

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

OF THE

STATED MEETING

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Wednesday, October 23, 2024

Start: 1:04 P.M.

Recess: 3:10 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 Dr. David Watson, Calvary Chapel
located at 30 Maple Parkway, Staten Island, NY
10303

1
2 SERGEANT LEWIS: Good afternoon, good afternoon,
3 this is soundcheck, soundcheck on the Stated Meeting.
4 Today's date is October 23, 2024, in the Chambers,
5 recorded by Walter Lewis (phonetic).

6 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Ladies and gentlemen, please
7 place all electronic devices, all electronic devices
8 to vibrate or silent mode.

9 Madam Majority Leader?

10 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Good afternoon, and
11 welcome to the Stated Meeting of October 23, 2024; I
12 am Majority Leader Amanda Fariás, and I would like to
13 thank you for joining us. If you would like to follow
14 along, the Agenda for today's meeting is posted on
15 our website.

16 On behalf of the body, I welcome the members of
17 the public who have joined us here today. During
18 Stated Meetings, only members of the Council may
19 speak. Members of the public shall remain silent. If
20 you wish to express support of any remarks, you may
21 make the silent approval gesture. And that's a
22 friendly reminder for our folks who are supporting
23 bills passing today.

24 I want to remind my colleagues that decorum is to
25 be respected at all times. Insulting each other is

2 not appropriate, all remarks are to be addressed to
3 the Chair, and members shall not speak unless
4 recognized by the Chair. It is essential that even if
5 we disagree, we treat each other with respect.

6 CITY CLERK: Please join us for the Pledge of
7 Allegiance.

8 SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise!

9 ALL: [PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE]

10 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Roll call?

11 CITY CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Present

13 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: (NO MIC) Present

15 CITY CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Presenté

17 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Here

19 CITY CLERK: Council Member Banks?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Here

21 CITY CLERK: Council Member Bottcher?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHER: (INAUDIBLE)

23 CITY CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Present

25 CITY CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here

3 CITY CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Present

5 CITY CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Present

7 CITY CLERK: Council Member Carr?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: (NO RESPONSE)

9 CITY CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Here

11 CITY CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Here

13 CITY CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: (NO RESPONSE)

15 CITY CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: (NO RESPONSE)

17 CITY CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Presenté

19 CITY CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Here

21 CITY CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Present

23 CITY CLERK: Council Member Holden?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here

25 CITY CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Present

3 CITY CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Here

5 CITY CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Here

7 CITY CLERK: Council Member Lee?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Here

9 CITY CLERK: Council Member Louis?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present

11 CITY CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Present

13 CITY CLERK: Council Member Marte?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Present

15 CITY CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: (NO RESPONSE)

17 CITY CLERK: Council Member Menin?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Here

19 CITY CLERK: Council Member Moya?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Here

21 CITY CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Present

23 CITY CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Present

25 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Present

3 CITY CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Present

5 CITY CLERK: Council Member Powers?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Present

7 CITY CLERK: Council Member Restler?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: I'm here.

9 CITY CLERK: Council Member Riley?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Present

11 CITY CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present

13 CITY CLERK: Council Member Salaam

14 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Present

15 CITY CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present

17 CITY CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: (NO RESPONSE)

19 CITY CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Here

21 CITY CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Here

23 CITY CLERK: Council Member Ung?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Present

25 CITY CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: (ABSENT)

3 CITY CLERK: Council Member Williams?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: (NO RESPONSE)

5 CITY CLERK: Council Member Won?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Present

7 CITY CLERK: Council Member Yeger?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here

9 CITY CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Here

11 CITY CLERK: Council Member Williams?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Present

13 CITY CLERK: Council Member Borelli?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: (NO RESPONSE)

15 CITY CLERK: Council Member Farías?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Present

17 CITY CLERK: Speaker Adams?

18 SPEAKER ADAMS: Present

19 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you. We will now
20 have today's Invocation, which will be delivered by
21 Dr. David Watson of Calvary Chapel, which is located
22 at 30 Maple Parkway in Staten Island.

23 SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise!

24 DR. WATSON: Let us pray.

25

2 The Lord is my light and my salvation, of whom
3 shall I fear. The Lord is the stronghold of my life,
4 of whom shall I fear. Most (INAUDIBLE) God and
5 heavenly Father, thank you for this day that you have
6 given us. Thank you for your presence in our lives.
7 Thank you for the city that we live in and that we
8 love, the home of the New York Liberty, the world
9 champions. We know you love it more than we ever
10 could.

11 We ask your guidance for this body and for its
12 speaker, Speaker Adams. We ask for a wisdom that
13 comes from you, O God, as we reach out to you today
14 for your help, the tasks here, the situations here
15 are beyond us. We need you.

16 Please minister, Lord, to each of the 51 council
17 members and their staffs. Heavenly Father, please be
18 their primary physician when they're sick, their wise
19 counselor when they don't know what to do, their
20 financial adviser when they're trying to figure out
21 all these budgets and all the other things associated
22 with it, and their trusted friend. May they cast all
23 their care on you, for you are their concern, as they
24 carry out their standard stewardship of the city, may
25 they see themselves as doing your work, knowing that

2 they will be rewarded by you. When they get tired,
3 please remind them the words of the scriptures that
4 say they who wait upon the Lord will renew their
5 strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
6 they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and
7 not faint. Please bless them, please bless this body.

8 Indeed, Lord, please bless and heal our city in
9 Jesus' name. Amen.

10 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you. I would now
11 like to ask Council Member Kamillah Hanks to spread
12 the Invocation on the Record.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Thank you, Madam Majority
14 Leader.

15 Today, it is my honor to welcome a remarkable
16 leader in serving of faith pastor David Watson,
17 senior pastor of Calvary Chapel of Staten Island. For
18 nearly 35 years, Pastor Watson has shepherded a
19 vibrant and diverse congregation, providing not just
20 spiritual guidance but hope, comfort, and belonging
21 to countless families on the North Shore. His church
22 stands as a living testament to the power of faith to
23 unite people across all backgrounds and cultures.

24 Pastor Watson has committed his life to serving
25 others with compassion and humility. His ministry is

2 a reflection of both his academic dedication holding
3 a Doctor of Divinity of New York Theological
4 Seminary, and advanced degrees from Liberty Baptist
5 Seminary and Liberty University, and his deep care
6 for community.

7 So on behalf of our community, I offer deep
8 gratitude for all that he has done, and continues to
9 do, to strengthen the spirit and unity that defines
10 the 49 District. I make a Motion for Unanimous
11 Consent to spread the Invocation in full. Thank you.

