

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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March 23, 2011
Start: 2:16 pm
Recess: 4:13 pm

HELD AT: Council Chambers
City Hall

B E F O R E:

CHRISTINE C. QUINN
Speaker

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council Member Maria del Carmen
Arroyo
Council Member Charles Barron
Council Member Gale A. Brewer
Council Member Fernando Cabrera
Council Member Margaret S. Chin
Council Member Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.
Council Member Elizabeth S. Crowley
Council Member Inez E. Dickens
Council Member Erik Martin Dilan
Council Member Daniel Dromm
Council Member Mathieu Eugene
Council Member Julissa Ferreras
Council Member Lewis A. Fidler
Council Member Helen D. Foster
Council Member Daniel R. Garodnick
Council Member James F. Gennaro
Council Member Vincent J. Gentile
Council Member Sara M. Gonzalez

A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council Member David Greenfield
Council Member Daniel J. Halloran
III
Council Member Vincent M. Ignizio
Council Member Robert Jackson
Council Member Letitia James
Council Member Peter A. Koo
Council Member G. Oliver Koppell
Council Member Karen Koslowitz
Council Member Brad S. Lander
Council Member Jessica S. Lappin
Council Member Stephen T. Levin
Council Member Melissa Mark-
Viverito
Council Member Darlene Mealy
Council Member Rosie Mendez
Council Member Michael C. Nelson
Council Member James S. Oddo
Council Member Annabel Palma
Council Member Domenic M. Recchia,
Jr.
Council Member Diana Reyna
Council Member Joel Rivera
Council Member Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Council Member Deborah L. Rose
Council Member James Sanders, Jr.
Council Member Larry B. Seabrook
Council Member Eric A. Ulrich
Council Member James Vacca
Council Member Peter F. Vallone,
Jr.
Council Member James G. Van Bramer
Council Member Albert Vann
Council Member Mark S. Weprin
Council Member Jumaane D. Williams
Council Member Ruben Wills

A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

Christine C. Quinn
Opening Announcement of Ceremonials
Speaker
New York City Council

Sara M. Gonzalez
Introducing Proclamation for
Fanya Gottesfeld Heller

Committee Clerk reads
Proclamation in honor of Fanya Gottesfeld Heller

Mrs. Fayna Gottesfeld Heller

Mrs. Heller's Granddaughter Natasha

Rabbi Lamb

Charles Barron
Introducing Proclamation for
Dr. Olivia J. Hooker

Committee Clerk reads
Proclamation in honor of Dr. Olivia J. Hooker

Dr. Olivia J. Hooker

James S. Oddo
Introducing Proclamation for
Fred Capetta, Ken LaBarbera and James Manti

Committee Clerk reads
Proclamation in honor of fire fighters

Two male speakers from the Fire Department

Christine C. Quinn thanks:
Dress for Success
Bottomless Closet
Women's Caucus
Danielle Castaldi Micca, DCM

Jessica S. Lappin
Introducing Proclamation for
Women's History Month clothing drive
New York City Council Member

Jessica S. Lappin acknowledges and thanks:
Suzanne Elliott
Kendall Farrell
Christina Botego
Lisa Kaplan

Kendall Farrell
Executive Director
Bottomless Closet

Suzanne Elliott
Dress for Success

Rosie Mendez
Speaking on clothing drive
New York City Council Member

Julissa Ferreras
Speaking on Clothing drive
New York City Council Member

Kendra Horn Manigault
Pastor
Cities of Refuge Alliance Worldwide
Greater Fellowship Ministries

Ruben Wills
Motion to spread the invocation in full upon the
Record
New York City Council Member

Diana Reyna
Motion to adopt minutes from 2-16-11 and 3-2-11
New York City Council Member

A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

Christine C. Quinn asks for a moment of silence for:
Police Officer Alain Schaberger
Lucy Cecere
People of Japan
People killed in recent bus accident
100th Anniversary of Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire
Elizabeth Taylor

Christine C. Quinn
Communication from the Speaker
Thanks:
Council Staff
Ed O'Malley for work on Council Budget
Joel Rivera for work on appointment
Chuck Davis for work on appointment
G. Oliver Koppell for Intro 417
Kris Sartori for work on Intro 417
Jeff Haberman for work on Intro 417
Lyle Franks for work on appointments
Danielle Barbato for work on appointments
Speaking in favor of Intro 446-A

Mark S. Weprin
Speaking in favor of Intro 446-A
New York City Council Member

Peter F. Vallone, Jr.
Speaking in opposition to Intro 446-A
New York City Council Member

Charles Barron
Speaking in opposition to Intro 446-A
New York City Council Member

James F. Gennaro
Speaking in favor of Intro 446-A
New York City Council Member

Daniel Dromm
Speaking in favor of Intro 446-A
New York City Council Member

A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

James S. Oddo
Speaking in favor of Intro 446-A
New York City Council Minority Leader

Eric A. Ulrich
Speaking in favor of Intro 446-A
New York City Council Member

Robert Jackson
Speaking on Resolution 690-A
New York City Council Member

Ydanis Rodriguez
Speaking on Resolution 548-A
New York City Council Member

Mathieu Eugene
Speaking on Resolution 648-A
New York City Council Member

Vincent M. Ignizio
Speaking on Resolution 708
New York City Council Member

Karen Koslowitz
Thanking Simcha Kazioff for his service as her intern
New York City Council Member

Robert Jackson
Inviting everyone to attend rally on March 27, 2011
Concerning State budget issues and rent control laws
New York City Council Member

Jumaane D. Williams
Clarifying an earlier statement
New York City Council Member

Ydanis Rodriguez
Speaking on extension of rent regulation
Speaking on Intro 519, flashing yellow lights for
bicycle paths
New York City Council Member

A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

Vincent J. Gentile

Speaking on invitation to Annual Library Day
New York City Council Member

Brad S. Lander

Inviting anyone to join rally on March 27, 2011
Concerning State budget issues and rent control laws
Thanking Speaker Quinn and reminding everyone about
100th Anniversary of the Triangle Shirtwaist Fire and
celebrations surrounding it
New York City Council Member

Melissa Mark-Viverito

Inviting anyone to join rally on March 27, 2011
concerning State budget, rent controls and other
issues of discrimination
New York City Council Member

Letitia James

Speaking in favor of progressive income tax
Speaking out against vendors who objectify young girls
New York City Council Member

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: All right. We're
3 going to get this ceremonial started. We have
4 kind of four ceremonials, so to speak, of today.
5 The first one, shh.

6 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet please.

7 SPEAKER QUINN: The first
8 ceremonial is going to be in recognition of Mrs.
9 Heller and led by Council Member Sara Gonzalez,
10 but shh. This is a very, very important
11 ceremonial recognizing someone who has given so
12 much to this City and this world. Someone who is
13 a Holocaust Survivor and continued her fights and
14 struggles for and on behalf of improving this City
15 and the entire world. And we are so honored to
16 have you with us today. We want to thank Sara and
17 all the other members from Brooklyn who have made
18 sure you are with us today. So let me hand the
19 mic first over to Sara and then any other members
20 and then we will hear the Clerk read the
21 Proclamation. And then we will hear from Mrs.
22 Heller and the Rabbi and whomever else. And again
23 I want to thank Sara and the Brooklyn members and
24 the Jewish Caucus for organizing this Proclamation
25 so we have the opportunity to recognize you and

1

2 honor you and thank you for being just the most
3 significant of inspirations to all of us.

4

MRS. FANYA GOTTESFELD HELLER:

5

Until 120.

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SPEAKER QUINN: That's right.

7

That's right.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Thank you

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Speaker. I just want to say..

10

MRS. HELLER: [Interposing] That's

11

when I'm going to start retiring.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Oh. Well

13

I just want to say congratulations to this, to

14

this body because we have such an honor today. We

15

have several people who are going to be honored.

16

But my person is Fanya Gottesfeld Heller and I met

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her probably at 2:00 in the morning on TV. There

18

was a film going on. And all of a sudden I said

19

this woman is actually caring about other people.

20

She goes to schools, works with children, mentors

21

them.

22

This woman actually survived the

23

Holocaust and is here to talk about it. And we

24

cannot forget. And so that's the reason that I

25

said I need to celebrate this woman. We need to

1
2 do something. And I reached out to Mike Nelson,
3 our Jewish Caucus, our Speaker Christine Quinn,
4 and everyone jumped in there. And I just want to
5 say it isn't as much about a Jew as it is about a
6 human being. And I'm a human being so therefore,
7 human life is very important. And we need to stay
8 together. Thank you.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Sara you
10 said it. Thank you.

11 SPEAKER QUINN: If we could ask the
12 Clerk--do any other members want to say anything
13 from Brooklyn? Okay. If we could get ask the
14 Clerk to please read the Proclamation and then we
15 will have the honor of hearing from Mrs. Heller
16 and the Rabbi and anybody else.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council, City of
18 New York Proclamation:

19 The Council of the City of New York
20 is proud to honor Fanya Gottesfeld Heller for
21 inspiring the world with her extraordinary life
22 story, and

23 WHEREAS Fanya Gottesfeld Heller was
24 born in 1924 into a traditional Jewish family in
25 the small Ukrainian village of Skala, a decade

1
2 later Fanya was beset by hunger, marked for death,
3 and faced with the constant threat of execution.
4 Despite the incomprehensible conditions, Fanya
5 miraculously survived to live a full life and
6 share her message of hope, and

7 WHEREAS Fanya has dedicated her
8 life to helping others understand the profound
9 power of goodness, even when faced with the worst
10 of challenges. In her book, Love in a World of
11 Sorrow, a Teenage Girl's Holocaust Memoirs, she
12 has documented her family's wartime existence and
13 her complex relationship with her rescuers, and

14 WHEREAS by sharing her story of
15 Holocaust survival in both her book and as a
16 renowned public speaker and respected educator,
17 Fanya has reaffirmed the power of each individual
18 and inspired us all to make the right choices
19 instead of remaining bystanders in the face of
20 evil. And

21 WHEREAS Fanya serves on the boards
22 of numerous institutions and charitable
23 organizations, many of which focus on Jewish
24 education and the empowerment of women,

25 NOW THEREFORE be it known that the

1
2 Council of the City of New York including Council
3 Member Sara M. Gonzalez and all the members of
4 the Council's Jewish Caucus gratefully honor Fanya
5 Gottesfeld Heller for enriching the world with her
6 extraordinary story of Holocaust survival.

7 Christine C. Quinn, Speaker for the
8 entire Council

9 Sara M. Gonzalez, Council Member,
10 38th District

11 Daniel R. Garodnick, Council
12 Member, 4th District

13 And many other Council Members

14 [Applause]

15 SPEAKER QUINN: Mrs. Heller, I just
16 wanted to, before I give you the mic, say I was
17 struck in listening to that Proclamation that you
18 would have every right, after surviving the
19 Holocaust, to never speak of it, to never write of
20 it, to tuck it away in a place where it might not
21 have hurt you and brought up bad memories again.
22 And that is quite the opposite of what you did.

23 You brought it out, having, I'm
24 sure; in ways I cannot even imagine, to have to
25 relive it at times. And you did all of that for

1
2 your fellow human beings. You did all of that
3 'cause in the face of the worst atrocity in
4 history, you believed more in good than in evil.
5 And I just want to thank you 'cause that is such
6 an unbelievable power of example to all of us
7 about how we should live our lives. And I just
8 really want to thank you so very much.

9 MRS. HELLER: I discovered as a
10 young kid there are two sides of the human psyche,
11 the good and the evil. And that when evil is
12 around us, it's only because it's unchecked. I
13 also found out that I wanted to love people. I
14 want to teach love and tolerance. When I go to
15 schools I tell them, they--right away they know
16 that I know sexual abuse, I know hunger, I know
17 discrimination, persecution. I heard all my life
18 that I committed theocide. I killed Jesus. I
19 heard all my life that we need lot to make Matzo
20 [phonetic].

