

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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April 28, 2011

Start: 2:36pm

Recess: 3:47pm

HELD AT: Council Chambers
City Hall

B E F O R E:

JOEL RIVERA

President, Pro-Tempore

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Speaker Christine Quinn

Council Member Maria del Carmen Arroyo

Council Member Charles Barron

Council Member Gale A. Brewer

Council Member Fernando Cabrera

Council Member Margaret S. Chin

Council Member Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.

Council Member Elizabeth S. Crowley

Council Member Inez E. Dickens

Council Member Erik Martin Dilan

Council Member Daniel Dromm

Council Member Mathieu Eugene

Council Member Julissa Ferreras

A P P E A R A N C E S

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council Member Helen D. Foster
Council Member Daniel R. Garodnick
Council Member Vincent J. Gentile
Council Member Sara M. Gonzalez
Council Member David G. Greenfield
Council Member Daniel J. Halloran III
Council Member Vincent M. Ignizio
Council Member Robert Jackson
Council Member Letitia James
Council Member Peter A. Koo
Council Member G. Oliver Koppell
Council Member Karen Koslowitz
Council Member Brad S. Lander
Council Member Melissa Mark-Viverito
Council Member Darlene Mealy
Council Member Rosie Mendez
Council Member Michael C. Nelson
Council Member James S. Oddo
Council Member Domenic M. Recchia, Jr.
Council Member Diana Reyna
Council Member Joel Rivera
Council Member Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Council Member Deborah L. Rose
Council Member James Sanders, Jr.
Council Member Eric A. Ulrich
Council Member James Vacca
Council Member James G. Van Bramer
Council Member Albert Vann
Council Member Mark S. Weprin
Council Member Jumaane D. Williams
Council Member Ruben Wills

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

Gary Axelbank
Director of Public Relations
Monroe College

Hardy Joe Long
Business Leader, Owner
Birdel's Records

Serina
Puppet/Puppeteer
Child Abuse Prevention Program

Mayer Perelmuter
Rabbi
Reform Temple of Forest Hills

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: --start. We have
3 three ceremonials today. Shhhh! Muzzio!
4 Professor! Pipe down back there in the back,
5 you're causing a disruption. Sergeants, remove
6 that professors. [laughter] Only kidding, only
7 kidding, only kidding. We love Doug Muzzio and
8 his class. Shhh. All right, before we get, well
9 I'll do it again later, but now that I've formally
10 mocked him, let me recognize Professor Doug Muzzio
11 of CUNY and his journalism students who are with
12 us today. Everybody say hello. [applause] All
13 right, our first ceremonial today is Council
14 Member Cabrera and The Bronx Delegation and the
15 Munro College Women and Men's Basketball Team.
16 The women's team won a national championship and
17 the men's team came in third in their national
18 tournament. So if we could ask the Munro College
19 Mustangs to make their way up, and let me turn the
20 mic over to Council Member Cabrera while the Mus--
21 where are the Mustangs? [background noise] Come
22 on.

23 [background noise]

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Okay,
25 ladies and gentlemen, it gives me great honor to

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2 introduce to you the Division One Champs, Division
3 Two champs, national champs, in basketball, the
4 ladies were ranked 11th coming into the
5 championship; they end up beating the undefeated
6 team. And we also have the men's basketball team
7 at Monroe College, the Mustangs, that who came in
8 in third place. And I'm going to turn it over to
9 Gary Axelbank who's going to be sharing some of
10 the details of what took place.

11 GARY AXELBANK: Thank you very
12 much. I know many of you know me from the other
13 hats that I wear, but today I'm the Director of
14 Public Relations of Monroe College. We're real
15 proud of our athletics program, and everything we
16 do we try to be successful at everything we do.
17 The Lady Mustangs, as Council Member Cabrera said,
18 were ranked 11th in the national tournament, the
19 NGCAA Division 2 tournament, and they ended up
20 winning the national championship, a true Bronx
21 story, nobody knows you're in the house, but then
22 you turn out to be better than everybody. The
23 Mustangs were ranked number 19 in the nation, and
24 just a few scant points away from winning the
25 national championship, so give them credit. Only

1
2 two colleges in the nation had both their men's
3 and women's teams in the Final Four: UConn and
4 Monroe College. [cheers, applause] Very quickly,
5 head men's basketball coach, Jeff Brustad;
6 Athletic Director, Burt Shillingford; Associate
7 Athletic Director, Heather McCullough; Assistant
8 Men's Basketball Coach, Brock Erickson; starting
9 point guard from the men's team, from The Bronx,
10 Drimir Ferguson; and power forward for the Lady
11 Mustangs, is Ava Param [phonetic]. [cheers,
12 applause] Thank you very much. Quick words about
13 Monroe College, it's been an institution in New
14 York since 1933. We've specialized in career;
15 education of particular note, a brand new MBA
16 online program. And starting in the fall, an, the
17 first time we've ever offered it, an early
18 childhood education program designed to prepare
19 people to teach in high needs areas. So, you, I
20 know that would be of interest to the entire City
21 Council. Thank you so much to you, Speaker Quinn,
22 to our own home Council Member, Fernando Cabrera,
23 and of course to all my friends in The Bronx
24 Delegation.

25 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, and if

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we could--

GARY AXELBANK: If that's all we want to say.

SPEAKER QUINN: All right, if we could ask the Clerk to please read the proclamation.

CLERK: Council, City of New York Proclamation. Whereas, the Council of the City of New York is proud to honor Monroe College Mustangs and Lady Mustangs basketball teams for their outstanding achievements. And whereas, in March 2011, the Monroe Lady Mustangs Basketball Team captured the 2011 NJCAA Women's Division 2, National Basketball Championship, with a hard fought 78 to 74 finals victory over top seated and previously undefeated Pima Community College in Pima, Arizona. And whereas, Lady Mustangs Coach Seth Goodman, Head Coach for the past eight seasons, received the Lorene Ramsay Coach of the Tournament Award, named in honor of one of the most successful college coaches of all times. With a 274 to 48 record, and an 851 winning percentage, Coach Goodman has established his self as one of the most successful coaches in

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2 Metropolitan New York. And whereas, the Monroe
3 Mustangs, the Men's Basketball Team, took third
4 place in the NJCAA Men's Division 1 National
5 Basketball Tournament, held in Kansas, from March
6 15 to March 20, 2011. And whereas, these
7 achievements have been accomplished under the
8 leadership of Coach Jeff Brustad. Coach Brustad
9 has been named Region Coach of the Year in six of
10 those nine years. And whereas, under the
11 leadership of President Stephen Jerome and Monroe
12 College's entire faculty, administrative and
13 student support staff, Monroe Mustangs
14 successfully completed their academic requirements
15 for graduation and move on to achieve at higher
16 levels of academia--

17 SPEAKER QUINN: Yay!

18 CLERK: --collegiate, and even
19 professional athletics. And whereas, today Monroe
20 and UConn are the only two colleges in the nation
21 in any division, NCAA, NAIA, NJCAA, that had both
22 men's and women's teams in the Final Four. Now
23 therefore, be it known that we, the undersigned
24 Council Members, proudly honor the members of the
25 Monroe College Mustangs and Lady Mustangs

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2 Basketball Teams, for their outstanding
3 achievements and teamwork. Christine C. Quinn,
4 Speaker for the entire Council; Fernando Cabrera,
5 Council Member, 14th District Bronx, and the rest
6 of the Members of the Bronx Delegation.

