

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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Thursday, July 18, 2024

Start: 2:04 p.m.

Recess: 3:05 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 DELIVERED BY:

Rabbi Yirmi Levy,
Sephardic Congregation of Mill Basin
located at 2133 64th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11234

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet on the floor please!

Quiet on the floor, please. Council Members, please take your seats.

(PAUSE)

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet on the floor please!

Quiet on the floor, please. Council Members, please take your seats.

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

Madam Majority Leader.

AUTOMATED: RECORDING IN PROGRESS

MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: (GAVEL SOUND) (GAVELING IN)

Good afternoon, and welcome to the Stated Meeting Thursday, July 18, 2024; I am Majority Leader Amanda Fariás, and I would like to thank you for joining us. If you would like to follow along, the agenda for today's meeting is posted on our website.

On behalf of the body, I welcome the members of the public who have joined us here today. During Stated Meetings, only members of the Council may speak. Members of the public shall remain silent. If

2 you wish to express support of any remarks, you may
3 make the silent approval gesture.

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

10 CITY CLERK: Please join us for the Pledge of
11 Allegiance.

12 SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise!

13 ALL: (PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE)

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Roll call?

15 CITY CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Present

17 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Present

19 CITY CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Presenté

21 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Here

23 CITY CLERK: Council Member Banks?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Here

25 CITY CLERK: Council Member Bottcher?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Present

3 CITY CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Here

5 CITY CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here

7 CITY CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Present

9 CITY CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Present

11 CITY CLERK: Council Member Carr?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: (EXCUSED)

13 CITY CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Here

15 CITY CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Present

17 CITY CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: (NO RESPONSE)

19 CITY CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: (MEDICAL)

21 CITY CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Presenté

23 CITY CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Here

25 CITY CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: (ABSENT)

3 CITY CLERK: Council Member Holden?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here

5 CITY CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Present

7 CITY CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Present

9 CITY CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Here

11 CITY CLERK: Council Member Lee?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Here

13 CITY CLERK: Council Member Louis?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present

15 CITY CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Present

17 CITY CLERK: Council Member Marte?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: (ABSENT)

19 CITY CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: (NO RESPONSE)

21 CITY CLERK: Council Member Menin?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Here

23 CITY CLERK: Council Member Moya?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Here

25 CITY CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Present

3 CITY CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Here

5 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Present

7 CITY CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Here

9 CITY CLERK: Council Member Powers?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Here

11 CITY CLERK: Council Member Restler?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Here

13 CITY CLERK: Council Member Riley?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: (ABSENT)

15 CITY CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: (PARENTAL)

17 CITY CLERK: Council Member Salaam

18 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Present

19 CITY CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present

21 CITY CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Present

23 CITY CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Here

25 CITY CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Here

3 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ung?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Present

5 CITY CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: (EXCUSED)

7 CITY CLERK: Council Member Williams?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Present

9 CITY CLERK: Council Member Won?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Present

11 CITY CLERK: Council Member Yeger?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here

13 CITY CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: (MEDICAL)

15 CITY CLERK: Council Member Borelli?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: (EXCUSED)

17 CITY CLERK: Council Member Farías?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Present

19 CITY CLERK: Speaker Adams?

20 SPEAKER ADAMS: Present

21 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you, we will now
22 have today's Invocation, which will be delivered by
23 Rabbi Yirmi Levy, Sephardic Congregation of Mill
24 Basin, which is located at 2133 64th Street in
25 Brooklyn.

2 RABBI YIRMI LEVY: Before we start, I just want to
3 acknowledge and to thank, from the bottom of my
4 heart, to the Speaker of the House, Madam Adrienne
5 Adams, thank you so much for welcoming me, so
6 beautifully, so graciously, and of course my beloved
7 councilwoman of the 46th District, the one and only
8 Council Member Mercedes Narcisse. I just want to say
9 one thing, when we get together in such a beautiful
10 place, I call it a sacred place, this momentous
11 occasion, with the honorable council members,
12 distinguished guests, something comes to my mind from
13 the Bible -- it says when God was looking for a
14 vessel, a vessel that contained, that could contain
15 all these blessings, he was searching for a vessel,
16 he found one vessel called Peace, Shalom; Salam
17 that's what he found, a vessel called Peace.

18 I look at everybody around here in this beautiful
19 place, it's a diverse city, diverse Council, but when
20 God said, the vessel, my vessel is Peace, we can have
21 different opinions, we can argue every once in a
22 while, yeah, right -- every second of every moment,
23 but the end of the day, we leave this place as
24 friends as brothers and sisters. When Moses was about
25 to depart, to leave the world, he was about to say

2 farewell to his nation, to his people, Sefer Bamidba,
3 The Book of Numbers chapter 27 verse 16, he prayed to
4 God and he said, (SPEAKING FOREIGN LANGUAGE) please,
5 the God of the Winds, he did not say the god of wind
6 in singular, God of Winds in plural. Why he said
7 that, if you take few people, 10 people in one room,
8 one would say, it's very cold in here; the other one
9 would say it's crazy hot. It's very hard to please
10 everyone. Moses said please, God Almighty, I'm about
11 to perish, I'm about to leave the world; I'm begging
12 of you, I'm pleading you, I'm pleading with you,
13 appoint a leader that can contain, and observe, and
14 care, and love each and every person that lives in
15 the world, that is in the world. Please, so many
16 winds, so many people, so many directions, so many
17 states of mind, so many opinions. You need a leader
18 that can handle everything, that can love each, and
19 everyone and give him special attention.

20 As I see in my district, my leader, my beloved
21 leader, Council Member Mercedes Narcisse, she works
22 day and night, every moment of every single day. She
23 sees diversity, different religions, but she cares
24 and, she works with every leader, of single religion

2 to put everybody together, to love everyone, and to
3 be there for every single one.

4 There are a lot of problems around the world, but
5 we are here in New York, we have to take care of our
6 neck of the of the woods, we have to take care of
7 every single New Yorker, young or old, men, women,
8 doesn't make a difference, Jewish, not Jewish,
9 Christians, Muslims, We're All God's Children.

