

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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May 26, 2011
Start: 01:30pm
Recess: 03:00pm

HELD AT: Emigrant Savings Bank
49 - 51 Chambers St.

B E F O R E:

CHRISTINE C. QUINN
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Maria Del Carmen Arroyo
Charles Barron
Gale Brewer
Margaret Chin
Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.
Elizabeth Crowley
Inez E. Dickens
Erik Martin Dilan
Daniel Dromm
Mathieu Eugene
Lewis A. Fidler
Daniel R. Garodnick
James F. Gennaro
Vincent J. Gentile
Sara M. Gonzalez
David G. Greenfield

A P P E A R A N C E S

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Daniel J. Halloran III
Vincent Ignizio
Robert Jackson
Letitia James
Peter Koo
G. Oliver Koppell
Karen Koslowitz
Brad Lander
Stephen Levin
Melissa Mark-Viverito
Darlene Mealy
Rosie Mendez
Michael C. Nelson
James S. Oddo
Annabel Palma
Domenic M. Recchia, Jr.
Diana Reyna
Joel Rivera
Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Deborah L. Rose
James Sanders, Jr.
Eric A. Ulrich
James Vacca
James G. Van Bramer
Albert Vann
Mark S. Weprin
Jumaane D. Williams
Rubin Wills

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

Ruth Lovelace
Basketball Coach
Boys & Girls High School

Apache Paschall
Basketball Coach
Nazareth High School

Joseph A. Gogliormella
Principal
James Madison High School

Rev. Kwame Asante
Minister
House of the Lord Church

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SPEAKER QUINN: All right, our first ceremonial is going to be led by our Assistant Majority Leader Al Vann, and it's Boys & Girls High School on winning the PSAL AA Boys Basketball Championship, and this is the second year in a row that they have beat the ... won the title. And I don't want to rub it in, but they beat Lincoln High School. So let me give Al the mic and thank you and congratulations everybody.

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: All right, thank you, Speaker. I'm very pleased to once again to come to present the best boys' basketball team in the PSAL AA Division. As the Speaker indicated, they are the defending champs, and they are the current champs. All right, I'm very, very proud and very honored for these young men and this coach for coming out of Bed-Stuy. Yes. She was the first, Ruth Lovelace is the coach, she was the first female coach to win the championship, and now she is making history again, because she's won it twice. And of course in a moment she will speak to you and tell you about some other things that she's doing when she leaves here. So again I just want to let the fellows know how proud we are

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2 of them, not only because of the legacy that they
3 are continuing, many people know that Boys High,
4 now Boys and Girls, is known around the country,
5 not only for their athletic superiority in terms
6 of their basketball, football, track through the
7 years, but they also had a sterling reputation for
8 their academic excellence. And under the new
9 administration, Bernard Gassaway and his
10 administration, they are moving quickly to reclaim
11 that honor as well. So Boys & Girls High will be
12 known for their outstanding athletic teams, but
13 also for their academics in the very near future.
14 I make that prediction, you can quote me. If the
15 clerk would read the proclamation, and then we
16 will hear from the coach.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Council City of New
18 York proclamation. Whereas the Council of the
19 City of New York is proud to honor the 2010-2011
20 Boys & Girls High School boys varsity basketball
21 team for winning the 2011 PSAL AA Boys Basketball
22 Championship. And whereas Boys & Girls High
23 School has produced basketball greats such as
24 Connie Hawkins, Lenny Wilkins, Mel Davis, C. Hugo
25 Green, Vaughn Harper and Pearl Washington, but

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2 until last year the school's basketball team had
3 not claimed a city championship since 1979. And
4 whereas the 2010-11 Boys & Girls High School boys
5 varsity basketball consists of Nick Bauciquot,
6 Nkosi Brown, Dykweil Bryan, John Courcelle,
7 Solomon Frazier, Leroy Fludd, Anthony Hemingway,
8 Bryce Jones, Teyvon Myers, Wesley Myers, Jeffland
9 Neverson, Malik Nichols, Saequahn Pettus, Jobse
10 Reyes, Antione Slaughter and Michael Taylor. They
11 have been guided this season by Head Coach Ruth
12 Lovelace, Assistant Coach Elmer Anderson,
13 Assistant Coach Gene Carroll, Assistant Coach
14 Barry Ward, and Assistant Coach Jeff Wiggins. And
15 whereas the team ended its season with a 23 to 8
16 record, won the PSAL AA championship, participated
17 in the state playoffs, and was invited to play in
18 the 2011 ESPN RISE National High School
19 Invitational. Now therefore be it known that the
20 Council of the City of New York honors and
21 congratulates Boys & Girls High School's 2010-2011
22 boys varsity basketball team for their outstanding
23 achievements and teamwork. Christine C. Quinn,
24 Speaker for the entire Council, Albert Vann,
25 Council Member 36th District, Brooklyn.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: All right,
3 let's hear it for Boys & Girls. And just as I
4 give the mic to Coach Ruth Lovelace, I'd like to
5 acknowledge the presence of some of the community
6 leaders, I know the Links are represented, the
7 Brownstones are represented, and the advisory
8 group for Boys & Girls High is represented.
9 Coach?

10 MS. LOVELACE: First I'd like to
11 thank God, because without God this was not
12 possible. Secondly, I'd like to thank the
13 administration for believing what we do, for
14 helping us do what we do on a daily basis.
15 Thirdly, I'd like to thank my coaching staff,
16 because I can't do it without them, you know, I
17 stand here and I get all the attention, but they
18 worked night-in, night-out, day-in, day-out, to
19 make this happen. And lastly I'd like to thank
20 the players that play for me, for dedicating their
21 time, their effort, and believing in what I'm
22 trying to teach to them each and every day. So
23 again, thank you, and I just want to thank the
24 City of New York, you know, we go around the
25 country and we brag about coming from New York

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2 City. So I just want to say thank you, and thanks
3 for coming out.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Thank you,
5 coach.

6 SPEAKER QUINN: Congratulations.
7 All right, so keeping it a bit of a basketball
8 theme, our next ceremony - and keeping it a
9 Brooklyn theme, is going to be led by Council
10 Member Jumaane Williams and it's the Nazareth High
11 School girls basketball team, on winning the New
12 York State Federation Championship, so if the team
13 and the coaches and whoever else is here can join
14 Council Member Williams up here.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Nazareth,
16 are you in the house? Nazareth? Oh man, they let
17 me down. Congratulations. It's a pleasure to do
18 this, I'm a basketball fan, unfortunately also a
19 Knicks fan, so you know what that means. So I'm
20 so happy that I can celebrate some champions,
21 because it's been a real long time. We should be
22 very proud of our Nazareth champions. I'm
23 finished, I'm just really proud that we're
24 celebrating all of our basketball players here.
25 They admitted women for the first time the year I

1
2 was born, actually, 1976, and look how far we've
3 come, they won their first AA championship and we
4 should all be proud, and maybe we'll take them to
5 Bed-Stuy and see who can really win this thing.
6 Clerk, can you please read the proclamation?

7 COUNCIL CLERK: The Council City of
8 New York proclamation. Whereas the Council of the
9 City of New York is proud to honor the Nazareth
10 High School girls basketball team for their
11 outstanding teamwork that led to their victory at
12 the New York State Federation Championship. And
13 whereas Nazareth High School is a fully-developed
14 Catholic co-educational secondary school serving
15 students from parochial, private and public
16 schools throughout Brooklyn and parts of Queens.
17 Nazareth Regional High School was established in
18 1962 by the Xaverian Brothers - sorry for that -
19 and whereas in 1976 Nazareth High School admitted
20 women for the first time and later formed the
21 girls basketball team, known as the Lady Kingsmen,
22 and whereas on March 28th, 2011, the Lady Kingsmen,
23 led by Coach Apache Paschall, brought Nazareth
24 High School its first State Federation AA girls
25 title championship. Now therefore be it known

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2 that the Council of the City of New York honors
3 and congratulates Nazareth High School girls
4 basketball team for their outstanding achievements
5 and teamwork. Christine C. Quinn, Speaker for the
6 entire Council, Jumaane Williams, Council Member,
7 45th District, Brooklyn, and the entire Brooklyn
8 delegation.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank
10 you, Brooklyn delegation. If the coach could say
11 a couple of words. Coach.

12 MR. PASCHALL: We just want to say
13 thank you, we want to say thank you to the City
14 Council for honoring us today. Again, thank you
15 to the student athletes, you did a great job this
16 year. We appreciate the work and the effort, and
17 we'll do it again next year. Thank you very much.
18 And thank you, Brooklyn delegation, for helping us
19 celebrate.

20 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you all and
21 congratulations, and we will hold you to that
22 promise. So thank you, guys, very, very much.
23 And as the basketball team makes its way out,
24 we're going to call up our third ceremonial, so
25 we'll just wait for a couple of more pictures.

