

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

STATED MEETING OF THE  
CITY COUNCIL

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September 29, 2022  
Start: 2:03 p.m.  
Recess: 3:06 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers, City Hall

B E F O R E: Adrienne Adams, Speaker

COUNCILMEMBERS:

- Shaun Abreu
- Joann Ariola
- Alexa Avilés
- Diana Ayala
- Charles Barron
- Erik Bottcher
- Justin L. Brannan
- Gale A. Brewer
- Selvena N. Brooks-Powers
- Joseph C. Borelli
- Tiffany Cabán
- David M. Carr
- Carmen De La Rosa
- Eric Dinowitz
- Amanda Farias
- Oswald Feliz
- James Gennaro
- Jennifer Gutiérrez
- Kamillah Hanks
- Shahana Hanif

Robert F. Holden  
Crystal Hudson  
Rita Joseph  
Ari Kagan  
Shekar Krishnan  
Linda Lee  
Farah N. Louis  
Christopher Marte  
Darlene Mealy  
Julie Menin  
Francisco P. Moya  
Mercedes Narcisse  
Sandy Nurse  
Chi A. Ossé  
Vickie Paladino  
Keith Powers  
Lincoln Restler  
Kristin Richardson Jordan  
Kevin C. Riley  
Pierina Ana Sanchez  
Lynn Schulman  
Althea Stevens  
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.  
Sandra Ung  
Marjorie Velázquez  
Inna Vernikov  
Nantasha Williams  
Julie Won  
Kalman Yeger

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

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2 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet on the floor please.

3 Quiet on the floor please we're about to begin.

4 Ladies and gentlemen at this time, quiet on the floor  
5 please.

6 At this time please place all electronic devices  
7 to vibrate. Mr. Majority Leader.

8 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Good afternoon. Welcome  
9 to the stated meeting of September 29, 2022. I'm  
10 Majority Leader Keith Powers, I'd like to thank you  
11 for joining us today. If you'd like to follow along,  
12 the agenda for today's meeting is posted on the city  
13 council website.

14 COUNSEL: Please join us for the Pledge of  
15 Allegiance.

16 ALL: I pledge allegiance to the flag of the  
17 United States of America and to the republic for  
18 which it stands. One nation under God indivisible,  
19 with liberty and justice for all.

20 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Roll call.

21 CLERK: Abreu?

22 COUNCILMEMBER ABREU: Present.

23 CLERK: Ariola?

24 COUNCILMEMBER ARIOLA: Here.

25 CLERK: Avilés?

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2 CLERK: Ayala?

3 COUNCILMEMBER AYALA: Here.

4 CLERK: Barron?

5 CLERK: Bottcher?

6 COUNCILMEMBER BOTTCHER: Here.

7 CLERK: Brannan?

8 COUNCILMEMBER BRANNAN: Here.

9 CLERK: Brewer?

10 COUNCILMEMBER BREWER: Here.

11 CLERK: Brooks-Powers?

12 COUNCILMEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Here.

13 CLERK: Cabán?

14 COUNCILMEMBER CABÁN: Present.

15 CLERK: Carr?

16 CLERK: De La Rosa?

17 COUNCILMEMBER DE LA ROSA: Here.

18 CLERK: Dinowitz?

19 COUNCILMEMBER DINOWITZ: Here.

20 CLERK: Farias?

21 COUNCILMEMBER FARIAS: Present.

22 CLERK: Feliz?

23 CLERK: Gennaro?

24 COUNCILMEMBER GENNARO: Here.

25 CLERK: Gutiérrez?

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2 COUNCILMEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Here.

3 CLERK: Hanif?

4 COUNCILMEMBER HANIF: Here.

5 CLERK: Hanks?

6 COUNCILMEMBER HANKS: Present.

7 CLERK: Holden?

8 COUNCILMEMBER HOLDEN: Here.

9 CLERK: Hudson?

10 COUNCILMEMBER HUDSON: Here.

11 CLERK: Joseph?

12 COUNCILMEMBER JOSEPH: Present.

13 CLERK: Kagan?

14 CLERK: Krishnan?

15 COUNCILMEMBER KRISHNAN: Here.

16 CLERK: Lee?

17 COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Here.

18 CLERK: Louis?

19 COUNCILMEMBER LOUIS: Here.

20 CLERK: Marte?

21 CLERK: Mealy?

22 COUNCILMEMBER MEALY: Present.

23 CLERK: Menin?

24 COUNCILMEMBER MENIN: Here.

25 CLERK: Moya?

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2 COUNCILMEMBER MOYA: Here.

3 CLERK: Narcisse?

4 COUNCILMEMBER NARCISSE: Present.

5 CLERK: Nurse?

6 COUNCILMEMBER NURSE: Here.

7 CLERK: Ossé?

8 COUNCILMEMBER OSSÉ: Present.

9 CLERK: Paladino?

10 CLERK: Restler?

11 COUNCILMEMBER RESTLER: Here.

12 CLERK: Richardson Jordan?

13 COUNCILMEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN: Present.

14 CLERK: Riley?

15 COUNCILMEMBER RILEY: Present.

16 CLERK: Rivera?

17 CLERK: Salamanca?

18 COUNCILMEMBER SALAMANCA: Present.

19 CLERK: Sanchez?

20 CLERK: Schulman?

21 COUNCILMEMBER SCHULMAN: Here.

22 CLERK: Stevens?

23 COUNCILMEMBER Stevens: Here.

24 CLERK: Ung?

25 COUNCILMEMBER UNG: Present.

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2 CLERK: Velázquez?

3 COUNCILMEMBER VELÁZQUEZ: Here.

4 CLERK: Vernikov?

5 CLERK: Williams?

6 COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.

7 CLERK: Paladino?

8 COUNCILMEMBER PALADINO: Present.

9 CLERK: Won?

10 CLERK: Yeger?

11 COUNCILMEMBER YEGER: Here.

12 CLERK: Borelli?

13 COUNCILMEMBER BORELLI: Here.

14 CLERK: Powers?

15 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Here.

16 CLERK: Speaker Adams?

17 SPEAKER ADAMS: I am present.

18 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. Well, now we  
19 have today's invocation, which will be delivered by  
20 Pastor Mallory Jean Pierre senior pastor at Baraka  
21 Baptist Church, located at 9602 Flatlands Avenue in  
22 Brooklyn.

23 SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise.

24 PASTOR JEAN PIERRE: To speak Adrienne Adams, to  
25 New York City Councilmembers, I bring greetings to



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2 from Baraka Baptist Church, located in Canarsie  
3 section of Brooklyn, New York. Special thanks to my  
4 Councilwoman Mercedes Narcisse in the 46th district.

5 A Baptist minister missionary named Arthur Ward  
6 once said, "Flatter me, and I may not believe you.  
7 Criticize me, and I may not like you. Ignore me, and  
8 I may not forgive you. But encouraged me, I will not  
9 forget you.

10 Today I will not forget this body of New York  
11 City Council because you have encouraged me. As a  
12 Haitian pastor of one of the largest Asian churches  
13 in New York City. You've encouraged me in three  
14 ways. I am encouraged because there are four Haitian  
15 American Councilmembers in this chamber, Che Ossé,  
16 Councilwoman Rita Joseph, Councilwoman Farrah Lewis,  
17 and my very own councilwoman, Mercedes Narcisse. I  
18 am encouraged.

19 The second reason I'm encouraged is that the  
20 Haitian American Councilmembers were all appointed to  
21 chair positions. That is very encouraging.

