

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

----- X

TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL
STATED MEETING

----- X

January 29, 2026
Start: 1:44 p.m.
Recess: 3:35 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: Julie Menin
Speaker

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Shaun Abreu
Shirley Aldebol
Joann Ariola
Alexa Avilés
Chris Banks
Erik D. Bottcher
Gale A. Brewer
Selvena N. Brooks-Powers
Tiffany N. Cabán
David M. Carr
Carmen N. De La Rosa
Eric Dinowitz
Elsie Encarnación
Harvey D. Epstein
Amanda C. Fariás
Simcha Felder
Oswald J. Feliz
James F. Gennaro

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

Jennifer Gutiérrez
Shahana K. Hanif
Ty Hankerson
Kamillah M. Hanks
Crystal Hudson
Rita C. Joseph
Shekar Krishnan
Linda Lee
Farah N. Louis
Virginia Maloney
Christopher Marte
Darlene Mealy
Frank Morano
Mercedes Narcisse
Sandy Nurse
Chi A. Ossé
Vickie Paladino
Lincoln Restler
Kevin C. Riley
Yusef Salaam
Pierina A. Sanchez
Justin E. Sanchez
Kayla Santosuoso
Lynn C. Schulman
Althea V. Stevens
Shanel Thomas-Henry
Sandra Ung
Inna Vernikov
Nantasha N. Williams
Julie Won
Phil Wong
Susan Zhuang

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 4

2 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet on the floor,
3 please. Quiet on the floor, please. Ladies and
4 gentlemen, at this time, please place all electronic
5 devices to vibrate, all electronic devices to
6 vibrate. Mr. Majority Leader?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: [gavel] Good
8 afternoon and welcome to the Stated Meeting of
9 January 29, 2026. I am Majority Leader Shaun Abreu
10 and I'd like to thank you for joining us. If you'd
11 like to please follow along, the agenda for today's
12 meeting is posted on our website. Please join us for
13 the pledge of allegiance.

14 SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise.

15 CITY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE: I pledge
16 allegiance to the flag of the United States of
17 America and to the Republic for which it stands, one
18 nation, under God, indivisible with liberty and
19 justice for all.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Roll call.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Aldebol?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ALDEBOURNE: Here.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ariola?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ARTOLA: Sono qui

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Avilés?

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 5

2 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Presente.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Banks?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Here.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Bottcher?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHER: Present.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Brooks-Powers?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Present.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cabán? De La Rosa?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Here.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Dinowitz?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Here.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Encarnación?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ENCARNACIÓN: Presente.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Epstein?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: Aqui.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Fariás?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Present.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Felder?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Here.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Feliz?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Here.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gennaro? Gutiérrez?

1 ||| NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 6

2 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIERREZ: Presente.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Hey, I just got a
4 text that I was called for attendance, but I don't
5 hear anything.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

7 UNIDENTIFIED: Yeah, we can't hear our
8 [inaudible] too. I can't hear anything.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Quiet in the
10 Chambers, please.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Hanif?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Here.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Hankerson?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKERSON: Here.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Hanks?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Present.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Hudson?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Present.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Joseph?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Here.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Krishnan?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: H

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lee?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Here.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Louis?

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 7

2 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Maloney?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: Here.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Marte?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Here.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mealy?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Present.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Morano?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Here.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Narcisse?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Present.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Nurse?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Present.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ossé?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: I'm here.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Palladino?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: I'm here, too.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Restler?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Here.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Riley?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Present.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Salaam?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Present.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Justin Sanchez?

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 8

2 COUNCIL MEMBER J. SANCHEZ: Seated.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Pierina Sanchez?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER P. SANCHEZ: Here.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Santosuoso?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER SANTOSUOSO: Here.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Schulman?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Here.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Stevens?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Present.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thomas-Henry?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER THOMAS-HENRY: Present.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ung?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Present.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Vernikov? Williams?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Present.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Won?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Present.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Zhuang?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Here.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cabán?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Present.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Carr?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Present.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Abreu?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Present.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Menin?

4 SPEAKER MENIN: Present.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Thank you. We
6 will now have today's invocation which will be
7 delivered by the legendary Cardinal Timothy Dolan,
8 Archbishop of New York of St. Patrick's Cathedral
9 which is located on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan.

10 CARDINAL TIMOTHY DOLAN: Let us pray.

11 God is for us a refuge and strength, a helper close
12 at home and time of distress, so we shall not fear.
13 Though the earth might rock, though the mountains
14 fall into the depths of the sea, even though its
15 waters rage and foam, even though the mountains be
16 shaken, the Lord of Hosts is with us. The God of
17 Jacob is our stronghold. The waters of a river give
18 joy to God's city, God's city, that holy place where
19 the most-high dwells. God is within here. That city
20 cannot be shaken. God will help it at the dawning of
21 the day. Nations are in tumult, kingdoms are shaken.
22 The Lord lifts his voice. The earth shrinks away,
23 because the Lord of Hosts is with us. The God of
24 Jacob is our stronghold. Consider those works of the
25 Lord. He puts it in towards all the earth. The

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 10

2 spear he snaps, he burns the shields with fire. Be
3 still and know that I am God, supreme among the
4 nation, supreme on the earth. The Lord of Hosts is
5 with us, the God of Jacob is our stronghold, and he
6 lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen. Amen.
7 Thanks, Madam Speaker, for the honor of leading
8 prayer, and thanks to all of you distinguished
9 leaders of this city that I've come to love over my
10 past 17 years as Archbishop, and please, be as good
11 to my successor who will be installed a week from
12 tomorrow as you have been to me. A deal? Right.
13 Thank you. God bless, alright?

14 || [applause]

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Thank you. I will
16 now ask Council Member Joann Ariola to spread the
17 invocation on the record.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Thank you,
19 Majority Leader. First, I would like to wish the
20 Cardinal an early happy birthday which will happen on
21 February 6th. Happy birthday to you. Many and more
22 happy and healthy. Cardinal Timothy Dolan served as
23 the Archbishop of New York from 2009 to 2025 and
24 served as the Archbishop of Milwaukee for nearly
25 seven years before that. He was made a Cardinal by

2 Pope Benedict XVI in 2012, and in that capacity has
3 worked hard to spread the Catholic faith in an
4 increasingly secularized world. Cardinal Dolan has
5 served as a strong voice for persecuted Christians
6 across the globe and has repeatedly advocating what
7 he calls Christophobic [sic] terrorism, a major
8 foreign policy priority. In his own words, when it
9 comes to the persecution of Christians, we are
10 talking about an international emergency, and we
11 should never apologize for keeping the issue alive in
12 public discourse. A major facet of religious life in
13 New York City for almost 17 years, Cardinal Dolan has
14 truly been New York's shepherd. Thank you again,
15 Majority Leader, Speaker Menin. I would like to
16 thank Cardinal Dolan for being here today, and I make
17 a motion for unanimous consent to spread the
18 invocation in full upon the record.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Thank you, Council
20 Member. We will now as Council Member Harvey Epstein
21 for the adoption of minutes.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: I make a motion
23 that the minutes of the Charter Meeting of January
24 7th, 2026 and the Stated Meeting of January 15th, 2026
25 be adopted as printed.

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 12

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Thank you, Council
3 Member. Messages and papers from the Mayor?

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Communication from
6 city, county and borough offices?

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Petitions and
9 communications?

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Land Use call-ups?

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Thank you. We
14 will now have communication from Speaker Julie Menin.

15 SPEAKER MENIN: Thank you, and I really
16 want to thank everyone for being on time. So,
17 really, it's great. Thank you. So, before we talk
18 about today's Stated Meeting, I first of all,
19 Cardinal Dolan, want to thank you for everything you
20 have done on behalf of our city. During times of
21 crisis and times of pain, you have brought our city
22 together in a true interfaith way that has affected
23 every single one of us, and we can't thank you enough
24 for your service and your leadership. And we're
25 really, really going to miss you. Thanks, Cardinal.

2 Thank you so much. Thank you for being here. So,
3 before we talk about today's Stated Meeting, I want
4 to start with a few brief acknowledgements.
5 Obviously, over the last several days we witnessed a
6 truly historic snowstorm, the worst we've seen
7 honestly in five years, and dangerously cold
8 temperatures that tragically claimed the lives of 10
9 New Yorkers. A storm of this magnitude required a
10 comprehensive all-government, hands-on-deck response.
11 I want to first thank the Sanitation Workers who
12 worked around the clock toiling away in often times
13 very dangerous conditions to keep our streets clear
14 and clean, and I want to thank City Hall, the first
15 responders, and all the city agencies for their hard
16 work in keeping New Yorkers safe. I also want to
17 briefly acknowledge events happening beyond New York
18 City that have understandably caused concern here at
19 home. What is unfolding in Minnesota is more than
20 merely disturbing. It flies in the face of what
21 government and law enforcement are entrusted to do
22 which is protect the public. In the past several
23 weeks, we have seen that two individuals have been
24 fatally shot, and there have been multiple reports of
25 children being taken into custody. These actions are

2 endangering the public, and they are eroding trust in
3 government institutions. This is untenable. It's
4 unsafe, and it's an unacceptable situation, and the
5 public deserves full transparency and accountability.
6 And while I'm not able to discuss details to protect
7 the privacy and integrity of the ongoing process, our
8 Council employee Rafael who remains in ICE custody,
9 despite having all of his legal work authorization
10 papers is totally and wholly unacceptable. We are
11 working around the clock for his safe return, and I
12 will have more to say on that in the coming weeks.

13 With that, turning to this afternoon's Stated
14 Meeting. I first of all want to begin by
15 acknowledging the Rabbi in Council Member Schulman's
16 district who was verbally and physically assaulted on
17 Tuesday in an abhorrent anti-Semitic attack. And
18 just last night in Council Member Hudson's district--
19 I know we were on the phone last night about this. A
20 vehicle struck the entrance to 770 Chabad World
21 Headquarters in yet another deeply disturbing
22 incident that is under investigation by the NYPD, and
23 we've been in close contact last night and today with
24 the NYPD. These have become almost daily occurrences
25 now and it is in intolerable in every way. I was in

2 Borough Park, Brooklyn just a few days ago where 73
3 swastikas were painted on slides, on children's play
4 equipment. It's truly horrific, and we are taking
5 action to put an end to that. January 27th was
6 Holocaust Remembrance Day when we honor the memory of
7 millions of Jewish people and other victims who were
8 murdered during the Holocaust. I really want to say
9 as the daughter and granddaughter of Holocaust
10 survivors, I would not be here today without their
11 courage and their strength, and it is critical that
12 we ensure that this history is shared, and I want to
13 thank so many colleagues who went this week to the
14 Museum of Jewish Heritage to visit the permanent
15 Holocaust exhibition. Thank you so much for
16 attending. On a lighter note, I want to wish a very
17 happy birthday to Council Members Shahana Hanif and
18 Harvey Epstein who share the same birthday, February
19 5th. Birthday twins. And I also want to welcome our
20 Majority Leader's father, Juan Abreu, to the Council
21 Chambers today. Juan, thank you so much for joining
22 us today. We really appreciate you being here. And
23 now with that, we're going to move onto our stated
24 agenda. So, today, the New York City Council is
25 taking action that is both rare and it's incredibly

2 consequential. We are going to override more vetoes
3 in one day than this City Council has done in the
4 past decade. That-- yes.