7 SPEAKER QUINN: Congratulations.
8 Thank you all very much. [applause] Best of
9 luck, congratulations. Okay. We're going to
10 move--oh, you're very welcome, congratulations.
11 We're going to move from The Bronx to Brooklyn,
12 and I ask Council Member Vann and the other
13 Brooklyn Members to come up in commemoration of
14 Hardy Joe Long. And let me turn the mic over to
15 Council Member Vann.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Thank you,
17 Madam Speaker. Ladies and gentlemen, colleagues,
18 Brother Long, can you come up? [pause, background
19 noise] There are not too many neighborhoods that
20 would bestow the legendary status upon one of
21 their businesspersons. But such is the case in
22 Bedford-Stuyvesant, Mr. Hardy Joe Long, has become
23 a legend in his own time. And that's not just
24 because he's getting older, because you can't tell
25 by looking at him. But he's been in business for

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more than 50 years. Obviously, he was a child prodigy.

SPEAKER QUINN: [off mic]

Absolutely.

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: He must've started when he was eight or nine.

HARDY JOE LONG: [off mic] No.

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: But he is indeed a legend in our community. And it's rare, because you think of businesspersons, they're in business to make money, and we understand that. And that's no exception here. But in addition to that, he had another passion: he had a passion to want to serve the community that provided an earning or a living for him and his family. And so he was very committed to community service, he served on a community board, he helped organize his merchants' association, he's one of the leaders in creating the business improvement district [applause] and so, on behalf of all of my colleagues from Brooklyn, Council Member Tish James is here, Council Member [laughter] Eugene-- you know, the colleagues, too [laughter], even those from Harlem, and Queens, and Staten Island,

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2 and Manhattan, Coney Island, City of New York,
3 metropolitan area, Flatbush is in the house. We
4 are very proud of you, Brother Long, we, we hope
5 that God will continue to bless you, enjoy your
6 longevity, enjoy your good health, and we know
7 your voice will still be heard in the affairs of
8 Bedford-Stuyvesant. All right. Brother Joe Long.

9 SPEAKER QUINN: If we could get a
10 little quiet in the back, please. Thank you for
11 the quiet in the back. If we could ask the Clerk
12 to please read the proclamation, and then we will
13 hear from Mr. Long.

14 CLERK: Council, City of New York,
15 proclamation. Whereas, the Council of the City of
16 New York is proud to honor Hardy Joe Long for his
17 extraordinary service to the community of Bedford-
18 Stuyvesant Brooklyn. And whereas, Mr. Long is the
19 widely respected owner of Birdel's Records, a
20 legendary Brooklyn music shop that has been a hub
21 to Bedford-Stuyvesant community since it opened in
22 1944. Mr. Long moved to Brooklyn in 1954, and
23 began working at Birdel's three years later. In
24 the late 1960s, he became its owner. Legions of
25 fans including Notorious B.I.G., turned to

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2 Birdel's for generations. While it offered an
3 increasing number of CDs in recent years, the
4 inventory remained dominated by vinyl 45s and LPs.
5 And whereas, in 2009, due to the decline of the
6 music industry, and his profits, and the fact that
7 no family member wanted to take over the business,
8 Mr. Long posted signs in the store's windows to
9 inform the public that Birdel's would be closing.
10 However, an outpouring of support within the
11 community would not let him close the store, as it
12 considered him an icon and the store an
13 institution. Mr. Long kept his store open for
14 another two years until it played its last song
15 and closed, on March 4, 2011. And whereas, in
16 addition to his support as owner of Birdel's
17 Records, Mr. Long has served the community as an
18 active member of Baron Baptist Church, the 79th
19 Precinct Council, Chairman Emeritus of the
20 Business Improvement District, and Fulton-Nostrand
21 Merchant Association. He also served for four
22 years as Chairman of Community Board Number Three
23 where he remains an active member. Now therefore
24 be it known that the Council of the City of New
25 York gratefully honors Hardy Joe Long, for his

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2 outstanding service and contributions to the
3 community. Christine C. Quinn, Speaker for the
4 entire council; Albert Vann, Council Member, 36th
5 District Brooklyn; and many other Council Members.

6 SPEAKER QUINN: Wow, that is
7 [cheers, applause] sir, an impressive list of
8 accomplishment. One would've been enough, but all
9 of that, thank you very much. And give me the
10 mic, let me give you the microphone.

11 HARDY JOE LONG: Thank you very
12 much, Speaker Quinn, and to my Councilman, Albert
13 Vann, to my members of my family, and to the
14 Bedford-Stuyvesant community, and Brooklyn at
15 large. I want to give an honor to God first, who
16 is the head of my life and what I've accomplished
17 over the years. And I always say, it's hard work
18 as an independent to be in a minority community
19 for so long, and survive. That is the key,
20 survival. And I just want to say that with the
21 help of my merchants and with the help of the
22 community and with the help of my elected
23 officials, they saw fit that Birdel's would be
24 around. And now my other thing before I leave
25 here, I want to know my support, I want Al to make

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2 sure, from Nostrand Avenue, and Atlantic Avenue,
3 down to Fulton Street, we want to name that
4 Birdel's Way or Birdel's Lane [laughter] so that
5 we can be able to say that Birdel's is still a
6 part of the Bedford-Stuyvesant community. Once
7 again thank you. [cheers, applause]

8 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, very,
9 very much, and congratulations, thank you very
10 much. And our final ceremonial of the day, which
11 is actually a mini-proclamation of sorts, is from
12 the Chair of Black, Latino and Asian Caucus, and
13 Chair of our Education Committee, size doesn't
14 matter, Robert Jackson. And if we could ask folks
15 who are--[pause, background noise] Robert, here
16 you go.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you,
18 Madam Speaker, good afternoon, everyone. And I
19 want to ask you a question. Do you know what
20 April is? April is Child Abuse Prevention Month.
21 Did you know that?

22 SPEAKER QUINN: [off mic] I did
23 not.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Now you
25 know. And in fact, there's been an organization

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2 that's been helping children to know about child
3 abuse, how to identify it, and what to do about
4 it, and they've been doing it for 25 years. And
5 one of the cofounders, Marion White, and, is here
6 with us, and I would like to tell you all that
7 this ind--this program has the support of the City
8 Council, many members have given discretionary
9 funding because they do a great job, and they do
10 it by puppetry to third and fourth graders
11 throughout the New York City and parochial private
12 schools. And basically that, what they want to
13 do, is to teach children how to identify abuse and
14 what to do about it. And then what they find
15 through their social workers or other involved,
16 that abuse has occurred, you know, some
17 individuals are mandated reporters. They must
18 report it to the child abuse hotline. And others
19 make referrals to NYPD. And so with that, Madam
20 Speaker, that's why we're here today. I apologize
21 for doing it all of a sudden, but I say to all of
22 you, that when I met with them yesterday, we had
23 to rush through, and I prepared a mini-proc, what
24 I call a mini-proc, which is basically a citation
25 honoring them for 25 years of service in order to

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prevent child abuse.

SPEAKER QUINN: Well, thank you very much, Robert, and thank you for making sure we had something to present. If I could just get a little quiet. Shhhh. If I could ask the Clerk to read the mini-proc, and then we'll hear from--

CLERK: Council, City of New York Proclamation. Whereas, during the past 25 years, the Child Abuse Prevention Program, known as CAPP, has worked to ensure that children all over New York City can understand and assert their right to be safe. And whereas, theater and puppetry are widely recognized as effective techniques for--

SPEAKER QUINN: Can we get quiet?

CLERK: --for engaging children of all ages, and are the cornerstone of CAPP's child safety workshops, which teach, teach students to recognize, resist and report child--report abuse. And whereas, more than 400,000 children have participated in CAPP through the decades, with 407 families referred for intervention in 2009 and 2010 alone. And whereas, such sustained involvement in protecting and empowering our most vulnerable residents so often goes unrecognized.

