

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

----- X

TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

STATED MEETING

Of the

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL

----- X

September 10, 2014

Start: 1:24 p.m.

Recess: 2:53 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: Melissa Mark-Viverito  
Speaker

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- Margaret S. Chin
- Rosie Mendez
- Corey D. Johnson
- Daniel R. Garodnick
- Ben Kallos
- Helen K. Rosenthal
- Mark Levine
- Inez E. Dickens
- Ydanis Rodriguez
- Andrew Cohen
- Andy L. King
- James Vacca
- Fernando Cabrera
- Ritchie J. Torres
- Vanessa L. Gibson
- Maria Del Carmen Arroyo
- Annabel Palma

Paul A. Vallone  
Peter A. Koo  
Julissa Ferreras  
Costa G. Constantinides  
Mark S. Weprin  
Rory I. Lancman  
Daniel Dromm  
James G. Van Bramer  
I. Daneek Miller  
Ruben Wills  
Karen Koslowitz  
Elizabeth S. Crowley  
Donovan J. Richards  
Eric A. Ulrich  
Stephen T. Levin  
Antonio Reynoso  
Laurie A. Cumbo  
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.  
Rafael Espnial, Jr.  
Carlos Menchacca  
Bradford S. Lander  
Mathieu Eugene  
Darlene Mealy  
Inez D. Barron  
Vincent J. Gentile  
David G. Greenfield  
Jumaane D. Williams  
Alan N. Maisel  
Mark Treyger  
Chaim M. Deutsch  
Deborah L. Rose  
Steven Matteo  
Vincent M. Ignizio

Letitia James  
Public Advocate

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



1           STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL           5

2                   SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: We have two  
3 ceremonials today, but one of them has multiple  
4 proclamations. We have Council Member Barron and  
5 Council Members Johnson that have ceremonials today.  
6 We're going to start off with Council Member Barron,  
7 who is giving proclamation to rookie firefighter  
8 Justin Tallett. His fire company and EMS first  
9 responders who saved four year old Trevele Bolton in  
10 a fire in the Pink Housing Developments Inner  
11 District. So, Council Member Barron, is this your  
12 first ceremonial? No. In the chambers, yes. So,  
13 hand the mic over to our colleague.

14                   COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you, Madam  
15 Speaker. Going to ask all of those who are being  
16 recognized for this event if they would come forward  
17 and if any Council Members want to join us here,  
18 please welcome to do so. Oh, we've got a special  
19 guest today as well.

20                   SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [off mic] Julian  
21 [sp?].

22                   COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Julian is happy  
23 about this occasion. Today with us we have Justin  
24 Tallett. I know all of you heard about the event  
25 where this probie [sic], is that what your called,

2    went in and rescued a young child who was in an  
3    apartment which was on fire and was unconscious and  
4    brought that child back to us so that we would have  
5    him here with us. It happened in the Pink Houses,  
6    which is located in my district. We thought that  
7    this would be a great opportunity to have a  
8    recognition by the City Council. He's already been  
9    recognized by the Borough President and by the Mayor,  
10   but there's not too much you can say about a person  
11   who's willing to risk their own life for someone that  
12   they don't even know. So we thought that the City  
13   Council under the leadership of our Speaker, we would  
14   take this time to acknowledge the great work that he  
15   has done. And since we know that he, as I've heard  
16   him speak in the past, has always acknowledged very  
17   humble, very, you know, mild, and well, you know, it  
18   wasn't just me, there were other people involved as  
19   well. So we have the same proclamation wording which  
20   is being presented to Justin Tallett to Ladder  
21   Company 107, to Engine Company 225. No, yes, 225,  
22   EMS 39, EMS 89 and Battalion 89. So, we'd ask if the  
23   clerk would read the proclamation now.

24                   COUNCIL CLERK: Council, City of New York  
25   Proclamation: The Council of the City of New York is

2 proud to celebrate and honor some of New York's  
3 bravest and best, Justin Tallett. The Council of the  
4 City of New York is proud to celebrate and honor some  
5 of New York's best. Justin Tallet, Ladder 107, EMS  
6 39, Battalion 39, Engine 225 and EMS 58 for heroic  
7 actions in completion of their duties as members of  
8 the Fire Department of New York, and whereas, on July  
9 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014 a call came in at 11:13 a.m. for a fire at  
10 1308 Loring Avenue in the Bronx. There was a fire on  
11 the fourth floor of an eight story apartment  
12 building. Firefighters from Ladder 107 and EMS  
13 received the call and were immediately dispatched to  
14 the scene, and whereas, as they responded, the  
15 members of Ladder 107 including Lieutenant  
16 Christopher Beddard [sp?], firefighters Timothy  
17 Saunenberg [sp?], Daniel Simon, Frank Blackstone and  
18 Michael Fath [sp?], and probationary firefighter  
19 Justin Tallett were told that there were children  
20 trapped in the fourth floor apartment. And whereas,  
21 upon arrival, firefighter Blackstone and firefighter  
22 Saunenberg, the company chauffer went to the rear of  
23 the residence with the fire apparatus. They saw there  
24 were children in the window with their heads between  
25 the child guards. Firefighter Saunenberg guided the

2    rig through the trees and crushed part of a fence to  
3    position it perfectly. He then moved firefighter  
4    Blackstone in the rig's bucket to get closer to the  
5    window. He said the children ages eight and five were  
6    crying but calm. They backed up a little bit when he  
7    cut the child gate with a saw, and he then lifted  
8    them from the window into the bucket. And whereas,  
9    with reports of another child simultaneously being  
10    trapped inside the apartment, Lieutenant Beddard,  
11    firefighter Fath and probationary firefighter Tallett  
12    went upstairs to the floor with the fire. The  
13    apartment door had been left open so the entire  
14    fourth floor was filled with smoke. The firefighters  
15    crawled down the hallway in the burning apartment.  
16    The fire was in the living room and they were able to  
17    keep the flames back with their water cans as  
18    firefighters from Engine 225 hooked up to the hydrant  
19    which was in a challenging location behind the  
20    building, and whereas, there were two rear bedrooms  
21    and firefighter Fath went to search one while  
22    firefighter Tallett, a former Army medic searched the  
23    other. Firefighter Tallett said he saw a television  
24    with cartoons on in the room and what appeared to be  
25    a crib or bunk beds. He felt below some blankets and



1           STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL    9  
2    found an unconscious three year old boy who was not  
3    breathing.  He carried him through the apartment and  
4    downstairs to awaiting firefighters.  And whereas,  
5    from there the boy was passed along to EMT's Kenneth  
6    Baratow [sp?] and Evelina Zilinska [sp?] from Station  
7    39.  They were able to resuscitate the boy on the way  
8    to the hospital.  Now, therefore, be it known that  
9    the Council of the City of New York applauds these  
10   brave members of the FDNY for their heroic and  
11   selfless acts, going above and beyond the call of  
12   duty by saving the lives of three children from a  
13   blazing inferno and is proud to celebrate and honor  
14   Justin Tallett, Ladder 107, EMS 39, Battalion 39,  
15   Engine 225 and EMS 58; Melissa Mark-Viverito, Speaker  
16   for the entire Council, Inez D. Barron, Council  
17   Member 42<sup>nd</sup> District Brooklyn, I. Daneek Miller,  
18   Council Member 27<sup>th</sup> District Queens, Elizabeth  
19   Crowley, Council Member 30<sup>th</sup> District Queens and many  
20   other Council Members.

21                           [applause]

22                   COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON:  So, you heard  
23    what it was that was done and the humility with which  
24    I have seen expressed in the discharge of that duty  
25    is just amazing, and we've also been joined here

2   today by First Deputy Commissioner Bob Turner and  
3   Brooklyn Borough Commander Chief Leonard [sic], and I  
4   believe Mr. Turner's going to speak.

5           BOB TURNER:   Yes, good afternoon.  Thank  
6   you, Councilwoman, Speaker, Majority Leader, Public  
7   Advocate on behalf of presenting this to our  
8   firefighters.  It doesn't get any more real when you  
9   go out the door and you hear that people are trapped,  
10  in particularly when children are trapped.  So we  
11  train our entire career for moments like that, and  
12  they were able to successfully complete a rescue as  
13  well with our paramedics to bring the chil--one of  
14  the children back, and help them survive.  So, on  
15  behalf of the Fire Department, thank you for  
16  recognizing what they do, and we look forward to  
17  serving your communities in the future and for your  
18  continued support.  Thank you.

19                   [applause]

20           SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO:  Thank you so much  
21  for accepting on behalf of these heroes and this  
22  ceremony in recognition of what you have accomplished  
23  is a reminder of what we're grateful for in terms of  
24  our firemen, fire women, our police officers each and  
25  every day.  So, thank you for your service.  Thank you

2 for your commitment and thank you for saving this  
3 young boy. So, thank you. Council Member?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: We're going to  
5 call on the Chair of the Fire Department [sic] to  
6 speak also.

7 UNIDENTIFIED: Thank you, Council Member  
8 Barron and Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito. It is an  
9 honor for me to join you and the colleagues here in  
10 honoring members of the Fire Department. Each and  
11 every day, our firefighters risk their lives to  
12 protect us New Yorkers, and so often, the work they  
13 do goes unrecognized, and so today, I'm happy to join  
14 you as we recognize these fine men. Thank you.

