

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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August 15, 2024
Start: 2:32 p.m.
Recess: 3:55 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: Adrienne Adams
Speaker

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- Alexa Avilés
- Althea V. Stevens
- Amanda Farías
- Carlina Rivera
- Carmen N. De La Rosa
- Chi A. Ossé
- Chris Banks
- Christopher Marte
- Crystal Hudson
- Darlene Mealy
- David M. Carr
- Diana I. Ayala
- Eric Dinowitz
- Erik D. Bottcher
- Farah N. Louis
- Francisco P. Moya
- Gale A. Brewer
- Inna Vernikov
- James F. Gennaro

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

Jennifer Gutiérrez
Joann Ariola
Joseph C. Borelli
Julie Menin
Julie Won
Justin L. Brannan
Kalman Yeger
Kamillah Hanks
Keith Powers
Kevin C. Riley
Kristy Marmorato
Lincoln Restler
Linda Lee
Lynn C. Schulman
Mercedes Narcisse
Nantasha M. Williams
Oswald Feliz
Pierina Ana Sanchez
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.
Rita C. Joseph
Robert F. Holden
Sandra Ung
Sandy Nurse
Selvena N. Brooks-Powers
Shahana K. Hanif
Susan Zhuang
Tiffany Cabán
Vickie Paladino
Yusef Salaam

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2 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Council Members,
3 please take your seats. Ladies and gentlemen, quiet
4 on the floor, please. Quiet on the floor, please.
5 At this time, please place all electronic devices,
6 all electronic devices to vibrate. Madam Majority
7 Leader?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Good afternoon
9 and welcome to the Stated Meeting of August 5th,
10 2024. I am Majority Leader Amanda Farías, and I'd
11 like to thank you for joining us. If you would like
12 to follow along, the agenda for today's meeting is
13 posted on our website. On behalf of the body, I
14 welcome the members of the public who have joined us
15 here today. During Stated Meetings, only members of
16 the Council may speak. Members of the public shall
17 remain silent. If you wish to express your support
18 of any remarks, you may make the silent approval
19 gesture. I want to remind my colleagues that decorum
20 is to be respected at all times. Insulting each other
21 is not appropriate. All remarks are to be addressed
22 to the Chair, and members shall not speak unless
23 recognized by the Chair. It is essential that even
24 if we disagree, we treat each other with respect.

COUNCIL CLERK: Please join us for the
Pledge of Allegiance.

COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: Roll call.

COUNCIL CLERK: Abreu?

COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Present. I'm
present.

COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Ariola?

COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Present.

COUNCIL CLERK: Avilés? Ayala?

COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Present.

COUNCIL CLERK: Banks?

COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: [inaudible]

COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Bottcher?

COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Present.

COUNCIL CLERK: Brannan?

COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Here.

COUNCIL CLERK: Brewer?

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.

COUNCIL CLERK: Brooks-Powers?

COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Present.

COUNCIL CLERK: Cabán? Carr? De La
Rosa?

COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Here.

COUNCIL CLERK: Dinowitz?

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COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Here.
COUNCIL CLERK: Feliz?
COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Here.
COUNCIL CLERK: Gennaro?
COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here.
COUNCIL CLERK: Gutiérrez?
COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Presente.
COUNCIL CLERK: Hanif?
COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Here.
COUNCIL CLERK: Hanks?
COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Present.
COUNCIL CLERK: Holden?
COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here.
COUNCIL CLERK: Hudson? Joseph?
COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Present.
COUNCIL CLERK: Krishnan?
COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Here.
COUNCIL CLERK: Lee?
COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Here.
COUNCIL CLERK: Louis?
COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Here.
COUNCIL CLERK: Marmorato?
COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Present.
COUNCIL CLERK: Marte?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Here.
COUNCIL CLERK: Mealy? Menin?
COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Here.
COUNCIL CLERK: Moya?
COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Present.
COUNCIL CLERK: Narcisse? Nurse?
COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Present.
COUNCIL CLERK: Ossé? Paladino? Powers?
COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Here.
COUNCIL CLERK: Restler?
COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Here.
COUNCIL CLERK: Riley?
COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Present.
COUNCIL CLERK: Rivera?
COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present.
COUNCIL CLERK: Salaam?
COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Present.
COUNCIL CLERK: Salamanca? Sanchez?
COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Present.
COUNCIL CLERK: Schulman?
COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Here.
COUNCIL CLERK: Stevens?
COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Here.
COUNCIL CLERK: Carr? Ung?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Present.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Paladino? Vernikov?

4 Williams? Won? Yeger?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Zhuang?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Here.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Borelli?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Here.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Farías?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Present.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Adams?

13 SPEAKER ADAMS: Present.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Thank you.

15 Invocation?

16 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: We will now have

18 the adoption of minutes by Council Member Selvena

19 Brooks-Powers.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: I make a

21 motion that the minutes of the Stated Meeting of June

22 30th, 2024 and July 18, 2024 be adopted as printed.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Messages and

24 papers from the Mayor?

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1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 9

2 COUNCIL CLERK: M63 Corporation Counsel
3 appointment.

4 SPEAKER ADAMS: Rules, Privileges and
5 Elections.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Communication
7 from City, County and Borough Offices?

8 COUNCIL CLERK: M64 Department of
9 Education Five-year Capital Plan.

10 SPEAKER ADAMS: Finance.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Petitions and
12 communications?

13 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Land Use Call-
15 ups?

16 COUNCIL CLERK: M65, MSK Pavilion.

17 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you. I know ask
18 that the Clerk take a roll call vote on today's Land
19 Use Call-ups.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Abreu?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Ariola?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Aye.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Avilés? Ayala?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Banks?
COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Bottcher?
COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Brannan?
COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Brewer?
COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Brooks-Powers?
COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Cabán? Carr?
COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: De La Rosa?
COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Dinowitz?
COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Feliz?
COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Gennaro?
COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Gutiérrez?
COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Hanif?
COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Hanks?
COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Holden?
COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Hudson?
COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Joseph?
COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Krishnan?
COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Lee?
COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Louis?
COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Marmorato?
COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Marte?
COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Mealy? Menin?
COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Moya?
COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Narcisse?

Nurse? Ossé? Paladino?

