

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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May 10, 2017  
Start: 1:51 p.m.  
Recess: 3:20 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E:

MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO  
The Speaker of the Council  
LETITIA JAMES  
The Public Advocate

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Inez D. Barron  
Joseph C. Borelli  
Fernando Cabrera  
Margaret S. Chin  
Andrew Cohen  
Costa G. Constantinides  
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.  
Elizabeth S. Crowley  
Laurie A. Cumbo  
Chaim M. Deutsch  
Daniel Dromm  
Rafael L. Espinal, Jr.  
Mathieu Eugene  
Julissa Ferreras-Copeland  
Daniel R. Garodnick  
Vincent J. Gentile  
Vanessa L. Gibson

## COUNCIL MEMBERS: (CONTINUED)

David G. Greenfield  
Barry S. Grodenchik  
Corey D. Johnson  
Ben Kallos  
Andy L. King  
Peter A. Koo  
Karen Koslowitz  
Rory I. Lancman  
Brad S. Lander  
Stephen T. Levin  
Mark Levine  
Alan N. Maisel  
Steven Matteo  
Darlene Mealy  
Carlos Menchaca  
Rosie Mendez  
I. Daneek Miller  
Annabel Palma  
Bill Perkins  
Antonio Reynoso  
Donovan J. Richards  
Ydanis A. Rodriguez  
Deborah L. Rose  
Helen K. Rosenthal  
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.  
Ritchie J. Torres  
Mark Treyger  
Eric A. Ulrich  
James Vacca  
Paul A. Vallone  
James G. Van Bramer  
Jumaane D. Williams  
Ruben Wills

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

Nick Igneri  
Monsignor Farrell High School  
Lions Basketball Team

Rev. Jonnel C. Doris  
Pastor  
Full Gospel Assembly of Queens

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CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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[sound check]

[pause]

[gavel]

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Alright, good afternoon. [background comment] We only have one ceremonial today -- the republicans have the floor today. [background comments, laugh] So Council Member, Minority Leader Matteo is doing a Proclamation and ceremonial today for Monsignor Farrell High School Lions Basketball Team for winning the New York City and New York State Catholic High School Athletic Association A Championship. So all the Council Members that are here and our young people that are shadowing us today, come on up for the ceremonial. Alright. I'm gonna hand it off to Council Member Matteo.

COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Okay, thank you, Madam Speaker. Come on up. [background comments] Come on in. Family, right? When we all love each other. This is when we all love each other.

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I wanna welcome the Farrell Basketball Team for winning the City and State Championship this year, so welcome to City Hall on behalf of the Council.

1  
2 You know, there's only three of us from  
3 Staten Island, so whenever we can we like to bring  
4 out more Staten Islanders, so we're gonna take over  
5 the Stated today.

6 But seriously guys, thank you for such a  
7 great season. Before I get into some of the  
8 highlights, I just wanna say I'm proud of you, not  
9 only for what you do on the court, but for how you  
10 represent yourselves off the court and what great  
11 student athletes you are, a great coaching staff,  
12 great teachers; Monsignor Whalen, thank you. Just  
13 thank you all for just doing what you do and making  
14 Staten Islanders proud and you obviously had a great  
15 season; the team won its second CHSAA, Group A --  
16 that's a lot of A's -- Intersectional Championship  
17 this year; becoming the first Staten Island boys  
18 basketball team to win back to back Intersectional  
19 titles; they did it with a 60-46 come-from-behind win  
20 over Fordham Prep on March 3rd. The spark [sic] off  
21 the bench from junior guard, Will Edwards, who  
22 tallied 14 points and 7 rebounds and another  
23 outstanding performance from senior guard Eric  
24 Klayman and a shutdown defense in the second half.  
25 The Lions... that's right, shutdown defense, Margaret.

1 The Lions followed up with an unprecedented  
2 achievement with a State championship win over  
3 Chaminade on March 11th at Fordham University.  
4 Farrell became the first Staten Island high school to  
5 win a State basketball championship of any kind;  
6 again, they did it with a balanced attack, solid  
7 defense and consistent 3-point shooting. They were  
8 led by seniors Eric Klayman (10 1/2 points per game);  
9 Nick Igneri (almost 9 points per game); Tom Granello  
10 (8 points a game); and Brandon Abrams (7 points per  
11 game). What they accomplished they accomplished as a  
12 team, with a balanced offense, scrappy rebounding for  
13 an undersized squad -- they look pretty tall to me --  
14 and contributions on defense of every players.

16 So on behalf of the Council, extremely  
17 proud of you guys. Thanks for behind here and on  
18 behalf of Joe Borelli and Debi Rose and the rest of  
19 the Council, we congratulate you and we're gonna ask  
20 the Clerk to read the Proc.

21 CITY CLERK: Council, City of New York  
22 Proclamation. Whereas the Council of the City of New  
23 York is proud to honor the Monsignor Farrell High  
24 School Lions Basketball Team for their outstanding  
25 teamwork during the 2017 season.

1  
2 And whereas, the Lions proved their grit  
3 and skill when they won both the Catholic High School  
4 Athletic Association A City Championship on February  
5 25, 2017. And then Catholic High School Athletic  
6 Association A State title on March 11, 2107.

7 And whereas, Monsignor Farrell High  
8 School Lions Basketball Team has been guided to  
9 greater heights this season, thanks to the vision and  
10 leadership of head coach Mike Dunn, assistance  
11 coaches Danny Fisher, Pete Tutrone, Tom McGoff,  
12 Steven Fenley, Ed Letendre, Jay Zieris, and student  
13 managers Connor Creagh and Andrew Springer. Together  
14 they helped these young players develop the skills  
15 they need to put their dreams within reach while  
16 inspiring them to dream even bigger. As a result,  
17 they overcame very challenging opponents to win the  
18 2017 Catholic High School Athletic Association A City  
19 Championship and A State Title.

20 And whereas, the 2017 Monsignor Farrell  
21 High School Lions are comprised of 13 excellent  
22 players: Brandon Abrams, Tom Bridgman, Stephen  
23 Crowley, Steven DeCarlo, Jake Dunn, Will Edwards, Tom  
24 Granello, Matt Greeley, Nick Igneri, Eric Klayman,  
25 James Petruccio, James Schioppo, Jake Struthers and

1  
2 we wish them all continued success both on and off  
3 the basketball court.

4 Now therefore be it known, that the  
5 Council of the City of New York honors and  
6 congratulates the 2017 Monsignor Farrell High School  
7 Lions Basketball Team upon winning the New York City  
8 and New York State Catholic High School Athletic  
9 Association A Championship. Melissa Mark-Viverito,  
10 Speaker for the Entire Council; Steven Matteo,  
11 Minority Leader, 50th District, Staten Island;  
12 Deborah Rose, Council Member 49th District, Staten  
13 Island; Joseph Borelli, Council Member 50th District,  
14 Staten Island.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Excellent. Thank  
16 you. Coach Dunn, why don't you come up; we're gonna  
17 -- where are you? Oh there you are. We wanna thank  
18 you; listen, your team couldn't do it without such a  
19 great coaching staff, [clapping, cheers, background  
20 comment] so we're all proud. Please take this Proc  
21 on behalf of the City Council and I believe that Nick  
22 from the team is gonna represent Farrell and say a  
23 few words. [background comments]

24 NICK IGNERI: Hello everyone. My name is  
25 Nick Ignneri. I would like to say thank you to the

1  
2 whole committee and everyone for giving us this  
3 opportunity to come down to City Hall and let us  
4 receive a Proclamation; this is a huge accomplishment  
5 for us, especially because we are the first team in  
6 Staten Island history to be a boys team to win the  
7 State championship, so [background comments,  
8 clapping] this is a great accomplishment and we  
9 couldn't have done it without sticking together as a  
10 team and playing hard every game, so I would just  
11 like to thank you guys for that. Thank you.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Great job, Nick.  
13 [background comments, clapping] Great job, Farrell;  
14 thank you for being here and keep up the great work,  
15 guys. Thank you. [background comments] We'll take  
16 a quick picture.

17 [pause]

18 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Ladies and gentlemen,  
19 can I have your attention, please? Can I please have  
20 your attention? Quiet on the floor, please. At this  
21 time, please place all electronic devices, all  
22 electronic devices to vibrate. Will all non-Council  
23 employees, non-Council employees please leave the  
24 main floor of the chambers? Thank you.

25

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Everyone please  
3 find a seat. Members; please find a seat; guests,  
4 please find a seat. Please close the door in the  
5 back. [background comments] Quiet in the chambers,  
6 please.

7 All rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.  
8 [Pledge of Allegiance]

9 CITY CLERK: Barron.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Present.

11 CITY CLERK: Borelli. Cabrera. Chin.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

13 CITY CLERK: Cohen.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Here.

15 CITY CLERK: Constantinides.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Here.

17 CITY CLERK: Cornegy. Crowley. Cumbo.

18 Deutsch. Dromm.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

20 CITY CLERK: Espinal.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Here.

22 CITY CLERK: Eugene. Ferreras-Copeland.

23 Garodnick.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.

25 CITY CLERK: Gentile.

1 CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 11

2 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: I'm here.

3 CITY CLERK: Gibson.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Here [by foster

5 youth shadow].

6 CITY CLERK: Greenfield.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Here.

8 CITY CLERK: Grodenchik.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Here.

10 CITY CLERK: Johnson. [background

11 comment] Kallos. King. Koo.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

13 CITY CLERK: Koslowitz.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

15 CITY CLERK: Lancman.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Lancman.

17 CITY CLERK: Lander.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

19 CITY CLERK: Levin. [background comment]

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here [by foster

21 youth person].

