

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

----- X

TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

----- X

November 19, 2020
Start: 1:43 p.m.
Recess: 3:16 p.m.

HELD AT: REMOTE HEARING

B E F O R E: Corey Johnson
Speaker

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Adrienne Adams
Alicka Ampry-Samuel
Diana Ayala
Inez D. Barron
Joseph Borelli
Justin Brannan
Fernando Cabrera
Margaret S. Chin
Andrew Cohen
Costa G. Constantinides
Robert Cornegy, Jr.
Laurie A. Cumbo
Chaim M. Deutsch
Ruben Diaz, Sr.
Daniel Dromm
Mathieu Eugene
Vanessa L. Gibson
Mark Gjonaj
Barry S. Grodenchik
Robert F. Holden
Ben Kallos

COUNCIL MEMBERS CONTINUED:

Council Members:

Peter A. Koo
Karen Koslowitz
Brad S. Lander
Stephen T. Levin
Mark Levine
Farah N. Louis
Alan N. Maisel
Steven Matteo
Carlos Menchaca
I. Daneek Miller
Francisco P. Moya
Bill Perkins
Keith Powers
Antonio Reynoso
Donovan J. Richards
Carlina Rivera
Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Deborah L. Rose
Helen K. Rosenthal
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.
Ritchie J. Torres
Mark Treyger
Eric A. Ulrich
Paul A. Vallone
James G. Van Bramer
Kalman Yeger

A P P E A R A N C E S

Simran Jeet Singh
Spiritual Leader at the Sikh Coalition

1 JOHANNA CASTRO: We are live.

2 DIRECTOR OF SECURITY: Good afternoon everyone
3 and welcome to today's Stated Meeting. At this time,
4 I would like for everyone to please turn off all
5 electronic devices. Turn them to vibrate. Thank
6 you. Madam Majority Leader, it is all yours.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Okay. Alright [GAVEL]
8 Good afternoon. I am Laurie Cumbo and welcome to the
9 Stated Meeting of November 19, 2020. I would like to
10 thank you for joining us today and this virtual
11 meeting of the New York City Council. If you would
12 like to follow along, the agenda for today's meeting
13 is posted on our website.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Would you please join us for the
15 Pledge of Allegiance. I pledge allegiance to the
16 flag of the United States of America and to the
17 Republic for which it stands, one nation, under God,
18 indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Roll call.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Adams?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Present.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Ampry-Samuel? Ayala?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Present.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Barron?
25

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 5

2 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Present.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Borelli?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Present.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Brannan?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: I am here.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Cabrera? Chin?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Present.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Cohen?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Here.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Constantinides?

12 CHAIRPERSON CONSTANTINIDES: Here.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Corney? Deutsch?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Here.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Diaz?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Presente.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Dromm?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Eugene?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Presente.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Gibson?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Good afternoon, I am

23 present.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Gjonaj?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Present.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Grodenchik?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Here.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Holden?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Kallos?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Here.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Koo?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Koslowitz?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Lander?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Levin? Levine?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Here.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Louis?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Maisel?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Here.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Menchaca?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Presente.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Miller?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Present.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Moya?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Present.

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 7

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Perkins? Powers?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Present.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Reynoso? Richards? Rivera?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Presente.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Rose?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Present.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Rosenthal?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Salamanca?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Torres? Treyger?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Ulrich? Vallone?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Van Bramer?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Yeger?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Matteo?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Here.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Cumbo?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Present.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Johnson?

3 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I'm here.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Madam Majority Leader we have a
5 quorum.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Alright, we have a quorum,
7 thank you. We will now have today's invocation which
8 will be delivered by Simran Jeet Singh, the Spiritual
9 Leader at the Sikh Coalition, which is located at 50
10 Broad Street in Manhattan, welcome.

11 SIRMAN JEET SINGH: Thank you Majority Leader and
12 good afternoon everyone. It is an honor to be with
13 you all today. I am deeply moved by our country's
14 and our city's move toward justice. This feels
15 especially important now and has Hindu's and
16 Buddhists and Jain's around the world celebrate
17 Diwali, the victory of darkness over light and my own
18 faith, the Community of Six are celebrating
19 [INAUDIBLE 7:20] the day when our sixth profit
20 [INAUDIBLE 7:23] returned home from unjust
21 incarceration and as part of his release negotiated
22 deliberation of 52 others who were wrongfully
23 imprisoned.

24 His example reinforces the core sick teaching
25 that justice is central to religiosity. Cultivating

1
2 our own spirituality is meaningless if it doesn't
3 move us to serve those around us. In Sikh we call
4 this love inspired action Sava and it is a tradition
5 that we cherish and enact daily. As we learn from
6 the sick poet Professor [INAUDIBLE 8:00] SAVA
7 serviced is the prayerful action, justice is an act
8 of worship.

9 This echo's the wisdom of Dr. Cornel West who
10 says, justice is what love looks like in public. So,
11 in the spirit of justice and love, let's bow our
12 heads for a short opening prayer.

13 [SPEAKING IN OTHER LANGUAGE 8:21] We live in
14 challenging times. We are here to serve and we want
15 to do our best but we also imperfect beings living in
16 an imperfect world. Give us the humility to
17 recognize our smallness and our shortcomings and our
18 limits and that the world extends beyond our
19 individual selves.

20 Give us the courage to grapple with this reality,
21 the courage to work for justice at the risk of our
22 own heart. Courage to show up in public knowing that
23 this work comes with exposure and vulnerability and
24 hurt and yet we do it anyway. Give us the wisdom to
25 see your goodness in all that we encounter. The

1 wisdom to realize that divinity resides equally in
2 each and every one of us, including ourselves. Give
3 us the wisdom to not just believe in our
4 interconnectedness but to live it. And finally, give
5 us the conviction to help keep us steadfast through
6 all the ups and downs of our own lives and all
7 through the tumult of the world. Give us the
8 conviction to do what is right and to do it for the
9 right reasons no matter how hard it is or what the
10 consequences might be.

12 I will close with the last line of the Sikh
13 Rehras[SP?], a daily congregational prayer which asks
14 for the wellbeing of all people and the spirit of
15 optimism that keeps us motivated and connected in all
16 aspects of life.

17 [SPEAKING IN OTHER LANGUAGE 9:46] Thank you.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you so much and
19 thank you for being with us here today. I would now
20 like ask Council Member Margaret Chin to spread the
21 invocation on the record.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you Majority Leader.
23 It is my great pleasure to welcome Mr. Simran Jeet
24 Singh from the Sikh Coalition. We are honored that
25 you have joined us today to deliver this beautiful

1 invocation. Mr. Singh is a writer, teacher scholar
2 and activist. He is a Soro Fellow equality fellow
3 with the Open Society Foundation, a Racial Equity
4 Media Fellow with the Interfaith Youth Corp and
5 Senior Fellow for the Sikh Coalition. He also hosts
6 two shows, a video web series titled, Anti-Racism as
7 a Spiritual Practice and Spirited, an interviewed
8 base podcast that explored diverse perspective of
9 faith and justice.
10

11 Simran is the author of a new children's book
12 from Penguin Random House, Fauja Singh Keeps Going,
13 the true story of the oldest person to ever run a
14 marathon. The first from a major publisher to
15 feature a Sikh story. Simran is currently writing an
16 adult nonfiction book for the Penguin Random House
17 entitled More of this Please. Seeks wisdom for the
18 soul.

19 Mr. Singh also serves on the Presidential
20 Candidate Joe Bidon's Asian American Pacific Islander
21 Faith Advisory Committee and Governor Andrew Cuomo's
22 Interfaith Advisory Committee. He is a columnist for
23 the Religious News Service. A spiritual religious
24 life advisor at NYU and Columbia University and a
25 visiting professor and union seminary.

2 This fall, he is teaching a program at Columbia
3 University and Trinity University on anti-racism as a
4 spiritual practice.

5 Mr. Singh is a highly soared out speaker on
6 topics of diversity, equity and inclusion. He offers
7 programs for all ages and audience from preschool
8 educator and high school student to university campus
9 and corporate workplace. He is exceptionally
10 passionate about teaching anti-racism through
11 building empathy and reflecting on our core values.