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COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Powers? Restler?
COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Riley?
COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Rivera?
COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Salaam?
COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Salamanca? Sanchez?
COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Schulman?
COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Yes.
COUNCIL CLERK: Stevens?
COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Ung?
COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Vernikov? Williams?
Won? Yeger?
COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Zhuang?
COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye.
COUNCIL CLERK: Menin?
COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Thank you.

3 Borelli?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Farías?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Adams?

8 SPEAKER ADAMS: I vote aye.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Today's Land Use
10 Call-ups are adopted by a vote of 43 in the
11 affirmative and 0 in the negative. Thank you, and we
12 will now have communication from Speaker Adrienne
13 Adams.

14 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you very much,
15 Madam Majority Leader, and good afternoon to
16 everyone. Before we begin, I want to take a moment
17 to remember the life of 41-year-old Henry Alesna, a
18 construction worker who was killed while on the job
19 at the Washington Bridge earlier this month. Henry
20 leaves behind his wife and their one-year-old
21 daughter. Our prayers are with his family and loved
22 ones during this difficult time. Now, I'd like to
23 take a minute to discuss some troubling recent
24 developments in our city. Respect for the laws,
25 democratic governance, and the separation of powers

1 is the foundation of representative democracy that
2 underpins our city's local government. When these
3 norms are eroded, the result is a weakened democracy.
4 The effect is a government that is less-responsive to
5 those it represents and the lowering of safeguards
6 that protect the public interest. Over the past
7 month, we've seen attacks against the rule of law
8 with unprecedented disregard for laws passed by the
9 independent legislative branch, abusing the power to
10 declare a state of emergency. We've seen a rushed
11 Charter Revision Commission that circumvented the
12 public transparency, feedback and scrutiny of the
13 legislative process to advance certain changes to law
14 that do not require a Charter Revision Commission or
15 voter referendum. An independent and separate
16 legislative branch of government is essential to hold
17 the executive branch accountable. As the City's
18 legislature, the City Council changes laws through a
19 robust, open legislative process where the public can
20 provide input and testify. On average, a public
21 safety bill goes from introduction to passage in 292
22 days, and all other bills take 280 days. In that
23 process we hear from all stakeholders, including the
24 executive branch and its relevant agencies, advocates

1 working on the issues, and members of the public.

2 This is how we craft thoughtful and meaningful
3 legislation that improves the lives of New Yorkers by
4 ensuring city agencies meet their needs. It is
5 ironic and an immense hypocrisy that the Commission
6 inaccurately claimed deficiencies in the legislative
7 process to justify its actions when it failed to come
8 anywhere close to meeting the baseline expectations
9 of the council's process. The Commission existed for
10 less than 60 days, and released concrete proposals
11 less than two days before voting on them without
12 absolutely no opportunity for public testimony on
13 them. In fact, it even amended those proposals just
14 hours before its final vote with no public notice or
15 explanation of its changes until minutes before
16 voting. The Commission claimed these changes were
17 the product of being responsive to feedback, but the
18 reality is they occurred after learning of the threat
19 of lawsuits to reduce their risk of legal exposure.
20 At the same time, other changes proposed by the
21 Commission have sought to give the executive branch
22 unprecedented control over the legislative branch's
23 process, centralizing more power within the executive
24 branch by giving it control over the independent
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1 legislative branch's process sets a dangerous
2 precedent. It would leave the government less
3 responsive to New Yorkers and have long-term
4 implications for the functioning of our city that go
5 beyond this current administration and council. This
6 isn't about a disagreement between this Mayor and
7 Council, and it's no longer about advice and consent.
8 This is about our local democracy and whether we have
9 a government that is accountable to the people of our
10 city. This is tantamount to mayoral control over the
11 duly elected legislative branch of New York City
12 government. We've also seen independent oversight
13 agencies become the target of attacks, whether it is
14 those responsible for civilian complaints of police
15 abuse or campaign finance. This disregard of
16 democratic governance and processes cannot be
17 normalized. The strength of our city, our
18 government, and our democracy relies on upholding
19 these principles that safeguard public confidence and
20 trust in our institutions. It is important for all of
21 us not to lose sight of this by minimizing these
22 circumstances as routine to the political process,
23 because it is not, and should not be unless we're
24 okay with losing the strength of our democracy.
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2 Throughout-- as I pivot-- throughout the month of
3 august we have many important holidays to recognize.
4 August is National Breastfeeding Month, the time when
5 we promote the importance of lactation equity,
6 including making lactation rooms more accessible in
7 our work places and public spaces. The council is so
8 proud of our commitment to ensure accommodation for
9 our nursing mothers. August 6th was Jamaican
10 Independence Day. Our city is home to a vibrant and
11 flourishing Jamaican community which has contributed
12 to the vitality of our city and I invite everyone to
13 celebrate Jamaican Independence day right here in
14 Council Chambers this evening starting at 5:00 p.m.
15 August 10th was Ecuadorian Independence Day. August
16 12th was Tisha B'Av, a day of fasting, prayer and
17 reflection observed by our Jewish communities.
18 Yesterday, was Pakistan Independence Day. Today is
19 Indian Independence Day and National Liberation Day
20 of Korea. August 19th is Afghanistan Independence
21 Day, and August 21st is National Senior Citizen's
22 Day. And as you all know, I call our seniors, our
23 older adults, the jewels of our communities, because
24 we strive to be them and we appreciate all that
25 they've done for us. August 24th is Ukraine

1 Independence Day, and as a city we continue to stand
2 with the 150,000 Ukrainian New Yorkers who call our
3 city home. August 26th is Women's Equality Day which
4 was created thanks to the advocacy of former
5 Congresswoman Bella Abzug. And August 31st is
6 Trinidad and Tobago Independence Day. Finally, I
7 want to wish a happy birthday to Council Members who
8 were born in the month of August and carry that lion
9 around their mouths and necks. My mother was a Leo,
10 just saying. So I salute her, too. Council Member
11 Carr, Council Member Marmorato, Council Member Mealy,
12 and Council Member Vernikov, and a happy belated
13 birthday to our Deputy Chief of Staff for
14 Communications Mandela Jones. And happy early
15 birthday to our Deputy Chief of Staff for Legislation
16 and Policy, Jeff Baker. Now, we'll move on to our
17 Stated agenda. First, we'll vote on the following
18 Land Use items: Bronx Metro-North Station's rezoning,
19 a neighborhood rezoning boosted by a historic
20 commitment of local infrastructure and neighborhood
21 investments secured by the Council that will add
22 approximately 7,000 new homes, revitalize the local
23 economy, and activate key corridors surrounding
24 forthcoming Metro-North stations in the east Bronx.
25

