

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

OF THE

STATED MEETING

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Thursday, January 23, 2025
Start: 2:20 P.M.
Recess: 3:23 P.M.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: Amanda Farías, Majority Leader,
Presiding as the President Pro
Tempore

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Adrienne E. Adams, Speaker
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

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING
COUNCIL MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

Jennifer Gutiérrez
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
Susan Zhuang

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

A P P E A R A N C E S

INVOCATION:

Delivered by: Rabbi Joshua Rabin,
The Astoria Center of Israel located at 27-35
Crescent Street, Astoria NY 11102.

2 SERGEANT CUSHNER: This is a microphone check for
3 the New York City Council Stated Meeting located in
4 the Chambers, recorded on January 23, 2025 by Patrick
5 Cushner.

6 (PAUSE)

7 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Council Members, please take
8 your seats, thank you.

9 (PAUSE)

10 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Ladies and gentlemen, at this
11 time, please place all electronic devices, all
12 electronic devices to vibrate or silent mode.

13 Madam Majority Leader?

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: (GAVELING IN)

15 Good afternoon and welcome to the Stated Meeting
16 of January 23, 2025. I am Majority Leader Amanda
17 Fariás, and I would like to thank you for joining us.
18 If you would like to follow along, the agenda for
19 today's meeting is posted on our website.

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

2 Any member of the public who creates a
3 disturbance on the floor will be removed by a
4 Sergeant at Arms.

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

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

13 ALL: (PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE)

14 (PAUSE)

15 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Roll call?

16 CITY CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Present

18 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: (NO RESPONSE)

20 CITY CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Presenté

22 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Here

24 CITY CLERK: Council Member Banks?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Present

2 CITY CLERK: Council Member Bottcher

3 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHER: (ABSENT)

4 CITY CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Here

6 CITY CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here

8 CITY CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Present

10 CITY CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Present

12 CITY CLERK: Council Member Carr?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: (NO RESPONSE)

14 CITY CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Here

16 CITY CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Here

18 CITY CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: (NO RESPONSE)

20 CITY CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: (NO RESPONSE)

22 CITY CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: (PARENTAL)

24 CITY CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Here

2 CITY CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Present

4 CITY CLERK: Council Member Holden?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here

6 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Here

8 CITY CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Present

10 CITY CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Present

12 CITY CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Here

14 CITY CLERK: Council Member Lee?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Here

16 CITY CLERK: Council Member Louis?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present

18 CITY CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Present

20 CITY CLERK: Council Member Marte?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Present

22 CITY CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Present

24 CITY CLERK: Council Member Menin?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Here

2 CITY CLERK: Council Member Moya?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Present

4 CITY CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Present

6 CITY CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Present

8 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Here

10 CITY CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: (NO RESPONSE)

12 CITY CLERK: Council Member Powers?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Here

14 CITY CLERK: Council Member Restler?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Here

16 CITY CLERK: Council Member Riley?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: (NO RESPONSE)

18 CITY CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present

20 CITY CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: (NO AUDIBLE RESPONSE)

22 CITY CLERK: Council Member Salaam

23 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Present

24 CITY CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present

2 CITY CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Present

4 CITY CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Here

6 CITY CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Here

8 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ung?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Present

10 CITY CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: (NO RESPONSE)

12 CITY CLERK: Council Member Williams?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Present

14 CITY CLERK: Council Member Won?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Present

16 CITY CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Here

18 CITY CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here

20 CITY CLERK: Council Member Riley?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Here

22 CITY CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Here

24 CITY CLERK: Council Member Borelli?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: (NO RESPONSE)

2 CITY CLERK: Council Member Farías?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Present

4 CITY CLERK: Speaker Adams?

5 SPEAKER ADAMS: Present

6 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you, we will now
7 have today's Invocation, which will be delivered by
8 Rabbi Joshua Rabin, The Astoria Center of Israel
9 which is located at 27-35 Crescent Street in Queens.

10 RABBI JOSHUA RABIN: Speaker Adams, Majority
11 Leader Farías, Council Member Cabán, beloved
12 community, with your permission, let us pray.

13 In Jewish tradition, there is a Midrash, a
14 rabbinic legend, that compares the wisdom of our
15 sages to drawing water from a well. It states, Rabbi
16 Hanina taught, Torah is like a deep well full of
17 water whose waters were cold, sweet, and delicious,
18 but no one was able to drink from it. Then a certain
19 person came along, tied one cord to another, one rope
20 to another, and drew water out of the well to drink.
21 Then everyone else began to draw water and drink from
22 it.

23 What strikes me most about this story is the
24 choice made by this mysterious individual. In this
25 legend, water represents the wisdom of Torah, a

2 spiritual life force for each Jew. And yet after this
3 person labored tirelessly to access the well's water,
4 they shared it freely with others instead of keeping
5 it for themselves. Confronted with the decision to
6 view wisdom as either a scarce or abundant resource,
7 They chose abundance.

8 My friends, those entrusted with our city's
9 leadership, no one enters this world as an enemy to
10 another. So how do so many of us become enemies?
11 Perhaps it is because we failed to embrace the subtle
12 message of this legend. The world is not inherently
13 zero sum. It does not have to be unless we make it
14 that way.

15 This year, as you begin your session, I pray for
16 all of us to stop seeing each other as enemies.
17 Republicans and Democrats, rich and poor, Christians,
18 Muslims, Tibetans, Jews, and atheists, native born
19 citizens, and immigrants, the 9,000 New Yorkers
20 waiting for a life saving organ transplant, the over
21 350,000 homeless people in our city, the 91 Israeli
22 hostages still in Gaza and the millions of
23 Palestinians suffering in Gaza, the almost 3 million
24 transgender Americans, the over a 120 million people

2 worldwide displaced last year due to climate change,
3 Yankees fans and Mets fans.

4 The list goes on.

5 None of these people are my enemies, and none of
6 them need to be anyone's enemies. So let's not treat
7 any of them that way.

8 This year, I pray for you, our leaders, that you
9 will become models of what it means to draw wisdom
10 from the well and share it abundantly with all.

11 I offer this prayer in the name of my god and to
12 whomever you may pray, And let us say, amen.

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, I would now
14 ask Council Member Tiffany Cabán to spread the
15 Invocation on the Record.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Thank you. Thank you, Rabbi
17 Josh.

18 Rabbi Joshua Rabin serves as rabbi for the Jewish
19 community at the Astoria Center of Israel in Astoria,
20 Queens.

21 Myself and my constituents of all faiths are
22 blessed to have a community leader like Rabbi Josh.
23 His care extends well beyond his congregation; Rabbi
24 Josh is part of interfaith conversations building
25

2 relationships across our community to foster safer
3 and healthier neighborhoods.