12 Growing up as a turban wearing Sikh in South
13 Texas. Simran learned early that marginalized groups
14 will not lecture their way into dignity and that
15 empathy is truly built when people get to know each
16 other as human beings. This realization is what
17 brought him into the deep work of empathy building as
18 an approach for personal development and social
19 change. We wanted to thank you again for being here
20 with us today and for all your great work for our
21 city and our country. With that, I make a motion for
22 the implication to spread in full upon the record.
23 Thank you Majority Leader.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you Majority Leader.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you so much Council

2 Member Chin and I look forward to picking up that
3 book. I have a three year old, so I certainly thank
4 you for sharing that with us, so that we can add it
5 to our library.

6 Now, at this time, I would like to have the
7 adoption of minutes by Council Member Danny Dromm.
8 Council Member Dromm, you might be on mute.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Yes, okay. I would like
10 to make a motion that minutes of the Stated Meeting
11 of October 15, 2020 be adopted as printed.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you so much.
13 Messages and papers from the Mayor?

14 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: None.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Communication from city,
16 county and borough offices?

17 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: M259 Comptrollers financial
18 report.

19 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Received, ordered, printed and
20 filed.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Petitions and
22 communications?

23 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: M260 resignation of Council
24 Member Rory Lancman.

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 14

2 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Received, ordered, printed and
3 filed.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Land use call ups?

5 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: M261 312 Coney Island Avenue.

6 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you. At this time, I am
7 asking for the Clerk to take a roll call vote on this
8 item. Just an item on the Land Use Call Up Calendar.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Adams?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: I vote aye.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Ampry-Samuel? Ayala?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: I vote aye.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Barron?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Point of clarification,
15 adding this to the vote that will occur later.

16 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Council Member Barron, this is
17 just a vote on the single item on the Land Use Call
18 Up Calendar.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: This is a vote on that
20 particular item?

21 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Yes.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I will abstain for now.

23 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Okay.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Borelli?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: I vote aye.

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 15

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Brannan?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: I vote aye.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Cabrera? Chin?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: I vote aye.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Cohen?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Constantinides?

9 CHAIRPERSON CONSTANTINIDES: Aye.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Corney?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: I vote aye.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Deutsch?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: I vote aye.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Diaz?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: [INAUDIBLE 16:07].

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Dromm?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Eugene?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I vote aye.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Gibson?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: I vote aye.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Gjonaj?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Aye.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Grodenschik?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Aye.

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 16

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Holden?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: I vote aye.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Kallos?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Koo?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Koslowitz?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Lander?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Levin?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Levine?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: I vote aye.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Louis?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: I vote aye.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Maisel?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Yes.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Menchaca?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Aye.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Miller?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Moya?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Aye.

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 17

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Perkins?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Aye.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Powers?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Reynoso? Richards? Rivera?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Rose?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Rosenthal?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Aye.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Salamanca?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Torres?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Aye.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Treyger?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Ulrich? Vallone?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Van Bramer?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Yeger?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye.

1 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: This is Council Member
2 Barron.
3

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Yes, Council Member Barron.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I would like to vote aye.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Absolutely, thank you.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Matteo?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Aye.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Cumbo?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I vote aye.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Johnson?

13 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Aye.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Today's Land Use Call Ups have 43
15 in the affirmative and zero in the negative.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you. Today's Land
17 Use Call Up is adopted. We will now have
18 communication from Speaker Corey Johnson.

19 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Good afternoon. Thank you
20 Madam Majority Leader, happy Thursday. As always I
21 hope that everyone is safe and that you and your
22 families are safe and well.

23 Throughout the month of November, we have seen
24 record breaking surges in the number of COVID cases
25 throughout the country and sadly right here in New

1
2 York City we are also seeing our numbers rising.
3 This is a tragic and important reminder that the
4 pandemic is still with us and we must continue social
5 distancing, wearing a mask and doing our best to
6 avoid contact with those outside our household. We
7 have flattened the curve before and we need to do it
8 again.

9 As we head into Thanksgiving holiday and all of
10 us are asking that everyone remain vigilant, this
11 holiday will look very different for many of us but
12 it is important that we take all the precautions
13 necessary to save lives. Now is the time to recommit
14 ourselves to ensuring that COVID does not impact
15 additional people in our city. I would also like to
16 acknowledge the lives that we have lost to this
17 devastating disease. 24,149 New Yorkers, 24,149 New
18 Yorkers have succumb to the impact of COVID-19 as of
19 yesterday in our city.

20 This is always such a devastating number to think
21 about and it is a tremendous loss to our entire city.
22 I want to acknowledge as I always do a few of the
23 deaths is a result of 911 related illnesses since we
24 last met. We recently lost Lieutenant John P. Poulos
25 and Fire Fighters Michael E. Brown and William

1
2 Hodgins of the FDNY, as well as Detective Thomas J.
3 Gello[SP?] who was 56 years old and Inspector Michael
4 O'Neill of the NYPD. We are sending our deepest
5 condolences to their families during this difficult
6 time. Our city will be forever grateful for their
7 sacrifice and for their service to our city.

8 I also want to acknowledge a few other people
9 that we have lost since we last met. On October 29th
10 Former New York City Council Member who was Deputy
11 Majority Leader Archie Spigner passed away. Archie
12 was a trailblazer in the borough of Queens, as the
13 first Black man from Queens elected to the Council.
14 He served as an inspiration for so many. His work
15 stretched beyond his time on the Council and his
16 legacy will live on.

17 I want to send our deepest condolences the
18 Council to our colleague Council Member Alicka Ampry-
19 Samuel who recently just this week lost her mother
20 Ernestine Turner. I knew Ernestine, she was
21 wonderful. I have memories of her marching with us
22 in the Brooklyn Pride Parade two summers ago and I
23 remember going door to door with Ernestine during
24 Alicka's campaign for the Council in 2013, in 2017, I
25 apologize. So, I know how difficult this is for

1 Council Member Ampry-Samuel and how close she and her
2 mom were and I just want her to know, I don't think
3 she is with us today that all of us are really
4 holding her in our hearts and in our hands during
5 this really difficult, painful time.

7 I want to acknowledge the deaths of a few on the
8 job workers from our city. Saqueo Mejia died, a
9 construction worker died on November 13th of a
10 traffic accident at just 24-years-old. Peter Wright,
11 a stagehand at the Winter Garden Theatre died while
12 working at the Theatre, he was 54-years-old. Alfredo
13 Cabrera Liconia, one of our city's delivery workers
14 died on November 12th in a crash, he was 35-years-
15 old. Kevin White, one of our many city transit
16 workers died on November 7th, he was 55-years-old.
17 Ernesto Guzman, a delivery bicyclist died on November
18 1st, he was 42-years-old. Mohmediyan Tarwala, a deli
19 employee died on October 26th, he was just 26-years
20 old. And Donald Duvert, another one of our city's
21 transit workers died on October 24th, he was 39-
22 years-old.

23 I want to take a moment of silence to remember
24 all the lives we have lost as a result of the COVID-
25 19 pandemic. The New Yorkers I just mentioned who

1 died while on the job. Ernestine Turner, Council
2 Member Ampry-Samuels mother, former Council Member
3 Archie Spigner, Lieutenant Poulos, Firefighters Brown
4 and Hodgins, Detective Gello and Inspector O'Neill,
5 if we could take a moment of silence for all of them.
6 Thank you.
7

8 Today, I would also like to give a very special
9 congratulations to our colleague Council Member
10 Antonio Reynoso on the birth of his son Andreas.
11 Very happy for Antonio and his family, a big
12 congratulations to him and his wife Eliana and the
13 entire Reynoso family. He already has a beautiful
14 son Alejandro and now he has a second, so we are
15 very, very happy for the Reynoso family but I want to
16 congratulate him on this exciting time for him and
17 for his family.

18 I also want to wish everyone a very happy
19 Thanksgiving. It has been a difficult year for our
20 city. It has been a difficult year for many of us
21 personally. It has been a difficult year for me
22 personally but I try to remember all that I am
23 grateful for and I think it is important for all of
24 us to do that. We live in the greatest City in the
25 world. We flattened the curve this spring. We

1
2 continue to work together to fight the second wave of
3 coronavirus no matter how you celebrate, please be
4 safe and now, on to our agenda.

5 We will be voting on the reappointment of Rodney
6 Pepe-Souvenir to the New York City Board of
7 Elections. We will be voting on 505 West 134th
8 Street Cluster, HPD is seeking the approval of a
9 UDAAP and an Article 11 tax exemption to facilitate
10 the preservation of 69 affordable homeownership units
11 in Council Member Mark Levine's district.

