

THE COUNCIL

Minutes of the Proceedings for the

CHARTER MEETING

of

Wednesday, January 7, 2026, 12:07 p.m.

The City Clerk and Clerk of the Council (Mr. Michael M. McSweeney) introduced himself from the front dais to those assembled in the Council Chambers. He duly called the Charter Meeting to order pursuant to Section 42 of the New York City Charter. Pending the election of the new Speaker, the City Clerk and Clerk of the Council was to serve as the presiding officer for these proceedings.

The City Clerk and Clerk of the Council (Mr. Michael M. McSweeney) asked everyone to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the City Clerk and Clerk of the Council (Mr. McSweeney) reported that the New York City Board of Elections had certified the election of the members of the Council on December 2, 2025. He noted that the following Council Members had been duly elected:

1st	Christopher Marte	27th	Nantasha M. Williams
2nd	Harvey D. Epstein	28th	Ty Hankerson
3rd	Erik D. Bottcher	29th	Lynn C. Schulman
4th	Virginia Maloney	30th	Phil Wong
5th	Julie Menin	31st	Selvena N. Brooks-Powers
6th	Gale A. Brewer	32nd	Joann Ariola
7th	Shaun Abreu	33rd	Lincoln Restler
8th	Elsie Encarnacion	34th	Jennifer Gutierrez
9th	Yusef Salaam	35th	Crystal Hudson
10th	Carmen N. De La Rosa	36th	Chi A. Osse
11th	Eric Dinowitz	37th	Sandy Nurse
12th	Kevin C. Riley	38th	Alexa Aviles
13th	Shirley Aldebol	39th	Shahana K. Hanif
14th	Pierina A. Sanchez	40th	Rita C. Joseph
15th	Oswald J. Feliz	41st	Darlene Mealy
16th	Althea V. Stevens	42nd	Chris Banks
17th	Justin E. Sanchez	43rd	Susan Zhuang
18th	Amanda C. Farias	44th	Simcha Felder
19th	Vickie Paladino	45th	Farah N. Louis
20th	Sandra Ung	46th	Mercedes Narcisse
21st	Shanel Thomas-Henry	47th	Kayla Santosuosso
22nd	Tiffany L. Caban	48th	Inna Vernikov
23rd	Linda Lee	49th	Kamillah M. Hanks
24th	James F. Gennaro	50th	David M. Carr
25th	Shekar Krishnan	51st	Frank Morano
26th	Julie Won		

At this point, the City Clerk and Clerk of the Council (Mr. McSweeney) directed the Principal Clerk and Director of the Legislative Document Unit (Mr. Jonathan C. Ettricks) to call the Roll for Attendance of those duly elected Council Members for the purposes of determining the presence of a quorum.

Shaun Abreu	James F. Gennaro	Chi A. Ossé
Shirley Aldebol	Jennifer Gutiérrez	Vickie Paladino
Joann Ariola	Shahana K. Hanif	Lincoln Restler
Alexa Avilés	Ty Hankerson	Kevin C. Riley
Chris Banks	Kamillah M. Hanks	Yusef Salaam
Erik D. Bottcher	Crystal Hudson	Justin L. Sanchez
Gale A. Brewer	Rita C. Joseph	Pierina A. Sanchez
Selvena N. Brooks-Powers	Shekar Krishnan	Kayla Santosuosso
Tiffany L. Cabán	Linda Lee	Lynn C. Schulman
David M. Carr	Farah N. Louis	Althea V. Stevens
Carmen N. De La Rosa	Virginia Maloney	Shanel Thomas-Henry
Eric Dinowitz	Christopher Marte	Sandra Ung
Elsie Encarnación	Darlene Mealy	Inna Vernikov
Harvey D. Epstein	Julie Menin	Nantasha M. Williams
Amanda C. Farías	Frank Morano	Julie Won
Simcha Felder	Mercedes Narcisse	Phil Wong
Oswald J. Feliz	Sandy Nurse	Susan Zhuang

After consultation with the Principal Clerk and Director of the Legislative Document Unit (Mr. Ettricks), the City Clerk and Clerk of the Council (Mr. McSweeney) announced the presence of a quorum.

There were 51 Council Members marked present at this Charter Meeting held in the Council Chambers of City Hall, New York, N.Y. (including Council Members Avilés, Ossé, and Won who participated remotely).

At this point, the City Clerk and Clerk of the Council (Mr. McSweeney) asked the New York State Attorney General Letitia James to perform the formal ceremony of swearing-in the duly elected Council Members.

Attorney General James spoke briefly to those assembled in the Chambers.

Remarks of New York State Attorney General Letitia James as delivered

Good afternoon. It's an honor and a privilege to be back in my old seat (*laughter*).

When I look at the group before me, I see really the best of New York City...New Yorkers made their priorities loud and clear, and our constituents want a city that they can afford, a city where they can raise their families safely and comfortably. A city that powers the economy with opportunity for all, in the city that fosters the world's greatest art, greatest culture, music, food, and so much more, and a city that respects and reflects all.

Challenges await us in the coming year, my friends, with prices soaring and too many families struggling to make ends meet. But New York has always led the way out of darkness and together, all of us together, we can ensure that this is a city where we look out for our neighbors, where we finally leave the tired zero sum politics behind us and where public servants work in lockstep to bring down cost and uplift working people, and where justice reigns and prosperity abounds. This Council is perfectly positioned to deliver all of that. And I'm so honored and privileged to be here today with all of you. And I join with all of you, as we accomplish that, and I will be your partner in all that you do every step of the way.

* * *

At this point, Attorney General James asked the assembled Council Members to rise, raise their right hands, and take the formal oath by repeating the following:

I [state your name] do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States of America and the Constitution of the State of New York and the Charter of the City of New York and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of Council Member [District number, Borough of, County of] in the City of New York according to the best of my ability.

Attorney General James congratulated the newly sworn Council Members.

INVOCATION

At this point, the City Clerk and Clerk of the Council (Mr. McSweeney) announced that the day's Invocation would be delivered by Rabbi Joseph Potasnik, Executive Vice-President of the New York Board of Rabbis, 420 Lexington Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10170.

Thank you. I'm humbled by the applause.
(laughter from the audience followed by applause)

Council Member Menin reminded me of an old religious proverb, which states, "Blessed are those who speak briefly, for they shall be invited back." *(laughter from the audience)*
Thank you very much for the reminder.

On this special day in our city,
let us walk away remembering two words: united and united.
Interestingly, both are spelled with the exact same letters.
The only difference is where you place the letter "I".
If a person only speaks of "I" rather than "we,"
a relationship becomes *untied*.
But where the "we" takes precedence over "I",
that relationship can remain *united*.
We teach our children that in mathematics, $1+1=2$.
We have to show our children
that in human relationships,
 $1+1$ can also equal one.
And they all share members of the human family in our DNA.
We all have to teach them that unity of spirit
and diversity of thought can walk hand in hand.
Interestingly, in medical terms,
the word "menin" is a protein that suppresses disease.
We need more menin to stop the spread
of this disease of hatred of the other, whoever the other may be.
As Cardinal Dolan said to me recently,
"Anti-Semitism is anti-Christianity is anti-Islam,"
and you can reverse that equation any way you want.
So Council Member Menin, keep in mind
that a leader is one who knows the way,
who shows the way, and who goes the way.
All of us here will go on that way together,
different and the same, one and one
equaling two and equaling one.
May you, members of the City Council,
be blessed for who you are
and be blessed for what you do.
Amen.

Council Member Virginia Maloney moved for unanimous consent to spread the Invocation in full upon the record.

M-1

Continuation of the 2024-2025 Rules of the Council, As Amended

At this point, the City Clerk and Clerk of the Council (Mr. McSweeney) recognized Council Member Sandra Ung.

Pursuant to Section 46 of the New York City Charter, Council Member Ung moved that the 2024-2025 Rules of the Council, as Amended, be continued and in effect until the new rules are to be adopted or said rules are otherwise amended or modified.

VOICE-VOTE for M-1 - Continuation of the 2024-2025 Rules of the Council, as Amended.

The City Clerk and Clerk of the Council (Mr. McSweeney) called for a voice-vote on Council Member Ung's motion.

Hearing no objections or abstentions, the City Clerk and Clerk of the Council (Mr. McSweeney) declared the motion to be adopted.

The M-1 motion was adopted unanimously by the Council *via* voice-vote.

*(The following is the text of the **Rules of the Council of 2024-2025, as Amended**, and to be continued for the 2026-2029 session, as adopted by the Council via voice-vote at this Charter Meeting of January 7, 2026:)*

CHAPTER I – MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL

1.00. Stated, Special - The Council shall hold no less than two Stated Meetings a month, unless otherwise ordered, except during the months of July and August. Such meetings shall be called by the Speaker. The first meeting in each year shall be the Charter Meeting and shall be held on the first Wednesday after the first Monday of January at noon.

A list of all items to be considered as a General Order by the Council at the Stated or Special Meeting, together with copies of all such items, including memoranda in support or in opposition, if any, except for those items acted on by a committee convened on the day of or preceding a meeting of the Council, in which case copies of such items shall be made available as soon as practicable, and a list of titles of all proposed local laws and resolutions to be introduced at such meeting, where practicable, shall be provided to each member at least 36 hours prior to the call of all meetings.

CHAPTER II – SPEAKER AND OTHER OFFICERS

2.00. Speaker; other Officers - The Council shall elect from among its members a Speaker and such other officers as it deems appropriate in accordance with the procedures set forth in Rule 3.00.

2.10. Speaker's Office - No person, including but not limited to registered lobbyists, except Members of the Council and Council staff, shall be permitted access to the Speaker's Office, except in specific designated areas when such person is attending a scheduled meeting or a public event. Such designated areas shall be demarcated by the posting of signs or the placement of a gate.

2.20. Attendance Policy - The Speaker shall formulate an attendance policy for committee, Stated, Charter, and Special Meetings.

2.30. Council Chamber - The use of the Council Chamber, Council Committee Room and all other space used for the purpose of conducting Council business shall be within the jurisdiction of the Speaker, unless otherwise ordered by the Council.

2.40. Council Lounge - No person, including but not limited to registered lobbyists, except Members of the Council and Council staff, shall be permitted access to the Council Lounge, except that persons other than Council Members and Council staff may be granted admission for the purpose of attending meetings with Members or public events. Notice of such meetings with individual Members shall be provided to the Sergeant-at-Arms in advance by such Member to the extent practicable, indicating the name(s) of the attendees.

2.50. Personnel and Fiscal Reports - The Speaker shall provide to each member an annual report, which may be included as part of the annual accounting of the Council's actual expenditures required by this rule, detailing the names of all individuals receiving compensation for work performed for the Council, its members or any of its committees, the amount of such compensation for central staff only, and a title and job description (including identification of the function or division of the Council to which the individual is assigned). The Speaker shall publish an annual accounting of the Council's actual expenditures by September 30 of each year, which covers the previous fiscal year, and which is sufficiently detailed to indicate the positions and purposes which have been funded as well as the activities and categories of materials and supplies purchased. Such accountings shall be accompanied by a summary description specifying, at a minimum, the amounts devoted to the following functions and divisions of the Council: the divisions responsible for the budget and fiscal analysis, the Council's role in the land use process, legislative drafting, and legal services; the Council press office; each committee; the Sergeant-at-Arms and other security functions; each member's office; the Speaker's staff, including all amounts paid to all consultants as well as the functions of such consultants; and any changes in each of these amounts, other than changes in compensation of members of central staff, from the Council budget adopted for the fiscal year covered by such accounting.

2.60. Procurement Procedures - a. The Speaker shall establish procurement procedures that shall apply to all Council Members and Council employees, so as to ensure efficiency, cost control and avoid conflicts of interest in the procurement process. All Council Members and Council employees shall be required to comply with the procurement procedures established by the Speaker, as well as any related requirements for training set by the Speaker. The Speaker shall make available to all Council Members and Council employees a copy of such procedures and any changes thereto.

b. The procurement procedures set by the Speaker shall take effect immediately.

2.70. Proposed Council Budget - The Speaker shall provide to Council Members copies of the proposed budget of the Council for the following fiscal year as soon as practicable. Such proposed budget shall include, at minimum, the amounts devoted to the following functions and divisions of the Council: the divisions responsible for the budget and fiscal analysis, the Council's role in the land use process, legislative drafting, and legal services; the Council press office; each committee; the Sergeant-at-Arms and other security functions; each Council Member's office; and the Speaker's staff, including all amounts paid to all consultants as well as the functions of such consultants.

2.80. Discretionary Funding - a. The Speaker shall establish a policy to ensure the integrity and transparency of the Council discretionary funding process. Such policy shall require that all organizations that wish to be considered for discretionary funding from the expense budget or for discretionary funding from the capital budget for a "non-City capital project" shall file an application with the Council or relevant City offices and/or agencies. For the purposes of this rule, a "non-City capital project" is a project for which the applicant organization is required to submit a Capital Funding Request Form for Not-for-Profit Organizations. Applications for discretionary funding from the expense budget or for discretionary funding from the capital budget for a non-City capital project shall be reviewed by the Council and/or relevant City offices and/or agencies to ensure that they are legally eligible to receive the City funds, are capable of providing the services for which they seek funding, are seeking funding for a public purpose, and are in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations. All expense applications received by the Council shall be made available to the public in a searchable on-line database in summary form. All allocations for discretionary funding from the expense budget or for discretionary funding from the capital budget shall be made available to the public in a searchable on-line database and in a downloadable, machine-readable format. All organizations that receive discretionary funding from the expense or capital budgets shall be required to complete a brief summary of how they have utilized such awarded funds.

In addition, such policy shall require completion of conflicts of interest disclosure/certification forms as specified by the Speaker from (i) all organizations seeking discretionary funding from the expense budget or discretionary funding from the capital budget for a non-City capital project, (ii) all Council Members sponsoring discretionary funding allocations and (iii) all Council Members prior to voting to designate discretionary funds. Such disclosure/certification forms shall contain either disclosure of any relationship between an organization and applicable City officials and associated persons or firms so that a determination may be made as to whether funding such organization is consistent with the City's Conflicts of Interest Laws and if so whether disclosure is necessary, or a certification that no such relationships exist.

b. Allocation of discretionary funds from the expense budget or discretionary funds from the capital budget for a non-City capital project, designation of recipients of discretionary funds from the expense budget or discretionary funds from the capital budget for a non-City capital project, and delineation of the uses of such funds shall be made solely through the budget adoption or modification process or through a discretionary funding transparency resolution. All such funds shall be distributed between and among sponsoring Council Members for allocation pursuant to a publicly disclosed formula that allocates funds either equally among Council Members, or based upon publicly available data about differences between districts, or some combination thereof. The Speaker shall be responsible for proposing no more than one half of all dollars allocated by the Council discretionary expense funding process.

2.90. Council Members' Operating Expenses - The amounts allocated in the Council budget for the operation of individual Council Members' offices shall be the same for each Council Member. The Speaker may not reduce such amount for any Council Member unless all Council Members are subject to the same reduction. The Speaker may not supplement the amount available to any Council Member through direct or indirect payment, provided that the Speaker may, with notice to all members, supplement the amount

available to an individual Council Member in cases of special need. It is the intent of the body that the total amount allocated for the operation of individual Council Members' offices shall be reasonable in proportion to the amount allocated for central staff.

2.100. Prohibition against using funds from operating expenses for certain advertisements - a. No city funds appropriated to the Council ("Council funds") shall be used by a Council Member for the purchase of advertisements in an organization's journal or bulletin in print or other form; provided, however, that for purposes of this rule, a publication of an organization that is published at least quarterly and is distributed beyond the membership of the organization to the general public shall not be deemed a journal or bulletin.

b. No Council funds shall be used by a Council Member for the purchase of any advertisement published or broadcast in any print, radio or television or other electronic media that (i) does not solely consist of informational or educational content relating to a governmental function or a government-sponsored event or (ii) contains any seasonal or holiday greeting or message or any congratulatory or commemorative message or (iii) contains a Council Member's likeness, picture or voice.

c. The Council shall only approve the purchase of advertisements that comply with the provisions of this rule and such payment shall only be made after a copy of such advertisement (or a detailed description of any such advertisement if not in print form) is provided to the Speaker's designee together with the invoice for such purchase.

2.110. Policies Prohibiting Discrimination and Harassment and Related Training - a. The Speaker shall establish a policy or policies prohibiting workplace discrimination and harassment, including sexual harassment, which shall apply to all Council Members, their staff and Council central staff. All Members, their staffs and Council central staff shall be required to comply with the requirements of such policy or policies, including the requirements for related training. The Speaker shall provide all Members, their staff and Council central staff with a copy of such policy or policies and any changes thereto.

b. The Speaker shall require mandatory annual participatory interactive training for all Members, their staff and Council central staff as outlined in the policy or policies established pursuant to Rule 2.110(a).

2.120. Workplace Climate Survey and Sexual Harassment Reporting - a. The Speaker shall publish an annual report within the Council for the first Stated Meeting in February disclosing complaints of workplace sexual harassment, as defined by the Council's policy or policies prohibiting discrimination and harassment established pursuant to Rule 2.110(a). Such report shall track for each preceding calendar year the number of complaints alleging workplace sexual harassment and the dispositions of such complaints. The annual report shall not contain any personally identifiable information.

b. The Speaker shall distribute a discrimination and harassment climate survey. Such survey shall gauge whether Council staff are familiar with the Council's policy or policies prohibiting discrimination and harassment, consider their workplace safe and free from violations of the Council's policy or policies and believe that the Council protects the rights of its employees to pursue their duties in a respectful workplace. The climate survey shall assess whether Council staff have witnessed or experienced workplace discrimination or harassment as described by the Council's policy or policies and whether they understand Council reporting and complaint procedures. The climate survey shall also gauge whether Council staff believe discrimination or harassment is, or would be, tolerated by the Council. For supervisors and managerial employees, the climate survey shall prompt whether such supervisors and managerial employees are knowledgeable about their responsibilities with respect to the prevention of conduct prohibited by the Council's policy or policies prohibiting discrimination and harassment. The climate survey shall also prompt whether such supervisors and managerial employees are knowledgeable about the measures they may take to address complaints. Information concerning demographic variables, including, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation and age, shall be solicited from survey respondents. Survey respondents may provide such demographic information, in full or in part, at their discretion.