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: We will now have the
13 Adoption of the Minutes by Council Member Crystal
14 Hudson.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: I make a motion that the
16 Minutes of the Stated Meeting of October 10, 2024 be
17 adopted as printed.

18 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Messages and Papers from
19 the Mayor?

20 CLERK: M 75 Board of Health appointment?

21 SPEAKER ADAMS: Withdrawn.

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Communications from City,
23 County, and Borough Offices?

24 CLERK: M 76 Commissioner of Elections of the
25 Board of Elections appointment?

2 SPEAKER ADAMS: Rules, Privileges, and Elections.

3 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Petitions and

4 Communications?

5 CLERK: None.

6 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Land Use Call-ups?

7 CLERK: M 77 and M 78.

8 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on Call-Up Vote.

9 I now ask that the Clerk take a rollcall vote on
10 today's Land Use Call-ups.

11 CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye

13 CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Aye

15 CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye

17 CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye

19 CLERK: Council Member Banks?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye

21 CLERK: Council Member Bottcher?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHER: (INAUDIBLE) Permission

23 (INAUDIBLE) Call-ups and items on today's Agenda?

24 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Sorry, Council Member

25 Bottcher, can you repeat?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHER: Permission to vote on
3 all Land Use Items, Call-ups, and items on today's
4 Agenda?

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHER: Aye

7 CLERK: Thank you.

8 Council Member Brannan?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Permission to vote on all
10 Land Use Items, Call-ups, and items on today's
11 Agenda?

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: I vote aye on all, thank
14 you.

15 CLERK: Thank you

16 Council Member Brewer?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes

18 CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Yes

20 CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye

22 CLERK: Council Member Carr?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: (NO RESPONSE)

24 CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye

2 CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Yes

4 CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye on all.

6 CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye

8 CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye

10 CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye

12 CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye

14 CLERK: Council Member Holden?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye

16 CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye

18 CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye

20 CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye

22 CLERK: Council Member Lee?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye

24 CLERK: Council Member Louis?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye

2 CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Aye

4 CLERK: Council Member Marte?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye

6 CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: (NO RESPONSE)

8 CLERK: Council Member Menin?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye

10 CLERK: Council Member Moya?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Aye

12 CLERK: Thank you.

13 Council Member Narcisse?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye

15 CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: I vote aye.

17 CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Aye

19 CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: (NO RESPONSE)

21 CLERK: Council Member Paladino, Land Use Call-
22 ups?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: I'm sorry, aye on all.

24 CLERK: Thank you.

25 Council Member Powers?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Permission to vote on all
3 Land Use Items, Call-ups, and items on today's
4 Agenda?

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: I vote aye on all.

7 CLERK: Thank you.

8 Council Member Restler?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye

10 CLERK: Council Member Riley?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye

12 CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

14 CLERK: Council Member Salaam?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: I vote aye.

16 CLERK: Council Member Carr?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: (NO MIC) Aye

18 CLERK: Thank you, Council Member Carr.

19 Council Member Salamanca?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Permission to vote on
21 all Land Use Items and Call-ups?

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Thank you. I vote aye
24 on all.

25 CLERK: Thank you.

2 Council Member Sanchez?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye

4 CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye

6 CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye

8 CLERK: Council Member Ung?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye

10 CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: (ABSENT)

12 CLERK: Council Member Williams?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye.

14 CLERK: Council Member Won?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye

16 CLERK: Council Member Yeger?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Madam President, may I be

18 excused to vote now on the General Orders?

19 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Permission granted.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you. I vote aye on
21 all with the exception of Resolutions 623, 624, 625,
22 and 626 on which I vote no, and I abstain on
23 Introduction 991, thank you.

24 CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye

2 CLERK: Council Member Borelli?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye

4 CLERK: Council Member Farías?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye on all.

6 CLERK: Land Use Call-ups, Council Member Mealy?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye

8 CLERK: Thank you.

9 Speaker Adams?

10 SPEAKER ADAMS: Aye on all.

11 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Today's Land Use Call-ups
12 are adopted by a vote of 50 in the affirmative and 0
13 on the negative.

14 We will now have Communication from Speaker
15 Adrienne Adams.

16 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you, Majority Leader, and
17 good afternoon everyone.

18 I want to begin by acknowledging the loss of
19 Paulo Couto, a construction worker who was injured
20 and killed on the job earlier this month in Council
21 Member Cabán's district in Queens. All workers
22 deserve to be safe on the job, and my thoughts are
23 with his family and his loved ones.

24 Last week, there was a fatal fire in Council
25 Member Brewer's district, a 72-year-old man lost his

1
2 life while three firefighters were injured. Two days
3 later, a lithium ion battery sparked a deadly fire in
4 Council Member Vernikov's district taking the life of
5 a 69-year-old grandfather and injuring three others.
6 My heart goes out to the families and friends of
7 these victims.

8 While we have made much progress on fire safety
9 by passing laws to curb threats from dangerous
10 lithium ion batteries, we know there's continued work
11 to be done.

12 Yesterday, the Council's Subcommittee on Zoning
13 and Franchises held a 14.5 hour public hearing, from
14 9:30 a.m. to midnight, to hear from the public about
15 the City of Yes Zoning for Housing Opportunity
16 Proposal, and I'm giving Chair Kevin Riley a
17 ginormous shout out (APPLAUSE) for his great
18 leadership during this marathon hearing, as well as
19 members of the Subcommittee and all of my colleagues
20 who were here. Most importantly, I want to thank all
21 of the New Yorkers who testified in person, on Zoom,
22 and stayed up late last night to watch.

23 Our public hearings are designed to encourage all
24 members of the public to share their thoughts and
25 feedback on proposals before this body. It is a major

2 part of the work we do to listen to people of this
3 city and respect their voices regardless of whether
4 we may or may not agree. We use the public feedback
5 at our hearings to shape our proposals and our
6 decisions. That is what good governance and
7 representative democracy is about. And as a council,
8 we will always welcome all New Yorkers' voices right
9 here into the People's House.

10 We have a few cultural days of significance to
11 acknowledge today:

12 October 23rd is Hungarian Republic Day; the 24th
13 is Zambia Independence Day; and in the 29th is
14 Turkey's Republic Day. I wish all New Yorkers who are
15 observing a meaningful celebration.

