

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

STATED MEETING OF THE NEW
YORK CITY COUNCIL

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OCTOBER 12, 2022

Start: 2:19 p.m.

Recess: 3:48 p.m.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Speaker Adrienne Adams

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- Shaun Abreu
- Joann Ariola
- Alexa Avilés
- Diana Ayala
- Charles Barron
- Erik Bottcher
- Justin L. Brannan
- Gale A. Brewer
- Selvena N. Brooks-Powers
- Tiffany Cabán
- David M. Carr
- Carmen De La Rosa
- Eric Dinowitz
- Amanda Farias
- Oswald Feliz
- James Gennaro
- Jennifer Gutiérrez
- Kamillah Hanks
- Shahana Hanif
- Robert F. Holden

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

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

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2 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Ladies and gentlemen at this
3 time please place all electronic devices, all
4 electronic devices to vibrate. Mr Majority Leader.

5 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Good afternoon and
6 welcome to the stated meeting of October 12, 2022.
7 I'm Majority Leader Keith Powers. I'd like to thank
8 everyone for joining us. If you'd like to follow
9 along, the agenda for today's meeting is posted on
10 the city council website.

11 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Please join us for the Pledge
12 of Allegiance.

13 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Roll call.

14 CLERK: Abreu?

15 COUNCILMEMBER ABREU: Present.

16 CLERK: Ariola?

17 COUNCILMEMBER ARIOLA: Present.

18 CLERK: Avilés?

19 COUNCILMEMBER AVILÉS: Presente.

20 CLERK: Ayala?

21 COUNCILMEMBER AYALA: Present.

22 CLERK: Barron?

23 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: Here.

24 CLERK: Noted. Bottcher?

25 COUNCILMEMBER BOTTCHER: Here.

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2 CLERK: Brannan?

3 COUNCILMEMBER BRANNAN: Here.

4 CLERK: Brewer?

5 CLERK: Brooks-Powers?

6 COUNCILMEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Present.

7 CLERK: Cabán?

8 COUNCILMEMBER CABÁN: Present.

9 CLERK: Carr?

10 COUNCILMEMBER CARR: Present.

11 CLERK: De La Rosa?

12 COUNCILMEMBER DE LA ROSA: Here.

13 CLERK: Dinowitz?

14 COUNCILMEMBER DINOWITZ: Present.

15 CLERK: Farias?

16 COUNCILMEMBER FARIAS: Present.

17 CLERK: Feliz?

18 COUNCILMEMBER FELIZ: Presente.

19 CLERK: Gennaro?

20 COUNCILMEMBER GENNARO: I'm back. Look out.

21 CLERK: Gutiérrez?

22 COUNCILMEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Presente.

23 CLERK: Hanif?

24 COUNCILMEMBER HANIF: Present.

25 CLERK: Hanks?

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2 COUNCILMEMBER HANKS: Present.

3 CLERK: Holden?

4 COUNCILMEMBER HOLDEN: Here.

5 CLERK: Hudson?

6 COUNCILMEMBER HUDSON: Present.

7 CLERK: Joseph?

8 COUNCILMEMBER JOSEPH: Present.

9 CLERK: Kagan?

10 CLERK: Krishnan?

11 COUNCILMEMBER KRISHNAN: Present.

12 CLERK: Lee?

13 COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Present.

14 CLERK: Louis?

15 COUNCILMEMBER LOUIS: Present.

16 CLERK: Marte?

17 COUNCILMEMBER MARTE: Here.

18 CLERK: Mealy?

19 COUNCILMEMBER MEALY: Present.

20 CLERK: Menin?

21 COUNCILMEMBER MENIN: Present.

22 CLERK: Moya?

23 COUNCILMEMBER MOYA: Present.

24 CLERK: Narcisse?

25 COUNCILMEMBER NARCISSE: Present.

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2 CLERK: Nurse?

3 COUNCILMEMBER NURSE: Present.

4 CLERK: Ossé?

5 COUNCILMEMBER OSSÉ: Present.

6 CLERK: Paladino?

7 COUNCILMEMBER PALADINO: Present.

8 CLERK: Restler?

9 COUNCILMEMBER RESTLER: Present.

10 CLERK: Richardson Jordan?

11 CLERK: Riley?

12 COUNCILMEMBER RILEY: Present.

13 CLERK: Rivera?

14 COUNCILMEMBER RIVERA: Present.

15 CLERK: Salamanca?

16 COUNCILMEMBER SALAMANCA: Present.

17 CLERK: Sanchez?

18 CLERK: Schulman?

19 COUNCILMEMBER SCHULMAN: Here.

20 CLERK: Stevens?

21 COUNCILMEMBER Stevens: Here.

22 CLERK: Ung?

23 COUNCILMEMBER UNG: Present.

24 CLERK: Velázquez?

25 CLERK: Brewer?

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2 COUNCILMEMBER BREWER: Here.

3 CLERK: Vernikov?

4 CLERK: Williams?

5 COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.

6 CLERK: Won?

7 COUNCILMEMBER WON: Here.

8 CLERK: Yeger?

9 CLERK: Borelli?

10 CLERK: Powers?

11 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Here.

12 CLERK: Speaker Adams?

13 SPEAKER ADAMS: Present.

14 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We now have
15 Today's invocation which have been delivered by Rabbi
16 Yossi Mendelson from congregation Machane Chodosh,
17 which is located at 67-29 180th Street in Queens.
18 Welcome.

19 SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise.

20 RABBI MENDELSON: Let me begin by saying that
21 today is a very unique day on the Jewish calendar.
22 So unique in fact that it occurs only once in seven
23 years. It's called Hakkel[sp?] or Gathering Day, and
24 once in seven years during the Sukkos Holiday, the
25 Festival of Booths, the entire Jewish nation, from

2 eldest to youngest, even to the smallest babies would
3 gather in the plaza outside the Holy Temple in
4 Jerusalem to hear the highest political official in
5 the nation read inspirational scriptures, intended to
6 inspire the nation, to rededicate themselves to the
7 service of God, and their fellow residents.

8 So as such, I invite you to join me in reflecting
9 on gathering.

10 We bring to mind, the universal and eternal
11 source of life that embraces us all, and in whose
12 sight we are all gathered as one. As we gather, we
13 reflect on our individual voice, and then how is it
14 gathered with those with whom I serve? What does it
15 contribute to the gathering? And how is it enhanced
16 by the others gathered with me? The Jewish people,
17 as we celebrate Sukkos, gathered together with our
18 ancestors, and each day we remember, one of those
19 ancestors seven in total. And so perhaps you'll find
20 your own voice in one of theirs. Is mine, the voice
21 of Abraham, whose name is invoked on the first day of
22 Sukkos? The voice of unconditional love? Or is it
23 the voice of Isaac for the second day? The voice of
24 holding boundaries and establishing rules? Or is it
25 the voice of Jacob, the voice of balance and harmony?

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2 Perhaps identify with the spirit of Moses, for his
3 courage and perseverance? Or maybe my voice is that
4 of Aaron, for his gentle touch, and humble spirit?
5 Or am I the relationship builder, and communicator,
6 Joseph? Or am I the embodiment of the final day of
7 Sukkos, King David, the implementer, who brings ideas
8 to reality.

9 Each of these are beautiful on their own, but
10 true goodness is only present, when they are all
11 gathered together. When we gather, our work is
12 praise. And I pray that this illustrious gathering
13 be blessed to be truly united for the spiritual and
14 material well-being of its members, all those who
15 live in this great city, and the impact we have
16 beyond, and then our work is praise.

17 And in the words of Psalm 117, "praise the
18 eternal, all you nations praise him, all you peoples,
19 for his love for us is great, and the truth of the
20 Lord endures forever." Hallelujah. [Speaks Hebrew
21 10 seconds] Hallelujah. Amen.

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS:

23 Thank you. Rabbi Mendelson. Thank you for being
24 here today. I now ask your local Councilmember, Lynn
25 Schulman, to spread the invocation on the record.

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2 COUNCILMEMBER SCHULMAN: Thank you. Rabbi Yossi
3 Mendelson is the spiritual leader at congregation
4 Machane Chodosh in Forest Hills, Queens, a
5 representative of the Habad movement, and a chaplain
6 at New York Presbyterian Queens hospital, and
7 Creedmoor Psychiatric Center, a graduate of the
8 Lubavitcher Yeshiva in Brooklyn. Rabbi Mendelsohn
9 served as Bible Studies Chair at the Jewish Institute
10 of Queens and is currently the clergy liaison for the
11 112th precinct in Queens.

12 I want to say that I met the rabbi about a year
13 ago when I was running for city council, and he... he
14 and his family immediately embraced me. And I will
15 tell you that he... I'm not as religious as some
16 other folks are, but he's very spiritual in his
17 thinking, and his speaking and he's inspired me in
18 many ways, and I'm very grateful for him being here.

19 I would like to now make a motion for unanimous
20 consent to spread the invocation and fall upon the
21 record. Thank you.

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, Councilmember
23 Schulman. Thank you for being with us today. Thanks
24 so much.

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2 We're now going to have the adoption of the
3 minutes by councilmember Oswald Feliz.

4 COUNCILMEMBER FELIZ: Thank you Majority Leader.
5 I'd like to make a motion that the minutes of the
6 Stated Meeting dated September 14, 2020, to be
7 adopted as printed.

8 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. Just going
9 to hold for one second.

10 Messages and papers from the mayor.

11 SPEAKER ADAMS: Received, ordered, printed, and
12 filed.

13 COUNSEL: I'm sorry Madam Speaker. M 94,
14 Executive Order Number 224.

15 SPEAKER ADAMS: Now received, ordered, printed,
16 and filed.

17 COUNSEL: M 95 through M 97 LCRC appointments.

18 SPEAKER ADAMS: Rules, privileges and elections.

19 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Communication from city,
20 county, and borough offices?

21 COUNSEL: M 98, districting commission plan.

22 SPEAKER ADAMS: Received, ordered, printed, and
23 filed.

24 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Petitions and
25 communications?

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2 COUNSEL: None.