By the close of the first year of the term, the Speaker shall disseminate the climate survey. By the close of the second year of the term, the Speaker shall assess the climate survey results, and, in response, determine and implement a preemptive action plan to create a discrimination-free and harassment-free workplace, as set forth in the Council's policy or policies established pursuant to Rule 2.110(a). By the close of the third year of the term, the Speaker shall refine and redistribute the climate survey. By the close of the fourth and last year of the term, the Speaker shall assess the recent climate survey results, and, in response, recommend a

successive preemptive action plan. By the close of the first year of each succeeding term, the Speaker shall address the preceding Speaker's recommendations and also reinstate the climate survey process described in this paragraph. Based on each assessment and determination, the Speaker shall update the Council's policy or policies prohibiting discrimination and harassment, as necessary, established pursuant to Rule 2.110(a).

In the event a Speaker's term is fewer than four years, the subsequent Speaker shall continue the process delineated in the preceding paragraph for the remainder of the unexpired term. In years when there are consecutive two-year terms, as provided by Section 25 of the Charter, the Speaker serving the first two-year term shall initiate and complete the steps delineated for the first and second years of the term described in the preceding paragraph. The Speaker serving the second term shall initiate and complete the steps delineated for the third and fourth years of the term described in the preceding paragraph.

2.130. Qualification of Council Members - Council Members, as public officers, must meet the qualifications of Section 3 of the New York State Public Officers Law in order to hold public office. In addition, Section 30 of such law sets forth provisions governing the creation of vacancies in public office. The Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections shall have jurisdiction over these matters. The Committee, or staff of the Committee acting under its direction, shall request such information as is reasonably necessary to review the qualifications of Council Members-elect. In addition, the Committee may determine whether particularized review of qualifications of a Council Member-elect or eligibility to serve of a Council Member is appropriate based upon information submitted or otherwise available to the Committee, or based upon failure to submit information requested in accordance with the preceding sentence. In the event that such a particularized review is conducted, the Council Member-elect, or Council Member, shall be afforded the right to be heard. If the Committee believes that a Council Member-elect should not be seated, or that a Council Member is not eligible to serve in public office, due to failure to meet the qualifications of the Public Officers Law or due to the creation of a vacancy pursuant to such law, the Committee will recommend appropriate action to the full Council. The record of the proceedings before the Committee on the matter shall be made available to the members of the Council before any such action is taken by the full Council.

2.140. Outside Earned Income - Council Members may not receive outside earned income. Outside earned income means income other than the Council salary and benefits of a Council Member, except that such term does not include (1) investment income, including but not limited to interest, dividends, rents, annuities and capital gains; (2) compensation for personal services actually rendered before the adoption of this rule or before such individual became a Council Member; (3) income received from a pension or retirement account, or from social security; (4) copyright royalties received under usual and customary contractual terms; (5) compensation for speaking engagements or artistic performance, with advance approval by the conflicts of interest board; (6) income received for teaching a course of instruction at an established academic institution for which students receive credit, or income in the form a fellowship or scholarship granted by such an institution, so long as such compensation does not exceed that normally received by others at the institution for a comparable type and amount of instruction; and (7) with advance approval by the General Counsel, minimal earned income from activity involving only a limited time commitment, and which does not interfere with the performance of official duties. Any income received by a Council Member shall be subject to the requirements of Chapter 68 of the Charter.

2.150. Collective Bargaining - All collective bargaining matters including recognition, negotiation, administration and enforcement of collective bargaining agreements and/or other agreements the Council may reach with unions or employee organizations representing Council employees shall be within the jurisdiction of the Speaker.

2.160. Declared States of Emergency - Whenever there exists a state of emergency declared by the Governor or the Mayor pursuant to New York Executive Law, the Speaker shall have the power to establish policies and procedures to protect the health and safety of Council Members and all Council staff.

CHAPTER III – PRESIDING OFFICER

3.00. Who Presides - a. The Speaker shall be the presiding officer of the Council. During absences, the Speaker may designate, in writing, any Council Member to perform the duties of the Speaker for that legislative day.

b. The Speaker may at his or her discretion designate a Speaker Pro Tempore to chair any Stated, Charter, or Special Meetings, any meeting of the Committee of the Whole, or any portion thereof.

c. The presiding officer shall call the Council to order and, except in the absence of a quorum, proceed to business in the manner prescribed by these Rules.

d. In the event of a vacancy in the position of Speaker, the City Clerk shall act as the presiding officer. The City Clerk shall call the meeting to order, read into the record communications, including the certification of newly elected members from the Board of Elections, call the roll, seek nominations for Speaker and manage any debate thereon, close nominations, call for a vote on such nominations and announce the new Speaker. Once elected, the new Speaker shall become the presiding officer.

3.10. Order, Decorum - The presiding officer shall preserve order and decorum. In the event of disturbance or disorderly conduct in the Chamber, lobby or gallery, the presiding officer may cause the same to be cleared.

3.20. Call of Members to Order - Members, when called to order by the presiding officer, shall thereupon take their seats and the presiding officer's ruling that a member is out of order shall be subject only to the right of appeal.

3.30. Appeals - Any member may appeal to the Council from a ruling of the presiding officer and the member making the appeal may briefly state the reason for same, and the presiding officer or Parliamentarian may briefly explain such ruling. There shall be no debate or explanation of voting on the appeal and no other member shall participate in the discussion except for the Majority Leader and Minority Leader, or the designee of each. The presiding officer shall then ask the question, "Shall the decision of the presiding officer be sustained?", and if a majority of the Council Members present vote in the affirmative, the decision of the presiding officer shall be sustained; otherwise, the decision of the presiding officer shall be overruled.

CHAPTER IV – MAJORITY AND MINORITY LEADERS

4.00. Majority Leader - The Majority Leader shall be a member of the political party with the greatest number of members in the Council. During absences, the Majority Leader shall designate, in writing, any member of the majority party to perform the duties of the Majority Leader for that legislative day.

4.10. Minority Leader – a. The Minority Leader shall be chosen by the members of the Council of the political party with the greatest number of members in the Council after the majority party.

b. During absences, the Minority Leader shall designate, in writing, any member of such minority party to perform the duties of the Minority Leader for that legislative day.

c. The Minority Leader may appoint such party officers as he or she deems appropriate.

CHAPTER V – CLERK AND STAFF – DUTIES

5.00. Minutes - The Legislative Document Unit shall prepare and make available on the Council's website minutes containing the proceedings of each meeting and accurate records of the members actually in attendance. All papers submitted shall constitute a part of the proceedings of each meeting.

5.10. Public Access and Legislative Tracking – a. The Office of the Speaker shall keep accurate records of the meetings of the committees of the Council, including the members present, committee reports, a description of each matter considered, the plain language summary and fiscal impact statement accompanying each proposed local law or resolution, each memorandum of support prepared therewith, the names of witnesses appearing before the committee and copies of their written testimony, when submitted. Such materials shall be available to the public electronically. Any person requesting copies of such materials shall set forth in writing a specific description of the material sought which shall be submitted to the Office of

the Speaker. A complete transcript of each committee meeting shall be available for public inspection at the Office of the City Clerk, Clerk of the Council, free of charge within sixty days of such meeting.

b. The Office of the Speaker shall make available on the internet for use by the public a legislative tracking database containing the number, text, sponsorship and status of all proposed local laws and resolutions, committee reports, agendas, calendar, hearing testimony, transcripts, videos, committee assignments, voting records of Council Members and other associated materials in the public record that can practicably be made available. All proposed local laws and resolutions in the public record as well as any information associated with each proposed local law or resolution available through the database will be provided to the public in a machine-readable format at no cost and without restriction as soon as practicable.

c. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of this chapter, proceedings and records of the Committee on Standards and Ethics shall be privileged and confidential.

5.20. Certification - The certificate of the Clerk of the Council shall be attached to every proposed local law or resolution to the effect that the same has been duly passed by a vote, as required by the provisions of the New York City Charter. The Legislative Document Unit shall transmit the proposed local law or resolution to the Mayor.

5.30. Rules , Charter, and Administrative Code - The Legislative Document Unit shall make available on the Council's website a copy of the Rules of the Council as prepared under the direction and supervision of the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections, and shall also provide links to the Charter and the Administrative Code. The Legislative Document Unit shall also make available a copy of "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised" to all Council Members.

5.40. Assignment of Sergeant-at-Arms - The Speaker shall assign to the Sergeant-at-Arms and Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, their respective duties and stations except as otherwise provided in these Rules.

5.50. Sergeants-at-Arms; Absence of Quorum - If a number less than a quorum shall convene, the presiding officer may send the Sergeants-at-Arms for the absent members.

5.60. Sergeants-at-Arms; Duties - The Sergeants-at-Arms shall be in constant attendance at all sessions of the Council, and, under the direction of the presiding officer, shall aid in enforcing order on the floor, in the gallery, in the lobbies and in the rooms adjoining the Chamber, and also see that no person remains on the floor, unless entitled to such privileges. They shall also place on the desks of the Speaker Pro Tempore and other members, before each meeting, the calendars and agendas provided for in these Rules, papers and the proposed local laws and resolutions.

5.70. Transmittal to Clerk - The Legislative Document Unit shall furnish to the Clerk of the Council copies of all agendas, calendars, adopted local laws and resolutions.

5.80. Office of the General Counsel - **a.** The Speaker shall appoint a General Counsel and provide for an Office of the General Counsel for the purpose of conducting the routine legal affairs of the Council, and to defend the rights and privileges of its Council Members.

b. The Speaker may authorize the General Counsel to take any action in a judicial proceeding to protect and defend the powers and authorities of the Council and local laws duly passed by the Council, to serve and enforce Council subpoenas, and to employ outside counsel.

c. There shall be an attorney from the Office of the General Counsel designated as the Parliamentarian, who shall advise the presiding officer, Council Members, and Council staff on matters of parliamentary procedure and Council precedent.

d. Any member may request an advisory opinion from the Parliamentarian with respect to questions about any Council rule or rules, including any questions relating to compliance therewith.

CHAPTER VI – PROPOSED LOCAL LAWS AND RESOLUTIONS

6.00. Presentation of Papers – **a.** The word paper when used herein shall include all proposed local laws, resolutions, petitions, communications from City, county and borough offices and reports which may be proposed to the Council for action.

b. All papers other than committee reports shall be presented in writing, endorsed with the name of the introducer or originator and, with the exception of committee reports and messages from the mayor, must be

deposited with the Office of the Speaker in hard copy or electronic form before 1 p.m., at least three business days, excluding municipal holidays preceding the meeting day.

c. The title of each paper shall briefly refer to the subject matter.

d. The introduction of each proposed local law shall be accompanied by a plain language summary of the bill and a memorandum in support authored by the sponsor that explains the need for the legislation. Such plain language summaries and memoranda in support shall be posted on the Council's legislative tracking database and updated when the applicable bill is amended.

e. Each proposed local law and resolution shall be assigned a chronological introduction or resolution number and shall appear on the agenda in alphabetical order according to the name of the first-named prime sponsor.

6.10. Local Laws; How Prepared - a. The style of local laws shall be "Be it enacted by the Council as follows." Every local law shall embrace only one subject, which shall be briefly stated in its title.

b. A local law amending or repealing any existing law shall contain in brackets or strike through the part repealed; the new part to be inserted shall be underscored. When any such local law is printed in the minutes, the part repealed shall be in brackets and the new part shall be in italics instead of being underscored.

c. All local laws presented, whether new or of an amendatory nature, shall state specifically the section of the law to be added, amended or repealed.

d. Whenever a proposed local law is amended after introduction or after a public hearing thereon, the number of such proposed local law or resolution shall be followed by a designation beginning with the letter "A" and continuing sequentially through the alphabet with each amended version.

e. The latest draft of each proposed local law shall contain in the lower left corner the date and time of the most current version. Committee staff shall be responsible for transmitting such version to Members for consideration, and to post on the website.

6.20. Sponsors - a. Every member listed as a sponsor of a proposed local law or resolution on the agenda of the Stated Meeting at which such proposed legislation is introduced shall be deemed a prime sponsor of such proposed legislation. Whenever the Speaker is a prime sponsor, the Speaker's name shall appear first. In the event the Speaker of the Council is not a prime sponsor, the name of such member shall appear in the sequence in which such member requested to be added as a sponsor.

b. The first-named prime sponsor's approval shall not be necessary before the names of any co-prime sponsors may be added to a proposed local law or resolution. However, such approval shall be necessary where the first-named prime sponsor has so indicated in writing to the Office of the Speaker.

c. A member may add his or her name as a sponsor after the introduction of a proposed local law or resolution by making such request in writing to the Legislative Document Unit at any time before the Stated or Special Meeting at which the Council will consider the matter.

d. Certain legislative matters, as designated by the Speaker, may be introduced under the sponsor name "by the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections." Legislative matters sponsored under such process shall continue to be referred to the appropriate committee for its consideration.

e. Notwithstanding any other provision of this rule, a member shall not sponsor any proposed local law or resolution that would confer a direct or indirect benefit to such member.

6.30. Papers Referred to Committee; Change of Reference - a. Every paper introduced at a Stated Meeting shall, upon its introduction, be referred by the Speaker to one or more standing committees, subcommittees, or special committees to consider and report thereon.

b. The Speaker may, upon his or her own initiative or upon petition of the first-named prime sponsor, change such referral at any time prior to the first meeting of a committee to consider such matter.

c. Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision a of this rule, the Speaker may designate a paper as preconsidered and refer it to one or more standing committees, subcommittees, or special committees prior to introduction. Preconsidered matters which have been reported out of committee favorably or with amendments may be introduced and voted on at the same Stated or Special Meeting.

6.40. Type of Enactment - All enactments shall be by local law or resolution.

6.50. Legislative Drafting Services - a. Members shall submit all requests for proposed local laws and resolutions to the Legislative Division prior to introduction.

b. The Speaker shall ensure that the Council central staff provides legislative drafting services to all members on an equitable, timely and confidential basis. Some or all of such drafting services shall be provided by a dedicated drafting unit within Council central staff, the primary function of which is the drafting of legislation.

c. Confidentiality precludes Council central staff from refusing to provide legislative drafting services to any member on the basis that similar legislation is currently being drafted.

d. Timely means central staff, to the extent practicable, shall respond to active requests for proposed local laws and resolutions by providing a draft of the proposal to the requesting member within 60 days of the requesting member activating such request, provided however, such 60-day period shall be tolled for any periods of time when central staff is waiting for a response from the requesting member to provide specific additional information that is necessary for the drafting of such legislation.

1. Before any such 60-day period is tolled pursuant to this subdivision, central staff shall first attempt to contact the requesting member at least two times, on two different days, to request such specific additional information. If the requesting member provides such requested information before the end of the day of the second such attempt to obtain such information, such time period shall not be tolled.

2. If the requesting member does not respond to such attempts or otherwise communicates that they need additional time to provide such requested information, central staff shall email notice to the requesting member that work on such request will be suspended and that such 60-day period will be tolled from date of such notice until the sponsor provides such requested information.

e. Members shall have access to a tracking database that identifies the staff member to whom each of their requests has been assigned and provides the status of each such request.

f. Upon request, a member may receive a legal briefing regarding a request such member has made for legislation.

g. Members may request amendments to legislation for which they are the first-named prime sponsor at any time prior to such legislation receiving a committee vote. Once finalized for consideration, such amended legislation shall be posted to the Council's website.

6.60. Home Rule Requests; How Presented - Any resolution presented to the Council calling upon the legislature of the State of New York to pass a specific bill pending before such legislature shall be filed with the Legislative Document Unit with a copy of the State bill.

CHAPTER VII – COMMITTEES

7.00. Application - As used in this chapter, the term “committee” may refer to a standing committee, subcommittee, or special committee except as otherwise specified or indicated by usage.

7.10 Establishment and Appointment - **a.** Prior to the establishment of the membership of any other committee, and after the selection of the Speaker, the Council shall elect the membership of the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections. All other committees and appointments thereto shall be recommended by the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections, approved by the Council and published in the Calendar. All standing committee chairpersons shall be elected by the Council as a whole. Once elected, a standing committee or subcommittee chairperson may be removed prior to the end of the session without their consent only by the vote of 2/3 of all the Council Members.

b. The Speaker may create such subcommittees or special committees as he or she deems necessary and appropriate.

c. Each standing committee shall be composed of no fewer than five Council Members.

d. Committee chair vacancies shall be filled within 90 days, except that whenever a vacancy causes the membership of a standing committee to be less than five members, such vacancy shall be filled within 60 days.

7.20 Standing Committees - The standing committees of the Council shall bear the following titles and

possess the following jurisdictions:

AGING - Department for the Aging and all federal, State and municipal programs pertinent to senior citizens.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH - Administration for Children's Services, the Division of Youth and Family Justice within the Administration for Children's Services, Youth Board, Department of Youth and Community Development, Interagency Coordinating Council on Youth, and youth related programs.

CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS - Human Rights Commission, Equal Employment Practices Commission and Equal Employment Opportunity.

CIVIL SERVICE AND LABOR - Municipal Officers and Employees, Office of Labor Relations, Office of Collective Bargaining, Office of Labor Services, and Municipal Pension and Retirement Systems.

CONSUMER AND WORKER PROTECTION - Department of Consumer and Worker Protection and Office of Nightlife.

CONTRACTS - Procurement Policy Board, review of City procurement policies and procedures, oversight over government contracts, Mayor's Office of Contract Services and collection agency contracts.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE - Department of Correction and Department of Probation.

CULTURAL AFFAIRS, LIBRARIES AND INTERNATIONAL INTERGROUP ORGANIZATIONS - Department of Cultural Affairs, libraries, museums, Art Commission, New York City Commission for the United Nations, Consular Corps and Protocol, Mayor's Office of Special Projects and Community Events, and to encourage harmony among the citizens of New York City, to promote the image of New York City and enhance the relationship of its citizens with the international community.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Economic Development.

EDUCATION - Department of Education, School Construction Authority, and charter schools.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, RESILIENCY AND WATERFRONTS - Department of Environmental Protection and Office of Long Term Planning and Sustainability and Office of Recovery and Resiliency.

FINANCE - Executive Budget review and Budget modification, Banking Commission, Comptroller's Office, Department of Finance, Independent Budget Office and fiscal policy and revenue from any source.

FIRE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT - Fire/EMS (non-health-related issues), and Emergency Management Department (OEM).

GENERAL WELFARE - Human Resources Administration/Department of Social Services, Department of Homeless Services, and charitable institutions.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS, STATE & FEDERAL LEGISLATION - Municipal governmental structure and organization, Department of Citywide Administrative Services, Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings, Community Boards, Tax Commission, Board of Standards and Appeals, Campaign Finance Board, Board of Elections, Voter Assistance Commission, Commission on Public Information and Communication, Department of Records and Information Services, Financial Information Services Agency, Law Department, Federal legislation, State legislation and Home Rule requests.

HEALTH - Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner and EMS (health-related issues).

