

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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November 26, 2019

Start: 1:36 p.m.

Recess: 2:45 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: Corey Johnson
Speaker

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

Ben Kallos
Andy King
Peter Koo
Karen Koslowitz
Rory I. Lancman
Brad Lander
Stephen T. Levin
Mark Levine
Farah Louis
Alan N. Maisel
Steven Matteo
Carlos Menchaca
I. Daneek Miller
Francisco Moya
Bill Perkins
Keith Powers
Antonio Reynoso
Donovan J. Richards
Carlina Rivera
Ydanis Rodriguez
Deborah Rose
Helen K. Rosenthal
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.
Ritchie J. Torres
Mark Treyger
Eric A. Ulrich
Paul Vallone
Jimmy Van Bramer
Kalman Yeger

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

2 JOHN BIANDO: This is a microphone check.
3 Today's date is November 26, 2019, recording of the
4 Stated Meeting, being recorded by John Biando,
5 Sergeant at Arms, City Hall, Council Chambers.

6 UNIDENTIFIED: Could I have your
7 attention, please. We need all members of the public
8 to make their way up to the balcony at this time, all
9 members of the public please make your way up to the
10 balcony at this time. Floor seating is for council
11 staff only, so once again, members of the public
12 please make your way up to the balcony. If you are
13 here to receive a proclamation you can make your way
14 up towards the front into the dais area. Also, if
15 you have an electronic device, cell phones, anything
16 like that, please set it to silent or vibrate at this
17 time. Thank you.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Hello, everyone.
19 I'm Majority Leader Laurie Cumbo. Welcome to City
20 Hall. Yay! That's right, yes! Vallone, Rivera, Cohen
21 have all joined us, yes! Today is November 26, 2019,
22 and we have a star-studded line-up for you today. I
23 am so happy to bring forward, if everyone from
24 Forever Loved Entertainment, Inc. could please come
25 forward, yes, yes, thank you. Everyone, come on

2 down, everybody that's here today for Forever Loved
3 Entertainment please join us. All right, perfect.
4 We're getting situated here. Good afternoon. Again,
5 I am Majority Leader Laurie Cumbo and I am so excited
6 about today's ceremonial. Education is at the
7 cornerstone of community. Art is the lens through
8 which we value and express ourselves. Forever Loved
9 Entertainment, Inc. has seen the value in combining
10 these worlds together, creating a network of
11 education and empowerment for our youth using art and
12 culture. You know I love that. Forever Loved
13 Entertainment was found in 1999 by JP Taylor and
14 Tanya Louis Taylor with careers in the music industry
15 and passion for service and empowerment, and I'm so
16 excited that they utilize their experiences, their
17 contacts, and their networks to bridge a gap between
18 the entertainment world and our youth. It should be
19 a no-brainer, right? [applause] FLE is the parent
20 organization of the not-for-profit organization
21 Entertainers for Educational Alliance, Inc. and I
22 Will Graduate Youth Development Program. In
23 celebration of their 20th year of service to the New
24 York City and community, 20 years! [applause] And you
25 ain't seen nothing yet. The I Will Graduate Program

2 has supported inner city youth to achieve and succeed
3 for the past two decades. Starting from humble
4 beginnings, Forever Loved Entertainment is housed in
5 the heart of Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, where it
6 continues to impact the lives of students and service
7 the community. Combining art, music, and education
8 empowerment, the Taylors have built an empire
9 dedicated to helping students reach their fullest
10 potential. I just want to make sure that you all
11 know, because this is an organization that the City
12 Council supports, we want to make sure that we will
13 all attend the I Will Graduate Day Celebration on
14 January 9, 2020, at Kings Theater in Brooklyn from
15 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. Now you know you are big if you
16 are taking over Kings Theater in Brooklyn for a youth
17 empowerment event. Huge venue, you have certainly
18 arrived when you are there. So I want to thank Tanya
19 and JP. We thank you for your vision and your
20 leadership. Congratulations on 20 years of success.
21 We salute you. We support. We thank you for loving
22 our children so deeply, taking them to the next
23 level, and creating those interpersonal connections,
24 because that's where it's at, of letting our children
25 know they are loved, they are cared for, they are

2 respected, and that they are our future and we don't
3 just sing it by saying Whitney Houston's famous song,
4 but we put the actual means and the power to making
5 it happen. So we salute you and we appreciate you.
6 We will now have the clerk read the proclamation and
7 then we want to hear some words from you.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Council City of New York
9 Proclamation. The New York City Council honors
10 Forever Loved Entertainment, Inc. in celebration of
11 the 20th anniversary of its I Will Graduate youth
12 development program, an initiative that has propelled
13 countless students to greater success, both
14 academically and professionally. And whereas in the
15 United States more than 1.2 million students drop out
16 of high school every year. Nationwide, approximately
17 7000 students drop out of school every day. In New
18 York City, however, graduation rates have steadily
19 increased since 2005, when the graduation rate was
20 46%. In 2018 the percentage of students who received
21 diplomas climbed to almost 76% and graduation rates
22 within the city have improved at a higher than the
23 state overall. It is a privilege to publicly commend
24 an organization that has contributed so much to this
25 progress. And whereas Forever Loved Entertainment

2 was found in 1999 by its current executive director,
3 Tanya Louis Taylor, and her husband, JP Taylor. When
4 they learned of the shocking drop-out statistics
5 plaguing our schools they sought to use their
6 entertainment industry expertise and resources to
7 help keep students in school. From humble operations
8 in a basement they began organizing events for youth,
9 parents, and others in the community to change the
10 perception of education as not only essential but
11 cool. After moving into their current office in
12 Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn they continued to expand
13 their reach. And whereas today Forever Loved
14 Entertainment is the umbrella entity for Entertainers
15 for Education Alliance, a nonprofit drop-out
16 prevention organization, and the I Will Graduate
17 youth development program designed to increase
18 student educational achievement. Over the last 20
19 years Forever Loved Entertainment and its
20 subsidiaries have produced many public service
21 campaigns to create awareness, influence, attitudes,
22 and behaviors, and empower young people to succeed.
23 And whereas Forever Loved Entertainment has
24 distributed thousands of posters, book covers,
25 postcards, and stickers to schools, libraries, malls,

