

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE JOINTLY WITH THE COMMITTEE ON
YOUTH SERVICES, THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
AND THE COMMITTEE ON SANITATION AND SOLID WASTE
MANAGEMENT

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May 24, 2012
Start: 11:20 a.m.
Recess: 3:00 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers
City Hall

B E F O R E: DOMENIC M. RECCHIA JR.
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Lewis Fidler
Albert Vann
Peter Koo
Ydanis Rodriguez
Jumaane Williams
Margaret Chin
Sara Gonzalez
Robert Jackson
Vincent Gentile
Melissa Mark-Viverito
Brad Lander
Gale Brewer
Leroy Comrie

A P P E A R A N C E S

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Letitia James
Stephen Levin
Michael Nelson
Jessica Lappin
Maria del Carmen Arroyo
Diana Reyna

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

Jeanne Mullgrav
Commissioner
New York City Department of Youth and Community
Development

John Doherty
Commissioner
NYC Department of Sanitation

Ron Gonen
Deputy Commissioner
NYC Department of Sanitation

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2 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Good morning,
3 hope everyone didn't get as wet as I did. And
4 welcome to the seventh day of the City Council
5 Hearing on the Mayor's Executive Budget for fiscal
6 year 2013.

7 My name is Domenic M. Recchia Jr.,
8 I'm the Chair of this wonderful Finance Committee,
9 and I'm joined today by my good friend, Lewis
10 Fidler who is the Chair of the Youth Services and
11 Community Development Committee.

12 Later today, the Finance Committee
13 will be joined by the Committee on Sanitation and
14 Solid Waste Management, chaired by my colleague,
15 Council Member Tish James.

16 Before we get started I want to
17 introduce all my colleagues who have joined us
18 here today, and we have Vincent Ignizio, Al Vann
19 and of course Lew Fidler. And also is being co-
20 chaired by Community Development, by Chairman Al
21 Vann.

22 Yesterday we heard from the MTA,
23 the Taxi & Limousine Commission, today we will
24 hear from the Youth and Community Development,
25 Department of Sanitation, and of course Community

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Youth Development.

We'll begin first with Department of Youth and Community Development. The Department of Youth and Community Development fiscal 2013 executive budget is 244.8 million, a decrease of 78 million or 24% when compared to Fiscal 2012 adopted budget.

The Department's Fiscal 2013 executive budget does not include any new pay proposals, but DYCD see several troubling actions in this executive budget, including the elimination of nearly 26,000 OST slots in fiscal 2013 and the out [phonetic] years.

A plan to eliminate 7 of its 66 city-funded Beacon Programs and a reduction in NYCHA Cornerstone funding, resulting in the potential loss of 733 slots.

If these cuts are enacted, the projected number of participants served will be 95,000, a reduction of over 30,000 participants.

I look forward to hearing from the Commission of DYCD, on how this executive budget affects DYCD's programs and services.

As a reminder, the public will be

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2 allowed to testify and all agencies on the last
3 day of the budget hearings, June 6, beginning at
4 4:00 p.m.

5 The members of the public who wish
6 to testify on June 6 but who cannot make it to the
7 hearing, you can fax your testimony to my counsel
8 sitting to my left, Tanisha Edwards, and she will
9 make it part of the official record. Her fax
10 number is 212-788-7061.

11 At this time, I'd like to turn the
12 microphone over to my Co-chair of Youth and
13 Community Development, Lewis Fidler.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Thank you
15 Chairman Recchia, good morning Commissioner, good
16 morning everybody.

17 The facts are about as bleak as the
18 weather outside. We have had numbers of years of
19 working together, Commissioner, they have been
20 very, very productive years, and I think working
21 together with your agency, we've built a number of
22 extraordinarily good programs. Unfortunately,
23 this year's executive budget dismantles almost all
24 of them. And that's kind of the theme for this
25 morning's exercise. Let's go over it for a

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moment.

The most draconian is OST, I mean and many people in this room remember many, many, many lengthy, painful conversations with Dr. Fuchs and others as we crafted OST.

I understand OST's received national awards for being a model afterschool program. Yet we're taking a 51% cut in OST slots in this year's budget. It's a destructive dismantling of afterschool in the City of New York, it's a return to latchkey children, it's an invitation to economic disaster, and that's 51% from last year. And if you go back to the height of our program, two years before that, the number just goes another 20,000 slots higher. Not the kind of budget choice we should be making.

Our Beacon Programs, we have 80 Beacon Programs in the City of New York, so we're going to take a 9% cut there because we're closing seven, but in those seven, it's a hundred percent cut. It's not just a cut by-death by little cuts, it's an absolute axe. So we're going to lose 10% of our Beacon Programs citywide.

Our Cornerstone Program, another

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2 program that we developed here when NYCHA
3 abandoned public housing programs, and we built
4 the Cornerstone Program together. It's been
5 whittled away, another 7% cut this year on top of
6 cuts the year before and the year before that.

7 Summer Job Program; and I don't
8 even know what we're going to hear about the
9 Summer Job Program today because we're relying
10 upon your ability to develop private funding.
11 It's a heck of a way to run the railroad, but in
12 the executive budget there's 43% less money for
13 summer jobs than there is in the last executive
14 budget, as we sit here today.

15 So I'm very anxious to hear what
16 we're going to do with that. And of course the
17 Summer Job Program, Commissioner, it was in the
18 Department of Employment when we first came here.
19 So we've built that one from scratch, because the
20 Department of Employment was running a horrendous
21 program, and the Summer Job Program now is a
22 magnificent program for those kids who are
23 actually able to get into it. And of course that
24 comes down to funding.

25 And then of course there's a

1
2 special place in hell for a society that would cut
3 63% of shelter beds for kids who are sleeping on
4 the street. I will try and control my ordinary
5 diatribe on that, it just—I know that—you know, we
6 put it in, so you take it out, it's just insane,
7 we're fighting for the same turf every year, but
8 the stark number is that there are 251 shelter
9 beds and we'd lose 159 of them if the Council
10 doesn't ride to the rescue. And the fact of the
11 matter is, if we put the 159 back, there still
12 would be kids waiting for beds on the street at
13 night, sleeping on the street at night instead of
14 in shelter, which is just an outrage in a
15 civilized society.

16 So I can't think of anything
17 bleaker than that, Commissioner, I hope you have
18 some good news for us, at least on the Summer Jobs
19 is a start.

20 I know that I expressed the opinion
21 of almost every member of the Council if not all
22 members of the Council, that this budget cannot
23 pass on the back of children, we cannot balance
24 this budget on the back of children, that the
25 afterschool programs have to come back, the adult

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2 literacy programs have to come back, the shelter
3 beds have to come back, the summer jobs have to
4 come back, that every year we've whittled away and
5 we've whittled away and we've whittled away a
6 tremendous progress that you, this administration
7 and this Council have made together. And we
8 can't allow that to happen, this cannot be the
9 final result of this budget.

10 So I thank you for coming, and I
11 guess I'll turn it over to Chairman Vann if he has
12 any opening statement.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Thank you
14 Chairman Fidler, good morning ladies and
15 gentlemen. I'm Al Vann, I chair the Committee on
16 Community Development and I'm pleased to join our
17 Co-chairs and I pretty much agree with everything
18 that had been said.

19 The Department of Youth and
20 Community Development supports both youth and
21 adults through contracts with community-based
22 organizations throughout New York City, the bulk
23 of which serve school children through an array of
24 afterschool programs, including of course Out-of-
25 School Time, Beacon and Cornerstone Programs, all

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of which are reduced in this budget.

Of course OST has taken the biggest hit, dramatic hit, with the number of slots cut by 51% in one year's time.

In addition, in the November plan, DYCD received a 6% peg reduction that included eliminating 7 of the 66 Beacon centers around the City; of course since that time we learned which particular Beacon centers are slated for closure. In the Bronx, IS 192, in Brooklyn, IS 259 and PS 198, in Manhattan—MS 414 in Manhattan, and in Queens, Junior High School 190 and MS 158. And I think Tottenville High in Staten Island.

The Beacon Program turned school buildings into community centers, offering programs during the afternoon, evening and weekends. They offer programs for youth and adults including academic support, arts and recreation. In fact, each summer Beacons offer all-day camp so children have a safe, enriching place to spend their time, instead of hanging out on the street. Most importantly, these centers are free.

We know that Beacon programs have

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2 been a lifeline to thousands of working families
3 across the City who rely on them to safeguard
4 their children after school. The closure of even
5 one will impact an entire neighborhood.

6 Even more disturbing because the
7 recent OST RFP guidelines prohibited co-location
8 of programs, we know that when these beacons
9 closed their doors, or if and when they close
10 their doors, these communities will not even have
11 OST programs, since the RFP prohibited such co-
12 location.

13 In addition, NYCHA Cornerstone
14 programs were also included in the November
15 planned peg of 926,000 which will be cut,
16 resulting in a loss of 733 out of 5,852 program
17 slots. There are 25 NYCHA Cornerstone programs
18 located in all five boroughs. They serve youth
19 living in public housing, one of the populations
20 in greatest need of afterschool services. Yet,
21 since the program was created in fiscal year 2010
22 it has been cut in each of those succeeding years.

23 Simultaneously, while the
24 Cornerstone Program is being reduced by nearly one
25 million for afterschool services, the Cornerstone

1
2 Mentoring Program will receive an enhancement of
3 funds in the amount of \$1 million for the Mayor's
4 Young Men's Initiative, YMI, which I understand
5 will serve 300 youth across the 25 Cornerstone
6 programs, a little peculiar that the
7 administration is cutting this program and at the
8 same time restoring those funds in another program
9 in another form.

10 Finally the budget before us today
11 is indeed sad and disappointing and appalling, as
12 you have heard. However, I do look forward to
13 hearing from you, Commissioner, about these cuts
14 and to explain the Mayor's high profile commitment
15 to helping young men of color in our City, who
16 arguably need the services that are now being cut.

17 I'll turn it back to our Chairs and
18 I look forward to your testimony, Commissioner.

19 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: Good
20 morning. Good morning Chairman Fidler, Vann and
21 Recchia and Members of the Youth Services and
22 Community Development and Finance Committees. I
23 am Jeanne Mullgrav, Commissioner of the New York
24 City Department of Youth and Community
25 Development. And thank you for the opportunity to

1
2 update you on the budgeted outlook for fiscal 2013.

3 As Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg
4 highlighted earlier this month, the 2013 Executive
5 Budget does not include any additional agency
6 reductions beyond what was proposed in November.
7 This is welcome news given the 12 rounds of gap-
8 closing actions and significant loss of Federal
9 and State funding to DYCD during the past several
10 years.

11 We are grateful that with support
12 from the Mayor, the Council and our dedicated
13 providers, we have been able to maintain core
14 services for young people and families.

15 DYCD's Fiscal 2013 Executive Budget
16 is \$244.8 million.

17 Since we last met in March, DYCD
18 took two actions impacting Beacon and Out-of-
19 School Time programs. First, DYCD released a list
20 of seven Beacon programs slated to close July 1,
21 2012. As you know, this action was necessary
22 given that funding to Beacons has decreased from
23 44.5 million in Fiscal 2009, to 33.1 million in
24 Fiscal 2013.

25 On the ground, this would have

1
2 meant that each of our 66 city tax levy-funded
3 Beacon Programs' budgets would decrease to
4 274,000, down from 341,000 in Fiscal 2012 and
5 400,000 before the recession.

6 We do not expect programs to
7 operate at this funding level while maintaining
8 the program quality young people and parents have
9 come to expect.

10 In discussions with service
11 providers and advocates, many echoed these
12 concerns. Knowing how valuable each of the 80
13 Beacon programs are to every community, we based
14 our decision regarding specific closures on
15 population and poverty data for community
16 districts in which the Beacons are located.

17 They included two in Manhattan and
18 Queens, one in the Bronx, Brooklyn and Staten
19 Island.

20 When faced with such difficult
21 choices, there are no perfect solutions. However,
22 we believe we adopted the fairest method to
23 determine which Beacons would close.

24 Since 2009, OST has experienced a
25 significant loss of City, State and Federal

1
2 funding. Funding decreased from 121 million for
3 over 75,000 slots, to 73 million for 27,000 slots
4 in 2013.

5 We thank the Council for its
6 support of OST, its restoration of 12.2 million
7 funds funded over 11,000 slots this year.

8 Late last month DYCD sent
9 notifications to organizations eligible for award
10 in the competition for OST Elementary and Middle
11 School programs. In all, 224 programs will be
12 operated by 95 community-based organizations
13 located throughout the five boroughs.

14 The 123 Elementary programs and 101
15 Middle School programs will be located in a
16 variety of settings including Department of Ed
17 school buildings, New York City Housing Authority
18 facilities, Department of Parks and Recreation
19 facilities, and in free-standing centers.

20 New programs will begin September
21 1st 2012, and these new programs will serve over
22 25,000 of New York City's elementary and middle
23 school students. Additionally, nearly 2,000 high
24 school students will continue to be served by
25 existing contracts.

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2 supports 200 community-based organizations serving
3 over 30,000 low income New Yorkers.

4 During these meetings, we heard
5 moving testimonies from many whose lives had been
6 improved by these programs, such as a senior who
7 was able to stay in her home, an immigrant who
8 learned English, a young adult who received her
9 GED, and a father who strengthened his
10 relationship with his children.

11 We appreciate the efforts of many
12 advocacy and community-based organizations in
13 spearheading these important forums to educate the
14 public and policymakers on the importance of CSBG
15 funding.

16 Since we were first given the
17 responsibility for the Summer Youth Employment
18 Program, we shared the Council's desire to conduct
19 and independent study of its long-term benefits.
20 However, we resisted doing so because it would
21 diminish the number of SYEP slots.

22 Our partnership with New York
23 University's Institute for Education and Social
24 Policy allows us to accomplish this goal at no
25 cost to DYCD. The researchers recently completed

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2 the first phase of a study examining the impact of
3 SYEP on school outcomes. It tracked more than
4 30,000 public school students who applied for SYEP
5 in 2007, and compared those who were selected for
6 SYEP to those who were not. The SYEP lottery
7 gives researchers the basis for a random
8 assignment study, the gold standard in evaluation
9 research.

10 Overall, the institute's research
11 team found that SYEP increases school attendance
12 in the following year by a day or two.

13 Even more encouraging is the fact
14 that among youth 16 and older with less than 90%
15 attendance in the prior year, in other words,
16 those who are most at risk, SYEP increases school
17 attendance by as much as four or five days. For
18 these youth, SYEP also increases likelihood that
19 they attempt the English and Math A Regents Exams.
20 As a result, about a hundred more students pass
21 each of these exams.

22 The study suggests that beyond
23 providing youth with work experience and a
24 paycheck, SYEP enhances educational success by
25 increasing engagement and effort in school after

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the summer is over.

We are pleased that NYU will continue to study SYEP, examining data from additional years, as well as other outcomes such as high school graduation.

As discussed in March, we are delighted that the State has invested 25 million Statewide into SYEP, and recently we were notified that the City share of funding will be 13.5 million. This is particularly welcome given that we are likely to exceed 131,000 youth who applied for SYEP last year.

Combined with the City's investment of 20 million along with other smaller funding sources, we presently have 38.9 million to serve approximately 26,000 youth. We hope to serve more youth through the Mayor's 3rd Annual Public-Private Partnership Campaign for SYEP.

This summer's Ladders for Leaders efforts are encouraging with 1,131 young people applying. Of these, 305 have been invited to attend pre-employment workshops, and mock interviews to prepare them for internships.

To date we have a commitment from

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2 77 employers to hire 211 young people. Of these,
3 19 employers are new to Ladders, and include Bad
4 Boy Entertainment Worldwide, the Chief Medical
5 Examiner, Hilton Hotels and numerous others.
6 Efforts are ongoing to recruit additional
7 employers.

8 In partnership with the Commission
9 on Women's Issues, this corporate-supported
10 internship program allows young people the
11 opportunity to gain work experience, college
12 preparation workshops, scholarships and SAT
13 courses.

14 While these are challenging times,
15 we continue to be proud of the City's innovative
16 work, enhancing services and developing strategic
17 partnerships to carry out our mission. For
18 example, DYCD, the Department of Education and the
19 Fund for Public Schools have developed the New
20 York City Summer Quest Pilot Program.

21 Supported by 2.3 million in private
22 contributions, this pilot will provide a five-week
23 engaging summer learning experience for 1,470
24 youth in the South Bronx. The program will focus
25 on project-based learning, literacy enrichment and

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physical activity.

For example, one program will cultivate an urban garden and manage a student-run green market to help students learn about ecology, engineering, teamwork and entrepreneurial skill-building. The goals of the program are to prevent summer learning loss, support students' advancement to middle school and high school, and to evaluate the program's benefits to youth.

On April 28th, 200 young people and adults from the Cornerstone Mentoring Program took part in a million trees tree-planting service event. Over 800 trees were planted as part of this citywide initiative. Additionally, on June 30th the Museum of Natural History and DYCD are hosting a night at the museum. The event is designed to allow mentors and mentees to participate in a nocturnal exploratory adventure, filled with science, history and learning.

On June 16th, and we're so happy that Chairman Recchia will be able to join us at the New York Aquarium, where we will do our annual Fathers' Day celebration, part of our fatherhood initiative—as part of our fatherhood initiative,

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2 the event is designed to allow children and their
3 fathers time to explore nature and learn together,
4 and to strengthen their relationship.

5 All of these activities are
6 consistent with our efforts to provide holistic
7 and structured theme-based activities, trips and
8 recreational services to young people.

9 I thank you once again for the
10 opportunity to discuss the DYCD Fiscal 2013
11 Executive Budget, and I am joined by Denice
12 Williams, Assistant Commissioner for OST, and John
13 Cirolia, Deputy Commissioner for Administration.

14 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Thank you
15 Commissioner. Before we move forward, I'd like to
16 recognize those members that have joined us today,
17 Council Member Rodriguez, Williams, Mealy, Reyna
18 and Gonzalez.

19 We have a lot of Council Members
20 here today, so I'm going to pass on my questions,
21 Commissioner, and turn the microphone over to my
22 Co-chair, Lewis Fidler.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Thank you.
24 And Commissioner, there wasn't a whole lot of good
25 news there. I mean when the highlight of the news

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2 is that there weren't further cuts in the
3 executive plan, from the November plan, that's not
4 terribly good.

5 Now let me just go to Summer Jobs
6 for the start, because the-kind of jumped over
7 that very, very quickly in the sentence when you
8 said you hope to serve more youth through the
9 Mayor's public-private partnership.

10 Last year we served 30,000, it was
11 36,000 the year before that, I'm not even going to
12 go to the years when we had stimulus money and we
13 did 50,000. Now we're down to 26,000. Do you
14 have any idea how many youth will be served with
15 the public-private partnership at this point? And
16 it's getting pretty late in the game.

17 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: We know
18 that that money trickles in and it could be even
19 the day before the program starts. So I think we
20 are about a third of the way there in terms of
21 last year's figures of \$6 million, and we have
22 lots of proposals and lots of conversations that
23 we are very hopeful will result in more
24 contributions.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: The two

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2 million out of the six million is already included
3 in the figure that you've given us here?

4 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: No.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Was that a
6 yes or no? I didn't get—

7 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: No.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: No?

9 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: No.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: So there's
11 an additional two million?

12 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: I think—I
13 would guess that we probably will get to last
14 year's 30,000 number if I had to guess, in terms
15 of us being on track with our fundraising as well
16 as the State contribution of 13.5 million.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Right, so—I
18 mean that's just—I mean that's the good news,
19 right? So—that there's \$2 million more. That's
20 you know, that's pretty bleak, and I don't think
21 anyone here for one second wants to suggest that
22 that's satisfactory and that we're singing for our
23 supper here. So really, I'm hoping that we're
24 going to be able to find some additional City tax
25 levy money to supplement that in addition to—

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2 whatever we get from the private sector is great.
3 But I don't think we can rely on that.

4 Now let's get to—the really most
5 serious problem here is the crisis in
6 afterschools, and that's as far as I'm concerned.

7 I was handed a report before we
8 began by the—I think it's from Campaign for
9 Children. And apparently they've been talking to
10 parents about kids in the afterschool program, and
11 it says that 50% of parents using childcare, and
12 over one-third of parents using afterschool
13 programs said they would quit their jobs to stay
14 home if they lose their program.

15 In your opinion, as the
16 Commissioner of an agency that has built this
17 program, what effect do you think this cut will
18 have upon children, upon working families, upon
19 public education, on any of those things? On all
20 three of those things?

21 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: We know
22 that for many families they will be able to
23 identify family members and other resources in—
24 either in their community or privately, and will
25 do that. For other families, it will mean that

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2 children will unfortunately be—stay home and be
3 unsupervised usually by an older sibling. For—

4 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: And what
5 happened in the City of New York when we used to
6 do that? I mean we already call those kids
7 latchkey kids, right? Was that a good thing for
8 their education? Was that a good thing for public
9 safety? I mean was—you know, any of those things
10 make any sense to you, Commissioner?

