

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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September 21, 2011

Start: 2:50pm

Recess: 4:12pm

HELD AT: Council Chambers  
City Hall

B E F O R E:

JOEL RIVERA  
President Pro Tempore  
CHRISTINE QUINN  
Speaker

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council Member Maria del Carmen Arroyo  
Council Member Charles Barron  
Council Member Gale A. Brewer  
Council Member Fernando Cabrera  
Council Member Margaret S. Chin  
Council Member Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.  
Council Member Elizabeth S. Crowley  
Council Member Inez E. Dickens  
Council Member Erik Martin Dilan  
Council Member Daniel Dromm  
Council Member Mathieu Eugene  
Council Member Julissa Ferreras  
Council Member Lewis A. Fidler

## A P P E A R A N C E S

## COUNCIL MEMBERS:

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

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

Georgiette Morgan-Thomas  
Senior Pastor  
Mustard Seed Faith

1  
2 PRESIDENT RIVERA: --rise for the  
3 Pledge of Allegiance.

4 [background noise, Pledge of  
5 Allegiance]

6 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Roll call.

7 [pause, background noise]

8 CLERK: Arroyo.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: [off mic]  
10 Here.

11 CLERK: Barron.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here.

13 CLERK: Brewer. Cabrera.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

15 CLERK: Chin. Comrie. Crowley.  
16 Dickens. Dilan. Dromm. Eugene. Ferreras.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Here.

18 CLERK: Brewer.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.

20 CLERK: Fidler. Foster.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: [off mic]  
22 Here.

23 CLERK: Garodnick.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: [off  
25 mic] Here.

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STATED MEETING

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2

CLERK: Gennaro.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: [off mic]

4

Here.

5

CLERK: Gentile.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.

7

CLERK: Gonzalez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Here.

9

CLERK: Greenfield. Halloran.

10

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: [off mic]

11

Here.

12

CLERK: Ignizio.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Here.

14

CLERK: Jackson. James. Fidler.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: [off mic]

16

Here.

17

CLERK: [pause] Koo.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

19

CLERK: Koppell.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: [off mic]

21

Here.

22

CLERK: Koslowitz. Lander.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: [off mic]

24

Here.

25

CLERK: Crowley.

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: [off mic]  
3 Here.  
4 CLERK: Lappin.  
5 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: [off mic]  
6 Here.  
7 CLERK: Eugene.  
8 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.  
9 CLERK: Levin.  
10 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.  
11 CLERK: Mark-Viverito.  
12 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: [off  
13 mic] Here.  
14 CLERK: Dromm.  
15 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: [off mic]  
16 Here.  
17 CLERK: [pause] Mealy. Mendez.  
18 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.  
19 CLERK: Nelson.  
20 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: [off mic]  
21 Here.  
22 CLERK: Palma. Greenfield.  
23 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: [off  
24 mic] Here.  
25 CLERK: [pause] Recchia.

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2

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: [off mic]

3

Here.

4

CLERK: Jackson.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: [off mic]

6

Here.

7

CLERK: [pause] Rodriguez.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.

9

CLERK: Rose.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.

11

CLERK: Sanders.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Present.

13

CLERK: Seabrook.

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COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Here.

15

CLERK: Ulrich.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Present.

17

CLERK: Vacca.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: [off mic]

19

Here.

20

CLERK: James.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: [off mic]

22

Here.

23

CLERK: [pause] Vallone.

24

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

25

CLERK: Van Bramer.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

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CLERK: Vann.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Here.

5

CLERK: Weprin.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Here.

7

CLERK: Williams.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.

9

CLERK: Dilan.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: I'm sorry--

11

Here.

12

CLERK: Thank you. Reyna.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Here.

14

CLERK: Wills.

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COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: I am here.

16

CLERK: [pause] Oddo.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: [off mic]

18

Here.

19

CLERK: Rivera.

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PRESIDENT RIVERA: Here.

21

CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

22

SPEAKER QUINN: [off mic] Here.

23

CLERK: We have a quorum.

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PRESIDENT RIVERA: The quorum is

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present, if we can get silence in the chambers.



1  
2 My colleagues, please rise for the invocation to  
3 be delivered by Reverend Georgiette Morgan, Senior  
4 Pastor from Mustard Seed Faith.

5           GEORGIETTE MORGAN-THOMAS: Let us,  
6 let us bow our heads. Oh, Lord God in heaven, we  
7 thank you for the opportunity to come yet again to  
8 serve, Lord, to serve the people of this great  
9 City. Father God, we ask now that you bless all  
10 of these men and women as major servants in  
11 deliberating, Lord. Give them peace, Lord, give  
12 them harmony. Father God, we ask that you give  
13 them a collaborative spirit. We pray for wisdom  
14 and revelation, that they might go about serving  
15 the City in a manner that will be fruitful, Lord.  
16 Lord, we pray that all great things will come from  
17 this, this meeting today. And Lord God, we ask  
18 that as they leave this place, that you would keep  
19 them, Lord, place your hedge of protection around  
20 them, and make sure they are safe. Lord, let us  
21 remember that when we come together to serve, that  
22 we must do it in harmony, with respect, and with  
23 an understanding that all must allow the opinions  
24 of others, and be willing and receptive to hear.  
25 Father, we ask this in all things, in the precious

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name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very much. Council Member Jackson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: My colleagues, I motion to spread the invocation in full upon the record, and I thank Dr. Georgiette Thomas who is the Chair of Community Board Nine, in Upper Harlem, as a servant of the people, we thank her today.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very much. Adoption of the minutes, Council Member Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I motion that the minutes of the Stated Meeting of July 28th and August 17, 2011, be adopted.

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

CLERK: Preconsidered M-642, submitting Pamela Brier for reappointment to the Board of Health.

SPEAKER QUINN: Sorry. Rules, privileges and elections.

CLERK: Preconsidered M 643, submitting Dr. Deepthiman K. Gowda, for

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appointment to the Board of Health.

SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, privileges  
and elections.

CLERK: Preconsidered M 644,  
submitting Michael L. Goldblum for appointment to  
the Landmarks Preservation Commission.

SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, privileges  
and elections.

CLERK: Preconsidered M 645,  
submitting Elizabeth Ryan for appointment to the  
Landmarks Preservation Commission.

SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, privileges  
and elections.

CLERK: M 646, submitting Dr. Susan  
Klitzman for reappointment to the Board of Health.

SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, privileges  
and elections.

CLERK: M 647, submitting Dr. Sixto  
Caro for reappointment to the Board of Health.

SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, privileges  
and elections.

CLERK: M 648, submitting Elizabeth  
Knauer for appointment to the Board of Health.

SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, privileges

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and elections.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Communications from City, County and Borough Offices?

CLERK: M, M 64--M 649, submitting Rayann Besser for appointment to the New York City Planning Commission.

SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, privileges and elections.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Petitions and communications.

CLERK: None.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Land Use Call-Ups.

CLERK: M 650 through M 652.

SPEAKER QUINN: If we could have a coupled call-up roll call on the coupled Land Use Call-Ups, please.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: So ordered.

CLERK: Arroyo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

CLERK: Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Request unanimous consent to vote aye on all general order calendar.

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PRESIDENT RIVERA: So ordered.

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COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye on all.

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CLERK: Brewer.

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COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

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CLERK: Cabrera.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

8

CLERK: Chin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

10

CLERK: Comrie. Crowley.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

12

CLERK: Dickens.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: [off mic]

14

Aye.

15

CLERK: Dilan.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Aye.

17

CLERK: Dromm.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

19

CLERK: Eugene.

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COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

21

CLERK: Ferreras.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.

23

CLERK: Fidler.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: [off mic]

25

Aye.

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2 CLERK: Foster.  
3 COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye.  
4 CLERK: Garodnick.  
5 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.  
6 CLERK: Gennaro.  
7 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Yes.  
8 CLERK: Gentile.  
9 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.  
10 CLERK: Gonzalez.  
11 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye.  
12 CLERK: Greenfield.  
13 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.  
14 CLERK: Halloran.  
15 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Aye.  
16 CLERK: Ignizio.  
17 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: [off mic]  
18 Aye.  
19 CLERK: Jackson.  
20 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: [off mic]  
21 Aye.  
22 CLERK: James.  
23 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Aye.  
24 CLERK: Koo.  
25 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Mr. Majority

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2 Leader, may I have permission to vote aye on all  
3 today's agendas?

4 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I vote aye on  
6 all.

7 CLERK: Koppell.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Mr.  
9 Majority Lead--first of all, I vote aye. And then  
10 would ask unanimous consent to vote on all matters  
11 on the general orders--

12 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: --  
14 calendar, including resolutions.

