

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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October 17, 2011  
Start: 2:14 pm  
Recess: 3:18 pm

HELD AT: Emigrant Savings Bank  
49-51 Chambers St.

B E F O R E: LEROY G. COMRIE, JR.  
Deputy Majority Leader

COUNCIL MEMBERS:  
Maria del Carmen Arroyo  
Gale A. Brewer  
Fernando Cabrera  
Margaret Chin  
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  
Sara M. Gonzalez

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

## COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Speaker Christine C. Quinn  
David Greenfield  
Daniel J. Halloran  
Vincent Ignizio  
Robert Jackson  
Letitia James  
Peter Koo  
G. Oliver Koppell  
Karen Koslowitz  
Brad Lander  
Jessica S. Lappin  
Stephen Levin  
Melissa Mark-Viverito  
Darlene Mealy  
Rosie Mendez  
Michael C. Nelson  
James S. Oddo  
Annabel Palma  
Domenic M. Recchia, Jr.  
Ydanis Rodriguez  
Deborah Rose  
James Sanders, Jr.  
Larry B. Seabrook  
Eric Ulrich  
James Vacca  
Peter F. Vallone, Jr.  
James G. Van Bramer  
Mark Weprin  
Jumaane D. Williams  
Ruben Wills

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

Freddy Neri  
Sergimmo Salumeria

Damaris Mercado

Ralph Mercado III

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SPEAKER QUINN: ...start the ceremonials, and the first one--if we could announce in the lounge--if the members of the Women's Caucus could come in. Gary, can you tell the members of the Women's Caucus to come in? Okay, great. The first ceremonial is gonna be led by Council Member Julissa Ferreras and the Women's Caucus, so let me turn the mic over to Julissa and ask everybody who's part of this one to come on up. All right, we're getting everyone. We're moving.

[Off mic]

FEMALE VOICE: Yes, yes. We remember.

SPEAKER QUINN: All right, so let's--we have a situation going on here. So hi everybody, why don't you guys just line up right here?

MALE VOICE: You better shut up, your mic is on.

[Off mic]

SPEAKER QUINN: Okay. If we could get a little quiet for a second. And, unfortunately, the ceremonial that Council Member

1  
2 Ferreras is now going to conduct, noting a real  
3 New York hero, is unfortunately well timed, given  
4 a lot of the things that have been going on in  
5 Brooklyn and now going on in Queens. So let me  
6 give the mic to Council Member Ferreras.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Thank  
8 you. I just wanted to take this opportunity to  
9 honor someone who did something exemplary. We, as  
10 women of New York City, when a woman is attacked,  
11 it's really an attack on all women. And Freddy  
12 Neri was a man who was just sleeping at home and  
13 heard a woman screaming in the early, early hours  
14 of the morning and decided to leap out of his bed  
15 and go to her rescue. And he was able to stop a  
16 woman from becoming a victim of a rape or an  
17 assault, or even worse, a murder.

18 So today, with the women's  
19 delegation, we honor you and thank you for daring,  
20 for not thinking twice, for hearing something and  
21 doing something. So we thank you from this  
22 chamber. And, as you can see, many of the women  
23 are wearing pink also today, and we're trying to  
24 honor Breast Cancer Month. But it really is  
25 apropos, here in Women's History Month, that we

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are honoring you. Gracias.

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very much, Fred. We're gonna ask the clerk to please read the proclamation, and then if you or anybody else wants to say anything, that would be great.

THE CLERK: Council, City of New York Proclamation.

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of New York is proud to honor Freddy Neri for his heroism; and

WHEREAS, born and raised in Brooklyn, Mr. Neri is a proud father of three sons and a daughter and works as a cook at Sergimmo Salumeria. On Sunday, August 14, 2011, around 6:15 a.m., he was asleep in his family's Chelsea apartment when he was suddenly awoken by screams for help coming from the lobby a floor below. Without getting dressed and without concern for his own safety, Mr. Neri raced downstairs where he discovered a 27-year-old man overpowering a young woman in an attempted sexual assault.

The suspect had followed the woman into the building and, until Mr. Neri arrived at the scene, the woman had only her door keys to

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2 defend herself; and

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WHEREAS, when the assailant saw Mr. Neri and tried to flee, Mr. Neri grabbed him by the neck, got him off the victim and a struggle ensued. Suddenly, it was the assailant trying to escape, but Mr. Neri refused the man's frantic pleas to let him go. Between a neighbor's call to 911 and the police making the arrest, Mr. Neri even asked the assailant, "Don't you have a mother? Don't you have a sister? Why do you come here to do these things?" And

WHEREAS, although we may never know the attacker's motivations, Mr. Neri's courageous intervention offers a clear message: Sexual assault and any other form of sexual violence are unacceptable at all times. All too often, it has become culturally accepted as "the price you pay for being a woman." Sexual assault is a community problem, and ending it requires the participation of both men and women. It is a great privilege to recognize Mr. Neri for, in answering a stranger's call for help, he revealed the strength of character that is the mark of a great New Yorker.

Now, therefore, be it known that

1  
2 the Council of the City of New York, including all  
3 members of its Women's Caucus, honors Freddy Neri  
4 for his valiant rescue on August 14, 2011.

5 Christine C. Quinn, Speaker for the  
6 entire council, Julissa Ferreras, Chair, Women's  
7 Issues Committee, Council Member 21st District;  
8 Rosie Mendez, Co-chair Women's Caucus, Council  
9 Member Second District; Jessica S. Lappin, Co-  
10 chair Women's Caucus, Council Member Fifth  
11 District, and many other members of the City  
12 Council.