3 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Land use call ups.

4 COUNSEL: M 99, Innovation Queens rezoning and
5 LSGD.

6 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on call-up vote. I would
7 now ask that the clerk take a roll call vote on
8 today's land use callups.

9 CLERK: Abreu?

10 COUNCILMEMBER ABREU: Aye.

11 CLERK: Ariola?

12 COUNCILMEMBER ARIOLA: Aye.

13 CLERK: Avilés?

14 COUNCILMEMBER AVILÉS: Aye.

15 CLERK: Ayala?

16 COUNCILMEMBER AYALA: Aye.

17 CLERK: Barron?

18 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: Aye.

19 CLERK: Noted. Bottcher?

20 COUNCILMEMBER BOTTCHER: Aye.

21 CLERK: Brannan?

22 COUNCILMEMBER BRANNAN: Aye.

23 CLERK: Brewer?

24 COUNCILMEMBER BREWER: Yes.

25 CLERK: Brooks-Powers?

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2 COUNCILMEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Aye.

3 CLERK: Cabán?

4 COUNCILMEMBER CABÁN: Aye.

5 CLERK: Carr?

6 COUNCILMEMBER CARR: Aye.

7 CLERK: De La Rosa?

8 COUNCILMEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye.

9 CLERK: Dinowitz?

10 COUNCILMEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye.

11 CLERK: Farias?

12 COUNCILMEMBER FARIAS: I vote aye.

13 CLERK: Feliz?

14 COUNCILMEMBER FELIZ: Aye.

15 CLERK: Gennaro?

16 COUNCILMEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

17 CLERK: Gutiérrez?

18 COUNCILMEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye.

19 CLERK: Hanif?

20 COUNCILMEMBER HANIF: Aye.

21 CLERK: Hanks?

22 COUNCILMEMBER HANKS: Aye.

23 CLERK: Holden?

24 COUNCILMEMBER HOLDEN: Aye.

25 CLERK: Hudson?

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2 COUNCILMEMBER HUDSON: Aye.

3 CLERK: Joseph?

4 COUNCILMEMBER JOSEPH: Aye.

5 CLERK: Kagan?

6 COUNCILMEMBER KAGAN: Aye.

7 CLERK: Krishnan?

8 COUNCILMEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye.

9 CLERK: Lee?

10 COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

11 CLERK: Louis?

12 COUNCILMEMBER LOUIS: Aye.

13 CLERK: Marte?

14 COUNCILMEMBER MARTE: Aye.

15 CLERK: Mealy?

16 COUNCILMEMBER MEALY: Aye.

17 CLERK: Menin?

18 COUNCILMEMBER MENIN: Aye.

19 CLERK: Moya?

20 COUNCILMEMBER MOYA: Aye.

21 CLERK: Narcisse?

22 COUNCILMEMBER NARCISSE: Aye.

23 CLERK: Nurse?

24 COUNCILMEMBER NURSE: Aye.

25 CLERK: Ossé?

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2 COUNCILMEMBER OSSÉ: Aye.

3 CLERK: Paladino?

4 COUNCILMEMBER PALADINO: Aye.

5 CLERK: Restler?

6 COUNCILMEMBER RESTLER: Aye.

7 CLERK: Richardson Jordan?

8 COUNCILMEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN: Aye.

9 CLERK: Riley?

10 COUNCILMEMBER RILEY: Majority Leader Request

11 permission the room or items on today's agenda.

12 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

13 COUNCILMEMBER RILEY: Aye on all.

14 CLERK: Rivera?

15 COUNCILMEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

16 CLERK: Salamanca?

17 COUNCILMEMBER SALAMANCA: I would like to vote

18 aye on all call ups and with permission, I would like

19 to vote on all coupled items on the general order

20 calendar and all resolutions.

21 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

22 COUNCILMEMBER SALAMANCA: Thank you. Aye on all.

23 CLERK: Sanchez?

24 COUNCILMEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye.

25 CLERK: Schulman?

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2 COUNCILMEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye.

3 CLERK: Stevens?

4 COUNCILMEMBER STEVENS: Majority Leader. I would
5 like to vote aye on all items on the agenda today.

6 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

7 COUNCILMEMBER STEVENS: Aye.

8 CLERK: Ung?

9 COUNCILMEMBER UNG: Aye.

10 CLERK: Velázquez?

11 COUNCILMEMBER VELÁZQUEZ: Permission to explain
12 my vote, and also permission to vote on all items on
13 today's agenda.

14 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

15 Go ahead.

16 COUNCILMEMBER VELÁZQUEZ: Sure thing. Thank you,
17 Majority Leader and good afternoon colleagues.

18 Today, the council will be voting on the Bruckner
19 Sites rezoning in my district.

20 As I've said before, it is incumbent upon us to
21 build a better New York City, or city is facing a
22 housing crisis, and all of us in every community have
23 to be part of the solution. That doesn't mean that
24 we have to hand over the keys to developers. And it
25 doesn't mean that we have to disregard local concerns

2 and inputs. We can achieve the shared goals of the
3 city and local communities, and we have accomplished
4 that. For me, the priority has been and will always
5 be building for our local community and giving my
6 constituents more opportunities for good paying,
7 family sustaining jobs, as well as affordable
8 housing. It has always been about meeting the needs
9 of the residents in my district.

10 Thankfully, we have gotten there with this
11 project. I listened to the concerns and assess the
12 needs of my constituents and brought that into this
13 process. Through our negotiations, numerous
14 commitments were secured to benefit the residents of
15 my district, affordable housing, good jobs, and most
16 importantly, support for our seniors and veterans.
17 This project will create 348 units of housing, 193 of
18 which are affordable, 99 of those affordable units
19 are for seniors in a 100% affordable housing building
20 that will help our older adults comfortably age, also
21 providing a 13,000 square foot Senior Center. 25 of
22 the affordable units provide permanent affordability
23 for veterans with supportive social services. We've
24 deepened the affordability levels for 35% of the MIH
25 units to be at 40% of AMI. We came to an agreement

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2 with the carpenters union to work with the senior
3 building, which is 100% affordable for our seniors
4 along with labor agreements with 32 VJ and Laborers
5 Local 79. We also secured local and MWBE hiring
6 goals for this project.

7 There are many benefits and I'm proud to have
8 secured in this project, overall meeting the
9 important needs within...

10 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time expired.

11 COUNCILMEMBER VELÁZQUEZ: These are tremendous
12 wins secured for our community. And I'm particularly
13 proud of the positive impact this project will have
14 for seniors, veterans, workers, and those desperately
15 in need of affordable homes and stability. This
16 project accomplishes so much so I encourage you to
17 vote yes, as I do.

18 I want to thank Speaker Adams, Chair Salamanca,
19 Chair Riley, the Council Land Use staff, and all of
20 my colleagues who have guided and supported me
21 through this process. I also want to thank my own
22 staff Alex Anderson, Jackie Crosset, Mike Corbett,
23 Stephanie Rodriguez, Tamara Bonei-Cardona, Stef
24 Rodriguez, and Amanda Rejas, all for your hard work

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2 and dedication to ensure that we deliver for my
3 district. I want to thank you all.

4 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, and
5 Councilmember Velázquez, we need your vote as well.

6 COUNCILMEMBER VELÁZQUEZ: I said it before I said
7 I encourage you to vote yes along with me on voting
8 yes.

9 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Okay. Thank you.

10 CLERK: Thank you, Councilmember.

11 Vernikov?

12 CLERK: Williams?

13 COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS: Permission to explain my
14 vote.

15 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: On the land use callups?

16 COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS: Yes.

17 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: I... Okay, go ahead.

18 COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS: Okay. I am proud to
19 support the designation of two blocks in my district
20 through today's vote on the Cambria Heights 222nd and
21 227th Street historic districts. Historic districts
22 are especially important in black and brown
23 communities. And I hope more historic districts in
24 eastern Queens will be designated in the coming

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2 years. This is the second landmark neighborhood and
3 the 27th Council district...

4 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Councilmember, I think
5 was is on general orders. Are we voting on this
6 today.

7 COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS: You said that...

8 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: This is not... This is
9 land use call ups right now. We're voting... doing
10 general orders. How do you vote on land use call
11 ups?

12 COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye.

13 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

14 CLERK: Won?

15 COUNCILMEMBER WON: Aye.

16 CLERK: Yeger?

17 COUNCILMEMBER YEGER: Aye.

18 CLERK: Borelli?

19 COUNCILMEMBER BORELLI: Aye.

20 CLERK: Majority Leader Powers?

21 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: I vote aye.

22 CLERK: Speaker Adams?

23 SPEAKER ADAMS: Aye on all.

24

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2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Today's land use call
3 ups are adopted by a vote of 48 in the affirmative
4 and zero in the negative.

5 We will now have communication from Speaker
6 Adrienne Adams.

7 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you Majority Leader. Good
8 afternoon, everyone. I'd like to begin today by
9 discussing the thousands of people who have fled
10 their home countries for asylum in ours and have
11 arrived here in our city. As we continue to count
12 the increasing number of people arriving here and how
13 to respond, I think it's important that we ground
14 ourselves in a foundation of humanity. There are
15 indications that the human faces and lives behind
16 this crisis are being lost in the discussion, and we
17 cannot allow that to occur. These are individuals
18 and families, mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters,
19 daughters and sons. Let us not lose sight of the
20 people and the impact all of this has on them.

21 Consistent with our values, New York City has
22 accepted and welcomed those seeking asylum with open
23 arms in response to inhumane conditions and acts
24 before they ever got here. As a council, we fully
25 understand the gravity of this crisis facing our city

2 and the families who have already suffered so much in
3 their journeys here. We also understand this is a
4 challenging moment and there are no easy solutions.

5 In a crisis, we don't expect to get everything
6 right, and we know that mistakes will be made.
7 What's important, however, is how we respond, and
8 that we treat people with the compassion and human
9 decency they deserve. Several of us in the council
10 raised concerns with the administration's plans to
11 build a Humanitarian Emergency Relief and Recovery
12 Center or HERRC, first at Orchard Beach, and now on
13 Randalls Island because of the environmental and
14 health risks, it would pose outdoors.

