

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

----- X

March 26, 2026

Start: 1:43 p.m.

Recess: 3:32 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
Gale A. Brewer
Selvena N. Brooks-Powers
Tiffany Cabán
David M. Carr
Carmen N. De La Rosa
Eric Dinowitz
Elsie Encarnación
Harvey D. Epstein
Amanda Farías
Simcha Felder
Oswald Feliz
James F. Gennaro
Jennifer Gutiérrez
Shahana Hanif

COUNCIL MEMBERS: (CONTINUED)

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
Justin E. Sanchez
Pierina Ana Sanchez
Kayla Santosuosso
Lynn C. Schulman
Althea V. Stevens
Shanel Thomas-Henry
Sandra Ung
Inna Vernikov
Nantasha M. Williams
Julie Won
Phil Wong
Susan Zhuang

A P P E A R A N C E S

Reverend Dr. Chloe Bryer, Interfaith Center of
New York, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, N.Y.
10115.

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: This is a mic check for
3 the Stated Meeting. Today's date is March 26, 2026.
4 We are located in the Chambers, and this is being
5 recorded by Kim Smith.

6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet on the floor,
7 please. Quiet on the floor, please.

8 Ladies and gentleman, at this time,
9 please place all electronic devices, all electronic
10 devices to vibrate.

11 We're going to need a minute for
12 technical difficulty.

13 Ladies and gentleman, quiet, please.
14 Could I have your attention, please? Quiet, please.

15 At this time, please place all electronic
16 devices to vibrate.

17 Mr. Majority Leader, it's all yours.

18 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: [GAVEL] Good
19 afternoon, and welcome to the Stated Meeting of March
20 26, 2026. I am Majority Leader Shaun Abreu, and I'd
21 like to thank you for joining us.

22 As a reminder, decorum must be respected
23 at all times.

24 As a reminder as well to members of the
25 public, you must remain silent and, if you'd like to

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2 express support or opposition to something, you may
3 use hand gestures.

4 If you would like to follow along, the
5 agenda for today's meeting is posted on our website.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Please join us for the
7 Pledge of Allegiance.

8 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: All rise!

9 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Roll call.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Aldebol.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ALDEBOL: Here.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Ariola.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Here.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Avilés.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Presente.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Banks.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Here.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Brewer.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Brooks-Powers.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Present.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Cabán.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Present.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: De La Rosa.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Here.

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2 COUNCIL CLERK: Dinowitz.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Here.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Encarnación.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ENCARNACIÓN: Presente.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Epstein.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: Present.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Farías.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Present.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Felder.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Presente.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Feliz.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Presente.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Gennaro.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Gutiérrez.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Here.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Hanif.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Here.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Hankerson.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKERSON: Here.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Hanks.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Present.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Hudson.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Present.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Joseph.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Present.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Krishnan.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Here.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Lee.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Here.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Louis.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Maloney.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: Present.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Marte.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Present.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Mealy.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Present.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Morano.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Here.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Narcisse.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Present.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Nurse.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Present.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Ossé.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: I'm here.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Paladino.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Here.

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2 COUNCIL CLERK: Restler.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Here, and let's
4 go Mets.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Riley.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Present, and let's
7 go Yankees.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Salaam.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Present.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Justin Sanchez.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER JUSTIN SANCHEZ: Here.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Pierina Sanchez.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER PIERINA SANCHEZ: Here.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Santosuosso.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SANTOSUOSSO: Here.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Schulman.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Here.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Stevens.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Here.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Thomas-Henry.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER THOMAS-HENRY: Present.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Ung.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Present.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Vernikov.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Here.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Williams.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Present.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Won.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Present.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Wong.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER WONG: Here.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Zhuang.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Here.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Carr.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Present.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Abreu.

13 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Present.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Menin.

15 SPEAKER MENIN: Present.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Majority Leader, we have a
17 quorum.

18 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Thank you.

19 We will now have today's invocation,
20 which will be delivered by Reverend Dr. Chloe Bryer
21 of Interfaith Center of New York, which is located at
22 475 Riverside Drive in Manhattan.

23 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: All rise.

24 REVEREND DR. CHLOE BRYER: Dietrich
25 Bonhoeffer was a theologian and a German pastor in

2 the 1930s. He taught here in New York City at Union
3 Theological Seminary and Sunday School at Abyssinian
4 Baptist Church. He was here in New York when he made
5 the faithful decision to return to Germany in 1938.
6 He wrote from prison, I believe that God can and will
7 let good come out of everything, even the greatest
8 evil. I believe that even our mistakes and
9 shortcomings are not in vain and that it is no more
10 difficult for God to deal with them than with our
11 supposedly good deeds. I believe that God is no
12 timeless fate, but waits for and responds to sincere
13 prayer and responsible action. And just what are
14 these responsible actions in such a time as this? Are
15 they radical actions? Well, it depends which roots
16 we're drawing from. Are they conservative actions?
17 Well, what values are we working to preserve? When
18 those in power don't care to sustain the things that
19 make a shared life possible, conservative action is
20 indeed responsible action. Or are responsible actions
21 both radical and conservative? Lose your principles,
22 says Princeton theologian Hannah Reichel, and take
23 responsibility. From Tegel Prison, where Bonhoeffer
24 and other members of the German resistance spent
25 their last days, he wrote this, the ultimately

2 responsible question is not how do I extricate myself
3 heroically from a situation, but how is the coming
4 generation to live? Please join me in prayer.

5 Creator God, behold and visit, we pray,
6 this great city. Renew the ties of mutual regard
7 which form our civic life. Send us honest and able
8 leaders. Enable us to eliminate poverty, prejudice,
9 and oppression, that peace may prevail with
10 righteousness and justice with order. And that men
11 and women from different cultures and religions and
12 talents may find with one another the fulfillment of
13 their humanity through God of love and justice. Amen.

14 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Thank you.

15 I will now ask Council Member Gale Brewer
16 to spread the invocation on the record.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you very
18 much to Reverend Dr. Chloe Bryer. She, as you can
19 see, is an Episcopal priest in the Diocese of New
20 York. Early in her career at St. John the Divine, she
21 founded a forum on religion and public life. She is
22 currently the Executive Director at the Interfaith
23 Center of New York, where she has been for 18 years,
24 bringing people together based on what you just
25 heard. That is a place where mosques and Sikh houses

2 of worship and churches and synagogues and temples
3 and many religions come together on a regular basis.
4 She, in her past, has gotten her PhD from Union
5 Theological Seminary. She also got her Master's from
6 General Theological Seminary. And she got her
7 undergrad at Harvard University. When she wrote her
8 thesis, it was on the issue of fighting
9 discrimination, making sure that ethnophobia
10 (phonetic) was not something that should exist, and
11 she talked about Christian peacemaking. She has, as
12 was said, one award that she's gotten. She's gotten
13 many. She's a minister with a passion for social
14 justice. She's written about immigration and social
15 justice, I swear, an op ed in the Daily News every
16 single week for the last year. She is, as somebody
17 said, someone you'd want as a friend. She's earnest.
18 She's analytical. She's endowed with a sense of
19 justice. As she said, the kingdom of the church it
20 is, despite the secular world, is imperfect. And her
21 task, which she is successful in, is to make a
22 positive difference in whatever ways she can. And to
23 that, every 5:30 Monday at Columbus Circle, she
24 brings people of all different faiths together to
25 talk and pray together about the challenges that we

2 are all facing. I want to be clear, her son was an
3 intern in my office, and her father was with the
4 Justice of the Supreme Court, Stephen Bryer. She's
5 very, very special. Thank you very much.

6 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Thank you.

7 We will now ask Council Member Virginia
8 Maloney for the adoption of minutes.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: I make a motion
10 that the minutes of the Stated Meeting of March 26,
11 2026, be adopted as printed.

12 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Messages and
13 Papers from the Mayor.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: M53, Mayoral Appointment.

15 SPEAKER MENIN: Referred to Rules.

16 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU:
17 Communication from City, County, and Borough Offices.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: M56 and Pre-Considered
19 M57, Budget Modifications.

20 SPEAKER MENIN: Referred to Finance.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: M58, OMB withdrawal
22 letter.

23 SPEAKER MENIN: Received, ordered,
24 printed, and filed.

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2 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Petitions
3 and Communications.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

5 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Land Use
6 Call-Ups. M54 and M55.

7 SPEAKER MENIN: Thank you.

8 I would now ask the Clerk to take a roll
9 call vote on today's Land Use Call-ups.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Aldebol.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ALDEBOL: I vote aye.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Ariola.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: I vote aye.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Avilés.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Banks.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Brewer.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

21 Brooks-Powers.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Aye.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Cabán.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye on all.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: De La Rosa.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Dinowitz.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Encarnación.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ENCARNACIÓN: Aye.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Epstein.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: Yes.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Farías.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Felder.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Aye.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Feliz.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye on all.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Gennaro.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

18 Gutiérrez.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

21 Hanif.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Hankerson.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKERSON: Aye.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Hanks.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Hudson.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Joseph.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Krishnan.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Lee.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Louis.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Maloney.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: Aye.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Marte.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Mealy.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you, Council Member.

20 Morano.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Aye.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Narcisse.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Nurse.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: I vote aye.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

3 Ossé.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Aye.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Paladino.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Restler.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Riley.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Salaam.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM:

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Justin Sanchez.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER JUSTIN SANCHEZ: Aye.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Pierina Sanchez.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER PIERINA SANCHEZ: Aye.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Santosuosso.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER SANTOSUOSSO: Aye.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

20 Schulman.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Stevens.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Thomas-Henry.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER THOMAS-HENRY: Aye.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Ung.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Vernikov.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: I vote aye.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

7 Williams.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Won.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

12 Wong.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER WONG: I vote aye.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Zhuang.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Carr.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Aye.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Abreu.

19 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Aye.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Menin.

