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CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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June 6, 2017
Start: 1:53 p.m.
Recess: 3:29 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E:

Speaker Melissa Mark-Vivierito

Letisha James
Public Advocate

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Inez Barron
Fernando Cabrera
Margaret Chin
Andrew Cohen
Chain Deutsch
Daniel Dromm
Joseph Borelli
Daniel Garodnick
Vincent Gentile
Barry Grodenchik
Peter Koo
Karen Koslowitz
Rory Lancman
Brad Lander
Stephen Levin
Mark Levine
Alan Maisel

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CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

- Carlos Menchaca
- Rosie Mendez
- Daneek Miller
- Anabel Palma
- Bill Perkins
- Donovan Richards
- Ydanis Rodriguez
- Deborah Rose
- Helen Rosenthal
- Rafael Salamanca
- Ritchie Torres
- Mark Treyger
- Eric Ulrich
- James Vacca
- Paul Vallone
- Jumaane Williams
- Ruben Wills
- Steven Matteo
- Elizabeth Crowley
- Laurie Cumbo
- Mathieu Eugene
- Corey Johnson

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CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

PUBLIC ADVOCATE: I call the recess meeting of May 24, 2017 to order. Roll Call?

CLERK: Barron?

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Present.

CLERK: Borelli? Cabrera?

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

CLERK: Chin?

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

CLERK: Cohen?

COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Here.

CLERK: Constantinides?

COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Here.

CLERK: Cornegy? Crowley? Cumbo?

Deutsch?

COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Here.

CLERK: Dromm?

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

CLERK: Espinal? Eugene? Ferreras-

Copeland? Borelli?

COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Here.

CLERK: Garodnick?

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.

CLERK: Gentile?

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.

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CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

CLERK: Gibson?

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Here.

CLERK: Greenfield? Grodenchik?

COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Here.

CLERK: Johnson? Kallos? King? Koo?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

CLERK: Koslowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

CLERK: Lancman?

COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Here.

CLERK: Lander?

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

CLERK: Levin?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

CLERK: Levine?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Here.

CLERK: Maisel?

COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Here.

CLERK: Mealy? Menchaca?

COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Presente.

CLERK: Mendez?

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.

CLERK: Miller?

COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Present.

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CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

CLERK: Palma?

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Here.

CLERK: Perkins?

COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Here.

CLERK: Reynoso? Richards?

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Present.

CLERK: Rodriguez?

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.

CLERK: Rose?

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.

CLERK: Rosenthal?

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.

CLERK: Salamanca?

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present.

CLERK: Torres?

COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Present.

CLERK: Treyger?

COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.

CLERK: Ulrich?

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Here.

CLERK: Vacca?

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.

CLERK: Vallone?

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

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CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

CLERK: Williams?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.

CLERK: Wills?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Here.

CLERK: Matteo?

COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Here.

CLERK: Van Bramer?

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito?

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Here.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE: I adjourn the recess meeting of May 26 which was held on June 6. We are now in the Stated Meeting for June 6. All rise.

[off mic - pledge]

CLERK: Barron?

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Present.

CLERK: Borelli?

COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Here.

CLERK: Cabrera?

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

CLERK: Chin?

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

CLERK: Cohen?

COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Here.

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CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

CLERK: Constantinides?
COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Here.
CLERK: Cornegy? Crowley?
COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.
CLERK: Cumbo?
COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Here. Aye.
CLERK: Thank you. Deutsch?
COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Here.
CLERK: Dromm?
COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.
CLERK: Espinal? Eugene?
COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.
CLERK: Ferreras-Copeland? Garodnick?
COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.
CLERK: Gentile?
COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.
CLERK: Gibson?
COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Here.
CLERK: Greenfield? Grodenchik?
COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Here.
CLERK: Johnson? Kallos? King? Koo?
COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.
CLERK: Koslowitz?
COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

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CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

CLERK: Lancman?
COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Here.
CLERK: Lander?
COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.
CLERK: Levin?
COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.
CLERK: Levine?
COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Here.
CLERK: Maisel?
COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Here.
CLERK: Mealy? Menchaca?
COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Presente.
CLERK: Mendez? Miller?
COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Present.
CLERK: Palma?
COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Here.
CLERK: Perkins?
COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Here.
CLERK: Reynoso? Richards?
COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Here.
CLERK: Rodriguez?
COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.
CLERK: Johnson?
COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON? Here.

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CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

CLERK: Rose?

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.