16 October 31st is Halloween, kids, whether you're
17 trick or treating with your children, watching a
18 scary movie, or dressing up, please be safe and do
19 have fun.

20 Also on the 31st is Diwali - The Festival Of
21 Lights. It is a significant celebration for our
22 Hindu, Sikh, and Jain communities. I hope everyone
23 who celebrates has a festive Diwali.

24 I also want to wish a happy early birthday to
25 Council Member Vickie Paladino, who has a birthday on

2 the 28th and Council Member Oswald Feliz who has a
3 birthday on the 29th. (APPLAUSE) I hope you both
4 enjoy your special day.

5 Now let's move on to our Stated Agenda.

6 First, we will vote on the following Land Use
7 items:

8 135th Street Rezoning will facilitate the
9 development of a seven-story mixed-use building with
10 approximately 60 units, including 15 permanently
11 affordable units under MIH, as well as commercial and
12 community facility space in Council Member Abreu's
13 right use district. The council is modifying the
14 application to require MIH option 1.

15 Next, we'll vote on the following Finance items:

16 Four Preconceived Resolutions, sponsored by
17 Council Member Justin Brannan, which would amend and
18 restate the property tax rates for Fiscal Year 2025
19 in accordance with enacted state legislation.

20 A transparency resolution approving new
21 designations and changes of certain organizations
22 receiving funding in the expense budget.

23 A Preconceived Resolution, sponsored by Council
24 Member Justin Brannan, establishing a new 40-year

1 Article XI tax exemption for seven buildings and
2 Council Member Salaam's district.

3
4 A Preconceived Resolution, sponsored by Council
5 Member Justin Brannan, establishing a new 40-year
6 Article XI tax exemption for one building in Council
7 Member Joseph's District.

8 A Preconceived Resolution, sponsored by Council
9 Member Justin Brannan, establishing a new 40-year
10 Article XI tax exemption for one building in Council
11 Member Rivera's district.

12 Today we will also vote on the following pieces
13 of legislation:

14 Resolution 193, sponsored by Council Member
15 Nantasha Williams, would designate a October as Youth
16 Empowerment Month annually in the city of New York to
17 recognize, appreciate, and celebrate the successes of
18 young people and their contributions to school and
19 community life.

20 Resolution 508, also sponsored by Council Member
21 Williams, would designate October 10th annually as
22 Casey Benjamin Day in the city of New York to
23 celebrate the genius of his music and his unique
24 contributions to a variety of music genres.

1 Resolution 518, sponsored by Majority Whip,
2 Selvena Brooks-Powers, would declare a October as
3 Jamaican Heritage Month in celebration of the rich
4 history, culture, and contributions of Jamaican
5 communities in New York City.
6

7 A Preconceived Resolution, sponsored by council
8 members Crystal Hudson and Tiffany Cabán, would
9 celebrate the New York Liberty winning the 2024 WNBA
10 championship (APPLAUSE) in their first in the history
11 of the franchise. It would also declare October 20th
12 as New York Liberty Day annually in the city of New
13 York. We thank... we applaud the Liberty in this
14 house, yes, we do. (APPLAUSE) We thank our staff
15 members, Regina Paul and Chad Benjamin.

16 Introduction, 797-A, sponsored by Council Member
17 Althea Stevens, would require the Department of
18 Education to report annually a list of all student
19 clubs and organizations at each school. The DOE would
20 be required to report if any student club or
21 organization has authorization to conduct its
22 activities off school grounds. We thank our staff
23 member Nadia Jean-Francois.

24 Introduction 73-A, also sponsored by Council
25 Member Stevens, would require the DOE to report

1
2 annually on information related to career and
3 technical education or CTE programs. We thank our
4 staff members, Nadia Jean-Francois and Matthew Hill.

5 Introduction 771-A, sponsored by Council Member
6 Linda Lee, would require the DOE to provide parents
7 with information about the interpretation and
8 translation services that DOE offers, including
9 information on how to access such services and
10 examples of how the services might be used. We once
11 again thank our staff member Nadia Jean-Francois.

12 Introduction, 468-A, sponsored by Council Member
13 Nantasha Williams, would require the Department of
14 Transportation to make information available on their
15 website regarding traffic control device and other
16 speed reducer requests. The bill would require more
17 searchable details, providing clarity about traffic
18 safety requests made by the public, community boards,
19 and elected officials. We thank our staff members
20 Mark Chen, Connor Mealey, Kevin Kotowski, and John
21 Basile.

22 Introduction 87-A, sponsored by Council Member
23 Rafael Salamanca, would expand reporting requirements
24 on the demographics and outcomes of youth who are in
25

1
2 the juvenile justice system. We thank our staff
3 member, Christina Yellamaty.

4 Finally, introduction 991-C, sponsored by Council
5 Member Julie Menin, would establish a licensing
6 program for New York City hotels with the goal of
7 promoting health and safety. New York City has long
8 regulated businesses in the tourism industry to
9 advance the safety and well-being of New Yorkers and
10 visitors. For example, sightseeing buses and guides
11 and pedicab drivers are all currently required to
12 obtain a license from DCWP, allowing the City to
13 enforce health and safety regulations while giving
14 consumers the information they need. This legislation
15 seeks to align the hotel industry with this standard
16 for front desk coverage, security, and cleanliness.
17 We thank our staff members, Rachel Cordero, Natalie
18 Meltzer, and Sarah Swaine.

19 Thank you very much for your attention, I now
20 turn it back over to our Majority Leader.

21 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, Speaker Adams.

22 We will now move into Discussion of General
23 Orders.

24 I would like to recognize Council Member Stevens.
25

1 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Greetings, everyone, and
2 thank you to our Madam Speaker and my colleagues for
3 continuing support and fight for the advancements of
4 our city educational system.

5 Today, I am a proud champion of two critical
6 pieces of legislation that brings greater
7 transparency and accountability to New York City
8 Education System. Introduction 797, which mandates
9 the Department of Education to report on student
10 clubs and organizations that each school. Student
11 clubs play a pivotal role in the personal and social
12 development of young people and requires the DOE to
13 provide information on facilitating advisors in off
14 campus activities in order to better evaluate the
15 resources and support the availability to our by
16 young people.

17 Introduction 793 focuses on the future of
18 workforce of our city by requiring the Department of
19 Education to report on information and career
20 technical education programs, CTE. By providing
21 annual reports this will have metrics such as student
22 enrollment, internship participation, and post-
23 graduation outcomes. This information will allow us
24 to enhance CTE programs more effectively in
25

2 supporting and providing our community with the
3 necessary tools to ensure the workforce... for
4 workforce and higher education.

