

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE JOINTLY WITH COMMITTEE ON
YOUTH SERVICES, COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION,
COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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May 29, 2015
Start: 11:42 a.m.
Recess: 01:50 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E:

JULISSA FERRERAS-COPELAND
Chairperson

MATHIEU EUGENE
Co-Chairperson

INEZ D. BARRON
Co-Chairperson

MARIA DEL CARMEN ARROYO
Co-Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

COREY D. JOHNSON
HELEN K. ROSENTHAL
I. DANEEK MILLER
JAMES G. VAN BRAMER
LAURIE A. CUMBO
MARK LEVINE

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

ROBERT E. CORNEGY, JR.
VANESSA L. GIBSON
VINCENT IGNIZIO
YDANIS A. RODRIGUEZ
ANDY KING
ANNABEL PALMA
DARLENE MEALY
DAVID G. GREENFIELD
MARGARET S. CHIN
FERNANDO CABRERA
JAMES VACCA
JUMAANE D. WILLIAMS
ALAN N. MAISEL
ELIZABETH S. CROWLEY

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

Richard Buery
Deputy Mayor
Strategic Policy Innovations

James B. Milliken
Chancellor
City University of New York

Bill Chong
Commissioner
Department of Youth and Community Development

John Mogulescu
Founding Dean
CUNY Schools of Professional Studies

Judy Bergtraum
Deputy to Vice Chancellor
Office of Facilities Planning Construction and
Management

Allan Wernick
Professor
Baruch College

Frank Sanchez
Vice Chancellor Student Affairs
City University of New York

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[gavel]

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Good

morning an happy Frida. Welcome to the city
council's seventh day of hearings on the mayor's
executive budget for fiscal 2016. My name is
Julissa Ferreras-Copeland and I am the chair of the
Finance Committee. We are joined by the Committee
on Youth Services Chaired by my colleague Council
Member Mathew Eugene and the Committee on Community
Development Chaired by Council Member Maria del
Carmen Arroyo. Today we are here, today we will
hear from the Department of Youth and Community
Development and the City University of New York.
Before we begin I'd like to thank the Finance
Division staff for putting this hearing together
including the Director Latonya McKinney, the Chief
Counsel Tanisha Edwards, Assistant Counsel Rebecca
Chasan, Deputy Directors Regina Poreda Ryan and
Nathen Toth, Unit Heads Iesha Right [sp?], Senior
Finance Analyst Jessa [phonetic], Jessica Ackerman,
and the Finance Division Administrative Unit Nicole
Anderson, Maria Pagan, Roberta Cotorano [sp?] who
pull everything together. Thank you all for your
efforts. I'd also like to remind everyone that the

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public will be invited to testify on the last day
of budget hearings on June 9th beginning at
approximately 1:30 in this room. For members of the
public who wish to testify but cannot attend the
hearing you can email your testimony to the Finance
Division at finance testimony at council dot NYC
dot gov and the staff will make it part of the
official record. Today's executive budget hearing
starts with the Department of Youth and Community
Development. The department's fiscal 2016 executive
budget totals 536.8 million dollars which
represents a 44 million dollar decrease from fiscal
2015's adopted budget. I'd like to begin by
welcoming Deputy Mayor Richard Buery to today's
hearing to discuss some news that is both welcome
and in my opinion long overdue regarding the 17
thousand middle school summer after school slots
that had been cut from the executive budget. I am
excited that the deputy mayor is here today to make
a brief statement and then to answer questions for
20 minutes before we proceed with the remainder of
the hearing. Because the deputy mayor's only here
for a short time council member's questions for him
will be limited to two minutes each. Just to recap

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this is a very important issue as you all now 27.7
million dollars for summer middle school
programming was reallocated from DYCD's budget to
the Department of Education's budget for renewal
schools. The cut was made after 17 thousand
students had already been informed that they had a
spot in a summer program which meant that thousands
of families who were relying on these programs had
to be informed that there was no space for their
children after all. This understandably cause mass
confusion and frustration in our communities. But
on the good... but on that, onto good news at the
strong urging of the council the administration has
decided to restore the funding to DYCD for the
summer program slots. The families of these
students can now rest assured that the program
spots they had been promised are available to them.
The council is very grateful for the
administration's willingness to listen to the
concerns of the community and this council and to
work with us to find a mutually agreeable solution.
With respect to other items in the DYCD budget I'm
glad to see that the executive budget includes
funding for a hundred new shelter beds for runaway

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and homeless youth as requested by the council as well as increased funding for mental health services for these youth. However I am disappointed that there is a lack of commitment to youth employment in the executive budget. In our budget response the council's proposed increase the number of summer youth jobs to 50 thousand but the insufficient funding included in the budget still leaves a shortage of 10,836 slots for this upcoming year. In addition the council proposed creating a new year-round youth employment program that the administration did not include in the executive budget. I believe that this is incredibly important, is, this is an incredibly important new program that must be included in the adopted budget in voluntary unemployment among 16 to 24 year olds has been shown to, [coughs], excuse me, to correlate with lower lifetime earning potential in greater likelihood of future unemployment leaving large segments of the population at risk for involvement in the criminal justice system. The council's proposed program could create 8,000 youth jobs with up to 192 hours of employment per year at an hourly rate of \$9.00 per hour. I look forward to

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continuing our negotiations with the administration
to make sure that this is included by adoption. I
will now turn the mic over to my co-chairs, first
Council Member Arroyo and then Council Member
Eugene for their statements. And then we will hear
from Deputy Mayor, from the Deputy Mayor. After
that we will hear from the DYCD commissioner after
commissioner... testimony the first round of
questions for the agencies will be limited to five
minutes per council member. And if council members
have additional questions we will have a second
round of questions to three minutes per council
member. Council Member Arroyo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: It's, it's
stuck. Good morning every, every one. Thank you
Madam Chair. I want to welcome our co-chair Council
Member Eugene and thank all three committees for
the work in getting us prepared for this hearing. I
am Maria del Carmen Arroyo. I chair the Committee
on Community Development. I would like to thank the
members of all three committees for joining us
today and they will come through as the hearing
goes on. We have competing hearings going on. I
want to thank the Deputy Mayor for joining us this

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morning and look forward to your testimony.

Commissioner thank you for joining us. And I'm
pleased to have this opportunity to hear from both
of you and look forward to a productive
conversation as that is what we always strive to do
during these hearings. DYCD is one of our city's
most reliable and trusted supporters of positive
development in our children, in our families and in
our communities. This agency is certainly the
council's go to agency for everything from after
school programming to GED programs. This is why I'm
concerned that one of its staple services offering
adult literacy programming to undocumented
immigrants has been transferred out of this
agency's competent hands and into another agency
whose competency I'm not questioning. I just don't
see why we need to change something that's not
broken. In two years DYCD's literacy services under
the deferred action for childhood arrivals program
has enrolled more than 7,000 participants offering
English language courses and job... one of the city's
most vulnerable populations. They have been on
track to exceed their targets for the year and have
overall demonstrated great success with this

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2 program and I'm anxious to hear the commissioner's
3 opinion about this change. While I understand and
4 respect the administration this desire to
5 consolidate the city's legal services into one
6 office I wonder whether removing all of DYCD's
7 docket programming including its ESOL program is
8 necessarily our best option. I look forward to I
9 can turn it over to our co-chair Council Member
10 Eugene. Hearing from the commissioner and, and his
11 take on the situation and seeing whether something
12 can be done to preserve these incredibly valuable
13 and important literacy services as we have become
14 accustomed to their delivery in our communities.
15 Before we begin and hear from the deputy mayor I
16 want to take a quick second to thank my committee
17 staff who have worked really hard to get us
18 prepared for this hearing Alex Paulenoff my legal
19 counsel... both whom sitting back there... and Jessica
20 Ackerman whose done all the number crunching. Thank
21 you Jessica emailed me last night at 11:00. I don't
22 know why we're making our staff work at 11:00 but
23 thank you Jessica. You have all worked very hard
24 and now Madam Chair if I may I can turn it over to
25 our Co-Chair Council Member Eugene.

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COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: thank you very
much Madam Chair Ferreras. And thank you Co-Chair
Arroyo. Thank you very much. I'm Council Member
Mathieu Eugene and I'm the Chair of the Committee
on Youth Services. I would also like to thank
Council Member, again Council Member Arroyo and the
Madam Chair of the Finance. And I want to thank
also everyone for coming to this important... today
to review the administration fiscal 2016 executive
budget for the Development of Youth and Community
Development. I'm pleased also to welcome both the
deputy mayor and the commissioner... this morning and
I look forward to hearing from both of you. I know
that the many of us here are very interested to
hear about the plan for... summer programing and we
will do so very shortly. But we also have questions
about the recent RFP for after school programming
that use... to be supported by the city council. The
additional support supervision and... that children
receive through the after school programs is not
only a vital part of the development but also
ensures that there safe and well care for while the
parents are at work. We want to ensure that these
services are available to everyone who needs it.

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And when the... where they're admitted... I'm also very
interested in discussing opportunities for all the
children and young adults. The summer youth
employment program as we all know receive more than
130 thousand application. But this year there's
only money for 49 thousand jobs. Last year we
worked together. We... to increase the number of job
to 45 thousand... jobs. Now we are going backward.
The council also requested fund for a new year
round jobs program to support another 8,000 young
people but we see nothing in the budget for this.
We have a moral obligation to our young people to
ensure that they not only have opportunities to
stay out of trouble but also to prepare them as
fully as possible to enter the workforce and find
good jobs. This what ASYEP is all about. In fact
the... started reveal that youth... in the SYEP were
not only more likely to achieve at a greater
academic level and find greater success in the
workforce than those who never had the, enjoy this
experience but that the rate of mortality among
SYEP participants over the course of time was less
than the rest of the population. SYEP not only
improves the life but also it actually saves lives.

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2 I appreciate that the mayor has new plan for
3 offering summer jobs, internships, and mentorships.
4 And I look forward to reading about these as well.
5 But we must also focus on the opportunities that we
6 be available now this year for our young adults. We
7 must never forget that all youth are the future
8 leaders on this city and also our country. There,
9 they, they's no better investment that we as a
10 society can make than in programs that enrich the
11 learning process for our young people and provide
12 'em with the skills... and discipline... academically
13 and go on to lead highly successful and a
14 productive life as adult. We must also do more for
15 the hardworking parents of our youth in this city.
16 So many of them work day and night to provide for
17 their children never having the opportunity to take
18 time off from work and go away on a vacation or to
19 send the children away to a weekend and retreat a
20 summer camp. For all this parent we make great
21 sacrifices on behalf others of their sons and
22 daughters and also on behalf of the city of New
23 York... contribute to the economy of the city of New
24 York. We as a city, we must guarantee that we will
25 always have the resources in place to guarantee

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that their children are always ensure. ...safe place
to be after school hours. In the good city of New
York we certainly have the resources to make this
happen. Before I turn it, I turn the floor over to
my co-chairs I would like to thank the staff who
have contributed to today's hearing. And I would
like also to thank the members of our taskforce
Kimberly Williams, Michael Benjamin, Frasier Ali,
and Jessica Ackerman. And I would like also to
thank my staff... and Vanessa... for all their hard
work and their help and to make this possible. Let
me take the opportunity also to thank all of you,
my colleagues who sign the letter that I sent to
the mayor asking the restoration of the money for
the summer program. And I want to thank also all
the advocate and the wonderful people for the
campaign for, for children. Thank you very much for
your participation, your continued effort, thank
you very much because what happen... the restoration
of the funding is not only a victory for the
children for the parents but it is also a victory
for the city of New York. It is also a victory for
the Mayor de Blasio. Thank you to all of, all of
you. Let's continue to work hard and together. It

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was a team effort. Let's continue to make the team effort to ensure that all children receive the tool and also every opportunities that they need to become the leaders of tomorrow. Thank you very much, very much. Madam Chair, thank you.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank you Chair Mathieu. We will now have the opportunity from hearing from Deputy Mayor Buery, Buery, sorry. And again we, we, we do want to recognize that this is a moment that doesn't necessarily happen where we're able to answer budget questions after a great rally. And you know and after some serious questioning of our chancellor. So I'm very appreciative to the administration, to the campaign for children, and all of its advocates. Chancellor Farina was put in a very tough position yesterday so I'm glad that you were able to respond in the way that you have. So I'm looking forward to hearing your testimony. We'll have a few questions. Again we had the Deputy Mayor here before the commissioner comes on. Because the commissioner, you are going to have to answer these questions so I'm glad the deputy mayor's here. And then members we're going to put the clock on for two minutes

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because the deputy mayor's only here for 20 minutes
so that way we all have an opportunity... And he's
going to very specifically talk about the
restoration of the summer slots. Right here. And
we've been joined by Council Members Chin, Cornegy,
Miller, Mealy, and Rosenthal. And Deputy Mayor you
may begin.

DEPUTY MAYOR BUERY: ...that work? ...on?

Alright. Good morning chair Ferreras, Chair Eugene,
Chair Arroyo and also all the members of the
Committee of Finance, youth services, and community
development. Good morning to all of you Councilman
Miller, Chin, Cornegy, Rosenthal, and Mealy. My
name is Richard Buery, I'm the Deputy Mayor for
Strategic Policy initiatives. And on behalf of
Mayor Bill de Blasio I want to thank you for
allowing me this opportunity to testify before you
today regarding middle school summer enrichment
programs. As Chair Ferreras just articulated
Commissioner Chang, Commissioner Chong will then
present testimony on the entirety of DYCD's fiscal
year 2016 executive budget plan. We have heard loud
and clear the concerns raised by parents, providers
and advocates about the loss of slots in the middle

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school summer program. And I am pleased to announce
today that the administration will fund the full 34
thousand middle school seats for the upcoming
summer. These programs will continue to provide
quality enrichment programs in art, dance, sports,
and stem throughout the summer. Last year the
expansion of the summer program was intended to be
for one year only. This year we determined that the
greatest funding need... the renewal schools. However
providers were prematurely notified in March that
they could begin enrollment for the upcoming
summer. The continuation of the funding for the 34
thousand seats is for one year only but will ensure
that no family... provider left hanging when the
school, when school ends next month. DYCD is
working with city hall on details of the
implementation of the funding restoration and we'll
be back in touch with the council and providers
around full details next week. We remain committed
to a successful summer program and we'll work
closely with providers to make sure that we have
one. Again I want to thank you for the opportunity
to testify today. I'm happy to take a few questions

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on the restoration of the summer program and then I
will turn it over to commissioner Chong.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
you Deputy Mayor. Obviously the council's very
excited to hear the administration has listened to
the community's concerns and the council's concerns
and decided to restore the funding for the summer
after school slots. But since the administration's
reversal is coming so close to the start of the
summer programs. I have a few operational questions
that I hope you'll be able to address. I know that
you say you're going to get back to me next week
but as much as you can answer now I would
appreciate it. Where is the funding to restore the
summer slots coming from? And will the funding
shift cost any other programs or services to be cut
or reduced?

DEPUTY MAYOR BUERY: Thank you. So I do
want to commit that no other initiatives will be
affected by this restoration. All of the resources
will come from efficiencies citywide and again
we'll be able to provide you more details later but
all the resources to fund these summer slots will
come from efficiencies through city government. I

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just want to repeat no initiatives will be cut in
order to fund this restoration.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: While
I'm really happy to hear that and that you've put
that on the record we're in the middle of a process
that I've been a very big stickler on if
transparency. So we, you just submitted a savings
program or an efficiency program so I'd like to
know where else those efficiencies are going to be
and I would hope that they're going to be submitted
in a formal way to this committee, expeditiously.

DEPUTY MAYOR BUERY: Yeah, thank you.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Okay.
Now that the funding is being restored will DYCD
have the time and capacity to get all the slots up
and running for this summer? And will all the
students who have a spot, who had a spot before the
funding was cut and I'll be eligible to get their
spots back.

DEPUTY AYOR: So again DYCD will work on
operational details... in close touch with providers
to make sure the program can be run fully, have
every confidence in DYCD and providers will be able
to do as you say and again at the full restoration

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of the number of slots that providers were
expecting and so the full 34 thousand slots will be
restored and again providers working with DYCD will
make sure that it happens in a way that makes the
most sense for families and communities.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Great.

So as a, someone who's ran a DYCD funded program
for many years as a former beacon director I can't
tell you how challenging it is to get registration
forms, pull them back, bring them... like that is
just a daunting process for the providers. So I'm
hoping that DYCD will have all the support
necessary and understand that providers will have
to have additional time to get forms out. We may
even have to go back. You know every organization
is going to have to develop their own, new system
now because the letters win out. You have the
program, you don't have the program. And now we're
saying you have the program. So this is an, an
operational nightmare now for some of these
nonprofits.

DEPUTY AYOR: Well let me say they have
also spent many years running DYCD funded programs.
So I understand the challenges involved. Again

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this, DYCD understand that this was an error on
their part. And again DYCD will be... out to
providers very closely and working with providers
to make sure that we get to the bottom line which
is that those young people have a tremendous
enriching, rewarding and safe summer and DYCD will
do whatever it takes to make sure that that
happens.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Great.

And before I open up to questions of, for my
colleagues that great enriching and rewarding and
safe experience is also needed in FY '17. So I'm
just saving this spot of engagement right here
saying the same excitement that we have now we're
going to bring to the fight for FY '17 funding.

DEPUTY AYOR: Well again look the
administration fully embraces the importance of
summer programs. We are only, we are making a one
year commitment for the funding for the summer and
I'm sure we'll continue to have dialogue... [cross-
talk]

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Well, so
we're just changing the, the narrative now to say
that we don't want to have a budget dance. We don't

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want to engage in this way with this
administration. We're working together. So I'm
hoping that you can take this message back and say
you know we're happy for FY '16. FY '17 is now our
new focus. Okay, thank you Deputy Mayor.

