

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

STATED MEETING

Of the

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL

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September 10, 2014
Start: 1:24 p.m.
Recess: 2:53 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: Melissa Mark-Viverito
Speaker

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- Margaret S. Chin
- Rosie Mendez
- Corey D. Johnson
- Daniel R. Garodnick
- Ben Kallos
- Helen K. Rosenthal
- Mark Levine
- Inez E. Dickens
- Ydanis Rodriguez
- Andrew Cohen
- Andy L. King
- James Vacca
- Fernando Cabrera
- Ritchie J. Torres
- Vanessa L. Gibson
- Maria Del Carmen Arroyo
- Annabel Palma

Paul A. Vallone
Peter A. Koo
Julissa Ferreras
Costa G. Constantinides
Mark S. Weprin
Rory I. Lancman
Daniel Dromm
James G. Van Bramer
I. Daneek Miller
Ruben Wills
Karen Koslowitz
Elizabeth S. Crowley
Donovan J. Richards
Eric A. Ulrich
Stephen T. Levin
Antonio Reynoso
Laurie A. Cumbo
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.
Rafael Espnial, Jr.
Carlos Menchacca
Bradford S. Lander
Mathieu Eugene
Darlene Mealy
Inez D. Barron
Vincent J. Gentile
David G. Greenfield
Jumaane D. Williams
Alan N. Maisel
Mark Treyger
Chaim M. Deutsch
Deborah L. Rose
Steven Matteo
Vincent M. Ignizio

Letitia James
Public Advocate

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

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2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: We have two
3 ceremonials today, but one of them has multiple
4 proclamations. We have Council Member Barron and
5 Council Members Johnson that have ceremonials today.
6 We're going to start off with Council Member Barron,
7 who is giving proclamation to rookie firefighter
8 Justin Tallett. His fire company and EMS first
9 responders who saved four year old Trevele Bolton in
10 a fire in the Pink Housing Developments Inner
11 District. So, Council Member Barron, is this your
12 first ceremonial? No. In the chambers, yes. So,
13 hand the mic over to our colleague.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you, Madam
15 Speaker. Going to ask all of those who are being
16 recognized for this event if they would come forward
17 and if any Council Members want to join us here,
18 please welcome to do so. Oh, we've got a special
19 guest today as well.

20 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [off mic] Julian
21 [sp?].

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Julian is happy
23 about this occasion. Today with us we have Justin
24 Tallett. I know all of you heard about the event
25 where this probie [sic], is that what your called,

2 went in and rescued a young child who was in an
3 apartment which was on fire and was unconscious and
4 brought that child back to us so that we would have
5 him here with us. It happened in the Pink Houses,
6 which is located in my district. We thought that
7 this would be a great opportunity to have a
8 recognition by the City Council. He's already been
9 recognized by the Borough President and by the Mayor,
10 but there's not too much you can say about a person
11 who's willing to risk their own life for someone that
12 they don't even know. So we thought that the City
13 Council under the leadership of our Speaker, we would
14 take this time to acknowledge the great work that he
15 has done. And since we know that he, as I've heard
16 him speak in the past, has always acknowledged very
17 humble, very, you know, mild, and well, you know, it
18 wasn't just me, there were other people involved as
19 well. So we have the same proclamation wording which
20 is being presented to Justin Tallett to Ladder
21 Company 107, to Engine Company 225. No, yes, 225,
22 EMS 39, EMS 89 and Battalion 89. So, we'd ask if the
23 clerk would read the proclamation now.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Council, City of New York
25 Proclamation: The Council of the City of New York is

2 proud to celebrate and honor some of New York's
3 bravest and best, Justin Tallett. The Council of the
4 City of New York is proud to celebrate and honor some
5 of New York's best. Justin Tallet, Ladder 107, EMS
6 39, Battalion 39, Engine 225 and EMS 58 for heroic
7 actions in completion of their duties as members of
8 the Fire Department of New York, and whereas, on July
9 29th, 2014 a call came in at 11:13 a.m. for a fire at
10 1308 Loring Avenue in the Bronx. There was a fire on
11 the fourth floor of an eight story apartment
12 building. Firefighters from Ladder 107 and EMS
13 received the call and were immediately dispatched to
14 the scene, and whereas, as they responded, the
15 members of Ladder 107 including Lieutenant
16 Christopher Beddard [sp?], firefighters Timothy
17 Saunenberg [sp?], Daniel Simon, Frank Blackstone and
18 Michael Fath [sp?], and probationary firefighter
19 Justin Tallett were told that there were children
20 trapped in the fourth floor apartment. And whereas,
21 upon arrival, firefighter Blackstone and firefighter
22 Saunenberg, the company chauffer went to the rear of
23 the residence with the fire apparatus. They saw there
24 were children in the window with their heads between
25 the child guards. Firefighter Saunenberg guided the

2 rig through the trees and crushed part of a fence to
3 position it perfectly. He then moved firefighter
4 Blackstone in the rig's bucket to get closer to the
5 window. He said the children ages eight and five were
6 crying but calm. They backed up a little bit when he
7 cut the child gate with a saw, and he then lifted
8 them from the window into the bucket. And whereas,
9 with reports of another child simultaneously being
10 trapped inside the apartment, Lieutenant Beddard,
11 firefighter Fath and probationary firefighter Tallett
12 went upstairs to the floor with the fire. The
13 apartment door had been left open so the entire
14 fourth floor was filled with smoke. The firefighters
15 crawled down the hallway in the burning apartment.
16 The fire was in the living room and they were able to
17 keep the flames back with their water cans as
18 firefighters from Engine 225 hooked up to the hydrant
19 which was in a challenging location behind the
20 building, and whereas, there were two rear bedrooms
21 and firefighter Fath went to search one while
22 firefighter Tallett, a former Army medic searched the
23 other. Firefighter Tallett said he saw a television
24 with cartoons on in the room and what appeared to be
25 a crib or bunk beds. He felt below some blankets and

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2 found an unconscious three year old boy who was not
3 breathing. He carried him through the apartment and
4 downstairs to awaiting firefighters. And whereas,
5 from there the boy was passed along to EMT's Kenneth
6 Baratow [sp?] and Evelina Zilinska [sp?] from Station
7 39. They were able to resuscitate the boy on the way
8 to the hospital. Now, therefore, be it known that
9 the Council of the City of New York applauds these
10 brave members of the FDNY for their heroic and
11 selfless acts, going above and beyond the call of
12 duty by saving the lives of three children from a
13 blazing inferno and is proud to celebrate and honor
14 Justin Tallett, Ladder 107, EMS 39, Battalion 39,
15 Engine 225 and EMS 58; Melissa Mark-Viverito, Speaker
16 for the entire Council, Inez D. Barron, Council
17 Member 42nd District Brooklyn, I. Daneek Miller,
18 Council Member 27th District Queens, Elizabeth
19 Crowley, Council Member 30th District Queens and many
20 other Council Members.

21 [applause]

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: So, you heard
23 what it was that was done and the humility with which
24 I have seen expressed in the discharge of that duty
25 is just amazing, and we've also been joined here

2 today by First Deputy Commissioner Bob Turner and
3 Brooklyn Borough Commander Chief Leonard [sic], and I
4 believe Mr. Turner's going to speak.

5 BOB TURNER: Yes, good afternoon. Thank
6 you, Councilwoman, Speaker, Majority Leader, Public
7 Advocate on behalf of presenting this to our
8 firefighters. It doesn't get any more real when you
9 go out the door and you hear that people are trapped,
10 in particularly when children are trapped. So we
11 train our entire career for moments like that, and
12 they were able to successfully complete a rescue as
13 well with our paramedics to bring the chil--one of
14 the children back, and help them survive. So, on
15 behalf of the Fire Department, thank you for
16 recognizing what they do, and we look forward to
17 serving your communities in the future and for your
18 continued support. Thank you.

19 [applause]

20 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you so much
21 for accepting on behalf of these heroes and this
22 ceremony in recognition of what you have accomplished
23 is a reminder of what we're grateful for in terms of
24 our firemen, fire women, our police officers each and
25 every day. So, thank you for your service. Thank you

2 for your commitment and thank you for saving this
3 young boy. So, thank you. Council Member?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: We're going to
5 call on the Chair of the Fire Department [sic] to
6 speak also.

