

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

----- X

TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

----- X

April 22, 2021  
Start: 1:42 p.m.  
Recess: 3:18 p.m.

HELD AT: Remote Hearing - Virtual Room 1

B E F O R E: Corey Johnson  
Speaker

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Adrienne E. Adams  
Alicka Ampry Samuel  
Diana Ayala  
Inez D. Barron  
Joseph C. Borelli  
Justin L. Brannan  
Selvena N. Brooks-Powers  
Fernando Cabrera  
Margaret S. Chin  
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.  
Laurie A. Cumbo  
Ruben Diaz, Sr.  
Darma V. Diaz  
Eric Dinowitz  
Daniel Dromm  
Mathieu Eugene  
Oswald Feliz  
Vanessa L. Gibson  
Mark Gjonaj  
Barry S. Grodenchik

Robert F. Holden  
Corey D. Johnson  
Ben Kallos  
Peter A. Koo  
Karen Koslowitz  
Brad S. Lander  
Stephen T. Levin  
Mark Levine  
Farah N. Louis  
Alan N. Maisel  
I. Daneek Miller  
Steven Matteo  
Carlos Menchaca  
Francisco P. Moya  
Bill Perkins  
Keith Powers  
Antonio Reynoso  
Kevin C. Riley  
Carlina Rivera  
Ydanis A. Rodriguez  
Deborah L. Rose  
Helen K. Rosenthal  
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.  
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 (CONTINUED)

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SERGEANT AT ARMS: [inaudible].

4

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Thank you. Ah,  
5 sergeants please start the backup recordings.

6

SERGEANT AT ARMS: PC recording has  
7 started.

8

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time. Cloud recording  
9 started.

10

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Backup is rolling.

11

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Thank you, gentlemen.

12

OK. Hello and welcome to today's Stated Meeting. At  
13 this time I'd like to ask everyone to please turn on  
14 their cameras and please set all electronic devices  
15 to vibrate. Thank you. Madam Majority Leader, it's  
16 all yours.

17

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Good afternoon

18

and welcome to the Stated Meeting of April 22, 2021.

19

I am Majority Leader Laurie Cumbo and I'd like to

20

thank you for joining us at this virtual meeting of

21

the New York City Council. If you would like to

22

following, the agenda for today's meeting is posted

23

on our website.

24

COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Please join us

25

for the Pledge of Allegiance. I pledge allegiance to

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2 the flag of the United States of America, and to the  
3 republic for which it stands, one nation under God,  
4 indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We  
6 will now go to roll call.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Adams.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Present.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Ampry-Samuel.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Present.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Ayala.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Present.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Barron.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Blessed and  
15 present. Sorry.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Borelli.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI:

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Brannan.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Present.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Brooks-Powers.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Present.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Cabrera.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Present.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Chin.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Present.

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2 COUNCIL CLERK: Cornegy.  
3 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Present.  
4 COUNCIL CLERK: Deutsch. Darma Diaz.  
5 COUNCIL MEMBER D. DIAZ: Present.  
6 COUNCIL CLERK: Ruben Diaz.  
7 COUNCIL MEMBER R. DIAZ: Presente.  
8 COUNCIL CLERK: Dinowitz.  
9 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Present.  
10 COUNCIL CLERK: Dromm.  
11 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Present.  
12 COUNCIL CLERK: Eugene.  
13 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Present.  
14 COUNCIL CLERK: Feliz.  
15 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Present.  
16 COUNCIL CLERK: Gennaro.  
17 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Present.  
18 COUNCIL CLERK: Gibson.  
19 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Good afternoon,  
20 blessed and present.  
21 COUNCIL CLERK: Gjonaj. Grodenchik.  
22 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: I am  
23 absolutely here. Thank you.  
24 COUNCIL CLERK: Holden.  
25 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here.

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2 COUNCIL CLERK: Kallos.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Moving further  
4 and further down the alphabet. I'm here.

5 UNIDENTIFIED: [laughter]

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Koo.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Koslowitz.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Present.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Lander.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Present.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Levin.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Present.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Levine.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Present.

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: [inaudible],

24 here.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Moya.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Present.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Perkins.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Present.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Powers.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Present.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Reynoso. Riley.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Good afternoon,

9 colleagues. Present.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Rivera.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez. Rose.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Present.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Rosenthal.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Salamanca.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Treyger.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Ulrich. Vallone.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Van Bramer.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Yeger.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Matteo.

3 MINORITY LEADER MATTEO: Here.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Cumbo.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Present.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Johnson.

7 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I'm here.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Madam Majority Leader, we  
9 have a quorum.

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: All right. Thank  
11 you so much. We will now have today's invocation,  
12 which will be delivered by Brother Benyahya  
13 Abdelghani, spiritual leader of Muslim Center of New  
14 York, Incorporated, located at 137-58 Geranium Avenue  
15 in Flushing, Queens. Welcome.

16 BROTHER BENYAHYA ABDELGHANI: Thank you.  
17 In the name of God, the most merciful, the most kind,  
18 praise to God, lord of the universe, most gracious,  
19 most merciful, master of the day of judgment. You  
20 alone we worship. You alone we ask for help. Guide  
21 us in the right path, the path of those that you  
22 bless, not those who earn your anger. The month of  
23 Ramadan in which the Quran was revealed, a guidance  
24 and [inaudible] for guidance. And when my servant  
25 ask you concerning me and about me, indeed I am very

2 near to them. Respond to their [inaudible] creation  
3 and supplication, and when he calls upon me so let  
4 them respond to me by obedience and faith. Amen.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so  
6 much. Thank you for being here, and thank you for  
7 sharing your spiritual energy with us today. I would  
8 now like to ask Council Member Peter Koo to spread  
9 the invocation onto the record.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you, Majority  
11 Leader. Thank you, Brother Benyahya. Brother  
12 Benyahya graduated with a dual bachelor's design in  
13 Arabic language literature and Islamic studies from  
14 Hassan II Universe in Morocco. He achieved his  
15 master's design in Arabic language literature.  
16 Brother Benyahya comes to us from the Muslim Center  
17 of New York, near my district in Flushing, where he  
18 has served as director and imam since 2009. As many  
19 of you know, my district is well known as the home of  
20 the Flushing Remonstrance, which is largely thought  
21 of as the document that first enshrined freedom of  
22 religion in America. Our religious diversity is  
23 apparent on every block, and nowhere is this more  
24 evidenced than by the Muslim Center's long history  
25 with us. Since 1975 the Muslim Center of New York

2 has called Flushing a home. Here it has offered  
3 classes on the Quran for youth, Islamic classes,  
4 seminars in awareness, and marriage services. It is  
5 in large part due to the efforts of Brother Benyahya  
6 that we have such a thriving, healthy, and active  
7 Muslim community in Flushing. And I'm very grateful  
8 to be able to welcome him to the City Council today  
9 during this Ramadan. With that, I would like to make  
10 a motion to spread the invocation in full upon the  
11 record. Thank you.

12 BROTHER BENYAHYA ABDELGHANI: Thank you  
13 very much, thank you.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so  
15 much, Council Member Peter Koo. And we appreciate  
16 you sharing your gifts with us today in the City  
17 Council Stated Meeting. We will now at this time, we  
18 will move to the adoption of minutes by Council  
19 Member Paul Vallone.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Thank you, Madam  
21 Majority Leader. I now make a motion that the  
22 minutes of the Stated Meeting of the April 22, 2021,  
23 be adopted as printed.

24 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Ah, point of order,  
25 Council Member Vallone.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Yes.

3 PARLIAMENTARIAN: I believe today is  
4 April 22, 2021. It might have been the March 18,  
5 2021?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: It very well  
7 could be the March 18. I was ready for today's  
8 motion. So it's, so then I will make that motion for  
9 the minutes of the Stated Meeting of March 18, 2021,  
10 be adopted as printed.

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so  
12 much, Council Member Vallone. Ah, we appreciate your  
13 forward-thinking. We will now move to messages and  
14 papers from the mayor.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Communications  
17 from city, county, and borough offices.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: M-296, the certification  
19 of election of Eric Dinowitz, new council member,  
20 11th District.

21 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Congratulations.  
22 Received, ordered, printed, and filed.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: M-297, the certification  
24 of election of Oswald Feliz, new council member, 15th  
25 District.

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

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Petitions and  
5 communications.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: M-298, resignation of  
7 Council Member Costa G. Constantinides, 22nd  
8 District.

9 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I'll talk about Costa  
10 in a few minutes. Ah, received, ordered, printed,  
11 and filed.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Land use call-  
13 ups.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: M-299, Acme Smoked Fish  
15 Gem Street rezoning.

16 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Ah, thank you. At this  
17 time I'd like to ask the clerk to take a roll call  
18 vote on today's land use call-up. Again, we're just  
19 voting on this single land use call-up as we do this  
20 roll call vote. So I'll ask the clerk to take the  
21 roll.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Adams.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Congratulations  
24 and welcome, new colleagues Dinowitz and Feliz. I  
25 vote aye.

