

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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July 29, 2010
Start: 01:59 pm
Recess: 03:53 pm

HELD AT: Emigrant Savings Bank
49-51 Chambers Street

B E F O R E:
Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Christine C. Quinn
Maria del Carmen Arroyo
Charles Barron
Gale A. Brewer
Fernando Cabrera
Margaret S. Chin
Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.
Elizabeth S. Crowley
Inez E. Dickens
Erik Martin Dilan
Daniel Dromm
Mathieu Eugene
Julissa Ferreras
Lewis A. Fidler

A P P E A R A N C E S

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Daniel R. Garodnick
James F. Gennaro
Vincent J. Gentile
David Greenfield
Daniel J. Halloran III
Vincent M. Ignizio
Robert Jackson
Letitia James
Peter A. Koo
G. Oliver Koppell
Karen Koslowitz
Brad S. Lander
Jessica S. Lappin
Stephen T. Levin
Melissa Mark-Viverito
Darlene Mealy
Rosie Mendez
Michael C. Nelson
James S. Oddo
Annabel Palma
Domenic M. Recchia Jr.
Diana Reyna
Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Deborah L. Rose
James Sanders, Jr.
Larry B. Seabrook
Eric A. Ulrich
James Vacca
Peter F. Vallone, Jr.
James G. Van Bramer
Mark S. Weprin
Jumaane D. Williams

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

Stephen Hendel
Producer
Fela!

Robert Trentylon
Chelsea Waterside
Park Association

Doris Corrigan
Chelsea Waterside Park Association

Rev. Nicholas S. Richards
Abyssinian Baptist Church

1
2 SPEAKER QUINN: If you deface it,
3 you're paying for it. Let me be abundantly clear
4 about that. So let's treat it nicely.

5 I want to first thank the
6 Department of Citywide Administrative Services and
7 their commissioner, Martha Hirst, who got the
8 Emigrant Savings Bank ready for us, and want to
9 really give them a big round of applause.

10 [Applause]

11 SPEAKER QUINN: I want to, in
12 particular, thank within DCAS, Joe Wagner, Lana
13 Kim, Jennifer Blum who really helped lead this
14 effort, Jesus Coombs, Daniel Burnetta [phonetic],
15 David Dimitri, Michael Massano, Wayne McGregor,
16 Marty Preston, everybody at DoITT for their help,
17 also Lieutenant John Brennan and everyone at NYPD
18 who helped get us ready today. So anyone who is
19 here from DCAS or DoITT or the Police Department
20 who helped with this, raise your hand so we can
21 thank all of you. Thank you guys very much.

22 [Applause]

23 SPEAKER QUINN: No one is raising
24 their hands, because I see Marty not raising his
25 hand. Marty was not raising his hand, even though

1
2 we know he had something to do with it. Also,
3 just from our staff, I want to thank first and
4 foremost, Ed O'Malley who led up this effort, if
5 we could get a round of applause for Ed O'Malley.

6 [Applause]

7 SPEAKER QUINN: Sabina Direnzo,
8 Carl D'Alba, Wayne Miller, Chris Lall, Chris
9 Plunkett, John Doherty, Alex Villar, Michael
10 Deloach, Andrew Shicon [phonetic], Dennis Murray,
11 Eric Espanola [phonetic], Gary Altman, John
12 Lisyanskiy, Elias Cabrera, and Jonathan Ettricks,
13 will you give everybody a big thank you and round
14 of applause.

15 [Applause]

16 SPEAKER QUINN: And I am now going
17 to turn the mike over to Jimmy Van Bramer and
18 Julissa Ferreras, who are going to christen us
19 with the first ceremonial in the Emigrant Savings
20 Bank. So you all can go down in history with that
21 great honor. Jimmy?

22 [Applause]

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BRAMER: Thank you
24 very much, Madame Speaker. Indeed, it is an honor
25 and a privilege. How exciting is it to have the

1

2 cast and the producers of *Fela* here.

3 [Applause]

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BRAMER: As most
5 people know, Councilwoman Ferreras and I sit right
6 next to each other here in the chambers and she
7 would not stop talking about *Fela* one day in the
8 chambers. She has seen it three times. She said,
9 Cultural Affairs Chair Van Bramer, you have got to
10 see *Fela*. So I went, I saw it, and I was moved
11 just as deeply as Councilwoman Ferreras and all
12 New Yorkers who have seen this amazing, amazing
13 Broadway show.

14 [Applause]

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BRAMER: I know you
16 were nominated for 11 Tony Awards. I watched the
17 Tony Awards that year because I was rooting so
18 hard for all of you. I think you should have won
19 all 11.

20 [Applause]

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BRAMER: I danced
22 more at that show than I have in a very long time.
23 I know, Speaker, it was an ugly sight, but it was
24 fun. All of you are so amazing, every single
25 performer. It was just so exciting to see you. I

1
2 don't know how you continue to do that work every
3 single day. It is so inspiring, just the physical
4 feat of it and the talent is amazing. So to the
5 producers and the writers and everybody, thank you
6 so much. Let me hand it over to Councilwoman
7 Ferreras, the single biggest supporter and fan of
8 *Fela* in the New York City Council.

9 [Applause]

10 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Well,
11 good afternoon. There is more than just the arts
12 and just more than what *Fela* does on Broadway. It
13 really is what *Fela* and how they touch their
14 audience. For a young person to go see this cast
15 on Broadway speaks volumes. It's so often that we
16 don't see people of color onstage and sometimes in
17 the audience. *Fela* has done an incredible job of
18 bringing our story to Broadway. So I want to
19 thank you.

20 I really do want to thank you for
21 inspiring so many. I know there are many young
22 people that have sat in that audience and have
23 been just as inspired. I really want to say, as
24 Jimmy had mentioned, I've seen *Fela* three times
25 and every time that I go, I see a different

1
2 perspective and have a different understanding of
3 it. I would highly recommend that everyone take
4 their family before the summer is over to go see
5 *Fela*. Thank you.

6 [Applause]

7 SPEAKER QUINN: Let me just say,
8 before I call on the clerk to read the
9 proclamation and then we hear from the producer,
10 Council Member Jackson and I, at some point before
11 the school year ended, we went and visited a
12 middle school on West 125th Street. The school,
13 among other things, uses music a lot in their
14 curriculum. It's a very diverse student body, a
15 lot of African American and Latino children. The
16 principal, when we were walking through the
17 school, told me how thrilled he was. I said
18 Broadway is in my district, so if I can ever help
19 with any contacts with the producers, let me know.
20 He said, great, but we are all hooked up. We are
21 ready to go. And I said, really, why?

22 They were all going to see all of
23 you the next day. He said the entire school was
24 abuzz about going to see all of your and your
25 performance. What Council Member Ferreras had

1
2 said, that was a school largely of children of
3 color and you had made them so thrilled about the
4 possibility of going to Broadway and seeing so
5 many people who reminded them of themselves and
6 their families and the folks that they had grown
7 up with.

8 That is something beyond art that
9 those children will carry with them forever and
10 let them know that the world of being stars on the
11 stage is something that is open to them as well.
12 So thank you for doing that everyday through your
13 work as well. We'll get you up to that school
14 next year. It's a date.

15 If the clerk could, please read the
16 proclamation.

17 CLERK: Council, City of New York
18 Proclamation, whereas the Council of the City of
19 New York is proud to honor the cast and creative
20 team behind the jubilant musical *Fela* for their
21 groundbreaking contributions to American theater.
22 And whereas, since *Fela* made its Broadway debut in
23 November 2009 at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre,
24 quickly became an audience phenomenon and a
25 critical success. This year it garnered 11 Tony

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2 nominations and won 3 Tony Awards, including best
3 choreography, best costume design for a musical
4 and best sound design of a musical.

5 And whereas, *Fela* is the true story
6 of Fela Kuti, the legendary Nigerian musician
7 whose soulful Afrobeat rhythms ignited a
8 generation, inspired a nation, and inspired people
9 around the world. In real life, before Fela
10 became an icon, he was an African superstar,
11 composer, singer and musician as well a mystic and
12 political activist willing to pay a heavy price
13 for defending freedom.

14 And whereas, the Broadway
15 production of *Fela*, conceived by its visionary
16 director and choreographer, Bill T. Jones, with
17 it's co-author Jim Lewis and Stephen Hendel is a
18 new story told in an entirely new way, Fela Kuti
19 is vividly brought to life with his own music and
20 lyrics, excellent portrayals by actors Sahr
21 Ngaujah and Kevin Mambo, as well as extremely
22 talented actors in other roles. Although the show
23 is set in the 1970s, the production of *Fela* speaks
24 to all audiences today. Furthermore, the show's
25 fantastic design time, including Marina Draghici,

1
2 Robert Wierzel, Robert Kaplowitz, Peter Negrini,
3 Cookie Jordan and others, have created a thrilling
4 preview of the direction of Broadway shows for the
5 future.

6 And whereas, together the cast and
7 crew of *Fela* have insured that *Fela Kuti* lives on.
8 They have truly distinguished themselves and their
9 pioneering work and they are worthy of the esteem
10 of all New Yorker. Now therefore, be it know,
11 that the Council of the City of New York is proud
12 to honor the creators, cast and crew of *Fela* for
13 their outstanding artistic contributions to New
14 York City and the American theater. Christine C.
15 Quinn, Speaker for the entire Council, Jimmy Van
16 Bramer, Council Member 26th District Queens,
17 Julissa Ferreras, Council Member 21st District
18 Queens.

19 [Applause]

20 SPEAKER QUINN: Jimmy, we're going
21 to hear from the producer?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BRAMER: I just
23 wanted to add one thing, without causing any
24 Broadway controversy, but how you did not win that
25 Tony, we know that you were wonderful, wonderful,

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2 wonderful, and just to represent the whole team,
3 speaking on behalf of the entire *Fela* family, the
4 producer Stephen Hendel.

5

STEPHEN HENDEL: Thank you so much,
6 Councilwoman, Councilman and Speaker. I just want
7 to say it's so moving because this cast, these
8 people, this is a New York City group. This comes
9 from Manhattan, from the boroughs, everyone here.
10 *Fela* I think is one of the only shows that has
11 never ever been anywhere else. We created *Fela* in
12 New York City.

13

We work shopped it in different
14 locations, in dance studios. We were off
15 Broadway. We're on Broadway now. This show has
16 never been anywhere but New York City. All of the
17 people who have worked on the show have been in
18 New York City. When you can see this group of
19 people, you can see it is New York City. We
20 really, really appreciate all the kind words. We
21 appreciate you coming three times and you coming
22 as well. Obviously, the honor is magnificent for
23 us.

24

We are going to take *Fela* all over
25 the world. We've been asked to take it in Africa,

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2 in Europe, in Australia and Asia. When this show
3 goes all over the world, hopefully some of these
4 people will be with it, but when it goes, it will
5 be something totally created in New York City that
6 will be brought to all these different places. So
7 thank you very, very much.

8 [Applause]

9 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you all very
10 much.

11 [Pause]

12 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you
13 everybody. Thank you very much.

14 [Pause]

15 SPEAKER QUINN: We love you
16 Broadway, but keep it moving. We've got another
17 act coming up here.

18 [Pause]

19 SPEAKER QUINN: We're going to
20 bring up our second ceremonial as soon as we take
21 a picture. So if I could ask Bob Trentlyon and
22 Doris Corrigan to join me up here and all of my
23 colleagues, but in particular the Manhattan
24 Council Members, and everybody that Doris and Bob
25 brought with them.

