

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

STATED MEETING

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February 12, 2015
Start: 1:32 p.m.
Recess: 3:14 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E:

MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO
Speaker

LETITIA JAMES
Public Advocate

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- ALAN N. MAISEL
- ANDREW COHEN
- ANDY L. KING
- ANNABEL PALMA
- ANTONIO REYNOSO
- BEN KALLOS
- BRAD S. LANDER
- CARLOS MENCHACA
- CHAIM M. DEUTSCH
- COREY D. JOHNSON
- COSTA G. CONSTANTINIDES
- DANIEL DROMM
- DANIEL R. GARODNICK

COUNCIL MEMBERS (CONTINUED):

DARLENE MEALY
DAVID G. GREENFIELD
DEBORAH L. ROSE
DONOVAN J. RICHARDS
ELIZABETH S. CROWLEY
ERIC A. ULRICH
FERNANDO CABRERA
HELEN K. ROSENTHAL
I. DANEEK MILLER
INEZ D. BARRON
INEZ E. DICKENS
JAMES G. VAN BRAMER
JAMES VACCA
JULISSA FERRERAS
JUMAANE D. WILLIAMS
KAREN KOSLOWITZ
LAURIE A. CUMBO
MARGARET S. CHIN
MARIA DEL CARMEN ARROYO
MARK LEVINE
MARK S. WEPRIN
MARK TREYGER
MATHIEU EUGENE
PAUL A. VALLONE
PETER A. KOO
RAFAEL L. ESPINAL, JR.
RITCHIE J. TORRES
ROBERT E. CORNEGY, JR.
RORY I. LANCMAN
ROSIE MENDEZ
RUBEN WILLS
STEPHEN T. LEVIN
STEVEN MATTEO
VANESSA L. GIBSON
VINCENT IGNIZIO
VINCENT J. GENTILE
YDANIS A. RODRIGUEZ

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

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[gavel]

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: We have two ceremonials today. We're going to start with Council Member Mark Treyger to give a proclamation to Lincoln High school football team who are PSAL champions, the rail splitters. I've been reminded that we also had them here last year because they were champions last year as well. Maybe we could ask them to come up and step up. So Council Member Treyger.

COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Let's, let's come up Lincoln. So I want to thank the Speaker. Oh yeah sure. Is the speaker still somewhere? Okay so we, we are witnessing now the, the pride of Coney Island. And this is, this is an honor for me. I want to thank of course Lincoln High School Principal Hoogenboom, Athletic Director Renan Ebeid, the Head Coach Shawn O'Connor, Assistant Coaches Brian Miscues, Joe DeSiena, Robert Ellio, Tom Curry, Vincent Azido. I want to say that this is their second consecutive PSAL city football championship.

[applause]

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: They are the
3 second team in PSAL history to win the championship
4 after losing two regular season games as well and
5 they're very proud of that. I'm also very proud to
6 say that this, of this group 31 seniors graduating,
7 moving on to college. Absolutely extraordinary.

8 [applause]

9 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: I, I don't
10 normally like to brag but Coney Island brings home
11 the championship and I want to, I want to thank, I
12 want to thank the speaker in the, one of my
13 colleagues in this council welcoming this
14 extraordinary team. Because really the work they
15 input in on the field, it speaks for itself with
16 the championship, with the amount of sacrifice and
17 time off the field with academics and practices and
18 sacrifice. Uh it's, it's extraordinary. So I am
19 very proud to represent Lincoln High school. It's,
20 it's extraordinary. So I am very proud to represent
21 Lincoln High School. I'm very proud to bring them
22 on the biggest stage in, in the city, welcome our
23 city champions, Lincoln high school.

24 [applause]

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: And the clerk
3 will read the official proclamation.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council City of New
5 York proclamation. Whereas the council of the city
6 of New York is proud to honor Brooklyn's Lincoln
7 High School Rail Splitter's football team for their
8 public school athletic league championship
9 following their 13-6 win over Erasmus high school
10 at Yankee stadium in December. And whereas New York
11 City has a strong and proud tradition of
12 outstanding interscholastic athletics through the
13 public school athletic league program which was
14 established in 1903 and is the longest running
15 scholastic athletic program in the nation. During
16 this time countless students have learned the
17 importance of physical fitness, character
18 development, team work, discipline, sportsmanship,
19 and hard work. And whereas this tradition has been
20 especially strong at Lincoln High School which has
21 a long and outstanding history of winning football.
22 The victory over Erasmus Hall secured the Coney
23 Island School's first ever consecutive city
24 football championship and is a reflection of the
25 leadership and dedication of Principal Ari

1
2 Hoogenboon, Athletic Director Renan Ebeid, the Head
3 Coach Shawn O'Connor, his entire staff and all of
4 the players who proudly represent their school on
5 the football field. And whereas coming off a city
6 championship last year the Lincoln Rail Splitters
7 came into the 2014 year season prepared to defend
8 their title. They opened their season with a, with
9 a solid 28-6 victory over Tottenville and went on
10 to win their first four games before compiling an
11 8-2 regular season record outscoring their
12 opponents by a combined score of 329 to 122 and
13 whereas the Rail Splitters continue their great
14 play in the play offs with wins over Flushing 31-6
15 and grand street campus 27-0. These victories set
16 up Lincoln successful rematch with the Erasmus Hall
17 at a snowy and rainy Yankee stadium during which
18 important contribution from players on offense and
19 defense led to a 13-6 victory securing Lincoln high
20 school's first ever back to back football
21 championship. Now therefore be it known that the
22 council of the city of New York is proud to honor
23 and congratulates the Lincoln High School Rail
24 Splitter's football team upon winning the 2014
25 public school athletic league public school

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2 athletic league football city championship. Melissa
3 Mark-Viverito Speaker for the entire Council. Mark
4 Treyger, Council Member 47th District Brooklyn.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER:

6 Congratulations.

7 [background comments]

8 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: How you doing.

9 I'm the head football coach... just like thank the
10 council. I want to introduce our, one of our
11 seniors would like to speak; Dionte Fleming.

12 DIONTE FLEMING: On behalf of my team

13 and I, and I, and our school we'd like to thank you
14 for recognizing our efforts on and off the field.

15 It's not easy being academically eligible and stuff
16 like that and those things play a role in how we
17 compete for a championship. So thank you and we
18 hope to keep the tradition going.

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you all

20 guys very very much. Congratulations. Thank you,

21 nice to meet you. Alright guys thank you, congrats.

22 There's about 60 guys in this team I heard. That's

23 a large... Alright, congratulations to all. Okay.

24 Okay the next and last ceremonial is by Council

25 Member Ulrich to issue to the Military Order of

1
2 Purple Heart. This is supporting our Purple Heart
3 recipients. We definitely thank you so much for
4 your service. Congratulations. A woman yes, yes, a
5 woman veteran... purple heart recipient, I love this.
6 Alright Council Member Ulrich.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Thank you
8 Speaker. Thank you so much. I invite all of my
9 colleagues who are able to who are not busy to
10 please join us to stand with these heroes. These
11 are the real heroes, the men and women of our armed
12 services and our armed forces. Today we're here to
13 honor the Military Order of the Purple Heart and
14 New Yorkers throughout our city who have been
15 injured or killed in battle defending our freedoms
16 in our great country. The Military of the Purple
17 Heart was formed in 1932 for the protection and
18 mutual interest of all who have received the
19 decoration composed exclusively of Purple Heart
20 recipients. The organization dedicates itself to
21 assisting veterans and their families with VA
22 claims, public benefits, and other charitable
23 causes. Close to 300 veterans city wide belong to
24 this fine organization which has three chapters;
25 one in Manhattan, one in Brooklyn, one in Staten

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2 Island. We got to get one in Queens. That's, that's
3 your, your homework there. Representing the
4 Military Order of the Purple Heart we are joined by
5 the commander Ruben Pratts, I'm sorry the past New
6 York Department Commander, Paul Morales the Senior
7 Vice Commander Chapter 405, Hector Leon Junior Vice
8 Commander Chapter 405, Rafael Vardahoe [sp?] Judge
9 Advocate Chapter Three, Bernard Robinson, Richard
10 Bartoli, Isabella Figarola, James Cusick, Carmen
11 Bolden Brown Vice President the Ladies Auxiliary
12 thank you for being here representing the ladies in
13 the house. Just very quickly this medal is awarded
14 to members of the armed forces who are wounded by
15 an instrument of war and post humorously to the
16 next of kin in the name of those who are killed in
17 action or die of wounds received in action. Today's
18 ceremonial is timely because on February 22nd we
19 will be celebrating George Washington's 283rd
20 birthday and we wanted to be sure to honor this
21 organization and the purple heart recipients at
22 this time around that holiday because of course his
23 face is on the medal which you will see proudly
24 worn on the men and women who are with us. So I'd
25 like to ask our speaker or any members of the

1
2 veterans committee if they wanted to add a few
3 words before we read the proclamation but I for one
4 as the chair of the Veterans Committee am so proud
5 to stand here with all of my colleagues in the
6 council to honor you, to thank you for your
7 service, to pay tribute to all of the sacrifices
8 that you have made on our behalf and to say god
9 bless you and keep you well and your families.
10 Thank you so much. The, the past commander would
11 like to say a few words before we read the
12 proclamation with your indulgence speaker. Alright
13 yeah why don't we read the proc first? Exactly. And
14 then, and then we'll be happy to...

15
16 UNKNOWN MALE: Council City of New York
17 Proclamation. Whereas the Council of the city of
18 New York is proud to honor the Military Order of
19 the Purple Heart; courageous men and women who have
20 given generously and sacrifice greatly to ensure
21 that all of their fellow Americans could live with
22 liberty under the law. And whereas when the Purple
23 Heart was originally established in 1782 by General
24 George Washington at his headquarters in Newburg,
25 New York it was bestowed upon everyday soldiers.