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2 COUNCIL CLERK: Ampry-Samuel.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL:

4 Congratulations, and I vote aye.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Ayala.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: I would like to  
7 welcome our newest members to the Bronx delegation,  
8 and with that I vote aye.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Barron. Ah, you're  
10 muted, Council Member Barron.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Yes, thank you.  
12 I vote aye, and welcome to our new colleagues. Thank  
13 you.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Borelli.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: I vote aye, and  
16 of course welcome to our new colleagues.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Brannan.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Welcome and  
19 congratulations to Council Members Dinowitz and  
20 Feliz, and I vote aye. Thank you.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Brooks-Powers.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Welcome to  
23 my newest colleagues. I'm not young kind on the  
24 block anymore, um, and I vote aye.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Cabrera.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Congratulations  
3 to our newest colleagues from the BX. Welcome. I  
4 now vote aye.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Chin.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Yes, I also want to  
7 welcome, ah, our new colleagues. Congratulations. I  
8 vote aye.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Cornegy.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Welcome to our  
11 new colleagues from the, ah, village of Brooklyn.  
12 Ah, I vote aye.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Darma Diaz.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER D. DIAZ: Welcome,  
15 bienvenidos my new colleagues. Ah, I vote aye.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Ruben Diaz. Council  
17 Member Ruben Diaz?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER R. DIAZ: I vote aye.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Dinowitz.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Thank you to  
21 the, for the warm welcome from my new colleagues, and  
22 I, I vote aye.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Dromm.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: I want to welcome  
25 our new educator colleague, Council Member Dinowitz,

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2 and of course also our other colleagues as well. I  
3 vote aye.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Eugene.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I would like to,  
6 ah, to congratulate Council Member Dinowitz, Council  
7 Member Feliz, and all our new colleagues. With this  
8 I vote aye.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Feliz.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Thank you so much  
11 for the welcome. I vote aye as well.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Gennaro.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: I welcome our  
14 new colleagues and I vote yes.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Gibson.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you.  
17 Congratulations and warmest regards and welcome to  
18 our colleagues, um, from the Bronx delegation,  
19 Council Member Dinowitz, Council Member Feliz. We  
20 look forward to working with you. I vote aye.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Gjonaj.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Congratulations  
23 and welcome colleagues. Um, this is your first vote.  
24 I'm excited for you. It's all downhill from here.  
25 And with that I vote aye.

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2 COUNCIL CLERK: Grodenchik.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: I'm not gonna  
4 comment on, ah, Council Member Gjonaj's comments, but  
5 I do want to welcome, ah, Council Member Dinowitz,  
6 who I had the pleasure of serving with his father in  
7 the State Assembly, welcome. And Council Member  
8 Feliz, you represent the holy land of the Bronx,  
9 where my father was born. So, um, he was born on  
10 Belmont Avenue and, um, I'm so happy to see both of  
11 you here. With that I vote aye.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Holden.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Welcome, new  
14 members, and I vote aye.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Kallos.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Welcome to new  
17 members, especially those who went to the Bronx High  
18 School of Science, and I vote aye.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Koo.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Welcome, Council  
21 Member Feliz and Council Member Dinowitz. Ah, I vote  
22 aye.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Koslowitz.  
24  
25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: As a former  
3 Bronxite for 20 years, I want to welcome our new  
4 council members, and I vote aye.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Lander.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Congrats and  
7 welcome new colleagues. It's great to have you join  
8 us. I vote aye.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Levin.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Congratulations to  
11 our new colleagues. I vote aye.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Levine.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Welcome, Council  
14 Members Dinowitz and Feliz. I will be voting aye.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Louis.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: A warm welcome to  
17 our new colleagues, and I vote aye on all.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Maisel.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Um, yes.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Menchaca.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Bienvenido  
22 [inaudible]. I vote aye.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Miller.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Welcome,  
25 colleagues. I vote aye.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Moya.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Welcome to our new  
4 colleagues and, ah, I'm voting aye.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Perkins. Council Member  
6 Perkins, land use call-ups?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Aye vote.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Powers.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Welcome, my  
10 friends, ah, Council Member Dinowitz and Council  
11 Member Feliz, and I will be voting aye. Thank you.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Riley.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: I would like to  
14 give a warm welcome to Council Member Dinowitz and  
15 Council Member Feliz. You have expanded and  
16 strengthened the Bronx delegation once again, and I  
17 vote aye.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Rivera.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Welcome. I vote  
20 aye.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Congratulation  
23 to my colleague now working with us, eh, Dinowitz,  
24 eh, from Riverdale. I spent a lot of time in his  
25 district passing by, and, and Council Member Feliz,

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2 it was a sweet victory, so congratulation. And with  
3 that I vote aye.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Rose.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Welcome and  
6 salutations from [inaudible] and I vote aye.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Rosenthal.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL:  
9 Congratulations to our new colleagues, welcome, and I  
10 vote aye.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Salamanca.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: I vote aye.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Treyger.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Congratulations  
15 and welcome to our new colleagues, and, ah, the  
16 educator caucus is growing with Council Member Eric  
17 Dinowitz. Congratulations as well. Thank you. I  
18 vote aye.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Ulrich.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Welcome to my new  
21 colleagues, and I vote aye.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Vallone.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: I vote aye, and  
24 welcome to Council Members Feliz and Dinowitz, and  
25 you are already ahead of the game because you should

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2 have seen the council trying to say Council Member  
3 Grodenchik's last name at his first meeting. It  
4 didn't go over so much, so you guys are doing great.  
5 I vote aye.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Van Bramer.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Congrats to  
8 all. I vote aye.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Yeger.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Matteo.

12 MINORITY LEADER MATTEO: Aye.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Cumbo.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I vote aye, and I  
15 also congratulate and welcome our new colleagues to  
16 the city, Council Member Dinowitz as well as Council  
17 Member Feliz. Just when I thought Brooklyn was  
18 really gaining on the Bronx here you all come. But  
19 we're happy to welcome you and we're happy to work  
20 with you, and please feel free to reach out. Thank  
21 you.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Ah, Reynoso, if I missed  
23 you. OK. Speaker Johnson.

24 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I vote aye.

25

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Today's land use call-up  
3 has a vote of 48 in the affirmative, 0 in the  
4 negative, and no abstentions.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.  
6 Today's land use call-up is adopted. We will now  
7 have communication from Speaker Corey Johnson.

8 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Good afternoon. Happy  
9 Earth Day. Today is a reminder of how we must all  
10 work together to protect our communities from  
11 environmental hazards and not just, ah, about, it's  
12 not just about creating a cleaner, greener city.  
13 It's about environmental justice, and that means  
14 banning the use of chemical pesticides from public  
15 property, which is one of the bills we're voting on  
16 today. These chemical pesticides are harmful to our  
17 children, our seniors, and everyone who plays in our  
18 parks and lives in public housing. Our legislative  
19 package today also includes, also calls for reducing  
20 food waste, increasing opportunities for sports and  
21 recreation for youth, and keeping our boardwalk safe,  
22 among other bills. I'm proud that the council's  
23 fighting to make our city a safer, healthier, and  
24 more livable city for all New Yorkers. Before I  
25 delve into our agenda, I want to provide an update,

2 of course, on the battle against COVID-19 here in New  
3 York City. Ah, in our city, as of yesterday, 32,200  
4 New Yorkers, 32,200 New Yorkers have died from the  
5 coronavirus. While we continue to reopen our city  
6 slowly it's important to remember that the virus is  
7 not over. We want people to get vaccinated, to wear  
8 a mask, and to stay home if you're sick. I'm really,  
9 really, really sad to report that, ah, we are all  
10 mourning the loss of two members of our council  
11 family. As many of you know, Laurie Constantinides,  
12 the wife of our former colleague, Costa  
13 Constantinides, died on Monday. It was an unexpected  
14 loss, even though she had faced a long illness. She  
15 was only 47 years old. It was obvious to all of us,  
16 it is obvious to all of us how deeply in love Costa  
17 was with Laurie. He always spoke about her with  
18 admiration and with great affection, and my heart  
19 breaks for Costa and their 11-year-old son, Nico. On  
20 behalf of the council we are sending them our deep  
21 thoughts and prayers as they mourn this tremendous  
22 loss and I think all of you know that there is  
23 services tonight, ah, this evening, so if we could  
24 try to get through the Stated Meeting, ah, today, I  
25 know many, many colleagues reached out and said they

2 want to go at the beginning of this, ah, to be here  
3 for Costa. Um, I'm so devastated, ah, for him, and  
4 I've spoke to him the last few days and it's been  
5 really, really hard for him and his son. So I hope  
6 any of you that can go to those services today to be  
7 there for him will, will do your best to make it.  
8 Costa and his son need us right now. So, um, we're  
9 thinking of them. I also am really again devastated  
10 to report that someone that I loved so much,  
11 Christine McLaughlin, who served the council for 17  
12 years, before recently retiring, died in late March.  
13 As director of events and production services and CED  
14 in the council, Christine perfectly managed more than  
15 30 events each year. She was a remarkable,  
16 remarkable person. She was a constituent of mine,  
17 lived not that far from me, and a dear friend of many  
18 of us. I am so sad, ah, that Christine is gone. So  
19 on behalf of myself and of course the council I want  
20 to extend our deepest condolences to her family,  
21 friends, and former colleagues. Two really painful  
22 losses that we've experienced recently. I'd also  
23 like to acknowledge those in our city who died while  
24 on the job. Angel Aguilar Duran, a sanitation worker  
25 for Cogent Waste Solutions, died after being struck

2 by a mini van on April 11 in Brooklyn. He was 52  
3 years old. And as I do at every Stated Meeting I  
4 want to remember the lives of those recently lost to  
5 9/11-related illnesses. They include retired  
6 firefighter Joseph Daly, he was 70; retired police  
7 officer Andy Stromfeld; retired firefighter James  
8 David Shaunessy, he was 76; retired fire lieutenant  
9 James Winters, he was 83; retired NYPD detective  
10 Michael Dye, he was 56; retired NYPD sergeant Thomas  
11 Burn, he was 51; retired NYPD detective Linda Eaton  
12 Louis; and NYPD officer Vincent Richtie, he was 42.

13 If we could take a moment of silence for Laurie,  
14 Christine, Angel, all who have died from 9/11-related  
15 illnesses, and all of those we've lost to COVID-19.

16 [moment of silence] Thank you. Today I also want to  
17 welcome, and many colleagues have already welcomed  
18 them, I will welcome two new members to the council,  
19 both from the Bronx. Eric Dinowitz won the seat for  
20 Council District 11, which includes Riverdale,  
21 Bedford Park, Kingsbridge, Norwood, Van Cortlandt  
22 Village, Wakefield, and Woodlawn, and more  
23 neighborhoods that I didn't name. And Oswald Feliz  
24 won the seat for Council District 15, which includes  
25 Fordham, Bedford Park, West Farms, Bathgate, East

2 Tremont, Van Nest, Belmont, Allerton, Olinville, and  
3 Mount Hope. So I want to welcome you, Council Member  
4 Dinowitz. Welcome to you, Council Member Feliz.  
5 Congratulations. If we could have a big virtual  
6 round of applause for our two new colleagues  
7 welcoming them to the New York City Council. We look  
8 forward to working, ah, with all of you.

