

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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December 8, 2010

Start: 2:30 pm

Recess: 3:35 pm

HELD AT: Emigrant Savings Bank
49-51 Chambers Street

B E F O R E:
JOEL RIVERA
Majority Leader

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Christine C. Quinn
Maria Del Carmen Arroyo
Charles Barron
Gale A. Brewer
Fernando Cabrera
Margaret S. Chin
Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.
Elizabeth S. Crowley
Inez E. Dickens
Erik Martin Dilan
Daniel Dromm
Mathieu Eugene
Julissa Ferreras

A P P E A R A N C E S

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Lewis A. Fidler
Helen D. Foster
Daniel R. Garodnick
James F. Gennaro
Vincent J. Gentile
Sara M. Gonzalez
David G. Greenfield
Vincent M. Ignizio
Robert Jackson
Letitia James
Peter A. Koo
Karen Koslowitz
Brad S. Lander
Jessica S. Lappin
Melissa Mark-Viverito
Darlene Mealy
Rosie Mendez
Michael C. Nelson
James S. Oddo
Annabel Palma
Domenic M. Recchia, Jr.
Diana Reyna
Joel Rivera
Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Debora L. Rose
James Sanders, Jr.
Eric A. Ulrich
James Vacca
Peter F. Vallone, Jr.
James G. Van Bramer
Albert Vann
Mark S. Weprin
Jumaane D. Williams
Ruben Wills

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

Marissa Olivieri
Coach
Port Richmond Girls Cross Country

Joseph Nikic
Captain
Beacon Boys' Soccer

Sela Brown
Captain
Beach Girls' Soccer

Julia Rivera
New York Organ Donor Network

Mandy Patinkin
Actor, Spokesperson
New York Organ Donor Network

Imam Shamsi Ali
Islamic Cultural Center

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: All right. We're
3 going to start the ceremonials with the first one
4 being the one led by Council Member Debbie Rose.
5 So if the folks from the Port Richmond High School
6 Women's Cross-Country Team could come on up. Here
7 you go.

8 [Applause]

9 SPEAKER QUINN: And Vinnie, you did
10 great. Come on, ladies. Ladies, why don't you
11 fall in all behind Council Member Rose? Stand
12 with Debbie and Jimmy and Vinnie. Some folks over
13 here on this side too. You'll beat him. We don't
14 even need to time it. In your day, Vinnie. In
15 your day. Hi, ladies. All right, here you go
16 Debbie.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Okay. Jimmy,
18 you guys want to hold the proc?

19 [Crosstalk]

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Okay. No,
21 that's good. That's good. Right here. We're
22 here this afternoon to honor the Staten Island
23 Girls' Cross-Country track team, who are the New
24 York City PSAL champs.

25 [Applause]

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: You know, in
3 my--Port Richmond is not only my alma mater, but
4 in my district this summer, we were like a
5 district that read like Tales of Two Cities. We
6 had the best of times and the worst of times. And
7 our community of Port Richmond received a lot of
8 negative press, nationally and internationally.
9 And while this was going on, concurrently there
10 was a beautiful, positive, story that was going
11 on, that was a story of teamwork, compassion,
12 scholarly achievement. 31 beautiful young women
13 were studying for SATs and college entrance exams,
14 while clinching the title to the New York City
15 PSAL. And this group has proven that through
16 obstacles--they started out with five, and their
17 wonderful coach had many obstacles to go through.
18 And they are now not only the PSAL Cross-Country
19 champs, but they are the Staten Island PSAL Cross-
20 Country Borough champs. They are the Staten
21 Island Varsity Championship team. They are the
22 New York City PSAL Junior Varsity Cross-Country
23 Champions. They are the New York City PSAL
24 Sophomore Cross-Country Champions, and the Staten
25 Island Junior Varsity Borough Champions. These

1
2 are women of achievement both on the track field
3 and in school. Congratulations.

4 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you so much.
5 Thank you. And if the clerk could please read the
6 proclamation.

7 THE CLERK: Council, City of New
8 York, Proclamation. Whereas the Council of the
9 City of New York is proud to honor the Port
10 Richmond High School Women's Cross-Country team,
11 the Lady Raiders, for their outstanding teamwork
12 and sportsmanship, which led them to become the
13 2010-2011 PSAL City Champions; and whereas the
14 Port Richmond High School Lady Raiders is
15 comprised of 31 talented college-bound students,
16 as well as three dedicated coaches, a tireless
17 athletic director and a passionate school
18 principal; whereas this year the Port Richmond
19 Lady Raiders overcame all obstacles to capture the
20 New York City PSAL Cross-Country Championship as
21 well as the Staten Island PSAL Borough
22 Championship and the Staten Island Varsity
23 Championship, they also won the New York City PSAL
24 Junior Varsity Cross-Country Championship, the New
25 York City PSAL Sophomore Cross-Country

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2 Championship and the Staten Island Junior Varsity
3 Borough Championship; and whereas the Port
4 Richmond Lady Raiders triumphed at the--their
5 triumph at the PSAL City Championship also serves
6 as an important reminder of the importance of
7 teamwork, not only in sports, but in all areas of
8 life. Now therefore be it known that the Council
9 of the City of New York honors the Lady Raiders,
10 Port Richmond High School, 2009-2010 Women's
11 Cross-Country team. Christine C. Quinn, speaker
12 for the entire Council; Deborah Rose, Council
13 Member 49th District, Staten Island; James S.
14 Oddo, Minority Leader, 50th District, Staten
15 Island; and Vincent M. Ignizio, Council Member
16 51st District, Staten Island.

17 SPEAKER QUINN: Yay. And I don't
18 know if the coach or the athletic director or
19 anybody wants to say a few words? No?

20 MARISSA OLIVIERI: Congratulations
21 girls. Great job and keep up on your academics
22 and we're very proud of you.

23 SPEAKER QUINN: Now ladies though,
24 before you step off I want--this is Domenic M.
25 Recchia, Jr., our finance chair. And this

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2 wouldn't have happened if people had bet on you in
3 the case, but they didn't. Domenic, show everyone
4 the t-shirt you're wearing. Now, Domenic, explain
5 to us the story of the t-shirt.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: I lost a
7 bet--

8 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE:
9 [Interposing] Loser.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Lincoln
11 High School is in my district and I support them.
12 And we played Port Richmond the first game on the
13 new field that--Lincoln won and Madam Speaker, you
14 helped supply the money for the new field. It was
15 opening night. But I bet my colleague Vinnie
16 Gentile, who--he represents Fort Hamilton. And
17 last night--it was a great game, Lincoln against
18 Fort Hamilton, Fort Hamilton won 8-6, and we lost
19 the high school championship. But more
20 importantly, it was at Yankee Stadium. There was
21 over 15,000 people there last night, and there was
22 over--between 15 to 20 college scouts to look at
23 our children in New York City for full
24 scholarships. And there are about 8-15 kids who
25 are going to get full rides to division one

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2 schools. That's how great it was.

