

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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March 18, 2021
Start: 1:40 PM
Recess: 3:11 PM

HELD AT: REMOTE HEARING (VIRTUAL ROOM 1)

B E F O R E: Corey D. Johnson
SPEAKER

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Adrienne E. Adams
Alicka Ampry-Samuel
Diana Ayala
Inez D. Barron
Joseph C. Borelli
Justin L. Brannan
Fernando Cabrera
Margaret S. Chin
Costa G. Constantinides
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.
Laurie A. Cumbo
Chaim M. Deutsch
Ruben Diaz, Sr.
Darma V. Diaz
Daniel Dromm
Mathieu Eugene
James F. Gennaro
Vanessa L. Gibson
Mark Gjonaj

Barry S. Grodenchik
Robert F. Holden
Ben Kallos
Peter A. Koo
Karen Koslowitz
Brad S. Lander
Stephen T. Levin
Mark Levine
Farah N. Louis
Alan N. Maisel
Steven Matteo
Carlos Menchaca
I. Daneek Miller
Francisco P. Moya
Bill Perkins
Keith Powers
Antonio Reynoso
Keven C. Riley
Carlina Rivera
Ydanis A. Rodrigues
Deborah L. Rose
Helen K. Rosenthal
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.
Mark Treyger
Eric A. Ulrich
Paul A. Vallone
James G. Van Bramer
Kalman Yeger

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

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS BRADLEY: Recording is up.

DIRECTOR OF SECURITY: Sergeants you can start your recordings, please.

DIRECTOR OF SECURITY: Recording to cloud is started.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS BIONDO: Back up is rolling.

DIRECTOR OF SECURITY: Thank you. Hello and good afternoon everyone and welcome to today's stated meeting. At this time, I ask that, uh, will you please turn off all electronic devices. Turn them to vibrate. Madam Majority Leader.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Good afternoon and welcome to the stated meeting of March 18th, 2021. I am Majority Leader Laurie Cumbo and I'd like to thank you for joining us at this virtual meeting of the New York City Council. If you would like to follow along the agenda for today's meeting is posted on our website.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Please join us for the Pledge of Allegiance. I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the

Republic for which it stands, one nation, under God,
indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We'll
now go to roll call.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Adams.

COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Present.

COUNCIL MEMBER MCSWEENEY: Ampry-Samuel.

COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Present.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Ayala.

COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Present.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: The best and
present.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Borelli.

COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Present.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Brannan.

COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Here.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Cabrera.

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Present.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Chin.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Present.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY:

Constantinides.

COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Present.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Cornegy.

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: (UNIDENTIFIED)

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Deutsch. Darma

Diaz.

COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Present.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member,
Council Member Diaz, you should put yours on mute,
okay.

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Well, I, I'm here
too. I'm sorry. I was trying to get the sound right.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Thank you
Council Member Cornegy. Council Member Ruben Diaz.

COUNCIL MEMBER RUBEN DIAZ: PRESENT.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Dromm.

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Present.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Eugene.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Present.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Gennaro.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Gibson.

Gjonaj.

COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Present.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Grodenchik.

COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: I'm here.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Holden.

COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Kallos.

COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Here.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Koo.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Koslowitz.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Present.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Lander. Levin

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Levine.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Here.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Louis.

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Maisel.

COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Present.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Menchaca.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Present.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Miller.

COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Present.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Moya.

COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Present.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Perkins.

COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Present.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Powers.

COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Present.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Reynoso.

Riley.

COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Good afternoon
everyone. Present.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Rivera.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Rodriguez.

Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Present.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Rosenthal.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Salamanca.

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Treyger.

COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Ulrich.

Vallone.

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Van Bramer.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Jimmy, I think you were
muted.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Sorry about that, Corey. Uh, here.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Yeger.

COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Matteo. Cumbo.

COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Present.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Speaker Johnson.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: I'm here.

NYC CLERK, MIKE MCSWEENEY: Madam Majority Leader, we have a quorum.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much. We will now have today's invocation, which will be delivered by Sister Teresa Fitzgerald, spiritual leader Hour Children located at 39-11 12th street in Long Island City.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: I believe the sister is, uh...

SISTER TERESA FITZGERALD: Well, yeah...

SPEAKER JOHNSON: (UNIDENTIFIED)

SISTER TERESA FITZGERALD: Yeah, okay, now, I'm unmuted now. Good afternoon everyone. Let us pause for a moment of welcome silence. Loving and gracious God, God of many names and faces, we ask

your blessings upon this gathering of the City Council and upon the lives of all New Yorkers especially the poor, the homeless, the unemployed, and the incarcerated.

With tender love and compassion embrace those whose lives and livelihoods have been devastated by this pervasive pandemic. May we always walk the pathway of racial justice and equity. We pray that all grow more aware of our awesome responsibility to shape policies and laws that affect the lives of the men, women, and children who are entrusted to our care.

As we celebrate Women's History Month and the accomplishment and goodness of countless women, especially those we lovingly call mother, may we put aside partisan politics and ask for your wisdom and vision on all our deliberations.

If our hopes have become faded, revive them.

If our ideals have become tarnished, restore them.

If our principles have become clouded, focus them.

If our values have become confused,
clarify them.

If our horizons have become narrowed,
widen them.

Be with us, oh gracious God, in this time
and place so that together we might create a future
that gives hope and promise and to create a better
tomorrow for all who call New York City home and to
this we say Amen.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Amen! Thank you so
much for those very important words, particularly at
this period of time..

SISTER TERESA FITZGERALD: Yeah.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: in our city. Thank
you. We will now have, at this time, Council Member
Dromm. Excuse me..

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I'm sorry.

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you very
much, Madam Majority Leader.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, uh, we
will now have Council Member Danny Dromm to spread
the invocation onto the record. Thank you so much,
Council Member Dromm.

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you very much, Madam Majority Leader and, of course, uh, Speaker, Speaker Johnson, for asking me to spread this particular invocation upon the record.

It is especially saying that Sister Teresa Fitzgerald is giving us this spiritual refreshment during Women's History Month and the day after Saint Patrick's Day. Simply put, Sister Teresa embodies the best of Irish-American women.

At a young age Sister Teresa entered the congregation of Sisters of St. Joseph and soon embarked on a career in education. Eventually Sister Elaine Roulet, God rest her soul, helped focus Sister Teresa's ministry on incarcerated women and their children. Out of this grew the non-profit organization Hour Children, now internationally recognized, as a leader in working with this community.

Sister Teresa and her team work not only to transform individual lives, but also to offer a radically different vision to the destructively racist, sexist, and antipoor criminal justice system. I encourage you to check out hourchildren.org to learn more about all of their work.

Thank you a thousandfold, Sister Teresa, for showing unconditional love to these families and for gracing us with your beautiful invocation today.

I ask that the invocation be spread upon the record. Thank you very much.

SISTER TERESA FITZGERALD: Thank you, Dan.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much.

SISTER TERESA FITZGERALD: Thank you. God bless.

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you Sister.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much. Thank you so much. We are so pleased to have you and thank you so much for your spirituality being matched by your advocacy for all people throughout this city and beyond and we thank you so much for being here and I thank you so much, Council Member Dromm, for spreading the invocation onto the record.

We will now have the adoption of minutes by Council Member Karen Koslowitz.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Thank you. I make a motion that the minutes of the Stated Meeting of February 11th, 2021 and February 25th, 2021 be adopted as printed.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much, Council Member Koslowitz. We will now go on to, uh, the next order of business. Messages and papers from the Mayor.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: None

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Communication from city, county, and borough offices.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Preconsidered EMS 291 and 292, council budget.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Finance.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Petitions and communications.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: None.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Land use call-ups.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: M293, 69 Adams Street.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you. At this time, I'm asking the clerk to take a roll call vote on today's land use call-up calendar. Again, we are just voting on the land use call-up calendar.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Adams.

COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Ampry-Samuel.

COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: I vote Aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Ayala.

COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you. Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: UH, I didn't get my name, but I think I'm being called. I vote aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Yes, thank you Council Member. Borelli.

COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: I vote aye on all.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Okay, I turned the sound all the way down.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Brannan.

COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: All.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Cabrera.

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Chin.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Constantinides.

COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: (CLEARS THROAT) Thank you. Excuse me. Cornegy.

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Darma Diaz.

COUNCIL MEMBER DARMA DIAZ: Aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Ruben Diaz.

COUNCIL MEMBER RUBEN DIAZ: Aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Dromm.

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Eugene.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I vote aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Gennaro.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: yes.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Gibson.

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: I vote aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Gjonaj.

COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Grodenchik. Council Member Grodenchik. Okay, we'll come back. Council Member Holden.

COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Aye, aye. Can you hear me?

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Oh. Yes, Council Member Grodenchik, thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Okay, thank you.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Holden.

COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Kallos.

COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Koo.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Koslowitz.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Lander.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye. I mean I was on doors and calls all of the time because the.. You know, they..

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member Lander. Trying to help you out.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: I think he said aye somewhere in there.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Yes, thanks.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council Member Levin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Levine. Council Member Levine. Uh, Council Member Louis.

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Maisel.

COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Yes.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Menchaca.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Miller.

COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you. Moya.

COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Perkins.

COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Powers.

COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Reynoso.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Riley.

COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Rivera.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Rodriguez.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: (UNIDENTIFIED)

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Land use call-ups

Council Member Rodriguez.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you, sir. Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Rosenthal.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Salamanca.

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: I vote aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Treyger

COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Ulrich. Vallone.

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Yeger.

COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you. Uh, Council Member Lander.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you. I apologize for technical difficulties before. I vote aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you. Uh, Council Member Levine. Matteo. Cumbo.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I vote aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Speaker Johnson.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: I vote aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Today's land use call-ups have a vote of 44 in the affirmative and zero in the negative.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. Today's land use call-up is adopted. We will now have communications from Speaker Corey Johnson.

SPEAKER COREY JOHNSON: Thank you Madam Majority Leader. Good afternoon. Welcome to our stated meeting today.

This month we mark the one-year anniversary of COVID-19 bearing down on our city. The loss and devastation that we have experienced over the past 12 months has been truly horrific and we must never forget the lives that have been lost and the pain that has been suffered. Sadly, as of yesterday we count 30,406 New Yorkers killed by COVID-19. These are our friends, Colleagues, family members, and neighbors and as we mark this sad milestone, I also want to remember the unbelievable sacrifice and restraint we saw in our city this past year. It is that strength and that sacrifice that make this the greatest city in the world and I am convinced that New York City will come back stronger than ever.

I also want to send, uh, our, our prayers, my prayers and, and thoughts and I know from the entire Council, uh, to our colleague, Council

Member Jimmy Van Bramer, who you see is wearing a mask. I'm sure he'll talk about why he's doing that, uh, later today in the Stated Meeting and his Chief of Staff, Matt Wallace, both of whom announce they tested positive for COVID-19. We are sending Jimmy our thoughts and prayers and love and want to make sure that he is okay and that his husband Dan is okay, uh, during this hard and difficult time.

This pandemic clearly is not over. We need to stay vigilant. We need to keep wearing our face coverings and maintaining social distancing. We have to keep it up.

Tuesday night we were sickened, absolutely sickened, by the news coming out of Atlanta Georgia. This Brutal attack is an attack on humanity and sadly it follows a pattern of abuse and hate crimes against Asian Americans over the past year that has made them feel more vulnerable than ever. I wish that there was a vaccine against hate. We have made so many strides to battle the virus, but it takes more than a mask and a shot to prevent racist attacks. It takes education. It takes compassion. It takes all of us calling out racist behavior. Discrimination in any form is unacceptable

and we must keep fighting against anti-Asian rhetoric and anti-Asian hate crimes that happening here in New York City as well. Our heart goes out to the families of the victims of this senseless tragedy. Six of the eight were Asian women and, uh, I believe that this was a hate crime.

I want to acknowledge the recent death of someone that many of us knew, disabilities advocate and activist Edith Prentiss. Edith fought tirelessly to make city more accessible for all New Yorkers who testified at the Counsel many, many times and we owe, uh, her a debt of gratitude.

Uh, we also have a death in the Counsel family. Uh, June Kallos, the mother of Council Member Ben Kallos, died on March 10th. Dr. Kallos grew up on the Upper East Side and was a retired behavioral therapist who taught psychology at CUNY and our condolences go out to Ben and his entire family during this hard time.

Sadly, we have one, uh, line of duty death today. Uh, Kennie Lessie, an assistance superintendent in Brooklyn, died on March 5th while trying to retrieve a neighbor's cell phone in the elevator machine room. He was 64 years old and as I

do at every Stated Meeting, I want to remember the lives that we've lost to 911-related illnesses. We recently lost retired firefighter Dennis A. Farrell. Retired firefighter George Wilton, he was 69 years old. N.Y.P.D. Detective Brian Malley (SP?), who served the city for 22 years. Retired N.Y.P.D. Officer Gerard Bowden and Correction Officer Connell P. Gallagher who was 62 years old.

Let us pause for a moment of silence for Dr. June Kallos, Edith Prentiss, Kennie Lessie, Dennis Farrell, George Wilton, Brian Malley, Gerard Bowden, Connell Gallagher, and the more than 30,000 lives that we've lost to COVID-19. (PAUSE)

Thank you. I'd also like to acknowledge that we are celebrating Women's History Month. Everyday I'm inspired by the women who make this City Counsel the amazing place that it is and I'd like to give a special shout out to the Council's Women's Caucus for continuing to make sure the needs of women are heard every day. Thank you all.

Now, on to our agenda for today. Out of the Land Use Committee we are voting on the following items 42-11 9th Street special permit and text amendment to include the project area as a new

industrial business incentive area and facilitate a 21 story commercial building with required industrial space in Council Member Jimmy Van Bramer's district. The Council will modify the applications to include reporting requirements.

1620 Cortelyou Road rezoning as modified will facilitate the development of a new nine story mixed-use building with approximately 80 units of housing of which 23 units will be permanently affordable and will include the expansion of a supermarket in Council Member Mathieu Eugene's district.

9114 5th Avenue rezoning will facilitate the development of a new nine story mixed-use building with 50 units of housing including approximately 15 permanently affordable units. The Council will be modifying the zoning for three lots to better reflect the character of the neighborhood and the MIH option to include the workforce option. Council Member Justin Brannan and the community worked for several years with the developer so a hotel would not be built as of right in this rezoning. It is in Council Member Justin Brannan's district.

The Sutter Avenue, East New York

Partnership Homes will facilitate the conveyance of a small interior lot, that the city owns, so the homeowner will have ownership of the property in Council Member Inez Barron's district.

91-32 63rd drive rezoning will facilitate the development of a new nine story mixed-use building including approximately 74 units of housing of which 21 units will be permanently affordable in Council Member Karen Koslowitz's district.

245-01 Jamaica Avenue rezoning seeks a zoning map amendment to expand the permanent commercial uses and allow the applicant to apply for a special permit to legalize a physical culture establishment in Council Member Barry Grodenchik's district.

Out of the Finance Committee we will voting on a full 40-year Article 11 property tax exemption for Los Sures HDFC, in Council Member Antonio Reynoso's district in Brooklyn, for the preservation of 124 units of affordable housing.

We will also be voting on the Council's operating budget for fiscal 2022.