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[Pause]

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SPEAKER QUINN: Come on Bob, come on Doris. Bob, they're just members of the press, step around them.

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6

[Pause]

7

SPEAKER QUINN: As the other Manhattan Council Members are making their way up here, yes, that is for them. For folks who may not know these two individuals, but I bet a lot of people do, this is Doris Corrigan and Bob Trentlyon. Doris and Bob both live in my council district and are two real living legends on the west side of Manhattan. They have been heading up the Chelsea Waterside Park Association forever.

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Now, if folks have had the opportunity to be on the west side of Manhattan recently, you'll see the Chelsea Waterside Park and the Hudson River Park in Chelsea.

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FEMALE VOICE: I'm jealous.

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25

SPEAKER QUINN: You should be jealous. They are beautiful. We recently had Pier 62 and Pier 63 open. They are beyond any expectation I had of how great an addition they would be to our open space on the west side.

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2 But you have to think back not so
3 long ago, when I first started working for Tom
4 Dwayne in 1992, there was no Chelsea Waterside
5 Park. There was no Hudson River Park. I once
6 said to Tom, "What's this Chelsea Waterside Park
7 Association, there is no park?" Tom said, "That's
8 the point. We're going to get a park." Every
9 year, Doris would make us go to this little
10 terrible, run-down pocket park that was in the
11 middle of the West Side Highway. She would make
12 us plant flowers and she would make us play
13 volleyball while we ingested tons of carbon
14 monoxide from the cars. She would say, "If we
15 don't use this park, we can't make the point we
16 need a bigger and better park."

17 Bob and Doris founded the Chelsea
18 Waterside Park Association. They've helped lead
19 it for decades. They've organized the community.
20 When I was walking to the ribbon cutting, I
21 remembered the one Columbus Day press conference
22 we had opposing Chelsea Pier's desire to take away
23 part of our public space to make it a taxi
24 turnaround. But there's a million others, when
25 Hermann's wanted to move over there. A million

1

2 other organizing efforts Bob and Doris have done.
3 Without them, we wouldn't have the beautiful Pier
4 62 and Pier 63 we have today.

5 So I wanted to just take a moment
6 of personal privilege in the Council and thank
7 both of them for their great work to Chelsea and
8 the west side of Manhattan and the city as a
9 whole, because you are all welcome to Pier 62 and
10 Pier 63. If I could ask the clerk to maybe read
11 portions of the proclamations and then we'll hear
12 from Bob and Doris.

13 CLERK: Council, City of New York
14 Proclamation, whereas the Council of the City of
15 New York is proud to honor Doris Corrigan and Bob
16 Trentlyon for their extraordinary commitment and
17 contributions to the success of Hudson River Park.

18 And whereas, in the mid 1980s Ms.
19 Corrigan and Mr. Trentlyon founded the Chelsea
20 Waterside Park Association, and served as its
21 president and vice president respectively.
22 Together they spearheaded the charge to break down
23 the all that kept Chelsea removed from its
24 waterfront.

25 And whereas, originally from

1
2 Michigan, Ms. Corrigan move to Chelsea in the
3 1970s and has been fully engaged in the community
4 ever since. A true tenant activist, Ms. Corrigan
5 can always been seen at various rallies and
6 protests, fighting for a more diverse and
7 affordable Chelsea. She nurtured the community so
8 much that she is affectionately known as the Aunt
9 Bea of Chelsea.

10 And whereas, Mr. Trentlyon has been
11 a true champion for his Chelsea neighborhood for
12 over 50 years, during this time his incredible
13 legacy of public service has included helping
14 reopen the Chelsea recreation center and working
15 as a journalist and publisher for more than three
16 decades.

17 And whereas, Ms. Corrigan and Mr.
18 Trentlyon worked tirelessly to see one of their
19 longest campaigns come to fruition on May 17th,
20 2010 when the newest section of the Hudson River
21 Park, Manhattan's largest open space to be built
22 in Manhattan since Central Park, open to the
23 public in Chelsea.

24 This magnificent parkland,
25 comprised of Pier 62 and 63, form the crown jewel

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2 in Hudson River Park's Emerald Necklace of
3 waterfront piers and promenades. The two new
4 piers along with Pier 64 form the largest new
5 green space in Hudson River Park at just over nine
6 acres. The new Chelsea creation includes a great
7 lawn, a stone field landscape created by artist
8 Meg Webster, a magnificent public garden designed
9 by Linden Miller, an enormous skate park and a
10 gorgeous carousel.

11 And whereas Ms. Corrigan and Mr.
12 Trentlyon deserve our enduring gratitude for their
13 unwavering dedication to realizing Chelsea's
14 waterfront wonderland, on behalf of the millions
15 of visitors to Hudson River Park, we extend our
16 most heartfelt thanks for their contributions.

17 Now therefore be it know that the
18 Council of the City of New York most gratefully
19 honors Doris Corrigan and Bob Trentlyon for their
20 extraordinary service and contributions to New
21 York City. Christine C. Quinn, Speaker for the
22 entire Council.

23 SPEAKER QUINN: Let me give the
24 mike first to Doris and then Bob.

25 [Applause]

1
2 DORIS CORRIGAN: Thank you. Thank
3 you all. Thank you for such a lovely speech.

4 SPEAKER QUINN: You're welcome.

5 DORIS CORRIGAN: I was told that I
6 wasn't going to be able to speak.

7 SPEAKER QUINN: Well, I'm in
8 charge.

9 DORIS CORRIGAN: But I do want to
10 say one thing, we couldn't have done it ourselves
11 without the people that helped us on our executive
12 board and there are many, many people that were
13 part of it. I certainly can't mention all of
14 their names, but they know who they are and I want
15 to thank them for being supportive of our dreams
16 of Bob and I and our park. Thank you.

17 SPEAKER QUINN: Bob?

18 ROBERT TRENTLYON: I was going to
19 give a thank you speech, but I realized that was
20 going to take much too long if I tried to name
21 half the people would have been working for it.
22 So I just want to say that it's been a wonderful
23 30 year journey creating this beautiful park on
24 the Hudson River.

25 A few of you have been here since

1
2 the beginning. Many of you have become involved
3 along the way. I never doubted that a park on the
4 Hudson River would be built in Chelsea. But I
5 certainly was off in estimating how many years it
6 would take.

7 Thank you, Chris and the City
8 Council for these beautiful proclamations. Our
9 real reward, however, will be the park and seeing
10 the happiness it has created for people of all
11 ages. At some point the thanks will stop, but the
12 joy of those using the park will never stop. We
13 are truly blessed.

14 So many of us in this room have
15 aspired to reach lofty goals and have been forced
16 to make compromises that we did not want to make.
17 So many of these goals may never be reached no
18 matter how hard we try. That is why building a
19 park that you can walk in or sit in or touch can
20 mean so very much. It will always be there and it
21 can never be compromised. Thanks to all of you
22 who have walked with Doris and I on this long
23 journey. Please take pride in your participation
24 in building this truly great public park and share
25 the joy in its use by the entire Chelsea

1

2 community.

3 [Applause]

4 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you both and
5 congratulations. That concludes our inaugural
6 ceremonials here at the Emigrant Savings Bank.

7 [Pause]

8 SPEAKER QUINN: If I could get
9 folks' attention for one more second. That did
10 conclude ceremonials, but I have one more kind of
11 semi-ceremonial. Is Council Member Gennaro still
12 here? Come on up, Jim.

13 Twenty years ago next week, on
14 August 6th, 1990, a young man joined the Council's
15 Policy and Research Office as a deputy director.
16 Among his duties, he was assigned to work with the
17 Environmental Protection Committee.

18 After ten years, he was elected to
19 the Council and being immensely qualified, he was
20 immediately elected by his fellow Council Members
21 in January 2002 to replace the late great Stanley
22 Michaels, who was retired by term limits, to be
23 the new chair of the Environmental Protection
24 Committee.

25 As we all know, he holds that

1
2 position today, leading us today and in many
3 meetings in environmental efforts which I think
4 have led us to be the most environmentally
5 progressive city legislative body in the country,
6 and have also made Jim the star of many a
7 documentary heralded by none other than the
8 Sundance Film Festival.

9 So I just want to thank a moment
10 today to congratulate Jim on not just his 20 years
11 of service to the City of New York, but his 20
12 years of service to the New York City Council and
13 to the environment of the City of New York. Can
14 we get a round of applause for Jim Gennaro?

15 [Applause]

16 SPEAKER QUINN: Congratulations.
17 Appropriately today, we mark this by passing the
18 long-awaited biofuels bill. Congratulations, Jim.

19 [Pause]

20 MALE VOICE: Ladies and gentlemen,
21 can I have your attention please? Can I have your
22 attention please? Quiet please. At this time,
23 can you please place all cell phones and pagers to
24 vibrate? Thank you.

25 [Pause]

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Good
3 afternoon. We are starting the Stated Meeting for
4 July 29th, 2010 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

5 [Pledge of Allegiance]

6 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Roll call.

7 CLERK: Arroyo?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Here.

9 CLERK: Barron?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: [No
11 response].

12 CLERK: Brewer?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: [No
14 response].

15 CLERK: Brewer?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes.

17 CLERK: Thank you. Cabrera?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

19 CLERK: Chin?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

21 CLERK: Comrie?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Present.

23 CLERK: Crowley?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.

25 CLERK: Dickens?

1

2

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Here.

3

CLERK: Dilan?

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COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Here.

5

CLERK: Dromm?

6

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

7

CLERK: Eugene?

8

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.

9

CLERK: Ferreras?

10

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Here.

11

CLERK: Fidler?

12

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Here.

13

CLERK: Foster?

14

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: [No

15

response].

16

CLERK: Garodnick?

17

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.

18

CLERK: Gennaro?

19

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here.

20

CLERK: Gentile?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.

22

CLERK: Gonzalez?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: [No

24

response].

25

CLERK: Greenfield?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Here.

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3

CLERK: Halloran?

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COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Present.

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CLERK: Ignizio?

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COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: [No

7

response].

8

CLERK: Jackson?

9

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Here.

10

CLERK: James?

11

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Here.

12

CLERK: Koo?

13

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Here.

14

CLERK: Koppell?

15

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Here.

16

CLERK: Koslowitz?

17

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

18

CLERK: Lander?

19

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

20

CLERK: Lappin?

21

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Here.

22

CLERK: Levin?

23

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

24

CLERK: Mark-Viverito?

25

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:

1

2 Here.

3 CLERK: Mealy?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Here.

5 CLERK: Mendez?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: [No

7 response].

8 CLERK: Nelson?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: [No

10 response].

11 CLERK: Palma?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Here.

13 CLERK: Recchia?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: [No

15 response].

16 CLERK: Reyna?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Here.

18 CLERK: RODRIGUEZ?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: [No

20 response].

21 CLERK: Rose?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.

23 CLERK: Sanders?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: [No

25 response].

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2

CLERK: Seabrook?

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COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: [No

4

response].

5

CLERK: Ulrich?

6

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Here.

7

CLERK: Vacca?

8

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.

9

CLERK: Vallone?

10

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

11

CLERK: Van Bramer?

12

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

13

CLERK: Vann?

14

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: [No

15

response].

16

CLERK: Weprin?

17

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: [No

18

response].

19

CLERK: White?

20

COUNCIL MEMBER WHITE: [No

21

response].

22

CLERK: Williams?

23

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.

24

CLERK: Oddo?

25

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Here.

1

2 CLERK: Recchia?

2

3 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Here.

