

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON STATED MEETING

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March 13, 2013
Start: 2:23 p.m.
Recess: 3:59 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers
City Hall

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council Member Charles Barron
Council Member Gale A. Brewer
Council Member Fernando Cabrera
Council Member Margaret S. Chin
Council Member Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.
Council Member Elizabeth S. Crowley
Council Member Erik Martin Dilan
Council Member Daniel Dromm
Council Member Mathieu Eugene
Council Member Julissa Ferreras
Council Member Lewis A. Fidler
Council Member Helen D. Foster

A P P E A R A N C E S

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

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

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

Ethel Plimack
Activist and honoree
Women's History Month

Gertrude McDonald
Activist and honoree
Women's History Month

Mannie Wilson
Activist and honoree
Women's History Month

Judy Westler
Director
Commission on the Public's Health System

Samantha Severin
Principal
PS 45

Mel Duval
Student Council President
PS 45

Aliyah Ramirez
Student
PS 50

Samia Paris
Student
PS 50

Michael McSweeney
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
New York City

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: All right. We're
3 going to get this ceremonial started. [off mic]
4 So, why don't we ask all of the family and friends
5 of the three Queens civic activists who are here
6 today to all come up and join us, please. And we
7 have Mannie Wilson [phonetic] Miss Ethel Plimack
8 [phonetic] and Gert McDonald [phonetic] Yay.
9 [applause] And I am going to turn the mic over to
10 Council Member Van Bramer who is going to tell us
11 more on this Women's History Month about these
12 important and beautiful, if I might add that
13 myself, civic activists.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank
15 you very much, Madam Speaker and on this a grand
16 celebration of Women's History Month you are
17 looking at, with a combined experience, we won't
18 call it age, 300 years of living women's history
19 [cheers]. Which means that one of them is, at
20 least one of them, well over 100 years old.
21 [cheers] And Ethel Plimack is not shy so she
22 raised her hand. [laughter] But, I wanted to honor
23 these three living legends from my district and
24 the first is Miss Mannie Wilson, here in her
25 amazing, amazing self. She has been an amazing

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2 leader in the Ravenswood Houses for many, many
3 years. She was a member of Community Board One
4 for decades and decades. She was a staff member
5 for Assembly Woman Kathy Nolan for many years.
6 She is a mother, grandmother, great grandmother,
7 great, great, grandmother, it keeps on going. She
8 is an amazing woman and just now, this year, I
9 know she worked with our City Clerk, Mike
10 McSweeney. As if she hadn't done enough she
11 wanted to be able to officiate at weddings and she
12 is now an officiant at weddings at the age of 95.
13 So, [cheers] Miss Mannie Wilson, we say thank you
14 and salute you. The second honoree is Gertrude
15 McDonald. And I want to say that she is a
16 wonderful, wonderful Sunny Sider for decades. She
17 is someone who really paved the way for women in
18 politics in Queens. She ran for the New York
19 State Assembly before I was even born. And at a
20 time when few women were running in politics and
21 she did that in 1968, paving the way for our
22 current Assembly Woman, Kathy Nolan in that
23 district. [applause] She is still on Community
24 Board Two, still on Community Board Two after 40
25 years of service. And she is an amazing, amazing,

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2 tireless person. When we served on Community
3 Board two together, Gert McDonald, I often would
4 be tired at the end of the meeting and I would
5 look over at Gert McDonald and she was firing and
6 ready to go. She did not want to leave. She is
7 amazing at our Senior Center. She pushed, pushed
8 and pushed for the return of the bus stop, which
9 helps seniors, which Speaker Quinn was able to
10 help get us done with Community Board Two, Chair
11 Joe Conley who's here with us today. I want to
12 recognize Joe. So, Gert McDonald, for everything
13 that you've done, for everything you're going to
14 keep doing, [off mic] I know, the Q60 bus. We've
15 got to fix the Q60 bus as well. I thank you,
16 Gert, for everything that you've done. It's a
17 wonderful tribute for you. And our third honoree
18 is Ethel Plimack, who is 103 years old. [cheers]
19 [applause] And Ethel is an amazing, amazing and
20 tireless woman who at a time when fewer options
21 for careers were available to women, Ethel was a
22 long time employee of the Board of Education. She
23 worked at the high school that I went to, William
24 Cullen Bryant High School for many, many years.
25 And she retired but then she went back to work.

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2 She took another job and at the age of 90 had to
3 leave that job and sued that employer for age
4 discrimination. [cheers] Because at 90 years of
5 age Ethel Plimack was not ready to stop working.
6 She had more to give. She was an amazing and
7 tireless fighter when we were trying to landmark
8 Sunny Side Gardens, where she has lived for over
9 70 years. And she went and testified, I think she
10 was in her late 90's at that point but she gave
11 amazing testimony before the Commission, I
12 remember that very well, Ethel Plimack. And she
13 is just an inspiration to everyone in Sunny Side.
14 So, it is my honor and privilege to represent
15 these three amazing women in the City Council and
16 to recognize all three of them for their amazing
17 contributions to the City of New York. [applause]
18 So, with that, I will ask our great City Clerk,
19 who knows these women as well, Mike McSweeney, to
20 read the proclamation.

21 MR. MIKE MCSWEENEY: Council, City
22 of New York Proclamation. In celebration of
23 Women's History Month the Council of the City of
24 New York is proud to honor Ethel Plimack, Gertrude
25 McDonald and Mannie Wilson, who represent 300

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2 years of living women's history. All New Yorkers
3 are heirs of their service and contributions. And
4 whereas Mannie Wilson has shown her strength as a
5 woman, a mother, a grandmother, a great
6 grandmother and a great, great grandmother. Always
7 a trailblazer, Ms. Wilson worked as the Executive
8 Director of a program in Astoria called the
9 Resocialization of the Handicapped. As a member
10 of Community Board One for nearly three decades,
11 as an active member of the Kohler Goldwater
12 Auxiliary and also worked with Assembly Woman
13 Kathryn Nolan for over 20 years. She has inspired
14 generations of women to follow in her footsteps
15 and become leaders in their communities. And
16 whereas, Gertrude McDonald has spent her life
17 advocating for western Queens. She was an active
18 member of several influential organizations,
19 including the 108th Precinct Community Council and
20 Community Board Two. And she helped found the
21 Sunny Side Seniors Center in 1974. She ran as a
22 candidate for the Democratic nomination for a seat
23 in the State Assembly in 1968 at a time when it
24 was rare for women to pursue public office. Ms.
25 McDonald has fought adversity against women in

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2 politics and has led the way by inspiring other
3 women to hold elective office. And whereas, Ethel
4 Plimack has been a proud resident of Sunny Side
5 Gardens, Queens, for over 70 years. After she
6 retired from the Board of Education at the age of
7 70 she took another job at Marymount Manhattan
8 College until the age of 90. She continued her
9 civic activism well into her 90's when she fought
10 for her neighborhood, Sunny Side Gardens, to
11 receive landmark status. Throughout her
12 professional life spanning eight decades, Miss
13 Plimack has been in inspiration to friends and
14 colleagues for her dedication, wisdom and
15 generosity. Now, therefore, be it known the that
16 Council of the City of New York gratefully honors
17 Mannie Wilson, Ethel Plimack and Gertrude McDonald
18 for nearly 300 years of community activism in
19 western Queens. Christine C. Quinn, Speaker for
20 the Entire Council, Jimmy Van Bramer, Council
21 Member 26th District, Queens, Julissa Ferreras,
22 Council Member 21st District, Queens, Karen
23 Koslowitz, Council Member 29th District, Queens,
24 Elizabeth Crowley, Council Member 30th District,
25 Queens, Diana Reyna, Council Member 34th District,

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2 Brooklyn and Queens.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank you very much. Let's give them a big round of applause. [applause] And I want to, first of all, thank all the family members and friends and neighbors who are here, a lot of Sunny Siders who are here and ask our three distinguished honorees if they would like to say a hello and something? Ethel.

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MS. ETHEL PLIMACK: I would like to say, thank for this award and preserving Sunny Side as a landmark. [applause]

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MS. MANNIE WILSON: I would like to say thank you very much and I'm honored to be here. I love all of you and I didn't want to stop because I figured that I could go about another good ten to 20 more years.