Moving on to our legislative agenda. Our first Bill comes out of the committee on health and is a Bill that I proudly sponsor. The Council has done some amazing work protecting our children from lead poisoning, but we won't be satisfied until there are no more cases.

Introduction 864-A will expand the investigation of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene is required to conduct under existing law whenever it is alerted about a child with elevated lead, lead level.

Under this legislation the Department of Health or another relevant city agency will be required to inspect not just the dwelling unit where a poisoned child resides, but also any daycare, preschool, or nursery school where the child routinely spends ten or more hours per week as well as any park or playground where DOHMH determines that bare soil presents a potential source of lead exposure.

DOHMH will also be required to inspect any apartment with a child under the age of one in the same building as the dwelling unit where the poisoned child resides.

This legislation also requires DOHMH to provide information regarding special education services available from the Department of Education to the parent or guardian of any child, under the age of 18, determined to have an elevated blood lead level and I want to thank from the staff Ze-Emanuel Hailu for his work on that.

Next, we have another lead paint-related Bill. This one out of the Housing and Buildings Committee. Introduction No. 874-A sponsored by Council Member Margaret Chin. It would establish requirements to strengthen interagency communication, tenant notification, and inspections related to lead paint... lead-based paint and lead dust hazards.

This Bill would expand the lead hazard education, referral, and notification practices at the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and would also require certifications of lead-safe work practices as part of certain permit applications and tenant protection plans. Where the Department of Buildings receives a complaint alleging a violation of lead-safe work practices they will be required to inspect within 24 hours, take dust wipes to determine whether any construction dust is lead contaminated,

an refer these wipes and any other hazardous condition to the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene for further analysis and I want to thank from the staff Austin Branford for his work on that piece of legislation.

Next, we have two additional... We have an additional Bill and two resolutions from the health committee.

The Bill calls for a unified scheduling system for COVID-19 vaccinations. This is a crucial step in the COVID-19 fight. Uh, I wish the Bill was not necessary, but we have to make sure that the administration improves the vaccination appointment process. Introduction No. 2236-A sponsored by Council Member Mark Levine, the Chair of our Health Committee, will require the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene or another agency designated by the Mayor to develop and maintain a website, which operates a unified scheduling system for COVID-19 vaccinations for all cooperating vaccination locations and providers located in New York City. In addition, the website would also allow an eligible user to receive notifications when new vaccination appointments are available and to preregister for

such appointments, which will ensure that users don't have to spend great amounts of their time refreshing the website to find available appointments and from the staff I want to thank Harbani Ahuja and Sara Liss.

We also have two resolutions coming out of the Health Committee. Resolution No. 1535, sponsored by Council Member Daneek Miller, calls on the State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, legislation allowing for the implementation of the steps outlined in a letter sent by the City Council's Black, Latino, and Asian Caucus and Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams to New York State Department of Health Commissioner Howard Zucker and DOHMH Commissioner Dave Chokshi.

The letter demands the expansion of vaccine eligibility to include those who live zip codes most impacted by COVID-19. The letter also calls for the letter also calls for the creation of a vaccine standby list for residents so individuals can receive a vaccine that would, otherwise, got to waste.

In addition to the vaccine distribution planning steps in the letter, uh, the resolution also

calls on the state to develop a publicly accessible real-time vaccination dashboard, which discloses vaccination data disaggregated by race, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, employment, and zip code and I want to thank from the staff Em Balkan.

Also, out of the Health Committee we have resolution No. 1529-A sponsored by Council Member Levine, which calls on the State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, legislation to protect the state's safety net providers and special needs plans by eliminating the Medicaid Pharmacy carve-outs.

These providers include community health centers, HIV providers, sexual health clinics, many rural hospitals, and other safety net providers. If New York State proceeds with the carve-out safety net providers will lose hundreds of millions of dollars they now use for patient care and the State and Federal Government will instead receive more rebates and again, I want to thank from the staff Em Balkan.

Next, we have two Bills from our Resiliency and Waterfronts Committee.

First, Introduction No. 2092-A, sponsored by Council Member Costa Constantinides, will require the Office of Long-term Planning and Sustainability

to develop climate resiliency design guidelines informed by both the currently guidelines and the five-year pilot program evaluating potential resiliency features in city capital projects. The Office of Long-term Planning and Sustainability in consultation with other city agencies, environmental justice organizations, and members of the public with expertise in climate resiliency, climate design, the built environment, engineering, and environmental justice issues would then use the climate resiliency design guidelines to develop a climate resiliency score metric for capital projects.

Such score would account for various resiliency factors including flooding risks, energy efficiency, and heat mitigation. Every city capital project above a threshold construction cost would be evaluated for its resiliency and be required to meet or exceed a minimum resiliency score and I want to thank from the staff Mel Beekman and Jessica Steinberg Albin.

The second Bill from Resiliency and Waterfronts Committee is Introduction No. 2198-A sponsored my Minority Leader Steve Matteo. The Bill would amend the building code to add additional

freeboard for most newly constructed or substantially improved buildings located in the floodplain providing additional floodproofing and I want to thank Jessica Steinberg Albin from the staff for her work on that Bill.

Next, we have one Bill from our Environmental Protection Committee. Introduction No. 2170-A, sponsored by the Chair, Council Member Costa Constantinides, would amend the existing Sustainable Energy Loan Program, which generally limits financing to energy efficiency upgrades made to existing buildings to extend financing to energy efficiency improvements made to new construction, but also defines real property to mean any property, uh, and interest in, which is eligible to be recorded with the City Register or the Office of Richmond County Clerk by the possessor of such interests.

From our Civil Service and Labor Committee we have Resolution No., uh, 7271, sponsored by Council Member Alicka Ampry-Samuel, calling on the State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, State, State Senate Bill, uh, No. S.4170 and its companion Bill in the assembly A.4548, which would authorize an early retirement system as described

above. The Legislation would authorize the creation of a temporary early retirement program for public employees who are age 55 or older and who have worked 25 years of service.

To be eligible for this program an employee would need to be a member of the New York City Teachers Retirement Program, the New York City Board of Education Retirement Program, or the New York City Employees Retirement Program and I want to thank Thomas Nath from the staff for his work on that resolution.

With that I turn it back to you, Madam Majority Leader.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much, Speaker Johnson, and thank you for all of the work that you are doing on behalf of all of New Yorker's.

We will now move into discussion of General Orders. We will recognize council members who wish to speak by using the raise hand function in ZOOM.

Please wait before you begin your remarks for our Sergeant-At-Arms to announce he has begun the countdown clock. The Sergeant-At-Arms will alert you when your time has expired.

Mr. Parliamentarian, are there council members registered to speak.

PARLIAMENTARIAN POLIVY: Yes, Madam Majority Leader. Council Members Levine, Chin, and Miller.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member Levine, you may begin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Thank you so much, Madam Majority Leader and thank you Mr. Speaker for pushing forward this important package of Bills today. I want to speak very briefly on two pieces of legislation that I'm proud to be sponsoring today.

First, as you mentioned, Mr. Speaker, Intro. 2236 would deal with a problem that I know all of you colleagues are well familiar with just how difficult it is to schedule a vaccine appointment online because you have to visit so many different websites with different sign-ups and registrations.

So, this Bill would require a single simple interface, run by the city, where the public can sign up for a vaccination at a variety of providers, Health Department sites, public hospital sites, community clinics, pharmacies, private hospitals, and incentivize as many provider as

possible to participate in the system. It will also add an important new feature allowing you to preregister so you can be notified if an appointment becomes available. That way you don't have to sit and hit refresh over and over to watch it yourself, but this will... really will lower barriers for signing up online. We think it's gonna be a win for equity and are extremely excited about this.

