

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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October 11, 2012  
Start: 2:30 p.m.  
Recess: 3:56 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers  
City Hall

B E F O R E:  
CHRISTINE C. QUINN  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Maria Del Carmen Arroyo  
Charles Barron  
Gale Brewer  
Fernando Cabrera  
Margaret Chin  
Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.  
Elizabeth Crowley  
Inez E. Dickens  
Daniel Dromm  
Mathieu Eugene  
Julissa Ferreras  
Lewis A. Fidler  
Helen D. Foster  
Daniel R. Garodnick  
James F. Gennaro  
Vincent J. Gentile

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

### COUNCIL MEMBERS:

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

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

Rodney Plummer  
NYC Bus Driver  
Metropolitan Transit Authority

Daneek Miller  
President  
Local 1056

Reverend Vanessa Brown  
Pastor  
Rivers at Rehoboth Church

2 SPEAKER QUINN: The first one is so  
3 important it may be one of our only ceremonials to  
4 come with video and audio, so I just want you guys  
5 to know how excited we are about this. So before  
6 I say anything else, or Council Member Dromm or  
7 anybody else has anything, let's first go to the  
8 video.

9 [Start of Video]

10 NEWS ANNOUNCER: Finally, some City  
11 Council summer interns are helping to bridge the  
12 gap between young and old people in the community.  
13 New York One's Agnes Chung introduces us to our  
14 Queens People of the Week.

15 MS. CHUNG: Council Member Daniel  
16 Dromm's summer interns got some firsthand  
17 experience serving constituents in the 25<sup>th</sup>  
18 District this summer.

19 FEMALE INTERN: So what we're doing  
20 is, we're going around to all the local senior  
21 centers in the district, and we're talking to  
22 seniors, just asking them questions about the  
23 neighborhood, specifically transportation, how  
24 they live, how they stay healthy. And they're  
25 letting us know, you know, what's important to

2 them, what changes do they want.

3 MS. CHUNG: Dromm's office is  
4 taking part in the age-friendly NYC initiative.  
5 The program's goal is to make New York City a  
6 better place to grow old.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: What I  
8 really love about this program is the interaction  
9 between the kids and the adults, and oftentimes  
10 our youth don't have an opportunity to interact  
11 like that with seniors, and the same thing for  
12 seniors, they don't have an opportunity to  
13 interact with the youth.

MS. CHUNG: The intern staff visited every senior center in Dromm's district this summer. While the staff spent time talking to seniors and helping them fill out surveys, the real work begins when they get back to the office. The interns analyze their information and try to help solve specific problems. Queens College graduate Abigail Kantos was able to prevent a mother and daughter she met at the senior center from being evicted.

24 MS. KANTOS: We were so happy to be  
25 a part of that, because she was so grateful, you

2 know, she's 85 and her mother is 101.

3 MS. CHUNG: Oh my God.

4 MS. KANTOS: So, you know, to know  
5 that they're going to have a home and they don't  
6 have to worry about finding somewhere to go, is  
7 very relieving to us.

8 MS. CHUNG: The interns say it  
9 should be a priority to help seniors in the  
10 community.

11 MALE INTERN: We're the next  
12 generation, and every generation needs to learn  
13 about what's going on, you know, not just within  
14 their own age group, but also people out of their  
15 age group, especially seniors.

16 MS. KANTOS: They did so much for  
17 the country, they served in the military, they  
18 helped bring this generation up, it's the least we  
19 can do, we have to take care of them.

20 MS. CHUNG: And so, for dedicating  
21 their summer to make life better for the golden-  
22 agers, these interns are Queens People of the  
23 Week. Agnes Chung, New York One.

24 [End of Video]

25 SPEAKER QUINN: All right, so as ...

2 yeah, there you go, Danny ... well, I just want to  
3 first thank Danny and his staff for -- Danny is  
4 going to give these out -- organizing this great  
5 internship program. But more importantly, I want  
6 to thank all of you who were part of this  
7 internship program. You know, our age-friendly  
8 work, which I hope you know is part of the World  
9 Health Organization's call to create age-friendly  
10 cities, so what you're doing is part of an  
11 international effort, not just a New York City  
12 effort, but you really make us enormously proud,  
13 we're incredibly grateful to all of you for taking  
14 the policy work we've developed and putting it in  
15 action. We're also incredibly grateful for you  
16 helping people stay in their homes, an 85-year-old  
17 daughter and a 101-year-old mother, you don't hear  
18 about cases like that every day, and what a sin  
19 that would have been if those women had to end up  
20 at a shelter at that point in their lives. So  
21 Danny, I'm not surprised you have a great program  
22 like this, knowing how much you support and love  
23 young people, and through your career as a teacher  
24 know the real potential that they have to make our  
25 city a better place. So thank you, and you guys,

2 thank you so much. My only requirement for you  
3 getting this proclamation is that you come back  
4 for more internships with the City Council,  
5 because we really need you. So congratulations,  
6 let me ask Council Member Dromm to say a few  
7 words, and then maybe some of the interns or  
8 others.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you  
10 very much, Madam Speaker, it was great to have  
11 these kids in my office. We had 13 interns this  
12 summer. I took lessons from Council Member Gale  
13 Brewer, and from Council Member Melissa Mark-  
14 Viverito, who actually did the training on the  
15 age-friendly program, and I would recommend that  
16 to anyone. But what these kids did was that they  
17 fanned out across all the senior centers, I joined  
18 them over the summer, we met in every single  
19 center, and then it was their responsibility to  
20 get back on every constituent issue that was  
21 brought up. They did an excellent job, and I just  
22 hope that none of them run against me, Madam  
23 Speaker, in the future.

24 SPEAKER QUINN: Because you're  
25 toast, Danny.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Exactly.

3 And I want to make special mention, although all  
4 of them are special to me, but Alvaro was my  
5 fourth-grade student. So it was really nice to be  
6 able to honor him as well. So I want to say thank  
7 you to all the interns, and thank you to my  
8 colleagues for allowing me to indulge in this  
9 moment.

10 SPEAKER QUINN: Do any of them want  
11 to say anything?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Sure.

13 MALE INTERN: Okay. I thank you  
14 for, I mean, honoring us and taking note of our  
15 work, and I'm very happy that I could work with,  
16 you know, all of these great people, and, you  
17 know, the Councilman and his staff, and if anybody  
18 else wants to say anything.

19 FEMALE INTERN: I would also like  
20 to thank everyone for honoring us, and I would say  
21 that's an honor for us to work with Council Member  
22 Daniel Dromm, because we learned a lot from him  
23 and all of his staff. They were all great to us,  
24 they taught us everything and we know everything  
25 because they taught it to us.

2 MALE INTERN: Yeah again, just  
3 rehashing what people previous to me said, thanks  
4 to everybody, to the Council Member, thanks to  
5 Speaker Quinn for honoring us today, and everybody  
6 else here in the Council, thanks for letting us  
7 hog up your time today. But no, it's been great  
8 working, you know, it's not just an individual  
9 effort, it's been a team effort between all of us,  
10 you know. Some of us are not here today, but they  
11 also deserve recognition, but, you know, it's been  
12 a team effort, we learned a lot. As a team we  
13 worked as a team, and well, we really helped a lot  
14 of people as a team, and we can honestly say that,  
15 you know, it's been a changing experience for all  
16 of us, just because we get to see what other  
17 people suffer through, and what other people have  
18 to go through as they age. So it's been ... it's a  
19 welcome experience to learn.

20 FEMALE INTERN: I just want to  
21 thank Council Member Dromm for this opportunity.  
22 I actually came into the program through the  
23 Summer Youth Employment Program, so I was very  
24 happy to be placed with Council Member Dromm and  
25 everybody, the whole staff, was very amazing with

1                             all of us, they took their time to train us, they  
2                             were very patient, and they really helped us along  
3                             the way, and we're very grateful for the Summer  
4                             Youth Employment Program for having us intern and  
5                             everything that we were able to learn. Thank you  
6                             so much.

7  
8                             INTERN ALVARO: Thank you once  
9                             again, all of you, staff.

10                          SPEAKER QUINN: Was he a good  
11                          teacher?

12                          INTERN ALVARO: Of course,  
13                          definitely, an excellent teacher. It's been an  
14                          honor working with everyone, every single one of  
15                          you, especially working with senior citizens, it's  
16                          something ... there's no words to describe it, it's  
17                          ... thank you.