12 110-40 Saultell Avenue Rezoning in Council Member
13 Francisco Moya's district. Out of the Finance
14 Committee we will be voting on Introduction Number
15 2136 sponsored by Council Member Danny Dromm by the
16 request of the Mayor, which will authorize an
17 increase in the amount to be expended annually in the
18 Bryant Park Bid in Council Member Power's district
19 and the Flatbush Nostrand Bid in Council Member
20 Louis's district.

21 We will be voting on an Article 11 Property Tax
22 Exemption at 1402 York Avenue in Council Member
23 Kallos's district to create 10 units of affordable
24 housing and we are voting on a transparency
25 resolution.

1
2 Next, we will be voting on package of bills that
3 addresses age discrimination. Age discrimination
4 remains one of the most prevalent forms of
5 discrimination across the country. An issue that has
6 only worsened during this coronavirus pandemic with
7 layoffs disproportionately affecting older Americans
8 and other vulnerable groups. We want this growing
9 demographic to remain in the workforce. We need to
10 do more to protect them from discrimination.

11 Today, the Council is taking an important step to
12 tackle the issue by voting on a series of bills. The
13 first two bills in this package are sponsored by
14 Council Member Diana Ayala Introduction 1684-A will
15 create the City Commission – would require the City
16 Commission on Human Rights to create an anti-
17 discrimination poster that includes age
18 discrimination and to provide additional age
19 discrimination resource on its website. City
20 employees to be required, City agencies to be
21 required to display the poster in employ common
22 areas.

23 Introduction 1685-A, also by Council Member Ayala
24 will require all city agencies to provide age
25 discrimination training to their employees every two

1 years. The training would be developed by the
2 Department of Citywide Administrative Services and
3 the Commission on Human Rights and I want to thank
4 Balquez Mirig from the staff for her work on those
5 bills.
6

7 The final three bills are sponsored by our Aging
8 Committee Chair Council Member Margaret Chin,
9 Introduction Number 1694-A would create the Center
10 for Older Workforce Development, an office dedicated
11 to combating agism in the workplace and to developing
12 an older workforce. The center would be established
13 by the Mayor and led by a director who would be
14 responsible for advising and assisting the Mayor and
15 coordinating agencies involved in the city's
16 workforce development programs for older adults.
17 Assisting older adults in joining or rejoining the
18 workforce and promoting the inclusion and retention
19 of older adults in the municipal workforce.

20 The center would also be required to submit an
21 annual report to the Mayor and to the City Council on
22 its activities.

23 Next, Introduction Number 1693-A would require
24 the Department of Aging to provide guidance and
25 support to the Center for Older Workforce Development

1 as created by Introduction 1694-A. This bill would
2 also require the existing Charter created DFTA
3 Advisory Council to develop recommendations on how
4 the City can address age discrimination in the
5 workplace and how it can develop an older adult
6 workforce. The Advisory Council would be required to
7 submit a report to the Mayor, the Speaker and the
8 Center for Older Workforce Development with its
9 recommendations and findings in December of 2021 and
10 bi-annually thereafter.
11

12 And finally, the last bill by Council Member Chin
13 in this package is Introduction Number 1695-A, which
14 will require the New York City Commission on Human
15 Rights to conduct a two year study related to age
16 discrimination in the workplace beginning in January
17 of 2022. CCHR would design and implement a variety
18 of methods to assess the presence of age
19 discrimination in the workplace, including through
20 workplace and employment practices, technologies and
21 policies. The report would also include a summary of
22 the initiatives taken during this two year study, a
23 description of the instances of age discrimination
24 found and recommendations to help the city address
25 and combat age discrimination going forward.

2 I want to thank from the staff Nuzhat Chowdhury
3 and Zia Manual Halu[SP?] for their work on those
4 bills. Thank you Council Members Chin and Ayala for
5 your tireless work on these bills. You are
6 championing of these issues and as always for keeping
7 them front and center.

8 With that, Madam Majority Leader, I turn it back
9 to you.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you so much Speaker
11 Johnson. We will now move into discussion of General
12 Orders. We will recognize Council Members who wish
13 to speak by using the raise hand function in Zoom.
14 Please wait before you begin your remarks for our
15 Sergeant at Arms to announce he has begun the
16 countdown clock. The Sergeant at Arms will alert you
17 when your time has expired.

18 Mr. Parliamentarian, are there any Council
19 Members registered to speak?

20 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes, Council Members Chin,
21 Cornegy and Kallos.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Oh, wow, Council Member
23 Chin. Alright, so we will begin first off with
24 Council Member Chin.

25 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

1 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you. Thank you
2 Majority Leader. Thank you to our Speaker for your
3 support. I am really excited that we are finally
4 voting on this Age Discrimination Package bill and
5 congratulations to my fellow Council Member Ayala on
6 her two bills.
7

8 You know, we introduced this bill last year and
9 we had a terrific hearing last October when we heard
10 from a panel, a prominent career woman, a lot of them
11 were anchors on Channel 1 and they were talking about
12 how they were being discriminated. They were
13 successful at their job but they were being demoted,
14 not given opportunity because of their age and of
15 course because of their gender and we cannot allow
16 this to happen. And it is so upsetting to hear about
17 their story, these are successful women who are being
18 pushed out of their role because of their age.

19 You know, right now, New York currently does have
20 some help for older adults with some training here or
21 some resources there but it is not all together and
22 these legislations will at least pull resources and
23 data together, so that people know exactly where to
24 go to get help and where to go when they face age
25 discrimination and to really shed a brighter light on

1
2 this issue. But when we are talking about
3 discrimination against older worker, we are not
4 talking about people in their 60's or 70's, it starts
5 around age 40. So, like this is happening to a large
6 number of older workers who are experienced, who are
7 committed, who have contributed to our city.

8 So, we want to make sure they are protected. All
9 they want to do is to protect you know, their job and
10 to support their family.

11 So, I just wanted to thank the Committee Staff
12 who worked it. Nuzhat Chowdury, my legislation team
13 and all the advocates AARP, Radical Age Movement and
14 of course, we need Jason and Jeff and Kelly to help
15 push these bills forward for a vote and I am so glad
16 it is finally happening today and I urge my
17 colleagues to support. Thank you.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you so much Council
19 Member Chin and congratulations, you are doing
20 phenomenal work for our aging workforce, myself
21 included.

22 And at this time, I would like to call on Council
23 Member Cornegy.

24 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.
25

COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Council Member Cornegy, you might need to unmute yourself.

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Council Member – Majority Leader, can we come back to me. I just need to get my remarks. I am sorry, I am in the street.

COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I understand.

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Whatever, I am going to come right back. I am so sorry.

COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: No problem. Get yourself settled and we will go onto the next speaker. Mr. Parliamentarian, who is next up to speak.

PARLIAMENTARIAN: Council Member Kallos.

COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Alright Council Member Kallos and then we will go back to Council Member Cornegy.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Today we are considering a tax abatement for 1402 York Avenue which will offer cooperative HDFC homeownership opportunities in the heart of the upper east side. The 10 studio apartments will be for people at 80 percent of AMI. That means if you are watching and you are an individual making \$63,860 a year or a couple making a combined income of \$72,800, these units will have an

1
2 estimated sales price ranging from \$23,972 to \$64,437
3 for a studio apartment on the upper east side.

4 I am personally poured through the financials on
5 this project and was able to generate significant
6 savings for the future owners of these units and urge
7 you to approve this project and if you are watching
8 at home, apply. You will not see a home ownership
9 opportunity like this in this neighborhood for quite
10 some time. This one was hard to get done.

11 Also, we last voted ahead of this election on the
12 appointment of Rodney Pepe-Souvenir. When I secured
13 a commitment to take on long lines, expand the number
14 of early voting sites and making sure the scanners on
15 sites actually worked. For the 1.1 million people
16 who waiting in line for hours to vote early, now you
17 know why I conditioned my vote on those commitments.
18 The June 2021 primary with more than 200 candidates
19 from Mayor on down is going to have a similarly heavy
20 turnout. We need to get this done and that was why I
21 will be voting in her favor and asking the Council
22 and everyone on the Board of Elections to make this a
23 task, make this a priority because elections have to
24 work. Thank you.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you Council Member
3 Kallos. We will now open it up to Council Member
4 Cornegy.

5 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Thank you Madam Majority
7 Leader. Trying to remain safe on the COVID-19
8 pandemic shouldn't subject Brooklynites to a \$10,000
9 civil penalty. That's why Council Member Dromm and I
10 are introducing a bill establishing a six month grace
11 period, refraining from the Department of Buildings
12 for imposing a fine for gas pipeline inspections.

