

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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May 22, 2013
Start: 2:40 p.m.
Recess: 4:20 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers
City Hall

B E F O R E:
JOEL RIVERA
President pro Tempore

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Christine C. Quinn
Joel Rivera
Maria del Carmen Arroyo
Charles Barron
Gale A. Brewer
Fernando Cabrera
Margaret S. Chin
Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.
Elizabeth S. Crowley
Inez. E. Dickens
Erik Martin Dilan
Daniel Dromm
Mathieu Eugene
Julissa Ferreras
Lewis A. Fidler
Helen D. Foster
Daniel R. Garodnick

A P P E A R A N C E S

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

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

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

Susan Golick
Founder
SLE Lupus Foundation

Randy Fisher
Executive Director
Hip-Hop Youth Summit

Charles Fisher
Founder
Hip-Hop Youth Summit

Annie Soriano
Executive Director
Friends House

Rev. Msgr. Alfred P. LoPinto
The Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn

Katiya Jones
"Council Member for a day"
Contest winner

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SPEAKER QUINN: All right, we have a number of ceremonials today. We're going to start with a ceremonial led by Council Member Jumaane Williams--which I don't have my glasses-- is Nazareth Regional High School boys and girls basketball team. We are saluting them for a championship season. They won the Class A Catholic League city and state titles, very impressive, both boys and girls.

[Applause]

SPEAKER QUINN: They're winners all around. So come on up everybody.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you, Madame Speaker. I want to say congratulations again to Nazareth High School boys team and the girls team. Thank you for waiting. I know some people had to leave. Is there a prom tonight, is that what's happening? I know some people had to go.

As I mentioned, the boys and girls team both won CHSAA city and state championships. I don't know if the girls' coach is still here, Ron Kelly. All right, thank you, Ron Kelly, and Todd Jamison, the boys' coach, he had to step out.

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2 Thank you. I know Principal Quiles is not here.
3 Nazareth has a very long history of academic and
4 athletic success. This is not the first
5 championships that these guys have won. I know it
6 will definitely be the last.

7 What is so special about this is
8 they were in danger of closing. It's one of the
9 Catholic schools that was in danger of closing
10 last year. These kids, our community, as well as
11 Principal Quiles led an incredible charge. We
12 almost did not have a season ever again. Someone
13 stepped up, I believe it was the CEO of Martha
14 Stewart Living, stepped up and helped save this
15 school from closing.

16 Now we see that the right choice
17 was made. Not only are they excelling on the
18 court, they're excelling in the classrooms as
19 well. They have a wonderful graduation rate and
20 doing wonderful in school. So thank you so much.
21 Congratulations you guys. Can the clerk read the
22 proclamation please?

23 CLERK: Council City of New York
24 Proclamation. Whereas, the Council of the City of
25 New York is proud to honor the Nazareth Regional

1
2 High School Girls and Boys basketball teams for
3 their outstanding teamwork that led them to win
4 the Catholic High School Athletic Association
5 Class A city and state titles.

6 SPEAKER QUINN: Yay.

7 [Applause]

8 CLERK: And whereas, when Nazareth
9 Regional High School announced that it would close
10 in 2012, students and teachers redoubled their
11 efforts to keep it out. Thanks to the support,
12 energy and conviction of the entire community, the
13 next announcement promised to keep the school open
14 for the next four years, fueling everyone's hope
15 and determination to extend that term
16 indefinitely.

17 And whereas, all of these young men
18 and women have demonstrated the strength of
19 character and commitment to excellence that will
20 help them pursue their highest ambitions in the
21 years ahead, and wish them all continued success.

22 Now, therefore, be it known that
23 the Council of the City of New York, including its
24 entire Brooklyn Delegation honors and
25 congratulates the Nazareth Regional High School

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2 girls basketball team and the Nazareth Regional
3 High School boys basketball team for their
4 outstanding achievements and teamwork. Christine
5 C. Quinn, Speaker for the entire Council; Jumaane
6 Williams, Council Member 45th District.

7 SPEAKER QUINN: Well, I just want
8 to say congratulations. I had a brief and
9 unimpressive basketball career myself. I was on
10 the high school team for two years. I got one
11 basket. It was a lay-up at St. Mary's Garden
12 City; I can remember it like it was yesterday. It
13 was my glory days of my basketball career. I just
14 want to, on behalf of all of my colleagues, in
15 addition to Council Member Williams, congratulate
16 all of you. This is really impressive to have the
17 boys and the girls team win the titles. That says
18 a lot about your school and how you really lift up
19 the entire student body and make sure that both
20 boys and girls teams get all the resources they
21 need. I just want to say how proud we are of you
22 for your athletic and your academic skills, and
23 wish you all the best of luck in your academic and
24 athletic careers. I think we're going to hear
25 from the coaches? Coaches, students, anybody?

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2 Anybody, anybody, anybody? All right, thank you
3 guys. Have fun at prom.

4 [Applause]

5 SPEAKER QUINN: All right. Next is
6 going to be Chair of the Health Committee, Chair
7 Maria del Carmen Arroyo making sure we all
8 commemorate and note Lupus Awareness Month. She's
9 doing it with Jessica Lappin and Julissa Ferreras.
10 Here's Julissa.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Thank you.
12 I love it. Isn't it awesome? My colleagues, if
13 you could...

14 [Background noise]

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: My
16 colleagues, thank you for joining me, the Women's
17 Issues Committee, the Women's Caucus and the
18 Speaker to present a proclamation to the SLE Lupus
19 Foundation for the incredible work that they do
20 providing education. Not only in the community at
21 large but to healthcare professionals to train
22 them to understand and identify the signs and
23 diagnose patients sooner rather than later, so
24 treatment and outcomes can improve.

25 Lupus affects 1.5 million

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2 Americans. Tens of thousands in the city, mostly
3 young women and women of color disproportionately
4 affected. Many of you know the story of my
5 granddaughter Alisa [phonetic], who was born. She
6 weighed a pound, three ounces at birth. Two days
7 before she was delivered, my daughter was informed
8 that she has markers for Lupus. Now, we
9 understand the outcome of her pregnancy was
10 directly related to this condition that hides in
11 the body and presents in a very sneaky way, and
12 doctors often misdiagnose patients and we lose
13 opportunity for treatment and better outcomes.

14 I want to thank you for the work
15 that you do. I want to especially acknowledge the
16 founder, Susan Golick, who I am sure you will hear
17 a testimonial from in a minute regarding her work
18 and why she started this mission to help us
19 improve the health and wellbeing of our women in
20 particular in our city. We have a proclamation
21 somewhere? Yes, okay. Read it.

22 CLERK: Council City of New York
23 Proclamation. Whereas, lupus is a chronic
24 autoimmune disease in which the immune system
25 inexplicably and randomly attacks the body's own

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2 tissues and vital organs, including the kidneys,
3 brain, heart, lungs, blood, skin and joints.

4 Lupus can cause extensive health problems and even
5 loss of life. It is a leading cause of premature
6 cardiovascular disease, kidney disease and stroke
7 among young women.

8 And whereas, the SLE Lupus
9 Foundation, the voice for New Yorkers with lupus
10 since 1970, works to raise awareness of the signs
11 and symptoms of lupus and to promote education,
12 research, social support and quality medical care
13 for our citizens who live with or care for someone
14 who struggles with this disease. With financial
15 support from the City Council, the SLE Lupus
16 Foundation has been able to offer a wide array of
17 services to people with lupus and their families.

18 Now, therefore, be it known that
19 the Council of the City of New York encourages New
20 Yorkers throughout the five boroughs to observe
21 the month of May as Lupus Awareness Month and
22 contact the SLE Lupus Foundation to learn more
23 about the symptoms and treatments for this
24 debilitating disease. Christine C. Quinn, Speaker
25 for the entire Council; Maria del Carmen Arroyo,

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2 Council Member 17th District the Bronx; Jessica S.
3 Lappin, Co-chair, Women's Caucus; Julissa
4 Ferreras, Co-chair, Women's Issues Committee.

5 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you, Maria
6 and Julissa. I just want to thank you for making
7 sure we took this moment to learn more about lupus
8 and learn more of what we can do to go out there
9 and help our constituents. I just want to say,
10 Maria's granddaughter, who I haven't met but I
11 feel like I've met, is the toughest, pluckiest,
12 hardest survivor you're ever going to meet in your
13 life. I know that little girl is going to change
14 the world because of what she went through in
15 those early days shows us that any problem and any
16 challenge is overcomeable, just like you all show
17 us every day through your work at the Lupus
18 Foundation. So thank you all. Maria, next time
19 you see her, give her 51 kisses for each of us in
20 the City Council, and make it 52, an extra one
21 from the Speaker. I'm going to give this mike
22 over.

23 SUSAN GOLICK: Thank you to all.
24 Thank you to all the City Council members for your
25 help in gaining attention for lupus by encouraging

1
2 New Yorkers to observe the month of May as Lupus
3 Awareness Month. You have recognized the need to
4 address lupus as a critical health issue and have
5 helped greatly to advance the work of the SLE
6 Lupus Foundation.

7 We would like to express special
8 thanks to Councilwoman Maria del Carmen Arroyo,
9 Councilman Joel Rivera and Councilwoman Annabel
10 Palma, who have been particularly committed
11 champions for the lupus community.

12 Lupus is a serious autoimmune
13 disease. Because its symptoms are random and
14 resemble other diseases, lupus is often
15 misdiagnosed, or dismissed. That's why increasing
16 awareness among the public and even healthcare
17 professionals is so important. Our hope is when a
18 young woman walks into a doctor's office reporting
19 vague symptoms, lupus is considered.

20 When I was diagnosed as a young
21 woman in the 1970s, no one knew much about Lupus.
22 It was a word I couldn't pronounce, when you had
23 to say the whole thing--systemic lupus
24 erythematosus. No one knew about lupus and we had
25 few places to turn. My family formed the SLE

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2 Lupus Foundation to provide resources and support
3 to all those affected by the disease.