21 SPEAKER MENIN: Aye.

22 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Today's Land

23 Use Call-Ups are adopted by a vote of 50 in the
24 affirmative and zero in the negative.

2 Thank you. We will now have communication
3 from Speaker Julie Menin.

4 SPEAKER MENIN: Good afternoon, everyone.

5 I want to begin first of all by talking
6 about our preliminary budget hearings that we've
7 hosted for the past 11 days. Thank you all for all of
8 your great work on this, and I really want to thank
9 our incredible Finance team. To get a clearer picture
10 of the fiscal challenges facing our City, we had
11 hearings on all the issues that impact the lives of
12 New Yorkers from education to public safety to
13 housing. Yesterday, we closed out our series of
14 hearings when OMB testified about the
15 Administration's 127-billion-dollar preliminary
16 budget for Fiscal Year 2027. As our City grapples
17 with what the Administration has most recently
18 identified as a 5.4-billion-dollar budget gap, the
19 Council's Finance team has been hard at work to
20 continue to dig under the surface of City agency
21 budgets to identify potential savings without cutting
22 services. On April 1st, we will deliver our response
23 to the preliminary budget outlining the Council's
24 priorities, direction, and commitments for the City
25 budget. As we move along in the budget process we

2 look forward to working with the Administration to
3 reach an agreement this June. In the meantime, the
4 Council will continue to pursue our mission of
5 securing a fiscally responsible balanced budget that
6 helps make our City more affordable without cutting
7 the critical services that New Yorkers depend on.

8 I want to switch gears and discuss the
9 latest updates on the case of our City Council
10 employee, Rafael Rubio. From the very day he was
11 detained by ICE, we have maintained that Rafael's
12 detention was completely unlawful. I want to be
13 clear, he had all of the legal authorization to
14 remain in the United States and work here. He
15 followed all of the rules and he showed up for
16 immigration appointments when he was supposed to. But
17 last Wednesday a federal immigration judge ordered
18 Rafael's removal from the country, an outcome that is
19 deeply, deeply unjust. This week, a different federal
20 judge denied Rafael's habeas petition challenging his
21 detention meaning that he'll continue to remain
22 behind bars pending the resolution of his immigration
23 case. We find that outcome devastating. Rafael should
24 be at home. I spoke to Rafael yesterday. We have
25 continued to communicate both with him and his family

2 throughout this whole process. It is an incredibly
3 difficult time for him and his family. He's a valued
4 public servant, a beloved member of the City Council
5 team, and we will continue to fight and advocate for
6 a just outcome which is what we are doing.

7 Switching gears. Yesterday, the Council
8 debuted our first-of-its-kind online budget
9 dashboard, an innovative new tool to make New York
10 City's budget process more transparent and accessible
11 for all New Yorkers. Created through the stellar work
12 of our Finance team, through the hard work of our
13 Deputy Speaker, Dr. Nantasha Williams, through our
14 Web Development Unit, our Data Team, it translates
15 hundreds of pages of budget documents into an
16 interactive resource that makes a complex process
17 easy to understand. This is more than just about
18 data. It's about equity. It's about accountability
19 and ensuring every community has visibility into the
20 decisions that shape their lives.

21 As we turn to today's events, earlier
22 this morning, I joined many of you at a rally in the
23 Rotunda in recognition of Equal Pay Day. As the 20th
24 anniversary, it's honestly shocking that each and
25 every year we have to gather in the Rotunda to have

2 this reminder of gender-based inequality that has
3 persisted for far, far too long. Closing pay gaps is
4 of course a central focus of this Women Majority
5 Council and, as Speaker, I see it as a personal
6 responsibility. That is why today I was proud to
7 announce the revival of the City Council's Pay
8 Disparity Report which was stalled under the prior
9 Administration and we fully expect that it will
10 resume this year. When that report is published, it
11 won't just measure disparity, it will drive action as
12 well. And when New York City gets this right, we set
13 the standard for every employer throughout our state.

14 Now turning to more celebratory times,
15 March 23rd was Pakistan Day which commemorates the
16 adoption of the Lahore Resolution that led to the
17 formation of the nation of Pakistan. I join all
18 Pakistani New Yorkers who celebrate this day of
19 freedom and independence.

20 Yesterday was Greek Independence Day. We
21 join our city's vibrant Greek communities in
22 observance of this important celebration.

23 Today is Bangladesh Independence Day, and
24 the Council will be hosting a Bangladesh Independence
25

2 Day celebration here in the Council Chambers starting
3 at 5 p.m., and we invite all New Yorkers to join us.

4 To mark the end of Women's History Month,
5 the Council will be hosting its annual Women's
6 History Month celebration here in the People's House
7 on Monday, March 31st. We hope all of you can join us
8 for that occasion.

9 Next Wednesday, our Jewish community will
10 begin Passover celebrations. As families gather
11 around the Seder table, we will recount the journey
12 from slavery to salvation to all who celebrate the
13 Festival of Freedom, Chag Sameach, and may you have a
14 peaceful and meaningful holiday.

15 Next week is also the start of Holy Week,
16 the week leading up to Easter for our Christian
17 community. This is a time of reflection, of hope, and
18 renewal. And to all of those observing, I wish you a
19 peaceful week and a happy Easter.

20 On Saturday, March 29th, the Council will
21 kick off Participatory Budgeting Vote Week. This is
22 very exciting. Through Sunday, April 6th, New Yorkers
23 over the age of 11 can vote for their favorite
24 proposals to be considered for City funding. I'm
25 excited to see all of the projects that New Yorkers

2 created to improve their local school, their local
3 park, a library, or other public space. And thank you
4 to all of our Council staff who work so hard on
5 Participatory Budgeting and every New Yorker who's
6 engaged in this process. I encourage everyone to
7 please vote during Participatory Budgeting Vote Week.

8 Next, please join me in wishing a happy
9 belated birthday to Council Members Chi Ossé and
10 Lincoln Restler, and a happy early birthday to Deputy
11 Speaker Dr. Nantasha Williams. Aries, that's right.

12 Okay. Now, we're going to move on to our
13 stated agenda.

14 First, we're going to vote on the
15 following Land Use items. DEP Newtown Creek CSO
16 Tunnel, an application for site selection and
17 acquisition approvals to facilitate the construction
18 of stormwater infrastructure to improve water quality
19 in the Newtown Creek watershed in the Districts of
20 Council Members Gutiérrez, Restler, Won, and Wong.

21 20 Berry Street will facilitate the
22 development of a 10-story office retail and light
23 industrial building with over 10,000 square feet of
24 publicly accessible open space in Council Member
25 Restler's District.

2 1727 Amsterdam Hilltop Apartments, an
3 application by HPD to facilitate the redevelopment of
4 an underutilized City-owned NYC H and H facility into
5 a new nin -story mixed-use building with 200
6 supportive and affordable housing units and community
7 facility space in Majority Leader Abreu's District.

8 1325 Avenue of America's text amendment,
9 which will bring into compliance two existing open-
10 air cafes and facilitate the addition of a new open-
11 air cafe in the publicly accessible Galleria of a
12 building in Council Member Maloney's District.

13 Allen Street de-mapping will facilitate
14 the Department of Parks and Recreation's management
15 of a future concession and the reactivation of a
16 shuttered restroom in Council Member Marte's
17 District.

18 Site selection for a new approximately
19 754-seat primary and intermediate school in Council
20 Member Morano's District.

21 An application by Le Dive for revocable
22 consent to operate a sidewalk cafe in Council Member
23 Marte's District. The Council will modify this
24 application to limit the site plan to a maximum of
25 six tables and 12 chairs.

2 We'll also be voting on the following
3 finance items. We have a Pre-Considered Resolution
4 sponsored by our Finance Chair Council Member Linda
5 Lee approving a revenue modification that recognized
6 3.1 billion dollars in new City funds for Fiscal Year
7 2026.

8 A Pre-Considered Resolution also
9 sponsored by Council Member Linda Lee approving a
10 revenue modification that recognized 3.1 billion in
11 new City funds for Fiscal Year 2026.

12 A pre- considered resolution sponsored by
13 Council Member Crystal Hudson would authorize an
14 amendment to the district plan of the Fulton Street
15 BID to change a method of assessment upon which a
16 district charge is based. It would also set the date,
17 time, and place for the public hearing of the local
18 law authorizing a change in the method of assessment.

19 Next, we will vote on the appointments of
20 Midori Valdivia, appointed by the mayor to lead the
21 New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission, and
22 Wayne Hawley, appointed by the Comptroller to the New
23 York City Conflicts of Interest Board.

24 Next, we will vote on the following
25 resolutions. Resolution 359 sponsored by Council

2 Member Farah Louis would declare March 24th annually
3 as Women of Color in Tech Day in New York City in
4 recognition of the contributions of women in color to
5 the technology industry and the challenges they still
6 face.

7 Resolution 360 sponsored by Council
8 Member Virginia Maloney would call upon the United
9 States Congress to pass and the President to sign
10 H.J. Resolution 80, S.J. Resolution 38, establishing
11 the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. Thank
12 you to staff Julia Goldsmith Pinkham and to Katie
13 Salina.

14 Today, we will vote on the following
15 legislation. Introduction 177-A sponsored by Council
16 Member Harvey Epstein would require the Department of
17 Consumer and Worker Protection to create and run a
18 program to provide individualized counseling to
19 individuals about federal and state student loan
20 forgiveness programs and other student loan repayment
21 options. Thank you to Sarah Swaine and Natalie
22 Meltzer.

23 Now, I'm going to turn to a package of
24 five bills we introduced in January as part of our
25 efforts to combat all forms of hate. Whether it was a

2 more than 70 swastikas, 70 swastikas that were
3 graffitied in a Brooklyn children's playground or the
4 182 percent rise in anti-Semitic incidents in recent
5 months in our city or churches being vandalized
6 across the five boroughs or anti-Muslim hate crimes
7 experiencing a 69 percent increase in 2024, the
8 increase in hateful acts around the city is
9 absolutely abhorrent and we had to do something about
10 it. Introduction 388-A sponsored by Council Member
11 Lincoln Restler would require the Commission on Civil
12 and Human Rights to establish a hotline to receive
13 reports in the public regarding discriminatory
14 harassment and unlawful discriminatory practices.