11 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: I think
12 what we've learned from afterschool is that there
13 are opportunities to provide—to strengthen their
14 academic skills, there are opportunities to give
15 them recreational outlets, there's opportunities
16 to engage them culturally and expose them to the
17 arts, and we're very proud of—

18 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: So at very
19 best, closing those programs represents lost
20 opportunities? At very best?

21 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: I would
22 agree.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: I know you
24 would agree, I mean—and I know that you're not the
25 person who's allocating the beans here, all right?

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2 But the fact of the matter is that we have to
3 establish our priorities as a City Council and as
4 a City together.

5 And I just needed to hear you say
6 what I know they need to hear to say across this
7 building, which is that these cuts are penny-wise
8 and pound-foolish. That every penny that we save
9 on an afterschool program today is not only a lost
10 educational opportunity, it's a lost economic
11 opportunity, and it's probably a cost to the
12 criminal justice system down the road. Every one
13 of these cuts to the afterschool program is penny-
14 wise and pound-foolish.

15 And I understand cash flow, but we
16 have taken cuts year after year after year to our
17 afterschool programs, we are cut beyond the bone
18 and I just needed to hear you acknowledge for the
19 record, because I think it's important for
20 everyone here in this room—because everyone
21 sitting out here knows, and I guarantee it, that
22 every one of these cuts is going to cost us money
23 in the long run and is going to hurt our children.

24 And I don't think that's what
25 you're about, I know that's now what you're about.

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2 So I'm not going to torture you over it. But the
3 fact of the matter is that we're all here today
4 because we can't accept that. And I trust that
5 we're going to work together to make sure that—you
6 know, I want to say something, I don't even think
7 the Mayor wants that to happen, how is that? I
8 will give him that much credit too. I don't think
9 he realizes just how badly.

10 So let me ask you this. If we are
11 going to restore money to the afterschool program,
12 is the agency prepared to allocate that throughout
13 the City of New York, or are we locked into a
14 formula that is going to affect only some
15 neighborhoods and other neighborhoods are going to
16 be left without afterschool programs entirely?

17 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: We would
18 distribute that throughout the entire City of New
19 York.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Well I
21 think that's important because the fact of the
22 matter is that many Council Members, and I
23 certainly speak for myself, have a problem with
24 the zip code allocation about the—of need, that it
25 is about as blunderbuss a way to look at where

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2 there is need as there is, and quite frankly, I
3 think every community, whether you're impoverished
4 or a middle class, whatever, there's an
5 extraordinary need for afterschool programs, and
6 you've established that they help the educational
7 outcomes of kids. The Summer Job Program
8 establishes that it helps the educational outcome
9 of kids, so all of those things, so painfully
10 obvious.

11 I'm going to allow my colleagues to
12 go on.

13 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: I would
14 like to say something though regarding the zip
15 codes. I think there is a misconception about the
16 zip code allocation.

17 First of all, 50% of our zip codes
18 are considered priority areas or high-need areas.
19 And so really, a good part of the City is getting
20 these resources. Only 75% of the entire amount is
21 weighted toward those high-need communities. So
22 every community is getting something.

23 When we looked at the analysis, it
24 really is the budget cuts that's the reason why
25 communities have seen a decline in the number of

1
2 programs in their communities. It has nothing to
3 do with the zip code analysis.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Well I'm
5 sure if we map them out we could have a good
6 argument about that, and I did in fact ask for
7 some data from your agency on that, that we
8 haven't received yet, that I'm sure that we'll
9 discuss in the future.

10 But as we restore this money and we
11 will restore this money, one way or another,
12 together with the administration, we're going to
13 get back to—we can't have a 50% cut in afterschool
14 programs, I don't think anybody in this room wants
15 to see that, we're going to have to figure out how
16 we do that so that every neighborhood in the City
17 of New York has ample afterschool programs because
18 we all agree that the outcome is beneficial to the
19 kids.

20 Who's up—before I pass, I will say,
21 I will come back, because there was not a single
22 word in your testimony about shelter beds and you
23 know I'm not going to let that lay, but I'm going
24 to let my other colleagues go first.

25 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Okay. I'm

1
2 going to turn it over to my Co-chair Al Vann, but
3 before I do that, I want to recognize Peter Koo,
4 Rob Jackson, Brad Lander, Vincent Gentile and
5 Melissa Mark-Viverito. Okay, Co-chair Al Vann.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Yes, thank
7 you Chair. Just a couple of questions,
8 Commissioner, so that other members can raise
9 their concerns.

10 Under NYCHA's Cornerstone Program,
11 in the preliminary fiscal 2013 budget, you
12 proposed reducing NYCHA's Cornerstone Program
13 budget by 7% for savings of almost a million
14 dollars. At the same time, as I mentioned in my
15 earlier testimony, Cornerstone Mentoring Program
16 will receive a million dollars in the same fiscal
17 year. And this is coming from the Mayor's YMI. I
18 understand this program will serve around 300
19 youth across 25 Cornerstone programs.

20 Could you explain the significance
21 of that, cutting the one and then funding the
22 other? What exactly does that mean?

23 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: I think as
24 we've mentioned, the YMI initiative is an
25 opportunity to expand the outcomes for African-

1
2 American males, and it's a concentrated and
3 intentional look at that group of young people
4 that are not faring well, whether it's high school
5 graduation rates or whether it's incarceration
6 rates or whether it's foster care rates, and this
7 was a very targeted approach to change that
8 trajectory.

9 The mentoring does layer onto
10 funding that's already there, so it's not creating
11 any new infrastructure, it's really leveraging
12 what's already being spent, and we think is--will
13 be able to take our programming to another level.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Well my
15 interpretation is that you feel you'll be able to
16 make a greater impact more directly on African-
17 American men by this mentoring program because the
18 program that you're cutting does not have that
19 same focus or same target. Is that a fair
20 interpretation of what you said?

21 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: Well the
22 YMI program is a citywide effort that involves
23 many, many different City agencies, and is a
24 citywide approach to give additional resources.
25 So it includes any number of agencies, whether

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2 it's probation, whether it's Department of
3 Education and DYCD, to meet those goals.

4 Cornerstone, as you know, is among
5 our tax levy-supported initiatives and when we
6 were asked to look at reductions, while we are
7 sensitive to the fact that they are in strategic
8 communities for us, they are exactly where we need
9 to be, in terms of serving young people whose
10 educational and social outcomes are not as strong
11 as they should be, but at the same time, we were
12 not in a position to hold our Cornerstone programs
13 harmless just because—we just weren't.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: The
15 Cornerstone Program, do you consider that a
16 valuable program? Is it—it's an effective
17 program?

18 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: Absolutely.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Okay, so we
20 really should not be taking a million dollars from
21 that to give to another YMI Program. I'm sure you
22 would agree with that.

23 Second question before I relinquish
24 the mic. You, DYCD administers the Federal
25 Community Service Block Grant, known as CSBG

1
2 Program. This program, as you well know, funds
3 the anti-poverty initiatives in 43 designated low
4 income neighborhoods, used to be referred to as
5 NDAs. And this is of course across all five
6 boroughs.

7 The fiscal year, Federal budget
8 proposed cutting the City's CSBG funding by—from
9 \$30 million to \$15 million, obviously a 50%
10 reduction.

11 How are you going to prepare for
12 that 50% reduction in fund? How will these
13 programs be impacted?

14 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: I think if
15 we cross that bridge, we will do that responsibly,
16 certainly with input from parents and advocates
17 and professional staff as well. But we're not
18 ready to conceive that discussion yet.

19 Last year, as you know, the same
20 proposal was presented by the President and I'm
21 delighted that in working collaboratively with
22 many people in this room, and borough-based
23 discussions with our community partners, we were
24 able to make the case with the help of the New
25 York delegation, to roll back those cuts. I'm

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2 hoping that we will again be able to convince them
3 that this is not the right way to go.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: And your plan
5 B is?

6 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: My plan—

7 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: B?

8 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: My plan B
9 is obviously we would have to look at all of our
10 initiatives, we would have to figure out how to
11 reduce those initiatives. But I just—I'm not
12 ready to go there, I know we can easily do that,
13 but that's not what I'm focused on. I'm focused
14 on getting the word out about the value of these
15 programs.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: All right,
17 thank you, I'll come back later.

18 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: All right.
19 Thank you Co-chair Al Vann.

20 All right, this time I'm going to
21 turn it to Council Members, we've been joined by
22 Council Member Koppell. First we have Council
23 Member Peter Koo. You have five minutes to ask
24 questions and get answers. Thank you.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you Mr.

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Chair and all the Co-chairs.

Commissioner, this meeting, before I came here, I felt really like depressed, I feel I have a heavy burden on my shoulders. Because during the last few weeks, I attended many meetings about OST cuts, a lot of parents approached me, said, Councilman, what do I do if the OST program is cut in my school? Should I quit my job? Or do I leave my child at home? Or some of them then say, if I quit my job, then I may have to go to welfare.

So they ask me a lot of questions, it's really difficult for me to answer. And as you know, I represent Flushing, one of the most densely populated region of Queens, and is also a destination of choice for many, many new Asian immigrant arrivals.

So in my area, I'm losing the free size—I'm just - - laws [phonetic], there are very good quality programs. The CBC—one by CBC, one by PAO [phonetic] and one by Child Center. And especially the one in PS 20, in the heart of downtown Flushing, if you close the program, there's no program in the school, and it will be

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very difficult for our community, for the parents.

So my question to you is, what was the criteria for the selection process? And was OST Award simply given to those—simply given to the lowest bidder or the groups, the largest in kind [phonetic]?

So those are my two questions for the—to start.

COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: In order to avoid the lowest bidder, DYCD a long time ago began to set the price per participant. Because we agree with you that when it comes to childcare services and human services, that we should put out there what the price actually is, and evaluate proposals on their quality.

What we—the criteria for OST is looking at the score, the technical score, looking at geography, looking at the capacity, and looking at program diversity. And I'm looking at my alcove [phonetic] to make sure I have it all right.

But that's essentially what we looked at. It's not that a program was a poor performer, that's not usually the reason why

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2 organizations didn't get funded in this RFP. It's
3 more likely that we ran out of funding, and that
4 it was a super competitive process with over 1,200
5 proposals received for the RFP.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: And also for
7 your—if you pick one program for—one program per
8 zip code, and for some areas it's not fair.
9 Because some areas are very densely populated,
10 like Flushing.

11 And then the site you selected for
12 our area is not close to public transportation,
13 and is not accessible to a lot of parents, a lot
14 of families.

15 So I will ask you that reconsider
16 maybe put additional sites in the Flushing area,
17 because we all know Mayor Bloomberg is an
18 education Mayor. That's what he wants to be. I
19 hope in his last year he want to do his last—in
20 his last year he want to make his legacy as an
21 educational Mayor. Education is the foundation of
22 everything, is the equalizer for everything. So
23 we hope the Mayor will restore the funding and he
24 will move with us [phonetic] to restore most of
25 the OST programs. Thank you.

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2 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Thank you
3 Council Member Koo. Council Member Rodriguez, and
4 we'd like to recognize Council Member Brewer
5 [phonetic]. Council Member Ignizio? Okay, if we
6 don't see him then we move on to Council Member
7 Rodriguez.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Thank
9 you Chair.

10 Commissioner, first of all thank
11 you for the great work that you do. I know that
12 you have a big heart for our community, I know how
13 difficult it is for you to deal with the situation
14 where I know that most of the decision is not
15 depending on you but a budget that has presented
16 and definitely we have to find a solution.

17 For me as someone that I don't have
18 much grey hair, some of my colleagues have been
19 here for a longer period of time, I have only been
20 here for two years, this is the most disappointing
21 period of time in my life. These two months of
22 the budget dancing cycle, where we play with the
23 tactic of making people afraid and we playing with
24 thousands of families in this city, saying that we
25 are going to be closing those afterschool

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2 programs, those childcare services. And I learned
3 to be open to negotiate, but I am going to be one
4 of the Council Members to say I will be voting no
5 on this budget unless we get the funding for the
6 afterschool program and for daycare service.

7 I think that this is a social class
8 issue; this is an issue that affects mainly
9 community of color, this affects mainly working
10 class community, family that they don't have a
11 nanny they don't have—those family members that I
12 have, they don't have a nanny, where they can get
13 someone to take care of the children if there is
14 no afterschool program.

15 In my community, community borough
16 12 in Northern Manhattan is a lack of services
17 community, it's not even public but there is no
18 private. We walk around Northern Manhattan and
19 show me a place where a family can enroll a child
20 paying with their own money teaching dancing,
21 teaching ballet, teaching music, teaching art, no
22 one private institution in my whole community.
23 And the reason is because it's a community that
24 the average income is 25 to \$30,000 a year.

25 A family cannot afford to say I can

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2 take \$400 to enroll my child in these as
3 [phonetic] for music or any particular program
4 that the middle class can afford, and I praise
5 them for being able to pay but these cuts mainly
6 affect working class. Working class communities
7 that we pay taxes, that deserves to get these
8 services back.

9 So I know—I hope that you have the
10 heart of doing the best you can to restore as much
11 funding as possible, but here we are in this
12 budget, so one of my questions is related to how
13 does a decision is taken on which community gets
14 to lose or retain their afterschool programs?

15 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: Because
16 this—the program starting in September are the
17 result of a solicitation, it really is the
18 criteria—the evaluation criteria that would
19 dictate that going forward and how much money we
20 had in RFP. And so it's probably about \$18
21 million difference from what we had last year in
22 OST and that's really what many of your colleagues
23 and you are experiencing, is that there is \$18
24 million less in this portfolio.

25 I think when you look at the

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2 numbers from last year they also do include your
3 generous restoration of option two and so there
4 is—there are additional slots there that are not
5 here because that is a restoration that has
6 happened since pretty much 2009.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Our
8 situation in Northern Manhattan is like I know
9 that zip code 1033 gets to be eliminated all
10 afterschool program and we are talking about a
11 particular zip code that there is no services.
12 And I think that—first of all as you know, I know
13 that Northern Manhattan has been speaking loud and
14 clear.

15 We got together and there is a
16 group leader team of this coalition here, we got
17 together United Palace, close to 4,000 people, and
18 we're ready to march in Northern Manhattan in the
19 street against any cuts on afterschool program and
20 childcare services.

21 So I just hope that the
22 administration get a way of how to put the money
23 back because this cut is unacceptable, this affect
24 mainly working class and middle class, and I hope
25 that we will find a way of how to bring some of

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those afterschool programs back.

I know how committed you are to our whole city and I'm looking that we look for opportunity on how to restore some of those funding.

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Thank you Council Member. Council Member Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you to both chairs, thank you Commissioner and all for being here to testimony.

I'm torn between want to dig really in and also knowing that you are doing a good job with what you're given, and that the administration is really to blame on what's going on here.

There is a rap verse that I use before from KRS-One and it goes, "All I got is hip hop and a glock, the results are obviously if I'm confined to my block." And to me that means it's a great explanation and understanding of why certain things occurring in certain neighborhoods, and the mayor insists nationally, I believe, he's doing a lot of good things when it comes to gun violence, locally he's almost wasting his time and

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2 he's doing everything backwards to say—and he's
3 making these severe cuts.

4 I also thank you for extending SYEP
5 by the way, the application deadline, I
6 appreciate. But it's very, very frustrating, and
7 historically while it's an excuse to violence, but
8 this violence is not new, we keep pretending it
9 is. The complexion of the people who are
10 committing the violence is new.

11 If you go back decades upon
12 decades, there were young people committing the
13 same type of violence, they just happened to look
14 different, they came from Ireland, they came from
15 Italy, they came from Europe. At that point in
16 time the reaction to the violence was that it is a
17 social issue, they have social upper mobility
18 problems and tremendous resources were committed
19 to those communities so that the violence could be
20 stemmed.

21 Unfortunately, when the same type
22 of violence happens in darker-skinned communities,
23 the only result is sending police and they are
24 told they are victims of their own destruction.
25 I'm just trying to understand why we can't have

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2 the same reaction for the same violence in two
3 different types of community.

4 It's very frustrating that they
5 mayor will send in cops to do stop, question and
6 frisk which his own numbers prove are not working
7 and cut the programs that everybody knows does
8 work. I along and my Co-chair in the Gun Violence
9 Taskforce met with some kids who were in the—and
10 are changing themselves around, but who are well-
11 versed in what's going on and what was amazing to
12 me was the knowledge that they have of the city
13 not caring about them.

14 So as we discussed could have
15 prevented you from doing what you do, they
16 discussed the closing of afterschool programs,
17 they discussed the fact that they can't get jobs
18 if they wanted, they even discussed the fact that
19 they wanted to get GED programs but the programs
20 take too long to even get to the test, and when
21 they get to the test, the classes they took did
22 not prepare them.

23 So it's a lot of frustration and
24 these kids understand what's going on, we're the
25 ones that's not listening. I only wish they would

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2 turn their anger more positively towards us as
3 opposed to negatively upon themselves.

4 It's very, very heartbreaking and
5 frustrating to have to sit there and say it's us
6 who are not caring about you when deciding that
7 you guys are not important because we're not
8 putting our resources there. That is clearly the
9 message that we're sending, and I believe if the
10 violence was in a different type of community
11 these resources would not be cut, they would
12 probably be doubled.

13 My question is I had asked you and
14 I had asked the police commissioner, and the last
15 time I asked him has he ever spoken to you about
16 the impact on public safety that these cuts would
17 have? Has that conversation ever happened since
18 that last time I spoke to you and I spoke to the
19 commissioner, I guess maybe a couple of weeks ago?

20 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: And as I
21 mentioned previously, while I haven't had the
22 meeting directly with the police commissioner, and
23 I did see him on Saturday in Brooklyn at the
24 Muslim Youth Workforce Development Conference, I
25 have been working with his Chief of Community

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2 Affairs most recently on helping us spread the
3 word about resources for LGBTQ youth but on other
4 fronts as well, and so you know, if you're asking
5 about a sit-down meeting, no, that has not
6 happened. Has there been communication between
7 Department of Youth and Community Development and
8 NYPD? Absolutely yes.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Has there
10 been communication on how these cuts would affect
11 public safety?

12 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: No.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: And
14 that's a problem, so the commissioner is not
15 speaking to any agency heads and even the
16 conversations that are happening between
17 interagency are not about the fact that we know
18 without a shadow of a doubt that tens of thousands
19 of kids who have nothing to do will jeopardize
20 public safety and the police would further go into
21 these communities using tactics that don't work
22 and make everyone else angrier which will
23 jeopardize the community.

24 And then we look or they try to
25 make us look like we're crazy and we're saying

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2 fund these programs and stop, stop, question and
3 frisk. I would implore you, please, to talk
4 about, and other commissioners, to talk about the
5 impact that this will have on public safety in
6 these communities, that would be my ask to you.
7 Thank you very much.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: I have to
9 tell you, Commissioner, when I first heard these
10 numbers I think we were in February, I began
11 talking about them in my community, I went to my
12 police precinct council meetings to talk about
13 them. Because I guarantee you the police
14 commander understood what this meant.

15 In each precinct that I went to,
16 the commanding officer who was sitting there,
17 understood exactly what it would mean to have two-
18 thirds of the afterschool programs in the City of
19 New York closed. It is her jurisdiction,
20 understood immediately what it meant, everyone in
21 the room meant.

22 So if Commissioner Kelly hasn't
23 addressed it then either you guys are under the
24 impression it's not going to happen or you're just
25 not in the same world with guys on the street.

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2 And Council Member Williams is completely correct
3 in the sense that there is a direct connection
4 between afterschool programs and public safety and
5 what's going to go on.

6 And while it's never an excuse for
7 bad behavior and we're not out there marketing
8 good choices, if we're not out there marketing
9 good choices to young people, it's our fault. And
10 that conversation does need to happen.

11 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Thank you.

12 Council Member Margaret Chin followed by Council
13 Member Sarah Gonzalez.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you
15 Chair. Commissioner, first I wanted to thank you
16 for meeting with us two weeks ago with the other
17 elected officials in Lower Manhattan about the
18 drastic cut in Lower Manhattan.

19 In my district in Lower East Side
20 in Chinatown 70% of the afterschool program is
21 going to be cut and I still don't understand why.

22 These programs are provided by
23 agency with great track record, settlement
24 [phonetic] Houses who's been in our community for
25 40 plus years to over a hundred years.

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2 Seventeen programs cut down to
3 four. This is my third budget; I was shocked when
4 I saw the number. I just don't understand, there
5 is such a great need and it's got totally wiped
6 out. So there is a big hole in my community and I
7 wish you were there at the rally the one in the
8 Low East Side where over a thousand, the parents
9 and students showed up at PS 137 and 134.

10 And these youngsters, they were so
11 articulate. They talk about how they love their
12 afterschool program, how they were able to improve
13 their education, that they're doing so well. And
14 the parents were talking about how they were
15 afraid that they would have to lose their job
16 because if they don't have childcare.

17 And the one in Chinatown at PS 124,
18 same thing, over a thousand parents and students
19 and community people, seniors came out, the
20 grandparents also came out because they don't want
21 to lose their afterschool program.