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2 Now therefore, be it known, be it resolved that
3 the Council of the City of New York recognizes
4 that in CAPP, Child Abuse Prevention Program, we
5 have an outstanding organization, one which is
6 worthy of esteem of the great City of New York.
7 Christine C. Quinn, Speaker for the entire
8 Council; Robert Jackson, 7th District Manhattan.

9 [applause]

10 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
11 much. And let me turn the mic over.

12 SERINA: Hi, guys, my name's
13 Serina, I go to schools, I talk to kids about
14 being safe. And you know what? A lot of these
15 City Council Members here, they're responsible for
16 us being in New York City schools. So I want you
17 guys to thank all of these Council Members. Yeah!
18 [applause] Well, thank you guys. I wanted to
19 thank each of you here--I wanted to thank each of
20 you for supporting the Child Abuse Prevention
21 Program. We've been doing these workshops in
22 schools since 1986, and to-date we've reached over
23 400,000 children, talking to them about how to be
24 safe, the difference between abuse and punishment,
25 and who to tell if they have a problem. And so,

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2 the partnership between New York City's Council
3 and New York City's Department of Ed, as well as
4 the private schools in New York City, have enabled
5 us to all help the children to stay safe. So,
6 thank you very much.

7 [applause]

8 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. Thank
9 you very much. [pause, background noise] Great,
10 thank you all very much, that concludes our
11 ceremonials for today. Thank you. [pause,
12 background noise]

13 MALE VOICE: Ladies and gentlemen,
14 can I have your attention, please. At this time,
15 please place all cell phones and pagers to
16 vibrate. Thank you.

17 [pause, background noise]

18 [gavel]

19 PRESIDENT RIVERA: My colleagues,
20 please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

21 [pledge of allegiance]

22 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Roll call.

23 CLERK: Arroyo.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Here.

25 CLERK: Barron. Okay, thank you.

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2 Brewer .
3 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.
4 CLERK: Cabrera.
5 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.
6 CLERK: Chin.
7 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.
8 CLERK: Comrie.
9 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: [off mic]
10 Here.
11 CLERK: Crowley.
12 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.
13 CLERK: Dickens.
14 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: [off mic]
15 Here.
16 CLERK: Dilan.
17 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Here.
18 CLERK: Dromm.
19 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.
20 CLERK: Eugene.
21 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.
22 CLERK: Ferreras.
23 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Here.
24 CLERK: Fidler. Foster.
25 COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Here.

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STATED MEETING

CLERK: Garodnick.

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: [off mic] Here.

CLERK: Gennaro.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: [off mic] Here.

CLERK: Gentile.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.

CLERK: Gonzalez. Greenfield.

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: In the back.

CLERK: Halloran.

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: [off mic] Here.

CLERK: Ignizio.

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: [off mic] Here.

CLERK: Jackson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: [off mic] Here.

CLERK: James.

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Here.

CLERK: Koo.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

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2 CLERK: Koppell.
3 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Here.
4 CLERK: Koslowitz.
5 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: [off
6 mic] Here.
7 CLERK: Lander.
8 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.
9 CLERK: Lappin. Levin. Mark-
10 Viverito.
11 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:
12 Here.
13 CLERK: Mealy.
14 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Present.
15 CLERK: Mendez.
16 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Present.
17 CLERK: Nelson.
18 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Present.
19 CLERK: Palma. Recchia. Reyna.
20 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Here.
21 CLERK: Rodriguez.
22 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.
23 CLERK: Rose.
24 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.
25 CLERK: Sanders.

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STATED MEETING

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Present.

CLERK: Seabrook. [pause] Ulrich.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Present.

CLERK: Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.

CLERK: Vallone. Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

CLERK: Vann.

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: [off mic]

Here.

CLERK: Weprin.

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Here.

CLERK: Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: [off mic]

Here.

CLERK: Wills.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: [off mic]

Here.

[pause]

CLERK: Recchia.

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: [off mic]

Here.

CLERK: Oddo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: [off mic]

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Here.

CLERK: Rivera.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Here.

CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

SPEAKER QUINN: [off mic] Here.

CLERK: We have a quorum.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: My colleagues,
please rise for the invocation being delivered
today by Rabbi Mayer Perelmuter, from Reform
Temple of Forest Hills.

MAYER PERELMUTER: We are, in the
Jewish community, have just, on Tuesday, finished
celebrating the festival of Passover, we've
celebrated our Seder's, the Book of Exodus, which
really is not only a Jewish moment, but it is a
moment for all peoples. And it is the only time,
really, when God told the Hebrews to stop praying,
not to pray. It happens the Egyptian army is
bearing down on the Children of Israel, and they
cry out to God in prayer. And in the Book of
Exodus, God says to Moses, "[Hewbrew]," which
means, "Why are you crying out to me? Tell the
people, Moses, to go forward, stop praying and go
forward." So, one of the leaders, 'cause he's a

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2 prince, his name is Nachshon Ben Aminadav, he
3 walks right into the sea, and gets up to his
4 nostrils, and the sea parts, he crosses over, the
5 Children of Israel follow him. So Nachshon
6 becomes a model for not only leadership in the
7 Jewish community, but for all leaders. And he
8 exhibits three characters, characteristics: one,
9 recognize the need; then take the initiative, do
10 something about it; and three, be willing to take
11 the heat, to bear the risk of being criticized or
12 of loss of popularity. May we here, may we, in
13 the religious community, and the political
14 community, our prayer is may we strive to follow
15 the example of Nachshon Ben Aminadav, as we all
16 together strive to lead this great City and
17 community forward into a very uncertain future.
18 Amen.

19 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Council Member
20 Koslowitz.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I make a
22 motion to spread the invocation in full upon the
23 record.

24 PRESIDENT RIVERA: So ordered.
25 Adoption of the minutes, Council Member Williams.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I make a
3 motion that the minutes be adopted.

4 PRESIDENT RIVERA: So ordered.
5 Messages and papers from the Mayor?

6 CLERK: Preconsidered M 450,
7 submitting Nancy G. Chaffetz, reappointment, Civil
8 Service Commission.

9 SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, privileges
10 and elections.

11 CLERK: Preconsidered M 451,
12 submitting the name of Rudy Washington,
13 reappointment, Civil Service Commission.

14 SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, privileges
15 and elections.

16 CLERK: M 452, withdrawing the
17 nomination of Steven Russo, Environmental Control
18 Board.

19 SPEAKER QUINN: Received, ordered,
20 printed and filed.

21 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Communications
22 from the City, County and Borough Offices.

23 CLERK: M 453, relocation package,
24 Fiscal Year 2012.

25 SPEAKER QUINN: Received, ordered,

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printed and filed.

CLERK: M 454 through M 492 on page six, various base station license applications.

SPEAKER QUINN: Transportation.

CLERK: M 493, communication from the Department of Housing, Preservation and Development.

SPEAKER QUINN: Received, ordered, printed and filed.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Petitions and communications.

CLERK: None.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Land Use Call-Ups.

CLERK: M 494.

SPEAKER QUINN: If we could have a vote on the Land Use Call-Up, please, have a roll call vote on the Land Use Call-Up, please, and if we could get a little quiet. Thank you.

[gavel]

CLERK: Arroyo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye. And if I may have permission to vote on the general order calendar.

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PRESIDENT RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye on all.

CLERK: Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I request unanimous consent to vote on all general order items.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote no on Intro No. 467-A, Pedicab Cap; and aye on all the rest.

CLERK: Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye on Land Use.

CLERK: Cabrera.

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

CLERK: Chin.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

CLERK: Comrie.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Yes.

CLERK: Crowley.

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Yes.

CLERK: Dickens.