5 [applause]

6 SPEAKER MENIN: And these last-minute,
7 late-night vetoes that we received from Mayor Eric
8 Adams, again, stood in the way of the progress of
9 this Council in terms of worker protection, street
10 vendor protection, so many important issues, taxi
11 drivers-- so many-- so many different issues that we
12 were legislating, and so that is why I'm so thrilled
13 that we are doing these overrides today. These
14 overrides reflect legislation that's been debated
15 thoroughly, refined carefully, and supported by a
16 clear super majority of elected representatives from
17 across our city. When the Council acts with that
18 level of consensus, we have an obligation to follow
19 through. The Council will vote to advance the
20 following bills that promote good government and
21 transparency, because that is what New Yorkers expect
22 and deserve. So I'm going to read through them.
23 Introduction 1279B, sponsored by former Deputy
24 Speaker Diana Ayala, would limit rules issued by the
25 Department of Sanitation prohibiting supplemental

2 sanitation service providers from placing refuse or
3 recycling by public litter baskets and further
4 requiring them to set material out for collection by
5 DSNY in rigid receptacles with tight-fitting lids.

6 Thank you to the staff, Morganne Barrett [sp?].

7 Introduction 125A, also sponsored by our former
8 Deputy Speaker, would require that in most
9 circumstances, the NYPD must obtain the consent of a
10 parent, legal guardian, or attorney before collecting
11 a DNA sample from a minor. We want to thank our
12 staff, Jeremy Whiteman [sp?], who worked on this.

13 Introduction 1391A, also known as the Aland Etienne
14 Safety and Security Act, sponsored by our former
15 Speaker Adrienne Adams, would direct security guard
16 employers to provide their employees with minimum
17 wage, paid vacation time, and supplemental benefits.

18 This legislation was inspired by the heroic of Aland
19 Etienne, a former 32BJ security guard who literally
20 put his life on the line, closing down the elevator
21 banks, saving lives so additional people were not
22 harmed in that fatal shooting over the summer. Thank
23 you to the staff, Sarah Swaine [sp?], to Natalie
24 Meltzer [sp?], to Rachel Cordero [sp?]. Introduction
25 479A, sponsored by Council Member Julie Won, would

2 require the City Chief Procurement Officer to
3 establish standards and procedures for contractors to
4 determine the existence of conflicts of interest and
5 misconduct concerning city contracts valued over
6 \$100,000. Thank you to Alex Paulenoff and Alex
7 Yablon for their work on this. Introduction 1412A,
8 also known as the Safer Sanctuary Act sponsored by
9 Council Member Tiffany Cabán, would bar federal
10 immigration authorities from maintaining offices on
11 land under the New York City Department of
12 Correction's jurisdiction. It would also man the
13 city's sanctuary city laws to account recurrent
14 federal immigration enforcement practices. Thank you
15 to Nicole Cata [sp?], Rebecca Barilla [sp?], and
16 Nicholas Widzowski for your work on this.
17 Introduction 1297A, sponsored by Council Member
18 Selvena Brooks-Powers, would create a civil cause of
19 action for crimes of violence motivated by gender
20 that occurred prior to January 9th, 2022. It would
21 allow such claims against any party who committed,
22 directed, enabled, participated, or conspired in the
23 commission of a crime of violence motivated by gender
24 to bring a civil claim against that party. Thank you
25 to Jahari Fraiser [sp?], Juanita John [sp?], Julie

2 Goldsmith-Pinkum [sp?], Sarah Liss [sp?], Sahar
3 Moazami and Smita Deshmukh [sp?] for their work on
4 this. Introduction 1120B, sponsored by Council
5 Member Amanda Farías, would set timelines for
6 decisions regarding the sale of co-op apartments.
7 Thank you to Natasha Bynum [sp?], Sierra Townsend
8 [sp?], Austin Malone, Billy Eck [sp?], Dirk Spencer,
9 Jose Conde [sp?], and Brad Reid [sp?]. Introduction
10 570B, sponsored by Council Member Gale Brewer would
11 create a New York City Land Bank to acquire and
12 manage vacant, abandoned, tax-delinquent and
13 foreclosed properties for the goal of promoting the
14 preservation of homeownership and home equity,
15 prevention of displacement , and putting properties
16 to productive community use. Introduction 1407A,
17 sponsored by former Speaker Adams would authorize the
18 City to sell tax liens past 2028, but only to a City
19 Land Bank and add additional protections for primary
20 resident homeowners. Introduction 149A sponsored by
21 Council Member Sandy Nurse would require the
22 Commissioner of Finance to report annually on
23 properties encumbered by chronically unresolved tax
24 liens that remain unsatisfied for 36 months or more
25 after being sold. And introduction 1420 A, also

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

20

2 sponsored by Council Member Nurse, would require the
3 Commissioner of Finance to require purchasers of tax
4 liens to make best efforts to transfer the liens to
5 the City Land Bank upon certain triggering events.

6 Thank you to Nick Connell and Emre Edev [sp?], for
7 their work on this. Introduction 1443A, also
8 sponsored by Council Member Nurse, would require that
9 starting July 1st, 2027, 50 percent of newly-
10 constructed rental units financed by the city be
11 affordable for very low-income households, and at
12 least 30 percent for extremely low-income households.

13 And Introduction 958A, sponsored by former Speaker
14 Adams, would approximately double the production of
15 affordable homeownership opportunities, financed by

16 the city by requiring that at least four percent of
17 all newly constructed affordable units be for home
18 ownership. Thank you to Ann McConney [sp?], William

19 Vidal [sp?], Brian Paul [sp?], Deborah Kerzhner
20 [sp?], and Kaitlin Greer [sp?]. Introduction 431B,
21 sponsored by Council Member Pierina Sanchez, would
22 expand business licensing for food and general
23 vendors by making 2,200 additional supervisory
24 licensed applications available to prospective mobile
25 food vendors annually from 2026 until 2030, and

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 21

10,500 new general vending licenses in 2027. It would also expand street vendor training and increase inspections of street vendor setups to ensure compliance with new requirements. Introduction 251A sponsored by Council Member Amanda Farías would authorize the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection to issue license applications to mobile food and general vendors until the license is issued reached the capped amount. And Intro 408A, sponsored by our Public Advocate who's here, Jumaane Williams, would create a Division of Street Vendor Assistance within the Department of Small Business Services to assist street vendors. Thank you to Sarah Swain and Natalie Meltzer. Finally-- okay, finally. Introduction 276A, sponsored by Council Member Shekar Krishan, would prohibit--

19 [applause]

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Please, no
21 clapping in the chambers, please. Use your hand
22 gestures. Thank you.

ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT MERRILL: Would prohibit high-volume, for-hire vehicle services from de-activating drivers unless you'd just cause a bona

2 fide economic reason or if required by law. Thank
3 you to Ricardo Licea [sp?] and Mark Chen. Okay, that
4 was a mouthful, but those are the overrides. It's
5 important that I also speak about another urgent
6 issue before the Council today, and that is anti-
7 Semitism. As I mentioned, last week, 73 swastikas
8 were graffitied across a children's playground in
9 Borough Park. It's disgusting. It's deplorable, but
10 unfortunately and sadly it is not new. Jewish New
11 Yorkers make up roughly 10 percent of our city's
12 population, yet last year they were the victims of
13 more than half of all reported hate crimes. That's
14 the reality we cannot normalize and we cannot ignore.
15 We also are-- and I'm very happy about this new
16 Committee to Combat Hate chaired by Council Member
17 Yusef Salaam that I know is going to do amazing work
18 combatting all forms of hate across the city. So
19 thank you for chairing that very, very important
20 committee. So, today, we are taking action on
21 antisemitism. As part of the Council's five-point
22 action plan to combat antisemitism, we're introducing
23 the following legislation to address this crisis
24 head-on. Introduction 731 which is sponsored by me
25 will require police to submit a plan to establish

2 security perimeters at places of worship. This bill
3 will fully-protect first amendment rights to protest.
4 And I really want to emphasize that. We are not doing
5 anything in the bills to penalize protests. We want
6 to make sure that people have the right to peacefully
7 protest. What we're trying to do is protect houses
8 of worship and schools. Introduction 751, sponsored
9 by Council Member Dinowitz, will require police to
10 submit a plan to establish security parameters at
11 educational facilities. Introduction 726, sponsored
12 by Council Member Narcisse, will build upon an
13 existing security guard reimbursement program for
14 non-public schools. Introduction 722, sponsored by
15 Council Member Maloney, will require the Mayor to
16 designate an agency or office that in consultation
17 with NYCEM and NYPD would support all religious
18 institutions in establishing emergency plans. Intro
19 796, sponsored by Council Member Restler, will
20 establish a hotline for receiving reports from the
21 public regarding incidents motivated by anti-Semitic
22 and anti-Asian, LGBTQ, and other hate bias. And then
23 finally-- two more. Introduction 757, sponsored by
24 Council Member Abreu, will require the DOE to
25 distribute age-appropriate materials to middle and

2 high school students regarding the risks and dangers
3 associated with social media for youth. Introduction
4 2066, sponsored by Council Member Dinowitz, will
5 require the NYPD to report on the status of all hate
6 crime cases so that each member will get that
7 information up to date within their district. In
8 addition, the Jewish Caucus voted today to appoint a
9 bipartisan taskforce chaired by Council Member
10 Dinowitz and Vernikov to combat anti-Semitism. And
11 lastly, on the veto overrides, I do want to mention
12 we're going to be doing some work moving forward
13 bills that we did not override. There are a number
14 of different paths forward for them, so I look
15 forward to working with the bill sponsors on that so
16 that we can take the policy goals at play and try to
17 really work them forward in a way where we can get a
18 super majority of support and address some legal
19 issues. So, with that, I'm going to turn it back
20 over to our majority leader.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Thank you, Speaker
22 Menin. We will now move into discussion of general
23 orders beginning with Council Member Brewer followed
24 by Pierina Sanchez.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you very
3 much. I'm talking about the Land Use bill for an
4 override. That's 570B in its old rendition. As the
5 Speaker said, this is going to be run as a Land Use
6 Land Bank Board comprised of the Mayor, the Finance
7 Commissioner, the Commissioner of HPD housing, three
8 people appointed by the Speaker, and one person
9 appointed by the Mayor with advice and consent of the
10 Council. This Land Bank-- and there are Land Banks
11 all across the country and in our state-- would be
12 empowered under state and local law to purchase tax
13 lien from the City to enforce that there would be
14 policies and procedures to promote the goals of yes,
15 collecting outstanding revenues-- and that was a
16 concern of the previous administration. We still
17 want to collect revenues, but we also want to
18 preserve ownership and equity interest in homes. We
19 want to prevent the displacement of residents from
20 their dwellings. We want to promote proper and
21 effective management of residences, and we want to
22 prevent recidivism among properties with tax liens.
23 Basically, this Land Bank will replace New York
24 City's private sector-driven high-bidder tax lien
25 sales with a public-focused non-profit approach. I

2 want to thank Emra Edev [sp?] from the Finance
3 Division for his incredible amount of work on this
4 bill, and I hope that this is one of the tools in the
5 toolbox that we will be able to tax liens that would
6 normally go to the highest bidder, turn them into
7 affordable housing, and it's a great tool in the
8 toolbox for affordable housing. Thank you very much.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Thank you.