9 Congratulations to you and your families. Before we  
10 move on to our agenda today I'd to acknowledge a  
11 significant point in time in our nation that occurred  
12 this well. Former police officer Derek Chauvin in  
13 Minneapolis, was found guilty on all counts of  
14 murder, of the murder of George Floyd, an innocent  
15 black man who was murdered in cold blood.

16 Unfortunately, a people of color dying in police  
17 custody is not that unusual, but this week something  
18 unusual did happen. The jury saw the injustice and  
19 actual delivered a guilty verdict. Nothing will ever  
20 bring George Floyd back to his family. He should  
21 still be alive right now. Nothing will ever  
22 alleviate their pain and suffering, and true justice  
23 would be if George Floyd was never killed in the  
24 first place. But it is a significant verdict and I  
25 hope that it brings some measure of comfort to George

2 Floyd's family, his loved ones, and those who bore  
3 witness to his death, including 17-year-old, then 17-  
4 year-old Darnella Fraser, the teenager who changed  
5 history by filming this brutal encounter. So rest in  
6 peace, George Floyd. Rest in peace. I want to  
7 acknowledge a historic moment for this council. I'm  
8 proud that the council today is voting on a rules  
9 change that constitutes the next step in the process  
10 to recognize a union for council aides. This comes  
11 at the urging of more than 30 council members who  
12 signed a letter calling for voluntary recognition.  
13 The resolution specifies that collective bargaining  
14 matters, including recognition, ah, within the  
15 jurisdiction of the speaker. This council proudly  
16 supports labor and union efforts of our vital staff.  
17 Ah, the Land Use Committee will be voting on the  
18 following item: 737 Fourth Avenue rezoning will  
19 facilitate the development of a new 14-story mixed  
20 use building with approximately 142 units of housing,  
21 of which 35 will be permanently affordable and ground  
22 floor commercial space in Council Member Carlos  
23 Menchaca's district. The council will vote on two  
24 Article 11 property tax exemptions out of the Finance  
25 Committee. One of them is in Majority Leader Cumbo's

2 district and the other is in Council Member Moya's  
3 district. Moving into our legislative agenda, the  
4 council will be voting on a resolution by Majority  
5 Leader Laurie Cumbo and Council Member Margaret Chin  
6 calling on the Congress to pass and the president to  
7 sign the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of  
8 2021. Our first two bills come out of the Committee  
9 on Parks and Recreation. Introduction number 1888-A,  
10 sponsored by Council Member Mark Treyger, will  
11 prohibit all non-city-owned or non-authorized motor  
12 vehicles from being used on city elevated boardwalks.  
13 The bill also require that authorized city employees  
14 or contractors only use small utility vehicles under  
15 2400 pounds for activities on wooden boardwalks,  
16 unless larger vehicles are necessary for  
17 construction, maintenance, or public safety needs. I  
18 want to thank from the staff Kristoffer Sartori and  
19 Patrick Mulvihill. Also out of the Committee on  
20 Parks and Recreation we're voting on a bill to  
21 establish the Office of Sports, Wellness, and  
22 Recreation. Introduction number 1959-A, sponsored by  
23 Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez in conjunction with  
24 the Brooklyn Borough president, will require the  
25 mayor to establish an Office of Sports, Wellness, and

2 Recreation. This office will have the authority to  
3 promote and enhance sports-related opportunities for  
4 youth and to promote the role of sports in education.

5 And from the staff I want to thank Kristoffer Sartori  
6 and Patrick Mulvihill. The council is committed to  
7 tackling food insecurity and reducing food waste.

8 I'm proud of the work we've done on food policy. I'm  
9 very happy we're doing more today on this important  
10 issue. We're voting on two bills from our Economic  
11 Development Committee to reduce food waste and to  
12 provide us with more information on food insecurity  
13 in our city. First, Introduction number 1680-A,  
14 sponsored by Council Member Paul Vallone, will  
15 require the Mayor's Office of Food Policy to include  
16 the following additional information in the Food  
17 Metrics Report - the number of individuals eligible  
18 for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program,  
19 SNAP, who are not currently enrolled in the program,  
20 disaggregated by borough and age, information about  
21 retailers that are authorized to accept and redeem  
22 SNAP benefits, information about food insecurity in  
23 each borough, trends in dietary consumption and long-  
24 term diet-related health outcomes, across  
25 socioeconomic and racial groups where practicable,

2 additional sources of information selected by DOHMH.

3 And we will require the Mayor's Office of Food Policy

4 to express all data in the Food Metrics Report in

5 absolute numbers and as a percentage of the relevant

6 population. And from the staff I want to thank

7 Andrea Vazquez and Nadia Johnson. The second bill,

8 Introduction number 1673-A, sponsored by Council

9 Member Carlina Rivera, requires city agencies that

10 procure food to develop food waste prevention plans,

11 as well as make recommendations on how to safely and

12 efficiently donate surplus food. The legislation

13 requires agencies with food waste prevention plans to

14 submit such plans to the Sanitation Commissioner for

15 approval and the plan then must be submitted to the

16 council speaker. And I want thank Andrea Vazquez and

17 Nadia Johnson again. Also regarding food governance

18 from our Committee on Education, we have Introduction

19 number 1675-A, sponsored by Council Member Debbie

20 Rose. This bill will expand on Local Law 4 of 2018

21 by requiring the Department of Education to provide

22 information to every student regarding summer meals

23 and provide them with three locations for summer

24 meals closest to their homes. And from the staff I

25 want to thank Andrea Vazquez and Malcolm Buttehorn.

2 Finally, we have two bills out of the Committee on  
3 Health. Introduction number 1748-A, sponsored by  
4 Council Member Danny Dromm, will require the  
5 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to conduct a  
6 public information and outreach campaign regarding  
7 the provision of medically unnecessary treatments and  
8 interventions performed on individuals born with  
9 intersex traits or variations in sex characteristics.  
10 As part of this campaign the Department of Health and  
11 Mental Hygiene will create and distribute educational  
12 materials and resources for parents and guardians of  
13 individuals born with intersex traits or variations  
14 in sex characteristics, create resources for medical  
15 practitioners, and identify community outreach  
16 partners and stakeholders. The department would  
17 consult with individuals and organizations with  
18 expertise in intersex traits or variations in sex  
19 characteristics, including individuals who are  
20 intersex or have variations in sex characteristics in  
21 the development of such public information and  
22 outreach campaign. From the staff I want to thank  
23 Carbanu Ahuja, Sarah Liss, Em Balkan, and Sarah  
24 Ginsberg. And finally today, Earth Day, the council  
25 will vote on a bill aimed at protecting all New

2 Yorkers, but particularly our children. We're voting  
3 to ban the use of any non-biological pesticide, such  
4 as glyphosate, on any playground, park, and any other  
5 property under the jurisdiction of the Department of  
6 Health and Mental Hygiene, ah, sorry, the Department  
7 of Parks and Recreation. This is a bill from Council  
8 Member Ben Kallos. It's important that as technology  
9 changes and evolves New York City government keeps  
10 up. We no longer burn coal in our buildings. We  
11 don't light our offices with gas lamps. And we  
12 shouldn't be using toxic and dangerous chemicals in  
13 our public spaces. Our NYCHA residents deserve  
14 better. Families enjoying a day in the park deserve  
15 better. New Yorkers deserve better. And I'm proud  
16 that we're voting on this bill to modernize our pest  
17 control and keep New Yorkers safe. This legislation  
18 would expand the list of prohibited pesticides, to  
19 also include pesticides classified as a human  
20 carcinogen by the Office of Pesticide Programs of the  
21 United States Environmental Protection Agency,  
22 pesticides classified by the California Office of  
23 Environmental Health Hazard Assessment as a  
24 developmental toxin, and pesticides containing active  
25 ingredients listed as, ah, carcinogenic by the

2 International agency for Research on Cancer of the  
3 World Health Organization. And I want to thank Sarah  
4 Liss from the staff, and I want to congratulate Ben  
5 on this important bill. With that, I turn it back  
6 over to you, Madam Majority Leader. Ah, you're on  
7 mute, Madam Majority Leader.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: OK. Thank you so  
9 much, Speaker Johnson. We will now move into  
10 discussion of general orders. As a reminder, this  
11 section is only for items that we'll be voting on for  
12 general orders today. Later on in today's Stated  
13 Meeting there will be an opportunity to speak about  
14 resolutions. But for this particular portion of the  
15 meeting we're just going to be discussing the items  
16 that we will be voting on currently. We will now  
17 recognize council members who wish to speak by using  
18 the raise hand function in Zoom. Please wait before  
19 you begin your remarks for our Sergeant at Arms to  
20 announce he has begun the countdown clock. The  
21 Sergeant at Arms will alert you when your time has  
22 expired. Mr. Parliamentarian, are there any council  
23 members who wish to speak at this time?

2 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes, Madam Majority  
3 Leader. Council Member Kallos, Council Member  
4 Rodriguez, and Council Member Gennaro.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: OK. We will  
6 begin. Council Member Kallos, you may begin  
7 following the countdown clock.