7 UNIDENTIFIED: Thank you, Council Member
8 Barron and Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito. It is an
9 honor for me to join you and the colleagues here in
10 honoring members of the Fire Department. Each and
11 every day, our firefighters risk their lives to
12 protect us New Yorkers, and so often, the work they
13 do goes unrecognized, and so today, I'm happy to join
14 you as we recognize these fine men. Thank you.

15 [applause]

16 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Now, how
17 appropriate that we have a little visitor here with
18 us today, Julian, Council Member Julissa Ferreras'
19 son and the two proud grandmas. When we take into
20 account what our next ceremonial's about. We'll have
21 Council Member Corey Johnson recognizing the National
22 Diaper Bank Network, which is in honor--hold on one
23 second we're going to just wait a second while we
24 finish up the next ceremonial. Thank you so much.
25 So Council Member Johnson is recognizing the National

2 Diaper Bank Network, which is honor of Diaper Need
3 Awareness Week, which highlights the fact that one in
4 three American families struggle with not having
5 enough diapers for their baby, which is obviously a
6 hidden consequence of poverty in this city and we
7 have unfortunately too much of that. So, Council
8 Member Johnson?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam
10 Speaker. Gary, may I have this? Thank you very
11 much. Thank you. So today is about honoring the
12 National Diaper Bank Network. New York City is
13 hopefully going to join 80 other cities in
14 recognizing this important work. For too many
15 families, too many mothers, access to diapers is a
16 huge obstacle and problem. Food stamps and WIC
17 vouchers do not cover diapers, and many families have
18 to choose between food--here you go, take this from
19 me--food for their families or diapers for their
20 babies. We know that that choice shouldn't have to be
21 made and so having to replace a diaper is something
22 that every family should be able to do as often as
23 they need to do it. Diapers are expensive. They're
24 very expensive, and my hope is that New York City
25 will create a diaper bank, just like a food bank, so

2 that we can get diapers for every family and child in
3 New York City that needs it. I know that Council
4 Member Ferreras supports that goal, and so today is
5 about honoring the incredible work that is done by
6 this amazing group on a daily basis and making sure
7 that New York City is a leader for children who
8 aren't able to get those diapers replaced. There are
9 major health consequences involved to that, higher
10 urinary tract infections, and it is just, you know,
11 not right that a baby shouldn't have a clean diaper.
12 So today is this City Council and our Speaker saying
13 it is time to provide greater access to everyone and
14 ensure that everyone has a clean diaper. So I want
15 to honor you and hand the mic over.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Thank you very
17 much, Councilman. We at the National Diaper Network
18 are thrilled that New York City is taking this step
19 in recognizing diaper need in the city and across the
20 country, and we're very thrilled that New York is
21 taking this leadership in looking at creating a
22 diaper bank in the city because there is such need
23 here. And we look forward to working with you in the
24 future in this effort. So thank you again.

2 Councilman. Thank you Council President and we're
3 very honored.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: We're going to
5 ask the clerk to read the proc so we could get a
6 little bit more information. Go ahead, yes.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Council City of New York
8 Proclamation, whereas we, the under signed [sic]
9 members of the New York City Council are pleased and
10 proud to join the National Diaper Bank Network in
11 heightening awareness of the necessity for clean
12 diapers, and whereas, in the United States there are
13 5.9 million babies ages three or younger--

14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [interposing] Can
15 we please have silence. Thank you very much.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Many of whom come from
17 low income families, and whereas one out of three
18 families struggle to buy sufficient amounts of
19 diapers. If a family has to choose between feeding
20 their family and keeping their baby in a clean supply
21 of diapers, they will often reuse diapers and go
22 longer between diaper changes. And whereas, diapers
23 can cost up to 100 dollars per month for a baby. An
24 infant can require up to 12 diapers per day, while
25 toddlers can use around eight diapers per day. Many

2 families cannot afford the additional expense of
3 these costly diapers. Food stamps and WIC checks do
4 not help to cover the cost of diapers, nor are there
5 any government subsidies that help to pay for these
6 items. And whereas without transportation, buying
7 diapers at a convenience store rather than a large
8 discount store can double or triple the monthly cost.
9 Most childcare centers, even free and subsidized
10 facilities require parents to provide a day's supply
11 of disposable diapers. And whereas babies who remain
12 in unclean diapers are exposed to potential health
13 risks and are left in discomfort. People taking care
14 of a child may also suffer discomfort such as
15 embarrassment that renders them less likely to leave
16 the home. And many parents cannot even go to work or
17 school if they are unable to leave their babies at
18 childcare. And whereas the consequence to what
19 advocates call the "diaper gap" are enormous. A
20 recent study out of Yale University published in the
21 Journal of Pediatrics found that three in ten poor
22 mothers can't afford an adequate number of diapers.
23 The Yale study also found that diaper insecurity had
24 a higher mental health impact on the whole family
25 than food insecurities. Now, therefore, be it known

2 that we the undersign [sic] members of the New York
3 City Council gratefully honor the National Diaper
4 Bank Network for their outstanding service in raising
5 awareness about the need for clean diapers; Melissa
6 Mark-Viverito, Speaker for the entire Council, Corey
7 Johnson, Council Member Third District Manhattan,
8 Laurie Cumbo, Council Member 35th District Brooklyn,
9 Darlene Mealy, Council Member 41st District Brooklyn,
10 Elizabeth Crowley, Council Member 30th District
11 Queens.

12 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Well, again, I
13 want to thank Council Member Johnson for bringing
14 this to our attention. I want to thank the National
15 Diaper Bank Network for all your efforts, continued
16 partnership. Let's see how far we can take this. I
17 think it's really important.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: And I also want
19 to recognize the Chair of the Women's Committee,
20 Council Member Laurie Cumbo, who has been a part of
21 this as well as the Co-Chairs of the Women's Caucus
22 in the Council, Council Members Elizabeth Crowley and
23 Council Member Darlene Mealy. So thank you all very
24 much. Thank you for being here.

25 [applause]

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2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you to all,
3 and that concludes ceremonials for this session.

4 [pause]

5 UNIDENTIFIED: Ladies and gentleman,
6 ladies and gentleman, could I please have your
7 attention. All quiet on the floor, please. Quiet on
8 the floor. Can I have your attention, please?

9 [gavel] Quiet on the floor please.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet on the
11 floor.

12 UNIDENTIFIED: Quiet on the floor.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet on the
14 floor.

15 UNIDENTIFIED: At this time, please place
16 all electronic devices to vibrate, and will all non-
17 council employees, non-council employees, please
18 leave the main floor of the chambers. You could have
19 a seat in the balcony. Thank you.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: May everyone
21 please have their seats. Please take your seats.
22 Members, please take your seats. Visitors, please
23 take your seats. Individuals in the balcony, please
24 take your seats. Let us call this Stated Council to
25 order. In the back, may everyone have their seats.

2 Quiet. Quiet in the chambers, please. Let us rise
3 for the Pledge of Allegiance.

4 ALL MEMBERS: I pledge allegiance to the
5 flag of the United States of America, and to the
6 Republic for which it stands, one nation, under God,
7 indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Roll call.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Arroyo?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Here.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Barron?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: [off mic]

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Cabrera?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Chin?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Cohen?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Here.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Constantinides? Cornegy?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Present.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Crowley?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Cumbo?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Present.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Deutsch?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Yes.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Dickens?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Here.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Dromm?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Espinal?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Here.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Eugene? Ferreras?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Here.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Garodnick?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Gentile?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Gibson?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Here.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Greenfield?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Here.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Johnson?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Here.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Kallos?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Here.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: King?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Present.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Koo?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Koslowitz?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Lancman?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Here.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Lander? Levin?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Levine?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Here.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Maisel?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Present.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Matteo?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Here.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Mealy? Barron?

16 Menchacca?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACCA: Presente.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Mendez? Miller?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Here.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Palma?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Here.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Reynoso?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Here.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Richards?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Present.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez? Rose?

3 Rosenthal? Torres?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Here.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Treyger?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Ulrich?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Here.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Vacca? Vallone?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the
12 chambers, please. May we have quiet in the chambers
13 for the roll call? Continue with the roll.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Weprin?

15 Weprin?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Here.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Williams?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Wills? Rosenthal?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Ignizio?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Here.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Van Bramer?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito?

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Please rise for
3 the invocation delivered by Reverend Doctor
4 Jacqueline J. Lewis, PH.D., the Pastor Middle
5 Collegiate Church at 122 Second Avenue in Manhattan.

