

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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Thursday, May 23, 2024

Start: 2:31 P.M.

Recess: 3:34 P.M.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: Adrienne E. Adams, Speaker
Amanda Farías, Majority Leader

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Adrienne E. Adams
Joann Ariola
Alexa Avilés
Diana I. Ayala
Chris Banks
Joseph C. Borelli
Erik D. Bottcher
Justin L. Brannan
Gale A. Brewer
Selvena N. Brooks-Powers
Tiffany Cabán
David M. Carr
Carmen N. De La Rosa
Eric Dinowitz
Amanda Farías
Oswald Feliz
James F. Gennaro
Jennifer Gutiérrez

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING
COUNCIL MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

Shahana K. Hanif
Kamillah Hanks
Robert F. Holden
Crystal Hudson
Rita C. Joseph
Shekar Krishnan
Linda Lee
Farah N. Louis
Kristy Marmorato
Christopher Marte
Darlene Mealy
Julie Menin
Francisco P. Moya
Mercedes Narcisse
Sandy Nurse
Chi A. Ossé
Vickie Paladino
Keith Powers
Lincoln Restler
Kevin C. Riley
Carlina Rivera
Yusef Salaam
Rafael Salamanca, Jr
Pierina Ana Sanchez
Lynn C. Schulman
Althea V. Stevens
Sandra Ung
Inna Vernikov
Nantasha M. Williams
Julie Won
Kalman Yeger
Susan Zhuang

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

A P P E A R A N C E S

INVOCATION:

Delivered by: Rev. Dr. K Karpen, Senior Pastor,
St. Paul & St. Andrew United
Methodist Church located at 263 West 86 Street,
New York, NY 10024

2 SERGEANT POLITE: Testing one, two, one, two.

3 Today's date is May 23, 2024. Today's Stated Meeting
4 is being recorded in the Chambers by Keith Polite.

5 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Ladies and gentlemen, please
6 find seats, please find seats! Folks, keep it down.
7 Ladies and gentlemen, please find seats.

8 At this time all non-council personnel, please
9 take a walk upstairs to the balcony. You can join us
10 up there. Keep it down, please!

11 Please silence place all electronic devices...

12 (CROSS-TALK)

13 AUTOMATED: RECORDING IN PROGRESS

14 (PAUSE)

15 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Good afternoon, and
16 welcome to the Stated Meeting of Thursday, May 23,
17 2024. I am Majority Leader Amanda Fariás, and I would
18 like to thank you for joining us. If you would like
19 to follow along, the Agenda for today's meeting is
20 posted on our website.

21 On behalf of the body, I welcome the members of
22 the public who have joined us here today. During
23 Stated Meetings, only members of the Council may
24 speak. Members of the public shall remain silent. If

2 you wish to express support of any remarks, you may
3 make the silent approval gesture.

4 I want to remind my colleagues that decorum is to
5 be respected at all times. Insulting each other is
6 not appropriate; all remarks are to be addressed to
7 the Chair, and members shall not speak unless
8 recognized by the Chair. It is essential that even if
9 we disagree, we treat each other with respect.

10 Members are reminded that affixing signs or flags
11 to furniture or on the walls of the Council is
12 prohibited.

13 Displaying of signs or flags without the prior
14 approval of the Speaker is prohibited, unless such
15 signs are germane to a topic that the Member is
16 recognized to discuss.

17 Signs affixed to desks will be removed by the
18 Sergeant at Arms.

19 Displaying unauthorized signs intended to convey
20 messages constituents to debate (sic) without
21 recognition from the presiding officer, is a
22 disturbance when other Members are speaking. When
23 such signs are not germane to the question before the
24 Council, they disrupt the order of the meetings.

2 Further, affixing signs to the desks constitutes
3 defacement of the Chamber.

4 Members may display signs or other visual aids to
5 illustrate information properly during the period of
6 General Discussion, the Discussion of General Orders,
7 or during the Discussion of Resolutions provided such
8 signs are concealed when the Member's time has
9 expired.

10 CITY CLERK: Please join us for the Pledge of
11 Allegiance.

12 SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise!

13 ALL: (PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE)

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Roll call?

15 CITY CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Here

17 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Present

19 CITY CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Presente

21 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: (ABSENT)

23 CITY CLERK: Council Member Banks?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Present

25 CITY CLERK: Council Member Bottcher?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Present

3 CITY CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: (NO MIC) Here

5 CITY CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: (NO MIC) Here

7 CITY CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Present

9 CITY CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Present

11 CITY CLERK: Council Member Carr?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Present

13 CITY CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Here

15 CITY CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Here

17 CITY CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Here

19 CITY CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here

21 CITY CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Presente

23 CITY CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Here

25 CITY CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Present

3 CITY CLERK: Council Member Holden?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here

5 CITY CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Present

7 CITY CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Present

9 CITY CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Here

11 CITY CLERK: Council Member Lee?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Here

13 CITY CLERK: Council Member Louis?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present

15 CITY CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Present

17 CITY CLERK: Council Member Marte?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Here

19 CITY CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Present

21 CITY CLERK: Council Member Menin?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Present

23 CITY CLERK: Council Member Moya?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Here

25 CITY CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Present

3 CITY CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: (NO RESPONSE)

5 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Present

7 CITY CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Present

9 CITY CLERK: Council Member Powers?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Here

11 CITY CLERK: Council Member Restler?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Here

13 CITY CLERK: Council Member Riley?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Present

15 CITY CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: (PARENTAL)

17 CITY CLERK: Council Member Salaam

18 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Present

19 CITY CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present

21 CITY CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Present

23 CITY CLERK: Thank you

24 Council Member Schulman?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Here

2 CITY CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: (NO RESPONSE)

4 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ung?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Present

6 CITY CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Present

8 CITY CLERK: Council Member Williams?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I'm here.

10 CITY CLERK: Council Member Won?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Present

12 CITY CLERK: Council Member Yeger?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here

14 CITY CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Here

16 CITY CLERK: Council Member Borelli?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Present

18 CITY CLERK: Council Member Farías?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Present

20 CITY CLERK: Speaker Adams?

21 SPEAKER ADAMS: Present

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you, we will now

23 have today's Invocation, which will delivered by

24 Reverend K. Karpen, Senior Pastor at St. Paul & St.

25

2 Andrew United Methodist Church located at 263 West 86
3 Street in Manhattan.

4 REVERAND KARPEN: Thank you, Majority Leader. And
5 a special personal thank you to Council Member
6 Brewer, who's always supported our efforts to be an
7 open space for all people.

8 In my tradition we often pray by singing, so
9 let's pray.

10 (Singing) The Lord is my light and salvation
11 The Lord is my light and my salvation
12 The Lord is my light and my salvation
13 Whom shall I fear?