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2 Great. All right, congratulations. All right,
3 take care, and it's an all-Brooklyn day, and let
4 me next call up Council Member Mike Nelson and the
5 folks from the James Madison High School Law
6 Institute's We the People team, if the James
7 Madison High School Law Institute folks can make
8 their way up, and join Council Member Nelson, that
9 would be terrific.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Thank you,
11 Speaker Quinn. It's working. Mr. Gogliormella,
12 coaches Stacey Azoff ... and the coaches Stacey
13 Azoff, Michael Ciampi and Marla Rutter. The James
14 Madison Law Institute won the We the People
15 competition, which was a very, very tough
16 competition this year. It includes a select group
17 of seniors who engaged in thought-provoking mock
18 Congressional hearings. Each and every member of
19 the Madison We the People team has made a
20 significant contribution to their school, my
21 district, and the City of New York. I want to
22 thank again Principal Joe Gogliormella, Jodie
23 Cohen, the coaches, Azoff, Ciampi and Rutter, and
24 especially each and every student, you did great,
25 congratulations. Will the clerk please read the

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proclamation.

COUNCIL CLERK: The Council City of New York proclamation. Whereas the Council of the City of New York is proud to honor James Madison High School Law Institute for embodying the philosophy of its namesake, who said "Education is the true foundation of civil liberty". And whereas, just as all Americans share responsibility to learn about the Constitution, the James Madison High School Law Institute has played a major role in fostering a greater understanding and appreciation among younger generations for this profound document, as well as many other areas related to American law. And whereas, founded by Sonia Lerner more than 25 years ago, Law Institute at James Madison High School is a four-year honors program that integrates various aspects of law over four years. And whereas the highlight of the students' senior year is the We the People competition, this competition includes a select group of students from the senior law class who engage in mock Congressional hearings. And whereas on January 7th, 2011, the We the People team from the Law

1
2 Institute at James Madison High School entered the
3 New York City competition with their heads held
4 high. Thanks to the dedication to their studies
5 and the tireless support of faculty coaches Stacey
6 Azoff and Michael Ciampi, all 28 members of the We
7 the People team were fully prepared for any
8 questions the judges had for them. When the
9 scores were tallied, they were awarded first place
10 and crowned New York City champions. And whereas
11 on March 5th, the Law Institute's We the People
12 team competed in Albany, representing James
13 Madison High School as one of only nine high
14 schools to make it to the prestigious New York
15 State final hearings. Out of nine schools they
16 proudly returned an award for third place. Now
17 therefore be it known that the Council of the City
18 of New York honors and congratulates the members
19 of the James Madison High School Law Institute
20 2011 We the People team for their outstanding
21 achievements. Christine C. Quinn, Speaker for the
22 entire Council, Michael C. Nelson, Council Member,
23 48th District, Brooklyn.

24 SPEAKER QUINN: Congratulations and
25 who's going to speak on behalf of the school or

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the team?

MR. GOGLIORMELLA: I'd like to thank Mike Nelson for honoring us and for his continued support. I'm extremely proud of the Law Institute. Last year we won the mock trial championship for the entire state, this year We the People. And thank you to the students, the faculty the supervisors, for carrying on the legacy of James Madison, Father of the Constitution, who believed that a well-instructed people can permanently be a free people. Thank you, Mike, you're a good friend.

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very much, and congratulations to you and to the two basketball teams, thank you very much, and this concludes our ceremonials.

COUNCIL CLERK: Ladies and gentlemen, can I have your attention please? At this time, please place all cell phones and pagers to vibrate, thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: My colleagues, please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ALL: I pledge allegiance to the

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

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Roll call.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Arroyo.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Here.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Barron.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Brewer.

12 (no response)

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Cabrera.

14 (no response)

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Chin.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Comrie.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE, JR.: Here.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Crowley.

20 (no response)

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Dickens.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Here.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Dilan.

24 (no response)

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Dromm

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.
3 COUNCIL CLERK: Eugene.
4 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.
5 COUNCIL CLERK: Ferreras.
6 (no response)
7 COUNCIL CLERK: Fidler.
8 (no response)
9 COUNCIL CLERK: Foster.
10 (no response)
11 COUNCIL CLERK: Garodnick.
12 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.
13 COUNCIL CLERK: Gennaro.
14 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here.
15 COUNCIL CLERK: Gentile.
16 (no response)
17 COUNCIL CLERK: Gonzalez.
18 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Here.
19 COUNCIL CLERK: Greenfield.
20 (no response)
21 COUNCIL CLERK: Halloran.
22 (no response)
23 COUNCIL CLERK: Ignizio.
24 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Here.
25 COUNCIL CLERK: Jackson.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Here.
3 COUNCIL CLERK: James.
4 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Here.
5 COUNCIL CLERK: Koo.
6 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.
7 COUNCIL CLERK: Koppell.
8 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Here.
9 COUNCIL CLERK: Koslowitz.
10 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.
11 COUNCIL CLERK: Lander.
12 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.
13 COUNCIL CLERK: Lappin.
14 (no response)
15 COUNCIL CLERK: Levin.
16 (no response)
17 COUNCIL CLERK: Mark-Viverito.
18 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:
19 Here.
20 COUNCIL CLERK: Mealy.
21 (no response)
22 COUNCIL CLERK: Mendez.
23 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.
24 COUNCIL CLERK: Nelson.
25 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Here.

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2 COUNCIL CLERK: Palma.
3 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Here.
4 COUNCIL CLERK: Recchia.
5 (no response)
6 COUNCIL CLERK: Reyna.
7 (no response)
8 COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez.
9 (no response)
10 COUNCIL CLERK: Rose.
11 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.
12 COUNCIL CLERK: Sanders.
13 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS, JR.: Here.
14 COUNCIL CLERK: Seabrook.
15 (no response)
16 COUNCIL CLERK: Ulrich.
17 (no response)
18 COUNCIL CLERK: Vallone.
19 (no response)
20 COUNCIL CLERK: Van Bramer
21 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.
22 COUNCIL CLERK: Vann.
23 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Here.
24 COUNCIL CLERK: Weprin.
25 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Williams.

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COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here,

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sorry.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Wills.

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(no response)

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COUNCIL CLERK: Vacca.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Crowley.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Oddo.

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(no response)

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COUNCIL CLERK: Rivera.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Here.

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COUNCIL CLERK: We have a quorum.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: A quorum is

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present, ladies and gentlemen, please rise for the

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invocation being delivered by Minister Kwame

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Asante from the House of the Lord Church in

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Brooklyn.

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REV. ASANTE: Let us look to the

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Lord, please. This is the day that the Lord has

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made, and pray God we can rejoice and be glad in

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2 it. So we ask Father God that You would
3 consecrate us now to Thy service, Lord, by the
4 power of grace divine. Also let our souls look up
5 with a steadfast hope and our will be lost in
6 Thine. Lord, we pray and ask your choicest
7 blessings upon these proceedings, because we know
8 that when the people are blessed, You are blessed,
9 in Jesus' name, Amen.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Amen.

11 Council Member Vann.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Motion to
13 spread the invocation and put it upon the record.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.
15 Adoption of the minutes, Council Member Comrie.

16 SPEAKER QUINN: I move the adoption
17 of the minutes of the Stated Meeting of April 28th,
18 2011 be adopted as printed.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
20 very much, Madam Speaker. Messages and papers
21 from the Mayor?

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Pre-considered
23 M508, Taxi and Limousine Commission appointment.

24 SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, Privileges
25 and Elections.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Okay, can
3 we get silence in the chambers, please?
4 Communications from city, county and borough
5 offices.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: M509 through M527
7 on page four, base station licenses.

8 SPEAKER QUINN: Transportation.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Petitions
10 and communications?

11 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Land use
13 call-ups?

14 COUNCIL CLERK: M528 to 530.

15 SPEAKER QUINN: Those will be
16 coupled on a roll call vote on the land use call-
17 ups, please, and I just want to say, just for
18 folks to know, and I'll mention again later during
19 communications from the Speaker, but that the
20 Stated Meeting, the Finance and the State and
21 Federal Legislation Committees as well as the full
22 Council will stand in recess at the end of today's
23 meeting, because we may need to come back on an
24 hour or so's notice to deal with home rules and
25 other messages pending the end of the Albany

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2 legislative session and also the upcoming budget.
3 So we'd urge folks, if you are going out of town
4 or somewhere where your cell phone is out of
5 range, to please let the Speaker's office know,
6 and make sure we have all numbers to contact you
7 or your chiefs of staff or your chief legislative
8 aide, so we know how to get you if we have to
9 reconvene quickly. Thank you, Mr. Majority
10 Leader.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you,
12 Madam Speaker. It's getting noisy in the back.
13 If we can get some silence, thank you.