13 The DOB requires buildings gas pipe systems must
14 be inspected. DOB rules require submission of a
15 certification that all conditions identified in the
16 inspection report have been corrected no later than
17 120 days or if time is needed, no later than 180 days
18 following the inspection date. This bill would have
19 extended December 31, 2020 inspection deadline for
20 buildings and Community Boards 1, 3, and 10 in all
21 boroughs to June 30, 2021. The bill provides that
22 for such buildings inspected between September 1,
23 2020 and December 31, 2020, the certification of
24 correction maybe submitted later than 120 days or

1 later than 180 days, following the inspection date as
2 applicable but no later than June 30, 2021.

3
4 Failure to act means that small homeowners risk
5 losing their hard earned equity. That's why we are
6 working further to expand and enhance outreach
7 requirements by DOB. We will work tirelessly to
8 ensure that DOB to step up and help impact the
9 communities, understand what these requirements need.
10 Public schools shutdown for in-person classes,
11 meaning that parents have to scramble to find
12 conditions for their children to study at home or at
13 another location. We have to adjust to the
14 challenges of COVID-19. This legislation provides a
15 reasonable accommodation.

16 I want to thank Council Member Dromm, who has
17 always been a leader and for his partnership on this
18 issue. I urge the City Council where necessary to
19 pass this bill. Thank you.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you so much Council
21 Member Cornegy. We will now open the floor to other
22 members who would like to speak at this time. Mr.
23 Parliamentarian, are there any other members who wish
24 to speak at this time?

25 PARLIAMENTARIAN: No, Madam Majority Leader.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: There are no other members
3 registered to speak. So, then given that there are
4 no other members that wish to speak, we will now go
5 onto the Report of Special Committees.

6 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: None.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Reports of Standing
8 Committees?

9 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the Committee on
10 Aging Intro.'s 1693-A, 1694-A and 1695-A, Adult
11 Workforce Development?

12 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on general
13 orders.

14 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the Committee on
15 Civil and Human Rights Intro.'s 1684-A and 1685-A,
16 Age Discrimination?

17 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on general
18 orders.

19 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the Committee on
20 Finance, Intro. 2136 Business Improvement Districts.

21 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general orders?

22 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Preconsidered Reso. 14A
23 Transparency Resolution?

24 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general orders.

2 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Preconsidered LU 692 and
3 Reso. 1490 Tax Exemption?

4 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general orders.

5 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the Committee on
6 Land Use LU 688 and Reso. 1491, 505 West 134th Street
7 Cluster?

8 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general orders.

9 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: LU 689 and 690, 110-40
10 Saultell Avenue?

11 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general orders.

12 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the Committee on
13 Rules, Privileges and Elections, Preconsidered
14 Reso.'s 1481 and 1482, various committee changes.

15 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I apologize, on the previous
16 item, Land Use 689 to 690, 110-40 Saultell Avenue
17 rezoning, it is approved with modifications and
18 referred to the City Planning Commission pursuant to
19 Section 197-D of the New York City Charter.

20 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you.

21 SPEAKER JOHNSON: On the report of the Committee
22 on Rules, Privileges and Elections, Preconsidered
23 Reso.'s 1481 and 1482, those items are coupled on
24 general orders.

2 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you Mr. Speaker and 257
3 and Reso. 1492 Approving the reappointment of Rodney
4 Pepe-Souvenir, Kings County Democratic Commission of
5 Elections?

6 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general orders.

7 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: On the general order
8 calendar, LU 689 and Reso. 1493 and LU 690 and Reso.
9 1494 Saultell Avenue Rezoning?

10 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general orders and I
11 would ask that the Clerk now please take a roll call
12 vote on all of the items coupled on today's general
13 order calendar.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Adams?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Congratulations to Council
16 Member Chin on a phenomenal package of legislation.
17 I am very proud to be a part of those bills. My
18 deepest condolences to my colleague and sister,
19 Council Member Alicka Ampry-Samuel on the loss of her
20 mother. As one who is still grieving the loss of a
21 parent, my heart sends love and comfort to her heart.
22 With that, I vote aye on all.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Ayala?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: My condolences to Council
25

1
2 Member Ampry-Samuels and congratulations to Council
3 Member Reynoso and I vote aye on all.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Barron?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you. I also want
6 to send my deepest condolences on behalf of my family
7 to Council Member Alicka Ampry-Samuel and her family
8 and I want to extend congratulations to Council
9 Member Reynoso and his family and I vote aye on all.

10 And also, congratulations to Council Member Kallos
11 for getting a reasonable housing opportunity in an
12 area that has not been very favorable to people in
13 the lower economic income ranges. Thank you, I vote
14 aye on all.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Borelli?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: I vote aye, thank you
17 very much.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Brannan?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: With deep, deep
20 condolences to Councilwoman Alicka Ampry Samuel, our
21 mothers really are our everything, so my heart really
22 goes out to her and thinking of you during this
23 really impossible time and I vote aye on all, thank
24 you.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Cabrera?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: As someone who also lost
3 his mommy very recently, my heart goes out to you
4 Council Member Ampry-Samuel and my prayers are with
5 you. With that, I vote aye.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Chin?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Yes, I want to express my
8 deepest condolences to Council Member Alicka Ampry
9 Samuel. I know she loved her mother and when her
10 mother was fighting a battle against cancer, we all
11 joined with her to share the love and it is just so
12 sad to see her passing and we send our prayers and
13 our love and congratulations to Reynoso, number two.
14 I guess you need a daughter and I vote aye on all.
15 Thank you.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Cohen?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: I vote aye.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Constantinides?

19 CHAIRPERSON CONSTANTINIDES: I just want to offer
20 my deep condolences to Council Member Alicka Ampry-
21 Samuel on the loss of your mother. I hope that you
22 find comfort in this very difficult time. I am
23 sending you the very, very best. With that, I wish
24 all of my colleagues a very happy and safe

2 Thanksgiving and I vote aye on all on the docket
3 today. Thank you.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Cornegy?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: So, Bed Stay,
6 Brownsville, East New York. We are all tied, we are
7 family. We celebrate together and we also when there
8 is loss, mourn together. So, I wanted to send my
9 condolences and my heart feels sympathy for myself
10 and my family to Council Member Alicka Ampry-Samuels
11 and with that, I vote aye on all.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Deutsch?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Council Member Deutsch,
14 you are on mute.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Yeah, I am not on mute,
16 I got disconnected.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Okay.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: You don't know
19 everything. Almost everything.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Almost.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: So, I want to send my
22 condolences to my colleague Alicka Ampry-Samuel on
23 the loss of her mother. I also want to congratulate
24 Tony Reynoso on the birth of his second child and I

1
2 am looking forward to seeing how much he smiles when
3 he has his ninth. Anyway, I want to vote aye on all.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Diaz?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: My condolences to Council
7 Member Samuel and I vote yes, siento.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Dromm?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Yes.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Eugene?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I would like to express
12 my deepest sympathy to Council Member Alicka Ampry-
13 Samuel and all the members of the family. We all
14 know her as a mother but we know that this is a very
15 difficult moment for her but I am convinced, I do
16 believe that God will give her the strength that she
17 needs to overcome this very difficult moment. With
18 that, I want to vote yes.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Gibson?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you. I too want to
22 join all of our colleagues in expressing our deepest
23 condolences and prayers of comfort, healing and
24 strength to our dear sister Council Member Alicka
25 Ampry-Samuel during this time of mourning. I pray

1
2 that God raise you and your families strength on the
3 loss of your Queen. We love you and we are here for
4 you every step of the way. I want to congratulate
5 Council Member Antonio Reynoso on the birth of your
6 second child, congratulations to you and your wife.
7 I will be voting on aye on all of today's agenda
8 items and I want to wish all of my colleagues and
9 staff and all of the City Council Members and staff a
10 wonderful and blessed season of Thanksgiving. God
11 Bless you all, I vote aye.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Gjonaj?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: I also want to echo my
14 sincerest condolences to Alicka and her family. You
15 are included in my thoughts and prayers during this
16 difficult time. Congratulations Reynoso on the
17 addition of your family. Wishing all my colleagues
18 all the blessings of Thanksgiving and with that, I
19 vote aye.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Grodenchik?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Thank you Madam
22 Majority Leader. I want to join my colleagues in
23 wishing condolences to our dear colleague Alicka
24 Ampry-Samuel. May your mothers memory be for a
25 blessing always. It has been a long time since my

1
2 mother has been with me but I speak to her every day
3 and I passed along much of her wisdom to our
4 colleagues here and to many others.