15 [applause]

16 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Now, how  
17 appropriate that we have a little visitor here with  
18 us today, Julian, Council Member Julissa Ferreras'  
19 son and the two proud grandmas. When we take into  
20 account what our next ceremonial's about. We'll have  
21 Council Member Corey Johnson recognizing the National  
22 Diaper Bank Network, which is in honor--hold on one  
23 second we're going to just wait a second while we  
24 finish up the next ceremonial. Thank you so much.  
25 So Council Member Johnson is recognizing the National

2 Diaper Bank Network, which is honor of Diaper Need  
3 Awareness Week, which highlights the fact that one in  
4 three American families struggle with not having  
5 enough diapers for their baby, which is obviously a  
6 hidden consequence of poverty in this city and we  
7 have unfortunately too much of that. So, Council  
8 Member Johnson?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam  
10 Speaker. Gary, may I have this? Thank you very  
11 much. Thank you. So today is about honoring the  
12 National Diaper Bank Network. New York City is  
13 hopefully going to join 80 other cities in  
14 recognizing this important work. For too many  
15 families, too many mothers, access to diapers is a  
16 huge obstacle and problem. Food stamps and WIC  
17 vouchers do not cover diapers, and many families have  
18 to choose between food--here you go, take this from  
19 me--food for their families or diapers for their  
20 babies. We know that that choice shouldn't have to be  
21 made and so having to replace a diaper is something  
22 that every family should be able to do as often as  
23 they need to do it. Diapers are expensive. They're  
24 very expensive, and my hope is that New York City  
25 will create a diaper bank, just like a food bank, so

2   that we can get diapers for every family and child in  
3   New York City that needs it. I know that Council  
4   Member Ferreras supports that goal, and so today is  
5   about honoring the incredible work that is done by  
6   this amazing group on a daily basis and making sure  
7   that New York City is a leader for children who  
8   aren't able to get those diapers replaced. There are  
9   major health consequences involved to that, higher  
10   urinary tract infections, and it is just, you know,  
11   not right that a baby shouldn't have a clean diaper.  
12   So today is this City Council and our Speaker saying  
13   it is time to provide greater access to everyone and  
14   ensure that everyone has a clean diaper. So I want  
15   to honor you and hand the mic over.

16                   COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Thank you very  
17   much, Councilman. We at the National Diaper Network  
18   are thrilled that New York City is taking this step  
19   in recognizing diaper need in the city and across the  
20   country, and we're very thrilled that New York is  
21   taking this leadership in looking at creating a  
22   diaper bank in the city because there is such need  
23   here. And we look forward to working with you in the  
24   future in this effort. So thank you again.

2 Councilman. Thank you Council President and we're  
3 very honored.

4           SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: We're going to  
5 ask the clerk to read the proc so we could get a  
6 little bit more information. Go ahead, yes.

7           COUNCIL CLERK: Council City of New York  
8 Proclamation, whereas we, the under signed [sic]  
9 members of the New York City Council are pleased and  
10 proud to join the National Diaper Bank Network in  
11 heightening awareness of the necessity for clean  
12 diapers, and whereas, in the United States there are  
13 5.9 million babies ages three or younger--

14          SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [interposing] Can  
15 we please have silence. Thank you very much.

16          COUNCIL CLERK: Many of whom come from  
17 low income families, and whereas one out of three  
18 families struggle to buy sufficient amounts of  
19 diapers. If a family has to choose between feeding  
20 their family and keeping their baby in a clean supply  
21 of diapers, they will often reuse diapers and go  
22 longer between diaper changes. And whereas, diapers  
23 can cost up to 100 dollars per month for a baby. An  
24 infant can require up to 12 diapers per day, while  
25 toddlers can use around eight diapers per day. Many

2 families cannot afford the additional expense of  
3 these costly diapers. Food stamps and WIC checks do  
4 not help to cover the cost of diapers, nor are there  
5 any government subsidies that help to pay for these  
6 items. And whereas without transportation, buying  
7 diapers at a convenience store rather than a large  
8 discount store can double or triple the monthly cost.  
9 Most childcare centers, even free and subsidized  
10 facilities require parents to provide a day's supply  
11 of disposable diapers. And whereas babies who remain  
12 in unclean diapers are exposed to potential health  
13 risks and are left in discomfort. People taking care  
14 of a child may also suffer discomfort such as  
15 embarrassment that renders them less likely to leave  
16 the home. And many parents cannot even go to work or  
17 school if they are unable to leave their babies at  
18 childcare. And whereas the consequence to what  
19 advocates call the "diaper gap" are enormous. A  
20 recent study out of Yale University published in the  
21 Journal of Pediatrics found that three in ten poor  
22 mothers can't afford an adequate number of diapers.  
23 The Yale study also found that diaper insecurity had  
24 a higher mental health impact on the whole family  
25 than food insecurities. Now, therefore, be it known

2   that we the undersign [sic] members of the New York  
3   City Council gratefully honor the National Diaper  
4   Bank Network for their outstanding service in raising  
5   awareness about the need for clean diapers; Melissa  
6   Mark-Viverito, Speaker for the entire Council, Corey  
7   Johnson, Council Member Third District Manhattan,  
8   Laurie Cumbo, Council Member 35<sup>th</sup> District Brooklyn,  
9   Darlene Mealy, Council Member 41<sup>st</sup> District Brooklyn,  
10   Elizabeth Crowley, Council Member 30<sup>th</sup> District  
11   Queens.

12                   SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Well, again, I  
13   want to thank Council Member Johnson for bringing  
14   this to our attention. I want to thank the National  
15   Diaper Bank Network for all your efforts, continued  
16   partnership. Let's see how far we can take this. I  
17   think it's really important.

18                   COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: And I also want  
19   to recognize the Chair of the Women's Committee,  
20   Council Member Laurie Cumbo, who has been a part of  
21   this as well as the Co-Chairs of the Women's Caucus  
22   in the Council, Council Members Elizabeth Crowley and  
23   Council Member Darlene Mealy. So thank you all very  
24   much. Thank you for being here.

25                   [applause]



1 STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL 17

2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you to all,  
3 and that concludes ceremonials for this session.

4 [pause]

5 UNIDENTIFIED: Ladies and gentleman,  
6 ladies and gentleman, could I please have your  
7 attention. All quiet on the floor, please. Quiet on  
8 the floor. Can I have your attention, please?

9 [gavel] Quiet on the floor please.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet on the  
11 floor.

12 UNIDENTIFIED: Quiet on the floor.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet on the  
14 floor.

15 UNIDENTIFIED: At this time, please place  
16 all electronic devices to vibrate, and will all non-  
17 council employees, non-council employees, please  
18 leave the main floor of the chambers. You could have  
19 a seat in the balcony. Thank you.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: May everyone  
21 please have their seats. Please take your seats.  
22 Members, please take your seats. Visitors, please  
23 take your seats. Individuals in the balcony, please  
24 take your seats. Let us call this Stated Council to  
25 order. In the back, may everyone have their seats.

2   Quiet. Quiet in the chambers, please. Let us rise  
3   for the Pledge of Allegiance.

4           ALL MEMBERS: I pledge allegiance to the  
5   flag of the United States of America, and to the  
6   Republic for which it stands, one nation, under God,  
7   indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

8           PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Roll call.

9           COUNCIL CLERK: Arroyo?

10          COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Here.

11          COUNCIL CLERK: Barron?

12          COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: [off mic]

13          COUNCIL CLERK: Cabrera?

14          COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

15          COUNCIL CLERK: Chin?

16          COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

17          COUNCIL CLERK: Cohen?

18          COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Here.

19          COUNCIL CLERK: Constantinides? Cornegy?

20          COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Present.

21          COUNCIL CLERK: Crowley?

22          COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.

23          COUNCIL CLERK: Cumbo?

24          COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Present.

25          COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Deutsch?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Yes.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Dickens?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Here.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Dromm?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Espinal?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Here.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Eugene? Ferreras?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Here.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Garodnick?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Gentile?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Gibson?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Here.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Greenfield?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Here.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Johnson?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Here.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Kallos?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Here.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: King?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Present.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Koo?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Koslowitz?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Lancman?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Here.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Lander? Levin?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Levine?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Here.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Maisel?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Present.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Matteo?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Here.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Mealy? Barron?

16 Menchacca?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACCA: Presente.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Mendez? Miller?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Here.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Palma?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Here.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Reynoso?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Here.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Richards?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Present.

2                   COUNCIL CLERK:   Rodriguez?   Rose?

3   Rosenthal?   Torres?

4                   COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES:   Here.

5                   COUNCIL CLERK:   Treyger?

6                   COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER:   Here.

7                   COUNCIL CLERK:   Ulrich?

8                   COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH:   Here.

9                   COUNCIL CLERK:   Vacca?   Vallone?

10                  COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE:   Here.

11                  PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES:   Quiet in the  
12   chambers, please.   May we have quiet in the chambers  
13   for the roll call?   Continue with the roll.