5 Transparency in our city is important, especially
6 when it comes to investing in the future of our young
7 people who walk the school hallways daily. The
8 reality is that they will be replacing us one day,
9 and we need to make sure that they have all the tools
10 necessary to be successful.

11 Let's continue to ensure that students have equal
12 access to programs and activities that foster
13 leadership, creativity, and, most importantly,
14 community engagement.

15 I would like to thank my staff, committee staff,
16 and Chair Rita Joseph for helping me get this bill
17 across the finish line. And with that, thank you.

18 And I ask all my colleagues to vote, yes, on this
19 legislation.

20 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you.

21 I would now like to recognize Council Member
22 Menin.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Thank you so much.

24 I'm thrilled that New York City will finally join
25 other cities in licensing hotels. Licensing is a

1 critical regulatory tool that DCWP uses to regulate
2 over 45,000 businesses such as barber shops and
3 parking garages in over 40 industries.
4

5 While the hotel industry is an important economic
6 driver for our great city, and the majority of hotels
7 are wonderful places to stay, there is desperate need
8 for regulation. As mentioned by the New York Times,
9 oversight of the hotel industry has essentially been
10 laissez-faire.

11 Hotels that host criminals can be difficult to
12 shut down as we saw all too well in Kew Gardens,
13 Queens with the Umbrella Hotel - when hundreds of
14 neighbors complained about that hotel - and, finally,
15 in 2021, there was a murder. The City tried to shut
16 the hotel down, but had difficulty doing so in large
17 part because it was not licensed.

18 Hotel related complaints to DCWP have doubled in
19 the past four years. There have also been over 14,000
20 criminal complaints to the NYPD about hotels and
21 motels and 39 murders.

22 That is why the five district attorneys, the New
23 York Attorney General, HTC, Central Labor Council,
24 32BJ, DC 37, NYSE and the PBA, and over 40 council
25 members have signed on and supported the bill.

2 The Safe Hotels Act would ensure protections for
3 communities and guests. It requires that hotels
4 maintain the cleanliness of each guest room, equip
5 all core employees with panic buttons, and provide
6 human trafficking training.

7 The Safe Hotels Act prohibits subcontracting in
8 larger hotels, which will ensure the hotel operator
9 is accountable for what occurs on hotel premises
10 rather than shifting responsibility for day to day
11 operations to a third party. This will result in
12 important public safety measures.

13 I want in particular to thank HTC for their
14 incredible leadership and support. I wanna thank
15 HANYC (Hotel Association of New York City) and the
16 other stakeholders who gave us valuable feedback, and
17 I want to thank Speaker Adams, Jeremy John, Jeff
18 Baker, Rachel Cordero, Sarah Swaine, Natalie Meltzer,
19 (TIMER CHIMES) Jonathan Szott, Brandon Jordan, and
20 Mercedes Anderson, and I urge all of my colleagues to
21 vote aye on this important legislation. Thank you.

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, Council
23 Member.

24 Seeing no one else signed up to speak, Reports of
25 Special Committees?

2 CLERK: None.

3 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Reports of Standing
4 Committees?

5 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Children and
6 Youth, Introduction 87-A, juvenile justice
7 statistics?

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

10 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Consumer and
11 Worker Protection, Introduction 991-C, licensing
12 hotels?

13 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
14 Orders.

15 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Education,
16 Introduction 733-A, technical education programs?

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

19 CLERK: Introduction 771-A, translation services?

20 SPEAKER ADAMS: Amended and Coupled on General
21 Orders.

22 CLERK: Introduction 797-A, student organizations?

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

25

2 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Finance,
3 Preconsidered Resolution 622, transparency
4 resolution?

5 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

6 CLERK: Preconsidered Resolution 623 through
7 Preconsidered Resolution 626, property class shares
8 and tax rates?

9 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

10 CLERK: Preconsidered LU 182 and Resolution 633
11 through Preconsidered LU 184 and Resolution 635, tax
12 exemptions?

13 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

14 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Rules,
15 Privileges and Elections Resolution 579 approving the
16 appointment of Dr. Mohammad Khalid, Civilian
17 Complaint Review Board?

18 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

19 CLERK: M 71 and Resolution 636, approving the
20 appointment of Oudeshram "Raj" Rampershad, City
21 Planning Commission?

22 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

23 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Transportation
24 and Infrastructure, Introduction 468-A, DOT website
25 information?

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

4 CLERK: General Order Calendar, LU 149 and
5 Resolution 637 through LU 152 and Resolution 640,
6 135th Street Rezoning?

7 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

8 I now ask that the Clerk take a roll call vote on
9 the items coupled on today's General Order Calendar.

10 CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Permission to explain my
12 vote?

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: I would like to
15 congratulate the Hotel Trade Council and its members
16 for fighting tooth and nail to get this bill across
17 the finish line, and I'm glad we're gonna get it done
18 today. I vote aye.

19 CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

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

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: I'd just like to say on
24 Introduction 991-C, I'd like to really commend the
25 leadership of Council Member of Julie Menin, the

2 Speaker, her entire team, the Legislative Division,
3 My partner on the Peninsula, Selvena Brooks-Powers,
4 and Keith Powers.

5 We all met multiple times to make sure that each
6 and every type of hotel received the proper attention
7 it needed so that they would not be hurt by any
8 broader based bill, and we were able to really carve
9 out where we needed to. But the amount of time, the
10 amount of Zoom calls, the amount of phone calls that
11 were made, really, I cannot thank Julie Menin enough
12 and the entire team, Bob from HTC, Incredible job.

13 And, my smaller hotels, that are good actors,
14 that are under a hundred rooms, really were taken
15 into consideration and given a voice at those
16 meetings to state what their needs were. So on that,
17 I vote aye.

18 CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye

20 CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye

22 CLERK: Council Member Banks?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye

24 CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye

2 CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Permission to
4 explain my vote?

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARIAS: Permission granted.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: I'd like to
7 congratulate all of those passing bills today. And
8 I'd like to just say on the record that I'm proud of
9 the agreement we were able to reach on Introduction
10 991, which ensures that hotel workers can thrive and
11 work in a safe and secure environment.

