

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Start: 2:25 P.M.

Recess: 3:42 P.M.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: *The Majority Leader (Council
Member Amanda Farías) presiding as
the Acting President Pro Tempore*

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Adrienne E. Adams, *Speaker*

Joann Ariola

Alexa Avilés

Diana I. Ayala

Chris Banks

Erik D. Bottcher

Justin L. Brannan

Gale A. Brewer

Selvena N. Brooks-Powers

Tiffany Cabán

David M. Carr

Carmen N. De La Rosa

Eric Dinowitz

Amanda Farías

Oswald Feliz

James F. Gennaro

Jennifer Gutiérrez

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING
COUNCIL MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

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

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING
A P P E A R A N C E S

INVOCATION DELIVERED BY:

The Very Reverend Thomas F. Vassalotti,
Administrator, St. Francis of Assisi - St Blaise
Parish; Located at 319 Maple Street,
Brooklyn, NY 11225

2 SERGEANT SHERMAN: Good afternoon, this is a
3 microphone check for the Stated Meeting. Today's date
4 is Marh 26, 2025. Location: The Chambers; recorded by
5 Taysha Sherman.

6 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Sergeants, close the doors,
7 please! Quiet, please! Quiet on the floor, please!
8 Council Members, please take your seats, clear the
9 center aisle, thank you very much.

10 (PAUSE)

11 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Can I have your attention,
12 please? At this time, place all electronic devices,
13 all electronic devices to vibrate or silent mode.

14 Madam Majority Leader?

15 (GAVEL SOUND) (GAVELING IN)

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Good afternoon, and
17 welcome to the Stated Meeting of March 26, 2025. I am
18 Majority Leader Amanda Fariás, and I would like to
19 thank you for joining us. If you would like to follow
20 along, the agenda for today's meeting is posted on
21 our website.

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

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

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

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

12 SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise!

13 ALL: [PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE]

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Roll call?

15 CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Present

17 CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: (NO RESPONSE)

19 CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

20 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Here

21 CLERK: Council Member Banks?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Present

23 CLERK: Council Member Bottcher

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Here

25 CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Here

3 CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here

5 CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

6 MAJORITY WHIP BROOKS-POWERS: Present

7 CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Present

9 CLERK: Council Member Carr?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Here

11 CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Here

13 CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Here

15 CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Here

17 CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here

19 CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Here

21 CLERK: Council Member Hanif?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Here

23 CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Present

25 CLERK: Council Member Holden?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here

3 CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Present

5 CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Present

7 CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Here

9 CLERK: Council Member Lee?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Here

11 CLERK: Council Member Louis?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present

13 CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Present

15 CLERK: Council Member Marte?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Present

17 CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: (NO RESPONSE)

19 CLERK: Council Member Menin?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Here

21 CLERK: Council Member Moya?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Here

23 CLERK: Council Member Narcisse?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye, oh, yes, sorry...

25 CLERK:: That counts, but thank you.

2 CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Here

4 CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Present

6 CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

7 MINORITY WHIP PALADINO: Here

8 CLERK: Council Member Powers?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Here

10 CLERK: Council Member Restler?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Here

12 CLERK: Council Member Riley?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Present

14 CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present

16 CLERK: Council Member Salaam

17 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Present

18 CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present

20 CLERK: Council Member Sanchez?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: (NO RESPONSE)

22 CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Here

24 CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Present, here, Stevens.

2 CLERK: Thank you, Council Member Stevens.

3 Council Member Sanchez?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Present

5 CLERK: Thank you

6 Council Member Ung?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Present

8 CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Here

10 CLERK: Council Member Williams?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I'm here.

12 CLERK: Council Member Won?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Present

14 CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Here

16 CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

17 MINORITY LEADER ARIOLA: Aquí

18 CLERK: Council Member Farías?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Present

20 CLERK: Speaker Adams?

21 SPEAKER ADAMS: Present

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you, we will now

23 have today's Invocation, which will delivered by The

24 Very Reverend Thomas F. Vassalotti, Administrator of

25

2 St. Francis of Assisi and St Blaise Parish; located
3 at 319 Maple Street in Brooklyn.

4 SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise!

5 FATHER THOMAS F. VASSALOTTI: Lord God, it is our
6 inestimable privilege and great responsibility of
7 this Council to serve the peoples of the city of New
8 York. We rightly call New York the greatest city on
9 earth. And why? Because no other city can claim so
10 great a diversity so as to resent represent all the
11 peoples on earth.

12 As they begin their deliberations, fill these
13 representatives with the spirit of your wisdom and
14 justice to seek the common good of all, especially
15 the poor and most vulnerable. May they further the
16 safety, well-being, and prosperity of all who live in
17 this great city. Give them a spirit of humility so
18 that they may collaborate peaceably and productively
19 with one another. I ask this in Jesus name. Amen.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Nice and short, thank you.

21 (LAUGHTER)

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Okay, thank you, Council
23 Members. Thank you. I would now like to ask Council
24 Rita Member Joseph to spread the Invocation on the
25 Record.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: I make a motion to spread
3 the today's Invocation on the Record, thank you
4 Majority Leader.

5 It is my great joy and honor to welcome Father
6 Thomas Vassalotti from Saint Francis of Assisi
7 Parish, from my district in Prospect Lefferts
8 Gardens, to deliver today's Invocation. Nice and
9 sweet, right, guys?

10 Father Vassalotti has been a devoted servant to
11 the diocese of Brooklyn since his ordination in 2007.
12 Over the years, he has touched countless lives
13 through his ministry serving years as a pastor of
14 Divine Mercy Parish and previously St. Agatha of
15 Regina Pacis and St. Barbara's in Brooklyn.

16 In addition to his pastoral work, Father
17 Vassalotti brings a deep appreciation for arts to his
18 ministry as a graduate of The Juilliard School. His
19 musical background enriches the worship experience
20 and inspires a vibrant sense of community within his
21 parish.

22 Father, we are truly grateful to have you here
23 today to share your wisdom and lead us in reflection.
24 Thank you for your continued service and for being a

2 guiding light in our community. Thank you for joining
3 us, Father.

4 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you. We will now
5 also ask Council Member Joseph for the Adoption of
6 Minutes.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: I make Motion that the
8 Minutes of the Stated Meetings of February 27, 2025
9 and March 12, 2025 be adopted as printed.

10 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Messages and Papers from
11 the Mayor?

12 CLERK: None.

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Communications from City,
14 County & Borough Offices?

15 CLERK: M 117 Planning Commission Appointment?

16 SPEAKER ADAMS: Rules, Privileges and Elections.

17 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Petitions and
18 Communications?

19 CLERK: None.

20 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Land Use Call-ups?

21 CLERK: M 118.

22 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you, I now ask that the
23 Clerk take a roll call vote on today's Land Use Call-
24 ups.

25 CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye.

3 CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: (NO RESPONSE)

5 CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

6 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Aye.

7 CLERK: Council Member Banks?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye.

9 CLERK: Council Member Bottcher

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Aye.

11 CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye.

13 CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes.

15 CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

16 MAJORITY WHIP BROOKS-POWERS: Aye.

17 CLERK: Okay, thank you.

18 Council Member Cabán?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye.

20 CLERK: Council Member Carr?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Aye.

22 CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye.

24 CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye.

2 CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye.

4 CLERK: Thank you.

5 Council Member Gennaro?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

7 CLERK: Thank you.

8 Council Member Gutiérrez?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye.

10 CLERK: Thank you.

11 Council Member Hanif?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye.

13 CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye.

15 CLERK: Council Member Holden?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye.

17 CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye.

19 CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye.

21 CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye.

23 CLERK: Council Member Lee?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye.

25 CLERK: Council Member Louis?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye.

3 CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Aye.

5 CLERK: Council Member Marte?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye.

7 CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: (NO RESPONSE)

9 CLERK: Council Member Menin?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye.

11 CLERK: Council Member Moya?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

13 CLERK: Thank you.

14 Council Member Narcisse?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye.

16 CLERK: Council Member Nurse?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: (NO RESPONSE)

18 CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Aye.

20 CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

21 MINORITY WHIP PALADINO: Aye.

22 CLERK: Council Member Powers?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: (UN-MIC'D) Aye.

24 CLERK: Council Member Restler?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye.

2 CLERK: Council Member Riley?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye.

4 CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

6 CLERK: Council Member Salaam

7 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: I vote aye.