2 stores, with positive messages to strengthen
3 connections between youth, parents, and the entire
4 community. And whereas thanks to the organization's
5 visionary founders and dedicate staff, as well as the
6 diverse members of its boards and advisory committee,
7 and the support of many generous volunteers, forever
8 loved entertainment has become a leader in youth
9 development, parent engagement, community outreach,
10 and by going to different New York City public
11 schools it continues to inspire and empower more
12 students each year to pursue their greatest
13 potential. Now therefore be it known that the New
14 York City Council gratefully honors Forever Loved
15 Entertainment, Inc. and its I Will Graduate youth
16 development program for 20 years of outstanding
17 empowering young people and their families in the
18 City of New York. Corey Johnson, speaker for the
19 entire council, Laurie A. Cumbo, Majority Leader, New
20 York City Council, and many members of the New York
21 City Council.

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

23 [applause] Thank you. And I want to thank all of my
24 colleagues for joining me here today. I'm so
25 appreciative to have each and everyone of you here,

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10

2 and I just want to thank you for recognizing that
3 graduating is the first step, and the first step
4 takes them to so many other places and so many great
5 opportunities, and we thank you for seeing those
6 statistics and doing something about. Thank you so
7 very much. Thank you, Ms. Taylor. [applause]

8 TANYA LOUIS TAYLOR: I just want to say
9 that we, we didn't know that we would have this type
10 of impact on our young people. But we knew that he
11 had to do something, and so we just utilized our
12 resources in order to create this program, and it's
13 touching thousands of lives of our young people.
14 We're inspiring them. We're giving them the
15 opportunity to get a life vision, because we know
16 that when our young people have a vision for their
17 life they are unstoppable and so I just want to say
18 thank you to you and to the City Council, and if I
19 could just sing a little bit of this part of this
20 song [singing]. [applause]

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. Wow.
22 You want to match that, Sister Adrienne? Come on and
23 match that, come on, come on, bring some. Come on,
24 we singing, we singing, we singing, we singing.

25 SISTER ADRIENNE: [singing] [applause]

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: We getting a
3 little unconventional here. All right. Well, that's
4 what we call #blackgirlmagic, so. [applause] I just
5 want to bring forward Council Member Alicka Ampry-
6 Samuel, who has a very close relationship with I Will
7 Graduate, just to give some words. You can sing,
8 too, if you can do that you go on ahead. [laughter]

9 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: They did it
10 tall, they did it all, and in the middle of you two I
11 was just thinking, you know, that's just, I just felt
12 all the black girl magic and the #blackwomenlead.
13 You know, thank you so much for all that you do for
14 our children, for our community. There's nothing
15 else that I can add except that I appreciate you, I
16 love you, I honor you, and I stand with all of my
17 colleagues in honor of you today and I just look
18 forward to January.

19 UNIDENTIFIED: Ninth, that's right.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: January 9,
21 at Kings Theater, and all the great that you're going
22 to continue to do on behalf of the children of New
23 York City, New York State, and the United States of
24 America. [applause]

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12

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Well, with all
3 that said it's picture time now. So we want to
4 memorialize this great day, and thank you so very
5 much. We've never gone this unscripted before, but,
6 hey, sometimes you gotta do something a little
7 different. All right, everybody, let's hold the
8 proclamation together. Everybody get tight.

9 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Could I have everyone's
10 attention please. Once again, non-council staff
11 please make your way up to the balcony, on-council
12 staff please make your way up to the balcony. All
13 electronic devices must be set to silent at this
14 time. Once again, all electronic devices please set
15 to silent at this time. Any private conversations
16 please take outside to the rotunda lobby area. Thank
17 you.

18 UNIDENTIFIED: Ladies and gentlemen, at
19 this time can we clear the floor, please, let's clear
20 the floor. Folks, let's please clear the floor.
21 Let's clear the floor, folks. Would all council
22 members please take your seats, all council members
23 please take your seats. Ladies and gentlemen, at
24 this time will all non-council staff, I repeat, all
25 non-council staff, make your way up to the balcony

2 please. All cell phones and electronic devices set
3 to vibration now. Again, all cell phones and
4 electronic devices please set them to vibration now.

5 UNIDENTIFIED: OK, we're gonna, ssshhh.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: [gavel] Good
7 afternoon and welcome to the Stated Meeting of
8 November 26, 2019. I am Majority Leader Laurie
9 Cumbo. Please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance. I
10 pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of
11 America, and to the republic for which it stands, one
12 nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and
13 justice for all. Roll call.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Adams.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Present.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Ampry-Samuel.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Present.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Ayala.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Present.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Barron.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Present.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Borelli. Brannan.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Here.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Cabrera.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

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14

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COUNCIL CLERK: Chin.

3

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

4

COUNCIL CLERK: Cohen.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Right here.

6

COUNCIL CLERK: Constantinides. Cornegy.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aqui.

8

COUNCIL CLERK: Deutsch. Diaz. Dromm.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

10

COUNCIL CLERK: Espinal. Eugene.

11

Gibson. Gjonaj.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Present.

13

COUNCIL CLERK: Grodenchik.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Here.

15

COUNCIL CLERK: Holden.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here.

17

COUNCIL CLERK: Kallos. Koo.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

19

COUNCIL CLERK: Koslowitz.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Right here.

21

COUNCIL CLERK: Lancman.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Here.

23

COUNCIL CLERK: Lander.