14 SPEAKER QUINN: Actually, Mr.
15 Majority Leader, I apologize. If before we move
16 to the roll call vote, I could ask my colleagues
17 to stand, because I unfortunately have a three
18 moments of silence. Thank you very much, I
19 apologize for not moving to this more quickly. On
20 Monday, May 16th, 2011, the Department of
21 Transportation highway repair worker, Errol
22 Wilson, 59, was killed in a tragic accident while
23 conducting road work on the Cross Island Parkway
24 near Northern Blvd. Mr. Wilson was an 18-year
25 veteran of the Department of Transportation, his

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2 death is another reminder of the many dedicated
3 city workers who daily undertake jobs that require
4 them to face dangerous and sometimes hazardous
5 conditions. Mr. Wilson is survived by his wife
6 Valerie and their children, Errol, Jr. and Tanya.
7 Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family and
8 his friends and his colleagues at our Department
9 of Transportation. We all have been stunned by
10 the devastating photos of destruction and death
11 and injury that our fellow Americans have been
12 subjected to this spring by the unusually large
13 number of devastating tornados and storms that
14 have caused such great loss of life. The most
15 recent tornados in Missouri, especially in and
16 around Joplin, have caused incredible and almost
17 unthinkable damage and death. Our thoughts and
18 prayers go out to all of those who are suffering
19 from the impact of these storms. Lastly, we just
20 heard this morning that a 22-year-old Marine was
21 killed this morning as he and some other sailors
22 and Marines hopped onto a taxi ... out of a taxi and
23 made their way across the West Side Highway toward
24 their ship, the Iwo Jima. The Marine, whose name
25 has not yet been released, was in town for Fleet

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Week. (pause) Thank you, Mr. Majority Leader,
and if we can have the roll call on the coupled
Land Use call-ups, please.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL CLERK: Arroyo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Permission
to vote on general order calendar as well?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Barron.

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

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye and I'm
here.

COUNCIL CLERK: Cabrera.

(no response)

COUNCIL CLERK: Chin.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Comrie.

(no response)

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COUNCIL CLERK: Crowley.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here, aye,

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sorry.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Dickens.

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(no response)

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COUNCIL CLERK: Dilan.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Aye on all.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Dromm.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: I'd like to

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vote aye on all and request to be excused to vote

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aye on general orders.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you, I

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vote aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Eugene.

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COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Ferreras.

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(no response)

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COUNCIL CLERK: Fidler.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Garodnick.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Gennaro.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

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2 COUNCIL CLERK: Gentile.
3 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Yes.
4 COUNCIL CLERK: Gonzalez.
5 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye.
6 COUNCIL CLERK: Greenfield.
7 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.
8 COUNCIL CLERK: Halloran.
9 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN III: Aye.
10 COUNCIL CLERK: Ignizio.
11 (no response)
12 COUNCIL CLERK: Jackson.
13 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye on
14 all.
15 COUNCIL CLERK: James.
16 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Aye.
17 COUNCIL CLERK: Koo.
18 (no response)
19 COUNCIL CLERK: Koppell.
20 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.
21 COUNCIL CLERK: Koslowitz.
22 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.
23 COUNCIL CLERK: Lander.
24 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.
25 COUNCIL CLERK: Levin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

(no response)

COUNCIL CLERK: Mealy.

(no response)

COUNCIL CLERK: Mendez.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.

What? Aye. Sorry.

COUNCIL CLERK: Nelson.

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Palma.

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Recchia.

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA, JR.: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Reyna.

(no response)

COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez.

(no response)

COUNCIL CLERK: Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Sanders.

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS, JR.: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Seabrook.

(no response)

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COUNCIL CLERK: Ulrich.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Vacca.

(no response)

COUNCIL CLERK: Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Vann.

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Unanimous

consent to vote on all land use, all coupled on
general orders?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: I vote aye on
all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Weprin.

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Wills.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Oddo.

(no response)

COUNCIL CLERK: Rivera.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote on
all, I vote aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

SPEAKER QUINN: Aye on all.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Today's Land Use call-ups were adopted by a vote of 43 in the affirmative, with zero in the negative. Communications from the Speaker.

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very much. We're voting today on a number of pieces of important legislation ... if we could get quiet in the chambers, please? The first, Intro 363A, is a piece of legislation that requires the Commission on Human Rights to educate the public on various types of bias-related harassment. I want to thank the staff of Council Member Fidler and Chair Rose, also Julene Beckford, Damien Butvick and Alix Pustilnik for their work on this legislation. I want to thank the sponsor, Council Member Fidler, and the Chair of our Civil Rights Committee, Debbie Rose, and unfortunately, I can't imagine that there is anybody in our country right now who doesn't really understand the threat and danger of bullying and harassment, and how really dangerous that becomes, given the impact of the internet and cyber-bullying. We have literally in the last

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2 year seen numerous young people take their lives
3 as a result of the impact of bullying and
4 harassment and cyber-bullying. It is critical
5 that all of us who can, do everything we can to
6 put an end to this type of behavior, to teach
7 children that this is not appropriate, to teach
8 parents who may not be cracking down on this, that
9 it is not appropriate, it is literally life-
10 threatening, and I want to thank the sponsors, Lew
11 Fidler and also Mark Weprin, who were the leading
12 force on this bill, and Chair Rose for this work
13 on it, and I want to invite all of my colleagues
14 to a summit that we are having, hosted by the New
15 York Times and some of the other leaders in the
16 cyber world, around the issue of cyber-bullying,
17 it is a summit in mid-July and we want to
18 encourage as broad participation as we can, so
19 beyond this piece of legislation we're not leaving
20 any stone unturned as it relates to protecting
21 children in our five boroughs. Let me first call
22 on the Chair of the Committee, Debbie Rose, and
23 then the sponsor of the bill, Lew Fidler.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Thank you,
25 Madam Speaker. Yeah, I want to thank my

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2 colleague, Council Member Fidler, for bringing
3 this issue to the forefront and reminding us all
4 that cyber-bullying is not going away, and that
5 this is a scourge that needed to be addressed
6 immediately. With more than 90% of young people
7 between the ages of 12 and 17 that have some form
8 of mobile device that has internet access, it's
9 become far too easy to taunt and to ruin someone's
10 reputation, if you have enough bandwidth on your
11 phone to do so, or if your internet connection is
12 strong enough. Never again should someone like
13 Tyler Clemente have to take his own life to avoid
14 being harassed and browbeaten on Facebook or
15 Twitter. As Council Member Fidler has said on
16 several occasions, it is really a shame that the
17 Department of Education does not include this
18 anti-bullying into their curriculum, and I
19 wholeheartedly agree. This Intro 363A is a good
20 first step in informing the public of the dangers
21 of cyber-bullying, and I was very proud to have
22 supported it. Thank you, Council Member Fidler,
23 thank you so much. And I urge all of you to vote
24 aye on this bill.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: First,

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2 thank you, Chairwoman Rose for your support and
3 Council Member Weprin, who was here on this issue
4 in the beginning, but especially to Speaker Quinn,
5 not just for our- -

6 SPEAKER QUINN: (interposing)
7 Sorry, just one second. If we could get quiet.
8 Thank you, go ahead Council Member Fidler.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Especially
10 as I thank Speaker Quinn, not just for her support
11 for this piece of legislation as a first step, but
12 for bringing the public's attention to this really
13 critically-important issue for our young people,
14 with a summit on July 18th. I think that will
15 hopefully serve to educate both the public,
16 parents, and kids, about the dangers of bullying
17 and cyber-bullying. I don't think, you know, you
18 need to say anything more than the name Tyler
19 Clemente to understand how dangerous the misuse of
20 the internet can be. When we were all kids, we
21 all heard the expression, sticks and stones can
22 break your bones, but words will never harm you,
23 and they weren't true then, and in the internet
24 age, they're even less true today. In the spur of
25 a moment, with the click of a mouse, a young

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2 person on an impulse can do damage to someone's
3 life for their entire life. It's kind of ironic
4 that probably every Council Member in this room
5 has allocated funds to buy computers for use in
6 our public schools, yet state law prohibits us
7 from mandating that the Department of Education
8 teach young people the right and wrong way to use
9 those computers, and the perils of their misuse.
10 So we're doing the next best thing, and that's
11 compelling the Human Rights Commission to find
12 young people wherever they may, hopefully they'll
13 find some of them in class, and teach them just
14 how dangerous, just how severe, the consequences
15 of cyber-bullying can be. I want to also thank my
16 Committee counsel, Jennifer Wilcox, this is her
17 first bill, Julene Beckford from the Civil Rights
18 Committee, and my staff counsel, Brad Reed, who's
19 celebrating his birthday watching the passage of
20 this bill, hopefully. And hopefully I'll be able
21 to get them a pen from the Mayor for their good
22 work here. This is really, I think, a very
23 important first step that we take today, and I
24 urge all of you to support it. Thank you.