5 On a happier note, congratulations to Antonio
6 Reynoso on the birth of – and to his wife on the
7 birth of their dear son. May he be a source of
8 blessing for you always. And I also want to take a
9 moment to remember the Dean, as we called him in
10 Eastern Queens and really throughout Queens Archie
11 Spigner. This has been a very tough year for us in
12 Queens. I lost my two mentors, Nettie Mayersohn and
13 Claire Shulman and now Archie is gone and as our
14 former colleague Rory Lancman said in his tribute to
15 him, he learned more from Archie than he learned from
16 anybody else. Just to give you an idea of the depth
17 and the range of Councilman Spigner. He was a great
18 man, much of what we see as modern Queens including
19 your college and many other great institutions that
20 we have were a result of his work and the result of
21 his willingness to work with others. Not just for
22 his constituents but for all of New York City and he
23 never forgot where he came from. His last moments he
24 was chipper, he was humble, he was wise and we will
25 certainly miss him here in Queens and I know that the

2 people of New York City will miss him because of the
3 greatness that he showed us and the time that he gave
4 to us. My condolences to his family and to his
5 friends and especially thinking of my dear brother
6 from another mother, Leroy Comrie, our colleague who
7 looked upon him as a surrogate father. With that, I
8 vote aye on all. I wish everybody a happy and most
9 importantly a safe thanksgiving. We want you to be
10 here to celebrate Thanksgiving next year, so let's
11 all be smart about that. Thank you and God Bless.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Holden?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Yes, my deepest
15 condolences to Council Member Alicka Ampry-Samuels on
16 the loss of her mom. Congratulations to Council
17 Member Reynoso and congratulations to Council Members
18 Chin and Ayala on these great bills today. I vote
19 aye on all and happy Thanksgiving everyone.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Kallos?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Permission to explain my
23 vote?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Permission granted.

25 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: My deepest condolences to
3 Alicka Ampry-Samuels and congratulations to Antonio
4 Reynoso. Just a reminder that paternity leave is
5 incredibly important and that it can and should be
6 taken within the next year. I vote aye on all.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Koo?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Can I explain my vote?
10 Hello?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Hello, Council Member Koo.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Yeah, may I explain my vote?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Permission granted.

14 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you. Yeah, first I
16 want to express my deep condolences to Council Member
17 Ampry-Samuel on her mother's passing away. Now, I
18 share her grief because myself, my mother passed away
19 last year and I still feel a lot of pain and grief
20 and I still all the time have memories of my mother
21 coming back to my mind, you know. So, I really share
22 her grief and my deepest condolence to her and her
23 family and of course, I would like to congratulate to
24 Council Member Reynoso on his second son. My
25 happiest moment in life is my two children born, 30

1 something years ago. I remember that vividly when my
2 son and my daughter was born in different years, that
3 was my happiest moment, more than anything else.

4 So, I want Council Member Reynoso, I share his
5 happiness and also congratulations to Council Member
6 Chin and Ayala and other who passed important bills
7 today. They have done tremendous work for our city.
8 Finally, I want to wish everyone happy Thanksgiving.
9 Have a happy family reunion. Thank you and I vote
10 aye on all. Thank you.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you Council Member
12 Koo.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Koslowitz?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Thank you. I want to
15 also extend my condolences to Alicka Ampry-Samuels.
16 I know what it feels like to lose a mother, although
17 my mother passed away many years ago, she is still
18 with me in heart every day. Also, congratulations to
19 Antonio Reynoso. I remember him when he wasn't even
20 married and had no children. So, I want to
21 congratulate him on his son being born. I also want
22 to remember my colleague and friend Archie Spigner
23 who taught me a lot. I had the pleasure of serving
24 with Archie for many years and he was a friend and a
25

1
2 colleague and he taught me a lot and I want to wish
3 everybody a happy, happy Thanksgiving and please,
4 please, please, be safe and thank you to Margaret and
5 Diana for the work that you did on those bills. With
6 that, I vote aye.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you Council Member.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Lander?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Request permission to
10 explain my vote?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Permission granted.

12 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you Majority
14 Leader. I am coming to you virtually today from
15 under the newly restored Endale Arch in Prospect Park
16 which is a magnificent parks project that just got
17 finished and one of the things I am grateful for as
18 we are approaching Thanksgiving, is like the workers
19 who are keeping our parks clean and safe. They have
20 been just such a refuge for me in this time. So, I
21 want to thank them. Congratulations Margaret and
22 Diana on these great bills supporting our seniors and
23 combating age discrimination which is truly something
24 we do not pay enough attention to and need to do
25

2 better, so thank you for making us do it as you
3 always do and getting these bills passed.

4 Congratulations Antonio can't wait to meet the
5 little one, I hope he has got as much spirit and his
6 own mind as much as Alejandro does.

7 Alicka, you just have all of our deepest
8 sympathies and love and it is a rotten, rotten time
9 to lose someone and sending our love virtually is not
10 the same as being able to send it in person and it's
11 not right to have to grieve like this either but we
12 are really standing with you as much as we possibly
13 can. And I just want to wish everyone at
14 Thanksgiving at finding gratitude in the darkest and
15 hardest times to do so, which is really when it is
16 most important. I thought the Speakers remarks on
17 this really call us all to it. Like, it is exactly
18 when it is hardest to find gratitude that it is the
19 most important. So, I wish you all a really blessed
20 Thanksgiving. Thank you, I vote aye on all.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you Council Member.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Levin?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: I vote aye on all and I
24 offer my condolences to Council Member Alicka Ampry-
25 Samuel for the loss of her mother. You have all of

1
2 our sympathy and congratulations to Council Member's
3 Ayala and Chin on the legislation today. Council
4 Member Kallos on the Land Use project and
5 congratulations to Council Member Reynoso. I can say
6 from experience that two is not twice as difficult as
7 having one, it's about five or ten times or twenty
8 times more difficult than having one. So, welcome to
9 the club and congratulations and I vote aye on all,
10 thanks.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Levine?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Thank you. I just want
13 to echo all my colleagues in offering deepest
14 condolences to Council Member Alicka Ampry-Samuels
15 and congratulations to Council Member Reynoso as well
16 as congratulations and gratitude for the work and
17 legislation today of Council Member's Chin and Ayala
18 and I will be voting aye on all. Thank you.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Louis?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: I also wanted to join my
21 colleagues today and my heartfelt condolences to
22 Council Member Ampry-Samuels of the passing of her
23 mother. I want to congratulate Council Member
24 Reynoso on your family expanding and congratulations
25 to my colleagues Council Member Ayala and Chin on

2 your legislation and I also want to thank our
3 colleagues for voting for the Flatbush Nostrand Bid
4 located in my district. This is the opportunity to
5 continue to keep Black, immigrant and women owned
6 businesses alive in troubling times. I vote aye on
7 all, thank you.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Maisel?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Yes.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Menchaca?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Permission to explain
13 my vote?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Permission granted.

15 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you. I want to
17 also send my deepest condolences to my aduana[SP?]
18 Alicka Ampry-Samuel and to her family. Sending you
19 love and light and also in celebration of my
20 admono[SP?] Antonio and Aliana and her new baby.
21 Congratulations, love and light to you two. Thank
22 you to all of the members that put legislation and
23 including the bid. Congratulations on your work
24 today. I vote aye on all.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you.

1 COUNCIL CLERK: Miller?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Council Member Miller, you
3 are on mute.
4

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you Madam Majority
6 Leader. Permission to explain my vote please.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Permission granted.

8 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you. I would first
10 like to congratulate Aliana and Reynoso on the birth
11 of their second child. I would like to also send my
12 deepest condolences to Leslie Spigner, the Spigner
13 family as much has been said about Archie, the Deans
14 contributions are not just through government and
15 politics but to the community and his – just use the
16 architect for excellence and particularly political
17 empowerment amongst communities of color throughout.
18 Not just New York City but nationally and he will be
19 so missed. And then finally, I want to send my and
20 my families deepest condolences to Council Member
21 Ampry-Samuels on the passing of Ms. Ernestine, her
22 mom. A phenomenal mom but even a more phenomenal
23 public servant that I have absolutely had the
24 opportunity to watch her and watch the children of
25

1
2 the community to respond to the work that she has
3 done.