3

4 CLERK: Rivera?

4

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: [No

5

6 response].

6

7 CLERK: Speaker Quinn?

7

8 SPEAKER QUINN: Here.

8

9 CLERK: We have a quorum.

9

10 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: We are

10

11 honored today to have with us to deliver the

11

12 Invocation, Reverend Nicholas S. Richards, the

12

13 assistant minister for Abyssinian Baptist Church.

13

14 Please rise.

14

15 REV. NICHOLAS S. RICHARDS: Let us

15

16 pray. Before the hills in order stood, or earth

16

17 received her frame, from everlasting thou art God,

17

18 to endless years the same. We thank you now, God,

18

19 for this moment to pause from the busyness of our

19

20 lives, the hurriedness of this day to recognize

20

21 our collective need for you. Now, God, we thank

21

22 you for this chance to serve you, to serve our

22

23 city, to serve your people. Help us to serve you,

23

24 oh God, with vigor and value. Help us to serve

24

25 with humility and faith, with hope, oh God, that

25

1
2 we might create a city shining on the hill for the
3 world to see our good work, so God, and glorify
4 you. This is our prayer. Dear God, we pray that
5 you might bless now the Speaker of this Council.
6 Dear God, we pray that you might bless the
7 members. Oh God, bless all those who support this
8 body. This is our prayer by the spirit of God in
9 us all, amen.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Motion to
11 spread the Invocation, Council Member Dickens?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Thank you,
13 Reverend Richards for giving us the Invocation. I
14 just want my members to know that this is a young
15 minister that is the president of the Abyssinian
16 Fund which, amongst other things, is working with
17 700 coffee farmers in Ethiopia to assist these
18 farmers in farming techniques and to be able to
19 get out of poverty. Motion to spread the
20 Invocation in full upon the record.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Thank you.
22 So ordered.

23 SPEAKER QUINN: If I could ask my
24 colleagues to please rise for a moment. Thank
25 you. I just want to note the passing of two

1
2 individuals who were members of the extended
3 Council family.

4 On July 17th, 2010, we learned of
5 the passing of Harry Altman, 89, the father of a
6 longtime Council staffer Gary Altman. Gary's dad
7 was born in Nashville but grew up and spent really
8 his entire life in New York City on the Lower East
9 Side. He was proud to have served his country in
10 World War II. He owned a tuxedo shop on Clinton
11 Street. At the age of 47, he changed professions
12 and became a successful stockbroker. He and
13 Gary's mom volunteered to help in the Israeli Army
14 later in life. They did this for one month every
15 year over the span of five years.

16 The core of Harry Altman's being
17 was that he was there for anyone who needed him,
18 whether it was a family member, a friend, a friend
19 of a friend, no matter who it was, he went out of
20 his way to help and to help get the job done.

21 Harry has 4 children, 11 grandchildren and 6 great
22 grandchildren. We are very lucky to have had one
23 of his children, Gary Altman, serve with us now
24 and serve us for so very long as a member of the
25 Council staff.

1
2 Also, on July 21st, 2010, we
3 learned of the passing of Maria Montserrat Cantana
4 [phonetic], 102, the grandmother of our colleague,
5 Council Member Fernando Cabrera, known to all as
6 Momma Monzi [phonetic]. She was born in Puerto
7 Rico in 1907, married in 1928 and moved with her
8 husband to New York City in 1955.

9 She was the proud mother of 15 sons
10 and daughters. That is an enormous
11 accomplishment. She had 29 grandchildren, 46
12 great grandchildren and 13 great great
13 grandchildren. Our thoughts and prayers go out to
14 her entire family, but particularly to our
15 colleague Council Member Cabrera. It is no wonder
16 that Council Member Cabrera is a man who has such
17 a deep commitment and love of family and that we
18 see that in all of his work, having had a
19 grandmother like this. Thank you all. Thank you
20 Deputy Majority Leader.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Thank you.

22 Adoption of minutes, Council Member Dromm?

23 Council Member Dromm, adoption of the minutes?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: I move
25 forward to adopt the minutes on May 12th and May

1

2 25th, 2010.

3

4

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Messages
and papers from the Mayor?

5

6

7

8

9

MALE VOICE: Preconsidered M174
through M177, submitting Frederick Bland, Robert
B. Tierney, Christopher Moore and Joan Gerner for
reappointment to the Landmarks Preservation
Commission.

10

11

SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, Privileges
and Elections.

12

13

MALE VOICE: M178, submitting Joel
A. Forman for appointment to the Board of Health.

14

15

16

17

18

SPEAKER QUINN: Transportation.
Did I read the wrong one? Hang on. Robert
Jackson distracted me. Hang on for a second.
It's RJ's fault. Rules, Privileges and Elections.
You are very right, Jonathan. I guessed.

19

20

21

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE:
Communication from City, County and Borough
Offices?

22

23

MALE VOICE: M179 through M207 on
page 5, base station licenses.

24

25

SPEAKER QUINN: Transportation.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Petitions

1

2 and communications.

3

MALE VOICE: None.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Land Use

5

Call-ups.

6

MALE VOICE: M208 through M211.

7

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on a Land

8

Use Call-up. If we could now please have a roll

9

call on the coupled Land Use Call-ups please.

10

CLERK: Arroyo?

11

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye on all.

12

CLERK: Brewer?

13

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: [No

14

response].

15

CLERK: Cabrera?

16

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: I remind

18

members that we need you to speak into the mic

19

because of the acoustics in the building.

20

CLERK: Chin?

21

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

22

CLERK: Comrie?

23

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye.

24

CLERK: Crowley?

25

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

1
2 CLERK: Dickens?
3 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.
4 CLERK: Dilan?
5 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Aye.
6 CLERK: Dromm?
7 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.
8 CLERK: Eugene?
9 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.
10 CLERK: Ferreras?
11 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.
12 CLERK: Fidler?
13 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Yes.
14 CLERK: Foster?
15 COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: [No
16 response].
17 CLERK: Garodnick?
18 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.
19 CLERK: Gennaro?
20 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Yes.
21 CLERK: Gentile?
22 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Yes.
23 CLERK: Greenfield?
24 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.
25 CLERK: Halloran?

1

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Aye.

2

3

CLERK: Ignizio?

4

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Aye.

5

CLERK: Jackson?

6

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye on

7

all.

8

CLERK: James?

9

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Aye on all.

10

CLERK: Koo?

11

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye on all.

12

CLERK: Koppell?

13

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Mr.

14

Majority Leader, I ask unanimous consent to vote

15

on all matters on the General Orders Calendar as

16

well as Resolutions.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: So ordered.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: I vote aye

19

on all.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Thank you.

21

CLERK: Koslowitz?

22

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye on

23

all.

24

CLERK: Lander?

25

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye on all.

1

2

CLERK: Lappin?

3

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

4

CLERK: Levin?

5

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

6

CLERK: Mark-Viverito?

7

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: [No

8

response].

9

CLERK: Mealy?

10

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: [No

11

response].

12

CLERK: Mendez?

13

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: I'm going

15

to ask members that you really need to talk into

16

the mic because of the sound and the acoustics.

17

If you're not speaking directly into the mic, it

18

won't be recorded. We need to record your votes.

19

Thank you.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Was my aye

21

captured?

22

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: We got you.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Thank you.

24

CLERK: Nelson?

25

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Aye.

1

CLERK: Palma?

2

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

3

CLERK: Recchia?

4

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Aye.

5

CLERK: Reyna?

6

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye.

7

CLERK: RODRIGUEZ?

8

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

9

10 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Didn't hear
11 you.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Still

13

14 didn't hear you.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Thank you.

16

CLERK: Rose?

17

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye on all.

18

CLERK: Sanders?

19

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Aye on

20

21 all.

CLERK: Ulrich?

22

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.

23

CLERK: Vacca?

24

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

25

1

CLERK: Vallone?

2

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

3

CLERK: Van Bramer?

4

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

5

CLERK: Weprin?

6

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

7

CLERK: Williams?

8

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: [No

9

10 response].

CLERK: Williams?

11

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

12

CLERK: Oddo?

13

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

14

CLERK: Speaker Quinn?

15

SPEAKER QUINN: Yes.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Today's

17

18 Land Use Call-ups were adopted by a vote of 43

18

19 affirmative and zero negative. Communication from

19

20 the Speaker?

20

21 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. Before

21

22 I speak on the legislation we are voting on today,

22

23 I just want to take a moment to congratulate our

23

24 colleague, Council Member Steve Levin, who became

24

25 an uncle earlier today and has a new niece.

25

1

2 Congratulations to Council Member Levin.

3 [Applause]

4 SPEAKER QUINN: I want to first
5 note a number of environmental pieces of
6 legislation that we are voting on today, fitting
7 with the anniversary of Chairperson Gennaro.
8 First, Intro 194-A, and I want to thank Jeff
9 Haberman and Samara Swanson and Siobhan Watson and
10 Ray Majewski and Laura Popa who worked incredibly,
11 incredibly long and hard on that piece of
12 legislation, as well as everyone in the Mayor's
13 Office of Legislative Affairs and in the Mayor's
14 Office Sustainability for all of their work on
15 this legislation.

16 Quite simply, 194-A is going to
17 remove New York City from a place it should not be
18 in. New York City is one of the few cities left
19 in America that still allows buildings to burn
20 some of the dirtiest, most polluting oil. By
21 passing 194-A and requiring 2% biofuels in our
22 fuels, moving us away from dirtier to cleaner
23 fuels, we are going to stop that standard of
24 leading in the area of air pollution. We are
25 going to stop those 10,000 buildings that are

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using this dirty oil.

Although you might say that 10,000 buildings in the City of New York, what difference does that make? Those buildings are creating 50% of the pollution our citizens are suffering under. So this is going to make an enormous difference. We believe reducing the sulfur cap alone will reduce pollution in the City of New York by 16%. That will reduce asthma. That will hopefully make it so New Yorkers can live longer and healthier lives and put us all in a position where we all can literally and figuratively breathe easier. I, again, want to thank all of the staff who have worked on this, but in particular, I want to thank the chair of our Environmental Protection Committee, the sponsor of the bill, Jim Gennaro, for his tremendous work on this. I'll call on him to speak for a moment.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you, Madame Speaker. I want to thank you for your leadership and all of the staff that you mentioned who worked so long and so hard to get this done. I'd also like to thank the Mayor's staff that are certainly very appropriate, the one that worked

1
2 the hardest in that office was Kizzy Charles-
3 Guzman, who worked very, very hard on this. I
4 thank her for all of the work that she did.

5 We had a lot of partners in the
6 environmental committee, starting with the
7 Environmental Defense Fund, the Natural Resource
8 Defense Council, the American Lung Association,
9 the New York League of Conservation Voters, the
10 American Cancer Society, WE ACT for Environmental
11 Justice, the New York Environmental Justice
12 Alliance, all the good folks from the biodiesel
13 and bioheat world who worked with us, the New York
14 Oil Heat Association.

15 It wasn't easy for this association
16 to come together and form some kind of consensus
17 to move forward on this. It was a great work and
18 I'm very glad that after many years we finally
19 brought this to pass. It's hard to just say in a
20 few moments the great impact that this will have.
21 But it certainly is something that everyone can be
22 very proud of.