22 And the third reason I am encouraged is because  
23 this body, the councilmembers, on August 11, the day  
24 after my birthday, passed the historic maternal  
25 health package. This is amazing. And I am so proud

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2 of you. I thank God for you. I'm more encouraged  
3 because this bill that was passed helps the Haitian  
4 women in New York City specifically and more so  
5 because they have the highest rate of maternal  
6 morbidity than any other race and any other woman. I  
7 am grateful.

8 So I want to encourage you as you've encouraged  
9 me, because they say, hurting people hurt people.  
10 But I say encouraged people encourages people. And I  
11 want to encourage you with Hebrews chapter 10, verse  
12 24, and 25. "And let us consider how we may spur on  
13 one another, towards love and good deeds, not giving  
14 up together, meeting together, as some have in the  
15 habit of doing but encouraging one another, and all  
16 the more as you see the day approaching." And then  
17 the prayer of Moses says, "May the favor of Our Lord  
18 our God rests on us, establish the works of our hands  
19 for us. Yes, establish the work of our hands."  
20 Father God, bless this meeting, bless the  
21 councilmembers, continue to strengthen them that they  
22 may do your work. We ask this in Jesus name. Amen.

23 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you and thank you  
24 for joining us here today. I'm not going to ask

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2 councilmember Mercedes Narcisse to put the invocation  
3 on the record.

4 COUNCILMEMBER NARCISSE: I am delighted to  
5 welcome pastor Mallory Jean Pierre of Baraka Baptist  
6 church located in the 46th district to the city  
7 council chambers today and thank him for delivering  
8 today's invocation. Baraka Baptist, which he leads  
9 is a religious institution which has contributed  
10 immensely to the ethical and spiritual values of the  
11 Canarsie community and beyond. Pastor John Pierre  
12 has built a reputation of being a deeply caring  
13 pastor, who is always on call for his congregates and  
14 community. Pastor John Pierre, like myself was born  
15 in Haiti. He was born to a Haitian father and a  
16 Dominican mother. He's married to a Jamaican wife.  
17 He has a Puerto Rican daughter in law, and African  
18 American son in law, and a Trinidadian sister in law.  
19 His family is truly the epitome of what makes New  
20 York City such a beautiful and great place.

21 Again, I thank him for his outstanding efforts in  
22 the 46th Council District, and for bringing a small  
23 taste of Baraka Baptist Church and Haitian to the  
24 council chambers today. Thank you.

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2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, Councilmember  
3 Narcisse. We now will have adoption the minutes by  
4 Councilmember Sanchez.

5 SPEAKER ADAMS: Sanchez?

6 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: I'll read the motion.  
7 I'll make a motion the minutes of the state of  
8 meetings of September 6 2020 to be adopted and  
9 printed. We will now have messages and papers from  
10 the mayor.

11 COUNSEL: M93, Mayors Management Report.

12 SPEAKER ADAMS: Received, ordered, printed, and  
13 filed.

14 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Communications from city  
15 county and borough offices?

16 COUNSEL: None.

17 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Petitions and  
18 communications?

19 COUNSEL: None.

20 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Land use call ups?

21 COUNSEL: None.

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll now  
23 have communication from Speaker Adrienne Adams.

24 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you very much Majority  
25 Leader. Good afternoon, everyone. I'd like to begin

2 today by addressing the issues related to the  
3 thousands of people arriving in New York City who are  
4 seeking asylum from their home countries. Some have  
5 been sent from other states here to New York City in  
6 political acts that are dehumanizing. These are  
7 human beings, many of whom are fleeing desperate  
8 economic conditions and political violence. They  
9 have been through so much already, and it's important  
10 that they are met with the compassion, care and  
11 decency that they have been deprived of. Even before  
12 their arrival, our city was already grappling with a  
13 housing crisis and high rates of homelessness. There  
14 are continuing problems with the shelter intake and  
15 placement process, the poor conditions of shelter  
16 facilities themselves, and a lack of access to  
17 healthy food safety and wraparound services. In many  
18 ways, the focus on those seeking asylum and how to  
19 meet their needs has highlighted the deficiencies in  
20 our current processes that must be addressed.

21 Yet the support needs for those seeking asylum is  
22 both unique and in some ways common to longtime New  
23 Yorkers who require comprehensive support getting  
24 back on their feet. It requires the type of  
25 coordinated services across agencies that we must

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2 make available for all New Yorkers facing significant  
3 challenges, whether it's mental health support, food  
4 assistance or support for school aged children of  
5 affected families. We also know that the city cannot  
6 solve this international crisis by itself. We need  
7 support and assistance of our state and federal  
8 partners to humanely care for the migrants who are  
9 arriving in our city. There are employment barriers  
10 that must be removed by the federal government,  
11 funding assistance from other levels of government,  
12 and additional support. As a council, we are focused  
13 on identifying the gaps, facilitating the  
14 coordination with our government and nonprofit  
15 partners, and advancing solutions to ensure that  
16 everyone gets the help they need. Through our  
17 oversight capacity and other actions. We will work  
18 to confront this challenge and meet the needs of  
19 those seeking asylum in a comprehensive manner. We  
20 have already held one hearing on the issues prevalent  
21 in our intake and shelter system. Tomorrow, we will  
22 hold another hearing on the various issues that those  
23 seeking asylum face in accessing stability in our  
24 city. This is a pivotal moment for our city, one  
25 that will be watched closely around the world. It's

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2 up to us as New Yorkers to show leadership, empathy,  
3 and kindness to people who have already endured so  
4 much. We will show that we can come together as a  
5 city, put aside our differences, and work  
6 collaboratively towards solutions. We can  
7 demonstrate what New York City's about, our values  
8 and our commitment to all who come here seeking  
9 refuge and help.

10 I also want to acknowledge the devastating toll  
11 and impact that hurricane Fiona has caused the people  
12 of Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, and other  
13 Caribbean islands. Puerto Rico is often called New  
14 York City's sixth borough. Because of our long  
15 established relationship with the island and its  
16 people. Our city would not be what it is today  
17 without the contributions of our Puerto Rican and  
18 Dominican communities. That's why our city is  
19 responding with such urgency in the aftermath of  
20 Fiona. It has only been five years since Hurricane  
21 Maria left Puerto Rico devastated and without  
22 electricity and clean drinking water. It destroyed  
23 homes, displaced families, and upended communities in  
24 the process. As a city and country we must do  
25 everything we can to provide immediate relief for

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2 those impacted not just by contributing to the on-  
3 the-ground recovery efforts, but also advocating for  
4 necessary policy changes. Earlier this week, I'm  
5 proud to have joined our council colleagues of Puerto  
6 Rican descent to send a joint letter to Washington,  
7 urging our federal government to create a waiver for  
8 the Jones Act, so essential supplies reach the island  
9 faster and deliver the resources that people need. I  
10 know so many of us in this room have visited the  
11 island, are supporting fundraising efforts, or are  
12 collecting donations in our individual districts.  
13 New Yorkers are once again demonstrating care and  
14 compassion in the wake of tragedy, and I want to take  
15 a moment to thank everyone who continues to support  
16 the families and people devastated by Hurricane  
17 Fiona.

18 Over the past month, our city has been mourning  
19 the loss of two New Yorkers who died while on the  
20 job. On September 12, 46-year-old Papa Cooley died  
21 while working on a 14 story project at a construction  
22 site in Greenpoint, Brooklyn. He leaves behind a  
23 family and we send love and condolences to them for  
24 their loss. On September 14, a 30-year-old Ronald  
25 Ortiz, a construction worker and electrician was shot



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2 and killed during his lunch break in East New York.

