

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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Thursday, June 6, 2024

Start: 2:09 P.M.

Recess: 3:51 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:

Reverand Jason Andre Ridley,
Community Worship Center of Seventh Day
Adventist located at 145-94 176 Street,
Queens, NY 11434

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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SERGEANT POLITE: Testing one, two, one, two, today's date is June 6, 2024, the Stated Meeting is being recorded by Keith Polite in the Chambers.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen, please find seats, we are getting ready to start the Stated Meeting, please find seats.

To minimize disruptions, please place all electronic devices to vibrate or silent mode, please silence all electronic devices.

Ladies and gentleman, at this point and time any non-staffers who are on the floor, please make your way up to the balcony -- any non-staffers that are on the floor please make your way up to the balcony and silence all electronic devices, please silence all electronic devices, thank you.

AUTOMATED: RECORDING IN PROGRESS

MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Good afternoon, and welcome to the Stated Meeting of June 6, 2024. I am Majority Leader Amanda Farías, and I would like to thank you for joining us. If you would like to follow along, the agenda for today's meeting is posted on our website.

On behalf of the Body, I welcome the members of the public who have joined us here today. During

2 Stated Meetings, only Members of the Council may
3 speak. Members of the public shall remain silent. If
4 you wish to express your support of any remarks, you
5 may make the silent approval gesture.

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

12 CITY CLERK: Please join us for the Pledge of
13 Allegiance.

14 SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise!

15 ALL: (PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE)

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Roll call?

17 CITY CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Present

19 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Present

21 CITY CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: (NO RESPONSE)

23 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Here

25 CITY CLERK: Council Member Banks?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Here

3 CITY CLERK: Council Member Bottcher

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Present

5 CITY CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: (NO RESPONSE)

7 CITY CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here

9 CITY CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: (NO RESPONSE)

11 CITY CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Present

13 CITY CLERK: Council Member Carr?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Present

15 CITY CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Here

17 CITY CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Here

19 CITY CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Here

21 CITY CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here

23 CITY CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Presenté

25 CITY CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Here

3 CITY CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Present

5 CITY CLERK: Council Member Holden?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here

7 CITY CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Present

9 CITY CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Present

11 CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Present

13 CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Presenté

15 CITY CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Here

17 CITY CLERK: Council Member Lee?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Here

19 CITY CLERK: Council Member Louis?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: (NO RESPONSE)

21 CITY CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Here

23 CITY CLERK: Council Member Marte?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Present

25 CITY CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: (NO RESPONSE)

3 CITY CLERK: Council Member Menin?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Here

5 CITY CLERK: Council Member Moya?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Here

7 CITY CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Present

9 CITY CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: (NO MIC) Present

11 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSE: Present

13 CITY CLERK: Thank you

14 Council Member Paladino?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: (NO RESPONSE)

16 CITY CLERK: Council Member Powers?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: (NO MIC) Here

18 CITY CLERK: Council Member Restler?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Here

20 CITY CLERK: Council Member Riley?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Present

22 CITY CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present

24 CITY CLERK: Council Member Salaam

25 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Present

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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2 CITY CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present

4 CLERK: Council Member Louis?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present

6 CITY CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Present

8 CITY CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: (NO MIC) Here

10 CITY CLERK: Thank you

11 Council Member Stevens?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Here

13 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ung?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Present

15 CITY CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: (NO RESPONSE)

17 CITY CLERK: Council Member Williams?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Present

19 CITY CLERK: Council Member Won?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: (NO RESPONSE)

21 CITY CLERK: Council Member Yeger?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here

23 CITY CLERK: (BACKGROUND NOISE) Thank you, Council

24 Member

25 Council Member Zhuang?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Here

3 CITY CLERK: Council Member Borelli?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: (NO RESPONSE)

5 CITY CLERK: Council Member Farías?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Present

7 CITY CLERK: Speaker Adams?

8 SPEAKER ADAMS: Present

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you, we will now
10 have today's Invocation, which will be delivered by
11 Reverend Jason Andre Ridley from the Community
12 Worship Center of Seventh Day Adventist, which is
13 located at 145-94 176 Street in Queens.

14 REVEREND RIDLEY: Shall we pray?

15 Almighty God, we express our gratitude and
16 thankfulness for this day; a day where we are able to
17 experience life, liberty, love, laughter, and
18 learning; a day where we are able to make an impact
19 through our positions of leadership. So, I pray for
20 this council meeting today; I pray that you will give
21 our council members wisdom, guidance, understanding,
22 and discernment as the deliberate on the items before
23 them. May every decision be righteous in your sight
24 for our benefit and for your glory. I pray that our
25 leaders will each have the heart of a servant, and

2 that as of a collective group, and separately in
3 their own districts that each will do justly, love
4 mercy and walk humbly. I pray that as they continue
5 to serve the families of New York City that their
6 families will be blessed and that they will prosper
7 and be in good health. And lastly, I pray for the
8 families of New York City, from the citizens to the
9 asylum seekers, from those who have to those who have
10 not. May they each experience peace, protection,
11 provision, and prosperity is my prayer, amen.

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you.

13 I would now like to ask Council Member Brooks-
14 Powers to spread the Invocation in full upon the
15 Record.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: (NO RESPONSE)

17 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: I would like to ask
18 Council Member Brooks-Powers to spread the Invocation
19 in full upon the Record.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Thank you, Majority
21 Leader, and good afternoon, everyone. It's my
22 distinct honor to welcome Paster Jason Ridley of the
23 Community Worship Center of Seventh Day Adventist
24 located in my district today to City Hall. Paster
25 Ridley is a native of Richmond, Virginia who felt his

1 calling to ministry at a very young age preaching his
2 first sermon at just thirteen. His academic journey
3 took him to Virginia Union University where he
4 received a bachelor's degree in Religious Studies and
5 Philosophy from Virginia Union University. He then
6 went on to Andrews Theological Seminary in Berrien
7 Springs, Michigan where he received a Master's of
8 Divinity.
9

10 Pastor Ridley's commitment to community service
11 is truly inspirational. In Columbus, Ohio he
12 initiated a feeding program for the homeless
13 providing over 20,000 meals annually and established
14 a free clothing store for those in need. His advocacy
15 extends to social justice serving on various boards
16 and councils including the African-American Ministers
17 Leadership Council and on the National Board for
18 Faith in Public Life and worked with Faith in Public
19 Life Ohio branch who awarded Pastor Ridley the first
20 Faith Leader of the Year Award for the state of Ohio.

21 I have had the pleasure of visiting the Community
22 Worship Center in Springfield Gardens numerous times,
23 and Pastor Ridley is a vital part of our quarterly
24 faith based meetings and more throughout our
25 community where his insights and passion for service

2 consistently inspire and guide us. His profound
3 dedication to faith, community, and justice embodies
4 the very spirit of service that we strive to uphold
5 in this Council. With great respect and admiration, I
6 express my gratitude to you, Pastor Ridley, and thank
7 you for delivering today's Invocation. Thank you.

8 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you.

9 Pursuant to Rule 9.60 of the Council Rules, I
10 hereby grant my own request to consider all Home Rule
11 Messages currently on the Agenda to be reported out
12 of the Committee on Governmental Operations, State
13 and Federal Legislation as Preconsidered SLRs 8
14 through 14 separately from the General Order
15 Calendar.

16 In addition, I make a motion pursuant to Rule
17 8.00 that the order of priority on today's Agenda be
18 modified so that Home Rule Messages can be taken up
19 now. This motion shall be decided without debate.

20 Would all those in favor say aye?

21 ALL IN FAVOR: Aye

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay.

23 ALL: (SILENT)

24 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

25 ALL: (SILENT)

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: And the ayes have it.

3 We will now have discussion only on the Home Rule
4 Messages. Would anyone like to sign up to speak on
5 the Home Rules? Seeing none...

6 CITY CLERK: Report of the Committee on
7 Governmental Operations, State and Federal
8 Legislation, Preconsidered SLRs 8 through 14, various
9 Home Rule Messages?

10 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled as a separate question. I
11 now ask that the Clerk take a separate rollcall vote
12 only on the Home Rule Messages?

13 CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye

15 CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Aye

17 CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye

19 CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye

21 CLERK: Council Member Banks?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye

23 CLERK: Council Member Bottcher

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Aye

25 CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye

3 CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes

5 CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Permission to
7 explain my vote?

8 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: So, while I am
10 voting aye, I did want to take a moment to speak on
11 the Home Rule that pertains to the redlight cameras.
12 I am appreciative of being able to work with my
13 colleague, Council Member Restler, on re authorizing
14 this important program. There is still much more work
15 to be to in terms of our oversight capabilities with
16 the Department of Transportation. I am looking
17 forward to working with our partners in the state
18 legislature to ensure that commitments that have been
19 made are seen through to ensure that we were not
20 merely just setting cameras up, but that we are
21 improving communities in the true safety of our
22 streets in New York City. Thank you.

23 CLERK: Thank you, Council Member Ariola?

24

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Thank you for the
3 consideration to amend my vote, I am aye on all
4 except for SLR 8 and 13, for those, I am a no.

5 CLERK: Thank you.

6 Council Member Cabán?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye

8 CLERK: Council Member Carr?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: I am a no on Preconsidered
10 SLRs 8 and 13 and aye on the rest.

11 CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye

13 CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye on all.

15 CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye

17 CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye

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

25 CLERK: Council Member Holden?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye

3 CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye

5 CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye

7 CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye

9 CLERK: Council Member Lee?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye

11 CLERK: Council Member Louis?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: I vote aye on all, except
13 for Preconsidered SLR 8.

14 CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: I vote aye on all,
16 except for SLR 8 and 13, I am a no.

17 CLERK: Council Member Marte?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye

19 CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Pass

21 CLERK: Council Member Menin?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye

23 CLERK: Council Member Moya?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

25 CLERK: Thank you

2 Council Member Narcisse?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye

4 CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: I vote aye.

6 CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Aye

8 CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye on all except for
10 SLR 8 and 13 on which I am a no.

11 CLERK: Council Member Powers?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: I vote aye.

13 CLERK: Council Member Restler?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Permission to explain my
15 vote?

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: We are passing a number
18 of great Home Rule Messages today, but I especially
19 just want to call out SLR 8 and SLR 13.