14 Holy One, on this somewhat stormy and dreary day,
15 we pray for those in our city who are most
16 vulnerable, who are living out on the streets;
17 families driven out of shelter; city workers whose
18 workplace is outdoors, we ask your protection on them
19 and on people from all over who are making our city
20 their home. God, I'm grateful for those gathered here
21 who have answered the call to serve the City. I'm
22 aware that the deliberations and decisions made today
23 may impact thousands, maybe millions, of our fellow
24 New Yorkers. May those deliberations and decisions be
25 made always keeping in mind those who need the

1 support of us all the most - so that food insecurity
2 may be a thing of the past; so that housing may be
3 found or built or provided; that safety may be a
4 reality in all our boroughs, byways, and subways; and
5 that each precious child find an adequate and
6 inspiring education. In times like these, when we
7 just try to stay ahead of hate, when division and
8 disparities, misgivings, misunderstandings, and
9 misinformation threaten the fabric of our common
10 life, God, give us courage to seek the shalom, the
11 salaam, the peace and prosperity of the city we love.
12 And, finally as we approach the Memorial Day weekend,
13 we ask that you hold in your compassionate embrace
14 those beloved ones of ours who have been lost in war
15 and violence. And we pray to somehow, someday find a
16 peaceful way to be together as your global family. We
17 pray in your awesome and holy name. Amen

18
19 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you. I would now
20 like to ask Council Member Gail Brewer to spread the
21 Invocation on the record.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you.

23 Reverend Karpen is a senior pastor, as you said,
24 of St. Paul and St. Andrew, and has served this
25 progressive congregation since 1984. He is a member

1 of Board #7, comprising of the Upper West Side of
2 Manhattan and co-chairs its Preservation Committee.
3 He currently serves on the New York Conference Board
4 of Ordained Ministry and on the Board of Directors of
5 West Side Campaign Against Hunger - this amazing
6 anti-hunger program trying to keep people fed in the
7 basement of the church. It has been there for many
8 years. It is not only feeding hundreds, and hundreds,
9 and hundreds of people every day, but also has social
10 workers with computers for accessing benefits. It's a
11 unique enterprise. He holds degrees from Cornell
12 University and Union Theological Seminary; his
13 doctorate is in Jewish and Christian Ethics, and has
14 taught at many universities including Columbia.

15 Reverend Karpen is passionate about interfaith
16 work, ministry with the poor and the marginalized,
17 and the possibility of an inclusive church that
18 welcomes migrants every Monday morning. Over 200
19 families show up for information, clothing, legal
20 assistance, and food. He has in basement also, the
21 clubhouse that we are trying to save, Mr. Mayor, so
22 that it is not closed. And as part of the church,
23 there is also B'nai Jeshurun, which is a synagogue,
24 and they are partners in the building. So, is he an
25

2 interfaith leader, a community partner, and my
3 friend. Thank you, Reverend Karpen.

4 And, now, thank you, as I indicated, Reverend
5 Karpen, for being here today, and I make a motion for
6 unanimous consent to spread the Invocation in full
7 upon the record.

8 (PAUSE)

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, Council Member
10 Brewer.

11 Adoption of Minutes?

12 CITY CLERK: None.

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Messages and Papers from
14 the Mayor?

15 CITY CLERK: None.

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Communication From City,
17 County and Borough Offices?

18 CITY CLERK: Preconsidered M 50, budget
19 modification.

20 SPEAKER ADAMS: Finance

21 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Petitions and
22 Communications?

23 CITY CLERK: None.

24 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Land Use Call-ups?

25 CITY CLERK: M 51.

2 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you, I now ask that the
3 clerk take a rollcall vote on all of today's Land Use
4 Call-ups.

5 CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye

7 CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Aye

9 CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye

11 CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: (ABSENT)

13 CLERK: Council Member Banks?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye

15 CLERK: Council Member Bottcher?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHER: Aye

17 CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye

19 CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye

21 CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Aye

23 CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye

25 CLERK: Council Member Carr?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Aye

3 CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye

5 CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye...

7 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Sorry, Clerk, I'd like to
8 pause the roll.

9 Council Member Vernikov, your sign is out of
10 order, and your continued posting is a violation of
11 rule 9.120. If you wish to display a sign that is not
12 germane to a question before the Council, you must
13 wait until the period for General Discussion.

14 Sergeants, please remove the sign, and or close
15 the computer.

16 You can continue with the roll, Clerk.

17 CLERK: Thank you.

18 Council Member Feliz?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye

20 CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Madam Majority Leader,
22 uh, I vote aye on the Land Use Call-ups, and I
23 request unanimous consent to vote on the General
24 Order Calendar and all Resolutions.

25

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted, thank
3 you.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you, and I vote aye
5 on all General Orders and Resolutions. Thank you,
6 Madam Majority Leader.

7 CLERK: Thank you.

8 Council Member Gutiérrez?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye

10 CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye

12 CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye

14 CLERK: Council Member Holden?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye

16 CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye

18 CLERK: Council Member Joseph?... (CROSS-TALK)

19 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Clerk, apologies. I need
20 to pause the roll again. Council Member Yeger, your
21 sign is out of order and your continued posting of it
22 is a violation of Rule 9.120. If you wish to display
23 a sign that is not germane to a question before the
24 Council, you must wait until the period for General
25 Discussion.

2 Council Member Holden, your sign is out of order,
3 and your continued posting is a violation of Rule
4 9.120. If you wish to display a sign that is not
5 germane to a question on the floor before the
6 Council, you must wait until the period for General
7 Discussion.

8 Sergeants, please remove the signs.

9 Clerk, you can continue the roll.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye

11 CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye

13 CLERK: Council Member Lee?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye

15 CLERK: Council Member Louis?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye

17 CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Aye on all

19 CLERK: Council Member Marte?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye

21 CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye

23 CLERK: Thank you.

24 Council Member Menin?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye

2 CLERK: Council Member Moya?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

4 CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye

6 CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: I vote aye.

8 CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Aye

10 CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye

12 CLERK: Council Member Powers?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye

14 CLERK: Council Member Restler?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye

16 CLERK: Council Member Riley?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye

18 CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: (PARENTAL)

20 CLERK: Council Member Salaam

21 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: I vote aye.

22 CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: I vote aye.

24 CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?

25

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 20

2 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Permission to vote on all
3 items on today's Land Use Calander and the General
4 Order Calendar?

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARIAS: Permission granted.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Thank you, I vote aye on
7 all, with the exception Introduction 97, on which I
8 vote no.

9 CLERK: Excuse me, Council Member Sanchez, can
10 you repeat your no, vote? I'm sorry.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: 97.

12 CLERK: Thank you.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Thank you.

14 CLERK: Member Schulman?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye on all.

16 CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye

18 CLERK: Council Member Ung?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye

20 CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye

22 CLERK: Council Member Williams?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye.

24 CLERK: Council Member Won?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye

2 CLERK: Council Member Yeger?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye

4 CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye

6 CLERK: Council Member Borelli?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Uh, permission to vote on
8 all General Order items in addition to the Land Use
9 Call-ups?

10 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: I vote aye on all except
12 Introduction 97-C and 231-A. Thank you.

13 CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: May I have consent to vote
15 all Land Use and all General Orders?

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Thank you, I vote aye on
18 all, thank you.

