

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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March 9, 2106
Start: 11:33 a.m.
Recess: 12:33 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: LETITIA JAMES
Public Advocate

VINCENT J. GENTILE
Deputy Leader

MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO
Speaker for the Council

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Inez D. Barron
Joseph C. Borelli
Fernando Cabrera
Margaret S. Chin
Andrew Cohen
Costa G. Constantinides
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.
Elizabeth S. Crowley
Laurie A. Cumbo
Chaim M. Deutsch
Inez E. Dickens
Daniel Dromm
Rafael L. Espinal, Jr.
Mathieu Eugene
Julissa Ferreras-Copeland

Daniel R. Garodnick
Vincent J. Gentile
Vanessa L. Gibson
David G. Greenfield
Barry S. Grodenchik
Corey D. Johnson
Ben Kallos
Andy L. King
Peter A. Koo
Karen Koslowitz
Rory I. Lancman
Brad S. Lander
Stephen T. Levin
Mark Levine
Alan N. Maisel
Steven Matteo
Darlene Mealy
Carlos Menchaca
Rosie Mendez
I. Daneek Miller
Annabel Palma
Antonio Reynoso
Donovan J. Richards
Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Deborah L. Rose
Helen K. Rosenthal
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.
Ritchie J. Torres
Mark Treyger
Eric A. Ulrich
James Vacca
Paul A. Vallone
Jumaane D. Williams
Ruben Wills

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

Minister Valerie Ross
Judson Memorial
55 Washington Square South
New York, New York 10012

2 [sound check, pause]

3 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: We're going to
4 get started. We're running a little earlier than
5 usual. [background comment] Yes. So we're going off
6 with Council Member--we have three ceremonials today.
7 We're going to start off with Council Member Dromm,
8 who is celebrating Lincoln Center Education, the 40th
9 anniversary. They work with over 15,000 students in
10 over 60 schools to provide opportunities for
11 engagement with the arts on stage, in the classroom,
12 online and in the community, and Lincoln Center is an
13 incredible institution in our city, and we know the
14 value that arts and education brings to our children.
15 It really expands their horizons, and has them think
16 creatively. So it's great that we're celebrating
17 them today, and I'll hand it over to Council Member
18 Dromm. Oh, if the honorees, those that are being--to
19 come to the front, please. [coughs] Thank you.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Are Russell Granet
21 and Ann Unterberg here? Okay, good. How are you?

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [off mic] Hey, a
23 lot of fun things going on.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Well, everybody
25 got the memo, huh. [laughs] [background comments]

2 So thank you very much, Madam Speaker. It is indeed
3 an honor to be able to present this proclamation to
4 Lincoln Center Education because I have had the
5 fortunate experience of actually working with them
6 when I was a former New York City public school
7 teacher. I was able to bring my students to Lincoln
8 Center on a number of occasions for all of the arts
9 that Lincoln Center has to offer. And as an educator
10 I deeply believe in the importance of getting kids
11 out of their own communities, and getting them into
12 some of the cultural institutions that we have here
13 in the city. And that does not happen as often as it
14 should, but Lincoln Center has been dedicated to
15 doing that now for over 40 years. And so some of the
16 offerings that Lincoln Center has is the ballet, is
17 the jazz at Lincoln Center or the education programs.
18 I actually participated in workshops, and taught
19 other teachers how to present ballet and opera to the
20 students in my classroom. And these are things that
21 students wouldn't have access to otherwise. I
22 particularly appreciate the efforts by Lincoln Center
23 to work with low-income kids, and moving forward
24 we're going to try and find ways that we can even
25 increase those numbers for our low-income students

2 throughout New York City as well. So it is indeed an
3 honor and a privilege to be able to present this
4 Proclamation to you, and I'm going to ask the clerk
5 to read the Proclamation aloud now.

6 CLERK: Council City of New York
7 Proclamation. The Council of the City of New York is
8 proud to honor Lincoln Center Education for 40 years
9 as a global leader in arts education and advocacy as
10 the education cornerstone of Lincoln Center for the
11 Performing Arts; and

12 Whereas, Lincoln Center Education is
13 committed to enriching the lives of educators and
14 students of all ages by providing rich learning
15 experiences through the arts in classrooms through
16 digital platforms and within communities. It also
17 engages young people and families from low-income
18 communities and high needs school districts who have
19 had little to no access to the arts and Lincoln
20 Center; and

21 Whereas, Lincoln Center's Education
22 pedagogical method developed since 1965 with
23 inspiration from its long-time philosopher in
24 residence Dr. Maxine Green infuses the arts
25 throughout the school curriculum encouraging students

2 to express themselves creatively to value their own
3 voices and to think like an artist. Each year up to
4 half a million students, teachers, teacher trainees,
5 parents and lifelong learners participating in
6 Lincoln Center Education Programs to gain the
7 benefits of creativity, imagination, critical thought
8 and perseverance, which enriches them across a broad
9 range of life activities far beyond appreciation of
10 the arts; and

11 Whereas, thanks in part to its visionary
12 Executive Director Russell Granet, Chair Ann
13 Unterberg, and its truly passionate staff who develop
14 and promote its educational strategies. Lincoln
15 Center Education embraces a truly innovative approach
16 to aesthetic education and dedication to make great
17 art accessible for all. As a result, it continues to
18 inspire countless participants from New York City
19 throughout the United States and around the world.

20 Now, therefore, be it known that the
21 Council of the City of New York hereby proclaims that
22 March 2016 to be Lincoln Center Education Month in
23 New York. Melissa--

24 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [interposing] All
25 right. [applause]

2 CLERK: Melissa Mark-Viverito, Speaker
3 for the Entire Council, Daniel Dromm, Chair,
4 Education Committee, Helen Rosenthal, Council Member
5 Sixth District Manhattan.

6 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: All right. So
7 congratulations again, and we would love to hear a
8 few words from you.