15 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Thank you.

17 CLERK: Koslowitz.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

19 CLERK: Lander.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

21 CLERK: Lappin.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

23 CLERK: Levin.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

25 CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye

3

on all.

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CLERK: Mealy. Mendez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Hi. We're

6

doing Land Use.

7

SPEAKER QUINN: [off mic] Yes.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: So, hold

9

on, give me a second. Can you come back to me?

10

Yes? Thank you.

11

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yeah.

12

CLERK: Nelson.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Aye.

14

CLERK: Palma. Recchia.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Aye on

16

all.

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CLERK: Rodriguez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

19

CLERK: Rose.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

21

CLERK: Reyna.

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COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye on all.

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CLERK: [pause] Sanders.

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COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Aye on

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all.



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CLERK: Seabrook.

COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Yes, Mr. Majority Leader, with special consent, I'd like to vote aye on all Land Use Call-Ups and General Orders.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: I vote aye.

CLERK: [pause] Ulrich.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.

CLERK: Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: I vote aye, and I ask permission to vote aye on all Land Use Call-Ups and General Calendar Orders.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

CLERK: Vallone.

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

CLERK: Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

CLERK: Vann.

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye on all.

CLERK: Weprin.

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye, and I ask for permission to vote aye on all Land Use

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Call-Ups and the General Order Calendar.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Thank you.

CLERK: Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

CLERK: Wills.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Aye on all.

CLERK: Mendez.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: I vote aye.

CLERK: Oddo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

CLERK: Rivera.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

SPEAKER QUINN: Aye.

[pause, background noise]

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Today's Land Use

Call-Ups were adopted by a vote of 48 in the

affirmative, with zero in the negative.

Communication from the Speaker?

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very  
much. We are voting on ten appointments today,  
including our own Mike Nelson to the Waterfront  
Advisory Board, so congratulations, Chair Nelson.

1  
2 I want to thank Council Member Chair Rivera, and  
3 also Chuck Davis, for their work on all of these  
4 appointees. We are also voting today in the  
5 Finance Committee on Intro 569, a piece of  
6 legislation that will create the Chinatown  
7 Business Improvement District. And I want to  
8 thank the Chair of our Finance Committee, Domenic  
9 Recchia, who worked very, very hard, along with  
10 Tanisha Edwards, the Counsel to our Finance  
11 Committee, who is one of the "40 Under 40 Minority  
12 Leader," Oddo, you are very right, on this BID.  
13 [applause] But no one deserves more thanks than  
14 Council Margaret Chin, who has worked [applause]  
15 she does deserve a big round of applause. Worked  
16 very long and hard to bring this important BID to  
17 Chinatown, as she so eloquently and  
18 enthusiastically just talked about in the pre-  
19 stated press conference, a BID that will help  
20 improve business and overall quality of life in  
21 Chinatown, a BID that will help draw more tourists  
22 and more people who want to go to restaurants and  
23 businesses, to Chinatown at a time when Lower  
24 Manhattan is doing so well. So, Council Member  
25 Chin, I just want to thank you and Chair Recchia

1  
2 for your focus and your hard work on getting us to  
3 this day. I call on Council Member Chin to say a  
4 few words.

5 [applause]

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you,  
7 Madam Speaker. First of all, I wanted to thank  
8 you, and your staff, for your support and  
9 guidance; and especially Council Member Recchia,  
10 for his support and guidance on this effort; and  
11 of course Tanisha Edward, and all the staff, my  
12 staff and Council Member Recchia's staff. This is  
13 a historic moment for the Chinese community, for  
14 Chinatown community. As someone who grew up in  
15 Chinatown, and now have the honor to represent  
16 Lower Manhattan, that includes Chinatown, I am  
17 just so filled with pride and joy. That this is  
18 the first time that the community will be working  
19 together, because all the property owner, and I  
20 thank them, for coming to all the hearings and all  
21 the community board hearings, whether you were pro  
22 and con, you had the energy, the enthusiasm to  
23 debate and to discuss. And that energy will carry  
24 us forward, because all the property owners are  
25 contributing to this bid. You're paying for it,

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2 and you're going to benefit together, for the  
3 community, Chinatown will be a cleaner, brighter,  
4 more beautiful community, to welcome visitors, and  
5 it will be a great place to live, to work and to  
6 visit, and I just think that we will be prepared  
7 when thousands and millions of more visitor coming  
8 to Lower Manhattan, that we will be able to  
9 welcome them, to a brighter, safer and healthier  
10 community. And I want to thank all my colleague  
11 on the City Council who has been so encouraging  
12 and so supportive, that this is a historic moment  
13 for us, but you help us make history. Thank you  
14 very much.

15 [applause]

16 SPEAKER QUINN: Again,  
17 congratulations, Margaret. We are also voting  
18 today on Intro 655-A, a piece of legislation that  
19 comes out of our Health Committee, and I want to  
20 thank the Chair of our Health Committee, Maria del  
21 Carmen Arroyo, very much for her work on this. I  
22 want to thank Margaret Nelson, Lacey Clarke,  
23 Terzah Nasser, Rob Newman and Joe Mancino, for  
24 their work on this piece of legislation. And most  
25 importantly, want to thank the sponsor of the

1  
2 bill, Council Member Jessica Lappin. And for  
3 probably close to nine or ten months now, we have  
4 been working hand-in-glove with the leading animal  
5 advocates in the City of New York. And I want to  
6 thank them. The Mayor's Alliance for New York  
7 City Animals, particularly Jane Hoffman; the  
8 ASPCA; the Humane Society; Bidawee; People for the  
9 Ethical Treatment of Animals; and others, for  
10 their guidance on Intro 655-A. This piece of  
11 legislation, along with a package of other steps  
12 that are being taken today, will do a couple of  
13 things. One, it will make sure that services to  
14 New York City's animals are expanded in our City.  
15 It will make sure that right now, in some boroughs  
16 there are receiving centers that are open only one  
17 or two days a week. In boroughs that have  
18 receiving centers, those receiving centers will  
19 now be open twelve hours a day, seven days a week.  
20 In addition, if you need to do drop off or some  
21 type of receiving, or taking of an animal due to  
22 an emergency public health situation, that will  
23 now be 24 hours a day, every day of the week. In  
24 addition, as a result of this legislation, those  
25 organizations that are out there attempting to

1  
2 help stray cats, doing trap, trapping, neutering  
3 and then release them, will now for the first time  
4 ever be under guidance from the Department of  
5 Health. They will be required to be registered,  
6 so we can monitor them, to make sure the good work  
7 they are trying to do, they are actually able to  
8 do. Beyond that, this piece of legislation will  
9 not take Animal Care and Control at their word.

10 No disrespect, but there's been many  
11 documentation, much documentation that in the past  
12 ACC has not lived up to its mission. It will  
13 require transparent, yearly reporting to the Mayor  
14 and the City Council. But maybe most importantly,  
15 this piece of legislation comes with a fiscal  
16 impact. Because these services cannot be expanded  
17 if there is not funding. And there is a million  
18 dollar increase in the budget right now for ACC,  
19 an increase that by 2014, I believe it is, will go  
20 up to \$12 million, which is a 77 percent increase  
21 in funding for Animal Care and Control in New York  
22 City's animals. Let me also add that we have  
23 announced today, with the Department of Health, an  
24 expansion of the Animal Care and Control Board.  
25 Because one of the things we know is that even

1  
2 though it is a 77 percent increase, it is still  
3 not enough money to actually deliver the type of  
4 care we need for New York City animals and  
5 compared to other cities of significant size in  
6 our country, it is less than what other cities  
7 spend. But we know this is an area where there is  
8 much philanthropic interest. But we also know  
9 that philanthropic giving has been not as robust  
10 as possible in part because there has been  
11 concerns about whether the ACC board would manage  
12 the money as effectively as the philanthropists  
13 would want. That is one of the reasons why we are  
14 announcing today an expansion of the ACC's Board  
15 by two outside public members. And we look  
16 forward to working with Members of the Council,  
17 the animal advocacy communities, and others, in  
18 identifying those members. Members who will bring  
19 greater business focus, greater organizational  
20 focus, greater efficiency and greater independent  
21 to the Board of the ACC. Now let me say I know  
22 there are some who have raised concerns about the  
23 fact that this law will take away the requirements  
24 that every borough have a full service shelter. I  
25 voted in 2000 for that piece of legislation, and I



