

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

VISION ZERO - BROOKLYN TOWN HALL MEETING

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April 01, 2014  
Start: 07:11 p.m.  
Recess: 09:30 p.m.

HELD AT: Brooklyn Borough Hall

B E F O R E:

YDANIS RODRIGUEZ  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

DANIEL DROMM  
VANESSA GIBSON  
COREY JOHNSON  
INEZ BARRON  
ROBERT CORNEGY  
LAURIE CUMBO  
CHAIM DEUTSCH  
RAFAEL ESPINAL  
MATHIEU EUGENE  
VINCENT GENTILE  
DAVID GREENFIELD  
BRAD LANDER  
STEPHEN LEVIN  
ALAN MAISEL  
DARLENE MEALY  
CARLOS MENCHACA  
ANTONIO REYNOSO

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

## COUNCIL MEMBERS CONTINUED:

MARK TREYGER

JUMAANE D. WILLIAMS

[gavel]

ABE FRIEDMAN: For those who don't know my name is Abe Friedman. I'm the intergovernmental Director for Brooklyn Borough Hall for the Borough President who's on the way. I would like to welcome each and all of you to borough hall for this special occasion with the meet and greet town hall with all the council members who are late of transportation and of course our counterparts in DOT and NYPD. I would like to quote what the borough president said after the tragedy, an accident a few weeks ago. And he said no matter if you get killed by a gunshot or by a car vehicle all Brooklynites suffer. And I think tonight we will have an opportunity to of course hear from the Transportation Department, the NYPD and Council Chair of what we can do to reduce of course fatalities and improve pedestrian safety. I think the mayor is to given credit for forming the Vision Zero which will continuously be enforced and discussed by some of you in the crowd. And I'm hoping that all of you will find tonight a helpful event. The borough president is on the way so we will continue our program with Council Member

Rodriguez who is the Chair of Transportation, New York City Council. I would like to bring him up to the podium for a minute or... Okay, thank you so much again.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: First of all thank you everyone for taking this evening to be here. This is a important forum conversation where this is our second one. Even though we upload all the other town hall meeting that has been happening and many to come we decided for, with the leadership, our Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito to do one town hall meeting in each borough. The first one was in John Jay, the second one is taking place here then we will go to Queens, Staten Island, and the Bronx. And at the end of those five town hall meeting we... First of all this meeting had been officially recorded as we did it at John Jay. And our plan is to produce, to add another, other ideas, all the suggestion that can... reach Vision Zero plan, a great initiative led by our Mayor Bill de Blasio. So what we are hoping to do is to empower our city. Vision Zero will be a reality only as, only if everyone of us from the governmental side, from the community advocate,

1 from the average New Yorker, from the NYPD,  
2 teachers, everyone understand that it is our  
3 responsibility to be sure that we address a major  
4 crisis that is affecting our city. I have two  
5 daughters a seven years old and a 13 month. And I  
6 know that having the first cause of death in our  
7 city children being a victim of car crash accidents  
8 is something that I know that everyone, is aware in  
9 how he had brought all New Yorkers together. And we  
10 are committed with the literacy with the mayor to  
11 address the issue and to eradicate that first cause  
12 of death in New York City especially for children  
13 because they are our future and it's possible is is  
14 due and we are working new days in our city where  
15 we are working closer, where the city agencies, our  
16 commissioners, our elected official, our leaders in  
17 the NYPD, and teachers, and commissioner have, it  
18 has committed to, to address this important issue.  
19 Our plan is to have the opportunity where everyone  
20 who want to give their input but all the  
21 legislation, their, a reaction to what has been  
22 proposed to have the opportunity to do it. We did  
23 it in June, in John Jay where there were two  
24 minutes for our elected officials and one minutes

1 for our participants. And we did it very well. In  
2 one minutes everyone... First of all we did it very  
3 brief and the public also had the opportunity to  
4 come, take the microphone... We would like to hear  
5 new ideas, new suggestion. And if anybody else  
6 already has address, has shared some other ideas  
7 here's give the opportunity to somebody else.  
8 Because it's like, and I was like seven what, seven  
9 15, seven 20 I thinks, seven 15. So with that this  
10 is forum for all of you to come and give us the  
11 opportunity. We don't want to take more time. We  
12 agreed that there's a major crisis affecting our  
13 city, having the first cause of death especially  
14 for children who being victim of car crash  
15 accidents. I think that that's enough for all to  
16 say let's come together, let's work together.  
17 Vision Zero already has been taking place. DOT and  
18 the NYPD and, and DOC, everyone already had to  
19 concern a step toward the implementing Vision Zero.  
20 But we would like that at the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> a town  
21 hall meeting to come back to you and report on some  
22 legislation probably it will open a new day in New  
23 York City where new legislation also can be a type  
24 of participatory legislation forum where  
25

1  
2 legislation also can be produced from the floor,  
3 from people that come and bring good and important  
4 ideas. So with that I would like to first call my,  
5 my colleagues in governments and from Manhattan you  
6 know now Brooklyn is a hot spot. So everyone is  
7 talking about Brooklyn and the mayor you know from  
8 Brooklyn I was here when we were in the last day  
9 making Melissa Mark-Viverito our speaker for New  
10 York City, the New York City Council and there is,  
11 with her leadership that we are holding this  
12 hearing too. So with that I would like first to  
13 call my colleague Council Member Gentile.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Thank you  
15 Chairman Rodriguez and welcome back to Brooklyn.  
16 It's good to have you back and Commissioner  
17 Trottenberg and Chief Chan thank you for being part  
18 of this forum here tonight. And to everyone out  
19 there you know recently we had reports that the  
20 population of Brooklyn has grown to about 2.5  
21 million people. And it's clear to all of us who  
22 live here that it is a crowded place and pedestrian  
23 safety is becoming more and more of a issue as the  
24 population continues to grow in our area and  
25 certainly vehicular traffic is, is plentiful. And

1  
2 that's why I'm a little bit disappointed in, in  
3 learning that the funding for, for, for speed  
4 cameras around schools was not included in the  
5 state budget that was just passed. And that's  
6 disappointing. But I am encouraged by the fact  
7 that's, our speaker of the assembly Shelly Silver  
8 has introduced legislation to add 140 of those  
9 cameras around the school zones. So if that  
10 legislation passes we will have that as reality. So  
11 let's hope that that legislation does go forward  
12 before this session is over. We as our chairman has  
13 said want to hear from you. And that's what the  
14 forum is about. I see a lot of my colleagues  
15 starting to fill in here so I'll, I'll finish by  
16 just saying thank you very much there are issues  
17 and some of the issues may be particular to certain  
18 parts of the borough but we want to hear so, is  
19 those issues and come up with a vision for, for  
20 Brooklyn. Again thank you.

21 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you...

22 Council Member Gentile. Now let's the opportunity  
23 to... Now say they, then also first of all you know  
24 let's work on our Manhattan Borough President  
25



Council Member, our Borough Brooklyn Borough  
President...

[applause]

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: I got it. I got  
it. I got... I got it.

[laughter]

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Borough  
President Adam back, first now let's call our  
Council Member Deutsch.

COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Thank you very  
much Chair Rodriguez. First of all I think, are you  
getting a double salary now?

[laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: No? Okay. First  
of all I want to take this opportunity to thank  
everyone for being here today, tonight. And  
Councilman Rodriguez is, has a very strict two  
minute guideline of the speakers. And you're the  
second person that gave me two minutes. My wife  
gave me two minutes to take out the garbage.

[laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Now I want to,  
I want to say that in my district, the 48 council  
district we already had three fatalities over the

1 last few months. And it's very unpleasant when I  
2 visited these families to see what they, what they  
3 go through. It's very, you know it's, it's just  
4 watching them you know brings you to tears. And  
5 sometimes people don't realize that when they're  
6 driving, and even if someone does not cause a  
7 fatality but an injury, they don't realize what  
8 affect this does on not only that person, on the  
9 families, on the friends, on the acquaintances, on  
10 their neighbors. So we need to focus and, and I'm a  
11 strong supporter of Vision Zero and I'm a proud  
12 supporter. And by the way I did a study and we  
13 found that most people that come to the Vision Zero  
14 town hall meetings, they're reckless drivers,  
15 you're all getting a summons here. They want to see  
16 what kind of enforcements we're going to be doing.  
17 But this is something, we want to listen to the  
18 community, we want to hear your concerns. No one,  
19 nobody knows their community better than you do.  
20 You know your street corners, you know the  
21 dangerous intersections. Although we have a great  
22 commissioner, our DOT commissioner and borough  
23 commissioners but again no one knows your  
24 community, no one knows your street corners better  
25

1 than you do. And that's what we're here for. We  
2 want to listen to you, we want to listen to your  
3 concerns, want to listen to your issues, want to  
4 hear what intersections, what streets, what needs  
5 to be, what needs improvement, and what initiatives  
6 we can take as elected officials as well as the  
7 police department to improve our streets. So again  
8 I want to thank you all for being here tonight.  
9 It's, it's very important, not just for, for me as  
10 the Council Member represent the 40 council  
11 district in the city of New York but I want to  
12 thank you on behalf of your friends, your  
13 neighbors, and the people who are not here tonight.  
14 So I hope you'll pass the message, the message on  
15 that you'll, we'll be hearing from, from some of  
16 our speakers. So thank you again. Thank you.

18 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you. Now  
19 let's hear Council Member Menchaca.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Buenas tardes,  
21 buenos noches. My name is Carlos Menchaca, Council  
22 Member for district 38 Sunset Park and Redhook. Do  
23 I have any Redhook, Sunset Park residents in the  
24 house? Okay, I saw some hands. She's not going to  
25 come up. Okay, so, I, I'm, you've already heard so

1 much of what, what we're here to do. We're all  
2 concerned about our streets. They need to be safer.  
3 We need to be able to have livable streets. And we  
4 need to bring the creativity of so many of our, our  
5 residents that understand them to the table which  
6 is why we're here today. So great to see NYPD here.  
7 So great to see our Commissioner Trottenberg here  
8 and our Chair Ydanis Rodriguez. We need to get him  
9 out to Brooklyn more so we can, we can make sure  
10 that, that he represents it in the best way. But  
11 our Brooklyn Council Members are very very  
12 concerned and we want to make sure that you're at  
13 the table. And specifically because you need to  
14 shape this. We're here not just today but we're  
15 also in our district offices to make sure that we  
16 continue that conversation. We don't want to stop  
17 that conversation today. So let's just get it back  
18 to you. We want to hear from you and our  
19 presenters. And I'll say that I'm committed to  
20 making sure visions, Vision Zero works for you.  
21 Thank you.

22 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you. But  
23 you know, I know that I am safe here in Brooklyn.  
24 You know my brother he and I we know each other  
25

1  
2 like for 20 years so like we been working like for  
3 a long period of time together before we got  
4 elected to office. So we know that we, and we are  
5 here like committed to work as a team but before I,  
6 I call the DOT to do a presentation I want to give  
7 a big round of applause to the men and woman of the  
8 NYPD who are here with us.

9 [applause]

10 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: I always say  
11 that even though I participate in civil  
12 disobedience at the end of the day I need to be  
13 sure that my two daughters who walk in the street  
14 safe so they know that you are the one who keep our  
15 city safe. So thank you for the work that you do in  
16 our city. Now let's hear from our Commissioner from  
17 the DOT commissioner who be doing a great job,  
18 someone that from day one she, she has shown us  
19 that she is a leader that believe in inclusion and  
20 she been listening to us and have no doubt that the  
21 year that she will serving as a commissioner she  
22 going to be doing a great job. So let's... with a big  
23 round of applause Commissioner Trottenberg.

24 [applause]  
25

1  
2 COMMISSIONER: Thank you. Is this on,  
3 yes it's on. Thank you Chairman Rodriguez and, and  
4 Borough President Adams and Council Members Gentile  
5 and Deutsch and Manchaca for being here. And thank  
6 you for your leadership. And this is an amazing  
7 turn out. I knew Brooklyn would have the biggest  
8 crowd. And sure enough you have produced it.

9 [applause]

10 COMMISSIONER: I, I also want to thank  
11 my DO team that's here, our Borough Commissioner  
12 Joe Palmieri our Deputy Commissioner Keith Bray who  
13 I think is in the back. It is wonderful to... how  
14 partners like the NYPD but I have a terrific team  
15 at DOT that has been hard at work on Vision Zero. I  
16 also want to echo something that the Chairman said.  
17 I mean obviously I want to give our sympathies to  
18 the families here in Brooklyn who've lost loved  
19 ones. It is a very painful experience and it is  
20 part of what is driving us in Vision Zero. They're  
21 the reason that we are here tonight. And I happen  
22 to say at DOT over the past few years you've done a  
23 lot of work on pedestrian oriented projects and  
24 designs. And I think we've already been hard at  
25 work on making our streets safer. Some of the

1 projects we've done in boroughs all over the city  
2 we've reduced fatalities anywhere from 20 to 88  
3 percent. And we've done a lot of common sense  
4 changes to intersections, shortening crossing  
5 distances, improving visibility and predictability,  
6 and making sure that everyone who uses the streets,  
7 pedestrians, drivers, cyclists, busses, they know  
8 where they're supposed to be on the road. As, as  
9 Council Member Gentile mentioned Brooklyn now  
10 hitting 2.5 million people we've been doing a lot  
11 of work in the borough, we have a lot more to do  
12 and have done some work in Park Slope, on Fourth  
13 Avenue, calming traffic, calming on Pennsylvania  
14 Avenue. But with Vision Zero part of our goal this  
15 year that the mayor has tasked us with is going  
16 even further and doing even more. And some of the  
17 things we've been talking about and you'll hear a  
18 presentation tonight, one that I know is a big  
19 interest here in Brooklyn doing some real  
20 aggressive strategies on 20 farve [phonetic], 25  
21 big arterials throughout the streets, streets like  
22 Atlantic Avenue slowing down speeds, doing traffic  
23 calming. We know that it's going to make a huge  
24 difference around the city. We're going to put in  
25

more speed humps, better lighting. We're going to do a terrific ad campaign. We're going to 500 schools per year. We're going to be working with vulnerable groups on the street; seniors, children, people with disabilities to make sure that we're doing street designs that are going to meet their needs and ensure their safety. And as was mentioned we are going to also be working with our partners up in Albany. We are committed to seeing if we can get more local control for the city in terms of speed cameras and setting our own speed limit. Those are tremendously important things for safety. So thank you again. I really want to thank the speaker and, and Chairman Rodriguez for having these town hall meetings all over the city. We are really looking forward to your comments and this is just a fantastic turnout so I'm so glad to see you. I'm now going to turn it over to Warren Gardner at DOT. He's going to just give a quick overview of what the whole Vision Zero action plan is. So thank you.

[applause]

WARREN GARDNER: Thank you Commissioner.