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Permission to vote on all general and resolution calendars

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for today, all Land Use Call-Ups, and with permission to vote aye on all coupled general orders.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Or ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Thank you, I vote aye.

CLERK: Dilan.

COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: I vote aye on all.

CLERK: Dromm.

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye on all.

CLERK: Eugene.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

CLERK: Ferreras.

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye on all.

CLERK: Fidler. Foster.

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye on all, and I'd like permission to vote on everything before the calendar today?

PRESIDENT RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye. Thank you.

CLERK: Garodnick.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

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CLERK: Gennaro.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: [off mic]

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Yes.

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CLERK: Gentile.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

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CLERK: Gonzalez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye on

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all.

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CLERK: Greenfield.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

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CLERK: Halloran.

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COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Aye on

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all.

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CLERK: Ignizio.

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COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: [off mic]

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Yes.

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CLERK: Jackson.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: [off mic]

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Aye.

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CLERK: James.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: [off mic]

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Aye.

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CLERK: Koo.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye on all.
3 CLERK: Koppell.
4 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: [off mic]
5 Aye.
6 CLERK: Koslowitz.
7 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: [off
8 mic] Aye.
9 CLERK: Lander.
10 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: [off mic]
11 Aye.
12 CLERK: Lappin. Levin. Mark-
13 Viverito.
14 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: [off
15 mic] Aye.
16 CLERK: Mealy.
17 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye. Oh,
18 no--
19 CLERK: Mendez.
20 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye on all.
21 CLERK: Nelson.
22 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Aye.
23 CLERK: Palma. Recchia.
24 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Aye on
25 all.

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CLERK: Reyna.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye on all.

CLERK: Rodriguez.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

CLERK: Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

CLERK: Sanders.

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Aye on

all.

CLERK: Ulrich.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye on all.

CLERK: Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: [off mic]

Aye.

CLERK: Vallone. Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

CLERK: Vann.

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye on all.

CLERK: Weprin.

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye and I'd

like permission to vote on all the coupled general orders.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Thank you,

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I vote aye.

CLERK: Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

CLERK: Wills.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Aye on all.

CLERK: Oddo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: [off mic]

Yes.

CLERK: Rivera.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: I vote aye on

all.

CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

SPEAKER QUINN: [off mic] Aye.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Today's Land Use

Call-Ups are adopted by a vote of 45 in the

affirmative, with zero in the negative.

Communication from the Speaker.

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very

much. Let me start with, before I talk about the

Legislation, a couple of nice Council updates. I

want to welcome back Billy Martin, who returned to

work on Monday, and congratulate Billy and his

fiancée on the birth of their baby girl, Samantha

Grace. [applause] So, congratulations. I also

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2 want to congratulate Gary Altman and his wife
3 Faye, who are grandparents to Harrison and Mathew,
4 who was born on the 23rd of April. [applause] So
5 I don't know where Gary is, but congratulations.
6 I also want to recognize some visitors we have
7 today. We have Brandon with us on the dais, for
8 Take Your Child to Work Day [applause] and I see
9 we have Council Member Rodriguez's daughter with
10 us, also, for Take Your Child to Work Day.
11 [applause] So, thank you very much. And I
12 mentioned before, we are joined by Professor Doug
13 Muzzio of CUNY and his journalism students, and
14 we're very happy to have them and Professor Muzzio
15 with us today. Thank you very much. [applause]
16 Let me talk now about some of the legislation we
17 are voting on today. We are voting on a package
18 of legislation that comes out of the Consumer
19 Affairs Committee, I want to thank Alex Pistilnik
20 and Damien Butvick, and Rachel Cordero for their
21 work on this legislation. I want to thank
22 Chairperson Garodnick, who is the sponsor of these
23 three bills, and who is also the Chair of the
24 Consumer Affairs Committee. They're Intros 334-A,
25 466-A and 467-A. Folks may remember a few years

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2 ago, we in the Council were the first part of City
3 government to step forward and say, "Pedicabs need
4 to be regulated." That if you were going to use
5 the streets of the City of New York, to transport
6 people and make money, just like liveries, just
7 like cabs, just like limos, you have to be
8 regulated. That it is a privilege not a right to
9 use the City of New York to make money through
10 transporting people. And pedicabs had kind of
11 come up and started in New York in kind of a
12 grassroots organics way, and they were unregulated
13 completely. They were the only form of paid
14 transportation that was completely unregulated in
15 the City of New York. We were the first part of
16 government to put regulations in place. And as
17 some accidents happened after our regulations was,
18 were vetoed, we saw how right we were to say,
19 tragically, that regulation was needed. Today we
20 are keeping in place a cap on how many pedicabs we
21 have in the City of New York: 850. We have
22 clearly hit the level of what we can sustain, need
23 to further understand the impacts of pedicabs and
24 recognize today we cannot raise that number. Two,
25 we're recognizing today through legislation that

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2 pedicabs are not bicycles. Right now, a pedicab
3 under parking laws is treated as a bicycle. Which
4 means they can stand and park in places where cars
5 cannot. That simply doesn't make any sense given
6 what pedicabs are used for and their size and
7 their impact on the street. So one of our pieces
8 of legislation will make sure that pedicabs are
9 required, and subject to follow all parking rules.
10 Lastly, we're going to have a piece of legislation
11 that really speaks to the safety of people who are
12 in pedicabs. 466-A will make it appropriately
13 easier for City agencies to seize pedicabs, and
14 suspend the licenses of pedicab drivers when they
15 don't have up-to-date driver's licenses, when they
16 don't have equipment that is operational, when
17 they are putting the lives of the people they are
18 transporting at risk, 'cause they don't have
19 brakes that are working and things of that nature.
20 So I very much want to thank Chairperson Garodnick
21 for remaining very vigilant, to make sure that
22 this industry is appropriately regulated, because
23 it is transporting New Yorkers and tourists around
24 our City, and we have an obligation to make sure
25 those individuals and the pedestrians and other

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2 drivers that pedicabs come across are safe. I
3 know Chair Garodnick is going to continue to
4 aggressively look at this issue, and come forward
5 to the Council in the near future with more
6 legislation. I support his ongoing efforts on
7 that. Want to thank him for his vigilance and
8 call on Chair Garodnick.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Thank
10 you very much, Speaker Quinn. As you noted, the
11 Council passed some much needed regulations on the
12 industry a number of years ago: a licensing
13 scheme, to give the City from oversight; we
14 mandated safety equipment on pedicabs and
15 penalties for unsafe operation; and we established
16 some basic consumer protection rules. And now
17 that we've given some time for the law to go into
18 effect, it has become clear that there are
19 loopholes that we need to close. For starters,
20 for parking, the law today treats pedicabs as
21 bicycles. Which as you noted means that they're
22 not subject to parking rules. In practice, that
23 means that there is nothing stopping them from
24 parking in a no-standing zone, or in front of a
25 fire hydrant, as is frequently observed in and

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2 around the theater district and around Central
3 Park. But when they are parked, pedicabs are more
4 like cars than bicycles. In an area, if an area
5 along the curb needs to be kept clear for
6 visibility of pedestrians or for any other reason,
7 that goes for pedicabs, too. This City created no
8 parking zones for a reason, and not so they could
9 be free parking for pedicabs. Traffic agents
10 should be able to write tickets for this, and
11 Intro 334 would give them the power to do that.
12 Second, pedicab operators themselves will tell you
13 that many of the violations we see on a daily
14 basis are committed by the same scofflaws. We
15 will continue to rely on the police to
16 aggressively enforce moving violations. In fact,
17 officers in one area of my district issued 115
18 violations in a single neighborhood, in a single
19 day, and the DCA should not hesitate to use its
20 authority to pull the licenses of repeat
21 offenders. But there needs to be a baseline for
22 behavior that we simply will not tolerate on the
23 road. And there must be clear consequences for
24 critical safety violations. And that's what we're
25 laying out today, in the second bill. Pedicabs

