

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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August 11, 2022
Start: 2:04 p.m.
Recess: 3:31 p.m.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Adrienne E. Adams, Speaker

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Diana I. Ayala
Joann Ariola
Alexa Avilés
Charles Barron
Erik D. Bottcher
Justin L. Brannan
Gale A. Brewer
Selvena N. Brooks-Powers
Tiffany Cabán
David M. Carr
Carmen N. De La Rosa
Erik Dinowitz
Amanda Farías
James F. Gennaro
Jennifer Gutierrez
Kamillah Hanks
Robert F. Holden
Crystal Hudson
Kristin Richardson Jordan
Rita C. Joseph

COUNCIL MEMBERS (CONTINUED):

Ari Kagan
Shekar Krishnan
Farah N. Louis
Christopher Marte
Darlene Mealy
Julie Menin
Mercedes Narcisse
Sandy Nurse
Chi A. Ossé
Vickie Paladino
Keith Powers
Lincoln Restler
Kevin C. Riley
Carlina Rivera
Lynn C. Schulman
Althea V. Stevens
Sandra Ung
Marjorie Velázquez
Inna Vernikov
Kalman Yeger

A P P E A R A N C E S

Jumaane Williams, Public Advocate

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: This is a sound check
3 for the Stated Meeting. Today's date is August 11,
4 2022, being recorded by Danny Huong (phonetic),
5 located in the Chambers.

6 CLERK: Ladies and gentlemen, at this time
7 please place all electronic devices to vibrate, all
8 electronic devices to vibrate.

9 Mr. Majority Leader.

10 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: [GAVEL] Good
11 afternoon and welcome to the Stated Meeting of August
12 11, 2022. I'm Majority Leader Keith Powers. I'd like
13 to thank everyone here today for joining us.

14 If you would like to follow along, the
15 agenda for today's meeting is posted on the City
16 Council website.

17 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Please
18 join us for the Pledge of Allegiance.

19 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Please call the
20 roll call.

21 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Abreu.
22 Ariola.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Present.

24 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Aviles.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILES: Present.

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2 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Ayala.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Present.

4 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here.

6 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

7 Bottcher.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Here.

9 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Brannan.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: I'm here.

11 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.

13 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Brooks-

14 Powers. Caban.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CABAN: Present.

16 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Carr.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Present.

18 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: De La

19 Rosa.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Here.

21 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

22 Dinowitz.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Present.

24 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Ayala.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Present.

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2 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
3 you. Farias. Feliz. Gennaro.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Present.

5 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:
6 Gutierrez.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIERREZ: Presente.

8 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Hanif.
9 Hanks.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Present.

11 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Holden.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here.

13 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Farias.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: Present.

15 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Hudson.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Present.

17 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Joseph.

18 Kagan.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: Present.

20 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

21 Krishnan.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Here.

23 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Lee.

24 Louis.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present.

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2 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Marte.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Present.

4 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Mealy.

5 Menin.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Present.

7 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Moya.

8 Narcisse.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Present.

10 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Nurse.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Present.

12 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Osse.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSE: Present.

14 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

15 Paladino.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Present.

17 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Restler.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Here.

19 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

20 Richardson Jordan.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN:

22 Present.

23 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Riley.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Present.

25 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Rivera.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present.

3 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

4 Salamanca. Sanchez. Schulman.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Here.

6 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Stevens.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Here.

8 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Ung.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Present.

10 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

11 Velazquez.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VELAZQUEZ: Present.

13 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

14 Vernikov.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Here.

16 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

17 Williams. Won. Yeger. Borelli. Powers.

18 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Here.

19 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker

20 Adams.

21 SPEAKER ADAMS: Present.

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We're

23 now going to hear today's invocation delivered by

24 Monsignor Kevin Sullivan, the Pastor of Church of Our

25 Savior and Executive Director of Catholic Charities

2 for the Archdiocese of New York which is located in a
3 fantastic City Council District at 59 Park Avenue in
4 Manhattan. Welcome and thank you for joining us.

5 MONSIGNOR KEVIN SULLIVAN: Let's just take
6 a moment, bow our heads, center ourselves, and be
7 still. Almighty God, in the city we address you by
8 many different names in diverse ways. We place
9 ourselves in your loving and gracious presence,
10 invoke your blessing and grace upon the work of this
11 Council and upon the people of this great City.
12 Almighty God, you know our needs better than we do,
13 but, just in case you're a little distracted or
14 forgetful, let us remind you of a few that are
15 pressing. Please keep our neighborhoods, streets,
16 buses, subways safe. Strengthen our schools to
17 educate our children even better. Keep our summer
18 programs vibrant for the many youth and families who
19 depend upon them. Keep our hospitals healing and
20 reduce the barriers to healthcare for those most in
21 need. Keep our economy strong with good-paying,
22 decent jobs, sufficient to support our families in
23 dignity. Keep us always a city in which the most
24 vulnerable and struggling feel welcome, receive a
25 helping hand, and are offered opportunities.

2 Especially watch those who struggle to find and to
3 keep shelter. We thank you for the diversity of our
4 great city, Almighty God, and your grace to make sure
5 that we resist the sometimes strong temptations to
6 divide us from one another and to tear each other
7 down. Keep us a city that welcomes immigrants and
8 refugees, and, as we now receive a new wave of
9 thousands seeking safety from their own countries and
10 opportunity in ours, keep strong our rich passion for
11 justice and progress and also protect us from self-
12 righteousness and intolerance. As we encounter many
13 challenges and obstacles, keep our spirits alive with
14 hope. Almighty God, 2 special prayers to say. One for
15 any Council Member who just happens to be celebrating
16 her birthday, a special blessing, and one final
17 prayer. Almighty God, specifically this year, please,
18 you've done a good job so far but keep the Mets and
19 Yankees at the top of their divisions, lead them
20 successfully to the playoffs to a full 22 Subway
21 Series, and, Almighty God, one point of personal
22 privilege. It'd be an (INAUDIBLE) blessing if after a
23 hard fought 7-game series that the Yankees emerge
24 victorious. Amen.

2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you for
3 that. I would just first of all as the Council Member
4 representing Monsignor Sullivan both like to welcome
5 him, echo his prayer for our birthday Colleague, and
6 very much echo his desire for Yankees World Series
7 win. I want that to be officially on the record. The
8 Bronx, I see you out there.

9 I also want to just thank him and the
10 folks at the Archdiocese for their tireless work on
11 behalf of the City. Monsignor Sullivan is a
12 constituent of mine and lives in a parish of mine and
13 also works in parish of mine as part of representing
14 Catholic Charities but the work that he does or that
15 the Archdiocese does or that Catholic Charities does
16 is on behalf of not only New York City and New York
17 State, it's on behalf of people all over the world
18 who see New York City as their home, and I think the
19 work that they're doing could not be more important
20 at this exact moment, when you talk about individuals
21 who are coming here and are very literally knocking
22 on the door of Catholic Charities looking for help
23 and assistance, and he is here with us in the City
24 when he could be on vacation, he could be anywhere
25 else, but he's staying here to make sure that those

2 individuals are getting the helping hand that they
3 need and the work that he does is tireless. I have to
4 say and I just want to make one point, amidst all
5 that really, really important work he does, he also
6 helps me with the constituent issue on his block
7 which he knows once every now and then a little
8 nuisance issue that made a lot of constituents happy
9 so thank you for taking the time on behalf of my
10 constituents but also for the work on social justice
11 and the work you're bringing to the city and thank
12 you.

13 With that, I make a motion to spread the
14 invocation for the record here today.

15 We're now going to have the adoption of
16 the minutes by Council Member Kevin Riley.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: I make a motion
18 that the Minutes of the Stated Meeting of June 16,
19 2022, be adopted as printed.

20 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We're
21 now going to have Messages and Papers from the Mayor.

22 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

23 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Communications
24 from City, County, and Borough Offices.

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2 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: M-83 DOI
3 appointment.

4 SPEAKER ADAMS: Received, ordered,
5 printed, and filed.

6 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Petitions and
7 Communications.

8 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

9 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Land Use Call-
10 Ups.

11 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: M-84 and
12 M-85, multiple applications.

13 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on Call-Up vote. I
14 now ask that the Clerk take a roll call vote on
15 today's Land Use Call-Ups.

16 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Abreu.
17 Ariola.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Aye on all.

19 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Aviles.
20 Land Use Call-Ups.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILES: Aye.

22 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
23 you. Ayala.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye on all.

25 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye on all.

3 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

4 Bottcher.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Aye on all.

6 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Brannan.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye on all.

8 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

10 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Brooks-

11 Powers.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Aye on all.

13 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Caban.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CABAN: Aye on all.

15 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Carr.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Aye.

17 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: De La

18 Rosa.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye.

20 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

21 Dinowitz.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Permission to

23 vote on all matters on General Order Calendar, Mr.