I'm just going to give you all a brief overview of



the Vision Zero Action Plan. So as you know Vision Zero is Mayor de Blasio's revision to, to eradicate the traffic fatalities on our city streets. It's a bold ambitious exciting vision but it's very attainable. You know we at DOT and the other agencies believe that there are no acceptable levels of crashes on our streets so during his first few days of, in office the mayor has charged the DOT, the NYPD, the TLC [sp?] and several other city agencies to come up with a, with a plan of action to, to help stop these crashes on our streets. So because of that we came up with a 63 point plan which we have some copies of in the back that you can always take with you on your way out. As we mentioned you know Vision Zero is not just you know a dream or a policy that the mayor has put forward. It's actually more of a mindset change. And you know we think that this is the, the impertinence of how we are going to see Vision Zero come to fruition. We really have to change the way we look at how we move around in, on the streets, you know whether we're drivers, cyclists, or pedestrians. And another thing that we really have to kind of look at is how we view these collisions.

1  
2 You know we call them accidents but they're not  
3 accidents. You know accidents can be prevented. But  
4 you know these are, these are crashes and this you  
5 know if we start to really view them as crashes, as  
6 things that can be prevented we can change the  
7 mindset of how you know we move around in the  
8 streets. You know 30 years ago it was okay for, you  
9 know you to go out after work or on a Friday with  
10 some friends and coworkers and have a drink and  
11 just get in your car and drive away. But now it's  
12 against the law. And we changed those laws first by  
13 changing the mindset of how we view these laws. And  
14 that's what we're really trying to get to with  
15 Vision Zero. So you know as you can see you know  
16 the numbers are glaring. You know you have 4,000  
17 New Yorkers who are severely injured along our  
18 streets and you know roughly 250 who are killed.  
19 And you know 4,000 people that's, that's, you know  
20 it's almost 11 people per day or seriously injured  
21 in crashes on our streets. And a lot of this is due  
22 to you know poor driver choice, you know whether  
23 it's failing to yield to a pedestrian or, or  
24 speeding. You know we found those to be like the  
25 primary causes of a lot of these crashes. So in

order for Vision Zero to work we really need not just the agencies that the mayor has charged in order to get this done but we need everybody here in this room and in our communities. You know we need all the civic leaders, all the, all the community leaders, and all, just all the concerned citizens in our city to really come together. So you know we're going to be coming back to Brooklyn. We're going to really be getting more involved. And we want you guys to really help us pinpoint those areas throughout the city but primarily in your neighborhoods and your corridors where you think Vision Zero needs to be implemented. We're all going to be doing some work in some of our schools and our senior centers. You know we're trying to get to you know kids while they're younger and try to really educate them about the dangers of our streets. So this is you know one of the campaigns that we're conducting now. We've already started this week where we're going to be handing out flyers like these at some of the major crash corridors that we've seen through the city. We started already this week and we've seen that they, the reception on these has been, has been

tremendous throughout where we've been advertising so far. You know this is another one of our campaigns or anti-drunk driving campaign. You know the mayor said it best. You know when you get in your car you take the lives of your neighbors and your friends and community members in our, in our hands. You know and it, it's all about a choice that you make to, you know if you're, if you've been drinking it's a choice that you make to get into your car you know. So we're just trying to get folks to think about the choices that we're making out, when we're out, out and about. Another major partner, partner to the DOT and the NYPD in Vision Zero is the TLC that you're, you're going to hear from them shortly but you know they're, they're really stepping up and doing a lot of work and treating the drivers giving them better training and more, and treating them more often. But also more importantly they're going to be doing a lot of partnerships with some of the local commercial fleets. You know out here in Brooklyn you have you know all of the, the, like the commuter vans that will go up and down Brooklyn And they really kind of set the tone for how we move around in our

streets but we're going to be doing a lot more work with them to get them to change their mindset as well about how they move around in our streets. So... keep more people safe. And as you also hear NYPD's also going to be stepping up enforcement in a lot of the areas that we see the majority of these crashes. You know speeding and failure to yield, to yield to pedestrians. And some of the other enforcement tools that the NYPD's going to be using throughout the city. And in conjunction the NYPD and the TLC are also going to be looking into, you know increasing their resources to use more investigative tools to help district attorneys and other law enforcement agencies who are going to be investigating some of these crashes. And in addition the TLC is going to be looking into more technological resources like using black boxes and you know some speed sensors in some of their cars to, to help with their drivers as well. So this graph here kind of shows you know through the use of the red light cameras. We all know where, as part of Vision Zero we're going to also be increasing the automated, you know automated cameras that we use throughout the city. This graph

shows you where we've used cameras in the last 20 years and how they dramatically reduced the amount of pedestrian fatalities and injuries where we've used them. And we've also noticed the same amount of reduction in some other major cities like Washington D.C. and Chicago who have also seen crashes and fatalities go down. Another part of Vision Zero is also trying to get our laws strengthened up in Albany as the commissioner mentioned. You know we need more cameras and we need to be able to set where we can use the cameras. Currently state law limits how we can use these cameras. And they're, they can only be used during school hours and in, in school zones. And we've noticed that the majority of, of crashes have occurred outside of normal school hours and normally at night and a lot of the victims tend to be the elderly. So we want to be able to use these cameras at different times of the day in different parts of the city because we feel that it'll be a little bit more effective. And as the commissioner mentioned you know we also want to be able to set our speed limit. You know we all know that speed kills and the 30 miles an hour that we have now is

1 just way too fast. You know people are doing, who  
2 are going well above 30 so we want to be able to  
3 set our speed limit back to 25. And we're also  
4 going to be looking at you know some new designs  
5 for some trucks. We're seeing a lot of people get  
6 hit by turning trucks and they'll roll... they'll  
7 roll underneath the trucks and get run over by the  
8 back wheels. But just some of the things we're  
9 looking at is to try and see if we can get some  
10 side and rear guards on some of these trucks that  
11 are rolling through our streets in the city. And  
12 we're also working with the mayor's office for  
13 people with disabilities. Vision Zero is going to  
14 work for all of us throughout the city. So you know  
15 we're, we're doing some major changes which we've  
16 already started here at DOT and we're going to be  
17 expanding some major changes to help folks who  
18 either can't see or can't see very well across the  
19 street and those who need a little bit more time to  
20 cross the street as well. So you know for a while  
21 you know DOT has been making some of these major  
22 street designs. We've, we've noticed that you know  
23 just by doing some, some very simple designs we've  
24 been able to reduce crashes from 20 to 80 percent  
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1 depending on the design and where we've implemented  
2 them throughout the city. And as part of Vision  
3 Zero we're going to be doing 50 major projects per  
4 year. And as the commissioner mentioned you know  
5 we're going to be doing a lot of work here in  
6 Brooklyn and especially on Atlantic as well. And as  
7 you can see this, from this rendition this is just  
8 you know a rendition of a street where it's a  
9 little unclear what people are doing or where  
10 they're supposed to be going. But some of the work  
11 that we've done on streets like this it's just kind  
12 of make it a little bit more easy, visible or for,  
13 to people who use the streets the pedestrians. You  
14 know, you know shortening the distances for people  
15 to cross and, you know given the clear markings on  
16 lanes of where to go. You know this is a, an  
17 example of Carlton Avenue and Park Place where you  
18 see the cross marks are clearly marked, bike lane  
19 is clear. So everyone who uses the street whether  
20 you're a driver, a pedestrian, or a cyclist you  
21 know where you're supposed to be on the street.  
22 This is another rendition of, part of Vision Zero  
23 is we're really going to be focusing on a lot of  
24 the, the large arterials like Atlantic and some of  
25



the, the large ones that we have out here in Brooklyn. So you know you can see that biker on the, on the bottom left there. And you know there's no clear markings on the streets. But part of the work that we've done and there are going to continue to be doing here at DOT is making you know these streets a little bit more clearer for, for everyone use uses... you know you see the clear bike lanes, clear bus lanes, crosswalks. And a lot of these designs also make the streets you know more predictable for the drivers, the pedestrians and the cyclists. And they are them more forgiving so that if you're a cyclist or a pedestrian and you didn't time correctly how much time you need to cross the street or if you're driving and you do get into a crash, you know it doesn't cost you, you or someone else their lives. This is another example of Columbia street where you see the bike lanes are clearly marked and the markings on the street are clear for everyone who uses them as well. This is Metropolitan Avenue and, and Humboldt Street where you know you see two people in the middle of the street you know no one really knows where, which way to go or who goes first, or, or

1 who moves. So some of the work that we've done, I  
2 don't have any clue to you know putting a  
3 pedestrian island in the middle of the street. So  
4 you know that pedestrian knows you know where he's  
5 supposed to be, the drivers know where he is and  
6 everyone clearly knows where they're supposed to be  
7 on the street. And we're also going to be, as part  
8 of Vision Zero is augmenting some of the designs  
9 that we have already been working on and will  
10 continue to be working on with you know some  
11 arterial slow zones where you and your neighborhood  
12 can actually apply for some of these zones. And we  
13 at DOT will come out and take a look and see how we  
14 can work with the community on them. You know so  
15 we're, we're rolling up our sleeves we're at DOT  
16 with the other agencies and you know we're looking  
17 to roll up our sleeves with you all here as well.  
18 You know so this is some of the upcoming events  
19 that we're going to be having. As the commissioner  
20 mentioned you know we're going to be coming back to  
21 Brooklyn and we're going to be doing some workshops  
22 where you know that's the more in depth version of  
23 these town halls where we're going to be bring up  
24 maps. And you, we're going to be relying on you to  
25

1  
2 come out and point out where on your streets, on  
3 your blocks, and on your coordinators you think  
4 Vision Zero needs to be implemented. And you know  
5 this is where we really need you to step in and  
6 help us figure it out. So you know if you, if you  
7 hadn't had an opportunity we invite you to, you  
8 know to visit our website, the Vision Zero website.  
9 It's going to have a, a lot of great information  
10 about what we're doing and allows you an  
11 opportunity as well to chime in on where you think  
12 Vision Zero is needed. That's our presentation.

13 [applause]

14 ERIC ADAMS: Thank you. Thank you so  
15 much. And I thought it was important that often  
16 times we talk about this issue and we don't put a  
17 face to the impact, to the 18 names who died in  
18 this borough over vehicle accidents. And one of  
19 them is here today, Rochelle Charles [sp?] who lost  
20 her five year old son that's walking in now. And  
21 you know I thought about it when I read that her  
22 five year old son was killed when a vehicle was  
23 backing up. And I started to think about the first  
24 five years of my son. And Rachelle would not have  
25 the joy of going to little league games. She would

1 not have the joy of going to his public school  
2 graduation. There are no photos on the wall to see  
3 his junior high school graduation. She's not going  
4 to be there to see him his first day in college.  
5 She's not going to watch him walk across the stage  
6 and call mom and talk about the days that will had,  
7 would have had good days and bad days. These is not  
8 just merely about numbers. This is not about stats.  
9 This is about the pain that never ends, it never  
10 dissipates, they never stop hurting. So it doesn't  
11 matter if it's young five year old Charles or 75  
12 year old grandmother who was killed in a vehicle  
13 accident. We must get serious about this issue. Two  
14 years ago we started talking about 20 miles an  
15 hour, the difference between taking a life and  
16 causing injury. And people thought it was  
17 impossible. We have to surrender and wrestle away  
18 the rights that the state is making on how our  
19 streets should be safe. Albany does not live on  
20 Albany Avenue in Brooklyn while... [interpose]

21 [applause]

22 ERIC ADAMS: So I commend Ms. Charles  
23 for coming here today. And her son should be a  
24 picture that all of us should relive how much this  
25

1 impact families. We cannot allow Brooklyn to say.  
2 The most deadliest street in the city. That is  
3 unacceptable. And those 18 family members, I'm  
4 tired of seeing our streets adorned with white  
5 bikes to indicate and reflect when someone has lost  
6 their life because of a vehicle accident. The  
7 streets of yesteryears have changed. We now share  
8 our streets with bicyclists, skateboarders, and  
9 children who are often intimidated by the speeding  
10 and driving habits and those who continue to abuse  
11 their drive and we heard it clear from Department  
12 of Transportation when they indicated that a lot of  
13 these accidents are caused by reckless driving. And  
14 we need to look at and think outside the box of  
15 some of the legislation has been introduced through  
16 the city council of putting sirens on plow  
17 vehicles, or to look at our speed cameras that we  
18 are having a different time navigating Albany  
19 legislative body to get more speed cameras. We had  
20 to fight to get street, speed cameras in front of  
21 school buildings. How horrendous is that? So these  
22 are challenging times but we can lead the way. I  
23 know these hearings are taking place throughout the  
24 entire city but there's something about Brooklyn.  
25

1  
2 Brooklyn is the place where we push the agenda and  
3 move the needle forward and we darn shore going to  
4 do it on this issue. We're going to lead the way in  
5 the borough of Brooklyn to make sure that we  
6 decrease if not eradicate the endless and senseless  
7 lives that are lost because of vehicle accidents.  
8 And the police department has done a lament job  
9 when you look at the stats and the numbers. Years  
10 ago they started what was called traffic stats  
11 where they went out and analyzed every vehicle  
12 accident. And under Chief Scagnelli we saw a  
13 substantial decrease in vehicle accidents. Now we  
14 must go to the next level. There's nowhere you have  
15 to go to in this city that you have to go at 30  
16 miles an hour. 20 miles an hour must be the speed  
17 limit in this city and Albany must pass that  
18 legislation... [interpose]

19 [applause]

20 ERIC ADAMS: And so I'm excited that we  
21 have members of the city council, Ydanis Rodriguez  
22 who's chair of the Transportation Committee is  
23 leading is charged and the entire Brooklyn  
24 delegation and even our colleagues from the Bronx  
25 has also joined us of, Council, Council Woman

Gibson and no one has been more of a leader around this issue with a clarion voice than our public advocate Letitia James who has just walked in.

[applause]

ERIC ADAMS: So we're going to unite around this issue. But the real applaud does not go to those of us who were elected, it goes to the public. I have witnessed across the borough family members who have lost love one. They allow their pain to turn into purpose. And if you will look on the laws that are on the books now the most important pieces of legislation that makes its way through Albany and the city council came because family members decided to pick up the mantle and move it forward. So I'm asking all of the family members to join Ms. Charles and others to unify together, to send a strong message that this is the year that we're going to have safe streets. We're going to ensure that our family members can move in a safe fashion. We're going to ensure that good legislation is passed. We're going to start a movement that would demand and force our legislatures from Albany to the city to implement, implement bills and legislations that the rogue

ways of this city and state will be safe. And I think in the memory of young Charles we can send a serious statement that is going to be done this year. So I thank you for coming out. I thank you for those who are, pack this courtroom and the overflow room downstairs in our community room. This is a clear display of how serious this, this issue is. And we will not take it lightly. My colleagues are here to say and let you know we will push this agenda forward. Thank you very much.

[applause]

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: So only the, our Brooklyn Borough President says he's our host, the hosting version. He can take any, as long as he wants but now we go back to two minutes because...

[laughter]

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: ...because there's like 50 people who also, also want to address and we've been... them one minutes each, he means 50 minutes so we want to be sure that we get back on track on the times. So now let's hear from our public advocate Tish James.