10 As Council leaders and members, I plead with each
11 and every one of you, you have to pay so many bills
12 every single day, care about every single New Yorker
13 over here, do whatever it takes to obey God's command
14 to take into yourself every single person with his
15 own needs. We have so much that unite us than divides
16 us. We need peace. We need love, a lot of TLC, and I
17 do not mean Taxi And Limousine Commission; I mean
18 tender love and care. And I want to tell you
19 something I saw not too long ago, a valedictorian
20 wrote something and said something so beautiful. He
21 said, my mother taught me that negativity has 10
22 letters, but so has positivity. Cry has three letters
23 but so has joy. Enemies has seven letters, but so has
24 friends. Hate has four letters, but so does love.

1 I pray to God that may he grant all of you, and
2 all of us, with much love. I pray for a true love. I
3 pray for a true unity. I pray that we break all the
4 walls between us. I pray for a lot of peace in the
5 world. May God grant all of you with a strength, the
6 power, the love, the care, the wisdom, and the
7 courage to move this beautiful city forward. We have
8 so much to do, this is the greatest city, the
9 greatest city. It's in your hands to make it even
10 greater.
11

12 May God bless all of you; may God bless the
13 Speaker of the House, Madam Adrienne E. Adams. May
14 God bless the Mayor of the city of New York, Eric
15 Adams. May God bless my favorite Council Woman,
16 Mercedes Narcisse. May God bless each and everyone of
17 you. May God bless this beautiful city, remarkable
18 city of New York, and may God bless the United States
19 of America. Amen.

20 (PAUSE)

21 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, I would now
22 like to ask Council Member Mercedes Narcisse to
23 spread the Invocation on the Record.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Thank you, Madame
25 Majority Leader. It is my distinct honor to spread

1 the Invocation in full upon the Record, delivered by
2 my dear friend and a truly extraordinary leader in
3 our community. Rabbi Yirmi Levy, of the Sephardic
4 Congregation of Mill Basin, you have been a true
5 leader for our community. With everything going on
6 around the world, you knew that it was important to
7 call all of us together. So, I want to say thank you
8 for that. To remind us what the purpose for a leader
9 of a community should be taking these steps, the
10 steps we should be taking, not against each other,
11 but to work with each other. So, I do appreciate not
12 only you, your family, truly amazing people. We are
13 indeed blessed to have you with us today. And it is
14 with great appreciation that I acknowledge your
15 Invocation. You are a contribution to not only
16 District 46 but the city of New York. Your dedication
17 to creating unity, and your openness to all people is
18 an inspiration to all of us.

19
20 For over three decades, Rabbi Levy has been a
21 visionary rabbi and dynamic community leader, whose
22 profound wisdom and unwavering dedication has left an
23 indelible mark, particularly on Mill Basin and Bergen
24 Beach neighborhoods of District 46. His leadership is
25 characterized by a remarkable openness and genuine

1 ability to connect with people from all walks of
2 life. Rabbi Levy makes it so easy to foster (sic). I
3 appreciate you. You are a dear friend, you united us
4 when it was tough, very hard for all of us. You saw
5 strength when during a time we were supposed to be
6 weak. So, I want to say thank you. You have spread
7 numerous initiatives which have addressed critical
8 social issues and provided support and hope to those
9 in need. Your effort to promote spiritual growth,
10 community engagement, and charitable endeavors
11 continue inspire and uplift countless individuals,
12 not just in District 46, not just in New York City,
13 but in the country at large. So, thank you.

14 On a daily basis, Rabbi Levy is building a legacy
15 of transformative impact, unwavering faith, and
16 steadfast community to making the world a better
17 place for all of us. Thank you, Rabbi Levy, for your
18 profound words and for your continued dedication to
19 making District 46, New York City, and United States
20 of America a better place for all of us, thank you.

21 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you.

22 We will now have the Adoption of Minutes by
23 Council Member Lynn Schulman.
24
25

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 16

2 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: I make a motion that the
3 Minutes of the Stated Meeting of June 20, 2024 be
4 adopted as printed.

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Messages & Papers from
6 the Mayor?

7 CLERK: None

8 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Communications from City,
9 County & Borough Offices?

10 CLERK: M 58, Bronx Borough President Reported

11 SPEAKER ADAMS: Received, Ordered, Printed and
12 Filed.

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Petitions and
14 Communications?

15 CLERK: None

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Land Use Call-ups?

17 CLERK: M 59 through M 62, various applications.

18 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you. I now ask that the
19 Clerk take a rollcall vote on today's Land Use Call-
20 ups.

21 CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye

23 CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Aye

25 CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye

3 CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye

5 CLERK: Council Member Banks?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye

7 CLERK: Council Member Bottcher

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Aye

9 CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye

11 CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes

13 CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Aye

15 CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye

17 CLERK: Council Member Carr?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: (EXCUSED)

19 CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye

21 CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye

23 CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye

25 CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: (MEDICAL)

3 CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye

5 CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye

7 CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: (ABSENT)

9 CLERK: Council Member Holden?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye

11 CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye

13 CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye

15 CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye

17 CLERK: Council Member Lee?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye

19 CLERK: Council Member Louis?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye

21 CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Aye

23 CLERK: Council Member Marte?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: (ABSENT)

25 CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye

3 CLERK: Council Member Menin?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye

5 CLERK: Council Member Moya?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Aye

7 CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye

9 CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Aye

11 CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSE: Aye

13 CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye

15 CLERK: Council Member Powers?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye

17 CLERK: Council Member Restler?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye

19 CLERK: Council Member Riley?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: (ABSENT)

21 CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: (PARENTAL)

23 CLERK: Council Member Salaam

24 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Aye

25 CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye

3 CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye

5 CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye

7 CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: I request unanimous

9 consent to vote on all items on today's General Order
10 Calendar.

11 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye on all.

13 CLERK: Council Member Ung?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye.

15 CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: (EXCUSED)

17 CLERK: Council Member Williams?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye.

19 CLERK: Council Member Won?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye

21 CLERK: Council Member Yeger?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye

23 CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: (MEDICAL)

25 CLERK: Council Member Borelli?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: (EXCUSED)

3 CLERK: Council Member Farías?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye.

5 CLERK: Speaker Adams?

6 SPEAKER ADAMS: Aye.

7 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Today's Land Use Call-ups
8 are adopted by a vote of 42 in the affirmative and 0
9 in the negative.