10 Council Member Pierina Sanchez, followed by Council
11 Member Nurse.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER P. SANCHEZ: Thank you,
13 Majority Leader, and thank you Speaker Menin for your
14 leadership and for standing with vendors first as the
15 Chair of Consumer and Worker Protection and now as
16 Speaker. 431B replaces decades of dysfunction with a
17 system that is more just for vendors, more
18 predictable for brick and mortar businesses, and that
19 delivers safer, cleaner and more orderly shared
20 spaces for all New Yorkers. I want to be clear.
21 Today, 70 percent of food vendors citywide and up to
22 90 percent in neighborhoods like mine are unlicensed,
23 as are nearly 40 percent of general vendors. This
24 bill is not about increasing the number of vendors on
25 the street. It is about bringing existing vendors

2 into regulation. Intro 431B expands access to
3 licenses and strengthens enforcement, creates clear
4 suspension and revocation standards that will mean
5 something when you have a license, and establishes
6 new responsibilities around cleanliness and illegal
7 dumping. Thank you to the indefatigable and members
8 of the Street Vendor Project, the many brick and
9 mortar businesses, the bodegas, supermarkets, the
10 mercados, restaurants who did not stop taking my
11 calls, the agency staff who worked with us in good
12 faith, the new mayor and his leadership who have said
13 they're committed to good implementation of these
14 reforms and to all of our colleagues who will vote to
15 override this bill today. As a daughter and
16 granddaughter of street vendors, this historic moment
17 is also deeply personal. We are ushering in a new
18 era in how this city treats its smallest businesses
19 and manages shared public space. I, and I know this
20 Council, will fight tooth and nail to ensure every
21 part of this law is fully and fairly implemented so
22 that these reforms can deliver on their promise.
23 Thank you.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Council Member
25 Nurse followed by Public Advocate Jumaane Williams.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Thank you,
3 Majority Leader. It's often said that the Council
4 focuses too much on the 70 percent of New Yorkers who
5 rent their homes and not enough on the 30 percent who
6 own. While I'm proud to be pushing for stronger
7 tenant protections and real affordable housing, I've
8 also spent the last four years trying to change the
9 tax lien sale, the primary way our city collects and
10 enforces city tax debt since Giuliani created it in
11 1996. Working with the Coalition to Abolish the
12 Tax Lien Sale, we spent countless hours helping to
13 create offramps for relief and ultimately saved
14 homeowners from displacement. Last session we passed
15 Local Law 82 which reformed the cruel way our tax
16 lien sale accelerated foreclosures, particularly in
17 the Black community. Even with this historic change,
18 people were falling through the cracks. Filmore
19 Brown lost his home to foreclosure for just \$5,000 in
20 water debt. A constituent of mine, Mr. Lopez, was
21 paralyzed by fear and confused about how to get out
22 of debt until outreach workers, including my staff,
23 repeatedly called him and pushed for him to get help.
24 In December we passed four bills to finally put a
25 nail in the coffin of Giuliani's privatized debt

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 29

2 collection system. Intros 570, 1407, 1419, and 1420
3 will once and for all end the system that has enabled
4 the sale of tax liens to investor-backed trusts and
5 better protect the Black and Brown homeowners who
6 feel like the city is abandoning them. I ask for your
7 support on these bills. And just lastly, just to
8 take a point of privilege, I just want to thank
9 everyone who supported our good faith effort to pass
10 COPA these last few months, and particularly I'm
11 especially grateful to members of the Progressive
12 Caucus. Thank you for going to bat. At the heart of
13 it, COPA is modest strategic intervention in our
14 housing crisis, and we are losing our working-class
15 New Yorkers while faceless LLCs and private equity
16 investors are scooping up our buildings and our
17 neighborhoods and flipping them for profit. That is
18 a fact. COPA is good policy. Our government should
19 be intervening--

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: [interposing]

21 Council Member, sorry.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: in every way, and
23 I thank you.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: This is not an
25 item on the General Orders Calendar.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Thank you,
3 Majority Leader. I'm looking forward to working with
4 all you, introduce it and get it done.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Public Advocate
6 Jumaane Williams followed by Council Member Brooks-
7 Powers.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr.
9 Majority leader. I want to thank Speaker Menin,
10 Chair Epstein, and members of the Committee on
11 Consumer and Worker Protection for your work on
12 getting Intro 408 out of committee onto the Council
13 floor to override a bunch of bills that we're
14 overriding the veto by former Mayor Eric Adams in his
15 parting gift to many of us. I definitely want to say
16 on this record, I really, really like the sound of
17 the word former. Last month, this council together
18 as a united body got together with advocates and so
19 many who were affected to address the reality of the
20 stresses that New York City street vendors face,
21 including substantial fines for operating without a
22 requisite permit, unnecessary violence from
23 enforcement officers. Highly-publicized ICE raids in
24 New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, and now Minneapolis
25 have instilled fear upon the members of New York's

most iconic and renowned industry, street vending. Until recently, the number of available licenses to sell food and merchandizing on a city sidewalk were capped for decades until Local Law 18 of 2018. One can spend decades on a waiting list hoping to get approved for license and Local Law 18's increase in license was not sufficient to address this problem. I spoke to some vendors today. Just last week, all of their equipment, merchandise was taken in the middle of the night while they were sleeping right outside of this building. The legislation I have alongside Council Member Sanchez's and Council Member Farías is designed to help establish a more supportive infrastructure for vendors. It will create a division of street vendor assistance within the Department of Small Business Services to provide this smallest of small businesses, primarily Black and Brown and immigrant communities who need protection, and the ability to have some kind of recourse and some guidance. So, I thank this council for their leadership. I'm looking forward to the override of this and many other bills. And thank you to our street vendors who feed us, clothe us, provide so many services in some of the most affordable ways in

2 a time when we are talking about affordability.

3 Thank you so much.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Thank you, Public
5 Advocate. We'll now turn it over to Council Member
6 Brooks-Powers followed by Council Member Restler.7 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Thank you.
8 Colleagues, today's override vote is a reaffirmation
9 of who we are as a council. Intro 1297 exists
10 because survivors were told incorrectly that the law
11 meant to protect them might-- that meant to protect
12 them no longer applied. Because an appellate ruling
13 introduced confusion, and because a veto threatened
14 to shut the courthouse doors altogether. This
15 legislation restores what was always intended, a
16 gender-motivated violence act that is clear,
17 enforceable, and durable. A law that allows
18 survivors to pursue accountability, not just from
19 abusers, but from the institutions that enable harm
20 or failed to act. Our vote today makes something
21 else clear as well. When survivor's rights are at
22 risk, this council does not hesitate. We do not look
23 away, and we do not allow legal loopholes to replace
24 justice. This override is necessary. It is
25 principled, and it is the right thing to do. Thank

2 you, Speaker Menin, for your leadership, and I urge
3 my colleagues to support this veto override. I'd
4 also like to thank my Deputy Chief of Staff, Julian
5 Martin [sp?] for his tremendous work and labor of
6 love on this piece of legislation. Thank you.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Council Member
8 Restler followed by Council Member Gutiérrez.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Thank you very
10 much, Majority Leader. And I want to commend my
11 colleagues and this council for overturning 17 vetoes
12 today. That's more vetoes that have been overturned
13 in the last 12 years combined. Former Mayor,
14 thankfully, Eric Adams went on a veto spree at the
15 end of his term in his very final hours at City Hall.
16 But I'd be remiss to not say that I'm disappointed
17 that we are failing to override two vetoes in
18 particular related to--

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: [interposing]
20 Council Member, sorry, you have to be speaking on
21 matters regarding to the General Orders Calendar.
22 COPA and CCRB is not--

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: [interposing] It
24 should have been on the agenda today.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: on the General
3 Orders Calendar.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: But if this is
5 our opportunity to override the veto--

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: [interposing]
7 Council Member, you have to stick to General Orders
8 Calendar. Thank you.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Okay. I will come
10 back. Thank you very much.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Council Member
12 Gutiérrez?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Amen. Okay,
14 thank you so much, Majority Leader. I want to take
15 this time to uplift my colleagues and our Speaker who
16 worked so incredibly hard last session to pass
17 important legislation. I also just want to shout out
18 the entire Ledge [sic] team, many of who are still
19 here and who really threw down at that last month's--
20 and have been throwing down. So, just want to
21 acknowledge the work that it has taken to even do the
22 overrides today. It's unfortunate that we have to
23 spend as much energy as we are, but I just want to
24 uplift Council Members Brooks-Powers for her
25 survivor's bill, Council Member Krishnan for his

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 35

2 deactivation bill, Council Member Pierina Sanchez on
3 her vendors bill, and of course, Council Member Nurse
4 on her tax lien sale, and want to express my same
5 sentiment about hoping to get to a good place with
6 COPA down the line. And before you cut me off,
7 that's it. I'm going to say, I just want to uplift
8 my Council Members, my colleagues and the Speaker for
9 doing this extra work to override these important and
10 necessary bills to protect workers and survivors.

11 Thank you.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Council Member De
13 La Rosa?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: I'll explain
15 my vote later. Thank you.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Seeing no one else
17 signed up to speak. Report of special committees?

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Report of standing
20 committees?

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee
22 on Consumer and Worker Protection, Intros 408A, 431B,
23 1251A, 1391A and their accompanying mayoral vetoes
24 M5, M6, M12, and M15.

25

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 36

2 SPEAKER MENIN: The vetoes will be filed
3 and the bills coupled on General Orders.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee
5 on Contracts, Intro 479A and M7, its mayoral veto.

6 SPEAKER MENIN: M7 will be filed and the
7 bill coupled on General Orders.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee
9 on Finance, Intros 570B, 1407A, 1419A, and 1420A and
10 their corresponding mayoral vetoes, M8, M16, M18, and
11 M19.

12 SPEAKER MENIN: The vetoes will be filed
13 and the bills coupled on General Orders.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Pre-considered Reso 34,
15 Penn South [sic].

16 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee
18 on Housing and Buildings, Intro 1120B and M11, its
19 mayoral veto.

20 SPEAKER MENIN: M11 will be filed and the
21 bill coupled on General Orders.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee
23 on Immigration, Intro 1412A and M17, its mayoral
24 veto.

25

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 37

2 SPEAKER MENIN: M17 will be filed and the
3 bill coupled.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee
5 on Land Use Intros 958A and 1443A and their mayoral
6 vetos, M10 and M21.

7 SPEAKER MENIN: The vetoes will be filed
8 and all bills coupled on General Orders.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee
10 on Public Safety, Intro 125A and M3, its mayoral
11 veto.

12 SPEAKER MENIN: M3 will be filed and the
13 bill coupled.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee
15 on Rules, Privileges, Elections, Standards and
16 Ethics, Pre-considered Resos 144 and 145, committee
17 changes.

18 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled on General
19 Orders.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee
21 on Sanitation and Solid Waste Management, Intro 1279B
22 and M13, its corresponding mayoral veto.

23 SPEAKER MENIN: M13 will be filed and the
24 bill coupled.

25

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 38

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee
3 on Transportation and Infrastructure, Intro 276A and
4 M4, its corresponding veto.

5 SPEAKER MENIN: M4 will be filed and the
6 bill coupled.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee
8 on Women and Gender Equity, Intro 1297A and M14, its
9 mayoral veto.

