

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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November 29, 2016
Start: 1:43 p.m.
Recess: 3:26 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: LETITIA JAMES
Pubic Advocate

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 L. 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
James G. Van Bramer
Jumaane D. Williams
Ruben Wills

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

Reverend Dr. Baker, Senior Pastor
St. Phillips Baptist Church
77 Bennett Street, Staten Island, NY 10302

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[sound check, pause]

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SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Alright, we're

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going to get started with our ceremonials. So

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welcome everybody to our chambers. We would like to

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ask all the representatives for the Campaign for

7

Fiscal Equiby-Equity to come and join us. [pause]

8

Alright. Oh, Campaign for Fiscal Equity recently,

9

right, marched up to [cheers/applause] again. So our

10

former colleague Robert Jackson. It's great to see

11

you. Oh and AQE, Alliance for Quality Education is

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here as well. [cheers] So thank you, and we have

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our wonderful Advocate and Chair over Education

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Committee Danny Dromm, who will say a few words, and

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we want to thank you all for what you're doing to

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ensure that we get our share of the funding, right?

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We're going to demand that we get our share of

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education funding. I will pass it off to our Chair

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of Education Danny Dromm.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you, Madam

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Speaker and let me also start off by thanking Millie

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Bonilla, who's holding the proclamation for pulling

23

[cheers/applause] this together, and my staff Michael

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Mallon and Sebastian McGuire and Normal Young as

25

well. So I'm so glad to have the opportunity, Madam

1
2 Speaker, to recognize the Ed Walkers the
3 extraordinary group of parents, students, educators
4 and other advocates who stand before us today.
5 Please join me in welcoming Mindy Rozier.
6 [cheers/applause] Joanna Garcia. [cheers/applause]
7 Lydia Hampton [cheers/applause] Dionne McNeil, Maria
8 Baltista, and Anthony Delorve (sp?) and I want to
9 give a specially warm welcome to my former colleague
10 New York City Council Education Committee Chairperson
11 Robert Jackson [cheers/applause] who's here with us
12 as well who has fought long and hard for kids over
13 the years and laid the foundation for this movement.
14 For those who are not aware, in 1993, Robert Jackson
15 and other New York City parents filed a lawsuit known
16 today as the Campaign for Fiscal Equity. These
17 parents wanted to hold the Senate and the State, the
18 Legislature accountable for its severe underfunding
19 of public schools in low-income communities and in
20 communities of color. In 2006, New York's highest
21 court ruled the state failed to provide a basic
22 education to our kids. The court ordered the state to
23 add billions of dollars to city schools. Sadly,
24 however, this mandate has not been and continues to
25 be—this mandate was ignored and continues to be

1
2 ignored. A decade later, our children still have not
3 received the dollars they so desperately need, and
4 it's in the are of \$4 billion still owed to our
5 students. That ain't right. That ain't right.

6 [laughs] On October 2, 2016, the Ed Walkers together
7 with the Alliance for Quality Education launched a
8 150-mile walk from New York City to Albany to demand
9 a \$3.9 billion in funding owed to public schools.

10 The Ed Walkers got enthusiastic support across the
11 state. 90 organizations ranging from the New York
12 State Parent Teacher Association, to the Brooklyn
13 YWCA endorsed the walk. This effort successfully
14 captured the public's attention and the attention of
15 legislators across New York. I applaud this amazing
16 group of men and women for literally walking the walk
17 for our kids, and I want to say I also think it takes
18 a special brand of courage and commitment because
19 they did not do this for themselves. They did this
20 for their children and for future generations of
21 children [cheers/applause] in New York City. By
22 taking action, they helped advance a full fledged
23 campaign to challenge New York's education legacy.

24 Their hard work has inspired so many others to roll
25 up their sleeves, and fight for the wellbeing of our

1
2 public schools. Thank you Ed Walkers for all you
3 have done [cheers/applause] and continue to do for
4 our children, and with that, I'm going to ask the
5 Clerk to read the Proclamation.

6 CLERK: Council City of New York
7 Proclamation.

8 The Council of the City of New York is
9 proud to honor the Ed Walkers, who walked from New
10 York City to Albany to raise awareness for the need
11 to fully fund public education in our state; and

12 Whereas, over a decade ago, a group of
13 concerned parents of New York public school children
14 took the State of New York to court. These parents
15 charged the state with failing to provide public
16 school students with an adequate education. In 2006,
17 the highest court of New York ruled in favor of the
18 parents, and found the State in violation of the
19 students' constitutional right to a sound and basic
20 education by underfunding schools in Black, Latino,
21 and low-income communities; and

22 Whereas, although that historic trial
23 known as the Campaign for Fiscal Equity should have
24 guaranteed targeted funding for New York City, it has
25 not. The Ed Walkers, a determined group of 20

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2 parents, students and educators, as well as 16 New
3 Yorkers with the Alliance for Quality Education were
4 determined to remedy the problem. Together, they set
5 off on a 150-mile walk from New York City to Albany
6 where they demanded that Governor Andrew Cuomo and
7 State Senate Majority provide a two-year phase-in of
8 the full \$3.9 billion CFE funds owed including the
9 \$1.9 billion owed to the City of New York; and

10 Whereas, keenly aware of the
11 transformative impact \$3.9 billion would have on
12 public education in New York the Ed Walkers
13 diligently built relationships with school districts
14 all across New York State. From the start they kept
15 the CFE at the forefront of State budget negotiations
16 and mobilized the public to ensure that their elected
17 leaders kept their promise to our children and fund
18 the CFE. The Ed Walkers never waived from the
19 admirable goal, and brought much needed visibility to
20 this historic movement.

21 Now, therefore, be it known that the
22 Council of the City of New York gratefully recognizes
23 the Ed Walkers for working tirelessly to ensure that
24 each and every New York public school student
25 received a quality education they need and deserve.

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2 Melissa Mark-Viverito, Speaker for the Entire
3 Council, Daniel Dromm, Council Member 25th District
4 Queens.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Alright
6 [cheers/applause] and now—now we're going to hear
7 from Joanna Garcia who continues to work in education
8 fighting for those children with dyslexia. Joanna.
9 [cheers/applause]

10 JOANNA GARCIA: Thank you. Thank you.
11 [background comments] It is a truly emotional moment,
12 not just because I kind of feel like I'm coming back
13 home, [laughter] but it is—it is tremendous to have
14 walked and have so many moments during that walk
15 knowing that there is a cause that is bigger than all
16 of us. There were times that were very difficult.
17 It was one step at a time, and I think that that's
18 very representative of what we do when we advocate,
19 and when we speak for those that cannot speak for
20 themselves. I am truly and deeply grateful on behalf
21 of all the Ed Walkers--who are my new brothers and
22 sisters—for this recognition. This recognition
23 represents that our voices are reaching all corners
24 of the chambers of advocacy. It means that we are
25 that much closer to making sure that the Capital in

1
2 Albany hears our call, and our steps and makes sure
3 that this CFE is fully funded. Thank you.

4 [cheers/applause]

5 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Alright, our great
6 co-former colleague Robert Jackson is not going to
7 say anything, but it's always alright, alright,
8 alright. [cheers/applause] Alright, Robert here you
9 go. [background comments] [cheers/applause]

10 ROBERT JACKSON: Madam Speaker, alright.
11 [laughter] No, it's important to know that I was
12 there supporting all of the Ed Walkers who have never
13 walked before, and as someone that walked 150 miles 13
14 years ago, it was important for me to be their
15 foundation to give them the spirit and drive in order
16 to continue, and I say to you some people said that
17 this was not really for our children that this was
18 something else. When people go to the emergency room
19 for hairline fractures, with swollen ankles and
20 swollen knees, and blisters, not one but three and
21 four on one foot, in order to do what's right for our
22 children, I say to you they deserve all the praise
23 because they are the ones who walked
24 [cheers/applause] and I was there with them walking
25 to give them the support that they need, and so, they

1
2 called me Robert Jackson. Not Robert, but Robert
3 Jackson, and I was their drummer. Basically, I was
4 drumming on a plastic what is it?

5 FEMALE SPEAKER: A bucket.

6 ROBERT JACKSON: A bucket all the way to
7 Albany. The average today about 18 to 20 miles a
8 day. The bottom line is they deserve all the praise.
9 AQE deserves the praise for fighting for our
10 children, \$3.9 billion. Just imagine what we can do
11 for our children if they had those additional funds.
12 Thank you City Council [cheers/applause] the
13 Speaker, Danny Dromm and all of the members of the
14 City Council.

15 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Always great to
16 see you, Robert. Welcome back and to John as well.
17 So thank you all very much. [cheers/applause]
18 Alright our-oh. [background comments, pause]
19 Alright, I think the next ceremonial is by Council
20 Member Williams [pause] and it's for-for recognition
21 of retiring Brooklyn Parks Commission Kevin Jeffrey.
22 [cheers/applause] If Kevin is here. Commission
23 Jeffrey, we ask him to join us. [pause] All the
24 Brooklyn members that are here join us.
25 [cheers/applause] [background comments] I'm going to

1
2 hand it over to Jumaane. Well, let me just say that,
3 you know, as—as former Parks Committee Chair, you
4 know, thank you for all you did, all you've done, for
5 your years of service. Worked alongside the Parks
6 Commissioner and the—at the local level and the Parks
7 Commissioner of the agency, and you do incredible
8 work to maintain our parks. So thank you for all
9 your years of service, and I'll hand it off to
10 Jumaane.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you very
12 much. I want to make sure you know I just happened
13 to get it in first. There's a lot of people who
14 wanted to make sure that you got recognized today.
15 It's very rare that you find a public servant that
16 can serve the way that Kevin Jeffrey has in Brooklyn.
17 [cheers/applause] [laughter] I'm not going to
18 mention any names, but I do hear complaints from
19 other boroughs about their borough commissioner, and
20 we've never had that complaint. Brooklyn is a
21 diverse array of people with diverse needs, and under
22 his leadership he serviced all of them, and everybody
23 in Brooklyn only had nice things to say about him,
24 and that's a testament to who he is, and it's very
25 rare that you can find and we just want to say thank

1
2 you so much. We're sad to see you go.

3 [cheers/applause] He's been in public service for 32
4 years, five years a state commissioner and ten years
5 as the Borough of Brooklyn Commissioner. We just
6 want to say thank you and wish you all the best in
7 your new endeavors. We're sad to see you go, but I'm
8 happy that you and your family get to enjoy your
9 company now, but thank you, thank you, thank you.

10 [cheers/applause]

11 MALE SPEAKER: You forgot mention the
12 State's proclamation we gave him for retiring.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Oh, please read
14 -read the Proc.