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MS. GERTRUDE MCDONALD: I want to thank, congratulate all the honorees and thank Jimmy for giving us this honor. [applause]

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SPEAKER QUINN: I want to thank Jimmy too 'cause if it wasn't for Jimmy we wouldn't have all gotten this great opportunity to see some of you again and meet others of you for

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2 the first time. So, I just want to thank you,
3 Jimmy, and more importantly, thank the three of
4 you for being such amazing inspirations, such
5 great role models, and for the three of you,
6 really having changed the landscape of the City of
7 New York making it possible for there to be so
8 many women on the City Council right now. It was
9 what you all have been doing throughout your whole
10 lifetimes that have created opportunity for women
11 and young girls. And we just are in your debt and
12 it's so wonderful to get an opportunity to say
13 thank you and meet all of you today. So, thank
14 you. [applause] And I will tell you one story.
15 When I came back from Community Board Two and I
16 said to my Chief of Staff, Gert wants a bus stop,
17 and Chuck, you better get that bus stop 'cause I
18 cannot go back to that part of Queens 'cause I was
19 afraid of Gert if I didn't get the bus. And I
20 suspect many people could say that about the two
21 of you as well, which is why you gals get things
22 done. So, thank you all and thank you, Jimmy.
23 Congratulations, everybody. [applause] Okay, and
24 as we move on from this ceremonial the next
25 ceremonial is going to be led by Council Member

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2 Rosie Mendez where we are going to honor Judy
3 Westler, who was the, for over 40 years, a public
4 health advocate, is being honored on her
5 retirement from the Commission on the Public
6 Health System. [background noise] All right.
7 Let's just have one final round of applause as our
8 Women's History Month Recognition Honorees make
9 their way out. [applause] And now, another woman
10 in Women's History Month who deserves recognition,
11 shh, I am going to give the mic to Rosie.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Thank you,
13 everyone, for being here today. Today, we are
14 honoring, what is your name? [laughter] Judy
15 Westler. Judy Westler, for many, many years, put
16 the public in public health. And she also put the
17 fire in the girls are on fire.

18 SPEAKER QUINN: Hey, if we can get
19 a little quiet for a sec.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Okay. I'm
21 going to repeat that. So, Judy Westler for many
22 years put the public in public health and she put
23 the fire in the girls are on fire. So, she's been
24 a great advocate. She's been a great friend and
25 on this occasion of her retirement and what she

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2 ahs done for the Commission of Public Health
3 Systems. And for me, as well, making me a better
4 advocate and understand the issues and walking
5 into those hearings in the City Council and just
6 being able to really understand it and know what's
7 going on. Judy, thank you, thank you. Much
8 deserved, but we'll be calling you anyway. And
9 Anthony, you've got big shoes to fill, okay?

10 SPEAKER QUINN: Clerk, can you read
11 the plaque, please, the proclamation.

12 FEMALE VOICE 1: Council, City of
13 New York, proclamation. Whereas in celebration of
14 Women's History Month, the Council of the City of
15 New York is proud to honor a woman who has worked
16 tirelessly to break existing barriers and improve
17 the health of all New Yorkers for generations to
18 come, Judith Westler. And whereas Ms. Westler has
19 been an impassioned and effective public health
20 advocate for more than 40 years. In 1995 after
21 years of honing her expertise and working for MFY
22 Legal Services, Community Action for Legal
23 Services, now Legal Services, NYC, Community
24 Service Society, the Manhattan Borough President's
25 Office, the Children's Defend Fund, New York, and

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2 others. She began volunteering at a new
3 organization, the Commission on the Public Health
4 System, CPHS, a city wide, community based,
5 membership health advocacy organization dedicated
6 to fighting for equal access to quality healthcare
7 services for everyone regardless of their race,
8 ethnicity, language spoken, diagnosis or the
9 ability to pay. And whereas, under the leadership
10 of Ms. Westler, CPHS quickly flourished, launching
11 numerous community health projects, each involving
12 extensive community involvement and culminating in
13 a widely disseminated report. And whereas, Ms.
14 Westler helped CPHS become an influential voice
15 for the public health and hospital system, a voice
16 for the allocation of public funding in the state
17 and city budgets, a strong supporter of community
18 organizing and supporter of the healthcare safety
19 net and access to healthcare services for
20 everyone, particularly in low income, medically
21 underserved immigrant and communities of color.
22 And whereas, during Ms. Westler's tenure CPHS has
23 addressed everything from language access issues
24 to funding to maintain the very important child
25 health clinics to increase the availability and

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2 enrollment in public health insurance. And
3 whereas, on Ms. Westler's retirement she can be
4 proud of her enduring contributions to public
5 health, whether they were hard fought victories or
6 less fruitful endeavors. In all of her work she
7 has proven how every individual can play a
8 significant role in the health of all New Yorkers.
9 Now therefore, be it known that the Council of the
10 City of New York gratefully honors Judith Westler
11 for her outstanding service to the Commission on
12 the Public's Health System and to the community at
13 large. Christine C. Quinn, Speaker for the Entire
14 Council, Rosie Mendez, Council Member, Second
15 District, Manhattan.

16 SPEAKER QUINN: Yay. [applause] And
17 just before I give the mic to Judy I just want to
18 echo the thanks to Judy who, before I was speaker
19 I was Health Committee Chair and I worked super
20 closely with Judy in that capacity and she was an
21 invaluable resource to me and the Health Committee
22 staff. And the fact that we still have child
23 health clinics in the City of New York and we
24 still have funds in the budget to help people who
25 need extra money to pay for their prescription

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2 waivers and things like that is really all a
3 credit to Judy's life's work. And don't forget
4 there were times in this city when people wanted
5 to sell the public hospitals. So, there have been
6 time when it's been even worse and Judy has been
7 standing up every time we've needed her for the
8 healthcare of all New Yorkers, particularly the
9 uninsured and under insured. So, Judy, thank you
10 very much. I find the concept of Judy Westler as
11 retired very hard to believe but we will see what
12 happens. So, let me give you the mic, Judy.

13 MS. JUDY WESTLER: Thank you [off
14 mic] Can you hear me?

15 SPEAKER QUINN: Yes.

16 MS. WESTLER: Okay. Thank you very
17 much. This is a really wonderful honor and I
18 accept it for myself but also for the CPHS and
19 their board members and new director and Mary
20 Leigh, Anthony Feliciano [phonetic] here and I
21 accept it on their behalf. CPHS has done what
22 we've done because of dedicated staff, dedicated
23 board members and wonderful volunteers and
24 partners. And yes, we did fight for the child
25 heath clinics and make sure they're still around

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2 and a lot of the other services, public health
3 services that we need. And Rosie, thank you so
4 much. This is really a wonderful honor. Thank
5 you. Oh, just one thing. No more steps of City
6 Hall for me. [laughter]

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SPEAKER QUINN: That I find hard to
8 believe. Congratulations, Judy, congratulations.
9 All right, we have one more ceremonial. Okey
10 doke. So, we have Council Member Wills who has
11 two schools from his district here, PS 45 and PS
12 50 which will be receiving citations from the
13 Council Member, not proclamations. So, if Council
14 Member Wills and the young people from PS 45 and
15 PS 50 could make their way up. [off mic]

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COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Right. Two
17 student government presidents stand here. Where's
18 the Principal? [off mic] So, actually, this is--

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SPEAKER QUINN: [interposing] If we
20 could get a little quiet for our final ceremonial,
21 please.

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COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: So, this is
23 actually--

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SPEAKER QUINN: [interposing]
25 Thanks. Oh, where's Judy's proclamation? Sorry,

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2 one second. Gary, we need Judy Westler's
3 proclamation. We seem to have lost it. Gary - -
4 will get that. Okay. Rosie has it in the back.
5 All right, back to you, Ruben, sorry.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIS: So, we're
7 actually supposed to be here to give PS 45 and PS
8 50 a citation to all the children of student
9 government. But that was just a guise to get us
10 here. We're actually here to have the students of
11 these two schools thank the Speaker, Christine
12 Quinn, and Council Member Leroy Comrie, who's not
13 here, for the capital that was allocated to these
14 schools because they did a lab and technology
15 upgrades. So, I have my student government, who
16 is the Principal, Principal Severin [phonetic] she
17 wants to come over and we want to present the
18 Speaker and the student government presidents
19 would like to say something.

20 PRINCIPAL SAMANTHA SEVERIN: On
21 behalf of PS 45 we wanted to say thank you. Our
22 technology lab is beautiful and it's been
23 something that the students have been wanting for
24 so long. So, I'm going to pass the mic over to
25 our student council president, Mel Duval

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[phonetic]. [applause]

MR. MEL DUVAL: [background noise]

Hi. My school's student council--

SPEAKER QUINN: [interposing] Quiet
in the chambers.

MR. DUVAL: My school's student
council made a little speech as a thank you for
our new computer lab, Eric Hugo.

SPEAKER QUINN: Okay.

MR. DUVAL: Good afternoon City
Council Speaker Christine Quinn, - - Majority
Leader Leroy Comrie, Councilman Ruben Wills and
honored guests. We the student council of PS 45,
like I say, thank you for this fantastic
opportunity to visit this historical building and
meet such esteemed civil servants - - yourselves.