22 CITY CLERK: Levine. Maisel.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Present.

24 CITY CLERK: Cabrera.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

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CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

CITY CLERK: Mealy.

[background comment]

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Please silence  
your phones. Thank you.

CITY CLERK: Menchaca.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Presente.

CITY CLERK: Mendez. Miller.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Miller.

COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Present.

CITY CLERK: Palma.

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Here.

CITY CLERK: Perkins.

COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Presente.

CITY CLERK: Reynoso. Richards.

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Present.

CITY CLERK: Rodriguez. [background  
comments] Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.

CITY CLERK: Cornegy.

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Here.

CITY CLERK: Rosenthal.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.

CITY CLERK: Salamanca.

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present.

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CITY CLERK: Torres.

COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Present.

CITY CLERK: Treyger.

COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.

CITY CLERK: Ulrich. Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.

CITY CLERK: Vallone.

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

[background comments]

CITY CLERK: Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.

CITY CLERK: Wills. Matteo.

COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Here.

CITY CLERK: Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

CITY CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Here.

[background comments]

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the chambers, please. [background comments] All rise for the invocation. The invocation will be delivered by Rev. Jonnel C. Doris, the Pastor of Full Gospel Assembly of Queens in Richmond Hill. Quiet in the chamber.

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2 REV. JONNEL DORIS: Let us pray. Our  
3 gracious and loving heavenly father, we thank you  
4 today for all daily blessings you have bestowed on  
5 us. We thank you for you eternal grace and mercies  
6 that are new every morning. Our hearts exclaim great  
7 is thy faithfulness. We thank you for the health and  
8 strength you have granted us to fulfill our purpose  
9 and calling to serve this great city. Scripture  
10 reminds us to pray for those in authority or govern  
11 our city that they will seek justice, love mercy and  
12 walk humbly before you. So today we pray for our  
13 city leaders -- our Mayor, our Public Advocate, our  
14 Comptroller, particularly our City Council Speaker,  
15 Melissa Mark-Viverito, and members of the City  
16 Council -- that you will continue to grant them the  
17 compassion for the least of these and those in need  
18 in our city, grant them the clarity of vision for our  
19 city, the wisdom to govern these trying and difficult  
20 times, the ability and fortitude and the indomitable  
21 will to make the right and necessary decisions, and  
22 to walk in unity and work in unity, togetherness for  
23 the good of our city. Bless their individual  
24 families and loved ones and communities they serve.  
25 I pray for today's proceedings and the agenda before

1  
2 them today; please guide them in all truth, prudence  
3 and wisdom as they work on behalf of all who visit  
4 and who call our great city home. In your most  
5 righteous and blessed name I pray. Amen. Amen.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Please be seated.

7 A motion to spread the invocation.

8 Council Member Koslowitz. Quiet in the chambers,  
9 please.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Thank you.

11 And I welcome the pastor, who's the pastor in my  
12 district [background comment] and I make the motion  
13 to spread the invocation upon this City Council.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

15 Adoption of Minutes. Council Member Chin.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Motion that the  
17 minutes of the Stated Meeting of April 5, 2017 be  
18 adopted as printed. Thank you.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

20 [background comments] Quiet in the chambers, please.  
21 Messages and Papers from the Mayor.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: M 498 through M 506 on  
23 page 2, expense, capital and CD budgets and  
24 supporting schedules.

25 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Finance.

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CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

COMMITTEE CLERK: M 507, debt and reserves.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Received, ordered, printed, and filed.

[background comments]

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Communication from City, County and Borough Offices.

COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Petitions and Communications.

COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Land Use Call-Ups.

COMMITTEE CLERK: M 508 through M 511, sidewalk cafés.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on call-up vote and ask for a roll call vote.

[background comments]

CITY CLERK: Barron.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: May we have quiet in the chambers, please for a roll call vote?

[background comments]

1 CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 17

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Please. Please  
3 take your conversations outside and please find a  
4 seat. Roll call.

5 CITY CLERK: Barron.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Yes.

7 CITY CLERK: Borelli. Cabrera

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Permission to  
9 vote on all items and resolutions on today's  
10 calendar.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes, Council  
12 Member.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Yes. Thank you.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

15 CITY CLERK: Chin.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

17 CITY CLERK: Cohen.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

19 CITY CLERK: Constantinides.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Aye.

21 CITY CLERK: Cornegy.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye.

23 CITY CLERK: Crowley. Cumbo.

24 [background comments]

25 CITY CLERK: Deutsch.

1 CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 18  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Aye.  
3 CITY CLERK: Dromm.  
4 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Can I vote on all  
5 items on the calendar today?  
6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.  
7 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: I vote aye. Thank  
8 you.  
9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
10 CITY CLERK: Espinal.  
11 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Aye.  
12 CITY CLERK: Eugene.  
13 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.  
14 CITY CLERK: Garodnick.  
15 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.  
16 [background comments]  
17 CITY CLERK: Gentile.  
18 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.  
19 [background comment]  
20 CITY CLERK: Gibson.  
21 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Aye.  
22 CITY CLERK: Greenfield.  
23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Greenfield.  
24 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Victoria  
25 Wyndham [sp?] voting for Greenfield.

1  
2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
3 Greenfield, you have to...

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank you.

7 CITY CLERK: Grodenchik.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Aye.

9 CITY CLERK: Johnson.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

11 CITY CLERK: Kallos. King. Koo.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

13 CITY CLERK: Koslowitz.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye and I ask  
15 permission to vote on all general coupled orders.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I vote aye.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

19 CITY CLERK: Kallos.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.

21 CITY CLERK: Lancman.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: I would like to  
23 vote aye on all call-ups and with permission, I'd  
24 like to vote aye on all coupled general orders and  
25 resolutions.

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CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: I vote aye.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

CITY CLERK: Lander.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

CITY CLERK: Levin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye. [joint aye  
with foster youth shadow]

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you, joint  
aye. [background comments]

CITY CLERK: Levine.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Vote aye, and  
with the Public Advocate's permission, would like to  
vote aye on [cell phone tone] all call-ups, coupled  
general orders and resolutions.

[background comment]

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes, please  
silence your phones and the band. Thank you.

CITY CLERK: Maisel.

COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: I would like to  
vote aye on all call-ups, and with permission, I'd  
like to vote on all coupled items on the general  
order calendar and all resolutions.

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2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes, Council  
3 Member.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Thank you.

5 CITY CLERK: Mealy. Menchaca.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Aye.

7 CITY CLERK: Mendez.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

10 CITY CLERK: Miller.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Affirmative.

12 CITY CLERK: Palma.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

14 CITY CLERK: Perkins.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Aye.

16 CITY CLERK: Reynoso. Cumbo.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Present.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Aye.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Aye.

20 CITY CLERK: Richards.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye.

22 CITY CLERK: Rodriguez. Rose.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

24 CITY CLERK: Rosenthal.

25

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member,  
3 your microphone is not on.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Good catch.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: With  
7 permission, in case I have to step out, [background  
8 comment] I'd like to vote aye on all call-ups and  
9 with permission, I'd like to vote on all coupled  
10 items on the general order calendar and all  
11 resolutions. I vote aye. Thank you.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

13 [background comments]

14 CITY CLERK: Salamanca.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: I would like  
16 to vote aye on all call-ups and with permission, I  
17 would like to vote on all call-up general orders and  
18 resolutions.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: I vote aye on  
21 all. Thank you.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

23 CITY CLERK: Torres.

24 [background comment]

25 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Aye on all.

1 CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 23

2 CITY CLERK: Treyger.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

4 CITY CLERK: Ulrich. Vacca.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: I vote aye and I'd  
6 like permission to vote aye on all general call-up  
7 items and general calendar.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes, sir.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Thank you.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

11 CITY CLERK: Vallone.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye [by foster  
13 youth shadow]

14 CITY CLERK: Williams.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye...  
16 [crosstalk]

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
18 Vallone, you've got to verbally express.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

21 CITY CLERK: Williams.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Williams.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye. Yes.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

25 CITY CLERK: Wills. Matteo. Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

CITY CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye.

[background comments]

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

Today's Land Use Call-Ups are adopted by a vote of 41 in the affirmative, 0 in negative.. [background comment] May we have quiet in the chambers, please?

[background comments] Quiet in the chambers as we now hear from The Speaker, Melissa Mark-Viverito.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you Madam Public Advocate and good afternoon, buenas tardes to all my colleagues.

You might notice some new faces around the chambers today as part of National Foster Care Month; some members of the Council are participating in Foster Youth Shadow Day. In our roles as elected officials we are committed to doing everything in our power to help city youth navigate the foster care system and transition out into healthy and thriving lives as contributing members of the community.

Whether through securing affordable housing, pursuing higher education or seeking training and job

1  
2 experience, it is our goal to provide these young  
3 people with all of the opportunities possible.

4 I want you all to say hello to Ashley,  
5 who is sitting here with me today and also all the  
6 wonderful young people around the chambers, we  
7 welcome you with open arms very much, this is your  
8 home. [clapping] We always say that New York City  
9 Hall and City Chambers is the people's house, so this  
10 is your house. And we wanna thank, obviously.. and  
11 please join me in thanking Council Member Levin for  
12 spearheading this effort to make this day a reality  
13 and bringing it here to the chambers. [clapping]  
14 Thank you Council Member.

15 So again, you'll be hearing a lot of work  
16 that we're doing today, a lot of bills that we're  
17 passing today, which means that they will be signed  
18 into law, and it's a pretty wonderful job that we  
19 have here and great to represent each and every one  
20 of you.

21 On a more serious note, I want to  
22 acknowledge, before we begin; I know he isn't with us  
23 here today, [background comments] but our City Clerk,  
24 Michael McSweeney unfortunately lost his mother this  
25 past week; we are grateful to him for all he does

1  
2 along here with us on behalf of the City and we  
3 definitely extend our deepest condolences to him and  
4 his family during this difficult time.