14                  COUNCIL CLERK:   Thank you.   Weprin?

15   Weprin?

16                  COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN:   Here.

17                  COUNCIL CLERK:   Williams?

18                  COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS:   Here.

19                  COUNCIL CLERK:   Wills?   Rosenthal?

20                  COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL:   Here.

21                  COUNCIL CLERK:   Ignizio?

22                  COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO:   Here.

23                  COUNCIL CLERK:   Van Bramer?

24                  COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER:   Here.

25                  COUNCIL CLERK:   Speaker Mark-Viverito?

2                   PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES:   Please rise for  
3 the invocation delivered by Reverend Doctor  
4 Jacqueline J. Lewis, PH.D., the Pastor Middle  
5 Collegiate Church at 122 Second Avenue in Manhattan.

6                   REVEREND LEWIS:   Good afternoon everyone.  
7 I'm so honored to be here to ask God's spirit to be  
8 here with us, and this, our nation's first white  
9 house in what I think is the greatest city on the  
10 globe, a representation of all of the good and  
11 fabulous diversity of God's creation.   Often you pray  
12 with your eyes closed, and I know we're here from  
13 many different traditions, but I wonder if you would  
14 honor each other by praying with your eyes open this  
15 day.   I believe that each of you, each of you is a  
16 representation of God's stunning goodness.   So, with  
17 that in mind, if you feel comfortable, perhaps just  
18 your hands here and your eyes open.   Please join me  
19 in a word of prayer.   God of many good gifts, we  
20 celebrate your artistry today, that you have shaped  
21 each and every one of us in your image, male and  
22 female, and black and white, Latino, and Asian and  
23 gay and straight and bi and trans, short and tall,  
24 big boned and slim, gifted with ideas and thoughts  
25 and dreams and hopes and visions, and the ability to

2   articulate them and stand up for them and stand in  
3   for them. God, we ask in this moment that your  
4   breath, which is your spirit, would be in each of our  
5   lungs, that we might speak truth to power. We ask  
6   that your breath, which is your spirit, would be wind  
7   beneath our wings to lift us up when we feel  
8   exhausted. We ask that your breath, which is your  
9   spirit, would propel our feet to places where justice  
10   needs to be done, that it would embolden our hands to  
11   hold onto one another and care for one another, that  
12   it would increase our ability to use social  
13   networking and all of our modern tools to tell the  
14   story of a great city full of great diversity that  
15   knows how to be just. May this city be a model for  
16   reconciliation and peace and love and justice all  
17   around the globe. May we who stand in the shadow of  
18   9/11 and at the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of freedom summer  
19   make freedom ring from the highest mountain to the  
20   lowest valley, from every cityscape to every small  
21   town to every hamlet. May we, by what we do here,  
22   make freedom ring. And to invoke an old song sung by  
23   civil rights leaders everywhere, we shall overcome.  
24   [singing] We shall overcome. Please sing with me. We  
25   shall overcome. We shall overcome some day. Oh, deep

2   in my heart, I do believe we shall overcome someday.  
3   Amen. May it be so.

4                   [applause]

5                   PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Motion to spread  
6   the invocation in full upon the record by Council  
7   Member Cumbo.

8                   COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you, Madam  
9   Public Advocate. I motion to spread the invocation in  
10  full upon the record today. I am very, very, very  
11  pleased today.

12                  PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Excuse me,  
13  Council Member, quiet in the chambers, please.

14                  COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you. The  
15  Reverend Doctor Jacqueline Lewis, who is the pastor  
16  of Middle Collegiate Church, is also the pastor of my  
17  mother and father, and it just so happens to be, and  
18  I will say that there are no coincidences, the first  
19  time that I've invited my parents to a Stated  
20  Meeting, that Reverend Doctor Lewis would be here to  
21  give the invocation. What I want all my colleagues  
22  to know here is that Doctor Lewis is an incredible,  
23  dynamic and extraordinary woman, and any visit to  
24  Middle Collegiate is an opportunity to see the  
25  diversity of New York City working together



2 progressively at a Sunday worship service. Every  
3 denomination is there, every race, nationality, all  
4 gender, all sexual orientations, old and young. It's  
5 a beautiful experience that really represents the  
6 very best of New York City, and I so very happy and  
7 proud that my mother has taken me there for many  
8 services and I have enjoyed that experience. And  
9 this particular church also has the wonderful  
10 opportunity to be allowed vocal passionate and  
11 impactful voice for the City of New York as well as  
12 all over the world. And so I'm very proud to stand  
13 with you here today, and you have stood here on these  
14 steps many times, whether it is the Bring Back our  
15 Girls Campaign or many others, you've been a true  
16 voice and champion progressively in a very spiritual  
17 and political and powerful way. So it's an honor to  
18 spread this invocation before my colleagues, and I  
19 encourage all of you to come for a visit very soon.  
20 Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

21                   PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
22 Adoption of minutes, Council Member Maisel?

23                   COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Motion to spread  
24 the--I'm sorry, motion the minutes of the Stated  
25 Meeting July 24<sup>th</sup> will be adopted as printed.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Messages and  
3 papers from the Mayor?

4 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Communication  
6 from city, county and borough offices?

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Preconsidered M 0115,  
8 Fiscal 2015 Capital Budget.

9 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Finance.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: M 0116, Manhattan Borough  
11 President Strategic Policy Statement.

12 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Received,  
13 Ordered, Printed and Filed.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: M 0117, Queens Borough  
15 President Strategic Policy Statement.

16 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Received,  
17 Ordered, Printed and Filed.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: M 0118 through M 0141 on  
19 page four Base Station Licenses.

20 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Transportation.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Petitions and  
22 Communications?

23 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Land Use Call-  
25 Ups?

1 STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL 27

2 COUNCIL CLERK: M 0142 through M 0146.

3 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on Call-  
4 Up vote. Roll call?

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: May we have quiet  
6 in the chambers for the--

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Arroyo?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: I request consent  
9 to vote aye on the General Order Calendar.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: I vote aye.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Barron?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Cabrerra?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Chin?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Cohen?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Cornegy?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Crowley?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Cumbo?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Aye.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Deutsch?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Aye.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Dickens?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Yes.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Dromm?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Espinal?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Aye.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Eugene?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Ferreras?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: I vote aye on

15 all Call-Ups, and with permission, I vote aye on all

16 Coupled General Orders and Resolutions.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Thank you.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Garodnick?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Gentile?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Gibson?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: I vote aye.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Greenfield?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Johnson?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Kallos?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: King?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Aye.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Koo?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Koslowitz?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye, and may I

13 have permission to vote on all General Coupled

14 Orders?

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes, ma'am.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I vote aye.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Lancman.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Aye.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Lander? Levin?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Levine?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Aye.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Maisel?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Aye.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Matteo?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Yes [sic].

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Mealy? Menchacca?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACCA: Aye.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Miller?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Palma?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Reynoso?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Aye.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Richards?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez? Rosenthal?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Aye.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Torres?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Aye.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Treyger?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Ulrich?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Yes.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Vacca?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Vallone?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Weprin?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Williams?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Ignizio?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: I vote aye, and  
7 like to vote on all orders on today's calendar?

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Thank you,  
10 kindly. I vote aye.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Van Bramer?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito?

15 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: I vote aye.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

17 Today's Land Use Call-Ups were adopted by a vote of  
18 44 in the affirmative and 0 in the negative.

19 Communication from Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito.

20 Quiet in the chambers, please.

21 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you, Madam  
22 Public Advocate. I know that our colleague Julissa  
23 Ferreras is leaving, but we definitely wanted to  
24 welcome her and her son Julian, who I understand is  
25 going to be one tomorrow, and the two proud grandmas

2   that are here. It's been great having him running  
3   around. So welcome to you all. And obviously  
4   Council Member Cumbo's family, welcome to you as  
5   well. And my understanding is that Council Member  
6   Garodnick's son Devin [sp?] is going to be--he's one  
7   today.

8           COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Today.

9           SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: So a lot of, a lot  
10   of good wishes going around. So I want to wish  
11   everyone a good afternoon and to start off the  
12   remarks today. I just want to congratulate and thank  
13   Tenisha [sp?] Edwards of our Finance Department.

14           [applause]

15           SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Where's Tenisha?  
16   I don't know if she's here. Oh, there she is. So,  
17   obviously, from our Finance Department for her  
18   excellent work this week delivering a victory for the  
19   Council and the people of New York in court,  
20   defending the Responsible Banking Act. A labor of  
21   love, she worked on that for many, many--for a long  
22   period of time. It's two years ago just about that  
23   we passed it in this council and it's been taken up  
24   in the courts. Tenisha successfully defended a law  
25   that increases transparency in the banking industry,



2   and obviously thanks to her this law will now be  
3   upheld.   Julissa Ferreras also wanted to make sure  
4   that she was part of the congratulations. We all are  
5   here in the Council.   The oral argument that Tenisha  
6   made in the case were cited throughout the courts  
7   order, and this is obviously a very big deal for the  
8   city, because not only did she argue the case, she  
9   helped draft the legislation and spent over a year  
10   negotiation of the banks and the New York Bankers  
11   Association.   So congratulations, Tenisha.