15 Introduction 297-A sponsored by Council
16 Member Virginia Maloney would require an agency or
17 office designated by the Mayor in consultation with
18 the NYPD to provide religious and non-profit
19 institutions with support in establishing and
20 maintaining emergency plans that contain protocols to
21 address threats of violence and safely evacuate
22 premises.

23 Introduction 22-A sponsored by Majority
24 Leader Shaun Abreu would require the Department of
25 Education to distribute age-appropriate materials

2 regarding the risks and dangers of social media to
3 middle and high school students annually beginning
4 September 30th 2026. Materials would cover online
5 bullying, harassment, discrimination, misinformation,
6 and disinformation, as well as how to prevent or
7 mitigate associated harms.

8 Introduction 1-B sponsored by myself
9 would require the Police Commissioner to establish a
10 plan to address and contain the risk of physical
11 obstruction, physical injury, intimidation, and
12 interference at places of religious worship while
13 preserving and protecting the rights to free speech,
14 assembly, and protest. The plan would include
15 considerations for the NYPD to use in determining
16 whether, when, and the extent to which security
17 perimeters may be used to protect entry to and egress
18 from places of religious worship and for
19 communication with stakeholders including the public,
20 persons seeking to assemble a protest, and affected
21 religious leaders. The Commissioner would be required
22 to submit a proposed plan and a final plan to the
23 Mayor and Speaker of the Council no later than 45
24 days and 90 days respectively after the bill's

2 effective date. The final plan would also be posted
3 on the NYPD's website.

4 Finally, Introduction 175-B sponsored by
5 Council Member Eric Dinowitz would require the Police
6 Commissioner to establish a similar plan at
7 educational facilities. Thank you to Jessica Boulet,
8 Wiam Diiori, Rachel Conte, Juanita John, Rachel
9 Cordero, and Wesley Jones.

10 So, thank you for your attention and now
11 I'm going to turn it back to our Majority Leader.

12 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Thank you,
13 Speaker Menin.

14 Just want to remind folks, I know some
15 new folks from the members of the public have just
16 now walked in. I want to remind you that you shall
17 remain silent at all times and, if you want to
18 express support or opposition to something, you may
19 make a hand gesture.

20 We will now move into Discussion of
21 General Orders. Beginning with Council Member Maloney
22 followed by Epstein.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: Thank you very
24 much. I am proud to Intro. 297, a bill that directs
25 the City including the NYPD to work directly with our

2 faith communities to develop comprehensive security
3 protocols and emergency plans. Places of worship are
4 sacred spaces where New Yorkers come together in
5 faith and community. They should be spaces where no
6 one is intimidated or fears for their safety simply
7 for entering or leaving. But far too many New Yorkers
8 of faith do not feel safe in our city and that's
9 unacceptable and it's time for the Council to act.
10 Intro. 297 is a necessary and proactive measure. It
11 equips our houses of worship with the tools and
12 guidance that they need to prevent threats, respond
13 to emergencies, and maintain safe access for all
14 attendees. This bill ensures that law enforcement and
15 faith institutions are aligned so risks are addressed
16 before they escalate. This is part of a broader
17 package and sends a clear message that protecting the
18 safety of our faith communities is not optional. It's
19 fundamental responsibility of City government. I urge
20 my Colleagues to support Intro. 297. Thank you.

21 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Council
22 Member Epstein followed by Hanif.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: Thank you,
24 Majority Leader. I rise to support my legislation,
25 Intro. 177, which would establish a program in the

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2 Department of Consumer and Worker Protection to
3 provide personalized counseling for individuals
4 seeking state and federal loan forgiveness. As we all
5 know the student loan issue has reached almost 2
6 billion dollars in debt. Average borrower owes about
7 40,000 dollars. One in six people in the United
8 States and in New York carry student loan debt.
9 Repayments are really difficult. We see this around
10 the country and in New York. Over 5 million people in
11 this country have debt. Hundreds of thousands in New
12 York alone. With crushing affordability issues, this
13 debt and with the changes that the Trump
14 Administration has done, it's really important that
15 we support those borrowers and what we can do today.
16 If we are serious about strengthening the economy,
17 approving affordability, we must invest in tools to
18 get people out of this burden. This bill is a
19 practical step to do that. I want to thank the
20 Speaker for her leadership and making sure this bill
21 came to the floor and then she knows the needs of
22 workers, people who borrow every day and the impact
23 that it has on their lives. I want to thank my Staff
24 and the Committee Staff for all their work and
25 encourage my Colleagues to support this legislation.

2 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Thank you,
3 Council Member.

4 Council Member Dinowitz. Hanif has now
5 changed to General Discussion.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Thank you,
7 Majority Leader.

8 I rise today in support of my bill, 175-
9 B, which would provide for safe access for our
10 students as they enter their schools, and I'm a proud
11 sponsor of all the bills in this package. Dating back
12 to like my time in middle school peer tutoring, then
13 as a student teacher in high school, as a public
14 school teacher, the education for our students is of
15 paramount importance to me as it is to so many of us
16 in this Body, to so many of us in this city, and we
17 all here know that our schools, our educational
18 institutions are not just about education. They are
19 sacred spaces where students go for education of
20 course, but for mental health support, for food
21 security, to find themselves, to find community, and
22 so much more. And as I was in middle school and high
23 school and even as a young teacher, I never
24 questioned the idea that our students would be going
25 to school and they would be unsafe as they entered

2 their school, but that is not the case now. There are
3 too many instances, too many experiences of students
4 being harassed, intimidated, physically obstructed
5 from entering their own school, so much so that they
6 live in fear of going to school, that they take their
7 courses online, that they transfer schools. That is
8 not the New York we deserve, and so with 175-B we are
9 asking for something simple. We are asking for
10 transparency and accountability for our New York
11 Police Department to say that if you are going to set
12 up perimeters, which they do from time to time, that
13 we in New York City deserve to know what the plan is
14 and we deserve public input, which this plan provides
15 for, and we deserve to know who we can contact to
16 ensure that we are all being treated fairly and
17 safely, which this bill provides, for and I'm so
18 proud to sponsor this legislation and I want to
19 deeply thank the speaker for her support of this
20 legislation. Thank you, Majority Leader.

21 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Council
22 Member Hankerson.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKERSON: Thank you,
24 Majority Leader.

2 Good afternoon, Colleagues. In 2020,
3 after the horrific murders of George Floyd, Breonna
4 Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and too many others, I led a
5 protest with my church in the Southeast Queens
6 community on Jamaica Avenue. We came there grieving,
7 angry, and demanding justice. As the names of those
8 killed at the hands of police were read aloud, some
9 of the officers present were so moved that they knelt
10 with us, and that moment drew national attention
11 across the country. The Black church has always stood
12 at the forefront of the fight for civil rights, which
13 is why the First Amendment has always been paramount
14 in our communities. It protects the right to gather
15 peacefully, the right to worship, and the right to be
16 seen and heard. I would not, let me repeat, would not
17 support any bill that would have stopped the protest
18 we held that day. I would not support any bill that
19 silences peaceful protests or weakens people's right
20 to assemble and speak. At the same time, there is
21 also the right to live without fear. And for people,
22 including children, parents, and staff, to enter and
23 leave their houses of worship and their schools
24 safely, we, as a people, must respect that right as
25 well. We have seen before in this country that access

2 and protests can both be protected at the same time.
3 Think back to the Little Rock Nine when it took
4 protection of 11,000 soldiers so that Black children
5 could walk into schools that had long been closed to
6 them, despite the hostile crowds outside. As elected
7 officials, our job is to protect people's
8 constitutional rights and their safety. I do not
9 believe these bills are meant to obstruct peaceful
10 protests, but rather to require the NYPD to have a
11 plan for select instances where safe passage is at
12 risk. Let me be clear about my position. If that plan
13 is ever used to eliminate sight and sound, limit
14 speech, or burden lawful protests, I will be among
15 the first to call for it to be changed. This City has
16 to protect liberty, justice, and public safety for
17 all. This is why I plan to vote yes on the Combat
18 Hate bills. Thank you.

19 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Thank you,
20 Council Members.

21 Seeing no one else signed up to speak for
22 General Orders.

23 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Report of
24 special committees.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

1 STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL 37

2 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Report of
3 Standing Committees.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee to
5 Combat Hate. Intros 1-B through 388-A on page 3,
6 Package to Strengthen Security Perimeters, Education,
7 and Reporting.

8 SPEAKER MENIN: Amended and coupled on
9 General Orders.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee on
11 Consumer and Worker Protection, Intro. 177-A, Student
12 Loan Financial Counseling.

13 SPEAKER MENIN: Amended and coupled.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee on
15 Finance, Pre-Considered Reso. 394, Fulton Street BID.

16 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled on General Orders.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Pre-Considered M57 and
18 Reso 416, Budget Modification.

19 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee on
21 Land Use, LU35 and Reso 403, 1727 Amsterdam Avenue.

22 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled on General Orders.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: LU36 and Reso. 404 and
24 LU37 and Reso 405, DEP Newtown Creek.

25 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled.

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2 COUNCIL CLERK: LU38 and Reso. 406 through
3 LU40 and Reso. 408, 20 Berry Street.

4 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: LU41 and Reso. 409, 1325
6 Avenue of the Americas.

7 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled on General Orders.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: LU42 and Reso. 410 and
9 LU43 and Reso. 411, Allen Street Mall.

10 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: LU47 and Reso. 412, Le
12 dive.

13 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Pre-Considered LU48 and
15 Reso. 413, Intermediate School.

16 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee on
18 Rules, Privileges, Elections, Standards, and Ethics,
19 M41 and Reso. 414, approving the appointment of
20 Midori Valdivia, Taxi and Limousine Commissioner.

21 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: M51 and Reso. 415,
23 approving the appointment of Wayne G. Hawley,
24 Conflicts of Interest Board.

25 SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled on General Orders.

2 I would now ask the Clerk to take a roll
3 vote on all of the items coupled on today's General
4 Orders calendar.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Aldebol.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ALDEBOL: Permission to
7 explain my vote?