1  
2 believe it was extraordinarily well intended. But  
3 what we've seen is that under two Mayors we have  
4 been unable to identify facilities, places, to put  
5 those shelters. As Council Member Lappin said  
6 eloquently at the pre-stated hearing, we were told  
7 that the hearings on this bill, that we have an  
8 animal care emergency in this City. In response  
9 to that emergency, we had a choice: we could  
10 continue as we have for eleven years, to try to  
11 find places for full service shelters; or, we  
12 could change to a model that would get twelve hour  
13 a day, seven days a week receiving in boroughs.  
14 We could, what this bill also does, dramatically  
15 increase field services, so there now will be  
16 regular field services in every borough, looking  
17 for stray animals, picking up stray animals, and  
18 delivering them to appropriately monitored  
19 services by ACC. That in no real way exists right  
20 now. And in doing this, actually grasping onto a  
21 response that can be immediately implemented, and  
22 that is funded, we are going to make sure that  
23 services are getting delivered. Now let me say,  
24 some have also raised a concern about a lawsuit.  
25 There was a lawsuit filed in 2009, and it asked

1  
2 the question, "Was the City in violation of the  
3 law in 2009?" That lawsuit has been pending for  
4 two-and-a-half years. Some have said, "Why don't  
5 you wait for that lawsuit to be completed?" With  
6 all due respect to judges and lawyers, you never  
7 know when a lawsuit is going to be completed or  
8 determined. And when the leading advocates tell  
9 you it's an emergency, do you wait or do you act?  
10 Beyond that, making this change, to expanded  
11 receiving centers, to real field services, to a  
12 structure for trap, neuter and release, to a  
13 better board for the ACC, that makes a change in  
14 2011 moving forward. It has no impact on whether  
15 or not the City of New York was in violation of  
16 the law in 2009; that is the question of the  
17 lawsuit. So, if you're concerned about the  
18 integrity of that lawsuit, which I would  
19 understand, your action today does not affect that  
20 lawsuit. So I just want to, in closing, again  
21 thank the staff, Lacey, Terzah, Joe, Rob and  
22 particularly Margaret Nelson for their work on  
23 this. I want to thank all of the advocates, the  
24 ASPCA, Jane Hoffman and the Mayor's Alliance, the  
25 Humane Society, PeTA, Bidawee, where my most

1

2 recent puppy comes from, for all of their work.  
3 And I want to thank Chair Arroyo. And now call on  
4 the sponsor of the bill, Council Member Jessica  
5 Lappin, who as I said, in a bad pun at the  
6 pre-stated press conference, was a dog with a bone,  
7 to make sure this piece of legislation passed, to  
8 help the animals of the City of New York. Council  
9 Member Lappin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Well, thank  
you, Madam Speaker, you have said it very  
passionately and eloquently. I wanted to say to  
my colleagues in Queens, to my colleagues in The  
Bronx, without a doubt, this will vastly improve  
services in your borough. We're going to improve  
the number of hours the centers are open, we're  
going to create field services, we're going to  
have reporting so we know in the future exactly  
where and when animals are being picked up and  
cared for, we're putting \$10 million into the  
system, which is going to add staff and personnel  
for those boroughs but for all five boroughs. And  
we heard testimony from people talking about  
Staten Island, how it's going to help on Sta--

SPEAKER QUINN: Can we get a little

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2 quiet for Council Member Lappin, please.

3

4 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: How it's  
5 going to help on Staten Island. So, without a  
6 doubt, when you have the ASPCA, the Mayor's  
7 Alliance, PeTA, all of the groups the Speaker  
8 mentioned, coming to you and saying, "We've been  
9 waiting, we've been waiting over a decade. We  
10 have a crisis. If we can fix it, if we can help  
11 make a difference today, why would we wait?" And  
12 I don't know why we would wait. I would say we  
13 shouldn't wait. We should act now and we should  
14 pass this bill today. Thank you.

14

15 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very  
16 much, Council Member Lappin, and I almost forgot  
17 Bidawee, which would've got me in big trouble at  
18 home, 'cause that's where my Justin comes from.  
19 But I did forget to thank New York Class, and I  
20 want to thank them very much, as all the others,  
21 'cause they were a big part of this effort, as  
22 well, so thank you New York Class. And that, just  
23 finally want to thank Chair Comrie, Chair Weprin  
24 and Council Member Levin for their work on the  
25 Boerum Hill rezoning, and Gail Benjamin and all of  
the Land Use staff for that important contextual

1 rezoning we're voting on today, to protect the  
2 historic integrity of Boerum Hill. And that  
3 concludes communications from the Speaker. Thank  
4 you.  
5

6 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very  
7 much, Madam Speaker. We'll move onto discussion  
8 of General Orders. Seeing none, we'll move onto  
9 Reports of Special Committees.

10 CLERK: None.

11 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Reports of  
12 Standing Committees.

13 CLERK: Report on the Committee on  
14 Contracts, Intro 624-A, agency service contracts

15 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and laid  
16 over.

17 CLERK: Report on the Committee on  
18 Finance, Intro 569, Chinatown Business Improvement  
19 District.

20 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General  
21 Orders.

22 CLERK: Preconsidered LU 483 and  
23 Reso 1063.

24 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General  
25 Orders.

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2 CLERK: Report of the Committee on  
3 Health, Intro 655-A, animal shelters.

4 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled  
5 on General Orders.

6 CLERK: Preconsidered Reso 1031,  
7 environmental review.

8 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
9 orders.

10 CLERK: Report of the Committee on  
11 Land Use, LU 387 and Reso 1034 and 388 and 1035,  
12 UDAAP Brooklyn.

13 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General  
14 Orders.

15 CLERK: LU 449 and Reso 1036,  
16 unenclosed sidewalk café.

17 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled, to be  
18 filed pursuant to a letter of withdrawal.

19 CLERK: LU 456 and Reso 1037, and  
20 LU 465 and Reso 1038, zoning amendments.

21 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General  
22 Orders.

23 CLERK: LU 469 and Reso 1039  
24 through 474 and 1044, on page six, Thor Shore  
25 Parkway Developers.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders.

CLERK: LU 475 and Reso 1045, through 477 and Reso 1047, zoning amendments.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders.

CLERK: LU 478 and Reso 1048, through LU 481 and Reso 1051, landmark designations.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders.

CLERK: LU 482 and Reso 1052, landmark designations.

SPEAKER QUINN: Motion to disapprove.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections, M 634 and Reso 1053, approving the appointment of Edward Kelly, Waterfront Management Advisory Board.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders.

CLERK: M 635 and Reso 1054, approving the appointment of Roland Lewis, Waterfront Management Advisory Board.

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General  
3 Orders.

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CLERK: M thirty--636 and Reso  
5 1055, approving the appointment of Andrew  
6 McGovern, Waterfront Management Advisory Board.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General  
8 Orders.

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CLERK: M 637 and Reso 1056,  
10 approving the appointment of Peggy Shepard,  
11 Waterfront Management Advisory Board.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General  
13 Orders.

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CLERK: M 638 and Reso 1057,  
15 approving the reappointment of Rayann Besser, New  
16 York City Planning Commission.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General  
18 Orders.

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CLERK: Preconsidered M 642 and  
20 Reso 1058, approving the reappointment of Pamela  
21 Brier, New York City Board of Health.

22

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General  
23 Orders.

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CLERK: Preconsidered M 643 and  
25 Reso 1059, approving the appointment of Deepthiman



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2 K. Gowda, New York City Board of Health.

3 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General  
4 Orders.

5 CLERK: Preconsidered M 644 and  
6 Reso 1060, approving the reappointment of Michael  
7 Goldblum, Landmarks Preservation Commission.

8 SPEAKER QUINN: Mark Davis must've  
9 been busy. Coupled on General Orders.

10 CLERK: Preconsidered M 645 and  
11 Reso 1061, approving the reappointment of  
12 Elizabeth Ryan, Landmarks Preservation Commission.

13 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General  
14 Orders.

15 CLERK: Preconsidered M 653 and  
16 Reso 1062, approving the designation of Hon.  
17 Michael Nelson, Waterfront Management Advisory  
18 Board.

19 SPEAKER QUINN: Council Member  
20 Fidler, you wanted to set aside, right?  
21 [laughter] Coupled on General Orders. For  
22 debate, extensive debate.

23 PRESIDENT RIVERA: He got grilled  
24 very hard inside Committee.

25 SPEAKER QUINN: As should be the

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case, Mr. Majority Leader.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: [laughs] General Order Calendar?

CLERK: Resolution appointing various persons Commissioner of Deeds.

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

PRESIDENT RIVERA: So ordered.

CLERK: Arroyo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye on all.

