

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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May 5, 2022

Start: 1:59 p.m.

Recess: 3:23 p.m.

HELD AT: HYBRID HEARING - COUNCIL CHAMBERS -
CITY HALL

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Shaun Abreu
Joann Ariola
Alexa Aviles
Diana I. Ayala
Charles Barron
Joseph C. Borelli
Erik D. Bottcher
Justin L. Brannan
Gale A. Brewer
Selvena N. Brooks-Powers
Tiffany Caban
David Carr
Carmen N. De La Rosa
Eric Dinowitz
Amanda Farias
Oswald Feliz
James F. Gennaro
Jennifer Gutierrez
Shahana K. Hanif

COUNCIL MEMBERS (CONTINUED):

Kamillah Hanks
Robert F. Holden
Crystal Hudson
Kristin Richardson Jordan
Rita C. Joseph
Ari Kagan
Shekar Krishnan
Linda Lee
Farah N. Louis
Christopher Marte
Darlene Mealy
Julie Menin
Francisco P. Moya
Mercedes Narcisse
Sandy Nurse
Chi A. Osse
Vickie Paladino
Keith Powers
Lincoln Restler
Kevin C. Riley
Carlina Rivera
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.
Pierina Ana Sanchez
Lynn C. Schulman
Althea V. Stevens
Sandra Ung
Marjorie Velazquez
Nantasha M. Williams
Julie Won
Kalman Yeger

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

2 SERGEANT BIONDO: Quiet, please. Quiet on
3 the floor, please.

4 SERGEANT BRADLEY: Cloud recording is up.
5 Good afternoon, and welcome to today's
6 New York City Council Stated Meeting.

7 At this time, will all panelists please
8 turn on your videos for verification purposes?

9 To minimize disruption, please place
10 electronic devices on silent or on vibrate mode.
11 Thank you.

12 You may begin.

13 UNKOWN: Ladies and gentleman, at this
14 time please place all electronic devices, all
15 electronic devices to vibrate.

16 Mr. Majority Leader.

17 SPEAKER ADAMS: [GAVEL] Good afternoon,
18 and welcome to the Stated Meeting of May 5, 2022. I'm
19 Majority Leader Keith Powers. I'd like to thank
20 everyone here today for joining us. If you'd like to
21 follow along at home, the agenda for today's meeting
22 is posted on our website.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Please join us for the
24 Pledge of Allegiance.

25 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: All rise.

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

6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Roll call.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Abreu.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Present.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Ariola.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Present.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Aviles.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILES: Present.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Ayala.

14 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Present.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Barron.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Bottcher. Brannan.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Here.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Brewer.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Brooks-Powers. Caban.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CABAN: Present.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Carr. De La Rosa.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Here.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Brooks-Powers.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Present.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Dinowitz.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Here.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Farias.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: Present.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Feliz.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Here.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Gennaro.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Gutierrez.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIERREZ: Presente.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Hanif.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Here.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Hanks.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Present.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Holden.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Hudson.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Present.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Joseph.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Present.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Kagan.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: Present.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Krishnan.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Here.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Lee.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Here.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Louis.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Marte.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Present.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Mealy.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Present.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Menin.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Present.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Moya.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Present.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Narcisse.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Present.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Nurse.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Present.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Osse.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSE: Present.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Paladino.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Present.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Restler.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Present.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Richardson Jordan.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN:

3 Present.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Riley.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Present.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Rivera.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Salamanca. Sanchez.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Present.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Schulman.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Here.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Stevens.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Here.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Carr.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Here.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Ung.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Present.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Bottcher.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Present.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Vernikov. Velazquez.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER VELAZQUEZ: Present.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Williams.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Won.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Present.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Yeger.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Borelli.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Present.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Powers.

7 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Here.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Adams.

9 SPEAKER ADAMS: Present.

10 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We
11 will now have today's invocation, which will be
12 delivered by Reverend Rashad Raymond Moore of the
13 First Baptist Church of Crown Heights, which is
14 located at 450 Eastern Parkway in Brooklyn. Welcome.

15 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: All rise.

16 REVEREND MOORE: Good afternoon. Please
17 join me for a word of prayer.

18 How good it is to center down, to sit
19 quietly and to see our lives pass by. The streets of
20 our mind seethe with endless traffic, our spirits
21 resound with clashings with noisy silences while
22 something deep within this moment hungers and thirsts
23 for the still small moment, a direction, a strong
24 sure purpose that will structure our confusion and

25

2 our chaos. How good it is to center down. Howard
3 Thurman.

4 Oh God, our help in ages past, our hope
5 for years to come. We pause for a moment out of the
6 daily rounds of life and leadership to give you
7 thanks for the gift of life and for life itself. For
8 just a moment, we hush out the noise of the world to
9 hear your voice again. Please give us all that we
10 need in this moment to provide leadership for our
11 city. All that we need, you have provided, and so we
12 ask now for your wisdom to make just decisions, power
13 to stand for what is right even if we have to stand
14 alone, and the patience to tend to the cries,
15 complaints, concerns, and dreams of the communities
16 we have been elected to serve. Give us the strength
17 we need to serve this present age, to continue our
18 fight for a more just tomorrow. A time like this
19 demands strong minds, great hearts, true faith, and
20 ready hands. A time like this demands that we stand
21 and bear witness on behalf of all of God's children
22 whose rights are threatened and diminished by a
23 frightening court action that is unjust. May the
24 beauty of the tulips and lilies of this Eastertide be
25 a reminder to us, dear God, that you never intended

2 for us to live our lives in boxes and closets,
3 neither do you intend for the laws of our land to be
4 controlled by distorted or patriarchal
5 interpretations of Christianity, nor is it the will
6 of your government, oh God, to have a role in
7 whatsoever a person decides to do with their private
8 healthcare decisions, and so we ask now for your
9 strength to help us continue to fight the good fight
10 for a just tomorrow. Give us the courage to speak the
11 truth. Give us an imagination to dream new dreams and
12 to see new possibilities. Give us the sensitive ear,
13 oh God, to hear the cries of those who are sick,
14 homeless, and destitute, and so with your Spirit and
15 strength we will continue to dream and to build a new
16 New York, a new New York where every gender, class,
17 and race can bring their rainbow gifts and colors to
18 your limitless embrace, a new New York where the
19 lines that divide become the ties that bind, a new
20 New York where the homeless find a home, where no
21 children will ever hunger, where all people work for
22 justice, where gun violence will cease, where every
23 class will be gifted and talented, where the broken
24 streets will be restored, where we can all live in
25 dignity and peace, and, with your wisdom and power

2 pushing us on, we will continue to put our hand to
3 the plow, to put our hands, heads, and hearts
4 together to build a new New York this day and
5 forevermore. This is our prayer. In your many names
6 we pray and we say amen.

7 CHAMBERS: Amen.

8 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you for
9 those words, Reverend Moore, and thank you for
10 joining us here today.

11 I want to ask now your Council Member,
12 Crystal Hudson, to spread the invocation on the
13 record.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Thank you,
15 Majority Leader Powers, and I'd like to thank
16 Reverend Rashad Moore for being here today. A native
17 Brooklynite, Reverend Moore who became the third
18 pastor of First Baptist Church of Crown Heights in
19 January 2020 is a stalwart of the Crown Height
20 community. Before returning to Brooklyn, he spent 7
21 years as the Assistant Minister at the Abyssinian
22 Baptist Church under the renowned Reverend Calvin
23 Butts.

24 On a personal note and as a Spelman
25 graduate, I'm always proud to uplift a Morehouse

2 brother, and Reverend Moore has always given me the
3 chance to uplift my own story. During the pandemic,
4 he asked me to speak for Pride month, and, when I
5 asked him what he'd like me to speak about, he shared
6 with me stories from various members of his
7 congregation who had told him they felt more
8 comfortable worshipping online than in person and
9 from folks who had been rejected by their families
10 all because they were gay or lesbian, bi, trans,
11 queer, nonbinary, or gender nonconforming. He told me
12 how blessed those who had recovered or been spared
13 from COVID were, including himself, and how we could
14 not go back to doing the same things we were
15 accustomed to doing before the pandemic like poking
16 fun at or talking about someone because of their
17 gender presentation or like turning family members
18 away because of who they love or how they identify.
19 He wanted me to speak to my own lived experiences as
20 a black gay woman so that others could hear my story,
21 learn from it, and make strides towards being the
22 loving and accepting congregation he knew the First
23 Baptist Church of Crown Heights to be. I'm forever
24 grateful for Reverend Moore's pastoral wisdom. He
25 takes his congregation to new heights, speaking of

2 our struggles for LGBTQIA right and climate justice,
3 issues that many in faith-based communities have
4 traditionally looked past. Under Reverend Moore's
5 leadership and guidance, First Baptist Church of
6 Crown Heights is a home for everyone, a place where
7 folks can come together to collectively worship,
8 grown, and celebrate while knowing that no matter who
9 they are, they are welcomed.