9 RUSSELL GRANET: Well, thank you to the
10 entire Council. I'm here today with Ann Unterberg,
11 Chair of Lincoln Center Education, Leslie Rosenthal,
12 Senior Vice President, Counsel and Secretary of the
13 Lincoln Center and staff of Lincoln Center. We are
14 just thrilled by this honor. So thank you to the
15 entire Council. We believe strongly that the arts
16 are, in fact, a right and not a privilege, and the
17 Council supports us in that. We have a wonderful
18 relationship with community centers and schools.
19 We'll see over 20,000 students this year, and we're
20 in 300 schools. We started in just five schools in
21 1976. So in the last 40 years we have come a very
22 long way, and we wouldn't be able to do it without
23 this great city and the great Council. So thank you
24 on behalf of everyone at Lincoln Center. Yes, of
25 course.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Just one quick
3 sentence that I want to add what's so wonderful about
4 you guys is that you partner with the small
5 community-based arts organizations, and help them
6 flourish as well as our partnership at 191--P.S. 191,
7 the task team. (sic) So thank you.

8 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Again, thank you
9 for your contributions and for the work you do with
10 [applause] with our children each and every day.
11 Thank you so much. [background comments, pause] All
12 right, I'm going to have Council Member Borelli. Are
13 you ready? All right. [background comments, pause].
14 All right, Council Member Borelli. We have the--what
15 happened? [background comments and laughter] So we
16 have--Council Member Borelli is recognizing--oh,
17 there you are. [laughs] Sorry. Is recognizing three
18 Tottenville high school students who won PSAL
19 individual city championships. [cheers/applause] So
20 two won the Mayor's cup in wrestling, and one
21 received the Wingate Award in golfing. These are the
22 three students. All right. So congratulations to
23 the three of you, and I'm going to hand it off
24 Council Member Borelli.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Thank you very
3 much, Speaker. Thank you guys for coming and making
4 the long journey from the South Shore. As long as
5 I've been alive Tottenville High School has been a
6 powerhouse in athletics as well as academics. The
7 first thing we should point out is that Tottenville
8 has one of the highest graduation rates, one of the
9 highest--one of the lowest drop-out rates, and one of
10 the highest college acceptance rates of any high
11 school in the City of New York. It also has an
12 outstanding athletic program, and today we're joined
13 by three students, two wrestlers and one golfer who
14 have both won or have all won city titles. So let me
15 just go through the list. First Anthony Maisano.
16 Anthony wrestles at 132 although he looks a little
17 heavy today. But he won the City Championship. He
18 won the Mayor's Cup this year for 132. We also have
19 Angela--Angela who won the Wingate Award for Golf,
20 which literally means she is the best golfer in the
21 City of New York. [cheers/applause] It literally
22 means that. And finally, we have David Roman, III,
23 who lives right near me in Arden Heights, and he
24 wrestles at 285 weight class and also won the Mayor's
25 Cup. So guys, I just want to say congratulat--

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2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [off mic] How
3 much? (sic)

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: 285 or 185.
5 You're a big boy.

6 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: I know. Wow.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: He is.

8 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [off mic] I
9 wouldn't have thought that he was. (sic)

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: He's good, he's
11 good. Now, I--now I wrestled--I wrestled at 156. I
12 wrestled at 156 in high school, although I wasn't
13 very good, and not--not nearly as good as these guys
14 although I did wrestle at Tottenville High School in
15 some of the after school programs that were funded
16 way back in 1996 and 1995, and that was probably
17 before you guys were even born, wasn't it? Good,
18 good. Well, I just want to say congratulations, and
19 we have proclamations for you.

20 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [off mic] And
21 this go to the Mayor. (sic)

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: And I'll ask the
23 Clerk to read them.

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

2 proud to honor Varsity athletes Angela Masseria,
3 Anthony Maisano, and David Roman, III for their
4 incredible accomplishments in sports; and

5 Whereas, the Public Schools Athletic
6 League or PSAL is the longest running student
7 athletics program in the United States and places the
8 highest value on sports as a catalyst for physical
9 fitness, character development and youth
10 socialization. In New York City Tottenville High
11 School, a Staten Island public school, has become
12 synonymous for athletic achievement, and it is a
13 great privilege to celebrate these students who have
14 helped cement its reputation. Each one has excelled
15 in sports for many years garnering multiple New York
16 City championship trophies, and setting one record
17 after another; and

18 Whereas, David Roman, III, a senior
19 wrestler at Tottenville, stands out for his
20 undefeated record of 46 and 0. [cheers/applause] As
21 his unparalleled--in his unparalleled dominance among
22 New York--I'm sorry--among Staten Island's heavy
23 weight wrestlers. This year he was named most
24 outstanding wrestler for heavy weights at this year's
25 Staten Island Duals where he took--he also took gold

2 in the 285-pound weight class. He took part in the
3 past city championship teams and went on to win the
4 PSAL individual city championship; and

5 Whereas, Anthony Maisano, a pirate
6 wrestler in the 132-pound weight class shattered the
7 record of 108 careers wins, and reached 141 career
8 wins. Having one every single tournament that he
9 wrestled in this season, he was named the most
10 outstanding wrestler overall in the Staten Island
11 Duals where he also took gold in his weight class.
12 Having already been a part of the past two city
13 championship teams, Mr. Maisano went on to win the
14 PSAL individual city championship. Mr. Roman and Mr.
15 Maisano both won the prized Mayor's Cup in their
16 individual weight classes, the highest honor
17 available to a New York City Varsity wrestler; and

18 Whereas, Angela Masseria, a senior at
19 Tottenville High School has not only devoted the past
20 ten years to perfecting her golf skills, but has also
21 worked tirelessly to improve all those around her as
22 team captain leading her school's golf team to the
23 PSAL city championships in 2012, 2013 and 2015.
24 Since her freshman year, she has been selected
25 annually as a golf all star by the Staten Island

2 Advance Newspaper. In 2015 alone, she amassed titles
3 from the Staten Island Women's Amateur Championship,
4 the Chamber of Commerce Tournament winner, the Mixed
5 Pinehurst Championship and the Jody's Junior
6 Championship. Most notably, Ms. Masseria achieved
7 her greatest possible achievement in the 2015-2016
8 season, and has earned the highest honor available to
9 a New York City varsity athlete, the Wingate Award.
10 In this celebration of excellence, Angela Masseria
11 was recently recognized by the PSAL the top golfer in
12 New York City. [cheers/applause]

13 Now, therefore, be it know that Council
14 of the City of New York proudly honors Tottenville
15 High School Varsity athletes Angela Masseria, David
16 Roman, III and Anthony Maisano for their outstanding
17 achievements, and we wish them continued success in
18 all their future--future endeavors. Melissa Mark-
19 Viverito, Speaker for the Entire Council, Joseph
20 Borelli, Council Member 51st District, Staten Island,
21 Steven Matteo, Minority Leader 50th District Staten
22 Island.