4 The City Council continues to help
5 us achieve this goal, advocating funds that enable
6 us to offer a wide array of services in the city's
7 most underserved neighborhoods. In accordance
8 with the proclamation issued today, the SLE Lupus
9 Foundation is pounding the pavement throughout May
10 to educate New Yorkers about lupus. We will not
11 stop until every person you might stop on the
12 street can answer the question "what is lupus?"
13 Thank you.

14 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. Thank
15 you very much. Thank all of you very much. Thank
16 you.

17 [Applause]

18 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you guys.
19 Thank you very much. Thank you all. The next
20 ceremonial is going to led by Council Member Inez
21 Dickens, and it's Hip-Hop Against Gun and Gang
22 Violence Week. I couldn't get that out. So,
23 anyone who is here for the Hip-Hop Against Gun and
24 Gang Violence Week please come to the front.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Thank you

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2 so much, Madame Speaker. Will the Fishers come on
3 up? Come on up.

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5 I want to thank the Fishers on
6 behalf of myself, the Speaker and the entire City
7 Council for the work that you do, not only in the
8 village of Harlem but throughout the city. We
9 call them the Fisher brothers, but it's really
10 father and son. They work through hip-hop, a
11 language that is universal for young people, in
12 order to let the young people know that there is
13 another way, that gun violence, youth violence
14 will not be tolerated.

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15 With gun law reform being a hot
16 national topic today, we know that this year will
17 be even more special, as we all work together,
18 united on all three levels of government in order
19 to tighten our gun laws and improve all public
20 safety.

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21 In a proactive effort to reduce gun
22 and gang violence and help Harlem and the rest of
23 New York City to remain the safest big city in the
24 nation, the National Hip-Hop Summit Youth Council,
25 headed by the Fishers, father and son, Charles and
Randy, created the Hip-Hop Against Gun and Gang

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2 Violence project in 2012, a week-long awareness,
3 educational and recruitment campaign, which will
4 kickoff this week, before Memorial Day weekend.

5 Since this project's inception in
6 2012, Memorial Day weekend shootings has declined
7 by 40 percent. This is to say thank you.

8 [Applause]

9 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: May we
10 reads the proclamation please?

11 CLERK: Council City of New York
12 Proclamation. Whereas, thanks in part to the Hip-
13 Hop Summit Youth Council's Hip-Hop Against Gun and
14 Gang Violence initiative, our five boroughs had a
15 record low of 419 homicides in 2012, breaking the
16 previous record of 471 in 2009, reaffirming New
17 York City's place as the safest big city in the
18 nation. According to NYPD statistics, last year's
19 initiative was a huge success, with gun murders
20 reduced by 40 percent during Memorial Day weekend
21 of 2012, compared to the same period in 2011, and
22 by 16 percent between Memorial Day and Labor Day
23 of 2012, compared to the same period in 2011.

24 And whereas, with the support of
25 the hip-hop community, elected officials, law

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2 enforcement, celebrities, students, community
3 groups, clergy, gang leaders, seniors, formerly
4 incarcerated citizens, schools and city agencies,
5 this initiative offers a wide range of activities
6 to prevent gun and gang violence, including Time
7 to Shine talent showcases, Rap to Bridge the Gap
8 Summits, Youth Summits, films, gun buyback
9 programs, trips, celebrity PSAs, prize giveaways,
10 essay contests, entertainment and sports events.

11 Now, therefore, be it known that
12 the Council of the City of New York honors the
13 Hip-Hop Summit Youth Council and hereby declares
14 May 17-23, 2013 as Hip-Hop Against Gun and Gang
15 Violence in New York City. Christine C. Quinn,
16 Speaker for the entire Council; Inez E. Dickens,
17 Council Member 9th District Manhattan; Jumaane D.
18 Williams, Council Member 45th District Brooklyn;
19 and many other Council Members.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Thank you.
21 Before Randy and Charles speak, I want the Speaker
22 to say something, because she has taken the lead
23 in the City Council and really in the city and
24 state in order to try to combat gun violence and
25 youth violence. Madame Speaker?

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
3 much, Inez, for that. It's been a great effort on
4 behalf of the entire City Council on this issue.
5 I want to thank both of you because one of the
6 points of the Anti-Gun Violence Task Force, which
7 we started in this Council, which Council Member
8 Cabrera and Williams have co-chaired for us, is
9 the recognition that we need community groups and
10 community models to help us bring gun violence
11 down. It isn't just police, it's social services,
12 it's community options, it's violence
13 interrupters, and things of that nature. You all
14 have been doing that and are doing it. The
15 statistic that Inez mentioned speaks for itself.
16 As we're heading into Memorial Day weekend, I just
17 want to thank you both so much. You were doing
18 the work before we in the Council even had a task
19 force to support it. Your kind of work is exactly
20 what I think spurred the Council to expand this
21 focus and bring these resources to this work. So
22 I just want to thank you so very, very much.

23 [Applause]

24 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank
25 you. I mean, I'm just proud to be on the

1
2 proclamation and Council Member Cabrera and the
3 Speaker for leading in this issue, and Inez for
4 doing this. I love hip-hop. I'm a hip-hop head
5 and know that it is a language that could be used
6 to bring good things in the community.
7 Unfortunately, sometimes it's perverted a little
8 bit, but you guys are doing a good thing to bring
9 it back to what it's supposed to be about. We can
10 really use it as a tool to bring the violence
11 down. So I just want to say thank you very much.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Thank you,
13 Madame Speaker. We're going to continue to
14 support you, the work that you guys are doing,
15 because you're in the forefront. You get the
16 respect of the young people in the street.
17 They'll listen to you before they'll listen to
18 anybody else. So we commend you for being in the
19 forefront and for making a tangible difference.
20 Thank you so much.

21 [Applause]

22 SPEAKER QUINN: Let's hear from you
23 guys.

24 RANDY FISHER: I'm very
25 appreciative, City Council, two years in a row,

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2 stepping up to the plate. Council Member Inez
3 Dickens is amazing. We need her to be the new
4 speaker, after Councilwoman Quinn becomes the
5 mayor. So we need to all of us make that happen
6 and keep things in order. I think that this
7 project and this program is so important to the
8 hood that I represent.

9 When you do things like, you know,
10 bringing the police commissioner to August Martin
11 to bridge the gap between the young people and the
12 cops, then you're just proactive and you're not
13 sitting around complaining. That's what we like
14 to do. I follow the lead of my father and now my
15 little brother who is--where is he?

16 [Laughter]

17 RANDY FISHER: And my brother,
18 Councilman King. This is how we run this. You
19 know, it's like a family thing because we
20 understand the importance. We're going to
21 continue to do what we do. Very appreciative of
22 the City Council and the great support they've
23 given us, and we're going to do it again next
24 year.

25 [Applause]

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CHARLES FISHER: I'm going to be real brief, because I'm proud to be up here with my two sons. I thank the Speaker and I thank the Councilwoman here for really stepping up to the plate, and every Council Member that's up here today that supported us, not just this year but last year. Last year, we were outside on the steps, but this year we're in the big house. Hip-hop got invited into the big house, so I'm feeling real good about being a part of this family.

I know that so often people are always beating up the City Council and the Mayor. That's because the young people don't understand politics and government. I think you guys do an amazing job, really. I wouldn't take our job. I wouldn't take your job. You couldn't even pay me enough to be a City Council member.

But I applaud each and every one of you, even those that didn't support what we're doing, like my man--I love Charles Barron, really got behind us, you know. It may be controversy, but he's out there on the ground. So we're very appreciative of this opportunity. I'm looking forward to doing it next year. Like I said, 40

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2 percent reduction, all right, between 2012 and
3 2011, 40 percent. So that means all of you share
4 in the success, 40 percent, and 16 percent between
5 Memorial Day and Labor Day. So we're trying to
6 beat those numbers this year.

7 We just had a young girl shot in
8 Queens, just riding the bus. We're going to
9 dedicate this to her. When you get shot and
10 you're just riding the bus, that's a travesty for
11 the family. We don't want things to happen like
12 that. So we've just partnered with Def Jam
13 Records to get all those artists involved
14 promoting the Definition of Summer Campaign, and
15 Hot 97 now, and the Daymond John Academy. So
16 we're getting to bring--and Source Magazine--Video
17 Music Box, we're getting ready to bring some real
18 resources to the table in order to address gun and
19 gang violence. So we thank the entire City
20 Council for supporting us and what we're doing.
21 We look forward to coming to the big house again
22 next year.

23 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you guys very
24 much. Thank you. Thank you for your work. Thank
25 you guys. Thank you.

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2 Our final ceremonial is going to be
3 led by--oh, here she is--Council Member Rosie
4 Mendez. It is in support of some very significant
5 Sandy relief workers. So if they could make their
6 way up, that would be great.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Can people
8 join us up in the front please? You guys get in
9 here. Angelo, come here. Angelo, come here.
10 Come behind us. We're bringing individuals here
11 today who were very, very helpful during Sandy.
12 We all suffered a lot, but for those individuals
13 that were not supposed to be evacuated and were
14 not in danger of being flooded but found
15 themselves without electricity and heat and hot
16 water, it was survival time. Particularly, in my
17 district, this building, a building for people
18 living with AIDS who were formerly homeless. It
19 was a very nice restaurateur. The family provided
20 food, the Zistomatos [phonetic] family, for a
21 whole week, and delivered food. Our employees
22 here, and your names will be read into the record,
23 who stayed on duty two and three days, in uniform,
24 making sure that no one came into the building, so
25 that the residents can be safe. It is all of

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2 these unsung heroes that helped every one get by
3 through these tough times. So today, we thank you
4 for your generosity and your kindness. Madame
5 Speaker? Oh, clerk, can you please read the proc
6 into the record. Is that the way it's said?