25 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very

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2 much, Chair Fidler, and Council Member Weprin and
3 Chair Rose. We are also voting today on a bill
4 and also later on a resolution that relate to our
5 Fire Department. Intro 450A is a piece of
6 legislation that for one time increases the
7 maximum age for qualifying for membership in the
8 Fire Department from 29 to 35. I want to thank
9 Council Member Vallone, who is the sponsor of this
10 bill, Liz Crowley, who is the Chair of the Fire
11 and Criminal Justice Committee, Council Member
12 Leroy Comrie, who is the Chair of the resolution,
13 but also a lead on that effort and the issues
14 related to it. I want to thank Rob Newman, Rob
15 Calandra, Will Hongach and Alix Pustilnik for
16 their work as well. We all know there is pending
17 litigation and action in the court around
18 diversity in the Fire Department. The result of
19 that ... the result of the pending court actions,
20 among other things, has been there is ... the test
21 has been thrown out, and no new Fire Academy
22 classes have begun. Caught in this pending
23 litigation are a number of New Yorkers who have
24 taken the fire test, who desperately want to be
25 firefighters. And while the important issue of

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2 diversity makes its way through the court, they
3 have gone over the age of 29, which is the age for
4 entering, taking the test and entering the
5 academy. We want to make sure that these
6 dedicated individuals, who worked so hard to take
7 the test to qualify, who have been fighting and
8 raising their voice about this, kind of between a
9 rock and a hard place that they are stuck in, we
10 want to make sure that these New Yorkers don't
11 lose the opportunity to serve our great city, that
12 is why we are making this one-time exception in
13 the age, so as soon as the court finishes its
14 business, these individuals can enter the academy
15 and become members of the New York City Fire
16 Department, and I just have to say, if you're
17 someone who wants to be a firefighter so much that
18 you're going to come to the New York City Council
19 to ask us to draft and pass legislation to
20 preserve your right to risk your life, well you've
21 absolutely got the heart, the guts and the bravery
22 we want in the New York City Fire Department. So
23 I want to thank everybody who has worked on this
24 legislation, and let me call on the Chair of the
25 Committee, Chair Liz Crowley.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Thank you.
First I'd like to thank Speaker Quinn and my
colleague Peter Vallone for their support on this
important and time-sensitive issue. The
individuals currently on the FDNY hiring list have
been prepared and have completed the initial steps
to become a New York City firefighter, but through
no fault of their own that opportunity was
jeopardized due to litigation about the fairness
of the exam. To prevent qualified FDNY candidates
from serving our city simply because the court
invalidated the test is unfair and is misplaced
punishment. This bill is a reasonable solution to
this unfortunate situation. This bill will
temporarily increase the maximum age from 29 to 35
for a group of individuals who have previously sat
for this test. If we don't act now and extend the
age of this class, these prepared and dedicated
individuals will be deprived of the chance of
becoming a New York City firefighter. Again, I'd
like to thank Speaker Quinn for moving quickly on
this issue, and for helping these determined
individuals realize their dream. Thank you.

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very

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2 much, Chair Crowley. We also are passing Intro
3 444A today, a piece of legislation that will
4 require the Mayor's Office of Operations to report
5 data regarding utilization and applications for
6 citywide temporary housing and associated
7 services. I want to thank Molly Murphy and Alix
8 Pustilnik and Elizabeth Hoffman and the new deputy
9 counsel there, Carmine, for their work on this
10 piece of legislation. I want to thank the sponsor
11 and Chair of the Committee, Annabel Palma, for her
12 work on this legislation. There is a law that
13 requires the Department of Homeless Services to
14 report data of utilization of their temporary
15 housing facilities. But temporary housing
16 facilities are also run by other agencies, like
17 the Department of Youth and Community Development
18 and the Human Resources Administration. We don't
19 have any comprehensive data in one place that
20 shows a full picture of what the utilization rates
21 are, waiting lists, etc., of all of the temporary
22 housing and related services that the City of New
23 York runs. That's what we really need, to
24 understand how large our homeless population is,
25 whether it's growing, whether it's shrinking,

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2 whether services are working, whether there are
3 waiting lists, and I want to thank everyone,
4 particularly Chair Palma, who worked on this bill,
5 which is going to add transparency, give the
6 public the information it's deserved, but also
7 give the Council and the advocacy community more
8 information, so we can do a better job supporting
9 homeless New Yorkers and helping them move out of
10 homelessness in our five boroughs, so I want to
11 thank everyone who worked on those pieces of
12 legislation, and I just want to make note that we
13 are also making an appointment to the Taxi and
14 Limousine Committee, and I want to thank our
15 Commission, our Majority Leader, Joel Rivera, for
16 his work on that, and remind folks that we are
17 going to be voting on three very important
18 resolutions at the end of the meeting as well, and
19 that concludes communications from the Speaker.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
21 very much, Madam Speaker. Next we move on to
22 discussion of general orders. First we have
23 Council Member Koppell.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Thank you,
25 Mr. Majority Leader. I would like unanimous

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consent to vote on the general orders calendar.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: I'd like to vote aye on all.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Okay. Next we have Council Member Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank you very much, Mr. Majority Leader. With permission I'd like to vote aye on all coupled general orders and all resolutions.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: I vote aye.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Okay. Next we have Council Member Jackson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you, Majority Leader. I rise to my colleagues this afternoon regarding the whole issue of the amicus brief that this City Council is going to file in order to force the banks that have been involved with homes that have been foreclosed, where people have, based on what my colleague, Brad Lander, has said previously in a press conference this afternoon, where they have spent winter nights in

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2 freezing cold without any heat or hot water, and
3 other negative conditions that they live in, while
4 these banks basically hold the mortgage. And this
5 particular brief that we filed hopefully will
6 force them to make the repairs that are necessary-
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8 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:

9 (interposing) Council Member, is this a
10 resolution, or is this- -

11 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON:

12 (interposing) Oh, is this a reso? I'm so sorry,
13 it's on a reso. Okay, thanks.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Okay, thank
15 you. Next we move on to Council Member James.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: I support
17 Intro 450A, but the reality is that there is a
18 judgment in the City of New York, the city has
19 been found to engage in discrimination against
20 people of color with regards to FDNY. The City of
21 New York, the Mayor of the City of New York and
22 the Commissioner of FDNY, as opposed to using
23 current firefighters and engaging, unfortunately,
24 in increased overtime, costing the city almost up
25 to \$200 million for overtime. What we should be

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2 doing is following the judge's order, reducing
3 costs related to overtime and diversifying FDNY.
4 I understand that this class of individuals is
5 caught in a difficult position, and that's why I
6 support this piece of legislation, but
7 nonetheless, I believe the Mayor of the City of
8 New York and the Fire Commissioner should lead,
9 and should lead this city forward towards the
10 direction of diversifying FDNY to reflect the
11 rainbow of the City of New York, and as opposed to
12 resisting a court order of a Federal court of this
13 state and this country. And I urge all of my
14 colleagues to support this legislation, but it's
15 really critically important to understand why we
16 are passing this bill, it's because of their
17 reluctance to follow a court order diversifying
18 FDNY, instead of hiding behind the term that it is
19 a quota, and using the word 'quota' as a dirty
20 word, as opposed to, again, diversifying FDNY,
21 which clearly does not reflect the diversity of
22 the City of New York. And last but not least, I
23 am proud to support my candidate, who is for the
24 Taxi and Limousine Commission, she is a wonderful
25 candidate, she's a proud graduate of Howard

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2 University School of Law, LaShann DeArcy Hall, a
3 proud graduate of my alma mater. Congratulations,
4 Ms. Hall.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council
6 Member Williams.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank
8 you. I just want to concur with my colleague,
9 Council Member James, in everything she said. I'm
10 also happy to be a co-prime on the firefighters
11 bill and there are three people here who will be
12 directly affected, they're sitting in the back,
13 Ryan Cassandra Colletti, Dion Hines, and Ionde
14 Sandy (phonetic), if they could stand up please.
15 And I just want to say congratulations for the
16 fervor that you've given us to pass this, two of
17 which, Dion and Ionde, came to my office several
18 months ago, one of which lives in my district.
19 I'm happy I was able to take part and make sure
20 this came to fruition. I want to thank the
21 Speaker for her leadership, Council Member
22 Vallone, Crowley and Comrie. I urge everyone to
23 support this, thank you.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
25 very much. Next we move on to Speaker Quinn.