Secondly, I want to speak about Intro. 1529, which calls on the state to eliminate a Medicare pharmacy carve-out and this might sound obscure, but if this goes forward as scheduled in the weeks ahead it will deal a devastating blow to non-profit safety net health providers in communities all over the city who are serving the people that the main stream medical system is leaving behind whether its homeless New Yorkers, people with HIV, and other on the margins.

This would be a devastating blow that would lead to the closure of thousands of clinics, the loss of hundreds of jobs, and so we're calling on the state to, again, eliminate the Medicare pharmacy carve-out to protect these critical safety net health services and (UNIDENTIFIED) today again, 1529, uh,

would add momentum to this, to this important effort. Thank you all so much. Thank you to the staff that did such hard work on this on the committee, Counsel Harbani Ahuja who adjusts our list, Policy Analyst Em Balkan, and Finance Analyst Lauren Hunt. Thank you again.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council Member Levine for your leadership. We will now move on to Council Member Chin followed by Council Member Miller.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS MARTINEZ: Time begins.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you, Majority Leader.

Uh, first want to thank our Speaker, uh, for your support and advocacy on this issue. I'm here to speak about Intro. 874-A and I also want to thank all of the co-sponsors.

This piece of legislation will strengthen interagency cooperation when lead is detected during construction and renovation of residential apartments and automatically refer children who may have been exposed to medical providers for appropriate testing. Fortunately, incidents of lead poisoning have been steadily decreasing thank to community advocacy and

the passage of lead protection Bills from this Council, but we are not across the finish line yet. Even minimal exposure to lead can lead to cause serious health problems in our children from developmental issues to chronic fatigue.

Today we take another step forward in the fight to protect our children from lead exposure and increase transparency when lead has been found and I strongly urge my colleagues, uh, to vote yes on this and I want to thank our Housing Committee Chair, uh, Council Member Cornegy for this Bill and also the committee staff Austin Brannan... Au... Austin Branford, uh, for his hard work and all of the lead safety advocates especially the Cooper Square Committee for their persistency and advocacy on this issue. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much Council Member Chin for your advocacy and now we will move on to Council Member Miller.

COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you, Madam Majority Leader.

Uh, today this body will vote on Resolution 1535. A piece of legislation that I am proud to introduce along with the members of the

BLAC, uh, and, and, and the Brooklyn Borough President. The legislation is months in the making. As my colleagues and I have been advocating for fair and equitable vaccine roll out before the very first dose was ever initiated in the city of New York.

Resolution 1535 calls for the New York State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, legislation that would allow for local Health Departments to implement changes to improve COVID-19 vaccine roll out to meet the needs of communities that were hardest hit by the pandemic.

This legislation would allow the city to tailor its roll out and include the language aimed at prioritizing those who are at risk of health and safety, uh, during the pandemic.

Resolution 1535 includes language calling for immediate implementation of vaccine appointment, standby lists, vaccine hotlines to make appointments in real time. A map of currently operating vaccine distribution sites creates a more seamless accessible vaccination network.

Just this week we celebrated the distribution of three million vaccines here in the city, but this victory remains hallow when you look

at the clear disparities that persists and who is getting access to the vaccine. Whites are still getting inoculated in a far greater proportion than black and brown New Yorkers. In the past several weeks my office and staff have worked to schedule appointments with seniors and others who are having trouble navigating the current system. When it comes to getting tested and getting vaccinated, we know what works popups in community centers, churches, synagogues, and mosques and empowering local organizations to assist in this monumental effort is absolutely ne... necessary. We must continue to prioritize those essential workers that make up...

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS MARTINEZ: Times up.

COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: our seniors each and every day. I want to thank... once again, I want to express my gratitude for the overwhelming support this body has given this legislation. I'm looking forward to the passage. I want to thank you, Mr. Speaker, for your leadership and, uh, Chair Levine from the Health Committee for helping us navigate this through. Looking forward to the passage. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much, Council Member Miller and Mr. Parliamentarian are there any other members who wish to speak at this on the package of legislation that we are about to vote on?

PARLIAMENTARIAN POLIVY: Yes, Council Member Ampry-Samuel.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member Ampry-Samuel, you may begin.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS MARTINEZ: Time begins.

COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Thank you, Madam Majority Leader. Today's resolution supporting the New York State legislation, which will provide a temporary early retirement program for early.. for eligible employees who are members of the

PARLIAMENTARIAN POLIVY: Council Member, uh, we're gonna do discussion of resolutions a little bit later..

COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Oh, I'm sorry about that.

PARLIAMENTARIAN POLIVY: so, we'll call on you then.

COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Okay, thank you.

PARLIAMENTARIAN POLIVY: No problem and that's it, Madam Majority Leader.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much, Mr. Parliamentarian and, Council Member Alicka Ampry-Samuel, we will be sure to put you first on the docket for, uh, the discussion on resolutions.

At this time, we will now go into the report of special committees.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: None.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Reports of standing committees.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the committee on Environmental Protection Intro. 2170-A Sustainable Energy Loan Program.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and Coupled on General Orders.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report on the Committee on Finance pre-considered EMS 291 and Reso. 1569 and 292 and Reso. 1570, Council Budget.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on General Orders.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Pre-considered LU 742 and Reso. 1571, tax exemption.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on General Orders.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the committee on health Intro. 864-A lead poisoning investigations.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and Coupled on General Orders.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Intro. 2236-A COVID-19 vaccination scheduling.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and Coupled on General Orders.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the committee on housing and buildings, proposed Intro. 874-A lead pain and construction work.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and Coupled on General Orders.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the committee on land use LU 718 and 719, 1620 Cortelyou Road rezoning.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Approved with modifications and referred to the City Planning Commission pursuant to Section 197-D of the New York City Charter.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: LU, excuse me, LU 730 and Reso. 1572, Sutter Avenue-East New York Partnership Homes.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on General Orders.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: LU 735 and Reso. 1573, LU 736 and Reso. 1574, 91-32 63rd Drive Rezoning.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on General Orders.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: LU 737 and Reso. 1575 245-01 Jamaica Avenue Rezoning.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on General Orders.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the Committee on Resilience and Waterfronts Intros 2092-A and 2198-A Climate resilience design guidelines and floodplain structures.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and Coupled on General Orders.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: General Orders Calendar LU 714 and Reso. 1576 and LU 715 and Reso. 1577, 42-11 9th Street Special Permit.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on General Orders.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: General Orders

Calendar LU 17 and Reso 1578 and 719 and Reso. 1579,
1620 Cortelyou Road Rezoning.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on General
Orders.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: General Orders

Calendar LU 78... 727 and Reso. 1580 and 728 and Reso.
1581, 9114 5th Avenue Rezoning.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on General
Orders and at this time the Clerk to take a roll call
vote on all of the items Couple on today's General
Order Calendar.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Adams.

COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: I vote aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Ampry-Samuel.

COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: I vote aye
on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Ayala.

COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: I vote aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye on all
with the exception of 735, 736, 718, 719, 727, and
728 on which I am abstaining.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council Member Barron, to verify you said 718 and 719?

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Yes.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Borelli.

COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: I vote aye on all. Thank you.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Brannan.

COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Uh, permission to explain my vote.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Thank you. I just want to congratulate, uh, my colleagues, uh, Council Member Constantinides and Council Member Matteo for passing their Bill. The first two Bills out of, uh, my still somewhat new Resiliency Committee. Uh, it just shows that climate resilience is not a partisan issue, uh, and I vote aye on all.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Cabrera.

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Chin.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you. Uh,
Constantinides.

COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES:

(UNIDENTIFIED) my vote.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
granted.

COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Thank you,
Madam Majority Leader. Uh, first I just want to
thank, uh, our Speaker, Corey Johnson. Thank you for
your great leadership on everything sustainable and
resilient. Uh, we've done a lot of great work
together on these two Bills are just a continuation
of that. So, thank you for your environmental
leadership and making us be more green and more, uh,
resilient. Uh, thank you to our, uh, Resiliency
Committee Chair, Uh, Justin Brannan as he talks about
this isn't a partisan issue. We have to make our city
more resilient. Uh, I really want to thank all of the
staff Samara Swanston, Jessica Albin, uh, Ricky
Chala, uh, Nadia Johnston, Johnathan Seltzer, my
counsel Nicholas Rosowski, and I really want to thank
the, the Rise to Resilience Coalition, uh, for all of
their great, uh, advocacy around resiliency issues.

Particularly around, uh, Bill 2092. Uh, thank you for, you know, being our conscious, our environmental conscious, and continuing to push us forward so will be more resilient and a special shout out to the head of, uh, MOR, uh, Jainey Bavishi and her team, uh, whose guidelines today, uh, were... Have been, you know, more constructed, uh but not mandatory and these guidelines today now for city capital projects will be, will be mandatory.

I look forward to ensuring that our city capital projects, as we build them, uh, we need to start thinking if it's not resilient and it's not sustainable go back to the drawing board and start again because everything we build should be resilient and, and, and with sustainability and resiliency in mind. Thank you very much.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Cornegy.

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: I vote aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Darma Diaz.

COUNCIL MEMBER DARMA DIAZ: I vote aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Ruben Diaz.

COUNCIL MEMBER RUBEN DIAZ: (UNIDENTIFIED)

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you. Council
Member Dromm.

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye, aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you. Got it. Uh,
Eugene.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I vote aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Gennaro.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Madam Majority
Leader, I wish to speak on my vote.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
granted.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: I wish to be
associated with the remarks from Council Member, uh,
Constantinides and, uh, Council Member Brannan, uh,
and with that I vote aye on all.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Gibson.

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Good afternoon. I
vote aye on all. Thank you.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Gjonaj.

COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Grodenchik.

COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Holden.

COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Kallos.

COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Koo.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Koslowitz.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Lander.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Request permission
to explain my vote.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
granted.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thanks so much.
First, I just want to express, uh, morning and
solidarity to Council Members Chin and Koo. I know
this is an impossible time and this whole council has
your, your backs and is there with you in your
districts.

Uh, uh, I'm gonna vote aye on all except
for Land Use No. 727 and 728 and accompanying
Resolutions 1580 and 1581. I know my friend, Justin
Brannan, has negotiated, uh, for a, a good deal
there, but I pledged that I would not vote in favor

of the MIH Work Force option and so, I am voting no on these, on these items. I vote aye on the rest.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Levin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: I vote aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Levine. Council Member
Levine. Louis

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: I vote aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Maisel.

COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Yes.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Menchaca.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Miller.

COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: I vote aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you. Moya.

COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Perkins.

COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Powers.

COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Reynoso.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Vote aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Riley.

COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: I vote aye on all and I would to extend my condolences to my colleague Council Member Kallos on the passing of his mother.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you. Rivera.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Rodriguez.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Before, before I ask for permission to explain my vote the big surround (SIC) also include the vote on the Resolution?

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Excuse me?

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Is, is what we are voting right now also includes the Resolution? (UNIDENTIFIED) like the one made by Council Member Miller?

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes, it is.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: So, permission to explain my vote.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Majority Leader. It has been a great honor to be working with Council Member Miller and you and the rest of the members of the Black and Latino Nation

(UNIDENTIFIED) and especially with the great leaders who (UNIDENTIFIED) issue related to the entirety when it came to the COVID-19. Uh, you know, unfortunately, a lot of people are left especially some leaders. They left the city.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coun... Council Member Rodriguez, I'm so sorry. Uh, Majority Leader, we are voting on, uh... We're reading the Resolutions later and we're voting on those later. Just like we told Council Member Ampry-Samuel to wait 'til the end it's the same thing on this Resolution. So, uh, Ydanis, if you could wait to explain when we do the Resolutions later?

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: I will, I will. Thank you, thank you, uh, Speaker, and, and, and please put me down as we will... As I was only quoting on the Resolution and besides that, you know, before voting I, uh, also ask together with our great leader, Speaker Johnson, you know, all our concerns for all of the attack on the Asian community and we are here as one nation and one city. Letting them know they attack on the Asian, the Jews, on, uh, gay or straight, Latino is a attack on all of us. So, our prayers to the families of those great women who lost

their life and the messages that we would never tolerate any action of hate toward anyone in our city and our state and our nation, but with that I vote aye.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, Council Member Rodriguez and we apologize for the confusion.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council Member Levine.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Thank you so much. Uh, I'll be voting aye on all and, Madam Majority Leader, I'd also like a motion for unanimous consent to vote aye on today's Land Use Call-Ups.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Okay, give me one moment.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Are there, are there any objections, uh, to this unanimous consent? I see no objections, Madam Majority Leader.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: So, then you may proceed.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Okay, I'll be voting aye on that as well. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council Member Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Rosenthal.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: I vote aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Salamanca.

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye on all.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Treyger.

COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Ulrich.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Madam Majority Leader, I ask for unanimous consent to, uh, vote on all of the Land Use items.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes. We will now... At this time, we will ask member if their unanimous consent for Council Member Ulrich to vote at this time. Don't see any objections. You may proceed.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: It's nice when we all agree. I vote aye on all Land Use Call-Ups and all items on the General Order Calendar and I wish..

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Wow!

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: a happy Passover and a happy Easter to all of my colleagues for whoever they are celebrating.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Thank you.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Vallone.

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye on all and a happy Saint Patrick's and Saint Joseph's Day for all of those Joseph's out there. God bless them.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Permission to briefly explain my vote.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank you. Uh, first, I want to thank the Speaker for, uh, his very kind words earlier and also reaching out. Uh, as I think most people know, the reason I'm wearing the mask is, uh, because I tested positive for COVID on Monday, uh, shortly after my Chief of Staff, Matt Wallace, uh, tested positive as well and obviously my thoughts are with him and his family. Uh, it's been a difficult week for our team. Uh, uh, not only for Matt and his family, but, uh, Deborah Barrington, who is my, uh, longest serving staff member, uh, and my Deputy Chief of Staff, her husband, Ronnie, passed away on, uh... Uh, earlier in the weekend and, uh, Deb has worked with me for 12 years and her husband, uh, Ronnie Barrington, was an amazing man. Uh, they are

legends in the Witbeck houses. Uh, Deb has helped thousands and thousands of people in my district and, uh, Ronnie was so much fun to be with. They were together for over 40 years. Uh, raised, uh, three children, uh, one granddaughter and, uh, the wake and funeral were earlier this week.

So, uh, while I'm thrilled, uh, and touched that so many people have reached out about my, uh, uh, infection with COVID, I want my thoughts and everyone's thoughts to be with Matt Wallace, my Chief of Staff, and his family and also to Deborah Barrington and Ronnie Barrington and the Barrington family, uh, who have suffered such incredible loss this week. We will always miss Ronnie and we send so much love to Deb and her family.

So, with that I aye on all.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, Council Member Van Bramer, and our thoughts and prayers are with you at the Council. We'll continue to pray for you, yeah.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council Member Yeger.

COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you. Uh, Madam President, may I be excused to explain my vote?

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission

granted.

COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you. Uh, it's hard to follow that. Jimmy, I hope you're doing okay, uh, and I hope you and your family and your staff are all doing all right.

Uh, uh, thank you very much, Madam President. This my fourth Council operating budget that I've had the honor to vote on since my membership in this body and I've voted no on all, as I've explained in the past. I think we're spending too much particularly given that the last budget of the previous session of the Council was around 16 million dollars less than we are projected to spend in the next fiscal year, but I would be remiss if I did not note that this proposed, that we're voting on today, is lower than any of the previous three in this session of the Council.