22 How could that happen? All across
23 New York City communities are getting cuts, and we
24 know from history that kids need afterschool
25 programs. Council Member Williams talked about

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2 crime, it's real. When we talk about gangs and
3 all the violence that happened in the 70s, it's
4 real and parents don't want that to happen to
5 their kids.

6 And I hear you talk about the city,
7 the mayor raising money for Summer Youth
8 Employment Program, that is great. But why are we
9 raising money? There should be tax dollars here
10 to support these basic programs for our kids,
11 that's what government is for.

12 So I would wish our mayor would
13 urge his wealthy—the wealthy New Yorkers to pay
14 their fair share in taxes so that we could have
15 the tax levy money to support this vital program.
16 I know you your heart is with us and you were
17 talking about the \$18 million that was in the
18 budget last year that's not in there this year.
19 It's not baseline. Why not? Can you tell me why
20 we want that money baseline so that we can fund
21 more programs, Commissioner?

22 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: Actually a
23 good portion of that money is baseline, but what
24 has happened is that when over the years and the
25 successive number of cuts you often have to take

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2 cuts in the current year and then cuts in the out
3 years. And so now we are kind of living with the
4 out years, if you will, in terms of the impact.

5 And so the impact is felt greatest
6 also when you issue a new RFP and everybody might
7 be at different price points in a prior RFP,
8 because they have come in, even though I set the
9 price, you many have organizations that bid lower
10 than that, you may have organizations that have
11 caller [phonetic] increases.

12 When you issue a new RFP you have
13 to kind of right size it and put everybody at the
14 same price point. What we also discovered is that
15 although we gave a range, almost every vendor came
16 in at the top of that range, creating less slots.
17 And so while the main reason is the difference
18 between what was in the budget previously and what
19 is in the budget now these are other factors that
20 make the math a little complicated.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: I know you
22 try hard to balance with the money, but I think my
23 main point is that the money should be more and
24 DYCD, your agency, you provide the vital services
25 to people in our community, immigrants learning

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2 English, kids getting afterschool program, these
3 are important services that government needs to
4 provide.

5 I think that's why is that you've
6 got to get your fair share in the city budget so
7 that we could have these services there. So I
8 agree with my colleagues that Department of
9 Education, the police department really needs to
10 sit down with you because if we don't put the
11 money now in these programs, we're going to pay
12 later. Thank you.

13 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Thank you
14 Council member Chin, Council Member Gonzalez, but
15 before that, I want to recognize we've been joined
16 by Council Member Gale Brewer. Council Member
17 Gonzalez and then she'll be followed by Council
18 Member Jackson.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Thank you
20 Chair. Commissioner, I'm not going to repeat how
21 wonderful you are because we certainly know you
22 are and you've done a terrific job and this is
23 really so serious.

24 I want to say something that two
25 hundred—last Friday, about 200 folks came to my

1
2 office unannounced. It had to do with the early
3 learning [phonetic] cuts and the fear they have
4 for losing the slots for the children.

5 The sadness of it for me was that a
6 four-year-old sat at my doorstep in my district
7 office to tell me how much he loved his school and
8 didn't want to lose it and how much he enjoyed the
9 lunch and how he would miss his friends, a four-
10 year-old.

11 It made me sad, and I know this is
12 not the jurisdiction of your area here, but now I
13 expect that with adult literacy, unless it's
14 baseline, unless if that's a thought process in
15 any way, how are these folks that were serviced,
16 thousands of people going to be serviced in adult
17 literacy?

18 I imagine that depending on the
19 success or the non-success of this budget or at
20 least what's out there that I'm going to have
21 another 200, probably the parents back again in my
22 office for fear that they're not going to have
23 services.

24 So my question is, Commissioner,
25 are you considering, is the administration

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2 considering base-lining adult literacy? Is that
3 significant enough in understanding that a lot of
4 times I hear Mayor Bloomberg talk about the
5 importance of immigrants and how they're the wheel
6 of the City of New York and all this, how do we
7 empower them or not empower them if we don't have
8 the funding for adult literacy?

9 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: In terms of
10 literacy it's those reasons why we are fighting
11 very hard to protect our Federal dollars because
12 CSBG is one of the few providers of funding for
13 literacy and immigrant services, and we want to
14 make sure that in a city that is as diverse as New
15 York City that we're still able to help people—
16 when people learn English obviously it helps them
17 get a job, keep a job, ask for a raise and do all
18 the things that we take for granted as part of
19 American life.

20 And so we've been very, very
21 committed to preserving the Federal dollars that
22 are underwriting these initiatives.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: And
24 Commissioner, I just want to end by saying in a
25 district like mine where I believe I have the

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largest Chinatown, Sunset Park, and—

[Crosstalk]

COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Yes, but
my Chinatown is the largest. So therefore—

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: All I know is
that both Chinatowns got wiped out in OST.

COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: So
therefore, I am concerned for the entire City, but
definitely I have to look at my surroundings and
come to the realization that my community is a
community that has a tremendous influx of
immigrants, and so we need to—when we're doing and
factoring this budget are we looking at the
specifics of areas of the City of New York and how
they're going to be impacted negatively when there
is no funding?

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: You finished?
You want to answer?

COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: Absolutely,
and that's—when we look at the demographic data to
steer our funding those considerations are taken
into account. But I should say that when the city
has been in a position, when there has been better
times you have seen all these initiatives be

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2 increased, and so that's part of what we are
3 feeling, is that over the years we have
4 successfully included more money that was base-
5 lined and put more money into these initiatives.

6 We've also been successful in using
7 stimulus monies creatively. We actually were the
8 example of using stimulus monies for afterschool.
9 We have also made our case to the State, although
10 we have seen, since my appointment when I first
11 started in 2002, we had about \$12 million
12 supporting afterschool from the State. At this
13 point now we are less than \$4 million in State
14 monies.

15 And so we have seen many of our
16 other partners walk away from this work and
17 thankfully the city is still maintaining its
18 commitment to these areas, but certainly could use
19 help from other government sectors. And in some
20 jurisdictions when we talk to our partners upstate
21 when the mayor doesn't put money in, there is no
22 services. So those jurisdictions have no
23 afterschool programs to speak of and no social
24 service safety net to speak of. We are very
25 fortunate, I think, in New York City that we still

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have a tax levy base that can do this.

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: What? Kindly follow it up.

COUNCILOR GONZALEZ: I just want to say first of all thank you, I clearly understand the efforts, but I also want to leave here on the record. The—you know, I—day per day because I live in my district all of my life, I see the work that the immigrants do, the Mexican community, the Asian community, they really work hard and they care and they want to be empowered and they want to be educated and they want to get into the workforce. So this is the way to go, so I thank you and I thank the Chairs. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Thank you Council Member Gonzalez. Now I recognize Council Member Jackson followed by Council Member Gentile then Council Member Melissa Mark-Viverito. And we've been joined by Council Member Leroy Comrie.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Let me thank you Chair Recchia, Chair Fidler, Chair Vann for your good work on behalf of the people of New York City.

Now Commissioner, obviously you are

1
2 the point person for DYCD and even though many of
3 my colleagues have given you accolades for the
4 type of person you are, you are the point person
5 for the agency, and the cuts are totally
6 unacceptable.

7 And not only am I saying that, all
8 of the people that I hear today and the thousands
9 that I've seen are saying that, totally
10 unacceptable. And that message we are putting on
11 you, we expect you to communicate that to the
12 mayor and his people instead of saying okay, give
13 me the cuts and I'll take them and I'll make them
14 palatable. They are not palatable to the City of
15 New York. And while you give examples about
16 upstate, we are not upstate, this is New York
17 City, this is the Big Apple, the richest city in
18 the entire world, and to have youth services
19 decimated like they are, are totally unacceptable.

20 Now I understand, it's not all New
21 York City. The Federal government, the State
22 government and clearly in communicating with the
23 advocate, I say talk to all of your elected
24 representatives, not only at the City level, at
25 the State level, don't let them get away with

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2 coming down and saying they did the best that they
3 can, it's not acceptable.

4 And I know that you and your staff
5 are here, and some of you may not be happy and say
6 we can deal with it, it's totally unacceptable.
7 There's no and, ifs or buts about it, because
8 everyone knows the impact it's going to have on
9 our youth.

10 And while you're not responsible
11 for daycare, ACS was here, and we were setting
12 fire to them with respect to the cuts that are
13 projected.

14 So I heard you in giving your
15 explanation that you said that some children will
16 be left at home with other older siblings. But
17 what if there's no older siblings, what are
18 parents going to do?

19 So I ask you, if there's no older
20 siblings, if they can't find other sources in
21 order to take care of their children, what are
22 they supposed to do? That's a question I ask for
23 you, the same question I ask for the Commissioner
24 for ACS, what are parents supposed to do when the
25 City is turning their back on them?

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2 Commissioner, I'm asking you that
3 question if you have a response, and if you don't,
4 just say you don't.

5 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: The first
6 thing we have encouraged parents to do is to
7 contact us, and see via 311 whether there is a
8 private entity. I understand that most parents do
9 not have the resources to purchase services on
10 their own, but we want to do our best to either
11 match them with a private or public program that
12 may be outside of DYCD's purview. And then
13 explore with them if there are any other kinds of
14 arrangements that can be made.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Okay.
16 Well, let me just speak to you on behalf of
17 Northern Manhattan and you know Northern Manhattan
18 pretty well.

19 You know the average family in
20 Northern Manhattan earns under \$34,000 a year.
21 And what they are doing is struggling, struggling
22 to pay rent, to put food on the table, and pay
23 their Con Edison bill, and their cell phone bills
24 so they can have contacts with their family.

25 There is no more money, and for the

1
2 City of New York, we do have resources, State of
3 New York, as you know, the millionaires' tax was
4 not extended and as a result of that, the State of
5 New York lost \$5 billion, 5 billion. Yes, they
6 came up with a formula for 1.95 billion, but we
7 lost almost 3 billion and money that we could have
8 used by extending the millionaires tax. But
9 Commissioner, can you tell me or your staff the
10 out-of-school time program, how many slots have we
11 lost from 2009 to the proposed 2013 budget?

12 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: I know it's
13 about 47 million in funding, let's see.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Because
15 I'm reading here, it says since 2009 OTS has
16 experienced-

17 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: About
18 53,000?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: How many?

20 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: 46,000
21 slots.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Slots that
23 we lost since 2009? Lost not gained, is that
24 correct? You didn't say gained, did you?

25 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: Yes, I said

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lost.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Okay, that's what I thought you said. Okay, and can you tell me as far as, with respect to summer youth employment jobs, I've read in your—that we expect more people to apply for Summer Youth employment jobs, I believe we had about 100, 2,500 and 30,000 that applied. How many do we anticipate knowing the economic situation to apply for Summer Youth employment jobs, and how many jobs will be available based on the funding that you've outlined in your presentation?

COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: We expect that we will be on track with last year's numbers of 131,000. As you know the deadline is until Friday.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Okay, so about 131, 140, let's round it off, 135,000 applicants for how many jobs?

COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: We have about 26,000.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: 26, that's it?

COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: And I told

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2 the Chairman that I expect 30,000 by the beginning
3 of the summer.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: So in
5 essence, less than 25% of the people that apply
6 for Summer Youth employment jobs will get a job,
7 is that correct?

8 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: Yes.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: That's
10 unacceptable, that's unacceptable I'm sure to
11 everyone in this room. If that's unacceptable to
12 people that are here, raise your hand.

13 Well if I was counting up the votes
14 I would say that's unanimous. And Commissioner,
15 I've asked them to raise their hand, because it's
16 necessary that not only you as a commissioner, but
17 my colleagues and the press that are here, to see
18 the visual aspect of the devastation that the
19 proposed cuts that DYCD are going to have.

20 And I understand you're trying to
21 do your job and manage what you have, but I'm
22 communicating to you as a representative the
23 frustration, the anger, the total unacceptability
24 of your proposed budget on the people of New York
25 City.

1
2 Co-chairs, I thank you for giving
3 me the opportunity to express the way my
4 constituents and the constituents of Northern
5 Manhattan feel.

6 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Thank you,
7 Council Member Lew Fidler would just like to make
8 a statement, and then Vincent Gentile will go.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: And I just
10 want to, you know, because we've asked you a
11 couple of times, Commissioner, what do you think
12 will happen, what do you think will happen in the,
13 you know, as I've had an opportunity to read the
14 report from the citizens—the Campaign for Children
15 more carefully.

16 I just want to read into the record
17 these numbers so that people can get this
18 understanding and really—because they surveyed
19 3,336 parents with children in afterschool
20 programs, asked them what they are going to do if
21 the program closes.

22 Twenty-one percent said they would
23 leave their child with a relative, that's probably
24 pretty adequate, we don't really have to worry—I
25 mean it's unfortunate, but we don't have to worry

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about them except for the lost opportunities.

Seventeen percent said they would hire childcare services, 10% had some other answer. 36% said they would quit their job to stay home with their child, 16% said they'd leave their child home alone.

And if you take that to the 27,000 slots that we're losing, that means 9,720 people will quit their job in the City of New York because of this, and 4,300 kids will be home alone. If they're even close to right, I can't even imagine what effect that's going to have on our economy and everything else.

So now we know the answer to the question, at least as people expect it to happen, and I think those numbers speak for themselves.

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: We've also been joined by Council Member Arroyo, Council Member Gentile.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Commissioner, you took the numbers in this executive budget and applied a sledge hammer to the programs in Southwest Brooklyn.

You first came through and

1
2 eliminated the one Beacon program in Brooklyn, and
3 that Beacon program is located in my community.

4 And then a few weeks later you came back and you
5 announced that four OST programs at four different
6 schools in my community would be eliminated. So
7 you're now eliminating a full Beacon program and
8 four programs at four schools in one community.

9 Commissioner, I can only ask you,
10 was there any, any consideration given about
11 wiping out an entire community when you looked at
12 these cuts? Because in effect that's what you're
13 doing in my area, you are wiping out an entire
14 community with Beacon and OST cuts. Was there any
15 consideration once you cut the Beacons to go back
16 and look at that in your cutting of the OST
17 programs?

18 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: The OST
19 programs were governed by the score. So to the
20 extent possible, we try to look geographically to
21 make sure that we had coverage throughout the City
22 of New York. But the most dominant factor is
23 going to be how each organization scored.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: So you're
25 saying the OST programs that have been run by very

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2 reputable organizations in my neighborhood for
3 many, many, many years are—you're now casting
4 doubt on those organizations by saying that they
5 didn't score on an OST scale of some type?

6 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: Experience
7 is taken into account and performance has been
8 taken into account. In fact in this last RFP, for
9 the first time we used Vendex performance to try
10 to recognize what many advocates and community
11 members have told us some time, which is that
12 there should be more attention to strong
13 performers.

14 And so for the first time, and I
15 think for the first time in the City of New York,
16 Vendex information was incorporated into the
17 evaluative process. That being said, there are
18 still some very, very strong and good programs
19 that were not funded, not because they didn't do a
20 good job on the RFP, and not because they didn't
21 do a good job in the community, but because we ran
22 out of money.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: I'll get
24 back to that if I have some time. So you say in
25 your statement that because of the cuts you did

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2 not expect programs to operate at this funding
3 level for FY 13 while maintaining program quality.
4 So if that's the case, are you telling us at least
5 in my neck of the woods in Southwest Brooklyn that
6 the answer to that is to provide no services, zero
7 services to some children, so that you could
8 provide services to other children?

9 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: I think all
10 of our initiatives attempt to serve the City of
11 New York as best we can give the means that we
12 have, and given the resources that we have.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: But we
14 live in a portion of the City of New York that
15 you're decimating.

16 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: Well, I
17 have to look—I'd have to look and see—I mean
18 generally we have some presence in every part of
19 the City of New York. That doesn't mean that we
20 have a presence in every zip code. There are
21 about, I think, 17 zip codes that used to have OST
22 programs that don't have any OST programs now.
23 But for the most part we try to distribute what
24 we're very limited resources across the city with
25 an emphasis of 75% of those dollars going toward

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higher poverty-

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: I

understand that, I'm just--because of my time factor. I just want to--but you talk about the city in general, but when I'm talking about specific four programs of OST and a Beacon program in the same neighborhood, that is not the city in general, you're decimating children in a particular part of this city with wiping out their programs, wiping them out.

That's not--you talk about the city in general, I'm talking about neighborhoods, specific neighborhoods where you have wiped out all the programs, practically all the programs for these children who are in this geographic area.

COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: I think

there's no question that these have been some very, very difficult decisions to make. And not having enough resources, we've looked at the city as a whole and said who is likely to be able to purchase those services, and who is probably less likely to be able to be in a position to recruit those services?

And so while we've looked at the

1
2 city as a whole, we have prioritized communities
3 that might be less in a position to be able to
4 purchase those services privately.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Well, I
6 don't know how old your demographic information is
7 that you've been using to determine that, who can
8 purchase services, who cannot. But the
9 demographic area for my district, my school
10 district is that over 4,000 students are eligible
11 for free or reduced lunch. So it is—I don't know
12 how old your data is, but it's not the same Dyker
13 Heights, Bay Ridge and Bensonhurst of 25 years
14 ago. We have a diversity and a level of need that
15 is there and growing every day, and you have wiped
16 us out.

17 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Okay, Council
18 Member thank you very much. We'll now turn to
19 Council Member Melissa Mark-Viverito, be followed
20 by Council Member Lander, Council Member Brewer,
21 Council Member Leroy Comrie, and Council Member
22 Diana Reyna. And then that will be the end,
23 because we have to do Sanitation, and Sanitation
24 is going to be a lot of people. So we're going to
25 do, okay, Melissa Mark, Lander, Brewer, Comrie and

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2 Diana Reyna.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:

4 Thank you Mr. Chair and I want to also express, I
5 know that Commissioner we've had a great level of
6 partnership with you over the years. But today
7 you're sitting here before us as an agent of this
8 administration. And as such, I have to express my
9 outrage, and I am pissed off, I am angry because
10 this is a level of priorities in terms of where
11 this administration has placed them at. And I
12 know that every year as we go through this cycle,
13 there is an attempt to break the spirit of this
14 city, and to break the spirit of people that are
15 in need, and I will not allow that to happen.

16 I am more than anything emboldened
17 by the position that this administration has
18 taken. This is a full-scale attack, let us not
19 kid ourselves, this is a full-scale attack against
20 the working class and the working poor in this
21 city.

22 I see quote up here right here, let
23 us have peace, let our communities have peace.
24 Every year, this administration comes back and is
25 taking away the vital services that are so

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2 desperately needed in our communities, people who
3 want to remain working, people who want to provide
4 enrichment programs to their young people, to
5 their kids, we should be having that as a
6 priority.

7 Instead what we hear our
8 Commissioner Kelly say that our communities want
9 more enforcement, right? We want more stop and
10 frisk, we want more of an assault on our civil
11 rights. But when it comes to the enrichment
12 programs that the Beacons represent, that out-of-
13 school time represents, that daycare represents,
14 somehow that's expendable, and that is not
15 acceptable and that should not be the priority of
16 this administration and this city. That is
17 definitely not the priorities that I think we
18 should be furthering.

19 So you sit here today unfortunately
20 having to take the brunt of this because this is
21 what you are presenting to us, and it's
22 unfortunate that the legacy, if we go this route
23 of your tenure as commissioner, will not be a
24 favorable one if we keep eroding away at these
25 vital services.

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2 Again, the disparity in the city
3 continues to grow as was demonstrated by a report
4 that came out from the Controller's office, that
5 1% of the city's population is earning 33% of the
6 income of this city and that disparity continues
7 to grow. Yet we keep giving economic subsidies to
8 corporations that are not fulfilling their
9 obligations to the city, and we're not getting
10 that money back to reinvest in programs that we
11 know work, okay.

12 The priorities are all screwed
13 here, they're all upside down. The mayor wants to
14 talk about Young Males initiatives; he's giving
15 with one hand and taking with another. Somehow
16 we're supposed to accept that, somehow this is a
17 show game, and we're having the wool pulled over
18 our eyes or so he thinks.

19 Deep-rooted problems in our society
20 and our city are not being addressed when we're
21 taking away OST, when we're taking away daycare.
22 This administration engages in distractions
23 talking about bad teachers in the schools and
24 wanting to break our unions. That's what he's
25 doing, when the reality has been demonstrated,

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2 yes, we want good teachers in our schools, but 80%
3 of the challenges that our students face have to
4 deal with poverty, have to deal with societal
5 issues. And when you're taking away OST and
6 you're taking away afterschool programs, you are
7 contributing to the problem not addressing it.

8 These boutique social programs that
9 the mayor wants to throw in our faces, yes, fine,
10 we welcome it, as long as we maintain and continue
11 to strengthen what we have. I am extremely upset,
12 and this is no question, I have a statement and
13 this is my statement, and I want to thank everyone
14 that is in this room and the thousands that have
15 mobilized across this city.

