

STATED MEETING

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

STATED MEETING

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SEPTEMBER 14, 2022
Start: 2:06 P. M.
Recess: 3:28 P. M.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: ADRIENNE E. ADAMS, SPEAKER
HON. KEITH POWERS, CHAIRPERSON

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Shaun Abreu
Joann Ariola
Alexa Avilés
Diana I. Ayala
Charles Barron
Joseph C. Borelli
Erik D. Bottcher
Justin L. Brannan
Gale A. Brewer
Selvena N.
Brooks-Powers
Tiffany Cabán
David M. Carr
Carmen N. De La Rosa
Eric Dinowitz
Amanda Farias
Oswald Feliz
James F. Gennaro

STATED MEETING
COUNCIL MEMBERS: (CONTINUED)

Jennifer Gutiérrez
Shahana K. Hanif
Kamillah Hanks
Robert F. Holden
Crystal Hudson
Kristin Richardson Jordan
Rita C. 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
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.
Pierina Ana Sanchez
Lynn C. Schulman
Althea V. Stevens
Sandra Ung
Marjorie Velázquez
Inna Vernikov
Nantasha M. Williams
Julie Won
Kalman Yeger

STATED MEETING

A P P E A R A N C E S

Rabbi Hayim Schwartz,
Rabbinical Seminary of America, located at 76-01 147
Street, Flushing, New York 11367

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SERGEANT RODRIGUEZ: This is a microphone test for the Stated Hearing. Today's date is September 14, 2022 recorded by [INAUDIBLE] Gonzales (sp?) Rodriguez at the chambers.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: [NO AUDIO] [INAUDIBLE] vibrate. Please take your seats. Take any and all conversations outside of the chambers.

Mr. Majority Leader?

MAJORITY LEADER POWERS:

[GAVELING IN] [GAVEL SOUND]

Good afternoon, everyone, and welcome to the Stated Meeting of September 14, 2022. I am Majority Leader Keith Powers, and I would like to thank everyone for joining us today. If you would like to follow along, the agenda for today's meeting is posted on our website.

COUNCIL CLERK: Please join us for the Pledge of Allegiance.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise!

MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Roll call.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Present

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Present

STATED MEETING

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2 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Avilés?
3 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Present
4 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Ayala
5 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Present
6 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Barron?
7 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here
8 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Bottcher?
9 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Here
10 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Brannan?
11 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Here
12 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Brewer?
13 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here
14 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Brooks - Powers?
15 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS - POWERS: (NO RESPONSE)
16 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Cabán?
17 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Present
18 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Carr?
19 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Present
20 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?
21 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: (NO RESPONSE)
22 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?
23 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Here
24 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Farías?
25 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: (NO RESPONSE)

STATED MEETING

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2 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Feliz?
3 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Here
4 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?
5 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: [INAUDIBLE]
6 Council Member Gutiérrez?
7 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Presente
8 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Hanif?
9 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Here
10 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Hanks?
11 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: (NO RESPONSE)
12 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Holden?
13 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here
14 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Hudson?
15 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: (NO RESPONSE)
16 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Joseph?
17 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Here
18 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Kagan?
19 COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: Here
20 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?
21 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Here
22 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Lee?
23 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Here
24 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Lewis?
25 COUNCIL MEMBER LEWIS: Here

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STATED MEETING

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COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Marte?

COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Here

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: (NO RESPONSE)

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Menin?

COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Here

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Moya?

COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Present

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Present

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Here

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Here

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: (NO RESPONSE)

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Restler?

COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Here

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Richardson Jordan?

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN: Present

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Riley?

COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: (NO RESPONSE)

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present

STATED MEETING

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2 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?
3 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present
4 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?
5 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Present
6 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Schulman?
7 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Here
8 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Stevens?
9 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: (NO RESPONSE)
10 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Ung?
11 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Present
12 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Hanks?
13 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Present
14 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Velázquez?
15 COUNCIL MEMBER VELÁZQUEZ: (NO RESPONSE)
16 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?
17 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: (NO RESPONSE)
18 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Williams?
19 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: (NO RESPONSE)
20 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Won?
21 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Present
22 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Riley?
23 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Present
24 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Williams?
25 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Present

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COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Present

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Here

COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you

MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Velázquez, sorry,

COUNCIL CLERK: It's okay.

Council Member Velázquez?

COUNCIL MEMBER VELÁZQUEZ: Here

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Farías?

COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Present

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Yeger?

COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Borelli?

COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Here

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Powers?

MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Here

COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Adams?

SPEAKER ADAMS: Present

MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We will now
hear today's Invocation, which will be delivered by
Rabbi Hayim Schwartz from the Rabbinical Seminary of
America, located at 76-01 147 Street in Flushing.
Welcome... (CROSS-TALK)

1
2 SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise!

3 RABBI SCHWARTZ: Avinu Shebashamayim, O Heavenly-
4 Father, grant wisdom, sensitivity, and understanding
5 to the men and women of this great assemblage, The
6 City Council of the City of New York. It is these 51
7 members who debate what is good and who make the laws
8 for the residents of this great city. Please help
9 them to debate honestly and with the best of
10 intentions for their constituents. Please guide
11 their hands and their hearts to craft proper
12 legislation that will ensure the safety and
13 prosperity of all who dwell in our five boroughs;
14 provide inspiration and creativity to the members of
15 this great council as they chart a new direction
16 forward for all the citizens of New York. Grant
17 safety and security to our municipal workers, to the
18 brave members of the New York City Police and Fire
19 Departments, Sanitation, Corrections, and Parks
20 Departments who venture forth into the city each day
21 to carry out the will and direction of this council.
22 Protect them from harm in the performance of their
23 duties. Indeed, protect all the millions of
24 residents of this great city as they go about their
25 business and as they raise their families, hopefully

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2 in safety and in peace. May the words of King David
3 in Psalms 145 ring true for all New Yorkers, Poteach
4 et Yadecha u'masbiah l'chol chai ratzon. You open
5 your hand and satisfy the desire of every living
6 thing, may all our wishes, hopes, and desires be
7 fulfilled for the ultimate good of all and let us say
8 Amen.

9 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Amen.

10 Thank you, and thank you for being with us today.

11 I am going to now ask Council Member Yeger moved
12 to spread the Invocation for the record.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you, Mr. President.

14 I am honored to rise today on behalf of our colleague
15 Councilman Jim Gennaro, who is not able to join us in
16 person, uh, and to speak on behalf of the Rabbi.

17 A Bronx Native, Rabbi Hayim Schwartz, is a rabbi
18 and the Rabbinical Seminary of America, Yeshiva
19 Chofetz Chaim of Queens. Founded in Brooklyn, as all
20 great things are, more than eight decades ago, the
21 seminary is one of the oldest in the United States.
22 It is presently located in Councilman Gennaro's
23 district in the Kew Gardens neighborhood.

24 The seminary's beginnings were not on these
25 shores. The seminary was originally founded in Radin

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2 Poland under the leadership of Chofetz Chaim in the
3 late 1800's. The Chofetz Chaim, after whom,
4 Rabbinical Seminary of America is named, was a
5 renowned and revered Torah giant.

6 During the Holocaust, some of the students of the
7 Yeshiva were among the fortunate few who made their
8 way through Poland, Lithuania, into Russia over the
9 Trans-Siberian Railroad to Vladivostok off the
10 Russian shore with the Sea of Japan. They were then
11 able to set sail for Tsuruga Japan and ultimately
12 Kobe Japan, before their final destination of
13 Shanghai China where they... Some of these students
14 were able to live out the war and ultimately be
15 saved. My grandfather was one of these fortunate
16 few. Students at RSA are carefully trained for
17 Jewish communal service. More than 95% of RSA
18 graduates ultimately engage in communal work. They
19 dedicate their lives to the City and to this nation.
20 RSA is one of the many stellar examples of New York's
21 Yeshivas. And Rabbi Schwartz is himself immersed in
22 communal work, in addition to his service to the
23 community and to his Yeshiva, and to his religious
24 community, he also serves on the Executive Board of
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1
2 his local civic association and participates in
3 countless other causes.

4 On behalf of our colleague, Councilman Gennaro, I
5 am honored to rise to introduce Rabbi Hayim Schwartz
6 today, and I ask unanimous consent that the
7 Invocation be spread upon the record of these
8 proceedings.

9 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We will now
10 have the adoption of the minutes by Council Member
11 Marjorie Velázquez.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VELÁZQUEZ: I make a motion that
13 the minutes of The Stated Meetings of July 14, 2022
14 and August 11, 2022 be adopted as printed.