8 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Permission
9 granted.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ALDEBOL: I vote aye on all
11 except 175-B. Thank you, Chair and Speaker Menin. I'd
12 like to take a moment to recognize and explain my
13 decision to vote no on Intro. 175-B. The rise of
14 anti-Semitism is a serious threat to all of our
15 communities and my community in the East Bronx. I
16 take it incredibly seriously. People of all
17 backgrounds and faiths deserve to be able to worship
18 in safety and peace and as the Council Member for
19 District 13, I have a duty to stand up for the safety
20 of my constituents. I'm voting yes on Intro. 1-B
21 because I believe that requiring NYPD to provide
22 plans for security at houses of worship can help
23 communities in the East Bronx that I represent feel
24 safer and more secure while gathering. However, I
25 have serious concerns regarding the extension of that

2 legislation to educational facilities. Therefore, I
3 am voting no on Intro. 175-B. I believe that this
4 legislation has serious legal concerns and too many
5 potential unintended consequences. The broad
6 definition of educational facilities encompasses
7 everything from childcare centers to college campuses
8 to union training halls, bringing in a wide range of
9 potential complications. A one-size-fits-all plan
10 from the NYPD does not lend itself to transparency.
11 It does not take into account the diversity of our
12 educational institutions and the communities where
13 they reside and serve. Additionally, the labor
14 carveout in the legislation does not lessen my
15 concerns of potential infringement of the First
16 Amendment rights of union members. The labor movement
17 is a social justice movement as well and
18 demonstrations are not confined only to contract
19 negotiations and strikes. I will always stand against
20 anti-Semitism, against Islamophobia, anti-Black
21 racism, anti-immigrant --

22 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Thank you,
23 Council Member.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Ariola.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: I vote aye on all
3 with the exception of M41 and accompanying Resolution
4 414 for which I vote no.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

6 Avilés.

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

9 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Permission
10 granted.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Over the last
12 decade, New York City has seen an overwhelming
13 increase in hate violence. These acts of violence
14 make life worse for everyone in our city. It harms
15 victims and families, creating cycles of trauma. It
16 makes communities afraid to worship freely, celebrate
17 holidays, share beloved customs with their neighbors.
18 It threatens the very foundation of the city we love,
19 our diversity. We must fight hate with truly
20 effective and evidence-based tools that reduce
21 violence. The package before us does not do that. It
22 relies on police interventions that have not
23 decreased rates of hate violence. It ignores the
24 mistrust of the NYPD within communities of color. It
25 makes no effort to advance community-led

2 interventions that actually protect New Yorkers'
3 health and safety. New Yorkers deserve more than the
4 status quo. They deserve more than a performative
5 policy. This package does not address the root causes
6 of hate. What it does is curb New Yorkers' right to
7 free speech. I stand today with organizations like
8 NYCLU, Legal Aid Society, PSC CUNY, UAW, and so many
9 more that see the real chilling effects this package
10 poses on our freedom of speech. We know that these
11 incoherent bills are a message against dissent, in
12 particular against pro-Palestinian voices. In a
13 moment when free speech is under attack, when New
14 York City should be protecting our rights, not
15 curtailing them, I look forward to seriously working
16 on ways to bring our communities together with
17 evidence-based strategies. For these reasons, I vote
18 no on 1-B, Intro. 175-B, and Intro. 388. Thank you.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Banks.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye on all, and
21 permission to explain my vote at the same time.

22 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Of course.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Thank you, Mr.
24 Majority Leader. I'm proud to support the anti-hate
25 package because it takes meaningful and proactive

2 steps to protect our communities. At a time when we
3 are seeing a troubling rise in the hate-based
4 incidents, we have a responsibility to act, not just
5 in response, but in prevention. By strengthening
6 security for all houses of worship and educational
7 institutions, we are helping to safeguard the very
8 spaces where people should feel most secure. This
9 legislation package recognizes that when hate goes
10 unchecked, it doesn't just impact individuals, it
11 creates fear, division, unintended consequences that
12 ripple across our communities. These investments are
13 about ensuring that families, students, congregants
14 can gather, learn, and worship without fear. Every
15 New Yorker deserves to feel safe in the spaces that
16 matter most, and this package is a strong step
17 towards making that a reality. Aye on all again.
18 Thank you.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Brewer.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes on all,
21 abstaining on 175-B, just because it's an excellent
22 beginning, but I think it's too broad. Thank you very
23 much.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Brooks-Powers.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: I vote aye
3 on all.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Cabán.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Permission to
6 explain my vote.

7 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Permission
8 granted.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: I share the deeply
10 held commitment that the Speaker and the rest of the
11 Council hold, to end the scourge of hate violence in
12 the city and to ensure that every single New Yorker,
13 whether they're Jewish, Muslim, trans, queer, Latina,
14 Asian American, can live free from the fear of being
15 attacked because of the identity that they hold, and
16 I believe strongly in investing in solutions that
17 work. That's why I've worked closely with Jews for
18 Racial and Economic Justice to support their NYC
19 Against Hate proposal, which would invest 26 million
20 in violence prevention and interruption, in
21 relationship building and anti-bias trainings, among
22 other vital initiatives. The data shows that these
23 solutions work. The data and research also show which
24 solutions have failed us, namely relying on the
25 police to combat hate. Even as crime in the city

2 fell, incidents of hate violence and harassment
3 increased 152 percent. Over-reliance on the police
4 will not solve hate violence. We cannot squash out
5 hate through reactive domination and violence. The
6 proposed bills double down on these failed strategies
7 while overlooking evidence-driven proposals like
8 those put forward by JFREG. We have to address hate
9 at its root and there are no shortcuts. Moreover, as
10 the Trump Administration works overtime to
11 criminalize dissent, including on college campuses,
12 it would be a grave mistake to add that to the
13 repression with the measures proposed here. I'm
14 grateful to the New York Civil Liberties Union for
15 their work to highlight the risk to freedom of
16 expression and dissent if these bills become law.
17 That's why I must vote no on these bills. I hope I
18 will get to work with the Speaker and all of you to
19 fund and implement the New York City Against Hate
20 Violence slate of initiatives so we can meaningfully
21 end the violence, the harassment, and the fear
22 plaguing too many communities in our city. With that,
23 I vote no on Intro. 1-B, 175-B, 388-A, and aye on the
24 rest. Thank you.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Permission to
3 explain my vote?

4 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Permission
5 granted.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Thank you so
7 much. As someone who not only speaks about standing
8 up against hate in all its forms, I've lived my life
9 in that way. Standing up for immigrant rights,
10 against xenophobia, against racism, against anti-
11 Semitism, against Islamophobia. I've lived those
12 values and I firmly believe that this Council must do
13 more to keep New Yorkers safe. However, what I cannot
14 support is turning away from the civil rights,
15 especially in educational institutions. If we have
16 learned anything from history, it is that the student
17 movement has been at the root of societal change for
18 generations, and I cannot support Intro. 175-B for
19 that reason because dissent, especially for the
20 younger generation that will inherit the city, is
21 important and it is healthy and we must encourage
22 them to continue to think critically and to develop
23 their own values without fear of not being able to
24 express them. And so I will vote yes on the bills in
25 the package today in hopes, like my Colleagues have

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2 said, that this conversation will continue and I will
3 be a no on 175-B. Thank you.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Dinowitz.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Proudly vote aye
6 on all.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

8 Nurse.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: I vote no on 175-B,
10 388-A, and aye on all the rest.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

12 Encarnación.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ENCARNACIÓN: I vote aye on
14 all.

15 Epstein.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: I wish to explain
17 my vote. I'm voting aye except for 175-B. I'm voting
18 no on 175-B and I encourage --

19 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Are you
20 asking for permission?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: I did.

22 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: The answer
23 is yes.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: You didn't answer
25 yes?

2 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: I'm now
3 saying yes.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: Oh, I very
5 appreciate that. You want me to start over?

6 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: You can
7 start his time over again.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: I don't need it.
9 So, I'm just saying I'm voting aye except on 175-B.
10 and I think this is an important conversation we're
11 having here in the Chamber about how we do preventive
12 measures to combat hate. I look forward to long-term
13 funding opportunities. Hate is a taught behavior, and
14 we need to make sure we use resources going forward
15 in the budget, and I know the Speaker cares deeply
16 about this, to find programs that will help us combat
17 hate going forward.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Farías.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye on all
20 with the exception of 175-B On which I vote no.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Felder.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: I want to request
23 permission not to explain my vote.

24 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: That was a
25 good one.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Once in a while.

3 Okay. I vote yes on everything except for
4 M41 and Reso. 414.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

6 Feliz.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Permission to
8 explain my vote?

9 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Permission
10 granted.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: I'm proud to vote
12 aye on all. I'm especially proud to support bills led
13 by Speaker Menin and Council Member Dinowitz, bills
14 to help ensure the safe access to places of prayer as
15 well as our schools. Our houses of worship and our
16 schools are supposed to be some of our safest places,
17 and recently we've seen a drastic increase in
18 harassment and intimidation tactics against members
19 of our community, including and especially against
20 members of our Jewish community. Individuals
21 screaming horrible things that basically call for the
22 harm against members of the Jewish community. This is
23 unacceptable, and we must do something about it.
24 Keeping New Yorkers safe is one of the most important
25 duties of City government. These bills will help do

2 just that by requiring that the NYPD report, just
3 like every other reporting bill that we do, simply
4 require that the NYPD report on what steps they're
5 going to be taking to make sure that we can put an
6 end to the intimidation tactics that we continue to
7 see. Also, we've heard a lot on this bill so I just
8 want to say that the text of this bill is extremely
9 clear. There's nothing in the bill that would ban
10 anything. It simply requires that the Police
11 Department report on the plan to prevent intimidation
12 and the harassment that we've seen far too often. For
13 these reasons, I vote aye on all. Thank you.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Gennaro.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Mr. Majority
16 Leader, I'd like to explain my vote.

17 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Permission
18 granted.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you.