20 SLR 8, the expansion of the redlight camera,
21 making New York City... ensuring that New York City
22 will have the largest redlight camera program in the
23 nation will quite simply save lives. We lost 29
24 people last year due to cars running redlights. But,
25 we have been capped at only being able to have

2 redlight cameras at just one percent of
3 intersections. We will now quadruple the redlight
4 camera program in New York City; this is an evidence
5 based, effective approach to reducing crashes on our
6 streets that cause death and serious injury.

7 SLR 13 is an innovative and effective new
8 approach from the Department of Sanitation that will
9 place cameras on street sweepers automating
10 enforcement and actually holding bad actors
11 accountable who are not moving their cars during
12 alternate side parking - modeled after the MTA
13 program of putting cameras on buses to keep cars out
14 of bus lanes. We are going to actually make our
15 streets safer, make our streets cleaner, get more
16 garbage off our streets, have less rats in our
17 communities without having to... and putting less
18 pressure on the enforcement workers, so that they can
19 spend their time doing other things. These are really
20 terrific bills, and I hope that Albany takes swift
21 and quick action.

22 I just want to thank all of the staff who worked
23 on it, especially the Intergovernmental Affairs
24 Division, thank you. Aye on all.

25 CLERK: Thank you

2 Council Member Riley?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye on all with the
4 exception of SLR 8.

5 CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

7 CLERK: Council Member Salaam

8 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Aye on all.

9 CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye on all.

11 CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye

13 CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye on all.

15 CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye on all except SLR 8
17 and SLR 13.

18 CLERK: Council Member Ung?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye on all.

20 CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye on all with the
22 exception of SLR 8 and SLR 13.

23 CLERK: Council Member Williams?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye on all except for
25 SLR 13.

2 CLERK: Council Member Won?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye on all. (INAUDIBLE)
4 basement.

5 CLERK: Thank you, Council Member.

6 Council Member Yeger?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: No on SLR 8 for the reasons
8 stated by the Majority Whip, no on SLR 13, and aye on
9 the remainder, thank you.

10 CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye on all.

12 CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye on all (sic) and no on
14 SLR 8, SLR 13.

15 CLERK: Council Member Borelli?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye on all with the
17 notable exceptions of SLR 8 and 13, to which I vote
18 no, and hope the car that's bringing up these Home
19 Rules gets stuck in traffic cameras and (LAUGHTER)
20 doesn't make it on time.

21 CLERK: Council Member Farías?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: I hope... I vote aye on
23 all, and I hope there's no traffic on the roadways to
24 get these SLRs up. (LAUGHTER)

25 CLERK: Speaker Adams?

2 SPEAKER ADAMS: Aye on all.

3 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: All items have been
4 adopted by a vote of 51 in the affirmative, 0 on the
5 negative, and 0 abstentions; with the exception of
6 SLR 8, which was adopted by a vote of 40 in the
7 affirmative, 11 in the negative, and 0 abstentions;
8 and SLR 13, which was adopted by a vote of 41 in the
9 affirmative, 10 in the negative, and 0 abstentions.

10 We will now have the Adoption of Minutes by
11 Council Member Julie Won.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: (BACKGROUND NOISE)
13 (INAUDIBLE) I adopt the Minutes.

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: I just want to reiterate
15 Council Member Won, and I make a make a motion that
16 the Minutes of the Stated Meeting of May 16, 2024 be
17 adopted as printed.

18 Messages and Papers from the Mayor?

19 CITY CLERK: None

20 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Communications from City,
21 County & Borough Offices?

22 CITY CLERK: None

23 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Petitions and
24 Communications?

25 CITY CLERK: None

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Land Use Call-ups?

3 CITY CLERK: None

4 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you. We will now
5 have Communications from Speaker Adrienne Adams.

6 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you very much, Madam
7 Majority Leader, and good afternoon everyone.

8 Starting on the evening of June 11th our Jewish
9 communities will be celebrating Shavuot. As you
10 gather with your family and friends, I wish all New
11 Yorkers who are celebrating a happy and safe Shavuot.

12 June 12th is Loving Day, which marks the
13 anniversary of the Supreme Court decision Loving
14 versus Virginia, which ended anti-miscegenation laws
15 and allows interracial marriage in the United States.

16 June 12th is Philippines Independence Day marking
17 the country's independence from Spanish rule.

18 And June 14th is Flag Day when we celebrate the
19 adoption of our national flag back in 1777.

20 On Monday evening we celebrated LGBTQIA+ Pride
21 Month right here in Council Chambers. Thank you to
22 everyone who made the celebration such a wonderful
23 event, and congratulations to our honorees.

24

25

1 Join us this coming Tuesday June 11th for our
2
3 Juneteenth celebration and on Wednesday June 12th to
4 celebrate Caribbean Heritage Month.

5 Today is Foster Youth Shadow Day. (CHEERS) Yay!
6 (APPLAUSE) The goal of Shadow Day is to give our
7 foster youth the opportunity to learn about the City
8 Council, become more civically engaged, and become
9 introduced to new career pathways. We welcome all of
10 our students to the People's House, and I'm sure that
11 the folks who you are shadowing will personally shout
12 you out today.

13 Finally, please join me in wishing a happy
14 belated birthday to Council Member Shaker Krishnan,
15 (APPLAUSE) -- he had a birthday yesterday with a lot
16 of cake -- and an early birthday to Council Members
17 Pierina Sanchez and Joann Ariola (APPLAUSE)
18 celebrating birthdays next week. And I also want to
19 wish a happy belated birthday to our beloved Deputy
20 Communications Director Charlene LaMange (sp?)
21 (APPLAUSE) .

22 Now we'll move on to our Stated Agenda.

23 First we'll vote on the following Land Use items:
24 City of Yes Zoning for Economic Opportunity or
25 ZEO. The Council has modified the New York City

1 Department of City Planning's DCP proposed citywide
2 zoning text amendment to update the City's outdated
3 commercial zoning regulations. The Council made
4 modifications to 14 of its 18 proposals to address
5 concerns raised about them during the public review
6 process by including limitations and safeguards that
7 help strike the right balance between expanding
8 opportunities for local businesses, creating jobs,
9 protecting neighborhoods, and quality of life for all
10 New Yorkers. This text amendment also includes the
11 Council's priority of preserving manufacturing
12 districts and enhancing the development of the
13 Industrial Sector which provides good paying jobs and
14 can prepare our city for a clean energy economy and
15 future.
16

17 The Council also secured commitments for the City
18 to address the environmental and health impacts of
19 Last Mile facilities and trucking including to
20 advance a zoning reform that would require a special
21 permit to operate the facilities, support for
22 legislation to regulate emissions associated with
23 their operations, and continued development of a
24 program supporting waterborne freight as an
25 alternative to truck traffic.

1
2 Other non-zoning commitments secured by the
3 Council include a budget commitment to hire new DOB
4 staff positions to launch proactive enforcement, four
5 new employees and an afterhours team for the Office
6 of Nightlife to ensure establishments comply with
7 laws and rules and boost in enforcement against
8 unlicensed d smoke shops. I want to thank all of the
9 council members who have worked tirelessly on the
10 modifications to the citywide text amendment and got
11 it to the finish line, including Council Member
12 Rafael Salamanca, Council Member Riley, Council
13 Member Gutiérrez, and Council Member Avilas.

14 I also want to thank our entire Planning and Land
15 Use Division led by Perris Straughter for your
16 technical expertise (APPLAUSE) and your dedication to
17 this council. They have spent countless hours
18 visiting community boards and neighborhoods, talking
19 to our constituents, and hearing their concerns
20 including many, many late nights and working all
21 hours of the day. I especially want to once again
22 thank Perris Straughter, Brian Paul, Chelsea Kelly,
23 Ann McCoy, William Vidal, Arthur Huh, Andrew Lasseter
24 -- who has the nerve... who is departing the Council
25 after 5 years of service! Andrew, we thank you for

2 all of your hard work and wish you the very best in
3 your next chapter. (APPLAUSE)

4 Next we'll vote on The following Finance items:

5 A Preconsidered Resolution, sponsored by council
6 member Justin Brannan, renewing a 40-year Article IV
7 tax exemption for the preservation of a rent a
8 stabilized building in Council Member Feliz's
9 district.

10 A Preconsidered Resolution, sponsored by Council
11 Member Justin Brannan, renewing a 40-year Article IV
12 tax exemption for the preservation of three rent
13 stabilized buildings in Council Member Rafael
14 Salamanca's district.

15 A Preconsidered Resolution, sponsored by Council
16 Member Justin Brannan, renewing a 40-year Article IV
17 tax exemption for the preservation of a rent
18 stabilized building in Council Member Ossé's
19 district.

20 A Preconsidered Resolution, sponsored by Council
21 Member Justin Brannan, authorizing a 40-year Article
22 Xi tax exemption for the preservation of three rent
23 stabilized buildings in Council Member Rafael
24 Salamanca's district.

Today we are also voting on several Home Rule Resolutions:

SLR 8 to increase the number of intersections where traffic control signal photo violation monitoring systems may be installed and operated.

SLR 9 to provide WTC related benefits to certain employees who worked at the Verrazano Bridge Toll Facility.

SLR 10 in relation to allowing certain members of the New York city fire department pension fund to receive a membership date in the New York city fire department pension fund attributable to service in the titles of police cadet program or police cadet program II in the New York city police department cadet program.

SLR 11 eligibility for participants in the automotive 25-year age 50 pension plan with more than 30 years of credited service who remain in active service after age 62 to receive a service retirement benefit equivalent to the standard service benefit received by tier four members with the same age and service.

SLR 12 in relation to health insurance coverage for surviving spouses or domestic partners of members

2 of the New York city fire department employed as fire
3 protection inspectors.

