

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024

Start: 2:08 p.m.

Recess: 3:28 p.m.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Adrienne E. Adams, Speaker  
Amanda Farías, Majority Leader

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Adrienne E. Adams  
Joann Ariola  
Alexa Avilés  
Diana I. Ayala  
Chris Banks  
Joseph C. Borelli  
Erik D. Bottcher  
Justin L. Brannan  
Gale A. Brewer  
Selvena N. Brooks-Powers  
Tiffany Cabán  
David M. Carr  
Carmen N. De La Rosa  
Eric Dinowitz  
Amanda Farías  
Oswald Feliz  
James F. Gennaro  
Jennifer Gutiérrez

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING  
COUNCIL MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

Shahana K. Hanif  
Kamillah Hanks  
Robert F. Holden  
Crystal Hudson  
Rita C. Joseph  
Shekar Krishnan  
Linda Lee  
Farah N. Louis  
Kristy Marmorato  
Christopher Marte  
Darlene Mealy  
Julie Menin  
Francisco P. Moya  
Mercedes Narcisse  
Sandy Nurse  
Chi A. Ossé  
Vickie Paladino  
Keith Powers  
Lincoln Restler  
Kevin C. Riley  
Carlina Rivera  
Yusef Salaam  
Rafael Salamanca, Jr  
Pierina Ana Sanchez  
Lynn C. Schulman  
Althea V. Stevens  
Sandra Ung  
Inna Vernikov  
Nantasha M. Williams  
Julie Won  
Kalman Yeger  
Susan Zhuang

## NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

## A P P E A R A N C E S

## INVOCATION:

Imam Abdoulazakou Traore, Darou Salam Islamic  
Community Inc., located at 677 Elton Avenue,  
BRONX, N.Y. 10455

2 SERGEANT POLITE: Testing one, two, one, two.

3 Today is April 11, 2024, Stated Meeting being  
4 recorded in the Chambers by Keith Polite.

5 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet on the floor, please!

6 Quiet on the floor, please!

7 All council staff is off the main floor, please.

8 Quiet!

9 Ladies and gentlemen, at this time please place  
10 all electronic devices, all electronic devices to  
11 vibrate or silent mode.

12 Madam Majority Leader?

13 AUTOMATED: Recording in progress.

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Good afternoon, and  
15 welcome to the Stated Meeting of April 11, 2024. I am  
16 Majority Leader Amanda Farías, and I would like to  
17 thank you for joining us. If you would like to follow  
18 along, the agenda for today's meeting is posted on  
19 our website.

20 On behalf of the body, I welcome the members of  
21 the public who have joined us here today. During  
22 Stated Meetings, only members of the Council may  
23 speak. Members of the public shall remain silent. If  
24 you wish to express support of any remarks, you may  
25 make the silent approval gesture.

2 I want to remind my colleagues that decorum is to  
3 be respected at all times. Insulting each other is  
4 not appropriate, all remarks are to be addressed to  
5 the Chair, and members shall not speak unless  
6 recognized by the Chair. It is essential that even if  
7 we disagree, we treat each other with respect.

8 CITY CLERK: Please join us for the Pledge of  
9 Allegiance.

10 SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise!

11 ALL: (PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE)

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Roll call?

13 CITY CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Present

15 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: (NO RESPONSE)

17 CITY CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: (NO RESPONSE)

19 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Here

21 CITY CLERK: Council Member Banks?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Present

23 CITY CLERK: Council Member Bottcher

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: (NO RESPONSE)

25 CITY CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Here

3 CITY CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here

5 CITY CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: (NO RESPONSE)

7 CITY CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Present

9 CITY CLERK: Council Member Carr?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Here

11 CITY CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Here

13 CITY CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: (NO RESPONSE)

15 CITY CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Presenté

17 CITY CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here

19 CITY CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: (NO RESPONSE)

21 CITY CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: (EXCUSED)

23 CITY CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Present

25 CITY CLERK: Council Member Holden?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here

3 CITY CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Present

5 CITY CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Present

7 CITY CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Here

9 CITY CLERK: Council Member Lee?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Here

11 CITY CLERK: Council Member Louis?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Here

13 CITY CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Present

15 CITY CLERK: Council Member Marte?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Present

17 CITY CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: (NO RESPONSE)

19 CITY CLERK: Council Member Menin?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Here

21 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Here

23 CITY CLERK: Council Member Moya?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Present

25 CITY CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Present

3 CITY CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: (NO RESPONSE)

5 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: (NO RESPONSE)

7 CITY CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: (NO RESPONSE)

9 CITY CLERK: Council Member Powers?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: (NO MIC) Here

11 CITY CLERK: Council Member Restler?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Here

13 CITY CLERK: Council Member Bottcher

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHER: Here

15 CITY CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Present

17 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: (NO MIC) Present

19 CITY CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Present

21 CITY CLERK: Council Member Riley?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Present

23 CITY CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Present

25 CITY CLERK: Council Member Rivera?



2 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present, still here.

3 CITY CLERK: Council Member Salaam?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Present

5 CITY CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present

7 CITY CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Presenté

9 CITY CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Here

11 CITY CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Here

13 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ung?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Present

15 CITY CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Presenté

17 CITY CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: (NO RESPONSE)

19 CITY CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: (NO MIC) Here

21 CITY CLERK: Council Member Williams?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: (MEDICAL)

23 CITY CLERK: Council Member Won?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: (PARENTAL)

25 CITY CLERK: Council Member Yeger?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here

3 CITY CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Here

5 CITY CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: (NO MIC) Here

7 CITY CLERK: Thank you

8 Council Member Gutiérrez?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: (NO MIC) Here

10 CITY CLERK: Council Member Borelli?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: I am here.

12 CITY CLERK: Council Member Farías?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Present

14 CITY CLERK: Speaker Adams?

15 SPEAKER ADAMS: I am present.

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you, we will now  
17 have today's Invocation, which will be delivered by  
18 Imam Abdoulazalou Traore, Darou Salam Islamic  
19 Community Inc., located at 677 Elton Avenue, The  
20 Bronx, N.Y. 10455.

21 IMAM ABDOULAZALOU TRAORE: (CHANTING)

22 In the name of Allah, the gracious, the merciful  
23 praise be to Allah, lord of the world, the most  
24 gracious, the most merciful. Master of the day of  
25 judgment, it is you we worship, and upon you we call

1 for help. Guide us to the straight path, the path of  
2 those you have blessed, not those against whom there  
3 is anger, nor of those who are misguided. Allah,  
4 there is no deity except him, the ever living, the  
5 sustainer of all existence; neither drowsiness  
6 overtakes him, nor sleep. To him belongs whatever is  
7 in the heaven and whatever is on the earth. Who is it  
8 that can intercede with him, except by his  
9 permission? He knows what is presently before them  
10 and what will be after them, and they encompass not a  
11 thing of his knowledge except for what he wills. His  
12 (INAUDIBLE) extends over the heaven and the earth,  
13 and their preservation ties him not, and he is the  
14 most high, the most great. Almighty Allah, we are  
15 praying and asking you after reciting the most  
16 powerful Surah chapter, and the most powerful verse  
17 in the Quran, to accept our invocation by guiding our  
18 lawmakers in making decisions. Almighty Allah, the  
19 citizen of New York City trusted them and elected  
20 them for a purpose of great leadership. Grant them  
21 the wisdom to achieve it. Almighty Allah, we pray and  
22 ask you to soften their heart and guide them in all  
23 process that will lead them, not to follow their  
24 desires, but to fulfill their duties and  
25

2 responsibilities that New York citizens trusted them  
3 with. Almighty Allah, we pray and ask you to protect  
4 them and ease their task in order for them to give  
5 the best of their ability to serve New York City.

6 Amen

7 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you, I would now  
8 like to ask Council Member Althea Stevens to spread  
9 the Invocation on the Record.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Good afternoon, born on  
11 January 21, 1981 in the city of Togo, West Africa,  
12 Imam Abdoulazakou arrived in the US over 20 years  
13 ago. After obtaining a BA in Mathematics and Science,  
14 he secured his 120 from University and pursued a dual  
15 degree in bio Magnetic and Engineering and Economics  
16 at Syracuse University, graduating in 2015.

17 Currently Abdoul teaches mathematics at Bronx  
18 Community College and serves as an Imam in his  
19 community at Darou Salam Islamic Community, Inc. in  
20 the Bronx. His journey from Togo to the US has been  
21 marked by academic achievement and commitment to his  
22 community. His father, influenced as an Imam in Togo,  
23 has inspired Abdoul's own spiritual leadership in  
24 shaping his role in guiding others both educationally  
25 and religiously.

