

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

STATED MEETING

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April 10, 2014
Start: 1:30 p.m.
Recess: 2:55 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers
City Hall

B E F O R E: MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO
Speaker for the Council
TISH JAMES,
Public Advocate, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- Maria Del Carmen Arroyo
- Inez D. Barron
- Fernando Cabrera
- Margaret S. Chin
- Andrew Cohen
- Costa G. Constantinides
- Robert E. Cornegy
- Elizabeth S. Crowley
- Laurie A. Cumbo
- Chaim M. Deutsch
- Inez E. Dickens
- Daniel Dromm
- Rafael L. Espinal, Jr.
- Mathieu Eugene
- Julissa Ferreras
- Daniel R. Garodnick
- Vincent J. Gentile
- Vanessa L. Gibson

David G. Greenfield
Vincent Ignizio
Core D. Johnson
Ben Kallos
Andy L. King
Peter A. Koo
Karen Koslowitz
Rory L. Lancman
Brad S. Lander
Stephen T. Levin
Mark Levine
Alan N. Maisel
Steven Matteo
Darlene Mealy
Carlos Menchaca
Rosie Mendez
I. Daneek Miller
Annabel Palma
Antonio Reynoso
Donovan J. Richards
Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Deborah L. Rose
Helen K. Rosenthal
Ritchie Torres
Mark Treyger
Eric A. Ulrich
James Vacca
Paul A. Vallone
James G. Van Bramer
Mark S. Weprin
Jumaane D. Williams
Ruben Wills

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

Reverend Hector A. Chiesa
Pastor, Church of God
213-37 Third Avenue
New York, New York 10035

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2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: We have one
3 ceremonial today that we would like to get started.
4 Council Member Danny Dromm who has a busy day today.
5 A lot of good stuff going on today.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER: [off mic]

7 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [laughter] But
8 we're very excited, and he has the ceremonial for
9 today, and I'll give over the mic to our colleague.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: So thank you very
11 much, Madam Speaker. I'm very proud today to stand
12 here to present this proclamation on the occasion of
13 the Songkran Festival, the traditional New Year's
14 celebration of Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar,
15 and other Southeast Asian countries. This was
16 brought to my attention because of my relationship
17 with my good friend Jutana Mu Mirawati [phonetic].
18 Now, today, we're also being joined by the COUNSULATE
19 General of Thailand, who is here with us as well.

20 But Mu -- I want to speak just a little
21 bit about him -- represents to me all that's best in
22 our immigrant communities. He started out with a
23 laundromat. He then went and opened a Thai
24 restaurant. He now has numerous pieces of property,
25 and he has done very, very well for himself. And so

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he represents to me the American dream, [applause] and all that is good with our immigrant communities. And he also works for the Thai -- the Asian-American Thai Association of New York to whom this proclamation is going to be presented. And they have done tremendous work in our communities around issues from helping undocumented to helping those with HIV-AIDS. And that work is also admirable.

So today I feel that it is right and appropriate to be able to present this proclamation to Mu. We call him Mu -- Mu Mirawati on the occasion of this special festival. So I'd like to ask the clerk to read the proclamation for us please.

CLERK: Council City of New York Proclamation.

Whereas, the Council of the City of New York is proud to honor the Asian-American Thai Association of New York on the occasion of the Songkran Festival, the traditional New Year Celebration of Thailand and other Southeast Asian countries; and

Whereas, the Asian-American Thai Association of New York is an unincorporated organization dedicated to serving the New York

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Metropolitan area by promoting Thai and other Asian cultures, and by supporting and strengthening business partnerships among Thai, other Asians, and Americans; and

Whereas, the Asian-American Thai Association of New York was founded in 2005 by Jutana Mu Mirawati [phonetic], better known as Mu.

Initially the association was established to raise funds following the devastating tsunami of December 26, 2004. Since then, as the Thai and Asian populations have increased in the New York area, the Association's programs have expanded to address other areas of common interest as well as challenges among Thai and other Asian populations. Some of these initiatives include urging the New York House of Representatives to reject the Anti-Immigrant Bill H.R. 44-37 to border protection, anti-terrorism, and illegal immigration control after 2005. Organizing fundraises, benefitting people with AIDS, and donating to the American Red Cross to support those severely impacted by Hurricane Sandy, and

Whereas, the Association's initiative support and promote Thai and other Asians in our local and national economy. Since 2006, the

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Association has featured candidates for the
outstanding 50 Asian-Americans in business, and

Whereas, at this special time of the
Songkran Festival, Thai and other Southeast Asian
communities usher in the new year and recognize it as
a meaningful opportunity for renewal. On this
occasion, let us renew our commitment to our common
quest: Freedom, equality, and dignity for all New
Yorkers of all origins.

Now, therefore, be it known that the
Council of the City of New York gratefully honors the
Asian-American Thai Association of New York for its
outstanding service and contributions to the
community. Melissa Mark-Viverito, Speaker for the
entire Council; Daniel Dromm, Council Member, 25th
District, Queens.

COUNCIL MEMBER DRUMM: Thank you, and Mr.
Counsel General, I'd like to ask you to say a brief
few words.

COUNSEL GENERAL: First of all, I'm very
honored to be here, and even the opportunity from
Governor Tumu [phonetic] at this event. Let me say
something, a few words about Songkran. First of all,
in Thailand, Songkran is the Thai celebration of the

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New Year for many centuries. Never in Thailand that we celebrate this festival that people in Laos, Myanmar, Cambodia also celebrate this new year event. But for Thailand I think it is way more in order that Songkran where in rest of the world it's been recognized in the nation early. That's why this year the Consulate Mu, and his association they plan to recognize a bigger and better event in New York City, maybe it's better, bigger, and enjoy. I would like to thank you also, Mu, as the representative of Thailand and Thai Association and the Thai community here that you make something better known in the American-Thai Association -- American-Thai Association in our community. So thank you. Will you give a big applause to him once again.