15 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. And, we'll
16 have Messages and Papers from the Mayor.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered M. 86 through
18 Preconsidered M. 90, various appointments.

19 SPEAKER ADAMS: Rules, Privileges and Elections.

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

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

23 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Petitions and
24 communications?

25 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

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MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Land Use call-ups?

COMMITTEE CLERK: M's 91 and 92.

SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on call up vote, I would now ask that the clerk to a roll call vote on today's Land Use call-ups.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

Council Member Abreu: Aye.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Council Member Ariola?

COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Aye

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Barron?

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Bottcher?

COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Aye

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNON: Aye

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Brooks - Powers?

COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS - POWERS: (NO RESPONSE)

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye
3 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Carr?
4 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Aye
5 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?
6 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye
7 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?
8 CHAIRPERSON DINOWITZ: Aye
9 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Farías?
10 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye.
11 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Feliz?
12 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye
13 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?
14 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: (NO RESPONSE)
15 We'll come back to Gennaro.
16 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Okay.
17 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?
18 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye
19 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Hanif?
20 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye.
21 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Hanks?
22 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye.
23 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Holden?
24 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye
25 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye
3 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Joseph?
4 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye
5 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Kagan?
6 COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: Aye
7 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?
8 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye
9 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Lee?
10 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye
11 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Lewis?
12 COUNCIL MEMBER LEWIS: Aye
13 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Marte?
14 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye
15 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Mealy?
16 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: (NO RESPONSE)
17 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Menin?
18 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye
19 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Moya?
20 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Aye
21 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?
22 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye
23 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Nurse?
24 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Aye
25 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Aye
3 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Paladino?
4 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye
5 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Restler?
6 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye
7 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Richardson Jordan?
8 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN: Aye
9 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Riley?
10 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye
11 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Rivera?
12 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.
13 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?
14 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye
15 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?
16 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye
17 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Schulman?
18 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye
19 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Stevens?
20 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye
21 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Ung?
22 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye
23 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Velázquez?
24 COUNCIL MEMBER VELÁZQUEZ: Aye
25 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

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COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Williams?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Won?

COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Yeger?

COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Borelli?

COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye

COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Uhm, I just came on,
we're doing the Land Use call-ups?

COUNCIL CLERK: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Okay, uh, ask unanimous
consent to vote on the Land Use call-ups in the
entirety of the general order... honor?

MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Uh, thank you, Mr.
Leader. I vote aye, and I thank you for this
accommodation, and thank the members for this
accommodation, and, I, uh, thank Council Member Yeger
for speaking about Rabbi Schwartz, you know, for the
Invocation, and I guess that's it. I voted, and I'm
good to go, right?

1 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Yes, Sir, thank you.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Powers?

4 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Aye

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Adams?

6 SPEAKER ADAMS: I vote aye.

7 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Today's Land Use Call-ups
8 are adopted by a vote of 48... Sorry, 49 in the
9 affirmative, and 0 in the negative.

10 We will now have communication from Speaker
11 Adrienne Adams.

12 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you, Majority Leader.

13 Good afternoon, everyone and Happy Birthday,
14 Council Member Sandra Ung!

15 [APPLAUSE IN CHAMBERS]

16 And, Jennifer Gutiérrez, Happy Birthday to
17 Hazel's mom!

18 [APPLAUSE IN CHAMBERS]

19 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Thank you.

20 SPEAKER ADAMS: I want to begin today by
21 acknowledging the 21st anniversary of the attacks on
22 September 11, 2001. This past Sunday, we joined
23 families at The World Trade Center to grieve the loss
24 of loved ones, up lift their memories, and reflect on
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2 how the events of that day continue to impact our
3 city and country. None of us will ever forget where
4 we were or what we were doing when we witnessed or
5 learned of the attacks on 9/11 -- the emotions we
6 felt that day, and the rebuilding of our city in the
7 subsequent months and years. It is critical that we
8 continue to honor the memories of those lost.

9 Equally important is supporting the survivors
10 including the families who lost mothers and fathers,
11 sisters and brothers, friends, and neighbors to this
12 tragedy.

13 Twenty-one years later, and it is still not any
14 easier to think about what happened on that fateful
15 day. We must also always remember the brave first
16 responders, who risked their lives to save their
17 fellow New Yorkers in official capacity and those who
18 sacrificed to serve simply because of their heroic
19 humanity.

20 We had first responders coming from all over this
21 country to help New Yorkers as well. So, today and
22 every day, we stand with you and your families to
23 honor your sacrifice and service to this city. We
24 must ensure that everyone impacted by 9/11 and its
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1
2 aftermath gets the healthcare that they need and they
3 deserve.

4 This past weekend our city celebrated the labor
5 movements and leaders that fought for so many of the
6 benefits we enjoy in the workplace today. During the
7 Annual New York City Labor Day Parade. As the
8 daughter of two long time union workers, I was raised
9 at a home and community that understands the
10 importance of organized labor. From the 40-hour work
11 week, to workers compensation and paid sick leave, we
12 gained so much as a result of our nation's labor
13 movements and struggles. As we honor this history,
14 it is important that recognize the ongoing fights
15 today for fair wages, safer workplaces, improved
16 benefits, and the right of all workers to organize
17 without fear of retaliation. These are essential
18 protections that workers deserve. There is still much
19 more work to do, but we are proud to stand alongside
20 workers each and every day.

21 Next week we will also mark five years since
22 Hurricane Maria devastated the Caribbean,
23 particularly the islands of Dominica, Saint Croix,
24 and Puerto Rico. We remember the victims and the
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1
2 people on the beautiful islands that are still being
3 affected by this tragedy.

4 September is a month when we celebrate so many of
5 our city's diverse cultural communities. On
6 September 5th, we march down Eastern Parkway for the
7 55th Annual West Indian Da Parade for the first time
8 in three years.

9 [APPLAUSE IN CHAMBERS]

10 Yeah.

11 [APPLAUSE IN CHAMBERS]

12 And, it was an amazing celebration full of life
13 and energy. We all felt it on the parkway. We
14 recognize the richness of our West Indian communities
15 that make New York City so vibrant and so special.
16 Just a few days ago, our Asian-American communities
17 celebrated the Mid-Autumn Festival with friends and
18 family. It's a time to give thanks, for prayer, and
19 to spend time with loved ones. So, whether you
20 celebrated with lanterns, moon cakes, or any other
21 traditions, I hope all New Yorkers observing this
22 holiday had a wonderful festival.

23 Tomorrow marks the start of Hispanic Heritage
24 Month when we uplift the contributions and
25 achievements of Latino communities across this

1
2 country. New York City is home to 2.5 million Latino
3 residents of diverse backgrounds, cultures, and
4 traditions. We also recognize the groundbreaking
5 Latino leaders in this body who continue to serve
6 this city with such amazing passion and dedication.
7 And I look forward to celebrating Hispanic Heritage
8 Month with all of our New Yorkers celebrating.

9 Also...

10 [APPLAUSE IN CHAMBERS]

11 Yeah, we can do that.

12 [APPLAUSE IN CHAMBERS]

13 Also, just a reminder, everyone, this Saturday is
14 the 53rd Annual African-American Day Parade, held in
15 Harlem NYC.

16 [APPLAUSE IN CHAMBERS]

17 I will be there in the village!

18 [APPLAUSE IN CHAMBERS]

19 This year, we are honoring Black health
20 professionals, so please come and join us as we
21 celebrate the indelible contributions of the African-
22 American community that we've all made to our city
23 and across our country. I'm looking forward to it.
24 Again, we've got some great parades, festivals, and
25 celebrations to look forward to.

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2 And, finally, September 21st is National Black
3 Women's Equal Pay Day. Symbolizing just how far in
4 to the year Black women must work to be paid what men
5 were paid during the previous year. In fact, Black
6 women are paid 58¢ for every dollar that white men
7 make. As the first woman majority council, we are
8 committed to narrowing these disparities and
9 achieving the equity that women deserve. We will not
10 rest until women, especially women of color, are paid
11 what we are owed.

12 [APPLAUSE IN CHAMBERS]

13 Now...

14 [APPLAUSE IN CHAMBERS]

15 Now, let's move on to our stated agenda. Today
16 we are voting on several legislative Land Use,
17 Finance, and Rules items.

18 We will be voting on the following Land Use

19 Items:

20 1859 (*1959) Strang Avenue will facilitate the
21 construction of a new single-story commercial retail
22 development and include 12 accessory parking spaces
23 in Council Member Riley's district.