16 This is unacceptable, we're getting
17 to the breaking point, let me tell you, we are
18 getting to the breaking point in this city, and we
19 are seeing it in the numbers of people that are
20 coming out. And we are not taking it, we are not
21 taking it anymore, we are not taking it down,
22 we're not taking it easy.

23 We are concerned about the safety
24 in our communities, we are concerned about the
25 wellbeing of our children, and this is not the way

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2 to address it. So again, as I said, you know,
3 this is a full-scale attack, we're decimating
4 these programs. And let me tell you, there are
5 quite some challenges ahead for the next mayor,
6 because he's been eroding—this mayor has been
7 eroding the safety net and the social programs
8 that are vital, and to rebuild that is not going
9 to be easy. But if there's true commitment to
10 that, we can achieve it.

11 So I don't think that I have to say
12 anything, your statement says it all, we know
13 where the cuts are at, the people in this room
14 know where it's at. But we're taking it to the
15 streets each and every day, I see that grow and
16 the dissatisfaction [phonetic], and this is about
17 pushing this administration to really rethink
18 their priorities.

19 So with that, you know again as
20 I've said before, we want enrichment programs in
21 our communities, not just enforcement. And I want
22 to thank everyone that's in this room, we're going
23 to continue to mobilize, we cannot take this
24 sitting down, I know you aren't, but we got to
25 take it to the streets because unfortunately we're

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not heading in the right direction right now.

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: All right,
let's keep the applause down. Quiet, okay.

Council Member Lander, followed by Brewer, Leroy
Comrie and Diana Reyna and then that will be it,
okay.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you
to the Chairs and to everybody who's out here
today.

Commissioner, I want to start with
a story that I've shared before, but every time we
come back and talk about OST it strikes me again.
Last year I went to visit a Boys Town program in
my district.

It's one of the programs that I'm
pleased to say the Closer to Home program will be
funding more of in New York, where we provide an
opportunity for people who have been in juvenile
justice system to recover. And he'd been there
about a year, and he was just about to go home and
be back with his family, and Boys Town had done
good work with him over the year, they had done
good work with his family and he was about to go
back home.

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2 And so I said to him, "Tell me what
3 I should take back to the City Council because
4 this program seems to be working and I'd like us
5 to do more things like this." And he said, "You
6 know what, Councilman, what you should take back
7 is, you shouldn't have cut my afterschool program.
8 I was spending every day in the gym at my school
9 playing basketball, and everything was fine, and
10 then you cut my afterschool program and I was
11 outside after school, and that's when I got in
12 trouble, and that's when I got caught up in the
13 system, and that's how I'm here."

14 And you know, he didn't even know
15 that we had spent tens of thousands of dollars of
16 the people's tax money for that Boys Town program,
17 when the cost of his OST slot was a fraction of
18 that. And so I just am struck by the fact that
19 aside from the fact that these cuts are wrong,
20 they are pennywise and pound foolish.

21 And so my question for you, and I
22 think I asked this last year, is have we done any
23 analysis of the cost implications of cuts to OST?
24 OMB, I know Mark Page wants us to make good use of
25 our money, and I believe that by cutting these OST

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2 slots we're going to spend more money on law
3 enforcement, we are going to spend more money on
4 juvenile justice. So have we done a study, a
5 random sample study to figure out what the cost
6 implications are of all these out-of-school-OST
7 cuts?

8 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: No, I
9 haven't, that's probably the most direct way of
10 saying it. Our evaluations have really looked at
11 our own participants and the implementation and
12 the outcomes for the students. But—and even
13 maintaining that part of the funding has been a
14 challenge given direct services, and so we have
15 not been in a position to do that kind of
16 research.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: I mean I
18 have to say I find that hard to believe. This
19 administration spent so much time talking about
20 data, so much time drilling down on the cost of
21 things, and the fact that the thing we're
22 decimating the most, we haven't spent any time
23 trying to figure out whether in fact we're going
24 to wind up, not just harming lives, but spending
25 more money, the things that people have either

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2 applied for federal grants or private grants for
3 to study, I can't believe we haven't studied this
4 one.

5 And it really goes to the question
6 of how to think about these programs. I
7 appreciate when you said thank the Council for its
8 generosity in restoring the programs, but it's not
9 generosity, we're not a foundation, it's not our
10 money, and the budget isn't the mayor's money.
11 These are about whether we're making wise or
12 foolish public policy decisions. And it is a
13 foolish public policy decision to cut the OST
14 slots because we're going to hurt lives and spend
15 more money in the long run.

16 And so rather than thinking about
17 whether it's the generosity of the mayor or the
18 generosity from the Council, let's think about how
19 much we're actually wasting the people's money in
20 the long-term on more juvenile justice slots, and
21 restore these programs.

22 And I really wish that we had a
23 study because if I'm wrong, I'd be glad to know
24 it, but if I'm right then we wouldn't even be here
25 talking or thinking about it.

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2 So I'd love for us to look at that
3 because next year we're just going to be back here
4 again no matter how much we restore, and I don't
5 want to have that again, I'd really like to have
6 some data.

7 The last thing I'd like—

8 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: Well, we've
9 been committed obviously to evaluation and you
10 know, the fact that NYU has been able to do an
11 evaluation of our SYEP program and really be able
12 to document the attendance rates going up as a
13 result of participation in SYEP, I think, is a
14 salient point, and really you know, defends the
15 dollars that we're spending in SYEP.

16 And so to the extent that we can do
17 it and not diminish young people working or not
18 diminish young people participating in OST, I'm
19 absolutely open to it.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: I mean
21 would your reach out to Budget Director Page and
22 ask him whether—and if you add in the cost of the
23 people that are going to give up their jobs, I
24 mean a real study of this, I think, would show
25 that we just wouldn't have to do this next year.

1
2 So if you could reach out to the
3 Budget Director and ask him about the possibility
4 of doing a real cost impact of these cuts, I
5 think, it would make a real difference.

6 The other thing I just want to add
7 my voice to is the Runaway Homeless Youth beds
8 because I don't want to Council Member Fidler be
9 the only one to speak up on that, how we could cut
10 60% of the Runaway Homeless Youth beds. We've had
11 a number of hearings now on sex trafficking, we
12 just heard from a 15-year-old girl in Brooklyn who
13 had been—anyway I won't go on and on about it, but
14 the cuts to the Runaway Homeless Youth beds,
15 again, it's not a political football it's
16 something that we should just have base-lined in
17 the budget so we don't have to have this—

18 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Okay, Council
19 Members, we have to be out of here because I have
20 Sanitation ready to go. So please ask your
21 questions as quickly as you can, okay. Council
22 Member Brewer, Council Member Leroy Comrie,
23 Council Member Diana Reyna and then Council Member
24 Lew Fidler will go last.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you,

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2 I remember in the Dinkins years where I worked
3 Richard Murphy who was head of youth tied the kids
4 to the cops. So I think that every dollar of
5 overtime, if it goes to PD should be tied to DYCD;
6 that would be a suggestion, \$62 million.

7 My question is mostly on adult
8 literacy, I am very distressed about Pearson, this
9 is the same testing company, as you know, that has
10 come under fire through K through 12 tests,
11 talking about pineapples and sleeves and hares
12 [phonetic], making no sense to the young people.

13 I am very concerned because the GED
14 testing contract is the same company unless we can
15 get rid of this company. So I want to know at the
16 current time with this current company, what
17 measures DYCD has taken to transition its GED
18 service providers into this new online testing
19 model which I think is going to be very
20 challenging. I think we know there are over a
21 million New Yorkers without a high school
22 credential and many millions who lack English
23 proficiency and the GED is incredibly important
24 and challenging. How are you going to deal with
25 this company and this new computerization?

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2 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: We agree
3 there have been numerous concerns in terms of how
4 the test is going to be administered, cost of the
5 test, how we're going to prepare young people for
6 the test. And we have tried to get ahead of that
7 proactively working in concert with both folks
8 from the Department of Education as well as the
9 mayor's office to try to—the first thing is really
10 to educate our community-based organizations and
11 let them know what we know.

12 We've invited the State to give an
13 overview of what they know. I think the—
14 unfortunately the policy has not been developed
15 yet. I think there's still uncertainty around
16 what will be those next steps, and so I think
17 that's where the—

18 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: What's the
19 timing on this, Commissioner, what's the timing?

20 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: I think
21 it's 2013.

22 MALE VOICE: 2014.

23 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: 2014.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: 2014, so
25 between now and then the old test is still in

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effect?

COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: And so of course we will do our best to make sure that as many young people who are in the pipeline will be in a position to sit for the test. Even—in some instances they may only have one section left. What happens is if there is a new test, they will have to take the entire test over. So we particularly want to make sure that those who have passed parts of the GED can complete it and get their GED in advance of the transition to the test.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: How will this new situation, which I don't approve of at all, impact the budgets of the providers?

COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: Well, I think there is some questions about who will be an approved site, and I know that the programs are compensated in a certain way at this point. And I'm not sure that it's been finalized how, which community-based organizations will be in a position to host the test going forward.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: All right, and how many adult literacy program seats have

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2 been lost since the elimination of the baseline
3 funding in 2011? Do we know that? Because
4 obviously that's going to impact what goes on in
5 the future.

6 I really think this is awful, I
7 agree with everything on OST that has been said
8 and Beacons, but I can tell you from much
9 experience the GED's a challenge to start with,
10 even with the wonderful site that the speaker and
11 others initiated. Finding the seat, coordinating
12 the location, passing the test, getting the prep,
13 and this idea of charging to me is ridiculous.

14 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: It's about
15 1,200, is the answer to your question.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: 1,200 seats
17 have been lost? Okay. And then so is there
18 anything else—when is this—has this contract been
19 signed, can it be changed? Is anybody speaking up
20 about it or just people from the adult literacy
21 world?

22 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: I think
23 there also is an effort on the part of the State
24 education to look for other alternative means.
25 The GED is one alternative, but there can be other

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2 alternatives that represent a high school diploma.
3 And so they can, you know, if they want to put
4 forth other ways, and there are other ways,
5 they're just underutilized. But maybe we can do
6 more to publicize those other ways to get a high
7 school diploma, when it's really clear that a
8 young person is not going to continue in a local
9 school.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Okay, but I
11 just think this Pearson company is a problem, and
12 I think we'll have other conversations about their
13 contract, but I do think people should be speaking
14 up about this company in particular.

15 My other question is CSBG, I used
16 to be on years ago the Statewide board. How much
17 goes to DYCD and how much goes into the community?
18 I understand there's a federal cut potentially,
19 what is the percentage?

20 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: About 30
21 million and about 16 million goes through what we
22 call the neighborhood development areas.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Okay, and
24 then so the balance stays with you or goes to the
25 community? What's the admin cost to DYCD of the

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30 million, how much does DYCD keep?

COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: About 18%.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: 18%, okay.

I have more questions but thank you.

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Thank you,
Council Member Leroy Comrie, Council Member Diana
Reyna and Council—we're going to make an exception
for Council Member Tish James. Council Member
Leroy Comrie.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Thank you.

I'm not going to—I'm going to try to stay focused,
I'm not going to yell at you, Commissioner. I
know that you're here representing the
administration, you're still my favorite
commissioner individually, so I know you're having
a difficult time dealing with all of these
ridiculous cuts to programs that I know your
office cares about.

What I wanted to find out is from
you, have you heard of any efforts by the
administration to get people to underwrite these
programs as they did last year? Or is there any
impetus from the administration to get the \$40
million from Citibank for the bike share program

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2 directed to DYCD to get the extra money that they
3 are getting in federal funds directed to get the
4 Medicare money that they're wasting, and not
5 drawing down DOE money to get that to DYCD? Has
6 anybody told you about any efforts to get private
7 dollars to underwrite any of these programs this
8 year?

9 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: I think
10 what heard, although not with specificity that
11 you're asking about, that the mayor was pretty
12 confident that we would be able to resolve these
13 issues in the adopted budget. And so I think you
14 saw that he felt that through the collaboration
15 between the City Council and the administration
16 that we would be able to restore many of these
17 programs, again, not with the specifics that
18 you're talking about.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: In other
20 words, you're confident that by budget adoption we
21 won't lose all of the OST slots or we can restore
22 all of the Beacons that have been cut, and we can
23 restore the Summer Youth Employment Program back
24 to the rates of last year, and especially the—we
25 can do more to help with the Cornerstone Program

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2 and all of the other items that have been on this
3 cut list that we know is part of the budget,
4 because it's constantly picked on every year. But
5 you feel more confident than in the past that
6 these things can come back to the numbers that
7 they were at least last year?

8 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: I would be
9 reluctant to say the numbers from last year, but I
10 think there will be some resolution of these
11 programs.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: But you
13 haven't heard any specifics on any monies coming
14 in from the private sector? Last year I believe
15 it was Walmart that underwrote some of the Summer
16 Youth Employment Program, has there been any
17 outreach to your knowledge by this administration
18 is seeking to eliminate monies that is supporting,
19 putting in private dollars in other sectors to get
20 some private dollars to supplement and ensure that
21 our youth can stay working? That our afterschool
22 programs that keep people off the street and out
23 of jail can stay in place? Or you haven't heard
24 anything specifically.

25 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: Well

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2 actually we've been actively fundraising with the
3 mayor's fund on increasing the number of jobs this
4 summer. And as I had mentioned earlier, we're
5 about a third of the way there. Last year we had
6 \$6 million, and we know that we'll be able to
7 probably reach about 30,000 which would be maybe 3
8 or 4,000 more based on private donations.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Well I
10 would submit to you that we need more than 6
11 million; we need from your own estimates almost 90
12 million to do restoration for everything. And I
13 believe that 90 million is there from, again, the
14 Citibank money that they are putting in the bike
15 share program and money from the-out the-that was
16 recouped from city time, I think should be
17 directed to especially our young people.

18 I'm not going to yell, I'm in a
19 good mood today, so I'm not going to pick on you
20 by yelling. But I think everyone in this room
21 knows that these cuts need to be restored, and the
22 critical reasons why they need to be restored. So
23 I'm not going to go through that, I would just
24 implore you to do everything you can to raise your
25 voice to make sure that that happens.

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2 And because you can guarantee that
3 everyone in this room will be holding
4 demonstrations to show the impact of these cuts on
5 children, the impact of these cuts on families,
6 especially in Queens where even the two Beacons
7 that serviced the borough may not fall into your
8 technical area as far as zip code and income. But
9 I have people from my district that attend those
10 Beacons, I have people from income communities
11 that attend those Beacons and truly need those
12 Beacons to exist.

13 So I promised to be within my
14 timeframe, but I would hope that this
15 administration is serious about providing at least
16 \$90 million in private funding to supplement this
17 program, since they are so ready to use private,
18 support private monies or private concerns with
19 city money in other areas. Thank you Mr. Chair.

20 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Okay, thank
21 you. Council Member Diana Reyna and Council
22 Member Tish James then we'll close it down.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Thank you to
24 both Chairs, I just wanted to take a moment to
25 point out on Tuesday, I believe, we had an ACS

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2 hearing where the Commissioner apparently, through
3 a line of a questioning, has admitted to the fact
4 that there isn't a clear indication as to how many
5 children will be in need of vouchers.

6 And the fact that he has an
7 accountability of 4,500 vouchers lost in addition
8 to 6,500 slots center-based that are going to be
9 lost. I want to understand, Commissioner, if in
10 DYCD, how many children will receive priority
11 vouchers from ACS to go into the OST center
12 system?

13 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: We don't
14 use a system that involves vouchers, but to give
15 you an indication, we had about 8,200 children who
16 were from ACS who are in OST and that represented
17 about 19% of all of the OST slots last year.

18 We expect that if we get the same
19 amount this year it'll be about 33%. We are on
20 pace to have the early enrollment that we've
21 always had which prioritizes kids transferring
22 from ACS, that will happen the first two weeks of
23 September where we really lock down the system to
24 be able to prioritize children who are coming from
25 the ACS system.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: And what is
3 that figure as far as the early priority for ACS
4 children who are transferring into what would be
5 the OST?

6 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: Well like I
7 said, the only thing that we can do is go back
8 last year and look at the-

9 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: So the
10 starting figure-

11 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: --look at
12 what the benchmark is. You know, it is varied,
13 but we've never had more than about 12 to 1,300,
14 so that's pretty much, it's varied from years to
15 years how many children from their system age out
16 and come into our system.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: And that's
18 the concern they don't know, and the issue of
19 trying to factor in a secured number seems to
20 always be up in the air when we're looking for all
21 these cost savings from ACS into DYCD, it's at the
22 cost of making sure that there's less children
23 being served, not more.

24 [off mic]

25 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: I think we

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2 have a number for 2012 that there are as many as
3 44,000 who could conceivably enter into our
4 system.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: And how many
6 slots are there? Or are all 44,000 going to be
7 serviced?

8 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: Well, if we
9 were to get 44,000, we couldn't because we only
10 have 25,000 elementary and middle school slots.
11 But we have never seen that amount, again, we have
12 data back to 2006, and in total if you look at
13 from 2006 to 2012 we've had under 10,000 kids come
14 through our system. So we've never seen that
15 many. And again it averages about a thousand each
16 year.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: But the
18 point is that ACS has no accountability of the
19 kids moving from ACS to DYCD, and by the time they
20 get to DYCD, families have already been lost in
21 the transfer and don't know where to go or don't
22 have information, or don't get the priority
23 vouchers or utilize them somewhere else, so that
24 there's a host of scenarios and yet we're not
25 prepared to take care of 44,000, we're only

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2 prepared to take in 25,000. Is that an accurate
3 reading?

4 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: We're
5 probably prepared to take in less, because a lot
6 of-

7 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Less from
8 which number? I'm sorry.

9 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: Well the
10 25,000 represents citywide, but if you live in
11 Staten Island you're not likely-if the available
12 slot is in the Bronx you're not likely to travel.
13 Parents list convenience as probably their first
14 issue for them in terms of selecting where they
15 would go. But I think that if we get the number
16 that we have been used to, we will accommodate
17 most of the young people, although there are some
18 zip codes for which we have no services.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: I just want
20 to point, Chair, you know in addition to OST slots
21 being lost and early learn slots being lost, we
22 have about 2,000 young people who earn a living
23 based on their participation in OST as part-timers
24 within these programs to support their cost of
25 living and that's not even factored into the loss

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of what we're talking about concerning OST.

And so that's on top of what already is a decimated system serving our youth, our children in the City of New York.

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Okay, thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: And I don't want to leave them behind.

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Thank you, Council Member Tish James you have two minutes. We've been joined by Council Member Steve Levin. We have to finish up because Tish has to start the next hearing.

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: So then I can take as long as I want? No, so let me—

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: We'll take the time off from now.

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Thank you Chairs. It's really not questions, it's comments, I'll conclude with a question.

Let me just say that \$500 million in City time is available, \$111 million in other contracts that were fraudulent is also on the table. There's also money related to taxi

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2 medallions, and it's my understanding that tax
3 revenues have increased, and the mayor was off-
4 track and very conservative in his estimation.

5 And so my question is,
6 Commissioner, is what are you doing to advocate on
7 behalf of all of the programs that are necessary
8 in the City of New York? And my second question
9 is why do we continue to use zip codes to
10 determine where the needs are in the City of New
11 York?

12 I believe that zip codes are
13 unfortunately, not an actual—cannot predict where
14 needs are in the City of New York, and we need
15 something more granular such as census tracks.
16 Why do we not look at census tracks because you
17 continue to ignore communities where there's
18 pockets of poverty?

19 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: I think one
20 of the issues with a citywide program is how do
21 you have coverage throughout the City of New York?
22 And as you have reduced resources, you have to
23 make tough decisions.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: No, I
25 understand that—

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2 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: And I think
3 that the zip code issue, while kind of an easy
4 target, is really not at the core of the decisions
5 that we've made. What's been at the core of the
6 decisions that we've made has been how do you have
7 coverage? How do you have what we would all like
8 which would be universal afterschool? That's what
9 we all would like if we had endless resources.
10 But how do you have some semblance of coverage in
11 a city that is so complex and so diverse?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Well, let me
13 just say this—

14 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: And so
15 that's, you know, so what—if you live in—

16 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES:
17 Commissioner, I only have two minutes, so—

18 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: Okay,
19 but most of the communities in New York City are
20 what we consider high-need communities because the
21 New York City as a whole has, unfortunately, seen
22 increases in child poverty.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: You're
24 absolutely right, poverty has increased under this
25 administration, and unfortunately, not much has

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2 been done to address poverty in the City of New
3 York, notwithstanding all of the press conferences
4 and the statements, the fact is that poverty has
5 grown under this administration, and there's more
6 children living in poverty than ever before in the
7 City of New York, and it's a damn disgrace.

8 And so I would urge the mayor of
9 the City of New York, as opposed to having all of
10 these press conferences, really focus on the high
11 needs communities and focus on these programs that
12 he's cutting. And they include Cornerstone
13 contracts which serve individuals from NYCHA who
14 are living below the poverty level and are the
15 lowest of low. In fact I don't recall at any time
16 during this administration the mayor has ever
17 mentioned the word NYCHA.

