

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

STATED MEETING

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April 29, 2021
Start: 1:39 p.m.
Recess: 3:16 p.m.

HELD AT: Remote Hearing (Virtual Room 1)

B E F O R E: Laurie Cumbo
MAJORITY LEADER

Speaker Corey Johnson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Adrienne Adams
Alan Maisel
Alicka Ampry-Samuel
Antonio Reynoso
Barry Grodenchik
Ben Kallos
Bill Perkins
Brad Lander
Carlina Rivera
Carlos Menchaca
Daniel Dromm
Darma Diaz
Deborah Rose
Diana Ayala
Eric Ulrich
Eric Dinowitz
Farah Louis
Fernando Cabrera

Francisco Moya
Helen Rosenthal
I Daneek Miller
Inez Barron
James Gennaro
Jimmy Van Bramer
Joseph Borelli
Justin Brannan
Kalman Yeger
Karen Koslowitz
Keith Powers
Kevin Riley
Margaret Chin
Mark Gjonaj
Mark Levine
Mark Treyger
Mathieu Eugene
Oswald Feliz
Paul Vallone
Peter Koo
Rafael Salamanca, Junior
Robert Cornegy
Robert Holden
Ruben Diaz, Senior
Selvena Brooks-Powers
Stephen Levin
Steven Matteo
Ydanis Rodriguez

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

Reverend Rashad Moore
First Baptist Church
Crown Heights

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: We're live.

3 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Okay, sergeants, can we
4 please start the back up at this time?

5 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: PC recording is
6 underway.

7 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Cloud recording is up.

8 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Back up is rolling.

9 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Thank you, gentleman.

10 Hello and welcome to today's Stated Meeting. At this
11 time, I would like for everyone to please turn on
12 their video so we can identify you. Please turn all
13 electronic devices to vibrate. Please turn in all
14 electronic devices to vibrate. Thank you. Madam
15 Majority Leader?

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Good afternoon and
17 welcome to the Stated Meeting of April 29, 2021. I
18 am Majority Leader Laurie Cumbo and I would like to
19 thank you for joining us at this virtual meeting of
20 the New York City Council. If you would like to
21 follow along, the agenda for today's meeting is
22 posted on our website.

23 NYC CLERK: Please join us for the Pledge
24 of Allegiance. I put allegiance to the flag of the
25 United States of America into the Republic for which

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2 it stands one nation under God indivisible with
3 liberty and justice for all.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. Roll
5 call.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Adams?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Present.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ampry-Samuel? Ayala?
9 Barron?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Blessed and
11 present.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Borelli?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Present.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Brannan?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Present.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Brooks-Powers?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Present.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cabrera?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Present.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Chin?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Present.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cornegy? Dharma Diaz?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Present.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ruben Diaz?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Present.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Dinowitz?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Present.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Dromm?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Present.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Eugene? Feliz?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: [inaudible

8 00:02:44]

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gennaro?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gibson?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Good afternoon.

13 I'm here.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gjonaj?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Present.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Grodenchik?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Here.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Holden?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Kallos?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Here.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Koo?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Koslowitz?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Present.

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lander?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Levin? Levine?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: I'm here. Thank
6 you.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Louis?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Maisel?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Here.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Menchaca?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Presente.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Miller? Moya?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Present.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Perkins?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Right here.

17 Thank you.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Powers?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Present.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Reynoso? Riley?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Good afternoon.

22 Present.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rivera?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present.

25

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rodriguez? Rose?
3 Rosenthal?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Salamanca?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Treyger?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ulrich? Vallone?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Van Bramer?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Yeger?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Matteo?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Here.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cumbo?

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Present.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Johnson?

20 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I'm here.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Madam Majority Leader,
22 we have a quorum.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so
24 much. We will now have today's invocation which will
25 be delivered by Reverend Rashad Moore, spiritual

2 leader of the First Baptist Church of Crown Heights
3 located at 450 Eastern Parkway in Brooklyn, New York.
4 Welcome.

5 REVEREND MOORE: Thank you and good
6 afternoon, everyone. Let us pause for a moment of
7 prayer. The eternal God, we pause for a moment out
8 of the daily rounds of life and leadership to give
9 you thanks for the gift of life and for life itself.
10 For just a few moments, we wish to pause just long
11 enough just to push out the noise of life's demands,
12 and was zooms and emails, calls and conferences just
13 to thank you for the simple gifts of life. You have
14 allowed us this awesome privilege to serve you by
15 serving the people of this city. You have given us
16 the opportunity of a lifetime to lead and to serve
17 the greatest city in the world. So, we asked Mao for
18 your presence in this meeting. All that we need, you
19 have provided and so we ask for your spirit to prop
20 us up on every leaning side. We lift before you, oh,
21 God, our city and its 20 million citizens. Encourage
22 us when we are disappointed, strengthen us when we
23 grow we, give us courage to speak truth, give us the
24 imagination to dream new dreams and to see new
25 visions. Give us, O God, a sensitive heart to hear

2 the cries of those who are sick, destitute, and in
3 need of the basic things of life. Help us to realize
4 that we have more power than we realize. All that we
5 need, you have already provided. Now it is time for
6 us to do the right thing. Bless us with your power,
7 empower us to be steadfast, honest, and true in all
8 that we do. This is our prayer in your many names,
9 Amen and Ase.

10 UNIDENTIFIED: Amen.

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so very
12 much. It's an honor to welcome you here today. The
13 Reverend Rashad Raymond Moore is the senior pastor at
14 the First Baptist Church of Crown Heights in
15 Brooklyn, New York. Many of you might know First
16 Baptist because you are aware of the leadership of
17 Reverend Clarence Norman Senior who served for over
18 60 years as well as the service after him that the
19 church was led by the very great Reverend Darrell
20 Bloodsaw and now we are so very proud to welcome
21 Reverend Moore to the chambers here in City Council.
22 Reverend Moore holds a bachelor of arts degree in
23 philosophy from Morehouse College and a master of
24 divinity from Union Theological Seminary in the city

2 of New York. We are so proud to welcome here today
3 because our--

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: [inaudible
5 00:08:12]

6 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Barry, you have to mute
7 yourself.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Reverend Moore
9 previously served as assistant minister at the
10 Abyssinian Baptist Church. Among his many clerical
11 and civic duties, Reverend Moore currently serves as
12 the UNCF New York's faith based initiative counsel,
13 sheltering arms children and family services, and the
14 Morehouse Manhattan Alumni Association. So, he is
15 also my Morehouse brother. Currently, Rev. Moore is
16 completing a PhD in philosophy and education at
17 Teachers College Columbia University. He is a rising
18 star. He has continued to lead his congregation
19 during these very challenging times during the Covid
20 19 pandemic. He has opened up his church in order to
21 be a vaccine site where hundreds of people in the
22 Crown Heights community and beyond have come for
23 assistance, service, and support, but mostly for a
24 life changing vaccine that has helped and aided so
25 many of us to get this city back and started again.

2 The church has also been a site for food pantry,
3 delivering food, goods, services, products to the
4 people in the crown Heights community and beyond, so
5 we thank you, Rev. Moore, for your leadership and I
6 promise you Rev. Moore is a rising star that everyone
7 should continue to look out for and I am sure that
8 when the church opens back up, he will welcome you
9 for service at First Baptist Church. So, thank you
10 so much. And, with that, I make a motion that we
11 spread the invocation onto the record.

12 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Madam Majority Leader?

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes?

14 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Council member Barron
15 also wishes to be recognized to make some comments
16 about Rev. Moore.

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Oh, wonderful. We
18 will now recognize Council member Barron who also
19 wishes to share in celebrating our very great Rev.
20 Moore.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you, Madam
22 Majority Leader. I just briefly want to say that my
23 husband and I had an opportunity to hear a sermon
24 that you delivered recently at your church. We were
25 greatly inspired and we wanted to just add our

2 congratulations to your installment as the pastor and
3 we know we are going to see great things coming from
4 that church and for the community under your
5 leadership. Welcome.

6 REVEREND MOORE: Thank you for your love.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much.

8 We will now have the adoption of minutes by Council
9 member Justin Brannan.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Thank you,
11 Majority Leader. I want to make a motion that the
12 minutes of the Stated Meeting of March 25th, 2021 be
13 adopted as printed.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much.

15 We will now have messages and papers from the Mayor.

16 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: M300 through M307,
17 various budget documents.

18 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Finance.

19 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: M308, city debt and
20 reserves.

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

23 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: M309 and 310,
24 environmental control Board appointments.

2 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Rules, privileges,
3 elections.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Communication from
5 city, county, and borough offices.

6 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: None.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Petitions and
8 communications.

9 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: None.

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Land use call ups.

11 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: None.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We will
13 now have communication from Speaker Cory Johnson.