24 Halletts North rezoning will facilitate and
25 significant new mixed-use development on the

1 waterfront of the Halletts Point Peninsula in
2 Northwest Queens. It will include a projected 1,340
3 housing units, 335 permanently affordable housing
4 units, 525 parking spaces, 525 bicycle spaces, 1,800
5 square feet of commercial use, 21,500 square feet of
6 community facility space, and approximately 1 acre of
7 open space, including a waterfront esplanade.

9 The Council is modifying the application to map
10 MIH option 3, which is the deep affordability option,
11 and to amend the site plan to restore the pedestrian
12 walkway to its regulation width of 10 feet in Council
13 Member Cabán's district and Council Member Cabán, you
14 did the darn thing! Just sayin'.

15 [APPLAUSE IN CHAMBERS]

16 A Preconsidered Resolution comes up also for vote
17 on the Finance items. This Resolution approves an
18 exemption from real property taxes for property
19 located at 3300 Palmer Avenue in the Bronx in Council
20 Member Riley's district.

21 The project consists of two buildings with 135
22 units. The tax exemption will replace a soon-to-
23 expire 421-A Exemption and will keep all units rent
24 restricted for 40 years. The AMIs will range from
25 75% to 100%.

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2 A Preconsidered Resolution that approves an
3 exemption from real property taxes for property
4 located at 1700 Harrison Avenue in The Bronx in
5 Council Member Sanchez's district. The project
6 consists of one building with 79 units. Currently
7 less than half the units are rent restricted, and
8 with this tax exemption, all of them will be. The
9 AMIs will range from 50% to 80%.

10 And another Preconsidered Resolution that
11 approves an exemption from real property taxes for an
12 affiliated property located at 1730 Harrison Avenue
13 in The Bronx in Council Member Sanchez's district.
14 The project consists of one building with 77 units.
15 Less than half the units in this building are
16 currently rent restricted, and with this tax
17 exemption all of them will be. The AMIs will
18 similarly range from 50% to 80%.

19 We are also voting on the Rules items. Sarah
20 Carroll for re-appointment as Chair of the Landmarks
21 Preservation Commission; Gail Benjamin for
22 appointment as a member of the New York City Planning
23 Commission; Anthony Crowell for appointment as a
24 member of the New York City Planning Commission;
25 Milton Williams for appointment as a member of the

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2 Conflicts of Interest Board, Elisa Velazquez for
3 appointment as a member of the New York City Taxi and
4 Limousine Commission, and a technical correction
5 related to Rasmia Kirmani-Frye's appointment as a
6 member of the New York City Planning Commissary.

7 Lastly, The Council will vote on the following
8 pieces of legislation:

9 First of all I'm so proud to sponsor Introduction
10 458-A which would require the Department of Health
11 and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) to create and maintain
12 information and resources - available in all
13 designated citywide languages - for a potential
14 patient of an abortion provider, such as information
15 outlining methods used to provide an abortion,
16 attendant health risks, and recovery from an
17 abortion. Additionally, this bill would require DOHMH
18 to conduct a language access service needs
19 assessment, which would survey abortion providers in
20 the City to assess the availability of language
21 access services for abortion, the demand for such
22 services, any funding available, preferred methods of
23 delivery of language access, and any challenges for
24 implementation. DOHMH would be required report its
25 findings to the Speaker and the Mayor with

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2 recommendations and any role the City can play in
3 assisting abortion providers with language access
4 services, including the feasibility of providing a
5 City grant program.

6 Thank you to staff Brenda McKinney, Anastassia
7 Zimina, Sara Liss, and Shweta Deshmukh (sp?).

8 Next we are voting on Introduction 56-A,
9 sponsored by Council Member Chi Ossé, which would
10 require the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
11 (DOHMH) to create the Nightlife Opioid Antagonist
12 Program to help prevent opioid overdoses in nightlife
13 establishments. The program would permit nightlife
14 establishments in the City to request and retain
15 opioid antagonist kits at a time, free of charge, to
16 keep on premises for administration to patrons, staff
17 or individuals on the premises experiencing an opioid
18 overdose. This bill would also require DOHMH to offer
19 free resources and training to staff of participating
20 nightlife establishments on the administration of
21 opioid antagonists. Thank you, Sara Liss.

22 Additionally, Introduction 518-A, sponsored by
23 Council Member Shaun Abreu, would require the Mayor's
24 Office of Criminal Justice to coordinate with the New
25 York City Police Department to conduct a study on

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2 reducing the flow of illegal firearms in to the City
3 and issue an annual report to the Mayor and City
4 Council Speaker. This report will include
5 information regarding each illegal firearm seized in
6 New York City.

7 And, finally, we are voting on my bill,
8 Introduction 602-A, which defines the geographical
9 boundaries of the Time Square Area, where licensed,
10 firearm owners will be restricted from carrying
11 concealed weapons. The New York State Legislator
12 recently amended statewide fireman regulations to
13 establish such sensitive locations as schools,
14 government buildings, places or vehicles used for
15 public transport, and religious institutions, and
16 designates Time Square as determined and identified
17 by the City as one such location. This law became
18 necessary after the United States Supreme Court
19 struck down the New York State law that placed strict
20 restrictions on who could carry concealed firearms.
21 The boundaries as defined by the bill, largely follow
22 the area identified as Time Square by the official
23 New York City Tourism Website. It covers the area
24 abutted by West 40th Street to West 53rd Street and
25 6th Avenue to 8th Avenue and parts of 9th Avenue and

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2 the Port Authority Bus Terminal, which includes
3 several well-known restaurants, hotels, and theaters.

4 Thank you to Josh Kingsley, Rachel Cordaro (sp?),
5 and Robert Calandra (sp?).

6 Thank you for your attention, now I will turn it
7 back in to the hands of the Majority Leader.

8 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, Speaker Adams.

9 We are now going to move in to the Discussion of
10 General Orders. We have one person signed up, we will
11 call on Council Member Barron to speak.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Uh, thank you very much.
13 My colleagues, I find it interesting that the least
14 amount of shooting occurs in Time Square. But, when
15 it comes to our neighborhoods, we don't see any
16 special legislation for the neighborhoods where a lot
17 of the shootings are taking place. But, capitalism
18 needs Time Square to be safe, so they can make some
19 money.

20 But, be that as it may, I also want to bring your
21 attention the tax breaks for three projects. I am
22 supportive of the projects 100% in The Bronx, because
23 they are affordable. But the 421-A program needs to
24 be scrapped. We tried hard in the State, that's 80%

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2 affordably... or 80% market and 20% affordability.
3 Often times the 20% isn't even affordable.

4 So, since the Mayor doesn't have money for our
5 children and Education, and since he has to do
6 another 3% cut from all the agencies, well, don't
7 give any more tax breaks to those who can afford to
8 pay for it. And don't let them tell you, "If we
9 don't get the tax breaks, then we can't do
10 affordability." So, that puts you in a bind. And I
11 am 100% for unions. And we want the union jobs, and
12 I support union jobs, but after they finish their
13 work, we have to live with the facility that they
14 build in our neighborhoods. And, if those facilities
15 gentrify our neighborhoods, we should say no.

16 So, I just wanted to bring some of that to your
17 attention. I often vote for projects that have tax
18 breaks for affordability, but I just want to make a
19 point on this one. At some point, they shouldn't get
20 their welfare. It's interesting when the
21 corporations get free money -- it's "subsidies", when
22 we get it, it's welfare. Either we're all on
23 welfare, or we're all on subsidies. So, I just
24 wanted to bring that to your attention. Thank you.

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2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you Council Member
3 Barron.

4 Do we have any other individuals who would like
5 to speak? Okay, thank you.

6 We are going to now move in to today's Agenda. We
7 will move on to the Reports of Special Committees.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

9 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Reports of Standing
10 Committees?

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee on
12 Finance, Preconsidered LU97 and Reso 317 through
13 Preconsidered Land Use 99 and Resolution 319 tax
14 exemptions.

15 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of The Committee on Land
17 Use, Land Use 88 and Reso 320, 959 Strang Avenue
18 Rezoning.

19 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 98 through LU 95, various
21 applications.

22 SPEAKER ADAMS: Approved with modifications and
23 referred to the City Planning Commission pursuant to
24 Section 197-(d) of the New York City Charter.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 96 and Resolution 321
3 Halletts North.