3 He is remembered by family and friends as a

4 gentleman, a kind soul who excelled at sports. We

5 also send love and condolences to his family, friends

6 and community.

7 This week, our Jewish communities here in New

8 York City and around the world celebrated Rosh

9 Hashanah, the Jewish new year I hope Everyone has a

10 happy and sweet new year filled with peace,

11 prosperity and good health.

12 Next week marks the start of Yom Kippur, the

13 holiest day of the year so I want to wish all New

14 Yorkers who are observing an easy and meaningful

15 fast, and for those celebrating... I'm gonna get this

16 right... suk... suk... I wish you all a... chag

17 sukkot sameach.

18 In the coming days we will be celebrating several

19 important cultural holidays including Nigeria

20 Independence Day on October 1, Iraq Independence Day

21 on October 3, Uganda Independence Day on October 9,

22 Cuba Independence Day on October 10, and indigenous

23 peoples Day on October 10. October marks the start

24 of Filipino American Heritage Month, German American

25 Heritage Month, Italian American Heritage Month...

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2 Heritage and culture month, and polish American  
3 Heritage Month. Our city's beautiful diversity is  
4 something to cherish and appreciate. And I join all  
5 New Yorkers in celebration of our cultures.

6 This month is also a time to shine a light on  
7 many afflictions that impact millions of people  
8 across this country. October is AIDS Awareness  
9 Month, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Down Syndrome  
10 Awareness Month, dyslexia Awareness Month, and World  
11 Autism month. We recognize the efforts of all New  
12 Yorkers who continue to support those impacted by  
13 these diseases.

14 And finally, October is National Domestic  
15 Violence Awareness Month when we highlight domestic  
16 violence and its devastating consequences,  
17 acknowledge its survivors, and uplift their voices.  
18 Nationally, one in four women and nearly one in 10  
19 men have experienced sexual or physical violence by  
20 an intimate partner during their lifetime. We know  
21 there is an undercount due to the trauma and stigma  
22 around domestic violence, resulting in people living  
23 in fear and silence. There is much work to do to end  
24 gender-based violence, and this council has  
25 prioritized responses and services to help reduce

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2 this violence and help survivors. We will continue  
3 to champion these resources that help people to be  
4 safe and recover.

5 Now, let's move on to our stated agenda. Today  
6 we're voting on several legislative land use and  
7 finance items. We will be voting on the following  
8 land use items: 231-06 Northern Boulevard will  
9 facilitate the enlargement of the Misumi restaurant.  
10 It will also permit local retail and services on  
11 neighboring properties. The council is modifying the  
12 application to reduce the size of the area of the  
13 proposed overlay by changing its eastern boundary  
14 from 234th Street to 233rd Street in Councilmember  
15 palominos district. 2017 Grand Concourse will  
16 facilitate a new 9-story residential building  
17 containing approximately 33 affordable housing units,  
18 eight of which will be provided to formerly homeless  
19 seniors through the EHRS program in Councilmember  
20 Sanchez's district. Halletts North rezoning this  
21 project and Councilmember Cabán's district will  
22 facilitate a significant new mixed-use development on  
23 the waterfront of the Halletts Point Peninsula in  
24 Northwest Queens. It will include a projected 1340  
25 housing units, 333 permanently affordable units, 525

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2 parking spaces, 525 Bicycle spaces, 1800 square feet  
3 of commercial use, 21,500 square feet of community  
4 facility space, and approximately one acre of open...  
5 open space including a waterfront esplanade. The  
6 council is modifying the application to map the MIH  
7 option to include the deep affordability and amend  
8 the site plan to restore the pedestrian walkway to  
9 its regulated width of 10 feet. I want to emphasize  
10 the commitments that were secured by Councilmember  
11 Cabán and the Council for this project to benefit the  
12 entire community.

13 [Applause]

14 NYCHA's Astoria Houses Tenant Association will  
15 receive \$1 million to benefit its residents.  
16 Outstanding. There will be 10,000 square feet of  
17 community facility space set aside for urban upbound  
18 to manage a job incubator program and provide local  
19 programming, as well as Zone 126 to us as its new  
20 headquarters for \$1 in annual rent. Outstanding.

21 There is a labor agreement with 32BJ SEIU and a  
22 commitment to hire an experienced maintenance crew to  
23 provide the upkeep of rain gardens, shoreline  
24 plantings, and other landscaping in the public  
25 promenade. And finally, a partnership with NYC Kids

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2 Rise has been established to benefit scholarship  
3 programs for local youth. Outstanding.

4 These are tremendous wins for current residents,  
5 future residents, workers, the entire community, and  
6 our entire city, and I thank Councilmember Cabán once  
7 again for her work on this important project along  
8 with everyone who played a role, including the local  
9 community, and our very own Land Use staff. Thank  
10 you all so much for this.

11 [Applause]

12 Additionally, we will also be voting on the  
13 following finance items: Proposed Resolution 306 A,  
14 which will set October 12, 2022 as the date for a  
15 public hearing on legislation to authorize increases  
16 in the annual expenditures for five business  
17 improvement districts. The Fifth Avenue BID the  
18 125th Street BID the Columbus Amsterdam BID, the  
19 DUMBO BID, and the Court-Livingston-Schermerhorn BID.

20 We will also vote on a transparency resolution  
21 approving new designations and changes of certain  
22 organizations receiving funding in the expense  
23 budget.

24 Lastly, the council will vote on the following  
25 pieces of legislation today. Intro 116 A, sponsored

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2 by the council's Small Business Committee Chair Julie  
3 Menon, would require the Department of small business  
4 services to create an online small business one stop  
5 shop portal that includes all permit and license  
6 applications, as well as related applicable  
7 information needed to open and operate a small  
8 business of any kind in New York City. The portal,  
9 which would be required to be available in English  
10 and 10 other languages, would allow business owners  
11 to track the status of their permit and license  
12 applications and allow business owners to settle or  
13 pay outstanding balances on notices of violation.

14 Next Intro 383 A, sponsored by councilmember Gale  
15 Brewer, would clarify the dates by which a commercial  
16 landlord must notify the city if a space has become  
17 vacant. The city would then keep a more up-to-date  
18 registry of storefront vacancies that would be made  
19 available to the public. This bill serves as a  
20 continuation of legislation the council passed at the  
21 request of then Manhattan Borough President Gale  
22 Brewer, which created a citywide commercial premises  
23 registry. Thank you to staff Rachael Cordero, and  
24 David Seitzer for your work.

25

2           Finally, a series of 311 related bills from our  
3 Technology Committee. Intro 206 A sponsored by  
4 councilmember Sandra Ung seeks to increase  
5 transparency regarding the wait times experienced by  
6 individuals who request an interpreter during their  
7 calls to the 311 customer service center. It would  
8 require the Commissioner of DOIT to compile and make  
9 publicly available a monthly data set, including the  
10 wait times in number of seconds experienced by  
11 individuals who request an interpreter during their  
12 calls to the 311 customer service center. Intro 296  
13 A also sponsored by Councilmember Ung, would require  
14 the development and updating of a protocol for  
15 identifying the languages spoken by callers to 311 in  
16 order to better facilitate requests for  
17 interpretation services. The bill would also require  
18 this protocol and any subsequent updates to the  
19 protocol to be posted to the 311 Customer Service  
20 Center website within seven days after implementation  
21 and updating respectively. The 311 Customer Service  
22 Center would additionally be required to report on  
23 the implementation of an updates to the protocol.