12                   [applause]

13                   SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO:   Alright.   That's  
14   great.   And speaking of victories for the Council,  
15   we're expecting another big one next week in our  
16   softball game versus the Administration.   I hope  
17   everybody joins us.   Mayor de Blasio has challenged  
18   the City Council to a match at MCU Park in Coney  
19   Island on Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.   We  
20   gladly accepted the challenge, and when I look around  
21   these chambers, I see a lot of talent.   So, all I can  
22   say is Mr. Mayor, be careful what you wish for.   So  
23   let's get--we're going to have some fun next week.  
24   Getting to the issue at hand, today, we're going to  
25   be passing a package of three bills focused on

2   increased transparency and reporting for New York  
3   City's Foster Care System. All of these bills work  
4   toward the same goal, which is to better understand  
5   and improve our foster care system in New York City.  
6   We spent a great deal of time focusing on how to best  
7   serve youth and prepare them for adulthood, but the  
8   foster care system is too often neglected. These  
9   bills will help us better examine the issues facing  
10   the system and allow all New Yorkers to have a better  
11   understanding of how the foster care system works, in  
12   particularly when we talk about the youth that are  
13   aging out. So, first off, I would like to ask the  
14   three colleagues that are introducing bills to say a  
15   few words about them. First, we have our Public  
16   Advocate Letitia James that is sponsoring  
17   Introduction 104A sponsored by here, and she can  
18   speak to the details of the bill.

19           PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you, Madam  
20   Speaker. Being a child in foster care should not be a  
21   guarantee of an adult life of homelessness,  
22   dependence on public assistance or prison, yet all  
23   too often it is. And each year, nearly 1,000 young  
24   people age out of foster care only to enter back into  
25   city services because they weren't give the tools to

2   make it.  The fact is we spend millions each year.  
3   There are significant laws and regulations at both  
4   state and city level to try to prepare young adults  
5   before they age out, but there is no data to say that  
6   these interventions are working.  We're failing and  
7   we need to know why, what works, what doesn't, which  
8   providers are good, which providers are producing  
9   consistently poor outcomes.  Intro 104 would ensure  
10   that we track when children and young adults leave  
11   the foster care system and what services and  
12   resources are being provided to them in the years  
13   before they leave.  It marks the first, but  
14   important--it marks a first but important step  
15   forward in providing the outcomes of these  
16   individuals.  I'd like to thank Speaker Melissa Mark-  
17   Viverito and Chair of the General Welfare Committee,  
18   Council Member Steve Levin for their support in  
19   helping to move this bill forward, and I urge all of  
20   you, all of my colleagues, to vote in support of this  
21   legislation.  Thank you.

22                   SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO:  Thank you.  Next,  
23   we have Introduction 137A which is sponsored by  
24   Council Member Danny Dromm.  Danny?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you, Madam  
3 Speaker. Youth in foster care face tremendous  
4 challenges, especially as they prepare for adulthood.  
5 As a city, we must do everything we can to assist  
6 these youth in their transition. One important  
7 component is ensuring that they have government  
8 issued personal identification to do all of the  
9 things the rest of us take for granted, including  
10 accessing buildings and schools, driving, crossing  
11 international borders and dealing with immigration  
12 authorities, interacting with law enforcement,  
13 opening bank accounts and so on. This bill will  
14 require the Administration for Children Services to  
15 report on its website the number of government issued  
16 personal identification documents obtained for youth  
17 as well as its efforts to assist in its goal. I'm  
18 particularly excited that the city's recently  
19 established municipal identification card program is  
20 included in this bill. The bill's definition of  
21 government issued ID also includes consular ID's,  
22 passports and green cards, meaning that we will be  
23 keeping track of how well ACs is serving our city's  
24 immigrant youth. I encourage all of my colleagues to

2   ensure our youth have what they need to succeed and  
3   to vote for Intro 137A. Thank you.

4           SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you,  
5   Council Member. And we also then have Introduction  
6   187A, which is sponsored by Council Member Laurie  
7   Cumbo, which it's her first bill soon to become law.  
8   So congratulations on that, Council Member.

9           [applause]

10          SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: If you could say  
11   a few words on your legislation.

12          COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you very  
13   much, Madam Speaker. I am proud to introduce my first  
14   bill, Intro 187, which will require the  
15   Administration for Children Services to submit an  
16   annual report to the City Council no later than  
17   October 1<sup>st</sup> of every year, regarding the number of  
18   youth in foster care who graduated from high school  
19   in the previous year. The education of our youth is  
20   essential to the development of tomorrow's workforce,  
21   entrepreneurs, but most importantly, leaders. I  
22   thank my colleagues who have signed on in support of  
23   this legislation. I also want to thank Council Member  
24   Levin who held a hearing in regards to this. I thank  
25   you very much Council Member. And I also want to

2    thank Andrea Vasquez [sp?], the staff attorney, and  
3    of course, Drew Gabriel, my Legislative Director in  
4    my office. But I'm also very excited today to share  
5    this moment with my parents, Wilkins and Beverly  
6    Cumbo who are here today.

7                   [applause]

8           COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: They recently just  
9    celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. And I  
10   just want to say that even, I'm almost 40 years old,  
11   so that gives you some mathematics on things, but I  
12   want to say that I'm very proud of this piece of  
13   legislation because even at the age of almost 40  
14   years old, it feels so incredible to have both my  
15   parents here to share this moment. And so many of the  
16   young children that are in our foster care agency,  
17   they need our support. They need our love and they  
18   need our guidance long after they have aged out of  
19   foster care, and this is really just a piece of  
20   legislation in a step in the right direction so that  
21   we can provide them what so many of us take for  
22   granted every single day. So I thank so many of  
23   colleagues for your support and I look forward to  
24   working with each and every one of you to make sure  
25   that our young people have all the love, care and

2 support that they need to be the individuals that we  
3 know that they have the potential to become. And  
4 thank you so much, Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito for  
5 your support and your advocacy and I look forward to  
6 working with all of my colleagues. Thank you.

7 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you. We're  
8 also going to be voting on Introduction 48A sponsored  
9 by Council Member Fernando Cabrera. This bill will  
10 require Department of Housing, Preservation and  
11 Development to create and post an online guide  
12 dealing with common issues tenant face and informing  
13 them of their rights. Owners of multiple dwellings  
14 would also be required to post a notice directing  
15 tenants to the guide. New York is a city that affords  
16 many legal rights to tenants, but unfortunately, many  
17 of those rights can be subverted if tenants aren't  
18 aware of their rights. This posting requirement will  
19 help educate tenants about their circumstances and  
20 how they can protect themselves from exploitation.  
21 So I'd like to ask Council Member Cabrera to say a  
22 few words.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Thank you, Madam  
24 Speaker, and thank you for the opportunity to have  
25 this bill to come to the floor, in light of the fact

2 that I've been waiting literally about two and a half  
3 years. So I appreciate your leadership, and also  
4 Council Member Williams, Jumaane Williams, Chair of  
5 Committee for allowing to have a hearing. If you go  
6 to a hospital today, you will find there's a patient  
7 bill of rights. If you even take a taxi right here  
8 in Manhattan or any other place, you will find a  
9 passenger bill of rights. It amazed me that for so  
10 many years we did not have a tenant bill of rights, a  
11 place where we spend a large amount of our lives with  
12 our families. And so I'm glad that today, we're able  
13 to help our constituents to know their rights and  
14 responsibilities. Working together with HPD, we were  
15 able to really come up with a full list of all the  
16 rights and responsibilities that are going to be  
17 listed online. It's going to be a poster, then it's  
18 going to be posted in the wall of every building. So  
19 I encourage every member to vote aye on this bill.  
20 Thank you so much.

21 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you,  
22 Council Member. Took a moment on the foster care  
23 bills. I want to thank Tyrsena [sp?] Frank and  
24 Andrea Vasquez for their work on those bills and for  
25 the bill that Council Member Cabrera just spoke to, I



2    want to thank Jennifer Wilcox, Matt Gwalb [sp?] and  
3    Laura Popa [sic] for their work on those items. We  
4    also have some Resolutions on the agenda today. We  
5    have Resolution Number 257A sponsored by Council  
6    Members Mealy, Dickens and King, calling on the state  
7    government to end the work experience program which  
8    unfairly has public assistance recipients working  
9    without receiving a paycheck and further, not reaping  
10   benefits such as social security, unemployment and  
11   other measures afforded to most workers, an important  
12   resolution. And then we have Resolution Number 354  
13   sponsored by Council Members Kallos, Cumbo, Van  
14   Bramer, Crowley and Koslowitz, calls up on the United  
15   States Senate to pass and the President to sign  
16   companion legislation to HR 863, which is sponsored  
17   by Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney. HR 863 would  
18   require a report on recommendations for a plan of  
19   action for the establishment and maintenance of a  
20   National Women's History Museum in Washington D.C., a  
21   museum dedicated to women's history is long overdue  
22   and the Council is proud to stand behind this effort.  
23   And we have Resolution Number 356 sponsored by  
24   Council Member Richards which recognizes the dangers  
25   of climate change to human health and the

2   environment. This resolution also endorses the  
3   People's Climate March, which will take place on  
4   September 21<sup>st</sup>, bringing leaders and advocates from  
5   every walk of life together to raise awareness about  
6   the dangers of climate change. I also want to, as a  
7   conclusion to my remarks today, acknowledge that  
8   tomorrow is the 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the September  
9   11<sup>th</sup>, terrorist attacks. While September 11<sup>th</sup> is a  
10   national day of remembrance and reflection, it hits  
11   especially close to home for New Yorkers who saw such  
12   horrific atrocities committed right in their own  
13   city. So I'd like to ask all of my colleagues  
14   present to join me in a moment of silence as we  
15   remember all that we lost, all those we--and all  
16   those we've lost on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001.