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. Thank
you. [applause]

MR. DUVAL: Committee Majority
Leader Comrie as you grew up in southeast Queens
such as ourselves and attended PS 116 and Jamaica
High School. We are sure that you benefited at
one point or another from generosity and
supportive attitude from key member of your

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2 community. We would like to say thank you for
3 reciprocating this, that generosity done to our
4 school. Thank you so much for assisting us and
5 receiving the funding for our new state of the art
6 computer lab. [applause]

7 FEMALE VOICE 1: Speaker Quinn.

8 Growing up in Glen Cove, Long Island, and having
9 grandparents that were Irish immigrants you have
10 certainly given us the inspiration that with hard
11 work, determination and a strong desire to
12 succeed, any one from any nationality, faith or
13 cultural background can achieve their dreams. Our
14 Principal, Miss Severin, tells us each and every
15 day that we are reaching our goals for attending
16 college and pursuing our future careers. One of
17 our goals as student council members is improving
18 the life of our school community while
19 demonstrating a strong leadership by mentality
20 such as you. We are so excited and honored that
21 one day in our not so distant future that we will
22 be calling you Madam Mayor. [applause]

23 FEMALE VOICE 2: So, we would like
24 to introduce Samia Paris [phonetic] this is from
25 PS 50 and we would like to express our

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appreciation to Councilman Wills for all of his generosity.

SPEAKER QUINN: Yay, Ruben. Whoo.

[applause]

FEMALE VOICE 2: And this is, of course, Aliyah Ramirez phonetic]. Also she has -
- to say. Aliyah, you go first.

MS. ALIYAH RAMIREZ: This is a thank you note to Christine C. Quinn. Good afternoon Council Members and guests. First I would like to thank you on behalf of myself and PS 50 for giving us this wonderful opportunity to meet each and every one of you today. City Council Speaker Christine C. Quinn, you are someone young girls like myself admire. You stand for and fight for middle class and working class people, decent housing, affordable childcare, safe streets, good jobs and most importantly to me, great public schools education. Speaker Quinn, you have advocated for investment in early childhood education and has worked to expand the city's universal pre kindergarten program. Full day pre K classes allow for parents to go to work knowing that their child is in a safe place. It

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2 also allows for parents such as mine not to worry
3 about how they can afford childcare services. You
4 have worked extensively to better our middle
5 schools and provided innovative, new programs at
6 the highest need middle school. You understand
7 that children are the future. You once said that
8 your parents taught you and your siblings that you
9 could be anything you wanted as long as you did
10 well in school. That is the message you have
11 instilled in me. I heard this week that you were
12 running for Mayor. I really hope that you win.
13 You are a role model for me and all young women.
14 Through you, we see that women do have power and a
15 voice. Oh behalf of PS 50 we offer you this small
16 token of our gratitude. [applause]

17 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, thank
18 you. - - take a picture with - - . Thank you,
19 everybody. What a surprise. All right, we got
20 another guy up here. Let's go.

21 MR. SAMIA PARIS: Good afternoon,
22 Council Members and guests. It is an honor for me
23 and my fellow classmates to sit among you all here
24 today. It is not often we are able to sit side by
25 side, those who make such a difference in our

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2 lives. Deputy Majority Leader Leroy Comrie, you
3 are one such person. Since being first elected to
4 the New York City Council in 2002 you have gone
5 beyond the call of duty to assist those in need.
6 You understand the needs of Queens residents. You
7 help to provide low cost healthcare, free dental
8 and most importantly, affordable and free cancer
9 screening. Because of you, many lives have been
10 and will be saved. I can't begin to thank you for
11 what you have done for students. You understand
12 the need for children to have a great education.
13 I cannot believe one man was able to secure over
14 \$50 million in public funding for students. We
15 need more people like you to take an interest in
16 education. We would like to present a small token
17 for our gratitude to you for all the wonderful
18 things you have done to help so many. [applause]

19 SPEAKER QUINN: Leroy's not here at
20 the moment so maybe Ruben will take your gift for
21 Leroy. [off mic] Well, let me just, thank you
22 everybody, very much. This is such a lovely
23 surprise. I mean, it would have been great if you
24 were all here for us to give you citations. But,
25 for you to come, thank you, this is beautiful.

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2 For you all to have taken the time to make this
3 picture and to write those speeches. And you
4 clearly practiced them and you delivered them so
5 well. We're all glad none of you are running for
6 office against us. So, thank you so much. And
7 this is good timing because we're starting budget
8 negotiations soon and all of you, all of you being
9 here remind us how important it is for us to fight
10 to make sure our schools have the resources they
11 need to make sure you have all of the programs you
12 need. So, thank you very much. You are all
13 beautiful and an inspiration. So, thank you and I
14 think we have citation. Can I get up, is the
15 question. [pause] And if when you're in school
16 tomorrow you look on the Council's website, you're
17 going to see this picture. So... All right, let me
18 get back up, honey. Take a second. [laughter] All
19 right. Oh, my god, another gift. This is like
20 Christmas. Wow. - - thank you. Okay, tell me
21 what this one is first.

22 MALE VOICE 2: On behalf of PS 55
23 School community thank you so much for this
24 amazing opportunity today for our new computer lab
25 which will certainly aid in the preparation of all

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2 of our students in our school to reach a college
3 and future careers as the leaders of tomorrow.

4 Thank you.

5 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you.

6 MALE VOICE 2: And here is just
7 something that we made for you that you can have.

8 SPEAKER QUINN: Wow, thank you.

9 What's this honey?

10 FEMR. MCSWEENEY: This is a thank
11 you note from PS 45 and it has all of our
12 signatures on it.

13 SPEAKER QUINN: Oh, thank you guys.
14 I will put all of this up in our office and
15 treasure it. So, thank you very, very much.
16 Thank you, guys. Thank you. All right. And we
17 actually, I think, have some citations, right?
18 So, Ruben is going to give out citations as well.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIS: We have
20 citations for every one of the children here and
21 we also have framed presentations for the
22 Principals which we will give you over the floor
23 for your certificate of merit for all of these
24 things that you have done. Thank you guys for - -
25 . [applause] [off mic]

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: What a wonderful
3 surprise. Thank you, Council Member Wills.
4 Concludes today's ceremonials. So, we will get
5 the Stated Meeting started, which will pretty much
6 in the beginning have a new Council Member seated.
7 So, that's exciting too. [pause]

8 MR. MCSWEENEY: Ladies and
9 gentlemen, can I have your attention, please. Can
10 I please have your attention, please. At this
11 time, please place all cell phones and all
12 electronic devices to vibrate. With the exception
13 of the Donovan family will all non Council
14 employees please leave the main floor of the
15 chambers. Thank you.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: My
17 colleagues, please rise for the Pledge of
18 Allegiance. I pledge allegiance to the flag of
19 the United States of America. And to the republic
20 for which it stands, one nation, under god,
21 indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.
22 Roll call.

23 MR. MCSWEENEY: Arroyo? Barron?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here.

25 MR. MCSWEENEY: Brewer?

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COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.

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MR. MCSWEENEY: Cabrera?

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COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

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MR. MCSWEENEY: Chin?

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COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

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MR. MCSWEENEY: Comrie? Dickens?

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Dilan? Dromm? Eugene? Ferreras?

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COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Here.

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MR. MCSWEENEY: Fidler?

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Here.

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MR. MCSWEENEY: Foster? Garodnick?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.

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MR. MCSWEENEY: Gennaro?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here.

16

MR. MCSWEENEY: Gentile.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.

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MR. MCSWEENEY: Gonzalez?

19

COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Here.

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MR. MCSWEENEY: Greenfield?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Here.

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MR. MCSWEENEY: Halloran? Ignizio?

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Jackson? James?

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COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Here.

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MR. MCSWEENEY: King? Koo?

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Here.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Here.

MR. MCSWEENEY: Koppell?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Here.

MR. MCSWEENEY: Koslowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

MR. MCSWEENEY: Lander?

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

MR. MCSWEENEY: Lappin?

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Here.

MR. MCSWEENEY: Levin?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

MR. MCSWEENEY: Mark-Viverito?

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:

MR. MCSWEENEY: Mealy?

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Present.

MR. MCSWEENEY: Mendez?

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.

MR. MCSWEENEY: Nelson? Palma?

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Here.

MR. MCSWEENEY: Recchia? Comrie?

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Present.

MR. MCSWEENEY: Reyna?

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Present.

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Rivera?

MR. MCSWEENEY: Rodriguez?
COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.
MR. MCSWEENEY: Rose?
COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.
MR. MCSWEENEY: Ulrich? Vacca?
COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.
MR. MCSWEENEY: Vallone?
COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.
MR. MCSWEENEY: Eugene?
COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.
MR. MCSWEENEY: Van Bramer?
COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.
MR. MCSWEENEY: Dromm?
COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.
MR. MCSWEENEY: Vann? Weprin?
COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Here.
MR. MCSWEENEY: Williams?
COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.
MR. MCSWEENEY: Wills? Oddo?
COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Here.
MR. MCSWEENEY: Speaker Quinn?
SPEAKER QUINN: Here.
COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: The quorum

1
2 is present. My colleagues, please rise for the
3 invocation being delivered today by Bishop Ernest
4 Darcy, Darcy from - - Word Ministries.