HIGHER EDUCATION - City University of New York.

HOSPITALS - Public and private hospitals, Health and Hospitals Corporation.

HOUSING AND BUILDINGS - Department of Housing Preservation and Development, Department of Buildings and rent regulation.

IMMIGRATION - Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs and other matters affecting immigration.

LAND USE - City Planning Commission, Department of City Planning, Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications, Landmarks Preservation Commission, land use and landmarks review.

MENTAL HEALTH, DISABILITIES AND ADDICTION - Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (issues of mental health, developmental disability and addiction services) and Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities.

OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS - To investigate any matters within the jurisdiction of the Council relating to property, affairs, or government of New York City and the Department of Investigation.

PARKS AND RECREATION - Department of Parks and Recreation.

PUBLIC HOUSING - New York City Housing Authority.

PUBLIC SAFETY - Police Department, Civilian Complaint Review Board, and Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice, courts, legal services, District Attorneys, and the Office of the Special Narcotics Prosecutor.

RULES, PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS - Council structure and organization and appointments.

SANITATION AND SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT - Department of Sanitation and the Business Integrity Commission.

SMALL BUSINESS - Department of Small Business Services and matters relating to retail business and emerging industries.

STANDARDS AND ETHICS - Conflicts of Interest Board and Council ethics.

TECHNOLOGY - Technology in New York City, Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications (non- land use-related issues), Mayor's Office of Media & Entertainment, NYC TV, and dissemination of public information through the use of technology.

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE - Mass transportation agencies and facilities, Taxi and Limousine Commission, Department of Transportation and New York City Transit Authority, and the Department of Design and Construction and matters related to infrastructure projects within New York City.

VETERANS - Department of Veterans' Services and other veteran related issues.

WOMEN AND GENDER EQUITY - Issues relating to advancing the economic mobility, social inclusion, leadership and civic participation of women and girls, domestic violence, Office to End Gender-Based Violence and the Commission on Gender Equity.

7.30. Committee of the Whole - The Speaker may, at any time, convene the Committee of the Whole and shall provide each member and the public with notice of such meeting together with a schedule of those items to be considered as far in advance of such meeting as is practicable. When the Council convenes as a Committee of the Whole, the Speaker shall be chairperson of such Committee.

7.40. Chairperson; Committee Members – On any list of members of a committee published by the Council, the first-named member of such committee shall be the chairperson and each committee member shall thereafter be listed in alphabetical order.

7.50. Duties - Pursuant to Section 29 of the City Charter, each standing committee shall hold oversight hearings relating to the activities of the agencies within such committee's jurisdiction, including but not limited to review of agency policies, programs and management, make recommendations to the Finance Committee on agency budget requests, formulate an agenda for inquiry and investigation, hold hearings and meetings on proposed legislation and develop legislative programs. Each standing committee shall hold oversight hearings on the Mayor's Management Report with respect to those agencies within the committee's jurisdiction.

7.60. Staff - Each committee shall have at least one staff person assigned to it from Council central staff. Such committee staff shall be responsible for drafting all briefing papers and committee reports of such committee.

7.70. Meetings - a. All committee meetings shall be held at the call of the chairperson of the committee. The Speaker may not prevent a committee meeting called by the chairperson of a committee from taking place except by a written finding that the topic is outside the jurisdiction of the committee, there is a scheduling conflict at the time such meeting is called, or there are insufficient staff resources for such meeting and such committee has already met or planned to meet once in that month.

b. The majority of any committee may petition, in writing, the chairperson of said committee to call a meeting to consider the subject matter of such petition. If the chairperson of said committee fails to call such meeting within ten days from the receipt of said petition, said majority may petition, in writing, the Speaker, who shall issue such call.

c. No committee meeting shall be convened on the day of a Stated, Charter, or Special Meeting of the Council unless the item to be considered by such committee will be proposed as a General Order for that day or such committee meeting is called with the consent of two-thirds of the members of such committee.

d. Each standing committee, except for the Committees on Standards and Ethics, Oversight and Investigations, and Rules, Privileges and Elections, shall meet no less than once every two months beginning

in the month subsequent to the first appointment of members to committees pursuant to Rule 7.10; except that the Committee on Land Use shall meet no less than once a month; and except that no committees are required to meet during the months of July and August. Subcommittees or special committees shall meet as needed to complete their work.

e. The chairperson of each committee shall ensure that representatives of City governmental entities affirm prior to testifying at a committee meeting that their testimony is truthful to the best of their knowledge, information and belief.

f. The chairperson shall maintain decorum at all meetings and shall have general control over the Chamber, lobbies, rooms, and corridors in that part of the building assigned to the committee.

g. No person, including but not limited to registered lobbyists, except Members of the Council and Council staff, shall be permitted access to, or behind, the dais during a committee meeting.

h. Member attendance shall be in person or by any other method permitted by State or local law, as authorized by the Speaker. If videoconferencing is used to conduct a meeting, the public shall be provided the opportunity to view such meeting via video, provided however, no member may use videoconferencing to attend a meeting unless a quorum of the committee is physically present in a location where the public can attend.

i. The committee counsel shall keep a record of the attendance at all committee meetings. The Legislative Documents Unit shall make such attendance records publicly available on the Council's website. Members may submit to the Legislative Documents Unit a written explanation of their absence from a committee meeting, which shall become part of the record of such meeting.

7.80. Public Hearings - a. Standing committees, subcommittees, and special committees shall hold all public hearings required by law. A committee chairperson may call public hearings on any matter referred to such committee. The chairperson may allow public testimony on any item being considered by the committee at that hearing.

b. Any committee which schedules a meeting for the purpose of considering the nomination, appointment, designation or recommendation of any individual pursuant to power vested in the Council shall, in its announcement of such meeting, invite the public to be heard with respect to the qualifications of any such individual.

c. Each person who completes and submits an appearance form at a public hearing shall be given the opportunity to speak. The chair may impose a deadline to sign up to speak, provided the notice for such public hearing includes such deadline and such deadline is no earlier than 5 p.m. the day before the hearing.

d. The chairperson may deny the opportunity to be heard to any person who causes a disturbance in the hearing room or who refuses to observe decorum in violation of Rule 9.150.

e. The chairperson may determine the order of witnesses and establish time limits for testimony.

f. Whenever videoconferencing is used to conduct a public hearing, the Council shall provide members of the public the opportunity to participate in proceedings via videoconference in real time and shall ensure that videoconferencing authorizes the same public participation or testimony as in person participation or testimony.

g. At any public hearing, the chair may, at their discretion, read into the record of such hearing the anonymous testimony of any witness who wishes to remain anonymous because of their immigration status or fear of physical violence or employment retaliation. A witness who wishes to remain anonymous shall submit a letter to the Legislative Documents Unit requesting anonymity and stating the reasons for such request at least three business days before such hearing. The witness should attach to such letter written testimony that is two minutes or less when read aloud. No information about the identity of a witness who submits testimony in compliance with this rule shall be made available for public inspection pursuant to Rule 5.10 or Article 6 of the Public Officers Law.

7.90. Voting - a. All committee determinations shall be on roll call vote of the majority of the entire committee, including determinations on matters requiring a greater vote for final passage by the Council. A quorum being present, a majority of those present at a meeting shall be sufficient to decide a motion, including all appeals from rulings of the chair or other points of order or procedure.

b. All votes shall be cast in person, or by any other method authorized by the Speaker and permitted by State and local law.

c. All votes shall be cast in open session, except that the Committee on Standards and Ethics shall be authorized to record its vote while in executive session to consider a disciplinary matter pursuant to the provisions of Section 105 of the Public Officers Law.

d. The result of each roll call vote taken during any meeting of a committee, the name of each member voting for and each member voting against the matter, and the names of those members present but not voting shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting and made available to the public.

7.100. Committee Action – a. A subcommittee may recommend to a standing committee the approval, amendment, disapproval, or filing of any matter referred for its consideration. A standing committee, special committee, or the Committee of the Whole may recommend to the full Council the passage, adoption, approval or filing of any proposed local law or resolution or any other matter referred to it for consideration. When a matter has been jointly referred to more than one committee, each committee shall vote separately on the matter and an affirmative vote of both committees shall be required in order to report such matter to the full Council.

b. The question of the action to be taken by a standing committee, special committee or the Committee of the Whole shall be put by the chairperson upon motion of any member, which motion shall not require a second. If a majority of the members of the committee vote affirmatively to report or file the matter, such matter shall be reported forthwith to the Council. If a majority of the members of the committee vote negatively on such question, such matter shall be continued on the committee calendar until disposed of. If the committee recommends that a matter be filed, upon an affirmative vote by the Council to file, the matter shall be removed from the Council Calendar.

7.110. Sponsor’s Privilege - The first-named sponsor of a proposed local law or resolution referred to a standing committee may, at least 60 days after introduction, petition the chairperson to schedule a committee meeting to consider such proposed local law or resolution. A meeting shall then be scheduled within 60 days of such petition for the purpose of determining future action. At such meeting, the sponsor shall be the first heard in support of such proposed local law or resolution. The committee shall either vote thereon or schedule a hearing to be held within 30 days, at which hearing a vote shall be taken if the sponsor so requests.

7.120. Supermajority Bill Sponsorship - If a proposed local law or resolution is sponsored by at least 34 members, and such proposed local law or resolution has not received, or is not scheduled to receive, a hearing in the committee or committees to which it has been referred, a meeting of the committee or committees to which such proposed local law or resolution has been referred shall be scheduled within 60 days of such threshold being reached for the purpose of determining future action. Such meeting or meetings shall not be required if (i) the number of sponsors of such proposed local law or resolution drops below 34 members at any point prior to the end of such 60 day time period, or prior to such meeting or meetings, whichever is earlier; (ii) at any time, the first-named prime sponsor of such proposed local law or resolution writes to the chair of the committee or committees to which such legislation has been referred requesting a deferral of such meeting or meetings; or (iii) at any time prior to such meeting or meetings a hearing is scheduled on the proposed local law or resolution in such committee or committees.

The first-named prime sponsor may retract a deferral request by writing to the chair of the relevant committee or committees, after which such meeting shall be scheduled within 60 days. At a meeting held pursuant to this rule, the committee must vote on whether or not to schedule a hearing on the proposed local law or resolution.

7.130. Participation at Committee Meetings - Committee members may question witnesses, vote, make statements, submit written information to the record, and otherwise participate in the work of a committee as a matter of right. Such Council staff as may be designated by the chairperson may also question witnesses. Non-committee members may question witnesses, make statements, and submit written information to the record at committee meetings, except that, while in executive session considering a disciplinary matter, the Committee on Standards and Ethics shall limit attendance and participation to Committee members, the subject of such matter, witnesses, and certain designated Council staff only.

7.140. Committee Rules - The Rules of the Council, as far as applicable, shall govern all committees of the Council.

7.150. Subpoenas – The chairperson of a standing committee, upon majority vote of said committee, or the Speaker, may sign a subpoena requiring a person to appear before the committee to be examined under

oath or requiring the production of books, accounts, papers and other evidence relevant to any matter within the scope of the inquiry or investigation being conducted by the committee. The Speaker may also sign a subpoena on behalf of a select committee or legislative panel. In the case of a subcommittee, the chairperson of the standing committee of which the subcommittee forms a part, upon majority vote of said standing committee, or the Speaker, may sign a subpoena.

7.160. Executive Session - Each committee may meet in executive session pursuant to the New York State Open Meetings Law.

CHAPTER VIII – STATED MEETINGS – PROCEDURE

8.00. Agenda – a. Under the direction of the Speaker, the Legislative Document Unit shall compile an agenda for each Stated, Charter and Special Meeting of the Council and shall provide each member with a copy thereof. The agenda shall include all vetoes, messages from the Mayor or other City, county and borough officials, departments and agencies, other petitions and communications, Land Use call-up resolutions, and reports of subcommittees, special and standing committees. All matters which have been considered by a standing committee, special committee, or Committee of the Whole and reported out favorably or with amendments, and all items deemed discharged from further consideration by the Committee on Land Use and its subcommittees pursuant to Rule 11.60 shall be listed in a section devoted to General Orders, except for resolutions placed on the Resolutions section of the Stated Meeting agenda pursuant to Rule 8.60. A list of introductions of proposed local laws and resolutions, submitted for consideration to the Council and referred to a committee at such meeting, where practicable, shall be annexed.

b. General Orders are those proposed local laws, resolutions or other items of unfinished business requiring no further action by the Council, except to vote thereon. In the event any matters on the General Order Calendar of a particular meeting are not acted upon, they shall be continued on the agenda at the next meeting, and each succeeding meeting until final action is taken.

c. The order of business shall be as follows, unless otherwise directed by the Council.

1. Roll Call
2. Invocation
3. Adoption of the Minutes
4. Messages and Papers from the Mayor
5. Communications from City, County and Borough Offices
6. Presentation of Petitions and Communications
7. Land Use Call-Ups
8. Communications from the Speaker
9. Discussion of General Orders
10. Reports of Special Committees
11. Reports of Standing Committees
12. General Orders and other Pending Matters
13. Introduction of Local Laws and Resolutions
14. Discussion of Resolutions
15. Resolutions
16. General Discussion
17. Extension of Remarks

8.10 Messages from the Mayor – Messages from the Mayor may be received at any time.

8.20 Motion to Recall - It shall always be in order to move to recall a local law from the Mayor.

8.30 Rules Committee Call-Ups – It shall always be in order to move to call up for consideration a report from the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections.

8.40. Admission to Floor of Council Chamber and Committee Room - No person, including but not limited to registered lobbyists, shall be admitted to the floor of the Council Chamber or the Committee Room

during Stated and Special Meetings except for the following individuals, who shall be permitted on the floor in those areas as the Speaker may designate:

- a. The Mayor, Deputy Mayors or employees of the Mayor's Office of Intergovernmental Affairs;
- b. The employees of the Council and the Clerk of the Council and his or her employees as are required by the Council to assist in the performance of its functions, including the Counsel to the Minority Leader when required by the Minority Leader to assist in the performance of his or her duties at such meeting;
- c. Heads of City departments and agencies, when their presence is requested or required by the Council;
- d. Members of the press in the sections of the Chamber assigned for their use;
- e. Former Council Members; and
- f. Such other persons as may be granted the courtesy of admission to the floor by the Speaker.

8.50. Order of Calling the Roll - The roll call of the Council shall be in alphabetical order, except as modified by the presiding officer, then the Minority Leader, the Majority Leader and the Speaker.

8.60. Voting - a. All votes cast at Stated, Charter and Special Meetings of the Council shall be in person, or by any other means authorized by the Speaker and permitted by State and local law. When hearing their names called, Council Members may pass their voting turn for up to two times, but must have their vote recorded when called a third time.

b. A local law or resolution must receive a vote of the majority of all Council Members, except for a local law or resolution pursuant to a message of necessity from the Mayor, a veto override, or a Home Rule request, all of which require a two-thirds vote of all Council Members. A quorum being present, a majority of those present shall be sufficient to decide a motion, including all appeals from rulings of the chair or other points of order or procedure.

c. A Council Member can vote for or against any local law or resolution on the General Orders calendar or may abstain from the same. A Council Member who has an interest in a firm that is not prohibited may only take action affecting such interest by disclosing such interest when voting.

d. Resolutions placed on the Resolutions section of the Stated Meeting agenda pursuant to Rule 8.80(b) shall be considered individually and acted upon by voice vote without amendment. If adopted, such vote will be recorded by the Legislative Document Unit as being, "adopted by action of the council." Council Members may have a "no vote" or "abstention" recorded by the Legislative Document Unit at the time the matter is acted upon, by specifically requesting such from the presiding officer, at the time of the voice vote, or by informing the Legislative Document Unit prior to the result of the voice vote being announced.

e. At the first opportunity to vote, a Council Member may request permission from the presiding officer to vote on all items on the agenda for such meeting, provided that prior to such meeting, the Speaker grants permission to make such request and the Council Member notifies the Parliamentarian of the Speaker's decision thereon. Permission shall not be granted if doing so would reduce the number of Council Members in the chamber below the number required for any subsequent vote on the agenda. A Council Member granted permission to vote on all items on the agenda during the roll call vote on Land Use call-ups shall not be given permission to explain their vote.

f. A Council Member who is absent from a meeting when a vote on General Orders is called may request permission to vote after the result of such vote is announced and before such meeting has adjourned provided they may only do so with the unanimous consent of the Council Members present.

g. Once the result of a voice vote has been announced by the presiding officer, a roll call vote shall be ordered only upon the demand of at least two members.

8.70. Separate Questions - Any Council Member may request that a proposed local law, resolution or other item be separated from other general orders for consideration and vote prior to commencement of the vote on the General Order calendar.

8.80. Consideration of Resolutions - a. Except as provided in Rule 11.20, no resolution shall be adopted on the day of its introduction unless it has been considered and approved by the committee or committees to which it was referred or the matter has been discharged from such committee or committees pursuant to Rule 8.240 or 11.60.

b. At the discretion of the Speaker, a resolution approved by the committee to which it was referred, can be placed either on the General Orders section of a Stated Meeting agenda, where it will be included as part

of the roll call vote, or on the Resolutions section of a Stated Meeting agenda which shall follow “Discussion of resolutions” pursuant to Rule 8.00. Resolutions assigned to the Resolutions section of the agenda will be considered in the manner prescribed by Rules 8.60(d) and 8.150.

8.90. Presence of Quorum; Member Silent on Roll Call - Whenever any member raises the question as to the presence of a quorum, the presiding officer shall forthwith direct the Legislative Document Unit to call the roll, and shall announce the result, and such proceedings shall be without debate; but no member, while speaking, shall be interrupted by raising the question of absence of quorum, and such question shall not be raised more than once every hour, unless the absence of a quorum be disclosed upon a roll call.

Whenever, upon a roll call, any Council Member present refuses to make an affirmative response, it shall be the duty of the presiding officer, either upon said officer’s own motion or upon the suggestion of any member of the Council, to request the Council Member so remaining silent to respond as “present”, and if such Council Member fails to do so, the fact of such request and the refusal shall be entered in the minutes and such member shall be counted as present for the purpose of constituting a quorum. A majority of all Council Members shall constitute a quorum.

8.100. Call of the Council - For the purpose of securing the attendance of Council Members, a call of the Council may be ordered at any time, except that no such call shall be in order when the voting on any question has begun unless it shall appear upon an actual count by the presiding officer that a quorum is not present. If a call of the Council is demanded by two members, the roll call shall be called, and if a majority be recorded in the negative, a call of the Council shall not again be in order except by unanimous consent until an hour has elapsed.

8.110. Call for Absentees - When a roll call has been ordered, absentees shall not be called more than once, unless requested by at least five members.