17                   PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Please rise.

18                   [moment of silence]

19                   SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you. And  
20   that concludes remarks from the Speaker.

21                   PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Discussion of  
22   General Orders. Seeing none. Report of Special  
23   Committees?

24

25

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee  
3 on Finance, Presconsidered M 0115 and Reso 411,  
4 Fiscal 2015 Capital Budget.

5 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on  
6 General Orders.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee  
8 on General Welfare, Intro 104A, foster care data  
9 reporting.

10 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and  
11 Coupled on General Orders.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Intro 137A, government  
13 issued identification for foster care youth.

14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and  
15 coupled on General Orders.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Intro 187A, high school  
17 graduation rates for reporting for foster care youth.

18 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and  
19 coupled on General Orders.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee  
21 on Housing and Buildings, Intro 48A, rights and  
22 responsibilities guide for tenants and owners.

23 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and  
24 coupled on General Orders.

1 STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL 44

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee  
3 of Land Use LU 111 and Reso 412, sidewalk café.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on  
5 General Orders.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: LU 112 and Reso 413, UDAP  
7 [sic] Manhattan.

8 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on  
9 General Orders.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee  
11 on Rule, Privileges and Elections, Preconsidered Reso  
12 407, various committee changes.

13 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on  
14 General Orders.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: M 110 and Reso 414  
16 approving the appointment of Anna Hayes Levin [sp?],  
17 New York City Planning Commission.

18 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on  
19 General Orders.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: General Order Calendar,  
21 Resolution appointing various persons, Commissioner  
22 of Deeds.

23 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on  
24 General Orders, and at this time I ask for a roll  
25

2       call on the items that have been coupled on the  
3       General Order calendar.

4                   COUNCIL CLERK:   Barron?

5                   COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON:   Aye.

6                   COUNCIL CLERK:   Cabrera?

7                   COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA:   Aye.

8                   COUNCIL CLERK:   Chin?

9                   COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN:   Aye on all.

10                  COUNCIL CLERK:   Cohen?

11                  COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN:   Aye.

12                  COUNCIL CLERK:   Corney?

13                  COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY:   Aye.

14                  COUNCIL CLERK:   Crowley?

15                  COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY:   Aye.

16                  COUNCIL CLERK:   Cumbo?

17                  COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO:   Aye.

18                  COUNCIL CLERK:   Deutsch?

19                  COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH:   Yes.

20                  COUNCIL CLERK:   Dickens?

21                  COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS:   Aye.

22                  COUNCIL CLERK:   Dromm?

23                  COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM:   Aye.

24                  COUNCIL CLERK:   Espinal?

25                  COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL:   Aye.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Eugene?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Garodnick?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Gentile?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Gibson?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Aye.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Greenfield?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: I want to  
12 congratulate all of my colleagues, especially Council  
13 Member Laurie Cumbo, my seat mate, who is making us  
14 all proud here today. Her parents should be  
15 especially proud. She's a rising star in this body.  
16 She's doing great stuff and that I vote aye.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Johnson?

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

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: I quickly wanted  
22 to--I quickly wanted to thank the Committee on Rules  
23 and Privileges for handling the appointment of Anna  
24 Hayes Levin to the City Planning Commission. She is  
25 a constituent in my district. She and I served on

2   Manhattan Community Board Four together.  She was an  
3   appointee of the previous Borough President Scott  
4   Stringer and is now being reappointed by Manhattan  
5   Borough President Gale Brewer.  She helped battle the  
6   West Side stadium on the far west side, oversaw the  
7   Community Board's rezoning of Hudson Yards, and has  
8   been considered one of the smartest, brightest, most  
9   community minded members of the City Planning  
10  Commission.  I ask my colleagues to support her  
11  appointment today and approve her so she can continue  
12  her service on the City Planning Commission.  With  
13  that, I vote aye on all.  Thank you.

14                   COUNCIL CLERK:  Kallos?

15                   COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS:  I vote aye with a  
16  special congratulations to Chair of the Women's Issue  
17  Committee, Laurie Cumbo.  Congratulations.

18                   COUNCIL CLERK:  King?

19                   COUNCIL MEMBER KING:  Aye on all.

20                   COUNCIL CLERK:  Koo?

21                   COUNCIL MEMBER KOO:  Aye on all.

22                   COUNCIL CLERK:  Lancman?

23                   COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN:  Aye on all.

24                   COUNCIL CLERK:  Lander?

1 STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL 48

2 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: I vote aye on all  
3 and request permission to vote on all Land Use Call-  
4 Ups? Thank you. I vote aye on those.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Levin?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: With  
7 congratulations to the Public Advocate and Council  
8 Member Dromm and Council Member Cumbo on these  
9 important pieces of legislation, on behalf of foster  
10 children in New York City, and the Council doing all  
11 that we can to support them, I proudly vote aye on  
12 all. Thank you.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Levine?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: I vote aye on  
15 all.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Maisel?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Aye on all.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Matteo?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Aye on all.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Menchacca?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACCA: Aye on all.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Miller?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye on all.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Palma?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye on all.



2 COUNCIL CLERK: Reynoso?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Aye on all.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Richards?

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

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: I just wanted  
9 to give a few shout outs or special thanks to people  
10 who worked to endorse the People's Climate March. I  
11 first off want to thank the Speaker for putting the  
12 people first in addressing climate change. Also, Amy  
13 Vargas in the office, Samara Swanston [sp?], Porchia  
14 Edwards in my office, Jarell Berny [sp?], Janelle  
15 Edwards, Maleek Sanders [sp?] and a few of the  
16 advocates who've been working really hard towards  
17 this march, the Environmental Justice Alliance, New  
18 York League of Conservation Voters, 1199 32 BJ, DC 37  
19 and the other 500 advocates who will be at--advocacy  
20 groups who will be marching in this march. So with  
21 that being said, thank you. I vote aye.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Rosenthal?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Aye on all.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Torres?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Aye on all.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Treyger?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Ulrich?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Yes.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Vacca?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye on all.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Vallone?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye on all.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Weprin?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Williams?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye on all.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Van Bramer?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito?

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: All items on  
21 today's General Order Calendar were adopted by a vote  
22 of 46 in the affirmative, 0 negative and 0  
23 abstentions. The revised Land Use Call-Ups were  
24 adopted by a vote of 46 in the affirmative and 0  
25 negatives. Thank you. Discussion of Resolutions.

2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: No.

3 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
4 Kallos?

5 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Introduction and  
6 reading of bills?

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Oh, introduction  
8 and reading of bills?

9 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: All bills are  
10 referred to committees as indicated on the agenda.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Discussion of  
12 Resolutions, Council Member Kallos on 354?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Thank you, Public  
14 Advocate. Today we will be voting on Resolution 354  
15 calling on our federal government to build a National  
16 Women's History Museum in Washington D.C., a museum  
17 that is long overdue. Congresswoman Maloney passed  
18 bipartisan legislation, HR 863 to move ahead with  
19 this project in the House of Representatives, and  
20 this resolution calls on the Senate to pass the  
21 companion bill and for the President to sign it into  
22 law. Sadly, this legislation is now being locked in  
23 the Senate, completely surprisingly by two male  
24 republican senators, Mike Lee of Utah and Tom Coburn  
25 of Oklahoma. As the Daily News editorial today

2 pointed out, these senators should have to explain  
3 why women's history is less important than the  
4 history of textiles, the postal service or spies, all  
5 of which have their own D.C. museums. Upon the  
6 passage of this resolution we must bring the fight to  
7 the Senators Coburn and Lee by calling on our  
8 colleagues in the Salt Lake City and Oklahoma  
9 legislators to pass similar resolutions in favor of  
10 national museum devoted to women's history. Our body  
11 speaks on behalf of 8.4 million women, men, girls and  
12 boys--

13           PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]  
14 Council Member, please bring your comments to a  
15 close.

16           COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: for women's  
17 history, that is itself would be historic. Thank  
18 you.

19           PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
20 Council Member Laurie Cumbo on 354.

21           COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Our nation would  
22 not exist without the vital contributions of women  
23 throughout the course of American History. The  
24 representation of women in the pages of our textbooks  
25 and in the grand halls of our cultural institutions

2   even here at City Hall do not reflect the many  
3   sacrifices of our heroines who have exemplified great  
4   courage and strong leadership. I commend US  
5   Representative Carolyn Maloney for introducing  
6   legislation to explore the creation of a National  
7   Women's History Museum that would pay tribute to the  
8   extraordinary contributions of women past and present  
9   whose stories have gone dramatically untold. As Chair  
10  of the Committee on Women's Issues in the New York  
11  City Council as well as a founder of an institution,  
12  as well as having worked at the Brooklyn Museum, as  
13  well as the Brooklyn Children's Museum and the  
14  Metropolitan Museum, I'm a proud co-sponsor of a  
15  resolution with Council Member Ben Kallos calling for  
16  the passage of HR 863 in the US Senate. And this  
17  will be an opportunity for us here in the City  
18  Council to make history, I think Council Member  
19  Garodnick would appreciate that, here in New York to  
20  make sure that we in New York City speak loud and  
21  strong about the importance of women's contributions  
22  historically and long into the future. Thank you.