1           Outside of the professional and religious duties,  
2  
3           Imam Abdoula is known for his dedication to promoting  
4           cultural understanding and community development  
5           making him a respected figure in both the academic  
6           and religious circles.

7           A few months ago, I was invited to the Darou  
8           Salam Islamic Community Center in the Bronx where  
9           they have been hosting over 200 asylum seekers a  
10          night and serving up to 300 asylum seekers with food,  
11          as well as helping them secure IDs and work.

12          I want to thank Imam Abdoul and Imam Noda (sp?)  
13          for stepping up and supporting our brothers and  
14          sisters during their time of need. I will continue to  
15          support faith-based institutions that have stepped up  
16          when the City has not been able to.

17          Thank you, Majority Leader, I would like to thank  
18          Imam Abdoula for being here today, and I make a  
19          motion for unanimous consent to spread the Invocation  
20          in full upon the Record.

21          MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: We will now have the  
22          Adoption of Minutes by Council Member Erik Bottcher.

23          COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: I make a motion that the  
24          minutes of the Stated Meeting of March 7, 2024 be  
25          adopted as printed.

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 14

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Messages and Papers from  
3 the Mayor?

4 CLERK: Preconsidered M 0035-2024 through M 0037-  
5 2024, mayoral appointments?

6 SPEAKER ADAMS: Rules, Privileges and Elections.

7 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Communications from City,  
8 County and Borough Offices?

9 CLERK: None

10 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Petitions and  
11 Communications?

12 CLERK: None

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Land Use Call-Ups?

14 CLERK: M 0038-2024 through M 0040-2024?

15 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on Call-Up Vote. I now ask  
16 that the Clerk take a rollcall vote on today's Land  
17 Use Call-ups.

18 CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye

20 CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Aye

22 CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye

24 CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye

2 CLERK: Council Member Banks?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye

4 CLERK: Council Member Bottcher

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Aye

6 CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye

8 CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes

10 CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Aye

12 CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye

14 CLERK: Thank you

15 Council Member Carr?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Aye

17 CLERK: Thank you

18 Council Member De La Rosa?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye

20 CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye

22 CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye

24 CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye

2 CLERK: Thank you

3 Council Member Gutiérrez?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye

5 CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: (EXCUSED)

7 CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye

9 CLERK: Council Member Holden?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye

11 CLERK: Thank you Council

12 Member Hudson?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye

14 CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye

16 CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye

18 CLERK: Council Member Lee?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye

20 CLERK: Council Member Louis?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye

22 CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Aye

24 CLERK: Council Member Marte?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye



2 CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye

4 CLERK: Council Member Menin?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye

6 CLERK: Council Member Moya?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Aye

8 CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: I vote aye.

10 CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Aye

12 CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Aye

14 CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye

16 CLERK: Council Member Powers?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye

18 CLERK: Council Member Restler?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye

20 CLERK: Council Member Riley?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye

22 CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye

24 CLERK: Council Member Salaam?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: I vote aye.

2 CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye

4 CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye

6 CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye

8 CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye

10 CLERK: Council Member Ung?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye

12 CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye

14 CLERK: Council Member Williams?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: (MEDICAL)

16 CLERK: Council Member Won?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: (PARENTAL)

18 CLERK: Council Member Yeger?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye

20 CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye

22 CLERK: Council Member Borelli?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye

24 CLERK: Council Member Farías?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye.

2 CLERK: Speaker Adams?

3 SPEAKER ADAMS: I vote aye.

4 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Today's Land Use Call-ups  
5 are adopted by a vote of 48 in the affirmative and 0  
6 in the negative.

7 We will now have Communications for Speaker  
8 Adrienne E. Adams.

9 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you, Majority Leader, and  
10 good afternoon, everyone.

11 First I want to acknowledge the death of a 99-  
12 year-old Alemise Marcellus, whom we lost to a fatal  
13 fire in Council Member Joseph's District on March  
14 21st. We also lost 38-year-old Tracy Ann Douglas in a  
15 deadly fire on April 9th in Council Member Riley's  
16 district. Our thoughts are with their loved ones and  
17 neighbors during this difficult time.

18 Last month we lost one of New York's finest,  
19 Detective Jonathan Diller, who was fatally shot in  
20 the line of duty. Detective Diller faithfully served  
21 our city and the borough of Queens for three years,  
22 putting his life on the line every day to help make  
23 New York a safer place for us all. He was a beloved  
24 father, husband, son, and brother who positively  
25 impacted everyone around him. He made our city and my

1  
2 home borough of Queens better. My prayers are with  
3 his family and his colleagues.

4 Last month we also lost 19-year-old Win Rozario  
5 in Council Member Lynn Schulman's district in Queens.  
6 Win called 911 while experiencing a mental health  
7 crisis, which ended tragically when he was shot and  
8 killed by responding officers. Win deserved mental  
9 health support, and his death underscores the  
10 importance of community based mental health  
11 interventions and evidence-based crisis responses.  
12 The Council *continues* to call for greater investments  
13 in mental health services that advance these goals  
14 with our upcoming City Budget. My prayers go out to  
15 Win's family.

16 Last week the Council released its official  
17 response to the Mayor's Fiscal Year 2025 Preliminary  
18 Budget. The Council has made it clear that our city  
19 has the available resources to protect the essential  
20 services that New Yorkers rely on for the health and  
21 safety of their communities. Many of the budget cuts  
22 made by the Administration were not only too broad,  
23 and carry destabilizing consequences for our city and  
24 constituents, but were unnecessary in the first  
25 place. The Council's Preliminary Budget Response

1  
2 proposes a balanced and responsible path for our city  
3 with \$6.15 billion in additional funds available to  
4 help reverse certain cuts, invest in critical areas  
5 for the City, address under budgeting in the Mayor's  
6 Preliminary Budget, account for expiring federal  
7 stimulus funds, and strengthen the City's reserves.  
8 Our investments are focused in several areas that  
9 respond to some of our City's most significant  
10 challenges: affordable housing, 3-K, other early  
11 childhood education programs in our public schools,  
12 CUNY, proven mental health solutions, programs that  
13 reduce recidivism, our cultural institutions and  
14 libraries, and an array of other vital services for  
15 New Yorkers. True Public Safety requires holistic  
16 investments by the City, as our City's District  
17 Attorneys testified at the Public Safety Committee's  
18 Budget Hearing. We know that New Yorkers across our  
19 city need mental health solutions that help people  
20 access support, avoid crisis, and avert harmful  
21 cycles that exacerbate their challenges. Building on  
22 the Council's Mental Health Road Map, we call for  
23 over \$200 million for mental health services-  
24 including investments in proven solutions like  
25 Forensic Assertive Community Treatment Teams, mental

1 health courts, and supportive housing that need  
2 investments at a greater scale. It is also critical  
3 that we restore and expand investments into the  
4 programs that reduce recidivism and prevent crime,  
5 which have recently been cut by the Administration.  
6 We are prepared to advocate for these solutions in  
7 our City Budget. The Council is a responsible steward  
8 of our city's fiscal health. We have demonstrated our  
9 commitment to advancing a budget that is not only  
10 fiscally balanced but also protects essential  
11 services for New Yorkers and charts a path towards  
12 stability for our city.

14 Tuesday night was the start of Eid al-Fitr, which  
15 marks the end of the blessed month of Ramadan. To the  
16 nearly 1 million Muslim New Yorkers who make our  
17 diversity stronger, Eid Mubarak.

18 April is Autism Acceptance Month which celebrates  
19 and uplifts the voices of people with autism. New  
20 York will always be a city that supports the well-  
21 being of people of all abilities and spectrums of  
22 neurodiversity.

23 April is also National Sexual Assault Awareness  
24 Month during which we raise awareness and advance  
25 public education about the prevalence of sexual

1 assault across the country. As a city, we must  
2 continue to empower survivors and support them with  
3 necessary resources and pathways to recover while  
4 working to prevent sexual assault.  
5

6 We're also celebrating April as Arab American  
7 Heritage Month. Join us in uplifting the many  
8 contributions of our Arab American communities  
9 throughout this month and beyond.