19 CLERK: Thank you.

20 Council Member Fariás?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: I vote aye on all.

22 CLERK: Speaker Adams?

23 SPEAKER ADAMS: I vote aye.

24

25

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Today's Land Use Call-ups
3 are adopted by a vote of 49 in the affirmative and
4 zero in the negative.

5 We will now have Communication from Speaker
6 Adrienne E. Adams.

7 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you, Majority Leader, and
8 good afternoon, everyone.

9 Yesterday was the final day of our Executive
10 Budget Hearings for Fiscal Year 2025. I want to thank
11 all council members and staff for their hard work
12 throughout this budget process thus far. A special
13 thanks to Finance Chair, Justin Brannan, for his
14 leadership and our entire Finance Division for their
15 commitment throughout these weeks of hearings.

16 To the members of the public who offered
17 testimony, thank you for your engagement and for
18 sharing your voice throughout this process.

19 To deliver for our communities and the people who
20 call home (sic), the budget must fund the services
21 that support New Yorkers and our city. We need to get
22 back to the basics of what makes our city work for
23 families and communities, and not take away or deny
24 resources from 3-K and early education, cultural
25 institutions, affordable housing, libraries, schools,

1 parks, mental health care, programs that reduce
2 recidivism and provide safety, senior services, and
3 other essential services.
4

5 The Council's Preliminary Budget response put
6 forward a plan for smart investments that meet our
7 current needs and lay the foundation for our future.
8 While the Mayor's Executive Budget took some steps to
9 reverse a fraction of the Administration's cuts, it
10 left far too many cuts in place and inadvertently
11 funded vital programs. This must be addressed in the
12 Adopted Budget.

13 This week the Council unveiled our latest
14 economic and tax forecast that shows consistent
15 revenue projections which continue to outpace OMB's
16 (Office of Management and Budget) by \$1.1 billion for
17 fiscal years 2024 and 2025. The updated forecast
18 provides clarity that the City can in fact restore
19 cuts to protect essential services and invest in the
20 needs of New Yorkers. We cannot withhold the programs
21 and services that New Yorkers need when the resources
22 exist to avoid that outcome.

23 The City Council will continue to represent the
24 needs and voices of our constituents at the
25

1 negotiating table, working to ensure our communities
2 receive the investments they deserve.

3
4 May 19th was the birthday of Malcolm X, a
5 revolutionary civil rights leader who fought to
6 advance the rights and equity of our communities.

7 Saturday is Guyana Independence Day; I'm proud
8 that my district, the Great 28, is home to a vibrant
9 Guyanese Community. If you haven't been to Little
10 Guyana yet, encourage you to visit, try some of our
11 local cuisine, and celebrate Guyana's Independence
12 Day.

13 This week is National EMS Week when we celebrate
14 our frontline emergency response workers and the
15 important work they do every day to help keep us
16 healthy and safe. And I want to personally thank all
17 of our EMS workers for their dedication to our
18 communities, including my own daughter, Aliya, who
19 proudly serves our city as an FDNY paramedic.

20 May 28th is Menstrual Hygiene Day during which we
21 raise public awareness about the challenges to
22 accessing menstrual products and period friendly
23 facilities to end the stigma around menstruation.

24 On Monday, we will observe Memorial Day to honor
25 and commemorate service members who paid the ultimate

1 sacrifice in service to our country. Our city is
2 grateful for their commitment, dedication, and
3 sacrifice. My own father, father-in-law, and husband
4 all served in the Air Force. And I know many of you
5 have loved ones who served our country, so Memorial
6 Day is very important to me, my family, many of your
7 families, and other New Yorkers as well. I hope
8 everyone has a meaningful Memorial Day.
9

10 As we approach the month of June, there are
11 several other holidays that I'd like to recognize.

12 June is Black Music Appreciation Month, when we
13 honor the widespread contributions of Black
14 musicians, whether it's gospel music, jazz, soul,
15 house, or hip hop, Black musicians have created
16 entire cultures and industries celebrated throughout
17 the world.

18 June is also Caribbean American Heritage Month
19 when we celebrate our Caribbean American communities
20 for their many contributions to our city and country.

21 And throughout June, we will be observing Gun
22 Violence Awareness Month to acknowledge the crisis of
23 gun violence. As a Council, we are committed to
24 making our city safer and bringing an end to gun
25 violence.

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June is Pride Month; this Council is always committed to uplifting and supporting LGBTQIA+ New Yorkers. Happy Pride.

Tonight, the Council will be hosting our first Annual Montenegrin Independence Day celebration right here in Chambers.

On May 30th, the Council will host its Annual African Day celebration.

On June 3rd, we will have our annual LGBTQIA+ Pride celebration here at City Hall. We hope you can join us for these upcoming council events.

Now let's move on to our Stated Agenda.

First we'll vote on the following Finance items:

Resolution 412, sponsored by Council Member Sandy Nurse, will set the date, place, and time for a public hearing on legislation to establish the Cypress Hills Fulton Business Improvement District.

Resolution 421, sponsored by Council Member Julie Won, will set the date, place, and time for a public hearing on legislation to expand the he Queens Plaza/Court Square business improvement district and rename it the Long Island City Business Improvement District.

1 A Preconsidered Resolution, sponsored by Council
2 Member Justin Brannan, to establish that the discount
3 percentage for early payment of real estate taxes be
4 set at one-half of one percent per annum for Fiscal
5 Year 2025.
6

7 A Preconceived Resolution, sponsored by Council
8 Member Justin Brannan, authorizing a 40-year Article
9 XI tax exemption for the preservation of four rent
10 stabilized buildings in Council Member Hudson's
11 district.

12 A revenue budget modification recognizing \$619
13 million in new revenues implementing changes
14 reflected in the April 2024 financial plan. This
15 revenue will add \$619 million to pay for partial
16 budget restorations for the Department Of Cultural
17 Affairs, rental assistance, foster care services,
18 pupil transportation, CUNY STEM program, and other
19 initiatives.

20 And a Transportation resolution approving new
21 designation and changes of certain organizations
22 receiving funding in the Expense Budget.

23 Next we'll vote on the following Land Use items:

24 15-21 West 124th Street tax amendment will
25 facilitate the construction of a new seven-story

1 building with 33 housing units in Council Member
2 Salaam's district.

3
4 Sunnyside Barnett an Article XI to facilitate the
5 construction of a new seven-story mixed use 100
6 percent affordable housing building with 185 units
7 and Community facility space in Council Member Won's
8 district.

9 Today we're also voting on several Home Room
10 resolutions, SLR 1 increasing the fine for tractor-
11 trailer combinations that park on residential streets
12 overnight.

13 SLR 2 will amend the general municipal law, in
14 relation to disabilities of deputy sheriffs in
15 certain cities.

16 SLR 3 will amend the general municipal law in
17 relation to disabilities of deputy sheriff members of
18 a retirement system in certain cities.

19 SLR 4 will amend the retirement and social
20 security law to permit certain 25-year retirement
21 program dispatcher members to file elections not to
22 participate.

23 SLR 5 will authorize the city of New York to
24 discontinue a portion of parkland in the Bronx
25 easements for improvements to the railroad right-of-

2 way to bring Metro-North railroad service to four new
3 stations.