21 There was no dialog between us and
22 the other people from the 1,500 Jews only 45
23 survived from my little village. And my father
24 was an intellectual. He told me knowledge is
25 important. You have to care for each other from

1
2 the cradle through the grave. I tell people that
3 we have to love each other. We have to be our
4 brother's keeper, no matter who we are, whether we
5 are Jews or Christians or Muslims.

6 There has to be tolerance. And
7 when we live together, no matter how we are, we
8 have to be tolerant of each other, otherwise we
9 are losing--I am afraid because we are now--in the
10 last station of our life, if you will, who will
11 speak about it after we are gone? This is why it
12 behooves upon me to speak to young children, to
13 teach us; I said teach our children because you
14 are going to need a way.

15 We're not going to be here anymore
16 although our mantra is never again. Who listens
17 to us? We have, last year in a seminar, I had a
18 kid from Rwanda who watched how her mother and her
19 father were killed. She's now in Cordoba in law
20 school. Right. I did it too. I came from ashes
21 and destruction. I was an immigrant. She went to
22 hundred schools in Europe. She had a long, long
23 journey.

24 And who would believe it that I
25 wind up here. This country was good to me. I

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worked and I got myself a lot of education and my children. We're good citizens. All we have to hope we can talk to young people to go out. I have a lot of those kids now. This one, now, is going to be a detective.

SPEAKER QUINN: She is, the little one?

MRS. HELLER: Yeah. This kid, she's in the movies she says she no one. She's an immigrant. She's going to be a detective.

SPEAKER QUINN: Okay.

MRS. HELLER: This kid won a scholarship. This was homeless now she's married to a very nice man and this--

[Laughter, crosstalk]

MRS. HELLER: This one is here. And these are all--I said when I come into a school with 150 kids I said if I help 1 of you I did my job.

[Applause]

MRS. HELLER: And I'm very passionate about it.

[Applause]

MRS. HELLER: Yeah. Who would have

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2 believed that this little kid will make it here?
3 I lived in--listen to this, I lived in Budapest.
4 I lived in Vienna. I lived in Munich. She was
5 born in Munich. And right after the war my
6 daughter born, not even in a hospital in a bath
7 near the hospital. And you know what; I was so
8 scared because I remember what Germans did to
9 babies. The same night, I took the baby and ran
10 away from the hospital, okay.

11 Then I lived in Berlin. My son was
12 born in Berlin. Then I lived in Paris for a short
13 time and in Holland. I have a third kid and then
14 1960 we came here without a word of English.
15 Okay. I taught myself. I never went to school.
16 I went to Columbia University. Why start small if
17 you can start big?

18 [Laughter]

19 MRS. HELLER: Anyway. Don't forget
20 us. Please listen to us because Rwanda, Bosnia,
21 Chechnya, it's all going on. Our mantra, never
22 again, is not working. Please.

23 [Applause]

24 MRS. HELLER: And this is my
25 granddaughter, Natasha. I have--all right, I

1

2 don't want to say. I have three kids. I have
3 eight grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

4 SPEAKER QUINN: Wow. Mazel tov.

5 MRS. HELLER: Mazel tov to you too.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Thank
7 you.

8 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
9 much. We're going to bring up the next ceremonial
10 in just a moment.

11 [Applause]

12 [Pause]

13 SPEAKER QUINN: If Rabbi Lamb could
14 come up for one sec for one quick picture and then
15 we'll move very quickly Charles. Here's the
16 Rabbi, okay.

17 [Pause]

18 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you all. And
19 next we're going to call up Council Member Charles
20 Barron who has the next ceremonial. So if we
21 could clear the way we can take Mrs. Heller and
22 everyone into the lounge as Council Member Barron
23 makes his way up. And if we could get quiet
24 again, please, 'cause with this is a day, shh.

25 SERGEANT: Quiet down.

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: Where we have two
3 unbelievable women that we are honoring with us
4 today. And Charles is escorting up Dr. Olivia J.
5 Hooker and she's being honored at the United
6 Nations, has declared 2011 the International Year
7 for People of African Descent. Dr. Hooker is--
8 well this is a lie, Charles, 95 years old. Don't
9 be lying. That's a lot more lies, old and she
10 survived the 1920, shh, race riots in Tulsa,
11 Oklahoma. And this is a Council meeting
12 celebrating survivors and strong women. Let me
13 give the microphone to Council Member Barron.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you
15 very much Madam Speaker. This is indeed a day
16 that we honor a Holocaust, a Black Holocaust that
17 people don't know about in Tulsa, Oklahoma in
18 1921. They had a Black community called Black
19 Wall Street.

20 And in that community they had
21 destroyed, through race riots, destroyed 21
22 churches, 21 grocery stores, 30 restaurants, this
23 is a community that had a bank, a Black bank,
24 Black hospitals. This is a community that had 6
25 private planes, airplanes. This is a community

1
2 that was thriving. One of the most thriving
3 communities in America and they called it Black
4 Wall Street.

5 Under false pretenses, they said
6 that some Black man violated a White woman, which
7 was a lie. It turned into a riot when Black men
8 wanted to protect the Black man that was falsely
9 accused. They sent airplanes in their own country
10 to shoot and bomb a city. And then the Whites
11 refused to let the Fire Department come in and put
12 out the fires.

13 Ms. Hooker, Dr. Hooker, was 6 years
14 old when all of this happened. And to this day,
15 the only thing that was given to her was a little
16 medal, it wasn't even gold, but no restitution, no
17 reparations and this is a city that was fiercely,
18 seriously damaged by racism. So we are just
19 honored that here she is standing strong today, 96
20 years young.

21 [Applause]

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: And we'd
23 like...

24 [Applause]

25 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: And we're

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going to ask the Clerk to read the Proclamation.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council, City of
New York Proclamation:

WHEREAS, we the undersigned Council
Members join the United Nations General Assembly
in recognizing 2011 as the International Year for
People of African Descent, and are also proud to
celebrate Women's History Month by honoring Dr.
Olivia J. Hooker for her history-making
contributions, and

WHEREAS on May 31st, 1921 Dr. Hooker
was a 6-year old girl living in Tulsa, Oklahoma
when a machine gun with an American flag sprayed
bullets on her home as the worst race riot in
United States history erupted. The official death
toll surpassed the totals of the 1965 Watts riot,
the 1967 Detroit riot, the 1967 Washington riot,
and the 1992 L. A. riot combined. And

WHEREAS at the time of the riots,
Dr. Hooker and her family lived in the Greenwood
area of Tulsa, a commercial district so prosperous
it was commonly known as Black Wall Street. The
riots had severely damaged their home but her
father's clothing store was devastated. And

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2 WHEREAS undeterred Dr. Hooker went
3 on to graduate from Ohio State University. After
4 teaching third grade for seven years she became
5 the first African American woman to enlist in the
6 US Coast Guard. She later earned an MA from
7 Columbia University Teacher's College and a PhD
8 from the University of Rochester where she was one
9 of two Black female students. And

10 WHEREAS Dr. Hooker also spent
11 decades fighting for compensation for the victims,
12 in 2007 she joined many historians, academics,
13 community leaders and elected officials and
14 testified at the US House Subcommittee on
15 Constitutional Rights to call for reparations.
16 The quest continues today.

17 NOW THEREFORE, be it known that we
18 the undersigned Council Members most gratefully
19 honor Dr. Olivia J. Hooker for her extraordinary
20 services and contributions.

21 Charles Barron, Council Member, 42nd
22 District

23 Leroy Comrie, Deputy Majority
24 Leader

25 Margaret S. Chin, Council Member,

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2 1st District

3

And many other Council Members.

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COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you

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very much.

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[Applause]

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COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: And we'd

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like to hear a few words from Dr. Hooker. And I

9

tell you one of the things I wanted to find out is

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how come she has more hair than me.

11

[Laughter]

12

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: And looks

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healthy and her teeth are shinier. So I'm trying

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to find out her secrets.

15

DR. OLIVIA J. HOOKER: Thank you so

16

much. It is a real pleasure to be here and to see

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all the lawmakers and the people who are seeking

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good for the country coming together. And it is

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profound, profoundly grateful for this. There is

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probably nothing new I can tell you except that

21

I'm so proud to be here with people who care and

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who understand the means of making things happen.

23

That's through legislation and laws and sticking

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to principles.

25

I'm delighted to see all these

1
2 directors of education here because that's where
3 we have to start is with the young children. And
4 I taught at Fordham for 22 years and it was a real
5 pleasure but they were really sheltered people and
6 when I would give them assignments to read, to
7 read about other cultures, they said, one boy
8 said, my dad stands at the door until I come home
9 with your assignment 'cause he said where does she
10 get all these books about what happened to the
11 Chinese when they built the railroads in the West
12 and this sort of thing.

13 But that's the way we make people
14 effective is by spreading the humanitarian idea
15 and planting them deep in the little children who
16 will grow up to be activists. And that won't be a
17 bad word anymore, activism. Activism will be an
18 admired word rather than--

19 [Applause]

20 DR. HOOKER: --a despised one. So
21 I want to thank Mr. Barron and all the people of
22 the Council and anyone else who might be listening
23 because this is a day that I shall remember all my
24 life.

25 [Applause]

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: Well this is quite
3 a day here. Two unbelievable women, our
4 invocation is going to given by a woman pastor,
5 our next ceremonial deals with helping women, so
6 this is a great day here at the Council and Dr.
7 Hooker I just want to thank you on kind of a
8 miserable day for coming out and educating us and
9 uplifting us and inspiring us so thank you so, so
10 much and we are deeply in your gratitude and in
11 your debt for all of your work. So thank you Dr.
12 Hooker.

13 [Applause]

14 [Pause]

15 SPEAKER QUINN: If we can make way
16 for the next ceremonial which is Minority Leader
17 Oddo.

18 [Pause]

19 SPEAKER QUINN: All right. Thank
20 you. And if we want to do more pictures, we can
21 certainly do them in the lounge. And next let's
22 call up Minority Leader Oddo.

23 [Pause]

24 SPEAKER QUINN: And if we, if we
25 can finish pictures in the lounge, just 'cause we

1
2 have two more ceremonials. So one more picture,
3 Bill, and then we need to--great, you got it?
4 Okay, great. Thank you. You can keep doing them
5 in the lounge if you want, okay.

6 [Pause]

7 SPEAKER QUINN: Okay Minority
8 Leader Oddo. And we want the folks who are here
9 for this one to make their way up.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Thank you.
11 Thank you. In sort of keeping with the theme of
12 each of us looking out for the other, I--

13 SPEAKER QUINN: [Interposing] Can
14 we, shh.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: I think we
16 have a story that this City Council will like
17 particularly given the fact that there is no
18 bigger booster for our emergency workers than this
19 City Council and there's no bigger booster for our
20 EMTs, our fire fighters, our fire officers. And
21 also given the history of this Council in terms of
22 its work when Chris Quinn was the Chair of the
23 Health Committee.

24 The history of this Council and
25 being at the forefront of bringing AEDs into

1
2 public locations. Here's the story. It's pretty
3 simple. A bunch of guys are at a gym working out.
4 Three happen to be a retired lieutenant in the
5 Fire Department, a current fire fighter, and a
6 current EMT on the job for a year. And there's
7 another guy in the gym. And he's on the stair
8 climber and he takes a header. And these
9 professionals to my right, our best, step and
10 realize this is a man in crisis. And they
11 immediately go to work on him. They immediate do
12 CPR. They immediately apply an AED to him and
13 they saved his life.

14 [Applause]

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Pretty
16 simple. Pretty simple story. But pretty
17 impressive. And we are here, Debbie Rose, Vinnie
18 Ignizio from Staten Island, very proud of the fact
19 of our fellow Staten Islanders stepping up, the
20 Chair of our Fire Committee, Liz Crowley who
21 fights for the Fire Department on a daily basis,
22 our Speaker and all of our colleagues just want to
23 say to you guys it's what we expect from you.
24 That's how highly we think of you. We thank you
25 for literally saving a life. And we thank you for

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2 being up here on a day where really the theme has
3 become, you know, we all have to look out for each
4 other. So thank you and God bless.