24 Majority Leader.

25 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Yes, go ahead.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye on all.

3 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Farias.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: I vote aye on all.

5 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Feliz.

6 Gennaro.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Yes.

8 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

9 Gutierrez.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIERREZ: Aye on all.

11 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Hanif.

12 Hanks.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye on all.

14 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Holden.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye.

16 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Hudson.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye on all.

18 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Joseph.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye on all.

20 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Kagan.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: Aye.

22 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

23 Krishnan.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye on all.

25

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2 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Lee.

3 Louis. Marte.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye on all.

5 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Mealy.

6 Menin.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye on all.

8 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Moya.

9 Narcisse.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye on all.

11 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Nurse.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Aye.

13 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Osse.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSE: Aye on all.

15 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

16 Paladino.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye on all.

18 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Restler.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye.

20 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

21 Richardson Jordan.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN: Aye.

23 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Riley.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye.

25 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Rivera.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

3 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

4 Salamanca. Sanchez. Schulman.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye on all.

6 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Stevens.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye on all.

8 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Ung.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye on all.

10 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

11 Velazquez.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VELAZQUEZ: Aye.

13 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

14 Vernikov.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye on all.

16 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

17 Williams. Won. Yeger.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Mr. President, may

19 I be excused to vote on all matters on the General

20 Order Calendar at the same time?

21 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: You may.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you. I vote

23 aye on all.

24 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Borelli.

25 Powers.

2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: I vote aye. When
3 we're finished, if you can just call on Council
4 Member Farias whose items these are, I think she just
5 wanted to explain her vote.

6 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Council
7 Member Farias.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: Thank you so much,
9 Majority Leader. This is a great and important day
10 for me as the Council Member for District 18. I have
11 my very first Land Use item on the floor today, and
12 it's an important project for my Soundview community.
13 1810 Randall is one that I've been working on since
14 the fall of 2021, before I was even officially sworn
15 in as Council Member, and an item that my community
16 has been anticipating. I have heard far too many
17 stories of senior citizens, often widows..

18 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Council Member
19 Farias. This is on the Call-Up or it's the items that
20 are on the Land Use agenda?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: This is an item on
22 the Land Use agenda.

23 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Okay. I'm sorry.
24 I'll come back to you. Apologies. We'll come back to
25 it in the General Order.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: Okay. Thanks.

3 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker
4 Adams.

5 SPEAKER ADAMS: I vote aye.

6 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you.

7 Today's Land Use Call-Ups are adopted by a vote of 39
8 in the affirmative and 0 in the negative.

9 We will now have communication from
10 Speaker Adrienne Adams.

11 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you, Majority
12 Leader, and good afternoon, everyone.

13 As a reminder, masks are still strongly
14 encouraged to be worn throughout the Stated Meeting.
15 COVID infection rates are still high so please take
16 the necessary precautions to protect yourselves.

17 As the first women-majority Council in
18 New York City history, we are uniquely qualified and
19 positioned to address the longstanding concerns and
20 challenges facing the women of our city who are the
21 majority as well as the millions of families in our
22 communities. From legislation to protect and expand
23 abortion healthcare, address maternal healthcare
24 disparities and expand access to children, this

2 Council remains focused on the priorities that impact
3 New Yorkers.

4 Two months ago, the United States Supreme
5 Court reversed decades of legal precedent by ending
6 the Constitutionally protected right to abortion
7 care, a dangerous decision that will have grave and
8 deadly consequences. Here in New York, we took
9 immediate action by passing the historic New York
10 City Abortion Rights Act to safeguard and expand
11 access to safe reproductive healthcare. This is
12 something the Council and the entire city should be
13 proud of. Even in states like Kansas, voters are
14 sending a clear message that we must protect abortion
15 care. Republican attempts to limit or outright ban
16 critical care have been rejected. Women, trans, and
17 gender-non-conforming individuals across this country
18 know what is at stake, and we will continue to make
19 our voices heard, including at the ballot box. But we
20 are not finished yet because we know there's still
21 more work to do. The Supreme Court's overturning of
22 Roe v Wade disproportionately impacts black people,
23 people of color, and low-income and marginalized
24 communities. Similarly, black women face a maternal
25 mortality crisis that is connected to our country's

2 history of racism and unequal access to services,
3 rights, and opportunities. The statistics and the
4 experiences that far too many people have endured are
5 striking and dire. In New York City, black people are
6 8 to 12 times more likely to die when giving birth
7 than their white counterparts. They're also more
8 likely to experience maternal morbidity. A recent
9 study released at the end of June found that maternal
10 pregnancy related deaths increased 33 percent in 2020
11 including a 40 percent uptick for black women and 74
12 percent increase for Latinas. These disparities are
13 horrifying, and, as a city, we must take on the
14 challenge of eliminating the inequities so that all
15 women and birthing people are safe and protected. It
16 may take a majority women Council to fully tackle
17 this issue, and I am so proud that we are moving
18 legislation to address the maternal health and
19 mortality crisis. Later, we will discuss the package
20 of legislation that we're passing today on this
21 critical topic.

22 Last month, we mourned the loss of a
23 long-time public servant, advocate, and friend in Joe
24 Goldbloom. Joe was a brilliant, caring man who worked
25 in the City Council for decades, advising multiple

2 City Council Members and helping countless
3 constituents. He is sorely missed, and we will
4 continue to uplift his legacy.

5 Our city lost another champion in former
6 Assembly Member and Council Member Al Vann, who
7 faithfully represented his community in central
8 Brooklyn for nearly 4 decades. Council Member Vann
9 was an educator and an advocate who fought for the
10 empowerment of black communities throughout his
11 lifetime of public service. He was relentless and
12 unwavering in his pursuit of empowerment, equity, and
13 justice. He is responsible for increasing the
14 diversity of our legislative representatives in New
15 York City by advancing equal representation,
16 fundamentally changing our local democratic processes
17 to be more representative of the people of this city.
18 We celebrate the life and legacy of Al Vann as a
19 former esteemed Member of this Body and the impact he
20 made on his beloved Bedford-Stuyvesant community in
21 Brooklyn and the entire City of New York. Council
22 Member Vann's memorial and celebration of life will
23 be livestreamed tomorrow evening, and I encourage
24 everyone to tune in to this remembrance of a

2 trailblazing New Yorker and remembered public
3 servant.

4 In the past few weeks, we've lost 2 New
5 Yorkers who died while on the job. On July 19th, 31-
6 year-old Johnny Pissarro was fatally shot in North
7 Brooklyn on a Law and Order film set where he worked
8 as a crewmember securing the space and watching over
9 equipment trucks. We mourn his loss alongside his
10 wife and 3 children.

11 We are also mourning the death of 23-
12 year-old Matthew Webb, a fast-food worker who was
13 shot and killed in a McDonald's restaurant in
14 Bedford-Stuyvesant Brooklyn. As a city, we must
15 continue to uplift his family and provide them with
16 the resources to heal from this pain and trauma.

17 This past weekend, our Jewish communities
18 observed Tisha B'av, a day of fasting, prayer, and
19 reflection. Although this is a sad holiday that
20 highlights the destruction of temples and other
21 tragedies inflicted on the Jewish people throughout
22 history, it also serves as a reminder that we must
23 all come together to protect and uplift each other in
24 this city and beyond.

2 On August 6th, we celebrated Jamaican
3 Independence Day. This year marks the 60th
4 Anniversary of Jamaica's independence from Great
5 Britain. Our city is home to a vibrant Jamaican
6 community that has contributed so much to the culture
7 of New York. I hope all Jamaicans across our city had
8 a happy and safe celebration, Irie Man, No Problem.

9 Yesterday was Ecuadorian Independence Day
10 which has been celebrated annually since 1809. I know
11 our city is home to a large Ecuadorian community,
12 particularly in my beloved Queens, and our very own
13 Council Member Francisco Moya is the very first
14 Ecuadorian American elected official in the history
15 of this Council. To everyone who celebrated, we wish
16 you a happy Ecuadorian Independence Day.

17 We have several important cultural
18 holidays coming up including Pakistan Independence
19 Day on August 14th, Indian Independence Day and
20 Korean Independence Day on August 15th, and Trinidad
21 and Tobago Independence Day at the end of the month
22 on August 31st. I'm so proud to represent diverse
23 South Asian and Indo-Caribbean communities in my own
24 district, the great 28, so those days are of special
25 importance to me and so many New Yorkers. For Korean

2 New Yorkers, August 15th represents one of the most
3 important holidays in Gwangbokjeol which translates
4 to "bringing back the light." This day symbolizes the
5 restoration of Korean national independence, and it's
6 a day of celebration that we want to acknowledge.