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2 driven without a valid registration plate, may be
3 seized, and three violations for malfunctioning
4 brakes or a missing seatbelt, will result in
5 pedicab registration plate suspension for one
6 year, that means we are just taking it off the
7 road. Pedicab drivers must also carry a valid
8 motor vehicles license. A second violation here,
9 and the pedicab's driver's license will not be
10 suspended alone, it will be revoked. The Council
11 passed critical safety reforms on the pedicab
12 industry and we will not see them undermined.
13 Unlicensed drivers and pedicabs that have been
14 written up repeatedly for safety violations should
15 not be on the road, period. Lastly, on the cap.
16 We are at our saturation point with pedicabs.
17 Right now, the City needs to focus on enforcing
18 the existing rules and creating clearer and strong
19 ones for this still very new industry. This is
20 not the appropriate time to open the door for new
21 licenses. A cap, government stepping into the
22 marketplace and determining the very size of the
23 market, is not something we enter into lightly.
24 However, it will not serve the pedicab industry,
25 or any users of the streets, whether they be

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2 drivers, pedestrians or pedicab customers, to let
3 this industry grow unchecked. It's also important
4 to note that the New York City Pedicab Owner's
5 Association, which opposed a cap back in 2007,
6 testified in support of this bill. They agreed
7 that now is not the time to reopen the window for
8 additional pedicab registrations. We have
9 articulated in the bill exactly the number of
10 pedicabs on the street today, that is 850, and due
11 to the many challenges we already have, it would
12 be irresponsible to let that number grow. I want
13 to thank Speaker Quinn for her strong advocacy on
14 this issue, as well as the many people who worked
15 on this: Alex Pistilnik, Rachel Cordero, Damien
16 Butvick, Teresa Bomio [phonetic] from my office,
17 and I encourage my colleagues to vote yes. Thank
18 you, Speaker Quinn.

19 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
20 much, pardon me, Chair Garodnick. We're next
21 moving onto two pieces of legislation that deal
22 with the very, very pressing and important issue
23 of parking in New York City. I want to thank
24 Laura Popa and Jared Holva and Lyle Frank and Dan
25 Avery for their work on all of these bills. Intro

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2 287-A and Intro 458-A both deal with making
3 parking easier in the City of New York. Intro
4 287-A--[background voice, pause] I'm sorry what?
5 [background voice] Oh, okay, sorry. Intro 287-A
6 was a piece of legislation passed out of the
7 Sanitation Committee. I want to thank Council
8 Member Tish James, the Chair of that Committee,
9 for moving it through the Committee, and Council
10 Members Lander and Gonzalez for their lead
11 sponsorship of this bill. This piece of
12 legislation says that if a community board, a
13 neighborhood, believes that its neighborhood's
14 streets are clean, and can confirm that, because
15 it has been verified two years in a row by the
16 Mayor's Management Report at 90 percent
17 cleanliness, the community board has an option of
18 reducing street cleaning by a day, in that
19 neighborhood, therefore reducing alternate side of
20 the street parking in that neighborhood. This is
21 not mandatory, it is something that will be up to
22 the decision of the community board. It's an
23 important piece of legislation that recognizes and
24 empowers community boards further, and really
25 sends a message that we in the Council believe

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2 that they are the ones who know better than
3 anybody what's happening on the streets of their
4 district. And what it'll do is make sure streets
5 stay clean, but that people don't have to
6 needlessly move their cars around, creating
7 further air pollution by driving around in your
8 neighborhood, looking for a new spot. And will
9 also the Department of Sanitation to focus those
10 street cleaning resources on the other
11 neighborhoods in our City that have not met the
12 two years in a row, 90 percent cleanliness
13 requirements of this legislation. So, I want to
14 thank everyone who've worked on this bill. Let me
15 start by calling on Council Member Tish James, the
16 Chair of our Sanitation and Solid Waste Committee,
17 and then Council Member Lander, and then Council
18 Member Gonzalez.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Thank you,
20 Madam Speaker. This bill strikes a balance that
21 will improve quality of life while preserving
22 street cleanliness for many New Yorkers. It will
23 allow local communities as represented by their
24 community boards to determine the appropriate
25 relationship between alternate side parking and

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2 street cleaning. This bill is also an important
3 environmental bill that will go a long way in
4 improving air quality in the City of New York by
5 reducing idling of cars waiting to park, a
6 significant and a major asthma trigger in the City
7 of New York. Parking is a, at a, is a premium in
8 the City of New York. Obviously, this bill will
9 address that issue. I thank the Speaker of this
10 House, as well as the sponsors of this bill, and I
11 urge all of my colleagues, obviously, to vote yes
12 for this piece of legislation. Thank you, Madam
13 Speaker.

14 SPEAKER QUINN: Council Member
15 Lander, and then Council Member Gonzalez, please.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you
17 very much, Madam Speaker. The author and great
18 New Yorker Calvin Trillin once joked that you can
19 own a car in New York or you can have a full time
20 job, but you can't possibly do both. While
21 obviously a lot of people manage, car owners know
22 too well the daily grind presented by alternate
23 side parking rules for street cleaning. On many
24 blocks you're required to move your car four
25 days, two days each side, or in some cases even

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2 three days each side, six days a week. And for so
3 many families it means organizing your whole life
4 around when you're going to get the kids, when
5 you're going to come home, when you're going to
6 leave, where you're going to go. And it can be
7 more than just an inconvenience. One study in my
8 community found that more than half of local
9 traffic on some blocks was people cruising around
10 looking for parking, so it has traffic and
11 environmental impacts, as well. This bill will
12 make that a little easier. In parts of the City
13 where the streets are clean, the community board
14 at its option can request a reduction from four
15 days a week to two days a week, one day per side.
16 As the Speaker said, it empowers community boards.
17 It won't be done automatically, but only if that
18 community board wants it or requests of the
19 Department of Sanitation, and as long as your
20 streets stay clean, you can keep it that way. It
21 won't solve all our parking related headaches, but
22 it's a common sense solution that'll make quality
23 of life in our neighborhoods a little bit better.
24 I want to say a big thank you to Speaker Quinn, to
25 Laura Popa and Jared Holva on her staff, not only

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2 for their general work on the bill, but for
3 working with the Administration to craft a good
4 version that's going to work for all of us. To
5 Chair James and Chair Vacca, Council Member
6 Gonzalez has been a great partner and a fighter
7 for this, and especially in Community Board Seven.
8 Michael Friedmanschnapp [phonetic] on my staff has
9 been working very hard to make this work. And
10 then I want to note the work of two community
11 boards in particular, Community Board Six and
12 Seven in Brooklyn. Community Board Six which has
13 pioneered this under District Manager Craig
14 Hammerman, and Community Board Seven whose Chair
15 Randy Peers, new Chair Fred Xuereb, and District
16 Manager Jeremy Laufer have been fighting very
17 hard. This is something that really comes from
18 the grassroots, as Council Member Gonzalez knows,
19 and has worked on, it's my honor to work with her
20 and the members of this body to bring it forward.
21 Thank you very much.