4 Rabbi Josh is a community and government affairs
5 liaison at LiveOn New York, a nonprofit organization
6 committed to helping New York live on through organ
7 and tissue donation and to caring for families
8 touched by donation.

9 Through his work as a rabbi and with LiveOn New
10 York, Rabbi Josh keeps our community spiritually and
11 physically healthy.

12 It has also been an honor to work alongside Rabbi
13 Josh in our district's initiatives on resisting
14 antisemitism and hate violence.

15 Antisemitism poses a serious danger to our
16 beloved Jewish neighbors and friends, whether it's
17 the graffiti swastikas Queens has unfortunately seen
18 in recent years or a white nationalist imitating Nazi
19 salutes at the presidential inauguration and spouting
20 antisemitic conspiracy theories.

21 We must never tolerate incitement of violence,
22 particularly against a community that has faced
23 brutality and terror for centuries and centuries all
24 over the world.

1
2 And antisemitism is a threat to all of us who
3 identify as part of a marginalized community. Anti
4 Semitic conspiracy theories form a shared conceptual
5 framework for all types of racist, sexist,
6 queerphobic, paranoia, and hate.

7 And rabbi Josh is a faith leader who understands
8 this and takes it seriously, leading the Jewish
9 community and looking out for historians of all
10 faiths, including our district's diverse Muslim
11 community.

12 Astoria is lucky to have Rabbi Josh leading us
13 through these times, and I am committed to standing
14 by his side and supporting him along the way.

15 I'm honored to know and work alongside Rabbi Josh
16 and am grateful for his words of wisdom to ground us
17 in the new year. Thank you. And, Madam Speaker, and
18 Majority Leader Fariás, thank you as well.

19 I make a motion to spread the Invocation in full
20 upon the Record.

21 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: We will now have the
22 Adoption of the Minutes by Council Member Sandy
23 Nurse.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: I make a Motion that the
25 Minutes of the Stated Meeting of December 19, 2024

2 and the Charter Meeting of January 8, 2025 be adopted
3 as printed.

4 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Messages and Papers from
5 the Mayor?

6 CLERK: M 91 through M 97, various budget
7 documents.

8 SPEAKER ADAMS: Finance

9 CLERK: M 98, City Debt and Reserve?

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

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Communications from City,
13 County & Borough Offices?

14 CLERK: M 99 and M 100, Budget Modifications?

15 SPEAKER ADAMS: Finance.

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Petitions and
17 Communications?

18 CLERK: None.

19 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Land Use Call-ups?

20 CLERK: M 101 and M 102

21 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on Call-Up Vote.

22 I now ask that the Clerk take a roll call vote on
23 all of today's Land Use Call-ups.

24 CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye

2 CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Aye

4 CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye

6 CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye

8 CLERK: Council Member Banks?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye

10 CLERK: Council Member Bottcher

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: (ABSENT)

12 CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye

14 CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes

16 CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Aye

18 CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye

20 CLERK: Council Member Carr?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Aye

22 CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Madam Majority Leader,

24 I request permission to vote on this and all items on

25 the Agenda today?

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 17

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Permission granted

3 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye on all, thank you.

4 CLERK: Thank you.

5 Council Member Dinowitz?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Yes

7 CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye on all.

9 CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye

11 CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: (PARENTAL)

13 CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye

15 CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye

17 CLERK: Council Member Holden?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye

19 CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye

21 CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye

23 CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye

25 CLERK: Council Member Lee?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye

3 CLERK: Council Member Louis?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye

5 CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Aye

7 CLERK: Council Member Marte?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye

9 CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye

11 CLERK: Thank you.

12 Council Member Menin?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye

14 CLERK: Council Member Moya?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

16 CLERK: Thank you.

17 Council Member Narcisse?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye

19 CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Aye

21 CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Aye

23 CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye

25 CLERK: Council Member Powers?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye

3 CLERK: Council Member Restler?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye

5 CLERK: Council Member Riley?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye

7 CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye

9 CLERK: Council Member Salaam?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Aye

11 CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye

13 CLERK: Thank you.

14 Council Member Sanchez?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye

16 CLERK: Thank you.

17 Council Member Schulman?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye

19 CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye

21 CLERK: Council Member Ung?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye

23 CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye

25 CLERK: Council Member Williams?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye.

3 CLERK: Council Member Won?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye

5 CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye

7 CLERK: Council Member Borelli?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye

9 CLERK: Council Member Farías?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye.

11 CLERK: Speaker Adams?

12 SPEAKER ADAMS: Aye

13 (PAUSE)

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Today's Land Use Call-ups
15 are adopted by a vote of 48 in the affirmative and 0
16 in the negative.

17 We will now have Communication from Speaker
18 Adrienne Adams.

19 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you very much, Madam
20 Majority Leader, and good afternoon, everyone.

21 Before we begin, I want to honor Cecile Richards,
22 a relentless champion for abortion rights,
23 reproductive health care, and equality. Her
24 incredible legacy will forever serve as an
25 inspiration and guide as we carry on the fight for

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 21
2 this basic civil right, and my heart is with her
3 loved ones and family.

4 I also want to acknowledge the loss of several
5 New Yorkers who died while on the job in the last
6 several weeks due to senseless violence.

7 Amadou Rahman, a Yellow cab driver; Robbie
8 Miller, a social worker; Ray Hodges, a USPS postal
9 worker; Peter Forrest, an ambulette driver; and Jose
10 Portillo, a building superintendent.

11 We also lost Elie William, a construction worker,
12 and Ricardo Louis, an MTA track worker.

13 We also mourn the life of a senior in Council
14 Member De La Rosa's district who died in a
15 residential building fire earlier this month.

16 These New Yorkers' lives were cut too short, and
17 I pray for their loved ones and community who are
18 grieving.

19 After 15 months of devastating violence and war
20 in Israel and Palestine, a cease fire took effect on
21 Sunday. Over the course of these 15 months, too many
22 lives have been lost, families separated, and
23 communities destroyed. There is a lot of work ahead
24 to get us on the path to lasting peace in the region
25 and to rebuild the lives shattered by war. Life is

1 precious. By working together and committing
2 ourselves towards peace, we can ensure a reality
3 where everyone gets to live safely with dignity and
4 security. That's what all people deserve.