23 [cheers/applause]

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Thank you guys.
25 I also want to invite the coaches up for the photo,

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2 John Woodman and John Seshawn (sp?) and athletic Jim
3 Munson. [cheers/applause] [background comments]
4 [cheers/applause]

5 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: And as--as I told
6 all the young people that were here last week, I
7 think the last--the last ceremonial we had, we had a
8 football team that we were acknowledging. Please
9 don't forget your academics. That's always important
10 as well. So congratulations. [background comments]
11 Okay, I think the next and last ceremonial is my
12 Andy--Council Member King, but also with the Women's
13 Caucus honoring Valerie Simpson [cheers/applause] of
14 Ashford and Simpson fame for--for her career in the
15 music industry. A pleasure to meet you. I'll hand
16 it off to Council Member King, and I guess maybe some
17 of the reps of the Women's Caucus and yes.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Good afternoon
19 everyone, and it's a delight and an honor this day as
20 we celebrate Woman's Month that we have an
21 opportunity to recognize and celebrate the work of
22 one of music's pioneers for her great work of music
23 writing and song producing, and just making America
24 feel good over the decades. With her and her husband
25 Nick--Nick Simpson, who was--I mean Ashford who is

2 with Christ right now, but they were definitely a
3 dynamic team of making--building a lot of memories
4 for all of us who stand before you today. I'm so
5 honored and grateful to have the privilege of knowing
6 you. I'm so honored and grateful to listen to your
7 music. I'm so honored and grateful that my mom and
8 dad met you. I'm standing here today because of some
9 of the music that you guys made, and that's--if
10 everybody doesn't know *Ain't--The Mountain Ain't Too*
11 *High Enough* when it comes to Valerie Simpson. So we
12 want to say thank you, [cheers/applause] thank you
13 and thank you. So now, we will--I will pass it off
14 to Helen Rosenthal, Chair of the Women's Committee.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Thank you, Co-
16 chair of the Women's Caucus along with Laurie Cumbo.
17 I just want to say I've never met you. I'm so
18 honored to meet you. I grew up in Detroit. So I
19 grew up with your music, and you kept all of us--all
20 of us happy and dancing a proud and spiritual, and
21 now your--your restaurant is in my district. So
22 thank you for staying with me all this time.
23 Congratulations.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: [off mic] Thank
25 you. Thank you. [on mic] And I, too, want to share

2 and lift the voice of the Women's Caucus. We are so
3 proud of you. As an African-American woman to
4 another African-American woman, you as a leader, as
5 an entrepreneur, as a writer, as a songstress, as a
6 wife, you are an extraordinary example for women
7 everywhere. And I actually had the opportunity to
8 meet you. I went to your house for your all-White
9 parity and it was fabulous.

10 ASHLEY SIMPSON: [off mic] Oh, I'm
11 available any time. (sic)

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: [laughs] It's
13 very exclusive, but we just want to say thank you for
14 your dedication, and over the years you have
15 continued to bring joy into the hearts of so many,
16 and to uplift people in ways that music does that no
17 one else can. So thank you so much for your support.
18 Thank you for your leadership. Thank you for being
19 here, and thank you for begin amongst the people.
20 Thank you so much. [applause]

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Right now, we're
22 going to ask the Clerk to read the Proc. For those
23 of you who don't know, I represent the 12th District
24 in the Bronx, and Sister Simpson is a native of the

2 Boogey Down Bronx. All right. So if you can please
3 read the proc, please.

4 CLERK: Council City of New York
5 Proclamation.

6 Whereas, in celebration of the Women's
7 History Month, the Council of the City of New York is
8 proud to honor one of the most respected and
9 accomplished women in the music industry, Valerie
10 Simpson; and

11 Whereas, Ms. Simpson, a Bronx native is
12 widely known as half of the song writing, performing,
13 producing duo, formerly known as Ashford and Simpson.
14 She and her late husband Nick Ashford wrote an
15 incredible number of classic songs including Ain't No
16 Mountain High Enough, You're all I Need to Get By,
17 I'm Every Woman and Solid. These and other
18 infectious songs created signature anthems for many
19 performers including Diana Ross, Chaka Khan, Aretha
20 Franklin and others; and

21 Whereas, Ms. Simpson serves on the Board
22 of the ASCAP Foundation, an organization dedicated to
23 nurturing the music talent of tomorrow, preserving
24 the legacy of the past and sustaining the creative
25 incentive for today's creator through a range of

2 educational, professional and humanitarian programs.

3 The ASCAP Foundation's reach--Reach out and Touch

4 Award honoring Nick Ashford has been established to--

5 to support struggling songwriters; and

6 Whereas, in addition to releasing her

7 solo album, Dinosaurs are Coming Back Again, Ms.

8 Simpson currently performs around the country, and

9 was recently featured on Oprah Winfrey's Next

10 Chapter. Here in New York she continues to offer

11 emerging--emerging writers, singers and musicians an

12 important platform for exposure at the Sugar Bar, the

13 popular music club and restaurant she owns on

14 Manhattan's Upper West Side.

15 Now, therefore, be it known that the

16 Council of the City of--City of New York proudly

17 honors Valerie Simpson for her groundbreaking

18 achievements in music, which continue to enrich

19 generations of listeners around the world. Melissa

20 Mark-Viverito, Speaker for the Entire Council, Andy

21 L. King, Council Member, 12th Dis--12th District

22 Bronx, Helen Rosenthal, Co-Chair, Women's Caucus,

23 Laurie A. Cumbo, Co-Chair, Women's Caucus and the

24 other members of the Women's Caucus.

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: And with that,
3 let's put our hands together for our great Valerie
4 Simpson everyone. [cheers/applause] Yeah, solid as
5 a rock. Now, then a native of the Bronx as well, we
6 have a lot of talent, and I want to give you the
7 second ever award that we created in the 12th
8 District. This is 12th Council just in arts and
9 music awards for Ms. Valerie Simpson, and it reads a
10 whole lot. You're the second one to get it. Johnny
11 Gill got the first one, and now you're represented
12 for Women's Month, Miss Valerie Simpson.
13 [cheers/applause]

14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [off mic] Well,
15 it will be great if you want to say a few words.