5 BISHOP ERNEST DARCY: Let us pray.
6 Father, in the name of Jesus we come before you
7 this afternoon thanking you, Lord God, for your
8 power, your wisdom, your knowledge, your love.
9 Father, we invoke thy presence even now. We ask
10 Lord, that you take preeminence in this room, Lord
11 God. We pray even for our City Council, those
12 that are in authority. We pray for our Mayor. We
13 pray for our Governor, even our President.
14 Father, we pray even for those that stand in
15 authority in this country, in this city, in this
16 nation. Bless the constituents, Lord, of every
17 borough that is here today that is represented,
18 God. And we thank you, Lord God, for this
19 opportunity to acknowledge you in everything we
20 do. Let your presence and your power and your
21 knowledge be manifested even here today. This we
22 ask, in your name, amen.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
24 very much, Council Member Comrie, to spread the
25 invocation.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: I want to
3 thank Pastor Darcy for coming and spreading the
4 invocation today and Pastor Darcy, who is an
5 activist minister in the Queens community and has
6 been very active in all of the issues that have
7 happened since Hurricane Sandy. I want to thank
8 you for being here this afternoon and giving us a
9 word of prayer. Thank you.

10 SPEAKER QUINN: And we have no
11 moments of silence today. So..

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you,
13 Madame Speaker. So, now we move on to adoption of
14 the minutes. Council Member Gentile?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Stop,
16 Charles. I move that the minutes of the Stated
17 Meeting of January 23rd and February 6th, 2013 be
18 adopted as printed.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.
20 There are no messages and papers from the Mayor so
21 we'll now move on to communication from City,
22 County and borough offices.

23
24 MALE VOICE 4: Item 1057,
25 submitting the certification of the election of

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2 Donovan Richards, new Council Member, 31st Council
3 - - District, Queens.

4 SPEAKER QUINN: Received, ordered,
5 printed and filed.

6 MALE VOICE 4: Item 1058,
7 submitting the certificate of the swearing in of
8 Donovan Richards, new Council Member, 31st Council
9 District, Queens.

10 SPEAKER QUINN: Received, ordered,
11 printed and filed. And now the clerk, the City
12 Clerk and the Clerk of the Council will perform
13 the swearing in of newly elected Council Member
14 Donovan Richards. I want to note that we are
15 joined by former Council Member, now State
16 Senator, James Sanders, Jr. who begged that we
17 took him back, take him back. But we said, he
18 made this decision. He's stuck with it. But,
19 Council Member Richards will be escorted in by our
20 Majority Leader, Joel Rivera, Minority Leader,
21 Jimmy Oddo, our Deputy Majority Leader, Leroy
22 Comrie as we get ready to prepare, to perform the
23 swearing in. And also, Al Vann, our Majority
24 Whip. [applause] [cheers]

25 MR. MCSWEENEY: Please raise your

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2 right hand and repeat after me. I, Donovan
3 Richards.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: I,
5 Donovan Richards.

6

MR. MCSWEENEY: Do solemnly swear.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Do
8 solemnly swear.

9

MR. MCSWEENEY: That I will support
10 the Constitution of the United States of America.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: That I
12 will support the Constitution of the United States
13 of America.

14

MR. MCSWEENEY: And the
15 Constitution of the State of New York

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COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: And the
17 Constitution of the State of New York.

18

MR. MCSWEENEY: And the Charter of
19 the City of New York.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: And the
21 Charter of the City of New York.

22

MR. MCSWEENEY: And that I will
23 faithfully discharge.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: And that
25 I will faithfully discharge.

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MR. MCSWEENEY: The duties of the
office of.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: The
duties of the office of.

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MR. MCSWEENEY: Council Member.

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COUNCIL MEMBE RICHARDS: Council
Member.

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MR. MCSWEENEY: 31st District.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: 31st
District.

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MR. MCSWEENEY: In the County of

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Queens.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: In the
County of Queens.

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MR. MCSWEENEY: In the City of New

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York.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: In the

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City of New York.

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MR. MCSWEENEY: According to the
best of my ability.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: According
to the best of my ability.

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MR. MCSWEENEY: Council Member

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Richards. [cheers] [applause]

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SPEAKER QUINN: Council Member Richards, would you like to say a few words?

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Yes. I will not make a long speech because the Speaker said, a few words. [laughter] But it is a pleasure to be here this afternoon. I want to bring my, first my other immediate family, my mother and father up. [cheers] And, of course, my mentor, someone who I would not be here without, State Senator, James Sanders, Jr. [applause] And today is a solemn day for me. Even though I'm sworn in on this day, March 13th, ten years ago I had a friend who was murdered and his name was Darnell Patterson. Today he would have been, I'm 29, he would have been 30, 31 years old. And I made a conscious decision that I wanted to do something with my life to make a difference in this community. I'm being sworn in, literally, the day he was killed ten years ago. So, this is a powerful message that we must do something about this gun violence across our city. [applause] And I would be remiss, and I want to call someone up and it's his grandmother, who came here today with me, Ms. Patterson, if you can come up. I want to

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2 share this day with you. [applause] So, I, there
3 are a lot of people to thank. I don't want to get
4 in trouble but I want to thank Councilman Brad
5 Lander, the Progressive Caucus Alliance, the
6 Progressive Caucus of the City Council, the
7 Working Families Party, all the people who made
8 this day possible by standing with a kid from
9 southeast Queens who started here at 19 years old.
10 I've been here. I'm no stranger. Don't term
11 staff members out, by the way, even though I've
12 been here ten years, we should not make sure staff
13 members can't excel here. So, we should be making
14 sure that the next generation can come up here.
15 And that's why I've hired, and I want my staff to
16 come up, some young people who really want to make
17 a difference in their community from southeast
18 Queens. [applause] And you guys should all come up
19 and take a bow. Once again, I said I would be
20 short. God bless you all. Thank you. I look
21 forward to servicing the City, serving this
22 community. Thank you, Christine Quinn, your staff
23 has been phenomenal in terms of the transition for
24 the new office and making sure that we have all
25 the things we need. And lastly, before I get off

1
2 this mic. We need to make sure that there are
3 still 2,000 people without electricity in the
4 Rockaway's as we speak today. And it behooves me
5 to stand here, and even though I should be in a
6 celebratory mood, we have to make sure, this City
7 has to make sure that we make sure that these
8 people get electricity. And that's why I fought
9 to make sure that I would be sworn in today
10 because I am interested and I am dedicated and I
11 am going to make sure, if I have to go to my
12 grave, that these people get their lights on. And
13 it is a crying shame that they are still without
14 their lights. And any smart man who, and I've
15 been around a lot of smart men, and women, and
16 women, can't forget that [laughter]. No, you
17 didn't let me get to it. [laughter] You didn't let
18 me get to it. [laughter] See, women - - I don't
19 even have to say this, but I have to thank my
20 wife, [cheers] Tanika Richards, who scarified so
21 much for me, all the nights I'm out and I love
22 you. And I will uphold and honor you the rest of
23 my life. God bless you, and my parents. Thank
24 you. [applause] [cheers]

25 SPEAKER QUINN: You are a smart

1
2 man, Donovan. I've always known that. So, let me
3 say, take a seat. And we will go back to the
4 Council. [applause] This goes to Mike. [background
5 noise] All right, let's go back to the agenda,
6 please.

7 MALE VOICE 3: Preconsidered M1059,
8 MN2.

9 SPEAKER QUINN: Finance.

10 MALE VOICE 3: Preconsidered M1060,
11 MN3.

12 SPEAKER QUINN: Finance.

13 MALE VOICE 3: M1061 through M1091
14 on page six, base stations.

15 SPEAKER QUINN: Transportation.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Petitions
17 and communications?

18 MR. MCSWEENEY: None.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:
20 Communication from the Speaker?

21 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. Well,
22 in addition to having the excitement of three very
23 fine ceremonials today and getting to have our new
24 Council Member with us and our old friend with us
25 as well. We have some important legislative

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2 business. First, we are overriding two mayoral
3 vetoes. The first of these mayoral vetoes is a
4 piece of legislation that deals with campaign
5 finance board. It's a piece of legislation that
6 is come out of the Government Affairs Committee,
7 978A. It was sponsored by Council Member Rosie
8 Mendez. I am very proud of the fact that this
9 piece of legislation, notwithstanding the veto,
10 is being supported by the vast majority of the
11 City's good government organizations. I want to
12 thank all of the staff who worked on this but I'm,
13 particularly I want to thank Rob Newman [phonetic]
14 and Jim Carris [phonetic] let me call on the Chair
15 of the Committee, Gale Brewer and then the
16 sponsor, Council Member Mendez.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you
18 very much, Madam Speaker, and I echo the--

19 SPEAKER QUINN: [interposing] Speak
20 again a little quiet.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: --I echo
22 your comments about the staff because they put in
23 a great deal of time. I think this is a piece of
24 legislation that seeks to strike a balance between
25 the public's right to know who is spending money on

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2 independent political messages and an
3 organizations right to communicate internally with
4 its own members. This bill strikes the
5 appropriate balance by maintaining disclosure of
6 independent expenditures aimed at the general
7 public without infringing on member to member
8 speech. And as you indicated it is a result of
9 extensive collaboration and discussion between
10 various stakeholders and it was supported by many
11 good government organizations. And I want to say
12 that the way in which we have come to this is to
13 try to find an alternative to the citizens way in
14 which the national government has proceeded, which
15 I hope we do not do. Thank you very much. We
16 look forward to overriding the veto.