6 I also want to take a moment to address the
7 opening actions of the new presidential
8 administration that have been more focused on seeding
9 division and fear than addressing the needs of this
10 country and its people.

11 The initial actions and executive orders have
12 threatened to impose severe harms that can negatively
13 impact millions of New Yorkers in every corner of our
14 city. Instead of solutions to the challenges facing
15 working people in our city and nation, we've seen
16 actions that will increase prescription drug prices,
17 pardon those who attacked our capital and police
18 officers, threaten public health, undermine the
19 diversity that has been a critical asset to our
20 country, activate maltreatment of public servants,
21 and much, much more.

22 We are indeed witnessing a weakening of democracy
23 and democratic governance that we should never ever
24 take for granted, and it demands strong leadership
25 from all of us to preserve.

1
2 One of the greatest anti-democratic attacks we've
3 seen is the blatant disregard for the U.S.
4 Constitution with the unlawful executive order that
5 claims to overturn the 14th Amendment's principle
6 that all persons born in the United States are
7 citizens. We must remember its history as one of the
8 constitutional amendments adopted after slavery and
9 during reconstruction. This provided pivotal rights,
10 including citizenship, to my formerly enslaved
11 ancestors. It was furiously opposed then,
12 particularly by Confederate States, which is telling
13 context to understand this current challenge.

14 The most perverted views of our past are indeed
15 returning today.

16 Historically for our city, the 14th Amendment has
17 granted citizenship to those who make New York City
18 great. New York City's rich African, Asian,
19 Caribbean, European, and Latino communities have
20 built this city and advanced our country forward.

21 The president's executive order to overturn this
22 citizenship clause enshrined in the 14th Amendment is
23 not only unconstitutional, but also abhorrent and
24 ahistorical.

1 We are a nation of immigrants with the exception
2 of indigenous peoples - If you trace any one of our
3 ancestral histories, you'll find proof of immigration
4 or arrival from nearly every single country in the
5 world.
6

7 No president possesses the power to change
8 constitutional amendments by executive order, and
9 this city should join the legal challenge to this
10 unconstitutional action.

11 With democracy under attack at the federal level,
12 it is more critical now than ever to have strong
13 local democracy to maintain freedom, debate through
14 the exchange of ideas, and representative governance.

15 Local and state governments not only have a
16 responsibility to protect their residents, but to
17 also unequivocally commit ourselves to strengthening
18 democracy and asserting our shared values.

19 Together with our constituents and the people of
20 this city, let us unite to protect our democracy,
21 values, and progress, which our ancestors risk their
22 lives to advance for all of us.

23 It is now up to us to protect and grow the seeds
24 of progress to bestow on future generations so that
25 all of us can live full lives of meaning, dignity,

2 and safety. That is especially true in these most
3 challenging of times.

4 (APPLAUSE)

5 SPEAKER ADAMS: Wow.

6 It is fitting that this week we celebrated the
7 life and legacy of the great reverend doctor Martin
8 Luther King Jr. Doctor King called on all of us to
9 work together to usher in a just world that rejects
10 discrimination, inequality, and poverty. His message
11 inspired people across the entire nation. Doctor
12 King's contributions propelled a movement that
13 continues to influence the entire world.

14 January 13th was Korean American Day, which
15 commemorates the day in 1903 when the first Koreans
16 arrived in the United States. Our historically
17 diverse council includes the first two Korean
18 American council members in Linda Lee and Julie Won.

19 (APPLAUSE)

20 SPEAKER ADAMS: We celebrate your historic
21 representation, and we wish all New Yorkers a happy
22 Korean American Day.

23 January 15th was Founders Day for my sisters of
24 Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated, the first
25 sorority for Black college educated women, and this

1 year, we celebrated 117 years of sisterhood
2 scholarship and service. I am so proud to be a life
3 member of Alpha Kappa Alpha, and I am joined in this
4 premier sisterhood by our own Majority Leader, Amanda
5 Fariás Happy Founders Day, Soror.
6

7 January 22nd was Roe v. Wade Day, which marks the
8 anniversary of the landmark Supreme Court decision
9 that granted the federally protected right to safe
10 and legal abortions. This year *would* have been the
11 52nd anniversary of Roe v. Wade, but with the Supreme
12 Court's actions to overturn five decades of legal
13 precedent, reproductive health care for millions of
14 people is under attack across the country. Our
15 historic city council has passed lifesaving
16 legislation expanding access to medication abortion
17 at City run health clinics and invested a record \$1
18 million in annual municipal funds to expand access to
19 abortion care for those who cannot afford it. New
20 York City continues to demonstrate how local
21 governments across the nation can and must take bold
22 action to ensure truly accessible health care and
23 defend reproductive freedom for everyone.

24 January 27th is Holocaust Remembrance Day when we
25 honor the memories of millions of Jewish people and

2 other victims who were murdered during the Holocaust.
3 We uplift their memories and make a solemn pledge,
4 never again, never forget.

5 January 29th is Lunar New Year, which celebrates
6 the Year of the Snake. I wish everyone a happy,
7 healthy, and prosperous Lunar New Year.

8 Next, please join me in wishing a happy birthday
9 to Council Member Susan Zhuang who was celebrating on
10 January 30th.

11 (APPLAUSE)

12 SPEAKER ADAMS: And Council Member Shahana Hanif
13 whose birthday will be on February 5th.

14 (APPLAUSE)

15 SPEAKER ADAMS: Finally, I want to congratulate
16 our very own Sara Liss, an Assistant Deputy Director
17 in the Legislative Division, on the birth of her
18 beautiful baby boy last week. Congratulations, Sara,
19 to you and your family.

20 (APPLAUSE)

21 SPEAKER ADAMS: Now, let's move on to our Stated
22 Agenda.

23 First, we will vote on the following Land Use
24 Items:

25

1 Gleason Funeral Home Commercial Overlay, a
2 private application to facilitate the construction of
3 a new accessory parking lot, which will provide 22
4 additional off street parking spaces for a funeral
5 home in Council Member Paladino's district.
6

7 We will also vote on the following Finance items:

8 Preconsidered Resolution 712, sponsored by
9 Council Member Justin Brannan, to approve the new
10 designation and changes to the designation of certain
11 organizations to receive funding in the expense
12 budget.

13 Today, we'll also vote on the following pieces of
14 legislation:

15 Preconsidered Resolution 713, sponsored by
16 Council Member Eric Dinowitz and Council Member Keith
17 Powers, would recognize January 27, 2025 as the 80th
18 Anniversary of the Liberation of the Auschwitz
19 Concentration and Extermination Camp and
20 commemorating January 27th annually as Auschwitz
21 Remembrance Day in the city of New York. We thank our
22 staff member Regina Paul.