8 CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: I vote aye.

10 CLERK: Thank you.

11 Council Member Sanchez?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: I vote aye.

13 CLERK: Thank you.

14 Council Member Schulman?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye.

16 CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye.

18 CLERK: Thank you.

19 Council Member Ung?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye.

21 CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye.

23 CLERK: Council Member Williams?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye.

25 CLERK: Council Member Won?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye.

3 CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye.

5 CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

6 MINORITY LEADER ARIOLA: I vote aye.

7 CLERK: Council Member Farías?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye.

9 CLERK: Speaker Adams?

10 SPEAKER ADAMS: Aye.

11 CLERK: Council Member Avilés, Land Use Call-ups?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: I vote aye.

13 CLERK: Thank you.

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Today's Land Use Call-ups

15 are adopted by a vote of 48 in the affirmative and 0

16 in the negative.

17 We will now have communication from Speaker

18 Adrienne Adams.

19 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you very much, Madam

20 Majority Leader, and good afternoon, everyone.

21 I want to start by discussing a serious potential

22 threat by the Trump administration that will harm our

23 city and New Yorkers.

24 The federal budget cuts targeting FEMA could

25 directly impact New York City Emergency Management. A

1 city agency that relies on nearly \$110 million in
2 federal grants. If that funding is pulled, NYCEM
3 could lose as many as 160 positions which represents
4 two-thirds of the agency's workforce. This would be
5 devastating for the workers and their families, and
6 it would make our city less safe, less prepared for
7 extreme weather, and less prepared for health
8 emergencies. We rely on their expertise during
9 moments of crisis and without them, New Yorkers are
10 left in a vulnerable position.

12 The Trump administration is threatening to pull
13 federal funding from the MTA at a time when our
14 public transit system can least afford it. Let's be
15 clear about what that will mean. It will mean more
16 delays, fewer police officers, and a less safe
17 transit system for millions of riders.

18 As I have said before, none of this is helping
19 working families. Instead Trump is tearing things
20 down, undermining safety in our city, and
21 destabilizing our economy. He and Elon Musk continue
22 to use any excuse they can to divert funding from the
23 services that support working families to advance tax
24 cuts for the wealthiest 1% in the country. I will not
25 be silent in the face of attacks on New York City and

1
2 working people. We must stand up to defend our city,
3 defend its people, and defend our values.

4 Over the last few weeks, our city lost several
5 New Yorkers whose lives were cut short while on the
6 job. We mourn the passing of Mamadou Barry, a 63-
7 year-old Uber driver; Vladimir Cruz, a 39-year-old
8 construction worker; Johanci Chapman, a 25-year-old
9 dollar van driver; and Anton Albert, a 30-year-old
10 bouncer. My thoughts— our thoughts— are with their
11 loved ones during this difficult time.

12 Throughout the month of March, the Council has
13 hosted preliminary budget hearings to examine agency
14 budgets and the funding needed to support New
15 Yorkers. The last set of hearings concluded on
16 Tuesday, and I want to thank all of you for your
17 continued leadership in these hearings, as well as
18 our Finance Division for their hard work. I also want
19 to thank the members of the public for adding their
20 voices and thoughts to this important ongoing
21 conversation. As we continue the budget process for
22 Fiscal Year 2026, I encourage everyone to continue to
23 stay engaged and provide your critical input.

24 March 23rd was Pakistan Day, which commemorates
25 the adoption of the Lahore Resolution that led to the

1
2 formation of the nation of Pakistan. I join all
3 Pakistani New Yorkers who celebrate this day of
4 freedom and independence.

5 Yesterday was Greek Independence Day, and we
6 joined our city's vibrant Greek communities in
7 observance of this important celebration.

8 Today is Bangladesh Independence Day, and the
9 Council will host a Bangladesh Independence Day
10 celebration right here in Council Chambers starting
11 at five p.m. I invite all New Yorkers to join us.

12 The evening of Saturday March 29th will be the
13 start of Eid al-Fitr, which marks the end of the
14 blessed month of Ramadan to the nearly one million
15 Muslim New Yorkers who make our diverse city
16 stronger, Eid Mubarak. We will also host an Eid
17 celebration on Tuesday April 1st starting at 5:30
18 P.M.

19 To mark the end of Women's History Month, the
20 Council will host its annual Women's History Month
21 celebration right here in the People's House on
22 Monday March 31st. We hope to see you all then.

23 On Saturday, March 29th, the Council will kick
24 off Participatory Budgeting Vote Week. Through
25 Sunday, April 6th, New Yorkers over the age of 11 can

2 vote for their favorite proposals to be considered
3 for City funding. I'm excited to see all of the
4 projects that New Yorkers created to improve their
5 local park, school, library or other public spaces.

6 On a personal note, this Participatory Budgeting
7 cycle will be my last in the City Council, and I'm so
8 proud to have been a PB supporter since my very first
9 year in office in 2017.

10 Through participatory budgeting, we've allocated
11 nearly \$5.5 million for dozens of projects in my own
12 district, while also encouraging more residents to be
13 civically engaged and involved in their community.
14 Thank you to all of the council staff who worked on
15 participatory budgeting and every New Yorker who has
16 engaged in this process. I encourage everyone to vote
17 during PB vote week.

18 Next please join me in wishing a happy belated
19 birthday to Council Members Chi Ossé and Lincoln
20 Restler, and a happy early birthday to Council Member
21 Nantasha Williams.

22 (APPLAUSE)

23 I hope you all have had and do have a wonderful
24 celebration.

2 Finally, please join me in honoring Miss Phyllis
3 Henderson.

4 (APPLAUSE)

5 We recognize her 20 years of public service with
6 the New York City Council and retirement at the end
7 of this month. I know. Miss Henderson, whom we
8 affectionately call Miss Phyllis, has been a member
9 of the Council's central staff since 2005— serving
10 under five City Council speakers— but I'm her
11 favorite. (LAUGHTER) She's been a constant source of
12 kindness and support for all who have worked here.
13 Join me once again colleagues and friends for a round
14 of applause for our own Miss Phyllis who's in
15 Chambers with us today.

16 (APPLAUSE)

17 No, she's not gonna give you any candy now Alexa.

18 (LAUGHTER) She might actually.

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

20 First, we will vote on the following Land Use
21 items:

22 H+H Operating Agreement will approve the transfer
23 of eight city-owned properties to the New York City
24 Health + Hospitals Corporation. The properties are
25 located in the districts of Deputy Speaker Ayala and

1 Council Members Marte, Dinowitz, Stevens, Hudson,
2 Ossé, and Banks.

3
4 581 Grant Avenue Development, and HPD Application
5 to facilitate the development of a new seven-story
6 affordable housing building on a city-owned parking
7 lot adjacent to the Grant Avenue A train station in
8 Council Member Nurse's district. These applications
9 involve a Rezoning, Zoning Text Amendment, and UDAP
10 Designation. The proposed development will include
11 213 affordable rental units to be developed under the
12 extremely low and low income affordability term
13 sheet. The Council is modifying the application by
14 removing MIH Option Two and adding MIH Option Three
15 for deep affordability.

16 123-12 Sutphin Boulevard Rezoning will facilitate
17 the development of a five-story building with
18 residential and community facility uses in my
19 district. The resulting development will have 111
20 residential units, approximately 28 of which will be
21 affordable under MIH Option Three for deep
22 affordability. The project is a collaboration between
23 the Full Gospel Mission Church of God in Christ and
24 SR Equities and includes 10,000 square feet of
25 community facility space including a new sanctuary

2 for the church. The building will feature a rooftop
3 recreation space and the development team plans to
4 collaborate with students and teachers at PS 223-Q to
5 create public artwork facing the school.

6 47-Seat Primary School Facility, an acquisition
7 by the New York City School Construction Authority of
8 four privately owned lots as a proposed site for a
9 new school in Majority Leader Farías' district.

10 Brook 156 will amend an HPD project to permit
11 commercial or community facility uses within a
12 previously approved multi family building in Council
13 Member Salamanca's district.

14 West 128th-129th HPD application to facilitate
15 the preservation and rehabilitation of four city-
16 owned buildings with 96 affordable home ownership
17 units under the ANCP Program with designation of an
18 urban development action area project in Council
19 Member Salaam's district.

20 Next, we will vote on the following Finance
21 items:

22 Preconsidered Resolution, sponsored by Council
23 Member Justin Brannan, establishing a new 40-year
24 Article XI Tax Exemption for 3 lots in Council Member
25 Abreu's district.

2 A Preconsidered Resolution, also sponsored by
3 Council Member Justin Brannan, establishing a new 40-
4 year Article XI Tax Exemption for one lot in Council
5 Member Hudson's district.