20 Yeah. I wasn't going to say anything
21 today, but I'm just hearing a lot of rhetoric about,
22 you know, downplaying the role of the police and you
23 know spending money to, you know, create programs
24 that are supposed to diffuse hate. I'm for that, but
25 I just want to relate to folks that my District was

2 the District that had the protests after the Park
3 East synagogue protest and I knew there was going to
4 be a lot of problems there potentially so I worked it
5 out with the Mayor. I called him. I worked it out
6 with the Police Commissioner and everybody went home
7 safe, but one thing that didn't happen was that the
8 people that were on the street, you know, 100 feet
9 away, you know, from the shul that was screaming we
10 are Hamas, they did not have the opportunity to, you
11 know, directly harass my constituents. These bills
12 are very, very consistent with what I had to sort of
13 cobble together in my own District. This should be
14 codified into law. I support all the bills in the
15 anti-hate package, and I'm proud to vote and co-
16 sponsor them and everything else on today's calendar.
17 I vote aye on all.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

19 Guti rrez.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTI RREZ: Permission to
21 explain my vote.

22 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Permission
23 granted.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTI RREZ: Thank you,
25 Majority Leader.

2 I want to start off by saying I vote aye
3 on all except bill 175. I shared this with the
4 sponsor. I know Council Member Dinowitz has worked
5 really hard to engage with Members and so I just want
6 to give him credit because I know it has not been
7 easy. The reason I'm voting no, however, is because
8 of the overwhelming position that I've heard from
9 young people in my District long before this bill
10 about removing PD from interactions with young
11 people, removing PD from schools for example. In my
12 community, especially like (INAUDIBLE) in Queens, the
13 interactions are not sunny, they're not rosy, they're
14 not positive, and in many instances young people feel
15 threatened by just the sight of people in uniform.
16 And so while I understand the intention of this bill
17 is to create a perimeter plan, transparency, I do
18 feel that there is nothing more transparent than the
19 experience I've shared from young people in my
20 District about their interactions with PD, how
21 negative, how scary they were, and ultimately I
22 cannot support a bill that would even for a second
23 put young people in even more vulnerable positions
24 and for that reason I vote no on bill 175. Thank you.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

2 Hanif.

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

5 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Permission
6 granted.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Everyone deserves
8 to worship safely and without fear. We are seeing a
9 rise in hate violence, and I hear that fear from my
10 constituents. Houses of worship have urgent safety
11 needs, and I've supported synagogues and mosques in
12 my District in coordinating with NYPD precincts to
13 ensure additional security during religious
14 gatherings. I'm proud to vote today in support of
15 measures that proactively address hate violence,
16 educating students about online hate, providing
17 emergency planning for religious institutions and
18 creating a hotline to track hate and bias incidents.
19 However, I have serious reservations about the
20 remaining two bills in this package. Intro. 1-B and
21 Intro. 175-B required the NYPD to develop a plan to
22 create security perimeters around religious and
23 educational institutions. These bills give the NYPD
24 too much power to police speech and raise
25 constitutional concerns. They undermine the 2020

2 summer protest settlement agreement which requires
3 the NYPD to minimize policing at protests and comply
4 with the First Amendment through a tiered response
5 informed by best practices. They also include a
6 carveout to exempt labor picketing, creating content
7 and speaker-based restriction that raises significant
8 constitutional issues. Because schools and houses of
9 worship are located across the city, these police-
10 controlled zones risk broadly limiting
11 constitutionally protected protest, advocacy, and
12 dissent. At a time when our federal government is
13 eroding civil liberties, New York City must model a
14 different path, one that protects both safety and
15 fundamental rights. It is imperative that we do not
16 expand police discretion over when and where people
17 can speak and organize. For these reasons, I join
18 civil rights, pro-democracy, reproductive health
19 organizations in opposing these bills in their
20 support.

21 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Thank you,
22 Council Member. Can you please tell us what your vote
23 is?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: I vote no on 1-B
25 and 175-B and aye on the rest.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you, Council Member.
3 Hankerson.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKERSON: I vote aye on
5 all.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Hanks.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Permission to
8 explain my vote?

9 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Permission
10 granted.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Thank you, Mr.
12 Majority Leader.

13 Today, I'm proudly voting aye on all, and
14 I'd like to associate my comments with Council Member
15 Hankerson and Council Member Banks. I stand with
16 Speaker Menin and my Colleagues who have bills on the
17 floor today to combat hate. These bills have a simple
18 purpose to allow our neighbors to pray and to be
19 educated without fear. So, I vote aye on all. Thank
20 you. And I encourage everyone to vote aye on these
21 bills, very important bills.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Hudson.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: I would like to be
24 associated with the remarks of Council Member
25

2 Gutierrez, and I vote aye on all with the exception
3 of Intro. 175-B. Thank you.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Joseph.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: I vote aye on all
6 except no for Intro. 175-B.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Krishnan.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Mr. Majority
9 Leader, I humbly request permission to explain my
10 vote.

11 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Humbly
12 granted.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: I just wanted to
14 say in representing the largest population of taxi
15 drivers and for-hire vehicle drivers in all of New
16 York City and my constituents, I am proud and excited
17 and want to congratulate a soon-to-be Commissioner of
18 TLC, Midori Valdivia, for both her work for many
19 years and her words of support for drivers across the
20 city who have experienced so much from the predatory
21 lending practices of the medallion crisis years ago
22 to now our historic legislation that we passed in
23 this Council overriding a mayoral veto to stop the
24 unfair deactivations of drivers, the New York Taxi
25 Workers Alliance. We have a real champion now at TLC

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2 that will stand up for drivers in this city, and I'm
3 looking forward to working with her to do so and I
4 vote aye on all with the exception of Intro. 175-B
5 for which I vote no.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Lee.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye on all.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Louis.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye on all.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Maloney.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: Permission to
12 explain my vote.

13 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Permission
14 granted.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: I vote aye on all
16 and in strong support of all the bills in this
17 legislative package that make clear how seriously the
18 Council takes our duty to guarantee the safety of our
19 faith communities, and I also want to congratulate
20 Midori on her new role as the Taxi and Limousine
21 Commissioner. Thank you very much.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

23 Marte.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER Marte: I vote aye.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Mealy.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Chair, may I
3 explain my vote?

4 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Permission
5 granted.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Thank you. I would
7 just like to vote aye on all and I want to thank the
8 Speaker, Council Member Dinowitz on his legislation.
9 It is time that we put Christ back into these crises
10 that we are going through in this city, and I vote
11 aye on all and I vote no on M41 and Reso. 414. Thank
12 you.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you, Council Member.
14 Morano.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Permission to
16 explain my vote.

17 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Permission
18 granted.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Thank you,
20 Majority Leader.

21 I rise to speak not on the issue that
22 everybody's spoken about eloquently on both sides but
23 an issue very, very important to my constituents
24 which is the proposed school siting in my District
25 which is LU-48 with accompanying Resolution. This is

2 an issue that I have spent a great deal of time on
3 and one that has generated strong and sincere
4 concerns from residents in the surrounding community.
5 I've heard from neighbors about traffic, parking,
6 flooding, and the strain on existing infrastructure.
7 These aren't abstract concerns at all. They are real
8 quality-of-life issues for the people who live there
9 and they deserve to be taken seriously. That's why
10 I've made it a point to review the environmental
11 materials carefully, to raise these issues directly
12 with the School Construction Authority, and to make
13 sure that the concerns being raised are on the record
14 and part of this process. At the same time, I've also
15 visited every single school in my District and what
16 I've seen is that overcrowding is out of control.
17 It's not a hypothetical problem. It's happening right
18 now. Classrooms are full. Resources are stretched and
19 there's a clear need for additional capacity. So, in
20 many ways it's not an easy vote. It's a balancing of
21 two very real concerns. The impact on an existing
22 community and the need to provide adequate school
23 space for our children and if there were a way to
24 build a school with no traffic, no parking impact and
25 no disruption at all, I promise you I'd be the first

2 one to sign up for that but we're not quite there
3 yet. After weighing all that, I do believe that
4 moving forward with the school is the right decision,
5 but I want to be very clear that support comes with
6 an expectation which is that the School Construction
7 Authority and relevant agencies will continue to
8 engage with the community to take steps to mitigate
9 traffic and infrastructure impacts. This can't be the
10 end of the conversation. I hope it's the beginning of
11 a continued dialogue and I want to take a moment to
12 thank my Colleagues for supporting this project and
13 for helping deliver a much-needed new school for the
14 families in my District. It truly makes a difference.

15 So, with that, I'll be voting aye on all
16 items on today's calendar with the exception of M-41
17 and Reso. 414.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

19 Narcisse.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: I vote aye.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Ossé.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER Ossé: I vote aye on all
23 with the exceptions of Intro. 1-B and Intro. 175-B in
24 which I am a no.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Paladino.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye on all with
3 the exception of M-41 and Reso. 414.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Restler.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Permission to
6 explain my vote.

7 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Permission
8 granted.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Thank you so
10 much, Majority Leader.

11 I vote aye on all with the exception of
12 175-B. I would never oppose a piece of legislation
13 that I felt meaningfully prevented hate or anti-
14 Semitism in particular from being mitigated or
15 prevented in our city, but I'm particularly concerned
16 about this bill's impact on protest on our college
17 campuses. You know, we look to our young people to
18 stand up, to challenge us, to push for a brighter and
19 better and more equitable future for all of us and
20 I'm concerned that this legislation could undermine
21 that. So, I am voting no on 175-B and aye on the rest
22 of this package, and I'd also just like to take a
23 moment to thank the Department of Environmental
24 Protection for updating the Newtown Creek Long-Term
25 Control Plan which will reduce the CSO outflow, the

2 combined sewage overflow outflow, into Newtown Creek
3 and the East River by 74 percent. That is a lot less
4 poop in our waterways and in particular there will,
5 as a result of the updates to this plan, be no poop
6 going into the future Bushwick Inlet Park which will
7 one day be a magnificent poop, poop, poop. We're
8 talking about poop. There will be no more poop going
9 into the waterways surrounding Bushwick Inlet Park as
10 a result of this plan, and so I'm grateful for the
11 team at DEP for their hard work as we work to reduce
12 CSO outflow in North Brooklyn and Western Queens.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Riley.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: I vote aye, and
15 congratulations to Speaker Menin and Council Member
16 Dinowitz on their bills today.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Salaam.

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

20 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Permission
21 granted.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: First, I would
23 like my remarks to be associated with all of the
24 brilliant remarks of my Colleagues, all of them.