23 Once again, I thank you Madame
24 Speaker. I thank the sponsors of the bill. I
25 thank you all for your support for this very, very

1

2 good work. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

3

4 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
5 much, Chair Gennaro. Let me next move out of the
6 environment for a moment into the actions of our
7 Land Use Committee today. I think the overall
8 actions of our Council today could be summed up by
9 helping New York City grow and become greener as a
10 city. In Land Use, we are taking action today on
11 two important matters. One, the Flushing Commons
12 project and two, the Domino's project one,
13 obviously in Queens, one in Brooklyn.

14

15 I want to thank Gail Benjamin and
16 everyone on the Land Use staff for their work. I
17 want to thank Ramon Martinez for all of his work
18 on both of these, as well as the staff in the
19 Mayor's Office and the Department of City
20 Planning.

21

22 With the Flushing Commons project,
23 we are going to take a municipal parking garage
24 and help use that property to support an
25 incredibly important vibrant and growing business
and shopping district in Flushing. A shopping
district and business district that doesn't just
support the Flushing community, but has become a

1
2 major shopping destination for people all across
3 the city, all across the state, and tourists from
4 all across the world.

5 We are going to add open space to
6 this part of Queens, an important new community
7 facility through creating more parking spaces that
8 are more focused on short-term parking to help
9 small businesses. We're going to help support the
10 small businesses in Flushing, but we are also
11 going to make sure that through a special fund
12 that has been created that our city agencies are
13 helping small businesses in Flushing grow with
14 targeted loans and outreach and special attention
15 during the time of transition and development
16 there.

17 We'll also create a significant
18 amount of housing through this action. I really
19 want to thank everyone who has worked long and
20 hard on this, particularly our Land Use chair,
21 Leroy Comrie, our subcommittee chair, Council
22 Member David Weprin, but no one more significantly
23 than Council Member Peter Koo, who as a new member
24 this is a pretty big project to undertake but he
25 has done a really, really terrific job. So if we

1

2 could have a round of applause for Peter Koo.

3 [Applause]

4 SPEAKER QUINN: Let me also say by
5 the Domino's redevelopment today, we will take an
6 unused part of the Brooklyn waterfront and
7 transform it into a terrific new mixed use
8 development. A place where there will be jobs, a
9 school, a supermarket, affordable housing, 30% of
10 the units developed in this will be permanently
11 affordable.

12 Through both of these actions,
13 we're helping New York City grow. We're creating
14 important community facilities New Yorkers need.
15 We're bringing open space. We're utilizing the
16 waterfront. We're creating housing and we're
17 creating affordable housing and we'll be putting
18 thousands of New Yorkers to work in construction
19 jobs and other permanent jobs, jobs that are
20 desperately needed right now in the City of New
21 York.

22 So I want to echo my thanks to Gale
23 and her team and to Ramon and to Chair Comrie and
24 Chair Weprin on the Domino's project. But I want
25 to add my congratulations to Council Member Steve

1
2 Levin who worked very hard to make sure the
3 concerns of his community around traffic in
4 particular were addressed in this project. I want
5 to thank everyone for their work. Let me call
6 first on Chairs Comrie and Weprin and then Council
7 Member Koo and then Council Member Levin.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: I just want
9 to congratulate all of the people that the Speaker
10 already mentioned. I won't re-mention them again.
11 I want to thank all the people that were involved
12 in both projects. Both projects will make a
13 significant impact in both communities.

14 I think that both projects were
15 achieved through a higher level of communication,
16 a high level of determination to make sure that
17 there was a real understanding of the needs of
18 both communities and making sure that when there
19 is an opportunity to change the footprint of the
20 community, that the community concerns are kept
21 foremost, kept to make sure that the
22 administration understands what those needs are,
23 that they're translated, that if there have to be
24 secondary plans or ongoing opportunities that they
25 will be created.

1
2 The new Domino development that
3 means that there are some traffic studies and
4 mitigation and making sure that there's an
5 opportunity to ensure that there is flexibility.
6 In the Flushing Commons program, it means that
7 there is an opportunity for an ongoing revolving
8 loan fund, an ongoing effort to ensure that
9 traffic needs and the small business community
10 need will be engaged and kept going in perpetuity.

11 It's a real testament to both
12 Council Member Levin and Council Member Koo for
13 all of the hard work that they put in to makes
14 these projects possible. I'm very pleased that
15 our Chair Mark Weprin--

16 SPEAKER QUINN: [interposing] I am
17 so sorry, I said David. I apologize, Mark. I'm
18 so sorry.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: We all do
20 that from time to time.

21 SPEAKER QUINN: My father calls me
22 Ellen all the time, which is my sister's name. So
23 I apologize.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Through
25 working with our subcommittee chair who is very

1
2 able at holding long hearings and listening to all
3 sides, making sure that the negotiations for both
4 projects were done in a manner that led to today's
5 vote. Thank you, Madame Chair.

6 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
7 much, Chair Comrie. Let me now call on the chair
8 of our Zoning Commission, Mark Weprin.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Thank you,
10 Madame Speaker. No offense taken. I've been
11 called a lot worse than that, believe me. I just
12 want to add to what Chairman Comrie said about how
13 important these projects are.

14 The Speaker talked about the great
15 benefits a lot of these projects have. New York
16 City is the greatest city in the world. And as it
17 continues to grow and develop, we need to come up
18 with smart development. These projects, thanks to
19 the help of their local Council Members,
20 Councilman Levin in the Domino and Council Member
21 Koo in the Flushing Common, really have so many
22 great community benefits included in it. Open
23 space in Flushing, as well as community
24 facilities, affordable housing, as well as great
25 retail space.

1
2 And included in that is something
3 that we fought very hard for, is protections for
4 those local businesses during construction and
5 giving them the ability to market their businesses
6 continuing even after construction. And then in
7 Domino, Council Member Levin working very hard to
8 try to lower the density of this project, lower
9 the height for a lot of the people in the
10 community, but also ensuring public transportation
11 options are there as well.

12 So I'd like to think it's never
13 perfect but it really came out surprisingly well.
14 The ULURP process does work on occasion and us
15 listening for those hours and hours at these
16 hearings did bring a lot of information to the
17 table that help us negotiate a better project. I
18 think these are going to be two terrific projects
19 for the future of our city. Thank you very much.

20 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, Chair
21 Weprin. I want to echo your vision of how
22 terrific these projects are going to be for the
23 City of New York. Just before I call on Council
24 Member Koo and Council Member Levin, I again just
25 want to congratulate both of them.

1
2 I just want to say before Council
3 Member Koo speaks, I think this was a long and
4 complicated process, a lot of hearings and it was
5 very important for us in the Council to be
6 constantly reminded about what the community
7 wanted and needed out of this project, because
8 they are there every day. At a time like this in
9 the City of New York when we are fighting as much
10 as we possibly can to support small businesses and
11 make sure we don't lose small businesses to the
12 recession.

13 Council Member Koo, I think you did
14 a tremendous job fighting for the small businesses
15 of Flushing and reminding all of us that there are
16 our small businesses as well. So I just wanted to
17 congratulate you. I'm calling on Council Member
18 Peter Koo.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you,
20 Madame Speaker. After many years of planning,
21 meetings and negotiations, the Flushing Commons
22 project was unanimously approved by the New York
23 City Council Land Use Committee. I'm confident
24 that today the rest of my colleagues will also
25 understand the quick benefits and vote aye to

1
2 approve the project. I want to thank Speaker
3 Quinn, the Mayor, Council Member Leroy, Council
4 Member Mark and Central Staff Amy Levitan, Gail
5 and Carol and everyone who participated in the
6 process and contributed to the evolution of this
7 project.

8 In addition to creating jobs,
9 revenues and community benefits, we will implement
10 a \$6 million small business assistance package
11 that will protect our local merchants who are so
12 important to our community. When completed, the
13 Flushing Commons project will be a community
14 gathering place, a dynamic retail location and a
15 wonderful place to live.

16 As a result of everyone working
17 together, we made Flushing Commons a reality and
18 we have ensured that the future of downtown
19 Flushing is bright, energetic and vibrant.
20 Flushing will continue to be the destination of
21 choice for immigrants. Thank you.

22 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
23 much, Council Member Koo. I want to echo the
24 Council Member's thanks to Carol Shine and Amy
25 Levitan who worked very closely with Gail on this

1
2 project. Our final speaker on Land Use today will
3 be Council Member Steve Levin. I just want to,
4 again, echo my congratulations to Steve,
5 particularly as it related to making sure there
6 were protections to make sure this community
7 facility and Domino's remained a school and also
8 to make sure the transportation needs that were
9 raised by the community as it relates to folks who
10 are commuting in and out of Manhattan were also
11 addressed. Let me now call on Council Member
12 Levin.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you
14 very much, Madame Speaker. I want to thank you
15 for your welcome to Jacob Lee Levin who was born
16 today at around noon. I was going to bring him
17 down to the session but I figured I would give him
18 a couple of weeks before inaugurating him into the
19 world of politics. But I thank you very much.

20 I want to thank Speaker Quinn
21 especially and her staff Ramon Martinez, Chuck
22 Meara, Land Use staff Gail Benjamin, Carol Shine,
23 Amy Levitan, Christian Hylton, the entire Land Use
24 staff, my colleagues from Brooklyn, especially
25 Council Members Domenic Recchia and Erik Dilan for

1

2 their support, Land Use Chair Leroy Comrie and
3 subcommittee chair Mark Weprin, Mayor Bloomberg
4 and everyone at the Mayor's Office who worked on
5 this project, including former deputy mayor Bob
6 Lieber, Deputy Mayor Howard Wolfson and their
7 staffs, Assembly Member Vito Lopez, who I actually
8 started working on this project with him at his
9 office when I was on his staff. He's worked on
10 this project tirelessly for over four years and
11 has dedicated his career to affordable quality
12 housing.

13

I'd also like to thank the
14 residents of Williamsburg and Greenpoint who have
15 been so actively engaged in this process for many
16 years, going back before the 2005 rezoning. They
17 kept me going and their support was very
18 heartening to me.

19

Today we are voting on a
20 development that will bring 660 units of
21 affordable housing to the Williamsburg waterfront.
22 This project sets a standard of 30% affordable
23 housing on the waterfront. This project will also
24 preserve the Domino sugar refinery and its iconic
25 sign, testaments to Brooklyn's industrial history.

1
2 Additionally, the new Domino will
3 bring 140,000 square feet of community facility
4 space and 4 acres of much needed open space on the
5 waterfront. The developer, CPCR, has also agreed
6 to provide a shuttle bus to alleviate some of the
7 transit issues. We will form a community advisory
8 council to ensure that the community has a voice
9 throughout the construction process. The
10 developer has also commitment to providing
11 prevailing wages for building service workers,
12 construction trade workers and supermarket
13 employees.

14 I am pleased with the commitment
15 from the Bloomberg administration to also work
16 with the community, with the Williamsburg
17 community on a number of issues moving forward,
18 including the continuation of the tenant anti-
19 harassment funds, Williamsburg Greenpoint funding
20 for additional parkland on the waterfront, arts
21 programming and a comprehensive transit study for
22 Community Board 1, as well as a job training
23 initiative for neighborhood residents.

24 With that, I thank you all very
25 much. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

1
2 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
3 much, Council Member Levin. We are also voting
4 today on a package of 11 pieces of legislation
5 relevant to the city's recycling program. I want
6 to thank Jeff Haberman and Jarret Hova, Siobhan
7 Watson, Preston Niblack, Jonathan Rosenberg,
8 Michael Strasberg and most significantly Laura
9 Popa for their work on these 11 pieces of
10 legislation.