23                   PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

24   Council Member Richards on 356.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: On Sunday,  
3 September 21<sup>st</sup> we're seen [sic] in the UN's Climate  
4 Summit, the largest climate march in history will  
5 take place right here in New York City, the People's  
6 Climate March. Thousands of people from around the  
7 nation will descend on New York City streets to let  
8 our world leaders know that we can no longer turn a  
9 blind eye to this crisis. We want a carbon-free  
10 world in a city that is edging towards 100 percent  
11 renewable use. This city and nation must lead in  
12 solar energy, wind and geothermal. We need a city  
13 where reliable transportation is also accessible for  
14 the most vulnerable New Yorkers, and this is why we  
15 must expand bus rapid transit and ferry service to  
16 communities with poor transportation options, such as  
17 the Rockaways. We must also start the phase off of  
18 number four and six oils, because communities like  
19 the South Bronx, East Harlem, Staten Island and  
20 Southeast Queens deserve a fighting chance to have  
21 good air quality, because all New Yorkers regardless  
22 of their economic status, race, color or creed should  
23 have the right to breathe clean air. With that being  
24 said, this is what the People's March is indicative  
25 of, and I urge my colleagues to support it, and I

2 just want to thank once again, all the advocates who  
3 worked so hard and who will be leading this march.  
4 Thank you all.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
6 Council Member Rosenthal on 356?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Thank you.  
8 Only on 356? Can I talk about two things?

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Any other  
10 resolution within a minute.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Okay. Well,  
12 I'm going to sort of cheat. I'm going to start by  
13 congratulating Tenisha Edwards for her fine work, is  
14 that alright, to defend Local Law 38. And I bring it  
15 up not just to jump on the bandwagon to congratulate  
16 her, but to urge that--

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]  
18 Council Member, you're out of order. This is  
19 regarding Resolution 356.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: I would like  
21 to congratulate.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: On General Orders  
23 you can thank Tenisha.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Thank you.  
25 I'd like to congratulate Council Member Richards for

2 putting through and the leadership of Melissa Mark-  
3 Viverito in getting us to the point where we're  
4 passing this incredibly important resolution. I look  
5 forward to working with them both on taking the next  
6 step to divest, for New York City to divest from  
7 fossil fuels. Thank you.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Sorry, Tenisha.  
9 Council Member Lander, 356?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you, Madam  
11 Public Advocate. I also just want to thank and  
12 support Council Member Richards on the Climate March  
13 Resolution and give credit to this body and to the  
14 Speaker. This is a critical moment. Our kids and  
15 grandkids are going to look back on what we did at  
16 this time, and if we don't succeed, we're going to  
17 have to look them in the eye and tell them that we  
18 failed. The evidence is clear, the melting of those  
19 ice caps, the rising of the CO2 in the atmosphere.  
20 We've seen it ourselves firsthand when Sandy hit, but  
21 it is hard to take the long-term seriously. This is  
22 an essential moment to do it. I urge people not only  
23 to vote yes on this resolution, but to sign up to and  
24 to come to the climate march to sign onto the various  
25 pieces of legislation this council is considering, to



2 work with advocates to push not just this city  
3 administration but the federal administration, the UN  
4 as well. This is an essential moment and it's one  
5 where we need to step up or where we risk very severe  
6 and long-term failure. Thank you Council Member  
7 Richards.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
9 Council Member Johnson on 356.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Yes, I just  
11 wanted to congratulate my colleague, Council Member  
12 Richards, for sitting through an informative and long  
13 hearing on this past week. Hundreds of people coming  
14 to the People's House to testify in favor of this. As  
15 Council Member Lander and my other colleagues have  
16 said, this is incredibly important, and New York City  
17 is looked at around the world. So for us to be able  
18 to host an incredibly important international march  
19 that talks about climate change is something that we  
20 should be proud of. I will be out there marching with  
21 the council, with my colleagues and saying it's time  
22 for us to be a leader, and I thank the Speaker for  
23 putting this as part of our legislative agenda and  
24 priorities moving forward. We must do more and New  
25 York City must be a leader throughout the entire

2 country on this. So thank you to Council Member  
3 Richards for getting this done expeditiously before  
4 the march this month.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
6 Council Member Williams on 356.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you. I  
8 too just wanted to add my name and thank Council  
9 Member Donovan for his leadership and the Speaker.  
10 Although sometimes what's happened with the climate  
11 is not as sexy as some other issues. It is extremely  
12 important and I want to give a shout out to Nancy  
13 Romer [sic] and the People's Climate March who pushed  
14 me and had me--had them march with me during Labor  
15 Day. I want to thank them all. That's it.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: We love Nancy  
17 Romer. Council Member Menchacca on 356.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACCA: Yes. On 356,  
19 I just want to also echo the incredible work that our  
20 local communities are doing to really bring what we  
21 have already so many Council Members have chimed in,  
22 particularly Uprose [sic] in Sunset Park has been  
23 galvanizing the troops in our local communities and  
24 so the Reso today I dedicate to them and all the work  
25 that our local districts are going to be bringing into

2   this climate march. Thank you so much, Council  
3   Member Donovan, for pushing this.

4           PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Any other  
5   speakers? Council Member Levin on 356.

6           COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you, Madam  
7   Public Advocate. I also wanted to thank and  
8   acknowledge our Chair, Chair Donovan Richards for  
9   putting forward this resolution, for the Speaker for  
10   ensuring that this resolution is passed and putting  
11   the New York City Council squarely on the record in  
12   calling attention to the grave challenge that we face  
13   throughout our world, confronting climate change and  
14   for encouraging people to speak up about it, change  
15   our behaviors and look towards our future  
16   generations. And so I want to thank the Chair. I  
17   want to thank the Speaker, and I want to thank all of  
18   the advocates for putting this issue front and center  
19   and making sure that we are on the right side of  
20   history here. Thank you very much, Madam Public  
21   Advocate.

22           PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Any  
23   other speakers on any other resolutions. And now to  
24   a vote. We're voting on Resolution 257A, and amended  
25   resolution calling upon the New York State

2 Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign,  
3 legislation that would amend the social services law  
4 in relation to prohibiting work experience programs  
5 in New York City. All of those in favor say aye?

6 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: All of those  
8 opposed? Any abstentions? The ayes have it. Next  
9 resolution that we're voting on is Resolution 354, a  
10 resolution calling upon the United State Senate to  
11 pass the President to sign, companion legislation to  
12 HR 863, which would establish a commission to study  
13 the creation of a National Women's History Museum.  
14 All of those in favor say aye.

15 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: All of those  
17 opposed? Any abstentions? The ayes have it. And  
18 lastly, Resolution 356, a resolution recognizing the  
19 dangers of climate change to human health and the  
20 environment, and endorsing the People's Climate March  
21 New York City scheduled to proceed the United Nations  
22 Summit on Climate Change that will take place on  
23 September 23<sup>rd</sup> in New York City, which is aimed at  
24 catalyzing action by governments, business, finance,  
25 industry and civil society in areas for new

2 commitments and substantial scalable and replicable  
3 contributions to the summit that will help the world  
4 shift toward a low carbon economy. All those in  
5 favor say aye.

6 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: All of those  
8 opposed? Any abstentions? The ayes have it. And  
9 now general discussion beginning with Council Member  
10 General, Council Member Miller. No applause from the  
11 audience. Thank you.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you, Madam  
13 Public Advocate. As a lifelong civil servant in this  
14 here chair of Civil Service and Labor, I think it is  
15 important that the council recognizes the  
16 extraordinary workers, the records of the workers  
17 that served the City of New York so well. So it is  
18 timely that at this moment we note the retirement of  
19 after nearly 41 years with the New York City Fire  
20 Department, Captain Alexander Al Haigan [sp?]. He led  
21 his commands with distinction and bravery. He served  
22 as a highly respected progressive President of United  
23 Fire Offices, Association Local 854, fighting against  
24 firehouse closures as well as responding to spending  
25 countless hours during 9/11, supporting diversity

2 within the Fire Department. I had the privilege of  
3 working with him as well as being his friend. I will  
4 always remember the examples that he gave us and the  
5 effective compassion union leadership. Like many of  
6 his colleagues that was recognized before, he was a  
7 great fireman, earlier during the earlier program.  
8 He was a great firefighter and fire officer, union  
9 leader, and I salute him and wish him well in his  
10 well-deserved retirement.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
12 Council Member Williams?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you. I  
14 have a few bills I'd like to call attention to my  
15 colleagues, Intro 472. It basically cleans up the  
16 2013 Buildings Code and working with the request of  
17 the Mayor. Intro 473 with Council Members Vacca,  
18 Levine, Espinal, Lancman, Vallone, Richards, Koo and  
19 Crowely, reinstates the requirement that licensed  
20 special riggers [sic] supervised scaffolding work.  
21 It was removed from the recent building code. Intro  
22 474 also in conjunction with the Mayor delays the  
23 effect of the building code until December 2014. It  
24 was originally supposed to take an effect October  
25 1<sup>st</sup>. Intro 475 establishes the existing building

2 codes revision committee to propose a comprehensive  
3 existing building code based on the international  
4 existing building code. And Intro 476 will be able  
5 to increase the training requirement for special  
6 riggers licensing from one year to three years. I  
7 know my colleague, Council Member Rosenthal is going  
8 to be speak on Resolution 410. With my remaining  
9 minute, I did want to discuss something. I want to  
10 make sure that it's just--when I was looking at what  
11 happened with Ray Rice and the NFL, I felt very  
12 compelled to speak on the issue because most men do  
13 not. Obviously his behavior was disgusting. It  
14 needs to be condemned. Domestic violence in  
15 particular is a problem that we all should speak  
16 about. Also the broader issue of hyper masculinity  
17 and aggression that is rewarded in sports and in  
18 places like hip-hop, both the things I really, really  
19 love. This needs to be discussed. I'm not sure fully  
20 what the answer is, but not discussing it and  
21 allowing these things to continue, we see these cases  
22 over and over, is a problem. So I just wanted to  
23 bring that up in this body and hope people are  
24 listening and we really need to find a way to address  
25 this as it effects our broader culture. Thank you.