17 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. Council
18 Member Mendez?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Thank you,
20 Madam Chair, and thank you, Chair Brewer. Intro
21 978A preserves the intent of the 2010 New York
22 City Charter Revision process by striking an
23 appropriate balance between the right of the
24 public to know who is spending money on
25 independent political messages and the

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2 associational right of organizations to
3 communicate internally with its own members.
4 Accordingly, this legislation exempts member to
5 member communication from the campaign finance
6 boards, independent expenditure reporting
7 requirements, establishing a statute what was the
8 policy in all city elections prior to the spring
9 of 2012. This narrow and targeted bill protects
10 transparency and source disclosure while
11 simultaneously encouraging membership
12 organizations to undertake the critical operations
13 that help voters become aware of candidates. Thus
14 increasing voting levels in our city, which is a
15 universal good and desired outcome. It was the
16 subject of extensive negotiation and compromise
17 and was ultimately supported by Common Cause,
18 Citizens Union, the Brennan Center for Justice,
19 Citizen Action and Nikirk [phonetic]. On February
20 22nd, the Mayor vetoed the bill giving the clear
21 merits of this proposal the narrow drafting of
22 this membership communication exemption and the
23 consistency of this legislation with the
24 transparency of disclosure of the Charter
25 amendment passed by the voters in 2010. Today, we

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2 seek to override the Mayor's veto. Thank you very
3 much, Madam Speaker.

4 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
5 much, Council Member Mendez. We also are
6 overriding a intro 814A, a piece of legislation
7 which would prohibit discrimination in New York
8 City based on an individuals employment status.
9 Right now, in New York employers are allowed to
10 put in job ads, which they do on a regular basis,
11 don't apply if you are unemployed. Our bill will
12 ban that. It will also give folks who are
13 discriminated against redress to go to the Human
14 Rights Commission but it will be the toughest law
15 of this type in the country and give individuals
16 the right to also sue against those employers in
17 court. I want to thank everyone who worked on
18 this legislation on the Council's legislative
19 staff and I also want to than Chair Debbie Rose,
20 who is Chair of the Committee for her work on this
21 bill. I want to thank Council Members Leroy
22 Comrie and Vinnie Gentile for their work on this
23 bill as well. Let me first call on Chair Rose,
24 then Council Member Comrie and Council Member
25 Gentile if they would like to make comments.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Thank you.
3 I'd like to thank Speaker Quinn for championing
4 this legislation and Council Members Comrie and
5 Gentile for sponsoring it. As Chair of the Civil
6 Rights Committee I am proud to be one of the
7 sponsors of 18A14A, which prohibits discrimination
8 based on an individuals unemployment. And I am
9 proud to cast my vote to override the Mayor's veto
10 of this legislation. Why is this legislation so
11 important? Because the old axiom remains true.
12 How can you get a job if you can't get a job? As
13 New York City continues to rebound from the
14 recession of 2008 to 2009, it is important that we
15 help hard working New Yorkers who through no fault
16 of their own lost their jobs and are now dealing
17 with the toughest job market since the Depression.
18 We will not allow them to be penalized twice,
19 first, through losing a job because of the economy
20 and then again by being denied a job interview
21 because they lost their job. Discrimination
22 against the unemployed is just as bad as not
23 hiring someone because of their race, creed or
24 sexual orientation. And in fact, this practice
25 most likely has a disproportionate impact on

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2 communities of color, as African Americans,
3 Latinos and Native Americans have higher rates of
4 unemployment. As a city, we must say no to this
5 practice and put an end to it. This legislation
6 will go a long way towards redressing this
7 insidious practice. Thank you all and I ask you
8 to vote aye for this legislation.

9 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. Just
10 before I call on Council Members Comrie and
11 Gentile I also want to thank the Manhattan Borough
12 President, Scott Stringer, who has been working on
13 this issue and this type of legislation for quite
14 some time as well as the National Employment Law
15 Project. And I want to give folks a breaking news
16 update which is that the College of Cardinals has
17 picked a new Pope.

18 MALE VOICE 5: Argentina.

19 SPEAKER QUINN: The new Pope,
20 exactly right, the is Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio of
21 Argentina. He is the first non European Pope
22 ever. The decision came after the fifth ballot
23 passed by the 115 Cardinals. And this is not in
24 the CNN news update but according to the Chuck
25 Mayer [phonetic] update he has picked the name

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2 Pope Francis, Pope Francis I. So, from CNN and
3 Mayer, Pope Francis I of Argentina. Council
4 Member Comrie who was not in the running for Pope
5 but would have made a heck of a Pope, Leroy. Just
6 for the record, Ramon was recently in Argentina,
7 which leads me to believe he may have whacked a
8 deal for the Pope and none of us known about it.
9 I'm just saying, fingerprints is all I'm saying.
10 [laughter]

11 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: I want to
12 thank Council Member Rose, Council Member Gentile,
13 Speaker Quinn, the Council's legislative staff,
14 and everyone that has worked to, on intro 814A.
15 With New York City's economy still recovering from
16 the recession. We need to do everything possible
17 to ensure residents have a fair chance to gain
18 employment. And overriding this intro 8,
19 overriding the Mayor's veto of intro 814A will
20 help us accomplish just that. This law does not
21 require employers to hire everyone who walks
22 through their door, only that they cannot base the
23 hiring decision on the employment status of people
24 who apply for the job. It is important that we
25 make that understanding and that distinction.

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2 This is an opportunity to protect people who are
3 unemployed through no fault of their own, who are
4 unemployed due to situations like Sandy which has
5 rendered them into a situation that this city
6 needs to be helpful for and thoughtful to them. I
7 would strongly ask my colleagues to do this
8 override and I appreciate that the City will
9 hopefully understand what we're trying to do is to
10 try to get people employed that were underemployed
11 due to no fault of their own. Thank you, Madam.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: I want to
13 thank my colleagues also and they said it best,
14 this is the newest form of employment
15 discrimination so it is right and it is just or us
16 as a Council to nip this in the bud. And it's
17 unfortunate that our Mayor does not understand the
18 form of discrimination that's going on here. We
19 do, and we will override this veto today. And
20 thank you to the Speaker for her leadership on
21 this.

22 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very much
23 Vinnie. We also are voting on two bid amendments
24 and budget modifications today. I want to thank
25 the Finance staff, particularly Tenisha Edwards

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2 [phonetic] and Raymond Jeffski [phonetic], and
3 thank Chair Recchia. We are also voting on ULURPS
4 [phonetic], UDAPS [phonetic] and landmarks. I
5 want to thank Chair Comrie and the other Chairs
6 and the staff in the Council. We are voting on
7 the appointment of a number of different
8 individual and I want to thank Chuck Davis for his
9 work on the appointments and Chair Rivera. We are
10 voting on three pieces of legislation from three
11 different committees, all of which deal with Sandy
12 related matters. The first, intro 107A out of
13 Housing and Buildings and I want to thank Bob Hum
14 [phonetic] Laura Rogers, Ed Atkins and Rachel
15 Cordero. This piece of legislation, obviously,
16 came out of the Housing Committee led by Chair
17 Dilan and was sponsored by Council Member Ignizio
18 and Oddo. This bill puts in a set of standards
19 and a process around having to raise homes. We
20 now know that many folks who live in flood zones
21 will more than likely end up raising their houses
22 to a higher elevation. What Council Member Oddo
23 and Ignizio and - - Martinez when they went
24 recently to New Orleans heard and saw was poorly
25 done work. Construction workers who were killed