11 To sum it up, when Local Law 19 was
12 passed by the City Council about 20 years ago, it
13 put us on the map as the urban leader in
14 recycling. The truth is that we've fallen a
15 little bit off of that pedestal and we aren't
16 still the urban leaders in recycling.

17 This packaged of 11 bills will
18 again make us an urban leader in the area of
19 recycling by making all rigid plastics recycling,
20 by making textiles recyclable in the City of New
21 York, by coming up with a plan for commercial
22 recycling, by expanding public recycling about
23 1,000 more bins, by creating a pilot for paint
24 recycling, by expanding and codifying our
25 household hazard waste program and other steps.

1
2 We will reduce New York City's waste stream,
3 reduce the amount of garbage we are taking to the
4 dump, expand the amount of recycling we are doing
5 and take major steps forward to preserve the
6 environment of the City of New York.

7 I want to thank everyone on the
8 staff who has worked on this, also all of the
9 Council Members, first and foremost Council Member
10 Tish James, the chair of our Sanitation and Solid
11 Waste Committee. I want to thank Council Member
12 Eugene who sponsored Intro 141-A, Council Member
13 Ferreras who sponsored Intro 142-A, Council Member
14 Fidler who sponsored 147 and 148-A, Council Member
15 James was the sponsor of 156-A, also Council
16 Member Karen Koslowitz who was the sponsor of 157-
17 A, Council Member Jessica Lappin who was the
18 sponsor of 158-A, Council Member Melissa Mark-
19 Viverito who was the sponsor of 162-A, Council
20 Member Annabel Palma who was the sponsor of 164-A,
21 the public advocate who was the sponsor of 165-A
22 and Council Member Debbie Rose who was the sponsor
23 of 177-A. So it was clearly a big environmental
24 team effort. Let me first now call on the chair
25 of Sanitation and Solid Waste Tish James, and then

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2 we are going to hear from two of the sponsors,
3 Council Member Fidler and Council Member Ferreras.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Thank you,
5 Madame Speaker. Today we are voting on 11 bills
6 which culminate a long, arduous process working
7 with the administration and important
8 stakeholders. These bills will serve as major
9 environmental achievements. Once enacted, the 11
10 recycling bills will return New York to its place
11 at the forefront of municipal recycling in the
12 United States.

13 We'll recycle more types of our
14 residential waste while at the same time
15 simplifying the city's recycling rules. We'll
16 make recycling outside of the home easier and more
17 accessible. We will improve recycling outreach
18 and education. We will track recycling rates more
19 consistently and effectively. We will track and
20 we will make meaningful steps towards composting
21 food waste and developing more recycling
22 facilities and jobs here in New York.

23 Without a doubt, the environmental
24 benefits of this legislation are clear. But in
25 addition to these benefits particularly during

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2 these challenging times, there are leader economic
3 benefits that further emphasize the importance of
4 these bills. I want to thank Speaker Quinn for
5 her leadership. I want to thank all of my
6 colleagues for their sponsorship. I want to thank
7 Laura Popa, Siobhan Watson and would like to wish
8 Ms. Watson farewell. This is her last week in the
9 City Council. She will be sorely missed. And I
10 want to thank Jarret Hova for all things related
11 to environment. He's a fabulous counsel. Thank
12 you, Madame Speaker. I urge all of my colleagues
13 to vote for these bills.

14 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
15 much, Chairperson James. Let me next call on
16 Council Member Lew Fidler.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Thank you,
18 Madame Speaker. I want to not only begin by
19 thanking you for your support and leadership on
20 this bill but on this entire package of
21 legislation that really shows your vision to bring
22 New York City back into a leadership role on
23 environmental issues and recycling.

24 The four things that I'd ask my
25 colleagues to take away from the plastics

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recycling bill really make this bill a no-brainer. First, when we are able to put the plastic recycling online, we're going to be doing good things for the earth. Our landfills will have fewer biodegradable matter in it, less of it. We will not be burning the plastic where we are burning it now, right across the river in New Jersey. The air quality that we have here will be improved.

When the system comes online, hopefully in 2012, there will be some jobs created. There may not be a million of them, but to every person who's getting one of those jobs, it's an important thing. We're going to be making life easier for New Yorkers by simplifying the rules for plastic recycling so you don't have to sit there and search and see whether or not it's plastic 1, 2, 7, 5, 9, you'll be able to put all of your plastic in a receptacle.

Lastly, it actually will save taxpayers money in the long run. So that is what we call in the business a grand slam homerun; improving the environment, making life easier, creating jobs, saving taxpayers money. I really

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2 am very, very thrilled to the sponsor of this
3 bill. I urge you all to vote for it.

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In addition to thanking Speaker
5 Quinn, I'd like to express my thanks the
6 Sanitation Committee Chairperson Tish James, a
7 big, big shout out to Laura Popa who I tortured
8 for ages on these bills. I know that people don't
9 hear me say this a lot, but I need to thank the
10 Bloomberg administration as well. I'm only
11 getting soft around the middle, not in the head.
12 It proves I guess that even the cowmen and the
13 farmers can be friends when it comes to saving
14 taxpayer money and greening the environment. I
15 urge my colleagues to vote for all of these bills.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
17 much, Council Member Fidler. Council Member
18 Ferreras?

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COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: I'd like
20 to thank the Speaker for her leadership on this.
21 This set of recycling bills is a vital and
22 dramatic effort by the Council to improve the
23 environment of our city. I'm very pleased to be
24 part of this collective push to expand the scope
25 of our city's recycling programs to prepare for a

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2 greener future.

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The pilot program that my bill proposes will allow people to begin disposing of unused paint in a safe and clean manner. There will be no excuse for people pouring paint into sewers or throwing half-used containers in the garbage. I urge all my colleagues to vote yes on this bill and yes on the entire set of bills so we and our children can look forward to a cleaner tomorrow.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very much, Council Member Ferreras. That concludes communications from the Speaker.

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Discussion of general orders? Seeing none, reports of special committees?

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MALE VOICE: None.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Reports of standing committees.

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MALE VOICE: Report of the Committee on Environmental Protection Intro 194-A, Clean heating oil.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on General orders.

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MALE VOICE: Preconsidered Reso

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General

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Orders.

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MALE VOICE: Report of the

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Committee on Finance, Preconsidered Reso 371,

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organization funding.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General

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Orders.

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MALE VOICE: Preconsidered LU 156

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and Reso 372, Private housing finance law.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General

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Orders.

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MALE VOICE: Report of the

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Committee on Land Use, LU 70 and Reso 373 UDAPP

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Bronx.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled to be filed

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pursuant to a letter of withdrawal.

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MALE VOICE: LU 72 and Reso 374,

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UDAPP Bronx.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General

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Orders.

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MALE VOICE: LU 73 and Reso 375,

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UDAPP Bronx.

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled to be filed
3 pursuant to a letter of withdrawal.

4 MALE VOICE: LU 75 and Reso 376
5 through LU 106 and Reso 378 various UDAPPs.

6 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
7 Orders.

8 MALE VOICE: LU 135 and Reso 379,
9 unenclosed sidewalk café.

10 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
11 Orders.

12 MALE VOICE: LU 136 and Reso 380
13 through LU 145 and Reso 389, Flushing Commons.

14 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
15 Orders.

16 MALE VOICE: LU 148 and Reso 390
17 through LU 155 and Reso 376, various applications.

18 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
19 Orders.

20 MALE VOICE: Report of the
21 Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections,
22 Preconsidered M 174 and Reso 397 approving the
23 reappointment of Fredrick Bland to Landmarks
24 Preservation Commission.

25 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General

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2 Orders.

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MALE VOICE: Preconsidered 175 Reso
398, approving the reappointment of Robert
Tierney, Landmarks Preservation.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

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MALE VOICE: Preconsidered M 176
and Reso 399, approving the reappointment of
Christopher Moor, Landmarks Preservation
Commission.

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[Applause]

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders, and a couple of his fans are here.

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MALE VOICE: Preconsidered M 177
and Reso 400m approving the reappointment of Joan
Gerner, Landmarks Preservation Commission.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

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MALE VOICE: Report of the
Committee on Sanitation and Solid Waste
Management, Intro 141-A, commercial recycling.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
on General Orders.

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MALE VOICE: Intro 142-A, paint

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stewardship pilot program.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
on General Orders.

MALE VOICE: Intro 147-A,
recyclable materials.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
on General Orders with a message of necessity.

MALE VOICE: Intro 148-A,
recyclable materials.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
on General Orders.

MALE VOICE: Intro 156-A, recycling
by city agencies.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
on General Orders.

MALE VOICE: Intro 157-A, yard
waste.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
on General Orders.

MALE VOICE: Intro 158-A, batteries
and tires.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
on General Orders.

MALE VOICE: Intro 162-A, household

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2 hazardous waste collection.

3 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
4 on General Orders.

5 MALE VOICE: Intro 164-A, solid
6 waste and recycling plan.

7 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
8 on General Orders.

9 MALE VOICE: Intro 165-A, recycling
10 in public and private schools.

11 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
12 on General Orders.

13 MALE VOICE: Intro 171-A,
14 composting of food waste.

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

17 MALE VOICE: Preconsidered Reso
18 367.

19 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
20 Orders.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: General
22 Order Calendar.

23 MALE VOICE: Intro 260-A,
24 information regarding same-sex marriages.

25 SPEAKER QUINN: Laid over.

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2 MALE VOICE: LU 130 and Reso 401
3 and LU 131, LU 132, LU 133 and accompanying
4 Resolutions.

5 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
6 Orders.

7 MALE VOICE: Resolution appointing
8 various persons commissioner of deeds.

9 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
10 Orders. At this point I'd ask for a roll call on
11 all items that have been coupled on the general
12 order calendar please.

13 CLERK: Arroyo?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye on all.

15 CLERK: Brewer?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I want to
17 congratulate Chairman Tierney on this
18 reappointment. I want to thank the Speaker,
19 Margaret Nelson, Jamie McShane, Jimmy Oddo for
20 recognizing bed bugs are a big problem and that I
21 did, Lacy Clarke and Shulamit Warren and to remind
22 everybody and thank them that this \$500,000 in the
23 transparency language to allocate to giving
24 education and other aspects of bed bug control.
25 So thank you everyone for your help there. I want

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2 to vote aye on all except Land Use 136 and all the
3 accompanying Resolutions right through to 145, I
4 vote no on those. Thank you.

5 CLERK: Cabrera?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: [No
7 response].

8 CLERK: Cabrera?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

10 CLERK: Chin?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Permission to
12 make a statement about my vote.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: So ordered.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: I wanted to
15 make a comment on the Flushing Common. First of
16 all, I wanted to really thank Chairman Comrie and
17 Weprin and also Council Member Koo for giving me
18 the opportunity to have some input on this issue,
19 even though I'm not on the committee and it's not
20 my district. I think because we were allowed to
21 have some discussion and input that enabled the
22 small businesses in the community to be heard. I
23 am glad that in the negotiation process that there
24 was more support for our small businesses and the
25 whole issue about having the affordable housing

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2 component to be more long-term affordable. I'd
3 also want to thank the Land Use staff for meeting
4 with us, for the issue I raised, and also a thank
5 you to the Speaker's office for keeping me in the
6 discussion and informed. I vote yes. Thanks.

7 CLERK: Comrie?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye on all.

9 CLERK: Crowley?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye on
11 all.

12 CLERK: Dickens?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye and
14 congratulations to my colleague, Council Member
15 Koo to protect the business community, our small
16 businesses. So I salute you on a difficult and
17 hard job.