6 A Preconsidered Resolution, sponsored by Deputy
7 Speaker Ayala, regarding the establishment of the
8 East Harlem 125th Street business improvement
9 district in Manhattan and setting the date, time and
10 place for a public hearing on its establishment.

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

13 Resolution 792, sponsored by Council Member
14 Tiffany Cabán and Majority Leader Amanda Fariás,
15 Declaring March 25th as Greek Cultural Appreciation
16 and Independence Day annually the city of New York.

17 Resolution 720-A, sponsored by Council Member
18 Carlina Rivera, calling on the New York State
19 Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign,
20 A.50/S.1077, known as the New York City Arts Space
21 Act, to promote the development of affordable arts
22 spaces in New York City. Thank you to our staff
23 member Regina Paul.

24 Resolution 721-A, sponsored by Council Member
25 Lynn Schulman, calling upon the New York State

1
2 Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign,
3 S.1804/A.128, legislation that would eliminate
4 deductibles, copayment, coinsurance, or any other
5 cost-sharing requirements for asthma inhalers.

6 Resolution 722-A, also sponsored by Council
7 Member Lynn Schulman, calling upon the United States
8 Congress to reintroduce and pass, and the President
9 to sign, H.R. 2665, the Supporting Safety Net
10 Hospitals Act, to delay Medicaid disproportionate
11 share hospital payment reductions until Fiscal Year
12 2026. Thank you to our staff member Josh Newman.

13 Resolution 414-A, sponsored by Council Member
14 Sandy Nurse, calling on the New York State
15 Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign
16 S.4795/A.5959 requiring at least one member of the
17 State Board of Parole be a formerly incarcerated
18 person.

19 Resolution 415-A, sponsored by Public Advocate
20 Jumaane Williams, calling on the New York State
21 Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign
22 S.206A/A.1432A, which would remove the lifetime ban
23 on jury duty for convicted felons and postpone jury
24 service for any person currently incarcerated for a
25 felony.

2 Resolution 417-A, sponsored by Council Member
3 Kevin Riley, calling on the New York State
4 Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign
5 S.4812/A.5269A, which would allow for the return of
6 fines, restitution and reparation payments where
7 there was an unjust conviction in a timely manner. We
8 thank our staff member Chad Benjamin.

9 Resolution 730, sponsored by Council Member Chris
10 Banks, calling on the New York State Legislature to
11 pass, and the Governor to sign, legislation to
12 conduct a thorough study on the RAD/PACT program to
13 assess the effects of conversion on residents and the
14 program's impacts on tenant rights, security, and
15 community well-being.

16 Resolution 731, also sponsored by Council Member
17 Banks, calling on the New York State Legislature to
18 pass, and the Governor to sign, legislation to
19 implement a more robust resident engagement and
20 voting process at each NYCHA development considering
21 RAD/PACT conversion. Thank you to our staff member
22 Charles Kim.

23 Resolution 119-A, sponsored by Council Member
24 Crystal Hudson, calling on the New York State
25 Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign

1
2 A.1621/S.4098, in relation to prohibiting property
3 owners from filing eviction proceedings for tenants
4 who reside in buildings with substantial pending
5 housing maintenance code violations. Thank you to our
6 staff members Charles Kim, Andrew Bourne, and Dirk
7 Spencer.

8 Resolution 246-A, also sponsored by, Council
9 Member Nurse, calling on the New York State
10 Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign,
11 legislation requiring unlawful eviction cases to be
12 heard within five days.

13 Resolution 524-A, sponsored by Council Member
14 Kevin Riley, calling on the New York State
15 Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, S.126,
16 in relation to legal representation in certain
17 mortgage foreclosure actions. Thank you to our staff
18 members Jose Conde, Andrew Bourne, and Dirk Spencer.

19 Next we will vote on a pair of bills to expand
20 services for people living with HIV:

21 Resolution 175-A, sponsored by Council Member Chi
22 Ossé, calling upon the New York State Legislature to
23 pass, and the Governor to sign, S.442/A.3355, which
24 would amend the Social Services Law to mandate each
25 local department of social service link persons

1 living with HIV with benefits and services and
2 provide that persons living with HIV who are
3 receiving housing assistance shall not be required to
4 pay more than 30% of household income towards shelter
5 costs.
6

7 Introduction 1194-A, sponsored by Council Member
8 Lynn Schulman, would codify the eligibility of
9 HIV/AIDS services to include any person living with
10 HIV. Thank you to our staff members Nina Rosenberg
11 and Sahar Moazami.

12 Next, Introduction 1047-B, sponsored by Council
13 Member Shaun Abreu, would require the New York City
14 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), or
15 another agency designated by the Mayor, to establish
16 a three-year pilot program that provides access to
17 sleep apnea screenings at no cost as well as access
18 to home sleep apnea tests, if deemed appropriate.
19 This bill would also require DOHMH to prioritize
20 individuals without insurance. Thank you to our staff
21 member Sara Sucher.

22 Finally, we will vote on a package of legislation
23 to reform the rules governing sidewalk sheds. For too
24 long, the dull green scaffolding that towers over
25 miles of our city sidewalks have been a fixture in

2 our streetscapes. These structures are not just
3 eyesores that cover up buildings, they're also a
4 blight that impacts our public safety. Today's
5 legislation reforms are way long overdue. And I am
6 proud that under this Council, we are finally taking
7 action to address these challenges.

8 Introduction 661-A, sponsored by Council Member
9 Erik Bottcher, strengthens enforcement of facade
10 repairs by introducing penalties for failure to
11 submit construction documents to the Department of
12 Buildings, file necessary permit applications, and
13 complete repairs.

14 Introduction 660-A, also sponsored by Council
15 Member Bottcher, would double the required level of
16 lighting under sidewalk sheds from 45 lumens per watt
17 or greater to 90 lumens per watt or greater. It would
18 require that lighting under sidewalk sheds be LED
19 lights.

20 Introduction 394-A, sponsored by Council Member
21 Keith Powers, would require DOB to complete a study
22 and review the frequency of the facade inspection and
23 safety program and recommend changes to the Council
24 by December 31, 2025. This bill would also extend the
25

1
2 inspection cycle from every five years to a longer
3 interval time between six to twelve years.

4 Introduction 393-A, also sponsored by Council
5 Member Kieth Powers, would reduce the duration of
6 sidewalk shed permits for facade repairs from one
7 year to three months, unless they're connected to
8 demolition, a building alteration, or new building
9 construction. This bill would also create new
10 penalties for property owners who delay necessary
11 repairs for sidewalk sheds occupying the public right
12 of way.

13 Finally, Introduction 391-A, sponsored by Council
14 Member Powers, would require DOB to complete a study
15 and recommend new sidewalk shed designs by September
16 30, 2025. This bill would also allow more color
17 options for sheds, require corresponding construction
18 fences to match the color of the sidewalk shed,
19 increase lighting beneath sidewalk sheds, and raise
20 the minimum height of sidewalk sheds to 12 feet—
21 except in areas where exits, light, or ventilation
22 would be obstructed. We thank our staff members
23 Austin Malone, Andrew Bourne, Dirk Spencer, and
24 Elliot Heisler.

2 And we also thank former Deputy Mayor, Meera
3 Joshi, for her partnership on this great package of
4 bills.

5 Thank you colleagues for your attention. I turn
6 it back over to our Majority Leader.

7 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Thank you, Speaker Adams.
8 We will now move into Discussion of General Orders.
9 I would like to recognize Council Member Powers
10 first, then Council Member Bottcher, and Council
11 Member Schulman.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Thank you, and good
13 afternoon to everyone.

14 I am excited to, say what we all know to be now
15 true, that New York is going to shed the sheds once
16 and for all and get rid of the ugly green scaffolding
17 that has become a permanent fixture of New York City
18 streets. You can definitely applaud for that.

19 (APPLAUSE)

20 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Oh, you're not supposed to
21 applaud. We'll applaud.

22 We know as New Yorkers that these sidewalk sheds
23 are important to keeping New Yorkers safe when
24 construction's going on or facade inspections are
25 going on. But off more often than not, work slows,

2 repairs drag on, and scaffolding is left for months
3 or even years and even decades on our streets.

4 Over 1,000 sidewalk sheds today have been up over
5 three years, each one becoming a seemingly permanent
6 blight on our landscape and a permanent fixture
7 inside the neighborhoods.