5 [Applause]

6 SPEAKER QUINN: If the Clerk could
7 please read the Proclamation.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council, City of
9 New York Proclamation:

10 WHEREAS the Council of the City of
11 New York is proud to honor Fire Fighter Fred
12 Capetta [phonetic], Fire Fighter Ken LaBarbera
13 [phonetic] and James Manti [phonetic], and

14 WHEREAS hailing from a family of
15 police officers that included his grandfather,
16 father, brother--

17 SPEAKER QUINN: [Interposing] Can
18 we get quiet?

19 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet down
20 please.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: --brother and
22 sister, Fred Capetta continued the family
23 tradition of civil service by joining the FDNY
24 where he spent his first ten years at Engine 10 in
25 Lower Manhattan before transferring to Brooklyn's

1
2 Engine 148. After being promoted to Lieutenant,
3 Mr. Capetta took a spot at Engine 249 on Coney
4 Island where he participated in the search and
5 rescue on September 11th, 2001. Presently employed
6 as an emergency room nurse, Mr. Capetta and his
7 wife Kathleen reside in Travis and have two
8 children, a daughter Nola and a son Fred, who
9 hopes to be a fire fighter himself. And

10 WHEREAS after previously working as
11 a day trader, South Shore resident Ken LaBarbera
12 followed the path of his cousins and father into
13 the FDNY. Personally affected by losing his
14 cousin on 9/11 and seeing other friends and loved
15 ones affected, Mr. LaBarbera loves the ability to
16 give back to the community he loves, the way those
17 men once did. The constant challenges and strong
18 camaraderie help fuel his desire and love for
19 work. He also enjoys spending time off with his
20 daughter Jaden. And

21 WHEREAS James Manti, an HRH
22 resident and St. Joseph by the Sea graduate,
23 became an EMT with the FDNY in September 2009.
24 The desire to help people runs strong with Mr.
25 Manti, a byproduct of the time his father, Alfred,

1
2 spent as a fire fighter at Ladder 104 in
3 Williamsbridge. His brother Philip would also
4 become an FDNY EMT in September 2010. And

5 WHEREAS these three men showed
6 their commitment to their jobs and community when
7 on December 2nd, 2010, William Lefergo [phonetic]
8 suffered a heart attack while exercising at a
9 local gym. And

10 WHEREAS using their life-saving
11 expertise, all three men helped restart Mr.
12 Lefergo's heart with an AED and performed CPR
13 until emergency medical services could arrive,
14 saving Mr. Lefergo's life.

15 NOW THEREFORE Be it know that the
16 Council of the City of New York most gratefully
17 honors Fred Capetta, Ken LaBarbera, James Manti
18 for their heroism.

19 Christine C. Quinn, Speaker for the
20 entire Council

21 James S. Oddo, Minority Leader, 50th
22 District, Staten Island

23 Elizabeth Crowley, Council Member,
24 30th District, Queens

25 Deborah Rose, Council Member, 49th

1

2 District, Staten Island

3

Vincent M. Ignizio, Council Member,

4

51st District, Staten Island

5

[Applause]

6

SPEAKER QUINN: Well first let me

7

thank Jimmy Oddo and Liz Crowley and the entire

8

Staten Island delegation for bringing these men to

9

us today. You know, Jimmy said today's theme is

10

in part about watching out for each other. I

11

think today's theme is also a little bit about

12

survivors. We saw two women who are unbelievable

13

survivors.

14

And we see a group of men in front

15

of us now who make sure people are survivors that

16

make sure that moment that you think is your last

17

is in fact not your last at all. And that is

18

something you do 24/7, whether you're at work,

19

whether you're at the gym, it is a calling and

20

something that is a part of your guys' DNA so I am

21

just so grateful that there are people like you in

22

the City of New York and people like you who when

23

you could make a lot more money day trading or

24

whatever else, you've heard the call and you've

25

responded. So thank you guys very, very much.

1

2 And...

3 [Applause]

4 SPEAKER QUINN: Sure.

5 [Pause]

6 MR. JAMES MANTI?: I'm a member of
7 the Mobile Fire Department CPR Unit and what we do
8 is we go out to all five Boroughs and we teach the
9 basic skills of CPR. You learn adult CPR, child
10 CPR, choking, the Heimlich Maneuver, and also the
11 AED, the defibrillator. It's about an hour. It's
12 non-certifying. If you're interested in it, go to
13 311, and make an appointment with us and schedule
14 one with us. It's simple to do. All you do is
15 see if they're conscious, responsive, point to
16 someone, tell them to call 911, and then you're
17 just going to do chest compressions, no more mouth
18 to mouth. That's all it is. It's that simple.
19 And it can save a life.

20 SPEAKER QUINN: We've never had a
21 Fire Fighter here who wants to talk. And then
22 when we force you to talk, all you ever say is I
23 was just doing my job. Like saving people's lives
24 and running into burning buildings is just a job.
25 So I knew you wouldn't say anything this time

1

2 either so we will say thank you all. So very
3 much. Oh, God, we have someone who will say a
4 sentence. Yea.

5

ONE OF THE HONORED FIRE FIGHTERS:

6 I'm basically just I'm thankful for being at the
7 right time at the right place and being fortunate
8 enough to help somebody out and save his life.
9 Right around the holidays, December 2nd, that was a
10 big gift given to his family, to spend more time
11 around, you know, the holiday time. So I'm just
12 happy we were able to all three of us work
13 together. Everything went very smooth. It's a
14 great feeling to know that this gentleman's doing
15 great. Thanks again, Council Member Oddo, thanks
16 for having us.

17

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank all of you

18

guys, thank you very much.

19

[Pause]

20

SPEAKER QUINN: Okay everybody

21

bunch up real quick for a Department photo. Guys,

22

quick, a Department photo. Any Council Members

23

want to get in the picture with the Department

24

photographer, hurry up.

25

[Pause]

1
2 SPEAKER QUINN: For the record, the
3 Department photographer is a constituent. So I
4 had to make sure I had to go back there. So we're
5 going to have one more ceremonial of sorts. It's
6 going to take a moment to move in the materials
7 related to this ceremonial so give us a moment.
8 Okay.

9 [Pause]

10 SPEAKER QUINN: All right Fire
11 Department clear out of the way, we've got stuff
12 coming in.

13 [Pause]

14 SPEAKER QUINN: So as we wheel
15 these racks in, the Women's Caucus and if I could
16 as the women from the Women's Caucus to come up,
17 have organized for Women's History Month, a
18 clothes drive. And we want to thank everyone who
19 has participated in it. Shh. And all of the
20 clothes you see here are being donated to Dress
21 for Success and Bottomless Closet and they are two
22 organizations that provide job training, resume
23 writing, and clothes for women to go on job
24 interviews. And then clothes for women, once they
25 get jobs. And then continuing counseling and work

1

2 with women who've been unemployed so when they get
3 jobs, shh.

4

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet please.

5

6 SPEAKER QUINN: The challenges that
7 they face in the workforce, they are able to
8 overcome, and they don't go back to unemployment.
9 And I just want to say I've been lucky enough to
10 donate clothes to both of these organizations and
11 to go to their offices. And when you go to their
12 offices, they're set up like department stores.
13 Clothes are broken down by size. There's a case
14 with accessories in it. There's a shoe section.
15 All of that is incredibly important because they
16 are treating the women who come in--and young
17 women who come in with dignity, with respect. I
18 know that's Jessica Lappin's pocket book. With
19 dignity, with respect, and elevating them as they
20 move forward into the tough task of getting a job
21 in this economy.

21

22

23

24

25

So I want to thank everyone at
Bottomless Closet and Dress for Success in being
such great providers of service to women in our
City, to doing it with such dignity and such love.
I want to thank the women's Caucus for organizing

1
2 this drive. I want to remind everybody here that
3 all clothes are tax deductible too, so that's a
4 good thing to tell your constituents. And I want
5 to thank Danielle Castaldi Micca, if we can give
6 her a round of applause for DCM for organizing
7 today's drive. And let me turn the mic over to
8 the Chair of the Women's Caucus.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Well thank
10 you very much. This is Women's History Month.
11 And there are a lot of women who have fought in
12 the public eye to help our sisters and our mothers
13 and our daughters. There are a lot of women who
14 have fought privately. And we wanted to do
15 something for Women's History Month that honored
16 them all and their spirit.

17 So this was the idea that the
18 Women's Caucus came up with together. These
19 organizations do a fabulous job all the time but
20 unfortunately with the economy we're facing, your
21 work is more important than ever. We know that
22 since December of 2007, women have lost 3 out of
23 every 10 jobs but only filled 1 in every 10 of the
24 new jobs that were created.

25 And while according to the Center

1
2 for American Progress, since June of 2009,
3 employers have hired 503,000 men, jobs held by
4 women have declined by 141,000. So we know these
5 are very, very tough times for women trying to
6 enter the workforce. And what you're doing is
7 real fabulous. I wanted to thank Suzanne Elliott
8 and I wanted to thank Kendall Farrell for your
9 work.

10 [Applause]

11 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: And you
12 really, if you didn't get stuff to us by today
13 that's okay. We have one more week. So make sure
14 that you talk to either DCM over there or
15 Christina Botego [phonetic] in my office or Lisa
16 Kaplan in Rosie's office and not just clothes, as
17 the Speaker noticed, we're doing pocketbooks,
18 shoes, jewelry, accessories, very tasteful ladies,
19 very tasteful. And men too? The wives, you can
20 ask your wives--

21 SPEAKER QUINN: [Interposing] Jimmy
22 Oddo has a box of stuff from his girlfriend Kim
23 that will be added--

24 [Cheering, applause]

25 SPEAKER QUINN: --so, daughters,

1
2 girlfriends, partners, wives, your next door
3 neighbor, your mother, your grandmother.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN:

5 [Interposing] So thank you everybody for making
6 this a success. It's really nice to do something
7 like this in honor of women and Women's History.
8 And should we turn it over to the women from these
9 organizations Madam Speaker?

10 MS. KENDALL FARRELL: So thank you
11 so much. On behalf of Bottomless Closet, I just
12 want to thank the City Council and the Women's
13 Caucus for all of the work that they do, drawing
14 attention to unemployment and how much women in
15 New York City are struggling to find employment
16 and reach self-sufficiency for themselves and
17 their family. Every year we have thousands of
18 women come through our doors that are just looking
19 for some assistance to get back into the
20 workforce. So we thank you so much for your
21 support.

22 [Applause]

23 MS. SUZANNE ELLIOTT: Thank you.
24 And I'd just like to echo that. Thanks. Special
25 thanks to Speaker Quinn, to Council Members Rosie

1
2 Mendez, Jessica Lappin, Julissa Ferreras, for
3 spearheading the initiative.

4 SPEAKER QUINN: Yeah Rosie--

5 [Applause]

6 MS. ELLIOTT: Dress for Success was
7 founded here in New York City in 1997. We now
8 have 114 offices around the world. We're helping
9 women achieve economic independence. And these
10 suits that you have all so generously donated are
11 going to help women have the confidence, feel
12 empowered when they go on job interviews, and then
13 we'll be there for them to help throughout their
14 job search and afterwards so that they can stay
15 employed, build their careers, become self-
16 sufficient. Thank you so much.

17 [Applause]

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Okay. Inez
19 was saying she had so much stuff that she can't
20 bring it in but you actually have a pick up. Can
21 you say a little bit about that and while the
22 Speaker and I advocate for emptying out closets,
23 today we do it with clothes. So. And thank you
24 all my sisters for making this and this was in the
25 planning for a while so thank you all.

1
2 MS. ELLIOTT: Sure. Dress for
3 Success has a pick up service; it's called Suits
4 to Go on our website, DressForSuccess.org. We're
5 happy to come pick up your suits.