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SPEAKER QUINN: So ladies, I

mention that to let you know we take our high

school sports seriously in the New York City

Council. And thank you ladies for being a great

example of that, and great scholar athletes. And

we look forward to hearing about all your

successes in the future. So thank you all very

much. Congratulations.

All right. We're going to have

this team move out and we're going to have Gale

Brewer and her team come up. Let's have a round

of applause for the Lady Raiders as they make

their way out.

All right. And as the Lady Raiders

are making their way out, we're going to have

Council Member Gale Brewer and the Blue Demons,

the Boys and Girls Soccer team from the Beacon

School. So if they could make their way up while

the Lady Raiders are leaving, that would be great.

You snooze you lose, Vinnie.

That's all I'm saying. You were late, but you

look very cute in your fleece. Domenic, that's a

better shirt. Put that on over.

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2

Hi, how are you? Nice to see you.

3

Gale, move up a little and fall on in. Why

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doesn't the team fall in behind Gale? Why don't

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some folks come over here too on this side?

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Great. Great. Do like half and half. Now some

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folks go over to your left. Great. Jesus. Big

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teams.

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COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Coaches,

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right up here. Come on, coaches. Coaches, come

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on. And wherever the captains--who are the

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captains? Are the captains near us? Captains?

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We need captains. All right.

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SPEAKER QUINN: If we could get the

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captains and the coach up by Council Member

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Brewer, please, that would be great.

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COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Captains

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and coach. Thank you, Madam Speaker. Thank you,

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City Council. We're here with the Blue Demons,

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which is Beacon High School Soccer Teams, Girls

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and Boys, won Citywide PSAL.

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[Applause]

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COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: And Beacon

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High School is located on 61 St. with young people

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from all over the City. They don't have a field,

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2 they don't have a gym, and they still won. And
3 that is a credit to traveling and schlepping to
4 fields all over the city. We need more fields in
5 Manhattan.

6 But I'm here to congratulate all
7 the students. Coach Kevin Jacobs of the girls'
8 team and Assistant Coach Rachael Radcliffe and two
9 amazing players, who are also captains and
10 spokespeople, Sela Brown and Sophia Kligler on the
11 girls; and the boys, Coach Alec Mahrer, Assistant
12 Colin McTreague [phonetic], and Captain Joseph
13 Nikic . I want to congratulate you all for the
14 amazing, amazing effort, for winning. I hate to
15 tell you, but the girls beat Tottenville and the
16 boys beat Francis Lewis. I hate to tell you that,
17 but that's what happened. We can ask the clerk to
18 read the proclamation, please. But don't mention
19 Tottenville.

20 THE CLERK: Council, City of New
21 York, proclamation. Whereas the Council of the
22 City of New York is proud and pleased to honor the
23 Beacon High School Boys and Girls Soccer Teams,
24 recognizing their historic double win of the New
25 York City Public High School Boys and Girls

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2 Championship, and thanks all players, coaches,
3 staff, teachers and parents for the support they
4 have shown to the team members in all facets of
5 their lives; and whereas the Beacon Boys team has
6 been competitive and experienced heartbreaking
7 losses in the past, but triumphed over the Francis
8 Lewis Patriots to win their first PSAL
9 Championship since the Fall '05 season, both under
10 the direction of Coach Alec Mahrer. After no
11 goals in regulation time and two overtime periods,
12 the game ended in a shootout. The Blue Demons
13 were able to take the championship in a final
14 penalty kick by Captain Joseph Nikic to end with a
15 4-3 victory, a truly exciting and historic win for
16 the Beacon School Boys team; and whereas the Girls
17 Soccer Team defeated Tottenville High School 2-0
18 to become PSAL Class A champions, finishing the
19 season undefeated in league play, the Blue Demons
20 continued their unbeaten streak through the
21 playoffs, culminating in the championship. Under
22 the guidance of Coach Kevin Jacobs, the team
23 played with accuracy and fluidity throughout the
24 season. The leadership of the team seniors, who
25 last won the championship during their freshman

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2 year helped carry the team through the title game.
3 Now therefore be it known that the Council of the
4 City of New York honors the Beacon School Boys and
5 Girls Soccer teams for its New York City Public
6 School Championships and its exemplary work in
7 fostering educational success through team sports.
8 Christine C. Quinn, Speaker for the entire
9 Council; Gale Brewer, Council Member, 6th
10 District, Manhattan.

11 SPEAKER QUINN: Yay. Well I just--
12 on behalf of the whole Council I want to
13 congratulate the boys' team and the girls' team.
14 And I just want to underscore what Gale said.
15 It's terrific when any school wins these
16 championships. It's particularly hard being from
17 Manhattan, my district is in Manhattan too, there
18 are not a lot of--if any--fields and you really
19 have to be committed to being on the team because
20 you add a lot of extra time into your schedule by
21 having to schlep here and there to all of the
22 different fields. So that you guys are on the
23 team doing as well as you are at a tough high
24 school and winning the way you are really sends a
25 message about how committed and how focused you

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all are, so thank you very much and

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congratulations. And Gale, are we going to hear

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from the coach?

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COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes. We're

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going to hear from--first we're going to hear from

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Joseph.

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JOSEPH NIKIC: My name is Joseph

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Nikic. I'm a senior at the Beacon School and I'm

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the varsity team captain. My teammates and I are

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honored to be here today, and I think I speak for

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all of us when I say we appreciate the recognition

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for our great accomplishment in winning both the

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boys' and girls' soccer championships. Thank you

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for honoring us.

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COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: And now

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we're going to hear from the girls. Sela.

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SELA BROWN: Thank you Council

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Member Brewer, Speaker Quinn and the rest of the

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City Council. On behalf of the girls' soccer

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team, we thank you for having us here today. It's

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wonderful that with limited facilities and field

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space both teams were able to be so successful.

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We have confidence that both teams will continue

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to develop and bring recognition to our school.

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2 Thank you.

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COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you, Beacon, for your academic and sports accomplishments. Thank you all my colleagues. I know there are a lot of great schools, but Beacon is right up there. Thank you.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you guys very much. Congratulations. If everybody can fall out. Congratulations, everybody. You're very welcome. Congratulations. Thank you. Congratulations, you're welcome.