10 April is National Fair Housing month. This year  
11 we're marking the 56th anniversary of the landmark  
12 Fair Housing Act, which was signed into law on this  
13 day in 1968. The theme for this year's celebration is  
14 The Act In Action. And here in New York City, we are  
15 contributing our part through our own fair housing  
16 framework law that we passed last year to equitably  
17 confront our City's housing crisis. I look forward to  
18 our continued work together to successfully advance  
19 fair housing efforts across the City.

20 Today is the start of Black Maternal Health Week,  
21 a time when we recognize the stark inequities in  
22 maternal health outcomes that disproportionately  
23 affect Black women and birthing people. Black New  
24 Yorkers are eight times more likely than white New  
25 Yorkers to die of a pregnancy related illness,

1           underscoring the urgency of action at levels of  
2 government.  
3

4           In my State of the City, I proposed additional  
5 solutions to confront this pressing issue including  
6 expanded access to doula care and more support for  
7 mothers to address fourth trimester mental health  
8 issues. We must continue to advance progress through  
9 critical investments and solutions.

10          This week is also National Library Week a time to  
11 celebrate these pillars of our neighborhood.

12          Libraries are information hubs that New Yorkers of  
13 all ages rely on for knowledge, resources, and  
14 connection. For all that our libraries provide us,  
15 they deserve *full* funding in our City Budget.

16          Yesterday the Council hosted a Garifuna Heritage  
17 celebration right here in the People's House. New  
18 York City is home to the largest Garifuna Community  
19 outside of Central America. I thank Council Member  
20 Althea Stevens and all of our colleagues for hosting  
21 this event to celebrate their rich contributions to  
22 our city.

23          April 13th is Vaisakhi, one of the most  
24 significant days for the Sikh community and a day  
25 where many Sikhs choose to be baptized. I hope all



1           who observe have a wonderful day of reflection and  
2           celebration.  
3

4           On April 16th the Council will host a Songkran  
5           celebration in the Chambers to commemorate the Thai  
6           New Year. The program will start at 5:30 p.m., and I  
7           hope you can join our wonderful Thai community in  
8           their celebration.

9           Yesterday, the legendary and longtime DJ, Mister  
10          Cee, from Brooklyn, passed away at the age of 56.  
11          Mister Cee was a pioneer in the industry, he was Big  
12          Daddy Kane's DJ, and he helped discover the Notorious  
13          B.I.G. He was pivotal to their careers as well as  
14          those of many other hip-hop artists. New Yorkers will  
15          remember his work on HOT97 for many, many years. Rest  
16          in power Mr. Cee.

17          Before we continue, I want to wish a happy  
18          belated birthday to Council Member Sandy Nurse  
19          (APPLAUSE) whose birthday was on April 3rd.

20          And we wish a happy early birthday to Council  
21          Member Crystal Hudson whose birthday is on April  
22          14th. (APPLAUSE)

23          And finally on a more solemn note, yesterday the  
24          murderer of 14-year-old Aamir Griffin was sentenced  
25          to 30 years in prison. Aamir lived in my district; he

1 was a student and a star basketball player at  
2 Benjamin Cardozo High School who hoped to someday  
3 make it to the NBA. Aamir's death devastated his  
4 family and shook our community to its core. I will  
5 never forget that tragic night and the raw emotions  
6 that myself, my staff, and members of the 113th  
7 precinct and community leaders shared as we tried to  
8 somehow, somehow comfort each other. As a mother and  
9 grandmother, I can tell you that my heart still  
10 breaks for the loss of that dear child. And as the  
11 council member for the 28th District where the  
12 Baisley Park Houses are located, it is still my  
13 vision and my intention to upgrade and rename the  
14 community center the Aamir Griffin Community Center.  
15 (APPLAUSE) NYCHA, do the right thing and lift the  
16 unnecessary pause that you have placed on this  
17 upgrade that was promised to this grieving family  
18 many years ago.

19 Now let's move on to our Stated Agenda.

20 First, we'll vote on the following Finance items:

21 A transparency Resolution approving new  
22 designations and changes of certain organizations  
23 receiving funding in the Expense Budget.  
24

1  
2 A Preconsidered Resolution sponsored by Council  
3 Member Justin Brannan authorizing a 40-year Article  
4 XI tax exemption for the preservation of two rent  
5 stabilized buildings in Council Member Abreu's and  
6 Council Member Salaams districts.

7 A Preconsidered Resolution, sponsored by Council  
8 Member Brannan, authorizing a 40-year Article XI tax  
9 exemption for the preservation of 20 rent stabilized  
10 buildings in Council Member Feliz's and Council  
11 Member Stevens' districts.

12 A Preconsidered Resolution, sponsored by Council  
13 Member Brannan authoring a 40-year Article XI tax  
14 exemption for the preservation of one rent stabilized  
15 building in Council Member Hudson's district.

16 Next we'll vote on the following appointments:  
17 Ms. Andrea Bierstein to the New York City Taxi and  
18 Limousine Commission; Maria Almonte-Weston, as a  
19 Commissioner of the New York City Local Conditional  
20 Release Commission; George Goodmon, as a Commissioner  
21 of the New York City Local Conditional Release  
22 Commission; Council Member Jennifer Gutiérrez, as a  
23 member of the New York City Commission on Public  
24 Information and Communication; and Ngozi Okaro,

1  
2 Member of the New York City Equal Employment  
3 Practices Commission.

4 Next we'll vote on the following land use items:  
5 396-400 Avenue X Rezoning will facilitate a new  
6 seven-story mixed-use building with 45 housing units,  
7 including 12 affordable units, retail and medical  
8 office space, and 45 accessory off-street parking in  
9 Council Member Brannan's district. The Council will  
10 be modifying the MIH Text Amendment to remove Option  
11 Two and require MIH Option One.

12 Willets Point Phase II, will facilitate the  
13 second phase of a long term area wide redevelopment  
14 strategy that re-envisions the Willets Point  
15 neighborhood of Queens in Council Member Moya's  
16 district. This phase will create approximately 1,400  
17 permanently affordable housing units; a 250-room  
18 hotel; a 2,500 seat stadium that will be the home of  
19 the New York City Football Club; 2.8 acres of  
20 publicly accessible open space; and 880,000 square  
21 feet of local retail space. This project will build  
22 the City's first stadium dedicated to soccer and  
23 bring much needed affordable housing to our city.

24 Lastly, two applications in Council Member  
25 Cabán's district: 30-11 12th Street Rezoning will

1  
2 facilitate a new eight-story mixed-use building with  
3 approximately 86 housing units, including 26 units  
4 that will be permanently affordable, ground floor  
5 retail, and 41 accessory parking spaces. The Council  
6 is modifying the application to remove MIH Option Two  
7 and require Option One, and add the deep  
8 affordability option.

9 23-01 Steinway Street Rezoning will facilitate a  
10 new six-story mixed-use building plus cellar with  
11 approximately 22 housing units, including six  
12 affordable units, ground floor retail space, and  
13 parking spaces. The council is modifying the  
14 application to remove MIH Option Two and require  
15 Option One and add the deep affordability option.

16 Today we will also vote on pieces of legislation:

17 Resolution 74, sponsored by Council Member David  
18 Carr, would recognize annually as Giovanni da  
19 Verrazzano Day in the City of New York. Thank you to  
20 our staff member Regina Paul - and thank you for that  
21 great speech the other day also, Regina.

22 Introduction 69-A, sponsored by Council Member  
23 Lincoln Restler, would prohibit and void provisions  
24 in employment agreements that shorten the statute of  
25 limitations in which claims and complaints of

1 unlawful discriminatory practices, harassment, or  
2 violence may be filed, and in which civil actions may  
3 be commenced according to the City's Human Rights Law

4 Thank you to our staff members Rachel Cordero,  
5 Jessica Boulet, David Seitzer, and Wiam Diouri,

6 Introduction 126-A sponsored by Minority Leader  
7 Borelli, would require that the Fire Department to  
8 provide body armor to employees within The Bureau of  
9 Emergency Medical Services or EMS. This provision  
10 would largely codify existing practices and establish  
11 requirements that equipment meet ballistic and stab-  
12 resistant standards.

13 Introduction 127-A, also sponsored by Minority  
14 Leader Borelli, would require that the FDNY provide  
15 de-escalation and self-defense training to EMS  
16 employees. We thank our staff members Rachel Cordero,  
17 Joshua Kingsley, and William Hongach.

18 Thank you very much for your attention. I now  
19 turn it back over to our Majority Leader.

20 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, Speaker Adams.  
21 We will now move into Discussion of General Orders,  
22 and I'd like to recognize Council Member Borelli.  
23  
24  
25

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Thank, you Madam Speaker  
3 and Madam Majority Leader for allowing me to speak  
4 very briefly on Introductions 126 and 127-A.