6 SPEAKER QUINN: And Bottomless
7 Closet has the same pick up. And I'll tell you a
8 funny story. I had a box of stuff at the office
9 once and they came and actually picked it up from
10 me at 250 Broadway. I brought it down here and I
11 was walking it out and I had the bag in the box.
12 And a member of my staff who will remain nameless
13 saw a suit on top and said oh thank god I've hated
14 that suit for a long time. So they absolutely,
15 Bottomless Closet, has a pick up service as well.
16 Julissa?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Again I
18 just wanted to reiterate what my colleagues have
19 mentioned but what's really important is that you
20 all have an opportunity to still give. We have a
21 week. And in our District, I'm accepting in the
22 District Office but also here in 250, we can
23 coordinate.

24 And it really does go a long way.
25 And you should visit these sites and you should

1
2 visit these programs because they make such a
3 difference for women. And there's nothing better
4 for than a woman to go prepared for her interview,
5 with her resume, and all the skills needed, but to
6 feel good and look good, there's nothing that can
7 replace that. Thank you.

8 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you all.
9 Thank you guys so much for your work. And that
10 concludes today's ceremonials. And we will wheel
11 the racks out.

12 [Pause]

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ladies and
14 gentlemen may I have your attention please? May I
15 will everybody please set your cell phones to
16 vibrate? Once again, please set your cell phones
17 to vibration. Thank you.

18 [Pause]

19 [Gavel banging]

20 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: My
21 colleagues please rise for the Pledge of
22 Allegiance.

23 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet please.

24 ALL: I pledge allegiance to the
25 flag of the United States of America and to the

1
2 republic for which it stands, one nation under
3 god, indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

4 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Roll call.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Arroyo.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Here.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cabrera.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Chin.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Comrie.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Here.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Crowley.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Dickens.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Here.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Dilan.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Here.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Dromm.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Eugene.

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COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ferreras.

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Fidler.

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: [No audible
response]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Foster.

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Garodnick.

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gennaro.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: [No
audible response]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gentile.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gonzalez.

COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Greenfield.

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: [No
audible response]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Halloran.

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ignizio.

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: [No

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audible response]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Jackson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: James.

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Here,

COMMITTEE CLERK: Koo.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Koppell.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Koslowitz.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: [No

audible response]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Lander.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Lappin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: [No audible

response]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Levin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:

Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Mealy.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Here.

1

COMMITTEE CLERK: Mendez.

2

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.

4

COMMITTEE CLERK: Fidler.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Here.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Nelson.

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COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Here.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Palma.

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COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Here.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Recchia.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: [No

12

audible response]

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Reyna.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Here.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Rodriguez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Rose.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.

19

COMMITTEE CLERK: Sanders.

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COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Present.

21

COMMITTEE CLERK: Seabrook.

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COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Here.

23

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ulrich.

24

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Here.

25

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vacca.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Vallone.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Van Bramer.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Vann.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Here.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Weprin. Weprin.

10

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Here.

11

COMMITTEE CLERK: Williams.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.

13

COMMITTEE CLERK: Wills.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: [No audible

15

response]

16

COMMITTEE CLERK: Oddo.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Here.

18

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rivera.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Here.

20

COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

21

SPEAKER QUINN: Present.

22

COMMITTEE CLERK: We have a quorum.

23

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you

24

very much. My colleagues please rise for the

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invocation being delivered today by Pastor Kendra

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Horn Manigault.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet please.

PASTOR KENDRA HORN MANIGAULT: Good afternoon. I acknowledge the entire body of Council Members, ladies and gentlemen, let's pray.

Most gracious father, we seek blessings on the tasks before the Council. Bless their efforts with clear insight, their deliberations with wisdom, their work with clarity and accuracy, and decisions with impartiality. In commemoration of Women's History Month we acknowledge these 18 women on the Council which includes Speaker Quinn, the first female Speaker, and Council Member Inez Dickens, as the first African American woman in leadership on the Council.

We honor them amongst women who are paving the way, who are demanding change and have made changes, those who have broke through barriers with oppositions, but they never gave up. We're so grateful they didn't until women were seen in high places, needed places, and secure places. Let's pray for New York's finest, women who are in boldness, in braveness, those on the

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front line.

And finally I pray for every woman in the Greater New York City Area who will be healed from past and current abuses, failures, disappointments, depression, barrenness, grievance, separation, divorces, emptiness, loneliness, that they will find security and refuge in prayer, in meditations. Peace be unto you. Amen.

ALL: Amen.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you very much. Council Member Wills?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Motion to spread the invocation in full upon the record.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So ordered.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Adoption of the minutes, Council Member Reyna?

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Motion that the minutes of the Stated Meetings of February 16th, 2011 and March 2nd, 2011 be adopted as printed.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So ordered. Messages and papers from the Mayor--

1
2 SPEAKER QUINN: [Interposing]

3 Before we do messages and papers, if I could
4 please ask my colleagues to stand again.

5 Unfortunately I have quite a few remembrances to

6 read today. On March 13th, 2011, NYPD Officer

7 Alain Schaberger, 42, of Courtland Manor was

8 pushed to his death while responding to one of

9 about 700 domestic disputes which the NYPD

10 responds to every day. Officer Schaberger was

11 assigned to the 84th Precinct in Brooklyn where his

12 commanding officer said "Allan cared about the

13 community. He cared about his fellow officers and

14 he cared about his country."

15 Born in Viet Nam to a US Army

16 veteran, Officer Schaberger came to the United

17 States at the age of 5 with his parents. He

18 joined the Navy in 1991 and entered the Police

19 Academy in July 2001. Still in the Academy during

20 9/11, he was sent to Ground Zero checkpoint where

21 he spent countless days comforting grieving

22 families.

23 Police Officer Schaberger was, as

24 his commanding officer called him, a true cop's

25 cop. Police Officer Schaberger was buried this

1
2 past Friday at Long Island National Cemetery in
3 Farmingdale. I want to thank Council Member Levin
4 for joining me at the funeral. He is survived by
5 his parents, Paul and May, his fiancé Shoshone,
6 and her two children and countless fellow
7 officers, friends and citizens of New York City.

8 This morning I attended and spoke
9 at the funeral mass for Lucy Cecere who passed
10 away on March 19th. For four decades and many of
11 you know her from being down here so much, with
12 all of us, Lucy was a tireless advocate who
13 dedicated her life to advocating for and assisting
14 her neighbors in Greenwich Village in Lower
15 Manhattan. In 1973 Lucy co-founded the Caring
16 Community, a social services organization
17 committed to serving the frail and elderly in a
18 manner that fostered independence, dignity and
19 respect.

20 A fixture in my community, Lucy had
21 friends from every walk of life. One could not
22 help but gravitate towards her. When the phrase
23 she will be sorely missed is used next to Lucy's
24 name, it is no cliché. All of Lower Manhattan
25 will surely miss Lucy's devotion, friendship and

1
2 dedication. Lucy Cecere is survived by her
3 husband, Lenny, her children Francine and Lenny,
4 Jr., her granddaughter Claire, her sisters Betty
5 and Flora, her four nieces and countless friends
6 and admirers.

7 We also here want to send our
8 heartfelt condolences and thoughts and prayers to
9 the people of Japan who are going through so much
10 suffering and anguish in the wake of the
11 earthquake and tsunami. We also want to send our
12 thoughts, prayers and condolences to the 15
13 victims and their families killed in the horrific
14 bus crash last week in the Bronx. Our thoughts
15 and prayers are with all who were affected by both
16 tragedies.

17 Lastly I just want to note that
18 this Friday, March 25th, marks the 100th anniversary
19 of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire which
20 killed 146 people. 129 were women with many being
21 teenagers working 6 to 7 days a week for miniscule
22 wages and in oppressive conditions who in many
23 cases were forced to jump to their death from the
24 ninth floor factory as fire ladders only reached
25 to the sixth floor and one of the two exit doors

1
2 was always kept locked by the owners. The
3 Triangle fire led to many of the sweeping child
4 labor laws, minimum wage, length of work week, and
5 fire safety regulations which were adopted here in
6 New York and eventually throughout the country in
7 subsequent years.

8 I also want to make note that
9 someone who was one of the earliest fighters in
10 the AIDS crisis, one of the first celebrities to
11 speak out against AIDS, one of the founders of
12 amFAR Group that is leading the way towards
13 treatments and eventually a cure for HIV and AIDS,
14 Elizabeth Taylor passed away today.

15 [Moment of silence]

16 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you Mr.
17 Majority Leader.

18 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
19 Madam Speaker. We'll move forward on Messages and
20 Papers from the Mayor.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered M
22 411, submitting Charles McFaul for appointment to
23 the Civil Service Commission.

24 SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, Privileges
25 and Elections.

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA:

Communications from City, County and Borough
Offices.

COMMITTEE CLERK: M 412, Third
Party Transfer Program.

SPEAKER QUINN: Housing and
Buildings.

COMMITTEE CLERK: M 413 through 432
on page 4, Base station Licenses.

SPEAKER QUINN: Transportation.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Petitions
and Communications.

COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Land use
call ups?

COMMITTEE CLERK: M 433 through M
437.

SPEAKER QUINN: If we could please
have a coupled vote on all of the Land Use call
ups, a roll call please.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So
ordered.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Arroyo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: [No audible

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response]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Cabrera.

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Chin.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Comrie.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Crowley.

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dickens.

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dilan.

COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dromm.

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Eugene.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ferreras.

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Fidler.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Aye.
3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Foster.
4 COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye.
5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Garodnick.
6 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.
7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gennaro.
8 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Yes.
9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gentile.
10 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Yes.
11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gonzalez.
12 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye.
13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Greenfield
14 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.
15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Halloran.
16 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Mr.
17 Majority Leader, ask unanimous consent to vote on
18 all Land Use Call ups and all General Order items
19 at this time.
20 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So
21 ordered.
22 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Aye on
23 all.
24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ignizio
25 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Aye.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Jackson.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye on

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all.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: James.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: [No audible

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response]

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Koo.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Mr. Majority

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Leader I ask for unanimous consent to vote on all

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Land Use Orders and General Order items.

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So

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ordered.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I vote all

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yes.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Halloran.

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COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Mr.

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Majority Leader I apologize in that in the General

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Order items, no to the Queensboro Bridge

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Introduction.

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you.

22

So ordered.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Koppell.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Aye.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Koslowitz.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.
3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lander.
4 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.
5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lappin.
6 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.
7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Levin.
8 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.
9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mark-Viverito.
10 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye.
11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mealy.
12 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye.
13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mendez.
14 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.
15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Nelson.
16 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Aye. And I
17 request unanimous consent to vote aye on all
18 General Order calendar items.
19 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So
20 ordered.
21 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Thank you.
22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Palma.
23 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.
24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Recchia.
25 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Aye.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Reyna.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Yes.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rodriguez.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Sanders.

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: [No

audible response]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Seabrook.

COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Yes, Mr.

Majority Leader, with unanimous consent, I'd like
to vote aye on all Land Use Call ups and all
General call ups.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So

ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: I vote

aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ulrich.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: I ask

permission to vote on all Land Use and General
calendar order items and I would like to vote aye

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on all.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So

ordered.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vallone.

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vann.

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: [No audible
response]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Weprin.

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Wills.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Oddo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rivera.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

SPEAKER QUINN: Aye.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Today's
Land Use call ups were adopted by a vote of 49 in

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2 the affirmative, with 0 in the negative.

3 Communication from the Speaker.

4 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you Mr.
5 Majority Leader. I first want to thank the staff
6 who, particularly Ed O'Malley who worked on the
7 Council Operating Budget for FY 2012 that we're
8 voting on today. I want to thank Majority Leader
9 Rivera and Chuck Davis for their work on the
10 appointment that we are voting on today and also
11 thank Council Member Koppell for Intro 417, a
12 renaming of a thoroughfare in the Bronx. And I
13 want to thank Kris Sartori and Jeff Haberman who
14 worked on that piece of legislation and thank Lyle
15 Franks and Danielle Barbato who worked on the
16 appointments today.

17 What I want to speak about today
18 though is Intro 446-A, a piece of legislation
19 which will co-name the Queensboro Bridge, calm
20 down Diana, co-name the Queensboro Bridge the Ed
21 Koch Queensboro Bridge. Folks think back to the
22 days when Ed Koch first became Mayor of the City
23 of New York. It was a very different city than
24 the one we have now. It wasn't a city that had a
25 health care trust fund with billions of dollars

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2 that could help protect us from an economic
3 decline or the coming out of a recession.