18                          SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, guys.  
19                          Are you good? All right, thank you guys very  
20                          much. Thanks, guys. All right, our next  
21                          ceremonial is going to be led by Council Member  
22                          Leroy Comrie, we're going to honor, excuse me, two  
23                          extraordinary bus drivers who helped New Yorkers  
24                          in need. So if those folks could make their way  
25                          up, that would be great.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE, JR.: Good  
3 afternoon everyone, I just want to take the  
4 opportunity to let everyone know that during our  
5 critical times when people have to make snap  
6 decisions, we all don't respond the same way. But  
7 we had two bus drivers in two different  
8 situations, Mr. Rodney Plummer, and Shalonda  
9 Gibson, who's a native of Queens, and Rodney  
10 Plummer, who is a native of Queens also, they both  
11 acted as heroes. On ... while driving his bus, the  
12 M79 route in Manhattan, helping New Yorkers, he  
13 noticed that a 79-year-old woman on the back of  
14 bus had slumped over and dozed off. She was  
15 having a stroke and was in dire need of help. Mr.  
16 Plummer stepped up and he was right there by her  
17 side, he noticed, stopped the bus, he alerted the  
18 authorities and worked with EMS to make sure that  
19 she was taken care of, and he was able to insure  
20 that she got to the hospital in less than half an  
21 hour, which was, as you know, critical to saving  
22 her life. Mr. Plummer has continued to stay in  
23 contact and, you know, we have to really thank him  
24 for stepping up and, you know, bus drivers who are  
25 always abused and picked on by people and ignored

by us as they move during their daily lives, always have to be vigilant of everything that's happening on their bus, being vigilant of everything that's going on around them, not only for their own safety, but also for security. And Mr. Plummer did not hesitate to come to a person in need and make sure that everyone that was on his bus was taken care of. And also we have Shalonda Gibson, who was also ... who is actually just a two-year veteran, Mr. Plummer has been working for 36 years. November 1<sup>st</sup> it will be 36 years working for the MTA, for sister Gibson is a two-year veteran, but she has 18 years of nursing experience, where she was driving on the Q27 bus in Queens and one afternoon she was making, during her regular stop she saw a young man giving the sign for choking, he was literally choking to death. She took him and got him in the proper position, gave him the Heimlich maneuver, and saving his life. So he was apparently just chewing candy and it slipped down his windpipe, and she was able to save his life. So for this courageous act, we are honoring Shalonda for not hesitating to step up in need when there was

2 someone on their bus, and again, you know, we owe  
3 so much to our bus drivers who get us to our  
4 places on time, put up with people that are not in  
5 the best of health or in the right frame of mind,  
6 they're attacked all the time when we need to make  
7 sure that they get the partitions and the other  
8 safety indicators for them. But both to Shalonda  
9 and to Rodney, we have two people that are  
10 consistently caring, consistently insuring that  
11 they are doing everything they can to protect  
12 their passengers and be great representatives of  
13 New York. And we also have the president of Local  
14 1056, the Bus Drivers' Union in Queens, Daneek  
15 Miller is here, who is looking out for his  
16 drivers. I don't know if you want to say  
17 something, Daneek, I'm putting you on the spot, so  
18 come on, come on.

19 MR. MILLER: You know, thank you,  
20 Speaker Quinn, for having us, and all the Council  
21 and to you, Council Member Comrie. I want to  
22 thank you for acknowledging the hard work that the  
23 men and women of the Transit Authority do, and the  
24 men and women civil servants in the City of New  
25 York, and the citizens here, the ordinary people

2 that come here and get recognized for doing some  
3 extraordinary things, and as Leroy said, it's  
4 tough out there doing the job that we do, and  
5 every once in a while we want to know that we're  
6 doing the right thing, and so we appreciate the  
7 support that we get, partitions and all the rest  
8 of the stuff, and don't get me started on what we  
9 need. But, you know, we ... and Debbie, thank you  
10 so much for your piece in Staten Island with the  
11 fair vision and all that. So thank you so much  
12 for having us and see.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Thank you.

14 ||| Thank you, comrade.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE, JR.: Mr.  
16 Plummer, do you want to say something?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE, JR.: Thank  
22 you, and actually that's, you know, it was my  
23 local dry cleaner that reminded me that the story  
24 was in the Daily News, so I have to give Nuclear  
25 Dry Cleaners and Sister Williams at the dry

2 cleaners, because she watches New York One, and  
3 she watches us, so I have to let her know that it  
4 was my constituent at my local dry cleaners that  
5 reminded me ... no, I'm not going to do the address,  
6 but it was ... that reminded me of the heroics of  
7 Mr. Plummer, so she made sure that this happened  
8 today, so I have to give her credit as well.

9 ||| Thank you, Speaker Quinn.

10 SPEAKER QUINN: All right, well,  
11 thank you, guys, and that concludes ceremonials  
12 for the day. Thank you, everybody.

13 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Ladies and  
14 gentlemen, can I have your attention please? Can  
15 I please have your attention? At this time,  
16 please place all cell phones and pagers to  
17 vibrate. Will all non-Council employees, non-  
18 Council employees please leave the main floor of  
19 the chambers. Thank you.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: My  
21 colleagues, please rise for the pledge of  
22 allegiance.

ALL: I pledge allegiance to the  
flag of the United States of America, and to the  
Republic for which it stands, one nation, under

2                   God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for  
3                   all.

4                   COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Roll call.

5                   Mv3 Arroyo.

6                   COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Here.

7                   Mv3 Barron.

8                   COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here.

9                   Mv3 Brewer.

10                  COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.

11                  Mv3 Cabrera.

12                  COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

13                  Mv3 Chin.

14                  COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

15                  Mv3 Comrie.

16                  COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE, JR.: Here.

17                  Mv3 Crowley.

18                  COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.

19                  Mv3 Dickens. Dilan. Dromm.

20                  COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

21                  Mv3 Eugene.

22                  COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.

23                  Mv3 Ferreras. Fidler. Foster.

24                  Garodnick. Gennaro. Gentile.

25                  COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.

2                   Mv3   Gonzalez.

3                   COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ:   Here.

4                   Mv3   Greenfield.

5                   COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD:   Here.

6                   Mv3   Halloran.

7                   COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN III:   Here.

8                   Mv3   Ignizio.

9                   COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO:   Here.

10                  Mv3   Jackson.

11                  COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON:   Here.

12                  Mv3   James.

13                  COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES:   Here.

14                  Mv3   Koo.

15                  COUNCIL MEMBER KOO:   Present.

16                  Mv3   Koppell.

17                  COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL:   Here.

18                  Mv3   Koslowitz.

19                  COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ:   Here.

20                  Mv3   Lander.

21                  COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER:   Here.

22                  Mv3   Lappin.

23                  COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN:   Here.

24                  Mv3   Levin.   Mark-Viverito.

25                  COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:

2 Here.

Mv3 Mealy. Mendez.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.

5 Mv3 Nelson. Palma. Recchia.

6 Reyna. Rodriguez.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.

8 Mv3 Levin.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

10 Mv3 Rose.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.

12 Mv3 Sanders.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS, JR.: 1

14 || Present.

15 Mv3 Ulrich. Vacca.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.

17 Mv3 Vallone. Van Bramer.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

19 Mv3 Vann.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Here.

21 Mv3 Weprin. Williams.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.

23 Mv3 Wills.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Here.

25 Mv3 Oddo.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Here.

3 Mv3 Rivera.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Here.

5 Mv3 Speaker Quinn.

6 SPEAKER QUINN: Here.

7 Mv3 We have a quorum.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: A quorum is  
9 present, my colleagues, please rise for the  
10 invocation being delivered today by Reverend  
11 Vanessa Brown.

12 REV. BROWN: Let us pray.

Universal loving God, thank you for this day,  
thank you for your creation, we marvel at your  
work. We thank you for our New York City Council  
members and those who are assembled here in this  
Council chamber. We thank you for those who are  
active in our city government, those that have  
been appointed by the people and by your hand to  
look after this city. We pray for them, and lift  
them up before you, as they govern over this city.  
We lift up all of our city officials, we pray for  
skillful godly wisdom through this City Council,  
as they exercise their ability to make decisions  
in the best interests of the people and this city.