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. There
3 was an announcement that I wanted to make that I
4 forgot to make during the Speaker's time, so thank
5 you, let me do it now. I just wanted to note that
6 Kim Thai is here, I see her over there, is Nicole
7 Kolinsky in the chambers? Kim, is Nicole there?
8 Well, Kim, come over, we'll just embarrass you
9 then. So Kim Thai, who I think many folks know,
10 who has been a member of our press staff, I'm
11 technically not speaking to Kim, so I'm going to
12 look straight ahead and not talk looking at Kim,
13 because I'm mad at Kim, because Kim has been a
14 dynamite member of our press office for about the
15 past year and a half, and she's been such a great
16 press officer that she is being stolen by MTV, to
17 launch a new social media effort over there. I
18 don't know why MTV seems cooler than working for
19 the Speaker or the City Council, but I just really
20 want to thank Kim, she's done a lot of great work.
21 But I think one of her most notable
22 accomplishments has been the amount of media
23 attention she has been able to get around the
24 distressed multi-family properties in the City of
25 New York. That is a complicated issue, a dense

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2 story, it's one of those stories that's incredibly
3 important for New Yorkers to know about, but if it
4 isn't presented to the press in a really skilled
5 way, it will sometimes get lost. And Kim has
6 gotten that issue more attention than I ever
7 thought it would get, which has helped us bring
8 more governmental action, which has meant us
9 helping more tenants, so Kim, I just want to wish
10 you the best of luck, and thank you so much for
11 your service to the Council and the city. And not
12 that Jamie and Marie are doing anything wrong, I'm
13 not saying that, I'm just mentioning that Nicole
14 Kolinsky is not with us, but is also going to be
15 moving on from the press office, she has been a
16 member of our press staff since I became Speaker,
17 for about six years. She served first on and off
18 kind of as a researcher in the press office and
19 became a full press officer, and she has done
20 amazing work. I think folks will remember the
21 survey that we did on election day in response to
22 the problems that happened on primary day, working
23 with Gale Brewer and others, we did a pretty broad
24 survey to see how election day went. All of the
25 press around those hearings, that survey, was,

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2 among many other things, was conducted by Nicole
3 Kolinsky, and I think it made a big difference in
4 getting the Board of Elections to understand this
5 was a real problem that wasn't going to go away.
6 Nicole is moving on to the Downtown Alliance to
7 become their communications director, and I just
8 want to thank her for her six years of service to
9 the City Council as well, and if anyone wants to
10 Jamie about what's wrong with his management
11 style, I'm only kidding, these are two great women
12 who have served the city well, and deserve these
13 opportunities to move on, to become directors of
14 their units in other establishments. So thank
15 you, Kim, and thank you, Nicole. And that further
16 concludes communications from the Speaker.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
18 very much, Madam Speaker. We move on now to
19 report of special committees.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Report of
22 standing committees.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the
24 Committee on Civil Rights, Intro 363A, Bias-
25 Related Harassment.

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: Wait a minute, I
3 have to find my place. Amended and coupled on
4 general orders.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the
6 Committee on Finance, Pre-considered LU 393 and
7 851 and 394 and 852, Tax Abatements.

8 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
9 orders.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the
11 Committee on Fire and Criminal Justice Services,
12 Intro 450A.

13 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
14 on general orders with a message of necessity.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the
16 Committee on General Welfare, Intro 444A, Mayor's
17 Office of Operations.

18 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
19 on general orders.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the
21 Committee on Housing and Buildings, Reso 813.

22 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
23 orders.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the
25 Committee on Land Use, LU 314 and Reso 845, and

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315 and 846.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

COUNCIL CLERK: LU 390 and Reso 847, and 391 and 848, Sidewalk Cafes.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

COUNCIL CLERK: LU 392 and Reso 849, UDAP Brooklyn.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections, Pre-considered M508 and Reso 850, approving the appointment of LaShann M. DeArcy Hall, Taxi and Limousine Commission.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: General orders calendar.

COUNCIL CLERK: Resolution appointing various persons Commissioner of Deeds.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general order, and at this time I'd like to ask for a roll

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2 call on all items that have been coupled on the
3 general order calendar. I want to remind my
4 colleagues that due to the circumstances around
5 budget adoption and the state legislature wrapping
6 up its session, that the meetings of the Finance
7 Committee, State and Federal Legislation
8 Committee, and this full Stated Council meeting,
9 we will stand in recess, subject to be called back
10 on quick notice, so make sure my office has all of
11 your contact information. Thank you.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Brewer.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Cabrera.

15 (no response)

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Chin.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Comrie.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE, JR.: Aye on

20 all.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Crowley.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye on

23 all.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Dickens.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye on

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2 all.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Dilan

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COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Aye on all.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Eugene.

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COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Fidler.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: I'm not

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sure if I thanked Chairwoman Rose the first time

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on Intro 363. If I did, I want to thank her

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again, and I vote aye on all.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Garodnick.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Gennaro.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Gentile.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye on

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all.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Gonzalez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye on

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all.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Greenfield.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: May I

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be excused to explain my vote?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank
3 you, Mr. Leader. I'm going to vote today in
4 support of all of the pieces of legislation,
5 including Intro 450A, I just would like to once
6 again reiterate the point that we are left here to
7 remedy a situation that was solely created by the
8 Mayor of the City of New York in his refusal to
9 follow the orders of a Federal judge regarding the
10 Vulcan ruling, and by the Mayor's lack of action,
11 he's hurting firefighters and he's hurting New
12 Yorkers, because we're paying \$2 million a month
13 in overtime because of the understaffing in the
14 Fire Department. And at a time when the Mayor is
15 cutting things like child care and fire houses,
16 there's really no excuse for the Mayor to not
17 accept this court ruling, and to simply move on
18 and to end all discrimination, including the age
19 discrimination that we're voting to change today,
20 and with that, I vote aye on all.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Halloran.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN III: May I
23 be excused to explain my vote?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN III: I

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2 appreciate my colleague's comments, however I
3 think for a change I'm not going to bash the
4 Mayor, I'm going to actually salute him, and
5 salute the Fire Commissioner, for standing their
6 ground and not following what is to this
7 constitutionally-trained lawyer a clear violation
8 of the prerogatives of a justice of the Federal
9 courts. The decision is both arbitrary and
10 capricious, it requires a violation of the
11 fundamental principle that the test was
12 constructed around. The list that was created is
13 the most diverse list that has ever existed in the
14 history of the NYFD. In fact, the individuals who
15 came to this Council in order to obtain a waiver,
16 if you look them, we have an incredibly diverse
17 group. And they have been at every event to
18 detail their plight, and to demonstrate what they
19 had to do to succeed on that test. And the
20 gentlemen who are seated in the back, and are
21 representing that group of people right now,
22 indicated to us the great lengths they went
23 through to train to take that test, including the
24 study classes offered free by the Fire Department,
25 which they attended more than once a week, at no

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2 cost to them, which enabled them to score the
3 great scores that they did, to become eligible to
4 become firefighters. I am glad that we are giving
5 them an exemption, so that they can re-take the
6 exam and be put on an eligible list, and I am glad
7 that the Fire Commissioner has chosen to exercise
8 his discretion and to do what is right, as opposed
9 to what is expeditious. So, thank you very much
10 and I vote aye on all.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Ignizio.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Jackson.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: May I be
15 excused to explain my vote?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you.

18 Thank you, my colleagues, I rise in support of
19 Intro 450A, which is to allow the candidates for
20 firefighters who took the exam and have reached
21 the age limitation. In fact, one day I was in my
22 office and they didn't make an appointment, they
23 happened to walk in, and I met several of them,
24 and some of them are here now. And I committed to
25 them at that point in time that I would sign on to

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2 Peter Vallone's bill, trying to give them the
3 protection that they need, because they happened
4 to be tied up in this legal battle concerning the
5 FDNY examination. And as you know, my colleagues,
6 let me tell you, I disagree with my colleague Dan
7 Halloran. Obviously every member is entitled to
8 his or her opinion, but the courts decided that
9 that examination was discriminatory, and quite
10 frankly, I know about discrimination. As an
11 African-American male, as someone also who is the
12 lead plaintiff in the campaign for fiscal equity,
13 in which we sued the State of New York, and we won
14 on behalf of the children. Someone has to stand
15 up when you're being discriminated. It doesn't
16 matter if you're black, white, yellow, green, gay,
17 lesbian, straight, discrimination is
18 discrimination, and I support the judge enforcing
19 New York City to do what is right on behalf of the
20 people of New York City. And for New York City to
21 waste our taxpayer dollars fighting it is an
22 absolute shame. So, shame on those individuals.
23 And I say congratulations to the young men and
24 women that this particular 450A will help them so
25 that they can become proud firefighters. And it

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2 doesn't matter who the fire is affecting, because,
3 you know, firefighters go in, no matter what color
4 or nationality you may be, the end, they're coming
5 to save you, and I vote aye on all.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Wills.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Aye on all.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: James.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES:

10 Discrimination costs, and according to this
11 constitutionally-trained lawyer, the judge
12 followed the decision where he determined that
13 FDNY had engaged in a pattern of discrimination.
14 And although this test is the most diverse class
15 in the history of FDNY, it's as a result of the
16 efforts of this City Council that ensured that
17 that class was diverse. But we are not talking
18 about the instant class, we are talking about a
19 pattern and practice of discrimination
20 unfortunately which has infected FDNY. And as a
21 result of that, we have to cut back and close 20
22 firehouses. We are considering laying off 6,000
23 teachers. We are considering eliminating 18,000
24 childcare slots, at the same time that overtime
25 costs in FDNY have escalated as a result of the

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2 failure of the Mayor and the Commissioner to
3 follow the law. We, as servants, and as public
4 servants, have a duty and an obligation to uphold
5 the law, and I urge the Mayor and the Commissioner
6 of FDNY to do just that. I congratulate this
7 class, I congratulate the three candidates, I vote
8 aye on all, but follow the law.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Koo.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Koslowitz.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Lander.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye, and
15 I'd like to sign up for the Professor Greenfield
16 School of Constitutional Law. Thank you.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Levin.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: I vote aye
19 on all.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye
22 on all.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Mendez.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Nelson.