[applause]

MU MIRAWAIT: You know what, do I hear thanks for the City Council Speaker Melissa, and thank you for City Council Danny Dromm because you all work so hard, and you are young, and if you work hard again, then you get all. [Laughs] And also, you know what, Songkran is about new year, about happy life, enjoy life, and Songkran is about food. Food is about Thai food. Culture is about Thai

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boxing. Boxing is about peace, fighting and peace, and joy and happiness. Thai massage is about relaxing. Relaxing it mean after you eat, you're boxing and you're relaxing. So it make everything come together. So for the Thai New Year, enjoy eating, enjoy your life, happy, and good for all. Thanks again. [applause] And he will be saying about Thai New Year for two minutes.

MALE SPEAKER: So traditionally, the

Thais have a multitude of ways of celebrating Songkran. One is to spend time meeting the elderly, whether it be family or friends. Another way is like clean your households to kind of fit the badness out. And most famously, of course, is the splashing of the water because it is also known as the Festival of the Water. It really is the idea of kind of the splashing the water to kind of rid yourself of the bad. But it's also the idea because the Songkran happens in the hottest time of Thailand. We have compared it to a New York summer. That's probably another reason as well for the water splashing. But in New York we have a multitude of events happening such as boxing, and a little more recently at the PS-11 we had a festival full of events and music,

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dancing, and we have upcoming events as well at the Thai Temple to kind of get people, outsiders a glimpse of how monks traditionally do it. So thank you, City Council, for the opportunity and for letting me be here. [applause]

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Well, thank you all very much. Counsels, it's nice just to have you here and to all. Thank you, Danny. Danny always I think has the most -- one of the most diverse districts. He always brings these great organizations to us, and we learn so much from the work that's being done. And we learn so much about other cultures and the festivals, and what they honor. So I thank you all for being here and congratulations again. [applause]

[Pause]

CLERK: In the chambers, please quite. At this time, please place all cell phones and electronic devices to vibrate. Will all non-Council employees please leave the main floor in the Chambers? We have additional proceeding upstairs in the balcony. Thank you.

[Pause]

CLERK: Quiet please.

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PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: All rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: [In unison] I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Roll Call.

CLERK: Arroyo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Here.

CLERK: Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Present.

CLERK: Cabrera.

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

CLERK: Chin.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

CLERK: Cohen.

COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Here.

CLERK: Constantinides.

COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Here.

CLERK: Cornegy.

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Presente.

CLERK: Crowley.

CHAIRPERSON CROWLEY: [off mic]

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CLERK: Cumbo.
COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: [off mic]
CLERK: Deutsch.
COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Here.
CLERK: Dickens.
COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Here.
CLERK: Dromm.
COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.
CLERK: Espinal.
COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Here.
CLERK: Eugene.
COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.
CLERK: Ferreras.
COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Here.
CLERK: Garodnick.
COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.
CLERK: Gentile.
COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: [off mic]
CLERK: Gibson.
COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: [off mic]
CLERK: Greenfield.
COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: [off mic]
CLERK: Johnson.
COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: [off mic]

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CLERK: Kallos.

COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Here.

CLERK: King.

COUNCIL MEMBER KING: [Not present]

CLERK: Koo.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

CLERK: Koslowitz.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

CLERK: Lancman.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Here.

COUNCIL MEMBER: Anybody see Andy?

CLERK: Lander.

COUNCIL MEMBER: Andy King?

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: [off mic]

CLERK: Levin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: [Not present]

CLERK: Levine.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: [off mic]

CLERK: Maisel.

COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: [off mic]

CLERK: Matteo.

COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Here.

CLERK: Mealy.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: [off mic]

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CLERK: Menchaca.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Presente.

CLERK: Mendez.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: [off mic]

CLERK: Miller.

COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Present

CLERK: Palma.

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: [Not present]

CLERK: Johnson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Here.

CLERK: Reynoso.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Present.

CLERK: Richards.

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Present.

CLERK: Rodriguez.

COUNCIL MEMBER RORRIGUEZ: Here.

CLERK: Rose, thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.

CLERK: Rosenthal.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: [off mic]

CLERK: Torres.

COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Here.

CLERK: Treyger.

COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.

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CLERK: Ulrich.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Here.

CLERK: Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.

CLERK: Vallone.

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: [Not present]

CLERK: Weprin.

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: [off mic]

CLERK: Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.

CLERK: Wills.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Here.

CLERK: Ignizio.

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Here.

CLERK: Quiet on the floor, please.

Quiet on the floor.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [gavel] Quiet.

CLERK: Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: [off mic]

[background discussion]

CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Here.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Please rise for
the invocation delivered by Reverend Hector Chiesa,

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Pastor of the Church of the God, 2135-37 Third Avenue, New York, New York.

CLERK: All rise.

PASTOR HECTOR CHIESA: Thank you.

Eternal God, oh, Heavenly God. We come into your presence with thanksgiving. This is the day that the Lord has made, and we rejoice and be glad in it. We thank you for this opportunity that we are here to bless this Council, and these leaders. Oh, God, have been working to convert our communities. I want to ask God to give the wisdom, the knowledge to the Council especially our speaker in order to contribute, to do the good job in our communities. For better housing, for better assistance to the immigrants in our city, for better healthcare, and any other issues that they're dealing with in this time. I ask a special blessing for her in order to continue all of the leadership in the City of New City of New York. And at the same time, I bless every member of this chamber in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Shalom, Shalom Ubraja [phonetic], and God bless everyone. Thank you.

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2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Finance.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER: Preconsidered M42 -
4 Revenue Budget.

5 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Finance.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Petitions and
7 communications.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER: None.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Land use callups.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER: M43 to M46.

11 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on call
12 of vote, roll call.

13 CLERK: Arroyo.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

15 CLERK: Barron.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye.

17 CLERK: Cabrera.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

19 CLERK: Chin.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

21 CLERK: Cohen.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

23 CLERK: Constantinides.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Aye.

25 CLERK: Cornegy.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye

CLERK: Crowley.

CHAIRPERSON CROWLEY: [off mic]

CLERK: Cumbo.

COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Aye.

CLERK: Deutsch.

COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Aye.

CLERK: Dickens.