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2 while doing house raising that was not being
3 properly regulated. People were ripped off.
4 People had their house raised but had no steps
5 attached to them, which makes it a challenge to
6 get in and out. We don't want those things to
7 happen in New York as New Yorkers make the
8 decision to raise their homes. That's why this
9 bill is so smart, so ahead of the game and really
10 puts appropriate provisions in place working
11 collaboratively with the Mayor's office and
12 Department of Buildings we want to thank. We know
13 these will not slow down an important process. So
14 again, I want to thank everyone who's involved.
15 Let me first call on the Chair, Erik Dilan, then
16 Council Members Ignizio and Oddo.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Thank you,
18 thank you Madam Speaker and I'll be very brief. I
19 just want to, I'm not going to speak on the bill
20 because I know my colleagues will do that after.
21 But I think everybody knows this and it's a well
22 kept secret around here. Council Member Oddo and
23 Council Member Ignizio are really two outstanding
24 Council Members who go to work every day
25 tirelessly for their constituents. And I think

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2 this bill is a result of all their hard work
3 because they took it upon themselves to learn from
4 the troubles and tribulations of the recovery of
5 the people with Louisiana to ensure that the
6 people of the City of New York don't go through
7 these same things. Now, in a time of crisis it's
8 hard to think straight and do things the right
9 way. but it's always better when you learn,
10 whether in personal life or governmentally, when
11 you learn from other people's pain. And I think
12 that's what they've done here with this bill. So,
13 I feel very, very comfortable moving forward and
14 moving quickly on this bill because we will have
15 standards in place for our agencies that regulate
16 this type or work to have a certain set to
17 guidelines and protocols going forward so that as
18 we start to rebuild homes in the areas affected by
19 Hurricane Sandy that the people who go into
20 contract with home improvement contractors know
21 that there's a set of rules out there that applies
22 to them and how their houses are going to be
23 rebuilt. And that they are not alone and that the
24 government of this city will stand by them. It's
25 largely because of the credit of these two

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2 gentlemen and the Speaker as well. So, thank you,
3 Madam Speaker.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Thank you,
5 Madam Speaker. I'm sorry for being late. I was
6 watching the Pope Francis the 1st. So, we're happy
7 about that as a proud Catholic. And I want to
8 thank the Speaker, my colleague, Council Member
9 Oddo - - Martinez who are, when we decided to take
10 what I believe was the important trip down to New
11 Orleans to learn the lessons, things that work
12 well in New Orleans and things that failed and to
13 not replicate that which failed. One of the main
14 things people came back to us and said was, beware
15 of the elevation process. People came in from
16 across the country into the communities in New
17 Orleans and basically took advantage of people who
18 were undereducated, as we all are in regards to
19 raising homes and the elevation process. So, what
20 we did is we came back and Council Member Oddo,
21 myself, the Speaker's office, we believe we
22 crafted a piece of legislation that will give
23 protection to people and a direction that people
24 need with the oversight of government ensuring
25 that we don't have fly by night contractors coming

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2 in doing slip shod work on the people's number one
3 investment that potentially could be dangerous to
4 those who are living in the house and those that
5 are doing the work. So, I think this is a great
6 bill and one that we should all be proud of and I
7 want to point out as I did in pre stated. That I
8 show my appreciation for the Speaker in that this
9 is a body that is one that really does look at the
10 value of the idea you have. And if you have a
11 good enough idea you can move it through the
12 legislative process and pass it. It's not based
13 upon, I served in other legislatures in the State
14 where there was other ulterior motives and other
15 motives that dictated whether you can pass a bill.
16 And I just wanted to point that out to anybody who
17 is listening and watching on TV that this is a
18 body that is based on your ideas and not on your
19 party affiliation or anything else. And I want to
20 thank you, Speaker, for that. I appreciate it.
21 Thank you very much.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Thank you,
23 Madame Chair, for all the work, Madam Speaker, for
24 all the, Madam Chair--

25 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: [interposing]

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I wasn't aware of a sex change.

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: --thank you
[laughter] Madam Speaker for all of your support
and the great work by your entire staff. Thank
you, Mr. Chairman, for your kind words. The
credit for the trip really should go to Council
Member Ignizio. I was a reluctant traveler
because I did not, wasn't confident that the
things that happened post Katrina translated up
north. Vinnie was right, I was wrong. And in
every conversation I have had about Sandy, which
is literally every day, I have referred back to
something I saw or something we heard, something
we learned on the ground in New Orleans. And as
Council Member Ignizio indicated, Ramone, Peter
Spencer from the Mayor's office, Vinnie and I
traveled in all the Parishes in and around New
Orleans. And we saw the good, the bad and the
ugly of elevated homes. And you can elevate homes
correctly. You could elevate homes in a manner
where they are aesthetically pleasing. It takes
the right people to do that. And there are
opportunists out there that take advantage of
folks in crisis. It happened down south. It will

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2 happen, or it would have happened here, and thanks
3 to this legislation we are putting a process in
4 place to protect people from being victimized a
5 second time. And I'm appreciative for everyone
6 for making this happen.

7 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, Council
8 Members Ignizio and Dilan and Minority Leader
9 Oddo. We are also passing legislation today of
10 the Public Safety Committee sponsored by Council
11 Member Oddo. I want to thank Carmine Juga
12 [phonetic] Onna Peterson [phonetic] Jim Carris
13 [phonetic] Lorna Axelrod [phonetic] Peggy Chan,
14 Sal Arona [phonetic] and Alex Pistilnik [phonetic]
15 for their work. This piece of legislation will
16 increase civil and criminal penalties against
17 those individuals who commit criminal acts during
18 a local state of emergency in the areas impacted
19 by the emergency. 99.9 percent of New Yorkers
20 were amazing during Irene and Sandy. A few bad
21 apples were not. That happened during Irene and
22 impacted the thinking of some New Yorkers during
23 Sandy. There are people whose homes, in
24 evacuation areas were looted during Irene. Some
25 of those individuals chose to stay in their home

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2 in Sandy. Some of those individuals in Staten
3 Island are no longer with us because staying in
4 their home during the surge, their homes flooded
5 so badly that they drowned to death. So, this is
6 serious in a very real way and I want to thank
7 Minority Leader Oddo for moving forward with this
8 piece of legislation that I believe will send a
9 clear message that targeting and victimizing New
10 Yorkers, particularly during states of emergency
11 will not be tolerated. Let me call on the Chair
12 of the Committee who shepherded the bill, Chair
13 Vallone and then Minority Leader Oddo.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: I'm going
15 to pass to Jimmy Oddo on this because I'm sure
16 he's going to say exactly what I would have said.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: That sort of
18 conjures up the time when Peter said I'd like to
19 temporarily be excused to explain to Alan Jennings
20 - - it's one of the best lines ever in this body.
21 I would just like to thank Chairman Vallone and
22 his Council and staff for helping crafting this
23 bill and the Speaker's staff as well for taking an
24 idea that really emanated out of Hurricane Irene
25 and turning it into a much better bill. And I'd

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2 simply say that, you know, many of the folks that
3 we represent were devastated by Sandy and we can't
4 allow them to be victimized a second time by human
5 beings. And as the Speaker said, we saw the best
6 in people and we saw, on occasion, as some folks
7 who opportunists who tried to take advantage of
8 this crisis. And this bill is intended to punish
9 as severely as we can in the Council, those who
10 decide to cross the line and turn to the world of
11 criminality. And I'm appreciative for everyone
12 for making this possible.

13 SPEAKER QUINN: And finally, also,
14 in the vein of following up on Sandy, we have a
15 piece of legislation that comes out of the Small
16 Business Committee chaired by Diana Reyna,
17 sponsored by Margaret Chin. I want to thank Jack
18 Compangna [phonetic] and Tirza Nasir [phonetic].
19 This piece of legislation does two things. It
20 codifies the fees, certifications, registrations,
21 et cetera, that the Mayor has already waived in
22 his executive order. Beyond that it expands the
23 number of fees, registrations, et cetera that are
24 now exempt for small businesses in the Sandy
25 impacted area and also creates the opportunity for

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2 those businesses that have already paid them to
3 get refunds and reimbursement. It also includes
4 those businesses who've had to move to different
5 locations to reopen. We hope this piece of
6 legislation helps make it easier for small
7 businesses that have been so, so devastated by
8 Sandy. Businesses that, no pun intended, were
9 under water before the storm which are now really
10 barely getting by. That helps them have a little
11 more financial leeway to get moving forward for
12 themselves, their family and their employees. So,
13 I want to thank everyone on the staff, Diana,
14 Margaret and the Mayor and the Mayor's office for
15 work on this bill. Let me call on Chair Reyna and
16 then on Council Member Chin.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Thank you,
18 Madam Speaker. On February 28th the Committees on
19 Small Business and Economic Development held a
20 joint oversight hearing on the impact of Hurricane
21 Sandy on small businesses and the City's response.
22 The Commissioner of Small Business Service
23 testified that there are over 13,000 small
24 businesses located in hurricane zones A and B
25 which were either damaged or destroyed by the