16 VALERIE SIMPSON: Thank you so much
17 Councilman King, and all the other Councilmen present
18 and distinguished guests. You know, I--I'm really
19 honored to be here today the fact that it is Women's
20 Month, and the fact that Nick Ashford and I wrote I'm
21 Every Woman--

22 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: [interposing] [off
23 mic] That's right.

24 VALERIE SIMPSON: --which celebrates
25 women. [applause] You know, but when I look out at

2 all of you, and I think about what you do, it's so--
3 it coincides with what I do because I try to provide
4 a backdrop of songs for the things that you have--you
5 might have to deliver a bitter pill sometimes. So I
6 try to put the right music behind it. [background
7 comments] to make it go over easier. Something like
8 [sings] Reach out and touch somebody hand. Make this
9 world a better place if you can. Reach out and touch
10 somebody's hand. Make this world a better place if
11 you can. That's what you do. [cheers/applause] So
12 I say thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you for
13 honoring me, and thank you for the work that you do.

14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [off mic] Thank
15 you very much. A perfect way to end this.

16 [cheers/applause] [background comments] All right,
17 we're going to get started.

18 MALE SPEAKER: Is that okay?

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Yeah, go, go, go.

20 [background comments] So Women's Caucus. Yes.

21 [pause] All right, so I've got to get going. If the
22 people could take it, yeah, take their seats, please.

23 If the Minority Leader and Majority Leader could come
24 back into the chamber, right. [background comments,
25 pause] Are we ready? [background comments] Before

2 we--if we can get started. If our colleagues can get
3 started.

4 MALE SPEAKER: There are a lot of people
5 here.

6 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Hi, how are you?
7 [background comments] We're going to get started.
8 Thank you. How are you? And there will be a more
9 formal--before we get started--a more formal
10 obviously, but I do want to welcome our Bronx Borough
11 President Ruben Diaz, Jr. Into the Chamber
12 [cheers/applause] as well as the family of our newest
13 Council colleague, Council Member Salamanca.
14 Congratulations to all of you. [cheers/applause]
15 Well, we'll get started with the agenda. [pause]

16 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: All rise.

17 [Pledge of Allegiance]

18 DEPUTY LEADER GENTILE: Roll call.

19 CLERK: Barron. Borelli.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: [off mic] Here.

21 CLERK: Cabrera.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

23 CLERK: Chin.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

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2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: [interposing] Sit down
3 please.

4 CLERK: Cohen. Constantinides.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Here.

6 CLERK: Cornegy.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Presente.

8 CLERK: Crowley.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: [off mic] Here.

10 CLERK: Cumbo. Deutsch.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Present.

12 CLERK: Dickens.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: [off mic] Here.

14 CLERK: Dromm

15 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

16 CLERK: Espinal.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Here.

18 CLERK: Ferreras-Copeland.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND: Here.

20 CLERK: Eugene.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.

22 CLERK: Garodnick.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.

24 CLERK: Gentile.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.

2 CLERK: Gibson.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Present.

4 CLERK: Greenfield. Grodenchik.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: [off mic]

6 Here.

7 CLERK: Johnson.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Here.

9 CLERK: Kallos. King. Koo.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

11 CLERK: Koslowitz. Lancman. Lander.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: [off mic] Here.

13 CLERK: Levin. Levine.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Here.

15 CLERK: Maisel. Mealy.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: [off mic] Here.

17 CLERK: Menchaca.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: [off mic] Here.

19 CLERK: Mendez. Miller.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: [off mic] Here.

21 CLERK: Palma. Reynoso. Richards.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Here.

23 CLERK: Reynoso. Richards. Rodriguez.

24 Rose. Rosenthal.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.

2 CLERK: Torres. Treyger

3 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: [off mic] Here.

4 CLERK: Ulrich. Vacca.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.

6 CLERK: Vallone.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

8 CLERK: Williams.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: [off mic] Here.

10 CLERK: Wills. Matteo. Van Bramer.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

12 CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

13 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [off mic] Here.

14 LEGAL COUNSEL: Talk to me. You can

15 talk.

16 DEPUTY LEADER GENTILE: We have a quorum.

17 I would ask that we all stand for today's Invocation.

18 LEGAL COUNSEL: No, it's all--

19 DEPUTY LEADER GENTILE: The Invocation
20 will be delivered today by Minister Valerie Holly.

21 LEGAL COUNSEL: Reverend Valerie Ross.

22 DEPUTY LEADER GENTILE: Oh, I'm sorry.

23 Minister Valerie Ross of Judson Memorial, 55

24 Washington Square in Manhattan.

25

2 VALERIE ROSS: [off mic] Let us pray.

3 [pounding sound] That's better. Let us prayer.

4 Gracious and dependable God, we come to you this
5 morning first of all just to say thank you for
6 allowing us to have another day to do what it is you
7 have called each and every one of us to do. Well, we
8 thank you for your peace and for your grace for
9 allowing us to continue to fight for justice in the
10 various ways that we do. God, in this month of March
11 we celebrate Women's History Month, and we thank you
12 for Councilwoman Viverito and the other women that
13 serve here doing justice on a daily basis. God, we
14 ask that you continue to lead us and guide us in your
15 truth. There is so much going on in our world, oh,
16 God, so much streaming into our living rooms via our
17 various news media outlets. But God, we know that
18 you're in control. We believe and we trust in you
19 this morning that you have everything worked out
20 according to your plan. We ask that you just
21 continue to allow us to be a part of your project,
22 oh, God. God, whatever you're doing in this season,
23 we ask that you do not do it without us. This is our
24 prayer through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

2 DEPUTY LEADER GENTILE: Motion to spread
3 the Invocation. Council Member Chin.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Motion to spread
5 the Invocation in full upon the record. Thank you.

6 DEPUTY LEADER GENTILE: Okay. I see our
7 Public Advocate has arrived. So I will vacate the
8 chair.

9 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you,
10 Council Member Gentile. [pause]

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Adoption of
12 minutes, Council Member Vacca.

13 [background comments]

14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Council Member
15 Vacca. Council Member Vacca. Council Member Vacca,
16 Adoption of Minutes.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: I make a motion
18 that we adopt the minutes of the meeting of February
19 5th, 2016.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [off mic] Thank
21 you, sir. Messages and Papers from the Mayor.