10 SPEAKER MENIN: M14 will be filed and the
11 bill coupled on General Orders.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Resolution appointing
13 various persons, Commission of Deeds.

14 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled on General
15 Orders.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Council Member
17 Krishnan, I failed to recognize you earlier, you may-
18 - you may have two minutes to speak on General
19 Orders.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Thank you, Mr.
21 Majority Leader. I appreciate it very much. Today is
22 a historic day under leadership of Speaker Menin
23 where we are overriding a record number of vetoes,
24 marking a sharp departure from a very troubling
25 chapter in our city's history when it came to the

2 last mayor and his administration. Today, we are
3 taking on Uber, Lyft, and corporate corruption. In
4 the last hours of Eric Adams' term, one that was rife
5 with corruption and selling out our city, his legacy
6 was further tarnished by his last-minute attempt to
7 betray 100,000 workers, Uber and Lyft drivers, many
8 of whom are immigrants in our city. Today, we are
9 righting that wrong and overturning his anti-
10 immigrant and anti-worker vetoes. My legislation to
11 end unfair firings of Uber and Lyft drivers is the
12 largest due process protection for these workers in
13 the nation. As we stand here today, I know the
14 nation is watching New York City. When drivers see
15 the New York City Council override this veto, they
16 will look to their state legislatures and City
17 Councils across the country to pass the same
18 protections for them. These past two years, Uber and
19 Lyft drivers have been scared knowing that this bill-
20 - sorry, Uber and Lyft have been scared knowing that
21 this bill has the ingredients to start a driver's
22 rights movement. They've used their billion-dollar
23 war chest to spread fear and false information to New
24 Yorkers, because that is the only thing they know how
25 to do, waste money and make people afraid. The

2 stance we are taking today will make our nation
3 better and bring more rights to the workers who make
4 our city run. Our drivers are often the first people
5 we meet in the city, taking us from the airport to
6 our homes, bringing us to a new Broadway show, or
7 simply helping us get up from one part of the city to
8 the next safely. They are workers who because of our
9 winter storm this weekend lost critical hours to earn
10 money to pay rent next month. We all know how
11 essential and unrecognized drivers are. Drivers
12 deserve dignity and fundamental rights, notice, due
13 process, and a chance to appeal when they've been
14 wrongfully fired. Today, we will deliver those
15 rights. I'm thankful to my staff, Chanel Martinez
16 [sp?], Victoria Opperman [sp?], Hunter Divinagracia
17 [sp?], Greg Clark [sp?], to our Legislative Counsel,
18 Mark Chen to where we've gotten today, and to our
19 Speaker Julie Menin. Driver power, union power.
20 Thank you everybody.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Thank you, Council
22 Member. Before we move into the vote on General
23 Orders, we will now considered the bills vetoed by
24 former Mayor Adams. These bills are Introductory
25 numbers 125A, 276A, 408A, 431B, 479A, 570B, 958A,

2 1120B, 1251A, 1297A, 1279B, 1391A, 1407A, 1412A,
3 1419A, 1420A, 1443A. The question before the Council
4 now is shall these bills pass. The objections of the
5 Mayor notwithstanding.

6 SPEAKER MENIN: Thank you. I'll now call
7 on the Clerk to conduct a roll call vote only the
8 bills that were vetoed by former Mayor Adams.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Aldebol?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ALDEBOL: Permission to
11 explain my vote?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Permission
13 granted.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ALDEBOL: Colleagues,
15 today, I proudly vote to override all these vetoes;
16 17 is amazing. But I especially want to speak on the
17 Intro 1391A. I'm especially proud to veto-- override
18 this veto. This is a bill about public safety,
19 dignity, and basic fairness. Before I came to City
20 Council, as many of you know, I was an organizer and
21 leader within 32BJ. I walked picket lines with
22 security officers. I know many of them and their
23 families, and I certainly know the risk that they
24 take every single day. These workers are on the
25 front lines of almost every type of emergency, and

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 42

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ariola?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Permission to
21 explain my vote?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Permission
23 granted.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: I would just like
25 to take a moment to wish another birthday boy, Peter

2 Spencer, a happy birthday. We don't know what we
3 would do without you, Peter. He oftentimes goes
4 unnoticed, but he is definitely appreciated. On that,
5 I am voting no on 125A, 276A, 431, 570, 1251, 1391,
6 1407, 1412, 1420, 1443, and aye on all the rest.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Avilés?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Permission to
9 explain my vote?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Permission
11 granted.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: So, I am very
13 proud to support my colleague Tiffany Cabán in
14 successfully overturning this veto around the Safer
15 Sanctuary Act. The bill will strengthen our
16 sanctuary city protection apparatus and make sure
17 that no future mayor can bring ICE operations back
18 onto Rikers Island to engage in well-documented
19 illegal behavior. I also want to thank my colleague
20 Pierina Sanchez for shepherding the street vendor
21 reform package. It is the first time we are taking
22 meaningful steps to try to address what is a very
23 complex issue, but what is clearly important to New
24 York City and to so many of our communities. I would
25 also like to note on the issue of sanctuary city

2 policies that what we are seeing across the country
3 is escalating violence and attacks on the right to
4 protest, and we are witnessing ICE murder U.S.
5 citizens, hurt families and other individuals, and it
6 is purely unacceptable. I'm deeply disappointed that
7 we did not vote on CCRB reform nor COPA. Thank you.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Banks?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye on all, and
10 happy to override these bills.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Bottcher?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHER: Aye.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye on all.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Brooks-Powers?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: I vote
17 aye.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cabán?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Permission to
20 explain my vote?

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Permission granted.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Thank you. As the
23 lead sponsor on Intro 1412, the Safer Sanctuary Act,
24 I am proud to vote to override a former Mayor Eric
25 Adams veto and urge-- and I'm happy that my

2 colleagues are joining. Urge the rest to do so.

3 We're at a crossroads in the history of our country.

4 The brutal assault on Minnesota is just the

5 beginning, and it is our duty to protect our

6 communities. The Safer Sanctuary Act was designed

7 precisely to protect New York City from the Trump

8 administration's authoritarianism. This legislation

9 introduces critical expansions to our existing

10 sanctuary city framework. It extends New York City

11 sanctuary city limitations on local cooperation,

12 federal [inaudible] enforcement to include all

13 agencies and laws being used by the Trump

14 administration to threaten our communities. And this

15 means that regardless of which agency is enacting the

16 horrific Trump/Vance agenda, be it the FBI, the IRS,

17 the U.S. Marshals, or DHS, our communities are

18 covered by our sanctuary policies. And second, it

19 bars any future mayor from re-establishing an ICE

20 office in our jails as former Mayor Eric Adams tried

21 to do last year, and these are critical measures to

22 protect our communities from an increasingly violent

23 and authoritarian federal government. So, overriding

24 this veto will demonstrate that the City Council

25 stands with the people of New York City, the people

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 46

2 of Minneapolis, the people of the world, and it will
3 demonstrate that this body was striving to meet the
4 moment. So, in the memories of Renne Good, Alex
5 Pretti, Keith Porter [sic], Severo Degas Gonzales
6 [sp?], Jamie Garcia [sp?], and every person who has
7 lost their life in ICE custody, we override this
8 veto. I vote to override this veto. And I want to
9 also note my disappointment as well that we will not
10 be overriding the vetoes on COPA and the critical
11 bill to give the CCRB direct access to officer body
12 camera footage. I urge my colleague not to give up on
13 these housing and safety issues, and I vote aye on
14 all. Thank you.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: De La Rosa?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Permission to
17 explain my vote?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Permission
19 granted.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Thank you. I
21 want to thank Speaker Menin for swift action in
22 overturning the vetoes by former Mayor Adams. Today,
23 with these overrides we're uplifting vendors. I want
24 to thank my colleagues for their leadership. We're
25 uplifting vendors. We're uplifting drivers, working-

2 class people, security guards, immigrants as we
3 strengthen our sanctuary cities, and I am proud to
4 vote in favor of this override. I also must say that
5 I am disappointed that we will not be overriding
6 Mayor Adams' veto on COPA today, but this is not and
7 should not be the end of this conversation. With any
8 great legislation comes resistance, and also the need
9 for modifications and amendments, and we will
10 continue to support the prime sponsor, my colleague
11 Council Member Nurse, who I believe did an amazing
12 job trying to listen to all sides as we negotiated
13 this meaningful piece of legislation. We owe it to
14 tenants who have lived in dilapidated conditions for
15 far too long to give them another tool for affordable
16 housing preservation, and COPA is that tool. So, I
17 look forward to working with this council to make
18 sure that we continue that conversation, and I vote
19 aye on all. Thank you.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Dinowitz?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye on all.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Encarnación?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ENCARNACIÓN: Aye on all.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Epstein?

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: I'd like to
3 explain my vote.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Permission
5 granted.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: I want to thank
7 the Speaker for today's historic moment of overriding
8 17 vetoes. Obviously, the mayor on the eve of his
9 leaving office took a step to, I believe, harm
10 vulnerable New Yorkers. Over 20,000 street vendors
11 in the next few years will get small businesses
12 because of our vote today. Nearly 100,000 app ride
13 for-hire vehicle drivers won't be arbitrarily
14 deactivated. We're going to create opportunities to
15 expand more of affordable housing for over one
16 million low-income New Yorkers, further protect our
17 city against ICE and terrorizing communities, not
18 just in our city but across our country. This
19 oversight at the NYPD protecting victims of sexual
20 assault and sexual violence, improving worker
21 protections for the security guards who work across
22 our city. I look forward to also working with the
23 sponsors of the bills that we aren't moving today, to
24 COPA, making sure that we have oversight at NYPD, and
25 creating more larger affordable housing, the stuff

2 that we need to do in this city. New York is
3 watching us today. People care what we decide. This
4 is the moment to override these vetoes. This is what
5 the city needs to do to move forward. I want to thank
6 the Speaker again for her leadership, and I vote in
7 the affirmative.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Fariás?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye on
10 all.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Felder?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: I vote no on
13 Intro 276, 1412, 1443A, 431B, and 1251.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Feliz?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Permission to
16 explain my vote?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Permission
18 granted.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Proud to vote aye
20 on all, including on the 17 bill overrides. I'm
21 especially proud to vote to override vetoes related
22 to street vendor reform. Great job, Council Member
23 Sanchez. And also, the bill to protect Uber and Lyft
24 drivers. Congratulations to Council Member Krishnan.
25 A few words on that bill. Drivers are some of our