Colleagues, questions? Council Member... oh I' sorry
we're going to have the chairs ask their questions
and then... oh okay.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: It's kind of
funky... you first and then the commissioner so we,
we have to get our questions straight. One year
commitment and that was going to be my question it
was base lined in DYCD's budget why only one year
if... I mean it just seems at it work for all of us
to make one year commitment for something that's so
important. Why only one year?

DEPUTY MAYOR BUERY: Well look... Go
without saying as... obviously as you all know there
are lots of things in this budget, lots of
investments that we have made as an administration
and... the wellbeing of children. And so every budget
represents difficult, difficult budget decisions.
So again the commitment we're making given the
error that DYCD made in communicating these

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programs to the providers is that we're going to
commit to righting that wrong for the summer. And,
but again it is only a one year commitment.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Well I think one
of the things that... and just to echo the, the
finance chairs comments and not understanding the,
the logic behind the decisions that are made and or
the commitments that the administration makes. We
can only pick a fight because we're not clear why
you got to where you got. And the logic that was
used to make that decision so that moving forward
understanding the logic and yes the challenges. We
know that there are many but it was this or that.
And if we understand that very basic principal the,
the conversation is less, you know less, less of a
conflict and we have less parents on the steps of
city hall you know calling on the administration
and calling the mayor all kinds of names because he
doesn't seem to care for our youth, our children,
our seniors, it's just this dialogue has to change.
And, and I'm looking forward for that change
because we've seen this movie before. We know how
it ends and then we have to rewrite the script next
year. And it's just, it takes too much energy. So

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help us understand before you announce decisions,
help us understand the logic that goes into your
decision making so we can maybe be also a voice for
pushing the agenda.

DEPUTY MAYOR BUERY: Yeah so if I could
just thank you very much Councilwoman. If I could
sort of make two, just two brief statements in
regards to try to answer your question or to
respond to the, your statement. First of all I
think it's clear that this administration is fully
and deeply committed to the wellbeing of children.
The expansion of idle school afterschool programs
is historic and I think deeply represents our
commitment to providing quality after school
services to idle school students around the city.
And so we think that commitment itself reflects
this administration's commitment to children. As to
what happened again it was an error on the part of
the DYCD. And we're going to work now to remedy
the... it's no more complicated than... error based on
best intentions trying to make sure that providers
had information early for exactly the reasons that
Chair Ferreras said. And again now moving forward
we, we're going to make sure that we have good

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dialogue with council about how we move forward and
are excited about making sure that those families
are well served this summer.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Best intentions
and the road to somewhere unpleasant we know are
related right? There, there are other issues
related to after school programming... and the
funding that the council has put into the budget
over the last two years to preserve slots that were
lost because then DYCD did not have enough funding..
not because providers were not performing but
because there was not enough budget to cover all of
the slots. RFP was released, awards were announced,
and we're now coming up on the conversation of
again community groups in, in our districts not
receiving a grant or losing the number of slots
that they were programmed to, to provide with the
discretionary dollars that the council put into the
budget over the last two years. So I think we need
to rather than again react we had a rally yesterday
about the childcare slots... and granted it's a
different agency but how many OST slots have been
lost through providers that the council has funded
through its discretionary funding over the last two

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years. And you might not have that answer now. You
might not have come prepared to answer that
question but commissioner I'm going to reiterate
the question to you. The commissioner, okay.

DEPUTY MAYOR BUERY: ...commissioner Chong
to respond.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you very
much Madam Chair and Commissioner thank you for
your testimony... Deputy Mayor I'm sorry. Thank you.
And you know for all of us this is a big issue,
very big... we're all pleased that the mayor restored
the money for the summer program. But the problem
for all of us is only for one year, only one year.
My question to you is you know the summer programs
are so important, we all know that I don't have to
take... three hours to talk about it, especially when
we see what is happening in our communities... crime
are increasing. And I know... personally, and I know
that he is very dedicated to do everything you know
to provide... young people the resources they need to
become positive people because I've walked within,
in the past... before I was elected. But due to the
importance of the summer program... program for the
young people to keep the communities safe and to

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2 keep the children... When the administration decided
3 that he's going to be one year only. Is there any
4 conversation, any effort through see there, there's
5 another identity for the... What effort have been
6 made to ensure that you know we can have the
7 funding also for another additional year, for many
8 years. Why the administration decided just you know
9 it's going to be one year.

10 DEPUTY MAYOR BUERY: Well again, again
11 I'm, I'm sorry I have to, to repeat my answer from
12 before. Certainly you will not hear me or anyone
13 from the administration discount the importance of
14 summer programs and quality... program for our
15 children. But the commitment when the
16 administration last summer added these slots it was
17 intended as a one year investment the mayor's long
18 term commitment was to fund afterschool programs
19 for... New York City not to fund summer programs. So
20 here we are, we are making the one year commitment
21 as we've described before and we're very excited to
22 do so, very looking forward to working with
23 providers to have this be a, a stellar rollout. But
24 as of right now it is only a one year commitment.

25

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COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: But what would
happen next... let assume that you know the mayor...
the funding for the next year. Is that in, other
identity, is that mean that the children... the
summer are going to be at the corner of the street
doing all negative thing and their parents who are
working very hard to contribute to the economy of
the city of New York, are there going to be worry
about the... children in the... while they are working...
What would be the situation? What are we going to
offer to those young people, to those children
while their parent are working hard to contribute
to the economy of New York City, to pay taxes. And
their parents, those parents they have the right to
have a piece of mind. But their children will be in
a safe place where they will continue to learn
positive skill and also to say, to stay safe. What
will be the situation? Where the children will be?

DEPUTY MAYOR BUERY: Well again Chair,
Chairman I think this administration and all of our
work have demonstrated a real commitment to the
children family... the New York City. I would put our
record up there against anyone's and we look
forward to continuing to work with the council and

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families to make sure that we continue to build a
city that works for all New Yorkers including the
most vulnerable New Yorkers. I think the
investments we're making with here in... the
demonstration of that commitment. We look forward
to continuing to work with the council to make sure
that we continue to work with the council to make
sure that we continue to... the children and families
of New York.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you. I
know that you have to... but I got... this is my last
question, a very important one also, last... Yes. But
we know that providing jobs to these young people
during the summer is a great thing but this is not
enough. And last year it was... one of my, it was my
initiative with the speaker to provide jobs to the
young people year around. And I know the speaker
made a request of 17 [phonetic] million dollars to
provide job to 8,000 young people year. And we
didn't see anything in the executive budget so what
can you tell us about that?

DEPUTY MAYOR BUERY: So Chair Eugene I'm
really only... about the restoration of summer
program... Again Commissioner Chong will be

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testifying immediately after me and I encourage you
to ask those questions to him.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Well thank you
very much. Now I turn it over to Madam Chair. Thank
you very much Commissioner.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
you Chair Eugene. We will hear from two members.
Council Member Chin followed by Council Member
Corney.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you Chair.
Thank you. Deputy Mayor... we were very excited to
hear the good news last night at the Mayor's Asian
Pacific Heritage Event. I know that last year you
said that it was a one-time commitment. I mean the
mayor made a, a historic commitment to after school
program for middle school kids. And I think that
the administration also see having a summer program
was also important especially for middle school
students. And that's why I think the administration
made that commitment. Now in the preliminary budget
the money was there for summer program. And as
staff tells it it was also in there for the out
years. So I think the administration at that time
maybe together with DYCD we received this as an

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important all year around program for middle school
student and it's a great investment. And so the
money was put in. And I don't think it's DYCD's
fault if they, in, if they told the provider and
the provider that what they saw in the budget was
also very happy excited right? That this program is
going to continue. And all of a sudden it disappear
in the executive budget alright... And the money was
transfer somewhere else. So that is unacceptable
deputy mayor. I'm glad that you know the
administration reversed it back and reinspect to
see that money also back in the out years because
commitment to the middle school student, it's a
great investment and we applaud the mayor for that.
And he just cannot backtrack okay? So I really
asked you to take it back but it cannot be a one
year commitment. It has to continue. And we have to
find the resources for it because it's such an
important investment. So I expect you to take that
back.

DEPUTY MAYOR BUERY: Well thank you very
much again. You know respectfully schools out NYC,
SONYC, was conceived as an afterschool program and
designed to provide free afterschool program to

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every middle-schooler in New York City. We've...
happy about the investment we've been able to make
in summer program. You'll not hear me or anyone
else say that summer programs are not important to
our children. Again we're very excited, we're able
to restore those funds for the summer, this summer.
But SONYC... originally conceived by the mayor is an
afterschool program. And we're so excited that
there are literally tens of thousands of after, of
students around the city who are having... enriching
experiences after school as a result of the mayor's
leadership with the support of the council. Thank
you.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
you Council Member Chin, Council Member Cornegy.

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Good morning
Deputy Mayor.

DEPUTY MAYOR BUERY: Morning Sir.

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: I, I would just
like to reiterate something that the Chair Ferreras
brought up and just add that you know I find myself
on the steps of city hall this week, very often
fighting for the life's blood of local providers.
And I just want to make sure that you can ensure to

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me today that they won't be disproportionately
penalized for any, for, for trying to now rectify
this, this problem. So the capacity, a lot of them
don't have the capacity to shift gears on the dime
which they'll ultimately be asked to do at this
point. So I just want to make sure that they're,
that they're afforded every opportunity to make
right with their constituents and consumers and
have them enrolled correctly. So any under
enrollment, any length of period of time, if they
need an extended period of time to get done what
they need to done, to get done what they need done
that that's afforded to them.

DEPUTY MAYOR BUERY: Well thank you for
that feedback. Again DYCD's going to work with city
hall to work out all the details with providers
next week so that everybody... Committed to making
sure that this is a great summer for children and
the providers have what they need to be successful.
And so we look forward to working with providers to
make sure that they can do their work effectively.
Again I understand that the challenges are running
those programs and we're going to make sure that we
can, we can address those needs effectively.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Thank you.

DEPUTY MAYOR BUERY: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Deputy

Mayor I just want to put something on your radar
and this is not a negative thing. So we thank you
for your efforts and for taking time to be here.
It's a little bit unusual for us to have a deputy
mayor at, at the budget hearing. So we really do
appreciate you taking time. I had a meeting earlier
this week and I met with United Way and the Women's
Center for Education and Career Advancement. And I
did not know that we had a deputy mayor for
strategic policy and initiatives. So I advise these
two organizations to reach out to Deputy Mayor
Paoli. I realize that maybe you might be the best
point of contact for them to discuss the report
that's been prepared, overlooked on the... the
struggle to make ends meet in New York City. And
they also have a report that provides for us a
self-sufficiency standard in terms of the income
levels of families in different compositions should
be making with not only income but eligibility
through benefits. So I just want you to know that I
am going to reach out to those organizations and

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advise that they reach out to you to put this
discussion on your radar as we take up a discussion
internally on how we can strategize on how to
implement some of the recommendations that have,
are being made in that report. So again thank you
for being here and taking the time.

DEPUTY MAYOR BUERY: Thank you. I look
forward to it.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
you. And Deputy Mayor just wanted to reiterate that
there's nothing more disruptive to a family than if
you don't know where you're going to send your
young person while you have to go to work. So I
know that the mayor, this is very important to the
mayor. He often talks about a tale of two cities
when a family doesn't know where they're going to
send their kids or where their children are going
to be safely over the summer, it's a challenge. So
when we talk about FY '17 it really isn't about we
just want to have the battle with you, it's really
about those families. And it goes lock in step with
every principal that the mayor has uttered through
every process. So afterschool programming is great.
Summer programs are really needed because families

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don't have an option. And the option often time is
going to be that you know people are going to be
left home alone. So thank you for resolving this
for '16. We will, as soon as we pass the budget
we're going to start talking about '17.

DEPUTY MAYOR BUERY: I do not doubt it.

Thank you very much.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Okay.

Thank you very much for coming today Deputy Mayor.
Commissioner you may... Commissioner my Counsel
Rebecca Chasan will swear you in and then you may
begin your testimony.

COMMISSIOER: Do I raise my hand or
anything or... No? Okay.

COUNSEL: Do you affirm that your
testimony will be truthful to the best of your
knowledge, information, and belief?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: I do. Alright. Good
morning Chair, Chairwoman Ferreras-Copeland,
Chairman Eugene, Chairwoman Arroyo, and members of
the Finance Youth Services and Community
Development Committees. I'm Bill Chong,
Commissioner of the Department of Youth and
Community Development. And I'm joined by Susan

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Haskell Deputy Commissioner Youth Services and
Sandra Gutierrez Deputy Commissioner of Community
Development. Thank you for the opportunity to
discuss DYCD's fiscal 2016 executive budget. Since
we testified in late March DYCD has received new
resources for additional middle school SONYC
program seats COMPASS elementary programs,
cornerstones, community centers, and shelter beds
for runaway and homeless youth. The fiscal 2016
executive budget includes 160.2 million for our
SONYC programs. This includes 50.2 million in new
funding to add over 7,200 new middle school SONYC
seats this September. This will raise the citywide
total to nearly 86 thousand seats which we, at,
which can approximately serve 107 thousand
students. I'm also happy to say as you've heard
from Deputy Mayor Buery that after the hearing,
after hearing from parents and, and young people
the administration will fund the full 34 thousand
middle school seats for this upcoming summer for
this year only so that families and providers are
not left hanging. The executive budget also
includes 3.6 million for summer programs for 96
renewal schools. The developing plan is to contract

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with existing DYCD afterschool providers to operate
satellite summer programs at school sites without
existing comprehensive summer... programming. Mayor
de Blasio also base lined 5.9 million to ensure
continuity of service for 17 elementary school
based compos year around programs that DOE funded
in fiscal years 2014 and 2015. The funding is now
in DYCD's budgets. Contracts for the current
providers will be extended to provide summer
services. A new RFP will be issued this summer to
select providers for new contracts to begin
September 1st, 2015. The executive budget also
invest in cornerstone centers. 23.4 million was
base lined for 45 cornerstone centers that began
operating in January of 2014. We also receive 8.9
million in new funding for DYCD funded providers to
assume the operations of another 24 NYCHA community
centers starting July 1st 2015. Transferring these
centers to DYCD allows them to remain open and
provide budget and operations relief to NYCHA and
also leverages DYCD's expertise working with
community center providers and NYCHA communities to
develop quality programs and services. All
cornerstone centers will have extended summer hours

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again like last year. Combined with the original 25
cornerstone centers DYCD... a total of 94 cornerstone
centers. An RFP will be released this fall to
select providers for new contracts to begin July
1st, 2016. To further address youth homelessness
the executive budget adds 4.2 million to fund
another 100 shelter beds for runaway and homeless
youth. Combined with last year's increase DYCD will
have funding for 453 shelter beds in fiscal year
2016. Proposal... runaway and homeless youth RFP last
Wednesday, May 20th. And we expect to announce
awards in mid-June. But the start of the summer
youth employment program over a month away our
current SYP budget stands at 57.7 million. At this
level we can currently serve 39,252 young people
this summer. Another 14.5 million is needed to
reach a total of 72.2 million which would allow us
to serve over 47 thousand youth again. We're also
doubling the number of vulnerable youth SYP slots
from 1,000 to 2,000 this summer. On July 1st, 2015
15.6 million in new neighborhood development area
contracts operated by 136 providers will begin.
These programs are funded by the federal community
services block grant. One... NDA program will offer

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services to... youth and include case management, job
skills development and a 14 week internship. The
remaining NDA services include educational support
for high school youth, housing assistance, healthy
services, healthy families, senior services, adult
literacy, and immigrant support services. We're
also moving forward with a transition to workforce
innovation and opportunity act programs or WIOA
which replaces the workforce investment act. WIOA
requires that at least 75 percent of its funding
for youth support programs for out of school youth.
WIOA takes effect July 1st, 2015 but the final
federal regulations will, will not be issued until
July 1st, until January 2016. In the interim DYCD
has begun to advise contractors... changes to youth
eligibility requirements performance measures and
new youth program elements. DYCD has started to
develop a concept paper for WIOA in school and out
of school youth programs which we expect to release
this summer. We also expect to release an RFP for
WIOA youth services this fall. With this executive
budget Mayor de Blasio continues his commitment to
providing enriching activities for our city's
youth. Quality programs in NYCHA community centers

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and reducing youth homelessness all the while
making sure that struggling schools across the city
have the resources needed for student success. I
look forward to working with the council to promote
the opportunities for young people and communities
created by the mayor's key investments in DYCD.
Thank you again for this chance to testify today.
And we are happy to answer any questions.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
you Commissioner. And on the 7th day of budget
hearings this is the shortest testimony we've
really are excited by.

[laughter]

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: So I
thank you. So we're... [cross-talk]

COMMISSIONER CHONG: You're welcome.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: ...this to
you. Yay! So that, it gives us an opportunity, very
informative but it also gives us an opportunity to
ask our questions as members. So I wanted to talk
about the COMPASS slots. DYCD recently issued an
RFP for COMPASS and with increased price per
participant rate of 32 hundred. After the RFP was
issued OMB declined to authorize the increased

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price so the RFP that were actually awarded will
only pay a rate of 28 hundred dollars per
participant. Can you walk us through what happened
and what are your plans to move forward with the
awardees who thought they would be receiving equal
compensation to DYCD's other program providers.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: So the RFP stated
32 hundred because that was the rate in the 2011
RFP. The council funded programs that had been
operating year to year were at 28 hundred. We had
put a request in but we're unable to secure
additional funding to bring it up to 32 hundred. So
we waited until the executive budget was released
and then unfortunately funding wasn't there. So we
basically made awards based on 2800 but maintained
the same level of seats as last year. So citywide
the service levels stayed the same. We, one of the
things we did... there were three goals in...

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:
Commissioner if I'm responding to an RFP...