22 SPEAKER QUINN: Thanks a lot,
23 Council Member Lander, and if we could get a
24 little quiet, shhh. Thank you. Council Member
25 Gonzalez.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Thank
3 you, Speaker. I'd definitely like to speak on
4 this important bill, Intro 287-A. Councilman
5 Lander and I have introduced this bill. I am
6 aware that the Uniform Sanitation Workers Union
7 has had concerns, and I've had several
8 conversations with the Sanitation Union President,
9 Harry Nespoli, to address any concerns they might
10 have. Furthermore, I have expressed my support
11 for my Sanitation brothers and sisters, and
12 indicated that the Department of Sanitation, its
13 Commissioner, the Administration, could possibly
14 look to expand garbage pick-up routes along new
15 and growing commercial corridors, as well as
16 utilize workers to augment graffiti cleaning
17 services. On March 25, 2010, I introduced a bill
18 to limit alternate side of the street parking days
19 in many residentially zoned districts throughout
20 the City to two days per week. The purpose of my
21 bill was to alleviate excessive ticketing and
22 reduce environmental concerns associated by idling
23 cars. My colleague, Councilman Lander, introduced
24 similar legislation that would reduce parking to
25 two days if a community board achieves a

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2 cleanliness acceptability rating under the Mayor's
3 Office of Operations Scorecard Program. Today I
4 am pleased to announce that Councilman Lander and
5 I have teamed up with this joint bill, that when
6 enacted will reduce alternate side parking to two
7 days if Sanitation districts achieve a 90 percent
8 cleanliness rating. Together, working very
9 closely with their community boards across the
10 City, including my Sunset Park Board Seven, and
11 Red Hook Board Six, will be able to reduce their
12 alternate side parking. I would like to thank our
13 Speaker, Christine Quinn, and Councilman Lander,
14 for his willingness to work together; and
15 Chairperson James for her support. Additional
16 thank yous goes out to the following people who
17 have made this possible, a reality: Bob Newman,
18 Laura Popa, Lyle Frank, Jared Holva, former
19 Community Board Seven Chair Randy Peers and
20 Community Board Seven, District Manager Jeremy
21 Laufer and Community Board Six District Manager
22 Craig Hammerman, in Sunset Park and Red Hook.
23 Thank you, and I urge my colleagues to vote yes.

24 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
25 much, Chair James and Council Members Gonzalez and

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2 Lander. We're also voting on a piece of
3 legislation that also deals with parking, but this
4 one comes out of the Transportation Committee. I
5 want to thank Chair Vacca for his leadership on
6 this piece of legislation, and other parking
7 bills, as well, so thank you very much, Chair
8 Vacca. I want to thank again the staff that I
9 mentioned before, related to this bill. And Intro
10 458-A, which was authored by Council Member Dan
11 Garodnick, is a very smart, 21st Century piece of
12 legislation, that will require the Department of
13 Information and Technology to keep an interactive
14 map on the internet, which would update people on
15 street closures, parking regulations, temporary
16 changes to parking regulations. This way, before
17 you set out to move your car, you can check the
18 map; you can find out where a street is closed,
19 where there's a street fair, where filming is
20 going on. It doesn't create new spots for you,
21 but it prevents you from circling and circling
22 blocks where you think there might be a spot, but
23 where there is not going to be a spot, and can
24 help you target where you go to look for spots
25 that day. So, I want to thank Dan for this piece

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2 of legislation that I think will help make New
3 Yorkers' lives a little bit easier and be a very
4 good resource for them. So let me call on the
5 sponsor of Intro 458-A, Dan Garodnick, and if I
6 could ask for just a little bit of quiet while we
7 hear from the sponsor.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Thank
9 you, Speaker Quinn. Each year, New York City is
10 host to over 300 street fairs, plus dozens of
11 parades and block parties, film shoots, crane
12 operations, untold numbers of events that required
13 planned street closures. Well, the City is
14 planning on them, but they usually take residents
15 and merchants by surprise. Whether these are
16 highly anticipated and welcome events or just
17 necessary nuisances, the people most affected by
18 them should know that they're coming. They should
19 know if there's going to be a street fair outside
20 of their business, if film crews are going to take
21 up curbside parking, or if buses will, as a
22 result, need to be rerouted. When the City is
23 planning to close some streets, there's no reason
24 why the people on the block should be the last to
25 know. And the same goes for drivers planning a

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2 destination who want to understand what the
3 parking rules are in any given neighborhood. The
4 City has this information, it ought to share it.
5 If there's going to be street fair, film shoot,
6 crane operation, or other activity on your
7 doorstep, you should be able to plan around to it,
8 plan around it. And thanks to this bill and the
9 support of Speaker Quinn and Chair Vacca, you
10 will. I also want to thank Lyle Frank for his
11 hard work on this legislation, and I encourage my
12 colleagues to vote yes.

13 SPEAKER QUINN: I also want to
14 thank the Rules, Privileges and Elections
15 Committee for the appointments it did today. And
16 that concludes Dan Garodnick Day at the New York
17 City Council. [laughter]

18 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very
19 much, Madam Speaker. We'll move on to Discussion
20 of General Orders. Council Member Sanders.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: I want to
22 speak on Dan Garodnick Day, also. [laughter] But
23 I will instead speak on the Landers/Gonzalez bill
24 that has been proposed, and I want to warn us of
25 the Law of Unintended Consequences. We have to,

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2 first things first, look at the scorecard system
3 that the Department of Sanitation is using to make
4 sure that that scorecard is an accurate scorecard.
5 Then after that, we have to be concerned about
6 what will happen to the workers, that if the City
7 is saying that we're no longer going to clean the
8 streets three times or four times, whatever it is,
9 if we do not reallocate those workers to places
10 that are dirtier, then the natural temptation is
11 to say we simply don't need the workers. Those
12 things have to be looked at. They--otherwise,
13 it's, in this day of budget cuts, it would be
14 foolish for the City to keep workers that they're
15 not using, and it would not aid us in dirtier
16 neighborhoods if we don't move those workers to--
17 the logic is to move the workers to where the work
18 is. Move them to where it's dirtier. And I
19 encourage my colleagues to take those things into
20 account, so that we can come up with a better
21 bill. I think you have something, I think you're
22 in the road, but you have a couple more miles to
23 go. Thank you very much.

24 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Seeing no others
25 for Discussion of General Orders, we'll move on to

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Reports of Special Committees.

CLERK: None.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Repots of
Standing Committees.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on
Consumer Affairs, Intro 334-A, pedicabs to be
subject to parking rules.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
on General Orders.

CLERK: Intro 466-A, revoking
pedicab registration plates.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
on General Orders.

CLERK: Intro 467-A, permitted
number of pedicab registration plates.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
on General Orders.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on
Finance, Preconsidered Reso 802, exemption for
real property taxes.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

CLERK: Preconsidered LU 371 and
Reso 805.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on Land Use. LU 360 and Reso 806, amendment to the zoning map.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

CLERK: LU 361 and Resolution 807, amendment of the zoning map.

SPEAKER QUINN: Couple on General Orders.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections. M442 and Reso 808, approving the reappointment, Robert Carver, New York City Environmental Control Board.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders.

CLERK: M442 and Reso 809, approving the reappointment of Emily Lally, New York City Environmental Control Board.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders.

CLERK: M445 and Reso 810, approving the appointment of Douglas Swann, New

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York City Environmental Control Board.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders.

CLERK: Preconsidered M450 and Reso 811, approving the reappointment of Nancy G. Chaffetz, New York City Civil Service Commission.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders.

CLERK: Preconsidered M451 and Reso 812, approving the reappointment of Rudy Washington, New York City Civil Service Commission.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on Sanitation and Solid Waste Management, Intro 287, reducing Department of Sanitation street cleaning days.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on General Orders.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on State and Federal Legislation, Preconsidered SLR 2, comprehensive development of Coney Island.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General

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Orders.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on Transportation, Intro 458-A, regarding street closure and parking regulations on the internet.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on General Orders.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: General Order Calendar.