4 SLR 6 will amend the retirement and social
5 security law in relation to death benefits for active
6 New York city transit authority members.

7 SLR 7 - will amend the vehicle and traffic law,
8 in relation to abandoned vehicles.

9 Today, we will also vote on the following pieces
10 of legalization:

11 Introduction 134-A, sponsored By Majority Whip
12 Brooks-Powers, would require the New York City
13 Economic Development Corporation or EDC to submit an
14 annual report to certain elected officials including
15 the Council Speaker, Queensboro President, and the
16 local council member representing JFK International
17 Airport on the progress of the JFK redevelopment plan
18 and related community benefits package. Each report
19 would include information on the progress and any
20 changes to the scope, timeline, or budget of the
21 redevelopment plan, actions taken by the Port
22 Authority as such property acquisitions contracts
23 awarded to contracts awarded WBEs, permit
24 applications, the establishment of advisory boards;
25 and any other relevant information as determined by

1 EDC. Thank you to our staff members Alex Paulenoff,
2 William Hongach, and Glenn Martelloni.
3

4 Introduction 97-C, sponsored by Council Member
5 Sandra Ung, would set a civil penalty against
6 commercial manufacturing or industrial building
7 owners for sidewalk littering and obstruction of \$50
8 for the first violation, \$300 for the second
9 violation committed on a different day within any 12-
10 month period, and \$500 for the third and each
11 subsequent violation committed on a different day
12 within any 12-month period. The bill would also
13 require the Department of Sanitation to produce
14 educational materials related to the changes in the
15 penalties and to perform outreach to owners of
16 affected buildings. Thank you to our staff members
17 Morgan Barrett and Ricky Chawla.

18 Introduction 584-A, sponsored by council member
19 Eric Dinowitz, would require the 311 call center to
20 implement a virtual queue system that provides an
21 estimated wait time for callers. Thank you to our
22 staff member Irene Byhovsky.

23 Lastly, we will be voting on a package of
24 legislation designed to improve the safety and
25 building integrity of our city's parking garages.

1
2 These bills are critical, especially after the garage
3 collapse at 57 Ann Street - steps away from here in
4 Lower Manhattan last year that resulted in the death
5 of garage manager Willis Moore and injured five
6 others. It is imperative that our city works to
7 prevent these types of fatal incidents from occurring
8 in the future.

9 Introduction 231-A, sponsored by Council Member
10 Crystal Hudson, would increase the frequency of
11 parking structure inspections from a six-year
12 inspection cycle as mandated by Local Law 126 of 2024
13 to a 4-year inspection cycle. It would also require
14 that follow-up assessments be conducted within two
15 years after a parking structure is deemed safe with
16 repair or monitoring. We thank our staff member
17 Austin Malone.

18 Introduction 170-A, sponsored by Majority Leader
19 Amanda Farías, would double the standard civil
20 penalties for certain DOB enforced violations when
21 issued to the owner of a parking structure. This
22 measure can promote improved compliance and result
23 and better maintenance of the safety of parking
24 garages. We thank, once again, our staff member
25 Austin Maloney.

1
2 Finally, Introduction 135-A, sponsored by
3 Majority Whip, Selvena Brooks-Powers, would require
4 the Department of Buildings, or DOB, to conduct a
5 loadbearing capacity study for parking garages. DOB
6 would be required to assess factors of building
7 integrity such as the size, age, materials, and
8 structural design of the parking structure. DOB would
9 also be required to submit these findings and
10 accompanying recommendations to the Mayor and the
11 Council and post them to its website as a report. We
12 thank our staff member Taylor Zelony.

13 Thank you for your attention, now I turn it back
14 over to our Majority Leader.

15 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, Speaker Adams.
16 We will now move into Discussion of General Orders.
17 I'd like to recognize Majority Whip Brooks-Powers
18 followed by Council Members Ung and Hudson.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Thank you. Today
20 I'm pleased we will be voting on two important bills
21 -First Introduction 134-A, a bill that would require
22 the New York City Economic Development Corporation to
23 submit an annual report to the Council, the Queens'
24 Borough president's office, and the Council Member in
25 which JFK International Airport sits in - which is

1 District 31 - on the progress of the JFK
2 redevelopment program and the relevant community
3 benefits package. The goal of this bill is to keep
4 the Council and public informed about the project for
5 as long as it continues. I must say that I've been
6 dismayed by the lack of true transparency by the Port
7 Authority through its failure to appear before this
8 city council, as well as the New York State Senate,
9 refusing to appear before any legislative body is a
10 dangerous posture to take as an agency. Currently the
11 Port Authority determines when meetings occur, what
12 agenda will be included, and has not always been
13 consistent with submitting timely reports to EDC as
14 set out in its lease. In the spirit of transparency,
15 it is important the city of New York ensures the
16 components within the lease, is fulfilled, and
17 members of the Southeast Queens communities truly
18 benefit from this development.

19
20 And another bill we will vote on is Intro 135-A,
21 which requires the New York City Department of
22 Buildings to conduct a structural loadbearing
23 capacity study of parking garages throughout New York
24 City. The DOB would be required to assess factors
25 like the size, age, material, and structural design

1 of parking structures and come up with
2 recommendations based on their findings. I want to
3 extend my thanks to Speaker Adams, Majority Leader
4 Farías, and Chair Pierina Sanchez for support and
5 their work in ushering these two very important bills
6 through. With that, I ask my colleagues to vote aye
7 on both, thank you.

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: I'd like to recognize
10 Council Member Ung, followed by Hudson.

11 CHAIR MEMBER UNG: Thank you, Majority Leader, and
12 my esteemed colleagues for giving me the opportunity
13 to speak on behalf of Introduction 97. This
14 legislation is an important step toward ensuring our
15 city remains clean and vibrant for all who live,
16 work, and visit here. The primary objective of
17 Introduction 97 is clear: to address the persistent
18 issue of litter and debris in front of commercial,
19 manufacturing, and Industrial businesses by
20 increasing the fines for the chronic violators of our
21 city sanitation laws. I want to emphasize that this
22 legislation is not designed to place additional
23 burdens on small businesses which are the backbone of
24 our economy. Instead the targets those businesses
25 that repeatedly discard the regulations treating the

1 existing fines a mere inconvenience and the cost of
2 doing business rather than the serious deterrent. We
3 all know that the majority of business owners are
4 responsible and conscious members of our community,
5 they understand the importance of maintaining clean
6 and safe environments, not just for their customers
7 but their neighbors and community at large. However,
8 we cannot deny there are some business owners who
9 continually flout these rules, undermining our
10 collective efforts to keep our city clean. Chronic
11 violators must understand there are significant
12 consequences for their actions which impact us all.
13 I urge my colleagues to support Intro 97. This
14 legislation strikes the necessary balance between
15 holding chronic offenders accountable and protecting
16 our diligent law abiding business owners. By passing
17 this bill, we take a crucial step toward a cleaner,
18 healthier, and more beautiful New York City for
19 everyone. Lastly, I want to thank Commissioner Tisch,
20 her entire team, the Department of Sanitation,
21 Community Counsel, Morganne Barrett, and my own Chief
22 of Staff Alexander Hart for all the hard work they
23 put into making this piece of legislation possible,
24 thank you.
25

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 36
2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: I'd like to recognize
3 Council Member Hudson.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Thank you so much.