1
2 storm. We heard testimony from small business
3 groups about entrepreneurs who invested their
4 entire lives in their businesses who now have
5 nothing. In case after case insurance companies
6 have refused to cover their losses leaving them
7 struggling to put together loans and grants to
8 resume normal operations. I am incredibly excited
9 by the passage of intro 5909 today. Because of
10 this legislation businesses impacted by one of the
11 largest natural disasters this city has ever
12 experienced, businesses will be able to rebuild
13 and reopen without facing additional costs from
14 city agencies. Intro 5909 will waive or refund
15 permit and inspection fees mandated by the City.
16 In drafting this legislation we attempted to cast
17 as wide a net as possible to encompass all of our
18 impacted businesses and any inspection and
19 permitting process associated with small business
20 recovery. To be eligible for waivers business can
21 be located in hurricane evacuation zone A or B, be
22 in a business recovery zone which may include or
23 may not include a zone C or a building in which
24 the Department of Buildings assigned a red, yellow
25 or green tag. Fees outlined in the bill are from

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2 various agencies including the Department of
3 Buildings, the Fire Department, the Department of
4 Transportation, the Landmarks Preservation
5 Commission, the Department of Small Business
6 Services, the Department of Environmental
7 Protection and the Department of Consumer Affairs.
8 The list can go on and on but this is the wide
9 ranger for agencies that have oversight and
10 regulate small businesses throughout the City of
11 New York. The waiver of city fees for recovering
12 small businesses is simply a matter of good,
13 responsible governance. These small businesses
14 form the fabric of the communities in which they
15 existed, the provided goods and services, enhanced
16 the quality of life, employed local workers and
17 paid taxes. They are essential to the economic
18 vitality of this city and we need them back. This
19 is why where there are business owners who want to
20 rebuild we need to encourage them to do so
21 whenever we are able to within their communities.
22 I'd like to thank Council Member Chin, my co
23 author to this legislation who fought fearlessly
24 in order to have relocation within the same zone
25 be possible within this particular bill as well as

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2 the Mayor's administration Tacompo Shagwali
3 [phonetic] who is the Chief Business Officer for
4 the City of New York, and my very own staff,
5 Malcolm Sanbourne Hum [phonetic] as well as the
6 Council Committee Staff, Jeffrey Campagna, the
7 Counsel to the Committee and Policy Analyst Faith
8 Corbett [phonetic] and Tirza Nasir [phonetic]
9 whose leadership for the bill, whose directed this
10 staff to an excellent, speedy legislative process.
11 Thank you.

12 SPEAKER QUINN: Council Member
13 Chin?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you,
15 Madam Chair. First, I'd like to thank you for
16 your support and Council Member Reyna for co
17 sponsoring this bill and the legislative staff who
18 work on this legislation, Tirza Nasir and Jeff
19 Campagna. This legislation is especially
20 meaningful to small businesses in areas of my
21 district like the South Street Sea Port who saw
22 their properties completely flooded and destroyed
23 by Hurricane Sandy. These businesses are
24 rebuilding from ground up and to the tune of
25 hundreds of thousands of dollars. I am also

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2 particularly pleased that this legislation also
3 extends the fee waivers to businesses that had to
4 relocate but they're relocating locally. So, I
5 urge all my colleagues to support it. Thank you.

6 SPEAKER QUINN: That concludes
7 communications from the Speaker.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
9 very much, Madam Speaker. We now move on to
10 discussion of general order.

11 SPEAKER QUINN: [interposing] I'm
12 sorry, by that, I meant it doesn't and I need to
13 call on the Minority Leader for a moment, Speaker.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Okay.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: I just, I
16 didn't want the stated to go without acknowledging
17 that Angelo Arculeo who was Minority Leader in
18 this body on two different occasions, in fact,
19 spent the bulk of his time as minority leader, as
20 a minority leader of one, past last night from
21 Vinnie Gentile, he represented the Bay Ridge area
22 many years ago. And I just thought it would be
23 appropriate if we just take a moment and recognize
24 his passing.

25 SPEAKER QUINN: If all could rise

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for a moment. Thank you, Mr. Minority Leader.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you, Madam Speaker. We'll now move on to a discussion of general orders. We first have Council Member Wills followed by Council Member Lappin.

SPEAKER QUINN: Quiet, please. And I just wanted to remind folks, we have one resolution today as well. Council Member?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council Member Wills followed by Council Member Lappin.

SPEAKER QUINN: Council Member Lappin?

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Can I have permission to vote?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: I vote aye on the general order calendar.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Okay. We'll now move on to Council Member Foster.

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Thank you. I'd like permission to vote on all the items on the calendar today.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: I vote aye.

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Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Next is
Council Member Koppell.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: May I have
permission to vote on all items of the calendar of
order and resolutions?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: I vote
aye. Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Next is
Council Member James, then Council Member Brewer,
then Council Member Koo.

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Permission
to vote aye on all general orders and resolutions?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: I vote aye on
all.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you.
Council Member Wills, I guess.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: I'd like to
vote aye on all general orders on the calendar.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes, thank
you.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: I vote aye

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2 on all.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Brewer, Koo

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than Weprin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Permission

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to vote aye on all of general order items, please?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

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COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you

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very much. I vote aye.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council

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Member Koo, Weprin and then Mealy.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Mr. Majority

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Leader, I would like to have permission to vote on

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all - - and resolutions on the general order

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calendar.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I vote aye on

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all.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Okay.

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Council Member Weprin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Mr. Leader,

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I would like unanimous consent to vote an all the

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general order calendars at this time.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

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COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: I vote aye

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on all.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Okay, it's actually Council Member Greenfield, then Council Member Mealy.

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Mr. Leader, I request consent of the body to vote on all the general orders, land use - - and resolutions.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: I vote aye.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council Member Mealy followed by Council Member [background noise].

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Excuse me. Permission to vote on all general orders on land use--

SPEAKER QUINN: [interposing] If we could, a little quiet, please.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

SPEAKER QUINN: I'm sorry, just a little bit of quiet.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: And I vote aye on all. Thank you, Chair.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
3 very much. Council Member Rose?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Yes. I'd
5 like permission to vote aye on all.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.
7 Anybody else? Everybody else abstain? Okay.
8 We'll now move on to, see no addition speak on
9 discussion of general orders. We'll move on to
10 reports of special committees?

11 MALE VOICE 4: None.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Reports of
13 standing committees?

14 MALE VOICE 4: Report of the
15 Committee on Civil Rights, Introduction 814A
16 prohibiting discrimination based on an individuals
17 unemployment.

18 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
19 orders.

20 MALE VOICE 4: Item 1047, Mayor's
21 veto and disapproval of - - intro number 814A.

22 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled to be
23 filed.

24 MALE VOICE 4: Report of the
25 Committee on Finance, intro 964 Myrtle Avenue bid.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general

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orders.

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MALE VOICE 4: Intro 965, Hub 3rd

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Avenue bid.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general

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orders.

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MALE VOICE 4: Preconsidered

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resolution 1674, organizational funding.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general

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orders.

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MALE VOICE 4: Preconsidered M1059

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and resolution 1678MN2.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general

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orders.

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MALE VOICE 4: Preconsidered M1060

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and resolution 1679MN3.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general

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orders.

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MALE VOICE 4: Report on the

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Committee on Governmental Operations, intro 978A,

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Campaign Finance Board.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled to general

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orders.

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MALE VOICE 4: M1048, Mayor's veto

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and disapproval message of intro 978A.

SPEAKER QUINN: We're going to file that one and couple it to be filed just to keep it spicy and interesting around here.

MALE VOICE 4: Report of the Committee on Housing and Buildings, intro 107A, raising and moving of a building.

SPEAKER QUINN: And now we're going to go crazy. Amend and coupled to file.

MALE VOICE 4: Report--

SPEAKER: [interposing] Coupled, no, coupled and general orders. What the heck am I saying? I'm losing my mind, see? You start joking around, you start making mistakes. Amended and couple that general orders. Look at that, we nearly had a legislative disaster. Yeah. At least I'm finding it funny.

MALE VOICE 4: Report of the Committee on Land Use, LU757 and 758, Hudson Square District.

SPEAKER QUINN: This is a big one, approved with modifications and referred to the City Planning Commission pursuant to a rule 11.70 B of the Rules of the Council and section 197D of

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the New York City Charter.

MALE VOICE 4: LU759 and resolution
1680, lease of a parcel of land, Staten Island.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

MALE VOICE 4: LU761, and
resolution 1681, amendment to maritime lease, Sea
Travelers Realty.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled, whoops,
sorry, coupled and general orders.

MALE VOICE 4: LU762 in resolution
1682 with, also with LU763 and resolution 1683
unenclosed sidewalks.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

MALE VOICE 4: LU765 and reso 1684,
zoning map change, Queens.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

MALE VOICE 4: LU773 in resolution
1685, HPD modification, Brooklyn.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

MALE VOICE 4: LU774 in resolution

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1686, UDAP Manhattan.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

MALE VOICE 4: Report on the Committee on Public Safety, preconsidered intro 1016, acts committed during a local state of emergency.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

MALE VOICE 4: Report on the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections, preconsidered reso 1687, membership changes.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

MALE VOICE 4: M1032 and companion reso 1688, Andrew Irving, member of the Conflicts of Interest Board.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

MALE VOICE 4: M1045 and companion reso 1689, approving the appointment of Anthony W. Crowell, member of the Conflicts of Interest Board.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general

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orders.