8 SERGEANT AT ARMS: The clock is ready.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Today is Earth  
10 Day, and Earth Day is the day we will ban toxic  
11 pesticides from our parks. We will stop poisoning  
12 our children, stop poisoning our workers. We'll stop  
13 poisoning Mother Earth. We'll stop choosing cancer  
14 over weeds. I will take weeds any day over cancer.  
15 Now this is personal for me, and countless families  
16 like mine who went through this pandemic in a cramped  
17 one-bedroom apartment that weren't designed for  
18 shelter in place, who relied on parks as a refuge.  
19 As a new dad with a baby, now a toddler, the parks  
20 are scary. Young children crawl on the ground. They  
21 touch everything, then they inevitably put everything  
22 in their mouths and ingest toxic pesticides. The  
23 Black Institute found that pesticides are an issue of  
24 environmental justice, as they found pesticides like  
25 Roundup were being sprayed more frequently in black

2 and brown communities than in white communities.

3 Introduction 1524 will prohibit chemically based  
4 pesticides from being used on any property owned or  
5 leased by the city with very limited exceptions.

6 This legislation puts New York City at the forefront  
7 nationally of addressing this important issue. Thank  
8 you to Council Member James Gennaro for starting the  
9 fight in 2005 with Local Law 37, the kindergarten at  
10 PS-290, Paul Rogoven, their teacher, Bertha Louis at  
11 the Black Institute, Jay Feldman from Beyond

12 Testified, Beyond Pesticides, Doug and Patty Wood of  
13 Grassroots Environmental Education, who many of you  
14 heard from, and lastly Speaker Corey Johnson for  
15 hearing the bill last term, for approaching me to  
16 pass this bill on or before Earth Day, for being true  
17 to his word, for being a great champion for our  
18 children, our parks workers, and our planet. I yield  
19 my time.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so  
21 much. We will now go to Council Member Rodriguez.

22 SERGEANT AT ARMS: The clock is running.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Thank you,  
24 Majority Leader. Eh, I'm in a car, but I'm not  
25 driving. I'm coming back from Brooklyn and standing

2 the Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams, as he  
3 [inaudible] for the press conference on gun, gun  
4 violence. Eh, eh, the bill that, eh, we will be  
5 voting today to create this board, eh, office in New  
6 York City who had not been possible without the  
7 support of the chief of staff of the council, Jason  
8 Goldman, Jeff Baker, beside the other members of the  
9 team that the speaker already recognized, as well as  
10 my office staff, chief of staff Elisa [inaudible] and  
11 project director [inaudible] and my communication  
12 director, Thomas Garita. I would also like to thank  
13 Speaker Corey Johnson. Without your leadership to  
14 work on this legislation, as also we are having  
15 conversation on the municipal voting right, knowing  
16 that there is sometimes complicated bill that take  
17 time, but your commitment to work around the  
18 important legislation that [inaudible] that we are  
19 committed to work on it show your leadership. I also  
20 like to thank Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams  
21 for working on this bill and in seeing [inaudible].  
22 I gotta thank my own daughter, Carisa Rodriguez, for  
23 bringing, doing competitive swimming for the last  
24 five years, who has a lot of concern on how we can  
25 close the gap about, eh, black, Latino, Asian,

2 underserved children to have a path to do competitive  
3 sports. And public advocate Jumaane Williams,  
4 Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, and all the  
5 colleague who are voting today with this bill. What  
6 is the goal of this office? This office will be  
7 responsible to put a strategy initiative to bring  
8 together the public sector, the academic institution,  
9 and the private institution, the Barkley Center, the  
10 Madison Square Garden, the Yankee Stadium, the Mets  
11 field, everyone, City Field, everyone should come on  
12 board.

13 SERGEANT AT ARMS: [inaudible].

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: I want to give  
15 a special thanks to all the stakeholders from Astor  
16 Green to the Armory in Brooklyn, the one also in  
17 Washington Height, ah, Fort Washington. Eh, I  
18 cannot, you know, eh, eh, left anyone out, but to say  
19 thank you to everyone that worked with this bill.  
20 This is a reality that we face in the City of New  
21 York. There's not a path that we have in place up to  
22 now, eh, to create equal opportunity to working class  
23 children to do competitive sport. Hoping that  
24 working with you guys we also can come out and put  
25 some funding to support this initiative. [speaking

2 in Spanish] Eric Adams, Jumaane Williams, [speaking  
3 in Spanish].

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,  
5 Council Member Rodriguez. We will now move to  
6 Council Member Gennaro.

7 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time begins.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you, Madam  
9 Majority Leader. I just want to, ah, thank, ah,  
10 Council Member Kallos in a special way for the real,  
11 you know, hard work he did on the pesticide bill.  
12 Ah, he mentioned we did this in 2005. Ah, you know,  
13 these bills get old pretty quickly, these technical  
14 bills, and we came back again and, um, made  
15 amendments to it in 2007. The world has changed a  
16 lot since 2007. Ah, and this, this issue need a real  
17 champion to step forward and, you know, make a modern  
18 bill that would take into access, ah, everything we  
19 know now that we didn't know back in 2005 and 2007.  
20 So I thank, um, Council Member Kallos in a special  
21 way. Um, I thank the chair of the committee Levine,  
22 and, ah, of course Speaker Johnson, the, you know, 35  
23 cosponsors of the bill, um, including myself and, ah,  
24 ah, thank you, Council Member Kallos and Speaker  
25 Johnson and Mark Levine for this really nice birthday

2 present. I really appreciate it. Um, with, ah,  
3 this, so this concludes my comments.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so  
5 much. Are there any other members, Mr.  
6 Parliamentarian, who wish to speak at this time?

7 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes, Madam Majority  
8 Leader, Council Members Rose and Menchaca.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member  
10 Rose, you may begin.

11 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time begins.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Thank you, thank  
13 you. I, I just want to start by thanking Council  
14 Members Kallos and Gennaro for the very important  
15 pesticide legislation. Um, it's long overdue. I'm  
16 sorry that it takes so to get these things done, but  
17 it is definitely important. Um, my colleagues today,  
18 I am thrilled to be voting on my bill, Intro 1675,  
19 which will inform more families that there is a  
20 secure place nearby that they can send their children  
21 to receive free meals during the summer months. This  
22 bill will require the Department of Education to mail  
23 summer meal information to every eligible student.  
24 This information would include the three nearest  
25 locations to their homes, the operating hours and

2 eligibility, ah, guidelines. Summer meals are  
3 offered to all children age 18 and under at no cost  
4 at several sites across our city, including public  
5 schools, community pool centers, public parks,  
6 libraries, and NYCHA locations from June through  
7 August. Low-income parents often rely on New York  
8 City school food for free meals for their children  
9 throughout the school year. And this need doesn't  
10 simply disappear during the summer months. As the  
11 number of summer meals sites continue to increase,  
12 families should be properly notified about the free  
13 meal options that are available to them. And as we  
14 turn the corner of a pandemic that has threatened  
15 food security for thousands of New Yorkers, many of  
16 them children, this bill is especially important. It  
17 is my hope that this, the passage of this bill will  
18 let low-income parents know that there is, there are  
19 resources available to them that will ease the burden  
20 that they face during the summer months, which is  
21 finding food to feed their children while juggling  
22 the cost and out of school care and work schedules.  
23 I want to thank Speaker Johnson for his leadership  
24 and his efforts to end food insecurity, Chair  
25 Treyger...

2 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time expired.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: ...for his support  
4 and, and, ah, dedication to youth and to Michael  
5 Buttehorn and, um, Andrea Vazquez for all the work  
6 that they did on this bill. Thank you, and I hope  
7 you vote aye.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so  
9 much, Council Member Rose. We'll now go to Council  
10 Member Menchaca.

11 SERGEANT AT ARMS: The clock is ready.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you,  
13 Majority Leader. I have been extremely critical of  
14 our land use process, which makes people believe that  
15 I am against development. But I am not, and nor are  
16 my neighbors in Sunset Park. What we have always  
17 demanded is for community control and deference in  
18 making land use decisions. That is a tall order,  
19 since most projects are developer driven, and so I  
20 have rejected many proposals in the past. The 737  
21 rezoning is different, and we're gonna be voting on  
22 it today in the council. From the start, Community  
23 Board 7 took control. CB7 forced the developer to  
24 redo their proposal several times before considering  
25 it. Then CB7 held multiple public hearings and

2 demanded binding conditions. The developer, Totem,  
3 agreed to a CBA, a community benefits agreement, that  
4 codified all the community board's conditions. And  
5 it executed a CBA before the council held its first  
6 public hearing. When I asked the developer to also  
7 present the CBA to our community in multiple  
8 languages they did so. People learned about it and  
9 asked questions. What will happen now at 737 Fourth  
10 Avenue is incredible. A parking lot will now become  
11 a building with 33 permanently affordable units,  
12 ground floor commercial space, mostly reserved for  
13 local businesses, bike stations with a third reserved  
14 for deliveristas, and a free easement to the MTA so  
15 it can build an ADA accessible elevator to the subway  
16 next door. Because CB7 led the process and a CBA is  
17 in place, I have decided to honor their work and  
18 support this rezoning. Democratic participation and  
19 decision-making does not always mean you will agree  
20 with the outcome. I would have preferred 100%  
21 affordable, for example. But it is what we need  
22 right now to recover from the pandemic. I ask you,  
23 my colleagues, ah, to support this rezoning and thank  
24 you for your time.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so  
3 much, Council Member Menchaca. Mr. Parliamentarian,  
4 are there any other members who wish to speak at this  
5 time?