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2 Today the Purple Heart is awarded to members of the
3 armed forces of the US who are wounded by an
4 instrument of war in the hands of the enemy and
5 posthumously to the next of kin in the name of
6 those who are killed in action or die of wounds
7 received in action. It is specifically a combat
8 decoration. And whereas the organization known
9 today as the Military Order of the Purple Heart was
10 formed in 1932 for the protection and mutual
11 interest of all who have received the decoration
12 composed exclusively of Purple Heart recipients. It
13 is the only veteran service organization comprised
14 strictly of combat veterans. And whereas funds for
15 welfare rehabilitation and/or service carried on by
16 the organization are derived through the collection
17 of used household items, the operation of thrift
18 stores, through the donation of automobiles, and at
19 the community level from the annual distribution of
20 its official flower the Purple Heart Viola. Violas
21 are assembled by disabled and needy veterans, many
22 of whom receive little or no compensation from
23 other sources thus contributions to its program
24 serve two goals helping the veterans who
25 participate in these endeavors and secondly

1
2 enabling the organization to do many things on
3 behalf of hospitalized and needy veterans and their
4 families. And whereas wives, mothers, daughters,
5 step daughters, and adopted daughters of Purple
6 Heart recipients are eligible to belong to the
7 Ladies Auxiliary of the Military Order of the
8 Purple Heart which also does important work
9 nationally and locally in veteran's hospitals. And
10 whereas while we could never fully honor the Purple
11 Heart recipients for their selfless bravery and
12 sacrifices we will continue to reaffirm our
13 appreciation for their legacy. On this occasion we
14 reflect with pride and profound gratitude for the
15 immense service they have provided to our city and
16 the nation. They have answered the highest calling
17 of citizenship and continue to inspire everyone
18 with the depth of their patriotism and the
19 generosity of their service today. Now therefore be
20 it known that the council of the city of New York
21 including all members of its veterans committee are
22 proud to honor the military order of the purple
23 heart and hereby designate New York City as a
24 Purple Heart City. Melissa Mark-Viverito Speaker
25 for the entire council, Eric A. Ulrich chair of

1
2 Veterans Committee Council Member 32nd District
3 Queens, and many other members of the city council.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you so
5 much and thank you all. I think Council Member
6 Ulrich has, has really expressed it fully on our
7 behalf. And it's fascinating in this job and life
8 is about learning every day that I did not know
9 that the Purple Heart was established by George
10 Washington. So interesting, interesting piece of
11 history. Thank you so much for your service and I
12 think we're going to hear a few words right.

13 UNKNOWN MALE: Thank you. Good Afternoon
14 all. Today not only honors the Military Order of
15 the Purple Heart but thousands of New Yorkers
16 across the city who sacrifice to defend their
17 nation. I want to thank councilman Ulrich, Ulrich,
18 Ulrich sorry that's my Spanglish, Speaker Mark-
19 Viverito and the rest of the veterans council, city
20 council for their work on this important issue and
21 for declaring New York City a Purple Heart City.
22 I'd like to give you a brief chronological history.
23 After the war of independent the history of the
24 United States New York City. In 1782 then General
25 George Washington had his headquarters in Newburg,

1
2 New York presented the first award to the common
3 soldier which he created. Though... thank you George
4 for calling me... which he created for the common
5 soldier, the badge of military merits. In 1785 the
6 Assembly of the Congress of the Confederation
7 declare New York the national capital. It was the
8 last capital on the United States under the
9 articles of confederation and the first capital
10 under the constitution of the United States. In
11 August 30, 1789 George Washington standing on the
12 balcony site of Federal Hall was sworn in as the
13 first president of the United States in the first
14 capital of the United States. The first congress
15 and the supreme court of the united states assemble
16 at federal hall for the first time and drafted the
17 bill of rights. Thank you.

18 [applause]

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you all
20 again.

21 UNKNOWN MALE: Ladies and gentlemen can
22 I have your attention please? Can I please have
23 your attention? All quiet on the floor please. At
24 this time please place all electronic devices to
25 vibrate. Will all non-council, non-council

1
2 employees please leave the main floor of the
3 chambers?

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: All rise for the
5 pledge of allegiance. I pledge allegiance to the
6 flag of the United States of America and to the
7 republic for which it stands one nation under god
8 indivisible with liberty and justice for all. Roll
9 call.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Arroyo.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Here.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron. Cabrera.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Madam Public
14 Advocate I'd like to have Council Member, one of my
15 council member for the day record me as present and
16 Antonio Marie [sp?] and then later on we're here
17 for Melany Vargas

18 MELANIE VARGAS: Here.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Chin.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cohen.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Here.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Constantinides.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Here.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cornegy, Crowley,
3 Cumbo, Deutsch.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Here.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Dickens.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Here.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Dromm.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Espinal.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Here.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Eugene.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ferreras.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Here.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Garodnick.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gentile.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GETILE: Here.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gibson.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Here.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Greenfield.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Here.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Johnson.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Here.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Kallos.

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STATED MEETING

COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: King.

COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Koo.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Koslowitz.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Lancman. Lander.

Levin. Levine.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Maisel. Matteo. Mealy.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Menchaca. Mendez.

Levin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Miller.

COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Palma.

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Reynoso. Richards.

Rodriguez.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Rosenthal.
COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Torres. Treyger.
COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Ulrich.
COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Here.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Vacca.
COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: I'm here.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Vallone.
COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Weprin.
COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Here.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Williams.
COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Wills.
COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: I'm still
present.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Ignizio. Van Bramer.
COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.
SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: ...right here.
PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Quiet in the Chambers.

All rise for the invocation delivered by Reverend

1
2 Monsignor Fernando Ferrarese, Immaculate Conception
3 Church in Astoria, Queens.

4 REVEREND FERRARESE: Oh god we beseech
5 you to bless and strengthen the members of the city
6 council so that they can accomplish true and
7 lasting good for the people of our city. On this
8 day when we commemorate our beloved former
9 president Abraham Lincoln, help them to learn from
10 his life the lasting virtues that make for true
11 civic greatness. Give our council the virtue of
12 wisdom and prudence that they may weigh the pros
13 and cons of each issue and strive to put the
14 welfare of the people before their own, bestow upon
15 them the virtue of justice that they may guard the
16 most neglected of our city as well as those of
17 wealth and power, make them courageous in
18 struggling against evil and its corrosive power
19 that they may unselfishly fight to better the lot
20 of our most vulnerable even in the face of
21 criticism and disfavor. Like former president
22 Lincoln so poetically said let them be motivated by
23 the better angels of their nature to help to
24 reconcile the divisions of our city. With malice
25 toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in

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2 the right as god gives us to see the right, let us
3 strive on to finish the work we are in. May these
4 sentiments of Lincoln guide the deliberations of
5 the council today and every day. To this let us say
6 Amen.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Please be
8 seated. Motion to spread the invocation. Council
9 Member Constantinides.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Thank
11 you Madam Public Advocate. Motion to spread the
12 invocation in full upon the record. You know
13 Immaculate Conception Church is celebrating their
14 90th anniversary...

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the
16 chambers please. Quiet in the chambers. Everyone
17 please take their seats.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTANTINIDES: In
19 2014 Immaculate Conception Church celebrated their
20 90th anniversary and they've been a, a pillar of
21 faith and fellowship in the Astoria community
22 during that time. They, they serve, they serve the
23 community with inclusive services; the Catholic
24 Youth Organization, other programs for children,
25 and you know it's also the birth place of the

1
2 catholic war Americans of America. In 1935 Edward
3 Higgins founded the first catholic war of veterans
4 chapter at the church and there are over 50
5 chapters all over the united states. For their work
6 the catholic war veterans were honored by
7 congressional charter in 1984. Monsignor Ferrarese
8 became Immaculate Conception's pastor in 2008 and
9 has since then been a progressive leader in
10 neutering the spiritual lives of the trust
11 parishioners serving those in need and welcoming
12 all of god's children. Thank you.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
14 Adoption of minutes. Council Member Cabrera joined
15 by Council Members for a day Melanie Vargas and
16 Antonio Marie [sp?].

17 ANTONIO MIRIE: Motion that..
18 [applause]

19 MELANIE VARGUS: Motion that the minutes
20 of the charter meeting of January 7, 2015 be
21 adapted or adopted as printed.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Messages and
23 papers from the mayor.

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1
2 COMMITTEE CLERK: M228 through M234
3 preliminary and expense budgets and supporting
4 documents.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Finance.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: M235 preliminary 10
7 year capital strategy.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Finance.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: M236 City debt and
10 reserves.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Received, order,
12 printed, and filed.

13 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Communication
14 from city, county, and borough offices.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: M237 2014 New York
16 City Housing and vacancy survey.

17 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Housing and
18 buildings.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the
20 chambers please. Petitions and Communications.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Land Use Call-
23 ups.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: M238 and 239.
25

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2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled in, on,
3 sorry coupled on call-up vote. Roll call.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Arroyo.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: [off mic] Aye.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron. Cabrera.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Chin.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cohen.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Constantinides.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Aye.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cornegy. Crowley.

15 Cumbo. Deutsch.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Yes.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Dickens.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: [off mic] Aye.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Dromm.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: [off mic] Aye.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Espinal.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: [off mic] Aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Eugene.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ferreras.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: [off mic] Aye.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Garodnick.
COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: [off mic]
Aye.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Gentile.
COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Gibson.
COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: [off mic] Aye.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Greenfield.
COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: [off mic]
COMMITTEE CLERK: Johnson.
COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Kallos.
COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.
COMMITTEE CLERK: King.
COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Aye.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Koo.
COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Koslowitz.
COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: [off mic]
Aye.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Lancman.
COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: [off mic] aye.
COMMITTEE CLERK: Lander.

STATED MEETING

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1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.
3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Levin.
4 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.
5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Levine.
6 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Aye.
7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Maisel.
8 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Aye.
9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Matteo. Mealy.
10 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye.
11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Menchaca.
12 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Aye.
13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mendez.
14 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.
15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Miller.
16 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: [off mic] Aye.
17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Palma.
18 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.
19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Reynoso. Richards.
20 Rodriguez.
21 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: [off mic]
22 Aye.
23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rose.
24 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: [off mic] Aye.
25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rosenthal.

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Aye.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: [off mic]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Torres. Treyger.

COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ulrich.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Yes.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Matteo.

COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: [off mic] Yes.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vallone.

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Weprin.

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: [off mic] Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: [off mic] Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Wills.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Today's Land Use

call ups were adopted by a vote of 43 in the

1
2 affirmative, zero in the negative. Okay. Quiet in
3 the chambers. Communication from the speaker
4 Melissa Mark-Viverito.