CLERK: Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I vote aye. I want to talk specifically about 655. I've received a lot of correspondence on both sides of this issue. The person I check with more than anybody else on this issue is Jane Hoffman, head of the Mayor's Alliance for Animals. And it's her intuition, expertise and intelligence that I listen to. I do look forward to two very qualified people who are responsible and responsive being appointed to the Board. That is

1  
2 incredibly important. And I think, I hope that  
3 the City Council will continue to have hearings  
4 based on the information that comes out of any, of  
5 this new law. So, it's with, with great  
6 consternation I vote yes, but I am paying a lot of  
7 vigilance to the issue. And I hope that the  
8 funding will make it possible to increase some of  
9 these programs. Thank you very much.

10 CLERK: Cabrera.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

12 CLERK: Chin.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: May I take a  
14 moment to explain my vote?

15 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you. I  
17 want to take a moment to explain my vote, to  
18 disapprove the landmark designation of 135 Bowery  
19 in my district. This has been a very difficult  
20 decision. I have listened to both sides in this  
21 case, and I believe that there are better uses for  
22 this building that will benefit the Chinatown  
23 community and Lower Manhattan. This space will be  
24 used to create below market rent, affordable  
25 community, affordable commercial space, for small

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2 businesses. This is something that Chinatown  
3 desperately needed. I understand the strong  
4 position many advocates have taken on this issue,  
5 and I appreciate their comments and concern. I  
6 will continue to work together with the advocates,  
7 to maintain and preserve the historic character of  
8 the Bowery, while providing the economic  
9 opportunity that the community needs. And I thank  
10 my colleagues for the support. And I vote aye on  
11 all. Thank you.

12 [pause]

13 CLERK: Comrie. Crowley.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye on  
15 all.

16 [pause, laughter]

17 CLERK: Dickens.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye on  
19 all.

20 CLERK: Dilan.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Aye on all.

22 CLERK: Dromm.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye on all.

24 CLERK: Eugene.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

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CLERK: Ferreras.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye on

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all.

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CLERK: Fidler.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: With

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congratulations to Council Members Chin and Lappin

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for shepherding very difficult matters through,

9

and to Councilman Nelson who admitted under heavy

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cross examination that it was Barzini all along

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[laughter] I vote aye on all.

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CLERK: Foster.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye.

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CLERK: Garodnick.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

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CLERK: Gennaro.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Mr.

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Leader, I'd like the opportunity to speak on my

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vote.

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PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: With

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regard to the appointees to the Waterfront

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Management Board, I think it's really terrific

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that Mike Nelson is there, he's done a wonderful

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job with that Committee. I read about all the

1  
2 wonderful things that he does, and I'm very  
3 grateful that he's serving in this new capacity.  
4 Also want to give a shout out to Peggy Shepard,  
5 who also will be serving on this Board. She has  
6 labored long and hard on all things environmental,  
7 and good for her for taking on one more area to do  
8 her good work. And with regard to the Lappin  
9 bill, on the shelters, I have my own perspective  
10 on that. We've been working in my local district  
11 to get a shelter, one that would do the receiving,  
12 so-called receiving center, it's been difficult to  
13 get that going. There's only one center in  
14 Queens, it's only open one day a week, and because  
15 of the passage of this bill, this center will go  
16 forward, it'll be open seven days a week, it'll be  
17 located in my district. And it's, and we've been  
18 working on, on this for years, and this is what's  
19 going to make a difference in my district and for  
20 the borough of Queens. And so I'll be voting yes  
21 on that, and you know, yes on the full calendar.  
22 Thanks very much.

23 CLERK: Gentile.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye on  
25 all.

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CLERK: Gonzalez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye on

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all.

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CLERK: Greenfield.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: May I

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explain my vote?

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PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: I just

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want to congratulate my colleague, Council Member

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Margaret Chin, for her visionary leadership and

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tenacity in accomplishing the Chinatown BID. Also

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want to congratulate my colleague Mike Nelson for

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his appointment to the Waterfront Management

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Committee. Mike, I think it's one of the last

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places in New York City you can actually still

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smoke cigars on the waterfront itself. And

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congratulations as well to Jessica Lappin and to

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Pam Brier, the President of a terrific hospital in

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my district on her reappointment to the Board of

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Health. Thank you.

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CLERK: Halloran.

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COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Mr.

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Majority Leader, can I be excused to explain my

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vote?

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PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: I vote aye on all except Intro 655-A. I understand the logistical and citing issues the Speaker has discussed, and the financial difficulties that we have. I agree with her that the ACC is in a deplorable state and requires immediate triage. I know she's doing an excellent job of trying to balance those interests, working with the Mayor's Office is probably difficult at best of times, and I appreciate the work that she's done, and that Chair Lappin has done in this regard; however, the Borough of Queens continues to be the lapdog of the City of New York. We are not given the resources that we justly deserve, nor certainly from the tax base that we provide. We are consistently left off when it comes to capital improvements. I hope that the ACC will be kept on an extremely short leash for the remainder of the time that the City supervises them. I believe that our outer boroughs should not continue to be on the receiving end of so much neglect from the inner city government. Subsequent budget mods will be looked at very closely to see that these



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2 increases don't disappear like so many of the  
3 promises that we've been given year after year,  
4 about the proper funding levels. I point simply  
5 to the Police Department of the City of New York,  
6 which has done an incredible job despite now being  
7 over 6,000 police officers below where they should  
8 be. Clearly, there is a problem at City Hall in  
9 keeping the promises made to this body in its  
10 budget negotiations, and I hope the animals of  
11 this City don't pay the price for that in the  
12 years to come. I will be voting a reluctant no,  
13 and I salute the Speaker's efforts to try to find  
14 an interim triage for this problem. As the owner  
15 of two Great Danes, and somebody who's raised and  
16 bred the Great Dane breed in the City of New York,  
17 my whole life my father has done so, my  
18 grandfather's done so, I really think that we  
19 could've found a better solution. But I  
20 understand the compromise. Thank you, and I vote  
21 no on 655-A.

22 CLERK: Ignizio.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes, if I  
24 can briefly explain my vote. I just want to let  
25 people know that I came in here voting no on 655-

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2 A. The, the reasons articulated by the Speaker  
3 honestly did make me take pause and give this a  
4 second look. The concern of my colleagues from  
5 Queens is not that they don't want an infusion of  
6 cash to help protect the animals in the City of  
7 New York, it's that the Administration has allowed  
8 the state of repair of the ACC to fall so low that  
9 it requires that in the first place. They also  
10 want to see an understanding on behalf of this  
11 Administration, that there are boroughs outside  
12 the five mile zone around City Hall. That message  
13 has not been taken to the City Hall, to the  
14 Administration, and I don't know that they have an  
15 appreciation for that. I don't think these things  
16 are mutually exclusive, though. I think we can  
17 still engage in a dialogue whereby we provide for  
18 the animals in the boroughs of Queens and The  
19 Bronx, while adding this infusion. And it's the  
20 reason why I'm going to vote yes for it. I think  
21 the concern of this Council has to be, if we're  
22 putting our stamp on this, you own it. And to use  
23 a pun, we've heard a lot of puns before is it's  
24 our dog, Charlie Brown. And now we have to be  
25 responsible to assure that this money is kept in

1  
2 the budget, that it's not subject to PEG, 'cause  
3 this is a negotiation with the Administration.  
4 And that we move forward in protecting these  
5 animals, and we utilize our oversight authority to  
6 assure that this agency is cleaned up. 'Cause I  
7 could tell you, firsthand, it is in a terrible  
8 state. There are way too many dogs and cats  
9 euthanized in this City, and it's quite frankly an  
10 agency that I don't think has had enough attention  
11 placed on it. So, I hope with that added funds  
12 and the added oversight on the behalf of this  
13 Council, we are able to assure and bring this ACC  
14 into a greater day. So, with that I vote aye on  
15 all. Thank you.

16 CLERK: Jackson.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Majority  
18 Leader, may I be excused to explain my vote?

19 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you.  
21 I speak to congratulate our colleague, Margaret  
22 Chin, and the Chair of the Finance Committee,  
23 Domenic Recchia, and all the staff, in working so  
24 hard over many, many months, and dealing with the  
25 Chinatown BID. And as a member of the Finance

1  
2 Committee, I sat through hearings and heard pro  
3 and con regarding this particular BID, and let me  
4 just tell you, I think that the patience that our  
5 Chair of Finance, Domenic Recchia had, in  
6 listening to all of these individuals and all of  
7 the different positions and so forth and so on, it  
8 really leaves me to believe that we have done the  
9 best job that we can in supporting the people of  
10 Chinatown. And so I congratulate both of them for  
11 this particular matter. And with respects to one  
12 of the Resolutions, Peggy Shepard, as our  
13 colleague Jim Gennaro indicated, has been an  
14 advocate for decades on the particular issue of  
15 environmental justice. And as one of my  
16 constituents, that lives in my district and the  
17 executive director and found, one of the founders  
18 of WE ACT, which is a group up in Harlem, she's  
19 done a fantastic job, and I'm sure she will  
20 continue to do so, in her new role. And with that  
21 I vote aye on all. Thank you.