14 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Good afternoon and
15 welcome to our stated meeting today. Happy Thursday.
16 We are voting on bills to workers planned for their
17 retirement, expand our groundbreaking right to
18 counsel law, create more open space for New Yorkers,
19 and several other important measures. I am very
20 proud of these bills and I thank all of you for your
21 hard work in getting us here. Before I delve into
22 our legislative agenda, first I would like to write
23 an update in our battle against Covid 19 in New York
24 City, as of yesterday, 32,461 New Yorkers have died
25 from the coronavirus. I say this a lot, but I think

2 it bears repeating. These are mothers, fathers,
3 sisters, uncles, cousins, friends, and coworkers. It
4 is a daunting number. 32,641 New Yorkers. But every
5 single one of them was a human being and we must
6 never forget that. I would also like to take a
7 moment to acknowledge some of the important losses in
8 our city in addition to the Covid losses, including
9 those city workers who died on the job early Tuesday
10 morning. A 14 year veteran police officer was killed
11 Walt the scene of a crash. The tragic killing of
12 NYPD officer Anastasios Sacos is a reminder that
13 reckless driving costs lives. My thoughts and
14 prayers are with his wife and two small children, a
15 three-year-old and a six-year-old, has loved ones,
16 and the entire NYPD. He was only 43 years old. We
17 lost another police officer who died yesterday by
18 suicide. He was the second officer to die by suicide
19 this month. The officer's name has not been released
20 yet. He was 34 years old. On March 29th, we lost
21 Francisco Vialva Vitiano who was killed when he was
22 making deliveries in Manhattan. He was fatally shot
23 after gunmen demanded the delivery workers electric
24 bike. He was 29 years old. His tragic death is a
25 reminder of the danger delivery workers face every

2 single day. We also recently lost Lisbeth Mass.
3 Lisbeth was a flagger at a construction site in the
4 Bronx. She was fatally shot while working on April
5 14th. She was 52 years old. Let us pause for a
6 moment of silence for officer Sacos, for Francisco,
7 for Lisbeth, everyone else that we lost. Thank you.

8 Today, I would also like to take a moment
9 to acknowledge staff members who are leaving the
10 Council and thank them for their service to this
11 body. Celine Mizraahi, my Deputy Chief of Staff, is
12 departing the Council. Celine brought amazing
13 insight and dedication to my office and to the
14 Council during an unprecedented time. She started
15 just about the same time the pandemic was bearing
16 down on our city and throughout the world. Celine
17 was a huge part of us navigating some of the toughest
18 moments that we have faced and I'm really grateful to
19 her service to the city. She is a great, wonderful,
20 compassionate, smart, hard-working empathetic person.
21 She is someone I have known for almost 20 years. I
22 admire her so much and I am just really grateful for
23 everything she has done over the past year. So, we
24 are sad to see you go, Celine, but we are very happy
25 for you and for your family. Colima Johnson is also

2 leaving the Council family. Colima has been a senior
3 policy analyst on the education Asian committees
4 since joining the Council in 2016. She was
5 instrumental in creating the culturally responsive
6 education pilot program at the DOE and Colima is just
7 a joy to work with. And Austin Branford is also
8 leaving. He was originally assigned to the bill
9 drafting. He quickly showed his ability to analyze
10 complex issues and was made counsel to the Housing in
11 Buildings Committee. I worked with him on so many
12 bills, especially around protecting children from
13 lead poisoning. Really grateful to Colima and Austin
14 have adjusted so much over the last many years at the
15 Council. We are really going to miss them. So, I
16 wish Celine and Colima and Austin the best of luck.
17 Now, on to our agenda for the day. Out of the land
18 use committee, we will be voting on the following
19 items: 69 Adams Street will facilitate the transfer
20 of development rights from two city owned lots under
21 the Manhattan Bridge overpass to a private developer
22 to facilitate commercial office space for 25 story as
23 of right mixed-use building. This is in Council
24 member Steve Levin's district. Also in Council
25 member Levin's district is 135-137 Bedford Avenue

2 commercial overlay which will facilitate the
3 construction of a new five story mixed-use building.
4 The new Penn development, one and two, are HPD UPDAP
5 applications in Council member Inez Barron's district
6 and I will facilitate the construction of 10 new
7 buildings. Moving into our legislative agenda, first
8 we have a resolution from our Committee on
9 Immigration. We are voting on Resolution number 1229
10 from Council member Peter Koo in support of the
11 Adoptee Citizenship Act of 2021 in Congress. The
12 legislation in Congress would extend citizenship to
13 all international adopted children upon entry into
14 the United States no exceptions. Council member
15 Koo's resolution calls on Congress to pass and the
16 President to sign the Adoptee Citizenship Act of
17 2021. I want to thank Elizabeth Cronk from the staff
18 for her work on that resolution. We're also voting
19 on three bills to help New York City tenants,
20 especially those facing eviction proceedings. It's
21 very timely since the eviction moratorium expires
22 next week. Hopefully, it gets extended. I think it
23 may have gotten extended. Our first bill comes out
24 of the committee on Housing and Buildings.
25 Introduction number 1760 A, sponsored by Council

2 member Mark Levine will establish the private right
3 of action for the unlawful sale of data collected
4 through a keyless entry system covered by the bill.
5 The Department of Housing Preservation and
6 Development required to inform tenants and owners of
7 multiple dwellings about the provisions of this law.
8 The legislation will take effect 60 days after it
9 becomes law except no owner of all multiple dwelling
10 building with an existing smart access system would
11 be liable for a violation of any provision of this
12 law until January 1st, 2023 in order to give those
13 owners time to upgrade or update the existing system
14 to bring it into compliance with this legislation. A
15 growing number of city landlords have been replacing
16 keys with electronic or keyless entry systems
17 including, but not limited to key fobs, biometric
18 identifiers or electronic technologies, collectively
19 known as smart access systems. These keyless systems
20 enable access to residential buildings and certain
21 common areas within those buildings. Using key fobs
22 and biometric identifiers or other technology in lieu
23 of conventional mechanical keys. There are growing
24 concerns about the privacy and protection of tenants
25 and their guests data. This legislation would

2 require owners of multiple dwellings that utilize
3 smart access systems to provide tenants with the data
4 retention and privacy policy. This bill will
5 establish restrictions on the collection and use of
6 data collected and establishes guidelines for moving,
7 anonymizing, or destroying data collected. The
8 legislation additionally restricts owners from
9 collecting data about a tenant's usage of utilities
10 and Internet services except that such data would be
11 shared with third parties for purposes of improving
12 the buildings energy efficiency. And, from the
13 staff, I want to thank Audrey Sun for her work on
14 that bill.

15 Next, from the General Welfare Committee,
16 we have two other bills from Council member Levine to
17 help tenants. First, Introduction number 1529 would
18 require the Office of Civil Justice coordinator to
19 collaborate with community groups in an engaging and
20 educating tenants of their rights in housing court
21 and then report on their efforts. Advocates and
22 legal service providers have said that tenant
23 outreach is an area that needs substantial
24 improvement. According to advocates, many tenants
25 were eligible for the universal access to legal

2 services program and were unaware of their right to
3 legal counsel and therefore never make it to housing
4 court where legal counsel is provided. Vanessa
5 Gibson has also worked on this. I want to thank both
6 Council members Levine and Gibson for their work on
7 this. And, for the staff, I want to thank Aminta
8 Kilowan and the final bill by Council member Levine
9 and, again, Council member Gibson has been involved.
10 This bill will amend local law 136, the Right to
11 Counsel law by requiring the immediate implementation
12 of this historic Right to Counsel program for tenants
13 facing eviction proceedings in housing court citywide
14 and would thereby include tenants and all ZIP Codes
15 across the city. And, again, I want to thank Aminta
16 Kilowan from the staff for her work on both of those
17 bills.

18 Moving on from our Committee on
19 Transportation, we have a bill to make the Open
20 Streets program per minute. As the weather improves,
21 more New Yorkers are going outside in the need more
22 public open space. I am pleased that today we are
23 making the Open Streets program permanent and
24 requiring DOT to make sure that this program reaches
25 communities that have been underserved. It's a good

2 example of the importance of creating bills that help
3 all New Yorkers in implementing community feedback
4 Introduction number 1933, sponsored by Council member
5 Carlina Rivera-- I am another prime sponsor of the
6 bill-- will require the Department of Transportation
7 to operate an annual Open Streets program to provide
8 additional Street space to pedestrians and other non-
9 vehicular Street users. Under this program, Open
10 Streets could be managed by the Department of
11 Transportation or by community organizations. The
12 bill would provide for notice to Council members and
13 community boards and require DOT to report on
14 recommendations for modifications to the program.
15 And, from the staff, I want to thank Elliot Lynn for
16 his work on this bill.