[applause]



PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Wow, okay. So good evening everyone. Most of you know me from my former life at, as a city council member representing the district which unfortunately had the reputation of having the highest number of fatalities in the borough of Brooklyn. For Green Clinton Hill, Prospect Heights, Ground Heights, and parts of Bedford-Stuyvesant. And I see so many of my friends. And all of you know just before I was elected as the public advocate I believe it was the night of election night where we had a memorial, a memorial in honor of Lucian Merriweather. He was a eight year old child who's lost his life at Dcal [sp?] and Carlton. And we all gathered. It was on the night of the election. I'll never forget it. And throughout my career, the ten years where I was in the city council. We had so many memorials. We had too many and you all know that we join together with transportation alternatives and when wonderful commissioner, Brooklyn Commissioner at DOT and I'm glad you're still on the job to talk about these issues, to talk about slow zones, pedestrian plazas, dedicated bus lanes, street, making sure that lights were staggered, making sure that we had

1 curb outs, street humps, reengineering our streets  
2 throughout the city of New York. I remember when  
3 all of you joined me as I was chair of sanitation  
4 where we saved ghost bikes because we wanted ghost  
5 bikes in the city of New York to remind people of  
6 careless driving. And the list goes on and on of  
7 our recommendations. And so I'm glad that the  
8 borough president, the great borough president Eric  
9 Adams is having this as well as the city council  
10 under the leadership of Ydanis Rodriguez so that we  
11 can continue to keep this in the forefront of our  
12 mind so that Ms. Charles and Ms. Merriweather and  
13 all those other parents in the city of New York who  
14 have lost loved ones...

15 [bell rings]

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: ...that this no  
17 longer happens. I know the bell. I'm the one that  
18 officiates in the city council when I cut people  
19 off. So before they cut me off I'm going to take my  
20 seat. But I join with all of my members of my city  
21 council and the new commissioner in making sure  
22 that when you cross the street of this, when you  
23 cross the street in the city of New York it should  
24 not be a matter of life and death. Let us focus on  
25

Atlantic Avenue Commissioner, Flatbush Avenue Commissioner, Empire Boulevard Commissioner, Eutica, Pennsylvania Avenue, Kings Highway, and the list goes on and on and on. Thank you Brooklyn.

[applause]

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Now let's hear from the, the Chairman of the Safety, Public Safety Committee who is also a, one of the, a co-chair of this Vision Zero initiative Vanessa, Council Member Vanessa Gibson.

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Good evening ladies and gentleman. Good evening Brooklyn. Thank you so much for having me today. I want to first thank our incredible Borough President Mr. Eric Adams for signing off on my pass so I can come across the bridge and come to Brooklyn and to my council colleagues Transportation Chair Ydanis Rodriguez, our public advocate to all of our stake holders, DOT, TLC, the mayor's office, the NYPD. It's a truly a pleasure to see all of you here. I am Council Woman Vanessa Gibson. I'm proud to represent the Bronx. I chair the Committee on Public Safety and certainly I am thankful for your presence here today. Understanding that Mayor de

Blasio had an aggressive plan called Vision Zero. And this is a framework that's going to have critical conversations around safety for pedestrian drivers, bicyclists for all of New Yorkers that are travelling on our streets. These are the types of conversations that we want to have. And we are here to hear your input and your concerns. And while our public advocate talked a lot about streetscaping, countdown crosswalks, pedestrian plazas, neighborhood slow zones, reducing the city's speed limit not to 25 but 20 miles per hour. I also want to pay particular attention to people with disabilities, those who have visual and hearing impairments that cannot see a countdown crosswalk. We also want to make sure that whatever we do we respect and are sensitive to the needs of a disabled community. As the chair of public safety obviously working with our police department there's a huge enforcement component that we must have a conversation about. It's going to talk about imposing laws where we have to make sure we equip our police department with resources to enforce those laws. And so I am thankful to work with all of my colleagues. And certainly I want to just

1 really commend the family members who are here.  
2 Like the borough president said they had turned  
3 their pain into a purpose, into a plan and I'm  
4 thankful for the courage and the bravery that you  
5 took to come here tonight. And I'm thankful for all  
6 of you for being here. And God bless you all and  
7 let us continue to work together to enact Vision  
8 Zero safety for all New Yorkers. Thank you so much.

9 [applause]

10 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Now let's hear  
11 from the Council Member that represents this part  
12 of Brooklyn, Council Member Steve Levin.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you very  
14 much everybody. I'm Council Member Steve Levin. I  
15 represent downtown Brooklyn here. I want to start  
16 out by giving a shout out to Council Member  
17 Gibson's mom and uncle who are with us in the  
18 audience as well. They're Brooklyn residents.  
19 Welcome. Welcome. I'm really excited to be here  
20 today because what we have seen over the last  
21 couple of months with the de Blasio administration,  
22 Commissioner Trottenberg, Chief Chan, and all of  
23 the resources at city hall is that Vision Zero is  
24 going to be a priority. In this administration

Vision Zero is going to be a top priority. They wasted no time in making sure that this is something that we are going to see in our neighborhoods on our streets. So I want to thank the leadership of Borough President Eric Adams, our public advocate Letitia James, and Department of Transportation, and NYPD who are all here. I'll tell you in my district I've seen just in the last couple of months several fatalities of, of people who have families, have lives who were enjoying... riding their, a gentleman was riding his motorcycle on a, on a Sunday afternoon, a young woman was walking home with her family, a nursing student at Hunter College they lost their lives. Their families lost a daughter or a son or a brother or a sister. And we have rededicate ourselves time and again to making sure that no family goes through that pain. And no family suffers the senseless loss of losing a loved one to, for, for no, for no reason and for something that could have been prevented or something that could have been avoided. And so the things that I think are important to keep in mind is that we have a lot of resources at our disposal. We have infrastructure,

1 education, and enforcement, key components that we  
2 need to focus on to make sure that we are doing  
3 everything we can to reduce all traffic injuries  
4 and fatalities because no family ever should go  
5 through what these families have gone through. So I  
6 want to thank you all. Keep the pressure on us, the  
7 elected officials, on the mayor's office, on, on  
8 the Department of Transportation, and NYPD. The  
9 public, we are responsible to the public. We answer  
10 to you. And so I want you... I want to encourage you  
11 and thank you for keeping up the pressure thanks.

12 [applause]

13 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Now let's hear  
14 from my colleague Council Member David Greenfield.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank you.  
16 Thank you Mr. Chairman. Thank you to the borough  
17 president for us, for hosting this, we're really  
18 fortunate that we have such a fantastic borough  
19 president Eric Adams. I want to thank of course  
20 Tish James. She truly is the public advocate. And  
21 we all appreciate the clear voice that she has on  
22 our behalf. Of course I want to thank Commissioner  
23 Trottenberg for her leadership. And I want to thank  
24 our Brooklyn Commissioner Joe Palmieri who is here  
25

as well and also would like to thank the NYPD for their work. Chief Chan I know is incredibly dedicated, is working very hard. And I think what's unique is for the first time ever we're seeing all these different agencies that are actually working in concert where the Department of Transportation, the NYPD, the various agencies whether it's the MTA or any agency that has jurisdiction are working together. I think the first thing that we need to of course recognize is that we all have a role to play in Vision Zero. And you know a lot of times you hear debates about this right. You know who's responsible. The answer is we're all responsible. And if you're a pedestrian you have a responsibility. If you're a cyclist you have responsibility. If you're a driver you have responsibility. In my case I'm all three. I'm a pedestrian. I'm a cyclist. I'm also a driver. But you also have to admit that the bulk of the problems really come from the drivers right. Because they are behind these huge regimes that have thousands, in some cases many thousands of pounds that obviously can do the most damage. So the critical part from my perspective is to



1  
2 acknowledge that we all have an important role to  
3 play and, and to recognize that it's not the kind  
4 of thing that we can do over night. The reality is  
5 that crime wasn't lowered to historic records in  
6 New York City overnight. It was a combination of  
7 different ideas and processes and we have over 60  
8 different recommendations. Some of them will work.  
9 Some of them won't work. Some of them will have to  
10 be fine-tuned. But the most important thing to  
11 recognize is that we're well on our path. And the  
12 reason we're on our path is because of the people  
13 in the room. And especially I want to thank all the  
14 advocates out there both the organizational and the  
15 individual who are out there who are pressing and  
16 are pushing because the most important part of this  
17 is to keep pushing and to keep getting the message  
18 out and to keep being active and to keep the  
19 pressure up because bureaucracies are slow. We  
20 don't change right away but you already have a  
21 victory and an administration and a mayor and a  
22 commissioner and a police department that is  
23 committed. And I'll tell you, I say this time and  
24 time again the police department really is our  
25 biggest partner in getting these things done. And

1  
2 so we ask of you keep the pressure up on all of us,  
3 not just on us but on the administration,  
4 especially on Albany because at the end of the day  
5 while we have a lot of common sense pieces of  
6 legislation here I have legislation that would  
7 lower the speed limit on side streets to 20 miles  
8 per hour. The reason we're limited is because  
9 Albany unfortunately handcuffs New York City in  
10 terms of our regulations. So I want to thank all of  
11 you...

12 [applause]

13 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: So I want to  
14 thank all of you and I want to encourage you to  
15 keep pushing because you're making progress. We  
16 will get to zero but it's going to take a lot of  
17 hard work on everyone's part. So thank you very  
18 much.

19 [applause]

20 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.  
21 Representing NYPD Chief Thomas Chan.

22 CHIEF CHAN: Good evening. Borough  
23 President Eric Adams, Public Advocate Letitia  
24 James, Chairman Rodriguez, Chairman Gibson we thank  
25 you for inviting us here tonight. What be here

tonight also are members of the Brooklyn Police Department our finest here. We have our Exo [sp?] from Brooklyn North, Deputy Chief Jack Trabitz.

[applause]

CHIEF CHAN: Deputy Inspector...

[applause] from Brooklyn North also. Our commanding officer of the 84 precinct Max Tolentino.

[applause]

CHIEF CHAN: From Brooklyn South we have the Deputy Chief Ken Corey...

[applause]

CHIEF CHAN: ...and also Deputy Inspector Tom Pascal.

[applause]

CHIEF CHAN: We'd like to thank all the agencies who've been working in conjunction with us and Vision Zero, the mayor's office, DOT, TLC, the Department of Education, Department of Aging, Department of Health. As we mentioned earlier we've, the borough president mentioned traffic stat, traffic stat is basically a forum where the police department reviews the process of our program in terms of dealing with traffic collisions, injuries, and also fatalities. That is

an opportunity for us to take a look at our engineering, the education, and also the enforcement and of course the engineering working with the Department of Transportation who's been a close partner of ours. We are working closely with all of our partners and you will be concentrating specifically on hazardous violations where we feel may impact on injuries and also fatalities. And they mentioned earlier speeding, failure to yield to pedestrians, disobeying signs, signal light violations, improper turns, also using cell phones and texting at the time. The police department is also updating our technology. We're updating our equipment. Some of our systems are old and we are in the process of updating and also improving those areas of computers and the analysis of the information. We are increasing our personnel and our highway units to deal with speed summonses. We're also looking at our training of our officers both new and old in the police academy. And ultimately we look to collaborate with all the community and all the agencies in this Vision Zero. Now one of the things I mentioned earlier, the town hall meetings, the town hall meetings have been

great. Actually at Manhattan Town Hall Meeting the other day a young lady mentioned something to affect about Department of Motor Vehicles and the exam asking about yielding to pedestrians. And that thought, thought to me when I was sitting in Department of Motor Vehicles. I said they have TV. monitors there and people are sitting there 30 minutes to 40 minutes in Department of Motor Vehicles. Why not produce a public service announcement and have these motorists watch those because you're sitting there for 40 minutes.

[applause]

CHIEF CHAN: Our officers now in contact with Department of Motor Vehicles to look at that issue. So in other words town hall is a great opportunity. You folks have the ideas and we're going to work with those ideas to make Vision Zero become a reality. So in summary we're going to collaborate together, we're going to reduce the collisions, and deal with the injuries and also the fatalities, and we look forward to working with all of you. Thank you very much.

[applause]

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Now let's hear from TLC Conan Freud Chief Operating Officer.

CONAN FREUD: Hi, good evening. Just going to keep this quick. Want to thank the borough president, the public advocate, Chairman Rodriguez and all the other council members, and my colleagues from city government. At TLC we're looking at, it's through three things; education, we have 110 thousand licensed drivers that we need to educate to be, who are safe drivers, who are very safe but can always become safer. We have over a million two passengers, a million point two passengers a day in our licensed vehicles. And we need to educate people how to become safe pedestrians. And also occasionally become, they become safe drivers. We're looking at technology in the cars about you know whether, to put black boxes in but they're, we're buying speed guns for our enforcement officers to, to increase our enforcement. And the last thing we're looking at is enforcement of self to target enforcement on our licensees who are not always necessarily playing by the rules and when they do we are going to you know

take the corrective action. So that's the TLC program and I'm going to wrap it up fast.

[applause]

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Let's hear from Transportation Alternatives Deputy Director Noah Budnick.

NOAH BUDNICK: Thank you Mr. Chairman. My name is Noah Budnick. I'm the Deputy Director of Transportation Alternatives. And I'll be very brief because really I want to hear from everybody here, everybody here tonight about how we're going to achieve Vision Zero. In Brooklyn first as a Brooklynite I want Brooklyn to lead the way and for New York City and other cities around the, around the country that are taking note of us New Yorkers and what we're doing. I want to thank the Borough President for his leadership on this and his words. And I want to especially thank Ms. Charles for coming here tonight. I live a few blocks from Eastern Parkway in Flatbush and this tragedy really hit me when I heard the news. And for you to be here tonight Ms. Charles I want to thank you for your energy for taking a stand and for just reminding all of us that it will take all of us to

1 achieve Vision Zero. It will take full  
2 participation and I hope that we will all be  
3 emissaries of safety that, we are all here taking  
4 action but we need to go. We need to talk to our  
5 families. We need to talk to our neighbors. We need  
6 to talk about the dangers of speeding. We need to  
7 remind each other about safety, about driving  
8 safely on the streets of New York of Brooklyn, the  
9 fourth largest city in the country. We can do this  
10 if we all do it together. There are just three  
11 things, three last points I want to make so take  
12 out your calendars because they're all important  
13 dates. The first is this Friday. Transportation  
14 Alternatives, we're a 40 year old non profit. We've  
15 been working with communities around the city to  
16 help them win safer streets. And this Friday at  
17 Atlantic and Court we're having our first Friday  
18 Night Lights event. We're doing a pedestrian safety  
19 event where we're helping people cross Atlantic  
20 Avenue Safely. Last week Commissioner Trottenberg  
21 announced that DOT is going to be taking action to  
22 improve Atlantic Avenue. And we want to support the  
23 DOT on this.  
24

25 [applause]



1  
2 NOAH BUDNICK: It's, it's these big  
3 streets like Atlantic Avenue. These are 10 percent  
4 of city streets but 50 percent of the traffic  
5 deaths. So it's smart to start there and take a big  
6 bite out of the traffic fatalities in New York  
7 City. And so Friday night at 7:00 we'll be showing  
8 our support. We'll be helping people cross Atlantic  
9 Avenue safely. The second date, May 6<sup>th</sup>. That will  
10 be our day of action in Albany. And I want all of  
11 you there to help call on Albany to bring safe  
12 streets to New York City. Albany should not set the  
13 speed limit in New York City and...