10 We will now have Communication from Speaker
11 Adrienne E. Adams.

12 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you, Majority Leader. Good
13 afternoon, everyone.

14 Before we begin, I want to take a moment to
15 remember the lives of several New Yorkers who died on
16 the job over these past few weeks.

17 We are mourning the deaths of Naveed Afzal, a
18 ride share driver in Council Member Hudson's
19 district; Efrain Patino Guerra, a hotel cab
20 dispatcher in Council Member Bottcher's district;
21 Shigosh (phonetic) Chupa (phonetic) a construction
22 worker in Deputy Speaker Ayala's district.

23 As a City we are also mourning the deaths of
24 Luciano and Maria Tavares, a married couple who died
25 during a deadly fire in Council Member De La Rosa's

1 district on June 25th. Earlier this month, we lost
2 four teenagers who tragically drowned in our City's
3 beaches. Zainab Mohammed and Aisha Mohammed in Coney
4 Island, and Elyjha Chandler and Christian Perkins at
5 Jacob Riss Park. As the summer continues amidst a
6 heatwave, I want to remind all New Yorkers and
7 visitors to take precautions and only swim at the
8 City's beaches when a lifeguard is present.
9

10 And we are mourning the death of Edgar Ordonez
11 and NYPD recruit who sadly passed away at Rodman's
12 Neck in Council Member Marmorato's district, just
13 five days before his graduation from the academy and
14 whose funeral was held this morning. Our hearts are
15 filled with love for those who have lost loved ones
16 during this very difficult time.

17 Yesterday marked the 10th anniversary of the
18 killing of Eric Garner at the hands of police
19 officers on Staten Island. This week I'm thinking
20 about his mother, Gwen Carr, who I have come to know
21 and love, and the entire family as well. Even though
22 they have suffered even more loss over the years,
23 they've spent the last decade fighting for
24 accountability. The tragedy of Eric Garner's death
25 sparked a movement across the city and the entire

1
2 country to demand a more just and equitable world,
3 one where all communities are safe, which is what
4 everyone deserves. It brought to light realities that
5 many in our communities have long experienced and the
6 need for greater transparency and accountability. And
7 policing as key to true public safety. Eric Garner's
8 legacy lives on in our struggles for accountability
9 and justice, and on this 10th anniversary of his
10 murder, we honor his memory and recommit to the work
11 needed to secure safety for all New Yorkers.

12 July is Disability Pride Month, a time when we
13 celebrate the history, contributions, and experiences
14 of New Yorkers with disabilities. This month
15 commemorates the signing of the Americans with
16 Disabilities Act, historic legislation that promotes
17 inclusivity and accessibility. Our Council has
18 prioritized legislation and investments to support
19 New Yorkers with disabilities, and we will continue
20 to strengthen and expand these efforts.

21 There are several other important dates that I
22 want to recognize this month July 1st, was Ghana
23 Republic Day; July 9th was Argentina Independence
24 Day; July 10th was Bahamas Independence Day; July
25

2 20th is Colombian Independence Day; and July 28th is
3 Peru Independence Day.

4 Next, please join me in wishing a happy early
5 birthday to Council Members Rita Joseph, Tiffany
6 Cabán, and Minority Leader Joe Borelli. (APPLAUSE)

7 And on this day, today, we celebrate the birthday of
8 our own Council's Legislative Director, Andrea
9 Vazquez! Happy Birthday, Andrea! (APPLAUSE)

10 Finally, I want to give a shoutout to all of the
11 Council interns who have joined us today at the
12 Stated Meeting, including our Council interns from
13 the Simon Wiesenthal Center! Welcome!

14 (Applause)

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

16 First, we'll vote on the following Finance item:

17 A Preconsidered Resolution, sponsored by Council
18 Member Justin Brannan, reauthorizing a 40-year
19 Article VI exemption for the preservation of one rent
20 stabilized building in Council Member Ossé's
21 district.

22 Next we will vote on the following Land Use
23 items:

24 The Landmarks Preservation Commission's
25 designation of the Old Croton Aqueduct Walk as a

1 historic landmark in Council Member Sanchez's
2 district. The Old Croton Aqueduct Walk is a public
3 walkway on top of the Old Croton Aqueduct, an
4 engineering marvel built in 1842, which brought the
5 first direct water supply to New York City. Upon its
6 completion the 41-mile long aqueduct carried 45
7 million gallons of water daily to the City from a
8 reservoir in Croton, New York. On April 27, 1940
9 after completing a substantial renovation, the Parks
10 Department opened the Aqueduct Walk as an official
11 public park and continues to maintain and upgrade the
12 park to this day.

14 2118 Avenue U rezoning will facilitate the
15 construction of a new four-story mixed used building;
16 it will include approximately 10 housing units,
17 including three affordable units and ground floor
18 commercial retail space in Council Member Vernikov's
19 district.

20 58-75 Queens Midtown Expressway Rezoning will
21 facilitate the enlargement of a pre-existing
22 development in Council Member Won's district.

23 27-24 College Point Boulevard Commercial Overlay
24 College Point Boulevard commercial overlay will
25 facilitate the development of a one-story commercial

1 building with a drive-through and bring several
2 existing commercial uses into conformance in Council
3 Member Paladino's district.
4

5 Resilient Homes Staten Island an HPD application
6 for UDAP approval and Article XI tax exemption to
7 facilitate the construction of eight two-family homes
8 and seven one-family homes containing a total of 23
9 units. The sites, which were part of the Build It
10 Back Program after being ravaged by Hurricane Sandy
11 will be redeveloped under HPD's Open Door Program
12 creating new home ownership buildings that are
13 affordable to moderate and middle-income households
14 Council Member Carr's district.

15 Today we will also vote on the following pieces
16 of legislation:

17 Resolution 10, sponsored by Council Member Robert
18 Holden, recognizing July 27 annually as Korean War
19 Veterans Armistice Day in the City of New York to
20 honor the courage and sacrifice of those who served.
21 Thank you to our staff member Regina Paul.

22 Resolution 504, sponsored by Council Member Sandy
23 Nurse, authorizing the Speaker engage in litigation
24 action on behalf of the New York City to oppose the
25 Department of Correction's efforts to suspend Local

2 Law 42 of 2024 which banned solitary confinement in
3 City jails. Thank you to our staff members Jeremy
4 Whiteman and Natalie Meltzer.