24           And Intro 240 A, sponsored by our Technology  
25 Chair Jennifer Gutierrez, would require that within

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2 30 days of the effective date of the law, city  
3 agencies must notify the 311 customer service center  
4 of the possible need to add or update a service  
5 request category on all 311 platforms. This bill  
6 would also require reporting on all set additions,  
7 and updates and would require 311 to create a  
8 publicly available data set including information on  
9 submission of correspondence from the public  
10 requesting the addition to or updating of 311 service  
11 request categories. Thank you to staff Irene  
12 Byovski, Brad Reed, Malok Niserdine, and Janita John.  
13 Congratulations to all of my colleagues who will pass  
14 this important legislation today. Thank you all for  
15 your attention. And now I turn it back into the  
16 hands of our Majority Leader Keith Powers.

17 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, Speaker  
18 Adams. We're now going to move into the discussion  
19 of general orders. We have two people signed up  
20 right now. We're first going to hear from  
21 Councilmember Palladino.

22 COUNCILMEMBER PALLADINO: Good afternoon  
23 everybody. And I'm I want to vote yea, with an  
24 explanation for the expansion of the 230-106 Northern  
25 Boulevard commercial overlay rezoning. Since



2 January, I've hosted meetings with Mizumi, CB11,  
3 Douglaston Civic, and the borough president. I've  
4 done my research, listened to all sides and made the  
5 necessary adjustments to arrive at a compromise that  
6 benefits everyone. Masumi is a family-owned multi-  
7 generational small business serving the Douglaston  
8 community for many years. The owners initially  
9 sought to expand the BSA variants, but that goal was  
10 made impossible. After several years, Masumi changed  
11 its course and now seeks approval of the rezoning to  
12 establish a C22 commercial overlay within the  
13 existing R1-2 residential district from Mizumi to  
14 234th Street. Through extensive discussion with the  
15 community and Mizumi, I have decided to reduce the  
16 extent of the rezoning to 233rd Street in order to  
17 minimize the potential effects of rezoning. I have  
18 also secured a commitment on the maximum size and  
19 capacity of this expansion so that it is less likely  
20 to cause any disruptions to traffic.

21 My vote today establishes predictable zoning  
22 controls on Northern Boulevard. Because of the  
23 underlying R1 R2 zoning remains in place, no tall  
24 buildings or apartment buildings of any kind will be  
25 permitted. Instead the rezoning gives the property

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2 owners the ability to invest in their businesses  
3 without extensive and costly government oversight.  
4 With this vote, I helped small businesses to grow  
5 while blocking over development.

6 I was elected to serve District 19 to both  
7 preserve our neighborhoods and to support our small  
8 businesses. With my vote to approve this commercial  
9 overlay with some common-sense modifications, we will  
10 achieve both goals. I have already I have always  
11 practice transparency in my district. No matter  
12 which problems I tackle, I strive at solutions that  
13 are best interest to all. I thank you all very much.

14 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, Councilmember  
15 Palladino. We will now hear from Councilmember  
16 Brewer, followed by Councilmember Sanchez.

17 Okay, we're now going to go to Councilmember  
18 Sanchez,

19 COUNCILMEMBER SASNCHEZ: Thank you, Majority  
20 Leader. I want to speak in support of my... the  
21 project that is going through in my district, 2017  
22 Grand Concourse, which is 100% affordable housing  
23 development. It's going to be 34 units and a very  
24 small site. And it was it was previously, not as  
25 affordable. I... we kind of got into it during our

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2 first discussion with the developers, which is  
3 actually the day that we had a shooting in front of  
4 my office. And I was in the middle of saying to them  
5 right before we heard pop-pop, literally, that we  
6 needed more and deeper affordability in every single  
7 development that was going to come to our district  
8 with city support. And they obliged. It's a third  
9 of homeless set-aside, and 10% of 30% AMI. And I'm  
10 just very proud to support this project, and urge all  
11 of us -- congratulations to Councilmember Cabán -- to  
12 always just be very attentive to these projects,  
13 because they get subsidized at really high levels.  
14 This one is \$782,000 per unit, to preserve the long  
15 term affordability. And so when we have the right,  
16 and we should and must demand every time that these  
17 projects come to our district, that we are getting  
18 exactly what our communities need. So with that,  
19 thank you so much. And I hope that you all join me  
20 in supporting.

21 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. Do we have  
22 any other individuals who'd like to speak on general  
23 orders?

24 Okay, we'll now move over to the report of  
25 special committees.

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2 COUNSEL: None.

3 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Report of standing  
4 committees?

5 COUNSEL: Report of the Committee on Finance Reso  
6 306 A, Business Improvement Districts.

7 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and coupled on general  
8 orders.

9 COUNSEL: Pre-considered Reso 327, Transparency  
10 Reso.

11 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on general orders.

12 COUNSEL: Report to the Committee on Land Use, LU  
13 92 and Reso 333, and LU 93 and Reso 334, 2017 Grand  
14 Concourse.

15 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on general orders.

16 COUNSEL: Report of the Committee on Small  
17 Business, Intro 116 A, small business portal.

18 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and coupled on general  
19 orders.

20 COUNSEL: Intro 383 A, commercial property  
21 vacancy law.

22 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended a coupled on general  
23 orders.

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2 COUNSEL: Reported of the Committee on  
3 Technology, Intros 206 A, 240 A, and 296 A, 311  
4 Customer Service Centers.

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

7 COUNSEL: General orders calendar, Intro 179 A.

8 SPEAKER ADAMS: Laid over.

9 COUNSEL: LU 89 and Reso 335 through LU 95 and  
10 Reso 339, 230-106 Northern Boulevard Commercial  
11 Overlay and Halletts North.

12 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on general orders. And I  
13 now ask that the clerk take a roll call vote on all  
14 of the items coupled on today's general orders  
15 calendar.

16 COUNSEL: Brooks-Powers?

17 COUNCILMEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Permission to  
18 explain my vote?

19 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

20 COUNCILMEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: First, I'd like to  
21 vote aye on all, but I did want to take a moment to  
22 recognize a member of my team who will be departing  
23 tomorrow, Alex Hunter. Alex has been an instrumental  
24 part of my team since almost the very beginning. And  
25 I'm excited for his next chapter and I thank him for

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2 his service to the 31st. Council District. Thank  
3 you. Thank you.

4 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. How do  
5 you... Did you vote?

6 COUNSEL: Yes. Thank you, Williams.

7 COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS: I also vote aye on all,  
8 and I just wanted to wish my Chief of Staff a very  
9 happy birthday. Happy birthday, Ashley.

10 COUNSEL: Salamanca?

11 COUNCILMEMBER SALAMANCA: Permission to explain  
12 my vote.

13 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

14 COUNCILMEMBER SALAMANCA: Yeah, I would like to  
15 rely on all call ups. And with permission I'd like  
16 to vote on all coupled items on the general order  
17 calendar and all resolutions, and I vote aye on all.

18 COUNSEL: Thank you. Louis?

19 COUNCILMEMBER LOUIS: I vote aye on all.

20 COUNSEL: Mealy?

21 COUNCILMEMBER MEALY: I want to thank the  
22 majority leader, and I would like to vote on all land  
23 use call ups, general orders, and I vote aye on  
24 all... on all resolutions. And thank you.

25 COUNSEL: Thank you. Borelli.

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2 COUNCILMEMBER Thank you. No one preconsidered  
3 Reso 327 and Intro 383 A. Thanks. Aye on the rest.