1 The Council proposes to modify this series of
2 applications from the New York City Department of
3 City Planning to better align with neighborhood
4 character by adjusting heights and densities in key
5 areas, returning minimum parking requirements to
6 those in existing zoning, and adjusting MIH options
7 to better reflect incomes throughout the Parkchester,
8 Van Nest, and Morris Park neighborhoods in the Bronx.
9 These land use changes will facilitate the creation
10 of new housing and home ownership opportunities at a
11 time when our city faces a dire housing crisis with
12 not enough homes for New Yorkers. To support the
13 development facilitated by this rezoning, the Council
14 has secured a capital commitment package from the
15 Administration totaling approximately \$500 million
16 that will provide upgrades to parks and open space,
17 improvements to local schools, street safety
18 improvements that will benefit pedestrian, cyclist,
19 and drivers alike, critical investments to sewer,
20 water line and flood infrastructure, and capital
21 funding for upgrades to the 49th precinct. This
22 historic investment in planning effort would not have
23 been possible without the tireless efforts of
24 Majority Leader Amanda Fariás, Land Use Committee
25

1 Chair Rafael Salamanca, Zoning Subcommittee Chair
2 Kevin Riley, and Council Member Kristy Marmorato, as
3 well as the support from the Council's Planning and
4 Land Use team, Perris Straughter, Chelsea Kelley,
5 Anne McCaughey, William Vidal, Ryan Cote, Arthur Huh,
6 and Diane Leventh [sp?]- Dana Levanthal [sp?]. We
7 also thank the Department of City Planning and
8 Administration. 3033 Avenue B rezoning will
9 facilitate a new nine-story mixed-use development,
10 including ground water retail, and approximately 109
11 housing units, 27 of which are affordable units in
12 the Sheepshead Bay neighborhood of Brooklyn in
13 Council Member Narcisse's district. The Council
14 proposes to modify these actions by removing MIH
15 option two and adding the deep affordability option.
16 197 Berry Street rezoning will reduce existing
17 development parking requirements from 142 accessory
18 parking spaces to 42 in order to convert existing
19 parking spaces to a self-storage facility containing
20 300 self-storage units in the Williamsburg
21 neighborhood of Brooklyn in Council Member
22 Gutiérrez's district. The remaining 42 parking
23 spaces would remain accessory to the residential
24 building. Wings and Seafood sidewalk
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1 café, the Council will vote on disapproval of an
2 application for irrevocable consent to operate a
3 sidewalk café in Council Member Holden's district.

4 We will also be voting on two applications in Council
5 Member Restler's district. 500 Kent Avenue will
6 facilitate the development of a new 23-story
7 commercial building with ground floor retail and
8 waterfront public access in the Williamsburg
9 neighborhood in Brooklyn. The Council proposes to

10 modify these actions by clarifying in the associated
11 restrictive declaration how certain mitigation
12 measures will be coordinated with appropriate city
13 agencies. 712 Myrtle Avenue will facilitate the

14 construction of a nine-story mixed-use building with
15 approximately 62 units, including 15 permanently
16 affordable units in the Bedford-Stuyvesant
17 neighborhood of Brooklyn. The Council proposes to

18 modify these actions by removing MIH option two and
19 adding the deep affordability option. Lastly, in the
20 area of the land use, we will be voting on two
21 applications in Minority Leader Borelli's district.

22 Arthur Kill Terminal, a zoning text amendment to
23 landfill action, special permit, and a city map
24 change to facilitate the development of a waterfront
25

1 site just south of the outer bridge crossing in
2 Staten Island into a marine terminal specially
3 designed for the staging and assembly of offshore
4 wind components which are essential to supporting New
5 York's transition to green renewable energy. The
6 Council proposes to modify the proposed text
7 amendment to require that any project seeking City
8 Planning Commission authorization for zoning relief
9 under the proposed text amendment text must support
10 the City's green energy infrastructure. And Prince's
11 Point will facilitate the construction of new mapped
12 streets and the development of 108 detached single-
13 family homes in the Prince's Bay neighborhood of
14 Staten Island. Next, we'll vote on the following
15 finance items. The transparency resolution approving
16 new designations and changes of certain organizations
17 receiving funding in the expense budget. A pre-
18 considered resolution sponsored by Council Member
19 Justin Brannan amending an existing 40-year Article V
20 tax exemption for one rent stabilized building in
21 Deputy Speaker Ayala's district. A pre-considered
22 resolution sponsored by Council Member Brannan
23 renewing an existing 40-year Article V tax exempton
24 for the preservation of one rent stabilized building
25

1 in Deputy Speaker Ayala's district. A pre-considered
2 resolution sponsored by Council Member Brannan
3 authorizing a 40-year Article XI tax exemption for
4 the preservation of rent stabilized building in
5 Council Member Salaam's district, and a pre-
6 considered resolution sponsored by Council Member
7 Brannan authorizing a 40-year Article XI tax
8 exemption for the preservation of one rent stabilized
9 senior building in Council Member Salaam's district.
10 The Bronx, Manhattan, and Queensboro delegations of
11 the Council have also approved the following
12 appointments to the Department for the Aging's
13 Advisory Council that will be voted on: Sophia L.
14 Reid, Myoungmi Kim, and Mark Meridy. Today, we will
15 also vote on the following pieces of legislation:
16 Resolution 372 sponsored by Council Member Rita
17 Joseph, calls on the New York City Department of
18 Education to provide support for student newspaper at
19 every high school, recognizing the important role of
20 student journalism. I want to acknowledge that we do
21 have our students from the Youth Journalism Coalition
22 who advocated for this important legislation. They
23 are in City Council chambers today. We thank you to
24 our scholars for your hard work. we thank our staff
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2 Chloe Rivera. Introduction 745A, sponsored by
3 Majority Leader Amanda Farías, would require the
4 Department of Transportation to publish information
5 on its website about bicycle and micromobility
6 ridership in the City, as well as a description of
7 the projects it has undertaken to enhance the safety
8 and movement of cyclists and other micromobility
9 users on the streets and bridges under its
10 jurisdiction. This bill would provide a transparent
11 data-driven perspective into the work of the
12 Department to keep New Yorkers and all street users
13 safe. The website will be updated monthly when data
14 is available, and at least once per year. thank you
15 to our staff members Connor Mealy [sp?] and Mark Chen
16 [sp?]. introduction 460A sponsored by Council Member
17 Sandra Ung would require the Department of Homeless
18 Services or DHS to report on the feasibility of
19 contracting with community-based organizations to
20 accept and process applications for shelter intake
21 for families with children. The Commissioner of
22 Homeless Services would be required to deliver the
23 report to the Mayor and Council no later than one
24 year after this bill goes into effect. We thank our
25 staff members Aminta Kilawan [sp?] and Nina