6 REVEREND LEWIS: Good afternoon everyone.
7 I'm so honored to be here to ask God's spirit to be
8 here with us, and this, our nation's first white
9 house in what I think is the greatest city on the
10 globe, a representation of all of the good and
11 fabulous diversity of God's creation. Often you pray
12 with your eyes closed, and I know we're here from
13 many different traditions, but I wonder if you would
14 honor each other by praying with your eyes open this
15 day. I believe that each of you, each of you is a
16 representation of God's stunning goodness. So, with
17 that in mind, if you feel comfortable, perhaps just
18 your hands here and your eyes open. Please join me
19 in a word of prayer. God of many good gifts, we
20 celebrate your artistry today, that you have shaped
21 each and every one of us in your image, male and
22 female, and black and white, Latino, and Asian and
23 gay and straight and bi and trans, short and tall,
24 big boned and slim, gifted with ideas and thoughts
25 and dreams and hopes and visions, and the ability to

2 articulate them and stand up for them and stand in
3 for them. God, we ask in this moment that your
4 breath, which is your spirit, would be in each of our
5 lungs, that we might speak truth to power. We ask
6 that your breath, which is your spirit, would be wind
7 beneath our wings to lift us up when we feel
8 exhausted. We ask that your breath, which is your
9 spirit, would propel our feet to places where justice
10 needs to be done, that it would embolden our hands to
11 hold onto one another and care for one another, that
12 it would increase our ability to use social
13 networking and all of our modern tools to tell the
14 story of a great city full of great diversity that
15 knows how to be just. May this city be a model for
16 reconciliation and peace and love and justice all
17 around the globe. May we who stand in the shadow of
18 9/11 and at the 50th anniversary of freedom summer
19 make freedom ring from the highest mountain to the
20 lowest valley, from every cityscape to every small
21 town to every hamlet. May we, by what we do here,
22 make freedom ring. And to invoke an old song sung by
23 civil rights leaders everywhere, we shall overcome.
24 [singing] We shall overcome. Please sing with me. We
25 shall overcome. We shall overcome some day. Oh, deep

2 in my heart, I do believe we shall overcome someday.
3 Amen. May it be so.

4 [applause]

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Motion to spread
6 the invocation in full upon the record by Council
7 Member Cumbo.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you, Madam
9 Public Advocate. I motion to spread the invocation in
10 full upon the record today. I am very, very, very
11 pleased today.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Excuse me,
13 Council Member, quiet in the chambers, please.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you. The
15 Reverend Doctor Jacqueline Lewis, who is the pastor
16 of Middle Collegiate Church, is also the pastor of my
17 mother and father, and it just so happens to be, and
18 I will say that there are no coincidences, the first
19 time that I've invited my parents to a Stated
20 Meeting, that Reverend Doctor Lewis would be here to
21 give the invocation. What I want all my colleagues
22 to know here is that Doctor Lewis is an incredible,
23 dynamic and extraordinary woman, and any visit to
24 Middle Collegiate is an opportunity to see the
25 diversity of New York City working together

2 progressively at a Sunday worship service. Every
3 denomination is there, every race, nationality, all
4 gender, all sexual orientations, old and young. It's
5 a beautiful experience that really represents the
6 very best of New York City, and I so very happy and
7 proud that my mother has taken me there for many
8 services and I have enjoyed that experience. And
9 this particular church also has the wonderful
10 opportunity to be allowed vocal passionate and
11 impactful voice for the City of New York as well as
12 all over the world. And so I'm very proud to stand
13 with you here today, and you have stood here on these
14 steps many times, whether it is the Bring Back our
15 Girls Campaign or many others, you've been a true
16 voice and champion progressively in a very spiritual
17 and political and powerful way. So it's an honor to
18 spread this invocation before my colleagues, and I
19 encourage all of you to come for a visit very soon.
20 Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
22 Adoption of minutes, Council Member Maisel?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Motion to spread
24 the--I'm sorry, motion the minutes of the Stated
25 Meeting July 24th will be adopted as printed.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Messages and
3 papers from the Mayor?

4 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Communication
6 from city, county and borough offices?

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Preconsidered M 0115,
8 Fiscal 2015 Capital Budget.

9 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Finance.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: M 0116, Manhattan Borough
11 President Strategic Policy Statement.

12 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Received,
13 Ordered, Printed and Filed.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: M 0117, Queens Borough
15 President Strategic Policy Statement.

16 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Received,
17 Ordered, Printed and Filed.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: M 0118 through M 0141 on
19 page four Base Station Licenses.

20 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Transportation.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Petitions and
22 Communications?

23 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Land Use Call-
25 Ups?

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2 COUNCIL CLERK: M 0142 through M 0146.

3 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on Call-
4 Up vote. Roll call?

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: May we have quiet
6 in the chambers for the--

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Arroyo?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: I request consent
9 to vote aye on the General Order Calendar.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: I vote aye.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Barron?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Cabrerra?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Chin?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Cohen?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Cornegy?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Crowley?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Cumbo?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Aye.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Deutsch?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Aye.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Dickens?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Yes.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Dromm?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Espinal?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Aye.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Eugene?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Ferreras?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: I vote aye on

15 all Call-Ups, and with permission, I vote aye on all

16 Coupled General Orders and Resolutions.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Thank you.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Garodnick?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Gentile?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Gibson?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: I vote aye.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Greenfield?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Johnson?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Kallos?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: King?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Aye.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Koo?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Koslowitz?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye, and may I

13 have permission to vote on all General Coupled

14 Orders?

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes, ma'am.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I vote aye.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Lancman.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Aye.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Lander? Levin?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Levine?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Aye.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Maisel?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Aye.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Matteo?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Yes [sic].

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Mealy? Menchacca?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACCA: Aye.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Miller?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Palma?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Reynoso?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Aye.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Richards?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez? Rosenthal?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Aye.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Torres?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Aye.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Treyger?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Ulrich?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Yes.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Vacca?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Vallone?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Weprin?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Williams?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Ignizio?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: I vote aye, and
7 like to vote on all orders on today's calendar?

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Thank you,
10 kindly. I vote aye.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Van Bramer?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito?

15 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: I vote aye.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

17 Today's Land Use Call-Ups were adopted by a vote of
18 44 in the affirmative and 0 in the negative.

19 Communication from Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito.

20 Quiet in the chambers, please.

21 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you, Madam
22 Public Advocate. I know that our colleague Julissa
23 Ferreras is leaving, but we definitely wanted to
24 welcome her and her son Julian, who I understand is
25 going to be one tomorrow, and the two proud grandmas

2 that are here. It's been great having him running
3 around. So welcome to you all. And obviously
4 Council Member Cumbo's family, welcome to you as
5 well. And my understanding is that Council Member
6 Garodnick's son Devin [sp?] is going to be--he's one
7 today.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Today.

9 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: So a lot of, a lot
10 of good wishes going around. So I want to wish
11 everyone a good afternoon and to start off the
12 remarks today. I just want to congratulate and thank
13 Tenisha [sp?] Edwards of our Finance Department.

14 [applause]

15 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Where's Tenisha?
16 I don't know if she's here. Oh, there she is. So,
17 obviously, from our Finance Department for her
18 excellent work this week delivering a victory for the
19 Council and the people of New York in court,
20 defending the Responsible Banking Act. A labor of
21 love, she worked on that for many, many--for a long
22 period of time. It's two years ago just about that
23 we passed it in this council and it's been taken up
24 in the courts. Tenisha successfully defended a law
25 that increases transparency in the banking industry,

2 and obviously thanks to her this law will now be
3 upheld. Julissa Ferreras also wanted to make sure
4 that she was part of the congratulations. We all are
5 here in the Council. The oral argument that Tenisha
6 made in the case were cited throughout the courts
7 order, and this is obviously a very big deal for the
8 city, because not only did she argue the case, she
9 helped draft the legislation and spent over a year
10 negotiation of the banks and the New York Bankers
11 Association. So congratulations, Tenisha.