4 So, she is a phenomenal public servant and will
5 be so missed in the Brownsville and the greater
6 community. So, with that, I vote aye on all and for
7 those within the sound of my voice, I want us all to
8 remember that the thanks in the giving.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Moya?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye on all and
11 again, I would like to echo the sentiments of my
12 colleagues in sending my condolences to Alicka and
13 her family during this time. And also, to
14 congratulate Antonio and his wife on the birth of
15 their new son. Thank you.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Perkins?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: I vote aye on all and
18 extend my condolences to all who have had to share
19 loss with regard to their loved ones.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you Council Member
21 and how do you vote?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Aye on all.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Powers?
25

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Hi there. I just want to
3 also extend my deepest condolences to our great
4 colleague Council Member Ampry-Samuel on the loss of
5 her mother. I know how difficult that can be
6 particularly around this time when we are all sharing
7 these special days with our family. So, I hope her
8 and her family are doing well during a very difficult
9 time. I also want to extend my congratulations to
10 Council Member Reynoso. I know if we were in the
11 Chamber, I would be congratulating him as he sits
12 right next to me but I hope him and his family are
13 enjoying a very special day. It is a moment as well.
14 And with that, I vote aye on all.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Rivera?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Permission to explain my
18 vote?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Permission granted.

20 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you so much. I
22 just wanted to congratulate my colleagues on this
23 legislation, especially for the aging, the age
24 discrimination bills that were really, really
25 important I think to our values as a city. Special

1
2 congratulations to Antonio Reynoso, that's a very,
3 very exciting addition to your family and of course,
4 to my friend Alicka Ampry-Samuel who I have sent my
5 condolences and I know we are all so, so very sorry.

6 So, I vote aye on all and I wish everyone a
7 healthy and safe holiday, no matter what or with whom
8 you are celebrating. Thanks so much.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Yeah, I am here. So,
12 first of all, my condolences again to as it has been
13 said, to our colleague and friend Alicka Ampry-Samuel
14 and congratulations Antonio Reynoso. As a father of
15 two daughters I can tell you that you will be
16 enjoying the best experience of your life.
17 Congratulations and with that, I vote aye.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Rose?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Sadly 2020 will go down as
21 the year of immeasurable loss. I lost both of my
22 parents my first term in City Council, so I know how
23 difficult it is to lose a parent. So, I am sending
24 my heartfelt love and condolences to Alicka Ampry-
25 Samuel. And to my colleague Antonio Reynoso,

1
2 congratulations and you are going to need another
3 bicycle seat. And to Council Members and my sisters,
4 Margaret Chin and Diana Ayala, thank you so much for
5 passing these meaningful age discrimination bills. I
6 will be the recipient of some of them. And to
7 Council Member Kallos, thank you for this thoughtful
8 legislation and to everybody, have a wonderful
9 Thanksgiving, safe. Thank you.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Rosenthal?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: With permission, I
13 would like to echo the sentiments of all my
14 colleagues here.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: And how do you vote?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: No, I was waiting for
17 the permission.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Oh, I thought you were
19 going right into it.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: No, so I take it -

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Permission is granted.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Oh, thank you. So, I
23 vote aye on all and Council Member Chin and Ayala,
24 thank you for passing this incredibly important
25 legislation. I tried to get a few of my ideas pushed

1 along and now I know why they didn't move far because
2 you had taken them and now you have crossed the
3 finish line. Thank you so much for that Margaret.
4 You are a fierce champion for our seniors. Really
5 appreciate you.
6

7 Antonio, congratulations. You are now moving to
8 one on one. Next kid will be zone defense. You will
9 have to do zones with your kids. Council Member
10 Louis, congratulations on your BID and the clear
11 passion and love you show for your community. It is
12 obviously very well appreciated.

13 And to Council Member Alicka Ampry-Samuel, it is
14 too hard. It is just too hard. We all knew your
15 mom. She clearly loved you and counted on you so
16 much and just remember you were so lucky to have her
17 in your life, so, so lucky. May her memory stay warm
18 within you. Thank you.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you Council Member
20 Rosenthal.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Council Member Rose,
22 my apologies, could I ask you to clarify your vote
23 please.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Yes, I was thinking about
25 that. I vote aye on all. Thank you.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you very much. Salamanca?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Yeah, my condolences
4 to my colleague Alicka Ampry-Samuel on the loss of
5 your mom. I am sorry. And to my friend and my
6 colleague Antonio Reynoso, congratulations on the
7 birth of your son and I vote aye on all. Thank you.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Torres?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: I want to extend my
11 condolences to Alicka for her loss and I want to
12 extend my congratulations to Antonio for his newborn
13 and I vote aye on all the items on the agenda.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Treyger?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Permission to explain my
17 vote?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Permission granted.

19 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: So, I too want to
21 express my heartfelt condolences to my colleague
22 Council Member Alicka Ampry-Samuel about the loss of
23 her mother. Her mother served the City of New York.
24 A retired city worker, worked in school safety and
25 so, my heartfelt condolences to her and may her

1
2 memory be a blessing and just to show you how life is
3 a circle, I want to now congratulate Council Member
4 Antonio Reynoso on the beautiful addition to his
5 family and wish him and his family well.

6 I also just want to note that we are advancing
7 again at the Rules Committee, the nomination of
8 Commissioner Pepe-Souvenir who spoke very
9 passionately about the need for language translation
10 services at poll sites that remains a barrier for
11 many voters in New York, particularly in my community
12 and many others folks who are Russian speaking,
13 Arabic speaking, Urdu, Haitian Creole and others.
14 That's an issue that I will continue to fight on and
15 support.

16 So, with that, I vote aye and I wish all my
17 colleagues and their families a very healthy,
18 blessed, safe Thanksgiving. Thank you.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Ulrich?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: I vote aye on all.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you sir. Vallone?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Alicka, one thing you
24 can count on is this body has always been an extended
25 family to all of us and you can feel the love today.

2 So, our family is also extending our condolences and
3 prayers and a mass at my parish tomorrow will be
4 offered for your family. Hopefully that brings some
5 comfort.

6 Antonio, you got two. When you got three, come
7 join us with the three parent families and I like
8 what Helen said about zone defense, that is very
9 true. And Margaret, I had stood by your side for
10 seven years with aging and seniors and senior centers
11 and you keep that smile smiling today. You deserve
12 it. You have been the champion of all seniors, great
13 Bills, word is coming back already. Everyone is so
14 proud of these bills that we are voting on today,
15 very proud. So, with that, I vote aye on all and a
16 blessed and happy and healthy Thanksgiving day.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Van Bramer?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Permission to explain
19 my vote?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Permission granted.

21 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank you very much.

23 So, to Council Member Ampry-Samuel, my sincerest
24 condolence as someone who is helping to care for his
25 mother, she is downstairs right now and we are about

1
2 to spend some time together after this Stated
3 Meeting. So, I can't imagine the loss and just know
4 that you are loved and so supported. And all us feel
5 so deeply at the loss of mothers in general.

6 To Council Member Reynoso, congratulations and I
7 just want to say, this is a legislative body and
8 sometimes we disagree on issues but I do want to say,
9 Peter Koo's comments earlier about his children
10 brought tears to my eyes. It was a beautiful tribute
11 to the birth of children and a message, a very sweet
12 message to Antonio but to all of us.

13 And with that, I vote aye on all except I will be
14 voting no on M257 and Resolution 1492. Thank you.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Yeger?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you very much.
18 Sorry about that. I vote aye on all with the
19 exception of Intro. 2136 on which I abstain. Thank
20 you.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Matteo?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: I vote aye on all.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Cumbo?
25

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I vote aye on all and I
3 also want to give a special congratulatory shout out
4 to Council Member's Chin, Ayala and Louis. The
5 Women's Caucus is crushing it and I want to at the
6 same time, I want to reach out and send a message of
7 love and healing to Council Member Alicka Ampry
8 Samuel. It was always such a treat for me to see you
9 and your mom when you would come to the City Council
10 and how she was beaming with so much pride as she saw
11 you walk around the members lounge and at the Stated
12 Meetings. It was always so nice to see that love and
13 that bond and you should feel proud in knowing that
14 you cared for her to the best of your ability with so
15 much love. It was something beautiful to see and to
16 the Reynoso family, my congratulations to you. I am
17 so excited for you. I will not be joining the two
18 baby caucus in the City Council. I can't imagine
19 having two with the way one is and they just shut the
20 schools down yesterday, so God help us all but again,
21 I vote aye on all and congratulations again to the
22 Reynoso family.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: I apologize Council Member, you
24 voted - can you clarify your vote for me, my
25 apologies.