23 Resolution 678, sponsored by Council Member
24 Tiffany Cabán, would designate January 31st annually
25 as Cecilia Gentili Day in the city of New York to

2 recognize her significant contributions as an author,
3 performer, policymaker, and activist. Once again, we
4 thank Regina Paul for her help.

5 Introduction 100, sponsored by council member
6 Julie Won, would suspend alternate side parking rules
7 for the holiday Losar, also known as Tibetan New
8 Year.

9 (CHEERING)

10 SPEAKER ADAMS: We thank our staff
11 members, Ricardo Licea, Connor Mealey, Mark
12 Chen, Kevin Kotowski, and John Basile.

13 Introduction 697-A, sponsored by Council Member
14 Sandy Nurse, would require the Department of
15 Sanitation to conduct two waste characterization
16 studies, the first of which would examine the
17 residential and institutional of waste streams to be
18 due by January 31, 2028. The second would examine
19 available information on the commercial waste stream
20 and be due by January 31, 2032. We thank our staff
21 member, Morganne Barrett.

22 Introduction 587-A, sponsored by Council Member
23 Eric Dinowitz, would require the 311 Customer Service
24 Center to conduct customer satisfaction surveys after
25 each individual call and provide the customer with an

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option to ask for the service request or complaint to be reopened by the agency; 311 would be required to publish information on its website every month. We thank our staff member Jayasri Ganapathy.

Introduction 77-A, sponsored by Council Member Lincoln Restler, would reform the current system under which former city employees and public servants are allowed to lobby city government after they have left city service. Under this bill, several former agency heads, and employees of the Mayor's Office, including the Chief of Staff to the Mayor, Deputy Chief of Staff to the Mayor, Chief Counsel to the Mayor, Chief Adviser to the Mayor, Senior Adviser to the Mayor, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Communications Director, Press Secretary, and any public servant who directly reports to the mayor would be barred from lobbying any city agency for two years. We thank our staff members, Jayasri Ganapathy, Erica Cohen, and David Seitzer.

Finally, we will vote on a package of legislation that I first outlined in my 2024 State of the City Address to advance peer based mental health solutions for our city's youth.

1 The Council held a series of listening sessions
2 with stakeholders to better understand the struggles
3 of young New Yorkers and possible solutions. The
4 bills are the result of listening sessions with
5 advocates, service providers, and youth that aim to
6 provide students with tools and resources that
7 support their well-being. They represent the fourth
8 stop of the Council's Mental Health Road Map, a
9 comprehensive evolving plan to improve mental health
10 outcomes for New Yorkers.

12 Introduction 1103-A, sponsored by Deputy Speaker
13 Diana Ayala, would require the NYPD within 48 hours
14 of a determination that a violent or traumatic
15 incident has occurred to notify the Mayor's Office of
16 Community Mental Health of such incident.

17 A violent or traumatic incident is defined as any
18 incident or series of incidents that can cause severe
19 emotional and mental distress to the public.

20 Upon receiving notice of a violent or traumatic
21 incident, OCMH would be required to conduct outreach
22 to local community members regarding the availability
23 of mental health resources in the City, such as the
24 988 Suicide and Crisis Hotline.

1 Introduction 996-A, sponsored by Council Member
2 Althea Stevens, would require the Commissioner of
3 Health and Mental Hygiene to offer peer based mental
4 health literacy training to public middle and high
5 school students.
6

7 The Department of Education would have to
8 distribute informational materials concerning the
9 availability of this training to public middle and
10 high schools each academic year.

11 Introduction 989-A, sponsored by Council Member
12 Linda Lee, would require the department of Health and
13 Mental Hygiene to create student wellness club
14 toolkits to help guide middle and high school
15 students on how to create peer led student wellness
16 clubs. The bill would also require the Department of
17 Education to post guidance on its website on how to
18 start a student club and make the student wellness
19 club toolkits created by DOHMH available to all
20 middle and high school students.

21 And Introduction 986-A, sponsored by Council
22 Member Rita Joseph, would require the City to develop
23 a two-year pilot program to involve mental health
24 professional candidates in student wellness clubs at
25 public middle and high schools. These professional

2 candidates, such as individuals studying to become
3 licensed social workers, would facilitate student
4 discussions and workshops on various mental health
5 topics. Thank you to our staff members Sara Sucher,
6 John LaRosa, Sara Liss, and Smita Deshmukh.

7 Thank you for your attention, now I would like to
8 turn it back over to our Majority Leader.

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, Speaker, and
10 Happy Founders Day, Soror.

11 Report of Special Committees?

12 CLERK: (NO RESPONSE)

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Clerk? Oh, sorry about
14 that, uh, just a typo on my Agenda. We are going to
15 move to the Discussion of General Orders, and I would
16 like to recognize Council Member Won, followed by
17 Council Member Restler, then Council Member Dinowitz.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Tashi Delek.

19 ALL: Tashi Delek

20 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Good afternoon, everyone.
21 Thank you so much, Majority Leader, Madam Speaker.

22 (APPLAUSE)

23 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: On this auspicious day...

24 (APPLAUSE)

25

1 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: On this auspicious day, we
2 are voting on Intro 100, my bill to recognize Losar,
3 also known as Tibetan Lunar New Year, by adding it to
4 the New York City's Alternative Side Parking
5 Calendar.
6

7 It's an honor to celebrate this historic day with
8 our 61,000 Tibetan Buddhist neighbors from Tibet,
9 Nepal, Bhutan, India, and across the Himalayas, as
10 well as the 100 Tibetans who have joined us today in
11 this celebration.

12 By recognizing Losar, we're giving visibility to
13 a community whose political and civic engagement made
14 today is possible. And as we heard compassionately
15 from our Speaker's heart, as we have a new elected
16 president who is shutting down and suspending refugee
17 resettlement, this is a clear step and sign and
18 evidence of our recognition and our values of our
19 refugee community members.

20 These Tibetan refugee members have shared their
21 heartaches, their fight to preserve the Tibetan
22 language, their culture, and their dream for a free
23 Tibet. So this bill was a result of a tireless
24 community advocacy of grassroots organizing. In
25 September, at a hearing chaired by Council Member

2 Brooks-Powers, nearly a 1,000 Himalayan New Yorkers
3 sent in their written testimony and attended the
4 hearing, and we had had lines of residents wait five
5 hours for the hearing.