5 So beginning our docket for the day, the  
6 Council will be voting on appointments to four City  
7 commissions and boards; this will include two  
8 communications from the Mayor submitting Carlo for  
9 appointment as a member of the New York City Tax  
10 Commission; submitting Debra Scotto for appointment  
11 as a member of the New York City Environmental  
12 Control Board. The Council will also vote on  
13 recommendation from the Brooklyn Borough President  
14 submitting Joseph Douek for reappointment to the New  
15 York City Planning Commission, and on our own  
16 designation of Robert Nolan for reappointment to the  
17 Health and Hospitals Corporation Board of Directors.

18 And next we will also be voting on  
19 landmark status for the interior of the Waldorf-  
20 Astoria Hotel and for two buildings on the stretch of  
21 Montague Street in Brooklyn known as Bank Row.  
22 Council Members Garodnick and Levin represent the  
23 district's housing need [sic] respect to potential  
24 landmarks; I invite each of them to just say a few  
25 words, and we'll start with Council Member Garodnick.

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Thank you very  
3 much, Madam Speaker. I'm very pleased that the  
4 Council is voting today on the designation of several  
5 interior spaces at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. The  
6 Waldorf is one of our city's great architectural  
7 jewels and was appropriately designated an individual  
8 landmark in 1993. However, the fate of the interior  
9 of the hotel was kept uncertain for far too long;  
10 that's why I proudly offered my support to granting  
11 landmark designation to the hotel's breathtaking and  
12 worthy interior spaces. The interiors include such  
13 beautiful spaces as the Main Lobby, the Grand  
14 Ballroom, the Silver Gallery, the Jade Room, Astor  
15 Room and others, each of which present unique  
16 characteristics and is well deserving of  
17 preservation. On view there are unique and historic  
18 murals, mosaics and reliefs, along with distinctive  
19 period elevators, doors, paneling and other finishes.

20 I commend the recognition of the Waldorf-  
21 Astoria for its phenomenal and lavish Art-Deco style  
22 interior public spaces and I look forward to  
23 approving this designation today. Thank you very  
24 much.

1  
2                   SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you Council  
3 Member. Council Member Levin.

4                   COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you very  
5 much Madam Speaker. I'm very happy that the Council  
6 today is voting on these two items on Montague Street  
7 in Brooklyn Heights for landmark designation; they  
8 represent some very important parts of the historic  
9 fabric of Brooklyn Heights. One building as a  
10 neoclassical [background comments] architecture and  
11 the other building Art-Deco [background comment] that  
12 really establish a sense of place along Montague  
13 Street as was once Bank Row. These two designations  
14 will go even further towards completing the first  
15 landmark district in the City of New York. In 1965,  
16 the Brooklyn Heights Historic District was  
17 designated; these two buildings were left out of that  
18 designation, so we are going back and correcting a  
19 historical wrong [background comments] in doing this  
20 today. I wanna thank the Brooklyn Heights  
21 Association in particular, Otis and Nancy Pearsall,  
22 and Peter Bray for their advocacy, as well as the  
23 Landmarks Commission for taking up this item, and  
24 you, Madam Speaker and my colleagues for voting in  
25 favor of this landmark designation. Thank you.

1  
2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you Council  
3 Member.

4 On legislative items, the Council will  
5 vote on multiple items regarding residential and  
6 hotel building conversions.

7 Intro 1586, sponsored by Council Member  
8 Ritchie Torres, would extend by two years the  
9 limitations placed on the conversion of certain hotel  
10 space for purposes other than use as a hotel. The  
11 bill would also require the preparation of a  
12 supplementary hotel industry report that analyzes the  
13 impact of the industry on the economy of the City,  
14 with specific attention toward analyzing and  
15 addressing any impacts hotel conversions have on the  
16 availability of quality jobs for City residents.

17 For staff, I wanna thank Malak  
18 Nassereddine [sp?], Meagan Chen, Guillermo Patino,  
19 Jose Conde, Sarah Gastelum, Jen Wilcox, Wes Jones,  
20 and Ed Atkin, and we'll ask Council Member Torres to  
21 say a few words about his bill.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Thank you Madam  
23 Speaker.

24 The middle class, much like the American  
25 dream itself, has become an endangered species --

1  
2 poverty is more widespread than ever before, the  
3 affordability crisis which has been displacing  
4 countless families and communities is every bit as  
5 much a consequence of stagnant and declining income  
6 as it is of rising rent. Since 2008, we as a city  
7 have lost over 100,000 middle class jobs; not only do  
8 we have fewer and fewer jobs, but the jobs that we do  
9 have are paying lower and lower wages in a relentless  
10 race to the bottom.

11 Those of us committed to a vision of  
12 broadly shared prosperity cannot afford to stand by  
13 passively while the tidal wave of hotel to condo  
14 conversion threatens the extinction of an entire  
15 sector of middle class employment.

16 Intro 1586, which would extend the  
17 moratorium on hotel-condo conversion is the right  
18 course of action in our present moment as we as a  
19 city seek to study the complex market forces  
20 reshaping the hotel industry in the hopes of  
21 developing a longer-term framework for carefully  
22 regulating those forces in keeping with the city's  
23 best tradition of upward mobility and world-class  
24 hospitality. Even though we are only local  
25 legislators, we are not powerless to preserve what

1  
2 remains of the middle class. We can do more and for  
3 the future of our city we must. New York City's  
4 economy thrives most when it thrives on broad-based  
5 prosperity, our government thrives when there is a  
6 broad base of middle class taxpayers, our businesses  
7 thrive when there is a broad base of middle class  
8 consumers, New York City as a tourist destination  
9 thrives when there is a world-class hotel industry  
10 sustained by a broad base middle class workforce.  
11 The road to the American dream quite simply runs  
12 through the middle class, it runs through the upscale  
13 and luxury sectors of the hotel industry, which is  
14 one of the few if not the only industry where a poor  
15 immigrant with less than a high school diploma can  
16 earn enough income to build a decidedly middle class  
17 life in the most expensive city in the world. There  
18 is a word for this -- the American dream -- and  
19 Intro 1586 represents one of our very best attempts  
20 at preserving it.

21 Thank you Madam Speaker.

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you Council  
23 Member. My understanding is that there's a couple of  
24 Council colleagues that may have to go off to the  
25 bill signing that happens to be happening during our

1  
2 Stated, so -- I'm not sure how that happened -- so I  
3 don't know -- those Council Members would like to  
4 vote ahead, please raise your hands.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: So can we do a  
6 vote at this point in time? Council Member Cornegy.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Thank you Madam  
8 Public Advocate. I'd like to vote on all items on  
9 the general order calendar.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
11 Please raise your hand. Council Member Borelli.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Thank you Madam  
13 Public Advocate. I'd like to vote aye on all call-  
14 ups and general order calendar items.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes. Thank you.  
16 Council Member Deutsch.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: I'd like to vote  
18 on all the general order and call-ups. [background  
19 comment] Thank you.

20 [pause]

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
22 Kallos.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye [by foster  
24 youth shadow]. We'd like to vote aye on all general  
25

1  
2 orders and call-ups, and with that we say.. aye [by  
3 foster youth shadow].

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
5 Kallos, you have to say.. you have to verbalize the  
6 work aye.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Any  
9 other Council Members who would like to vote now and  
10 then.. [background comment] Council Member Treyger.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Madam Public  
12 Advocate, I'd like to vote on all coupled general  
13 order items.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yeah.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Thank you.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Vote aye.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Oh  
19 sorry; he was scratching his head. Anyone else? Let  
20 us continue.

21 [pause]

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Hold on one  
23 second, please. [background comments] Alright,  
24 we'll keep going.

1  
2 Introduction 1218-A, sponsored by Council  
3 Member Vincent Gentile [background comments] by  
4 request of the Brooklyn Borough President -- guys,  
5 please, let's maintain order. [background comment]  
6 Introduction 1218-A, sponsored by Council Member  
7 Vincent Gentile by request of the Brooklyn Borough  
8 President would increase the penalties for illegally  
9 converting residential space to contain three or more  
10 dwelling units above the amount legally allowed.

11 And Introduction 823-A, sponsored by  
12 Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez, would require the  
13 Department of Buildings to submit an annual report to  
14 the City Council on the rate of illegal conversions  
15 of dwelling units for a purpose other than permanent  
16 residence.

17 Staff -- I wanna thank Meagan Chen,  
18 Guillermo Patino, Jose Conde, Sarah Gastelum, Jen  
19 Wilcox, and Ed Atkin, and ask Council Members Gentile  
20 and then Rodriguez to say a few words. Council  
21 Member Gentile... [crosstalk]

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Thank you... Thank  
23 you Madam Speaker.

24 Over two years ago I stood with Brooklyn  
25 Borough President Eric Adams and our colleague, City

1  
2 Council Member Jumaane Williams, on Flatbush Avenue  
3 by the ravaged remains of a building consumed by a  
4 fatal two-alarm fire. A 23-year-old [background  
5 comments] security guard was killed and 15 others  
6 were injured. [interpose]

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Excuse me Council  
8 Member. May we have quiet in the chambers, please?  
9 [background comments] Please. Council Member  
10 Gentile has the floor. Thank you.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Thank you Madam  
12 Public Advocate.