8 What does that really mean for New Yorkers? That
9 means a small business that's buried under the
10 scaffold that no longer can be visible to the foot
11 traffic on the street. People walking through those
12 alleyways that are dark and dimly lit, that become a
13 public safety hazard. For property owners, people
14 have to put them up. They're costly, and they seem to
15 never end. People in our public housing or campus,
16 types of housing, it means you... it's our entire
17 neighborhoods are covered in scaffolding, meaning
18 they're unsafe. And for New Yorkers, it means we
19 don't even get to look at the beautiful city that we
20 live in. For people that are visiting, they don't get
21 to enjoy the beautiful skylines and the architecture
22 of New York City. Today, we put an end to that.

23 We're doing a package of bills alongside my
24 friend, Council Member Erik Botcher, that would
25 reform this process to number one, update the design

2 standards to put bright lighting under them, to allow
3 for new colors, not just the ugly green, and to allow
4 for higher heights so we don't have to feel so
5 claustrophobic when we're underneath them.

6 Where when they go up, we wanna make sure they
7 get down. So we're finally accelerating the timeline
8 for when they go up and making sure that people who
9 put them up are actually doing the work so they don't
10 stay up for decades.

11 And for folks who are facing the burden every
12 five years of having to do the inspections of the
13 work, we're now going to do a more nuanced approach,
14 not the one-size-fits-all approach that has long
15 plagued our city and to give new buildings, give
16 buildings of different types, different timeline than
17 just the five years.

18 I want to acknowledge a whole host of people that
19 are here with us today, but I do want to acknowledge
20 that the Local Law 11 and the predecessor to it,
21 Local Law 10, originate from an accident that
22 happened of a young New Yorker named Grace Gold, a
23 student at Barnard, who in 1979 was hit and
24 tragically lost her life as a result of a facade that
25 was in need of repair. We are joined here today by

2 her sister who joined us in these efforts (TIMER
3 CHIMES) to make sure we can maintain the safety while
4 also modernizing those laws, and she's here with us
5 today. I want to welcome her and thank her for her
6 partnership.

7 And, of course, thank, our Manhattan Borough...

8 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Council Member, your time
9 has expired.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: I just wanna acknowledge
11 the staff who worked on this, and I will be done.

12 I wanna just acknowledge, Brad Reid and Austin
13 Malone and Audrey Sun, my staff, Haley, Ben, and
14 Emma, who all worked on this, and I encourage you all
15 to vote aye. Thanks so much.

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you. Recognizing
17 Council Member Bottcher, followed by Council Member
18 Schulman, then Council Member Abreu.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Thank you, Majority
20 Leader.

21 I have two bills in today's package. One would
22 establish time limits for property owners to file for
23 permits to do the work on their facades after
24 scaffolding has been put up. Another would establish
25 time limits for doing the work. I have another bill

2 that would increase the lighting requirements under
3 scaffolding.

4 So I thought before today that everyone knew that
5 gay men hated overhead lighting. It's a 100% true.
6 The one exception I would say is sidewalk
7 scaffolding. If you invite me to your house, I will
8 turn off your overhead lighting and turn on all the
9 lamps. But scaffolding is different. Our legislation
10 will increase the lighting requirements. It'll
11 require LED lighting. The lighting technology has
12 changed since we put light bulbs under scaffolding.
13 We have LED light strips brighter, safer, more energy
14 efficient. So proud to be part of this package of
15 legislation. Really want to thank Speaker Adams for
16 her leadership, Keith Powers for his leadership, and
17 all the staff who worked on this important package of
18 legislation.

19 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
20 Member Schulman, followed by Council Member Abreu,
21 then Council Member Brewer.

22 (PAUSE)

23 Council Member Schulman?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Good afternoon,
25 everyone. Today, the Council is taking a historic

1 step to ensure that every New Yorker living with HIV
2 has access to the vital support and services they
3 need. That's why I'm asking all of my colleagues to
4 please vote yes on Introduction 1194-A. By expanding
5 eligibility for the HIV/AIDS Services Administration,
6 we are breaking down outdated barriers and aligning
7 our policies with the reality of modern HIV care,
8 because early intervention and comprehensive support
9 save lives.
10

11 For too long, many people living with HIV have
12 been denied the housing, nutrition, and case
13 management services that can make the difference
14 between stability and crisis. This legislation is
15 about dignity, equity, and our ongoing commitment to
16 ending the HIV epidemic in New York City.

17 I want to thank Speaker Adrian Adams for her
18 leadership, Deputy Speaker and General Welfare Chair,
19 Diana Ayala, my colleagues in the Council, for their
20 support, and the tireless advocates who have fought
21 for this change. Together, we are making New York
22 City a place where no one is left behind. Thank you.

23 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
24 Member Abreu, followed by Council Member Brewer.
25

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

4 Today, as we pass Introduction 1047, we're taking
5 a step forward for public health, especially for New
6 Yorkers who have gone for far too long without
7 answers about their fatigue, their concentration
8 issues, and their heart health. This bill will help
9 identify sleep apnea early, particularly in
10 communities that are often overlooked when it comes
11 to preventative care. It directs Department Mental
12 Health and Hygiene to launch an outreach campaign and
13 offer free screening and treatment so that more New
14 Yorkers can get tested and finally get a good night's
15 sleep. No one wants their bus driver or their child's
16 school teacher to be battling fatigue while they're
17 doing their jobs, yet we have taken almost no steps
18 as a city to promote the better health. That ends
19 today.

20 I want to thank my colleagues for supporting this
21 legislation, particularly Chair Schulman and Speaker
22 Adams. I also thank committee counsel Sara Sucher and
23 my Deputy Chief of Staff, Jalissa Quigley.

24 I look forward to seeing the impact it will have
25 on well-being across our city. Thank you.

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
3 Member Brewer.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you very much.

5 I certainly will be voting for the scaffolding,
6 but I want to mention one thing, because a lot of the
7 coops have contacted me— actually just yesterday and
8 today, which is on 393, if we are talking about
9 within every 90 days to produce a report, it's gonna
10 include the engineer's report, the architect's
11 report, the signoffs, the filing of signatures, and I
12 guess a fee. But the fee will be more than the usual
13 \$135 per year, because you have to pay the architect
14 and the engineer and so on every 90 days. And I'm not
15 sure that DOB is going read these reports coming in
16 every 90 days.

17 So what I'm saying is, hopefully, in the rule
18 making, Commissioner Otto can take a look at this and
19 see if there's a longer time period. I know that,
20 Chair Powers has figured out how to have more grace
21 period and figure out hardships. So maybe every coop
22 should say, "I have a hardship," and that would end
23 the problem.

24 But I would like to say that DOB needs to look at
25 this carefully and figure out a way that they are

2 not, particularly some of the coops, paying every 90
3 days for all of these services that then are gonna
4 end up having a higher fee and more time involved.
5 Because that's not the purpose. The purpose is to get
6 the scaffolding down. Thank you very much.

7 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Seeing no one else signed
8 up to speak, Report of Special Committees?

9 CLERK: None.

10 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Report of Standing
11 Committees?

12 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Finance,
13 Preconsidered Resolution 813, East Harlem bid.

14 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

15 CLERK: Preconsidered Resolution 815, Transparency
16 Resolution.

17 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

18 CLERK: Preconsidered LUs 254 and Resolution 824
19 and 255 and Resolution 825, tax exemptions?

20 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

21 CLERK: Report of the Committee on General
22 Welfare, Introduction 1194-A, services for people
23 with HIV/AIDS?

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

2 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Health,
3 Introduction 1047-B, Sleep Apnea Pilot Program?

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

6 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Housing and
7 Buildings, Introductions 391-A through 661-A, on page
8 three, sidewalk sheds and wall inspections?

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

11 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Land Use LUs
12 234 through 263, 581 Grant Avenue Development?

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

16 CLERK: LU 238 and Resolution 826, H+H Operating
17 Agreement?

18 SPEAKER ADAMS: Approved with Modifications and
19 Coupled on General Orders.

20 CLERK: LUs 239 and 240, 123-12 Sutphin Boulevard
21 Rezoning?

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

2 CLERK: LU 251 and Resolution 827, New Primary
3 School?

4 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

5 CLERK: LU 252 and Resolution 828 and 253 and
6 Resolution 829, West 128th-129th Street Cluster?

7 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

8 CLERK: Preconsidered LU 256 and Resolution 830,
9 Brook 156?

10 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

11 CLERK: On the General Orders Calendar, LU 234 and
12 Resolution 831 through LU 240 and Resolution 835,
13 Applications from City Planning?

14 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

15 CLERK: Resolution appointing various persons
16 Commissioner of Deeds?

17 SPEAKER ADAMS: Coupled on General Orders.

18 I now ask that the Clerk take a roll call vote on
19 all of the items coupled on today's General Orders
20 Calendar.

21 CLERK: Council Member Abreu?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: I vote aye.

23 CLERK: Council Member Avilés?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye.

25 CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

2 DEPUTY SPEAKER AYALA: Aye.

3 CLERK: Council Member Banks?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye.

5 CLERK: Council Member Bottcher

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHER: Aye.