4 COUNSEL: Thank you. Abreu?

5 COUNCILMEMBER ABREU: Aye on all.

6 COUNSEL: Ariola?

7 COUNCILMEMBER ARIOLA: I just like to mention  
8 that on October 10, it is also Columbus Day, which is  
9 celebrated by a majority of the 800,000 Americans of  
10 Italian descent here in this city and in the five  
11 boroughs.

12 For my vote, I vote aye on all except for Reso  
13 327, and Intro 383 A, in which I vote no.

14 COUNSEL: Thank you. Avilés?

15 COUNCILMEMBER AVILÉS: Aye on all.

16 COUNSEL: Ayala?

17 COUNCILMEMBER AYALA: Aye on all.

18 CLERK: Barron?

19 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: May I be excused explain  
20 my vote.

21 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

22 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: First I want to... through  
23 full disclosure, my son, Jelani Johnson, works for  
24 Brick Arts, Brooklyn, Inc. and I want to commend  
25 Councilmember Sanchez, for sticking with the battle

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2 to make it 100% affordable. So I want to commend her  
3 for that work. I saw what she had to go through.  
4 And this is what we really need to be doing. And I'm  
5 voting no on the Hallett North in Cabán's district,  
6 because while we talked about all of those other  
7 things which are wonderful, only 10% of the units  
8 will be at 30% of the AMI, 10% of the units will be  
9 at 50% of the AMI, and 75% of the units will be  
10 market. And that's not my idea of affordability.  
11 And so I think we need to do better, and not go for  
12 the other set decorations when the fundamental part  
13 of it is for affordability. This is how our  
14 communities are gentrified. So I vote no on that  
15 item and aye on all the rest.

16 COUNSEL: Thank you. Bottcher?

17 COUNCILMEMBER BOTTCHER: I vote aye on all and  
18 congratulate the councilmembers who worked on these  
19 projects that will help address the housing shortage  
20 in New York City.

21 COUNSEL: Brannan?

22 COUNCILMEMBER BRANNAN: Aye on all.

23 COUNSEL: Brewer?

24 COUNCILMEMBER BREWER: I vote aye on all. I do  
25 want to commend the Columbus Avenue bid on their



2 efforts over many years, and Peter Anse in  
3 particular, who's the director, and I want to say  
4 Intro 383, which I have the honor of sponsoring and  
5 much thanks to Councilmember Menin. And it went  
6 through the committee as a data information that will  
7 help us keep track of vacancies that are in  
8 storefronts, a really important piece of legislation  
9 that talks about how we can use datasets more  
10 significantly. Thank you very much.

11 COUNSEL: Thank you. Cabán?

12 COUNCILMEMBER CABÁN: Aye on all.

13 COUNSEL: Carr?

14 COUNCILMEMBER CARR: I wish to join my colleague  
15 in acknowledging Columbus Day, which is a holiday  
16 deeply important to the many Staten Islanders I  
17 represent, home to more Italians in Richmond County  
18 than any other county in the country. I'm very proud  
19 of that fact as a fellow Italian American. And I  
20 like to disclose on the record that we are funding  
21 CUNY in this transparency resolution and my spouse is  
22 a student at CUNY, and I'll be voting no on  
23 Preconsidered Resolution 327 and Introduction 383 A,  
24 and aye on the rest. Thank you.

25 COUNSEL: Thank you. De La Rosa?

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2 COUNCILMEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye on all. Thank  
3 you.

4 COUNSEL: Dinowitz?

5 COUNCILMEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye on all

6 COUNSEL: Farias?

7 COUNCILMEMBER FARIAS: I vote aye on all.

8 COUNSEL: Feliz?

9 COUNCILMEMBER FELIZ: Aye on all. And briefly,  
10 we obviously have an affordable housing crisis in our  
11 city. I want to congratulate my colleagues for  
12 taking real steps to help resolve that crisis. Thank  
13 you.

14 COUNSEL: Gennaro?

15 COUNCILMEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

16 COUNSEL: Gutiérrez?

17 COUNCILMEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye on all.

18 COUNSEL: My apologies, Councilmember Gutiérrez?

19 COUNCILMEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye on all.

20 COUNSEL: Hanif?

21 COUNCILMEMBER HANIF: Aye on all.

22 COUNSEL: Hanks?

23 COUNCILMEMBER HANKS: Aye on all.

24 COUNSEL: Holden?

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2 COUNCILMEMBER HOLDEN: Aye on all, on all except  
3 Reso 327 and Intro 383 A. And I'm wishing everyone  
4 out there happy Columbus Day.

5 COUNSEL: Hudson?

6 COUNCILMEMBER HUDSON: Aye on all.

7 COUNSEL: Joseph?

8 COUNCILMEMBER JOSEPH: Aye on all.

9 COUNSEL: Kagan?

10 COUNCILMEMBER KAGAN: Aye on all.

11 COUNSEL: Krishnan?

12 COUNCILMEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye on all.

13 COUNSEL: Lee?

14 COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye on all.

15 COUNSEL: Marte?

16 COUNCILMEMBER MARTE: Aye on all.

17 COUNSEL: Menin?

18 COUNCILMEMBER MENIN: Uh, permission to explain  
19 my vote.

20 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

21 COUNCILMEMBER MENIN: Thank you. Well, first of  
22 all, I'm really proud to have my bill Intro 116 being  
23 voted on today. I really want to thank the 40 co-  
24 sponsors of this bill. This creates, as the speaker  
25 said, a one stop shop portal, which will consolidate

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2 every city agency permit that a small business needs  
3 to open or to operate. Currently, for example, if  
4 you're a restaurant owner, you're dealing with 20  
5 different forms that you have to file and often you  
6 have to take off multiple days off of work just to do  
7 this. This one-stop-shop portal will be in 11  
8 different languages. So we really focused on  
9 language access, and we're basically making it much  
10 easier for small businesses to operate. I also want  
11 to thank the speaker for her leadership in moving  
12 this bill forward and helping our small businesses.  
13 And I want to thank my Chief of Staff Jonathan Shut,  
14 my legislative and Budget Director Brandon Jordan,  
15 Jeff Baker, Andrea Vasquez, David Seitzer, for their  
16 incredibly hard work on this legislation. And  
17 finally, this bill is really going to lift the  
18 burdensome regulatory difficulties that thousands of  
19 our small businesses face. Thank you. And I vote  
20 aye and all

21 COUNSEL: Thank you. Moya?

22 COUNCILMEMBER MOYA: I vote aye on all.

23 COUNSEL: Thank you. Narcisse?

24 COUNCILMEMBER NARCISSE: Aye on all.

25 CLERK: Ossé?

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2 COUNCILMEMBER OSSÉ: Aye on all.

3 COUNSEL: Nurse?

4 COUNCILMEMBER NURSE: I just want to say I'm very  
5 much looking forward to celebrating Indigenous  
6 People's Day. Certainly not just even the name of  
7 the day doesn't even begin to deal with the genocidal  
8 acts conducted by Christopher Columbus, murdering  
9 raping, maiming, massacring but my sympathies to  
10 those who celebrate that, and I vote aye on all.

11 [Applause]

12 COUNSEL: Paladino?

13 COUNCILMEMBER PALADINO: Well, I would be remiss  
14 if... [laughter] If I did not recognize Columbus  
15 Day, okay. And I sort of am upset that the Chambers  
16 here has not done so, that we as individuals have to  
17 recognize it. So it's totally overlooked. I have a  
18 problem with that, but that's okay. With... I go  
19 forward with voting aye all except for Reso 327 and  
20 Intro 383 A. Happy Columbus Day everybody.