4 It wasn't a city that with the
5 leadership of a Mayor and a Council had pre-paid
6 billions and billions of dollars' worth of future
7 bills. It was a city that was in the midst of the
8 worst fiscal crisis that any city perhaps in the
9 history of this country had ever faced. And it
10 was a city that needed a leader who was
11 intellectually and perhaps also in personality and
12 spirit, big enough and smart enough to bring the
13 City out of the debts of bankruptcy and lift it up
14 and elevate it again.

15 We needed somebody who could be a
16 bridge out of those tough, difficult times when
17 the rest of the country had turned its back on us.
18 Someone who could be a bridge to a better day, a
19 bridge to a time of fiscal solvency, a bridge to a
20 day when New York City would be, again, the
21 greatest city in the world. That Mayor was Ed
22 Koch, a man who took on the challenge of getting
23 New York City out of bankruptcy, who took on the
24 challenge of being the bridge back to the greatest
25 that is what this City is all about.

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2 You know we pass a lot of co-
3 namings or renamings in this Council when people
4 have passed on. And we talk about the fondly, the
5 great things that they have done. We have begun
6 more recently to on occasion when someone is of
7 such significance to pass co-namings when that
8 individual is still with us. And that is a
9 tremendous moment to actually get to look a New
10 Yorker in the eye and say thank you. To say thank
11 you by adding their name to a part of the City
12 they loved, be it a bridge in this case, or a
13 street corner in the names of others.

14 Sometimes I wonder why we wait more
15 times than not until that person is gone. Ed
16 Koch, through his years in the Council, his years
17 in Congress, his years as Mayor, and his
18 continuing endless advocacy and energy has
19 dedicated his life to the five Boroughs and the
20 over eight million people of the City of New York.
21 He is our City's biggest champion, its most
22 significant cheerleader, its most unflagging
23 supporter.

24 And I am glad that we have the
25 opportunity today while he is still with us after

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2 recently having overcome some very significant
3 health challenges to say to him thank you. To say
4 to him, we wouldn't stand in the place we stand
5 now coming out of this recession if you had not
6 been the bridge that brought us back to our
7 greatness, the bridge that took us out of the
8 brink of bankruptcy and back to fiscal solvency.

9 I understand folks who are
10 concerned about adding a name to a bridge that
11 speaks of one of our great Boroughs. But I hope
12 people will see that this co-naming only adds to
13 the greatness of the Queensboro Bridge by
14 recognizing the portion of it that lands in what
15 had been Ed Koch's Congressional District for a
16 long time. So I urge my colleagues to join with
17 me and co-name this great bridge the Ed Koch
18 Queensboro Bridge. Thank you Mr. Majority Leader.

19 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Discussion
20 of general orders. We have... Council Member
21 Weprin.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Am I on?
23 Oh my. On the bridge. Okay on the bridge, yes,
24 huh, geeze. Well thank you very much my
25 colleagues. Full disclosure, I worked for Ed Koch

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2 for three years. However I did work for his
3 primary opponent when he ran for Mayor in the
4 first place who came in second and I did get to
5 know him a little bit and watch him in action and
6 was so impressed with this man.

7 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet please.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Speaker
9 Quinn talked about the great work he did as Mayor
10 saving this City from bankruptcy, creating a
11 housing program that was historic at the time of
12 over \$5 billion for affordable housing. He was an
13 incredible--he inspired me by watching him 'cause
14 he was really a very intelligent man. People
15 sometimes lost that with all his bravado and sense
16 of humor, how smart he was and how good he was at
17 reaching an issue.

18 And having learned about him in the
19 years after that, having gotten to know him a
20 little better, he really was a hero here in New
21 York, in a lot of ways. For the work he did as
22 Mayor but even before that, serving in World War
23 II as a distinguished Army Sergeant, receiving two
24 Battle Stars and a Combat Infantry Badge.

25 In 1964 he was one of the lawyers

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2 who went down to Jackson, Mississippi to help
3 defend civil rights workers who got arrested
4 trying to register voters. He also marched to
5 Montgomery, Alabama with Dr. Martin Luther King
6 before he was elected to the City Council a few
7 years later. He was a man who cared about people.
8 He is a man who cares about people but even back
9 then he was a man who cared about people so much.

10 The amazing thing about Ed Koch I
11 think is that, you know, since he's been Mayor
12 even, he wanted to stay relevant. And I can't
13 imagine someone being more relevant than he has
14 been whether it's on the radio, whether it's a
15 television show, written five books as well as two
16 children's books in addition to that. Although
17 someone else uses the moniker, really is the king
18 of all media. If I could have just one more
19 minute please, Mr. Chair?

20 As a kid from Queens, which I am, I
21 have to confess, although I've taken the bridge a
22 lot--

23 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA:

24 [Interposing] Council Member you have to wrap it
25 up.

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COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: --it's a bridge with an identity crisis.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Council Member.

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: And it's something I think that will only--

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA:
[Interposing] Council Member I apologize--

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: --enhance the bridge--

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: --I apologize.

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: by being the Koch Queensboro Bridge. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you. I just apologize; we do have to keep it to the clock, thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Got it.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Next we have Council Member Peter Vallone.

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Thank you. I rise in defense of the Queensboro Bridge as a voice of the people of Queens. This is not about Ed Koch. This has nothing to do with Ed Koch.

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2 It's all about, it's all about pride. Pride in
3 our Borough and pride in our bridge. It's about
4 respect.

5 No one would ever think of renaming
6 or co-naming the Brooklyn Bridge and yet Queens
7 doesn't rate this respect. This is wrong. This
8 is against the will of the people. Every group
9 that has taken a position on this is opposed to
10 it. Every Queens' newspaper, every poll, and more
11 importantly virtually every person in Queens. And
12 since no one asked them I will tell you what they
13 actually think.

14 These are thousands of petitions,
15 thousands, that were handed to me. I had nothing
16 to do with. With people that are opposed to this.
17 I have traveled throughout Queens in the last
18 month and taken polls in front of every group that
19 I met with. And I can tell you that this
20 proposition has been met with boos and hisses and
21 pleas, heartfelt pleas to save our bridge.

22 I can count the number of people
23 who voted for this name change in my polls,
24 literally, literally on one hand. And it makes
25 even less sense because I put forth an

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2 alternative, a beautiful building 100 yards away
3 which we can call the Edward Koch Municipal
4 Building. It's where the work of the City is
5 done. And it's a fitting tribute for a great man
6 like Ed Koch. And it's not already named for a
7 Borough. Don't do this. The people do not want
8 this. This is wrong. And it's a wrong that we
9 will be reminded of every time we commute to work,
10 every time we hear a traffic report, and every
11 time we look up at what used to be called the
12 Queensboro Bridge. So on behalf of the people of
13 Queens, I will be voting no on Intro 446-A. thank
14 you.

15 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
16 very much. Next we'll move on to Council Member
17 Charles Barron.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Y'all got
19 to be kidding, a bridge named after Ed Koch. This
20 is not the Ed Koch that the Black community knows.
21 The Ed Koch that we know was the Ed Koch of Howard
22 Beach. It was the Ed Koch that racially divided
23 this City more than Sunny Carson. It's the Ed
24 Koch that shut down Sidingham [phonetic] Hospital
25 in Harlem. It's the Ed Koch that shut down

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2 Cumberland Hospital in Brooklyn. It's the Ed Koch
3 that every time we asked for something for the
4 Black community; he said I will not be
5 intimidated. And then he asked the rest of you
6 how am I doing.

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8 This is not a man who deserves that
9 kind of honor. If you want to name something
10 after Koch, name Rikers Island after Koch where he
11 put all the Black youth that went to jail under
12 his administration. Koch was a nemesis for the
13 Black community. This is a disrespect to our
14 community. I know some of the Blacks in here are
15 going to vote for him because it's a leadership
16 vote. But he was a disrespectful Mayor for the
17 Black community. So much so that we had to get
18 David Dinkins to beat him and rescue us from the
19 likes of Ed Koch.

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21 I don't believe we're doing this.
22 A bridge named after Ed Koch. For 12 years, some
23 of you may have forgotten who he really is. That
24 old stuff that you're talking about, this is a
25 Tale of Two Cities. Maybe that's how he was for
the White part of the City but for Blacks and
Latinos, Ed Koch was our nemesis. We had to march

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2 with Reverend Herbert Daughtry, every year across
3 the Brooklyn Bridget just to get him to address
4 the fundamental things that we needed for the
5 Black and Latino community. This is a disgrace to
6 have a bridge named after Ed Koch. Y'all got to
7 be kidding.

8 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Let's move
9 on to Council Member Gennaro.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you.
11 Thank you Mr. Leader. I certainly wish to be
12 associated with the remarks of Speaker Quinn and
13 Council Member Weprin. I wanted to use my time to
14 talk a little bit about why this bridge should be
15 named for Ed Koch but I think I'm going to go in
16 like a little different direction and talk about
17 the Borough of Queens because there's this notion
18 that was already spoken about just now about how
19 Queens is losing something.

20 And I moved to Queens when I was
21 26. And I saw a Borough with a very big heart and
22 a Borough that really became something very, very
23 great. And they didn't become great by being
24 petty and by being small and that's not the Queens
25 that I know. And the whole notion that the status

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2 of Queens, the fortunes of Queens, the good name
3 of Queens is going to rise and fall on the name of
4 this bridge, I think sells Queens short.

5 Queens has so much more going for
6 it. And it didn't get there by being, you know,
7 in any way small-minded. But rather by being
8 large-hearted. And the notion that Queens would
9 lose something, like this is all we have, like we
10 only have the Queensboro Bridge and if we didn't
11 have this then like we'll be nothing as a Borough.
12 I think that sells Queens short in a very, very
13 significant way.

14 And to most of the people in
15 Queens, the Queensboro Bridge is the 59th Street
16 Bridge. 59th Street doesn't really mean anything
17 to the people of Queens but to this Queens
18 resident many people in Queens and people that I
19 represent, Mayor Edward Koch certain does mean a
20 lot. And I certainly would agree with the Speaker
21 that we lose nothing by doing this but we gain the
22 opportunity to honor this great man who truly
23 deserves it--

24 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA:

25 [Interposing] Council Member.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: --and I
3 will proudly vote yes on this.

4 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you.
5 Next we move on to Council Member Dromm.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you
7 very much. While at first I was undecided and
8 probably leaning to vote no on this, I listened to
9 testimony from former Queens Borough President
10 Claire Shulman and Landmark Preservation
11 Commissioner Robert Tierney at a recent Parks
12 Committee hearing. Borough President Shulman and
13 Chair Tierney both spoke in favor of the adding of
14 Mayor Ed Koch's name to the Queensboro Bridge.
15 Tierney spoke in support of the adding and he is
16 entrusted with the preservation issues in New York
17 City. And he stated that actually the name would
18 enhance the history of the bridge.

19 I took into consideration some of
20 the political stances that Mayor Koch has taken in
21 the past with which I disagreed. But after much
22 soul-searching and recognizing that the bridge is
23 also already locally known as the 59th Street
24 Bridge, I have decided to vote in favor of the
25 compromise of Ed Koch Queensboro Bridge which

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2 protects the bridge's legacy and recognizes Koch's
3 contribution to our great Borough and City. Thank
4 you very much.

5 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you.
6 Next we move on to our Minority Leader, Jimmy
7 Oddo.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Thank you Mr.
9 Chair. You know, yesterday we celebrated the 10th
10 anniversary of closing the Fresh Kills Landfill.
11 And for 50 years before that the City of New York
12 dumped all its garbage on Staten Island. They
13 told us they'll do it for 3 years and give us a
14 big park. It took them 50 years to get there.