15 CLERK: Council, City of New York
16 Proclamation.

17 Whereas, the Council of the City of New
18 York is proud to honor Brooklyn Borough Commissioner
19 Kevin Jeffrey upon his retirement from New York
20 Department of Parks and Recreation for his
21 extraordinary service to the City and to the
22 community at large; and

23 Whereas, Mr. Jeffrey was raised in Crown
24 Heights, Brooklyn where he continues to live today.

25 [cheers] After attending Brooklyn Friends School and

1
2 Syracuse University, he joined the City's Department
3 of Parks and Recreation in May 1979 in the first
4 class of urban park rangers. Throughout his
5 distinguished career in Parks he honed his expertise
6 in a wide range of roles. In addition to supervising
7 the Mounted Rangers Unit, he served as Executive
8 Director of the Parks Enforcement Control, Chief of
9 Operations of Brooklyn's Prospect Park, Brooklyn's
10 Chief of Recreation, Deputy Commissioner for Public
11 Programs; and

12 Whereas, Mr. Jeffrey left Parks for a
13 time to serve as Deputy Commissioner of Recreation
14 programs, and services with the State Office of
15 Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, and was
16 later appointed Regional Director of State Parks
17 Holdings; and

18 Whereas, in 1997 he returned to Brooklyn
19 as Executive Director of the Bedford-Stuyvesant YMCA
20 where he spearheaded its revitalization efforts. He
21 also served as trainer and coordinator in the design
22 and implementation of Total Quality Management
23 programs within both the New York City Department of
24 Parks and Recreation and National Park Services; and

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2 Whereas, since becoming Brooklyn Borough
3 Commissioner in 2010, Mr. Jeffrey has been an
4 effective champion for extended recreational,
5 educational and athletic opportunities for all New
6 Yorkers. Upon his retirement, he could be proud
7 knowing that his legacy of service has not only
8 greatly enhanced Brooklyn's parks and public spaces,
9 but has also enhanced the lives of countless New
10 Yorkers and visitors alike.

11 Now, therefore, be it known that the
12 Council of the City of New York including all members
13 of its Brooklyn Delegation honors Kevin Jeffrey for
14 his outstanding career and enduring contributions to
15 the city and to the community. Melissa Mark-Viverito
16 Speaker for the Enter Council, Jumaane D. Williams,
17 Council Member 45th District, Vincent J. Gentile,
18 Council Member 43rd District and the rest of the
19 Brooklyn Delegation. [cheers/applause]

20 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Hey, that
21 wasn't me.

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: It's everybody,
23 everybody.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Alright,
25 alright. Steve-Steven Levin, Council Member 33rd

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2 District, Antonio Reynoso, Council Member 34th
3 District [cheers], Laurie A. Cumbo, Council Member
4 35th District, [cheers] Robert Cornegy, Council
5 Member 36th District, Rafael Espinal, Council Member
6 37th District, Carlos Menchaca, Council Member 38th
7 District, Brad Lander, Council Member 39th District,
8 Mathieu Eugene, Council Member 40th District,
9 Darlene Mealy, Council Member 41st District, Inez D.
10 Barron, Council Member 42nd District, David G.
11 Greenfield, Council Member 45th District [cheers],
12 Alan Maisel, Council Member 46th District, Mark
13 Treyger, Council Member 47th District and Chaim
14 Deutsch, Council Member 48th District. The entire
15 Brooklyn and a still wannabe council member Public
16 Advocate Tish James. [cheers/applause] [laughter]
17 KEVIN JFFREY: Wow, I am totally for it.
18 Thank you, thank you, thank you, and thank you for
19 using a sustainable material on the frame.
20 [laughter] They make good wood frames, but this is
21 much better. I love our trees. Just a warm thank
22 you. It's funny. I haven't been in the Chambers in
23 a while, and it's actually nice. I was watching some
24 of you. This has been a home for you, and despite
25 all we've done together with the parents, and I—and I

1
2 have to say I left this position with \$16 million
3 worth of parks contracts. [cheers/applause] And that
4 is-that is thanks to most of you, most of the Council
5 and the Administration. I get a lot accolades on
6 that list of things I've accomplished for one and
7 all, but none of that could have been done with your
8 help here, and it's-it's much more than just the
9 financial help here. It's the political support. You
10 all are partnered as individuals, you know. I'm not
11 going to around, but each and every one of you I have
12 partnered with. Jumaane taught me a lot. Jumaane
13 taught me about basketball courts, and it's funning.
14 [laughter] I'm building a basketball in my back yard
15 for my kid. So he's 15 years old and I never knew he
16 wanted a basketball in our back yard, and I've been
17 building them for all of you. So I get a chance to
18 do that. [background comments] Well, you know what
19 [laughter] I have to tell you it's much cheaper. I'm
20 sure it's not going to be as adorable. I'm going to
21 add this onto the back board. [laughter] I can go
22 with the lowest bidder. But you all have taught me
23 so much. It's truly an honor, and it's an honor to
24 get this, and it's more than an honor to have worked
25 with Council. You all have taught me so much about

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2 participation, and I've grown here. I've really
3 grown up here, and thank you all for this tremendous
4 gift. [cheers/applause]

5 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I want to say
6 it's the sponsor's privilege we started getting up
7 here?

8 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Yes. [background
9 comments] [cheers/applause]. Okay. [background
10 comments, pause] Alright, the last ceremonial and
11 it's by Council Member Kallos, but it involves me a
12 little bit as well. I want to thank him for-for
13 doing this ceremonial. We're going to be giving it
14 to Fire Fighters who responded to a fire In Council
15 Member Kallos' district, and as we know with our
16 first responders, whenever there is an emergency we
17 usually have several firehouses or several precincts
18 that respond, and since Kallos borders my district,
19 and a lot of my firehouses responded—come on up you
20 guys. The firehouses in my district responded
21 [applause]. So, I'm going to hand it off to him, but
22 I want to thank them all for your service. Those of
23 you that are representing the firehouses north of
24 96th Street and East Harlem, I thank you. I know we
25 have the El Barrios bravest here Engine 53, Ladder

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2 43. I know Ladder 26 also responded on 112th and 5th
3 Avenue, and Engine 91 [laughs] So, being woken up
4 many times at night just to have a firehouse on my
5 block, I thank you guys very much for your service.
6 I'm going to hand it off to Council Member Kallos and
7 thank him for conducting the ceremony here today.
8 [pause]

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Good afternoon.
10 I'm Council Member Ben Kallos, and it's not everyday
11 that we get to recognize heroes, but we're fortunate
12 that is one of those days that we get to recognize
13 real life heroes. On behalf of City Council Speaker
14 Melissa Mark-Viverito, our Fire and Criminal Justice
15 Chair, Elizabeth Crowley and myself, today we honor
16 members of the Fire Department for doing what they do
17 every single day. We thank them for their bravery,
18 for their quick thinking and for rising their safety
19 to save the lives of New Yorkers who need them. On
20 October 27th at 3:30 a.m. while many of us were
21 sleeping, just down the block from District Office at
22 327 East 93rd Street, one of the five residential
23 buildings erupted into an inferno threatening the
24 lives of dozens of people including 81-year-old Jimmy
25 Duffy. Over 200 of New York City's bravest did what

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2 they always do, and 15 companies responded to the
3 first alarm, which are being honored today in this
4 Proclamation. Three of the companies who responded to
5 the first alarm are here today. Ladder 26 at East
6 112th and 5th Avenue, [laughter] Ladder 43 at East 102
7 and 3rd Avenue., and Rescue 1 housed at West 43rd
8 Street between 10th and 11th, which made it all the
9 way to the Upper East Side to perform a daring
10 rescue. Now, one thing to keep in mind is none of
11 these firefighters knew each other before this
12 rescue, but they all have one mission, which is to
13 save lives and although the flames would raise well
14 into the morning's training, hours and hours of
15 training, an retraining, kicked into gear as they
16 joined together, complete strangers in a daring rope
17 rescue there the last one happened five years ago, an
18 act of last resort, but they train everyday. And
19 where some of us might ask is this going to be on the
20 test, they don't—they keep training so that they are
21 ready for times like this, and they saved the life of
22 Jimmy Duffy and he calls the Miracle on 93rd Street.
23 Here today to accept the Proclamation on collective
24 thank you are Manhattan Borough Commissioner Chief
25 Michael Gala, Peter McMahan, Lieutenant Ryan

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2 MacDougal and firefighters Jimmy Lee, Francis Rush,
3 Walter Gilroy, Andy Hawkins, William McGary, Joseph
4 Moore, and we're also joined by representatives of
5 the Uniform Fire Officers Association with Jimmy
6 McCarthy, their Treasurer and many of their members,
7 as well as the Uniformed Firefighters Association,
8 and if I could now direct the Clerk to read the
9 proclamation.

10 CLERK: Council City of New York
11 Proclamation. The Council of the City of New York is
12 proud to honor the valiant FDNY firefighters who
13 battled the Yorkville blaze on October 27, 2016; and

14 Whereas, the FDNY is the largest fire
15 department in the nation, and universally recognized
16 as the world's busiest and most highly skilled
17 emergency response agency. Each year the FDNY not
18 only responds to more a million emergencies every
19 year, it is a privilege to honor these heroes and
20 heroines for one of those emergencies on this
21 occasion; and

22 Whereas, around 3:30 a.m. on October 27,
23 2016, a fire broke out on the ground floor of 324
24 East 93rd Street, worked way up the five floors, and
25 erupted into a massive six-alarm blaze. Fortunately,

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2 working alarms and detectors alerted people in the
3 unit where the fire started, but as the fire quickly
4 climbed from the first floor, it trapped other
5 residents trying to flee. The blaze soon spread to
6 two adjacent buildings. Over the course of the next
7 hours, 250 courageous men and women from Engine 53,
8 Engine 91, Engine 58, Engine 76, Engine 44, Ladder
9 43, Ladder 26, Ladder 22, Ladder 16, Ladder 13,
10 Battalion 11, Battalion 10, Squad 41, Rescue Squad
11 01, Division Commando 3 worked tirelessly to tame the
12 blaze while also running into the burning building to
13 save lives. With flames shooting out form the
14 building's windows, firefighters worked diligently to
15 rescue everyone, and keep each other safe throughout
16 the effort; and

17 Whereas, in one courageous rescue
18 firefighters needed save an 81-year-old man from the
19 top of the building by lowering—lowering him down on
20 a rope. This lifeline was set ablaze and obliterated
21 just moments after the elderly resident reached the
22 ground. The heroic firefighters who participated in
23 that rescue included Jimmy Lee, Andy Hawkins, Joseph
24 Moore, Francis Rush, Steven Janicki (sp?), Walter
25 Gilroy, William McGarry and Peter McMahan; and

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2 Whereas, throughout that harrowing night,
3 all 250 firefighters worked together to extinguish
4 the fire, save lives and secure the scene. While the
5 conflagration resulted in the death of one resident,
6 injuries suffered by five civilians and 11 heroic
7 firefighters, and the complete destruction of the
8 five-story building, the toll would have been
9 extremely worse without the courage and skills of New
10 York's bravest. The men and women of the FDNY have
11 truly distinguished themselves and their service to
12 our city, and have earned the gratitude of all New
13 Yorkers.