7 SPEAKER QUINN: Something like
8 that.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Thank you.

10 CLERK: Council City of New York
11 Proclamation. Whereas, the Council of the City of
12 New York is proud to honor the Zistomatos family
13 and the employees at Argo Security for their
14 kindness and outstanding service to the community
15 in the wake of Hurricane Sandy. On this occasion,
16 it is a privilege to recognize the Zistomatos
17 family, Spiro, Angelo and Christos, and the
18 employees of Argo Security, Trantel [phonetic],
19 Latrice and Debra [phonetic], who provided
20 essential services to the residents of Friends
21 House. Friends House in Rosehill offers housing
22 and vital support services to people living with
23 AIDS who were formerly homeless.

24 And whereas, Hurricane Sandy
25 knocked out power for an entire week and the

1
2 Zistomatos family, for a week, provided and
3 delivered hot, free meals to the residents, while
4 Argo Security employees stayed in uniform for two
5 to three days each, keeping residents safe at all
6 times. They have demonstrated the transformative
7 power of kindness, compassion and selfless
8 generosity even in the wake of a horrible natural
9 disaster.

10 Now, therefore, be it known that
11 the Council of the City of New York gratefully
12 honors the Zistomatos family and Argo Security
13 Services for their outstanding service and
14 contributions to the community. Christine C.
15 Quinn, Speaker for the entire Council; Rosie
16 Mendez, Council Member 2nd District Manhattan.

17 [Applause]

18 SPEAKER QUINN: You know, Rosie,
19 first, thank you, because to make sure we got to
20 meet these great individuals, through the
21 generosity of their restaurants, the generosity of
22 your time, staying there, working in security.
23 These are, like you said, the untold stories of
24 Sandy, of how the city came together and folks who
25 didn't have to did more because it was the right

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2 thing to do for their friends, for their
3 neighbors. In some cases, I mean you knew the
4 folks, obviously, but some folks you may have
5 never met them, but you just did it because it was
6 the right thing to do. These are the stories of
7 how we got through, how we always get through as a
8 city. So it's so great, Rosie, that you brought
9 us some folks here today who we actually get to
10 thank face to face and say thank you for going
11 above and beyond the call, just in response to
12 seeing what you saw out there in our
13 neighborhoods. Thank you so much. I don't know
14 who all wants to say a few words, but anybody who
15 would like to, we'd love to give you the
16 opportunity.

17 ANNIE SORIANO: I'm Annie Soriano.
18 I'm the Executive Director at Friends House. I
19 want to say to all of you, we would have had to
20 evacuate to people to God knows where. I don't
21 even know where. I don't know what we would have
22 done with this special needs population. Because
23 of you, we were able to keep them in their homes,
24 day after day after day. Not only did we survive,
25 we came together. So I love you all. Thank you

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so much for what you did.

[Applause]

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. That was lovely. Thank you all very much. With this lovely ceremonial, we conclude ceremonials for today. Thank you all.

[Pause]

CLERK: Ladies and gentlemen, can I have your attention please? Can I please have your attention? At this time, please place all cell phones and pagers to vibrate. Will all non-Council employees please leave the main floor of the chambers. We have seating in the balcony. Thank you.

[Pause]

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: My colleagues, please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

[Pledge of Allegiance]

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Roll call.

CLERK: Arroyo?

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Here.

CLERK: Barron?

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here.

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2 CLERK: Brewer?
3 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.
4 CLERK: Cabrera?
5 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.
6 CLERK: Chin?
7 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.
8 CLERK: Comrie?
9 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: [No
10 response].
11 CLERK: Crowley?
12 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.
13 CLERK: Dickens?
14 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Here.
15 CLERK: Dilan?
16 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Here.
17 CLERK: Dromm?
18 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.
19 CLERK: Eugene?
20 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.
21 CLERK: Ferreras?
22 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Here.
23 CLERK: Fidler?
24 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Here.
25 CLERK: Foster?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Here.
3 CLERK: Garodnick?
4 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.
5 CLERK: Gennaro?
6 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here.
7 CLERK: Gentile?
8 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.
9 CLERK: Gonzalez?
10 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: [No
11 response].
12 CLERK: Greenfield?
13 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: [No
14 response].
15 CLERK: Halloran?
16 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: [No
17 response].
18 CLERK: Ignizio?
19 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Here.
20 CLERK: Jackson?
21 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Here.
22 CLERK: James?
23 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Here.
24 CLERK: King?
25 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Present.

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CLERK: Koo?

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Here.

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CLERK: Koppell?

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: [No

5

response].

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CLERK: Koslowitz?

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

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CLERK: Lander?

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COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

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CLERK: Lappin?

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COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Here.

12

CLERK: Levin?

13

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

14

CLERK: Mark-Viverito?

15

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:

16

Here.

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CLERK: Mealy?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: [No

19

response].

20

CLERK: Mendez?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.

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CLERK: Nelson?

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COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: [No

24

response].

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2 CLERK: Palma?
3 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Here.
4 CLERK: Recchia?
5 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: [No
6 response].
7 CLERK: Reyna?
8 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: [No
9 response].
10 CLERK: Richards?
11 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Present.
12 CLERK: Rodriguez?
13 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.
14 CLERK: Koppell?
15 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Here.
16 CLERK: Rose?
17 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.
18 CLERK: Ulrich?
19 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: [No
20 response].
21 CLERK: Vacca?
22 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.
23 CLERK: Vallone?
24 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.
25 CLERK: Van Bramer?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.
3 CLERK: Vann?
4 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Here.
5 CLERK: Weprin?
6 KATIYA JONES: Present.
7 SPEAKER QUINN: Yay.
8 CLERK: Comrie?
9 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Present.
10 CLERK: Gonzalez?
11 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Here.
12 CLERK: Ulrich?
13 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Here.
14 CLERK: Williams?
15 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.
16 CLERK: Wills?
17 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Here.
18 CLERK: Oddo?
19 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: [No
20 response].
21 CLERK: Rivera?
22 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Here.
23 CLERK: Speaker Quinn?
24 SPEAKER QUINN: Here.
25 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: A quorum is

1
2 present. My colleagues, please rise for the
3 Invocation, being delivered today by Reverend
4 Monsignor Alfred P. LoPinto.

5 REV. MSGR. ALFRED P. LOPINTO:

6 Recognizing the different faiths and traditions
7 represented in this chamber, let us join in a
8 moment of silent prayer and reflection.

9 Let's ask God's blessing on the
10 members of the Council and on their work on behalf
11 of our great city, its citizens, institutions and
12 organizations. Let the members of the Council be
13 blessed with wisdom, compassion and understanding
14 in conducting their business. The great diversity
15 of our city continued to be a cause for
16 celebrating the magnificence of that rare place on
17 earth where people from all over the world gather
18 to live in harmony with one another.

19 Let the members of the Council be
20 filled with the spirit of generous service that
21 our city may continue to be a place of hope for
22 all, especially the young and elderly, along with
23 all who are vulnerable in our complex environment.

24 Let us pray that the work of this
25 Council promote harmony, peace and tranquility,

1
2 that communities of justice might flourish
3 throughout the five boroughs of this great city.

4 Finally, as we continue with our
5 city's recovery from the devastation wrought by
6 Sandy, let us be mindful of our sisters and
7 brothers in Moore and in other parts of the
8 Midwest, suffering from the effects of the
9 tornadoes and storms that have brought
10 destruction, death and injury into their lives.
11 Amen.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
13 very much, Reverend. We call on Council Member
14 Levin.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Motion to
16 spread the Invocation in full upon the record.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.
18 Adoption of--

19 SPEAKER QUINN: [interposing] If I
20 could ask my colleagues to please stand. On May
21 20, 2013, catastrophic tornadoes struck the
22 Mideast and the hardest hit spot, as the Monsignor
23 just mentioned, was Moore, Oklahoma, where they
24 saw instant devastation. Devastation that is hard
25 to comprehend. Sadly, we all know that two

1
2 elementary schools were in the direct path of the
3 tornado, and among the 24 confirmed dead were nine
4 children, seven of whom were crushed when the
5 school was destroyed.

6 It is uplifting to note that many
7 children, though, were saved by teachers and other
8 staff literally throwing their own bodies over the
9 student bodies to protect them. New York City
10 based relief organizations have already mobilized
11 and are headed out and some already in Oklahoma to
12 help. Obviously, our thoughts and prayers go out
13 to all who were injured and killed in this
14 national tragedy.

15 I also want to make note that in
16 the past few days, less than a week, two New
17 Yorkers have been murdered by gun violence. One
18 on Saturday morning, in my district, on Eighth
19 Street, Mark Carson, who was shot at point blank
20 range in the face and killed. He was killed for
21 no other reason than the fact that he was gay.

22 A few days later, D'aja Robinson
23 was on a bus in Council Member Wills' district,
24 headed to see her grandmother. They were going to
25 go get their nails. She liked to get her nails

1

2 done with her grandmother, who her mother said was
3 one of her favorite people. A hail of gunfire was
4 let loose into that bus, with no real target, and
5 her life was taken.

6 These are two tragic reminders that
7 we need to recommit to do everything we can to get
8 guns off of our streets, recommit to do everything
9 we can to raise the children in our city to a
10 higher level of love and support and protection in
11 our city. We need to do everything we can to
12 recommit to diversity, and the fact that what we
13 all know in this chambers is true, that our
14 diversity is our greatest strength as a city.

15 So if we could remember all in
16 Moore, if we could remember D'aja and Mark today.

17 [Pause]

18 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. I just
19 want to take a moment to commend Council Member
20 Wills, who has been very much on the ground, in
21 response to this tragedy in his district. I know
22 the mother indicated to me yesterday when I was
23 talking to her, incredibly supportive and helpful
24 to her and her entire family. So thank you very
25 much, Council Member Wills. Thank you.