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye

CLERK: Dromm.

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

CLERK: Espinal.

COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Aye.

CLERK: Eugene.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

CLERK: Ferreras.

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.

CLERK: Garodnick.

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

CLERK: Gentile.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

CLERK: Gibson.

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: [off mic]

CLERK: Greenfield.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: [off mic]

CLERK: Johnson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

CLERK: Kallos.

COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.

CLERK: King. King.

COUNCIL MEMBER KING: [Not present]*

CLERK: Koo.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

CLERK: Koslowitz.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

CLERK: Lancman.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: [off mic]

COUNCIL MEMBER: Anybody see Andy?

CLERK: Lander.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: [off mic]

CLERK: Levin.

CLERK: Greenfield.

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD:

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: How do you vote,
Council Member Greenfield?

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: I vote aye on
all.

[Pause]

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CLERK: Crowley.
COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.
CLERK: Levine.
COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: [off mic]
[Pause]
CLERK: Maisel.
COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: [off mic]
CLERK: Matteo.
COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: [off mic]
[Pause]
CLERK: Mealy.
COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: [off mic]
CLERK: Menchaca.
COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Aye.
CLERK: Mendez.
COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.
CLERK: Miller.
COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.
CLERK: Palma.
COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: [Not present]
CLERK: Reynoso.
COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Aye.
CLERK: Richards.
COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye.

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CLERK: Rodriguez.

COUNCIL MEMBER RORRIGUEZ: Aye.

CLERK: Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: I vote aye.

CLERK: Rosenthal.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: [off mic]

CLERK: Torres.

COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Aye.

CLERK: Treyger.

COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

CLERK: Ulrich.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Yes.

CLERK: Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

CLERK: Weprin.

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: [off mic]

CLERK: Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

CLERK: Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye on all.

[Pause]

CLERK: Ignizio.

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: [off mic]

[Pause]

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2 CLERK: Lander.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: [off mic]

4 CLERK: Van Bramer.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: [off mic]

6 CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

7 [Pause]

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Sorry. I

9 vote aye.

10 CLERK: Van Bramer.

11 [Pause]

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Today's Land Use
13 Callups were adopted by a vote of 41 in the
14 affirmative and zero in the negative. Quiet in the
15 Chamber.

16 FEMALE SPEAKER: Quiet, please.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Communication
18 from the speaker.

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you. I
20 want to say good afternoon to my colleagues that are
21 here today. I want to begin our meeting by asking my
22 colleagues and everyone in this chamber to join me in
23 a moment of silence for Officer Dennis Guerra.
24 Officer Guerra was responding to a fire in Coney
25 Island when he was overcome by smoke and carbon

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monoxide. He was rushed to the hospital, but passed away yesterday morning. Today, our condolences go out to our officer's family. Officer Guerra has family and friends. And our prayers go out to his partner, Jose Rodriguez who remains hospitalized due to severe injuries suffered in the scene of the fire. Again, this unfortunate situation keeps reminding us of the incredible work of our NYPD officers each and everyday to keep us safe. So I want to ask that we please join in a moment of silence to please remember Officer Guerra.

[Council Members join in a moment of silence]

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you, my colleagues. Today, we want to be voting on legislation introduced by Council Member Ignizio requiring carbon monoxide detectors be installed in public places of assembly. That includes theaters, night clubs, restaurants and bars, cafeterias, court rooms, school auditoriums, gymnasiums, houses of worship, community halls, and art galleries. Every year hundreds of people in New York are rushed to the hospital with carbon monoxide poisoning, and these numbers don't include fire-related incidents. New

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Yorkers should be able to go about their lives eating out at restaurants, exercising at the gym, sending their kids to school without having to worry about a danger that can be so easily avoided. This law will make carbon monoxide detectors commonplace in communal spaces as fire alarms already are, and give New Yorkers peace of mind as they go through their daily routines.

I want to thank the Minority Leader for sponsoring this important legislation and the Chair of our Housing and Buildings Committee, Jumaane Williams, for ushering this bill to the floor. And I'd like to invite the lead sponsor and chair to say a few words now on this legislation, Ignizio, Council Member Ignizio.

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Thank you, Madam Speaker, and thank you all. As we all know, the issue of carbon monoxide is a silent killer. It's odorless, tasteless, and completely undetectable to your senses. And one that we've seen in the press as of late causing the death of folks in Long Island, and causing others to be taken sick. This is the first piece of a two-pronged approach in how the City of New York can take the lead in the country for

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carbon monoxide detectors. This bill would mandate if you're putting in new smoke alarms in your business or retrofitting or renovating your smoke alarm system, you will be required to have carbon monoxide detectors in there. The second step of which the Speaker and myself, the Administration are working to ensure that we see smoke alarms get approved nationwide for commercial establishments, which would then -- we would then implement the second part of the bill.

So I thank Rob Newman, Mura Coba [phonetic], Ed Acton [phonetic], Jeff Baker, Gail Albertino[phonetic], the Fire Department, NFPA, and my Councilman Brendan Lantry for putting countless hours on this. And I think we're taking a step in the right direction. I want to thank my colleagues all 50 of you who co-sponsored the piece of legislation, and thanks to the sponsor, my good friend Jumaane Williams for ensuring that it was taken up. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you, Minority Leader and Council Member Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Sure. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I just want to say

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congratulations to Council Member Ignizio. Any day that we can as a Council make everyone safer, I think it's a good day. And I also wanted to support him. From the initial bill that was put in. We had a hearing. This is how City Council is supposed to work. We learned about some things that needed to be changed in the bill. We made sure that it was not cost-prohibitive, and even found an issue that was it not affordable. Now it can be corrected -- corrected on a nationwide level. So I just want to say congratulations on that, and the hand that I had to move this cause. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Today, we will

also be voting on a Home Rule Message asking Albany to authorize an expansion of our speed camera program. In 2013, we implemented a pilot program to install 20 speed cameras near school to increase traffic safety. Today's Home Rule message will request an expansion from 20 cameras to 140 to make more school zones a safe place for drivers and pedestrians alike. So I would like to really thank State and Federal Legislation Chair Karen Koslowitz for her work and her leadership on this Home Rule Message.