4 SLR 13 in relation to owner liability for failure
5 of an operator to comply with street cleaning parking
6 rules; to amend the public officers law, in relation
7 to access to records prepared pursuant to street
8 cleaning parking rules.

9 SLR 14 relation amending the definition of
10 overtime ceiling.

11 Next we will vote on the following Resolutions
12 and Bills:

13 Resolution 157, sponsored by Council Member
14 Julie Menin, would recognize June 6 annually as D-Day
15 Remembrance Day in the City of New York in honor of
16 the courage and sacrifice of the Allied soldiers on
17 the Normandy beaches in France. We thank our staff
18 member Regina Paul.

19 Resolution 232, sponsored by Council Member Gale
20 Brewer, calling on the New York State Legislature to
21 pass, and the Governor to sign, S.2960/A.5741, to
22 provide for annual adjustment of the maximum income
23 threshold eligibility for the Senior Citizen Rent
24 Increase Exemption (SCRIE), Disability Rent Increase
25 Exemption (DRIE), Senior Citizen Homeowners'

2 Exemption (SCHE), and Disabled Homeowners' Exemption
3 (DHE) programs by any increase in the Consumer Price
4 Index. Thank you to our staff members Anastasia
5 Zemina and Chloe Rivera.

6 Resolution 365, sponsored by Majority Leader
7 Amanda Fariás, calling on the New York State
8 Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign
9 S7843/A4888, in relation to conditional release for
10 eligible offenders who complete post-secondary
11 degrees or programs. Thank you to our staff member
12 Natalie Meltzer.

13 Resolution 79-B, sponsored by Majority Leader
14 Amanda Fariás, calling on the New York State
15 Legislature to pass, and the New York State Governor
16 to sign, S.315/A.1416, which would authorize New York
17 City to set a five mile per hour speed limit on
18 streets participating in the Open Streets program.
19 Currently, the City can only recommend that drivers
20 slow down to five miles per hour when operating on an
21 open street with limited vehicular access. Thank you
22 to our staff members Mark Chen and Connor Mealy.

23 This week President Biden issued an Executive
24 Order to temporarily suspend the processing of most
25 asylum claims at the southern border, under this

1
2 order migrants who cross without authorization,
3 barring certain extenuating circumstances, would not
4 be eligible for asylum. Migrants are fleeing dire
5 humanitarian conditions in their home countries,
6 especially given the dangerous journeys they must
7 undertake to reach the United States. We know that
8 seeking asylum is often their final option for
9 safety. There have been serious concerns raised about
10 the impact this decision will have on the safety and
11 well-being of families and children who are in
12 desperate need of asylum.

13 Resolution 340-B, sponsored by Council Member
14 Carlina Rivera, calling on the U.S. Citizenship and
15 Immigration Services (USCIS) to eliminate filing fees
16 for humanitarian benefit applications and subsequent
17 employment authorization applications and calling on
18 Congress and the President to move significant
19 funding to USCIS to cover the funding lost by the
20 eliminated filing fees.

21 Introduction 84-A, also sponsored by Council
22 Member Carlina Rivera, would require a designated
23 mayoral office or city agency to develop a survey of
24 migrants including those who have recently arrived
25 and those are seeking asylum to understand the skills

1 economic opportunities and workforce development
2 obstacles they face the designated agency or office
3 would report to the council the results of the survey
4 and provide recommended policies and Investments to
5 support the economic well-being and success of
6 migrants residing in New York City.
7

8 Introduction 85-A, also sponsored by Council
9 Member Rivera, would require a designated mayoral
10 office or city agency to develop a health survey of
11 migrants' long-term health needs, chronic conditions,
12 and health care access needs. The designated agency
13 or office would report to the Council the results of
14 the survey and provide recommendations to identify
15 and anticipate the health needs of migrants residing
16 in New York City. Thank you to our staff members
17 Nicole Kata and Rebecca Barilla.

18 Next we will be voting on a package of
19 legislation to improve work places and promotional
20 opportunities in the municipal workforce.

21 In April, the Council released its 2024 Pay
22 Disparities Report, which found that persistent
23 gender and racial wage gaps in the municipal
24 workforce are largely the result of women of color
25 being paid less given their concentration in job

1 titles that consistently provide lower wages. These
2 bills seek to address these gender and racial wage
3 gaps by increasing access to opportunities.
4

5 Resolution 306-A, sponsored by Council Member
6 Carmen De La Rosa, calling on the Department of
7 Citywide Administrative Services or DCAS to grant
8 additional points on promotional exams to examinees
9 who have completed the agency's Executive Development
10 and Management and Supervision trainings, or to
11 examinees who have earned a degree or certificate
12 from the City University of New York, or a similarly
13 accredited institution. Thank you to our staff member
14 Elizabeth Arzt.

15 Introduction 767-A, sponsored by Council Member
16 Crystal Hudson, would require DCAS to create a
17 Workplace Culture Survey to be completed by municipal
18 employees every other year on an anonymous and
19 voluntary basis. The survey would ask employees about
20 their opinions on their agency's workplace culture,
21 management practices, likelihood of departing the
22 agency, and other equity related concerns. This bill
23 would require the Commissioner of DCAS to submit a
24 report on findings from the survey responses. This
25 bill would also clarify that agencies' annual reports

1 on their efforts to remedy pay disparities and
2 occupational segregation should include both internal
3 and external outreach. We thank our staff members Rie
4 Ogasawara and Elizabeth Arzt.
5

6 Introduction 809-A, sponsored by Council Member
7 Carmen De La Rosa, would require DCAS to publish a
8 report on its website every other year regarding
9 DCAS's determination of promotional exam applicant
10 eligibility. In particular, the bill would require
11 the commissioner to report on the factors considered
12 when making determinations to fill municipal
13 vacancies from pools of direct line employees or to
14 expand eligibility to collateral line employees or
15 comparable position employees. Thank you once again
16 to our staff members Rie Ogasawara, Elizabeth Arzt,
17 and Nicholas Connel.

18 And Introduction 743-A, sponsored by Council
19 Member Carmen De La Rosa, would require municipal
20 agencies in coordination with DCAS to offer career
21 counseling to eligible municipal employees and advise
22 them of career advancement processes and
23 opportunities. This bill would also require agencies
24 to conduct outreach to eligible employees regarding
25 career counseling services and for DCAS to create

1 written materials to provide guidance. Furthermore,
2 this bill would require DCAS to submit a report
3 regarding municipal employees utilization of career
4 counseling services and summarize the feedback the
5 agency has received. We thank again our staffers Rie
6 Ogasawara and Elizabeth Artz.
7

8 Finally, we will be voting on Introduction 908-A,
9 my bill, to require Council advice and consent as
10 part of the appointment process for 20 City agency
11 commissioners adding to those already required to
12 undergo this step. There's been a lot of public
13 conversation about this legislation, and I want to be
14 clear that advice and consent is not a new concept --
15 including for this very legislative body. Several
16 positions have required advice and consent of
17 the Council for decades. Since the beginning of this
18 administration in 2022, the Council has approved more
19 than 35 of its nominees for appointment without
20 issue. Advice and consent was established by the
21 founders of our democracy as a safeguard to protect
22 the public interest in the appointment of top
23 government positions from the interest of
24 individuals. It is used in many of the nation's
25 largest municipalities, our state governments

1 including our own and the federal government. Advice
2 and consent works, and we already have a process in
3 place that *this* legislation currently builds on.
4 Contrary to what some have claimed, this legislation
5 does not usurp the Mayor's power to appoint
6 commissioners and top city officials -- and at no
7 point would the Council be able to choose its own
8 nominees to lead agencies. Introduction 908-A adds
9 transparency and democratic accountability by
10 requiring a confirmation process that, again, already
11 happens with dozens of positions. Advice and consent
12 moves the appointment process out of the shadows,
13 allowing greater transparency and public engagement.
14 It's good government and can be beneficial for
15 nominees by providing an opportunity for them to
16 demonstrate their qualifications, hear about the
17 range of issues they will confront, and build
18 positive relationships with the Council and the
19 public they are serving.

21 I'd also like to address the questions that have
22 been raised about timing and whether this bill would
23 slow down the process based on the schedule of a few
24 council members or leave an agency without
25 leadership. That's just not true. The process

1 contains guard rails to ensure Council action within
2 30 days of receiving an appointment. If there is a
3 vacancy, the first deputy or a designate of the
4 Mayor, would serve in an acting capacity, which, once
5 again, is the current process. The City's Law
6 Department currently has a highly qualified acting
7 corporation counsel who knows the Department as well
8 as anyone. The current FDNY commissioner served as an
9 acting commissioner until she was appointed in
10 October of 2022. We're talking about adding 20 city
11 agency commissioners out of more than 80 such
12 commissioner-level positions. That's a fraction of
13 the positions that could be subjected to advice and
14 consent, so this is rather incremental.

16 The reality is that the Administration does not
17 make all of its appointments at the same time, or
18 even within the same week, or the same month. The
19 Council has the flexibility to work in accordance
20 with the scheduled need for appointments just as we
21 have already done.

22 Ultimately, advice and consent promotes a good
23 governance by ensuring a focus on qualifications and
24 identifying any conflicts of interest or ethical
25 issues on the front end to be resolved -- which often

1 happens now. It incentivizes the nomination of
2 qualified appointees who are accountable to New
3 Yorkers and the public interest, not political
4 loyalty or patronage.
5

6 Advice and consent is a safeguard against a
7 Tammany Hall-like environment where commissioner
8 positions are doled out simply because of their
9 political allegiance to one person or another or to
10 pursue some other interest beyond the public's -- as
11 Susan Lerner from the Common Cause outlined in her
12 testimony on this bill.

13 We want to strengthen our city government,
14 strengthen our representative democracy, and ensure
15 that our city agencies are led by dedicated and
16 highly qualified public servants to fulfill their
17 responsibilities to every New Yorker. That is what
18 this bill is about, and that is why we are advancing
19 it today. We'd like to thank our staff members David
20 Seitzer, Jayasri Ganapathy, and Erica Cohen.

21 Thank you all for your attention. And now I turn
22 it back over to our majority leader.

23 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, Speaker Adams.
24
25

1 I'd like us to take a moment of silence in
2 recognition of the 80th anniversary of D-Day and
3 those that served for us.