10 Thank you, Reverend Moore, for all you've
11 done for me and for my District and for all you'll
12 continue to do in the years to come.

13 I now make a motion for unanimous consent
14 to spread the invocation in full upon the record.
15 Thank you.

16 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you,
17 Council Member Hudson. We are now going to have the
18 adoption of the minutes by Deputy Speaker Diana
19 Ayala.

20 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: I make a motion
21 that the minutes of the Stated Meeting of Aril 14,
22 2022, be adopted as printed.

23 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, Deputy
24 Speaker Ayala.

2 We'll now have Messages and Papers from
3 the Mayor.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

5 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Communications
6 from City, County, and Borough Offices.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: M59 OMB Annual Report.

8 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Received, ordered,
9 printed, and filed.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: M60 CCRB Appointment.

11 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Rules, privileges,
12 and elections.

13 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Petitions and
14 Communications.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

16 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Land Use Call-
17 Ups.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: M61 ONE45/Museum of Civil
19 Rights.

20 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Coupled on call of
21 vote, and I would now ask that the Clerk take a roll
22 call vote on today's Land Use Call-Up item.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Abreu.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Please come back to
25 me.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Ariola.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Aye.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Aviles.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILES: Aye.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Ayala.

7 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: I vote aye.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Barron.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Just a point of
10 information. LU-34 is not on the Call-Up list, is it?

11 COUNCIL CLERK: No, it's not.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Bottcher.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHER: Aye.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Brannan.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Brewer.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Brooks-Powers.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Aye.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Caban.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CABAN: Aye.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Carr.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Aye.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: De La Rosa.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Dinowitz.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Farias.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: Pass for now.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Feliz.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Gennaro.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Gutierrez.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIERREZ: Aye.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Hanif.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Hanks.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Holden.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Hudson.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Joseph.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Kagan.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: Aye.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Krishnan.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Lee.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Louis.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Marte.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Mealy.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Menin.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Moya. Council Member Moya.

14 I'll come back. Narcisse.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Nurse.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Aye.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Osse.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSE: Aye.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Paladino.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Restler.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Richardson Jordan.

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN: Excuse
3 me. Is this the vote on ONE45 in my district?

4 COUNCIL CLERK: This is Land Use Call-Ups,
5 Council Member.

6 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: This is a Land
7 Use Call-Up including the call-up for M61 which is in
8 your district.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN: Yeah,
10 can someone explain to me what that means, like
11 what's going on?

12 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Council Member
13 Jordan, we are now voting to call up items which
14 means that the Council will review the land use items
15 that are on the agenda so this will mean that you'll
16 have extra time here to review the ONE45/Museum of
17 Civil Rights in your district.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN: Okay.

19 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: You're not voting
20 on approval today. Just a call-up to the Council to
21 review.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN: All
23 right. Thank you. I vote aye.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Riley.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Rivera.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Salamanca. I'm sorry.

5 Council Member Salamanca, Land Use Call-Ups.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: I'm sorry. Aye.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Sanchez.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Schulman.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Stevens.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Ung.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Velazquez.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER VELAZQUEZ: Aye.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Vernikov. Williams.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Won.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Yeger.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Abreu.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Farias.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: I vote aye.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Borelli.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Powers.

6 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Aye.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Adams.

8 DEPUTY SPEAKER ADAMS: I vote aye.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Excuse me, Mr.
10 Chair. I want to change my vote. I'm sorry. I just
11 want to be clear. ONE45 is being called up to be
12 reviewed?

13 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Yes, correct. M61
14 ONE45/Museum of Civil Rights is being called up
15 today, not voted on...

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Yeah, but it's
17 being called up to be reviewed?

18 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Yes, correct.
19 That's what we're voting on today.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I want to vote no
21 because I don't even want that to be reviewed. I
22 think that's a bad project we shouldn't even be
23 considering so I want to change that to a no vote.

24 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you,
25 Council Member.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: The same with
3 Council Member Mealy, please. Could I change my vote?

4 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Just for a
5 second, folks. Just please raise your hand, and we
6 will call on you if you are looking to change your
7 vote or have something to say, but, Council Member
8 Mealy, go ahead. You can change your vote.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN: For
10 clarity, from my understanding we have to vote down
11 ONE45. We have to break it up..

12 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Council Member
13 Jordan, we have Council Member Mealy right now
14 speaking, and she wants to change her vote so we're
15 going to allow her to go ahead first and then we'll
16 call on you.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN: Yes,
18 okay.

19 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Council Member
20 Mealy.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I would like to
22 change my vote on ONE45 to no, please. Land Use Item
23 Call-Up.

24 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Okay. Just
25 clarifying for folks that this is a call-up vote.

2 Council Member Mealy is changing her vote to a no.
3 Richardson Jordan.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN: Okay.
5 Can we just get clarification because it was my
6 understanding that to stop the ONE45 project, which
7 is this disruptive project in my district, that we
8 have to bring it up and we have to vote it down
9 because otherwise the City Planning decision stands.
10 Is that correct?

11 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Council Member
12 Jordan, we are voting to call it up so the Council
13 can review it and then vote on the application so
14 that is the step we're taking here today is to bring
15 it up for Council review.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN: But is
17 it true that if we do not bring it up then the
18 decision from the City Planning stands? Is that true?

19 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: That is correct.
20 If we do not call it up today, then the bill will
21 move forward and we will not take a vote on it and it
22 will not be reviewed by the City Council.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: All right. I'm
24 sorry...

2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Excuse me,
3 Council Member Barron.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye. I just
5 want to be clear.

6 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Can we just have
7 a little bit of order here, folks? Council Member
8 Barron, we're just going to take people in the order
9 that they signed up to...

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Oh, I'm sorry.

11 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Change their
12 votes so we'll go to Council Member Jordan, we'll
13 come back to Council Member Barron after that.

14 Council Member Jordan, do you want to change your
15 vote or do you want to keep your vote as is?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN: I will
17 keep my vote as an aye understanding that we have to
18 bring up this item and we have to vote it down in
19 order to change the City Planning's decision.

20 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: So you vote aye,
21 okay. Thank you. Council Member Barron, how do you
22 vote?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Yes. Very familiar
24 with the process too. Just got a little mixed up this
25 morning. I vote aye.

2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you,
3 Council Member Barron. Council Member Mealy, are you
4 still...

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I vote aye.

6 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Vote aye. Okay.
7 Thank you.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: We will now wait
9 for the roll call.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Wait. I had my hand
11 up, Keith.

12 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Sorry. We have
13 Council Member Moya here to vote. Sorry.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I wanted to vote
15 aye. Thank you.

16 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: He votes aye.
17 Thank you, Council Member Moya. Apologies.

18 After much deliberation, today's Land Use
19 Call-Ups are adopted by a vote of 50 in the
20 affirmative and 0 in the negative.

21 We'll now hand it over to Communication
22 from our Speaker, Adrienne Adams. Thank you.

23 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you so much,
24 Majority Leader. Good afternoon, everyone.

25 Happy, happy Cinco de Mayo.

2 I just want to remind everyone that masks
3 are still strongly encouraged to be worn throughout
4 the Stated Meeting in these Council Chambers. Our
5 city's COVID alert level has been raised to medium
6 due to the contagious BA-2 variant so let's continue
7 to be safe and cautious in the Chambers.

8 Today, we're voting on 2 resolutions, 1
9 bill, several Land Use items, and 1 transparency
10 resolution.

11 Before we begin, I would like to
12 acknowledge the traffic fatalities that continue to
13 plague our streets. All of them are tremendously
14 heartbreaking. Yesterday, the life of 16-year-old
15 Alissa Kolenovic was taken when she was fatally
16 struck by a delivery truck as she was talking to
17 school in Morris Park in Council Member Marjorie
18 Valazquez's district in the Bronx. These accidents
19 across our city are significant and beyond sad. The
20 city must take every precaution to end this awful
21 trend, and the City Council is committed to the work
22 of legislative equity to right so many wrongs
23 impacting our residents. Let's now stand for a moment
24 of silence to acknowledge all of our children lost to
25 traffic fatalities this year.