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Right.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: ...and you
tell me that I'm going to get 32 hundred dollars
I'm going to respond to the RFP with all the

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programs, bells and whistles, support services,
hiring staff, head count all, do all that so that I
can get that RFP. [cross-talk] Then you tell me you
got it but I'm not going to exactly give you that
money.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Every RFP makes
clear that awards are based on funding
availability. We didn't want, we wanted to be
prepared that if we got the additional funding that
we could move forward. But now that we're
developing budgets people can make adjustments
based on the lower rate. So what they may have
proposed in the proposal can now be dialed back.
We're going to be flexible in the staffing
requirements, mindful of the lower cost per
participant. We were, we were hoping for the best
but we're now making adjustments to adjust to the
reality that we don't have the funding and we want
to move ahead and maintain the same level of
services that previously existed.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: But then
what happens is that you may have wanted to hire an
activity specialist at \$15.00 an hour now you have
to hire this activity specialist at \$9.00 an hour.

And it speaks to the challenge that we have when we talk about a tale of two cities. We're like becoming a feeder program to a tale of two cities. And that's a big challenge for us. So I want to make sure that you know how can we figure out a way to message our RFP so we're not in a situation again.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Well we, it was a... given the timing of when we had to release the RFP to make sure contracts, we had to move ahead not knowing whether the funding was in place. So we, we again try to base it on what the previous RFP was but we didn't want, it would have been I think a mistake to release award letters without knowing whether we had money.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: I, I would think for negotiating purposes next year you give the lower number under promise and over deliver...

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Right.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Right? So that at least if you did get the money in the executive budget you can turn around and say guess what we have this additional funding that we were

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able to get from OMB. But it's a problem when we
say something and especially when you're trying to
establish relationships with non-profit
organizations. So what's to say that the next RFP
they get they're not going to be... do you understand
where I'm going?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: No I understand.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: I don't
want to beat a dead horse but it is a problem.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: I agree we could
have been better in managing expectations here. We
were optimistic and perhaps overly optimistic that
the funding would come through. So we are being
flexible in the staffing requirements. We know for
example one of the big changes in the RFP issue in
2011 was required educational specialist for those
that getting 20, 32 hundred. We're not going to
require if people want to hire somebody they'll
have that flexibility but it is not going to be a
requirement. We're going..

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: An how
are you going to communicate all this to the
organizations?

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COMMISSIONER CHONG: Oh it's in the
contract development stage. So the award letters
have gone out. People are developing budgets. So we
are being extremely flexible in obviously in what
they proposed in the proposal versus what actually
they're going to submit as a contract budget.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: That
just, I just want to be clear it doesn't sit well
with anyone here when you're saying you know we're
going to be flexible after we already give the
award. So we need to fix that and that can't happen
again. And we're going to engage. I don't want to...

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Right.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: ...take
too much time on this because we're going to have
continued conversations...

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: ...on
this. What is the number that you would need to
bring those awards to 32 hundred dollars.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Yeah 8.8.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: I'm
sorry?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: 8.8 million.

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CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: 8.8

million. Right, for the SYEP. Yeah that's, yep
that's what we're going to next. So the council
also heard feedback from providers that they're not
being awarded the number of slots requested. Can
you please explain why this is happening and the
basis because you just said that the number isn't
changing yet you're saying the...

COMMISSIONER CHONG: We wanted equity

across the city so because people, people
traditionally ask for more than we have the money
for. We put a cap like I believe of 157 seats for
school based programs so that some neighborhoods
were shortchanged in the previous contracts. So
everyone got an opportunity to get up to 157 seats.
So you had some programs that got more seats than
they had before, others that have less seats. But
the total number of seats is the same because we
wanted every neighborhood to be treated the same
given the act that the, the money was essentially
the same.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: So you

made a decision based on waiting lists? You made
this decision on...

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COMMISSIONER CHONG: Based on how much
money we had available.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Right, I
understand. But if we have waiting lists and needs
in one community I don't understand why you would
make the assessment across the board, why I
understand we need equity across the city if
there's areas or communities that need it more than
others why wouldn't we use that strategy?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: There, there is no...
we don't maintain a central waiting list., each
waiting list is maintained by each neighborhood.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Right.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Right. So we wanted
to again be fair to every neighborhood so that some
programs...

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Right.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: ...in the past...

[cross-talk]

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: But what
I'm saying commissioner is in you trying to be fair
to every neighborhood.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Right.

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CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: The way services are provided now is not fair right? So after school access isn't fair across the city. Some neighborhoods have options for parents, that they can pay, some neighborhoods have other options that they can pay less. But there's a seat, and some neighborhoods have no options right? It's only maybe the beacon school or the one little free program and they have a waiting list. So I don't, I would hope that as you engage in these conversations and, and think of your strategic plan that you look at communities that need the services as opposed to saying we're making it equitable across the board. And it's not equitable if there's neighborhoods that don't have the same quality programming across the board. So now we're layering and giving more support to neighborhoods that may not need it as much as neighborhoods that do.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Well in the, in the contract negotiations if, if providers indicate that they don't need as many seats we'll make adjustments.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Leave that to you. Who's going to say that? No provider's

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going to say we don't need that many seats. But I
guess you look at your attendance rolls and maybe
make adjustments as you move forward. So then
there's another request here for 14.5 million, is
that correct to bring the number for summer youth
employment to bring it back to the original 47
thousand...

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Right.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: And you
put a list request to OMB?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: No I think the, the
funding for the city, the mayor's actually, the man
of city tax levy funding for summer youth
employment is the most by any mayor in history. So
the money we, we were hoping for additional funding
from the state, the additional funding just covered
the cost of the increase, the 75 cent increase in
the minimum wage. So unfortunately there is a
shortfall. And so we hope that you know... Has the
summer youth employment program has been in
partnership with the mayor, the council, and the
state. The missing partners here quite frankly have
been the federal government which has abandoned
this program and we're actively starting to engage

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the private sector with the help of the mayor's
fund.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Okay
Commissioner. I'm just trying to understand you're
asking this 14 million dollars of the council, of
the federal government or of whom?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: That, that, that's
simply...

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: A
statement?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: That's a statement
of where we're at.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Okay. So
I'm going to urge you when you make this statement
that you also go to OMB. You have to ask OMB...
[cross-talk] because it's one budget, it's all of
our... while the council has oversight the whole
budget is the council's budget right? That's,
that's the oversight that we have over it. So I'm
just asking that when we do this I just see that
there's a lot of monies and a lot of other
agencies. And I'm, I'm saying this because I'm
advocating for your agency. I think you need more
money. I'm asking you to ask for that money because

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if I ask for the money OMB's like well they didn't
ask. And it's true. So I'm asking that you ask OMB...

COMMISSIONER CHONG: OMB is a wearer of
shortfall but you know they have to make decisions
citywide. So I can't speak for OMB.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Well I'm
going to ask OMB but I just wanted to know if there
as ask of, an official ask from your agency to OB
for this...

COMMISSIONER They're aware of the costs
of maintaining funding. So I mean yeah it's, it's
there decision to make obviously about reviewing
all the city will priorities, where to make the
best investments.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Okay.
I'm, I'm going to read through all those lines,
that you just... Okay got it. I want to give my
colleagues an opportunity to ask questions as
chairs and then I'll follow up on the second round.
Thank you Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Thank you Madam
Chair. Commissioner welcome and nice to see you
always. I don't envy your position. I'm, I'm going

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to, I have a couple of questions on the after
school programming and I'll, I'll save those for
the second round. I want to focus on the statements
that I made in my opening remarks regarding the
transfer of the adult literacy funding and the
legal services to HRA. Are you...

COMMISSIONER CHONG: I mean we've, I've
had active conversations...

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: How does that
make sense?

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Well I think as
you've stated in your statement that there's a
commitment by the administration to centralize all
the legal services at HRA. Given the unique design
of DOCKA [phonetic] where literacy and educational
services go hand in hand with legal services it
made perfect sense to transfer the entire
initiative to HRA, complete confidence in the
Commissioner Banks and his team. We've had active
conversations since the executive budget was
announced. And they're prepared to handle the
transition of the program effective July 1st.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: And what
communications has, have you had with HRA about the

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transfer and what notice have providers been given
is the level of funding that they're currently
receiving...

COMMISSIONER CHONG: I mean I can only
speak to the contracts that end June 30th. Any
future decisions about levels of funding will be
made by HRA.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: So the, the
adult literacy work that has been managed under
your agency, I think one of the, my greatest
concern. You know legal services we, we can talk
about is there an opportunity for us to do a hybrid
of this effort so that we can keep the work that's
being done under DYCD with the funded providers in
a safe place. It's not broken.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: I think by keeping
all DOCKA under one place will allow it to
continue. I think it, to fragment it to have a
little bit... agency and a little bit another agency
would make it... [cross-talk]

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: ...not just about
DOCKA Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: I know but, but
the, the, we, we still maintain a robust literacy

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services program. The DOCKA portion of literacy is
being transferred with the DOCKA legal... So I'm just
simply saying that the DOCKA component... it made
sense since the executive order signed by the
president talked about having educational
requirements it made sense for the DOCKA literacy
to go with the DOCKA legal. Other literacy programs
are staying with DYCD. There's no effort to
transfer that to any other agency.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Although the
deputy mayor didn't think twice about throwing DYCD
under the bus about the error I'm not going to put
you in a position where you're going to have to do
that with any other agency. Are you confident that
we're not, there will be no hiccup in how services
are going to be received at the community level
given this transfer?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Based on my
conversations with Commissioner Banks he, you know
he's extremely confident. But you know I obviously,
I don't manage his agencies so I can't speak to
specific details of how he's going to, he's going
to roll out. But I, based on my conversations I
have complete confidence.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYOI: Okay. So on the
adult literacy side that remain under your
jurisdiction for lack of a better term. We funded
2.5 million to support adult literacy programming.
It was base lined in 2014. And rather than issue an
RFP you, you extended existing contracts and then
added some providers that were funded under the,
the discretionary dollars of the council was
funding. How many providers were selected. Are we...

COMMISSIONER CHONG: I mean I can get
you that information. I know what we did is using
as you said the request... proposal we added money
that we, had been base lined to existing providers
and made new awards and as a result the number of
hours of service provided per, per week went up. So
I think the number of participants actually went
down but the exact number of providers I can get
you that information.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Well here,
here's a, here's the issue. Decisions are made
awards announced and then we get emails. We lost X,
Y, and Z. In my district the out of school
programming that we OST for programming that we
were, that was base lined that you RFP-ed one

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provider lost seats. I am, I heard your explanation
for it. And, and the answer is the same that you're
predecessor gave us when we question why so many
programs lost funding under the RFP and she said we
just didn't have enough money. It, are we at the
same place again because... [cross-talk]

COMMISSIONER CHONG: ...with COMPASS?

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Equity across
the city assumes that there's an equal need across
the city, number one that we have capacity to take
care of everyone that needs their service and we
know that that's not the case. So are, now we're in
a position where we have to figure out where we can
preserve the slots that those providers lost
because the awards were made based on the budget
available, not because providers did not perform
well. And we had this conversation about childcare
yesterday at the steps of city hall.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Right.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: It's, you know
this movie is getting very very tedious and boring
because we, the, the end is always we come in, we
plug in the gap, providers are okay for a year, and
then next year we go through the same process.

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This, we have to change this conversation. It just
doesn't serve any of us.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: If you're referring
to the COMPASS awards we try...

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: I'm not sure
what you're calling it these days quite frankly
because you know I'm, I'm at a loss. The bottom
line is that providers responded to an RFP for
after school programming and in my district one
provider that we were able to put in money for
under our discretionary process that was base lined
now lost 100 seats.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Again we tried to
make a judgment that was fair to everyone. You know
given the finite amount of money we had we wanted
to serve as many programs, as many neighborhoods,
as many young people in different communities. We
didn't have the opportunity to be as nuance as I
think you would want us to be. I hear you. Bug
given the finite amount of money we had we try...
[cross-talk] make the best judgments we could.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: I, I understand
and I'm not going to torture you about it. Please
give us a list of the providers that lost seats,

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what communities, what district lost those seats in
your attempt to be equitable across the city...

COMMISSIONER CHONG: We will.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: ...so that we in
our next couple of weeks understand what it is that
we're going to have to deal with the plug a gap
that's created with the best intentions although
has a very negative impact at the community level.
Please. And, and timing is of the essence because...

COMMISSIONER CHONG: We'll, we'll send
it to you next week.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: I, I hope that
we're going to break for the summer early this
year. And the, the, the conversation that I had
with the deputy mayor I'll put on your radar. It
is, it is true for every single agency in our city.
We, in our contracting efforts to provide services
across the city assign contracts and budgets that
providers were community based organizations that
hire the people on those contracts are not paying
good wages contributing to the poverty in our city,
often individuals do not have benefits under those
contracts. It is critical for us to engage in a
process to equalize the pay that these contracts

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are paying and that providers be supported in that
process because we know that if you're expecting 32
hundred per slot and you only get 28 the pay for
the people that work in those contracts is going to
be lower. We cannot be the head employer in the
city that's contributing to the poverty in our
communities. We have to engage in that
conversation. The report that I sited to the deputy
mayor I believe gives us a framework to begin a
conversation that we can all work on fixing
something that regardless of why it, it got created
in the first place represents a very serious
economic equality problem in our city. We cannot
contribute to poverty in this city.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
you Chair. Chair Eugene.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you very
much Madam Chair. Commissioner the deputy mayor
mentioned that there was a mistake or error from
DYCD to send a letter first to let the providers
know that they would be granted the funding and
after that to send another letter to let the know
that now you know you want to be funded. When the
administration realized that, that there was a

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mistake is there... Well do they, did the
administration contact you and to address the issue
with you?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: As the deputy mayor
said it was a mistake by DYCD to notify providers
until the funding for FY, FY '16 had been
finalized. So I apologize for the confusion that
it's created. But now we work with OMB to address
this situation this summer. And so we'll be
notifying providers early next week about plans for
the summer.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: So what I'm
trying to understand when the administration
contacted you to inform you or to let you know that
that was a mistake, you are not supposed to do
that, and were there any conversation, any work
together with the administration to try to address
that?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: The mistake was
ours because we jumped the gun in announcing
funding that had not been finalized which as you
know the executive budget I think was released on
May 7th.

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COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Yeah I hear you
but was it necessary because we thought we had the,
a rallies the press conference, letters to the
mayor before the funding where where we start. So
why the administration and DYCD didn't take the
step to correct the mistake before we went through
you know all the, the effort that we made to ask
the mayor to restore the budget.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: I, I think, as I
said earlier the administration had heard the
concerns of parents and programs and the problem
has been addressed.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Alright thank
you Commissioner. Commission in Fiscal year 2015 we
know that the DY, SYD offered about, more than 47
slots. And now we know that only 39 slot will be
available. And if money is... DYCD budget for... and
adoption as it was last year what would be the
timeframe for actually finding and filling
additional slot look like?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Well you know once
the budget is adopted if additional funding is
added to the summer youth employment program we're
prepared to move quickly to hire more young people

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this has been a situation that this agency has
experienced repeatedly over many years where money
gets added and the adopted budget for something
like the summer youth employment program. And
we're, we have a great network of service providers
that are able to move quickly to place young
people. We have a large pool of applicants. So I
feel confident any additional funding that's added
to the summer youth employment program can be well
spent very quickly.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: With respect to
the SYEP, and we know that part of the money comes,
comes from the city and from the state and some of
the time from private sector. The fiscal year 2016
is... budget, does not currently recognize A listed
funding for SYEP. But the state adopted the budget
allocation for 30 million dollars. [cross-talk]

COMMISSIONER CHONG: ...state wide.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Yes, could you
tell us or do you know what is the positives of the
30 million dollars does DYCD expect to receive this
year.

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COMMISSIONER CHONG: I'll tell you in a
minute. Our, our expected state allocation is 15.4
million.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: 15.4? Is there
any timeframe when do you expect to receive this..
[cross-talk]

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Well the money is
I, I think, believe already in our budget or you
know we'll... and it's a reimbursement process so it,
it, it doesn't hold back us moving ahead with
implementation of the program.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: No okay I see.
Thank you. But what about the, the contribution
from the private sector? Is there any funding from
the private sector?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: We, we've gotten
about 1.4 million in private funding from several
providers in that, that... money usually goes to the
mayor's fund because it's the non-profit arm for
the city and they administer the money and then we,
we get a transfer of funds from the mayor's fund.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: ...the fiscal 2016
executive budget includes an allocation of, for 100
thousand that are for SYP in relation to the anti

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gun violence. ...we'll be offered this summer in
connection with anti gun violence initiative.

COMMISSSIONER: So I believe the actual
number last year, the number was 100 thousand that
the council added to the adopted budget. This year
it's almost 300 thousand young people who will be
earmarked for this special initiative and we expect
298 jobs to be generated as a result of that.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: ...question but
I'm going to ask... the last one. With respect to the
summer jobs last year we were able to provide more
than 45 thousand summer jobs. And now we get back
to 39 thousand. So that mean we're going backward.
What is your plan for the future...

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Well...

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: ...to ensure that
we got enough jobs or to increase the number of
slot for the youth... this summer. Is there any plan
for the future?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: I think this, to
grow the funding base. As I said the federal
government has abandoned this program. The state
unfortunately could have done more with the, with
the launch of the center for youth employment I'm

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hoping that the private funding we receive goes u
as well. I think the council has obviously done an
incredible job supporting this program. This
program every year we have to raise the budget from
scratch. I mean people forget that... the inception
of the jobs program which goes back 53 years
believe it or not at the summer jobs program
something called it... It was entirely funded by the
federal government. It, the federal government just
walked away from this program it's because the city
of New York, the city council, the state of New
York and, and some privet funders quite frank have
stepped into the breach to keep this program alive.
So every year I have to raise the money from
scratch because we go to different places. So I go
up to Albany in February where, you know the Mayor
this year made a major push among private funders
about a month ago. We're hoping that will
eventually lead to more opportunities for funding
from the private sector. So our strategy is multi-
prong.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Yeah every year
DYCD faces... challenges of, for losing funding for
the summer jobs. And you mentioned that you know

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the state should make ore effort, should invest
more. But is there any collaborated effort between
DYCD and the administration. In conversation, in
plan that you, DYCD and the administration putting
together to adjust this issues and to overcome the
difficulties of raising funding or receiving more
from them from the state... private sector.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: I mean...