4 ALL: (MOMENT OF SILENCE)

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you.

6 We will now move into the Discussion of General
7 Orders, and I'd like to recognize Council Member
8 Gennaro, followed by Brewer, then Nurse.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you, Madam Majority
10 Leader, thank you for that moment of silence about D-
11 Day.

12 I wish to be associated with the remarks of
13 Speaker Adams on Intro 908-A. She hit all the points.
14 I perhaps have a... I just want to give a little bit
15 of history on this. I go back to the Council when it
16 was under the thumb of the Board of Estimate when the
17 legislative leader was the called the vice chair,
18 and we've moved into a new era. And for the many
19 years that I've been with the Council, uh, you know,
20 various speakers have sought to advance the influence
21 of the Body so that we could better do our jobs along
22 excellence, which is what this does. It is human
23 nature as a mayor to try to ,you know, a lot of
24 factors go into making appointments, certainly any
25

1
2 mayor would value loyalty; a mayor would value some
3 kind of outreach to a certain constituency; many,
4 many factors go into it. But, at the end of the day,
5 the person who is going... any person who leads an
6 agency has to be able... has to have competence, has
7 to be able to do that, that has to be number one. And
8 any mayor making an appointment that is going to be
9 subject to advice and consent, uh, would certainly
10 lead the mayor to knowing that the appointment was
11 going to be subject to all kinds of daylight, uh
12 would ,you know, move the Mayor to act along lines of
13 excellence in that department. This concept goes all
14 the way back to the Federalist Papers. I used to
15 teach American State and Local Government at Queens
16 College for many years. I entirely support this, and
17 I would kind of be remiss if I didn't make reference
18 to the response of the Administration and high
19 ranking surrogates who have hurled insults and
20 invoking Tammany Hall, talking about our work ethic,
21 when all we're trying to do, all the Speaker is
22 trying to do, (TIMER CHIMES) all this body is trying
23 to do is move the Council forward along lines of
24 excellence with regard to our oversight duties. Thank
25 you very much.

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Council Member Brewer,
3 followed by Council Member Nurse, then Council Member
4 Rivera.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you very much.

6 I do also want to support the Speaker on 908-A
7 advice and consent. What [Council Member Gennaro]
8 said is articulate and correct as far as I'm
9 concerned.

10 I do want to mention that, because I have some
11 national exposure with the League of Cities, I spoke
12 to members of the city council in Los Angeles and in
13 Chicago -- no problems whatsoever.

14 In Los Angeles, they do as we suggested, uh, 99
15 percent of the nominations from the mayor are
16 accepted. But, they do, as we do, an extra effort in
17 terms of background checks. In one situation where
18 there was a harbor commissioner nominated, they found
19 out that his wife was a longshore woman in Los
20 Angeles and moved her to Long Beach. And in the
21 discussions of a new fire commissioner -- in Spanish
22 -- he used words that are not appropriate, and his
23 nomination was discontinued.

24

25

2 So, it's an issue where you have extra, uh, I
3 would say support for public scrutiny, and you will
4 end up with the best.

5 In Chicago, 51 members, just like here, the
6 member who was nominated to go to the to the
7 committee and then to the full board, all of the
8 nominations for commissioner are extended to this
9 process except inspector general and procurement
10 officer -- they're contractual. But, not just a
11 percentage, everyone goes through the process and it
12 has been successful. In one case, it was delayed
13 because there was concern by the Council on a MBWE
14 background in terms of what somebody had done as a
15 nominee. It was discussed with the members of the
16 city council, and 30 days later it was passed. Not a
17 problem.

18 I want to just mention City of Yes Zoning for
19 Economic Opportunity. I will vote yes for it. I know
20 there's a lot of work that has gone into it, but I
21 still think there are some concerns about vacancy. I
22 still worry that you cannot, in my opinion, no matter
23 how many floors are in (INAUDIBLE) (TIMER CHIMES) put
24 commercial over residential. I worry about that, and
25 I also worry that we'll have enough staff to do some

2 of the night life. Uh, people tend to need
3 (INAUDIBLE)... (CROSS-TALK)

4 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Council Member, your time
5 has expired...

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: (INAUDIBLE) All right. I
7 will just mention dark stores are not last-miles. I
8 do not want them included, thank you very much.

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: I'd like to recognize
10 Council Member Nurse, followed Council Member Rivera.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Thank you, Majority Leader.

12 Good afternoon, colleagues, I just want to also
13 express support for Intro 908-A led by Speaker Adams.

14 As someone who really cares about good
15 governance, for me this bill addresses what I think
16 is a fundamental flaw in our local government, which
17 I think is a concentration of executive power. And
18 despite being the largest municipality in the
19 country, this system allows our country's largest
20 city to be heavily governed by a single personality.
21 When that executive wills it, they can hamper and
22 undermine the cooperation required for the City
23 Council to effectively deliver results for New
24 Yorkers. I think democracy requires collaboration,
25 and more than ever, I think we need a functioning

1
2 democratic government where all branches deliberate
3 and cooperate to solve our city's most pressing
4 issues. I think today's Advice and Consent Bill will
5 align New York City with many other localities that
6 require consent of many public officials by its
7 Legislative Branch. These are public officials who
8 work extremely hard every day to serve our city, but
9 they are in charge of huge sums of money; they manage
10 thousands of staff, they are executing our city's
11 laws, and these are these responsibilities are quite
12 enormous and affect the lives of millions. And I
13 think it's therefore more than reasonable for New
14 York City to join other municipalities in requiring
15 greater democratic input on mayoral appointees.

16 So, I think advice and consent will advance
17 better public officials, but also limit the common
18 threads of fraud, corruption, and political
19 favoritism that have plagued our city for
20 generations. So, I will proudly be voting for this
21 legislation, which I know will make this city and
22 government more effective, thank you.

23 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you. Next up
24 Council Member Rivera, followed by Council Member
25 Cabán.

1 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you so much, Madame
2 Majority Leader. I also want to express my support
3 for Intro 908. I thought the Speaker summed up our
4 position as a body very eloquently, and it is time.
5

6 I would also like to speak briefly on three of my
7 proposals before the Council today and ask for
8 everyone's support. I want to thank Speaker Adams and
9 Chair Avilas for their support, groups like Aid for
10 Life and the New York Immigration Coalition for their
11 partnership in crafting these bills into colleagues
12 and organizations who have submitted testimony in
13 support. (BACKGROUND NOISE) We're in an era of global
14 displacement, and the number of individuals and
15 families seeking asylum in the United States has
16 risen significantly in recent years. We are seeing
17 that firsthand here in New York City. With more than
18 65,000 individuals seeking asylum currently in the
19 care of the City, elected leadership must be more
20 proactive in providing opportunities for people to
21 transition out of the shelter system and into more
22 permanent living situations. Today I request support
23 on Intros 84 and 85 that will lay the groundwork for
24 a more effective humanitarian response going forward.
25 In speaking with community organizers, I've learned

1
2 that we must accumulate data to understand how the
3 City has supported work permit applications,
4 entrepreneurship, workforce development initiatives,
5 and access to healthcare in order to identify the
6 gaps in our efforts. And these bills would require
7 that the Administration conduct workforce and
8 healthcare related surveys for asylum seekers.

9 Additionally, I request support for Resolution
10 340 calling on the US Citizenship and Immigration
11 Services, the USCIS, to eliminate filing fees for
12 Humanitarian Benefit applications and subsequent
13 Employment Authorization applications. It is so
14 important that we remove financial barriers that
15 could force individuals to enter an underground
16 economy that increases their risk of labor
17 exploitation or harm. Our immigrant communities are
18 an important part of our city's legacy, and these
19 bills are a thoughtful investment in a better future
20 for all families. Thank you to the staff for helping
21 to make this happen (TIMER CHIMES) and to all the
22 advocates for their assistance and support, thank
23 you.

24

25

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2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you. I'd like to
3 recognize Council Member Cabán, followed by Council
4 Member Avilas.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Thank you.

6 I also want to express my support and urge my
7 colleagues to support intro 908, and thank you to the
8 Speaker for her leadership. You know, it was already
9 said by like the good governance guru of this body,
10 Council Member Gennaro, that this is just a simple
11 expanding of the democratization of our body. As was
12 mentioned by Council Member Brewer, a different
13 national organization, but as a member of Local
14 Progress, a membership organization of progressive
15 municipal electeds across the country, I too reached
16 out to colleagues in different cities, and it's very
17 clear that New York City is a bit of an outlier in
18 terms of just how executive heavy the powers lie in
19 our municipal and state governments. But, obviously
20 we're talking municipal here, and ,you know, this is
21 important for the reasons that my colleague said, It
22 isn't about one mayor, it isn't about a current
23 mayor, it is about good government today, tomorrow,
24 and for decades in the future. Although, I will say
25 that this particular mayor gives us the best example

1 of why advice and consent is so important. Because
2 we've seen a series and a pattern of patronage of
3 folks that don't necessarily have the kind of
4 experience, that not just we would like to see, but
5 our constituents are demanding to see in a lot of
6 these positions. So, really proud to support it, and
7 I hope my colleagues will too, thank you.

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Council Member Avilas?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILAS: Thank you so much.

11 I would like to also express my support for...
12 as a as a believer in democracy and making all points
13 of decision making, uh, undertaken by any level of
14 government to be transparent and accessible to the
15 people, I strongly support Intro 908 and this effort
16 of the Council to both advise and consent on the
17 mayoral appointees for the roles out outlined. This
18 strengthens our democracy and our government.

19 I also want to express my support for the group
20 of bills put forward by Council Member Rivera. We
21 know as policy makers that it is impossible to make
22 good policy and conduct oversight without data. And
23 as such, knowing the needs of New York City residents
24 will just help policy makers and elected officials
25 tailor the City's programming and make more effective

2 service delivery. So I encourage my colleagues to
3 support, and thank Council Member Rivera for her
4 legislation.

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, Council
6 Members.