5 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you Madam
6 Public Advocate. If I could just ask people to
7 stand for one moment. Before we get started with
8 today's agenda I did want to mention as our
9 majority leader did yesterday at the state of the
10 city, yesterday's tragic events in North Carolina.
11 I'm deeply troubled and saddened to hear of the
12 shooting in Chapel Hill. The lives of three young
13 Muslim-Americans were taken way too soon. There
14 absolutely is no space in our world for this kind
15 of hate and violence. And as a community mourns
16 this tragedy I stand in solidarity and we stand in
17 solidarity with all of those that are grieving
18 these senseless steps. So our thoughts and prayers
19 go out to the Barakat and Bussola [sp?] families.
20 And I just want to take a moment for everyone to
21 join me in a brief moment of silence. Thank you
22 colleagues. Today we're voting on legislation to
23 amend existing reporting requirements placed on the
24 Department of Parks and Recreation. While the
25 department is already required to report spending

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2 on city parks by non-governmental entities this
3 bill will specify that spending... the spending of
4 park conservancies must be included in the report
5 as well. This bill will help the council more
6 accurately account for the amount of private
7 dollars that fund the park system. This is a bill
8 that I supported when I chaired the parks committee
9 and I want to thank council members Levine and
10 Lander for pushing it forward in this session. And
11 I want to thank the staff that helped on this;
12 Jeffrey Baker, Ed Atkins, Chris Artori, Patrick
13 Mulvihill, and Chima Obichere. And I'd like to ask
14 Council Members Lander and Levine to say a few
15 words.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you Madam
17 Speaker. It's an honor to work with you and chair
18 Levine on this bill. This is a bill that when you
19 were the chair of the Parks Committee you began the
20 process of bringing more transparency to parks
21 conservancies and we appreciate that leadership.
22 I'm a big fan of parks conservancies and in
23 particular my district the Prospect Park Alliance
24 at a time when that park was dangerous and a real
25 mess volunteers stepped up and saved it and we

1 honor their labor and their time and yes their
2 money as well. And we do want to encourage that. At
3 the same time we have to be able to see how much
4 they're giving and how it's really being spent.
5 This conversation around parks equity that Chair
6 Levine has really been leading the way on in the
7 council has been really important to all of us and
8 we can't know what's being spent in different parts
9 of the city that we can't possibly attend to making
10 sure that it's fair. So this bill takes us a big
11 step in that direction. I want to thank the chair
12 for his leadership. We do have an additional bill
13 that will get us additional clarity on spending in
14 the Parks Department itself that I look very
15 forward to working with the chair on considering in
16 the not too distant future. Thank you. Thank you
17 Council Member Lander. It's been great to work with
18 you on this issue. This council's been focused
19 intently on the challenge of equity or lack thereof
20 in our, in our park system. We know we have a
21 system of which a few privately funded parks
22 receive millions of dollars of outside money while
23 hundreds of neighborhood parks in all of our
24 districts are forced to survive on what has been a
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1
2 stagnating parks budget for decades. And we are
3 seeking to change that. Our budget took a step in
4 that direction last year. We hope to further again
5 this year. To understand how big this gap is we're
6 missing a central information. We need to know how
7 much private money is flowing into parks
8 conservancies. Today we don't have that information
9 accurately. Our bill would change that. For those
10 who are experiencing déjà vu veteran members who
11 were around a few years ago and passed intro, what
12 now local law 28 you may be wondering why we're
13 revisiting this issue. Unfortunately the past
14 administration adhered to a hyper literal
15 interpretation of that law and produced a report on
16 conservancy revenue which really was nonsensical.
17 And actually omitted numbers from any conservancies
18 and, and dramatically underestimated numbers for
19 others. So we're going to change that today with
20 this vote. So finally the members of this body and
21 New Yorkers as a whole will have a complete view of
22 the private money flowing into our parks. I urge
23 your support on this bill and I want to thank on my
24 staff Amy Slattery [sp?] my legislative director
25 for her work on this, Ben Smith legislative

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2 director for Councilman Lander, the Speaker of
3 course and her staff, Chima Obichere from the
4 finance division and from the legislative division
5 in particular Chris Artori, Patrick Mulvihill, Ed
6 Atkins, Jeff Baker, Matt Gwab [sp?], and Laura
7 Pope, Laura Papa. Thank you.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Can we have
9 quiet in the chambers please. Please quiet in the
10 chambers. Thank you.

11 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Also we're
12 voting today on a piece of legislation that will
13 update trouble lights in New York City taxis and
14 liveries. For-hire drivers face a high risk of
15 being attacked or threatened while on the job. So
16 all taxi cabs and liveries in New York must have an
17 external trouble light they can discreetly activate
18 to alert law enforcement if they are in distress.
19 Current law however limits drivers to using an
20 outdated light that too often goes unnoticed by the
21 police. This bill will modernize taxi and livery
22 distress signals using more visible LED lights
23 which will give drivers the piece of mind they
24 deserve while providing an essential service to our
25 city. Together with the taxi and livery protection

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2 act which required posted warnings about the
3 consequences of assaulting drivers this is the
4 second bill we've passed this session to improve
5 the working conditions of for-hire drivers. I want
6 to thank on the staff Kelly Taylor, Kfar Zalof
7 [sp?], Johnathan Masarano [sp?], Russell Murphy
8 [sp?], Trisha Nasir, and Lyle Frank. And Council
9 Member Rodriguez is the sponsor of the legislation
10 he'll say a few words.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Thank you
12 Speaker. As the speaker say intro 615 will make a
13 much needed tentacle change to the administrative
14 code that will have broad implication for
15 increasing the safety of drivers. Trouble lies in
16 our license of vehicles has become outdated and of
17 little use to our city's drivers. Intro 615 will
18 make them relevant again by allowing the TLC to use
19 modern technology to better alert passing police
20 officers of when a driver is on the attack. Right
21 now a... driver is 25 times more likely to be
22 assaulted while on the job than the average
23 workers. My colleague at the council and I are
24 dedicated to increasing the safety of drivers and
25 today we take another step for a forward toward the

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2 goals. Thank you again Speaker Mark-Viverito and
3 all the staff who work on this bill.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you
5 Council Member. We also have two bills sponsored by
6 Council Member Treyger relating to our continued
7 efforts to rebuild communities across our city
8 after hurricane Sandy and prepare for any future
9 natural disasters that may occur. First we have
10 legislation creating a task force to study
11 charitable organizations and houses of worship
12 impacted by Sandy. Thus far much of the recovery
13 efforts have focused on homes and businesses while
14 houses of worship and charitable organizations have
15 not received the attention they deserve. This bill
16 will create a taskforce with representation from
17 all five boroughs. I will include charitable
18 organizations that helped with Sandy relief work.
19 The taskforce will find the best ways to address
20 the unique needs of houses of worship and
21 charitable organizations impacted by Sandy and
22 provide the council with a report on its findings.
23 And additionally we have a piece of legislation
24 that will help local residents get the information
25 they need during an emergency by requiring the

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2 office of emergency management to produce a
3 localized coastal storm preparedness materials. In
4 the past these materials have only been available
5 as citywide maps and pamphlets. But the amount of
6 information in them made it difficult for many
7 residents to get necessary information about their
8 own neighborhood. This bill will solve that and
9 allow residents to quickly access the information
10 relevant to them. So I want to thank the staff who
11 works on these two bills; Jeffrey Baker, Ed Atkin,
12 Brad Reed, Bill Murray, and Kate Sealy Kirk, and
13 with that I will ask Council Member Treyger to say
14 a few words.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Thank you
16 Speaker. We are taking important steps today to
17 continue the long recovery from Superstorm Sandy
18 and to take steps to prepare our city and the
19 public for the next major storm or emergency with
20 two pieces of legislation, the first I'm very proud
21 of out of our committee to have sponsored. I want
22 to quickly thank Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito for
23 her continued leadership, Matt Gwab [sp?], Laura
24 Pope [sp?], Jeff Baker, big shout out to Brad Reed
25 and, who stayed long hours to help negotiate these

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2 bills, William Murray, Ethan Lustig from my staff
3 your hard work on this legislation, and members of
4 the Committee on Recovery and Resiliency, and the
5 entire council for your continued devotion to New
6 Yorkers who were impacted by Sandy. As we continue
7 the recovery from Sandy it is imperative that we do
8 not forget about the many charitable groups and
9 houses of worship that open their, open their doors
10 to storm victims and played a vital role in the
11 critical hours, days, and weeks after the storm hit
12 our city. It is also vital that we learn from this
13 experience and find ways to better connect
14 residents in vulnerable communities with
15 information and resources that is specific to their
16 neighborhood. Intro 519 would require that
17 pamphlets and other materials distributed by the
18 Office of Emergency Management are tailored to
19 vulnerable communities and include specific details
20 on local groups, evacuation zones ad centers, and
21 other information that residents need during a
22 storm or emergency. These materials would be
23 translated into the 10 most commonly spoken
24 languages within each of the targeted communities
25 so that as many residents as possible have access

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2 to this vital information. And lastly Intro 562
3 would create a task force to review the role that
4 houses of worship and charitable groups played in
5 the aftermath of Sandy and examine ways for
6 government to reimburse these groups for expenses
7 incurred helping residents recover. After all these
8 groups did not hesitate to help their neighbors and
9 many are still struggling to reopen their own doors
10 two years later. This legislation would find ways
11 to formalize the role that houses of worship and
12 charitable groups play in the recovery for the net
13 major storm so that they can immediately provide
14 aid to residents. I thank the speaker again and the
15 entire council for their support. Thank you.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the
17 chambers please.

18 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you
19 Council Member. And before we finish today I'd like
20 to wish everyone a happy lunar New York and send a
21 special thanks to Council Members Margaret Chin,
22 Peter Koo, and Corey Johnson and their staff for
23 providing us with a delicious lunch. I tried to get
24 in I could not Margaret. You owe me lunch. And to
25 celebrate the year of the Ram, I'm an Aires so I

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2 like the year of the ram, that sounds good. Happy
3 New Year to everyone. And finally I want to thank
4 everyone from the council who join me yesterday for
5 the state of the city address. I know that I laid
6 out an agenda for the year I had that reflects the
7 collective values of this council and one that we
8 can be proud of. It's thanks to all of you that we
9 have a chance to make the ideas in that speech into
10 a reality in the months ahead. And I definitely
11 look forward to that collective effort. I really
12 want to thank my colleagues but also obviously the
13 staff that put so much effort and time that was
14 really, it really was a collaborative process in
15 many different ways. I hope it was reflected
16 yesterday and it meant to me, it meant a lot to me
17 personally. So and I also want to recognize
18 especially the staff who worked tirelessly to
19 develop the proposals outlined in the address
20 yesterday as well as everyone who helped make sure
21 that the event ran smoothly and was enjoyable for
22 all. I think it seemed to have been fun for, for
23 many people. So gracious to everyone and again
24 it's, and to highlight tonight is our black history
25 month celebration here in the chambers at 6:00. I

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2 hope the council members can take the time to come
3 by. And with that I end communication from the
4 speaker.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Discussion of
6 general orders. Seeing none. Council Member Lander.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you Madam
8 Public Advocate. I do just want to call members
9 attention to the letter that we receive from the
10 Executive Director Faith Rose of the Public Design
11 Commission of the city of New York as members of
12 the Rules Committee know and we had the, heard the
13 nomination of Hank Willis Thomas extremely
14 qualified person to sit on the Art Commission of
15 the Public Design Commission as it's also known.
16 Members raised a variety of concerns that we've had
17 in the past; our frustrations with the Design
18 Commission, and the challenge of getting our parks
19 and other public realm projects approved. Executive
20 Director Rose sent us a letter saying that she
21 heard about the concerns that we expressed at that
22 hearing and commits to work with us to address
23 those frustrations. She's already taken a set of
24 steps to streamline the public design commission
25 and commits to work with us to do more so I

1
2 encourage you to vote in favor of Hank Willis
3 Thomas as an extremely qualified nominee and if you
4 have questions about the design commission I just
5 urge you to read the letter that's on your desks.
6 Thank you.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

8 Seeing none other. Report of special committees?

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Reports of
11 standing committees.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the
13 committee on finance preconsidered Intro 655 sale
14 of tax liens.