17 The last two bills for today, out of the
18 Committee on Civil Service and 888 A, sponsored by
19 Council member Ben Kallos, will create a mandatory
20 auto enrollment program payroll deduction IRA program
21 for employees of private sector employers who do not
22 offer a retirement plan and employee five or more
23 employees. The plan will be portable, so when
24 employees switch jobs, they can continue to
25 contribute or roll over their accounts into their

2 Retirement Savings Plans and, from the staff, I want
3 to thank Mysa Chowdhury.

4 And Introduction 901 A, sponsored by
5 Council member I Daneek Miller, the Chair of our
6 Civil Service and Labor Committee will establish a
7 retirement savings board to facilitate the
8 implementation of the retirement security program
9 created by Ben Kallos' bill today. The board will
10 consist of three members who are appointed by the
11 Mayor the start date of the program and it would
12 conduct education and outreach to employers and
13 employees to make sure that we are giving the city
14 and businesses enough time to prepare the board would
15 have up to two years to implement the program.

16 Again, I want to thank Mysa Chowdhury for their work
17 on this bill. I really want to commend Council
18 member Kallos who has worked on this for a very, very
19 long time, multiple years, and, again, I want to
20 thank the Chair of the Committee, Council member
21 Miller, who has been doing a tremendous amount of
22 work on this and this committee has been so busy. I
23 want to thank him for his leadership on this, as
24 well. With that, Madam Majority Leader, I turn it
25 back to you. Congratulations to all of our

2 colleagues on these important bills that we are
3 passing today. You are on mute, Madam Majority
4 Leader.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, Speaker
6 Johnson. I want to thank you, Speaker Johnson, for
7 that very robust legislative agenda. We will now
8 move into discussion of general orders. We will
9 recognize Council members who wish to speak by using
10 the raise hand function in Zoom. Please wait before
11 you begin your remarks for our sergeant-at-arms to
12 announce he has begun the countdown clock. The
13 sergeant-at-arms will alert you when your time has
14 expired. Mr. parliamentarian, are there any Council
15 members registered to speak?

16 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes, Madam Majority
17 Leader. Council member Rivera, Kallos, and Cornegy.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Rivera, Kallos, and
19 Cornegy. So we will begin with Council member
20 Rivera.

21 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you, Madam
23 Majority Leader. I am speaking here today to
24 encourage all of my colleagues to vote yes on Intro
25 1933 A which would codify an Open Streets program in

2 New York City which I introduced with Speaker
3 Johnson. When we first introduced the legislation in
4 the Council in April of last year to launch an
5 emergency Open Streets program, it was at the height
6 of the pandemic when it was clear that we needed more
7 space for socially distanced recreation. I think we
8 can all acknowledge the important role that effort
9 played in so many of our communities. If you spent
10 time in my district on Avenue B or in countless other
11 places where they implemented the program, you'll
12 clearly see the true potential of what community lead
13 and government supported Open Streets can be.
14 Ordinary New Yorkers, like Sophie who is a
15 constituent of mine in the Lower East Side, are the
16 reason behind the success of Open Streets. Sophie
17 banded together with her neighbors to launch a
18 volunteer program, the Lower East Side Open Streets
19 Community Coalition, that every day sets up and takes
20 down barriers, liaise with agencies, and organizes
21 countless activities and events for local residents.
22 Similar efforts were successfully launched across the
23 boroughs in Brooklyn and in Queens and imagine its
24 potential with funding and proactive outreach and
25 engagement. Through Open Streets programing, we've

2 also been able to take it many steps further,
3 enabling outdoor learning, helping local businesses
4 thrive, inspiring entrepreneurs, allowing performing
5 artists to share their talents and connecting us to
6 our neighbors. But it's clear that some important
7 changes have to be made so that this becomes a
8 permanent, successful staple of our city and
9 communities that want them. The amended legislation
10 we are voting on today will do just that. It would
11 require agency investments to take a load off
12 volunteers, advancing real equity, metrics, and
13 policies, expanding flexibility to customize the
14 streets our communities deem appropriate and it
15 installs a process for permanent conversions of
16 pedestrian plazas--

17 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: shared streets, and
19 other pedestrian-focused designs. Just a few quick
20 thank yous. Thank you to Transportation Chair Ydanis
21 Rodriguez. Of course to Speaker Johnson, Jason
22 Goldman, Kelly Taylor, Annie Levers, Elliott Lin.
23 Transportation Alternatives, Families for Safe
24 Streets, the advocates, and, of course, I have to
25 thank my team, Pedro Carrillo, Irac Johanski, Isabel

2 Chandler, Alexis Winters, and Jeremy Unger. I
3 encourage everyone to please vote aye. This could be
4 a benefit to any community that wants it and I think
5 it would be a raging success across the city.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much,
7 Council member Rivera. Council member Kallos.

8 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: New Yorkers should
10 have a right to retire. With 4 million private
11 sector workers in New York City, two thirds of them
12 aren't participating in saving for retirement through
13 their employers, in part because their employers
14 don't have them. Nearly half of New Yorkers near
15 retirement age have less than \$10,000 saved for
16 retirement. If we want New York City to lead the
17 recovered, we need to make it easier to earn money,
18 save money, and retire. Today, we are changing all
19 of that with retirement security for all. New
20 Yorkers over 21, working more than 20 hours a week
21 for an employer with five or more employees who
22 doesn't already offer a retirement account, would be
23 automatically enrolled with a 5% payroll deduction.
24 This would be at no cost to employers. It would just
25 be another deduction like a transit check or health

2 insurance. Retirement security for all will help 1.5
3 million private sector workers save for retirement.
4 It would be low fee, but making it easy for employees
5 to save, and that would be portable. Kick workers,
6 entrepreneurs, and businesses with less than five
7 employees could join voluntarily. Also known as
8 secure choice, California, Illinois, and Oregon are
9 already doing it. Oregon Saves is already serving
10 100,000 workers. They are now saving almost \$100
11 million. And they are helping mainly low-wage
12 workers. I want to start with a thank you to Speaker
13 Cory Johnson for getting this done when no one else
14 could. To Jon Adler, director of the Mayor's Office
15 of Pensions with whom I have been working on this
16 since 2013 when he was at an SEIU and I was spending
17 too much time administering a 401(k) for a software
18 company with Bill Samuels back then. The labor Chair
19 I Daneek Miller for holding the first hearing on
20 studying this issue, then Public Advocate, now
21 Attorney General Tish James, for offering this
22 legislation, Mayor Bill de Blasio for elevating the
23 Right to Retire in the national dialogue, Committee
24 on Civil Service and labor staff--

25 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: legislative
3 counsel, Mysa Chowdhury, policy analyst, Thomas Natt,
4 finance analyst, Evan Singh, and my legislative
5 director, Paul Westrick and my legislative counsel
6 now who succeeded him, Wilfredo Lopez. Thank you and
7 I urge you all to vote in favor of this important
8 right to retire.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, Council
10 member Kallos. We will now move on to Council member
11 Cornegy.

12 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Thank you,
14 Madame Majority Leader. That was an inadvertent hand
15 raise. I apologize.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Mr.
17 Parliamentarian, are there any other members who wish
18 to speak at this time?

19 PARLIAMENTARIAN: There are. The next
20 three are Council members Barron, Koo, and Levin.

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council member
22 Barron, you may begin.

23 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you, Madam
25 Majority Leader. First, on a personal note, I want

2 to wish my mother-in-law a very happy 97th birthday.
3 97 today. I want to wish her a happy birthday, Daisy
4 Barron. To the bill that I want to talk about, it's
5 Land Use 757 and 758 and the accompanying
6 resolutions. It is the Penn Street development. It
7 is sponsored by HPD and it is 73 units of not, as we
8 just say, affordable housing, but I like to say
9 housing affordable to the community where it is being
10 built. And 10 of those units will be reserved for
11 formerly homeless. There will be eight units that
12 are set aside for the AIRS project for seniors, and
13 the rest of the units ranging in size from studios to
14 three bedroom apartments will be set for the income
15 range of 60% of the AMI down to 30% of the AMI and
16 the other 20% of the apartments are at 80% of the AMI
17 and, you know, I am always concerned that apartments
18 and housing developments that come in at a range that
19 are not within the range of our community. My
20 neighborhood is a neighborhood median income is
21 \$37,000, \$38,000 so, certainly this is affordable to
22 the range of people living in my community. And I
23 want to thank the Speaker and his staff. I want to
24 thank Ms. Washington and Mr. Clay from my staff, and
25 I want to thank all of the land use staff who

2 tolerate all of my calls to them and always give me
3 the answers that I am seeking to the questions that I
4 posed. Thank you very much.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much,
6 Council member Barron. We will now go on to Council
7 member Koo.

8 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you, Majority
10 Leader. I support the Open Streets program, it
11 provides a rare reprieve from isolation during the
12 pandemic to turn our streets into fun [inaudible
13 00:32:29]. We should continue this program, but I
14 must impress that not every street is suitable for
15 this purpose. The city means to remain cognizant of
16 competing interests and especially of traffic
17 congestion, sanitation, and public safety and noise.
18 Resulting traffic on tight streets can also do more
19 harm than good for local businesses, so I urge the
20 DOT to carefully listen to the concerns of the
21 communities where open streets are planned. We need
22 to monitor, analyze, and troubleshoot what works and
23 what doesn't so the open streets don't become
24 detrimental to those who are most affected by them.
25 Thank you.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much,
3 Council member Koo. Council member Levin.