8.120. Discontinuance of Roll Call - After two roll calls for absentees, a motion to discontinue the roll call shall be in order and may be adopted by a majority vote.

8.130. Discussion of General Orders - Any member, when recognized by the presiding officer, may speak on any matter on the General Order calendar during the period of Discussion of General Orders. Such member may speak for no more than two (2) minutes unless permission to extend the time is granted by the presiding officer, except that the Minority Leader shall have up to five (5) minutes to speak on any matter on the general order calendar.

8.140. Discussion of Resolutions - Any member, when recognized by the presiding officer, may speak on any Resolution on the Resolution calendar during the period of Discussion of Resolutions. Such member may speak for no more than a total of one (1) minute unless permission to extend the time is granted by the presiding officer.

8.150. Explanation of Votes - A Council Member desiring to be excused from voting, or to explain a vote may, when his or her name is called, with permission from the presiding officer, make a statement of the reasons for voting in such a manner, lasting no more than two (2) minutes, provided that if such member has spoken on any matter for 10 minutes or more pursuant to the Ten Minute Rule (Rule 8.170), they may not explain their vote. No explanation of a vote shall be permitted during a roll call vote on land use call-ups.

8.160. General Discussion - Any member, when recognized by the presiding officer, may speak on any issue, including any matter being introduced, during the period of general discussion. Such member may enter written materials or prepared statements of no more than five (5) pages into the official record or may speak for no more than a total of two (2) minutes unless permission to extend the time is granted by the presiding officer.

8.170. Ten Minute Rule – a. A member shall not speak more than once at a Stated Meeting on the same general question until every other member desiring to be heard upon the question has spoken.

b. A member shall not speak on any matter at a Stated Meeting more than three (3) times, except by permission of the presiding officer.

c. A member shall speak for no more than ten (10) minutes in the aggregate on any matter except by permission of the presiding officer.

8.180. Reconsideration of a Question – a. When a question has been decided, it shall be in order for any Council Member who voted in the majority to move for its reconsideration. Such motion shall be made on the same day the question was decided, or at the next Stated, Charter, or Special Meeting. A motion to reconsider

a question shall be decided upon majority vote of all Council Members present and voting, except that no matter shall be reconsidered more than twice. No motion for reconsideration of a question shall be in order after the proposed local law, resolution, message, report, amendment or motion upon which the vote was taken shall have gone out of possession of the Council, except as provided herein.

b. Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision a of this rule, at any time prior to the election at which a local law is to be submitted to the electors pursuant to the Charter, the Council, not later than fifteen (15) days prior to the election, may reconsider its action thereon and repeal such local law without submission to the Mayor, whereupon the proposition for its approval shall not be submitted at such election, or if submitted, the vote of the electors thereon shall be without effect.

c. When a proposed local law or resolution is recalled from the Mayor by the Council pursuant to Section 37 of the Charter, a motion for reconsideration may be made by any Council Member who voted in the majority on the original question, or the matter may be referred to committee by the Speaker.

d. Pursuant to Section 37 of the Charter, reconsideration of a local law disapproved by the Mayor shall always be in order within thirty days after the meeting of the Council at which the Clerk of the Council presents the Mayor's written objections. Reconsideration of such local law shall be in the manner prescribed in Rule 9.10.

8.190. Debate – The chairperson of the committee reporting, or his or her designee, shall have the option to open debate. Upon the announcement by the presiding officer that debate is closed, the Minority Leader, or his or her designee, may be the next to the last speaker and close debate for the minority party; the Speaker, or his or her designee, may close debate for the majority party, and shall be the last speaker on any issue.

8.200. Questions of Priority - All questions relating to the priority of business shall be decided without debate.

8.210. Extension of Remarks into the Council Record - Members may add supplemental written materials and prepared statements to the record of a Stated or Special Meeting during the period of extension of remarks. At such meeting, copies of such materials or statements shall be provided by such member to all other members and to the presiding officer. Such materials and statements shall become part of the official record of the Stated Meeting without being read into the record. All such supplemental written materials and prepared statements shall be printed in the official record of the meeting under the caption "Extension of Remarks into the Council Record."

8.220. Discharge from Committee – **a.** Once a matter has been referred to a committee, it shall not be acted upon by the Council until the committee has reported thereon or such matter has been discharged. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a committee to which there has been referred any matter which, by law, must be considered and acted upon by the Council within a fixed period of time, shall, at the last Stated Meeting of the Council preceding the expiration of such time, be deemed to be discharged from further consideration thereof.

b. A committee which has been instructed to report at a certain meeting shall be deemed to be discharged from further consideration of the matter referred to it, unless it makes a report at such meeting or receives from the Council a further extension of time to report.

c. Upon motion of the first-named sponsor, a standing committee, subcommittee, or special committee may be discharged from further consideration of any proposed local law or resolution referred to such committee, by a majority vote of the Council. The first-named sponsor of a proposed local law or resolution shall give written notice of the intent to make a motion to discharge to the Speaker and the committee chairperson or chairpersons. Such notice shall be provided at least seven (7) business days in advance of the Stated Meeting at which the sponsor intends to make such motion. Such notice shall be accompanied by a memorandum in support of the motion to discharge, which shall be signed by at least nine (9) Council Members, including the first-named sponsor, unless the first-named sponsor is the Public Advocate, in which case such memorandum in support of the motion to discharge shall be signed by the Public Advocate and at least nine (9) Council Members.

d. The Council shall not vote on any proposed local law or resolution at the same meeting at which the Council votes to approve a motion to discharge such matter from committee. Whenever voting on a proposed local law the Council shall comply with all requirements of Section 20 of the Municipal Home Rule Law and Rule 9.10.

e. If the Council adopts an amendment to a proposed local law or resolution at the same meeting at which the Council approves a motion to discharge such matter from committee, the amended proposed local law or resolution shall be referred to the committee from which such matter was discharged.

8.230. Immediate Consideration - If a proposed local law or resolution is reported favorably by a committee and the Council does not, within 45 calendar days of such report, vote on a motion to adopt, lay upon the table, postpone, refer or recommit such proposed local law or resolution, it shall then be in order at any subsequent Stated Meeting for the sponsor of such proposed local law or resolution to move for immediate consideration of such proposed local law or resolution. If a motion for immediate consideration is approved, the Council shall immediately consider such proposed local law or resolution provided, however, the Council shall comply with all requirements of Section 20 of the Municipal Home Rule Law and Rule 9.10 whenever voting on a motion to adopt a proposed local law.

CHAPTER IX – GENERAL PROCEDURES FOR MEETINGS

9.00. Absences and Opportunity to Indicate Position on Roll Call – a. Any member may submit to the Legislative Document Unit a written explanation of his or her absence from a meeting which shall become part of the record of such meeting.

b. Any member absent from a meeting or part thereof may indicate in the record of such meeting a position on a specific issue by submitting such position to the Legislative Document Unit prior to the announcement of the result of a vote thereon. Such indication in the record shall not be deemed a vote but shall become part of the proceedings.

9.10. Fiscal Impact Statements – a. No public hearing or vote on a proposed local law shall be held unless such local law is accompanied by a fiscal impact statement prepared by the Finance Division of the Council.

b. No budget modification shall be voted on by a Council committee or the Council unless it is accompanied by a fiscal impact statement prepared by the Finance Division of the Council.

c. At least 8 days in advance of a public hearing or vote on a proposed local law, notice of such hearing or vote shall be provided to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget. No additional notice shall be required pursuant to this rule if the date of the hearing or vote is subsequently postponed to a later date. No such notice shall be required pursuant to this rule if the mayor has certified the necessity for the immediate passage of such local law.

d. Every fiscal impact statement required pursuant to this rule shall include estimates prepared by the Finance Division and the Office of Management and Budget provided, however, if the Office of Management and Budget fails to provide such estimate to the Council at least 3 days before the public hearing or vote for which the fiscal impact statement is required, such fiscal impact statement need only include the Finance Division's estimate.

e. Any proposed local law or budget modification with a fiscal impact statement indicating a fiscal impact may be referred by the Speaker to the Committee on Finance following approval by the committee to which such matter was originally referred.

9.20. Local Laws Disapproved by the Mayor - Proposed local laws returned with the disapproval of the Mayor shall be referred to committee by the Speaker. The Legislative Document Unit shall enter the objections of the Mayor thereto in the minutes of the Council. A majority vote of the committee is necessary to report the matter favorably to the Council, and the Council shall then proceed to consider the question, "Shall the bill pass, the objection of the Mayor notwithstanding?" The Council shall hold only one vote upon such reconsideration. Advance notice of any vote scheduled pursuant to this rule shall conform to the requirements of Rule 9.10(a)

9.30. Precedence of Motions - When a question is before the Council or in committee, only the following motions shall be received, which shall have precedence in the following order:

1. for adjournment;
2. for a recess;

3. for a quorum call of the Council;
4. to lay on the table;
5. to postpone indefinitely;
6. to postpone to a certain day;
7. to refer or recommit;
8. to amend; and
10. to call the question.

9.40. Second Not Required - Motions made by any member of the Council, whether at a meeting of the Council or in committee, shall not require a second.

9.50. Matters Always in Order - A motion to adjourn, for a recess, for a quorum call of the Council, or to lay on the table, shall be decided without debate, and shall always be in order. Upon such motion, no member shall be allowed to explain a vote or give the reasons for asking to be excused from voting. No vote shall be reconsidered upon a motion to adjourn.

9.60 Adjournment - Except by unanimous consent, a motion to adjourn shall be put to a roll call vote. No vote shall be reconsidered upon a motion to adjourn.

9.70. Motion to Postpone or Refer - A motion to postpone or refer shall, until it is decided, preclude all debate on the main question. A motion to refer or recommit shall only be made at a Stated Meeting.

9.80. Motion to Amend to be in Writing - a. At a Stated Meeting, any Member may offer a motion to amend legislation that is being considered for a vote on the General Orders Calendar. Before any motion to amend a proposed local law or resolution is debated, it shall be reduced to writing, delivered to the Legislative Document Unit and read. After the reading, the Member shall have up to two minutes to explain the amendment. Members wishing to participate in the debate shall also be entitled to speak for up to two minutes. At the conclusion of debate, the proposed amendment shall be voted on and, if approved, shall be added to the original legislation. If the legislation is a proposed local law, such amended legislation shall be laid over for a vote at a later Stated Meeting, consistent with Section 20 of the Municipal Home Rule Law and Rule 9.10. If more than one amendment is proposed, they shall be considered in the order made. If the amendment is voted down, the original legislation shall then be voted on.

b. All motions to amend the expense or capital budgets must be made at a Stated Meeting and must be in writing.

c. At a committee meeting, any member of the committee may offer an amendment to legislation that is being considered for a vote at such meeting. Before any motion to amend a proposed local law or resolution is debated, it shall be reduced to writing, delivered to the Legislative Document Unit at least 24 hours prior to the committee meeting, and read by the Legislative Document Unit at such meeting. After the reading, the member shall have up to two minutes to explain the amendment. The first-named prime sponsor of the legislation proposed local law or resolution and committee members wishing to participate in the debate shall also be entitled to speak for up to two (2) minutes. At the conclusion of debate, the proposed amendment shall be voted on and, if approved, shall be added to the original legislation, which may then be voted on by the committee. If more than one amendment is proposed, they shall be considered in the order made. If the amendment is voted down, the original legislation may then be voted on.

d. In no event shall a committee or the Council vote on a proposed local law amended pursuant to this rule unless it is accompanied by a fiscal impact statement that conforms to the requirements of Section 33 of the Charter.

9.90. Motion to Amend an Amendment - a. A motion to amend an amendment to a motion shall be in order, but one to amend an amendment to an amendment of a motion shall not be entertained.

b. An amendment modifying the intention of a motion shall be in order; but an amendment relating to a different subject than the original motion shall not be in order.

c. On an amendment to “Strike out and insert,” the paragraph to be amended shall first be read as it stands, then the words proposed to be stricken out, then those to be inserted, and finally the paragraph as it will stand if so amended shall be read.

9.100. Withdrawal of Motions - A motion may be withdrawn by the maker of said motion at any time

before a decision on the motion or amendment of the motion.

9.110. When Papers Shall be Read - When the reading of a paper, other than a petition, is called for, and the same is objected to by any member, the question whether the paper shall be read shall be determined by a majority vote without debate.

9.120. Members to Speak Only from Seat - No member may rise to debate, make a motion, or present a petition or paper unless in his or her seat, and until such member has been recognized by the presiding officer or chair. While a member is speaking, no other member shall create a disturbance in any manner.

9.130. References to Personality and Personal Privilege – a. Remarks in debate shall be directed to the chair and confined to the question under debate.

b. Such remarks shall avoid references to personality. When remarks in debate include references to other members, such members shall be referred to by their titles or as the preceding speakers.

c. The right of a member to address the Council or any of its committees on a question of personal privilege shall be limited to cases in which the member's integrity, character or motives are assailed, questioned or impugned.

d. The chair may interrupt any member who violates this rule and reclaim any time remaining from such member.

9.140. Public Notice – a. For any meeting of the Council or any of its committees scheduled at least one week prior, public notice of the time and place of such meeting shall be posted at least 72 hours before such meeting. Such notice shall be given to the news media and shall be posted in a public place and on the Council's website.

b. Public notice of the time and place of a meeting of the Council or of any of its committees scheduled less than one week prior shall be posted in a public location and on the Council's website a reasonable time in advance. To the extent practicable, such notice shall also be given to the news media.

9.150. Public Participation and Attendance – a. Every member of the public who addresses a committee of the Council shall limit their testimony to the subject matter of the hearing. No person who addresses a committee of the Council shall engage in any disorderly conduct that disrupts, disturbs, or otherwise impedes the orderly conduct of such meeting. Disorderly conduct for the purposes of this rule includes, but is not limited to, making personal, impertinent, unduly repetitive, slanderous, or profane remarks to such committee, any member of such committee, staff, or the public, or uttering loud, threatening, personal or abusive language.

b. No person in the audience at a meeting of the Council or any of its committees shall engage in disorderly or boisterous conduct, including the utterance of loud, threatening or abusive language, whistling, applauding, stamping of feet or other acts that disturb, disrupt or otherwise impede the orderly conduct of any meeting.

c. Unless called to testify before a committee, all persons in the audience of a meeting of the Council or any of its committees shall remain sitting in the seats provided except when entering or leaving such meeting.

d. No member of the public shall display any signs, placards, banners or similar items during meetings of the Council or its committees.

e. The use of cameras or any video recording devices by members of the public seated at the witness table is prohibited.

f. Whenever any member of the public addresses a committee in manner that violates the rules of decorum, the chair of such committee may demand that such person comply immediately. If, after such demand, such person persists in violating the rules of decorum, the chair may order the sergeants-at-arms to remove such person from such meeting. The chair may order immediate removal of anyone engaged in an obscene performance or whose utterances are likely to incite imminent violence. .

g. A member of the audience of any meeting of the Council or its committees who is violating the rules of decorum shall comply immediately when so ordered by the Presiding Officer, the chair, or the sergeant-at-arms. If such audience member does not comply immediately, the sergeant-at-arms has the authority to remove such audience member immediately.

h. Any person who has been ordered removed, or who has been removed by the sergeant-at-arms from a meeting of the Council or any of its committees pursuant to this rule shall be barred from attendance at and participation in all meetings of the Council for the remainder of the day. In addition such person may be

charged with a violation of New York Penal Law Section 240.20 or any other applicable law. A person removed on the basis of disruptive or disorderly conduct may also be prohibited from appearing before the Council and its committees for up to 30 days. Any member of the public who physically assaults any other member of the public or any member of the Council or Council staff may also be prohibited from attending or testifying at meetings of the Council in person so long as there exist alternative means for members of the public to observe and provide testimony. The length of any such bar on participation in or attendance at meetings of the Council shall be based on the number and severity of prior incidents of disruptive conduct.

CHAPTER X – GENERAL RULES

10.00. Automatic Removal from Consideration - When a Council Member, for any reason whatsoever, ceases to be a member of the Council, all pending proposed local laws and resolutions sponsored only by such member, including all pending Mayor’s vetoes after the expiration of the legal time limit within which the Council must act, shall automatically be filed, marked off the calendar and removed from any consideration by the committees to which it had been referred. The Legislative Document Unit shall prepare a list of the introduction and resolution numbers for such automatic filing, which list shall appear in the minutes of the next Stated Meeting, or as soon as practicable, under the heading “Communications from City, county and borough offices.”

10.10. Amendment or Suspension of Rules - When recommended by the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections, a Rule of the Council may be amended, suspended or rescinded or a new rule added by the majority vote of all the Council Members. However, any Council Member may move to suspend, amend or rescind any rule or to add a new rule, but such motion shall not be in order without the unanimous vote of the Council, unless written notice has been given to each member specifying the purpose of the proposed suspension, amendment, rescission or addition, at least one week in advance, in which case a majority vote shall prevail.

10.20. Video Coverage - The Council and its committees shall make their public meetings and hearings available for cablecasting and broadcasting, and by live and archived webcast where practicable.

10.30. Application of “Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised” - The rules of parliamentary procedure contained in “Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised” shall govern the Council in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the standing rules and orders of the Council.

10.40. Conflicts of Interest - All Council Members shall comply with the conflicts of interest provisions of Chapter 68 of the City Charter.

10.50. Use of Council Electronic Mail Required - **a.** Use of personal email addresses for the conduct of Council business is prohibited. Council members and staff shall use the Council’s email systems for all email communications in the conduct of Council business and shall direct anyone communicating with them in their official capacities to send email correspondence to their Council email addresses. Such correspondence received at a non-Council email address shall be forwarded to the Council member or Council staff member’s Council email address upon receipt.

b. All emails sent or received by Council Members and Council staff in their official capacities are records subject to the New York State Freedom of Information Law and Chapter 72 of the New York City Charter, regardless of whether such emails originate from or are received by Council email accounts.

10.60. Disorderly Behavior; Sanctions - **a.** Members of the Council shall not engage in disorderly behavior, which shall include but is not limited to: violation of these rules; willful violation or evasion of any provision of law relating to such Member’s discharge of his or her official duties; commission of fraud upon the City; conversion of public property to such Member’s own use; knowingly permitting or allowing by gross culpable conduct, any other person to convert public property; violation of the Speaker’s policy or policies issued pursuant to these Council Rules or any other resolution of the Council, including policies against discrimination and harassment; and obstruction of an investigation by the Standards and Ethics Committee of the Council into any of the conduct described in this rule.

b. Upon a report by the Standards and Ethics Committee of the Council finding that a Member has engaged in disorderly behavior as set forth in subdivision a of this rule, the Council may impose one or more

of the following sanctions:

1. Denial or limitation of any right, power, or privilege of the Member; including, but not limited to, the removal of such Member as chairperson of a committee or as a member of a committee;
 2. Reprimand;
 3. Censure;
 4. Fine;
 5. Expulsion from the Council;
 6. Any other sanction determined by the Council to be appropriate.
- c. The Committee report shall contain a statement of the evidence supporting the Committee's findings and a statement of the Committee's reasons for the recommended sanction.
- d. All sanctions shall be imposed by a two-thirds vote of all Council Members.