1 Rosenberg [sp?]. And Introduction 123A, sponsored by
2 Deputy Speaker Diana Ayala, would prohibit DHS from
3 requiring children to be present in-person at an
4 intake facility when their family applies or
5 reapplies for placement at a homeless shelter. There
6 is an exception for when DHS requests to remotely
7 view a child and is unable to do so within 28 hours
8 or when a child has not checked into their assigned
9 shelter by the shelter's curfew on the day following
10 placement. Once again, we thank our staff members
11 Aminta Kilawan and Nina Rosenberg. I also want to
12 acknowledge today that my great 28, District 28
13 interns, are in chambers. We salute you, District 28
14 interns. Thank you for your attention everyone. I
15 now turn it back over to our Majority Leader.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: Thank you,
18 Speaker Adams. We will now move into discussion of
19 general orders, and I'd like to recognize Council
20 Members Ung and Restler. Council Member Ung?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Thank you, Madam
22 Majority Leader, for the opportunity to speak briefly
23 about Intro 460. Today, we are taking an important
24 step towards making our city shelter more accessible
25 and compassionate for homeless families and children.

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2 Currently, families are forced to navigate a system
3 that asks them to travel miles, often with young
4 children, to reach the PATH intake center in the
5 Bronx, the only intake center for families in the
6 five boroughs. However, we know that the first stop
7 for many families in crisis is not at PATH center but
8 their local community organizations, the same
9 organizations that been working tirelessly on the
10 front lines providing culturally-competent and in-
11 language services that our immigrant community rely
12 on. These community-based organizations are trusted.
13 They're present where the families live and already
14 doing so much of this important work. They should be
15 empowered to do even more. This is why this
16 legislation is so important. By requiring the
17 Department of Homeless Services to study the
18 feasibility of partnering with these local not-for-
19 profit to process shelter intake applications, you
20 are taking a common sense approach to serving the
21 homeless families where they are, rather than making
22 them come to us. Working with our partners in the
23 community we can find ways to streamline the intake
24 process and reduce unnecessary stress placed on our
25 city's most vulnerable residents. I want to thank

1 Speaker Adams for her leadership and all my
2 colleagues who voted for this legislation to show
3 support for our families in need. Thank you so much.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: Thank you.

5 Council Member Restler?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Thank you so
7 much, Majority Leader. I am pleased that we have two
8 ULURP actions that have come before the Council today
9 in District 33. Firstly, much-needed housing along
10 myrtle Avenue in bed-Stuy that will create some
11 deeply-affordable housing, some market-rate housing,
12 some community space for a beloved community-based
13 organization, some retail space. This is a right-- a
14 good development, and I'm very proud that District 33
15 continues to be responsible for more new housing
16 starts than any district in the City over the last 15
17 years. We are also-- I'm also supporting a
18 commercial project at 500 Kent Avenue, and I really
19 want to thank the Council Land Use Division, in
20 particular William Vidal who provided exceptional
21 guidance to me and my team through this process, and
22 I'd like to thank the developer who smartly partnered
23 with a local trusted community-based organization,
24 United Jewish Organizations of Williamsburg in North
25

1
2 Brooklyn, as a co-applicant on the site. they
3 together will ensure that a last mile facility is
4 never built at this site and instead we hopefully
5 create a good, new facility that-- good new
6 commercial establish-- building that provides great
7 jobs to our community, more access to our waterfront,
8 and is smartly built around the Kent Avenue bike
9 lane. So, these are good projects and I'm proud of
10 the work that everyone on my team put into them. I
11 really want to thank my staff, especially Molly
12 Hailey, my Chief of Staff, and everybody who helped
13 contribute to get these to the finish line. Thank
14 you.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: Thank you.

16 Seeing no one else signed up to speak, I'd like to
17 take a moment myself. The Bronx Metro-North rezoning
18 modifications we're voting on today re focused on
19 building a brighter future for the Bronx. These
20 design features were informed by extensive community
21 outreach in Parkchester where my neighbors had the
22 opportunity to discuss proposals with the Department
23 of City Planning and local developers. I took that
24 feedback on the types of community spaces needed,
25 infrastructure enhancements desired, and more

1 directly to the negotiating table. Securing nearly
2 \$195 million in capital investments from the
3 Administration was a significant achievement, one
4 that required rigorous negotiations and a strong
5 commitment to our shared vision. These funds will
6 provide much-needed upgrades to our streets,
7 including a parking study, investments in parks and
8 open spaces like a pedestrian bridge over the Bronx
9 River from Hunt's Point to Soundview, and critical
10 improvements to local schools including roof repairs
11 and auditorium upgrades in six schools in the
12 surrounding area. I'm also proud to announce the
13 commitment of half a million dollars in capital
14 improvements to the existing Parkchester campus from
15 their development team, and 10,000 square feet for
16 our community-centered spaces within another
17 development site. These modifications and the
18 holistic city investments we fought for underscore
19 how this council is demanding long-deserved attention
20 that the Bronx, its families, and their futures have
21 always needed. The success of this rezoning is a
22 testament to our collaboration, our dedication to the
23 neighborhoods that shaped us and our love for our
24 home boroughs of the Bronx, really the best borough.
25

1
2 I want to take a moment to thank the people who have
3 been working with me all these long hours to get
4 here, my Chief of Staff Rebecca Nieves [sp?],
5 Council Land Use team, Perris, Chelsea, Ryan,
6 William, and Dana, and the folks who have helped see
7 this move along, my Council colleagues who also
8 fought for their needs in their districts, our two
9 developer teams at 1880 and 2000-2040 East Tremont,
10 Commissioner Dan Garodnick and the Department of City
11 Planning team, the Mayor, Deputy Mayor Torres-
12 Springer, and his Administration. I look forward to
13 seeing these positive-- the positive impacts of this
14 funding carried out by the Administration for years
15 to come, and I urge my colleagues to vote aye today.
16 Report of Special Committees?