15 We sought to be constructive and solution
16 oriented partners and offering indoor alternatives
17 for the administration to consider for the purposes
18 of intake and relief services, as well as important
19 policy changes to remove barriers that prevent people
20 from expeditiously moving out of the shelter system
21 into permanent housing. A major factor in our city's
22 homeless shelter system being stressed or the
23 counterproductive city policies that slow people's
24 departure from it. By addressing these we could
25 release some of the pressure on our shelter system

2 benefiting both New Yorkers who have long been in
3 shelters and people seeking asylum. These policies
4 are completely within the city's control to change
5 and enacting them swiftly would allow more people to
6 begin transitioning out of the shelter system and
7 into permanent housing.

8 Whether it is eliminating the requirement that
9 people remain in the shelter system for 90 days
10 before becoming eligible for the city FEPS rental
11 voucher program, hiring the agency staff in the areas
12 to expedite opportunities for people to leave
13 shelter, or addressing the bureaucratic
14 inefficiencies in the processes, there are steps the
15 city can and must take to help address the slow rate
16 at which people can access permanent housing
17 opportunities to leave shelters. The council's only
18 interest is in improving the conditions for New
19 Yorkers and asylum seekers and we cannot leave
20 solutions on the table. We know that more support is
21 needed from the federal and state governments, and we
22 have echoed those calls with action. Yet, it is
23 important for us to acknowledge the challenges that
24 arise within our control as well and to take steps to
25 alleviate them.

2 Councilmembers continue to welcome people seeking
3 asylum and except emergency shelters for them in
4 their districts. Other key support services from the
5 city at the community level for these new residents
6 is what's been lacking and must be increased. That
7 is the biggest complaint heard from Councilmembers,
8 schools, and advocates alike, and it has also been
9 the subject of news reports. It is counterproductive
10 to dismiss the gaps that exist and potential ideas
11 that can close them. Instead, what our city needs is
12 a constructive and honest approach where we
13 collaboratively and transparently identify emerging
14 challenges and solutions to them. We hope this can
15 be the approach moving forward because this crisis
16 requires all of us to work together for our city.

17 Part of the reason our city is faced with such
18 high rates of homelessness and a shelter system that
19 is over capacity is that we're also in a dire housing
20 crisis. Our city is not building enough homes,
21 especially affordable and supportive housing for New
22 Yorkers, and that will continue to be a problem
23 unless we confront these housing gaps. It will
24 require the leadership of this body as well as the
25 other side of City Hall.

2 Today, the council will be voting on the Bruckner
3 Boulevard rezoning application which will produce
4 348, units of housing 193 of which are affordable,
5 including 99 units for seniors, and 25 units set
6 aside for veterans. That means over half the
7 apartments in this project are affordable. This
8 application improved tremendously from the time it
9 reached the council. The affordability levels of
10 this project were deepened to offer 35% of the
11 affordable MIH units at the 40% AMI level, roughly
12 \$48,000 for a family of three. Additionally, the
13 veterans' housing in this project will be permanently
14 affordable and will be accompanied by social
15 services. There are significant labor agreements
16 with 32 BJ SEIU, laborers, local 79 and the
17 carpenters union. This project also establishes
18 local end MWBE hiring goals. And as part of the 100%
19 affordable building for older adults, there will be a
20 13,000 square foot senior center instead of office
21 space.

22 This Council is committed to being part of the
23 solution to the housing crisis by approving sound
24 projects that benefit communities and our entire
25 city. As a former Community Board Chair, I can let

2 you know I understand the importance of prioritizing
3 the concerns of local residents and community input.
4 This can often lead to much better projects. We must
5 confront the housing crisis facing our neighborhoods
6 and city with every district contributing to the
7 production of affordable housing. I'm glad that the
8 Bruckner Boulevard rezoning achieves this goal while
9 advancing benefits for local residents as well. And
10 I want to thank Councilmember Velázquez for her hard
11 work on this project.

12 I also want to thank our Zoning and Land Use
13 Chairs, Councilmembers Riley and Salamanca for their
14 contributions to support councilmember Velazquez, and
15 the constructive public process they facilitated in
16 this body on this important project.

17 Before I continue, I'd like to take a moment to
18 remember and honor the life of EMS Captain Allison
19 Russo. Captain Russo was a 24-year veteran of the
20 FDNY and a 911 first responder who dedicated her life
21 to public service and saving lives. We honor her
22 more than two decades of service to our city and we
23 mourn her loss. She will be deeply missed. And the
24 council offers our condolences to her family or
25 friends and to the entire FDNY during this difficult

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2 time. Let us take a moment of silence for Captain
3 Allison Russo.

4 Thank you.

5 This week, Jewish New Yorkers are celebrating
6 Sukkot. This morning I had the honor of visiting a
7 Sukkah outside City Hall built by the Habad Lubavitch
8 youth organization, and we honored community leaders
9 Rabbi Bob Kaplan and Shimmy Pelman and with
10 proclamations for their many years of strengthening
11 community relations. I wish all those who have been
12 celebrating this week, a chag sameach. Yesterday was
13 National Coming Out Day.

14 OTHER: Whoo!

15 SPEAKER ADAMS: Woo! First observed in 1988, in
16 support of LGBTQIA+ individuals who openly share
17 their sexual orientation and gender identity. It
18 celebrates the coming out to family, friends, and
19 colleagues as an act of liberation that confronts an
20 atmosphere of silence and ignorance to combat
21 homophobia. Visibility is so critical to the ongoing
22 movement for equality. And that's why it's important
23 to stand in allyship with our LGBTQ+ communities.
24 Next week, we will also be observing Spirit Day,
25 which aims to spread awareness about bullying and

2 harassment faced by LGBTQIA+ youth. We wear purple
3 in honor of Spirit Day to represent our commitment to
4 supporting the young people in the LGBTQIA+
5 community. We see you. We hear you. We support
6 you.

7 Lastly, on October 24, Hindu, Jain, and Sikh New
8 Yorkers will be celebrating Diwali, the Festival of
9 Lights. Diwali symbolizes the triumph of light over
10 darkness and good over evil. I wish everyone who is
11 celebrating this five-day festival, a safe and happy
12 Diwali.

13 And finally on your desks colleagues, you will
14 find a pink ribbon and you will find a purple ribbon.
15 The pink ribbon represents Breast Cancer Awareness
16 and the purple ribbon is for Domestic Violence
17 Awareness Month. We will wear these with purpose
18 today to shine a light on the impacts on all of our
19 communities.

20 Now let's move on to our stated agenda. Today,
21 we're voting on several legislative land use and
22 finance items: We will be voting on the following
23 land use items: 2018 McDonald Avenue rezoning will
24 facilitate a new 8-story mixed use building to
25 include 66 housing units, approximately 22 affordable

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2 under MIH, 67 parking spaces a community facility and
3 retail space. The council is modifying the
4 application to remove the site south of Avenue S from
5 the rezoning area in Councilmember Yeger's district.

6 Bruckner sites rezoning as previously mentioned
7 will facilitate the development of four new mixed use
8 buildings. It will include a total of 349 housing
9 units, 98 permanently affordable under MIH, 99 income
10 restricted units for seniors including 30 of the
11 permanently affordable units under MIH, and 25 units
12 for veterans, 309 parking spaces a grocery store
13 Senior Center, Youth Community Center, retail, and
14 veteran services in Councilmember Velázquez's
15 district.

16 705 10th Avenue DEP site, a UDAP and tax
17 exemption application to facilitate the development
18 of a new 8-story mixed use building with
19 approximately 157 affordable housing units, a ground
20 floor community facility, and an open space area to
21 be operated by the parks department in Councilmember
22 Bottcher's district.

23 Cambria Heights 222nd and 227th streets historic
24 districts, Councilmember Williams. A Landmarks
25 Preservation Commission's designation of a remarkably

2 cohesive and distinctive group of row houses built
3 with storybook style features. Yes, in councilmember
4 Nantasha Williams's district.

5 78-46 Metropolitan Avenue rezoning will
6 facilitate the enlargement of an existing one-story
7 building with two additional stories, two housing
8 units, and a veterinary medicine office located on
9 the ground floor in Councilmember Holden's district.

10 79-18 164th Street rezoning will facilitate a
11 commercial overlay that will legalize an existing
12 medical laboratory in councilmember Gennaro's
13 district.

14 Finally, 40-25 Crescent street rezoning will
15 facilitate a new 7-story mixed use building to
16 include 233 housing units, including approximately 60
17 affordable apartments under MIH, as well as ground
18 floor commercial and industrial space. The council
19 is modifying the application to strike MIH option two
20 and add the deep affordability option in
21 Councilmember Won's district.

22 Additionally, we will also be voting on the
23 following finance item: Proposed Introduction 655-A
24 sponsored by Councilmembers Justin Brannan and
25 Lincoln Restler would authorize an increase in annual

2 expenditures by three Business Improvement Districts:
3 The Fifth Avenue Association, the Columbus Amsterdam
4 BID, and the Court-Livingston-Schermerhorn BID.

5 Lastly, the council will vote on the following
6 pieces of legislation: Introduction 179-A sponsored
7 by councilmember Francisco Moya would require the
8 city to publish online a report about the role of
9 women and gender-non-binary, non-conforming, and
10 intersex workers in nontraditional careers and submit
11 that report to the council no later than July 1,
12 2023.

