CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED
MEETING

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SEPTEMBER 10, 2026
Start: 1:48 p.m.
Recess: 3:22 p.m.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Julie Menin - Speaker
Sean Abreu - Majority Leader

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Shirley Aldebol
Joann Ariola
Alexa Avilés
Chris Banks
Gale Brewer
Selvena Brooks-Powers
Tiffany Cabán
David Carr (?)
Carmen De La Rosa
Eric Dinowitz
Elsi Encarnación
Harvey Epstein
Amanda Farías
Simcha Felder
Oswald Felíz
James Gennaro
Jennifer Gutiérrez (?)
Shahana Hanif

Ty Hankerson
Kamillah Hanks
Crystal Hudson
Rita Joseph
Shekar Krishnan
Linda Lee
Farah Louis
Virginia Maloney
Christopher Marte
Darlene Mealy
Frank Morano
Mercedes Narcisse
Sandy Nurse
Chi Ossé
Vickie Paladino
Lincoln Restler
Kevin Riley
Yusef Salaam
Justin Sanchez
Pierina Sanchez
Kayla Santosuosso
Lynn Schulman
Althea Stevens
Shanel Thomas-Henry
Sandra Ung
Inna Vernikov
Nantasha Williams
Carl Wilson
Julie Won
Phil Wong
Susan Zhuang

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

UNIDENTIFIED: This is a microphone check for the stated meeting on September 10th, 2026, recorded by James Marino in the chambers.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: (Cuts out) vibrate. If you're standing in the back, please have a seat. If you are standing along that wall, please have a seat. Thank you. Again, if you're standing in the back, please have a seat. Mr. Majority Leader, it's all yours.

(Gavel)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Good afternoon. And welcome to the stated meeting of September 10th, 2026. I am Majority Leader Sean Abreu. And I'd like to thank you for joining us. As a reminder, decorum must be respected at all times. If you would like to follow along, the agenda for today's meeting is posted on our website. On behalf of the body, I welcome the members of the public who have joined us today. During stated meetings, only members of the council may speak. Members of the public shall remain silent. If you wish to express your support of any remarks, you may make the silent approval gesture. Thank you.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Please join us for the Pledge of Allegiance.

CLERK: Roll call. Aldebol?

COUNCIL MEMBER ALDEBOL: Present.

CLERK: Ariola?

COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Here.

CLERK: Aviles? Banks?

COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Present.

CLERK: Brewer? Brooks Powers? Cabán?

COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Present.

CLERK: De La Rosa?

COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Here.

CLERK: Dinowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Here.

CLERK: Encarnación?

COUNCIL MEMBER ENCARNACIÓN: Presente.

CLERK: Epstein?

COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: Present.

CLERK: Farías?

COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Present.

CLERK: Felder?

COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Here.

CLERK: Feliz? Gennaro?

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here.

CLERK: Gutiérrez? Hanif?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Here.

CLERK: Hankerson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANKERSON: Here.

CLERK: Feliz?

COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Here.

CLERK: Avilés?

COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Presente.

CLERK: Hanks?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Present.

CLERK: Hudson? Joseph?

COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Present.

CLERK: Krishnan? Lee? Louis?

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present.

CLERK: Maloney?

COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: Present.

CLERK: Marte.

COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Present.

CLERK: Mealy? Morano?

COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Here.

CLERK: Narcisse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Here.

CLERK: Nurse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NUIRSE: Here.

CLERK: Ossé?

COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Here.

CLERK:: Palladino?

COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Here.

CLERK: Restler?

COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Here.

CLERK: Riley?

COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Present.

CLERK: Salaam?

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Present.

CLERK: Justin Sanchez?

COUNCIL MEMBER J SANCHEZ: Here.

CLERK: Pierina Sanchez?

COUNCIL MEMBER P SANCHEZ: Present.

CLERK: Santosuosso?

COUNCIL MEMBER SANTOSUOSSO: Very happy to be here.

(Applause)

CLERK: Yeah. Yeah. (Indiscernible). Yeah. Schulman?

COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Here.

CLERK: Stevens? Thomas Henry?

COUNCIL MEMBER THOMAS-HENRY: Present.

CLERK: Ung?

COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Present.

CLERK: Vernikov? Brewer?

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.

CLERK: Hudson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Present.

CLERK: Krishnan?

COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Here.

CLERK: Lee?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Here.

CLERK: Stevens?

COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Here.

CLERK: Williams? Wilson?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILSON: Present.

CLERK: Won?

COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Present.

CLERK: Wong?

COUNCIL MEMBER WONG: Here.

CLERK: Zhuang?

COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Here.

CLERK: Carr? Abreu?

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Present.

CLERK: Speaker Menin?

SPEAKER MENIN: Here.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you. We will now have today's invocation, which will be delivered by the Reverend Dr. V. Simpson Turner, the Senior Pastor of Mount Carmel Baptist Church, which is located at 714 Quincy Street in Brooklyn.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise.

SENIOR PASTOR TURNER: Let us bow our heads. Eternal God, we come before you on this sacred eve, standing in the shadow of a day this city will never forget. 25 years have passed. Yet the weight of that morning remains as real to us now as it was then. We remember the 343 members of the FDNY who ran toward danger when every instinct in creation, cried out to run away, who climbed when others descended, who gave the whole of their lives in the space of a single morning, and whose names are etched not only in bronze, but in the hearts of this city. We remember the more than 2,900 souls taken that day, mothers and fathers, sons and daughters, neighbors and strangers, who became family in grief. We hold their memory as sacred trust. And we remember too the hundreds who did not fall on September 11th, but in the years since, who breathed in the poison of those broken towersm as they

searched, as they served, as they stayed. Their deaths came slower. But their sacrifice was no less complete. Lord, let this city never separate those names from the 343, nor from the more than 2,900. They are one line of the fallen, written across 25 years instead of a single day. We ask for your comfort upon every family still carrying this loss, that they would feel even now that their loved one's sacrifice is not forgettin- forgotten by this city, this nation, or you. Grant courage to those who still serve in this city's firehouses, precincts, and rescue companies, even those today who serve in city government, who carry forward the same willingness to do what's right, to run toward danger for the sake of a stranger. And grant us the living, the resolve to honor these lives, not only in remembrance, but how we care for one another still. May your peace rest, rule, and abide, with each one of us. We ask this in your holy name. Amen.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Reverend Dr. Turner, for today's invocation. I would also like to recognize Mount Carmel Dah- Baptist Church, which is celebrating its centennial anniversary. Congratulations. Reverend Dr. Turner

is a graduate of the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology, at Virginia Union University and the College of Staten Island. He was appointed by former Mayor Michael Bloomberg as Senior Protestant Chaplain of the New York City Fire Department and has also served as a chaplain with the Department of Correction and the New York City Sheriff's Department. Reverend Dr. Turner has lectured at colleges and international institutions, including at the United Nations, and has an extensive record of civic and community service. He has been a dedicated advocate for preserving the memory of the 12 Black New York City firefighters who lost their lives on September 11th, 2001, participating in annual commemorations honoring their service and sacrifice. As senior pastor of Mount Carmel Baptist Church and executive director of the Mount Carmel Brooklyn Housing Corporation, Reverend Dr. Turner has dedicated many years to faith, public service, housing, education, and the Brooklyn community. We thank Reverend Dr. Turner for his service, and I ask that his invocation be spread in full upon the record. We will now ask Council Member Justin Sanchez for the adoption of minutes.

COUNCIL MEMBER J SANCHEZ: Motion that the minutes of the stated meeting of August 13th, 2026 be adopted as printed.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Messages and papers from the mayor?

CLERK: None.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Communication from city, county, and borough offices?

CLERK: None.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Petitions and communications?

CLERK: None.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Land use call-ups? CLERK: M91.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you. I'd ask that the clerk now take a roll call vote on today's land use call-ups.

CLERK: Aldebol?

COUNCIL MEMBER ALDEBOL: Aye.

CLERK: Ariola?

COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: I vote aye.

CLERK: Avilés?

COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye.

CLERK: Banks?

COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye.

CLERK: Brewer?

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes.

CLERK: Brooks-Powers? (no audible response). Cabán?

COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye.

CLERK: Thank you. De La Rosa?

COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye.

CLERK: Dinowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye.

CLERK: Encarnación?

COUNCIL MEMBER ENCARNACIÓN: Aye.

CLERK: Thank you. Brooks-Powers?

COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: I ask permission to vote on everything on today's agenda.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Permission granted.

COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: I vote aye on all. Thank you.

CLERK: Thank you. Epstein?

COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: Aye.

CLERK: Farias?

COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: I vote aye.

CLERK: Felder?

COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Aye.

CLERK: Feliz?

COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye on all.

CLERK: Gennaro?

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

CLERK: Thank you. Gutiérrez? Hanif?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye.

CLERK: Hankerson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANKERSON: Aye.

CLERK: Hanks?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye.

CLERK: Hudson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye.

CLERK: Joseph?

COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye.

CLERK: Krishnan?

COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye.

CLERK: Lee?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye.

CLERK: Louis?

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye.

CLERK: Maloney?

COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: Aye.

CLERK: Marte?

COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye.

CLERK: Mealy? Morano?

COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Aye.

CLERK: Narcisse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye.

CLERK: Nurse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Aye.

CLERK: Ossé?

COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Permission to vote on all items on today's agenda?

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Denied. Yeah, sorry, in order to speech- uh, to vote on all items in the land use, you have to seek the, the, the Speaker's permission office to do that, and so far, you have permission for two individuals.

CLERK: Paladino?

COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye.

CLERK: Thank you. Restler?

COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye.

CLERK: Riley?

COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye.

CLERK: Salaam?

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: I vote aye.

CLERK: Justin Sanchez?

COUNCIL MEMBER J SANCHEZ: Aye.

CLERK: Pierina Sanchez?

COUNCIL MEMBER P SANCHEZ: Aye.

CLERK: Santosuosso?

COUNCIL MEMBER SANTOSUOSSO: Aye.

CLERK: Schulman?

COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye.

CLERK: Stevens?

COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye.

CLERK: Thomas-Henry?

COUNCIL MEMBER THOMAS-HENRY: Aye.

CLERK: Ung?

COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye.

CLERK: Vernikov? Williams?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye.

CLERK: Thank you. Wilson?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILSON: Aye.

CLERK: Won?

COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye.

CLERK: Wong.

COUNCIL MEMBER WONG: Aye.

CLERK: Zhuang?

COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye.

CLERK: Vernikov.

COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye.

CLERK: Thank you. Carr?

COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: I'd like to move for unanimous consent to vote on all land use call-up items, general order calendar items, and resolutions.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Granted.

COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Uh, I will be voting no on M88 and M89 with accompanying resolutions 639 and 640, and aye on the rest.

CLERK: Thank you. Abreu?

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Aye.

CLERK: Speaker Menin?

SPEAKER MENIN: Aye.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Hey, Council Member Ossé, would you like to vote on the land use call-up? I don't think we have your vote for that.

COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: I vote aye.

CLERK: Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: And, and now hah, now having permission from the Speaker's Office, can you please tell us your vote on all land use call-ups?

COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: I vote aye on all items on today's agenda. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: You got it. Thank you. We will now have communication from Speaker Julie Menin.

SPEAKER MENIN: Okay. Good afternoon.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: I, I got (sic) to read the vote. My apologies, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER MENIN: Okay.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Today's land use call-ups are adopted by a vote of 49 in the affirmative and 0 in the negative.

SPEAKER MENIN: Okay. All right. Can I just ask everyone to take a seat? Just— thank you so much. So tomorrow, New York and the nation will, of course, commemorate 25 years since September 11th, 2001. And tomorrow, we will honor the memories of the 2,977 people who were murdered that day. They were our first responders, our office workers, our fathers, mothers, sisters, and brothers. They were, in one word, our heroes. So I now am asking for a moment of silence in their honor. Thank you. So though the terrorists not only killed those that died on 9/11, they tried to take away our freedoms and our way of life. They tried to proliferate fear. But quite frankly, they only made us stronger in our love

for our city and our country. We will always remember the tremendous tragedy of that day, of the lives we lost. But we will also remember the extraordinary selflessness that we witnessed. From the thousands of first responders who rushed into the burning buildings to help people out of them, bridging the gap between human and hero, to the ordinary New Yorkers who showed up as the sun went down, bringing food, drinks, handwritten notes to workers at Ground Zero, whether it's through the memories we pass down, their classes in school, or the field trips they take to the 9/11 Memorial and Museum, it's imperative that our children who were not born on 9/11 learn about these stories. And that's why last week, the Council was so proud to announce that we allocated $1 million for field trips at the 9/11 Memorial and Museum, to ensure that Never Forget is a promise our city's next generation will keep alive. I really want to thank all the members who joined. It was so moving. For a lot of the members who were there, they had said that they had never been to the 9/11 Memorial, they had never been to the museum. Um, for me, this is something that is deeply personal. I served on the jury that selected

the memorial. We went through 5,200 design submissions from 63 countries to select Michael Arad's Reflecting Absence. And also, when you go into that museum, you get to hear stories from family members who lost loved ones, or you get to hear about the heroic acts of the first responders, or literally the kindness of strangers who carried people down flights and flights of smoke-filled stairs on that day. So really encourage any member that was not able to come with us to please go to the Memorial Museum. They would be happy to give you a tour. Or I would encourage you to go with one of the schools in your district, 'cause (sic) we just funded these, uh, field trips. And certainly, um, we do not forget history simply because a chapter is hidden from us or a chapter is particularly dark. If anything, that is the history we must always, uh, remember. And so as someone who lost my own mother to a 9/11-related cancer, I have long advocated for a full release of the city's 9/11 environmental toxin reports. During the, um, advice and consent hearing of Corporation Counsel Steve Banks, we secured his commitment to release the 9/11 files. I also want to thank Council Member Gale Brewer for her great work on this. She

has been a champion on the release of the files, um, as well. So I was extremely pleased that this week the Administration launched this new portal, so that the public can finally view these records. New Yorkers deserve a full accounting of what the city knew, what might have been withheld from the public, and how their actions impacted first responders, downtown residents, and survivors. To that end, the Council also secured in the budget $4 million in funding for the Department of Investigation to complete and release its council-mandated report on the files, another critical step towards transparency and accountability. The families of victims have questions. We do as well. And while the answers alone cannot bring back the lives we lost on that day— and look, I want to say over 9,000 people, more than dot- that- those died on 9/11- have now lost their lives to a 9/11-related cancer or illness. The city has an obligation to tell the whole truth, which is exactly what New Yorkers expect and deserve. Okay. So to transition away from tomorrow's, um, anniversary, today marks a new beginning for hundreds of thousands of public school students, their first

day of school. Yeah. Great. Okay, that's sort of tepid applause, okay, I don't know why.

(Laughter)

SPEAKER MENIN: Let's give it up for our kids.

(Applause)

SPEAKER MENIN: This morning, our young people dusted off their backpacks, swiped their student OMNY card, and reunited with their friends and their teachers after a long several months. The new academic year is another opportunity for them to learn, to ask questions, to be challenged, which is exactly how they will grow. And we are so excited for them. Jewish New Yorkers too are celebrating in kind. Tomorrow is the start of Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year. I'll be attending synagogue with my family, reflecting on the past year. And I wish— um, I want to wish Shanah Tovah to all the Jewish New Yorkers who are observing. Last Monday on Labor Day, we celebrated the incredible contributions of our workers. The first Labor Day actually took place in this city in 1882, when union members marched to Union Square to demand better working conditions. I was proud to join our friends in labor, um, the other

day on their march. We all benefit from their activism and continue to honor the steadfast American worker. September 15th marks the start of Hispanic Heritage Month, uh, which 205 years ago on that day, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua, all gained their independence. Throughout this month, we celebrate the contributions and achievements of the 2.5 million Latino residents of our city. And we also recognize the pioneering Latino members of this body who serve our city as well. Other Independence Days in September include Mexican Independence Day on the 15th, Chilean Independence Day on the 18th, and Belizean Independence Day on the 21st. So September is a clearly very popular month for birthdays here at the Council. So we got a lot of members who have birthdays. So today's birthday belongs to Councilmember Virginia Maloney.

(Applause)

SPEAKER MENIN: I also want to wish a happy birthday to Majority Whip Kamillah Hanks, who celebrated on the 4th.

(Applause)

SPEAKER MENIN: Council Member Gale Brewer, who celebrated on the 6th.

(Applause)

SPEAKER MENIN: Council Member Sandra Ung yesterday.

(Applause)

SPEAKER MENIN: And, and Council Member Jen Gutierrez on the 14th.

(Applause)

SPEAKER MENIN: Wait, everyone is switching seats back here. And it's, like it's- I'm glad. Okay. Everyone's having fun; all good. We also had some special guests with us today. Minister for the Americas, Member of Parliament, Chris Elmore, visited the Council from across the pond. And we are also honored— many of you joined for this— to be joined by the Special Master for the 9/11 Victims Compensation Fund, Alison Lee Turkell.