14 [applause]

15 NOAH BUDNICK: ...we, we need your voices  
16 there. We'll be going with families who have lost  
17 loved ones. We'll be going with people who have  
18 suffered traffic violence. We need to tell our  
19 stories. We need to remind ourselves why we're  
20 doing this. We're doing this for ourselves. We're  
21 doing this for our children. We're doing this for  
22 our seniors. We're doing this for people who are  
23 not as fleet of foot, move around the city. Our,  
24 our streets need to be forgiving. So May 6<sup>th</sup> comes  
25 Albany. And then the last thing is, the last

1 Thursday of every month Transportation  
2 Alternatives, Brooklyn activists get together.  
3 Transportation Alternatives, we're a nonprofit  
4 organization. We connect the dots. We work with  
5 communities. We hear your issues, your problems. We  
6 help you solve them. And it starts by coming and  
7 talking to us. So we have meetings every month. We  
8 want to engage with you. This is how Vision Zero  
9 started from the ground up. It's a testament to  
10 Mayor de Blasio that he has us nonprofits here at  
11 the table with all the agencies. It really shows  
12 his commitment to community engagement. And I  
13 invite you to come the last Thursday of the month  
14 for Brooklyn Committee meetings, get involved  
15 because this is how we're going to make change and  
16 get to Vision Zero. I look forward to hearing from  
17 everybody tonight.

18 [applause]

19 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Now let's hear  
20 from the Mayor of Commuter Assisting Unit in  
21 Brooklyn Borough Director Cassie Mogly [sp?]

22 BOROUGH DIRECTOR: Good evening  
23 everyone. First of all I just want to say how proud  
24 I am as a Brooklynite and as a community affairs  
25

1 person, as an organizer to see this full packed  
2 house right now. This is a reflection of what we  
3 want community affairs to be. You all are our  
4 partners in everything that we do. We want to  
5 continue to come with, come to you and partner with  
6 you to essentially make the city better. And we  
7 can't do it without your help. So I'm so proud of  
8 all of you for being here and I applaud you. And I  
9 want you to know that literally the, the, the input  
10 that you give us tonight is going to, is going to  
11 save lives. And thank you to the borough president  
12 for hosting us and to all of the council members  
13 who have been incredibly supportive and incredibly  
14 helpful on this measure. To public advocate Tish  
15 James and to, for the amazing work that the NYPD  
16 and DOT are doing. Thank you.

18 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

19 [applause]

20 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Now let's hear  
21 from Brooklyn to Council Member Brad Lander.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Good evening.  
23 It's, it's wonderful to see all of you. And I'm  
24 going to be very brief because I'm eager to hear  
25 from you. This is a place where the people of

1  
2 Brooklyn were way out in front of the elected  
3 officials and the city of New York. This is an  
4 issue that so many of you in the audience have been  
5 pushing and have been leading in the fight to make  
6 prospect park west safer. It was you who led the  
7 way in the work to make Hick Street safer. It was  
8 you who led the way in the work to make Bartel-  
9 Pritchard a place that you could walk around and  
10 cross. There's people in this audience who led the  
11 way in the work to make 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue less of a death  
12 trap. It was you who led the way in the work to  
13 make Fort Hamilton Parkway safer. There was sort of  
14 more mixed results... that was a joke with Fort  
15 Hamilton Parkway...

16 [laughter]

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: When it, when we  
18 came to trying to prevent the next death at Church  
19 and Ocean Parkway you saw it, you led the way. The  
20 people in this room have kept pushing, and kept  
21 pushing, and kept pushing and what a remarkable  
22 thing now to have an administration that is  
23 stepping up and responding, to have our partners in  
24 the NYPD here, to have our long time partners at  
25 the Department of Transportation who have really

1  
2 been remarkable throughout. This is an important  
3 moment. And it's an important moment for a lot of  
4 reasons. It's an important moment because those of  
5 us who have known victims of traffic crashes, those  
6 of us in this audience who are friends with Sammy  
7 Conecstein [sp?] and his family and all the other  
8 victims. And those of us who have kids who cross  
9 the street every day, parents who cross the street  
10 every day. We've got to do everything we can to  
11 make sure there's really as close to zero traffic  
12 deaths as we possibly can. But I also want to add  
13 you're already seeing the benefits in our  
14 neighborhoods from the ways they get better too. So  
15 we don't just prevent accidents and prevent deaths.  
16 We wind up with pedestrian plazas. We wind up with  
17 streets we can cross. We wind up with neighborhoods  
18 that are great places to live in and that we're  
19 going to be really so, so proud to hand on to our  
20 kids. So thanks for all that you guys have done.  
21 It's an extraordinary legacy in my opinion that the  
22 activists of Brooklyn are giving to the future  
23 people of New York City. Thank you.

24 [applause]  
25

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Well in 55

minutes right you heard from our Brooklyn Borough President, our public advocate, eight council member, a presentation from the DOT, NYPD, DOC, Alternative Transportation. So as we did in 55 minutes now we expected that our public also will be doing in one minute taking the microphone, go directly to your suggestion on any other ideas that you can have on how Vision Zero can work. You can think of our potential legislation. Think about any new legislation that you can suggest to us. Think about any new ideas, any new suggestion, any intersection that should be redesigned. So now is our time. We did it at John Jay and we will do it here, one minute. And the first four member of the audience are going to be calling is, we're going to calling in group of four Robbie, sorry let me get my glasses. You know when you get 48... Robert Albernore [phonetic] Backal Abraham [phonetic] Rachelle Marcus [phonetic] and Ralph Yozo [phonetic].

ROBBIE ALBENAR: Hi, I'm Robbie Albenar.

I live in Park Slope. I just wanted to thank all of you for being here. I'm new to the city but I've

1  
2 already spent a lot of time walking, biking, taking  
3 the train. And it's really encouraging to see that  
4 we have DOT with NYPD and TLC, transportation  
5 alternatives, everyone together working. That's the  
6 only way that anything is going to get done. And I  
7 just want to thank you and encourage you to keep up  
8 the fight, the fight. Thank you.

9 [applause]

10 BACKAL ABRAHAM: Thank you all very  
11 much. My name's Backal [sp?]. I know a lot of you  
12 have already been an advocate for safer streets  
13 working with transportation alternatives, streets  
14 pack. But right now I'm just speaking as myself,  
15 someone who's really thankful to be here. Five  
16 years ago this week I was in a hit and run going  
17 from, grew up in Queens coming back here to  
18 Brooklyn at Montach and Suddard in an area of East  
19 New York that has very little infrastructure. It's,  
20 it's a shame that people don't feel safe to walk  
21 anywhere there. They have Lindon Boulevard to  
22 contest with. It's, it's really a nightmare there  
23 but I'm thankful that I recovered because way too  
24 many people cannot recover. I, I think you're  
25 probably looking at a roomful of people that are

energized and happy with the results but there are a lot of people that can't come to these meetings because they are severely injured or they are killed or grieving families just cannot go on. So I really, really immensely thank you for being here and for... I mean everything you've said has been perfect. But it's what you said so far. It's great but we need the action and you need to be bold. There will be people saying we can't give up a corner, we can't put a bike corral there, we need the parking, not good enough. This is a moral imperative. We need to be safe.

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

BACKAL ABRAHAM: Thank you.

[applause]

RALPH: Hi... Hi, my name is Ralph I'm in, I live in Bed-Stuy and I work in Manhattan. And I have some questions about the East Side Bike Path. And why on the East Side Bike Path, has anyone ever biked on the East Side Bike Path. There's basically a, an apartment building, a restaurant, a heliport, and then it just ends at 37<sup>th</sup> street, dead ends. That's, do we, I see that there's something going



on there but could we talk about why we have a gas station on a bike path?

[laughter, applause]

RALPH: The last thing is if we want Vision Zero the best thing to do is to keep the cars away from the people and the bikes right. And if we have a concrete wall between...

[laughter]

RALPH: ...people and bikes then there will be no deaths by cars, collisions...

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

[applause]

BERTRAM MARCUS: Good evening all. Good evening to all distinguished borough presidents. Honor. Good evening to oh, public advocate. Two great voice for Brooklyn and, and for this city. People really set the tone. My name is Bertram Marcus. I'm the Community Director for Brooklyn. I advocate for the people of Brooklyn. And we touch on a lot of, a lot of issues surrounding Brooklyn. And I just want, I just want to say that it's great that we are changing Brooklyn, the way we travel around Brooklyn and so forth. But there's some, there's some things I agree with and some things I

1 don't. Don't get me wrong the things that we do in  
2 Brooklyn is for the benefit of each and every one  
3 in Brooklyn. So we have to make sure that Brooklyn  
4 is safe for our, our children. You know most all we  
5 need to have a more... [bell rings] yeah, we need to  
6 have, we need to have a more directive to the  
7 motorists, give them retraining and teach them how  
8 to be, how to be more accessible for others in the  
9 road. You know we need lights, we need DOT to...

11 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

12 BERTRAM MARCUS: ...to speak up for us.

13 Thank you.

14 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

15 [applause]

16 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: And I would like  
17 also to remember everyone here that the end of the  
18 public so, when everyone will have the opportunity  
19 to also, to, to have one or two minutes. So if you  
20 would like to respond or to add anything else...  
21 write it down so that after the public, so we also,  
22 we have a... one minutes so... and... I will say DOT, the  
23 NYPD you will have the privilege to... to clarify  
24 anything. Now we have Olinda Makennas [phonetic],  
25

Abilgail Frost [sp?], John Burstein [sp?], and Eric  
McCler [phonetic]

ERLINDA: Good evening everyone. My name  
is Erlinda McKennis [sp?]. And many of the comments  
that I've heard, I have the same ideas. However...  
[coughs] sorry. I would like us to consider for a  
moment many of the laws that have already been  
passed in this city that has been, that have never  
had effective results. And many of us had this... Let  
me give an example. Dumping. Before when you dump  
in your neighborhood you could call and you give  
they license plate number and they'll do something  
about it. Now you can't do that. You can't give the  
card number, you can't give your name, you, you  
can't do anything. So that, that is moot. So what  
do we do when people are afraid to give their  
names, to participate, and to say I saw. What is  
the solution? For example; it's illegal to park  
close to... to park at, at the light posts, it's  
illegal. But it's not every day. So I'm saying to  
you unless we can address the fear that many of us  
have to make input about what is being done. Go to  
the red light. When they want to pass you because  
you're going to slow, you're going... [bell rings]

they pass. You got to let them go because they, you not going to pass me now. I say we need to address solution and how we going to go about doing it.

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

[applause]

ABIGAIL FROST: Hi, my name is Abigail Frost and I've been a, been a resident of Steve Levin's, wonderful Steve Levin's district for over 14 years and...

[background comments]

ABIGAIL FROST: Oh okay. Some of my best friends, relatives, and neighbors are bicyclists but my concern is actually about those bicyclists who are bad apples and do not follow... There's a total disregard for pedestrian safety, for traffic laws, I've seen people smoking, listening to the Walkman with both ears, texting, and going the wrong way on a one way street. And there seems to be a complete lack of enforcement and also no way to enforcement with, to enforce those, to even catch these people are, but the exception of the delivery men who now are identified. So that's what I have to say.

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

[applause]

JOHN BURSTEIN: Hello, I'm here to lobby for change to the pedestrian crossing pattern at the foot of Atlantic Avenue that leads to the, the new waterfront park at Ferman Street as it is now the light for cars turning right is green at the same time when the pedestrians are, have a, a walk light to cross. And there should be... I, the light should be changed to either a flashing red light or a green arrow so that the cars don't zip through the intersection at full speed without stopping for the pedestrians in the crosswalk. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

[applause]

ERIC MCCLER: Good evening. My name's Eric McCler. I'd like to thank all of you for being here tonight, making time to hear from Brooklynites. 10 years ago when I started doing complete streets and safe streets advocacy I was kind of a fringy lunatic but now it's official policy of New York City so...

[applause]

ERIC MCCLER: ...give you all a hand. One, one suggestion for policy that I'd like to put

1  
2 forth. It's really, I think for Chief Chan more  
3 than anybody tonight, in the 78<sup>th</sup> precinct where I  
4 live in Park Slope Deputy Inspector Mike Ameri has  
5 instituted as of the beginning of this year a  
6 monthly traffic safety meeting that precedes the  
7 regular precinct community council meeting. And  
8 it's an opportunity for people in the neighborhood  
9 to come in and talk about traffic safety policy  
10 with the precinct. And I'd love to see that  
11 replicated around all of the precincts in New York  
12 City. Thank you very much.

13 [applause]

14 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: See we doing it  
15 in one minute right so... and we being productive. So  
16 now let's go on. Exsandra Bowie [phonetic] Bilma  
17 McNalley [phonetic], Susan Pollark [phonetic] and  
18 Josey 12 84.

19 ALEXANDRA BOWIE: Hi. I'm Alexandra  
20 Bowie. I'm the president of the board of the  
21 Brooklyn Heights Association. The Brooklyn Heights  
22 Association... can't hear me? My name's Alexandra  
23 Bowie. I'm President of the Board of the Brooklyn  
24 Heights Association. The Brooklyn Heights  
25 Association is an enthusiastic supporter of Vision

Zero, is the original Swiss summary of Vision Zero puts it, no loss of life is acceptable. In order to achieve the Vision Zero goal of allowing everyone; pedestrians, cyclists, drivers to move freely and feel safe at the same time we need a change in approach and a change in the culture of the street. Vision Zero needs to be everywhere. We are fully in support of full investigations of crashes, traffic redesigns, and enforcement. But we think more can be done. The implementation of slow zones needs to be sped up. The speed hump signs and other passive enforcement efforts of slow zones are however going to start, not enough. We endorse red light cameras, speed cameras, slower speeds, 20 is plenty... [bell rings] and other means that discourage and penalize unsafe driving and the decision to install them should be the city's not the state legislature's.

[applause]

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

BILMA MCNALLEY: Good evening. I'm from Brooklyn Assend Charter School in Brownsville. We're located at 205 Rockaway Parkway. We have over 600 elementary school children in our building and every day they face a very dangerous traffic

1 situation at both arrival and dismissal. Rockaway  
2 Parkway may not be as popular and famous as  
3 Atlantic but it's a very dangerous road. It's about  
4 seven lanes wide. There's a painted median. We have  
5 drivers who race down the medians. We have U-turns  
6 in front of our, our school on the regular basis.  
7 This year we've had five traffic accidents in front  
8 of our school. And we've actually spoken with the  
9 DOT Brooklyn Commissioner Joe Palmieri. We've had  
10 the DOT Borough Engineer Leland Robinson at our  
11 school looking to see if it can be improved. We're  
12 asking and all of the parents are asking also,  
13 they've signed postcards to ask you to help us to  
14 make the seats, the streets safer by either putting  
15 in a curbed median in front of our street to stop  
16 the U-turns and stop the people racing down the  
17 road or to put in a crosswalk, a signaled crosswalk  
18 so that our, our families can get across the street  
19 safely. Where we're located it's a long distance  
20 from our school to the two crosswalks on that  
21 block. [bell rings] So I'd like to thank you and I  
22 can deliver my postcards.