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And our final ceremonial today is going to be led by Council Member Mark Weprin, slash, Council Member Islam, who is his Council Member for the day. She won the essay contest from her school, and is here today as Mark Weprin's far better half, if we all do say so ourselves. But want to thank the both of them for this important ceremonial recognizing the different organ donor--parts of the organ donor network in New York. And if we could ask the folks from the Organ Donor Network to make their way up, that would be great.

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COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Thank you,

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2 Madam Speaker. My colleagues, I'm delighted to be
3 here today as part of a group from the Organ
4 Donation Network. Many of you know the importance
5 of giving the gift of life, of being an organ
6 donor. Currently in the United States, 110,000
7 people are awaiting organ donation, and in New
8 York State alone there's 10,000 people waiting for
9 organ donations. And it's so important that
10 people put their names on that list to be an organ
11 donor. If the situation arises where something
12 was to happen to you, your organs can be used to
13 save other peoples' lives, and there's really no
14 more valuable thing you could do. 18 people each
15 day die waiting for a donation and it's so
16 important.

17 On your desk there's actually a
18 pamphlet, but you can sign up with the New York
19 State Donate Life Organ Eye and Tissue Donor
20 Registry, at www.donatelifeny.org. And--

21 SPEAKER QUINN: [Interposing] Mark,
22 if we could just--shh. I know the teams are
23 exiting, but if we could get a little... Thanks,
24 Mark.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Thank you,

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2 Madam Speaker. We are delighted to have some very
3 special guests here tonight--today. It feels like
4 tonight--today. People from the National Kidney
5 Foundation, The Eye Bank for Sight Restoration,
6 The New York Organ Donor Network--and we'll have
7 someone speak on their behalf. We're also joined
8 by Jeffrey Davis, who those of you who don't know--
9 -James Davis, who was your colleague of many of
10 the people in this room. His family donated his
11 corneas when he was killed and those corneas are
12 helping two people to see right now in this City.
13 Also, we are delighted and honored to be joined by
14 Mandy Patinkin, who is--where did he go? Here you
15 go, Mandy Patinkin, star of stage and screen,
16 winner of a Tony and an Emmy in the past, as well
17 as an accomplished musician and singer, and star
18 of Elmo in Grouchland and other famous movies as
19 well. One of my kids was a big fan of that one in
20 particular. Of course he played the bad guy, but
21 that's another story.

22 But let me first call on Julia
23 Rivera, who is going to speak on behalf of all the
24 networks and the organ donation people to say a
25 few words. Julia?

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JULIA RIVERA: Thank you so much everybody for being here. As was said before, there are nearly 110,000 people awaiting a life-saving organ transplant. And in New York it's over 10,000 people. Every 18 minutes, somebody dies in America awaiting an organ transplant. And every 11 minutes, another name is added to the list. This is a cause that we're not coming to the City Council to ask you for money. This is a cause that you can support.

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We all have our family members, our neighbors, our extended family. We all can be part of living life after death by enrolling on the New York State registry. The New York State donor registry is behind the rest of the country in enrollments. Now, New York is a very proud city. We want everybody in New York to sign up on the New York State registry. So, I encourage you to help us. I want to acknowledge Doris Novello Suda [phonetic], Donor Family Member as well, whose father passed away. And she'll tell you at any point that having her father be an organ donor was the best thing that happened to them. Because when he no longer could live he could allow

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2 somebody else to live through the gift of
3 eyesight, through the gift of tissue or through
4 the gift or organ donor. Thank you.

5 [Applause]

6 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Thank you
7 very much. And I'd like to call on Mandy
8 Patinkin, who is here not only through all the
9 accomplishments that I mentioned and the fact he's
10 making Karen Koslowitz swoon, but also the fact
11 that he is a double cornea recipient. And I'd
12 love to have you say a few words, Mr. Patinkin.

13 MANDY PATINKIN: Thank you. First
14 of all, thank you so much for including organ
15 donation in your event today. I can't think of
16 any single cause, any cause, not just in New York
17 City, but anywhere in America or the world, that
18 is more important than saving a single life.
19 Because that single life tomorrow may create the
20 cure for cancer, peace in the Middle East, peace
21 for all humanity all over the world. And you can
22 be instrumental in saving those lives.

23 I want to encourage you--I'm not
24 even sure whether or not this kind of event takes
25 place every year at the City Council, but it

1
2 should. And I would like you, however you make
3 this City Council work, I would like to make sure
4 that there is at least a major event where organ
5 donation becomes a focus every year. And we at
6 the New York Organ Donor Network will find a way
7 to help you focus that attention.

8 I received two cornea transplants,
9 one from a little girl in 1997, another, my left
10 eye, from a little boy in 1998. I would be blind
11 without this gift of sight. And I just have to
12 tell you a little personal story. I started doing
13 national work for organ donation awareness
14 immediately after I received this gift. And on
15 Thanksgiving, the CBS was doing a piece about my
16 second eye transplant. And the widow of my best
17 friend who we just lost that year turned to me and
18 said, what did we do with our loved one's organs?
19 And I was working for it, for organ donation
20 awareness, and we did nothing because we were in
21 the midst of our grief and our sorrow and our
22 pain. The time to think about organ donation is
23 on a beautiful day like today, when we're all
24 healthy and well and alive. The time to think
25 about it is at Hanukkah and Christmas and New

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2 Years, and everyone's birthday and on
3 Thanksgiving, and when you're sitting with your
4 gorgeous families at the table, bring up this gift
5 of life that you can save up to eight lives with
6 one donor, and god knows how many others with skin
7 donations. If you have complications in the
8 individual, often many people can still be cornea
9 donors.

10 And I just, I want to give you the
11 facts, you can get them easily by googling, but
12 just right down for New Yorkers, because this is
13 our family right now, but for New Yorkers, just
14 write down these simple words: DonateLifeNY, D-O-
15 N-A-T-E-L-I-F-E-N-Y.org, .org. And become an
16 organ donor. You can do it yourself. You don't
17 need to have a family member do it. You can take
18 care of this yourself. Do it. It will be the
19 singular greatest gift you have ever given. And I
20 encourage you to do it. It is a privilege to be a
21 part of this event today and I hope to see you
22 every year at a similar event. Thank you.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Thank you
24 so much. I couldn't say anything as well as that.
25 I did get on the registry. I want you to know it

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2 takes about two minutes, so I encourage everybody
3 to do it after the meeting today. I would like to
4 ask the clerk to read the proclamation.

5 THE CLERK: Council, City of New
6 York proclamation. Whereas the Council of the
7 City of New York is proud to honor the
8 organizations and many New Yorkers who promote the
9 gift of life through their commitment to tissue
10 and organ donation; the impact of opting in to be
11 a donor cannot be underestimated.

12 SPEAKER QUINN: Hang on one second,
13 Mike. If everybody could bunch up a little bit so
14 we could get a little better picture here. Sorry.
15 Right. Up by the council members. Thanks, Mike.