7 CLERK: Council Member Brannan?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye.

9 CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes.

11 CLERK: Council Member Brooks-Powers?

12 MAJORITY WHIP BROOKS-POWERS: Hello, can you hear
13 me?

14 CLERK: Yes, Council Member.

15 MAJORITY WHIP BROOKS-POWERS: I vote aye,
16 congratulations to Council Members Powers and
17 Bottcher.

18 CLERK: Thank you, Council Member Brooks-Powers.

19 Council Member Cabán?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye on all.

21 CLERK: Thank you, Council Member Cabán.

22 Council Member Carr?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Aye on all.

24 CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye.

2 CLERK: Council Member Dinowitz?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye.

4 CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye.

6 CLERK: Thank you.

7 Council Member Gennaro?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: I vote aye.

9 CLERK: Thank you, Council Member.

10 Council Member Gutiérrez?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye.

12 CLERK: Thank you.

13 Council Member Hanif?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye.

15 CLERK: Council Member Hanks?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: I vote aye.

17 CLERK: Council Member Holden?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye.

19 CLERK: Council Member Hudson?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye.

21 CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye.

23 CLERK: Council Member Krishnan?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye.

25 CLERK: Council Member Lee?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye on all.

3 CLERK: Council Member Louis?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye.

5 CLERK: Council Member Marmorato?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: I vote aye on all.

7 CLERK: Council Member Marte?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye on all.

9 CLERK: Council Member Mealy?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye.

11 CLERK: Council Member Menin?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye.

13 CLERK: Council Member Moya?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

15 CLERK: Thank you.

16 Council Member Narcisse?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Permission to explain my

18 vote?

19 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Permission granted.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: There's a lot of going

21 on around me in Sheepshead Bay Area. Have over a

22 1,000 people...

23 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Council Member, is this

24 about...

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: came out for the
3 (INAUDIBLE)... (CROSS-TALK)

4 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: (INAUDIBLE)

5 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: For the LUs, I going to
6 get to the LUs.

7 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: That's...

8 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: The LUs, I'm going to
9 abstain, because there is a bait and switch that's
10 going on. They should stop. And I'm not going any
11 further on that one. And that's the reason I am have
12 to no to that, and yes to all.

13 CLERK: Council Member Narcisse, can you specify
14 the... (CROSS-TALK)

15 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: No to LUs.

16 CLERK: Entire LUs?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Yes.

18 CLERK: Thank you.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: And ayes for the rest.

20 CLERK: Thank you.

21 Council Member Nurse?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: (UN-MIC'D) Aye.

23 CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Aye on all.

25 CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

2 MINORITY WHIP PALADINO: Aye on all.

3 CLERK: Council Member Powers?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: (UN-MIC'D) Aye on all.

5 CLERK: Council Member Restler?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye. Well, you know, and
7 this is a great package. So, congratulations to both
8 sponsors. (LAUGHTER) My constituents will be very,
9 very happy.

10 CLERK: Thank you.

11 Council Member Riley?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye. Aye.

13 CLERK: Council Member Rivera?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Congrats to my colleagues,
15 I vote aye.

16 CLERK: Council Member Salaam?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: I vote aye on all.

18 CLERK: Council Member Salamanca?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye on all.

20 CLERK: Thank you.

21 Council Member Sanchez?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: A huge congratulations to
23 my colleagues, aye.

24 CLERK: Thank you, Council Member.

25 Council Member Schulman?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye.

3 CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye.

5 CLERK: Thank you.

6 Council Member Ung?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye.

8 CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye.

10 CLERK: Council Member Williams?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye, and as a
12 person who was recently diagnosed with sleep apnea, I
13 am particularly really excited about that, but also
14 excited about the other bills, thank you.

15 CLERK: Council Member Won?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye.

17 CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye.

19 CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

20 MINORITY LEADER ARIOLA: Aye on all.

21 CLERK: Council Member Farías?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye on all.

23 CLERK: Speaker Adams?

24

25

2 SPEAKER ADAMS: I vote aye, especially to the LU
3 that's in my own district, really happy for Community
4 Board 12, aye on all, thank you.

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: All items on today's
6 General Order Calendar are adopted by a vote of 49 in
7 the affirmative, 0 in the negative, and 0
8 abstentions; with the exception of all Land Use
9 items, which were adopted by a vote 48 in the
10 affirmative, 1 in the negative, and 0 abstentions.

11 Introduction and Reading of Bills?

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

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you. We will now
15 move into Discussion of Resolutions. And I would
16 first like to recognize Council Member Banks,
17 followed by Council Member Nurse, then Council Member
18 Cabán.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Thank you, Madam Major
20 Majority Leader, and good afternoon to my colleagues.

21 Today, we are voting on two resolutions crucial
22 to defending the rights and voices of public housing
23 residents. Resolutions, 730 and resolution 731
24 directly address the biggest concerns raised by NYCHA
25 residents about the RAD/PACT program, concerns that

1
2 have existed for years now. As many of you are aware,
3 the RAD/PACT program was intended to address the
4 deteriorating conditions in our public housing
5 developments. However, for far too many residents, it
6 has resulted in rising rents and adequate repairs and
7 in so many cases, serious threats to their safety and
8 stability.

9 We cannot allow this to continue. These
10 resolutions are a direct response to the tireless
11 advocacy of NYCHA residents and tenant organizations
12 who have long fought for greater protections and a
13 more transparent process. We owe it to them and to
14 all the public housing residents to act now and
15 ensure that their voices are respected.

16 I encourage all my colleagues to vote yes on
17 these resolutions. (TIMER CHIMES) And it is time to
18 take a proactive step towards making our public
19 housing system more accountable, more equitable, and
20 more responsive to the needs of the people it serves.
21 Thank you, and thank you to the staff.

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
23 Member Nurse, followed Council Member Cabán, then
24 Council Member Riley.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Thank you, Majority Leader.

1 Today I have two resolutions, 246 and 414-A; 246
2 is calling on the State to essentially provide the
3 right to have the people who have unlawfully been
4 evicted to have their case heard within five days—
5 Right now, the judges have the discretion to hear it
6 or not, and we want to make this a right for legal
7 occupants, so that we are helping people to not be
8 essentially rendered homeless.
9

10 And Resolution 414-A is calling on the State to
11 pass S.3746, a bill that would require at least one
12 member of the State Board of Parole to be a formerly
13 incarcerated person.

14 Years of reporting has shown and exposed the
15 disparities within our state's parole system, and
16 formerly incarcerated individuals know intimately
17 what it takes to rebuild a life after navigating the
18 carceral system and reintegrate into our communities.
19 Their voices and experiences are invaluable and
20 should be guiding these decisions, so I ask for your
21 support on this, colleagues. (TIMER CHIMES) Thank
22 you.

23 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
24 Member Cabán, followed by Council Member Riley, then
25 Council Member Hudson.

COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Thank you.

Today, I am proud to be passing a resolution alongside Majority Leader Amanda Farias, declaring March 25th Greek Cultural Appreciation and Independence Day. This resolution honors Greece's fight for independence and the enormous impact Greek immigrants and Greek Americans have had on our city.

Since the turn of the 20th century, many thousands of Greek immigrants have made their way to New York City, and a significant number of them have found a home in the heart of my district, Astoria, Queens. Today, about 70,000 Greek New Yorkers are irreplaceable members of our city. March 25th is the day on which the Greek people celebrate the Greek Revolution of 1821, and greet each other by saying *Chrónia pollá*, which means live many years.

Thank you to our community partners, including the Greek Cultural Center, (INAUDIBLE) the Hellenic Film Society, and Aktina Productions.

Today, recognize the Greek community in my district, the deep bond between Greece and The United States, and the social and cultural contributions of Greek Americans in New York City. May they live many years. Thank you. (TIMER CHIMES)

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
3 Member Riley, followed Council Member Hudson, then
4 Council Member Rivera.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Thank you, Majority Leader.

6 Today, I'm introduced excuse me... We're passing
7 two resolutions. If passed, these resolutions will
8 address critical issues protecting homeowners from
9 foreclosures and ensuring those wrongfully convicted
10 are not further burdened by the criminal justice
11 system.

12 Reso 24... Excuse me, Resolution 524-A a calls on
13 the New York State Legislative to pass bill S.126
14 sponsored by Senator Leroy Comrie, ensuring
15 homeowners facing foreclosures have the right to
16 legal counsel if they cannot afford it.