1  
2 We pray for this session that will take place  
3 right now, we pray that you will be with them as  
4 they speak of this city, as this legislative body  
5 prepares to vote on today, let their decisions be  
6 right and good. We thank you for giving this  
7 session new and refreshing ways to re-energize  
8 this city and revitalize our boroughs. We thank  
9 you for giving them innovative ideas to make our  
10 communities better. We thank you, God, for  
11 hearing our prayer this afternoon. We pray in the  
12 name of all that is righteous, just, sacred,  
13 loving, kind and merciful. Amen.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council  
15 Member Jackson?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you,  
17 Majority Leader, and my colleagues, Reverend  
18 Vanessa Brown is a pastor, she pastors in my  
19 district at the St. Luke's AME Church, she pastors  
20 a church that does not have a permanent home as of  
21 yet, but you understand that she is a person of  
22 God that spreads that all over wherever she goes,  
23 and the church in which she pastors is Rivers at  
24 Rehoboth Church, an open and affirming LGBT  
25 church. So Reverend, we thank you for spreading ...

2 for giving us the prayer this morning ... this  
3 afternoon, and I spread the invocation upon the  
4 record.

5 SPEAKER QUINN: And if I could ask  
6 my colleagues to again rise. On October 7<sup>th</sup>,  
7 William Karas, 92, the father of our deputy  
8 general counsel and long-time City Council staff  
9 member, Jim Karas, passed away suddenly at his  
10 home in New Jersey. Born in Manhattan in 1920,  
11 William was raised in Queens and was a sergeant in  
12 the Army Air Corps during World War II. He  
13 attended college under the GI Bill, became a CPA  
14 and established his own accounting firm in  
15 Hoboken, New Jersey. An active member of St. John  
16 the Theologian Greek Orthodox Cathedral in  
17 Tenafly, William Karas was married for 51 years to  
18 his beloved wife Tina and was so very proud of his  
19 sons Nicholas and Jim, and his grandson William.  
20 William Karas's funeral was held this morning, his  
21 wake was yesterday, and our thoughts and prayers  
22 go out to Jim, his mother and brother, and the  
23 entire Karas family. On September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012,  
24 Brooklyn Heights resident Barry Commoner, who was  
25 95, a founder of modern ecology who was a leader

among scientist-activists who recognized the toxic consequences of America's post-World War II technology boom, passed away. Dr. Commoner's work on the global effects of radioactive fallout contributed to the passage of the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty signed by President Kennedy in 1963. In 1970, the year of the first Earth Day, Time Magazine put Dr. Commoner on its cover and called him the "Paul Revere of Ecology". Born in Brooklyn in 1917 to Jewish immigrants from Russia, he graduated James Madison High School before putting himself through Columbia. He earned a doctorate from Harvard, taught two years at Queens College, and then rose to be a lieutenant in the Naval Air Corps during World War II. As founding director of the Center for Biology of Natural Sciences in St. Louis, his investigations included lead poisoning, river pollution and organic farming. In 1981, Dr. Commoner moved the Center to Queens College, and was often seen testifying at City Council hearings on environmental issues. Dr. Barry Commoner is survived by his wife Lisa, his two children and a granddaughter. And I'd just like to now ask our Environmental Protection

2 Chair, Jim Gennaro, to say a few words, and I just  
3 want to say, I know Jim was someone who really  
4 followed Dr. Commoner's lead and Dr. Commoner's  
5 career, and he's someone who I know Jim worked  
6 with very closely at Queens College, worked  
7 closely when Jim was staff to the Environmental  
8 Protection Committee, and Jim, you are keeping his  
9 legacy alive. I had never thought to call you  
10 this before, but I think it's fair to say all  
11 would agree that you're the City Council's Paul  
12 Revere on the environment, so.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you,  
14 Madam Speaker, you're very kind to say that and to  
15 have my name, you know, mentioned in the same  
16 sentence as Barry is really terrific. It was  
17 wonderful to work with him, he was a fixture at  
18 many of the hearings we had on the Council. He  
19 never had an entourage, always showed up by  
20 himself, and although we know much about his work,  
21 one thing we'll never know is how many lives he  
22 actually saved by pushing the President to do the  
23 Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. He did the science that  
24 led to that, it was thought at the time that in  
25 all of the tests that were going on, testing all

the bombs, and so forth, it didn't have a worldwide impact. He proved that it did, he surveyed hundreds of thousands of baby teeth that would come out of babies once they come to a certain age, and he was able to show that there was the presence of radioactive fallout in the teeth that was 50 times what it was just before they did the radioactive testing, and five years after the treaty went into effect, it had been decreased by 50%. And also with regard to cancer, he was one of the leading researchers that forged the connection between free radicals in the body and cancer. So we know much about his work, but we'll never know how many lives this great man saved. He was also an activist on many social issues, such as racial equality and sexual equality, and when he ran for president in 1980 on a minor party, he had a woman running mate, LaDonna Harris. On his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday party, five years ago, he talked about all the great things he had in the pipeline, all the things that he had left to do. He was a great man, but even better, he was a good man, he was a good friend to me, and he really encouraged me, and thank you, Madam

2 Speaker, for paying tribute to him on the floor  
3 today, he's a great friend and he will be missed.  
4 Thank you, Madam Speaker.

5 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, Jim.

6 ||| Thank you, Mr. Majority Leader.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you,  
8 Madam Speaker. Council Member Wills, adoption of  
9 the minutes?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: I make the  
11 motion that the minutes of the Stated Meeting of  
12 September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012 be adopted as printed.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

14 || Messages and papers from the Mayor?

15 Mv3 M908, submitting the name of  
16 Nicholas Scoppetta, appointment New York City  
17 Conflict of Interest Board.

18 SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, Privileges  
19 and Elections.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:

21       Communications from city, county and borough  
22       offices.

23 SPEAKER QUINN: If we can get a  
24 little quiet.

25 My3 Pre-considered M909.

2 recommending the name of Jose M. Araujo,  
3 appointment to the New York City Board of  
4 Elections.

5 SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, Privileges  
6 and Elections.

7 Mv3 M910 on page two through M936  
8 on page five, new, renew and relocation of pay  
9 station licenses.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Petitions  
12 and communications.

13 Mv3 None.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Land Use  
15 call-ups.

16 Mv3 M937 through M939 on page six.

17 SPEAKER QUINN: If we could please  
18 have a roll call on the coupled Land Use call-up  
19 vote.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

21 Mv3 Arroyo.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

23 Mv3 Barron.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I request  
25 unanimous consent, vote aye on all the general

1                   order items.

2                   COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

3                   COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye on all.

4                   Mv3 Brewer.

5                   COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

6                   Mv3 Cabrera.

7                   COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

8                   Mv3 Chin.

9                   COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

10                  Mv3 Comrie.

11                  COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE, JR.: Aye.

12                  Mv3 Crowley.

13                  COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

14                  Mv3 Dickens.

15                  COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Oh, aye,

16                  aye.

17                  Mv3 Dilan. Dromm.

18                  COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye and I

19                  vote aye on all general orders.

20                  COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

21                  COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: I vote aye.

22                  Mv3 Eugene.

23                  COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

24                  Mv3 Ferreras.

2                   COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.

3                   Mv3 Fidler.

4                   COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Aye.

5                   Mv3 Foster.

6                   COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye.

7                   Mv3 Garodnick.

8                   COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

9                   Mv3 Gennaro.

10                  COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

11                  Mv3 Gentile.

12                  COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

13                  Mv3 Gonzalez.

14                  COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye.

15                  Mv3 Greenfield.

16                  COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: I vote  
17                  aye and I request permission to vote on all  
18                  coupled and general orders.

19                  COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

20                  COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: I vote  
21                  aye, thank you.

22                  Mv3 Halloran.

23                  COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN III: I  
24                  request permission to vote aye.

25                  COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN III: Aye

3      || on all.

Mv3 Ignizio.

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Aye.

Mv3 Jackson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye.

Mv3 James.

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Aye.

Mv3 Koo.

11 SPEAKER QUINN: I'm sorry, can we  
12 get a little quiet?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Request  
14 permission to vote on all the related items today.  
15 I vote aye on all.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you.