6 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes, Madam Majority  
7 Leader. Council Member Grodenchik.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member  
9 Grodenchik, you may begin.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Thank you,  
11 Majority Leader, and I, I just want to call my  
12 colleagues' attentions today, um, to be Resolution  
13 1603, which came out of the Finance Committee this  
14 morning under the leadership of Chair Dromm. Um, it  
15 is gonna allocate approximately another 17 million  
16 dollars for food pantry money, and I want to thank,  
17 um, the speaker especially, who ever since, ah, his  
18 first press conference as speaker, has taken on, um,  
19 the mantle of trying to do something for those people  
20 who do not have enough food to eat in the City of New  
21 York. And this is food for food pantries. Ah, we  
22 call it emergency food. Um, and I would think that  
23 any time somebody doesn't have enough to eat it's an  
24 emergency. And I want to thank, ah, Chair Dromm,  
25 who, ah, has been a champion for this as well, and of

2 course, um, Chair Levine, who, ah, chairs the General  
3 Welfare Committee, who has been, um, my partner in  
4 this crime, so to speak, to make sure that no New  
5 Yorkers go hungry. Um, it is, ah, there are other  
6 pieces of legislation today which will support this,  
7 especially, ah, Council Member Rose and, ah, Council  
8 Member Vallone has legislation today. We need to  
9 make sure that nobody goes hungry in the city, and I  
10 want to thank all of you for all you have done, ah,  
11 since my term in this council, um, to make sure that  
12 that is indeed the case. So I urge a yes vote on  
13 that, and I yield the balance of my time. Thank you.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,  
15 Council Member Grodenchik. Are there any other  
16 members that wish to speak at this time?

17 PARLIAMENTARIAN: No, Madam Majority  
18 Leader.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We  
20 will now go on to a report of special committees.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Reports of  
23 standing committees.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee  
25 on Economic Development, Intro 1673-A and 1680-A,

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2 food waste prevention plans and reporting  
3 requirements.

4 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on  
5 general orders.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee  
7 on Education, Intro 1675-B, summer meals.

8 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on  
9 general orders.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee  
11 on Finance, preconsidered Reso 1603, transparency  
12 resolution.

13 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general  
14 orders.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Preconsidered Reso 1604  
16 and 1605, business improvement districts.

17 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general  
18 orders.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Preconsidered LU 755 and  
20 Reso 1612, and LU 756 and Reso 1613, tax exemptions.

21 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general  
22 orders.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee  
24 on Health, Intro 1524-A, agency pesticide use.

25

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2 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on  
3 general orders.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Intro 1748-A, information  
5 on medically unnecessary treatments.

6 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on  
7 general orders.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee  
9 on Parks and Recreation, Intro 1888-A, prohibit  
10 vehicles on boardwalks.

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

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Intro 1959-A, create an  
14 office of sports, wellness, and recreation.

15 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on  
16 general orders.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee  
18 on Rules, Privileges and Elections, preconsidered  
19 Reso 1608, collective bargaining.

20 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general  
21 orders.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Preconsidered Reso 1609,  
23 council committee changes.

24 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general  
25 orders.

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2 COUNCIL CLERK: General orders calendar,  
3 LU 733 and Reso 1614, and LU 734 and Reso 1615, 737  
4 Fourth Avenue rezoning.

5 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general  
6 orders. And at this time I'm asking for the clerk to  
7 take a roll call vote on all of the items on today's  
8 general order calender.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Adams.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Congratulations to  
11 all of my colleagues on passing such phenomenonal  
12 legislation today, particularly all of the food  
13 insecurity legislation and Council Member Kallos the  
14 pesticide prohibition with so many of us [inaudible]  
15 with you. Congratulations. I say aye on all.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Ampry-Samuel

17 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: I vote aye  
18 on all.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Ayala.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: I vote aye on all.

21 COUNCIL CLERK:

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Barron.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member  
24 Barron, you might be muted. We'll come back to  
25 Council Member Barron.

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2 COUNCIL CLERK: Borelli.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Thank you. I  
4 vote no on 1748-A, no on 1959-A, no on preconsidered  
5 1608, and yes on the rest. And thank you very much.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Brannan.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: I vote aye on  
8 all.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Brooks-Powers

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: I vote aye  
11 on all.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Cabrera.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye on all.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Chin.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Congratulations to  
16 my colleagues on their important legislation, and I  
17 vote aye on all.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Cornegy.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: To my  
20 colleagues, passing substantive legislation today,  
21 you truly never cease to amaze me. I vote aye on  
22 all.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Darma Diaz. Council  
24 Member Darma Diaz?

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER D. DIAZ: I was asking for  
3 permission to explain my vote?

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission  
5 granted.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER D. DIAZ: Thank you. I  
7 speak to, to Reso that's affecting Puerto Rico and  
8 the 9.6 billion dollars asking for special attention  
9 to be placed on, on the grid. I want to take two  
10 seconds to share with you a personal story so you  
11 understand the relevance of, of the need of this grid  
12 in Puerto Rico. A dear friend of mine relocated to  
13 Puerto Rico to assist his mom who, who's suffering  
14 from dementia. My friend has had two, two horrible  
15 infections and has been hospitalized for the lack of  
16 water and electricity that they're receiving to their  
17 household. Puerto Rico is not a third-world country.  
18 Puerto Rico is a commonwealth of, of the US, and we  
19 deserve better as a people to treat one another. So  
20 again thank you for this opportunity to explain my  
21 vote. Aye on all.

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,  
23 Council Member D. Diaz.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Ruben Diaz.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER R. DIAZ: Si in total.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Dinowitz.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye on all.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Dromm.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Eugene.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I vote aye.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you, sir.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I vote aye.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Feliz.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: I vote yes on all,

12 and I also thank all of you for working on these

13 important issues.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Gennaro.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Yes.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Gibson.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Permission to

18 explain?

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission

20 granted.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you, Madam

22 Majority Leader. Ah, good afternoon, colleagues. I

23 am voting aye on all of today's agenda items. And I

24 want to thank our speaker and all of my colleagues

25 for important legislation, certainly recognizing our

2 Earth Day and our efforts to continue to provide a  
3 sustainable and more livable City of New York and all  
4 of the investments we're making in our infrastructure  
5 to provide long-term sustainability for all New  
6 Yorkers. I'm grateful for the City Council. I also  
7 want to speak in support of Resolution 1608, our  
8 rules change, recognizing our hard work and amazing  
9 legislative staff for all of the work they have done  
10 in the past year. Ah, we appreciate your exceptional  
11 work, your commitment, and everything that you've  
12 done. Certainly my team, Team Gibson, ah, we have  
13 done just such amazing work on behalf of our district  
14 and our constituents, and I'm really grateful that we  
15 are going to allow this process to recognize all of  
16 their work through, ah, forming a union and making  
17 sure that we consistently look at wage and  
18 standardizing all of our work and making sure that  
19 they continue to be recognized for the great work.  
20 So, again, congratulations, colleagues. Happy, um,  
21 Earth Day, and I want to send my love to our former  
22 colleague, to Costa and his family, and really thank  
23 all of you for great work today and great  
24 legislation. I vote aye on all. Thank you.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,  
3 Council Member Gibson.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Gjonaj.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Majority Leader,  
6 permission to briefly explain my vote?

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission  
8 granted.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Thank you. Um,  
10 my present thoughts are with Costa and his family on  
11 the loss of his wife and with Christine's family.  
12 I'll keep them in my thoughts and prayers, and with  
13 that I vote aye on all.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Grodenchik.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: I vote aye on  
17 all. Thank you.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Holden.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye on all.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Kallos.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Thank you to  
22 every sponsor on our pesticides legislation. I vote  
23 aye on all.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Koo.  
25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I vote aye on all,  
3 and congratulations to, ah, our council members who  
4 passed their legislation today.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Koslowitz.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye on all.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Lander.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Ah, request  
9 permission to explain?

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission  
11 granted.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you. Like  
13 Council Member Gibson, I want to really give props to  
14 the Association for Legislative Employees for their  
15 hard work to get to this day, and I, I think it's,  
16 ah, wonderful that this council is adopting the rules  
17 change and Resolution 1608, so congratulations to  
18 them on their organizing and their courage. Um, I  
19 have not yet had time to review the transparency  
20 resolution in detail, so I am going to abstain on  
21 Resolution 1603 and vote aye on the rest.

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Levin.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Um, ah, I just  
25 want to offer my condolences to, um, my good friend,

2 Costa Constantinides and his family. Um, and the  
3 family of Christine McLaughlin, who was always such  
4 a, a wonderful and warm person, um, to me and to my  
5 staff and, ah, so my heart goes to out to all of her  
6 loved ones as well. And with that I vote aye on all.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Levine.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Thank you, and I,  
9 too, want to offer my deepest condolences to the  
10 family of Christine and also to my dear friend Costa.  
11 Ah, we're thinking of you. You're in our thoughts  
12 and prayers. And I'll be voting aye on all.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Louis.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Voting aye on all  
15 and also wanted to explain my sincere condolences to  
16 Christine's family and to Costa.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Maisel.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Yes.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Menchaca.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Permission to  
21 explain my vote?

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission  
23 granted.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you. I  
25 want to extend my condolences to, to Costa and his

2 family. Ah, also Christine's family. Um, I was an  
3 LGBT liaison working for the speaker, ah, a couple of  
4 sessions ago, or a few sessions ago, and, ah, I just  
5 remember working with Christine on the 30th floor and  
6 I, I hold her in my heart, ah, and the work that,  
7 that we did together and working on that floor is not  
8 easy, ah, working in the City Council and, and she  
9 just made it run. Ah, and so I will think of her,  
10 ah, for a long time. Um, I want to vote aye on all,  
11 um, and also send a message to all of the staff who  
12 will continue to organize in the council for a union  
13 and just, and you know that there is a lot of support  
14 and, ah, I see you. Thank you.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Miller. Council Member  
16 Miller?

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: We'll come back.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: OK. Moya.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Perkins.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: I vote aye.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Powers.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: I want to send my  
24 deepest condolences to Council Member Costa  
25 Constantinides' family and of course Christine

2 McLaughlin's family as well. I know how tough these  
3 last few months have been for them. Um, and with  
4 that I'll be voting aye. Thanks.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Council  
6 Member Barron?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Yes, thank you.  
8 Ah, permission to explain my vote?