24

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

25

COUNCIL CLERK: Levin.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Right here.
3 COUNCIL CLERK: Levine.
4 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Here.
5 COUNCIL CLERK: Louis. Maisel.
6 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Right here.
7 COUNCIL CLERK: Menchaca.
8 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Presente.
9 COUNCIL CLERK: Miller. Moya.
10 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Right here.
11 COUNCIL CLERK: Perkins. Powers.
12 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Here.
13 COUNCIL CLERK: Reynoso.
14 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Here.
15 COUNCIL CLERK: Richards. Rivera.
16 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present.
17 COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez. Rose.
18 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Present.
19 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.
20 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: I'm sorry.
21 [laughs]
22 COUNCIL CLERK: Rosenthal. Salamanca.
23 Torres. Treyger.
24 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER:
25 COUNCIL CLERK: Ulrich. Vallone.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Van Bramer.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Yeger.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Matteo.

8 MINORITY LEADER MATTEO: Here.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Present.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Johnson.

11 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Right here.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We

13 will now have today's invocation, which will be

14 delivered by Reverend Thomas John Benkus, the

15 president of the board of directors of the New York

16 Disaster Interfaith Services and the Coordination of

17 Disaster Recovery Ministries, located on West 43rd

18 Street in Manhattan. Please rise.

19 UNIDENTIFIED: All rise.

20 REVEREND BENKUS: Friends, in whatever

21 manner we may worship and by whatever name or

22 understanding we may have of our Creator, let us bow

23 our heads in a moment of prayer and thanksgiving.

24 Holy and blessed God, let our first words and

25 thoughts be ones of thanksgiving. We thank you for

2 the gift of life itself. We thank you for your many
3 and abundant blessings, the measure of health we
4 enjoy, for family and friendship, for love of country
5 and community, and the call to service we have heard
6 and responded to. Thank you for the ability to be
7 involved in useful work and for the honor of bearing
8 appropriate responsibilities. And, as always, we
9 bless and thank you for loving us, all people, from
10 your boundless and gracious nature. This day we pray
11 for those who lead our city, for our mayor, for the
12 various levels of city officials, and in particular
13 for this assembled council. We ask that you would
14 graciously grant them wisdom to govern amid the many
15 interests and issues of our time. A sense of the
16 welfare and true needs of our people, a thirst for
17 justice and rightness, confidence in what is good and
18 fitting, the ability to work together in harmony even
19 where there is honest disagreement, personal peace in
20 their lives, and joy in their task. I pray for the
21 agenda set before them this day and for the work they
22 will take on in the coming days and months. Please
23 give an assurance of what would please you and what
24 would benefit those who live and work in and around

2 this place we call home, New York. It is your
3 blessed name we pray. Amen and amen.

4 UNIDENTIFIED: Thank you, I appreciate it,
5 thank you.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you for
7 that beautiful and timely prayer. I'd now like to
8 ask Council Member Powers to spread the invocation on
9 the record.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Thank you, and
11 I'd like to say thank you to Reverend Thomas John.
12 Thank you for being here today, and I would like to
13 have a motion to spread the invocation in full for
14 the record. Thank you to Reverend Thomas John Benkus
15 today for being here and doing work in my district
16 and throughout the city. He is a clergy member of
17 the New York Conference of the United Methodist
18 Church, currently serving as a director of mission
19 and disaster response, and is the president of the
20 New York DIS board of directors. He has served in
21 both short- and long-term mission capacities,
22 including three years in Haiti coordinating the
23 United Methodist Earthquake Recovery Effort and a
24 Superstorm Sandy recovery for the New York
25 Conference. He has been serving as a consultant to

2 the United Methodist Church of Puerto Rico for
3 Hurricane Maria and will be traveling to the Bahamas
4 in a few weeks' time. I think we all can say at this
5 particular moment in time, as we look forward to
6 Thanksgiving that the work that he is doing on behalf
7 of this city, our country, and for all those around
8 the world is extremely important and we are very,
9 very thankful for the work that they are doing here.
10 I should mention that he is also married and has two
11 sons and daughters-in-law, and also four, I
12 understand, four wonderful grandchildren. So I want
13 to welcome him here today. I want to thank you for
14 the work that you are doing, and you should always
15 stop by my district office down the block from you
16 any time we can, you're in the neighborhood, but I
17 want to welcome you here today and, again, spread the
18 invocation for the record today. Thank you.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
20 Council Member Powers. And now we will have the
21 adoption of minutes by Council Member Lander.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: I move that the
23 minutes of the Stated Meeting of October 17, 2019, be
24 adopted as printed.

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2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
3 Council Member Lander. We will now have messages and
4 papers from the mayor.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

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

8 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Petitions and
10 communications.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Land use callups.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Excuse me, M195.

14 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Clerk.

15 At this time I am asking for a roll call vote on
16 today's land use callup calendar. Again, a reminder
17 this is just on the land use calendar.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Ampry-Samuel.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: I request
20 unanimous consent to vote on all items on the general
21 order calendar, as well as all land use items and
22 resolutions.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
24 granted.

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Thank you,
3 and with that I vote aye, and happy holidays.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Cohen.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: I vote aye, and
7 with permission I'd like to vote on all items on the
8 general order calendar.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
10 granted.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: I vote aye. Thank
12 you.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Richards.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: One second.
15 Skip me.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Adams.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: I vote aye.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Ayala.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Barron.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye, and
22 with unanimous consent I would ask for permission to
23 vote on all land use callups coupled with the
24 accompanying resolutions and all items on the general
25 order calendar.

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22

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Give us one
3 moment.

4 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Madam Majority Leader,
5 I would say I think it's fine for Council Member
6 Barron to be excused. She has an important meeting
7 she needs to be at. But I would also say that we
8 have a Stated Meeting today and members need to stay
9 and vote and be here for the duration of the meeting.
10 It is important that we maintain quorum and it is
11 important that people block off time in their
12 calendars to be for the Stated Meeting. Council
13 Member Barron, I know, is dealing with an important
14 issue that the council has to take up in the coming
15 days and it is appropriate for her leave. But we
16 really need members to stay at this meeting today.