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
3 very much, Madame Speaker. We now move on to
4 adoption of the minutes. Council Member Barron?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I make a
6 motion to adopt the minutes of the Stated Meeting
7 of March 20th and April 9, 2013 be adopted as
8 printed.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.
10 Messages and papers from the Mayor?

11 CLERK: None.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:
13 Communications from city, county and borough
14 offices?

15 CLERK: None.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Petitions
17 and communications?

18 CLERK: None.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Land Use
20 Call-ups?

21 CLERK: M1157.

22 SPEAKER QUINN: If we could get a
23 roll call please on that Land Use Call-up, which
24 is, shockingly, a sidewalk café in my district.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Everybody

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2 okay back there?

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5

SPEAKER QUINN: They are all in my district, Vinny, it is really true. A roll call please.

6

CLERK: Arroyo?

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COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

8

CLERK: Barron?

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COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye.

10

CLERK: Brewer?

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COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

12

CLERK: Cabrera?

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COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

14

CLERK: Chin?

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COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

16

CLERK: Comrie?

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye.

18

CLERK: Crowley?

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COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

20

CLERK: Dickens?

21

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

22

CLERK: Dilan?

23

COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Aye.

24

CLERK: Dromm?

25

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

1
2 CLERK: Eugene?
3 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.
4 CLERK: Ferreras?
5 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.
6 CLERK: Fidler?
7 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Aye.
8 CLERK: Foster?
9 COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye.
10 CLERK: Garodnick?
11 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.
12 CLERK: Gennaro?
13 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: [No
14 response].
15 CLERK: Gentile?
16 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.
17 CLERK: Gonzalez?
18 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye.
19 CLERK: Greenfield?
20 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: [No
21 response].
22 CLERK: Ignizio?
23 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes.
24 CLERK: Jackson?
25 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye.

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CLERK: James?

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COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Aye.

3

CLERK: King?

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COUNCIL MEMBER KING: I vote aye on all call-ups, and with permission I'd like to vote aye on all couple General Orders and Resolutions.

5

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Aye.

9

CLERK: Koo?

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye. Mr.

11

Majority Leader?

12

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: May I vote for the rest of the calendars?

14

15

COUNCIL MEMBER: [off mic] Nope, you have to stay.

16

17

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I want to vote aye. Thank you.

18

19

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

20

SPEAKER QUINN: If we could get a little quiet too, thanks.

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CLERK: Barron?

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COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I ask permission to vote on all the General Order items.

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I vote no on LU 810, no on LU 812, and no on LU 814 and the accompanying Resos and aye on all the rest.

CLERK: Halloran?

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Aye.

CLERK: Koppell?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Aye.

CLERK: Koslowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

CLERK: Lander?

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: [No response].

CLERK: Lappin?

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

CLERK: Levin?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

CLERK: Mark-Viverito?

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye.

CLERK: Mealy?

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: [No response].

CLERK: Mendez?

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.

CLERK: Palma?

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COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

CLERK: Recchia?

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: [No
response].

CLERK: Reyna?

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye.

CLERK: Richards?

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye.

CLERK: Rodriguez?

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

CLERK: Rose?

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

CLERK: Ulrich?

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.

CLERK: Vacca?

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

CLERK: Vallone?

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

CLERK: Van Bramer?

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

CLERK: Vann?

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Unanimous
consent to vote on all Land Use, all coupled on
General Orders, all Resolutions.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

3

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: I vote aye.

4

CLERK: Weprin?

5

KATIYA JONES: Aye.

6

CLERK: Williams?

7

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

8

CLERK: Wills?

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COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Aye.

10

CLERK: Rivera?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

12

CLERK: Speaker Quinn?

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SPEAKER QUINN: Aye.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Today's

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Land Use Call-ups are adopted by a vote of 45 in

16

the affirmative with zero in the negative. We now

17

move on to communications from the Speaker.

18

Before Madame Speaker, Council

19

Member Halloran?

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SPEAKER QUINN: Oh, I'm sorry.

21

Yes, of course.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Thank

23

you. I ask unanimous consent to vote aye on all

24

items on the agenda today.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Thank
3 you.

4 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. We're
5 voting on a number of pieces of legislation today,
6 also three Resolutions later. So I just want to
7 make note of that for folks, voting wise.

8 First is Intro 1031-A, out of the
9 Consumer Affairs Committee. I want to thank
10 Council Members Williams and Fidler and Council
11 Member Garodnick, the Chair of the Consumer
12 Affairs Committee. I want to thank all of the
13 staff who worked on this, but particularly Rachel
14 Cordero.

15 This is a piece of legislation,
16 which will help the City of New York respond to
17 gaming cafes that are offering cash prizes.
18 That's illegal. Through the work of Council
19 Member Williams and Fidler, it became clear that
20 the city did not have a clear enforcement
21 mechanism for this provision in the law, and it
22 also became clear that perhaps more enforcement
23 was needed, more teeth in the law.

24 Because of 1035-A, you will now
25 lose your license if you are engaged in offering

1
2 cash prizes. This has become a real problem in
3 neighborhoods throughout our city. As Council
4 Member Fidler said today in the pre-stated, we're
5 getting ahead of this, though, before it becomes a
6 rampant problem. I want to thank the New Yorkers
7 who reached out to Council Member Williams and
8 Fidler on this issue and every one for getting
9 this piece of legislation introduced and passed.

10 Let me call on the chair of the
11 committee. I want to thank him. He's not going
12 to say a few words. Let me call on Council Member
13 Williams and Council Member Fidler, if he would
14 like to say something as well.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Say thank
16 you to Speaker Quinn and Chair Dan Garodnick and
17 co-prime Lew Fidler, of course, my staff, Kay Bane
18 [phonetic], Stefan Ringo [phonetic] and the
19 Consumer Affairs Committee staff, Damien Butvick,
20 and a special thank you Rachel Cordero and Shawn
21 Campbell [phonetic], from Community Board 14, who
22 was the first person to point this out to me.

23 As I said earlier, this is not an
24 anti-small business bill. This is not even an
25 anti-gambling bill. What this is, is an anti-

1
2 something that is illegal. These things are
3 proliferating down south and they were coming up
4 and I'm glad that 1035 would effectively prevent
5 amusement arcades and gaming cafes from engaging
6 and encouraging inappropriate and many times
7 illegal activities on these specific basis. As
8 amusement arcades and gaming cafes do not have the
9 proper licenses for gambling and from allowing
10 these activities to exist in their place of
11 business. Unlawful gambling activity is
12 detrimental to our local community, and this
13 legislation will help to establish our position
14 against the promotion of this illegal behavior.

15 Internet sweepstakes cafes are run
16 by the support of companies that exploit
17 technicalities to get around anti-gambling laws.
18 Council Member Wills, appreciate it. Exploit
19 technicalities, which they believe to be
20 technicalities, but are actually illegalities,
21 trying to get around anti-gambling laws, by giving
22 away chances to win prizes with the purchase of
23 service or products, such as internet access or
24 telephone calls. They masquerade as internet
25 cafés when in reality they were more like mini-

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casinos.

As stated in paragraph three, subdivision C of Section 20-214 of Title 20 of the Administrative Code--there you go, Council Member Fidler--no amusement arcade or gaming café owner or amusement operator shall offer money prizes, awards or such other prizes, which are redeemable in cash. What we have found is they're trying to circumvent the law. At the end of the day, these businesses were accepting money. You were then playing a game of chance and getting cash prizes in return.

The Department of Consumer Affairs has the responsibility to enforce this law. Unfortunately, they had not been doing it with the existing laws and punitive things that they have. We are hoping with this bill that they can now just revoke and it's not left to discretion. That they will not only use it but really highlight how important this issue is to the Council and to the city. The sense of urgency was not felt during the hearing. It was rather disappointing but I am grateful that they are supportive of the bill, and hopefully they will use it as we go forward.

1
2 The legislation was drafted with
3 the interest of the larger community in mind. The
4 message we are sending is clear, we will not stand
5 by and tolerate businesses that attempt to take
6 advantage of what they perceive are legal
7 loopholes, and prey on our citizens and residents
8 of New York City. Thank you.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Thank you.
10 I also want to thank Speaker Quinn and Chairman
11 Garodnick and my colleague Council Member Williams
12 for jumping out in front of this problem before it
13 became pervasive. Also thank the committee staff,
14 Rachel Cordero, Brad Reed [phonetic], my counsel,
15 for their work on this bill.

16 I happen to like slot machines. I
17 know that's a little crazy. But if I want to
18 flush \$100 down the toilet, I'm perfectly happy to
19 do it legally by going to Aqueduct in Queens.
20 What's happening here are people flaunting the law
21 in the most obvious way. I can't believe these
22 words are going to come out of my mouth: I want to
23 thank the *New York Post* for covering this issue
24 and bringing some attention to it as well.

25 The fact of the matter is our

1
2 commercial strips don't need illegal gambling
3 dens. They are casinos. There's nothing else
4 that you can call them. Our merchants don't need
5 them. Our communities don't need them. Our
6 police department doesn't need them. They are
7 unlawful. If this bill did nothing else, it
8 delivered a solid, swift kick in the ass to the
9 Department of Consumer Affairs that seemed
10 oblivious to this problem, no matter how many
11 times Council Member Williams and I brought it to
12 their attention.

13 I didn't need a constituent to call
14 me. One of these places opened a block and a half
15 from my home and I drove past it every day. I'm
16 very pleased to say that when I drove past it
17 yesterday, it had been closed. So this bill gives
18 some teeth. It gets us out in front of a problem
19 for a change. Hopefully, people will hardly know
20 about this bill because when the word gets out
21 that we passed it and that we're serious, people
22 will stop investing in them and opening them.