1 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I vote aye on all.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you very much. Speaker
3 Johnson?

4 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I vote aye on all.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: All items on today's General
6 Order Calendar have a vote of 45 in the affirmative,
7 zero in the negative and no abstentions with the
8 exception of the following: M257 and Resolution 1492
9 have 44 in the affirmative, 1 in the negative, no
10 abstentions. Introduction 2136 has 44 in the
11 affirmative, zero in the negative, 1 abstention and
12 Land Use Call Ups remain the same at 43 in the
13 affirmative, zero in the negative. Thank you.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you so much. The
15 items on today's General Orders Calendar are adopted.
16 Introduction and Reading of Bills?

17 SPEAKER JOHNSON: All bills are referred to
18 committee's as indicated on today's agenda.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you Speaker Johnson.
20 There are no Resolutions on today's calendar, so we
21 will now move into general discussion. As a
22 reminder, please wait until the Sergeant at Arms
23 begins the countdown clock before you begin your
24

25

1 remarks. Mr. Parliamentarian, are there any members
2 who wish to speak?

3
4 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes, Madam Majority Leader,
5 there are several. The first batch is Council
6 Members Louis, Ulrich and Barron.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Council Member Louis, you
8 may begin following the time clock.

9 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Thank you Speaker Corey
11 Johnson and Majority Leader Cumbo for the opportunity
12 to briefly discuss my Proposed Bills today. The
13 COVID-19 pandemic has wreaked havoc on small
14 businesses throughout our city, particularly
15 immigrant women and Black owned businesses. To help
16 alleviate some of the economic setbacks that small
17 business owners are experiencing, I am introducing
18 three Bills. Reso. 1483, a Resolution calling on
19 Congress to pass and the President to sign
20 legislation that will prohibit property owners and
21 loan service agencies from negatively impacting
22 credit scores of businesses, property owners or
23 renters for nonpayment due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

24 Reso. 1484 calls on the New York State
25 Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign

1
2 legislation that would add at minimum a six month
3 extension to the backend of lease or mortgages that
4 would not penalize or create a balloon payment to the
5 arrears that were accumulated during the COVID-19
6 pandemic.

7 And the last one is Reso. 1484, which calls on
8 the Governor to create a state funded grant program
9 to support undocumented business owners devastated by
10 the COVID-19 pandemic. These bills will cover small
11 business fears related to their credit scores being
12 compromised and ruined due to COVID-19. Providing
13 risk free extensions to leases and mortgages without
14 penalties or balloon payments and would create a
15 state funded program to support undocumented business
16 owners who have previously been ignored by the
17 federal, state and city grants.

18 In this unprecedented time in the history of our
19 city which is facing the inevitable prospect of
20 another shutdown in the wake of a second wave of
21 COVID-19 cases, we cannot abandon our small business
22 owners. I encourage my colleagues to sign onto these
23 bills and to help our immigrant minority and women
24 owned businesses make it through the second wave.
25 Thank you again for the opportunity to amplify the

1
2 voices of our small businesses and small business
3 owners who need our support to survive through the
4 remainder of the pandemic. Thank you.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you. Council Member
6 Ulrich?

7 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

8 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Council Member Ulrich does not
9 wish to speak. Madam Majority Leader, you can move
10 to the next speaker, Council Member Barron.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Council Member Barron, you
12 may begin.

13 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you Madam Majority
15 Leader. I just want to note that yesterday's Daily
16 News had an article which indicated that Amazon has
17 signed leases to open two distribution centers in my
18 community.

19 We all know Amazon's track record in terms of its
20 workers and the conditions that they complain about,
21 despite the fact that Mr. Bezos is a billionaire many
22 hundreds of times over. So, we are very concerned
23 that there was no outreach to the community members,
24 nor to the Community Board, nor to the elected's

1 about the plans for this facility and we will be
2 taking further actions in that regard.

3
4 And secondly, as was announced yesterday, New
5 York City public schools are closed. What is most
6 troubling to me is that there are 60,000 children who
7 do not have devices and last week it was reported
8 that children in shelters could expect to not get any
9 connection until the end of the school year. This is
10 totally unacceptable and I think it is incumbent on
11 us as the legislative body to ensure that all
12 children have a device as soon as possible by the end
13 of this month and certainly by the time that blended
14 learning may come back into existence.

15 But we have got to make sure that particularly
16 our Black and Brown communities, which are the zip
17 codes that do not have those devices, are not further
18 be set with not getting the resources that they need
19 to be able to compete in this 21st Century and moving
20 forward. Thank you.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you Council Member
22 Barron. Are there any other members who wish to
23 speak at this time Mr. Parliamentarian?

24 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes, Council Members Miller,
25 Levin and Kallos.

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Council Member Miller, you
3 may begin.

4 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Okay, thank you Madam
6 Majority Leader. I just want to inform my colleagues
7 that tomorrow the Committee on Civil Service and
8 Labor will be holding a hearing. We will be hearing
9 a series of bills, important legislation that will
10 really impact the lives of the municipal workforce
11 and the workforce around the City of New York. These
12 are the people that have since March made our lives
13 seamless. That have continued to provide critical
14 services for all of the New York City community and
15 yet, they have many times gone without proper PPE's,
16 proper guidance. And so, we are going to be
17 evaluating some of the services that have been and
18 not been provided, particularly around the area of
19 around information and instruction bulletins that are
20 mandated and posted by governing bodies, as well as
21 legislation that will provide a board that will
22 oversee these areas and provide insight and oversight
23 and ultimately will be governing for these city
24 agencies.

1
2 So, I look forward to that hearing, I ask that
3 all participate. These are the critical workers that
4 really give our city value, EMS workers, teachers,
5 social workers and so forth. Please come out and be
6 supportive.

7 So, we have two Intro.'s that are occurring in
8 conjunction with that, Intro. 2161 and 2162. There
9 are two other pieces of legislation that we will be
10 hearing that are information pieces sponsored by
11 Council Member Levine and Resolution sponsored by
12 Council Member - coming to me, Justin Brannan. Thank
13 you.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you Council Member
15 Miller. We will now go to Council Member Louis,
16 excuse me, Levin.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Could I go at the end? I
18 am sorry, I am just looking up some additional
19 remarks.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Okay, we can go on to
21 Council Member Kallos.

22 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Thank you to all of my
24 colleagues for their appreciations over the modest
25

1 affordable housing project we were able to do with
2 HPD.
3

4 I just want to be frank and honest; we have done
5 over 1,000 units of affordable housing in my district
6 on the east side and Roosevelt Island. The Mayor and
7 HPD have opposed me at every step. We actually had
8 to do about 900 units directly with Governor Cuomo
9 and DHCR.

10 So, it didn't go through any approvals by the
11 Council but we have been hard at work and I challenge
12 Mayor de Blasio to bring mandatory inclusionary
13 housing to the upper eastside. I am willing to give
14 up a community preference, so that we can actually
15 have affordability and integration. But the Mayor
16 and HPD have blocked me at every single step.

17 What I planned to say is just that I am proud to
18 be introducing three bills. The first bill is with
19 Transportation Chair Ydanis Rodriguez, Introduction
20 2155, a reintroduction of a 2014 bill for universal
21 E-hail app allowing any cab driver to accept E-hails
22 through a municipal app or open API.

23 This bill seeks to empower yellow and green cab
24 drivers over the apps like Uber and Lyft and level
25 the playing field. The pandemic has drastically

1 reduced the number of trips per day from 750,000 for
2 E-hails and 231,000 for yellow and greens. 244,000
3 and 9,000 at their lowest point. E-hails have
4 rebounded but the yellow and greens have not. Under
5 this bill, yellow and green cab drivers would be able
6 to pick up E-hails from any app.
7

8 The next two bills, Introduction 2153 and 2154
9 taken together would prevent illegal coordinating
10 between campaigns at independent expenditures by
11 reducing candidate spending limits and finding
12 independent spenders directly.

13 Under the city's campaign finance systems,
14 campaigns have limits on how much they can spend
15 despite prohibitions against corporations giving
16 directly to candidates. It allows corporations
17 unlimited spending if it is done independently and
18 let me clear, corporations aren't people and they
19 shouldn't be allowed to engage in elections.