13 Thank you to staff Brenda McKinney and Anastasia
14 Zemina.

15 Finally we will vote on a package of legislation
16 making childcare more accessible in New York City.
17 From day one, childcare has been a priority for this
18 council. We want to pursue it on a universal basis
19 for working families across our city in partnership
20 with the mayor and other stakeholders. I am a mother
21 and grandmother with experiences as a working parent
22 of young children, and many of our members share the
23 same experiences. Affordable high quality childcare
24 benefits parents, children and our city overall.
25 Childcare is one of the biggest challenges for

2 working women, and our country is facing a childcare
3 crisis exacerbated by the pandemic and its economic
4 consequences. Women experienced some of the greatest
5 job losses from COVID and the cost of care has only
6 been increasing. There are approximately 225,000
7 more men in the labor force than before the pandemic
8 but 427,000 fewer women. There's been a decline in
9 the childcare workforce. That remains a challenge.
10 Childcare must be a priority to help ensure an
11 equitable recovery. Through this package of
12 legislation, this historic women-majority city
13 council is once again taking action to lead,
14 demonstrating the difference for our city, when our
15 legislature accurately reflects our city. We
16 continue to prioritize inclusive solutions that
17 address the issues of greatest importance to all New
18 Yorkers.

19 Introduction 242A, sponsored by councilmember
20 Jennifer Gutierrez would require the creation of a
21 Marshall Plan for moms, a task force to study and
22 develop recommendations on how to support working
23 mothers and caregivers. The taskforce would be
24 required to submit a report with recommendations
25 within one year of the task force's convening.

2 Introduction 477A sponsored by councilmember
3 Crystal Hudson would establish a childcare task force
4 to examine how to make childcare more affordable and
5 accessible for families in the city, and how to
6 provide additional support and funding to child care
7 providers and workers. The task force would be
8 required to submit a report that includes
9 recommendations for making child care in the city
10 more affordable and accessible.

11 We will also vote on the following resolution and
12 bill sponsored by councilmember Julie Menin,
13 Introduction 485A, would require the Department of
14 Health and Mental Hygiene to coordinate with the
15 Department of Information Technology and
16 Telecommunications, to create a directory of
17 childcare programs in the city, including a link to
18 information about child daycares run by the state
19 that are located in the city. The directory would be
20 available in the designated citywide languages.

21 Introduction 486A would establish a childcare
22 advisory board which would be responsible for
23 conducting studies and issuing reports related to
24 childcare in the city, including providing an annual
25 assessment of the needs of childcare programs in the

2 city, and the city's progress toward providing
3 universal childcare.

4 Introduction 487A would require the
5 administration to create an online portal that
6 provides information on childcare subsidies. The
7 Portal would allow a user to access information about
8 subsidies, including eligibility requirements and
9 instructions on how to apply based on information
10 provided by the user. The portal would also include
11 the forms needed to apply for each subsidy, including
12 any electronic forms available that may be submitted
13 online through the portal. The portal would be
14 available in the designated city wide languages.

15 Introduction 488A would require the
16 administration to create a child care grant pilot
17 program for child care programs in the city in need
18 of assistance. To be eligible, a childcare program
19 would need to be at significant risk of closure or
20 displacement and meet application and other
21 requirements established by the administering agency.
22 The administration would be required to submit an
23 annual report to the mayor and the Speaker of the
24 Council on grants awarded pursuant to the program and
25 recommendations for expansion.

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2 Introduction 489A would require the Department of
3 Health and Mental Hygiene to develop guidance for
4 owners of real property regarding the facility
5 requirements for a child care program and make such
6 guidance available on its website. The guidance
7 would also be required to indicate that property
8 owners may be eligible for a tax abatement if they
9 meet certain requirements pursuant to state law.

10 Resolution 69 would call upon New York State
11 legislature to pass, and the governor to sign
12 legislation supporting the provision of financial
13 assistance to families and childcare providers to
14 make childcare more accessible and affordable. And
15 we thank our staff Brenda McKinney, Jesse Foong and
16 Anastasia Ximena.

17 Before handing it over to the Majority Leader
18 everybody please clap it up for councilmember Justin
19 Brandon who was celebrating his birthday on Friday.

20 With that, I hand it into the hands of our
21 Majority Leader Keith Powers.

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you Speaker Adams.
23 We will now move into discussion of general orders.
24 Also I believe I also want to wish Councilmember
25 Holden... I think it's his birthday as well today.

2 Happy Birthday. And begrudgingly I wish
3 councilmember Justin Brown and belated Happy Birthday
4 too.

5 We will now go to General Orders and we'll hear
6 from... First we'll hear from Councilman Menin.

7 COUNCILMEMBER MENIN: Thank you so much Majority
8 Leader. Childcare is truly in a state of crisis.
9 It's costing on average over \$18,000 a year for many
10 parents in the city to afford child care. During the
11 COVID pandemic, it's estimated that over 375,000
12 parents in the city have either left the workforce or
13 downsize their jobs because of high childcare costs
14 and the lack of affordable options and this is in
15 fact costing the city over \$2 billion a year in lost
16 economic revenue. Moreover, there simply are not
17 enough childcare providers, creating childcare
18 deserts all over the city, as over 1400 facilities
19 have closed in recent years. Childcare is both
20 unaffordable and inaccessible for the vast majority
21 of New Yorkers. As a mother of four, this is a
22 deeply personal issue to me.

23 In the face of this crisis today is a momentous
24 day. The City Council today with this vote will make
25 New York City the first city in the country to enact

2 a comprehensive legislative package to adopt
3 universal childcare. Our city council is sending a
4 very strong message to end this crisis. My five
5 bills would, as the Speaker said, mandate that a
6 permanent childcare advisory board would implement
7 universal childcare. We would get there within five
8 years. The other bills would provide grants to
9 struggling providers, so we get to the supply issue,
10 would make it easier to open new childcare centers
11 and create a childcare directory and subsidy
12 database.

13 I want to first of all thank my colleagues,
14 Councilmember Hudson and Councilmember Gutierrez, who
15 are also passing bills on childcare, and I
16 congratulate them. I want to thank and congratulate
17 the Speaker and then very briefly from the Speaker
18 staff, Brenda McKenny, Jessie Fiong, Sara Liss,
19 Andrea Vasquez, Jeff Baker, and from my office my
20 Chief of Staff Jonathan Shett, my legislative and
21 Budget Director Brandon Jordan, and my entire team
22 for this package of bills. Thank you.

23 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. Right on
24 time. And we're going to now hear from Councilmember
25 Gutierrez followed by Councilmember Williams.

2 COUNCILMEMBER GUITIERREZ: Thank you Majority
3 Leader. Here it is. My bill being voted on today,
4 Intro 242, The Marshall Plan for Moms, uses an
5 economic lens to address the issue of childcare,
6 which has long been dismissed as a woman's issue and
7 acknowledges the transformational impact that real
8 investments could have for millions of families in
9 our city. This taskforce and the other task force
10 and advisory board in this package of bills from
11 Councilmembers Hudson and Councilmember Menin are
12 signals that it is time to join forces to think
13 through how we can revolutionize the economy of care,
14 supporting not just the half a million of children
15 under the age of five in our city, but the providers
16 of that care as well, which is a workforce that is
17 predominantly made up of women, women of color, and
18 immigrant women.

19 I'm also proud to stand in support of the other
20 bills in this package by my colleagues. This is just
21 the beginning of a long fight toward a vision of true
22 universal childcare, in which no one falls off
23 benefits cliff, no one is stuck in a cycle of
24 poverty, no one is taking out personal loans to make
25

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2 payroll, and no one no child, no parent, and no
3 provider is left behind. Thank you.

4 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll next
5 year from Councilmember Williams.

6 COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you so much
7 Majority Leader. I promise to get it together at
8 some point soon. I am proud, take 2, to support the
9 designation of two blocks in my district through
10 today's votes on the Cambria Heights 222nd and 227th
11 Street Historic Districts. Historic districts are
12 especially important in black and brown communities,
13 and I hope more historic districts in eastern Queens
14 will be designated in coming years. This is the
15 second landmark neighborhood and the 27th Council
16 District, the first one being Addisleigh Park, which
17 shows how much rich culture exists here. These
18 blocks were developed in the early 1930s and are well
19 preserved and architecturally distinctive within the
20 Cambria Heights neighborhood. They stand out with
21 their whimsical and imaginative storybook style, and
22 as examples of black and Caribbean home ownership.
23 The history of black and brown communities has long
24 been ignored.

25

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2 I would like to thank the Landmarks Preservation
3 Commission for their equitable approach to making our
4 rich history visible because our history is New York
5 City history. I also want to thank former
6 councilmember Danique Miller for initiating this
7 effort, Chair Lewis, and I proudly vote yes... well,
8 I will vote yes... to preserve this unique part of
9 New York history and help everyone else votes yes.

10 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. Do we have
11 anyone else will speak on general orders? Seeing
12 none, we'll now move to the report of special
13 committees.

14 COUNSEL: None.

15 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Reports of standing
16 committees?

17 COUNSEL: Report of the Committee on Finance
18 Central 655A, Business Improvement Districts.

19 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and coupled to the
20 general orders.

21 COUNSEL: Report of the Committee on Land Use,
22 LUs 100 and 101, 2080 McDonald Avenue.

23 SPEAKER ADAMS: Approved with modifications and
24 referred to the City Planning Commission pursuant to
25 section 197 D of the New York City charter.

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2 COUNSEL: LU 102 and Reso 347, and LU 103 and
3 Reso 348, Bruckner Sites Rezoning.

4 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on general orders.

5 COUNSEL: 104... excuse me, LU 104 and Reso 349
6 through LU 107 Reso 352: 705 10th Avenue DP site.

7 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on general orders.

8 COUNSEL LU 108 and Reso 353 and LU 109 and Reso
9 354, Cambria Heights Historic District.

10 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on general orders.

11 COUNSEL: LU 155 and Reso 355: 7846 Metropolitan
12 Avenue rezoning.

13 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on general orders.

14 COUNSEL: LU 116 and Reso 356: 79-18 164th
15 Street rezoning.

16 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on general orders.

17 COUNSEL: LU 117 and 118, 4025 Crescent street
18 rezoning

19 SPEAKER ADAMS: Approved with modifications and
20 refer to the City Planning Commission pursuant to
21 section 1970 of the New York City Charter

22 COUNSEL: Report of The Committee on Women and
23 Gender Equity, Intro 242 A through Intro 489 A on
24 page 7 Child Care Package.

25 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on general orders.

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2 COUNSEL: The following items are on the general
3 orders calendar: Intro 179 A.

4 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on general orders.