2 Included in today's vote is legislation
3 that aims to strengthen our fight against hate, a
4 fight that is not yet over. Hate isn't something that
5 we are born with, in fact it is taught. This is why
6 these legislations are important. We must dismantle
7 hate from its core. The intention behind Intro. 1-B
8 is to protect worshippers right to practice their
9 faith in their houses of worship. Similarly, 175-A
10 aims to safeguard our students from fear that leads
11 to skipping classes and things of that nature. But we
12 must be clear about what these bills represent. They
13 are not meant to chill free speech or restrict lawful
14 assembly and protest. Rather they establish
15 reasonable frameworks that allow New Yorkers to
16 exercise their constitutional rights and, at the same
17 time, they ensure that vulnerable populations,
18 whether in houses of worship or classrooms, are
19 protected from harassment, intimidation, and
20 violence. These bills taken together form a
21 comprehensive approach to addressing bias-based
22 motivated violence. Intro. 388 establishes our anti-
23 discrimination hotline, 22 educates our youth about
24 the dangers of online hate, 297 ensures our religious
25 and non-profit institutions have emergency support,

2 and together they address the root causes of symptoms
3 rather than that of hate in our city. I'm taught that
4 actions are by intention. If these bills accomplish
5 what they are intended to do, if they protect our
6 faith community and safeguard our children, if they
7 ensure accountability and strengthen our
8 neighborhoods, then that would be a great thing. And
9 with that I vote aye on all.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

11 Justin Sanchez.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER JUSTIN SANCHEZ: Aye on all
13 with the exception of 175-B. Thank you.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Pierina Sanchez.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER PIERINA SANCHEZ:

16 Permission to explain.

17 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Permission
18 granted.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER PIERINA SANCHEZ: Thank
20 you, Majority Leader.

21 I just want to associate myself with the
22 comments of Council Member Gutiérrez, and I want to
23 congratulate Commissioner Midori Valdivia on her
24 nomination and appointment confirmation.

25

2 With that, I vote aye on all with the
3 exception of 175-B on which I vote no.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Santosuosso.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER SANTOSUOSSO: I vote no on
6 1-B and 175-B and aye on the remainder of today's
7 bills. Thank you.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you, Council Member.
9 Schulman.

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

12 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Permission
13 granted.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Thank you,
15 Majority Leader.

16 I want to associate myself with the
17 comments of Council Member Salaam. I also want to say
18 that today's Combat Hate Package of bills take a
19 comprehensive approach to confronting hate from every
20 angle, strengthening hate crime reporting,
21 transparency, creating a bias reporting hotline,
22 educating young people about the dangers of online
23 hate, improving emergency planning, and enhancing
24 security protections at schools and all houses of
25 worship. I also want to say that the Speaker and her

2 Staff have bent over backwards to listen to all the
3 advocacy groups and all community groups and
4 religious groups to get these bills to a place where
5 I think that they are very measured. We are a city
6 that fiercely protects the constitutional right to
7 protest. That right is fundamental, but protest
8 cannot become intimidation that interferes with
9 someone's ability to safely worship and these bills
10 strike the necessary balance protecting civil
11 liberties while ensuring public safety and that is
12 exactly what our city needs right now and I vote aye
13 on all.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

15 Stevens.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Permission to
17 explain my vote.

18 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Permission
19 granted.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Thank you.

21 Although I know that my Colleagues have
22 great intentions with these bills, I have words that
23 I would like to express. I stand here today on the
24 shoulders of Black men and women who led
25 transformative movements throughout our nation's

2 history like the abolitionist movement, the civil
3 rights movement, Black power movement, and ongoing
4 movements like Black Lives Matter, and each of those
5 movement protests were not only an act of resistance
6 but a powerful expression of hope and a call for our
7 country to fully live up to its morals and democratic
8 ideals. Throughout those movements, many leaders and
9 communities face profound challenges including
10 difficulties and sometimes painful interactions with
11 institutions that were meant to protect and serve
12 them. Those historical realities have shaped many of
13 us including myself with our views with law
14 enforcement. As a result, my relationship with the
15 police complex is one that's rooted both in desire
16 for safety and accountability in hopes of greater
17 understanding, trust, and partnership moving forward.
18 Today, we find ourselves at a critical point in
19 history as we face what it feels like a hostile and
20 deeply concerning shift in the federal government.
21 New York City's Council should be leading with
22 educating, empowering, and uplifting advocacy.
23 Instead, we're seeing symbolic legislation that risks
24 sending the wrong message to our communities. Again,
25 I know my colleagues have intentions of protecting

2 what they believe is right, but in every rally I
3 stand at I tell young people that it is their duty
4 and responsibilities to be a part of the solutions.
5 So, there's no way today that I can vote for Intro.
6 175-B with that intention. I abstain on 1-B and
7 Intro. 388-A and although I believe in 388-A, when
8 they had their budget hearing they explained that
9 there's no way for them to put this in because they
10 don't have the resources, and I also vote no on 297.
11 Aye on the rest. Thank you.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: One moment.

13 Thomas-Henry.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER THOMAS-HENRY: Aye.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Ung.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye on all.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Vernikov.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye on all with
19 the exception of M41 and accompanying Reso. 414 on
20 which I vote no.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you, Council Member.

22 One moment.

23 Council Member De La Rosa.

24

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: To clarify my
3 vote. I am a yes on all except 175-B, which I am a
4 no.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you, Council Member.
6 Williams.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye on
8 all.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.
10 Won.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye on all except for
12 175-B.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you, Council Member.
14 Wong.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER WONG: Aye on all.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

17 One moment.

18 Zhuang.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Can I explain my
20 vote?

21 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Permission
22 granted.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Thank you.

24 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Let's keep
25 it down in the Chambers, guys. Thank you.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: I vote aye on all.
3 I want to abstain M41. I want to say I'm a mother
4 with two children. I don't want my kids go to school
5 with fear. No matter what religion anyone practice,
6 everyone should treat with respect. That's the reason
7 I vote aye. Thank you. I abstain on M41.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you, Council Member.
9 Got it. Thank you.

10 Carr.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: I vote no on M41 and
12 accompanying Resolution 414 and aye on the rest.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank yoU.

14 Abreu.

15 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Aye.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Menin.

17 SPEAKER MENIN: Aye.

18 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: All items on
19 today's General Order Calendar are adopted by a vote
20 of 50 in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and
21 zero abstentions with the exception of Intro. 175-B
22 which was adopted by a vote of 30 in the affirmative,
23 19 in the negative, and one abstention, and M41 and
24 Reso. 414 which was adopted by a vote of 42 in the
25 affirmative, seven in the negative, and one

2 abstention, and 1-B which was adopted by a vote of 44
3 in the affirmative, five in the negative, and one
4 abstention, and Intro. 388-A which was adopted by a
5 vote of 46 in the affirmative, three in the negative,
6 and one abstention, and Intro. 297-A which was
7 adopted by a vote of 49 in the affirmative, one in
8 the negative, and zero abstentions.

9 Introduction and Reading of Bills.

10 SPEAKER MENIN: All bills have been
11 referred to the Committee as indicated on today's
12 agenda.

13 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Thank you.

14 We'll now move into discussion of
15 Resolutions beginning with Council Member Maloney,
16 followed by Louis.

17 As a reminder, you only have one minute
18 for resolutions. Thank you.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: Thank you. As we
20 mark Women's History Month, we're reminded that
21 progress is never automatic. It's driven by those
22 determined to build a better world. Just a few hours
23 ago, Members of this Body rallied to demand equal pay
24 for equal work in the City Hall Rotunda, and today I
25 urge my Colleagues in the City Council to affirm that

2 equality under the law cannot wait. Resolution 360
3 has the City Council joining a growing national
4 movement calling on Congress to recognize the ERA as
5 ratified and acknowledging it as the 28th Amendment
6 to the U.S. Constitution. Until it's formally
7 recognized, women's rights will remain vulnerable,
8 subject to interpretation, to political shifts and
9 uncertainty. The ERA has been ratified by 38 states.
10 It has met the constitutional threshold and it
11 deserves to be recognized. I urge our Council to send
12 a clear message to Congress to act now. Thank you.

13 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Council
14 Member Louis.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Thank you, Mr.
16 Majority Leader, and good afternoon.

17 Today, we will vote on Resolution 359, an
18 important measure that recognizes both the
19 contributions and challenges faced by women of color
20 in technology. We are living in a defining moment.
21 AI, automation, and emerging technologies are
22 reshaping every aspect of our lives, our economy, our
23 healthcare, our schools, our democracy. Yet, the
24 women who are most positioned to lead are being
25 systematically locked out. Women of color remain

2 significantly underrepresented in one of the fastest-
3 growing industries in our economy. They face barriers
4 at every stage, from education to hiring to
5 advancement. This is a matter of equity and economic
6 necessity. We cannot build a future without investing
7 in the brilliance, talent, and potential of women of
8 color. I want to thank Speaker Menin for advancing
9 this Resolution and urge my Colleagues to vote yes on
10 Reso. 359.

11 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Seeing no
12 one else signed up for Discussion of Resolutions, we
13 will now have a voice vote on today's resolutions.

14 If you wish to vote against or abstain
15 from either of today's resolutions, please notify the
16 Legislative Documents Unit by email or by approaching
17 the dais.

18 I will now read today's resolutions into
19 the record.

20 Resolution 359-A declares March 24th
21 annually as Women of Color in Tech Day in the City of
22 New York to recognize the contributions of women of
23 color to the technology industry and to acknowledge
24 the challenges they still face.

25 All those in favor say aye.

2 CHAMBERS: Aye.

3 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: All opposed
4 say nay.

5 CHAMBERS: (NO AUDIBLE RESPONSE)

6 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Any
7 abstentions?

8 CHAMBERS: (NO AUDIBLE RESPONSE)

9 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: The ayes
10 have it.

11 Resolution 360 calls on the U.S. Congress
12 to pass and the President to sign House Joint
13 Resolution 80 and Senate Joint Resolution 38,
14 establishing the ratification of the Equal Rights
15 Amendment.