CHAPTER XI – RULES OF THE LAND USE COMMITTEE

11.00. Membership - The Land Use Committee shall include at least one Council Member from each borough.

11.10. Subcommittees - **a. Jurisdiction** - The Land Use Committee shall have the following subcommittees: a subcommittee on Zoning and Franchises, a subcommittee on Landmarks, Public Sitings and Dispositions and such others as determined by the Speaker. The Speaker shall determine the jurisdiction of such subcommittees and shall promulgate a list, which the Speaker may amend from time to time, of those matters within the jurisdiction of each subcommittee.

b. Acting chairs - The chair of the committee or a subcommittee may appoint any Council Member to act as a temporary chair to conduct a meeting in the chair's absence.

c. Land Use Chair - The chair of the Land Use Committee shall be an ex-officio member of all the subcommittees.

d. Scheduling subcommittee meetings - The hearings and meetings of each subcommittee shall be held at the call of the chair of the subcommittee pursuant to the notice and other requirements of Section 11.30 and other applicable provisions of law.

e. Subcommittees to observe statutory clocks - Each subcommittee shall consider and act on all matters referred to the subcommittee pursuant to a schedule that will enable both the Land Use Committee and the Council to act within any time limits prescribed by law.

f. Discharge from subcommittees - The chair of the Land Use Committee may call-up to the committee any matter referred to a subcommittee if a call-up is necessary to enable the committee and the Council to act on a matter within any time limit prescribed by law. The Chair of the Land Use Committee may close the record of the public hearing on any such matter if the record has not already been closed by the subcommittee.

11.20. Referrals to Land Use Committee - **a. Matters to be filed with the Speaker** - All matters subject to review by the Council pursuant to chapters 8, 14, 56 and 74 of the City Charter, or other provisions of State or City law, shall be filed with the office of the Speaker. Upon filing, the Speaker shall refer each such matter to the subcommittee that has jurisdiction over the matter in accordance with the list provided for in Rule 11.10(a). All such referrals shall be made in a timely manner in order to permit the Council to act within any time limits prescribed by law.

b. Matters subject to call-up - Matters subject to review by the Council pursuant to Section 197-d(b)(3) of the City Charter, or Section 19-160.2 of the Administrative Code shall be subject to the provisions of subdivisions c and d of this rule.

c. Call-up resolutions - A resolution providing for Council review of a matter pursuant to Section 197-d(b)(3) of the City Charter or Section 19-160.2 of the Administrative Code shall be introduced directly to the Council, without referral to a committee or subcommittee, provided, that such resolution may be introduced only if the resolution is sponsored by (i) the Speaker; (ii) seven (7) Council Members; or (iii) by the chair of

the Land Use Committee pursuant to subdivision d of this rule. Such resolution shall not be subject to debate at a Council meeting. A resolution introduced pursuant to Section 197-d(b)(3) of the Charter may be introduced from the date the City Planning Commission votes to approve or approve with modifications a matter subject to the provisions of such section, to a date twenty (20) days following the filing of such matter with the Council. A resolution introduced pursuant to Section 19-160.2 of the Administrative Code shall be introduced pursuant to the schedule provided therein. Upon adoption by the Council of a resolution introduced pursuant to this subdivision, the matter that is the subject of the resolution shall be considered by the Land Use Committee and its subcommittees.

d. Chair call ups of related matters - If a single project or development involves more than one matter filed with the Council at approximately the same time pursuant to Section 197-d(a) of the City Charter and at least one but not all of such related matters are subject to Council review pursuant to Sections 197-d(b)(1) or (2), the chair of the Land Use Committee shall introduce directly to the Council, without referral to committee, a resolution providing for Council review pursuant to Section 197-d(b)(3) of all such related matters that are not subject to Council review pursuant to Sections 197-d(b)(1) or (2). The chair shall introduce such resolution on or after the date the City Planning Commission votes to approve or approve with modifications matters subject to the provisions of this section, but no later than twenty (20) days following the filing of such matters with the Council. For purposes of this subdivision, two or more matters shall be deemed to be filed "at approximately the same time" if they are filed with the Council prior to the date on which the Council votes, pursuant to Section 197-d(c), on the first of the matters filed. A matter that is the subject of a resolution introduced pursuant to this rule shall be referred to the Land Use Committee and its subcommittees together with all related matters as a single package of related matters.

e. Council overrides of mayoral disapprovals and objections - A resolution to override a filing by the Mayor pursuant to Sections 197-d(f) or 197-d(g) of the City Charter may be introduced by any Council Member at a Council meeting within ten (10) days of such filing and shall not be referred to the Land Use Committee or its subcommittees.

11.30. Calendar and Public Notice - a. The chairs of the Land Use Committee and the subcommittees shall cause to be prepared a regular calendar of the meetings of the Land Use Committee and each of its subcommittees. The calendar shall be posted on the Council's website, electronically delivered to each Council Member, borough president and community board, and made available to the public free of charge at City Hall. Each calendar shall indicate the meetings of the committee and the subcommittees at which each matter is scheduled for public hearing or consideration. The failure to include a matter in the calendar shall not bar the committee and its subcommittees from holding a public hearing on or voting with respect to the matter, provided the other notice requirements of these rules and applicable law have been satisfied.

b. Additional meetings - The chair of the Land Use Committee may call meetings of the Land Use Committee in addition to those meetings on the calendar, and the chair of a subcommittee may call meetings of the subcommittee in addition to those meetings on the calendar, pursuant to the notice and other requirements of this rule and the other applicable provisions of these rules.

c. Public notice - The time and place of each Land Use Committee and subcommittee meeting shall be posted on the Council's website. In addition, public notice of all public hearings of the Land Use Committee and its subcommittees shall be published in the City Record whenever required by law. The public notice requirements of this subdivision are in addition to any other public notice requirements of these rules and applicable law.

11.40. Public Hearings - a. Each subcommittee shall hold on behalf of the Council all public hearings required by law with respect to matters referred to the subcommittee pursuant to Rule 11.20. The Land Use Committee shall hold on behalf of the Council all public hearings required by law with respect to matters referred to the committee, which have not been the subject of a subcommittee hearing. If a number of matters relating to a single project or development are filed at the same time pursuant to Section 197-d of the City Charter and such matters fall within the jurisdiction of more than one subcommittee, there shall be a single hearing on such related matters. The Speaker shall determine whether the public hearing on such related matters shall be held by the Land Use Committee or by a subcommittee.

b. Appearances - Each person who submits an appearance form at a public hearing on an item referred to the Land Use Committee or its subcommittees pursuant to Rule 11.20 shall be given the opportunity to

speak. The Council Member presiding at a public hearing of the Land Use Committee or a subcommittee may establish a time limit for all members of the public speaking at such hearing.

c. Record - The Land Use Committee and its subcommittees shall make available to all Council Members the record of all public hearings of the committee and its subcommittees with respect to matters referred to the committee pursuant to Rule 11.20.

11.50. Voting - a. All Land Use Committee and subcommittee determinations shall be on the affirmative roll call vote of not less than a majority of all the members of the committee or subcommittee excluding ex-officio members. The chair of the Land Use Committee may vote on matters before a subcommittee only if the chair's vote is required to break a tie. A quorum being present, a majority of those present at a meeting shall be sufficient to decide a motion, including all appeals from rulings of the chair or other points of order or procedure.

b. Closing hearings - Neither the Land Use Committee nor its subcommittees shall vote on a matter until the record of any public hearing required by law on such matter has been closed by the committee or subcommittee.

11.60. Discharge of Committee - a. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in these rules, the Council shall not act upon a matter referred to the Land Use Committee or its subcommittees pursuant to Rule 11.20 until the committee has reported thereon, except as provided in this rule. Any matter referred to the Land Use Committee or its subcommittees for which, by law, there is a time limit for action by the Council, shall be deemed to be discharged from further consideration by the committee and its subcommittees at the last Stated Meeting of the Council preceding the expiration of such time limit.

b. Withdrawal - A matter filed with the Council shall be deemed withdrawn if the applicant files or causes the filing of a written statement that the application is withdrawn with the chair of the subcommittee or committee to which the matter was referred, the staff of the Land Use Committee, the Speaker of the Council, or the Council Member representing the affected district. Such statement may be submitted by e-mail. Upon the filing of such a statement, the application in question shall be void, the committee and its subcommittees shall be discharged from further consideration of the matter, and no further processing of such application shall be undertaken by the Council. The Council may vote to file a matter discharged pursuant to this subdivision at any subsequent Stated Meeting.

c. Record closed upon discharge - Upon discharge of a matter from the Land Use Committee pursuant to this rule, the record of the public hearing on such matter shall be deemed closed if the record has not been closed by the committee.

11.70. Action by Resolution - The Council shall act by resolution with respect to all matters subject to review by the Council, pursuant to chapters 8, 14, 56 and 74 of the City Charter or otherwise subject to the review of the Land Use Committee pursuant to Rule 11.20.

11.80. Time Provisions - If the time period for Council action set forth in any applicable provision of law ends on a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday, the expiration date shall be extended until the next business day in accordance with the provisions of Section 20 of the New York State General Construction Law.

11.90. Conflicts with Rules of the Council - In the event of a conflict between the Rules of the Land Use Committee in this chapter XI and the other chapters of these rules, chapter XI shall govern with respect to the Land Use Committee and its subcommittees.

(This particular version of the Rules was originally approved by the Council on October 9, 2025 with the adoption of Res. No. 1058-A of 2025).

M-2

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF THE SPEAKER

Pursuant to Section 44 of the Charter and Rule 3.00 (d) of the Rules of the Council, the City Clerk and Clerk of the Council (Mr. McSweeney) opened the floor for nominations for the Office of Speaker of the Council of the City of New York for the term commencing January 1, 2026 and terminating December 31, 2029.

At this point, the City Clerk and Clerk of the Council (Mr. McSweeney) recognized Council Member Kevin C. Riley.

Council Member Riley nominated Council Member Julie Menin for the Office of Speaker of the Council of the City of New York.

Council Members Abreu, Louis, Lee, Hanks, Krishnan, and Dinowitz seconded the nomination of Council Member Menin for the office of Speaker of the Council of the City of New York.

Hearing no further candidates offered for nomination, the City Clerk and Clerk of the Council (Mr. McSweeney) closed the nominations and directed the Clerk of the Legislative Document Unit to call the Roll. During this Roll Call, the Council Members were asked to state the name of the nominee that he or she wished to vote for.

ROLL CALL VOTE for M-2 – Election of the Speaker

The City Clerk and Clerk of the Council (Mr. McSweeney) put the question to the Council on which nominee to elect for the office of Speaker of the Council of the City of New York:

In favor of Council Member Julie Menin for Speaker – Abreu, Aldebol, Ariola, Avilés, Banks, Bottcher, Brewer, Brooks-Powers, Cabán, Carr, De La Rosa, Dinowitz, Encarnación, Epstein, Farías, Felder, Feliz, Gennaro, Gutiérrez, Hanif, Hankerson, Hanks, Hudson, Joseph, Krishnan, Lee, Louis, Maloney, Marte, Mealy, Menin, Morano, Narcisse, Nurse, Ossé, Paladino, Restler, Riley, Salaam, J. Sanchez, P. Sanchez, Santosuosso, Schulman, Stevens, Thomas-Henry, Ung, Vernikov, Williams, Won, Wong, and Zhuang - 51.

At this point, the City Clerk and Clerk of the Council (Mr. McSweeney) declared that Council Member Julie Menin had been duly elected as Speaker of the Council of the City of New York for the term commencing January 1, 2026 and terminating December 31, 2029.

Upon hearing this announcement, those assembled in the Chambers broke into applause and cheering.

The City Clerk and Clerk of the Council (Mr. McSweeney) then yielded the floor to Council Member Julie Menin, the newly elected Speaker, as those assembled continued to applaud and cheer.

At this point, the newly elected Speaker (Council Member Menin) delivered the following remarks to those assembled:

Remarks of the newly elected Speaker (Council Member Menin) as delivered (edited for clarity)

Thank you, everyone. Thank you so much. What an incredible moment.

First of all, most importantly, [I] want to thank my colleagues, my amazing, wonderful colleagues. Thank you for the trust, for the faith, for the confidence that you have placed in me to be your Speaker. (*applause continues*) Thank you... Thank you, and I pledge to be a Speaker for each and every single member and your respective communities.

Now, we have a lot of honored guests here today, so please bear with me because we have a lot of people that we want to thank. So first of all, I want to thank the former Speakers of the City Council Adrienne Adams, Melissa Mark-Viverito, Gifford Miller, Corey Johnson -- thank you so much for your leadership. Thank you for joining us today.

And we've also, of course, been joined by our great New York State Attorney General, Tish James, New York City Public Advocate Jumaane Williams, thank you for being here; [and also] our new Comptroller, Mark Levine. From the Administration, I am so happy he could join us today, someone I have worked with for literally over 20 years, and that is First Deputy Mayor Dean Fuleihan. Dean, thank you so much. And I believe we were joined by the Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Jahmila Edwards and from Governor Hochul's Office, Debbie Louis, Assistant Secretary of Intergovernmental Affairs, thank you so much for being with us. We have been joined by Bronx Borough President Vanessa Gibson (is she still here? I think she was here before); okay, [also] Borough President Antonio Reynoso (he was here; he just left), Manhattan Borough President, Brad Hoylman-Sigal (he is here); former Bronx Borough President Rubén Díaz Jr.; New York State Senator Sam Sutton; and we have been joined by Brooklyn County Democratic Chairwoman [and] New York State Assemblymember, Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn.

So many other people I am going to recognize, I really want to first recognize all our incredible friends in Labor, many of whom are here today: first of all, the great friend and partner, President of HTC, Rich Maroko; another great friend and partner, President of 32-BJ, Manny Pastreich; I believe we are joined by Henry Garrido, Executive Director of DC 37; and the President of the UFT, Michael Mulgrew was here, he had to leave but we so appreciate that he joined us today; and we have the President of the AFT, Randi Weingarten (Randi!); we've got the President of RWDSU, my constituent, Stuart Applebaum; and from the Central Labor Council, the President, Brandon Griffith. And we have also been joined by the District Council of Carpenters.

So let me take a moment to thank a few individuals who could not be here today, but I want to extend them very special things with both Washington and Albany in session. I want to give a special shout-out to Queens County Democratic Chairman, Congress Member Greg Meeks, who's in D.C. right now [and] who is represented by Frank Bolz, counselor to the Queens Democratic Party; and Bronx County Democratic Chairman, State Senator Jamaal Bailey, who is up in Albany but he is being represented here by Ariana Collado, Executive Director of the Bronx Democratic Party. And I am so proud we could be joined by a few former City Council Members -- Keith Powers, Danny Dromm, Mark Treyger, Mark Weprin and former Bronx Borough President, Rubén Díaz Jr. We have also been joined by former Congress Member Carolyn Maloney.

Okay, so I want to also thank my colleagues who ran for Speaker -- who ran such incredible campaigns based on integrity, based on substance, based on principle -- Crystal Hudson, thank you so much for everything that you did; Selvena Brooks-Powers; Amanda Fariás; Chris Marte; and Carmen De La Rosa. So thank you. I really look forward to working with all of you.

Now, the most important thank you is to my amazing family. Thank you to my incredible husband, Bruce, for all of your love and support. My daughter Maddie (yay, Maddie!) and my sons, Mason, Lucas, and Max, thank you so much for everything.

So I know that I am here today in part because of the path that every single member in this City Council has blazed, and I really want to give a special thanks and shout out to our incredible historic majority-women City Council.

There is truly no greater honor in my life than to stand before you as your Speaker. And when I think about what that honor means, I think about what brought me to this moment and what, frankly, brought all of us here today. And that is the story of America, which is a story of New York, and that is the story of immigrants.

Right now, we gather here at City Hall, but just a few blocks from here is where that story starts -- by the shoreline of Battery Park. It's a place where land meets the water and history meets the present, the place where newcomers become New Yorkers and where immigrants came to seek a better life. But they came here with hope. Hope that this city and this country could give them a chance to achieve the American Dream.

In the early 1950s, two of those immigrants were my mother and grandmother. Yet, their journey to the Land of the Free was far from a timid one. They both survived the Holocaust in Hungary by hiding in a cellar. And my grandfather and other relatives were murdered just because they were Jewish. After the war ended, my mother and grandmother stayed in Hungary but even this new chapter did not lead them into a world of freedom. When the Soviets took over Hungary, they planted mines and bombs all along the border and there was literally no way out. But my grandmother was fearless, and thanks to the compassion of a stranger in the middle of the night, she took my mother and escaped into Czechoslovakia. Europe was still no friendly place for Jews, and the only country that would take them in was Australia. But after living in Sydney for six years, they finally fulfilled their dream to come to New York.

When they arrived, they settled into a rent controlled apartment in Little Hungary with little more than that newly American hope and the stubborn refusal to give it up. The East Side of Manhattan was a community that welcomed my family with open arms, a community that gave them a better life after the horrors that they had been through. And with the beauty of life brings things full circle, I now have the great honor and distinction of representing that neighborhood.

This is a story of so many New Yorkers. It's Dominican families in Washington Heights and Mexican families in Sunset Park opening doors to their homes and small businesses to new arrivals. It's Haitian households in Flatbush and Canarsie embracing those fleeing instability, and Caribbean communities in Crown Heights and in East New York extending the same support that they once received. It's Polish families in Greenpoint and Ridgewood helping the next generation find their footing, and Chinese families in Flushing, supporting them through family networks and local shops. It's South Asian families in Jackson Heights and Richmond Hill welcoming newcomers with opportunity. And West African families in the Bronx and Staten Island, building communities that are rooted in faith and work and in mutual care.