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
18 granted.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye, and I
20 want to thank you for the consideration and, as
21 everybody probably has noticed, I always stay to the
22 end. So I thank you so much for that consideration.
23 Thank you.

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Borelli. Brannan.

- 2 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye.
- 3 COUNCIL CLERK: Cabrera.
- 4 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.
- 5 COUNCIL CLERK: Chin.
- 6 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.
- 7 COUNCIL CLERK: Constantinides. Cornegy.
- 8 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye.
- 9 COUNCIL CLERK: Deutsch. Diaz. Dromm.
- 10 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.
- 11 COUNCIL CLERK: Espinal. Eugene.
- 12 Gibson. Gjonaj.
- 13 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Aye.
- 14 COUNCIL CLERK: Grodenchik.
- 15 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Aye.
- 16 COUNCIL CLERK: Holden.
- 17 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye.
- 18 COUNCIL CLERK: Kallos. Koo.
- 19 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.
- 20 COUNCIL CLERK: Koslowitz.
- 21 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.
- 22 COUNCIL CLERK: Lancman.
- 23 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Aye.
- 24 COUNCIL CLERK: Lander.
- 25 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Levin. Levine.
3 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Aye.
4 COUNCIL CLERK: Louis.
5 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye.
6 COUNCIL CLERK: Maisel.
7 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Yes.
8 COUNCIL CLERK: Menchaca.
9 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Aye.
10 COUNCIL CLERK: Miller. Moya.
11 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.
12 COUNCIL CLERK: Perkins. Powers.
13 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye.
14 COUNCIL CLERK: Reynoso. Richards.
15 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye.
16 COUNCIL CLERK: Rivera.
17 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye.
18 COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez. Rose.
19 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.
20 COUNCIL CLERK: Rosenthal.
21 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Aye.
22 COUNCIL CLERK: Salamanca. Torres.
23 Treyger.
24 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.
25 COUNCIL CLERK: Ulrich.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Yes.
COUNCIL CLERK: Vallone.
COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Van Bramer.
COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Yeger.
COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Matteo.
MINORITY LEADER MATTEO: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Cumbo.
MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I vote aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Johnson.
SPEAKER JOHNSON: I vote aye.
UNIDENTIFIED: We got one more.
COUNCIL CLERK: Land use callups, cm
Kallos.
COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.
MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

Today's land use callups are adopted by a vote of 37
in the affirmative and zero negative. We will now
have communication from Speaker Corey Johnson.
SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam
Majority Leader, and I want to thank everyone for
being here today at this very important Stated

2 Meeting. Thank you. I want to begin by
3 acknowledging the recent mass shootings we have had
4 in our country this month. These horrific tragedies
5 took the lives of three students in Santa Clarita,
6 California, four people in Fresno, California, and
7 three people outside of a Walmart in Duncan,
8 Oklahoma. My heart is with the families of each and
9 every victim. The senseless violence has got to stop
10 and serious gun law must be passed now. Thursday,
11 November 28 marks Albanian independence day and we
12 are just getting about a devastating 6.4 magnitude
13 earthquake that has hit Albania. I am keeping those
14 affected in my prayers and standing with those who
15 have family in Albania. I want to tell Council
16 Member Gjonaj I am sending my thoughts to him and his
17 community. Last week New York also lost Al Smith IV.
18 As *Politico* wisely pointed out, "For Al Smith IV
19 laughter was the best politics. He truly understood
20 the power of a solid mocking to make sure we all
21 don't take ourselves too seriously." It's easy to
22 forget that in a politically divisive time we
23 sometimes all need to take a step back and have a
24 little humor. That's what happens at the annual Al
25 Smith dinner, where he served as Grand Marshall, and

2 New York will miss him. We lost another important
3 New Yorker this week. Marian Saviola, a champion for
4 disability rights died on November 23. Among her
5 many honors she was an inaugural inductee at the New
6 York State Disability Rights Hall of Fame. She
7 helped expand access to healthcare for people with
8 disabilities and is remembered for her compassionate,
9 razor-sharp intelligence and wit, and I got to work
10 with her when I chaired the Health Committee. She
11 was an amazing, amazing woman. I'd also like to note
12 that this money is Internal Pancreatic Cancer
13 Awareness Month. It is a really devastating form of
14 cancer and our hearts are with anyone who is
15 struggling with this terrible disease. And last, but
16 not least, a happy Thanksgiving to all who will be
17 celebrating. Thanksgiving is a time not just to only
18 give thanks but to give back, and I encourage
19 everyone to do what they can to make someone else's
20 Thanksgiving as warm as possible. Now, let's dive
21 into the legislative agenda. We will be voting on
22 the following land use item: 6003 Eighth Avenue
23 rezoning in Council Member Carlos Menchaca's
24 district, a zoning map amendment to bring an existing
25 three-story commercial building into conformance.

2 Out of the Finance Committee, the council will vote
3 on eight Article 11 property tax exemption and they
4 will be in Council Member Ayala, Perkins, Cabrera,
5 and Salamanca's districts. Collectively these
6 exemptions will preserve the affordability of just
7 over 1000 units of housing. Moving on, the council
8 will be voting on the following pieces of
9 legislation. First, we'll have a piece out of the
10 Housing and Buildings Committee by our Housing and
11 Buildings Committee chair, Council Member Robert
12 Cornegy. Introduction number 1661-A would require
13 permit holders to make information about site safety
14 training requirements available to each worker during
15 site safety orientations and periodic site safety
16 refreshers. This information would need to be
17 available in each of the designated citywide
18 languages, and any other languages required by the
19 Department of Buildings. This bill would also
20 contains a technical amendment to Introduction number
21 720, which the council passed recently, and I want to
22 Austin Branford from the staff for his work on this
23 bill. Next, the council will be voting on a bill to
24 ban the sale of flavored e-cigarettes. I am very
25 proud that we're voting on this. We have seen a

