wages and they have bettered countless
5 neighborhoods. ACORN has warned neighbors and
6 policy makers about the dangers of predatory
7 lending years before the issue became front page
8 news.

9 ACORN's members are at the
10 forefront of working to end the foreclosure crisis
11 and restore home ownership opportunities in our
12 cities. In addition ACORN has worked more than
13 any other group in addressing hunger and poverty
14 in the City of New York. In recent days,
15 conservative activists have released disturbing
16 videos of some frontline ACORN staff making
17 indefensible statements.

18 And although some of us continue to
19 have questions about the motives and tactics
20 behind these videos, we applaud the swift and
21 decisive action that ACORN's board of community
22 leaders and its management has taken in response
23 to these tapes. Employees have been dismissed.

24 ACORN is also working with an
25 outside advisory committee to select a person to

1
2 conduct a thorough and independent review of their
3 systems and processes for their important
4 community service programs such as tax preparation
5 and benefit screening.

6 It is for all of these reasons that
7 I support ACORN and I urge all of you who support
8 ACORN and believe in what they're doing in our
9 Districts. We believe that ACORN again is in
10 irreplaceable community organization and it is
11 critical that we come together to support them.

12 I urge all of you to sign onto a
13 letter in support of ACORN and their mission to
14 help hardworking families, not only in the State
15 of New York, in the City of New York, but across
16 this nation. Thank you.

17 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:
18 Thank you very much. Next we have--well let's
19 move on. We have a couple of members that need to
20 vote. So we'll call on those first. We have
21 Council Member Gentile.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: As I was
23 saying, are we doing--we're doing--no we're not
24 doing that--

25 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

1

2 [Interposing] No. Council Member Mealy.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye on all.

4 May I have permission to vote on all Land Use
5 call-ups?

6 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

7 Yes you man.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye on--

9 thank you.

10 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

11 So ordered. Council Member Sanders would like to
12 vote as well.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Yes. Aye

14 on all, permission to vote on Land Use call-ups.

15 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

16 So ordered.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Aye--aye

18 on all.

19 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

20 Okay. So ordered. Now we move on back to general
21 discussion. And it is Council Member Brewer,
22 followed by Melissa Mark-Viverito and then Council
23 Member Gentile.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you

25 very much. Two things, one is I know that a lot

1

2 of members have signed onto the Earned Paid Sick
3 Leave Bill. There is a rally tomorrow at October
4 1st regarding this topic--

5 SPEAKER QUINN: [Interposing] I'm
6 sorry, Council Member, can we get a little quiet.
7 We'll add some time back on but I can't understand
8 what Gale--I know what you're talking about and
9 I'm not sure what you're talking about. So.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I'm just
11 saying that tomorrow there's a rally on the Earned
12 Paid Sick Leave. I want to make it clear that
13 people are welcome to contact us for more
14 information. Just generally there are some
15 questions and we would be glad to answer them.

16 Number two, we have wonderful
17 interns and today we have Emily Allen who's a
18 Public Service Scholar at Hunter College, Shawn
19 Den Sharma [phonetic] at New York University and
20 Benjamin Solitaire and thank you very much for all
21 your hard work. Thank you.

22 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:
23 Council Member Melissa Mark-Viverito.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:
25 Thank you. I would like to urge my colleagues to

1
2 sign onto Intro 1089 which is a bill seeking to
3 amend the Administrative Code of the City of New
4 York in relation to implementing an annual census
5 of vacant properties. In 2007 the Manhattan
6 Borough President and a nonprofit organization
7 called Picture the Homeless conducted a safety of
8 vacant properties in the Borough of Manhattan and
9 revealed some alarming statistics.

10 Many buildings in my District are
11 vacant and have been so for more than two decades.
12 And there's a potential for these vacant
13 properties to be utilized in order to address the
14 affordable housing deficit. The bill would
15 require that a census be carried out every year of
16 vacant buildings and vacant lots with the results
17 being organized by Borough and Community District.

18 These results will be made
19 available to the public imprint and on the City's
20 website and will ensure that buildings that have
21 fallen into vacancy are recorded and publicized.
22 So I hope that my colleagues will sign on again to
23 Intro 1089. Thank you.

24 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

25 Thank you very much. Council Member Gentile.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Okay now
3 as I was saying, thank you. [Chuckling] Earlier
4 today Council Members Vacca, Vallone and Brewer
5 and Barron joined me on the steps along with some
6 advocates about Intro 1087 which finally mandates
7 oversight of cell phone, cell antenna emissions
8 and helps enforce the Federal regulations on the
9 radiation levels. There's debate over the health
10 effects of cell phone antennas and equipment but
11 we know that exposure, overexposure to radiation
12 can lead to disease and dysfunction.

13 There is consensus that it is not
14 safe with overexposure. That's why the Federal
15 government through the FCC has established
16 emissions guidelines. The problem is there is no
17 agency on any level that is given the mandate to
18 enforce those guidelines. So what I am doing with
19 this bill is requiring that the City create a
20 report through the Department of Buildings on the
21 emissions of each of the City's cellular antennas
22 and related equipment on a periodic basis.

23 Any emissions from the equipment
24 that are found to exceed FCC regulations would
25 have to notify the Council Member and the

1
2 Community Board in that District. And the DOB
3 would have to notify the overseeing Federal
4 agency, in most cases, the Federal Communications
5 Commission, of the structure's noncompliance.

6 This gives some backbone to the
7 fact that cell antennas have to meet FCC
8 guidelines. I ask my colleagues for their
9 support, thank those who have already given it and
10 please sign onto Intro 1087. Thank you.

11 THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RIVERA:

12 Thank you very much. Seeing no others on today's
13 general discussion this meeting is now adjourned.

14 [Gavel banging]

15 [END 1002.MP3]

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Laura L. Springate 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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura L. Springate". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Signature _____Laura L. Springate_____

Date _____October 7, 2009_____