7 Seeing no one else signed up to speak, Reports of
8 Special Committees?

9 CITY CLERK: None

10 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Reports of Standing
11 Committees?

12 CITY CLERK: Report of the Committee on Civil
13 Service and Labor, Intros 743-A and 767-A career
14 counseling and workplace culture surveys?

15 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
16 Orders.

17 CITY CLERK: Intro 809-A, promotion examinations?

18 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
19 Orders.

20 CITY CLERK: Report of the Committee on Finance,
21 Preconsidered LU 86 and Reso 459 through
22 Preconsidered LU 89 and Reso 462, tax exemptions?

23 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
24 Orders.

2 CITY CLERK: Report of the Committee on
3 Governmental Operations, State, and Federal
4 Legislation, Into 908-A, council advice and consent?

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

7 CITY CLERK: Report of the Committee on
8 Immigration, Intros 84-A and 85-A, workforce and
9 health surveys of immigrants?

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

12 I now ask that the Clerk take a rollcall vote on
13 all of the items coupled on today's General Order
14 Calendar.

15 CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Permission to explain my
17 vote?

18 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: (SPEAKING FOREIGN LANGUAGE)
20 Intro 908. (SPEAKING FOREIGN LANGUAGE) Thank you. I
21 vote aye.

22 CLERK: Thank you, Council Member.

23 Council Member Ariola?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Aye on all except for Land
25 Use items 55 and 56, which I am an absolute no.

2 CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Permission to explain my
4 vote?

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted

6 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: So, for real this time,
7 colleague, uh, we are voting on the City of Yes for
8 Economic Opportunity, and after significant back and
9 forth between the Council and DCP, I am pleased to
10 vote yes today in honor of the gains made for the
11 communities I represent. For many years, we have
12 struggled to get this administration to hear the
13 cries of my community as we choke on more and more
14 last-mile facilities. Our community members, our
15 environmental justice advocates, have been at this so
16 much longer recognizing the rapid proliferation of
17 these facilities during the pandemic as e-commerce
18 swelled, uh, to unprecedented levels. So, with the
19 support of 29 of our colleagues here today, we sent a
20 letter to DCPD demanding action on last-mile. And we
21 are pleased to have a written commitment from the
22 Administration to develop tools to both address
23 traffic and pollution caused by these facilities.
24 But, most importantly, we also have a commitment to
25 implement a special permit for these facilities that

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have particular impact in Black and brown working class neighborhoods like the ones I represent. This is a long over due victory for our communities and it would not have been possible without the tireless advocacy of our district 38 residents, environmental justice advocates, including NEJA (sp?), Earthjustice, UPROSE, and Red Hook Initiative, Newtown Creek Alliance, and El Puente. These gains... Excuse me, the points, these gains could not have been made without the support of my colleagues, I thank you all, including Council Member Rafael Salamanca, Council Member Riley, and Speaker Adams. A special shoutout to the Land Use team who has lent us their expertise and has engaged with us in every step of the through this process. And, lastly, I must also thank Council Member Gutiérrez and her team for their leadership on critical negotiations (TIMER CHIMES) regarding industrial manufacturing zones, thank you. I vote aye.

CLERK: Thank you, Council Member.

Council Member Ayala?

COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: I vote aye.

CLERK: Council Member Banks?

1 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Permission to explain my
2
3 vote?

4 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Permission granted.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: When I was this body, uh,
6 by the residents of the 42nd Council District, it was
7 with the commitment to amplify their voices and
8 express their concerns and fight for their interests.
9 As a lifelong resident of East New York, the East New
10 York community, one in which development efforts have
11 still left many of -- most -- underserved residents
12 behind. I am keenly aware of the need for the changes
13 to the many outdated zoning laws, but for the past
14 five plus months, myself and members of my staff have
15 sat through numerous briefings with the Department of
16 City Planning, Land Use, staff at the Council, and
17 have attended numerous community focus meetings where
18 we've watched many of the proposals from the City of
19 Yes text amendments evolve as more and more feedback
20 has been received. I've listened intensely to the
21 feedback from the constituents, and I have also read
22 dozens of the emails related to the City of Yes text
23 amendment. And one thing is clear, while changes to
24 our zoning laws are overdue, they must be changed in
25 a responsible manner. Feedback from the multitude of

1 sources described previously has suggested that this
2 process is being rushed, that the information is
3 convoluted and often presented using language and
4 terms not always easily digested by lay persons.
5 Today based on the feedback I've received from many
6 of my district stakeholders, I remain concerned that
7 this plan, while being improved with each layer of
8 new input, is not ready for passage, and it's not in
9 the best interest of the 42nd Council District. I
10 believe that this plan will lead to several issues
11 including disruption of longstanding communities in
12 the 42nd Council District. I've listened carefully to
13 the sentiments from the four community boards that I
14 represent, and they have weighed in and stated that
15 this is not what they want. (TIMER CHIMES) Therefore,
16 in the interest of those constituents of the 42nd
17 Council District who put their trust in me
18 (INAUDIBLE)... (CROSS-TALK)

19 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Council Member, your time
20 has expired.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: I will vote no on the text
22 amendment number two zoning... Opportunity...
23 Economic Opportunity, thank you. Aye on all except
24 that text amendment, thank you.
25

2 CLERK: Thank you.

3 Council Member Bottcher?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Aye on all.

5 CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye

7 CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye

9 CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: I vote aye.

11 CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye on all.

13 CLERK: Council Member Carr?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: I vote no on LUs 55 and 56

15 with accompanying Resolutions 463 and 464 and aye on

16 all the rest.

17 CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye on all.

19 CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Permission to explain my

21 vote?

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Permission granted.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Thank you. I just want

24 to speak in in high support of Introduction 908. I

25 think it's so critical that we ensure that our

1 individual constituents have a voice in the direction
2 of the City. And it often feels as though when one
3 single executive, one mayor, has all of the power,
4 and we often feel voiceless and powerless, and that's
5 a result of our constituents feeling voiceless and
6 powerless. And the Speaker's bill ensures that to
7 some degree our constituents and we in this body get
8 a greater voice and a greater say in the direction of
9 the City. So, I'm proudly voting aye on 908. Aye on
10 all except for Land Use 55, 56 and accompanying
11 Resolutions 463 and 464.

12
13 CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Permission to explain my
15 vote?

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: I vote aye on all, and as
18 Chair of the Small Business Committee, I am
19 especially proud to vote yes on the City of Yes for
20 Economic Opportunity. When rules make it hard for a
21 business to thrive, our communities are hurt the
22 most. Our communities lose out on opportunities
23 related to jobs and economic activity in our
24 neighborhoods. Small businesses are facing many
25 challenges, and there are many rules that are only

2 frustrating their ability to grow and thrive. Rules
3 related to, for example, when and how they can use
4 the space or where they can locate and so much more.
5 For example, rules allowing you to have a bar and
6 music at late hours, but people cannot get up and
7 dance. Just imagine that small business trying to
8 compete with the other restaurants who actually do
9 allow people to get up and dance. Think about all the
10 customers that that small restaurant is losing out
11 on. Small business owners work hard and they're
12 creative, and we need to make sure that our rules
13 help them grow and thrive. So I vote aye on all.

14 I also want to associate myself with the with
15 every point mentioned by our speaker, Speaker
16 Adrienne Adams, on the advice and consent bill. Good
17 government is government that is transparent and the
18 accountable, thank you. I vote aye on all.

19 CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye

21 CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Permission to explain
23 my vote?

24 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted

25 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Thank you

1 For the last 10 years I've been fighting to
2 protect our manufacturing zones, not just because my
3 district is home to the third largest IBZ, but
4 because I understand the transformative nature of
5 these jobs and this importance of the supply chain.
6 While New York City was once a thriving manufacturing
7 Hub, the industry has faced a steep decline mirroring
8 national trends. But, New York City is not like any
9 other city, so I'm so proud of our Speaker and our
10 Council Land Use team who supported our M-Zone
11 Coalition to finally address and codify protections
12 for manufacturing zones. Fourteen months of
13 collaborative efforts, uh, culminated in a strong and
14 united front to prioritize real manufacturing,
15 fostering economic growth, especially in areas with
16 access to waterways and railways. I once again want
17 to thank the Speaker for her unwavering support, the
18 M-Zone Coalition, Majority Leader, Amanda Farías, for
19 working together to pass the Industrial Development
20 Strategic Plan last year, uh, specifically Brian Paul
21 from Land Use, uh, along with the rest of the team,
22 and all members of the M-Zone Coalition, and, of
23 course, to all the advocates at ANHD Industrial Jobs
24 Coalition, who have been working on this for
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1
2 literally decades. I'm so glad that we were able to
3 work together with DCP to make necessary amendments.
4 I also just want to shoutout Anya Lehr from my team
5 who did significant organizing in the M-Zone
6 Coalition, along with all the colleagues who joined
7 the Coalition. I vote aye, thank you.

8 CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Permission to explain my
10 vote?

11 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted

12 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: I vote aye on all. And I
13 am particularly proud to vote aye on the Speaker's
14 bill, Intro 908, and commend her and Government
15 Operations Chair Restler for their continued
16 leadership on the basic good government issue. An
17 effective democracy requires a system of checks and
18 balances on the branches of government, and expanded
19 advice and consent authority is an important step in
20 the right direction.

21 Additionally, I'm excited to vote aye on the
22 Zoning for Economic Opportunity text amendment, which
23 features significant M-Zone changes and a commitment
24 to regulate last-mile facilities. The amendments that
25 the Council secured provide an opportunity for

2 industrial businesses to grow and create quality job
3 opportunities. I commend the hard work that went into
4 the final language before us.

5 And I also want to recognize my foster youth,
6 Lanisha (phonetic), who showed up today and has been
7 with my team, and we're just excited to welcome all
8 of the young people to our Chambers.

9 CLERK: Council Member?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: I vote aye on all.

11 CLERK: Thank you

12 Council Member Hanks?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: I vote aye on all, with the
14 exception of Land Use 55 and 56 and accompanying
15 Resolutions 463, 464, and Intro 908-A, thank you.