2 Thank you. I now want to speak about the
3 draft majority opinion of the United States Supreme
4 Court that we learned about on Monday which would
5 overturn the federally protected right to abortion
6 provided by the Roe v. Wade decision nearly 50 years
7 ago. If this were to be the final Supreme Court
8 decision, it would eliminate these important federal
9 protections afforded to women as well as trans and
10 gender nonconforming individuals across the country
11 leaving them at the mercy of their state governments.
12 Several states have already passed trigger laws that
13 would outlaw abortion if Roe were overturned, and
14 many others would quickly seek to take similar
15 action, jeopardizing access to safe reproductive
16 healthcare for tens of millions of Americans of
17 reproductive age and nearly half of women within that
18 age range in the United States. The right to safely
19 access abortion and reproductive healthcare is a
20 fundamental human right of self-determination. As of
21 today, it is still a Constitutional right. Yet, we
22 know it has been under assault in dozens of states
23 through restrictive laws that make it difficult to
24 access reproductive healthcare and a national effort
25 to overturn Roe v. Wade that has led us to this

2 moment in history. If this draft majority is
3 reflected in the final decision, it would be
4 dangerous and unprecedented by ignoring 50 years of
5 case law and jeopardizing a range of rights that have
6 been established in this country, those that
7 undermine protections based on race, sexual
8 orientation, gender identity or expression among
9 others. We must not forget who would be most impacted
10 by any decision to overturn Roe v. Wade. Black and
11 brown and low-income people in states across this
12 country where the right to a safe abortion would be
13 stripped away. The wealthy in those states would be
14 able to access the services because of their access
15 to travel funds while poor and low-income Americans
16 would be left without access to safe care. Here in
17 New York, thankfully, abortion rights are protected
18 by state law under the Reproductive Health Act, and
19 we will remain a destination state for any and all
20 women, nongender conforming and trans individuals who
21 are seeking abortions and reproductive healthcare,
22 but this is a national issue that requires federal
23 legislation. The United States Senate must do what is
24 right and pass the Women's Health Protection Act to
25 ensure that fundamental healthcare rights are

2 protected by federal law. It's not lost on me or many
3 of us who is making this decision that will impact
4 millions and millions of women, trans and gender
5 nonconforming Americans across this country. This
6 group of predominantly men on the Supreme Court will
7 never, ever understand the pain and heartbreak that
8 goes into making the decision to terminate a
9 pregnancy, and, yet, they get to decide what we can
10 do with our own bodies. This is not just wrong; it's
11 incredibly unjust. This issue hits so close to home
12 for me and millions of us across this country because
13 so many have lived aspects of this tribulation
14 personally. When I was a student at Spelman College
15 in Atlanta, Georgia, I majored in a sector of
16 healthcare and I worked as an advocate at a women's
17 health center that provided reproductive healthcare
18 services, sexual health education, contraception, and
19 pregnancy termination. In my work, I held the hands
20 of women who agonized over well though out and
21 informed choices, and I carry their stories with me
22 to this very day. As a mother and grandmother, I
23 never imagined that we would have to fight for this
24 basic right of freedom in the year 2022. Yet, here we
25 are clinging on to the last vestiges that belong to

2 us, but I know this, we cannot, we will not go
3 backwards. Since Tuesday, we've been rallying and
4 marching, but we won't stop until millions of women,
5 gender non-comforming, and trans individuals across
6 these United States have the right to access safe and
7 legal abortions. So as was said by Council Member
8 Caban in her statement and at our City Council press
9 conference "we've got an enormous fight ahead of us."
10 It's going to take all of us coming together across
11 differences with profound love, courage, and
12 solidarity. It's going to take clear eyes and a bold
13 vision and good marching shoes. So I say we will
14 march on, yes, we will march on.

15 As I mentioned last week, the Council
16 will kick off the first executive budget hearing
17 tomorrow and conclude on Wednesday, May 25th, with a
18 hearing dedicated to public testimony. This is the
19 next important step in our budget process to dive
20 deeper into the finer details of the Mayor's
21 executive budget to advocate for the resources and
22 services our communities need and deserve to thrive.

23 This past weekend, we observed May Day in
24 honor of the workers who have made this city what it
25 is today. With many recent worker-organizing

2 victories, we are seeing the power of organized labor
3 and the importance of ensuring that workers have a
4 voice to win the protections and fair wages they
5 deserve. As a Council, we will continue to support
6 our workers and union partners in this movement.

7 This week, we are also paying tribute to
8 our educators for National Teachers Appreciation
9 Week. Woohoo teachers. Our teachers have been unsung
10 heroes even before this pandemic, and we will always
11 be grateful for all that they do for our children.
12 Let's continue to show our gratitude for teachers and
13 educators beyond this week.

14 For our Muslim communities, this week
15 marked the conclusion of the holy month of Ramadan. I
16 hope all New Yorkers who were celebrating had a
17 happy, safe, and peaceful Eid al-Fitr with your
18 family and friends. Eid Mubarak.

19 All monthlong, we will be celebrating
20 Asian-American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, a
21 time when we reflect on the might contributions of
22 our diverse AAPI communities. I'm proud that our
23 historically diverse City Council includes the first
24 Korean-American representatives in Council Member
25 Linda Lee and Council Member Julie Won as well as the

2 first South Asian representatives in Council Member
3 Shahana Hanif and Council Member Shekar Krishnan.
4 Let's continue to honor and celebrate our amazing
5 AAPI communities here in New York City.

6 Finally, this weekend we will be
7 celebrating one of my personal favorite holidays.
8 Yes, it's going to be Mother's Day, and, as a mother
9 and grandmother, nothing makes me happier than
10 spending time with all of my babies. I know that
11 Mother's Day is especially meaningful for this
12 Council. The first in our city's history with a women
13 majority made up of daughters, young and older moms,
14 mothers-to-be, and future mothers right here in this
15 very room, and, of course, I will never forget our
16 men and fathers that recognize the importance of
17 Mother's Day as well. On behalf of the entire City
18 Council, Happy Mother's Day to all of our mothers.

19 All right, so now let's dive into our
20 agenda for the day. We will vote on the following
21 Land Use items:

22 2nd Avenue Subway Disposition, transfer
23 of city-owned property from HPD to the MTA to
24 facilitate the future construction of the 125th
25 Street Station in Deputy Speaker Ayala's district.

2 Mount Neboh/Mount Carmel Cemetery merger
3 and acquisition of an adjacent cemetery property in
4 Council Member Holden's district.

5 We will also vote on transparency
6 resolution number 12 of fiscal year 2022 sponsored by
7 Council Member Brannan, approving the designation and
8 changes in the designation of certain organizations
9 receiving funding in the expense budget. We thank
10 staff, Noah Brick and Malcom Butehorn, for their help
11 on this legislation.

12 Finally, we will be voting on the
13 following legislation today. We will vote on 2
14 resolutions concerning our city's veterans.

15 Resolution 21 sponsored by Council Member
16 Eric Dinowitz calls on the state legislature to pass
17 and the Governor to sign S2279 sponsored by Senator
18 Daphne Jordan and its companion bill A7961 sponsored
19 by Assemblymember Jake Ashby designating the State of
20 New York a Purple Heart State. Currently, there are
21 42 municipalities, 12 counties, 6 colleges and
22 universities, 6 Purple Heart Trail routes, and 6
23 other various locations that already have the Purple
24 Heart designation within the state. For example, in
25 2015, the New York City Council issued a proclamation

2 declaring New York City a Purple Heart City. By
3 adopting the Purple Heart designation on a statewide
4 basis, New York state can take another critical step
5 in recognizing the heroic sacrifices our nation's
6 servicemembers have made in order to protect our
7 country.