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGNE: DYCD on that
administrate... put together... together... [cross-talk]
for the future.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Every year on the
day when lobbying efforts are occurring in Albany
with the, the summer jobs campaign I participate. I
meet with legislators. You know we, we, you know
make our needs clear. And you know the state
obviously to make its decisions about what
priorities it can invest in as well. So we make a
collaborative effort with the state. You know as I
said we're actively trying to do more outreach to
the private sector because they really haven't
contribute much. 1.3 million out of a budget of 72
million is not much so I think employers have a big
stake in keeping young people employed and you

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know. So we made some headway. So in the last few weeks I've worked with the chief technology officer for the city whose reached out to the tech sector. And so a lot of the tech companies are... an interest in either giving us money or hiring young people. So for example AOL just agreed to provide 25 paid internships. So I'm, I'm, I'm optimistic that we can make headway in the privet sector because there is so little that we have right now that we can grow support for the summer jobs program by that, by those strategies.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you very much Commissioner. Thank you Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank you Chair. We've been joined by Council Member Johnson, Levine, Cumbo, Williams, and Van Bramer. We will now hear from Council Member Chin followed by Council Member Cornegy.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you Chair. Commissioner when you saw the money for the summers, summer program, the SONYC summer program and you saw that in the out year were you pretty confident that the funding was going to be there? I

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mean it was also in the out year. It wasn't just
for one year right?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: I mean what I've,
what I've, what happens often in a preliminary
budget and an executive budget things do change. So
there's no certainty until the executive budget is
released and that's why it was a mistake for us to
move ahead without a certainty about the long term
funding. So for example in the preliminary budget
there was no funding for runaway and homeless youth
beds and that was added in the executive budget. So
between preliminary executive a lot of things
happen, a lot of listening happens and adjustments
are made. So it was as I said a mistake... [cross-
talk]

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: But usually if
something is in the preliminary budget often time
it will stay there. I mean...

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Not necessarily. So
I mean like I said there are, it's a dynamic
process. There are changes between preliminary and
executive and so our mistake was to move too
quickly until there was certainty on the funding
for FY '16.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Well I guess the
administration have you to take the heat for that
huh? Okay but they gave out money to DOE right to,
to do programs renewal school. At the same time
they added 3.6 million to DYCD's budget for you to
do the after school program. I mean why couldn't
just DOE with their renewal school project just do
everything. I mean why do they...

COMMISSIONER CHONG: I think it's a
question of timing, that given the fact that the
community school programs haven't been officially
awarded contracts that we looked at where there
were potential service gaps. And so DYCD was asked
to fill the breach and so we're looking at amending
contracts nearby programs so they can do a
satellite program at these locations that don't
currently have any summer enrichment programs and
then moving forward we can hopefully the Department
of Education will take on a, a much more hands on
role But for this summer we were asked to step in
and help an we're glad to do that.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: So for this, for
this budget line you see that it's only going to be
for the summer?

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COMMISSIONER CHONG: Well it's been base
lined but you know I know for this summer the, the
plan is to just simply amend existing contracts
because the community school contracts really are
not up and running yet.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: So for the, for
the money that was allocated for the summer program
now, now you're able to get back. You already have
all the providers on board right. You already have
contractors with provider that could do the, that
have the capacity to do the summer program?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Well the renewal
schools are the largest summer school... [cross-talk]

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: ...the larger...

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Yeah I think you
know we've, because of their earlier communications
I think we have a good handle on the situation.
That's why... [cross-talk]

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: And also because
you did it last summer.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Well last summer
yes but the big difference this year is that we're
adding more sites because many of the programs that
were launched in September of last year were

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getting funding to do summer services for the first
time. So there would be more young people being
served in more locations.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: But that's, I mean
that goes back to my point. Then they were planning
to really expand the program and why was it all of
a sudden just got pull. I mean that doesn't make
sense at all right? I mean last summer you started
it, it was great, and you were planning on
expanding it. So in, in a sense that funding was
asked for this program... [cross-talk]

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Last summer...
[cross-talk]

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: ...put in the
preliminary budget and in the out years going
forward.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Last summer was
intended, has a one year effort.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: But then...

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: I'm
sorry Commissioner if it's in the out years how is
it intended for a one year? Because when we see it
from our perspective and when I study the charts
and the numbers and everything and we see out year

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funding it means that you're saying we are
committed to this program from now until the end of
these out years. So then to say that it was only
intended for one year is what we don't understand.
So explain that to me.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Well my
understanding is last year was intended as a one
year investment. This year we made the mistake of
issuing notices before the executive budget which
finalized... [interpose]

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Commissioner...

COMMISSIONER CHONG: ...the funding.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: ...I, I know you're,
you, you're taking the blame right? But you
shouldn't be taking the blame because summer
program ended in the summer of last year. So
September, October you guys were doing planning
right? And you wanted to expand right? Expand
slots? So it was intention to continue the program
which is a very very good investment alright. But
the administration you know wanted to do something
else and they need to look for money so they took
this and they made a mistake alright. And, and when
the parents and the advocates and the council,

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everybody started screaming they pull back. And now
they're saying it's going to be another one year?
No. But we're glad that it's, it's back for the
summer but we will continue to fight to make sure
that it continues. And we hope that we will
continue to work with you on that.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: As I said it was a
premature decision by us. We should have waited.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Alright...

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Council
Member Cornegy followed by Council Member Miller.

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Good afternoon
Commissioner. So I've had the pleasure myself in my
office of working with the administration on the
workforce development round tables. And we've had
several of them. I kind of wanted to ask you the,
you know there've been dialogue around career
pathways and I kind of wanted to just ask you a
question around the funding for career, the career
pathways initiatives. So fiscal year 2016 executive
budget, budget includes a half million dollars for
career pathways. I never really got a clear
definition on career pathway even when we were
having those. So can you tell me about the career

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pathways report, why it was authored, and who
commissioned it and what his findings were.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Okay the career
pathways report was conducted by the mayor's office
of workforce development. So I was a member of that
group so I can only speak to our role in that,
which is a very small roll. So I, I would suggest
you contact the mayor's office of workforce
development for the whole history of it. But one of
the things that came out of the, the jobs for New
Yorkers taskforce report was the need to create a
bridge program for low literacy young people. So
the 500 thousand that you're referring to in the
executive budget refers to... there are a lot of
young people who have low literacy levels, 4th, 5th,
6th grade reading levels that our current programs
can't reach them. You know typically we want to be,
to be able to engage in the workforce you have to
have a 7th or 8th grade reading level. So the idea
of the 500 thousand dollars is to create a bridge
program with our young adolescent literacy program
to begin to provide the more robust services so
that these young people after receiving services
from the young adolescent literacy programs can

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transition to some of our other programs that you
need a 7th or 8th grade reading level. So that,
that's the 500 thousand.

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: So, so what are
those, what, what is that, what is the demographic
age target for that program.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: It's 16 24? Yeah 16
to 24.

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: And then my
second question is what would be the half, what
would be the 500 dollars, 500 thousand dollars for
fiscal 2016... oh you just... use for... but is there
any, any idea of extending this past fiscal year
2016... that, that particular line of funding...

COMMISSIONER CHONG: I, I think it's
been base lined. Three years. The 500 thousand.

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: So I would
just, I would just ask that we follow up with Chair
of Finance because that wasn't my, that wasn't
actually my understanding.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Oh... base lined for
three years.

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Thank you.

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CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Before
the end of this hearing we'll get you that
information. Council... you have a question? No?
Okay. Council Member Miller is not here. Council
Member Rosenthal followed by Council Member
Johnson.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Thank you
chairs. Thank you Commissioner. And first I just
want to commend your deputy commissioner for youth
services Susan Haskell. We had a very challenging
situation in one of our schools and she really was...
and trying to help calm everyone's nerves. Although
there's still some follow-up with it but she
really, it was a pleasure to work with her. So I
just want to let you know that. I'm particularly
interested in the increases for contract workers.
So when the money is moved from the miscellaneous
budget to your agency it's my understanding that
your contracts are fairly straight forward so it'll
be fairly easy to move the money directly into each
of the contracts. Do, do you feel that way?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: ...contract workers?
I mean I was... [cross-talk]

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Right so the...

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COMMISSIONER CHONG: ...talking about
program staff.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Right. So the
increase to 11.50 an hour, for wages, and the cola
increase of 2.5 percent... [cross-talk]

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Oh... [cross-talk]
...the cola.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: So we're waiting
for directions...

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Yep.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: ...from OMB on how to
implement this.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Yes.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Because they, they
want to develop a citywide strategy. And each
agency's a little different so many of the workers
in the programs that we fund are part time so they
want to figure out how do you, how do you calculate
the cost of the adjustments because some, some,
like homeless services for example may have a lot
more full time workers because of the
disproportionate number of programs that run after
school programs you have a large number of people

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who work 15 20 hours a week. So all those
calculations are being done and we'll get more
guidance from OMB hopefully in the next few months
after the budget's adopted.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: How many
contracts for your agency does this apply to?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Oh I think we're
still doing that calculation. Because we, we
haven't gotten clear guidelines yet from OMB. So I
don't want to guess until we know exactly which you
know how they want us to apply the analysis.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: You don't
know how many contracts.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Well how many
contracts... because for example... [cross-talk]

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Yeah.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: ...it's unclear
whether we have... funded programs whether, whether
they will be covered by this. You know so all the
things...

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: 100 percent
federally funded programs.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Yeah a number of
those as well. So when this, when a cola's last

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done five years ago there were questions about does
this apply to every program in the city regardless
of its funding source. So we haven't gotten the
guidance yet so for me to give you a number without
clear guidance from OMB I think would be premature
because that's one open question we have, you know
programs that... had CSBG funding, programs that get
community development block funding. We have
programs that get workforce investment opportunity
funding. So all those would technically be eligible
but until we get clear guidance from OMB I can't
give you a precise number of how many programs
would be eligible.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: So, okay. So
can you give us a list of if you have 100 contracts
in total how many are making that number up. I'd be
curious to know what that number is, your total
number of contracts.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: We can give you a
breakout of contracts by funding source.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: That's
exactly what I was getting at.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Okay.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Contracts by
funding source and then similarly for those
contracts by funding source do you know the number
of full time and part time employees in each of
those categories of contracts.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Until we get more
guidance from OMB of what categories applies it, it
wouldn't make sense to do the analysis until they
give us more guidance on what categories.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: So you don't
know that?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: We can, what? Oh
okay we'll get it to you. [cross-talk]

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: ...you have
that.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Again it, it's a
broad universe but it may be narrowed based on
whatever guidance we... [cross-talk]

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Of course.
I'm, I understand you I'm just trying to understand
the parameters that are within DYCD. Okay so you
have those by funding source. Do you also have them
by like programmatically?

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COMMISSIONER CHONG: Yes. I mean we can
say what workforce, [cross-talk]

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Yes.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: ...after school math.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Yes. How hard
is that? Is that some information you could get to
us within the next, today's Friday.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: That would take a
little time to do sorting. But you know we'll get
within a week or so.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Within a week
or so. So it's not something you have at the ready?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: I mean you know
within the week I think is probably the best we can
do.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Okay by
Friday. Thank you very much Commissioner.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
you Council Member Rosenthal. We have, is Council
Member Johnson here? Oh. Council Member Williams is
not here yet... Someone call him. Oh sorry. And we've
been joined by Council Member Gibson. I know you
move your seats too much.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you
Madams and Mister Chairs. Thank you Commissioner
for your testimony. I have a couple of questions.
First I wanted to know if... I'm happy with this
administration of how they tried to address certain
issues of crime particularly from the lead of the
council on the certain issues... around gun violence.
My first question is I know that the police
department, they have impact zones that they've
looked at. Do you look at your programs similarly?
Are there impact zones or some zones that you look
at and say we have to do specific programs here? If
so how does that work? How do you look at the data
and figure out where these programs need to go?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: I'm sorry there's
all this noise back and forth... doors... could you
repeat the question?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Okay but I
don't have that much time so did the police
department often they have what they have called
impact zones which is where they need to put their
resources. Does DYCD have similar impact zones. And
if so how do you look at it and how do you figure
out where the resources are needed the most.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: And generally in programs we, you know we try to target high need areas like for example the neighborhood development area, the, the contracts I referred to. They're designated for high poverty neighborhoods. Our workforce programs we want to encourage that they target neighborhoods that have high unemployment. So we tried... because let, many of these programs are fairly small like the workforce innovative opportunity act program. It's probably 18 million dollars so we want to maximize the impact it has on the highest need communities. So generally we try to target... but you know, but when you have large funding like the after school program SONYC which is you know over 160 million. There we have the ability to cast a wider net and serve as many communities as possible where we don't have to just limit it to just high need neighborhoods but every neighborhood that wants a program can have one but for programs that have less funding we really do try to target high need communities.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Can you tell me a little bit about the summer youth employment and this youth employment journal is something

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that's big... obviously all the studies show that is
one of the biggest things that we can do to deal
with the crime amongst those young people. There's
a study came out of Chicago, a eight week program,
43 percent decrease I those young people... [cross-
talk] And that expanded 16 months after that
program. Also I would love to see these numbers
pushed up even more. I do want to know about the,
when you said you doubled the number of vulnerable
youth SYEP slots from 1,000 to 2,000 I know that in
the city council we had some slots that we set
aside areas that had the crisis manager system. Are
those the same? What are these... [cross-talk]

COMMISSIONER CHONG: No. So the Cure
Violence programs I think my understanding is about
300 thousand has been allocated this year which
will allow us to support about 298 young people.
And so the Cure Violence groups will designate the
young people and then we'll use our payroll system
which is the one that pays SYP and the, these young
people will be paid directly by DYCD. And then the
cure violence groups can supervise them. The
vulnerable youth jobs is something we started about

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four or five years ago where we recognize that
young people who are in foster care...

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I see.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: ...or homeless or
court involved needed to get special support. And
so we, we work closely historically with ACS,
homeless services, and the Department of probation.
And they make referrals of young people. There's no
lottery. And there's a case manager assigned to
each young person because we know, we want to make
sure the six week experience is, has been as packed
full as possible so a young person may have
challenges. So that's why the case worker from
probation or from homeless services works with our
provider to make sure that, that, that we can build
on this experience. So there's been a commitment by
the mayor to double that number so this year we
went from 1,000 to 2,000 jobs set aside for
vulnerable youth.

COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Okay. Well I
hope that we put some... the, the, the jobs pieces
actually not adequately funded. Hopefully the
council will be able to do something but it
shouldn't be left up to us. It's probably not fair

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to leave public safety up to only the police
department and try to work only through them. We
have to make sure we're working through all of the
agencies and I think DYCD is a big part of that. I
think a big part of that is providing jobs and
after school programs for our young people. I'm
very happy that you put back the, the slots that
we're going to lose. But I think that's the
direction we should be going and making sure it's
adequately funded particularly in the same areas
that the police come and we call impact zones. I
think we should be working tandem with that.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: I agree with you
100 percent. I mean one of the things I mentioned
in my testimony is that the evening hours at the,
94 cornerstone community cents will continue this
year. It was a big success last year. The, for the
first time many of these centers were open 'till
11:00 at night. And they place this, provided a
safe space for young people to be engaged in
programming, in public housing. We, we toyed around
with the hours. Last year it was 11:00 for most
centers and then those that had gyms we opened
'till 12:30. And we saw the 10 inch drop and, and

1 so we, we've dialed it back a bit to 11:00. And you
2 know it was interesting because the, we had to
3 figure out how to engage young people in
4 programmings because one of the things we learned
5 is that cooking was a big interest for young
6 people, young men. And we did cooking classes. We
7 started doing family movie nights which was a way
8 to engage families as a, as a family, as a unit to,
9 and, an because the center is great. It's open
10 'till 11:00. Keep young people, keep families safe.
11 And then the, one of the side benefits of the
12 extended hours in cornerstones last year was we had
13 two or three officers assigned to the centers to
14 make sure there was safety there. And so in many
15 centers the cops participated in the activities and
16 played basketball. So we're launching a pilot
17 program this year which I think Councilwoman Gibson
18 witnessed the first one we did at Johnson Houses
19 where we had young people engaging officers on a
20 regular basis to look at how they can work
21 together. So we're hoping to expand that pilot
22 because I think a lot of times it's about young
23 people engaging officers and officers engaging
24 young people and understanding that the stereotypes

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are really just stereotypes about each other. So
that was one of the side benefits of the extended
hours last year which we hope to build on this
year.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Well y time is
up. So thank you. I'd love to continue
conversations about how the agencies can work more
collaboratively. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
you Council Member Williams. Council Member Cumbo
and then we'll begin the second round which is
three minutes per council member.

COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you Council
Member Williams for recognizing your time was up.
And I thank my co-chairs and everyone for all of
their work today. Just teasing you. But I wanted to
focus on a few things. The first was when will you
notify providers about the summer camp
restorations?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Early next week.

COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Early next week
they will be informed?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Right.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Okay that's
fantastic. The other thing that I wanted to ask is
that we had a few, we had a few providers even up
until last week and the last month in terms of
challenges with your agency getting money out of
the door. So the ability for organizations to
actually receive the money because one of the
challenges that we faced is a lot of organizations
ultimately have to front the money if you will
until they can get the money reimbursed. How did
you feel about the time table in which funding was
released to organizations. Were you pleased with
it? Do you think it could be improved? Or where are
we with that?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: I, all the programs
that started in September I think are fine. I think
mid-year we released a request for a proposal to
start center based programs and those programs
started in March. So some I know are struggling. So
you should have them contact our, our office. And,
you know some are new to contracting and that's
always a challenge. One of the exciting things
about the center based initiatives that we
announced starting in, in March. We had a really

1
2 incredible cross section of, of non-profits that we
3 had never funded. We funded for the first time A
4 African group in Staten Island which I was really
5 happy to do. We funded programs operating Islamic
6 schools. So I know some of the new groups probably
7 struggled and so if they have issues they should
8 contact our office and we'll walk them through,
9 provide them technical assistance because the, the,
10 the contracting process in the city can be
11 challenging. No question about it and especially
12 for a new group.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: But through the
14 discretionary funding that we're able to give out
15 of our office which is outside of RFPs and that
16 sort of thing once the money is awarded to them
17 what is the average time table in which the group
18 receives the funding for discretionary?

19 COMMISSIONER CHONG: I think the, once
20 they're cleared by the Mayor's Office of Contract
21 Services and that is usually the biggest challenge.
22 It's 30 to 60 days from the time they're cleared.
23 Typically a lot of agencies that receive... funding
24 they, they have to comply with a, the attorney
25 general charities bureau's requirements which is a

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rigorous list of things including an annual audit.
And so we, what we found is that often times groups
don't get cleared by MOCS until December or
January. And that, that shrinks the window that we
can develop a contract. Because we can't act on
contract development until the Mayor's Office of
Contract Services clears them. So that's typically...
but once they're cleared depending on their, the
size of their contracts... if it's under a certain
amount the requirements are less stringent than
those that are bigger contracts. So we, it's a
system that's never perfect. We're always looking
for ways to improve it.

COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: The other
question that I had was, and I know that Chair
Ferrereras will probably talk more about this is the
contract as it pertains to we know that NYCHA has
the 57 community centers and senior centers. How
many of those spread of the community centers is
DYCD picking up? The second question behind that is
because the summer is basically here upon us how
will you award those contracts once those, once
those developments have been turned into your care
how will you get providers to provide the services

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because there seem to be conversations already had
in my district with community centers and I
understood that there would be some kind of RFP
process and also what will happen to the labor
workforce that is unionized that was providing a
lot of those services and those community centers
will those jobs be maintained or are we going to
lose that workforce?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: So there's a short
term and a long term strategy. So the short term
strategy because as you may recall in January of
2014 DYCD assumed responsibility for 45 centers
from NYCHA, 45 cornerstones. That money was in our
budget only through June 30th of this year. That
was a decision made by the Bloomberg
Administration. So we couldn't do an RFP unless we
had a long term commitment of funding. The
executive budget released a few weeks ago make that
long term commitment. So there is a plan in,
sometime in the fall of this year to release an RFP
for all 94 centers. We took over 25 four or five
years ago we, we added 45 last January for 70 and
the remaining 24 centers will be assuming effective
July 1st. So that's the long term strategy. Have an

RFP out by this fall for new, new long term contracts starting July 1st at 2016. The short term strategy for the 24 that we're assuming July 1st of 2015 is to amend the contracts of the nearest cornerstone or beacon and they will run a satellite program fully funded until the RFP is released this fall and there will be turnover. In fact the experience of five or six years ago was that the original 25 cornerstones we awarded with the short term strategy of amending contracts of nearby beacons at the time half the programs through the competitive process turned over which we think is a good thing. You know competition's good. You bring in new providers and people who might be more familiar with the neighborhood. So that's the long term strategy. The third question you asked about staffing it's my understanding that the housing authorities working to make sure that any city employee is reassigned to a comparable job either a NYCHA or other city agencies and beyond that I have nothing else to add about the staffing issue.

COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you. And I would like to talk to you more about that RFP process that will be administered. Because we have

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seen what this RFP procession the short time that
I've been here that a great deal is lost and a lot
of local involvement is lost and we want to make
sure that the process is as transparent as possible
and that many local providers, particularly those
that are servicing communities of color have an
opportunity to be also serviced by providers of
color as well.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: If your office be
willing to sponsor a workshop on how to prequalify
in the... system we'd be glad to work with you.

COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you. I'll
take you up on that. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
you Council Member Cumbo. I just wanted to follow
up on Council Member Arroyo's request. The council
would like a list of the organizations that were
awarded through COMPASS RFP, broken down by council
districts and number of slots awarded. You said you
would provide this list next week but we are
requesting that you provide this by the end of
today just because we're in very important
negotiating conversations right now.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Okay.

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CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
you. I wanted to talk about, ask... in our budget
response the council included a call for 3.96
million or 60 thousand per program to increase the
average budget for city funded beacons to 407
thousand. This was, was not acknowledged in the
fiscal 2016 executive budget. How did we arrive,
how did you arrive to the current funding levels
for city funded beacons.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: You know
unfortunately funds were not available to honor
that request but we, you know have this.... I, I, I
have a special commitment to help the beacons. I
understand that a lot of the work they done, have
done over the last 20 years, almost 25 years have
essentially laid a foundation for a lot of our
programs. You know Richard Murphy, it was his
vision to, to create the beacon program. And if you
look at, you see a little bit of the beacon model
in every program we have since then you know I
often quote Richard murphy, talked about we needed
to create dozens of small universes to help young
people learn, dream, and grow. And you see that in
every single model. So absent the ability to get

more funding for the program which you know I, you know I, I respect that request and you know the decisions are you know challenging that will be fun. We're looking to figure out a way to add services to beacons because of the invaluable services that you provide is free space at night and on weekends. Free space on the weekends and evenings is an invaluable service. So we're starting to, I, I... Denise Williams who oversaw our afterschool programs... Deputy Commissioner for Planning and Program Integration. And her job is to begin to look at neighborhood by neighborhood how can we get the different programs we fund to work together? So for example literacy programs, they struggle to find classroom space why can't a literacy program operate a beacon. Okay it's a different provider but it's the same community. Why are we treating each other as competitors. I'm starting conversations with other city agencies who are looking for... space.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Right.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: So I had a conversation with the head of MetroPlus which is the insurance..., health and human, health and

1 hospitals corporation. They wanted to expand their
2 pool of people who sign up for their insurance.
3 They're interested in providing health services
4 like... great idea they suggested a back to school
5 immunization clinic, vaccination clinic. So absence
6 of me being able to give them more money I wanted
7 to be able to bring services to them they don't
8 have to pay for, free services. One of Richard
9 Murphy's, one of the genius ideas he had was this
10 idea about co-location.
11

12 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Mm-hmm.

13 COMMISSIONER CHONG: Free space for free
14 service. I don't think we've done a good enough job
15 of doing that. And part of the problem is that DYCD
16 historically is operated almost as three different
17 agencies. You know we had youth services here. We
18 had community development here. And we had youth
19 employment. And there were three different ways of
20 operating. So I want to change all that. Let's look
21 at... And one of the things we're going to be doing
22 which I'm really excited about is that we're going
23 to have an app that you can go to one app and find
24 all the DYCD programs funded in that neighborhood
25 so that the beacon director if he or she has

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somebody who comes there and needs literacy
services he or she can connect them to literacy
services in that community. Because we tend to look
at people as program participants. I want to look
at people as a neighborhood.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Right. I
think your vision is right on and again that's
something that is core to what beacons are supposed
to do. But when we have an agency such as yours
that isn't funded properly what begins to happen I
think is, be, creates this competitive culture with
the program as opposed to a collaborative one. So
you know this council wants to work with you to
help change that structure because you have years
of competitive RFPs, competitive programming. Non-
profits have to, have been kind of forced to
compete for the same amount of crumbs.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Right.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Yet you
know now to transition to this collaborative effort
I think it's the right direction to go. And can you
speak to me on the difference between city funded
and federally funded beacons and is there a
difference in programming?

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COMMISSIONER CHONG: I mean I, we
recognize that there's more funding that CDBG or
community development block granted fund beacon has
a little bit more money. And so they have...

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: How
much? What's... [cross-talk]

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Not much. About 60
thousand or so. They're, they're required to serve
I think more people than the city tax levy. Because
we recognize you can't treat, it's not an apples to
apples comparison. You know we, we have a lower
threshold of participant requirements for city tax
levy funded programs.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Okay.
And then I wanted to, I'm going to follow up with
the youth employment program which is something
that we had put in the response and is very
important to this council, to me. I think it's, you
know we really need to begin to address on many
levels I think it addresses the needs to provide
more support in the programs if we're able to
employ young people and teach them a skill. It also
takes a young person and gives them a skill that
they can take for the rest of their lives. But I'm

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going to put that in my response letter to you so
if you can get that back to me as soon as possible
I would greatly appreciate it. We have Council
Member Chin for the second round and in, I, I'm
sorry, I'm sorry Council Member we'll have the
chair ask her question and then you.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: I will always
defer to Margaret. But Commissioner I'm going to
channel my former colleague Council Member Lou
Fiddler and pursue the questioning around runaway
homeless youth, the additional hundred beds will
bring to 453 what we are now funding..

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: ...for, for this
service. Where, so you received RFP, the responses
and how many did you receive?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Yeah well I think
we, we have more beds requested than the hundred so
we have flexibility..

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Of course.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: But you know since
it's an RFP process I can't recall speak to who
applied..

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COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: How many... No I
just want to know how many and, and where are we,
are we targeting specific communities where beds
are going to be assigned?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: It depends on their
they're, where, where they have facilities. The,
the main focus of this RFP was to serve gay and
lesbian youth...

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Okay.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: ...and 25 percent of
the beds we hope will be for transgender youth
because we recognize that there's a clear need for
that. And you know a lot of research has shown that
a, a growing number of the young people who are
runaway and homeless youth are, are LGBTQ. So we,
we made a commitment, it's a mayor's commitment to
serve this emerging population. And so hopefully by
mid-June we'll have awards we can announce and some
of them will come online immediately and others
will need to like at least space and things like
that.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Are there any
waiting lists currently that we know about with
existing providers?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: I think the additional hundred beds added last year alleviated that situation and in, in the rare situation where a young person is not able to access a crisis shelter bed they're, they're given referrals but I think the additional hundred beds will help deal with any backlog or waiting list that exist. Typically a crisis shelter bed because young people rotate in and out 30 to 60 days so a crisis shelter bed can serve... Yeah so one bed you know in, in a given year could serve ten people because, because young people may come for just six months, I mean the, a few weeks, move in with a friend, move in with a family member. So we're able to leverage the beds to serve many more young people.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: So are there, is there a split between those that are transitioning out and, or those that are emergency beds?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: There are two types of beds. There are emergency crisis shelter beds and there is something where, what we call transition to independent living.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: So what's the
split of the, in the hundred? Is there a split
between those two categories?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Yeah based on the
proposals we'll try to fund you know a mixture of
both.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Okay. So you
don't know what that mixture is at... [cross-talk]

COMMISSIONER CHONG: No because...

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: ...this point?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: ...the proposals are
being read right now.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: And, and I'm
happy that part of the funding includes dedicated
funding for mental health services. It's kind of
outside of as much as I love DYCD and the wonderful
work you do around adult literacy, mental health
services who would be monitoring the quality, the
components of that aspect of, of the services?

UNKNOWN FEMALE: That's a good question.
We're going to allow, we certainly...

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Can you say your
name for the record?

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2 SUSAN HASKELL: I'm Susan Haskell,
3 Deputy Commissioner of Youth Services. We're
4 funding a, a, some, approximately 90 thousand for
5 every 25 beds or young people being served any, any
6 time. we're going to allow the providers
7 flexibility. Some of that mental health services
8 could be a licensed clinical social worker who's on
9 site to do, which wouldn't necessarily be what you
10 would think of as like a traditional clinical
11 mental health service. Others who don't have access
12 to those clinical services in house or psychiatric
13 evaluations will make partnerships with local
14 organizations. So depending on the individual
15 provider and what their in house resources are
16 we're going to give them the flexibility to use the
17 funds to build on that.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: The oversight of
19 the quality and the content of the services is what
20 I'm asking about.

21 SUSAN HASKELL: We have a close
22 relationship with DOHMH. They are advising us as we
23 go along the way with this. We've, through the
24 community schools initiatives we've been connected
25

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with the DOE Office of mental health services and
we, we, we won't do that in isolation.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Okay. And, and
how many, how many individuals do you anticipate
would be served under the, the mental health
designated funding?

SUSAN HASKELL: Again we're going to
allow flexibility so some might implement a service
that, that reaches every person who comes through
their door, recreational programs for example that
are known to help with mental health needs. Others
might decide to put it on more expensive intensive
psychiatric evaluations in which case it might
serve hundreds of young people that year and not
more. We'll see how that plays out in right now
their developing proposals for how to spend the
money.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: So as, as we go
into the fall in our next round of budget hearings
on program issues if you can have a preliminary
number of, of individuals and, and, and more
importantly what services are they needing? And is
this adequate funding for the appropriate level of
care... [cross-talk] that's needed?

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COMMISSIONER CHONG: Yeah. I think we're
going to monitor it closely. It's a new service. We
think it's badly needed in this population. So
we're obviously going to monitor it closely and
tweak it. It's I think part of the flexibility is
to, to the benefit of the provider but also for us
to then intervene and we say well we think you
should be doing this based on the population that
you're serving.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: And I, I
congratulate you for, for the insight and for
making sure that we're funding this level of care
for this incredibly vulnerable population. I think
Lou would be very very pleased. And he would
probably ask you for more. So Lou if you're
listening I just want you to know that we're doing
that. Council Member Chin.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you Chair. I
just want to follow-up on a question on the
immigrant opportunity initiative, the ESLL part
that was base lined in 2014, the ES, the ESL part
of the immigrant opportunity initiative money.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: That, that doesn't
ring a bell... under adult literacy...

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Well it was part
3 of the...

4 COMMISSIONER CHONG: Are you talking
5 about the money... [cross-talk]

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: IOI.

7 COMMISSIONER CHONG: Oh IOI, oh okay.
8 Yeah that, that was, that was base lined and I
9 believe we did an immigration RFP last, earlier
10 this year. And we can give you the results... [cross-
11 talk]

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: ...only did, you
13 only RFP out that one million dollar? You didn't...
14 [cross-talk]

15 COMMISSIONER CHONG: Yeah that, that was
16 it, I, it was a, it was a relatively small amount.
17 It was about a million or so.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: So how many
19 providers...

20 COMMISSIONER CHONG: Oh. Yeah we can
21 send you that list. And we can send you the list.
22 It was posted on our website but we'll send you the
23 list of who was awarded, it was relatively small
24 amounts of money I believe because it was only a
25

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million dollars. But we essentially did an
immigration RFP I want to say in February or so.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Oh so you didn't
lump it together with other literacy monies because
this, this part is ESLL...

COMMISSIONER CHONG: No, no... it was, I
think the literacy money was clearly earmarked. I
believe the IOI money was put into the immigration
but we can definitely can get back to you on that.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Okay. Alright.
Alright I do... that's it.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
you Council Member Chin. We've been joined by
Council Member Greenfield. We're good? Okay.
Council, and now we'll hear from Chair.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you very
much Madam Chair. Commissioner we all know that the
administration will fund the 434 with... seat for the
summer. That's wonderful news that's, that's a
great decision... a perfect one, the right one. But
we know also it is only for one year. So my
question is what, what is in place, what other
alternative will provide to the children next year
if the administration doesn't you know decide to

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fund the program again? Where the children are
going to be? Is there anything in place, anything
that we are planning to have the young people and
to... them to be at the corner of the street and to
be exposed to all the negativity that we know
because we know that young people, the children,
they're not bad children but they're facing the
peer pressures. If we don't offer them any
alternative, we don't make the balance that means
they don't have no choice. Their choice will be to
the negative path. What we have in place to make
sure that we make the balance. We offer...
alternative to resist and to continue to do
positive thing... [cross-talk] place.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: With the start of
summer five weeks away I'm focused mainly on this
summer to make it as successful as possible so I'm
not prepared to discuss next summer.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: So that means
you don't have any idea what would be the
situation... [cross-talk]

COMMISSIONER CHONG: We're focused on
this summer which you know has you know given the
short time frame, I think given the limited time we

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have I want to make sure that this summer is done
successfully.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Very good
answer. That means that we city council members and
advocate we got to be ready to fight against next
year to ensure that the children will be provided
with the summer program. Okay. The other question
that I have for you... with respect to the shelters
for youth... I really... centers we have in New York
City...

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Centers?

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Drop in centers.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Drop in yeah seven.
[cross-talk] runaway homeless youth right?

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Yes. How many do
we have in the city of New York?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Seven.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Seven in the
five boroughs?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Seven that we fund.
There might be others that are funded with other
funding sources but...

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COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: So that means
they are distributed you know within the five
boroughs right?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: The, I think
there's one in each borough. [cross-talk]

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: ...also?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: What?

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Do we have any
in Brooklyn?

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Yes. We have, we
have one at least in Brooklyn.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Where...

SUSAN HASKELL: SCL family of services...
[cross-talk]

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Yeah SCL family of
service... We can, we can provide you the complete
list of all the drop in centers for runaway and
homeless youth so you can have that information
available.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you very
much. You know the Department of Youth and
Community... DYCD fiscal 2016 executive budget total
536.8 billion that's... 36.5 million less than last
year. And we know that they're, they have 37

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position in addition to last year. And we know also
that we, we have less summer jobs for the youth.
Could you explain us how come DYCD receive less
money for this '16 fiscal year? And we see that in
addition of position...