13 The cause of that fire -- illegal  
14 residential conversions; partitioning one- and two-  
15 family homes with shoddy construction, faulty wiring,  
16 and compromised gas work has become a common practice  
17 by predatory landlords; maximizing profit at the  
18 expense of the safety of inhabitants has led to  
19 today's proliferation of illegal home conversions.  
20 Intro 1218-A, sponsored by myself, Brooklyn Borough  
21 President Adams, Council Member Williams, Council  
22 Member Grodenchik, and co-sponsored by 22 other  
23 members in this chamber, will make this unethical  
24 practice an unlawful one. We will codify a years-  
25 long rallying cry that has been echoed in these

1  
2 august chambers in hearings, in civic organization  
3 gatherings and community board meetings across the  
4 city that substandard housing is not affordable  
5 housing. Focusing on the most egregious purveyors of  
6 illegal conversions, this bill establishes a \$15,000  
7 penalty strictly on the unscrupulous owner for each  
8 illegally portioned dwelling unit that is three or  
9 more units above a certificate of occupancy. To  
10 ensure remediation and payment of the violation, the  
11 fine will constitute a lien on the property, so if  
12 unpaid for one year, the lien can be sold by the  
13 City.

14 Now let me be clear -- while penalizing  
15 aggravated illegal conversions -- that is three or  
16 more above the certificate of occupancy -- will not  
17 impede the efforts to legalize and standardize  
18 basement apartments; it will root out profiteering  
19 landlords who gut and partition entire buildings for  
20 maximum profit with no concern for tenant safety.

21 In addition, 1218-A will equip the  
22 Department of Buildings with the tools necessary to  
23 obtain an access warrant where it has been unable to  
24 gain access to a building where it suspects that  
25 aggravated illegal conversion has occurred.

1  
2 All in all, this bill will serve a strong  
3 deterrent on the front end and if needed, strong  
4 enforcement tools on the back end to combat  
5 aggravated illegal conversions.

6 I would like to thank the Speaker for her  
7 leadership and all my colleagues who have signed on  
8 to this landmark legislation. On the staff side, I  
9 would like to thank Laura Popa, Ed Atkin, Jen Wilcox,  
10 Meagan Chen, Guillermo Patino, from the Speaker's  
11 Office, and our former colleague, Lew Fidler, who now  
12 works at the Brooklyn Borough President's office,  
13 who's worked for decades on legislation of this type,  
14 and Andrew Gounardes, also from the Brooklyn BP's  
15 office. And also a big thank you and shout-out to  
16 Jon Shabshaikhes, my Legislative Director, who did  
17 yeoman's work on this legislation to get it to the  
18 floor today. Thank you Madam Speaker.

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Thank you  
21 Speaker for your support in this legislation and many  
22 other good bills that we have passed.

23 I want to thank my colleagues as well,  
24 including my Housing and Buildings chair, Jumaane  
25

1  
2 Williams and Mayor de Blasio for their support of  
3 this legislation as well.

4           Illegal hotel conversions are when  
5 residents or landlords decide that instead of living  
6 in these apartments or allowing tenants to rent and  
7 lease, they instead turn it into a short-term illegal  
8 hotel; that's unacceptable in New York City. We have  
9 seen this happen in many neighborhoods with rapidly  
10 rising rent, compounding the issue of displacement  
11 and lowering the number of available affordable  
12 housing units in our city. [background comment]  
13 This legislation will require HPD to track where  
14 these violations are occurring, keeping a public  
15 record of what buildings have had complaints and  
16 where these complaints [background comment] are in  
17 the **[inaudible]** process. This is important  
18 information as we work to battle back against the  
19 proliferation of illegal hotels in our city that  
20 deplete our vital stock of affordable housing. This  
21 is about maintaining an affordable city and going  
22 after bad actors.

23           Lastly, I want to thank the staff that  
24 worked on this legislation, including Meagan Chen,  
25 Guillermo Patino, Ed Atkin, Jen Wilcox, Matt Gewolb,

1  
2 Laura Popa, and Rob Newman, as well as my staff --  
3 Jose Louis and Russell Murphy. Thank you.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Gracias. We will  
5 also hear again from Council Member Rodriguez, as he  
6 is prime sponsor of Introduction 1285-A, which would  
7 require the Department of Transportation to prepare a  
8 report by June 1, 2018 relating to pedestrian  
9 activity in six locations with significant safety and  
10 traffic flow concerns.

11 I wanna thank staff -- Kelly Taylor,  
12 Faizah Malik, Gafar Zaaloff, Jonathan Masserano,  
13 Emily Rooney, Terzah Nasser, Aysha Schomburg, Chima  
14 Obichere, and Brandon West. Council Member.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Thank you  
16 Speaker for supporting this package of legislation,  
17 including the one that I lead and the others that  
18 I've been co-lead together with Council Member Van  
19 Bramer and Council Member Rosenthal.

20 New Yorkers are all too familiar with  
21 crowded sidewalks; most can point you to locations  
22 across our city where they are so packed; people  
23 often are left to walk in the street, in danger,  
24 occupying the same space as cars.

1  
2 Intro 1285-A will require the DOT to look  
3 at some of these congested corridors and develop a  
4 strategy to ease the flow of pedestrians in these  
5 areas.

6 One thing we learned is that a more  
7 walkable city yields a healthier city, moving about  
8 actively. Ensuring ample space for pedestrians makes  
9 New York City a more attractive place to live and  
10 work. In a city as dense as ours, we need to create  
11 the condition that eases the flow of people and this  
12 legislation aims to do just that.

13 Again I want to thank Rob Newman, Laura,  
14 Terzah Nasser; our committee staff, former Counsel  
15 Kelly Taylor, Counsel Faizah Malik, Policy Analysts  
16 Jonathan Masserano, Gafar Zaaloff, Emily Rooney, and  
17 my Chief of Staff, Jose Louis and my Deputy Chief of  
18 Staff, Russell Murphy. Thank you.

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Alright, thank  
20 you.

21 Following up on pedestrian studies,  
22 Introduction 1177-A, sponsored by Council Member  
23 Helen Rosenthal, would direct the Department of  
24 Transportation to prepare a report by August 1, 2017  
25 regarding the feasibility of implementing Barnes

1  
2 dance pedestrian interval crossing systems at high-  
3 crash intersections.

4           Again, Kelly Taylor, Faizah Malik, Gafar  
5 Zaaloff, Jonathan Masserano, Emily Rooney, Terzah  
6 Nasser, Aysha Schomburg, Chima Obichere, and Brandon  
7 West, thank you for that. And Council Member  
8 Rosenthal will speak about her bill.

9           PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
10 Rosenthal.

11           [background comment]

12           SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Sorry, that's  
13 right; Council Member Rosenthal went off to the bill  
14 signing.

15           Commercial bicyclists operating on behalf  
16 of a business or intermediary organization are  
17 subject to a number of safety and recordkeeping  
18 requirements. These laws currently only apply to  
19 commercial bicyclists classified as employees.  
20 Intro 1117-A, sponsored by Majority Leader Jimmy Van  
21 Bramer would amend these laws to include commercial  
22 bicyclists who are classified as independent  
23 contractors.

24           Same set of staff; we thank them once  
25 again -- Kelly Taylor, Faizah Malik, Gafar Zaaloff,

Jonathan Masserano, Emily Rooney, Terzah Nasser, Aysha Schomburg, Chima Obichere, and Brandon West.

Transportation Committee has been very busy. Majority Leader, if you wanna speak to your bill.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank you very much Madam Speaker.

It was five years ago, in 2012, when we passed Local Law 52, a bill that I sponsored that required bicycle delivery men and women to wear reflective vests, helmets and to receive safety training from the Department of Transportation as well as some identification on the back of those reflective vests indicating where those cyclists were delivering for. But with the advent of Uber Eats, Amazon, Seamless, and others who code their cyclist delivery men and women as independent contractors, there became a loophole in this important law which keeps bicycle delivery men and women safe and visible, particularly all those who are delivering your dinners at night in the dark, sometimes in rainy conditions, when it's hard to see the bicyclist. So this law, just like Local Law 52 of 2012, makes the cyclists who are delivering meals and other goods

1  
2 safer, it makes pedestrians safer, everyone's more  
3 visible, and it contributes to reducing crashes and  
4 is part of our overall Vision Zero movement.

5 So I wanna thank all of the Council  
6 Members who co-sponsored it, our chair and the  
7 Speaker for allowing us to continue the work of  
8 making sure that everyone who is working hard and  
9 delivering goods and services and food via bicycles  
10 is safe, including those who are delivering for Uber  
11 Eats, Amazon, Seamless and others who are registered  
12 as independent contracts. Thank you very much Madam  
13 Speakers.

14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you, Jimmy.  
15 Next the Council will be voting on Intro 518-A,  
16 sponsored by Council Member Donovan Richards, which  
17 seeks to ensure that consumers are aware of any  
18 recalls associated with a used car by requiring  
19 secondhand automobile dealers to disclose recall  
20 information related automobiles, parts or equipment  
21 to purchasing consumers.

22 I wanna thank staff -- Balkis Mareg  
23 [sp?], Israel Martinez and Rachel Cordero for working  
24 on these bills and Council Member Richards will say a  
25 few words.

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Thank you  
3 Speaker. I'm proud to say I'm here today to ensure  
4 that secondhand car dealers are honest with their  
5 customers when selling a vehicle that has had a  
6 recall issue. We've all heard stories about people  
7 who have the misfortune of buying a lemon or  
8 something we know as a "hoopty" in my neighborhood.  
9 Buying a vehicle can be a very exciting time for  
10 someone, but nothing can crush that excitement like  
11 having that vehicle break down due to a serious flaw  
12 that could have been fixed.