18 CLERK: Dilan?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: I'm going to
20 pass for now.

21 CLERK: Dromm?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

23 CLERK: Eugene?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

25 CLERK: Ferreras?

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COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.

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CLERK: Fidler?

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Yes.

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CLERK: Garodnick?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: A moment to explain my vote, Mr. Chairman.

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: So moved.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: I wanted first of all to congratulate my colleagues, Council Member Koo and Council Member Levin on their very hard work on the Land Use items in their respective districts.

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But I also wanted to recognize the work of Council Member Gennaro on Intro 194-A. The issue of heating oil pollution is one that is significant and is negatively impacting the health of New Yorkers and is directly linked to asthma attacks and to heart disease. As somebody who represents a district which is of course on the upper east side of Manhattan which has especially high levels of sulfur and heavy metal particulate matter in the air, it's generated by the burning of heavy heating oils, I think this bill is particular important. Given that New York City

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2 has twice the national asthma hospitalization rate
3 among children under 14 years of age, I believe
4 that it's time for us to reduce heating oil
5 emissions. I think this is a good bill and I want
6 to encourage my colleagues to vote for it. I will
7 vote aye on it as well and all other items.

8 CLERK: Gennaro?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Mr.
10 Leader, I would ask for the opportunity to speak
11 on my vote?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: So moved.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you.
14 I want to congratulate Council Member James and
15 all of the sponsors for the very good recycling
16 bills that are going to do so much good. I also
17 want to thank Peter Koo and Zoning Chairman Weprin
18 for their good work on Flushing Commons which is
19 very close to my district.

20 I left out two folks who worked
21 very hard on Intro 194. The first is Bill Murray
22 from my staff who put many, many hours into this.
23 This other person was recognized, Siobhan Watson
24 who works for the committee, was recognized, but
25 it was not recognized that this is her last week

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2 of service for the Council. She served the
3 Environmental Protection Committee and the
4 Sanitation Committee with great distinction and
5 we're going to miss her as she moves along. So I
6 just wanted to recognize that. With that said, I
7 vote aye on all.

8 CLERK: Gentile?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: With all
10 appropriate congratulations, I vote aye on all.

11 CLERK: Greenfield?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

13 CLERK: Halloran?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Please to
15 explain my vote?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: So moved.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: I'm going
18 to vote aye on all except for Intro 157-A. The
19 citizens of the outer boroughs who own homes,
20 their yards don't get mowed once a year. They're
21 mowed weekly over the entire summer. Once again,
22 the city has forgotten that they pay thousands of
23 dollars a year in property taxes. They have been
24 straddled with double-digit water and sewer rate
25 increases every year for the last five years.

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2 Now the City of New York is taking
3 a perfectly biodegradable product, grass clipping,
4 yard waste and saying to them you can't put it out
5 in your own garbage. At some point this city has
6 to start recognizing that the outer boroughs have
7 green space, and because they have green space
8 they have yard waste.

9 While I am thoroughly in support of
10 environmental measures, this is nothing but yet
11 another jab at the outer boroughs and homeowners
12 throughout this city who have already been
13 disproportionately hit with tax after tax in the
14 last five years. I am disappointed that this body
15 is going to enact a prohibition against your grass
16 being cut yourself when you go out on your own
17 lawn in the house you pay taxes on in this city.
18 So I vote adamantly no to 157.

19 CLERK: Ignizio?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Similar to
21 my colleague, Mr. Halloran, I want to vote no on
22 157-A. Just send the message to colleagues of
23 those that do have grass which the rest of us all
24 breath and enjoy that the environmental police
25 will be out writing overzealous tickets to be able

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2 to work against PEGs and to raise revenue for
3 their agencies. That's what's going on right now.
4 That's what will go on again. I think this is an
5 unfortunate bill and one that will be revisited in
6 the future, I hope so.

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CLERK: Jackson?

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COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: I'd like
9 to congratulate my colleagues, especially on the
10 recycling bills. This is landmark legislation. I
11 vote aye on all.

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CLERK: James?

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COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: May I be
14 excused to explain my vote?

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: So moved.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Thank you.
17 First, I want to thank Council Member Gennaro and
18 all of my colleagues for their kind words. On
19 behalf of Council Member Reyna and I who represent
20 of what is commonly referred to as the asthma
21 belt. Thank you for allowing our children to
22 breathe once again.

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With respect to 157, several
comments have been made. 157 basically would
require the Department of Sanitation in

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2 consultation with the Compost Facility Siting
3 Taskforce established by the city's 2006 swamp
4 legislation to identify sites for leaf and yard
5 waste. In addition, the bill would also require
6 the Department of Sanitation composting facilities
7 to accept yard waste for composting from any other
8 city agency that has source separated such waste.

9 The bill requires all permitted
10 composting facilities in the city to report
11 annually on the amounts of yard waste collected
12 and requires the department of include such
13 information in its annual recycling report to the
14 mayor and the Council. For those reasons, I vote
15 aye on all measures and I would urge my colleagues
16 to do the same.

17 CLERK: Koo?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I vote aye on
19 all except Intro 157-A.

20 CLERK: Koslowitz?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I vote
22 aye on all.

23 CLERK: Lander?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Permission
25 to explain my vote. I wanted to echo the

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2 enthusiastic comments that have been made, both
3 about the oil heat and the recycling bill. The
4 oil heat bill will improve health for many, many
5 folks in the city and really help clean up our
6 air. Congratulations for Council Member Gennaro.
7 Thanks to the Speaker. I think this does it in a
8 very smart way. Congratulations also to Council
9 Member James and other sponsors of the recycling
10 bills and to everyone who worked on them.

11 I also want to say it was an honor
12 to play a very small role in the ongoing efforts
13 to build out and acquire the Highline. I want to
14 congratulate the Speaker and recognize the work of
15 Danielle Decerbo in that process. I respectfully
16 vote no on Land Use numbers 136 to 144 and their
17 accompanying resolutions and aye on all others.

18 CLERK: Lappin?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Permission
20 to explain my vote.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: So moved.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: I'm voting
23 aye on the calendar today. I'm thrilled about the
24 oil bill. I'm more thrilled about creating a
25 textile recycling program in the city. But I am

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most thrilled perhaps about the public space recycling component of that piece of legislation. As the Speaker knows, and Chuck Meara, we have had a very long tenacious fight with the administration over many years, some tense moments, some heated meetings. We started with 30 locations which we fought too and nail for them to start out with and then they were so successful they couldn't fight us any further.

So I'm really excited. I'm really proud of what we're accomplishing today. I'm very grateful to the Speaker and to Chuck and to the staff, Laura Popa, who also worked so hard on this because there were lots of points along the way where we could have given up but we didn't. I'm really proud of that.

CLERK: Levin?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Permission to explain my vote.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: So moved.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: With congratulations to Chair Gennaro, with congratulations to Chair James and the sponsors of the various recycling bills, I vote aye on all.

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2 Thank you.

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CLERK: Mark-Viverito?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:

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Permission to explain my vote.

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: So moved.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: I

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want to just congratulate my colleague Gennaro and

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obviously the Speaker for the leadership on the

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environmental; bill. I'm really happy that I was

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part of the package and sponsoring one of the

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pieces of legislation. I really want to

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congratulate Council Member Levin for the Domino.

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I will be voting yes on Flushing Commons. I

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understand that there has been a lot of hard work

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put in by Council Member Koo and I congratulate

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him and all those that contributed.

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But I just wanted to express

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concern and reservation with the idea that any

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public land that is disposed of by the City of New

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York, regardless of whether or not the community

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requests it, I believe very strongly there should

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be some level of affordability on the parcel that

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is disposed of by the City of New York. I

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understand there is affordability in this project.

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2 But it is my understanding that the parcel on
3 which that is top be built is not city-owned land.
4 It belongs to the church. So with that
5 understanding, and I respect my colleagues, they
6 know best what's going on in their districts, but
7 personally that is an issue that I would like the
8 city to really consider more strongly. I will
9 vote yes on all items. Thank you.

10 CLERK: Mealy?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye on all.

12 CLERK: Mendez?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye on all.

14 CLERK: Nelson?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Aye on all.

16 CLERK: Palma?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye on all.

18 CLERK: Recchia?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Pass.

20 CLERK: Reyna?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: I vote aye

22 on all.

23 CLERK: RODRIGUEZ?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

25 CLERK: Rose?

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COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye on all.

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CLERK: Sanders?

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COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Permission to explain my vote.

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: So moved.

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CLERK: Ulrich?

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COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Permission to explain my vote.

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: So moved.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Mr. Majority Leader, Madame Speaker, today I'd like to join you and the rest of my colleagues in congratulating Council Members Levin and one of the junior members of our delegation Council

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2 Member Peter Koo for an extraordinary job on two
3 very difficult Land Use items. I think it is a
4 testament to their great diplomacy and to their
5 fortitude and their intellect and all the input
6 that they were able to put into the process that
7 their respective communities will be better off
8 tomorrow than they are today because of their
9 service to their districts and the service to the
10 community. I think that we owe them all a great
11 debt of gratitude.

12 I will be voting no on Intro 157-A.
13 That was a very painful decision for me to make.
14 I have to say honestly that my only exposure to
15 grass was in college. That was a funny joke, I
16 thought. We have to have a little light here. I
17 do think that this is going to be a tax on the
18 working and middle class tax base in the city. I
19 think it's unfair that people can't mow their own
20 lawn and put it out with their garbage. I think
21 that it is an attack on the working and middle
22 class people of the city who are keeping this city
23 afloat. We have to be mindful of them. So I will
24 be voting no on Intro 157-A. Thank you very much.

25 CLERK: Seabrook?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Yes, I'd
3 like to vote aye on all and also vote aye on all
4 Land Use and general call-ups.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: So moved.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: I vote
7 aye.

8 CLERK: Vacca?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: I vote aye
10 on all, expect I also will vote no on 157-A.

11 CLERK: Vallone?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: With
13 congratulations to Council Members Koo, Levin and
14 Gennaro, I vote aye on all and no on 157-A.

15 CLERK: Van Bramer?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye on
17 all.

18 CLERK: Weprin?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye on all
20 except for 157-A, I'll vote nay.

21 CLERK: Williams?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS:
23 Permission to explain my vote.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: So moved.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank

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2 you. I did like the grass joke. Thank you very
3 much. You're welcome. I wanted to congratulate
4 the Speaker, Council Member James and Gennaro and
5 all the sponsors of the recycling bills. I think
6 they're great, particularly the oil one. In
7 Flatbush we have one of the highest rates of
8 asthma in the city. I also want to congratulate
9 Council Member Levin and Council Member Koo on a
10 great job. I'm voting aye on all.

11 I do want to echo some concerns
12 that I heard Council Member Mark-Viverito mention
13 about the lack of affordable housing. I hope
14 moving forward we try to ensure that there is
15 affordable housing and define what affordable is
16 and make sure it's actually on the parcel. I vote
17 aye on all.