COMMISSIONER CHONG: The headcount
increase is mostly associated with the expansion of
the middle school program because we've added
almost 500 new contracts. So in order, to ensure
quality of monitoring by DYCD we want to make sure
that each program manager doesn't have an
overwhelming number of contracts. So previously the
average number of contracts per program manager was
about 35. And so I think we bring it into the mid-
20s. Because we want to make sure that every
program is visited at least twice a year because we
want to ensure quality. We have now reached almost
near scale in the middle school programs through
the sonic expansion. So most of the new headcount
and staff was devoted to program managers.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you very
much Commissioner... thank you to the deputy
commissioners. I just want to state that the, the,
the, the goal of the, of this hearing is not to...

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blames but... all of us we have to work together to
provide to the young people and the families the
best opportunities that they need for the children
to grow and to become positive and productive
people. And I do believe that one person cannot do
it, the administration, DYCD and the city council
alone cannot do it but by working together we will
do it. Thank you for everything that you are doing
for the children.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: And the
families. Thank you very much. Thank you Madam
Chair.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
you chairs. Thank you Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER CHONG: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: I
appreciate if you can... we're going to send you a
letter with follow up questions. If you can get
that to us expeditiously I would appreciate it as
we are currently negotiating parts of the budget.
I'm going to call this part of the meeting
adjourned. We will resume next door with CUNY in 15
minutes. Thank you.

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[pause]

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: We will
now resume the city council's hearing on the
mayor's executive budget FY 2016. We just heard
from the Department of Youth and Community
Development. The Finance Committee has now been
joined by the Higher Education Committee and we
will hear from James, sorry Milliken from the
Chancellor of the City University of New York in
the interest of time I will forego an opening
statement. But we, before we hear testimony I will
open the mic to my co-chair Council Member Inez
Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you Chair
Ferrerias-Copeland. And allow me to echo your
welcome to everyone this afternoon. I'm pleased to
see you Chancellor Milliken and I look forward to a
lively and productive discussion. CUNY provides
higher education to approximately 270 degree
seeking students and more than 247 thousand adult
and continuing education students at 24
institutions. Today we will talk about the services
and programs for students at the university's seven
community colleges. While I'm very pleased that the

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administration has base lined funding for CUNY prep

I am disappointed that it has not chosen to also

fund the merit based scholarships that the council

reinstated last year. These scholarships are

important to the thousands of students who received

them last year not only as recognition for their

hard work and achievement but also as a way to

support the ever increasing cost of the pursuit of

higher education. Until the president's goal of

offering two years of free community college

education to every student is realized and the 800

dollars a year each eligible student receives will

continue to be a vital part of their continuing

education here in New York. Support for our

students seeking higher learning is crucial but it

is just as important to support our students even

before they reach college engaging students in high

school or even earlier and preparing them for

rigorous study can help create a more seamless

transition from high school to college. Early

college schools in the Department of Education have

been very successful in this respect. But I think

additional collaboration between CUNY and the DOE

could only improve our student's college readiness

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further. Another aspect of encouraging our students particularly in the city as uniquely diverse as New York involves showing them how much people who look like them and share their background can achieve professionally. This is one of the many reasons why I am so passionate about increasing the level of diversity among CUNY faculty and I'm talking specifically about black and Latino faculty. We have spoken about this topic in the past and I look forward to doing so again today. As a city we can and should do more to encourage our students to aim high and I think all of us CUNY, the council, the DOE and the administration have the capacity to do this. I would like before we begin I would like to take a brief moment to thank our committee's taskforce for all of their hard work; my legislative director Indigo Washington, Jeffrey Campania, Jessica Ackerman, and Chloe Rivera. With that I return the floor to you Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank you Chair Barron. You may begin your testimony. I think your mic is off.

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: You can tell I'm new at this.

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2 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Much
3 better.

4 CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: Thank you very
5 much Madam Chair for the technical assistance as
6 well. Good afternoon I have, as I look at the
7 council I think I've had the opportunity to meet
8 everyone who's here today at the hearing. So I have
9 no excuse for being nervous other than that I have
10 so many CUNY students, faculty, and staff behind me
11 to see how I do that I'm exceedingly nervous I have
12 to live up to their expectations. They even brought
13 visual aids for me. So... they'll keep me on task.
14 I'm delighted to be joined by so many of my
15 colleagues and especially our students. I joined
16 this exceptional university about a year ago. So I
17 am delighted to spend my anniversary with you
18 today. I'm hoping my honeymoon extends through this
19 hearing. Or at least I hope you will understand
20 that I love CUNY and I'm a very enthusiastic
21 student of all things CUNY but I am still on the
22 learning curve and I may need help from some of my
23 colleagues or get back to you if you have specific
24 questions I can't respond to. I'm joined today at
25 the table by two vice chancellors Matt Sapienza

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2 budget and finance and Judy Bergtraum of Facilities
3 and Construction. And there are a number of other
4 colleagues of mine who are present today to throw
5 me a lifeline. This has been a great year at CUNY
6 and the last few weeks have been no exception this
7 morning with council member Gibson. I spoke at my
8 third commencement of the week this one Bronx
9 Community College. And because it impacts on a
10 couple of things that I'd like to visit with you
11 about I make one point about a couple of points
12 about that commencement. But I took notes while I
13 was there. The student body president who spoke and
14 both valedictorians who spoke the first thing they
15 thanked was ASAP, or ASAP. They were all ASAP
16 students. The president of the two valedictorians.
17 I think great evidence of the value of that
18 program, one of the class valedictorians Chrissy
19 Martinez was also a dream US scholarship winner,
20 the first one to graduate from CUNY. She's
21 originally from the Dominican Republic and was
22 reunited with her father she hadn't seen in 14
23 years for the first time at today's commencement.
24 She also spoke at a reception I hosted recently to
25 celebrate the dream US scholarship winners at CUNY.

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2 This has been a priority of mine. A year ago CUNY
3 had 30 scholarships. This year we lead the nation
4 with 367 new scholarships or over half of the dream
5 US scholarships provided nationwide. At this event
6 Chrissy did such a good job speaking that the dream
7 US founder Don Graham was there and also
8 philanthropist Bill Ackman. Each pledged an
9 additional 15 million dollars to support the dream
10 US scholars and if CUNY continues its current
11 pattern half of that 30 million I hope will support
12 students in New York City. At the, also at the
13 beginning of this month two ways before that
14 President Obama came to Lehman College to meet with
15 Lehman's Urban Male Leadership Program and to make
16 an announcement about his historic my brother's
17 keeper initiative. And to continue in these
18 highlights just yesterday the chronical of higher
19 education reported on the schools that produce the
20 greatest number of MacArthur genius fellowships
21 CUNY graduates have won 15 of these genius awards
22 which places it in the top 10 of all universities
23 in the country and second only to Berkley among
24 public universities. Number two in the nation in
25 MacArthur genius scholars. These are just a few

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2 examples of why I believe there's no place in the
3 country that better represents the goals of public
4 higher education at its finest... that is broad
5 affordable access to the highest quality education.
6 Of course this being life not everything is
7 positive. And as I'm sure you know we lost a gifted
8 and committed member of the CUNY family who was
9 tragically killed during the recent Amtrak
10 derailment in Philadelphia. Between 2003 and 2010
11 Derek Griffith was the founding principal of CUNY
12 prep, an important initiative that this council has
13 helped make possible. An important initiative that
14 this council has helped make possible. In his role
15 Derek helped thousands of young people earn high
16 school equivalency diplomas and enter college and
17 more recently he served as dean of enrollment at
18 Medgar Evers College At the time of his death Derek
19 had just earned his PHD in urban education from the
20 CUNY graduate center which was movingly recognized
21 at the graduate center which was movingly
22 recognized at the graduate center's commencement
23 this week. I'm pleased to announce at this hearing
24 that I will be asking the Board of Trustees to
25 rename CUNY prep, the Derek Griffith preparatory

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high school. I can think of no better way to honor
Derek's legacy and acknowledge the difference he
made in the lives of thousands of students by
renaming CUNY Prep in his honor.

[applause]

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: I can assure you
this is genuine. Many of my colleagues knew Derek
well and the outpouring of affection for that
talented young man was quite something to witness
over the last few weeks. So CUNY students as you
know richly deserve the assistance they receive and
we're grateful that the city council has
consistently recognized in support of their goals.
As you know our student body is among the most
diverse in the nation with students hailing from
over 200 countries and speaking 190 languages. More
than 40 percent of our students come from families
earning less than 20 thousand and close to 40
percent were born outside the US mainland. One of
the initiatives that CUNY manages with the support
of this council citizenship now. I know Chairperson
Barron was there recently to, to visit. I was able
to visit and meet with the people responding to
calls and it has done a great job for the city of

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2 New York and helping to demystify the process and
3 help many many thousands of people with questions
4 about immigrations and citizenship. As this council
5 is recognized time and again. Our students
6 represent the city's future. And their ability to
7 thrive is inextricably linked with the future of
8 New York City. So let's turn to the budget for 2016
9 and how it supports these students who are the
10 future of New York. Again I want to say how
11 appreciative we are for the support of the city of
12 New York and this council for so many critical CUNY
13 initiatives. I want to mention first that as you
14 know no university is great without a great
15 faculty. If there's one thing that unites our
16 faculty and our staff at CUNY it's a commitment to
17 the mission of CUNY... students. Last evening I
18 hosted a group of talented community college
19 faculty members at my home and I heard over and
20 over again how much they love this institution
21 because of our students, what they are achieving
22 and what it does for them and the difference CUNY
23 makes in their lives. These committed faculty and
24 staff have worked without a new contract for far
25 too many years. I support a prompt and fair

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2 resolution of our collective bargaining and I hope
3 we can realize that in. So CUNY can be competitive
4 and retain and attract the faculty and staff who do
5 so much for New York. Turning to the executive
6 budget I'm very pleased that a total of 14.8
7 million in new dollars were added in this year's
8 budget of this increase over ten million for...
9 support expansion, a multi-year program initially
10 funded last year. A major component is to support
11 the accelerated study and associated programs or
12 ASAP initiative which I mentioned earlier it has as
13 I think you know become a national model hailed by
14 President Obama and validated by independent
15 studies. In Fall 2014 ASAP had 43 hundred students
16 with the city's investment expansion could increase
17 to 7,100 in fall of 2015. In addition the executive
18 budget includes 1.5 million for expansion of CUNY
19 start maths program. This is a, a successful and
20 important program to enroll perspective students
21 who've been accepted but it still are not college
22 ready. Proficiency gains have been remarkable since
23 the program began in Fall of 2009 and we hope to
24 continue to expand the CUNY star program. The
25 budget also includes 2.7 million for CUNY prep soon

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2 to be named for Doctor Griffith. And I' pleased
3 that these funds this year have been base lined in
4 the city's financial plan. Program was established
5 in 2003 and it's an important source of funding
6 made possible because of the leadership and
7 advocacy for members of this council. And I thank
8 you very much for that. But another important
9 financial aid program an chairperson Barron
10 referred to this earlier the city council merit
11 scholarship become a very important program. We're
12 very grateful that the council led by the higher
13 education committee and with the urging of our very
14 persuasive students provided approximately 11
15 million in the current budget to fund this program.
16 To fund it at next year's, the level required would
17 require about 17 million we estimate. A new class
18 of entering students plus the continuing students
19 in their second year. And we hope you will give
20 strong consideration to including this for next
21 year. The executive budget also does not include
22 funding for the Dominican studies institute, the
23 center for Puerto Rican studies each of which are
24 national centers of historical and cultural
25 research, also the creative arts team which

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2 provides learning opportunities for at risk
3 students and the murphy institutes campus based
4 worker education programs. We would ask that you
5 give these your consideration with regard to
6 restoring them as well. We also seek operational
7 support for a number of other needs critical to our
8 students success such as the single stop
9 initiative. 2009 CUNY partnered with Single Stop
10 USA which is now a national program to offer
11 centralized one stop assistance of students for
12 benefit screening, tax preparation, legal services,
13 and healthcare assistance. Since 2009 CUNY's
14 community college students have received tremendous
15 benefit this program valued at 109 million dollars.
16 We're seeking what we think provides a terrific
17 return on the investment of an additional million
18 dollars to enhance single stop services our
19 community college and expand the program to senior
20 college population. Another program of the CUNY
21 linking employment, academics and disability
22 services or CUNY leads is a unique partnership with
23 the New York State Department of Education, provide
24 students with disabilities academic support, career
25 readiness training, and job placement services. It

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too has had a tremendous track record with the
participants enjoying an 84 percent retention rate
and a 70 percent employment rate after graduation
compared with a 56 percent national employment rate
for people with disabilities. We're seeking an
additional million dollars to help more students
with disabilities. And I want to recognize that a
group of students who are with us many times as we
travel across the city and to Albany are great
supporters of the university led by Luis Gutierrez
who's here and I want to recognize him and give him
a shout-out because two days ago he received his
master's degree at Hunter College. So Louis
congratulations.

[applause]

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: I'm sorry. I have
to appeal for the applause lines once in a while.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: I know.
It's interesting because we'd never allow applause
in this room, we wave... [cross-talk] but you guys
are getting away with it. That's alright.

[laughter]

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: The capital
budget, talk about that for a minute. With your

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2 help we completed Fiterman Hall and Bronx Community
3 College north Hall in 2012 as well as an expansion
4 of 22 million dollars in upgraded Medgar Evers
5 library which I was in a few weeks ago and is a
6 tremendous asset to that campus. In recent years
7 the council has provided over 150 million to CUNY
8 which has funded numerous projects, most at the
9 community college where the need is certainly
10 great. We begun construction on the 125 million
11 dollar façade for LaGuardia Community College's
12 building. The project must begun if this very large
13 facility is to be preserved. Other major projects
14 made possible by the council are the ongoing
15 utility upgrades at Bronx Community College, a
16 frazed [phonetic] renovation at Hostos Community
17 College, 500 Grand Concourse Building and numerous
18 roof replacements ADA upgrades and modernization of
19 heating and cooling system. All essential items for
20 maintaining our facilities which most of which are
21 over 40 years old and few of which will attract
22 naming gifts for those facilities. The council has
23 been very supportive of the CUNY senior colleges as
24 well. You provided support for Brooklyn College's
25 new Feirstein Graduate School of Film at Steiner

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2 Studios which will open next fall and I believe
3 will be a tremendous gem for CUNY and New York City
4 competing with the best fill schools in the
5 country, provide support for Lehman Colleges
6 library renovations, Soccer field upgrades, the
7 College of Staten Island and Science Lab upgrades
8 at Queens College in York. The city's executive
9 budget includes a new 70 million dollars for
10 critical maintenance and several programmatic
11 initiatives for the community colleges starting in
12 2019 the 20 million dollar lump sum for critical
13 maintenance has been base lined. When matched with
14 state funds this will create an annual 40 million
15 dollar stream to help fund CUNY upgrades at
16 community college upgrades. I wish I could say this
17 would take care of all the needs but it will not
18 but it will make a substantial impact on those
19 names. The executive budget includes 41 million
20 dollars for major programmatic upgrade again at
21 LaGuardia Community College Center Three building.
22 There are a number of critical maintenance needs as
23 I mentioned for our aging infrastructure. Many of
24 the necessary infrastructure needs such as roof
25 alarms. The highest priority being with fire life

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2 and safety projects. We're seeking additional
3 funding for the future allied health sciences
4 building and Hostos Community College. I noticed
5 the president of Hostos is here to make sure I
6 mentioned that. The new facility will provide
7 classrooms and labs for the college's allied health
8 programs and dental hygiene, radiological
9 technology and nursing and its engineering and
10 national science programs. It will also provide
11 dental and wellness clinics where students not only
12 gain practical experience but the public will
13 benefit from the care and education. The council
14 provided two and a half million. The Bronx borough
15 president two million which the state and the state
16 has just matched that city contribution and we've
17 kicked off the design of this project. So I thank
18 you for your ongoing support of many of our
19 critical capital needs. In closing I would say
20 something that I have witnessed over the last year
21 in meeting with the three of you and others of your
22 colleagues across the city. IT's clear to me that
23 council members are often the quickest to see the
24 needs that our students and their campuses have.
25 You walk the streets they do. Your members see how

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each CUNY campus uplifts the borough where it is
situated. You work with our alumni. You get to know
our students and our families. You see the close
connection we have with the city's high schools.
For many of our students decisions made by this
council have meant all the difference in their
ability to attend and complete college. I firmly
believe that CUNY's students today will provide the
intellectual infrastructure that will fuel this
city in the future and they need your support as
much as the city needs them to succeed and prosper.
So on their behalf I thank you for the investment
you make in their future and the future of New
York. My colleagues and I will be happy to respond
to any questions that you may have.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
you Chancellor Milliken. I just wanted to first say
that although it has only been a year you have been
only fair and such a great pleasure to be able to
work with you and your team to ensure that we're
able to not only baseline things that are important
to our, this council but also plan for the future
and you were, never were trying to figure out a new
initiative for were trying to figure out how we

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2 want to implement something we go to CUNY to get
3 that done. And that's because we know it's going to
4 be done right and there's going to be
5 accountability and there's going to be something
6 that we can follow. And I can say that it's through
7 your team that we're able to engage from Jay
8 Herschensohn to Gale Mellow who when I went and
9 knocked on her door about Willet's Point and doing
10 training for mechanics at you know what many
11 unfortunately refer to as the Junk Yard LaGuardia
12 Community College stood up and was not thinking
13 about their façade and all the other challenges
14 that they face but said yes. And the same is, and
15 it is the same with Doctor Felix Matos who although
16 I'm not from the Bronx would maybe go to the Bronx
17 to see him there and really engage with him at
18 Queens College. And it is refreshing. And I'm so
19 excited to have him in Queens. So I could probably
20 shout out everyone because they're all equally
21 amazing. But I just wanted to be able to say that.
22 I want to focus in on two things before I open up
23 to my colleague for questions; Chair Barron and
24 then we'll open it up to the rest of the council.
25 We have a first round so members will have five

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minutes for their first round. The second round we
come back with three minutes. So the five year
capital plan commitment. I just need you to walk me
through historically what you've been able to spend
while we're really excited to see there's
additional funding. CUNY's five year capital
commitment plan for fiscal 2015 to 2019 is 456
million. That is 51 million more than the
university's ten year capital strategy for fiscal
2016 to 2025. Given the rate at which CUNY is
likely to be able to undertake projects do you,
does it, we have a challenge understanding and I
need you to help me understand how will you be able
to spend this money down? How is it that the five
year capital commitment plan is larger than the 10
year?