5 COUNSEL: LU 100 and Reso 357, LU 101 and Reso
6 358, 2080 McDonald Avenue.

7 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on general orders.

8 COUNSEL: LU 117 and Reso 359, and LU 118 and
9 360: 4025 Crescent Street Rezoning.

10 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on general orders.

11 COUNSEL: Resolution appointing various persons
12 Commissioner of Deeds.

13 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on general orders.

14 I now ask that the clerk take a roll call vote
15 vote on all of the items coupled on today's general
16 orders.

17 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Madam, before we take a
18 vote we just have one item, and we're going to stand
19 at ease for a minute.

20 [90 seconds silence]

21 I'm going to call on... just procedurally call on
22 Councilmember Gennaro.

23 COUNCILMEMBER GENNARO: Okay. Thank you, Mr.
24 Leader. This is what happens when you're sick for a
25

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2 month and your signals get crossed, between myself
3 and my staff.

4 Here we go. I'd like to make a motion to
5 recommit Land Use 116 and Reso 256 back the land use
6 committee for further consideration.

7 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Clerk, I'm going to ask
8 you to take a roll call vote to recommit the land
9 your site and back to Land Use Committee at
10 Councilmember Gennaro's request. If you can please
11 take a roll call roll call vote on that.

12 CLERK: Land use 116. Hold on.

13 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Just to clarify, folks:
14 We are voting just to put an item back into land use
15 committee, and to bring it back to the Land Use
16 Committee, and then it can come back for a vote. So
17 we won't be voting on that specific item here today.
18 So the vote we're taking right now is just to send it
19 back to the Land Use Committee at Councilmember
20 Gennaro's request to do so.

21 Councilmember Gennaro, can you just restate which
22 item it is?

23 COUNCILMEMBER GENNARO: Uh, it's land use 116 and
24 Reso 356.

25

2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. And a yes
3 vote means you're voting in the Senate recommitted
4 back to the committee at his request.

5 Do you want to add any statements alongside that
6 request?

7 COUNCILMEMBER GENNARO: First of all, I'd like to
8 apologize for the inconvenience. This is with, you
9 know, land use items. You know, they're kind of when
10 it comes to the local community and smoothing certain
11 people over and making sure that everyone is in a
12 good place. We're not there yet. So my staff got a
13 little bit ahead of me. That's all on me. And I
14 apologize. But this is something I feel needs to be
15 done. And then we'll just... I'll get people where
16 they need to be. And then it'll come back and life
17 will be great. So once again, I apologize.

18 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thanks. Thank you,
19 clerk and take a roll call vote on that. And again,
20 a yes is to send it back to Land Use Committee at
21 Councilmember Gennaro's request. Thanks,

22 CLERK: Abreu?

23 COUNCILMEMBER ABREU: Aye.

24 CLERK: Ariola?

25 COUNCILMEMBER ARIOLA: Aye.

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2 CLERK: Avilés?

3 COUNCILMEMBER AVILÉS: Aye.

4 CLERK: Ayala?

5 COUNCILMEMBER AYALA: Aye on all.

6 CLERK: Councilmember Ayala, that is just on the
7 motion to recommit the land use item, just to
8 clarify.

9 Councilmember Barron?

10 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: Aye.

11 CLERK: Bottcher?

12 COUNCILMEMBER BOTTCHEER: Aye.

13 CLERK: Brannan?

14 COUNCILMEMBER BRANNAN: Sure.

15 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: We'll be doing yes or no
16 votes today, Councilmember Brannan.

17 CLERK: Brewer?

18 COUNCILMEMBER BREWER: Yes.

19 CLERK: Brooks-Powers?

20 COUNCILMEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: For Jim? Let me
21 see. Aye.

22 CLERK: Cabán?

23 COUNCILMEMBER CABÁN: Aye.

24 CLERK: Carr?

25 COUNCILMEMBER CARR: Aye.

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2 CLERK: De La Rosa?

3 COUNCILMEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye.

4 CLERK: Dinowitz?

5 COUNCILMEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye.

6 CLERK: Farias?

7 COUNCILMEMBER FARIAS: Aye.

8 CLERK: Feliz?

9 COUNCILMEMBER FELIZ: Aye.

10 CLERK: Gennaro?

11 COUNCILMEMBER GENNARO: Yes. And thank you once
12 again. Sorry for the inconvenience.

13 CLERK: Gutiérrez?

14 COUNCILMEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye.

15 CLERK: Hanif?

16 COUNCILMEMBER HANIF: Aye.

17 CLERK: Hanks?

18 COUNCILMEMBER HANKS: Aye.

19 CLERK: Holden?

20 COUNCILMEMBER HOLDEN: Aye.

21 CLERK: Hudson?

22 COUNCILMEMBER HUDSON: Aye.

23 CLERK: Joseph?

24 COUNCILMEMBER JOSEPH: Aye.

25 CLERK: Kagan?

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2 COUNCILMEMBER KAGAN: Aye.

3 CLERK: Krishnan?

4 COUNCILMEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye.

5 CLERK: Lee?

6 COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

7 CLERK: Louis?

8 COUNCILMEMBER LOUIS: Aye.

9 CLERK: Marte?

10 COUNCILMEMBER MARTE: Aye.

11 CLERK: Mealy?

12 COUNCILMEMBER MEALY: Aye.

13 CLERK: Menin?

14 COUNCILMEMBER MENIN: Aye.

15 CLERK: Moya?

16 COUNCILMEMBER MOYA: Aye.

17 CLERK: Narcisse?

18 COUNCILMEMBER NARCISSE: Aye.

19 CLERK: Nurse?

20 COUNCILMEMBER NURSE: Aye.

21 CLERK: Ossé?

22 COUNCILMEMBER OSSÉ: Aye.

23 CLERK: Paladino?

24 COUNCILMEMBER PALADINO: Aye.

25 CLERK: Restler?

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2 COUNCILMEMBER RESTLER: Aye.

3 CLERK: Richardson Jordan?

4 COUNCILMEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN: Aye.

5 CLERK: Riley?

6 COUNCILMEMBER RILEY: Aye.

7 CLERK: Rivera?

8 COUNCILMEMBER RIVERA: Aye.

9 CLERK: Sanchez?

10 COUNCILMEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye.

11 CLERK: Schulman?

12 COUNCILMEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye.

13 CLERK: Stevens?

14 COUNCILMEMBER Stevens: Aye.

15 CLERK: Ung?

16 COUNCILMEMBER UNG: Aye.

17 CLERK: Williams?

18 COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

19 CLERK: Won?

20 COUNCILMEMBER WON: Aye.

21 CLERK: Yeger?

22 COUNCILMEMBER YEGER: Aye.

23 CLERK: Borelli?

24 COUNCILMEMBER BORELLI: Aye.

25 CLERK: Majority Leader Powers?

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2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Aye.

3 CLERK: Speaker Adams?

4 SPEAKER ADAMS: Permission to... No. I vote aye.

5 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. By a vote of

6 44 in the affirmative 0 in the negative and 0

7 abstentions the motion to recommit Land Use Item 116

8 and Resolution 356 back to committee passes the City

9 Council.

10 Okay, now ask the clerk to take the roll call

11 vote of all items except for land use item 116 and

12 the accompanying resolution.

13 CLERK: Abreu?

14 COUNCILMEMBER ABREU: Aye.

15 CLERK: Ariola?

16 COUNCILMEMBER ARIOLA: Aye.

17 CLERK: Avilés?

18 COUNCILMEMBER AVILÉS: Aye on all.

19 CLERK: Ayala?

20 COUNCILMEMBER AYALA: Aye.

21 CLERK: Barron?

22 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: May I be excused to

23 explain my vote?

24 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

25

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2 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: My pastor Reverend Dr.
3 Herbert Daughtery told me it was a poor frog who
4 doesn't praise his own pawn. So since nobody
5 mentioned it, but my 72nd birthday was October 7th.
6 So would you all please clap for me.

7 [APPLAUSE]

8 Thank you. Thank you. Being a black panther on
9 the city council, I gotta take of my own business.
10 But now on the order of today...

11 Thank you. Thank you accept all belated gifts.

12 Thank you very much. On the land use item 2080,
13 McDonald Ave. I vote no. It's 66 units and only 22
14 affordable and I doubt all of those are affordable.

15 On land use item LU 117 and 118, The Crescent,
16 233 units of housing only 60 are affordable. I vote
17 no on that. And I abstain from the appointments to
18 the Commission... Correctional Commission for David
19 Fulliard and Lily Superior, only that I don't know
20 them. So I'm abstaining. If that's not on the
21 agenda...

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Those are not on today's
23 agenda. They're being submitted from the...they're
24 being submitted to us but not voted on.

25

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2 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: Alright. Thank you. I
3 vote aye on all the rest.

4 CLERK: Thank you. Bottcher?

5 COUNCILMEMBER BOTTCHER: Aye.

6 CLERK: Brannan?

7 COUNCILMEMBER BRANNAN: Aye.

8 CLERK: Brewer?

9 COUNCILMEMBER BREWER: Aye.

10 CLERK: Brooks-Powers?

11 COUNCILMEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Permission to
12 explain my vote?

13 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

14 COUNCILMEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: First I just want
15 to extend congratulations to Councilmember Velázquez
16 for her work in garnering the support on an important
17 piece of land use action item in her district. I
18 also want to congratulate Councilmember Williams in
19 my neighboring district... neighboring community with
20 Cambria Heights which is a staple in the Southeast
21 Queens community. Also Councilmember Menin, who from
22 the moment she got elected knew she was coming in to
23 do some important work around universal childcare. I
24 want to commend her on her focus and her... her
25 efforts in this space. And of course, Councilmember

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2 Gutierrez on the Marshall Plan, which I had the
3 opportunity of being a cosponsor in the last term on
4 legislation around this, and as a mom, and in a
5 council with so many mothers here, it is inspiring to
6 see the important work that we continue to do as
7 legislators across the city. And with that, I vote I
8 aye on all.