2 significant amount of reluctance on the part of the
3 Whitehouse and the FDA to create a ban on these
4 flavors and the governor's executive order is
5 currently being challenged in court. New York cannot
6 and will not wait. And Introduction 1362-A,
7 sponsored by our Health Committee chair, Mark Levine,
8 would ban the sale of flavored e-cigarettes and
9 flavored e-liquids in New York City, including mint,
10 menthol, and wintergreen e-cigarettes and e-liquids.
11 The legislation would also create a presumption that
12 an electronic cigarette retail dealer in possession
13 of six or more flavored e-cigarettes or more than 12
14 fluid ounces of e-liquids has the intent to sell or
15 offer for sale. This bill would also require the
16 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to conduct a
17 public information and awareness campaign to educate
18 the public regarding the availability of smoking
19 cessation services, and this ban would go into effect
20 on the day of the month next succeeding the 180th day
21 after it becomes law. And I want to congratulate
22 Council Member Levine, who has done an incredible job
23 working on this issue for over a year, understanding
24 the significant consequences that children in New
25 York City face by being marketed to and eventually

2 addicted to e-cigarettes and to vaping. I am
3 grateful for his leadership. Today is a big day for
4 him and for New York City, and I want to
5 congratulate. I want to thank the staff, Zemanuel
6 Halu, Sarah Liss, and Emily Balkin, for working on
7 this incredibly important bill. And, Madam Majority
8 Leader, I want to mention that if Council Member
9 Levine wants extended to speak on this bill I'm happy
10 at the end of speaker time to give him time out of my
11 clock so that he can speak without the two minutes on
12 him. Next, finally the council will be voting on a
13 package of legislation that cracks down on placard
14 abuse throughout our city. We've talked a lot about
15 how to fix our streets lately, but even good design
16 doesn't work if people simple don't follow the law.
17 Neighborhoods across the city are plagued with cars
18 that park with impunity, blocking sidewalks and bike
19 lines, in front of hydrants, double parking. Some
20 are abusing their city-issued placard. Others try to
21 get away with it by putting a vest or a notebook with
22 the city logo on their dashboard, hoping the traffic
23 agents look the other way. Placard abuse is
24 corruption and no driver has the right to take away
25 space from pedestrians, cyclists, and bus riders.

2 We've tolerated it for years as one of those
3 unchangeable facts of life in New York City. But we
4 hope with this package of bills those days are over.
5 First, Introduction number 942-A, sponsored by
6 Council Member Peter Koo, would require the city to
7 develop a comprehensive citywide plan for the
8 distribution and use of city-issued parking permits.
9 Next, Introduction number 932-A, sponsored by Council
10 Member Margaret Chin, would require city-issued
11 parking permits to be revoked from individuals who
12 abuse their permits or fail to pay parking tickets.
13 Next, Introduction number 314-A, sponsored by Council
14 Member Ydanis Rodriguez, would require the police
15 department to issue periodic reports on the number of
16 summonses in connection with the improper use of
17 city-issued parking permits. Next, Introduction
18 1422-A, sponsored by Council Member Keith Powers,
19 would create a standardized application process for
20 city-issued parking permits. We also have a bill
21 that is sponsored by the public advocate.
22 Introduction 596-B, by Public Advocate Williams,
23 would increase the existing fine for unauthorized or
24 fraudulent city-issued parking permits from \$250 to
25 \$500. And finally, I've sponsored several pieces of

2 legislation that get to the root cause of this issue.
3 Council Members Chin and Torres are co-prime sponsors
4 on these first three bills. Introduction 1393-A
5 would require the police department to evaluate at
6 least 50 sites a week for a period of six months for
7 illegal parking. The sites would be selected based
8 on a review of complaints and summonses related to
9 the misuses of parking permits and obstruction of a
10 bicycle lane, bus lane, sidewall, crosswalk, or a
11 fire hydrant by a vehicle, as well as traffic crashes
12 and moving violations. NYPD would be required to
13 document their enforcement efforts with photographs
14 and this work would be reviewed by the Department of
15 Investigation as part of a new investigation into the
16 issuance of parking permits and enforcement of
17 parking laws. Next is Introduction 1394-A, which
18 would prohibit official city vehicles from blocking a
19 bike lane, bus lane, crosswalk, sidewalk, fire
20 hydrant, and making it the city's official policy.
21 And Introduction number 1395-A would require 311 to
22 accept complaints and photographs related to illegal
23 parking and the misuse of the parking permits.
24 Currently 311 only offers limited ability to specify
25 the type of illegal parking, does not accept

2 photographs for any parking complaints, and does not
3 allow you to specify that a vehicle is an official
4 city vehicle. And finally the last bill,
5 Introduction 927-A would require the police
6 department to create a centralized electronic
7 tracking system for all city-issued parking permits.
8 The system would record all summonses issued and
9 would allow the police department to verify in real
10 time the validity of those permits. I want to the
11 staff, who worked hard on this package of bills -
12 James Digiovanni, Emily Rooney, Rick Arbelo, and
13 Elliot Lynn, and before I turn it back to you, Madam
14 Majority Leader, if Council Member Levine wants to
15 have extended time to speak on his bill I'm happy to
16 yield some time to him.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Thank you so
18 much, Mr. Speaker, for your leadership on this issue
19 and for ensuring that this bill, 1362, is coming up
20 for a vote today. The slow pace at which this
21 country has responded to the teen vaping epidemic has
22 been an epic failure. We did nothing as these sleek
23 new devices with an intense dose of nicotine started
24 to hit the market, or as shelves started to fill up
25 with every fruity, minty, candyish flavor you can