21 COUNSEL: Thank you. Restler?

22 COUNCILMEMBER RESTLER: A lot to follow.

23 Permission to explain my vote.

24 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

25

2 COUNCILMEMBER RESTLER: Firstly, I just like to  
3 congratulate my good friends at the DUMBO BID and the  
4 Court-Livingston-Schermerhorn BID on increasing  
5 their... their annual expenditure. These are two  
6 really wonderful business improvement districts that  
7 do so much to improve the dynamism and the  
8 cleanliness, and just the activation of our  
9 communities in downtown Brooklyn and DUMBO. In the  
10 future, I hope that we can start including market-  
11 rate residential rental properties in these Business  
12 Improvement District assessments, as, you know, these  
13 areas have gentrified enormously and the residents  
14 benefit so much from the services of the BID. But  
15 I'm very pleased that we are helping to allow these  
16 organizations to do even more good work in our  
17 communities. And while I have a great deal of  
18 appreciation for the Italian American community here  
19 in New York and across the nation. I think it is  
20 wrong that we continue to celebrate Columbus Day.  
21 And it is Indigenous Peoples Day that we should be  
22 honoring and celebrating this coming... two Monday's  
23 from now, and, you know, I hope that we as a chamber  
24 can do more to, you know, rename places like Columbus  
25 Park in downtown Brooklyn to better celebrate the

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2 folks who made contributions to our communities.

3 Thank you.

4 COUNSEL: Thank you. Richardson-Jordan?

5 COUNCILMEMBER RICHARDSON-JORDAN: I would like to  
6 be associated with the comments of my colleague,  
7 Councilmember Sandy nurse regarding Indigenous  
8 Peoples Day. I would also like to say that there's  
9 plenty of folks we should bring into the light,  
10 including many Italian Americans. Just you know,  
11 those who have done good. And with that, I vote I on  
12 aye on all. Thank you.

13 COUNSEL: Thank you. Riley.

14 COUNCILMEMBER RILEY: Aye.

15 COUNSEL: Rivera?

16 COUNSEL: Sanchez?

17 COUNCILMEMBER SANCHEZ: Permission to explain my  
18 vote?

19 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

20 COUNCILMEMBER SANCHEZ: First, majority leader I  
21 want to just apologize that I wasn't here to adopt  
22 the minutes I was breastfeeding the child. So I want  
23 to vote aye on all with the exception of  
24 Preconsidered Resolution 327, because there are some  
25 decisions in there that adversely affect my district

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2 and I cannot in good conscience support this  
3 transparency resolution at this time. And with that,  
4 I vote aye on all with the exception of Preconsidered  
5 Resolution 327.

6 COUNSEL: Schulman?

7 COUNCILMEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye on all.

8 CLERK: Stevens?

9 COUNCILMEMBER STEVENS: I vote aye and all, and I  
10 would also like to wish Deputy Speaker Diane Ayala  
11 Happy belated birthday. Oh, happy birthday to you.  
12 Happy birthday to you.

13 COUNSEL: Happy birthday. Councilmember Ung?

14 COUNCILMEMBER UNG: Aye on all.

15 COUNSEL: Velázquez?

16 COUNCILMEMBER VELÁZQUEZ: Aye on all.

17 COUNSEL: Vernikov?

18 COUNCILMEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye on all, except no on  
19 Preconsidered Reso 327, and no on Intro 383 A. Thank  
20 you.

21 COUNSEL: Won?

22 COUNCILMEMBER WON: Aye on all. Thank you.

23 COUNSEL: Thank you. Yeger?

24 COUNCILMEMBER YEGER: May be excused to explain  
25 my vote.



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2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

3 COUNCILMEMBER YEGER: Thank you very much, I'm  
4 not going to wish anybody any kind of happy anything.  
5 [laughter] Instead said I'm going to talk about the  
6 taxes that we are on a... on a march towards raising  
7 today. You may not notice that if you take a look at  
8 the agenda because it's hidden. It's a hidden tax on  
9 people all across the city. And it's the rubber  
10 stamp that we wield when we say let's set a public  
11 hearing for the increase in the annual expenditure  
12 that a number of BIDs are going to spend. I love a  
13 good public hearing just like anybody else. It's a  
14 lot of fun. 14 days from now, people all across the  
15 city will be invited by a publication in a newspaper  
16 of record that any of these five BIDs choose to come  
17 here into this building, go into that room next door  
18 at 10 o'clock in the morning, and tell us why they  
19 don't think they should pay any more. How many  
20 people do we really think are going to show up?

21 BIDs are wonderful. I've said this before.  
22 They're there to pick up the slack for when the city  
23 has failed neighborhoods. So the BIDs get created.  
24 And then the tax goes on people's bills. They have  
25 to pay it. They don't get a credit against the

2 property taxes that they're already paying. There  
3 are BIDs that we are going to... we're doing the...  
4 the march towards acceptance, and make no mistake,  
5 this is a rubber stamp. This is you know... we're  
6 setting the public hearing, but we're going to pass  
7 it the increase is going to happen. It's not like  
8 you know, in a couple of weeks, we're going to come  
9 back and say oh, no, we're not passing any increase.  
10 It's happening.

11 One of these BIDs, I'm sure they do wonderful  
12 work, \$8 million, is how much they're going to spend.  
13 Another one is \$1.8 million. The money's coming out  
14 of people's pockets. We talk a lot about how we  
15 don't raise the tax rate in the city. We haven't  
16 increased the tax rate on... on the property taxes.  
17 But this is a hidden way to do it. So I'm going to  
18 vote no, with respect to my colleagues who love these  
19 BIDs, and I love them too, but I don't love the taxes  
20 that they take out of people's pockets. No on  
21 Resolution 306. I also vote no on Introduction 383,  
22 consistent with how I voted on the underlying  
23 statute, and I abstain on Resolution 327. Thank you  
24 very much.

25 COUNSEL: Thank you. Powers?

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2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: I vote aye. Speaker  
3 Adams?

4 SPEAKER ADAMS: Well, unlike my colleague I am  
5 going to add another happy Diwali on October 24. To  
6 all who are celebrating with that I vote aye on all.

7 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: All items on today's  
8 general order calendar are adopted by a vote of 50 in  
9 the affirmative, zero on the negative, with zero  
10 abstentions, with the exception of Intro 383 A,  
11 adopted by a vote of 43 in the affirmative, 7 in the  
12 negative, zero abstentions, resolution 327 adopted by  
13 a vote of 42 in the affirmative, 7 in the negative,  
14 and 1 abstention. Land use items 90, 91, 94, 95 and  
15 accompanying resolutions adopted by a vote of 49 in  
16 the affirmative, one of the negative, resolution 306  
17 adopted by a vote of 49 in the affirmative, 1 of the  
18 negative and zero abstentions.

19 We'll now move in to the introduction of reading  
20 of bills.

21 SPEAKER ADAMS: All bills have been referred to  
22 committees as indicated on today's agenda.

23 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. There are no  
24 resolutions on today's agenda. So we're now going to  
25 move into general discussion.

2 We'll start with councilmember Kagan.

3 COUNCILMEMBER KAGAN: Thank you Majority Leader  
4 Powers for the opportunity to speak. For too long  
5 New York City Housing Authority has avoided having to  
6 answer for the abysmal response times for housing  
7 residents concerns. I have seen on multiple  
8 occasions, service requests be marked resolved, while  
9 nothing had been done. Meanwhile, some property  
10 managers seemingly go out of their way to avoid  
11 addressing resistance issues concerns, taking weeks  
12 if not months to make even the simplest fix. It is  
13 unacceptable that residents have to wait for so long  
14 to get even the most basic services, and NYCHA must  
15 be held accountable.