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Today, also we'll be investing in the City Council in order to assure that we have the resources to be more accountable and open to the public. And that will be on today's agenda. And finally, today, the Council will be introducing legislation sponsored by Council Members Dromm and Menchaca to create a citywide Municipal Identification Card Program. This program will allow all New York City residents, including those who are currently unable to obtain state photo ID cards the ability to obtain a City-issued identification card.

Could I ask my colleagues to please keep it down.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council please keep it down please. [gavel]

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Those who aren't able to obtain ID cards miss out on all sorts of public services that many of us may take for granted. Countless residents face an institutional barrier -- basic things that any New Yorker should have the ability to do -- because they lack proper identification. This landmark legislation will end the institutional barrier, and give every New Yorker access to these basic opportunities.

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This provides those who have been disenfranchised in the past with an identity, but it also speaks to our identity as a city. We are an inclusive city. We don't sit back and just allow some to be left out. We're proactive when it comes to making sure that New Yorkers don't fall through the cracks in our system. This is something to be proud of.

This program gives help to those who have been given none in the past, and to New Yorkers with families, jobs, children in school, the taxpayers, to our neighbors, our friends, and our colleagues. This legislation sends them a clear message: You are not invisible and you are not alone. This is a bill that I'm very excited about, and I know many of my colleagues are excited about it as well. So I want to ask and I would invite the sponsors of the bill, Council Member Danny Dromm, our former Immigration Chair; and Carlos Menchaca, the current Immigration Committee Chair to speak on this legislation.
Council Member Dromm.

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you, members. Thank you Speaker Mark-Viverito. It's indeed a pleasure to be able to introduce this

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legislation today. This ID card is going to be an ID card for all New Yorkers to have. It's also going to have the side benefit of helping our undocumented to come out of the shadows, and to possess some form of identification, which as everybody knows, you need identification today to get into most buildings in New York City. But to do anything in New York City, you need identification. It's high time we have had this legislation. We've worked together. I appreciate your efforts in the past as well in supporting this legislation. I appreciate my colleague Council Member Carlos Menchaca's efforts on behalf of the movement of this bill, and I look forward to getting this through the committee and onto the floor as soon as humanly possible. Thank you very, very much.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Council Member Carlos Menchaca.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you, Speaker. I want to thank Council Member Danny Dromm who for years championed this Municipal ID Card Legislation, and our great Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito, who with her leadership made the introduction of this bill a reality. You know, the

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advocacy community has been an instrumental partnership with us in helping us to get to this point. And in the spirit of opening the doors of the City Council and the City itself, this has been a real partnership.

The Mayor has prioritized Municipal IDs at the top of his citywide agenda. It is a true partnership, and one that we will all benefit from. This introduction of legislation on the Municipal ID Card Program is just the start of a process. And I will be actively working with my colleagues here at the City Council to make sure that we have the best bill in place to roll out the first and most impressive Municipal ID Card program in New York City. But in order to accomplish that, we need to hear from the public. And really, we're going to be concentrated on making sure that our legislative process is a participatory one.

This ID card has the power to impact so many from the LGBT community that wants to select their gender. And an ID card to seniors that may have not had any reason to go to the DMV, for example, who would more likely have an ID from an agency that they know and trust; to the undocumented

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immigrants who are unable to access State IDs. And as a result can't access many of our city government buildings or services. The time is now to have an ID card shaped by New Yorkers for New Yorkers. And we will be working in partnership with the Administration to make sure that this ID ultimately has sweeping benefits from banking to reaching our city's cultural institutions.

But at minimum, proof of identity cannot be a privilege for New Yorkers. It is a right, and with this bill, we're making it happen. Thank you to the staff, Joline [phonetic], Jennifer, Rob, Alex, all of the folks that have been making this possible. Thank you to all.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you council members, and now that we've introduced this legislation, we'll get back to work on this important matter. I look forward to the ongoing engagement and dialogue as we move through the legislative process. And I want to thank in a special way all of the staff from the Legislative, Finance, and Land Use Divisions that worked on today's agenda items. Gracias.

And in closing, I'd just like to say that Monday evening marks the beginning of Passover, and

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week from Sunday on April 20th is Easter Sunday. So to everyone here and to anyone in New York celebrating either holiday, I want to wish you a Zesum Pascha [phonetic] and a Happy Easter and that concludes communication from the Speaker.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member Johnson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam Public Advocate. I rise today to urge my colleagues to vote in favor of a Landmark District in the South Village, an area that is covered both by myself and Council Member Chin. This new historic district will protect centuries of history from being destroyed to development of increased building heights. Greenwich Village faces tremendous pressure from developers, and its long-time neighbors like New York University.

This district, which is not a panacea, in the name of urban development. We want to make sure that buildings remain intact, and the region stays true to its character. This area was known in the 19th Century as Little Africa, one of the first places of working class African-American neighborhood in the middle of Greenwich Village. Those folks line in old law tenements', and the South Village then

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turned into a place for the LGBT community, for Bohemian folks, and artists.

And the architecture there is one that must be preserved. This district will be bounded by Sixth Avenue to the west, to the north West Fourth Street, Seventh Street, Sullivan Street, LaGuardia Place, and to the south West Hudson Street. This is approved by the Landmarks Preservation Commission. The community has fought for years to get this landmarked, and I am very pleased to say that today I hope to make it a reality. Thank you very much.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member Espinal.

COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Thank you, Madam Public Advocate. Today, I'll be introducing Res 0161. This Resolution supports State legislation that would require wireless telephone companies to allow victims of domestic violence to --

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Excuse me, Council Member Espinal. Apparently, that's on the General Orders, and we'll hold your -- Could you please hold your remarks until later in the program or the agenda. Thank you. Council Member Rodriguez.

[Pause]

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PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you, Madam Public Advocate. I also want to speak on the South Village Historic District being landmarked. And to add to the comments of my colleague, I would just like to put into the record that in 1640 a part of this landmark district was, in fact, given to 12 free and so-called half-free slaves to farm the land. They received a land grant, and they had ownership of that land. However, in 1667, that land was taken from them without due compensation.