23 So, again, I urge my colleagues to
24 support this bill and thank everyone who's been
25 involved.

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: Before we move on
3 with conversations about more legislation, Council
4 Member Weprin I think has an incredibly important
5 introduction. So I could get real quiet in the
6 chambers for a second, not for Council Member
7 Weprin or me but for our visitor.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Thank you
9 very much, Madame Speaker. It is a pleasure for
10 me to have here a "Council Member for a Day"
11 contest winner, essay contest winner. Some of you
12 know I do this every year, and it's always very
13 exciting in our office. It's a great way, I
14 think, to connect with students and let them know
15 government is something you can be involved with.
16 I'm delighted that my winner this year is a
17 homerun as far as a great Council Member. She's
18 certainly a lot better than her predecessor.
19 We're really happy to have her here. Katiya
20 Jones, please stand up Katiya.

21 SPEAKER QUINN: Yay.

22 [Applause]

23 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: She wrote a
24 great essay on what she loves about Queens and all
25 the great cultural institutions. Council Member

1
2 Van Bramer will be happy. She is not only smart
3 and talented, and she's a dancer and a singer, but
4 she's got one hell of a smile. So with all those
5 commendations, I am delighted to have Katiya. I
6 thank you all for being such good colleagues today
7 to Katiya. Thank you very much.

8 SPEAKER QUINN: Katiya, you're
9 doing a terrific job. She was excellent at the
10 pre-stated press conference, helped out when we
11 needed a little extra information and focus. So
12 thank you very much. She's wearing a council
13 button that Robert Jackson gave her. Apparently,
14 he tried to give her a Robert Jackson City Council
15 Member pin. She was smart enough not to take
16 that. We love Vinny, right, the "I Love My
17 Library" big button she's wearing. So you have
18 been wonderful to have with us today and you are
19 always welcome back. You are an honorary council
20 member from every district in the City of New
21 York. Come back whenever you want, honey, okay?
22 Good to see you.

23 [Applause]

24 COUNCIL MEMBER: Just for the
25 record, that's how I got my seat in the City

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2 Council. I won a Council Member for a day
3 contest.

4

SPEAKER QUINN: Three years ago.
5 Oops. Anyway, let's try to refocus here. So let
6 me next thank Amy Stokes and everyone in Finance
7 for their work. Out of Juvenile Justice, I want
8 to thank Peggy Chan for Intro 981-A. This is an
9 important piece of legislation relating to the
10 Close to Home Initiative that's being put in place
11 by the state. It's a piece of legislation which
12 will require greater data keeping by the
13 Administration of Children's Service and in
14 particular will add in the requirement to keep
15 track of young people who are harassed, bullied or
16 attacked because they're LGBT.

17

Right now, if you self-disclose
18 that to an ACS worker, that is not kept record of.
19 Clearly, what happened this weekend shows us the
20 urgency to know when this type of harassment is
21 happening anywhere.

22

Also, I want to thank Chair
23 Gonzalez and Council Member Rose for recognizing
24 that as Close to Home gets implemented, that's a
25 good thing but we need to make sure it gets

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2 implemented correctly, in a way where we in the
3 Council, the public and advocates can monitor what
4 is happening. That's why this law will also
5 require that when young people get moved from one
6 facility to another, there's a disclosure of that
7 and a disclosure of what caused that to happen so
8 we can analyze what is working and what isn't.

9 So, let me thank everybody for
10 their work on this. Let me call on Chair Gonzalez
11 and then the sponsor of the bill, Council Member
12 Rose. If we could get a little quiet, please?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Thank
14 you, Speaker. As chair of the Council's Juvenile
15 Justice Committee and as co-sponsor of Intro 981-
16 A, I applaud the passage of this bill.

17 Over the years, my committee and
18 the City Council have fought to increase
19 transparency in our city's secure and non-secure
20 detention facilities in order to improve
21 conditions for our youth. This bill will help
22 further that aim and ensure that the Council and
23 the public have adequate information as we
24 continuously evaluate the Close to Home
25 initiative.

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2 Congratulations to Councilwoman
3 Debi Rose on this important legislation. Thank
4 you, Speaker Quinn for your continued support in
5 improving our juvenile justice system. Thank you.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: I am very
7 proud to have sponsored Intro 981-A, which will
8 ensure proper oversight of and transparency with
9 respect to the continued implementation and
10 development of the state's Close to Home
11 initiative, by requiring data reporting from the
12 Administration for Children's Services concerning
13 the use of physical restraints and other forms of
14 confinement, injuries and allegations of abuse to
15 children in detention, and demographic data
16 regarding children in detention.

17 I especially want to thank Council
18 Member Sara Gonzalez, who is the chair of the
19 Council's Juvenile Justice Committee, for her
20 strong support of this bill. I thank the
21 committee staff who worked on this bill,
22 especially Peggy Chan, for her diligence in
23 keeping me informed of its progression and various
24 changes along the way. I also thank the juvenile
25 justice advocacy community that testified at the

1
2 hearing on this bill. They brought great ideas to
3 improvement upon it. Finally, I want to thank ACS
4 for working with the Council to make this happen
5 in an expeditious manner. I'd like to also thank
6 Speaker Quinn for her support of this bill.

7 I believe that the old adage is
8 true, "home is where the heart is." Closer to
9 Home is an important and positive initiative for
10 New York State and I wholeheartedly support its
11 central premise, that keeping troubled youth
12 closer to their families and connected to their
13 communities, instead of relocating them to
14 facilities often far from their homes, will better
15 facilitate their rehabilitation and reduce overall
16 recidivism.

17 By monitoring data related to age,
18 gender and race, we will better learn the
19 demographics of the populations in the Close to
20 Home initiative. By monitoring information
21 related to confinement and other forms of
22 punishment, we will be better able to measure the
23 effectiveness of this initiative by seeing what
24 aspects of it are working, and those that are not.
25 This data can also assist in the development of

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2 youth-driven programming aimed at reducing
3 recidivism by helping ACS pinpoint groups that
4 need additional guidance and assistance.

5 This bill will also address issues
6 surrounding LGBTQ youth in the youth criminal
7 justice system. Fifteen percent of incarcerated
8 youth are LGBTQ. They suffer routine and systemic
9 mistreatment in detention and placement as a
10 result of their perceived or actual sexual
11 orientation, gender expression or gender identity.
12 Intro 981-A will help Close to Home better address
13 the needs of this population by mandating
14 reporting of the number of bias-based incidents
15 that arise based upon sexual orientation, gender
16 expression, and gender identity.

17 I hope that all of my fellow
18 Council Members will join me today in voting yes
19 for Intro 981-A. Thank you.

20 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
21 much, Council Member. I want to thank the Land
22 Use staff for their work on the matters we're
23 taking up today; Rules, Privileges and Elections,
24 particular Chuck Davis for the designation of
25 Erika Larsen on the New York City Youth Board. I

1
2 want to thank Lyle Frank for his work on 591-A. I
3 want to thank Chair Vacca and Council Member Chin.

4 591-A is a piece of legislation
5 that will require that the New York City
6 Department of Transportation, in a transparent and
7 clear way, post and link information about
8 intercity buses safety records. That information
9 already exists on a federal database, although, if
10 you go look at that database it's incredibly
11 cloudy and hard to find and not accessible. We
12 want to make sure, particularly given the recent
13 very dangerous and tragic safety record of some
14 intercity bus companies that people, when they're
15 buying tickets, know the safety history of bus
16 companies. This piece of legislation will make
17 sure New Yorkers have that information available.

18 I again want to thank Chair Vacca
19 and call on the sponsor, Council Member Chin, to
20 make a few words. If Ramone and Chuck, you could
21 be quiet, because you're making all the noise.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you,
23 Madame Chair. First, I wanted to thank Chair
24 Vacca for sponsoring this bill with me, and as you
25 mentioned, Lyle Frank, for helping us develop this

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legislation.

In 2011, a bus traveling back to Chinatown from a casino was involved in a terrible deathly crash, which killed a large number of my constituents. Since this incident and other incidents, we have worked to support greater regulation of the intercity bus industry. For a consumer, there are numerous bus companies now offering discount rates to travel to Boston, DC, Philadelphia and other cities. Some have questionable safety records and we believe this is essential information that all consumers should be able to check before deciding which bus company to use.

This bill will ensure that bus riders can check the safety records of companies through city government Department of Transportation's website, so they can know before they ride. Much of this information is available on the Federal Motor Coach Safety Administration website but we found that few consumers know about this and it's not easy to navigate or find this information. This bill will make sure that all of this information is more accessible and therefore,

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making the mystery out of bus safety issues and empowering consumers to make sure that safer choice for themselves.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very much, Council Member Chin and, again, Chair Vacca. I also want to thank Kelly Taylor on the Veterans Affairs Committee, thank the chair, Dr. Mathieu Eugene, and Council Member Vincent Gentile for 480-A, a piece of legislation which will create veteran's liaisons in all New York City agencies, to make sure that we are helping veterans, as they return home, get connected to all of the services that they need.

Let me know call on Chair Eugene and then Council Member Gentile.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you very much, Madame Speaker. First, I would like to congratulate Council Member Gentile for sponsoring Intro 480-A, to establish a veteran liaison program for our city agencies. It is important that we continue to support our veterans in new and innovative ways. I'm proud to be co-sponsor

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of this wonderful piece of legislation.

Our veterans make unimaginable sacrifices for this country and it is our responsibility to do what we can do to make sure that they are integrated into civilian life with dignity and respect. This program will allow city agencies to more efficiently connect veterans with veteran-specific programs and benefits.