2 think of, flavors that are clearly appealing to kids.
3 We did nothing when Jewel and other companies started
4 to market their products on social media, with
5 stylish young people promoting Jewel as a cool
6 lifestyle choice. We did nothing when Big Tobacco
7 started to pump billions into the vaping industry.
8 We did nothing when middle schoolers, middle
9 schoolers, started to report that they are refusing
10 to go the bathrooms in their schools because they
11 know they'll be filled with peers who are vaping. As
12 a result of our inaction, today there are five
13 million teens in this country who are now vaping. In
14 New York City, as elsewhere, the estimate is that one
15 in four in high schoolers and one in ten middle
16 schoolers have vaped in the past year. This are
17 children who now face a potentially lifelong battle
18 against nicotine addiction. This failure has been
19 national, with no more grotesque example than that of
20 the Trump administration, which after grand promises
21 about intervening to contain this epidemic did a
22 complete 180 last week in the face of intense
23 pressure from tobacco industry lobbyists. Well, New
24 York City has not given into that pressure. We are
25 acting to protect our kids by banning the e-cigarette

2 flavors that have been hooking them for years. Now,
3 I want to acknowledge that we have listened intently
4 to adults who have told us that e-cigarettes have
5 enabled them to quit smoking. And that's in part why
6 we will continue to allow the sale of vaping devices
7 and tobacco-flavored liquids. But make no mistake.
8 We have no higher obligation than protecting the
9 health of kids. And while only 3% of adults vape, as
10 I mentioned, fully one in four high schooler and one
11 in ten middle schoolers are vaping. This is
12 predominantly a crisis of young people and I am so
13 proud today we are acting as a city to protect their
14 health. This legislation is the result of more than
15 a year of intense work by the brilliant staff of the
16 council's Health Committee, including Zemanual Hilu,
17 Sarah Liss, Emily Balkin, Lauren Hunt, and my own
18 staff, Amy Slattery, Winn Roosevelt, and Iya Kief.
19 And I want to acknowledge the incredible the
20 coalition of advocates that pushed for this bill,
21 activists for public health, advocates for kids, and
22 I especially want to call out Meredith Berkman and
23 the incredible moms of PAVE. Thank you to my
24 colleagues, thirty of you who are cosponsoring this

2 bill, and I urge you all to vote in support of this
3 measure. Thank you.

4 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Congratulations, Mark,
5 and with that, Madam Majority Leader, happy
6 Thanksgiving to you and Prince, and I turn it back to
7 you.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so
9 much, Speaker Corey Johnson. We will now move into
10 discussion of general orders. We have Council
11 Members Chin, Koo, followed by Cornegy.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you, Madam
13 Majority Leader. I'm proud to join Speaker Johnson
14 and my colleagues today to say placard permits are a
15 privilege, not a right. Yet we hear horror stories
16 about people who constantly abuse this right and make
17 streets unsafe, especially in my district in already-
18 congested communities in lower Manhattan like Battery
19 Park City and Chinatown. As a result, residents feel
20 disrespected by the government employee who should be
21 prioritizing their safety and rights. This is
22 corruption in plain sight and should be stopped in
23 its tract. Without strong enforcement measure to
24 hold offenders accountable, this abuse will only
25 continue to weaken trust in our democracy. My

2 legislation, Intro 932-A, will put a three-strike
3 rule on the books that lead to the immediate and
4 permanent revocation of a placard. I'm proud to join
5 Speaker Johnson, Public Advocate Williams, and
6 Council Member Koo and Power on a package of bill to
7 urge all placard holders to follow the rules by
8 increasing fines, making it easier for constituents
9 to report an instant of abuse, and bringing order to
10 this chaotic system. Of course, we can't do this
11 without the hard work of the council staff. I want
12 to specifically thank Jay Digiovanni, Emily Rooney,
13 Kelly Taylor, and my legislative director, Marion
14 Garra. And I urge my colleagues to vote, support the
15 package of bills. Thank you.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
17 Council Member Chin. Council Member Koo.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you, Majority
19 Leader Cumbo, and thank you to our speaker. Parking
20 abuse is a growing problem on our city streets, in
21 which many now believe that parkers are right, that
22 they are entitled to it, rather than a privilege, to
23 be used under really specific conditions. Parking
24 abuse not only clogs our streets with illegally
25 parked vehicles, it also creates resentment and

2 distrust of those authorities allowed to use the
3 placards. My bill, 942-A, this legislation looks to
4 develop a comprehensive plan regarding the
5 distributions and use of city-issued parking permits.
6 Importantly, this bill will also publish this plan so
7 that we can bring more transparency and
8 accountability to the parking placard system. We
9 want to [inaudible] the parking bill, ah, placard
10 bills. Give our streets back to the public and
11 restore the public trust in those who actually need
12 parking placards to serve the City of New York.
13 Thank you.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

15 Council Member Cornegy.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Thank you, Madam
17 Majority Leader, and Council Member Deutsch. I'm
18 looking forward to passing an important construction
19 safety bill today that I encourage my colleagues to
20 vote yes on. My bill, Intro 1661-A, addresses
21 ongoing concerns that the diverse construction work
22 force of our city is not adequately informed about
23 site safety training requirements mandated by Local
24 Law 196 of 2017. New York City is the most diverse
25 city on the face of the planet and continues to be

2 built by people from all over the world. In an
3 effort to enhance and bolster construction site
4 safety for both workers and the public, we should
5 ensure that permit holders make information about
6 site safety training requirements available and that
7 the information is available in each of the
8 designated citywide languages and any other languages
9 required by the Department of Buildings. As the
10 construction boom continues, we must take every step
11 to maximize safety. I'd like to acknowledge the
12 efforts of the Department of the Buildings,
13 Department of Buildings, and Commissioner Melanie La
14 Rocca for her laser focus on improving construction
15 safety that have been a great partner in this work.
16 Thank you.

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
18 Council Member Cornegy. We will now move into, hold
19 on one moment. We will now move into report of
20 special committees, excuse me.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Reports of
23 standing committees.
24
25

1 STATED MEETING

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2 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee
3 on Finance, preconsidered LU 582 and Reso 1174,
4 through LU 589 and Reso 1181, tax exemptions.