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(no response)

COUNCIL CLERK: Palma

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Recchia.

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA, JR.: May I
be excuse to explain my vote?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA, JR.:
First, Council Member Lander, Council Member
Greenfield never said he was a constitutional
lawyer. Second, as a constitutional lawyer, I
vote aye on all.

COUNCIL CLERK: Reyna.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: I vote aye
on all, and congratulations to Debbie Rose. Thank
you.

COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

COUNCIL CLERK: Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye, and
thank you, Diana.

COUNCIL CLERK: Sanders.

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS, JR.:
Permission to explain my vote?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS, JR.: I am not a constitutional lawyer, nor have I played one on TV. I am a person, however, who knows discrimination when things are wrong. I am a person who claims that there's a commonsense that can guide common people, that you don't need initials in back of your name to see when things are wrong. In our diverse city, the most diverse city on the planet, we have the least diverse Fire Department in, among, in the states, in the big cities. There's something wrong here, my friends. Therefore, we should do everything, it shouldn't take a court order to do these things. We shouldn't be standing against the train of history. I'm sure that there were people in great places like Birmingham and others who could make constitutional arguments of why it should last today, it should last tomorrow, it should last forever. And we look back on it and we say, thank God it's gone. My friends, I urge the Mayor, let us all come to our commonsense, and let's just do the right thing, and have a better city for it. Again, to all constitutional lawyers, forgive me

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2 just sticking to simple truth and commonsense.
3 I'm expressing my constitutional right to vote aye
4 on all.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Ulrich.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye on all.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Vacca.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye on all.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Weprin.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye on all.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Williams.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: May I be
13 excused to explain my vote?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank
16 you. I did take a constitutional law class, I
17 hope that counts for something, and I am a citizen
18 of the constitution. I just wanted to, as was
19 said, remind my dear friend and colleague, Dan
20 Halloran, that a judge ordered this, so we have
21 been complaining about the lack of diversity for
22 such a long time in this department, it was taken
23 to the law, which I assume my dear colleague
24 expresses to acknowledge, and a judge has decided
25 there is a problem and set forth five ways in

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2 which the Mayor could address it, five. The Mayor
3 and the Commissioner, unfortunately, like so many
4 other issues that refer to this, decided not to
5 choose any one of those. And so, on behalf of
6 Ryan, Dion and Ionde, I am very proud that this
7 City Council looks like it will be passing this,
8 and I vote aye on this and all. Thank you.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Oddo.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: May I be
11 temporarily excused to explain my vote?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: I will be
14 voting yes on all, and I simply would like to
15 thank and commend Chairs Vallone and Crowley and
16 the leadership of this body for passing Intro
17 450A, so that we can extend the opportunity to
18 folks who have a calling to join the New York City
19 Fire Department and to act like the firefighters
20 at Ladder 161, who yesterday ran into a burning
21 building and saved an individual, saved a New
22 Yorker. Just for the record, Ladder 161 is one of
23 the 20 engine companies slated to be closed. I
24 vote yes on all.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Rivera.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye

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on all.

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COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Aye on all.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All items

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on today's general order calendar were adopted by

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a vote of 44 in the affirmative, with zero in the

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negative and zero abstentions, and the revised

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land use call-ups were adopted by a vote of 44 in

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the affirmative, with zero in the negative.

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Introduction and reading of the bills?

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SPEAKER QUINN: All bills are

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referred to committees as indicated on the agenda,

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please.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you.

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If we could get silence in the chambers. We're

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going to move on to the discussion of resolutions.

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We're going to call them by the three different

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resolutions that are on the calendar, so first we

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have Resolution 647-A, I believe that Council

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Member Comrie, do you have some words?

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE, JR.: I

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wanted to thank, again, Speaker Quinn, Rob Newman,

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especially the Vulcan Society, 67A, was born from

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2 a piece of legislation that I put in to try to
3 create diversity in the Fire Department by giving
4 young people an opportunity to get five points if
5 they passed the ... if they graduated from high
6 school. After discussion and a desire to focus on
7 increasing diversity, increasing the eligibility,
8 increasing and improving the reasons for giving
9 five points for residency and working with the
10 DCAS, working Rob Newman and Alix Pustilnik and
11 his team at Council Legislative Services, worked
12 tirelessly with the Vulcans, worked tirelessly
13 with DCAS and the judge, looking into the fire,
14 trying to resolve these issues, trying to make
15 sure that we have more city participation, trying
16 to make sure that city residents would really get
17 five points that were a real leg up, by creating
18 real residency requirements. So we have now
19 evolved my original intro into this resolution
20 because we as the City Council cannot request it
21 ourselves, what we're asking Albany to quickly
22 pass this resolution, so that we can have the
23 authority to really tighten up their residency
24 requirements to become a firefighter, to give New
25 York City residents a real leg up. Thank you.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
3 very much. Next we move on to Council Member
4 Sanders.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS, JR.: I
6 also want to speak on 647-A, I want to
7 congratulate our Speaker, I want to congratulate
8 Council Member Comrie, the Vulcan Society and Bob
9 Newman, for attempting to do some ... to have the
10 wisdom of Solomon, and we have found some of that
11 wisdom. Justice delayed is justice denied, and we
12 are getting closer to where we need to be. Again,
13 this is the most diverse city on the planet, and
14 there's no logical reason why we are where we are,
15 and any logic that supports this state of being is
16 flawed. If you can find a logic that supports
17 this state of being, it is immoral. And under
18 those conditions, my friends, we need to just find
19 a way to gracefully do the right thing. A step
20 towards this is resolution 647-A. It will not
21 take us there, but it is a step to it.
22 Congratulations all who had a hand in this, and I
23 urge everyone to vote for it.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
25 very much. Next we have Council Member Jackson.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you,
3 my colleagues, I rise to speak on all three
4 resolutions in front of us. Resolution 647-A, I
5 am so happy that we have reached agreement on
6 that, and that's the type of coming together with
7 the City of New York, the Vulcan Society, and all
8 other parties, to reach a consensus on moving
9 forward on behalf of giving New York City
10 residents the type of uplift that they need, so
11 that the New York City Fire Department will become
12 more diversified. And also Resolution 700, as you
13 know, many members of the City Council went to
14 Albany this past Tuesday to lobby with our
15 Speaker, and I think that we were pretty
16 successful, let's continue to fight to make sure
17 rent stabilization is enhanced. And finally, the
18 amicus brief we're filing on behalf of those
19 individuals that have been negatively impacted by
20 banks not doing the right thing by making repairs,
21 I'm so happy the Speaker is taking the lead on
22 this, along with my colleagues of Brooklyn. And
23 it doesn't matter if you're Brooklyn, Bronx,
24 Queens or Staten Island, you're negatively
25 impacted when the banks don't do the right thing.

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Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you very much. Next we have Council Member Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you. I want to congratulate everyone who has a resolution. I do want to speak on Resolution 700, and thank you for the speak- -

SPEAKER QUINN: (interposing) We're just going to do this each reso at a time, so first if anybody has anything else on Reso 647-A.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: My bad.

SPEAKER QUINN: We'll vote on that, then we'll move on to Reso 700 and vote, and then move on to Reso 840 and vote. So any other comments on 647-A? Hearing none, Mr. Majority Leader, if we could have a roll call vote on Proposed Reso 647-A. A voice vote, yeah, what did I say? Oh, roll call, I didn't mean that, sorry, voice vote.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. All in favor of Resolution 647-A, which reads, "An amended resolution calling upon the New York State legislature to pass legislation to authorize New

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2 York City to enact a local law to grant point
3 credits for the New York City resident applicant
4 who pass the firefighters civil service exam, to
5 establish eligibility criteria for such credits,
6 amended and adopted by the Committee on Civil
7 Service and Labor." All in favor, say aye.