CLERK: Resolution appointing various persons Commissioner of Deeds.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders. And at this time, I'd like to ask for a roll call on all items that have been coupled on the General Order calendar, please.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: So ordered.

CLERK: Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I vote aye. I would like to comment on the bill regarding the parking. I guess the number is 287-A. I assume that most of the Manhattan community boards, at least speaking for my area, will not opt in, so that's why the bill makes sense. I do point out that at least in my area, when the City says it's clean, it's not really clean. 90 percent clean on

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2 my particular means that everybody still have to
3 go around as they do in my neighborhood and pick
4 up an awful lot of trash, partly because we have
5 thousands of people walking down the street,
6 whether it's winter, summer, spring or fall, and
7 that's a good thing, but it's a lot of trash. So,
8 clean doesn't mean clean. So I'm glad that we do
9 not have to opt in, and with that, I vote aye.
10 I'm delighted that Nancy Chaffetz, who's a great
11 member of community, has been reconfirmed at the
12 New York City Civil Service Commission. Thank
13 you.

14 CLERK: Barron.

15 CLERK: Cabrera.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

17 CLERK: Chin.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

19 CLERK: Comrie.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye.

21 CLERK: Crowley.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

23 CLERK: Dilan.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Aye on all.

25 CLERK: Dromm.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye on all.

CLERK: Eugene.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

CLERK: Ferreras.

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: [off mic]

Aye.

CLERK: Garodnick.

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

CLERK: Gennaro.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Mr.

Leader, I'd like to speak on my vote.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: I'd just like to congratulate Council Members Lander and Council Member Garod--Council Member Gonzalez, but most of all Dan Garodnick on his really big day. And it's really terrific to see him having this big success today. And makes me feel good. So, I vote aye on all, and a lot of congratulations to Dan.

CLERK: Gentile.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: With congratulations to my colleagues, I vote aye on all.

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CLERK: Gonzalez.

COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye on
all.

CLERK: Greenfield.

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

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: I, too,
would like to congratulate my colleague, Council
Member Garodnick, on his success and terrific
bills today. As well as Council Members Lander
and Gonzalez on their bills, which I believe is
somewhat historic in the sense that we are going
to get many less parking tickets in this City as a
result, and so I am very grateful for that, as
well. Thank you.

CLERK: Halloran.

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Aye on
all.

CLERK: Ignizio.

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes, I
want to thank Mr. Garodnick, as well, from the
pedicabs in my district, and I vote aye on all.
Thank you.

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CLERK: Jackson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: [off mic]

Aye on all.

CLERK: James.

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: A happy belated birthday to Melissa Mark-Viverito, Council Member Cabrera. Let me congratulate Douglas Swann, a resident of my district, as a member of the New York City Environmental Control Board. Let me also congratulate the reappointment of Rudy Washington, and I vote aye on all. And congratulations to Council Member Lander, Gonzalez, and to Council Member Garodnick, it's a good day for the residents that we represent in the City of New York. Thank you. I vote aye.

CLERK: Koo.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I vote aye on all.

CLERK: Koppell.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Aye on all.

CLERK: Koslowitz.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye on all.

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CLERK: Lander.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: With apologies to Dan for making it so that not every bill on the calendar is sponsored by him today, on Dan Garodnick Day, and also with thanks to Fabiola Agustin, whose an intern who's been in our office all year, and whose last day is today, aye on all.

CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: [off mic] Oh, aye on all.

CLERK: Mealy.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye on all.

CLERK: Mendez.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye on all.

CLERK: Nelson.

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: May I be excused to explain my vote? I want to--

PRESIDENT RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: -- congratulate Members Gonzalez, Garodnick, Lander and Mark-Viverito on the good legislation, making it easier for all New Yorkers to live in this City. Aye on all.

CLERK: Recchia.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Aye on

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all.

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CLERK: Reyna.

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COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: [off mic]

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Aye on all.

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CLERK: Rodriguez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

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CLERK: Rose.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

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CLERK: Sanders.

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COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Permission

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to explain my vote?

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PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

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COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Since I

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have difficulties with 287-A, I believe, and I'm,

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I'm really hoping that my colleagues will, will

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figure a way of correcting this one, in the hope

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that they will correct it, I will abstain on 287-

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A, in the hope that they can correct this, and

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that this does not come back to bite us. On the

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rest, I vote aye on all. Congratulations to my

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constituent, Rudy Washington.

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CLERK: Ulrich.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye on all.

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CLERK: Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye on all.

CLERK: Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye on
all.

CLERK: Vann.

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye.

CLERK: Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I'd like
to say happy birthday to MMV, Cabrera;
congratulations to Lander, Gonzalez; and Super
Garodnick. And I vote aye on all.

CLERK: Wills.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Aye on all.
I wasn't, I didn't know that we were doing a
Resolution for Dan today, so when it comes around
I will sign on to it.

CLERK: Oddo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: I vote aye on
all and remind all my colleagues that here on Dan
Garodnick Day, every member will get a free
subscription to the New York Times on the way out.
[laughter] Aye on all.

SPEAKER QUINN: And a commemorative

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foam finger. [laughter]

CLERK: Rivera.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: I vote aye on all. And I just want to state, since we are celebrating Dan Garodnick Day, we have other bridges we can possibly name in your honor.
[laughter]

CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

SPEAKER QUINN: I've got no other jokes. I vote aye on all.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: All jokes have been adopted by--nah. Okay, all items on today's General Order Calendar were adopted by a vote of 45 in the affirmative, with zero in the negative and zero abstentions, with the exception of Intro 467-A; which was adopted by a vote of 44 in the affirmative, one in the negative, with zero abstentions; and Intro 287-A, which was adopted by a vote of 44 in the affirmative, with zero in the negative and one abstention. And that's it? That's all. Introduction and reading of the bills.

SPEAKER QUINN: All bills are referred to Committees as indicated on the agenda.

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2 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Discussion of
3 Resolutions? Seeing none, we'll move on to
4 General Discussion. Minority Leader Oddo.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Thank you,
6 Mr. Chairman. In the--

7 SPEAKER QUINN: If we could get a
8 little quiet for the Minority Leader, please.
9 Shhh.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: In the early-

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12 SPEAKER QUINN: Wait, Jimmy, hang
13 on. [gavel]

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: In the early
15 1990s, my predecessor, then Councilman John Fusco,
16 was the first to introduce a piece of legislation
17 to eliminate the office of what was known then as
18 City Council President. There was a compromise
19 and the City Council President became the Public
20 Advocate, with a reduced budget, a reduced role,
21 and they literally kicked him out of City Hall.
22 And over the years, newspapers of various stripes
23 have had editorials talking about the need to
24 abolish the position of Public Advocate. And
25 probably would be a politically expedient for me

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2 to take, a position for me to take, yet I haven't
3 jumped on that bandwagon. Although the events of
4 the last 24 hours had me questioning whether my
5 position was in fact correct. There was an
6 article in the New Yorker Magazine talking about
7 an incident in 1999 involving Michael Grimm, who's
8 now the Congressman for Staten Island and
9 Brooklyn. An incident at a club in 1999 when he
10 was an FBI agent. And I read last night and this
11 morning with some amazement that my friend, and I
12 say that clearly, Public Advocate Bill de Blasio,
13 has called on for a public disclosure of all the
14 records of this incident. And I just wondered to
15 myself, is this what the taxpayers of New York
16 City want from the Public Advocate? And if my
17 friend Bill de Blasio wants to become the sheriff
18 of elected officials, then there's probably,
19 probably a congressman's tax returns he might want
20 to look at, there's probably a state senators
21 anger management certificate he might want to look
22 at. And I won't even talk about some more local
23 issues. I like Bill. I'm a Republican, I'm not
24 supposed to get involved in Democratic primaries,
25 and I didn't, but I let the word out to my

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2 universe to know that I liked Bill when he was
3 running for Public Advocate. I think this is not
4 worthy of the Public Advocate, and I know it's not
5 worthy of someone who wants to be the Mayor of New
6 York City. Mike Grimm is the Congressman for the
7 next two years. If you want to beat him, beat him
8 at the voting booth. Don't partake in clearly
9 partisan cheap shots. You're better than that.

