

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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April 30, 2026

Start: 1:45 p.m.

Recess: 3:04 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: Speaker Julie Menin

*The Majority Leader (Council
Member Abreu) presiding as the
President Pro Tempore*

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Public Advocate Jumaane Williams

Shirley Aldebol

Joann Ariola

Alexa Avilés

Chris Banks

Gale A. Brewer

Selvena N. Brooks-Powers

Tiffany L. Cabán

David M. Carr

Carmen N. De La Rosa

Eric Dinowitz

Elsie Encarnación

Harvey D. Epstein

Amanda C. Farias

Simcha Felder

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

COUNCIL MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

Oswald J. Feliz
James F. Gennaro
Jennifer Gutiérrez
Shahana K. Hanif
Ty Hankerson
Kamillah M. Hanks
Crystal Hudson
Rita C. Joseph
Shekar Krishnan
Linda Lee
Farah N. Louis
Virginia Maloney
Christopher Marte
Darlene Mealy
Frank Morano
Mercedes Narcisse
Sandy Nurse
Chi A. Ossé
Vickie Paladino
Lincoln Restler
Kevin C. Riley
Yusef Salaam
Pierina A. Sanchez
Justin E. Sanchez
Kayla Santosuosso
Lynn C. Schulman
Althea V. Stevens
Shanel Thomas-Henry
Sandra Ung
Inna Vernikov
Nantasha M. Williams
Julie Won
Phil Wong
Susan Zhuang

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

INVOCATION DELIVERED BY:

Bishop Mitchell G. Taylor, Senior Pastor
Center of Hope International
12-11 40th Avenue
Long Island City, NY 11101

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2 SERGEANT POLITE: Testing one, two, one,
3 two. Today's date is April 30, 2026. Today's Stated
4 Meeting is being recorded in the Chambers by Keith
5 Polite.

6 (PAUSE)

7 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Ladies and gentlemen,
8 please take seats. Would everyone please take a seat?

9 At this time, make sure you silence all
10 electronic devices. Any of our guests who are here to
11 join us to watch the meeting and are not part of the
12 staff can join us upstairs on the balcony.

13 Majority Leader, we're ready to start.

14 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: [GAVEL] Good
15 afternoon and welcome to the Stated Meeting of April
16 30, 2026. I am Majority Leader Shaun Abreu, and I
17 would like to thank you for joining us.

18 As a reminder, decorum must be respected
19 at all times.

20 If you would like to follow along, the
21 agenda for today's meeting is posted on our website.

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

SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise!

ALL: [PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE]

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Roll call?

CLERK: Council Member Aldebol?

COUNCIL MEMBER ALDEBOL: Present

CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Present

CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: (NO RESPONSE)

CLERK: Council Member Banks?

DEPUTY LEADER BANKS: Present

CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here

CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: (NO
RESPONSE)

CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Present

CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Here

CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz

COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Here

CLERK: Council Member Encarnación?

DEPUTY WHIP ENCARNACIÓN: Presenté

CLERK: Council Member Epstein?

COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: Yes.

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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CLERK: Council Member Farías?

COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Present

CLERK: Council Member Felder?

COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: (NO RESPONSE)

CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: (UN-MIC'D) Here.

CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here

CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Here

CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Here

CLERK: Council Member Hankerson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANKERSON: (NO RESPONSE)

CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

MAJORITY WHIP HANKS: Present

CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Present

CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Present

CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Here

CLERK: Council Member Lee?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Here

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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CLERK: Council Member Louis?

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present

CLERK: Council Member Maloney?

COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: Present

CLERK: Council Member Marte?

COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Present

CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: (NO RESPONSE)

CLERK: Council Member Morano?

COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Here!

CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Present

CLERK: Council Member Hankerson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANKERSON: Present

CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: (UN-MIC'D) Here

CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: I'm here.

CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: (NO RESPONSE)

CLERK: Council Member Restler?

COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Here

CLERK: Council Member Riley?

COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Present

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

CLERK: Council Member Salaam?

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Present

CLERK: Council Member Justin Sanchez?

COUNCIL MEMBER JUSTIN SANCHEZ: Present

CLERK: Council Member Pierina Sanchez?

COUNCIL MEMBER PIERINA SANCHEZ: Present

CLERK: Council Member Santosuosso?

COUNCIL MEMBER SANTOSUOSSO: Here

CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Here

CCLERK: Council Member Felder?

COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: (UN-MIC'D) Here

CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Here

CLERK: Council Member Thomas-Henry?

COUNCIL MEMBER THOMAS-HENRY: Present

CLERK: Council Member Ung?

DEPUTY LEADER UNG: Present

CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

MINORITY WHIP VERNIKOV: Here

CLERK: Council Member Williams?

DEPUTY SPEAKER WILLIAMS: Present

CLERK: Council Member Won?

COUNCIL MEMBER WON: (NO RESPONSE)

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

CLERK: Council Member Won?

COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Here

CLERK: Council Member Wong?

COUNCIL MEMBER WONG: Here.

CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Here

CLERK: Council Member Carr?

MINORITY LEADER CARR: Here

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Here

SPEAKER MENIN: Here

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you. We will now have today's Invocation, which will be delivered by Bishop Mitchell G. Taylor, Senior Pastor at Center of Hope International, which is located at 12-11 40th Avenue, in Queens.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise!

BISHOP TAYLOR: Good afternoon, everyone.

Let us pray.

Dear God, we thank you for the great city of New York, a city of strength, diversity, resilience, and opportunity.

We thank you for the privilege of gathering in this chamber where decisions are made

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2 that affect the lives of millions of people every
3 single day.

4 Lord, today I stand representing the
5 Center of Hope International and Urban Upbound, an
6 organization that has been blessed to partner with
7 the New York City Council for more than two decades.
8 Since the days of the second Speaker of this Council,
9 we have worked together to innovate solutions that
10 lift families out of poverty and create pathways to
11 opportunity and wealth in public housing and
12 low-income communities. Through initiatives like
13 Jobs-Plus, one-on-one financial counseling, community
14 banking, free tax preparation, and small business
15 development, we have witnessed how thoughtful
16 leadership and strategic investment can transform
17 lives.

18 And so today we pray for your wisdom, for
19 your courage, and unity for the leadership of this
20 Council. We pray for Speaker Julie Menin that you
21 would grant her vision and strength as she continues
to guide this august body. We pray for the Deputy
Speaker, Dr. Nantasha Williams, for the Majority
Leader, Sean Abreu, for the Majority Whip, Kamillah
Hanks, and for the Minority Leader, David Carr, and

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2 the Minority Whip, Inna Vernikov, asking that you
3 bless them with clarity, collaboration, and a spirit
4 of service. Lord, remember my council member, Council
5 Member Julie Won, and we lift up every council member
6 in this chamber. Each one represents neighborhoods
7 filled with families, workers, seniors, and young
8 people who look to them for hope and leadership. Give
9 them wisdom to govern with justice, compassion, and
10 integrity.

11
12 As our city faces the mammoth challenges
13 of affordability, housing, economic inequality, and
14 opportunity, we ask that you, Lord, would give us the
15 strength and ingenuity to overcome every obstacle
16 before us. We ask your blessings upon this council.
17 Bless their communities, the communities that they
18 serve, and continue to bless this great city, the
19 city of New York. In your name, we pray. Amen.

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21 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you. I will
now ask Council Member Julie Won to spread the
Invocation upon the record.

COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Thank you so much,
Majority Leader Abreu.

I am honored to have Bishop Mitchell
Taylor, the senior pastor of Center of Hope

1 International, deliver today's invocation. The Center
2 of Hope International is a non-denominational
3 Christian Church located just outside of Queensbridge
4 Houses in Long Island City. It was founded by Bishop
5 Taylor in 1999, and the church has grown to over
6 1,000 congregants, many of whom live in or have deep
7 roots in Queensbridge Houses. This church serves as a
8 beacon of hope for many people, and most notably, its
9 Bread of Life pantry distributes fresh produce,
10 canned goods, frozen products, and household staples
11 for Western Queens residents. We saw it really
12 flourish and bloom as a beacon of hope for
13 Queensbridge residents, as our shelter residents
14 during the pandemic and the migrant crisis. With our
15 partnership, the pantry has logged over 22,000 client
16 visits this past fiscal year and distributed more
17 than 400 turkeys to families all over Western Queens
18 and Queensbridge Houses, Ravenswood Houses, Woodside
19 Houses, and Astoria Houses ahead of Thanksgiving.