4 SPEAKER ADAMS: Approved with modifications and
5 Coupled on General Orders.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of The Committee on
7 Mental Health, Disabilities, and Addiction,
8 Introduction 56-A Opioid Program.

9 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
10 Orders.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of The Committee on
12 Public Safety, Introduction 518-A Illegal Firearms
13 Report.

14 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
15 Order.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Intro 602-A Time Square
17 identification.

18 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
19 Orders.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: For The Committee on Rules,
21 Privileges and Elections, Preconsidered M86 and
22 Preconsidered Resolution 322, Milton L. Williams
23 Appointment.

24 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.
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2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered M 87 and
3 Preconsidered Reso 323 Elisa Velazquez.

4 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered M 88 and
6 Preconsidered and Preconsidered Reso 324, Anthony
7 Crowell appointment.

8 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered M 89 and
10 Preconsidered Reso 325, Gail Benjamin appointment.

11 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered M 90 and
13 Preconsidered Reso 326, Sarah Carroll appointment.

14 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered Reso 315,
16 correction to Resolution 265.

17 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: For The Committee on Women and
19 Gender Equity, Introduction 458-A, Language Access
20 Services.

21 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
22 Orders.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: General Order Calendar,
24 Introduction 179-A.

25 SPEAKER ADAMS: Laid over.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Resolution appointing various
3 persons, Commissioner of Deeds.

4 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

5 I would now ask the clerk, take a roll call vote
6 on all of the items coupled on today's General Orders
7 Calendar.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Permission to explain my
10 vote?

11 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Thank you, Majority
13 Leader Powers.

14 Uh, so, I, one, wanted to share with my
15 colleagues that for 1700 and 1730 Harrison, which are
16 up for an Article XI tax exemption, they are... They
17 do not receive 421-A, and they will not receive 421-
18 A. This is a building that was rescued and sort of
19 has been affordable to neighborhood residents since
20 the 80'S -- since the times of The Bronx burning, and
21 they are coming up for a tax... an additional tax
22 exemption. And, I am in support of this so that I
23 can keep my neighbors in their homes. And, as The
24 Speaker has said, it's gone from less 50% of
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2 permanently affordable, affordable for 40 years, to
3 being 100% affordable at 50 to 80% AMI.

4 And, second, I wasn't here because I had a little
5 one, but I also just want to applaud all of my
6 colleagues, and thank you for the Maternal and
7 Reproductive Health package that passed last Stated
8 Meeting. It was meaningful to watch it from the
9 hospital bed, uh, and I am very happy to see that.

10 So, with that, I want to ask your permission to
11 couple my vote on the items on The General Order
12 Calendar and my vote on Land Use Call-ups?

13 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: I vote aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

16 Council Member Abreu?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Aye on all, except for
20 Intros 602-A and 458-A, for which I am a no.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you, one moment.

22 Council Member Avilés?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye on all, except M 88,
24 of which I am a no.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

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Council Member Ayala?

COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Barron?

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

MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote no on LU 90, 91, 94, 95, and 96 to Halletts North Rezoning -- 25% is affordable, and 75% is market.

I abstain from the Preconsidered appointments of Milton Williams, Elisa Velazquez. I vote no for Anthony Crowell. I vote yes, for Gail Benjamin. And I abstain from Sarah Carroll. I just don't know these individuals.

And, I am voting no on principle, not for the projects -- for The Bronx projects -- I know they will pass, and they will get the tax breaks that are needed for their affordability, and I support that 100%, but I am having a little protest vote or just a "raising your attention" vote of no for the three items that came out of the Finance Division in terms of the tax breaks.

And, I vote no on the item for 42nd Street and the guns.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

Council member Bottcher?

COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Brooks - Powers?

COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS - POWERS: (NO RESPONSE)

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye on all with the
exception of M 88, on which I vote no.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Carr?

COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: I note no on Introductions
458-A and 602-A, and aye on the rest.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Yes on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Farías?

COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye on all.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Gutiérrez?

COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: I vote aye on all with the exception of M 88 and M 90 where I vote no.

COMMITTEE CLERK: And, Council Member Gutiérrez, M 88, yes?

COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: And, uh, M 90.

COMMITTEE CLERK: M 90? Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Thank you.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Hanif?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: I vote aye on all except for Preconsidered M 88, for which I vote no.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Holden?

COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye on all except for Intros 458-A and 602-A, of which I vote no.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Hudson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye on all with the exception of M 90, for which I abstain.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

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Council Member Joseph?

COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Kagan?

COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Krishnan?

COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye on all except
Preconsidered M 88, which I vote no.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Lee?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Lewis?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEWIS: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Marte?

COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Menin?

COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Moya?

COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you

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Council Member Nurse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: I vote no on M 88 and aye on all of the rest.

COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Ossé?

COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Permission to explain my vote?

MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Thank you.

Today I am so proud to be the lead sponsor of Intro 56, uh, and that it has come to the floor today to address the fentanyl crisis here in New York City. It is a public health crisis. We are seeing New Yorkers die on a weekly basis. So, I am so happy to have colleagues in this room who care about this piece of legislation to address the fentanyl crisis here in New York City. This bill is something that is personal to me. I shared this is the committee vote yesterday, but last year I lost a dear friend of mine to a fentanyl overdose. This is happening all across the city, nonetheless The United States of America. And it reminds myself, and I hope it reminds all of you that we in The Council are here to do a job, and it's not only to make the lives of New Yorkers

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2 better, but it's to save lives. So, thank you so
3 much for co-sponsoring this legislation. God knows
4 whose life we will be saving in the future.

5 And, also, colleagues in The City Council, we are
6 making history today. If this bill passes, I will be
7 the youngest lead sponsor on a piece of legislation
8 to pass a bill here in the New York City Council.

9 [APPLAUSE IN CHAMBERS]

10 So, thank you. I am sure that these men on the
11 wall will be rolling in their graves. But, thank you
12 so much for your support on this piece of
13 legislation. I vote aye on this. And, I vote no
14 Preconsidered M 88 and passionately vote no on
15 Preconsidered M 90. Thank you.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you

17 Council Member Paladino?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: I vote aye on all,
19 except for Intros 602-A and 458-A, on which I vote
20 no.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

22 Council Member Restler?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye on all.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Richardson
25 Jordan?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN: So, I am also
3 going to be a no on M 88. And, I want to commend
4 colleagues for us just taking a look at appointments
5 to City Planning Commission, not just blindly voting
6 for them. Aye on all of the rest.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

8 Council Member Riley?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye on all, and
10 congratulations Council Member Ossé and Council
11 Member Abreu for passing your first bills today.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Brooks - Powers?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS - POWERS: Requesting
14 unanimous consent to record my vote?

15 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS - POWERS: And also
17 permission to explain my vote, thank you.

18 So, I am very proud to be a co-prime sponsor
19 alongside Council Member Abreu and several of our
20 colleagues on Intro 518, which will mandate the
21 creation a report on illegal firearm trafficking in
22 this city. New Yorkers deserve streets free of
23 violence, which is why we must do everything possible
24 to address the gun violence epidemic. I am grateful
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2 to our colleagues who have joined us on this bill and
3 am proud to vote aye on that bill.

4 And with that, I vote aye on all, with the
5 exception of Preconsidered Resolution 323, which is
6 the appointment of Elisa Velázquez to the New York
7 City Taxi and Limousine Commission. Thank you.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Permission to explain
10 my vote?

11 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Uh, first I want to
13 congratulate Council Member Ossé and Council Member
14 Abreu on your pieces of legislation. I want to also
15 congratulate Council Member Sanchez and Council
16 Member Riley on your Land Use application. Most
17 importantly, I want to congratulate and give a big
18 shout out to Council Member Tiffany Cabán for showing
19 true leadership on your Land Use project. You really
20 delivered for your community. You approved that the
21 dilapidated, vacant lot, that probably would have
22 been a last mile center, and brought in affordable
23 housing. And regardless of the naysayers who are
24 short sighted, you saw the larger picture, and
25 congratulations.

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I vote aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Schulman?

COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Stevens?

COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Ung?

COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Velázquez?

COUNCIL MEMBER VELÁZQUEZ: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Vernikov?

COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye on all except no on
602-A and 458-A.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you

Council Member Williams?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Won?

COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye on all, and I abstain
from M 88 and M 90... M 88 and M 90.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Yeger?

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

4 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Of course, go ahead.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Of course, I like that,
6 thank you, Mr. President.