5 Introduction 863-A, sponsored by Council Member
6 Justin Brannan, would require public notice if an
7 actual contract differs from an agency's annual
8 procurement plan in terms of contract length, nature
9 of services, or affected civil services titles and
10 headcount. The bill would also apply these
11 requirements to contract amendments that would
12 increase a contract's value to over \$1 million. Thank
13 you to our staff members Alex Paulenoff and Alex
14 Yablon.

15 Resolution 292, sponsored by Council Member
16 Althea Stevens, calls on the New York City Department
17 of Education to create an inclusive school dress code
18 policy that complies with title IX of the Federal
19 Education Amendments Act and accounts for diverse
20 cultures, gender expression, and body diversity.
21 Thank you to our staff member Chloe Rivera.

22 Next, Introduction 18-A, sponsored by Deputy
23 Speaker Diana Ayala, requires the Department of
24 Education to post dress code policies on its website
25 and report on dress code policies in DOE schools for

1
2 5 years, including information about whether each
3 school has a dress code policy and data on dress code
4 violations and penalties broken down by month, week,
5 and student race and gender. Thank you to our staff
6 member Nadia Jean-Francois.

7 Introduction 435-A, sponsored by Council Member
8 Pierina Sanchez, would require the Department Of
9 Health And Mental Hygiene to make available rapid
10 testing services for sexually transmitted and
11 transmitted infections in at least five boroughs.
12 DOHMH would be required to determine the locations
13 for such rapid testing services and report to the
14 Council on the considerations that went into making
15 such determinations. DOHMH would also be required to
16 conduct an education campaign to inform communities
17 of the locations and availability of rapid testing
18 services, and would be required to report to the
19 Council and annually for three years on the
20 availability of rapid testing services throughout New
21 York City. Thank you to our staff members Christopher
22 Pepe and Sandra (sic) (*Sara) Sucher.

23 Thank you for your attention, colleagues. Now I
24 turn it back over to our Majority Leader.

25 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, Speaker Adams.

2 We will now move into Discussion of General
3 Orders, and I'd like to recognize Council Member
4 Sanchez.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Thank you, Majority
6 Leader. first I want to shout out our 16 SYEP interns
7 who are up in the balcony, thank you for joining us
8 today. Nobody messed with me, because I had 16 people
9 behind me. It's not Gale's 40 interns, but we're
10 working on it.

11 (LAUGHTER)

12 And thank you, Speaker, for your leadership and
13 partnership in designating the old Croton Aqueduct,
14 which is the literal spine of District 14. It's a big
15 deal to all the advocacy organizations out there. And

16 Intro 435 yay! Just want to want to say a note of
17 gratitude to uh co-prime sponsor, the Public
18 Advocate, as well as so many advocacy organizations
19 who contributed no particular order, but Caribbean
20 Equality Project, Housing Works, Morris Heights
21 Health Center, St. Ann's Corner of Harm Reduction in
22 the South Bronx, Ali Forney Center, Callen Lorde
23 Housing Works, Vocal New York, Latino Commission on
24 AIDS, Health People, NYC Antiviolence Project,
25 African Services Committee, Black Health, Harlem

1
2 Pride, Destination Tomorrow, and a special someone
3 named Dr. Devin English who knows who he is. Thank
4 you so much for your support on this legislation. And
5 of course, colleagues, the members of the LGBTQ
6 Caucus that supported the Women's Caucus, (INAUDIBLE)
7 Congressional Progressive Caucus. It took over a year
8 to negotiate this piece of legislation, but it does
9 it does reflect a massive investment in opening
10 access, expanding access to Rapid STI testing
11 services.

12 I'll just leave it with this and hope and beseech
13 yes votes on intro 435, but racial inequities in STI
14 infections have skyrocketed since the beginning of
15 the pandemic, most harshly at the intersection of
16 Black, Latino, low income, and LGBTQ+ New York City
17 communities. New York City, Black and African-
18 American people and Latinx people make up over 80
19 percent of new HIV infections. That's from 2022. And
20 in the Bronx in particular, we suffer from the
21 highest rates of HIV infections and deaths from New
22 York State 62 counties. (TIMER CHIMES) The highest
23 rate... I will conclude, thank you Madam Majority
24 Leader, but this this is not about sexual risk
25 behavior, it's just about access and that is what

2 Intro 435 strives to do. It will expand new centers,
3 thank you so much, everyone, for your support on this
4 piece of legislation.

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARIAS: Thank you, Council
6 Member. Seeing no one else signed up to speak, Report
7 of Special Committees?

8 CLERK: None

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIAS: Reports of Standing
10 Committees?

11 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Contracts Intro
12 863-A, service contract.

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

15 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Education,
16 Intro 118-A, school dress code policies?

17 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
18 Orders.

19 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Finance,
20 Preconsidered LU 105 and Reso 509, tax exemption?

21 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

22 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Health, Intro
23 435-A, STI RAPID TESTING services?

24 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
25 Orders.

2 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Land Use, LU 90
3 and Reso 510 through LU 93 and Reso 513, zoning
4 amendments?

5 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

6 CLERK: LU 98 and Reso 514, Landmark designations?

7 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

8 CLERK: LU 99 and Reso 515 and LU 100 and Reso
9 516, Resilient Homes Staten Island?

10 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

11 CLERK: Resolution appointing various persons
12 Commissioner of Deeds?

13 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

14 I know ask that the Clerk take a rollcall vote on
15 all coupled on today's General Order Calendar.

16 CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye

18 CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Aye

20 CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye

22 CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye

24 CLERK: Council Member Banks?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye

2 CLERK: Council Member Bottcher

3 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Aye

4 CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye

6 CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes

8 CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Aye on all.

10 CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye on all, and congrats to
12 my neighbor over here, Council Member Sanchez.