17 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Reports of
19 Standing Committees?

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee
21 on Finance, Pre-considered Reso 517 Transparency
22 Resolution.

23 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General
24 Orders.

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 31

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Pre-considered LU-125 and
3 Reso 533 through Pre-considered LU-128 and Reso 536
4 tax exemptions.

5 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General
6 Orders.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee on
8 General Welfare, Intros 123A and 460A, shelter intake
9 for families with children.

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

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee
13 on Land Use LU-101 through LU-118 on page nine,
14 various applications.

15 SPEAKER ADAMS: Approved with
16 modifications and referred to the City Planning
17 Commission pursuant to Section 197 of the New York
18 City Charter.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: LU-119 and Reso 537, 197
20 Berry Street rezoning.

21 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General
22 Orders.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: LU's 120 and 121 zoning
24 amendment.

25

2 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General
3 Orders. I'm sorry. Approved with modifications and
4 referred to the City Planning Commission pursuant to
5 Section 197 of the New York City Charter.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Excuse me. LU-122 and
7 Reso 538 and LU-123 and REso 539, Prince's Point
8 development.

9 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General
10 Orders.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: LU-124 and Reso 540,
12 sidewalk café.

13 SPEAKER ADAMS: Motion to disapprove.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee
15 on Transportation and Infrastructure, Intro 745A,
16 micromobility device activity.

17 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and coupled on
18 General Orders.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: General Orders Calendar
20 LU-101 and Reso 541 through LU-104 and Reso 544,
21 Arthur Kill Terminal.

22 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General
23 Orders.

24

25

2 COUNCIL CLERK: LU-106 and Reso 545
3 through LU-113 and Reso 551 on Page 14, Bronx Metro-
4 North station.

5 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General
6 Orders.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: LU-114 and Reso 552
8 through LU-116 and Reso 554, 500 Kent Avenue.

9 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General
10 Orders.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: LU-117 and Reso 555 and
12 LU-118 and Reso 556, 3033 Avenue B rezoning.

13 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General
14 Orders.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: LU-120 and Reso 557 and
16 LU-121 and Reso 558, 712 Myrtle Avenue.

17 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General
18 Orders.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Resolution appointing
20 various persons, Commissioner of Deeds.

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

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Abreu?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Ariola?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Permission to
5 introduce my guest?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: Permission
7 granted.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Thank you. This
9 is Amanda Jaggernath. She is a Council Member
10 for the day, and she has a few words she'd like to
11 say.

12 AMANDA JAGGERNATH: Good afternoon,
13 everyone. My name is Amanda Jaggernath and I am a
14 student at MS137, America's School of Heroes School
15 which is located in Queens. Today I am here
16 honored to represent my school here at City Hall,
17 and I am incredibly excited to be here and have the
18 opportunity to be with all of you. This just proves
19 coming from a hard-working migrant parent at times
20 struggling to give me the best education, so I can
21 achieve anything in life that is possible for me and
22 my family. Thank you.

23 [applause]

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Amanda was the
25 winner of our Veterans Essay Contest. She wrote

1 about her PE teacher who couldn't be here today. I
2 would like to disclose for the transparency
3 resolution that my son works for Sanitation, and come
4 September, my grandson will be a student at CUNY. So
5 I'm proud to say that. And then, aye on all. Thank
6 you.
7

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Avilés?
9 Ayala?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Banks?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Bottcher?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Aye.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Brannan?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Brewer?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Brooks-Powers?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Aye.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Cabán? Carr?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: I'd like to
23 disclose on the record that in the transparency
24 resolution we're voting on today that the Garibaldi
25

1 Meucci Museum is being funded. I am a member of that
2 organization, and I vote aye on all.

3
4 COUNCIL CLERK: De La Rosa?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye on all.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Dinowitz?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye on all, and
8 I want to give a quick shout out to my three interns
9 who are up in the balcony, Joshua Falk [sp?], Ethan
10 Core [sp?], and Moises Lopez [sp?].

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Feliz?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Gennaro?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Gutiérrez?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Hanif?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Hanks?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Holden?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Hudson?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Permission for a
25 brief shout out?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Permission granted
3 for a brief shout out.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Thank you. I
5 would like to shout out my four interns who are here
6 with me today, Karen, De Maya [sp?], Aflaha [sp?],
7 and James who are also seated here in the chambers.
8 I'll pause for the round of applause. Thank you. And
9 I'm an aye on all. Thank you.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Joseph?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: I want to disclose
12 on the record that my child is a son-- being funded
13 in this reso is a student in New York City Public
14 Schools, and aye on all.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Krishnan?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Just disclosing
17 that two of my children are both students at New York
18 City Public Schools. With that, I vote aye as well.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Lee?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye on all.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Louis?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye on all.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Marmorato?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Permission to
25 explain my vote?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Permission
3 granted.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Thank you.
5 Thank you, Majority Leader. I tend to address my
6 comments and remarks specifically to those of my
7 district, District 13, and I do this purposely
8 because the constituents of my district are the
9 voices and people that I listen to when making
10 decisions here in City Hall. So, members of District
11 13, I speak directly to you today because you are who
12 I am here to represent. Today's vote on the Bronx
13 Metro-North Station plan is a remarkable achievement,
14 and I am proud to have led this initiative for the
15 people of our district. From the moment this
16 proposal was introduced, I have been committed to
17 ensuring it aligns with our community's needs and
18 aspirations. In response to your concern, we secured
19 critical modifications to this plan. This includes
20 capping building heights, reinstating parking
21 mandates, and protecting our low-density
22 neighborhoods. We have fought for an achieved almost
23 \$300 million in capital investments to enhance our
24 public safety, parks, streets, and flood protection
25 in our district. This smart development plan will

1 bring new transit options, thousands of jobs, and
2 home ownership opportunities for our constituents.
3 It represents a balanced approach that respects our
4 district's unique character while providing for its
5 future growth and resilience. I just want to extend
6 my deepest gratitude to everybody who participated in
7 this process, including the City Council Land Use
8 team, my Chief of Staff April, my D13 team, my
9 colleagues in Council, and most importantly my
10 constituents who worked with me to achieve this
11 success. I thank you so much. Thank you so much, and
12 I vote aye on all.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Marte?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: I vote aye.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Mealy? Menin?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Moya?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Narcisse?
21 Nurse? Ossé? Paladino?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye on all.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Powers? Restler?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Riley?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Rivera?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Salaam?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Permission to
7 give a shout out?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Permission
9 granted.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: I just want to
11 shout out my intern who is here with us in the
12 chamber as well, Cerisse Cuspa [sp?], and-- yes,
13 indeed. We got a-- we actually have an amazing team
14 of interns, but she's here and I just wanted to
15 acknowledge that, and I vote aye on all.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Salamanca?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Madam Majority
18 Leader, permission for consent to vote on all Land
19 Use call-ups?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Permission
21 granted.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Thank you.
23 Then I vote aye on all.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Sanchez?