10 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Council Member
11 Sanders.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: [laughs]
13 No, I can't follow that, and I won't even go near
14 it. I also want to, to speak of my, my colleague,
15 Margaret Chin, who I never thought that the day
16 would come when, I guess they're sitting both
17 together, and maybe that's why. My colleague
18 Margaret has, has some, a good idea out where we
19 need to crack down on counterfeit and people who
20 are putting out, peddling false goods. But I am
21 worried, again, of the law of unintended
22 consequences, where we will end up criminalizing
23 youth, criminalizing people who get out there and
24 buy these things. If you want to talk about the
25 distributor, if you want to talk about the

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2 manufacturer, I say, "Hang 'em high." But if you
3 want to talk about the, the idiot youth who spends
4 their money poorly, then I suggest to you that we
5 find another way, and let us put the energies into
6 the people manufacturing and distributing these
7 goods. Thank you very much.

8 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very
9 much. Next we have Council Member Brewer.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you
11 very much. I just want to mention that yesterday
12 we had a good hearing on the issue of the merger,
13 or not merger, of DORIS, which is our archives and
14 records management agency, with DCAS. It's a very
15 nuanced discussion, it's something that I think
16 just because we all do care about the past, has to
17 do with the future, and some of our records will
18 hopefully be part of the future. So, I want you
19 all to be aware of it. We had excellent staff
20 from the Speaker's Office, as always, and I think
21 that the discussion is ongoing. But I just hope
22 that if you have any questions, you'll let, let us
23 know. Second, we have as bill that I introduced
24 today. My favorite, or unfavorite topic of
25 bedbugs. There is a current Sanitation Department

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2 regulation that all mattresses put out on the
3 street for the Sanitation Department must be
4 covered, both for the protection of the workers as
5 well as for residents. And all this bill does,
6 Intro 542, is to codify that. One can put a
7 mattress in a so-called large zip bag, which you
8 can purchase at different locations. Or you can
9 just get plastic and seal it up with tape. But in
10 either case, we hope that all mattresses and
11 bedsprings are sealed. Thank you very much.

12 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very
13 much. Next we have Council Member Williams.
14 [pause] Council Member Williams?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Sorry.
16 Before I get to my, my bill, I wouldn't have
17 brought it up, but Council Member Oddo did, and
18 I'm not going to get too much into it. I'm not
19 sure that the Public Advocate's response was the
20 best, but I would say just that perhaps it is
21 something that should be looked into, and if it
22 was true, it was very disheartening as part of the
23 community, Caribbean and being of African descent,
24 and a young black male, it did take me by
25 surprise. So I don't know if the Public

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2 Advocate's was the right response, but there
3 perhaps should be something to look into. But I
4 would ask my colleagues to sign on Intro 559,
5 which I'm asking that whenever there is a
6 snowstorm and the City cancels alternate side of
7 the street parking, at those times I think we
8 should suspend parking and suspend MUNI meters and
9 parking meters. So, I'm asking for that to
10 happen, and I'm asking my colleagues to sign on,
11 as well. Thank you.

12 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Next we have
13 Council Member Chin.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you. I
15 want to ask my colleagues to sign onto the bill
16 that I'm introducing today, it's Intro 544. I
17 know Council Member Sander just spoke to me
18 earlier. I really welcome all the comments and
19 discussion. And it's really generating a lot of
20 good, healthy debate. But the purpose of
21 introducing this bill is really to highlight--

22 SPEAKER QUINN: Council Member
23 Chin, just hang on two secs, let's freeze the
24 clock, if we could get a little quiet.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you.

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: Go ahead, Council
3 Member Chin.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you,
5 Speaker. The reason that I'm introducing this
6 bill is really to highlight that this is a growing
7 problem, not just in my district, but in many
8 neighborhoods throughout New York City. The sale
9 of these counterfeit good and the negative impacts
10 it brings our neighborhood. And these include
11 quality of life issues, like violence and
12 intimidation; but it also brings impact to
13 legitimate local businesses. The sale of
14 counterfeit goods has been shone and linked to
15 child labor, unsafe working condition and even to
16 finance terrorism. And on this, my colleague,
17 there are a lot of reports that you can, that I
18 can provide, in terms of from the Police
19 Department, Department of Homeland Security, that
20 show this kind of link. And this counterfeit
21 trade costs New York City alone about a billion
22 dollars of tax revenue. And there's money that we
23 can spend to support our social service program,
24 our senior centers and our daycare center. We
25 need to promote the local legitimate businesses in

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2 our City, and then our wonderful local designers,
3 that create beautiful products in our
4 neighborhood, that we can use to attract tourists.
5 So we need to give these tourists and visitor
6 other options, that we don't want, or we don't
7 need to be the counterfeit capital of America in
8 order to build up the New York tourism industry.
9 So right now, there are laws on the books that
10 prosecute the sale of counterfeit goods. I just
11 wanted to look at the demand side, to see if that
12 we can make it illegal to purchase these
13 counterfeit goods, and try to stop this industry.
14 So, I urge my colleagues and I welcome your
15 comments and your suggestions, and I look forward
16 to some really good, healthy discussion. Thank
17 you.

18 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very
19 much. Next we have Council Member Gentile.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Thank you.
21 Today I am pleased to be introducing a bill with
22 my colleagues, Council Members Eugene, Vacca and
23 Vallone, to honor the sacrifice and dedication of
24 disabled veterans living in our City. To show
25 deference to these veterans, Intro 545 will allow

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2 vehicles with New York State Disabled Veteran
3 License Plate to travel in HOV and express lanes
4 within the City, regardless of the number of
5 passengers. New York veterans with disabled
6 veteran license plates have a permanent mobility
7 impairment, and have put their lives on the line
8 to protect us all. So this is a small step that
9 we can take as a City to show our appreciation to
10 this small group of veterans, who have given in
11 such a tremendous way. So, I sincerely hope that
12 my colleagues, along with those who are already on
13 the bill, to join me in sponsoring Intro 545.

14 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very
15 much. Last but not least, Speaker Quinn.

16 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. I just
17 wanted to make note for my colleagues, that
18 attached to this schedule, to the agenda, excuse
19 me, is the schedule of upcoming hearings on the
20 Executive Budget. So please make note of that.
21 Also monitor on the Council website, if there
22 ever, you know, changes or whatever, but please
23 make note of this schedule you're given today,
24 because it will certainly be the start of our
25 hearings, which are of course incredibly

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2 important. And the Executive Budget gets released
3 next Thursday. So just note that on your
4 schedule, as it relates to whether you want to
5 participate in the Mayor's Office/OMB briefing.
6 Thank you.

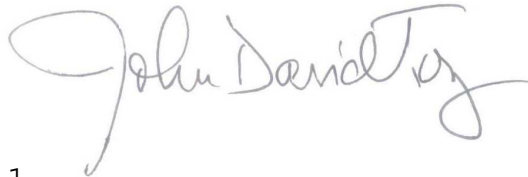
7 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very
8 much. Seeing no one else, this meeting is
9 adjourned.

10 [gavel]

C E R T I F I C A T E

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

Signature

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John David Tong". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the printed word "Signature".

Date May 11, 2011