So, as we at some point look at reparations, this would certainly be an item that we would want to consider. But they continued to live in the area, and it was known as Little Africa, as has been noted. And it was also the site of the homes of several significant people, including Henry Highland Garnet, and the home site of the A.M.E. Zion Church. So I support the legislation, and I invite all of my colleagues to vote in the affirmative. Thank you.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
Council Member Lander.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you, Madam Public Advocate. I just want to call people's attention to the fact that we're voting today also on Resolution 183 and the accompanying M35 approving the appointment by the Mayor of Meera Joshi as a member of the New York City Taxi and Museum Commission. He plans to appoint her the Chair. But a very good hearing in the Rules Committee, and I think all of the members found her to have a lot of integrity, a lot of knowledge. Not only was she the General Counsel of the TLC, she served before that at the CCRB and the Department of Investigation. The Taxi and Limousine community is a varied community with many different constituents with different points of view on almost everything. But as far as we could tell, they're all very enthusiastic about Meera Joshi as their Chair, and I urge members to vote on it.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
Seeing none other, Report of Special Committees.

COUNCIL MEMBER: None.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Reports of standing committees.

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STATED MEETING

COUNCIL MEMBER: Report of the Committee on Finance, Preconsidered Intro 256, Mayor's Consecutive Budget.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on general order with the message of necessity.

COUNCIL MEMBER: Res 0132-A through Res 0134-A Bid Assessment Hearings.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO:

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Amended and coupled on general order.

COUNCIL MEMBER: Preconsidered Res 0163 Organization Funding.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on general order.

COUNCIL MEMBER: Preconsidered M141 and Res 0175, Expense Budget.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on general order.

COUNCIL MEMBER: Preconsidered 42 and Res 0176, Revenue Budget.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on general order.

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COUNCIL MEMBER: Preconsidered M47 and Res 0177 and M48 and Res 0178, Council Operating in OTPS budgets.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on general order.

COUNCIL MEMBER: Reporting of the Committee on Housing and Buildings Intro 11-A Carbon monoxide detectors.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and coupled on general order.

COUNCIL MEMBER: Reporting of the Committee on Land Use: LU 23 and Res 0179 and LU 24 and Res 0180.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on general order.

COUNCIL MEMBER: LU 27 and Res 0181 Zoning Amendment.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on general order.

COUNCIL MEMBER: LU 35 and Res 0182, Landmark Designation.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on general order.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER: Report of the Committee
3 on State and Federal Legislation Preconsidered M40.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Hold on one
5 second.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER: Report of the Committee
7 on Rules, Privileges, and Elections: M35 approving
8 the appointment of Meera Joshi, New York Taxi and
9 Limousine Commission.

10 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
11 general order.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER: Report of the Committee
13 on State and Federal Legislation: Preconsidered M40.

14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
15 general order.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: General Order
17 Calendar.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER: Resolution appointing
19 various persons Commissioner of Deeds.

20 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
21 general order, and at this time I ask for a roll
22 items on the Coupled General Order Calendar.

23 CLERK: Arroyo.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

25 CLERK: Barron.

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COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye.

CLERK: Cabrera.

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

CLERK: Chin.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye on all.

CLERK: Cohen.

COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye on all.

CLERK: Constantinides.

COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Aye on
all.

CLERK: Cornegy.

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye on all.

CLERK: Crowley.

CHAIRPERSON CROWLEY: [off mic]

CLERK: Cumbo.

COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Aye.

CLERK: Deutsch.

COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: All.

CLERK: Dickens.

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: [off mic]

CLERK: Dromm.

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

CLERK: Espinal.

COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Aye.

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CLERK: Eugene.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

CLERK: Ferreras.

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: [off mic]

CLERK: Garodnick.

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: [off mic]

CLERK: Gentile.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: With my
congratulations to Mike Paizano [phonetic] and
Vinchenzio Eglesio, [phonetic] I vote aye.

CLERK: Gibson.

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Yes.

[gavel]

MALE SPEAKER: Quiet on the floor,
please.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Would you tone it
down, please?

CLERK: Greenfield.

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

CLERK: Johnson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

CLERK: Kallos.

COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.

CLERK: King.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KING: [off mic]

CLERK: Koo.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

CLERK: Koslowitz.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

CLERK: Lancman.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Aye on all.

CLERK: Lander.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye on all

CLERK: Levin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: [off mic]

CLERK: Levine.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Aye.

CLERK: Maisel.

COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Aye.

CLERK: Matteo.

COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: May I be excused
to explain my vote? I just want to congratulate the
Minority Leader, Vinny Ignizio on this life-saving
bill. I look forward to working with him and my
colleagues on a more comprehensive bill. With that,
I vote yes with the exception of voting no on M40.
No on M47, and the corresponding resolution 177 and
no on M48 with corresponding 178.

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PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [gavel] May we have quiet in the Chambers, please? Thank you. Continue with the roll call.

CLERK: Mealy.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: [off mic]

CLERK: Menchaca.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Aye.

CLERK: Mendez.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.

CLERK: Miller.

COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye on all.

CLERK: Palma.

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: [Not present]

[Pause]

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Permission to explain my vote, Madam Public Advocate.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes, Council Member.

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you very much. I'd just like to speak very briefly in support of Preconsidered M40, which is the Home Rule Message that this body will send to Albany in relation to expanding on the speed cameras near schools, a pilot program that was established a couple of years ago.

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I'm very supportive of making sure that we implement speed cameras in and around our schools. We've seen this model be very successful across the City of New York. And as someone who firmly believes that we need traffic safety everywhere, certainly around our schools with our children and educators and parents.