The Speaker successfully cut approximately nine million dollars from the current year's budget, the one we're in right now, and nearly 10 million dollars from the proposed spending in the next fiscal year. This is not an insignificant feat and I want to very much thank the Speaker for the

incredible work I know he spent on this budget and his staff. Uh, to recognize the needs of this body, uh, but to meld it with the fiscal realities facing this city and, uh, frankly, uh, you know, I've attending the budget hearings and I've read the budget documents that, that we've been getting and I don't believe any other city agency has managed to successfully cut its budget as much as the Speaker has cut the budget of the Council of the proposed operating budget. Incredible work and it deserves recognition. Uh, so, thank you, Madam President, for the time. I appreciate it. I vote aye on all, uh, with the exception of Resolutions 1569 and 1570 on which I abstain, uh, which is break from my traditional past of voting no and with that I thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council Member Yeger.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Matteo.

COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Thank you. uh, Jimmy, I just want to, uh, let you know that you, your family, and your staff are all in our thoughts and prayers. Uh, hope you get better and, uh, thank you for sharing and, and we're all... You're all in our

prayers. So, uh, we're all thinking about you and your family and staff. Uh, (UNIDENTIFIED) Uh, Madam Majority Leader I'd like to make a motion for unanimous consent to vote on all Land Use Call-Ups.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Are there any objections from the body? Seeing none, please proceed.

COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Thank you, Madam Majority Leader. I vote aye on all Land Use Call-Ups, I vote aye on all General Orders, and thank my colleagues for all of their support on, uh, the passage of, uh, a Bill that I sponsored today. Uh, thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Cumbo.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I vote aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Speaker Johnson.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: I vote aye.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Okay, all items on today's General Order Calendar have a vote of 47 in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and no abstentions with the exception of the following Bills: Land Use items 735, 736, 718, and 719 with their accompanying Resolutions have a vote of 46 in

the affirmative, zero in the negative, and one abstention. M 291 and M 292 with their accompanying Resolutions have a vote of 46 in the affirmative, one in the negative, and no abstentions and finally, Land Use items 727 and 728 and their accompanying Resolutions have vote of 45 in the affirmative, one in the negative, one abstention, and the revised Land Use Call-Ups vote is now 47 in the affirmative and zero in the negative. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. The items on today's General Orders Calendar are adopted. Introduction and reading of Bills.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: All Bills have been referred to Committees as indicated on today's agenda.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We'll now move into the discussion of Resolutions. As a reminder, please wait until the Sergeant-At-Arms begins the countdown clock before you begin your remarks. Mr. Parliamentarian, are there any members that have signed up and in what order?

PARLIAMENTARIAN POLIVY: Yes, Council Member Ampry-Samuel is first followed by Council Member Rodriguez.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. Council Member Ampry-Samuel, as promised you are going first.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time begins.

COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Thank you, Majority Leader. Is this the appropriate time to talk about earlier...

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes, it is.

COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: All right, all right! Uh, thank, thank you so much.

Today's Resolution supporting the New York State legislation, which would provide a temporary early retirement program for eligible employees who are members of the New York Cities retirement system. The proposed legislation would provide member employees who are at least 55 years of age who have served the city of New York for 25 years or more with early retirement benefits from the date it becomes effective.

The significant percentage of eligible employees are those among us who have been celebrated as essential workers for their continuous service to the city during the most trying times of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, these city workers are now at risk of loss of employment because of the on going

economic challenges New York City continues to confront including those challenges we will see over the course of the pandemic. A significant percentage of those eligible employees are currently head of households in the city and work in family communities, 60 percent of whom are black and brown, whose participation in and contributions into the city's retirement system for 25 plus years may be rendered a nullity through layoff at the stroke of a... with the stroke of a pen negated simply as a consequence of our time and the pandemic. So, I ask you to join me in the request to the New York City Legislator that each of these chambers (SIC) pass, and the Governor to sign, S.4170 and its companion Bill A.4548.

Let us take this time and step together to do the right thing on behalf of our city's workers and for our city. Thank you so much, Speaker Johnson, for your leadership in pushing the Reso. and thank you Council Member Miller, who chairs the Civil Service Labor Committee, uh, for your hard work into (UNIDENTIFIED). Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much and thank you for your passion. At this time, we will now bring it to Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Gracious (UNIDENTIFIED). Uh, it is a great honor to be working. As I said before, we owe the leadership of the Black and Latino nation (UNIDENTIFIED) seeing distribution of equity. How could that happen? Most people were dying they were the first ones. They were Black. They were Latino. They were Asian and at the time when we were starting distributing the vaccine those who (UNIDENTIFIED) New Yorkers were the last ones in getting the vaccine in less numbers.

I am proud to see how we've been making improvements, but there is no doubt that called racism and discrimination and for me having a great honor to be working again with individuals that didn't leave, didn't leave 'til they help somebody. They didn't go to the Hamptons. They just stayed fighting here in the last couple of months like in the bar... barter for work and for me it is an honor to know that we were then standing shoulder-to-shoulder with Council Member Miller as a Co-Chair with a great (UNIDENTIFIED) to be sure minorities (UNIDENTIFIED)

to the vaccine distribution in New York City, but also to address why we got there. Because it's not the first time. It's like every time when we address anything in our city, people, they don't get it that we are still live in a very segregated city. It is about people who live in the (UNIDENTIFIED). They got vaccine more. First time Black, Latino, and Asian got it.

So, I am proud to be here voting on these Resolutions ag... again lead by Council Member Miller. Supported by (UNIDENTIFIED) and I know that working together with them, Brooklyn Borough President, with Speaker Corey Johnson, and the rest of the team we will be addressing the issue of equity when it comes to this treatment and not only the vaccine, but also putting everything that you take to address the

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time is up (SIC).

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: (UNIDENTIFIED) that took, took... that took more Black, Latino, and Asian and poorest New Yorkers dying in higher numbers. I don't want one New Yorker to die regardless of their social, economic, and (UNIDENTIFIED), but I have issues when our people are dying in the (UNIDENTIFIED) and some people they

don't care about it and they have left our city to go to the help... So, they, uh, so they help somebody into the Hamptons. With that I vote aye.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much Council Member Rodriguez and thank you for your passion and leadership.

Mr. Parliamentarian, are there any other members who wish to speak at this time?

PARLIAMENTARIAN POLIVY: No, Madam Majority Leader.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We'll now have a voice vote on today's Resolutions. If you wish to vote against or abstain from either of today's Resolutions, please notify the Legislative Documents Unit by email.

I'll now read today's Resolutions into the record.

Resolution 1529-A calls on the New York State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, legislation to protect New York State's safety net providers and Special Needs Plans by eliminating the Medicaid pharmacy carve-out. Will all of those in favor say aye?

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: All opposed say nay? Any abstentions? They ayes have it.

Resolution 1535 calls on the New York State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, legislation allowing local health departments to implements changes to improve the COVID-19 vaccine roll out. Will all of those in favor say aye?

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: All opposed say nay? Any abstentions? The ayes have it.

Pre-considered Resolution 1563 calls on the New York State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, S.14170/A.4548 authorizing certain and public employers to offer temporary retirement incentives and providing an age 55/25 years temporary retirement incentive for certain public employees.

Will all of those in favor say aye?

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: All opposed say nay? Any abstentions? The ayes have it.

We'll now move into General Discussion. As a reminder, please wait until the Sergeant-At-Arms begins the countdown clock before you begin your remarks.

Mr. Parliamentarian, are there any members that wish to speak at this time?

PARLIAMENTARIAN POLIVY: Yes, Council Members Adams, Kallos, and Barron.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member Adams, you may begin.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time begins.

COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Thank you so... Thank you so much, Madam Majority Leader.

Uh, first, I'd like to say that I stand in solidarity with the Asian community. In particular with my colleagues, Council Members Chin and Koo.

On February 25th, the la... The day of our last Stated, uh, I was not present for the Stated Meeting. I believe it might've been the first that I've ever missed and on the 25th of February I lost the biggest piece of my heart.

The loss of my mom was completely unexpected. I just want to let my colleagues know that the expedience that your well wishes, your condolences, your love, your thoughts, your texts, your calls, your emails came in to me on that day and subsequent days had meant more to me than you will ever realize. I feel that a part of me is definitely

missing, but also feel fortified in knowing that so many of you are filling many, many places in my heart today.

So, with that I want to thank you colleagues. I want to thank Council staff. I want to thank all of those who may be watching this Stated Meeting, streaming it, or anywhere else, who have sent me your heart-felt love and wishes. My sincerest thanks and appreciation.

Thank you, Madam Majority Leader, for the time.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: We love you, Adrienne, and we're so sorry for the loss. We know how unexpected it was and what a difficult year it has been for you and Jay and your entire family with the loss of your dad and the loss of your mom. It's just... It's too much and, uh, we look forward to hugging you in person when it's safe to do so. So, we're sending you love.

COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can't wait to get those hugs. God bless you. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I too just want to give you a special shout out of love, Council Member

Adams. You have continued to show up, hosting really challenging hearings, and doing interviews on NY1 news and continuing to make herstory within the month of Women's Herstory Month and you have just continued to be such a pillar of strength and inspiration. Our love continues to go out to you. We, we really admire what you have continued to do, but encourage you to take some time to grieve, uh, in the midst of all of this.

At this time, we'll call on Council Member Kallos.

COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Uh, thank you, Adrienne. I'm sharing similar sent... sentiments.

Uh, today I'll be introducing two Bills that respond to the concerns of constituents involving elections and public safety. With exponentially greater numbers of early voters in our city last year, it's clear we need more pole sites, but I also engage community stake holders in the congregation of Siting and Logistics so we won't have a repeat of the five-hour lines that my constituents faced at Wagner Middle School.

Introduction 2239 will create a pole site task force that will review pole sites considered and

used in the 2020 Presidential election and make recommendations for pole sites for future elections with membership from relevant city agencies and the public.

I'm also introducing legislation that will address concerns of many New Yorkers arising from the recent use of a Digidog robot by the New York Police Department. I've always looked up to John Conner, but don't need to destroy Cyberdyne to stop the Terminator from becoming a reality. I rooted for Alex Murphy in Robocop and we can stop OCP from deploying ED 209 by weaponizing... by making weaponized robots illegal now. Nerding out aside no one wants to live in a city that looks and feels like a Black Mirror Episode.

Introduction 2240 bans the New York Police Department, NYPD, from using or threatening to use robots armed with a weapon or to use robots in any manner that could hurt or cause death to a human being. We can all see the merits of technologies that can diffuse a bomb, but need to clearly define what robotic technology is and what it's acceptable, uh, use is.

The technology to arm robots already exists and in order to prevent anything like that from happening we have to act now before the technology gets ahead of the laws.

The legislation expands on the Post Act, which the NYPD disobeyed when they started using these digital robots without telling anyone, uh, that the Council passed last year and I'm hoping that folks will sign on to both Bills.

MAJORITY LEADER COMBO: Thank you Council, Member Kallos, and thank you for that very heavy legislative introduction agenda, but I also want to extend my deepest condolences to you on the loss of your mom. Uh, I, I admire you still being able to be as focused as you are on the work at hand and the city of New York and your constituents, but I can just imagine by hearing it in your voice, uh, the pain that you and your family are experiencing at this time. So, on behalf of the entire Council our heart goes out to you, uh, as to the members who are and continue to be in mourning and are continuing to grieve, our hearts go out to you as you continue to do this really difficult and challenging work.

So, I thank you and again, my love and condolences to your family.

Uh, Council Member Barron.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time begins.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you. Uh, just give me a moment. Hopefully my technology is gonna work. Okay, good.

First, I want to add my voice to those who have already spoken to send my condolences and prayer, uh, to all of those who have suffered losses whether it be from illness or unexpected conditions or from COVID and just pray that you will strengthened and encouraged and do want to, uh, particularly cite Council Member Kallos who recently suffered the loss of his mom. And to my colleague, Jimmy Van Bramer, take precautions, as I see you are, and do everything you need to do to overcome, uh, this virus.

It is Women's History Month and I just want to cite one person who is someone that I always look up to. People oftentimes talk about her and call her, but there's just one quote that I wanted to share with you. It's from her book "Unbought and Unbossed". Quote "I think it's quite well known that

I don't enter most things with the blessings of any party. Anyone who's followed my political career knows very keenly that I am the only unbought and unbossed Politian and I mean that literally. I think that you've got to recognize that I'm not white, I'm not male, and that I'm not going to get the blessings of the power... that I'm not going to get the blessings of the power structure in this Country. They know I was not afraid to try a new course in the history of this Country".

So, as we're looking at the things that have occurred particularly heightened and highlighted by the COVID virus pandemic that we're in and particularly looking at the economic situations and crisis' that we have to face as we move forward with this budget, this is an opportunity for us to look at how we can correct those systemic problems that have held particular groups of people back and not given them the equity and the justice that they need either economically, socially, or through the so-called Justice system and as we're going to look next week in session, at the Bill that's going to be presented for police reform, I encourage us to be bold and to

be analytical and take the right moves in that regard.

Thank you so much.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. Mr. Parliamentarian, are there any other members who wish to speak at this time?

PARLIAMENTARIAN POLIVY: Yes, first we're gonna hear from the Clerk, uh, who is going to announce the, the call of the vote, uh, from earlier and then we'll move on to three additional speakers.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: All right, Mr. Clerk.

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Thank you. Just a quick revision. On, uh, M 291 and Resolution 1596 and M 292 with Resolution 1570 the vote is 46 in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and one abstention. That's it. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

PARLIAMENTARIAN POLIVY: The next speakers who have... The next Council Members who have signed up to speak are Council Members Grodenchik, Chin, and Rose.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Grodenchik.

PARLIAMENTARIAN POLIVY: And, and Rose.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member Grodenchik.

COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Thank you, Madam Majority Leader and Mr. Speaker. Uh, I asked for a time to speak today, uh, to stand with my Asian-American colleagues and certainly, uh, the over 40 percent of my constituents who are of Asian-American heritage. Uh, I am the son or the grandson of immigrants who fled oppression in what is now, uh, Poland and Russia, uh, to seek a better way of life here in the United States of America and for the most part we have been very lucky here. I know from time to time, uh, my family has, like many families in this Country, faced discrimination.

But what is going on today, uh, in the streets of New York and as we have seen, uh, most tragically recently in the state of Georgia, but not alone in Georgia, but in many places in the United States we are seeing the ugliness of hate and my message to those who, uh, who hate is that you are fighting a losing battle.

I have grown up in a New York City and when I grew up in New York City my community, uh, was

much less diverse. You were Irish or Jewish or Italian or African-American. That was it in my (UNIDENTIFIED) houses growing up. After we had the South-Asian kid and there was the Korean kid in my class as well, uh, but today our great city is much, much more diverse thanks to the Immigration Acts that were passed in the 1960s and have lead to an incredible diversity here.

My community is as diverse as any on Earth. Uh, Queens prides itself on being the most diverse place on Earth, uh, and that diversity succeeds. I've spent most of my professional life in government and unfortunately from time to time I've had to go to memorial services and stand against hate. Uh, not just for Asian-Americans, for African-Americans, for Jewish-Americans, for gay and lesbian New Yorkers who were assaulted or worse on the streets of our city.