17 Mv3 Recchia.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA, JR.: I  
19 also request permission to vote on all coupled and  
20 general orders.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA, JR.: *[REDACTED]*

23 Before I cast my vote, I would just like to say  
24 that I'd like to thank Lish Muckler from my staff  
25 who will be leaving. I want to thank her, this is

2 her last day at the meeting, and I want to thank  
3 her for all that she has done, she has been a  
4 great staffer to me. I also want to say thank you  
5 to her, and also thank Christian Hylton from the  
6 Land Use Division who will be leaving. I want to  
7 thank him for all his hard work. And I vote aye.

8 Mv3 Koppell.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Aye.

10 Mv3 Koslowitz.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

12 Mv3 Lander.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

14 Mv3 Lappin.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

16 Mv3 Levin.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

18 Mv3 Mark-Viverito.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye.

20 Mv3 Mealy.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye.

22 Mv3 Mendez.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.

24 Mv3 Nelson. Palma.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

Mv3 Rodriguez.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye, and  
4 I ask permission to vote aye on all general  
5 orders.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

8 Mv3 Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

10 Mv3 Sanders.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS, JR.: Aye  
12 on all Land Use, and I request permission to vote  
13 aye on all general orders.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS, JR.: I  
16 vote aye.

17 Mv3 Ulrich.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.

19 Mv3 Vacca.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

21 Mv3 Vallone.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE, JR.: Aye.

23 Mv3 Van Bramer.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

25 Mv3 Vann.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye.

3 Mv3 Weprin.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

5 Mv3 Williams.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

7 Mv3 Wills.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Aye.

9 Mv3 Oddo. Rivera.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

11 || Mv3 Speaker Quinn.

12 SPEAKER QUINN: Aye.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All right,

14 today's Land Use call-ups are adopted by a vote of  
15 47 in the affirmative, with zero in the negative.

16 We now move on to communications from the Speaker.

17 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, I want

18 to just take a moment, is Christian Hylton here

19 Just on behalf of myself ... stand up, and Chair  
20 Comrie and Chairs Weprin and Lander and Levin just  
21 thank you for all of your great work in the City  
22 Council. So thank you very, very much.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE, JR.: 

24 Christian, Christian Hylton, I want to just say on  
25 behalf of all of us that on Land Use, we never

1 liked you first off, so. No, I'm just kidding.  
2 You've been a great, you've been a great positive,  
3 quiet, reflective asset to the Land Use Committee,  
4 you've always given me great counsel, you've been  
5 a true friend and an adviser. I know that you are  
6 moving on to other opportunities, but you will be  
7 missed here, your quiet presence and your ... oh,  
8 you're not missing him? Well, that's because  
9 we're mad at him, we're mad at him, that's why.  
10 And even though you're Jumaane Williams'  
11 constituent, you will still be excluded from any  
12 BSA items before the Committee, but we wish you  
13 the best of luck in your future endeavors, you  
14 know that whatever you need from us, we would be  
15 there for you, because you've always been a  
16 positive rock for all of us, so thank you,  
17 Christian, and thank you for your service.

18  
19 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, and I  
20 want to very much echo those statements of Leroy,  
21 so thank you very much, in particular thank you  
22 for your work on St. Vincent's. Thank you. Just  
23 keeping in a lighter moment for a second, the Koz  
24 is going to see Babs tonight, let's everybody wish  
25 Karen a good time going to see Barbra Streisand

tonight, so. She only takes the subway, Tish,  
that goes without saying. But I know it may not  
seem like a moment worth marking for everybody,  
but for Karen it's big, so. And she will be on  
mass transit. No problem. At the next Council  
meeting she's going to do as a ceremonial a brief  
recap of everything that they have sung tonight.  
All right. She'll be auditioning backup singers  
later. All right, on to the legislation. We have  
a package of bills today coming out of the  
Transportation Committee, and I want to thank  
Chair Vacca for his ongoing work on issues of  
bicycle safety, which -- we're all kind of joking  
around, having fun, which is great, but these are  
very serious issues and we actually had a woman  
with us today at the pre-Stated whose husband died  
when he was struck by a bicyclist going the wrong  
way down a street in New York City, so this is  
very important, it's an issue we hear persistent  
complaints about. I want to thank Laura Popa, I  
want to thank Lyle Frank, for their work on this  
issue, also as it relates to the HRA legislation  
we're hearing today also, I just want to take a  
moment to thank Molly Murphy and Gavin Zoloff and

Terzah Nasser for their work also. So again Lyle, Laura, Molly, Garfan and Terzah for their work. But 683A, 6783A, 896A, and 910A are all a package of legislation introduced by Council Members Vacca, Van Bramer and Brewer, and Lappin as well, that seek to give the Department of Transportation authority to enforce commercial biking regulations. Also, to give clearer rules about what commercial bikes need to do, and to make sure that the businesses who are to some large degree rushing these delivery folks to come back more quickly, are held responsible for the fines. So I want to thank everyone who has worked on this legislation, all of the staff, and again, let me start by calling on Chair Vacca, and then we'll hear from Council Member Van Bramer and then Council Member Brewer.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Thank you.  
20 Thank you, Madam Speaker, and I want to thank my  
21 colleagues on the Transportation Committee and I  
22 want to thank the Transportation Committee staff.  
23 You know, for too long in this city we've spoken  
24 about people who drive commercial bicycles and the  
25 dangers they pose to not only themselves, of

course, but the dangers they pose to pedestrians and motorists, because they're going the wrong way on one-way streets, they're speeding on sidewalks. And also, when it comes to their daily work, we have laws on the books they're not complying with. They're supposed to wear reflective vests, they're supposed to be wearing helmets, they're supposed to be having bells on their bicycles and an indication as to who they are, an ID. We have criminal laws on the books that require all these things from the 1980's, but the criminal laws require Police Department enforcement, and as we know, our Police Department has so many things to do, this has not been a priority with them and many people would say for an understandable reason. So therefore, what can we do? And what we can do is that we can look at civil penalties and hold accountable those who employ these commercial bicyclists, to make sure that the law is obeyed and indeed enforced. And that's what we've done today. The legislation places the onus on the New York City Department of Transportation through a civil enforcement process involving the assessment of fines against those who think that

the law is for other people but not for them. And we specifically include in this an education component which will now ... which has already started and which will take even more impetus in the months ahead, so that people know, before this law takes effect, what the law is, and that the City of New York is indeed serious about having these laws enforced. For too long we've been on streets that often look like the wild, wild west because bicyclists are on sidewalks, going against red lights, wrong way on one-way streets. Well, hopefully those days will be coming to an end with this legislation. I thank everyone, I thank the sponsors of the other bills, Council Member Brewer, Council Member Van Bramer, I also mention that we have more work to do. We have to look at electric bicycles, and that discussion with Council Member Garodnick and Council Member Lappin has also been very important to our Committee and I thank them for their help, and I thank the Speaker, and I urge my members to vote yes on the package of four bills before you today.

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, Chair Vacca. Council Member Van Bramer?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank  
3 you very much, Madam Speaker, and I want to thank  
4 our great Chair, Jimmy Vacca, for helping with all  
5 the bills, and in particular our bill, which is  
6 Intro 683A, which while on the face of it  
7 incredibly simple, has the ability to save lives  
8 and prevent injuries. I certainly had numerous  
9 constituents and seniors say to me that while we  
10 all support our local small businesses, small  
11 commercial bikers delivering food at night in  
12 particular was a danger, because they could not  
13 see the bikers, and wouldn't it be great if they  
14 were required to wear reflective jackets and  
15 vests, which with our bill will also include the  
16 name of the restaurant on the back of it, so that  
17 if folks are flouting the laws, they'll be able to  
18 be identified and will be able to make sure that  
19 those businesses know that people are watching.  
20 So I think for, though it's very simple, this very  
21 important piece of legislation responds to a  
22 request of my constituents to make our streets  
23 safer for everyone, including the commercial  
24 cyclists, by making sure that everyone can see  
25 when folks are making deliveries at night, and I

2 think this will go a long way towards addressing a  
3 very serious quality-of-life issue in my district  
4 and the city, and I just want to thank Lyle Frank  
5 and Matt Wallace from my office for their help  
6 with this legislation. Thank you very much.