14 Now, therefore, be it known that the
15 Council of the City of New York gratefully honors the
16 FDNY's Engine 53 Engine 91, Engine 58, Engine 76,
17 Engine 44, Ladder 43, Ladder 26, Ladder 22, Ladder
18 16, Ladder 13, Battalion 11, Battalion 10, Squad 41,
19 Rescue Squad 01 and Division Commando 3 for their
20 extraordinary heroism in Yorkville on October 27,
21 2016. Melissa Mark-Viverito, Speaker for the Entire
22 Council, ben Kallos, Council Member 5th District
23 Manhattan, Elizabeth Crowley, Chair, Fire and
24 Criminal Justice Committee.

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SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Again, thank you so much. [cheers/applause] and as our—as our first responders the history in this Chamber is that when on them mic, you don't say much. You say that it's in your line of work, and that's what you're meant to do. I thank you all very much, but we have one brave representative who will speak on behalf of all of the firefighters, and again, told the union reps and everyone that is here to support, we thank you deeply for the bottom of our heart for what you do each and every day on behalf of our City. I'll hand it over. [applause]

MIKE GALA: Good afternoon. My name is Mike Gala. I'm the Deputy of Manhattan Borough Commander. Speaker Viverito, Public Advocate Tish James, Crowley, Councilman Kallos, what we do know is I know my members here are humbled, probably a little embarrassed after they're recognized today. I couldn't be more proud of them today. We had Mr. Duffy who was probably 60 seconds from either burning to death or jumping to his death when firefighters—where is my firefighters Lee—was loaded off to the side of building. It was a team effort with the members of Rescue 1, Ladder 43 and Ladder 26. We

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2 couldn't be prouder that they saved the life. As he
3 was lowered to the ground, the rope did burn away,
4 but again, more than that in my rise in the FDNY,
5 I've seen our Council Members, I've seen Council
6 Speaker Viverito, Tish James, Council Member Crowley,
7 and the rest of you. In my career in Brooklyn and
8 Manhattan our Council Members are not afraid to get
9 out of bed at 3 o'clock in the morning, and I see
10 them at the Command Post when we're coming out of
11 burning buildings, and I know you have our back, and
12 I know you support us each and every [applause/
13 cheers] day, and for that our members are eternally
14 grateful. Thank you.

15 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you so
16 much. Again, thanks. [pause]

17 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet on the floor,
18 please, quiet on the floor. Can I have your
19 attention, please. Can I have your attention please.
20 At this time, please place all electronic devices,
21 all electronic devices to vibrate. Will all non-
22 council employees please leave the main floor of the
23 Chambers. There is additional seating upstairs in
24 the balcony. Thank you. [pause]

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PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: May we have quiet in the Chambers, please.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: [off mic] Quiet please.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Will members, please take their seats. Quiet in the Chambers. All rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: All rise.

[Pledge of Allegiance]

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Please be seated. Roll call. [pause]

CLERK: Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON:

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the Chambers, please for the roll call. Can we please close those doors? Thank you. Thank you.

CLERK: Barron. Borelli. Cabrera.

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

CLERK: Chin.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

CLERK: Cohen.

COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Here.

CLERK: Constantinides.

COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Here.

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CLERK: Cornegy.
COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Present.
CLERK: Crowley.
COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.
CLERK: Cumbo.
COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I'm present.
Present.
CLERK: Deutsch.
COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Here.
CLERK: Dickens.
COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Here.
CLERK: Dromm.
COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.
CLERK: Espinal.
COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Here.
CLERK: Eugene.
COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Present.
CLERK: Ferreras-Copeland. Garodnick.
COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.
CLERK: Gentile.
COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.
CLERK: Gibson. Greenfield.
COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Here.
CLERK: Grodenchik.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Here.
CLERK: Johnson. Kallos. King.
COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Present.
CLERK: Koo.
COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.
CLERK: Koslowitz.
COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.
CLERK: Lancman.
COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Here.
CLERK: Lander. Levin.
COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.
CLERK: Levine.
COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Here.
CLERK: Maisel.
COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Here.
CLERK: Mealy.
COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Present.
CLERK: Menchaca.
COUNCIL MEMBER Presente.
CLERK: Mendez.
COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.
CLERK: Miller. Palma.
COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Here.
CLERK: Reynoso.

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COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Here.

CLERK: Richards. Rodriguez. Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.

CLERK: Rosenthal.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.

CLERK: Salamanca.

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present.

CLERK: Torres. Treyger.

COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.

CLERK: Ulrich. Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.

CLERK: Vallone.

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

CLERK: Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.

CLERK: Wills.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Present.

CLERK: Matteo. Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

CLERK: Richards.

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Present.

CLERK: Kallos.

COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Here.

CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

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SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Here.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the Chambers, please. May we all rise for the Invocation.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: All rise.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: The Invocation will be delivered by Reverend Dr. Tony Baker, the Senior Pastor of St. Phillips Baptist Church in the great Borough of Staten Island.

REVEREND DR. TONY BAKER: Shall we pray. Eternal God, our Father, thank you for this day and for all who are gathered here in this place of historical significance to the people of New York. Thank you for the many blessings and for life itself. Thank you for the measure of health we need to fulfill our calling and for sustenance and friendships that we have garnered by way of our associations. Thank you for the ability to be involved in useful work that benefits all of us, and for the honor of bearing appropriate responsibilities for one another. Thank you for the freedom to embrace you or to reject you. Thank you for loving us even so from your boundlessness and graciousness. And the scriptures you have said that we are to obey the government authorities over us, and since you

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2 have established those very authorities to promote
3 peace, order and justice, I pray for our Mayor who
4 leads our great city, for the various levels of city
5 officials and in particular for the assembled Council
6 this afternoon. I pray you will graciously grant
7 them the wisdom go govern amid the conflicting
8 interests and issues of our times, a sense of welfare
9 and true need of our people, first for justice and
10 righteousness, give them confidence in what is good
11 and fitting and give them the ability to work
12 together in harmony even when there is honest
13 disagreement, and then God, given them personal peace
14 in their lives, and joy in their assignments. I pray
15 for agenda set before them today. I pray that you
16 would give them an assurance of what would please
17 you, and what would benefit those of us who live and
18 work in and around this great city of New York.
19 This, God, I pray this afternoon in the name that's
20 above every many, in Jesus name I pray. Amen.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Amen. Please be
22 seated. [coughs] A motion to spread the Invocation.
23 Council Member Debbie Rose.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Motion to spread
25 the Invocation in full upon the record, and I want to

1
2 say that I am indeed proud and happy to welcome my
3 friend and religious leader Reverend Tony Baker who
4 is here with today. Reverend Dr. Baker is a native
5 of Bedford-Stuyvesant [cheers] although in Staten
6 Island we try to claim him, you know, but he is a
7 native of Bedford-Stuyvesant--

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
9 [shushing for quiet]

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: --a veteran and a
11 former educator. Reverend Dr. Baker has served as
12 the Pastor of St. Phillips Baptist Church in Port
13 Richmond, Staten Island for more than 20 years, which
14 is the church of my grandparents and my parents.
15 There has--there he has built and grown nearly a dozen
16 new ministries including a strong and active youth
17 ministry and Staten Island's first and only drumline
18 comprised of neighborhood young people. About six
19 years ago when members of our Mexican-American
20 community were being attacked and robbed, Reverend
21 Baker was instrumental in bringing the community
22 together and ending these attacks. To this day, he
23 hosts a monthly friendship dinner that brings
24 together diverse communities for an evening of
25 dialogue and fellowship. He is a strong advocate for

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social justice, and he opens his church every night for the homeless. Among the many local boards he serves on, is Richmond University Medical Center to which it is much appreciation that the Speaker and my Staten Island Colleagues dedicated a combined \$13.5 million in this fiscal year toward the construction of a new emergency department. Reverend Baker is a strong religious leader, and true community leader. His church is a sanctuary for all people, and I am so proud to call him my friend, and to have him here today and with that, I move to spread the Invocation. Thank you.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you so much. Thank you Pastor Baker for what you have done. Adoption of Minutes. Council Member Gentile.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Motion that the minutes of the Stated Meeting of October 27, 2016 be adopted as printed.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Messages and Papers from the Mayor.

CLERK: None.

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

2 CLERK: M-460 recommending Rosanna Vargas
3 for re-appointment to the Board of Elections

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Rules, Privileges
5 and Elections.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Petitions and
7 Communications.

8 CLERK: None.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Land Use Call-
10 ups.

11 CLERK: None.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: And now for a
13 vote, Council Member Koslowitz.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Thank you, I
15 vote aye on General Coupled Orders.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Than you.
17 Council Member Palma for a vote.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Thank you Madam
19 Public Advocate, I vote aye on today's General
20 Orders.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member
22 Cabrera.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: I vote aye on
24 all. Thank you so much.

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PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member Borelli.

COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: I vote aye on all. Thank you very much.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: I vote aye on all General Calendar Orders—Calendar. Whatever it is, I vote aye.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [laughs] Seeing none other-- Now, quiet in the Chamber, please. Quiet in the Chambers. Council Member Vallone.

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Thank you Madam Advocate, permission to vote aye on all matters on today's calendar.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Thank you.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you, and now we'll hear from the Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito. Quiet in the Chambers, please.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet in the Chambers, please.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Before we begin I want to acknowledge the recent passing of Council

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2 Member Daneek Miller's father, the Reverend James
3 Miller. We extend our deepest condolences on his
4 loss, and the thoughts of this Council are with him
5 and his family at this time. So we could keep him
6 and the family in our prayers and share our thoughts
7 would be appreciated. I also before we begin, want
8 to acknowledge that Council Member Menchaca has his
9 mother and his sister who are visiting us today.
10 [cheers/applause] Welcome. [speaking Spanish] And
11 it's wonderful to see you here today. So moving onto
12 the legislative agenda, as it gets colder and we move
13 closer to the first snowfall of the year, we begin
14 today with Introduction 300-A, sponsored by Council
15 Member Andy King, which clarifies the bounds of the
16 area our property owners are required to clear of
17 snow around fire hydrants. This legislation will
18 make it clear that the fire hydrant itself must also
19 be cleared by narrowing the area to a size that is
20 more closely in line with what the Fire Department
21 needs for access to the hydrant, and specifying that
22 property owners are not required to clear snow and
23 other material from the street itself. This measure
24 is intended to clear up any confusion among property
25 owners regarding their responsibilities for snow

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2 removal. On staff we really want to thank Collin
3 Howell for their help, and I ask Council Member King
4 the lead sponsor of this bill to say a few words.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Good afternoon, and
6 I will say a few words. Happy holidays to everyone.
7 I want to thank everyone in the Council, the Council
8 helped-

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

11 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: --put this
12 legislation together.