15 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
16 general orders.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered Reso
18 570, organization funding.

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
20 general orders.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered Reso 570
22 organization funding.

23 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
24 general orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered Reso 571
south shore business improvement district.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
general orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the
Committee on Parks and Recreation Intro 384A annual
report on park funding.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
coupled on general orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the
Committee on Recovery and Resiliency Intro 519A
emergency preparedness materials.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
coupled on general orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Intro 562A Hurricane
Sandy taskforce.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
coupled on general orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the
Committee on Rules Privileges and Elections M224
and Reso 582 approving the appointment of
Wellington Z Chin Landmarks Preservation
Commission.

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STATED MEETING

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SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
general orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: And 225 and Reso 583
approving the appointment of Kin Vass Landmarks
Preservation Commission.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
General Orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: And 226 and Reso 584
approving the appointment of Hank Willis Thomas,
Art Commission.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
general orders.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the
Committee on Transportation Intro 615A trouble
lights.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
coupled on general orders.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: General order
calendar.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Resolution appointing
various persons; Commissioner of Deeds.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
general orders and at this time I ask for a roll

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2 call vote on all items on the coupled general order
3 calendar.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the
5 chambers please.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Arroyo. Barron.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: [off mic] Aye.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cabrera.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Permission to
10 explain my vote?

11 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Yes.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Thank you so
13 much. I just want to take a moment to congratulate
14 Council Member Treyger in Into 562 A. I was very
15 much involved in working with the churches during
16 the Sandy recovery especially first 24 days in the
17 Kingsbridge Armory. Literally 24 hours a day, 700
18 volunteers. And I could tell you that the churches
19 were very very very much involved with the city.
20 Literally had tremendous gaps in services and
21 helping people that literally were not being
22 reached by the city. The churches and the
23 nonprofits organizations were up in front. 3:00 in
24 the morning, I remember 3:00 4:00 in the morning
25 these houses of worship, pastors, clergy, priests,

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2 all of them they were working very very hard. So
3 Council Member I commend you. Looking forward to
4 see the outcome of the taskforce and giving
5 recognition. Probably this is one of the first ones
6 in the nation. Might be the first one. And so I'm
7 looking forward to the results. And with that I'm
8 going to turn it over to the Council Member for the
9 day to vote for me.

10 MELANIE VARGUS: I on all.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Quiet
12 in the chambers please. Continue with roll call.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Chin.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye on all.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cohen.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye on all.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Constantinides.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Aye on
19 all.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cornegy.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye on all.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Crowley. Cumbo.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Permission to
24 explain my vote?

25 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Yes.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: At this time I
3 would just like to offer my support on the
4 nomination of Hank Willis Thomas as the
5 Commissioner of the Public Design Commission. I've
6 known Mr. Hank Willis Thomas for the last 20 years
7 and he is considered in the African American
8 community as well as the African Diaspora Community
9 one of the most foremost authorities on
10 contemporary and public art. He has exhibited
11 internationally. He has been a large voice for the
12 arts community. One of the most notable aspects of
13 his career is that he participated in art bozzles
14 [sp?] 30 American exhibition. And these were 30 of
15 the greatest American artists in our country. And
16 I'm very proud to support Mr. Hank Willis Thomas. I
17 think he is young, he's talented, he's vivacious,
18 and he's considered an icon in the global art
19 world. And so my support and my vote is certainly
20 with him. And with that aye on all.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Deutsch.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Aye on all.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Dickens.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye on all.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Dromm.

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STATED MEETING

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: [off mic] Aye on
all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Espinal.

COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: [off mic] Aye
on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Eugene.

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ferreras.

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: [off mic] Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Garodnick.

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gentile.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gibson.

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: [off mic] Aye on
all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Greenfield.

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: May I
explain my vote.

MELANIE VARGAS: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank you
very much Madam Junior Public Advocate. I wanted to
speak on a few things first. I want to congratulate
my colleagues on their important pieces of

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2 legislation and congratulations to Council Member
3 Levine. I want to congratulate Council Member
4 Rodriguez and of course would like to congratulate
5 Council Member Treyger especially on his very
6 important pieces of legislation regarding a
7 taskforce to look at the work that was done by many
8 organizations including the religious
9 organizations. And I just want to note that as the
10 Council Member and Chair noted during his hearing
11 this legislation is specifically intended to ensure
12 that members of clergy will in fact be represented
13 and we will be watching closely to make sure that
14 happens less there be any confusion on that. And
15 finally I do in fact want to give my support to the
16 three nominees that we are discussing here today.
17 The first is Wellington Chin from Landmarks
18 Preservation Commission, someone who's certainly
19 qualified and has a lot of experience in working
20 the community with many different organizations.
21 Also would like to announce my support for Kim Vaus
22 [sp?] for the Landmark Preservation as well, a
23 architect with incredible experience who I think
24 will be of significant value. And finally I
25 mentioned this at the hearing; I was very impressed

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2 with Hank Willis' qualifications but I was very
3 concerned about the uh public design commission and
4 their general view that they can micromanage
5 projects to the extent that projects could even be
6 in some cases ten times more expensive and without
7 regard to that. And one of the conversations that
8 we had that concerned me was regarding their
9 ability to actually select the design of toilet
10 seats which I think is excessive. And so I was very
11 pleased to get the letter from Faith Row [sp?]
12 saying that she will work with us and that was a
13 precondition of my support of Mr. Willis who I
14 believe is... qualified and so therefore I am pleased
15 to support him and I am pleased to vote aye on all.
16 Thank you.

17 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Johnson.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Aye on all.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Kallos.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Permission to
22 explain my vote?

23 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Yes.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: I'd just like to
25 take a moment to congratulate my colleagues who are

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2 passing legislation today, particularly Council
3 Member Treyger. It's always been a concern to me
4 that the Office of Emergency Management doesn't let
5 us know before an actual emergency how to prepare.
6 We just get basic information and his legislation
7 would actually provide people with the tools they
8 need. So on Election Day you know where your poll
9 site is during a storm you should know where you
10 can shelter. So this will allow people to actually
11 prepare. This is legislation that was long overdue.
12 I'm glad to have his leadership on his committee.
13 This is what resiliency mean. This is what planning
14 means and I'm proud to vote aye on all.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: King.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: I vote aye on all
17 and I want to congratulate my neighbor and my
18 colleagues for making a mark in government history
19 by getting their legislation passed today.
20 Congratulations.

21 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: How do you vote?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Oh. I vote aye on
23 all.

24 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Say thank you
25 Grandpa.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Koo.

MELANIE VARGAS: Thank you Grandpa.

COUNCIL MEMBER KING: You're welcome.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council... [cross-talk]

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Council Member

Koo.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Koslowitz.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: [off mic]

Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Crowley.

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: [off mic] Aye

on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Lancman.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Lander.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: I request

permission to explain my vote?

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Say yes.

MELANIE VARGAS: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you very

much. I just also in addition to congratulating

Hank Willis Thomas want to congratulate Kim Vaus

[sp?] and Wellington Chin who came through the

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2 Rules Committee and are extremely qualified and
3 public service minded officials to be on the
4 Landmarks Preservation Commission. It was nice as
5 we've had happen several times now. The Rules
6 Committee considered three people of color for two
7 boards, the Art Commission, and the Landmarks
8 Preservation Commission which have not have the
9 level of diversity that really reflects New York
10 City and we're glad to see that. And I also want to
11 congratulate Council Member Treyger on his two
12 bills today. I vote aye on all.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Levin.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: [off mic] Aye on
15 all.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Levine.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Permission to
18 explain my vote?

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Yes.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Thank you very
21 much.

22 [background comments]

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the
24 chambers please. Quiet in the chambers.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Madam Public

Advocate I will be voting aye on all. But I do want to make clear that in the case of the appointment of Mr. Wilson I am supporting him based on the strength of his credentials which really are beyond reproach both artistically and because of his demonstrated... I'm sorry Mr. Thomas, his demonstrated sense of civic duty. But I do want to register my belief that the Public Design Commission is in desperate need of reform.

Colleagues all of our capital projects and parks are delayed by the PDC and often they go over budget because of the PDC and there are common sense reforms that this commission could make that would help alleviate these problems including a more expedited route for review, perhaps only by staff without board input in the case of minor elements like the covers to garbage cans and, and yes Councilman Greenfield toilet seats. They could be more comfortable with pre-fab elements which often save time and money on projects. Frankly they could meet more often because meeting once a month could add many months to a process when there are multiple rounds, multiple iterations of approval

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2 from the commission. None of these changes would
3 impede the core functions of the PDC but they would
4 all give us quicker and more cost effective capital
5 projects in our parks. And I look forward to
6 working on these with... Ms. Faith Rose in the months
7 ahead. Thank you.

8 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: How do you vote?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Aye on all.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Maisel.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: [off mic] Aye on
12 all.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Matteo.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: On, no on 225
15 and companion Reso 583. Aye on the rest.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mealy.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Can I, can I
18 explain my vote?

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Yes.

20 MELANIE VARGAS: Yes.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Thank you. I just
22 want to thank all my colleagues for passing their
23 legislation and I want to salute Mark Treyger for
24 his task force in regards to the churches. With
25 Superstorm Sandy knowing that a lot of churches was

1
2 there when others was not. And this task force will
3 do great to this city and I vote aye on all. Thank
4 you Madam Chair.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Menchaca.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Aye on all.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mendez.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye on all.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Miller.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: [off mic] Aye on
11 all.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Palma.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: [off mic] Aye.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Reynoso.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Aye.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Richards.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Permission to
18 explain my vote?