2 most essential workers. If you have an emergency, if
3 you need to visit a family member or need to get from
4 point A to point B in the cold, in the rain, in the
5 snow, or even worse, in the middle of a blizzard, our
6 drivers are always there for us at all hours, always.
7 Drivers are essential, but they're also vulnerable.
8 They can be terminated for no reason, receive very
9 little to no notice, and even worse, be provided with
10 very little to no real system to contest accusations.
11 This is unacceptable. They deserve better. So, I'm
12 proud to vote yes to override the 17 vetoes. We with
13 these 17 overrides, we're sending a crystal clear
14 message that when it comes to protecting the lives
15 and the hard work and the safety of New Yorkers, this
16 City Council does not play any games. So, I want to
17 thank all my colleagues in the City Council. I
18 especially want to thank our Speaker Menin for making
19 this a priority and for making this historical day
20 possible. Thank you so much. Yes on all.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gennaro?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: I vote aye on
23 all with the exception of 125A and 1412A on which I
24 vote no.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Gutiérrez?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: I vote aye on
3 all.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Hanif?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Permission to
6 explain my vote?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Permission
8 granted.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Thank you. And
10 aye on all. Today's historic day with one setback.
11 The Council failing to override the veto to support
12 COPA is going to be a project that this council I
13 know is committed to. At a time when corporate
14 landlords and private equity firms are rapidly buying
15 up our housing stock, this council must stand firm in
16 protecting tenants and preserving affordability.
17 COPA gives nonprofit organizations and tenants a
18 meaningful opportunity to purchase their buildings
19 when they go up for sale, keeping homes in community
20 hands, and preventing displacement before it happens.
21 It's a common-sense bill. It's moderate in scope,
22 and it's been voted by this body before. We look
23 forward to making COPA law this year and commit to a
24 housing system that puts people before profit.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Hankerson?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKERSON: In the
3 strength of the legacy of my predecessor, former
4 Speaker Adams, I vote aye on all, and I look forward
5 to working with Council Member Nurse on the COPA bill
6 in the future.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Hanks?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: I vote aye.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Hudson?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Permission to
11 explain my vote?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Permission
13 granted.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Thank you.
15 Today, I proudly vote aye to override former Mayor
16 Adams' veto on 17 bills, including landmark
17 legislation to strengthen job and safety standards
18 for security personnel in honor of 32BJ member Aland
19 Etienne and a monumental package that would bring
20 equity and justice for our street vendors among many
21 others. But what's most glaring is what is not on
22 our agenda. This Council has made a decision to cede
23 its power to a former mayor, one embroiled in
24 corruption and deeply unpopular with our constituents
25 by not voting to overturning vetoes on three bills

2 this body passed just one month ago. After a
3 November election in which our land use authority was
4 weakened, we are telling the other side of City Hall
5 that we will not stand firmly behind the legislation
6 we pass, including common sense legislation to allow
7 the agency that oversees the NYPD to access body cam
8 footage, and a second bill that will protect tenants
9 in dangerous buildings and help preserve affordable
10 housing. Thank you, Council Member Nurse for your
11 steadfast leadership on COPA. I look forward to
12 working with you and Speaker Menin on a new version
13 of COPA and the CCRB bill. Thank you.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Joseph?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye on all.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Krishnan?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Thank you to
18 the New York Taxi Workers Alliance and all my
19 colleagues, and I proudly vote aye.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lee?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye on all.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Louis?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Permission to
24 explain my vote?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Permission
3 granted.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Thank you, Mr.
5 Majority Leader. First, I proudly vote aye on the
6 override. I want to thank Speaker Menin for her
7 leadership. I wanted to quickly just highlight two
8 bills that we are voting to pass today with the
9 former Mayor's vetoes notwithstanding. I am proud to
10 stand with survivors, advocates, and my colleagues as
11 we make the case once again for the passage of Intros
12 1297 and 1120. It is absolutely unacceptable that the
13 Gender-motivated Violence Act which would address a
14 looming crisis in our criminal justice system
15 continues to languish while countless survivors are
16 left without a fair path to justice. The former
17 mayor's veto was a deliberate attempt to silence both
18 women and youth of their rights we promised them.
19 Passing this bill is about providing accountability
20 and healing to survivors, and it is our
21 responsibility to ensure that protections we enacted
22 are preserved and strengthened. Additionally, Intro
23 1120 is an essential bill to address disparities in
24 the way our cooperative apartments are bought and
25 sold in this city. With a high large number of co-

2 ops in my own district, this is not an infringement
3 on their rights, but a simply safeguard against
4 discrimination and will truly provide a more
5 inclusive pathway towards ownership for many New
6 Yorkers. I want to thank Council Members Brooks-
7 Powers and Fari  s for advancing these pieces of
8 legislation, and I vote aye on all. Thank you.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Maloney?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: Aye.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Marte?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye on all.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mealy?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: May I explain my
15 vote?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Permission
17 granted.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Yes. I vote-- I
19 abstain on 431B, no on Intro 570B, no on Intro 12BA
20 [sic], no on Intro 1407A, and no on Intro 1420A, and
21 aye on all the rest. And I just want to thank the
22 Speaker for doing this override from the last mayor.
23 And I just hope that-- I was against COPA, and I just
24 would like to say, this body need to think before
25 they take private owner's homes and give it to a

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 56

2 nonprofit. A nonprofit that we, our-- this body give
3 them funding. So, how could we give a private owner
4 home to a nonprofit. Then, we going to give them,
5 the nonprofit money to help them build this house up.
6 So, I just hope that we keep that in mind, and I'm
7 looking forward to a great discussion, but I feel we
8 have to keep our hands off of people's property. And
9 I vote aye on all, and happy birthday, Peter, and to
10 all my colleagues. Thank you.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Is that aye on
12 all, or just the rest?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I said the ones
14 that I was against, and aye on all the rest.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Okay.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Thank you.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member, may you
18 please restate your vote? Thank you.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I abstain on 431B.
20 No on Intro 570B. No on Intro 1251A. No on Intro
21 1407A. No on Intro 1420A. And I vote--

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: [interposing] Thank you,
23 Council Member.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: aye on the rest.
25 Thank you.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Thank you.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Morano?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Permission to
5 explain my vote?6 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Permission
7 granted.8 COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Thank you,
9 Majority Leader. I wanted to briefly explain my no
10 vote on Intro 1391A. Let me start by saying
11 something that should not be controversial in this
12 chamber. Security guards perform difficult, often
13 dangerous work, and they deserve respect. They keep
14 buildings safe, protect workers and customers, and
15 are often the first people to deal with emergencies.
16 Nothing in my vote should be read as dismissing that.
17 But good intentions don't always make good law, and
18 this bill would have the City step into a private
19 industry and mandate wages, benefits, and enforcement
20 regimes modeled on city contracts, even with the City
21 is not the customer. That's a major expansion of
22 municipal authority into a sector that's already
23 heavily regulated at the state level, and that's
24 where my first concern lies. New York State already
25 licenses security guards and governs standards in

2 this industry. When City Hall begins layering its
3 own compensation systems on top of that, we run
4 straight into questions about overlap, conflict and
5 litigation. I don't think workers are helped when we
6 pass laws that may spend years tied up in court.
7 Second, I worry about cost, and where that cost
8 ultimately lands. Building owners, small businesses,
9 BIDs, nonprofits have told us plainly what they
10 expect: higher security contracts, fewer posts, and
11 in some cases, the elimination of guards altogether.
12 I represent a working and middle class district, and
13 when costs go up, they don't vanish into thin air.
14 They show up in higher rents, higher maintenance
15 charges, and higher prices for customers. And while
16 I admire optimism, I've been around long enough to
17 know that when government mandates a new benefit
18 package, someone writes that check. Lastly, I'm
19 uneasy with turning the Department of Consumer and
20 Worker Protection into a wage setting and enforcement
21 agency for an entire private industry. So, for those
22 reasons I'm voting no on Intro 1391. I'm also voting
23 no on Intro 125, 276, 431, 570, 1251, 1297, 1407,
24 1412, 1420, and 1443, and aye on all the rest. Thank
25 you.

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Narcisse?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSSE: Permission to
4 explain my vote?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Permission granted.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSSE: It's so funny,
7 that what's democracy is about. For me, I want to
8 say thank you to Speaker Menin to bring it back to
9 veto all the mayor's that trying to-- to override all
10 the vetoes that the mayor think that he was cute
11 before he left office to put us through that. But I
12 want to say thank you for doing all the bills. But
13 one particular one, I want to thank my colleagues as
14 we are thinking-- I mean, taking an important step by
15 overriding the mayoral veto to enact the Aland
16 Etienne Act. This bill honors my constituent whose
17 life was tragically taken in a mass shooting, and
18 strengthening [sic]-- this is what we call protection
19 for private sector security officers by guaranteeing
20 fair wages and basic benefits. We're not asking for a
21 lot. We're not asking for a million of dollars. We
22 thank those folks that get out of their home every
23 day to have a fair-- I mean, something to take care
24 of their family, and Piola [sic] that I get to know
25 personally and the son that I had to take to school

2 on the first day of school, and making sure-- and
3 thanks to Bishop Dylan [sic] and everyone that doing
4 amazing work in the Catholic aspect. I was-- I was
5 able to get scholarship for that young man for years
6 to come until high school. So, having said all that,
7 I want to say thank you to my colleagues, and thank
8 you our Speaker Adrienne Adams that looked forward to
9 put that, and I want to say thank you again to
10 Speaker Menin for the pre-considered bills of-- what
11 is it, five, for the cameras to make sure our
12 children, our folks that serving in our community
13 that praying, they're praying safe, and they don't
14 have to worry about anything. So, for all those
15 vetoes, I want to say aye on them. Thank you so
16 much.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Nurse?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Permission to
19 explain my vote?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Permission
21 granted.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: I just wanted to
23 take a moment to thank a number of people who worked
24 on the tax lien package of bills. These ideas go
25 back all the way to the days of Tish James in the

2 City Council. The mantle was taken up by former
3 Speaker Adrienne Adams, and I was really grateful to
4 work with many, many talented individuals. I just
5 wanted to uplift Richard, Emra, Delaria [sp?] from
6 Council Finance who are just smart, dedicated people,
7 like 5,000 times smarter than me. Thank you to my
8 team members, Ryan who really held down that work in
9 our office, and Patricia [sp?] for helping to tell
10 the story, and my District team, my small but mighty
11 district team who has spent hours supporting
12 constituents through the tax lien process. And I
13 also want to thank members of the coalition who are
14 just relentless people, Take Root Justice, NYCLE
15 [sic], the New Economy Project, Center for New York
16 City Neighborhoods, the Coalition for Affordable
17 Homes, Brooklyn Legal Services-- there's a ton of
18 folks out there. The work here will stop
19 foreclosures and will help people keep their
20 generational assets. So, just wanted to thank them.
21 I also want to thank Council Member Brooks-Powers for
22 her work to get the Gender-Motivated Violence Act
23 over the finish line. Our city owes these survivors
24 not only an apology, just as a basic level of
25 respect, but real resources and care moving forward.