16 That is why I'm introducing to the Intro 724,  
17 requiring NYCHA to report on their responsiveness to  
18 tenants complaints and service requests. These  
19 requests cannot be left unanswered and cannot be put  
20 on the back burner, and NYCHA must address these  
21 issues in a timely manner. I urge all my colleagues  
22 to sign on Intro 724, and hold it accountable for  
23 their mistreatment of tenants. Thank you.

24

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2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, we'll now go  
3 to Councilmember Lee followed by Councilmember  
4 Brewer.

5 We'll go to Councilmember Brewer and then come  
6 back to Councilmember Lee.

7 COUNCILMEMBER BREWER: I have three bills that  
8 we're considering today. One has to do with stolen  
9 property. I believe that many of us are experiencing  
10 theft from stores, and this would make it a  
11 misdemeanor if it is placed on the open market  
12 online.

13 Number two, the issue of public space: I know  
14 that we are all enjoying plazas, we are enjoying  
15 activities that take place on them. But there isn't  
16 a lot of coordination in terms of what is going on.  
17 There are different agencies involved. So this would  
18 make a better coordination taking place at the city  
19 level.

20 And then the final issue is just trying to... or  
21 the issue of... the very important, one that we've  
22 been working on for a long time, which is figuring  
23 out how to have a land bank. And I think if we have  
24 a hearing then there'll be many additions that I know  
25 Councilmember Nurse and others have suggested, but we

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2 do have the opportunity now with land to be actually  
3 in the perpetuity of affordable, because I know too  
4 many times even when a nonprofit takes over a  
5 building, it gets sold to the highest bidder and you  
6 do not have a permanently affordable structure even  
7 though that is what it is intended to do. The land  
8 bank within that.

9 Those are the three bills that are being  
10 considered for today, and I look forward to your  
11 support. Thank you very much.

12 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll go to  
13 Councilmember Lee followed by Councilmember Farias.

14 COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Good afternoon, Madam  
15 Speaker, Majority Leader and colleagues. I'm proud  
16 to introduce legislation today that will create a  
17 website for DOE schools to post their surplus  
18 supplies and to facilitate school-to-school  
19 exchanges. The legislation Intro 725 was actually  
20 driven by a conversation at the grassroots level in  
21 my district where we learned from a local teacher  
22 about the need for a system that school  
23 administrators can use to communicate and coordinate  
24 with one another about their inventories and  
25

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2 resources to save precious taxpayer dollars and also  
3 not let supplies go to waste.

4 Given the fiscal predictions and as we head into  
5 another budget cycle legislation that promotes  
6 efficiency and reduces waste is badly needed. So I  
7 wanted to say thank you, and hope all of you can sign  
8 on in support.

9 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We're going  
10 to Councilmember Farias followed by Councilmember  
11 Cabán.

12 COUNCILMEMBER FARIAS: Good afternoon colleagues.  
13 Happy fall celebration is definitely in the air this  
14 month with several holidays taking place. So first I  
15 want to start off with saying we welcomed little Amal  
16 this morning here at City Hall. She represents a  
17 message of hope and solidarity for displaced people  
18 everywhere. Thank you to Amal for joining us on the  
19 steps today. It was really an honor to have you here  
20 and we wish her a safe continued journey.

21 I want to wish all my Hindu neighbors and those  
22 who celebrate Navaratri a happy Navaratri. I hope  
23 the next six days are filled with joy and celebration  
24 as we honor Goddess Duka.

25

2 It is also Hispanic Heritage Month, y'all. This  
3 month, and every month we take time to highlight and  
4 celebrate all that our Latino culture has to offer,  
5 and all that we have given to make this city, state,  
6 and country great, and I want to especially  
7 acknowledge the diversity we have in this body.

8 Next up, additionally, I want to wish a happy  
9 Rosh Hashana to all of our Jewish community members  
10 and everyone who celebrates. Lastly, we have October  
11 10, coming up which is Indigenous Peoples Day, and  
12 this day celebrates, recognizes, and honors the  
13 beautiful traditions and cultures of the indigenous  
14 people not just here in America, but around the  
15 world. It draws attention to the pain, trauma and  
16 broken promises that were erased by the celebration  
17 of Columbus Day.

18 Today where I have two bills being introduced on  
19 the floor, first with Councilmember Menon, Intro 727,  
20 which would require the mayor's office on ending  
21 domestic violence and gender-based violence to  
22 operate Family Justice centers 24 hours a day seven  
23 days a week and to conduct a public campaign to  
24 inform the community of this change.



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2 My second bill is with Councilmember Salamanca,  
3 that would increase the quality of life for all our  
4 seniors in nursing homes. Currently nursing homes  
5 have to pay out-of-pocket for private collection  
6 businesses. Intro 720 would require the DSNY pickup  
7 of those wastes from nursing homes at no cost to the  
8 homes. And I urge my colleagues to sign on. Two  
9 minutes.

10 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll go to  
11 Councilmember Cabán followed by Councilmember Baron.

12 COUNCILMEMBER CABÁN: Thank you. I want to take  
13 just a couple of minutes to talk about Puerto Rico.  
14 The last time I was on the island I met with  
15 organizers. I visited farmers hitting the mountains.  
16 I visited my family, and Puerto Ricans are tired.  
17 They've had to survive all manners of disaster,  
18 hurricanes and earthquakes which by the way, Puerto  
19 Rico is one of the top five places on the planet most  
20 affected by the climate crisis. And so what's  
21 happening there is all of our futures. And they have  
22 also had to survive the disasters of imperialism and  
23 colonization.

24 And if you want to help Puerto Ricans, we need  
25 more than offering water and generators as aid after

2 disasters, but a commitment to support Puerto Ricans  
3 ability to thrive and make their own future.  
4 Organizers there shared that it's really hard to  
5 mobilize when you feel like you don't have the energy  
6 to get up. It's la brega, the perpetual struggle.  
7 And we the diaspora, and also all people who support  
8 justice everywhere need to support this freedom  
9 fight. We need to end the Jones Act, not just simply  
10 waive it. We need to end Promessa, the fiscal board,  
11 we have to cancel the debt, and we have to say afuera  
12 to Luma and the privatization of energy, and fight  
13 for Puerto Ricans right to self-determination, the  
14 right to decide our own futures.

15       And so I hope that others will join in in  
16 supporting those efforts of the folks again that  
17 are... that are on the island living through the  
18 struggles every single day. So thank you.

19       MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll go to  
20 Councilmember Baron, followed by Councilmember  
21 Avilés...

22       COUNCILMEMBER BARON: Um, I want to commend  
23 Council...

24       MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: ... followed by  
25 Councilmember Avilés, and then we'll go to

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2 Councilmember Bottcher. And if anybody else has  
3 things, they can sign up. Thanks.

4 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: Does that mean I go?

5 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: You're up.

6 COUNCILMEMBER BARRON: Ah. I want to commend the  
7 Councilmember Avilés for a powerful, strong hearing  
8 that you provided for us and people of NYCHA. You  
9 made us feel proud. You were strong. And we say  
10 NYCHA stop privatizing and start sanitizing your  
11 water because that's the real issue. So  
12 congratulations on a powerful hearing.