2                   PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES:   Council Member  
3   Treyger.   Council Member Treyger?

4                   COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER:   Yes, thank you.  
5   Here to speak on Intro 470.   Everyone in this room is  
6   aware of the major problems with falling victim to  
7   identity theft, and we've all seen the growing number  
8   of reports of bank and ATM machines, MTA vending  
9   machines and others being targeted by criminals.  
10   We've learned of a new target, the city's muni-  
11   meters.   Many drivers do not carry enough change to  
12   pay the meter, meaning that they're forced to use  
13   their credit or debit card and trust the machine is  
14   secure.   I'm a big believer in transparency and  
15   informing the public.   My proposed legislation is  
16   simple.   Anytime there is a confirmed breach of a  
17   muni-meter, the DOT must inform all affected persons  
18   in writing within 10 days who have used that machine.  
19   This is similar to federal legislation that requires  
20   banks to inform card holders whose information has  
21   been breached.   In addition, the location and number  
22   of the machine will be posted on line.   Having your  
23   ID or personal bank information stolen could least to  
24   costly unauthorized charges, headaches and serious  
25   financial issues for victims.   And it's clear this



1           STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL   65  
2   problem is on the rise in New York City. I have long  
3   been concerned with the lack of urgency on behalf of  
4   agencies like the DOT and MTA and the failure to take  
5   proactive steps to protect the public and inform the  
6   customers when an incident does occur. The public  
7   has a right to know when a machine has been  
8   compromised and the DOT has an obligation to better  
9   inform residents that their information might have  
10   been stolen. Please support this common sense and  
11   important legislation on behalf of thousands of  
12   residents who use these meters each day. Thank you.

13                   PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
14   Levine?

15                   COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Thank you Madam  
16   Public Advocate. I'd like to call my colleagues  
17   attention to two items that I'm proud to be  
18   introducing today. The first concerns the  
19   cornerstone of our affordable housing in New York  
20   City, which is the 700 buildings which are a part of  
21   the Tenant Interim Leadership Program, known as TIL.  
22   These are prevalent in northern Manhattan, the Bronx  
23   and Brooklyn. Colleagues, you might not know, maybe  
24   hear from your constituents that there is no  
25   guarantee of succession rights in buildings that are

2   in TIL status. If a parent should pass away, the  
3   child, even if they have lived for an extended period  
4   in that home has no succession rights. This is not  
5   like rent stabilization. Perhaps it was conceived  
6   this way because TIL was thought to be a quick  
7   temporary program. In practice, buildings can be  
8   stuck in TIL status for two decades. So, I'm  
9   introducing Intro 468 that would grant succession  
10   rights to residents of TIL buildings. Secondly, I  
11   want to call your attention to another important  
12   tenant issue. This is Resolution 408. As I'm sure  
13   many of you are aware, tenants have the right to look  
14   back at the rent history of the unit and they can  
15   contest the rate they're being charged by their  
16   landlord if they can show that they're being  
17   overcharged. There is a statute of limitations of  
18   two years for those who are rent control and four  
19   years for those who are rent stabilized. Which means  
20   that many, many thousands of tenants who otherwise  
21   would qualify for justified rent roll-backs are not  
22   able to take advantage of this because they don't  
23   figure out that they've been cheated before their  
24   period expires. So we're calling for the elimination  
25   of statute of limitations for both rent control and

2 rent stabilized units, which is in the state's hands  
3 which is why it's in resolution form here in the  
4 council. Thank you.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
6 Cornegy?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Thank you, Madam  
8 Public Advocate. The first work I did in the City  
9 Council many of you know was not as a member but as  
10 part of the central staff. From that experience I  
11 thought I had a good understanding of how important  
12 staff are to the function of this body, but now that  
13 I'm a member, my eyes are truly opened. My goal is  
14 to serve the communities of Bedford Stuyvesant and  
15 Crown Heights with excellence, and I absolutely could  
16 not accomplish that without the dedicated work of my  
17 staff. So today on her birthday, I'd like to  
18 acknowledge my Director of Constituent Services, Ms.  
19 Tahira Moore [sp?]. Tahira, you're a professional  
20 and a fighter. You're passionate about the needs of  
21 the 36<sup>th</sup> district and I hear from constituents how  
22 much they appreciate you wherever I go. I'm truly  
23 grateful to have you on my team and I wish you the  
24 happiest of happy birthdays.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Happy Birthday,  
3 Tahira. Council Member King?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Thank you, Madam  
5 Public Advocate. I rise today to ask my colleagues to  
6 join me as I introduce bill 467, which will put  
7 regulations on costume characters in the city of New  
8 York. I'm asking you to join me as we all go into the  
9 Time Square area and other parts of New York that we  
10 want to welcome and have a beautiful experience with  
11 these characters that we grew up, who educate us, and  
12 brought us some good fun-loving experiences as we  
13 were children, but over the past years we've seen  
14 some of those bad characters infringe on the trust of  
15 the residents, the tourists and all of New Yorkers.  
16 This bill is designed basically just for safety. We  
17 just want to identify who those individuals who come  
18 out and share a smile and take a picture with our  
19 five year olds, our seven year olds, and making that  
20 innocent experience stay an innocent experience, but  
21 unfortunately, of those who cannot get it right, we  
22 just want to know who you are and you will be held  
23 accountable. That's what this legislation does. It  
24 allows us to identify those who come out there. It's  
25 not about immigration. The bill does not say--the

2 bill will not allow you to ask about immigration.  
3 The bill does not threaten the workers who come out  
4 there. It allows to set rules of engagement with  
5 NYPD. The NYPD will have rules of how they can  
6 interact. So we want to protect those workers that  
7 are out there also, these artists who are out there  
8 also. But we want to make sure that everyone is on  
9 the same page when we come out there, when you want  
10 to have that friendly experience when you come out  
11 and you see Mickey or you see Elmo. We want to make  
12 sure that Times Square is a place of artistry and fun  
13 and expression. We are not denying anybody's first  
14 amendment rights. We're saying you can go out there,  
15 but we just want to basically know who you are.  
16 That's all this bill is doing, just knowing who you  
17 are and establishing rules of engagement with each  
18 and every one. So I'm asking you all please don't  
19 get caught up by the spin doctors. There's always  
20 the pros and the cons. Read the legislation. If you  
21 have any questions, please have a conversation with  
22 me. I'm grateful and thankful to the Administration  
23 who I've sat down with to help me construct this  
24 along with the Times Square Alliance and a whole host

2 of--and even the characters themselves who I've sat  
3 down with.