18 Homeless and Runaway Youth, it's
19 disgraceful that LGBT children are living on
20 subway grates each night in the City of New York,
21 one of the richest cities. And the fact that OST
22 will be cut from the City of New York in Brooklyn
23 we will lose 72 programs, the Bronx 31, Manhattan
24 34, Queens 29, and 6 Staten Island. I believe in
25 the City of New York we can do better than that,

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2 we should do better than that, but in order to do
3 that we need you to raise your voice and protest
4 loudly.

5 Lastly, there's a contract stuck in
6 your office, it's a contract that I fund through
7 the Myrtle Avenue Revitalization Program, it's for
8 food access to my district. And this contract has
9 been stuck in your office for a very long time,
10 and unless this contract gets out of your office
11 soon, the organization that I fund will lose
12 money. And they certainly, in this day and age,
13 we can certainly not afford to lose any money. I
14 would urge someone to look into Myrtle Avenue
15 Revitalization, acronym MARP, contract is stuck
16 with MOCS and DYCD. So that we could feed healthy
17 foods to residents in my district. Thank you.

18 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Okay, thank
19 you. Council Member Levin has one quick question,
20 then Council Member Lew Fidler. Council Member
21 Levin.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you
23 Mr. Chairman, I'll keep my questions brief, very
24 brief. Commissioner, thank you very much, I know
25 that we're running short on time.

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2 Commissioner, I just wanted to
3 point out to you, one of the effects of the OST
4 grants that came out last month. So in this
5 building Mayor Bloomberg and Chancellor Walcott
6 had a reception for IS 318's chess team. They are
7 an intermediate school who won the National High
8 School Chess Championships. They are, for a
9 middle school, the first time in history that a
10 middle school wins the National High School Chess
11 Championships. The mayor has a reception for them
12 in the Governor's Room; everyone is all smiles,
13 good feelings all around.

14 The very next week the OST awards
15 came out, and their program which is responsible
16 for teaching kids chess at that school on
17 afterschool time was cut. So here we have the
18 National Chess High School Championship, the mayor
19 bringing them in, the Chancellor's there, and then
20 the very next week the city turning their back on
21 that program.

22 Now I don't know if that—I mean
23 obviously I don't think that that was coordinated
24 in any way, but that's the effect of what's
25 happening, that's just one example. That's

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happening all across the city.

These are life lines, these are vital programs. These programs make a tremendous amount of difference in our kids' lives and in our parent's lives. I was at an elementary school two weeks ago meeting with 150 parents who rely on their OST program, it is essential. It is essential, and so I implore you, I implore you to go to Chancellor Walcott, because he's still the Deputy Mayor that oversees DYCD. I implore you to go to Deputy Mayor Walcott, in his role as Deputy Mayor, I implore you to go to Mayor Bloomberg to say that these—

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Council Member, can we have a quick question? Because we're getting late. I gave you some leeway.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Okay. My question is for the programs that did not receive awards, how do we—is it possible—is it reasonable to expect that if there's—if we were to get a windfall of money that we could restore the funding to those programs even though they were not awarded contracts? How do we do that? How do we get around that issue because they don't have

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contracts starting on July 1st?

COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: They actually, many of them, don't have contracts as of August 31st. The contracts for OST coincide with the school year, so they start in September. But there are a few who may not be running summer programming that, you're right, their contracts may expire. But—

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Those that are expiring on August 31st; how do we—if we were to restore the funding, can we restore them to programs that don't have contracts? Or how do we go around the procurement—how do we deal with the procurement process to ensure that programs that are vital can be restored? If this Council, because again, this Council's the body that is going to come up with the money year after year we do this, we do this with early learn, it's on us all the time, it's not on the administration, it's on the Council to come up with the money if we do that or if we do that negotiation with the administration are we going to be able to get funding to the programs that need it if they were cut?

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2 COMMISSIONER MULLGRAV: The RFP
3 because awards were recently made is still alive,
4 if you will, and so you can use that as a basis
5 and continue to go down the list and continue to
6 reach many of those programs that you are
7 mentioning are high quality programs that scored
8 well they just didn't score well enough, so there
9 are possibilities there.

10 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Okay, I don't
11 mean to interrupt, but we have to move on this
12 hearing.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you
14 Commissioner.

15 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Council
16 Member Lew Fidler is going to close it down, we
17 are going to take a five-minute break and then we
18 are going to begin Sanitation. Council Member
19 Fidler would like to close it down.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER:
21 Commissioner, you've heard a lot of anger from a
22 lot of Council Members, but I think you've heard
23 also a great deal of affection and respect
24 directed your direction and it's well-deserved and
25 I'm not going to let Council Member Comrie be the

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2 only one to say you are his favorite commissioner,
3 because you are still my favorite commissioner.

4 And I know that every dollar that
5 we direct your way will be spent well. But we
6 can't let that be the headline of this hearing.
7 And the fact of the matter is, is that I can't
8 imagine that any one of us would envision a summer
9 where we are going to leave a hundred thousand
10 kids unemployed who are looking for jobs and then
11 on September 1st tell their parents that they
12 don't have an afterschool program in their school.

13 I can't imagine that your vision
14 for New York, I know it's not mine, I don't even
15 think it's Mike Bloomberg's vision for New York.
16 We've spent a great deal of time over the last 10
17 years or so building a lot of really good things.
18 We built an afterschool program that works, let's
19 not dismantle it.

20 When NYCHA disappeared from its
21 responsibilities in public housing, we build the
22 Cornerstone program, let's not whittle it away to
23 nothing.

24 We had a summer jobs program that
25 was being run ineptly by an agency that doesn't

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2 exist anymore, you built a beautiful, beautiful
3 Summer Jobs program; let's put our kids to work
4 again.

5 And last but not least, and I
6 promised you I was going to come back to this, you
7 knew I was going to. Responsible adults don't
8 leave children sleeping on subway gratings at
9 night; that is just not something that is
10 acceptable under any circumstances to me.

11 We are finally, finally, finally
12 getting some traction on the State level on
13 Runaway and Homeless Youth, they are finally
14 hearing some of the things that we are hearing
15 down here, understanding that children are
16 sleeping on the street at night on subway gratings
17 is unacceptable. I don't want to have to fight
18 for the same turf every year to make sure that we
19 have shelter beds for those that we could provide
20 for each time. I have to say this, I will say it
21 this year and I don't want to have to say it again
22 next year.

23 That money will be cut from this
24 budget over my big, fat, dead, bloody body. It's
25 just not going to happen. And I wish we would not

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2 have to do this every year so that we could talk
3 about how we could find new providers and new
4 shelter beds and new places for young people to
5 sleep so that they aren't being preyed on at
6 night, so that they aren't being sex trafficked,
7 that they aren't being taken advantage of, that
8 they don't have to sell their bodies, their soul
9 and their dignity for a place to sleep and
10 survive at night in the City of New York, can we
11 make that agreement and move forward for next
12 year? God I hope so, because I will be here to
13 make sure that that happens and I know you will be
14 too.

15 I want to thank the Committee
16 staff, Crystal Coston, to the entire Finance
17 staff, to all my colleagues for being here today,
18 for you, Commissioner and your staff, for your
19 work, we have a tremendous amount of work to do,
20 let's get it done.

21 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Okay, thank
22 you. Five-minute recess before we start
23 Sanitation.

24 Could everyone kindly find their
25 seats, we'd like to begin the Sanitation hearing.

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2 Okay, everyone kindly find their seats. I would
3 ask everyone to take your conversation, if you
4 need to speak, outside the Council chamber.
5 Please shut the doors.

6 Good afternoon and thank you, I am
7 sorry about this hearing starting so late. We had
8 it overrun with the Department of Youth Services.

9 We will now resume the City
10 Council's hearings on the mayor's executive budget
11 on the Fiscal year 2013.

12 The Finance Committee has now been
13 joined by the Committee on Sanitation chaired by
14 my colleague and Co-chair Council Member Tish
15 James. Before we hear from Commissioner Doherty
16 of Department of Sanitation, I will turn the
17 microphone over to my Co-chair Tish James to make
18 a statement.

19 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Good afternoon,
20 it's wonderful to see the residents for Sane Trash
21 Solutions in the audience. You can't clap but you
22 can go like that.

23 Okay, and my name is Letitia James,
24 Chair of the Committee on Sanitation and Solid
25 Waste Management, welcome to our Fiscal 2013

1
2 Executive Budget Hearing joint with the Committee
3 of Finance.

4 Before we begin I'd like to
5 acknowledge my colleagues who are joining us.
6 Council Member Maria Carmen del Arroyo, Council
7 Member Jessica Lappin, Council Member Leroy Comrie
8 and Robert Jackson all the way to the left having
9 his lunch.

10 Today we will hear testimony from
11 the Department of Sanitation about its expense and
12 capital executive budget actions in general agency
13 operations, the department's executive capital
14 commitment plan includes 1.3 billion in Fiscal
15 2012 to '26 including city and non-city funds.
16 This represents approximately 3% of the City's
17 total 39.5 billion preliminary plan for Fiscal
18 2012 to 2016. The agency's executive commitment
19 plan for Fiscal 2012 to 2016 is \$95 million more
20 than the 1.2 billion scheduled in the preliminary
21 commitment plan, an increase of 7.8%. We've been
22 joined by Gale Brewer.

23 The Department's Fiscal 2013
24 Executive Expense Budget is approximately 1.35
25 billion including city and non-city funds. This

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2 is 51.15 million more than its Fiscal 2012 adopted
3 budget of 1.3 billion, an increase of 3.9%.

4 However, the Fiscal 2013 Executive
5 Expense Budget is only 8.3 million more than the
6 Fiscal 2013 Preliminary Expense Budget of 1.34
7 billion, a change of approximately 1%.

8 The Committee looks forward to
9 hearing from the Department about several critical
10 issues including important issues to the Waste
11 Prevention Reuse and Recycling Budget, current
12 headcount numbers, the controversial plan to
13 beginning charging institutions such as
14 universities, religious institutions and not-for-
15 profits for Department of Sanitation New York
16 Waste Collection and a status of data on your
17 major capital projects. And so without any
18 further comment, Commissioner, you may begin.

19 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Good
20 afternoon Chairman Recchia and Chairman James and
21 members of the Finance and Solid Waste and
22 Sanitation Committee.

23 I am John Doherty, Commissioner of
24 the New York City Department of Sanitation. With
25 me to my left is Larry Cipollina, Deputy

1
2 Commissioner for Finance and Administration. And
3 today I'd like to introduce the Deputy
4 Commissioner Ron Gonen, the Deputy Commissioner
5 for Recycling and Sustainability. He's is a new
6 member of the Department and we welcome him on
7 board and this is going to be his first hearing.
8 So I hope everybody is going to be very pleasant
9 with the new Deputy Commissioner, thank you very
10 much.

11 We appreciate the opportunity to
12 testify on the department's Expense and Capital
13 Budget portions of Mayor's Fiscal Year 2013
14 Executive Budget.

15 The Fiscal 2013 Executive Budget
16 allocates 1.35 billion in operating funds that
17 allows the department to deliver core essential
18 services to all 59 community districts without any
19 service changes including maintaining current
20 collection schedules for refuse and recycling
21 pickups in every community and providing
22 mechanical broom cleaning and curb side cleaning,
23 managing approximately 11,000 tons of department
24 managed solid waste collected by the department
25 daily for out-of-the-city disposal.

1
2 Managing over 10,000 tons of
3 recyclable material each week. Ploughing and
4 salting New York City roadways during snow and ice
5 storms, cleaning up debris from undeveloped vacant
6 lots and removing abandoned vehicles from the
7 City's roadways.

8 This is something new to the
9 department, some of you may have heard of, we are
10 also now the center of excellence to the repair of
11 New York City's fleet for off-road, heavy duty and
12 medium duty vehicles, and we began the process of
13 consolidating repairs of these agencies, some of
14 these city agencies that have these vehicles
15 within the department's facilities.

16 Our environment is the single
17 greatest asset that we all share. By sharing in
18 the responsibility for sustainable development, in
19 Fiscal 2013, the department will put forward
20 aggressive and an ambitious agenda consistent with
21 our commitment to increase recycling in New York
22 City.

23 We will continue to add new public
24 space recycling sites to all five boroughs and
25 expand the number of buildings and public spaces

1
2 for voluntary participation in citywide textile
3 and clothing drop-off recycling programs we
4 launched last June with Housing Works.

5 Last weekend we concluded the last
6 of five household hazardous drop-off events in
7 each of the boroughs and we will resume this next
8 year, and in this spring—or next spring rather,
9 we'll start the Yard Waste Program throughout the
10 city, which we had one time before, we are
11 bringing back.

12 We also are continuing to provide
13 outreach and assistance to apartment building
14 managers and superintendents to help them achieve
15 greater diversion of recyclables generated in
16 their buildings. While we are making great
17 progress, we still have lots to do and we'll
18 continue to challenge ourselves to quicken the
19 pace of our progress to promote increased
20 recycling diversion and participation rates in New
21 York City.

22 As part of Mayor Bloomberg's
23 ambitious and comprehensive sustainability
24 strategy under Plan NYC to double the amount of
25 department-collected waste to 30% diverted from

1
2 landfills by 2017, we will advance a variety of
3 initiatives in 2013 to make the City and its
4 residents greener.

5 We plan to open at least one more
6 compost site as we prepare to resume leaf and yard
7 waste collections, and expand our current
8 recycling program by designating additional
9 plastic recyclables.

10 We'll also be expanding stop and
11 swap and community level food scrap collection
12 programs currently operating by NYC Grow. We will
13 also seek statutory changes to enhance the
14 existing city statute to discourage the unlawful
15 scavenging of refrigerators, air conditioners and
16 other recyclables placed out by residents at the
17 curb for department pickup, and to create or
18 expand extended producer responsibility program.

19 In the area of clean energy and
20 technology, the department not only meets and
21 exceeds all current environmental requirements and
22 regulations for the agency's equipment and fleet,
23 but it is poised for the future as well. 100% of
24 the agency's fleet currently utilizes state-of-the
25 art advanced technology engines including

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2 electronically-controlled clean diesel, hybrid
3 propulsion, CNG and pure electric.

4 Consistent with the department's
5 pioneering efforts, we'll continue to do our part
6 to transform New York into a leader of the 21st
7 Century Green Energy Innovation by proactive
8 advancing the environmental profile of our
9 agency's equipment and fleet and achieving the
10 Clean Air Energy goals of Plan NYC.

11 We also look forward to working
12 with the Committee and Council to support the
13 programmatic and legislative efforts to promote
14 sustainability growth and a greener community
15 across New York City we proudly serve.

16 Turning now to our capital budget,
17 the Department's capital portion of the 2013
18 Executive Budget is approximately 708 million, an
19 increase of 486.4 million from last year.

20 The income as a result of funding
21 is allocated for construction of marine transfer
22 stations that are critical component of the City's
23 approved comprehensive solid waste management
24 plan.

25 Of the total 603 million allocated

1
2 to our construction, 105 million is allocated for
3 equipment and technology and aging vehicle
4 replacement.

5 Due to fiscal constraints, no new
6 construction is planned for future garages at this
7 time. Funding for the large scale projects for
8 the Department in Fiscal '23 includes completing
9 construction of the North Shore Marine Transfer
10 Station and the Hamilton Avenue Marine Transfer
11 Station, complete construction and pier
12 rehabilitation work for the new Brooklyn Marine
13 recovery facilities at the South Brooklyn Marine
14 Terminal. Commence construction of the East 91st
15 Street MTS and South West Brooklyn MTSes. Ongoing
16 construction of the Manhattan Garage 1, 2 and 5,
17 design and commencing and refurbishment of the
18 West 59th Street Marine Transfer Station and
19 purchasing collection trucks, mechanical brooms
20 and spreader and another essential equipment.

21 As the long-term export component
22 of solid waste management plan continues to be
23 implemented, the 2013 budget allocates 309 million
24 in export tipping fees for the department to cover
25 the cost of our current interim and long-term

1
2 export operations.

3 Construction of both the Hamilton
4 Avenue MTS in Brooklyn and the North Shore MTS in
5 Queens is nearing completion and the facilities
6 are expected to open in the first half of Fiscal
7 2014.

8 In January 2012, the Department of
9 Design and Construction issued a comprehensive bid
10 solicitation for the construction of the East 91st
11 Street Marine Transfer Station in Manhattan and
12 responses are due next month. Construction is
13 expected to begin at the end of this summer
14 pending the issuance of a permit by the Army Corps
15 of Engineers.

16 The Department of Design and
17 Construction will also be able to begin the
18 procurement process for construction of the South
19 West Brooklyn Marine Transfer Station at the New
20 York State DEC permit to construct is issued—which
21 should happen sometime this month, the end of this
22 month or next month.

23 We are finalizing negotiations with
24 vendors for the transport disposal contracts for
25 waste from the MTSes and anticipate the awards

1
2 will be made in early Fiscal 2013.

3 A design contract that includes
4 preparation and demolition plans of the existing
5 facilities on the site of the new Gansevoort
6 Street Marine Transfer Station and environmental
7 center is expected to be awarded by the end of
8 Fiscal 2012.

9 The new facility will transfer all
10 Manhattan's residential paper, metal, gas and
11 plastic recycles. As I reported to you back in
12 March, the City continues to aggressively lobby
13 the State to finalize their memorandum of
14 understanding and provide its \$25 million share of
15 the Hudson River Park funding.

16 The opening of the new Gansevoort
17 Street Marine Transfer Station and Environmental
18 Center will be able to enable the 59th Street
19 Marine Transfer Station which currently handles
20 Manhattan paper recyclables to be used for the
21 transfer of commercial waste generated in
22 Manhattan.

23 In conclusion and closing I would
24 like to thank you for the opportunity to testify
25 today and the Department's programs and operations

1
2 that benefit all New Yorkers and our proposed
3 initiatives to advance the administration's
4 commitment to further greening of New York.

5 I know that the Council has always
6 recognized the importance and the vital role the
7 Department plays in keeping communities across the
8 city clean, health and safe. With your assistance
9 and support we will continue to maintain and
10 improve the quality of life for all and advanced
11 New York City's global sustainability leader for
12 years to come.

13 The staff and I are ready to answer
14 any questions you may have. Thank you very much.

15 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Thank you
16 Commissioner. And we have—many of my colleagues
17 have questions, I'm just going to ask one or two
18 questions then turn it over to Council Member
19 James, been joined by Council Member Reyna.

20 In your testimony you said there's
21 no new money for new garages to be built?

22 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Correct.

23 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Okay. In
24 Staten Island, district 1, community board 1,
25 they've been promised now a new garage the last 10

1
2 years. It's already—the property is there. Why
3 aren't you building that garage?

4 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY:

5 Unfortunately we don't have any funding in the
6 capital budget and that's been the problem with
7 garage construction for the last couple of years,
8 because you've got to realize the capital money
9 for construction gets put in years ahead of time.

10 It is a project that is on the top
11 of our list along with other garages that need to
12 be built around the city and I think that the
13 Council Member from Staten Island probably should
14 be working with the elected officials and working
15 with the Department on a site for that in
16 preparation for ULURP should the money become
17 available at some point.

18 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: I believe
19 they have the site, I believe they are ready.
20 It's been now 10 years that they have been trying
21 to get this. How long does it take to get into
22 the plan?

23 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: If I had the
24 answer to that or have a crystal ball, I'd stop
25 playing at numbers. Now I don't know—

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2 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Well, you
3 know, Commissioner, this is a problem.

4 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: I agree.

5 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: This is a
6 serious problem. If you can't tell us when it's
7 going to get into the plan, okay, but other
8 projects that people in the city are against,
9 okay, that just came up a few years ago found
10 their way into the plan, okay.

11 A garage where people live
12 surrounded by communities can't get into a plan
13 but yet waste transfer stations could be funded at
14 the snap of the finger, okay? I don't understand
15 why this can't be built and why this is taking so
16 long and you can't even tell me when it's going to
17 get into the plan.

18 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY:

19 Unfortunately I don't know that, that's an issue
20 for future budgets. It's not in the capital plan
21 for the next four years, that's all I can say
22 right now as far as the capital budget for the
23 department goes.

24 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: So how do we
25 get it into the plan? That's my question.

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2 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: I think we
3 all have to work together on the budget, whether
4 it's capital or expense money to provide the City
5 with the best services and facilities that are
6 suited for the community and suited for the men
7 and women that have to work in them.

8 We've done a lot in that area with
9 garages around the city, unfortunately, we haven't
10 been able to provide additional garages, for the
11 one you are speaking about, Councilwoman James is
12 interested in a garage, I have a garage up in
13 Manhattan—

14 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: I'm not even
15 talking about the garage in Coney Island where we
16 already did the ULURP and the land is just sitting
17 there.

18 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: That's on
19 the list too. It's very difficult but we have
20 come a long way in new garages and we've got a
21 long way to go yet.