13 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, Fred, so  
14 very much. If every New Yorker was as good a New  
15 Yorker as you are, we would have a city where all  
16 women were safe on every block in every  
17 neighborhood in every borough. And you doing this  
18 gets us a huge step closer to that being the  
19 reality in our city. So thank you so, so very,  
20 very much.

21 [Off mic]

22 SPEAKER QUINN: You want to say a  
23 few words? You don't have to if you don't want  
24 to, but...

25 MR. FREDDY NERI: Well I wasn't



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2 prepared to--

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SPEAKER QUINN: It's okay.

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prepared to--

SPEAKER QUINN: It's okay.

MR. NERI: --to say a speech. The

only thing I could say, well, it won't be the

first and the last time this will happen. I think

there will be some occasion probably I would do

the same thing again. And long as--I think this

whole courage came from God, that gave me this

courage. And I'm thankful to Him and my mother,

especially.

[Applause]

And I give all the credit to my

wife too.

[Applause]

That she--at that moment, she told

me where I was going--why am I going to, you know.

I didn't listen, I just kept on going. I just--

actually I did risk my life there without thinking

twice--

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you.

MR. NERI: --and I guess next day,

yeah, did think about it when I was cutting--when

I was unboning chicken. At the moment I just

stopped there, you know. Yeah, so, and I said,

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2 "What I was doing?" Well I did it, and the point  
3 I know is that the victim is safe, she's happy.  
4 And I saw her last night--

5 SPEAKER QUINN: Well good.

6 MR. NERI: --and now I see her with  
7 a smile on her face. And I just tell her to be  
8 careful 'cause there's still crime going out  
9 there.

10 SPEAKER QUINN: That's right.

11 Thank you very much. Thank you very, very much,  
12 Fred. Thank you. Thank you very much, ladies.  
13 Thank you. Thank you all very much. Thank you.

14 Okay. Our second ceremonial today  
15 is going to be led by Council Members Gonzalez and  
16 Dilan, recognizing the late Ralph Ricardo, the  
17 founder of the New York Salsa Festival as part of  
18 Hispanic Heritage Month. So if Council Members  
19 Dilan and Gonzalez could come up and everyone who  
20 is here for this ceremonial.

21 [Off mic]

22 SPEAKER QUINN: Sara and I are  
23 ready to go.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: I got  
25 heels on, so...

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[Crosstalk]

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SPEAKER QUINN: --everybody, how  
are you?

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[Off mic]

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COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Yeah, the  
wife. Or the son, the son, either one, one of  
you, the son. Ralph, Ralph, Ralph, Jr.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Hang on one second.  
If we could get some quiet for the final  
ceremonial please. Shh. Thank you.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Well it's  
an honor today to be here in this chamber to honor  
the family of Ralph Mercado. Ralph Mercado made a  
difference in many lives, and I want the children  
to know, I want the City to know, my colleagues,  
those that didn't know him, that he made a  
difference. That he touched artists and people,  
in salsa music especially, all over the world  
because he was global.

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But I say to him--though he is in  
heaven--and to his family, that, realistically,  
what he did was keep memories in our hearts. And  
he cared about music. Etonne Jerdis [phonetic],  
who is a person who lived in my district, but he's

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1  
2 also very famous. And I believe that that was  
3 part of the work that Ralph Mercado did--Celia  
4 Cruz, Tito Puentes. So we could attribute the  
5 promotion of all these incredible artists to this  
6 gentleman. And I just want to say to their  
7 family, what a legacy you have to carry. And I  
8 congratulate you today, and I'd like to have my  
9 colleague say a few words.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Thanks.

11 That's what happens when you yield to your  
12 colleagues--they tend to steal your speech. But  
13 what Sara said was absolutely right. And what I  
14 will say is that, you know, what Mr. Mercado has  
15 is something that we all strive to achieve. You  
16 know, he still has a beautiful family who is here,  
17 and he still has a lot to be remembered by after  
18 he's gone, and I think that's what life is all  
19 about.

20 So whenever you turn on the radio,  
21 you know, he's still here, he's still here with  
22 us. His work is still here. And if half of us  
23 can leave that behind after we're gone, then I say  
24 we've touched many people. But I tell you,  
25 there's a lot of musicians that he's worked with

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2 that have given me joy during the good times, to  
3 help me dance in my living room while I was  
4 mopping it, and, you know, to help me out through  
5 my hard times in life. To hear their music just  
6 lifted my spirit, so I'm appreciative.

7           You know, even though, you know, I  
8 just met you guys today and didn't know your dad  
9 well at all, I knew his work, and I knew his  
10 music, and I knew the people that he touched, and  
11 it made my life better, so I'm appreciative. And  
12 what a better person to honor for Hispanic  
13 Heritage Month than Ralph Mercado. And all the  
14 artists he touched I'm sure are extremely grateful  
15 for having worked with him. And it's been a  
16 pleasure to meet you guys today. Thank you.

17           [Applause]

18           SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very much  
19 Council Members Gonzalez and Dilan. If we could  
20 ask the Clerk to please read the proclamation,  
21 then we'll hear from the family.