5 I'd like to speak briefly about Land Use 83 or LU
6 83, which will provide an Article XI exemption for
7 existing affordable housing properties in Clinton
8 Hill, including the Tri-Block House on Ashland Place,
9 and Saint Felix Street and the Green Claremont Houses
10 located at 80 Green Avenue. I'm proud that this
11 project will maintain deep affordability for
12 residents while simultaneously financing a
13 significant rehabilitation of these properties -
14 specifically 80 Green Avenue as a housing development
15 for older adults who earn less than 50 percent of the
16 area median income, many of whom are longtime Black
17 and Latinx residents, and 58 units across both
18 developments will be set aside for homeless tenants-
19 30 percent of the entire project. In a rapidly
20 gentrifying area like Clinton Hill, where the area
21 median income for white residents is \$163,000
22 compared to \$53,105 for Black residents, we need to
23 build and preserve deeply affordable housing at low
24 AMIs, so those who built our communities can continue
25 to reside and contribute to them. This project will

1
2 ensure these units remain affordable for at least the
3 next 40 years, if not longer, and will not displace a
4 single resident. Simply put, we need these types of
5 projects to preserve existing deeply affordable
6 housing, especially for our older adults who live on
7 fixed incomes and rarely see a sufficient increase in
8 Social Security or other forms of assistance to pay
9 for rapidly rising costs. My team has held multiple
10 community meetings with residents to ensure they
11 understood what the changes meant and how
12 construction would impact them. We then flyered the
13 entire building of nearly a 100 units with a packet
14 of information, in both English and Spanish, on the
15 proposed changes with contact information for the
16 developer and our office to answer any further
17 questions. This approach takes a bit more work, but
18 I'm confident that this proposed tax exemption will
19 yield exactly what the residents need and deserve,
20 thank you.

21 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you. Seeing no
22 other members signed up to speak - Report of Special
23 Committees?

24 CITY CLERK: None

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Reports of Standing
3 Committees?

4 CITY CLERK: Report of the Committee on Economic
5 Development, Introduction 134-A, JFK redevelopment
6 plan?

7 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
8 Orders.

9 CITY CLERK: Report of the Committee on Finance
10 Resolutions 412 and 421, Business Improvement
11 Districts?

12 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

13 CITY CLERK: Preconsidered Resolution 436,
14 transparency?

15 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

16 CITY CLERK: Preconsidered Resolution 437 discount
17 rate?

18 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

19 CITY CLERK: Preconsidered LU 83 and Resolution
20 443, tax exemptions?

21 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

22 CITY CLERK: Preconsidered M 50 and Resolution
23 444, budget modifications?

24 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

2 CITY CLERK: Report of the Committee on
3 Governmental Operations, State, and Federal
4 Legislation, Preconsidered SLRs 1 through 7?

5 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

6 CITY CLERK: Report of the Committee on Housing
7 and Buildings, Introductions 135-A, 170-A, and 231-A
8 parking structures?

9 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
10 Orders.

11 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Report of the Committee on
12 Land Use LUs 55 and 56, zoning for economic
13 opportunity?

14 SPEAKER ADAMS: Approved with Modifications and
15 Referred to the City Planning Commission pursuant to
16 Section 197-(d) of the New York City Charter.

17 CITY CLERK: LU 74 and Resolution 445, 15-21 West
18 124th Street?

19 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

20 CITY CLERK: LU 82 and Resolution 446, Sunnyside
21 Barnett Article XI?

22 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

23 CITY CLERK: Report of the Committee on Sanitation
24 and Solid Waste Management, Introduction 97-C
25 littering violation?

2 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
3 Orders.

4 CITY CLERK: Report of the Committee on
5 Technology, Introduction 584-A, 311 call centers?

6 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
7 Orders.

8 CITY CLERK: Resolution appointing various persons
9 Commissioner of Deeds?

10 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders. I now
11 that the Clerk take a rollcall vote all of the items
12 coupled on today's General Order Calendar.

13 CITY CLERK: Council Member Powers?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: I vote aye.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye

16 CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Aye on all with the
18 exception of 97-C and 231-A.

19 CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Permission to explain my
21 vote?

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Permission granted.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILAS: For nearly three years, I
24 have struggled to get this Administration to hear the
25 cries of my community as we choke more and more on

1 last mile facilities. Our environmental justice
2 advocates have been at this much longer, recognizing
3 the rapid proliferation of these facilities during
4 the pandemic years as E-commerce swelled to
5 unprecedented levels. With the support of my 29
6 colleagues who signed on to our letter to DCP last
7 month demanding action on last mile, we have a
8 written commitment from the Deputy Mayor to develop
9 tools to control both the traffic and the pollution
10 caused by last mile facilities, a commitment to
11 create and implement a special permit for these
12 facilities in Black and brown working class
13 communities, like the one I represent. This is a sign
14 significant victory for our communities, and it
15 wouldn't have been possible without the tireless
16 advocacy of our environmental justice advocates,
17 including Kevin at New York City Environmental
18 Justice Alliance, Alok and Rachael from Earth
19 Justice, Rami at (INAUDIBLE), Nebraska from UPROSE,
20 Tevin from Red Hook Initiative, Willis at Newtown
21 Creek Alliance, Dariella at The Point. Of course,
22 these gains could have not been made without the
23 support of my colleagues including, Council Member
24 Rafael Salamanca, Council Member Riley, and Speaker
25

2 Adams. A special shoutout goes out to the Land Use
3 team who lent us their experience throughout this
4 process including Paris, William, and Brian. Thank
5 you so much.

6 I also must shout out the significant gains that
7 we've made through this process for our industrial
8 manufacturing zones, which also will yield positive
9 gains for not only my community but for New York
10 City. I want to thank Council Member Jen Gutiérrez
11 for her incredible leadership, as well as her team,
12 on this critical issue. We will work closely with DCP
13 the Deputy Mayor, and any agency involved, to ensure
14 that we move expeditiously to see through these
15 commitments, and ensure that the health and safety of
16 our community is prioritized. (TIMER CHIMES) With
17 that, I'm proud to vote yes on all, thank you.

18 CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: (ABSENT)

20 CLERK: Council Member Banks?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye on all.

22 CLERK: Council Member Bottcher?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Aye

24 CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye

2 CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye

4 CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Aye on all.

6 CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye

8 CLERK: Council Member Carr?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: I will be voting no on
10 Introductions 97-C and 231-A, and aye on all the
11 rest.

12 CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye on all with the
14 exception of Introduction 97-C.

15 CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye on all.

17 CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye on all.

19 CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye

21 CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye

23 CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye on all.

25 CLERK: Council Member Holden?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye on all, except for 97-
3 C and 231-A for which I vote no.