8 Resolution 41 sponsored by Public
9 Advocate Jumaane Williams calls on the United States
10 Congress to pass and the President to sign
11 legislation that would allow servicemembers,
12 veterans, and eligible surviving spouses to use the
13 home loans backed by the United States Department of
14 Veterans Affairs to purchase residential cooperative
15 housing units. Without the option of cooperative
16 housing, using VA loans may not be a realistic option
17 for many veterans in New York City where co-ops often
18 account for a sizeable share of the available housing
19 stock. Extending the VA loan benefits to the
20 purchases of residential cooperative housing units
21 would be a boon for New York veterans. We give thanks
22 to our staff, Legislative Attorney Bianca Vitale and
23 Legislative Policy Analyst Elizabeth Arzt.

24 Introduction 173-A sponsored by our Parks
25 and Recreation Committee Chair, Council Member Shekar

2 Krishan, would require the Department of Parks and
3 Recreation to develop standards for inspecting the
4 quality of various features of parks or playgrounds
5 under its jurisdiction and issue a report to the
6 Mayor and Council that would identify any such
7 features that have routinely been given an
8 unacceptable rating after having been inspected. It
9 would then require that the Department of Parks and
10 Recreation submit a plan to the Council on how the
11 issues for such park or playground features will be
12 corrected. We thank you, staff, Senior Legislation
13 Attorney Kris Sartori and Senior Legislative Policy
14 Analyst Patrick Mulvihill.

15 Thank you for your attention. Now I will
16 turn it back into the hands of our Majority Leader.

17 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you,
18 Speaker Adams. We're now going to move into
19 Discussion of General Orders for today's vote. I'm
20 going to call Council Member Krishnan to speak on his
21 bill here today.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Thank you so
23 much, Majority Leader. Good afternoon, everyone. I am
24 so excited for the New York City Council to pass my
25 first piece of legislation today, and I'm even more

2 excited and proud that this legislation concerns
3 parks equity in our city. As the Chair of the
4 Committee on Parks and Recreation, as the Council
5 Member from Jackson Heights and Elmhurst where we
6 were the epicenter of the pandemic but rank 50 out of
7 51 when it comes to Council Districts with green
8 space, I think that the issue to make sure that we
9 have equal access to green space in our city is one
10 of the most urgent crisis we face coming out of this
11 pandemic. We have seen how, coming out of COVID, that
12 our parks are a public health issue, a racial justice
13 issue, and an immigrant justice issue. Today's bill,
14 Intro 173A is a first and critical step forward in
15 this Council to addressing the issue of parks equity
16 in our city because we know firsthand that every
17 community regardless of race, regardless of income,
18 deserves access to well-maintained quality green
19 space, but the reality is in our city that some
20 communities have parks that are very well-maintained,
21 beautiful, and are the restorative spaces that all
22 our parks should be whereas others have parks that
23 have been long neglected and not maintained in years.
24 The results, not just of any accident, but of decades
25 of systemic disinvestment. Intro 173A aims to address

2 this issue by, as our Madam Speaker said, ensuring
3 that the Parks Department first comes up with a
4 system of inspecting parks across our city, a set of
5 standards and then for those parks that do not meet
6 those standards providing a report to the Council and
7 to the Mayor of the plans of the Parks Department to
8 address the much-needed repairs as well as a timeline
9 for making those repairs. This is a way to ensure
10 that every New Yorker has access to the green space
11 that we so desperately need and that we saw was vital
12 during this pandemic. It is the way to ensure that we
13 all have access to the crucial park space that we
14 need and that it is well-maintained.

15 I want to say a big, big thank you to the
16 staff of the Council, the Parks Committee staff as
17 well for their excellent work on this legislation. I
18 want to say a big, big thank you to all the co-
19 sponsors and Colleagues who will support it today,
20 and, most importantly, I would like to thank our
21 Speaker, Adrienne Adams, for ensuring that this City
22 Council prioritizes parks equity as the important
23 issue and value that it is in our city and ensuring
24 that we work together to address it as a City
25 Council. Thank you all so much, and I would urge

2 everyone to vote yes, and I'm excited for today's
3 bill. Thank you.

4 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We're
5 just going to wait a second and see if there's
6 anybody else online who would like to raise their
7 hand to speak. I don't think we have anybody else
8 signed up.

9 We will now move to the Reports of
10 Special Committees.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

12 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Report of
13 Standing Committees.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee on
15 Finance, Preconsidered Reso 154 Transparency
16 Resolution.

17 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee on
19 Land Use LU 34 and Reso 158 2nd Avenue Subway Phase
20 2.

21 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: LU 44 and Reso 159 Mount
23 Carmel Cemetery.

24 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee on
3 Parks and Recreation Intro 173A Park and Playground
4 Inspections.

5 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and coupled on
6 General Orders.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Resolution appointing
8 various persons Commission of Deeds.

9 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

10 I would now ask that the Clerk take a
11 roll call vote on all of the items coupled on today's
12 General Orders Calendar.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Abreu.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Ariola.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Aye.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Aviles.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILES: Aye.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Ayala.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Barron.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye on all
23 except for LU 34. I'm abstaining from that property
24 for the MTA because the community wants a commitment
25 to public housing and they said they couldn't make

2 that commitment. Right about now, I do think Council
3 Member Ayala is going to make sure they do, but,
4 without that commitment to the community, I'm going
5 to abstain from that and vote aye on all the rest.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you, sir. Bottcher.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Aye on all.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Brannan.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye on all.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Brewer.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye on all.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Brooks-Powers.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Aye on all.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Caban.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CABAN: Aye on all.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Carr.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: I'd just like to
18 disclose on the record that in today's transparency
19 resolution we're funding CUNY and my partner is a
20 student at CUNY, and I vote aye on all.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: De La Rosa.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye on all.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Dinowitz.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye on all.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Farias.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: I vote aye on all.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Feliz.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: I vote aye.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Gennaro.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Gutierrez.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIERREZ: Aye.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Hanif.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Hanks.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Holden: Holden.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Hudson.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye on all.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Joseph.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye on all.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Kagan.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: Aye on all.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Krishnan.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye on all.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Lee.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye on all.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Louis.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye on all.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Marte.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye on all.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Mealy.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye on all.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Menin.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye on all.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Moya.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Narcisse.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye on all.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Nurse.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Aye.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Osse.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSE: Aye on all.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Paladino.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Restler.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye, and I just

21 want to congratulate my good friend, Shekar Krishnan,

22 on a great piece of legislation.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Richardson

24 Jordan.

25

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDSON JORDAN: Aye on
3 all.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Riley.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Rivera.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Salamanca.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye on all.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Sanchez.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye on all.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Schulman.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye on all.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Stevens.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Ung.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye on all.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Velazquez.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER VELAZQUEZ: Aye on all.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Vernikov. Williams.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I'd also like to
22 disclose that I'm a student of CUNY, and I vote aye
23 on all.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Won.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye on all.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Yeger.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Borelli.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye on all.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Powers.

7 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Aye on all.

8 Congratulations to Council Member Krishnan.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Adams.

10 SPEAKER ADAMS: What the Majority Leader
11 just said, and I vote aye on all.

12 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: I think we just
13 have to call on Council Member Sanchez quickly as she
14 has to make a disclosure on the record as well.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Thank you,
16 Majority Leader. I'd also like to disclose that my
17 brother works at CUNY.

18 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We're
19 now going to also go to Council Member Brooks-Powers.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: I'd like to
21 disclose I'm a member of the Greater Allen A.M.E.

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Just look around.
23 Council Member Feliz.

24

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: I'd like to
3 disclose that I'm an adjunct professor in the CUNY
4 system.

5 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: A lot of CUNY
6 folks here. We like that. Anyone else?

7 All items on today's General Orders
8 calendar are adopted by a vote of 50 in the
9 affirmative, 0 in the negative, and 0 abstentions
10 with the exception of Land Use 34 and Resolution 158
11 which is adopted by a vote of 49 in the affirmative,
12 0 in the negative, and 1 abstention.

13 We're now going to move to the
14 Introduction and Reading of Bills.

15 SPEAKER ADAMS: All bills have been
16 referred to Committees as indicated on today's
17 agenda.

18 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We're
19 now going to move into Discussion of Resolutions. Do
20 we have anyone signed up for Discussion of
21 Resolutions? Just going to check online to see if
22 anybody has their hand up.

23 We'll now have a voice vote on today's
24 resolutions. If you wish to vote against or abstain
25 from either of today's resolutions, please notify the

2 Legislative Documents Unit by email or by approaching
3 the dais before the vote. Folks can come up if they
4 would like to notify of their vote.