2 I want to congratulate Council Members Cabán and
3 Sanchez on their incredible work to support our
4 street vendors and fully keep ICE out of our city
5 jails. And congratulations to the taxi workers who
6 represent some of the best in our city and show up
7 and provide solidarity across a number of fights.
8 Obviously, I'm disappointed we did not override the
9 CCRB veto. I do think that the CCRB needs to be
10 empowered. It needs real attention, and I hope that
11 the council this year can put real attention on this
12 issue and work to help them out. So, I vote aye.
13 Thank you.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ossé?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Permission to
16 explain my vote?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Permission
18 granted.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: I'm proud that this
20 council is voting to override 17 bills that the
21 former very disappointing mayor, Eric Adams, chose to
22 veto. In that same breath, I am disappointed that
23 COPA and the CCRB bill is not being voted to be
24 overrided [sic] today. Though I am hopeful in the
25 future of getting these bills passed, because we only

2 needed 34 votes to override both of these bills
3 today, but in the future when they're introduced
4 we'll only need 26 to get them passed. So, I'm
5 looking forward to getting both of those bills passed
6 alongside my colleagues in government. Thank you
7 very much, and with that, I vote aye on all.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Council
9 Member Marte?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Permission to vote
11 on all items on the General Calendar?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Yes.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: I vote aye. Thank
14 you.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Thank you.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Paladino?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Permission to
18 explain my vote?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Permission
20 granted.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Thank you. I
22 want to explain why I am going to vote against 431.
23 This is about our vendors. Now, I have nothing
24 against vendors at all. I just don't agree with it
25 giving blanket coverage all over our city, because it

2 punishes so many law-abiding small brick and mortar
3 businesses that pay rent, taxes, and comply with
4 strict rules while rewarding street vendors expansion
5 that undercuts them. Promises of better enforcement
6 spring hollow when enforcement is already
7 inconsistent and overwhelmed. Expanding permits
8 before fixing enforcement, sanitation and sidewalk
9 crowding is reckless. Until the city can control
10 what exists today, adding thousand more vendors is
11 irresponsible in my opinion and harms the quality of
12 life across New York City. Our small businesses are
13 struggling terribly to keep their heads above water,
14 and in my district to see a vendor right out in front
15 of a restaurant selling the same food he is inside
16 just doesn't float well with me. And here are my
17 votes, my no votes, Intro 570, Intro 1407, Intro
18 1420, Intro 125A, Intro 1391, Intro 431, Intro 1251,
19 and aye on all the rest. Thank you.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Restler?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Permission to
22 explain my vote?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Permission
24 granted.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Thank you so
3 much, Majority Leader. I really do want to thank
4 Speaker Menin and all of my colleagues today, and
5 especially the bill sponsors for overriding these 17
6 vetoes, for protecting some of the most vulnerable
7 workers in our economy like security guards, vendors,
8 Uber and Lyft drivers. There are many really
9 transformational bills that we are passing today that
10 we are overriding Eric Adams really poorly thought-
11 through vetoes. But I do wish that there were two
12 additional bills that we were overriding, and that's
13 the CCRB bill that would have ensured seamless
14 sharing of information between the NYPD and the body-
15 worn camera footage that officers gather every day
16 with the CCRB which is the entity that provides
17 oversight when there are allegations of misconduct. I
18 hope that we will bring that bill back as soon as
19 possible, and I also hope that we will bring back the
20 COPA bill. Speaker Menin has been clear that she's
21 committed to working with the lead sponsor Sandy
22 Nurse, Council Member Nurse, who did a phenomenal job
23 in pushing this and working with the Law Department
24 and cleaning up technical issues. And I really hope
25 that we'll get this bill back on the floor for a vote

as soon as possible, because this is a critical preservation tool that we need. When we have bad landlords that are leaving buildings in disrepair and those buildings go up for sale, I welcome qualified nonprofits from our communities taking them over and preserving the affordable housing that we so desperately need. We're seeing private equity firms, speculators, bad landlords coming in and really causing harm in our communities. Folks like Greenbrook Partners and others are pushing out long-time neighbors in my district and in many districts across the city, and we need to protect these tenants. We need to preserve our affordable housing and COPA is a critical tool to make that happen. So, I really do look forward to working with the Speaker, Council Member Nurse, and all of the members of this body to get COPA back to the floor as soon as possible, because we need it. Thank you so much.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Riley?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Salaam?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: I vote aye on
24 all.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Justin Sanchez?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER J. SANCHEZ: Aye.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Pierina Sanchez?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER P. SANCHEZ: Permission to
5 explain my vote?6 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Permission
7 granted.8 COUNCIL MEMBER P. SANCHEZ: Thank you
9 again to all colleagues for supporting vendors in
10 your votes. Congratulations to all my colleagues
11 overriding vetoes. Over the weekend during the
12 bitter cold that unfolded during the winter storm,
13 yet another fire took yet another life in District
14 14. May she rest in peace. Thank you, Speaker
15 Menin, for being on the ground with me. The building
16 had over 100 open violations. The landlord is a
17 known bad actor. And as a representative of a
18 district with more deteriorating housing stock than
19 most and as Chair of Housing and Buildings for the
20 last four years, and thank you for the reappointment,
21 Speaker, I can confidently say that we need more
22 tools in our arsenal to preserve affordable housing
23 against deterioration and over-speculation. I look
24 forward to advancing COPA in this council and
25 additional measures that give our city new tools to

2 preserve and protect affordable housing. Thank you.

3 Thank you, Majority Leader. I vote aye on all.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Santosuoso?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER SANTOSUOSO: Permission
6 to explain my vote?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Permission

8 granted.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER SANTOSUOSO: As a council
10 staffer, one of the most painful things I had to do
11 was inform people that they risked losing the homes
12 they owed-- because they owed money to the city and
13 were on the tax lien sale. This unfortunately
14 included a good friend of mine who recently passed
15 away from breast cancer and who spent her last
16 several months while in chemo terrified that her home
17 was going to be sold out from underneath her.18 Council Member Nurse's tax lien bills and Council
19 Member Brewer's Land Bank bill put us on a new
20 course, one that will offer people hope and
21 stability. Instead of destroying people's
22 livelihoods, we will instead strengthen communities
23 who need it most. I commend them for the work they
24 have done to get this over the finish line and past
25 the veto. And in that same spirit, I also want to

2 take a moment to thank Council Member Nurse, her team
3 and coalition partners for the tremendous work they
4 did on COPA. The important goals of affordable
5 housing preservation must be carried through. I look
6 forward to working with my colleagues, and to get
7 this-- and to get this session, to get this bill
8 passed, particularly those of you who have been
9 asking for amendments. Let's get this done. Let's
10 not waste hard work, which is one of my least
11 favorite things to do, and let's make it happen this
12 year. I vote aye on all. Thank you.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Schulman?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Permission to
15 explain my vote?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Permission
17 granted.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Yeah, I just
19 want to say thank you to Sandy Nurse-- I was on the
20 COPA bill-- for all the hard work she did and look
21 forward to another iteration that is acceptable to
22 everyone, and on that I vote aye on all.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Stevens?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: I vote aye on
25 all, but like every one else and my other colleagues,

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 70

2 very disappointed that we're not voting on CCRB and
3 COPA. Hope Council we can figure out how to
4 strengthen CCRB and get a COPA bill passed. Thank
5 you.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you, Council
7 Member. Thomas-Henry?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER THOMAS-HENRY: Aye.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ung?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye on all except
11 for 431B which I abstain.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Vernikov?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Thank you. Aye
14 on all except no on Intro 125A, 276A, 431, 570, 1251,
15 1391, 1407, 1412, 1420, and 1433.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Williams?

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

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Won?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye on all.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Wong?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER WONG: Permission to
23 explain my vote?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Permission
25 granted.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER WONG: Thank you. I
3 believe the Council made the right decision not to
4 override the COPA veto which in its present form is
5 government overreach. My vote is-- I vote yes on all
6 except for Intro 1251, Intro 570, Intro 1407, Intro
7 1420, Intro 1412, Intro 1443, Intro 431, and the
8 occupying [sic] resos. Thank you.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. One moment.
10 Zhuang?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Can I explain my
12 vote?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Permission
14 granted.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Thank you. I want
16 to thank all my colleagues working so hard to
17 override those bills, and also I believe every single
18 Council Member, every single person in New York City
19 understand we need more housing. But taking the
20 private ownership out is not the right solution. We
21 should [inaudible] more, and also we do everything
22 reasonable under the constitution to help our
23 neighbors. And I vote aye on all. I will abstain
24 bill 631 and the 1251. Thank you. And I'm proud--

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 72

2 I'm very happy we did not bring the COPA come out to
3 vote. Thank you.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Zhuang,
5 can you repeat your abstentions, please? There's no
6 631.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: 431.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Intro 431 and the other
9 one was?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: 1251.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Carr?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: No on Introductions
13 125A, 276A, 431B, 570B, 1251A, 1391A, 1407A, 1412A,
14 1420A, and 1443A, and aye on the rest.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. One moment.

16 Council Member Morano?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: I'd like to
18 change my vote on Intro 1297 to abstain.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Thank you.
20 Abreu?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Menin?

23 SPEAKER MENIN: Aye on all.

24

25

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: The count will take
3 about a few minutes. Please be patient. Council
4 Member Morano vote change?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Yes, I misspoke
6 on Intro 1297. I wanted to change my vote to a yes.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Please keep it
8 down in the chambers. Thank you. Please keep it
9 down in the chambers, please. Quiet in the chambers,
10 please. Thank you very much. Quiet in the chambers.
11 Alright, the vote is-- quiet in the chambers, please.
12 The vote is as follows: Intro 125A, 45 in the
13 affirmative, 6 in the negative, 0 abstentions. Intro
14 276A, 46 in the affirmative, 5 in the negative, 0
15 abstentions. Intro 408A, 51 in the affirmative, 0 in
16 the negative, 0 abstentions. Intro 431B, 41 in the
17 affirmative, 7 in the negative, 3 abstentions. Intro
18 479A, 51 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative, 0
19 abstentions. Intro 570B, 44 in the affirmative, 7 in
20 the negative, 0 abstentions. Intro 958A, 51 in the
21 affirmative, 0 in the negative, 0 abstentions. Intro
22 1120B, 51 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative, 0
23 abstentions. Intro 1251A, 42 in the affirmative, 8
24 in the negative, 1 abstention. Intro 1279B, 51 in
25 the affirmative, 0 in the negative, 0 abstentions.

2 Intro 1297A, 51 in the affirmative, 0 in the
3 negative, 0 abstentions. Intro 1391A, 46 in the
4 affirmative, 5 in the negative, 0 abstentions. Intro
5 1407A, 44 in the affirmative, 7 in the negative, 0
6 abstentions. Intro 1412A, 45 in the affirmative, 6
7 in the negative, 0 abstentions. Intro 1419A, 51 in
8 the affirmative, 0 in the negative, 0 abstentions.
9 Intro 1420A, 44 in the affirmative, 7 in the
10 negative, 0 abstentions. And finally, Intro 1443A,
11 45 in the affirmative, 6 in the negative, 0
12 abstentions. Madam Speaker, the City Council votes
13 to override the Mayor's vetoes with two-thirds voting
14 in the affirmative.

15 [applause]

16 SPEAKER MENIN: Congratulations,
17 colleagues.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Stay quiet-- quiet
19 in the chambers. Quiet in the chambers or you'll be
20 escorted. Please, keep it down. Please.

21 SPEAKER MENIN: Okay. Congratulations
22 colleagues. This is a momentous moment for the City
23 Council. We-- I'm now I'm going to ask that the
24 clerk take a roll call vote on the remaining items
25 coupled on today's General Orders Calendar.

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Narcisse?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSÉ: I will vote aye
4 on all the remaining items on the calendar. Thank
5 you.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Nurse?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: I vote aye.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Aldebol?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ALDEBOL: I vote aye.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ariola?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: I vote aye.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Avilés?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Banks?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Bottcher?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHER: Aye.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Brooks-Powers?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: I vote
22 aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cabán?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. De La Rosa?

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 76

2 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Dinowitz?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Encarnacion?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ENCARNACION: Aye.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Epstein?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: Yes.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Fariás?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Felder?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Aye.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Feliz?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Si.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gennaro?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gutiérrez? Hanif?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Hankerson?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKERSON: Aye.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Hanks?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Hudson?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Joseph?