17 Bishop Mitchell Taylor is also the
18 co-founder and CEO of Urban Upbound, a nonprofit
19 organization that serves thousands of youth and
20 adults living in public housing and other low to
21 moderate-income neighborhoods annually, focusing on

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2 expanding economic opportunities to end cycles of
3 poverty all over the city of New York. It is the
4 first-ever federal credit union created by and for
5 Black men and women. And we are so grateful for your
6 leadership and the ways that you serve in a true
7 place of faith.

8 So thank you, Majority Leader. I would
9 like to thank Bishop Mitchell Taylor for being here
10 today. And I make a motion for unanimous consent to
11 spread the Invocation in full upon the record. Thank
12 you so much.

13 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you. We will
14 now ask Council Member Eric Dinowitz for the Adoption
15 of Minutes.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: I make a motion
17 that the minutes of the April 16th, 2026, Stated
18 Meeting be adopted as printed.

19 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Messages and
20 Papers from the Mayor?

21 (PAUSE)

CLERK: M... (CROSS-TALK)

SPEAKER MENIN: Referred to the Committee
to Combat Hate.

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CLERK: M 60 Veto of Introductory Number
175-B of 2026.

SPEAKER MENIN: Referred to the Committee
to Combat Hate.

CLERK: M 61, Mayoral Appointment?

SPEAKER MENIN: Referred to Rules.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Communication from
City, County, and Borough Offices?

CLERK: None.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Petitions and
Communications?

CLERK: None.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Land Use Call-ups?

CLERK: M 62

SPEAKER MENIN: Thank you. I now ask that
the Clerk take a roll call vote on today's Land Use
Call-ups.

CLERK: Council Member Aldebol?

COUNCIL MEMBER ALDEBOL: I vote aye.

CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: I vote aye.

CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: (NO RESPONSE)

CLERK: Council Member Banks?

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DEPUTY LEADER BANKS: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes.

CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Aye

CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Cabán?

COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye

CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member De La Rosa?

COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Mr. Majority
Leader, I request permission to vote on all items on
today's agenda.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Permission
granted.

COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Encarnación?

DEPUTY WHIP ENCARNACIÓN: I vote aye.

CLERK: Council Member Epstein?

COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: Yes.

CLERK: Council Member Farías?

COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Aye

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

CLERK: Council Member Felder?

COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye

CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Gutiérrez?

COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Hankerson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANKERSON: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

MAJORITY WHIP HANKS: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Lee?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Louis?

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Maloney?

COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Marte?

COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Majority Leader,
permission to vote on all items on today's agenda?

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Permission
granted.

COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Morano?

COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: I vote aye.

CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: I vote aye.

CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: (NO RESPONSE)

CLERK: Council Member Restler?

COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Riley?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Salaam?

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: I vote aye.

CLERK: Council Member Justin Sanchez?

COUNCIL MEMBER JUSTIN SANCHEZ: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Pierina Sanchez?

COUNCIL MEMBER PIERINA SANCHEZ: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Santosuosso?

COUNCIL MEMBER SANTOSUOSSO: Aye

CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Schulman?

COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Thomas-Henry?

COUNCIL MEMBER THOMAS-HENRY: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Ung?

DEPUTY LEADER UNG: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

MINORITY WHIP VERNIKOV: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Williams?

DEPUTY SPEAKER WILLIAMS: I vote aye.

CLERK: Council Member Won?

COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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CLERK: Council Member Wong?

COUNCIL MEMBER WONG: I vote aye.

CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Carr?

MINORITY LEADER CARR: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Aye

CLERK: Speaker Menin?

SPEAKER MENIN: Aye

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Today's Land Use

Call-ups are adopted by a vote of 48 in the affirmative and 0 in the negative. Thank you.

We will now have communication from Speaker Julie Menin.

SPEAKER MENIN: Good afternoon, everyone. First of all, I want to welcome the interns from Senator Schumer's office to our City Council chambers.

(APPLAUSE)

SPEAKER MENIN: Thank you so much for being here. Great to have you.

And I want to welcome Assembly Member Jordan Wright, who's here.

(APPLAUSE)

SPEAKER MENIN: We're thrilled to have you visiting us. Thank you.

So tomorrow, we recognize International Labor Day in honor of the workers whose contributions make our city function.

But before we go further, I want to acknowledge the recent deaths of working New Yorkers who've tragically lost their lives while on the job. Since the start of the year, we lost Brian Dunn, a 37-year-old sanitation worker, Dominic Lowery, a 31-year-old laundromat worker, Captain Antoine Forrest, a 30-year-old pilot, First Officer Mackenzie Gunther, a 24-year-old pilot, and a forty-seven year old construction worker. This month, we also lost Amanda Medino Dominic, a forty-seven-year-old bricklayer. And last weekend, 28-year-old Abdul Saleh was shot and killed while working at his bodega. Even as we mourn their deaths, we will continue to celebrate their lives and their contributions. Our hearts are with their families, their loved ones, and their communities. As they navigate this unimaginable loss, I hope they know that the whole city is with them in their grief.

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2 This morning, we rallied outside Tweed
3 Courthouse in support of a package of legislation
4 that would increase educational resources on vaccines
5 and call for the State to expand access to them. The
6 numbers show a disturbing pattern that fewer
7 kindergartners are getting vaccinated overall, and
8 that measles outbreaks have spread across the
9 country, killing three Americans, resulting in more
10 deaths from measles than in the past 25 years
11 combined. We are also seeing higher childhood deaths
12 from diseases like whooping cough and influenza,
13 something that every single parent should be
14 terrified by.

15 One of the root causes for these trends
16 is a massive campaign of misinformation and
17 disinformation, and it is being fueled by US Health
18 Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. The new life that
19 Kennedy is giving to the movement has clearly given
20 new life to the diseases themselves. The erosion of
21 public trust in science doesn't just increase health
risks for its band of followers; it also puts our
wider community in jeopardy. As lawmakers and as
leaders, we cannot sit back and let them happen. So,
today, we are passing a package of legislation that

1 seeks to combat disinformation and create a safer and
2 healthier city for all New Yorkers.

3 Looking back to earlier this week, on
4 Tuesday, the Mayor and I announced that the City
5 Council reached an agreement to move the budget
6 deadline for his Executive Budget from May 1st to May
7 12th. That adjustment reflects a very simple reality.
8 We will not have the necessary clarity to complete
9 the Executive Budget until New York State has
10 finalized theirs. We in the City Council are taking a
11 prudent approach to this budget process and ensuring
12 that our fiscal stewardship is responsible by
13 continuing to find savings that will close our budget
14 shortfall.

15 We also took the opportunity to reiterate
16 our prior calls on Albany to deliver its fair share
17 for New York City because, despite being the economic
18 engine of the State, the City contributes much more
19 to the State's revenues than we receive back. That
20 imbalance undermines our capacity to keep the city
21 affordable and to invest in long-term stability.

With that said, we appreciate what the
State government has been able to do for New York
City. They're an essential part of the solution, and

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2 we are all committed to delivering a budget that
3 meets the needs of every New Yorker.

4 Yesterday, I was deeply disappointed by
5 the Supreme Court decision to strike down a
6 Congressional Louisiana Congressional Map. In 1965,
7 the Voting Rights Act brought our country closer to
8 fulfilling the ideals of democracy. But, 61 years
9 later, the Supreme Court has brought us further apart
10 from them. We cannot allow our hard-fought voting
11 protections to be lost, and we must always defend
12 fair representation.

13 And finally, yesterday morning, the
14 Council's Committee on Consumer and Worker Protection
15 held a hearing to discuss a bill I introduced that
16 would establish an Office of Insurance
17 Accountability. Modeled after our Office of
18 Healthcare Accountability, it aims to perform the
19 vital role of promoting transparency and equity in
20 the insurance industry.