Now I want to personally say that I never in a million years thought I would be a politician and run for office. In fact, after practicing law for seven years, I opened up a small business, a restaurant not that far from here, in Lower Manhattan. But when 9/11 happened, it changed everything. Both my restaurant and my apartment at the time were located just a few blocks away from Ground Zero. And my husband, Bruce, was supposed to be at the World Trade Center that fateful morning for a 9:00 a.m. meeting. Unbeknownst to me, he moved the location of his meeting. My mother, who lived with us, had gone out that morning for a doctor's appointment. We frantically tried to find her all day. Thankfully, our family was okay. But my small business was decimated, with every single window blown out and the shards of glass everywhere. And when the towers collapsed, the white, grayish ash hit every inch and crevice of my business. When insurance carriers took out

full page ads in the local papers, they promised New Yorkers that they were in our corner. And when insurance carriers gave us small business owners five days of business interruption insurance, and I know our Attorney General is nodding her head, five days of business interruption payments despite us being in the frozen zone for months on end, they broke that promise. But that broken promise forged a new one within me, a promise to take on large corporations that engaged in predatory conduct.

While the windows of my restaurant were shattered, our spirit of resilience was anything but. After founding a not-for-profit organization in Lower Manhattan that was focused on rebuilding downtown and growing into over 30,000 members, I chaired, as Council Member Marte said, Community Board One for over seven years. From programs we launched like Art Downtown and Music Downtown, to building new schools and building the World Trade Center Performing Arts Center, to helping over 600 small businesses stay in Lower Manhattan, we planted the seeds for Lower Manhattan's revival at a time when people, quite frankly, doubted us. But our city also faced another distressing issue in the wake of 9/11, the deplorable surge of Islamophobia. When the construction of an Islamic cultural center was proposed near Ground Zero, a center to foster dialogue and unity, people fiercely opposed it. And that shameful opposition sent a signal to Muslim New Yorkers that they did not belong in a city that was meant to welcome everyone. When their freedom of religion was protested in public, we could not stand by in silence. Along with Daisy Khan, who proposed a project, and who I'm so honored is here with us today -- Daisy, thank you -- we stood up to champion the rights of every New Yorker. Despite the death threats I received, not for a week, not for a month, but for well over a year, we did not waver in support of this project. So, as Chair of the Community Board, I was proud to write the resolution and guide it through our community boards to vote overwhelmingly in favor of the Islamic Cultural Center and Mosque.

Sadly, that surge we saw over 20 years ago is not unlike the atmosphere that we are unfortunately currently experiencing. Hatred and violence are running rampant across our country and around the world, from the horrific shooting at Brown University to the anti-Semitic terror attack at Bondi Beach in Sydney. It's happening all over, and we must ensure that New York continues to serve as a beacon of hope, of tolerance, and inclusion.

We live in a day when the first Muslim Mayor of New York City and now the first Jewish Speaker of the Council are serving at the same time. This moment is truly historic, but what will write this interfaith leadership into the history books is if it can act as an opportunity for all of us to come together, to calm tensions, to bridge divides, and to recognize we are one city, no matter the religion we practice or the language we speak. Building that Islamic Cultural Center meant upholding the dignity that every New Yorker deserves. And for the past four years in the City Council, it's been an honor striving to do that with all of you in so many different ways.

For the past four years, we've worked to build more affordable housing in every single borough. We work to combat anti-Semitism through education, launching a program to bring every 8th grade public school student to the Museum of Jewish Heritage. We've worked to address issues around health disparities and maternal mortality, and yes, we have taken the first steps to enact universal childcare. And by working with the Mayor and the Governor, we can truly make it a reality.

But now we all have an exceptional opportunity, and I would argue an attendant obligation, to take the Council into a new era, a proactive era, an era of initiative and ingenuity. Rather than simply wait for ULURPs to come to us, we, as a Council, will release our own affordable housing plan by looking at the 215 Public Library branches to see where we can build affordable housing. And we're going to study the over 1,000 DCAS underutilized and city-owned assets that we can convert into affordable housing for New Yorkers who need them.

As a Council, we must make it easier for our small businesses to operate by slashing fines and cutting bureaucratic red tape. And we must, we must, tackle skyrocketing healthcare costs because medical debt is the

leading cause of debt for New Yorkers. Why should a woman who's giving birth by C-section be charged \$55,000 at one New York City hospital, and then another woman who's giving birth by C-section be charged \$17,000 at another hospital just blocks away? It shouldn't, and we will use the new Healthcare Accountability Office that we created to lower exorbitant healthcare costs once and for all.

Yes -- as a Council, we must confront the culture of fraud, waste, abuse, and corruption that has plagued City Hall and enact procurement reform to end no-bid contracts that have cost our city billions of dollars. And we need procurement reform because why should it cost the Parks Department \$4 million to build a bathroom or take 10 years to renovate a park? And we have to ensure that City services are functioning at the very highest levels and restore the enormous staff vacancies with agencies being gutted in the last administration.

We must counter income inequality with historic investments in baby bonds and universal college savings accounts because ongoing education, whether it be vocational school or community college, can lead to double the wages earned in one's lifetime. And in certain parts of the city, we know our immigrant communities are facing an increasingly hostile environment. As a Council, we must work to ensure that every single family feels safe enough to put down roots in their neighborhoods. Roots that strengthen the structure, shape the culture, and provide the vibrancy of our five great boroughs.

But as your Speaker, I want to anchor our vision of leadership in the story of our city. A vision that's hopeful of the immigrants who come here and as persistent as the spirit that drove them here. The waves of immigrants that arrived on our shores created waves of change that forever altered the fabric of history. They brought new perspectives and ideas. They brought new solutions to old problems and new people to solve them. And they still do. As the first Jewish Speaker, I want my vision of leadership to be as focused on dissolving division as it is on uniting all coalitions. But most of all, I want to be a Speaker for every single member of this City Council, because I know that the fight to create a safer, stronger, and more affordable New York is not won alone. And we need to work together to make the greatest city in the world, even greater.

As the body of 51 individuals, the legislation that is most life-changing and forward thinking comes from the collection of policies to which all of us contribute. Our city has flourished because our foundation wasn't built on simplistic paradigms and because of our ability to hold two truths that may seem mutually exclusive but in fact are mutually reinforcing. For example, our city needs meaningful criminal justice reform, and at the same time, we must have the requisite resources for robust public safety measures. Our city needs to attract new businesses, and at the same time, we must have the strongest worker protections in the country. And our city needs to protect the First Amendment right to protest peacefully, which is sacrosanct, but at the same time, we must never jeopardize a New Yorker's right to worship. Because we cannot let what happened outside Parkview Synagogue ever happen again at any House of worship.: to me, this especially hits home. Our faith is about our family.

Now, I know I said earlier that being elected Speaker is the greatest professional honor of my life, but I'll happily admit that being a mom is the greatest joy and pleasure in my life. As a mother of four, my children give me so much love, so much support, so much pride. But they also give me a lot of ideas. And as I was speaking to them about what I should say today, they offered a few ideas. So one of the ideas my 7-year-old daughter proposed was that we should pass a law that social media should only be used to show nice things, like baking cakes or cute stuffed animals. It's hard to disagree with her on that one. But then she said something else. She said that we should pass a law that when you cross the street, you must all smile at each other. And that made me smile. But in the next instant, it sent me back more than 20 years. I thought of the days right after 9/11 and how we all had a little more love, a little more compassion, and a little more patience for one another. Or how during COVID, we all checked in on one another, we looked out for one another. In the worst of times, we still had the capacity to give our best. And we still do.

It should not take childhood exuberance or a tragedy or even the memory of one to forge compassion within us. It shouldn't take retelling the story of New York to remind ourselves that immigrants in every

decade have built and rebuilt this city. But when we do, and when we remember who planted the seeds that bore the fruits of our success, when we recall that the cohesion of our community is rooted in the tolerance of our differences, not the echo chamber of our similarities, we can celebrate New York as a city that leaves no one behind, a city that was founded as much on courage as on kindness, a city that raised me and my family and millions of others.

And we will be a Council that works for all of them.

Thank you.

Okay, thank you. Now to the order of the Council. We're going to get to business -- right to work.

* * *

MESSAGES & PAPERS FROM THE MAYOR

M-3

Communication from the Mayor – Veto and disapproval of Introductory Number 125-A of 2024 - A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to prohibiting the police department from collecting DNA from a minor without consent from a parent, legal guardian or attorney.

December 31, 2025

Hon. Michael McSweeney
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
141 Worth Street
New York, N.Y. 10013

Re: Disapproval of Introductory No. 125-A

Dear Mr. McSweeney:

Pursuant to Section 37 of the New York City Charter, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 125-A, which would amend the Administrative Code of the City of New York to prohibit the NYPD "from collecting DNA from a minor without consent from a parent, legal guardian or attorney."

This bill does not contain a carve-out for even the most serious and violent crimes, and there will be situations in which the bill, as written, will prevent the NYPD from solving those crimes. In particular, when a juvenile is reasonably suspected of committing a Class A felony or a Class B violent felony for example, murder or rape—the Chief of Detectives should be allowed to authorize an otherwise lawful collection of that juvenile's DNA in an effort to solve the crime and achieve justice for the victim.

I cannot, in good conscience, allow a bill that would make it harder for the NYPD to solve violent crimes, including murders or rapes.

Accordingly, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 125-A.

Sincerely,

Eric Adams
Mayor

Cc: Hon. Adrienne Adams, Speaker

Referred to the Committee on Public Safety.

M-4

Communication from the Mayor – Veto and disapproval of Introductory Number 276-A of 2024 - A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to the wrongful deactivation of high-volume for-hire vehicle drivers.

December 31, 2025

Hon. Michael McSweeney
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
141 Worth Street
New York, N.Y. 10013

Re: Disapproval of Introductory No. 276-A

Dear Mr. McSweeney:

Pursuant to Section 37 of the New York City Charter, I hereby disapprove Introductory Number 276-A, which would amend the Administrative Code of the City of New York "in relation to the wrongful deactivation of high-volume for-hire vehicle drivers."

New York City leads the world in protecting for-hire vehicle passengers and licensed for-hire drivers, but this legislation would create an unwieldy and expensive new government program that would be called upon to second-guess business decisions regarding independent contractors. Int. 276-A would require that the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection ("DCWP") enforce a complex regulatory scheme for high-volume for-hire vehicle companies' deactivation of high-volume for-hire vehicle drivers. This legislation would create regulatory confusion and overlap by providing new authority to DCWP to oversee businesses and drivers that are already licensed by the Taxi and Limousine Commission ("TLC"). This dilution of regulatory oversight of the for-hire vehicle industry could have the unintended effect of weakening TLC's regulations, which are designed to protect drivers and the riding public.

In addition to these structural issues, the legislation comes with a high cost. The Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") estimates that 170 additional DCWP staff—including 105 additional attorneys—would be required to handle the estimated 2,000 deactivation claims per year, each of which will require a determination of whether the deactivation was made for just cause. See OMB Fiscal Impact Statement (Dec. 15, 2025). OMB estimates that the personnel cost for this unit would be over \$23 million per year.

For the foregoing reasons, I hereby disapprove Int. No. 276-A.

Eric Adams

Mayor

Cc: Hon. Adrienne Adams, Speaker

Referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

M-5

Communication from the Mayor – Veto and disapproval of Introductory Number 408-A of 2024 - A Local Law to amend the New York city charter, in relation to creating a division within the department of small business services to assist street vendors and reporting regarding such assistance efforts.

December 31, 2025

Hon. Michael McSweeney
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
141 Worth Street
New York, NY 10013

Re: Disapproval of Introductory No. 408-A

Dear Mr. McSweeney:

Pursuant to Section 37 of the New York City Charter, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 408-A, which would amend the Charter "in relation to creating a division within the department of small business services to assist street vendors and reporting regarding such assistance efforts." I am also separately disapproving Introductory No. 431-B, which would amend the Charter and the Administrative Code of the City of New York "in relation to expanding business licensing and regulatory compliance of all mobile food and general vendors" and Introductory No. 1251-A, which would amend the Administrative Code "in relation to issuing licenses to mobile food and general vendors."

Int. No. 408-A exacerbates the issues it seeks to resolve—it would provide no new benefits to vendors or other New Yorkers, but create a new level of bureaucracy within City government. The legislation would require the City to create a Division of Street Vendor Assistance within the Department of Small Business Services (SBS) to educate street vendors and submit annual reports to the City Council. But SBS already conducts educational outreach to vendors; offers free help to start, operate, and grow businesses via their Business Solutions Centers; and earlier this month, launched a challenge-based procurement to create a pilot program to improve street vendor education and engagement. Instead of allowing SBS to grow its current work, this legislation diverts the agency's limited time and resources away from its programming to create unnecessary bureaucracy.

Accordingly, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 408-A.

Sincerely,

Eric Adams

Mayor

Cc: Hon. Adrienne Adams, Speaker

Referred to the Committee on Consumer and Worker Protection.

M-6

Communication from the Mayor – Mayor's Veto and disapproval of Introductory Number 431-B of 2024 - A Local Law to amend the New York city charter and the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to expanding business licensing and regulatory compliance of all mobile food and general vendors.

December 31, 2025

Hon. Michael McSweeney
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
141 Worth Street
New York, N.Y. 10013

Re: Disapproval of Introductory No. 431-B

Dear Mr. McSweeney:

Pursuant to Section 37 of the New York City Charter, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 431-B, which would amend the Charter and the Administrative Code of the City of New York, "in relation to expanding business licensing and regulatory compliance of all mobile food and general vendors." I am also separately disapproving Introductory No. 408-A, which would amend the Charter "in relation to creating a division within the department of small business services to assist street vendors and reporting regarding such assistance efforts" and Introductory No. 1251-A, which would amend the Administrative Code "in relation to issuing licenses to mobile food and general vendors."

Int. No. 431-B would require the City to more than double the number of supervisory license applications available to vend food in New York City annually over the next five years to 11,000 total applications, and, by 2027, expand the total number of general vendor licenses available to over 10,500. This exponential rise in the number of licenses over a short timeframe is bound to have an impact on the socioeconomic infrastructure of New York City. But the City Council failed to evaluate the effects of the bill by conducting a City Environmental Quality Review as required by the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

Accordingly, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 431-B.

Sincerely,

Eric Adams

Mayor

Cc: Hon. Adrienne Adams, Speaker

Referred to the Committee on Consumer and Worker Protection.

M-7

Communication from the Mayor – Veto and disapproval of Introductory Number 479-A of 2024 - A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to requiring the establishment of standards and procedures to determine the existence of conflicts of interest and other misconduct concerning city contracts.

December 31, 2025

Hon. Michael McSweeney
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
141 Worth Street
New York, N.Y. 10013

Re: Disapproval of Introductory No. 479-A

Dear Mr. McSweeney:

Pursuant to Section 37 of the New York City Charter, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 479-A, which would amend the Administrative Code of the City of New York "in relation to requiring the establishment of standards and procedures to determine the existence of conflicts of interest and other misconduct concerning city contracts."

Int. No. 479-A would place a significant burden on the City and its contractors. The legislation obligates contractors and subcontractors, irrespective of industry, to implement City-mandated conflict of interest standards and certify compliance to the Mayor's Office of Contract Services ("MOCS"). These requirements add bureaucracy to achieve policy goals that are resolved more efficiently by initiatives outside the complex procurement process—a process which I am proud to have worked with the City Council to help streamline. For instance, MOCS's Vendor Compliance Cabinet works to identify gaps in policies and procedures that complicate an agency's ability to enforce compliance. Further, MOCS, along with the Mayor's Office for Risk Management and Compliance and the Department of Investigation, continue to work closely together to develop policies and practices to ensure the integrity of the City's procurement process.

Int. No. 479-A's broad reach creates duplicative work and complexity without meaningfully addressing the issues it hopes to address. This legislation will necessarily make it more burdensome for vendors to do business with the City and more difficult for the next administration and City Council to further streamline the lengthy procurement process. That's a bad outcome for New Yorkers.

Accordingly, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 479-A.

Sincerely,

Eric Adams
Mayor

Cc: Hon. Adrienne Adams, Speaker

Referred to the Committee on Contracts.

M-8

Communication from the Mayor – Veto and disapproval of Introductory Number 570-B of 2024 - A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to creating a land bank.

December 31, 2025

Hon. Michael McSweeney
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
141 Worth Street
New York, N.Y. 10013

Re: Disapproval of Introductory No. 570-B

Dear Mr. McSweeney:

Pursuant to Section 37 of the New York City Charter, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 570-B, which would amend the administrative code of the city of New York, "in relation to creating a land bank." I am also separately disapproving Introductory No. 1407-A, which would amend the administrative code of the city of New York, "in relation to the sale of tax liens," Introductory No. 1419-A, which would amend the administrative code of the city of New York "in relation to reporting unresolved tax liens," and Introductory No. 1420-A, which would amend the administrative code of the city of New York, "in relation to the transfer of tax liens to a land bank."

This suite of tax lien sale bills — comprising Int. Nos. 570-B, 1407-A, 1419-A, and 1420-A — would harm both the City and the homeowners that the City Council is purportedly seeking to protect. Under current law, tax-delinquent property owners have many opportunities and options to come into compliance with tax laws and pay off their liens. Some owners, however, lack the intention or means to ever come into compliance with the City's property tax laws. To provide greater protection to homeowners, my administration worked closely with the City Council only a year ago to enact Local Law 82 of 2024, which implemented sweeping reforms to the City's property tax collection system, resulting in new income-capped payment plans, additional time for vulnerable owners to resolve their debt and remove their lien from the sale, increased outreach from the City and non-profit partners, and a voluntary foreclosure option that allows owners to continue residing in their properties.

Int. 570-B abandons that progress, hastily replacing the fair and impartial enforcement of the City's property taxes and water and sewer charges in favor of a land bank—which is, in actuality, an appointed board, beholden to fickle, political pressures, with total discretion to decide which owners face foreclosure, and which are spared. It is unprecedented in New York State for a land bank to oversee enforcement of tax liens and water and sewer charges on the scale that the City would present. This uncertainty jeopardizes the consistent, year-over-year enforcement of tax collection, and will result in increased delinquency rates, decreased tax revenues, and harm to low-and middle-income homeowners.

I am also deeply concerned that an entity whose primary statutory mission under Article 16 of the New York State Not-For-Profit Corporation Law is to acquire, develop, and dispose of property for community development purposes would be tasked with the complex and exceedingly sensitive task of collecting delinquent property taxes and water and sewer charges, including the right to foreclose on delinquent properties. The politically fickle land bank would have total discretion over the disposition of liens, presenting an inherent conflict of interest and undermining the impartiality of the current process.

Accordingly, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 570-B.

Eric Adams
Mayor

Cc: Hon. Adrienne Adams, Speaker

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

M-9

Communication from the Mayor – Veto and disapproval of Introductory Number 902-B of 2024 - A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to giving qualified entities a first opportunity to submit a statement of interest and a first opportunity to purchase certain properties.