5 I'll now read today's resolutions into
6 the record. Resolution 21 reaffirms New York City's
7 status as a Purple Heart City and calls on the State
8 Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign Assembly
9 Bill number 7961 and Senate Bill number 2279
10 designating the State of New York a Purple Heart
11 State. Will all those in favor please say aye.

12 CHAMBERS: Aye.

13 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: All opposed say
14 nay.

15 Any abstentions?

16 The ayes have it.

17 Resolution 41 calls on Congress to pass
18 and the President to sign legislation that allows
19 service members, veterans, and eligible surviving
20 spouses to use the United States Department of
21 Veteran Affairs home loans to purchase cooperative
22 apartments. We'll now take a vote on that one. Will
23 all those in favor please say aye?

24 CHAMBERS: Aye.

2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: All opposed say
3 nay.

4 Any abstentions?

5 The ayes have it.

6 We are now going to move into General
7 Discussion. We are going to begin with our Majority
8 Whip Selvena Brooks-Powers.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS POWERS: Thank you,
10 Majority Leader, and good afternoon, Colleagues.
11 First, I'd like to speak to the devastating news out
12 of Washington this week. I am deeply concerned for
13 the future of women's health in America. Although it
14 is not official, the Supreme Court is clearly moving
15 to strike down Roe versus Wade to criminalize
16 abortion and take vital healthcare access away from
17 millions of Americans. As I've said before, this
18 decision is a callous criminalization of healthcare,
19 and it will endanger countless lives. No where in
20 America do we see government interfering with a man's
21 body in this way. It's time that we treat women as
22 the equal members of society that we are.

23 Also, I'd like to just share that I am
24 devastated by the news out of Council Member
25 Velazquez's district that Alissa Kolenovic, a 16-

2 year-old girl, was killed crossing the street on the
3 way to school yesterday. Each traffic death in our
4 city is an unspeakable tragedy, and we must act now
5 to prevent more. This Council is calling on the
6 administration to fully fund the street plan with 3.1
7 billion dollars, and I encourage my Colleagues to
8 join us in advocating for that funding.

9 I'd also like to highlight 2 bills that I
10 have introduced this week with some of my Colleagues.
11 Intro 328, which I am introducing with Councilwoman
12 Williams would require city agencies to hire
13 independent M/WBE procurement consultants for every
14 contract over 10 million and would require MOCS to
15 submit an annual report to the Council on how these
16 consultants improve outcomes for minority and women-
17 owned businesses. M/WBE engagement is a personal
18 priority for me thanks to my time at the JFK
19 Redevelopment Program, and I believe it's key to
20 providing lucrative economic opportunities to our
21 businesses and getting our city's income back on
22 track.

23 I'm joined by Councilwomen Joseph,
24 Narcisse, Vernikov, and Louis on Intro 329 which
25 establishes a reward for reporting information on

2 hit-and-run traffic incidents. In just the past few
3 weeks, each of our districts has grappled with
4 senseless and devastating traffic deaths. We must do
5 everything we can to reduce traffic violence and make
6 our streets safer. This legislation will bolster our
7 city's enforcement efforts and bring closure to
8 victims' families. Thank you.

9 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. If any
10 folks would like to sign up, you certainly can let us
11 know to add. If you're online, you can raise your
12 hand, and we will add you to the list as well.

13 We're now going to go to Council Member
14 Stevens followed by Council Member Abreu.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Today, I wear red
16 in recognition of the National Day of Awareness for
17 Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. The
18 third leading cause of death for indigenous women is
19 homicide with a rate of 10 times higher than the
20 national average. Those numbers only reflect in what
21 is reported with many more indigenous women and girls
22 going missing each year. Special shout-out to, I'm
23 going to say this wrong, Kakeekut (phonetic) tribe,
24 who my Chief of Staff Kate Connolly is a proud member
25 of.

2 It is my pleasure to introduce
3 legislation to amend the Administration Code of the
4 City of New York in relation to providing mental
5 health services for children visiting incarcerated
6 individuals. The introduction of this legislation is
7 personal to me as my sister is a fierce advocate in
8 the criminal justice world who recently wrote a book
9 called *Unwritten: Stories from Behind and Beyond the*
10 *Bars*. This is a collection of stories and poems of
11 incarcerated families and incarcerated individuals.
12 Too often we don't speak on the impact for families
13 of incarcerated individuals and, specifically, the
14 younger generation. Providing the necessary mental
15 health services for our children will help alleviate
16 some of the long-lasting trauma. To paraphrase the
17 famous Frederick Douglass, it is easier to build
18 strong children than to repair broken adults.

19 I'm also honored to be a co-prime sponsor
20 on Carlina Rivera's legislation and co-prime on
21 Council Member Caban to abolish the criminal group
22 database. I was a proud member of the Gang Database
23 Coalition for several years where I went around the
24 country educating young people and communities about
25 its existence across the country. I hope I can now

2 count on all my Colleagues to sign onto this
3 legislation that will end the criminalization of low-
4 income black and brown communities that continues to
5 create barriers for progression in our city. Thank
6 you.

7 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. You
8 banked 19 seconds and your 30 from last time. We now
9 will have Council Member Abreu followed by Council
10 Member Riley.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Thank you, Majority
12 Leader. Today, alongside Council Member Dinowitz,
13 Menin, Restler, Schulman, Vernikov, and Yeger, I'm
14 proud to introduce Resolution 153 calling on the
15 Department of Education to create a Jewish Heritage
16 Day in our public schools. Over the past year, we
17 have seen a tragic uptick in hate crimes in our city.
18 We know that a majority of religious bigotry is anti-
19 Semitism. I've seen it not far from where I live.
20 Jewish owners facing vandalism and swastikas
21 graffitied around the neighborhood. Our schools play
22 a crucial role in educating our students and reducing
23 bias. We can help combat stereotypes from an early
24 age by raising awareness. In the most diverse city in
25 the world, our schools must celebrate that diversity.

2 The 350-plus year Jewish experience in America is
3 multifaceted and plentiful. It is time for New York
4 City schools to celebrate the positive contributions
5 and achievements of Jewish-Americans and, in
6 particular, Jewish New Yorkers.

7 I want to thank Jan Atwell from the
8 legislative staff for her work on this bill and
9 Robert (Bob) Abrams, New York's former Attorney
10 General, for his advice and counsel. Thank you.

11 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you,
12 Council Member Abreu. We'll go to Council Member
13 Riley followed by Council Member Kagan.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Thank you.
15 Investing into our people through comprehensive
16 support services, extensive professional training,
17 and educational programming makes all the difference
18 in inciting individual lives growth in New Yorkers
19 who are rebuilding and uplifting our communities as
20 whole. I am proud today to partner with my Colleague,
21 Council Member Ung, to introduce a piece of
22 legislation that will develop an Office of Continuing
23 Education and Adult Literacy to serve all New York
24 families. Intro 534 will lay the framework to
25 tackling quality of life issues that plague our

2 districts, starting at the root of the problem.

3 Upgrading outdated infrastructure by addressing

4 inequalities and the lack of access to developmental

5 resources to the communities that need it most. As

6 the co-Chair of the BLAC, I seek to prioritize the

7 needs of underserved communities are met with the

8 tools that will empower them to succeed. We, as

9 leaders, must collaboratively continue to ensure that

10 local legislation secures inclusive outreach and

11 provides quality connections to cultivate sustainable

12 employment development and opportunities as well as

13 the restorative groundwork to maximize the city's

14 communal and societal advancement. The Office of

15 Continuing Education and Adult Literacy would act as

16 a lifeline creating access and opportunity for those

17 low-income and immigrant communities where systematic

18 disparities have failed them. The power of education,

19 mental and social wellness, and family resources are

20 limitless in our communities. In order to better suit

21 our communities, we must acknowledge that and put

22 systems to demonstrate better. Establishing the

23 Office of Continuing Education and Adult Literacy

24 will ensure all New Yorkers have that opportunity.