16 CLERK: Council Member Holden?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye on all, except for
18 Land Use items 55 and 56 and accompanying resolutions
19 of which I vote no.

20 CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Permission to explain my
22 vote?

23 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted

24 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Thank you.

2 I'm proud to vote in favor of Intro 908, which
3 would require the advice and consent of this body as
4 part of the appointment process for 20 City agency
5 commissioners long after those sitting in this
6 chamber today are gone. The City Council already
7 maintains this power, and any argument that claims it
8 is an overreach clearly does not know this body. LA
9 does this, Chicago does this, Albany does this, and
10 Congress does this. Why then shouldn't the largest
11 city in the US?

12 I'd also like to point out that the zoning text
13 amendments for the City of Yes for Economic
14 Opportunity is a perfect example of the two branches
15 of city government working together, which this body
16 always strives to do. We're passing amendments to the
17 original proposal, after careful consideration from
18 community boards across the City, and with that eye
19 on all thank you.

20 CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye on all. And like to
22 shout out my foster youth for the day, Nia
23 (phonetic).

24 CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye on all.

2 CLERK: Council Member Lee?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye on all with the exception
4 of L U 55 and 56 and accompanying Resos 463 and 464,
5 for which I am a no.

6 CLERK: Council Member Louis?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Permission to explain my
8 vote?

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Thank you.

11 I want to thank Speaker Adams, my colleagues, as
12 well as the Planning and Land Use Division for
13 diligent efforts to work on modifications to address
14 concerns regarding the City of Yes proposals. I am
15 particularly proud to have supported measures that
16 curtail proposals which would have placed commercial
17 uses in conflict with homeowners and tenants alike.
18 However, the feedback I have received from my
19 constituents indicates that these modifications,
20 while a step in the right direction, do not go far
21 enough. My concerns remain centered on the potential
22 for increased conflicts between residential and
23 commercial spaces, particularly in areas in my
24 district where noise complaints and other undesirable
25 uses are already a constant battle. In addition, we

2 still lack a firm commitment from the Administration
3 to retroactively resolve some of these issues that
4 may be impacted by some of these text amendment
5 proposals. Therefore, I vote aye on all, except LUs
6 55, 56, and the accompanying resolutions, thank you.

7 CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: I vote aye on all with
9 the exception of LUs 55, 56, and the accompanying
10 resolutions, for which I am a no.

11 CLERK: Council Member Marte?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Permission to explain my
13 vote?

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Permission granted.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Zoning is one of the most
16 powerful tools to ensure what gets built in this
17 city, it is for our communities and not at the
18 expense of them. This principle informed my critique
19 of the City of Yes for Economic Opportunity. How we
20 modernize our zoning code, and what we incentivize in
21 our commercial spaces should answer the decade long
22 commercial vacancy crisis and work towards a more
23 livable and affordable city. Thankfully we've worked
24 in the City Council to make some essential
25 modifications to the Mayor's proposal to strengthen

1 protection for quality of life for residents that
2 live in commercial areas and help our small
3 businesses thrive. One of the most critical changes
4 we advocated for was ensuring that new businesses
5 that want to open up in NYCHA campuses serve the
6 community needs instead of targeting them. We also
7 make sure that tenants who live in mixed commercial
8 and residential buildings are protected from
9 displacement by stopping residential to commercial
10 conversions. We distinguish between your neighborhood
11 bar that might have a karaoke night and a 300-person
12 music venue. We expanded noise and air quality
13 requirements to more businesses who work out of these
14 mixed use buildings. We've reigned in production
15 uses, so your neighborhood storefronts can continue
16 to provide goods and services you might actually want
17 on your block. We advocated for these changes to
18 protect our communities because they were only
19 accepted because our community spoke up for
20 themselves. I want to thank the community boards,
21 advocates, activists, small business groups,
22 resident associations, and everyone who faced this
23 text amendment head-on -- all 1,100 pages of it --
24 who spoke up for the future of their community. I'm
25

2 happy to see the progress we've made over the past
3 six months, and as we move forward to the housing
4 opportunity, I look forward to seeing the same
5 passion for my constituents as we've seen thus far.
6 I will make sure that you are heard loud and clear.

7 And finally, I want to thank Council Land Use
8 Brian, William, Perris, and the whole team, uh, that
9 made this possible, thank you, and I vote aye on
10 all.

11 CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: May I explain my vote?

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I want to concur with my
15 colleague, Chris Banks, with the 41st District. I had
16 probably the most community advisory board meetings
17 on this text amendment, and the last one I did have
18 just two weeks ago, they said this city is not a City
19 of Yes, it's a "City of Mess". And I just want to
20 vote no on LU 55 and Reso 463, and LU 56 and Reso
21 464. And I want to give great kudos to our Speaker in
22 regards to making sure that everyone is held
23 accountable, that we do start putting people in
24 positions that really have the passion, the energy,

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2 and the expertise for these positions. So I vote aye
3 on everything else, thank you.

4 CLERK: Council Member Menin?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye on all.

6 CLERK: Council Member Moya?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

8 CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Permission to explain my
10 vote, Madame?

11 MAJORITY LEADER FARIAS: Permission granted

12 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Madame Speaker, thank
13 you for all the work you have done toward making sure
14 that we address the inequities in New York City. So,
15 I have to say thank you to Perris for coming over and
16 over again trying to explain the City of Yes to my
17 constituents. But, as we go through all this process,
18 I appreciate the goals behind this plan. My
19 constituents have clearly opposed them. The
20 (INAUDIBLE) approach does not address the unique
21 needs of the 46th District. Economic development is
22 vital, but a blanket strategy may harm the very
23 people that it aims to help. And that's the statement
24 for many folks from my community. So, in heart, I
25 understand that we have not had the City's plan

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2 addressed since 1960. It is a must, but at this point
3 that we cannot... my community saying a total no,
4 and we cannot go forward with a hard break that we
5 need to revise it, and we need to do more.

6 And on that other note, I am thrilled to have
7 Faithful Bradford with me today for Shadowing Day.
8 It's a great opportunity for young people to be
9 exposed and to make sure they understand they
10 operations. And she was inspiring me, and looks
11 forward to remain connected and helping her to
12 achieve all the goals.

13 So, on that note, for Council Member Zhuang, I
14 want to say thank you for this amazing buildout
15 you're putting in the forefront, squatting being a
16 big problem in our community, and I'm looking forward
17 to having a solution. And on that note, I vote yes to
18 all others, except I will say (sic) LU 55 and
19 accompanying Reso 463, and LU 56 and LU 56 and
20 accompanying Reso 464. Thank you, Madame.

21 CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: I vote aye on all except LU
23 55 and accompanying Reso 463.

24 CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Permission to explain my
3 vote?

4 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Permission granted

5 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Briefly I just want to
6 applaud the leadership from the Speaker for both
7 Intro 908, uh, we're not reinventing the wheel here.
8 I think many of the speakers before highlighted that
9 we are replicating what other municipalities do in
10 this country and increasing transparency when it
11 comes to people who lead our city. And, then, also
12 for the work that the Speaker's office and the
13 Speaker herself have done for the amendments on City
14 of Yes for Economic Opportunity. You know, my
15 community boards were not happy with how it was laid
16 out at first, it's a lot of dense information, and I
17 really do want to thank Council Land Use and the
18 Speaker for all of the work that they put into these
19 amendments and making my community feel okay with
20 City of Yes for Economic Opportunity. So, I vote aye
21 on all, and I want to thank the Speaker and this
22 Council for moving forward on both of these issues,
23 thank you.

24 CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: I vote no on 908-A, I
3 vote no on LU 55 and LU 56. District 19 has
4 expressed, through their two community boards, no
5 matter what we said, no matter what City Planning did
6 do, and I thank them for coming to District 19 as
7 they have. And great deal of patience and
8 understanding and taking questions. Kudos to you
9 guys, but I must say that on behalf of my district,
10 it's an absolute solid no. So, thank you very much,
11 aye on all the rest.

12 CLERK: Council Member Powers?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Thank you. I am voting aye
14 today. And I just want to take a second to send a
15 thank you to our Land Use Division who I know have
16 worked diligently on the City of Yes proposal to help
17 address the concerns and comments from many of the
18 colleagues in here.

19 I also want to give a particular shoutout to Jeff
20 Compagna for his early efforts with me last term to
21 take the last step here to repeal the Cabaret Law
22 through our zoning in New York City, which we are
23 finally taking a vote on today, and it looks like it
24 will be repealed. So, I am very grateful for his
25 assistance and work last term on that. And I also

2 wanted to give a thank you to the City Planning team
3 (INAUDIBLE) for taking time to address questions,
4 presenting to community boards -- I think every
5 community board throughout this city - and also
6 working with council members on this proposal to make
7 sure it got right. But to echo what Council Member
8 Feliz said, this is a really good boost for all small
9 businesses here in New York City who are getting
10 regulations that make way more sense. It is helping
11 to modernize us to stay competitive in the global
12 economy, and frankly it fills vacant storefronts as
13 well. And I think it will be a really important
14 measure here to continue to modernize New York City.
15 And I am proud to vote aye.

16 CLERK: Council Member Restler?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Permission to explain my
18 vote?

19 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Permission granted

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Thank you, Majority
21 Leader.

22 I just want to thank the Speaker for her
23 leadership and this is a historic, a bold, a
24 courageous bill that will ensure that we have real
25 checks and balances that that generate more

1
2 experienced, more competent, more ethical leaders
3 serving in critically important positions in city
4 government -- like Parks, like Sanitation, or as was
5 notable this week, DCAS. We need this oversight in
6 place. What this bill does is it ensures the Council
7 vets each and every one of these commissioners. It
8 ensures a public hearing, where we ask tough
9 questions and the commissioners demonstrate that they
10 are up to the job. And, then, there's a vote. And
11 this all happens in 30 days. It's quick. When we held
12 our hearing just a week or so ago, we heard from
13 people testifying worrying that it was too fast, that
14 we wouldn't have the time to conduct the necessary
15 rigorous oversight. But, we have to move fast,
16 because that's what our... that's what New Yorkers
17 expect. And that's why this legislation, I think,
18 strikes the right balance. I was like genuinely
19 shocked that the Administration would have the
20 hutzpah to show up at a hearing and refuse to answer
21 questions. I cannot remember any mayoral
22 administration ever - ever -- coming to a Council
23 hearing and refusing to engage us, and refusing to
24 answer the questions of this body and the people that
25 sent us here. We must not only pass this bill but

2 override a veto that we know is coming, because this
3 bill will better ensure that we get the best and the
4 brightest serving in New York City Government. We
5 deserve more ethical leadership. This bill will help
6 make it happen. Aye on all.