12 [applause]

13 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Alright. That's
14 great. And speaking of victories for the Council,
15 we're expecting another big one next week in our
16 softball game versus the Administration. I hope
17 everybody joins us. Mayor de Blasio has challenged
18 the City Council to a match at MCU Park in Coney
19 Island on Wednesday, September 17th at 6:30. We
20 gladly accepted the challenge, and when I look around
21 these chambers, I see a lot of talent. So, all I can
22 say is Mr. Mayor, be careful what you wish for. So
23 let's get--we're going to have some fun next week.
24 Getting to the issue at hand, today, we're going to
25 be passing a package of three bills focused on

2 increased transparency and reporting for New York
3 City's Foster Care System. All of these bills work
4 toward the same goal, which is to better understand
5 and improve our foster care system in New York City.
6 We spent a great deal of time focusing on how to best
7 serve youth and prepare them for adulthood, but the
8 foster care system is too often neglected. These
9 bills will help us better examine the issues facing
10 the system and allow all New Yorkers to have a better
11 understanding of how the foster care system works, in
12 particularly when we talk about the youth that are
13 aging out. So, first off, I would like to ask the
14 three colleagues that are introducing bills to say a
15 few words about them. First, we have our Public
16 Advocate Letitia James that is sponsoring
17 Introduction 104A sponsored by here, and she can
18 speak to the details of the bill.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you, Madam
20 Speaker. Being a child in foster care should not be a
21 guarantee of an adult life of homelessness,
22 dependence on public assistance or prison, yet all
23 too often it is. And each year, nearly 1,000 young
24 people age out of foster care only to enter back into
25 city services because they weren't give the tools to

2 make it. The fact is we spend millions each year.
3 There are significant laws and regulations at both
4 state and city level to try to prepare young adults
5 before they age out, but there is no data to say that
6 these interventions are working. We're failing and
7 we need to know why, what works, what doesn't, which
8 providers are good, which providers are producing
9 consistently poor outcomes. Intro 104 would ensure
10 that we track when children and young adults leave
11 the foster care system and what services and
12 resources are being provided to them in the years
13 before they leave. It marks the first, but
14 important--it marks a first but important step
15 forward in providing the outcomes of these
16 individuals. I'd like to thank Speaker Melissa Mark-
17 Viverito and Chair of the General Welfare Committee,
18 Council Member Steve Levin for their support in
19 helping to move this bill forward, and I urge all of
20 you, all of my colleagues, to vote in support of this
21 legislation. Thank you.

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you. Next,
23 we have Introduction 137A which is sponsored by
24 Council Member Danny Dromm. Danny?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you, Madam
3 Speaker. Youth in foster care face tremendous
4 challenges, especially as they prepare for adulthood.
5 As a city, we must do everything we can to assist
6 these youth in their transition. One important
7 component is ensuring that they have government
8 issued personal identification to do all of the
9 things the rest of us take for granted, including
10 accessing buildings and schools, driving, crossing
11 international borders and dealing with immigration
12 authorities, interacting with law enforcement,
13 opening bank accounts and so on. This bill will
14 require the Administration for Children Services to
15 report on its website the number of government issued
16 personal identification documents obtained for youth
17 as well as its efforts to assist in its goal. I'm
18 particularly excited that the city's recently
19 established municipal identification card program is
20 included in this bill. The bill's definition of
21 government issued ID also includes consular ID's,
22 passports and green cards, meaning that we will be
23 keeping track of how well ACs is serving our city's
24 immigrant youth. I encourage all of my colleagues to

2 ensure our youth have what they need to succeed and
3 to vote for Intro 137A. Thank you.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you,
5 Council Member. And we also then have Introduction
6 187A, which is sponsored by Council Member Laurie
7 Cumbo, which it's her first bill soon to become law.
8 So congratulations on that, Council Member.

9 [applause]

10 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: If you could say
11 a few words on your legislation.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you very
13 much, Madam Speaker. I am proud to introduce my first
14 bill, Intro 187, which will require the
15 Administration for Children Services to submit an
16 annual report to the City Council no later than
17 October 1st of every year, regarding the number of
18 youth in foster care who graduated from high school
19 in the previous year. The education of our youth is
20 essential to the development of tomorrow's workforce,
21 entrepreneurs, but most importantly, leaders. I
22 thank my colleagues who have signed on in support of
23 this legislation. I also want to thank Council Member
24 Levin who held a hearing in regards to this. I thank
25 you very much Council Member. And I also want to

2 thank Andrea Vasquez [sp?], the staff attorney, and
3 of course, Drew Gabriel, my Legislative Director in
4 my office. But I'm also very excited today to share
5 this moment with my parents, Wilkins and Beverly
6 Cumbo who are here today.

7 [applause]

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: They recently just
9 celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary. And I
10 just want to say that even, I'm almost 40 years old,
11 so that gives you some mathematics on things, but I
12 want to say that I'm very proud of this piece of
13 legislation because even at the age of almost 40
14 years old, it feels so incredible to have both my
15 parents here to share this moment. And so many of the
16 young children that are in our foster care agency,
17 they need our support. They need our love and they
18 need our guidance long after they have aged out of
19 foster care, and this is really just a piece of
20 legislation in a step in the right direction so that
21 we can provide them what so many of us take for
22 granted every single day. So I thank so many of
23 colleagues for your support and I look forward to
24 working with each and every one of you to make sure
25 that our young people have all the love, care and

2 support that they need to be the individuals that we
3 know that they have the potential to become. And
4 thank you so much, Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito for
5 your support and your advocacy and I look forward to
6 working with all of my colleagues. Thank you.

7 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you. We're
8 also going to be voting on Introduction 48A sponsored
9 by Council Member Fernando Cabrera. This bill will
10 require Department of Housing, Preservation and
11 Development to create and post an online guide
12 dealing with common issues tenant face and informing
13 them of their rights. Owners of multiple dwellings
14 would also be required to post a notice directing
15 tenants to the guide. New York is a city that affords
16 many legal rights to tenants, but unfortunately, many
17 of those rights can be subverted if tenants aren't
18 aware of their rights. This posting requirement will
19 help educate tenants about their circumstances and
20 how they can protect themselves from exploitation.
21 So I'd like to ask Council Member Cabrera to say a
22 few words.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Thank you, Madam
24 Speaker, and thank you for the opportunity to have
25 this bill to come to the floor, in light of the fact

2 that I've been waiting literally about two and a half
3 years. So I appreciate your leadership, and also
4 Council Member Williams, Jumaane Williams, Chair of
5 Committee for allowing to have a hearing. If you go
6 to a hospital today, you will find there's a patient
7 bill of rights. If you even take a taxi right here
8 in Manhattan or any other place, you will find a
9 passenger bill of rights. It amazed me that for so
10 many years we did not have a tenant bill of rights, a
11 place where we spend a large amount of our lives with
12 our families. And so I'm glad that today, we're able
13 to help our constituents to know their rights and
14 responsibilities. Working together with HPD, we were
15 able to really come up with a full list of all the
16 rights and responsibilities that are going to be
17 listed online. It's going to be a poster, then it's
18 going to be posted in the wall of every building. So
19 I encourage every member to vote aye on this bill.
20 Thank you so much.

21 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you,
22 Council Member. Took a moment on the foster care
23 bills. I want to thank Tyrsena [sp?] Frank and
24 Andrea Vasquez for their work on those bills and for
25 the bill that Council Member Cabrera just spoke to, I

2 want to thank Jennifer Wilcox, Matt Gwalb [sp?] and
3 Laura Popa [sic] for their work on those items. We
4 also have some Resolutions on the agenda today. We
5 have Resolution Number 257A sponsored by Council
6 Members Mealy, Dickens and King, calling on the state
7 government to end the work experience program which
8 unfairly has public assistance recipients working
9 without receiving a paycheck and further, not reaping
10 benefits such as social security, unemployment and
11 other measures afforded to most workers, an important
12 resolution. And then we have Resolution Number 354
13 sponsored by Council Members Kallos, Cumbo, Van
14 Bramer, Crowley and Koslowitz, calls up on the United
15 States Senate to pass and the President to sign
16 companion legislation to HR 863, which is sponsored
17 by Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney. HR 863 would
18 require a report on recommendations for a plan of
19 action for the establishment and maintenance of a
20 National Women's History Museum in Washington D.C., a
21 museum dedicated to women's history is long overdue
22 and the Council is proud to stand behind this effort.
23 And we have Resolution Number 356 sponsored by
24 Council Member Richards which recognizes the dangers
25 of climate change to human health and the

2 environment. This resolution also endorses the
3 People's Climate March, which will take place on
4 September 21st, bringing leaders and advocates from
5 every walk of life together to raise awareness about
6 the dangers of climate change. I also want to, as a
7 conclusion to my remarks today, acknowledge that
8 tomorrow is the 13th anniversary of the September
9 11th, terrorist attacks. While September 11th is a
10 national day of remembrance and reflection, it hits
11 especially close to home for New Yorkers who saw such
12 horrific atrocities committed right in their own
13 city. So I'd like to ask all of my colleagues
14 present to join me in a moment of silence as we
15 remember all that we lost, all those we--and all
16 those we've lost on September 11th, 2001.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Please rise.