7 It would be great if this council were here today
8 to make it more difficult for criminals to have
9 firearms in this city. It would be great if this
10 council were not declaring one part of our city as,
11 as the gentleman spoke about earlier, more important
12 to protect than every other neighborhood in our city.
13 It would be great if we spoke with truth and clarity
14 about a real effort to curtail crime in our city --
15 the unlawful possession and use of firearms in our
16 city. We are not doing any of that today. Today, as
17 we are wont to do, we legislate for the press release
18 -- for the Twitter. And we are not doing a single
19 real effort to end gun violence in our city in the
20 neighborhoods of New York where people are getting
21 shot and killed virtually every day certainly,
22 frequently and more frequently than we have seen in
23 the past. And there is no legislation here today to
24 deal with any of that. Instead, the most heavily
25 vetted, investigated double checked, triple checked,

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2 quadruple checked, people who are getting licenses,
3 who have a lawful right to carry a gun, are being
4 legislated against. I don't want anybody to have
5 guns. This is not what this is about. Not looking
6 to go around and make sure every New Yorker has a
7 gun. But the people who are doing the crime in the
8 city, the people who are killing each other, are not
9 the guys with licenses. They're not the people who
10 have to go to 1 Police Plaza, get fingerprinted, get
11 checked, have their books checked, their records
12 checked. That's not them. That's who we are
13 legislating about today. I'm not voting to put more
14 guns on the streets today when I vote no on this
15 bill. But we need to do something real about where
16 the crime is in this city and what we're going to do
17 about it. So, with that, I vote aye on all, with the
18 exception of Introductions 602 and 458.

19 Thank you very much.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

21 Council Member Borelli?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Mr. Majority Leader and
23 Slayer of Sugary Drinks, may have a brief moment?

24 Thank you.

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2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: You can sign on to the
3 bill, and you can have time to speak, thank you.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Rare is it when in
5 alignment of planetary celestial bodies lines up to
6 produce a force that's more remarkable than me having
7 to say, I agree with our colleague, Mr. Barron, as to
8 why we have... As to why we've singled out Time
9 Square, uh, in terms of making this a gun free zone
10 when this is not an area ordinarily prone to gun
11 violence. I won't regurgitate what Council Member
12 Yeger had said about the constitutionality and the
13 fight against illegal guns owners. And I won't do
14 the Twitter argument of whether criminals are
15 actually going to pay attention to what a sign has to
16 say while they're committing a crime. I want to talk
17 about whether prosecutors will actually pay attention
18 to what a sign has to say. So, as of August 1st,
19 2,386 individuals in this city were arrested with an
20 illegal firearm -- a gun they were not supposed to
21 have -- a gun they may have used in the commission of
22 a crime. Of those, 1,921 were released the very next
23 day. The very next day. So, before we create a new
24 felony that we know, thanks to come ideological
25 beliefs by many of my colleagues and friends that we

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2 should end the carceral system, let people out of
3 jail, not have bail, people who get arrested already
4 with felonies, for felonies, already get out the very
5 next day. And then what happens to them down the
6 road? The overwhelming majority of cases in 2021
7 ended in a misdemeanor plea deal -- Attempted
8 Possession of a Firearm. So, if someone who even
9 gets convicted gets a slap on the wrist. So, I would
10 encourage, with all of the enthusiasm now to go after
11 guns, we also have some enthusiasm in going after
12 people who have already been arrested with guns, call
13 on prosecutors to take more cases to trial. Don't
14 give too many plea deals. To call on prosecutors to
15 essentially throw the book at people who are the most
16 likely to commit the most violence in our city.

17 So, with that, I will register my votes as aye on
18 all, except for Intros 602-A, 458-A, and 518-A, and I
19 wish you all a good afternoon.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

21 Council Member Powers?

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, I just want to
23 take a second to explain my vote and maybe offer a
24 little bit of rebuttal to some of the comments that
25 were just made.

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2 I don't think that the fight against guns in our
3 city is an either or proposition that I think that
4 individuals are often making it. And I don't
5 disagree for a second that an individual who carries
6 an illegal gun in this city -- they're should be
7 consequences for that person -- and we need to go
8 after all illegal guns out in the city. And, at the
9 same time, as representative for Time Square, we have
10 a duty and a right, as the law has changed in this
11 year, to also protect people against a potential...
12 For someone to pull out a legal gun and potentially
13 cause lots of harm to New Yorkers. That can be a
14 legal and permitted gun, which can also cause harm
15 whether they have been vetted or have gone through a
16 background check, and also legal guns don't come from
17 nowhere. They are legal guns that make it to... that
18 also make it onto the streets into the hands of
19 people who will use them illegally. So, I ask
20 everybody to stop thinking about this as an either or
21 proposition no matter what party you are. We have to
22 fight illegal guns. If you fight the NRA, you have
23 fight against people who are carrying any illegal
24 guns in this city, and I think it goes the other way
25 as well. I think as New Yorkers we have a duty, and

1
2 I know whether you are a Republican or a Democrat,
3 you can share in that to keep people safe. And I
4 think that the folks who are coming through Time
5 Square, we have to keep safe every, single day
6 whether it's from guns or from anything else, because
7 we have a duty in this city to keep -- especially in
8 our essential business district -- people safe. And
9 guns are the most unsafe part of that equation. So I
10 very proudly vote for the... I vote aye on all
11 including the bill, including Council Member Abreu's
12 bill, including the Speaker's bill, to tackle the gun
13 crisis. And I do share the feeling that some have
14 represented, that we have to do more when it comes to
15 the individuals and the people and the trafficking of
16 illegal guns in to the city.

17 With that, I vote aye on all.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Adams?

19 SPEAKER ADAMS: I associate myself with all of the
20 comments of the Majority Leader, and I vote aye on
21 all.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Okay. Thank you, we have, uh,
23 all items on today's General Order Calendar are
24 adopted by a vote of 51 in the affirmative, 0 in the
25 negative, and 0 abstentions, with exceptions of Land

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2 Use items 97, 98, and 99 and the accompanying
3 Resolutions, which are adopted by a vote of 50 in the
4 affirmative, 1 in the negative, and 0 abstentions.

5 Land Use items 96 and Resolution 321 adopted by a
6 vote of 50 in the affirmative, 1 in the negative, and
7 0 abstentions.

8 Intro 458-A adopted by a vote of 44 in the
9 affirmative, 7 in the negative, and 0 abstentions.

10 Intro 602-A which is adopted by a vote of 43 in
11 the affirmative, 8 in the negative, and 0
12 abstentions.

13 M 86 and Resolution 322 are adopted by a vote of
14 50 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative, and 1
15 abstention.

16 M 87 and Resolution 323 adopted by a vote of 49
17 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative, and 2
18 abstentions.

19 M 88 and Resolution 324 are adopted by a vote 41
20 in the affirmative, 10 in the negative, and 0
21 abstentions.

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Oh, sorry, we will now
23 move to the Introduction and Reading of Bills.

24 SPEAKER ADAMS: All bills have been referred to
25 committees as an indicated on today's agenda.

1
2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: There are no resolutions
3 on today's agenda, so we are going to move in to the
4 General Discussion. We will start with Council
5 Member Ossé.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Just really briefly, I want
7 to make some thankyou's in terms of the passing of
8 Intro 56. Thank you so much, Majority Leader Keith
9 Powers, for being a co-prime sponsor, Ann-Marie
10 Foster, the entire staff of Phoenix House, Andrew
11 Rigie and The New York City Hospitality Alliance,
12 Ariel Palitz in The Mayor's Office of Media and
13 Entertainment and the Office of Nightlife, thank you
14 so much, we are doing such great work. And that's
15 all from me.

16 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, and we will
17 now hear from Council Member Kagan, followed by
18 Council Member [INAUDIBLE]... (CROSS-TALK)

19 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Oh, my God, and May
20 Vutrapongvatana, my Legislative Director, I cannot
21 believe I forgot that.

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Smart, smart, smart
23 Council Member.

24 Uh, let's now go to Council Member Kagan,
25 followed by Council Member... (CROSS-TALK)

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: Thank you, Majority Leader
3 for the opportunity to speak.

4 As many of you know, in the early morning hours
5 of Monday, a horrible tragedy occurred on the beaches
6 of Coney Island. A young mother with a history of
7 mental health issues drowned her own three children.
8 Three month old Oliver, 4-year-old Liliana, and 7-
9 year-old Zachery. I would like to extend my deepest
10 to condolences to the entire Coney Island community.

11 This was a preventable tragedy. I would like to
12 point out the failures of our mental health system,
13 which basically failed to notify Child Protective
14 Services and The Administration for Children's
15 Services of the declining mental health of the
16 mother. She was clearly rough shape for a very long
17 time.