17 Resolution 417-A urges New York State Legislature
18 to pass, and the Governor to sign A.4246, sponsored
19 by a Assemblymember Brian Cunningham, mandating the
20 timely return of fines, restitution, and reparations
21 to individuals whose wrongful convictions have been
22 overturned.

23 These resolutions make sure that wrongfully
24 convicted individuals are not further punished by
25 financial consequences. Our foreclosures have risen

2 in New York City, leaving families especially in
3 underserved communities vulnerable without legal
4 help. I want to thank my cosponsors, colleagues, and
5 the advocates (TIMER CHIMES) for their partnerships
6 and championing these resolutions. Thank you,
7 Majority Leader.

8 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
9 Member Hudson, followed by Council Member Rivera.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Thank you, Majority
11 Leader.

12 Thirty-four percent of New York City tenants
13 spend at least half of their income on rent. The
14 staggering cost of living has forced millions to
15 choose between housing and other essential needs. And
16 when individuals dedicate such a significant portion
17 of their income to rent, they deserve livable housing
18 conditions in return. Yet every day, my office, and
19 those of my colleagues across the City, are inundated
20 with cases of landlords failing to fulfill necessary
21 housing repairs.

22 In New York City, although tenants have the right
23 to withhold rent until their apartments meet livable
24 standards, those simply (BACKGROUND NOISE)... those

1 exercising their rights often face eviction as
2 retaliation from their landlords.

3 As a body, we must continue our work to mitigate
4 soaring housing costs and alleviate the burden placed
5 on nearly all New Yorkers. That's why I'm proud that
6 today we're voting on Resolution 119, calling on the
7 New York State Legislature to pass, and the Governor
8 to sign, A.1621/S.4098, in relation to prohibiting
9 property owners from filing eviction proceedings for
10 tenants who reside in buildings with substantial
11 pending housing maintenance code violations.

12 By passing this resolution, we're sending (TIMER
13 CHIMES) a clear message to our colleagues at the
14 state level and to all New Yorkers that the right to
15 safe and stable housing must be prioritized. Thank
16 you.

17 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
18 Member Rivera.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you.

20 Today, we're voting on Resolution Number 720
21 expressing the Council's support for the State
22 Legislature's New York City Art Space Act. The bill
23 proposes to extend property tax benefits to building
24 owners and developers for the creation of long term,
25

1 affordable artist workspaces in commercial buildings
2 being converted for residential use.

3 It's just one way we can increase access to
4 affordable studios, rehearsal and performance spaces,
5 as well as cultural programming open to the public.
6 It's also an investment that will pay off many times
7 over. It preserves community heritage and helps
8 stabilize the foundation of our creative economy, a
9 sector that generates 13% of the City's economic
10 activity.

11 And I've heard loud and clear from organizations
12 and workers that rising rents and financial
13 instability are among their most pressing challenges.
14 The New York City Art Space Act would help bolster
15 one of our greatest assets and ensure that New York
16 can remain a place where artists can thrive.

17 I hope I can count on your support for Resolution
18 720. Thank you. (TIMER CHIMES)

19 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Seeing no one else signed
20 up to speak, we will now have a voice vote on today's
21 Resolutions. If you wish to vote against or abstain
22 from today's Resolution, please notify the
23 Legislative Documents Unit by email or by approaching
24 the dais.
25

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

Resolution 119-A, calling on New York State to
enact A.1621/S.4098 in relation to prohibiting
property owners from filing eviction proceedings for
tenants who reside in buildings with substantial
pending housing maintenance code violations.

Will all those in favor say aye?

ALL: Aye

MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: All opposed say nay?

ALL: (SILENT)

MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Any abstentions?

ALL: (SILENT)

MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: The ayes have it.

Resolution 175-A, calling upon New York State to
enact S.442/A.3355, which would amend the Social
Services Law to mandate each local Department of
Social service link persons living with HIV with
benefits and services and provide that person living
with HIV who are receiving housing assistance shall
not be required to pay more than 30% of household
income towards shelter costs.

Will all those in favor say aye?

ALL: Aye

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

3 ALL: (SILENT)

4 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

5 ALL: (SILENT)

6 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

7 Resolution 246-A calling New York State to enact
8 legislation requiring unlawful eviction cases to be
9 heard within five days.

10 Will all those in favor say aye?

11 ALL: Aye

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

13 ALL: (SILENT)

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

15 ALL: (SILENT)

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

17 Resolution 414-A, calling on New York State enact
18 S.3746, requiring at least one member of the State
19 Board of Parole be a formerly incarcerated person.

20 Will all those in favor say aye?

21 ALL: Aye

22 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

23 ALL: (SILENT)

24 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

25 ALL: (SILENT)

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

3 Resolution 415-A, calling New York State enact
4 S.2240/A.5414, which would remove the lifetime ban on
5 jury duty for convicted felons and postpone jury
6 service for any person currently incarcerated for a
7 felony.

8 Will all those in favor say aye?

9 ALL: Aye

10 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

11 ALL: (SILENT)

12 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

13 ALL: (SILENT)

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

15 Resolution 417-A calls on New York State to enact
16 A.4246, in relation to the return of fines,
17 restitution and reparation payments where there was
18 an unjust conviction, in a timely manner.

19 Will all those in favor say aye?

20 ALL: (INAUDIBLE)

21 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Will all those in favor
22 say aye?

23 ALL: Aye

24 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

25 ALL: (SILENT)

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

3 ALL: (SILENT)

4 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

5 Resolution 524-A, calls on New York State to
6 enact S.126 in relation to legal representation in
7 certain mortgage foreclosure actions.

8 Will all those in favor say aye?

9 ALL: Aye!

10 (LAUGHTER)

11 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

12 ALL: (SILENT)

13 (LAUGHTER)

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

15 ALL: (SILENT)

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

17 ALL: (SILENT)

18 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

19 Listen, I'm trying to keep you guys awake. I
20 gotta read all of these.

21 Resolution 720-A calls on the New York State to
22 enact A.50/S.1077 known as the New York City Arts
23 Space Act to promote the development of affordable
24 art spaces in New York City.

25 Will all those in favor say aye?

2 ALL: Aye

3 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

4 ALL: (SILENT)

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

6 ALL: (SILENT)

7 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

8 Resolution 721-A calls on the New York State to
9 enact S.1804/A.128 legislation that would eliminate
10 deductibles, copayment, coinsurance or any other cost
11 sharing requirements for asthma inhalers.

12 Will all those in favor say aye?

13 ALL: Aye

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

15 ALL: (SILENT)

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

17 ALL: (SILENT)

18 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

19 Resolution 722-A calls United States Congress to
20 reintroduce and pass, and the President to sign,
21 H.R. 2665, the Supporting Safety Net Hospitals Act,
22 to delay Medicaid disproportionate share hospital
23 payment reductions until Fiscal Year 2026.

24 Will all those in favor say aye?

25 ALL: Aye

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

3 ALL: (SILENT)

4 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

5 ALL: (SILENT)

6 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

7 Resolution 730-A calling on the New York State to
8 enact legislation to conduct a thorough study on the
9 RAD/PACT program to assess the effects of conversion
10 on residents and the program's impacts on tenant
11 rights, security, and community well-being.

12 Will all those in favor say aye?

13 ALL: Aye

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

15 ALL: (SILENT)

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

17 ALL: (SILENT)

18 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

19 Resolution 731 calls on the New York State
20 Legislature enact legislation to implement a more
21 robust resident engagement and voting process at each
22 NYCHA development considering RAD/PACT conversion.

23 Will all those in favor say aye?

24 ALL: Aye

25 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

2 ALL: (SILENT)

3 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

4 ALL: (SILENT)

5 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

6 And lastly, Resolution 792 declaring March 25th
7 as Greek Cultural Appreciation and Independence Day
8 annually to honor both the perseverance of the Greek
9 people in their own fight for freedom and their
10 integral place in the culture and history of the City
11 of New York.

12 Will all those in favor say aye?

13 ALL: Aye

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: All opposed say nay?

15 ALL: (SILENT)

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Any abstentions?

17 ALL: (SILENT)

18 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: The ayes have it.

19 We will now move into General Discussion, and I
20 would like to first recognize Council Member Cabán,
21 followed by Council Member Carr, then Council Member
22 Banks.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Thank you very much,
24 Majority Leader.