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission  
10 granted.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you. I  
12 want to extend my condolences, ah, to our colleague,  
13 Costa Constantinides, for his loss, he and his  
14 family. And regarding the legislation, I want to  
15 commend the ALE for the work that they're doing. I'm  
16 very supportive of those union efforts and look  
17 forward to their moving forward and do want to  
18 express to the speaker our support and our interest  
19 in having a collective body come together so that the  
20 issues that are of concern to us in terms of equity  
21 in our offices will be a part of what's on the  
22 negotiation table, and in terms of legislation I vote  
23 aye on all, with the exception of 733 and 734, and  
24 the accompany resolutions on which I am abstaining.  
25 Thank you.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,  
3 Council Member Barron.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Miller.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Ah, happy Earth  
7 Day everyone and Ramadan Mubarak. Condolences to,  
8 ah, Council Member Constantinides and his family.  
9 Ah, I will be voting aye on all with the exceptions  
10 of 1748, I'll be abstaining.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Reynoso.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: I'd like to vote  
13 aye on all and condolences to Costa's family, um, and  
14 Costa himself. And I would just, and to Christine's  
15 family. I remember, ah, Christine treated me with  
16 love both as a staffer and as a council member. And  
17 it meant, it meant the world to me. Um, so  
18 condolences to her family as well.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Riley.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Ah, I would like  
21 to extend my sympathy, ah, to Council Member  
22 Constantinides for his loss, and I would like to vote  
23 aye on all. Thank you.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Rivera.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: I vote aye.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Rose.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Condolences to  
6 Christine McLaughlin's family and to Costa. I'm so  
7 sorry for his loss. And I vote aye on all.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: And I'm sorry,  
9 I'm sorry also that I forgot to, eh, mention my  
10 solidarity to Costa. There's no word that we can  
11 express, you know, the pain that he's going through,  
12 a great colleague and, you know, no one can think  
13 about how sad this moment for him and his family.  
14 So, eh, my solidarity to him, my prayer, and, and  
15 I'm sorry that I didn't mention before.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Council  
17 Member Rosenthal.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Um, with  
19 condolences to, to Costa and deep love, ah, to him  
20 and his family. Um, and, you know, we're passing a  
21 bill today that, that no one is talking about, but is  
22 an incredibly important piece of legislation.  
23 Congratulations, Council Member Dromm, for your  
24 legislation to start the process for people to, for  
25 doctors to recognize, ah, babies born with intersex

2 characteristics. Um, that is how we educate peoples.  
3 We start there. And I'm just so proud of you, um,  
4 proud to be a cosponsor, but really proud of you for,  
5 for getting that bill through. Um, so I vote aye on  
6 all, and permission to explain my vote? I guess I  
7 just did. OK. Thank you.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Salamanca.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Um, permission  
10 to explain my vote?

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission  
12 granted.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Thank you.  
14 Um, first I want to send my condolences to, um, our  
15 council member, Costa Constantinides. Um, and second  
16 of all I would like to welcome the two new Bronx  
17 members, ah, Oswald Feliz and Eric Dinowitz. Welcome  
18 to the council. And I vote aye on all. Thank you.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Treyger.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Permission to  
21 explain my vote?

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission  
23 granted.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Thank you. Ah,  
25 I also want to extend my heartfelt condolences and

2 sympathies to our colleague, Costa, ah, for, for the  
3 loss in his family. Um, our, our prayers will be  
4 with him. And, um, prayers to Christine's family.  
5 Ah, Christine helped my office and me when we planned  
6 our first-ever, ah, heritage celebration night for  
7 Russian-speaking New Yorkers at City Hall. We were  
8 very nervous. This was our first big event and she  
9 was so accommodating, so helpful, helped us navigate  
10 the, the whole process, and we're forever grateful  
11 for her. And, ah, just sympathies and condolences to  
12 her family. Um, I also want to congratulate and  
13 acknowledge the work of my colleagues and all their  
14 great pieces of, of bills, ah, we're passing today.  
15 Council Member Rose, thank you for your leadership  
16 and work for our kids and families. Always  
17 appreciate you. Um, and also thank you for your  
18 support on reaffirming that we have a Coney Island  
19 boardwalk and not the Belt Parkway. This is the,  
20 this is people's playground. It's not the people's  
21 highway. And we should not be having cars, think  
22 about it, cars, vehicles on a boardwalk. Ah, it is  
23 an iconic public treasure that we welcome everyone to  
24 come on down. Coney Island is reopened. I invite my  
25 colleagues, your families, your friends to enjoy, and

2 this effort today is to preserve the boardwalk for  
3 many, many more years to come, without vehicles on  
4 it. So thank you so much for your support. And I  
5 vote aye.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,  
7 Council Member Treyger.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Ulrich. Vallone.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Madam Majority  
10 Leader, may I have permission to explain my vote?

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission  
12 granted.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Thank you, my  
14 dear. Um, you know, I had the privilege of sitting  
15 next to Costa in the, the last row of the council  
16 chambers for almost eight years and, ah, to Costa,  
17 who I know is listening in heart and it's a horrible  
18 day for him, ah, there wasn't a Stated he didn't  
19 bring up or talk about the love for his wife, the  
20 battle, the heroic battle she made in fighting her  
21 disease, ah, how he and his son were coping and  
22 hoping for a miracle. Um, so I, I know we all are  
23 sending our love, prayers, condolences to him and his  
24 entire family. Ah, if there's any solace for you  
25 today, Costa, it's that today she's buried on the day

2 you fought for so passionately your whole career on  
3 Earth Day, ah, and, and she will forever be smiling  
4 down and looking over you and your son. As a father  
5 and a husband and, and a fellow council member, we  
6 are, ah, here for you, whatever you need. And for  
7 Christine Wilkenson's family, she served with all  
8 three Vallones, um, with, with passion, and for each  
9 of us. She, she always made sure we were OK. And if  
10 you needed anything and if your event was OK, and any  
11 last-minute details, ah, she saw to that also. So,  
12 um, a sad day for us but a, a hopeful day that they  
13 are forever now guardians looking down upon us from  
14 the gates of Heaven. Ah, and with that I vote aye on  
15 all. And thank you to the speaker for cosponsoring  
16 with the 1680-A to finally address food insecurities  
17 in the city. God bless everyone. Thank you.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Van Bramer.

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

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission  
22 granted.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank you.  
24 First, I want to congratulate all of the members of  
25 the council staff who courageously organized and

2 fought for the recognition of the union that will  
3 represent them. I know that, ah, many members of, of  
4 my staff were active in the effort, ah, and I was,  
5 ah, always supportive and am supportive and, ah,  
6 today is a very significant victory for, ah, all of  
7 the current and future staff members of the council.  
8 Um, just, the loss of Laurie Constantinides is, ah,  
9 ah, just unfathomable. Um, that an 11-year-old boy  
10 has lost his mother, ah, is, um, just so, so tragic.  
11 Um, Costa, ah, would always, ah, not just talk about,  
12 ah, Laurie, whenever I saw him, but, but asked about  
13 my mother. Um, and because they, ah, lived close  
14 together, Laurie grew up in, in, ah, my portion of  
15 Astoria and, ah, in my district, and, ah, ah, of  
16 course she will be laid to rest tomorrow at St.  
17 Joe's, um, the, the church that I went to and my mom,  
18 ah, ah, goes to and lives on the block. Ah, so just,  
19 ah, horrifically sad and our love and support to all  
20 of them. It's just, ah, so, so sad, ah, for Nicky  
21 and Costa. Um, Christine McLaughlin I knew for  
22 decades. She was so wonderful. She was so much fun,  
23 ah, and she was doing the work as she was planning  
24 all of our events. She was doing our newsletters,  
25 and she was just wonderful. She had this great

2 spirit, this Irish American working class, um, ah,  
3 manner and, and I was so sad when Christine passed  
4 away. Ah, we always loved her. Um, she was always  
5 so helpful to all of us, um, and she deserved a  
6 longer retirement, too. So just very, very sad. Um,  
7 but loved Christine McLaughlin. I just wanted to say  
8 that. Ah, and with that I vote aye on all. Thank  
9 you.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Yeger.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: I vote aye on all  
12 with the exception of Introduction 1959, which I vote  
13 no, and Introduction, ah, 1748, on which I abstain.  
14 Ah, and Madam President, if I could just be excused  
15 for a moment, ah, just to offer my condolences to our  
16 brother, Costa. Ah, I served under him, ah, when I  
17 was on the Environmental Protection Committee and,  
18 ah, he is, he is just an incredible human being. He  
19 was an incredible member of this council and I was  
20 sad to see him leave us just a few days ago. Um, and  
21 we all know, those of who spoke with him, ah, what  
22 he's being going through, ah, and he's been public  
23 about it, um, but, ah, he's, he's just incredibly  
24 warm person, ah, generous in his, in his, the way  
25 he's treated others here, and I know we're all

2 feeling for him today and, ah, I just, for many  
3 reasons wish it was a year and a half ago and we can  
4 be in the same room and we can just run up to him and  
5 give him a big hug and get that bear hug back, um,  
6 and I hope he's doing OK. Ah, thank you for the  
7 time, Madam President.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Um, one last  
9 time, Council Member Ulrich. Oh, he's signing on.  
10 Council Member Ulrich, whenever you're ready.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Thank you. I  
12 apologize. My phone died. I had to recharge it.  
13 Ah, I vote aye on all.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Matteo.

15 MINORITY LEADER MATTEO: Ah, I vote no on  
16 1608, 1748-A, and 1959-A, and aye on the rest.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Cumbo.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I vote aye on  
19 all, and I also share with my colleagues, um, in  
20 sending our condolences to the family of Costa  
21 Constantinides. This is an unspeakable loss,  
22 particularly at this time, as we are dealing with  
23 COVID-19, and I hope that we can all continue to be  
24 there for him and his son, um, during this difficult  
25 time. And I also remember when I first got elected

2 as chair of the Women's Issues Committee, um, if  
3 anybody knows me they know how much I love doing  
4 events, and Christine was such a great supporter of  
5 my huge and big ideas, um, and managed to find  
6 compromises with me to see my visions come through,  
7 and so my condolences are with her, um, and her  
8 entire family as we, um, continue to mourn with  
9 everyone, um, who has faced a loss in this body.  
10 Thank you.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Johnson.