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Permission to
3 explain my vote?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: Permission
5 granted.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: I just want to
7 congratulate all colleagues, Majority Leader, Council
8 Member Salamanca, and Council Member Marmorato on the
9 Bronx Metro-North rezoning. And since we're all
10 doing it, I want to shout out our intern whose last
11 day is today, Sarah Torres [sp?], who is amazing, and
12 please watch out for her, and make sure you hire here
13 in a couple years when she finishes college. Thanks.
14 I vote aye.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Schulman?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Permission to
17 explain my vote?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: Permission
19 granted.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Thank you. a
21 few days ago it was announced that an icon New York
22 City radio station WCBS 880 Radio was ending its all-
23 news format after nearly 60 years. This is just the
24 latest example of the decline of journalism in this
25 city and nation. That is why it is so important to

1 support local journalism and especially important to
2 make it part of our educational experience. As
3 someone who is both a publisher and reporter for my
4 college newspaper, I was very proud to be a co-
5 sponsor on Resolution 372 calling on the New York
6 City Department of Education to provide support for a
7 student newspaper at every high school and to vote
8 for it today. I want to give a special shout out to
9 two of my student interns who worked on their high
10 school newspaper and podcast, Jackson O'Brien [sp?],
11 and Selma Batch [sp?]. I also want to point out that
12 Selma is a member of the New York City Youth
13 Journalism Coalition that advocated for this
14 resolution. I also want to point out that my interns
15 did a video for me on Instagram that's a TikTok kind
16 of experience. So anybody that wants to see it, it's
17 gotten over a thousand views, and it's really amazing
18 the work they did. And with that, I vote aye on all.

19
20 COUNCIL CLERK: Stevens?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: I would like to
22 vote aye on all, and also, I would like to give a
23 special shout out to my interns who are here,
24 Kimberly, Nicole, Natasha [sp?], and Charlotte.

1 Shout out to you guys for being a great part of the A
2 team this summer.
3

4 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: Your vote,
5 Council Member?

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Ung?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye on all.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Vernikov?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Williams? Won? Yeger?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Zhuang?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Borelli?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Farías?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: I vote aye on
18 all.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Adams?

20 SPEAKER ADAMS: I vote aye.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: All items on
22 today's General Order Calendar are adopted by a vote
23 of 44 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative, and 0
24 abstentions. And the revised Land Use Call-up vote
25

1 is 44 in the affirmative and 0 in the negative.

2 Introduction and reading of bills, Speaker Adams?

3
4 SPEAKER ADAMS: All bills have been
5 referred to Finance as indicated on today's agenda.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: Thank you. We
7 will now move into discussion of resolutions, and I'd
8 like to recognize Majority Whip Brooks-Powers
9 followed by Council Member Joseph.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Thank you.
11 I rise before you today to introduce two resolutions.
12 The first is Resolution 518 which designates October
13 as Jamaican Heritage Month in New York City. as a
14 proud daughter of Jamaican immigrants and a
15 representative of Council District 31, home to a
16 strong Jamaican community in southeast Queens, I am
17 thrilled to introduce this resolution. In our city
18 and particularly in southeast Queens, the energy,
19 creativity and spirit of Jamaica are palpable. Our
20 community is enriched not only by the scholars,
21 community leaders and vibrant art scene, but also by
22 the pioneering scientific achievements that have
23 emerged from Jamaica. Jamaicans make up 5.5 percent
24 of New York's foreign population and two percent of
25 the City's total population with significant

1 concentrations in southeast Queens, central and
2 eastern Brooklyn and the northern Bronx. These
3 numbers are not just statistics, they represent a
4 vibrant tapestry that adds depth, innovation, and
5 resilience to our city. In honor of Jamaica National
6 Heritage Week celebrated the third week of October
7 each year, I am proud to recognize and celebrate
8 Jamaican heritage on this important month in New
9 York.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Majority Whip,
12 your time has expired.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Thank you.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Thank you.
15 Council Member Joseph?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Thank you,
17 Majority Leader, Madam Speaker, and colleagues.
18 Today, I'm thrilled that Resolution 372 urging New
19 York City Department of Education, now New York City
20 Public Schools, to support the creation of a student
21 newspaper in every high school has been adopted by
22 the Education Committee earlier. Ensuring that each
23 high school has a student newspaper is essential for
24 fairness and equity, especially for students from
25 low-income families, it is an investment in fostering

1 critical thinking among our students and reinforcing
2 democratic principles. A student newspaper offer a
3 platform for students to express their ideas and
4 develop critical thinking skills as noted in the
5 Resolution. Participating in student newspapers not
6 only enhance student's knowledge and abilities, but
7 also foster democratic values, government
8 accountability, and a well-informed society.

9 Colleagues, I trust in the commitment of New York
10 City Public Schools to fairness and equity for all
11 students, regardless of economic background, race,
12 and zip code. I urge all of you to vote yes, calling
13 on the New York City Public Schools to provide
14 resources and assistance to establish a student
15 newspaper in every non-charter public school in New
16 York City. I want to thank my team and the
17 legislative team--

18
19 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: [interposing]
20 Council Member, your time has expired.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Yes, ma'am.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Seeing no one
23 else signed up to speak, we will now have a voice
24 vote on today's resolution. If you wish to vote
25 against or abstain from today's resolution, please

1 notify the legislative documents unit by email or by
2 approaching the dais. I'll now read today's
3 resolution into the record. Resolution 372 calls on
4 the New York City Department of Education to provide
5 support for a student newspaper at every high school.
6 Will all those in favor say aye?
7