25

1 I am proud to be introducing a Resolution,
2 alongside the entire LGBTQIA+ Caucus and Council
3 Member Farah Louis, today expressing the Council's
4 support for protecting gender affirming care.
5 Together, we are calling upon the New York State
6 Legislature to provide the funds to ensure hospital
7 and health care provider services for gender
8 affirming care remain accessible for all people in
9 New York City.
10

11 Gender affirming care is life saving care, and
12 Trump's attempts to ban gender affirming care are
13 cruel and discriminatory. Those who do not learn
14 history are doomed to repeat it. Before 1933, Germany
15 was at a center of LGBT+ community and culture, but
16 Hitler's Nazi government brutally targeted the trans
17 community. They claimed to "protect" German youth by
18 deporting trans people to concentration camps and
19 burning the Library of the Institute for Sexual
20 Research, which was founded by Jewish doctor Magnus
21 Hirschfeld.

22 Here at the LGBTQIA+ Caucus and in the New York
23 City Council, we will always support the transgender
24 community. We will not back down because the Trump
25 administration wants to set them up as scapegoats. We

2 will not let members of our community be villainized
3 and demonized for who they are, and we will always
4 defend our transgender and gender nonconforming
5 neighbors and their right to health care. So thank
6 you.

7 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
8 Member Carr, followed by Council Member Banks, then
9 Council Member Schulman.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Thank you. I want to begin
11 by thanking my colleague, Council Member Bottcher,
12 for finally explaining to me why I have an irrational
13 hatred all my life of my father leaving the overhead
14 lights on in the house.

15 But with that said, I'd like to call everyone's
16 attention to Introduction 1220, which I'm introducing
17 alongside, Council Member Won, Council Member
18 Restler, and Council Member Brewer, the chairs of our
19 Committees on Contracts, Governmental Operations, and
20 Oversight and Investigations.

21 We have many agencies and elected official
22 offices that put out branded materials, mugs,
23 calendars, bags, all sorts of swag, to the public,
24 some of which can be instructive and helpful, and
25 some of which comes down to campaigning.

2 And we're asking that these agencies and offices
3 be held to account and report to the Council and
4 others about those expenditures for branded
5 materials.

6 So I call on all colleagues who, in the interest
7 of transparency, would want this information to sign
8 on to Introduction 1220. Thank you.

9 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
10 Member Banks, followed by Council Member Schulman,
11 then Council Member Louis.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Thank you, Madam Majority
13 Leader.

14 Colleagues, today, I'm outraged by the findings
15 of the latest DOI investigation, which exposes
16 serious failures in security and fire safety at NYCHA
17 buildings throughout the city. The report shows that
18 NYCHA's lack of oversight has put public housing
19 residents, including our vulnerable seniors, at
20 incredible risk. Security guards have abandoned their
21 posts, failed to show up for their shifts, and
22 falsified time sheets; 32% of the lobby doors were
23 unsecured; and 70% of the CCTV cameras in senior
24 housing were inoperable. These are basic security
25

1
2 measures that are absolutely failing and it is beyond
3 unacceptable.

4 The fire safety failures are no better. Fire
5 guards were also absent and falsified their time
6 sheets, leaving residents at risk in buildings with
7 deficient fire safety features. Three fires occurred
8 in NYCHA buildings where fire guards were absent
9 resulting in resident injury.

10 Let me be clear, this is neglect and a direct
11 endangerment of public housing residents at the hands
12 of NYCHA and Allied.

13 This Council fought hard to restore the \$6.8
14 million budget protecting the Security Guard Program
15 at NYCHA senior developments, and, yet, NYCHA and
16 vendor Allied Universal are wasting that money. They
17 are billing for services that are not being provided
18 and leaving our residents, especially our seniors,
19 vulnerable.

20 This is not only a betrayal of our residents'
21 safety but a waste of funds that we fought to secure.
22 As Chair of the Public Housing Committee, I will not
23 stand by and let NYCHA continue to neglect its
24 responsibility. The lack of accountability and
25 oversight is disgraceful. If NYCHA and its vendor

2 cannot meet the most basic safety standards, then
3 they must be held accountable— and a new vendor that
4 meets and exceeds expectations must be found.

5 Our residents deserve better, (TIMER CHIMES) and
6 we will not tolerate them being ignored and left
7 vulnerable.

8 It's time for NYCHA to take responsibility and
9 fix these failures and ensure the safety... (CROSS-
10 TALK)

11 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Council Member, your time
12 is expired.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: of every resident. Thank
14 you.

15 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
16 Member Schulman, followed by Council Member Louis,
17 then Council Member Menin.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Thank you, Majority
19 Leader.

20 I am asking folks to sign on to... today I'm
21 introducing Resolution 822 calling on the New York
22 State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign,
23 S.705/A.2140, the Fair Pricing Act, this would cap
24 the amount people pay for non-complicated, routine
25

2 medical procedures and 150% of the cost paid by
3 Medicare for those same services.

4 This legislation actually complements The Health
5 Care Accountability Act passed by the Council last
6 year, and it will help bring down the cost of health
7 care overall for all New Yorkers. Thank you.

8 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
9 Member Louis, followed Council Member Menin, then
10 Council Member Narcisse.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Thank you, Madam Majority
12 Leader.

13 Today, I'm proud to introduce Introduction 1224,
14 legislation to address the digital divide for
15 individuals and families experiencing homelessness in
16 New York City.

17 Introduction 1224, a Local Law amend the
18 administrative code of the city of New York, in
19 relation to requiring shelters to provide free
20 internet access. This bill will mandate that the
21 Department of Social Services and all city agencies
22 that manage shelters in the five boroughs to provide
23 free, high speed internet access and computers for
24 residents.

2 In today's world, internet access is no longer a
3 luxury, it's essential. From job applications and
4 education to healthcare and other vital resources,
5 the internet is key to rebuilding lives and unlocking
6 opportunities for those facing hardship. Yet many of
7 our shelters still lack the basic resource, leaving
8 individuals isolated from opportunities that can help
9 them get back on their feet.

10 Homelessness is already a daunting and isolating
11 experience. We cannot allow a lack of internet access
12 to make it even harder for those in temporary housing
13 to connect with the resources they need most. I
14 encourage my colleagues to sign on to Introduction
15 1224 to ensure that all New Yorkers have an
16 opportunity to regain stability. Thank you.

17 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
18 Member Menin, followed Council Member Narcisse, then
19 Council Member Hanks.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Thank you, Majority Leader.

21 Today I am introducing Introduction 1225 that
22 will create a permanent Office of the Census.

23 New York is currently projected to lose two
24 congressional seats after the 2030 census. This would
25 mean fewer voices in congress to push for our city's

1 priorities and fewer funds for our communities. I
2 previously served as the 2020 Census Director, and in
3 that effort, we had to, in essence, create a new
4 agency out of whole cloth. We were able to work with
5 over a 150 community groups on the ground, who were
6 their trusted voices in their communities, and do
7 over 34 media campaigns in 27 different languages.

8 I'm proud to say that New York City finished
9 first of all major cities across the country in the
10 census, meaning that we are currently receiving an
11 extra \$1.8 billion per year in federal funds to New
12 York City over the next decade. That is going to over
13 200 vital social service programs.

14 In addition, every decade since 1950, New York
15 State has lost a minimum of two congressional seats.
16 In some decades, lost three, sometimes four,
17 sometimes five seats, never less than two, except for
18 in 2020 when we lost only one seat and we came, as
19 most people know, within 89 people of losing zero
20 congressional seats. That is why it is so important
21 that we start now on preparing for the 2030 census.

22 My bill mandates that the Mayor create an Office
23 of the Census and appoints a director two-and-a-half
24 years before any federal census.
25

2 I want to thank the Council Members that have
3 signed on to this bill, and I want to invite everyone
4 to join me April 1st, where I am proud to cohost a
5 conference with the Central Labor Council on
6 preparing for the 2030 census. Thank you.

7 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
8 Member Narcisse, followed by Council Member Hanks,
9 then Council Member Nurse.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Thank you, Madam
11 Majority Leader, and thank you, Madam Speaker. And,
12 by the way, for the amazing work that you've been
13 doing keeping, like I said, we don't have no drama in
14 the Council. Your leadership matters, and I want to
15 say thank you to that.

16 And I want to say thank you to all my colleagues;
17 when I make a call to see how I can get support of
18 what's going on, and for all of you that helped me
19 out, that talked to me, and it takes the village, and
20 you were there for me. I would not be sitting well
21 not saying thank you to all of you. Over 28 of my
22 colleagues that supported me for this... what I'm
23 going through.

24 There is a bait and switch in 2134 Coyle Street.
25 I still have people sleeping outside for the past few

1 weeks. And I know we're gonna resolve it, because
2 last night I had a sea of people in front of me, and
3 I know they're watching and wondering what's gonna
4 happen. I had to be escorted out of the meeting,
5 because all the Community Board 15 was concerned
6 about me and my life.