22 CLERK: James.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: May I be  
24 excused to explain my vote?

25 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: First,  
3 congratulations to Council Member Mike Nelson,  
4 congratulation to the Boerum Hill community and  
5 Council Member Levin. Congratulations to Council  
6 Member Margaret Chin and the Chinatown Business  
7 Improvement District. And last but not least, and  
8 leastly, congratulations to the Wallabout  
9 community, Gary Haddom [phonetic], Michael Backer  
10 [phonetic], and the Crown Heights North community,  
11 Deborah Young and Ethel Titus [phonetic], and  
12 others for their leadership in designating two  
13 additional communities in my district as  
14 landmarks. I vote aye on all.

15 CLERK: Koslowitz.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I vote  
17 aye.

18 CLERK: Lander.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Request  
20 permission to explain my vote.

21 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you  
23 very much. I'll extend my congratulations to  
24 Council Member Nelson, who I understand gets a  
25 badge to look out for illegal dumping now on the

1 waterfront; and to Peggy Shepard. I also want to  
2 congratulate Roland Lewis and Ed Kelly, two new  
3 members of that Waterfront Advisory Board, who are  
4 going to be wonderful. Libby Ryan, who's being  
5 reappointed to the LPC. And I'll join Council  
6 Member Greenfield in congratulating Pam Brier on  
7 her reappointment to the Board of Health. I want  
8 to speak for just a moment as Chair of the  
9 Subcommittee on Landmarks to support Council  
10 Member Chin and the decision that she reached, and  
11 that I'll be voting in favor of today, to  
12 disapprove the designation of 135 Bowery as a  
13 landmark. In my tenure as the Chair of the  
14 Subcommittee, we have extended landmark  
15 protections to over 2,000 buildings; just today  
16 we're extending it to over more than 650, as  
17 Council Member James just said, in Crown Heights  
18 North and Wallabout. This is only the second  
19 building in the last 18 months that we've voted to  
20 disapprove. I respect the passionate testimony of  
21 the advocates and really respect all the work  
22 they've done to preserve the Bowery, which is a  
23 magnificent place, and hopefully will soon be  
24 affirmed on the National Registry of Historic  
25

1  
2 Places. But this was really a question of two  
3 competing values. There is a preservation value  
4 here, although some, some questions around it.  
5 And then a significant opportunity to provide  
6 affordable space for small businesses in Chinatown  
7 and on the Bowery that, in my opinion, outweighed  
8 the value of preserving 135 Bower in this  
9 instance. And I just want to, in addition to the  
10 Chinatown BID, give her real credit for listening  
11 with integrity and making a tough decision in a  
12 way that I think reflects well on the City and on  
13 the constituents of, of her community. I vote aye  
14 on all. Thank you.

15 CLERK: Lappin.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: With a big  
17 congratulations to Councilwoman Chin, I vote aye.

18 CLERK: Levin.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Permission  
20 to explain my vote?

21 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: I would just  
23 like to, on the, the Boerum Hill rezoning item,  
24 make some acknowledgements. Danielle DeCerbo and  
25 Gail Benjamin, Carol Shine, Christian Hylton, Amy

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2 Levitan of our Land Use staff here at the Council,  
3 City Planning Commission, and in particular,  
4 Department of City Planning staff in Brooklyn,  
5 Purnima Kapoor and Steven Leonard, the Boerum Hill  
6 Association, President Howard Kolins and Vice  
7 President Dwight Smith, Community Board Chairman  
8 Two Chairman John Dew and District Manager Rob  
9 Paris. And I would like to also extend my  
10 congratulations to Mike Nelson, my colleague, my  
11 constituent Pam Brier, and my colleagues Jessica  
12 Lappin and Margaret Chin. And with that I vote  
13 aye on all.

14 CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: If I  
16 could be excused to explain my vote?

17 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:  
19 Well, congratulations to our colleague, Margaret  
20 Chin, and Nelson for being appointed to the Board.  
21 And to Council Member Lappin. I will be voting  
22 aye on all, and with regards to 655-A, as been has  
23 been clearly explained today, and as was heard at  
24 the meeting, this is a big step forward, but still  
25 there's a lot of work to do. I'm very passionate



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2 about the humane treatment of animals, and we've  
3 done a big step here, but we have a long way to go  
4 as a City, when it comes to this matter. So, I  
5 want to congratulate all the work that went into  
6 this and all the work that lies ahead. And with  
7 that I vote aye on all.

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CLERK: Mealy.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: May I  
10 explain my vote?

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PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I'm going to  
13 vote aye, and I vote aye on all except Land Use  
14 No. 387. And I just want to say I'm glad this did  
15 happen, 'cause now our community have a website in  
16 regards to this property, that a lot of the  
17 properties have been redone and sitting for five  
18 years or more. And I vote aye on all. Thank you.

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CLERK: Mendez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Permission  
21 to explain my vote?

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PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Thank you.  
24 I vote aye on all, except I vote no on Land Use  
25 482, and accompanying Reso 1052, the motion to

1  
2 disapprove. We've lost one too many federal style  
3 houses, I believe this building should be  
4 landmarked. And in regards to Intro 665-A, I want  
5 to be associated with the comments of my  
6 colleague, Melissa Mark-Viverito. Thank you.

7 CLERK: Nelson.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Excuse me,  
9 that was 655-A.

10 [pause]

11 CLERK: Recchia.

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

14 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: I would  
16 like to congratulate my colleague, Margaret Chin,  
17 who did a fabulous job with the Chinatown BID.  
18 Worked hard at something for years. But also I'd  
19 like to thank the staff of the Finance, especially  
20 Tanisha Edwards for doing an excellent job, and  
21 the staff of Margaret Chin, working with my staff,  
22 and really they worked hard on this. I want to  
23 congratulate Margaret Chin and I vote aye on all.

24 CLERK: Reyna.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: I vote aye

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on all and congratulations to my colleagues.

CLERK: Rodriguez.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ:

Congratulations to Council Members Nelson and Margaret, and the Chinatown business community, and I vote aye.

CLERK: Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE:

Congratulations to Council Member Chin, and Nelson, and I vote aye on all.

CLERK: Sanders.

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS:

Congratulations to Council Members Chin, Nelson and all others involved. I vote aye on all.

CLERK: Ulrich.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: May I be

ex--permission to explain my vote?

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Thank you.

I'm voting aye on all today with the exception of Intro 655-A. I have a big problem when the City fails to meet its obligations. I have a big problem when we make promises that we don't keep. I have a big problem when the City can find money

1  
2 to build pedestrian plazas, and put them, and say  
3 that we want to put them in every community board,  
4 and find suitable locations for priorities that  
5 the City believes are important, but when it comes  
6 to helping defenseless animals, we're going to  
7 change the rules ten years after the fact because  
8 we failed to find shelters, particularly in  
9 Queens. I want to be associated with some of the  
10 comments of my colleague, Dan Halloran, from  
11 Queens, in saying how many times Queens has been  
12 shortchanged by City Hall. How many times we've  
13 been promised that we would get services, that we  
14 would get facilities, that we would have our fair  
15 share. And then here we are a decade later having  
16 to repeal a law that this body passed simply  
17 because it hasn't ranked high enough on the  
18 priority list of the people at City Hall. Now,  
19 this is not a knock on Mayor Bloomberg, because  
20 it's been mentioned that this has been a problem  
21 throughout the tenure of Mayor Giuliani, as well.  
22 But just because we have failed to meet that  
23 obligation doesn't mean that we need to renege on  
24 our promise. We need to do everything that we can  
25 to help these animals and the steps that this bill

1  
2 is taking, I commend. I believe that they  
3 should've been taken a long time ago. But that  
4 doesn't take away from the fact that Queens is  
5 being shortchanged, and that the City made a  
6 promise that we couldn't keep. And I, in good  
7 conscience, cannot go along with changing the  
8 rules halfway through the game simply because we  
9 failed to meet our obligation. So I'm voting no  
10 on Intro 655-A, and I vote aye on all others.