8 COUNCIL AS A WHOLE: Aye.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: All opposed say
10 nay. Any abstentions? The aye's have it. We will
11 now move into general discussion, and I'd like to
12 recognize Council Member Riley followed by Council
13 Member Vernikov.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Thank you,
15 Majority Leader. Today, I proudly introduce
16 Resolution 524, a resolution calling on the New York
17 State Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign
18 A8591S1709, led by Assembly Member Rodneyse and
19 Senator Leroy Comrie. This crucial legislation will
20 grant homeowners facing foreclosure the right to
21 legal counsel, providing them with vital protection
22 as they navigate complex legal proceedings.
23 According to the National Bureau of Economic
24 Research, 44 percent of New York homeowners in
25 foreclosure settlement conferences lack legal

1 representation. This is unacceptable and directly
2 correlates with the alarming rise in the pre-
3 foreclosure properties across New York City. With
4 New York City's ongoing housing crisis, it is
5 essential that every homeowner is safeguarded with
6 legal representation to prevent unjust losses and
7 keep our community stable. I would also like to
8 highlight pieces of legislation introduced by Doctor
9 Williams, the Black Business Month legislative
10 package. This package is designed to remove barriers
11 for Black and Brown entrepreneurs and streamline the
12 MWBE certification process. I urge my colleagues to
13 sign on to these pieces of legislation. Thank you.

14
15 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Council Member
16 Vernikov followed by Marmorato and Ariola.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Thank you,
18 Majority Leader. Today, I'm introducing Resolution
19 525 supporting a State bill which would make it
20 unlawful for protestors to conceal their identity.
21 It's time to unmask the hate. In the past months
22 we've seen an explosion of anti-American, anti-
23 Semitic violent protests and riots celebrating
24 terrorism at home and abroad, emboldened by their
25 ability to be anonymous through face coverings, they

1
2 openly wave flags of Hamas and Hezbollah, spew
3 hatred, and we often see violence and physical
4 altercations erupt. At every level of government, we
5 must do all that we can to assist law enforcement in
6 catching criminals. Allowing masks at protests has
7 impeded investigations and slowed the progress of the
8 criminal justice system, allowing criminals to stay
9 loose for longer. This a matter of public safety and
10 a mask ban is not a novel idea. Similar laws were
11 passed around the country in the 1950s to combat the
12 rise of the Ku Klux Klan and existed in various forms
13 in the year prior. More recently, a ban was made law
14 in Nassau County with great success. This is a
15 common sense bipartisan bill in the state, the
16 resolution has bipartisan support in this council.
17 It's time we show New Yorkers that we are taking
18 concrete measures to do more to protect them. I ask
19 my colleagues to join me in supporting the State bill
20 by signing onto this resolution. Thank you.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Council Member
22 Marmorato followed by Ariola, then Paladino.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Thank you,
24 Majority Leader. It's an honor to introduce a local
25 law that hits close to home and one that many parents

1 and guardians of children that reside in New York
2 City will appreciate. Today, I'm introducing a bill
3 that will require all schools, public, private and
4 charter to stock airway clearing devices in their
5 building. I am glad to have a fellow mom, Council
6 Member Paladino, as a co-prime. This bill was
7 inspired by a personal family tragedy. In 1992, my
8 grandfather's life was cut short by choking after a
9 failed attempt of the Heimlich maneuver and every
10 morning as I make my daughter's lunch before school,
11 I can't help to think of the hazards of choking and
12 what happened to him that day. So, I kindly ask my
13 colleagues to sign on to this bill that would
14 ultimately safeguard our children and save their
15 lives. But once this bill is passed, don't get me
16 wrong, I will still be cutting their lunch into
17 really tiny little pieces, but I will have more
18 comfort knowing that the school will have a second
19 line of defense against choking within their
20 building. I want to thank Nadia Francois [sp?] for
21 helping to bring this vision into a reality. Thank
22 you.
23

24 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: Council Member
25 Ariola, followed by Paladino, then Restler.

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Thank you,
3 Majority Leader. Today, I'm introducing Intro 999
4 which addresses the rising vape usage among our
5 youth, and it is not just a trend, it is a silent
6 epidemic. According to the New York State Department
7 of Health, nearly one in five students in this state
8 have reported that they've used e-cigarettes in the
9 past, as did thousands of young middle schoolers.
10 Like any challenge, this epidemic demands a clear and
11 decisive response. That response comes in the form
12 of vape detectors. These devices will not only alert
13 staff in the event that vaping is detected on school
14 grounds, but they will also serve as a physical
15 deterrent to prevent young people from trying these
16 products while on campus. For far too many of our
17 children have had first encounters with e-cigarettes
18 and similar products right in our schools and not on
19 our streets. The grounds are supposed to be safe
20 spaces that encourage positive growth and healthy
21 habits, but instead, they are becoming exactly the
22 opposite. By installing vape detectors at places of
23 learning across the City, we can reclaim our schools
24 as safe, nurturing environments. Taking action now
25 will help us protect the next generation from the

1 dangers of vaping and reinforce our commitment to
2 fostering healthy, positive development within our
3 schools. This is a health preservation bill, and I
4 know everyone can get behind that. That is why I am
5 asking for your support and you to sign onto this
6 legislation which is co-prime sponsored by Council
7 Member Justin Brannan for a better, healthier New
8 York City. In addition, I'd just like to shout out
9 to my colleagues Joe Borelli and Kristy Marmorato for
10 working so hard on their rezoning text amendments and
11 well as curing an unprecedented amount of positive
12 projects and initiatives for their district. Kudos
13 to you.

14
15 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: Council Member
16 Paladino, followed by Restler then Gutiérrez.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Good afternoon
18 everyone. I'm-- I want to introduce today 1008, a
19 Local Law to amend the Administrative Code of the
20 City of New York in relation to eliminating the fees
21 for firearm license and permits. Waiving the fee of
22 \$340. The application fee for New York City pistol
23 permit can be a significant financial burden for many
24 people. This fee may disproportionately affect
25 individuals from lower income backgrounds, making it