16 THE CLERK: One single person who
17 donates organs including hearts, lungs, livers,
18 kidneys, pancreas and intestines can save up to
19 eight lives, while someone who donates tissues
20 like corneas, bones, skins, heart valves, tendons
21 veins and more, can improve the lives of 12 or
22 more people by restoring eyesight, helping fight
23 infections in burn patients, and preventing the
24 loss of mobility and disability.

25 The late New York City Council

1
2 Member James E. Davis generously donated his
3 corneas to the Eye Bank for sight restoration,
4 which has allowed two men to regain their sight.
5 And whereas today there are 73,239 candidates on
6 the active waiting list for such donations,
7 including more than 8,000 New Yorkers, and a new
8 name is added to the national list every 11
9 minutes. Tragically the need for organ donations
10 far exceeds the supply. Every day the shortage of
11 donated organs results in the deaths of 19 people
12 awaiting transplants. With very few exceptions,
13 people of all ages and background should consider
14 themselves potential organ and tissue donors.
15 Many families of donors say that knowing other
16 lives have been saved lightens their grief and
17 helps them cope with their tragic loss.

18 Now therefore be it known that the
19 Council of the City of New York honors the Eye
20 Bank for Sight Restoration, the National Kidney
21 Foundation and the New York Organ Donor Network
22 for promoting organ and tissue donation in New
23 York City. Christine C. Quinn, speaker for the
24 entire Council; Mark Weprin, Council Member, 23rd
25 District, Queens; and many other members of the

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2 City Council.

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[Pause]

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SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very much. Thank you Council Members Weprin and Islam, and this concludes our ceremonials for today's Stated Meeting. Thank you guys.

THE CLERK: Ladies and gentlemen, may I please have your attention? At this time can you please place all cell phones and pagers to vibrate? Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Please line for the pledge of allegiance.

UNISON: I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Roll call.

THE CLERK: Arroyo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Here.

THE CLERK: Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here.

THE CLERK: Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.

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2 THE CLERK: Cabrera.
3 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.
4 THE CLERK: Chin.
5 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.
6 THE CLERK: Comrie.
7 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Here.
8 THE CLERK: Crowley.
9 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.
10 THE CLERK: Dickens.
11 [Pause]
12 THE CLERK: Dilan.
13 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Here.
14 THE CLERK: Dromm.
15 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.
16 THE CLERK: Eugene.
17 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.
18 THE CLERK: Ferreras.
19 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Here.
20 THE CLERK: Fidler.
21 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Here.
22 THE CLERK: Foster.
23 COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Here.
24 THE CLERK: Garodnick.
25 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.

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2 THE CLERK: Gennaro.
3 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here.
4 THE CLERK: Gentile.
5 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.
6 THE CLERK: Gonzalez.
7 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Here.
8 THE CLERK: Greenfield.
9 [Pause]
10 THE CLERK: Halloran.
11 [Pause]
12 THE CLERK: Ignizio.
13 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Here.
14 THE CLERK: Jackson.
15 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Here.
16 THE CLERK: James.
17 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Here.
18 THE CLERK: Koo.
19 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Here.
20 THE CLERK: Koppell.
21 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Here.
22 THE CLERK: Koslowitz.
23 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.
24 THE CLERK: Lander.
25 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

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THE CLERK: Lappin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Here.

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THE CLERK: Levin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

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THE CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:

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Here.

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THE CLERK: Mealy.

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[Pause]

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THE CLERK: Mendez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.

12

THE CLERK: Nelson.

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COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Here.

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THE CLERK: Palma.

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COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Here.

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THE CLERK: Recchia.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Here.

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THE CLERK: Reyna.

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COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Here.

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THE CLERK: Rodriguez.

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[Pause]

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THE CLERK: Rose.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.

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THE CLERK: Sanders.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Present.
3 THE CLERK: Seabrook.
4 [Pause]
5 THE CLERK: Ulrich.
6 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.
7 THE CLERK: Vacca.
8 [Pause]
9 THE CLERK: Vallone.
10 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.
11 THE CLERK: Van Bramer.
12 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.
13 THE CLERK: Vann.
14 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Here.
15 THE CLERK: Weprin.
16 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Here.
17 THE CLERK: Williams.
18 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.
19 THE CLERK: Wills.
20 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Present.
21 THE CLERK: Oddo.
22 [Pause]
23 THE CLERK: Rivera.
24 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Here.
25 THE CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Here.

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THE CLERK: We have a quorum.

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[Pause]

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Ladies and gentlemen, please rise for the invocation being delivered by Imam Shamsi Ali from the Islamic Cultural Center of New York City.

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IMAM SHAMSI ALI: Good afternoon to you. Madam Speaker, Honorable Members of the City Council of New York City, I would like first of all to thank you for this opportunity. This is a great honor for me and my community. Let's pray.

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In the name of Allah, the beneficent, the merciful, praise be to you, Lord, who created us and made us into diverse races and nations; that we may know each other to grow love, understanding, respect and unity.

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Oh, most gracious Lord, we declare that we are your servants who constantly walk on this earth with humility, with full commitment to peace and harmony.

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God, we are fully aware that there is a divine pattern for humanity, and within that pattern there is infinite love, harmony, peace,

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cooperation and mutual helpfulness.

We are also aware, Lord, that there will be a free interchange of ideas, of cultures, of spiritual concepts, and even scientific discoveries. And we know also that all people of all races, religions and faith traditions will remain individuals, but we know that deep within each of us the divine pattern of perfect peace is already implanted.

And so, guide us to be united in a common purpose of promoting peace and harmony between people, that happiness and prosperity may - -

God, creator of the heavens and the earth, you created all people and placed before them the pathway of salvation through different messengers and prophets. But the apparent contradictions in the interpretations of your teachings have resulted in creating divisions, hatred and divisiveness in our society. God, look with compassion on the whole human family. Take away the controversial interpretations of arrogance, divisions and hatred, which have badly infected our hearts and our minds.

1
2 We ask you, God, to guide our
3 leaders. Show them the right vision to serve our
4 City with dedication and sincerity. Bless their
5 efforts. Unit their hearts and minds for the
6 best, despite their different ways of seeing what
7 is the best for our great city. Bless us all,
8 bless our city, and bless and keep the United
9 States of America. Amen.

10 SPEAKER QUINN: If I could ask my
11 colleagues to remain standing, please.

12 On December 5th, 2010, Marine
13 Sergeant Nicholas Aleman, 24, of Brooklyn, was
14 killed while supporting combat operations in
15 Afghanistan. Sergeant Aleman was assigned to the
16 Deployment Processing Command Base out of Ft.
17 Lejeune, North Carolina. His family originally
18 emigrated from Honduras, but Nicholas was born in
19 Brooklyn and grew up on Manhattan Avenue and
20 graduated from Midwood High School. He entered
21 the Marines right after high school and was killed
22 after a short stay in Afghanistan.