15 So I think I understand Borough
16 pride and defense of a Borough. And I understand
17 my colleagues who are voting no, I really do. And
18 I'm not happy with the process of how we got here.
19 And frankly I think the folks who proposed this,
20 had they known the outcry, would have done it
21 differently. But I think we're at the point now
22 where we have a choice to make. And I think
23 voting this down would really be an embarrassment
24 and an insult to a man who certainly does not
25 deserve that. I want to pick up on what Speaker

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2 Quinn said.

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I taught a class this year for the first time at the College of Staten Island about City and State government. And most of my students were--the kids, and they don't know this New York that Ed Koch inherited. So I showed them this video of New York City in the early 1970's. And they were astounded at the graffiti, at the crime, at the junkies rolling in the street, at entire blocks being abandoned. And then I showed them the famous headline about Ford to New York, drop dead. And everybody knows that headline.

What people don't seem to remember is that the Federal government eventually stood up for New York City. And what people don't remember is that there was a Congressman by the name of Ed Koch who got Republicans, yes my friends, those nasty national Republicans who hate New York City, who got Republican colleagues to testify to say give New York City the line of credit they need to survive. It was Ed Koch.

And I think that Ed Koch despite some of the criticisms, people would say are valid or not, Ed Koch has a claim to being one of the

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2 greatest mayors in the history of this City. And
3 I haven't forgotten what this City once was and
4 how we got back to being a great City.

5 So I understand the Queens' pride,
6 I really do. Most times or not I would be
7 standing with my colleagues in Queens. But at
8 this point in time in this man's life for what he
9 has done for this City, I'm ready to stand with
10 him and ask my colleagues to vote in favor of this
11 item.

12 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you.
13 Thank you very much. Next we'll move on to
14 Council Member Ulrich.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Thank you
16 Mr. Majority Leader. You know there seems to be a
17 lot of debate about what Queens wants and what
18 Queens doesn't want but the fact of the matter is
19 that in New York City we have two airports, both
20 of them are in Queens, one is named after Fiorello
21 LaGuardia a former Mayor and a distinguished
22 public servant in the history of this City. The
23 other named for our slain president, an ex-
24 President JFK. We have a bridge named after his
25 brother who was a US Senator who wasn't even from

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2 New York, RFK. We have the Jackie Robinson
3 Parkway. In other words we name public buildings,
4 structures, bridges, stadiums, you name it, after
5 public figures and people who have made
6 significant contributions to this City time and
7 time again. And we always talk about how we don't
8 give credit to people when they're alive. That we
9 wait until they're six feet under to say how
10 wonderful they were. Ed Koch was one of the
11 greatest Mayors that this City has ever had. And
12 he is truly deserving of this distinction and this
13 honor.

14 Not only did he cross party lines
15 to advocate for New York City's needs but he was
16 also somebody, probably the last person to run for
17 Mayor that ran with every party's endorsement. He
18 ran with the Republican Party, the Democratic
19 Party, people recognized his bipartisan
20 leadership, his ability to bring people together
21 and his leadership capabilities particularly when
22 he did bring New York City back from the brink of
23 bankruptcy. This is the least that we can do as a
24 City to say thank you for his service. Naming a
25 bridge after Ed Koch is not controversial. I am

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2 from Queens. I am born and raised in Queens. I
3 represent the people of Queens. And I will go
4 back to my constituents and tell them why I think
5 this is a good idea. And I would bet you any
6 amount of money that they will agree with me.
7 Thank you very much.

8 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
9 very much. We'll now move on to Reports of
10 Special Committees.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

12 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Reports of
13 Standing Committees.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the
15 Committee on Finance, Preconsidered M 438 and Reso
16 726, Council Budget.

17 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
18 orders.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered M
20 439 and Reso 727, Council Budget.

21 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
22 orders.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Reconsidered LU's
24 340 and Reso 728 through 345 and Reso 733, tax
25 abatements.

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
3 orders.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the
5 Committee on Land Use, LU 295 and Reso 734 through
6 LU 322 and Reso 737, various ULURPS.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
8 orders.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 323 and Reso
10 738 and 324 and Reso 739, sidewalk cafes.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
12 orders.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 325 and Reso
14 740 and 326 and 741, zoning amendments

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
16 orders.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 327 and Reso
18 742 through 329 and Reso 744, unenclosed sidewalk
19 cafes.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
21 orders.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 330, Reso 745,
23 sidewalk café.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled to be filed
25 pursuant to a letter of withdrawal.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 331 and Reso
746 and 332 and Reso 747, zoning amendments.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 334 and Reso
748 through 337 and Reso 750, landmark
designations.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CLERK: LU 338 and
Reso 751 and 339 and Reso 752, school facilities.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered LU
352 and Reso 753.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the
Committee on Parks and Recreation, Intro 417,
Amending the Official Map of New York City.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Intro 446-a,
Naming of Ed Koch Queensboro Bridge.

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
3 on general orders.

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5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the
6 Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections,
7 Preconsidered M 411 and Reso 754, approving the
8 appointment of Charles D. McFaul, Civil Service
9 Commission.

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10 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
11 orders.

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12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered M
13 440 and Reso 755, approving the designation of
14 Alphonzo A. Grant, Civilian Complaint Review
15 Board.

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16 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
17 orders.

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18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered M
19 441 and Reso 756, approving the re-designation of
20 Anna Kril, Health and Hospitals Corporation.

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21 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
22 orders.

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23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Reso 685, Council
24 Procurement.

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25 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the
3 Committee on State and Federal Legislation,
4 Preconsidered SLR 1, Intercity Bus Passenger
5 Service Permit System.

6 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
7 orders. And at this point, I'd like to ask for--
8 I'm sorry, there's one more item.

9 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: General
10 order calendar.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Resolution
12 appointing various persons, Commissioner of Deeds.

13 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
14 orders. And at this point I ask for a roll call
15 on all of the items that are coupled on the
16 general order calendar.

17 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So
18 ordered.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Arroyo.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: [No audible
21 response]

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: May I be
24 excused to explain my vote?

25 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes you

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man.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: In addition, people don't--

[Laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: --mention the corruption, all of the corruption around the Koch Administration, the Parking Violations Bureau, Donald Mantis [phonetic]. We forget all the corruption. He had one of the most corrupt administrations since the Tweed Administration. But that's forgiven because he's Ed Koch.

I hope the bridge doesn't come as shaky as his past is once his name gets on it else it'll be a danger to all of us. With that I vote no, unequivocally, absolutely no on the Ed Koch Intro 446-A and I vote no on Preconsidered LU 352 and the accompanying Reso 753 and aye on all the rest.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Well I actually worked for Ruth Messinger the entire time that Ed Koch was Mayor and the two of them were always respectfully at loggerheads, both smart, both fighting in different ways for a great City

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2 but they certainly fought. And so during the
3 Mayoralty, there were a lot of issues. I actually
4 like him a lot on Wise Guys. And New York 1. And
5 that's probably where I like him the best is post-
6 Mayor. I have to say. I do appreciate people who
7 do not stop supporting the City that they love and
8 that don't go off and do something that's not
9 completely relevant. And I think of somebody who
10 has given a lot, particularly post-Mayoralty, I
11 have to say, it was a challenging Mayoralty. So I
12 vote aye on all.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cabrera.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Chin.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: I vote no on
17 446-A and yes on all.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Comrie.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: No on 446-
20 A, yes to everything else.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Crowley.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: As a proud
23 member of the Queens Delegation, as a proud New
24 Yorker, as a Council Member, it gives me great
25 pride to vote yes on 446-A. I believe that Mayor

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2 Koch was one of, if not the best mayors,
3 definitely during my lifetime. And I echo a lot
4 of the sentiments that my colleagues have said
5 about the work that he's done. As Mayor and the
6 work that he has continued to do in his days post
7 his mayoral, he's given New York and many New
8 Yorkers a reason to believe in our great City.
9 Thank you. Aye on all.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Dickens.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Dilan.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: With
14 congratulations to Mr. Alphonzo Grant, I vote aye
15 on all.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Dromm.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye on all.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Eugene.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ferreras.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye on
22 all.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Fidler.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Majority
25 Leader Rivera may I be briefly excused to explain

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my vote?

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: It may come as a rude shock to both Simon and Garfunkel but I'm going to vote to rename the 59th Street Bridge. I want to say that Ed Koch is a real New Yorker. Ed Koch is the consummate New Yorker. He tells it like it is. He calls it the way he sees it. And he knows a whacko when he sees one as well.

It is my honor to vote, to give him this honor while he's still alive and obviously very much kicking. So I really don't understand why this is such a hot topic of debate this morning, this afternoon rather, and I vote aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Foster.

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Pass.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Garodnick.

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: No on 446-A and aye on the rest.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gennaro.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: I vote yes and I wish to be associated with the remarks of Council Member Fidler and Council Member Ulrich.

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Thank you.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gentile.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye on
all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gonzalez.

COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye on
all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Greenfield.

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: May I
be excused to explain my vote please?

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank
you. I just want to respond to especially those
who are wondering why we're not renaming the
Brooklyn Bridge. As a Brooklynite and as a
Council Member, I could just confirm that we have
sold that bridge so many times we're just not sure
who owns it at this point. And so that's why we
weren't able to rename the Brooklyn Bridge. But
we would have been happy to do that. And so I
just think that if there's any person in this City
who deserves this honor it's Ed Koch. Mayor Koch
is a living legend who even today in his
retirement spends his time advocating on behalf of

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2 reform, transparency and good government, so I
3 proudly vote in favor of Intro 446-A and all the
4 other Intros today. Thank you.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ignizio.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Jimmy Oddo
7 Verrazano Bridge has a great ring to it. I hope
8 we consider that. With that I vote aye on all.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Jackson.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye on
11 all.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: James.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Pass.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Koppell.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Aye on
16 all.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Koslowitz.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: May I be
19 excused to explain my vote?

20 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I would
22 like to in honor of Arthur J. Katzman who was a
23 Council Member here many, many years ago and who
24 is responsible for me being in the City Council
25 who was a great friend of Ed Koch who did a lot

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2 for our City, I remember seeing Ed Koch fight for
3 our Borough and it is my pleasure to vote aye on
4 446-A and aye on all other General coupled orders.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lander.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye on all.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lappin.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye on all.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Levin.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: [No audible
11 response]

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye
14 on all.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mealy.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mendez.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye on all.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Palma.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Recchia.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: May I be
23 heard please?

24 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Ed Koch

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2 was a mayor who did a great job. And I just, you
3 know, I'm going to vote in support of it and vote
4 aye on everything but I just want to leave one
5 thing open, address Council Member Greenfield,
6 what he said about the Brooklyn Bridge. The
7 reason why we can't name the Brooklyn Bridge right
8 now is because Marty Markowitz would go nuts. So
9 that's why I'm voting aye in favor of Mayor Koch.
10 He did a great job. He deserves this great honor.
11 And maybe some day we can name the Brooklyn Bridge
12 after Marty Markowitz.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Levin.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye on all.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Reyna.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye on all.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rodriguez.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: May I
19 explain my vote?

20 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: I would
22 like to vote on support, aye on all, but
23 especially on renaming the bridge after Mayor
24 Koch, especially because for his last efforts to
25 bring good government and transparency. And I

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just hope that we will move forward to look at another to rename it after Mayor David Dinkins.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: No on 446-A, yes to all others.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Sanders.

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Permission to vote on previous Land Use items?

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: I vote aye. I vote aye to everything else.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ulrich.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vallone.

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: With all due respect to Ed Koch who is a close personal friend of my family and deserving of a great honor, I'm going to vote no on 446-A and aye on the rest.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Permission to explain my vote.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: There's

1
2 been a lot said today about Ed Koch. And
3 notwithstanding some of the comments I think that
4 everyone in Queens can honor a life of public
5 service that spanned and continues to span the
6 timeframe that Ed Koch has served our City so
7 incredibly well. And then there's a lot of talk
8 about what people in Queens think and feel about
9 this bridge and this renaming and why they feel
10 that.