7 CLERK: Council Member Riley?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye

9 CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

11 CLERK: Council Member Salaam?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Permission to explain my
13 vote?

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Permission granted

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Thank you. Although I'm
16 new to the Council, the appointment process seems
17 strange to me, but now we're fixing that. This
18 Council got swagger. I want to thank Speaker Adams
19 for her leadership and direction. Today we stand at a
20 pivotal moment in our city's history as we consider
21 the passage of Intro 908. This legislation is not
22 just a procedural change it is a significant step
23 towards good governance. For too long the unchecked
24 power of the Mayor to appoint individuals to high
25 positions has created a fundamental flaw in our local

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government. This bill addresses that flaw by ensuring a more democratic and transparent process. By requiring advice and consent from the City Council, we are ending an era of political favoritism. Appointments should not be based on personal connections or political loyalty but on merit and the best interest of our citizens. This legislation guarantees that appointees are vetted thoroughly, ensuring that they are qualified and capable of serving our diverse city.

In closing, supporting this bill is a vote for a more transparent, more equitable, and more effective government. It is a vote to enhance public trust and to ensure that our city is led by individuals who truly represent the values and needs of all New Yorkers. Let us embrace this opportunity to fortify our democracy and to build a stronger, fairer New York City. Thank you, I vote aye on all.

CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Permission to explain my vote?

MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Thank you.

1 With our city's commercial zoning regulations
2
3 having gone unchanged since 1961, hindering economic
4 success, the City Council's approval of the City of
5 Yes for Economic Opportunity proposal provides the
6 opportunity to strike the right balance in promoting
7 such desperately needed economic growth. As Chair of
8 the Committee On Land Use, I'm proud to have worked
9 with Speaker Adams, Jeremy Johns, Perris, Land Use
10 team, and my colleagues Council Member Avilas, and
11 Council Member Gutiérrez, and the best delegation in
12 the Council, the Bronx delegation, to have negotiated
13 a commitment for a special permit to address the
14 issue of last-mile facility operations and
15 protections for our communities against micro
16 distribution sites in residential areas. While it is
17 important to protect our business communities, we
18 cannot overlook the historic environmental justice
19 issues that have plagued districts like mine in the
20 South Bronx with high pollution and asthma rates for
21 far too long. And with that, I vote aye on all, thank
22 you.

23 CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Permission to explain my
25 vote?

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted

3 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Thank you. I just want to
4 join in thanking you, Speaker, for your leadership
5 and your vision in stewarding Intro 908. By expanding
6 advice and consent we are empowering the public as
7 well. As public deliberations amplified by the media
8 taking place at the City Council, will provide all
9 the opportunity for input on these very important
10 decisions, because sunlight is the best disinfectant.
11 I vote aye on Intro 908 and aye on all, thank you.

12 CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Permission to explain my
14 vote?

15 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted

16 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: First, I want to
17 acknowledge the foster youth who is shadowing me
18 today, Marcus Diego. These youth are our future;
19 they're really amazing, and I'm looking forward to
20 working with them moving forward.

21 I also want to say on the... I want to thank
22 the Speaker and the Land Use staff, particularly
23 Perris, and everybody else for working with my
24 community on the Zoning for Economic Opportunity text
25 amendment. There were some significant issues in my

2 particular district -- and by the way, listening to
3 all the comments today you can see that every
4 district is different -- so the significant issues
5 that affected my district were all pretty much
6 resolved, so, with that, I vote aye on all, thank
7 you.

8 CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye on all.

10 CLERK: Council Member Ung?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye on all.

12 CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: (NO RESPONSE)

14 CLERK: Council Member Williams?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye on all.

16 CLERK: Council Member Won?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye on all, and thank you to
18 Speaker Adams for her fierce leadership on advice and
19 consent.

20 CLERK: Council Member Yeger?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: May I be excused to explain
22 my vote?

23 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted

24 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you. I heard a lot
25 today about the comparison between this body and the

1 system of government founded by the forefathers of
2 this nation. And I don't know that there's anybody in
3 New York City who believes that we are, in this body,
4 uh, apt of that comparison by any means. This bill,
5 we talk about being a deliberative body, uh, was
6 introduced 15 days ago, 15 days from introduction to
7 passage. It's not a secret why we're seeing this now.
8 There's a lot of talk that it's not about a
9 personalities conflict between this side of the
10 building and the other, but it clearly is. And I
11 think we've seen that, I think we've seen how that
12 plays out in public. When the question of adding the
13 Office of the Corporation Counsel to the Charter as
14 an advise and consent position was deliberated on, it
15 was deliberated by a Charter Revision Commission five
16 years ago over far more than 15 days. It was a
17 substantial amount of time, better part of a year,
18 and then put before the voters. What we're doing
19 today is a bill that we're passing that has not been
20 deliberated on at all from introduction to passage 15
21 days, and will never be put before the voters,
22 because the Charter provides for it to be knocked off
23 the ballot by a mayoral Charter Commission, which has
24 been appointed. So, that is all to say that this is
25

1 all a show. It's not real. We're passing a bill today
2 that's never going to be... they're never going to
3 see the light of day. And, uh, don't really want to
4 vote for something like that. So, I'm going to vote
5 no on Introduction 908, and for the reason stated by
6 so many in this Chamber today, from all neighborhoods
7 in this city, I'm voting no on LU 55 and accompanying
8 Reso 463, and LU 56 and LU 56 and accompanying Reso
9 464, and aye on all the rest, thank you very much.
10

11 CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye, except for Land Use
13 items 55 and 56 with accompanying resolutions.

14 CLERK: Thank you

15 Council Member Vernikov?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: (NO RESPONSE)

17 Council Member Borelli?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye on all except Intro
19 908-A and LU 55 and accompanying Reso 463, and LU 56
20 and LU 56 and accompanying Reso 464.

21 CLERK: Council Member Farías?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: I vote aye on all, and I
23 would like to express my support for my vote today on
24 City of Yes Zoning for Economic Opportunity. This
25 council has met not only our citywide needs, but my

1 community's concerns and needs. And I want to thank
2 my colleagues, specifically Speaker Adrienne Adams,
3 Council Member Gutiérrez, and all the work we have
4 done with our coalition, the Land Use team, and
5 particularly my Community Board 9 and the community
6 who voted unanimously for this proposal, along with
7 (INAUDIBLE) sent over a bunch of conditions,
8 continued to work with our Land Use team to make sure
9 those conditions were met by modifications.
10

11 And, additionally, I would like to express my
12 support for Intro 908, and I would like to associate
13 myself with the remarks from my colleague from
14 Brooklyn in District 35.

15 CLERK: Speaker Adams?

16 SPEAKER ADAMS: I will be voting aye on all. And I
17 particularly want to thank the overwhelming majority
18 of my colleagues for having the foresight to support
19 Introduction 908, because, truthfully, colleagues,
20 when you cut through the noise, the truth is that
21 advice and consent is a common feature which most of
22 you realize. It's a common feature of representative
23 democracy in cities and states across this country,
24 including New York. And New York City, where we live,
25 is an outlier. So our vote today to pass this

1
2 legislation supports the Council's efforts to advance
3 transparency, and it's a first step in this important
4 conversation about representative democracy that's
5 accountable to its people, and the final decision
6 ultimately must be made by voters. Colleagues, I
7 thank you for having the foresight -- and the for
8 fight -- (LAUGHTER) to see beyond yourselves, and see
9 beyond just this Council in this space, but to look
10 forward to seeing future councils to maintain the
11 stability and maintain the integrity of this great
12 institution, thank you colleagues. I vote aye.

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: All items on today's
14 General Order Calendar are adopted by a vote of 50 in
15 the affirmative, 0 in the negative, and 0
16 abstentions; with the exception of Introduction 908-
17 A, which was adopted by a vote of 46 in the
18 affirmative, 4 in the negative, and 0 abstentions;
19 and Land Use Item 55 and accompanying Resolution 463,
20 which was adopted by a vote of 34 in the affirmative,
21 16 in the negative, and 0 abstentions; and Land Use
22 Item 56 and accompanying Resolution 464, which was
23 adopted by a vote of 35 in the affirmative, 15 in the
24 negative, and 0 abstentions.

25 Introduction and Reading of Bills, Speaker Adams?

1 SPEAKER ADAMS: All bills have been referred to
2 committees as indicated on today's Agenda.
3

4 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you.

5 We will now move into Discussion of Resolutions.

6 I would like to recognize Council Member Menin.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Thank you very much,
8 Majority Leader.

9 I'm honored to speak on my resolution, Resolution
10 157, that marks today, June 6th, as D-Day Remembrance
11 Day. I can't think of a more fitting way to remember
12 this anniversary than voting on this resolution
13 today. Eighty years ago, the D-Day operation of June
14 6, 1944 brought together the land, air, and sea
15 forces of the allied armies in what became known as
16 the largest amphibious invasion in military history.
17 This successful operation ultimately led to the end
18 of World War II and the liberation of Europe from
19 Nazi Germany. As former president Barack Obama said
20 in 2014, "Victory on D-Day dealt a significant blow
21 to an ideology fueled by hatred." I honestly can't
22 think of a better way to honor the legacy, courage,
23 and sacrifice of our armed forces in having June 6
24 annually recognized as D-Day Remembrance Day in the
25 city of New York. I urge my colleagues to join me in

2 adopting this resolution, and I thank Regina Paul for
3 drafting this resolution, thank you. (TIMER CHIMES)

4 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you, Council
5 Member. Seeing no one else signed up for Discussion,
6 we will have a voice vote on today's resolutions. If
7 you wish to vote against or abstain from any of
8 today's Resolutions, please notify the Legislative
9 Documents Unit by email or by approaching the dais.