4 CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye

6 CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye

8 CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye

10 CLERK: Council Member Lee?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye on all.

12 CLERK: Council Member Louis?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye on all.

14 CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Aye on all with the
16 exception of 97-C and 231-A.

17 CLERK: Council Member Marte?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye

19 CLERK: Council Member Menin?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye

21 CLERK: Council Member Moya?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

23 CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Uhm, permission to
25 explain my vote?

1 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Thank you, Madam Chair.

3 I'm voting yes on Introduction 97-C; however, I
4 want to put on record my concern about the potential
5 (INAUDIBLE) enforcement of this law. While I was a
6 businesswoman and entrepreneur in my community, I
7 have seen it firsthand, while I understand and
8 support the need to maintain clean sidewalks, we must
9 be vigilant to ensure that this legislation does not
10 disproportionately impact our already struggling
11 small businesses. Many of these businesses are the
12 backbone of our communities, and they are often
13 operated on razor thin margins. I urge the Department
14 of Sanitation and our enforcement agencies to
15 implement this law with a fair and balanced approach,
16 providing adequate warnings and educational materials
17 to businesses before entering summonses. We must
18 ensure that our efforts to keep our city clean do not
19 in (INAUDIBLE) punish those who are already facing
20 significant economic challenges. In voting yes, I
21 remain committed to working with my colleagues to
22 monitor the impact of this law and to advocate for
23 any necessary adjustment to protect our small
24
25

2 businesses while maintaining clean streets, thank you
3 so much, and I vote aye for all.

4 CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: I vote aye.

6 CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: I vote aye.

8 CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: I would like permission
10 to explain my vote, please?

11 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Okay, on 97-C I voted in
13 favor of 97-C, and to my colleagues', point I don't
14 think the fines are strict enough. I think our
15 neighborhoods are being abused, and the store owners
16 are certainly taking a leeway - a great amount of
17 leeway, uh, with what they're allowed to get away
18 with. It's time to pay up. You either take care of
19 the property that's in front of your stores, and wash
20 your windows, or face a \$50 fine. I mean, honestly,
21 what is that going to do? I don't think the fines are
22 high enough, and I vote yay on 97-C, and I vote no on
23 231-A, and aye on all the rest.

24 CLERK: Council Member Restler?

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Okay, I am an aye on all,
3 and congrats to Council Member Ung.

4 CLERK: Council Member Riley?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye

6 CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: (PARENTAL)

8 CLERK: Council Member Salaam

9 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: I vote aye on all.

10 CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye on all.

12 CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye on all.

14 CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye

16 CLERK: Council Member Ung?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye on all.

18 CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye on all except for no
20 on 97-C and 231-A, thank you.

21 CLERK: Council Member Williams?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye on all. And
23 just wanted to say for the record, that shortly, I
24 will not have say this, that I am a student at CUNY,
25 thank you. I vote aye on all.

2 CLERK: Council Member Won?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye on all.

4 CLERK: Council Member Yeger?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye on all with the
6 exception of Intro 97 and Intro 170 and Resolution
7 421, thank you.

8 CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye on all except 231-A.

10 CLERK: Council Member Farías?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye on all.

12 CLERK: Speaker Adams?

13 SPEAKER ADAMS: Aye on all.

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All items on today's
15 General Order Calendar are adopted by a vote of 49 in
16 the affirmative, 0 in the negative, and 0
17 abstentions; with the exception of Introduction 97-C,
18 which was adopted by a vote of 40 in the affirmative,
19 9 in the negative, and 0 abstentions; and
20 Introduction 231-A, which was adopted by a vote of 41
21 in the affirmative, 8 in the negative, and 0
22 abstentions; and Introduction 170-A, which was
23 adopted by a vote of 48 in the affirmative, 1 in the
24 negative, and 0 abstentions; and Resolution 421,

25

2 which was adopted by a vote of 48 in the affirmative,
3 1 in the negative, and 0 abstentions.

4 Introduction and Reading of Bills?

5 SPEAKER ADAMS: All bills have been referred to
6 committees as indicated on today's Agenda.

7 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you, there are no
8 resolutions on today's calendar, so we will now move
9 into General Discussion. I would like to first
10 recognize Council Member Louis, followed by Council
11 Member Marmorato.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Thank you, Madam Majority
13 Leader and good afternoon, colleagues.

14 On the morning of January 19th, a devastating
15 tragedy struck in my district. New parents, Alex and
16 Bessie Kuravsky, experienced the most unimaginable
17 loss of their 11-month-old son Binyomin Zachariah,
18 who was found unconscious after being burned alive in
19 a room filled with steam from a faulty radiator in
20 their apartment. Despite best efforts to save him,
21 Binyomin was pronounced dead due to steam inhalation
22 and thermal burns. This tragedy echoes a similar
23 incident from seven years ago in the Bronx, where two
24 toddlers, Scylee Vayoh and Ibanez Ambrose, similarly
25 lost their lives to scalding heat from a defective

1 radiator. These incidents are not isolated, but are
2 indicative of a broader issue in our city's aging
3 housing stock that demands immediate action to
4 prevent loss of more innocent lives. In response to
5 these horrific events, I am introducing Introduction
6 925, a Local Law requiring the inspection of steam
7 radiators in multiple dwellings. This bill mandates
8 that the owners of multiple dwellings conduct annual
9 inspections of all steam radiators in their units and
10 common areas. This protocol will identify and rectify
11 any issues before they pose a threat to the safety of
12 tenants, residents, and families. Everyone deserves
13 to live in safe living conditions, and it is our
14 responsibility to enforce standards that protect the
15 most vulnerable among us. I want to thank Council
16 Member Sanchez and Council Member for their support
17 through this process. I urge my colleagues to support
18 Introduction 925 and to honor the memory of Binyomin
19 Zacharian, and ensure that no family endures such
20 tragedy again. Thank you.

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you. I'd like to
23 recognized Council Member Marmorato, followed by
24 Council Member Cabán, then Council Member Vernikov.

1 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Thank you, Majority
2 Leader.
3

4 It's an honor to introduce not only my first
5 resolution, but one that holds a profound
6 significance for the men and the women and family
7 members of my district. Today I'm presenting a
8 Resolution to designate March 29th as Vietnam
9 Veterans Day in New York City. This was inspired by a
10 heartfelt conversation I had with one of my
11 constituents, Oscar Ruiz. During a veterans breakfast
12 in our community, tearfully Oscar expressed that the
13 Vietnam veterans did not receive the welcome and
14 recognition they deserved upon returning home. I
15 would also like to acknowledge my Uncle, Angel
16 Ramirez, and his best friend, Michael Camperlengo,
17 who also served in the Vietnam War. I miss you both,
18 guys, hope you're having a blast up there.

19 Designating March 29th as Vietnam Veterans Day is a
20 small but meaningful step in honoring their service
21 and sacrifice. It's a day for all New Yorkers to
22 remember and appreciate the courage and dedication of
23 these veterans. I kindly request my colleagues to
24 sign on to this resolution and eventually vote, yes.
25 I would like to acknowledge Regina Paul, who helped

2 me craft this resolution. She helped make this an
3 honorable process and an easy one, thank you Regina.
4 I would also like thank my Chief of Staff, April
5 Cardena, for her support and dedication to me and the
6 job. My District 13 staff, thanks for everything you
7 do, and keep up the great work, thank you.