23 Both of his sisters are also in the
24 military, with one in the Army and the other one a
25 Marine. His aunts and uncles recall that Nicholas

1
2 was just a normal kid, a great boy, very
3 intelligent. He liked to have fun and he had a
4 big appetite, especially for fried plantains and
5 pork chops. He leaves behind his parents,
6 sisters, aunts and uncles, and many relatives and
7 friends. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his
8 entire family.

9 [Pause]

10 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, Mr.
11 Majority Leader.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you,
13 Madam Speaker. Council Member Viverito?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:
15 Thank you. I'd like to thank the Imam for his
16 wonderful invocation. We're very fortunate to
17 have the beautiful Islamic Cultural Center of New
18 York in my district on 97th St. and 3rd Avenue.
19 Imam Shamsi Ali is such an important figure within
20 the Muslim community and the broader community
21 here in New York City. He's fought courageously
22 for the rights of Muslim New Yorkers and against
23 racism and Islamophobia, particularly in the wake
24 of September 11th, and at the height of the
25 controversy surrounding the planned Islamic

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2 Cultural Center here in Lower Manhattan.

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He has been a leader in building bridges among faiths as well as a strong advocate for non-violence. And with that I'd like to now motion to spread the invocation full upon the record.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

Adoption of the minutes?

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THE CLERK: None.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council

Member Mark Weprin?

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COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Thank you, Mr. Leader. Ladies and gentlemen, it was already referenced earlier today, but last meeting we were honored to bring in our new colleague Ruben Wills for his first day in the chamber. And I'm glad to increase his seniority today by bringing in the newest Council Member, Council Member for a day, Waressa Islam [phonetic], who is standing with me.

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[Applause]

22

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COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: This is an essay contest that I actually did in my former job for many years, to have them come in for a day. It's a great chance for people in schools to feel

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2 connected to government and to get to see that
3 Council Members or legislators are not all people
4 you can't get to know and get to hear from, and
5 how they're really not so different from the rest
6 of the world. I do want to thank my colleagues
7 for being such good hosts to Waresa today,
8 especially those who were on the Land Use
9 Committee today, and a special shout out to Robert
10 Jackson, who has just been terrific as a host,
11 partial host. He even gave Waresa his Council
12 Pin for the day. He wouldn't give up the Robert
13 Jackson City Council pin though. But, she won an
14 essay contest that I do every year, and I'm
15 delighted to have her and her parents, who are in
16 the back, Tajrene [phonetic] is her mom, and
17 Deciful [phonetic], her dad, and her almost five-
18 year-old brother who will be five in a month,
19 Wajiv [phonetic]. Is he still awake back there?
20 Hanging in there? Now, I watched Wajiv all day
21 and I get the feeling he's going to be in politics
22 someday himself. And I've heard there are other
23 brothers or sister teams that have been in office
24 together, so they may join along.

25 I want to thank you all very much

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2 and hope you'll continue to welcome your new
3 colleague. Thank you.

4

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
6 very much, Council Member. Next we have Council
7 Member Leroy Comrie to vote.

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9 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Permission
10 to vote on all items on today's general order
11 calendar.

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13 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

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15 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: And
16 permission to be excused.

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18 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

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20 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: So Aye to
21 all. Thank you.

22

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you.
24 Council Member Dickens?

25

26 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Thank you,
27 Mr. Majority Leader. Permission to vote on all
28 Land Use Call Ups and on all General Orders on
29 today's calendar.

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31 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

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33 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: And
34 permission to leave.

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36 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: And I want to welcome the new council member, Ruben Wills. Glad to have you on board.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Perfect, thank you. Next we have Council Member Brewer?

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you very much. I'd like also permission to vote on all General Order items, and I would vote Aye if given permission.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council Member Foster?

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Thank you. I'd like permission to vote on all General Order calendars, please?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: I vote Aye on all. Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you. Council Member Nelson?

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Thank you. I request unanimous consent to vote Aye on all Land Use orders and all General Counsel Orders as

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2 well.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

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Next we'll move on to messages and papers from the

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Mayor.

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THE CLERK: None.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:

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Communication from City, County and Borough

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Offices?

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THE CLERK: None.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Petitions

12

and communications?

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THE CLERK: None.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Land Use

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Call Ups?

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THE CLERK: None.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:

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Communication from the Speaker.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. I just

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want to make note for all members of the Land Use

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Committee, as the Stated Meeting ends, do not

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leave. Please check in with Chuck or Ramon or

23

Gail. We may be holding a Land Use Committee

24

meeting after the Stated Meeting back at 250. If

25

you're at Land Use, do not leave. Check in.

1
2 You'll be told when or if you are allowed to leave
3 today, because we are continuing to negotiate on
4 the Riverside South items.

5 That said, we are going to vote on
6 some items today. First, Intro 396-A, a piece of
7 legislation introduced and passed out of our Civil
8 Rights Committee, by our Civil Rights Committee
9 Chair, Debbie Rose. This is her first piece of
10 legislation, so congratulations for her. I want
11 to thank Julene Beckford, Damien Butfig [phonetic]
12 and Alix Pustilnik for their work on this. This
13 is a piece of legislation that will assist our
14 oversight of the Human Rights Commission and add
15 transparency to the Human Rights Commission by
16 setting a date certain every year by which we and
17 the Mayor will receive the annual report on the
18 Human Rights Commission's activities, and also add
19 greater specifics about what is to be reported in
20 that document. And our goal here is really to get
21 a better sense on the level of discrimination
22 complaints that are being brought to the
23 commission and whether or not or how efficiently
24 or not the commission is dealing with them. So I
25 want to thank Debbie Rose for her work on this,

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2 and let me call on the Chair. And if we could get
3 a little quiet in the chambers for the Chair,
4 please.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Thank you,
6 Madam Speaker. Thank you. I'd like to extend my
7 thanks to Julene Beckford and to Damien Butfig for
8 all of the work that they did and the Human Rights
9 Committee for all the hours they put in.

10 I want to express to you that we
11 all know that it's no secret. Over the years
12 advocates and civil rights activists have voiced
13 frustration regarding the Human Rights
14 Commission's effectiveness in investigating and
15 addressing discrimination and civil rights abuses
16 here in the City. As the Chair of the Civil
17 Rights Committee, I developed my own concerns
18 based on the difficulty I faced obtaining what I
19 thought would be basic information regarding the
20 work of the Commission.