4 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you, Madam
6 Majority Leader. First, I want to wish Council
7 member Barron's mother-in-law a happy birthday. I
8 think I can speak for many Council members and
9 Council staff that we would love to meet the mother
10 of Charles Barron. So, I wish her a wonderful 97th
11 birthday. I just want to speak very briefly about
12 the 69 Adams Street ULURP action. Just to let my
13 colleagues know what is being done here, this was a
14 transfer and sale of air rights that were underneath
15 the Manhattan Bridge, so virtually unusable air
16 rights that were owned by the city. They will be
17 transferred to an adjacent parcel for a purchase
18 price of \$17.2 million that was negotiated by CDC and
19 approved by their board at a price of \$175 a square
20 foot for commercial density. This was already and as
21 of right residential development and this would add
22 90,000 or so commercial square feet to the
23 development site. With that \$17.2 million, 7.2 will
24 be going back to the EDC and the remaining \$10
25 million will be going to \$1.5 million to Farragut

2 houses which is the local NYCHA development to be
3 decided by the residents and stakeholders there.
4 \$1.5 million to PS 307 which is a wonderful local
5 elementary school to be decided by the principal
6 Stephanie Carol and her community and then, let's
7 see. 5.5 plus 1.5-- so, \$7 million to the York
8 Street station which anyone knows in downtown
9 Brooklyn knows how terrible the York Street F train
10 is. Very dangerous. One exit--

11 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: and entrance. This
13 will be going towards a study of how to add a second
14 entrance on the south side of the York Street F train
15 station which is used by the entire community. And
16 so I just want to give me colleagues a rundown of
17 exactly what the ULURP is. Thank you.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

19 Parliamentarian, are there any other members who wish
20 to speak at this time?

21 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes, Madam Majority
22 Leader. Council member Levine and Miller.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I just want to
24 remind members in this portion, we are only
25 discussing issues related to what we are about to

2 vote on. We also have opportunities for general
3 discussion for other matters. So, let's try to stay
4 is focused as we can to what we are about to vote on
5 and many other issues can be addressed during the
6 vote and it can also be addressed during general
7 discussion. So, at this time, I will call on Council
8 member Levine followed by Council member Miller.

9 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Thank you, Madam
11 Majority Leader. And I am really thrilled to say
12 words on two extremely important bills we will be
13 voting on today: Intro 2050 and Intro 1529 which are
14 bringing urgent and desperately needed assistance to
15 tenants in this city. We are, again, making history.
16 This body is, again, making history for tenants.
17 Four years after we passed landmark legislation
18 establishing right to counsel for tenants facing
19 eviction in housing court, sparking a national
20 movement and, most importantly, keeping thousands of
21 vulnerable tenants in their homes here in New York
22 City. But this law has a five year phase in and
23 still today over half of ZIP Codes in the city are
24 not yet covered by the program. So, Intro 2050, not
25 which we are voting on today, would move for

2 immediate implementation to every ZIP Code, every
3 neighborhood in all five boroughs of right to counsel
4 for tenants in housing court ahead of what will be
5 the expiration of the moratorium on evictions due to
6 the pandemic. This is a huge win had a critical
7 time. We have a second bill, Intro 1529 which is
8 designed to make sure that tenants know they have
9 this right. This would require the city to fund
10 outreach by community groups and impacted
11 communities, even going door-to-door so that tenants
12 know that if they are harassed or threatened by their
13 landlord, that they will have someone ready to defend
14 them in court if they face an eviction. I want to
15 thank Speaker Johnson for his incredible leadership
16 in bringing this forward so quickly and Chair of the
17 General Welfare Committee, Steve Levin, as well.
18 Most importantly, I want to thank my friend, my
19 colleague, a fellow champion for tenant rights,
20 Council member Vanessa Gibson who has been absolutely
21 critical in this every step of the way over the last
22 seven years. I want to thank staff on the General
23 Welfare Committee, Aminta Kilowan Norem, we well as
24 Maxwell Campner Williams and my own Chief of Staff

2 Aya [inaudible 00:38:28] used on incredible work on
3 this--

4 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time expired.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: over the last seven
6 years and, Majority Leader, I will speak on Intro
7 1760 on tenant data privacy when I explain my vote.
8 Thank you so much.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. Council
10 member Miller.

11 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you, Madam
13 Majority Leader. Speaker Johnson and Council member
14 Kallos who greatly articulated the need and the value
15 for security-- retirement security for all
16 legislative practice that we will be voting on today
17 and that mandate auto enrollment of the private
18 sector employees and exactly what it does, I want to
19 talk about 901 which creates the mechanism by which
20 the saving program would be administered. It would
21 create a retirement savings board to oversee the
22 program of certain self-employed individuals, as well
23 as employees and private entities. It sets for the
24 powers of the Comptroller and the provisions of the
25 program. Now, no one would allow the Board to make

2 recommendations on investments, establish a process
3 for employees, as well as those who can opt in and
4 out of the program, partner with our state government
5 entities to established procedures to assert whether
6 an employee is covered by the program. I just also
7 want to add that this legislation becomes more
8 necessary now than we have seen over the past year in
9 pandemics and the legislation had made a lot of
10 headway, but had been deterred by the past
11 administration in Washington. We were steadfast. I
12 want to thank Councilman Kallos and the team for
13 continuing to do this. I also want to say what is
14 important about this-- and we know that there are
15 many New Yorkers that have less than \$10,000 in
16 savings, but I really wanted to highlight that in
17 recent studies they say that African-American
18 communities and households wealth is diminishing over
19 the next decade it would be a net zero. If we don't
20 do something about savings and creating wealth and
21 opportunities now and just the simple dignity of
22 retirement, we are going to be in bad shape. So, I
23 ask all of our colleagues to support this bill.

24 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time expired.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you.

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

5 PARLIAMENTARIAN: No, Madam Majority
6 Leader.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Okay. Thank you.
8 Thank you to all of the members who have spoken at
9 this time. We will now move into report of special
10 committees.

11 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: None.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Report of standing
13 committees.

14 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the
15 Committee on Civil Service and labor Intros 888 A and
16 901 A, retirement savings program.

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

19 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the
20 Committee on Finance pre-considered resolution 1617
21 and 1618, business improvement districts.

22 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on
23 general orders.

24

25

2 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the
3 Committee on General Welfare, Intros 1529 A and 2050
4 A, tenant housing court rights and legal services.

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

7 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the
8 Committee on Housing in Buildings Intro 1760 A,
9 tenant data privacy.

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

12 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the
13 Committee on Land Use, LU 752 and Reso 1620, 69 Adams
14 Street.

15 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
16 orders.

17 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: LU 757 in Reso 1621
18 and LU 758 and Reso 1622, New Penn Development?

19 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
20 orders.

21 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: LU 764 and Reso
22 1623, 135-137 Bedford Avenue.

23 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
24 orders.

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2 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: LU 765, the zoning
3 for coastal flood resiliency?

4 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Approved with
5 modifications and referred to the City Planning
6 Commission pursuant to section 197 D of the New York
7 City Charter.

8 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: LU 766 and Reso
9 1624 through LU 769 and Reso 1627, resilient
10 neighborhoods.

11 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Approved and laid over.

12 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the
13 Committee on Transportation, Intro 1933 A, Open
14 Streets program.

15 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on
16 general orders and, at this time, I'm asking for the
17 clerk to take a roll call vote on all of the items
18 that are coupled on today's general order calendar.

19 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Adams?

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

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Thank you.

24 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Thank you. While
3 well-intentioned, I don't believe that Open Streets
4 should be a one-size-fits-all solution, nor do I
5 believe that the DOT should be the operating agency.
6 Areas in Queens are a significant transportation
7 desert and parking is at a premium in so many spaces
8 and places. I really think that we need more green
9 space and parks and if we are to get it right for the
10 entire city, it has to be reevaluated and
11 repositioned. For that reason, I will be voting aye
12 on all except Intro 1933. Thank you.

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

14 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Ampry-Samuel?

15 Ampry-Samuel, I believe you are muted.

16 SPEAKER JOHNSON: We can come back, Mr.
17 clerk.

18 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Okay. Ayala?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: I vote aye on all.

20 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you. Barron?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye on all
22 with the exception of Land Use 752. Thank you.

23 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you.

24 Borelli? Brannan?

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: I vote aye on
3 all.