13 CLERK: Council Member Carr?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: (EXCUSED)

15 CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye

17 CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye on all.

19 CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye on all.

21 CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: (MEDICAL)

23 CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye

25 CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye

3 CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: (ABSENT)

5 CLERK: Council Member Holden?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye

7 CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye

9 CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye

11 CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye

13 CLERK: Council Member Lee?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye

15 CLERK: Council Member Louis?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye

17 CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Aye

19 CLERK: Council Member Marte?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: (ABSENT)

21 CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye

23 CLERK: Council Member Menin?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye

25 CLERK: Council Member Moya?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Aye

3 CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye

5 CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: I vote aye.

7 CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Aye

9 CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye

11 CLERK: Council Member Powers?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye

13 CLERK: Council Member Restler?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye

15 CLERK: Council Member Riley?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: (ABSENT)

17 CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: (PARENTAL)

19 CLERK: Council Member Salaam?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Aye

21 CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye

23 CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye

25 CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye

3 CLERK: Council Member Ung?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye

5 CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: (EXCUSED)

7 CLERK: Council Member Williams?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye.

9 CLERK: Council Member Won?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye

11 CLERK: Council Member Yeger?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye

13 CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: (MEDICAL)

15 CLERK: Council Member Borelli?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: (EXCUSED)

17 CLERK: Council Member Farías?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye on all.

19 CLERK: Speaker Adams?

20 SPEAKER ADAMS: I vote aye.

21 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All items on today's

22 General Order Calendar are adopted by a vote of 42 in

23 the affirmative, 0 in the negative, and 0

24 abstentions.

25 Introduction & Reading of Bills?

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SPEAKER ADAMS: All bills have been referred to committee as indicated on today's Agenda.

MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, we will now move into the Discussion of Resolutions. And seeing no one signed up to speak on the Discussion of Resolutions, we will now have a voice vote on today's Resolutions. If you wish to vote against or abstain from any of today's Resolutions, please notify the Legislative Documents Unit by email or by approaching the dais.

I will now read today's Resolution into the Record.

Resolution 10 recognizing July 27 annually as Korean War Veterans Armistice Day in the City of New York to honor the courage and sacrifice of those who served.

Will all those in favor say aye?

ALL IN FAVOR: Aye

MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: All opposed say nay?

ALL: (SILENT)

MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Any abstentions?

ALL: (SILENT)

MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: The ayes have it.

2 Resolution 292, calling on the New York City
3 Department of Education to create an inclusive school
4 dress code policy that complies with Title IX of the
5 Federal Education Amendments Act and accounts for
6 diverse cultures, gender expressions and body
7 diversity.

8 Will all those in favor, please say aye?

9 ALL IN FAVOR: Aye

10 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

11 ALL: (SILENT)

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

13 ALL: (SILENT)

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

15 Preconsidered Resolution 504 Authorizing the
16 Speaker to commence legal action on behalf of the
17 Council of the City of New York to oppose the
18 Department of Correction's efforts to suspend Local
19 Law 42 of 2024.

20 Will all those in favor, please say aye?

21 ALL IN FAVOR: Aye

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

23 ALL: (SILENT)

24 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

25 ALL: (SILENT)

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: The ayes have it.

3 We will now move into General Discussion. I would
4 like to first recognize Council Member Ung, followed
5 by Council Member Brooks-Powers, and Council Member
6 Lee.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Thank you, Madam Speaker and
8 Majority Leader. I'm proud to introduce legislation
9 that will address the alarming increase in the number
10 of squatters illegally occupying vacant homes across
11 New York City. This is not just a nuisance, it's an
12 infringement of the rights of property owners.
13 However, under current laws, property owners are
14 often forced into a lengthy and costly legal battle
15 in Housing Court to evict those illegal tenants.
16 During this time the squatters are allowed to remain
17 in the homes, creating an untenable situation for
18 those who legally own these properties.

19 Intro 997 will create a home vacancy program
20 managed by the NYPD and offer a much needed layer
21 protection. Property owners or their tenants will be
22 able to register a home if they plan to be away for
23 more than 21 days. This registry will serve as
24 official notice that no one should be occupying the
25 property during the specified period. This simple yet

1
2 effective measure will prevent the squatters from
3 claiming to have a legal right to be in the property,
4 thus eliminating the need for property owners to
5 endure the time consuming, expensive process of
6 pursuing legal action in Housing Court. By preempting
7 such claims, we can ensure that homeowners are
8 safeguarded against violations of property rights. I
9 want to thank my co-sponsor on Intro 997, Minority
10 Leader Joseph Borelli, who understands that whether
11 you're a democrat, republican, conservative or
12 progressive New Yorkers have the right to secure and
13 retain their property. Home ownership is a
14 cornerstone of the American dream; this legislation
15 is not about just about property rights, it's about
16 justice and fairness for homeowners. I urge my fellow
17 council members to support this legislation and join
18 us in protecting the right to New York City home
19 owners, thank you.

20 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: I would like to recognize
21 Majority Whip Brooks-Powers, followed by Council
22 Member Lee, then Council Member Gutiérrez.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Thank you. I'd like
24 to just take a moment to welcome all of the interns
25 that are here, but in particular I'm also joined by

1 one of my interns from the Simon Wiesenthal Center.
2 We are joined by Breena (sp?) Berger (sp?) who has
3 been helping in our Far Rockaway district office. We
4 also have been hosting eight other Summer Youth
5 Employment Program young people. It's been a
6 wonderful experience, and I just wanted to lift up
7 these programs that are giving work opportunities to
8 our young people throughout our district. So a hearty
9 welcome to everyone who is here.
10

11 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, I recognize
12 Council Member Lee, followed by Council Member
13 Gutiérrez, and then Council Member Menin.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Good afternoon, Madam Speaker
15 Majority Leader, and colleagues. It is my pleasure to
16 introduce legislation today that continues the City
17 Council's ongoing work and advocacy on mental health,
18 and will hopefully help some of the students that are
19 here today. Intro 989 would require The Department Of
20 Health And Mental Hygiene to create student wellness
21 club toolkits and informational materials. These
22 would help students create wellness clubs and peer-
23 led spaces focused on their wellbeing. Peer-to-peer
24 support, as we know, services are one of the most
25 effective and rapidly growing models of health care.

2 By also requiring the Department of Education to make
3 these toolkits available to all middle school and
4 high school students, this legislation would help
5 bring a version of this model to our youth in need.
6 Thank you, and I hope you can all join me in this
7 effort.

8 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: I now recognize Council
9 Member Gutiérrez, followed Council Member Menin, then
10 Council Member Williams.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Thank you Majority
12 Leader.