11 And I certainly don't pretend to
12 speak for everyone in Queens. I don't pretend to
13 know what everyone thinks about this issue. But
14 what I can say without any doubt whatsoever of
15 reservation is that 100% of the people in my
16 District who have taken the time to reach out to
17 my office which is more people than any other
18 issue since I've been in the City Council have
19 said that they are opposed to this.

20 So I am voting no on Intro 446-A,
21 yes on all the rest, because Queensboro Bridge is
22 not the only thing that we have in Queens that is
23 good and worthy of respect and honor. We have so
24 many things. But it is one of the things that
25 many people care about and I share their concern

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2 and love of the name we currently have and what I
3 believe many people in Queens will continue to
4 call it. So I vote today in favor of my
5 constituents in the 26th Council District who have
6 said to me they do not want this to happen. Thank
7 you.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Vann.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Permission to
10 explain my vote?

11 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: I had no
13 intentions of speaking on the renaming of this
14 bridge. I sat listening to all of the testimony.
15 What went through my head is those who do not know
16 their history may be doomed to repeat it. I would
17 like to think that every mayor did some good for
18 the people. I find difficulties in terms of what
19 Giuliani did but I'm sure he must have done
20 something good.

21 [Laughter]

22 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: And I'm sure
23 Koch did some good things as the testimony you
24 have advanced here today. But he also did
25 something that was not good and something which

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2 would not allow me to vote to name something after
3 him. After the Census of 1980 the Mayor has the
4 responsibility of submitting a redistricting plan
5 to the Feds. It was racially discriminative plan.
6 It was a plan that discriminated against Blacks
7 and Latinos by reducing the number of seats that
8 they could actually run for.

9 I was with the effort that
10 challenged that plan through the courts
11 successfully, even went to the Supreme Court,
12 where we received the ruling, stopped the
13 election, stopped the citywide election, forcing
14 them to come back with a plan that we pretty much
15 put together that created the seats that many of
16 you are sitting in right now in Queens, in the
17 Bronx, in Brooklyn and so forth. So yes, Mayor
18 Koch probably did some good things. But he did
19 one thing that was not good, one that was
20 fundamental to the empowerment of people in this
21 City. And because of that I have to vote no on
22 446-A and aye on the rest.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Weprin.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Permission
25 to explain my vote.

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

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COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Thank you.

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On 446-A, you know, I grew up--I was going to say

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I grew up in Queens and I could count on my hands

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the amount of times I've called that bridge the

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Queensboro Bridge. For whatever reason and it's

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Simon and Garfunkel or whatever, everyone I know

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calls it the 59th Street bridge by me. And in some

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ways I think this will be helpful by giving it the

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name, the Koch Queensboro Bridge, putting that

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Queensboro on there.

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But be that as it may, I have to

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say about Ed Koch, in my lifetime I can't think to

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myself of one other person who's had more of an

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impact on this City as far as his stature goes,

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who's been more emblematic of this City, who has

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been more of a person that everyone looks to about

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this City. And honestly I've never met anyone who

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loves this City more than Ed Koch. And I can't

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think of anyone more deserving to have something

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named for him than Ed Koch. So I'll vote aye on

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446-A as well as the rest. Thank you.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Williams.

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COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: May I be

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excused to explain my vote?

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you. First as a hip hop fan I just want to recognize the passing of a West Coast pioneer, Nate Dog who passed away this week as well. Also with the Koch Bridge, oh, the Koch who was Mayor is not the same Koch who was first elected to the State legislature. He was a different person. Particularly in the--I think communities of more color there is a much different perception.

For some reason Dinkins is remembered with the Crown Heights Riot and not with the more police he started bringing in and the decline of crime that he started that Giuliani took credit for. But Koch is remembered for Howard Beach and other things. And it's unfortunate that people of more color who are the majority of New York City now, what they feel is not as respected as many others. And I wish that some day that that would change. I think the conversation about namings, whenever I think of it I think about the slave owners names that I have to walk on every day when I come out of my house

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in my community. That's never addressed.

But we're going to continue to keep moving forward as if, what, people of more color in this City think absolutely doesn't matter. And there will probably be an insult to most of the people in my District whenever they drive over that bridge to know that this Mayor who many feel or at least as perceived, did not really care too much about them. So I think if Mayor Bloomberg wants to name something he can name the Bloomberg LP the Mayor Koch LP and leave the bridge alone. So I'll have to vote no on Intro 446-A, aye on everything else. And I have one little, dirty little secret to say. I am also a human being. Thank you.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Wills.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Foster.

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye on all and no on Intro 446-A.

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: James.

James. I'll help you. James.

COMMITTEE CLERK: James.

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Thank you.

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[Laughter]

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COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: May I be
excused to explain my vote?

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes you
can.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Thank you.

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: What's
your name again?

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COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: It's Letitia
James--

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA:

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[Interposing] Oh okay--

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COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: --under J.

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: --we'll
just check that for the record.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: I respect
Mayor Koch. I respect his candor, his bluntness.
He is a typical New Yorker as was indicated, as
was stated earlier. I thank him for endorsing me
when I, in my campaign when I first ran. What I
admire about Mayor Koch is his efforts to
transform the body politic.

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Urging, particularly in Albany, to
shed more light on their process. He is someone

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2 who has been urging and asking them to engage in
3 more transparency, full disclosure and consistent
4 with the Democratic process. It's because of
5 those reasons and because he believes in those
6 issues as do I that I'm going to vote no on 446-A
7 because I believe that the process was not adhered
8 to in this body. I vote aye on everything else
9 and vote no on 446-A. And Mr. Ed Koch, I hope
10 that we could revisit this issue and I hope that
11 at some point in time you would respect the wishes
12 of the Borough of Queens. Thank you.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Oddo.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: May I be
15 temporarily excused to explain my vote?

16 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: I just want
18 the record to show that that was my best friend in
19 the body, Council Member Ignizio, who suggested
20 naming the Verrazano Bridge with that
21 unconscionable toll after me.

22 [Laughter]

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: It's
24 wonderful. The MTA is a day away from charging a
25 right kidney for anyone--secondly I want to say to

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2 my good friend Council Member Barron, you had some
3 funny lines. Save your material for Rudy Giuliani
4 Turnpike when I introduce it.

5 [Laughter]

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: And speaking
7 of Rudy Giuliani, if there is any member, if there
8 is any person in the media, if there's any guest
9 in the back who needs to be reminded what Rudy
10 Giuliani did for this City, spend a day with me,
11 pack a lunch, it may take a long time. He rescued
12 this City. He made it governable again. And no
13 matter how you feel about him personally you can't
14 take away from his record. And I'm talking pre-
15 9/11. I vote yes on all.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rivera.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
18 very much. Real quick, Council Member Oddo, I
19 think you can bank on Mayor Koch's endorsement and
20 Council Member Vinnie Ignizio's endorsement for
21 future office. With that being said I vote aye on
22 all.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

24 SPEAKER QUINN: Aye on all.

25 [Pause]

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: All items on today's General Order calendar were adopted by a vote of 50 in the affirmative, 0 in the Intro 446-A which was adopted by a vote of 38 in the affirmative, 12 in the negative and 0 abstention, and Land Use Item 352 with the accompanying Reso 753 which was adopted by a vote of 59 (sic) in the affirmative, 1 in the negative and the revised Land Use call ups were adopted by a vote of 50 in the affirmative and 0 in the negative.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA:
Introduction and the reading of the bills.

[Off mic]

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you.
At this point we'll move on to discussion of Resolutions. First we have Council Member Jackson on Resolution 690-A.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Well thank you Majority Leader. My colleagues, I rise this afternoon to ask you to support this Resolution, in support of the men and women, the public workers in Wisconsin, Ohio, and other states and municipalities across our country.

It seems as though public workers

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2 are the end of the stick when it comes to
3 executives such as governors, mayors, legislative
4 bodies, say let's take it out on public workers.
5 They are the ones who cause the financial crises
6 that we were in several years ago. And we all
7 know that not to be the truth. And in fact
8 Wisconsin, it's been said that the Wisconsin
9 workers had agreed to everything the Governor has
10 requested but he still is trying to deep six them.

11 I ask you today to stand up for men
12 and women working in public service around our
13 country and vote yes on this Resolution in support
14 of the workers in Wisconsin, Ohio and around the
15 country. Thank you.

16 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
17 very much Council Member. Next we move, anybody
18 else on 690-A? Seeing none, we'll move onto the
19 next Resolution which is Resolution 548-A. We'll
20 have Council Member Rodriguez.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Thank
22 you. First of all I would like to thank the
23 Speaker Christine Quinn and the Chairman of the
24 Immigration Committee Danny Dromm and all the
25 members of the Immigration Committee for voting on

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2 the Reso 548-A. And I'm calling all my colleagues
3 on voting on this Resolution. This is amendment
4 Resolution is calling on New York State Governor
5 Andrew Cuomo to continue and expand the Immigrant
6 Pardon Panel to ensure that legal permanent
7 resident who paid their debt to and are now
8 productive members of society can continue to
9 contribute to our great State. Thank you.

10 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Anyone
11 else on Resolution 548-A? Seeing none, we'll move
12 on to Resolution 648-A. We have Council Member
13 Eugene.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you
15 Majority Leader. Thank you. Let me first and
16 foremost thank Speaker Christine Quinn for her
17 leadership and her support also. And I want to
18 thank the staff from the Legislative Division and
19 Council Member Dromm, the Chairman of the
20 Immigration Committee and all my colleagues from
21 this great Committee.

22 Today we are going to vote on
23 Resolution 648. And I am asking all my colleagues
24 to support this great Resolution. You all
25 remember than on January 12, 2010 Haiti was struck

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2 by a horrific earthquake. And the devastation was
3 of epic proportion. Many people lost their life
4 and if we talk in terms of monetary costs, that
5 cost was estimated to be between \$9 billion to \$14
6 billion.

7 And as we speak the people in Haiti
8 they are still living under the tent and the
9 situation is still critical. We want to ask the
10 Federal government to renew the TPS for Haitians
11 and other further Haitians who have been living in
12 the United States to have the authorization to
13 stay while Haiti is trying, is struggling to
14 recover and to rebuild. I urge my colleagues to
15 vote yes on the Resolution 648. Thank you.

16 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
17 very much. Any other? Council Member Williams,
18 for 648-A. Okay. We'll move on. Anyone else on
19 648-A? Seeing none, we'll move on to the final
20 Resolution, Resolution number 708, Council Member
21 Ignizio.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes, very
23 briefly, sorry to my colleagues, but something we
24 can all agree on today is to send a message to
25 NASA that basically says we want a space shuttle,

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2 whether it be anywhere around the country, the
3 place it should be is right here in the capital of
4 the world.

5 And I join with my colleagues whose
6 District is the Intrepid Museum, Council Speaker
7 Quinn, to say we want it. We can use it. And we
8 want all of our kids to come visit it, see how
9 great space exploration is and how Americans led
10 the way and become little astronauts as well. So
11 with that we're sending a message. The decision
12 will be made on April 12th. So say a prayer and be
13 a part of the Resolution. Thank you all very
14 much.

15 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Seeing any
16 others on Resolution 708? Council Member Ignizio,
17 I think a lot of people want to send us to the
18 moon so I think the shuttle will come here.
19 Seeing no others at this point in time we're going
20 to vote individually on each Resolution. We have
21 the first one, Resolution 690-A. I will explain
22 it very quickly. An amended Resolution
23 proclaiming that New York City Council stands in
24 solidarity with the public--

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SERGEANT AT ARMS: [Interposing]

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Quiet please. Shh.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: If we can get silence in the back? That the City Council stands in solidarity with the public workers in Wisconsin, Ohio and in other states around the country as their struggle for dignity and economic security is one shared by all New Yorkers and Americans. It was amended and adopted by the Committee on Civil Service and Labor. All in favor say aye.

MANY VOICES: Aye.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: All opposed say any.

[NO VOICES SAYING NAY]

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Any abstentions? The ayes have it. Next we have Resolution 548-A, an amended Resolution calling on the New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo to continue and expand the Immigrant Pardon Panel to ensure that legal, permanent residents who paid their debts to and are now productive members of society can continue to contribute to our great State. Amended and adopted by the Committee on Immigration. All in favor say aye.