5 In the four or five years that these two bills  
6 have been kicked around the Council, attacks on EMTs  
7 have gone up double in that short amount of time. And  
8 they've gone up almost 20 times - not 20 percent - 20  
9 times in the two decades or so since it was first  
10 kept track of.

11 Two decades ago, attacks on EMTs were unthought  
12 of, non-existing, didn't happen. And, unfortunately,  
13 in 2022 we saw a horrible attack on Lieutenant Alison  
14 Russo-Elling who was mercilessly stabbed to death. A  
15 few years before that in 2017, EMT Yadira Arroyo was  
16 run over by her own ambulance when a person she was  
17 trying to help and save attacked her and her partner.

18 Our EMTs aren't second rate first responders;  
19 they don't get leftover equipment, they don't deserve  
20 to get second rate training, they deserve the best.  
21 So, this puts into a code the highest standard of  
22 ballistics and stab-proof vests. And it puts into  
23 code the requirement that our EMTs are trained in the  
24 best practices in de-escalation and self-defense.

2 We wish we wouldn't have to do this, but we know  
3 that EMTs have to respond to every situation. They  
4 don't know whether the person they're responding to  
5 is violent, whether the person they're responding to  
6 is having a mental episode; they respond to crime  
7 scenes, and they don't know or get to pick whether  
8 they're treating the good guys or the bad guys. So  
9 this bill makes the job of EMT's safer in posterity  
10 for the future. I urge you all to support and vote  
11 for this bill, thank you.

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you.

13 I'd now like to recognize Council Member Restler,  
14 followed by Council Member Moya.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Thank you so much, Madam  
16 Majority Leader, and thank you Madam Speaker for your  
17 support of Introduction 69.

18 No one should ever have to deal with harassment,  
19 or discrimination, or violence at work, but when  
20 these unfortunate and awful incidents do occur, New  
21 York City workers can rely on our landmark strong  
22 City Human Rights Laws to protect them in court.  
23 Unfortunately, many large employers have started  
24 forcing employees to sign contracts that limit and  
25 undermine their own rights. Under our City's Human



1  
2 Rights Law, employees currently have three years to  
3 file claims for discrimination, or harassment, or  
4 violence, but employees, many unknowingly, have been  
5 signing contracts - sometimes even during the  
6 application process - to shorten this period to just  
7 six months. Some of the largest employers in New York  
8 State have been perpetrating this practice like-  
9 Northwell Health, FedEx and even Raymour & Flanigan  
10 whose ads I used to love as a kid.

11 These contracts are unreasonable and they are  
12 contrary to public policy. Six months is just not  
13 enough time for an aggrieved worker to find a lawyer,  
14 file a claim; it doesn't make sense, especially given  
15 the high likelihood of the threat of retaliation,  
16 which discourages so many employees from immediately  
17 filing claims.

18 Introduction 69 will restore the intent of our  
19 strong Human Rights Law and ensure that no private  
20 employers can create their own corporate loopholes.  
21 Every employee should have a full three years to file  
22 a claim. I really, again, want to thank the Speaker  
23 for her support. I also want to thank Chair Nantasha  
24 Williams who was a co-prime sponsor of this bill, and  
25 has championed it from the Civil and Human Rights

2 Committee. And I would like to thank my constituent,  
3 Anne Clark, who is an employment attorney, and who  
4 brought this issue to our attention. Finally, I just  
5 want to thank my staff who helped shepherd this all  
6 along, especially my Chief of Staff, Molly Haley, who  
7 is terrific. So, thank you very much, and I hope  
8 everyone will support it.

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you.

10 I'd now like to recognize Council Member Moya  
11 followed by Council Member Riley.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Thank you, Madam Majority  
13 Leader, and good afternoon everyone.

14 I want you all to take a moment and picture a  
15 little boy in Flushing Meadows, Corona Park learning  
16 to play soccer with his father, a game that serves as  
17 a link to the life in a faraway country that his  
18 father left behind to make Queens his home - learning  
19 the world's game in the world's borough, underneath  
20 the uinisphere, a monument to the World's Fair, in  
21 the shadows of a tennis stadium and a baseball  
22 stadium, knowing that his dream of playing  
23 professional soccer in his hometown was impossible.  
24 Those moments at the park down the street from his  
25 home, formed the core memories of that little boy's

1 childhood and cemented his connection to his  
2 neighborhood. While that story is mine, it could be  
3 that of any kid growing up in Corona, Queens. You  
4 see, the journey of this monumental day didn't start  
5 when I came to the Council in 2017 and created the  
6 Willets Point Taskforce, or in 2011 when I was sworn  
7 into the New York State Assembly and wrote a letter  
8 to Commissioner Don Garber, pitching New York City as  
9 a right place for their next expansion team. This has  
10 been a lifelong journey driven by my commitment to my  
11 community, and it's taken perseverance and the  
12 belief, that in New York City, even the impossible is  
13 possible. Impossible because we all know how many  
14 failed plans and false starts this corner of the  
15 world has seen. Yet, here we are breathing new life  
16 into the valley of ashes, turning the underutilized  
17 and polluted corner of my neighborhood into a  
18 historic development project like no other the city  
19 has seen before. This plan puts housing first  
20 ensuring that we didn't get left with empty promises  
21 down the line. We are building the largest 100  
22 percent affordable housing development New York has  
23 seen in over 40 years, with historic AMI levels to  
24 keep these homes truly affordable. We're ensuring  
25

2 that people can live in this community while  
3 simultaneously creating 1,500 permanent jobs and over  
4 14,000 union jobs that will allow all workers to  
5 support their families. We are building the first  
6 fully electric and 100 percent privately financed  
7 soccer stadium in the US - in the most diverse place  
8 in the world, Queens - a borough that eats, sleeps,  
9 and breathes soccer. And we're building it union. We  
10 have been given this once in a lifetime chance to  
11 build (TIMER CHIMES) a new neighborhood. Madam  
12 Majority Leader, if I could just have (INAUDIBLE)...  
13 (CROSS-TALK)

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Please continue.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Thank you.

16 We have been given a once in a lifetime chance to  
17 build a new neighborhood, forever changing the map of  
18 our great city, and we're doing it the right way.

19 Recently I've reflected on the difference between  
20 our accomplishments and our legacy. Too often those  
21 two become synonymous, but accomplishments are the  
22 things we've done, legacy is the lasting impact we  
23 have. Building a stadium and apartment buildings-  
24 those are accomplishments- building 2,500 homes for  
25 families where they'll have Sunday dinners,

2 celebrate holidays, creating a neighborhood where  
3 fathers will teach their kids to play soccer, take  
4 them to games in the new stadium, and say. "One day  
5 that could be where you play," that is legacy. A  
6 legacy that that little boy in Flushing Meadows,  
7 Corona Park would be proud to tell his father about.  
8 So, to you, Pop, this one's for you. I wish you could  
9 be here to see this. I love you.

10 I want to thank Speaker Adams; Jeremy Johns;  
11 Paris Slaughter; James Cottone; the entire Land Use  
12 team for their support; Mayor Adams; EDC; HPD; Marty  
13 Edelman, who taught me a true master class in what it  
14 is to be a gentleman in negotiations, from the New  
15 York City Football Club; my staff Nathan Smith; my  
16 family who is here today, especially my mom, Ma, te  
17 quiero mucho, and I will end here with one thing: To  
18 you Meghan Tadio Benham, my Chief of Staff, my  
19 sister, who without you this and basically my entire  
20 legislative career would not have been possible.  
21 Thirteen years ago we sat down in our first office,  
22 and we put a list together of the 10 major  
23 accomplishments we wanted to accomplish before we  
24 could say we'll call it a day. From writing the Dream  
25 Act, to getting and building community centers in our

1 district. Well now we can officially check the last  
2 box on that list. This here today is as much mine as  
3 it is yours, love you Tadio. And to all my  
4 colleagues, I ask that you please vote in the  
5 affirmative on this bill. Thank you, Madam Speaker,  
6 and thank you to the Majority Leader.  
7

8 (APPLAUSE)

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you so much,  
10 Council Member Moya.

11 I would now like to recognize Council Member  
12 Riley.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Thank you, Majority Leader.  
14 Today I take great pride in emphasizing the  
15 significance of legislation action by supporting the  
16 passage of Introductions 126-A and 127-A in  
17 collaboration with my colleagues Council Member  
18 Borelli and Council Member Ariola.