12 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I vote aye on all. And  
13 I just want to remind colleagues, ah, that the  
14 services are tonight start at 4 o'clock for Costa's  
15 wife. And if any of you can be there, I know it  
16 would mean a lot to him. So if you need the  
17 information you can you reach out to me or, ah,  
18 Karen, the chair of the Queens delegation, and we can  
19 get you the information. But, um, ah, please, if you  
20 can be there tonight, I mean, his family is in a lot  
21 of pain right now. Um, so it would be very, very  
22 meaningful. I vote aye on all.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: OK. All items on today's  
24 general order calendar have a vote of 49 in the  
25 affirmative, zero in the negative, and no

2 abstentions, with the exceptions of Introduction  
3 1959-A has a vote of 46 in the affirmative, 3 in the  
4 negative, no abstentions; Introduction 1748-A has 45  
5 in the affirmative, 2 in the negative, 2 abstentions;  
6 Resolution 1608 has 47 in the affirmative, 2 in the  
7 negative; Resolution 1603 has 48 in the affirmative,  
8 0 in the negative, 1 abstention; and Land Use item  
9 733 and 734 with their accompanying resolutions have  
10 a vote of 48 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative,  
11 and 1 abstention. Thank you.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. At  
13 this time we now have today's general orders calendar  
14 have been adopted. So all items on today's general  
15 orders calendar are adopted. We will now move into  
16 the introduction and reading of bills.

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

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We  
20 will now move into the discussion of resolutions. As  
21 a reminder, please wait until the Sergeant at Arms  
22 begins the countdown clock before you begin your  
23 remarks. Mr. Parliamentarian, are there any members  
24 who wish to speak at this time?  
25

2 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes, Madam Majority  
3 Leader. Council Members Cornegy, Barron, and Kallos.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: OK, and just a  
5 reminder this is just on resolutions at this time.  
6 So we will begin with Council Member Cornegy.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Sorry, Madam  
8 Majority Leader, I have resolutions and a sheet of  
9 bills that are kind of coupled together. Can I, I'm  
10 not gonna read through the bills in their entirety.  
11 It's just a general blanket statement that covers the  
12 bills and resolutions. Is that OK?

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Mr.  
14 Parliamentarian, are we only allowing at this time  
15 for the current resolution that we are about to vote  
16 on, or are we...

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Oh, oh, it's the  
18 current resolution we're voting on. I, I apologize.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Correct.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: OK, general  
21 orders, I guess then. Can I keep my hand raised for  
22 general orders.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes, you may.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: I mean for  
25 general discussion. Thank you.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: And then we...

3 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: I apologize.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: And Council  
5 Member Barron, at this time do you wish to speak on  
6 Resolution 1372?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Is 1372 the  
8 George Floyd Act?

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: That's the one I  
11 want to speak on, yes.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: All right. You  
13 may begin.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you. Ah,  
15 just briefly, ah, when we received the guilty verdict  
16 earlier this week a lot of people were jubilant,  
17 glad, celebratory, and I certainly extend to the  
18 family and friends of George Floyd our condolences  
19 and, yes, satisfaction at this verdict that was  
20 received. But I see this as an anomaly. I don't  
21 know that there's any great expectation that some  
22 other police violence, police misconduct that may  
23 occur and not have the broad display of social media  
24 as we received with George Floyd will not get a  
25 similar verdict. I think that it calls for people

2 who are upstanders, as we say, and see something and  
3 want to take action to in fact follow through and do  
4 that. Ah, I was very moved by the witness who said  
5 that she felt guilt that she didn't do anything to  
6 intervene. Perhaps that would have resulted in her  
7 death as well. But we certainly want to encourage  
8 people who are active in the streets and raising a  
9 voice and making this issue a priority to continue to  
10 do that, and yes we have a verdict, but let's not  
11 forget Akai Gurley who had a verdict, ah, Peter  
12 Liang, and that he served not one day in jail. So  
13 let's still be vigilant and let's see what happens at  
14 the sentencing, and I still say that we need to  
15 change. We need to have a elected civilian review  
16 board that has the authority to really mete out the  
17 appropriate responses to cases such as this. But,  
18 once again, I support the legislation and encourage  
19 my colleagues to vote in the affirmative.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so  
21 much, Council Member Barron. Council Member Kallos,  
22 do you wish to speak on the resolution at this time?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Yield.  
24  
25

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Mr.  
3 Parliamentarian, are there any other members who wish  
4 to speak on this particular resolution at this time?

5 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes, Madam Majority  
6 Leader. Council Member Menchaca.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member  
8 Menchaca, you may begin.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you,  
10 Majority Leader, and thank you for your resolution  
11 today. I'm standing in support proudly as a council  
12 member here in Brooklyn representing Sunset Park and  
13 Red Hook. You know, I'm still also processing the  
14 verdict that came out this week. Emotions range from  
15 relief to joy to sadness and anger. George Floyd  
16 should be alive today. Breonna Taylor should be  
17 alive today. Eric Garner, Akai Gurley, all of them  
18 should be alive today. We shouldn't live in a world  
19 where officers kill innocent people. Now, we can  
20 live in a world like that if we can make that happen,  
21 and this is why I'm taking an opportunity right now  
22 to connect us to the budget conversations that we're  
23 in. We haven't had another BNT meeting since that  
24 first one, a single once since the last, um, budget  
25 vote, and so I'm encouraging us to really pressure

2 each other to get back into that room to discuss  
3 these things. This resolution is important, um, but  
4 the leadership that we need to demonstrate is real,  
5 ah, and is connected to this resolution in a very big  
6 way. Ah, thank you so much, and peace.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,  
8 Council Member Menchaca. Mr. Parliamentarian, are  
9 there any other members who wish to speak?

10 PARLIAMENTARIAN: No, Madam Majority  
11 Leader.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: At this time,  
13 prior to the vote, um, I would like to speak on this  
14 particular resolution. On Tuesday the whole nation  
15 watched with bated breath as the jury deliberated  
16 over the murder of George Floyd by a Minneapolis  
17 police officer. I'm positive that many, if not all  
18 of us, breathed a collective sigh of relief when the  
19 judge read out the guilty verdict. Yet George Floyd  
20 still does not breathe. His life was cut short  
21 violently, publicly, and without any sympathy, care  
22 or recognition of the fact that he was a father, a  
23 son, a brother, and a friend to so many people.  
24 Yesterday in remarks to the public Vice President  
25 Kamala Harris said that because of smart phones so

2 many Americans have now seen the racial injustice  
3 that black Americans have known for generations. The  
4 racial injustice that we have fought for for  
5 generations. By the time Vice President Harris and  
6 President Biden made their remarks, newspapers had  
7 confirmed that yet another black girl, Ma'Khia  
8 Bryant, had been shot and killed by the police, this  
9 time in Columbus, Ohio. The federal George Floyd  
10 Justice in Policing Act tackles law enforcement  
11 misconduct in various ways, including lower the  
12 criminal intent standard from willful to knowing or  
13 reckless to convict a law enforcement officer. It  
14 also limits qualified immunity for police officers,  
15 something our City Council legislated and passed last  
16 month. We are living in very precarious times. VP  
17 Harris urged passage of the George Floyd Justice in  
18 Policing Act, not as a panacea to every problem, but  
19 as a start. It is in that spirit that we as members  
20 of the City Council in one of the greatest and  
21 biggest melting pots in the United States must join  
22 together and resoundly affirm that the federal  
23 government must pass this bill. This legislation  
24 will also transform law enforcement culture by  
25 prohibiting all racial and religious profiling,

2 creating accreditation standards for police  
3 department, banning chokeholds, and no knock  
4 warrants, limiting military grade equipment transfers  
5 to state and local law enforcement, and empowering  
6 communities to create new public safety approaches  
7 through grants for community-based organizations.

8 This is really baseline. This is a simple  
9 resolution. This is an opportunity for us to put  
10 structures in place that should have been a part of  
11 our police departments all across this country all  
12 along. We have to make sure that we send a message  
13 loud and clear, that the verdict in the George Floyd  
14 case is not a substitution for legislation.

15 Legislation must still be put in place as Council  
16 Member Barron so eloquently stated. This because of  
17 the worldwide presence and the worldwide fight that  
18 so many people put forward the entire world is  
19 watching us and that's why this verdict was handed  
20 down. But for so many other cases that do not have  
21 that worldwide global support legislation is critical  
22 and it's needed now more than ever. And so I thank  
23 all of my colleagues for all of your support,  
24 particularly the Black, Latino and Asian Caucus. I  
25 want to thank at this time as well, ah, Speaker Corey

2 Johnson for recognizing the timeliness of this. Ah,  
3 I also want to thank Jason Goldman, ah, the chief of  
4 staff to the City Council, and I also want to thank  
5 my staff, Jason Herr, as well as, ah, my chief of  
6 staff, ah, Tasha Young, ah, Jasmine, ah, Jasmine  
7 Cuello, as well as Gigi Elliot Davis, and all of my  
8 staff for getting us to this particular point. So at  
9 this point, Mr. Parliamentarian, are there any other  
10 members who wish to speak on today's resolution,  
11 1372?

12 PARLIAMENTARIAN: No, Madam Majority  
13 Leader.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I'll now read  
15 today's resolution into the records. Resolution 1372  
16 calls upon the United States Congress to pass and the  
17 president to sign HR 1280, the George Floyd Justice  
18 in Policing Act of 2021. Will all those in favor say  
19 aye?

20 [Multiple voices saying aye]

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: All opposed?  
22 Thank you. I'll take all the ayes. We'll now open  
23 it up for the nays. Any abstentions? The ayes have  
24 it. And it's a proud day in the City Council. We  
25 will now move into general discussion. As a

2 reminder, please wait until the Sergeant at Arms  
3 begins the countdown clock before you begin your  
4 remarks. Mr. Parliamentarian, are there any members  
5 who wish to speak at this time?