5 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
6 orders.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee
8 on Health, Intro 1362-A, e-cigarettes.

9 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on
10 general orders.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee
12 on Housing and Buildings, Intro 1661-A, site safety
13 training.

14 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on
15 general orders.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee
17 on Land Use, LU 561 and 562, Fleet Place rezoning.

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

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Sorry. LU 576 and Reso
23 1182, Eighth Avenue rezoning.

24 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
25 orders.

1 STATED MEETING

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2 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee
3 on Transportation, Intro 314-A through Intro 1422-A
4 on page 5, parking permits.

5 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on
6 general orders.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: On the general order
8 calendar, resolution appointing various persons,
9 Commissioner of Deeds.

10 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
11 orders. And at this time I'm asking for a roll call
12 vote on all of the items on today's general order
13 calendar.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Eugene.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you. I
16 request permission to vote on all the land use call-
17 up and also all the item on the general order
18 calendar. With this I vote aye on all. Thank you
19 very much, thank you.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Adams.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: I'd like to say
23 greetings to all of our Seeds of Fortune career
24 fellows programs students who are visiting with us
25 today, especially my shadow, Chelsea Dujay, a

2 sophomore from Babson College in Massachusetts. I
3 proudly vote aye on all and congratulate my
4 colleagues on such brilliant legislation.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Ayala.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: I vote aye.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Brannan.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Cabrera.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye, and I
11 congratulate all my colleagues on their excellent
12 bills.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Chin.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: I also wanted to
15 congratulate all my colleagues on important
16 legislation and especially to Council Member Levine
17 on helping our youth stop smoking, and I want to wish
18 everyone a happy Thanksgiving and I vote aye on all.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Cornegy.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Deutsch.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: No on 13
22 [inaudible] on the rest.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Cornegy.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: [inaudible] and
25 vote aye on all the rest.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Dromm.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Espinal.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Aye on all.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Gibson.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Madam Majority

8 Leader, with your permission I'd like to vote aye on

9 all land use call-ups and general order calendar

10 items. And wish all of my colleagues and staff a

11 wonderful and blessed happy Thanksgiving.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission

13 granted.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you. I

15 vote aye.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Gjonaj.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Aye on all.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Grodenchik.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Aye.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Holden.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye on all.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Kallos.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye on all.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Koo.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye on all, and also
3 I want to wish all my colleagues a happy and healthy
4 Thanksgiving.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Koslowitz.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I want to wish
7 everyone a happy Thanksgiving and I vote aye on all.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Lancman.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Aye.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Lander.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye on all.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Levine.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Aye on all.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Louis.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye on all, and I
16 also want to send greetings to my Seeds of Fortune
17 intern, Chris Ann. Thank you for your time with us
18 today. I also want to congratulate all my colleagues
19 on some great legislation today.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Maisel.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Yes.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Menchaca.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Aye on all.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Moya.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Aye.

1 STATED MEETING

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2 COUNCIL CLERK: Perkins.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Aye on all.

4 Thank you.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Powers.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye on all.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Reynoso.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Aye on all.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Richards.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye on all.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Rivera.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Rose.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye on all, and

15 happy Thanksgiving, everyone.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez. Rosenthal.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: With

18 congratulations to my colleague, Council Member

19 Levine, I vote aye on all, and of course thank you to

20 the speaker on all of this.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Torres.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Aye on all.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Treyger.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Ulrich.

1 STATED MEETING

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: No on 1394, aye
3 on all others.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Vallone.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Happy, happy
6 Thanksgiving, and aye on all.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Van Bramer.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye on all.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Yeger.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Madam President,
11 may be I excused to explain my vote?

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
13 granted.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you very
15 much. Smoking is an addiction and addiction is
16 disease, as so many here know and as I know, and as
17 those who know me know I know. We should regulate
18 harshly the ability of children to access the
19 products being banned by Intro 1362. But we should
20 also not remove from available tools a demonstrable
21 smoking cessation product. This council practically
22 has legalized the possession and use of the narcotic
23 known as marijuana. We've done it repeated. We keep
24 doing it. If ever there was a problem that we ought
25 to ban it's not the e-cig, the vaping product that

2 people are using in this city to stop smoking. So
3 with that, Madam President, I vote no on Intro 1362.
4 I also vote no on Intro 1394. And I vote aye on all
5 the rest. Thank you. [applause]

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. Quiet
7 in the chamber.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Matteo.

9 MINORITY LEADER MATTEO: No on 1394, no
10 on 1362. Aye on the rest.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Cumbo.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I vote aye on
13 all.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Johnson.

15 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Aye on all.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. All
17 items on today's general order calendar are adopted
18 by a vote of 44 in the affirmative, zero negative,
19 and zero abstentions, with the exception of Intro
20 1394-A, which was adopted by a vote of 39 in the
21 affirmative, 5 negative, and zero abstentions. Intro
22 1362-A, which was adopted by a vote of 42
23 affirmative, 2 negative, and zero abstentions. The
24 revised land use call-up vote is 44 affirmative and
25

2 zero negative. We will now have introduction and
3 reading of bills.

4 SPEAKER JOHNSON: All bills have been
5 referred to[loud voices in chamber], will the
6 sergeants, if you could, if you could...

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Quiet in the
8 chamber.

9 SPEAKER JOHNSON: If you could clear the
10 balcony, if the sergeants could clear the balcony.

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Please clear the
12 balcony at this time. [continuing loud voices]
13 Please clear the balcony at this time. The throwing
14 of items is a danger to the entire council. Throwing
15 things over the balcony cannot be accepted in this
16 chamber.

17 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Madam Majority Leader,
18 if we could continue, shhhh.

19 UNIDENTIFIED: Quiet, please.

20 SPEAKER JOHNSON: We're going to continue
21 and we're almost done. If folks could retake their
22 seats. If members could sit down, we're almost done.
23 Where are the sergeants?

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Quiet in the
25 chamber.