13 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet down.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER KING:-- as well as Council
15 Member Antonio Reynoso, the Chair of the Sanitation
16 Committee as well as Madam Speaker. I thank everyone
17 for-who helped and sat in the committee meetings, but
18 this legislation came about because there were a
19 number of fires that have occurred during the winter
20 season when snow came down on some of our New York
21 residents to get that fire hydrants need to be clear,
22 and not packed up and, you know, used as a base for a
23 snowman. So, in order for us to make sure that FDNY
24 has access for fire hydrants, we want to make sure
25 that we as New Yorkers, make sure when it does snow,

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2 that we keep them free and clean so we can protect
3 the safety in the city of New York. So again, thank
4 you everybody. I'm looking forward to everyone to
5 vote yes on this piece of legislation. Thank you.

6 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you Council
7 Member King. Next, the Council will be voting on
8 legislation regarding public housing. Intro 1213-A,
9 1214-A sponsored by Council Member Ritchie Torres
10 would establish procedures for reporting on the
11 results of services and programs offered to residents
12 of public housing. Intro 1213-A would require an
13 agency or office designated by the Mayor to publish
14 an annual report on the outcomes of services
15 including those related to employment, financial
16 counseling and adult education. Intro 1214-A would
17 require the Center for Economic Opportunity to submit
18 to the City Council, the Mayor and the Controller a
19 review of the Jobs Plus program, and recommendations
20 for expanding the program for public housing
21 residents throughout the city. I would like to note
22 as this this first legislation from the Public
23 Housing Committee that the Council will be passing,
24 and we are excited to see the results that come from
25 the review of our programming outreach for public

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2 housing residents. Staff, we want to thank Guillermo
3 Patino, Deepa Ambekar and Robert Calandra, and
4 Council Member Torres to say a few words. If not,
5 you don't have to.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Thank you. Yes,
7 I've been informed these are the first bills within
8 the Public Housing-

9 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [interposing]
10 Yes.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: --that the City
12 Council has ever enacted, so I'm proud of that. I'm
13 particularly proud that we are requiring the city to
14 create a plan of action for the expansion of Jobs
15 Plus, which I consider to be the most successful
16 model of Workforce Development in public housing.
17 It's been shown to achieve sustained and substantial
18 improvements in the earning power of public housing
19 residents. It combines Workforce Development with
20 financial empowerment and community support for work.
21 We have successful pilots in--in Brownsville, in South
22 Bronx, and so the City should think long and hard
23 about how can in East Harlem where there are heavy
24 concentrations of public housing, and so how do we
25 scale up what has been proven to be a workable model

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2 not only here in New York City, but throughout the
3 country, and then also collect data about programs
4 that are specifically tailored toward public housing
5 residents. Are those programs working? What are the
6 needs of our public housing residents? I thin, now
7 more than ever the city will have more information
8 about residents living in NYCHA. I'm proud to be the
9 sponsor, and I encourage my colleagues to support
10 these bills.

11 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you and-and
12 true the Jobs Plus was originally piloted in
13 Jefferson Houses in my district. It is extremely
14 successful and also employers find it to be very
15 helpful. So definitely something we should see
16 expanded beyond these few development sites. So
17 thank you for that Council Member. Our last piece of
18 legislation today is Intro 1147-A sponsored by myself
19 and Council Member Laurie Cumbo, as well as Public
20 Safety Chair Vanessa Gibson. This legislation will
21 create an Office of Crime Victim Services, which will
22 be headed by a coordinated charged with managing
23 service providers engaged in outreach to crime
24 victims, and the annual publishing of a directory of
25 providers. I want to really thank our staff Deepa

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2 Ambekar, Beth Golub and Casey Addison, and I will ask
3 Council Member Cumbo to say a few words, then
4 followed by Council Member Gibson.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you Speaker
6 Mark-Viverito. I want to thank you for your
7 leadership. I also want to thank Council Member
8 Vanessa L. Gibson for passing this legislation
9 through the Committee on Public Safety today as well
10 as Deepa Ambekar, the counsel for Public Safety
11 Committee and drafting attorney. I am so excited
12 that today the New York City Council will pass Intro
13 1147, a bill that introduced which will establish an
14 office of crime victim services. After surviving a
15 traumatic experience, it can be challenging for crime
16 victims to navigate through our city's agencies and
17 not-for-profit partners in such search of immediate
18 assistance. Imagine being the victim of domestic
19 violence, sexual assault, rape, sexual abuse, and
20 having to sort through all of the different city
21 agencies and not-for-profit partners in order to find
22 solutions and services. While there are several city
23 agencies and not-for-profits that provide service,
24 there is no centralized point of contact where a
25 victim can go to be connected with the various

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2 services available in the city. That is no longer
3 going to be the case. From the Mayor's Office to
4 Combat Domestic Violence to organizations such Safe
5 Horizon, our city has some of most incredible
6 advocates and agencies that are committed to
7 providing supportive services such as transitional or
8 permanent housing, financial assistance, counseling
9 and criminal justice. Through my legislation we will
10 see the dedicated office that can connect New Yorkers
11 directly to the vast network of city agencies and
12 service providers that will support their recovery.
13 It is vital that we can embrace victims and their
14 families in safe space where they can empower
15 themselves with the necessary guidance and resources
16 to become survivors as they rebuild their lives. No
17 one should have to feel as if they are going through
18 any stage of their road towards recovery alone, and
19 as First Lady Michelle Obama has stated, When they go
20 low, we go high, and we go high with legislation.
21 This is going to be an epic piece of legislation
22 that's going to change the recovery process
23 particularly for so many women as well as children,
24 and I want to thank Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito who
25 spoke about this incredible piece of legislation at

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2 her State of the City, and she's certainly making goo
3 on it today. Thank you so much for your leadership
4 and thank you to my colleagues for your support.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you very
6 much, Madam Public Advocate, Madam Speaker. Good
7 afternoon to all of my colleagues. It's truly a
8 great honor to work with our Speaker Melissa Mark-
9 Viverito and Council Member Laurie Cumbo--

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

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: --on passage of
13 Intro 1147-A. Following any crime in this city a
14 victim may need services that range from trauma
15 counseling to healthcare to housing relocation. Many
16 victims are often unaware of the level of services
17 available to them, and if they are, they're easily
18 distracted and discouraged by the red tape that
19 prevents them from getting the services that they
20 truly need. I am very proud of the investments we
21 have made as a Council to provide a range of services
22 for many crime victims, but for far too long they
23 have remained in a silo in individual agencies. The
24 sad truth is the victim of a crime doesn't just
25 impact one part of a person's life, but it can have a

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2 rippling effect on their family, their friends, and
3 their entire community. I am proud to say that today
4 we are taking a very bold step to ensuring that all
5 victims of any crime in this city will receive the
6 necessary support and resources they need for
7 strength, healing and restoration. Thanks to the
8 incredible leadership of our Speaker, who earlier
9 this year in her State of the City Address talked
10 about this bill and the Chair of the Committee on
11 Women's Issues as well as our Co-Chair of the Women's
12 Caucus, Council Member Laurie Cumbo, New Yorkers in
13 need will soon be able to turn to a coordinated
14 Office of Crime Victims Services during their time of
15 need. This new office will allow an easier
16 coordination and integration of services for
17 individuals and their families to get real help in
18 real time with real results. We will be able to make
19 it easier to heal, and to go from victim to victor.
20 As Public Safety Chair, I want to thank everyone for
21 their efforts, all of the members of the Public
22 Safety Committee who supported this legislation. I
23 am very thankful that this gap in our overall efforts
24 to promote criminal justice reform, public safety and
25 create safer communities in our city will now be

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2 filled. Once again, I want to thank our Speaker
3 Melissa Mark-Viverito, Council Member Laurie Cumbo
4 for their incredible leadership. Thank you to all of
5 the bill's sponsors that joined on, and I want to
6 recognize the staff, our legislative counsel Deepa
7 Ambekar and Beth Golub, Rachel Cordero, Laura Popa,
8 Matt Gewolb, Casey Addison and my Chief of Staff Dana
9 Wax. Thank you once again, and I look forward to all
10 of my colleagues voting in the affirmative on this
11 very important bill.

12 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you.
13 Moving onto Land Use items, we have four major
14 projects up for a vote today. The first is Lexington
15 Gardens II is located in the East Harlem--

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

18 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: --El Barrio
19 neighborhood of my district. Lexington Gardens will
20 be a fully affordable development and after extensive
21 negotiations between my office and the developing
22 team, it will serve incomes as low as 36% of AMI.
23 The development will contain 390 units and over
24 38,000 square feet of community space. This
25 community space will house two local non-profits,

1 including the new headquarters of the Northside
2 Center for Child Development, and the Union (sic)
3 Settlement Association. We're very pleased to be
4 increasing the affordable housing stock in the city.
5 I look forward to passing this vote and beginning
6 construction on a valuable new asset to the East
7 Harlem El Barrio Neighborhood. This project is a
8 boon for the community, and our collaboration ensures
9 that the Lexington Gardens project will benefit the
10 sizable population that already exists in El Barrio.
11 As the Council continues to work on expanding
12 affordable housing opportunities for our city, we
13 will also continue to meet with neighborhood
14 residents, community groups and all relevant
15 stakeholder to ensure we are securing the best
16 possible for our existing residents. As many of you
17 know, we spent ten months conducting extensive
18 outreach throughout my district to develop the East
19 Harlem Neighborhood Plan. A blueprint of
20 recommendations for the upcoming East Harlem
21 Rezoning. As we prepare for City Planning's final
22 recommendations to come before the Council, we remain
23 committed to making sure that this an open and
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2 inclusive process that is responsive to the needs of
3 the majority of El Barrio East Harlem residents.