11 CLERK: Vallone.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Permission  
13 to explain.

14 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Thank you,  
16 well said, Eric and Dan. In 2000, the City  
17 Council passed a bill which mandated a shelter in  
18 every borough, and set aside the money to do that.  
19 In 2002, the City came to us and said, "Give us an  
20 extension. We'll do it." We gave them until  
21 2006. Ten years later the people that, 12 years,  
22 the people and the animals of Queens and The Bronx  
23 are still waiting, the City did not live up to its  
24 obligation then, and it won't now. We're told  
25 that this is moving now because there's an

1  
2 emergency. Well, there's been an emergency for  
3 the last twelve years. There's only one reason  
4 we're moving now, there's one reason we held a  
5 hearing less than two weeks ago, and were given  
6 notice of this morning's Health Committee vote at  
7 6:30 last night. There's one reason this was fast  
8 tracked with as little notice as possible, and  
9 that's because the Administration is afraid of a  
10 lawsuit right now before the Court of Appeals.  
11 That's why. If we wait as little as 90 days, the  
12 City may have a court mandate for full service  
13 shelters in Queens and The Bronx. If we pass this  
14 bill, that case is made irrelevant. And I know a  
15 little bit about, more about this than non-  
16 attorneys. The court can no longer mandate  
17 shelters be built. This bill does do a lot of  
18 good things, though, and that's why some animal  
19 rights groups support it. The majority don't. It  
20 absolutely improves services for animals and  
21 people in three of the five boroughs, and it does  
22 increase the hours for receiving centers citywide.  
23 But a receiving center is not a full service  
24 shelter, it just receives the animals. Doesn't  
25 provide care, it doesn't provide a place to

1  
2 recover lost pets before they're put down, and it  
3 doesn't relieve the overcrowding in current  
4 shelters. And we could do all the good things  
5 that this bill does without eliminating the  
6 requirement that Queens and The Bronx have a full  
7 service shelter. There's no reason to force the  
8 people and animals of two boroughs to wait another  
9 ten years as we work towards shelters. There's a  
10 law in place now, and very soon a possible court  
11 mandate requiring them. This bill ensures that  
12 the people of Queens and Bronx, two boroughs  
13 larger than most states, won't have an animal  
14 shelter for a long, long time. It may rain cats  
15 and dogs before they see a shelter. This bill  
16 actually changes the law which requires equal  
17 treatment for all boroughs, and replaces that and  
18 says, "Queens and The Bronx get less services than  
19 other boroughs." It's inherently unfair, I vote  
20 no on 655-A, and the accompanying Reso, and aye on  
21 the rest. Thank you.

22 CLERK: Van Bramer.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER:

24 Permission to explain my vote.

25 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: I am  
3 voting all, aye on all today, and I want to  
4 specifically congratulate Council Member Chin and  
5 Council Member Lapping, and I am voting yes on  
6 655-A because while I am not an attorney, I know  
7 that this bill will increase the services in  
8 Queens soon. And that's really important 'cause  
9 we're at a crisis situation, and it is really  
10 important that we improve all of the services  
11 available to animals and animal lovers in Queens  
12 as soon as possible. This bill gets that done.  
13 And it does not preclude, nor does it eliminate  
14 the need for, a full service shelter in Queens.  
15 So we can get all of the improvements that this  
16 bill will allow for, all of the increases in  
17 funding for services in Queens today, and still  
18 push for the much needed full service shelter in  
19 Queens. They're not mutually exclusive, this is a  
20 good bill and a good result. That's why most  
21 animal groups support it, and that's why I support  
22 it as well. Thank you very much.

23 CLERK: Vann.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Excuse me,  
25 request to explain my vote.



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PRESIDENT RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Among the coupling, that we're about to vote on, there is a LU 499, Reso 1049, which provides for the designation of a landmark for Crown Heights North. In actually, it's Phase II of a four part designation. When completed, I may be wrong, but I don't think so, it will probably be the largest land mass in the City of New York that would have received the landmark status. And this is possible because of the active work of Crown Heights North organization, Ms. Deb Young chairs that group; and of course Community Board Eight, and Ms. Titus represents them in this effort. And of course, the citizens who've come out to participate have been very informed, they've been very involved, they've been very engaging. And I'd like to thank them for that participation. Let me hasten to commend Commissioner Tierney, Timmon, Tierney, Tierney, and especially his staff who've been working very respectfully and professionally with our community, a lot of patience. There's been a number of public hearings, all been well attended, a lot of

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2 information on exchange. So, I withdraw my  
3 request, and I vote aye on LU 499, and in fact I  
4 vote aye on all items. Thank you.

5 CLERK: Williams.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I just  
7 want to say congratulations to Council Member  
8 Chin. I know how hard it is to get a BID done.  
9 And congratulations to Council Member Lappin and  
10 Gennaro, and I vote aye on all.

11 CLERK: Wills.

12 SPEAKER QUINN: Just before Council  
13 Member Wills speaks, if we could just wish Council  
14 Member Wills a big congratulations on his victory  
15 last Tuesday. [applause, cheers] So,  
16 congratulations, Council Member Wills. Sorry.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Yeah, Eric  
18 Ulrich endorsed me, that's what did it. Thank  
19 you. [boos] [laughs] I want to congratulate  
20 Council Member Lappin--see, we got it straightened  
21 out. Yeah, Council Member Chin, and Council  
22 Member Nelson on their achievements today. I vote  
23 aye on all.

24 CLERK: Comrie.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Can you

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come back to me at the end, please?

CLERK: Oddo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: I will vote yes on all with the exception of M 638, on which I abstain after consulting with the General Counsel's office. I have a professional relationship with the candidate looking to be reappointed in that she is actually my real estate agent, that I am in contract with, as I sell my apartment.

SPEAKER QUINN: [off mic] How's it going?

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Not so well, actually. I was thinking about voting no. [laughter] And I just would like to put on the record, state for the record, that both my dog and I live in New York City, proudly.

CLERK: Comrie.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Permission to vote on all Land Use Call-Ups.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: I am going to vote aye on everything on today's calendar. I also want to echo the words of Council Member

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2 Ignizio, as far as Animal Care and Control are  
3 concerned. I, in the Borough of Queens, they have  
4 had an abysmal record, and I do not want to see  
5 that re--I want to make sure that every dollar is  
6 spent, is spent fairly on, fairly on all of the  
7 issues that are taking care of within the borough.  
8 I'm sorry, I'm reading something else here. I, I  
9 want to make sure that Animal Care and Control is  
10 definitely doing everything possible to supplement  
11 services in the borough. My district has packs of  
12 dogs that we are consistently calling to try to  
13 get taken care of, it's not taken care of, it has  
14 been problematic for a while, and I want to make  
15 sure that the oppor--that the agency meets its  
16 real goal to take care of all five boroughs. So,  
17 therefore, I'm voting no on 655-A and yes to the  
18 rest of the General Order Calendar. Thank you.

19 CLERK: Rivera.

20 PRESIDENT RIVERA: I vote aye on  
21 all.

22 CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

23 SPEAKER QUINN: [off mic] Aye on  
24 all.

25 [pause, background noise]

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2 PRESIDENT RIVERA: All items on  
3 today's General Order Calendar were adopted by a  
4 vote of 50 in the affirmative, zero in the  
5 negative, with zero abstentions, with the  
6 exception of Intro 655-A, which was adopted by a  
7 vote of 46 in the affirmative, four in the  
8 negative, with zero abstentions; and Land Use Item  
9 387, with the accompanying Reso 1034, which was  
10 adopted by a vote of 49 in the affirmative, one in  
11 the negative, and zero abstentions; and LU 482,  
12 with Reso 1052, which was adopted by a vote of 49  
13 in the affirmative, with one in the negative; and  
14 Preconsidered Resolution 1031, which was adopted  
15 by a vote of 49 in the affirmative, one in the  
16 negative, and zero abstentions; and M 638, with  
17 Reso 1057, which was adopted by a vote of 49 in  
18 the affirmative, with zero in the negative, and  
19 one abstentions; and revised Land Use Call-Ups  
20 vote is now 50 in the affirmative, with zero in  
21 the negative; and last but not least, Mike Nelson  
22 you did not get all the votes. Just joking.  
23 That's all. [laughs] We'll now go to  
24 introduction and reading of the bills.

25 SPEAKER QUINN: All bills are

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referred to Committees as indicated on the agenda.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Perfect.

Discussion of Resolutions. Council Member Jackson. [pause] Councilwoman Helen Foster.