18 The failure of the Children's Administration for
19 Children Services is outrageous. I will just quote
20 the father of Zachery from the New York Times Story.
21 "It didn't matter how many times I called Child
22 Protective Services, they would tell me, "Oh, you
23 don't have any real evidence," but they did not do a
24 real investigation." Such indifference to our
25 children's livelihoods is total unacceptable. We

1
2 need to do better in our city to help people in these
3 situations.

4 Thank you to the officers of the 60th precinct
5 who helped in the search for her children. May these
6 innocent children rest in peace.

7 Thank you.

8 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We will now
9 hear from Council Member Barron, followed by Council
10 Member Menin.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you, I just want to
12 bring your attention to an Intro that I am
13 introducing today on contracting with not for
14 profits, and particularly Black and Brown
15 neighborhoods. We are dying from this reimbursement
16 process. A lot of our programs don't have the money
17 like a Good Shepherd has -- \$30 - \$40 million, so if
18 you give Good Shepherd a million dollars, they can
19 easily spend a million dollars. For our
20 organizations, if we wanted to give them a \$100,000,
21 they have a problem. So, my bill say when they are
22 awarded the money, their contract should be
23 expedited, should be done expeditiously, and they
24 should get every penny that we award them. And they
25 have to count forth through receipts and every other

1
2 process -- not "if you have the money, then you can
3 spend the money." And, then they have to get bridge
4 loans, and they have to make decisions whether to pay
5 taxes or pay salaries. And for struggling
6 communities like ours, we need all of the money
7 upfront. And they have to account for all of it,
8 just like every other agency has program money that
9 they give out, you have to account for it. So, if
10 you support this bill, 654, we will be able to say to
11 groups like Man Up! Inc. and other groups that are
12 doing great work in our communities that you won't
13 have to struggle every year. Fifty percent of the
14 money sometimes comes back, because they don't have
15 the money to spend. So, I am hoping that you could
16 sign on to this. They have a press conference out
17 there now. A lot of the groups are out there in
18 support of this. But, let's sign on to this bill,
19 because some of these groups have done great work in
20 our communities -- in spite of the fact that they are
21 struggling financially.

22 Thank you

23 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

24 We will now go to Council Member Menin, followed
25 Council Member Schulman.

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Thank you so much, Majority
3 Leader. Today I am proud to introduce two bills,
4 Intros 685 which would create an Office of
5 Digitalization for small businesses. It is co-
6 sponsored by Council Members Gutiérrez, Hanks,
7 Dinowitz, Stevens, Feliz, Schulman, Marte, Salamanca,
8 Lee, Ossé, Ung, and The Public Advocate. And Intro
9 686 with Council Member Stevens, it will expand
10 summer youth employment.

11 The first bill, Intro 685, would create The
12 Office of Small Business Digitalization to address
13 the digital divide for so many small businesses. The
14 2021 survey found that one in four small businesses
15 in the US do not even have a website. It's critical
16 for our small businesses to have the ability to
17 utilize digital tools, and to be able to maximize
18 their business potential. We have the opportunity to
19 address this digital divide in a very straight
20 forward and simple way through this bill.

21 The second bill, Intro 686, introduced with our
22 incomparable Youth Services Chair, Council Member
23 Stevens, expands our Summer Youth Employment program
24 by requiring the City to create a year-long
25 mentorship program for participants and expand summer

1
2 youth employment by mandating that every City agency
3 bring on summer youth proportional to their
4 respective headcount. The bill also requires DYCD to
5 create a mentorship program in the private sector
6 which would connect young people to jobs in fields
7 like media, entertainment, hospitality, and much
8 more. It was a pleasure and honor working with my
9 colleague together to craft this bill. And, I ask my
10 colleagues to join me signing on to these two bills.
11 Thank you.

12 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

13 We will hear from Council Member Schulman,
14 followed by Council Member Joseph.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Thank you, Majority
16 Leader. Today is both a sad and proud day for me.
17 My Chief of Staff, Facia Class, is leaving and Friday
18 is her last day. I am sad to see her go, but proud
19 that she is pursuing her passion. She singlehandedly
20 put my office together, built an amazing team, and
21 laid the foundation for my success as a member of The
22 City Council. I am someone who believes we are only
23 as good as the people who work for us. I am a better
24 member because of Facia. I cannot thank her enough
25 for her guidance and wisdom, and want her to know

1
2 that even though she is physically leaving, she will
3 always be a member of Team Lynn, and a member of the
4 council family. Thank you.

5 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

6 We will now hear from Council Member Joseph
7 followed by Council Member Feliz.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Thank you, Majority
9 Leader.

10 I am introducing two bills, Introduction 677 and
11 Introduction 678. When I was transitioning from UFT
12 to City Council there were weeks where my health
13 insurance lapsed because of administrative delays. I
14 shuddered at the thought of what would have happened
15 if I had gotten into an accident or if my child
16 needed medical attention during the time while I lost
17 coverage because of lack of oversight. This bill
18 would ensure agencies to expedite all processes
19 related to providing continuing health insurance for
20 City employees who transfer employment from agency to
21 another.

22 The second bill I am introducing is 678. I am
23 introducing this bill on behalf of President Reynoso.
24 The bill would require notification to appropriate
25 community board and council members within in 10 days

1
2 after receiving an application to alter or demolish
3 certain rent regulated buildings or housing
4 accommodations. This will provide council members
5 with advance notice to assist tenants with transition
6 housing or in an instance of wrongful eviction and
7 free legal services. Thank you.

8 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

9 We will go to Council Member Feliz followed by
10 Council Member Cabán.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Thank you, Majority Leader.

12 Today I have the honor and the privilege of
13 joining colleagues, including Council Member Brewer,
14 Council Member Abreu, Council Member Salamanca,
15 Council Member Williams, Council Member Ariola, and
16 Council Member Joseph and introduce legislation that
17 will help promote fire safety in the City of New York
18 -- legislation regulating the sale of e-Bike
19 batteries. Not all e-Bike batteries, but
20 specifically the unsafe, uncertified e-Bike batteries
21 that don't have the tools which prevent overheating
22 and other malfunctions that have led to fires.

23 This year, we have seen so many fires caused by
24 e-Bikes, fires that have been destructive and fires
25 that have been scary. These e-Bike batteries have

1
2 fluids that create powerful and difficult to
3 extinguish fires -- fires which destroy our homes and
4 also fires that put the lives of all New Yorkers in
5 danger. We cannot allow another tragedy to happen.
6 This year we have seen over 100 fires caused by e-
7 Bike batteries. Last month, we lost an innocent 5-
8 year-old in Harlem in an apartment fire caused by e-
9 Bike batteries. And even last week, an e-Bike
10 battery literally exploded while a person was using
11 it. We are in a crisis, uh, a crisis being caused --
12 again, not by all e-Bike batteries, but specifically
13 the unsafe, uncertified e-Bike batteries. And I am
14 proud to join all my colleagues to take action and
15 help resolve that fire safety crisis.

16 And, I want to thank all of my colleagues who
17 have joined in this bill. And I am looking very
18 forward to working this bill with all of my
19 colleagues and everyone who is affected, especially
20 all of the delivery workers.

21 And, I see I have 23 seconds left, so I want to
22 make a few additional points. I want to congratulate
23 my colleague, my brother, Shaun Abreu, on the very
24 important bill. You know, I literally have no words
25 to describe the gun violence crisis affecting the

1
2 City of New York, and especially the borough of The
3 Bronx. The gun violence crisis and also how open it
4 has become -- you know, if we don't have --and if I
5 could use 15 more seconds --...

6 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: I'll give you five.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: If we don't have safety, we
8 don't have much. And that reminds me of a park in my
9 district, \$15 million renovation, and people could
10 only see it from a distance -- people can't play with
11 it. We need to take every single, step possible, and
12 I want to congratulate my colleague, Shaun Abreu, for
13 taking one of those steps. Thank you so much...

14 (CROSS-TALK)

15 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

16 We will not go to Council Member Cabán, followed
17 by Council Member Hudson.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Thank you.