19 Working as a first responder in New York City is  
20 a tough job. This work often requires responders to  
21 travel to instances where a crisis is underway, or  
22 has already occurred, to provide assistance to  
23 potential hazardous environments. Thus, it is  
24 critical to ensure that we have a robust crisis  
25 response system that includes the protection of our

1 first responders who risk their lives daily to keep  
2 our communities safe. I am proud to co-prime Intros  
3 126-A and 127-A providing them with essential tools  
4 such as body armor and comprehensive self-defense  
5 training. This is essential for safeguarding their  
6 safety and well-being while they carry out their  
7 critical lifesaving duties. I urge for the continued  
8 support of these bills and the advocacy that protects  
9 our heroes on the front lines who are serving our  
10 communities in the greatest time of need.

11  
12 Thank you to the extraordinary bravery of our  
13 emergency medical technicians and paramedics who risk  
14 their lives on a daily basis. And thank you to my  
15 colleagues for continuing to work together in support  
16 of this legislation, thank you

17 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you, Council Member  
18 Riley.

19 Having no other members signed up, we will move  
20 to Report of Special Committees?

21 CLERK: None

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Report of Standing  
23 Committees?

24 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Civil and Human  
25 Rights, Introduction 69-A, employment agreements?

2 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and coupled on General  
3 Orders.

4 CLERK: Report of The Committee on Finance,  
5 Preconsidered Resolution 305, transparency  
6 resolution?

7 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

8 CLERK: Preconsidered LU 48 and Reso 344 through  
9 Preconsidered LU 50 and Reso 346, tax exemptions?

10 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

11 CLERK: Report Of The Committee on Fire and  
12 Emergency Management, Introduction 126-A body armor,  
13 and Introduction 127-A de-escalation training?

14 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General  
15 Orders.

16 CLERK: Report of the Committee On Land Use, LU 30  
17 and Reso 347 through LU 134 and Reso 351, Willets  
18 Point Phase II?

19 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

20 CLERK: LU 37 through Lu 45, various rezonings?

21 SPEAKER ADAMS: Approved with modifications and  
22 referred to the City Planning Commission pursuant to  
23 section 197 of the New York City Charter.

24 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Rules,  
25 Privileges and Elections, Preconsidered Resolution



2 331, approving the appointment of Council Member  
3 Jennifer Gutiérrez, Commission on Public Information  
4 and Communications?

5 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

6 CLERK: Preconsidered Resolution 332, Approving  
7 the appointment of Ngozi Okaro, Equal Employment  
8 Practices Commission?

9 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

10 CLERK: Preconsidered M 35 and Resolution 352,  
11 approving the appointment of Andrea Bierstein  
12 Limousine Commission?

13 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

14 CLERK: Preconsidered M 36 and Resolution 353,  
15 approving the appointment of Maria Almonte-Weston,  
16 Local Conditional Release Commission?

17 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

18 CLERK: Preconsidered M 37 and Resolution 354,  
19 approving the appointment of George Goodman, Local  
20 Conditional Release Commission?

21 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

22 CLERK: General Orders Calendar, LU 37 and  
23 Resolution 355 and LU 38 and Resolution 356, 30-11  
24 12th Street Rezoning?

25 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

2 CLERK: LU 39 and Resolution 357 and LU 40 and  
3 Resolution 358, 23-01 Steinway Street Rezoning?

4 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

5 CLERK: LU 44 and Resolution 359 and LU 45 and  
6 Resolution 360, 396-400 Avenue X Rezoning?

7 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

8 CLERK: Resolution appointing various persons  
9 Commissioner of Deeds?

10 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

11 I ask that the clerk now take a rollcall vote on  
12 the items couple of today's General Order Calendar.

13 CLERK: Council Member Borelli?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Thank you, a brief moment  
15 of indulgence?

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Just, uh, I think I speak  
18 for a lot colleagues when I say to Council Member  
19 Moya how happy we are that this is a project that we  
20 know has been very dear to you and personal to you.  
21 And I am glad that you mentioned your Chief of Staff,  
22 Meghan, because over a decade ago, you and she would  
23 talk about this project incessantly as we were both  
24 on the Assembly soccer team. And that is also the  
25 reason that I can tell you bluntly that it wasn't the

2 lack of a stadium that kept you out of the pros.

3 (LAUGHTER)

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: True story, I had more  
5 goals than him, and I was rotten.

6 And with that, I vote aye on all with the  
7 exception of M 36 and M 37 and the accompanying  
8 Resolutions 353 and 354, thank you.

9 CLERK: Thank you

10 (PAUSE)

11 CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye

13 CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Aye on all with the  
15 exception M 36 and M 37 and the accompanying  
16 Resolutions 353 and 354.

17 CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye

19 CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye

21 CLERK: Council Member Banks?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye

23 CLERK: Council Member Bottcher

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Aye

25 CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye

3 CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye

5 CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Permission to  
7 explain my vote?

8 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Permission granted.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: I just wanted to  
10 take a moment to congratulate Council Member Moya on  
11 a major win for his community today. And seeing  
12 through a project over the finish line that has dated  
13 back a number of years. So, I just wanted to say  
14 congratulations.

15 I also request that I be added to 126-A and 127-  
16 A, and I thank Minority Leader Borelli for leading on  
17 those bills alongside Council Member Riley.

18 CLERK: Thank you.

19 Council Member Cabán?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye

21 CLERK: Council Member Carr?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: I vote aye on all except for  
23 Preconsidered M 36 and M 37 and the accompanying  
24 Resolutions 353 and 354.

25 CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: A moment to explain my  
3 vote?

4 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: I obviously am  
6 supportive of everything before us today, but I  
7 wanted to take a moment to also congratulate my  
8 friend and longtime colleague, Council Member Moya.  
9 We served in the State Legislature together, and I  
10 like our Minority Leader, have had the conversations  
11 about the stadium for over a decade. And I just want  
12 to congratulate you for your tenacity, and to your  
13 family who's here today, I want to send my well  
14 wishes and tell you that I know that your father is  
15 proud of you.

16 Aye on all.

17 CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Congratulations Council  
19 Member and Meghan. I vote I on all.

20 CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

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

23 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Briefly just want to  
25 congratulate colleague, Council Member Moya. I know

2 you and your community love soccer, so  
3 congratulations on making a brand new soccer field  
4 the reality for your community. A soccer field that's  
5 going to be enjoyed for many, many years and many  
6 generations. A big win for your community and for  
7 Queens, and a big win for the city of New York.

8 I vote aye on all.

9 CLERK: Thank you

10 Council Member Gennaro?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye

12 CLERK: Thank you.

13 Council Member Gutiérrez?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye

15 CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: (EXCUSED)

17 CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: I vote aye,

19 congratulations, Council Member Moya.

20 CLERK: Council Member Holden?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye on all except for  
22 Preconsidered M 36 and M 37 and the accompanying  
23 Resolutions 353 and 354 for which I vote no, thank  
24 you.

25 CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye on all with the  
3 exception of Preconsidered M 36 and M 37 and the  
4 accompanying Resolutions 353 and 354.

5 And I would also like to be added to  
6 Introductions 126-A and 127-A.

7 And congratulations to Council Member Moya.

8 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Do you abstain? Vote no?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Oh, sorry, abstain, thank  
10 you.

11 CLERK: Thank you, Council Member.

12 Council Member Joseph?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye on all.

14 CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Permission to explain my  
16 vote?

17 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Since the 2008 rezoning  
19 vote of Willeta Point over the twists and turns of  
20 this project, we have seen a massive reduction in the  
21 amount of housing it will produce. Originally  
22 promising over 5,000 units, we now see that number  
23 divided in half to make way for a commercial soccer  
24 stadium. A soccer stadium that will be controlled by  
25 one of the wealthiest men on the planet, whose riches

1 were generated by a monarchy exploiting and  
2 suppressing its people and its land. The economics  
3 and public value of this transaction must be  
4 questioned. This is a bad deal for New York City and  
5 it is a terrible precedent for land use. A stadium on  
6 public land, subsidized by hundreds of millions in  
7 public funds is not a good deal. This stadium will  
8 not be paying property taxes, it will not be making  
9 payments in lieu of taxes and will pay almost  
10 nothing in rent over the next 50 years. And for what  
11 gain for our city? The project offers anemic job  
12 creation and a glaring absence of any meaningful  
13 community benefit, including for Flushing Meadows,  
14 Corona Park. A development on city-owned land  
15 requires special scrutiny. We must have clear goals  
16 and serious oversight mechanisms to protect the  
17 public's interest. The tremendous expenditure of  
18 public funds anywhere should guarantee a direct and  
19 public benefit. We must seek to solve the problems of  
20 our time, and we must meet the moment we live in. We  
21 do not have a stadium crisis in our city - we have a  
22 housing crisis. We have a crisis of unemployment and  
23 extreme inequality in our Black and brown  
24 communities. And we have a climate emergency that  
25



2 gets worse every day. This project fails to address  
3 any of these urgent concerns and squanders an  
4 opportunity to use these scarce public resources for  
5 the people of New York City.