And in addition, making sure that we recognize that this proposal is not replacing our law enforcement officers. These cameras are going to complement the work that is already being done. So I want to be clear about that bill. A lot of advocacy groups that have been very supportive, transportation alternatives, streets pack. And I want to make sure that this is something that we're going to expand does not replace our law enforcement. But instead, complements the work that's already been done, and I completely support it and cast my vote in the affirmative. Thank you Madam Public Advocate.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

CLERK: Barron

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you, Madam Public Advocate. I just appreciate the opportunity to be called on again. I just wanted to again give my commendations to my colleague Council Member

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Ignizio on the Carbon Monoxide Detector Bill, and for allowing me to be signed in as a program sponsor with the recognition that my predecessor had a similar bill that he had introduced. So I thank you for that. [Laughter] Council Member Charles Barron. Do you remember that name?

COUNCIL MEMBER: Yeah.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: So I thank you for allowing me to be a Program Sponsor on this bill, and thank you for the opportunity. I think it's very important that we have these kinds of measures to provide protections for our citizens. Thank you.

CLERK: Reynoso.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: [off mic]

CLERK: Richards.

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye.

CLERK: Rodriguez.

COUNCIL MEMBER RORRIGUEZ: Aye on all.

CLERK: Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye on all.

CLERK: Rosenthal.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Aye on all.

CLERK: Torres.

COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Aye on all.

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CLERK: Treyger.

COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: [off mic]

CLERK: Ulrich.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: I vote aye on all with the exception of M40 I vote no.

CLERK: Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye on all.

CLERK: Weprin.

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye on all including the Land Use callups.

CLERK: Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye on all.

CLERK: Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye on all.

CLERK: Ignizio.

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes, I vote aye on all with the exception of M40, M47, and M48, and if I just can, I wanted to alert my colleagues to say a prayer for the family of former Assemblyman Matthew Mirones who lost his mother. The Republican Delegation members will be attending this wake so we can join you at Gracie Mansion. But if you can say a small prayer for the Mirones Family, I would appreciate it. Thank you.

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[Pause]

CLERK: Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye on all.

CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: I vote aye on all, and I forgot to recognize earlier we have Council Member Andy Cohen, who is joined by his mother in the Chamber today. We welcome you [applause] to the People's Chamber. I vote aye on all.

[Pause]

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Welcome to the Chambers, Mrs. Cohen. All items on today's General Order Calendar were adopted by a vote of 46 in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and zero abstentions. With the exception of Preconsidered --

[background discussion]

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Never mind. That's okay. All items on today's General Order Calendar were adopted by a vote of 46 in the affirmative and zero in the negative and zero abstentions with the exception of Preconsidered M47 and Res 0177, which was adopted by a vote of 44 in the affirmative, two in the negative, and zero

2 abstentions. And Preconsidered M48, and Resolution
3 178, which was adopted by a vote of 42 in the
4 affirmative, and two in the negative, and three
5 abstentions. And M40, which was adopted by a vote of
6 43 in the affirmative, three in the negative, and
7 zero abstentions. And the Revised call Land Use
8 Callups was adopted by a vote of 46 in the
9 affirmative, zero in the negative. Introduction and
10 Reading of Bills.

11 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: All those are
12 referred to committees, as indicated on the agenda.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Discussion of
14 Resolution -- Preconsidered Resolution - RES 0158, a
15 resolution authorizing the Speaker to intervene for
16 the purpose of defending provisions of the New York
17 City Administrative Code that limit the size of
18 single adult shelters to 200 beds.

19 [background conversation]

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Does anyone want
21 to speak on that resolution only?

22 [background conversation]

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Seeing none,
24 we'll now take a vote, a voice vote. All those in
25 favor say aye.

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COUNCIL MEMBERS: [Chorus of ayes]

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: All of those opposed, say nay. The ayes have it. General Discussion. Council Member Kallos.

[Pause]

COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Thank you, Madam Public Advocate. Today, along with Council Members Vacca and Levine, I'm introducing Resolution 164, which calls upon this Council and the Borough Presidents to adopt a series of Best Practices for Recruiting and Appointing Community Board Members. Community Boards are the most local form of democracy in our city, and play a vital role in shaping our communities. At the last stated session, I circulated a Policy Report on Improving Community Boards in New York City, Best Practices for Recruitment and Appointment in New York City's 59 community boards, which outlined recommendations for reform of community board. Some of the highlights include:

Improved outreach and recruitment, which focuses on diversity both demographic diversity, and diversity of skill and background.

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Terms limits of five consecutive two-year terms for board members.

Online application and improvements in technology infrastructure.

Conflicts of interest disclosure for all applicants and members.

Requiring reappointment applications with evaluation of attendance, service, and participation.

A ban on political appointments for staffers of elected officials and executive board members of political parties.

Filling vacancies within 30 days.

Independent screening panels in all five boroughs modeled after Comptroller Scott Stringer.

Mandatory reporting by borough presidents of the Council on appointments and recruiting efforts.

These recommendations were compiled from the testimony received by the Committee on Governmental Operations at a hearing on March 3rd of this year from the New York City Comptroller, multiple borough presidents, the community boards, members from all five boroughs as well as good governments groups and advocacy organizations.

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Between April 1st and May 30th of this year, four new borough presidents and 21 new City Council Members along with their previously elected colleagues will be making 1,475 appointments to 59 community boards spanning all five boroughs.

Please join us as a sponsor in this unique opportunity to implement improvements to our City's community boards so they provide a stronger voice for our city's working families. If you haven't had a chance to read the report, we can make more copies available. Thank you.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Council Member Mealy, how do you vote on today's General Order Calendar?

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I vote aye on all.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Council Member Espinal.

COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Thank you, Madam Public Advocate. Excuse me for interjecting earlier today, but I was very eager to talk about this very important resolution, which Res 0161. This resolution supports State legislation that would require wireless telephone companies to allow victims of domestic violence to cancel their family's shared

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accounts without a charge or penalty. The resolution recognizes the potential safety issue for the victim of domestic violence sharing wireless telephone plans with their battler because it keeps a record of their contact information, which may be used to track them.