2 UNIDENTIFIED: Rafael.

3 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: We are going to
4 continue with today's Stated Meeting. Quiet in the
5 chamber, please.

6 SPEAKER JOHNSON: If folks could...

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Shhhh.

8 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet please, keep it
9 down.

10 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Kalman, Keith, if folks
11 would just quiet down, we're almost down.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We
13 apologize for the interruption. Thank you for
14 remaining calm and staying with us. I would say it's
15 democracy in action. However, throwing things at
16 members over the balcony is never considered
17 democracy in action. So we are going to continue
18 with the introduction and reading of bills.

19 SPEAKER JOHNSON: All bills are referred
20 to committees, as indicated on today's agenda.

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. There
22 aren't any resolutions on today's calendar, so we
23 will now move into general discussion. We will begin
24 with Council Member Adams.

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Thank you, Madam
3 Majority Leader. The person that I needed to hear
4 this was just escorted out with the balcony,
5 unfortunately, my constituent. Um, hopefully he is
6 somewhere within listening distance, because this
7 bill is for him. The number of fires across the city
8 over the past few years inspired my constituent, who
9 is somewhere in the hallway, his name is Earl
10 Roberts. I would love for him to hear this. It
11 inspired my constituent, Earl Roberts, a resident of
12 Rochdale Village, and member of Community Board 12,
13 Queens, to share with me his thought regarding safety
14 in multiple dwellings across the City of New York as
15 it pertains to multiple dwellings and shelters. My
16 bill, Intro 1802, once again, inspired by my
17 constituent, Earl Roberts, will provide safety in
18 evacuation, ah, there he is, he just walked in the
19 chambers. There is Earl Roberts, who I am speaking
20 about. Earl, I am sharing with this body your
21 inspiration to me, to introduce legislation regarding
22 safety in multiple dwellings and shelters across the
23 City of New York, Intro 1802, once again, inspired by
24 my constituent, Earl Roberts, who just walked in. As
25 I said, he is a resident of Rochdale Village and

2 member of Community Board 12, Queens. This is a
3 Local Law that will require that safety notices, fire
4 safety notices, be posted in all multiple dwellings
5 and shelters across the City of New York, similarly
6 to the notices posted in hotels for the provision of
7 safety evacuation notification and information to all
8 who live on said premises. So I'd like to thank Earl
9 Roberts publicly for caring enough about his
10 community, caring enough about the city, to give me
11 one idea to promote legislation in the City of New
12 York. Happy Thanksgiving to all of my colleagues,
13 and I encourage you to sign on to 1802. Thank you,
14 Madam Majority Leader.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. Thank
16 you so much. We'll now hear from Council Member
17 Menchaca, followed by Council Member Rodriguez.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you,
19 Majority Leader. And I want to let everyone know
20 that we are also looking at Intro, ah, for Resolution
21 1173. I'm proud to introduce this resolution because
22 New York City Council supports immigrant women who
23 are seeking refuge in our nation and on the nation
24 shores. We support the legal fight to stop the Trump
25 administration from stripping protections from asylum

2 laws. This is why this resolution will be introduced
3 and hopefully voted out as soon as possible. This
4 really calls to mind the support of the amicus brief
5 submitted by 20 states, including New York, calling
6 on the D.C. circuit to maintain the availability of
7 asylum-related protections for women and families
8 with a well-founded fear of persecution due to
9 domestic or gang-related violence. And as we prepare
10 for the 16 days activism against gender-based
11 violence, let us remember our immigrant neighbors who
12 are fleeing such violence and seeking asylum in our
13 city. We must not allow the Trump administration to
14 succeed in dehumanizing immigrants out of existence
15 by making the laughable claim that immigrants fleeing
16 gender-based violence are not eligible for asylum.
17 And there's one story that I want to start sharing
18 with you and we'll talk more about it over the next
19 few weeks, but Grace, who is an indigenous woman from
20 a small village in Guatemala came to the United
21 States seeking protection from beatings, sexual
22 assault, and Grace made the long and treacherous
23 journey from Central America, arriving at the border
24 in June. She was deeply traumatized, having been
25 raped and beaten and threatened with death for more

2 than two decades at the hands of her abusive partner.
3 These are the kind of stories that we're talking
4 about. These are stories that will lift up, ah, that
5 we'll be lifting up as we pass and review this
6 resolution and hoping that becomes a victory, a
7 victory, in our long saga against the federal
8 administration. Thank you so much for your time,
9 colleagues.

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

11 Council Member Rodriguez, and then we will close
12 today's Stated Meeting.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: I would like
14 to invite all of our colleagues to please signing the
15 two bills, one [inaudible] my colleague, Council
16 Member Rivera and myself, Intro 182012, and the other
17 Intro 1813 by myself and Rivera. Those two bills
18 will create the Department of Pedestrians and
19 Cyclists. We feel that as we have the great speaker
20 here, you know, taking a lot of steps to make our
21 city more pedestrian- and cycling-friendly, having a
22 vision of how we can do better in transportation, as
23 we have any other department, Department of Cultural
24 Affair, Immigrants Affair, SBS, at a time when we
25 have 8.6 million New Yorkers and 7 million of those

2 rely on train, buses, and ferry we need to put
3 together a department that work around policy and
4 strategy in this city to centralize anything that we
5 need to do to make the city the most walkable on in
6 the whole nation. [speaking in Spanish] Thank you.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, and we
8 will end with Council Member Cornegy.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: I think Council
10 Member Cornegy is giving us all a Thanksgiving gift
11 and waiving his time. [laughter]

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: [laughs]
13 Absolutely.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so
15 much, Council Member Cornegy, and with that we will
16 turn it over to Speaker Corey Johnson to close out
17 today's meeting.

18 SPEAKER JOHNSON: The Stated, the Stated
19 Meeting of November 26, 2019, is hereby gratefully
20 adjourned. Thank you. [gavel]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Date November 29, 2019