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Yes.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Just want to
21 thank first thank Council Member Mark Treyger for
22 his steadfast leadership in ensuring that this
23 taskforce was established. And I just wanted to
24 echo that it was the churches and the synagogue...
25 [cross-talk]

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STATED MEETING

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Excuse me
Council Member. Quiet in the chambers please. Quiet
in the Chambers. We're still in session, thank you.

[cross-talk]

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: It was...

[cross-talk]

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Apologize.

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: ...It was the
churches and these synagogue on the ground before
government arrived during hurricane sandy and, and
it is important that we acknowledge their
commitment and their work as we move forward. And I
think this bill is certainly a step in the right
direction. And with that I vote aye on all and just
say congratulations Mark Treyger. Thank you.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rodriguez.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUES: [off mic]

Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: [off mic] Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rosenthal.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: [off mic] Aye

on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Torres.

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COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Treyger.

COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Permission to explain my vote?

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: I just want to first congratulate my colleagues on passing the legislation; Council Members Mark Levine, Brad Lander to increase transparency to inform us of how wide the inequities in our park system actually are. Congratulations to Councilman Rodriguez as well for his legislation. And just to make a point that every member of, with the committee and recovery and resiliency represent areas hard hit by the storm. And I, and I know that we mentioned Sandy quite a bit but there are still so much that has not happened in these communities. And we cannot forget about those that were there the second after that storm hit. So I thank every member of my committee and I thank everyone in this council who's been so supportive. And with that I vote aye on all. Thank you Madam Public Advocate.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Quiet in the chambers please. We're still in session.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Ulrich.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Yes.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Explain my vote?

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: I want to vote

aye on all but I did want to make note of the
comments made by Councilman Levine. I think if
we're talking about the Design Commission we not
only have to talk about them expediting capital
projects because they take so long but we have to
look at the scope of what the design commission
considers. If you look at their agendas during the
past 60 days the design commission of the city of
New York is considering what designs should look
like for solar panels, newsstands, the appearance
of loading docks, and the mechanical equipment
design. I would think that if the design commission
looked at what their focus should be it would
assist them in narrowing perhaps the scope of some
of their work. And getting on with the business of
getting our city to work, getting our neighborhoods
to see projects, not in four five years but maybe
in two three years. So I vote aye with that caveat.

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2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Quiet
3 in the house please.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Vallone.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye on all and
6 congratulations to the nominees.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Weprin.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPPRIN: Aye.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Williams.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: May I be
11 excused to explain my vote?

12 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Yes.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you.
14 First I want to congratulate my colleagues Levine,
15 Treyger, and Rodriguez. I do want to say
16 congratulations to the two appointees for Landmarks
17 Preservation Commission Mr. Chin and Ms. Vaus
18 [sp?]. I too want to highlight Mr. Thomas who I
19 think had a phenomenal background, was in great, a
20 great choice to be put on the Public Design
21 Commission. I went through some of his work and the
22 things that he discussed and the things that he
23 points out in his artwork. That, that voice has
24 been missing for quite some time and very happy
25 that it will be filled. But I do also want to lend

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2 my name to many of the comments that have been
3 said. As far as I'm concerned the Public Design
4 Commission has been a debacle. I have projects that
5 my predecessors funded that have not gone through
6 yet. And I think if the public understood what was
7 going on there they would cry, maybe not even
8 change.. just for it to to exist. So I'm very happy
9 that faith Rouse, I sent that letter. I don't think
10 that we received any communication in the past at
11 least since I've been here to provide any
12 indication that they, they wanted to work with us
13 to try to reform what they're doing and making it a
14 little bit more friendly to the projects that need
15 to go through. So I'm glad that hopefully that is a
16 step going forward. With that I vote aye on all.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Wills.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Aye on all.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ignizio.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: I vote no on
21 M225 and companion resolution 583 and aye on all
22 others and want to echo the sentiments of my
23 colleagues with regards to the art commission,
24 design commission, whatever commission they want to
25 call it it is delaying our projects in our

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2 communities and it needs to be you know seriously
3 looked at. My hope is that the mayor who did this
4 job recognizes how they could be an impediment and
5 will work with us on a streamlined approach to work
6 with the commission. Thank you very much.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Van Bramer.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye on all.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

10 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye on all.

11 Thank you.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: All items on
13 today's general order calendar were adopted by a
14 vote of 51 in the affirmative, zero in the
15 negative, and zero abstentions with the exception
16 of M25 and Reso 583 which was adopted by a vote of
17 49 in the affirmative, two in the negative, and
18 zero abstentions. And the revised land use call ups
19 were adopted by a vote of 51 in the affirmative and
20 zero in the negative. Introduction and reading of
21 bills.

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: All bills are
23 referred to committees as indicated on the agenda.
24 And I have to say I think we have a record today. I
25 was told that Council Member Dromm is introducing

1
2 17 intros in today's meeting. That's quite
3 incredible. Staff is working hard that's for sure.
4 Congratulations.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Congratulations
6 Council Member Dromm. There are... [cross-talk] Quiet
7 in the chambers please. Here hit it hit it. [gavel]
8 Quiet on the floor. There are no resolutions and
9 now for general discussion. The first Council
10 Member is...

11 MELANIE VARGAS: Council Member Reynoso.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Thank you very
13 much. Last summer my staff and I took a tour of the
14 Newtown Creek wastewater treatment plant. It's in
15 Council Member Levin's district but my district is
16 in the water shed meaning waste from my community
17 is processed there. We were shocked to learn that
18 the treatment plan has an entire room full of
19 equipment that exists just to separate, that exists
20 just to separate out debris. Which the DEP told us
21 these days is almost entirely quote unquote
22 flushable wipes. Recently large corporations have
23 been doing intense marketing to adults to use these
24 wipes and use of these wipes has doubled in New
25 York City since 2008. However despite corporation's

1
2 attempts to make us believe otherwise these wipes
3 are not really flushable.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Excuse me
5 Council Member. May, quiet in the chambers please
6 we're still in session. Thank you.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: These wipes are
8 not really flushable. They clog up people's drains
9 and they clog up our city's treatment plants. It
10 costs the city about 18 million a year to remove
11 these wipes and similar debris from our treatment
12 plants. So today Council Member Richards and I are
13 introducing legislation that would ban the sale of
14 wipes branded as flushable in New York City unless
15 the wipes meet flushable standards approved by the
16 Department of Environmental Protection. Please
17 support this legislation and help us keep our
18 sewage clean and I think it, it goes... 'If you flush
19 the wipe, you damage our pipes' thank you very
20 much.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Okay quiet in
22 the chambers. Okay get it out of your system. Quiet
23 in the chambers.

24 ANTONIO MARIE: Councilman Vacca.
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2 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Thank you very
3 much. I wanted to speak about budget as we prepare
4 for the budget negotiations in the next several
5 months I want to ask that we not again forget the
6 often forgotten middle class. I rise to speak on
7 behalf of millions of New Yorkers who every year
8 see their tax bills and water bills go up and every
9 year are struggling to make ends meet, facing
10 foreclosure, and often having no choice if they own
11 six units or below to pass along some of those
12 increases to tenants. Because these homeowners of
13 small properties are senior citizens or people
14 facing foreclosure and they struggle every day to
15 make ends meet. Now I propose that we restore the
16 rebate program along with Councilman Treyger we
17 have proposed that we restore the rebate program
18 that we had several years ago that stated that when
19 the city was in good financial times we understood
20 the burden imposed on these individuals and that we
21 in the city wanted to provide tax relief. It's
22 really not tax relief. It's putting money back in
23 the pockets of people who have paid every year more
24 and more because our assessments keep going up. And
25 even though we don't raise the rate people are

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2 paying more every year, people who are the most
3 vulnerable who can ill afford to do so, people who
4 are paying rent in these units have no protection
5 at all see their rents going up and nothing can be
6 done. There is no SCREE, there is no disability cut
7 off, there is no protection for any tenant in six
8 units or under and these homeowners have had it
9 every year with the water rates and the real estate
10 tax. So I make a plea and I want to give voice to
11 these individuals today, millions of New Yorkers in
12 all five boroughs. And I think that as we negotiate
13 the budget I know I'm not going to let this often
14 forgotten group be forgotten again. Thank you.

15 MELANIE VARGAS: Councilman Kallos.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Congratulations
17 to Council Member Danny Dromm on dropping 17 bills
18 in one session. All I can say is challenge accepted
19 and as... [cross-talk]

20 [background comments]

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: ...as chair of the
22 Education Committee you know that slow and steady
23 wins the race. I am pleased to introduce one bill
24 and one resolution today. The absentee ballot, the
25 status tracking bill introduction 659 would allow

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2 New Yorkers to track status of their request and
3 absentee ballot online. According to the US
4 election assistance commission a quarter million
5 absentee... sorry 250 thousand absentee ballots were
6 rejected in 2012, many of those requested those
7 ballots were unaware they were not counted until it
8 was too late. Every voter should feel secure that
9 their vote is counted and we have the technology to
10 make it happen. The net neutrality resolution 573
11 adds New York City Council's voice to the clarion
12 call of our nation in favor of a free and open
13 internet. In recent weeks the FCC chairman Tom
14 Wheeler has proposed using regulatory powers under
15 Title 2 of the Communications Act of 1934 to ensure
16 that net neutrality is protected so is another
17 person named President Barak Obama and it's the
18 right move. On February 26th the FCC will vote on
19 this proposed rules. I'm proud to join Manhattan
20 Borough President Gale Brewer, Council Members
21 Lander, Constantinides, and Johnson, and people
22 from all across this country to fight for net
23 neutrality. Thank you.

24 ANTONIO MARIE: Councilman Deutsch.
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2 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Thank you. Good
3 afternoon. Speaking out today to request the
4 support of my colleagues for Intro 645, a bill that
5 aims to implement a five minute grace period for
6 bus lane violations at the beginning and at the end
7 of the restricted time periods. The SBS express bus
8 lane was created to expedite the commutes for mass
9 transit riders and increase efficiency of their
10 trip. It is important that drivers obey traffic
11 laws and refrain from entering the bus lane during
12 the restricted times. However there are situations
13 which many of my constituents have encountered
14 wherein a driver's dashboard clock may not be in
15 sync with the city camera clock. A motorist may
16 believe she is entering the bus lane legally as her
17 clock is just moments ahead or behind the camera
18 clock that is enforcing the traffic restrictions.
19 This driver will incur a fine of 115 dollars even
20 though he will, he or she was intending to follow
21 the law. Please support my Intro 645 which will
22 prevent gotcha summonses for being issued to lawful
23 drivers whose time may be only minutes apart from
24 the city cameras. Thank you very much.