12 This is a significant win for our workers,
13 recognizing the vital role they play in supporting
14 our local economy. I want to extend my gratitude to
15 the Hotel and Game And Trades Council, the Restaurant
16 Alliance, and The Hotel Association of New York City
17 as well as Speaker Adrienne Adams, Council Member
18 Julie Menin, Council Member Joann Ariola , the entire
19 staff for the open-minded approach and thoughtfulness
20 through the negotiation process.

21 And together, we have worked to balance needs of
22 workers, first and foremost, but also taken into
23 account the concerns of local businesses,
24 particularly in areas such as the Rockaway Peninsula.

25 And so with that, I vote aye. Thank you.

2 CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: I vote no on Resolutions
4 623, 624, 625, and 626. Thank you.

5 CLERK: Thank you.

6 Council Member Cabán?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye on all.

8 CLERK: Council Member Carr?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: I vote no on Preconsidered
10 Resolutions 623, 624, 625, and 626, as well as
11 Introduction 992-C, and aye on the rest.

12 CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Permission to explain
14 my vote?

15 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Thank you so much.

17 I also want to extend gratitude and
18 congratulations to Julie Menin for her work on the
19 Hotel Safety Act.

20 I also want to congratulate the HTC and all of
21 the unions who really truly ensured that workers were
22 a top of mind on this bill, that will ensure that we
23 have an industry, a hotel industry, that takes into
24 consideration the lives of workers.

25

2 And, so, I want to congratulate everyone, and I
3 vote aye on all.

4 CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye on all.

6 CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

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

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: I want to congratulate the
11 Hotel Trade's Council and Council Member Menin
12 getting 991-C to the finish line - a bill that's
13 gonna help improve life and safety for hotel workers
14 and so many others. Aye on all, thank you.

15 CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye

17 CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye

19 CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye on all.

21 CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye on all with the
23 exception of Preconsidered Resolutions 623, 624, 625,
24 and 626, thank you.

25 CLERK: Thank you.

2 Council Member Holden?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye on all except for
4 Preconsidered Resolutions 623, 624, 625, and 626 of
5 which I vote no.

6 CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

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

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Just want to congratulate
11 again, Council Member Menin, as well as HTC, and all
12 of its workers on the passage of Introduction 991.

13 And I am aye on all with the exception of
14 Resolution 579, for which I vote no. Thank you.

15 CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye on all.

17 CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye on all.

19 CLERK: Council Member Lee?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye on all, and congrats to
21 all my colleagues.

22 CLERK: Council Member Louis?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye on all. Congrats to all
24 bill sponsors.

25 CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: I vote aye on all with
3 the exception Preconsidered Resolutions 623, 624,625,
4 and 626, and Intro 991-C, thank you.

5 CLERK: Thank you.

6 Council Member Marte?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye on all.

8 CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I want to congratulate
10 everyone who's on a bill, and I vote on all, except
11 for Resolution 623, for which I vote no. Thank you,
12 and congratulations, Julie Menin.

13 CLERK: Thank you.

14 Council Member Menin?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: I proudly vote aye on all.

16 CLERK: Council Member Moya?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

18 CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Permission to explain my
20 vote for one second?

21 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Congratulations to my
23 colleague, Julie Menin, and of course, HTC for
24 especially (INAUDIBLE) for listening. And it's time
25 to be responsible in New York City. And when I put

2 some questions on the floor and stuff, it's just
3 making sure that whatever we do, we hold ourselves
4 accountable to the people that we serve. Thank you,
5 and I vote aye to all.

6 CLERK: Thank you.

7 Council Member Nurse?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: I vote aye.

9 CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: I vote aye on all.

11 CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: I vote aye on all except
13 for Preconsidered Resolutions 623, 624, 625, and 626,
14 and no on Introduction 991-C. Thank you

15 CLERK: Thank you.

16 Council Member Restler?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye on all, and
18 congratulations to HTC.

19 CLERK: Council Member Riley?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: I just want to say
21 congratulations to Council Member Menin, and I vote
22 aye on all. And you, too, Council Member Stevens.

23 CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Congratulations to all of
25 my colleagues, and I vote aye.

2 CLERK: Council Member Salaam?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: I vote aye.

4 CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Congratulations to my
6 colleagues, and I vote aye on all.

7 CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Permission to explain my
9 vote?

10 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Permission granted.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Thank you.

12 Council Member Menin mentioned that the Umbrella
13 Hotel was the nexus for the Safe Hotels Act, and that
14 hotel is in my district. And I want to thank Council
15 Member Menin, HTC, and everyone involved, and the
16 Speaker for doing this bill, because now we won't
17 have to deal with hotels like that ever again, and it
18 was something that we worked on for a long time.

19 And I also wanna congratulate my constituents
20 from Kew Gardens, who actually came and testified on
21 behalf of the bill. And with that, I vote aye on all.

22 CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye on all.

24 CLERK: Council Member Ung?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye on all.

2 CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: (ABSENT)

4 CLERK: Council Member Williams?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye.

6 CLERK: Council Member Won?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye on all.

8 CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye, except Preconsidered
10 Resolutions 623, 624, 625, and 626, and aye on all
11 the rest.

12 CLERK: Thank you

13 Council Member Borelli?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: I would like to be
15 recorded as a no for Preconsidered Resolutions 623,
16 624, 625, and 626, and Introduction 991-C, and on the
17 rest, I vote aye.

18 CLERK: Thank you.

19 Council Member Farías?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: I vote aye on all, and
21 congratulations to my colleagues.

22 CLERK: Speaker Adams?

23 SPEAKER ADAMS: I vote aye.

24 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: All items on today's
25 General Order Calendar are adopted by a vote of 50 in

1 the affirmative, 0 in the negative, and 0
2 abstentions; and Introduction 991-C, which was
3 adopted by a vote of 45 in the affirmative, 4 in the
4 negative, and 0 abstentions; and Resolution 569,
5 which was adopted by a vote of 49 in the affirmative,
6 1 in the negative, and 0 abstentions; and Resolutions
7 624, 625, and 626, which was adopted by a vote of 41
8 in the affirmative, 9 in the negative, and 0
9 abstentions; and Preconsidered Resolution 623, which
10 was adopted by a vote of 40 in the affirmative, 10 in
11 the negative, and 0 abstentions.
12

13 (PAUSE)

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Apologies, I just want to
15 make a correction to the record, with the exception
16 of Introduction 991-C, which was adopted by a vote of
17 45 in the affirmative, 4 in the negative, and 1
18 abstention.

19 Introduction and Reading of Bills?

20 SPEAKER ADAMS: All bills have been referred to
21 Committee as indicated on today's Agenda.

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you.