25 Thank you.

2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you,
3 Council Member Riley. We'll now go to Council Member
4 Kagan followed by Council Member Lee.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: This week we
6 celebrate National Small Business Week. Small
7 businesses and entrepreneurs need our love and
8 support every single day, not just one week a year.
9 They need grants, not loans, to recover from the
10 devastating pandemic. They need free legal services,
11 technical assistance, marketing and promotion with
12 full partnership with city government. They need less
13 taxes, less needless fines, and less fees for all
14 kinds of licenses, not additional rules,
15 instructions, and new mandates. The process of
16 obtaining any license, permit, or to get any relevant
17 information should be simple and quick. I would like
18 to thank Council Member Julie Menin, Chair of Small
19 Businesses Committee, for her work to achieve this
20 goal. SBS representatives should be on the road every
21 day in as many neighborhoods as possible, talking to
22 small business owners in many different languages. We
23 are New Yorkers after all. Small businesses are the
24 backbone of our city, and they deserve our full and
25 strong support. Thank you.

2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. Now
3 we'll go to Council Member Lee followed by Council
4 Member Joseph.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Good afternoon,
6 Colleagues. There's a lot happening this month in
7 May. There's Teachers Appreciation Week. It is also,
8 thank you Speaker Adams for recognizing, AAPI
9 Heritage Month, and, also in case you guys were not
10 aware, it is also Mental Health Awareness Month,
11 which we all know is such an important issue in our
12 city, especially now as we recover from the pandemic
13 so let's definitely make sure to thank and appreciate
14 all of our mental health professionals that are out
15 there in our districts working so hard.

16 Today, I'm very proud to join Council
17 Member Eric Bottcher as well as Council Members Ung
18 and Brannan to introduce Intro 312 around excessive
19 and obnoxious vehicle noise, and I have to say
20 surprisingly this was one of the biggest issues that
21 came up during the campaign trail, and as a mom of
22 young kids and especially I know for young moms that
23 was one of the biggest complaints we heard was the
24 excessive noise from the vehicles waking up young
25 children, disturbing quality of life across the

2 district. As Council Member Bottcher has said, the
3 EPA found that excessive and obnoxious vehicle noise
4 is actually a hazard to the physical health, mental
5 health, and quality of life in our communities, and
6 traffic-related noise pollution is actually
7 responsible for complications for heart disease,
8 cognitive impairment in children, sleep disturbance,
9 hearing loss, and stress and anxiety. As we begin to
10 openly talk about health and mental health, we must
11 address the stressors responsible for impacting our
12 mental wellness as well. I want to thank Council
13 Member Bottcher for introducing this legislation that
14 families across New Yorkers have been clamoring for
15 and for Council Members Ung and Brannan and other
16 Colleagues, and I ask all of you to sign onto this as
17 we continue to push this bill. Thank you.

18 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you,
19 Council Member Lee. We'll go to Council Member Joseph
20 followed by Council Member Velazquez.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Thank you,
22 Majority Leader Powers. I'm proud to introduce Intro
23 338, legislation to create a Bullying Prevention
24 Taskforce. I want to thank Borough President Mark
25 Levine for partnering with me on this important bill

2 that seeks to reduce bullying and intimidation in our
3 schools. Besides having several young children of my
4 own, I care so much about creating a safe space where
5 kids can learn without the fear of harassment from
6 their peers because I saw the impact that it would
7 have on my students when I was still teaching in the
8 classroom. I want this bill to be impactful and
9 meaningful. I encourage my Colleagues to sign on, and
10 I look forward to hearing from my Colleagues who have
11 their own children in schools or those who were
12 formerly teachers themselves and about how we can do
13 the most to make the school a safe and encouraging
14 place for our kids. Thank you, Madam Speaker, and
15 thank you, Majority Leader.

16 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you,
17 Council Member Joseph. We'll go to Council Member
18 Velazquez followed by Council Member Rivera.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER VELAZQUEZ: Thank you so
20 much. As Speaker Adams stated, we had a devastating
21 loss yesterday morning in my community. A sweet 16-
22 year-old girl crossing the street was struck by a
23 truck in the intersection of a residential
24 neighborhood. We often talk about safe streets, but
25 that talk has to have some security for pedestrians.

2 I often think about my own accidents and how it's
3 tough on me to just cross during my toughest moments
4 and we have to, have to think about our children and
5 our seniors that are stuck debating whether their
6 life will be taken away. Therefore, I'm echoing the
7 sentiments of Majority Whip Brooks-Powers in asking
8 for the additional funding. I'm also asking for the
9 Department of Transportation to install reflective
10 material on at least 250 curbs, bollards, posts, and
11 roundabouts, and that is what Intro 369 is all about.
12 I look forward for your support. Our families need
13 it, and we certainly have to honor the lives of those
14 that have been taken too soon. Thank you.

15 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll
16 go to Council Member Rivera followed by Council
17 Member Hanif.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you so much.
19 The last time I visited Rikers Island along with my
20 Colleagues I was told the North Infirmary Command was
21 filled to capacity with individuals who require
22 constant care, from people with disabilities to those
23 struggling with severe mental health challenges to
24 the terminally ill, and, with the conditions we saw,
25 it's clear that was not the place for those in need

2 of serious treatment. Judicial diversion is intended
3 to allow people to access the intervention and
4 treatment they need, but, as the law currently
5 stands, only a shamefully small percentage of those
6 people receive treatment. If we are serious about our
7 commitment to reducing the jail population, we cannot
8 allow for this failure to persist. Today, together
9 with Council Member Crystal Hudson, I'm introducing a
10 resolution in support of the Treatment Not Jail Act,
11 a State bill carried by Assembly Member Phara
12 Souffrant Forrest and State Senator Jessica Ramos.
13 The Treatment Not Jail Act will amend the Judicial
14 Diversion Law to expand eligibility for treatment for
15 individuals involved in the criminal legal system so
16 New Yorkers with disabilities, illnesses, and other
17 health-related challenges can receive the care and
18 support that they need. New Yorkers know that public
19 safety must be addressed at the root, and they have
20 told us they want lasting solutions delivered through
21 the expansion of restorative services, healthcare,
22 and community support systems, and it is on us to
23 act. Today, I'm introducing 3 bills related to
24 conditions at the Department of Correction and within
25 the city jails. The first would require electronic

2 case management for sexual abuse investigations
3 within the Department, another would allow
4 incarcerated people to choose the gender of their
5 doctor when seeking medical care, and the third would
6 establish a program for child visitors at correction
7 facilities. As New Yorkers' elected leaders, we do
8 have a mandate to center humanity in a system where
9 it is severely lacking. I hope you, my Colleagues
10 here today, will join me in signing onto these bills.
11 Thank you.

12 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll
13 go to Council Member Hanif followed by Council Member
14 Brewer.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Thank you. First
16 I'd like to thank Council Members Riley and Ung for
17 your introduction of legislation to create an office
18 dedicated to continuing education and adult literacy.
19 Within the Immigrant Committee, we've been advocating
20 for an expansion of funding toward adult literacy
21 programming and have not received a commitment from
22 the administration so I hope to have my Colleagues'
23 support as we push for these urgent dollars, 27
24 million dollars as shared in the Council's budget
25 response for our immigrant communities.

2 Today, I'm proud to introduce Intro 331
3 alongside Council Members Menin and Velazquez and
4 Brooklyn Borough President Reynoso to create a
5 temporary Office of Recovery to help our restaurants
6 thrive over the next 5 years. The office would
7 develop and implement programs and policies that
8 would help the industry and its workers get through
9 this challenging period. From every-shifting
10 regulations to a decrease in customers, restaurants
11 have faced some of the most challenging burdens
12 during the pandemic. We've seen far too many pillars
13 of the community shut down over the past 2 years,
14 and, especially after the federal funding has dried
15 up, it is clear that the city can do much more to
16 meet the specific needs of businesses and workers
17 that give our city so much. This issue is deeply
18 personal to me, not only do I love the thousands of
19 restaurants that are part of the lifeblood of our
20 city, I'm a self-identified foodie, but my father
21 started Little Bangladesh Restaurant in our
22 neighborhood in Kensington over 2 decades ago. I have
23 so many fond memories of running into the restaurant
24 and smelling my Bangladeshi heritage. The delicious
25 foods that keep me tied to my ancestors and the

2 immigrant-run Brooklyn I know. Now Radhuni Sweets,
3 the restaurant is more than just a place to eat or
4 how my family supports extended family members across
5 New York City and our homeland. It is a space for
6 community. It is a place for working class immigrants
7 and families to gather, talk, be around others that
8 understand their experiences and celebrate. We've
9 lost too many of these gathering spaces during the
10 pandemic, too many dreams have been lost, too many
11 people have seen their livelihoods disappear
12 overnight. I'm proud to champion this legislation in
13 honor of everything my father has done and for every
14 restaurant owner and worker who calls the city home.