7 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. Council  
8 Member Brewer? And I want to echo the thanks to  
9 Lyle in particular.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you,  
Madam Speaker, I certainly want to thank Chair  
Vacca and the whole Committee, and certainly the  
staff, Jesse Bodine from my office, and Will  
Colegrove, and I'm talking specifically about  
896A, which would give the power to the Department  
of Transportation to work with their at this time  
six employees who are inspectors and have the  
ability to go to the businesses and talk to them  
and educate them, and point out what they need in  
terms of lights and bells and helmets and vests  
and staying off the sidewalks. It's slightly  
complicated in terms of what they can and cannot  
do, but the point of the matter is, the NYPD  
cannot go door-to-door and do this kind of  
education. Come January the DOT will be giving

out summonses for those who don't follow the law directly. The summons will go to the restaurant. So with this package, this legislation today, we are making it very, very clear to the businesses that they must equip their employees with proper safety equipment, and they must educate their delivery people with the rules of the road, and if they fail to do this, they will be getting a visit and a summons from the deputized DOT agents to issue violations. And I want to join my colleagues who have from the seniors and from others, perhaps the number one concern is the delivery cyclist who is not following the rules. We are totally in support of the restaurants, their delivery people, they work very hard to satisfy those who are not cooking at home at night, but they must do it in a safe fashion, and I think this group of bills does exactly that, and I think it's very exciting. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very much. I want to thank the Land Use staff, and also Ramon Martinez from my office, for their very, very good work on the Seward Park extension.

1                     This is an effort, or an area, that has ... whose  
2                     redevelopment has been under consideration for 45  
3                     years, nine very significant parcels of largely-  
4                     unoccupied property on the lower East Side, and I  
5                     want to thank everyone on the staff who worked on  
6                     this, I want to thank Chair Comrie and Chair Levin  
7                     for their work on it. I want to thank the long  
8                     list of community activists and community  
9                     organizations who have been working many, many  
10                    decades, and not just getting this done, but  
11                    getting it done in a good, sound way that was  
12                    inclusive of the folks who were there 45 years  
13                    ago, and of making sure affordable housing,  
14                    permanent affordable housing, was a real priority  
15                    and a commitment in this plan. So thank you,  
16                    guys, very much, I know some of you are with us  
17                    today, a small sampling. So thank you. And I  
18                    want to thank Council Member Rosie Mendez, who  
19                    abuts the area, who was a loud voice, in a good  
20                    way, about the needs of the community's voices to  
21                    be heard, so thank you. And it seems like she's  
22                    on a bit of a roll, but Council Member Margaret  
23                    Chin, for negotiating another really amazing land  
24                    use deal for her community and for our borough and  
25

2 the city, so congratulations, Margaret, let me  
3 first call on the local Council Member who  
4 represents Seward Park, who again, I think, drove  
5 a very hard bargain and came out with a very good  
6 plan here after 45 years. Margaret, apparently  
7 what they were waiting for was you. So if we  
8 could hear from Council Member Chin, and then  
9 Chair Comrie and Chair Levin.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you,  
11 Speaker Quinn. I wanted to thank the Speaker's  
12 staff for all their support and guidance  
13 throughout this process, as well as my colleagues,  
14 Council Member Comrie and Council Member Levin,  
15 for your insight and your support, and for holding  
16 the Committee hearings, and also Council Member  
17 Mendez, for her sisterly support, you know, in the  
18 community and at the City Council. This is my  
19 second back-to-back land use application. Never a  
20 dull moment in District 1, but I would not be able  
21 to do all this without the support of the staff,  
22 and first of all, Ramon Martinez, the deputy chief  
23 of staff, who is always available to give his  
24 insight, and then the Land Use staff, Gail  
25 Benjamin, leading her team; Christian Hylton, I am

1 sorry to see you go, I am sorry for working you  
2 back-to-back, I hope that didn't help you make  
3 that decision; Ann McCoy, even though you're new,  
4 this is your second one with me; and Amy Mirson  
5 (phonetic); but also my own Land Use director,  
6 Matt Viggiano, on this back-to-back meeting with  
7 all the community boards, activists, members,  
8 everyone who wanted to meet with us, we met with  
9 them, even people who weren't nice. And also my  
10 communications director, Kelli McGee. But I want  
11 to thank all of the community activists who are  
12 here today, especially Community Board #3, the  
13 leadership, the former Chair, I think you're here,  
14 Dominic, Fashoda Burke, the former Chair David  
15 McWater and the current Chair Gigi Li and the  
16 District Manager, Susan Stetzer, for their  
17 leadership, and all the community activists and  
18 former site tenants, including people with the  
19 SPARK Coalition, GOLES, who came to the hearing  
20 and let you voices be heard. But also for the  
21 hundreds and hundreds of hours that you spent  
22 meeting, talking together, with the city, with  
23 EDC, with HPD, with the Mayor's office, to put  
24 together this comprehensive compromise plan. We  
25

know that it was a compromise, because all of the activists, we want more affordable housing, but in order for this plan to move forward, we know that we have to compromise, and work together, and I do want to thank the city agencies and their staff for cooperating and meeting with us and working with us to make it happen, because we all want this to move forward after 45 years. So today, the vote here today, it is historic, it is making history, and we couldn't have done this without the advocacy and the hard work of the Lower East Side community. And this vote will build on the foundation that was laid. It took 45 years to get to this point, so I am glad, and I am so glad, that I am the one that is representing this district, but with everyone's support we are going to see this plan go forward, and the city has committed to involve the community, the community board, and the City Council, myself and Council Member Mendez, in the RFP process and in also reviewing developers. So we will see affordable housing built on this site, even though it's not 100%, but 50% is not bad, 50% is very good, and it's permanent affordable housing, also with

2 opportunities for retail diversity for our small  
3 businesses, a site set aside for school and open  
4 space, but bottom line is that this is a model  
5 that I think we can all follow, that community  
6 input made this happen. So I'm going to be proud  
7 to cast my vote to support this application, and I  
8 urge my colleagues to do the same. Vote yes.

9 || Thank you.

10 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. And  
11 we're now going to hear from Chair Comrie, Chair  
12 Levin and then Council Member Mendez.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE, JR.: I  
14 think the Speaker said it all, but Margaret Chin  
15 has been a rock, and members, I want to let you  
16 know, she just came off a major Land Use project  
17 with NYU going into Seward Park, a 45-year-old  
18 project that people were actively arguing about  
19 and fighting about, she met with every activist,  
20 every entity, as she said, even the ones that  
21 weren't nice, but Margaret Chin is a rock, she may  
22 be small but she's stronger than all of us. So,  
23 you know, I just want to congratulate her for her  
24 tenacity, for her patience, for her understanding,  
25 and for eking out a great deal, because 50%

permanent affordable is nothing to laugh at.

Making sure that the community had all of their major goals in the project was nothing to laugh at. Margaret Chin is a rock, I'm proud to work with her, and I'm proud that she thinks that I have some advice that's worthy of her, but she truly understands how to get things done in a positive manner, and I just want to congratulate her for Seward Park.

11 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. If we  
12 could get a little quiet. Chair Levin.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you,  
14 Madam Speaker. Today marks the beginning of a new  
15 and exciting chapter in the long history of Seward  
16 Park Urban Renewal Area. Thanks to the diligent  
17 work of Speaker Quinn, Council Member Chin,  
18 Council Member Mendez, the community board and  
19 everyone who has spent countless hours to craft  
20 this proposal, residents of the Lower East Side  
21 will finally have access to affordable housing,  
22 needed commercial and retail space, usable open  
23 space, instead of parking lots at the base of the  
24 Williamsburg Bridge. While it took many years to  
25 get to this point, the high level of community

involvement and the willingness of all parties to maintain a constructive dialogue is a model that we can all look to as our city continues to evolve. I'd like to congratulate Council Member Chin for her role in fostering such an inclusive process, that provides her constituents with needed affordable, and I thank the Council's Land Use staff for their hard work on this issue.

Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Thank you, Madam Speaker, and my comments will be brief. A lot of thanks to Margaret, when she got elected she said, Rosie, we're going to get this done, and she really worked with the community and did get it done during this term, and that's pretty incredible. I want to thank a few people who are no longer here, no longer working in this Council, but my predecessor Margarita Lopez and my former chief of staff, Lisa Kaplan, who for decades worked on this issue, and two people who were part of the coalition in the community, who passed away and didn't get to see this a reality, Harry Wieder and Mary Spink, yes. We did it, we kept forward, and this was part of a community who never forgot,

2 the former site tenants, and just never wavering  
3 and standing by a vision of creating permanent  
4 affordable housing on those lots, and it will be a  
5 reality. Thank you all, and thank you, Margaret.