13 As far as Columbus is concerned, most historians  
14 said he never stepped foot on American soil, most  
15 historians said he left Spain on the Nina, the Pinta  
16 and the Santa Maria and went to Hispaniola, where he  
17 raped, murdered, was a racist colonizer and even if  
18 you're a Italian, you should not celebrate a  
19 colonizing, racist, rapist, and we should stop lying  
20 to our children. Columbus did not discover America  
21 for two reasons. One, he never stepped foot in  
22 America. And two, you can't discover a place where  
23 people already exist. And if you could do that, then  
24 I'm discovering Manhattan. [laughter] It never  
25 happened. We should not celebrate Columbus and some

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2 people say let's do both. No, not a colonizing,  
3 rapist, murderer, should not be celebrated. Thank  
4 you.

5 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: We'll now go to  
6 Councilmember Avilés. Finally we'll hear from... and  
7 then after that, we'll hear from Councilmember  
8 Bottcher.

9 COUNCILMEMBER AVILÉS: Colleagues, I emphatically  
10 support Councilmember Cabán's remarks and  
11 Councilmember Baron's remarks.

12 For those of you who represent districts with an  
13 industrial business zone, chances are you know quite  
14 well the challenges faced by rapid proliferation of  
15 last-mile logistics facilities. Chances are that if  
16 you represent communities that have seen the rapid  
17 proliferation of last-mile you also represent  
18 environmental justice communities where decades of  
19 discriminatory planning has caused black and brown  
20 communities to suffer the brunt of the impact of  
21 environmental contaminants. Our communities exhibit  
22 disparate health outcomes, as a result, including  
23 elevated asthma rates and elevated pedestrian safety  
24 risks to name just a few that relate directly to the  
25 growth of these facilities. While I continue to

2 grapple with a way to more directly regulate last-  
3 mile facilities in the interim, I'm introducing  
4 legislation today that is intended to mitigate the  
5 impacts of the massive uptick in delivery vehicles in  
6 my district, especially in the community of Red Hook.  
7 These delivery vehicles are congesting our roadways  
8 and poisoning our air. Today I'm introducing Bill  
9 707, in conjunction with the Bronx Borough President,  
10 Councilmembers Cabán, Gutiérrez, and Restler, which  
11 calls on New York City to begin monitoring air  
12 quality at designated heavy use thoroughfares.

13 I'm also going to be introducing... also  
14 introduce Intro 708, calls on the DOT, to undergo a  
15 redesign, and to improve safety, reduce congestion  
16 and mitigate harmful impacts and emissions that are  
17 continuing to have community health and wellbeing  
18 impacts. I urge all of my colleagues to sign on to  
19 engage in conversations around the impacts of these  
20 incredible facilities. And lastly, I want to thank  
21 my colleagues for their support of Puerto Rico and  
22 the Dominican Republic, and to call attention to the  
23 island of Cuba, who also was battered by a storm,  
24 Hurricane Ian. Please support Cuba. Please support

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2 the resolution to lift the embargo and end the travel  
3 ban. The Cuban people need our support.

4 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, we're going  
5 to hear from Councilmember Bottcher and then  
6 Councilmember Ossé.

7 COUNCILMEMBER BOTTCHER: Illegally covered up  
8 license plates allowed drivers to evade camera  
9 tickets 1.5 million times between March of 2020 and  
10 January of 2022. But the only reason we know that is  
11 because of a Freedom of Information Act request filed  
12 by the city... the publication of the city. That  
13 information should be made publicly available, so we  
14 know more about the issue that we're trying to solve  
15 for. So today I'm introducing a bill that would  
16 require the Department of Transportation to post this  
17 information publicly and regularly, so we can monitor  
18 progress on this issue. And I want to wish a happy  
19 Indigenous Peoples Day to my colleagues.

20 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. And finally  
21 we hear from Councilmember Ossé.

22 COUNCILMEMBER OSSÉ: Thank you so much majority  
23 leader. I do want to echo the sentiments shared by  
24 our speaker at the beginning of the Stated Meaning in  
25 regards to New York City's handling of the migrant

2 crisis. As many of us all know, conservative  
3 governors across this country that tout the words of  
4 Jesus Christ and the Bible, are sending migrants to  
5 New York City expecting us to turn them away or treat  
6 them poorly. Last Friday, I had the privilege to go  
7 on an unannounced tour of a shelter within my  
8 district with Councilmember Hudson, and I was fairly  
9 impressed with the work that was being done by the  
10 provider there.

11 Brooklyn is also bearing the brunt of the influx  
12 of migrants. Thus, the resources that we have are  
13 quite limited. So I'm hoping that the leadership in  
14 this council, all of our colleagues in this Council,  
15 as well as colleagues in government, continue  
16 advocating for resources from the state and federal  
17 level, to keep our migrant neighbors safe and provide  
18 them with the resources that they need to get back on  
19 their feet. But I'm very proud of New York City  
20 for... for doing what we're doing in terms of  
21 handling the crisis. It's not perfect, but we're  
22 getting there. Thank you.

23 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. And I  
24 believe lastly we'll hear from Councilmember Feliz.

2 COUNCILMEMBER FELIZ: Thank you majority leader.  
3 I want to take a second to briefly talk about the Gun  
4 Violence Crisis affecting our city. I'm looking at  
5 the numbers now. This year we've had 1246 shooting  
6 victims, 1246 people who will live the rest of their  
7 lives with so much trauma, not only the victims but  
8 their families. Our families deserve safety,  
9 regardless of their income, regardless of the  
10 neighborhood that we live in. If we don't have  
11 safety, nothing else matters.

12 I visited so many of my schools in my district,  
13 and the issue that consistently comes up is safety.  
14 And how can our children feel safe? And how can our  
15 children focus on school if they don't feel safe?  
16 How can children take advantage of opportunity if  
17 they don't feel safe, if they feel that a shooting  
18 can happen any second?

19 As I mentioned, in the last meeting, there's a  
20 park in my district received the most state of the  
21 art renovation that I could imagine: \$15 million in  
22 renovation, and the people in that community, the  
23 families in that community, and the children in that  
24 community could only see that park from a distance.  
25 Because there's... there's shootings, and there's



2 gunshots ringing on a nightly basis. Everyone  
3 deserves access to safety, regardless of the income  
4 or neighborhood that they live in. Again, 1246  
5 shootings this year in the city of New York, that is  
6 wild. That is crazy.

7 We need to be asking ourselves many questions.  
8 One of the questions that we've been talking about  
9 is, where are these ghost guns coming from? That is  
10 one question that we've been asking ourselves, where  
11 are they coming from? And what can we do to stop  
12 them? But another question that we need to ask  
13 ourselves: This year, we've seized approximately  
14 4500 guns in our streets. The second question that  
15 we need to be asking ourselves is why are people  
16 feeling so comfortable carrying these weapons?  
17 Weapons that we know that are dangerous, and weapons  
18 that we know could and are being used to cause the  
19 worst harm that any family can imagine.

20 Yesterday the first shooting... I could use just  
21 10 more seconds.

22 Yesterday, the first shooting in my district  
23 happened at 6am. The next one happened a minute away  
24 from a school at 7am. No family deserves to live  
25 like this. Thank you.

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2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. I now call  
3 on speaker Adrienne Adams to close today's stated  
4 meeting.

5 SPEAKER ADAMS: I thank all of my colleagues for  
6 their attendance and participation. Thank you. The  
7 stated meeting up September 29, 2022, is hereby  
8 adjourned.

9 [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 10/11/2022