9 CLERK: Thank you. Cabán?

10 COUNCILMEMBER CABÁN: Aye on all.

11 CLERK: Carr?

12 COUNCILMEMBER CARR: Aye on all.

13 CLERK: De La Rosa?

14 COUNCILMEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye.

15 CLERK: Dinowitz?

16 COUNCILMEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye on all.

17 CLERK: Farias?

18 COUNCILMEMBER FARIAS: I vote Aye on all.

19 CLERK: Feliz?

20 COUNCILMEMBER FELIZ: Aye on all.

21 CLERK: Gennaro?

22 COUNCILMEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

23 CLERK: Gutiérrez?

24 COUNCILMEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye on all.

25 CLERK: Hanif?

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2 COUNCILMEMBER HANIF: Aye on all.

3 CLERK: Hanks?

4 COUNCILMEMBER HANKS: Aye on all.

5 CLERK: Holden?

6 COUNCILMEMBER HOLDEN: Aye.

7 CLERK: Hudson?

8 COUNCILMEMBER HUDSON: Permission to explain my
9 vote?

10 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

11 COUNCILMEMBER HUDSON: Today, I'm proud to join
12 my colleagues in voting for a groundbreaking
13 legislative package that will pave the way toward
14 universal childcare in New York City, making our city
15 the first in the nation to provide child care to all
16 who need it. As we know all too well, the pandemic
17 turned back the clock for many women in the
18 workforce. Many women saw their jobs among the 1
19 million erased by the pandemic, but they still had to
20 find a way to pay their bills and take care of their
21 children. Even before the pandemic many recent
22 parents tried to reenter the workforce but found
23 their wages too low to pay for adequate childcare,
24 and decided instead to stay at home. A recent
25 Federal Reserve report found that mothers continue to

2 work less than other women despite a prevalence of
3 jobs. Moreover, the gender wage gap exists in part
4 because many women drop out of the workforce during
5 their peak earning years to care for their families,
6 or because they cannot find a job at their previous
7 salary when they take temporary leave to start or
8 grow a family.

9 Universal childcare will help narrow this
10 persistent gap while ensuring parents do not have to
11 choose between their families and their careers. As
12 part of my Black Agenda for New York City, I called
13 for universal childcare system in New York City, and
14 I'm proud to have delivered on that promise by
15 sponsoring this package and introducing a bill to
16 create a task force that will study how to make
17 childcare more affordable through free or low-cost
18 childcare.

19 And this package is just the start. We need to
20 raise wages and training for childcare workers to
21 create a pipeline of good paying jobs to care for
22 these children. And we need to continue working to
23 ensure women, femmes, and nonbinary folks earn \$1 For
24 every dollar a man earns, I vote Aye.

2 And I also just want to acknowledge again that
3 yesterday was National Coming Out Day, and to those
4 who have already come out who come out every day and
5 who are struggling to come out, I sit in solidarity
6 with them. Thank you.

7 CLERK: Thank you. Joseph?

8 COUNCILMEMBER JOSEPH: Aye on all.

9 CLERK: Kagan?

10 COUNCILMEMBER KAGAN: Aye on all.

11 CLERK: Krishnan?

12 COUNCILMEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye on all.

13 CLERK: Lee?

14 COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye on all.

15 CLERK: Louis?

16 COUNCILMEMBER LOUIS: Aye on all.

17 CLERK: Marte?

18 COUNCILMEMBER MARTE: Aye on all.

19 CLERK: Mealy?

20 COUNCILMEMBER MEALY: Aye on all.

21 CLERK: Menin?

22 COUNCILMEMBER MENIN: Aye on all.

23 CLERK: Moya?

24 COUNCILMEMBER MOYA: Permission to explain my

25 vote?

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2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

3 COUNCILMEMBER MOYA: For far too long, we've seen
4 women overlooked and unnoticed in their place of
5 employment. This is especially true when their jobs
6 have a significantly lower percentage of female
7 colleagues or are jobs not traditionally held by
8 women. This bill was born out of meetings that I
9 held with MTA workers who were forced onto disability
10 because they couldn't fit their pregnant bellies
11 behind a steering wheel, women punished for too many
12 bathroom breaks, asbestos workers forced to change
13 and be decontaminated in front of male colleagues, a
14 woman alone in a subway tunnel flagging during
15 construction suffered a miscarriage.

16 These women deserve to be seen to be recognized
17 and to know that they are valued wherever their
18 workplace may be. They deserve to have rights as an
19 employee and not to be treated as a burden on the
20 basis of gender. They deserve reasonable
21 accommodations and basic safety and privacy measures.
22 And we must strive to be a place that values
23 diversity and inclusion, not as a concept but in
24 real, measurable actions.

25

2 So I want to take this opportunity to thank the
3 Speaker, the Council staff, my chief of staff Megan
4 Tatio, Jeremy John, our partners in labor and all
5 those who supported the development of this
6 legislation that will help improve our workplace for
7 everyone. And I encourage my colleagues to vote in
8 the affirmative, and I will be voting Aye on all.
9 Thank you.

10 COUNSEL: Thank you. Narris.

11 COUNCILMEMBER NARCISSE: Permission to explain my
12 vote?

13 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

14 COUNCILMEMBER NARCISSE: I am so proud to be part
15 of this great chambers here. And most... most of
16 all, having a Speaker that understand what's going
17 on. And thank you for all the strong women in this
18 chamber that understand what's going on and the men
19 that gets it. Childcare is a very important asset in
20 our community. If we can help the parents and
21 mothers and single mothers out there, like myself, I
22 want to say thank you and I... I appreciate your
23 work, and all the housing issue that we're talking
24 about, the inequities in our community. I want to
25 say that what took place in my district last night is

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2 part of the inequities that can be addressed. And
3 thank you for taking the step forward. Now, we are
4 praying for a 19 year old that got shot in the head,
5 and we're praying for a miracle for him to get out of
6 this.

7 So it is true in our community that we can work
8 together but we keep saying it like a rhetoric, it is
9 time for the village to step up and to do better in
10 our community. When you see a neighbor is having a
11 problem, please don't hesitate to know that mental
12 health is a real issue in our community that we need
13 to work together to address it. So thank you, my
14 colleagues. And on that I will vote aye.

15 CLERK: Nurse?

16 COUNCILMEMBER NURSE: Aye.

17 CLERK: Ossé?

18 COUNCILMEMBER OSSÉ: Aye.

19 CLERK: Paladino?

20 COUNCILMEMBER PALADINO: Aye.

21 CLERK: Restler?

22 COUNCILMEMBER RESTLER: Permission to explain my
23 vote?

24 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

25

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2 COUNCILMEMBER RESTLER: I want to thank my
3 colleagues, Gutierrez, Menon, and Hudson for their
4 leadership on this childcare package, which I am
5 honored to enthusiastically support. We cannot do
6 enough to achieve... We cannot do enough to achieve
7 universal childcare swiftly in New York City. It is
8 essential not only for the development of our youth,
9 but for working parents. I would be remiss though if
10 I didn't flag that it appears this administration is
11 walking back on commitments toward universal pre-K.
12 And I am profoundly concerned about their intent to
13 undermine access to universal childcare for three-
14 year-olds in New York City on our watch, and I hope
15 that you all will join with me in the budget
16 proceedings ahead to ensure rigorous oversight and to
17 push back and ensure that universal pre-K is realized
18 in this city in the year ahead. Thank you.

19 CLERK: Thank you. Richardson Jordan?

20 CLERK: Rivera?

21 COUNCILMEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

22 CLERK: Sanchez?

23 COUNCILMEMBER SANCHEZ: Enthusiastically, I vote
24 aye.

25 CLERK: Schulman?

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2 COUNCILMEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye.

3 CLERK: Ung?

4 COUNCILMEMBER UNG: Aye on all.

5 CLERK: Vernikov?

6 CLERK: Williams?

7 COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye.

8 CLERK: Won?

9 COUNCILMEMBER WON: Aye.

10 CLERK: Yeger?

11 COUNCILMEMBER YEGER: Aye on all with the
12 exception of Intro 655 and Intro 485.

13 CLERK: Borelli?

14 COUNCILMEMBER BORELLI: Aye on all.

15 CLERK: Majority Leader Powers?

16 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: I vote aye.

17 CLERK: Speaker Adams?

18 SPEAKER ADAMS: Aye on all.

19 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: All items on today's
20 general order calendar are adopted by a vote of 48 in
21 the affirmative and 0 in the negative with 0
22 abstentions, with the exception of land use items
23 100, 101, 117, and 118, and accompanying resolutions,
24 which were adopted by a vote of 47 in the
25 affirmative, 1 in the negative and 0 abstentions.

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2 Intro 655 A adopted by a vote of 47 in the
3 affirmative, 1 negative, and 0 abstentions. An
4 introduction 485 A adopted by a vote of 47 in the
5 affirmative, 1 negative and 0 abstentions.

6 We'll now move to the introduction and reading of
7 bills.

8 SPEAKER ADAMS: All bills have been referred to
9 committees as indicated on today's agenda.

10 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We're now
11 going to move into the discussion of resolutions. We
12 don't have anyone signed up to speak. We have
13 Councilmember Sanchez.

14 COUNCILMEMBER SANCHEZ: Thank you so much
15 Majority Leader. So today I'm introducing two
16 resolutions. And I want to join in the Speaker's
17 remarks earlier, because the housing crisis should...
18 should really be at the center of the way that we
19 respond to migrants coming to our city.

20 So the first resolution is Resolution 344, the
21 second is 345. One is creating... is calling on the
22 state to pass a statewide housing voucher access
23 program to... to create permanent pathways to
24 affordable housing, which is what we need. And the
25 second is in support of the statewide right to

2 counsel program, which has been so effective in
3 this...

4 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Councilmember Sanchez, I
5 think your speaking to resolutions that you... you
6 are introducing today? This is the ones we're voting
7 on today.

8 COUNCILMEMBER SANCHEZ: Well, I finished. So
9 thank you so much Majority Leader.

10 [Laughter.]