13 I'd first like to recognize the passing of a
14 giant for North Brooklyn, for Los Sures, for the
15 Southside, David Lopez, who passed away two weeks
16 ago. A former Young Lord, a former board chairperson
17 for Los Sures, Brooklyn New York's Legal Services
18 Corp A, and my mentor in organizing, who taught me
19 you show up for everybody, because no one struggles
20 by themselves. So we will be honoring his legacy this
21 weekend, and I just wanted to give my condolences to
22 his family and the extended Los Sures family, who I
23 know will miss him dearly.

24 I also just want to thank Speaker Adams for
25 recognizing Colombian Independence Day. We lost last

1 Sunday, but we had a good fight. I quickly just want
2 to acknowledge amazing Columbian leaders that have
3 been organizing in the City for a long time including
4 Luis Eduardo Acosta, who is the organizer for the
5 Festival de las Flores; Alejandro Martin, Alexandra
6 Aritizaba, and Carlos Calicho Arevalo. Thank you all
7 so much for all that you do. Gracias (SPEAKING
8 FOREIGN LANGUAGE).

9
10 And lastly, I just want to take a second to thank
11 my wonderful, intelligent, hardworking Chief of
12 Staff, Anna Bessendorf, who will be leaving the
13 Council... or leaving my office this week. She has
14 been instrumental to my office, uhm, in the creation
15 and the distribution of the Fire Guide after
16 experiencing a traumatic fire in her own home;
17 instrumental in our universal childcare legislation,
18 instrumental for our Tech Committee, and so much
19 more. You will be missed, Anna, thank you so much for
20 your dedication and commitment to District 34.

21 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you. Recognizing
22 Council Member Menin, followed by Council Member
23 Williams, Council Member Schulman, and Council Member
24 Paladino.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Thank you, Majority Leader.

Today I'm thrilled to introduce Intro 991, also called the Safe Hotels Act. I want to Thank Council Member Hudson, Council Member De La Rosa, Council Member Abreu, Council Member Feliz, Council Member Won, Council Member Schulman, and Banks for joining me on this critical bill. New York's hospitality sector is one of the best things about our city.

There are so many high quality hotels that keep visitors coming back. But, unfortunately there are too many that threaten the well-being of their guests, neighbors, and workers. Consumer complaints about hotels have doubled in the past five years to DCWP. And complaints to the Better Business Bureau about hotels have doubled nationwide, also in the past five years, to over 15,000 complaints per year.

My bill is about ensuring that all hotels in our city are operated in a responsible manner by targeting the bad actors that are operating in our city. For example, at the beginning of 2021, New York City experienced its first homicide of the year at the Umbrella Hotel in Kew Garden. Despite numerous complaints made by community members about this hotel prior to the murder, no action could be taken,

1 because a City literally had no jurisdiction over the
2 hotel. The hotel ended up closing in 2021, but it was
3 the management's not the City's decision to do so.

4 Licensing, quite frankly, is one of the most powerful
5 and effective tools we have to regulate businesses.

6 My bill would require all hotels to be licensed;

7 prohibit subcontracting for core services; set

8 standards to prevent human trafficking; and meet

9 minimum hygiene standards with the sanitation policy;

10 install panic buttons in guest rooms; maintain

11 certain records for DCWP; and protect workers.

12 In short we're addressing a consumer public
13 safety and workers' rights issue all in one bill.

14 Hotels are an important economic driver of the city,

15 and we want to make sure that they are properly

16 regulated in a way that benefits all. I ask my

17 colleagues to sign on to this vital bill, thank you.

18 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: I now recognize Council
19 Member Williams, followed by Council Member Schulman,
20 Council Member Brewer, then Council Member Joseph.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS. Thank you I just wanted
22 to add my voice welcoming the interns to the
23 Chambers, specifically my interns, Jeremy (phonetic),
24 Zaria (sp?), Alicia (phonetic), and Mia (phonetic),
25

1
2 and also Emerald. It has been a pleasure to have them
3 in the office, and I am so excited that they are here
4 with us today. Thank you so much.

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: I now recognize Council
6 Member Schulman, followed by Council Member Brewer,
7 Council Member Joseph, and Council Member Avilas.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Thank you, Majority
9 Leader. I, too, want to recognize my Summer Youth
10 Employment program interns Jackson and Selma
11 (phonetic), and my Simon Wiesenthal intern, Avi
12 (phonetic).

13 Today I am introducing two resolutions that are
14 sort of near to each other - one is Resolution 506
15 it's calling on calling on Congress to pass, and the
16 President to sign, "Resident Physician Shortage
17 Reduction Act of 2023. We have an incredible shortage
18 of residents, and I've been working with the
19 Committee of Interns and Residents, uh, Congress is
20 the one that regulates how many residents there are
21 in each in each locality. So. this is something
22 that's really, really important. The other one is
23 Resolution 507, which calls upon the New York State
24 Assembly to pass, and the Governor to sign, to enact
25 the New York Affordable Drug Manufacturing Act. This

1
2 act requires the New York State Department of Health
3 to establish partnerships directly with drug
4 manufactures to help lower drug costs for consumers,
5 and address drug shortages of which there are many,
6 including antibiotics and chemo therapy for cancer
7 patients. So, I urge my colleagues to please sign on
8 to both of these resolutions, thank you.

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIAS: Thank you. I would like
10 to recognize Council Member Brewer, followed by
11 Council Member Joseph, Council Member Avilas, and
12 them Council Member Narcisse.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you. Number one, I
14 just want to remind people that this is 21 years
15 since James Davis was killed in this hall. I was
16 here, and we always think about him, along with, uh,
17 Sergeant and Chief Rafael Perez, Carl Debella (sp?),
18 and Israel Martinez, we were all here that day. We
19 are the only ones left I think, but I just want to
20 think about James Davis. He was killed right up
21 there.