December 31, 2025

Hon. Michael McSweeney
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
141 Worth Street
New York, NY 10013

Re: Disapproval of Introductory No. 902-B

Dear Mr. McSweeney:

Pursuant to Section 37 of the New York City Charter, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 902-B, known as the Community Opportunity to Purchase Act ("COPA"), which would amend the Administrative Code of the City of New York "in relation to giving qualified entities a first opportunity to submit a statement of interest and a first opportunity to purchase certain properties."

COPA would grant certain non-profits and public-private joint ventures certified by the Department of Housing Preservation and Development a priority right to purchase certain residential properties when offered for sale. Although I understand that these non-profits may be better stewards to rehabilitate distressed buildings with multiple safety violations into long-term affordable housing than other for-profit landlords, this version of COPA goes too far. Int. No. 902-B expands the exclusive right of first offer and right to match third-party offers to certain non-profits and joint ventures even for buildings with minor violations of the City's Housing Maintenance Code. This would unjustifiably restrict the pool of potential buyers of residential real estate in New York City for thousands of additional buildings, including, for example, those with chipped paint, minor leaks, or a pest problem.

Moreover, this version of COPA would present significant operational and administrative challenges for the City agencies involved in administering this law, leading to significant costs to the City in assisting non-profit organizations with renovating and possibly even procuring certain properties. We should be finding ways to improve the housing market, not creating unnecessary regulations burdening the purchase and sale of housing, and thereby decreasing the availability of safe and affordable apartments.

Accordingly, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 902-B. Sincerely,

Eric Adams
Mayor

Cc: Hon. Adrienne Adams, Speaker

Referred to the Committee on Housing and Buildings.

M-10

Communication from the Mayor – Veto and disapproval of Introductory Number 958-A of 2024 - A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to the creation of affordable homeownership opportunities.

December 31, 2025

Hon. Michael McSweeney
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
141 Worth Street
New York, N.Y. 10013

Re: Disapproval of Introductory No. 958-A

Dear Mr. McSweeney:

Pursuant to Section 37 of the New York City Charter, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 958-A, which would amend the Administrative Code of the City of New York "in relation to the creation of affordable homeownership opportunities."

Int. No. 958-A requires that 4 percent of all newly constructed affordable units be homeownership opportunity units and that 60 percent of these units be reserved for income-eligible first-time home buyers. This legislation would add \$85 million to the City's capital budget each year and result in the production of fewer affordable housing units for low-income and middle-income New Yorkers. The rigid requirements placed on the affordable housing construction pipeline by Int. No. 958-A would limit the City's ability to maximize its resources and could force the City to give up on other available affordable housing funds and projects. This legislation would de-prioritize the construction of new affordable rental housing for low-income earners and a reduce the preservation of affordable rental and homeownership properties, further straining the City's ability to create housing for New Yorkers who need an affordable place to live.

Accordingly, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 958-A.

Sincerely,

Eric Adams
Mayor

Cc: Hon. Adrienne Adams, Speaker

Referred to the Committee on Land Use.

M-11

Communication from the Mayor – Veto and disapproval of Introductory Number 1120-B of 2024 - A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to establishing timelines for cooperative corporations to approve or deny the sale of cooperative apartments.

December 31, 2025

Hon. Michael McSweeney
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
141 Worth Street
New York, N.Y. 10013

Re: Disapproval of Introductory No. 1120-B

Dear Mr. McSweeney:

Pursuant to Section 37 of the New York City Charter, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 1120-B, which would amend the Administrative Code of the City of New York "in relation to establishing timelines for cooperative corporations to approve or deny the sale of cooperative apartments."

Int. No. 1120-B requires the Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) to issue civil penalties if cooperative corporations do not adhere to new mandates requiring written acknowledgment of an offer for purchase within 15 days of receiving an application, and a decision on whether an offer has been accepted within 45 days. Although my administration does not object to the timelines imposed by the legislation and understands the frustration sellers and purchasers can face from an unresponsive or slow-moving cooperative, it is not the place of City government to insert itself into a private transaction when there are private remedies available to address such grievances. Requiring HPD enforcement instead of allowing for a private right of action by aggrieved parties will cost the City millions of dollars a year and hurt small cooperatives already struggling to keep maintenance and other common charges affordable for their shareholders.

Accordingly, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 1120-B.

Sincerely,
Eric Adams
Mayor

Cc: Hon. Adrienne Adams, Speaker

Referred to the Committee on Housing and Buildings.

M-12

Communication from the Mayor – Veto and disapproval of Introductory Number 1251-A of 2025 - A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to issuing licenses to mobile food and general vendors.

December 31, 2025

Hon. Michael McSweeney
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
141 Worth Street
New York, N.Y. 10013

Re: Disapproval of Introductory No. 1251-A

Dear Mr. McSweeney:

Pursuant to Section 37 of the New York City Charter, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 1251-A, which would amend the Administrative Code of the City of New York "in relation to issuing licenses to mobile food and general vendors." I am also separately disapproving Introductory No. 408-A, which would amend Charter "in relation to creating a division within the department of small business services to assist street vendors and reporting regarding such assistance efforts," and Introductory No. 431-B, which would amend the Charter and the Administrative Code "in relation to expanding business licensing and regulatory compliance of all mobile food and general vendors."

This suite of companion bills—comprising Int. Nos. 408-A, 431-B, and 1251-A—attempt to overhaul the street vending industry including by more than doubling its size over the next five years. Int. No. 1251-A would work in conjunction with Int No. 431-B by authorizing the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) and the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection (DCWP) to continue issuing license applications until the number of licenses issued reaches the number of licenses allowed pursuant to Int. No. 431-B. While the goals of increasing legal street vending operations may be laudable, the City Council failed to evaluate the effects of the bill by conducting a City Environmental Quality Review as required by the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

Accordingly, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 1251-A.

Sincerely,

Eric Adams
Mayor

Cc: Adrienne Adams, Speaker

Referred to the Committee on Consumer and Worker Protection.

M-13

Communication from the Mayor – Veto and disapproval of Introductory Number 1279-B of 2025 - A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to a department of sanitation rule regarding supplemental sanitation service providers placing out refuse or recycling.

December 31, 2025

Hon. Michael McSweeney
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
141 Worth Street
New York, N.Y. 10013

Re: Disapproval of Introductory No. 1279-B

Dear Mr. McSweeney:

Pursuant to Section 37 of the New York City Charter, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 1279-B, which would amend the Administrative Code of the City of New York "in relation to a department of sanitation rule regarding supplemental sanitation service providers placing out refuse or recycling."

Int. No. 1279-B prevents agency rules that would prohibit supplemental sanitation service providers—meaning business improvement districts (BIDs), merchant associations, neighborhood associations, and non-governmental entities—from placing trash next to a public litter basket or rules that require containerization of trash collected by these groups from going into effect until August 30, 2026. The agency rules that this legislation seeks to delay were implemented as part of the citywide effort to containerize trash, including trash collected by BIDs and other neighborhood organizations, to clean up City streets and reduce pest infestations. Such efforts have been supported by the City Council, as demonstrated by the passage of Local Law 180 of 2025 in November of this year. Int. No. 1279-B would hamper these containerization efforts and keep plastic trash bags on corners in the busiest and most heavily trafficked areas of our City.

Accordingly, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 1279-B.

Sincerely,

Eric Adams
Mayor

Cc: Hon. Adrienne Adams, Speaker

Referred to the Committee on Sanitation and Solid Waste Management.

M-14

Communication from the Mayor – Veto and disapproval of Introductory Number 1297-A of 2025 - A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to the gender-motivated violence protection law.

December 24, 2025

Hon. Michael McSweeney
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
141 Worth Street
New York, N.Y. 10013

Re: Disapproval of Introductory No. 1297

Dear Mr. McSweeney:

Pursuant to Section 37 of the New York City Charter, I hereby disapprove Introductory Number 1297-A, which would amend the Administrative Code of the City of New York "in relation to the gender-motivated violence protection law."

Int. 1297-A is effectively a debit card for a single law firm to make a \$300 million withdrawal from city coffers. The bill enables anyone who filed a lawsuit under the GMV A between March 2023 and March 2025 to now revive their claim. The benefits of this bill will substantially inure to a single law firm that filed 550 of the 580 GMVA cases brought against the City between March 2023 and March 2025. A court recently dismissed most of those cases, and the express intent of Int. 1297-A is to revive them and give lawyers another chance to profit despite final court action. Assuming a standard one-third contingency fee for cases that are estimated by OMB and the City Council to cost the City as much as \$1 billion,¹ the law firm handling 95% of the cases could pocket over \$300 million.²

It's no surprise that this law firm has spent the past six months lobbying City Council to achieve this incredible windfall. The law firm began its lobbying campaign in March 2025 when it hired a lobbying firm at \$10,000 per month.³ When the court correctly dismissed 467 of the firm's 550 cases against the City,⁴ the law firm engaged a second lobbyist at \$10,000 per month to directly lobby Speaker Adrienne Adams on the bill.⁵ Their lobbying efforts led the Council to abandon its responsibility as a legislative

¹ "As written and intended, the bill has substantial financial implications for the City. While recognizing that each case must be assessed on its merits, the City's experience with similar laws, including the Child Victims Act and Adult Survivors Act, suggests that the fiscal impact of the bill could potentially reach near \$1,000,000,000." Int. No. 1297-A Fiscal Impact Statement Prepared By New York City Mayor's Office of Management and Budget, Nov. 22, 2025 (emphasis added). See also The Council of the City of New York Finance Division, Fiscal Impact Statement Int. No: 1297-A, Nov. 22, 2025 ("The Council estimates that there could be a significant impact on the City's expenditures due to the enactment of this legislation. OMB 's estimate of this legislation 's impact on the City's expenditures is consistent with the Council's estimate.") (emphasis added).

² These new remedies are in addition to earlier remedies afforded by the State's Child Victims Act and Adult Survivors Act (ASA), which created extended statutes of limitations and "lookback windows" for survivors of sexual assaults against entities that allegedly failed to prevent such assaults. The same law firm also filed numerous claims under both lookback windows.

³ See MAD Global Strategy Group, LLC Statement of Registration Information for Levy Konigsberg, <https://lobbyistsearch.nyc.gov/> (identifying "Subject Category" as "Local Legislation (including introduction)" and "Subject Details" as "Gender based violence cases taking place in Juvenile Detention Centers"); Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government Lobbying Search, MAD Global Strategy Group, LLC Lobbyist Registration 2025-2026, <https://reports.ethics.madglobal.com/publicquennwefiling/NzE4MzYz0> ("Client hereby engages the Campoamor & Sons LLC ("Consultant") will provide strategic government relations, advocacy, and communications services to support the Client's objective of securing passage of Int. 1297-2025 in the New York City Council.").

⁴ See *J.A. v. City of New York*, Sup Ct, Bronx County, Sept. 11, 2025, Danzinger, J. index 806917/2024E.

⁵ See Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government Lobbying Search, Campoamor & Sons LLC Lobbyist Registration 2025-2026, <https://reports.ethics.madglobal.com/publicquerv/ViewFilim!NzU0MzUw0>. This lobbyist then provided quotes to a New York Post

body to protect the City's diverse and pressing needs, ignore the difficult budgetary sacrifices that this bill will undoubtedly impose, and reject alternative remedies that would have been focused upon fair compensation for survivors rather than litigation and attorney's fees.

My administration stands firmly in support of survivors of gender-motivated violence. Through the Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence, we have increased services for survivors at Family Justice Centers; expanded options for survivors to gain and maintain safe and stable housing; and furthered prevention, education, training, and public awareness. My administration attempted to work with the City Council to secure compensation for survivors in a fiscally responsible manner, but the City Council did not engage on any alternative proposals. The City Council would not consider an alternative relief structure for claims brought against the City, such as a compensation fund, nor would they consider more predictable payment schedules, reasonable limitations on taxpayer liability, or caps on attorney's fees. These alternatives would provide survivors with substantial compensation while mitigating the potential budgetary impact on essential City services and taxpayers, with fewer costs going to litigation and attorney's fees. But without explanation, the Council rejected a more reasonable route to justice for survivors, opting instead for a bill that neither limits costs and payments resulting from litigation nor acknowledges impacts upon other City residents. As a result, this bill will impose an extraordinary financial burden on the City.

Because the City must balance its budget, the City will have to either raise taxes and fees to make up for a potential \$ 1 billion shortfall or cut social services. Notwithstanding the responsible fiscal stewardship of my administration, slowing economic growth and significant cuts to federal funding have created a particularly precarious budgetary landscape. This challenging fiscal predicament threatens to impede critical City services, including funds for housing assistance, childcare, public safety, transportation and many other vital City programs for New Yorkers.

Because this bill was hastily passed at the urging of a single law firm with a clear financial interest in its enactment, rather than after a deliberative process designed to thoughtfully ensure that survivors of gender-motivated violence receive closure, I hereby disapprove Int. No. 1297-A.

Sincerely,

Eric Adams
Mayor

Cc: Hon. Adrienne Adams, Speaker

Referred to the Committee on Women and Gender Equity.

M-15

Communication from the Mayor – Veto and disapproval of Introductory Number 1391-A of 2025 - A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to the establishment of compensation standards for security guards.

December 31, 2025

Hon. Michael McSweeney
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
141 Worth Street
New York, N.Y. 10013

Re: Disapproval of Introductory No. 1391-A

Dear Mr. McSweeney:

Pursuant to Section 37 of the New York City Charter, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 1391-A, which would amend the Administrative Code of the City of New York "in relation to the establishment of compensation standards for security guards."

Int. No. 1391-A establishes a minimum wage for security guards employed in the City of New York by setting a pay floor tied to the pay of security guards working under City public building service contracts. This legislation is contrary to article 19 of the New York State Labor Law, also called the Minimum Wage Act, which establishes minimum wages for the State of New York. See *Wholesale Laundry Bd. of Trade, Inc. v. New York*, 234 N.Y.S.2d 862 (App. Div. 1st Dep't 1962), *aff'd* 12 N.Y.2d 998 (N.Y. 1963), (striking down New York City's attempt to pass a local law forbidding "hiring at a wage which the State law permits").

My administration appreciates the critical role that security guards play in maintaining public safety in the City of New York and is supportive of efforts to improve working conditions for all New Yorkers, particularly those who work in potentially hazardous industries. However, Int. No. 1391-A is not only not permitted by state law, but will also place a burden on small businesses, discourage businesses from hiring security personnel, reduce job opportunities for security guards, and put public safety at risk.

Accordingly, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 1391-A.

Sincerely,

Eric Adams
Mayor

Cc: Adrienne Adams, Speaker

Referred to the Committee on Consumer and Worker Protection.

M-16

Communication from the Mayor – Veto and disapproval of Introductory Number 1407-A of 2025 - A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to the sale of tax liens.

December 31, 2025

Hon. Michael McSweeney
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
141 Worth Street
New York, N.Y. 10013

Re: Disapproval of Introductory No. 1407-A

Dear Mr. McSweeney:

Pursuant to Section 37 of the New York City Charter, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 1407-A, which would amend the administrative code of the city of New York, "in relation to the sale of tax liens." I am also separately disapproving Introductory No. 570-B, which would amend the administrative code of the city of New York, "in relation to creating a land bank," Introductory No. 1419-A, which would amend the administrative code of the city of New York "in relation to reporting unresolved tax liens," and Introductory No. 1420-A, which would amend the administrative code of the city of New York, "in relation to the transfer of tax liens to a land bank."

This suite of tax lien sale bills — comprising Int. Nos. 570-B, 1407-A, 1419-A, and 1420-A — is not only ill-conceived, but Int. No. 1407-A would directly harm low-income and middle-income homeowners. The vast majority of New Yorkers pay their property taxes as required, but when homeowners are delinquent, the City may initiate a foreclosure action. Such actions are not only rare, but are also resolved over 90% of the time before the property is foreclosed upon, a testament to the fact that the City's enforcement system codified in Local Law 82 of 2024 works — it helps delinquent owners come into compliance and stay in their homes.

Int. No. 1407-A would predicate the sale of tax liens on the term and condition that no purchaser of a tax lien may foreclose upon a lien on class one residential real property occupied by the owner as a primary resident until one year has passed after the date of sale and the value of the lien reaches a newly-established arbitrary threshold of the lesser amount of 15% of the property value or \$70,000. Over 95% of all class one foreclosure actions initiated since 2015 have fallen below that threshold, meaning that this bill would effectively remove foreclosure as an option for nearly all delinquent property owners. Implementing Int. No. 1407-A's threshold would cause tax delinquency rates to increase because New York City would not begin the foreclosure process until the tax burden becomes insurmountable for low-income and moderate-income homeowners to resolve and because it would let savvy owners avoid foreclosure even when they have the means to pay off their tax debt. The City should work with homeowners to pay off their tax debt, not reward delinquent owners by removing the City's enforcement power.

Accordingly, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 1407-A.

Eric Adams
Mayor

Cc: Hon. Adrienne Adams, Speaker

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

M-17

Communication from the Mayor – Veto and disapproval of Introductory Number 1412-A of 2025 - A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to redefining terms concerning immigration enforcement to account for current enforcement practices, and prohibiting the maintenance of an office or quarters on property under the jurisdiction of the department of correction by federal immigration authorities.

December 31, 2025

Hon. Michael McSweeney
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
141 Worth Street
New York, N.Y. 10013

Re: Disapproval of Introductory No. 1412-A

Dear Mr. McSweeney:

Pursuant to Section 37 of the New York City Charter, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 1412-A, which would amend the Administrative Code of the City of New York "in relation to redefining terms concerning immigration enforcement to account for current enforcement practices, and prohibiting the maintenance of an office or quarters on property under the jurisdiction of the department of correction by federal immigration authorities."

Int. No. 1412-A updates certain definitions, specifies that no property under the jurisdiction of the Department of Correction (DOC) may be utilized by federal immigration authorities, and clarifies the prohibition against City employees' and officers' engagement in immigration enforcement. Administrative Code section 9-131(h)(2) already limits the ability of federal immigration authorities to maintain an office or quarters on land under DOC jurisdiction "for the purpose of investigating possible violations of civil immigration law" but allows the Mayor to establish such office or quarters for federal enforcement "unrelated to the enforcement of civil immigration laws" by executive order. The Mayor and DOC Commissioner must continue to determine the best way to safeguard persons in DOC custody, including through partnerships with federal agencies to conduct criminal investigations and curb gang violence.

Accordingly, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 1412-A.

Sincerely,

Eric Adams

Mayor

Cc: Hon. Adrienne Adams, Speaker

Referred to the Committee on Immigration.