18 [moment of silence]

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you. And
20 that concludes remarks from the Speaker.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Discussion of
22 General Orders. Seeing none. Report of Special
23 Committees?

24

25

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee
3 on Finance, Presconsidered M 0115 and Reso 411,
4 Fiscal 2015 Capital Budget.

5 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
6 General Orders.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee
8 on General Welfare, Intro 104A, foster care data
9 reporting.

10 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
11 Coupled on General Orders.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Intro 137A, government
13 issued identification for foster care youth.

14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
15 coupled on General Orders.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Intro 187A, high school
17 graduation rates for reporting for foster care youth.

18 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
19 coupled on General Orders.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee
21 on Housing and Buildings, Intro 48A, rights and
22 responsibilities guide for tenants and owners.

23 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
24 coupled on General Orders.

1 STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL 44

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee
3 of Land Use LU 111 and Reso 412, sidewalk café.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
5 General Orders.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: LU 112 and Reso 413, UDAP
7 [sic] Manhattan.

8 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
9 General Orders.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee
11 on Rule, Privileges and Elections, Preconsidered Reso
12 407, various committee changes.

13 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
14 General Orders.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: M 110 and Reso 414
16 approving the appointment of Anna Hayes Levin [sp?],
17 New York City Planning Commission.

18 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
19 General Orders.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: General Order Calendar,
21 Resolution appointing various persons, Commissioner
22 of Deeds.

23 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
24 General Orders, and at this time I ask for a roll
25

2 call on the items that have been coupled on the
3 General Order calendar.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Barron?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Cabrera?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Chin?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye on all.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Cohen?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Corney?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Crowley?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Cumbo?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Aye.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Deutsch?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Yes.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Dickens?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Dromm?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Espinal?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Aye.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Eugene?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Garodnick?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Gentile?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Gibson?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Aye.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Greenfield?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: I want to
12 congratulate all of my colleagues, especially Council
13 Member Laurie Cumbo, my seat mate, who is making us
14 all proud here today. Her parents should be
15 especially proud. She's a rising star in this body.
16 She's doing great stuff and that I vote aye.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Johnson?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Permission to
19 explain my vote?

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: I quickly wanted
22 to--I quickly wanted to thank the Committee on Rules
23 and Privileges for handling the appointment of Anna
24 Hayes Levin to the City Planning Commission. She is
25 a constituent in my district. She and I served on

2 Manhattan Community Board Four together. She was an
3 appointee of the previous Borough President Scott
4 Stringer and is now being reappointed by Manhattan
5 Borough President Gale Brewer. She helped battle the
6 West Side stadium on the far west side, oversaw the
7 Community Board's rezoning of Hudson Yards, and has
8 been considered one of the smartest, brightest, most
9 community minded members of the City Planning
10 Commission. I ask my colleagues to support her
11 appointment today and approve her so she can continue
12 her service on the City Planning Commission. With
13 that, I vote aye on all. Thank you.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Kallos?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: I vote aye with a
16 special congratulations to Chair of the Women's Issue
17 Committee, Laurie Cumbo. Congratulations.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: King?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Aye on all.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Koo?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye on all.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Lancman?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Aye on all.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Lander?

1 STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL 48

2 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: I vote aye on all
3 and request permission to vote on all Land Use Call-
4 Ups? Thank you. I vote aye on those.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Levin?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: With
7 congratulations to the Public Advocate and Council
8 Member Dromm and Council Member Cumbo on these
9 important pieces of legislation, on behalf of foster
10 children in New York City, and the Council doing all
11 that we can to support them, I proudly vote aye on
12 all. Thank you.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Levine?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: I vote aye on
15 all.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Maisel?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Aye on all.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Matteo?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Aye on all.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Menchacca?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACCA: Aye on all.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Miller?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye on all.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Palma?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye on all.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Reynoso?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Aye on all.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Richards?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Permission to
6 explain my vote?

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: I just wanted
9 to give a few shout outs or special thanks to people
10 who worked to endorse the People's Climate March. I
11 first off want to thank the Speaker for putting the
12 people first in addressing climate change. Also, Amy
13 Vargas in the office, Samara Swanston [sp?], Porchia
14 Edwards in my office, Jarell Berny [sp?], Janelle
15 Edwards, Maleek Sanders [sp?] and a few of the
16 advocates who've been working really hard towards
17 this march, the Environmental Justice Alliance, New
18 York League of Conservation Voters, 1199 32 BJ, DC 37
19 and the other 500 advocates who will be at--advocacy
20 groups who will be marching in this march. So with
21 that being said, thank you. I vote aye.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Rosenthal?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Aye on all.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Torres?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Aye on all.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Treyger?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Ulrich?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Yes.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Vacca?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye on all.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Vallone?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye on all.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Weprin?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Williams?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye on all.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Van Bramer?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito?

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: All items on
21 today's General Order Calendar were adopted by a vote
22 of 46 in the affirmative, 0 negative and 0
23 abstentions. The revised Land Use Call-Ups were
24 adopted by a vote of 46 in the affirmative and 0
25 negatives. Thank you. Discussion of Resolutions.

2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: No.

3 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
4 Kallos?

5 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Introduction and
6 reading of bills?

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Oh, introduction
8 and reading of bills?

9 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: All bills are
10 referred to committees as indicated on the agenda.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Discussion of
12 Resolutions, Council Member Kallos on 354?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Thank you, Public
14 Advocate. Today we will be voting on Resolution 354
15 calling on our federal government to build a National
16 Women's History Museum in Washington D.C., a museum
17 that is long overdue. Congresswoman Maloney passed
18 bipartisan legislation, HR 863 to move ahead with
19 this project in the House of Representatives, and
20 this resolution calls on the Senate to pass the
21 companion bill and for the President to sign it into
22 law. Sadly, this legislation is now being locked in
23 the Senate, completely surprisingly by two male
24 republican senators, Mike Lee of Utah and Tom Coburn
25 of Oklahoma. As the Daily News editorial today

2 pointed out, these senators should have to explain
3 why women's history is less important than the
4 history of textiles, the postal service or spies, all
5 of which have their own D.C. museums. Upon the
6 passage of this resolution we must bring the fight to
7 the Senators Coburn and Lee by calling on our
8 colleagues in the Salt Lake City and Oklahoma
9 legislators to pass similar resolutions in favor of
10 national museum devoted to women's history. Our body
11 speaks on behalf of 8.4 million women, men, girls and
12 boys--

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
14 Council Member, please bring your comments to a
15 close.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: for women's
17 history, that is itself would be historic. Thank
18 you.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
20 Council Member Laurie Cumbo on 354.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Our nation would
22 not exist without the vital contributions of women
23 throughout the course of American History. The
24 representation of women in the pages of our textbooks
25 and in the grand halls of our cultural institutions

2 even here at City Hall do not reflect the many
3 sacrifices of our heroines who have exemplified great
4 courage and strong leadership. I commend US
5 Representative Carolyn Maloney for introducing
6 legislation to explore the creation of a National
7 Women's History Museum that would pay tribute to the
8 extraordinary contributions of women past and present
9 whose stories have gone dramatically untold. As Chair
10 of the Committee on Women's Issues in the New York
11 City Council as well as a founder of an institution,
12 as well as having worked at the Brooklyn Museum, as
13 well as the Brooklyn Children's Museum and the
14 Metropolitan Museum, I'm a proud co-sponsor of a
15 resolution with Council Member Ben Kallos calling for
16 the passage of HR 863 in the US Senate. And this
17 will be an opportunity for us here in the City
18 Council to make history, I think Council Member
19 Garodnick would appreciate that, here in New York to
20 make sure that we in New York City speak loud and
21 strong about the importance of women's contributions
22 historically and long into the future. Thank you.