19 I would like to talk about the two pieces of
20 legislation I am introducing; one is a resolution
21 supporting the PromPT Stability Act. Thank you to
22 Council Member Avilés, Council Member Gutiérrez, and
23 Council Member Hanif. And I'd ask those to learn the
24 name Shamika Crawford. In 2019, she was arrested
25 based on a vaguely worded misdemeanor assault

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2 complaint, filed by her some-time boyfriend, and the
3 judge issued a full TOP, otherwise known as a pre-
4 trial "stay-away order", separating her from her
5 children, forcing her out of her own NYCHA apartment,
6 and rendering her homeless for nearly three months.
7 Now, Miss Crawford is far from alone. From my time
8 as a public defender, I know full well that NYPD
9 protocol will frequently result in arresting both
10 people involved in a domestic dispute. Whoever has
11 the luck of getting in front of the judge first in
12 arraignments, gets the first order of protection
13 issued, and is allowed to go home first, while the
14 other is shutout. And unsurprisingly, even though
15 rates of domestic violence are similar across
16 socioeconomic status and ethnicity, it's poor and
17 working class Black and Brown New Yorkers who tend to
18 come before the court. And so let's honor Shamika
19 Crawford and so many more like her and past this
20 resolution in support of Promoting Pre-Trial (PromPT)
21 Stability Act, which just calls for a hearing to
22 determine whether that issue should be... actually
23 be in place.

24 The other is Intro 657, Asset Seizure
25 Transparency Law. Thank you, Council Member Stevens,

1 Council Member Gutiérrez, and Council Member Hanif.
2 District Attorneys seize money and property left and
3 right. There's no due process that is afforded when
4 those assets are being seized. They do not get their
5 property back even if a case is dismissed. They
6 might not even be the target of a search warrant or
7 investigation, but their property is liable to seized
8 just because they live there. Transparency and
9 accountability here are sorely needed. And during
10 budget hearings, I want to remind folks, that the
11 DA's came in and told us that they don't have the
12 funds necessary to implement vital criminal legal
13 reforms, and they were pleading for ever-more money
14 from us on The Council. And we can't assess the
15 merits of these claims and pleas if we don't know the
16 status of the potentially hundreds of millions of
17 dollars of seized assets that they're sitting on --
18 that they're free to use. So, if DA's want more
19 money from us come budget time, they're at least
20 going to have to be open and transparent about what
21 they're doing with these funds.
22

23 So, encourage folks to support both of these
24 things. Thank you.

25 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

1
2 We will go to Council Member Hudson, followed by
3 Council Member Brewer.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Thank you.

5 Today I am introducing Age in Place NYC package
6 aimed at making New York City a place where all older
7 adults can age in place with dignity. The 10-bill
8 package, six of which are being introduced today,
9 includes legislation aimed at combatting some of the
10 most pressing issues facing older adults including
11 housing insecurity, healthcare access, culturally
12 competency, and accessibility.

13 What is always most concerning about discussions
14 on aging, is that our city is woefully behind in
15 preparing for the rising influx of older adults in
16 our city. And this has happened under the leadership
17 of older adults. If you can believe it, our last
18 seven mayors, from Abraham Beame to Eric Adams, were
19 elected at age 50 or older. Our city's older adult
20 population, which currently represents 20% of our
21 city's entire population, will only grow as Baby
22 Boomer generation ages.

23 At 2021 CUNY Graduate Center Study reports that
24 the population of adults ages 65 and older, in New
25 York will soar 25% between 2021 and 2040, compared to

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2 just 3% growth in the general population. Simply
3 put, we should have prepared for an ageing New York
4 decades ago. We have failed time and again, but it's
5 not too late to turn the tide and make New York City
6 a place that actually prioritizes older adults and
7 ensures every older adult can age in place with
8 dignity. This package does just that.

9 I will be circulating an email next week with the
10 list of bills and urging you all to co-sponsor this
11 package. Because, if you're lucky, you too will one
12 day be an older adult. Thank you.

13 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

14 Uh, we will go to Council Member Brewer, followed
15 by Council Member Stevens.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I made the older adult. I
17 just want to let you know. I am doing just fine!

18 [LAUGHTER]

19 A few things, number one, the issue of asylum
20 seekers. So, to make a long story short, we have all
21 been -- many of us -- to the meeting with them on
22 different locations. To me, the main issue is the
23 working paper problem. And, I know the City, some
24 may disagree, but I do think the City agencies and
25 the nonprofits are doing everything they can to

1
2 support these amazing families. However, the federal
3 government is taking way too long on working papers -
4 - everybody's eligible to work, coming through the
5 asylum seekers locations and families. So, we have to
6 go get this straight. So, there's a resolution 307
7 and a letter that we are circulating, thank you, uh,
8 Madam Speaker for agreeing to sign it, to tell the
9 federal government, you must help us get these
10 working papers.

11 Number two, I know that many of us are concerned
12 about the helicopters. I know we are tired of
13 dealing with it. The only way to really, really deal
14 with it is to get the federal legislation Safe and
15 Quiet Skies Act of 2021, which many of our
16 congressional delegations are supporting. So, this
17 is just saying, please pass it.

18 I also want to thank Council Member Feliz and
19 others, we are all trying to figure out what to do
20 about these batteries. Intro 656 would simply tell
21 the Fire Department, please do a much better job of
22 educating everybody on the challenges. And we will
23 be working on other bills that could hopefully also
24 address these issues. To you very much.

25 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

1
2 We are going to go to Council Member Stevens,
3 followed by Council Member Gutiérrez.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Good afternoon, everyone.
5 As we continue to reimagine youth workforce
6 development across the City, and coming off of a
7 historical summer for the largest allocation of
8 SYEPs, I am excited to be introducing, alongside with
9 Council Member Menin, Intro 686, which would create a
10 public/private sector partnership and help to expand
11 SYEP. I just really, really would like for everyone
12 to please sign on this bill. This is about really
13 encouraging our young people and helping them with
14 career pathways as we continue to reimagine... I
15 have to say something, because you know how much I
16 love kids, but that's it.

17 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

18 We will go to Council Member Gutiérrez, who I
19 believe is celebrating a birthday, and we will go to
20 Council Member Linda Lee after that.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: I am, thank you!

22 Uh, North Brooklyn has been treated as a
23 sacrificial zone by the fossil fuel industry for
24 decades. And it's a key example of environmental
25 racism in our city. Resolution 312 calls on New York

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2 State and any other entities involved to protect
3 environmental justice communities, including Cooper
4 Park, a NYCHA development in my district, and all of
5 those living near National Grid's fracked gas storage
6 depot on Newtown Creek, by denying a permit to build
7 two new fracked gas vaporizers at this facility.

8 This is yet another phase of a much larger project
9 that has pushed its way through majority resistance
10 in our community, building a pipeline that will carry
11 fracked gas through Black and Brown communities.

12 Construction of the pipeline runs through the
13 neighborhoods of Brownsville, Bed-Stuy, Bushwick,
14 Williamsburg, and Greenpoint. The pipeline would
15 affect a 153,000 residents who live along the
16 construction path and within the evacuation zone. It
17 is unconscionable to build more infrastructure in
18 these communities, raise rates for consumers for
19 harmful projects that literally violate the
20 environmental justice provisions of The Climate
21 Leadership and Community Protection Act.

22 We are calling for a just and equitable
23 transition away from decades of environmental racism
24 that has plagued our neighborhoods. I want to thank
25 all of my colleagues who have co-primed, Council

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2 Member Restler, Council Member Cabán, Council Member
3 Won, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Ossé,
4 Council Member Nurse, Council Member Avilés, Council
5 Member Hanif, Council Member Joseph, Council Member
6 Barron, Council Member Louis, and Council Member
7 Narcisse, and I want to encourage all of my
8 colleagues to join by signing onto this resolution.
9 And I also just want to thank everyone who wished me
10 a Happy Birthday. Thank you.

11 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Happy Birthday! Enough,
12 enough...

13 We will go to Council Member Lee, followed by
14 Council Member Holden.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Thank you, Majority Leader.

16 Good afternoon, colleagues and Madam Speaker.
17 Today it is my honor to introduce two pieces of
18 disability related legislation.

19 First is Intro 682, which would require The
20 Mayor's Office for Persons with Disabilities to
21 collect five-year accessibility plans from each New York
22 City department office and agency.

23 And the second bill, Intro 681, would create a
24 workforce development program within The Mayor's
25 Office for persons with disabilities.

1
2 As a social worker and now Chair of the Committee
3 on Mental Health, Disabilities, and Addiction, I have
4 seen how the pandemic has disproportionately affected
5 the nearly 1 million New Yorkers with disabilities.

6 This legislation is about making good on the
7 promise of equal access while helping the City on its
8 road to recovery. I hope you can all join me in that
9 fight.