1
2 harder for them to exercise their Second Amendment
3 rights compared to those with more financial
4 resources. The fee covers administrative costs,
5 background checks and other processing expenses, but
6 it most importantly to consider the broader
7 implications of such cost on equity and
8 accessibility. Waiving fees can ensure the process
9 is fairer and more inclusive for all residents. This
10 is only a small portion of lengthy and expensive
11 process to be continued-- to be exercise-- to be
12 continued. Thank you.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: Council Member
14 Restler followed by Gutiérrez, Brewer, and Gennaro.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Thank you so
16 much, Majority Leader, and I'd like to thank Council
17 Members Zhuang and Council Member Gutiérrez for co-
18 prime sponsoring Intro 1009 today. you know, last
19 year we-- and the year before that-- we begged and
20 pleaded and cajoled the Department of Education to
21 provide us with any information about what was going
22 on in our 3K and Pre-K programs, and eventually,
23 hours before our Preliminary Budget hearings each of
24 the last two years, they shared data that showed that
25 in a majority of neighborhoods in New York City this

1 past school year, more three-year-olds and their
2 families applied for 3K seats than were actually able
3 to access them. We should have real-time access to
4 this information throughout the school year,
5 information on what neighborhoods have capacity for
6 3K and Pre-K, what types of seats, what staffing
7 needs the DOE may have, and what outreach the DOE is
8 doing. We all know that Mayor Adams and his team
9 eliminated outreach for Early Childhood Education
10 when they came into office, and the Council has
11 righteously fought to restore efforts in this most
12 recent budget for more outreach for Early Childhood
13 Education, but we need a real accounting from the
14 Department of Education of what work they're doing.
15 So this bill that we've introduced today, that I hope
16 you all will choose to co-sponsor and that we'll be
17 able to pass, would provide quarterly updates to all
18 of us and to the public at-large about enrollment in
19 3K and Pre-K, outreach efforts, staffing efforts, and
20 more. Transparency is the best disinfectant. We
21 need much greater accountability for this Department
22 of Education around Early Childhood Education, and
23 this bill will provide it. Hope you'll consider co-
24 sponsoring Intro 1009. Thank you.
25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: Council Member
3 Gutiérrez followed by Brewer, Gennaro, and Brooks-
4 Powers.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Thank you,
6 Majority Leader. Today, I'm proud to introduce
7 another bill focused on making New York City a better
8 place to be a parent and raise children, because
9 let's face it, being a parent is hard enough without
10 the added stress of missing crucial deadlines or
11 struggling to find important information. Every day,
12 parents are juggling multiple jobs trying to make
13 rent and just keep things together. New York City
14 has a communication problem, however, from missed
15 deadlines to a lack of clarity on where to find
16 information and resources. Every day, we hear from
17 parents who miss deadlines from everything from
18 childcare to school enrollment. Not all parents have
19 access to email or internet, and even when they do,
20 these notices often get lost. Intro 1001, NYC Text
21 for Kids, would help deliver that information
22 directly to parents' phones, a tool that nearly every
23 New Yorker has in their pocket. The purpose of this
24 bill is simple, to ensure that parents in New York
25 City have easy access to helpful, important and

1 accurate information regarding their children's
2 health and development. An automated text messaging
3 system is an obvious solution that is simple,
4 effective, and an affordable solution that has
5 already proven its worth like during the pandemic to
6 do meaningful outreach. Parents deserve clear and
7 timely information delivered through the most
8 effective technology available, and I hope you join
9 me by signing Intro 1001. Thank you.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: Thank you.

12 Council Member Brewer followed by Gennaro, then
13 Brooks-Powers.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you very
15 much. So, two wonderful interns out of the almost 40
16 we had this summer, Marilyn O'Day [sp?] who is at the
17 Baruch College Campus High School, Brandon Joseph
18 [sp?] who's at La Guardia High School, thank you both
19 for being here today. Number two, August 26th, as
20 the Speaker said, was designated Women's Suffrage
21 Day, by my friend Bella Abzug-- may she rest in
22 peace-- and we are doing a huge-- on the west side--
23 effort to get people registered to vote on that day
24 on August 26th, and I hope people will join us. all
25 groups like the Girl Scouts as well as the League of

1 Women Voters, etcetera, etcetera, are joining us.
2
3 Number three, you read in the papers and media about
4 Central Park and the unfortunate situation with a lot
5 more crime. In speaking with NYPD, I am appreciative
6 of all the efforts they're making with bicycle cops,
7 with drones, with more boots on the ground. The sad
8 part is, it is almost 100 percent young migrants. One
9 stole jewelry and all the rest are taking the credit
10 cards that are stolen and going to McDonalds to get
11 something to eat. And the reason I mention this is
12 that it seems to me that what we should be doing as a
13 city is working in the hotels where the young people
14 are coming from and giving them something to do.
15 It's not clear that they have anything to do,
16 according to NYPD. It's not NYPD's job to do the
17 social work. It is our job. And so I'm calling on
18 the Administration to work with us whatever hotels
19 have young people, we need a whole lot more to do
20 between now and when school starts, and even after
21 that. Thank you very much.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: Council Member
23 Gennaro followed by Majority Whip Brooks-Powers.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you, Madam
25 Majority Leader. I wish to be associated with the

1 Speaker's remarks at the beginning of this meeting
2 regarding the Mayor's Charter Revision Commission
3 which is a two-pronged attack on this institution.
4 Number one, it blocks our ability to put our advice
5 and consent law before the voters for ratification,
6 and it seeks to greatly undercut the legislative
7 power of this institution as the Speaker talked
8 about. It is my hope that all members of this body
9 will do all they can to use their bully pulpits to
10 push back against this obvious abuse of power on the
11 part of the Mayor. Thank you very much.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: Thank you,
14 Council Member. And finally, Majority Whip Brooks-
15 Powers.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Thank you.
17 I am introducing Resolution 519 which calls for the
18 New York State Legislature to mandate virtual
19 hearings for parking and camera violations in New
20 York City. All New Yorkers deserve the right to a
21 live hearing on parking and camera violations, yet
22 many are not able to attend the hearing in-person due
23 to transportation issues, accessibility concerns, and
24 more. For this reason, virtual hearings enable
25 greater participation from residents across the city

1
2 and elsewhere. Courts around the country
3 transitioned to virtual hearings during the COVID-19
4 pandemic and we know this technology is not only
5 possible, but effective. New York City's residents
6 and visitors should be able to contest their tickets
7 in a live hearing whether they are able to attend in-
8 person or virtually. I call on my colleagues today
9 to support this resolution as well as the resolution
10 I mentioned earlier, Reso 518. Thank you.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: Thank you. I'll
12 now call on Speaker Adrienne Adams to close today's
13 Stated Meeting.

14 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you so much,
15 Majority Leader. The Stated Meeting of August 15th,
16 2024 is hereby adjourned.

17 [gavel]

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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 August 22, 2024