22 Number two, in terms of some of the interns, and
23 I thank them so much: Ma-Sadio Faye who is a SUNY
24 Albany student; Janon Fisher from Xavier High School;
25 Matan Friedgood from University of Southern

1 California; Kabir Singh from Xavier High School;
2 Leah Spector from Rutgers University and also a
3 Wiesenthal fellow; Solange Sylvain from Stanford
4 University, Zayin Tilley from Fordham University; Avi
5 Flatto-Katz who is from Ramaz, but also a member of
6 Community Board Number 7, Marilyn O'Day from Baruch
7 College Campus High School, and Alley Sopher
8 (phonetic) who is an Albert Vann fellow. We love the
9 Albert Vann fellows.
10

11 I want to talk I want to talk about Intro 981,
12 this would require public reporting of cannabis
13 enforcement activity. It would include inspection
14 locations outcomes and granular data. The Sheriff,
15 Consumer Affairs, Cannabis Management they're all
16 doing a good job, but the public wants to know what's
17 happening with smoke shop enforcement in their
18 neighborhoods. And it's very hard to get information.
19 The State law does require the City to send biweekly
20 reports on enforcement to the Office of Cannabis
21 Management at the state level. The Sheriff's office
22 hasn't started producing these reports, because they
23 are still waiting for instructions from the State.
24 But there is no requirement to share when they get the
25 report. It is sometimes hard to get information out

1
2 of this Administration, as we know, so we keep
3 introducing these data bills and this is an example -
4 - we just need basic information.

5 I also have a 311 data bill on the same topic,
6 because there is no place at the 311 category to list
7 questions about unlicensed (TIMER CHIMES) cannabis
8 businesses. Thank you very much.

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIAS: Thank you, Council Member
10 Joseph, followed by Council Member Avilas, Council
11 Member Narcisse, and Council Member Restler.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSHEPH: Thank you, Majority
13 Leader.

14 Today I'm thrilled to be introducing four pieces
15 of legislation and co-prime two others alongside my
16 colleagues Council Member Julie Menin and Council
17 Member Lincoln Restler.

18 Intro 986 is relation to a pilot program to
19 involve mental health professionals and professional
20 candidates in student wellness clubs in public middle
21 and high schools.

22 Intro 987 is in relation to a pilot program to
23 develop and distribute educational materials
24 regarding the reduction of surplus food in public
25 schools.

2 Resolution 499 calling on the United States
3 Congress to pass, and the President to sign, the
4 Protecting Consumers from Deceptive AI Act.

5 And Resolution 500 calling on the New York State
6 Legislature to introduce and pass, and the Governor
7 to sign, legislation entitled The New York State
8 College Safety Act to require that all campuses of
9 The State University of New York and The City
10 University of New York permit autoimmune and
11 immunocompromised students and faculty to learn and
12 teach via remote instruction in as many courses as
13 feasible whenever students or faculty are dealing
14 with an unpredictable or temporarily debilitating
15 impact of their condition.

16 I would also like to shoutout my intern Brendan
17 Etienne (phonetic) and Lilly (phonetic) from the
18 Simon Wiesenthal Center. Thank you.

19 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: I would like to recognize
20 Council Member Avilas, followed by Council Member
21 Narcisse, Council Member Restler, than Council Member
22 Krishnan.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILAS: Thank you. First I'd like
24 to, in the spirit as my colleagues, shoutout our
25 fabulous interns Charlie Gorham, Noah Hemley, our

1 Albert Vann fellow, Amarachi Ngadi, and our SYEP
2 interns Sarah Hernandez and Beryl (sp?) Hugh. I'd
3 also like to extend my deepest condolences to the
4 great Jose Lopez, and I will be there in in the
5 Southside. He is such a figure in the Puerto Rican
6 community, and I thank him and his family for his
7 profound contribution. So, Jose Lopez, (SPEAKING
8 FOREIGN LANGUAGE)
9

10 Today I'm introducing Reso 497, which applauds
11 the protection of the first amendment rights that
12 were granted through the settlement reached in
13 September of 2023 when the state attorney general,
14 NYCLU, and the Legal Aid Society sued the NYPD.
15 Importantly, we continue to see the threats to our
16 first amendment, especially with this Administration,
17 including: recent violent responses to pro-
18 Palestinian protesters and their confiscation of
19 protest tools so that they can't fully exercise their
20 right; a bloated budget for the NYPD press and public
21 relations that seems to set up... to target critics;
22 unprecedented use of practices known as "retention
23 authority", which allows officers, who use tasers and
24 batons on protesters, to walk away without
25 consequence; and an announcement of a possible mask

1 ban on our public transportation system threatening
2 public health, all just to hunt down protesters. We
3 cannot allow our first amendment rights to be chipped
4 away at whenever our individual beliefs are regarding
5 the presence of the NYPD in our city. Our right to
6 protest is the underpinning of a democracy, and any
7 effort to silence descent is fundamentally in
8 opposition to our collective ideals.

9 I encourage my colleagues to sign on to this
10 resolution, and if it occurs to you, biting is not
11 allowed. Thank you. (TIMER CHIMES)

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Council Member Narcisse,
13 Council Member Restler, Council Member Krishnan, and
14 Council Member Ariola.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Thank you Madame
16 Majority Leader.

17 I want to say thank you to my intern and SYEP,
18 Madison Najid (phonetic) and, of course, Jordana
19 Rudolph who is here with us too, and all of you guys,
20 you make the future look brighter. So, I appreciate
21 you being here.

22 Today I am proud to introduce Intro 992 aimed at
23 enhancing transparency, accountability, and community
24 involvement in our efforts to prevent gun violence
25

1 and promote overall safety in our neighborhoods. This
2 is so important to me. This bill will require that
3 the Mayor's Office for Neighborhood Safety and the
4 Prevention of Gun Violence publish detailed
5 information about service provider organizations
6 under the Crisis Management System. It ensures that
7 the criteria used for selecting these providers are
8 clearly explained and accessible to the public.
9 Additionally this legislation requires timely not
10 notifications to relevant council members, community
11 boards, and local NYPD precincts whenever a service
12 provider is selected or their contract is not
13 renewed. This will ensure that all stakeholders are
14 informed and can effectively collaborate with these
15 organizations. Finally, the bill calls for an annual
16 report on the progress made towards the goal set by
17 the Office and each service provider. This will help
18 us track our achievements, identify areas for
19 improvement, and maintain the highest standards of
20 accountability. I firmly believe that Inro 992
21 represents a crucial (TIMER CHIMES) step in our
22 ongoing commitment for making our city safer and
23 supporting the organization... (CROSS-TALK)

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Council Member, your...

3 (CROSS-TALK)

4 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: that work toward the
5 goals... (CROSS-TALK)

6 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: time has expired...