21 This bill is an important step in
22 the right direction because its provisions will
23 guarantee greater transparency within the Human
24 Rights Commission. And I believe that
25 transparency will lead to greater accountability.

1
2 Even the Human Rights Commission embraces the new
3 reporting requirements established by this bill.
4 These new requirements offer the Commission an
5 opportunity to demonstrate to the public that it
6 really is conducting the work in a focused and
7 comprehensive manner. I urge all of my colleagues
8 to support this bill when it comes up for vote.
9 Though the City's financial woes dominate the news
10 cycle, it is important for us to remember that the
11 fundamental purpose of government is to guarantee
12 and protect the peoples' rights. Intro 396 will
13 help ensure that we are able to fulfill this
14 essential mandate. Thank you.

15 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
16 much, Chair Rose. I also want to thank the Chair
17 of our Housing and Buildings Committee, Council
18 Member Dilan, for passing Intro 343-A, a piece of
19 legislation that deals with the energy
20 conservation code and continues the Council's
21 commitment to energy conservation and
22 sustainability. I want to thank Jeff Haberman,
23 Baaba Halm and Ben Goodman for their work on this.

24 I also want to thank our Land Use
25 Committee Chair, Leroy Comrie and his staff for

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2 their work. Today we are voting on Intro 428-A,
3 which is a piece of legislation that co-names 67
4 thoroughfares and public places. I want to thank
5 Council Member Melissa Mark-Viverito, Chair of the
6 Committee, for her work. And Lyle Frank, Patrick
7 Mulvihill and Jeff Haberman for their work on this
8 as well.

9 Lastly in Transportation we are
10 passing a piece of legislation, Intro 257-A, which
11 was introduced by Council Member Diana Reyna. And
12 I want to thank her and Jimmy Vacca, the Chair of
13 the Committee for their work. I want to thank
14 Lyle Frank and Terza Nasser and Jennifer Wilcox
15 for their work as well, as well as Phil Hom for
16 their assistance. And very simply, 257-A will
17 assist the City, particularly the Department of
18 Transportation on cracking down on a neighborhood
19 nuisance, which is unlawful ATM on sidewalks.
20 We've all seen them. We've all wondered how they
21 got there. We've all wondered if they're legal.
22 They're not legal. They are obstructing sidewalk
23 access. They're often a magnet for crime and
24 tremendous levels of vandalism. When they're put
25 out on the street illegally like that, they

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actually don't stand for ATMs, they don't actually stand for Automatic Teller Machines, they stand for Asking for Trouble Machines, and we want to do everything we can to get them off of our streets and deal with this quality of life issue. And I want to thank the Council Member for her work on this. Let me first call on the sponsor, Council Member Reyna, and then the Chair of the Committee, Council Member Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Thank you so much Madam Speaker. I'd like to thank you and the Transportation Chair Vacca for this diligent process in ensuring that Intro 257-A was going to be heard and processed for a vote quickly in this council, in this body. I want to urge my colleagues to vote yes on this bill. Intro 257-A is an enforcement bill. Currently there is no enforcement addressing the safety, visual pollution and traffic concerns posed by sidewalk ATMs. Vandalized sidewalk ATMs blight communities and impair the walking corridors of heavily trafficked sidewalks. They're an impediment for business improvement districts who have complained to my office within my district, asking for

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2 assistance. And today I am proud, especially to
3 say thank you to Max Javier [phonetic] the BID
4 director who of course is going to be moving on to
5 his next endeavor. But I wanted to thank him
6 amongst us here today. A functioning City must
7 enforce legislation that reduces crime and
8 improves the quality of life issues. Today we are
9 strengthening the City's ability to enforce
10 against ATMs that unlawfully encroach on public
11 sidewalks. 257-A will remove discrepancies and
12 uncertainties that exist regarding unlawful
13 sidewalk ATMS.

14 I'd like to finally thank my staff,
15 Peter Patier [phonetic]; Misha, our intern; and
16 Lyle Frank; Nevardo Anshima [phonetic], who have
17 been extremely helpful as Counsel and Policy
18 Analyst to the Transportation Committee. Thank
19 you again.

20 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
21 much, Council Member Reyna. Chair Vacca?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Yes. I very
23 much want to ask my colleagues to pass this
24 legislation. Our public hearings indicated indeed
25 what a danger the ATM machines are, what a public

1
2 nuisance that many of them, when abandoned,
3 represent. And if we do not have this
4 legislation, I do not think the public good will
5 be served. I thank Council Member Reyna and her
6 staff for putting together this very good piece of
7 legislation and would urge that we vote yes.

8 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
9 much, Chair. And that concludes Communication
10 from the Speaker.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
12 very much, Madam Speaker. Discussion of General
13 Orders? Seeing none, we'll move on to Reports of
14 Special Committees?

15 THE CLERK: None.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Reports of
17 Standing Committees?

18 THE CLERK: Report of the Committee
19 on Civil Rights Intro 396-A, Commission on Human
20 Rights.

21 SPEAKER QUINN: Mandated and
22 coupled on General Orders.

23 THE CLERK: Report of the Committee
24 on Finance, Reso 583-A, various bids.

25 SPEAKER QUINN: Mandated and

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coupled on General Orders.

THE CLERK: Preconsidered LU 276
and Reso 598 and 277 and Reso 559, tax abatements.

SPEAKER QUINN: SPEAKER QUINN:
Mandated and coupled on General Orders.

THE CLERK: Report of the Committee
on Housing and Buildings, Intro 343-A Energy
Conservation Code.

SPEAKER QUINN: Mandated and
coupled on General Orders.

THE CLERK: Report of the Committee
on Land Use, LU 268 and Reso 600.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

THE CLERK: LU 269 and Reso 601.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

THE CLERK: LU 270 and Reso 602 and
271 and Reso 603, Landmark designations.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

THE CLERK: Report of the Committee
on Parks and Recreation, Intro 428-A naming of 67
thoroughfares and public places.

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: Mandated and
3 coupled on General Orders.

4 THE CLERK: Report of the Committee
5 on Rules, Privileges and Elections, Preconsidered
6 Reso 604, membership changes to Committees.

7 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
8 Orders.

9 THE CLERK: Report of the Committee
10 on Transportation, Intro 257-A, unlawful sidewalk
11 ATMs.

12 SPEAKER QUINN: Mandated and
13 coupled on General Orders with a message of
14 necessity.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: General
16 Order calendar?

17 THE CLERK: Resolution appointing
18 various persons Commissioner of Deeds.

19 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
20 Orders, and at this time I'd like to ask for a
21 roll call on all items that are coupled on General
22 Order Calendar, and remind members of the Land Use
23 Committee not to leave.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

25 THE CLERK: Arroyo.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

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THE CLERK: Barron.