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

24 Council Member Richards on 356.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: On Sunday,

3 September 21st we're seen [sic] in the UN's Climate

4 Summit, the largest climate march in history will

5 take place right here in New York City, the People's

6 Climate March. Thousands of people from around the

7 nation will descend on New York City streets to let

8 our world leaders know that we can no longer turn a

9 blind eye to this crisis. We want a carbon-free

10 world in a city that is edging towards 100 percent

11 renewable use. This city and nation must lead in

12 solar energy, wind and geothermal. We need a city

13 where reliable transportation is also accessible for

14 the most vulnerable New Yorkers, and this is why we

15 must expand bus rapid transit and ferry service to

16 communities with poor transportation options, such as

17 the Rockaways. We must also start the phase off of

18 number four and six oils, because communities like

19 the South Bronx, East Harlem, Staten Island and

20 Southeast Queens deserve a fighting chance to have

21 good air quality, because all New Yorkers regardless

22 of their economic status, race, color or creed should

23 have the right to breathe clean air. With that being

24 said, this is what the People's March is indicative

25 of, and I urge my colleagues to support it, and I

2 just want to thank once again, all the advocates who
3 worked so hard and who will be leading this march.
4 Thank you all.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
6 Council Member Rosenthal on 356?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Thank you.
8 Only on 356? Can I talk about two things?

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Any other
10 resolution within a minute.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Okay. Well,
12 I'm going to sort of cheat. I'm going to start by
13 congratulating Tenisha Edwards for her fine work, is
14 that alright, to defend Local Law 38. And I bring it
15 up not just to jump on the bandwagon to congratulate
16 her, but to urge that--

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
18 Council Member, you're out of order. This is
19 regarding Resolution 356.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: I would like
21 to congratulate.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: On General Orders
23 you can thank Tenisha.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Thank you.
25 I'd like to congratulate Council Member Richards for

2 putting through and the leadership of Melissa Mark-
3 Viverito in getting us to the point where we're
4 passing this incredibly important resolution. I look
5 forward to working with them both on taking the next
6 step to divest, for New York City to divest from
7 fossil fuels. Thank you.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Sorry, Tenisha.
9 Council Member Lander, 356?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you, Madam
11 Public Advocate. I also just want to thank and
12 support Council Member Richards on the Climate March
13 Resolution and give credit to this body and to the
14 Speaker. This is a critical moment. Our kids and
15 grandkids are going to look back on what we did at
16 this time, and if we don't succeed, we're going to
17 have to look them in the eye and tell them that we
18 failed. The evidence is clear, the melting of those
19 ice caps, the rising of the CO2 in the atmosphere.
20 We've seen it ourselves firsthand when Sandy hit, but
21 it is hard to take the long-term seriously. This is
22 an essential moment to do it. I urge people not only
23 to vote yes on this resolution, but to sign up to and
24 to come to the climate march to sign onto the various
25 pieces of legislation this council is considering, to

2 work with advocates to push not just this city
3 administration but the federal administration, the UN
4 as well. This is an essential moment and it's one
5 where we need to step up or where we risk very severe
6 and long-term failure. Thank you Council Member
7 Richards.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
9 Council Member Johnson on 356.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Yes, I just
11 wanted to congratulate my colleague, Council Member
12 Richards, for sitting through an informative and long
13 hearing on this past week. Hundreds of people coming
14 to the People's House to testify in favor of this. As
15 Council Member Lander and my other colleagues have
16 said, this is incredibly important, and New York City
17 is looked at around the world. So for us to be able
18 to host an incredibly important international march
19 that talks about climate change is something that we
20 should be proud of. I will be out there marching with
21 the council, with my colleagues and saying it's time
22 for us to be a leader, and I thank the Speaker for
23 putting this as part of our legislative agenda and
24 priorities moving forward. We must do more and New
25 York City must be a leader throughout the entire

2 country on this. So thank you to Council Member
3 Richards for getting this done expeditiously before
4 the march this month.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
6 Council Member Williams on 356.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you. I
8 too just wanted to add my name and thank Council
9 Member Donovan for his leadership and the Speaker.
10 Although sometimes what's happened with the climate
11 is not as sexy as some other issues. It is extremely
12 important and I want to give a shout out to Nancy
13 Romer [sic] and the People's Climate March who pushed
14 me and had me--had them march with me during Labor
15 Day. I want to thank them all. That's it.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: We love Nancy
17 Romer. Council Member Menchacca on 356.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACCA: Yes. On 356,
19 I just want to also echo the incredible work that our
20 local communities are doing to really bring what we
21 have already so many Council Members have chimed in,
22 particularly Uprose [sic] in Sunset Park has been
23 galvanizing the troops in our local communities and
24 so the Reso today I dedicate to them and all the work
25 that our local districts are going to be bringing into

2 this climate march. Thank you so much, Council
3 Member Donovan, for pushing this.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Any other
5 speakers? Council Member Levin on 356.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you, Madam
7 Public Advocate. I also wanted to thank and
8 acknowledge our Chair, Chair Donovan Richards for
9 putting forward this resolution, for the Speaker for
10 ensuring that this resolution is passed and putting
11 the New York City Council squarely on the record in
12 calling attention to the grave challenge that we face
13 throughout our world, confronting climate change and
14 for encouraging people to speak up about it, change
15 our behaviors and look towards our future
16 generations. And so I want to thank the Chair. I
17 want to thank the Speaker, and I want to thank all of
18 the advocates for putting this issue front and center
19 and making sure that we are on the right side of
20 history here. Thank you very much, Madam Public
21 Advocate.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Any
23 other speakers on any other resolutions. And now to
24 a vote. We're voting on Resolution 257A, and amended
25 resolution calling upon the New York State

2 Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign,
3 legislation that would amend the social services law
4 in relation to prohibiting work experience programs
5 in New York City. All of those in favor say aye?

6 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: All of those
8 opposed? Any abstentions? The ayes have it. Next
9 resolution that we're voting on is Resolution 354, a
10 resolution calling upon the United State Senate to
11 pass the President to sign, companion legislation to
12 HR 863, which would establish a commission to study
13 the creation of a National Women's History Museum.
14 All of those in favor say aye.

15 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: All of those
17 opposed? Any abstentions? The ayes have it. And
18 lastly, Resolution 356, a resolution recognizing the
19 dangers of climate change to human health and the
20 environment, and endorsing the People's Climate March
21 New York City scheduled to proceed the United Nations
22 Summit on Climate Change that will take place on
23 September 23rd in New York City, which is aimed at
24 catalyzing action by governments, business, finance,
25 industry and civil society in areas for new

2 commitments and substantial scalable and replicable
3 contributions to the summit that will help the world
4 shift toward a low carbon economy. All those in
5 favor say aye.

6 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: All of those
8 opposed? Any abstentions? The ayes have it. And
9 now general discussion beginning with Council Member
10 General, Council Member Miller. No applause from the
11 audience. Thank you.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you, Madam
13 Public Advocate. As a lifelong civil servant in this
14 here chair of Civil Service and Labor, I think it is
15 important that the council recognizes the
16 extraordinary workers, the records of the workers
17 that served the City of New York so well. So it is
18 timely that at this moment we note the retirement of
19 after nearly 41 years with the New York City Fire
20 Department, Captain Alexander Al Haigan [sp?]. He led
21 his commands with distinction and bravery. He served
22 as a highly respected progressive President of United
23 Fire Offices, Association Local 854, fighting against
24 firehouse closures as well as responding to spending
25 countless hours during 9/11, supporting diversity

2 within the Fire Department. I had the privilege of
3 working with him as well as being his friend. I will
4 always remember the examples that he gave us and the
5 effective compassion union leadership. Like many of
6 his colleagues that was recognized before, he was a
7 great fireman, earlier during the earlier program.
8 He was a great firefighter and fire officer, union
9 leader, and I salute him and wish him well in his
10 well-deserved retirement.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
12 Council Member Williams?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you. I
14 have a few bills I'd like to call attention to my
15 colleagues, Intro 472. It basically cleans up the
16 2013 Buildings Code and working with the request of
17 the Mayor. Intro 473 with Council Members Vacca,
18 Levine, Espinal, Lancman, Vallone, Richards, Koo and
19 Crowely, reinstates the requirement that licensed
20 special riggers [sic] supervised scaffolding work.
21 It was removed from the recent building code. Intro
22 474 also in conjunction with the Mayor delays the
23 effect of the building code until December 2014. It
24 was originally supposed to take an effect October
25 1st. Intro 475 establishes the existing building