21 The cost of insurance has gotten
22 completely out of control. If you're a small business
23 owner in New York City, and let's remember we lost
24 5,000 small businesses last year, you are paying four
25 to five times the national average on liability

1 insurance. We know that the high cost of insurance is
2 affecting renters, it's affecting homeowners, and
3 it's affecting patients who need healthcare
4 insurance. Across the board, whether it's health
5 insurance, homeowners' insurance, or liability
6 insurance for small businesses, everyone is affected,
7 and New Yorkers are footing the bill, which is why we
8 need this office to give the City the tools to
9 understand what is driving these costs, so that we
10 can get smarter, better at lowering skyrocketing
11 insurance costs.

12 Switching gears, yesterday was Denim Day,
13 a day dedicated to standing in solidarity with
14 survivors of sexual violence. As a council, we are
15 deeply committed to supporting survivors with the
16 trauma-informed care and recovery service they need.

17 Tomorrow is Israel's Independence Day,
18 and May 5th is Cinco de Mayo.

19 May 6th is National Nurses Day, and we
20 are so grateful to our essential frontline healthcare
21 workers who keep our communities healthy and safe
every single day.

May 6th is also National Teacher's Day,
observed on the first Tuesday of May. On this day, we

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2 pay tribute to the unsung heroes of our classroom, to
3 the very people who educate our students across the
4 five boroughs. And really, as someone who taught
5 myself, I, as a former professor at Columbia, want to
6 thank all of our dedicated and hard-working teachers.

7 Finally, I want to call attention to
8 Sasha Sealey, who has been employed by the City
9 Council for seven years. Sasha?

10 (APPLAUSE)

11 SPEAKER MENIN: Go, Sasha.

12 (APPLAUSE)

13 SPEAKER MENIN: Sasha started as an intern
14 in our Community Engagement Division, culminating as
15 a Senior Community Liaison. She's now graduating from
16 New York Law School. And we wish her the best as she
17 takes a bar exam.

18 (APPLAUSE)

19 SPEAKER MENIN: Now, let's move on to our
20 Stated Agenda.

21 First, we'll vote on the following Land
Use items:

St. Francis Prep Commercial Overlay will
bring into compliance an existing illuminated sign

1 posted at the entrance of St. Francis Preparatory
2 School in Council Member Linda Lee's district.

3 Next, we'll vote on the following Finance
4 items:

5 A Preconsidered Introduction, also
6 sponsored by Council Member Lee, which would extend
7 certain dates related to the Executive Budget for
8 Fiscal Year 2027.

9 Introduction 791, sponsored by Council
10 Member Lee, would amend the district plan of the
11 Fulton Street business improvement district to change
12 the method of assessment upon which the district
13 charge is based.

14 Three Preconsidered Resolutions,
15 sponsored by Council Member Lee, would establish two
16 partial 40-year Article XI tax exemptions and a
17 partial nine-month Article V tax exemption for four
18 buildings in Majority Leader Abreu's district.

19 A Preconsidered Resolution, sponsored by
20 Council Member Lee, would establish a full 50-year
21 Article XI tax exemption for one building in Council
Member Nurse's district.

A Preconsidered Resolution, sponsored by
Council Member Lee, would establish a full 40-year

1 Article XI tax exemption for two buildings in Council
2 Member Ossé's district.

3 Today, we will vote on the following
4 resolutions:

5 Resolution 183-A, sponsored by Council
6 Member Fariás, calling on the State Legislature to
7 pass, and the Governor to sign, S.7638.B/A.8091.B,
8 providing that certain purchase contracts to purchase
9 food can be awarded to a qualified bidder who
10 complies with certain standards when such a bid is
11 not more than 10% higher than the lowest responsible
12 bidder. Thank you to our staff, Alex Paulenoff,
13 Johari Frasier, and Alex Yablon.

14 Resolution 396, sponsored by Public
15 Advocate Jumaane Williams—who is here with us today,
16 and I want to thank you for being here and for your
17 very eloquent words at the Pre-Statement before on this
18 topic. This resolution would declare May 15 through
19 June 15th as Tourette Syndrome Awareness Month and
20 June 7th as Tourette Syndrome Awareness Day in the
21 City of New York. Thank you to our staff member,
Chloë Rivera, for their help on it.

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Next, we are voting on a package of bills related to improving the response to Code Blue Emergencies:

Introduction 790-A, sponsored by Council Member Joseph, would require the Department of Social Services (DSS), in collaboration with the Office of Emergency Management (OEM), to annually submit reports on warming centers in New York City and post them online.

Introduction 778-A, sponsored by Council Member Restler, would require the Department of Homeless Services (DHS) to create a platform, accessible via mobile devices, available to DHS staff and contractors who do street outreach work, that allows for real-time tracking and reporting of all engagement with street homeless individuals.

Introduction 727-A, sponsored by Majority Leader Abreu, would require the Commissioner of Homeless Services to make best efforts to coordinate with hospitals to make available supplies to patients experiencing homelessness upon their discharge from hospitals.

Introduction 726-A, also sponsored by Majority Leader Abreu, would require the Commissioner

1
2 of Homeless Services, in consultation with relevant
3 New York City agency heads, to develop informational
4 materials directed to hospitals pertaining to a Code
5 Blue or Code Red alert and provide them to hospitals
6 to distribute to patients. The Commissioner also must
7 make best efforts to coordinate with hospitals during
8 these alerts to identify discharged patients
9 experiencing homelessness, assess what DHS resources
10 they need, and make the resources available to them.
11 Thank you to Aminta Kilawan, Justin Campos, and
12 Tristan Monteith.

13
14 Next, we will vote on a package of
15 legislation to expand public education on the
16 importance of vaccinations to combat misinformation
17 and disinformation and improve public health:

18
19 Resolution 273-A, sponsored by Council
20 Member Schulman, would call on the State to enact
21 legislation authorizing dentists to administer
influenza vaccines, COVID-19 vaccines, human
papillomavirus vaccines, or a vaccine related to a
public health emergency.

Resolution 425, also sponsored by Council
Member Schulman, would call on the State to enact
legislation requiring vaccines to be regulated,

1
2 recommended, administered, and insured based on the
3 recommendations of various nationally and
4 internationally recognized healthcare organizations
5 alongside the federal advisory committee on
6 immunization practices.

7 Preconsidered Resolution, also sponsored
8 by Council Member Schulman, would call on the State
9 to enact legislation S.5852/A.3839, requiring
10 insurance to reimburse the total direct and indirect
11 practice expenses associated with vaccinations.

12 Introduction 693-A, sponsored by Council
13 Member Dinowitz, the bill would require the
14 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), in
15 collaboration with relevant agencies, to develop and
16 implement a plan by no later than January 1, 2027, to
17 educate the public regarding the benefits and
18 importance of childhood and adolescent vaccinations
19 for individuals 18 years old or younger.

20 Finally, Introduction 260-A, sponsored by
21 Council Member Krishnan, would require the Department
of Health and Mental Hygiene, in collaboration with
the Department of Education (DOE), to develop
informational materials about vaccines. DOE would
also be required to distribute the materials to

1
2 parents of all New York City public school students,
3 including those enrolled in early childhood programs
4 such as 3-K and pre-K. Thank you to Joshua Newman,
5 Elizabeth Artz, and Christopher Pepe.

6 Thank you for your attention; I am going
7 to turn back over to our Majority Leader.

8 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Speaker
9 Menin. We will now move into Discussion of General
10 Orders, beginning with Council Member Hanif, followed
11 by Council Member Dinowitz, and Council Member
12 Restler.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: I need to speak at
14 the last portion, sorry.

15 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: No problem—Council
16 Member Dinowitz followed by Council Member Restler.

17 (PAUSE)

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

20 Today we're voting on my bill, Intro 693.
21 This bill will bring public awareness to settled
22 medical consensus in a world full of misinformation
23 pushed by grifting health gurus and conspiracy
24 theorists in the White House. New Yorkers should be
25 properly informed through the advice of medical

1
2 professionals when making decisions about their
3 health, and not by sensational podcasters.

4 Intro 693 will require the Department of
5 Health and Mental Hygiene to develop and implement a
6 plan to educate the public regarding the benefits and
7 importance of childhood and adolescent vaccines, as
8 informed by recommendations from well-respected major
9 medical organizations such as the American Academy of
10 Pediatrics, American Academy of Family Physicians,
11 American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists,
12 and American College of Physicians.