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MANY VOICES: Aye.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: All

opposed say any.

[NO VOICES SAYING NAY]

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Any

abstentions? The ayes have it. Next we move on to Resolution 648-A, an amended Resolution calling upon the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to extend the Temporary Protected Status designation of Haiti and eligible Haitians which is now set to expire on July 22nd, 2011. Amended and adopted by the Committee on Immigration. All in favor say aye.

MANY VOICES: Aye.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: All

opposed say any.

[NO VOICES SAYING NAY]

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Any

abstentions? The ayes have it. Last but not least Preconsidered Resolution 708, a Resolution calling upon the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Charles F. Bolden, to retire at least one space shuttle to New York City for permanent residence at the Intrepid Sea, Air and

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2 Space Museum. Adopted by the Committee on
3 Cultural Affairs, Libraries and International
4 Intergroup Relations. All in favor say aye.

5 MANY VOICES: Aye.

6 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: All
7 opposed say any.

8 [NO VOICES SAYING NAY]

9 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Any
10 abstentions? The ayes have it. At this point in
11 time we'll move on to general discussion. Council
12 Member Koslowitz.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Thank
14 you. At this time I would like my intern, Simcha
15 Kazioff [phonetic] to please stand up. I want to
16 publicly thank him for working in my office since
17 September. He tried to leave in December but we
18 wouldn't let him go. Now he'll be with me another
19 two weeks and he's going to leave and go intern at
20 a hospital. And we're going to let him go. He
21 wants to be an optometrist. I want to thank him
22 publicly for the service that he has given the
23 constituents...

24 [Applause]

25 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ:

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2 Especially Bukharian constituents who call my
3 office and Simcha can speak to them in Russian.
4 Thank you Simcha for all the work and I'm going to
5 keep my eye on you.

6 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Next we
7 have Council Member Jackson.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you
9 Majority Leader. My colleagues I rise again to..

10 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet please

11 [Gavel banging]

12 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Can we get
13 silence in the back, please?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: My
15 colleagues I rise again this afternoon to ask you
16 to join me and many other people that will be
17 attending a unity rally of Democrats and
18 Progressive people this coming Sunday, March 27th
19 at 1:00 pm on the steps of City Hall. It's being
20 sponsored by the New York Communities for Change,
21 Alliance for Quality Education formerly known as
22 AQE, and the Rent Reform Campaign.

23 And this rally is to send a clear
24 message to our legislators and our governor in
25 Albany that we want to strengthen the rent laws

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2 and repeal the vacancy decontrol which we call
3 vacancy destabilization. We want to restore the
4 continuation of the millionaire's tax.

5 As you know one full year of
6 implementation at its current rate will bring in
7 \$5 billion for 1 full year. \$1.4 billion if just
8 taking us through March 31 of 2011 which is the
9 end of the State's Fiscal Year. And as you know
10 the Assembly has put forward a plan to make it not
11 only for individuals earning \$200,000 or more but
12 for real individuals that earn \$1 million.

13 And finally we want to save the
14 children of New York State, to make sure that they
15 receive not an adequate education but an excellent
16 education. And a cut statewide of \$1.5 billion
17 will be devastating to the people of New York
18 State. So I ask you to come and join all of us
19 this coming Sunday on the steps of City Hall at
20 1:00 pm and stand up for the people of New York
21 City and New York State in making sure that we
22 have a budget that meets our needs. Thank you.

23 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
24 very much. Next we have Council Member Williams.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I just

1
2 wanted to clarify something because people were
3 pretty confused. The last statement--the last
4 sentence of my statement before was directed at
5 the wonderful stories I had been reading. Thank
6 you.

7 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
8 very much. Next we have Council Member Rodriguez.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Thank
10 you. I would like to speak on first of all a Reso
11 that has been introduced by Councilwoman Chin
12 which is the one calling for extension on the rent
13 regulation, also in support of the bill that has
14 been introduced by State Senator Espailat and
15 Assemblyman Vito calling for an extension of rent
16 regulations.

17 Also I would like to encourage all
18 my colleagues to sign into the Intro 519 that I
19 have introduced today. It's the one calling to
20 establish flashing yellow lights at Central Park
21 and other parks in the City so that we can deal
22 with the number of tickets that many bicycle
23 riders has been getting the last couple of weeks.

24 Today I am so proud to be a
25 cosponsor of that--a lead sponsor of that bill,

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2 together with Councilwoman Brewer, Melissa
3 Viverito, Gentile and also with a number of
4 bicycle groups such as Century Row Club
5 Association, the Dominican Cycle Association, Five
6 Borough Bike Club, New York Cycle Club and the
7 Transportation Artillery [phonetic]. thank you.

8 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you.

9 Next we move on to Council Member Gentile.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: For those
11 members who are still present, I call your
12 attention to the invitation on your desk from
13 Councilman Van Bramer, myself and Speaker Quinn
14 for our Annual Library Day in City Hall Park on
15 April 6th, the day of our next Stated. Come out
16 and show your support for our New York City
17 libraries. We'll have all three systems there.

18 We'll--you can come and take your
19 picture with the New York Public Library Lion.
20 And for the first time ever, we're going to have
21 dueling bands, librarians from the Brooklyn Public
22 Library and librarians from the Queens Library,
23 coming down with their own bands and we're going
24 to have a dueling band that day. Brooklyn will
25 have their band, Lost in the Stacks; and Queens

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2 will have their band, Dewey and the Decimals. So
3 come on down and enjoy and show your support for
4 our libraries.

5 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
6 very much. Next we have Council Member Lander.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you
8 very much Mr. Majority Leader. I first want to
9 echo Council Member Jackson's invitation to--

10 SPEAKER QUINN: [Interposing] I'm
11 sorry, just can we get some time back on the clock
12 for Council Member Lander and a little quiet.
13 Sorry Council Member Lander.

14 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet please--

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you
16 Madam Speaker. First I want to just echo Council
17 Member Jackson's invitation to everyone to come to
18 the City Hall steps Sunday at 1:00. Next week is
19 going to be a big week in Albany. If we think
20 this is a good time to give a tax break to
21 millionaires and billionaires, while we lay off
22 teachers, reduce class size, cut child care for
23 thousands of families and close senior centers,
24 then honestly we deserve to close senior centers,
25 eliminate child care slots and lay off teachers.

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2 This is not a time that we can
3 afford to give that tax break to millionaires and
4 I hope you'll join Council Member Jackson and me
5 to send off our State and Assembly colleagues up
6 to Albany for the last week to make sure that
7 doesn't happen. Also to ask them to push as hard
8 as they possibly can to strengthen tenant
9 protections and rent regulations that provide
10 affordable housing to 3 million New Yorkers. This
11 is a very important time. We need to do
12 everything we can.

13 Finally I want to thank the Speaker
14 for her recognition of the centennial of the 100th
15 Anniversary of the Triangle Shirtwaist Fire. For
16 many of us the politics that we do come so
17 directly from that event which is sort of deeply
18 seared, especially of course into Jewish and
19 Italian, but Jewish labor history, working class
20 struggle and women's and immigrants' struggles.
21 And of course many immigrant groups, women's
22 groups, Jewish groups and labor groups are
23 observing it.

24 There's many observations going on
25 but if you don't have plans yet, Saturday night at

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2 7:00 I'm co-hosting the celebratory observing
3 concert that the Workman's Circle is sponsoring.
4 We've been working on these issues for 100 years
5 since Clara Lemlich's speech and that fire. So
6 thanks for noting it Speaker Quinn and I hope
7 everyone will take at least a moment in the next
8 few days. That concert is called The Cloth From
9 Which We are Cut. And I think it's an apt
10 metaphor for a lot of what had happened in this
11 Council to strengthen immigrants, workers and
12 women's rights as well. Thank you.

13 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
14 very much. Next we'll move on to Council Member
15 Melissa Mark-Viverito.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: I
17 just want to echo about joining the events this
18 Sunday. Also it's been a really inspiring day
19 here in the Council, meeting Fanya Heller, Dr.
20 Olivia Hooker, who are reminders of the horrors
21 that are embedded in our history.

22 SPEAKER QUINN: Good point.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: But
24 they reflect and are reflective of the spirit of
25 struggle and survival. So I really want to thank

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2 them for inspiring me and I know countless others.
3 I also just want to talk that it's a very
4 despairing time obviously and very much speak out
5 of despair and disbelief at the current
6 reactionary state of affairs that we're
7 encountering in this City, State and Country.
8 It's disheartening when rhetoric is used to
9 obfuscate the facts, to scapegoat teachers and
10 other public workers for the deficits of our
11 states and cities.

12 From Wisconsin to Ohio and even
13 right here in New York, meanwhile we increase
14 unfunded tax breaks for millionaires and
15 multimillion dollar businesses in exchange for low
16 wage jobs that only exacerbate the struggles of
17 the working poor and contribute to our deficits
18 and debts. This anti-union spirit is alive and
19 well even in my island of Puerto Rico where the
20 current Governor has illegally eliminated
21 collective bargaining rights, fired 30,000 public
22 sector workers and engaged in violent retaliation
23 against student protestors by allowing police to
24 permanently occupy the local public university for
25 months.

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2 It is disgusting when elected
3 officials like Kansas State Representative Virgil
4 Peck can unapologetically express his vision of
5 immigration enforcement and I quote "by shooting
6 these immigrating feral hogs."

7 It is despicable when the basic
8 needs of millions of New Yorkers are threatened
9 because some State officials value fattening the
10 pockets of developers and large property owners as
11 they seek to block the strengthening and renewal
12 of our rent stabilization laws.

13 And it's downright scary to
14 consider the impending cuts at the State level and
15 the proposed--and in Fiscal Year 2012 Preliminary
16 Budget which will eliminate thousands of worker
17 advantage vouchers, child care slots and countless
18 other basic services that will leave our City's
19 most vulnerable families with few if no options.
20 So it really is a dire, dire time. And I really
21 ask and encourage people to get involved, to speak
22 out. National protests are happening. People are
23 upset. People are--

24 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA:

25 [Interposing] Council Member?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: --

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waking up. So I want to ask the people to join on

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Sunday and every day until we get justice and

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equality--

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA:

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[Interposing] Council Member?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: --in

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this City, State and Country. Thank you.

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you

11

very much. Last but not least we have Council

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Member James.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Thank you.

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Government policies should support working and

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middle class families. But over the last two

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decades Wall Street salaries went up 111% while

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paychecks for regular people went down 13%.

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Albany and the City of New York need to take

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action to support lower and middle income workers.

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Massive job and pay cuts take our State in the

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wrong direction. We can restore the worst of the

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budget cuts by keeping a more progressive income

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tax. A \$250,000 tax cut for the CEO of Goldman

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Sachs who made \$13.4 million in income last year

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and millions more in deferred bonuses is something

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2 he can surely sacrifice. There's not--

3 SERGEANT AT ARMS: [Interposing]

4 Quiet please.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: --thank you.

6 The elimination of services for low income
7 children, cuts to education, cuts to health care,
8 elimination of job programs, and cuts to local
9 government services is totally unacceptable when
10 we have other options. It's time that we make
11 right priorities and because the budget is not
12 only a political document but a moral document.

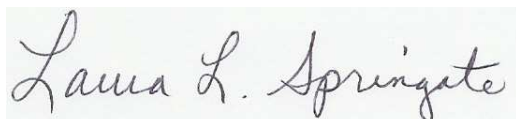
13 Last I urge all of you to support
14 me in making a stand against vendors who continue
15 to exploit young girls. I stand alongside girls
16 who unfortunately who have been objectified by
17 vendors in the City of New York. I urge that we
18 increase penalties for offending vendors who
19 continue to make little girls in the City of New
20 York objects of desire. Thank you.

21 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
22 very much. Seeing no others, this meeting is
23 adjourned.

24 [Gavel banging]

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Laura L. Springate certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura L. Springate". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Signature Laura L. Springate

Date April 5, 2011