15 I'd like to give a shoutout to my
16 district in the 39th for having some of the best
17 pizza, bagels, pasta, and samosas in the city. Come
18 visit.

19 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Very disputable,
20 but we'll not go there. I'll let you have it. We'll
21 now go to Council Member Brewer.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you very
23 much. Couple of things. First of all, just like
24 everyone else, I want to thank the Speaker for her
25 extraordinary words regarding opposition to the

2 Supreme Court and Roe v. Wade. That was very
3 important to all of us, and thank you, Madam Speaker.
4 It was huge.

5 Second, these damn helicopters. I know
6 that Council Member Restler, Council Member Bottcher,
7 and others. Last night, I was at a NYCHA outdoor
8 meeting. I swear that thing, you could've touched it
9 coming over towards Central Park. I have an op-ed in
10 the Daily News today on the topic, and I think we all
11 know that we would not like to have them flying over
12 our city. There's federal legislation. There's state
13 potential. We have some, I know, that could be
14 introduced in the future. I have something about
15 noise. We're talking to New Jersey. Just to say, I
16 hope it's on everyone's radar. We're getting
17 complaints with 21,000 complaints last year on this
18 topic alone to 311.

19 I just wanted to mention 327, which is
20 introduced with the Brooklyn Borough President.
21 Basically, I think you all know about HDFCs, Housing
22 Development Fund Company Units, and we want to know
23 how many of them are being reported in every single
24 Community Board, average sale price. There's a lot, I
25 would say funny money that goes on, and we want to

2 make sure that it is not happening in that way. We do
3 want people to have home ownership, but it should be
4 those who are in a certain income bracket.

5 I'm also with Council Member Brannan,
6 Intro 325, and that would maintain a list of
7 pediatric emergency room including information about
8 their location in different locations, obviously
9 online but also in places where parents can find them
10 because, believe it or not, it's very hard to find a
11 pediatric emergency room for those of us have had or
12 do have small children. Thank you very much.

13 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll
14 now go to Council Member Restler, and we will be
15 followed by Council Member Bottcher.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Thank you,
17 Majority Leader. I want to echo Council Member
18 Brewer's sentiments in thanking the Speaker for her
19 eloquence in leadership this week in light of the
20 horrifying news out of the Supreme Court. I am
21 honored to be a part of a body that I know will do
22 everything in our power to protect the rights of
23 women, protect the rights of women's reproductive
24 health and their right to an abortion, not just here
25 in New York City but across the country.

2 Today, I am introducing legislation with
3 my Colleagues, Council Member Caban, Osse, Hudson,
4 Gutierrez, Nurse, Hanif, and Won to hold NYPD
5 officers accountable when they engage in evidentiary
6 misconduct. There is widespread documentation of
7 officers giving false or misleading testimony,
8 withholding exculpatory evidence, intimidating
9 witnesses all to justify unjust arrests and secure
10 convictions that can only be described as wrongful.
11 Prosecutors have been left to their own devices,
12 maintaining their own lists of police officers who
13 cannot be trusted in a court of law. We must step up
14 to do our part to root out this rot in our justice
15 system, and we must go further. We must actually hold
16 officers accountable when they engage in evidentiary
17 misconduct. Our bill, Introduction 353, requires the
18 Department of Investigation to investigate claims of
19 evidentiary misconduct. If the claim is
20 substantiated, then all relevant parties will be
21 notified. If the misconduct was intentional, the DOI
22 must go further to investigate prior cases to
23 determine whether there is a pattern of evidentiary
24 misconduct. All 5 District Attorneys will be notified
25 if so. If the misconduct qualifies as criminal, then

2 it will be referred to the relevant District Attorney
3 for prosecution.

4 I'd like to thank the Council staff who
5 worked on these bills, the co-sponsors, and
6 Comptroller Brad Lander who introduced a previous
7 version. Thank you all.

8 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you, and I
9 want to wish you a very good luck to a big wedding
10 celebration coming up this Saturday, Council Member
11 Restler.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Thank you, Keith.

13 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Hopefully, next
14 time we see you you're actually a married man.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: I'll try not to
16 mess it up. Thank you.

17 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: We'll now go to
18 Council Member Bottcher followed by Council Member
19 Schulman.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Thank you,
21 Majority Leader. Today, I'm introducing legislation
22 with Council Members Linda Lee, Sandra Ung, Justin
23 Brannan that would increase penalties for excessive
24 motor vehicle noise. Every New Yorker knows what it's
25 like to get woken up in the middle of the night by an

2 obnoxiously loud vehicle. The people who alter their
3 vehicles to be louder, people who lay on their horn
4 especially in the middle of the night, they're being
5 more than just rude and obnoxious. They're actually
6 affecting people's health and mental health, and, as
7 Council Member Lee said, more and more studies are
8 showing that noise and health are linked, and we all
9 have constituents who have reached out about this. A
10 young mother in Hells Kitchen spoke at our press
11 conference earlier about how this is affecting her
12 toddler, and it's very, very sad. We're going to
13 propose to increase the fines, but penalties only
14 work with enforcement, and, as we're introducing this
15 bill, the Department of Environmental Protection is
16 entering the final months of a pilot program with
17 sound sensors and cameras in strategic locations that
18 would be able to identify and ticket these
19 individuals.

20 I want to thank my Legislative and Budget
21 Director, Winn Periyasamy, my Chief of Staff Sean
22 Coughlin, and everyone who worked on this. This is
23 the beginning of an effort to get movement on this
24 issue, and, as we chanted at our press conference
25 today, less beats, more sleep.

2 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll
3 now go to Council Member Schulman followed by Council
4 Member Farias.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: This past
6 Saturday at 9:30, which is relatively early, a
7 delivery worker in my district who worked at a
8 restaurant across the street from me was killed in
9 cold blood by someone who shot him, and he leaves a
10 family of 3 young kids. My office is working with his
11 family on getting people here from other places for
12 the arrangements. We're working with the restaurant.
13 He has relatives that own businesses in the district,
14 and his name was Zhiwen Yan, and, considering that
15 it's AAPI Heritage Month, I don't want his death to
16 go in vain so I'm bringing it up today. He was
17 somebody, by the way, that was very well liked in the
18 district, everyone loved him, he delivered
19 everywhere. He was 45. I really want us to think
20 about him and think about when we get deliveries that
21 we make sure that we tip these individuals well, and
22 the other thing too is that there are AAPI businesses
23 in my district that are being harassed. Supposedly,
24 this business was being harassed prior to this
25 occurring, and I'm working the police department, I'm

2 working with Congresswoman Grace Meng on bringing
3 this individual to justice and making sure our
4 businesses and our communities and our constituents
5 are safe. Thank you.

6 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you,
7 Council Member Schulman. We'll go to Council Member
8 Farias followed by Council Member Yeger.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: I'm going to keep
10 it pretty short and sweet. I really just wanted to
11 acknowledge all of the women from the Women's Caucus
12 and my Colleague male allies that showed up Tuesday
13 morning from my 10:30 p.m., midnight text messages,
14 calling on all of us to show up in the wake of the
15 decision that was made or that was alleged, that
16 we're waiting for. I really just want to express
17 appreciation and thank you all for showing up and for
18 those that didn't show up but wrote messages, tweets
19 of concerns, and are expressing that we have a fight
20 ahead of us that we're all willing to stand unified
21 on. I just wanted to say thank you.

22 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll
23 go to Council Member Yeger and, finally, followed by
24 Council Member Caban.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you, Mr.
3 President. I wasn't going to speak today. I figured
4 I'd give everybody a break, but such is not the case.
5 I want to begin by thanking Council Member Abreu for
6 his thoughtful resolution that he introduced and I'm
7 grateful to him for doing so, and I'm proud to sign
8 on. I really wasn't going to take up his time of
9 touting this important resolution because it's his
10 and it is true that the Jewish community in New York
11 does have some allies, and I'm grateful to the good
12 gentleman for introducing that resolution.