25 MELANIE VARGAS: Councilman Levine.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Okay thank you
3 Ms. Public Advocate. I would like to call my
4 colleague's attention to three piece of legislation
5 that I'm pleased to be introducing today. First is
6 Intro 661 which would allow New Yorkers for the
7 first tie to pay fines and fees to the city in
8 bitcoin. Bitcoin for my colleagues who don't know
9 is a virtual currency that is increasingly popular
10 among young internet savvy consumers. Accepting
11 bitcoin is much cheaper for the city than accepting
12 credit card payments which generally cost the city
13 three or four percent processing fees. It would be
14 much cheaper to accept Bitcoin and it'll make New
15 York City look like the cutting edge city that we
16 are in technology and finance. I think we gain a
17 lot intangibly from this intro. Next I want to call
18 your attention to 662 which would require the city
19 to report for the first time on demographic data of
20 people given desk appearance tickets. We don't know
21 this today but more and more this is becoming a
22 tool of the NYPD thanks in part to the speaker's
23 push yesterday that we downgrade some offenses. We
24 just don't know whether they're being applied in a
25 way which is equitable. Many of us suspect that

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2 they're giving out more tickets for the similar
3 infractions at communities of color than they are
4 in wealthier areas. This bill would give us the
5 data to understand exactly the extent to which this
6 is occurring. And finally I want to call your
7 attention to Reso number 574 which would eliminate
8 the antiquated need for the central staff of the
9 city council to place all these papers on our desks
10 eight days before our meetings. This is a... [cross-
11 talk] thank you, thank you, very popular in the,
12 in, in the cheap seats. This is out of date and
13 frankly a waste of time and energy in the digital
14 age. In my 15 seconds left I want to acknowledge a
15 sad piece of news which is my amazing
16 communications director Jordan Levine will be
17 leaving us for better pastures. He is one of the
18 most talented, passionate, effective, impressive
19 people I've ever had the chance to work with. We
20 will miss him dearly and I want to thank you for
21 all your service Jordan. Thank you.

22 ANTONIO MARIE: Councilman Miller.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you.

24 Colleagues I rise today to speak about two bills
25 being introduced. The first is 663. It is an

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2 amendment to a bill passed this summer in
3 relationships to the rights of pedestrian cyclists
4 and public employees. The law has unfortunately
5 been misinterpreted since our adoption. It has been
6 utilized to... the normal investigative process for
7 which public employees are afforded through city
8 state laws along with their collective bargaining
9 agreements. And allowing this injustice to stand we
10 victimize workers who provide essential goods and
11 services to New Yorkers every day. These men and
12 women who place their... who, these men and women who
13 have placed the city before their own wellbeing
14 during times in crisis such as 9/11 and Sandy
15 through this introduction we may repay them in a
16 small way. This bill would protect the thousands of
17 public employees from harassment, embarrassment,
18 and even arrest. Initial Vision Zero bill had not
19 intended this and through this we can correct this
20 injustice. I ask you to support 663. Secondly Intro
21 664 which I along with Council Member Kallos will,
22 will introduce, will require DCAS to increase
23 transparency efforts around reducing its
24 provisional employees head count. As we reduce
25 provisional employees we create permanent

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2 employment on its merit and fitness to civil
3 service system. I hope to have your support on this
4 item as we require DCAS to make periodically make
5 publically available the quarter, quarterly
6 provisional reports. And finally I would just like
7 to extend a word of thanks to the speaker Mark-
8 Viverito for her vision and proposal of New York
9 City's Office of Labor. I'm looking forward to
10 continuing to working together as we aim to improve
11 and protect the rights of working people throughout
12 the city of New York.

13 MELANIE VARGAS: Councilman Garodnick.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Well done.

15 Thank you. I want to draw my colleagues' attention
16 to Intro 658 which is, actually two bills, the
17 first is 658 which is designed to protect the
18 privacy of e-hail taxi users. The Taxi and
19 Limousine Commission highly regulates their
20 licensed spaces and vehicles in order to protect
21 consumers. These regulations include strict rules
22 preventing taxi bases from misusing riders'
23 personal data. Riders need to know that their trip
24 records when they go, where they go, how they go
25 cannot be sold, distributed, or used for purposes

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2 outside of their trip, that taxi drivers and owners
3 aren't selling their personal data to banks, fast
4 food restaurants, or tech companies. A few months
5 ago we found out that Uber has or had a program
6 called god-view which gave many, perhaps most
7 employees access to personal rider data. Employees
8 could live track where a rider was, where they were
9 going, and their previous trip history. A person's
10 travel data can reveal startling amount about their
11 personal life. This is unacceptable and a violation
12 of our consumer rights. So today along with the
13 chair of the Transportation Committee Ydanis
14 Rodriguez I'm introducing Intro 658 which will
15 establish a privacy and personal data security
16 policy that affects all bases. These rules will
17 require that, that will, will include a requirement
18 that each base come up with a privacy and security
19 policy prevent employees from accessing information
20 that does not pertain to their job and protect
21 personal financial data. These new protections are
22 absolutely necessary for consumers. We won't allow
23 Uber, Lyft, Black Cars, Liveries, Taxis, or anybody
24 else to take inappropriate advantage of our
25 personal information. I also don't have much time

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2 but I want to draw your attention to 657 which
3 involve water tank inspections. I'm pleased to work
4 on this one with the Chair of the Health Committee
5 Corey Johnson and our Public Advocate Tish James.
6 There are about 17 thousand water tanks in New York
7 City. Are they being inspected properly? Nobody
8 knows. And this will create a public database of
9 all those water tank inspection reports. It is
10 sound public policy and I ask you to take a look
11 and hopefully to sign that as well. Thank you very
12 much.

13 ANTONIO MARIE: Council Member
14 Rosenthal.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Thank you so
16 much. Just tweeted about you by the way. The TPP, a
17 free trade agreement being negotiated between the
18 United States Federal Government and 11 other
19 pacific ring, rim countries will eliminate tariffs
20 and other barriers to goods and services trade...
21 investment among these countries. However leaked
22 techs [phonetic], a news report show that the TPP
23 will significantly alter the balance of
24 international power, reduce national state and city
25 sovereignty, and negatively impact domestic

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2 businesses, environmental, and labor protections,
3 food sanitation standards, and free access to the
4 internet, and low cost medications. The special
5 concern for New York City and other local
6 government regarding the TPP is that a multi-
7 national corporation can challenge our local
8 ordinances. For example by local and living wage
9 ordinances might be viewed as barriers to corporate
10 profits and challenged in a foreign tribunal that
11 could lay large fines at the door of New York City
12 taxpayers. I'm proud to stand with democracy for
13 America, the Sierra Club, the CWA, United for
14 Action, and Congressman Nadler to introduce this
15 resolution declaring the city of New York a TPP
16 free zone and urging congress not to grant
17 President Obama Fast Track Authority Over or
18 Permission to Sign the Transpacific Partnership
19 Free Trade Agreement. And then on a note closer to
20 home I urge my colleagues to sign onto a bill that
21 I've co-primed with council member and chair of the
22 education committee Danny Dromm on the Parents Bill
23 of Rights and Responsibilities to include
24 information about opting out for parents for their
25 children to opt out of high stakes testing. It's

1
2 incredibly important that our constituents know the
3 consequences about opting out. Thank you very much
4 Public Advocate James.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Quiet
6 in the chambers please. Quiet in the chambers.

7 MELANIE VARGAS: Council... wait how do
8 you...

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
10 Barron.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you. I
12 want to commend the speaker for her address
13 yesterday. I think it's a very ambitious agenda and
14 I look forward to working with her and with the
15 colleagues that are here to see how much of that we
16 can realize. I'm glad to say that she made mention
17 of the issue with policing and made mention of Eric
18 Garner and Akai Gurley [sp?]. And we know that an
19 entitlement came and we're looking to see how that
20 will go forth. The executive budget that has been
21 proposed in Albany has many cuts to many programs.
22 And I would urge my colleagues to be very mindful
23 of how we can push back against that. The
24 governor's budget eliminates the ASAP program. 1.7
25 million dollars is eliminated from that budget. We

1
2 know that's a very effective program. It's been
3 cited by the president as a national standard and
4 we're looking to make sure that that does not, that
5 that budget, that item is replaced in the budget.
6 And finally Certegy Woodson [sp?] is the founder of
7 Black History month and he was a man who was self-
8 taught and then when he attended high school was
9 able to complete high school at the age of 20 he
10 completed high school in two years. He went on to
11 get a Bachelors and a Masters degree from the
12 University of Chicago and was only the second
13 African American to graduate from Harvard in their
14 Doctorate program. And finally to just site one
15 person who I like to refer to during black history
16 month; Ociolla McCarty [sp?]. She was a black
17 washer woman in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. She took
18 in wash. She lived a very frugal life. She never
19 married. She never had children. And she saved the
20 money that she made from doing the wash. Now of
21 course as technology came and people had washing
22 machines that sort of put a little bit of a dent
23 but she was such a great person at what she did
24 that people continued to bring her their laundry.
25 At the time of her death, just before her death she

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2 had amassed some money and was asked what she
3 wanted to do with it. And she as a washer woman had
4 amassed 250 thousand dollars for... what she did with
5 that was she donated 160 thousand of that to the
6 University of Mississippi to provide for
7 scholarships so somebody you might want to look up,
8 Ociolla McCarty. Thank you.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

10 Caitlin Mackintosh would like to introduce her
11 grandfather.

12 CAITLIN MACKINTOSH: Council Member Andy
13 King.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Well thank you.
15 And I rise... to just make two announcements. First
16 again congratulations Madam Speaker on your first
17 State of the City. Fabulous job, well done. I am
18 proud to be...

19 [applause]

20 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: ...Council Member
21 after yesterday. Secondly just that she mentioned
22 we are the council, our BLAC as well as well as the
23 public advocate and speaker's office we're having
24 our, celebrating our history this evening. We're
25 inviting everyone. Please do attend. And for all

1
2 the members of the BLAC today's meeting is going to
3 be downstairs, not in the committee room, right
4 after our join, meeting, our meeting will be
5 downstairs. And also I would like to defer my next
6 minute, my next couple of seconds to Ms. Caitlin to
7 give our district 12 message of people...