7 As the most diverse Council in our city's
8 history with so many historic firsts, it's vital that
9 we continue to recognize the many cultures that make
10 up our great city. Later this month, we will
11 commemorate several days. August 21st is National
12 Senior Citizens Day which is dedicated to celebrating
13 our wonderful seniors who I lovingly call the jewels
14 of our community. We wouldn't be here if not for
15 their hard work and sacrifice. We are forever
16 thankful. As a city, we will continue to do
17 everything in our power to support and salute our
18 amazing seniors.

19 On Friday, August 26th, we will be
20 celebrating Women's Equality Day which was championed
21 by New York City's own Congresswoman Bella Abzug in
22 the early 1970s. Especially in light of the recent
23 rollback in women's rights across the country, it is
24 especially important to recognize that the struggle
25 for gender equality is still ongoing. As the first

2 women-majority Council in our city's history, I am
3 extraordinarily proud of what we have and what we
4 will accomplish to protect and boost the rights of
5 women across New York City.

6 Next, I want to announce a new addition
7 to our Council team. Please join me, Council Members,
8 in welcoming Drew Zimmerman who is serving as the
9 Council's new Digital Director. Welcome to the
10 Council, Drew.

11 Of course, as was mentioned by Monsignor,
12 we are celebrating our own Marjorie, happy birthday
13 Council Member Marjorie Velazquez.

14 Finally, please, please join me in
15 congratulating our own Council Member Pierina Sanchez
16 and her family on the birth of their beautiful baby
17 boy. Congratulations Pierina. We have another baby in
18 the Council family and working on some more.

19 Now, let's move on to our stated agenda.
20 Today, we are voting on several legislative Land Use
21 and Finance items. We will be voting on the following
22 Land Use items:

23 The Lirio, MTA Site 806 9th Avenue, will
24 facilitate the construction of a new 9-story mixed-
25 use building that would include 111 affordable

2 housing units, 67 of which would be designated as
3 supportive units for formerly homeless households,
4 ground floor retail, and new office space for the
5 MTA. The Council is modifying the map amendment to
6 remove lots from the rezoning area that are not
7 necessary to facilitate the development of affordable
8 housing. The Council is also modifying the text
9 amendment to more precisely target the language of
10 the newly created special permit for the creation of
11 affordable housing in this project in Council Member
12 Bottcher's district.

13 1810 Randall Avenue rezoning will
14 facilitate the redevelopment of the existing obsolete
15 church into a new 8-story mixed-use building. It will
16 include an upgraded new house of worship and
17 community center for the church, 167 affordable
18 senior housing units, and approximately 16 accessory
19 parking spaces on the ground floor in Council Member
20 Farias' district.

21 We will also be voting on the following
22 Finance items:

23 The Council will vote on a Transparency
24 Resolution approving changes of certain organizations
25 receiving funding in the expense budget.

2 Next, the Council will vote on
3 Introduction 600, which would implement a state-
4 authorizing law allowing the City to provide a rebate
5 of real property taxes for eligible properties on
6 Fiscal Year 2022 property taxes.

7 Finally, we will vote on our Maternal and
8 Reproductive Healthcare package. As the first women
9 majority in the New York City Council, I can't say it
10 enough, we've made it clear that certain issues are
11 prioritized differently when there are women and
12 mothers at the helm. In the wake of the Supreme
13 Court's dangerous decision to overturn Roe v Wade,
14 this Council took action last month by passing the
15 New York City Abortion Rights Act, an unprecedented
16 legislative package to safeguard and expand abortion
17 and reproductive healthcare across our 5 boroughs. We
18 will continue this pattern by voting on a package of
19 7 bills and 5 resolutions addressing maternal health,
20 mortality, and morbidity, issues that have long been
21 championed by Members of this Body.

22 Introduction 86 sponsored by Public
23 Advocate Jumaane Williams by request of the Bronx
24 Borough President would require an agency designated
25 by the Mayor to administer public education on the

2 city standards for respectful care at birth as well
3 as information regarding the right to be free from
4 discrimination in relation to pregnancy, childbirth,
5 or a related medical condition, reasonable workplace
6 accommodations for persons who are pregnant or were
7 recently pregnant and caregivers. It would also
8 provide rights for a person who is pregnant or was
9 recently pregnant under the Disabilities Benefits Law
10 and Paid Family Leave Benefits Law, Earn Safe and
11 Sick Time Act, and Temporary Schedule Change Law
12 while ensuring information is provided on how to
13 appoint a healthy care proxy.

14 Introduction 409 sponsored by Council
15 Member Farah Louis would require the Department of
16 Health and Mental Hygiene to post the Annual Maternal
17 Mortality and Morbidity Report on its website. The
18 Annual Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Report is
19 mandated per Local Law 188 of 2018. However, there
20 was no requirement for the data to be posted on the
21 Department's website until now.

22 Introduction 482 also sponsored by
23 Council Member Louis would require the Department of
24 Health and Mental Hygiene to provide education on
25 polycystic ovary syndrome and endometriosis by

2 posting information on its website. The Department of
3 Health will also be required to submit a report
4 regarding education efforts on both conditions to the
5 Mayor and Speaker of the Council no later than March
6 1, 2023.

7 Introduction 472 sponsored by Council

8 Member Jennifer Gutierrez would require the
9 Department of Health to establish a program to train
10 doulas and provide doula services to residents of
11 marginalized neighborhoods in all 5 boroughs at no
12 cost to the resident. Doulas will be trained in birth
13 equity, trauma-informed care, perinatal mood and
14 anxiety disorders, navigating the hospital
15 environment, and support services available to low-
16 income birthing people and their families. The Health
17 District will also be required to submit a report to
18 the Mayor and Speaker of the Council on the merits of
19 the program.

20 Introduction 478 sponsored by Council

21 Member Crystal Hudson would require an agency
22 designated by the Mayor to provide education and
23 information regarding services offered by doulas and
24 midwives, the evidence-based benefits of such
25 services, and free and low-cost resources related to

2 such services in the city. The administering agency
3 would also be required to submit a report describing
4 the method of targeted outreach used to the Mayor and
5 Speaker of the Council and post it online.

6 Introduction 490 sponsored by Council

7 Member Julie Menin would require the Department of
8 Health to conduct research on sexual and reproductive
9 health disparities within the city and provide sexual
10 and reproductive health services. In providing these
11 services, the Department will be responsible for
12 conducting outreach and providing education and
13 support to individuals regarding issues related to
14 sexual and reproductive health, especially low-income
15 individuals and those without health insurance. The
16 Department of Health would also make referrals to
17 affordable and accessible services related to
18 contraception, abortion, family planning, breast and
19 cervical cancer screenings, and counseling, testing,
20 and treatment for HIV and sexually transmitted
21 infections.

22 Introduction 509 sponsored by Council

23 Member Althea Stevens would require an agency
24 designated by the Mayor to administer a public
25 education program that informs the public regarding

2 maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity. The
3 Department of Health would also be required to report
4 on the total births in the city, disaggregated by
5 vaginal and cesarean sections and whether the
6 pregnancy was considered low risk. The Department of
7 Health would also be required to issue
8 recommendations to reduce maternal mortality and
9 severe maternal morbidity including efforts to reduce
10 the risks associated with unplanned cesarean delivery
11 and efforts to address inequities across patient
12 demographics.

13 We are also voting on several resolutions
14 in this package.

15 Resolution 92 sponsored by Public
16 Advocate Williams would call on Congress to pass and
17 the President to sign the Black Maternal Health
18 Momnibus Act of 2021 to make critical investments in
19 and advance policies that would help end preventable
20 maternal mortality and close the racial and ethnic
21 disparities in maternal healthcare.

22 Resolution 95 sponsored by Council Member
23 Carlina Rivera would call on the New York State
24 Legislature to pass legislation that would require
25 maternal health providers to supply individuals with

2 a planned c-section and those who undergo an
3 unplanned c-section with a standardized written
4 communication about the procedure to ensure universal
5 dissemination of information to improve health
6 outcomes for birthing parents and newborns.

7 Resolution 205 also sponsored by Council
8 Member Rivera would call on the New York State
9 Legislature to pass legislation making doula care
10 more accessible to individuals with Medicaid and
11 those without health insurance.

12 Resolution 244 also sponsored by Public
13 Advocate Williams would call on the Centers for
14 Disease Control and Prevention to expand funding for
15 the Healthy Start Brooklyn Doula Program, known as By
16 My Side, in order to provide free doula services to
17 low-income birthing parents in Brooklyn who
18 disproportionately face the risks of infant
19 mortality, low birth weight, preterm birth, and other
20 challenges.

21 We want to thank staff, Harbani Ahuja,
22 Sara Liss, and Smita Deshmukh. Thank you.

23 Before I turn it over to the Majority
24 Leader, I'd like to introduce Public Advocate Jumaane

2 Williams to say a few words about his important
3 legislation.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE WILLIAMS: Thank you so
5 much, Madam Speaker and Majority Leader. That's a
6 pretty cool chair. Happy birthday to the Council
7 Member. I do have to say let's go Mets.