16 All those in favor say aye.

17 CHAMBERS: Aye.

18 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: All opposed
19 say nay.

20 CHAMBERS: (NO AUDIBLE RESPONSE)

21 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Any
22 abstentions?

23 CHAMBERS: (NO AUDIBLE RESPONSE)

24 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: The ayes
25 have it.

2 We will now move into General Discussion,
3 beginning with Council Member Wong, followed by
4 Salaam.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER WONG: Thank you, Majority
6 Leader.

7 Today I introduce four bills that will
8 tackle a wide range of environmental issues. My first
9 bill will create a Cool Pavement Pilot Program for
10 parks and playgrounds in three heat-vulnerable
11 communities. By working alongside Council Member
12 Nurse's Cool Pavement Bill passed last year, the City
13 will begin to take serious steps to reduce heat
14 islands and improve pedestrian comfort.

15 My second bill will make it illegal to
16 install outdoor illumination greater than 3,000
17 lumens unless it is properly covered. In a city as
18 luminous as New York City, light pollution is
19 difficult to regulate. But by reducing the amount of
20 reckless light installations, we can bring to reduce
21 our nighttime footprint and improve neighborhood
22 quality of life.

23 The third bill will create a Wildlife
24 Management Advisory Board. This board will develop a
25 wildlife management plan and issue policy

2 recommendations to preserve and promote wildlife.
3 Biological diversity may not be the first thing any
4 of us thinks of when we think of New York City, but
5 this City encompasses thousands of acres of parks and
6 wildlife refuge, and protecting the animals that live
7 there must be our duty.

8 My last bill will ban the sale and
9 distribution of plastic confetti in New York City.
10 Plastic confetti is an environmentally reckless and
11 pointless alternative to paper confetti. Confetti
12 often gets stuck in our soil and water drainage
13 systems. And while paper can decompose in months,
14 plastics can take hundreds of years. And by banning
15 plastic confetti, we rid this city of a reckless part
16 of our environment footprint.

17 Please join me in supporting these bills
18 so we can reduce light pollution, cool our
19 communities, clean up our city, and ensure that
20 wildlife continues to have the opportunity to thrive.
21 Thank you.

22 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Thank you,
23 Council Member.

24 Council Member Salaam, followed by
25 Farías.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Thank you,
3 Majority Leader.

4 Today, I introduce Intro. 799. I want to
5 thank Majority Leader Abreu, Council Members Restler
6 and Ariola, and Council Member Maloney for co-
7 sponsoring this bill. Our City's infrastructure work
8 is necessary and benefits all New Yorkers. But
9 construction disrupts traffic for weeks or months.
10 Small businesses on those blocks face reduced foot
11 traffic and higher operational costs. This bill
12 acknowledges that reality. It directs the Department
13 of Small Business Services to provide loans for up to
14 50,000 dollars per year at 3 percent interest, grants
15 up to 15,000 dollars per year, and directs assistance
16 for signage, equipment, or permits. Businesses must
17 show they will be significantly affected and have a
18 plan to adapt. SBS has 30 days to approve
19 applications. Award disperse within 14 days. Our
20 small businesses are the backbones of our
21 neighborhoods. This bill supports them. I'll take a
22 page out of Council Member Morana's book. If a
23 Republican from Queens and Democrats from Brooklyn
24 and Manhattan can co-sponsor a bill to help small
25 businesses, then it sends a message to the whole City

2 Council to get things done, no matter how polarized
3 things may be at times. So I, ask all of my
4 Colleagues to join us in co-sponsoring and passing
5 this great legislation. Thank you.

6 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Thank you,
7 Council Member.

8 Council Member Farías, followed by
9 Epstein.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Thank you.

11 Today, I'm introducing two resolutions,
12 and I'm asking support from my Colleagues, Resolution
13 392 and Reso. 393. Police Officer and Detective
14 Didarul Islam was a proud member of my District,
15 community, and the 47th precinct in the NYPD. While
16 working at the Department-approved security job in
17 Manhattan, he was murdered, taken from us in the
18 largest shooting in New York City since the year
19 2000. He leaves behind a community that loved him
20 deeply, his neighbors, his friends, and his family,
21 three children, and his wife. He served with heart,
22 and his loss has left a profound void. Not only
23 within the NYPD, but also in Parkchester and within
24 the Bangladeshi community he proudly called home.
25 Detective Islam, like many others, first wanted to

2 become a police officer and worked as a school safety
3 agent before meeting the requirements to join the
4 NYPD. Demonstrating that this is a viable pathway
5 into a career in law enforcement. So, as we recognize
6 his service, we also have a responsibility to act.
7 That is why I urge this Body to support my resolution
8 calling for the passage of the Didarul Islam Police
9 Recruitment Act supporting S9274 and Assembly Bill
10 10381, which would provide pension credit to NYPD
11 officers who previously served in other municipal
12 public safety roles.

13 I'm also asking for your support on a
14 second resolution. I'm calling on Congress to pass
15 and the President to sign Virginia's law, named for
16 Virginia Giuffre, who had the courage to speak out
17 and hold powerful people accountable. This
18 legislation would eliminate the statute of
19 limitations for civil cases involving sexual abuse
20 and trafficking. And the truth is, it shouldn't even
21 be a question. Because survivors take time to
22 process, to come forward, and to even feel safe
23 enough to speak. And when we tell them that the time
24 has run out, what we're really saying to them is that
25 their experience no longer matters. That's not

2 justice. We have to ask ourselves, what kind of law
3 tells someone that they waited too long to be heard?
4 We know what side of the line this issue falls on,
5 and this is our moment to do something about it. So,
6 I'm asking you to stand with me and my co-prime
7 sponsors through this action. Thank you so much.
8 Please sign on to the bills.

9 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Thank you.
10 Council Member Epstein, followed by
11 Brewer.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: Thank you.
13 I just wanted to thank my Colleagues. I
14 know earlier this week, NYU strikes settled, and for
15 all the support you provided, those professors went
16 back into the classroom yesterday, students are
17 getting served, and they have a four-year contract. I
18 know the strikes are difficult, and I know the
19 support that this Body gave to the union in their
20 negotiations to make sure that the union and NYU came
21 to the table is really important. Also want to remind
22 everyone that it is opening day, the Mets are up for
23 6-4, and we're going to have a great season, let's go
24 Mets.

2 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Council
3 Member Brewer, followed by Justin Sanchez.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you very
5 much, and thank you to the Italian Caucus for the
6 good food. I appreciate it.

7 I am calling to your attention three
8 bills about animal cruelty. You might remember that a
9 year ago in May 25, there was a Chihuahua named Penny
10 who was assaulted and almost killed by two pit bulls,
11 and the result was not a lot of understanding what to
12 do. It turns out that dog biting another dog is not
13 illegal, and so we are now hoping to have legislation
14 that would do that. We know that as a result of that,
15 we tried through the District Attorney's office and
16 NYPD, ASPC, ACC. It was really hard to figure out
17 what the paperwork was that had to be filed, and so,
18 we was very disconnected and contributed to a lot of
19 confusion because it turns out that dogs are
20 property, and that means that the law is not in their
21 favor when they are biting each other. So, Intro. 785
22 would make every precinct have an animal cruelty
23 liaison. There's one in the 24 precinct, a woman
24 named Sarah Frankel who's fantastic. She's only one
25 in the whole city that is an expert on dangerous dog

2 issues. We'd like to have somebody like her in every
3 precinct.

4 Intro. 783, centralized dog bite
5 reporting system. This would add dog bite to the City
6 definition of, believe it or not, dog bite incidents,
7 which would be reflected in the relief for owners
8 because it would give training to the persons
9 involved.

10 Intro. 784, citywide dog licensing
11 outreach campaign. We feel strongly that so many dogs
12 are not licensed, and if they were, I think it's 18
13 dollars per license, it would raise millions of
14 dollars revenue, and you would be able to keep track
15 of the dogs.

16 Finally, there are two resolutions, both
17 of which point toward bills in Albany that do the
18 same thing. One, Linda Rosenthal, and one, Jennifer
19 Rackamar. Thank you very much.

20 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Council
21 Member Justin Sanchez followed by Schulman.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER JUSTIN SANCHEZ: Fellow
23 colleagues, I want to keep my remarks brief today
24 because it is simply too nice of a day outside to be
25 sitting here inside for an extended period of time.

2 And that is exactly the point of the resolution that
3 I, along with my Colleague, Council Member Virginia
4 Maloney, are introducing today. When the World Cup
5 comes outside this summer, New Yorkers are going to
6 be just that, outside. My Resolution urges the New
7 York State Assembly and the Senate to pass the Host
8 Act, which was introduced by Assemblymember Tony
9 Simone and James Skoufis. It will allow leaders at
10 the local level to create designated entertainment
11 zones during these games. In these zones, communities
12 will be able to come together to experience the joys
13 and thrills of the World Cup with their neighbors out
14 in the streets, the way the game was intended to be
15 watched and experienced. It sounds like all fun and
16 games, but it's simply good policy too. This
17 legislation will empower local businesses, bars, and
18 restaurants, and containing our celebrations to
19 specific areas, which will keep a lid on things and
20 ensure the quality of life for New Yorkers who
21 couldn't care less about soccer. So cheers, let's
22 raise a glass to outdoor entertainment zones, and
23 please support and pass this resolution, and I look
24 forward to seeing all of you outside.

2 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Council
3 Member Schulman, followed by Council Member Restler.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Thank you,
5 Majority Leader.

6 Today, I'm introducing one --

7 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Just keep it
8 down in the chambers so the Council Member can speak.
9 Thank you very much.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Today, I'm
11 introducing one piece of legislation and two
12 resolutions, which were inspired by my Chief-of-
13 Staff, Jonathan Boucher, and my Deputy Chief-of-
14 Staff, Seth Urbinder.

15 First, Intro. 800 addresses a frustrating
16 but common issue with the 3-1-1 system. After my
17 Chief-of-Staff filed a complaint about an abandoned
18 property in his neighborhood, the case was routed to
19 the wrong agency and ultimately closed with
20 instructions to start over. This bill would fix that
21 inefficiency by requiring the 3-1-1 customer service
22 center to redirect requests to the appropriate agency
23 rather than closing them out and placing the burden
24 back on the constituent.