22 CLERK: None.

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Communication
24 from City, County and Borough Offices.

2 CLERK: M 378, Certification of Rafael
3 Salamanca, Jr., New Council Member 17th Councilmanic
4 district.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: It's received,
6 ordered, printed and filed, and Council Member Palma,
7 our Majority Leader Van Bramer, Minority Leader
8 Matteo and myself will escort Council Member
9 Salamanca in. [cheers/applause] [pause]

10 CLERK MICHAEL SWEENEY: [off mic] I,
11 Rafael Salamanca, do solemnly swear that I support
12 the Constitution of the United States and the
13 Constitution of the State of New York and Charter of
14 the City of New York, and that I will faithfully
15 discharge the duties of the office that I have. [off
16 mic] Council Member from the 17th District, County
17 and Borough of the Bronx in the City of New York to
18 the best of my ability. Council Member Salamanca
19 [cheers/applause]

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Oh, enough.
21 [gavel] [background comments] Speak? Is he going to
22 speak? Is he going to speak?

23 LEGAL COUNSEL: No. [background
24 comments]

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2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet, please.

3 [applause]

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Okay, if you
5 could--you can give, what? Not yet. No, not yet.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Petitions and
7 Communications.

8 CLERK: M 379, Marbre Stahly-Butts,
9 candidate for the Civilian Complaint Review Board.

10 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Rules, Privileges
11 and Elections.

12 CLERK: M-[coughs] excuse me--M-380,
13 Michael Regan, candidate for the Board of
14 Corrections.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [shushing for
16 quiet]

17 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Rules, Privileges
18 and Elections.

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

21 CLERK: None.

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

24 CLERK: M 381.

25 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Roll Call.

2 CLERK: Barron. Borelli.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: [off mic] Aye.

4 CLERK: Borelli. Cabrera.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

6 CLERK: Chin.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

8 CLERK: Cohen.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

10 CLERK: Constantinides.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Aye.

12 CLERK: Cornegy.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye.

14 CLERK: Crowley.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [shushing for
16 quiet] Council Member Crowley.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Yes.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

19 CLERK: Cumbo.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Aye.

21 CLERK: Deutsch.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Aye.

23 CLERK: Dickens.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

25 CLERK: Dromm.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: [off mic] Aye.

3 CLERK: Espinal.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Aye.

5 CLERK: Eugene.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

7 CLERK: Ferreras-Copeland.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND: Aye.

9 CLERK: Garodnick.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: I'd like to

11 vote aye on the Land Use Call-Ups and with

12 permission, Madam Public Advocate to vote on the

13 General Order Calendar as well.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: And I vote aye

16 on all items today. Thank you.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

18 CLERK: Gentile.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

20 CLERK: Gibson.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: I vote aye.

22 CLERK: Grodenchik.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: [off mic]

24 Aye.

25 CLERK: Johnson.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Johnson.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

4 CLERK: Kallos.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member

6 Kallos, how do you vote?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: [off mic] Aye.

8 CLERK: King.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Aye.

10 CLERK: Koo.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

12 CLERK: Koslowitz.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: [off mic] Aye.

14 CLERK: Lancman.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member

16 Lancman.

17 CLERK: Lander.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: [off mic] Aye.

19 CLERK: Levin. Levine.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Aye.

21 CLERK: Maisel.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member

23 Maisel.

24 CLERK: Menchaca.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Aye.

2 CLERK: Mendez. Miller.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.

4 CLERK: Palma.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: [off mic] Aye.

6 CLERK: Reynoso.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: [off mic] Aye.

8 CLERK: Richards.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye.

10 CLERK: Rodriguez.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

12 CLERK: Rosenthal.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Madam Speaker,
14 with permission I'd like to vote aye on all call-ups,
15 and with permission I'd like to vote on all coupled
16 general orders and resolutions. I vote aye.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the
18 Chambers, please.

19 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Keep it down, please.
20 Keep it down.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [shushing for
22 quiet] Quiet down, please. Thank you.

23 CLERK: Salamanca.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes

25 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

3 [cheers/applause]

4 CLERK: Torres. Treyger

5 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

6 CLERK: Vacca.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

8 CLERK: Vallone.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye on all.

10 CLERK: Williams.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: [off mic] Aye.

12 CLERK: Matteo.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: [off mic] Aye.

14 (sic)

15 CLERK: Van Bramer.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [shushing for

18 quiet]

19 CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

20 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: [interposing] Quiet,

21 please.

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: I vote aye.

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Oh, yes. Today's

24 Land Use Call-Ups were adopted by a vote of 39 in the

25 affirmative and 0 in the negative. Quiet in the

2 Chambers as we now hear from the Speaker Melissa
3 Mark-Viverito.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you Madam
5 Public Advocate and to everyone here in the Chambers
6 to my colleagues. Good afternoon. Buenos Tardes. I
7 definitely want to start off today. We have to
8 celebrate the entry of Council Rafael Salamanca into
9 this legislative body. Welcome to him, to his family
10 [cheers/applause] and everyone that is here to
11 celebrate on this day. He has big shoes to fill, and
12 he is replacing our former colleague Council Member
13 Arroyo who served at least in the time that I've been
14 in the Council ten plus years she served here a well.
15 And so thank you, Rafael for joining us today.
16 Congratulations on your victory. I look forward to--
17 we are joining districts. So I definitely look
18 forward to the work that we will do on behalf of
19 Bronx constituents, and I know this is a great day of
20 celebration. We all know, those of us in this
21 Chamber how proud we all felt, how happy we all felt,
22 and our families felt when we got elected. It is an
23 important day. [applause] So it's not only his
24 victory, it's the victory for the family as well, and
25 to the constituents of the 17th District in the City

2 of New York. So with that, Council Member, if you
3 would maybe--you know, you could say a few words.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the
5 Chambers for Council--

6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: [interposing] Keep it
7 down please.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the
9 Chambers, please.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: I just--just
11 wan to say thank you. I am truly humble to be here
12 today. I couldn't be here if it wasn't for my family.
13 Thank you and all my supporters that--that are here
14 who helped through all of my years. Borough
15 President, thank you, MR. Borough President, and all
16 of my new colleagues who--who helped me get here
17 today. I look forward to working hand-in-hand
18 bringing our fair shared for our--our communities,
19 and showing that the Bronx moves forward and the city
20 of New York moves forward. Thank you. [applause]