I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of this bill. I would like also to thank Speaker Christine Quinn for her leadership and for her support in bringing this legislation before the Council. Thank you very much.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Thank you, Madame Speaker and Chairman Eugene. I think it's rare when we can do something in this Council that expands the reach out to veterans, particularly in this case, through the Mayor's Office of Veterans Affairs, and do that at no cost to the city. That's exactly what this bill does. It establishes liaisons in each agency, a veteran liaison. Each of those liaisons to be trained by the Mayor's Office of Veterans Affairs. They, in fact, would become the outreach network of the

1
2 Mayor's Office of Veterans Affairs in those
3 agencies, thereby multiplying the reach of the
4 Veterans Affairs office many times over, given the
5 fact of how small MOVA is today.

6 So this is a bill that's a win for
7 veterans and a win for the city, because at no
8 cost we can do a great thing at this time of
9 Memorial Day for veterans who work for the City of
10 New York.

11 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
12 much, Chair Eugene and Council Member Gentile.
13 Council Member, thank you for mentioning the no
14 cost part, which is always a good thing to lead
15 with.

16 Finally, before I close Speaker's
17 time, I just want to make an announcement that
18 everyone's going to find shocking. This part is
19 not the shocking part. Today is Adam Goodram
20 [phonetic], my staff's birthday. The shocking
21 part is he turns 25. Really, who is 25 anymore?
22 You know what I mean, Jimmy? Do you remember 25?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER: [off mic].

24 SPEAKER QUINN: Yeah, exactly.
25 Well, happy theoretical 25th birthday. We all

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kind of remember them. Happy birthday, Adam.

It's Pascale's birthday, too,
Pascale Bernard. Is Pascale here? Pascale is not
disclosing her age, so we will leave that. Two
people turned 25 today, we will say, in the New
York City central staff. That concludes
communications from the Speaker.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
very much.

SPEAKER QUINN: Tony LaMonico
[phonetic] turned 50 this week, too, right?

[Laughter]

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you,
Madame Speaker. We now move on to discussion of
general orders. Seeing none, we'll move on to
reports of special committees.

CLERK: None.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Reports of
standing committees.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on
Consumer Affairs, Intro 1035.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
on General Orders please.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on

1
2 finance, Preconsidered LU 833 and Reso 1773 and LU
3 835 and Reso 1775, tax exemptions.

4 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
5 Orders.

6 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
7 Juvenile Justice, Intro 981-A, demographic data
8 and incident reports.

9 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
10 on General Orders.

11 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
12 Land Use, LU 802, sidewalk cafés.

13 SPEAKER QUINN: Approved with
14 modifications and referred to the City Planning
15 Commission, pursuant to Rule 11.80b of the Rules
16 of the Council and Section 197d of the New York
17 City Charter.

18 CLERK: LU 803 and Reso 1776 and LU
19 804 and Reso 1777, mixed-use development.

20 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
21 Orders.

22 CLERK: LU 805 and Reso 1778
23 through LU 809 and Reso 1782, on page four,
24 firehouse landmarks.

25 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General

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Orders.

CLERK: LU 810 and Reso 1783
through LU 817 and Reso 1787, on page five,
various UDAAPs.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

CLERK: LU 818 and Reso 1788, tax
exemptions.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled to be
filed.

CLERK: LU 820 and Reso 1789 and LU
822 and Reso 1790, sidewalk cafes.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on
Rules, Privileges and Elections, Preconsidered
M1158 and Reso 1791, approving the recommendation
Erika Larsen, member of the New York City Youth
Board.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on
Transportation, Intro 591-A, passenger carrier
safety.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on General Orders.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on Veterans, Intro 480-A, establishment of veteran liaisons.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on General Orders.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: General Order Calendar.

CLERK: LU 802 and Reso 1792, sidewalk café.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders.

CLERK: Resolution appointing various persons commissioner of deeds.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders. At this point, I'd like to ask for a roll call on all items coupled on the General Order Calendar please.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

CLERK: Arroyo?

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

CLERK: Brewer?

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I'd like to

1
2 vote aye and with special tribute to Erika Larsen,
3 who is an intern in my office, lives thankfully
4 and gratefully in the district of Council Member
5 Jimmy Oddo, and she's at Hunter College and also a
6 scholar at Macaulay at CUNY. She will be an
7 excellent member of the Youth Board. I'm very
8 excited and actually honored that she agreed to do
9 it and that she has such an amazing background.
10 She's bilingual. She's been in many, many
11 volunteer positions, even at her young age, and
12 I'm really very proud that the City Council is
13 recommending her to be a member of the New York
14 City Youth Board. You will not be disappointed.
15 I vote aye on all items. Thank you.

16 CLERK: Cabrera?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

18 CLERK: Chin?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye on all.

20 CLERK: Comrie?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye.

22 CLERK: Crowley?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye. Aye
24 on all Land Use and all Calendar items.

25 CLERK: Dickens?

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COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

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CLERK: Dilan?

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COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Aye on all.

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CLERK: Dromm?

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COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

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CLERK: Eugene?

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COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

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CLERK: Ferreras?

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COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.

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CLERK: Fidler?

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Aye and

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congratulations to Council Member Gentile.

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CLERK: Foster?

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COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye.

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CLERK: Garodnick?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

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CLERK: Gennaro?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Yes.

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CLERK: Gentile?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: I vote

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aye, and thank you, Council Member Fidler.

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CLERK: Gonzalez?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye.

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CLERK: Ignizio?

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COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: I vote
aye, and thank you, Council Member Gentile.

CLERK: Jackson?

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: [No
response].

CLERK: James?

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Aye on all
Calendar items.

CLERK: Koppell?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: [No
response].

CLERK: Koslowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

CLERK: Lander?

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

CLERK: Lappin?

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

CLERK: Levin?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

CLERK: Koppell?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Aye.

CLERK: Mark-Viverito?

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye.

CLERK: Mealy?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye.

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CLERK: Mendez?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.

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CLERK: Nelson?

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COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: [No

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response].

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CLERK: Palma?

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COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

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CLERK: Reyna?

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COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye.

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CLERK: Richards?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye.

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CLERK: Rodriguez?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

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And I would like to ask permission to vote aye on

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all General Order.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

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CLERK: Rose?

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COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Yes. Aye.

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I'm sorry.

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CLERK: Ulrich?

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COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.

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CLERK: Vacca?

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COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

CLERK: Vallone?

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

CLERK: Van Bramer?

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

CLERK: Weprin?

KATIYA JONES: Aye on all.

CLERK: Williams?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

CLERK: Wills?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Aye on all.

CLERK: Oddo?

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: May I have
unanimous consent to vote on Land Use items?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: I vote yes on
all the Land Use items, yes on the General Order
Calendar and I just would like to--

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:
[interposing] Can we get silence inside the
chambers?

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: --I'd jut
like to congratulate Erika Larsen on her
appointment to the Youth Board. She's a wonderful

1
2 reflection on our home borough of Staten Island.

3 Thank you.

4 CLERK: Greenfield?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye on
6 all. Did you vote on Land Use Call-ups?

7 CLERK: Rivera?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye on all.

9 CLERK: Speaker Quinn?

10 SPEAKER QUINN: Aye on all.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All items
12 on today's General Order Calendar were adopted by
13 a vote of 49 in the affirmative with zero in the
14 negative and zero abstentions, with the exception
15 of LU 810, 812, 814 and accompanying resolutions,
16 were adopted by a vote of 48 in the affirmative
17 with one in the negative and zero abstentions.
18 The revised Land Use Call-ups were adopted by a
19 vote of 49 in the affirmative with zero in the
20 negative. We now move on to introduction and
21 reading of the bills.

22 SPEAKER QUINN: All bills have been
23 referred to committees as indicated on the agenda
24 please.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: We'll now

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2 move on to discussion of resolutions. We'll first
3 discuss Resolution 1155-A, an amended resolution
4 calling upon the New York State Legislature to
5 pass and the Governor to sign legislation amending
6 the New York State Education Law to afford houses
7 of worship equal access to school property,
8 amended and adopted by the--

9 SPEAKER QUINN: [interposing] I'm
10 sorry, Mr. Majority Leader. Could we get quiet
11 for the discussions of resolutions? Thank you.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Quiet in
13 the chambers please. We have Council Member
14 Cabrera for that Reso.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Thank you
16 so much. I first want to give a special thanks to
17 all the 36 Council Members that have signed onto
18 this bill and also to the chair of the Education
19 Committee, Council Member Jackson, and for the
20 Speaker for allowing for this resolution to come
21 to the floor.

22 I just wanted to accentuate the
23 fact that this resolution will call upon the state
24 of New York Assembly to allow houses of worship to
25 be able to rent from public schools, which in turn

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2 will give us some revenue. While the schools are
3 not being used by students, they'll be used by the
4 community, and namely those who are of religious
5 persuasion. The polls have been clear in every
6 single poll, whether nationwide or locally, we
7 have seen that our constituents are in favor of
8 this. Thank you so much.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
10 so much, Council Member. Council Member Jackson?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you,
12 Majority Leader. My colleagues, I rise in support
13 of Resolution 1155-A. As you know, this
14 resolution was passed out of the Education
15 Committee yesterday by a vote of 14 in favor and 5
16 against.

17 I ask for you to support this
18 resolution, mainly because with respects to
19 religious institutions using our school, they pay
20 a fee, the same fee that every organization that
21 wants to use the school. There are no discounts.
22 It's the same fee. If they use the auditorium,
23 they pay a certain fee. If they need a restroom,
24 a men's room or a women's room, or another
25 classroom, they pay a fee for each room that they

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use.