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SPEAKER QUINN: If we could get quiet in the back of the chambers, please?

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COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I request unanimous consent to vote on all general order items?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

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COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote Aye on all.

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THE CLERK: Cabrera.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: I'd first like to congratulate Debbie Rose in her first piece of legislation. Aye on all.

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THE CLERK: Chin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Same here. Congratulations, Debbie. Aye on all.

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THE CLERK: Crowley.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye on all.

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THE CLERK: Dilan.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Aye, and I'm privileged not to be a member of the Land Use Committee.

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THE CLERK: Dromm.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye on all.

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THE CLERK: Eugene.

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COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I want to
say congratulations also to Debbie Rose, and I
vote Aye on all.

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THE CLERK: Ferreras.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye on

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all.

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THE CLERK: Fidler.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Aye. And

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I'm happy to have never been a member of the Land
Use committee.

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THE CLERK: Garodnick.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

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THE CLERK: Gennaro.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Yes.

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THE CLERK: Gentile.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Yes.

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THE CLERK: Gonzalez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye on

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all.

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THE CLERK: Greenfield.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Also

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1
2 congratulate Chair Rose for advancing Civil Rights
3 in this city, and I vote Aye on all.

4 THE CLERK: Ignizio.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: No on Land
6 Use 270, Aye on all others.

7 THE CLERK: Jackson.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye on
9 all.

10 THE CLERK: James.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES:
12 Congratulations, my sister, Debbie Rose, for
13 advancing the cause of justice in the City of New
14 York. I vote Aye on all. Congratulations, Deb.

15 THE CLERK: Koo.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye on all.

17 THE CLERK: Koppell.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Aye on
19 all.

20 THE CLERK: Koslowitz.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye on
22 all.

23 THE CLERK: Lander.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

25 THE CLERK: Lappin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

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THE CLERK: Levin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: With

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congratulations to my friend and colleague, Debbie

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Rose, I vote Aye on all.

7

THE CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:

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Felicidades a Debbie Rose, and I say Aye on all.

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THE CLERK: Mealy.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Yes.

12

THE CLERK: Mendez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye on all.

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THE CLERK: Palma.

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COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye on all.

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THE CLERK: Recchia.

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[Pause]

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THE CLERK: Reyna.

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COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye on all.

20

Congratulations to Debbie Rose.

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THE CLERK: Rodriguez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

23

Congratulations, Debbie.

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THE CLERK: Rose.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

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THE CLERK: Sanders.

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COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS:

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Congratulations to Debbie Rose. Aye on all.

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THE CLERK: Ulrich.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye on all.

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THE CLERK: Vacca.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye on all.

9

THE CLERK: Recchia.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Aye on

11

all.

12

THE CLERK: Vallone.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye on

14

all.

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THE CLERK: Van Bramer.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

17

THE CLERK: Vann.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: May I explain

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my vote?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: In this Intro

22

428-A, dealing with the report on Parks and

23

Recreation, there is a gentleman, Bertram L.

24

Baker, we are renaming part of Jefferson Avenue

25

for him. He was the first Black person, first

1
2 Black man to have been elected to the New York
3 State Legislature, New York State Assembly to be
4 specific. He served for some 22 years with
5 distinction. As a matter of fact, he was the
6 first Black to have earned leadership in New York
7 State Assembly. I represented the very same
8 district that he pioneered. It's been in four--
9 the leadership of four persons, Bertram Baker,
10 Calvin Williams, I served for several years, and
11 now Assemblywoman Annette Robinson. He was an
12 outstanding leader. I'm very pleased to follow in
13 his footsteps and very pleased that we are
14 renaming where he lived on Jefferson Avenue as
15 Bertram L. Baker Way. Thank you. I vote Aye.

16 THE CLERK: Weprin.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

18 THE CLERK: Williams.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS:

20 Congratulations to my seatmate, Debbie Rose. And
21 I vote Aye on all.

22 THE CLERK: Wills.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS:

24 Congratulations to Debbie Rose. Aye on all.

25 THE CLERK: Oddo.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

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THE CLERK: Rivera.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote Aye
on all.

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THE CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Aye on all.

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[Pause]

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All items
on today's General Order Calendar were adopted by
a vote of 49 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative
and 0 abstentions, with the exception of LU 270,
which was adopted by a vote of 48 in the
affirmative, 1 in the negative and 0 abstentions.
And that's all. Introduction and reading of the
bills.

17

SPEAKER QUINN: --be referred to

18

their Committees as indicated on the agenda.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you

20

very much. Discussion of resolutions. Seeing

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none we'll go straight to Resolution 540.

22

Resolution authorizing the Council to file an

23

Amicus Brief in the New York Court of Appeals in

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support of the Plaintiffs/Appellees in the

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litigation caption Casado Vs. Markus for the

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2 purpose of supporting the Plaintiffs/Appellees'
3 position to null and vacate certain provisions of
4 2008 Apartment and Loft Law number 40 and 2009
5 Apartment and Loft Law number 41 adopted by the
6 Finance Committee. All in favor say Aye.

7 UNISON: Aye.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All opposed
9 say Nay.

10 [Pause]

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Any
12 abstentions? The Ayes have it. If you abstained
13 just document it for the record. At this point in
14 time we'll move on to general discussions.
15 Council Member Jackson?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you
17 Majority Leader. My colleagues, I rise to ask you
18 to look at Intro 442, sponsored by myself, Council
19 Member Melissa Mark-Viverito and Council Member
20 Peter Vallone, Jr. It's a local law to amend
21 administrative codes of the City of New York in
22 relation to reports of school discipline and
23 Police Department activity relating to schools,
24 which is commonly being referred to as the Student
25 Safety Act. And so I ask you to sign on to this

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2 Intro, which will give reports on the type of
3 activities in schools relating to reports by
4 Police Officers, School Safety Agents, and
5 statistical information for us to evaluate on how
6 things are going in school. So I think this is a
7 good intro and a good bill, and I ask all of you
8 to look at that. We're hoping to try to move this
9 as quickly as possible before the end of this
10 year, which our next Stated Meeting is December
11 20th. Thank you, Majority Leader.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
13 very much. Council Member Cabrera?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Thank you
15 so much, Majority Leader. We were all horrified
16 on October of this year when it was reported that
17 several young men were kidnapped and brutally
18 tortured by the Latin King Goonies because of
19 their sexual orientation. This story, as you
20 know, went nationwide and prompted wide
21 condemnation for the heinous nature of the crime.
22 And as many of you know, however, this incident is
23 neither the beginning or the end of the gang
24 problem present in our city, as we have
25 experienced a surge in violent crime in our city.