8 CAITLIN MACKINTOSH: We'll pay attention
9 to people who participate.

10 [applause]

11 MELANIE VARGAS: Council Member Gibson.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you very
13 much. And Madam Public Advocate every time I see
14 you you have more children but it's awesome. And
15 thank you children for being here today. I want to
16 thank our speaker as many have already and just the
17 incredible bold and ambitious plan that she laid
18 out yesterday. It was an honor to be with all of
19 you in public housing, in elbodio [phonetic] and
20 listening to the message and the plan that was put
21 forth with a purpose based on our priorities and
22 principals for the people of this great city.
23 Specifically information on education and
24 technology, public safety, public housing, human
25 rights, school safety, criminal justice, and civil

1
2 legal services. In particular I want to personally
3 thank the speaker for acknowledging the first ever
4 Bronx Children's Museum Project that will soon come
5 to the borough of the Bronx which is an incredible
6 investment that will make a difference in the lives
7 of so many Bronx children and families. And I also
8 want to thank the speaker for just coming forth
9 with so many priorities that really reflect the
10 values of our great city and especially
11 acknowledging all that has happened in this city
12 with the senseless killing of two police officers;
13 detectives Lou and Detective Ramos as well as the
14 tragedy that struck with Eric Garner and Akai
15 Gurley. I also want to thank our Brooklyn District
16 Attorney Ken Thompson for his leadership in
17 overseeing a very sensitive and delicate issue. And
18 I ask all of you to join with all New Yorkers in
19 keeping the family of Akai Gurley in your thoughts
20 and prayers and specifically that god will continue
21 to comfort them in their greatest time of need. I
22 also want to wish everyone a happy Lunar New Year,
23 happy African American History Month, and as
24 someone who is privileged and honored to serve in
25 this council I stand upon many broad shoulders of

1 dynamic African Americans who have come before me.

2 So I want to acknowledge my heroes; my mother
3 Phyllis Gibson and the Deputy Borough President of
4 the Bronx Orillia Green. Thank you.

5
6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Quiet
7 in the chambers. We're still in session. Council
8 Member Mealy.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Well I rise to
10 just say Madam Speaker that was a great State of
11 the City and you look fabulous also. And I just...
12 yes, let's give it to her, awesome. I just want to
13 say I thank you for putting teeth in our civil
14 rights legislation now. And I just want everyone to
15 just thank... [cross-talk]

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Excuse me
17 Council Member. Quiet in the chambers please. Quiet
18 in the chambers. Apologize.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Thank you. And I
20 hope all our colleagues start looking at NYCHA in
21 regards to them partnering and selling half of
22 these NYCHA housing developments. It's really just
23 gentrification 30 years from now and then make sure
24 that people will not be able to live in our certain
25 areas. And I just want you to pay attention to the

1
2 New York times with the FBI director speaks frankly
3 about police views on blacks. I hope you take a
4 opportunity to read that. And lastly, no not lastly
5 because I want to say happy Lunar New Year also
6 Chin, and thank you for the lovely lunch. But I
7 want to say happy Black History Month. To me black
8 history is every day. And here it is, my hero, and
9 I have to say it is Ms., one of my constituents
10 retired FDNY Lieutenant John Muzak [sp?] to,
11 Tuskegee Airman who took to the skies in three wars
12 died this week at the age of 91. Muzak, a Brooklyn
13 resident in my district used to come to my club and
14 say when all the young people are in my club he say
15 you better go Google me and that had to been when
16 he was 90 or 89 years old. So he was affectionate
17 man called Daddy John who was original member of
18 the lead Tuskegee Airman, a group of 994 pilots who
19 in World War 2 became the first African American
20 Aviators in the history of the United States Army
21 Forces. The heroism showed by the Tuskegee Airman
22 is said to have influenced President Harry S.
23 Truman's decision to desegregate the army in 1948.
24 The airman was awarded the congressional gold medal
25 in 2006, the highest honor bestowed, bestowed on

1 anyone in congress. And just to let you know...

2 [cross-talk]

3 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
4 please conclude your remarks.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I'm... finish it...

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: When the county
8 called on Mr. Muzak again he left the firehouse to
9 fly missions in Korea and Vietnam war as a
10 reservist. So he is survived by his wife... [cross-
11 talk]

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you
13 Council Member.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: ...Beatrice, eight
15 children, 22 grandchildren, and eight great-
16 grandchildren. And that's my hero of Black History
17 Month.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

19 MELANIE VARGAS: Council Member Crowley.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Good afternoon
21 colleagues. In addition to February being Black
22 History Month and the month we celebrate Lunar New
23 Year it's important to remember that February is
24 also Heart Disease Awareness month. And
25

1
2 unfortunately one out of four Americans will die
3 from heart disease. Over 800 thousand die a year
4 and that's one almost every minute. I've introduced
5 a bill today along with my colleagues Dromm,
6 Johnson, Kallos, Rosenthal, and Levin that would
7 require the Department of Education to disclose the
8 amount of physical education from K through 12 that
9 each school is administered. Studies have shown
10 that so many schools do not meet the minimum state
11 standards. This bill will require schools to give
12 information such as how often a week students
13 participate in physical education, how many
14 minutes, whether they have teachers who are
15 certified in physical education, what the
16 curriculum is, and also what the facilities are
17 within the school at which they hold physical
18 education classes in. Unfortunately one out of
19 three high school students enters high school
20 overweight and obese. And unfortunately if you are
21 overweight in high school so often the habit of
22 being overweight follows you throughout life and
23 unfortunately your statistic for heart disease goes
24 up. So I do encourage my colleagues to sign onto
25 this legislation. Thank you.

1 ANTONIO MARIE: Council Member Chin.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you. Good
3
4 afternoon. I'd like to draw my colleague's
5 attention to Intro 641 which I am introducing with
6 my colleague Council Member Rodriguez and Council
7 Member Van Bramer. In the last year we have had a
8 number of pedestrian fatalities in my district. And
9 nearly all of them have been along major truck
10 routes designated in our district. This bill calls
11 for the city's Department of Transportation to
12 study truck route destinations through local
13 neighborhoods with heavy pedestrian traffic. We
14 think it's time for the city to reexamine these and
15 other transportation policy to see if there are
16 ways that we can make our streets safer for
17 pedestrians and bicyclists. By reducing heavy
18 through traffic and congestion in local
19 neighborhoods. I want to thank Kelly Taylor for
20 working on this legislation and I hope my colleague
21 will join us in supporting it. Lunar New Year
22 starts on February 19th and I invite all my
23 colleagues to come and join us in the fireworks and
24 the parade. [speaking foreign language] is happy
25 New Year and the best of good health.

1

2

MELANIE VARGAS: Council Member

3

Richards.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Good

5

afternoon. I would like to call my colleague's

6

attention to the most important issue of the day

7

which is Intro number 666 which is being co-

8

sponsored by my colleague Antonio Reynoso and I

9

just want to ask the speaker to have them amend

10

that number. I don't know if this is a progressive

11

thing. I'm feeling really targeted right now. Yeah.

12

Or Mark Treyger if you can have that task force

13

come in and pray for us we certainly will do well.

14

So I won't see the number again. But today I would

15

like to bring actually my colleague's attention to

16

the flushable wipes bill which is being co-

17

sponsored by Council Member Antonio Reynoso and

18

myself. This bill requires that all... disposable

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products that are for sale in our city be tested to

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determine if it is flushable or sewer and septic

21

safe. The bill will also prohibit manufacturers

22

from advertising a non... product as disposable on

23

the label when it has not passed a third party

24

septic safe test. DEP cites that one of the major

25

challenges facing the nation's, nation's sewer and

1
2 wastewater treatment plant operators are flushable
3 sanitary wipes. Until recently it was widely known
4 as flushable wipes, paper towels, and other
5 products could damage your plumbing. However over
6 the last few years many companies have been
7 marketing personal sanitary wipes as flushable.
8 These new wipes may be safe for the, for the
9 plumbing in your home but they have become a real
10 problem for our sewer system and waste water
11 treatment plants. Moreover DEP sites that
12 impossibly disposed of wipes do more than damage
13 wastewater treatment plants and puts homes and
14 businesses at risk for sewer backups they also
15 cause New York City water rate payers a lot of
16 money, more than, just about 3.5 million in 2013
17 alone. And this is just what it costs the city to
18 send the wipes to landfills. It does not account
19 for the additional labor cost or time that is lost
20 while equipment is repaired. And I just want to get
21 the quote right Antonio 'Don't flush the wipe
22 because it will damage your pipe.' And I just want
23 to acknowledge two interns who worked on this and I
24 will wrap up. Two of my interns Maria Camilla
25 Hernandez and Sam Marbella who are from St. John's

1 University and I'm glad to have them on board.

2 Thank you all. If we can change the Intro number to
3 665 plus one. Thank you.

4
5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the
6 chambers please. We're still in session. Quiet in
7 the chambers. Council Member Williams.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: First who I
9 would like to congratulate Speaker for delivering
10 her first ever State of the City address and
11 outline the thorough progressive agenda that will
12 help protect, empower, and improve the lives of
13 some of the neatest New Yorkers. It's been over a
14 year since we elected Speaker Mark-Viverito to lead
15 the council and yesterday it made we proud of the
16 work we accomplished and am very proud to be in
17 this body for such a short period of time. I'd like
18 to call my colleagues to Intro 673 which in a
19 nutshell ask that all city websites in agencies
20 where practical have a link to a translation site
21 such as Google that will have a feature to
22 translate what's on the page to make sure that that
23 link is listed in no less than the seven most
24 common spoken languages. I would also like to say
25 that obviously yesterday we had an indictment in

1
2 the Akai Gurley case. For me it's not a, a
3 celebration because no one wins, someone has died
4 and a man's life is ruined. But there has to be
5 accountability. In many of these cases all
6 indictment says is that there are enough evidence
7 here to ask further questions. And if the people
8 can see what happen in these cases and not come to
9 that conclusion we have a huge problem. So I don't
10 want to legitimize what has happened in the past by
11 saying that we should celebrate this, to me this is
12 what should be happening and I hope we have more,
13 real accountability in the future. We haven't had
14 accountability yet. I want to say... [speaking
15 foreign language] happy New Year. As for Black
16 History Month I wish everyone a happy Black History
17 Month but it's a weird month for me. I, I look for
18 the day when we no longer have to celebrate it and
19 we can learn all about history the way we should in
20 schools equally. Thank you.

21 MELANIE VARGAS: Council Member Ulrich.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Thank you very
23 much. She pronounces my name a lot better than some
24 of my colleagues do so...