6 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, Rosie.  
7  
I just want to make note that we are passing Intro  
8 733A today, which is one that relates to the  
9 boundaries of the Far Rockaway Empire Zone. I  
10 want to thank Chair Koslowitz for moving this bill  
11 and Council Member Sanders, whose district it's  
12 in. I want to thank Tom Donaldson, Amanda  
13 Santiago and Baaba Halm for their work on this  
14 bill, and let me call on Council Member Sanders.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS, JR.: Thank  
16 you, Madam Speaker--

17 SPEAKER QUINN: (Interposing) Just  
18 hang on one second, Jim, because someday we'll  
19 have audio back in the chambers. Yeah, don't put  
20 any big money on it, but yes.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS, JR.: I  
22 suspect that it will happen in January.

23 SPEAKER QUINN: Right.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS, JR.: Madam  
25 Speaker, I really thank you for the opportunity to

2 speak on this one. Often we wonder if what we're  
3 doing works, and I'm here to say that this bill  
4 that you're passing will actually work. This has  
5 to do with economic development, this has to do  
6 with insuring that the Rockaways community, which  
7 has one of the highest levels of unemployment in  
8 the city, has the opportunity to have more  
9 business and more growth. We are insuring that a  
10 thriving commercial strip receives subsidies, and  
11 if those businesses were not good neighbors to the  
12 city, Madam Chair, I would tell you that we should  
13 not do this. I'm very proud to say that they have  
14 been among the leaders in our community employing  
15 local people at every level, and making sure that  
16 they have businesses, not simply jobs, but  
17 businesses. So I encourage all of my colleagues  
18 to vote for this, you can vote with an open heart  
19 and a good mind, and I thank Chair Koslowitz for  
20 making sure that we got this far. I thank you  
21 very much, and I urge everyone to vote yes.

22 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. And  
23 lastly we're voting on a package of legislation  
24 coming out of the General Welfare Committee, and I  
25 want to thank Molly Murphy, Liz Hoffman, Alix

1 Pustilnik and Peggy Chan for their work on that.  
2 So I think I misspoke before with the staff on  
3 Transportation, it was Lyle Frank, Laura Popa,  
4 Molly Murphy, Gavin Zoloff and Terzah Nasser who  
5 worked on the Transportation bill, but Molly also  
6 worked on the General Welfare bills with Liz, Alix  
7 and Peggy, so thank you everybody. And Intro  
8 648A, 649A, 657A, which have been introduced and  
9 sponsored by Chair Palma, the Chair of the General  
10 Welfare Committee, Chair Fidler, the Chair of the  
11 Youth Services Committee, and Council Member  
12 Brewer, all speak to the need for the Human  
13 Resources Administration to do a better job of  
14 connecting young people between the ages of 16 to  
15 24 with the services that they are owed from the  
16 city, particularly the educational services that  
17 are out there for them. This package of  
18 legislation comes in response to a study done by  
19 the Community Service Society, which unfortunately  
20 documented that these young people, who are very  
21 much in need, were not getting the right referrals  
22 or services or connection from city agencies.  
23 That oversight hearing led to cooperative work  
24 with the administration, that led to a directive

2 being issued by the Mayor on this matter. We,  
3 working with advocates and the administration,  
4 wanted to go a step further in codifying that  
5 directive, but also in going further as it relates  
6 to requiring HRA to be collecting more data on  
7 people 16 to 24, so we can actually get a better  
8 sense of what services they need and what they are  
9 and are not getting. So I want to thank everyone  
10 who's worked on this bill, let me first call on  
11 Chair Palma, then Chair Fidler, and then Council  
12 Member Brewer.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Thank you,  
14 Madam Speaker. I also want to extend my gratitude  
15 to the staff who worked so hard on these bills.  
16 The legislation will create a system that is more  
17 successful at insuring youth and young adults  
18 understand their rights and would require the  
19 answers to frequently-asked questions by youth and  
20 young adults to be available on HRA's and DYCD's  
21 websites. It will also require HRA to clarify the  
22 process it has in place for connecting young  
23 people to educational and employment opportunities  
24 and making staff aware of these specific policies  
25 and I know that there have been many challenges

2 around these issues and so I'm proud to be a  
3 sponsor and have Gale Brewer and Council Member  
4 Fidler sponsor the other two pieces of  
5 legislation, and I encourage my colleagues to vote  
6 yes on these bills. Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Thank you.

I know that you've all heard me speak on numerous occasions about homeless youth in our city, and while shelter beds are absolutely critical, we've held a number of hearings over time on turning off the spigot that leads to the homelessness of so many young people in our city. Certainly, what we do here today will, by encouraging HRA to assist young people who are eligible for public assistance, to assist young people to complete their education through GED's or otherwise, to make sure that they have a policy and practice in place to do that, will not only save taxpayers money by keeping these young people from becoming homeless, but it will save lives. So I appreciate the efforts of Chairwoman Palma, I thank Speaker Quinn for her steadfast support on all of these issues, and to all of you as well, and I urge you all to vote for this bill. Thank you.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you  
3 very much, Madam Speaker, and certainly General  
4 Welfare Chair Annabel Palma. I'm talking  
5 specifically about 648A, which gives the  
6 opportunity for young people to go to the web and  
7 get a frequently-asked question so that they can  
8 get information before they go to get any services  
9 that HRA or DYCD might provide them. Now, this  
10 might seem like it's not necessary, but we had the  
11 most fantastic hearing with young people, with, as  
12 the Speaker indicated, the authors of the report  
13 and the report itself and what became clear was  
14 that the best efforts of HRA's staff are not  
15 meeting the needs of these young people. And I  
16 want to thank the staff of the Speaker's office,  
17 because they really crafted legislation that I  
18 think does make a difference for a group of people  
19 for whom government is not always there. And I  
20 also think that they managed to change some of the  
21 minds of people who, with all due respect to HRA,  
22 who are definitely not in support of working along  
23 the lines that the legislation is crafted. I do  
24 believe, as others have said, that young people  
25 who qualify for public assistance should not face

2 additional barriers in attaining financial and  
3 personal independence, and I think that this  
4 package of legislation--

5 SPEAKER QUINN: (Interposing) Can  
6 we get some quiet for Council Member Brewer?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I'm  
8 confident that this legislation, along with the  
9 bills by Council Member Palma and Fidler, will  
10 help young people to obtain the help they need to  
11 improve their lives, but it wouldn't have happened  
12 without the people's congress, meaning the City  
13 Council, having the oversight hearing, listening  
14 to the results of the report, and having young  
15 people who have experienced this come and state  
16 the facts, because they were very different, I  
17 must admit, than what the administration stated at  
18 the time. Thank you very much.

19 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, Gale,  
20 and that concludes communications from the  
21 Speaker.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you  
23 very much, Madam Speaker, we will now move on to  
24 discussion of general orders. Council Member  
25 Brewer.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you  
3 very much. One of the issues that we're voting on  
4 today is LU705, Resolution 1542. I think that it  
5 is an incredibly important historic district that  
6 we are going to be hopefully voting on today.  
7 It's in support of the Riverside West End Historic  
8 District Extension #1, and that goes essentially  
9 from the 79<sup>th</sup> Street to 87<sup>th</sup> Street. This is a  
10 portion of the West Side that has the very  
11 historic West End Avenue, Riverside Drive, some of  
12 the cross streets and the west side of Broadway.  
13 The reason it's important, I think, is that Mr.  
14 Dolkart, who is as you may know well-known  
15 architect and historian out of Columbia University  
16 did a study. This is the first of three hearings  
17 and votes that we'll be taking on West End Avenue  
18 for the historic district. There are so many  
19 people to thank, but I want to start with the West  
20 End Preservation Society, known as WEPS, these are  
21 people who have tirelessly documented, raised  
22 funds, and paid for this historic district. They  
23 realize that this was a concern, met in a living  
24 room, and have galvanized the entire Landmarks  
25 Conservancy Preservation community. I also want