10 I will now read today's resolutions into the
11 record.

12 Resolution 79-B calls on the New York State
13 Legislature to pass, and the New York State Governor
14 to sign, S.315/A.1416, which would authorize New York
15 City to set a five mile per hour speed limit on
16 streets participating in the Open Streets program.

17 Will those in favor say aye?

18 ALL IN FAVOR: Aye

19 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

20 ALL: (SILENT)

21 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

22 ALL: (SILENT)

23 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

24 Resolution 157 recognizing June 6 annually as D-
25 Day Remembrance Day in the City of New York in honor

2 of the courage and sacrifice of the Allied soldiers
3 on the Normandy beaches in France.

4 Will those in favor say aye?

5 ALL IN FAVOR: Aye

6 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

7 ALL: (SILENT)

8 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

9 ALL: (SILENT)

10 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

11 Resolution 232 calling on the New York State
12 Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign,
13 S.2960/A.5741, to provide for annual adjustment of
14 the maximum income threshold eligibility for the
15 Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE),
16 Disability Rent Increase Exemption (DRIE), Senior
17 Citizen Homeowners' Exemption (SCHE), and Disabled
18 Homeowners' Exemption (DHE) by any increase in the
19 Consumer Price Index.

20 Will those in favor say aye?

21 ALL IN FAVOR: Aye

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

23 ALL: (SILENT)

24 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

25 ALL: (SILENT)

MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: The ayes have it.

Resolution 306-B calling on the Department of Citywide Administrative Services to grant additional points on promotional exams to examinees who have completed the agency's Executive Development and Management and Supervision trainings, or to examinees who have earned a degree or certificate from the City University of New York, or a similarly accredited institution.

Will those in favor say aye?

ALL IN FAVOR: Aye

MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: All opposed say nay?

ALL: (SILENT)

MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Any abstentions?

ALL: (SILENT)

MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: The ayes have it.

Resolution 340-B calling on the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, also known as (USCIS), to eliminate filing fees for humanitarian benefit applications and subsequent employment authorization applications and calling on Congress and the President to move significant funding to USCIS to cover the funding lost by the eliminated filing fees.

Will those in favor say aye?

2 ALL IN FAVOR: Aye

3 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: All opposed say nay?

4 ALL: (SILENT)

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Any abstentions?

6 ALL: (SILENT)

7 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: The ayes have it.

8 Lastly, Resolution 365 calling on the New York
9 State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign
10 S7843/A4888, in relation to conditional release for
11 eligible offenders who complete post-secondary
12 degrees or programs.

13 Will those in favor say aye?

14 ALL IN FAVOR: Aye

15 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: All opposed say nay?

16 ALL: (SILENT)

17 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Any abstentions?

18 ALL: (SILENT)

19 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: The ayes have it.

20 We will now move into General Discussion. I would
21 like to recognize Council Member Zhuang, followed by
22 Council Member Riley, and then Council Member
23 Stevens.

24 Council Member Zhuang has stepped away, moving on
25 to Council Member Riley.

COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Thank you, Majority Leader.

I am proud to introduce two pieces of legislation today, one vital to sustain in our city's housing market for homeowners and lawful tenants, and the second to monitoring and reporting on afterschool programs in New York City. Alongside Council Member Zhuang, we are introducing legislation that amplifies advocacy to address citywide issues affecting homeowners.

Resolution 458 calling on the New York State Legislature to pass S.8995/A.9897, proposed by Senator Spanton, which would exclude squatters from tenant protections, extend the period for tenancy rights from 30 days to 60 days of possession, and add squatting to the definition of criminal trespass in the third degree.

With support from colleagues, this legislation is a pivotal step toward clarifying New York State squatting laws and fortifying housing stability for more New Yorkers.

Equally important, we must turn our attention to enhancing our network of support, development, and essential services for our students that extend beyond their academic learning with their school

1 curriculum. Afterschool Program is crucial for our
2 students, especially those in underserved
3 communities, as it provides expanded academic
4 support, enrichment activities, and a safe
5 environment helping to bridge the opportunity gap and
6 promote overall well-being and success.
7

8 My bill, Introduction 955, which I cosponsored
9 with Council Member Hanks, will require the DOE and
10 DYCD to provide the publicly post annual reports on
11 afterschool programs including location, available,
12 seats, enrollment, student demographic data, and
13 attendance for each afterschool program offered in
14 the previous school year. I hope my colleagues could
15 support me in this effort.

16 And I just want to shoutout my foster youth child
17 who is with me today, and she's with her baby, thank
18 you, everyone.

19 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you. I want to
20 remind everyone in the Chamber that business is still
21 being conducted, and we need silence.

22 I would like to call on Council Member Stevens,
23 followed by Council Member Brewer.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Today we celebrate our
25 Annual Foster Youth Shadow Day at City Hall, a day

2 where young people have the opportunity to witness
3 how the City Council operates and learn more about
4 their local government offices. I would like to say
5 thanks to the Foster Youth Alliance who played a big
6 part to ensure that our young people are civically
7 engaged. My heart is always filled with joy every
8 time young people join us down at City Hall. It let's
9 give it up for all the young people in the room today
10 and for joining us because it's so amazing.

11 (APPLAUSE) Those Applause were not big enough so
12 let's do that again, let's give it up for the young
13 people in the room today! (APPLAUSE) Thank you. Ya'll
14 know I don't play about my young people.

15 So, all the young people in this room today, I
16 encourage you to come back, because often we come
17 down to City Hall and we pass a budget, we pass
18 legislation, and creative initiatives to support
19 young people. But, I always encourage you to be a
20 part of this process, because I know how important it
21 is for us to hear and listen to you. I want you to
22 know that you belong in spaces where decisions are
23 being made, you deserve to be in every room where
24 conversations about your future are taking place.

2 Your perspective is essential, and your participation
3 in local government is critical.

4 I want to give a special shoutout to my foster
5 shadow person, who was Narita (sp?), who was amazing,
6 and who does not want to be a council member, but
7 wants to be a chief of staff, because she knows where
8 the real work is happening. So, shoutout to her. And
9 a special shoutout to Chyna (sp?), who was my
10 colleague's young person today, who came in with a
11 list of legislation and ideas that she is going to
12 make sure I push forward -- me and my colleagues --
13 push forward, because she came in ready and part of
14 the conversation. I also want to say that right after
15 Stated, BLAC and myself will be hosting a
16 conversation with the young people. So, please come
17 to the Committee Room and have a conversation and say
18 hello to the young people, thank you.

19 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: I would like to recognize
20 Council Member Brewer, followed by Council Member
21 Avilas.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you very much.

23 I want to also say a shoutout to young people,
24 and I certainly want to thank Sean (sp?) who was
25 here, Sean, stand up, stand up. He's here, foster

2 care BMCC student and also part of ASAP, which is my
3 favorite program at CUNY, thank you very much, Sean
4 for being here today.

5 I also want to congratulate Alfredo Avila (sp?)
6 who is an intern this summer. He is a recent graduate
7 of John Jay High School, and he's heading to Cornell
8 University in the fall. Alfredo, please stand up, and
9 Keenan (sp?) Freid who is a rising junior at the
10 University of Rochester. and I hope as time goes on,
11 I was the one that initiated the bill to get young
12 people, 16 years old, on community boards. I hope
13 everybody nominates people who are 16 to be on
14 community boards. And I would like to see, as time
15 goes on, it has to go to the State also 16 year olds
16 being able to vote in municipal elections. Thank you
17 very much.

18 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Council Member Avilas,
19 followed Council Member Mealy.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILAS: Thank you, Majority
21 Leader.

22 So, a shoutout to Council Member Stevens and her
23 organizing of today's Shadow Day. And also a special
24 shoutout to my shadow person, Maria, who is doing

1 great work, and I'm so happy to have her with us
2 today.

3
4 Today we're introducing another bill aimed at
5 increasing transparency from the EDC. Intro 937
6 builds on the work we've been doing -- in conjunction
7 with the community of Red Hook -- over the past year
8 since the announcement of the massive cruise liner
9 operation in our small community overburden with
10 traffic and pollution. It calls on the EDC to publish
11 the data related to shore power plug-in, which as of
12 the summer, is mandated. If a cruise ship did not
13 plug in, why didn't it plug in? This data will give
14 us critical information about the state of our
15 infrastructure or just plain old non-compliance. I
16 urge you all to sign on to this as we look forward to
17 meeting the target set forth in the CLCPA, thank you
18 so much, colleagues.

19 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you. Seeing no
20 other members signed up to speak that are in... Okay,
21 recognizing Council Member Brooks-Powers.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Thank you.

23 I'm proud to introduce a bill today that will
24 make life easier for drivers and riders of commuter
25 vans in New York City -- Introduction 939. Outer

1
2 borough residents rely on commuter vans to plug
3 critical gaps in transit desert communities. Our
4 commuter vans and their drivers have long provided
5 reliable affordable options to communities like
6 Southeast Queens which lack access to the City's core
7 transit network. Last year, this body passed a
8 resolution to support legislation that would allow
9 commuter vans to accept hails from prospective
10 passengers on the street, a practice which is
11 currently banned. I am pleased to now introduce this
12 legislation within the Council to allow street-hails
13 for commuter vans. This will not only protect drivers
14 but also ensure easier access for riders. For too
15 long, outer borough communities of color and low-
16 income communities have not received their fair share
17 of the City's investment and attention in
18 transportation. This bill will play a small role in
19 helping outer borough residents get better access to
20 critical transportation. I look forward to continuing
21 to work in the Committee on Transportation and
22 Infrastructure and with my colleagues to address
23 these key concerns for Transit desert communities. I
24 urge my colleagues to support this bill, thank you.

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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: I will now call in Speaker Adrienne Adams to close today's Stated Meeting.

SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you very much, Madam Majority Leader. The Stated Meeting of June 6, 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 July 9, 2024