8 Birth equity is a social justice issue,
9 one too often ignored, facing people too often
10 unheard. It's one that is personal to so many New
11 Yorkers, so many people in this room, and I never
12 knew how personal it would be for myself and my
13 family. We began working on this piece of legislation
14 about 2 years ago, before I even know how hard it
15 would hit home, and that's an indication of how
16 important it is to have diverse staff. It was the
17 black women of my office who brought something to my
18 attention that I never knew even existed. By now, as
19 many of you know, my wife and I had one heck of a
20 year, and I have tell you that I didn't even know
21 what my wife was missing in her first initial
22 conversations with doctors until we found a doctor
23 that cared. When she was first diagnosed with
24 cervical cancer, every doctor immediately wanted to
25 remove her uterus, and I thought it might be a good

2 idea because it's cervical cancer. We finally found a
3 doctor who was listening to her saying that she
4 wanted to have children. We've been told it will be
5 difficult. We were told, unfortunately, for too many
6 it's a different outcome. While she was never
7 listened to, she was never heard, it's one of the
8 reasons for this inequity, for this pain is that no
9 one seems willing to hear the story. To be alongside
10 her throughout this process, to see the force of the
11 systems against her and the strength she summoned to
12 fight them was incredible and inspiring. We shared
13 our story in hopes that many people who have suffered
14 in silence would feel solidarity and find support,
15 that our story would resonate in homes across the
16 city and help to bring people together and ultimately
17 be able to change the systems that led to the
18 circumstances my families and many of yours have
19 faced. We have made a decision that if something
20 happened, I would go with the child, but I do
21 remember being in the room when my child came out and
22 I was told she had forgotten to breathe and my wife
23 was in pain. It was a very tough decision. I thought
24 about so many of the people who were in that same
25 situation and it ended so terribly wrong. The past

2 year of personal experience of seeing what my wife
3 has gone through, not only throughout now but
4 throughout her life has strengthened my resolve and
5 molded me into a fiercer, louder, and passionate
6 advocate for everyone in this room and across the 5
7 boroughs, and I do know and remember all of the
8 people I met along the way who I try to carry with me
9 whose story ended so tragically, and I'm thankful for
10 the privilege my wife and I had that so many have not
11 and I'm thankful that even though (INAUDIBLE) was
12 born 2 months early she is healthy now and my wife is
13 cancer-free.

14 Today, we have the opportunity to take
15 some major steps. After years of work and
16 partnership, today the City Council will be voting on
17 a package of legislation including some of mine. One,
18 to establish a Maternal Health Bill of Rights and
19 ensure that pregnant people are informed of those
20 rights. Information is essential to body autonomy and
21 empowering people to seek the care they deserve, and
22 anyone giving birth in New York City should know the
23 rights and options available to them. This
24 legislation will make that information available when
25 patients need it the most.

2 The City Council will also vote on
3 resolutions as the Speaker mentioned. We need action
4 at all levels of government on this issue. Today, the
5 city is taking action, and we hope our federal and
6 state partners quickly follow. We know this is not
7 the end and be all by any stretch of the imagination.
8 I'm reminded by someone who mentioned at a press
9 conference earlier that she'd been working on it for
10 35 years, 35 years, and this is the first time any
11 legislation has been put forth, and it's not lost on
12 me that even though we put this out a few years ago
13 and people have been working on it for decades, it
14 took a majority-woman Council led by a black woman to
15 get something done.

16 Thank you, Speaker Adams, thank you Chair
17 Schulman, thank you to the Bronx Borough President
18 Gibson, thank you to the Women's Caucus who
19 championed this issue, to the BLAC, to so many
20 Council Members who have bills of their own, to my
21 staff, Xamayla Rose, Veronica Aveis, Nick Smith, Tish
22 Green, and Casie Addison who was stolen from me by
23 Council Member Crystal Hudson but I want to give her
24 her dues as well.

2 I want to end by shouting out my father,
3 may he rest in peace, he was an OB/GYN. He
4 specialized in taking cases and pregnancies that no
5 one else would so I hope he's proud.

6 Peace and blessing and love and light to
7 everyone. Thank you.

8 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you, Public
9 Advocate, for sharing. As I said in our pre-
10 Stated press conference, this package of legislation is so
11 personal to those of us that are a part of this
12 legislation, and I'm appreciative to the Women's
13 Caucus led by my co-Chairs, Council Members Louis and
14 Farias, for not just directing the Women's Caucus but
15 actually pulling the Women's Caucus in the direction
16 that truly focuses on things that have been left
17 behind, matters that have been left behind and not
18 prioritized for far too long. Public Advocate
19 Williams, you are not a part of the Women's Caucus
20 nor have you ever been when we served together as
21 Council Members, but your story is so compelling and
22 we are grateful to you to always be a part of the
23 legislation that impacts so many women and women of
24 color across the City of New York and we are still
25 grateful for your leadership. Thank you so much. With

2 that, I will turn it back over to the Majority
3 Leader.

4 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you,
5 Speaker Adams, and thank you, Mr. Public Advocate,
6 for being with us here today as well.

7 We're going to now move into Discussion
8 of General Orders. We're going to start with Council
9 Member Farias to speak on her Land Use item.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: Thank you,
11 Majority Leader. As I said before, this is a great
12 and important day for me as the Council Member for
13 District 18. I have my very first Land Use item on
14 the floor. Today, we're voting on a very important
15 project for my Soundview community particularly. The
16 project at 1810 Randall Avenue is one that I have
17 been working on since the fall of 2021, before I was
18 even officially sworn in as Council Member and an
19 item that my community has been anticipating. I have
20 heard far too many stories of senior citizens, often
21 widows on Social Security, folks on fixed incomes,
22 being priced out of our community or forced to live
23 in substandard basement apartments because they were
24 left with an impossible choice to choose between
25 their rent, their medication, or their food. No one

2 living in our city should have to make that choice.
3 As public servants, it is our solemn responsibility
4 to protect our most vulnerable populations which
5 includes our seniors. Soundview is an
6 intergenerational community with many seniors who
7 have lived in the community for generations. In Bronx
8 Community Board 9, 12.4 percent of our residents are
9 senior citizens, and we have too few affordable
10 housing options for them if they choose to live out
11 their golden years in the communities that they
12 helped build. This Land Use item safeguards our aging
13 community and protects their right to age in place
14 surrounded by friends and family without being
15 displaced on their fixed incomes. Already, nearly
16 half of my constituents are identified by the census
17 as rent burdened. Thus, I cannot underscore enough
18 how necessary affordable senior housing is in the
19 18th District. I urge and thank everyone here today
20 on voting yes for this critical Land Use item for my
21 community. Thank you so, so much.

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll
23 now hear from Council Member Menin followed by
24 Council Member Velazquez.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Thank you, Majority
3 Leader Powers. Today, I'm asking my Colleagues to
4 vote in favor of my bill, Intro 490, that would
5 direct the New York City Department of Health and
6 Mental Hygiene to provide sexual and reproductive
7 health services and conduct research on health
8 disparities within the city. This legislation
9 codifies and requires DOHMH to conduct outreach,
10 education, and to provide support and referrals to
11 people, particularly those who are low-income and
12 without health insurance, for abortion and family
13 planning services, counseling and testing for HIV and
14 sexually transmitted infections, routine screenings
15 for breast and cervical cancer, and health education
16 to promote reproductive health. Intro 490 is among
17 the package of bills that the Speaker spoke about
18 that ensures that New York City will always provide
19 safe and accessible sexual and reproductive services
20 for all who are in need.

21 I, first of all, want to thank the
22 Speaker, I want to thank Health Committee Chair Lynn
23 Schulman, the bill drafter, Senior Legislative
24 Counsel Harbani Ahuja, Deputy Chief-of-Staff Jeff
25 Baker, and my team, my Chief-of-Staff Jonathan Szott,

2 and Legislative and Budget Director Brandon Jordan.
3 Thank you.

4 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll
5 now go to Council Member Velazquez.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER VELAZQUEZ: Thank you,
7 everyone, for the birthday shoutouts. I really
8 appreciate it. Let's go Yankees.

9 I want to take a moment that I am blessed
10 to have another year of life, and I'm grateful for
11 the opportunity to represent not only my district but
12 being part of the majority-female-led City Council.
13 When we're talking about what we're passing today,
14 it's deeply personal, and I want to thank Public
15 Advocate Jumaane Williams for his kind words but also
16 for his advocacy and never giving up the fight. This
17 is deeply personal because I had a friend that I lost
18 to maternal mortality so this is for Cora Destri
19 (phonetic) so thank you and thank you all.

20 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. Are
21 there any other Council Members who would like to
22 sign up to speak as part of General Orders?

23 Okay. Moving to today's agenda, we have
24 Report of Special Committees.

25 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Reports of
3 Standing Committees.