It's not like school is in session where you're having a religious institution renting the space and children are being exposed to religion in school. I mean what's the timeframe on the resos?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: One minute.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Okay. I just ask you to be supportive of 1155-A. Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you very much, Council Member. Next, we move on to Council Member Oliver Koppell, followed by Council Member Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Thank you, Mr. Majority Leader. This is a very important resolution in the sense that it suggests that we do something or that the state authorizes something that I think is opposed to one of the very principles that underlies this great country, and that is the freedom of religion and also the non-establishment of any religion. That's, of course, in the federal Constitution through the First Amendment. We also have in our State

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2 Constitution something called the Blaine
3 Amendment, which prohibits the spending of any
4 public money in support of any religious
5 institution.

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In my opinion, allowing worship
services in our school violates both the
Establishment Clause and the Blaine Amendment.
Yes, it's true they may pay a fee but they
certainly don't pay the full cost of the school.
But that's not the principle issue, frankly. The
principle issue is whether we should have in our
school religious services, even though it's not
during school time. That should not be part of
the public discourse--

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:

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[interposing] Council Member?

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: --and

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therefore, this resolution should be defeated.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you

21

very much. Council Member Brewer?

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COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you

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very much. I have great respect for Council

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Member Cabrera, but I'm opposed to this particular

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resolution for a couple of reasons. I want to

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2 echo what Council Member Oliver Koppell stated.
3 In addition, in my district, most of the--in the
4 past, it was the Sundays that the schools are
5 available and that's when the religious services
6 took place. In my district, a lot of faiths also
7 take place on Saturday, a lot of services.

8 I feel strongly, I want to be
9 really specific, in some cases, the church left a
10 lot of material. I attended the hearing, the
11 first hearing on this topic and we were told
12 nobody every leaves material. Not true. In two
13 of my schools, there was a ton of material left,
14 understandably, because they wanted to make it
15 almost like a permanent place where they could
16 have services.

17 Number two, I feel strongly that
18 the schools need to be more of a place for the
19 community. I believe strongly in community
20 schools, something that the Speaker has talked
21 about, where we want the schools used by local
22 community organizations on a regular basis.

23 For many reasons, I do not support
24 this resolution--

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:

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2 [interposing] Council Member?

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COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: --thank you
very much.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
very much. We will now move on to Council Member
Lander, followed by Council Member Fidler.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you,
Mr. Majority Leader. I support Resolution 1155-A.
I believe it's acceptable when the Bangladeshi
Muslims in my community hold a Bengali New Year's
ceremony and say a prayer, or full disclosure,
when my daughter's Hebrew school class meets in a
public school and sometimes says a prayer as well.

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I do believe that just as when the
Catholic Church rents space to our public schools,
they require that we follow their values and
restrain from sex education, so, too, when the
city rents space to outside institutions, whether
they're religious organizations, civic, scouting
organizations or others, that those organizations
should follow our municipal, namely, in this case,
the New York City Human Rights Law.

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I've therefore organized a letter
separate from this resolution, together with

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2 Council Member Dromm, who opposed 1155-A, asking
3 the chancellor to promulgate a new policy which
4 would require that all organizations, religious,
5 civic, cultural, scouting or otherwise that rents
6 space in our public schools proactively and
7 affirmatively agree to follow the New York City
8 Human Rights Law for programs that take place in
9 our public schools. I invite others who would
10 like to join us in signing that letter to let me
11 know. Thank you.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
13 very much. Next, we have Council Member Fidler,
14 followed by Council Member Gentile.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: With all
16 due respect to the former attorney general, New
17 York City is the only place that reads the case
18 law the way he appears to be. I don't believe
19 we're establishing a religion any more than we
20 established religion at the beginning of this
21 meeting today, by having a prayer. I don't think
22 we're establishing religion as long as we allow
23 both any religion and any anti-religious group to
24 rent space on an equal footing. We're not
25 subsidizing religion because they're paying us,

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2 not the other around. They're paying the same
3 price as everybody else.

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5 The notion that I've heard at
6 committee that we're encouraging students to
7 believe that the schools are supporting a religion
8 because it's a neighborhood, well, for those of
9 you who are following the playbook, the Bloomberg
10 Administration destroyed the concept of
11 neighborhood schools a long, long time ago. So I
12 don't really think we need to worry about kids
13 going past their neighborhood school on Saturday
14 or Sunday.

14

15 I just think this is a matter of
16 fairness and equal treatment that religious groups
17 shouldn't be treated less than everybody else. I
18 am for this resolution.

18

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
20 very much. We now move on to Council Member
21 Gentile, followed by Council Member Gennaro.

21

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Thank you.
23 I agree with my colleague Lew Fidler that we're
24 really not violating an Establishment Clause of
25 the First Amendment here. Certainly, these groups
pay for the space that they use in schools and

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2 they're not proselytizing outside the schools.
3 Anybody who is there on the weekend in those
4 spaces are there without any pressure from the
5 churches. They're there because they want to go
6 to that service. So there is not aspect by which
7 the government or the state is establishing a
8 religion. It is clearly just renting space for
9 those services, just as any other group would rent
10 space. So I believe the argument about violating
11 the Constitution is specious, and therefore, I
12 stand in support of 1155.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
14 very much. We now move on to Council Member
15 Gennaro, followed by Council Member Wills.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you,
17 Mr. Leader. I just wish to be associated with the
18 remarks of Council Member Koppell. Thank you.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
20 very much. Council Member Wills?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: I stand in
22 support of Resolution 1155. I just wanted to say
23 that yes, we do have things that are going on in
24 the schools on the weekends. Districts like mine,
25 all over the city, that do not have anything going

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2 on in the schools, whether they're Saturday
3 academies or anything else that we have stopped by
4 not applying the proper funding, these churches or
5 houses of worship, no matter what faith it is,
6 fill the gap.

7 I think that through respectfully
8 saying so, that anyone who would deny access into
9 these buildings but still go to all of the other
10 houses of worship for anything else that you would
11 want to, I think is a contradiction and is
12 hypocritical. I think that these houses of
13 worship need to start somewhere and they need the
14 resources to be able to do that. There is nothing
15 more community than a house of worship that does
16 what we have expected them to do, by cutting their
17 funding, and asking them to do it anyway.

18 I stand in full support of Council
19 Member Cabrera, from the beginning in Resolution
20 1155, and I urge all the rest of our colleagues to
21 pass it.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
23 very much. Seeing no others on this--Council
24 Member Comrie?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: I'll be

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2 brief. I just wanted to say I fully support
3 Council Member Cabrera and all of the speakers in
4 support of Resolution 1155.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
6 very much. We'll now move on to the next
7 resolution, which is--oh, Council Member Vallone?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: I support
9 this reso. I'm on it. I'm an attorney. I agree
10 with Lew Fidler's interpretation of the law.
11 Thank you.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
13 very much. Any others? Council Member Dilan?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Ditto.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Ditto.
16 Okay. Anybody else want to ditto? Seeing no
17 other dittos, or counters, we'll now move on to
18 the next resolution. Let's vote on that
19 resolution. Sorry about that, we heard so much
20 debate already. Let's call a voice vote on
21 Resolution 1155-a. All in favor say aye.

22 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All opposed
24 say nay.

25 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Nay.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I couldn't determine.

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SPEAKER QUINN: If you're voting no, please go see the clerk so it can be noted on the register, or the record so to speak.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Just to double what the speaker just said, only nine members came up to vote no. So if you are voting no, make sure you come up to the front to verify that.

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SPEAKER QUINN: So anyone who hasn't yet noted their no vote, go up and then the Majority Leader will read the vote after people have finished doing that. Thank you.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you, Madame Speaker. We now move on to the next resolution, Preconsidered Resolution 1767, a resolution calling up on the New York State Department of Education to immediately stop all standalone field testing for students, adopted by the Committee on Education. First, we'll hear from Council Member Jackson.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you. My colleagues, I rise to ask you to support this

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2 particular resolution being put forward by our
3 leader Speaker Christine Quinn and myself.
4 Obviously, if you have been listening to parents
5 in your district around the City of New York,
6 reading the newspapers or listening to the radio
7 or TV, obviously you know what the situation is
8 about the stress and strain all of the
9 examinations and testing has had on our children.

10 In fact, they are field testing on
11 our children as guinea pigs with respects to
12 determining how things will look in the future. I
13 remember when my daughter was in school and
14 psychiatrist institute wanted to ask questions of
15 children of appropriate age, whatever testing they
16 were doing on, they would ask us to come in on a
17 Saturday or Sunday or day off and they would pay
18 \$50, \$75, \$100--

19 SPEAKER QUINN: [interposing] Could
20 we have quiet please.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: --in order
22 to get the information that they needed. That's
23 with the permission of the parents in order to
24 field test situations. Our children should not
25 have to take these field examinations during the

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2 regular school day, bringing more stress, and
3 strain to themselves and taking away time and
4 energy of staff and students in our New York City
5 public school system. They want to do it, do it
6 on a voluntary basis and pay students and parents
7 and get permission from parents and pay them the
8 opportunity to field test them outside of normal
9 school hours. I ask our colleagues to support
10 this resolution. Thank you.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
12 very much. We'll now hear from Council Member
13 Weprin.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Thank you,
15 Mr. Chair. Council Member Jones has let me speak
16 on this issue for her. I am so happy that the
17 Speaker and Council Member Jackson have brought
18 this issue to the table. Last year, when they
19 first started these field tests, we tried to
20 organize a boycott, which unfortunately was not
21 successful because they still got enough people to
22 test these field tests.

23 We spend 10 percent of our school
24 year taking tests and about another 20 percent
25 just prepping for tests. It is outrageous what is

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2 going on in our schools today where kids are
3 learning less and testing more. To have a test
4 that has no effect on the child, no effect on the
5 school and is just being used a million dollar
6 company to test their information, and who knows
7 what else, there is something outrageous about
8 that. That students, like Katiya and like other
9 students, are being used and taken out of class
10 time to take a standardized test that does no good
11 for any of them, I find very outrageous.