18 CLERK: Dilan?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: A brief
20 moment to explain my vote.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: So moved.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: I just want
23 to state lovingly, jokingly and affectionately to
24 my colleague Eric Ulrich, he made his statement so
25 eloquently, but he made it sound like he was so

1
2 far removed from college that he smoked the grass
3 a long time ago, or his exposure of grass. He
4 never said he smoke it. I do have to correct that
5 part. He said his only contact with grass is
6 that.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: His only
8 experience.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: The only
10 experience.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER: And we didn't
12 throw it out either.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Correct. I
14 just want to explain my position on 157-A which I
15 will for. I'll vote for it just based on certain
16 conditions in the bill that make it a little bit
17 more palatable. While I understand the concern
18 from my colleagues on the Republican side of the
19 aisle on this one, there is an education program
20 that will allow this to take effect one year
21 later. The fines do not kick in immediately. If
22 the grass and the yard waste are throw out on the
23 proper and appropriate day, there's no fine
24 whatsoever. It doesn't prohibit anyone from
25 cutting their lawns at any given time. All they

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2 have to do is put their yard disposables out on
3 the proper day and they will not be fined. I
4 think that's an effort to use those type of
5 natural and biodegradable sources of trash to be
6 used in a more proper manner. So with that, I
7 will vote for the bill, but I also hope that this
8 will not be used in any way, shape or form as a
9 PEG program in the future. So with that I vote
10 aye on all.

11 CLERK: Recchia?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Aye on
13 all.

14 CLERK: Oddo?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: May I be
16 temporarily excused to explain my vote? I'd just
17 like to begin by congratulating our good colleague
18 Peter Koo on a really sound victory for his
19 community. He put a lot of time and effort into
20 it. I think the results show. The folks in
21 Flushing should be very pleased, Peter, with your
22 efforts. I'd like to thank the assistance that
23 you got from Chair Comrie, Chair Weprin, of course
24 on a staff level, Ramon and Gail and particular
25 Amy Levitan and also Deputy Mayor Wolfson for his

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2 assistance throughout this process.

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I will vote yes on all with the exception of 157-A. Obviously there is an environmental agenda that we support. I guess there's a fiscal agenda in that there will be some savings to the Sanitation Department in terms of having less refuse to pick up on garbage days. But some of my constituents are paying two times the property taxes they did nine years ago. They think they've already paid the freight on this.

Along the lines with what Council Member Halloran said, when you combine the property tax increase and the water spikes and the fines and summonses, single family home owners across the city feel like they're being assaulted, as if they've done something wrong and they certainly have not.

I think, without going on too much of a rant, there's a bigger issue in that they're being asked to pay more and more in taxes, yet at the same time they're being told core services are being reduced. The giving is happening more often and the taking is happening more often. It goes back ad nauseam, I apologize, but it goes back to

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2 our belief that there are core functions in
3 government. We're willing to pay for them. But
4 more and more we're being asked to pay for things
5 outside of that and being told that things like
6 fire services and now sanitation services in
7 effect are being reduced.

8 In a vacuum, this bill is somewhat
9 innocuous. But when you put it in the context of
10 the last eight or nine years, they find it
11 offensive. That's why some of the members are
12 voicing the concerns they have. I vote yes on all
13 with the exception of 157-A, I vote no.

14 CLERK: Speaker Quinn?

15 SPEAKER QUINN: Aye on all. I just
16 was remiss in my thanking folks before to not
17 thank the large community of environmental
18 advocates who were a huge part of the recycling
19 package and the biofuels bill. I also want to
20 thank Council Member Lander for reminding me to
21 recognize the work of Danielle Decerbo on the
22 Highline. So with those additional thank yous, I
23 vote aye on all.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: All items
25 on today's General Order Calendar were adopted by

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2 a vote of 45 affirmative, zero negative, zero
3 abstentions with the exception of Land Use 136
4 through 145 and accompanying resolutions, which
5 was adopted by a vote of 45 in the affirmative, 2
6 in the negative and zero abstentions. Pursuant to
7 Section 197(d) and 200(a) re of the New York City
8 Charter LU 130, 131, 132, 133 and accompanying
9 resolutions were adopted by a vote of 45 in the
10 affirmative, zero negative and zero abstentions.
11 Intro 157-A, which was adopted by a vote of 37 in
12 the affirmative, 8 negative, zero abstentions, and
13 revised Land Use Call-up votes were adopted by a
14 vote of 45 in the affirmative and zero in the
15 negative. Now we'll have introduction and reading
16 of bills.

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SPEAKER QUINN: All bills are

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referred to committees as indicated on the agenda.

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Discussions
of resolutions.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Deputy Majority
Leader, if we could do it in two sections, first
we'll take up Preconsidered Reso 369, a resolution
authorizing the Speaker to file or join the
administration on filing on behalf of the Council

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2 brief in support of the Plaintiffs appellees in
3 the litigation captioned Tapia v. Successful
4 Management Corp. If we could have discussion on
5 that, a vote on that, and then a discussion vote
6 on Reso 224-A, if that's okay.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: That's
8 fine.

9 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: So we'll
11 have the discussion the resolution.

12 SPEAKER QUINN: If we could get
13 quite though.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Be quiet.
15 If you want to leave, you can leave quietly.

16 SPEAKER QUINN: Leaving involves
17 walking, not talking.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Walking, no
19 talking.

20 SPEAKER QUINN: Mary, I see you and
21 you appear to be talking. That is a Catholic
22 School reference. If the could do it in a
23 straight line too, I'd be happier.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Any
25 discussion on Reso 369? Council Member Jackson?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you,
3 Majority Leader Comrie. My colleagues, I rise
4 today as a member of the City Council and as co-
5 chair of the New York City Council's Black, Latino
6 and Asian Caucus, to let you know that the caucus,
7 27 members of this body are in support of this
8 City Council in voting yes in support of the City
9 Council, in support of the two laws aimed at
10 assisting low income tenants as far as maintaining
11 affordable housing.

12 It's imperative in this great city
13 of ours considering how people are struggling that
14 we try to maintain as many affordable housing
15 units as possible. Knowing that, the officers of
16 the Black, Latino, and Asian Caucus have voted to
17 support this on behalf of the entire body. I urge
18 all of our colleagues to vote aye on this
19 particular matter. Thank you.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Seeing no
21 others speaking on this, all in favor of the
22 resolution, indicate by saying aye.

23 COUNCIL: Aye.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Any
25 opposition?

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Council Member Yes.

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE:

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Abstentions, none. All right. Then we'll go to the next.

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SPEAKER QUINN: I just want to

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remind my colleagues, if you're voting no or

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abstaining, please see the clerk.

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: The next

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resolution is Resolution 224-A, speaking on that

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will be Council Member Rodriguez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Thank

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you. I would like first thank the rest of my

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colleagues and Speaker Quinn for supporting this

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resolution. Today is a very important day for

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everyone in this nation. Thousands of people have

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been participating in many rallies saying no to

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the Arizona law 1070 and also the Resolution 224

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makes a specific determination where the Council

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call for the government not to use tax dollar

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money to travel to Arizona. I think this is a way

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how also we participate in this movement, stopping

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their law, Arizona law 1070 is important. But

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more than that, the important thing is that we

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have to keep the debate on immigration reform.

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2 Thank you.

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Council
Member Jackson and Council Member Mark-Viverito.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you,
Majority Leader. My colleagues, I rise again as a
member and a co-chair of the City Council's Black,
Latino and Asian caucus. The caucus has taken a
position on this matter and supports our colleague
Ydanis Rodriguez as a member of the caucus and of
this body in support of this resolution, in
support of the U.S. government against the state
of Arizona. With that, I ask all of our
colleagues to vote aye on this particular matter.
Thank you.

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Council
Member Mark-Viverito and then Council Member
Williams

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COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:
Thank you. I want to obviously rise also in
support of this resolution. I want to thank
Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez but also the
leadership of the Speaker to really understand the
importance and value the importance of having this
resolution come out today in particular to let it

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2 be known what it is that this legislative body
3 believes. It is a very happy day that the
4 decision has come down the way it has as of
5 yesterday, but there is still a lot of work to be
6 done. Some of the key provisions of SB 1070 have
7 been halted but there are others that are in
8 place.

9 I want to just make one statement
10 very clear, that I believe very strongly, as do
11 many others that have weighed in on this, that as
12 long as we do not take a position on immigration
13 reform at the federal level and reform our system,
14 we will see violence and hate crimes rise in this
15 country. We're seeing that within the boundaries
16 of New York City. I really want to personally
17 thank the leadership of Debbie Rose and what's
18 happening in Staten Island.

19 So with that I encourage all
20 colleagues obviously to support this resolution.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Council
22 Member Williams?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank
24 you. I will sit in body but my spirit has risen,
25 like everyone else's, in support of this bill.

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2 I'm very happy to support my friend Council Member
3 Rodriguez. Council Member Jackson asked me to
4 make sure we remember that the bill mentions that
5 we won't send city funds and city employees won't
6 be able to spend funds in Arizona. I think this
7 is a great way to show our support, not just for
8 Arizona and the immigrants but for all Americans.
9 Thank you.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: With that
11 we'll have the vote on the resolution. All in
12 favor indicate by saying aye.

13 COUNCIL: Aye.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Any
15 opposition?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER: Nay.

17 SPEAKER QUINN: Go sign.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Any
19 abstentions? All right, please those in
20 opposition please sign your position. With that,
21 we'll have general discussion. Council Member
22 Jackson.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Well thank
24 you, Majority Leader. My colleagues, I rise to
25 you as the chair of the Education Committee, and

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2 let you know that just the other day, on Tuesday,
3 I joined our leader, Speaker Quinn, along with
4 Deputy Mayor Dennis Wolcott, Joel Klein and some
5 of our colleagues in support with the Literacy
6 Assistance Center in support of GED Compass which
7 is an online website that will centralize all of
8 the testing slots in New York City.

9 Right now, you need to know there
10 are 1.6 million New Yorkers that do not have a
11 GED. This will help them to give them the
12 assistance that they need. In essence, a one-stop
13 shopping at the Literacy Assistance Center at 39
14 Broadway in order to get the help that they need
15 and sign up to get their GED. I said at that
16 press conference that part of our leader Christine
17 Quinn's legacy is as a leader working in order to
18 establish this GED Compass Center.

19 So for colleagues, you can tell
20 anyone that doesn't have a GED they can go online
21 to GEDCompass.com, that's G-E-D-C-O-M-P-A-S-S dot
22 com in order to sign up for all the help that they
23 need and also to sign up for a GED slot. There's
24 1.6 million New Yorkers. But also, I'd like to
25 say that we have interns and I need to mention

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2 them now. Charlotte Duranai [phonetic] which is
3 an intern of summer youth employment. Tazmere
4 Gathers [phonetic] and of course our retiree
5 volunteer Bernice Jones and Tihoma Ohaukim
6 [phonetic]. Finally, a belated happy birthday to
7 Christine Quinn and a happy birthday to my--

8 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE:

9 [interposing] Domenic Recchia too.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Happy

11 birthday to Domenic Recchia and Joanna Garcia, my
12 legislative and budget director, today's her
13 birthday.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Joanna,

15 happy birthday.

16 [Applause]

17 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: I have the

18 next opportunity for general discussion. I'm
19 saddened today to announce the passing of a true
20 leader in our city, Arthur Hill. He's not only a
21 giant in my district in southeast Queens but he
22 was loved and respected across this entire nation.

23 Arthur Hill was one of the first
24 men of color to rise to the rank of chief in the
25 New York City Police Department. Artie was a true

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2 pioneer who inspired generations of African
3 American men and women to join the force and serve
4 and protect our communities.