25 [background comments]

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: I'm just
3 kidding. I know. I wasn't picking on you Peter...
4 Peter! Peter! No Peter's saying Eric, Eric please...
5 I don't know, anyway. I want to ask my colleagues
6 to support a resolution I'm introducing today,
7 number 579 urging the congress to reintroduce and
8 to pass and for President Obama to sign the Toxic
9 Exposure Research Act of 2015. This legislation
10 would recognize the health issues facing
11 descendants of veterans who came in contact with
12 toxic chemicals during Vietnam and the Gulf War and
13 suffer with multi-symptoms disease...

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Excuse me
15 Council Member.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Yes.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the
18 chambers please. We're still in session. Apologize
19 Council Member.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Thank you.
21 That's fine. This act would address the effects of
22 toxic substances on both veterans and their, and
23 their decedents, their children and their
24 grandchildren. Congress would essentially create an
25 advisory board charge with studying and evaluating

1
2 exposure cases and it would also authorize the VA
3 to create a national center focused on researching
4 toxic chemical exposure and its imposture and its
5 impact on veterans and their families. Lastly it
6 would establish a national outreach in education
7 campaign to communicate information on the National
8 Research Center incidents of exposure on toxic
9 substances, health conditions resulting from such
10 exposure and other information. Basically the
11 impetus behind this bill is that a lot of veterans
12 that came back from Vietnam were spit upon, did not
13 get the respect and recognition that they deserve.
14 And now that they are older and, and advanced in
15 age they are experiencing the health effects of
16 coming into contact with Agent Orange and other
17 dangerous chemical substances and now their
18 children and their grandchildren and their family
19 members are actually experiencing some of the same
20 health conditions. So we want the congress to
21 authorize the VA to look into this, to study this,
22 to establish a research center and by, and doing so
23 we're going to reaffirm our commitment to care for
24 him or her who shall have won the battle and for

1
2 it, and his widow, his orphan, and his family.

3 Thank you very much.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

5 ...chambers. We have six more members.

6 ANTONIO MARIE: Council Member Ferreras.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Thank you.

8 That was amazing. I just wanted to take this
9 opportunity to ask, urge my colleagues to sign onto
10 a resolution that asks for a hundred dollar tax
11 credit for tax, for each tax payer who adopts a dog
12 or cat or animal from any New York state shelter.
13 With tens of thousands of homeless cats and dogs in
14 New York City alone encouraging New Yorkers with a
15 tax credit to adopt pets is not only compassionate
16 but would bring relief to our overburdened animal
17 shelters. So I urge you all to please sign on. And
18 I also want to acknowledge and congratulate Melva
19 over at our Borough President's Office, our Queens
20 borough president's office, our Queens Borough
21 President issues the first black woman to hold the
22 Deputy Borough President's position and we
23 congratulate her from the borough of Queens. And as
24 an Afralatina [phonetic] I'm also very honored to
25 say that this month is also Dominican heritage

1
2 month so this is a busy month and one that's very
3 important and I want to wish all my colleagues safe
4 travels as you go on to your trip to Israel
5 understanding that we wish that there were more
6 places that were as safe as New York City. So
7 please be safe, learn a lot, and come back with
8 great experiences. Thank you.

9 MELANIE VARGAS: Council Member Dromm.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you very
11 much. I rise to speak to each of 17 pieces of
12 legislation that I have introduced.. No I'm only
13 kidding.. [cross-talk]

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Excuse me
15 Council Member.

16 [laughter]

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Excuse me. Can
18 we have quiet in the chambers please? Thank you.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: I'd like to speak
20 to Resolution 563 which calls for a cap on the
21 number of charter schools in New York state. As you
22 know there is a proposal by the governor to raise
23 the cap for more than 100 additional charter
24 schools. At this point there are 25 charters that
25 are available that have not been taken in New York

1
2 City and there are about 130 or so state wide that
3 have not been taken. Considering that I don't
4 understand the need at this time to raise the cap
5 on charter schools. Now that said I also want to
6 thank and congratulate our speaker for focusing not
7 on peripheral educational issues but on real
8 educational issues for which she received a
9 standing ovation at yesterday's State of the City
10 address when she spoke about us getting our CFE
11 funds, our over two billion dollars that are owed
12 to the city of New York because with the infusion
13 of those types of funds then we can begin to talk
14 about real educational reform in the city of New
15 York. Additionally I also want to thank the speaker
16 for bringing in innovative programs like NASA and
17 Microsoft and for her support of our over, overall
18 goals here in the city council which are the issues
19 that will really affect how our students learn here
20 in the city of New York. So remember resolution 563
21 with a rejection of the attempt to raise the cap on
22 any charter schools. Thank you very much.

23 ANTONIO MARIE: Council Member Cornegy.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Good afternoon.

25 I too want to just say thank you so much to our

1
2 speaker for a great job done but a special thank
3 you for making me a social media hero because of my
4 outburst on your small, after your small business
5 announcement my inappropriate outburst made me a
6 twitter sensation, thank you so much. But this
7 morning on the steps of city hall I was joined by
8 the honorable Habib Habul [sp?], the Ambassador and
9 Council General of Nigeria and activists including
10 Bangka Akinabae [sp?] Black Lives Matter an African
11 coalition for peace and justice to bring attention
12 to the tragedy taking place in the northeastern
13 region of Nigeria. Over the past year it is
14 estimated that 10 thousand Nigerian lives have been
15 lost to the violence of the terrorist group Aboka
16 Horran [sp?]. I'm calling on my colleagues to
17 support me and to support those embers of Nigeria
18 by sending humanitarian aid. We will be coming
19 around just asking everything from... because of the
20 displacement they're in need of everything from
21 sanitary napkins to food to soap everything you
22 could possibly imagine. That effort was put
23 together by the city and the state of New York as
24 it related to, to the Haitian effort and we did a
25 terrific job in helping those on the ground. I'd

1
2 like to see the same initiative through my
3 colleague so if you can support that I will be
4 asking for your support and your help. Thank you.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
6 Cumbo.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you. I want
8 to first start off my congratulating Philadelphia
9 on winning the DLC 2016. I hear the murmurs. But I
10 want to take a page out of Council Member Vanessa
11 Gibson's book when she says that a setback is just
12 an opportunity for a comeback. And there will be a
13 2020 democratic national convention. But this was
14 also a phenomenal opportunity first to bring
15 together business leaders, arts organizations,
16 religious leaders, and our Mayor Bill de Blasio and
17 our Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito who looked
18 fabulous in your dress yesterday. I was very
19 envious. All did an incredible job to bring the
20 borough of Brooklyn together and to celebrate the
21 outer boroughs. 10 years ago no one would have ever
22 thought of a democratic national convention coming
23 to the borough of Brooklyn but because of our
24 shared vision, our history, blood, sweat, and tears
25 we are now seen on a global level of bringing a

1 national convention of that scale to my beloved
2 Brooklyn, New York. I look forward to attending the
3 DNC 2016 and I hope that you all will in
4 Philadelphia. And while we didn't get the DNC I
5 think everybody in this room knows that when
6 somebody calls out is Brooklyn in the house
7 everyone is going to think that Brooklyn is in the
8 house and that Philadelphia is in Brooklyn at that
9 moment. So we're going to make sure that we support
10 Philadelphia to make sure that we elect a
11 democratic, a democratic president for the United
12 States of America and I thank everybody for all the
13 work that they have done in this effort. I also
14 want to say very quickly in light of Black History
15 Month very quickly one highlight Deborah Willis
16 PHD. She is chair of the Department of Photography
17 and Imaging at the Tisch School of the Arts at New
18 York University. Professor Willis has an affiliated
19 appointment as University Professor with the
20 College of Arts and Sciences Africana Studies also
21 at NYU. She has been the recipient of a Guggenheim,
22 a Fletcher, and a MacArthur Fellowship, the
23 Affinity Award in writing from the International
24 Center of Photography and was one of the women's
25

1
2 foundations 100 most important people in
3 photography. She is a dynamic leader and an icon in
4 the art world and I would also like to say that
5 she... [cross-talk]

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
7 please conclude your remarks.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: And I would also
9 like to say and I am that she is also the mother of
10 Hank Willis Thomas who we just selected today. So I
11 want you to know that he comes from good stock and
12 she is an icon in our history books. Thank you.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. No
14 one has an appetite for cheesesteak today. Our last
15 speaker is...

16 ANTONIO MARIE: Council Member...

17 MELANIE VARGAS: ...Cabrera.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Alright I like
19 that R. Well Madam Public Advocate I first want to
20 take a moment to thank you for making the children
21 feel so welcome and, and giving the opportunity to
22 participate here today. I just wanted to
23 acknowledge the two young people that are before
24 us. They're from PS307. Mentioned their names
25 earlier and Melanie Vargas and Antonio Marie. But

1
2 also I neglected to mention that the parents are
3 here and they took the day off to be here with us;
4 Antonio Marie Senior and Gisail Delano [sp?]
5 alongside with Principal Deborah Springsteen and
6 teacher Sheila McKinsey. I think they're here,
7 right here in the back. And so come on let's make
8 them feel welcome. On a different note, a more
9 serious note I had an opportunity to be in Israel
10 last week. And I was asked by quite a few people
11 out there to make mention of what's happening in
12 the middle east. I didn't realize this. That every
13 five minutes a Christian is being killed. Four
14 million Christians have been displaced out of
15 Sierra, two million out of Iraq, situation is dire.
16 And I promise them that I will relate that message
17 to you. I was totally unaware of how of a drastic
18 situation is, is taking place there in the middle
19 east. We need to work together towards peace, peace
20 in Jerusalem, peace in the middle east. Looking
21 forward to hearing from my peers going there next
22 week. I wish you safe travel. It's a beautiful
23 country and I wish you the best. Thank you so much
24 Madam Public Advocate. [cross-talk]

25

1
2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you I,
3 thank you Council Member. I too want to thank
4 Melany Vargas and Antonio Marie and Caitlyn
5 Mackintosh the granddaughter of Council Member
6 King. And I encourage my colleagues here today to
7 support my bill today related to bullet tracking
8 technology that I've championed since my day in the
9 city council. The bill would require that if this
10 technology is adopted by the city the results would
11 need to be made public for review by elected
12 officials and New Yorkers at large. And now for
13 final comments, closing remarks Speaker Melissa
14 Mark-Viverito.

15 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you Madam
16 Public Advocate. And thank you for attending
17 yesterday. And thank you to all my colleagues for
18 your kind words. A lot of work ahead and as I said
19 in the speech yesterday... [speaking foreign
20 language] let's get to work. So thank you all. Have
21 a good afternoon and this meeting is adjourned.

22 [gavel]
23
24
25

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 February 20, 2015