2 to thank the Landmarks Conservancy, Landmark West,  
3 the Historic Districts Council, and most of all,  
4 the staff and the Landmarks Preservation  
5 Commission, because they not only took the study  
6 and ran with it and looked at it, but they did  
7 their own study of the side streets and some of  
8 the other avenues. This is very important to our  
9 neighborhood, and I think to the whole city, thank  
10 you very much for giving me the opportunity to  
11 discuss it with you here today. Thank you, Madam  
12 Chair.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you  
14 very much, now we move on to Council Member  
15 Garodnick.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Thank  
17 you very much. I wanted to voice my strong  
18 support for Reso 1540, which would amend the  
19 Council's rules to formalize our transparency and  
20 conflict of interest procedures in the  
21 discretionary funding allocation process. Over  
22 the past several years, the Council has taken some  
23 important steps in creating transparent  
24 discretionary funding practices, in order to give  
25 the public access to how Council Members allocate

taxpayer dollars. These were good changes, I'd like to thank the Speaker for implementing them. The public now has access to discretionary expense and capital allocations going back to fiscal year 2009, thus the public knows which organizations applied for funds, which groups received funding, and how much was allocated by each member. All funding request applications must pass a vetting process by the Council and other city agencies before funds are disbursed, and Council Members are required to disclose conflicts of interest which may exist with discretionary allocations. This is an important practice, it should be a rule of the Council, so I want to thank the Speaker for her support of this, Council Member Williams for his introduction of this rule, and I'd like to encourage my colleagues to vote yes.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you  
20 very much, we now move on to Council Member  
21 Williams.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank  
23 you. Today I believe we will be passing pre-  
24 considered Resolution 1540, which will formally  
25 amend the rules of the City Council in relation to

discretionary funding. The legislation codifies for the first time reforms put in place by Speaker Quinn over the past few years, by the Finance Division and the Office of the General Counsel. Pre-considered Resolution 1540 requires the current and future Speakers to establish a policy akin to the system in place today, which insures the integrity and transparency of the discretionary funding process, and any such policy or organizations that wish to be considered for allocations from the capital or expense budget must file an application with the Council or the relevant city offices and/or agencies, said allocations must also be made available to the public in a searchable online database, it also authorizes the completion of disclosure and certification forms pertaining to conflicts of interest by both organizations seeking funding and Council members regarding relationships that may impact the city's conflict of interest laws. By etching these spending reforms into stone, the City Council is making a strong step forward. We certainly have much more work to do, particularly on achieving greater parity in discretionary

allocations. Without this those efforts would not have a solid foundation on which to stand, which is why this legislation is written to leave ample room for future leadership to improve on these rules. I thank Speaker Quinn, Council Members Recchia, Koppell and Brewer, on this issue as well as the support of the Council staff, including Emerson Sykes. Thank you, I had a little mix-up there.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All right, thank you very much. You've got to have fun with it. Seeing no others, we now move on to reports of special committees.

Mv3 None.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Reports of standing committees.

Mv3 Report of the Committee on Economic Development, Intro 733A, Boundaries of the Far Rockaway Empire Zone.

SPEAKER QUINN: I thought that was ... whoopsee, amended and coupled on general orders.

Mv3 Report of the Committee on Finance, Pre-considered Reso 1539, Funding in the Expense Budget.

2 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
3 orders.

4 Mv3 Report of the Committee on  
5 General Welfare, Intro 648A, Process for Youth and  
6 Young Adults Applying for and Receiving Public  
7 Assistance.

8 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled  
9 on general orders.

10 Mv3 Intro 649A, Youth and Young  
11 Adults 16 through 24 Receiving Public Assistance  
12 as the Head of a Household.

13 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled  
14 on general orders.

15 Mv3 Intro 657, Collecting and  
16 Reporting for Public Assistance.

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

19 Mv3 Report of the Committee on  
20 Land Use, LU680 and Reso 15441, UDAP Queens.

21 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
22 orders.

23 Mv3 LU688 through LU699, Seward  
24 Park Extension.

25 SPEAKER QUINN: Approved and

2 modifications are referred to the City Planning  
3 Commission pursuant to rule 11.70B of the rules of  
4 the Council and Section 197D of the New York City  
5 Charter.

Mv3 LU705 and Reso 1542, Landmark  
Designation Manhattan.

8 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
9 orders.

10 Mv3 LU706 and Reso 1543,  
11 Unenclosed Sidewalk Café, Manhattan.

12 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
13 orders.

14 Mv3 LU709 and Reso 1544, through  
15 LU714 and Reso 1546 on page 12, Zoning  
16 Resolutions.

17 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
18 orders.

19 Mv3 LU717 and Reso 1548, Amendment  
20 to the City Map, Bronx

21 SPEAKER QUINN: Hold on one sec,  
22 coupled on general orders

Mv3 LU718 and Reso 1549, Granting  
of a New Tax Exemption Bronx

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general

2 orders.

3 Mv3 Report of the Committee on  
4 Rules, Privileges and Elections, Pre-considered  
5 M909, Re-appointment of Jose M. Araujo, Queens  
6 County Democratic Commissioner of Elections.

7 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
8 orders.

9 Mv3 Pre-considered Reso 1540,  
10 Discretionary Funding.

11 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
12 orders.

13 Mv3 Report of the Committee on  
14 Transportation, Intro 683A, Apparel used by  
15 Operators of Bicycles.

16 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled  
17 on general orders.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: General  
19 order calendar.

20 Mv3 Intro 783A, Requiring  
21 Commercial Bicyclists to Complete a Bicycle Safety  
22 Course.

23 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled  
24 on general orders.

25 Mv3 Intro 896A, Enforcement of

## 2 Commercial Bicycle Provisions.

3 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled  
4 on general orders.

5 Mv3 Intro 9100, Use of Bicycles  
6 for Commercial Purposes.

7 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled  
8 on general orders

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: General  
10 order calendar

11 Mv3 LU688 and Reso 1551 through  
12 LU699 and Reso 1562 Seward Park Extension

13 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
14 and one

15 Mv3 Resolution appointing various  
16 persons Commissioner of Deeds

17 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general  
18 orders, and at this time I'd like to ask for a  
19 roll call on all items that have been coupled on  
20 the general order calendar

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

22 || My3 Arroyo.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

24 || My3 Brewer.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

2 Mv3 Cabrera.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

4 Mv3 Chin.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

6 Mv3 Comrie.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE, JR.: Aye.

8 Mv3 Crowley.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

10 Mv3 Dickens.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

12 Mv3 Eugene.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

14 Mv3 Ferreras.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.

16 Mv3 Fidler.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Majority

18 Leader Rivera, may I be briefly excused to explain  
19 my vote?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Thank you.

22 First, sometimes you get the microphone you  
23 forget, so I do want to apologize and thank Molly  
24 Murphy and Alix Pustilnik and the rest of the  
25 staff of the General Welfare Committee, Brad Reid,

my counsel for their work on Intro 649A. Second,  
I need to disclose for the record that in the  
Finance resolution there are funds that are going  
to Millennium Development, I have staff members  
who have ... I have a staff member who has relatives  
who work for that development corporation, so I  
need to disclose that. And I also want to take  
this moment to thank Speaker Quinn and Finance  
Chairman Recchia, because the funds that are being  
moved in that ... to Millennium in that transparency  
resolution will keep a senior center that was  
going to close its doors very shortly open, and on  
behalf of hundreds of seniors that were really  
kind of put out by that, I want to say thank you  
very much. And I vote aye on all.

17 Mv3 Foster.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye.

19 Mv3 Garodnick.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

21 Mv3 Gennaro.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

23 Mv3 Gentile.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye

25 all.

2 Mv3 Gonzalez.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye on  
4 all.

5 Mv3 Ignizio.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes.

7 Mv3 Jackson.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Yes.

9 Mv3 James.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Aye.

11 Mv3 Koppell.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Aye.

13 Mv3 Koslowitz.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

15 Mv3 Lander.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: May I be  
17 excused?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: I vote aye,  
20 I want to add my big voice of thanks to Christian  
21 for all his really great work with me on the  
22 Subcommittee, thank you, we will miss you a lot.  
23 And as someone who had a very small bit part with  
24 some of the folks in Seward Park, I want to say a  
25 big, big moment of congratulations to all the

2 activists, to Rosie, and especially to Margaret.

3 I vote aye on all.

Mv3 Lappin.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: I really  
6 wanted to congratulate Councilwoman Chin and  
7 Councilwoman Mendez on the Seward Park Land Use  
8 application before us today, and thank Council  
9 Member Vacca for taking the issue of pedestrian  
10 safety so seriously along with the Speaker and  
11 Council Members Brewer and Garodnick, it's really  
12 nice to be able to pass a package of bike safety  
13 bills today. And I vote aye.