23  
24 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.  
25



JOSEPH JONES: Good afternoon. My name is Joseph Jones. I represent Schenectady Block Association. I'm here today just to thank that everybody has come together in peace and in harmony for one cause. And to do that in divine order and in positive order. Again I'm proud to be a Brooklynite, peace.

VILLA MCNALLEY: Good evening. My name is Villa McNalley [sp?] I'm the president of Lot Speed Street Block Association and I'd like to give a shout out to the mission commanders of 70<sup>th</sup> precinct and the 60<sup>th</sup> precinct. I was a little bit concerned because when they made all the changes in Flatbush with the one way and all those things no one gave... thank you, I was very proud of my two commanders. Because we have one street, lot street [sp?] have a one, half of one Bedford Avenue ghost of the seventh precinct and the other section go to 67<sup>th</sup> precinct. So what I'm calling upon you today is to remember us, that we have had a community shelter on Tilden Avenue that have increased the population of children to about a thousand in the last five years. And we need a bumper because the traffic from Tilden Avenue [bell rings] to Bedford

1  
2 Avenue is like 90 miles. We need a bumper at Lot  
3 Street [sp?] and Tilden Avenue. I have other  
4 requests but that's the first and major one. We  
5 need a bumper. And I want a shout out toward the  
6 67<sup>th</sup> precinct and the 78<sup>th</sup> precinct that have the  
7 hardest work with that one lane on Flatbush Avenue  
8 Thanks.

9 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

10 [applause]

11 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: And I, I would  
12 like to inform everyone that before the end of  
13 April the Council is looking to have our first  
14 hearing. We're going to be introducing a number  
15 legislation. And, so at the same time that we are  
16 holding this Town Hall meeting and we would like to  
17 hear from your feedback as I said before NYPD, DOC,  
18 DOT, everyone is working informing the legislative  
19 body. We are also working with our staff from, from  
20 all the committee and the administration to be sure  
21 that we put together in numbers of legislation a, a  
22 that it go from increasing the penalty for a driver  
23 that failed to yield and, and other legislation  
24 that we're going to be discussing there. So you  
25 know just have that in mind that it, we are working

1  
2 in the fast track to address this program that  
3 affect our city. And, and also I would like to  
4 recognize the staff that make this town hall  
5 meeting possible. I deliver to the, our a, a  
6 Brooklyn Borough President, if he want to recognize  
7 anyone from his staff but from the council I'd like  
8 to recognize Howard Pollark [sp?] has done a great  
9 job. Together...

10 [applause]

11 CHAIRPERSON GONZALEZ: Together we  
12 wonder arguing they're the two whining Steve  
13 Tursolo [sp?], Felix Palassio [sp?] and Joel  
14 Apresling [sp?] also from my Transportation Staff  
15 Russell Murphy [sp?] Carmen del Arryo [sp?]  
16 [Speaking Spanish] Johnathan and, and the whole  
17 team that they are the one...

18 [applause]

19 BOROUGH PRESIDENT ERIC ADAMS: Just an  
20 enormous number of DOT and TLC and NYPD folk here.  
21 And their work is... some people like Chris Roseman  
22 [sp?] working on this since you know as long as I  
23 can...

24 [applause]

BOROUGH PRESIDENT ERIC ADAMS: Can, will you guys all stand up, all the, can we just, all the NYPD, other city staff who are here whose job it is to put this to work. Can we just ask them to stand up and say thank you. Come on Joe get up. Get up.

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.  
Thanks and...

[background comments]

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you...

UNKNOWN MALE: Yeah I just, I think it's important, import to Sandra Chapman [sp?] who's here and Eric Friedman, Joe Friedman, Joe Lizendolpher [sp?], My whole team who's here staying late and they better not try to charge me overtime.

[laughter]

UNKNOWN MALE: You know but this is an important issue for us. And my team is really, has wrapped themselves around this issue and I want to thank them and let them know that, how much we appreciate them as well.

[applause]

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: That's a lot to recognize George Levin who is representing our Controller, Escapa Swinger [sp?] who is also here representing...

[applause]

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Now let's get back to the next four. Steve... sorry, Stephen Wilson, Laurick Hanson[phonetic], Haas Mitchel [phonetic], and Morres Sacks [phonetic].

LAURA HANSON: I'm second but... Good evening I'm Laura Hanson. I'm the Executive Director of Neighborhood Plaza Partnership. We're helping neighborhoods transform reclaimed streets into public plazas. And we, especially the nonprofit organizations that are charged with maintaining and programming those spaces. Let me take this off. Okay. Is that better? Thank you Chair Rodriguez and Borough President Adams and the council members for convening this. And I'm here to pledge our support for Vision Zero and to encourage you to support neighborhood plazas as part of the solution. There are 66 plazas in the works across the city. Nearly 20 of them are in Brooklyn. They are, each one of them is calming traffic. They're

1  
2 addressing dangerous situations for pedestrians and  
3 drivers and they're reducing conflict between  
4 pedestrians, joggers, and cyclists. Not only as  
5 Council Member Lander said earlier not only do  
6 these plazas improve safety for the streets they  
7 literally create an asset. They create many parts  
8 in vibrant public squares. If they bring economic  
9 significant economic and social benefits to these  
10 neighborhoods. So even struggling organizations are  
11 willing to commit their time and sweat equity and  
12 resources to manage these places. So I won't  
13 encourage you to support those groups and I am  
14 pledging our support to you on these issues. Thank  
15 you.

16 [applause]

17 CHAIRPERSON REDRIGUEZ: Thank you.

18 CAZ MITCHELL: Good evening. My name is  
19 Caz Mitchell, a proud Brooklyn resident. I work and  
20 serve the LGBTQ community.

21 [applause]

22 CAZ MITCHELL: I'd like to thank you  
23 borough president Adams for your support and Public  
24 Advocate James and all the distinguished council  
25 members. Some of my colleagues and friends are

1 concerned about some of the streets that we  
2 socialize on. What has happened with a number of  
3 streets. The club spaces are on deserted dark areas  
4 and sometimes the street directions do not allow  
5 people to park. And what happens, those people then  
6 have to walk blocks and blocks into an even deeper  
7 and darker area causing them to possibly be  
8 subjects of being violated because of that. So some  
9 of the things that we'd like in certain areas that  
10 are industrial where a lot of clubs are at that the  
11 lights stay on additional time. And we want to work  
12 with the community and you to show you these places  
13 and, and show you how we are affected by this and  
14 also offer cultural competency to anyone who's  
15 victimized or hit in the accident so they can  
16 receive sufficient respect should they be in an  
17 accident and held in a hospital. Thank you.

18  
19 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thanks.

20 RON SNEIDER: Good evening everyone. My  
21 name is Ron Snider. I apologize to the panel. I  
22 wasn't on the list of speakers but I have a very  
23 quick suggestion that came to mind while I was  
24 listening to everyone. I am...

25 [background comments]

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: I'm sorry...

RON SNEIDER: I, I apologize. I've been a bicycle commuter in the city for nine years. And I wanted to...

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: I'm sorry we need to honor those people who already are waiting here. There's like 50 people waiting...

[applause]

UNKNOWN MALE 2: [off mic] My staff is here. If you have a suggestion give it to my staff but we want follow the, the, the rules.

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

MORRIS SACKS: Good evening I am registered. My name's Morris Sacks. I'm a member of Community Board 14. I would just like to remind everybody present that before any plan goes forth, any construction is done for traffic islands or anything of that sort they should consult with the local community board. We're the people that know the traffic patterns. We're the people that know the traffic patterns and we drive on the streets, and walk on the streets, and bike on the streets every day. As Joe Palmieri and Keith Bray you know sometimes things have to be undone after the



community board finds the fault with the project  
after it's completed. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

[applause]

UNKNOWN MALE 3: [off mic] Joe Forzell  
[sp?] one of our best staff is here.

[applause]

UNKNOWN FEMALE: [off mic] Give him a  
raise.

[laughter]

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Now let's go..  
Pete, Pete Herman [sp?], Alex Frank [sp?], Debbie  
Darkley [sp?], Toll Barseel [phonetic] Barselet  
[phonetic]?

PETE HERMAN: I'm going to go first, do  
it as quickly as possible so that everybody gets a  
chance to speak. Thank you all for showing up. I  
appreciate all of your efforts. A few things that  
have bothered me. The word is crashes, not  
accidents. Please use it especially in your  
speeches.

[applause]

PETE HERMAN: Second I would like to  
impose on you a few things, a few ideas. Those of

1  
2 you who drove tonight as leaders of our community  
3 when you're getting in your car please think about  
4 the example you are setting for everyone. If you  
5 commuting by car in this city you need to think  
6 about what example as leaders you are setting.  
7 Finally a couple of just quick easy suggestions.  
8 Some of them come up before. These are just very  
9 basic policy things. On intersections where most of  
10 the traffic is turning right or left, say more than  
11 50 percent those lights that drive pedestrians and  
12 drive cars should be mistimed. In other words you  
13 don't walk at the same time everybody's turning  
14 left or right. That will reduce traffic accidents  
15 in crosswalks.

16 [applause]

17 PETE HERMAN: Okay, two more pieces  
18 really quickly. Police on bicycles and on the  
19 street. Great idea. And finally crosswalks in the  
20 middle of streets.

21 [applause]

22 PETE HERMAN: For instance in front of  
23 Borough Hall where the Subway lets out and people  
24 walk directly across the street. Please put a...

25 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

PETE HERMAN: ...crosswalk there. Atlantic Avenue same thing. Thank you so much.

[applause]

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

ALEX FRANK: Thank you all very much for exploring Vision Zero, all the departments, all the electeds. To the last speakers last point.

Something we're all used to but this doesn't make it right, everything about our streets says that car occupants are more important than, non, non-car occupants.

[applause]

ALEX FRANK: And the like, the crosswalks in the middle of the block. Just the very fact which is so natural, seems so natural to us. The very fact that you, pedestrians have to walk to the corner to cross. You know I know you can't snap your fingers and just change that in New York City right now but just that is, it, it comes from a long philosophy that car occupants are more important than everybody else and they are not. Speed on city streets is stupid. You can't get anywhere fast. So you know you feel some, you feel stupid animal pleasure out of velocity but you

1  
2 don't actually get anywhere fast because you got a  
3 red light coming up a short distance ahead of you  
4 and what's the other reason it's stupid oh yeah,  
5 well it's dangerous.

6 [laughter]

7 ALEX FRANK: One quick suggestion. Look  
8 into, is there some science behind jaywalking and  
9 jay waiting is it sometimes called, does that  
10 actually make certain areas safer, not, not more  
11 dangerous but actually safer. In my experience it  
12 looks like it has a great traffic calming effect.  
13 So maybe somebody can check that out.

14 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

15 Thank...

16 [applause]

17 TOLL BARSLYE: Hello, my name is Toll  
18 Barslye [sp?]. I'm all for safe streets but  
19 sometimes I feel that Vision Zero only punishes one  
20 group only which is the motorists. I have been on a  
21 number of city streets and I've seen more cyclists  
22 and pedestrians violating laws than any motorist  
23 ever have. I've seen cyclists disobeying traffic  
24 lights and signs or pedestrians barely wait for the  
25 signal and some of them walk as if they were

1 listening on an iPod or something else. It makes me  
2 feel as if Vision Zero is more like just trying to  
3 look for one... I feel that it's just blaming  
4 motorist alone by all these programs alone is not  
5 going to make the streets safe. As long as you have  
6 other groups violating laws you cannot have safe  
7 streets at all. I do give my condolences to those  
8 that were hit but when I read the full review some  
9 actually got hit by not looking. I'm not saying  
10 that they, that they were meant to but if they had  
11 taken some alertness some of them, some of the  
12 accidents could have actually been avoided. And  
13 it's not to insult anyone here who lost someone.

14 [applause]

15 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you. Doug  
16 Gooring [phonetic], George Tate [sp?], Robert Unsen  
17 [phonetic] Dunsomen, Dunsen Robert [phonetic] H.  
18 Thompson [sp?] and Jean Ryan [sp?]

19 DOUG GORDON: Hi, my name's Doug Gordon.  
20 I'll get right to it. Sidewalk parking. There needs  
21 to be an immediate crackdown on sidewalk parking.

22 [applause]

23 DOUG GORDON: It seems like not a big  
24 deal. You can't get killed by a car that's just  
25

1 sitting there but it's actually one of the lowest  
2 hanging fruits of Vision Zero. There's no grey  
3 zone. You know with hydrants you may be a little  
4 too close you don't think you got that ticket but  
5 with a sidewalk you're either parked on it or  
6 you're not. And regarding broken windows why  
7 sidewalk parking. A driver who parks on the  
8 sidewalk is entitled. He feels entitled to probably  
9 do other things like block crosswalks which happens  
10 in front of my apartment across the street from the  
11 school all the time forcing children out into the  
12 street. Probably does other things like failing to  
13 yield to pedestrians because it just is this  
14 culture of entitlement. So I think there should be  
15 an immediate crackdown on this type of clearly  
16 illegal behavior. And I think we need to reframe  
17 what it means for drivers to feel that they have  
18 the right to park anywhere they want. We can't take  
19 away parking to put in a bike lane, to put in a  
20 bike corral, to put in a pedestrian plaza if people  
21 are parking on the sidewalk and feel entitled to  
22 every inch of space. Thank you.

24 [applause]

1  
2           GEORGE STATE: Good evening. My name is  
3 George State. I'm a member of Community board 17  
4 and the East Block Civilian Observation Patrol. I  
5 want to thank all of you for being here especially  
6 Ms. Council Gibson for bringing out the enforcement  
7 issue to the forefront. Yes I am concerned that the  
8 enforcement is a key and is not being applied as  
9 adequate as needed. Specifically I'm talking about  
10 the Fargo Road [sp?] patrolled Kings Highway to  
11 Albany Avenue area. We have three schools there. We  
12 have other repair shop, blocking sidewalks. This  
13 is... Businesses that are storing their products on  
14 the sidewalk and blocking street with the, their  
15 trucks. I tell you this is endangering the citizen  
16 who are forced to walk on the street, in the  
17 street. I would like to see more enforcement  
18 regarding those issues. Thank you.

19           CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

20           ROBERT THOMASON: My name is Robert  
21 Thomason. I'm from the Prospect-Lefferts Gardens  
22 Neighborhood Association. The issue here is, our  
23 culture is devoted to individualism. And each  
24 person is supposed to make a success of their lives  
25 as an individual. But we are finding that people

1  
2 are dying because of individualism. We need a  
3 different focus in our culture. And this is a very  
4 difficult thing to bring about. I think our, my  
5 neighborhood for instance Prospect-Lefferts Gardens  
6 needs a full time professional community organizer  
7 who will pull people together so that we don't  
8 think of our lives as I make it on my own but that  
9 all of us are make it together. That's a huge  
10 change in the way we have to come to think unless  
11 we want a continuation of these deaths.