4 The Land Use item we will be considering
5 is the redevelopment of the Lambert Houses. The
6 Lambert Houses are a currently existing affordable
7 housing complex in the West Harlem neighborhood of
8 the Bronx. The Council will be voting on a measure
9 to approve the demolition of the existing facilities
10 and the construction of a new development. Having
11 been built in the early 1970s, the current site has
12 created safety and operation issues for the managing
13 corporation and existing residents. This proposal
14 would rectify those issues, and nearly double the
15 number of affordable residential units. It would
16 also increase the amount of available retail space
17 and provide the neighborhood with a new public
18 elementary school. This is in Council Member Ritchie
19 Torres' district. I commend him for his leadership
20 on this matter and he will say a few words. [pause]

21 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Thank you, Madam
22 Speaker. The wave of housing and infrastructure
23 investments coming to West Farms over the next ten
24 years will represent more than a half a billion
25 dollars of investment in one of the city's poorest

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2 neighborhoods. At the heart of those investments is
3 the redevelopment of Lambert Houses, which is like
4 to—likely to be the single largest housing
5 development in the Mayors Ten-Year Housing Plan,
6 1,665 units of affordable housing. We will have
7 permanent affordability, deep affordability, and
8 mixed income housing. West Farms will see somewhere
9 between \$660 million of investment in affordable
10 housing, the creation of two schools, one on the site
11 of Lambert Houses, about \$100 million investment, \$12
12 million investment in safer streets because West
13 Farms has some of the most dangerous intersections in
14 the Bronx, and on the subject of parks, Phipps
15 Houses, the private developer has agreed to invest
16 \$300,000 in a local river park and establish a
17 Friends of River Park, but the redevelopment of
18 Lambert Houses is not only about affordable housing,
19 it's also about public safety. Lambert Houses as
20 structured has 42 means of egress, making it
21 impossible to maintain and secure. It is hardly an
22 accident the Lambert Houses due to its infrastructure
23 has been a persistent hotbed of gang violence. The
24 zoning change will develop Lambert to allow for
25 greater safety, ground floor retail and an active

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2 street life all in keeping with the planning ideals
3 of Jane Jacobs. And so I'm proud to recommend
4 approval for a zoning change that I believe will lay
5 the foundation for the revitalization of West Bronx.

6 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you,
7 Council Member, and the last two Land Use items are
8 in both in Council Member Salamanca's district.
9 First, Second Farm is a fully affordable proposed
10 mixed-use development to be located--

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

13 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: --in the West
14 Farms neighborhood of the Bronx.

15 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Keep it down, please.

16 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: It is expected to
17 contain 290 dwelling units all at an AMI of 60% or
18 below as well as space for Pre-K classrooms. The
19 planned development Melrose Commons North is a fully
20 affordable proposed mixed-use development to be
21 located in the Morrisania neighborhood of the Bronx.
22 The facility is expected to contain 305 dwelling
23 units, and will house the new permanent home of the
24 Bronx Music Heritage Center. So I invite Council
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2 Member Salamanca to say a few words about these two
3 projects in his district.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Thank you,
5 Madam Speaker. Today is another great day for the
6 South Bronx, and in particular the 17th Council
7 District as we approve an additional 581 units of
8 quality affordable housing in two different
9 neighborhood. There's actually 213 units the Council
10 approved last wee with the Concourse Village West
11 project, and 990 unites the Council also approved
12 this fall with that-that project. In total it equates
13 to 1,786 units approved since October. Today, we are
14 first approving Melrose's Common project in Melrose,
15 which will provide housing for families making 30% of
16 to 130% of AMI. Additionally, we are approving the
17 Second Farms Brian Avenue Development in West Farms,
18 which will accommodate families making between 30 to
19 80% of AMI. When these project submissions became
20 before the Council, both already had the makings of a
21 great project, but the range of AMI simply wasn't
22 wide enough for both projects. With Melrose Commons,
23 I had strong concerns surrounding the use of our
24 space component, which allocates units priced at 30%
25 AMI for families in the shelter system. While we

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2 want to help these families find permanent housing,
3 it shouldn't come at the expense of non-shelter
4 families in the 30% AMI bracket, who also need
5 housing opportunities. So I voiced those concerns--I
6 voiced those concerns to HPD as well as my belief
7 that in the future HPD should work more closely with
8 the Council to determine a fair ratio of Our Space
9 units to non-Our Space units priced at 30% of AMI
10 depending on the needs of a particular area and
11 development. Like many of my colleagues, not a day
12 passes in which one of my constituents has been
13 contacting my office regarding a housing issue or
14 seeking assistance find an apartment, and these call
15 aren't just for those in the 30% AMI bracket, but
16 across the board. That is why it is important to
17 have a mix of incomes in these developments so we can
18 keep all families in searching of housing in the
19 Bronx as we continue to move our communities forward.
20 I would like to thank both the development teams
21 Wellco (sp?) for Melrose Commons and a particular
22 Catholic Charity-Charities for Second Farms for their
23 generosity in working with my team to make these
24 developments work. I would also like to thank HPD

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2 and—and also the counsel the Land Use for their hard
3 work as well. Thank you.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you,
5 Council Member and before I conclude, Gina, come over
6 here. Gina, come on. Gina. Come on, come on Gina.
7 Come over here. Our Sergeant-at-Arms Gina is
8 retiring after 16 years. [cheers/applause] [laughter]

9 COUNCIL MEMBER: Good job, good job.

10 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Yeah, so.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER: Good job.

12 [cheers/applause]

13 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Hey, but
14 obviously by their reaction we all know how much
15 we've come to—to Gina, and she's endeared herself to
16 us all, and always welcoming one with a big smile,
17 right, and her lipstick always present. [laughter]
18 Oh, we're going to miss you. I know I don't see you
19 as much as when I was Council Member but, you know,
20 you're deeply appreciated and we value everything
21 you've done here for the Council after 16 years.
22 [cheers/applause] [laughter] And with that, I end
23 Communication from the Speaker.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: We're going to
25 miss Gina. Gina, we're all going to have a hot flash

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on your behalf. [laughter] That's--that's how I know
Gina. You, too? Council Member Corey Johnson, hot
flash.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Some of us are
already there, you know. [laughs]

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Discussion of
General Orders. Seeing none, Report of-

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [interposing]
Alright.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: --Report of
Special Committees.

CLERK: None.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Reports of
Standing Committees.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on
Finance, Preconsidered Reso 1291, Dumbo Business
Improvement District.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
General Orders.

CLERK: Preconsidered LU 528 and Reso
1295 and LU 529 and Reso 1296.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
General Orders.

2 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Land
3 Use, LU 479 and Reso 1297 Zoning Map Amendment.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Approved with
5 modification and Coupled on General Orders.

6 CLERK: LU-[coughs] excuse. LU 482 to LU
7 488 Lambert Houses.

8 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Approved and
9 modifications and referred to the City Planning
10 Commission pursuant to Rule 11.70(b) of the Rules of
11 the Council and Section 197-d of the New York City
12 Charter.

13 CLERK: LU 502 and Reso 1298, UDAAP
14 Manhattan.

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

17 CLERK: LU 503 and Reso 1299, Property
18 Tax Exemptions.

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

21 CLERK: LU 515 through LU 519, Lex-
22 Lexington Gardens.

23 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Approved and
24 modifications and referred to the City Planning
25 Commission pursuant to Rule 1170-b of the Rules of

2 the Council and Section 197-b of the New York City
3 Charter.

4 CLERK: LU 522 and Reso 1300 through LU
5 526 and Reso 1303, Property Tax Exemptions.

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

8 CLERK: LU 527 and Reso 1304, UDAAP
9 Bronx.

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

12 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Public
13 Housing, Intro 1213-A, Public Housing Services.

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

16 CLERK: Intro 1214-A, Jobs Plus Program.

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

19 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Public
20 Safety, Intro 1147-A, Office of Crime Victim
21 Services.

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

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2 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
3 Sanitation and Solid Waste Management, Intro 300-A,
4 Removal of Snow and Ice from Fire Hydrants.

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

7 CLERK: On the General Order Calendar, LU
8 482 and Reso 1305 through LU 488 and Reso 1311 on
9 page 9, Lambert Houses.

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

12 CLERK: LU 497 and Reso 1312 through LU
13 500 and Reso 1350 Second Farms Neighborhood.

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

16 CLERK: LU 515 and Reso 1316 through LU
17 519 and Reso 1320 Lexington Gardens.

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

20 CLERK: Resolution Appointing Various
21 Persons Commissioner of Deeds.

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

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CLERK: Chin.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye on all.

CLERK: Cohen.

COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Well, Madam Advocate, can I just say that I'm going to miss Gina? I want to congratulate my colleague Laurie Cumbo on a great bill, and I want to congratulate Council Member Torres and Salamanca on making the Bronx even better than it already is. Thank you. I vote aye.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

CLERK: Constantinides.

COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: I vote aye.

CLERK: Cornegy.

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Congratulations to my colleague Laurie Cumbo on a great piece of legislation, and—and Gina, you know I love and I'll miss you.

CLERK: Crowley.

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: I vote aye.

CLERK: Cumbo.

COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Permission to explain my vote?

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I also join in
3 thanking and congratulation Council Member Salamanca,
4 as well as Council Member Torres for pushing forward
5 and beyond to get greater AMIs in their district to
6 create truly affordable housing in the Bronx. I also
7 want to thank Council member—

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
9 [shushing for quiet]

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: --Vanessa Gibson
11 for all of her support today on bill—Intro 1147 with
12 me as well as Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito, and I
13 also thank and love and honor Gina. She is beacon of
14 light when you come into the City Council everyday.
15 She always greets us with something wonderful to say
16 and asks how we are doing, and—and what the day holds
17 for us. So, you will be missed. I thank you. I
18 love your fashion sense, and I just love the warm
19 energy that you brought to the Council, and I proudly
20 vote aye.

21 CLERK: Deutsch.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: I vote aye on
23 all, and I want to congratulate Gina, and I do have
24 photos with Gina over the last three plus years, and
25 waiting for this day just so I could cherish those

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2 photos, and I want to congratulate her and wish her
3 all the best of what—on all her future endeavors.

4 CLERK: Dickens.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Thank you so
6 much, Gina, for the work that you have done, and the
7 support that you've given to each of us over the
8 years. God bless you that you will continue to have
9 great health and I vote aye.

10 CLERK: Dromm.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: With much love to
12 Gina, and congratulations to my colleagues, I vote
13 aye.

14 CLERK: Espinal.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Gina, you'll be
16 missed especially when I leave my wallet at home. But
17 [laughter] but I—I want to congratulate my
18 colleagues, Laurie Cumber on—on her bill, Ritchie
19 Torres and Salamanca on being rock stars and making
20 sure we have more affordable housing in the city and
21 in the borough. Thank you and I vote aye on all.