21 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [Speaking
22 Spanish] Also today, I want to ask everyone to just
23 keep in your thoughts and prayers the victims and
24 survivors of the East Harlem explosion, which took
25 place nearly two years ago, March 12, 2014. The

2 explosion was a horrific experience to so many
3 residents of my district, and a true challenge for
4 our city. But in the hours and days after the
5 explosion, I saw community leaders across the city
6 including my colleagues here in this room come
7 together and show their support for those who had
8 their world turned upside down by this disaster. So
9 I appreciate any thoughts with regards to that. Also
10 to keep in our thoughts and prayers to--Detective
11 John Gladstone of the NYPD who was shot last night
12 while in the line of duty. Thankfully, Detective
13 Gladstone is now safely recovering at Elmhurst
14 Hospital in Queens. We wish him a fast and full
15 recovery and thank him for his service.

16 Today, the Council will vote on two bills
17 to make City Capital projects more sustainable and
18 environmentally friendly. These bills strengthen the
19 required green building standards for capital
20 projects while also requiring a significant reduction
21 in energy use. Once again, this Council is taking
22 proactive steps and finding ways to help the city
23 move toward our 80 by 50 Plan to assure that New York
24 City's greenhouse gas emissions will decrease by 80%
25 by the Year 2050. I want to thank the staff who

2 helped with this, Jim Wilcox, Collin Howell,
3 Guillermo Patino, Jose Conde, Sarah Gastelum, Emre
4 Edev, Ed Atkin and Jeffrey Baker. I also am a proud
5 sponsor of one of the two bills. I want to thank
6 Council Member Williams for sponsoring the other
7 bill, and I will thank my colleagues in advance who
8 have deferred their comments during Speaker's time to
9 their time when it comes to voting on their bills.
10 But congratulations to Jumaane Williams for
11 sponsoring one of these pieces of legislation.

12 Next, we're voting on a legislative
13 package to bring sweeping reforms, updates and
14 enhancements to the City's Human Rights Law. While
15 New York City currently has one of the strongest
16 human rights laws in the country, it only remain--

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
18 [shushing for quiet]

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: --that way if we
20 routinely re-examine human rights issues, and keep
21 the law up to date with the time. With these six
22 bills we're bringing to a vote today, we're doing
23 just that. These updates and changes will help
24 ensure the City does a better job of protecting the
25 rights of survivors of domestic violence, of workers,

2 individuals using public accommodations and of all
3 New Yorkers. On the staff side, I want to thank
4 Michel Walb, Rachel Cordro, Annie Decker, Alisha
5 Brown, Caitlyn Caruso, Wes Jones, Juan Park, and I
6 want to thank also Council Members Mealy and Council
7 Member Lander for their support of the bills.
8 Council Member Lander has one of the pieces of
9 legislation, and he'll mention that during his time.
10 And finally, today we're going to be voting on
11 legislation to increase transparency and reporting
12 requirements on violence in city jails. As of 2009,
13 the Department of Correction has been required to
14 report on numerous statistics related to violence in
15 adolescent jail facilities. This bill would greatly
16 expand those requirements in a number of ways. Under
17 this legislation the reporting would cover all age
18 groups in all city jails. This bill will also expand
19 the indicators that require documentation and
20 reporting so that no act of violence, whether it is
21 committed by an inmate or against an inmate goes
22 unnoticed or unreported. But as we work through this
23 process, no one currently incarcerated in our city's
24 jails should be treated inhumanely or have a blind
25 eye turned to abuse they face. So definitely this

2 bill will help ensure that, and I want to thank the
3 leadership of Council Member Julissa Ferreras-
4 Copeland, who will speak to the bill when we get to
5 voting on these bills today. So I want to than
6 everyone of my colleagues, and that ends
7 communication from the Speaker.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Seeing no
9 discussion of General Orders, Report of Special
10 Committees.

11 CLERK: None.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Reports of
13 Standing Committees.

14 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Civil
15 Rights, Intro 805-A, Public Accommodations Under the
16 Human Rights Law.

17 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
18 Coupled on General Orders.

19 CLERK: Intro 814-A, Construction of the
20 Human Rights Law.

21 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
22 Coupled on General Orders.

23 CLERK: Intro 818-A, Attorney's Fees
24 Under the Human Rights Law.

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2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
3 Coupled on General Orders.

4 CLERK: Intro 819, Sexual Orientation
5 Under the Human Rights Law.

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

8 CLERK: Intro 832-A, Prohibiting
9 Discrimination in Housing.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
11 [shushing for quiet]

12 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
13 Coupled on General Orders.

14 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
15 Finance, Preconsidered M 382 and Reso 1003, and M 383
16 and Reso 1004, Council Budget.

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

19 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Fire
20 and Criminal Justice Services, Intro 763-A, Security
21 Indicators in City Jails.

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and
23 Coupled on General Orders.

24

25

1 CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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2 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
3 Housing and Buildings, Intro 701-A, Low Energy
4 Intensity Building Requirements.

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

7 CLERK: Intro 721-A, Green Building
8 Standards.

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

11 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Land
12 Use, Res--Resolution 935, Installation of
13 Telecommunications Equipment.

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

16 CLERK: L--[coughs] excuse me--LU 332 and
17 Reso 1005--

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [shushing for
19 quiet]

20 CLERK: --Sidewalk Cafe.

21 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled. To be
22 filed pursuant to letter of withdrawal.

23 CLERK: Excuse me. LU 336 and Reso 1006,
24 Landmark Designation.

25

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2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
3 General Orders.

4 CLERK: LU 337 and Reso 1007, Property
5 Tax Exemption.

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

8 CLERK: LU 338 and Reso 1008, UDAAP
9 Brooklyn.

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

12 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Rules,
13 Privileges and Elections, Preconsidered Reso 1002,
14 Amending the Rules of the Council.

15 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
16 General Orders.

17 CLERK: On the General Order Calendar,
18 Resolution Appointing Various Persons Commissioner of
19 Deeds.

20 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
21 General Orders, and at this time I ask for a roll
22 call on all items on the Coupled General Order
23 Calendar.