22           COUNCIL CLERK: Council, City of  
23 New York Proclamation.

24           WHEREAS, in celebration of Hispanic  
25 Heritage Month, the Council of the City of New

1  
2 York is proud to honor the life and memory of  
3 Ralph Mercado for his extraordinary contributions  
4 to Latino culture and for his unwavering  
5 commitment to the continued growth of self-  
6 comprehension and pride among Latinos through New  
7 York city; and

8 WHEREAS, October is celebrated as  
9 Hispanic Heritage Month to provide a special  
10 opportunity to recognize the common culture and  
11 bonds of friendship that have united the United  
12 States and Hispanic countries for centuries, and  
13 to recognize the profound contributions that  
14 Hispanic-Americans have to made to New York city  
15 since its earliest days. This is a fitting  
16 occasion to pay tribute to Ralph Mercado, for he  
17 was a visionary promoter who spread his passion  
18 for Latin music the world over; and

19 WHEREAS, born in Brooklyn on  
20 September 29th, 1941, to a Dominican father and a  
21 Puerto Rican mother, Ralph Mercado became a  
22 driving force of the nascent Latino music culture  
23 that emerged from New York city's inner  
24 neighborhoods that eventually led to what is  
25 popularly referred to as the salsa explosion of

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the 1970s; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mercado also built an empire as the founder of the RMM recording and publishing label, which recorded more than 130 artists and genres, including salsa, Latin jazz, Latin rock, and meringue. He managed stars like Tito Puente and Celia Cruz, and discovered and helped shape the careers of others, like Marc Anthony and La India. He was also responsible for the global reach of the salsa music industry by coordinating and producing and collaborating on concerts throughout Europe, Asia, Latin America, and the African Continent; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mercado created an internship mentorship program at RMM, Inc. that gave hundreds of young men and women the opportunity to learn about the industry and prepare for successful careers by working in the music business in RMM's market in New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles, Miami, San Juan, and the Dominican Republic; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mercado truly distinguished himself as a musical titan and as a loving husband, father, and grandfather, and his

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legacy continues to enrich us all today.

Now, therefore, be it known that the Council of the City of New York is proud to posthumously honor Ralph Mercado for fostering greater harmony throughout the world with his extraordinary contributions.

Christine C. Quinn, Speaker for the entire Council; Sara M. Gonzalez, Council Member 38th District, Brooklyn; Erik Martin Dilan, Council Member 37th District, Brooklyn.

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. And thank you, Felix, I'm glad you came up and joined us. And I don't know who wants to speak for the family?

MS. DAMARIS MERCADO: Hi, I'm Damaris Mercado, one of the daughters; my brother Ralph over here; and Cindy, my father's wife; and my two children, two of the grandchildren: Delmara and David. And thank you Felix. Thank you, Ms. Gonzalez, and thank you Erik and Councilwoman Quinn.

Speaking with Ms. Gonzalez earlier, we were talking about the significance of this Proclamation and her history and knowledge and



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2 exposure to Latin music, and to Ralph Mercado and  
3 the impact that he had on her life. And there was  
4 one thing that stood out for me was when she  
5 started to speak about youth and her causes and  
6 mission for youth. We have two here today. And  
7 that's a passion of mine is to make sure that his  
8 history, his legacy is known, and the stories are  
9 not forgotten and the work that he has done is  
10 carried on, not only through our children but all  
11 of your children as well.

12 So I want to thank you very much  
13 for this, for us being here today. And you guys  
14 have anything you want to say?

15 [Off mic]

16 MS. MERCADO: No? Okay.

17 [Off mic]

18 MR. RALPH MERCADO III: I'd like to  
19 start off by thanking the New York City Council,  
20 Councilwoman Gonzalez, and Councilman Dilan for  
21 giving our father this Proclamation today.

22 Ralph is known best for bringing  
23 salsa from New York to the world, and what he's  
24 done can never be repeated. But, hopefully, our  
25 future, our children, our grandchildren, will

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2 continue to remember the legacy he left behind.  
3 And part of the Proclamation it read Ralph  
4 contributions were as a record promoter, concert  
5 promoter--and one of legacies he had here in New  
6 York was his annual Salsa Festival, this went on  
7 for 32 years. And I'm going to make it my mission  
8 that it continues for at least another 32 years  
9 until I can let my children and my children's  
10 children continue his legacy. Thank you.

11 [Off mic]

12 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very much  
13 and thank you all for coming. This concludes  
14 today's ceremonials. Thank you.

15 [Long pause]

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Can I have your  
17 attention, please; can I have your attention,  
18 please. At this time, please place all cell  
19 phones and pagers to vibrate. Thank you.

20 [Long pause]

21 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet, please.  
22 Quiet, please.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: We're ready  
24 to start the Stated Meeting for October 17th.  
25 Please rise for the Invocation--

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MALE VOICE: Pledge Allegiance.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Pledge  
Allegiance. Please rise for the Pledge of  
Allegiance.

[Off mic]

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: I pledge  
allegiance--

[Pause]

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: --nation,  
under God, indivisible, with liberty, and justice  
for all. Roll call.

COUNCIL CLERK: Arroyo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Here.

COUNCIL CLERK: Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: [No  
response].

COUNCIL CLERK: Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: [No  
response].

COUNCIL CLERK: Cabrera.

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

COUNCIL CLERK: Chin.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

COUNCIL CLERK: Comrie.

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Crowley.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Dickens.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: [No

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response].

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COUNCIL CLERK: Dilan.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Dromm.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Eugene.

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COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Ferreras.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Fidler.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: [No

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response].

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COUNCIL CLERK: Foster.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Here.

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Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Garodnick.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Gennaro.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: [No

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2 response].

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COUNCIL CLERK: Gentile.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: I'm here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Gonzalez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Greenfield.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Halloran.

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COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Ignizio.

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COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Jackson.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: James.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Koo.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Koppell.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Koslowitz.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Lander.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Lappin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: [No

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response].

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COUNCIL CLERK: Levin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:

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COUNCIL CLERK: Mealy.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: [No

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response].

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COUNCIL CLERK: Mendez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Nelson.

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COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Palma.

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COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Recchia.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Reyna.

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COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: [No

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response].

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COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Rose.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: [No

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response].

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COUNCIL CLERK: Sanders.

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COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: [No

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response].

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COUNCIL CLERK: Seabrook.