4 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Brooks-Powers?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS:

6 Permission to explain my vote?

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

8 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: For bills
10 Intro 2050 A and 1529 A, I will need to abstain my
11 vote on this. I just wanted to highlight, while I
12 think that this is a good bill that helps renters who
13 may not have the resources to secure legal counsel,
14 my district is one that is very diverse where we at
15 homeowners-- one and two family homeowners that this
16 will plays a potential significant burden on. I have
17 heard directly from seniors in my district who are
18 homeowners and, you know, with the loss of rent month
19 to month, it could end up spiraling into foreclosure
20 with Southeast Queens has been one of the communities
21 that has been hardest hit in terms of foreclosures
22 through time and the flipside of it is I do have a
23 part of my district where there are significant
24 renters that could benefit from this. I look to
25 working with the Council and trying to find ways that

2 we can provide resources also to those one and two
3 family homeowners, as well and as far as Intro 1933
4 A, I just want to, once again, commend Council member
5 Rivera your leadership on this bill, but echoing my
6 sentiments earlier from committee meetings and
7 imploring the Department of Transportation to working
8 closely with the community and the Council members to
9 ensure that where these open streets exist, that they
10 make sense for that particular community. I do know
11 that, in parks of my district, there are a number of
12 residents and leaders that have expressed an interest
13 in having that. So, thank you.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: And,
16 excuse me. I vote aye for all of the rest. So,
17 thank you.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

19 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you. Council
20 member Borelli? Okay. Cabrera?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Permission to
22 explain my vote?

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

24 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Thank you. I
3 will be very brief. 30 seconds. I will be voting
4 aye on all for the 1933 A. I just want to echo what
5 my colleagues just mentioned. I want to make sure
6 and I have been heavy expectation that the
7 stakeholders in the community are consulted with
8 before-- What I really don't want to see is DOT
9 imposing their idea through our community. But, with
10 that, I will be voting aye on all. Thank you,
11 Majority Leader.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

13 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you. Chin?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Permission to
15 explain my vote?

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

17 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Yeah. I just
19 wanted to congratulate all my colleagues on passing
20 the legislation and I also want to say a special
21 thank you to Colima Johnson, staff on our Aging
22 Community. She has been such a tremendous help on
23 the committee and we've done great things for our
24 seniors and I really wanted to show my appreciation

25

2 to her and wish her the best and I vote aye on all.
3 Thank you.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

5 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Borelli? Council
6 member Borelli? Cornegy?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Permission to
8 explain my vote?

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

10 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: I want to vote
12 aye on everything that we are hearing today, but I
13 also want to send a special congratulations to all of
14 the members who are moving on to bigger and better,
15 but a special thank you and congratulations to Austin
16 Branford who I've had this opportunity to work with
17 as a member of Housing and Building and the Housing
18 Buildings Committee. It has been a pleasure to work
19 with thorough, personable-- all the great things
20 that you could want from someone to work with. And I
21 come out of that pool on the 14th floor, so I just
22 want to say congratulations, Austin. If you ever
23 need anything, please let me know. Thank you. I
24 vote aye.

25 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

2 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Dharma Diaz?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: I vote aye.

4 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Ruben Diaz?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Si en todo.

6 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Dinowitz?

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

9 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Dromm?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

11 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Eugene? Council
12 member Eugene?

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: We will come back.

14 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Feliz?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: I vote aye on all.

16 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Borelli?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Hi, guys. I'm
18 sorry. I had a family emergency picking my son up
19 from the bus. I vote aye on all except Intro 888,
20 901 A, 1529 A, 1933 A, and 2050 A. Thank you.

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. And I
22 hope all is well with your son.

23 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: One moment.
24 Gennaro?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Yes.

2 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Gibson? Council
3 member Gibson?

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: We will come back.

5 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Gjonaj?

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

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

9 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: I just want to echo
11 some of the concerns that my colleague brought up
12 regarding 1933 and Open Streets. I commend the
13 sponsor of the bill, but the way it is written, that
14 DOT you will notify the Community Board of and I have
15 seen during the summer this contrary to the will and
16 desires of the community where it impacted not only
17 our residential homes which were a block away or so
18 from the park, but it also impacted the handicapped
19 residents that live on that street were not able to
20 get out and move those cones. So, I am a bit leery
21 and concerned. I wish this gave more enforcement and
22 decision-making to the community board, so I will be
23 voting no on 1933 A and aye on the rest. Thank you.

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

25 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Grodenchik?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Permission to
3 explain my vote, Majority Leader?

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

5 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Thank you. I
7 want to join with Speaker Johnson in expressing my
8 condolences to the family, the colleagues, and the
9 friends of Officer Anastasios Sacos who died this
10 week. Was killed in the line of duty in my district
11 on the Long Island Expressway. I have worked with
12 the people at Highway Three which is located just off
13 of the Grand Central Parkway in Cunningham Park. I
14 know their dedication to the safety of the people. I
15 see them in the neighborhood. They take their lunch
16 and our local restaurants and his death is a tragedy
17 not just for our community, but for his family and I
18 hope that they will find some peace and the days and
19 months ahead as they struggle to overcome this loss.
20 I am voting aye on all with the exception of 1933. I
21 want to associate myself with the remarks made by
22 Council members Adams and Gjonaj. I did not have a
23 good experience, and I want to commend Council member
24 Rivera. I think that the bill is, in many parts of
25 the city, will work very well. I know it has worked

2 exceptionally well in Councilman Dromm's district and
3 in other parts of the city. My experience with it
4 last summer, the city's idea was to open and open
5 Street next to Cunningham Park which I just didn't
6 understand and I had to work to stop that because it
7 just didn't make any sense and I'm worried, as my two
8 colleagues who voted no on this bill are, that there
9 aren't enough ways for the community to express
10 itself. So, while I find the goal of this bill
11 laudable and I, again, commend the sponsors for it, I
12 am going to vote no. I am sure it will pass, but I
13 am going to vote no at this time and hope that, in
14 the future, the bill will be tweaked to give, as
15 Council member Gjonaj said, community boards a little
16 more discretion over this.

17 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time expired.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Thank you. With
19 that, I vote aye on all except 1933.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

21 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member
22 Eugene?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I request
24 permission to vote on the Land Use and on the items
25 coupled on today's agenda.

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2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I vote aye on all.

4 Thank you very much, Madam Majority Leader.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

6 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member

7 Gibson?

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: We will call back
9 on Council member Gibson towards the end of the
10 session.

11 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Okay. Holden?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye on all.

13 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you. Kallos?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Permission to
15 explain my vote very briefly?

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

17 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: I neglected to
19 thank AARP for their tremendous assistance in passing
20 this legislation and I will only vote yes on Open
21 Streets on the condition that I can get more in my
22 district and in Manhattan. I vote aye on all.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

24 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Koo?

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Majority Leader,
3 may I explain my vote?

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

5 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you. Yeah.

7 I will explain the vote on Resolution 1129 later, but
8 first I want to thank Policy Analyst Alyssa
9 [inaudible 00:56:37] and the counsel Harbani Ahuja
10 and Alyssa Gibson with Families with Children from
11 China and all other advocates for this resolution. I
12 want to especially thank Michael Marland from a.k.a.,
13 Minsun Kim from Museum of Korean American Heritage,
14 and all the others. Thank you. I vote aye on all.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

16 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Koslowitz? Council
17 member Koslowitz, I believe you are muted.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye on all.

19 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you. Lander?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Madam Majority
21 Leader, I request permission to explain my vote.

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

23 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you very
25 much. I will be voting aye on all. I want to

2 congratulate Council members Kallos and Miller on
3 this really valuable legislation to provide a path to
4 retirement security for private sector workers in New
5 York City. That is a real crisis where people don't
6 have the pathway to save for retirement and this is
7 strong legislation. Thank you for pushing it
8 forward. And then I also want to praise Council
9 members Levine and Gibson on the expansion of the
10 Right to Counsel, boy, which is coming right on time
11 long before the pandemic convolutions in New York City
12 were already their own kind of pandemic. And thanks
13 to your right to counsel legislation, very
14 significant decreases. 30% an eviction came in and
15 New York City really set the trend. But during the
16 pandemic, it is become even worse in black and brown
17 neighborhoods hard-hit by Covid of. Therefore times
18 as likely as in other neighborhoods. So, extending
19 the citywide to provide those tenants with a path to
20 protecting themselves and staying in their homes is
21 so urgently necessary. Thank you for sponsoring this
22 legislation. I vote aye on all.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

24 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Levin?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye on all.

2 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Levine?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Madam Majority
4 Leader, permission to explain my vote?

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Thank you. I want
8 to say a word on Intro 1760 A, known as the Tenant
9 Data Privacy Act. This bill is for everyone who
10 enters their building with the key fob or a pin code
11 or a smart phone app because, when you go through
12 that door with electronic access, it is generating
13 data. A log file which records when you enter the
14 building. And there is currently no protection of
15 that data. Nothing to prevent landlords from selling
16 it, from using it to delve into your personal life,
17 for using it as part of an eviction proceeding. So,
18 our bill would make New York City the first place in
19 America to establish a very strict rules around
20 privacy protections for tenants in such buildings.
21 It would prohibit landlords from ever using a
22 tenant's building entry for purposes of eviction or
23 harassment. It would specifically ensure that smart
24 access systems are never used to collect information
25 on the relationship status of tenants and their

2 guests. It would ensure that a landlord can't share
3 and transmit data with third parties without express
4 permission from residence, and it would provide
5 similar protections against misuse of utility data by
6 landlords and buildings that track usage of heat,
7 electricity, and Wi-Fi. I truly want to thank
8 Speaker Johnson and Chair Cornegy for moving this
9 legislation forward and I want to thank the staff.
10 This was a lot of work. There were incredibly hard
11 long hours on this. Thank you to Audrey Sun from the
12 Housing in Buildings Committee and thank you to my
13 own staff, Winthrop Roosevelt and Amy Slattery. And
14 I will be proudly voting aye on all. Thank you,
15 Madam Majority Leader.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

17 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Louis?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Permission to
19 explain my vote?