M-18

Communication from the Mayor – Veto and disapproval of Introductory Number 1419-A of 2025 - A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to reporting regarding unresolved tax liens, and to repeal and replace section 11-356 of such code, relating to a temporary task force on tax liens.

December 31, 2025

Hon. Michael McSweeney
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
141 Worth Street
New York, N.Y. 10013

Re: Disapproval of Introductory No. 1419-A

Dear Mr. McSweeney:

Pursuant to Section 37 of the New York City Charter, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 1419-A, which would amend the administrative code of the city of New York, "in relation to reporting unresolved tax liens, and to repeal and replace section 11-356 of such code, relating to a temporary task force on tax liens." I am also separately disapproving Introductory No. 570-B, which would amend the administrative code of the city of New York, "in relation to creating a land bank," and Introductory No. 1407-A, which would amend the administrative code of the city of New York, "in relation to the sale of tax liens," and Introductory No. 1420-A, which would amend the administrative code of the city of New York "in relation to the transfer of tax liens to a land bank."

Int. No. 1419-A is part of a suite of bills that would alter the tax lien sale process—comprising Int. Nos. 570-B, 1407-A, 1419-A, and 1420-A—that would harm the City and local homeowners. Int. No. 1419-A would require the Department of Finance (DOF) to submit an annual report to the City Council concerning properties with unresolved tax liens, and to post a publicly-available report of the same. Although DOF currently oversees the City's unresolved tax liens, Int. No. 1420-A would require tax lien purchasers ultimately to transfer such liens to the land bank created by Int. No. 570-B. Even though the City Council's bills would create a land bank that would ultimately be the operational entity in charge of maintaining and enforcing the City's tax liens, Int. No. 1419-A would continue to require DOF to issue annual reports about unresolved tax liens. That is, Int. No. 1419-A would require DOF to be responsible for reporting upon another entity's data, creating extra bureaucracy and increasing the potential for error.

Accordingly, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 1419-A.

Sincerely,

Eric Adams
Mayor

Cc: Hon. Adrienne Adams, Speaker

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

M-19

**Communication from the Mayor – Veto and disapproval of Introductory Number 1420-A of 2025 - A
Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to the transfer of
tax liens to a land bank.**

December 31, 2025

Hon. Michael McSweeney
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
141 Worth Street
New York, N.Y. 10013

Re: Disapproval of Introductory No. 1420-A

Dear Mr. McSweeney:

Pursuant to Section 37 of the New York City Charter, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 1420-A, which would amend the administrative code of the city of New York, "in relation to the transfer of tax liens to a land bank." I am also separately disapproving Introductory No. 570-B, which would amend the administrative code of the city of New York, "in relation to creating a land bank," Introductory No. 1407-A, which would amend the administrative code of the city of New York, "in relation to the sale of tax liens," and Introductory No. 1419-A, which would amend the administrative code of the city of New York "in relation to reporting unresolved tax liens."

Int. No. 1420-A is part of a suite of bills that would alter the tax lien sale process — comprising Int. Nos. 570-B, 1407-A, 1419-A, and 1420-A — that would harm the City and local homeowners. Int. No. 1420-A would require tax lien purchasers to make best efforts to transfer such liens to the land bank within six months of the City's creation of the land bank or after the purchaser satisfies certain debt obligations. As I note in my veto of Int. No. 570-B, the current process for the City's collection of tax liens, which was carefully considered by my administration and the City Council in 2024, is reliable, fair, and works. There is no land bank in the State of New York that manages a comparable portfolio to the tax liens that Int No. 1420-A would provide to the land bank. By entrusting this sensitive and critical process to an untested entity, the Council will disrupt the consistent, fair, and unbiased collection and enforcement of property taxes that funds over \$35 billion of City services annually. Absent that consistency, delinquency rates will increase, revenues will decrease, and low-income and moderate-income homeowners will find themselves mired deeper and deeper in debt.

Accordingly, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 1420-A.

Eric Adams

Mayor

Cc: Hon. Adrienne Adams, Speaker

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

M-20

Communication from the Mayor – Veto and disapproval of Introductory Number 1433-A of 2025 - A Local Law to amend the New York city charter and the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to the citywide percentage of rental units in projects receiving city financial assistance that must be 2- and 3-bedroom units and amending the city's fair housing plan.

December 31, 2025

Hon. Michael McSweeney

City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
141 Worth Street
New York, N.Y. 10013

Re: Disapproval of Introductory No. 1433-A

Dear Mr. McSweeney:

Pursuant to Section 37 of the New York City Charter, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 1433-A, which would amend the Charter and the Administrative Code of the City of New York "in relation to the citywide percentage of rental units in projects receiving city financial assistance that must be 2- and 3-bedroom units and amending the city's fair housing plan."

Int. No. 1433-A requires that at least 25 percent of the total number of dwelling units in housing projects receiving city financial assistance have 2 bedrooms, and 15 percent of such units have 3 or more bedrooms, over a 5-year period. This legislation would add \$75 million to the City's capital budget each year and result in fewer affordable homes being built.

The City's current production target for 2- and 3-bedroom production exceeds the best indicators of demand for such units. Further, the primary demand for affordable housing in the City is from one- and two-person households. The requirements in Int. No. 1433-A overestimates demand for 2- and 3- bedroom units and instead adds costs to the City and reduces affordable housing available to New Yorkers.

Accordingly, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 1433-A.

Eric Adams

Mayor

Cc: Hon. Adrienne Adams, Speaker

Referred to the Committee on Land Use.

M-21

Communication from the Mayor – Veto and disapproval of Introductory Number 1443-A of 2025 - A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to the citywide percentage of rental units in projects receiving city financial assistance that must be affordable for extremely low-income and very low-income households.

December 31, 2025

Hon. Michael McSweeney
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
141 Worth Street
New York, N.Y. 10013

Re: Disapproval of Introductory No. 1443-A

Dear Mr. McSweeney:

Pursuant to Section 37 of the New York City Charter, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 1443-A, which would amend the Administrative Code of the City of New York "in relation to the citywide percentage of rental units in projects receiving city financial assistance that must be affordable for extremely low-income and very low-income households."

Int. No. 1443-A requires that at least 50 percent of the total number of dwelling units constructed in housing projects receiving city financial assistance over a five-year period be affordable for extremely low-income (ELI) and very low-income (VLI) households. My administration has prioritized creating housing for ELI and VLI households and has often exceeded the targets set in this bill. But the City's ability to provide deeply affordable housing is largely dependent on the availability of federal resources, including rental assistance, which requires the need for flexibility to adjust on a project- and portfolio-level to maximize resources and provide the most affordable housing possible to New Yorkers beyond what this bill would allow. The Office of Management and Budget estimates that this bill would cost the city approximately \$15 million per year in capital expenditures and they note that the rigid requirements established would likely result in a decrease in the production of affordable housing units.

Accordingly, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 1443-A.

Sincerely,

Eric Adams
Mayor

Cc: Hon. Adrienne Adams, Speaker

Referred to the Committee on Land Use.

M-22

Communication from the Mayor – Veto and disapproval of Introductory Number 1451-A of 2025 - A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to requiring the New York city police department to provide the civilian complaint review board with direct access to officer body-worn camera footage and to establish related procedures.

December 31, 2025

Hon. Michael McSweeney
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
141 Worth Street
New York, N.Y. 10013

Re: Disapproval of Introductory No. 1451-A

Dear Mr. McSweeney:

Pursuant to Section 37 of the New York City Charter, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 1451-A, which would amend the Administrative Code of the City of New York to require the NYPD "to provide the civilian complaint review board with direct access to officer body-worn camera footage and to establish related procedures."

There are New York State statutes that require records in certain cases to be sealed. When a case is sealed pursuant to one of those statutes, the Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB) cannot access unredacted records in the case, including body-worn camera footage, without a waiver from the defendant. In the absence of such a waiver, NYPD must first redact the defendant's face, voice, and any other identifying information before providing that body-worn camera footage to CCRB. Giving CCRB direct access to all body-worn camera footage would make it impossible for NYPD to make the necessary redactions and therefore would effectively mandate that NYPD violate State sealing laws.

Because mandating NYPD give CCRB direct access to all body-worn camera footage would conflict with State law, Introductory No. 1451-A does not go into effect for two-and-a-half years. To comply with the bill, over that period, NYPD would need to overhaul its body-worn camera system — whatever the cost, whatever the burden — and find a way to grant CCRB direct access without violating State sealing statutes.

All this despite the fact that, according to CCRB's published data, NYPD is regularly providing body-worn camera footage to CCRB in a timely manner and CCRB has testified before the City Council that it does not currently have the resources to manage a direct access review of body-worn camera footage and would require "significant" additional staffing to do so. There is no problem of access that this bill solves. Instead, Int. No. 1451-A unnecessarily compels NYPD to spend time and resources to overhaul its body-worn camera system, and it puts an enormous burden on the City and NYPD's finances and resources in attempt to fix a problem that does not exist and that this bill would not actually remedy.

I cannot allow a bill that puts NYPD in this untenable position to move forward.

Accordingly, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 1451-A.

Sincerely,

Eric Adams
Mayor

Cc: Hon. Adrienne Adams, Speaker

Referred to the Committee on Public Safety.

COMMUNICATION FROM CITY, COUNTY & BOROUGH OFFICES

M-23

Communication from the Comptroller - Submitting Report to the Mayor and City Council on City Comptroller Audit Operations for Fiscal Year 2025, in accordance with New York City Charter Section 93(f).

(For text of the report, please see the Attachments section of [the M-23 of 2026 file](https://council.nyc.gov) in the legislation section of the New York City Council website at <https://council.nyc.gov>)

Received, Ordered, Printed and Filed.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Pursuant to Rule 7.10, The Speaker (Council Member Menin) nominated the following Council Members as members of Temporary Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections of the City Council:

M-24

Nomination and Election of the Temporary Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections

Sandra Ung, Temporary Chair
David M. Carr
Julie Menin
Kevin C. Riley
Shaun Abreu
Shekar Krishnan
Chris Banks

The Speaker (Council Member Menin) noted that the purpose of this temporary committee would be to meet on Thursday, January 15, 2026 and recommend the membership and chairs of all of the other committees of the Council.

ROLL CALL for M-24 – Election of the Temporary Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections

The Speaker (Council Member Menin) put the question whether the Council would agree with and adopt such motions for these nominations which were decided in the **affirmative** by the following vote:

Affirmative – Abreu, Aldebol, Ariola, Avilés, Banks, Bottcher, Brewer, Brooks-Powers, Cabán, Carr, De La Rosa, Dinowitz, Encarnación, Epstein, Fariás, Felder, Feliz, Gennaro, Gutiérrez, Hanif, Hankerson, Hanks, Hudson, Joseph, Krishnan, Lee, Louis, Maloney, Marte, Mealy, Morano, Narcisse, Nurse, Ossé, Paladino, Restler, Riley, Salaam, J. Sanchez, P. Sanchez, Santosuosso, Schulman, Stevens, Thomas-Henry, Ung, Vernikov, Williams, Wong, Zhuang, and The Speaker (Council Member Menin) - **50**.

Present, Not Voting: Won.

The Roll Call vote to approve **M-24** was recorded as **50-0-0**.

M-25

Designation of Minority Leader

At a duly convened meeting, the undersigned members of the Minority (Republican) Delegation of the Council of the City of New York, hereby designated and appointed Council Member David M. Carr as Minority Leader of the Council of the City of New York, for the term which commenced on January 1, 2026. Signed: David M. Carr, Frank Morano, Vickie Paladino and Inna Vernikov.

January 7, 2026

Michael McSweeney
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
Executive Office
141 Worth Street
New York, New York

To the Clerk of the Council of the City of New York:

We, the undersigned members of the Minority (Republican) Conference of Council of the city of New York, hereby designate and appoint David M. Carr as Minority Leader of the Council of the City of New York, Pursuant to Rule 4.10 of the Council of the City of New York and Paragraph 5 of the Bylaws of the Minority Delegation of the same, for the term beginning January 1, 2026 and concluding December 31, 2029.

Sincerely,

Signed: *David M. Carr, Frank Morano, Vickie Paladino and Inna Vernikov*

Received, Ordered, Printed and Filed.

M-26

Designation of Minority Whip

Pursuant to Rule 4.10 of the Council of the City of New York and Paragraph 5 of the Bylaws of the Minority Delegation of the same, the Minority Leader hereby designated and appointed Council Member Inna Vernikov as Minority Whip of the Council of the City of New York, for the term which commenced on January 1, 2026.

January 7, 2026

Michael McSweeney
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
Executive Office
141 Worth Street

New York, New York

To the Clerk of the Council of the City of New York:

Pursuant to Rule 4.10 of the Council of the City of New York and Paragraph 5 of the Bylaws of the Minority Delegation of the same, I hereby designate and appoint Inna Vernikov as Minority Whip of the Council of the City of New York, for the term which concludes December 31, 2029.

David M. Carr
MINORITY LEADER

Signed: *David M. Carr, Minority Leader*

Received, Ordered, Printed and Filed.

At this point, The Speaker (Council Member Menin) yielded the floor to the newly designated Minority Leader (Council Member Carr). The Minority Leader (Council Member Carr) delivered his remarks to those assembled.

Remarks of the Minority Leader (Council Member Carr) as delivered

Thank you so much, Madam Speaker.

Let me begin by congratulating all members on their elections from this past November and all of those who were chosen for leadership positions today, especially you, Madam Speaker. Congratulations.

I know the way that you sought this post is the way that you intend to govern, with relentless energy, a passion for every detail of city government, and a strong commitment to engaging and working in partnership with all fifty of your colleagues in this body. I look forward to your tenure and working together to advance our city's future, and I also look forward to starting Stated Meetings on time. I must begin, of course, by thanking my husband, Don. He's not here today, A because he's working, and B because he knew that I was going to mention him. But he is my love and my heart, and for years I walked alone, and now I never do, and it's because of him, and I thank him so much from the bottom of my heart for being a part of my life and making it whole.

I must thank my Republican colleagues. They are phenomenal representatives for this city. Their tenacity on behalf of their constituents and our shared, deeply held principles always shine through. From Council Member Ariola's unwavering pursuit of justice for city workers who were wrongfully terminated during the pandemic, to Council Member Paladino's unabashed championing of homeowners in the face of rising costs due to property taxes and mandates like Local Law 97, to Council Member Morano's forging of bipartisan coalitions on critical health issues like support for *in vitro* fertilization. To Minority Whip Vernikov, who has been a warrior across a range of issues, including the fights against anti-Semitism and radical policies deeply at odds with the values of common-sense New Yorkers. To my colleagues, Council Members Ariola and

Paladino, you are strong, you are fierce, and I have the example of your leadership before me and your dedication to our conservative values. I thank you for your leadership. I want to also thank Minority Whip Vernikov and Council Member Morano for their faith in me, their constant companionship and advice, and most importantly, for their treasured friendship. I could not be here without you. Now more than ever, I believe the minority delegation has a crucial role to play in this Council and in the broader body politics of the City of New York.

The 19th-century British statesman Benjamin Disraeli once observed that a good opposition "proposes nothing and opposes everything". That has not been the position of this delegation. While we will never shrink from fighting for what we believe in, we will continue to build our relationships across the aisle in this body and with our new Speaker to advance common-sense legislation that will improve the lives of all New Yorkers. I also know that in our hearts, we five share a fierce dedication to the principles upon which our great nation was founded.

This July 4th, we will celebrate 250 years since the birth of our country. And yet, here in New York City, the legacy of our founding generation, which is grounded in individual liberty, property rights, and the free enterprise system, is being threatened by the smothering heat of collectivism. Our new Mayor outlined the stakes himself when he said New Yorkers were asking the question of whether the left can govern. We already know the answer. History has proven socialism to be a formula for tyranny, misery, and economic failure. It will not only serve to divide our city, but it will obstruct any progress we can make for our five boroughs because it runs counter to that most basic principle that has made our city, and indeed our country, great: the dignity and the freedom of individuals to pursue their own happiness. The greatness of our city stems from the vitality, the intellect, and the aspirations of the individual and the voluntary collaboration of communities, not from the coercive power of an all encompassing government. That is the history of the success of our country and our city, and the foundation of our future success.

So, in what do we believe? We believe that prosperity and liberty are built on public safety, and so we will always have the backs of our men and women in law enforcement and our first responders. We believe our nation's largest city must never forget the lessons of the 1970s financial crisis, so we must balance the budget through fiscal responsibility, not with crushing taxes that will destroy our financial base. We believe that we must educate our children to be part of the workforce of tomorrow, and at a level that will lead to their success, whether it be specialized high schools and gifted and talented seats, or STEAM programming, or the development of skilled trades. We believe that we must ease the financial burden for our middle and working class families wherever we can, and that starts by providing them with real property tax relief so that they can stay in their homes. And no, we do not believe that home ownership is a weapon for white supremacy... but rather a vital pathway to financial stability and empowerment for all New York families.

We believe that we must deliver the essential services of government, infrastructure, sanitation, public safety, support for our seniors, and investments in our parks and open spaces. These are the cornerstones of quality of life, and we stand ready to work with each of you and all of our partners to achieve these worthy goals and to make great things happen for our magnificent city. Thank you.

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL

A N N O U N C E M E N T S

Thursday, January 15, 2026

Stated Council Meeting

Council Chambers – City Hall.....Agenda – 1:30 p.m.

At the request of the City Clerk and Clerk of the Council (Mr. McSweeney), the Speaker (Council Member Menin), adjourned the Charter Meeting to meet again for the Stated Meeting of Thursday, January 15, 2026.

MICHAEL M. McSWEENEY, City Clerk
Clerk of the Council

Editor’s Note: This Charter Meeting constitutes the first proceedings of the four year 2026-2029 legislative session of the New York City Council.

Editor’s Local Law Note: *Int. Nos. 796-A (2024), 895-A (2024), 988-A (2024), 1002-A (2024), 1058-A (2024), 1059-A (2024), 1154-A (2024), 1217-A (2025), 1225-A (2025), 1384-A (2025), 1392-A (2025), 1397-A (2025), 1423-A (2025), 1425-A (2025), and 1456-A (2025), all adopted at the Thursday, December 4, 2025 Stated Meeting, were **returned unsigned** by the Mayor on Monday, January 5, 2026. These items had become law on Saturday, January 3, 2026 due to the lack of Mayoral action within the Charter-prescribed thirty day time period. These bills were assigned subsequently as Local Laws Nos. 1 to 15 of 2026, respectively.*

Editor’s Transcript Note: For the transcript of these proceedings, please refer to the respective attachment section of items introduced or adopted at this Charter Meeting of Wednesday, January 7, 2026 on the New York City Council website at <https://council.nyc.gov>.