6 The passing of Intro 100 will take effect next
7 month on Losar, which is February 28, 2025, just in
8 time so that our neighbors will be able to enjoy the
9 holidays without having to worry about getting a
10 ticket.

11 So I want to thank all of the 36 council member
12 colleagues, the three borough presidents for
13 cosponsoring this bill, and I urge my colleagues to
14 vote yes.

15 And I would be remiss if I did not thank my Chief
16 of Staff, Nick Gulotta, as well as our all star
17 Tibetan community liaison and budget coordinator,
18 Kaesong Yasso (phonetic). Thank you so much to all
19 the organizers who are here. Please join us for the
20 celebration afterwards.

21 (APPLAUSE)

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
23 Member Restler, followed by Council Member Dinowitz,
24 then Council Member Stevens.

1 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Thank you, Majority
2 Leader.
3

4 I just first want to apologize if I'm somewhat
5 incoherent and sleep deprived. I'm thrilled to be
6 with you all today. Sorry to be away from my little
7 baby Elliot, but appreciative that my wife and
8 parents are with him and allowing me to come in to
9 discuss this critical new legislation, Intro 77-A.

10 You know, we've all seen an explosion of lobbying
11 in New York City over the last decade. Lobbyists
12 spent a \$131 million last year to influence
13 policymakers - twice as much as a decade ago.

14 And while we all rely on policy expertise,
15 external expertise, to help make informed decisions,
16 we have to ensure that special interests don't have
17 outsized influence in determining outcomes in
18 government.

19 Our lobbying laws have absolutely failed to
20 restrict the most powerful people in the Mayor's
21 Office from capitalizing on their public service for
22 personal gain.

23 That is exactly what the Mayor's Chief of Staff,
24 Frank Carone, did. From a corner office across the
25 building in in City Hall, he freely admitted to

2 creating a lobbying practice while still working in
3 city government. And when he left city government,
4 the very next day, the most powerful person in the
5 Mayor's Office was permitted to lobby 99% of the
6 mayor's staff, 99% of mayoral agencies.

7 This is legalized corruption, and our legislation
8 slams the door shut on the revolving door. It also
9 you know, and considering, frankly, the many scandals
10 that have plagued the Adams' Administration, this is
11 a critical moment for all of us in government to help
12 restore the public trust, to help restore the
13 confidence that New Yorkers have that we are
14 governing on their behalf, not working to enrich
15 ourselves.

16 I'd really like to thank the folks who worked on
17 this bill, especially committee counsel Jayasri
18 Ganapathy; David Seitzer, for his expert guidance,
19 Jeff Baker; Jeremy Johns; Faiza Ali; and Mandela
20 Jones. Really wanna thank the Speaker for her ethical
21 leadership of this body.

22 And I just lastly want to thank my Chief of
23 Staff, Molly Haley, who cares more about ethical
24 government than anyone I know, and has been a
25

2 tremendous partner for me on everything we do in our
3 office, (TIMER CHIMES) but especially on this bill.

4 So thank you so much, and hope you all support
5 it.

6 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
7 Member Dinowitz, followed by Council Member Stevens,
8 then Council Member Joseph.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Thank you, Majority
10 Leader.

11 You know, our job as government officials is to
12 make sure New Yorkers have a voice in government and
13 that we are responsive to them. And we have a
14 mechanism in New York City to do that, it's 311.

15 But any New Yorker who's used 311 has probably
16 experienced the frustration of seeing their case
17 closed, typically prematurely.

18 And whether they're complaining about a pothole
19 on the street, garbage, their apartment not being,
20 warm, it often, they are they put that complaint into
21 the app only to see it closed without their problem
22 being resolved.

23 Unfortunately, so many of our constituents don't
24 have a way to express their frustration or express
25 and share feedback that their needs were not met.

1 We've gotten those calls at our office. I know so
2 many of you in this body have gotten those calls in
3 our office as well, and that's why Intro 587-A is so
4 important. What it does is it simply says that after
5 a case is closed, the 311 system asks, how do we do?
6 And it allows the user to provide feedback. Ideally,
7 we want that feedback to be great. We want our
8 government and our agencies to be responsive of the
9 needs, but it also allows users to say, "I'm not
10 satisfied with my service, and my case was closed
11 prematurely."
12

13 And, additionally, this bill provides monthly
14 reports so we, as a council, we, with the oversight
15 authority, can ensure that our city agencies are
16 being responsive to our constituents, are meeting the
17 needs of our constituents, and that they are being
18 serviced, and that they are not closing these cases
19 prematurely.

20 So with this bill, we'll get more transparency in
21 government and a more responsive government.

22 Thank you, Majority Leader, for the time, and
23 thank you to the entire council staff, My Chief of
24 Staff, my Legislation Director, (TIMER CHIMES) and
25 everyone who worked on this bill.

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
3 Member Stevens, followed by Council Member Joseph.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Thank you, Majority
5 Leader.

6 Our young people are navigating a complex world,
7 and it is imperative that we not only equip them with
8 the knowledge to identify mental health, but also
9 empower them with the supports that are effective and
10 necessary.

11 I'm happy and hopefully passing Intro 996-A,
12 legislation that will establish a peer based mental
13 health program for all New York students, a critical
14 tool in our fight against growing mental health
15 crises among young people.

16 This legislation will not just be about a
17 training, it would be about changing the culture
18 within schools to have more empathy, understanding,
19 and proactive support by fostering a community where
20 students look out for one another, and they can be
21 equipped and have ripple effects of awareness and
22 assistance that extend far beyond the classroom.

23 I would like to thank my colleague, Linda Lee,
24 who has been championing the Mental Health Road Map
25 throughout the last couple of years in Council and

2 our fearless speaker, Adrienne Adams, and all of the
3 council staff that worked on this legislation. And I
4 ask all of my colleagues to please vote yes. Thank
5 you.

6 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
7 Member Joseph.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Thank you, majority
9 leader.

10 Intro 986 established a pilot program to involve
11 mental health professional candidates in student
12 wellness clubs at public schools and middle
13 schools... middle schools and high schools.

14 This bill requires a mayor designated agency or
15 agencies to develop, implement the pilot program in
16 schools that choose to participate.

17 This program addresses the need for accessible
18 mental health support in my schools. By engaging
19 mental health professional candidates, we can expand
20 resources and help foster a culture of wellness for
21 our students.

22 I look forward to the agency and the agency's
23 feedback to refining this initiative further. My
24 deepest gratitude to everyone who worked on this
25 bill. Thank you, Speaker, thank you, Linda Lee,

2 Council Member Lee, for the support and the roadmap,
3 and I urge all my colleagues to vote yes. And
4 together, we can make meaningful differences in the
5 in the lives of our students. Thank you.