22 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: This is a
23 problem to many of my colleagues, and you know,
24 and to the South West Marine Transfer Station,
25 isn't it a fact that the permits were just issued

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2 yesterday?

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COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: I don't

believe the permit was issued, I understand there

was a letter that the permit would come out, we

don't have the permit itself but there was

something there from DEC, I did not read it myself

but my understanding it's not the permit per se,

but it's supposed to come out very shortly.

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: It's what?

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: It's

supposed to come out very shortly.

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Very shortly.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: My colleagues

have lots of questions about the transfer

stations, about the funding of these transfer

stations. The actual cost on the Fort Hamilton

Transfer Station that's being built right now, how

much was it originally forecasted for?

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Like many

construction, and Larry will look it for me, like

many construction projects from when you think you

are going to get a price until you actually build

it and get a bid in from the contractors, there

1
2 are often changes. And this transfer station and
3 other transfer stations have exceeded what was
4 anticipated in the construction costs since then,
5 but it has exceeded—

6 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: But how much
7 did it exceed it? That's the question.

8 [off mic]

9 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY:
10 Approximately 110 million I am told.

11 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: So we're
12 above construction for 110 million, okay. And who
13 was the construction manager on that project in
14 Fort Hamilton?

15 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: The
16 construction manager is Liro [phonetic], Liro is
17 the construction manager.

18 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Who?

19 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Liro, a
20 company named Liro.

21 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Liro, okay.

22 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: You said Lira?

23 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Liro, L-I-R-
24 O.

25 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Okay, and

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2 that is over-project \$110 million, okay. And when
3 we first passed—at 91st Street, what is the—
4 because when we passed it, all right, many of
5 these transfer stations were forecasted at \$50
6 million, that's the average cost, okay? And now
7 this is 110 million over, okay? And construction
8 from when we passed the SWAP till today has really
9 gone down, not up, the cost. So how much is the
10 South West incinerator going to cost?

11 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: The South
12 West is going to cost us around 200 million.

13 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: And what was
14 the original project cost?

15 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: I think it
16 was in a hundred million range.

17 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: And the 91st
18 Street Transfer Station, how much is the projected
19 cost.

20 [off mic]

21 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: 220 million.

22 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: 220 million.

23 You know, all these numbers are way above what we
24 were told when we first passed this, and that's
25 big concern. Now let me ask you this question, is

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2 the transfer station in 91st Street going to take
3 100% of Manhattan's garbage?

4 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: The transfer
5 station in 91st Street will take approximately 25%
6 of the total waste in Manhattan, the remaining 75%
7 will go to a waste to energy facility in New
8 Jersey in Essex.

9 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Okay. And we
10 are going to have to pay for that, is that
11 correct?

12 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Yes sir.

13 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: And how much
14 is that going to cost?

15 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: We don't
16 have that price in, we are currently negotiating
17 the service contract with the proposers right now,
18 we have not ended up with a figure right now.

19 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: That's of
20 great concern to me because you are asking us to
21 spend all this money, 220 million, on a project
22 that we're going to have to—only going to handle
23 25% of the garbage, yet we are going to ship out
24 75% of the garbage but we don't know how much the
25 75% of the garbage is going to cost, though from

1
2 as being Chairman of the Finance Committee, I
3 don't know if this is worthwhile to build because
4 I need to figure out the numbers and we need those
5 numbers.

6 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: The number
7 for the 75% that will be exported to the Covanta
8 or Essex waste to energy facility will start off--
9 they'll enter a contract with us later this year,
10 shortly actually, I think it may be in June for
11 starting numbers about \$67 a ton.

12 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: That's \$67 a
13 ton, and how many tons are going to be shipped
14 out, the 75%?

15 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: We do about
16 right now just on the curb side collection, about
17 7,200 tons a week--no, a day in Manhattan.

18 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Okay. This
19 is a very serious issue that we have come across.
20 Now I'm going to ask one more question because
21 then my colleagues have lots of questions, okay?
22 Does this include commercial trash?

23 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: No, but the
24 plan does provide for commercial trash.

25 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: And what's

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going to happen to the commercial trash?

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: When the transfer stations are built we hope to improve the quality of life in the city and the greening of it by getting the local commercial operators to deliver a number of tons to the marine transfer stations around the city.

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: That doesn't— now you totally lost me. The commercial trash, what's going to happened to the commercial trash? Is it going to go to the 91st Street, is it going to go to South West, is it going to go to other transfer stations or you're going to ship it out by some other means?

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: It will be up to the commercial collectors of trash to decide whether they will use the City's transfer stations for the export of waste. Each of the transfer stations has an allotted amount of commercial waste that they could potentially accept.

I think in the short-term the commercial truckers and haulers will opt to play the spot market, I think you've got to remember that is a 20-year plan, I think in the long-term

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2 we'll start to see closing landfills, being closed
3 down through New Jersey, through Pennsylvania, and
4 that is going to mean long-term truck hauling and
5 additional costs, and I think private haulers are
6 going to reconsider whether they should pay for
7 that extra cost or should use the facilities that
8 will be available to them in New York City.

9 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Okay, I'll
10 come back, I have lots more questions. Council
11 Member Tish James.

12 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Good afternoon
13 Commissioner. Commissioner, you did not get an
14 opportunity to introduce your new addition to your
15 staff.

16 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: I believe I
17 did when I started my comments.

18 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Okay, very
19 good. You want to do it again?

20 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Sure. Well
21 Chair. Ron Gonen, the Deputy Commissioner of
22 Recycling and Sustainability.

23 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Excellent. So
24 since Council Member Domenic Recchia talked about
25 the capital budget, let me stay with the capital

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budget.

My colleague in Staten Island does not have a garage, her name is Council Member Debi Rose. She has communicated with me the need for a sanitation garage in her district, and I too do not have a sanitation garage in my district, the portion of my district that represents Community Board 3.

Community Board 3 for a very long time has been without a sanitation garage and in fact during the mayor's reelection, the sanitation was in the budget and then mysteriously overnight disappeared. I seriously question the motives as to how that garage that was once funded in the budget disappeared overnight and what was the basis for that removal?

Community Board 3, as you know, represents parts of Bedford Stuyvesant and Brownsville, they are represented in whole or for the most part Council Member Al Vann, but I have a few blocks.

During the snowstorm, as you know, Bedford Stuyvesant, their streets were ploughed last, as you know, many have complained about the

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2 conditions in Bedford Stuyvesant, it's partly as a
3 result of the individuals in that great community
4 not having a sanitation garage.

5 The Community Board has voted
6 overwhelmingly at least four or five times for a
7 sanitation garage, there is a location for a
8 sanitation garage, there was a siting plan for a
9 sanitation garage, there was a ULURP for a
10 sanitation garage, in fact some representatives
11 from your agency come to the Community Board and
12 did a design charrette with the residents, and it
13 was wonderful, and everyone was anticipating a
14 sanitation garage. And then it disappeared.

15 So my question to you is you said
16 that sanitation garages will not be funded in the
17 budget for the next four years, is that what you
18 indicated?

19 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: The capital
20 budget that we have at this time for the next four
21 years does not provide any new funding for capital
22 construction of garages.

23 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: So let me just
24 say I will continue to express my disappointment
25 with this administration and the fact that they

1
2 continue to ignore the residents of Council Member
3 Rose's district and my district in Community Board
4 3.

5 They need a sanitation garage, I
6 suspect by the time we ever get around to building
7 it there will be residents from that neighborhood
8 who will oppose it because the neighborhood is
9 being—more and more individuals are submitting
10 applications to BSA to get spot zoning which I
11 have opposed, but nonetheless, they tend to get
12 support, and it's now becoming more and more
13 residential and less industrial, and so by the
14 time the funding is placed in the budget I am
15 confident that there will be opposition, again,
16 and we will go through this round again and
17 through the courts again, and it's really very,
18 very, very, very frustrating and disappointing
19 that this administration would not address the
20 needs of the residents of Bedford Stuyvesant.

21 That being said, what is the status
22 of the waste to energy pilot the Department was
23 soliciting proposals for minus Staten Island?

24 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: We expect to
25 receive proposals in August and it will not be—it

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2 will not cover mass burn or will not cover RDF or
3 refuge devised [phonetic]. We'll see what they
4 commend, as gasification they may come in with,
5 there's a paralysis system they may come in with,
6 and they may come in with anaerobic digestion, we
7 don't know, but we know it will not provide for
8 mass burn, it will not provide for RDF and it will
9 not be built on Staten Island.

10 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: And is it true
11 that the RFP contemplates the sites within 80
12 miles of New York City?

13 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Yes, it
14 does.

15 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: And what is the
16 status of the MOU to site an MTS for recyclables
17 off the Gansevoort Peninsula?

18 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: The MOU, the
19 Legislative Office is working with the State on
20 that MOU, and it's active right now but no
21 decision has been made by the State yet to sign
22 off.

23 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Could you also
24 update me, as you know, I did a press conference
25 with Assembly Member Dov Hikind some time ago with

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2 regards to some issues in his district, there were
3 some complaints that some sanitation employees
4 were being overzealous. I believe Assembly Member
5 Dov Hikind indicated and put forth legislation in
6 Albany for some technologies, the use of cameras
7 with tickets. What's the status of that
8 legislation and/or negotiations with the Assembly
9 Member?

10 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: I don't know
11 what the status is of the negotiations but we are
12 opposed to it.

13 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: It's my
14 understanding that there was a meeting in the
15 Assembly Member's office, do you know the outcome?

16 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: There were
17 some meetings, I don't know if there were any
18 outcomes. I think there were discussions, the
19 Department presented its case as to why we feel
20 it's financially very expensive to do and
21 operationally almost impossible to do without new
22 technologies.

23 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: You say it's
24 operationally impossible, Mike [phonetic], I got a
25 call from a constituent yesterday who received a

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2 copy of a picture of his car, his plate. He
3 allegedly ran a red light, and so it's possible to
4 take a picture of someone's car plate—their
5 license plate but yet you say that you can't take
6 a picture of someone's—the nature of violation as
7 it relates to trash on one site, Walker Street?

8 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Well,
9 there's are a couple of issues there. One, the
10 summonses that the Sanitation Enforcement Agency
11 issue are computerized, they use handheld
12 computers. We don't have a system yet that could
13 take a picture, enter it into the documentation
14 that goes with that, plus there are certain
15 questions, if you see a picture of a dirty yard,
16 are we going to say that's my dirty yard or it's
17 neighbor's dirty yard? What has to be in that
18 picture? Do we have to show the number of the
19 house? How large an area do we have to take for a
20 picture?

21 So there's operational issues and
22 it's also administrative issues as we handle it.
23 But the most part is trying to build a whole new
24 system and come up with new tools to do that and
25 it would be very expensive.

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2 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: I am sure that
3 Council Member—moving on to another subject,
4 Council Member Lappin and Council Member Arroyo
5 will focus on the issue of SWAP and Council Member
6 Reyna, but let me just ask you one or two
7 questions related to the 91st Street MTS and a
8 recent study that was commissioned by Council
9 Member Lappin from IBO [phonetic], have you had an
10 opportunity to review that report?

11 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: I have.

12 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: And what is
13 your response to that report?

14 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: It shows
15 that it's expensive.

16 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: So given the
17 fact that it's expensive, do you anticipate any
18 concerns relative to the amount of money that will
19 be spent on the 91st Street MTS?

20 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: No, I don't.
21 When you look at the marine transfer stations
22 which are part of the solid waste management plan
23 that was approved by this Council, they're all
24 expensive. Was one more expensive than the other?
25 Yes, it was something that was decided in this

1
2 city to dispose of our waste in environmentally
3 sound manner and reduce truck traffic around the
4 city and through local communities outside the
5 city.

6 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Do you intend
7 to submit to this City, to the Council a
8 modification to the SWAP related to remove the
9 91st Street MTS from the plan?

10 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: No.

11 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Is it your
12 position that the City Council has to revisit the
13 SWAP plant at any point in time in the future?

14 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: No.

15 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Do you believe
16 is it possible to remove 91st Street and allow the
17 rest of the MTSes to go forward?

18 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: No.

19 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: And the basis
20 for that is, is that it's all in one or it cannot
21 be singled out?

22 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: You'd have
23 to make a huge modification in the plant, you'd
24 have to change the whole plant, you'd have to go
25 through a whole series of reviews.

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2 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: And could you
3 reiterate the principles of the 2006 SWAP for the
4 record?

5 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: It was
6 basically to have a fair and equity distribution
7 of the waste disposal that the Department of
8 Sanitation collects in this city to reduce truck
9 traffic within the city and outside the city and
10 to provide for the long-term planning and reduce
11 expenses in the long-term for disposal of the
12 three cities through a containerized operation
13 that could be easily be shipped by rail or by
14 barge or both, if necessary.

15 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: And in 2006 was
16 that park being constructed at 91st Street?

17 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: The park?

18 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Yes.

19 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: I don't
20 know.

21 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: So did you have
22 any concerns or concerns with respect to the fact
23 that the trucks would go through the park with
24 children?

25 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: No, we have

1
2 very environmentally-friendly trucks as I stated
3 in my statement. The fleet in the Department far
4 exceeds the standards of trucks, and in fact, many
5 vehicles that are on the road today. I think it's
6 an environmentally sound fleet and I don't see any
7 problems.

8 We went through a number of
9 environmental studies on this and we recently
10 updated it to—since the original one was done in
11 2005. And we wanted to see if because of some
12 changes such as PM 2.5 and other changes that we
13 still would meet the environmental standards and
14 we found that we did.

15 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: And what
16 community districts do the truck routes travel
17 through currently that would be reduced? What
18 community districts?

19 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: They would
20 go through Manhattan 2, 4—

21 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: What districts
22 do they represent, do you know?

23 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Communities
24 2—districts 2 or Community Board 2.

25 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: And what

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communities do they represent.

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COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Lower

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Manhattan, Westside Manhattan, because they are

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travelling from the Upper East Side depending on

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the roads they take, they have to travel west

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through Manhattan or round the lower end of

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Manhattan, and in some cases trucks go up through

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the Bronx, through the lower part of the Bronx on

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Deacon [phonetic], they get on to the highways,

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they all cross the George Washington Bridge. So a

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number of communities they have to travel through

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and that will all be reduced, eliminated.

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CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Thank you. Now

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moving on to another issue, the snow budget of

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\$12.8 million, the total amount spent was \$30.3

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million despite the fact that we had a relatively

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mild winter. How does that account for—why the

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increase in spending?

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COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Well, you

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have certain expenses upfront that you are going

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to pay for in any case. One was the ordering of

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salt, we ordered salt, fortunately I guess, we had

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a quiet winter, we didn't use that salt, so we

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won't be buying as much salt, I don't think, next

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2 in this coming winter, the 2013, so that's a good
3 thing.

4 We also had to pay for the
5 companies that we hired for the clearing of the
6 tertiary streets in the city, it was prorated for
7 this past winter, I think that cost us \$475,000.
8 It wasn't that expensive, we never used them
9 though, thank goodness.

10 We also had money that's required
11 for the repair of our vehicles and maintenance of
12 the snow equipment such as the spreaders and stuff
13 like that, replacements parts, the mechanics to
14 work on some trucks. So it's a number of issues
15 that went in to it and various supplies we had to
16 buy besides the salt and the Calcium Chloride that
17 we also use.

18 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: I want to thank
19 you for increasing the budget of the waste
20 prevention reuse and recycling budget. It was a
21 criticism that I made in the preliminary and I
22 thank you for increasing it by \$8.8 million. And
23 so I guess the Deputy Commissioner for
24 Sustainability will be responsible for that budget
25 line, and so what do you plan on doing with that

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office and your account for the increase.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GONEN: Okay.

So I'm going to list out seven priorities that I've seen as important to focus on. There is going to be other things that we focus on, but these are just seven priorities that I'm going to list out now.

So first is additional containers on the street. Currently there's 25,000 waste containers on New York City Street corners, there's only 700 recycling containers on New York Street corners. So we can do an amazing job communicating the importance of recycling, but if the infrastructure doesn't exist then they're not going to be able to do it, so more containers on the street.

Number two is focusing on organics. Organics makes up anywhere between 20 to 30% of our waste stream, it's a resource that can be used to generate electricity or as compost and today we send it to landfills, so organics is going to be a major focus.

Schools is going to be a major focus, there's a number of opportunities there.

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2 One is they generate a tremendous amount of waste
3 so you can divert that waste. But number two is
4 if you are able to educate the students and the
5 teachers and the staff there how to recycle
6 properly at school, they then go home and recycle
7 properly in their home and we collect from their
8 homes also.

9 Another area we're going to focus
10 on is low income neighborhoods. If you look at
11 the recycling rate map in New York City, you'll
12 see that the recycling rate in low income
13 neighborhoods is very low. And there's two
14 opportunities there.

15 One is there's a lot of waste that
16 can be diverted that's going to go to the
17 landfill, number one. Number two is there's, in
18 my opinion, an economic environmental justice
19 issue which is the world is getting more focused
20 on sustainability in the environment and they need
21 to be given the opportunity to participate.

22 Next is communication.

23 Communication around recycling has traditionally
24 been focused around the environment which is
25 important to continue to do, but we also need to

1
2 include messaging and communication to New Yorkers
3 that recycling helps the City save money. And New
4 Yorkers need to understand that when they recycle
5 they are helping the City save money, if their
6 neighbor recycles, they are also helping the City
7 save money, and if their neighbor doesn't recycle
8 it's costing them money because we all
9 collectively share that burden.

10 Materials, is something we are
11 going to focus on and a good piece of news that I
12 have to deliver that was done actually before I
13 came in, is sometime in 2013 we'll begin to accept
14 plastics 3 through 7, so we'll be able to take
15 additional materials.

16 And the last thing that I'll touch
17 on is extended procedure responsibility which is
18 something the Commissioner put in his comments,
19 which is a focus on ensuring that manufacturers
20 help us cover the cost of recycling the products
21 that they are putting into the system, and New
22 York State already has a number of EPR laws but we
23 are going to look to work with manufacturers to
24 help us fund our programs, and I'll stop there.

25 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: With regards to

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number seven, are you looking at packaging?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GONEN: We are going to be looking at packaging and we are also going to be looking at the products themselves. So we already have laws on the books around carpets and paints and beverage containers and I think that we can work with manufacturers and producers of material to help us fund diverting that material.

CHAIRPERSON JAMES: In regards to number two, particularly with composting, I had a hearing recently and an initiative that we wanted to look at an explorer was providing resources to some of the gardens who engage in composting. Is that something you might be interested in?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GONEN: It's something that we are definitely interested in. I think there's a number of ways to approach the opportunity to divert organics. What I'd like to ask is we've already gotten started putting together a plan on how to approach organics in the City, if we could have some time to put that plan together and present a comprehensive plan, I think you'll be pleased with what you see, but I don't

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have specifics right now.

CHAIRPERSON JAMES: I look forward to working with you. I specifically want to provide some resources to the [pause] particularly those who engage with composting.

With regards to schools, I was thinking about doing a recycling champion program myself, a pilot program in my district. But I understand you have your own recycling champion program where your schools compete for money, for dollars, who obviously do the best, who score high in their efforts to recycle. Can that program be— is that program going to be expanded, and if so, where? And is it in Brooklyn?

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GONEN: So that program is being administered by GrowNYC, which is funded by the Department of Sanitation. That money has not been allocated yet, and so if you have schools that you think are deserving, perhaps we can talk about that offline and see how we can get them included in that program.

CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Thank you. And with regards to where the containers will be located, who will make that determination?

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2 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GONEN: That
3 determination and planning has not gotten started
4 yet, one of the things that I was able to
5 recognize very early on was that's an absolute
6 need that we need to address, and we're putting a
7 plan together on how to fund that and where to
8 place them and I'll be able to provide additional
9 information in the coming weeks.

10 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: In regards to
11 low income communities, are you specifically
12 looking at NYCHA facilities, NYCHA property?
13 Their footprint?

14 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GONEN: Yes,
15 and the next step is for me to have a meeting with
16 NYCHA to discuss some of the initiatives that
17 they're currently working on, as well as what are
18 some of the opportunities, as well as what are
19 some of the limitations? Because there are some
20 limitations and some obstacles and seeing how we
21 can overcome some of those obstacles.

22 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Thank you
23 Deputy Commissioner and welcome aboard.

24 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GONEN: Thank
25 you.

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2 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Turning to the
3 institutional fee, there is great opposition in
4 the City Council with regards to this fee that you
5 would—that you are proposing to apply to religious
6 organizations and not-for-profits in the City of
7 New York.

8 As you know, I have a—I support
9 some aspect of it and believe that major
10 institutions should pay a fee, or institutions
11 that are in a position to afford this fee, such as
12 NYU and Columbia, they should be paying a fee to
13 collect their sanitation. I don't know why the
14 service is offered to them free, particularly
15 during these challenging times. But there is
16 great opposition to applying it to small not-for-
17 profits and religious organizations in the City of
18 New York.