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COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Ulrich.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Vacca.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Vallone.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Van Bramer.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Vann.

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MALE VOICE: Hey, what's up? How

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you doing? Everything good?

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[Off mic]

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COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: [No

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response].

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COUNCIL CLERK: Weprin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Williams.

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[Off mic]

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.

COUNCIL CLERK: Wills.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Here.

COUNCIL CLERK: Oddo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Here.

COUNCIL CLERK: Rivera.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: [No  
response].

COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

SPEAKER QUINN: Here.

COUNCIL CLERK: We have a quorum.

[Pause]

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Rise for  
the Invocation, which will be done by Council  
Member Fernando Cabrera.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: All rise.

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Let's bow  
our heads. Father, we come before you. We ask  
you, as council members, that you would give us  
the grace to do this work. Lord, we ask you that  
you will give us, Lord, the tenacity to do the  
right thing. And, Lord, we ask you that you will  
grant us peace under the pressures that many of



1  
2 the council members go through. We ask you for  
3 your presence to be here to guide us, and that,  
4 ultimately, oh God, we'll be able to help the  
5 people that you have called us to serve. We pray  
6 this in your mighty name. Everyone says: Amen.

7 [Pause]

8 SPEAKER QUINN: If I--

9 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Council  
10 Member Rose. Council Member....

11 SPEAKER QUINN: If I could make a  
12 motion to spread the Invocation in full upon the  
13 record, and if I could ask my colleagues to please  
14 stand again.

15 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: All rise.

16 SPEAKER QUINN: We, unfortunately,  
17 have three individuals' passing to note today. On  
18 October 3rd, 2011, Private Danny Chin, 19, from  
19 Lower Manhattan in Council Member Chin's district  
20 died while serving in Afghanistan. Private Chin  
21 was assigned to the Third Battalion, 21st Infantry  
22 Regiment based out of Fort Wainwright, Alaska.

23 Private Chin was a 2010 graduate of  
24 Pace University High School and enlisted in the  
25 Army in January of this year. He was assigned to

1  
2 training in Alaska, and two months ago deployed to  
3 Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring  
4 Freedom. Described by friends as a quiet, smart  
5 student with a unique sense of humor, Private Chin  
6 was the only child of his immigrant parents.

7 Last week--and we thank her so much  
8 for this--Council Woman Margaret Chin accompanied  
9 Private Chin's devastated parents to JFK Airport  
10 to meet their son's remains for a dignified  
11 transfer and burial. Private Danny Chin's funeral  
12 was held this past Thursday on Mulberry Street.  
13 Our thoughts and prayers go out to his parents,  
14 relatives, and friends.

15 And if I could call on Council  
16 Member Chin for a few words.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you,  
18 Speaker. Their families were very gratified to  
19 have so much support from families and friends and  
20 also elected officials. But they also asked us to  
21 support them to call for a full investigation to  
22 the death, and I think that's what we would  
23 support them on. And they thank us for all the  
24 condolences that were sent.

25 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very

1  
2 much, Council Member Chin. I also want to note  
3 the passing on October 7th, after a long and  
4 valiant battle with ovarian cancer, of Paula  
5 Ettelbrick, 56, who was the former legal director  
6 at Lambda Legal. Paula was a lifelong activist  
7 for LGBT equality and social justice, and for part  
8 of her time, she was the executive--part of her  
9 life was the executive director of the Stonewall  
10 Community Foundation. She also worked at the  
11 Empire State Pride Agenda. She served there as  
12 their legislative director and she served on the  
13 board of many national organizations, and was a  
14 lecturer and adjunct professor on sexuality and  
15 the law on LGBT human rights at NYU, Barnard,  
16 Columbia, and the University of Michigan Law  
17 School.

18 As Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum mentioned  
19 during the Yom Kippur services, Paula "fought with  
20 ever fiber of her being."

21 Paula is survived by her family,  
22 which includes her partner, Marianne; her former  
23 partner, Suzanne, with whom she was raising their  
24 two children--Adam, 14, Julia, 12--her brother,  
25 Robert; and her sister, Linda.

1  
2                   On October 5th, Reverend Fred L.  
3       Shuttlesworth, 89, an important leader of our  
4       civil rights movement, who survived beatings and  
5       bombings in Alabama a half-century ago as he  
6       fought along Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and  
7       others, passed away in Birmingham, Alabama. Dr.  
8       King once called Reverend Shuttlesworth "the most  
9       courageous Civil Rights fighter in the South."

10                   And I'd like to call on Council  
11       Member Helen Diane Foster to make a few comments,  
12       and thank Council Member Foster for noting this  
13       passing so we could note it today.

14                   COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Thank you,  
15       Speaker Quinn. Many of us wouldn't be here in  
16       this elective office today if it wasn't for  
17       Reverend Shuttlesworth. He is probably the most  
18       significant leader in the civil rights movement  
19       along with Dr. King. He was the non-passive  
20       person to Dr. King's passive approach to the civil  
21       rights movement. He was called the wild man from  
22       Birmingham.

23                   On Christmas night, when the KKK  
24       threw six sticks of dynamite in to his house to  
25       blow it up, his mattress flew up in the air, and

1  
2 when he wasn't heard--hurt, excuse me, he said,  
3 "God must have made me dynamite proof."

4 He was beaten severely by the KKK  
5 with brass knuckles and bicycle chains when he  
6 tried to enroll his daughter into an all-white  
7 school, and when he survived, the doctor said he  
8 is surprised that he only had a concussion, and he  
9 said, "The Lord had me living in a hard town so He  
10 gave me a hard head." He was and is probably the  
11 last of the big Civil Rights.