2 codes revision committee to propose a comprehensive
3 existing building code based on the international
4 existing building code. And Intro 476 will be able
5 to increase the training requirement for special
6 riggers licensing from one year to three years. I
7 know my colleague, Council Member Rosenthal is going
8 to be speak on Resolution 410. With my remaining
9 minute, I did want to discuss something. I want to
10 make sure that it's just--when I was looking at what
11 happened with Ray Rice and the NFL, I felt very
12 compelled to speak on the issue because most men do
13 not. Obviously his behavior was disgusting. It
14 needs to be condemned. Domestic violence in
15 particular is a problem that we all should speak
16 about. Also the broader issue of hyper masculinity
17 and aggression that is rewarded in sports and in
18 places like hip-hop, both the things I really, really
19 love. This needs to be discussed. I'm not sure fully
20 what the answer is, but not discussing it and
21 allowing these things to continue, we see these cases
22 over and over, is a problem. So I just wanted to
23 bring that up in this body and hope people are
24 listening and we really need to find a way to address
25 this as it effects our broader culture. Thank you.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
3 Treyger. Council Member Treyger?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Yes, thank you.
5 Here to speak on Intro 470. Everyone in this room is
6 aware of the major problems with falling victim to
7 identity theft, and we've all seen the growing number
8 of reports of bank and ATM machines, MTA vending
9 machines and others being targeted by criminals.
10 We've learned of a new target, the city's muni-
11 meters. Many drivers do not carry enough change to
12 pay the meter, meaning that they're forced to use
13 their credit or debit card and trust the machine is
14 secure. I'm a big believer in transparency and
15 informing the public. My proposed legislation is
16 simple. Anytime there is a confirmed breach of a
17 muni-meter, the DOT must inform all affected persons
18 in writing within 10 days who have used that machine.
19 This is similar to federal legislation that requires
20 banks to inform card holders whose information has
21 been breached. In addition, the location and number
22 of the machine will be posted on line. Having your
23 ID or personal bank information stolen could least to
24 costly unauthorized charges, headaches and serious
25 financial issues for victims. And it's clear this

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2 problem is on the rise in New York City. I have long
3 been concerned with the lack of urgency on behalf of
4 agencies like the DOT and MTA and the failure to take
5 proactive steps to protect the public and inform the
6 customers when an incident does occur. The public
7 has a right to know when a machine has been
8 compromised and the DOT has an obligation to better
9 inform residents that their information might have
10 been stolen. Please support this common sense and
11 important legislation on behalf of thousands of
12 residents who use these meters each day. Thank you.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
14 Levine?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Thank you Madam
16 Public Advocate. I'd like to call my colleagues
17 attention to two items that I'm proud to be
18 introducing today. The first concerns the
19 cornerstone of our affordable housing in New York
20 City, which is the 700 buildings which are a part of
21 the Tenant Interim Leadership Program, known as TIL.
22 These are prevalent in northern Manhattan, the Bronx
23 and Brooklyn. Colleagues, you might not know, maybe
24 hear from your constituents that there is no
25 guarantee of succession rights in buildings that are

2 in TIL status. If a parent should pass away, the
3 child, even if they have lived for an extended period
4 in that home has no succession rights. This is not
5 like rent stabilization. Perhaps it was conceived
6 this way because TIL was thought to be a quick
7 temporary program. In practice, buildings can be
8 stuck in TIL status for two decades. So, I'm
9 introducing Intro 468 that would grant succession
10 rights to residents of TIL buildings. Secondly, I
11 want to call your attention to another important
12 tenant issue. This is Resolution 408. As I'm sure
13 many of you are aware, tenants have the right to look
14 back at the rent history of the unit and they can
15 contest the rate they're being charged by their
16 landlord if they can show that they're being
17 overcharged. There is a statute of limitations of
18 two years for those who are rent control and four
19 years for those who are rent stabilized. Which means
20 that many, many thousands of tenants who otherwise
21 would qualify for justified rent roll-backs are not
22 able to take advantage of this because they don't
23 figure out that they've been cheated before their
24 period expires. So we're calling for the elimination
25 of statute of limitations for both rent control and

2 rent stabilized units, which is in the state's hands
3 which is why it's in resolution form here in the
4 council. Thank you.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
6 Cornegy?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Thank you, Madam
8 Public Advocate. The first work I did in the City
9 Council many of you know was not as a member but as
10 part of the central staff. From that experience I
11 thought I had a good understanding of how important
12 staff are to the function of this body, but now that
13 I'm a member, my eyes are truly opened. My goal is
14 to serve the communities of Bedford Stuyvesant and
15 Crown Heights with excellence, and I absolutely could
16 not accomplish that without the dedicated work of my
17 staff. So today on her birthday, I'd like to
18 acknowledge my Director of Constituent Services, Ms.
19 Tahira Moore [sp?]. Tahira, you're a professional
20 and a fighter. You're passionate about the needs of
21 the 36th district and I hear from constituents how
22 much they appreciate you wherever I go. I'm truly
23 grateful to have you on my team and I wish you the
24 happiest of happy birthdays.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Happy Birthday,
3 Tahira. Council Member King?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Thank you, Madam
5 Public Advocate. I rise today to ask my colleagues to
6 join me as I introduce bill 467, which will put
7 regulations on costume characters in the city of New
8 York. I'm asking you to join me as we all go into the
9 Time Square area and other parts of New York that we
10 want to welcome and have a beautiful experience with
11 these characters that we grew up, who educate us, and
12 brought us some good fun-loving experiences as we
13 were children, but over the past years we've seen
14 some of those bad characters infringe on the trust of
15 the residents, the tourists and all of New Yorkers.
16 This bill is designed basically just for safety. We
17 just want to identify who those individuals who come
18 out and share a smile and take a picture with our
19 five year olds, our seven year olds, and making that
20 innocent experience stay an innocent experience, but
21 unfortunately, of those who cannot get it right, we
22 just want to know who you are and you will be held
23 accountable. That's what this legislation does. It
24 allows us to identify those who come out there. It's
25 not about immigration. The bill does not say--the

2 bill will not allow you to ask about immigration.
3 The bill does not threaten the workers who come out
4 there. It allows to set rules of engagement with
5 NYPD. The NYPD will have rules of how they can
6 interact. So we want to protect those workers that
7 are out there also, these artists who are out there
8 also. But we want to make sure that everyone is on
9 the same page when we come out there, when you want
10 to have that friendly experience when you come out
11 and you see Mickey or you see Elmo. We want to make
12 sure that Times Square is a place of artistry and fun
13 and expression. We are not denying anybody's first
14 amendment rights. We're saying you can go out there,
15 but we just want to basically know who you are.
16 That's all this bill is doing, just knowing who you
17 are and establishing rules of engagement with each
18 and every one. So I'm asking you all please don't
19 get caught up by the spin doctors. There's always
20 the pros and the cons. Read the legislation. If you
21 have any questions, please have a conversation with
22 me. I'm grateful and thankful to the Administration
23 who I've sat down with to help me construct this
24 along with the Times Square Alliance and a whole host

2 of--and even the characters themselves who I've sat
3 down with.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Please conclude
5 your remarks.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: And we all want to
7 be on the same page to make sure this is a wonderful
8 experience. I want to thank you Ben [sic], and thank
9 you Madam Speaker--

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
11 Thank you.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: and Public
13 Advocate. Thank you.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
15 Espinal?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Thank you, Madam
17 Public Advocate. I stand here backing up Councilman
18 King on his bill. As the Chair of the Consumer
19 Affairs Committee, I've also become aware of the
20 actions happening in Times Square. I think we've
21 seen Batman turning into Badman, and committing these
22 crimes and harassing our tourists and the residents
23 of our city. So I also want to urge my colleagues to
24 stand behind Andy King and sign onto his bill. Thank
25 you.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
3 Council Member Johnson.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you,
5 Madam Public Advocate. I was remiss in not speaking
6 on a Land Use item which we adopted today in my
7 district, very important. I want to thank Chair
8 Greenfield and Chair Dickens for seeing this item
9 through their respective committees, and I also want
10 to thank Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito and some
11 Council Members that have been supportive, Council
12 Member Danny Dromm, Council Member Elizabeth Crowley,
13 and Council Member Jimmy Van Bramer. The Irish Art
14 Center which we approved this afternoon is an arts
15 and cultural institution dedicated to promoting Irish
16 culture and traditions through music, theater, dance,
17 film, comedy, irish language education and the
18 literary and visual arts. It was founded in 1972, and
19 it's been in its current facility in Hell's Kitchen
20 since 1974. This application will facilitate
21 development as approximately 30,000 square feet of
22 cultural use, emerging creative disciplines with
23 multipurpose performing arts theater, dance studios,
24 classrooms, administrative space, a street level
25 community space as well as an extension of a