24 CLERK: Barron. Borelli.

25

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye on all
3 except 814, 819, 701, 721, 382 and companion
4 Resolution 1003, 383 and companion 1004. Got that?

5 CLERK: I got you.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [laughs]

7 CLERK: Cabrera.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: [pause] Aye on
9 all.

10 CLERK: Chin.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye on all.

12 CLERK: Cohen.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

14 CLERK: Constantinides.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Aye on
16 all.

17 CLERK: Cornegy.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye on all.

19 CLERK: Crowley.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye on all.

21 CLERK: Cumbo.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Aye on all.

23 CLERK: Deutsch.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Aye.

25 CLERK: Dickens.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: [off mic] Aye.

3 CLERK: Dromm.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

5 CLERK: Espinal.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Aye.

7 CLERK: Eugene.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

9 CLERK: Ferreras-Copeland.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND: May I
11 have permission to explain my vote?

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND: I'd
14 like to thank Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito for her
15 leadership in reforming our Criminal Justice System,
16 and making it fair for all. My district is on the
17 outskirts of Rikers Island beneath Elmhurst where
18 many young men of color, many of whom live just a
19 mile from the jail cell, have lost days, weeks and
20 months of their lives because of minor offenses and
21 an unfair justice system. Regular public report--
22 regular public reporting about violence in the
23 Department of Correction facilities is perhaps the
24 most important step we as Council can take to shed
25 light on often--what often occurs in the shadows of

2 Rikers Island. This bill will allow the public to
3 closely and frequently examine those statistics and
4 rule out all policy makers including the Council to
5 monitor how the DOC reforms efforts are progressing.
6 Thank you to Public Advocate Letitia James--

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
8 [shushing for quiet] and Committee Chair Elizabeth
9 Crowley who have shepherded this bill through the
10 process, and thank you again Madam Speaker, and the
11 Legislative Attorney, Brian Crowe. Thank you and I
12 vote aye.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

14 CLERK: Gentile.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Yes.

16 CLERK: Gibson.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Congratulations
18 to all of our colleagues who are passing great bills
19 today and a warm congratulations to our newest
20 colleague Rafael Salamanca, Member of the Bronx
21 Delegation [applause] and with that, I vote aye on
22 all. Thank you Madam Public Advocate.

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

24 CLERK: Greenfield.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank you. I
3 vote aye on all Call-Ups and aye on all General
4 Orders, and I'm thrilled to welcome Council Member
5 Salamanca as well, who I'm sure will be an
6 outstanding addition the New York City Council.

7 CLERK: Grodenchik

8 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: [off mic]
9 [applause]

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [laughs]

11 CLERK: Johnson

12 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: I want to
13 welcome my friend Council Member Salamanca and his
14 family and I vote aye on all.

15 CLERK: Kallos.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Welcome to our
17 newest colleague. Aye on all.

18 CLERK: King.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: I vote aye on all
20 and to Council Member Salamanca, welcome to the
21 party, and thank you for bringing--making the Bronx
22 whole again. God bless you and the family.

23 CLERK: Koo.

24

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I vote aye on all,
3 and I also want to welcome Council Rafael Salamanca
4 to here. Thank you.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [laughs]

6 CLERK: Koslowitz.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I vote aye and
8 I also want to welcome our new colleague.

9 CLERK: Lander.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: I vote aye on
11 all, and request permission to explain my vote. I
12 just want to say a few brief words on Intro 814-A,
13 Strengthening the New York City Human Rights Law.
14 That law is designed as a law enforcement tool with
15 no tolerance for discrimination in public life. The
16 2005 Civil Rights Restoration Act provided that the
17 Human Rights Law is to be interpreted liberally in
18 order to fulfill the uniquely broad and remedial
19 purposes of the Human Rights Law even where federal
20 and state provisions have interpreted more narrowly,
21 some courts have recognized and followed that vision
22 but some have not. And so there are many areas of
23 the law that still need to be interpreted that way.
24 This law directs courts with exemptions from the
25 Human Rights Law's general provisions be construed

2 narrowly, and cites three cases that are important
3 for understanding and interpreting the Restoration
4 Act and the law to make sure that courts apply the
5 liberal construction provisions in every case, and
6 with respect to every issue. So, for example, give
7 the broadest interpretation of phrases like marital
8 status or hire an employee, and recognize all the
9 very conduct that the discrimination in--connotes.
10 As for example when a covered entity selects people
11 for housing and employment because of their protected
12 class status is thought to make them vulnerable to
13 exploitation. The Speaker's leadership of this body
14 has really had as a hallmark strengthening the Human
15 Rights Law and the Human Rights Commission, and this
16 act is an important part of that. I want to say a
17 special thanks to the staff who did a lot of work on
18 this and the rest of the bills in this package
19 especially Caitlyn Caruso, Annie Decker, Juan Park,
20 Wesley Jones, Alisha Brown, Matt Gewalb and my
21 Legislative Director Ben Smith. I also note the work
22 of Craig Gurian in helping us continue to push
23 forward and strengthen the Human Rights Law. Welcome
24 to Council Member Salamanca. I vote aye on all.

25 CLERK: Levine.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: I want to welcome
3 our newest colleague to the finest row in the Chamber
4 and I vote aye on all.

5 CLERK: Menchaca.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: [Speaking
7 Spanish] I vote aye on all.

8 CLERK: Miller.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Welcome to my
10 newest colleague, and I vote aye on all as well.
11 Thank you.

12 CLERK: Palma.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Welcome to our
14 newest colleague in the Bronx and here in the
15 Chamber. Council Member Salamanca, I'm happy to have
16 a seat in the back, and I vote aye on all.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [shushing for
18 quiet]

19 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: [interposing] Keep it
20 down, please. Keep it down.

21 CLERK: Reynoso.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: I just want to
23 give a shout out to Council Rafael Salamanca. Who
24 would have thought seven years ago when we were
25 organizing in the street Williamsburg that we would

2 both be here in the City Council Chambers. A good
3 job. I'm really proud of you and happy to see you
4 here, and I vote aye.

5 CLERK: Richards.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Welcome to my
7 newest colleague, and I vote aye on all.

8 CLERK: Rodriguez. Salamanca.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: I vote aye on
10 all. [applause]

11 CLERK: Torres.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the
13 Chambers. [background comments]

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [shushing for
15 quiet]

16 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: [interposing] Quiet
17 please. Keep it down. Quiet, please.