Access to the information can prove to be life threatening. It is imperative that victims of domestic violence are completely protected without a cost. According to the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence, the NYPD responded to 280,000 domestic violence incidents in 2013, and less than half of those victims break free from their battlers. Cell phone contracts are keeping them hostage from the Abusive Register. It seems pretty clear that we must take every conceivable step to protect victims of domestic violence. That is why I fully support this State legislation, and I ask my colleagues to sign on as co-sponsors. Thank you.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

Council Member Rodriguez.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Thank you. I would just like to invite those council members, if they have not signed, to my legislation, Intro 20, which is the one that is going to allow drivers to

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park the car after the sanitation industry. Today, I guess Andy is getting signature from 35 council members that have signed in support this legislation. So I'm inviting the rest of my colleagues also to look at this legislation. Thank you.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member Wills.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Good afternoon Madam Public Advocate. Today I rise to speak on four bills, but three of them are a suite. April is Autism Month, and nearly half of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder attempt to wander or bolt from supervised areas, and more than half of those that wander go missing. The legislation that we are putting in will help combat the vulnerability of individuals with Autism, and decreases the chances of them being in imminent danger.

One bill such as the Silver Link System that once applied only to senior citizens 65 or older who suffered from cognitive disorders, such as dementia will now include any vulnerable age group with developmental disabilities. Aiding in a quicker response time for missing individuals who can be in imminent danger. The Voluntary Registry was

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developed for individuals with special needs will provide a central database allowing various agencies, including the New York City Fire Department, Office of Emergency Management to access pertinent information to aid in finding these missing individuals as soon as possible.

We have a resolution that we are calling on the State to add GPS tracking devices under the People First Waiver. This is a waiver that is through Medicaid. We are asking that the State allow people with children with this disorder or adults with this disorder to be able to apply and have it paid for. We are also asking that LS-131 from Council Member Carnegy be included in this package, which calls for the alarming of doors in DOE facilities. I stand and say thank you to Council Members and Chairs Cohen as well as Johnson for their support for these legislations. And we ask that those committees and the Education Committee hold hearings on these as soon as possible.

The next Intro that we have is the Intro that deals with studio privacy. Currently, New York State and any other local municipalities have enacted additional privacy for individual, and have allowed

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under FERPA, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act for student education records. I'm sorry, I need 31 seconds. As of September 2013 --

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing] Council Member, could you please conclude your remarks?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: I will in 30 seconds. Thank you. We need a law that will provide for the following safeguards for our children. Limit who can receive individual identifiable data from a City agency or --

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing] Thank you, sir. Thank you, Council Member.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Thank you very much.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: [laughing] I killed it.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you, very good. Council Member Levine.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Thank you, Madam Public Advocate. I want to call the attention of my colleagues to Res 0165, which encourages more robust civics education in our schools. You know, schools

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should be about math and literacy for sure in preparing future workers. But they should also be about preparing future citizens and helping young people understand what it means to be an informed voter; or what it means to petition the government. What it means to be a community organizer; what it means to perform public service and community service.

There was a time decades ago when New York was a leader in this type of education. But in recent years civics education and really social studies more broadly have withered as it's been more and more focused on those narrow topics, which appear in standardized text. And in February of this year a study produced a real shocker finding that in New York State today, among adults 58% of New Yorkers cannot name either one of our current state -- of the current United States Senators. Again, 58% of New Yorkers today cannot name either one of the United States Senators. Our bill seeks to change this regrettable situation by reinvigorating civics education in the University and public schools, and I urge you to consider it. Thank you.

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

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank you,
5 Madam President. I would like to speak today on
6 three pieces of legislation: Intro 257, 258, 259.
7 They have nothing in common except that I sponsored
8 all three of them. And I'm encouraging all of my
9 colleagues to co-sponsor them as well. The first is
10 a common sense piece of legislation that would
11 require advanced posting of temporary tow-away zones.
12 I can't tell you how frustrating it is to come
13 outside and see that your car has been towed because
14 three minutes earlier someone decided to slap on "You
15 cannot par here any more." It actually happened to
16 me, and believe me it was frustrating.

17 That is 257 for those of you who are
18 keeping track. Intro 258 is a law that would require
19 DCAS, that's the Department of Citywide
20 Administrative Services, to post the submitted number
21 of open competitive civil positions at the same time
22 of the exam. You shouldn't have to take a test
23 without knowing how many jobs there are available.
24 If there are only three jobs, and there are 3,000
25 applicants, you may not want to take the test. If

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there are 300 jobs, you may be interested. Another commonsense piece of legislation.

And then finally everyone's favorite topic: Intro 259, Suspending Alternate Side Parking. I would suspend it forever, but sadly my colleagues don't agree with me on that. And so, this would simply suspend it on the annual Jewish holiday of Toshiba, which is a fast day when Jews are cooped up in the synagogues for 25 hours of fasting, making it really difficult for them to move the car, normally sometime in August on a hot sweltering day.

So once again, I would encourage you to sign on 257, which deals with two-away zones; 258, which would let you know the amount of civil service examinations, actual jobs that are open; and 259 that would suspend all alternate side on Toshiba. With that, I wish all of my colleagues, who are celebrating, a happy Passover. As we say, Halkasha Vishinal [phonetic]. A Happy Easter, for those who are celebrating that, and if you celebrate none of the above, enjoy the spring break. Thank you very much.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Happy Passover, Council Member Greenfield. Council Member Rose.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Thank you Madam Public Advocate. I rise today to ask your help and sponsorship, co-sponsorship in the following bills: Intro 261 and Res 0166. Intro 261 I am really pleased to be a prime sponsor of because it would prohibit discrimination based on one's consumer credit history. The practice of using credit checks as part of the employment application process is pernicious. Reports often contain erroneous information and yet can prevent people from getting a job. The practice has been shown to disproportionately impact people from disadvantaged backgrounds who are more likely to have a bad credit rating.

[male shouts]

[gavel]

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: And the practice also impacts college and professional student school graduates who are coming out of school with unprecedented debt levels. It's time to remove artificial barriers that exclude countless numbers of New Yorkers from becoming gainfully employed by passing this common sense legislation.

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And Resolution 166 is a resolution calling up New York City Department of Education to establish a comprehensive college preparation program based on the College Readiness Model proposed by the Urban Youth Collaborative to improve and expand college access for all students, job preparedness, and college readiness because they are important towards ending the wage inequality in the City. I hope each of you can sign onto Resolution 166 and Intro 261. Thank you.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
Council Member Cabrera.