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Thank you, and thank you Council Member Jackson for yielding the floor. Yesterday, coming out of the State and Federal Legislation Committee, we passed the resolution supporting President Obama's American Jobs Act of 2011, and as you know, the unemployment rate in New York City--

SPEAKER QUINN: I'm sorry, Council Member, could we get quiet for the discussion on this important resolution, and put some time back onto the clock for Council Member Foster, please. Put the whole time back. Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Thank you very much. I was saying that as you know, the unemployment rate in New York City is about 8.5 percent, and that is for those that are still on the rolls and continuing to look. It doesn't represent those that are underemployed and have been unemployed for a long term. And so, this Act will do what is necessary to get New York and the

1  
2 country back to work. And as we have just seen,  
3 15 percent of the American population is living in  
4 poverty, higher than any industrialized nation.  
5 And so therefore, it is important that we vote on  
6 this resolution and support our president, so that  
7 we can get Americans back to work. Thank you.

8 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very  
9 much, Council Member. We'll take all the  
10 conversations on Preconsidered Resolution 1030 at  
11 this time. So next is Council Member Robert  
12 Jackson.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you,  
14 Majority leader. My colleagues, I rise in order  
15 to speak about the President Obama's American Job  
16 Act. And in fact many of you don't know, but let  
17 me explain to you what the impact, when this bill  
18 passes, is going to be on New York City. The  
19 mortgage refinancing, New York City, the impact  
20 will be \$1.3 billion, and approximately 6,700  
21 jobs. The infrastructure investments in New York  
22 City, the impact is about \$2.3 billion or 17,000  
23 jobs for New Yorkers. For local education and  
24 first responders aid, the impact is about \$700  
25 million, and it will help the City to restore

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2 approximately 3,700 positions. Employee payroll  
3 tax, the cut is going to be about \$4.8 billion,  
4 25,000 jobs. And in essence, it's exactly what  
5 it's called: The American Jobs Act. So I ask my  
6 colleagues to all to support this resolution and  
7 in favor of Americans and jobs.

8 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very  
9 much. Councilwoman Karen Koslowitz.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Thank  
11 you. Let's stop playing politics and get people  
12 back to work. This bill is an important bill and  
13 Congress should pass this. I want to also go on  
14 the comments of my colleagues. This bill should  
15 be passed, and passed soon, so we get everyone  
16 back to work. Thank you.

17 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very  
18 much. Any others on Preconsidered Resolution  
19 1030? Okay, so at this point in time, we're going  
20 to take a vote on Preconsidered Resolution 1030,  
21 it's a resolution supporting and calling on the  
22 United States Congress to immediately act on the  
23 President's ... this one? I don't understand what  
24 this means. Okay, Councilwoman Sara Gonzalez.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Thank



2 you. With permission of the body, and everyone  
3 here today, I'd like to be able to speak a little  
4 bit about a predator that is victimizing women in  
5 District 38.

6 PRESIDENT RIVERA: No, no, I  
7 apologize, we're talking about Preconsidered  
8 Resolution 1030--

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Oh, okay,  
10 so--

11 PRESIDENT RIVERA: --which is the  
12 Amer--Okay. Yeah, that's after.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Okay.  
14 Thank you.

15 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Council Member  
16 Lander, did you have something? No, okay.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: It's all my  
18 fault, I gave bad information to Council Member  
19 Gonzalez. [laughter]

20 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Okay.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: And I'm  
22 sorry for it.

23 PRESIDENT RIVERA: No problem, we  
24 forgive you. Okay, so any others on Preconsidered  
25 Resolution 1030. Okay, seeing none, we're going

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2 to call the vote on Preconsidered Resolution 1030,  
3 a resolution supporting and calling on the United  
4 States Congress to immediately act on the  
5 President's proposed American Jobs Act of 2011,  
6 which would provide tax relief for American  
7 workers and businesses, put workers back on the  
8 job, while building and modernizing America, and  
9 provide pathways back to work for Americans  
10 looking for jobs, adopted by the Committee on  
11 State and Federal Legislation. All in favor, say  
12 aye.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye.

14 PRESIDENT RIVERA: All opposed, say  
15 nay.

16 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Nay.

17 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Any abstentions?  
18 Well, the ayes have it. [laughter, background  
19 comments] Next we will be discussing  
20 Preconsidered Resolution 1024. Anyone want to  
21 speak on this Preconsidered resolution? Council  
22 Member Dan Halloran.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Mr.  
24 Majority Leader, I appreciate this body taking up  
25 this resolution. But I will remind this body in

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2 January of this year, when we passed our first  
3 resolution, I stood up and told this body that  
4 cancer was not included in the bill, and that it  
5 was going to be a problem. And here we are today,  
6 creating a resolution calling on the Administrator  
7 to recognize cancer as a contributive factor to  
8 the 9/11 complex of diseases. And I say that from  
9 experience. My brother Patrick, a lieutenant in  
10 the Fire Department, is right now on modified duty  
11 because of his exposure at ground zero. He may  
12 have to leave the Fire Department because of the  
13 complex injuries he sustained internally on that  
14 pile. So, as I pointed out to my colleagues then,  
15 cancer wasn't included, it wasn't going to get  
16 included unless we pushed, and we needed to do it  
17 back then, so at least now we're making some step  
18 forward, and I urge everyone to not only support  
19 this reso, but to advocate for it with your  
20 federal colleagues. And I appreciate the  
21 extension of time.

22 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very  
23 much. Council Member Robert Jackson.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you,  
25 Majority Leader. I rise again in order to speak

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2 in favor of this resolution. In fact, I am not a  
3 member of the Civil Service and Labor Committee.  
4 But I attended the Committee and spoke out in  
5 favor of this resolution because thousands and  
6 thousands of people, when the call came out, that  
7 the World Trade Center had been bombed, and it  
8 collapsed, thousands of people rushed in order to  
9 help all those that were injured. So, these  
10 individuals, many of them have contracted cancer  
11 as a result of this, and we, our country, should  
12 step forward to give them all of the assistance  
13 that they need, understanding as long as you were  
14 there, you should be entitled. That should be the  
15 only test. If you were there, and obviously Julie  
16 Menin, Community Board One Chair said that New  
17 Yorkers were told by the--that, that the air was  
18 safe, when it was not. So, even those people that  
19 live in this area, if they contracted cancer,  
20 should be covered. Thank you.

21 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very  
22 much, Council Member. Next we have Council Member  
23 Levin.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you,  
25 Mr. Majority Leader. I just want to add my voice

1  
2 to the chorus in support of this resolution. We  
3 had a hearing chaired by Council Member Chin  
4 several months ago, of the Lower Manhattan  
5 Redevelopment Committee, in which this issue  
6 became clear to me and in my view it is entirely  
7 outrageous. We heard some testimony from  
8 individuals that have developed cancer and  
9 respiratory diseases, and the tales are harrowing.  
10 And we need to honor all of those that rushed into  
11 danger and into harm's way, and those that are  
12 paying such a severe sacrifice to assist their  
13 fellow citizens, ought to be recognized and ought  
14 to be covered, and we need to make, I think it's  
15 entirely appropriate that this body make its  
16 opinion known, in the form of this resolution.  
17 Thank you very much.

18 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very  
19 much. Council Member Chin.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you. I  
21 urge all my colleagues to continue to advocate on  
22 this issue. And I thank you for supporting the  
23 resolution earlier this year. But we have to  
24 continue to do this. Because there is so many  
25 evidence that people are dying from cancer. A

1  
2 couple of months ago we lost another hero, Police  
3 Officer George Wang, who worked at Ground Zero,  
4 after 9/11, and who passed away because of cancer.  
5 There are still many first responder who are  
6 living with this disease, and not getting  
7 recognized. So, by passing this resolution, we  
8 will continue to send a strong message down to  
9 Washington that we mean business, that they have  
10 to find the link and include cancer in the  
11 compensation. Thank you.

12 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you. Are  
13 there any others on this resolution? Okay, at  
14 this point in time, we're going to call the vote  
15 on Preconsidered Resolution 1024, resolution  
16 calling upon Dr. John Howard, Administrator of the  
17 World Trade Center Health Program, to examine new  
18 evidence indicating a link between exposure to  
19 Ground Zero toxins and cancer, and reconsider  
20 adding coverage for cancers under the James  
21 Zadroga 9/11 Health Compensation Act, which was  
22 adopted by the Committee on Civil Service and  
23 Labor. All in favor say aye.