8 ALL: Aye.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All
10 opposed, say nay.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Any
12 abstentions? The ayes have it. The resolution
13 passes, unanimously. Next we're going to discuss
14 Resolution 700, a resolution calling upon the New
15 York State legislature to renew and strengthen the
16 laws regulating rents and the eviction of tenants.
17 Anyone who wants to speak on that resolution,
18 please raise your hand so we can mark you down for
19 that. Okay, Council Member Chin first.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you.
21 First I wanted to thank Speaker Quinn for also co-
22 sponsoring the resolution, and to all my
23 colleagues who joined with us in Albany on
24 Tuesday. It is so critical that we preserve every
25 single affordable unit that we have in the city.

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2 Over two and a half million New Yorkers live in
3 rent-regulated apartments. And we're talking
4 about over a million apartments in the city. And
5 I also want to thank Council Member Dilan for
6 holding the hearing so quickly, that we were able
7 to hear from advocates and tenants across the
8 city, and urging the State legislature that
9 they've got to do the right thing before June 15th,
10 thank you.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
12 very much. Next we'll move on to Council Member
13 Williams.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank
15 you, and congratulations to Council Member Comrie,
16 I didn't realize it was his bill, a great bill.
17 And as I was saying before, I want to congratulate
18 the Speaker, Council Member Chin and Dilan for the
19 hearing on this resolution. Very important that
20 we pass this and send a loud message, and I know
21 there is some talk that there may be agreement for
22 the extending of the laws. I just want to say
23 publicly that would be a failure in my eyes, I
24 believe the Governor would have failed us, the
25 leaders in Albany would have failed us, and the

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2 Mayor, who is palpably silent on this issue, would
3 have failed us. Nothing less than a strengthening
4 of the rent laws is what we need, because the
5 current laws are not good enough and we are
6 hemorrhaging affordable housing units. Rent
7 regulation is the biggest affordable housing
8 program that we have, it's not a subsidy program,
9 so it costs the government nothing, as well as it
10 gives protections, and not just makes the rent
11 affordable, protections that tenants need, that
12 all tenants should have, which I believe is what
13 landlords are really after. Thank you.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Next we
15 have Council Member Brewer.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you,
17 I just want to join with those who are thanking
18 the Speaker and her staff for putting together an
19 excellent program in Albany, I think we all
20 learned a lot, and this particular resolution gave
21 us the impetus to make it clear that the people of
22 the City of New York are very, very concerned
23 about the middle class rent-regulated housing and
24 the ability to stay in New York City. And so I
25 want to thank those who had the foresight to put

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2 the resolution and the day together and I hope it
3 doesn't end up being an issue on June 14th,
4 midnight, and that we're able to enhance the rent
5 regulations so that we end up with a decent middle
6 class, which is so stressed in the City of New
7 York. Thank you.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you.
9 Next we have Council Member Lander.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: I just want
11 to join those in thanking Council Member Chin and
12 in thanking the Speaker for organizing the lobby
13 day. Since the rent laws were last renewed, we
14 lost over 300,000 units out of rent regulations,
15 but more than a half a million more that used to
16 rent for \$600, \$800, \$1,000 a month, that are no
17 longer affordable to moderate-income, to working-
18 class, to middle-income families. If we just
19 renew the laws and don't strengthen them, we will
20 lose hundreds of thousands more, and it's in every
21 neighborhood around the city, it both protects
22 low-income families, but it also means that the
23 middle-class families who live in Manhattan,
24 working families who live in my district can stay,
25 if we care not only about affordable housing, but

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2 about a diverse New York City, it's essential the
3 rent laws get strengthened, so thank you very much
4 for the opportunity to vote for this resolution.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
6 very much. Next we have Council Member James.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: I do want to
8 thank the Speaker and Council Member Chin for
9 organizing us on our trip to Albany. And just to
10 extend rent regulations is unacceptable, we have
11 to strengthen rent regulations. Unfortunately,
12 none of us want to live in a city where you just
13 have the very, very rich and/or the very, very
14 poor. We need to support these rent regulations
15 if we care about the middle class, and if we care
16 about a diverse city. In addition, in our
17 meetings in Albany a number of elected officials
18 had asked us where the Mayor was on this issue,
19 that the Mayor was silent, and that it's really
20 critically important that the Mayor come out
21 strongly in support of rent regulations, and I'm
22 urging the Mayor of the City of New York to
23 provide leadership, show leadership, make a strong
24 statement in support of not only the extension of
25 rent regulations, but the strengthening of rent

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2 regulations, if he really cares about the
3 diversity of the city, as he is so apt to say.

4 Thank you.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
6 very much. Seeing no others on this resolution,
7 I'm going to call for a voice vote, which will be
8 spoke into the record on Reso 700, all in favor
9 say aye.

10 ALL: Aye.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All opposed
12 say nay. Any abstentions? The ayes have it. The
13 next resolution that we're going to be considering
14 is Pre-considered Resolution 840, the resolution
15 authorizing the Speaker to file an amicus brief on
16 behalf of the Council in support of the dependent
17 and tenants in the judicial proceedings captioned
18 "Dime Savings Bank of Williamsbridge versus 262-
19 272 45th Street, Owners Group LLC, Index #8211/2010
20 Kings County" and "National Bank of New York City
21 versus 296 Fifth Avenue Group LLC" for the purpose
22 of supporting those tenants' motions which request
23 that the court in each case order the court-
24 appointed mortgage foreclosure receive to cure
25 conditions constituting violations of the city and

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2 state housing maintenance laws on the subject
3 property and the plaintiff bank to advance the
4 funds necessary for the receiver to comply with
5 his obligations, at the supreme court appellate
6 division and/or court of appeals level, and in
7 other foreclosure cases in which the same relief
8 is appropriate. Adopted by the Committee on
9 Housing and Buildings. Anyone wish to speak out
10 on this resolution? We have Council Member
11 Lander.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you
13 to my colleagues and especially to the Speaker, we
14 were out at a press conference with the tenants of
15 294 Fifth Avenue in my district who are one of the
16 parties in this lawsuit. As Council Member
17 Jackson said, this winter they did not have heat
18 or hot water, the front door of their building
19 does not lock. The banks made loans for this
20 building that were completely outrageous, three or
21 four times what anyone would know the rent roll
22 could support, and as a result of those loans,
23 these buildings are deteriorating. South Brooklyn
24 Legal Services and the Fifth Avenue Committee are
25 working with the tenants to ask the judge to

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2 require the lender to step up and make sure that
3 the building is maintained, and I am so pleased
4 that the Council can join in support of them.
5 This is part of the broader work that the Speaker
6 has really been a great leader on for distressed
7 multi-family buildings, there are tens of
8 thousands of tenants around the city in this
9 condition, and I'm very proud that the New York
10 City Council is standing up to try to make sure
11 that they don't suffer yet again the crisis of
12 bank over-leveraging. I want to thank Lauren
13 Axelrod and Jeff Metzler, who are hard at work on
14 the amicus brief, and also Dave Pristin for his
15 work with the task force, and I hope you'll join
16 me in voting for it.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
18 very much. Anybody else wishing to speak on this
19 resolution? Council Member Gonzalez?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Yes,
21 thank you. I find that this legislation is more
22 than anything a pro-tenant legislation, and I want
23 to thank the Speaker, and of course I'd like to
24 thank all the folks who worked on this, but most
25 of all, the conditions under which these families

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2 have been living are absolutely unacceptable. It
3 is the responsibility of the mortgage foreclosure
4 receiver and plaintiff bank to work as
5 auspiciously as possible to cure these violations
6 and to insure the tenants live in a healthy and
7 safe environment. So it is important, there's
8 buildings in my district, 262-272 45th Street in
9 Sunset Park, and so therefore I stand strong with
10 this and I thank everyone for it. Thank you.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
12 very much. Seeing no others, I'm going to call
13 for a voice vote on this resolution. All in favor
14 of Pre-considered Resolution 840 say aye.