12 [applause]

13 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

14 JEAN RYAN: Hi, I'm Jean Ryan [sp?]

15 [clears throat] excuse me. I'm from Bay Ridge and  
16 I'm a vice president of Disabled In Action. You see  
17 this ugly green vest I have I'm wearing on the back  
18 of my wheelchair and I don't care if it's ugly. I  
19 do care but I really don't because I want to live  
20 so I started using it and I keep it on my  
21 wheelchair all the time because I don't want a car  
22 to hit me. And almost all of my friends who use  
23 wheelchairs have been hit at least once, sometimes  
24 more than once in the crosswalk crossing the street  
25 so... And I've had so many close calls it isn't even



1  
2 funny. Cars going right in back of me, cars going  
3 right in front of me, it doesn't matter. And that's  
4 crossing with the light you know in the crosswalk.  
5 The, so the other thing is paint. A lot of the  
6 solutions to what we're talking about in Vision  
7 Zero consider paint as the solution which I think  
8 is great. But if you don't keep on painting the  
9 paint fades and we all... we have paint, faded paint  
10 all over the place.

11 [applause]

12 JEAN RYAN: So it's not really a  
13 solution. It's almost... you know if, if we don't  
14 keep up the paint it's like a PR thing, oh we did  
15 it you know solution solved you know. But you got  
16 to keep up the paint. The third thing is curb cuts  
17 also known as pedestrian ramps. You might not know  
18 it, you probably don't but across the whole city  
19 there are many missing curb cuts. They just aren't  
20 there or they're bad. They're really too steep like  
21 on Fort Hamilton Parkway, all over like right  
22 outside this building. And it's dangerous, we could  
23 tip over and I have tipped over on Fort Hamilton  
24 Parkway backwards right in my wheelchair right in  
25 front of a, a sanitation truck. So luckily they

1 were stopped and they helped me get upright again.  
2 So the, we have broken curb cuts. We have many,  
3 many curb cuts with gullies underneath them where  
4 our chairs totally get stuck. And city keeps  
5 saying, we've been saying for more than 10 years we  
6 need this and they've been saying they don't have  
7 the money. Well how does that make us feel because  
8 everybody uses those curb cuts but you know we're  
9 the ones who absolutely can't get up or off the  
10 curb cut any other way. And when there isn't a curb  
11 cut or it's really bad we have to go in the street  
12 with traffic. I have gone up lower Broadway. I have  
13 gone everywhere, every big street practically,  
14 Fourth Avenue. It doesn't matter. If there's no  
15 curb cut we can't go up on the sidewalk or get off  
16 of it. So you know I would like to have more  
17 attention paid to that and then enforcement I'd  
18 like to say also. I'd like to agree with the two  
19 people who talked about cars parking on the  
20 sidewalk. The traffic agents are, are trained in  
21 their school not to enforce if a police officer or  
22 even private cars I'm talking about or if FDNY is  
23 parked there... they could have any old fake permit  
24 and they, they're told leave them alone. How do you  
25

1  
2 think those cars get up on the sidewalk, on the  
3 pedestrian ramps. And I have met, also for car  
4 dealerships they're all over the place with cars  
5 parked. I have actually met cars while I was trying  
6 to go down a curb cut and they were coming up it.

7 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

8 JEAN RYAN: Seriously.

9 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thanks.

10 UNKNOWN FEMALE 2: I, I, I'd just like  
11 to actually give a quick response to a couple  
12 things you said because thank you. And I think your  
13 comments are very important. First on the paint it  
14 has been a tough winter. We hear you and we are,  
15 now that the weather has finally turned good DOT  
16 will be out aggressively restriping. But when you  
17 have a very difficult winter where it snows a lot  
18 it's...

19 JEAN RYAN: But the winter before wasn't  
20 tough and the, there was, there was still lots and  
21 lots of faded... [crosstalk]

22 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: But, but we are,  
23 we are now working with a new administration.

24 UNKNOWN FEMALE 2: But, but I mean look.  
25 I would also say we have 6,000 miles of roadways in

1 New York and, and I hear you. I, it, we, we know  
2 that paint can do a lot and it's a very cost  
3 effective way to go. So we will be aggressively  
4 painting. But I, I guess I'll just speak for...  
5 little patience because it was a tough winter. It  
6 snowed a lot. Our crews are busy doing potholes,  
7 they're doing roadway repairs. So now the painting  
8 season is upon us. In terms of the, the curb cuts I  
9 think what you're saying is really powerful and I  
10 think we want to make sure, we're really going to  
11 try as part of Vision Zero to work closely with the  
12 disability community. If they're part to the city  
13 where you were falling down and we really need to  
14 do some work... Alright well let us, I mean I think  
15 we really want to sit down and talk to you and  
16 figure out where some of those places are. I mean  
17 look your stories are pretty moving and I want to  
18 make sure we're doing a better job on that.

19  
20 JEAN RYAN: Thank you.

21 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

22 [applause]

23 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Let's continue  
24 with Ilda Lohen [phonetic], Doris Cruze [sp?],  
25 Marry Alice Miller, Christopher Naden [phonetic],

Noden [phonetic], Naden [phonetic] N A D E...  
[crosstalk]

MARRY ALICE MILLER: Okay my name is  
Marry Alice Miller. My borough president and my  
public advocate know me as a reporter but I'm here  
as a citizen. First I have to say I live around the  
corner from Brooklyn Ascension School and when they  
let out at 3:00 on Rockaway Parkway their school  
buses take one lane, the parents who are coming to  
pick up their kids and the on, the traffic that's  
supposed to go that way starts merging into the  
oncoming traffic, on Rockaway Parkway the same  
school she was talking about. So there's two sides  
to the story. Okay I want... One I suggest that  
people of my age remember cross on the green not in  
between as a public service announcement and I  
would suggest that we bring that back. If the city  
does I would like to take the credit.

[laughter]

MARRY ALICE MILLER: But because there's  
a whole generation who, who don't, who had never  
heard it and that we've had so many people come  
from all over the world and they, they have  
different infrastructure from where they come from.

1  
2 Okay, second I knew, I never knew... [bell rings]  
3 Just really, really quick this is, I live on Kings  
4 Highway this, this intersection right here I would  
5 like to give it to the DOT. I have, I lived there  
6 17 years. I've seen so many accidents. I live on  
7 the fifth floor. I can, I can tell how bad an  
8 accident is going to be just from the sound...

9 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

10 MARRY ALICE MILLER: People have lost  
11 their hands. I got hit. This last thing I would, I  
12 would really suggest that those intersections where  
13 there's, where there's, you can turn left on red  
14 the city really needs to look at those  
15 intersections because that's how I got hit by a  
16 car. And if, if a driver can make a left turn on  
17 red then they don't need to try to run over  
18 pedestrians when the pedestrian is crossing the  
19 street on the green.

20 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

21 [applause]

22 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: And from now on  
23 it's, it's one minute because there's 30 more  
24 people here waiting. So 30 minute time two is equal  
25 like one hour. So we want to provide the

opportunity for everyone. So as soon as you ring,  
hear the bir [phonetic] that's the time to give the  
opportunity to somebody else. Thank you.

UNKNOWN FEMALE 3: Okay thank you to  
everybody. But thank you for your words but thank  
you for your language. Because if we are trying to  
get a mindset language is so important. So the  
image is from the NYPD, the images that are coming  
out from DOT now that are saying warning to  
drivers, drivers we have to get you to think about  
these things, thank you for that. Three little  
items that aren't so little as we're talking broken  
windows, double parking, this is so dangerous. It's  
everywhere...

[applause]

UNKNOWN FEMALE 3: It is dangerous for  
every single person whether you are in the car,  
whether you're crossing, whether you're turning.  
Inching into the crosswalks, not stopping at the  
lines, being in the crosswalks not giving people  
the space. Whether you're in a wheelchair, whether  
you're crossing with your stroller. And honking,  
can we please do something about honking. Thank  
you.

DORIS CRUZE: Good evening and, good evening and thank you all. My name is Doris Cruze [sp?] and I am the vice chair of Community Board 10 that covers Bay Ridge and Dyker Heights. Every year as part of our capital expense budget we request crossing guards. We have not had one crossing guard, how many schools have we built?

[background comments]

DORIS CRUZE: Five. Not one crossing guard. I'll bet there are many people here who are talking about schools who would say we could really use a crossing guard.

[applause]

DORIS CRUZE: Our city needs to increase the budget for crossing guards and make it easy for crossing guards to work in their community. Second we recently met with the New York Police, the traffic control agents from the New York City Police Department. They do a fabulous job at controlling traffic at dangerous intersections. When you look at the pay scale of all the things we're talking about they're low hanging fruit. We could use our budget and put traffic control agents at dangerous intersections. We have three in our



community. A 65 six, 65 seven, 86 four and we have four dangerous thoroughfares 4<sup>th</sup> avenue, 65<sup>th</sup> street, Bayridge Parkway, and Fort Hamilton Parkway. We need help on those. But we really need crossing guards and traffic control agents.

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

CHRISTOPHER NADEU: Thank you for your leadership. My name is Christopher Nadeu. I'm representing a, a marginalized community that's often not spoken about in New York City but I, I have a feeling under the new leadership that will change. The Alzheimer's community. The Alzheimer's community has twice the chance of being involved in an accident, a car accident as a driver the same age without the disease. The Alzheimer's disease manifests itself almost completely after the age of 60. And knowing when to take the car keys away from somebody who as, has Alzheimer's is our, is one of our biggest challenges. And I'll just summarize by saying I'll give you my remarks, my remarks here today but people living with Alzheimer's or related dementia are driving right now in the streets of Brooklyn and all over New York. As far as I can, as I know there is no law or

1  
2 legislation to cover the situation of a person with  
3 Alzheimer's or related dementia if they get into a  
4 car accident. And we need it. Are we going to treat  
5 those individuals the same way as we treat drunk  
6 drivers and I hope not. Lastly [bell rings] I think  
7 that I'll just end it there. Thank you.

8 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

9 [applause]

10 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Richard Sargeins  
11 [phonetic] Joann Botty [phonetic], Ellenday, Elanie  
12 Day [phonetic], and Santos Creston Jr. [phonetic]

13 UNKNOWN MALE 4: [off mic]Mr. Chairman  
14 while we wait for them I respectfully suggest to  
15 you that in any future meeting you people turn the  
16 names face down as they get them. What you're doing  
17 is totally last in, first out on... [crosstalk]

18 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: I'm following  
19 the...

20 UNKNOWN MALE 4:All they got to do is  
21 put them face down... [crosstalk]

22 ERIC ADAMS: One thing we will do here  
23 in Borough Hall is have order. If you have a  
24 suggestion I got staff here. We're going to respect  
25 the people coming to the mic. We don't do things in

disorderly fashion. Remember I'm ex-police. I like order. So you have a great suggestion. I like it. We got staff here. Just raise your hand they'll come to you and we take that suggestion... we want to improve, we want to get better. Okay. Just go ahead Sir.

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

ERIC ADAMS: Thank you.

RICHARD SARGENT: Hi, my name is Richard Sargent. I'm from East Flatbush Community Board. Hi, my name is Richard Sargent. I'm from East Flatbush Community Board 17. I really would like to support Vision Zero but at the same time I'm just lost in the logic of enforcing a 20 mile an hour speed limit when you're not enforcing a 30 mile per hour speed limit the way I really feel that you should.

[applause]

RICHARD SARGENT: I don't like empty promises. That's aim number one. And my experience, my block we tried to get speed bumps all over East, all over East Flatbush. Neighbors who were... different blocks were getting speed bumps and I've said to my neighbor I, well if all these neighbors,

1  
2 all these blocks want speed bumps we have an issue  
3 with speeding. Where are the speeding tickets. And  
4 we just looked at each other. It was like okay well  
5 if you're not on a main street, if you're not on  
6 Kings Highway, if you're on East 52<sup>nd</sup> Street  
7 between Clarinend and Avenue D there's no such  
8 thing as speeding. The local streets don't get the  
9 type of enforcements that we need.

10 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Great. Thank  
11 you.

12 RICHARD SARGENT: Thank you.

13 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thanks.

14 [applause]

15 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Scott Powell  
16 [sp?], Theresa Scobble [sp?], Noel Hildalgo [sp?],  
17 and Elliot Bosch [sp?].

18 [pause]

19 ELLIOT: Good evening. My name is Elliot  
20 [crosstalk] Brighten Beach. Now my, I'd like to say  
21 this. My father was a victim of a hit and run  
22 accident March 28<sup>th</sup>, 1993. He died February 19<sup>th</sup>,  
23 2005. Now I, I see everybody's involved for these  
24 accidents, hit and run accidents, Albany included.  
25 But what I would suggest not, Albany, we do need

1 more cameras there's no question about that. But I  
2 have two suggestions for a legislation. One in Las  
3 Angeles on the mayor Tom Bradly there was a, a, if  
4 a, if the, if the driver would, would see a  
5 pedestrian he would have to yield the, the right of  
6 way. Not the two in Phoenix are they having an  
7 ordinance where that... [coughs] that... the pedestrian  
8 accident properly or crisscrosses at jaywalks,  
9 he'll be fine. If the driver does that he'll be  
10 fine. This is legislation I think the city council  
11 should enact. Thank you very much.

12  
13 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

14 [applause]

15 THERESA SCAVO: Theresa Scavo,  
16 Chairperson Community Board 15. I'll skip the  
17 social amenities. Public service announcements. We  
18 all have friends whether it be a movie star or  
19 singer. Ask them to step up and do a public service  
20 announcement. I'm sure if Brittany Spears got out  
21 there and told you cross at the green not in  
22 between our young people would be listening instead  
23 of darting out between cars. Left turn signals,  
24 Coney Island Avenue, whether it's in Southern  
25 Brooklyn or Church Avenue, Coney Island Avenue is a

1 disaster. Guider Avenue left turn signals will  
2 solve the problem. Countdown clocks on every street  
3 corner. Police enforcement. I love NYPD we've got  
4 to issue violations, stiffer penalties, double  
5 parking avenue, Kings Highway, Coney Island Avenue,  
6 Avenue big tragedies, people crossing behind double  
7 parked cars. Slow zones around schools. Taxi stands  
8 at train stations. Pull the taxi's DNLs away from  
9 the train door stop.  
10

11 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

12 THERESA SCAVO: Thank you.

13 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thanks.

14 [applause]

15 NOEL HIDALGO: Hi, my name's Noel  
16 Hidalgo. I'm the Executive Director of Beta NYC.  
17 We're essentially the city's civic hackers and the  
18 nerds who like to use the data. I hear a lot of  
19 great suggestions. I think one of the great  
20 suggestions coming out of this is let's have a  
21 public discussion about Vision Zero. Let's have an  
22 actual online dialogue...

23 [applause]

24 NOEL HIDALGO: ...where people can  
25 actually talk about these things and comment and

1  
2 vote these things up and down. I think that's a  
3 really great idea. I'm surprised that it hasn't  
4 been suggested in the, the Vision Zero report. But  
5 I'm really here to talk about specifically within  
6 the Vision Zero report is about data. What's  
7 missing, we've been asking for data to be released  
8 from the NYPD. We're starting to see some of it  
9 come out but it needs to be better.