13 But, as we sit here today, the police are
14 in my neighborhood together with the volunteer
15 security force, the Shomrim, at a bus stop on 18th
16 Avenue where 2 swastikas were drawn on an MTA bus
17 stop. They weren't there yesterday so relatively
18 recent. We can talk about it's just graffiti in New
19 York. We talk about the stuff, it's minor quality of
20 life things, who cares, right, it shouldn't bother
21 anybody, just a little graffiti. The neighborhoods I
22 represent have the highest number of Holocaust
23 survivors of any place in the world outside of
24 Israel. Along with Councilwoman Vernikov and
25 Councilman Kagan, we represent more Holocaust

2 survivors than any place in the world, and Councilman
3 Restler as well. My district has the bulk of them,
4 thank God, and they unfortunately diminish every day.
5 I've spoken about the Holocaust and my personal
6 family relationship with it and the city's
7 relationship with it many times on this floor. Look,
8 it's easy for us. We're in a decriminalization world.
9 Everything is less important to enforce this, that,
10 and the other thing than it used to be. We talk about
11 these things and we say what we need is more
12 education, we need more education, if only we taught
13 people what a swastika was they wouldn't go out and
14 draw it. Maybe. Or, if they thought that if they got
15 caught doing it, they'd spend a night in jail, they'd
16 get locked up, they'd go to prison for defacing
17 public property, not concerned about the speech, they
18 did it on public property and we're okay with it as a
19 society. We've become okay. We've done what Senator
20 Moynihan used to call defining deviancy down.

21 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Council Member
22 Yeger, wrap it up.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: I'm going to. Thank
24 you. We've become okay with the crimes in this city,
25 and this is one that maybe it's okay, they're going

2 to scrape it off. By the time I leave here and go to
3 Borough Park, it's going to be gone, but it's not
4 okay and we have to do more than simply speak about
5 it on the floor. We have to do a little bit more...

6 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Council Member
7 Yeger, you have to wrap it up.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Simply introducing
9 a resolution on the floor as my friend has done
10 today, and I'm very grateful. We do have to do more
11 in this city. Thank you very much.

12 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We're
13 going to now go to Council Member Caban followed by
14 Council Member Aviles.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CABAN: Yes, thank you. I
16 just want to speak briefly on Intro 353 and thank my
17 Colleagues who have signed on and thank you Council
18 Member Restler. I just want to lay practically
19 speaking how this ends up playing out in court. I
20 spent 7 years as a public defender and saw this on a
21 very regular basis. When a police officer fabricates
22 evidence and then makes an arrest, they go to ECAB.
23 They go to where a criminal complaint is drafted. It
24 is based on those evidentiary fabrications that DAs,
25 prosecutors decide what the charges will be, and they

2 do it based on a sworn statement by that police
3 officer. It is listed out in terms of highest to
4 lowest charges. That then gets presented to an
5 arraignment court, and that judge, based on the
6 fabrications of that officer under oath on this sworn
7 document, then decides whether or not to set bail and
8 oftentimes they do. That person loses their
9 constitutional right to the presumption of innocence
10 when they can't make that bail, and, whether it is 1
11 day, 2 weeks, 1 month, 3 months, that person may have
12 lost their job, they may have lost custody of their
13 children, they may have lost their housing, which
14 makes all of us less safe, not to mention what it
15 does to the individual. What happens then is that the
16 defense attorney goes through the process. We do
17 motions, we ask for hearings, we ask for the evidence
18 to break holes into it and see where the defense lies
19 then the case eventually, and this usually takes
20 months and months, sometimes upwards of a year, to
21 get to a place where we are, what we call, trial
22 ready, hearing and trial ready. It is at that point
23 then that we may get a disclosure from the
24 prosecutor, called a Brady Disclosure, that says that
25 this isn't true or there's something untruthful in

2 this, and, by that point, we will get to a judge in a
3 courtroom and the judge will say that maybe-year-
4 later, hey, DA, you better make an offer on this case
5 because you can't put that police officer on the
6 stand to testify, and, at that point, we are then
7 able to resolve that case after that person has spent
8 time in jail, after that person may have lost their
9 livelihood, their children, all of the things that I
10 just named, and so I know we talk about the ultimate
11 sacrifice or the ultimate harm when police officers
12 kill or other things, but this is irreparable harm
13 that we are trying to cut off here so I hope..

14 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you,
15 Council Member Caban.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CABAN: Support this as
17 well. Thank you.

18 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We're
19 going to go now to Council Member Aviles followed by
20 Council Member Mealy and then Council Member
21 Narcisse.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILES: Good afternoon,
23 Colleagues. This morning, a 37-year-old cyclist was
24 struck by a private waste vehicle and was killed in
25 our district. We must do everything in our power to

2 end traffic violence and ensure that this will take
3 multiple approaches, including not delaying the
4 regulation and rationalization of commercial waste
5 haulers in our city and to continue to implement
6 protected bike lanes and funding the city's street
7 plan.

8 Three days ago, we had another fire in
9 our district, which, unfortunately, impacted 45
10 families, 130 individuals, over 35 children. I want
11 to personally thank all the first responders who
12 supported those families and will continue to support
13 those families. We will need all the support from
14 this Council, from this city to help these families.
15 These are some of the most vulnerable families,
16 Mandarin-speaking families, who were tripled up in
17 apartments because they could not afford New York
18 City rents.

19 I also want to just call quick attention
20 to the Intro that I am a proud co-sponsor of with
21 Council Member Ayala around data collection. As we
22 know, our city is fighting with homelessness, and the
23 FHEPS program, I'm sorry, I'm a little disheveled
24 here. Excuse me. I'll make this very quick. The city
25 is fighting homelessness and eviction prevention

2 supplement is a critical rental assistance program
3 for families facing eviction and homelessness, and
4 the bill I'm co-sponsoring with Council Member Ayala
5 would require the Department of Homeless Services and
6 HRA to track and report the enrollment data on the
7 FHEPS program. This is common sense, and it is
8 important to accurately gauge the effectiveness of
9 the program to further prevent New York City
10 residents from becoming homeless. We need data to
11 make better decisions. There's no reason not to have
12 data.

13 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you,
14 Council Member. We'll go to Council Member Mealy
15 followed by Council Member Narcisse.

16 SERGENT-AT-ARMS: Starting time.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Yes, I'm sorry to
18 my Colleagues that I didn't go to the prehearing on
19 the Committee, but I just hope that everyone knows
20 that with the noise complaint legislation, I know
21 it's a good thing but we have to really remember that
22 these are young people sometimes with these bikes,
23 cars, with the noise complaint where that 1,000
24 dollars may be from them having a car and not having
25 a car. We are already saturated with tickets because

2 people are double parking because there's no parking
3 in the city practically so I just hope all my
4 Colleagues be aware, it's going to be an extra
5 contact with the police in regards to these noise
6 complaints so I just hope everyone thinks about that
7 and consider this. I will not be supporting this
8 bill. I wish I was there at the hearing. That's on
9 me. I know it will hurt mostly black and brown
10 individuals in this city. Thank you.

11 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. We'll
12 go to Council Member Narcisse to wrap us up.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Thank you,
14 Majority Leader. I just want to bring to everyone's
15 attention May 18 is going to be Flag Day for the
16 first black republic (INAUDIBLE) independence in the
17 world, but people seem to forget that. May 18, we're
18 going to be at Borough Hall. I'm partnering with
19 Council Member Joseph, Louis, Osse for our Flag Day,
20 and it will be very fun so you're going to know a
21 little bit about the history, about our food, our
22 dance, and culture. It is unfortunate that the first
23 black republic has been under so much pressure,
24 oppression, suppression, and all, but every time,
25 every chance, I'm happy to be in America. I would

2 never say different, but, at the same token, I think
3 we owe it to a country that said freedom for all.
4 Thank you. I'm looking forward to all my Colleagues
5 to meet me at Borough Hall on May 18 at 6 p.m. You're
6 all welcome. Thank you.

7 MAJORITY LEADER POWERS: Thank you. Do we
8 have any other folks signed up for General
9 Discussion?

10 Okay, with that being said, I'll now call
11 on Speaker Adrienne Adams to close today's Stated
12 Meeting.

13 SPEAKER ADAMS: In the spirit of festive
14 weekend and just to end us with another high note
15 congratulating Council Member Lincoln Restler on his
16 wedding celebration this weekend, I will also
17 shoutout my own special counsel, Carlos Beato, who
18 will join you this weekend in those celebrations of
19 his own. Congratulations to him as well.

20 With that said, Stated Meeting of May 5,
21 2022, is hereby adjourned.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Date July 8, 2022