22 CLERK: Eugene.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I want to
24 congratulate Gina, and thank her for her service to
25 all of us, and to the entire City Council, and Gina,

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good luck and best, and all the blessings of God to you, and I vote aye on all.

CLERK: Garodnick.

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

CLERK: Gentile.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: With hearty congratulations to all my colleagues, I vote aye on all.

CLERK: Gibson.

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: With my warmest congratulations to the Speaker, Council Member Cumbo, Council Member Salamanca and Council Member Torres, and I want to wish the best of success to Miss Gina. There is life after—after the Council, and there is a greater life in retirement. So God bless you and I vote aye on all.

CLERK: Greenfield.

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank you.

May I explain my vote?

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank you very much. I want to congratulate my colleagues, especially Council Member Cumbo for her historic legislation looking out for the victims of crimes. I

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2 also want to congratulate Council Member King and I
3 especially want to congratulate Council Member Torres
4 and Council Member Salamanca respectively. Their
5 negotiations on these deals are great examples of how
6 you can successfully negotiate deals. In Council
7 Member Torres' case, significant infrastructure
8 improvements to the overall deals. In Council Member
9 Salamanca's case, specific-specific improvement in
10 the range of AMIs to reflect his community's
11 diversity and needs, and finally it's actually going
12 to be sad for me because some days, the only person
13 that I actually see smiling in the whole building is,
14 in fact, Gina. And so, I hope some of us are going
15 to pick up the slack now that she's going to be gone.
16 Thank you. God bless you and continued success.
17 Take care, and I vote aye on all. You almost got me
18 there. I know you were like uh. Aye on all. Thank
19 you.

20 CLERK: Grodenchik.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Thank you. I
22 want to say goodbye to Gina also. I know her from a
23 previous life. Hey, listen, you—you had the chance.
24 [laughter] I know her from a previous life when I was
25 a lobbyist here, and indeed she is a smiling beacon,

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2 and she will be missed. I think I confused her a
3 little when I became a councilman. She used to look
4 at me and I knew that guy. [laughter] But I'm happy
5 for her, and indeed there is life after the Council.
6 I don't want to find out any time soon, but I do want
7 to vote aye on all. Thank you.

8 CLERK: Johnson.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Oh, Grodenchik,
10 he's done it again. I want to vote aye on all, and I
11 also want to say that it's very nice to only have
12 visitors here at the Council and at 250 Broadway that
13 Gina has always been a welcoming sweet effervescent
14 presence for anyone who comes here regardless of who
15 they are, and her personality, one of which is
16 sweetness and friendly, I think is going to be one
17 that we all miss. So, I-I know that she suffered
18 some loss over the past year, and I'm glad that she's
19 going to be able to spend some more time with her
20 family and-and we're going to miss her. So thank you
21 for your service, your many, many years of service.

22 CLERK: Kallos.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Permission to
24 explain my vote.

25 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [off mic] Yes.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Congratulations
3 to Council Member Cumbo, and thank you Gina for being
4 warm and recognizing that even elected officials can
5 be shy sometimes, and for always being welcoming, and
6 one of the brighter parts of all of our days and I
7 vote aye on all.

8 CLERK: King.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: I vote aye on all
10 and Gina, enjoy your road trip.

11 CLERK: Koo.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I vote aye on all,
13 and I want to say thanks to Gina. I wish her the
14 best, and I also want to congratulate Council Members
15 Cumbo, Torres and King and Salamanca for their very
16 important bills. Thank you.

17 CLERK: Lancman.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Aye, and Gina, I
19 wish you all the best.

20 CLERK: Lander.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Request
22 permission to explain my vote.

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Alright,
25 everything has been said, but not everyone has said

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2 it. First of all, Gina, I-I thought, you know--and I
3 think this goes to that, you know--we really just had
4 an individual personal special bond, [laughs]and it
5 is pretty special to see that everybody in the
6 Council feels that way. That really, really says
7 something. You are a special presence in the City
8 Council. Huh? [background comments] No, I thought
9 she just loved me, but it turns out [laughter] she's
10 just a wonderful warm nice person. Anyway, we're
11 going to miss you a lot, and as you can tell, we
12 really, really feel it. I also just wanted to add a
13 big shout-out to Council Member Cumbo for this great
14 bill, which I think will make a long-a big difference
15 for a long time to come, and to Council Member
16 Torres, and you-you have not only put the first piece
17 of legislation forward on public housing, but
18 elevated the work of that committee in a way that
19 matters to the hundreds of thousand of residents
20 living there, and really elevates this Council's on
21 [off mic] the importance of them all. [on mic] Aye on
22 all.

23 CLERK: Levin.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Permission to
25 explain my vote.

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PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you Madam Public Advocate. So, I get to say that my relationship with Gina is special because Gina is my constituent, and I'm here Council Member.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Oh.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: And—so that makes me very lucky because I get to see Gina, you know, from time to time now on into the future, but I could say that deeply and honestly that one of my favorite parts of this job is being able to see Gina sharp every day when I come in, and she always has kind words, but also a deep desire to know what's going on with everybody that she sees, and everybody's life, and likes to know what's going on with their children and their parents and their siblings. And that's—that's really what it's all about is making that personal connection, and she's really just truly a wonderful—wonderful and decent and kind and loving person, and Gina I wish you the best. I—I—I extend my gratitude to you, and I hope you look forward to spending some time with your son, and—and your extended family, and—and we thank you so much for being part of hearts. (sic) Thank you. Aye on all.

2 CLERK: Levine.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Well, with
4 congratulations to Council Members Torres, Cumbo and
5 Salamanca on some great legislation and great wins
6 for affordable housing, and warm wishes to Gina, I am
7 voting aye on all.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

9 CLERK: Maisel.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: [off mic]
11 [laughter] [applause]

12 CLERK: Mealy.

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

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I just want to
16 congratulate Gina, and just note that God is not-

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

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: --finished with
20 her yet, and the best is yet to come. Gina, always
21 remember that, and I vote aye on all.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

23 CLERK: Menchaca.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Permission to
25 explain my vote.

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PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: I want to thank the Speaker for welcoming my mother and my sister Mary. They have been such beautiful, amazing and fierce women in my life. My mother but also my sister raised-raised me. These last few days have-have given us an opportunity to reconnect. They're-they're in Texas and they traveled all the way on an-on an Amtrak train almost four days. My mother doesn't like to fly. [laughs] So every time she comes it's a blessing, and it's great that sister for the first time is coming here and watching us in action. It's a proud moment for me, and I just want to say I love you, mom.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Oh. [applause]

COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: I also want to send my love to Gina. She-even as a staffer was-was someone that was always welcoming, and I wish you and your family lots of love in your-in your post-Council days. My sister Laurie Cumbo and my brothers Salamanca and Torres congratulations. When we-when hear 30% and echoing in this room, we've done something right, and I look forward to continuing to

2 champion that in my district, and you just made that
3 even easier. I vote aye on all.

4 CLERK: Mendez.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: I vote aye on
6 all, and a special farewell to my friend Gina. I met
7 you 16 years ago when I started working for my
8 member, and you've been here a long time always
9 supporting me and listening to me, and apparently
10 listening to everybody else, but that's okay. That's
11 what makes you so special. Thank you very much.

12 CLERK: Reynoso.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Permission to
14 explain my vote.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: I want to
17 congratulate Council Member King for passing the bill
18 on the Sanitation, and for all the members of the
19 Sanitation Committee that preceded without me being
20 there because I was in the big house. I really
21 appreciate [laughter] the work you did especially
22 Costa Constantinidies for chairing it. And to Gina,
23 I just want to say I really appreciate all those
24 swipes you gave when I left my ID card at home,
25 breaking protocol because you had my back.

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

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: I thought I was your favorite, but it seems like everyone—you're—you're everyone's favorite. So I really appreciate all the work that you did in the City Council, and really felt like you were part of the family, and you made that a point. So thank you.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you, Inmate Number 9. [laughter]

CLERK: Richards.

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Permission to explain my vote.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: I'm just a little perturbed now that I found out Gina was actually breaking protocol for Reynoso with his ID card because Gina would say to me, Richard, don't forget that ID Card tomorrow or I'm not letting you in. [laughter] But [laughs] so I found out Reynoso is more special than me today, but thank you, Gina, for your service. Thirteen years I've been here, and -and you've always been a-a joy to-to walk into with that phenomenal excellent voice you have, and always

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2 a great spirit. So congratulations on your
3 retirement. I also want to congratulate our Speaker
4 Council Member Salamanca, Council Member Torres on
5 some great Land Use victories. It made a record show
6 because we often hear the Council is not doing enough
7 to reach those at 30 AMI that all of these projects
8 reach 30 AMI. So, congratulations to all of you on
9 these great bills. Thank you. I vote aye.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

11 CLERK: Rodriguez.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Cumbo, Torres
13 and Salamanca and Gina, my father and my daughter, we
14 will make it. (sic) You always be nice to her when
15 she comes in. Thank you for your service. I vote
16 aye.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Okay.

18 CLERK: Rose.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Madam Public
20 Advocate, I make a motion that we not allow Gina to
21 leave. [laughter] All in favor aye.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Aye. [laughs]

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Gina, I absolutely
24 adore you and I really don't want you to leave, but
25 enjoy. I-I hope you get all that life has to give

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2 you, and I'd just like to congratulate CM Salamanca
3 and Torres and Sister Diva (sic) Cumbo on their-

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [laughs]

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: --their legislation,
6 and I vote aye.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

8 CLERK: Rosenthal.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Permission to
10 explain my vote.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Thank you. I,
13 too, want to congratulate Council Members Cumbo,
14 Torres and Salamanca. Gina, I, too, want to thank
15 you for being so kind and patient about all those
16 times I forgot my ID, and really you let me in with
17 no problem whatsoever. You were--I didn't realize it
18 was a problem to just slide. So I--I don't know how I
19 will get into 250 with your departure, but
20 [background comments] thank you so much for your
21 kindness to the Council Members. Appreciate it. Oh,
22 I vote aye on all.

23 CLERK: Salamanca.
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COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Thank you. I would like to wish Gina well on her retirement and I vote aye on all.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

CLERK: Torres.

COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Permission to explain my vote. I just want to say I'm going to miss Gina. This job can be tough at times, and so I could always count on Gina to put a smile on my face, and I felt like if everyone is as kind and gracious as Gina, we'd be in a much happier world because happiness could be contagious. So I wish you a great-a great retirement that you deserve.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: How do you vote?

COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: I vote aye, I guess.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

CLERK: Treyger.

COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Permission to briefly explain my vote.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: I just want to again also congratulate all my colleagues on their legislation, and also on their very important Land

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2 Use agreements that will improve their districts in
3 our city. And Gina, just like Councilman Lander, I
4 thought that smile was just for me, but apparently
5 there—there is a lot of love—a lot of love in this
6 room for you, and I wish you good health. Health is
7 number one, health and happiness. Enjoy this time
8 with your family. You've earned it. You worked for
9 it. God bless you and thank you. I vote aye on all.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

11 CLERK: Ulrich.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Yes.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

14 CLERK: Williams.

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

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you to
19 all my colleagues being Torres, Salamanca and Cumbo
20 especially for the Land Use items. I do want to give
21 a special shout-out to Council Member Cumbo, and—and
22 her bill. There was a recent survey of people who
23 were victims of crimes, and the number one thing
24 above everything reading (sic) how much time someone
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2 got was the lack of responses they received from the
3 government and assistance needed.

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

6 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: So I think this
7 bill is right on time and deals directly with what
8 victims, not what people say, but victims say, but
9 what they themselves say they need to get past the
10 tragedy that happened. And for Gina, I just want to
11 say I-I, too, am just surprised at how special you
12 made everybody feel. That makes you an extra special
13 person, and even what I assumed was some was some of
14 your darkest days, you had the brightest smile. So
15 we're going to miss that, and congratulations on
16 everything you do. Thank you. I vote aye on all
17 with the exception of Land Use 523 and Reso 1301 and
18 Land Use 524 and Reso 1302 on which I abstain.

19 CLERK: Wills.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: A moment to
21 explain my vote?

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: I would like to
24 congratulate Gina. We're going to miss you
25 brightening up 250 and the 18th Floor and the great

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2 conversations you gave each and everyone of us. I
3 also want to congratulate my colleagues King, Torres
4 and Salamanca on their legislation especially Laura
5 Cumbo. We look forward to the impact your
6 legislation will have on the City. I vote aye on
7 all.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

9 CLERK: Barron.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you. I
11 vote aye on all.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

13 CLERK: Matteo.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Aye on all.

15 CLERK: Van Bramer.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Permission to
17 briefly explain my vote. I just want to congratulate
18 all of our colleagues, and join in and say to Gina we
19 had a few very, very special and unique moments a few
20 years ago inspired by my colleague Eric Ulrich. I
21 wore some bow ties. I'm not sure I pulled it off
22 that well, but Gina told me I looked amazing, and for
23 two years asked me to keep wearing bow ties every
24 Tuesday. She knows that's true. I also want to
25 thank—a lot of people have talked about how nice she

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2 is, and she is incredibly nice. She's also a lot of
3 fun, and at least once we talked about our shared
4 loved of men, and I remember that conversation very
5 well.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [laughs]

7 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: [laughs] I
8 hope I'm not giving up any secrets there, but-

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [laughs]

10 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: So thank you
11 very much, Gina, for the laughs and for the love and
12 for all of your work on behalf of all of us. So with
13 that, I vote aye on all.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

15 CLERK: Richards.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Present.

17 CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

18 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: So I thank all my
19 colleagues for-I think, you know, some people forget
20 that I'm also a Council Member and you've been
21 giving-except for Donovan. He acknowledged it. So I
22 will take by extension all the congratulations that
23 have been given to Salamanca and Torres to me as
24 well, [laughter] for the Land Use item in my district
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2 [applause] that brought 390 units of affordable
3 housing. Thank you. Thank you.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [laughs]

5 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: So, so again, I
6 vote aye on all, and-and, Gina, you definitely will
7 be missed. Thank you.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. So,
9 Gina, based upon what everyone has said, the bottom
10 line is wherever you go, Gina, whatever the weather
11 is you always bring your own sunshine. May God
12 continue to bless you. Thank you. All items on
13 today's General Order Calendar were adopted by a vote
14 of 49 in the affirmative, 0 negative and 0
15 abstentions with the exception of Land Use 523 and
16 Resolution 1301, which was adopted by a vote of 48 in
17 the affirmative, 0 negative and 0 abstentions; and-
18 what-and 1 abstention; and Land Use 524 and
19 Resolution 1302, which was adopted by a vote of 48 in
20 the affirmative, 0 negative and 1 abstention. And I
21 forgot say happy birthday to Danny Dromm.

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Oh, that's right.

23 [background comments]

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: And-

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SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [interposing] And tonight. He has an event tonight. Yes.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Right and DC3 right? Exactly. Introduction and reading of bills.

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

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Seeing no resolutions, we will—we will now go to general discussion beginning with the Birthday Boy Danny Dromm.

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you very much, Madam Public Advocate, and I'd like to join my colleagues' attention to Resolution 1287, which calls for the passage of the Federal Equal-Equality Act. This measure would ensure the inclusion of sexual orientation and gender identity in the Civil Rights Acts of 1964 and '68. Despite significant progress, the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community remains uncovered by basic civil rights protections throughout much of the country. In 29 states a gay man can be fired for being married to another man. In 29 states a Lesbian couple can be asked to leave a restaurant for kissing. In 38 states a transgender individual can be kicked out of their home for not

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2 conforming to a landlord's vivid personal notions
3 about gender. Such discrimination is anathema to
4 what our country stands for, and now that we will
5 have an administration in Washington largely hostile
6 to civil rights, our city has a chance to make a
7 powerful statement that our country should continue—
8 should continue to uphold its promise of equality and
9 justice for all. I encourage my colleagues to
10 support the LGBT community during these challenging
11 times, and sign onto Resolution 1287. Thank you.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
13 Council Member Rosenthal.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Was that me?
15 Sorry.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
17 [shushing for quiet] We—we're still in session.
18 Council Member Rosenthal has the floor.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Thank you so
20 much Public Advocate. I encourage my colleagues to
21 sign onto Resolution 1192, which calls on the State
22 to simplify the process by which a victim of domestic
23 violence can break their lease. It's critical
24 because even when a victim of domestic violence has
25 made the difficult decision to leave an abuse

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2 relationship, logistical concerns like breaking an
3 apartment lease all too often act as barriers to
4 leaving an abusive environment. As lawmakers and as
5 everyday bystanders it is our responsibility to work
6 whenever possible to remove those barriers. I'm
7 proud to introduce this resolution and to include it
8 as part of the first ever Women's Caucus legislative
9 and equality package. And. I'm very appreciative of
10 the advocates like Mary Haviland with the New York
11 City Alliance Against Sexual Assault, the Honorable
12 Judy Harris Kluger of Sanctuary for Families, and
13 Christopher Bromson of the Crime Treatment Center
14 Victims Unit, and Marti Weithman of MFY Legal
15 Services, who work day in and day out to remove those
16 barriers one person at a time. Secondly, I would
17 encourage my colleagues to sign onto Intro 1376, a
18 detailed reporting bill on the commercial rent tax
19 that burdens all Manhattan businesses, especially our
20 local and independently owned small businesses. They
21 deserve relief in this incredibly increasingly
22 competitive environment, and this supporting bill
23 will lay a path to our city's relieving their burden.
24 Thank you very much.

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PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

Council Member Garodnick.

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Thank you very much, Madam Public Advocate. I rise today to express my gratitude for a really great public servant, Genevieve Michael who is my Chief of Staff, and has been a member of my team for over five years. Genevieve has been with me through thick and thin. She has been to every corner of every borough although until this month, not all of them on the same day. She has challenged me to be a better person as a public servant, and also better as a creature existing in a political world. She is smart. She is able, and the sky is the limit for her. It is not everyday that someone of her caliber comes along, and I wanted to take a moment to recognize that on the floor of these Council Chambers because sadly tomorrow is her last day in my office as she moves on to new and exciting challenges. But today I wanted to say to Genevieve thank you, thank you, thank you. You will be missed, but your partnership over these years was a great gift that I will never forget. Thank you.

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2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you,
3 Genevieve for your service. [applause] Council Member
4 Williams.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you.
6 First, I just want to congratulate the Girls
7 Volleyball Team at Middle High School. They made a
8 historic win on November 22nd, winning the first ever
9 Public Schools Athletic League A title. Also, today
10 is Giving Tuesday. Let's remember to give those who
11 need assistance, give to those. Also, I assume that
12 in most of cases of government, there will be no
13 mention of the death of Fidel Castro. I understand
14 that it is a very controversial issue, and I
15 understand, and this is not to excuse any atrocities,
16 that may have—that may have happened, but I am
17 confused about is that he is a—a leader in this
18 world. There are many who looked to many of things
19 that he does, and there are many leaders who have
20 committed even more atrocities that are celebrated.
21 This government has been friends with many dictators.
22 They supported people in Haiti. They still support
23 and are friends with Saudi Arabia while recognizing
24 human rights atrocities—or human problems there.
25 This country itself allows thirty people—a thousand

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2 people to be murdered every single year with gun
3 violence and not do anything about it. And we are
4 four percent of the population with 25% of the prison
5 population, which—which means one in four people in
6 prison in this world are in this country alone. So I
7 do not understand how we can pick and choose which
8 atrocities are recognized, which we don't, with that
9 for the good things that he has done. I would say
10 that represents a higher state. There was an attack
11 yesterday, and I'm going to continue some prayers for
12 peace and comfort for the 11 people injured and that
13 entire community. Lastly, on Saturday, December 3rd,
14 will be the anniversary of Officer Pantaleo's non-
15 indictment calling on the Mayor and the
16 Administration to release his records of discipline
17 and please move forward to getting him prosecuted.
18 Thank you.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
20 Council Member Levin.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you very
22 much, Madam Public Advocate. First, I want to bring
23 everybody's attention to, and I—I was remiss in not
24 talking about this at the last stated, the passing
25 last month of Leslie Lewis at the age of 90. Leslie

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2 was the—the President of the 84th Precinct Community
3 Council in Brooklyn where he held that position since
4 1993. Leslie served as a Corporal in the U.S. Army
5 in World War II, and worked for 30 years with the
6 Greyhound Exposition Company where he developed
7 exhibits for the 1964 Worlds Fair, and the Expo '67
8 in Montreal. He built the model kitchen that
9 Khrushchev and Nixon had their quote, unquote "kitchen
10 debate" and also had the distinction of creating the
11 first ever job fair. Leslie was a wonderful guy to
12 everybody that knew him, always concerned with the
13 goings on in his neighborhood, and for what was
14 happening with anybody who would walk into his life,
15 and he is survived by his wife Miriam and his sons
16 Mark and Robert. As Leslie used to say, He was a
17 good guy no matter they said. Also, my colleagues,
18 this morning our President-Elect Donald Trump Tweeted
19 out "Nobody should be allowed to burn the American
20 flag. If they do, there must be consequences.
21 Perhaps loos of citizenship or a year in jail." In
22 140 characters President-Elect Donald Trump managed
23 to express support for two violations of the United
24 States Constitution. I don't support the burning of
25 the flag, but the Supreme ruled in 1990 with Justices