10 [applause]

11 NOEL HIDALGO: Particularly crash and  
12 moving summons data. We don't have any  
13 understanding right now of how the street, how the  
14 laws on our street are being enforced. And we  
15 really need to understand that. We need it in a  
16 very particular way. We need a disaggregated  
17 geolocated frequently updated and as accurate and  
18 as complete as possible. Currently our crash data  
19 it, one-fifth of it using the city's own tools  
20 cannot be accurately verified. One-fifth of the  
21 crash data is inaccurate. Thank you.

22 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

23 ERIC ADAMS: You know one of the bills  
24 that's in the package that we'll be hearing in the  
25 council is a bill that would require that the NY,

1  
2 that the data we're currently getting from the NYPD  
3 in sort of a pdf form is available in a geocoded  
4 and online way. So we'll be hearing that at the...  
5 [crosstalk]

6 NOEL HIDALGO: Thank you.

7 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

8 SCOTT POWELL: My name is Scott Powell.  
9 I'm from Park Slope. I came to the meeting tonight  
10 because two months ago my wife was hit in a  
11 crosswalk by a car. She had the light. Month and a  
12 half ago I was walking my three year old son home  
13 from preschool at Sixth Avenue and 18<sup>th</sup> Street  
14 which is the corner of PS295 we were in the  
15 crosswalk, we had the light, there was a crossing  
16 guard, there were other kids with us in the, in the  
17 crosswalk. There were, it was at dismissal time.  
18 There were scores of kids around so everybody knew  
19 there were kids. And we almost got hit by a green  
20 cab driver who was barreling through the  
21 intersection at high speed. He went right through  
22 the, through the crosswalk, didn't make any  
23 difference. So if in that circumstance you do not  
24 have a reasonable expectation of safety there is  
25 something deeply and dangerously wrong with the car



culture in the city. We have to change it now.  
Please do so.

[applause]

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Now let's have  
Cassandra Soretho [phonetic], Lindsey Motten,  
Motting [phonetic], Deborah Grief [sp?], and  
Christopher Magrate [phonetic] Decrate [phonetic]

CASSANDRA: Good evening everyone. My  
name is Cassandra Savado [sp?]. Four years ago I  
witnessed a small child about to cross the street  
in my neighborhood, Williamsburg, He was on South  
Second Street and Hooper. Two years ago I lost a  
member of my family due to a speeding driver. One  
of the reasons why we are here today is because you  
are our elected officials. You want to carry the  
message to everyone in here but we need the  
changes. You are the ones that we chose as our  
voice. So with that in mind I beg to you to make  
the changes that we obtain all the traffic lights,  
all the necessities in our community that will  
prevent children, community residents, everyone  
that is affected by it, speeding driver is a  
casualty. And especially our children. They do not  
have a voice. You are our voice. So today everyone

here is concerned and we are all pleading to you to make those changes. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

[applause]

LINDSEY MOTLEN: Hell, I'm Lindsey Motlen [sp?]. Thank you for making Vision Zero a priority. In December I was a pedestrian in a hit and run on Grand Street. Luckily I will be okay but too many people are not as fortunate. The driver who hit me is still on the road ready to mess up someone else's life and my case was closed without a detective ever speaking to me. We need more resources so this doesn't keep happening. I agree that we need to change the language around reckless driving and stop calling these accidents. If any law is broken then it's a crash, a collision, a crime, not an accident. It's important to create a culture where it's shameful to break traffic laws, text and drive, etcetera. To do that the laws around negligent driving should be more strict. If a taxi driver hits or kills a person we take away the taxi license. That's barely a slap on the wrist. What message does it send. We need to treat negligent driving like drunk driving. Regarding

1 speeding as a consultant who worked on the project  
2 I think we can use the citywide performance  
3 reporting platform to map out key locations to  
4 install speeding cameras. We should reexamine no  
5 fault being capped at 50K and calling it no fault.  
6 But that's a minor expense, minor fraction of the  
7 expense. And then finally, hopefully winter is over  
8 now but being on crutches opened my eyes that we  
9 need to do a better job of clearing ice and snow.  
10 When the sidewalks aren't clear people walk in the  
11 shoulder or bike lane. When bus stops aren't clear  
12 people wait in the street. It's not an accident  
13 waiting to happen, it's a preventable disaster  
14 waiting to happen.

15  
16 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

17 DEBORAH GRIFE: My name is Deborah Grife  
18 [sp?]. I am the Chairperson of the Family Split  
19 Advisory Council. I represent parents who have  
20 children with developmental disabilities and I am  
21 the secretary of the 504 democrat people who with,  
22 have disabilities. Unfortunately most of, what Jean  
23 Ryan said was totally true, the crosswalks, when  
24 you try to get up and down wheelchairs... my late  
25 mother I almost tipped her over in Ocean Parkway.

1 Ocean Parkway is a major speed zone when I first  
2 moved there in 1973. I can tell you straight out  
3 that we learned to sleep without the regular lion  
4 light by our side, why. Middle of the night we  
5 would hear, because I live right near where Avenue  
6 W curves, crash, boom, called right away 911, knew  
7 exactly where the cars... they like to use these big  
8 parkways as speed, speed roadways. They think  
9 they're in the Indianapolis 500. The same thing for  
10 fountain avenue right by the developmental center.  
11 You have individuals developments ability do not  
12 always understand, not through a fault of their own  
13 no matter how much travel training we give them  
14 they don't comprehend. So we need to slow  
15 everything down there. Thank you.

17 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

18 CHRISTOPHER DEGRYE: Hi, I'm Christopher  
19 Degrye [sp?] from New York City Transit Riders  
20 Council. As Jean and Deborah already spoke about  
21 parts of disabilities it is very important that  
22 DOT, TLC please understand that our fellow  
23 disabilities need the necessary safety; crosswalks,  
24 bus stops, especially the shoveling of the snow  
25 because a lot of, 75 percent of our stops, even

1  
2 Eric can vouch on this as well as Letitia James and  
3 every other official knew bus stops were not  
4 shoveled properly. Half of our customers had to go  
5 out of the middle of the street and drivers had to  
6 drive slowly where they're in snow mode they have  
7 to drive proceed cautiously [phonetic] so they don't  
8 hit anyone. So I'm asking all elected officials  
9 when we have our next possibly snow storm in the  
10 fall or the winter coming up please let's get the  
11 shoveling done faster and properly safely. We do,  
12 you don't, not want to have any more lawsuits.  
13 Thank you.

14 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you. Let's  
15 see Louis Aling Bordnick [phonetic], Michelle Paris  
16 [sp?], Povale Lopez [phonetic]. They're not here,  
17 we continue. That's fine you can, you can go...

18 With no disrespect to anybody here. Two  
19 things I've heard today that are most important  
20 education and enforcement. One word is missing;  
21 repetitive. What you do here today, if it ends here  
22 today or when this panel is done it won't work. Now  
23 I don't know any college that gives out degrees in  
24 traffic but there are a lot of people with ideas  
25 here and you can't do it all in one minute. So I'm

going to ask the commissioner to grant me 10 minutes of her time at her location. I will come there and lay out a suns of zero costs up to minimal costs that will help this city with its traffic problems. Because what's being done now is a total disaster. You're creating funnels, backing up traffic, and causing more accidents by people who think the world revolves around their sphincters. And we've got to change that attitude. We've got to have enforcement and some means that penalizes them, that really hits them in the head.

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you Sir.

[applause]

POVALE LOPEZ: Good evening. My name is Povale [sp?] Lopez. I have a serious concern to bring up to your attention here. It's in the, just Brooklyn but Queens, Manhattan, and all the boarders. The liberty taxis are implementing and your technology of using tablets to receive dispatch calls and the question is isn't this a, a bigger reason than just sending the text, the driver paying attention to a tablet receive a call. I just want to call to your attention because this is something that can count as a major distraction

1  
2 in a driver. Liberty drivers are not like black car  
3 driver. Liberty drivers are moving around the city  
4 all the time expecting for a call, having a tablet  
5 in front of their eyes represent a bigger risk than  
6 just sending a text. Thank you.

7 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you. Biat  
8 Burking [phonetic], Stephen Arthur [sp?], Michael  
9 Drives [sp?], Jewel Laywits [phonetic].

10 UNKNOWN FEMALE 4: Hello, three of my  
11 friends have been struck by vehicles in the past  
12 year. My friend Ella Bandies [sp?] was fatally  
13 struck by a city bus. I attended a city council  
14 meeting led by Councilwoman Reyna in Brooklyn to  
15 try to understand what circumstances caused my  
16 brilliant sober friend to end up in front of a bus.  
17 I was told by the department of transportation that  
18 this intersection was already identified as a high  
19 pedestrian crash zone and that many steps had  
20 already been taken to try to make it safer. I asked  
21 what data had been collected and analyzed that  
22 pointed... those projected being the most impactful  
23 solutions for this high impact, high pedestrian  
24 crash zone excuse me, why was the budget being  
25 spent this way. The DOT collects a lot of data

1  
2 about the number of cars at intersections and their  
3 speed. But nothing about the density of pedestrian  
4 walkways. If thousands of people are commuting  
5 through busy intersections at rush hour is their  
6 enough room for everyone to walk in pedestrian  
7 designated areas. I urge the Department of  
8 Transportation to reevaluate their data collection  
9 and analysis process, it is irresponsible to ignore  
10 the need for data driven decisions that affect the  
11 limited budget to improve high pedestrian crash  
12 zones. I don't want major legislation that insist  
13 on unproven solutions. I do want better data that  
14 addresses the actual dangers.

15 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

16 STEPHEN ARTHUR: Hello, my name is  
17 Stephen Arthur. I'm representing myself. My  
18 grandfather was crushed to death on a sidewalk one  
19 block from where I currently work you know before I  
20 was born, one day before his 65<sup>th</sup> birthday in  
21 Midtown Manhattan and I'm pretty sure he wasn't  
22 using an iPod back then. But since I was personally  
23 attacked too far from here I wear this yellow  
24 helmet and vest, two rear and front lights, but  
25 since then I've been doored by taxis twice when the



1 passengers have opened their door in, into the  
2 roadway. Not you know on the sidewalk. And there's  
3 no consequences for them. One time I thought I, I  
4 broke an arm. Fortunately I didn't. So from what I  
5 understand that Vision Zero that cyclists and  
6 pedestrians are already practicing Vision Zero  
7 because I don't know when last time either of those  
8 groups have killed anyone else. And also one other  
9 thing is the Plum Beach bike path has not been  
10 fixed in five years since Hurricane Ida. And I see  
11 cyclists going on the Belt Parkway and... if, if the  
12 reverse were true. If Belt Parkway were full of  
13 sand for 200 feet how long would that last?

14  
15 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

16 [applause]

17 UNKNOWN MALE 5: A few, [clears throat]  
18 excuse me. A few years ago I was riding my bike to  
19 work in the bike lane on Wythe Avenue. I was hit by  
20 a Harley Davidson who was trying to pass a big box  
21 truck that was moving too slowly for him. So he  
22 gunned his engine, veered in the bike lane and ran  
23 me over. So I would really like the Department of  
24 Transportation to focus a bit more on protected,  
25 traffic separated bike lanes. And I'm not talking

1  
2 about taking more lanes away from you know  
3 vehicles. I'm simply saying we ought to be looking  
4 more often and do as they do in Europe. Put a  
5 single bike lane up against the curb and used  
6 parked cars as a natural barrier to protect  
7 cyclists and joggers from traffic. And also the  
8 added benefit of that is it also protects cyclists  
9 like me from doors swinging open and pushing us  
10 into oncoming traffic all the time. Thank you.

11 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUE: Thank you.

12 [applause]

13 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Now we have  
14 Barbara Hays [sp?], Jack Durie [phonetic], Allen  
15 Rosen [sp?], and Tremaine Wright.

16 UNKNOWN MALE 6: Just wanted to say  
17 thanks and great work to all of you guys for even  
18 starting this conversation. We really appreciate  
19 it. Somebody who's born in New York, lived in  
20 Manhattan, lives in Brooklyn getting around from  
21 place to place is what I spend most of my time  
22 doing. And I just want to say that while everything  
23 that you guys are doing is really really great all  
24 of it is for naught if you do not have the  
25 enforcement and a DA that will then prosecute when

1  
2 somebody commits a crime, an act of vehicular  
3 violence to quote Noah from Trans Alt. We should  
4 never ever know the name of people like Mathew  
5 Lefrebra [sp?] and we should never know the name of  
6 the cab driver Fysel Human [phonetic] who  
7 dismembered a 20 year old girl with his cab while  
8 trying to run a cyclist over who the DA didn't  
9 prosecute. That's crazy. I mean for real he tried  
10 to kill somebody with a car.

11 [applause]

12 UNKNOWN MALE 6: I, and everybody else  
13 in New York City plore you to please stop and think  
14 about making murder in New York illegal because  
15 currently it is only if you do it with a car.  
16 Thanks.

17 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

18 [applause]

19 TREMAINE WRIGHT: Good evening. I'm  
20 Tremain Wright, chairperson of Community Board 3 in  
21 Bedford-Stuyvesant. In my neighborhood we have had  
22 three vehicular fatalities in the last year and  
23 each was the result of suspects fleeing the police.  
24 Safe, public safety in my neighborhood is not  
25 solely dependent on vehicular speed limits. It is

1 based on a host of other concerns and demands and  
2 demands the implementation of other tools. Our  
3 community needs additional street lighting, school  
4 crossing guards, coordinated traffic lights,  
5 countdown clocks, sidewalk extensions near schools  
6 adjacent to wide high traffic streets and better  
7 maintenance of roads. These improvements will make  
8 our streets safer. And however lighting may be the  
9 one improvement that will reap the greatest  
10 rewards. Public safety demands at Vision Zero make  
11 additional street lighting a hallmark of any safety  
12 plan. Many of our Brooklyn blocks are lined with  
13 trees that create a wonderful canopy of shade.  
14 These same canopies create dangerous stretches of  
15 dark sidewalks and roadways. And I'll just give it...

17 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

18 [applause]

19 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: And to...

20 ALLEN ROSEN: My name, my name is Allen  
21 Rosen. One thing I don't understand when a driver  
22 kills a pedestrian it's either an accident and he's  
23 innocent or he's guilty of manslaughter. How do you  
24 kill a pedestrian and then get charged with failure  
25 to yield the right of way. That I don't understand.

1  
2 There are many things that are done to improve  
3 safety. I don't... Why doesn't the state require when  
4 you renew your driver's license to retake the  
5 written test. Drivers haven't looked at drivers  
6 regulations in 40 years. They don't remember what  
7 was required to become a driver. But some things I  
8 don't agree with. To, to say 20 is plenty on every  
9 street makes no sense at all. Some streets yes, 20  
10 miles an hour is okay. But on major streets there's  
11 far reaching implications if you try to make every  
12 street 20 miles an hour which is what I've heard  
13 here today. It makes no sense at all. We need  
14 clearer, also regulations. The DOT website says it  
15 is legal to walk a curb cut at a T intersection  
16 where there's no signal. That is incorrect. It  
17 needs to be corrected.