19 And so what is the status of the
20 survey?

21 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GONEN: We've
22 completed the survey of the institutions. That
23 was the first step in terms of deciding how we
24 should move forward in terms of the institutional
25 fee program. So that has been completed. And

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2 right now we're in the process of determining
3 what's the best way to structure the program, and
4 to your point, who should be involved in the
5 program in terms of paying the fee.

6 But it is going to be an important
7 part of our initiative because as you mentioned,
8 there are some institutions that are currently
9 getting collection for free that probably it's not
10 necessary that we do. But this is also an
11 opportunity for us to create an incentive for
12 people to recycle. And I think it could be very
13 effective.

14 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: You are already
15 anticipating the revenue from this program, \$17.2
16 million, notwithstanding that it requires some
17 legislation. How do you explain that?

18 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: That was a
19 number, I think, was put into the budget early on,
20 we thought by this point we might have something
21 available to discuss on this program, but
22 unfortunately, it fell behind. So we'll have to
23 see what that revenue number—whether it lasts or
24 not in the budget. That's look, that's not—it's
25 an empty [phonetic] situation. It happens to be

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2 in the budget and the revenue, no question about
3 it, what's going to actually happen as the program
4 is developed and people are brought on board and
5 buy into it, that will determine if there is a
6 revenue or if there's not a revenue.

7 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: And last
8 question, Commissioner, before I turn it over to
9 Council Member Lappin, how are we doing with
10 hiring more women?

11 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: As far as
12 the uniform personnel are concerned, we have about
13 200 odd women in Department now, and the women
14 that come on board in the uniform side of the
15 Department, basically come through the civil
16 service test system. When we had our last test,
17 we did a lot of outreach to minorities and women,
18 and we got quite a few of them to take this test
19 and actually be hired by the Department.

20 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Thank you. I
21 apologize, I said Council Member Lappin, I meant
22 Council Member Leroy Comrie, and I just want to
23 recognize in the audience also OUTRAGE, and it's
24 Environmental Justice Alliance and Mr. Eddie
25 Bautista. Council Member Leroy Comrie.

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Thank you.
Good afternoon Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Good
afternoon.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: I was going
to say—the day I’m confused with Jessica Lappin,
would be a special day.

But I’m concerned about the ability
of keeping our streets clean and the maintenance
of the streets. Can you give us an update on what
your plans can—are to maintain the collection for
the—collection for commercial baskets along our
commercial streets? I notice that there seems to
be a decrease in availability of sanitation
baskets along our commercial corridors in Queens.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: We will put
baskets out wherever they are needed. If you have
a location that you feel should have a litter
basket on it, you should let us know.

I will in fact tell you that in
some areas, we found that the litter baskets are
so badly used by people putting their residential
waste in them, we found it better to remove the
basket from the corner, which we found in most

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2 cases that people will not drop their residential
3 garbage there without a litter basket there, and
4 we felt that was better than having a litter
5 basket there with residential garbage in it, and
6 then the litter that people would want to dispose
7 of overflowing in that basket. But we will put
8 baskets out.

9 Basket service has been tough,
10 we've seen some cuts in the budget over the years,
11 we are maintaining a pretty good schedule now.
12 Would I like it to be better? Absolutely. We
13 have a program through 311, when people come in
14 and complain about overflowing baskets, we monitor
15 that closely and try and figure out what we can do
16 where we have a consistent problem with
17 overflowing baskets.

18 Sometimes, as I said, it's maybe
19 taking a basket or renting a basket, sometimes we
20 add a second basket. We're also starting to look
21 now, and it was a point that was brought up before
22 about the use of—as we get more containers,
23 recycling bins, we're looking at—and I have one
24 location in Manhattan and one location in the
25 Bronx that are on residential routes, not on main

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2 street but in places where the litter basket's
3 overflowing. We're trying to see if some of that
4 waste, the paper waste that go in the paper bin,
5 and maybe some of the metal, glass and plastic
6 that people might be carrying can go in the blue
7 bin. And hopefully that may address it.

8 But that's early in the program
9 yet, we're looking at that, and as Commissioner
10 Gonen said, as we get new baskets, we're going to
11 do a bigger-recycling bins to get them out in the
12 street, and get them into every community.
13 Because I think, as he will point out at any time
14 he talks to you, that's a great education tool for
15 people. When they're going down the block, they
16 see it on the corner, hey, recycle. It's probably
17 our best outreach as far as visual effect that
18 people want to pay attention on. When they got
19 something in hand, they want to get rid of it, if
20 they see a litter basket, a blue basket, a green
21 basket, what have I got in my hand? Where does it
22 go? We're going to see if that works too.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Okay. And
24 with that, is there going to be an increase in the
25 program to inform the local businesses along the

1 commercial streets about their cleaning times?

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3 Has there been an update in that program to inform
4 the businesses so that they cannot get tickets, or
5 so that they can be aware of what those times are?
6 And has that program been improved and expanded?

7 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Well it
8 hasn't really been expanded, we continue to work
9 with business groups around the City, Mariah
10 Tramini [phonetic] is always available with her
11 staff, if we find out—if we receive a letter or we
12 receive a phone call that additional information
13 is needed, or we hear from our enforcement
14 division that they're getting complaints from
15 businesses that they didn't know what the routing
16 time is, we always will go out, we will give them
17 a new bit of literature that explains what the
18 program is about, and when they should clean their
19 sidewalk, and when they should clean their gutter.
20 But we continue to work on that and any time they
21 have a problem, please call Mariah, she'll help
22 you out right away.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: She's
24 always been helpful and she's a great addition to
25 your team and I don't have any problem with the

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2 outreach and response from her office. I just
3 know that as there are new businesses and a lot of
4 new people that are doing business that she may
5 need to expand her team with your help, so that
6 they can do that outreach.

7 Again, I'm getting a lot of
8 businesses that are not familiar what their roles
9 and responsibilities are. They need to be
10 reminded of it independently. They don't know who
11 to call, they call us. So they—or worse yet, they
12 don't call anybody until they get a ticket then
13 they encounter you in the street and they're
14 complaining, which is more often the case.

15 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: We'll
16 continue to work on that. Thank you for bringing
17 it out Sir.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Thank you.
19 And then I just finally want to say, as one of the
20 people that helped put together the SWAP package,
21 I want to see it stay intact. I don't understand
22 what all of these fake studies and new ideas and
23 other realizations are, but I'm for borough equity
24 and to make sure that we have a SWAP that
25 addresses all five boroughs where we can have an

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2 opportunity to mitigate truck traffic and affected
3 areas is important to me. So I would hope that we
4 could get SWAP done.

5 And can you tell me what are the—
6 has all of the State permits and Federal permits
7 been given for all the MTSes in place? And if
8 not, what can be done to help expedite that?

9 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: On the
10 Hamilton Avenue and North Shore and Queens, all
11 the permitting is taken care of. 91st Street we
12 are waiting for the Corps of Engineers permit, for
13 South West Marine Transfer Station we are waiting
14 for the permit from the State and we are waiting
15 for a permit, when we get the State permit then we
16 will apply for a Corps of Engineers permit. They
17 are the two basic permits we have for that Marine
18 Transfer Station.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: And then
20 there's nothing blocking the permits other than
21 just the time it takes for bureaucracy to turn its
22 wheels?

23 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Correct. We
24 don't see any problems with them.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Okay,

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2 great. So and once you get through that you can
3 move on to the next phase of barring any new fake
4 lawsuits that comes up to move forward.

5 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Yes sir.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Thank you,
7 thank you Mr. Chair.

8 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: We've been
9 joined by Council Member Mike Nelson from Brooklyn
10 and I apologize Council Member Lappin [phonetic].

11 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Thank you
12 Madam Chair. Commissioner and staff, good
13 afternoon. First, let me just say that I missed
14 the preliminary budget hearing. Unfortunately, it
15 wasn't on my schedule, and unfortunately when
16 things are not on my schedule I tend to miss them,
17 so I only blame myself, maybe I'm too busy. But I
18 wanted to just communicate on a couple of issues.

19 One, first I'd like to compliment
20 the coalition that is here, the Morningside
21 Heights West Harlem Sanitation Coalition because
22 they have implemented a program, a recycling
23 program at one of the NYCHA developments in Grand
24 Houses and our leaders are here, which is an
25 excellent program.

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2 And it's my understanding though
3 that NYCHA with approximately half a million
4 people living in NYCHA does not have to recycle
5 like everyone else. Do we have to pass a law to
6 that effect or can you just implement that? And
7 the reason why I ask that is because clearly
8 everyone in New York City needs to recycle, with
9 no exceptions, in my opinion. What would it take
10 to make sure that all of NYCHA recycles like
11 everyone else?

12 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: They are
13 required to recycle. They--

14 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: They are
15 required?

16 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: They are
17 required, they have to follow the same regulations
18 as any multiple dwelling unit in the City does.
19 The problem with multiple dwelling units is that
20 all we can get them for if they are not recycling
21 is failure to put out signage about recycling in a
22 facility or failing to provide a storage area or
23 containers or bags to put the recyclables in.
24 That's our biggest leverage.

25 It's not like the one and two and

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2 three family homes where we can issue them a
3 summons if we look in the garbage and see
4 recyclables in the garbage or garbage in the
5 recyclables. Multiple dwellings fall under
6 another criteria which is very difficult to
7 enforce in some ways.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Okay. I
9 just think that that needs to happen obviously
10 when you have a half a million tenants and
11 probably there's more residents that live, that's
12 a lot of recyclable material that is going into
13 the waste stream and in essence being trucked out
14 or what have you. It's costing us a lot of money.

15 Also concerning street cleaning,
16 obviously I say to you, some major issues for me
17 is making sure that our streets are clean and
18 trash is picked up. You know, I always talked
19 about the overflowing litter baskets which dirty
20 up our streets.

21 Quite frankly, Commissioner, along
22 with that and littering, there's too many people
23 dropping papers and stuff in the streets and I
24 don't want to get in to a fight with any one, but
25 I wish that you would hire more enforcement

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2 officers. Maybe we should start New York City
3 giving people tickets for littering. Even if it's
4 \$25, you know, would send a message that you can't
5 litter, that we need to keep New York City clean.

6 So can we start hiring more
7 enforcement officers to give—maybe we put up a PR
8 campaign that we are going to start to ticket
9 people for littering, so make sure that you don't
10 litter because if you do you are going to get
11 fined. I do think that our streets will be a lot
12 cleaner overall and especially in communities
13 where the density of the population is more. And
14 also I'm concerned about the fact that I don't see
15 enough enforcement of the Pooper Scooper Law.
16 I've always talked about that.

17 The tragedy is people are not
18 curbing their dog like they should and they let
19 the dog like poop right in the middle of the
20 sidewalk, and even though some people will clean
21 it up, but that poop residue is still on the
22 streets. And so people are walking, and
23 especially if someone doesn't pick it up, then you
24 go into your home or go into the school and kids
25 are sitting on the rugs, it's just unsanitary and

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unhealthy.

So I would love to see a lot more enforcement of littering, of people putting their household garbage on the corner streets and picking up after their dogs. And I think that if we hire more enforcement in those areas that the City will be a cleaner overall. And I do think though that you're going to have to, I'm asking you to put more pressure on NYCHA to make sure that everyone recycles, because I don't know if they have the bins and everything out there Citywide in order for people to recycle.

So that's what I have to say that would bring this City to a much cleaner place where we live and if people don't adhere to our laws, then we will raise money by fining them.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Very good points and I think we have to work with you on that. And I'd like the point out, I think before you came, I want to introduce Ron Gonen, he is our new Deputy Commissioner for Recycling.

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: I was here, I was just sitting in the back having lunch. And I heard what he had to say too.

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2 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Okay. So
3 and he's talking about NYCHA and I think the Grant
4 Houses is an example of what can be done in
5 housing and I think it's something that may
6 provide a model for the recycling people in the
7 department. Thank you very much, and we'll see
8 where we can take it from there and enforcement of
9 the littering and everything else we have to work
10 at. And the Pooper Scooper, maybe we'll try
11 something one day, we'll get with Mariah and do a
12 little something on a corner. We've done
13 something recently in the Bronx on that, and I
14 think we are going to do one in-

15 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: I welcome
16 you to my neighborhood as far as littering, Pooper
17 Scooper, garbage cans, at any time.

18 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: We'll do it.
19 We'll work with Mariah and we'll see when we can
20 get going. Thank you very much.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Thank you.
22 Thank you Madam Chair.

23 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Council Member
24 Lappin.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Thank you.

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2 I'm going to follow up on both Chair Recchia and
3 Chair James' line of questioning and start by
4 saying that not only is it not worth building the
5 91st Street Marine Transfer Station, it should come
6 out of the budget, and it should come out of the
7 Solid Waste Management Plan.

8 I have said from the very, very
9 beginning that I support the overall goals of the
10 Solid Waste Management Plan and that we can't
11 continue to do what we have done historically.
12 But I have also said again and again and again
13 that it is a myth that the garbage that has and
14 will go to 91st Street is garbage that is going to
15 the other boroughs. It is garbage that is going
16 to New Jersey, am I correct?

17 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: The garbage
18 from where?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: The
20 garbage, the residential garbage that will go to
21 the 91st Street Marine Transfer Station is garbage
22 that is now going by truck to New Jersey.

23 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: That's true.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Correct.

25 And when we talk about the—I think we've been over

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2 it many, many times, the impact that it would have
3 on our community, the only residential community
4 where one of these is proposed and the impact it
5 would have on the park and Asphalt Green and our
6 air quality.

7 But what we haven't really
8 discussed at length before, or at least not at the
9 last budget hearing was the impact on our pocket
10 books. And you yourself said that even if this
11 was built, that, I think you said 75% of
12 Manhattan's residential waste will continue to be
13 trucked to New Jersey. Is that correct?

14 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: About that,
15 roughly about that, yes.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Okay. So I
17 don't really understand. We started out with this
18 being \$50 million and then I think in last year's
19 budget it was 125 million, is that right?

20 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Probably
21 correct, around that area, yes.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: And now
23 this year we are at 226 million, is that right?
24 Okay.

25 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: 220, 226,

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yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: It's like every year it goes up and it seems to be double. So you know, at this point next year, are we going to here saying that it's half a billion dollars to build this?

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: No, we should know probably next month what it's going to cost. The bids will be in on the construction of it.

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Okay. So it could be half a billion dollars? You don't really know, is what you are saying?

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: No, I don't think it will be half a million dollars.

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: But you didn't think it was going to be 226 million either, you thought it was going to be 50 million when we first started.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: I don't think it will be half a million.

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: But here is the thing, when we sat here years ago and you guys said 50 million and I said, no way, you told me I

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2 was wrong and I was right. So I'm sitting here
3 today saying it very well could be half a billion
4 dollars, and you don't really know, because every
5 year you've doubled it, right?

6 So at what point are we going to
7 say we are spending even a quarter of a billion
8 dollars to take care of 570 some-odd tons of
9 garbage? I mean at what point is it just
10 ludicrous that we are spending so much money per
11 ton when we are still trucking 75% to New Jersey?

12 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: It's not
13 ludicrous. It's a plan that the City put together
14 for the disposal of waste in this City, a solid
15 waste management plan, and that's part of the
16 plan. And when you look at the trucks that will
17 be going to that District, District 8, Community
18 Board 8 is where there Marine Transfer Station is
19 located. 15% of the waste and 13% of the trucks
20 in Manhattan are coming from that district and
21 will go right to that transfer station rather than
22 travelling through other communities such as the
23 Bronx and other parts of Manhattan.

24 And that goes for the other
25 districts, 5, 6, and 11 up there, the same thing.

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2 It was part of a plan, it's a long-term plan for
3 20 years and the price may seem very high now, but
4 here again you want to talk about the future and
5 what the price may be, as I said earlier, if we
6 start to see landfill closures close in, you are
7 going to see the price of waste exporting on the
8 open market side changing quite a bit.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Let's talk
10 about that if you want to. On the open market
11 over the last few years, has the cost of truck
12 gone up or down?

13 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: The cost of
14 tipping garbage?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: The cost of
16 the current interim plan, the cost of trucking
17 garbage. Has the cost per ton gone up or gone
18 down?

19 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: The cost of
20 exporting garbage out of the City with a short-
21 term plans has gone down in some areas.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Oh okay.
23 So the cost of building the marine transfer
24 station has gone up five-fold but the cost to
25 truck has gone down. So I don't sort of buy this

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2 concept that it's going to end up being
3 potentially more expensive. And you know the IBO
4 study did lots of permutations and looked at lots
5 of different possibilities and it's still
6 dramatically less expensive to continue the
7 interim plan.

8 So I don't really—if you really
9 wanted to talk about achieving the goal that I
10 think is sort of wrapped up in the myth of the 91st
11 Street Station, we'd be looking at 59th Street
12 which is contingent upon Gansevoort which you are
13 not really anywhere with a MOU on yet, right?

14 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Well, we are
15 going to close. They're working on it. It's very
16 active I understand.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Okay. It's
18 been many, many years but I understand that you
19 are still getting closer.

20 You know, I think I have said what
21 I needed to say and I understand that my time is
22 up, but Chair Recchia, I did hear you say in your
23 line of questioning that it didn't sound like it
24 was worth building. I can't underscore that
25 enough and I hope that we can continue to discuss

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this.

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: I just want to say one thing, Commissioner, you spoke about Community Board 8, and how the trucks go there and how for years it's been going there and it's not fair. Is that what you said?

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: No, I was just pointing out that the location at the Marine Transfer Station, 91st is in Community Board 8 and the garbage from that Community Board which represents about 15% of the tonnage in Manhattan is going to go right to that transfer station, right close in and those trucks are going to not go through other communities in Manhattan and in New Jersey and even in the Bronx.

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Right. And you said that's not fair? You don't think that's right?

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: I don't think it's fair not to have that Marine Transfer Station there, that's what's not fair. It's fair to have it there.

CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Well, I understand what your plan is all about, okay.

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2 Some communities get too much and it's not fair to
3 those communities it's in. I don't think it's
4 fair to the South West incinerator that was there
5 for years and killed people. I don't think that's
6 fair. How about that? And I don't hear you say
7 anything about that South West Transfer Station
8 being built.

9 My community had to suffer with an
10 incinerator for years and we had to bring a
11 lawsuit to close it down because nobody
12 volunteered to close it down. That's what my
13 community is going through. And that's why this
14 should be really looked at in the way it's being
15 handled because we want to do what's best for the
16 whole city, for all communities including mine
17 that had incinerator for years where people lived.
18 That's a problem.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: And Mr.
20 Chair, if I may just remind the Commissioner that
21 we had a transfer station here for almost 60
22 years. So the concept that we haven't done our
23 fair share which is frequently bandied about is
24 also untrue. Thank you.

25 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Commissioner,

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2 just one question. As you know, there was a
3 contract in the City of New York that ballooned to
4 almost \$700 million, it was called City Time. It
5 originally started out at four twenty something
6 and then it went to almost \$700 million until
7 there were some hearings that I held.

8 So my question is at some point in
9 time if the cost keeps escalating related to the
10 91st MTS, at some point in time will the
11 administration say we need to examine this or is
12 it just an un-ended number—an open-ended number?

13 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: It's not an
14 un-ending number. I mean the big thing that
15 Councilwoman was talking about was the increase in
16 construction cost of that facility, and I said
17 that I expect by next month in June to have a
18 figure in for the construction. That will be a
19 set cost, that's not going to change.

20 So once we build it, it's built,
21 there is no changing. It's just like any other
22 building, you maintain it just like you maintain
23 the other building or facility or a piece of
24 equipment.

25 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Next month you

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anticipate having a set cost?

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Yes, I do.

CHAIRPERSON JAMES: And when do you anticipate, when is the Army Corps of Engineers going to release its permit or study or?

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: I expect it shortly. I don't know where they are right now, but it's pending.

CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Is that based on, you expect it, is that based on some facts or is that just your hope and desire?

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: No, it's just based generally the time it takes them to give us a permit, but I think it's going to come up shortly.

CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Council Member Arroyo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Thank you Madam Chair. Commissioner, good afternoon.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Good afternoon.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Always a pleasure to see you. I have a couple of questions and I'm going to touch on a couple of points.

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2 First I'm happy to hear that you
3 have no intention of coming to us for
4 modifications in the SWAP.

5 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Correct.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: It is
7 something that I think cost this City and all of
8 us in this body from many different perspectives a
9 lot of grief. I remember when we were doing the
10 vote on the ULURP, my capital budget got cut
11 because the then speaker was against the SWAP.

12 So I have some really bitter
13 memories about what we have gone through to get to
14 where we are at today. And I know that there are
15 individuals in the audience who are happy to hear
16 you say that the SWAP as presented and adopted by
17 this Council is going to move forward.

18 In the interim, there is an issue
19 of capacity in communities like the one that I
20 represent, that I think needs to be looked at and
21 that we should not wait until the full
22 implementation of the SWAP to consider the
23 reduction of permit capacity.

24 In our communities, there are
25 capacity issues, most of the transfer stations; I

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2 live between two and on the other side of the
3 street of a sanitation garage. They have excess
4 capacity, why not take it down, make sure that we
5 and our communities can feel comfortable that at
6 least we continue to handle what we are handling
7 today and we don't see more capacity being added
8 or more trucks in our communities. So can you
9 tell me if that's possible?