10 And, lastly, I want to thank The Speaker for her
11 leadership on this issue. In her State of the City
12 Address, she mentioned how persons with disabilities
13 have been left behind and committed herself to making
14 them a greater priority. The Speaker had a vision of
15 making our economic recovery and landscape more
16 inclusive, and we have arrived at this legislation
17 today because of her team's tireless followup and
18 consultation with advocates and stakeholders. Thank
19 you.

20 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, we will go to
21 Council Member Holden, followed by Council Member
22 Avilés.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Thank you, Majority
24 Leader.
25

1
2 Today I introduce several bills to address issues
3 affecting everyone in the City. However, I must
4 first address the flooding in my district yesterday.

5 A brief rainstorm was too much for the sewer
6 system. The status quo of our infrastructure is not
7 acceptable. Intro 444, which I introduced in May of
8 this year, would require the DEP to post the
9 inspection, cleaning and maintenance schedules of
10 catch basins and sewers. While this bill will
11 certainly not solve all of our flooding issues, it
12 will improve transparency and allow the public and
13 elected officials with oversight responsibilities to
14 identify problems before flooding occurs. I urge my
15 colleagues to sign on as co-sponsors to this bill.

16 The bills I introduced today will improve how we
17 manage the homelessness crisis, improve parking
18 enforcement with the use of technology, tackle the
19 problems of vehicles registered out of state, map all
20 methane leaks throughout our city, and close a
21 loophole in our construction permit process. I urge
22 my colleagues to review these good government bills,
23 quality of life legislation proposals that will
24 benefit all New Yorkers.

25 Thank you very much.

1
2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

3 We will go to Council Member Avilés, followed by
4 Council Member Mealy.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Hello, today I am
6 introducing a package of legislation designed to
7 address some of the challenges faced by our public
8 housing residents who suffer most from the lack of
9 oversight underfunding of the New York City Housing
10 Authority.

11 Starting with Resolution 304, I am calling upon
12 my state level colleagues to advance assembly bill
13 9414 and senate bill 5807, put simply, this
14 legislation would grant the City oversight power over
15 NYCHA. Currently, all oversight has fallen squarely
16 on HUD, and we have seen the disastrous effects of
17 relying on our federal government to conduct proper
18 oversight of the Authority. The definition of
19 insanity is doing the same over and over again and
20 expecting different results. The Resolution I am
21 introducing today calls upon our state colleagues to
22 make a change. With the passage of this legislation,
23 NYCHA, which has been... has had an abysmal track
24 record, by nearly all measures would be accountable
25 to the New York City Council.

1
2 Intro 648 would require NYCHA to report on the
3 number of vacant units within their portfolio and
4 distinguish between habitable and uninhabitable units.
5 At a time when so many New Yorkers are struggling to
6 find affordable housing, and so many have waited
7 years for public housing apartments, it is
8 unacceptable for any unit to remain vacant. Reporting
9 this information in a transparent manner will give us
10 insight in to how NYCHA is or is not filling
11 vacancies or prioritizing repairs.

12 Through collaboration with Assembly Member Harvey
13 Epstein, who first introduced this idea at the state
14 level, I am also putting forward Into 649, which
15 would prohibit the Department of Sanitation from
16 charging NYCHA fees for sanitation services our
17 residents are entitled to already as tax payers. It
18 defies commonsense to ask an Authority that is deeply
19 in the red, to continue to pay for something as basic
20 as sanitization services again.

21 My final piece of legislation is Intro 464 [TIMER
22 CHIMES] Whoops! Wow, that went quick... around
23 responding to fundamental questions around the Rental
24 Assistance and Demonstration Project. I would love
25 to talk to my colleagues more.

1
2 And just a last note, the situation of e-Bikes is
3 indeed complicated. And, many of us are deeply
4 concerned and impacted. We are working on getting
5 together a briefing where we can really, as a
6 council, explore a well balanced approach to
7 addressing the e-Bikes rather than kneejerk policies
8 that actually will harm the very people who...

9 (CROSS-TALK)

10 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, Council
11 Member... (CROSS-TALK)

12 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: seek to support. Thank
13 you.

14 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

15 We will not go to Council Member Mealy, followed
16 by Council Member Krishnan, followed by Council
17 Member Dinowitz, and last, but not least, Council
18 Member Marte.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Thank you.

20 Today I am introducing a bill with Council Member
21 Joseph, Intro 679, implementing additional vehicle
22 safety measures for seniors that calls for the
23 installation of traffic calming devices adjacent to
24 senior centers. This bill requires DOT to annually
25 install at least one traffic calming on no less than

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2 50 blocks that are adjacent to senior centers or
3 naturally occurring retirement communities -- NORCS.
4 DOT must also report to the council by August 1, 2023
5 and annually thereafter on the locations where the
6 traffic calming devices have been installed. This
7 purpose of traffic calming is to lower vehicle speeds
8 on neighborhood streets without restricting access.
9 To think back, only on August 11th, I had Miss
10 Eleanor, who turned 107, who was hit by a car.
11 Whoever hit her, picked her up and put her back on
12 the curb, and now she's in rehabilitation.

13 As we know senior centers are the epicenters for
14 gathering of the older adult community. Traffic
15 calming devices will slow vehicles, traffic, and
16 decrease potential accidents. One of the differences
17 of this mechanism from speedbumps is it doesn't
18 require emergency vehicles to be impacted when
19 responding to emergencies.

20 I ask my colleagues to sign on to Intro 679,
21 thank you.

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

23 And now we will hear from Council Member
24 Krishnan, followed by Council Member Dinowitz, and
25 Council Member Marte.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Good afternoon,
3 everyone. Today I will introducing Intro 680, which
4 calls on The Parks Department to determine the...
5 Take surveys and determine the feasibility of
6 creating Micro-Parks and green spaces on vacant City
7 owned land near dead ends and highway entrance and
8 exit ramps. This was a priority in legislation; a
9 policy proposal mentioned by Speaker Adams in her
10 State of the City address, and reflects the
11 commitment of The Council to expand green space in
12 every way that we can in this city. We have seen how
13 crucial it is, especially after the pandemic, to have
14 green space in all of our communities especially ones
15 that have some of the least amount of it in the city,
16 and how urgent it is for our city to look at all
17 possible ways to create such green spaces.

18 So, I urge all of my colleagues to join on and
19 sign on with me in support of Intro 680, thank you.

20 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

21 We will hear from Council Member Dinowitz and
22 Council Member Marte.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Thank you, Majority
24 Leader.

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2 Today I am introducing three bills, uh, 659, 660,
3 and 661. They're all great. But I want to speak
4 specifically about 660. As many of you know, I was a
5 Special Education Teacher before I came here The
6 Council. And, in the public schools, we attempt to
7 provide our students with disabilities as much
8 support as possible. And then when they graduate,
9 when our students graduate, all of the supports are
10 gone, and many of them transition to college and
11 struggle to find their place in college, struggle to
12 get the same support in college that they got all
13 throughout their school career. This bill would
14 require The Mayor's Office of People with
15 Disabilities to establish a program to help those
16 high school students with disabilities transition to
17 their colleges, uh, to CUNY and continue to get their
18 accommodations. This is especially important if we
19 want to support our students with disabilities, make
20 sure that they have their continuum of services, make
21 sure the DOE actually speaks to CUNY, that they work
22 together to support the most, uh, the students who
23 have the most needs.

24 I encourage all of you to sign on this bill to
25 support our students with disabilities, thank you.

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2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

3 We will now hear, finally, from Council Member
4 Marte.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Hi, everyone. I am here to
6 talk about Intro 683, which would definitely help all
7 of us, and it's simple thing that will require The
8 Department of Buildings to have on their PW1
9 Application, the PW1 Application is the first
10 application any developer fills out, uh, for The
11 Department of Buildings, and it will require them to
12 ask the number of affordable units in the building,
13 and also the income eligibility for each affordable
14 unit in the building.

15 Why is this important? Many of us, when
16 developers come, are guessing what they're going to
17 propose to us. This gives us a floor to start off
18 the bat. We know what the developer's going to
19 build, we're going to know how many affordable units,
20 and the income levels of those units. This would
21 save us a lot of time, and save our community members
22 a lot of stress, and it's just simple questions that
23 would be on the application.

24 So, hopefully everyone can support this bill and
25 we can move quickly on this. Thank you all.

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MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

Seeing no one else signed up to speak, I will now call on Speaker Adrienne Adams to close out today's Stated Meeting.

SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you, Majority Leader.

The Stated Meeting of September 14, 2022 is hereby adjourned.

MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: [GAVELING OUT] [GAVEL SOUND] Alright.

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 September 21, 2022