24 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

25 PRESIDENT RIVERA: All opposed say

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2 nay. Any abstentions? The ayes have it. At this  
3 point in time, we move on to general discussion.  
4 First we have Council Member Dan Garodnick.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Thank  
6 you very much. Today, along with Council Member  
7 Julissa Ferreras and Council Member Danny Dromm, I  
8 am introducing two bills that would help protect  
9 consumers from being scammed when buying a used  
10 car. Despite existing laws to curb consumer  
11 abuses by New York City used car dealers, the  
12 Department of Consumer Affairs, or DCA, has  
13 received more than 3,500 complaints about used car  
14 dealers since 2004, including complaints of high  
15 pressure sales tactics and unclear or shifting  
16 contract terms. In addition, during a Consumer  
17 Affairs hearing on used car dealers that I chaired  
18 in April of this year, DCA reported that 55  
19 percent of the dealerships it investigated in 2009  
20 and 2010 had engaged in deceptive advertising,  
21 including bait and switch offers that lure  
22 customers in with enticing deals on cars that are  
23 not available, in order to push the sale of a more  
24 expensive vehicle. Intro 674 would require used  
25 car dealers to use a model contract that spells

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2 out all costs, including monthly payment costs,  
3 and would subject dealers to revocation of their  
4 second hand automobile dealer licenses for failure  
5 to use it. Intro 675 would require used car  
6 dealers to post and distribute a list of buyers'  
7 rights, which would include a dealer's obligation  
8 to not engage in bait and switch tactics. This  
9 legislation is needed to better protect New York  
10 City consumers, and I encourage my colleagues to  
11 join me as well as Council Members Ferreras and  
12 Dromm in signing on to these two bills. Thank  
13 you.

14 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Next we have  
15 Council Member Jackson.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you,  
17 Majority Leader, my colleagues, I rise again and,  
18 in order to discuss with you under General  
19 Discussion, about a press conference that was held  
20 at 12:00 p.m. on the steps of Tweed. And in fact,  
21 there were several hundred parents, activists,  
22 people that were concerned, about the overcrowded  
23 classrooms in our schools. And in fact, they held  
24 pictures of students in our schools, and what they  
25 want to be. One little kid wanted to be a police



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2 officer, another one wanted to be a scientist,  
3 another one wanted to be a teacher. And these are  
4 real people, our children. And I heard today from  
5 UFT that statistics are coming in where oversized  
6 classes that are beyond the mandated class size  
7 under the UFT contract, are coming in  
8 approximately 500 classes more than last year.  
9 And last year there were 6,000 classes that did  
10 not meet the requirements of number of students in  
11 the classroom as required by the UFT contract.  
12 And obviously, this is a huge concern. So I ask  
13 all of you to listen to what is being said, but  
14 understand that our children are suffering as a  
15 result of the number of students in the class.  
16 And as you know, ideally you should have no more  
17 than 20 students in a class, but some reported in  
18 the news, even 36-38 students in a classroom, and  
19 when you have that many children, children can't  
20 learn like they should. And in fact, we've had  
21 about 30,000 students increase overall within the  
22 past several years, and a reduction of about 7,000  
23 teachers. Please understand what's going on, get  
24 involved, and stay with the times as far as making  
25 sure our children get a good education. Thank

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you.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you. Next we have Council Member James.

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Over 750 employees of the Department of Education are scheduled to lose their jobs next month: school aids, high school parent coordinators, family workers, health aids, and computer technicians. These layoffs will be concentrated within the City's poorest communities, high needs districts, affecting mostly women of color. If we can find money for consultants for privatization, for high stakes tests, then surely we can find money for these employees. Mayor Bloomberg, the war on working families and on working individuals is class warfare. And I urge you to find the money and save their jobs.

PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very much. Next we have Council Member Gonzalez.

COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Thank you. I'd like to rise to utilize this venue today to inform my colleagues and those folks that are here listening, that we have a predator in District 38, also District 39 and probably 43, I

1  
2 believe. There's been ten victims, one person was  
3 raped, and I think this venue is a good venue to  
4 say to you that I know that the Police Department,  
5 Inspector Pintos [phonetic] in my precinct, is  
6 doing the best that he can, and I know the Borough  
7 Commander has jumped in there, and reinforced, and  
8 also Commissioner Kelly. But I think it's  
9 important that we keep our eyes and ears open. We  
10 don't know that this predator may live in another  
11 district. So I'd like to be able to send out  
12 through email or whatever to your different  
13 offices, so that you can have the sketch of this  
14 person or persons, that they are looking for.  
15 Women are afraid, but I have to say I've very  
16 proud of Community Board Seven, Public Safety  
17 Committee, they've stepped forward. The Slope,  
18 Safe Slope folks, who we had a rally last week, I  
19 believe, where hundreds of people came together to  
20 say, "We're taking back our streets, we are going  
21 to feel safe and we're going to protect each  
22 other." So, I also would like to thank Speaker  
23 Quinn because she has been very instrumental in  
24 giving us whatever we need in reference to taking  
25 care of this problem in my district. But this is

1  
2 a good venue, and I think we should begin to come  
3 together and say, "You know what, it's very  
4 possible that this predator doesn't live in  
5 District 38, and that he lives in your district,  
6 or in Queens or somewhere else." So therefore, if  
7 you can get the sketch of him and pass it around,  
8 tell people to report it if they see it, advice,  
9 prevention to all the women and the children and  
10 the families in your district, it would be really  
11 sad. One woman was raped and nine other were  
12 victimized, and I just want to make sure that I  
13 utilize this venue appropriately. Thank you.

14 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very  
15 much. Next we have Council Member Halloran.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Thank  
17 you, Mr. Majority Leader. I would just like to  
18 congratulate the new Assemblyman in my district,  
19 although he's on the other side of the aisle, Mike  
20 Simanowitz, who was elected. College Point, has a  
21 representative again, which is nice, we haven't  
22 had one for a while, since the resignation of our  
23 prior Assemblywoman. I would like to coll--salute  
24 my colleague, Council Member Wills, who sits in a  
25 district below mine, on his win. And most

1  
2 importantly, I would like to congratulate United  
3 States Congressman Bob Turner, representing both  
4 Brooklyn and Queens.

5 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very  
6 much. Next we have Council Member Rodriguez.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Thank  
8 you. I rise today to speak about the execution of  
9 Troy Davis, convicted in 1991, to be executed in a  
10 few hours, at 7:00 p.m., in the State of Georgia.  
11 Since conviction, a number of witnesses have  
12 testified to being forced on making statements.  
13 While witness testified at a hearing that he saw  
14 another suspect in committing that crime. No  
15 physical evidence is tying him to this crime.  
16 Many doubt are in this case. A number of public  
17 figure and elected officials have joined in the  
18 call for clemency, including 30 congressmen, Jimmy  
19 Carter, former President Jimmy Carter, Archbishop  
20 Desmond Tutu, Pope Benedict XVI, and former FBI  
21 Director William Sessions. Please add your  
22 signatures to the other 30 colleagues that signed  
23 the letter today, asking the Governor of Georgia  
24 to please, as his power, so that these gentleman  
25 should not be executed today. Thank you.

1  
2 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very  
3 much. Next we have Council Member Mealy.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Yes, I just  
5 want to reiterate what my colleague Tish James  
6 said, and I hope everyone can look at the New York  
7 Daily News columnist, Juan Gonzalez did an  
8 investigation report on the possible layoffs. Mr.  
9 Gonzalez hit the nail on the head. Those in the  
10 most vulnerable communities are the ones that are  
11 being targeted for layoffs. The City plans to lay  
12 off nearly 800 non-teacher and public school  
13 employees this fall, will hit the poorest district  
14 and the hardest. And spare the affluent more  
15 districts. And I hope that the Chancellor, Dennis  
16 Walcott, will sit down and talk to the unions,  
17 Local 372. Nonetheless, one thing is clear: if  
18 these layoffs take effect, the poorest districts  
19 will suffer. And one of those districts is mine,  
20 so I hope we start advocating in regards to that,  
21 all my colleagues, thank you.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: [off mic]

23 Amen!

24 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very  
25 much. Next we have Council Member Levin.

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you  
3 very much, Mr. Majority Leader, I just wanted to  
4 recognize the new Assembly Member from the 54th  
5 Assembly District, who has joined us, a former  
6 staff here at the City Council, Rafael Espinal.  
7 Rafael's in the back. [applause]  
8 Congratulations, Raf.

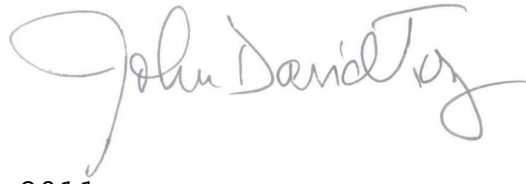
9 PRESIDENT RIVERA: Thank you very  
10 much. Council Member Lander, did you want to say  
11 a few--No? Okay, seeing no others, this meeting  
12 is adjourned.

13 [gavel]

C E R T I F I C A T E

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

Signature

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

Date October 6, 2011