8 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: I'd like to recognize
9 Council Member Cabán, followed by Council Member
10 Vernikov, and then Council Member Won.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN Thank you. Like Council
12 Member Louis, I would like to talk about Binyomin. On
13 January 19th, 2024, as we heard, he passed away from
14 a room that filled up to 212 degrees of steam. A
15 malfunctioning steam radiator inside of his apartment
16 wasn't repaired properly, despite multiple
17 complaints, and as a result it led to his tragic
18 death just 20 days before his first birthday party.
19 Steam radiators need to be inspected a minimum of one
20 time per year; there needs to be a good enforcement
21 mechanism, and his parents are here today, because
22 they don't want any parent to go through what they
23 are. Binyomin is the third baby to die, and regular
24 inspections wouldn't just protect children, it would
25 protect seniors, it would protect people with limited

1 mobility, it would protect people with sleep apnea.

2 So, I just want to say thank you to Council Member

3 Louis for introducing a bill to address this issue

4 and save lives. And thank you to Binyomi's parents.

5 Like I've said before, may his memory be a blessing,

6 and thank you for your advocacy in a really, really

7 difficult time.

8 I also want to move into talking about

9 legislation I'm reintroducing, the Secure Jobs Act,

10 and invite my colleagues to sponsor it. I want you to

11 think about what it means to be fired for any reason,

12 or no reason at all, with no warning, no explanation,

13 no recourse. It means taking it all away at a

14 moment's notice - the ability to make rent, car

15 payments, to afford medicine, food, child care, and

16 so much more. And, guess what? This isn't some worst

17 case scenario outlier horror story. It is the norm

18 here in New York City. Most working New Yorkers are

19 forced to live under the constant threat of arbitrary

20 or unjust firings with no recourse. Nearly nine out

21 of 10 workers in New York City who were fired were

22 giving no warning. We can change that and provide

23 fairness and stability to workers with the Secure Job

24 Act.

1
2 And, finally, in my last moments, today is the
3 last stated with Jesse Myerson, my Director of
4 Communications. I've often named how lucky I am to
5 have an entire team that sees themselves as part of a
6 larger movement, sees the role of government
7 governing and direct public service. In service of
8 that movement, Jesse is the truest example of that.
9 It's been an honor and a privilege to work with him,
10 not just because he is an undeniably (TIMER CHIMES)
11 exceptionally brilliant talent in his field of choice
12 - and I am going to wrap up - but it is because he is
13 an incredibly and principled and kind human being,
14 there are a few things as intimate and vulnerable as
15 trusting somebody with your voice. And my personal
16 gratitude for his care and effectiveness in that
17 partnership and it runs eternally deep. So, I am
18 excited for you all to find out what he is doing
19 next, and thank you.

20 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, Council
21 Member, and thank you, Jesse.

22 I would like to recognize Council Member
23 Vernikov, followed by Council Member Won, and Council
24 Member Nurse.
25

1 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Thank you. It was only a
2 few months ago that we watched uneducated hateful
3 mobs tear down posters of innocent Israeli civilians
4 who were kidnapped by Hamas, one of the most barbaric
5 and evil terrorist organizations on earth. These
6 actions poured salt on the deeply painful wounds
7 Jewish communities across the world have been feeling
8 after the worst atrocities since the Holocaust have
9 been perpetrated on us. The narrative coming out of
10 this body must not echo those hateful mobs. There is
11 no better place for discourse and difficult
12 conversations like City Hall Chambers. We will not
13 allow the names of those still remaining in Hamas
14 captivity be forgotten or erased. And that's why on
15 my desk today I have photos of four 19-year-old girls
16 who are brutally torn away from their families and
17 are now being tortured and most likely raped by
18 terrorists as we speak. These are their names: Agam
19 Berger, Daniella Gilboa, Liri Albag, and Karina
20 Ariev. There are also five American hostages who
21 remain in Hamas captivity: Sagui Dekel-Chen, Edan
22 Alexander, Hersh Goldberg-Polin, Keith Siegel, and
23 Omer Neutra. Every innocent life is precious, and we
24 pray for an end to this terrible war. The end can
25

2 only come when we free Gaza and the world of Hamas,
3 so we can have peace and security in the region.

4 Thank you

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: I'd like to recognize
6 Council Member Won, followed by Council Member Nurse,
7 and then Council Member.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Thank you so much, Majority
9 Leader Fariás.

10 Today I am pleased to introduce Introduction 935,
11 along with Council Members Brewer and Hanif. This
12 bill would require the distribution of a voluntary
13 survey to individuals and families leaving the
14 shelters and migrant reticketing centers. The survey
15 will collect information on the immediate
16 destinations of individuals leaving our city shelters
17 or leaving the city entirely. Over 120,000 people are
18 living in the city of New York's shelters, including
19 at least 10,000 in my own district. The Mayor's
20 Office estimates that half of asylum seekers who have
21 come through the City's shelter system have left for
22 alternative accommodations, yet we do not know where
23 people are going. We do not know if people are
24 leaving shelters or just end up living in the
25 streets. We have also heard from school principles

1 that students are simply going missing from the
2 school system, and we have no information about their
3 current circumstances.

4 Introduction 935 would require the City to
5 collect this data to ensure people that leave shelter
6 are not disappearing into thin air with nowhere to
7 go, but are entering stable housing and stable
8 schools. So please I urge my colleagues to sign on to
9 Introduction 935, thank you.

10 MAJORITY LEADER FARIAS: Now I'd like to recognize
11 Council Member Nurse, followed by Council Member
12 Brewer, then Council Member De La Rosa.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Thank you, Majority Leader.
14 With the summer around the corner, it's important to
15 highlight one of the biggest climate impacts in New
16 York City, which is extreme heat. We know that some
17 communities are impacted more than others, including
18 my district, which is one of the neighborhoods across
19 the City with a high heat vulnerability index. We
20 need to be more proactive and aggressive with heat
21 preparedness, more equitable investments in parks
22 and our city forests, and more innovative with
23 strategies to mitigate urban heat island effect in
24 the communities that need it most.
25

1 Today, I, along with Council Member Brooks-
2 Powers, introduced a bill that would require the
3 Department of Transportation to conduct a pilot
4 project on the use of cool pavement on city streets -
5 pavement and pavement coatings designed to keep area
6 temperatures cooler than traditional asphalt, and
7 thus, combat the urban heat island effect. This
8 should not be an extremely costly program, and other
9 cities are already exploring these strategies. New
10 York City should not be so far behind on tackling the
11 urgent issues of extreme heat. I invite you all to
12 cosponsor this legislation, and I'm happy to discuss
13 it with you, thank you.

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
15 Member Brewer, followed by Council Member De La Rosa,
16 and Council Member Restler.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you very much.