1
2 And as difficult economic times exacerbate social
3 conditions like poverty and inadequate education
4 opportunities, it is imperative that we attack
5 gang related issues with comprehensive community
6 efforts. This is why I strongly urge you to join
7 me in sponsoring a resolution calling on congress
8 to pass HR 3526 which seeks to develop a
9 comprehensive gang violence reduction strategy.
10 It also calls on the United States Office of
11 Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to
12 award grants to non-profit community-based
13 intervention agencies for reducing and stopping
14 gang-related violence. Recent reports have
15 indicated that gang membership has grown over the
16 last decade with OJJDP putting the latest estimate
17 at nearly 800,000 members countrywide. We have a
18 responsibilities to our youth and communities all
19 around the City to do all we can to help mitigate
20 this problem. Please join me in sponsoring
21 resolution 593 as we work together as a city to
22 battle gang violence and inspire our youth to have
23 a positive impact on their community. Thank you
24 so much.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you

1
2 so much, Council Member. Next we have Council
3 Member Greenfield.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank
5 you, Mr. Leader. I'm excited today to introduce
6 two pieces of legislation, and an important
7 resolution and to ask that all of you sign on as
8 co-sponsors. My first piece of commonsense
9 legislation, Intro 441, would require that red
10 line be painted on curbs adjacent to fire hydrants
11 throughout New York City in order to clearly mark
12 where cars may and may not park. This will ensure
13 that the FDNY is able to access the hydrants in an
14 emergency, while also helping motorists avoid
15 tickets based on an often arbitrary standard
16 enforced by traffic enforcement agents.

17 My second piece of legislation,
18 Intro 440, would increase penalties to owners of
19 properties in which radio towers are illegally
20 constructed, and the owners of those radio towers.
21 Illegal radio broadcasts put lives at risk by
22 interfering with emergency radio frequencies.
23 They also interfere with the signals of legitimate
24 radio stations, and drive business away from
25 taxpaying radio stations who are struggling to

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stay on the air in this economy.

And finally, I'm introducing a resolution, Reso 594, that would call on DCAS to waive competitive civil service exam fees for our military vets. The men and women who serve in our Armed forces write a blank check to the United States of America for an amount up to and including their lives when they enter the military. Yet, when these soldiers return home from far-flung lands and war torn countries, they are often met with little to no support and even fewer job opportunities. In New York State 20% of our veterans are under the age of 30 and returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, 20% are unemployed. Affording the men and women who sacrificed so much for our country a cost-free opportunity to reenter civilian life is a simple way for us to address the systematic problems facing our veteran community and to show gratitude for their sacrifice. Thank you very much.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you.

Next we have Council Member Gentile.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, today is very, very proud to announce

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2 that as of last night, Ft. Hamilton High School is
3 the new PSAL Champions, City Champions, in
4 football. And it was battle of the Boroughs, a
5 battle of Brooklyn I should say, and Ft. Hamilton
6 beat Domenic Recchia's school, Lincoln High
7 School, 8-6 in a very tough, tough battle. And I
8 must say that the pride for Ft. Hamilton goes
9 beyond just this individual Council Member,
10 because I am joined as graduates of Ft. Hamilton
11 High School, Councilwoman Sara Gonzalez, and
12 Councilwoman Tish James. So all three of us are
13 graduates of the PSAL Champion, Ft. Hamilton High
14 School Tigers. And I have a wager here with our
15 friend, Dom Recchia. I'm looking forward to being
16 taken to Nathan's and having those Coney Island
17 hot dogs.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
19 very much. Council Member Rose followed by
20 Council Member Fidler.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: I'd like to
22 thank all of my colleagues for your congratulatory
23 wishes and for your support, ensuring that
24 transparency is ensured in the Human Rights
25 regulations, and ensuring that everyone's civil

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2 rights are being served in New York City. Thank
3 you.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
5 very much. Council Member Fidler, followed by
6 Council Member Levin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: First I
8 wanted to congratulate Council Member Rose before,
9 so I'll do that now. I want to extend my
10 congratulations to Council Member Gentile and
11 Gonzalez and the other Ft. Hamilton graduates. I
12 would have liked to have been in on the wager,
13 except the Bloomberg Administration seems to have
14 closed all the large high schools in my district,
15 so.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
17 very much. Council Member Levin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you
19 very much. I would like to take this opportunity
20 to call attention to two instances of assault in
21 the South Williamsburg Community, one occurring on
22 Thanksgiving Day and one occurring just this past
23 Sunday evening. In both instances a person of the
24 Hasidic Jewish community of Williamsburg was
25 viciously assaulted for no apparent reason. In

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2 one of these instances, anti-Semitic slurs were
3 spewed while the assailants were beating the
4 victim, and his religious garments were torn.

5 After Sunday's assault, the Shomrim
6 Community Patrol and the 90th Precinct in Brooklyn
7 apprehended the assailants and upon extensive
8 interviews charged two young men in both assaults,
9 and another charge of harassment regarding another
10 recent incident targeting another Hasidic Jewish
11 individual.

12 These types of acts have no place
13 in our society and undermine religious tolerance
14 and community throughout the City of New York.
15 So, I want to recognize the Shomrim Community
16 Patrol, the 90th Precinct and its Commanding
17 Officer, Michael Kemper, Brooklyn North and its
18 Chief, Gerald Nelson, the NYPD Hate Crimes Unit,
19 and Speaker Christine Quinn and all the Speaker's
20 staff for taking this issue so very seriously and
21 for everyone's collective efforts. We can verify
22 that we have assailants in custody and charges
23 have been issued and the South Williamsburg
24 Community can sleep a little easier tonight, but
25 this has been an example of everyone coming

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2 together and saying unequivocally that we will not
3 tolerate hate in our city. So, I want to thank
4 Speaker Quinn and I want to thank everyone else
5 that was involved for all their great work. Thank
6 you so much.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
8 very much, Council Member. Seeing no others--
9 Council Member Recchia.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: I just
11 want to tell all my colleagues that on Monday at
12 1:00 we'll be having a hearing on the proposed
13 cuts with Fire and CUNY. It starts at 1:00 on the
14 16th Floor.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
16 very much. Seeing no others, extension of
17 remarks? None. As the Speaker stated, stay
18 around for potential Land Use meeting and Zoning.

19

[Pause]

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council
21 Member Mealy, did you want to say a few words?
22 Council Member Mealy.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I just want
24 to say to the Pearl Harborers, to the attack on
25 America, we salute our men in the force. Thank

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2 you.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you

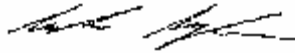
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very much. This meeting is adjourned.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Erika Swyler, 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.



Signature

Date 12/29/2010