6 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes, Madam Majority  
7 Leader. Council Members Kallos, Louis, and Cornegy.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member  
9 Kallos, you may begin.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Today is Earth  
11 Day. The council just passed legislation to ban  
12 pesticides in city parks and property, and we can and  
13 must go further. We've been working with Speaker  
14 Corey Johnson on using every penny of our 22 billion  
15 dollar contracts budget towards saving our planet.  
16 We haven't updated our city's environmental  
17 procurement program since it was adopted in 2005, and  
18 with some materials from 2012 that refer to cassette  
19 tapes, mini disks, and answering machines.  
20 Introduction 2271 will update the EPP to adopt  
21 electronics standards testing class known as EP,  
22 include furniture, ban halogen lamps, and more  
23 ambitious standards, including net zero greenhouse  
24 gas emissions, eliminating reliance on virgin  
25 materials, eliminating reliance on hazardous

2 substances, improving outdoor air quality, reducing  
3 the negative effects, and generating positive effects  
4 for our environment from our purchases. Introduction  
5 2272 would establish a task force to research and  
6 consider other social costs associated with  
7 production of textiles, including the nature of labor  
8 conditions along with the supply chain, along with  
9 reporting on whether the textiles are recycled or  
10 organic or whole and in part, the supply and source  
11 of textiles, the value of the contracts, the lengths  
12 of the use, and disposals. Both bills will be heard  
13 tomorrow, Friday, April 23, in the Contracts  
14 Committee. We'd love to have you on board. Last but  
15 not least, Introduction 2273 will install over 1000  
16 solar-powered waste receptacles through the city.  
17 Our streets are a mess. Sanitation is not doing  
18 enough to do pickups. These things can hold six  
19 times more trash, plus they're rat-proof. Please,  
20 ah, sign on to all three. I yield my time.

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,  
22 Council Member Kallos. We will now move to Council  
23 Member Louis.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Thank you so much,  
25 Speaker Johnson and Majority Leader Cumbo for the

2 opportunity to share information on two critical  
3 pieces of legislation that I'm introducing today.

4 Last money this body voted for the mayor's police  
5 reform plan and I introduced two bills that would  
6 enable us to take a meaningful step in executing the  
7 pledge and agreements made in those plans.

8 Therefore, I am introducing a supplemental bill today  
9 concerning the Civilian Complaint Review Board.

10 Intro 2274, a local law, will amend, to amend the New  
11 York City Charter in relation to the creation of a  
12 database to facilitate the Civilian Complaint Review  
13 Board's access to police department records. For  
14 years the NYPD has been negligent in providing the  
15 CCRB investigators with sufficient details and  
16 information they deem necessary to investigate  
17 civilian complaints against officers. Now is the  
18 time for us to expand the scope of the Civilian  
19 Complaint Review Board by removing barriers to the  
20 relevant information that would enable them to gauge  
21 the merit of civilian complaints against officers  
22 more accurately. Intro 2274 will help improve the  
23 CCRB's efficacy while increasing police  
24 accountability. I urge my colleagues to sign on to  
25 these bills, including Intros 2248 and 2249, which I

2 introduced last month. Collectively we can implement  
3 solutions to deliver on the promise of a fairer and  
4 more transparent system of checks and balances for  
5 our police department. Thank you.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,  
7 Council Member Louis. Mr. Parliamentarian, are there  
8 any other members who wish to speak? I see Council  
9 Member Cornegy. Are there any other members  
10 following behind him?

11 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes, Madam Majority  
12 Leader. Council Members Gennaro and Yeger.

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member  
14 Cornegy, you may begin.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Thank you, Madam  
16 Majority Leader. Ah, I'm Council Member Robert  
17 Cornegy and I'd like to start off by sending  
18 condolences to my friend, Costa Constantinides and  
19 the passing of his wife, Laurie. She was an adored  
20 member of the community in Astoria and she will be  
21 missed far and wide. She can never be replaced, and  
22 I want to send a special prayer to their son, Nico.  
23 Our business agenda today includes seven bills and  
24 one resolution that I'm introducing. In partnership  
25 with my colleagues to start, to start Intro 2260,

2 will require the Department of Environmental  
3 Protection to test for air contaminants in  
4 underground subway stations and study the sources of  
5 air contaminants. On Earth Day we must care for the  
6 air quality that impacts our residents and  
7 particularly our subway employees. Working with the  
8 Department of Buildings, we're proposing several  
9 construction safety bills and code changes. I do not  
10 accept that construction deaths are inevitable, and I  
11 do not accept that elevator mishaps should lead to  
12 death. We must strive for safety through thoughtful  
13 legislation, incorporating input from a wide range of  
14 stakeholders. The sweeping legislation and  
15 complained revisions puts on the path to a healthier,  
16 more sustainable city. It also makes sensible  
17 improvements to increase affordability. I'm  
18 particularly pleased to confront the reality of  
19 climate change by better preparing our city for  
20 flooding and supporting sustainable building  
21 materials. Bravo to everyone who worked so hard to  
22 bring these proposals forward. We'll also discuss  
23 another transformative property - public banking.  
24 Establishing a city-owned bank that would hold city  
25 deposits would create a civic-minded financial

2 institution centered on the people of our city and  
3 our economic development. A city public bank would  
4 be able to take our values into account as it  
5 operated to assist small businesses, worker  
6 cooperatives, immigrant communities, student  
7 borrowers, and neighborhoods who have been  
8 underserved by traditional financial institutions. A  
9 public bank presents the city with a fresh  
10 opportunity to advance socially conscious goals  
11 through a time-tested avenue. Indeed, we have over a  
12 hundred years of proof of concept of public banking  
13 with the bank in North Dakota. This bank has  
14 weathered numerous downturns and crisis.

15 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: We can, we can  
17 repeat that in New York with the passage of  
18 Resolution 1600. I want to thank my colleagues for  
19 all the thoughtful legislation considered by the City  
20 Council today. I'm proud of work to reinvigorate New  
21 York City in ways large and small. Thank you, Madam  
22 Majority Leader.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so  
24 much, Council Member Cornegy. We will now go to  
25 Council Member Gennaro.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you, Madam  
3 Majority Leader. I wanted to wait until this time,  
4 ah, of the meeting to, um, you know, to, to pay  
5 tribute to, to Costa. He, um, many people may not  
6 know that he worked as my legislative director for  
7 six years. Ah, I've known him for 13 years. I've  
8 know Laurie and Costa before Nico was born. Um,  
9 we're family. We talk all the time. Um, and, um,  
10 he's been there for me and, and, and, um, and I, I, I  
11 just want to thank everyone for their heartfelt  
12 expressions of, of, of love for Costa and his family.  
13 Ah, the, the speaker, everything he had to say, ah,  
14 ah, Council Member Vallone and everyone who knew him  
15 so well, Barry and everyone who spoke so eloquently,  
16 ah, um, about Costa and, um, I just, you know, I  
17 don't want to belabor. I know people want to get  
18 through the meeting and they want to get to the wake.  
19 But I, I, I, I felt a special need to put some of my  
20 thoughts and feelings on the record regarding my dear  
21 friend, and I thank everyone in this body for your  
22 love of Costa and all, and, and, and the, you know,  
23 regard with which you hold him and always have held  
24 him and always spoke very highly, um, of this council  
25 and how, um, you know, they really showed him a lot

2 of love, and I thank everybody for it. And, um,  
3 that's all I have to say. Thank you.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so  
5 much, thank you so much for your kind words. Council  
6 Member Yeger.

7 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Council Member Yeger,  
8 you're...

9 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here we go, we got  
10 it, OK. It's the buttons. Ah, thank you very much,  
11 Madam President. Today I am introducing, ah,  
12 Introduction 2287, ah, together with 10 of our  
13 colleagues. Ah, a very broad coalition of  
14 legislators in our body. Um, as we all know,  
15 enforcement of COVID-related executive orders over  
16 the last 13 months or so, ah, was, ah, many times  
17 arbitrary and discriminatory. Many neighborhoods in  
18 our city, and particularly, ah, predominantly black,  
19 Latino, and Orthodox Jewish neighborhoods were  
20 targeted for enforcement in ways that wealthy,  
21 predominantly white neighborhoods were not. Ah, this  
22 is a fact. It's been publicly reported. Ah, it's  
23 not just anecdotal. We saw it over the last year.  
24 Ah, this is still going on today, although, granted,  
25 not as bad as it was last year. Ah, but nonetheless

2 it has to stop. Our bill will require the dismissal  
3 of summonses issued for violations of these COVID-  
4 related executive orders. Ah, as we emerge from the  
5 pandemic and we begin to restore to some normalcy,  
6 ah, I think it's also important to restore New  
7 Yorkers' ability to move forward without back-  
8 breaking fines hanging over their heads. I'm very  
9 proud of the broad coalition of 11 members of our  
10 body, from different races, from different  
11 backgrounds, from all walks of life, from all places  
12 on the political spectrum who have come together, ah,  
13 to join us, to introduce this legislation. It's a  
14 large coalition. I really would urge all of my  
15 colleagues to join us and get this done. Ah, please,  
16 you can join us by easily signing on to Introduction  
17 2287 to at least bring us some minor relief and  
18 closure to a very painful year in our city's history.  
19 Thank you very much, Madam President.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so  
21 much, Council Member Yeger. Are there any other  
22 members who wish to speak at this time, Mr.  
23 Parliamentarian?

24 PARLIAMENTARIAN: No, Madam Majority  
25 Leader.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. I  
3 will now call on Speaker Corey Johnson to close  
4 today's Stated Meeting.

5 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam  
6 Majority Leader. Thank you to all my colleagues.  
7 The Stated Meeting of April 22, 2021, is hereby  
8 adjourned. Thank you very much.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.  
10 [gavel]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Date June 15, 2021