8 So having said that, it was a pleasure for me to
9 serve here, and I know we're not gonna have any drama
10 in this side of this part of City Hall, and then we
11 will come with solutions, because there is no reason
12 to have a bait and switch after we talk about
13 anything in here.

14 So thank you, Madam Speaker for being the leader
15 that you are, and thank you, Madam Majority Leader.

16 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
17 Member Hanks, followed by Council Member Nurse, then
18 Council Member Restler.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Thank you, Madam Majority
20 Leader.

21 Today, I Introduce Resolution 819, that will save
22 lives, one that builds on the Dominic Murray Sudden
23 Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act by ensuring that all
24 public school students receive an echocardiogram
25 before entering high school.

1 Sudden cardiac arrest is a leading cause of death
2 among young athletes in The United States, with one
3 young person lost every three days during the school
4 year. Many of these tragedies could be prevented with
5 early detection. This resolution is deeply personal
6 to Staten Island as Frank and Fran Riale has turned
7 an imaginable heartbreak of the loss of their son,
8 Frank, Junior, into a mission to prevent other
9 families from experiencing the same tragedies.
10 Through their foundation, they provide free
11 echocardiograms for all high school athletes on
12 Staten Island, and their work has already changed
13 lives— a staggering 11% of the students who received
14 the screening have an issue.
15

16 So right now, our schools require a physical
17 exam, but they don't require an echocardiogram, one
18 of the most effective tools to detecting heart
19 abnormalities. And this resolution calls on the State
20 Legislator and the Governor to take action, because
21 no family should lose a child due to an undiagnosed
22 heart condition.

23 I urge my colleagues to sign on and support this
24 critical lifesaving measure. Let's make sure that
25 every student, not just lucky enough to receive

1 voluntary screening, but has access to the this
2
3 essential test.

4 Additionally, I'm introducing Introduction 1222.
5 This legislation will ensure transparency and
6 communication of the installation of energy storage
7 systems in our neighborhoods. These systems are
8 critical to our clean energy future and are being
9 installed in residential areas without adequate
10 notification to local residents or community leaders.
11 This lack of transparency has created concerns, and
12 it's time we think and take action. Thank you so
13 much— and sign on.

14 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Recognizing Council
15 Member Nurse, followed Council Member Restler,
16 Council Member Avilés.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Thank you, Majority Leader.

18 Today, I'm introducing Introduction 1226, which
19 will improve code enforcement, make housing
20 inspections more efficient, and codify agency
21 practice.

22 Currently, law requires HPD to schedule
23 inspections for certain violations but not others.
24 They are also not required to reschedule missed
25 inspections, and that really puts the burden on the

1 tenant to file more 311 complaints or call HPD to
2 reschedule.
3

4 But we can and should make things easier for
5 tenants living in bad conditions. This bill will
6 require HPD to immediately schedule a follow-up
7 inspection when the original inspection attempt was
8 unsuccessful.

9 It would also require HPD to let the tenant know
10 the date and time of the follow-up inspection in
11 writing and text or email, as well as send the tenant
12 same-day updates via text or email on the inspector's
13 estimated time of arrival.

14 It shouldn't be easier to track or pick up a
15 missed package than it is to fix something in your
16 apartment.

17 I do want to acknowledge that this bill idea came
18 from my Director Of Constituent Services, Vannet
19 Soriano Haro, who inspired the creation of it through
20 her tireless work with District 37 constituents
21 experiencing delayed inspections.

22 And with that, I encourage my colleagues to sign
23 on to this bill. Thank you, Majority Leader.

24 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
25 Member Restler, followed by Council Member Avilés.

1 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Thank you so much, Madam
2 Majority Leader.
3

4 I firstly just want to thank almost every single
5 one of you for signing on to a letter that Council
6 Member Stevens and I wrote yesterday to the Governor,
7 the Majority Leader, and the Speaker of the Assembly
8 calling for more funding for childcare vouchers.

9 I was genuinely shocked to find out ten days ago
10 that 60,000 children are slated to lose their
11 childcare over the course of the next year without
12 action in the state budget.

13 This is more kids than the entire enrollment of
14 UPK. To say that this would be devastating for
15 families, for low income families, that are
16 struggling to get by is an understatement. To say
17 that this would be destabilizing for childcare
18 providers in our community is an understatement.

19 I have been shocked, shocked that Mayor Adams and
20 his team have done absolutely nothing to advocate for
21 these 60,000 vouchers that are about to disappear.
22 They only informed Council Finance two weeks ago.
23 They barely mentioned it up in Albany, and it has not
24 been a priority for the City of New York and their
25 advocacy.

1 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 78
2 So it's time for us to step up. It's time for us
3 to get loud. I'm grateful that we had almost every
4 single elected official representing the City of New
5 York sign on to this letter yesterday calling for
6 funding in the state budget.

7 We're going have a rally outside the Governor's
8 Office on Friday at 11:00 with childcare providers. I
9 encourage folks to turn out. This will impact
10 hundreds, if not thousands, of families in every
11 single one of our districts. This will close child
12 care providers in our community if we do not see
13 action. And I can tell you, this item has not yet
14 come up at the negotiating table in Albany between
15 the State Legislative leaders and the Governor.

16 So I really want to encourage every council
17 member to call their assembly members and state
18 senators and say, "We need childcare funding."

19 I encourage you to reach out to your providers in
20 your community and tell them to get loud and get
21 organized that we need childcare funding.

22 We cannot allow for this devastating cut to
23 happen. We need to make sure that our allies in
24 Albany take action before it's too late. (TIMER
25 CHIMES) Thank you.

2 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Recognizing Council
3 Member Avilés.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Thank you. Thank you
5 Council Member Restler

6 At our last Stated, I recognized the unjust
7 detention of permanent resident, Mahmoud Khalil, who
8 was targeted by ICE without due process in
9 retaliation to his participation in a pro Palestinian
10 protest on Columbia's campus last year.

11 Since then, several other university students, a
12 South Korean student, and today a student from Tufts,
13 permanent residents, who have been targeted by DHS
14 and threatened with deportation.

15 This should alarm you. Will your friend be next?
16 Your cousin? Your uncle?

17 All the while, our tax dollars continue to aid in
18 the destruction and violence in Gaza. It's crucial
19 that this council continues to defend the rights to
20 free speech and due process for everyone. We must
21 also speak out against all forms of violence and
22 promote peace for New Yorkers who fear for their
23 family's safety across the globe.

24

25

2 As I have said since the beginning, all life is
3 precious. The hostages, of course, must, be returned
4 and we must stop this bloodshed in Gaza.

5 In the last few days alone, more than 700 people,
6 including children, have been killed. Thousands of
7 Palestinian children have been killed and maimed. If
8 you have an ounce of humanity, how can you agree or
9 how can you stand it? We need a permanent ceasefire.
10 We need an arms embargo and an end to this genocide.

11 We must demand peace and an end to all violence.
12 Thank you.

13 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Seeing no one else signed
14 up to speak... Oh, recognizing Council Member
15 Bottcher.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHER: Imagine waiting years
17 for your day in court, whether you're a victim
18 seeking justice, a tenant fighting eviction, or a
19 business trying to resolve contract dispute. Imagine
20 being stuck in jail for months because the courts
21 don't have the capacity to hear your case.

22 For too many New Yorkers, this isn't a
23 hypothetical, it's reality. And it's putting public
24 safety, fairness, and efficiency at risk. That's why
25 today I'm introducing a resolution in support of

1
2 state legislation that would remove an outdated and
3 arbitrary cap on the number of justices in New York's
4 Supreme Court, the trial court of general
5 jurisdiction that hears most civil and criminal
6 cases.

7 This provision in the New York State Constitution
8 dates back to 1846, last updated in 1961 when
9 caseloads were a third of what they are today, and
10 we're now stuck with a rigid cap on the number of
11 supreme court justices— one for every 50,000 people
12 in a judicial district.

13 State legislation by Senator Brad Hoylman-Sigal
14 and Assemblymember Alex Bores needs to get passed
15 again this year. It will put it on the ballot in
16 November as a state constitutional amendment.

17 It's critical that we all get behind this in
18 order for justice and fairness to improve in our
19 state.

20 MAJORITY LEADER FARIÁS: Thank you. I will now
21 call on Speaker Adrienne Adams to close today's
22 Stated Meeting

23 SPEAKER ADAMS: Thank you, Majority Leader. The
24 Stated Meeting of March 26, 2025 is hereby adjourned.

C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Date April 17, 2025