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

21 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Thank you so much,
23 Madam Majority Leader. I just want to share from the
24 sentiments that my colleagues shared earlier
25 regarding Intro 1933 A. I commend the bill sponsor,

2 Council member Rivera, for putting this bill through.
3 Open Streets is a phenomenal program. I don't think
4 it works in every neighborhood, particularly, I would
5 say, in East Flatbush and particular areas in my
6 district it didn't work well. So, I am going to vote
7 for, but I hope we can find a way to give community
8 boards more discretion and say in particular areas
9 where it would be implemented within the city,
10 particularly within my district. So, I vote aye on
11 all. Thank you.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

13 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you. Council
14 member Ampry-Samuel, can we try your audio again?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: I vote
16 aye on all.

17 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you. Got it.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. And I
19 would now like to add that Council member Gibson's
20 audio was not working, as well.

21 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Sure. Council
22 member Gibson.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you so much.
24 Permission to explain my vote?

25 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you. Thank
4 you, Madam Majority Leader. Good afternoon, Speaker,
5 and all my colleagues. I am very excited that today
6 I am joining with Council member Mark Levine and
7 ensuring that we, the city Council continue to
8 protect vulnerable tenants across the city of New
9 York. It was just a few years ago in 2017 when we
10 passed Intro 214, the universal right to counsel
11 legislation and that was groundbreaking,
12 transformative, and really a game changer for us in
13 New York City. We have seen eviction was reduced by
14 almost 40% and, since that time, we have seen
15 Baltimore, San Francisco, Boulder, Philadelphia, New
16 York, and Cleveland all pass similar right to counsel
17 legislation and just this week the state of
18 Washington was the first state to pass right to
19 counsel in the entire state, providing free lawyers
20 for tenants facing eviction in housing court. Being
21 evicted is a real fear for so many New Yorkers in
22 many of our communities. As we slowly begin to
23 reopen, we have to take steadfast action to pass
24 Intro 2050 and Intro 1529 that would expand upon our
25 right to counsel law and ensure that legal

2 representation is provided for every eligible tenant
3 throughout the city of New York. And we will also
4 support the work of our community partners and
5 community-based organizations in educating and
6 engaging tenants on their rights so that people don't
7 have to fear that eviction from their homes due to
8 their circumstances. I am so proud of this
9 legislation. I am so proud of the city Council, the
10 Right to Counsel Coalition. Over 80 organizations
11 across the five boroughs. I certainly want to thank
12 CASA Bronx, Northwest, Flatbush Tenants, Tenants
13 United, Tenants and Neighbors, Housing Court Answers,
14 Goddard, Riverside, so many of our partners in the
15 labor sector, and certainly my colleague and friend,
16 my champion, Council member Mark Levine. Thank you
17 for this journey. It has really been an honor
18 working side by side with you and all of our--

19 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: colleagues and
21 allies to make sure that right to counsel is a
22 reality. I urge all of my colleagues to vote yes,
23 support this work, and recognize that we are the ones
24 that can provide so much opportunity for tenants and
25 families across the city of New York.

2 Congratulations to all my colleagues. Thank you,
3 Council member Rivera, for your bill and we look
4 forward to our continued work. I vote aye on all.
5 Thank you so much.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Congratulations and
7 thank you.

8 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you. Council
9 member Maisel?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Yes.

11 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Menchaca?

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

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

15 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you.

17 Thank you, Majority Leader. And I want to say thank
18 you to all the members who are leading the bill
19 efforts today. I want to especially say saying
20 Francisco's name. Francisco was a deliberate worker.
21 You lifted him up as we remembered many that we lost
22 here in the city. And I am going to be talking about
23 the delivery worker bill that I will be introducing
24 with a few of my colleagues, but I just want to say
25 thank you for that. It means a lot to the family. I

2 also want to mention that the Open Streets bill, and
3 I said this at the committee, but I think we should
4 call them community streets because they are already
5 open right now. They are open for the multi time
6 vehicles that have been used as weapons, killing what
7 I would really love to do is really think through
8 this with members who are voting no today, but also
9 who are concerned about parking and other issues. I,
10 as a member of the Transportation Committee, I really
11 want to understand that and just get a sense of it.
12 I know in Sunset Park, we have a lot of parking
13 issues in a big way, but members of the community
14 have really embraced these streets and have brought
15 resources and I just want to say thank you to the
16 local community members who are saying yes to this.
17 Even our restaurants who have been wanting to keep
18 parking alive have said yes. So, there is a really
19 interesting and dynamic movement right now and
20 evolution and I would just like to learn more from
21 you all. Okay. With that, I vote aye on all. Thank
22 you.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

24 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Miller?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Permission to
3 explain my vote, please?

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

5 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you, Madam
7 with regards to Intro 1933, I just want to commend
8 Council member Rivera for the legislation is putting
9 forth, as well as the Chair of the Committee,
10 Rodriguez, and Council member Reynoso who actually
11 spoke so eloquently during the committee on the need
12 to have the open streets, particularly in communities
13 of color and what we witness in terms of the impact
14 of the Covid 19 pandemic and so forth. But, as in
15 the past, I've had, as many of my colleagues in
16 Queens-- in particular Eastern Queens-- have had a
17 problem with oversight of agencies, particularly DOT.
18 And, based on my experiences with open streets and
19 pedestrian ways, I will be voting no and, as Council
20 member Menchaca just indicated, I hope to work with
21 the committee to make sure that we can address these
22 so that myself and my Southeast Queens colleagues
23 can't support this legislation in the future. With
24 that, I will be voting no on 1933 as well as 2050.
25 Aye on all the rest.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you.

4 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Moya?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I will be voting
6 aye on all with the exception of 1933.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

8 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Perkins?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Aye on all,
10 including 1933.

11 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Powers?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye on all.

13 Congrats to everyone and their bills today.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

15 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Reynoso?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Permission to
17 explain my vote, Majority Leader?

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

19 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you. I
21 just want to, to Council member Miller's point, there
22 seems to be portions of this city where folks get
23 more resources that are punitive to their population
24 than they do get resources that assist their
25 population. And I think that we need to have a

2 deeper dive with the Department of Transportation
3 about what they are doing in the outer portions of
4 the outer boroughs to make sure that we are advancing
5 good policy, good transportation policy. And that
6 is, obviously, not happening there. So, I want to be
7 an ally to those communities that see this open
8 streets plan and don't feel like they have enough
9 input or enough investment from the Department of
10 Transportation or for their community. I want to
11 work with you guys to get there, but, of course, in
12 my district, it's allowed for us to expand the open
13 space that we don't have. My district has the third
14 least amount of park space in the city of New York.
15 So, for my district, we don't have an opportunity to
16 spread out and really enjoy open air, especially
17 during pandemics like Covid. So, this definitely
18 gave us that opportunity. So, I am extremely
19 grateful to the work that Council member Rivera did.
20 I'm listening to my colleagues and I am looking
21 forward to working with them to be able to do
22 something positive when it comes to like
23 transportation policy in their districts and I want
24 to vote aye on all.

25 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

2 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Riley?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Congratulations to
4 all my colleagues. I will be voting aye on all.
5 Thank you.

6 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Rivera?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Congratulations to
8 all my colleagues on some fantastic legislation. I
9 proudly vote aye on all.

10 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you.

11 Rodriguez? Rosenthal?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: With
13 congratulations to the bill sponsors, I vote aye on
14 all.

15 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you.

16 Salamanca?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye on all.

18 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Treyger?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

20 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Ulrich? Council
21 member Ulrich?

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: We will come back.

23 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Vall-- Sure.

24 Vallone?

25

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: We will come back,
3 again. Although we're at the end of the alphabet.

4 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Yes. One moment.
5 Van Bramer?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye on all.

7 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you. Yeger?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Madam President,
9 may I be excused to explain my vote?