13 We are here to day to provide protection  
14 for consumers looking to buy a used vehicle. With  
15 the passage of Intro 518-A, a secondhand automobile  
16 dealer will be required to disclose recall  
17 information to consumers when selling automobile  
18 parts or equipment. This disclosure must be signed  
19 by the purchaser and retained by the dealer for five  
20 years. This bill would impose a \$1000 fine for a  
21 first offense, a \$1000 fine or imprisonment for a  
22 second offense and suspension or revocation of a  
23 dealer's license at the discretion of the  
24 Commissioner for any additional offenses during a  
25 three-year period.

1  
2           Once again, this Council is standing up  
3 for those who have been taken advantage of. Today  
4 this legislation will ensure that we hold dealers  
5 accountable when they withhold vital information that  
6 could affect a consumer's decision, but most  
7 importantly, put their lives and the public's lives  
8 in danger.

9           I'd like to thank our Speaker, DCA  
10 Commissioner Salas, Chair Espinal, the Consumer  
11 Affairs Committee staff -- Balkis Mahering [sp?] and  
12 Israel Martinez and my Legislative Director, Jordan  
13 Gibbons for making this legislation possible. Thank  
14 you.

15           SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you.  
16 Strong stormwater management practices are required  
17 to reduce the flow of pollutants into New York City  
18 waterways. Introduction 1346-A, sponsored by  
19 Environmental Protection Committee Chair Costa  
20 Constantinides would provide the New York City  
21 Department of Environmental Protection with the  
22 authority to implement and enforce stormwater  
23 management practices that are needed to comply with  
24 the State-issued Municipal Separate Storm Sewer  
25

1  
2 Systems Permit. Costa Constantinides, lead sponsor,  
3 if you wanna say a few words.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Thank you  
5 Madam Speaker. I ask my colleagues today to support  
6 Intro 1346-A, which would grant the City's Department  
7 of Environmental Protection the authority to better  
8 regulate the outflows from Municipal Separate  
9 Stormwater Sewers (MS4s). Most of our sewage is  
10 transferred from wastewater treatment plants located  
11 throughout our city, however, when it rains, some of  
12 the sewage is carried from our streets into our  
13 waterways after being treated and disinfected.  
14 Intro 1346 ensures that our city oversees and  
15 enforces any activities that have the potential to  
16 contribute pollution into our waterways from the  
17 separate sewer system; it provides our city with the  
18 legal authority to implement a stormwater management  
19 program to meet the new requirements of the Municipal  
20 Separate Stormwater Sewer Systems Permit. The  
21 program will reduce pollution into stormwater that  
22 reaches our waterways, it will find and control  
23 litter and other sources of pollution from entering  
24 our waterways through the separate sewer system. The  
25 program includes stormwater runoff from commercial

1  
2 and industrial activities, runoff from active  
3 construction sites and newly developed sites, as well  
4 as detection and elimination of illicit discharge.  
5 DEP will coordinate interagency efforts to meet the  
6 requirements of the MS4 Permit. I'm especially proud  
7 that this bill requires that City agencies consider  
8 the feasibility of adding green infrastructure,  
9 [background comment] such as [background comments]  
10 permeable pavements to any major capital project that  
11 is being built. Protecting our waterways from  
12 unnecessary environmental hazards will bring benefits  
13 to marine life, our city's ecosystem and our entire  
14 environment. Being that we're a city surrounded by  
15 water, protecting our waterways is a huge priority.

16 I wanna thank our Speaker Melissa Mark-  
17 Viverito, our Mayor, my Council colleagues for their  
18 support, also our Council staff -- Samara Swanston,  
19 Bill Murray, Ed Atkin; Jonathan Seltzer who also  
20 worked on this bill. Thank you.

21 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you, Costa.  
22 And finally, the Council will be voting on  
23 initiatives first announced in my 2017 State of the  
24 City Address. Intro 1028-B, sponsored by Council  
25 Member Laurie Cumbo, would create a sexual health

1  
2 education task force comprised of a minimum of nine  
3 members, including experts in sexual health  
4 education, high school students, Department of  
5 Education staff, and at least one specialist in the  
6 field of LGBQ and TGNC health education. The task  
7 force would review information about the current  
8 recommended sexual health curriculum and the  
9 implementation of sexual health education in DOE  
10 schools and submit a report of their findings to the  
11 Mayor and the Council by December 1 of this year.

12           Comprehensive sexual health education for  
13 students of all ages is imperative to raising healthy  
14 and informed adults. This City Council remains  
15 committed to providing our students with an extensive  
16 and age-appropriate education that remains inclusive  
17 of their needs and I believe that his bill will go  
18 far in tailoring city sexual health education to the  
19 lives our students live today.

20           I wanna thank Aminta Kilawan, Smita  
21 Deshmukh, Aysha Schomburg, and Terzah Nasser and I  
22 thank Council Member Laurie Cumbo for her work on  
23 this essential initiative and ask her to give her  
24 remarks on this positive step forward for our city's  
25 youth.

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you Speaker  
3 Melissa Mark-Viverito and thank you so much for your  
4 leadership and working collaboratively on this very  
5 important piece of legislation.

6 Across the city of New York youth ages 12  
7 and under are making mature, life-changing decisions  
8 about relationships and their sexuality based on peer  
9 pressure and misinformation from mass media. If we  
10 think about all of the images that young people see  
11 in music videos, film, television, everything that's  
12 accessible right at their fingertips on their  
13 telephone, it's important that we give them all of  
14 the information to be able to make the healthiest  
15 decisions on behalf of their lives. We can't allow  
16 young people to continue to make adult decisions in  
17 their childhood years. One-third of New York City  
18 high school students have not had or are unsure if  
19 they received sex education. Of those who recalled  
20 sex education, only 32% had one or more lesson.

21 As the prime sponsor of Intro 1028-B, I  
22 am proud that this bill will bring us one step closer  
23 to charting a new course for youth of all ages and  
24 backgrounds to engage in meaningful conversations  
25 about health relationships, consensual sex,

1 pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, and sexual  
2 abuse. This task force, comprised of individuals  
3 that represent a spectrum of beliefs and backgrounds,  
4 ages, various career level and life experiences has  
5 the opportunity to infuse new ideas and voices to  
6 create an educational tool that celebrates the  
7 diversity of New Yorkers, particularly those who  
8 identify as LGBTQIA and live and thrive here.

9  
10 Sexuality is so much more than sexual  
11 intercourse; it is about developing a healthy self  
12 relationship, a self image, your identity, gender  
13 role, and learning how to express yourself as well as  
14 your boundaries. And I wanna say that this is so  
15 important at this particular time because sex  
16 education should no longer be considered a taboo  
17 topic; it shouldn't be something that we should shy  
18 away from or something that we feel is too  
19 uncomfortable in order to educate your young people.  
20 Again, they are making adult decisions and as the  
21 famous group said, a woman dynamic team, Salt-N-Pepa,  
22 "Let's talk about sex, baby." Thank you.

23 [laughter]

24 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Okay.

25 [laughter]

1  
2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Now is the time  
3 for all members to turn to their interns and explain.

4 [laughter]

5 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Alright, thank  
6 you, Laurie for that impassioned speech.

7 So before we conclude, those of you who  
8 haven't RSVP'd yet, we invite you to join us next  
9 Monday the 15th as we commemorate the 72nd  
10 anniversary of the Allied Victory in Europe with a  
11 gathering here in the Council Chambers. And with  
12 that I end communication from the Speaker.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. And  
14 now for an early vote. Council Member Williams for a  
15 vote.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye on  
17 all, with the exception of 589, 590 and related  
18 Resos; I vote no on those.

19 [pause]

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Discussion of  
21 general orders. Seeing none. Report of special  
22 committees.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Reports of  
25 standing committees.

1  
2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee  
3 on Consumer Affairs, Intro 518-A, [background  
4 comment] secondhand automobile dealers.

5 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and  
6 coupled on general orders.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee  
8 on Education, Intro 1028-B, sexual health education  
9 task force.

10 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and  
11 coupled on general orders.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee  
13 on Environmental Protection, Intro 1346-A, water  
14 pollution control.

15 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and  
16 coupled on general orders.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee  
18 on Finance, Preconsidered LU 625 and Reso 1465 and  
19 LU 626 and Reso 1465, tax exemptions.

20 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on  
21 general orders.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee  
23 on Housing and Buildings, Intro 823-A, illegal  
24 conversions [background comment] of dwelling units.

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2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and  
3 coupled on general orders.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: In... [background  
5 comment] Intro 1218-A, illegal conversions.

6 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and  
7 coupled on general orders.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Intro 1586, hotel  
9 preservation.

10 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on  
11 general orders.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee  
13 on Land Use, LU 602 and Reso 1466 and LU 603 and  
14 Reso 1467, landmark designations.

15 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on  
16 general orders.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 612 and 613, zoning  
18 amendments.

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Approved with  
20 modifications and referred to the City Planning  
21 Commission pursuant to Rules 11.70(b) of the Rules of  
22 the Council and Section 197-(d) of the New York City  
23 Charter.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 618 and Reso 1468,  
25 tax exemption.

1  
2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on  
3 general orders.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 620 and Reso 1469  
5 through LU 624 and Reso 1473 on page 7 UDAAP Queens.

6 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on  
7 general orders.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered LU 630  
9 and Reso 1474, Waldorf-Astoria.

10 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on  
11 general orders.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee  
13 on Rules, Privileges and Elections, M 494 and  
14 Reso 1475, approving the reappointment of Carlo  
15 Silvestri, Tax Commission.

16 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on  
17 general orders.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: M 495 and Reso 1476,  
19 approving the reappointment of Debra Scotto,  
20 Environmental Control Board.

21 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on  
22 general orders.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: M 496 and Reso 1477,  
24 approving the reappointment of Joseph Douek, Planning  
25 Commission.

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2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on  
3 general orders.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered M512 and  
5 Reso 1478, approving the re-designation of Robert  
6 Nolan, Health and Hospitals Corporation.