4 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Report
5 of the Committee on Finance Preconsidered Intro 600,
6 Property Tax Rebate.

7 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

8 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:
9 Preconsidered Reso 288, Transparency Reso.

10 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

11 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of
12 the Committee on Health, Intros 86-A, 409-A, 472-A,
13 478-A, 482-A, 490-A, and 509-A, Package on Maternal
14 Health, Mortality, and Morbidity.

15 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and coupled on
16 General Orders.

17 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Report
18 of the Committee on Land Use, LUs 73 through 77, The
19 Lirio.

20 SPEAKER ADAMS: Approved with
21 modifications and referred to the City Planning
22 Commission pursuant to Section 197-(d) of the New
23 York City Charter.

24

25

1 CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

44

2 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

3 Preconsidered LU 86 and Reso 297 and Preconsidered LU
4 87 and Reso 298, 1810 Randall Avenue Rezoning.

5 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

6 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: On the
7 General Orders Calendar, Intro 179-A.

8 SPEAKER ADAMS: Laid over.

9 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: General
10 Orders Calendar, LU 73 and Reso 299 through LU 77 and
11 Reso 303, The Lirio, 806 9th Avenue.

12 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

13 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

14 Resolution appointing various persons, Commissioner
15 of Deeds.

16 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

17 I now ask that the Clerk take a roll call vote on all
18 of the items coupled on today's General Orders
19 Calendar.

20 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Abreu.

21 Ariola.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Aye on all except
23 for Intro 490-A which I am a no.

24 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Aviles.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILES: Aye on all.

2 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
3 you. Ayala.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye on all.

5 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye on all.

7 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:
8 Bottcher.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Permission to
10 explain my vote.

11 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Today, we are
13 voting on a Land Use project in my Council District.
14 It's a 100 percent affordable building built on an
15 MTA parking lot. It's going to include 59 units of
16 supportive housing for formerly homeless, long-term
17 survivors of AIDS. It's going to include 39 units of
18 moderate-income housing so we'll have people from a
19 wide range of incomes and backgrounds living under
20 one roof. It's going to make a very beautiful
21 community. The commercial space, we were able to get
22 a commitment to below-market commercial space for
23 Stiles Market, which is a grocer whose vegetable
24 stand was destroyed by a building collapse a few
25 years and he's been trying to get new retail space.

2 We were able to get modifications to the zoning
3 because this is located in the Special Clinton
4 District. In the original zoning text, it would've
5 applied to the entire district so we were able to
6 tailor it to this lot and a number of modifications
7 to the design.

8 I really want to thank my staff. I want
9 to thank everyone in the Land Use Division, the
10 Community Board, and everyone that has been part of
11 this process. Thank you very much. Aye on all.

12 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
13 you. Brannan.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Permission to
15 explain my vote.

16 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Just very
18 thankful and excited to pass the first property tax
19 rebate in the City of New York in almost 15 years as
20 a bipartisan effort and putting money back in the
21 hands of working and middle-class New Yorkers is a
22 big deal, something that hasn't happened in a long
23 time. I vote aye on all.

24 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye on all.

2 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Brooks-
3 Powers.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Permission
5 to explain my vote.

6 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Thank you.

8 I'd like to speak in support of a few different items
9 on today's agenda. First, I'm pleased to see the work
10 that this Council is doing to support our city's
11 homeowners. Today, we are passing a 150-dollar rebate
12 for Fiscal Year '22 property taxes. After the
13 economic hardship we experienced throughout the
14 pandemic and the pressure of the inflation we have
15 seen this summer, this rebate will provide some much-
16 needed financial relief and make New York a little
17 more affordable for many of our homeowners.

18 I'd like to also add my voice in
19 celebration of the Maternal Health package of bills
20 we are passing today and the leadership of my
21 Colleagues in the Women's Caucus, Public Advocate
22 Williams, and the Bronx Borough President Vanessa
23 Gibson. This comprehensive bill package will
24 safeguard maternal health and make pregnancy safer in
25 New York City. It couldn't be clearer, when women

2 lead, we fight for solutions to the issues that will
3 impact generations to come. I am so proud to stand
4 with my Colleagues on this and our Colleagues across
5 government to continue this vital work. With that, I
6 vote aye on all.

7 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Caban.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CABAN: Aye on all.

9 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Carr.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Permission to
11 explain my vote.

12 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Thank you, Majority
14 Leader. I'd just like to say a few words with respect
15 to the Transparency Resolution we're voting on today.
16 As I said on the record of the Finance Committee,
17 this Transparency Resolution designates funds for
18 Staten Island related to the Day Laborer Initiative,
19 which has been the subject of ongoing thoughtful
20 discussions and deliberations on how best that money
21 should be distributed and to whom, and those
22 conversations have not yet ripened and come to a
23 conclusion and so I think it's unfortunate that that
24 conversation and dialogue is being short-circuited by
25 a decision today to distribute the balance of those

2 funds that have been designated at the adoption of
3 the budget back in June, and so in the spirit of a
4 Body that has been increasingly more democratic I
5 think we can strive to do better in the future.
6 That's why I'll be opposing the Transparency
7 Resolution today.

8 Before I indicate my vote, I'm simply
9 going to disclose on the record that in the
10 Transparency Resolution we're funding CUNY and my
11 domestic partner is a student at CUNY. With that
12 said, I'm voting no on Preconsidered Resolution 288
13 and Introduction 490-A and aye on the rest.

14 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: De La
15 Rosa.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye on all.

17 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Farias.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: I proudly vote aye
19 on all.

20 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Feliz.
21 Gennaro.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: I vote aye and I
23 wish to be associated with the remarks of Council
24 Members Brannan and Brooks-Powers.

2 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

3 Gutierrez.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIERREZ: Permission to
5 explain my vote.

6 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIERREZ: Thank you,
8 Majority Leader. I'm really proud and grateful to
9 have the support of my Colleagues in passing Intros
10 472-A and 478-A. As a new mother who gave birth with
11 a doula by my side, I fully recognize my privilege. I
12 was afforded a doula and a midwife, both women of
13 color who advocated for me, kept me and my baby safe,
14 and still at 8 months postpartum remain accessible,
15 checking in on me constantly, and maintaining my
16 physical and mental health. Every woman and birthing
17 person should have a positive birth experience and
18 deserve quality care. Doula care is a human-driven
19 approach that centers on the individual's needs of
20 each birthing person, which can root out the issues
21 of racial bias and the resulting poor health outcomes
22 that exist throughout our healthcare system. This
23 bill will not only provide women and birthing people
24 in priority areas access to care from a doula but a
25 pipeline that creates more opportunities to train

2 doulas. I am deeply proud that this is my first bill
3 to be passed as a Council Member.

4 I want to thank Speaker Adams for her
5 leadership and unapologetically elevating the dire
6 need and addressing health inequalities and keeping
7 black and brown women alive. I'd also like to thank
8 my Chief-of Staff Anna Bessendorf and Senior Advisor
9 Anya Lehr for their tremendous work. I also want to
10 thank our ancestors for this incredible gift of
11 doulas. My own grandmother was a doula in our
12 hometown of (INAUDIBLE) Columbia. July 20th was
13 Columbian Independence Day, and I'm the first
14 Columbian City Council Member so today passing my
15 first bill I want to say (INAUDIBLE) and gracias.

16 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you,
17 Council Member Guitierrez.

18 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Hanks.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye on all.

20 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Holden.
21 Council Member Holden.

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Council Member
23 Holden gives a thumbs up, but we need to hear you
24 too.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye on all.

2 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
3 you. Council Member Gutierrez.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIERREZ: I vote aye.

5 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
6 you. Hudson.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye on all, and
8 I'd like to disclose for the record that my domestic
9 partner works for Planned Parenthood Federation of
10 America which we are funding in the Transparency
11 Resolution.

12 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Joseph.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye on all.

14 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Kagan.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: Aye on all.

16 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
17 you. Krishnan.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: For the record,
19 I want to disclose that my child is in the Department
20 of Education, my wife is at the Bronx Defenders, and,
21 with that, I vote aye on all.

22 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Lee.

23 Louis. Marte.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye on all.

2 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Mealy.
3 Menin.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye on all.

5 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Moya.
6 Narcisse.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye on all.

8 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Nurse.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Aye on all.

10 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Osse.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSE: Aye on all.

12 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

13 Paladino.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye on all

15 except for 490-A which I vote no.

16 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Restler.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye on all.

18 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

19 Richardson Jordan.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN:

21 Permission to explain my vote.

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN: I am an

24 aye on all including the Preconsidered Intro 600,

25 Rebate for Homeowners. While in support, I also just

2 want to take the opportunity to say that we as a Body
3 must also be looking at what we can do to secure
4 housing for those who are renting and particularly
5 for the most vulnerable. I'm looking forward to
6 seeing some of the same support for Introduction 630
7 which is being brought to the floor today and of
8 which I am a proud co-sponsor, Transferring City
9 Property to Non-Profits and Community Land Trusts.
10 Housing is a human right. Aye on all.