6 For all these reasons I vote no on LUs 30 through  
7 34 and aye on all the rest, thank you.

8 CLERK: Council Member Lee?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye on all.

10 CLERK: Council Member Louis?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye on all.

12 CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: I vote aye on all  
14 except Preconsidered M 36 and M 37 and the  
15 accompanying Resolutions 353 and 354.

16 CLERK: Thank you

17 Council Member Marte?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye

19 CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye

21 CLERK: Council Member Menin?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye

23 CLERK: Council Member Moya?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I proudly vote aye.

25 CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: I vote aye.

3 CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Aye

5 CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Aye

7 CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: I want to just say to  
9 Council Member Moya, what does it feel like,  
10 Francisco, to lasso a dream? Because that's what you  
11 did today, you lassoed a dream. And I couldn't be  
12 more proud of you. And I couldn't be more proud of  
13 your efforts. And to your father and to your family,  
14 I congratulate you all on a tremendous victory.

15 With that I would like to vote no on  
16 Preconsidered M 36 and M 37 and the accompanying  
17 Resolutions 353 and 354.

18 Congratulations to you - and aye on all the rest.

19 CLERK: Thank you

20 Council Member Powers?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: I vote aye.

22 CLERK: Council Member Restler?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye on all.

24 CLERK: Council Member Riley?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye on all.

2 CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye on all.

4 CLERK: Council Member Salaam?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: I vote aye.

6 CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye on all.

8 CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Congratulations, Council  
10 Member Moya, I vote aye.

11 CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

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

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Permission granted.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: I'm a proud sponsor of  
16 Intro 126-A and Intro 127-A. I at one time in my life  
17 worked for the Emergency Medical Service on the non-  
18 medical side. But, my late partner, Adelaide  
19 Connaughton, was a lieutenant and a proud emergency  
20 medical technician. I know what she went through, and  
21 in honor of all of the Emergency Medical Service  
22 workers who go, who rush into danger while we run  
23 away from it, I'm very proud to provide them with  
24 tools and information on how to protect themselves  
25 when they go into emergencies, thank you.

2 And I vote aye on all.

3 CLERK: Thank you.

4 Council Member Stevens?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye

6 CLERK: Council Member Ung?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye on all.

8 CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye on all, except no on  
10 Preconsidered M 36 and M 37 and the accompanying  
11 Resolutions 353 and 354. And I abstain from  
12 Resolution 331, thank you.

13 CLERK: Council Member Williams?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: (MEDICAL)

15 CLERK: Council Member Won?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: (PARENTAL)

17 CLERK: Council Member Yeger?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye on all with the  
19 exception of Preconsidered M 36 and M 37 and the  
20 accompanying Resolutions 353 and 354, no on  
21 Introduction 69, and I abstain on Resolution 331,  
22 thank you.

23 CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

24

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye on all except no on  
3 Preconsidered M 36 and M 37 and the accompanying  
4 Resolutions 353 and 354.

5 CLERK: Thank you.

6 Council Member Fariás?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye on all,  
8 congratulations, Council Member Moya.

9 CLERK: Speaker Adams?

10 SPEAKER ADAMS: Council Member Moya, long time  
11 coming - very long time coming, my friend and  
12 colleague. Your dad is extremely proud of you. And  
13 those of us who have an understanding of what this  
14 means to the entire city, not just to the borough of  
15 Queens, the first soccer stadium in the entire city.  
16 So, it's not as Queens thing, it's a New York thing.  
17 The number one sport in the world is coming to  
18 Queens, because of your vision. Congratulations, my  
19 friend.

20 I do vote aye on all.

21 (APPLAUSE)

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All items on today's  
23 Geneal Orders Calendar are adopted by a vote of 48 in  
24 the affirmative, 0 in the negative, and 0  
25 abstentions; with the exceptions of M 36 and

2 Resolution 353, which was adopted by a vote of 38 in  
3 the affirmative, 9 in the negative, and 1 abstention;  
4 and M 37 and Resolution 354, which was adopted by a  
5 vote of 38 in the affirmative, 9 in the negative, and  
6 1 abstention; and Land Use items 30, 31, 32, 33, 34  
7 and accompanying Resolutions, which was adopted by a  
8 vote 47 in the affirmative, 1 in the negative, and 0  
9 abstentions; Introduction 69-A, which was adopted by  
10 a vote of 47 in the affirmative, 1 in the negative,  
11 and 0 abstentions; Resolution 331, which was adopted  
12 by a vote of 46 in the affirmative, 0 in the  
13 negative, and 2 abstentions.

14 Now, Introductions and Reading of bills?

15 SPEAKER ADAMS: All bills have been referred to  
16 committees as indicated on today's agenda, Madam  
17 Majority Leader.

18 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, Speaker Adams.

19 We will now move into the Discussion of  
20 Resolutions.

21 I would like to recognize Council Member David  
22 Carr.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Thank you, Majority Leader.

24 I am proud to speak on behalf of Resolution 74  
25 which proclaims and establishes Giovanni da

1 Verrazzano Day on April 17th this year and every year  
2 thereafter. We're a few days away from the 500th  
3 Anniversary of da Verrazzano's exploration and  
4 reaching the Narrows - the first European explorer to  
5 do so and to come in sight of New York Harbor -a  
6 milestone moment in the history of our city and a  
7 moment in which Italian Americans here in New York  
8 see themselves at the very beginning of New York's  
9 story, because the events that transpired after that  
10 are directly related to that voyage, which led to the  
11 settling of this city. And not only the millions and  
12 generations of Italian Americans that have called New  
13 York home, but the many other cultures, faiths, and  
14 traditions that have come here as well and make up  
15 the rich tapestry that has been our city. So, I ask  
16 my colleagues to vote in favor of this resolution so  
17 we can acknowledge and celebrate this milestone  
18 moment (TIMER CHIMES) next week and every year  
19 thereafter. I want to thank the Speaker for her  
20 support as well as our Committee Chair, Carlina  
21 Rivera, all of my Italian Caucus colleagues for  
22 cosponsoring this, as well as the cosponsors who have  
23 come on since introduction, and the Committee who  
24 voted in favor earlier today. I want thank Jeremy  
25

2 John from the Speaker's Office, from the Legislation  
3 Division, Jeff Baker, Regina Paul, and Johanna Casto,  
4 and of course from my own staff, my Chief of Staff,  
5 Giuseppe Deserio, and Peter Spencer from the Minority  
6 Leaders office, and also, excuse me, Christina  
7 Yellamaty from the Legislation Division as well. So,  
8 I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor, thank  
9 you.

10 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Seeing no other members  
11 signed up for Resolutions, we will now have a voice  
12 of today's Resolution. If you wish to vote against or  
13 abstain from today's Resolution, please notify the  
14 Legislative Documents Unit by email or by approaching  
15 the dais.

16 I will now read today's Resolution into the  
17 record.

18 Resolution recognizes April 17 annually as  
19 Giovanni da Verrazzano Day in the City of New York.

20 Will all those in favor say aye?

21 ALL IN FAVOR: Aye

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: All opposed say nay.

23 ALL: (SILENT)

24 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Any abstentions?

25 ALL: (SILENT)



2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: The ayes have it.

3 We will now move into General Discussion.

4 I would like to first recognize Council Member  
5 Brewer, followed by Majority Whip Brooks-Powers.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you very much. I am  
7 speaking about Intro 742, which I'm introducing  
8 today. It would restrict lobbying of elected  
9 officials by their former campaign consultants and  
10 fundraisers. Hopefully they are just campaign  
11 consultants and fundraisers and nothing else. There  
12 are existing laws that prohibit former government  
13 employees from lobbying their city agencies within  
14 one year of leaving civil service, but none that  
15 cover outsiders with a financial relationship to the  
16 office holder. This bill aims to accomplish a similar  
17 objective by limiting special interest access to  
18 government officials. It will be discussed, and I  
19 hope you will join us at next week's Oversight  
20 Hearing Before the Committee on Government Operations  
21 - that will be talking about lobbying laws in  
22 general. Thank you very much.