13 This legislation is vital as the federal
14 government has become negligent in its duty to keep
15 its citizens safe and healthy. The United States
16 Secretary of Health and Human Services has embarked
17 on an ideological crusade to undo over a century of
18 scientific and medical progress by sowing the seeds
19 of doubt in life-saving vaccines.

20 By removing several vaccines from the
21 recommended childhood schedule, the federal
government has directly contributed to a growing
perception in the public that not only are childhood
vaccines unnecessary, but that they could potentially
pose a risk to a child's health. And we have seen the

1
2 results— increases in measles outbreaks, increases in
3 childhood hospitalization, and more, all
4 predominantly from low vaccination rates and all
5 preventable.

6 By undermining the recommendations of the
7 medical community, the federal government has not
8 only fostered an environment of fear within our
9 country but also subverted major medical advances,
10 contributing to the revival of diseases previously
11 thought extinct.

12 I urge my colleagues to vote yes on this
13 essential piece of legislation and the entire vaccine
14 package so that we can keep New Yorkers safe,
15 informed, and healthy.

16 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you. Council
17 Member Restler followed by Council Member Krishnan.

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

20 I'm proud that we have Intro 778-A on the
21 Agenda today. You know, there are varying estimates
on the number of street-homeless New Yorkers, 4,000,
5,000, 6,000, but a significant number of people who
are struggling on the streets and in our subways
every single day. And we spend a phenomenal amount of

1
2 resources trying to connect them to services—street
3 outreach contracts, safe haven shelters, mental
4 health services, and yet we don't have good data on
5 the engagements with street-homeless New Yorkers and
6 the outcomes that we're delivering. And that's what
our legislation will help address.

7 We will create a mobile platform that
8 every street outreach worker who's contracted with
9 the Department of Homeless Services has access to, to
10 track their engagements and their placements of
11 individuals into housing, into substance use and
12 mental health services.

13 We will now finally have clear, crisp
14 data to understand how effective our investments are
15 and to shift our policies as necessary to make sure
16 that we're connecting people to the housing and the
17 healthcare that they desperately need.

18 This legislation was inspired by an audit
19 by Comptroller Lander from 2023 that revealed that we
20 really do not have comprehensive data systems in
21 place to track our engagement with street-homeless
individuals. And in addition to the street outreach
organizations that engage with homeless New Yorkers
every day, this legislation makes this information

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accessible to other city agencies that provide mental health treatment and healthcare to street-homeless New Yorkers, like Health + Hospitals, and the State Office of Mental Health.

We really believe this is going to help us do a better job of connecting street-homeless New Yorkers to the treatment, the care, and most of all the housing that they desperately need. Thank you very much. And thank you to Speaker Menin and to Chair Hudson for helping to advance this legislation.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council Member Restler. Next, we will hear from Council Member Krishnan, followed by Council Member Joseph.

COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Thank you, Majority Leader.

Our federal government is attacking our healthcare, the information on what is healthy, the institutions that study the science behind vaccinations, and our ability to afford care.

I'm thankful to Speaker Menin, Chair of the Health Committee, Lynn Schulman, and Council Member Eric Dinowitz for their leadership on combating vaccine misinformation. Together, we are passing an aggressive package of bills to combat

1
2 disinformation—false information—around vaccinations
3 and to make them more accessible for New Yorkers and
4 to make sure they get their critical vaccinations.

5 The federal government, from Donald Trump
6 to his health secretary Robert Kennedy Junior, has
7 been spreading false claims about vaccines, gutting
8 our access to healthcare, and undermining the public
9 institutions that keep us healthy and informed. It's
10 a one-two punch to our public health system. They are
11 intentionally confusing our families and making it
12 harder to access healthcare. But our City Council
13 will not stand by and allow the federal government to
14 intervene when it comes to our family's health.

15 My legislation, Intro 260, would require
16 the DOE to develop and distribute materials around
17 vaccines to parents of all New York City Public
18 Schools, including those enrolled in early childhood
19 education programs such as 3K and Pre-K. These
20 materials would give parents and educators clear
21 information on vaccines, how they work, their public
health benefits, their safety, and where to access
vaccines that are required for school attendance. It
would directly combat the dangerous claim the federal

1
2 government is making about science and ensure our
3 families know where to turn to for access.

4 Today, with the support of our Council
5 Speaker Julie Menin, we are doing the work that
6 Donald Trump and RFK Junior refuse to do, and that is
7 to give New Yorkers clear health information and
8 ensure they can keep their families healthy. Thank
9 you.

10 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council
11 Member. Council Member Joseph?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Thank you,
13 Majority Leader. Good afternoon.

14 Today, we take an important step forward
15 in New York City to protect its most vulnerable
16 residents during the coldest days of the year.

17 I'm proud to support and celebrate the
18 passage of this legislation, requiring greater
19 transparency and accountability in our warming
20 centers.

21 For many New Yorkers, our seniors,
families experiencing homelessness, and individuals
living with disabilities, warming centers are not
optional. They are essential. They are the difference
between safety and serious risk. And yet, for far too

1
2 long, we have lacked a clear, comprehensive picture
3 of how these centers are operating, where gaps exist,
4 and whether we are truly meeting the needs across
5 every neighborhood.

6 Intro 790-A changes that by requiring the
7 Department of Social Services, in partnership with
8 the Office of Emergency Management, to produce an
9 annual publicly available report. We are committing
10 to data-driven leadership. We will know where warming
11 centers are located, when they are open, how they are
12 staffed, and critically, whether they are accessible
13 and reaching the people who need them the most. This
14 is about more than reporting. It's about equity. It's
15 about ensuring that no community is left behind when
16 temperatures drop. And it's about building a system
17 that is responsive, coordinated, and rooted in
18 dignity. As a council member and as someone who's
19 deeply committed to protecting our communities, I
20 believe this legislation strengthens our ability to
21 plan to respond and to save lives. Today, we are
reaffirming that every New Yorker deserves warm
safety and care. I want to thank Speaker Menin and
thank you, Chair Hudson.

2 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council
3 Member.

4 Seeing no one else signed up for General
5 Orders, we will now move to Reports of Special
6 Committees.

7 CLERK: None.

8 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Reports of
9 Standing Committees?

10 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
11 Finance, Intro 791, Fulton Street BID?

12 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled on General Orders.

13 CLERK: Preconsidered Introduction 873,
14 budget extender?

15 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled on General Orders
16 with a Message of Necessity.

17 CLERK: Preconsidered LU 59 and Reso 452
18 through Preconsidered LU 63 and Reso 456, tax
19 exemptions?

20 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled on General Orders
21 with a Message of Necessity.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on General
Welfare, Intro 726-A, hospital materials.

SPEAKER MENIN: Amended and Coupled on
General Orders.

2 CLERK: Intro 727-A and 778-A, services to
3 homeless patients.

4 SPEAKER MENIN: Amended and Coupled.

5 CLERK: Intro 790-A, warming centers?

6 SPEAKER MENIN: Amended and Coupled.

7 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Health,
8 Intros 260-A and 693-A, vaccinations?

9 SPEAKER MENIN: Amended and Coupled on
10 General Orders.

11 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Land
12 Use LU 51 and Reso 457, St. Francis Prep Commercial
13 Overlay.

14 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled on General Orders.

15 CLERK: LUs 52 through 55, various
16 applications?

17 SPEAKER MENIN: Approved with
18 Modifications and Referred to the City Planning
19 Commission pursuant to Section 197-(d) of the New
20 York City Charter.

21 CLERK: On the General Orders Calendar,
Resolution appointing various persons as Commissioner
of Deeds?

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SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled on General Orders.
I now ask that the Clerk take a roll call vote on all
items coupled on today's General Order Calendar.

CLERK: Council Member Aldebol?

COUNCIL MEMBER ALDEBOL: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Aye on all, with
the exception of 260 and 693-A, for which I am a no.

CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Avilés?

COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Banks?

DEPUTY LEADER BANKS: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: (UN-MIC'D) Yes.

CLERK: Thank you. Thank you.

Council Member Brooks-Powers?

COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: I vote aye
on all.

CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye on all.

CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Dinowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye on all.

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CLERK: Council Member Encarnación?

DEPUTY WHIP ENCARNACIÓN: I vote aye on
all.

CLERK: Council Member Epstein?

COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: Yes on all.

CLERK: Council Member Farías?

COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: I vote aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Felder?

COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Yes.

CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Feliz?

COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: I vote aye, with
the exception of Intro 260-A and Intro 693-A, on
which I vote no.

CLERK: Thank you, Council Member.

Council Member Gutiérrez?

COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Hankerson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANKERSON: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

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MAJORITY WHIP HANKS: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye

CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Lee?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Louis?

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Maloney?

COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: Aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Morano?

COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Aye on all, with
the exception of Introductions 260 and 693-A. On
those bills, I will vote no.

CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Narcisse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: I vote aye.

CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: I vote aye.

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: I vote aye.

CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: I vote aye on
all except on Introductions 260 and 693-A, of which I
am a no.

CLERK: Thank you, Council Member.

Council Member Restler?

COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Riley?

COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Salaam?

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: I vote aye.

CLERK: Council Member Justin Sanchez?

COUNCIL MEMBER JUSTIN SANCHEZ: (NO
RESPONSE)

CLERK: Okay, we will come back.

Council Member Pierina Sanchez?

COUNCIL MEMBER PIERINA SANCHEZ:

Permission to explain my vote?

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Permission
granted.

COUNCIL MEMBER PIERINA SANCHEZ: I just
want to commend colleagues on the vaccine package,

1 especially Council Member Dinowitz. As a mother of
2 young children, it's so important to keep our littles
3 safe. With that, I vote aye on all.

4 CLERK: Thank you.

5 Council Member Justin Sanchez?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER JUSTIN SANCHEZ: Aye on
7 all.

8 Council Member Santosuosso?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER SANTOSUOSSO: Aye on all.

10 CLERK: Thank you.

11 Council Member Schulman?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye on all.

13 CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye.

15 CLERK: Council Member Thomas-Henry?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER THOMAS-HENRY: Aye.

17 CLERK: Council Member Ung?

18 DEPUTY LEADER UNG: Aye on all.

19 CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

20 MINORITY WHIP VERNIKOV: Aye on all with
21 the exception of Introductions 260 and 693-A, for
which I vote no.

CLERK: Council Member Williams?

DEPUTY SPEAKER WILLIAMS: I vote aye.

CLERK: Council Member Won?

COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Wong?

COUNCIL MEMBER WONG: I vote aye on all,
except for Introduction 693, for which I vote no.

CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Zhuang?

COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Carr?

MINORITY LEADER CARR: I vote no on
Introductions 260 and 693-A, and aye on the rest.

CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Aye.

CLERK: Speaker Menin?

SPEAKER MENIN: Aye.

(PAUSE)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: All items on
today's General Order Calendar have been adopted by a
vote of 50 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative, and
0 abstentions, with the exception of Introduction
260, which was adopted by a vote of 44 in the
affirmative, 6 in the negative, and 0 abstentions,
and Introduction 693-A, which was adopted by a vote

1
2 of 43 in the affirmative, 7 in the negative, and 0
3 abstentions.

4 Introduction and Reading of Bills?

5 SPEAKER MENIN: All bills have been
6 referred to committee as indicated on today's agenda.

7 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you. We will
8 now move into the Discussion of Resolutions,
9 beginning with our Public Advocate, Jumaane Williams.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE WILLIAMS: Thank you very
11 much. My objective this third time of reading these
12 remarks is to try to get through it without so many
13 pauses, but I do want to acknowledge Emma O'Connell
14 and Jason Kaplan from the Tourette Syndrome
15 Association, who are with us today.

16 So there are several people in the
17 audience with Tourette's Syndrome. And just to let
18 everyone know, that can get interesting. So I just
19 want folks to know.

20 Good afternoon, again. My name is Jumaane
21 Williams; I'm the Public Advocate of the city of New
York. I want to thank Speaker Menin, Chair Hanif, and
the Members of the Committee and the Council for
holding this vote. I'd like to thank the advocates in
the audience for attending today's Stated Meeting.

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2 The CDC estimates that about 1.4 million
3 people in the US have Tourette's Syndrome or a
4 persistent tic disorder. I am one of those people,
5 and I am believed to be the first person with
6 Tourette's in the country to be elected to public
7 office.

8 People with Tourette's experience tics,
9 involuntary, sudden, brief, intermittent, repetitive
10 movements or noises. It can significantly impact a
11 person's day-to-day, and can either be temporary or
12 something a person lives with for the rest of their
13 life.

14 People with Tourette's are also more
15 likely to have other comorbid disabilities, such as
16 learning disabilities, autism, and depression. I
17 myself have also been diagnosed with ADHD.

18 While Tourette's Syndrome itself can make
19 day-to-day life difficult, so too does a lack of
20 awareness about it. Many people have never heard of
21 Tourette's or have heard misinformation, and may
22 react negatively, even violently, to a person's tics.

23 I myself lived with Tourette's for a
24 time, not knowing what it was. And in fact, I first

1 learned about Tourette's from a 20/20 Special, not
2 from a doctor.

3 Tourette's is too often viewed as a moral
4 failing, as if a person is refusing to stop the tics
5 rather than being unable to. This is especially so
6 when a tic is obscene language or a slur called
7 Coprolalia, something I have struggled with.

8 Stigma and discrimination can make
9 getting and keeping a job more difficult or lead to
10 increased contact with the criminal legal system.

11 Many people with Tourette's retreat from
12 public life, isolating themselves from other people
13 due to shame or fear, and may avoid seeking
14 treatment.

15 Recently, at the BAFTA Awards, John
16 Davidson, an activist who educates people about
17 Tourette's Syndrome, shouted out the N word as two
18 Black actors were presenting awards, setting off a
19 firestorm of media attention and outrage.

20 Tics that include offensive language and
21 slurs can cause real hurt, even if the person saying
it not only does not intend harm, but is deeply
regretful and embarrassed by it.

1
2 As a Black man who also tics the N word,
3 I know no matter the reason, that word has power and
4 does real damage. And we can't minimize it. I think
5 we can recognize that even an involuntary impact
6 devoid of intent can't be ignored. Too often, the
7 burden of empathy is placed primarily on the Black
8 community.

9 At the same time, to the importance of
10 this Resolution, we also have to make space for
11 compassion and grace for the person with Tourette's
12 and take this opportunity to educate people about the
13 disability.

14 The situation at the BAFTAs never should
15 have happened, but it did, so let's learn from it. At
16 that moment, BAFTA had a responsibility to prepare
17 the attendees for the possibility that they may have
18 had this language directed at them. They also had the
19 ability not to hear it. Now we have an opportunity to
20 inform people more broadly.

21 Education and awareness have proven to be
effective in combating stigma against disabilities
and other disorders. Today, we're voting on a
resolution I introduced declaring May 15th through
June 15th as Tourette's Syndrome Awareness Month and

1
2 June 7th as Tourette's Syndrome Awareness Day in New
3 York City.

4 Knowing people with a disability reduces
5 stigma, underscoring the need for raising awareness,
6 representation, and open dialogue about Tourette's
7 and other tic disorders.

8 I hope that young people living with tic
9 disorders can see their own potential in me. And I
10 hope everyone will join me in celebrating this newly
11 recognized month and day.

12 I was the first elected official in the
13 country known to have Tourette's Syndrome, and I'm
14 proud to say I am no longer the only one. And I want
15 young people like me out there to know that your
16 condition is a part of you, but you are not defined
17 by it. And it doesn't have to limit what you do, only
18 change how you do it. And by more broadly recognizing
19 Tourette's Syndrome Awareness Month, I hope we can
20 reach others with that message.

21 I want to thank my staff, Gwen Saffran,
22 Senior Policy and Legislative Associate; Veronica
23 Aveis, Deputy Public Advocate for Policy; Rosie
24 Mendez, Director of Policy and Legislation; Elizabeth

1 Kennedy, Deputy Public Advocate for Education and
2 Opportunity; and Lupe Hernandez, Community Organizer.
3

4 I would also like to thank the Tourette
5 Association of America for its work on this
6 resolution. And I want to shout out to Justin Farmer
7 from Connecticut, who ran for office and won after he
8 saw me. That was an amazing moment of pride.

9 I also want to thank Cameron (phonetic)
10 Jackson, whose grandmother was in a committee hearing
11 earlier, who stopped me at an event to tell me he had
12 Tourette's Syndrome. I was happy to be able to invite
13 him to my office. I am happy to bring him here to
14 City Hall as well.