12 He will be laid to rest this  
13 weekend in Birmingham, and many people from the  
14 New York City area are going down. Former  
15 Manhattan Borough president and council member, C.  
16 Virginia Fields, was actually one of the little  
17 girls who participated in his marches when he was  
18 in Birmingham.

19 And to honor him, the City of  
20 Birmingham renamed its airport the Birmingham-  
21 Shuttlesworth International Airport. And when  
22 they did the commemoration of the march from  
23 Thelma to Montgomery and crossing the Pettus  
24 Bridge, it was then Senator Obama who pushed him  
25 across the bridge in a wheelchair. And in 2008,

1  
2 in that same wheelchair, as he was fighting for  
3 his life, he was able to watch President Obama  
4 become the first black U.S. president. And none  
5 of that would have happened if it were not for the  
6 work of Fred Shuttlesworth.

7 So thank you, Speaker, for taking  
8 this time to acknowledge him and what he's done  
9 for this country.

10 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very  
11 much, Council Member Foster, thank you.

12 [pause]

13 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you Deputy  
14 Majority Leader.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Adoption of  
16 Minutes.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes, I  
18 make a motion the Minutes of the Stated Meeting of  
19 September 21st, 2011, be adopted as printed.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Messages  
21 and Papers from the Mayor?

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Preconsidered M 679  
23 submitting Paula Berry for appointment to the  
24 Waterfront Management Advisory Board.

25 SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, Privileges

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and Elections.

COUNCIL CLERK: Preconsidered M 680  
submitting Eric Goldstein for appointment to the  
Waterfront Management Advisory Board.

SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, Privileges  
and Elections.

COUNCIL CLERK: Preconsidered M 681  
submitting Michael Northrop for appointment to the  
Waterfront Management Advisory Board.

SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, Privileges  
and Elections.

COUNCIL CLERK: Preconsidered M 682  
submitting Henry Wan for appointment to the  
Waterfront Management Advisory Board.

SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, Privileges  
and Elections.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE:  
Communication from City, County, and Borough  
Offices.

COUNCIL CLERK: None.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Petitions  
and Communications.

COUNCIL CLERK: None.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Land Use

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Call-Ups.

COUNCIL CLERK: M 683 through M  
688, sidewalk cafes.

SPEAKER QUINN: If we could please  
couple all of those and have a roll call on the  
coupled Land Use Call-Ups, please.

COUNCIL CLERK: Arroyo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Cabrera.

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Permission  
to vote on all items, resolutions, and couples in  
the general order? Aye on all.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: I'm sorry,  
say that again?

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Permission  
to vote in all items, resolutions, and couples in  
the general order, in the general account order.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Sure.

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye on  
all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Chin.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.



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COUNCIL CLERK: Comrie.

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Crowley.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Dickens.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: [No

8

response].

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COUNCIL CLERK: Dilan.

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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: Yes.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Foster.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Oops,

21

excuse me. I vote aye and would like permission

22

to vote on everything before the calendar this

23

afternoon.

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: So ordered.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye on all.

1

2 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: Yes.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Gonzalez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Greenfield.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Halloran.

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COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Mr.

15

Deputy Majority Leader, requests unanimous consent

16

to vote on all items on the calendar.

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[Off mic]

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: So ordered.

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COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Aye on

20

all.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Ignizio.

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COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: [No

23

response].

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COUNCIL CLERK: Jackson.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye on

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all.

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COUNCIL CLERK: James.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Aye on all.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Koo.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Koppell.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Koslowitz.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

11

COUNCIL CLERK: Lander.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

13

COUNCIL CLERK: Lappin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye, and

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may I request unanimous consent to vote on the

16

General Order Calendar as well? Aye.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: So ordered.

18

COUNCIL CLERK: Levin.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

20

MALE VOICE: Was that Lappin voting

21

on everything?

22

COUNCIL CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye

24

on all.

25

COUNCIL CLERK: Mealy.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Present.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Call-Ups. Call-

4

Ups.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: May I have

6

permission to vote on all Call-Ups?

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: How do you

8

vote on the Land Use Call-Ups?2

9

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye.

10

COUNCIL CLERK: Mendez.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye on all.

12

COUNCIL CLERK: Nelson.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Aye on all,

14

and I request consent--unanimous consent to vote

15

aye on all calendar order items.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: So ordered.

17

COUNCIL CLERK: Palma.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye on all.

19

COUNCIL CLERK: Recchia.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Aye.

21

COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Rose.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Sanders.

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COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Permission to vote on all previous items on the agenda.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: We just had roll call, so it's just on Land Use.

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Okay. I stand corrected. I vote aye.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Okay.

COUNCIL CLERK: Seabrook.

COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Yes, Mr. Majority Leader, with unanimous consent I'd like to vote aye on all Land Use Call-Ups and general orders.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: I vote aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Ulrich.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Vallone.

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: I vote aye on all Land Use Call-Ups, and with permission

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I would like to vote aye on all.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: So ordered.

So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank  
you.

COUNCIL CLERK: Vann.

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: [No  
response].

COUNCIL CLERK: Weprin.

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Wills.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Oddo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

SPEAKER QUINN: Yes.

[Long pause]

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Today's  
Land Use Call-Up votes were adopted by a vote of  
45 affirmative, zero negative. Communication from  
the Speaker. Quiet, please. Quiet, please.

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very

1  
2 much. First, I want to thank Chuck Davis and  
3 everyone who as part of the Rules Committee did  
4 seven appointments today, which is a lot of  
5 appointments to do. So if we could hear it for  
6 Chuck Davis and his team as part of the Rules  
7 Committee.