23 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, Council  
24 Member. I would now like to call on Majority Whip

25

1  
2 Brooks-Powers, followed by Council Member Stevens,  
3 and Council Member Ariola.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Thank you.

5 I want to spend a moment today remembering  
6 Detective Jonathan Diller who was killed in a line of  
7 duty in Far Rockway several weeks ago. Jonathan  
8 Diller was a beloved husband, and father, and a  
9 devoted servant of the city of New York. This is a  
10 tragic and shocking loss for the Diller family, for  
11 our community, and for the city as a whole. I want to  
12 acknowledge my community for their outpouring of  
13 support for the Dillers and for coming together in  
14 the aftermath of this incident.

15 We are also reminded that we must urgently pursue  
16 solutions to violence in our communities,  
17 particularly gun violence, which continues to plague  
18 too many of our neighborhoods.

19 I note that a 16-year-old boy, James Washington,  
20 was shot in Far Rockway just a few days ago and  
21 remains in the hospital. Our prayers are with that  
22 young man and his family, and our prayers are with  
23 the Diller family as well. May Detective Diller's  
24 memory be a blessing, and may James Washington have a  
25 full and speedy recovery, thank you.

1 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: I would like to recognize  
2 Council Member Stevens, followed Council Member  
3 Ariola, and then followed by Council Member  
4 Gutiérrez.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Good afternoon. Today I  
6 am introducing a number of bills; however, I would  
7 like to highlight Intro 798, which is to abolish the  
8 Criminal Group Database. Before I became a member of  
9 City Council, I was one of the founding members of  
10 the Gang Database Coalition. The reason this issue  
11 became so near and dear to me was because the  
12 database is a secret database, that according to the  
13 Attorney General it is comprised of 99 percent - it's  
14 99 percent populated with Black and brown men. In  
15 addition, there are many juveniles on the database  
16 including some who are as young as 11 years old with  
17 no efforts being made to communicate with parents,  
18 guardians, or any of the individuals on the database.  
19 Abolishing the Gang Database will establish the  
20 illegitimacy of the tactics of placing large numbers  
21 of young Black and brown men in a database on the  
22 suspicion of police.

23 I would like to send a special shoutout to  
24 Marquis (phonetic), Victor, and (INAUDIBLE), because  
25

2 we spent much time going into communities educating  
3 young people and community members about the  
4 existence of this database. I would like to thank all  
5 my colleagues who are already co- primes on this  
6 legislation with me. But, I would like to send a  
7 special shoutout to Council Member Rivera and Council  
8 Member Cabán who knew the importance of this bill and  
9 allowed me to carry this bill as a prime sponsor,  
10 thank you. And, please, everyone, please sign on,  
11 thank you.

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you, Council Member  
13 Stevens.

14 I would like to recognize Council Member Ariola,  
15 followed by Council Member Gutiérrez, and then  
16 Council Member Abreu.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: I'm introducing Resolution  
18 304. Across this country, there has been a dramatic  
19 uptick in criminal activity committed by individuals  
20 without permanent residency status. Here in New York  
21 City we have seen this issue take headlines time and  
22 time again, most notably the January 27th assault on  
23 NYPD officers in Times Square, and more recently  
24 during an assault on officers at an Upper East Side  
25 Target earlier this week. In both of these cases, as

1 in so many others, the offenders were released  
2 without bail and were able to flee the authorities,  
3 and in one case our state. Violent crimes of this  
4 nature should never be tolerated and should always be  
5 followed by stricter regulations and consequences.

6 Our first responders must be protected allowing  
7 anyone, including those who are undocumented  
8 individuals, to easily skirt punishment and avoid  
9 prosecution is simply unacceptable. This is why

10 Resolution 304 is in support of S8681/A9189, which  
11 are currently before the New York State Legislature  
12 and would require stricter regulations put in place  
13 when it comes to violent undocumented offenders.

14 Those bills, which are sponsored by the in the New  
15 York State Senate by Andrew Lonza, and in New York  
16 State Assembly by Jamie Williams, would ensure that  
17 undocumented offenders would be immediately remanded  
18 into the custody of the New York City Sheriff's  
19 Department upon their arrest or until they're tried  
20 in the court of law. This remand would prevent these  
21 individuals from fleeing the country or state, as  
22 we've seen happen time and time again, and would  
23 establish a much needed system of accountability.

24 That is why I'm introducing and calling on my  
25

1  
2 colleagues to join me in passing Resolution 304 and  
3 help send a message to criminals everywhere that here  
4 in New York City, safety and security of our citizens  
5 and our first responders are non-negotiable. Thank  
6 you.

7 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you. I would now  
8 like to recognize Council Member Gutiérrez, followed  
9 by Council Member Abreu, then Council Member  
10 Bottcher.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Thank you. First, I  
12 would like to express my gratitude to Speaker Adams  
13 for recommending me and my colleagues who voted in  
14 support of my appointment to the Commission on Public  
15 Information and Communication. Established in 1989,  
16 the Commission on Public Information and  
17 Communication aims to enhance public access to City  
18 information. I look forward to working and  
19 collaborating with experts to revitalize the  
20 Commission ensuring much needed transparency in the  
21 City's Data and Information.

22 Today I'm also introducing a package of bills  
23 that supports tenants and landlords affected by home  
24 displacements resulting from fires, floods, and other  
25 emergencies. Informed by firsthand experiences, this

1 package addresses crucial gaps in City support, and  
2 offers essential guidance to tenants. Too often we  
3 encounter distressing news stories about devastating  
4 home fires or disasters. We witness the flames or  
5 flood damage, hear from those newly displaced, and  
6 then the coverage often ends. Rarely do we see the  
7 subsequent months or even years of traumatic  
8 displacement, confusion about where to seek help, and  
9 the bureaucratic maze that both tenants and landlords  
10 navigate. This Council has taken steps to mitigate  
11 risks associated with lithium batteries and space  
12 heaters, implement building protections, and require  
13 inspections. However, these emergencies continue to  
14 affect thousands of New Yorkers annually. Currently  
15 there's a significant lack of City support for  
16 tenants and landlords to facilitate their recovery.  
17 This legislative package offers immediate and  
18 tangible solutions to permanent displacement, the  
19 instability, and the lack of transparency for  
20 residents and landlords. I'm excited to combine this  
21 package with Council Member Krishnan's Back Home  
22 package and hopefully together we can immediately  
23 solve a critical gap in the City's service. Thank  
24 you.  
25

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: I would now like to  
3 recognize Council Member Abreu, followed by Council  
4 Member Bottcher, and Council Member Feliz.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Good afternoon, and thank  
6 you Madam Major Leader.

7 Today I'm proud to be introducing three  
8 critically important bills, Introductions 737 and 738  
9 would work together to require food delivery apps to  
10 put the tipping option back at checkout like the way  
11 it used to be, and display the minimum suggested  
12 tipping option at 10 percent. After deliveristas won  
13 historic wage increases, many apps retaliated by  
14 removing this option at checkout, and is had has  
15 serious consequences for deliveristas. I want to be  
16 really clear here, the \$20 an hour that delivery  
17 workers are getting applies only to active time -  
18 meaning the time between receiving the order and  
19 delivering it. We heard yesterday from a delivery  
20 worker who was making deliveries from 6:00 a.m. to  
21 3:00 p.m. and only earned \$63, and another who went  
22 from getting tips on most of his daily orders to only  
23 \$5.00. This is because \$63, spending most of the day  
24 for on call time, does not mean you're getting  
25 minimum wage. It is only for the moment of delivery.



1           So there's this notion out there that because  
2 deliveristas is are getting minimum wage, then  
3 therefore they should not be getting this tip. Even  
4 if it were true that they were getting minimum wage  
5 per hour, which they aren't, we still believe that  
6 consumers should have the choice to tip as generously  
7 as they please. If within your means, you can tip  
8 generously, do it at checkout. If you can't, then  
9 don't tip at all. We just want to bring the option  
10 and power back to consumers. And since I only have 30  
11 seconds, I also want to say that I'm grateful to have  
12 the support of my colleagues, Council Member Menin,  
13 Council Member Gutiérrez, Council Member Restler  
14 Council Member Nurse, Council Member Marte, and  
15 Council Member Hanif, and I all my colleagues to sign  
16 on to this bill.