15 ALL: Aye.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Anyone
17 opposed to it say nay. Any abstentions? The ayes
18 have it. We now move forward with general
19 discussion. We have Council Member Jackson.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you,
21 Majority Leader. My colleagues, I rise this
22 afternoon in order to talk to you about a couple
23 of things. One, as you know, on June 1st we will
24 hold the executive budget hearings on the expense
25 budget for the Department of Education, and as

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2 you, 6,000 teacher positions are expected to be
3 eliminated, approximately 1,500 to 2,000 by
4 attrition, and approximately 4,000 or 4,500 by
5 layoffs. It will be devastating to New York City.
6 Besides teachers being laid off, overcrowded
7 classrooms will increase, art programs and music
8 programs and after-school programs will be
9 eliminated in many instances. So I ask you to
10 make sure you come to the June 1st executive budget
11 hearing, and prior to that we will be having a
12 press conference on the steps of City Hall. We
13 are asking you to communicate with all of your,
14 you know, your parents and colleagues and people
15 that care about education to come out by the
16 thousands in order to support us in trying to
17 restore these particular budget cuts. But also, I
18 ask you to sign on to Intro 583, which is
19 basically a bill that's putting forward that will
20 force the Fire Commissioner to give us 180 days
21 notice before closing ... proposed to close any fire
22 company, along with giving us statistics and data
23 and weighing the weighted average of each criteria
24 that they're using in the ranking and utilization
25 and copies of all data and statistics or the

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2 forecast utilization in making the determination
3 of a proposed closure. And in essence, we need to
4 make sure that if, before they put anything on the
5 table, that they can verify that the need is
6 actually there. So I ask you to sign on to that,
7 and also to support the livery cab drivers that
8 are fighting for their lives right now against the
9 TLC. Thank you.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Next we
11 have Council Member Eugene.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you
13 very much. I just want to take a moment to
14 express my heartfelt thanks to the Speaker and to
15 all of you, my colleagues, for supporting my
16 effort to have the TPS extended for Haitians. As
17 you know, the TPS is the temporary protected
18 status granted to Haitians because of the critical
19 situation of Haiti, and as you may know, on
20 Tuesday May 17th, President Barack Obama and
21 Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano
22 took action by extending for another 18 months the
23 TPS for Haitians. The City Council has been very
24 active on this issue, first by voting the
25 Resolution 1595 that I introduced in 2009, and

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2 recently by voting also the Resolution 648, that I
3 also introduced to ask the President of the United
4 States and the Federal government to extend and
5 renew the TPS for Haitians. We should be proud
6 for being a legislative body at the forefront of
7 this fight, and I've been receiving calls from
8 Haitian people from Miami, from Boston, from
9 California, even from France and from Belgium.
10 For that, to all of you, my colleagues, and also
11 to the Speaker Quinn, thank you very much on my
12 behalf, and also on behalf of my Haitian brothers
13 and sisters.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
15 very much, Council Member. Next we have Council
16 Member Fidler.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Thank you,
18 I'd like to call your attention to Intro 574,
19 which I am putting before you as an intro today.
20 A couple of years ago when we permitted the Fire
21 Department to start charging all institutions
22 inspection fees, I don't think we intended for our
23 volunteer fire companies to have to pay that fee.
24 It seems kind of absurd that people who are laying
25 their lives on the line as volunteers, who are

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2 responding to fires, are then being taxed by the
3 Fire Department for the privilege of doing that.

4 I have the Gerrittsen Beach Volunteer Fire Company
5 in my district, I've seen them save lives, I've
6 seen them respond to emergencies. I'm thankful
7 for their existence and I know everybody in the
8 neighborhood is thankful for their existence.

9 They're cash-strapped, and so when they were hit
10 with a five hundred some odd dollar fee this year,
11 Assemblyman Maisel, Senator Golden and I paid it
12 for them. But it just seems to me to be ironic,
13 kind of silly, kind of unintended, I certainly
14 hope it was unintended, that the law required that
15 they be charged this fee. It's not an earth-
16 shattering matter, it's probably a five or ten
17 thousand dollar item in the city budget citywide,
18 but it just seems to me that it would be an
19 appropriate gesture for the City Council to stand
20 up on behalf of those people who are volunteering
21 to do a job that we so desperately need, to not
22 charge them for the privilege of doing it. I urge
23 you to co-sponsor 574 with me. Thank you.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
25 very much, next we have Council Member Ignizio.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Thank you
3 very much. I just wanted to speak, so hopefully
4 we can begin the dialogue to try to help some of
5 our fellow Americans in the Midwest. Very often
6 this Council takes a very forward approach when it
7 comes to helping those that have suffered and
8 endured tragedies, such as Japan, the earthquakes
9 in Italy, the distress in Haiti, and I think we
10 should be in the same form when it comes to our
11 fellow Americans. My hope is that some of my
12 Council colleagues will work with me and perhaps
13 the Speaker's office, which would be kind enough
14 to allow us, to find out what may be needed, and
15 what we can do to help, if that's something minor
16 like sending blankets or jackets or what-not, or
17 something more so. These tragedies that have
18 befallen the people in the Midwest continue to
19 happen even today, with more tornados, and I think
20 it's incumbent upon us as fellow Americans to try
21 to do what we can to say, to help them in as
22 little a fashion or as major a fashion as any of
23 us can. So I'm happy to put my name forward to
24 try to help coordinate that, if any of my
25 colleagues want to join me, please reach out.

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Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Next we have Council Member James.

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: I just want to thank Council Member Ignizio for that, and I look forward to working with him. Tragedy and natural disaster knows no political affiliation, and I would love to join with you. I want to express my outrage today that two NYPD officers were acquitted of raping a woman who unfortunately was under the influence while on patrol. The jury convicted both officers of official misconduct, which is a misdemeanor, for entering the woman's apartment, but found them not guilty of all other charges, the most serious felony charges, including burglary and falsifying business records. I'm outraged that this victim is a victim again, and that a woman's credibility is in question again. How could this happen? Two police officers are called to help a drunken woman get out of a taxi, and then the young woman is awakened by being raped in her apartment by one of the officers. The victim actually behaved responsibly in many ways. While out celebrating

1
2 her promotion, she took a taxicab home and also
3 accepted help from law enforcement into her
4 apartment. But on this night, policemen's conduct
5 and a perverse abuse of power ensued. It's
6 unconscionable that these two police officers, who
7 had been called to help a defenseless woman, had
8 instead left her violated and in her own vomit, as
9 she tragically testified. The victim's testimony
10 was compelling, according to reports. The woman
11 heard police radios and velcros before being
12 penetrated as she lay face down. There was a
13 number of other consistencies, but unfortunately
14 she was not to be believed. Why is it that we
15 continue in the City of New York, in the face of
16 all of the misogyny that we are experiencing? The
17 fact that there is an increase in the feminization
18 of poverty, the fact that the budget of the city
19 and the state falls deeply upon women and
20 children, when will we face up to the fact that
21 misogyny is still with us and it's evidenced by
22 this verdict today? I'm a firm believer in the
23 criminal justice system, but we failed. I thank
24 you.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you

1
2 very much, next we have Council Member Rodriguez.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Thank
4 you. I would like to speak about the five
5 boroughs taxi plan. As everyone knows in New York
6 City we have close to 200,000 New Yorkers that
7 depend on the income of hard-working livery taxi
8 drivers and other businesses that are connected to
9 that industry. This week Commissioner Yassky and
10 the Mayor went to Albany, and the legislators in
11 Albany told Yassky and the Mayor to come back in
12 another day with a different plan, because the
13 plan that you presented right now is going nowhere
14 if that hurts the livery taxi drivers that is
15 included in that particular plan. The whole idea
16 of collecting 6,000 new medallions to serve the
17 outer boroughs with 1,000 or 1,500 medallions that
18 will cost from \$600,000 to \$1,000,000 is not
19 affordable to working-class people, is not
20 affordable to those close to 40,000 livery taxi
21 drivers that make a living on \$25,000 a year. It
22 isn't right for anyone that has the money to
23 purchase a Yellow Cab taxi medallion, if they have
24 from \$600,000 to \$1,000,000. However, there's not
25 any possibility that any working-class person can

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2 afford that type of medallion. So I believe that
3 it is important that we put the brakes on, that we
4 send a message to the Commissioner and to the
5 Mayor that that plan as it is, it is unacceptable
6 because it hurts big-time the livery taxi
7 industry. Thank you.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
9 very much, next we have Council Member Sanders.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS, JR.: I am
11 outraged by the acquittal of the police and
12 saddened that a jury would find it in such a
13 fashion. And just ... I'm just ... words don't
14 describe this injustice, that as long as it is not
15 understood that women have value, that they have
16 rights, these things will continue and these types
17 of rulings certainly don't help us get closer to
18 the beloved society that we need to be in. An
19 attack on one is indeed an injury to us all, and
20 we as a society have been deeply injured by this.
21 My sympathies to the victim here.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
23 very much. Seeing no others, as the Speaker
24 stated earlier, the meetings of the Finance and
25 State and Federal Legislation Committees and the

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2 Stated Meeting of the Council are recessed subject

3 to call, we will keep you advised accordingly.

4 Thank you very much, this meeting is recessed.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Richard A. Ziats, 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 _____

Date June 16, 2011