18 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

19 [applause]

20 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Now calling the  
21 last panels from the public Emanie Erveen  
22 [phonetic], Alen Herver [phonetic], Maro Willis  
23 [phonetic], Henry Wascote [phonetic], Isalla  
24 elnoablurn [phonetic], Nessun Stolt [phonetic], and  
25 Bold Strebber [phonetic]

1  
2 MARGA WEEKS: Good night. My name is  
3 Marga Weeks [phonetic]. I'm the leader of the, the,  
4 my building 625 Overshur [phonetic]. I would like  
5 to say on Algama [phonetic] while I was crossing  
6 there is the cars coming and there's a school guard  
7 but she do not comes out to take the children  
8 across the streets. She's always on her phone. And  
9 also on Church Avenue those are a mess. They need  
10 to take care of these children. The lights time you  
11 start across the light stops counting. Right on by  
12 my block is 11 minutes to cross. By the courthouse  
13 there is 25 minutes. Our turn is important. Our is  
14 important. So please change the timer on these  
15 things because some mornings I have to run across  
16 whiles getting there I'm a MTO employee.

17 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

18 [applause]

19 EMONIE IRVING: Good evening. My name is  
20 Emonie Irving [sp?]. I'm the Director of the E  
21 Center for Learning and Development which is a  
22 academic support program. I'm a teacher and a mom  
23 but I'm actually here because I'm a heartbroken  
24 sister. This is a picture of my brother and I a  
25 year, exactly a year before he got hit and killed

1 coming home from work. He's a New York City taxi,  
2 yellow cab driver. But he rode his bike for his  
3 life. He loved to do it even though he drove for a  
4 living. He was actually interned for you Senator  
5 Eric Adams in High School. He got hit on Classen  
6 and Washington. And they call that dead man's  
7 curve. So I think that it's right across the street  
8 from Botanical Gardens and it's right next to Clara  
9 Martin. I think that there definitely needs to be  
10 a, a speed bump or something there to, to help. 20  
11 is plenty speed limit I'm definitely behind that. I  
12 can't wait to go to Albany to help support that.  
13 And that's basically it. I thank everybody for  
14 their time. Oh, Eric Adams I want to give you his  
15 funeral program.

17 [applause]

18 [pause]

19 Good Night, My name's Kevin Prescott. I  
20 want to thank all the Borough President for getting  
21 this panel together because at least there are  
22 different agencies to... so many of us have different  
23 problems we'd like to bring to the forefront. The  
24 reason I said that I am the president of East  
25 Flatbush first from the president of 52<sup>nd</sup> to East

1  
2 52<sup>nd</sup> Street. Also I'm a member of the Community  
3 Board 17 and Kings County South Civic Association.  
4 I'm... president. The reason I'm saying that is we  
5 didn't have any problem on my block for the last 20  
6 some years. 42 years I've been living on my block.  
7 I'm, within that 42 years 21 years we... having  
8 problems pertaining to speeding on the block. And I  
9 heard that the, the public advocate stated that she  
10 was going to look into Kings Highway and  
11 Pennsylvania Avenue. I would also have like to look  
12 into the side streets. Because what they are doing  
13 instead of going down Eutic [sp?] Avenue, the  
14 traffic is... try to... make a shortcut into East 52<sup>nd</sup>  
15 Street, go back around, back into Eutic [sp?]  
16 Avenue, so I appreciate the look into that.

17 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

18 Thank you very much.

19 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thanks a lot.

20 [applause]

21 ALLEN GERBER: Hello, I'm Allen Gerber  
22 [sp?] I walk, I bike, I take the subway a lot and I  
23 feel in danger a lot. I don't need to look over my  
24 shoulder due to crime very much which is good work  
25 by the NYPD and I hope they make the same progress



1  
2 so I don't need to do the same because of traffic  
3 dangers. I think it would be great if we could get  
4 more officers patrolling on foot and on bicycle so  
5 they understand the dangers the majority of our  
6 citizens face.

7 [applause]

8 ALLEN GERBER: And I also hope that we  
9 get better forms of self-enforcing streets. One  
10 thing I haven't heard mentioned is diverters so the  
11 local streets like the one the gentleman before  
12 mentioned cars can't drive through them and are  
13 instead diverted to major streets where our traffic  
14 enforcement and cameras will be concentrated. Thank  
15 you.

16 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

17 PAUL SHRIVER: Good evening. My name is  
18 Paul Shriver. I live in Boerum Hill in Brooklyn.  
19 And when I ride my bike home from work I bike down  
20 second avenue where I'm in a protected bike lane in  
21 Manhattan. And then I cross the Manhattan bridge  
22 where the bikes are separated from the traffic,  
23 from the car traffic, and then I bike down Jay  
24 Street. And Jay Street is a giant mess. It is the  
25 wild west. There are cars double parked, there are

1  
2 people making illegal U-turns. There are liberty  
3 cabs doing it, there are court vehicles doing it.  
4 There are police cars in the bike lane nonstop all  
5 the time. So this, this is one thing you can do  
6 tomorrow. Tomorrow pretend it is Halloween and your  
7 tickets are like candy. And I...

8 [laughter, applause]

9 PAUL SHRIVER: And the long term  
10 solution is a protected bike lane down the middle  
11 like they have on Elm Street. You need to, this is  
12 a main throw fare and it needs major  
13 infrastructure. And then lastly if you're going to  
14 put a bike lane anywhere in New York City paint it  
15 green. There is no reason for any bike box or any  
16 bike lane not to be green.

17 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

18 [applause]

19 NELSON: Good evening. I'm Nelson M.  
20 Stout [phonetic], I am the transportation,  
21 sanitation, environment chair at Community Board 3  
22 in Bedford-Stuvenasant. And I think it's very  
23 important to note that I am a pedestrian, a  
24 cyclist, a cycled here this evening as well as use  
25 public transportation and a sometime driver. It's

1  
2 very impetrative that the DOT and all interested  
3 stakeholders and parties look to education across  
4 the board to all these types of individuals that  
5 are using our streets that I just described. As  
6 well as enforcement because enforcement seems to be  
7 lacking and needs to, at least it, it needs to go  
8 forward. In terms of our community board, we just  
9 recently had to weather the storm with regard to  
10 press with regard to the slow zones. Slow zones are  
11 needed in some communities but with the input just  
12 as they were when they introduced the select bus  
13 service there were C, CAC meetings and the bike  
14 lanes... the people in the community and the  
15 community board know best what is best for their  
16 community. And something across the board safe in  
17 the slow zone then is going to affect the area  
18 around that and people are going to divert  
19 themselves to, to bypass that area. They have to be  
20 thoughtfully thought through. And as it was said  
21 before there needs to be an online commentary...

22 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

23 NELSON: ...as well as commentary at town  
24 hall meetings. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you. And now before we pass the microphone for our host, our, Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams who like to give the opportunity for any of my colleague, from the DOT and the other agency if they would like to have one minutes a closing remark.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: So we need a change in our culture. We need to recognize that no one has a monopoly on our streets and that action, action and change requires the participation of all of us in this room. We all have a responsibility. There's a number of streets that were mentioned. I'm not going to mention all of them but I've gathered all of them. But I think what we did not mention is the fact that as a government we need to invest more in transit in the MTA. The reality is that there were major cuts in Brooklyn.

[applause]

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: We know the bus line. We know the subway lines that were all cut. We've had protest and all of those lines, some of them have been restored and not others. We also need to consider giving, allowing developers, giving them some exemptions from requiring parking

1  
2 in not only Brooklyn but throughout the city of New  
3 York. We need to take cars off our street. And, and  
4 enforcement is major, major, major. Data, obviously  
5 crash data. I know that there's a bill pending in  
6 city council, disaggregated, frequently updated  
7 more interactive, more crossing guards. And trucks.  
8 Trucks need to get off these streets.

9 [applause]

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: They only need  
11 to be on truck routes and private busses as well  
12 that continue to go down streets illegally. There's  
13 a number of recommendations but I know I've been  
14 limited to one minute. Thank you Chair Rodriguez  
15 and thank you Borough President, and thank my  
16 colleagues in Government. And thank you NYPD.  
17 Enforcement, enforcement, and more enforcement.

18 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.  
19 Anybody Else. And sorry Council Member Gibson, are  
20 you take, is it your turn or... Okay so...

21 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Thank you Council  
22 Member Rodriguez. And again thank you Borough  
23 President for hosting us tonight. Really all I want  
24 to do is, is add a couple things that I didn't  
25 necessarily hear tonight. But I represent a

1 community that is an immigrant community. And I  
2 want to make sure that anything that we do moving  
3 forward we make sure that we communicate in  
4 multiple languages making sure that everybody that  
5 speaks other languages like mandarin and Spanish  
6 and really every language that this borough speaks  
7 that we do that with those communities in mind as  
8 well. And really everything that, that was  
9 discussed today was, was, was something that we've  
10 been thinking about. But it's always great to hear  
11 directly from you. I want to also highlight and  
12 underscore the LGBT community member Caz who, who  
13 really spoke about how we, we bring that cultural  
14 competency at that level of interaction from all  
15 our different agencies. And so I want to highlight  
16 that. Thank you so much.

17 [applause]

18 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Thank you very  
19 much. I just want to... Vision Zero doesn't end  
20 tonight. Vision Zero starts tonight. And I could  
21 speak for my district, my 48 Council District for  
22 those that reside in my district my office is  
23 available for you, to listen to your concerns, to  
24 listen to your information about any corners or  
25

1 intersections or street lights that need to be  
2 coordinated. And you know we spoke about a number  
3 of things tonight. We need more school crossing  
4 guards. We need more counting signals. And we also,  
5 we didn't mention when parents walk their children,  
6 you usually push the carriage in front of you. So  
7 we need to be careful when we push those carriages  
8 with our children inside to first look and then  
9 push the carriage. And, and about the pets. When  
10 you walk your pets you cross the streets it's not  
11 just human life. We got to think about our, our  
12 pets. And you know I just want to, to thank our  
13 Chair for hosting this event and our Borough  
14 President, our Brooklyn Borough President. And I'd  
15 like to thank all the agencies that are here today  
16 and I'm looking forward to working with each and  
17 every one of you to make our streets safer. Thank  
18 you.

20 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

21 UNKNOWN MALE: I think the most powerful  
22 thing I heard tonight was in framing some of the  
23 way we use language. I never thought about it  
24 before but it's not an accident waiting to happen.

If it's waiting to happen it's a preventable crash waiting to happen, let's prevent it.

[applause]

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER: From DOT's point of view I want to thank you all for your great comments. My whole team is here. If there are particular areas, particular concerns please come talk to us. We will try and work with you and do the best job we can all around the city starting here in Brooklyn. So thank you.

[applause]

UNKNOWN MALE: I just want to also point out from our Community Affairs Bureau today we have Lieutenant Sallas and also Sargent Cagiono from Chief Jaffey's Office. Our Brooklyn South, Brooklyn South and Brooklyn North our Vision Zero Coordinators are here. They sat through this process and they've absorbed a lot of the information that you've given us tonight so I'm very happy that they're here. I will share that information with the other six borough XOs who are vision coordinators for the rest of the city. I just wanted to mention to you also that the DAs are



1 on board... in reference to Vision Zero. We have been  
2 meeting with them through the mayor's office and  
3 they've been coordinating with us. And last item we  
4 mention part of our partners is again the  
5 collaboration with all the community. School  
6 crossing guards, sometimes I've had an opportunity  
7 as a Brooklyn South Borough, former Borough  
8 Commander I've seen some of the crossing guards out  
9 there. And again our school crossing guard  
10 coordinators will then, now look at, to train our  
11 crossing guards better so that they're more  
12 assertive and they're more interactive. I take it  
13 upon myself to speak to somebody in reference  
14 because I didn't like what I saw. So again please  
15 just touch base with your community affairs officer  
16 from your command and let them know and they'll do  
17 it in a gentle way and let her know or he or she  
18 that she could do a better job.

19 [applause]

20 UNKNOWN MALE: I just wanted to thank  
21 everyone for coming out tonight. And think safety.

22 UNKNOWN MALE: Well I just, I just  
23 learned a ton from everybody. And Ms. Savado,  
24 Cassandra Savado what you said about protecting  
25

1 children has really stuck with me. And I want to  
2 thank you for raising that. It's an important  
3 point. There's also a lot of science behind it. We  
4 all need to remember that kids can't detect speed  
5 until they're in their teens. Kids don't know. Like  
6 biologically it's impossible. So we need to protect  
7 them. I want to thank you for raising that point.

8 [applause]

9 UNKNOWN FEMALE: Just on behalf of the  
10 mayor's office thank you everyone so much for  
11 coming out. I have a ton of notes here to go back  
12 and review. This is not the end of the dialogue.  
13 Please continue to reach out to us. Go back into  
14 your communities, to your friends and neighbors.  
15 Talk to folks. Let them know what you heard here,  
16 what you learned here. And gather information from  
17 them as well and bring it back to us so we can have  
18 as much information as possible. And feel free to  
19 grab me after this if anybody needs my contact  
20 information to, to get ahold of me.

21 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you. We  
22 will be done in five minutes. If you... is only to  
23 hear the closing remarks from the Brooklyn Borough  
24 President. That's all five minutes, we will be  
25

done. And I would like to say to announce it that the next public hearing is going to be April 23<sup>rd</sup> at LaGuardia Community College. Second that what the gentleman hear you say that we need to create cultural, where we had to learn that we will make it together. I think that, for me that's one of the mostest [phonetic] strongest message. I believe that what we've been going through as a city since last year when New York elected a mayor base on a given mandate saying we need to deal with inequality. Have brought New Yorkers together. Now when it come to Vision Zero the whole city's saying do something. We cannot wait for another victim. And this is important. And then also we heard like not only dealing with, with car crash accidents but the last report a few days ago about climate change. Well we heard that, it's still the worst is still for hot coming. So I think that coming together on Vision Zero is also a way of how we need to be ready and prepare to act together as a city. Now fight doing whatever we can so that we are, we eradicate all the number of car crash accident but also learning ant taking our cultural [phonetic] to another level or through intense

1  
2 together. With that I would like to call our host,  
3 our Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams.

4 [applause]

5 BOROUGH PRESIDENT ERIC ADAMS: Thank you  
6 Ydanis. And I thank my colleagues in government  
7 once, and again thank my staff and thank Abe  
8 Friedman and Sandra Chapman for bringing this  
9 together.

10 [applause]

11 BOROUGH PRESIDENT ERIC ADAMS: Malcom is  
12 in the back. Jamal Pollard is here and I think  
13 Anthony Drummond is here as well. Our entire team  
14 is behind this, this issue. And again don't look  
15 for police or politician to solve problems that  
16 impact the people. It's a partnership. We have to  
17 do this together. And so often a countless number  
18 of people they look for elected officials and  
19 governmental officials to solve everyday problems.  
20 We have to join the process together. It's, that's  
21 imperative. You are not powerless, you are  
22 powerful. Spread your voice. Let's have a clear  
23 agenda that we could have a safe street, a safe  
24 drive save lives. And we going to do that in the  
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borough of Brooklyn and throughout the city of New  
York. Thank you for much, so much for coming out.

[applause]

[gavel]

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           May 2, 2014