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: You know on, I'll
be very brief. Judy Bergtraum accompanied me to
Albany to testify before the assembly and senate
committees on finance and I never let her speak. So
I've got to make up for that. I'm going to allow
her now to respond to your question.

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CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Great.

Thank you Chancellor. I'm sorry can you just grab
the mic, state your name...

JUDY BERGTRAUM: Judy Bergtraum. The
first five years...

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Bring it
closer because we just need to get it recording.
Thank you.

JUDY BERGTRAUM: The first five years of
the capital plan includes hundreds of projects that
store, that are from planning to design into
construction. That's the first five years. The next
five years are what we call planning and we will
basically plan for the future. What we did for this
budget is we sat down with every college president
and said let's look at what we have when are we
going to spend it. And what we did is we move many
things out so that we would have it in the year
that we were actually going to commit it and
basically go into construction. So we are looking
at that all the time. Now we'll look at it this
year. We've actually started, you're not going to
believe this, the planning process for next year,
we started it this month because we sit down with

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every single college. We look at what their needs.
We look at what their critical maintenance needs
are and we basically start to plan for the future.
So we have plenty of projects to complete in the
last five year. But we have to figure out, we have
to make sure that they're leasing and they also
have to work with the colleges to make sure that
we're not doing construction that interferes with
their programs. So it's a very very big balancing
act.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: So,
right, so can you just tell me on average what,
what are you spending capital wise a year?

JUDY BERGTRAUM: The commitment is about
70 million dollars a year.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: So if we
have 70 million dollars a year and your, your
current five year plan is at 456 million how do
you, help me understand how we're going to spend
this money in five years.

JUDY BERGTRAUM: Well what, what, if, if
you take what we have... let's just look at the, the,
the five years. If it gets complicated because any
amount of money that you go, that you give us we

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2 have basically have to go to Albany and basically
3 get a match before we use it. So whatever you give
4 us we're going to have more money than what you
5 basically just described. We're going to sit down,
6 go through the plan, planning process for things
7 that can go into contract we're going to basically
8 commit and register those contracts. And we
9 actually believe that we can spend, that we'll be
10 able to spend what's in that five year capital
11 plan.

12 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: You
13 believe you're, you can spend the 450... [cross-talk]
14 million in the five year capital. Okay. Tuition
15 increase, based on the application, I'm sorry based
16 on the application of a 300 dollar annual tuition
17 increase the fiscal 2016 executive budget
18 recognizes 24.2 million in additional revenue.
19 Fiscal 2016 represents the last year of the state
20 approved five year tuition increase schedule. How
21 does the university plan to use the additional
22 revenue gained from the tuition increase this year
23 and what are your plans with regard to tuition
24 rates for next year?

25

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CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: Thank you. So
first as, as you know this was the fourth year in a
five year plan for tuition increases of up to 300
dollars per year. For the current year most of the
funds were already committed. And most of them have
been used as the previous three years funds have
been used to hire new full time faculty which has
been the highest priority but also to invest in
other student services and support actives. Our
commitment at the time that the rational tuition
plan was adopted in Albany was to use these funds
primarily for new investments to support students
academically and student support. So we have one
final year of tuition increase next year. And I, I
will tell you that there, there may have to be a
change in the way that we are using those funds.
It, so it is my view that the, the most important
thing we can do for our students is to provide the
best faculty we can. And the most important
investment in faculty is to retain the great
faculty that we have. It's not only less expensive
than going out and recruiting new faculty but we
already know their work and value them. So we may
be in a position where we will be using tuition

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increase to support a bargaining agreement with our
faculty and staff next year. Given what has
happened with the state budget I see very little
other flexibility in, in our budget.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: So...

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: But that's a, if I
just one final point a decision that I just told
you my view, a decision that has not yet been made
by the Board of Trustees but that will likely be my
recommendation.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: And
Chancellor do you see, do you envision having to go
and ask for an additional increase next year once
you've established... It just seems that the
increase... will it be sustainable for the future
plans?

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: I, I think it is
likely that the board of trustees will seek an
additional increase, additional authority to
increase tuition. It may not be the same as the
last five year plan, either the board's request or
what the legislature would determine. But I, I
think it's likely you know the most, the most
important thing about CUNY is this, this great

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record that it has of, and mission that it has of
providing access and also high quality. We have to
be in a position to support that quality and to be
able to support the faculty and the student support
services another essential elements of it. Our
tuition is among, our senior colleges, the lowest
in the nation. Nobody likes a tuition increase I'm
pretty certain of that. But in most cases our
students who need support the most are provided the
support either through PELL or TAP and other
scholarship programs so that we're in a position
where 70 percent of our students are not paying
tuition and 80 percent are graduating without any
federal debt. So CUNY is in an enviable position
compared to most higher education institutions in
the country. And most of them have been in a
position where they've needed to raise tuition more
than, than we have.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: So I
just wanted to ask... I know that you talked about
the senior colleges or the four year colleges. Have
you been able to assess the impact of affordability
for the CUNY colleges? I mean for the...

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: So...

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CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: ...two
year.

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: When I said that
our tuition is among the lowest in the country at
our senior colleges that's certainly true. I'm sure
that we're in the, the lowest five in terms of
states for senior colleges. We don't compare that
favorably with community colleges. So we're not the
highest by any means of the large community college
systems in the country but we're also not in the
same position. So it is, it has a, a more
significant impact at the community college. It's
still below maximum cap funding. But we would take
that into account as we think about what our
position would be before next year in terms of
senior college versus community college tuition.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: And I
just wanted to talk about in state tuition at CUNY
Community College compare with the average in state
tuition rates at Community colleges nationwide. Is
that, I just wanted to, what's the average number
just number wise if you have that.

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: You know I, I
probably have that and this, this, this notebook.

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But I can't tell you offhand it's not... I, I do know
it's, we're nowhere, we're not in the same
attractive position we are with the senior
colleges.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Right.

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: Relative sense is
probably higher than the average but there are a
number of other large community college systems...

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Someone...

[cross-talk]

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: ...higher than us.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:

...committee just follow up.

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: Absolutely.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Kind of
where we are on that scale...

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: We'll give you an
average and a list of what the major community
college systems tuition are...

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: And
while we understand that you have to keep, retain
faculty make sure that our programs are premiere,
that we're competing on a national level from the
council's perspective. It's, we never want to hear

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an increase and we're excited that you're doing the
best that you can with the increase that you did
get. But I would, I would be remised in saying,
with not saying that. We, we want to support you as
much as we can but we also understand that you, we
can't limit and we can't tie your hands. If, if
CUNY system is growing as, at the level that it is
I'm going to leave my second round of questions for
later and we will hear from chair Barron.

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you Madam
Chair. Thank you for your testimony. I was able to
go to Hunter College. I'm a graduate, proud
graduate of Hunter class of January 1967. And the
only reason that I was able to attend even though
both my parents working was because it was free if
you graduated with a certain index you were allowed
to go to the CUNY system free of charge... tuition.
But we know that it's more than just tuition. We
know that there are all these other costs that
students have to bear; transportation, books which
we know are exorbitant and we're still trying to
address how we can lower those costs for students.
So, and I understand the conversations that we've

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2 had that you would love to have at least the first
3 two years of college, of community college free.
4 How can we do that, how can we do that? How can we
5 make that a reality, the presidents talking about
6 it but it hasn't yet seemed to have caught fire so
7 that people are really pushing it to happen. And we
8 know that when people have a commitment and a
9 desire and the fortitude to say this has to happen
10 we can find ways to make that happen. So what are
11 some of your suggestions as to how that can happen.
12 Because I reject the term rational tuition. It's
13 only predictable. It's not rational to say that
14 we've got to go down that route to increase it at a
15 given rate each year.

16 CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: Well as you know
17 well there is a national conversation on this
18 topic. There is a national conversation initiated
19 by the president and a couple of governors. But
20 it's initiated at the same time that we are now
21 looking at you now 20 to 30 years of in most places
22 in the country a declining percentage of state
23 investment and public higher education. So we're,
24 we're now talking about free tuition at a time when
25

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the state investment but I'm not, I'm talking
generally now not...

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Yes.

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: ...particularly
about New York has gone down steadily. There's a
place at some parts of the country where it's now
under 10 percent of their budget is provided by, by
public funding. So it's going to be a pretty big
lift to get back to that point of 1967 at Hunter
College. As you also know very well, and I know
this is embedded in your question not, there's
nothing free it's just where who's paying the cost.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Mm-hmm.

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: And your
suggestion, your I know passionate interest it is
the students not be paying this cost. And I think
there is a great attraction to that in terms of
the, the psychological impact first on students to
know that that, that they would not be paying for
those say first two years community college. As a
matter of fact as I mentioned before in terms of,
of tuition 70 percent of our students are not
paying it now because of federal and state and city
programs. So as a practical matter probably not a

1 huge impact on them. And the way that we structure
2 our financial aid is so that the impact of paying
3 tuition is on those who are deemed to be able to
4 afford it. So to me it comes down to a question of
5 priority. So what, where would you invest your next
6 dollars and where are you going to have the
7 greatest impact on educational attainment for that
8 investment? It's a, it would be a huge, you
9 probably have the numbers, a huge number to have
10 the state and the city pick up all tuition costs at
11 CUNY. And I think the question we would have is
12 whether that's the most important investment in
13 terms of the educational outcomes. I think there
14 are some who would argue that, that even at that end
15 of the education spectrum, one of the most
16 important additional investments we might think
17 about as early childhood education is making sure
18 that our, that our youngest, youngest New Yorkers
19 are prepared to enter our formal education system
20 at a competitive level and that that may have a
21 great deal to do with their ability to succeed
22 later. O I know I'm shifting the conversation but
23 it's a personal interest of mine to make, to, to
24 think about investing...

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: But that shift
3 also... that shift also relates to my next question.
4 It, which is do you see that it would be viable for
5 us to push down into high school, middle school,
6 and allow specially at the high school level
7 students to take advanced placement courses to have
8 collaboration with the CUNY schools. Do you see a,
9 an advantage to expanding what already exists so
10 that more students can graduate from high school
11 with college credits if not at least a, an, an
12 associate's degree at least college credits which
13 would then give them the ability to better utilize...
14 money they might be able to get in scholarship
15 money.

16 CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: Yes, yes.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: So we...

18 CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: CUNY has a pretty
19 extensive early college program and college now I
20 think that, and I think again you know sort of as a
21 national education perspective I think we're going
22 to see more and more of these programs where there
23 are dual enrollment or they go by other names but
24 credit earned at high schools that helps defray the
25 costs later gets people further along, gets them

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used to taking college level classes so that they
have a better chance to succeed. I want to see more
of that at CUNY and the New York City public
schools. So I think that's, I think that's an
important strategy.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: As we talk about
the success of so many of CUNY's program Z ASAP and
the black male initiative. How can we identify the
money that we need to expand these programs and
make them more available to a wider population and
has there been a dollar amount associated with
that. And I know that there's no money in the
budget for the merit based scholarships. What would
be the cost going into next year. Last year was
about 11 million. What would be the cost going into
next year for the merit based scholarships.

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: Okay let me go
backwards because the last one's the easiest...

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Okay.

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: ...data point. So it
was 11 million, approximately 10.9 million for this
last year. So our estimate would be that that would
be the same number for next year for the entering
class and that the number would be somewhat less

because of attrition for the second year class. So the estimate is 17 million for two years of the merit scholarship program. Now on the other question about how to find this report for ASAP and BMI programs and other I think very successful CUNY programs... I hate to throw this back but you probably know at least the answer better than I do at least in terms of public support of those. I think with, if we can continue to demonstrate the success of these programs and the over 6,000 students that have participated and benefited from one of our BMI programs whether it's the Urban male leadership initiative at, at Lehman or that BMI program at BCC, sorry BMCC. If we can continue to demonstrate the success then we are in a better position to make the case for those programs. I think there are well worth the investment. Of course the same with, with ASAP which is now in DOC and Columbia and other independent third parties validated the efficacy of it. And while there's a, an initial investment that is not insignificant of approximately 4,000 dollars a student the cost for a degree is less. If you look at urban... and again I'm, I know I'm preaching to the choir here if you

look at Urban Community College rates, graduation rates across the country and you look at the difference between those students who participate in ASAP and why the two valedictorians of student body president of Bronx Community College mentioned that in the first sentence it makes a huge difference. Now I also think though that, that not to put the entire burden on, on you I think we can do a more effective job of raising private support for programs like that, just look at the example I gave about 30 million dollars raised in one evening to support scholarships for dreamers. I think there, I think there is a great deal of appeal of these programs and a recognition that there's a huge return on investment for philanthropists for investing and they're there, in my view there's no better investment in the future of the city than investing in these programs that help attract and then graduate our students. So I think it's a combination of things.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: And in terms of the private partnerships, partnerships that you have with private entities. Does CUNY do that collectively or is that something that each of the

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college presidents does or are there collaborations
of schools. Because I know there was a competition,
the competitive grant, the regional grants and that
CUNY participated in that. So if you could talk
briefly about that?

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: I think most
effectively it's all of the above so each CUNY
college has its own foundation, has its own
fundraising staff. CUNY central does as well. I
think there are things that colleges do the best
job with which is appeal to alumni primarily or
appeal to philanthropists who have an interest in
that particular college for you know it might be
the nationally recognized fine arts program at
Hunter College... might have an interest in that
because... interest in art. I think the sort of
global systemic initiatives like BMI like, like the
dream US. These, we may be most effective CUNY wide
where we can I think appeal to significant
foundations and individual philanthropists who want
to make the broadest possible impact that it isn't
necessarily related to a particular CUNY college.
So that's an area where I want to see us be more
active.

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COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: And is there a
dollar amount that you can share with us that has
been gained through these private partnerships and
these philanthropists who have contributed to so
many.

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: Well so CUNY is on
the final stages of, of a capital campaign for the
system which is essentially made up of capital
campaigns of the individual colleges plus funding
that was raised at the system level such as the
McCauley [sp?] gift and others. That's a three
billion dollar campaign. And the last year I think
the, roughly 250 million dollars was raised
privately. I, I could get you the exact number but
that, I think that's a ballpark number.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Okay great thank
you. Madam... [cross-talk]

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: ...I think we can do
better.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Okay I'll wait
'till the next round. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
you Chair. We will now hear from Council Member

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Rodriguez. We were joined by Council Member Cabrera
and Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

Thank you Chair. Thank you for the great work.

First of all I'd like to give the message to the
student. Those of you here and those that are
following through the webcast study hard and be
part of the middle class and always being there for
the working class but never give up, graduate.

Second I would like to thanks CUNY immigrations...
you're doing great jobs. I know that you heart is
there since the 80s. You been there for the working
class and you have make the services leading these
great initiative CUNY that is serving thousands of
New Yorkers when it comes to immigrant services a
big difference. So I know personally I, my local,
this... I have lawyer twice a week where they help
hundreds of individual every year in order to get
the advice that they need and work with the
immigrate, immigrant, immigration status. Second I
hope that CUY will work to make the murphy
institute as a new departments that they are
working for as a new labor departments. I hope that
CUNY keep working with the PSE to be sure that

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2 conversation continue with a contract we are able
3 to also provide a professor that support the need.
4 Third I hope that one day we can be able to provide
5 ASAP to all the student at community college I
6 think that it would save millions of dollars in a
7 short term plan because if we know that ASAP
8 guarantee that higher percent of a student graduate
9 from community college and they are not a part...
10 they were 86 percent... 80 percent of a student going
11 to community college they need remedial courses
12 because we as a society has fail on no preparing
13 our student from UPK to 12 to be a college... so if
14 ASAP work I hope that from federal state and city
15 we get the money we need to be sure that every
16 single student at community college they give the
17 additional support they need in order for them to
18 get their associate not in seven year but in the
19 two or three year and be able to cross to the
20 senior college. And I always say if I'm here, if I
21 made it, coming here the age of 18 washing dishes a
22 having other job being a... taxi drivers still today
23 Spanish is my native language. There is no reason
24 why. Every single student in our society who are in
25 UPK should not be able to be the next doctors, the

best engineer, the best mayor, the best member of
the supreme court. So I just hope that we can
continue identifying all those resources. I have
some concern which is on how is CUNY working on the
overpopulation and that's my question is CUNY
working over capacity how much more physical space
we need and how are we doing the community
colleges. A, but I, my concern is the overcapacity.
How are we doing on capacity and how can we address
the issue and how can we also deal with the reality
that if in fact it's true that the student
population of the black and Latino has been... as
senior colleges. What is our plan to... issue?
Because in a city where 52 percent of the
population are black and Latino. I think that we
have to be sure that we provide all the support
they need so that black and Latino as Asian and
white achieve that dream to be part of the middle
class.

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: Do you provide
this pounding for everybody on their first hearing?
Is that...

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: This is
part of the sound track of the executive budget.

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We've actually made several calls. It's become a
challenge for us throughout the process but just
speak loudly and, and Excedrin is what gets us
through the day.