7 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on  
8 general orders.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee  
10 on Transportation, Intro 1117-A, using a bicycle for  
11 commercial purposes.

12 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and  
13 coupled on general orders.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Intro 1177-A,  
15 pedestrian crossings.

16 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and  
17 coupled on general orders.

18 [background comment]

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Intro 1285-A,  
20 pedestrian traffic study.

21 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and  
22 coupled on general orders.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: On the general order  
24 calendar, LU 589 and Reso 1479 and LU 590 and  
25 Reso 1480, zoning amendments.

1  
2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on  
3 general orders.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Resolution appointing  
5 various persons, Commissioner of Deeds.

6 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on  
7 general orders and I ask for a roll call vote on all  
8 items coupled on general order calendar.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: May we have quiet  
10 in the chambers for a vote please.

11 [background comments]

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye on  
15 all, with the exception of 589 and 590 and the  
16 accompanying resolutions.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Chin.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye on all.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cohen.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: I vote aye.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Constantinides.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: I vote  
25 aye.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Crowley.

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Cumbo.

COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Espinal.

COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Aye.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Eugene.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Garodnick.

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: No on 1586;  
aye on the rest.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

[background comments]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gentile.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gibson.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
Gibson.

FEMALE VOICE: She stepped out.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Greenfield.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
Greenfield.

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Madam Public  
3 Advocate; may I have permission to please kindly  
4 explain my vote?

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes, Council  
6 Member Greenfield... [crosstalk]

7 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank you  
8 very much for your indulgence.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank you. I  
11 wanna recognize that I've been joined today by two  
12 outstanding young students, Victoria Wyndham from  
13 Hawthorn, New York... [crosstalk]

14 VICTORIA WYNDHAM: Hello.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: who has  
16 taught me a lot, including the fact that apparently  
17 it's very cold here in the Council Chamber, so thank  
18 you for letting me know. She says that I wear a  
19 jacket, so I'm not cold, so I learned something new  
20 here today. And I also would like to welcome Abby  
21 Greenfield, who is a young student who happens to be  
22 my niece who is joining us here today as well. So  
23 thank you very much Abby for joining us. I also want  
24 to congratulate Joe Douek... [crosstalk]

25 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Welcome, ladies.

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank you  
3 very much. I was explaining to them how we all fear  
4 the Public Advocate's wrath, so we try to make sure  
5 that we are within our three-minute limit and I have  
6 one minute and 14 seconds left. I do also want  
7 [background comment] to congratulate Joe Douek on his  
8 reappointment to the Department of City Planning as  
9 an appointee of the Brooklyn Borough President; he is  
10 exceptionally qualified for that and we had a  
11 pleasure working with him [background comment] and I  
12 wanna congratulate him as well -- Eric Adams is the  
13 Brooklyn Borough President -- that was the question.  
14 And then I also wanna congratulate Debra Scotto on  
15 the Environmental Control Board. I will also vote  
16 aye on all with the exception of Intro 1586 on which  
17 I am voting no. And I thank you, Madam Public  
18 Advocate for your indulgence and perhaps whoever's in  
19 charge of the temperature could raise it a couple of  
20 degrees so that Victoria here doesn't have to freeze  
21 for the remainder of our [laughter] Stated Meeting.  
22 Thank you.

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you Council  
24 Member. Thank you ladies; welcome.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rodriguez.

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye and with  
3 permission, would like to vote aye on all general  
4 orders.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gibson.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: I vote aye on  
10 all.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Grodenchik.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Permission to  
14 explain my vote, Madam Public Advocate... [crosstalk]

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Thank you. I  
17 just wanna congratulate my colleague Vince Gentile on  
18 shepherding this legislation through the Council,  
19 through the administration that will finally give  
20 some teeth to the fight against illegal conversions  
21 in this city, it is a problem, it's unhealthy; it  
22 overcrowds our schools; it's unhealthy for the people  
23 living in what can be rightfully described at times  
24 as hell holes, and so I was glad to add my voice to  
25 that. I want to congratulate everybody who's passing

1  
2 legislation today. I also want to thank the chair of  
3 Housing and Buildings, one of my committees, for his  
4 work on that bill as well. Thank the Speaker. Thank  
5 you for sitting up there so nicely and admonishing  
6 us. And my niece is not here today; she's in Austria  
7 with her parents, and I vote aye on all.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Johnson.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Aye on all.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Koo.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye on all.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lander.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Request  
17 permission to explain my vote.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes, sir.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you. First  
20 I want to shower praise on my colleague, Council  
21 Member Levin, both for making this day in the Council  
22 such a meaningful one for several years running now  
23 and for really calling our attention to foster care  
24 issues; I really appreciate it.

1  
2 I also want to praise him for his work to  
3 deepen the affordability at Rose Castle, which I  
4 think he did with a lot of integrity and a strong  
5 effort. That said, I am gonna be voting no on Land  
6 Use 589 and 590 and the accompanying resolutions, not  
7 because of the specifics of this deal, but because  
8 when we adopted Mandatory Inclusionary Housing, I  
9 made clear at the time that I thought there should  
10 not be that option three, which to me is just not  
11 affordable housing in New York City and I plan to  
12 vote no on option three MIH applications in this  
13 chamber, so with that I vote aye on all, with the  
14 exception of those.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Levin.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Permission to  
18 explain my vote.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes, sir.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you Madam  
21 Public Advocate. I just want to thank and  
22 acknowledge all of the youth participating in the  
23 Foster Youth Shadow Day that are here, it's a  
24 wonderful opportunity not only for you -- while it is  
25 a wonderful opportunity for you, it's also a

1  
2 wonderful opportunity for us to hear from you what  
3 are the important issues that you are facing as youth  
4 that are in care or have aged out of care and so we  
5 welcome you and in particular, I want to welcome the  
6 young person who shadowing me today, Malaya Decambrik  
7 [sp?], who is a sophomore right now in high school  
8 and is an amazing young woman. I also want to  
9 recognize Michael Tessier [sp?] who is with me as  
10 well, who is a senior and I wanna thank both of them  
11 for their insight and for being with us today and we  
12 hope that this is a wonderful experience for them.  
13 And with that, I vote aye on all.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you Council  
15 Member; she's going to **[inaudible]** and he's going to  
16 college. Yes.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mealy.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I vote aye on all.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Menchaca.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Permission to  
22 explain my vote.

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: I also wanna  
25 welcome all the young people in the house and commend

1  
2 Council Member Levin for his continued support, not  
3 just for the foster care system, but really for all  
4 young people; this is a Council that welcomes young  
5 people in so many different ways and I hope that you  
6 are welcomed, not only in a way that you are now, as  
7 visitors by our side, but hopefully one day coming in  
8 and representing your voice here in the City Council.  
9 The chairs that you sit in today are gonna be warmed  
10 by your presence and they will be welcoming you back  
11 hopefully one day as new Council Members to vote on  
12 legislation that impacts us all. So I hope you feel  
13 that welcome.

14 I wanna thank also Council Member Torres  
15 for taking lead on 1586; the workers that he spoke to  
16 in the middle class and the kind of commitment that  
17 we need to give them against these illegal  
18 conversions, in these conversions, I should say, are  
19 exactly what this Council needs to do. All the  
20 transportation bills -- thank you so much, Chair  
21 Rodriguez, for pushing those through; I was sponsors  
22 of all three of those pieces of legislation making  
23 our streets even safer. And than again to Council  
24 Member Cumbo and the Speaker for really pushing the  
25 sexual assault initiative and legislation; these are

1  
2 things that are gonna change the lives of so many  
3 people in our community. I vote aye on all. Thank  
4 you.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mendez.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye on all.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Miller.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Permission to  
11 explain my vote.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: I wanna just  
14 congratulate my colleagues; Gentile in particular, on  
15 the illegal conversion. Certainly this had an impact  
16 on many communities throughout the city, particularly  
17 in Southeast Queens and is something that we have  
18 discussed and worked on behalf for a number of years  
19 now and certainly this will put some tools in the  
20 toolbox that will give residents relief and safety.  
21 We've witnesses a number of events and tragedies  
22 because of this and hopefully this will be helpful in  
23 resolving those issues as we move forward in the  
24 future. With that, I vote aye on all.

25 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Palma.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Perkins.

COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: I wanna join in voting aye on all and welcoming our future leaders who are amongst us today and hopefully will be presiding over our city in a similar capacity in the future. Thank you.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Reynoso.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: I vote aye.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Richards.

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Permission to explain my vote.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: First off, I wanna thank Council Member Steve Levin once again for holding the shadow day. I'd like to welcome my guy today, Manny Williams, my foster shadow student for the day. Despite some turmoil in his life that led him to the foster care system, he battled through to achieve his high school diploma, but his story also shows [clapping] the need for additional assistance

1  
2 once foster children age out of the system. Manny  
3 graduated from [background comment] Eagle Academy in  
4 Brooklyn...

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yay.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: and looking  
7 forward to heading to Johnson and Wales University in  
8 Providence, where he'll [clapping] study to be a  
9 chef, and he loves to cook West Indian food, so I'm  
10 trying to bring him home with me actually today  
11 [laughter] tonight to have some good ox tails and  
12 rice and peas, so I just wanted to welcome him and  
13 congratulate him on his future success and endeavors.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Congratulations.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: I vote aye.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

17 Congratulations, young man.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rose.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Torres.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Permission to say  
22 a few comments or?

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: First I want to  
25 thank Council Member Menchaca; I neglected to mention

1  
2 he was an indispensable partner in the passage of the  
3 hotel... the moratorium [background comment] on the  
4 hotel to conversion bill and I wanna thank my shadow  
5 Council Member for the day, honorary Council Member  
6 Thomas [background comment], so thankfully, for the  
7 first time in my term I'm not longer the youngest  
8 member, so I'm happy to be displaced [laughter].