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

11 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you very
13 much, Madam President. I agree with Council member
14 Adams, Council member Miller, and Council member
15 Louis and so many others who have spoken on Intro
16 1933. You know, I live the program when it's done
17 right, but I think that the bill ought to and doesn't
18 provide for a responsible adult to be running this
19 program. What we're doing is we're seating authority
20 to the Department of Transportation which hasn't
21 really acted responsibly in many of these things and
22 there should be some mechanism for the community to
23 be involved in this, whether it's through the
24 community board, through the representatives in this
25 body, through a committee made up of the

2 representatives in the particular area to at least
3 apine before the Department of Transportation comes
4 down and decides which Street yes and which Street no
5 and, for that reason, I will vote no on Intro 1933.
6 With respect to the Introduction 888, again, this is,
7 you know, as I frequently find here, sometimes we are
8 passing legislation which are solutions in search of
9 problems. There's no question that there are people
10 who are not with the retirement accounts that we are
11 blessed with, there's no question about it. But this
12 bill does that provide retirement accounts. What it
13 provides is a regulatory scheme for employers to
14 manage something that they've never had to do before.
15 It doesn't provide a single penny to the employees
16 and the employees can simply walk down to the block
17 to any bank and open up an IRA. This doesn't help
18 them in any way except for Institute a mandatory
19 scheme of regulation over very small employers. Not
20 25 or more, not 50 or more, but anybody who has six
21 employees. A small fruit store will have to do this
22 kind of massive bookkeeping and regulation and,
23 again, reminding, as I frequently do, I know my time
24 is up, but I will be quick. That the first
25 violation--

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: for an employer who
4 doesn't have his paperclips in order on the papers
5 that he is required to keep for three years is \$250.
6 The second violation is \$500 and it seems to me that
7 we can do a little better. And I will also point
8 out-- I'm wrapping up-- that the city has
9 inoculated itself in this legislation that all the
10 city has to do to end of this program is to certify
11 that the city might be liable. And if the city
12 certifies that it is liable, the program ends.
13 Employers don't get to certify. Employers don't get
14 to remove themselves from liability in any way. So,
15 for that reason, I will be voting no on Introductions
16 888 and 901, as well and aye on the remainders.
17 Thank you very much.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, Council
19 member Yeger. I think I see Council member Van
20 Bramer.

21 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Council member Van
22 Bramer already voted.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Okay. I apologize.
24 Council member, excuse me, Ulrich?

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Hi. Good
3 afternoon. I vote aye on all. I'm sorry for the
4 delay in the background noise. I'm under the J train
5 on Jamaica Avenue, so I will aye on all.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much,
7 Council member Ulrich.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Thank you.

9 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you. Council
10 member Vallone?

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Vallone.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye on all if
13 you can hear me.

14 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Yes.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Perfect.

16 Thank you.

17 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Matteo?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Thank you. I'm
19 voting no on 888, 901, 1529, 2050, and 1933 and aye
20 on the rest.

21 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you. Cumbo?

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I vote aye.

23 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Speaker Johnson?

24 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I vote aye on all.

25

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Just give us a
3 moment while we tally the results.

4 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Okay. Thank you
5 for your patience. All items on today's general
6 order calendar have a vote of 47 in the affirmative,
7 zero in the negative, and no abstentions with the
8 exceptions of the following: Introduction 1933 A has
9 eight in the negative. No abstentions. Land use item
10 752 and Resolution 1610 have 46 in the affirmative,
11 one in the negative, no abstentions. Introduction
12 2050 A has 43 in the affirmative, three in the
13 negative, and one abstention. Introduction 1529 has
14 44 in the affirmative, two in the negative, one
15 abstention. Introduction 901 A has 44 the
16 affirmative, three in the negative, no abstentions.
17 And Introduction 888 A is also 44 the affirmative,
18 three in the negative, and no abstentions. And there
19 are no Land use call ups.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Okay. Thank you.
21 The items on today's general orders calendar are
22 adopted. Introduction them reading a bills.

23 SPEAKER JOHNSON: All bills are referred
24 to the committees as indicated on today's agenda.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We will
3 now move into discussion of resolutions. As a
4 reminder, please wait until the sergeant-at-arms
5 begins the countdown clock before you begin your
6 remarks. Mr. Parliamentarian, are there any members
7 who wish to speak on today's resolutions?

8 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Council member Koo and
9 Council member Levin.

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council members Koo
11 and Council member--?

12 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Levin. Okay.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: I'm sorry. I'm
14 speaking on general discussion, not a resolution.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Okay.

16 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Council member Menchaca,
17 do you wish to speak on resolutions or general
18 discussions?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: On the
20 resolution.

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council member Koo,
22 you may begin.

23 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you, Majority
25 Leader. Today, we are voting on my Resolution 1129

2 that calls on the United States Congress to pass in
3 the president to sign the Adopted Citizenship Act of
4 2021 in order to secure US citizenship of
5 internationally adopted children who are now adults
6 or Asian into adulthood. This resolution calls on
7 the federal government to close a loophole in the
8 child citizenship act of 2000 which prevents
9 internationally adopted children from receiving US
10 citizenship despite being legally adopted by US
11 citizens. Imagine spending 99% of your time is an
12 American only to have your country turn its back on
13 you because of missing paperwork foreign-born
14 children of US citizens to acquire citizenship.
15 Unfortunately, a loophole in the act left out
16 thousands of adoptees from countries all over the
17 world because they were 18 years old by the time the
18 law went into effect. Thousands of international
19 adoptees have spent nearly their entire lives in
20 America without citizenship rights and many actually
21 have no idea they are not really citizens. Such an
22 oversight is a colossal failure of our federal
23 immigration policy. It should be prioritized as an
24 urgent bipartisan fix because there's absolutely no
25 reason why international adoptees should not be

2 granted full and unequivocal citizenship. We have
3 spent too long demonizing immigrants--

4 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time expired.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: in this country.

6 These are our family members, our friends, and our
7 neighbors. It is time that we treat them with the
8 basic human dignity that they deserve. Thank you,
9 Mr. Speaker and thank you, Majority Leader.

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much,
11 Peter Koo. Council member Koo. Are there any other
12 members who wish to speak on today's resolution?

13 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes, Madam Majority
14 Leader. Council member Menchaca followed by the
15 Speaker.

16 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council member
18 Menchaca, you may begin.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you,
20 Majority Leader. And I just want to echo the
21 powerful words of Council member Koo, a member of the
22 Immigration Committee. We just voted on this earlier
23 today and I want to add some words. The right to
24 citizenship is powerful. It grants the privilege of
25 voting and running for office, but it also provides

2 permanent protection from deportation and the freedom
3 to travel within and outside the United States.
4 Citizenship allows individuals fall access to this
5 nation's safety net, it's benefits without fear of
6 adverse immigration consequences. The current
7 adoption loophole in immigration law is cruel. You
8 can be brought to the US as a child only to find out
9 later that you are not guaranteed the rights of
10 citizenship. Federal law must be updated and
11 immediately so that we can ensure that everyone gets
12 access to these incredible life-changing
13 opportunities. I want to thank Council member Koo
14 for bringing this up and all the members who are
15 going to be voting on it today in support. Thank
16 you.

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, Council
18 member Menchaca. And I see-- are there any other
19 members who wish to speak, Mr. Parliamentarian?

20 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes, Madam Majority
21 Leader. Speaker Johnson followed by Council member
22 Rodriguez.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Speaker Johnson and
24 then we will begin with Council member Rodriguez.
25 Speaker Johnson, you may begin.

2 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I want to thank Council
3 member Koo for this really, really important
4 resolution today. I just want to say, personally, I
5 wouldn't be here if it weren't for my biological
6 father being adopted from Seoul, South Korea as a
7 small child from an orphanage by an American couple.
8 My grandparents adopted my father and another Korean
9 boy who he was not related to and they were brought to
10 the United States as small children. So, this is
11 really important. And I want to thank Council member
12 Menchaca for those really, really powerful words
13 about what this means and for the important work the
14 Immigration Committee is doing. I look forward to
15 voting in favor of this resolution today.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much.
17 Council member Rodriguez?

18 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Yes, Majority
20 Leader. I would like to ask and [inaudible 01:23:59]
21 to vote and at the same time to thank the Speaker for
22 the opportunity that he gave Council member Carlina
23 Rivera and I to pass this bill today. This bill is
24 very important to improved safety not only for the
25

2 riders who use the bus but also to be able to make
3 the bus more accessible to underserved communities.

4 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Is there unanimous-- Is
5 there any objection to granting unanimous consent for
6 Council member Rodriguez to vote on all the items on
7 today's calendar? I see no objections, Madam
8 Majority Leader.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: You may vote,
10 Council member Rodriguez.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: I vote aye.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: And at this time,
13 we will wait for a new tally before I begin to read
14 the resolution onto the record.

15 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Okay. Revised
16 vote. All items on today's general order calendar
17 now have a vote of 48 in the affirmative, zero in the
18 negative and no abstentions with the exception of the
19 following: Introduction 1933 A has 40 in the
20 affirmative, eight in the negative, zero abstentions.
21 Land Use 752 Resolution 1610 has 47 in the
22 affirmative, one in the negative, no abstentions.
23 Introduction 2050 A has 44 in the affirmative, three
24 in the negative, one abstention. Introduction 1529 A
25 with 45 in the affirmative, two in the negative, one

2 abstention. Introduction 910 A with 45 in the
3 affirmative, three in the negative, no abstentions.
4 And, finally, Introduction 888 A has 45 in the
5 affirmative, three in the negative, and no
6 abstentions. Thank you.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We will
8 now have a voice vote on today's Resolution. And
9 excuse me one moment. Are there any other members
10 who wish to speak on today's resolution?