11 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, Councilmember
12 Sanchez. We're going to have a voice vote on today's
13 resolution. If you wish to vote against or abstain
14 from today's resolution, please notice notify the
15 legislative documents unit by email or by approaching
16 the dais before the vote. I'll now read today's
17 resolution into the record.

18 Resolution 69 calls the New York State
19 Legislature to pass in the Governor to sign Senate
20 Bill 7595 and assembly bill A623, Senate Bill 6706B
21 and Assembly Bill 7582A, and Senate Bill 7615, and
22 Assembly Bill 8625, Legislation supporting the
23 provision of financial assistance to families and
24 childcare providers in order to make childcare more

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2 accessible and more affordable. Will all those in
3 favor please say aye?

4 ALL: Aye.

5 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: All opposed.

6 ALL: Silence.

7 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Any abstentions?

8 ALL: Silence.

9 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: The ayes have it.

10 We will now move into general discussion. We
11 will start with Councilmember Hanif.

12 COUNCILMEMBER HANIF: Thanks so much. Thank you
13 to our Speaker on this council for stepping up in our
14 oversight role in relation to the asylum seeker
15 crisis.

16 Despite cold weather flood risks and lack of
17 transportation options, this administration has
18 continued forward in constructing a tent city on
19 Randalls Island to temporarily house our new
20 arrivals. At the immigration hearing I chaired two
21 Fridays ago, the administration confirmed the
22 conditions of the Humanitarian Emergency Relief and
23 Recovery Centers, or HERRCS, will not meet the bare
24 minimum standards set out by our city's right to
25 shelter mandate. This is simply unacceptable. We're

2 well aware that the city has been put in a
3 challenging position by conservative governors who
4 are using people exercising their legal right to seek
5 asylum as political pawns. We know that many civil
6 servants are working around the clock and doing their
7 absolute best to set these new New Yorkers up for
8 success. However, we as a city need to be doing more
9 to provide a dignified welcome.

10 Last week, the Speaker put forward a thoughtful
11 and comprehensive proposal for housing people inside
12 in proper brick and mortar accommodations that I was
13 proud to support alongside our Deputy Speaker Ayala,
14 and members of the committee on immigration. The
15 proposal included a number of closed hotels that
16 could be utilized for temporary shelter that could
17 better meet the needs of the asylum seekers while
18 also having the dual benefit of getting our unionized
19 hotel workforce back on the job.

20 The proposal also included policies that could...
21 that would improve the city FEPS process so that we
22 can move people into permanent housing and ease the
23 shelter bed shortage. We've recently gotten word
24 that the administration will be using the Row Hotel
25 in Midtown to function as a HERRC which is an

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2 important step in the right direction. However, they
3 still plan to open the Randalls Island HERRC
4 imminently. I'm proud to be in solidarity with
5 members of this body and calling the administration
6 to abandon this plan, and commit to providing asylum
7 seekers with a proper roof over their heads. I want
8 to emphasize that I'm eager to be a collaborative
9 partner with city hall and addressing this difficult
10 situation, and that as an as emergency shelter siting
11 decisions are being made my district the 39th would
12 love to welcome asylum seekers. Thank you.

13 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll now
14 hear from Councilmember Palladino, followed by
15 Councilmember Barron.

16 COUNCILMEMBER PALLADINO: Good afternoon,
17 everybody. I'm so proud to present my anti-mandate
18 legislative package consisting of four pieces of
19 legislation Reso 341, a resolution calling upon New
20 York state legislation to pass legislation that would
21 prohibit the alteration of terms and conditions of
22 employment for all employees during a state disaster
23 emergency. I'm working with the state legislature to
24 ensure that emergency powers are disallowed from
25 fundamentally and arbitrarily changing terms of

2 employment, contracts, particularly union contracts.
3 The government should not be able to terminate hard
4 working New Yorkers due to a personal medical
5 decision, such as a vaccine mandate. Reso 343, a
6 resolution calling upon New York State legislature to
7 pass S7545, A9342. To make extension... make the
8 extension of certain local emergency orders subject
9 to the approval of the local governing body. One of
10 the reasons that so many of our frontline workers
11 were laid off is that local emergency orders were
12 extended without regulation or oversight. Passing
13 this bill would ensure that the city council is part
14 of the process of extending emergency orders in New
15 York City. Reso 342: A resolution calling upon the
16 mayor and the New York City Department of Education
17 to establish rigorous scientific criteria including
18 an emphasis on mental health repercussions that must
19 be met before masking is mandated upon our school
20 children. And Intro 772: This is a local law that
21 would require the Department of Education to issue
22 monthly reports on the implementation of mask
23 mandates. I am a member of the Mental Health
24 Committee. And this is important to me because the
25 mental health of our children has been ignored when

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2 mandating masks. That is unacceptable. We need to
3 know why we are mandating masks and how that is
4 affecting our children socially, mentally, and
5 developmentally, so that we may be better equipped to
6 help them deal with the repercussions. These four
7 pieces of legislation would create systemic change
8 and ensure that New York City workers and school
9 children's livelihoods are never threatened again,
10 due to a personal medical decision.

11 Thank you very much.

12 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you Councilmember.

13 We're now going to go to Councilmember Barron

14 followed by Councilmember Dinowitz.

15 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: Thank you very much.

16 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: And Happy belated

17 birthday.

18 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: Thank you very much. I

19 accept your... lateness.

20 [Laughter]

21 My colleagues, you know that all of us in our

22 heart of hearts want to welcome the asylum seekers.

23 But let's be real. There was a fair share rule that

24 said homeless shelters should not saturate low income

25 community of colors. And right now as we speak,

2 don't try to be "politically correct" like somebody
3 is against asylum seekers. That is not the issue.
4 And we didn't start a crisis when asylum seekers
5 came. We were in a state of crisis of homelessness
6 before they even arrived.

7 Now, when I look at Community Board 6 in the
8 Bronx: high poverty 20-plus shelters, they're
9 building more there. When I look at Community Board
10 16 in Brooklyn, Brownsville, 23 shelters, building
11 more there. My beloved East New York: Building more
12 there. However, Bensonhurst, white and Asian, no
13 shelters. Bayridge, white and Asian, no shelters.
14 Yeah, let's welcome them. Welcome them to Bay Ridge.
15 Welcome them to Bensonhurst. Welcome them to
16 affluent communities that are not abiding by the fair
17 share rule so that we equitably distribute this
18 throughout the entire city and not oversaturate our
19 communities. Don't feel bad when you say no. And
20 yes to putting them in communities that did not have
21 their fair share. And when they put shelters in our
22 community, it's not temporary housing. It's
23 permanent. Because it's permanent shelters. They
24 don't transition to them to permanent housing. They
25 don't have programs for them to get jobs. So they

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2 wind up hanging out all over the place... [bell
3 rings] excuse me, just give me another minute and
4 I'll stop... hanging out all over the place...

5 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: 20 seconds.

6 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: ...and... You just took
7 some of my time. Now I got confused. So I need
8 another minute to recalculate.

9 [Laughter]

10 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead Councilmember
11 Barron.

12 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: Alright, thank you. So...
13 so... I'm trying to say that if you had a shelter in
14 our community and you were really transferring them
15 to permanent housing, saying any new developers that
16 come and get subsidies from the city, you have to
17 have 30%... 35% for the homeless, then we can
18 transfer people out. But to put them in our
19 communities and don't have these things, these are
20 permanent shelters, not temporary. And we got to
21 fight that and say that the Fair Share...

22 Finally, is America's foreign policy,
23 imperialistic foreign policy, and all of these
24 countries particularly Nicaragua, Mexico, and... and

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2 El Salvador, and all of these countries, and Haiti
3 which you all turned your back...

4 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Councilmember Barron,
5 you have to wrap it up.

6 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: All right, this is the
7 wrapup... and Haiti that you all sent back and then
8 tried to house, that if we didn't have those foreign
9 policies, they'd stay in their countries and prosper
10 instead of running to these borders. Thank you.

11 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll now
12 hear from Councilmember Dinowitz followed by
13 Councilmember Hanks.

14 COUNCILMEMBER DINOWITZ: Thank you. Last night
15 at the age of 96, Helen Katz, the great-grandmother
16 of my boys passed away. She was more affectionately
17 known to us as Nanny, and she was a survivor of the
18 Holocaust. She was born in 1926 in Eastern Europe,
19 and at the age of 13. When she was a kid, she was
20 taken from her mother by the Nazis. Her mother was
21 killed, and she was sent to a couple of different
22 forced labor camps, where she was forced to make
23 bombs for the Nazis. She eventually... She
24 survived, of course... eventually moved to the Bronx
25 where she and her husband opened a laundromat.

2 The passing of nanny is not just a loss for my
3 family. With her death, we lose one of the few
4 remaining survivors of the Holocaust, one of the last
5 firsthand witnesses of the horrors many of us only
6 know from books and video. And as more survivors
7 leave this world, with fewer and fewer first-hand
8 accounts, fewer and fewer people know about the
9 Holocaust, or frighteningly even believe it happened.
10 And as I reflect on her experiences and who she was,
11 I'm reminded that the Holocaust did not begin with
12 children being taken from their parents and being
13 forced to work for the Nazis. Fear and anger and
14 hate were fomented, accepted, and embraced.

15 There are inspiring stories of individuals who
16 risked their lives to save children and families
17 during the Holocaust. People put themselves in
18 danger, but overwhelmingly other... otherwise good
19 people stayed silent, turned away those in need and
20 accepted what was going on around them. And when I
21 look around today, I see frightening echoes of what
22 we learned about from survivors and their stories.
23 It is very easy to write off hateful words as the
24 rantings of an unwell celebrity, or bigoted violence
25 as the effect of an individual's mental health. But

2 it's... it's more than that. Every time we do and
3 say nothing, or excuse words and actions or try to
4 see both sides of hate, it's providing a safe space
5 for that hate and bigotry and it becomes normalized.

6 So I hope that today we remember not just the
7 life of Helen Katz, but remember what she represents.
8 And remember her through deed, that we invest our
9 voices, time, and budget to build community and
10 common understanding and we never sit idly by as
11 others express hatred toward anyone simply for who
12 they are. May her memory be for a blessing.