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ulrich.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: I vote aye on all  
11 and I ask for permission to vote on all land use  
12 items.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: I vote aye.  
15 Thank you.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Vallone.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye on all, with  
19 the exception of 1586, which I vote no.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Wills.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: I vote aye on all,  
23 including land use items. Thank you.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Matteo.

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: I vote no on 1586  
3 and aye on the rest, with permission to vote yes on  
4 all land use call-ups.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes. Thank you.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Van Bramer.

7 [background comment]

8 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: I vote aye on  
9 all and I do want to recognize my staff for their  
10 work on passing Intro 1117 -- Matt Wallace, our Chief  
11 of Staff and Andres Villa, our Deputy Chief of Staff,  
12 in addition to all the central staff. Thank you very  
13 much.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

16 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: I vote aye.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: As we wait for  
18 the results, I hope everyone got City-State -- oh by  
19 the way, I'm on the cover. [laughter, background  
20 comments] Oh just... you know, just make sure you get  
21 your copy right here. Oh, she looks lovely.  
22 [laughter] Okay.

23 All items on today's general order  
24 calendar were adopted by... shhhh... a vote of 49 in the  
25 affirmative, 0 in negative and 0 abstentions, with

1  
2 the exception of Land Use 589 and Resolution 1479,  
3 which was adopted by a vote of 46 in the affirmative,  
4 3 negative and 0 abstentions, and Land Use 590 and  
5 Resolution 1480, which was adopted by a vote of 46 in  
6 the affirmative, 3 negative and 0 abstentions, and  
7 Intro 1586, which was adopted by a vote of  
8 [background comment] 45 in the affirmative, 4  
9 negative and 0 abstentions, and the Revised Land Use  
10 Call-Ups are 49 in the affirmative and 0 negative.  
11 Introduction and reading of bills.

12 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: All bills are  
13 referred to committees as indicated on the agenda.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. And  
15 now we go to the resolutions. Resolution 1374,  
16 discussion of the resolution and the resolution reads  
17 as follows: An amended resolution establishing June..  
18 [background comment] shhhh... quiet in the chambers  
19 please... establishing June 8 annually as Teen Mental  
20 Health Awareness Day in the City of New York. Would  
21 anyone like to speak on the resolution? Seeing none.  
22 All of those in favor say aye.

23 [collective ayes]

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: All of those  
25 opposed. Any abstentions? The ayes have it.

1  
2 And Preconsidered Resolution 1463, which  
3 reads as follows: [background comments] A resolution  
4 calling upon the Secretary of the Department of  
5 Homeland Security to re-designate and extend  
6 temporary protected status for Guinea, Liberia and  
7 Sierra Leone, as these countries have not recovered  
8 from the Ebola epidemic and it would be unsafe for  
9 nationals currently present in the United States to  
10 return home at this time. Anyone speaking on the  
11 resolution? Council Member Rose.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye. Thank you.  
13 [background comments] I rise today to ask for my  
14 colleagues' support on an urgent matter,  
15 Preconsidered Resolution 1463. On May 21 of this  
16 year, more than 5,000 people in this country are in  
17 danger of being plucked from their communities and  
18 deported and sent to war-torn, Ebola-ravaged  
19 countries and they need our help. Temporary  
20 protected status (TPS) for people from Guinea,  
21 Liberia and Sierra Leone is scheduled to end and I am  
22 asking you to support an emergency resolution calling  
23 on the Secretary of Homeland Security to reauthorize  
24 and to extend temporary protected status for these  
25 countries.

1  
2 Of all the statistics I have read in  
3 recent months while working with my constituents on  
4 this issue, two have really struck me. First, Ebola  
5 left 17,300 children without one or both parents, and  
6 second; before the Ebola outbreak killed thousands,  
7 these countries had [bell] a ratio of 1:2 physicians  
8 per 100,000 people. Imagine if each of us only had  
9 three physicians in our district. At the same time,  
10 these countries are suffering from a rise in non-  
11 Ebola [background comments] illnesses and death,  
12 [background comments] resulting in 10,600 additional  
13 deaths due to untreated conditions in Guinea, Sierra  
14 Leone and Liberia, while the infrastructures and  
15 economies were decimated. If no action is taken,  
16 thousands will be sent to countries with no jobs, no  
17 infrastructure, no healthcare facilities, or they  
18 will be relegated to the shadows here, unable to  
19 provide for their families for fear of deportation.

20 I wanna thank the Speaker for joining me  
21 in sponsoring this resolution, my colleague, Council  
22 Member Menchaca for sponsoring this legislation, as  
23 well as holding an emergency immigration hearing  
24 today, and I wanna thank Council Member Danny Dromm  
25 for chairing and the staff of the Immigration

1 Committee. I also wanna thank Council Member...

2 [crosstalk]

3 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Councilman; could  
4 you...

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Donald Payne... okay...  
6 for championing this issue in the United States. And  
7 I just wanna say that there is also... this is an issue  
8 also relevant for Haitians; their date for...

9 [interpose]

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: TPS.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: deportation is in  
12 August, so we will revisit that in the coming months.  
13 Thank you.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Any  
15 other speakers? Okay. All of those in favor of the  
16 resolution please say aye.

17 [collective ayes]

18 All of those opposed. Any abstentions?  
19 The ayes have it. And now turning to general  
20 discussion, beginning with Council Member Inez  
21 Barron. Quiet in the chambers please, we're still in  
22 session.

23 [background comment]

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you Madam  
3 Public Advocate. I also want to comment my  
4 colleague, Council Member Levin for sponsoring the  
5 young people who are here today and I wanna make sure  
6 that they all know that as a foster child you are  
7 entitled to apply to CUNY's aging out program where  
8 you will be able to attend a CUNY institution, if  
9 that's your pleasure, free of charge. There are this  
10 year 40 slots presently existing and it's going to be  
11 increased to 80, so they will provide your free  
12 scholarship to a CUNY institution, they will provide  
13 housing and they will assist with other **[inaudible]**  
14 and they will also give you a MetroCard, so we're  
15 pleased to announce that; please look into that if  
16 you're interested.

17 Secondly, I want to talk about the  
18 Excelsior Scholarship; I think it was in February  
19 that Governor Cuomo said he had a plan for free  
20 tuition and it became the Excelsior Scholarship. I  
21 have a very serious critique of the Excelsior  
22 Scholarship.

23 The Excelsior Scholarship is a last-  
24 dollar in program. What that means is that low-  
25 income students have to first use all of their TAP

1  
2 and Pell and then if they have any additional need,  
3 they can apply for that difference to be paid by the  
4 Excelsior Scholarship. The problem is; students  
5 attending SUNY and CUNY have additional costs which  
6 can be twice as much as tuition. So for housing,  
7 meals and utilities, CUNY has estimated that that  
8 it's \$4,210; for books and supplies it's \$1,364; for  
9 transportation it's \$1,054; for personal expenses it  
10 is \$1,816; that means if you're a CUNY student  
11 staying at home, you will spend as much as \$9,592.  
12 the Governor's program should have been a first-  
13 dollar in program; that means [bell] this ability to  
14 apply for a scholarship would apply to everybody  
15 without asking them to use their TAP and their Pell.  
16 So what the Governor has done with his Excelsior  
17 program is in fact increase that income gap between  
18 the low-income and the high-income, because those who  
19 are in the higher income, Madam Public Advocate, will  
20 be able to use that scholarship money for their  
21 tuition and then they have that extra cash that they  
22 need for those additional costs, whereas low-income  
23 students do not. So I'm calling the Governor out on  
24 that; I think that he should have used first-dollar

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2 in, everybody apply, and then low-income students  
3 would have the ability to apply as well.

4 And finally, I think that Medgar Evers  
5 College will not have the most appropriate  
6 commencement speaker; I don't think that that  
7 college, that is a predominantly black college,  
8 should have a person who thinks that blacks are super  
9 predators and whose history of work in Haiti is  
10 questionable should have that person as their  
11 commencement speaker. Thank you.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Thank  
13 you Council Member. Again, for all those students  
14 who are aging out of foster care, again, please head  
15 the advice of Council Member [background comment]  
16 Barron; CUNY is free for individuals who are aging  
17 out of foster care, with free housing.

18 Next we're calling upon Council Member  
19 Chin. Council Member Kallos.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Today I rise with  
21 my foster youth Council Member, Shedai [sp?]  
22 Henderson to introduce Introduction 1594, because  
23 long lines hold [sic] music and bureaucratic forms,  
24 there could be an app for that. Today we're  
25 introducing, again, Intro 1594 to provide interface

1  
2 for digital requests and submissions for all  
3 government information. The legislation requires all  
4 information received or transmitted by City  
5 government to be available through an application  
6 program interface. We need to build an API for  
7 government so that my talking points can go dark on  
8 my laptop -- and so the great thing about technology  
9 is when it works, it works well and so an API  
10 provides a set of definitions, protocols and tools  
11 for building application software or in English, it  
12 provides a translation dictionary for different  
13 software to communicate and makes it easier for  
14 developers to program new applications. New Yorkers  
15 should be able to use government services as simply  
16 as new apps deliver food or cars when you need one.  
17 Any time a paper form, an operator or a website  
18 requests information like a name, email, income, or  
19 other details, that information could just as easily  
20 be provided by an app through an API. Similarly, any  
21 time the City shares information on whether you  
22 qualified for public benefits or registered to vote  
23 or taxes, you could just easily provide that to an  
24 app through an API. I encourage my colleagues to  
25 sign on and thank you.