7 (CROSS-TALK)

8 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: You can get my point
9 because, I'm excited. I want to know what
10 (INAUDIBLE)... (CROSS-TALK)

11 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: (LAUGHS) Thank you,
12 Council Member... (CROSS-TALK)

13 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: (LAUGHS) Thank you so
14 much.

15 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: I'd like to recognize
16 Council Member Restler, followed by Council Member
17 Krishnan, and then Council Member Ariola.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Thank you, Majority
19 Leader.

20 I'd like to join Council Member Avilas, and
21 Council Member Gutiérrez, and I am sure Council
22 Member Krishnan, in just expressing my most profound
23 condolences to the family of David Lopez. David was
24 an inspiration, a fighter, a real champion for
25 justice, and he is sorely missed.

1 I am proud to be introducing Introduction 994
2 today. It has been *hot* this summer, like crazy hot.
3 And we need to do something about the fact that heat
4 is number one climate killer. We need new regulatory
5 and enforcement models that can actually ensure that
6 people are safe in the face of climate change. Here
7 in New York City 350 are dying each and every year
8 from heat-related illnesses, and the majority of
9 these people are dying in their homes. And not in a
10 single one of those homes can you find an air
11 conditioner. These are preventable deaths. Just a few
12 weeks ago on June 21st, 51 New Yorkers found
13 themselves in emergency rooms due to heat-related
14 illnesses. It is getting worse each and every year,
15 and just like we ask landlords to provide heat in the
16 winter, we need our landlord to provide cooling in
17 the summer. And that is what Intro 994 would
18 accomplish. This is a real solution to combat the
19 realities of climate change, and it is a piece of
20 legislation that is urgent. So, I hope that you will
21 join me in cosponsoring this legislation. I want to
22 Council Member Nurse, Council Member Joseph, Council
23 Member Hudson, Council Member Ossé, and Council
24 Member Krishnan for already signing up as cosponsors,
25

2 and I hope many others will join. Heat is a dangerous
3 killer. It is disproportionately affecting low
4 income, African American, and Latino New Yorkers, and
5 we need real solutions to ensure that every New
6 Yorker, every tenant has access to cooling so that
7 every apartment in New York City is safe and
8 habitable. Thank you.

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: I would like to recognize
10 Council Member Krishnan, followed by Council Member
11 Ariola.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Thank you so much,
13 Majority Leader.

14 First, I want to welcome Clara (INAUDIBLE) and
15 Sara Sanders, our interns, who are here with us
16 today, too, uh, for today's Stated and for the
17 summer. I will quickly just say that there is a... We
18 faced a water safety crisis in the City as the
19 Speaker mentioned before as well. And we are
20 introducing two pieces of legislation on this issue
21 today.

22 But more personally, I also wanted to join my
23 colleagues in expressing my deep condolences for
24 David Lopez. David was a human rights activist, a
25 (INAUDIBLE) for housing justice, a poet, and

1
2 historian of community struggle. He was a founding
3 member and longtime board member of Los Sures. David
4 was an inspiration for so many, myself included, from
5 my very first days as a lawyer. And we fought many
6 battles together over the year, right here in these
7 chambers. David was as passionate about his community
8 on the south side of Williamsburg as he was for
9 Puerto Rico. As I told him just a few days before we
10 lost him a couple weeks ago, I still hear his voice
11 and words of wisdom in my head as a council member.
12 He taught me and so many others so much about
13 organizing, about how to fight, but to fight smart
14 and effectively. His spirit lives on in so many of us
15 he mentored. Rest well, David, you have earned it; no
16 we carry the work forward, my condolences are always
17 with your son, David Lopez, Junior, your family, and
18 your extended family at Los Sures. (SPEAKING FOREIGN
19 LANGUAGE)

20 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Council Member Ariola,
21 followed by Council Member Hudson.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Thank you, Majority
23 Leader.

24 Considering this is the anniversary month for the
25 assignation of James Davis, I think it's appropriate

1
2 to note that on Saturday July 13, a would be assassin
3 only narrowly missed killing a former president of
4 the United States. This act would serve as a wakeup
5 call, and should serve as a wakeup call for all us.
6 The temperature of the political discourse in this in
7 this country is at a point higher than it has ever
8 been in decades, and it needs to be turned down. We
9 have gone from amicable disagreements over policy to
10 outright hatred of opposing views. The demonization
11 of the "other" has become the norm with outlets on
12 both sides of the aisle consistently spouting claims
13 that their opponents will bring nothing but
14 destruction and tyranny upon our union. We need to
15 reject this fearmongering claim. We need to reject
16 the deep division that has been sewn among us. We
17 need to remember that at the end of the day, we are
18 all here for the same reason. We may have different
19 views on how to achieve this, but our goals are
20 ultimately the same. We want better lives for our
21 friends and neighbors; we want better futures for our
22 children; we want an America and a city where our
23 loved ones can truly thrive and grow. So, I believe
24 it's time to put down the hatchets and lets rethink
25 things before our X fingers get the better of us.

2 Lets turn down the temperature here and all over the
3 country, and view each other not as enemies but as
4 colleagues. Lets work together to find common ground
5 and build on it. Lets abandon the faction mentality
6 that has brought us to this point in history, and,
7 together, we can truly build a better, brighter
8 future for everyone. Thank you for the time.

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Council Member Hudson?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Thank you, Majority
11 Leader. I also just wanted to thank Council Member
12 Brewer for mentioning the anniversary of the death of
13 James Davis on whose shoulders I stand as the current
14 representative of the district that he once
15 represented.

16 And like my other colleagues, I also want to
17 welcome my interns for the summer: Karen Ramirez
18 Collado; Demiah Everett (phonetic); and Shahir Uddin
19 (phonetic) from CUNY career launch program, and
20 Clinton Charter from SYEP, and Julie Swerdon
21 (phonetic) from Simon Wiesenthal Center, thank you.

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, seeing no one
23 else signed up to speak, I'd like to shoutout my
24 summer interns Adul (phonetic), who is here with me

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today in the back, and J.K. (phonetic) who is helping out at running our district office.

I will now call on Speaker Adams to close today's Stated Meeting.

SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you, Majority Leader. The Stated Meeting of July 18, 2024 is hereby adjourned.

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 July 31, 2024