11 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Riley.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: I just want to
13 state for the record that my daughters go to public
14 school in the Department of Education and my wife
15 works for Montefiore Medical Center and we are all
16 members of the YMCA. Aye on all.

17 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Rivera.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Permission to
19 explain my vote.

20 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you. I'm
22 disclosing on the record of the Council proceedings
23 that the New York City Police Department is funded in
24 the Transparency Resolution we are adopting and my
25 mother is an employee of the entity for 41 years.

2 I also want to just say today I stand in
3 proud solidarity with my Colleagues in the Women's
4 Caucus and the city's first women-majority Council in
5 the fight to address the devastating and preventable
6 impacts of the maternal mortality crisis which
7 disproportionately affects black and Latina New
8 Yorkers. Every person has a fundamental right to give
9 birth with access to information, dignity, and
10 autonomy, and I'm really proud of the steps that
11 we've taken today, Madam Speaker and to all of my
12 Colleagues. Our state has the 12th highest cesarean
13 section in the country. Our bills will address this
14 and supporting state legislation mandating that all
15 maternity patients receive culturally competent
16 notices of the risks associated with c-sections.
17 Black maternal mortality is a preventable crisis. We
18 must listen closely to birth workers, healthcare
19 providers, advocates and use every tool at our
20 disposal to shape a city where giving birth is not a
21 potential death sentence.

22 I just want to thank you all. I'm very,
23 very proud to be a part of this body, and I proudly
24 vote aye on all.

2 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
3 you. Salamanca. Sanchez. Schulman.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye on all.

5 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Stevens.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Permission to
7 explain my vote.

8 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Women's
10 reproductive rights across this country are under
11 attack, and it's extremely important that we continue
12 to fight back and the City Council continues to show
13 its leadership on this issue. As a woman, a daughter,
14 a mother, and a member of the first majority-women
15 Council, I'm honored that my first bill that I'm
16 passing today is part of the reproductive package
17 that will save the lives of black women across the
18 city.

19 Two years ago when I decided to run for
20 office, my sister's best friend passed away less than
21 24 hours after giving birth. Therefore, I made
22 reproductive health a major part of my campaign
23 platform. When my sister's best friend said that she
24 was in pain, no one listened, but this City Council
25 is listening and we hear you all. We don't just hear

2 you. We understand, and together we are making things
3 happen. This historic reproductive package will save
4 lives of women and birthing people of this great
5 city. Thus, today, casting my vote as yes, I do it in
6 honor of all the black women we lost while giving
7 birth, and I vote aye on all. Thank you.

8 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Ung.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye on all.

10 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

11 Velazquez.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VELAZQUEZ: I'd like to
13 disclose my husband is Deputy Commissioner at DEP and
14 my brother is a Board Member at Samaritans New York.
15 Aye on all.

16 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

17 Vernikov.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye on all

19 except no on 490-A. Thank you.

20 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK:

21 Williams. Won. Yeger.

22 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Borelli.

23 Powers.

24 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: I vote aye. After

25 the Speaker votes, if you can go back to Council

2 Member Barron and Council Member Farias, they have
3 disclosures to do.

4 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Sure.
5 Council Member Barron.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I'd like to
7 disclose that my son works for BRIC Arts and Media
8 Brooklyn, Inc., and it's funded by the City Council.

9 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
10 you. Council Member Farias.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: I'd like to
12 disclose and state for the record that my sibling
13 attends MS-127 Castle Hills School which is listed
14 and funded in the Transparency Resolution and my
15 parent is an employee at NYU Langone.

16 WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker
17 Adams.

18 SPEAKER ADAMS: Aye on all.

19 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: All items on
20 today's General Orders Calendar are adopted by a vote
21 of 38 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative, and 0
22 abstentions with the exception of Intro 490-A which
23 was adopted by a vote of 35 in the affirmative, 4 in
24 the negative, and 0 abstentions, and Resolution 288

2 which was adopted by a vote of 38 in the affirmative,
3 1 in the negative, and 0 abstentions.

4 We'll now move to the Introduction and
5 Reading of Bills.

6 SPEAKER ADAMS: All bills have been
7 referred to Committees as indicated on today's
8 agenda.

9 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll
10 now move into Discussion of Resolutions.

11 We have Council Member Barron signed up.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you very
13 much. I rise to speak on Resolution 283. To be honest
14 with y'all, it's a damn shame that 2 parents and 2
15 teachers have to join a suit to go to a white judge
16 to get a black Mayor and a black City Council Speaker
17 and the majority people of color City Council to
18 restore money to our children who are majority black
19 and brown in the education system. It's a shame that
20 this has to happen.

21 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Council Member,
22 are you speaking on a Resolution we're voting on
23 today?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Yes.

2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Or is this for
3 General Discussion?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I thought this was
5 the Education Resolution.

6 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: It's being
7 introduced today. I don't think we're voting on it.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Okay. Well, I'll
9 save mine for the general discussion.

10 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Okay. We have you
11 signed up. Thanks so much.

12 Any other Council Members signed to speak
13 on today's Resolutions before we vote?

14 Okay. Thank you. We're now going to have
15 a voice vote on today's Resolutions. If you wish to
16 vote against or abstain from any of today's
17 Resolutions, please notify the Legislative Documents
18 Unit by email or by approaching the dais before the
19 vote.

20 I will now read today's Resolutions into
21 the record.

22 Resolution 92 calls on the United States
23 Congress to pass and President Joe Biden to sign the
24 Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act of 2021. Will all
25 those in favor please say aye?

2 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

3 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: All opposed say
4 nay. Any abstentions? The ayes have it.

5 Resolution 95 calls on the New York State
6 Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign Assembly
7 Bill 217 and Senate Bill 2736 relating to informing
8 maternal patients about the risks associated with
9 cesarean sections. Would all those in favor please
10 say aye?

11 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

12 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: All opposed say
13 nay. Any abstentions? The ayes have it.

14 Resolution 205 calls on the New York
15 State Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign
16 legislation making doulas more accessible to
17 individuals with Medicaid and those without health
18 insurance. Will all those in favor please say aye?

19 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

20 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: All opposed say
21 nay. Any abstentions? The ayes have it.

22 Finally, Resolution 244 calls on the
23 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to provide
24 expanded funding for the Healthy Start Brooklyn Doula
25 Program, known as By My Side, in order to make doulas

2 available for all low-income birthing people in New
3 York City. All those in favor please say aye.

4 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

5 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: All opposed say
6 nay. Any abstentions? The ayes have it.

7 We'll now move into today's General
8 Discussion. We will start with Council Member Barron
9 followed by Council Member Kagan. I'll call on
10 Council Member Barron now.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: It's a damn shame
12 that 2 parents, 2 teachers to be a part of lawsuit to
13 get a black Speaker, a black Mayor, a majority people
14 of color City Council to take care of black children
15 in the budget. We had the power to do it without the
16 Mayor being forced by this lawsuit to do it. It's a
17 shame. The Mayor had the nerve to appeal it, and then
18 the appellate term is now saying hold up before we
19 can take care of our children. It's a shame. We
20 should've done the right thing from the beginning. I
21 want to commend my Council Member Colleagues who
22 voted no. Yes, I'm going to say it each time because
23 we need to learn lessons from this, not those of us
24 who voted no, but those of us who didn't need to
25 learn lessons from this.

2 Secondly, I'm introducing a Resolution on
3 lifting the embargo and the ban of travel on Cuba.
4 Cuba was a country that offered aid during the
5 Katrina disaster in New Orleans to take care of our
6 people. I went to Cuba, and I went to the
7 International Medical Center. When I got there,
8 that's one of the best in the world to my surprise.
9 Two students from east New York was being fully
10 funded by the Cuban government to go to school and
11 get a medical degree, funding that they couldn't get
12 here in the United States of America. I want us to
13 put this Resolution together. We need to lift the
14 ban, especially now, because there was a super tanker
15 in Cuba that exploded and a lot of people have been
16 hurt and injured. Countries want to give humanitarian
17 aid to Cuba to deal with that but this country is
18 blocking that with an embargo. We need to lift the
19 embargo. They want to lift it temporarily now to give
20 humanitarian aid to Cuba. We need to lift it
21 permanently. We will determine who are friends are
22 and who our enemies are.

23 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Right on time.
24 Thank you. We have Council Member Kagan followed by
25 Council Member Gutierrez.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: Thank you. Today,
3 I'm introducing 2 bills, Intro 621 that will ban
4 companies that charge fees for student debt relief
5 that is already provided by the federal government
6 and provide a cause of action for those who were
7 scammed. As a parent, I know the pressures of paying
8 for college, and my bill will be an important step
9 for protecting students from these dangerous and
10 predatory companies.