(Applause)

SPEAKER MENIN: Lastly, on a more somber note, I want to offer my deepest condolences to Council Member Darlene Mealy, whose mother sadly passed away. We are keeping her and her family in our thoughts. And may her memory be a blessing. Now

we're gonna' (sic) move on to our stated agenda. First, we'll vote on the following land use items. 47-03, 108th Street rezoning, will facilitate the development of a new mixed-use building with approximately 119 dwelling units, 30 of which will be permanently affordable under MIH Option 1, as well as retail and community facility space in Councilmember Chanel Thomas-Henry's district. The Council has modified this application to rezone to an R7D district rather than an R7X. 200 Kent Avenue rezoning will facilitate the conversion and enlargement of an existing five-story commercial building into a mixed-use development with 143 housing units, 36 of which will be affordable under MIH, in Council Member Lincoln Restler's district. The Council has modified this application to strike MIH Option 2. Today, we're also gonna' vote on the following pieces of legislation. Resolution 7A, sponsored by Council Member Joann Ariola, myself, and Council Member Rita Joseph, will call upon the New York State Legislature to pass and the governor to sign legislation to incorporate a 9/11 curriculum in all New York schools. Thank you to Katie Salina. Resolution 6, sponsored by myself, would commemorate

the 25th anniversary of the September 11th attacks. Thank you to Regina Paul. Resolution 82A, sponsored by Council Member Amanda Farias, would celebrate the Feast of São Gennaro and Ferragosta Festival annually in September. Thank you to Regina Paul. Resolution 429, sponsored by Deputy Speaker Dr. Nantasha Williams, would recognize the life and legacy of Alvin Ailey and honor his contributions to American dance and the founding of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. Thank you to Mahnoor Butt (sic). Resolution 402, sponsored by Deputy Speaker Dr. Nantasha Williams, would declare March 6th as Carmen de Lavallade in New York City, to celebrate her life and legacy and to honor her groundbreaking contributions to dance and theatre. Thank you to Regina Paul. Resolution 237A, sponsored by Council Member Crystal Hudson, would call on the United States Congress to pass the Performing Artists Tax Parity Act of 2025, a bill which would increase the income limit and would make other modifications to the above-the-line tax deduction for business expenses of qualified performing artists. Thank you to Regina Paul. A preconsidered introduction sponsored by myself, which would co-name 26

thoroughfares and public places with commemorative titles that honor the memory of the September 11th attacks. Thank you to Brad Reid, Patrick Mulvihill, and Lukas Lopez-Jensen. Introduction, 906A, sponsored by Council Member Justin Sanchez, would require DSNY, upon receiving seven or more complaints of dog waste on the same block within a week, to dispatch employees to evaluate the block and enforce local health codes against animal waste in public spaces. Thank you to Declan McPherson and Morganne Barrett. Introduction 813A, sponsored by Council Member Harvey Epstein, would allow the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection to refuse to renew, suspend, or revoke, a tobacco retailer-dealer license or an electronic cigarette retail dealer license upon a finding that the holder of such license distributed for sale any cannabis or cannabis product without without the appropriate registration, license, or permit issued by New York State. Thank you to the committee staff. Introduction 866A, also sponsored by Council Member Harvey Epstein, would require DOT or a DOT permittee, whichever is performing disruptive work, to post at least one sign at the end of each block where the disruptive work will occur at

least 48 hours in advance of the start of said work, containing details as to who is performing the work and the anticipated start and end dates of the work. Thank you to Elliot Heisler and Theo Miller. Introduction 804A, sponsored by Council Member Phil Wong, would establish a maximum allowable illuminance for residential outdoor lighting fixtures on one- and two-family homes in low-density residential districts. Thank you to Sierra Townsend. Introduction: 547B, sponsored by Council Member Oswald Feliz, would require the DOHMH to designate warning symbols and statements be displayed next to listed food items that meet or exceed 100 percent of the daily value for added sugars. This bill would also require that DOHMH issue warnings for noncompliance as well as conduct a public education outreach campaign to educate food establishments about the new requirements. Introduction 196-C, also sponsored by Council Member Feliz, would require DOHMH to develop rules requiring food service establishments to display warning symbols next to foods that contain 2,300 milligrams of sodium or more per serving. This bill would also require that DOHMH issue warnings for noncompliance as well as conduct a

public education and outreach campaign to educate food establishments about the new requirements. Keeping us healthy; thank you. Um, thank you to the staff, Christopher Pepe, Elizabeth Arzt, and Joshua Newman. Introduction 220-A, sponsored by Majority Whip Kamillah Hanks, would require the Department of Records and Information Services, in consultation with other city agencies, to maintain a list of all known burial sites historically associated with formerly enslaved persons or historically African American communities citywide. Thank you to Declan McPherson and Alejandro Carvajal. Um, and then also, we are going to be voting on the following appointments, uh, which we have advice and consent over, Lisa Garcia to the Land Bank, Dave Chokshi to the Board of Health, John Mangin to the Board of Standards and Appeals. So thank you for your attention. I'm now gonna' turn it back over to the majority leader.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Madam Speaker. We will now move into discussion of general orders, beginning first with Deputy Speaker Williams, followed by Wilson. I will proceed with Council Member Wilson? Council Member Carl Wilson?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILSON: Okay. Sorry. Uh, (chuckles) today, we are voting on the conaming of the intersection at West 33rd Street and 7th Avenue. Um, the Knicks championship run this summer was unforgettable. The whole city came together in wrapped attention and ultimately joy as Jalen Brunson and his teammates exhibited the New York spirit at its best, collaborative, scrappy, and tenacious. Now, the Spurs might not be able to hold on to a lead. But New Yorkers can and will hold on to our memories of the Knicks victory. We're immortalizing it by co-naming the intersection of West 33rd Street and 7th Avenue to Champions Plaza. I wholeheartedly support that endeavor. And I'm honored that my district is where the Knicks call home.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council Member. Council Member Epstein, followed by Maloney.

COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: Uh- thank you. I'm honored to pass two pieces of legislation today, uh, Intro 866 as well as Intro 813. Uh, 866 is a really simple thing. Uh, I thought (sic) disability advocates and people in my community talk about, uh, crossing a street and getting through an intersection. And sometimes there's construction

happening. We all see it. But it's very different for someone who's physically able versus someone who's disabled. And when you get to a corner and there's construction, you can't go into the street, you can't get around it. It's been a struggle. And with the support of groups like Sydney and 504 Dems, we're able to pass this legislation that says, hey, city agency, you're doing work there, just put notices up, tell people, tell people who to contact if there are issues going on. It's a common-sense piece of legislation. Uh, I want to thank the speaker and the staff who were able to get this done, as well as my team, uh, on this legislation. The second bill, uh, is A13. Uh, and Speaker just mentioned that as well. And, you know, when I was in Albany, we worked hard on getting the, the MRTA to legalize cannabis in this, in this state and talk about why it mattered, to talk about the history of discrimination, talk about the history of Black and Brown New Yorkers going to jail and White New Yorkers not, and talking about what we needed to do to rectify that problem. And we entered into a process that allowed, uh, people who are incarcerated or arrested for cannabis—

UNIDENTIFIED: (Indiscernible)

COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: Thanks, Carl (sic). Uh, (chuckles), it's a good thing (sic)– uh, to get licenses and get those licenses first. But what happens now is the illegal market is taking over. And when we're having people who have, uh, uh, tobacco license or other license selling illegal cannabis that undermines all the work we did to legalize cannabis and to help the businesses thrive. This legislation goes a little way in kinda' (sic) curbing that back, saying if you're doing this illegal sale, you can lose your other licenses you have, specifically your tobacco license, which is so vital. It's an important step to say, hey, let's continue to support the legal market and support those businesses who've done the right thing and penalize the groups who don't. I hope my colleagues will support both pieces of legislation.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you. Council Member Maloney, followed by Majority Whip Hanks.

COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: I am introducing legislation to coname the intersection of West 46th Street (cross-talk).

MAJORITY LEADER Council Member, this is, uh, general orders. Are you talking about introduction? It'll have to be during general discussion. All right. So- Majority Whip Hanks?