15 I have never hidden my Tourette's
16 Syndrome, and I never plan to. I never leaned into it
17 intentionally, but I am trying to do that more. I am
18 also trying to honor the experience of my younger
19 self.

20 So, I thank you all for voting for this,
21 and for helping me live to be who you needed when you
were younger. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Mr.
Public Advocate.

(APPLAUSE)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Wow.

Council Member Schulman?

COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Thank you,
Majority Leader.

Today's vaccine package is very timely. I just learned it's World Immunization Week. As part of today's package, I am proud to sponsor three resolutions being voted on today, each one a direct response to the growing threats to vaccine access and public health in our city and state. None of this would be possible without the Speaker's commitment to making New York City a leader on public health.

The first Resolution, 273-A, calls on New York State to authorize dentists to administer vaccines. Dentists were on the front lines of our COVID response. They showed up, they were qualified, and they saved lives. It's time to make that permanent. Every additional access point means more New Yorkers are protected.

The second Resolution, 425, calls on New York State to require vaccine policy to be grounded in the recommendations of reputable nationally and internationally recognized healthcare organizations, not solely on a CDC, which has become increasingly

1
2 politicized. The federal government is eroding public
3 trust in vaccines and putting lives at risk. New York
4 will not follow them down that path.

5 And finally, Preconsidered Resolution
6 448 calls on New York State to require insurers to
7 fully reimburse pediatric practices for the cost of
8 providing vaccines. Pediatric offices are the
9 backbone of our childhood immunization system, and we
10 must make sure they can afford to stay there. (TIMER)
11 When Washington steps back, the City Council steps
12 up. Thank you.

13 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council
14 Member.

15 Seeing no one else signed up for
16 Resolutions, we will now have a voice vote on today's
17 Resolutions.

18 If you wish to vote against or abstain
19 from any of today's Resolutions, please notify the
20 Legislative Documents Unit by email or by approaching
21 the dais.

I will now read today's resolutions into
the record.

Resolution 183-A calls on the State
Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign,

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S.7638.B/A.8091.B, providing that certain purchase contracts to purchase food can be awarded to a qualified bidder who complies with certain standards when such bid is not more than 10% higher than the lowest responsible bidder.

Will all those in favor say aye?

ALL: Aye

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: All opposed say nay?

ALL: (SILENT)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Any abstentions?

ALL: (SILENT)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: The ayes have it.

Resolution 273-A calling on the New York State Assembly to pass A.3892, the New York State Legislature to pass S.6744A/A.3894A, and the Governor to sign S.4548/A.3892 and S.6744A/A.3894A, legislation authorizing dentists to administer influenza vaccines, COVID-19 vaccines, human papillomavirus vaccines, or a vaccine related to a public health emergency.

Will all those in favor say aye?

ALL: Aye

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MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: All opposed say
nay?

ALL: (SILENT)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Any abstentions?

ALL: (SILENT)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: The ayes have it.
Resolution 396 Declaring May 15 through
June 15 as Tourette Syndrome Awareness Month and June
7 as Tourette Syndrome Awareness Day in the city of
New York.

Will all those in favor say aye?

ALL: Aye

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: All opposed say
nay?

ALL: (SILENT)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Any abstentions?

ALL: (SILENT)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Mr. Public
Advocate, the ayes have it.

Resolution 425, calling on the New York
State Assembly to pass A.8824A, A.9648, and A.9060C,
and for the Governor to sign S.8334A/A.8824A,
S.8853/A.9648, and S.8496C/A.9060C, legislation
requiring vaccines to be regulated, recommended,

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administered, and insured based on the
recommendations of various nationally and
internationally recognized healthcare organizations
alongside the federal advisory committee on
immunization practices.

Will all those in favor say aye?

ALL: Aye

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: All opposed say
nay?

ALL: (SILENT)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Any abstentions?

ALL: (SILENT)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: The ayes have it.

Finally, Preconsidered Resolution 448
calls on the New York State Assembly to pass A.3839,
and the Governor to sign S.5852/A.3839, requiring
insurance to reimburse the total direct and indirect
practice expenses associated with vaccinations.

Will all those in favor say aye?

ALL: Aye

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: All opposed say
nay?

ALL: (SILENT)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Any abstentions?

ALL: (SILENT)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: The ayes have it.

We will now move into General Discussion, first beginning with Council Member Hanks, followed by Council Member Narcisse.

COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Thank you, Majority Leader. First, I want to say how proud I am to support our Public Advocates' resolutions on Tourette's Syndrome awareness. Thank you for your advocacy. I know what it's like. I raised the stepdaughter for 20 years with Tourette's, and what you said was absolutely moving, and thank you very much.

Heart disease remains one of the leading causes of death in New York City and across New York State. It affects families in every borough, every community in every neighborhood. Reso 442 calls on New York State to require insurance coverage for coronary artery calcium testing so that more New Yorkers can benefit from this important preventative tool. It is a common-sense step that can help save lives, reduce long-term healthcare costs, and give families a chance to act before a medical emergency occurs. Coronary artery calcium testing is a simple,

1 non-invasive screening tool that can help identify
2 plaque buildup in arteries and give patients and
3 doctors a clearer picture of heart disease risk. For
4 many people, it could be the early warning that leads
5 to lifestyle changes, medication, further testing,
6 and ultimately life-saving care. For too many New
7 Yorkers, the test is out of reach because it's not
8 covered by insurance. That means prevention becomes a
9 question of whether someone can afford to pay out of
10 pocket. And that is not how our healthcare system
11 should work.

12 Not long ago, my partner's life was
13 changed because of early detection through coronary
14 artery calcium testing. It revealed a serious risk
15 that would never have been known otherwise, and he
16 had no warning signs or anything that would tell us
17 something was wrong. No family should have to learn
18 too late that there was a tool available that could
19 have helped them detect a problem earlier.

20 I call on my colleagues to support this
21 resolution. Thank you, Mr. Majority Leader.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Council Member
Narcisse, followed by Council Member Wong.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Thank you,
3 Majority Leader, and thank you, Public Advocate, for
4 this bill, which is needed in our city so we can be
5 sensitive to each other and understand the disease
6 process, whatever we're going through. So thank you
7 for sharing.

8 I'm proud to introduce two bills, and
9 thank you to Speaker Menin. These bills are very
10 important.

11 The first one is the dog waste. I know
12 for some it's not a big deal. This is a
13 quality-of-life issue every day. New Yorkers know too
14 well that when you walk out your front door, you have
15 to dodge the sidewalk from stepping on poops all
16 over. Your kids are standing on them in the park.
17 There are 600,000 dogs in the city, 3-11 complaints
18 are up to 81%, and sanitation issues have issued just
19 two summonses in all of 2025. The law exists, but
20 nobody is being held to it.

21 This bill puts up signs where the problem
is worse on the park sidewalks. Neighborhoods are
calling 3-11 over and over to get relief. That's what
we are looking for. So the rules can apply to all
people, and we can end this. This is happening too

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often. So I'm asking my colleagues to look into this and support me.

I'm also introducing the Homeowner Stability and Protection Act today, Intro 879. Local Law 18 was supposed to lower costs and expand housing. But years later, rents are still skyrocketing, and the vacancy rate has not budged. What does this do? It takes away the ability of homeowners to earn income from their own homes. In my district and in working-class neighborhoods across the city, homeowners are losing their homes. Deed thefts have nearly tripled since 2023. We have seen over 1,800 foreclosures across the 10 majority Black communities around the city. This is too much. The seniors are losing their homes. It is time for us to step up.

This bill (TIMER) lets homeowners have their home while they're traveling, raising the guest cap from two to four, so a family... (CROSS-TALK)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Please wrap up, Council Member... (CROSS-TALK)

COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: can actually stay together. This is important, and thank you, Majority Leader. So let's look into it.

1 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Council Member
2 Wong, followed by Council Member Hankerson.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER WONG: Thank you, Majority
4 Leader.

5 Today, I am introducing six pieces of
6 legislation that will improve the safety, equity, and
7 quality of life in the city.

8 My first focus is on improving community
9 awareness of their schools. To accomplish this, Intro
10 885 would require the Department of Education to
11 create an online portal to facilitate the comparison
12 of funding and spending across schools.