8 We're also voting on an important  
9 piece of legislation today, Intro 155A. I want to  
10 thank Laura Popa, who's worked incredibly hard on  
11 this bill. Terzah Nasser, Aysha Schomburg, Molly  
12 Murphy, Jan Atwell, and all the other staff who  
13 worked on this bill. But, in particular, the  
14 sponsor of this bill and the chair of the  
15 Education Committee, Robert Jackson.

16 And Intro 155A is a piece of  
17 legislation we are calling the School's FACT Act.  
18 With FACT standing for Facility, Accountability--I  
19 can't remember the C--R.J., what does the C stand  
20 for? Capacity, we got it there, okay. The FACT  
21 Act stands for Facility, Accountability, Capacity,  
22 and Transparency. I'll say it again now that I've  
23 remembered it. The School's Facility,  
24 Accountability, Capacity and Transparency Act.

25 Why do we need a school's FACT Act?

1  
2 Because we actually don't have any annual  
3 documentation and reporting from the Department of  
4 Education that answers simple questions like:  
5 Does the school in my neighborhood have a gym;  
6 does the school in my neighborhood have an art  
7 room; does the school in my neighborhood have a  
8 library; my child has special needs; are there  
9 rooms for speech therapy; will speech therapy be  
10 conducted in the hallway? None of that  
11 information--not in the Blue Book, not anywhere--  
12 is that information reported.

13           The School's FACT Act will require  
14 that that information, amongst other information  
15 around facilities and capacity, will be reported  
16 annually to the City Council and be completely  
17 transparent to the public.

18           It will also require that that  
19 information not come in some huge citywide form,  
20 but broken down by school district, by community  
21 board, by borough, by council district, so you can  
22 actually say, let me compare one school in my  
23 neighborhood to the other school. Let me see what  
24 the school is like by where I work versus where by  
25 I live. So you can be empowered as a parent to



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2 know the facts based on the FACT Act and pick the  
3 school that is best for the needs of your  
4 individual child.

5           Beyond that, it will give us a much  
6 better picture of overcrowding, of facility space,  
7 and that information will be an incredibly  
8 powerful tool to help council members, parents,  
9 unions, activists, and others fight to make the  
10 schools in our city better places. If you don't  
11 know what is there, you can't accurately fight to  
12 make it better.

13           So I want to thank everyone who has  
14 brought us this piece of legislation--first and  
15 foremost, the chair of our Education Committee.  
16 And this is another step forward in our effort to  
17 improve the schools of our city. I want to also  
18 thank, Make the Road New York, the UFT, the CSA,  
19 Class Size Matters, Campaign for Fiscal Equity,  
20 and so many other advocates who worked with us on  
21 this piece of legislation.

22           And now call on the chair and  
23 sponsor of the bill, Chairperson Jackson.

24           COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Well thank  
25 you, Speaker Quinn, my colleagues, Council Member

1  
2 Wills, Council Member Wills. I rise in order to  
3 say that the school FACT Act, which stands for  
4 Facilities, Accountability, Capacity and  
5 Transparency, as I said at the pre-stated press  
6 conference, let the sun shine in because we do  
7 want to have transparency. We want to know that  
8 every space that is used in the school, whether  
9 it's a hallway or a closet, whatever it may be,  
10 it's counted so people know exactly what the  
11 situation is. And, obviously, I believe that the  
12 only place that is not being used in order to  
13 educate our children or to have some other  
14 programs is the boiler room.

15 But, clearly, this is something  
16 that parents and advocates have been crying out  
17 for so long, and, quite frankly, it's a new day.  
18 And it's a new day because all of the advocates  
19 and partners have come together and we've reached  
20 a consensus at what the needs are and what must be  
21 looked at.

22 So I thank the Speaker and everyone  
23 else involved in bringing us to where we are  
24 today. Even though some people say, well, 2013,  
25 as the Speaker said at the pre-stated press

1  
2 conference, this is a new day, so all of that  
3 information that has to be put together that the  
4 Department of Education may not have is going to  
5 show the truth, it's going to shed light. And  
6 parents will be able to decide what's best for  
7 their children; advocates will be able to decide  
8 at the district level, at the school level; you,  
9 as council members, will be able to know the facts  
10 so you can decide on advocating when it comes to  
11 the capital budget or, more specifically, to any  
12 type of things that you may be doing in your  
13 district.

14                   So this is a win-win situation, and  
15 we thank everyone involved in bringing us to where  
16 we are today. Let the sun shine in.

17                   SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very  
18 much. That concludes Communications from the  
19 Speaker.

20                   COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Discussion  
21 of General Orders. Anyone for the General Order  
22 Calendar today? Seeing none, Report of Special  
23 Committees.

24                   COUNCIL CLERK: None.

25                   COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Report of

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Standing Committees.

COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the  
Committee on Education, Intro 155A, School's FACT  
Act.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and Coupled  
on General Orders.

COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the  
Committee on Finance, Preconsidered Reso 1084,  
Organization Funding.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General  
Orders.

COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the  
Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections, M  
646 and Reso 1085, approving the reappointment of  
Susan Klitzman to the Board of Health.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General  
Orders.

COUNCIL CLERK: M 647 and Reso  
1086, approving the reappointment of Dr. Sixto  
Caro, New York City Board of Health.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General  
Orders.

COUNCIL CLERK: M 648 and Reso  
1087, approving the appointment of Elizabeth

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Knauer, Environmental Control Board.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders.

COUNCIL CLERK: Preconsidered M 679 and Reso 1088, approving the appointment of Paula Berry, Waterfront Management Advisory Board.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders.

COUNCIL CLERK: Preconsidered M 680 and Reso 1089, approving the appointment of Eric Goldstein, Waterfront Management Advisory Board.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders.