13 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, Councilmember
14 Dinowitz, and I'm sending my condolences to your
15 family.

16 We're going to go now go to Councilmember Hanks,
17 followed by councilmember Schulman.

18 COUNCILMEMBER HANKS: Thank you, Speaker Adams
19 and Majority Leader Powers. First, I would like to
20 offer my condolences to Councilmember Dinowitz, a
21 happy birthday to old boy over there, Charles Barron,
22 and a very happy 31st birthday to my daughter who
23 is... it's her birthday today.

24 Thank you.

2 So today I'm introducing two pieces of
3 legislation Intro 0755 and Intro 0756. This intro
4 would require first responders to receive training on
5 how to handle sensitive images. In particular, this
6 law will ensure that sensitive images including still
7 or video images depicting the crime, the crime
8 against the victim, physical injury, death or
9 suffered by a victim of crime or accident are not
10 disseminated unlawfully. This legislation comes as a
11 result of a careless and callous act that happened in
12 my community, which is now in state law, in Staten
13 Island just several years ago when an EMT worker
14 irresponsibly shared the images of her deceased
15 daughter on social media leaving her family shocked
16 and angered during the worst time of their lives.

17 More recently, our city witnessed a similar
18 incident with video footage of EMS Lieutenant Alison
19 Russo, which is also shared online. These actions
20 are unacceptable and it is imperative that our first
21 responders are properly trained on how to handle
22 these sensitive issues.

23 Next is Intro 756 which would require the Mayor's
24 Office of criminal justice to provide training and
25 operational support to not-for-profit service

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2 providers participating in the City's crisis
3 management system.

4 The city's crisis management system helps mediate
5 conflicts on the street, connect high risk
6 individuals to services that can reduce long term
7 risk of violence. This legislation will ensure that
8 those not-for-profits seeking to help mediate
9 conflicts within our community are provided the
10 support required to help them keep our cities and New
11 Yorkers safe. I hope my colleagues will join me in
12 supporting these bills. Thank you.

13 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Well done. We're going
14 to Councilmember Schulman followed by Councilmember
15 Farias.

16 COUNCILMEMBER SCHULMAN: Thank you. I want to
17 wish a happy birthday to all the Libras in the room.
18 So there you go.

19 You know, I'm somebody that has always has said
20 here in this body that we're only as good as our
21 staff, and that includes central staff. Harboni
22 Ahuja, who's counsel to my committee, the Health
23 Committee, is sadly leaving the Council at the end of
24 this week. She embraced the issue of health care and
25 was extraordinarily responsive to me and my staff and

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2 I want to wish you luck in her future endeavors.

3 Thank you.

4 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll go to
5 Councilmember Farias followed by Councilmember
6 Brewer.

7 COUNCILMEMBER FARIAS: Thank you, Majority
8 Leader. October as mentioned already is Breast
9 Cancer Awareness Month, an annual reminder to promote
10 screening and prevention of disease which affects 1
11 in 8 women in the United States every year. I want
12 to highlight that the Women's Caucus is doing a
13 citywide free mammogram screening service throughout
14 our five boroughs with our women's caucus members,
15 and today we hosted with the American Italian Cancer
16 Foundation a mammogram bus this entire day outside of
17 253 Broadway and had many residents and city workers
18 screened, and so if you know of a woman over 40 that
19 needs to get a reminder, give her that reminder. I
20 also just want to highlight a bill that was
21 introduced today by myself and Councilmember Sanchez,
22 Intro 783, being introduced on the floor today that
23 hopes to mitigate an issue that affects all 51 of our
24 council districts: Poorly monitored water testing of
25 cooling towers. Neglecting to test the water in a

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2 timely fashion creates diseases like Legionnaires
3 that have already taken lives of Bronxites in a lot
4 of our council districts, and several of my community
5 members have fallen ill, and residents throughout the
6 Bronx and throughout the city just this year, and we
7 see hundreds of cases a year, every single year, in a
8 lot of our NYCHA campuses and buildings.

9 We saw what happened at Jacob Rees houses and in
10 my district at Castle Point Gardens Houses, so we
11 have to be vigilant about our water testing and get
12 our protocols codified to hold our agencies and
13 others accountable to keeping our residents safe. I
14 encourage everyone on the floor today to sign on to
15 this legislation and help us continue the fight on
16 this public health crisis. Thank you.

17 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll hear
18 from Councilmember Brewer, and finally from
19 Councilmember Lee, and Councilmember Narcisse.

20 COUNCILMEMBER BREWER: Thank you very much. So
21 Intro 752 is trying to address the issue that many of
22 us are trying to address which is to lithium
23 batteries. I hope that there'll be a hearing, I know
24 that the chair of fire and emergency has kindly
25 agreed to it. All the bills will be considered. But

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2 I think we have to find a way to make sure that the
3 workers can get to work safely and cheaply in terms
4 of the tools that they're using, but at the same time
5 safely. Just last night, I got a call from an SRO
6 where there are permanent residents, as well as
7 veterans who are permanent and somebody had a fire in
8 the apartment because they brought the bike home
9 plugged in. So that department is destroyed. Just
10 so you know, this year up to yesterday,
11 investigations on this issue of the batteries: 166.
12 Injuries 90. And deaths are 6. So this is not
13 something to take lightly, and I appreciate the
14 support.

15 Second, I want to mention: Thank you, Madam
16 Speaker for the efforts that you have made on those
17 who are coming from another country in terms of
18 asylums. So what I've been doing, and I'd love some
19 help: I have a list of those churches and synagogues
20 and mosques that in the past, people slept overnight.
21 People were homeless and it was a very successful
22 program. The city paid for the cot some of the food,
23 the blanket, and it was a process where everybody
24 stayed in touch. So I have that list. I've called
25 everybody and some are still able to do it some not.

2 So if you have churches, synagogues, or mosques
3 where there is a bathroom, maybe a kitchen, we can
4 figure out the showers. There's a gentleman who has
5 a truck, he brings the shower and the truck around
6 and that's one way to handle... you do need a shower.
7 The city has got to step up and pay for some of this
8 work. Some cases people will spend the night.
9 Sometime we have to find other ways to do that. When
10 people leave, I call it the tent, they need a place
11 to go. And it's no joke that there isn't enough.
12 And I don't think it's so great to be in a large
13 area, like a hotel that is not conducive to support
14 from the neighborhood, and particularly in a place
15 it's far from community. I have one church, they got
16 seven people. Everybody's being taken care of. I
17 mean, they got airline tickets, if they want, they
18 got clothes, they got food, they got schools, we need
19 to take care of folks and we need to do it in our
20 communities. So if you have a church, synagogue or
21 mosque, please let us know. Thank you very much.

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll hear
23 for Councilmember Lee, followed by Councilmember
24 Narcisse.

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2 COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, Majority Leader
3 and Madame Speaker.

4 Today I'm proud to be introducing legislation
5 alongside Councilmembers Holden, Hanks, Velasquez,
6 and Majority Whip Brooks Powers to combat catalytic
7 converter theft. Thefts of these devices have nearly
8 quadrupled in the city this year, and victims are
9 left on average with \$5,000 to \$10,000 in damages to
10 their cars. This happened to one of my staff as
11 well. In an already difficult economy, a New Yorker
12 should not have to live with that burden. Into 759
13 would establish a catalytic converter etching program
14 to distribute VIN etching kits to not only use in new
15 car dealers, but also the general public. This bill
16 would invest in expanding the good but overstretched
17 work that NYPD has already been doing on this issue.
18 Thank you, and I hope my colleagues will support in
19 this effort.

20 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. And finally
21 we'll hear from Councilmember Narcisse.

22 COUNCILMEMBER NARCISSE: I'd be remiss as a nurse
23 not to mention for the Breast Cancer Awareness Month,
24 for all ladies out there watching and for us to do
25 the checkup on a monthly regular basis, and to put

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2 the schedule for the mammogram around your birthday
3 that you will not forget. It is real. So I want to
4 say let's do it together. Let's stay alive. Thank
5 you.

6 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Sorry, we have one more,
7 as we're going to hear from Councilmember Sanchez.

8 COUNCILMEMBER SANCHEZ: Thank you Majority
9 Leader. I'm inviting my colleagues to sign on to a
10 couple things I already mentioned. So Councilmember
11 Farias talked about Intro 783 to develop water
12 management programs in our buildings and keep our
13 water safe. Also, Intro 750 is establishing a
14 proactive lead inspection program by our city
15 agencies. We currently do not proactively inspect
16 for lead, we do so reactively. So this would be
17 programmed to do so proactively.

18 Intro 782 would require the Department of
19 Education to distribute to all children information
20 regarding after school programming. We know we have
21 gaps in in care, child care, but also after school
22 care. And so part of that gap is information. And
23 this Intro 782 aims to tackle that. Reso 344 and 345
24 I already mentioned, that are about the housing
25 crisis, so calling on the state to do their part to

2 do more by establishing a statewide housing voucher
3 access program as well as expanding right to council
4 statewide.

5 And lastly, Intro 785: We've all been promised
6 everything and the moon when we go through rezonings
7 in our communities, and when we were staffers and in
8 the lives before we were Councilmembers. And yet
9 there isn't a formal mechanism for the city to track
10 these mitigations that are promised. So in addition
11 to the rezoning tracker that did pass a few years
12 ago, this bill would add the mitigations to be
13 tracked by the department... sorry, the Office of
14 Environmental Coordination. Thank you.

15 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. Seeing no
16 one else signed up, I'll now call on Speaker Adrienne
17 Adams to close today's Stated Meeting.

18 SPEAKER ADAMS: Before we close I just want to
19 commend the Women's Caucus of the New York City
20 Council for having the mammogram screening bus
21 outside of city hall today. This is another
22 unprecedented move of the women-majority-led City
23 Council, first ever, so I want to commend my
24 colleagues for doing this.

25 [Applause]

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2 This is what happens when women lead. With that
3 the stated meeting of October 12, 2022, is hereby
4 adjourned.

5 [GAVEL]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Date 10/17/2022