13 Two of my other bills would increase the
14 safety of our neighborhoods. Intro 889 would prohibit
15 the parking of commercial vehicles owned or operated
16 by gas or oil heat suppliers between the hours of
17 9:00 P.M. and 5:00 A.M., and Intro 887 would make it
18 an immediate hazardous violation to sell beverages
19 without a valid place of assembly certificate of
20 operation.

21 Additionally, two of the bills would
greatly increase our knowledge of what is happening
behind the scenes. Intro 886 would require the
Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to publicly

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2 issue monthly reports on animal shelters that are
3 under contract with the City of New York.

4 Intro 888 would require the Department of
5 Health to report how many times city agencies and
6 hospitals submit referrals for individuals to
7 assisted outpatient treatment programs.

8 My final bill, Intro 890, would improve
9 the City's relationship with the environment and save
10 us money by creating a pilot program to study
11 increasing the minimum percentage of reclaimed
12 asphalt pavement.

13 All of these bills have different
14 focuses, but they are common-sense measures that will
15 meaningfully improve the safety and quality of life
16 of all New Yorkers. Thank you.

17 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council
18 Member.

19 I would also like to recognize that
20 former council members have joined us, now State
21 Legislators, Erik Bottcher, our senator, and Keith
Powers from the Assembly.

(APPLAUSE)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Council Member
Hankerson, followed by Council Member Brooks-Powers.

1 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKERSON: Thank you,
2 Majority Leader.

3 I just want to take a moment to recognize
4 the young people from the Learning to Work program
5 who have joined us in the balcony today for nearly
6 20...

7 (APPLAUSE)

8 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKERSON: Absolutely...
9 For nearly 20 years, Learning to Work has kept young
10 people on track to graduate. It serves more than
11 16,000 students across the city. These are students
12 who fell behind and are working to catch up. My
13 little brother was one of them. This program provided
14 the support, positivity, and mentorship he needed.
15 But he isn't the only one. Thousands of young people
16 across the city of New York have benefited from this
17 program. If we are serious about investing in our
18 youth, we must keep them engaged with programs that
19 work. If we are serious about decreasing
20 unemployment, we must prepare them for work. If we
21 are serious about the economy, we must be intentional
about valuing their voices and harnessing their
creativity.

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2 Students in this program have counselors
3 who stay with them. They recover credits and move
4 toward a diploma. They step into paid internships and
5 build real work experience—students in this program
6 graduate at higher rates. Interns graduate at rates
near 97% from the program.

7 Right now, this program is not guaranteed
8 to continue at full strength. Support has shifted to
9 short-term fixes that create instability. That
10 instability reaches students and staff. If this
11 program shrinks, thousands of young people lose
12 support. More students will leave school without a
13 diploma. We will feel that in our workforce and in
14 our communities. If we are serious about decreasing
15 youth crime, we must protect what keeps young people
16 on track. If we are serious about decreasing
17 unemployment, we should protect what they do for
work. If we are serious about the economy, we protect
18 the systems that build it. Thank you to the Learning
19 to Work students who are here with us today.

20 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council
21 Member...

(APPLAUSE)

1 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Council Member
2 Brooks-Powers, followed by Council Member Brewer.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Thank you.
4 Today, I'm proud to introduce two pieces of
5 legislation aimed at expanding access to affordable
6 homeownership across our city.

7 Homeownership remains one of the most
8 effective tools we have to build generational wealth
9 and stabilize communities. Yet, for too many New
10 Yorkers, especially working families, that pathway
remains out of reach.

11 The first bill I'm introducing, Intro
12 862, which strengthened the city's Home First Down
13 Payment Assistance Program by requiring HPD to assist
14 at least 600 first-time home buyers each year. This
15 program provides up to \$100,000 in support for down
16 payments and closing costs, but it is currently
17 underutilized. In fiscal year 2025, only 126
18 households were assisted. While the agency is working
19 to scale up to 300 loans annually, this bill works to
expand affordable homeownership opportunities by
doubling that number to 600 households per year.

20 The second bill, Intro 861, focuses on
21 awareness and access. It would require HPD to conduct

1 a targeted outreach campaign to inform New York
2 residents about the Section 8 Home Ownership Program,
3 which allows eligible families to use their vouchers
4 towards purchasing a home. Shout out to my Assembly
5 member, Khaleel Anderson, on this one.

6 Together, these bills can move us closer
7 to realizing the dream of home ownership for
8 thousands more New Yorkers.

9 Additionally, I'm introducing Resolution
10 439 in support of state legislation restoring 20-year
11 service retirement for uniform correction officers
12 and sanitation workers. At a time when our
13 correctional system is facing significant staffing
14 challenges, restoring parity and benefits is a
15 critical step towards improving conditions for both
16 staff and those in custody. (TIMER)

17 I look forward to working with my
18 colleagues to advance these efforts. Thank you.

19 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you.

20 Council Member Brewer, followed by
21 Council Member Morano.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you.

I just want to say we need an
exterminator because we had a water bug over here,

1
2 and I know what water bugs look like because I've got
3 them in my house. I just want to let you know.

4 So Intro 859 (BACKGROUND NOISE)... Intro
5 859, twice a year, the City Council...

6 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Keep it down, let
7 the council member speak, thank you.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I brought up the
9 problem.

10 Twice a year, the City Council honors New
11 Yorkers with street co-namings. I think many of us
12 have done this, mostly people we know. For instance,
13 I just honored salsa pianist Larry Harlow on West
14 86th Street.

15 To familiarize more New Yorkers with
16 those who came before us, the Council passed my Local
17 Law 104 in 2023, and DORIS, which is the records,
18 created a searchable map. In 2002 and 2003, Local
19 Laws named 400+ streets for first responders killed
20 on 9/11, but many of those streets lacked
21 biographical information.

Under the guidance of Commissioner
Pauline O'Toole of DORIS, her staff compiled the
stories of these individuals lost on that terrible

1
2 day and found them all. Introduction 859 allows DORIS
3 to update the map accordingly.

4 Introduction 860 authorized HPD and the
5 Fire Department to inspect buildings for required
6 physical street numbers during their routine
7 inspections of buildings. For over 100 years, all
8 buildings in New York City must display their street
9 numbers, so first responders don't lose critical time
10 to help people in need. And yet compliance has been a
11 problem. An article in the New York Times from 1929
12 noted the lack of building numbers and how it
13 impacted delivery people and telegraph messengers.

14 I passed Local Law 26 and 2017 with
15 Public Advocate Jumaane Williams, if he remembers,
16 and the fire department supports an increase in
17 fines.

18 Intro 860 would empower HPD and the fire
19 department to respond to 3-11 complaints and also add
20 (TIMER) street numbers to their regular inspections.

21 If you ever wander around and can't find
a street number, now you'll be able to find it. Thank
you very much.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you.

1 Council Member Maloney, followed by
2 Council Member Morano.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: Thank you,
4 Majority Leader.

5 Today...

6 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Sit down, please. Sit
7 down.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: Today, I'm
9 introducing three pieces of legislation and a
10 resolution focused on supporting small businesses and
11 keeping our streets safe.

12 The first is Introduction 197, which
13 supports the legacy businesses that have shaped the
14 character of our communities, such as the corner
15 bakery, the family hardware store, or your local
16 diner. This bill would establish a legacy business
17 registry to formally recognize those legacy
18 businesses that have operated for 20+ years, and it
19 would create a preservation fund that would provide
20 grants to those businesses and to property owners who
21 commit to keeping them in place.

The second is a resolution that calls on
Albany to pass legislation allowing mobile barber
shops. I want to thank Assembly Member Jordan Wright,

1 who is championing that bill in Albany, for being
2 here. Not everyone can go to a barber shop. Seniors
3 and people with disabilities deserve access to
4 professional services just like everyone else, and
5 mobile barber shops meet people where they are,
6 support small business entrepreneurship, and fill a
7 gap in our communities.

8 Third is Introduction 372, which makes
9 government work better and faster. The legislation
10 would require every city agency that issues permits
11 to publish clear timelines so applicants know what to
12 expect. It provides real-time tracking so that they
13 can follow their application every step of the way,
14 and establishes accountability measures to make sure
15 agencies actually meet the timelines that they set.

16 And lastly, Intro 1312 to address a
17 safety issue that has become impossible to ignore,
18 E-bikes going too fast on our streets and on our
19 sidewalks. This legislation would enshrine the speed
20 limit for electric-assist bicycles at 15 mph in City
21 law, and I look forward to working with my colleagues
to pass this. Thank you.