14 Mv3 Levin.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye, and I  
16 want to also thank and congratulate Christian  
17 Hylton on his service to this body and to the City  
18 of New York. Thank you, Christian.

19 Mv3 Mark-Viverito.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye.

21 Mv3 Mealy.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye.

23 Mv3 Mendez.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.

25 Mv3 Nelson.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Aye and may  
3 I ask permission to vote aye on the land use roll-  
4 ups?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Thank you.

7     Did you catch all that? Okay.

8 Mv3 Palma.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

10 Mv3 Rose.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

12 Mv3 Ulrich.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.

14 Mv3 Vacca.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

16 Mv3 Vallone.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE, JR.: Me  
18 and my boys are here, sorry. I vote aye on all  
19 except I will abstain on 901A, 783 and no on 683A.  
20 Thank you.

21 Mv3 Van Bramer.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

23 Mv3 Vann.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Can I explain  
25 my vote, Majority Leader?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Among the items that we're coupling on general orders there is the proposed rezoning of approximately 140-block area in northern Bedford-Stuyvesant. I guess some four years ago we previously rezoned the southern half. This is a contextual rezoning, of course it enhances the commercial district, and it puts a ring of protection around the preservation of this residential area, and I'm very pleased that during my tenure we've been able to again rezone the entire Bed-Stuy area, and I thank all of you for your support of this particular item. Thank you. I vote aye.

Mv3 Weprin.

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

Mv3 Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

Mv3 Wills.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Aye.

Mv3 Foster.

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye.

Mv3 Oddo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

2 Mv3 Rivera.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

4 Mv3 Speaker Quinn.

5 SPEAKER QUINN: Aye.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All items on today's general order calendar were adopted by a vote of 48 in the affirmative with zero in the negative and zero abstentions, with the exception of Intro 683-A, which was adopted by a vote of 47 in the affirmative, one in the negative and zero abstentions, and 783-A, which was adopted by a vote of 47 in the affirmative, zero in the negative and one abstention, and Intro 910-A, which was adopted by a vote of 47 in the affirmative, zero in the negative and one abstention, and the revised land use call-ups were adopted by a vote of 48 in the affirmative, with zero in the negative. Introduction and reading of the bills?

21 SPEAKER QUINN: All bills are  
22 referred to Committee.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Seeing that  
24 there are no resolutions, we'll now move on to  
25 general discussion. We have Council Member

2 Jackson.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Well,  
4 thank you, I didn't know I did anything, you're  
5 applauding for me. But my colleagues, I rise this  
6 afternoon, you've been given this particular  
7 flyer, which is about a film being shown tomorrow  
8 in the members' lounge from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.,  
9 it's about schoolchildren from Brooklyn, and it's  
10 called Brooklyn Castle. And basically this film  
11 is about five-time national chess champions at  
12 IS318 in Brooklyn, in Steve Levin's district, and  
13 it's about the lives of these five students,  
14 including one learning-disabled, and the  
15 challenges they face in their personal lives as  
16 well as at school. It's about the transformation  
17 effect of after-school programs on the lives of  
18 these children, and it's about budget cuts, and we  
19 know about that, and how the school had to  
20 struggle to maintain this award-winning program.  
21 It even has a scene shot at City Council featuring  
22 someone you all would know and love. So I ask you  
23 to come at three o'clock tomorrow, and invite your  
24 staff also to attend. People that have seen say  
25 it's a great film. And finally let me just--

2 SPEAKER QUINN: (Interposing) And  
3 it's Rosie's middle school, Rosie Mendez, where  
4 she went to middle school.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: You went  
6 to school there? You did? Oh, okay. But also I  
7 would like to thank Peter Vallone, Jr., the  
8 Speaker, Jumaane and Brad, for the beginning of  
9 these very serious issues regarding the issue of  
10 stop, question and frisk. As you know, there are  
11 four bills that are pending, and obviously  
12 yesterday was an opening day, I think the hearing  
13 lasted maybe five or six hours. I was there for  
14 about two hours, and then I chaired the Education  
15 Committee hearing on busing in our schools, \$1.3  
16 billion is spent on busing our children, and  
17 obviously it was a problem this beginning of the  
18 school year, and that hearing lasted and closed at  
19 6:15 p.m. So if you didn't have the opportunity  
20 to listen, please go back and check it out. But I  
21 want to thank you for opening the hearing process  
22 regarding the issue of stop, question and frisk,  
23 knowing that almost 700,000 people last year were  
24 subjected to that, and many of them, almost all of  
25 them, without arrests. So I ask you to pay

2 attention to this very important matter. Thank  
3 you.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council  
5 Member Dickens, if we can get silence in the  
6 chambers.

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Thank you.

2 Newman and his staff, in helping ... in crafting  
3 this necessary and timely legislation. Thank you,  
4 Majority Leader.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you  
6 very much. Council Member Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you very much, I want to also ask people to sign on Intro 941, which does, as it suggests, standardize customer service training for agency inspectors, and it's part of the Speaker's wonderful positive support for the businesses, and particularly the small ones, in our City of New York. I also want to mention that I have three fabulous interns here today, Nicole Scalise, who is a Hunter public service scholar, Ama Kopetka, who is a LaGuardia Community College student, and Shirilana Karki, who is at Baruch. And just like all of the interns in the City Council, they are phenomenal. Thank you very much.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council  
22 Member James.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: So earlier  
24 Lia Neal was here, Lia Neal is a U.S. Olympic  
25 swimmer, unfortunately she had to leave, she had

1 to attend school. She was mentored by Michael  
2 Phillips and Allison Schmidt, and on July 28<sup>th</sup>,  
3 2012 during the 2012 London Olympic Games, Lia  
4 helped the United States claim bronze in the 4X100  
5 freestyle relay. At the ripe old age of 17, Lia  
6 has made United States history as the second woman  
7 of African descent to represent the United States  
8 swimming in the Olympics. And I just wanted to  
9 congratulate Lia, as I did earlier on behalf of  
10 the City Council. I also want to bring to the  
11 attention of the body a letter that has been  
12 circulated regarding a newly-formed technology  
13 development corporation by the administration.  
14 The administration -- thank you -- the  
15 administration removes \$20 million from the  
16 general fund to establish this corporation, a  
17 corporation that is not subject to the approval of  
18 the City Council and/or the legislature, a  
19 corporation that is not subject to civil service  
20 and/or procurement rules. I urge everyone to  
21 write on, to sign on to a letter that I have  
22 circulated asking that the Comptroller of the City  
23 of New York not register this contract until such  
24 time as this body holds hearings. And last but  
25

2 not least, all of you who went to see Jay-Z, I  
3 forgive you. All of you--

4 MALE VOICE: (Interposing) Thank  
5 you very much.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: All of you ...  
7 may we have ... all of you who are going to see  
8 Barbra Streisand, I understand. And all of you  
9 who are going to see Lady Gaga, just like me, you  
10 were born this way, I've got it. All I ask is  
11 that you take the subway and enjoy yourself.  
12 Thank you.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you  
14 very much. Council Member Williams.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank  
16 you. Thank you, Tish, for Jay-Z, and my mom  
17 thanks you for Streisand. I just wanted to also  
18 say a thank you to the Speaker and all who were at  
19 the hearings yesterday and moving this forward. I  
20 do wish, and want to say again, the administration  
21 should have sent someone, should have sent someone  
22 who could answer some questions that were based on  
23 merit, and definitely should have sent someone  
24 from the Police Department. Hopefully we can move  
25 forward expeditiously ahead in fixing this, and I

had a special song for a couple of colleagues.  
Why can't we be friends, why can't we be friends?  
Thank you very much.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you  
6 very much, Council Member, don't quit your day  
7 job. Council Member Lander. But we're friends,  
8 so it's good. Council Member Lander.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: I just want  
10 to let everyone know that thanks to Council Member  
11 Levin's good work on opening night, you know  
12 there's plenty of bicycle parking as well, so  
13 there's a lot of. On opening night, there's 400  
14 bike parking slots, and on opening night there  
15 were three bikes in the 400 slots. So Karen,  
16 anyone else, plenty of available bike parking,  
17 that's all I'm saying.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you  
19 very much. Seeing no others, this Stated Meeting  
20 is now adjourned.

C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ October 23, 2012 \_\_\_\_\_