6 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you. Seeing no one
7 else signed up to speak, Report of Special
8 Committees?

9 CLERK: None.

10 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Reports of Standing
11 Committees?

12 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Finance,
13 Preconsidered Resolution 712, Transparency
14 Resolution?

15 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

16 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Governmental
17 Operations, State & Federal Legislation, Intro 77-A,
18 Post-employment lobbying?

19 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
20 Orders.

21 CLERK: Introduction 587-A, 311 survey data?

22 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
23 Orders.

24 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Land Use, LU
25 206 and Resolution 728, Gleason Funeral Home.

2 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

3 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Mental Health,
4 Disabilities, and Addiction, Introductions 986-A and
5 989-A, Student Wellness Clubs?

6 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
7 Orders.

8 CLERK: Introductions 996-A and 1103-A, Student
9 Mental Health Resources?

10 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
11 Orders.

12 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Sanitation and
13 Solid Waste Management, Introduction 697-A, waste
14 characterization studies?

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

17 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Transportation
18 and Infrastructure, Introduction 100, alternate side
19 parking regulations?

20 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

21 I now ask that the Clerk take a roll call vote on
22 all of the items coupled on today's General Orders
23 Calendar.

24 CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye

2 CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: I am a no on 77-A and
4 Preconsidered Resolution 712, and aye on the rest.

5 CLERK: Thank you.

6 Council Member Avilés?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye

8 CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye

10 CLERK: Council Member Banks?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye on all.

12 CLERK: Council Member Bottcher

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHER: (ABSENT)

14 CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye

16 CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes

18 CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

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

20 And I would like to congratulate all of my colleagues
21 passing bills today, especially Council Member Won,
22 on this Losar bill out of the Committee on
23 Transportation and Infrastructure, recognizing how
24 important of a holiday this is to those who observe.

25

2 I look forward to celebrating with you all later,
3 too.

4 CLERK: Thank you.

5 Council Member Cabán?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye on all.

7 CLERK: Council Member Carr?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: I'll be voting no on
9 Introduction 77-A and Preconsidered Resolution 712,
10 and aye on the rest.

11 CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye on all.

13 CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye on all.

15 CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye

17 CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: (PARENTAL)

19 CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye on all.

21 CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: I vote aye on all with the
23 exception of 77-A and Preconsidered Resolution 712,
24 thank you.

25 CLERKS: Thank you

2 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: I vote no, sorry.

3 CLERK: Thank you, Council Member.

4 Council Member Holden?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye on all, except for
6 Resolution 712, on which I vote no.

7 CLERK: Thank you.

8 Council Member Hudson?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye on all.

10 CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye on all.

12 CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye on all, and to my
14 Himalayan communities, Tashi Delek.

15 CLERK: Thank you.

16 Council Member Lee?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye on all, and
18 congratulations to everyone passing bills today.

19 CLERK: Council Member Louis?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye on all.

21 CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Sorry, I vote aye on
23 all with the exemption of Introduction 77-A and
24 Preconsidered Resolution 712, for which I vote no.

25 CLERK: Thank you.

2 Council Member Marte?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye on all.

4 CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye on all.

6 CLERK: Thank you.

7 Council Member Menin?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye on all.

9 CLERK: Council Member Moya?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

11 CLERK: Thank you.

12 Council Member Narcisse?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye on all.

14 CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Aye on all.

16 CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Aye on all.

18 CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye on all, except for

20 Introduction 77-A and Preconsidered Resolution 712,

21 on which I vote no.

22 CLERK: Thank you

23 Council Member Powers?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye

25 CLERK: Council Member Restler?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye

3 CLERK: Council Member Riley?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye on all, with the
5 exception of 77-A, which I am a no.

6 CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

8 CLERK: Council Member Salaam

9 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: I vote aye.

10 CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: No on Introduction 77-
12 A, and aye on all.

13 CLERK: Thank you.

14 Council Member Sanchez?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye

16 CLERK: Thank you.

17 Council Member Schulman?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye on all.

19 CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye on all.

21 CLERK: Thank you.

22 Council Member Ung?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye on all.

24 CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye on all except no on
3 Intro 77-A and Preconsidered Resolution 712.

4 CLERK: Thank you.

5 Council Member Williams?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye.

7 CLERK: Council Member Won?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye on all, Losar Tashi
9 Delek.

10 CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye on all except
12 Resolution 712, I abstain.

13 CLERK: Thank you.

14 Council Member Borelli?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye on all, except 77-A
16 and Preconsidered Resolution 712.

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 (PAUSE)

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All items on today's
23 General Order Calendar are adopted by of 48 in the
24 affirmative, 0 in the negative, and 0 abstentions;
25 with the exception of Introduction 77-A, which was

2 adopted by a vote of 39 in the affirmative, 9 in the
3 negative, and 0 abstentions; and Resolution 712 which
4 was adopted by a vote of 39 in the affirmative, 8 in
5 the negative, and 1 abstention.

6 Introduction and Reading of Bills?

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

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, we will now
10 move into Discussions of Resolutions, and I would
11 like to recognize Council Member Cabán, followed by
12 Council Member Dinowitz.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Thank you.

14 Today, I am urging my colleagues to support the
15 passage of a resolution that honors the late great
16 Cecilia Gentili. Cecilia was a fearless leader, a
17 trans icon, an author, an actress, a pioneering
18 advocate for the dignity and freedom of sex workers.
19 She expanded access to health care for so many trans
20 New Yorkers and is known for so much more. She wasn't
21 merely an ally in other liberation fights, she was a
22 coconspirator who put her body on the line for anyone
23 facing exploitation, discrimination, or persecution.

24 Cecilia was a very formative figure in my life, a
25 super special, impactful person. She held such an

1 important role in the social spaces and community I
2 moved through. And since she's passed away, I've met
3 lots of new people and have discovered that she held
4 the same kind of space and presence in their lives
5 and community, and it's pretty amazing.

7 Even though Cecilia is no longer with us, her
8 impact lives on and is magnified by every person who
9 knew her. Her energy was infectious. She was
10 profoundly funny and sharp, brilliant, open and
11 honest about her struggles with substance use, and
12 she said exactly what needed to be said every time.

13 I really, really miss her. (TIMER CHIMES) And to
14 close, may your memory be a joyous, hilarious,
15 visionary, fearless revolution, and may our city's
16 new Cecilia Gentile Day, should it pass, serve as a
17 testament to that revolution. So I just ask my
18 colleagues to support it as well. Thank you.