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: So as you probably
know this was a record year of enrollment at CUNY.
I take no responsibility for that but I'm delighted
to be here at a time when CUNY is more valuable to
the city than at any time in the past with, as
Chair Barron related 275 thousand matriculating
students and actually this year I think over 260
thousand adult in continuing education. So as it
puts stress on us yes our, we added I think 450 new
faculty last year with the investment from let's
see I'll just call it tuition. And, but if you look
at the student, faculty student ratio today
compared to what it was 15 years ago. It's still a
much lower number of faculty per, per student. So
we're not keeping up with the growth in terms of
the faculty investment. And probably other student
sport activities or stressed in the same way... I
mean one of the things that I would like to do in
addition to, to hiring more faculty to, to deal
with this growth is many more advisors and student

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support service people who I think are critical to
the success after we've admitted them. But, so I
would say that's the first issue of capacity and
stress relates to the, really the, the people and
the talent component of our budget. Now you visited
our campuses and, and I have to during the, the,
the most active periods of the day and they are
overflowing as well. So if we are going to continue
to grow and to meet the needs of New Yorkers we
will have to look not only at the, the talent side
but also the physical side and hints our, our
capital request at the state and our request for
new facilities here like the new health sciences
building at Hostos and, and others. So we, we have
a, we have a long list of I, of priorities on our
strategy to help meet not only current needs but
what we see the growth to be in health fields and
technology fields and others.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: ...the
population of black and Latino senior colleges what
is the population today and have, have we seen a
reduction and what is our plan to take...

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: So I think we've
already talked about some of the strategies both in

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2 ASAP and BMI and others. And I think one of your
3 colleagues mentioned the number of students who
4 require some level, entire student population some
5 level of remedial education. We need to be doing a
6 better job of a transition point from high school
7 to college for everyone. We need to make sure that
8 we have successful effective strategies in place
9 for transfer from those students who need
10 developmental courses and we're now at a point
11 where every CUNY senior college undergraduate
12 population is a majority transfer students. So at
13 every one of these colleges now most of the, over
14 half of the students have, have transferred. Not
15 all from CUNY community colleges but from including
16 CUNY community colleges. One program I think
17 important in this area not without controversy was
18 the pathways initiative to ensure that students who
19 started at a community college and, and took the
20 pathway compliment of courses were assured the
21 ability to transfer and have those courses be given
22 credit at the senior colleges at the university.
23 That in my view despite its lack of popularity in
24 some circles as a student focus, student centered
25 initiative to address some of the interest that you

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have, have raised. So I think it's a combination of
strategies, financial aid, student support that is
going to ensure that we're effective in, in
providing educational opportunity for all New
Yorkers.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: But do you,
have, have we seen a reduction of black and Latino
in senior colleges?

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: Reductions no, not
in...

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: What, what is
the population today?

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: Yeah let me see. I
have, oh everybody wants to offer me the numbers
here. So let me look at under graduate enrollment
in the last year. So I look at a ten year period
here on undergraduate change enrolled across CUNY...
let's see is this all colleges, it is. Alright and
you... talking to us about senior colleges. Alright.
Somebody, you have the senior college number. Okay
that isn't the one I want. You know if I can't find
the, then that's just a subset of the colleges. If
I can't find a number I'm going to have to get it
for you but I can...

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: I, I just
3 hope that we see the challenges that we face... First
4 of all I would like to thank Joan Hutchinson [sp?]
5 too because they also been opening and connecting
6 our local school district to, to ours colleges.
7 Like right now I know that CUNY through city
8 college is doing great job as part of initiative
9 connecting with school district 6. But let me give
10 you this scenario. In George Washington High School
11 there is 35 hundred students, there's four school
12 in that building, the first floor only 17 percent
13 they are college readiness... percent's... first floor
14 school they only send four percent to a senior
15 college. The second floor send seven percent to a
16 senior college. The third one send five percent to
17 a senior colleges. And then the fourth floor only
18 send four percent. So no doubt that at the high
19 school level where CUNY is not responsible we are
20 failing preparing our kid to go to senior colleges.
21 So I'm not blaming CUNY for that if that reduction
22 is taking place. But I would like to see how CUNY
23 continue being in partnership with the school
24 district so that a student have better prepare to
25 go to a senior colleges.

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2 CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: Yeah... completely
3 agree. There's no substitute for, in, are, and I
4 can't understate, overstate the importance of our
5 partnership with New York City schools. And I'm
6 going to continue to look for this data while I...

7 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Well
8 while you do that Chancellor I want to talk about
9 Guttman and the new program that jumped out at us
10 which was your metro card program. Guttman
11 Community College is modeled after CUNY's ASAP
12 program and this council is very supportive of the
13 ASAP program. We understand that it works, that
14 it's great. As you alluded to in your opening
15 statement with the valedictorian that you have been
16 working more, the dreamer. Can you tell us how
17 Guttman incorporates ASAP into its every day
18 services and courses and it is my understanding
19 that ASAP requires participants to be enrolled as
20 full time or full time equivalent does that mean
21 that all of Guttman students are full time
22 students?

23 CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: Yes. They all
24 enroll as full time students and Guttman was
25 modeled on the ASAP element. And so incorporates

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most of them with your support, the metro card, the
important addition and it is at this moment I
understand for underdevelopment how that will be
distributed based on need.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Right.

That was my follow-up question so what's the
percent, no what's the percentage of the students
that will be eligible to receive... what are the
require, what are the eligibility requirements and
you know what helped you come to this concept or
this idea, metro cards is what they need.

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: So metro cards
were a part of the, a bundle of services that ASAP
which is a result of significant amount of research
on what or impediments to attendance and, and
success. And I bet that you like me have actually
talked to students who have made choices about
whether they would attend class at a particular day
because they had to make a choice about whether
they would pay the transportation costs or use that
money for something else. They need it. And once
you go down the path of missing a class and another
because you make the decision or can't afford to
get there that's pretty hard to recover. So the,

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it's under development now the criteria for
government's use of I think it's a million dollar
increase in the budget that would go towards metro
cards. It would be, and, and because it wouldn't
cover everyone that's enrolled, it would go towards
those students who have demonstrated need and
benefit from it. And frankly I know there's been
some discussion in the council and more broadly
about expanding metro cards beyond that is a... am I
jumping to your next question? Is this...

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: You're
jumping right to my next question.

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: Sorry I didn't...

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: I wanted
you to kind of dream with me a little bit and like
what would it cost for us to do this for all the
community college students that have this need?

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: Yeah 50, 50
million for all full time community college
students.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: I have a
funny feeling it's going to be in our next budget
response. Okay 50 million. Great, college
persistence... fiscal 2016's executive budget

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recognizes 1.1 million you need for CUNY's college
persistence program. Can you tell us a little bit
about what the program is, what population it
serves and with these new funds on which campus
will college... be offered and how many students will
be served?

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: No.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Great.

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: John... I'll, if I
can one of my colleagues will respond to that
question.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:
Excellent. I don't think I've officially gotten a
no from anyone since...

JOHN MOGULESCU: [off mic] Hi I'm John...

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: ...press
the button to... Thank you.

JOHN MOGULESCU: John Mogulescu the, the
college persistence funds again is about to be
developed as to how we're going to be using it. It
is singled out, the sense of, of dealing with
issues of persistence but we're working with the
city in trying to figure it out. There is no detail
at the moment. [cross-talk]

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CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: So can
you just speak to what is this, what is it that,
what is the issue that you're trying to... [cross-
talk]

JOHN MOGULESCU: Well I think it, it's
been touched upon by the Chancellor earlier this
whole question of transition from high school to
college and the, the need to work both with the
Department of Ed and then as students enter our,
our programs to make sure that, that one
remediation is limited and, and two that this whole
question of, of adapting to a culture of, of
college is, is done smoothly and then three kind of
in an experimental way are there things that we are
not doing through the use of technology that can be
introduced whether it be an app or something like
that that will enable students to move forward in a
more productive way. This is kind of innovative
money and a experimental money and I, my sense is
in the next month to six weeks we will have a much
more detailed plan to be able to produce and
present back to you guys.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Okay so
a month to six weeks puts you at a challenge

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because I pass the budget in less than that. So I
just want to be able to have a little more detail
as to maybe why don't you need three million or why
do you need half a million. 1.1 seems really
specific and I just needed to better understand
why.

JOHN MOGULESCU: So because I listen
very carefully to what you just said we will get
you a plan earlier than that month to six weeks...

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:
Excellent. That was so much better than the
chancellor... [interpose]

[laughter]

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: So I'm
going to now pass on the mic to my chair Chair
Barron to ask her second round of questions.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you Madam
Chair. I want to follow-up on the questions raised
by Council Member Rodriguez in terms of the number
of students at the senior colleges. I have some
stats that said going back to 2001 African
Americans representing it, all of the senior
colleges was 54 percent and Latinos was 49 percent.
And in a response to the article that it appeared

in the Atlantic magazine it was stated that at present all senior colleges the number of African American students is 22 percent and for Latino is 27 percent. That's quite disturbing. Even going back to 2012 the number of African American students in senior colleges I have was 34 percent so just from 30, from 2012 to whatever the data is in response to the article in the, in the Atlantic monthly. That's quite a significant drop. And from 41 percent Latino in 2012 to 27 percent and these are for the all senior colleges. In regards to the top five if it's even more disturbing. Although there's been a light uptick in the top five numbers of black and Latino there's only 13 percent African American at the top five senior colleges and 23 percent. So I think that it's disturbing to see this decline. We know again yes that the elementary level, the primary school, secondary school are not in fact paring students to the degree that they should but we've got to find a way so that the admission criteria to the senior colleges does not reflect in such a way as to have greatly diminished numbers of African American and Latino students.

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CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: In the interim,
thank you, in the interim time between the first
question about this I hold together the two pages
that...

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Okay.

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: So the first thing
I'll do is simply tell you what, what, what I know
based on our data an, and CUNY which is maybe a
little different. But it may be explained because I
have again ten year comparison. So between 2004 and
2014. And the most significant difference between
racial and ethnic groups and the percentage of CUNY
students is at the senior colleges is decline in
the percentage of white students and at, an
increase in the student of Asian and pacific
islander students. That's, those are the biggest
shelves. The, the numbers that..., that have which
I'll just give you for the total enrollment
percentages of senior colleges of CUNY in 2004 were
14 percentage in pacific islander, 26.3 percent
black, 20.7 percent Hispanic, and 38.6 percent
white. In 2014 those numbers were 22.5 percent
Asian pacific islander, 24.5 percent black, 24.8
percent Hispanic, and 27.9 percent white. Now of

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course each of those numbers represents gains
numerically I mean in terms of the absolute number
just because the enrollment at CUNY has grown
significantly from 2004 'till now. But that, that's
the shift in the percentages that I am aware of.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Okay well I
would like to perhaps sit with some of your number
crunchers so that we can...

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: Absolutely,
absolutely yeah, yeah...

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: ...get a, a fuller
picture in that I'm sorry.

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: ...happy to do that.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: And, and in
terms of representation of again black, Latino, and
Asians, in terms of the faculty, in terms of the
chain, the latter moving up. We've had at least one
hearing on that in CUNY and it is quite troubling.
And there was even the stat which of course we have
to make public because of the, the climate
receiving federal funds so we're very pleased to
have a very comprehensive picture. But there were I
believe 15 African Americans who applied to a
particular graduate program and only two who were

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2 even given an interview. It might have been 28, 28
3 who applied. Only two were granted an interview and
4 neither one of them were successful. That's
5 disturbing to think that of 28 people who applied
6 only two redeemed to be candidates for
7 consideration. So what are we doing? What are we
8 not doing? I've heard the, the explanations well we
9 don't have a high enough pay rate. They're going
10 elsewhere because they can get greater pay. But
11 what are we doing because we have a large
12 population of African American and Latino students
13 in the system, in CUNY schools. And they need to
14 see themselves at these higher levels. Also at the
15 levels of presidents and eventually even chancellor

16 CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: Great. We have to.

17 As do I think many institutions across the country
18 do a better job of recruiting hiring and retaining
19 underrepresented populations and our faculty and
20 our administrative ranks. You have no argument from
21 me there. We have a CUNY wide diversity plan which
22 I was briefed on again most recently a few weeks
23 ago. We have required that each campus have its own
24 diversity plan. We have instituted CUNY wide
25 regulations with regard to searches for faculty and

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2 staff. We have of the nine measures that I see to
3 evaluate presence in our performance management
4 system, one of the nine relates to faculty hiring,
5 underrepresented populations so we have fellowship
6 programs that we have established recently. We have
7 new diversity scholars and residents program that
8 we've established recently. I've looked at the list
9 not long ago of the new initiatives that have been
10 put in place and I think it's, it's an impressive
11 list of inputs and I hope as well as you do that it
12 also results in an equally impressive output and
13 result. But those are, I think those are some of
14 the things that we are doing. I think that like
15 most places we have to take advantage of our
16 students, our graduate students and do what we can
17 to help groom them for those who were interested
18 for a role on the professoriate whether it's at
19 CUNY or, or elsewhere. And so the, I think the
20 expression used in higher ed circles is grow your
21 own so you, we have to do a better job. If we can't
22 find enough people in the national pools and
23 pipelines then we have to do a better job I think
24 of helping create larger pools ourselves. So I
25 think it is a, it's a combination of many different

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strategies that we have to use. But I, I agree with
where you're starting on this line of questioning
and I, and, and I want to see us do better.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Okay and last
question. The money for IOI has been shifted to HRA
for the immigration opportunity initiative. So does
CUNY in any way expect to form a partnership with
HRA or because I think it was very successful, the
IOI program under CUNY. So do you have any ideas
about how you can interact with HRA or has HRA
reached out to you an expectation of... some kind of
relationship to have a successful implementation of
the program.

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: Yes. My
understanding is that we are in discussions and
hope that we will receive some of the resources
provided for our successful program, if somebody
wants to add anything, any detail to that. So the,
the world's leading expert is here, Professor Allan
Wernick if you want to...

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Okay if you
could introduce yourself an thank you.

ALLAN WERNICK: I'm Allan Wernick. I...
professor Baruch college. I direct CUNY citizenship

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now program. So as council member knows we, we have
a very successful program working with city council
members. We're in 32 city council offices providing
direct services in the community. We're also in
discussions though with the mayor's office of
immigrant affairs about trying to expand the
services that are available outside of those
operations. Does that answer your question?

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Yes it does.

ALLAN WERNICK: Okay thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: And one further
question. In terms of the leads program and the
former foster students programs we have some
representatives here from the leads program. How
are you looking to continue that program? Are you
looking to expand it and how effective have you,
have you found the program to operate in, in, in
the CUNY system.

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: I think the answer
with regard to both areas is yes we, it's, it's a
little different. Let me... lead program yes... it has
been successful and I mentioned the few of the
metrics...

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Right.

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2 CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: ...in terms of
3 retention and employment post-graduation which had
4 been very successful. So both at the city level and
5 the state we have been, this has been a priority of
6 ours. With regard to foster care youth aging out of
7 the system this is a, there are significant number
8 of ongoing discussions right now at CUNY about how,
9 about our interest in being reinstitution that
10 addresses the needs of this population in New York
11 and provides a, a nurturing supportive environment
12 for the to be successful educationally. This is a
13 personal interest of, of mine and a priority and I
14 would just say I hope you will stay tuned and be
15 supportive because I think that you will see more
16 coming from CUNY in terms of partnerships with
17 other, other groups that are in this space but also
18 programs of our own.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: And one final
20 question. Is there a mechanism in CUNY perhaps
21 centrally or at the individual schools that can
22 help to identify the homeless student, that student
23 who actually is a homeless student may be riding
24 the trains... We sometimes hear about these stories
25 highlighted in a news article of a student who, and

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often times is quite successful but who is actually
homeless. Is there a mechanism, is there a program,
is there an outreach, is there some red flag that
goes up at the schools so that students would know
that there's help for them?

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: Let me ask Vice
Chancellor Sanchez to respond to that...

VICE CHANCELLOR SANCHEZ: Great thank
you Chancellor. Good afternoon. Frank Sanchez, Vice
Chancellor for student affairs. This topic of
homelessness has actually been a very focused
conversation among our council of vice presidents
of student affairs. One of the reasons is what
you're bringing up is often times although not real
frequently it does come up from faculty with
administrators that you have a homeless student
dealing with any variety of challenges. One of the
difficulties of, of tracking is often times you'll
have a student who's homeless say at the beginning
of the year and then six months later they find
what, what appears to be some secure housing and so
tracking throughout the year it ebbs and flows. But
one of the things we did is clearly we needed to
identify kind of a clearing house of resources

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information and support services where either a
faculty or administrator, even a fellow student
could, could connect that student with emergency
housing support. So now we have a CUY website
specifically that provides those resources in
support again for the general community for faculty
for administrators who want to guide students
towards those resources.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you. Thank
you Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
you Chair Barron. We've been joined by Council
Member Gibson. Again thank you for coming to
testify today. You should always request your
hearings beyond Friday afternoon.

CHANCELLOR MILLIKEN: I thank you for
allowing me to attend the Bronx Community College
Commencement today. It was an important day.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND:
Absolutely, absolutely. Again thank you to the
students who came out. Thank you to the faculty. We
are your fans and I know, and I want you to know
that we are really thinking of you in every bit of
our negotiations through this budget. This

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concludes our hearing for today. The Finance
Committee will resume Executive Budget hearings for
fiscal 2016 on Monday June 1st at 10:00 a.m. in
this room and Monday the Finance Committee will be
joined... give me a second ladies and gentleman. The
Finance Committee will be joined with the Fire
Department and Emergency Medical Service, the
Department of Correction, the Department of
Transportation, and the Metropolitan Transit
Authority and the Taxi Limousine Commission. As a
reminder the public will be invited to testify
again on June 9th, the last day of budget hearings
at approximately 1:30 p.m. in this room. For any
member of the public who wishes to testify but
cannot make it to this hearing you can email your
testimony to the finance division at finance
testimony at council dot NYC dot gov and the staff
will make it a part of the official record. Thank
you. This hearing is now adjourned. Have a great
weekend everyone.

[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 June 11, 2015