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 77

2 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Krishnan?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lee?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Louis?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Maloney?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: Aye.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mealy?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I vote aye and no

13 on Land Use 3, 4, and 5.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Morano?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Aye.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ossé?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: I vote aye.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Paladino?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Restler?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Riley?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Salaam?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: I vote aye.

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Justin Sanchez?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER J. SANCHEZ: Aye.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Pierina Sanchez?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER P. SANCHEZ: Yes.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Santosuoso?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER SANTOSUOSO: Aye.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Schulman?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Stevens?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: I reluctantly

12 vote aye.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thomas-Henry?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER THOMAS-HENRY: Aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ung?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Vernikov?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Williams?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Won?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Wong?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER WONG: I vote aye.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Zhuang?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gutiérrez?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Carr?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Aye.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Abreu?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Menin?

10 SPEAKER MENIN: Aye.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: All items of today's
12 General Order Calendar are adopted by a vote of 51 in
13 the affirmative, 0 in the negative and 0 abstentions.
14 Introduction and reading of bills.

15 SPEAKER MENIN: All bills have been
16 referred to committees indicated on today's agenda.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: There are no items
18 on our resolution calendar, so we will now move into
19 General Discussion beginning with Minority Leader
20 Carr followed by Brewer.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Thank you, Majority
22 Leader. I want to begin by thanking and commending
23 our Speaker for the early and aggressive action she
24 has taken since getting elected earlier this month in
25 the fight against anti-Semitism. I know this is a

2 mission that is deeply personal to her, and over the
3 last 22 days she has certainly showed it, from her
4 five-point agenda issued at the Museum of Jewish
5 Heritage earlier this month, the legislative package
6 being introduced today, and the Jewish Caucuses
7 creation of the bipartisan taskforce against anti-
8 Semitism. As the Speaker indicated in her remarks
9 earlier, the data is deeply troubling, but these
10 early efforts of her speakership give us all cause
11 for hope and that's desperately needed. And I'm
12 particularly proud to see that this taskforce will be
13 co-led by strong, powerful voices prompted by good
14 hearts and the former Minority Whip Vernikov and our
15 Jewish Caucus Chair Council Member Dinowitz, and I
16 look forward to the good work that they will be doing
17 in the future, and I thank the Speaker once again for
18 all of her support in this effort. Obviously,
19 January is coming to an end, and February is about to
20 start, and that means it's budget season. I'm sure
21 our Finance Division staff is thrilled to beginning
22 anew the work coming for fiscal year 2027, but we are
23 already starting to hear dire grim news about the
24 budget deficits we're facing. \$2 billion for the
25 current fiscal year, over \$10.5 for the one coming--

2 \$12 billion hole that we need to figure out. And
3 just yesterday Mayor Mamdani said that the only way
4 out of this crisis is to raise taxes and that's he's
5 not too worried that this may lead to an exodus of
6 businesses. But there already is an exodus of
7 businesses from our city. As recently reported in
8 the New York Times-- sometimes we in the Republican
9 aisle read that-- roughly 8,400 businesses closed in
10 the second quarter of 2025 according to recent city
11 data. That wiped away all of the post-pandemic gains
12 we have seen, and then some. On top of that, the
13 private market added just 18,500 jobs through
14 November, down a startling 80 percent from the nearly
15 90,000 of the year before. We already have the
16 highest combined tax burden of any city and a myriad
17 of onerous and cost regulations that are keeping
18 businesses afloat--

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: [interposing] Thank
20 you, Council Member.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Traditionally, the
22 Minority Leader gets five minutes, Majority Leader?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Can we please
24 correct-- give him an extra three minutes, please?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Thank you. Tax
3 burden of any city and a myriad of onerous and costly
4 regulations--

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: [interposing]
6 Excuse me, my apology. It's not during General
7 Discussion. It's only during General Orders.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Okay. I'll wrap it
9 up if I can. Thank you. So another--

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: [interposing]
11 Please wrap it up.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: tax increase is not
13 the way out of this budget crisis, and so we should
14 be trying to find ways to attract and keep businesses
15 here in our city, and I urge my colleagues to look at
16 that as well. Thank you.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Council Member
18 Brewer followed by Vernikov.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you very
20 much. I want to speak in terms of how wonderful
21 interns are in our office. We have Phoebe Adler
22 [sp?] who's here today. She's a student starting at
23 Middlebury College. She's been amazing person during
24 the last semester here. I also want to thank John--
25 James Lieu [sp?] who is a Van fellow, and he is an

2 extraordinary addition to our office. We appreciate
3 the Van program. Thank you very much, James. And
4 Mohammad Elumiami [sp?] who is a Colin Powell Career
5 Fellow at the City College, and that's a wonderful
6 program. He comes originally from Senegal, and we
7 really, really enjoy working with him. I love
8 interns. Thank you very much.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Before we go to
10 Council Member Vernikov, we'd like to issue a
11 correction on a vote tally on Intro 1412A. It is
12 actually 44 in the affirmative and 7 in the negative.
13 Council Member Vernikov.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Thank you,
15 Majority Leader. Jewish New Yorkers account for
16 approximately 11 percent of New York City's
17 population, yet make up approximately 57 percent of
18 all hate crimes. As the Speaker mentioned, anti-
19 Semitic incidents have become normalized and are a
20 daily occurrence in our city. That is why I am
21 grateful to Speaker Menin and the Jewish Caucus for
22 creating a taskforce focusing on combatting anti-
23 Semitism. I am honored to be co-chairing this
24 taskforce with Council Member Eric Dinowitz, and I
25 look forward to working side by side with the Chair

2 and the entire taskforce in a bipartisan fashion.
3 This is a crisis that requires both action beyond
4 just condemnation, investigative oversight, and
5 legislative solutions. As part of those efforts, I
6 am proud to be a co-sponsor on Introduction 1 with
7 Speaker Menin which will establish a 100-foot
8 perimeter around houses of worship so that worshipers
9 can attend prayer services without fear of being
10 harassed. And I'm also reintroducing my bill,
11 Introduction 491 related to installation of panic
12 buttons at houses of worship. Thank you, Speaker
13 Menin, for your leadership and making combatting
14 anti-Semitism a priority of your speakership. I look
15 forward to working side by side with the Chair and
16 the entire taskforce. Today, I am also reintroducing
17 several other bills, Introduction 488 related to
18 accountability in the Mitchell-Lama Veterans Housing
19 Preference to make sure our veterans are receiving
20 the housing opportunities they deserve. Introduction
21 492 will provide a discount for seniors at municipal
22 parking lots, and Intro 489 will establish a database
23 for towed vehicles, aimed at saving New Yorkers time,
24 money, and the hassle in locating their cars after
25 they've been towed. Thank you.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Council Member

3 Joseph followed by Banks.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Thank you,
5 Majority Leader. Thank you. Today, I speak not only
6 as a Council Member, but as a daughter of Haitian
7 immigrants, and as an immigrant myself and have
8 someone who knows firsthand what it means to build a
9 life in this city while holding tightly to your
10 roots. TPS is not just a policy, it is a promise. It
11 is a promise that when a nation is facing
12 extraordinary hardship, we will not turn our backs on
13 the people who have already given us so much to our
14 communities, our economy, and our shared future. For
15 Haitians, TPS is a lifeline. Haiti continues to
16 endure political instability, devastating natural
17 disasters, and a humanitarian crisis that makes
18 returning unsafe [inaudible]. Yet, here in New York
19 City, Haitian TPS holders are essential workers,
20 educators, health care professionals, small business
21 owners, caregivers, and parents. They are the
22 backbone of our neighborhoods across Brooklyn and
23 beyond. They pay taxes, raise families, worship,
24 organize, and contribute every single day to the
25 vitality of this city. Ending TPS would not only

2 destabilize families, it would destabilize
3 communities. It would force parents to live in fear,
4 children to question their future, and workers to
5 lose the very protection that allows them to
6 contribute fully and openly to our society. That is
7 not who we are as a city and it should never be who
8 we are as a nation. Preserving TPS is about dignity.
9 It's about fairness. It's about recognizing the
10 humanity of people who have already endured
11 unimaginable hardship, yet still choose hope,
12 resilience and service. As a city built by
13 immigrants, we must raise our voice to lead with
14 moral clarity. We must raise our voice loudly,
15 unapologetically to demand that the federal
16 government extend and strengthen TPS for Haitians,
17 not temporarily but with a pathway towards lasting
18 stability. Our vision must be bigger than survival.
19 It must be about opportunity. It must be about
20 ensuring that Haitian families can plan for the
21 future, invest in their communities, and know that
22 they belong here without question or fear. As a proud
23 Haitian American, I will always stand with the
24 Haitian community. I will fight for policies that

2 honor our contributions, protect our families, and
3 reflect our shared values of compassion--

4 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: [interposing] Thank
5 you, Council Member.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: and justice. I'm
7 wrapping up. Because protecting TPS is not just
8 about protecting Haitians, it's about--

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: [interposing] Thank
10 you, Council Member.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: protecting the
12 soul of our city and the fundamental promise of
13 America itself.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: [gavel] Council
15 Member? Your time is up, Council Member. Thank you.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Thank you, sir.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Council Member
18 Banks followed by Hanif.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Thank you, Mr.
20 Majority Leader. First of all, I wanted to take time
21 to thank the Speaker for your amazing leadership, and
22 I first want to reintroduce Intro 61. Its focus is on
23 a NYCHA residence, and this bill requires that the
24 city create a formal business directory for NYCHA
25 tenant-owned businesses coupled with a robust

2 marketing campaign. Our NYCHA communities are full
3 of talented entrepreneurs, and by giving them a
4 platform and visibility, we are not just supporting
5 small businesses, we're investing directly in the
6 economic mobility of the public housing residents. I
7 want to also reintroduce Intro 62 which addresses the
8 hurdles faced by those seeking to serve our city. It
9 mandates a study to assess the feasibility of a
10 reimbursement program for civil service applicants
11 who paid for exams, but saw their eligible list
12 number expire before receiving an offer. It is simply
13 unfair to New Yorkers, many of whom are struggling
14 already to pay into a system that fails to provide
15 them an opportunity. We must make the path to city
16 employment more accessible, and Resolution 32 calls
17 on Albany to support our children. We're also
18 calling for the state to set aside a portion of
19 sports betting revenue to fund youth sports programs
20 and to upgrade community infrastructure. Our kids
21 deserve modern fields, safe gyms, accessible
22 recreational programs, and it's time we leverage
23 these new revenues to ensure every young person
24 regardless of their zip code has a chance to play and
25 thrive. I want to thank all my co-sponsors and co-

2 prime sponsors and sponsors who sponsored these
3 bills. Thank you so much.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Council Member
5 Hanif followed by Council Member Lee.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Thank you,
7 Majority Leader. I wanted to speak about a few of my
8 bills that are being introduced today that I urge my
9 colleagues to support. First, Intro 171, Ban the
10 Scan, protects New Yorkers from invasive surveillance
11 by prohibiting the use of biometric recognition
12 technology in places of public accommodation and
13 safeguarding sensitive biometric data. Intro 169, a
14 fertility access awareness bill ensures New Yorkers
15 can easily access clear, accurate information about
16 fertility treatment options and insurance coverage so
17 they can make informed decisions about their
18 reproductive health. Intro 172, a parks
19 accessibility bill strengthens accountability by
20 requiring annual reporting on Parks' compliance with
21 ADA accessibility standards so our public spaces are
22 truly usable by everyone. Intro 168, a bike safety
23 bill that I introduced on behalf of the Parks Slope
24 Civic Council improves safety for everyone on our
25 streets by requiring micromobility share companies to

2 clearly display rules of the road for safe operation.