11 PARLIAMENTARIAN: No, Madam Majority
12 Leader.

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I just wanted to be
14 clear. Thank you. We will now move into a voice
15 vote on today's resolution. If you wish to vote
16 against or abstain from today's resolution, please
17 notify the legislative documents unit by mail. I
18 will now read today's resolution onto the record.
19 Resolution 1229 calls on the United States Congress
20 to pass and the president to sign the adoptee
21 Citizenship Act of 2021. HR 1593 and S967 in order
22 to secure US citizenship of internationally adopted
23 children who are now adults or aging into adulthood.
24 While all those in favor say aye?

25 UNIDENTIFIED: Aye.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Aye.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Any opposed say
6 nay. Any abstentions? The ayes have it. We will
7 now move into general discussion. As a reminder,
8 please wait until the sergeant-at-arms begins the
9 countdown clock before you begin your remarks. Mr.
10 Parliamentarian, are there any members who wish to
11 sign up to speak at this time?

12 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes, Madam Majority
13 Leader. Council members Brannan, Barron, and
14 Menchaca.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council member
16 Brannan, you may begin.

17 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Thank you,
19 Madam Majority Leader. I am proud to represent
20 Prekenya Gote [sp?] In Bensonhurst which is actually
21 home to many of New York City's food delivery
22 workers. When you order it from grub hub or door -
23 or post mates, these are the people who deliver your
24 food. They don't get paid much. They don't get
25 benefits, and they often work in dangerous

2 conditions. The third party delivery food world is a
3 multibillion-dollar industry and these massively
4 publicly traded companies have been profiting off the
5 backs and the bicycles of these mainly immigrant
6 workers for a long time, especially over the past
7 year when all we really could do was order takeout.
8 So, my colleagues and I are introducing a package of
9 bills to help deliver a little bit of [inaudible
10 01:28:32] to these workers. Two of the bills I am
11 introducing, one would require the use delivery at
12 the businesses to provide the workers with insulated
13 food delivery bags and the other bill would simply
14 allow a worker to decide if he didn't want to go
15 deliver something to the Bronx if he was currently in
16 Queens. So, I hope that my colleagues will sign on
17 to these bills and I am sure my other colleagues will
18 speak on their bills as part of this package, as
19 well. Thank you.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much.
21 Council member Barron?

22 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you, Madam
24 Majority Leader. I just wanted to briefly wish all
25 of those who are leaving the very best in their new

2 ventures, but I particularly want to extend best
3 wishes to Colima Johnson who was a policy analyst for
4 the Education Committee. She worked feverishly,
5 dedicated, and unselfishly in terms of asking
6 questions that I had, in terms of making sure that
7 those issues were included that I felt were important
8 in the Education Committee and I wish her well. We
9 have developed a personal friendship, as well beyond
10 the city Council and we just love her talents, her
11 personality, her perseverance, and her
12 professionalism. So, I wish all of them well, but
13 particularly to Colima the best in your new
14 undertakings. Thank you.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much.
16 Council member Menchaca?

17 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you,
19 Majority Leader. Last week, over 1000 food delivery
20 workers marched in Manhattan demanding dignity and
21 safety for their essential work. It was one of the
22 largest labor demonstrations in the city's history,
23 yet few in the media and government took note. That
24 neglect only proves their point. That the city is
25 happy to appraise their essential workers even while

2 it does nothing to protect them, the deliveristas.
3 The deliveristas kept us fed and alive during the
4 pandemic and they risked their health and safety to
5 keep the economy going. Without them, restaurants
6 and businesses across the entire city could never
7 have made that pivot onto online. But as demands
8 increased, protections for their labor did not keep
9 up and so deliveristas are not being paid on time or
10 at all. They are forced to pay for their own
11 equipment and bags. When the deliveries fail, they
12 are penalized and often suspended, even if the fault
13 was not their own or the fault of the restaurant or
14 the customer. Furry mostly immigrant labor force,
15 such suspensions not only had insult to injury, but
16 in danger entire families and communities and during
17 our cold winter, restaurants did not even grant
18 deliveristas the basic decency of using their
19 bathrooms. This is happening because delivery app
20 companies care more about keeping customers and
21 restaurants happy and the two workers who are keeping
22 the whole thing moving. But today is a historic day
23 and we here in the city Council, Council member
24 Rivera, Brannan, and Speaker Johnson are supporting
25 this really historic opportunity for our neighbors.

2 I am proud to introduce and am part of this package
3 with all of them and, including Brad Lander and
4 Margaret Chin who have also been champions for our
5 delivery workers. This is the first step, but there
6 is a lot more work and I can't wait to keep doing
7 this work with all of you. Thank you.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, Council
9 member Menchaca. Are there any other members who
10 wish to speak at this time?

11 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes, Madam Majority
12 Leader. Council members Levin, Koo, and Dromm.

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council members--
14 Say that once more.

15 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Levin, Koo, and Dromm.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Okay. Council
17 member Levin, you may begin.

18 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you very
20 much, Madam Majority Leader. First, I want to extend
21 my condolences to the family of police officer
22 Anastasios Sacos who was killed in Queens by a drunk
23 driver in recent days. My condolences to his family.
24 Secondly, I want to actually call my colleagues
25 attention to an article that just came out, I

2 believe, yesterday in the New Yorker by Saki Nafu and
3 highlighting our colleague, Alicka Ampry-Samuel and
4 her steadfast work in bringing community-based public
5 safety to her district in Brownsville Brooklyn. This
6 article details significant shortcomings in the NYPD
7 and is revelatory for me to read and I really
8 strongly encourage all of my colleagues to read it
9 and read it with a critical eye and what we can do in
10 the remaining months of this term to bring
11 transparency and real reform to the NYPD. And so, I
12 just wanted to commend our colleague, Alicka Ampry-
13 Samuel for her steadfast work. Thanks.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much,
15 Council member. We will now go to Council member
16 Koo.

17 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you. Today,
19 I am introducing Resolution 1619 calling on the US
20 Congress to pass in the president to sign the Covid
21 19 Hate Crimes Act which is federal legislation that
22 will expedite a review of Covid 19 hate crimes. As
23 we know, the pandemic has exacerbated hate crimes and
24 biased incidents in Asian Americans here in New York
25 City and around the country. At the time of this

2 drafting, New York City has seen 35 hate crimes
3 reported. That number has already skyrocketed to 68
4 in just a month and these are just those that have
5 been reported and confirmed. One of the largest
6 dangers to our community at this point is unreported
7 hate crimes and biased incidents. It has been
8 difficult to gain the public's trust due to our
9 history of an action and, therefore, many times these
10 crimes never get reported. The Covid 19 Hate Crime
11 Act will accomplish three key goals. One, designated
12 officer of the Justice Department to conduct
13 expedited reviews of hate crimes. Second, issue
14 guidance for state and local law enforcement agencies
15 for reporting in multiple languages. Third, issue
16 guidance describing best practices to mitigate
17 racially discriminatory language in describing the
18 Covid 19 pandemic. We need federal action,
19 especially in areas where there are not many-- where
20 there might not be large Asian populations and law
21 enforcement may not have the linguistic or cultural
22 competence--

23 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: to address these
25 incidents when they occur so that they don't explain

2 them away as someone just having a bad day. And we
3 need to stop allowing people in power to use
4 discriminatory language like China virus or Kung Flu.
5 This are not partisan words and this is not a
6 partisan issue. These affect all of us. Our country
7 is better than this. I hope you will join Council
8 member Chin and I in supporting this legislation.
9 Thank you.

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much
11 for your very timely words. Council member Dromm.

12 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time starts now.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you very
14 much, Madam Majority Leader. I also just want to
15 thank Colima Johnson who is leaving. Colima came on
16 board when I was Education Chair and it was a real
17 pleasure to be able to work with her. She is a
18 thorough professional. She is kind. She is nice.
19 She is competent. And I just wish her all the best
20 and I just want to say thank you, Colima, for
21 everything that you did for our students in New York
22 City. So, thank you and good luck. I hope to see
23 you soon and let's stay in touch. Thank you, Colima.

24

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2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, Council
3 member Dromm. Any other members at this time who
4 wish to speak?

5 PARLIAMENTARIAN: No, Madam Majority
6 Leader.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Seeing none, I will
8 now call on Speaker Cory Johnson to close today's
9 stated meeting.

10 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam
11 Majority Leader. Again, I want to thank Colima
12 Johnson and Austin Branford and Celine Mizrahi. We
13 are going to miss them. The stated meeting of April
14 29th, 2021 is hereby adjourned. Everyone be safe.
15 Thanks.

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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 26, 2021