23 We will now move into Discussion of Resolutions,
24 and I would like to recognize Council Member Hudson,
25

2 followed by Council Member Cabán, then Council Member
3 Brooks-Powers.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: L I B E R T Y, Let's go
5 Liberty!

6 I want to congratulate our very own New York
7 Liberty, whose home court at the Barclay Center is in
8 the 35th district, for winning their first ever WMBA
9 championship. They've brought championship basketball
10 back to New York City after more than 50 years, and
11 I'm proud to be introducing Resolutions 629 today,
12 along with Council Member Cabán, declaring October
13 20th as New York Liberty Day in the city of New York.

14 We're looking forward, yes, clap it up for the
15 New York Liberty! (APPLAUSE)

16 We're looking forward to hosting our champions
17 right here at City Hall tomorrow, where we can all
18 come together to celebrate this momentous achievement
19 and remember when we invest in women, we win. Thank
20 you.

21 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, Council
22 Member.

23 I would now like to recognize Council Member
24 Cabán, followed Majority Whip Brooks-Powers.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Thank you.

2 The New York Liberty are the best of New York,
3 and I couldn't be more proud to be a lifelong Liberty
4 loyal. I made my mom take you to an open practice
5 back in '98, and I have never looked back.

6 The liberty persevered through a tough loss last
7 season, they met the moment making bold decisions,
8 starting Fiebich for the playoffs, throwing Sabally
9 in the final minutes, in a stroke of genius, despite
10 those five players never logging a single minute on
11 the court together that entire season. When they got
12 cold the last two games, the stars found a million
13 different ways to contribute, while others who don't
14 normally get the shine stepped up on offense. They
15 showed courage. They showed innovation. They showed
16 creativity, and they did it all while fielding and
17 rising above homophobic and sexist threats amid
18 rising fame.

19 The Liberty embody the best of us, working as a
20 team uplifting one another, and proving that
21 diversity is our greatest strength. They bring our
22 city world class athleticism and talent through grit,
23 love, and determination led by black women, queer
24 women, (TIMER CHIMES) and immigrant women, the New
25 York Liberty deserved to be honored by our city. And

2 to wrap it up, I am so proud to be sponsoring Reso
3 629 to make October 20 New York Liberty Day annually
4 in honor of the day they... (CROSS-TALK)

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Council Member your time
6 has expired...

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: clinched the WNBA
8 championship. As Liberty loyals know, "We all we got,
9 we all we need," and now we got a championship, so go
10 Liberty! (APPLAUSE)

11 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you, Council
12 Member. I would now like to recognize Majority Whip
13 Brooks-Powers.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Thank you,
15 Majority Leader.

16 It is such an honor to be before my colleague
17 today as the proud daughter of Jamaican immigrants,
18 and ask for your support on Resolution 518, which
19 designates October as Jamaican Heritage month in New
20 York City.

21 By establishing Jamaican Heritage Month in New
22 York City, we recognize the rich history and enduring
23 legacy of Jamaica and honor the incredible
24 contributions Jamaicans have made both here and
25 around the world.

2 I am again proud to introduce this legislation,
3 and look forward to celebrating Jamaican Heritage,
4 not only this October, but for years to come in New
5 York City.

6 I'd like to acknowledge that we are joined today
7 by Jamaica's Counsel General to New York, Alston
8 Wilson. I'd also like to thank Chair Rivera, Speaker
9 Adams, and our cosponsors for their support, and I
10 encourage everyone to vote in favor. Thank you

11 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you. Members, I am
12 going to pause for one second as we are working
13 something out with a member, then we will get right
14 back to the Agenda.

15 (PAUSE)

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
17 Member Sanchez.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Thank you, Majority
19 Leader. I ask for unanimous consent from the body to
20 amend my vote?

21 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any objections?

22 ALL: (SILENT)

23 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Permission granted.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Thank you, I vote no on
25 Reso 579, and yes, aye on all the rest, thank you.

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: I'm going to read into
3 the record a revised vote on Resolution 579, which
4 was adopted by a vote of 48 in the affirmative, 2 in
5 the negative and 0 abstentions.

6 Seeing no one else signed up to speak for
7 Discussion of Resolutions, we will now have a voice
8 vote on today's Resolutions. If you wish to vote
9 against or abstain from any of today's Resolutions,
10 please notify the Legislative Documents Unit by email
11 or by approaching the dais.

12 I will now read today's Resolutions into the
13 Record:

14 Resolution 193 designates October as Youth
15 Empowerment Month annually in the city of New York to
16 recognize, appreciate, and celebrate the successes of
17 young people and their contributions to school and
18 community life.

19 Will all those in favor say aye?

20 ALL: Aye

21 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

22 ALL: (SILENT)

23 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

24 ALL: (SILENT)

25 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

2 Resolution 508 designates October 10th annually
3 as Casey Benjamin Day in the city of New York and
4 celebrating the genius of his music and his unique
5 contributions to a variety of music genres.

6 Will all those in favor say aye?

7 ALL: Aye

8 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

9 ALL: (SILENT)

10 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

11 ALL: (SILENT)

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

13 Resolution 518 declares October as Jamaican
14 Heritage Month in New York City.

15 Will all those in favor say aye?

16 ALL: Aye

17 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

18 ALL: (SILENT)

19 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

20 ALL: (SILENT)

21 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

22 Preconsidered Resolution 629 celebrates the New
23 York Liberty's winning of the 2024 Women's National
24 Basketball Association Championship and declaring

2 October 20th as New York Liberty Day annually in the
3 City of New York.

4 Will all those in favor say aye?

5 ALL: 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 We will now move into General Discussion, and I
12 would like to recognize Council Member Hudson,
13 followed by Council Member Louis, then Council Member
14 Brewer.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Good afternoon again,
16 colleagues.

17 As you know, our city is home to a significant
18 and growing population of older adults. And today,
19 I'm introducing Introduction 1092, a crucial piece of
20 legislation aimed at increasing access to vital anti-
21 fraud information, so we can help protect our older
22 adult communities here in New York City.

23 In 2023 alone, scams specifically targeting older
24 adults aged 60 and over resulted in over \$3.4 billion
25 in losses.

1 These losses are not just statistics, but the
2 hard earned savings and financial security of our
3 beloved older adults, many of whom are living on
4 fixed incomes.

6 This bill will ensure our older adult population
7 has access to the resources they need to recognize
8 potential scams, report fraudulent activity, and
9 protect their financial well-being.