18 CLERK: Treyger.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: [Speaking
20 Russian] which is welcome in Russian to Council
21 Member Salamanca. I want to say, Council Del Carmen
22 Arroyo had a history of speaking truth to power,
23 fighting for her community, and that is everything
24 we've heard and seen already the new council member,

25

2 Council Member Salamanca. I'm proud to call you a
3 colleague and with that, I vote aye on all.

4 CLERK: Vacca.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: With
6 congratulations to our new colleague, I vote aye on
7 all.

8 CLERK: Vallone.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye on all, and
10 congratulations, Council Member Salamanca and enjoy
11 this first day because it gets a little rocky after
12 the first day. [laughter] Yeah, aye on all.

13 CLERK: Williams.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: May I be
15 excused to explain my vote?

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you. I
18 just wanted to briefly explain two bills that I have
19 passing today.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]

21 [shushing for quiet]

22 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: The first is
23 721. If climate change worsens, the amount of new
24 construction in New York City continues to increase.
25 We have an obligation to ensure that the new building

2 construction by the city are environmentally
3 friendly. Intro 721, which I'm the proud sponsor of-
4 -

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
6 [shushing for quiet]

7 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: --requires pre-
8 owned (sic) to meet stricter expanded green
9 buildings. It's--the building--it strengthens the
10 green building standards for certain city capital
11 projects particularly those constructed with taxpayer
12 subsidy, increases the Leadership in Environmental
13 and in Energy and Environment Design also LEED, the
14 green building rating, which certain capital projects
15 are required to achieve. Additionally, it renews and
16 strengthens reporting requirement that expands the
17 LEED Certification requirements. I want to thank the
18 Speaker for pushing this package as part of her
19 housing agenda, Council staff Laura Popa, Matt
20 Gewalb, Jeff Baker, Jim Wilcox, Alex Polonoff (sp?)
21 and my staff Nick E. Smith. And the second one,
22 Domestic Violence Housing Discrimination, LS 832.
23 Domestic violence continues to threaten--

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
25 [shushing for quiet]

2 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: --the safety and
3 lives of too many New Yorkers. Too often victims of
4 domestic violence are evicted or prevented from
5 renting apartments simply because they have been
6 abused. It is not just wrong. It is horrifying, and
7 that's why I'm proud to stand with my colleagues to
8 pass Intro 832 to make housing discrimination against
9 victims of intimate partner violence illegal. With
10 the passage of this legislation, we are expanding
11 again the Human Rights Law to protect domestic
12 violence victims--

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
14 [shushing for quiet]

15 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: --against
16 discrimination. Victims can't often find safe and
17 affordable housing, and landlords too frequently
18 discriminate against domestic violence victims.
19 Nationally, 11% of evictions involve domestic--
20 victims of domestic violence who are evicted to
21 abuse. Women are disproportionately affected by
22 intimate partner violence with more than one in three
23 women experiencing rape, physical violence and/or
24 talking by an intimate partner in their lifetime. I'm
25 very proud of us for passing this piece of

2 legislation. I want to thank Chair Mealy, co-prime
3 sponsors Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito, Council
4 Members Land and Cumbo, and staff Matt Gewalb, Laura
5 Popa, Rachel Cordero

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
7 [shushing for quiet]

8 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet, please.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [shushing for
10 quiet] Quiet in the Chamber.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: --Alisha Brown,
12 the Civil Rights Committee Counsel and Nick E. Smith,
13 my Legislative Director and Deputy Chief of Staff.
14 Thank you. Oh, and I vote aye on all.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

16 CLERK: Mealy.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I vote aye in--I
18 vote aye on all Land Use Call-Up.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

20 CLERK: Matte.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: No on 814-A, no
22 on 819, 701-A--

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
24 [shushing for quiet]

25 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: --721-A--

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: [interposing] Keep it
3 down, please.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Preconsidered
5 Reso 382 with companion Reso 1003, Preconsidered 383
6 with one--companion Reso 1004, and aye on the rest.

7 CLERK: Van Bramer.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: I proudly
9 vote aye on all and congratulations to our newest
10 colleague and most especially to his family and
11 friend who are beaming. Thank you.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you

13 CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: I vote aye on
15 all.

16 [pause]

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: I, too, want to
18 welcome Council Member Salamanca. Welcome to the
19 family, dysfunctional at times, but we're a family.
20 [laughter] Three pages. Okay. All items on today's
21 General Order Calendar were adopted by a vote of 42
22 in the affirmative, 0 negative and 0 abstentions with
23 the exception of M 382 and Resolution 1003, which was
24 adopted by a vote of 40 in the affirmative, 2
25 negative and 0 abstentions, and M 383 and Res 1004,

2 which was adopted by a vote of 40 in the affirmative,
3 2 in negative and 0 abstentions. And Intro 814-A,
4 which was adopted by a vote of 40 in the affirmative,
5 2 negative and 0 abstentions, and Intro 819, which
6 was adopted by a vote of 40 in the affirmative, 2
7 negative and 0 abstentions, and Intro 701, which was
8 adopted by a vote of 40 in the affirmative, 2
9 negative and 0 abstentions, and Intro 721, which was
10 adopted by a vote of 40 in the affirmative, 2
11 negative and 0 abstentions, and the Revised Land Use
12 Call-Ups, are 42 in the affirmative, 0 negative and
13 we love the voice of children. So, Introduction and
14 Reading of Bills.

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

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: There are not
18 resolutions today, and there are no general
19 discussions, believe it or not. [cheers/applause]
20 Yeah, that's a round of applause and now for closing
21 remarks the Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito. Quiet in
22 the Chambers, please.

23 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you Madam
24 Public advocate.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
3 [shushing for quiet]

4 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet, please. Keep
5 it down. Quiet please.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
7 [shushing for quiet]

8 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet please. Quiet
9 please.

10 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you my
11 colleagues. Maybe this is an example of how things
12 could be in the future, but [laughs] with that we had
13 a quick agenda. Again, congratulations to Council
14 Member Salamanca and his family, and there is a small
15 reception downstairs if colleagues want to get to
16 know him a little bit more and his family, we welcome
17 you to that. Thank you all very much. Have a great
18 afternoon.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. We
20 stand adjourned. [gavel] [cheers/applause]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Date March 25, 2016