11 Intro 622 will suspend Metro Parking
12 Regulations on the Asian Lunar New Year. Just like on
13 New Year's Day or Christmas, the Lunar New Year is a
14 time to gather and to celebrate and for Asian
15 Americans not to worry whether they paid their
16 meters.

17 Finally, tonight, I will participate in a
18 vigil in Bensonhurst for 19-year-old Dereck Chen who
19 was recently senselessly killed at the parking lot of
20 BJ's. We all need to do more to improve public safety
21 for all New Yorkers. Also, I would like to add that
22 we are all elected to represent everybody, not to
23 divide communities. Thank you.

24

25

2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll
3 go to Council Member Gutierrez followed by Council
4 Member Caban.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIERREZ: Thank you,
6 Majority Leader. I just want to ask my Colleagues in
7 holding thoughts and prayers for the families of
8 Daniel Vidal. He was a deliverista and a Bushwick
9 resident who was killed while riding his bike in my
10 district last week. My condolences to his wife, Rosa
11 Maria Vidal, and his friends and his family and just
12 want to extend that we continue as a Body to fight
13 for safer streets for everybody. Thank you.

14 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll
15 go to Council Member Caban followed by Council Member
16 Hanks.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CABAN: Thank you. I'd just
18 like to briefly talk about Intro 612. To put it
19 simply, we need our eyes on New York City power
20 plants. District 22 residents know firsthand what
21 it's like to have fuel-fired power plants right in
22 our backyard. We've got many of them, and we're not
23 alone. All across the city, working-class New
24 Yorkers, especially New Yorkers of color, live near
25 power plants and risk exposure to combustion products

2 or byproducts. Heat waves and other extreme weather
3 events that affect plant performance are becoming
4 more frequent and more intense, and the need for us
5 to act is increasing. Right now, we're not engaging
6 at an adequate level. The city's not required to
7 track the state's oversight reports nor are we
8 required to respond when a plant is out of compliance
9 nor to proactively weigh in on any renewal processes
10 or recommend improvements, and, especially in the
11 context of environmental racism and the climate
12 emergency, this lack of engagement is unconscionable.
13 We need to do better for residents of District 22 and
14 the entire city and so, with this reporting bill, the
15 Mayor's Office of Long-term Planning and
16 Sustainability will take a more active role in the
17 New York State Department of Environmental
18 Conservation mandated oversight so neighborhood
19 advocates and local community-based organizations
20 will be able to keep their eyes on New York City
21 power plants.

22 I then just want to briefly thank
23 Colleagues Richardson Jordan, Nurse, and Won for
24 being pre-Intro sponsors to this bill and invite my
25 Colleagues to join us in that. Thank you.

2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We
3 have Council Member Hanks followed by Council Member
4 Hudson.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Thank you, Speaker
6 Adams and Majority Leader Powers and my Colleagues,
7 Bottcher, Hanif, Menin, Osse, and our Public
8 Advocate. Today, I am proud to be a prime co-sponsor
9 of Intro 602 which will amend the Administrative Code
10 of the City of New York in relation to determining
11 and identifying Times Square as a sensitive location
12 where concealed carry of firearms is illegal. This
13 comes in light of Governor Kathy Hochul announcing
14 legislation outlawing concealed carry in sensitive
15 locations such as airports and public transportation,
16 entertainment venues, bars, restaurants, and houses
17 of worship. It is crucial that our city clearly
18 define gun-free zones that may not fall into the
19 State's definition including Times Square. Everyone
20 in this chamber and across our city is aware of the
21 gun violence crisis that continues to pervade our
22 streets and the Supreme Court's decision on Bruen has
23 made it even more imperative to take every action we
24 can to prevent this crisis from worsening. As the
25 Chair of the Committee on Public Safety, I believe

2 this bill is an important step in addressing and
3 abating the epidemic of gun violence in our city, and
4 I ask that my fellow Council Members to consider
5 signing on as co-sponsors to this important piece of
6 legislation. Thank you.

7 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll
8 now hear from Council Member Hudson followed by
9 Council Member Osse.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Thank you,
11 Majority Leader. I'd like to thank Speaker Adams for
12 championing both the package of legislation that
13 we've just passed and also the legislative package
14 that we're introducing today regarding MPV. I'm
15 introducing legislation with the rest of the LGBTQIA+
16 Caucus that is aimed at fighting the MPV outbreak.
17 This first in the nation legislative package will
18 require the city to create a robust MPV response
19 plan, establish an equity based education and
20 outreach strategy, ensure adequate vaccine access for
21 communities most at reach of contracting the virus,
22 strengthen MPV data reporting, and establish a
23 permanent infectious disease vaccine scheduling
24 portal including for COVID-19 and MPV vaccine
25 appointments. I'm particularly proud that all 7

2 members of the LGBTQIA+ Caucus, Council Members
3 Bottcher, Caban, Carr, Jordan, Osse, Schulman, and
4 myself are introducing this legislation together.
5 That's right. We're here, we're queer, and we're
6 bipartisan. If we as queer people don't protect
7 ourselves, then no one will so today we're here to
8 protect and ourselves and those who are not queer but
9 also at risk of contracting this virus from people
10 currently incarcerated to folks in shelters. It's
11 clear we still haven't learned from our experiences
12 with the COVID-19 pandemic. Once again, we are
13 failing those most impacted by not tailoring our
14 response to ensure equity. People of color have
15 comprised most MPV cases, but they've only received a
16 fraction of available vaccines, the majority of which
17 have gone to white folks. This legislative package
18 will help address this inequity by ensuring
19 communities most impacted receive vaccines and
20 requiring greater reporting from DOHMH so we can
21 respond in real time.

22 I'd like to thank my staff, Casie
23 Addison, Andrew Wright, and Alejandro Gonzalez for
24 their work as well as Senior Legislative Counsel
25 Jessi Foong, without whom we wouldn't have this

2 package. I urge all of my Colleagues to co-sponsor
3 this package and work with my Colleagues and me for
4 its swift passage. Thank you.

5 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll
6 now have Council Member Osse followed by Council
7 Member Ariola.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSE: Thank you, Majority
9 Leader. After 2-1/2 years suffering at the hands of
10 COVID-19, it's unfortunate that these bills that I am
11 introducing with the LGBTQ Caucus are necessary. It's
12 also undeniable. The monkeypox outbreak could soon
13 spiral out of control, wreaking havoc on our city,
14 but this is not spring of 2020. We already have the
15 vaccine, we are familiar with the virus, and, maybe
16 most importantly, we have the hard-learned lessons
17 that coronavirus has taught us. These are lessons in
18 epidemiology, and these are lessons in equity. We
19 remember clearly who bore the brunt of COVID's
20 initial rampage. We remember the virus foolishly
21 referred to first as a sort of great equalizer,
22 instead cut nearly along lines of race and class in
23 our city, but this time can be different. We as
24 Members of the Council's LGBTQIA Caucus are taking
25 action to ensure that our city is not just ready to

2 combat the next public health crisis but to ensure
3 access and equity as well. I'm proud to support the
4 LGBTIA Caucus' monkeypox package including my own
5 bill, Intro 631. Under Intro 631, the Department of
6 Health and Mental Hygiene will be required to publish
7 a report on the number of monkeypox cases and
8 available vaccines in the city. The report will
9 include the demographics of cases and vaccine
10 recipients by borough of residence, age,
11 race/ethnicity, and sexual orientation and gender
12 identity. A report with data on how many vaccines are
13 available and who is receiving them will allow the
14 Council to quantify distribution, equity, and improve
15 access. This package of bills will equip us to both
16 fight the outbreak and ensure that no person or
17 community is overlooked. Together with my Colleagues
18 on the LGBTQIA Caucus, we are prepared to continue to
19 combat this virus. I urge the Council to quickly pass
20 this legislation so that we can finally cage the
21 monkey. Thank you.

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: I don't
23 understand that last part, but we will now go to
24 Council Member Ariola followed by Council Member
25 Bottcher.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Thank you,
3 Majority Leader. At this time, I'd like to
4 acknowledge the passing of Mike Long. Mike Long was a
5 Member of this Body from 1981 to 1983 as a Council
6 Member at large. He's the 30-year leader of the
7 Conservative Party. He was a friend and a
8 constituent. Mike retired as the Chair of the state
9 Conservative Party in 2019. He is survived by his
10 wife, Eileen, 9 children, and 24 grandchildren. He
11 will be missed by all who knew him. May he rest in
12 God's eternal peace. Thank you for the time.