 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Council Member
Morano, followed by Council Member Pierina Sanchez.

COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Thank you.

Colleagues, before we leave today, I just want to say a word about what happened in Washington last Saturday. Thank God the president is safe. Thank goodness there were no fatalities. And thank God for the men and women in law enforcement who acted in seconds when it mattered most.

But let's be honest with ourselves. This was the third time a president has had to contend with something like this in the last 2-and-a-half years. And that means something is really wrong. And I don't say that to point fingers. I say it because I think the responsibility falls on us, the people in this room, to set a different tone. We argue, we disagree, sometimes loudly, sometimes on television, sometimes on the radio. But the people that we disagree with are not enemies to be destroyed. Their colleagues, their neighbors. In some cases, they've become friends. For instance, Council Member Ossé and I did a video recently on something about as controversial as it gets, changing the clocks. I caught a little heat for it. I'm sure he did too. But you know what people saw? Two members who don't agree on everything—most days, we don't agree on anything—

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2 are actually working together on something. And after
3 what we just witnessed, I am more committed than ever
4 to that approach. I think the more we disagree, the
5 more important it is that we work together because
6 the public needs to see that it's still possible. I
7 always try to have a Democratic prime sponsor on my
8 bills unless the idea is truly crazy, which, assure
9 you, today's bill with Council Member Wong is not.
10 And I think that's what the Common Sense Caucus is
11 all about. And it's something I'm proud to be a part
12 of. We can debate hard without dehumanizing each
13 other. We can fight for our ideas without fearing for
14 our safety. And if we get that right here, maybe,
15 just maybe, it catches on out there among the public,
16 among a population that may be mentally unstable and
17 in some cases, just waiting to repeat the rhetoric of
18 cable news in order to do something crazy. So I'm
19 more committed than ever to work with the people I
20 disagree with most (TIMER) on as many issues as
21 possible. Thank you.

18 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Council Member
19 Pierina Sanchez, followed by Council Member Mealy.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER PIERINA SANCHEZ: Thank
21 you, Majority Leader.

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2 Ten. Ten shots were fired outside my
3 office on Monday night. This is the reality in my
4 community—the instability. Here's what else is true—
5 Our median income is about \$25,000 per year for a
6 worker who works full-time. Only 16% of our children
7 have access to afterschool programs, and 70% of our
8 families are one income shock away from losing their
9 home. But we're resilient. We're diamonds made in the
rough. I grew up here, as have so many others who are
fighting each day.

10 When I asked my resilient neighbors what
11 we need the most, the answer was unanimous—a stable
12 home. That's the foundation for stabilizing a
13 community and giving folks the breathing room they
14 need to get ahead in life and be safe. That's why in
15 2023, this Council passed an expansion to the
16 CityFHEPS program so families don't have to become
17 homeless to get help or languish in a shelter.
18 Because even today, two-thirds of families in
shelters are ineligible for a voucher and cannot get
out.

19 We expanded FEPS eligibility because
20 homelessness has devastating impacts. Many studies
21 show worse health outcomes, more emergency room

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2 visits, increased intra-family violence, and
3 disruptions in children's education. In New York
4 City, 150,000 students are in shelter; 63% of them
5 are chronically absent. So the cost of inaction is
6 real—42,000 families have been evicted since we
7 passed these bills in 2023—25,000 of those could have
8 been prevented, and it is cheaper. It is cheaper to
9 keep people in their homes, not just because of all
10 of the impacts that I've described, but because
11 shelter, which houses 44,000 households, is costing
12 us \$4 billion, whereas we're housing more people with
13 FHEPS today for one-quarter of that price at \$1.2
14 billion.

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16 So we gathered today to call on the Mayor
17 to drop his suit. (TIMER) Thank you, Speaker Menin,
18 for your support in keeping vulnerable New Yorkers at
19 the forefront of this negotiation. Thank you.

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21 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: All right, we have
22 three more to go, and then we will be done soon.

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24 Council Member Mealy, followed by Council
25 Member Hanif, then Council Member Zhuang.

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27 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Thank you, Madam
28 Speaker, for all the leadership you are showing and

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2 the awareness that you have brought to this city with
3 Denim Day.

4 Today's press conference of Denim Day
5 raised awareness and made it clear that survivors'
6 voices must be heard. Denim Day began after a rape
7 victim's case was overturned due to the claim that
8 tight jeans implied consent. Outraged, people
9 worldwide adopted jeans as a symbol of protest
10 against harmful myths about sexual assault.

11 I want to encourage two organizations
12 today that held their press conference, working in
13 all of our communities: Sisters in Purple and Women
14 Divide. Today was all about everyone advocating to
15 make sure that survivors' voices are never ignored or
16 silenced.

17 And I want to thank my school in my
18 district again. Principal Lena Gates of Dr. Ronald E.
19 McNair/P.S.5 school has been named a 2026 Blue Ribbon
20 Lighthouse School of Excellence for the National
21 Assessment in all nine categories of learning needs.
22 They are doing a big press conference and event
23 today, and I want to thank them all for doing that.

24 And I want to thank Camber (phonetic) and
25 Breevort Senior Center for having their Spades

1 tournament that happens from 6:00 to 9:00 P.M. And, I
2 thank my team, the Baddies, we won second place.

3 So thank you to the senior centers in all
4 our districts, and make sure our seniors are at the
5 forefront of everything we do in this city. Thank
6 you.

7 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you. Now we
8 have Council Member Hanif, followed by Council Member
9 Zhuang.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Thank you, Majority
11 Leader.

12 With the rain coming down today, things
13 are feeling a little dreary and, honestly, a bit
14 crappy. On my walk to the train this morning, I was
15 greeted by a common sight, a familiar New York
16 hazard, a pile of dog poop on the sidewalk. And as
17 many of you remember, when the winter storm froze our
18 streets earlier this week, it also uncovered a
19 not-so-hidden reality. Far too many New Yorkers are
20 still not picking up after their dogs. That's why
21 today I'm proud to introduce legislation creating a
citywide public education campaign to make sure New
Yorkers know how to properly dispose of dog waste and
understand the real public health risks when they

1 don't. Being a good neighbor means doing your civic
2 duty. So to all New Yorkers, scoop the poop. Thank
3 you.

4 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Council Member
5 Zhuang?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Thank you,
7 Majority Leader.

8 I want to thank Chair Sanchez for
9 advocating for all New Yorkers. A lot of times, only
10 when we expand the CityFHEPS program are we able to
11 address the homelessness issue in our city, so we
12 don't have to give more money to greedy and corrupt
13 developers to build incentive shelters everywhere in
14 the city.

15 As a mother, I care deeply about
16 education for our city's children, and I know how
17 important it is to be taught how to engage with
18 government. A lot of times, the younger generation
19 doesn't get civic engagement. The Mayor knows how
20 important civic engagement is, too, as shown by his
21 lunch, his morning of organizing Organize NYC. As a
result, I'm introducing Resolution 451, calling on
the New York State Legislature to pass, and the
Governor to sign, A.9298 and a companion bill in the

1 Senate, which would enact the "Next-Gen Civics Act,"
2 providing hands-on, project-based civic education to
3 students in grades nine through 12. This bill idea is
4 actually an idea from one of our interns from our
5 office. We'd like to encourage more young people to
6 be civically engaged. So it's very important to get
7 our colleagues to sign on to this resolution and
8 support our interns and children in our district, and
9 everywhere in New York City, to know how government
works in a way that will encourage and excite them.

10 Thank you.

11 MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council
Member.

12 I will now call on Speaker Julie Menin to
13 close today's Stated Meeting.

14 SPEAKER MENIN: Great. Thank you. Before I
15 do so, I also want to acknowledge our former
16 colleagues who are here: Assemblymember Keith Powers
17 and State Senator Erik Bottcher. So great to have you
18 back in the chambers. We miss you, but it's great to
see you both.

19 UNIDENTIFIED: Pass the budget.

20 (LAUGHTER)

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SPEAKER MENIN: Thank you, I heard that.
We're counting on you.

So the Stated Meeting of April 30th,
2026, is hereby adjourned. Thank you, everyone.

[GAVEL]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Date May 10, 2026