5 SPEAKER QUINN: Deputy Majority
6 Leader, if we could get some quiet. Why don't we
7 reset the clock the Deputy Majority Leader to
8 start over? It's stopped. Okay.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Artie was
10 actually the first minority commanding officer for
11 the precinct that covered Harlem during the time
12 when Malcolm X was murder and covered the murder
13 and made sure that Harlem was kept whole and kept
14 quite during that time. He did many other things
15 within his career, within the police department
16 and then moved to a second career working as a
17 vice president for public affairs with the United
18 Parcel Service where he was instrumental in
19 helping to shape the careers of numerous elected
20 officials throughout the nation, including many in
21 this body.

22 Arthur Hill was emblematic of his
23 generation which sacrificed and persevered through
24 some of the most tumultuous eras in our nation's
25 history. Arthur was a veteran of World War II

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2 before he went into the police force. He worked
3 diligently so that our community can enjoy the
4 professional and personal freedoms that we have
5 today. We are going to be commemorating Arthur
6 Hill. The wake will be this evening at Foster
7 Phillips from 4 to 8 p.m. The funeral will be St.
8 Gabriel's Episcopal Church on Jamaica Avenue and
9 184th Street at 10 a.m. tomorrow.

10 I'm sad to say that we are looking
11 someone that was very important, a mentor to me
12 and a mentor to so many of us, Arthur Hill. The
13 net person is Council Member Garodnick and then
14 Barron. It's too late. We missed you. Too late,
15 too late.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Thank
17 you Mr. Chairman. I rise today to speak on
18 Preconsidered Reso 361 which addresses the fact
19 that the public has become a pawn in the high
20 stakes negotiations between cable companies and
21 broadcasters over fees. In the past it has
22 jeopardized the Oscars and in other parts of the
23 country the Orange and Sugar Bowls and other
24 programming. Today, ABC and Time Warner are
25 duking it out. That means that in the crosshairs

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2 are some of Lew Fidler's favorite programs like
3 "Desperate Housewives", the "Bachelorette," and
4 "Modern Family". Turn on your radio today.

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6 SPEAKER QUINN: And "Hot in
Cleveland."

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8 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: "Hot in
Cleveland" is his new one I understand. If you
9 turn on your radio today, you're going to hear
10 advertisements from broadcasters which say you
11 don't need to have cable to watch ABC television
12 shows. Stand with broadcasters in their dispute
13 with Time Warner. The cable company retorts,
14 don't let ABC sock it to Time Warner. Time Warner
15 wants to keep subscribers' costs down. Stand with
16 us.

17

18 Of course, if negotiations fail,
19 the content will be lost and many New Yorkers are
20 going to lose their favorite shows. Besides being
21 caught in the middle, the current framework of
22 negotiations between cable companies and
23 broadcasters offers cable subscribers no
protection from broadcaster blackouts.

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25 When cable companies and
broadcasters do not reach an agreement,

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2 broadcasters can take off their programming from
3 cable and without running out to purchase rabbit
4 ears or a converter box; subscribers are simply
5 left in the dark. We held a hearing on this
6 subject in the Technology Committee and Zoning
7 Subcommittee. I want to thank Chair Weprin and
8 Council Member Fidler for their advocacy for this
9 and standing with me on this subject.

10 I'm today introducing a resolution
11 calling on the FCC and the U.S. Congress to
12 establish a new framework for resolving these
13 disputes, a system that will require these
14 programs to continue to be carried while
15 negotiations progress, a system that puts pressure
16 on the broadcasters and the cable companies, not
17 on the consumers. I ask my colleagues to join me
18 in signing on to this resolution. I also ask that
19 you take a look at Intro 301 which deals with
20 meter receipts and creates an affirmative defense
21 if you have one.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Time.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: But it
24 was flipped over on your dashboard, it's a
25 defense. Thank you.

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Council Member Barron is here before we lose a quorum since he's been here all day. Where'd you disappear to.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I'm going to pass on that so we don't start trouble. But I do want to say that I do have a success and that I got all of the white man's pictures off the wall and I got rid of the Jefferson statue. So I'm--

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE:
[interposing] You've obviously been out in the heat all day.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: So I don't have to sit next to Thomas Jefferson anymore. I'm sorry I put you all through all of this.

COUNCIL MEMBER: Tom's real upset about that too, Charles.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye on all Land Use call-ups and aye on all general order calendar items.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Thank you. Council Member Halloran is next.

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to proudly join

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2 Council Member Koppell in introducing Introduction
3 309. It is now nine years after the attacks of
4 September 11th. We have an opportunity to
5 demonstrate our city's commitment to those we lost
6 that day, those who were never really identified
7 in the attack on our city and our nation by flying
8 the 9/11 flag during the month of September going
9 forward. As we approach the ten year anniversary,
10 it is important for us to never forget what
11 happened on that fateful September morning.

12 I would also like to at this time
13 remind this body that 100 years ago this Saturday,
14 the Boy Scouts of America were founded in the City
15 of New York. They were actually founded in my
16 district and the area adjoining Council Member
17 Koo's district. They will be celebrating at Times
18 Square the 100th anniversary of scouting, a
19 movement which has produced presidents, senators,
20 members of Congress and members of this body. I
21 am proud that I am an eagle scout and that I
22 continue my service to the Boy Scouts of America.
23 That they continue to give service to this great
24 nation and hold fast to the things that made our
25 country great. So I'd like to salute the Boy

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2 Scouts of America on 100 years in the United
3 States and service to this great city. Thank you
4 very much.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Council
6 Member Dickens?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Thank you.
8 I join with my colleague, Council Member Comrie in
9 recognizing Artie Hill, who indeed paved the way
10 for many blacks and other minorities to secure
11 empowering executive positions in both government
12 and the private sector. It's a great loss.

13 This week we've also lost another
14 great voice, and that's Al Goodman who passed away
15 three days ago of heart failure after surgery to
16 remove a tumor. Al sang baritone on soul classics
17 like *Special Lady* and *Love on a Two-Way Street*.
18 Al also led the way as a talented artist and a
19 businessman. He was part of the world renowned
20 Moments who later changed their name to Ray
21 Goodman and Brown. Together they opened doors and
22 stages to black music and black artists throughout
23 this country and the world. They played a role in
24 the civil rights movement, often performing for
25 once segregated audiences. Al Goodman, you will

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2 be greatly missed. Thank you.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Council

4 Member Brewer?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you

6 very much. I want to mention just a couple of
7 topics. One of course is coming up September 14th
8 will be the new voting machines. There is lots to
9 discuss about them, but one concern is the over
10 voting. I think you've been contacted regarding
11 the optical scanners and the fact that they could
12 potentially have an over voting issue. We have a
13 letter circulating on that topic. We hope to have
14 an early, early September hearing on the
15 elections, probably not much that can be done
16 between and early September and a September 14th
17 primary, but we will look forward to your input.

18 Second, thanks to Liz Fine, Jim
19 Caras and Matt Gewolb, we're working on charter
20 issues. Last hearing I believe is August 2nd, a
21 report to come thereafter. I've been at most of
22 the charter revision commissions. Thanks to the
23 Speaker we have a report but there's an awful lot
24 that's left undone and to be discussed. So if you
25 have any questions, let us know.

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2 Finally, Max Goldberger [phonetic],
3 Anita Yi [phonetic], Eddie Alonack [phonetic] and
4 Alana Novak are all interns in our office here
5 today and they're fabulous. Thank you.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Council
7 Member Lander.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: I'm going
9 to follow Council Member Brewer in a couple of
10 ways today. I just want to give special
11 recognition to just a couple of the summer interns
12 that are working so hard with you. Alex Young,
13 Nafiza Islam [phonetic], and Lauren Schmitz
14 [phonetic] are here today. Thanks to them for
15 their hard work.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Council
17 Member Fidler.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: First of
19 all, I want to know which of our colleagues broke
20 the agreement not to tell Charles where the
21 meetings were?

22 [Laughter]

23 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: That's
24 what's puzzling me and how he found out. I also
25 want to clarify for the record that I have never

1
2 ever, ever, ever and will never, ever, ever watch
3 an episode of "The Bachelorette".

4 SPEAKER QUINN: Because your
5 standards are so much higher in television Lew
6 Fidler.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Absolutely.

8 SPEAKER QUINN: You and I have the
9 same standards and they ain't that much higher
10 brother.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: However,
12 I'm glad that Council Member Garodnick brought up
13 the cable issue. I want to thank him and Council
14 Member Weprin for holding a very unusual July
15 meeting on a topic that matters very, very deeply
16 to tens of thousands if not hundreds of thousands
17 of New Yorkers and that's their TV.

18 We are, in fact, watching for the
19 second time this year most of the consumers in the
20 City of New York being threatened with their
21 favorite TV stations going dark. This is
22 reflective of a change in the way the cable
23 providers and the broadcast networks are doing
24 business. The two things that both sides agreed
25 on at this hearing was that cable retransmission

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2 fees could go up by as much 500%, representing
3 about \$5 billion nationwide and consumers would be
4 paying for it.

5 So I just want to remind those of
6 you who are baseball fans that when major league
7 free agency came into being, the owner and the
8 players figured out a way through revenue sharing
9 or luxury tax to protect themselves and now e have
10 a \$2000 a seat box seat. If consumers are not at
11 the table as the cable industry and broadcast TV
12 get into this new era, we will be paying for the
13 \$2000 seat in front of our TV. I have Resolution
14 302 that would prevent broadcast networks from
15 charging you on your cable box for the same
16 content they send over the free airwaves and I'd
17 urge you to sign onto that as well.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Thank you.
19 Finally, Council Member Gentile.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Very
21 quickly. Thank you. Currently the city is
22 permitted to charge fees for accepting payment by
23 credit card. So I point my colleagues' attention
24 to Intro 302 that I'm introducing today along with
25 Council Member Daniel Garodnick. The cost for

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2 processing credit card transactions has come down
3 dramatically and yet the city still charges
4 amounts for paying on credit cards.

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6 As more agencies and departments
7 begin to accept payment over the internet, the
8 cost of accepting the payments continue to
9 decrease, yeah the city can charge a fee for
10 paying online via credit card. This bill, Intro
11 302 by yours truly and by Council Member Garodnick
12 will prohibit city agencies from charging fees for
13 accepting payment by credit card. So I ask you to
14 take a look at it. Thank you.

15

16 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: We do
17 have one more. I just want to note and thank
18 everybody for making sure that the arrangements
19 were done. They were done well for today. I
20 think that it's pretty seamless, that they all
21 deserve a round of applause.

22

[Applause]

23

24 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: The next
25 stated meeting will take place on a different day.
Please note your calendars. The next stated
meeting will take place on Wednesday the 25th.
Wednesday August 25th, not the 26th. All items on

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today's General Order calendar, amended vote of 46 affirmative, zero negative, exception of Land Use 1362145 and accompanying resolutions which was adopted by a vote of 44 affirmative, 2 negative and Intro 157-A which was adopted by a vote of 38 affirmative, 8 in the negative, 0 abstentions and revised Land Use Call-ups were adopted by a vote 46 affirmative, zero negative. And last we will hear from Council Member Steven Levin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you, Council Member Comrie. In the spirit of recognizing the hard work of summer interns, I want to recognize Isaac Fleischer, Robin Croderman [phonetic], Cantida Campost [phonetic] and John Lee in my office. I was remiss in not recognizing the hard work of Ashley Thompson and Robbie Mettle in my office on the Domino development. Thank you very much, Council Member Comrie.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: With that, the meeting for July 29th, first stated meeting here at Emigrant Savings Bank, I'm honored that Joel Rivera decided to be on vacation so I could chair it, is now closed.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Donna Hintze certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.



Signature_____

Date August 13, 2010_____