MAJORITY WHIP HANKS: Thank you, Mr. Majority Leader. Today I'm proud to, um, introduce— excuse me— today I am proud to pass my bill, Intro 220A, which is on today's agenda. It has been a long time coming. And I want to thank the scholars, the advocates, the descendants, the community leaders, and everyone, whose knowledge and persistence brought this forward, Heather Quinlan, Benjamin Pryne family, and all the advocates throughout the five boroughs that will never— that never rest until New York can tell its complete story of the people that remain unseen. Intro 220 gives the city the responsibility to locate, document, protect, recognize, sites guided by scholarship, oral histories, and community knowledge. This bill is not at the end of that work. It is an important step that our history is not buried. At the time, we'll— excuse me- at the time, we will not erase a New Yorker from our shared memory. Today we take a step together forward. We will continue this work until every part of our

history is seen, honored, and never forgotten. I want to thank Speaker Menin and everyone who her- helped to make this happen. I encourage my colleagues to vote on Intro 220. Thank you, Mr. Majority Leader.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you. Seeing no one else signed up for general orders- we will now move into the report of special committees.

CLERK: None.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Report of standing committees?

CLERK: Report of the Committee on Consumer and Worker Protection, Intro 813A, Cannabis Law.

SPEAKER MENIN: Amended and coupled on general orders.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on Cultural Affairs, Libraries, and International Relations, Intro 220A, African American Burial Sites.

SPEAKER MENIN: Amended and coupled on general orders.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on Environmental Protection and Waterfronts, Intro 804A, Outdoor Lighting Fixtures.

SPEAKER MENIN: Amended and coupled on general orders.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on Health, intros 196C and 547B, health warning requirements.

SPEAKER MENIN: Amended and coupled on general orders.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on Parks and Recreation, preconsidered intros 1020 and 1027, naming of various thoroughfares and public places.

SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled on general orders.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on Rules, Privileges, Elections, Standards, and Ethics, M87 and Reso 638, approving the appointment of Lisa Garcia to the Land Bank.

SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled on general orders.

CLERK: M88 and Reso 639, approving the appointment of Dave Chokshi to the Board of Health.

SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled.

CLERK: M89 and Reso 640, approving the appointment of John Mangin to the Board of Standards and Appeals.

SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on Sanitation and Solid Waste Management, Intro 906A, dog waste complaints.

SPEAKER MENIN: Amended and coupled on general orders.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Intro 866A, disruptive work.

SPEAKER MENIN: Amended and coupled on general orders.

CLERK: On the general orders calendar, LU-115 and Reso 641 and LU-116 and Reso 642, 200 Kent Avenue rezoning.

SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled on general orders.

CLERK: LU-118 and Reso 643 and LU-119 and Reso 644, 47-03, 100 8th Street rezoning.

SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled.

CLERK: Resolution appointing various persons Commissioner of Deeds.

SPEAKER MENIN: Coupled on general orders. I would now ask that the clerk take a roll call vote on all of the items coupled on today's general orders calendar.

CLERK: Aldebol?

COUNCIL MEMBER ALDEBOL: I vote aye on all.

CLERK: Ariola?

COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: I vote no on M88, with accompanying Resolution 639, M89 with accompanying Resolution 640, and Intro 804A, and aye on all the rest.

CLERK: Thank you. Avilés?

COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye on all.

CLERK: Banks?

COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye on all, except Resolution 640, where I abstain.

CLERK: Thank you. Brewer?

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I vote aye on all, except 906A on dog waste. I think it's a great bill, but I don't think it's enforceable. So I'm, I'm voting no on that one. And I am glad that John Mang is being, uh, sent to the Standards and Appeals. Um, I want to make sure that he and everybody else keep the Upper West Side off that damn number 12 list. Thank you very much.

CLERK: Cabán?

COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye and all.

CLERK: De La Rosa?

COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye on all.

CLERK: Dinowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye on all, except M89 and resola– accompanying Resolution 640, on which I abstain.

CLERK: Encarnación?

COUNCIL MEMBER ENCARNACIÓN: Aye on all.

CLERK: Epstein?

COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: Aye on all.

CLERK: Farías?

COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye on all.

CLERK: Felder?

COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: I vote, I vote aye on all, except, I vote no on M88 and underlying Resolution 639, and I abstain on Intro 1027.

CLERK: Thank you. Feliz?

COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Permission to explain my vote?

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Permission granted.

COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Thank you. Proud that we're finally passing, uh, these two health bills, two health bills aimed at ensuring that New Yorkers have basic information to be able to make

good decisions related to their health. Overconsumption of sodium and sugar continues to be a major cause of health complications in our city, including diabetes, hypertension, kidney failure, heart complications, and so much more. Fast food restaurants are playing a major role. The CDC recommends that we consume no more than 2,300 milligrams of sodium, uh, per day. Some fast food restaurants have meals that have sodium levels totaling nearly five times the amount that you should have in an entire day. Little Caesars, for example, nearly 11,000 milligrams of sodium in one pizza pie. If you consume that pizza pie, you'll basically be consuming in one meal five times the amount of sodium that you should have in an entire day. This is how you create health, uh, health, uh, problems and crisis. And I just got— and we also got to be crystal clear. If your pizza pie has 11,000 milligrams of sodium, that is not a pizza pie; that is a sodium pie, that is a pie of sodium. We just have to be crystal clear on that. New Yorkers should know what's in the food they eat. And that is exactly exactly what this bill will do. The federal rules require that high sodium meals have a salt

shaker icon. But of course, not everybody knows what the salt shaker icon means. This rule will strengthen that rule by requiring not only the salt shaker icon but also a high sodium text next to the meal. Uh, people are obviously to- uh, free to consume what they want. Uh, but our goal is to make sure that at least they have basic information so they could be able to make good decisions related to their, their health. So thank you so much. Stay healthy, everybody. I vote aye on all.

CLERK: Thank you. Gennaro?

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

CLERK: Thank you, Council Member Gennaro. Gutiérrez? Apologies (sic)-

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: She, she's online. Let's just give her a moment. Council Member Gutiérrez?

CLERK: Okay, we'll come back. Hanif?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye.

CLERK: Hankerson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANKERSON: Aye.

CLERK: Hanks?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye.

CLERK: Hudson?

COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: I vote aye on all, with the exception of intros 804 and 906, for which I'm a no.

CLERK: Thank you. Joseph?

COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: I vote aye on all.

CLERK: Krishnan?

COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye.

CLERK: Lee?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye on all, except M89 and Reso 640, of which I abstain.

CLERK: Louis?

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye on all.

CLERK: Maloney?

COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: I vote aye on all.

CLERK: Marte?

COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: I, I vote aye on all, and abstain on M89 and Reso. 640.

CLERK: Thank you. Mealy? Morano?

COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Permission to explain my vote?

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Permission granted.

COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Thank you, Majority Leader. Uh-uh, I'm voting no today on the nomination of, uh, John Mangin (sic). And I want to explain why, because it is absolutely not personal. John Mangine is a very smart guy. He knows land use probably better than most people in this building. I met with him when he was here for his hearing. And I like him. I found him to be a genuinely nice guy. If this were simply a question of intelligence or credentials, this would be a very different vote for me. Uh, but we're not hiring a professor of land use. We're confirming the chair of the Board of Standards and Appeals. And I keep coming back to what happened in this city and in this council just last year. This council led an entire campaign urging New Yorkers to vote against ballot proposals that would take land use authority away from their elected council members and diminish the public's voice in the process. We told New Yorkers that local input mattered. We told them that these decisions shouldn't be moved farther away from the communities affected by them. I agreed with this council then; and I agree with it now. So I have a very difficult time understanding how we go from campaigning against

those proposals one year to putting one of their principal architects in charge of the BSA the next. Those ballot proposals passed. That's democracy. I accept the result. But precisely because the BSA now has greater authority, who sits in that chair matters even more. The BSA is supposed to be an independent body. It can grant variances, hear appeals, and make decisions that can fundamentally change what happens on someone's block. And if you're the homeowner living on that block, where do you go? You don't have a lobbyist. You don't have a land use attorney on retainer. You may have taken a day off from work just to come down there and be heard. I worry that we're creating a system where the public gets less of a say, the council gets less of a say, and then we put somebody who helped design that system in charge of one of the institutions receiving that power. And that's a bridge too far for me. And that's why, uh, I'm voting aye on all, with the exception of M88 and accompanying Resolution 639, and M89 and accompanying accompanying Resolution 640.

CLERK: Thank you. Gutiérrez?

COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: I vote aye.

CLERK: Thank you. Narcisse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Permission to explain my vote?

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Permission granted.

COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: As I heard my colleagues spoke about John Mangin (sic), I had a— I have a lot of issue (sic); but the man was able to answer a lot of them. And, um, for that– on that note, um, I feel not hundred percent confident, but somehow confident. So I'm hoping that he can– whatever he said on the call, that he mean (sic) it, that we can actually work together to address the issue in New York City, like all homeowners are welcome, and it's not a privilege to have a home, it's hardworking folks that have home. And he understood that. So– and, uh, one of more (sic) things I, I will vote, um, yes on that. But one of the thing (sic) I want to highlight, that, um, the speaker, uh, spoke about a lot, about for our children, our youth to remember. So one of the part (sic) of my district happened to be Marine Park. And on what we (sic) gonna' vote today, for the Memorial Way, that's very important to me and to my district. Marion Park is a first responder neighborhood. It

was then and it's still now. Firefighters, police officers, EMTs, correction officers, families there, sent someone down downtown that morning. And many of them did not go back home. And we still have people suffering. Thousand (sic) of people walk into that park every week. Now there will be a walk. They will pass the sign where they can ask their parents. And their parents can explain what took place that day that we'll never forget. So on that note, I vote aye for everything.

CLERK: Thank you. Nurse?

COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: I vote no on 804A and aye on all the rest.

CLERK: Palladino?

COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: I vote aye on all, except for M88 accompanying Reso. 639, no on M89, accompanying Reso. 640. And I want to echo, uh, what my colleague Marano said one hundred percent, teks- taking the rights away from the people, not a great idea. And us as Council, we are the firewall. We will no longer be that firewall. Thank you.

CLERK: Restler?

COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye.

CLERK: Riley?

COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye.

CLERK: Salaam?

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: I vote aye.

CLERK: Justin Sanchez?

COUNCIL MEMBER J SANCHEZ: Aye.

CLERK: Pierina Sanchez?

COUNCIL MEMBER P SANCHEZ: I vote aye on all, except for nine- uh, 804 and 906, on which I abstain.

CLERK: Thank you. Santosuosso?

COUNCIL MEMBER SANTOSUOSSO: Aye and all.

CLERK: Schulman?

COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye on all.

CLERK: Stevens?

COUNCIL MEMBER Aye.

CLERK: Thomas-Henry?

COUNCIL MEMBER THOMAS-HENRY: Aye.

CLERK: Ung?

COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye.

CLERK: Vernikov?

COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye on all, with the exception of M88 and accompanying Reso. 639 and M89 accompanying Reso. 640. Thank you.

CLERK: Thank you. Williams?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye on all.

CLERK: Wilson?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILSON: Aye on all.

CLERK: Won?

COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye on all.

CLERK: Wong?

COUNCIL MEMBER WONG: I vote aye on all, except for Intro 421, Intro 502, M89, and the accompany (sic) Resolution 640.

CLERK: Thank you. Zhuang?

COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Um, can I get permission to explain my vote?

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Thank you. Um, it is very hard for me to vote for a person actually worked against our community agenda. Um, but also, I appreciate John personally came to my district, listened to the people in my neighborhood, and actually come (sic) down. He actually- the only candidate actually came down to my district, speak (sic) to me before we come out to the vote. So I vote aye on all today.

CLERK: One second as we tally the vote. Abreu?

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Aye.

CLERK: Speaker Menin?

SPEAKER MENIN: Aye.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: All items on today's general order calendar are adopted by a vote of 50 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative, and 0 abstention, with the exception of M88 and Reso. 639, which was adopted by a vote of 44 in the affirmative, 6 in the negative, and 0 abstentions, and M89 and Reso 640, which was adopted by a vote of 40 in the affirmative, 6 in the negative, and 4 abstentions (sic), and Intro 804A, which was adopted by a vote of 46 in the affirmative, 3 in the negative, and 1 abstention, and Intro 906A, which was adopted by a vote of 47 in the affirmative, 2 in the negative, and 1 abstention, and Intro 1027, which was adopted by a, a vote of 49 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative, and 1 abstention. All right. Introduction and reading of bills.

SPEAKER MENIN: All bills have been referred to Committee, as indicated on today's agenda.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Madam Speaker. We will now move into the discussion of resolutions, beginning with Deputy Speaker Williams, followed by Council Member Ariola.

DEPUTY SPEAKER WILLIAMS: I just wanted to talk about my two resolutions as a forever dancer. I am proud today that we are honoring two giants of American dance, Carmen De Lavallade and Alvin Ailey. Their careers helped transform American dance and establish New York City as a global center for Black artistry and cultural expression. Through their work, they expanded what could be seen on our stages, created space for generations of Black dancers and choreographers, and left an influence that continues to shape the field today. The legging, legacies live not only in the work they created, but in the artists they inspired, the institutions they strengthened, and the generations who continue to find possibility through dance. I am proud that this council is honoring their extraordinary contributions and ensuring their legacies remain part of New York City's cultural record. I really just want to thank my colleagues for supporting these resolutions, to my staff and committee staff, Regina and Alejandro,

whose work helped them bring them to the floor today. Thank you so much, Majority Leader.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you. Council Member Ariola?

COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Thank you, Majority Leader. Today, we're taking an important step toward making sure future generations understand what happened on September 11th, 2001. But let me be clear, the facts of that day should never have needed a piece of legislation to force our schools to teach them. 19 terrorists from al-Qaeda hijacked our four planes. They deliberately attacked our country, murdered nearly 3,000 innocent people, and forever changed New York City and America. Our children deserve to know those facts. They deserve to know about the victims, the firefighters, the police officers, EMS workers, passengers, civilians, and ordinary New Yorkers, who showed extraordinary courage that day. And they deserve to learn the history without rewriting it, sanitizing it, or allowing politics to overshadow the truth. We should teach the facts of September 11th, who attacked us, what happened, and who was murdered. Today's vote is about making sure that history is not forgotten

because we fail to teach the truth. We risk allowing the future generations to forget why we will say never forget. And thank you, Speaker Menin, for coprime (sic) sponsoring this resolution and bringing it to the floor. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you. Seeing no one else signed up for resolutions being voted on today, I will now have a voice vote— we will now have a voice vote on today's resos. If you wish to vote against or abstain from any of today's resolutions, please notify the Legislative Documents Unit by email or by approaching the dais. I will now read today's resolutions into the record. Resolution 6 commemorates the 25th anniversary of the September 11 attacks. All those in favor say aye.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

MAJORITY LEADER: All opposed say nay.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: (Silent)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Any abstentions? The ayes have it. Resolution 7A calls on the New York State Legislature to pass and the governor to sign legislation to incorporate a 9/11 curriculum in all New York schools. All those in favor say aye.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: All opposed say nay.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: (Silent)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Any abstentions? The ayes have it. Resolution 82A celebrates the Feast of San Gennaro and the Ferragosto Festival annually in September to honor the contributions of Italian immigrants and Italian Americans to the cultural, political, and economi,c fabric of the City of New York. All those in favor say aye.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: All opposed say nay.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: (Silent)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Any abstentions? The ayes have it. Resolution 237A calls on the unit, United States Congress to pass and the president to sign the Performing Artists Tax Parity Act of 2025. All those in favor say aye.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: All opposed say nay.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: (Silent)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Any abstentions? The ayes have it. Resolution 402 declares March 6th as Carmen De Lava-jaddy (pron.) Day in the City of New York- I definitely butchered that- to celebrate her life and legacy and to honor her groundbreaking contributions to dance and theater, as well as her role in advancing diversity and artistic excellence in the performing arts. All those in favor say aye.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: All opposed say nay.

COUNCIL MEMBERS (Silent)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Any abstentions? The ayes have it. Resolution 429 recognizes the life and legacy of Alvin Ailey and honors his contributions to American dance and the founding of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. All those in favor say aye.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: All opposed say nay.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: (Silent)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Any abstentions? The ayes have it. We will now move into general

discussion. I'd like to let you all know we have about 20 folks signed up so far. Um, so just keep that in mind. I'll start with Council Member Wilson, followed by Maloney.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILSON: Thank you, Majority Leader. Every year, when the city allocates capital funding, I remain stunned at the price tags for these projects. Too often capital projects go massively over budget and over time for no clear reason and with little proper oversight. Today, I'm proposing legislation that aims to establish standards for the costs and timeframes for capital projects costing $10 million and under. Intro 1065, a-alongside my colleague Parks Committee Chair Council Member Hankerson, would require DDC to publish cost benchmarks for each type of small capital structure and to submit annual reports on the difference between those benchmarks and the actual cost of such projects. Intro 1064, alongside Contracts Committee Chair Councilmember Restler, and again with Council Member Hankerson, would require DDC to consult with the Mayor's Office of Contract Services and other relevant agencies to establish timeframes for completing agency approvals and change

order requests. I'm also introducing a bill that will set clear regulations regarding pedal, uh, uh, pedal-assist technology on pedicabs. Intro 1063 allows pedicabs to be equipped with a basic electric motor that provides pedal-assist when a pedicab is going under 15 miles per hour or a speed limit determined by the relevant agency, and as part of a larger pedicab package that I look forward to working with my colleagues on, uh, to advance, uh, and work on those important pieces of legislation. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you. Council Member Maloney, followed by Salaam.

COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: Thank you, Majority Leader. First, I'm thrilled we passed a, a of street naming at the intersection of West 46th Street and 6th Avenue, Marsh-McLennan September 11th Memorial Way, in memory of the 358 Marsh-McLennan colleagues whose lives were taken on September 11th. The conaming gives those New Yorkers a permanent place in the landscape of the city they called home. Second, I'm introducing legislation requiring mental health providers to disclose when AI note-taking systems are being your- used during a patient's care. AI has enormous potential to improve healthcare. But

patients deserve transparency about how and when it's being used and confidence that their most sensitive information remains private and anonymous. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council Member. Council Member Salaam, followed by Louis.

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Thank you, Majority Leader. And thank you, Speaker. Today, I'm introducing three bills, Intro 1054, '55, and '56. Intro 1054 is about people in our custody. When someone is handcuffed in the back of a police car or a corrections van, they cannot brace themselves and they cannot buckle the seat belt. A sudden stop can change their life forever. We saw that with Freddie Gray in Baltimore. I know what it meant— or means rather— to be in custody with your fate in someone else's hands. This bill requires the NYPD and DOC officers to fasten the seat belts of individuals in their custody before transport, except in emergency situations. Custody should never mean surrendering your safety. Intro 1055 is about something as basic as a drink of water. On a hot summer day, children at a playground, seniors on a walk, and workers on their break, all count on public drinking fountains.

And it is our job to ensure that the water is safe to drink and aesthetically pleasing as well. This bill requires the Parks Department to inspect every public fountain and test its water at least twice a year, post-signage, showing whether the water is safe and when it was last tested, and maintain an online map that anyone can reach with a QR code. And lastly, Intro 1056 is about those who ensure our dignity even after we are gone. Funeral directors take care of the bodies of our loved ones. They are an important pillar of our communities. Funeral directors should not have to choose between parking- a parking ticket and a family's final goodbye. This bill lets funeral homes apply for an annual DOT permit so licensed funeral directors can park their hearses next to their establishments when posted signs prohibit parking. Uh, I urge my colleagues to sign on as cosponsors. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council Member. Council Member Farah Louis, followed by Schulman.

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Thank you, Majority Leader. The sudden and unexpected passing of my father has left a profound void for my family and my

community. I just wanted to take a moment to thank every colleague who called, text (sic), attended homegoing services for my father, and sent flowers and kind words. I truly appreciate every gesture. Today, I am proud to introduce three resolutions. For Haitian New Yorkers, unsound immigration policy has unfairly determined whether thousands of families can continue to work, provide for their loved ones, and remain safely rooted in the communities they call home. And what we are witnessing today is nothing short of cruel. Haitians are being forced to wear ankle monitors, treated not as essential members of this city, but as criminals. We have seen the pain this inflicts firsthand in the story of Pierre Damas and so many others that have been humiliated, destabilized, and living in fear. That is disparate treatment and unjust— and injustice. And this body must say so clearly. At a time when Haiti continues to face devastating violence, and displacement and humanitarian crisis, stripping these protections puts our communities at risk. Reso. 626 will urge the Senate to pass S4- 4814, to preserve these critical protections. I am also proud to introduce two resolutions celebrating the extraordinary cultural

contributions of the Haitian and Afro-Caribbean diaspora. Resolution 624 designates October 17th as Wyclef Jean Day, honoring a Brooklyn-born Haitian— a Brooklyn raised, Haitian-born artistic— artists whose music, philanthropy, and cultural pride, have left an indelible mark in our city and world. And finally, Reso. 625 would recognize October as Reggaetón Heritage Month, honoring a genre rooted in Afro-Caribbean and Latin American identity and recognizing New York City's pivotal role in bringing vibrant community— sorry, vibrant Caribbean music traditions together. I urge my colleagues to join all these bills. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council Member. Council Member Lynn Schulman, followed by Morano.

COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Thank you, Majority Leader. Today, I'm, I am introducing Intro 1060, which takes a common-sense approach to making complaints about conditions in our city jails more transparent and easier to track. Currently, when an inda, when an individual incarcerated in our city jails has a complaint about the conditions of their confinement, there is no clear or transparent way for

that complaint to be tracked. These complaints can get lost within the Department of Corrections' internal system, making it difficult to know whether an issue was addressed, improved, or if the complaint even reached the appropriate personnel. This legislation would require the Department of Information and Technology and Telecommunications to create a dedicated 311 service request category for complaints and service requests related to conditions within our city jails. It would also require the city to publish a record of these requests and update their status. Everyone deserves to be treated with dignity, and that includes people who are incarcerated. This legislation is about creating greater transparency and accountability so that we can ensure our city jails are humane and habitable. Thank you, and I want to thank the early sponsors on this, um, Tiffany Cabán, uh, Selvena Brooks-Powers, Carmen De La Rosa, uh, and, um– sorry, I (indiscernible)– uh, and I want to urge my colleagues to please sah, to please sign on to this. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council Member. Council Member Marano, followed by Palladino.

COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Thank you, Majority Leader. Uh, I've, uh, introduced a dozen very good pieces of legislation today that I hope you'll look at, uh, or as my staff calls them, the Dirty Dozen. But some, I think, are, are worthy of your consideration. But I'm particularly proud to introduce, uh, Intro 1051, uh, my bill to provide property tax relief for New York City veterans. Uh, we talk a lot in this chamber about affordability and about keeping New Yorkers in the communities they helped build. And for veterans, particularly older veterans living on fixed incomes and disabled veterans, property taxes can be the difference between remaining in the home they worked a lifetime for and being priced out of it. Our veterans did something extraordinary on behalf of the rest of us. They put on the uniform, accepted risks most Americans will never be asked to accept. And many came home carrying sacrifices that last a lifetime. And the timing of this introduction is especially meaningful. Obviously, tomorrow marks 25 years since September 11th. And while we remember those we lost, and the first responders who ran towards danger, and the thousands of Americans who answered the call to

military service in the years that followed, remembrance has to mean more than what we say at ceremonies. It should also be reflected in what our government does. And that is what Intro 1051 is about. It's about making New York City a little bit more affordable for the men and women who defended this country and helped vet, veterans remain in the neighborhoods where they've put down roots if they have a one hundred percent service-connected disability. This isn't a giveaway. It's a recognition of service and sacrifice and of a debt that can never be fully repaid. I'm proud to introduce this bill. I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting it. And I look forward to getting it across cross the finish line very soon, hopefully by Veterans Day. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Council Member Paladino, followed by Banks.

COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Uh, thank you. I'd like today to introduce, uh, Number 1057— 1052, a local law to amend the Administrative Code of the City of New York, in relation to reporting data about micromobility device crashes. New Yorkers have a right to know where and how crashes are evolving.

E-bikes, e-scooters, and other micromobility devices are occurring in our city every day. We cannot effectively address a public safety problem if we do not have the accurate and comprehensive information about it. This legislation will bring much-needed transparency and accountability and to the micromobility crash reporting. It will require the NYPD and the DOT to collect and publicly report detailed information about crashes involving these devices, including injuries, fatalities, locations, times, and the specific type of class of that device that was involved. For years, our community have raised legitimate concerns about the dangers posed by reckless operation of e-bikes and scooters, partekka- particularly to pedestrians, seniors, and children, and people with disabilities. We need facts, not assumptions, to understand the scope of the problem and determine where enforcement and other safety measures are most ursh- urgently needed. Public safety must come first. If we are serious about taking our streets— making our streets safer, we need to know exactly what is happening on them. This bill is an important step towards greater transparency, accountability, and safety, for every New Yorker. I

would like you all to please sign on to this. Next, I want to introduce, uh, Resolution 636, calling upon New York State to—

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: I'll give you an extra 5 second- 10 seconds.

COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: 10 seconds? (Laughs) I can't ever do anything in 10 seconds. Ih- look it up. It's about animal testing and how serious this is. It's once again Intro 636. Don't take this lightly. Okay.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Take a look at that. How's that, five seconds?

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council Member.

COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: You're welcome.

(Laughter)

COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Oh wait, one more thing. (Cross-talk)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Sorry, Council Member, I have to move. I-I just-

SERGEANT AT ARMS: We got to move on (sic).

COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Can I just— can I get- make a compliment? Last night, Linda Lee, I have to tell you, your dress was spectacular.

(Laughter)

COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Okay?

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you-

COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: There you go.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: -Council Member. Councilmember Banks, followed by Hanif.

COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Theh-thank you, uh, Mr. Majority Leader. Today, I'm proud to introduce bills, uh, Intros, um, 1023 and, uh, Intro 1024, that focuses on modernization transparency and accountability in city government. The first bill, uh, would allow, uh, property owners to register their properties with HPD electronically, including, uh, submitting required documents and electronic signatures and filing fees online. This legislation was developed in response to concerns raised, uh, by property owners and advocates about HPD's paper-based registration process. Uh, my office heard, uh, repeated complaints from the owners who submitted paperwork on time, only to be told later that it could not be located and had to be resubmitted,

sometimes even when sent, uh, by certified mail. As one of the, uh- as one, one owner put it, HPD never loses the $13 in filing fees, but they always lose the paperwork. This bill creates a more efficient and reliable process by allowing registration to be completed online and reducing paperwork delays and the risk of lost submissions. I want to first of all thank SBPONY, Small Business Property Owners of New York, for their par, uh, participation and advocacy for this leh, legislation. And also too, I want to thank, um, uh, Chair Pierina Sanchez, uh, for allowing this bill to be heard in committee. I also want to thank the Speaker for her amazing leadership as well. I'm also introducing, um, Intro 1024, which will establish a clear and fair process for suspending or revoking press kadent- credentials. Under this bill, the city would be required to show evidence a-at an oath hearing before a press credential can be suspended or revoked. This bill would allow— also require, uh, the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment to review its current rules to determine whether updates are needed to make, uh, the process more transparent, and consistent, and

fair. I urge all my colleagues to sign on. Thank you, Majority Leader.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council Member. Council Member Hanif, followed by Gennaro.

COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Thank you, Majority Leader. As we commemorate 25 years since the 9/11 terrorist attacks, we remember the thousands whose lives were taken and the families who have carried that loss for a quarter century. When we should be united in mourning, we are instead confronting a disgusting wave of anti-Muslim rhetoric from those exploiting this tragedy to advance a politics of hate and in- exclusion. Some here have demanded that Mayor Mamdani not participate in tomorrow's commemoration because he is Muslim. Mayor Mamdani has honored victims and survivors through action by finally releasing records they have fought decades to access. This will help responders and survivors get the care and compensation they deserve. On September 11, 2001, I was 10 years old sitting in my 5th grade classroom at PS 230 in Kensington. Zohran was nine. Muslim New Yorkers mourned that day and lost loved ones. And then we endured years of suspicion, surveillance, profiling, and hate, because of who we

are. Acknowledging that harm does not diminish our grief for those murdered on September 11th. It is a part of our story. I'm asking my colleagues in this body to condemn the anti-Muslim hate coming from members of this council. Silence in the face of this rhetoric gives it permission to continue. Muslim New Yorkers belong here. New Yorkers of every faith and no faith belong here. Mayor Mamdani belongs at tomorrow's commemoration. Our differences can never determine whose grief matters, whose rights are protected, or who gets to belong in this city. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: All right. Council Member Gennaro, followed by Dinowitz.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you, Mr. Majority Leader. Today, I'm proud to, uh, proud to introduce Resolution 622, calling upon the New York State Legislature to pass and the governor to sign S5781, A6270, which would require municipatal- uh, municipalities to adopt an automated permitting platform for residential solar, um, installations. Currently, uh, contractors are forced to navigate different paperwork and approval processes, adding unnecessary time and cost that ultimately gets passed

down to the consumers. That is why the U.S. Energy Department developed SolarAPP+, which was, uh, specifically designed to address this problem. It provides a standardized automatic- or automated process for reviewing eligible renewable solar projects while maintaining important safety and code requirements. Many states have already adopted this app. Uh, and in New York City, city rooftops have the potential, uh, to house 10 gigawatts of solar generation at peak production. New York should remove needless barriers to residential solar, lower costs for homeowners, and make it easier to kih- to, uh- easier for communities across the state to participate in our clean energy future. I hope you join me in supporting this important resolution. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council Member. Council Member Dinowitz, followed by Cabán.

COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Thank you, Mr. Majority Leader. Um, you know, there's few things that can be more important than our children and the education of our children. But so often, uh, the education of our children is measured on a very narrow scope of skills. Uh, and so there are two

resolutions that I'm introducing. Uh, Resolution 620 calls upon the Department of Education to ensure that the Seal of Civic Readiness is available to all New York City public high schools. This seal recognizes students who demonstrate civic knowledge, skills, and engagement, not just through coursework but through service lorn- learning, research projects, and community engagement. Uh, this is the type of education that our students should be engaged in. Um, robust education that is more than just about a test and that engages the community. Uh, ensuring that the seal is available at every public high school would give eligible students equal access to civic engagement. Uh, and next, Resolution 621, co-sponsored by Council Members Brewer and Thomas-Henry, calls upon the state legislature to pass Senate Bill 6318, requiring arts and music curriculum in all New York City public high schools. The arts are an essential part of a holistic education. And every student should have access to quality arts coy- uh, courses beyond art on a cart, which is what we hear about so many times in our schools. And arts in and of themselves have value. They are not just in service of advancing your

English or your math skills. Um, and finally, Resolution 619- veering off the education for a bit- calls upon the state legislature and governor to amend the New York City Public Works Investment Act, to lower the monetary threshold for utilizing design-build in construction projects. This would allow for design-build construction. It's a process where a single vendor both designs and builds a project, would allow for smaller city construction projects such as parks, prefabricated toilets. This would make projects more efficient and cheaper. And government efficiency is something we so desperately need in our city. Thank you, Mr. Majority Leader.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you. Council Member Caban, followed by Epstein.

COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Thank you. First, I'd like to associate myself with the remarks of Council Member Hanif. Um, secondly, I would like to say thank you for Council Member Schulman's leadership on Intro, uh, 1060, of which I'm a cosponsor. I represent the district that has Rikers Island in it. Every single person that is detained there is a constituent. And those are constituents that my office tries to help each and every day and

is incredibly difficult. And any system that makes it easier to be able to follow up with them, their loved ones, uh, and be able to speak with the administration and the agencies about rectifying those, um, issues is incredibly important. So thank you. Third, I would like to just note that today, I was presented, alongside some of our council colleagues, with this stack of almost a thousand signatures from delivery workers who, despite wearing an Amazon vest, are not Amazon employees. And it is all in favor and support of the Delivery Protection Act, which is ultimately a safety bill. It is one that will reduce crashes. It is one that will make sure that when employees get hurt, there is a recourse. It is one that will set safety standards across the industry and will stop, uh, big corporations from hiding behind false, um, and exploitative subtrah- contracting models, to avoid the kind of liability that they really should be taking on, because they are acting as employees in that setting. We're not alone in this. New Jersey's attorney general has now filed suit against Amazon for exactly the same model. Uh, we have well over 30 co-sponsors on the bill, uh, a, a host of support,

not just from labor, but street safety groups and environmental justice groups. And so (sic) urge my colleagues, if you're not on it yet, to, to please get on. It's gonna' to make a huge difference, uh, to the livelihoods, the suh- the health, and the safety, of thousands of workers around the city. So thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council Member. Council Member Epstein, followed by Hudson.

COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: Thank you. I, I just want to welcome all the young people who went back to school today. I know it's a very exciting day, the first day of school. I remember every day walking my kids to school and what it really meant. We'll move a little closer to a somber topic. I know the Speaker flagged it earlier about 9/11 tomorrow. And I think we'll all be thinking about this tomorrow and thinking about it today. And I reflect on, you know, what that was like for me 25 years ago, uh, thinking about— mentioned earlier, dropping my daughter off at daycare and looking down First Avenue and seeing a plane hit the tower. And I was supposed to go to bankruptcy court that morning. And I, uh, obviously couldn't go to bankruptcy court that

morning, because there was nothing you could do that morning, but trying to figure out what we could do and making sure my family was safe and everyone's family was safe, and hearing about stories of friends and loved ones who got stuck and died, and friends and loved ones who got out. And, you know, that story means so much to us. Um, and it means so much about the history and the fabric of New York. Uh, it means so much about what we need to be doing going forward. But it also talks, talks a lot about, you know, hate um, and Islamophobia, and what happened after that in New York, and how our Muslim brothers and sisters were treated in this city and in this country. So I hope when we reflect on that, we, we think about how we move forward. I also want to flag a more, uh, uh, joyful topic, if I could, just around, um, the Youth Council that I've had. And they, uh, worked hard over the last, uh, eight years focusing on student, uh, access to public transportation. And in 2018, they really focused on the half-price MetroCard and getting rid of that card where people had to pay $1.35 and change, and then focusing on the full MetroCard and getting more swipes, and announcing that when (sic), uh, Mayor

Adams in 2024 with some of our colleagues here. Uh, just a few weeks ago, they released their new report, where they, uh, interviewed over 700 students, talked about their problems with the existing OMNYCard, released a report. And really, I encourage you all to look at the report and the recommendations to make that better. We want to inspire the next generation of young people to do more. And I'm proud that they did this. And I hope–

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER EPSTEIN: –everyone has a lovely Happy New Year tomorrow, L'Shanah Tovah.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you. Council Member Hudson, followed by Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Thank you. I generally do not engage with trolls and bigots, particularly online. But there are moments when silence is not an option. The repeated attacks directed at Mayor Zohran Mamdani, Council Member Shahana Hanif, Council Member Yusef Salaam, and Muslim New Yorkers more broadly, which includes our own staff here at the Council, demand to be called out for what they are, Islamophobic and racist. It is one thing to disagree with an elected official's

policies. It is another to invoke the horrors of September 11th to smear a Muslim-elected official who was nine years old when those attacks took place. To suggest that Mayor Mamdani or any Muslim New Yorker bears responsibility for the actions of extremists is not political disagreement. It is Islamophobia, it is racism, and it is dangerous. Our city knows the devastation of 9/11 too well to allow its memory to be weaponized against an entire faith. We lived through what weaponization looks like. Muslim, MENA, and South Asian New Yorkers, surveilled, detained, and harassed, in the years that followed, treated as suspects instead of as neighbors, simply for how they looked or prayed. The victims and survivors of that day deserve to be remembered with dignity, not used as a vehicle for hatred. My colleagues and their allies cannot continue to disguise their own prejudice as policy disagreement or political partisanship. You're not fooling anyone. In fact, you are hurting countless New Yorkers. Every New Yorker should be able to look at any member of this body, regardless of political persuasion, and see someone who respects them. Our disagreements as elected officials can be sharp, they can be

political, they can be deeply felt. But there is a line between political disagreement and dehumanizing an entire community. That line has been crossed time and time again. And this needs to stop. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you. Council Member Brewer, followed by Zhuang.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Uh, thank you very much, Council Member Hudson. A couple of things just to remember on 9/11. My predecessor, Helen Rosenthal's brother was killed that day. And then to mention, just this morning at a school, I learned that one of the parents has dementia, is not expected to live. She was at Trinity Church. And it is a hundred percent based on 9/11 toxic. Never goes away. Um, Intro 1025, I want to mention that earlier this year, Local Law 46, my law, went into effect. And it requires the NYPD to ensure that credentialed journalists retain access to police radio communications as the Department moves to encryption. NYPD's proposed implementation would impose a one-hour delay, which is too long for journalists and photojournalists covering breaking news. So today, I'm introducing this bill to limit that delay to no more than 15 minutes and require technology that

allows journalists to scan multiple, scan multiple channels for active transmission, so they can— uh, so they can, so they- as they could with traditional police scanners. It is important to have timely access for journalists to report breaking news, to keep New Yorkers informed, and provide independent oversight of this activity. I particularly want to thank Josh Kingsley, of the council staff. He's a rock star, and all those from my office. Intro 1026. Last month, I introduced a package of pedicab reforms to improve safety, accountability, and regulation. This legislation today addresses another part of that work, how pedicabs use curb space. Now, drivers have very few legal places to wait for passengers or to take a break, including near major destinations where customers look for them. This bill would allow these cabs to use existing taxi and for-hire vehicle relief stands and require DOT to establish at least 15 pedicab relief stands. DOT would decide where they go. Giving drivers legal places to wait is important. And I want to thank the New York Pedicab Alliance for their input, City Council Legislative Council Margaret Lyford and Joo- Shula Puder from my staff. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you. Council Member Zhuang, followed by Lee, and then Santosuosso.

COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Thank you. Before I talk about my, uh, bills, I want to recognize a hero, uh, and also share a story in my district. Sunday morning around 11:30, there's a, a car just (sic) drive through the red light, did not stop for pedestrian (sic) at all. And there's an officer sitting in opposite street, in the car. And then he sees something went wrong. And that driver's window was down. He jumped inside the car and stopped the car and realized that person is unconsciousness- consciousness (sic). So he pulled that person out, start (sic) CPR for that person. The whole story, you can feel when you look at a video, you don't know it's a har- a carjack or something went- we all know something went wrong. So that Asian officer saved a young Latino young man's life. He not only just saved the life for that driver, he saved the life of pedestrians, children, seniors, who live in the community also. I want to give him a shout out. He doesn't want his name be mentioned. But I want to honor him. And also I want to honor him in our City

Council. For next (sic), I'm proud to introduce two bills. One bill is Intro 1068, would help taxi drivers who get robbed from all the big companies. Um, and then when the taxi driver pick up older adults with mobility problems or, or some disabled people without— uh, always when they stop, try to pick up people, uh, they cannot be very- um, in the bus stop, they always get fines. So many older adults and those all ages with mobuh- mobility issue need help. And also, TCL vehicle drivers need help. I have another bill.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: I'll give you 10 seconds, Council Member.

COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: (Chuckles) okay. Another bill is Intro 1067, because it provides— uh, basically, we love to use AI. This is a new tool. But AI companies should educate the, um, pub, public general (sic). This is (sic) also impact the environment.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council Member.

COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Councilmember Lee, and, and finally, Santosuosso.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Great. Thank you, Majority Leader and Speaker, Madam Speaker. Today, I'm introducing three bills as a second round of my contracting reform package. Um, and as many of you know, New York City relies on nonprofits to provide mental health care, support older adults, run programs for our young people, provide legal services for our immigrant communities. And we expect those services to continue without interruption. But providers cannot always count on the city to pay on time. Their rent does not wait. Their payroll does not wait. And the people they serve cannot wait. We're addressing a frustrating reality. Providers can be doing the city's work, while unfinished city paperwork prevents them from even submitting a bill. Even when that paperwork is complete, city invoicing systems can fail. Providers need a backup. A computer problem should not become a financial crisis. And throughout these delays, their own bills keep coming. Nonprofits borrow money or spend down reserves to stay open. Interest payments to help eligible— interest payments to eligible providers would help offset that burden. And nonprofits do their part. The city needs to also pay its bills.

And our communities count on these nonprofits. I hope my colleagues will join me in making sure that they can count on us. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council Member Lee. Council Member Santosuosso?

COUNCIL MEMBER SANTOSUOSSO: Thank you, Majority Leader. I am officially fully back in person this week after taking—

(cheering in support)

COUNCIL MEMBER SANTOSUOSSO: -(chuckles)- after taking maternity leave. And I put that in quotes because even an hour after I gave birth, I posted about alternate side parking on Facebook from my recovery bed. Um, but as I haven't physically been on this floor for the last few months, I just wanted to use my time to express my gratitude. Being a new first-time mom is a challenging job. Being a new first-term council member is a challenging dah- job. Doing both at the same time sounded unthinkable to me last year. But it was possible and is possible through the support of so many working parents in this body who supported me and led the way before me. And I wanted to express my appreciation for both parents and nonparents in this body who had my back.

They say it takes a village. For me, it takes a council. I also wanted to express enormous gratitude for my incredible staff, who made sure that our constituents kept being served, Michael, Joe, Chris, Stephanie, Umber, Ben, Charlene, Natasha, and Paige. Because of them, we closed over 1,000 constituent cases in the last few months alone. That's SCREE applications filed, SNAP benefits secured, repairs completed, and arrears paid, for residents across our district. This is alongside the many hearings and stateds I attended virtually with a baby on my shoulder, the legislation we introduced, the dozens of events we held, the budget wins we secured, and so much more. So the next time they tell you you can't be pregnant and run for office, or you can't have a kid and serve your district, don't believe them. Day in and day out, we represent many working parents who juggle their careers and their families. And they know, as do we, that if you want something done, you should give it to a busy mom. Thank you, everybody.

(Applause)

MAJORITY LEADER ABREU: Thank you, Council Member. We're-we're very happy to have you back. I'll, I'll now call— and you've always been here, I

know. You've been, you've been very, very much here. I'll-I'll nah, I'll now call on Speaker Julie Menin to close today's stated meeting.

SPEAKER MENIN: Okay. So the, uhm, stated meeting of September 10th, 2026 is hereby adjourned.

(Gavel)

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 ____SEPTEMBER 16, 2026___