MALE VOICE 4: Report on the Committee on Small Business, pre considered introduction 1017, wavier of fees for businesses.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: General order calendar?

MALE VOICE 4: Resolution of appointing various persons to Commissioner of Deeds.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders and at this point I'd like to ask for a roll call on all items that have been coupled on the general order calendar, please.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you, Madam Speaker. When we vote on intros 814-A and 978-A, the question before us is, shall these proposed local laws be repassed, the objections of the Mayor notwithstanding? So, now we can go forward with the roll call.

MALE VOICE 4: Barron?

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Because of the lack of affordability and a commitment to

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2 affordable housing I vote no on LU757 and 758 and
3 no on LU773 with the accompanying reso 1685 and
4 aye on all the rest.

5 MALE VOICE 4: Cabrera?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

7 MALE VOICE 4: Chin?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye on all.

9 MALE VOICE 4: Comrie?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye on all.

11 MALE VOICE 4: Crowley?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye on

13 all.

14 MALE VOICE 4: Dilan?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Aye on all.

16 MALE VOICE 4: Dromm?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

18 MALE VOICE 4: Eugene?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

20 MALE VOICE 4: Ferreras?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye on

22 all.

23 MALE VOICE 4: Garodnick?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

25 MALE VOICE 4: Gennaro?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Yes.

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MALE VOICE 4: Gentile?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye on

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all.

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MALE VOICE 4: Gonzales?

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SPEAKER QUINN: Can we get a little

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quiet, please?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye on

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all.

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MALE VOICE 4: Halloran?

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COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: May I be

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excused to explain my vote?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

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COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: I'm going

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to vote aye on all except for intro 814's override

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and MN2 and MN3 which are M1059 and 1060,

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respectfully are 1678 and 1679 having succeeded in

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having the Mayor proven wrong, once again, in

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court this week I feel no need to override a veto

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of his at this point. But I would like to point

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out that with regards to intro 814 I pointed out,

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it too will be found unconstitutional and with the

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latest defeat of the Mayor in court I am now six

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for six on predicting those sorts of things from

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2 happening. So, Tish, paying attention, I hope,
3 and look forward to it. [off mic] I know, you were
4 with me, honest, I know. Thank you, Tish. And
5 I'd like to also thank Melissa Mark-Viverito and
6 Fernando Cabrera, I believe, who joined us on the
7 brief. I appreciate very much those who joined us
8 on the AMICUS [phonetic] brief against the Mayor's
9 soda ban. Thank you.

10 MALE VOICE 4: Ignizio?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes, I
12 vote no on 814A, preconsidered 1059 and reso 1678
13 and preconsidered 1060 and reason 1679. And aye
14 on all others, thank you.

15 MALE VOICE 4: King?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Aye.

17 MALE VOICE 4: Koslowitz?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye on
19 all.

20 MALE VOICE 4: Lander?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

22 MALE VOICE 4: Levin?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

24 MALE VOICE 4: Mark-Viverito?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye.

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MALE VOICE 4: Mendez?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.

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MALE VOICE 4: Nelson?

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COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Aye.

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MALE VOICE 4: Palma?

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COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

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MALE VOICE 4: Recchia?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Aye on

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10 all.

MALE VOICE 4: Reyna?

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COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye.

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MALE VOICE 4: Richards?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye on

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15 all.

MALE VOICE 4: Rodriguez?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

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MALE VOICE 4: Ulrich?

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COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye on all.

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MALE VOICE 4: Vacca?

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COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye on all.

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MALE VOICE 4: Vallone?

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COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: No on

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24 814A, aye on the rest.

MALE VOICE 4: Van Bramer?

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COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye on

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all.

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MALE VOICE 4: Vann?

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COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye on all.

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MALE VOICE 4: Williams?

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COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

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MALE VOICE 4: Oddo?

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COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: No on MM2,

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MM3, 814A and yes on all others. And I'd just

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like to point out that LU759 establishes a lease

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to allow Meals on Wheels on Staten Island to have

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a brand new home facility on the grounds of HHC's

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only facility on Staten Island, the Sea View

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Hospital Campus. It's a good thing for Meals on

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Wheels and the seniors in Staten Island.

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MALE VOICE 4: Rivera?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye

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on all.

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MALE VOICE 4: Speaker Quinn?

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SPEAKER QUINN: Aye on all.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All items

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in today's general calendar were adopted by a vote

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of 47 in the affirmative, zero in the negative and

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zero abstentions with the exception of LU757,

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2 which was adopted by a vote of 46 in the
3 affirmative, one in the negative, zero abstentions
4 and LU758, which was adopted by a vote of 46 in
5 the affirmative, one in the negative, zero
6 abstentions, and LU 773, with reso 1685 which was
7 adopted by a vote of 46 in the affirmative, one in
8 the negative, zero abstentions. And M1059 with
9 reso 1678 which was adopted by a vote of 44 in the
10 affirmative, three in the negative, zero
11 abstentions. And M1060 with reso 1679 which was
12 adopted by a vote of 44 in the affirmative, three
13 in the negative, zero abstentions. And intro 814-
14 A, which was adopted by a vote of 43 in the
15 affirmative, four in the negative and zero
16 abstentions. We now move on to discussion of
17 resolutions. And resolutions, we have just one on
18 today's calendar. It's preconsidered reso 1670,
19 resolution calling upon the New York State Senate
20 to pass legislation to raise the minimum wage to
21 \$9.00 per hour.

22 SPEAKER QUINN: Can we get quiet?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: And index
24 future automatic increases to inflation, adopted
25 by the Committee on Civil Service and Labor.

1
2 Anyone want to speak on this resolution? Seeing
3 none I call for a voice vote of preconsidered reso
4 1670. All in favor, say aye. [crosstalk] All
5 opposed say nay. Any abstentions? The ayes have
6 it. We now move on to general discussion. Council
7 Member Williams.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank
9 you. I want to take the time to thank my
10 colleagues who were, called in the past few days
11 and spoke to me about what's been happening in my
12 district. I do want to make sure I was clear.
13 But what happened in my district and the violence
14 part of it and the destruction is not something
15 that I condone, have not condoned, would not
16 condone. I also do not condone a city ignoring
17 the cries and pleas and the pain of a community
18 which can lead to things like that. This was not
19 about one shooting but a pattern of practice of
20 mistrust between NYPD and communities like mine.
21 And also, a feeling of being ignored by resources
22 and other things that can help a community like
23 mine. So, what I'm hoping is that people will
24 begin to hear, as I have been saying, one of the
25 most peaceful warriors, Reverend Dr. Martin Luther

1
2 King said, riots are the language of the unheard.
3 It doesn't mean it's a good language but a
4 language indeed. And hopefully we'll begin to
5 listen and begin to respond in a way that we can
6 definitely prevent this from happening again.
7 Obviously with destructive, I think, not
8 productive, particularly in your own community.
9 But again, we need to respond to the anger which
10 it came from. It was more than just about details
11 of any one shooting and I'm looking forward to
12 working with the City, City agencies and
13 colleagues to get that point across and get
14 resources. And more than just police in the
15 community. Thank you.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
17 very much. Before we move on let me just provide
18 a correction here on today's agenda. Two items
19 were actually not on the agenda for a vote today.
20 They were referred back to City Planning. Those
21 are LU757 and LU758, we're actually not on today's
22 agenda for a vote. So, now we move on, Council
23 Member Ulrich.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Mr.
25 Majority Leader, my colleagues. I join all of you

1
2 in welcoming and congratulating our newest member
3 of the Council, Donovan Richards, who is with us
4 today. Donovan and I now share the Rockaway
5 Peninsula. We represent the Rockaway's together.
6 I represent the western portion of the peninsula,
7 he represents the eastern portion. But, we will
8 work together and I look forward to a very
9 productive, good working relationship with him. I
10 know him personally to be a very honest and hard
11 working individuals and even though James Sanders
12 left some very big shoes to fill there's no doubt
13 in my mind that Donovan will exceed everyone's
14 expectations and that he will live up to them and
15 that he's going to do a great job. And I'm going
16 to be there to work with him each and every day,
17 especially as our communities still struggle to
18 recover from Hurricane Sandy. So, I want to
19 welcome him and congratulate him and I wish him
20 all the best.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
22 very much. Seeing no others, this meeting is now
23 adjourned.

C E R T I F I C A T E

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

Signature

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tara Juhl".

Date 4/3/13