12 So I am delighted the Speaker has
13 put this resolution forth to stand up to this
14 obsession with standardized tests. Thank you very
15 much.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
17 very much. Madame Speaker?

18 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you all my
19 colleagues. I also want to note that in addition
20 to the resolution, Chair Jackson and I have sent a
21 letter to Regent Tisch [phonetic] and to John
22 King, urging that the state immediately stop
23 field-testing. We'll get everyone the address--
24 have set up a Facebook page which will have the
25 petition on it, to try to involve all of the

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2 parents and guardians across this city so we can
3 really grow and amplify the voices of New Yorkers
4 in this effort.

5 So I urge everyone--we'll send out
6 a memo with the Facebook information. Do you have
7 it? Oh wait, we're getting the exact Facebook
8 page information here from the birthday boy. So
9 I'm going to ask indulgence in a little more time.
10 It's go to Facebook.com/ChristineCQuinn. It'll
11 take you to our anti-field testing Facebook page.
12 I would urge you, if you could link to it, so we
13 could drive as many parents to it as possible to
14 grow the number of New Yorkers who are opposing
15 field-testing, as quickly as possible. Thank you.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
17 very much, Madame Speaker. Council Member Wills?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: I want to
19 add my voice in supporting to this resolution. I
20 went out to Far Rockaway about a month and a half
21 ago, and one of the major issues that the parents
22 and parent advocates spoke about was this. It was
23 a shame that out of 180 people in the room, all we
24 had was complaints, complaints, complaints, but no
25 one can figure out an answer to begin to deal with

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this problem.

I want to commend the Speaker as well as Council Member Jackson for finally ending this or working towards endings this and giving our parents and children of the New York City public school system some much needed relief.

Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you very much. Any others to speak on this item? Seeing none, we'll now call for a voice vote for Preconsidered Resolution 1767. All in favor say aye.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All opposed say nay. Any abstentions? The ayes have it. The ayes had it on Resolution 1155-A as well. So we'll now move on to Preconsidered Reso 1770, a resolution calling upon the New York State Legislature to enact the NYCHA Real Property Public Review Act requiring that any disposition of land or buildings by New York City Housing Authority be subject to and comply with the provisions of New York City's Uniform Land Use Review Procedure, adopted by the Committee on

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Public Housing. We'll first start off with Council Member Jackson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: [off mic].

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Okay.

Council Member Mendez?

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Thank you.

Today we pass a very important resolution that supports a tremendously important bill in Albany. The NYCHA Real Property Public Review Act will require that the Housing Authority go through the well-established Uniform Land Use Review procedures, as we know it, ULURP when they propose to dispose of any land or buildings.

This legislation is necessary, frankly, because NYCHA will not voluntarily opt into ULURP review for any of the actions proposed in their current infill plan. NYCHA's current public consultation process is lacking in significant ways, and contains no formal safeguards to protect and incorporate the views of residents into these plans.

The resolution before us and the underlying legislation it refers to is a natural successor to omnibus Resolution 1719, which this

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body passed in early April, calling on NYCHA to adopt 22 specific provisions--

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:

[interposing] Council Member?

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: --including ULURP review before moving forward with infill plans. I am confident that we all agree on--

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:

[interposing] Council Member?

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: --the hallmark principle that NYCHA at a baseline should be subject to ULURP and be held to the highest and most exacting review and participation standards that the law allows.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council Member?

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: I want to thank my co-sponsors, my speaker, Christine Quinn and Council Members Margaret Chin and Melissa Mark-Viverito. I also want to herald the efforts of Senator Brad Hoylman and Assembly Member Keith Wright, who are working expeditiously--

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:

[interposing] Council Member?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: --to ensure
3 that this legislation be passed in Albany. Today
4 we send a strong message to the State Legislature
5 and to NYCHA that the voices of residents are
6 paramount and must always come first. Thank you,
7 Mr. Majority Leader.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you,
9 Council Member. Council Member Jackson?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you,
11 Majority Leader. My colleagues, I rise and ask
12 you to support this Preconsidered Reso 1770. If
13 you attended any of the NYCHA hearings that were
14 held and/or the citywide forums, they were mayoral
15 forums in the city of New York where NYCHA and the
16 infill were discussed. It's my understanding in
17 attending some of those particular hearings and/or
18 debates that of the eight NYCHA developments where
19 all of these infills are going to take place, none
20 of the NYCHA resident leaders are in support of
21 it, considering the fact of lack of consultation
22 and the fact they're not involved in the process
23 and the fact that NYCHA doesn't have to finally
24 take their opinions and do whatever they need to
25 do.

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2 So with that, everyone that I know
3 wants this particular Preconsidered resolution
4 passed, so hopefully the Legislature to move
5 forward and so that everything will go through a
6 land use process where the community would have a
7 say. I ask you to support this resolution.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
9 very much. Anybody else want to speak on this
10 item? At this point, we'll call for a voice vote
11 for Preconsidered Reso 1770. All in favor say
12 aye.

13 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All opposed
15 say nay. Any abstentions? The ayes have it. We
16 now move on to general discussion. We have
17 Council Member Brewer first.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you
19 very much. I want to bring to your attention Reso
20 1768, on student data privacy. I am co-sponsoring
21 this with Council Member Jackson, Council Member
22 Lander. I think you know that there are two bills
23 in Albany, introduced after revelations that the
24 New York State Education Department has partnered
25 with In Bloom, Inc. It's a technology company

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2 that aggregates student data for use in digital
3 learning tools. I think everyone knows I'm a big
4 believer in technology, but not in something that
5 is done without parent permission regarding
6 students.

7 What this resolution and the
8 legislation states is that the State Department
9 should not allow the disclosure of even one more
10 child's privacy data until it has conducted open
11 public meetings with parents across the state to
12 explain and justify their claim that parents need
13 not consent or be consulted prior to the
14 disclosure of intimate facts about their children,
15 simply because those children are registered in
16 public school. I could go on and on about our
17 great concern in terms of protection. I just want
18 to add that other states have stopped this
19 practice and New York should do the same.

20 Number two, I have several students
21 who are interns here. Matthew Lang [phonetic] is
22 at Monmouth University. Stephanie Martinez is at
23 LaGuardia Community College. Paul Rapsadari
24 [phonetic] is at Hackler School and they're great
25 interns in my office.

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Just finally, I want to mention that there is a discussion now going on in Albany about the lever machines or not being used in the runoff election. I personally join the good government groups in the disabled New Yorkers and their advocates not supporting the lever machines. So I just think everyone should pay a lot of attention to this. We need to get a new date, which would be preferable, so that the Board of Elections can count the votes on primary day and then use the scanners--

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:

[interposing] Council Member?

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: --in a special situation. Thank you very much.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you.

We now move on to Council Member Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you. First, I want to invite my colleagues to the Black, Latino and Asian Caucus, right after this, open to all members. We'll be having a quick briefing on Intros 800-A and Intro 881-A, commonly called profiling and inspector general bills. Please come forward with any questions that you

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may have. We'll be happy to provide an answer.

I'm also asking my colleagues to support Resolution 1772, a resolution calling on the New York State Senate to pass and the Governor to sign S1416, which establish child sensitive arrest policy and procedures. The bill is broadly written but primarily is trying to make sure that we minimize trauma to children, particularly when their parent or custodian is getting arrested. It will require the superintendent in consultation with the Office of Child and Family Services to do things such as a policy. They are not limited to inquiring whether an arrestee is charged with the care or custody of a child, allowing for the arrangement of temporary care for the child, education on how witnessing violence causes emotional harm to children, information on the availability of access to community-based providers. It would also allow extra calls for someone who's in care of a child. Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you very much. We'll now move on to Council Member Gennaro, followed by Council Member Koslowitz.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you,

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2 Mr. Leader. I'd like to bring people's attention
3 to Intro 1047. This would be a bio heat bill.
4 People may recall that for all heating oil in the
5 city, we have a B2 mandate, meaning that two
6 percent of the contents of the heating oil has to
7 be like a vegetable oil type product. We get that
8 by and large from grease from fried foods.

9 In the larger industry, people use
10 B5 blends, B10 blends, B20 blends, you know, are
11 used commonly. This bill, 1047, would require the
12 use of a B5 blend in buildings owned by the city
13 and it would also require DCAS to do a pilot
14 program where they'd use a B10 blend in 10 percent
15 of buildings. That would last for one year, that
16 pilot, and then they would report.

17 So this is a way of just, you know
18 moving the bio heat fuel forward in New York City,
19 which has a lot of clean air benefits. We've had
20 great success with it and people have had very,
21 very good success with it in the private sector.
22 We think we should move this forward. So I wanted
23 to call people's attention to 1047 and ask them to
24 sign on. Thank you.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you

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very much. Council Member Koslowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Today, I am introducing Intro 1048, legislation that increase the maximum price for a single item purchased at a newsstand from \$50 to \$10. This bill gives New York's newsstand owners the opportunity to sell the items that New Yorkers need.

In 1991, I led similar legislation to increase the price of individual items sold from \$2 to \$5. Well that \$5 from 1991 has become \$10 today. Join me in helping newsstand owners keep up with growing demand for items that New Yorkers need, such as phone chargers, umbrellas or earphones.

This bill will only affect newsstands under the control of the Department of Consumer Affairs and continues to exempt newspapers, magazines, periodicals and prepaid calling or transit cards. These small businesses are open 365 days a year and are an integral part of what keeps the city moving.

I want to thank Speaker Quinn for supporting this legislation and ask that my

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2 colleagues join me in giving newsstand owners a
3 fighting chance at keeping up with demands of the
4 city.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
very much. Seeing no others, this meeting is
adjourned. Stand to recess. I apologize.
Adjourned, okay, it's adjourned again.

C E R T I F I C A T E

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

Signature _____  _____

Date _____ June 7, 2013 _____