My message to those who hate is that you are failing. You are failing. Take a look at this beautiful mosaic of my colleagues here in the Council. Take a look when you walk down the streets of New York where every other New Yorker is an immigrant. You are failing and we stand together from

our Speaker, Speaker Johnson, our Majority Leader, Combo, all of my colleagues of various ethnic and political persuasions stand up and we rise up against hatred.

Tonight, I will go to the streets of my beloved Flushing to stand with my colleagues, uh, two of whom are Asian-American. My Congresswoman, Grace Meng, and my State Senator, John Liu. I stand with them as they have stood with me and as we have stood with each other across my great borough, my beloved Queens, and across my hometown of New York City.

Hate you're losing. You're gonna continue to lose and one day, may it come speedily in our time, that all of God's children in, in the prophecy of the great Profits of the Bible and our modern Profits like Dr. King, uh, nation will not lift up sword against nation neither will they practice war anymore and let us all say amen.

Thank you, Madam Majority Leader, for the time and the last thing I want to say, uh, to my sister, uh, Miss Adams, and to my brother, Ben Kallos, uh, I am grieving with you on your losses, but I will tell you this, my mother has passed over 10 years ago now and I speak with her every single

day and you will too. God bless each and every one of you. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, Council Member Grodenchik. That was really beautiful. Thank you, thank you.

Uh, at this time, we will go to Council Member Chin and then followed by Council Member Rose.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time begins.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you, Madam Majority Leader. Uh, thank you, Barry. Uh, I just wanted to express my gratitude and appreciation and thank you to our Speaker and all of my colleagues, uh, for standing with us, with the Asian-American community, uh, to fight against, against the rising anti-Asian violence across the city and across the country.

This is nothing new. I mean this country has a history of racism, of anti-Asian violence that we see, uh, but we didn't learn it in the history and, and I didn't learn about it until I was in college and that's why I think for us to stand together to fight against hate, we got to start with education. We got to make sure that our children learn about each other's culture and learn about the

history of this country and how we can change it for the better. Uh, there are resources there that my colleagues, you can use, uh, to support your Asian-American constituents, uh, from the Asian-American Federation, Asian-American Bar Association, Commission on Human Rights. There are information that can help protect them, but also to help bystanders to be upstanders and help people to report hate crime and need legislation from our fellow governments on stronger gun control and a stronger legislation against hate crimes and I also hope that in our budget we will reflect the need to really uplift all our communities so that we can have stronger community relations, but also for our youth.

It's so important that we do not cut any of the youth programs because that's where they learn to play with each other and, and make friends with separate ethnic group and we see this across the, the city. So, we got to make sure this budget reflect the action that we can all take to protect not just the Asian-American community, but all our community and uplift everyone. So, I thank you to all of my colleagues for all your support.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much, Council Member Chin, for your leadership and for being such a beacon of strength and hope, but most importantly a strong voice for the Asian-American community and all people.

Uh, at this time, I want to call on Council Member Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: I want to thank, uh, Council Member CHIN for her, her on point moving remarks. Uh, Margaret, you, you've been a stalwart, you've been a leader, but you've not only just been a voice for one community. You've been a voice for all communities and especially our youth and I, I just want to thank you. Uh, I want to thank you so much for your leadership and, and let you know that I and along with others stand with you, uh, and that we have to continue to be vigilant and, uh, and continue to fight hate and, and I'm making that commitment.

Uh, I also wanted to, uh, uh, express my sincere condolences to my colleague, Ben Kallos. uh, having, uh, lost my parents while I was in office, I know how hard it is to, uh, to continue to do what you need to do, uh, and, uh, and be committed to the work that you, you do and, uh, I, I just want to give

you love and support, but I want to thank all of you. I want to start with Speaker Johnson for loving tribute that, uh, made to my partner, Emanuel Braxton, uh, at the last Stated Meeting. Uh, I, I can't thank you enough for, for the kind words that you said, uh, about him and, and our relationship. Uh, and I want to thank all of you for your expressions of sympathy, the cards, the flower, the prayers, uh, most, most overwhelming was the love that, you know, I felt, uh, from my colleagues during this very tough time. Uh, the love, uh, was overwhelming and I want you to know its reciprocal and I, I love you and, uh, and I thank you for all that you did to help me through, uh, this very trying time. So, uh, thank you. Thank you, I love you. Thank you.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you Debbie. We know how hard it's been and I loved Manny. He was the best. So, we're sending you love.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I just want to say, Debbie, we... I had an opportunity to attend, uh, the funeral, uh, for Manny Braxton with Council Member Rose and let me just say for the entire body, Council Member Rose gave the most beautiful eulogy

that I have every heard. So, much so that the Pastor almost felt there's nothing more for me to say because you said it all and it really demonstrated, you know, one of the greatest love stories and so, we are so sorry for your loss, but how blessed you are to have been loved in such a wonderful and powerful and very obvious way and I, and I'll leave it at that. So, thank you so much, Debbie, for sharing your love with all of us.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Thank you, Madam Majority Leader.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. Mr. Parliamentarian, are there any other members who wish to speak at this time?

PARLIAMENTARIAN POLIVY: No, there are not.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. I will now, uh, at this time..

PARLIAMENTARIAN POLIVY: Madam Majority Leader..

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes.

PARLIAMENTARIAN POLIVY: Council Member Koo.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member

Koo.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Time begins.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you, Majority Leader. Thank you, Speaker.

I want to take a moment and use my time on the floor today to officially denounce for the record the overwhelming number of racist attack on Asians throughout the country and especially New York. In the past month alone, the media reported at least 14 hate crimes on bias incidents again Asian-Americans. There is one every two days and those are the only ones that are reported and reported on.

We grieve for those who were killed in Atlanta. It was, was clearly an attack on Asian establishments, not just somebody having a bad day.

We must come together to support the AAPI community and stop the hate. We have to undo the last year of scapegoating Asians. When the former President blame the Chinese virus, he gave the okay to his followers that it was okay to blame anyone who look Asian. It is so easy to inflame racial tensions and cause harm and blame people who don't look like you.

Now is the time we must heal by coming together, providing resources, sticking up for each other, reporting hate. Almost 4,000 bias incidents and hate crimes have been reported nation-wide in the past 12 months, but we know hate crimes and bias incidents against Asians are often underreported and we encourage anyone who has been a victim of a hate crime or bias incident, incident to report it.

Thank you, Majority Leader. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council Member Koo and for all of those who are watching live there are many different rallies, uh, and vigils that will be hosted today, tomorrow, and then entire weekend and I encourage everybody to where ever you are to stand with the Asian community at this time. Your voice is important, your presence is important, uh, and we hope that you'll be able to be there socially distanced with a mask, uh, and safe. So, please find out where a rally is happening, uh, near you.

I'll now call on Speaker Corey Johnson to close today's Stated Meeting.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: I think we have one more speaker, uh, Majority Leader Cumbo.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I apologize.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Does Council Member Levin want to speak?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Uh, Thank you, Speaker. I just wanted to offer my condolences to, uh, Council Members Koo and Chin. Uh, I stand with the Asian-American community at this time and I also offer my, my condolences to my, my friends and colleagues Council Members Adams, Kallos, and Debbie Rose. Thank you.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: I think we're done, Madam Majority Leader.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: All right, I'll now call on Speaker Corey Johnson to close today's Stated Meeting.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: The Stated Meeting of March 18th, 2021 is hereby adjourned. Thank you very much.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Okay we are off the live. Thank you everyone.

(UNIDENTIFIED): BLAC (SIC) 4 PM briefing. Thank you, Madam Majority Leader.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you all. Have a good rest of your day.

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 May 5, 2021