17           I also want to thank the Lights Out Coalition  
18 who's here today, for their work with my office on  
19 our bill to establish a pilot program for rat birth  
20 control. The population is explosive, two rats can  
21 reproduce 15,000 descendants in a single year. We  
22 cannot kill our way out outside of this crisis, and  
23 so we need to explore birth (TIMER CHIMES) control  
24 for rats. Thank you.  
25

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, Council  
3 Member. We are pro birth control in this Council.

4 (LAUGHTER)

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: I would now like to call  
6 on Council Member Bottcher, followed by Council  
7 Member Feliz, and Council Member Dinowitz.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: That's a tough act to  
9 follow. (LAUGHTER)

10 So, Earth Day is coming up, and it's a good time  
11 to take a look at our habits and practices as  
12 individuals and as a city. One of the areas in which  
13 we're failing very badly is our consumption of  
14 single-use plastics, our unnecessary consumption of  
15 single-use bottled water, and I'm introducing today  
16 in partnership with Public Advocate Jumaane Williams,  
17 and Council Member Julie Won, legislation that would  
18 prohibit the city of New York from purchasing single-  
19 use bottled water unnecessarily. I went to a meeting  
20 at a city agency a couple days ago, and they had a  
21 bottle of Poland Spring in front of every chair at  
22 the table, which is ,you know, they meant well, it  
23 was rolling out the red carpet, but Poland Spring is  
24 trucked here from Maine. We have in New York City the  
25 best municipal tap water on the planet. We...

2 actually it's been bottled and sold ,New York City  
3 tap water, in stores. And I want you to thank...thank  
4 you Madam Speaker, with the reusable... Hey! I drink  
5 New York City tap water.

6 UNKNOWN: I love it.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER Next time you're drinking  
8 a bottle of Fiji Water, please know that you might as  
9 well be drinking a bottle of oil, because that is  
10 what it took to get it shipped here - to the Port of  
11 Los Angeles from Fiji, and then trucked here or flown  
12 here from Los Angeles. So, we as New Yorkers, we  
13 are... we're way out there on a lot of issues, but  
14 ,you know, I'll go to the most progressive, left  
15 organizations, and they are handing a bottle of water  
16 to everyone who walks in the door. And we really need  
17 to change the way we think about single-use plastics  
18 and do much better, because the ocean, by the year  
19 2050, according to the World Wildlife Fund, is going  
20 to have more plastic than fish in it. And the UN says  
21 that that'll do irreparable damage to (TIMER CHIMES)  
22 ecosystems in the ocean.

23 So let's do better, and please sign on to the  
24 bill.

1           NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING           68  
2           MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you, Council  
3 Member.

4           I'd now like to recognize Council Member Feliz  
5 followed by Council Member Dinowitz, and then Council  
6 Member Restler.

7           COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Thank you, Majority Leader.  
8 Today I am proud to introduce Operation Green NYC.  
9 Operation Green NYC, a bill that would tackle two big  
10 challenges affecting our city. First, not too long  
11 ago, we saw the dangers of extreme rainfall, we saw  
12 flooding in our streets, flooding in our subways, and  
13 even flooding in our homes. Second, too many New  
14 Yorkers are suffering from well documented health  
15 issues due to high levels of air pollution in our  
16 communities. My bill, Operation Green NYC, will help  
17 tackle those two issues. We must prepare our city for  
18 the environmental threats that are becoming more  
19 intense and more frequent. This bill will help us do  
20 so by requiring the construction of greenery and  
21 storm water management systems in every community -  
22 specifically three miles of green in paved street  
23 medians, uh, three miles of green in every borough  
24 every year. *Three miles of green in every borough*  
25 *every year.* This greenery will bring millions of

1 benefits to our city, it'll beautify communities,  
2 it'll clean our air, reduce noise pollution, and it  
3 will help us prepare for future storms. It will also  
4 improve quality of life in our communities through  
5 cleaner, quieter, and green environments. And it will  
6 protect entire communities from the safety threats  
7 posed by extreme weather. Also, this is a bill that  
8 is extremely easy to realize. I know all of us  
9 receive emails all the time from agencies, such as,  
10 for example, the DOT about, new paved street medians  
11 going up in our communities. All we'll be requiring  
12 is that they look into whether the green could be  
13 installed rather than installing medians that are  
14 nothing but concrete or pavement. I want to thank all  
15 my colleagues that have joined as co- primes  
16 including Council Member Krishnan, Council Member  
17 Avilés, Council Member Nurse, Council Member Banks,  
18 and Council Member Restler. I look forward to working  
19 together to green up our city, we're going to be  
20 turning our city into garden. Thank you so much.

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you. (TIMER CHIMES)

23 I would now like to recognize Council Member  
24 Dinowitz, followed by Council Member Restler.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Thank you. I'm glad I'm  
3 following up the green bills and not the rat birth  
4 control bill.

5 Today I'm excited to announce that with the  
6 introduction of my bill, Introduction 744, my  
7 legislative reform package, known as CARE 311, is now  
8 fully before the Council. This package aims to  
9 address many of the gaps in our 311 system, which  
10 leaves New Yorkers confused about service categories,  
11 ignores conditions like in intolerably dirty streets,  
12 and worst of all, the idea that our city government,  
13 even in the age of the smartphone, does not have the  
14 technical ability to solve essential safety and  
15 quality of life issues. Each piece of legislation in  
16 this package is inspired and informed by the everyday  
17 experiences of our constituents. A reformed 311  
18 system will empower those who contact my office,  
19 contact all of your offices, and improve the most  
20 important needs our constituents have - including the  
21 maintenance of a good, safe quality of life. CARE 311  
22 or Citywide Accessibility Responsiveness and  
23 Efficiency in 311, improves the 311 system in three  
24 purposeful ways: Accessibility, efficiency, and  
25 responsiveness. Some of the highlights of this

2 package include legislation that will provide for  
3 live chat functionality, permit 311 users to submit  
4 instant customer satisfaction surveys, permit 311  
5 users to submit high quality pictures and videos as  
6 part of their service requests, and much more.

7 If you want a more accessible 311 system, a more  
8 responsive 311 system, and a more efficient 311  
9 system, I urge you to sign on as a co-sponsor of the  
10 CARE 311 package. Thank you.

11 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, Council  
12 Member.

13 I'm going to take a quick point of privilege and  
14 shoutout my district office intern who is staffing  
15 and shadowing today in City Hall, Lea Muyulema  
16 (phonetic), who's with us from Equality Charter  
17 School in the back. Hey, Lea, thank you for all your  
18 hard work. (APPLAUSE)

19 I'd now like to call on Council Member Restler.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Thank you so much, Madam  
21 Majority Leader.

22 I just wanted to call my colleagues' attention to  
23 Intro 791, which I'm introducing today. We all know  
24 that supportive housing is the most cost effective,  
25 evidence-based solution for homelessness, especially

1           single adult homelessness, especially for street  
2  
3 homelessness.

4           Supportive housing is the best investment we can  
5 make to help address chronic street homelessness in  
6 New York City. There are over 2,000 vacant units of  
7 supportive housing today, yet because supportive  
8 housing has existed for over 40 years, and been  
9 funded through a random patchwork of City and State  
10 agencies, and various programs, and has operated by  
11 dozens of different nonprofit organizations, there's  
12 no central oversight and accountability of supportive  
13 housing. That can change. With Intro 791, we create a  
14 real-time public dashboard that would ensure that  
15 agencies, that nonprofit agencies, are reporting in  
16 to the Department of Social Services, and that they  
17 have a comprehensive oversight of all supportive  
18 housing developments in New York City, so that we can  
19 help move 2,000 people, who are struggling before our  
20 eyes on our subway systems, and on our streets, into  
21 the permanent housing with on-site services that they  
22 deserve.

23           I really want to thank my colleagues, Deputy  
24 Speaker, Diana Ayala; Majority Leader, Amanda Fariás;  
25 Housing and Buildings Chair, Pierina Sanchez; Mental



1  
2 Health Committee Chair, Linda Lee; and Council Member  
3 Sandra Ung for co-priming this bill. It is a good,  
4 sensible piece of legislation that will help ensure  
5 that we drive down the vacancy rate in supportive  
6 housing, and move New Yorkers out of shelter into the  
7 housing that they deserve. Thank you.

8 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you, Council  
9 Member. Seeing no one else signed up to speak, I will  
10 now call on Speaker Adrienne E. Adams to close  
11 today's Stated Meeting.

12 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you, Madam Majority Leader,  
13 the Stated Meeting of April 11, 2024 is hereby  
14 adjourned.

15 (APPLAUSE)

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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 April 30, 2024