19 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
20 Member Dinowitz.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Thank you, Majority
22 Leader.

23 Today, we're voting on a resolution to make
24 January 27th Auschwitz Remembrance Day and to
25

1
2 remember, you know, this dark moment in in our
3 history.

4 You know, the Torah, the sacred Jewish text in
5 Hebrew, doesn't have a word for history. That word
6 doesn't exist in the Torah. Instead, the concept of
7 history is expressed through memory, through
8 remembrance. And when we remember something, when we
9 have a memory of something, it is part of who we are.
10 And with the passage of this resolution, we are
11 declaring that New York City remembers Auschwitz and
12 the Holocaust. But, perhaps, you know, I can't say
13 too well, but Elie Wiesel, Holocaust survivor and
14 Nobel laureate, always had a way of saying things. He
15 said, "Memory is a passion no less powerful or
16 pervasive than love. What does it mean to remember?
17 It is to live in more than one world, to prevent the
18 past from fading, and to call upon the future to
19 illuminate it." (TIMER CHIMES)

20 And with the passage of this resolution, New York
21 City is preventing the past from fading.

22 And I want to thank the Speaker for moving this
23 resolution forward and to Regina Paul for drafting
24 this resolution.

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Seeing no one else signed
3 up to speak, we will now have a voice vote on today's
4 resolutions. If you wish to vote against or abstain
5 from any of today's resolutions, please notify the
6 Legislative Documents Unit by email or by approaching
7 the dais.

8 I will now read today's resolution into the
9 Record.

10 Resolution 678 Resolution designating January 31
11 annually as Cecilia Gentili Day in the City of New
12 York to recognize her significant contributions as an
13 author, performer, policymaker, and activist, who
14 fought for the rights of undocumented immigrants, sex
15 workers, and LGBTQIA+ individuals.

16 Will all those in favor say aye?

17 ALL: Aye

18 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

19 ALL: (SILENT)

20 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

21 ALL: (SILENT)

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

23 Preconsidered Resolution 713 recognizing January
24 27, 2025 as the 80th anniversary of the liberation of
25 the Auschwitz concentration and extermination camp

2 and commemorating January 27 annually as Auschwitz
3 Remembrance Day in the City of New York to honor the
4 memories of the over one million Jews and tens of
5 thousands of others who died brutally there at the
6 hands of Nazis during World War II.

7 Will all those in favor say aye?

8 ALL: Aye

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: All opposed say nay?

10 ALL: (SILENT)

11 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Any abstentions?

12 ALL: (SILENT)

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: The ayes have it.

14 We will now move into the General Discussion, and
15 I would like to recognize Council Member Ariola,
16 followed by Council Member Ossé, and Council Member
17 Lee.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Thank you.

19 We have seen an increase in illegal, unlicensed
20 street vendors setting up daily in our business
21 districts throughout New York City. They take up the
22 sidewalks, often setting up in front of businesses
23 and taking spots that should often be utilized by
24 licensed vendors. Oftentimes, they're selling the
25 same items at significantly reduced pricing. Business

2 owners who are paying high rents, taxes, and
3 licensing fees to stay in business are being pushed
4 out by these bad actors.

5 We're seeing an increase in empty storefronts
6 along these merchant corridors, and mom and pop shops
7 cannot compete with these vendors who are not
8 following Health Department regulations or laws of
9 our city.

10 Many times, the police department and DSNY are
11 called, and they have no way of verifying whether or
12 not the vendor is licensed and if they have been
13 subject to enforcement before.

14 That is why I'm introducing Intro 1164, a bill
15 that would require the Office of Street Vendor
16 Enforcement to create a portal that would allow all
17 agencies enforcing street vending laws to regulation
18 and share enforcement related information.

19 The Office of Street Vendor Enforcement would
20 also ensure that each enforcement agency had the
21 capability to verify the authenticity of the vendor's
22 license.

23 This bill will make sure that New Yorkers are
24 purchasing items that are safe and will protect our
25 small business owners and legal street vendors who

2 are the backbone of our communities from being pushed
3 out.

4 I appreciate it if all of my colleagues would
5 sign on to this bill. It really does help our legal
6 street vendors and our small mom and pop shop owners.
7 Thank you for the time.

8 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
9 Member Ossé, followed by Council Member Lee, then
10 Council Member Stevens.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Thank you, Madam Majority
12 Leader.

13 Today, I am reintroducing Introduction 1176 or
14 known as the CURB Act.

15 The right to assembly and peaceful protest is
16 enshrined clearly in the First Amendment of the
17 Constitution. The NYPD Strategic Response Group has
18 proven to consistently violate that right. This bill
19 would restrict their ability to do so.

20 I urge all my colleagues to share my commitment
21 to the First Amendment and its protections to support
22 this legislation.

23 All New Yorkers deserve to exercise their right
24 to protest and assemble, and they deserve to exercise
25 this right with safety and dignity.

2 I want to thank Michael Sisitzky and Isabelle
3 Leyva of the New York Civil Liberties Union for their
4 partnership and advocacy of this bill, and I urge my
5 colleagues to sign on. Thank you, Madam President.

6 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
7 Member Lee, followed by Council Member Stevens, then
8 Council Member Carr.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Good afternoon, Madam
10 Speaker, Majority Leader, and colleagues.

11 Today, I am proud to be introducing 1174. This
12 legislation would allow vulnerable and homebound New
13 Yorkers to self identify and register themselves with
14 the Office of Emergency Management. This would
15 incorporate them into the City's emergency response
16 planning and help facilitate their rescue and
17 assistance in the event of an emergency, like some of
18 the ones that we've seen recently.

19 Similar measures in Europe that count factors
20 like chronic disease, age, and socioeconomic status
21 prevented close to 50% of possible deaths during
22 recent heat waves.

23 Recent disasters have shown us how important it
24 is to have precise and effective emergency services,
25 reducing response time and saving the maximum number

1
2 of lives can't happen without knowing where our most
3 vulnerable neighbors are and how best to help them.

4 So, again, this would be an opt in for our
5 vulnerable populations.

6 Every second in every life counts for our city,
7 so I hope that you can join me in this effort. Thank
8 you.

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
10 Member Stevens, followed by Council Member Carr,
11 then Council Member Hudson.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Today, I'm introducing
13 Introduction 1177 aiming to codify existing
14 requirements for chain restaurants to post sodium
15 warnings and expand those requirements to all
16 restaurants regardless of size in addition to
17 mandating notification for added sugars.