18 I'm bringing Resolution 438 to your attention;
19 it calls on the City Council to recognize Landing Day
20 every September to commemorate the 23 Sephardic Jews
21 who arrived in 1654, having been preceded by three
22 Ashkenazi Jews, who together founded the first Jewish
23 community in North America that week of September 7th
24 1654, right before Rosh Hashanah. These 23 landed
25

2 near the southern tip of the Dutch Colony right near
3 the now Staten Island Terminal. And, of course, 370
4 years later, New York is home to many wonderful
5 Jewish community members - more than any other place
6 in the world.

7 I want to say that every year, we have gathered
8 at Peter Minuit Plaza, which has a dedicated monument
9 that was put there in 1955. We will continue to do
10 that. So, this is a really important resolution, it
11 comes during Jewish American Heritage Month,
12 celebrated each May to recognize the contribution of
13 Jews to American life and culture. I hope you sign
14 on, thank you very much.

15 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
16 Member De La Rosa, followed by Council Member
17 Restler, and Council Member Yeger.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Thank, you Madam
19 Majority Leader.

20 Today I want to send my deepest condolences to
21 the family of Shirley Rodriguez, who on Monday
22 morning was brutally murdered by her ex-boyfriend as
23 she walked to work. As we sit here in this chamber in
24 this moment, my community is gathering to remember
25 Shirley's life. Shirley was 29 years old, a life

1 taken way too soon. Her death leaves us feeling
2 helpless as recommit to ensuring that we eradicate
3 intimate partner violence across our city. I also
4 want to take the moment to send my prayers and my
5 condolences to her family and to all of our community
6 who is mourning this loss in this moment.

8 I want to take a minute to also speak about
9 Introduction 910, the Construction Justice Act, which
10 requires the City stabilized housing developments to
11 pay their workers a minimum combined wage package of
12 at least \$40 per hour. This is an important piece of
13 legislation that will ensure that those who are
14 building our world renowned skyline can afford to
15 live in our city, and give our working class families
16 a chance to secure stable housing in a city with ever
17 growing housing costs and shortages. I want to thank
18 Speaker Adams for her support, and also thank our
19 partners in organized labor, including laborers Local
20 79, for with partnering us to introduce this bill,
21 which will help build generational wealth and a new
22 middle class. I'm encouraging colleagues who have not
23 done so to please sign on, thank you.

24 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: I now call on Council
25 Member Restler, followed by Council Member Yeger.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Thanks so much, Majority
3 Leader.

4 I'd like to just take a moment to express my
5 strong support for a piece of legislation introduced
6 today by our Speaker, Introduction 908, which would
7 subject 21 appointees of the Mayor to advice and
8 consent of the Council. This worthy and necessary
9 legislation will be subject to a hearing that we're
10 holding next Wednesday morning, and want to encourage
11 my colleagues to come and express their support for
12 this bill. This would ensure that the appointees of
13 any mayor have broad support from the Council and the
14 public, and would ensure that those appointees work
15 effectively with the Council as the Charter indeed
16 mandates them to do. So, I want to really thank the
17 Speaker for her leadership on this issue. It is of
18 utmost importance, and I think would be incredibly
19 beneficial for effective governing of the city of New
20 York, thank you.

21 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Now recognizing Council
22 Member Yeger.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you, Madam
24 President.

1
2 Last week I came here to the floor of this
3 council and wore this on my jacket, because a policy,
4 not a rule, of the Council, never been a rule, a
5 policy said that you can't put something on your
6 desk. Today we found that also not on a laptop, but
7 if you put on your jacket it's okay. You can wear it
8 on your shirt no problem. Nowhere in the Rules of the
9 Council does it say that you can't have something up.
10 I came to work here in 1994, six speakers, there's
11 never been a time in this floor that a member
12 couldn't have something on their desk displayed,
13 never. Right here, four desks down, there's a nice
14 advertisement for Starbucks. Never been the case.
15 When one is looking for an excuse, any excuse will
16 do. On November 15th, I put a picture of Kfir on my
17 desk here in this Council. Nobody had a problem with
18 it. In fact, I would like to hope that most people
19 here would find that a 9-month-old being kidnapped
20 and held by terrorists, together with his three-year-
21 old brother and their parents, is offensive. Nobody
22 had a problem with it that I heard. Then all of a
23 sudden, a policy backdoored into written rules. And I
24 want to be clear, if a rule was proposed on the floor
25 of the Council.... (CROSS-TALK)

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Council Member... (CROSS-
3 TALK)

4 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: that said... (CROSS-TALK)

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Council Member, you are
6 out of order. You do not have the right to talk about
7 and address the ruling of the Chair.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Oh, okay, thank you.
9 When... when the... if it... if a rule were to be
10 proposed on this floor that were to say from hence
11 forth, no displays in the Council, I vote for it. No
12 problem. But that's not what's happening here. There
13 is no rule of this council that says that there
14 cannot be signs, that there cannot be something
15 displayed from a desk... (CROSS-TALK)

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: You are still continuing
17 to argue... (CROSS-TALK)

18 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: I recognize... I'll wait...
19 (CROSS-TALK)

20 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Council Member, you are
21 still continuing to argue...

22 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Waiting until you're
23 done...

24 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: about the ruling of the
25 Chair. It stands. Please... (CROSS-TALK)

2 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: I'm not... I'm not
3 disputing... (CROSS-TALK)

4 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Please use your time
5 (INAUDIBLE)... (CROSS-TALK)

6 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: the ruling of the Chair.
7 I'm making my point. This is General Discussion. We
8 can talk about anything. We can talk about what size
9 shoes you wear, my... what I wear. We can talk about
10 the size of these microphones... (CROSS-TALK)

11 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: You cannot
12 specifically... (CROSS-TALK)

13 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: I can talk about the
14 (INAUDIBLE)...

15 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: You cannot
16 specifically... (CROSS-TALK)

17 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: We can talk about (TIMER
18 CHIMES)... (CROSS-TALK)

19 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: address the ruling of the
20 Chair... (CROSS-TALK)

21 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: anything we want as long as
22 we're not addressing each other. If you want to...
23 (CROSS-TALK)

24 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: that stands in this
25 Chamber, in this body... (CROSS-TALK)

2 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: If you want to keep
3 interrupting me... (CROSS-TALK)

4 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Would you like...

5 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Had 23 seconds on the
6 clock. I'm gonna' (sic) estimate how long I have
7 left... (CROSS-TALK)

8 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Please wrap up with your
9 23 seconds... (CROSS-TALK)

10 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you very much. Agam
11 Berger, Daniella Gilboa, Liri Albag, and Karina
12 Ariev. Their faces have been all over TV and the
13 internet. These are the pictures that have offended
14 by (sic) the people who make the policies here. Not
15 rules, policies. It's not a rule of a Council, thank
16 you very much, Madam President.

17 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, Council Member
18 Yeger.

19 I'll now call on Speaker Adrienne Adams to close
20 today's Stated Meeting.

21 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you, Majority Leader.

22 In reference to my colleague's comments, just to
23 be sure, Rules were read and accepted by this body as
24 they were read. The final authority does come down to
25 the speaker, be it the present speaker or the former

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speakers, and I submit that no one knows what transpired between conversations between my predecessors, nor myself, unless we were asked.

Thank you very much, the Stated Meeting of May 23rd, 2024 is hereby adjourned.

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 June 6, 2024