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2 Anthony and Scalia in the majority that flag burning—
3 was protected under the First Amendment. Just as
4 importantly, the Supreme Court ruled in 1967 that
5 stripping of citizenship was a violation of the U.S.
6 Constitution and the Eighth Amendment. I anticipate
7 that there will be many opportunities over the next
8 four years to challenge statements and actions by the
9 President-Elect, but we need to call it out each and
10 every time that he advocates dismantling our Bill of
11 Rights, and that's what I am doing here today. Thank
12 you.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. May
14 Mr. Lewis rest in peace. Council Member Barron.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you, Madam
16 Public Advocate. I just want to add my voice to
17 those that I've heard expressing best wishes to Gina
18 as she moves forward in whatever it is that she
19 decides she wants to plant her feet or rest herself,
20 and just enjoy life's pleasures. She's been a great
21 friend to me. She's always been pleasant. She's
22 always been able to lift spirits, and she's that way
23 with everybody. I've never seen her down. We know
24 that she's suffered a great loss, but she has
25 rebounded and she's here, and we just want to wish

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2 you all the best and acknowledge the great work that
3 you've done, and hope that you'll come back to visit
4 if you have such a mind. And I also want to add my
5 voice to my colleagues regarding the passing of Fidel
6 Castro. I want to call attention to the fact that he
7 gave great technical assistance, financial aid, and
8 sent workers to the African nation that were fighting
9 for their liberation, from the oppression and
10 Colonialism, and he sent aid in that regard. He sent
11 aid also to Grenada, as they were building the
12 International Airport, and he also gave aid to the
13 Latin American countries. And he offered aid, which
14 was not received by this country, for our people who
15 were suffering from the after affects of Katrina. So
16 he was offering to do what our country had not done
17 for its own people living here, and we want to
18 acknowledge that. And also that they have an
19 outstanding medical school in Cuba, and it's open to
20 any person who would like to come. The only
21 requirement is that is hat you're willing to watch
22 that. (sic) So I just want to add my voice to that.
23 Thank you so much.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
25 Council Member Wills.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: I rise to ask my
3 colleagues to vote to adopt Resolution 1294 calling
4 on the Congress and the President to sign House
5 Resolution 5695, also known as the Veterans Visa and
6 Protection Act of 2016 introduced by Congressman Raul
7 Grijalva. According to the National Immigration
8 Forum, there are more than 500,000 foreign born
9 veterans living in the U.S. as well as 12,000 non-
10 citizen active duty service members. This proposal
11 would require the DHS Secretary to create a program
12 that would allow eligible armed services, non-citizen
13 veterans to return to the U.S. and immigrants who
14 will be granted legal permanent residence. Given the
15 opportunity to apply for a change for a status and
16 receive the medical benefits they rightfully earned.
17 We often vow that our veterans are to be treasured
18 and taken care, but within our nation's current laws,
19 is the glaring contradiction to the pledge. One that
20 has impacted countless service members and their
21 families. Over 20 years ago, Congress enacted a
22 series of laws that brought malicious aggravated
23 felony laws such as theft, fraud, perjury and forgery
24 under which non-citizens could be detained and
25 deported while on active status. These laws remain

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2 in effect and continue to unjustly impact those
3 individuals who chose to wear their uniform in
4 defense of this country only to be misled about the
5 residual benefits of becoming a naturalize citizens.
6 Under the House Bill the only kinds of violence are
7 those jeopardizing national security will make a
8 service member ineligible for its provisions. Most
9 of these immigrant veterans are forced to leave their
10 families behind upon deportation. Worse still, they
11 receive no legal representation during their
12 proceedings, and they are denied medical benefits
13 they would be eligible to receive otherwise. Today,
14 I am pleased to be joined by Chairs Menchaca and
15 Ulrich in offering this resolution for the Council's
16 consideration. Thank you very much.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
18 Council Member Richards.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: I just wanted
20 to wish my son, who may be watching at home, a happy
21 birthday. His first birthday and I-I wanted to
22 really thank my colleagues Ulrich, Ferreras who have
23 always given me advice. But, you know, I want to
24 thank all of you for your warm support, my community,
25 my staff and really, you know, having a son now

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2 really puts in a lot of—a better perspective and a
3 sharper perspective on everything we do here in the
4 Council whether it's criminal justice avocation,
5 climate change, and affordable housing, it really
6 takes on a different context when you have that—that
7 have a son or a child and—and I just want to thank
8 everybody for their support during this first year.
9 So happy birthday, Diedrick. I love you.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Happy birthday,
11 Diedrick. Council Member Cumbo.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you. I also
13 rise to express my condolences to the people of Cuba
14 as well as throughout the Africa Diaspora who are
15 recognizing the passing of Fidel Castro. During the
16 Haitian Earthquake Fidel Castro sent a brigade of
17 1,200 Cuban doctors, nurses and other health
18 professions in order to help those that had been
19 impacted by earthquake in Haiti. Over 250,000 have
20 been killed, and since 1998, Cuba has trained 550
21 Haitian doctors for free. There's certainly been a
22 great impact through his leadership and much to be
23 learned. I also want to celebrate today the Women's
24 Caucus Equality Package Rally today that happened. I
25 want to thank my Co-Chair Helen Rosenthal and all the

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2 members of the Women's Caucus for braving this
3 morning's weather to announce our historic
4 legislative package to promote equality. People have
5 looked to New York City as a model. It's our role to
6 continue to fight for the rights of our neighbors
7 here and across the country especially after a
8 presidential campaign that featured hateful and
9 divisive rhetoric from the President-Elect. This
10 passage-package represents a vision for an inclusive
11 and progressive approach to local government to
12 protect and advance the cause of gender equality here
13 in New York City. When heard much of the divisive
14 language, we of the Women's Caucus wanted to respond
15 with legislation, and when we heard so much from
16 President-Elect Trump, those comments that are almost
17 so inappropriate to even mention here. He said, I
18 just kiss. I don't even wait and when you're a star,
19 they let you do anything. You can even grab them by
20 the pussy. And that language is inappropriate for
21 the City Council, but that is now—he is leader of our
22 nation and that type of language has given a certain
23 normalcy to sexual assault, to rape culture, and to
24 so many other news. So that someone who feels that
25 they have power or they influence can do whatever

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2 they want to women. So we're responding with a
3 package of legislation, and as this Council and this
4 body--

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]
6 Council Member.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: -- we will
8 continue to do so.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you so much,
11 Public Advocate.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.
13 Council Member Menchaca.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you so
15 much, Public Advocate, and I rise to speak on a Reso
16 that I am joining both with Council Member Ulrich and
17 Wills. This reso is calling on Congress to pass and
18 the President to sign HRA 5695, the Veterans Visa,
19 the Protection Act of 2016, De Helva's (sp?) Law.
20 This would require the Department of Homeland
21 Security to establish a program that would permit
22 eligible reported non-citizen veterans to enter the
23 United States, and would also allow eligible non-
24 citizen veterans in the United States to change their
25 status to that of a non-citizen lawfully admitted for

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2 permanent residence, and it would cancel the removal
3 of eligible non-citizen veterans, and enable them to
4 adjust their legal status. According to the National
5 Immigration Forum there are over 500,000 foreign born
6 veterans living in the United States as well as
7 12,000 non-citizen active duty members. I take great
8 pride in joining my Council Member—my Council Member
9 brothers because my brother is also a veteran, and
10 just did two tours, one in Iraq and one in
11 Afghanistan, and so this is for him, his brothers and
12 sisters that he fought next to and all of those that
13 were under this law be granted citizenship. Thank
14 you.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: We thank him for
16 his service to all of us, and lastly Council Member
17 Rodriguez.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: I would like
19 to express my condolences, too, to the people of Cuba
20 for the loss of their President Fidel Castro, a
21 leader that regardless of your—if you agreed of
22 disagreed with him, you have to recognize that he
23 made Cuba the country and the region, probably one in
24 the world with the best healthcare system and the
25 best education assistance. So I know that they say

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2 there was more of a transition in Cuba, and the
3 United States restored that relationship, but I know
4 that Cuba is for very capital leadership even though
5 again, we cannot agree or disagree with him. He made
6 a lot of progress, he also made Cuba a role model in
7 many countries.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you and
9 lastly Council Member Ulrich.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Thank you, Madam
11 Public Advocate. I rise today to join my colleagues,
12 as was mentioned previously in supporting Resolution
13 1294, calling on Congress to pass and the President
14 to sign and enact the Veterans Visa and Protection
15 Act of 2016. As the Chair of the Veterans Committee,
16 I-I get to learn a lot of interesting things that I
17 think a lot of us aren't even aware of. I think that
18 many people aren't aware that there are, in fact,
19 non-citizens serving in one of the branches of the
20 Armed Services currently, and yes, sometimes those
21 individuals, those men and women when they are done
22 serving—serving our country and discharged honorably,
23 in some rare instances some of them because of their
24 immigration status, they are, in fact, deported. And
25 I can't believe that we live in a country where

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2 people sign up to serve our county, put their lives
3 on the line to defect—defend our country, and take an
4 oath to serve our country that when are done serving
5 our country, in the most honorable, that we send them
6 back to their original country of origin against
7 their wishes. And so, there is a bill in Congress
8 that I think we all should be supporting in this
9 body, which I think would provide some relief and
10 some measure of justice for those veterans who are
11 non-citizens who are serving the Unites States of
12 America, and put them on the path to citizenship.
13 We're not giving them automatic citizenship, but we
14 are giving them permanent resident status, which
15 would make them eligible for obtaining U.S.
16 citizenship. So in the absence of a comprehensive
17 immigration reform bill, which I would hope that the
18 next Congress and the next president would take up.
19 Although that's something that's out of our control,
20 I think this is something that both Democrats and
21 Republicans can agree on that people who serve this
22 country in the Army, the Navy the Marines, the Coast
23 Guard or even the National Guard or the Reserves that
24 when they are done serving honorably. As long as
25 they have committed no felony or serious crimes that

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we at least allow them to get on the path to citizenship and become full citizens of the country that they fought to protect and the freedoms and the liberties that you and I so often take for granted. Thank you very much.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you Council Member for your leadership, and now to close, the Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Just have a great afternoon, everybody, and again I know he's gone, but happy birthday to our colleague Danny Droom and D3. Have a great afternoon everybody.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. We stand adjourned. [gavel]

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 December 23, 2016