18 Across New York City, we have communities that
19 suffer from inadequate access to healthy food
20 options. Those food deserts disproportionately impact
21 low income neighborhoods contributing to high rates
22 of chronic illness such as hypertension, diabetes,
23 and heart disease.

24 I would like to encourage all of my colleagues to
25 sign on. Thank you.

1 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Reorganizing Council
2 Member Carr, followed by Council Member Hudson, then
3 Council Member Holden.
4

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Thank you, Majority Leader.

6 Colleagues, today I'm introducing Introduction
7 1166 with Deputy Speaker Ayala, which would require
8 the Department of Homeless Services to give a
9 notification whenever they're going to renew an
10 emergency shelter contract to the relevant council
11 member of our president and community board.

12 I think no matter where we stand on the migrant
13 crisis of the last several years and the need for
14 homeless shelters in a more general sense, I think we
15 all agree that the Administration of the day should
16 be transparent with the community's representatives
17 and letting them know when they're going to renew an
18 emergency contract, which is not along the same
19 rushed nature of when you initially open an emergency
20 shelter. These renewal decisions, I believe, are made
21 well in advance, and it also affords an opportunity
22 to those elected officials and community
23 organizations to give an opinion to DHS about whether
24 or not the shelter renewal is warranted or not.

2 And so I urge all my colleagues in the interest
3 of transparency to sign on to Introduction 1166 and
4 support this piece of legislation. Thank you.

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
6 Member Hudson, followed by Council Member Holden,
7 then Council Member Gennaro.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Thank you, Majority
9 Leader.

10 Today, I'm reintroducing a resolution that this
11 body approved two years ago, not because we didn't
12 get it right the first time, but because the urgency
13 has only grown. And I want to thank Speaker Adams for
14 your unwavering and resolute message earlier.

15 In 2023, we passed Resolution 556, which urged
16 Albany to approve the Access to Representation Act,
17 which guarantees the right to legal representation to
18 all New Yorkers regardless of citizenship status.

19 As a city, we have rejected the idea that
20 immigrants facing deportation or detention should be
21 denied civil and legal protections. And now more than
22 ever, we need the State to pass this vital
23 legislation and show that it too still stands strong
24 with immigrant communities across New York.

1 We're witnessing a troubling rise in xenophobia
2
3 across the nation and a new presidential
4 administration that has quite literally campaigned on
5 dehumanizing immigrants.

6 But here in New York, we know the truth. Without
7 immigrants, this city and this nation would not
8 thrive. That's why alongside Chair Avilas I'm
9 introducing another resolution, Resolution 717,
10 urging our state legislators to pass A.270/S.141,
11 which is crucial to protecting all New Yorkers from
12 the threats that endanger their safety and
13 fundamental rights.

14 I urge you to join me once again and cosponsor
15 Resolution 717. Thank you.

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
17 Member Holden, followed Council Member Joseph.

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

20 Colleagues, today I'm introducing six bills that
21 tackle several pressing issues facing our city, and I
22 urge you to sign on and support these important
23 bills.

24 Intro 1170 will establish ferry service to
25 LaGuardia and John F. Kennedy International Airports.

1 For many years the city has underused its waterways.
2 This intro will expand upon our established ferry
3 service and provide a much needed alternative for
4 travelers and commuters to get to these airports.
5 It'll take cars off the road. So let's use our
6 waterways.
7

8 We're also addressing the needs of pet owners and
9 animal welfare. Intro 1172, with Council Member
10 Schulman, will create a citywide pet food pantry
11 program to ensure that pets remain healthy and in
12 loving homes. While Resolution 716, Council Member
13 Paladino, urges the New York state legislator to
14 strengthen animal cruelty laws by codifying them in
15 the penal law and increasing penalties for offenders.

16 So you could abuse one dog and pay the same price
17 fine as you would - or incarceration - if you abuse
18 20 dogs. So there's no difference, and that was given
19 to me by DA Melinda Katz.

20 Protecting animals and supporting responsible pet
21 ownership should be a top priority for all of us here
22 in the Council.

23 And public safety remains a top priority. Intro
24 1173, with Public Advocate Williams, Council Member
25 Vernikov, Council Member Narcisse, Council Member

2 Moya, and Council Member Schulman will require
3 bicyclists to wear protective headgear, helping to
4 prevent injuries and promote responsible cycling in
5 our city.

6 And supporting our veterans is very essential.
7 And certainly Intro 1171, will conduct a feasibility
8 study on a pilot program to provide reconsolidation
9 of traumatic memories or better known as RTM therapy
10 for our veterans. It works, (TIMER CHIMES) and we
11 should work on it to certainly come up with a pilot
12 program. Thank you all. Thank you.

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
14 Member Joseph, followed by Council Member Schulman.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Thank you, Madam Speaker,
16 thank you, Majority Leader, and colleagues.

17 Today, I'm introducing my resolution alongside my
18 colleagues, Council Member Stevens, Narcisse, and
19 Schulman.

20 Resolution 718 calls on New York City state
21 education to implement oral education for all
22 elementary students. Through this resolution, we're
23 urging the New York State Education Department to
24 adopt oral health education in elementary schools to
25

1 ensure children learn proper brushing and flossing techniques.

2 I invite my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring
3 this resolution so we can pass this vital measure for
4 the benefit of our children, their families, and
5 society as a whole.

6 Healthy children are a gift to both society and
7 the economy. Thank you.

8 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
9 Member Schulman.

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

12 I have a number of resolutions here, but I'm just
13 going refer to a couple of them. One is, calling upon
14 the U.S. Congress to pass and the president to sign
15 HR 2665. Uhm, wait... I'm sorry, not that one. A
16 resolution, sorry... Resolution calling upon the New
17 York State Legislature to pass and the governor to
18 sign legislation that would eliminate deductibles, co
19 payment, coinsurance, or any other cost sharing
20 requirements for asthma inhalers.

21 And then a resolution calling upon the New York
22 State legislature to pass and the governor to sign
23 legislation also known as the Protecting Animals
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Walking On The Street Act, PAWS, to add the term companion animals to the list of possible victim classes should a driver fail to exercise due care to avoid striking pedestrians and to increase the fine for striking a pet with a vehicle and leaving a scene the scene without reporting the incident. Thank you.

I ask my colleagues to please sign on to those resolutions.

MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you.

Seeing no one else signed up to speak, I will now call on Speaker Adams to close today's Stated Meeting.

SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you, Madam Majority Leader, the Stated Meeting of January 23, 2025 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 January 30, 2025