COUNCIL CLERK: Preconsidered M 681 and Reso 1090, approving the appointment of Michael Northrop, Waterfront Management Advisory Board.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders.

COUNCIL CLERK: Preconsidered M 682 and Reso 1091, approving the appointment of Henry Wan, Waterfront Management Advisory Board.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER CONRIE: General  
3 Order Calendar.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Resolution  
5 appointing various persons, Commissioner of Deeds.

6 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General  
7 Orders. And at this point, I'd like to ask for a  
8 roll call on all items that have been coupled on  
9 the General Order Calendar, please.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Arroyo.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye on all.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Brewer.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Chin.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye on all.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Comrie.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Yes to all.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Crowley.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Yes.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Dickens.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: [No  
22 response].

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Dilan.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Aye.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: DROMM.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye on all.

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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: Yes.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Garodnick.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

11

COUNCIL CLERK: Gennaro.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Mr.

13

Leader, I wish to vote yes, I wish to vote yes,

14

and I wish to point out that I just want to

15

commend the appointment of Eric Goldstein as a

16

member of the New York City Waterfront Board.

17

He's served the environmental community with great

18

distinction for decades, and I'm happy to see him

19

take on this new responsibility. And, as I said,

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I vote aye on all.

21

COUNCIL CLERK: Gentile.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye on

23

all.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Gonzalez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye on

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2 all.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Greenfield.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye on

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all.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Ignizio.

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COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Jackson.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye on

10

all.

11

COUNCIL CLERK: James.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Aye on all.

13

COUNCIL CLERK: Koo.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye on all.

15

COUNCIL CLERK: Koppell.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Aye on

17

all.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Koslowitz.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye on

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all.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Lander.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

23

COUNCIL CLERK: Levin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Mark-Viverito.



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mic].

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: [Off

COUNCIL CLERK: Mealy.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Mendez.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Yes.

COUNCIL CLERK: Palma.

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Recchia.

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Aye on

all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Reyna.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: [No

response].

COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Sanders.

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Aye on

all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Ulrich.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Vacca.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Vallone.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Vann.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: [No

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response].

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COUNCIL CLERK: Weprin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Williams.

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COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Because

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the Speaker now knows martial arts, I'm compelled

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to vote aye on all.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Wills.

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COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Aye on all.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Dickens.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye on all

18

and all prior Land Use Call-Ups.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Oddo.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Aye on all. And

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just remember, I know it and so does Sara so she's

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got my back on the tough votes. Aye on all.

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[Pause]

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: All items  
3 on today's General Order calendar were adopted by  
4 a vote to 47 affirmative, zero negative, and zero  
5 abstentions.

6 And revised Land Use Call-Ups were  
7 adopted a vote of 47 in the affirmative and zero  
8 in the negative. Introduction and Reading of the  
9 Bills.

10 SPEAKER QUINN: All bills are  
11 referred to committees as indicated on the Agenda.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Discussion  
13 and Resolutions. None. General Discussion,  
14 Council Member James.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: So there was  
16 a passing of two giants this past week.

17 SPEAKER QUINN: Just a little quiet  
18 for Council Member James, please.

19 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet, please.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: 'Cause we  
21 suffered the passing of two giants, as was  
22 mentioned earlier: Reverend Fred Shuttlesworth,  
23 who formed the Alabama Christian Movement for  
24 Human Rights and also the Southern Christian  
25 Leadership. He was a giant, obviously, in the

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Civil Rights movement.

But we also suffered the loss of Derrick Bell, who was a champion for equality. Derrick Bell was a distinguished teacher and scholar, who influenced the lives and careers of law students at the University of Southern California, Harvard Law School, where he was the first black tenured professor, the University of Oregon Law School, and for the past 20 years, NYU Law School.

In addition, Reverend Shuttlesworth, President Obama stated in part, Reverend Shuttlesworth was a testament to the strength of the human spirit and today we stand on his shoulders and the shoulders of all those who marched and sat and lifted their voices to help perfect our Union. America owes Reverend Shuttlesworth a debt of gratitude.

This past weekend, Council Members Jackson, Williams, Rodriguez, and myself had the opportunity to travel to Washington, DC, as they commemorated the memorial of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.--and Sanders as well. The memorial, standing almost 30-feet tall, positioned between

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2 the Jefferson and the Lincoln Memorial, reinforces  
3 the boundless opportunities for advancement in the  
4 future.

5 The Stone of Hope stands forward  
6 and is detached from the Mountain of Despair, a  
7 massive gateway representative to the struggle he  
8 faced in the pursuit of social equality and peace.  
9 It also serves as the central entryway for the  
10 memorial. The quotations chosen for the  
11 inscription walls, which frame the Mountain of  
12 Despair and the Stone of Hope, stress four primary  
13 messages of Dr. King: Justice, Democracy, Hope  
14 and Love. It was an honor to visit it with  
15 Council Member Sanders, Jackson, Williams, and  
16 Rodriguez. Thank you.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Council  
18 Member Garodnick.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Thank  
20 you very much. Today I'm introducing a bill that  
21 would require the Department of Consumer Affairs  
22 to post approved sidewalk café drawings on its  
23 website. Currently, when applying for either an  
24 unenclosed or enclosed sidewalk café, restaurants  
25 are required to submit to DCA a set of self-

1 certified architect renderings or drawings,  
2 detailing both the space a sidewalk café will  
3 occupy and the configuration of the tables and  
4 chairs within the café's space. While the public  
5 has access to sidewalk café drawings at Community  
6 Board meetings, the technology obviously exists to  
7 make these drawings easily accessible 24 hours a  
8 day, 7 days a week online.