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Thank you so much. I want to first take a moment to commend Council Members Danny Dromm and Council Member Carlos Menchaca for their introduction of 253, the Creation of a New York City ID Card Program. I think it is just so important to do that. I also want to take a brief moment to encourage my colleagues to join in Resolution 159, calling upon the United States Congress to pass, and the President of the Untied States to sign S2182, the Suicide Prevention for American Veterans Acts Legislation. Expanding and improving the care provided to veterans and service

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members with mental health disorder or at risk for suicide. Nowadays we see members -- veterans who are coming back from the long service and having a higher rate of suicide. We must do something for those who have given so much to the rest of us. And I want to thank Chair Eric Ulrich for his help in this resolution. Thank you so much.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member Cornegy.

[Pause]

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I mean Madam Public Advocate, and thank you Madam Speaker. I'd like to call my colleagues' attention to Intro 246 the provision of a six-month grace period for small businesses to implement earned sick time without civil penalties was an extremely important compromise to the small business community. Intro 246 would extend this protection to businesses that were affected by Hurricane Sandy, and have not yet reopened.

Giving them six months from the date of opening to implement the bill without fear of civil penalties. I hope that all my colleagues will sign on, knowing the importance of small business, and

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knowing the importance of the bill, and a robust orientation, and education period. I'm asking all my colleagues to sign on to help protect those businesses affected by Hurricane Sandy under that provision. Thank you.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member Barron.

[Pause]

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you Madam Public Advocate. As we know, our criminal justice system is not perfect, and we know that there are times when people are convicted and sentenced and sent to prison unjustly. We're hearing some of the cases of people who are being released after served years after having been wrongfully convicted. We know the District Attorney has a project where he's looking to have cases overturned, and having people released when the evidence shows that they are entitled to that. In that same regard, I call your attention to the center, Prop 5, whom we all are very familiar with. And invite you to attend a rally and press conference, which will be held on their behalf, from Thursday, April 17th at 4:00 p.m. It will be

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held in City Hall Park, and we're calling for an immediate settlement of their case. Thank you.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member Chin.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you, Madam Public Advocate. I'd like to draw my colleagues' attention to Intro 243, a bill I'm introducing today with my Council colleagues, Council Member Ferreras and Council Member Williams. This bill will enable us to increase the Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption Eligibility, SCRIE, to \$50,000. It would be the most significant increase that SCRIE would have seen in a long time, and it is long overdue. It would make it easier for seniors to stay in their homes without fear of being displaced by ever-rising rent. I hope my colleagues will join us in sponsoring this bill. Thank you.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member Miller.

[Pause]

COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you Madam Public Advocate. Today I rise to actually withdraw a bill. I'm sorry, a resolution, which was introduced at the last Stated. And that was a resolution that

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called upon UPS to rescind determination of 250 workers. And over the last month I've had the opportunity to meet with some of these workers. I know that they are hard working and dedicated, committed workers to not just themselves and each other, but to the company. I'm glad to say that this morning I received a call from President Sylvester of Local 804 Teamsters. And over the last few days, we've had the opportunity to help in a very small way to facilitate some real concrete resolution and good labor relation practices. And I am proud to say that upon that call, I received news that all 250 termination letters had been rescinded, and all the workers are back to work. [applause] I am very thankful to the Public Advocate and the Speaker for their assistance, but also to the members of this Council here. And this is what happens when good people do good things. Thank you very much.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Congratulations Council Member Miller. It was a pleasure working with you, and all the council members in this body so that these 250 middle-class jobs could be restored. Council Member Richards.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Today, I would like to draw my colleagues' attention to Intro 271, which will amend the New York City Building Code and Mechanical Code in relation to the New York City Air Pollution Control Code. New York City, in particular environmental justice communities, have long suffered alarming asthma rates, respiratory issues, and diseases. The Department of Health attributes 2,000 deaths a year in New York City to air pollution.

The New York City Air Pollution Code was first enacted in the 1970s, and has not been significantly amended since its enactment. As we move to improve both indoor and outdoor air quality, it is critical that we strengthen existing air quality initiatives, and to regulate new sources of air pollution to further improve the City's overall air quality. This bill will specifically make necessary amendments to the Air Code, which will eliminate outdated provisions and conform to Air Code for Developments in Federal Law and Regulation, preserve greater flexibility. And it would also preserve greater flexibility for BEPTU Rule making authority to update requirements, and standards to account for ongoing developments in technology and

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fuels. And introduce new requirements that limit emissions from certain unregulated sectors while promoting the adoption of cost-effective air pollution control. I urge my colleagues to sign onto this bill, which will improve air quality across New York City, especially in environmental justice communities.

And lastly, I just want to acknowledge the family of Officer Guerra, who lived in my district of in Rockaway. And I spoke to his wife just a little bit ago, and the family is really devastated. And I ask the body to keep them in prayer. Thank you.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Our thoughts and prayers are with the Guerra family at their time of loss. Council Member Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: I just thought we would be remiss if we didn't wish Donovan Richards a happy birthday. [cheers] Let's sing to him.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Let sing to him.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: [Sing happy birth to Donovan Richards.]

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COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Sorry, it was my anniversary as well yesterday, and that comes first before my birthday.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Okay. Order in the Chamber. Order in the Chamber. Order in the Chamber. All today -- all items on today's General Order Calendar were adopted by an amended vote of 47 in the affirmative, zero in the negative, zero abstentions with the exception of Preconsidered M47 and Resolution 177, which was adopted by a vote of 45 in the affirmative, two in the negative.

And Preconsidered M48 and Resolution 178, which was adopted by a vote of 45 in the affirmative, two in the negative, and zero abstentions.

And M40, which was adopted by a vote of 44 in the affirmative, three in the negative, and we are now adjourned. Everyone enjoy their birthday. Happy Passover, happy Easter, and thank you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you Madam Public Advocate, and at 2:55. [Gavel] See you all next stated.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

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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 April 27, 2014