3 And finally, Intro 157, the Trust Act creates a
4 private right of action to enforce our sanctuary city
5 laws, protecting immigrant New Yorkers from unlawful
6 detention and abuse. Thank you.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Thank you, Council
8 Member. Council Member Lee followed by Bottcher.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Good afternoon,
10 Madam Speaker, Majority Leader and colleagues. It is
11 my honor to introduce legislation to strengthen the
12 city's capacity to deliver early childhood education
13 services for our youngest New Yorkers. Currently,
14 many of the CBO pre-k programs are experiencing
15 significant staffing challenges because certified
16 teachers and classroom staff receive lower pay and
17 less comprehensive benefits than similarly situated
18 DOE employees. As dependable staff leave these
19 programs, classrooms become more difficult to staff,
20 providers struggle to retain enrolled streets and the
21 city's broader effort to realize its vision for
22 accessible, high-quality childcare and early learning
23 become harder to achieve. My legislation, Intro 281,
24 would require DOE pre-k contracts to provide pay and
25 benefits comparable to DOE positions for covered

2 classroom staff and equivalent roles, enabling
3 providers to retain qualified staff without being
4 required to absorb additional costs. This measure
5 represents the straightforward and targeted retention
6 strategy that supports stable and reliable pre-k
7 services for working families, including families
8 whose children require consistent educational
9 support. The legislation also reflects years of
10 advocacy by organizations such as Daycare Council New
11 York, Citizens Committee for Children of New York,
12 and Advocates for Children of New York, along with
13 partners across the early childhood and disability
14 communities. I hope that you join me all in this
15 effort. Thank you.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Council Member
17 Bottcher followed by Morano.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHER: Today I'm
19 saying goodbye to two staff members of mine who are
20 moving onto other pastures. My Legislative and
21 Budget Director, Marisella Cano [sp?], is moving on
22 to be Ty Hankerson Chief of Staff. So, great job,
23 Ty. Marisella, thank you so much for all the great
24 work you've done in our office. And my Chief of
25 Staff, my longtime Chief of Staff, my righthand, Carl

2 Wilson is moving on. Carl, I want to thank you so
3 much for everything you've done. We've been through
4 so much together, major rezonings, many, many things
5 we've worked through in the district, so much
6 legislation. Carl was my appointee, the Chair of the
7 Casino Community Advisory Committee. And the thing
8 about Chiefs of Staff is you actually-- you really
9 have to actually like your Chiefs of Staff, because
10 you talk to them all day long, and Carl's sense of
11 humor has really kept me afloat during many of the
12 issues that we've worked on. So, Carl, thank you so
13 much for your service to our district, to the people
14 of New York, and you've got a bright, bright future
15 ahead, and we've been so lucky to have you. And good
16 luck on your future endeavors.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Council Member

18 Morano followed by Pierina Sanchez.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Thank you,
20 Majority Leader. Today, like a lot of you, I
21 reintroduced a number of bills that I'm very proud of
22 and I hope my colleagues will take a close look at
23 all of them in the days ahead, but I want to briefly
24 focus on one in particular because of its urgency and
25 because of the thoughtful discussion it just received

2 this week in the Health Committee under the
3 leadership of Chair Schulman, and that's Intro 323.
4 This legislation would provide paid leave for city
5 employees who step forward to donate bone marrow or a
6 living organ, and it would establish an official city
7 honor roll to recognize those extraordinary acts of
8 service. These are not abstract policy questions.
9 These are New Yorkers who volunteer to undergo
10 painful medical procedures so that someone else can
11 live. Sometimes it's a family member. Sometimes
12 it's a complete stranger. Either way, this is civil
13 heroism in its purest form. No city employee should
14 have to weigh saving a life against losing a
15 paycheck. Now, the administration has suggested that
16 the Council may lack authority, because paid leave is
17 traditionally a subject of collective bargaining. I
18 respectfully and totally disagree. This bill doesn't
19 alter wages, titles, or work rules across the
20 workforce. It sets a narrowly tailored humanitarian
21 minimum for a rare and extraordinary circumstance,
22 one that aligns with public health goals, saves
23 lives, and ultimately reduced long-term medical costs
24 borne by the public. We already legislate baseline
25 employment standards when there is a compelling

1 ||| NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 94

2 public interest. We do it for family leave. We do
3 it for workplace safety. We do it for health
4 protections. Ensuring that a city worker is not
5 financially penalized for donating an organ fits
6 squarely within that tradition. Collective
7 bargaining can and should build on that floor, but
8 the existence of labor contracts shouldn't prevent
9 this body from saying clearly and unanimously that
10 life-saving generosity deserves protection and
11 recognition. So I hope you'll look at 323. Thank
12 you.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Council Member
14 Restler followed by Mealy.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Thank you so
16 much, Majority Leader. And I am very pleased to
17 reintroduce today legislation to create the
18 Department of Community Safety. We asked the NYPD to
19 deal with every single issue under the sun, many of
20 which they don't have the training for and distracts
21 from their core work. We've seen NYPD response times
22 go up by nearly 40 percent during the Eric Adams
23 tenure to the most serious and violent crimes. We
24 need the NYPD to be focused, laser-focused on
25 preventing and solving violent crime, and we need to

2 deploy social workers, mental health professionals,
3 and other experts to reduce and prevent violent
4 incidents and quality of life-- and address quality
5 of life issues across our community. I am very
6 pleased that 23 of my colleagues have co-prime
7 sponsored this legislation, and I'm hopeful that many
8 others will sponsor the legislation with me as well
9 today. This legislation was of course a major
10 priority for the Mayor on his campaign, but I
11 actually campaigned on a similar idea four years ago,
12 and it's long overdue that we invest in high-quality
13 real-time response that can provide tangible
14 solutions, connections to quality services,
15 treatment, housing for the New Yorkers who
16 desperately need it, and I'm hopeful we'll be able to
17 get this bill moving as quickly as possible. Thank
18 you.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: I don't see
20 Council Member Mealy, so I'll move on to Council
21 Member Dinowitz followed by Justin Sanchez.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Thank you, Mr.
23 Majority Leader. First, I want to thank the Speaker
24 and my colleagues who recognize anti-Semitism for the
25 scourge that it is on our society, and we often look

2 at the data. Anti-Semitic hate crimes make up more
3 than every other group combined, but for so many of
4 us in the Jewish community that, you know, the
5 feelings of anti-Semitism go beyond what the data
6 show us. Like, the students I've spoken to who want
7 to take their yamakas off before going into class. Or
8 not go to school at all. The young girls who don't
9 want to wear their Star of David, and my family is
10 not immune from it. My wife and I were attending an
11 event at our Shul just a couple of weeks ago, and she
12 had pause about going to it for fear of being
13 intimidated, harassed, or God forbid something
14 happening like that happened in Council Member
15 Hudson's district, the 770 in Chabad. And so I'm
16 grateful today that along with Council Member
17 Vernikov, we were elected by the Jewish Caucus' co-
18 chairs of the Taskforce to Combat anti-Semitism.
19 Going beyond just words of condemnation or words of
20 discouragement for anti-Semitic words or behavior,
21 but importantly not just about things we're going to
22 do, but things we are going to-- things we are doing
23 now. And that's the package of legislation that
24 Speaker Menin has already spoken about, creating--
25 making sure there are safe perimeters around our

1 || NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 97

schools and around our houses of worship so our kids
are safe, making sure that the status of hate crimes,
not just whether someone was arrested or not, but the
status of where it is in the process is publicly
reported so people know that they can walk around
their neighborhood safely. And I'm proud to
cosponsor legislation with Council Member Maloney
about providing support to our houses of worship, and
I encourage my colleagues to sign onto this entire
package of legislation that will not only keep our
Jewish brothers and sisters safe, but our entire city
safe from hate crimes. Thank you.

14 [applause]

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Quiet in the
16 chambers, please. Thank you. Quiet in the chambers,
17 please. Thank you. Council Member Justin Sanchez
18 and Maloney is my last speaker.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER J. SANCHEZ: First and
20 foremost, I want to thank Speaker Menin and to my
21 colleagues on the Council from the 17th Council
22 District, 17 looks really good on you. Moving on.
23 At the-- wow, no laughs. Okay. We're tired. Well,
24 as the Chair of the Sanitation and solid Waste
25 Management Committee, I just want to take a moment to

2 acknowledge the hard work by all of our crews
3 throughout the city that have been working around the
4 clock to keep New York running through over a foot
5 snowfall since this last time this past week. You
6 know, while our kids were outside playing and we're
7 playing in Central Park and families are at home, and
8 folks like my Coms Director were very excited about
9 the Patriots advancing to another Super Bowl, I was
10 not as happy. Our snowplow drivers and our salt
11 spreaders were hard at work clearing our streets,
12 salting our roads post snowfall, they've continue to
13 work in collaboration with our other agencies, with
14 our BIDs clearing our sidewalks, our bike lanes,
15 other pedestrian right of ways. Now, I know looking
16 at the snow on the ground, and no thanks to Mother
17 Nature, there is still a lot more work to do, but I
18 really want to just commend them for the work that
19 they have done so far. Taking a moment to
20 acknowledge all of them and the work that they
21 continue to do. And just a reminder to all of my
22 colleagues, we'll be having oversight hearings on
23 this now coming up in February. I know there's been a
24 lot of discussion. I look forward to partnering with
25 all of you and your committees to make sure that we

2 are showing New Yorkers that we know how to clean the
3 streets. Thank you, everyone.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Council Member
5 Maloney?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: Thank you very
7 much, and thank you, Speaker Menin, for your focus on
8 addressing anti-Semitism with these package of bills.
9 I am co-sponsoring with Council Member Dinowitz Intro
10 297, my first bill. In the immediate aftermath of a
11 deeply disturbing incident here in New York City
12 where a vehicle was deliberately rammed into the
13 Chabad World Headquarters in Brooklyn. While no one
14 was injured, the intent is unmistakable and the
15 threat is real. This bill is not about one incident
16 or one community. It reflects a troubling reality of
17 our time, that religious institutions here in New York
18 City and around the world are increasingly exposed to
19 danger in an era of anger, misinformation, and
20 division. Too often, synagogues, churches, mosques
21 and temples have been become symbols of conflict,
22 rather than sanctuaries for peace. Houses of worship
23 are places where people go to gather and trust, to
24 reflect, to pray, to seek meaning, and to be
25 together. And they should not be left to navigate

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 100

2 emergency preparedness in isolation or without
3 support. This legislation ensures that religious
4 institutions can access support or develop emergency
5 plans so that when the unthinkable happens, there is
6 clarity, coordination, and protection of life.
7 Preparedness is not an act of fear. It reflects our
8 responsibility to one another. Thank you very much.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Thank you. Seeing
10 no one else signed up for General Discussion, I'll
11 now call on Speaker Julie Menin to close today's
12 Stated Meeting.

13 SPEAKER MENIN: Thank you. The Stated
14 Meeting of January 29th, 2026 is hereby adjourned.
15 Thank you.

16 [gavel]

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 101

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

C E R T I F I C A T E

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify that there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date February 4, 2026