20 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time expired.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Thank you.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you so much and we
23 will now go to at this time, I believe Council Member
24 Levin said he wanted to go at the end, is that
25 correct.

1 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Yes, that's correct
2
3 Majority Leader, thank you.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Okay. So, then we will
5 now go to Council Member Menchaca followed by Rivera.

6 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you. I have a
8 few items that I want to bring up today in General
9 Orders. One is to associate my remarks with Council
10 Member Barron and both items on the Amazon deliver
11 warehouse. Amazon will be joining the Red Hook, now
12 potentially and parts of Sunset Park, seven new
13 distribution sites that is causing a massive issue
14 for us. We have been in contact with Department of
15 Transportation but not only are we not experiencing
16 an engagement, we are not experiencing engagement
17 from the City and focus and so, maybe Council Member
18 Barron and I, we can talk about how we can join
19 forces.

20 We are also experiencing massive amount of
21 families without devices and that is something I
22 think we need to do here in the City Council and
23 really focus and trying to figure out how we can
24 dispel some of these myths that actually some of
25 these devices are just waiting somewhere to be

1 delivered and configured and not in the hands of
2 young people.
3

4 I am also working on a piece of legislation that
5 is not being introduced today but I am asking for
6 support. Council Member Levin and I have been
7 talking about this. A bill that would remove NYPD
8 effectively from the voting polling sites in the City
9 of New York and instead define what the state allows
10 us to do, which are add peace officers for this work
11 and this role.

12 If you are interested, reach out to us. We are
13 going to be putting some briefings together but we
14 want to move this quickly, so we are going to need
15 your support to join us and then finally, there is a
16 Resolution that Cabrera and I are introducing today
17 to really send a message to the new President Elect
18 Bidon that we want resources and that the anarchist
19 designation that we got from Trump is a real fallacy
20 about what our jurisdiction is really going to be in
21 the future in this Administration which is a beacon
22 of economic engine sanctuary city and the future of —

23 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time expired.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you.
25

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you so much Council
3 Member Menchaca and we will now call on at this time
4 Council Member Rivera followed by Council Member
5 Levin.

6 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you. Thank you so
8 much Madam Majority Leader, always good to see you.
9 As some of you may know, November is Puerto Rican
10 Heritage Month and our city is home to the largest
11 Puerto Rican population in the country. We may not
12 be able to gather or celebrate our heritage as we
13 have in years past but we can still fight for our
14 brothers and sisters on the Island and I want to take
15 the time to underline the Healthcare crisis that is
16 happening in Puerto Rico.

17 Access to quality healthcare is a human right but
18 this is certainly not the case there and with COVID-
19 19, this is especially reprehensible.

20 I am introducing Resolution 1488 to bring
21 attention to this issue. This legislation calls on
22 Congress to pass and the President to sign the Puerto
23 Rico Healthcare Fairness Accountability and
24 Beneficiary Access Act. This Bill which was
25 introduced by Representative Nydia Velazquez would

1
2 increase Puerto Rico's Medicaid funding by \$15
3 billion upon its passage, which is critical for a
4 healthcare system that currently fails American
5 citizens.

6 Under the current Federal Medical Assistance
7 Percentage program, Puerto Rico and other U.S.
8 territories Medicaid programs receive a fraction of
9 the funding that state Medicaid programs receive. As
10 a result Puerto Ricans are left with dismal access to
11 affordable healthcare and it has become even harder
12 for people to access care because of the pandemic and
13 recent natural disasters. It is irresponsible and
14 racist to underfund affordable healthcare to American
15 citizens, just because they live in an American
16 territory, especially considering the economic and
17 political turmoil the island has faced in recent
18 years.

19 Passing this Resolution would signify our City's
20 solidarity in fighting this grave inequity and I urge
21 all of my colleagues to sign on and support. As you
22 all know I am a proud Puerto Rican woman. It is not
23 just this month; it is every year we should be
24 celebrating our communities contributions and I hope
25

1 that you all remember that and sign on to this
2 legislation. Thank you.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you so very much.
4 Thank you and now, we will move onto Council Member
5 Levin.
6

7 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you Madam Majority
8 Leader. Today, I will be introducing three bills,
9 Intro. 2056 and 2059 in the Transportation Committee
10 and these will be very interesting bills that will be
11 ending the lack luster enforcement of putting
12 enforcement directly in the hands of residents in New
13 York City for parking violations that put others at
14 risk.

15 So, this would be parking in bike lanes, bus
16 lanes, crosswalks, sidewalks and this civilian
17 enforcement bill model is based on the models that we
18 have seen in the Department of Environmental
19 Protection. It goes beyond just reporting bad
20 behavior to directly filing violations with the
21 Office of Administration Trials and Hearings,
22 otherwise known as OATH for accountability.
23 Residents are able to submit violations directly and
24 they will be adjudicated by OATH and a portion of the
25

1
2 issued fines 25 percent will go to the individual who
3 submits the claim.

4 So, this is a very interesting and important bill
5 and I want to thank especially Kelly Taylor and the
6 staff at our Legislative Division for their work on
7 this.

8 I am also introducing a bill with Council Members
9 Holden, Kallos and the Manhattan Borough President
10 Gale Brewer, Intro. 2158 which would create a city
11 geospatial officer information officer within the
12 Department of Information Technology and
13 Telecommunication DoITT and require DoITT to maintain
14 and implement a special data interoperability
15 strategy. This is for the City to really maximize
16 and optimize its use of GIS, geospatial technology.
17 We need to be able to have a central -

18 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time expired.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Accountability for that
20 and I just want to thank the GIS community out there
21 which has done an amazing job of advocating for this
22 legislation. We have been working on it for a very
23 long time, so I want to thank in particular Wendy
24 Dorf and Al Wagner for their amazing work on this and
25 I look forward to continuing to work with them on

1
2 this legislation. Thank you very much Madam Majority
3 Leader.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you so much Council
5 Member Levin and we are going to close this meeting.
6 I would like to close out with an issue that is very
7 important to all of us. Over the past few months,
8 New Yorkers and fellow American's across the nation
9 have been lending their time, their voice and energy
10 around the racial uprising that are taking place all
11 throughout the country surrounding the Black Lives
12 Matter Movement.

13 If we truly believe this notion, it is critical
14 that we recognize that all Black Lives Matter. On
15 the continent of Africa and throughout the entire
16 Diaspora, regardless of where we may be located.

17 On October 3rd, the Nigerian Federal Special
18 Anti-Robbery Squad, also known as SARS, executed a
19 Nigerian civilian. Similar to the way we respond to
20 police brutality at home, this topic would not have
21 gained our attention where it not for the fact that
22 it was video taped and disseminated for the world to
23 see.

24 A little over two weeks later, reports surfaced
25 that on October 20th, SARS indiscriminately opened

1
2 fire into a crowd of 1,000 protestors at the Lucky
3 Toll Gate in Lagos, Nigeria killing at least 12
4 civilians but we know that there are many more. But
5 because the Nigerian government has not acknowledged
6 that the incident has even taken place, we do not
7 have an accurate account of the loss of life.

8 While we may be far from this issue
9 geographically, this City Council must recognize that
10 injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.
11 Especially with consideration to the thousands of
12 Nigerian immigrants who call our city home.

13 I look forward to discussing this issue in
14 greater detail with my colleagues in the Black Latino
15 and Asian Caucus and the entire body in formulating a
16 plan of action to stand with our brothers and
17 sisters.

18 In the meantime, I urge everyone to join me in
19 taking a stand against this heinous crime committed
20 at the hands of SARS by posting on social media with
21 the hashtag, #NSARS. In addition to supporting the
22 efforts of Nigerians in the diaspora organization
23 NIDO, a nonprofit organization supporting the
24 collective efforts of Nigerians in the United States.
25

2 This is a time for us to stand up and to make
3 sure and to let everyone know that the Black Lives
4 Matter movement is global and when something happens
5 to anyone that is Black throughout the diaspora, we
6 must all take a stand collectively and together.

7 Thank you and I will now turn over the Stated
8 Meeting for Corey Johnson, our Speaker to close
9 today's meeting.

10 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you Madam Majority
11 Leader. I hope everyone has a safe, safe, safe, safe
12 Thanksgiving and I hope everyone's families are safe
13 and healthy. The Stated Meeting of November 19, 2020
14 is hereby adjourned. [GAVEL]

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you.

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

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 December 15, 2020