10 Intro 692 would help resolve any  
11 disputes that may arise regarding a sidewalk  
12 café's approved boundaries or the permitted number  
13 and configuration of tables and chairs. Public  
14 access to an architect's sidewalk café drawings is  
15 very simply a matter of transparency, and I  
16 encourage my colleagues to join me in signing on  
17 to this legislation. Thank you.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Jackson.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you,  
20 Deputy Majority Leader. My colleagues, I rise in  
21 order to talk about our trip to Washington, DC,  
22 Saturday where there was a rally and march for  
23 jobs and justice. And my colleagues Letitia  
24 James, Jumaane Williams, James Sanders, Jr., and  
25 myself were down there with thousands of people

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2 from around our country in order to listen to  
3 speeches from dignitaries and others, labor unions  
4 from around the country, to talk about the need  
5 for jobs.

6 And then we marched to the Martin  
7 Luther King Memorial. And I tell you, it's a  
8 beautiful sight to see. And when you read the  
9 slogans and words on the memorial and on the wall,  
10 it really, really makes you proud to be an  
11 American. And especially having the first  
12 African-American Memorial in Washington, DC, our  
13 nation's capital, as an African-American it even  
14 makes me even prouder.

15 So I'm very, very, very pleased to  
16 say to all of you that if you haven't been down to  
17 see it as of yet, you need to go. It brings about  
18 a sense of unity, humanity, and dignity for all  
19 Americans. It doesn't matter if you're black,  
20 white, yellow or green, we're all Americans and  
21 that's what it stands for. United we stand,  
22 divided we fall. Thank you.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Council  
24 Member Gale Brewer.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you

1  
2 very much. First, I'm delighted that Eric  
3 Goldstein will be on the Waterfront Management,  
4 he's an excellent choice.

5           Number two, Intro 691 would mean  
6 that the City of New York, if passed, would  
7 require that trucks and carts, which both get food  
8 permits, would be delineated so the public knows  
9 how many trucks and how many carts. I'm very  
10 supportive of vending, but I do think that when we  
11 are talking about trucks, there are a lot of  
12 concerns, and this would be one way to address how  
13 many we have of each.

14           Number two, we have wonderful  
15 interns. Dana Seagall's [phonetic] at Barnard, in  
16 our office this year, she's from Barnard. Nadulis  
17 Tetan [phonetic] is a John Jay student, Mark  
18 Bonavich [phonetic] is Baruch, Kate Hennessey is  
19 NYU and she's in the School of Business, and Kera  
20 Ortiz [phonetic] is Bronx Community College. And  
21 this is just a few of our wonderful interns and I  
22 thank them. Thank you very much.

23           COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Council  
24 Member Rodriguez.

25           COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Thank



1  
2 you. This day our city is the center of the  
3 movement that has spread to many cities and many  
4 nations, calling for the wealthy to contribute  
5 more to the finance of the city. I thank  
6 everyone, including Speaker Quinn, for standing  
7 the last couple of days, calling on the mayor to  
8 allow the protesters to use the First Amendment  
9 and led the protesters to have the right to  
10 express their voice at the park at the same time  
11 that we should also care for the quality life of  
12 the resident in the district that is represented  
13 by Margaret Chin.

14 But I think that it is important  
15 that we continue our voice for support to a  
16 movement that has a voice and that has a message.  
17 Those people that say that there's not a message,  
18 the message there and the message is clear--

19 SPEAKER QUINN: [Interposing] Can  
20 we get quiet for Council Member Rodriguez, and add  
21 a little time back, please?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: The  
23 message of the movement is calling on the wealthy  
24 people to increase their level of contribution.  
25 It is a shame that every year we have to sit down

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2 in balancing the budget basically on the back of  
3 the working class and the middleclass people. And  
4 the wealthy community has not shared that level of  
5 sacrifice. So what I hope that everyone  
6 understand that, even if we don't share the value  
7 and the point of view of everyone that participate  
8 in movement, most of the people who are on the  
9 street, they have the message which says, "We need  
10 to pay attention on how we are dealing with the--  
11 how we are balancing budgets." It is time for us  
12 to mobilize our hundreds of thousands in the city  
13 and keep this movement alive.

14 So I hope that each of you--those  
15 of you that have not been there, please stop by,  
16 show your support because that group--that  
17 movement that has started with a few groups of  
18 youngsters now is a movement of the voice of  
19 hundreds of thousands of people, there has been  
20 unemployment and many people that voiced the  
21 interest of the working class and the middleclass  
22 New Yorkers. Thank you.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Council  
24 Member Darlene Mealy.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Yes, I want

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2 to concur with my colleagues about we have lost  
3 giants, and we lost one, recently, this week in my  
4 district, Bishop Landon E. Penn. He was a giant  
5 in our community, more than 35 years. And his  
6 funeral was today, and I just want everyone to  
7 send their prayers out to Universal Temple Church  
8 and to their family. And we have lost a giant.  
9 Thank you.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Council  
11 Member Jumaane Williams.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank  
13 you. I didn't say this before because I hadn't  
14 permission from my staff, but I'd like to get a  
15 moment of silence for Matthew Norton Ringel, who  
16 is the father of my staff member, Stefan Ringel  
17 [phonetic], who passed away this past week. Can I  
18 have that?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Can we get  
20 a moment of silence for Council Member Jumaane  
21 Williams' staff person's father that passed away?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Stefan  
23 Ringel, his father's name is Matthew Norton  
24 Ringel, passed away this week.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Can we all

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rise for a moment of silence, please?

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SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: All rise.

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[Pause]

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Thank you.

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With that, seeing no others, the meeting for

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October 17th is adjourned.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Tammy Wittman, 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

*Tammy Wittman*

Date October 31, 2011