13 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you,
14 Council Member Ariola. I'm sorry for your loss. We'll
15 now go to Council Member Bottcher followed by Council
16 Member Brewer.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHE: Today, I'm
18 introducing alongside Council Members Joseph and Lee
19 legislation that would require the Department of
20 Education to distribute information to students about
21 the 988 suicide crisis lifeline along with suicide
22 prevention information. Before the Stated Meeting
23 today, we had a pretty emotional press conference.
24 Council Member Menin talked about her son's friend
25 who took his life at age 15. That is the age I was

2 when I tried to take my life, but I was lucky. I was
3 hospitalized, but I am here today. What I did not
4 have before my suicide attempt was any information or
5 resources of any kind. That was a different time, in
6 the early '90s, and I don't blame my family or the
7 school. It was a different time, a different place,
8 but now we have resources for young people. We have
9 help, and we need to make sure that we're getting
10 that to young people in every school in the city, and
11 I feel so privileged to be here and to be in a
12 position to help do that with this legislation. Thank
13 you.

14 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll
15 go to Council Member Brewer followed by Council
16 Member Council Member De La Rosa.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you very
18 much. I know that we're maybe tired of hearing about
19 helicopters, but we have to keep up the pressure so
20 we have Reso 291, which is what we really want. It's
21 obviously the federal government stepping in, the FAA
22 to ban all non-essential helicopter travel including
23 tourist and chartered helicopter flights over New
24 York City so it's a Resolution in support, and I hope
25 you all sign on.

2 Secondly, I want to thank the Speaker for
3 the Resolution and the support on the education
4 dollar fight. Just to give you an example because I
5 think people, I have 2 schools, losing 4 teachers
6 excessed, but then I talked to a school today, 9 arts
7 programs that would be cut because that is lack of
8 money. It existed. They've been there for years and
9 years and years. It's just an example. You cannot
10 have schools without these kinds of programs. YPC,
11 Bloomingdale, Symphony Space, Ballroom Dancing, Food
12 Programs, Ballet Programs, Tech Programs, and
13 Scholarships, all gone unless we can get this
14 funding, and this is a Title I school. I thank you,
15 Madam Speaker, and we have to keep fighting. Thank
16 you very much.

17 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll
18 go to Council Member De La Rosa followed by Council
19 Member Brooks-Powers.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Thank you so
21 much. Colleagues, if you could look on the agenda,
22 there's 2 bills I introduced with Council Member
23 Velazquez, happy birthday Marjorie, on workers'
24 rights. I'll leave that to you to read and please
25 support. We joined 32BJ this afternoon on a rally on

2 these bills, and it's important for these workers
3 that have been exploited.

4 I want to turn my attention to a tragedy
5 that occurred in my district just last week. We lost
6 2 members of our Uptown community in a fatal crash.
7 Unfortunately, they were just pedestrians who were in
8 the wrong place at the wrong time and were fatally
9 struck and killed. The 2 people that were killed, we
10 lost Joel Adames, 31 years old, and David Fernandez,
11 40 years old, who I actually went to the same
12 elementary school with. These victims of this fatal
13 crash have left an undeniable pain that is running
14 deep in our community right now. David was laid to
15 rest this morning with his family completely
16 devastated because we lost someone who was a person
17 of light. He was internationally known for his salsa
18 dancing skills, and he was a very skilled barber. He
19 brought joy in every room he walked into, and he
20 didn't have to lose his life on that corner of that
21 street leaving his work. All the more reason for us
22 to enforce stronger regulations to keep our streets
23 safe. We just heard from Council Member Gutierrez on
24 a death in her district. It continues to happen. I
25 look forward to working with this Council to make

2 sure that our streets are safe, that dangerous
3 intersections are taken care of, reckless driving is
4 cracked down on, speeding as well, and that we
5 continue to invest in street infrastructure that
6 prioritizes our communities. I want to send my
7 condolences to both the Adames and Fernandez families
8 and may David and Joel rest in eternal peace. Our
9 community has certainly been shattered by this loss.

10 One more second. This Sunday, on a
11 lighter note, we celebrate Dominican Heritage Parade
12 on 6th Avenue. 1 out of 8 New Yorkers is of Dominican
13 descent. I look forward to marching with our Speaker
14 and the City Council in that celebration as we
15 celebrate the joy that is characteristic of our
16 community, the work, and the triumph that this
17 community has done as immigrant communities have
18 across this city. Join us on 6th Avenue. They'll be
19 plenty of music. Thank you.

20 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We
21 will now hear from Council Member Brooks-Powers
22 followed by Council Member Aviles.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Thank you.
24 I would like to highlight Resolution 292 that I'm
25 introducing with Public Advocate Jumaane Williams

2 calling on the State to allow commuter vans to accept
3 street hails. Commuter vans, or dollar vans as we
4 called them when I was growing up, are an integral,
5 if informal, part of our transportation system and an
6 iconic feature of many neighborhoods across the 5
7 boroughs. Since the era of the 2-fare zone, commuter
8 vans have provided New Yorkers with an affordable
9 travel option and filled gaps in our network of
10 trains and buses. It's long past time that the City
11 and State legalize this piece of our city's
12 streetscape and support our commuter van drivers. I
13 urge my Colleagues to sign on. Thank you.

14 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We
15 will know hear from Council Member Aviles.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILES: Thank you,
17 Majority Leader. First, I want to thank all my
18 Colleagues the incredible reproductive health package
19 that was passed today.

20 Today, I'm introducing 2 pieces of
21 legislation that will help make New York City a bit
22 greener and hopefully more climate resilient. As you
23 know, current city law prohibits idling in front of
24 schools for more than 1 minute. The logic for having
25 such a law is obvious. We need to protect our

2 children from the harmful impact of exhaust and
3 particulate matter as well as to prevent the
4 exacerbation of asthma symptoms for children with
5 this condition. This logic should apply to all those
6 spaces our children occupy so today I'm introducing
7 legislation that would make idling near our city
8 parks, green spaces, and playgrounds for more than 1
9 minute also illegal.

10 I'm also introducing legislation in
11 conjunction with Council Member Krishnan which would
12 require the Department of Parks to collect and report
13 on data regarding community gardens and the sale of
14 agriculture occurring within the City of New York.
15 Community gardens play a vital role in the City of
16 New York. These urban green spaces are not only a
17 resource for often underserved communities to access
18 fresh produce, but more and more these spaces are
19 being recognized as vital to the city's long-term
20 ability to be climate resilient. It is estimated that
21 through New York City's network of more than 550
22 community gardens the city is able to divert 165
23 million gallons of stormwater runoff from flooding
24 our streets and sewers each year. Of course, as the
25 supply chain volatility and summer storms become the

2 norm in the years ahead, understanding through data
3 how community gardens bring us closer to food
4 sovereignty and climate resilience will help us
5 better protect and expand these vital resources in
6 our community and city. I encourage you all to sign
7 on to these pieces of legislation. Thank you.

8 An extra thank you to Council Member
9 Barron. We must permanently lift the embargo on Cuba.

10 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. Last,
11 we'll hear from Council Member Mealy.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I ask for unanimous
13 consent to vote.

14 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Are there any
15 objections? You can go ahead.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Majority Leader, I
17 would like to ask permission to vote on all Land Use
18 Call-Ups, Resos, and General Orders.

19 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Go ahead. You can
20 vote.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I vote aye on all.

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. Is
23 there anybody else?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I'm not finished.

25 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Oh, sorry.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Today, I had the
3 privilege and the honor to be with Miss Eleanor Mayu
4 (phonetic). Born on August 14, 1915, today is her
5 107-year-old birthday. Miss Mayu was born and has
6 been a staple of the community and not just her
7 family, the community at whole holds her up with high
8 esteem. It was an imperative that I joined the
9 community with her today to celebrate this day. She
10 is in a nursing home today due to a hit and run, and
11 one thing she said I pray every day and she said God
12 made the man who hit her, he picked her up and put
13 her on the sidewalk and then drove off and that still
14 is being investigated right now so I just want to say
15 I think that I had an opportunity, she's still
16 dancing, talking, and she is one that still knows
17 everyone's name, 107 years old, and I just want to
18 thank the Speaker and this Body for passing such
19 great legislation in reproductive services to women.
20 Thank you. I did vote aye on all.

21 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you,
22 Council Member Mealy.

23 We have an updated count on today's vote.
24 Updating it, all items on today's General Orders
25 Calendar have been adopted by a vote of 40 in the

2 affirmative, 0 in the negative, and 0 abstentions
3 with the exception of Intro 490-A adopted by a vote
4 of 36 in the affirmative, 4 in the negative, and 0
5 abstentions, Resolution 288 adopted by a vote of 39
6 in the affirmative, 1 in the negative, and 0
7 abstentions, and the revised Land Use Call-Ups vote
8 is 40 in the affirmative and 0 in the negative.

9 I will now call on Speaker Adrienne Adams
10 to close today's Stated Meeting.

11 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you. The Stated
12 Meeting of August 11, 2022, is hereby adjourned.

13 [GAVEL]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Date August 25, 2022