10 By equipping older New Yorkers with knowledge, we
11 empower them to make informed decisions and to seek
12 help when needed. Thank you.

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
14 Member Louis, followed by Council Member Brewer, then
15 Council Member Salaam.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Thank you, Madam, Majority
17 Leader.

18 On September 15th, as two NYPD officers sought to
19 subdue a fare evader on the L Train in Brooklyn, nine
20 shots were fired, leaving a police officer, a
21 suspect, and two innocent bystanders wounded.

22 Gregory Delpeche, 49 years old, an employee at
23 Woodhull Hospital, was shot in the back of the head
24 sustaining a serious brain injury, and 26-year-old
25 Kerry Gahalal was left with a bullet lodged in her

1 leg, which will remain there for the rest of her
2 life. This incident will alter the course of their
3 lives forever, an unfortunate and irreversible
4 outcome incurred due to negligence by those who were
5 sworn to protect us.

7 This tragedy results from a larger issue that
8 demands our attention and decisive action. In
9 response, I am introducing Introduction 1095, which
10 mandates that any injury or death to a civilian
11 caused by NYPD must be reported to the Civilian
12 Complaint Review Board within 24 hours of the injury.

13 We must address pervasive trends and the lack of
14 training our officers receive, especially in de-
15 escalation of otherwise nonviolent situations. In
16 risky interactions in our public spaces, we must set
17 a precedent towards de-escalation as the norm and
18 innocent bystanders will be protected.

19 The public safety of New Yorkers should be our
20 utmost priority, and those who protect us should be
21 accountable for their actions while serving and
22 protecting others.

23 I urge my colleagues to sign on to this bill to
24 protect our fellow New Yorkers and commuters from
25 preventable tragedy, and I thank attorney, Keith

1
2 White, for his swift and decisive support for the
3 impacted families, and Council Member Chris Banks for
4 cosponsoring this legislation. Thank you.

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: (BACKGROUND NOISE) If you
6 are leaving the Chambers, please do so quietly.

7 Recognizing Council Member Brewer, followed by
8 Council Member Salaam, then Council Member Rivera.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you very much.

10 Introduction 1091 would mandate that the Parks
11 Department identify tree pits that are on streets and
12 that have no trees in them. It should go, that
13 information, onto the online tree map, which it does
14 not exist, and every single year, it should be
15 updated. The reason I say that is because so often,
16 we you vacant tree pits, we do not have that data.
17 Saturday is the City of Forest Day when we raise
18 awareness on the importance of our urban forest.

19 Number two, you know, that people call all the
20 time wanting trees in their vacant tree pits, and
21 that information needs to go on the map. There is a
22 map, but it needs a layer to identify these
23 vacancies. This is about transparency, and
24 efficiency, and equity because if the tree pit is
25 able to have a tree, that should indicate such. Or,

1 if it's no longer viable, because of the (INAUDIBLE)
2 or something else, that should indicate as such.

3 So I wanna thank Trees New York, Big Reuse, and
4 Nature Conservancy for their import and support of
5 this legislation.
6

7 And finally, I too want to thank HTC, but I also
8 want to thank Vijay Dandapani, who is head of the
9 Hotel Association, who also participated in the
10 Introduction regarding the hotels. Thank you very
11 much.

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
13 Member Salaam, followed by Council Member Rivera,
14 then Council Member Marte.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Thank you, Honorable
16 Speaker and distinguished colleagues, today, I'm
17 proud to introduce Introduction 1101, a critical bill
18 aimed at addressing the growing problem of identity
19 theft in our city. This legislation will require the
20 NYPD to provide essential public information on
21 identity theft and ensure that all officers are
22 properly trained to handle complaints of identity
23 theft and their related crimes.

24 Identity theft is a serious issue that leaves
25 many New Yorkers financially vulnerable and

1
2 emotionally distressed. Too often victims don't know
3 where to turn, and when they do, they need officers
4 who are trained to help.

5 This bill will guarantee that our police
6 department is prepared to support these victims by
7 providing clear guidance and thorough investigations,
8 ensuring a more secure environment for all.

9 I want to express my heartfelt thanks to Council
10 Member Crystal Hudson for joining me as co-prime
11 sponsor of this bill. Her dedication to ensuring the
12 safety and security of all New Yorkers is admirable.
13 And it has been a privilege to work alongside her.

14 Colleagues, I urge you to join us as co-sponsors
15 on this crucial legislation. Together, we can make a
16 significant step towards protecting New Yorkers from
17 the devastating impacts of identity theft. Thank you.

18 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
19 Member Rivera, followed by Council Member Marte, then
20 Council Member Williams.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you, Majority
22 Leader.

23 Today, I'm introducing legislation which would
24 require the Department of Social Services to include
25 justice system involvement in the last 12 months,

1
2 eligibility parameters for any existing supportive
3 housing program administered and wholly funded by the
4 City.

5 Access to permanent and stable housing is a key
6 component of well-being, and too often people with
7 criminal legal system involvement face increased
8 barriers to securing this housing. With some
9 incarceration stays interrupting chronicity
10 requirements that really deters the facilitation of
11 access to supportive housing.

12 So supportive housing, as we all know, is an
13 invaluable tool to support individuals in avoiding
14 involvement with the criminal ecosystem, as well as
15 reintegration with the community following
16 incarceration or detention. And data shows that
17 supportive housing results in fewer days spent in
18 jail, shelter, and better individual outcomes all
19 around, and it saves the government and taxpayers
20 valuable funding.

21 We must update our housing policies to be
22 sensitive to these unique vulnerabilities and expand
23 access to and investments in support of housing
24 across the board.

1 I respectfully ask you to sign on as a cosponsor
2 to this bill, I want to thank the three introduction
3 co-sponsors, Council Members Stevens, Hudson, Brewer,
4 Nurse, Sanchez, and Narcisse, and, of course, all the
5 advocates and supporters who helped craft this bill.
6 Thank you.

7
8 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
9 Member Marte, followed by Council Member Williams,
10 then Council Member Restler.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Good afternoon, colleagues.
12 Today, I'm introducing legislation that is not
13 just a matter of policy, it's a matter of principle
14 and justice.

15 Introduction 1096 seeks to protect the healthcare
16 rights of our retired municipal employees,
17 individuals who dedicated decades of their lives to
18 serving the people of New York City - from teachers
19 to sanitation workers, from police officers to
20 firefighters, they built this city, and they deserve
21 to retire with dignity and the promise of reliable
22 health care.