2 community garden, the Juan Alonzo [sic] Community
3 Garden, which completes the community's plan for this
4 open space. It was first proposed in 1999. Since
5 its creation, the IAC has been a source of great
6 cultural wealth, from the Irish Isles, but in recent
7 years have been severely hampered by the limited
8 space, aging infrastructure and operational
9 inefficiencies provided by its current
10 accommodations. This project will allow the
11 organization to thrive and continue to contribute the
12 artistic diversity in New York City in a manner that
13 benefits its distinct mission. The modern dynamic
14 cultural facility afforded by the disposition of this
15 city project will create cross cultural connections
16 that enrich our city as well advance the objectives
17 of a clean [sic] urban renewal area and enhance the
18 local growing neighborhood which includes the cluster
19 of creative organizations. I want to thank the
20 government of Ireland for their support. I want to
21 thank the Speaker for her support of the center as
22 well as my colleagues, Council Member Greenfield,
23 Dickens, Van Bramer, Dromm and Crowley. Thank you
24 Madam Public Advocate.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
3 Council Member King for a three second announcement.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Yes. Just
5 reminding the BLAC members there will be a 30 minute,
6 no longer, meeting today right after Stated. So
7 right in the conference room hopefully we'll see
8 everybody in there right after Stated. Thank you.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
10 Rosenthal?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: First off, I'd
12 like to thank Tenisha Edwards.

13 [applause]

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: For her fine
15 work to defend the Responsible Baking Act, LL38, and
16 I urge that we move quickly forward to establish the
17 community investment advisory board which I think
18 will be constituted by November. The reason this is
19 so important to me and to this body that I'm just
20 thrilled about is it'll give us an opportunity to
21 think harder on a variety of issues where
22 transparency on the part of our city's banks would be
23 incredibly important. So, I look forward to working
24 with this body on what issues in particular we'll be
25 brining to light. Second of all, I want to thank

2 Council Member Williams for being the leading sponsor
3 on Resolution 410 and urge my colleagues to sign on.
4 It's a resolution that would bring the disabled
5 homeowners in line with the SCRIE [sic] and DRE [sic]
6 beneficiaries. So it would raise the cap on how they
7 could be helped. So I encourage everyone to support
8 this important resolution. Thank you.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
10 Chin?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you, Madam
12 Public Advocate. I like to call my colleague's
13 attention to Reso 406, which calls for the state to
14 expand the Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption,
15 the SCRIE program to include over throwing [sic]
16 units that are subject to an agreement that base rent
17 increase on New York City rent guideline board
18 orders. Now, this year my colleague repassed a SCRIE
19 bill to increase the income cap to 50,000 dollars.
20 Many seniors were very excited that now they qualify
21 for the program. Unfortunately there are so many
22 seniors who live in housing that are not rent
23 regulated housing. Such is some of the development
24 in my district. They have these so-called private
25 landlord agreement that are not technically rent

2 regulated, but they do follow the rent guideline
3 board increase. So we're asking the State to expand
4 the SCRIE program so that we could include senior
5 that live in these type of buildings, just like
6 seniors who live in Mitchell Lama that exited the
7 Mitchell Lama program. So I ask my colleague to join
8 me in supporting the call to the Governor and the
9 state to expand the SCRIE program so that more senior
10 can qualify and stay in affordable housing and be
11 able to age in place. Thank you.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
13 Lander?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you very
15 much. First, I invite my colleagues to join us this
16 Friday morning at 10:00 a.m. for a hearing in the
17 Civil Rights Committee on Intro 261 to prohibit
18 employment discrimination based on consumer credit
19 history. Forty of you have signed on as co-sponsors.
20 This is practice that rampantly discriminates against
21 a wide range of people and prevents exactly the
22 people who need jobs from getting jobs. And I hope
23 you'll join us for that hearing at 10:00 a.m. Second,
24 I'd like to issue my colleagues a challenge. It is
25 not quite or as cold as the ice bucket challenge, but

2 from September 15th to 21st in advance of climate
3 week, Council Member Chin and I would like to issue
4 you all the bring your own bag challenge for bring
5 your own bag week. As you know, we use five billion
6 single use plastic bags. There's only eight million
7 of us. That means we use three to 500 per person per
8 year, five to 10 a week, one or two a day, and we all
9 know that we ought to be able to reduce that, get
10 them out of our trees, our storm drains, or waste
11 drains. So, September 15th to 21st please join
12 Margaret and me in bringing a reusable bag and for
13 that week at least making sure Margaret can help you
14 get them. Our coalition will be working to distribute
15 quality canvas reusable bags. That's #byobagweek.
16 You can get tips every morning, whatever you think of
17 the bill and we'll be debating that later. We can all
18 agree we need to dramatically reduce plastic bag
19 waste, and I hope you'll join us. Thank you.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Lovely
21 matching bag, Council Member Chin. Council Member
22 Cumbo?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you, Madam
24 Chair. September is Ovarian Cancer Awareness month.
25 Sixty percent of women diagnosed with ovarian cancer

2 are already in stage three. The American Cancer
3 Society estimates that about 21,000 women will be
4 diagnosed this year, and about 14,000 will die from
5 the disease. Ovarian cancer is the fifth leading
6 cause of cancer related deaths among women. The five
7 year survival rate is over 90 percent if you are
8 diagnosed and treated during the earliest stages. I
9 want to emphasize the importance of regular
10 screenings and doctor visits. In addition, the 20th
11 anniversary of the Violence Against Women Act on 19--
12 on September 13th, 1994. The Violence Against Women
13 Act was written by former United States Senator Joe
14 Biden and was signed into law. And next month will
15 be Domestic Violence Awareness Month. And given what
16 we have all seen in recent weeks regarding incidents
17 of domestic violence and most specifically what we
18 say with the video depicting Baltimore Raven Rice
19 assaulting his wife Janay [sp?] Rice, it really gives
20 us an opportunity to see what so many families and
21 what so many women keep behind closed doors. And for
22 violence, Domestic Violence Awareness Month next
23 month, we are going to be launching a series of
24 events to bring real attention and awareness to this
25 and I hope that all of my colleagues in the City

2 Council will participate with this initiative,
3 because we really have to talk about this issue and
4 we have to get assistance for so many women,
5 particularly those that don't even recognize or know
6 that they are victims. Thank you.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
8 Cabrerera?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Thank you so
10 much. I just want to rise saying thank Council
11 Member King for introducing your bill today. The
12 very least we will have an intelligent, reasonable
13 discussion. So I commend you for taking leadership.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: And to close,
15 Council Member Greenfield?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Oh, the
17 pressure. Thank you, Madam Public Advocate. First,
18 I just also wanted to recognize today that we did in
19 fact make an outstanding reappointment in the City
20 Planning Commission of Anna Hayes Levin who has done
21 great work there and understands and appreciates the
22 role of Community Boards and Council Members and this
23 body and the important City Planning process, I was
24 happy to support her. I do just want to add that in
25 fact, we are introducing, myself as prime sponsor and

2 Chair Rodriguez as co-sponsor, Intro 466, which is
3 the culmination of a multiyear effort to lower the
4 speed limit in New York to 25 miles an hour. I want
5 to encourage all of our colleagues to join us. I want
6 to thank the Speaker for her support and leadership
7 on this issue. Quite frankly, in the last council I
8 couldn't get this bill to see the light of day, and
9 with this Speaker we've had some incredible,
10 incredible support. And so we're very grateful for
11 that. So I encourage everyone to sign onto the bill,
12 Intro Number 466. It's not every day that we pass
13 bills that will save lives. This bill will literally
14 save lives in New York City. And I just--my final
15 question for the Speaker, it's just next week I
16 believe there's a ball game, I just want to know what
17 position she's playing on team NYC Council. Thank
18 you very much.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Speaker Melissa
20 Mark-Viverito to close.

21 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you as
22 always, Madam Public Advocate. Thank you my
23 colleagues. Have a great rest of the afternoon and at
24 2:50 we are adjourned. Thank you.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: You may now

3 applaud.

4 [applause]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify that there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date September 13, 2014