2 Second, I'm introducing Reso. 398
3 alongside corresponding State legislation in response
4 to a devastating fire in my District where predatory
5 behavior was observed from property adjusters
6 targeting a family that had just lost everything.
7 This Resolution calls on the State Legislature to
8 pass and the Governor to sign legislation that would
9 protect property owners, tenants, and occupants from
10 exploitation during moments of crisis. I want to
11 point out that this bill was passed in the Assembly
12 yesterday.

13 Finally, I'm introducing Reso. 399,
14 urging Congress and the President to take action to
15 prohibit healthcare companies from owning both ends
16 of the healthcare supply chain transaction. This is a
17 necessary step toward increasing transparency,
18 reducing conflicts of interest, and protecting
19 patients.

20 Together, these measures aim to make
21 government more responsive, protect vulnerable
22 residents, and promote fairness in critical systems.
23 I urge my Colleagues to sign on to them. Thank you.

24 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Thank you,
25 Council Member.

2 Council Member Restler, followed by
3 Morano.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Thank you,
5 Majority Leader.

6 Six days ago, on a beautiful afternoon
7 just like this one, Timothy England, a 16-year-old
8 kid from Williamsburg, snuck behind a park's fence
9 and climbed up a Coast Guard tower and tragically
10 fell to his death. This has been an incredibly
11 painful week for the England family, Timothy's
12 parents and sister, for his friends at Manhattan
13 Village Academy and in the Williamsburg community,
14 and for all of us. Speaking to his family was
15 incredibly painful, and my heart just breaks that
16 this young man of such extraordinary promise, an
17 athlete, an intellect, has been taken from us far too
18 soon. We've been working with the Parks Department to
19 reinforce this fence. I've been in touch with the
20 Commander of the Coast Guard for the New York area to
21 redesign the base of this tower to ensure that no
22 more kids will be climbing up it, and we've been
23 working to provide mental health services and
24 therapeutic support to friends of Timothy and to
25 young people in our community. We will do more to

2 honor his memory, but I just wanted to ask for
3 everyone to take a moment of silence in honor of
4 Timothy. Thank you so much.

5 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Thank you,
6 Council Member.

7 Council Member Morano, followed by
8 Zhuang.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Thank you,
10 Majority Leader.

11 Before we wrap up, I want to take a
12 moment on a much lighter note, because today is a
13 special day. It is, as Council Member Epstein pointed
14 out, opening day for the New York Metropolitan. And
15 yes, as a long time and long-suffering Met fan, I say
16 that with equal parts hope and emotional caution.

17 Now, I'm introducing four great pieces of
18 legislation today, and it hardly seems fair to single
19 any one out. I hope all of you and the public will
20 take a close look at all of them. But right now, as
21 we sit here in this Chamber, the Met's home opener is
22 underway. Met's are leading 6-4, thankfully. First
23 pitch was at 1:15 this afternoon. And like many New
24 Yorkers, I think a lot of us wish that we were
25 watching it because baseball is more than just a

2 game. It's really a connection. It's something
3 families share, parents and kids, grandparents and
4 grandchildren. It's where young people learn
5 teamwork, discipline, focus, strategy, and yes,
6 sportsmanship. You learn how to win, but more
7 importantly, you learn how to lose and keep coming
8 back. And if you're a Met fan, you get a lot of
9 practice with that. Baseball has changed. We've got
10 the DH, pitch clocks, ghost runners, but even as the
11 game evolves, something deeper remains untouched. As
12 that great speech by James Earl Jones in Field of
13 Dreams reminds us, the one constant through all the
14 years has been baseball. It's timeless. It doesn't
15 belong to a clock. It belongs to memory, to
16 tradition, to those perfect afternoons where time
17 seems to stand still. And here in New York, this
18 isn't just America's pastime, it's our pastime. From
19 the Polo Grounds to Ebbets Field, from Shea to Citi
20 Field, and the Sun Ball Park in the Bronx as well,
21 baseball is woven into the fabric of this city. Like
22 Cardinal Dolan wrote a few years ago, there's
23 something almost sacred about it, the rituals, the
24 patience, the hope. Because no matter how bad things
25 look, there's always the next inning. And maybe

2 that's why it matters so much that we do everything
3 we can as a city (TIMER CHIME) --

4 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Thank you.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: -- to keep this
6 game alive for the next generation, because the bands
7 are getting older, but the magic doesn't have to.

8 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Council
9 Member Zhuang, followed by Brooks Powers.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Thank you.

11 I joined with my Colleague, Council
12 Member Morano, in supporting co-sponsor Intro. 793 to
13 report on and assisting the employers with New York
14 State Security Choice Saving Program. Currently, we
15 all have experience. We don't know where's our saving
16 plan for retirees, and what we're going to do when we
17 retire. And from the research, 68 percent of New York
18 older adults have no retirement savings, which is a
19 crisis for all of us, expecting a busy working person
20 to manually save on a regular basis, setting them up
21 for failure. The New York State Security Choice
22 Saving Program gives New Yorkers the option to save
23 their money, automatically withdraw from each
24 paycheck, and put it into a Roth IRA. It's extremely
25 simple for employers, require nothing from them

2 except offering the program to employees. They don't
3 have to do matching contribution, they don't have to
4 worry about changing tax withhold, because Roth IRAs
5 with after tax money, the employees only need to sign
6 up, and then saving will build up automatically.
7 Everyone who does not have employer-sponsored plan
8 could know about this opportunity and be encouraged
9 to sign up. I urge my Colleagues to support this
10 bill, and to help everyone to prepare for their
11 golden age. Thank you.

12 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Council
13 Member Brooks-Powers, followed by Hanif, and then
14 Marte.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Thank you, and good
16 afternoon.

17 Today I am introducing two pieces of
18 legislation. First, my bill, Intro. 787, on targeted
19 traffic enforcement, requires the NYPD to report on a
20 quarterly basis where and how it is deploying
21 enforcement resources, including enforcement
22 specifically targeting e-bike riders. This comes at
23 an important moment. The Administration has announced
24 it will end criminal enforcement for low-level e-bike
25 and cyclist violations. That is a significant policy

2 shift. But without data, we cannot measure its impact
3 or ensure it is being implemented fairly. This
4 legislation ensures we are tracking enforcement
5 patterns, understanding how decisions are made, and
6 maintaining accountability through publicly available
7 data.

8 Second, I am introducing Intro. 786 to
9 strengthen ballot access for individuals in the
10 Department of Correctional Custody. Each year,
11 ballots submitted by incarcerated individuals are
12 rejected due to correctable errors. Yet many voters
13 never receive the information or support needed to
14 fix those issues in time. This bill requires the
15 Department of Correction, in coordination with the
16 Board of Elections, to establish a clear process for
17 delivering cure notices, assisting voters in
18 completing corrections and returning those materials
19 within required deadlines. It also mandates annual
20 reporting to track outcomes. Voting is a fundamental
21 right, and we have an obligation to ensure that
22 eligible voters, regardless of incarceration status,
23 have a fair opportunity to participate. I urge my
24 Colleagues to sponsor these two bills. Thank you.

2 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Thank you,
3 Council Member.

4 Council Member Hanif, and last, we have
5 Marte. Two more to go.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Thank you, Majority
7 Leader.

8 Today, we convened an Islamophobia
9 roundtable here at City Hall, bringing together
10 advocates, community members, and leaders to speak
11 candidly about the realities Muslim New Yorkers are
12 facing. What we heard was clear. At a time of rising
13 bias and polarization, anti-Muslim rhetoric is
14 increasing, and it's translating into real harm.
15 Growing up in New York City in the years after 9/11,
16 I experienced firsthand what it meant to be Muslim in
17 a moment defined by fear, suspicion, and
18 discrimination. I was just 10 years old. That reality
19 continues to shape my work today. I never imagined
20 that I would become the first Muslim woman elected to
21 this Council, but that progress reflects generations
22 of organizing, and it also carries responsibility to
23 serve, protect, and ensure no one else grows up
24 feeling that same fear. Just after today's
25 roundtable, Council Member Avilés, Mahmoud Khalil,

2 and I were harassed outside 250 Broadway. An
3 individual shouted Islamophobic slurs, spit at us,
4 and chased our guest toward the City Hall, our train,
5 before he was able to get in a cab safely. It was
6 frightening and dehumanizing, and it underscores that
7 the rise in hate is real, but in that moment,
8 community members of different ages and faiths banded
9 together to help ensure our guest's safety. That is
10 who we are at our best. We keep each other safe. At a
11 time when we see efforts at the federal level to
12 divide communities, it is more important than ever
13 that we remain unified. As a Council Member, I
14 experienced this personally, and I remain committed
15 to building a broad multi-faith coalition so everyone
16 can move through New York City free from fear and
17 discrimination. I'm sharing this here with my
18 Colleagues to encourage you all to double down on
19 your commitment to combat Islamophobia in New York
20 City. Thank you.

21 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Thank you,
22 Council Member.

23 Before we move to our final speaker, our
24 final Council Member, I want to remind folks that the
25 BLAC is meeting right after this.

2 Council Member Marte.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: And on that note, I
4 just want to say thank you and congratulations to our
5 Executive Director of the Black Latino Asian Caucus,
6 Malik James, who is leaving his post at the end of
7 the week. He's been so dedicated to many of the
8 issues that we have fought for in this Council. We
9 all know how hard it is to get two Council Members in
10 the same room. Imagine trying to organize more than
11 30, and that's what he's been able to do for two
12 years, but more importantly, really pass the
13 legislation that we care about and the budget
14 initiatives across the finish line. So, Malik, thank
15 you, and good luck to your future endeavors.

16 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: I'll now
17 call on Speaker Julie Menin to close today's stated
18 meeting.

19 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ABREU: Thank you.

20 Before I close it, I just want to wish an
21 early happy birthday to Council Member Shanel Thomas-
22 Henry.

23 The Stated Meeting of March 26th, 2026,
24 is hereby adjourned. [GAVEL]

1 STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL

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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 May 7, 2026