23 For many of these retirees, healthcare is not a
24 luxury, it is essential. We are talking about people
25 who depend on their doctors and specialists for

1
2 lifesaving treatments, individuals battling cancer,
3 and others managing chronic conditions. Yet, the City
4 is trying to push to strip them from their current
5 Medicare benefits and force them into a Medicare
6 Advantage Plan that threatens to restrict their
7 access to care. This is unacceptable. The City made a
8 promise, a promise that, after years of service, they
9 will have the healthcare that they can rely on. But
10 today, that promise is under threat. We cannot, and
11 will not, allow them to be forced into a system that
12 puts a hurdle between them and their health. This is
13 more than just dollars and cents. It's about common
14 sense and compassion. These retirees earned their
15 benefits, and they deserve to keep them.

16 I ask my colleagues to stand with me today in
17 solidarity with these retirees to keep the promise
18 that was made to them, and to pass this legislation
19 so that no one who served our city has to sacrifice
20 their healthcare in their time of need. We owe this
21 to them and nothing less. Thank you.

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
23 Member Williams, followed by Council Member Restler,
24 then Council Member Mealy.

1 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Today, we stand at the
2 intersection of empowerment, transparency, and
3 recognition. We have not simply voted on legislative
4 measures, but we have taken steps to uplift and
5 empower our communities, to celebrate the brilliance
6 within us, and to make this city a more transparent,
7 equitable place.
8

9 Thank you so much, uh, to my colleagues for
10 voting on Introduction 468 that demanded transparency
11 from the Department of Transportation, and in turn
12 from our city government. We are saying that the
13 people of New York deserve to know what is happening
14 with the requests they make, whether for traffic
15 control devices or speed reducers, because these
16 decisions impact lives.

17 Transparency is also a form of power, the power
18 to know, to question, to demand change when it is
19 needed.

20 We must also look forward to the future toward
21 the youth who will carry forward the work we are
22 doing today. And, so, with Resolution 193, we
23 declared October as Youth Empowerment Month in New
24 York City. This is more than just a symbolic gesture,
25 it is a recognition of the potential, the brilliance,

2 and the activism of our young people. It is about
3 giving them the platform they deserve, the space to
4 lead, and the encouragement to build and thrive. We
5 are laying the groundwork for a generation of
6 conscious, empowered, and activated youth.

7 And let us also take a moment to honor greatness
8 in artistry. Today, with the Resolution of 508, we
9 designated October 10th as Casey Benjamin Day in New
10 York City. Casey was the son of South Jamaica Queens,
11 a product of our community. He created soundscapes
12 that were informative and revolutionary. And I just
13 wanted to acknowledge Linette Townsley, who worked
14 really hard on this. She's here today with the
15 Jamaica NAACP Youth Division and Life Camp, and also
16 the family of Casey Benjamin who has joined us today.
17 Thank you so much.

18 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
19 Member Restler, followed by Council Member Mealy.

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

22 I'll say firstly, go Liberty, go HTC, go Kevin
23 Riley for 15 hours yesterday, go Madam Speaker for
24 our new Charter Revision Commission legislation,
25 which I'm very excited about to recalibrate

1
2 (INAUDIBLE) the balance of power in city the
3 government and ensure that there's necessary
4 oversight and accountability of the Mayor's Office.

5 But, I am happy to speak today about a bill that
6 we're not passing, a bill that would have eliminated
7 the reckless form that the Mayor had imposed on
8 elected officials at every level of government.

9 Over the last number of months, it's been harder
10 for me, and I believe each and every one of you, to
11 just do our jobs, to advocate for our constituents,
12 to ensure responsiveness from city agencies, to keep
13 our communities safe and clean and healthy. This form
14 was unnecessary bureaucracy, and frankly, it was a
15 political tool to make it harder for elected
16 officials to be effective. We have a responsibility
17 to our constituents and I am grateful that the
18 Administration came to its senses and agreed to
19 eliminate the form once and for all.

20 And, so, I just wanna thank each and every one of
21 my colleagues for cosponsoring this legislation. With
22 41 members in support of our legislation, it gave us
23 the necessary leverage to be able to come to an
24 agreement with the Administration. I want to thank
25

2 the speaker and her team for their strong support and
3 partnership in this endeavor.

4 So thank you very much, and very happy that we're
5 not passing the bill today, because we got it done
6 through other means.

7 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
8 Member Metallurgy

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Again, L O V E, love, love
10 should never hurt. In observation of Domestic
11 Violence Month, I'm devoted to recognizing and
12 honoring victims and survivors of domestic violence -
13 raising awareness of breast cancer, preventing
14 bullying, educating people about down syndrome and
15 disabilities, including international stuttering, and
16 supporting women in the military.

17 I was able to tour some of the domestic violence
18 facilities where domestic abuse victims can start a
19 new life in a long term care facility; attend
20 numerous meetings in my district on various topics
21 such as mental health, financial literacy, aging, and
22 housing, and providing training and job fair
23 opportunities for survivors. In accordance, Mealy's
24 Corner, empowerment with our town hall meeting that
25 was so well attended, it was standing room only.

2 I want to thank Madam Speaker for allowing the
3 New York City Community Engagement Division, with
4 Danielle Porcaro, and Jeremy John for putting up with
5 me in regards to getting flyers to make sure my
6 community is empowered. We had such a great time, and
7 the community was informed.

8 I wanna thank the NYPD, the District Attorney
9 Office, the 73rd Precinct, PSA 2, and our district
10 leader, Anthony T. Jones, and our Van Dyke Community
11 Center allies with the president, Lisa Kenner, and
12 all the constituents came out and felt it was not
13 robbery to be informed and empowered.

14 Again, I wanna thank you, Madame Speaker, for
15 supporting the 41st district, and to everyone, please
16 be safe (TIMER CHIMES) and think about others in this
17 season - and go Liberty!

18 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you, Council
19 Member.

20 Seeing no one else signed up to speak, I would
21 like just give a good shoutout, and a great good
22 luck, to our Bronx Bombers this Friday on game one,
23 and let's bring home number 28 World Series victory.
24 And, with that... silence in the Chambers... And

2 with that, I will call on Speaker Adrienne Adams to
3 close today's Stated Meeting.

4 (BACKGROUND NOISE)

5 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you, Majority Leader, we are
6 a sports chamber today, aren't we?

7 The Stated Meeting of October 23, 2024 is hereby
8 adjourned.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Date October 29, 2024