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2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
3 Council Member Cumbo.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you Public  
5 Advocate. I wanna start off by recognizing that this  
6 Friday will mark the two-year anniversary of the  
7 fatal Amtrak train derailment in Pennsylvania and it  
8 claimed one of the lives of the 35th Council  
9 District, Brooklyn's own Dr. Derrick Griffith. Dr.  
10 Derrick Griffith was a dean at Medgar Evers College  
11 in Crown Heights and was a few days away from  
12 graduating with his Doctor of Philosophy degree. I,  
13 in partnership with the College, will commemorate his  
14 legacy with a street co-naming ceremony at the  
15 intersection of Montgomery and Bedford Avenue.  
16 Please join us in remembrance of this unwavering  
17 commitment and dedication to the educational  
18 advancement of our youth.

19 I'm also so proud today to be joined by  
20 two dynamic women who have continued to be advocates  
21 and champions for the youth that are aging out of our  
22 foster care, they have done incredible work,  
23 particularly Brianna Hayes, who's 23 years old, who  
24 is a fantastic advocate at You Gotta Believe's Older  
25 Teen Adoption Agency, has done incredible work to

1  
2 pass legislation here at the City Council at the  
3 young age of 23. She's gonna go off to be a culinary  
4 artist and hopefully sitting in the seats here at  
5 City Council one day as well. Lauren Moody, to my  
6 left, is 19 years old; she is graduating from Mount  
7 Pleasant Cottage School and she is a dynamic young  
8 woman who is interested in a career in nursing or law  
9 and she's debating between those two very incredible  
10 careers. They too have attended Speaker Melissa  
11 Mark-Viverito's press conference today and have felt  
12 very confident that they could stand in those shoes  
13 and I hope to see them here in the City Council  
14 Chambers even more. Thank you; I'm so happy to have  
15 you both here today. Thank you.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you and  
17 welcome, young ladies. Council Member Richards.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Thank you Madam  
19 Public Speaker. I'd like to call my colleagues'  
20 attention to our bill on the right to disconnection,  
21 which we are introducing with Council Members Espinal  
22 and Vacca today. Intro 1605 will require all City  
23 agencies to generate a policy regarding work-related  
24 communications during non-work hours. The use of  
25 work-related communications during non-work hours has

1  
2 become very common; indeed, a recent survey conducted  
3 by Pew Research shows that 35% of workers think  
4 [background comments] digital tools have increased  
5 the amount of hours they work, yet the end office  
6 working time of an employee in the U.S. is already  
7 far above the average of other developed countries.  
8 Rest time is of paramount importance for both health  
9 and productivity; in fact, 64% of North American  
10 employees report having high levels of stress; some  
11 of them even talk about a stressed feeling, out of  
12 control related to work. Those kinds of symptoms can  
13 lead to so-called "burnout" -- I'm sure many of us  
14 feel that sometimes -- a severe medical condition  
15 defined as a state of exhaustion of physical or  
16 emotional strength or motivation. It could also have  
17 a real negative impact on the quality of work  
18 produced. Sixteen percent of employees miss more  
19 than seven days of work per year due to stress and  
20 anxiety, and according to a new study, employees who  
21 check their professional emails and texts after  
22 9 p.m. are less productive than those who don't.

23 For all these reasons, it is necessary  
24 that every City agency defines a human resources  
25 policy for its employees, adapt it to the

1 requirements of each profession, aiming to limit the  
2 use of work phones and email during non-work hours.  
3 Please join me in supporting this legislation. Thank  
4 you.

5  
6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
7 Council Member Steve Levin.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you Madam  
9 Public Advocate. I do wanna take this opportunity to  
10 thank and acknowledge my Legislative Director, Julie  
11 Bero, who has been with the Council 33rd District  
12 office since last year; she's done a stellar job as  
13 the Legislative Director, shepherding the foster  
14 youth package of legislation from last year, as well  
15 as working on Intro 495, the waste equity bill, and a  
16 number of other great pieces of legislation in  
17 addition to working very closely with the General  
18 Welfare Committee staff on all the issues that we are  
19 facing in the General Welfare Committee. Julie has  
20 done such a fantastic job that the Mayor's Office of  
21 Legislative Affairs has seemed fit to take her on,  
22 working with the Council on a number of legislative  
23 committees and so we are really going to miss her  
24 greatly and the great work that she did here at the  
25 Council, but we are going to look forward to working

1  
2 with her as part of the Mayor's staff. So Julie,  
3 thank you so much for all that you've done with this  
4 Council. Thanks so much.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Congratulations.  
6 Council Member Mendez.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Thank you Madam  
8 Public Advocate. My colleagues, today I and my  
9 brothers who comprise the LGBT Caucus are introducing  
10 Intro 1604. Intro 1604 would require all City  
11 agencies to have a check-off box on their City forms  
12 where people can identify what gender pronoun they  
13 prefer to be addressed. These will be on all City  
14 forms that do not have any federal oversight or  
15 federal reporting and I think particularly in this  
16 country, where transgender individuals have been  
17 under attack and in this city, where we have stood up  
18 for the rights of transgender individuals that the  
19 least we can start doing is to make our forms have  
20 that check-off box so that no longer would an  
21 employee have to ask, what is your gender pronoun,  
22 nor would an individual have to correct someone who's  
23 using the improper gender pronoun. So my colleagues,  
24 I hope you sign on to Intro 1604. Thank you..

25 [crosstalk]

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2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Thank  
3 you. Coun... Council Member Menchaca.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you. So  
5 I rise to also join Council Member Mendez and the  
6 LGBT Caucus on the proposed bill 1604, which would  
7 require the Mayor's Office of Operations to ensure  
8 that City agencies provide mandatory training to the  
9 frontline staff members regarding the use of City  
10 residents' gender pronouns when interacting with such  
11 residents. The bill would also require agencies to  
12 amend their demographic forms to allow City residents  
13 -- you just heard from Council Member Mendez -- to  
14 indicate their gender pronouns on such forms. And to  
15 the extent that the City agency is not authorized to  
16 amend such a form; to provide a separate form to  
17 collect such information.

18 The bill will also require City agencies  
19 to update databases and computer systems such that  
20 gender pronoun information may be retained with a  
21 resident's individual file. Addressing a person with  
22 the correct gender pronoun is one of the most basic  
23 ways to show respect for their identity. Referring  
24 to someone with the wrong pronoun can make them feel  
25 disrespected, alienated and dysphoric. City

1  
2 employees and data systems don't always know  
3 someone's correct gender pronoun by their name,  
4 appearance or a voice on the phone. With training  
5 and data guidelines, City agencies can help all  
6 residents feel respected for who they are and how  
7 they identify.

8 I ask my colleagues to fully support both  
9 Reso 1463 and Intro 1604 today. Both items exhibit  
10 our shared vision of a city that welcomes immigrants  
11 who merit temporary protected status -- we have  
12 talked about that.

13 But I just wanna finally say thank you to  
14 a member of my staff, Bryan Ellicott, who continues,  
15 in his own way, continues to advocate and we lift all  
16 voices today with this. Thank you.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. And  
18 our last speaker is Council Member Koo.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you Madam  
20 Advocate. This year we recognized the 135th  
21 anniversary of the Chinese Exclusion Act, which today  
22 remains a scar on our country's history of liberty  
23 and justice for all. We must recognize the  
24 generation of harm caused by such racial  
25 discrimination and remember to always honor the

1  
2 contributions of all immigrants who are so essential  
3 to the foundation, **[inaudible]** and future of this  
4 country. Chinese Americans helped to build the  
5 United States; just ask the Italian Americans, Irish  
6 Americans, German Americans, Latino Americans,  
7 African Americans, Korean Americans -- the list goes  
8 on and on, and as long as America continues to value  
9 the contributions of immigrants, regardless of race,  
10 color or creed, we will remain the greatest country  
11 on earth, a place of refuge for those in need of  
12 sentry [sic] and the light of hope for all those who  
13 seek a better life for themselves and their families.

14           The Chinese Exclusion Act was a shameful  
15 time of our country and so we look back today and  
16 remember the difficult circumstances surrounding this  
17 era and also to celebrate how far we have come as a  
18 nation [background comments] and as a city that  
19 accepts and celebrates all who call you home.

20           Thank you to my colleagues and who  
21 sponsored this resolution, Council Member Chin and  
22 Council Member Menchaca. Today we are doing a  
23 resolution, 1457, a resolution proclaiming May 6th  
24 the 135th anniversary of the Chinese Exclusion Act  
25 signed by President Chester Arthur. So I hope all my

1  
2 colleagues can support [bell] this resolution. Thank  
3 you.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you Council  
5 Member for those most appropriate words during these  
6 very trying times.

7 And now to close; our Speaker, Melissa  
8 Mark-Viverito.

9 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thanks Madam  
10 Public Advocate. I love your cover, but I kinda like  
11 mine a little better. [laughter] So you know, in a  
12 throw-down here, City and State covers [background  
13 comments]; let's go. [laugh] Tryin' to find mine; I  
14 gotta show you mine. [background comments, laughter]  
15 So... [laugh] So I don't think City and State ever  
16 projected that they could be, you know, we'd be  
17 having encouraging throw-downs here. [laughter] But  
18 thank you to all my colleagues, thank you to all of  
19 the wonderful students -- Ashley, who's been here  
20 sitting with me, and she's gonna become a social  
21 worker and give back to the community, so  
22 congratulations on that step; it means a lot, and to  
23 all of you, thank you again for being here with us  
24 today and I know we stand in recess, it's budget  
25

1  
2 time, in case we have to come back, so we stand in  
3 recess. Thank you.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Congratulations.  
5 We stand in recess.

6 [gavel]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Date June 10, 2017