10 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: We agree
11 with you, we actually at the request of the
12 Council, had looked at that once before and we had
13 reached agreement with most of the privately-run
14 transfer stations to take a reduction. Not them
15 all, we came in, and I don't remember the tonnage
16 number the Council was looking for at the time,
17 but we came in just below the number the Council
18 was looking for in the reduction of tonnage and
19 then the issue just kind of went by the Board.

20 We are going to look at it again,
21 we are going to have to go back and rework it now
22 that people are interested.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: I think
24 sealing it would require that we look at the
25 permitted capacity.

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COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Because we had discussions about numbers but the permitted capacity was never changed. And that is what I think we need to look at.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Yes, we will look at a reduced to permitted capacity. And I think as you pointed out, they had the ability because there was permitted capacity that wasn't being used to reduce their permits. And most of them but not all of them were in agreement to take some reductions. Now we'll have to go back and see what the situation is at this time.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: I really, really urge you to do that. And I want to thank a couple of individuals in the audience. Certainly Kellie Terry Sepulveda who eats, sleeps and breaths environmental justice in our community and our dear friend, Eddie Bautista, for their continued work and support around this issue and just making sure that we are very well-informed about information and just information that's out there that may or may not be accurate.

I really am very concerned about

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2 the fact that the 91st Street MTS is beginning to
3 look like communities against each other, and we
4 should not be at that level of conversation quite
5 frankly. I would love for all those yellow shirts
6 to be able to sit at the same table and have a cup
7 of coffee together without this in the middle of
8 it.

9 On the Department's authority to
10 charge owners of lots that the City has cleaned
11 up, what is your success rate on the recovery of
12 the funds that you expend to do that?

13 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Well I guess
14 there's two ways of looking at it. One is I don't
15 have the answer as to what they would consider
16 their success rate because the Department of
17 Finance, we bill every private owned lot that we
18 clean, we bill them for the time that we spend
19 cleaning it and for the disposal of the material
20 we pick up.

21 We bill it, that information goes
22 to the property owner and to the Department of
23 Finance and so the Department of Finance to
24 collect it. But if the owner of that lot or piece
25 of property does not pay up, a lien is put against

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2 that property and that property cannot be sold
3 without lien being addressed. So eventually you
4 get 100%. What it is in the short-term I'm not
5 sure, but I think it's actually pretty good
6 recovery.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: So the
8 benefit of the lien doesn't really materialize
9 until and if there is a transaction pending on
10 that property, yes or no?

11 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Well if the
12 lien is—if they had the lien on the records at the
13 time the property is being addressed they would
14 pick it up. If it happened to be a new lien, yes,
15 it might slip through the cracks, no doubt about
16 it.

17 But I will say we've noticed over
18 the last—I think the last two years that we're
19 seeing when we send a notice out to the owner of a
20 lot, we talk to the Health Department, the Health
21 Department sends out the notice and we monitor it.
22 We have seen when we go back to that lot that
23 we're seeing more privately-owned lots being
24 cleaned before we have to go in.

25 And privately-owned lots are about—

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2 I think the privately-owned lots in this city of
3 the total lots are about 33, 34% of the lots in
4 the city. We have about 4,400 lots we believe,
5 and they're always shifting, most of them are the
6 City-owned lots. And about that, I think, 34 or
7 37% are about privately-owned lots, and we're only
8 cleaning only about 25% of them. So we're seeing
9 them clean more of their own lots.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: But in
11 terms of dollars what are we seeing in recovery?

12 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: We don't see
13 it, we bill them. We bill them for our labor cost
14 and our disposal cost for the material we pick up
15 and the time we spend there.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: I'll be
17 very quick, Madam Chair. I have in the past urged
18 the Department to collaborate with the Department
19 of Education this notion of preparing our young
20 people around a concept of reuse, reduce, recycle.
21 Have you had any conversations with the Department
22 of Education regarding a curriculum that would
23 embed in the education of our young people reuse,
24 recycle and reduce waste?

25 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GONEN: It's a

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2 great question and it's going to be a focus of our
3 plan going forward. In fact this morning I was in
4 a meeting with John Shay [phonetic] where we got
5 together and agreed that we're going to put
6 together a team that's going to focus on
7 increasing recycling in schools and that's going
8 to include a curriculum, number one, and number
9 two, the infrastructures they can apply with their
10 learning and that curriculum in the school and as
11 well as in their homes.

12 And I'm looking forward to
13 reporting back to you in terms of what we develop.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Okay. And
15 Commissioner, on the waste to energy pilot, do you
16 have any proposals that include wind, solar on
17 landfill?

18 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: No, solar
19 power and wind power is—solar power is going to
20 happen through a number of locations in the city.
21 Fresh Kills is one of the sites where solar panels
22 will be put up. Fresh Kills is also a site for
23 potentially wind turbines will be put up.

24 I believe the Pennsylvania Landfill
25 out along the Bell Parkway will also have solar

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2 panels put out. And throughout the city, DCAS and
3 their environmental program is putting solar
4 panels on some buildings around the city.

5 We're going to have a couple put on
6 some of our garages to do that, but the new
7 technology is basically for probably it's for non-
8 mass burning, you can't submit mass burning and
9 you can't submit refuse derived fuel for that.
10 It'll probably be they have a gasification system,
11 they have a paralysis type and then they have
12 anaerobic digestion.

13 What they will submit we don't know
14 yet. We should know in August when proposals come
15 in.

16 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Council
17 Member, could you sum up please? Your time is way
18 up. We've also been joined by Council Member
19 Gennaro.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: My last
21 question, Commissioner, my favorite topic. And I
22 ask you like Council Member Jackson talks about
23 poop, I want to talk about big bellies and the
24 opportunity for the city to use this device in
25 place of these open trash cans that became such a

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2 sore issue in our community. And I really think
3 that we need to take advantage of the technology
4 that the Big Bellies can provide to our city so
5 that we can keep our streets cleaner.

6 And as long as I'm here I'm going
7 to ask you about the Department's commitment to
8 including Big Bellies in its trash collection
9 process. Thank you Madam Chair.

10 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Thank you,
11 Council Member Brewer.

12 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Before Council
13 Member Brewer let me just echo the sentiments of
14 Council Member Arroyo. A number of members have
15 set aside capital funds for the Big Belly trash
16 cans and as you know OMB prohibits the Council
17 Members from using their capital money which is
18 much more than their expense. And so I would urge
19 you to speak to OMB for some sort of change so
20 that Council Members can use capital monies to
21 secure the Big Belly trash cans.

22 At least last count there were at
23 least 10 members who wanted to appropriate capital
24 dollars for that purpose and unfortunately OMB has
25 turned us down. Thank you. Council Member

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Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you very much. A couple of issues, one is I would say I represent 59th Street on the Westside. My understanding was that we were still going to be doing waste from buildings and now I don't know what the transfer of commercial waste generated. I don't know what that commercial waste means. Can you tell us if there has been a change or if there's something that I'm missing?

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: No, 59th Street was envisioned, once the solid waste management plan was put together was that it would be used for waste in Manhattan. Some people assume it's going to be commercial waste, some people thought maybe possibly residential waste, it's not going to be considered for either though. Right now we're looking at it for a construction and demolition material.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: So C&D is what I thought it was going to be, but—

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: That's what it's still planned for, yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Okay, but

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2 my understanding was that there's not going to be
3 any government money in that or am I wrong? I was
4 under the impression that the commercials are
5 going to pay for it if there is no change.

6 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: No. We do
7 have an offer from Sims, the company that we deal
8 with, with the metal, glass and plastic to run a
9 recycling facility through there. They showed
10 interest a good while back, I mean the issue now
11 is before we can get out there because we can't
12 run a dual operation bringing C&D in and still
13 handling the paper. So we have to get the paper,
14 we have to get Gansevoort Street built and then go
15 on down there. So it's going to be a ways away
16 yet, but it's still on the drawing board.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Okay. So
18 it's still C&D.

19 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Yes.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I didn't
21 know what commercial waste generate—number two,
22 schools. On your list, I understand your new
23 Recycling Deputy Commissioner comes very highly
24 recommended. I read your fabulous biography.

25 I have five schools that have zero

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2 waste, zero. They have taken the commercial food,
3 they have taken the trays, there are five baskets
4 in all five schools. The kitchen staff is working
5 on it. The issue is that parents are now paying
6 to take away the organic. So we're wondering if
7 we could meet with you to figure out how
8 Sanitation could help, because it's \$200 a month
9 to pay for each school to take away the organic.

10 This is obviously PS 166
11 [phonetic], 9, Joan of Arc and the list goes on.
12 We're like 100% no waste.

13 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GONEN: I
14 visited those schools a couple of days ago—

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I heard.

16 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: --and you are
17 correct, they are doing a phenomenal job. I think
18 the goal is to see as Councilwoman James
19 mentioned, there's other schools that are also
20 interested in these types of programs to study
21 their program and see how we can potentially
22 replicate it around the city.

23 I'm going to be meeting with the
24 mothers that have administered that program next
25 week as a group and see what we can do to expand

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that program.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: But we should get consulting fee for Council Member James' schools, I'd like, please.

The next question is the funding for the trucking. I know you mentioned specifically regarding 91st Street, but in general, is that number that you gave of \$67 per ton how much it cost for always to go to other places in the country?

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: No, currently the average cost for exporting waste out of the city is \$97.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: \$97 per ton?

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Okay, so the total cost for the exporting for the Department of Sanitation per year, for instance, is what?

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: 302 million.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: 302 million? Okay. Right. Question about the pedestrian ramps during the snow. Maybe we'll

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2 never have snow again, who knows, but say for
3 instance it snows, who is responsible for—number
4 one complaint I get when it snows is the
5 pedestrian ramps, I have wheelchairs, I have
6 people walking. It's a very pedestrian-oriented
7 district. Who's responsible for cleaning those
8 pedestrian ramps?

9 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: The building
10 that they are, they are part of the sidewalk.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Okay, and
12 is that something that we should be doing more
13 education or summonsing on depending on what you
14 think is appropriate?

15 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Probably
16 both.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Okay,
18 because I can tell you it's a constant call. I'm
19 not sure I'm supposed to be doing this, says the
20 building owner and then of course the person who's
21 trying to get around, particularly a senior, it's
22 a very big deal.

23 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: We'll
24 highlight that the next time we have snow.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Okay, and

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2 then my other question is do you have Big Bellies
3 currently and who's been paying for them? I have
4 the same issue with people wanting a Big Belly.
5 Who pays for the Big Bellies to exist now or
6 they're all paid for by the company?

7 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: We have not
8 purchased any. I understand a couple of the
9 business improvement districts have purchased
10 some, but they are very limited sites throughout
11 the city that have them as far as I know.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Okay, so
13 there've been bids or owner of company. Question
14 about textiles, you mentioned that in your
15 testimony. There's a huge interest—we just did a
16 recycling program, a lot of textile collection.
17 Pounds and pounds and pounds came in, how are you
18 going to grow that textile recycling issue?

19 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GONEN:
20 Textiles is being run by GrowNYC.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Right.

22 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GONEN: And
23 they have a partnership with Housing Works. And
24 my understanding is the contract with Housing
25 Works, Housing Works is responsible for providing

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2 service to that residential property if it's a
3 building that wants to do textile recycling, so my
4 recommendation would be to contact David Hudd over
5 at GrowNYC

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I know
7 David.

8 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GONEN: --and
9 request that Housing Works provide that service,
10 and I think--

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: What I'm
12 saying is what the community wants is trying to
13 have it in a building. The community wants it at
14 every green market and they want it on a regular
15 basis. Right now it's interim. So you have to
16 know that the third Sunday at 77th Street, that's
17 when the textiles are being collected. It might
18 be a resource issue, money, I don't know.

19 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GONEN: Housing
20 Works is responsible in the contract for providing
21 that service, so I think if David Hudd of GrowNYC
22 is aware of the specific time and day when a large
23 number of people are going to bring their textiles
24 to a place, I think that we can provide that
25 service.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Okay, they
3 want it all the time, every weekend no matter
4 what. That's what they're looking for.

5 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GONEN: If it's
6 a consistent time and a large group of people, I
7 think that that can probably be provided, but it's
8 important that it's a consistent time.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: All right,
10 thank you. And we look forward to seeing you on
11 the Westside and having zero waste everywhere in
12 the schools. Thank you.

13 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GONEN: Thank
14 you.

15 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Before I turn
16 to Council Member Reyna, so Deputy Commissioner,
17 when are we going to ban Styrofoam from our
18 schools?

19 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GONEN: That's
20 something that I have not looked into yet.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: You already
22 did it.

23 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GONEN: So
24 that's something that's very important to me—

25 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: As me.

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2 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GONEN: --but
3 one of the things you'll hear from me and my
4 comments today and going forward is I'm trying to
5 prioritize the things that will have the biggest
6 impact. That is something that is very important
7 to do and I will get back to you on it.

8 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Just a comment.
9 There's some districts throughout the City of New
10 York that can afford to do all of these programs,
11 that can afford to do free Styrofoam day. They
12 have amazing parents, they engage in fundraising,
13 they have access to a lot of donors in the city of
14 New York. And then there's other districts that
15 do not.

16 And so I am of the opinion I
17 believe in a level playing field and that all
18 districts should be equal and we should all have
19 the same access. And so I'm glad that you're on
20 board and I hope that you would address a lot of
21 these issues so all of the schools can engage in
22 recycling and sustainability and we can live in a
23 more perfect society. Council Member Reyna.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: I just
25 wanted to ask the commissioner where is my

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reduction for Community Board 1?

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: As I pointed out earlier when this was brought up a couple of years ago the Department went about working with the private transfer stations to try and reach a tonnage number on the reduction and a permitting capacity for the private transfer stations around the city. We fell a little bit short of what was being looked for at that time and for whatever reason it fell by the wayside. We know it's an issue to you and others right now.

We're going to be going back and working with the private sector to see what we can do in reducing our capacity at transfer stations. We know some of them have surplus capacity right now; we're hoping to take that down by that capacity if we can work something out with them.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: I just want to—Chair Recchia had mentioned he had an incinerator and he reminded me that I had too at one point.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: So did the whole city. Everybody in the city had them at one time. There was 40 of them.

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COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Correct.

And so what he doesn't have is 16 waste transfer facilities in one Community Board. The same Community Board that had this particular incinerator and I want to remind my colleagues that 16 waste transfer facilities that have the capability of permitted tonnage at 20,024 tons per day; 20,000 tons of garbage in one Community Board.

When you talk about tonnage I'm an expert, and it is important that we understand that the maximum tonnage used is only 9,000 and we fulfill that responsibility. And I'm looking for the fair and equitable mission to be reached with the SWAP plan and I can't achieve that unless all these pieces come together.

And so I hope that the State and no official at the State level is standing in the way of fair and equitable, because at this moment when you start talking about 20,000 tons per day, no one can come close in the City of New York to say that we're getting any type of community host fee to improve the environment and air quality in my Community Board.

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2 And it is important that I stress
3 how the voluntary reduction is no longer
4 acceptable. This is about reducing waste in the
5 one Community Board that has been overburdened for
6 over 20 years and prior to that had to be a host
7 of an incinerator as well.

8 I don't know if you have any
9 comments as far as moving forward with those
10 discussions, if there's a scheduled meeting that
11 has taken place, is there a community host fee
12 that's going to be attached to it, because I
13 certainly don't see any progress in the waste
14 reduction in my Community Board.

15 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: As I said,
16 we're going to be bringing that up again. We had
17 it and it kind of fell by the wayside for whatever
18 reason, it's coming up again and we have to start
19 working on it.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: And the
21 issue as far as DEC permits. And I heard you
22 mention the fact that the permits are, in one form
23 or another, moving but there are certain that are
24 more advanced than others. What is the delay with
25 the others that are not advancing?

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2 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: You mean on
3 marine transfer stations?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Correct.

5 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: It's the
6 Corps of Engineers that are currently working on
7 one for the East 91st Street and we will be
8 applying for one, I don't think we've done it yet.
9 We're doing it? We did actually. We did do one
10 for Southwest also and we're waiting for the Corps
11 of Engineers to act on that. And we're waiting
12 for DEC to give us a permit for Southwest. And we
13 expect that out shortly because they've indicated
14 they're coming out with something.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: They are
16 indicating to you that they are coming out with
17 something?

18 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: DEC has
19 indicated, I haven't seen it in writing but I
20 understand a Council Member brought it up earlier
21 and I did hear it myself this morning that DEC
22 will be coming out with something. Permit for
23 Southwest shortly.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Is there a
25 timeline?

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2 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: I think it's
3 going to be by in June probably if not a little
4 earlier. They didn't give us a date on it.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: And at this
6 point I want to understand currently the City of
7 New York pays a community host fee for all the
8 landfills that accept the garbage of New York
9 City?

10 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: No.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Not a single
12 penny is issued to any municipality where
13 landfills exist?

14 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: No, not by
15 New York City. The companies we deal with maybe
16 but we as a city do not pay them directly.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Wouldn't
18 that be a passed on cost to the city?

19 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: It's
20 probably in what they charge us, no doubt about
21 it.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Have we ever
23 asked exactly how much that is out of the—

24 COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: We probably
25 know what it is. I don't know that off the top of

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my head.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: If you can help me get that value dollar amount.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY: Yes, generally around the country right now it's probably running around \$5, maybe a little more a little less. That's been the average price. Some places it may run a little higher. It depends on the negotiation between a private company and a community.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: And I ask again, just pointing out 20,024 tons per day in one community board hosting 16 waste transfers facilities of which the majority of those trucks coming in are long haulers that don't get to follow the regulations under which what would be a regulated company such as a waste management who is trucking in and forced to make sure that they are more sustainable with their garbage as to how they export it.

So now they're the rail as opposed to barge facility in the middle of a neighborhood. I just want to make sure that we understand these 16 waste transfer facilities are hosting 70% of

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2 the commercial waste from Manhattan. And when we
3 talk about waste it's not just about traceable
4 [phonetic] residential waste, we're talking about
5 commercial waste.

6 And so that seems to be fractured
7 off because SWAP only dealt with residential and
8 we shouldn't forget that.

9 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Thank you
10 Councilmember Reyna. That's why it's so
11 critically important in the City of New York as we
12 close and as I turn it over to Council Member
13 Recchia that we do all that we can to recycle in
14 the city, reuse and repurpose garbage in the City
15 of New York. It's really critically important if
16 we're going to, again, achieve a more perfect
17 society.

18 So the Commissioner, let me just
19 close by just follow-up. Stop and swap site, if
20 we could talk about that at some point in time.
21 The schools and the competition, obviously I would
22 like to make sure that all schools are engaging in
23 recycling. Composting initiatives so that some of
24 the gardens can get some resources so that they
25 can compost and accept some of this trash.

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2 The OMB, dealing with OMB in the
3 Big Belly trash can particularly as we close in
4 the budget so that some Council Members can pay
5 for it out of their capital budget.

6 The Styrofoams; banning it.
7 Deputy, me and you together, got you [phonetic].
8 Waste transfer stations, that's going to be
9 ongoing and so we'll look forward to getting a
10 report on that at some point in the future. The
11 waste to energy, the responses from the RFP, I
12 look forward to working with you, Commissioner,
13 with regards to that. \$300 million exporting our
14 garbage to States unknown is just unacceptable and
15 it's not sustainable, particularly at a time when
16 we're cutting back on a number of social programs.

17 And the institutional fee that most
18 Council Members oppose but again the major, major
19 institutions like NYU and Columbia I don't see why
20 the service to those institutions are free.

21 And so without any further ado I
22 thank all of you for attending. One thing we can
23 both agree on you both have yellow, and so there
24 is some commonality. Council Member Recchia.

25 CHAIRPERSON RECCHIA: Yes.

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2 Commissioner, I want to thank you for coming here
3 today. I want to thank your staff, they're always
4 a pleasure, especially Mariah. She's always there
5 working with us. Still waiting for my vehicles--
6 for my community bots, but that's an issue we're
7 trying to work out with OMB. This concludes
8 today's hearing.

9 There has been a recent change to
10 the budget schedule. The Finance Committee will
11 resume executive budget hearing for Fiscal 2013 on
12 Tuesday, May 29th at 11:15 rather than 10:00 a.m.
13 This hearing will be located at 16th Floor Room at
14 250 Broadway.

15 On Tuesday we'll hear from
16 Department of Information and Technology and
17 Telecommunications and the Department of
18 Transportation. As a reminder, the public will be
19 allowed to testify on June 6th at 4:00, okay. For
20 members of the public who wish to testify but
21 cannot attend on June 6, you can fax your
22 testimony to Tanisha Edwards, my attorney, and she
23 will make it part of the official record. This
24 hearing is now adjourned.

25 [gavel]

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CHAIRPERSON JAMES: And don't

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forget my sanitation—

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Michael Mwangi certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.

Signature



Date June 8, 2012