4           PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES:   Please conclude  
5 your remarks.

6           COUNCIL MEMBER KING:   And we all want to  
7 be on the same page to make sure this is a wonderful  
8 experience. I want to thank you Ben [sic], and thank  
9 you Madam Speaker--

10          PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]  
11 Thank you.

12          COUNCIL MEMBER KING:   and Public  
13 Advocate. Thank you.

14          PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES:   Council Member  
15 Espinal?

16          COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL:   Thank you, Madam  
17 Public Advocate. I stand here backing up Councilman  
18 King on his bill. As the Chair of the Consumer  
19 Affairs Committee, I've also become aware of the  
20 actions happening in Times Square. I think we've  
21 seen Batman turning into Badman, and committing these  
22 crimes and harassing our tourists and the residents  
23 of our city. So I also want to urge my colleagues to  
24 stand behind Andy King and sign onto his bill. Thank  
25 you.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
3 Council Member Johnson.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you,  
5 Madam Public Advocate. I was remiss in not speaking  
6 on a Land Use item which we adopted today in my  
7 district, very important. I want to thank Chair  
8 Greenfield and Chair Dickens for seeing this item  
9 through their respective committees, and I also want  
10 to thank Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito and some  
11 Council Members that have been supportive, Council  
12 Member Danny Dromm, Council Member Elizabeth Crowley,  
13 and Council Member Jimmy Van Bramer. The Irish Art  
14 Center which we approved this afternoon is an arts  
15 and cultural institution dedicated to promoting Irish  
16 culture and traditions through music, theater, dance,  
17 film, comedy, irish language education and the  
18 literary and visual arts. It was founded in 1972, and  
19 it's been in its current facility in Hell's Kitchen  
20 since 1974. This application will facilitate  
21 development as approximately 30,000 square feet of  
22 cultural use, emerging creative disciplines with  
23 multipurpose performing arts theater, dance studios,  
24 classrooms, administrative space, a street level  
25 community space as well as an extension of a

2 community garden, the Juan Alonzo [sic] Community  
3 Garden, which completes the community's plan for this  
4 open space. It was first proposed in 1999. Since  
5 its creation, the IAC has been a source of great  
6 cultural wealth, from the Irish Isles, but in recent  
7 years have been severely hampered by the limited  
8 space, aging infrastructure and operational  
9 inefficiencies provided by its current  
10 accommodations. This project will allow the  
11 organization to thrive and continue to contribute the  
12 artistic diversity in New York City in a manner that  
13 benefits its distinct mission. The modern dynamic  
14 cultural facility afforded by the disposition of this  
15 city project will create cross cultural connections  
16 that enrich our city as well advance the objectives  
17 of a clean [sic] urban renewal area and enhance the  
18 local growing neighborhood which includes the cluster  
19 of creative organizations. I want to thank the  
20 government of Ireland for their support. I want to  
21 thank the Speaker for her support of the center as  
22 well as my colleagues, Council Member Greenfield,  
23 Dickens, Van Bramer, Dromm and Crowley. Thank you  
24 Madam Public Advocate.



2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
3 Council Member King for a three second announcement.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Yes. Just  
5 reminding the BLAC members there will be a 30 minute,  
6 no longer, meeting today right after Stated. So  
7 right in the conference room hopefully we'll see  
8 everybody in there right after Stated. Thank you.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
10 Rosenthal?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: First off, I'd  
12 like to thank Tenisha Edwards.

13 [applause]

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: For her fine  
15 work to defend the Responsible Baking Act, LL38, and  
16 I urge that we move quickly forward to establish the  
17 community investment advisory board which I think  
18 will be constituted by November. The reason this is  
19 so important to me and to this body that I'm just  
20 thrilled about is it'll give us an opportunity to  
21 think harder on a variety of issues where  
22 transparency on the part of our city's banks would be  
23 incredibly important. So, I look forward to working  
24 with this body on what issues in particular we'll be  
25 brining to light. Second of all, I want to thank

2 Council Member Williams for being the leading sponsor  
3 on Resolution 410 and urge my colleagues to sign on.  
4 It's a resolution that would bring the disabled  
5 homeowners in line with the SCRIE [sic] and DRE [sic]  
6 beneficiaries. So it would raise the cap on how they  
7 could be helped. So I encourage everyone to support  
8 this important resolution. Thank you.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
10 Chin?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you, Madam  
12 Public Advocate. I like to call my colleague's  
13 attention to Reso 406, which calls for the state to  
14 expand the Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption,  
15 the SCRIE program to include over throwing [sic]  
16 units that are subject to an agreement that base rent  
17 increase on New York City rent guideline board  
18 orders. Now, this year my colleague repassed a SCRIE  
19 bill to increase the income cap to 50,000 dollars.  
20 Many seniors were very excited that now they qualify  
21 for the program. Unfortunately there are so many  
22 seniors who live in housing that are not rent  
23 regulated housing. Such is some of the development  
24 in my district. They have these so-called private  
25 landlord agreement that are not technically rent

2 regulated, but they do follow the rent guideline  
3 board increase. So we're asking the State to expand  
4 the SCRIE program so that we could include senior  
5 that live in these type of buildings, just like  
6 seniors who live in Mitchell Lama that exited the  
7 Mitchell Lama program. So I ask my colleague to join  
8 me in supporting the call to the Governor and the  
9 state to expand the SCRIE program so that more senior  
10 can qualify and stay in affordable housing and be  
11 able to age in place. Thank you.

12                   PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
13 Lander?

14                   COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you very  
15 much. First, I invite my colleagues to join us this  
16 Friday morning at 10:00 a.m. for a hearing in the  
17 Civil Rights Committee on Intro 261 to prohibit  
18 employment discrimination based on consumer credit  
19 history. Forty of you have signed on as co-sponsors.  
20 This is practice that rampantly discriminates against  
21 a wide range of people and prevents exactly the  
22 people who need jobs from getting jobs. And I hope  
23 you'll join us for that hearing at 10:00 a.m. Second,  
24 I'd like to issue my colleagues a challenge. It is  
25 not quite or as cold as the ice bucket challenge, but

2 from September 15<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> in advance of climate  
3 week, Council Member Chin and I would like to issue  
4 you all the bring your own bag challenge for bring  
5 your own bag week. As you know, we use five billion  
6 single use plastic bags. There's only eight million  
7 of us. That means we use three to 500 per person per  
8 year, five to 10 a week, one or two a day, and we all  
9 know that we ought to be able to reduce that, get  
10 them out of our trees, our storm drains, or waste  
11 drains. So, September 15<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> please join  
12 Margaret and me in bringing a reusable bag and for  
13 that week at least making sure Margaret can help you  
14 get them. Our coalition will be working to distribute  
15 quality canvas reusable bags. That's #byobagweek.  
16 You can get tips every morning, whatever you think of  
17 the bill and we'll be debating that later. We can all  
18 agree we need to dramatically reduce plastic bag  
19 waste, and I hope you'll join us. Thank you.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Lovely  
21 matching bag, Council Member Chin. Council Member  
22 Cumbo?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you, Madam  
24 Chair. September is Ovarian Cancer Awareness month.  
25 Sixty percent of women diagnosed with ovarian cancer

2    are already in stage three.    The American Cancer  
3    Society estimates that about 21,000 women will be  
4    diagnosed this year, and about 14,000 will die from  
5    the disease.    Ovarian cancer is the fifth leading  
6    cause of cancer related deaths among women.    The five  
7    year survival rate is over 90 percent if you are  
8    diagnosed and treated during the earliest stages.    I  
9    want to emphasize the importance of regular  
10   screenings and doctor visits.    In addition, the 20<sup>th</sup>  
11   anniversary of the Violence Against Women Act on 19--  
12   on September 13<sup>th</sup>, 1994.    The Violence Against Women  
13   Act was written by former United States Senator Joe  
14   Biden and was signed into law.    And next month will  
15   be Domestic Violence Awareness Month.    And given what  
16   we have all seen in recent weeks regarding incidents  
17   of domestic violence and most specifically what we  
18   say with the video depicting Baltimore Raven Rice  
19   assaulting his wife Janay [sp?] Rice, it really gives  
20   us an opportunity to see what so many families and  
21   what so many women keep behind closed doors.    And for  
22   violence, Domestic Violence Awareness Month next  
23   month, we are going to be launching a series of  
24   events to bring real attention and awareness to this  
25   and I hope that all of my colleagues in the City

2   Council will participate with this initiative,  
3   because we really have to talk about this issue and  
4   we have to get assistance for so many women,  
5   particularly those that don't even recognize or know  
6   that they are victims. Thank you.

7           PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES:   Council Member  
8   Cabrerera?

9           COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA:   Thank you so  
10   much. I just want to rise saying thank Council  
11   Member King for introducing your bill today. The  
12   very least we will have an intelligent, reasonable  
13   discussion. So I commend you for taking leadership.

14          PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES:   And to close,  
15   Council Member Greenfield?

16          COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD:   Oh, the  
17   pressure. Thank you, Madam Public Advocate. First,  
18   I just also wanted to recognize today that we did in  
19   fact make an outstanding reappointment in the City  
20   Planning Commission of Anna Hayes Levin who has done  
21   great work there and understands and appreciates the  
22   role of Community Boards and Council Members and this  
23   body and the important City Planning process, I was  
24   happy to support her. I do just want to add that in  
25   fact, we are introducing, myself as prime sponsor and

2 Chair Rodriguez as co-sponsor, Intro 466, which is  
3 the culmination of a multiyear effort to lower the  
4 speed limit in New York to 25 miles an hour. I want  
5 to encourage all of our colleagues to join us. I want  
6 to thank the Speaker for her support and leadership  
7 on this issue. Quite frankly, in the last council I  
8 couldn't get this bill to see the light of day, and  
9 with this Speaker we've had some incredible,  
10 incredible support. And so we're very grateful for  
11 that. So I encourage everyone to sign onto the bill,  
12 Intro Number 466. It's not every day that we pass  
13 bills that will save lives. This bill will literally  
14 save lives in New York City. And I just--my final  
15 question for the Speaker, it's just next week I  
16 believe there's a ball game, I just want to know what  
17 position she's playing on team NYC Council. Thank  
18 you very much.

19           PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Speaker Melissa  
20 Mark-Viverito to close.

21           SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you as  
22 always, Madam Public Advocate. Thank you my  
23 colleagues. Have a great rest of the afternoon and at  
24 2:50 we are adjourned. Thank you.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: You may now  
3 applaud.

4 [applause]

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25



C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Date September 13, 2014