CLERK: Rosenthal?

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.

CLERK: Salamanca?

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present.

CLERK: Torres?

COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Here.

CLERK: Treyger?

COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.

CLERK: Ulrich?

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Here.

CLERK: Vacca?

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.

CLERK: Vallone? Williams?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.

CLERK: Wills?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Here.

CLERK: Matteo?

COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Here.

CLERK: Van Bramer?

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito?

1
2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you all. Quiet
3 in the Chambers, Quiet in the Chambers. All rise for
4 the invocation that will be delivered by Reverend
5 Council Member Cabrera.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Let's bow our
7 heads. Father, we come before you acknowledging your
8 supreme and glorious authority overall. And before
9 we prayer for the gender for us, Father we pray for
10 the five year old little boy that is in the hospital
11 right now from Council Member Gibson's district, we
12 pray for a miracle and we pray for a speedy recovery.
13 Father, we come in this most important day in the
14 City Council as we present this budget in response to
15 the needs of the most vulnerable New Yorkers, low
16 income, at risk youth, immigrants, veterans, small
17 business owners and others. We will continue to
18 address the issues of poverty and discrimination by
19 ensuring continuation of every day, day to day
20 operations, preservation infrastructure and essential
21 services. I ask you for a blessing upon our Speaker,
22 Public Advocate, my colleagues in the City Council
23 who work so hard and are devoted to better serve this
24 city and whom you have target with your love. At
25 last, we pray for a special blessing upon all the

2 staff who spend countless hours toward making sure we
3 have the earliest budget ready in 20 years. This we
4 pray in the mighty, majestic, marvelous and
5 [inaudible] name. Amen.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Amen. Please be
7 seated. I want to thank Council Member Fernando
8 Cabrera for that pray. Thank you. Adoption of
9 minutes?

10 CLERK: None.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Messages and papers
12 from the Mayor?

13 CLERK: None.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Communication from
15 city, county and borough offices?

16 CLERK: Pre-considered M515 Discount
17 Rate.

18 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Go over that
19 again please.

20 CLERK: Pre-considered M515 Discount
21 Rate.

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Finance.

23 CLERK: Pre-considered M515 transfer city
24 funds.

25 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Finance.

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2 CLERK: Pre-considered M517 appropriation
3 of new revenues.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Finance.

5 CLERK: Pre-considered M518 five year
6 capital plan.

7 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Finance.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Petitions and
9 communications?

10 CLERK: None.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Land use call-ups?

12 CLERK: None.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Quiet in the Chambers,
14 please. May we have quiet in the Chambers? May we
15 close the doors? Thank you. Now we hear from the
16 Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito.

17 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you Madam
18 Public Advocate and I would say good afternoon when I
19 stated this to everyone, thank you all for being here
20 to adopt the final and extremely early budget of the
21 2014-2017 session. I really can't believe it but we
22 are at the end of this legislative session and I
23 really want to sincerely thank all of you for the
24 work that you have put into this budget season. From
25 our committee chairs to our policy analyst and

1
2 counsels to those holding it down in our district
3 offices, it has truly been a team effort. Of course,
4 I want to give thanks to Finance Committee Chair
5 Julissa Ferreras-Copeland who is also alongside me
6 marking her last budget season and obviously the
7 amazing staff in the Finance Department lead by
8 Latonya McKinney. If we could ask all of the Finance
9 staff to stand up please.

10 [applause]

11 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: I have been proud
12 to negotiate this budget with these two amazing
13 women. Two very strong-willed, opinionated Latinas
14 and our great Latonya in leading an incredible
15 decision, really a historic moment for the city and I
16 think that that cannot be said enough. I also
17 obviously over the past nearly four years of serving
18 as your Speaker, I have been proud to sit at the
19 table with all of you, my colleagues, [Spanish],
20 gracias, thank you for allowing me the privilege to
21 represent you and this council. Together, we have
22 effected change in the lives of millions of New
23 Yorkers, people whose circumstances have intangibly
24 improved by the causes we have taken on and the
25 results we have achieved. While this is my last

1 budget as a member of the Council, I feel nothing but
2 proud. Under the leadership of all those gathered
3 here today, you, our staff, everyone, we have become
4 the most open, the most transparent and the most
5 productive session of the New York City Council I
6 history. I could not be more impressed by the
7 initiatives shown by this group to serve and uplift
8 New Yorkers throughout the five boroughs no matter
9 how vulnerable all while preparing for our city's
10 future. Because of you, \$85.2 billion will baseline
11 70,000 summer jobs for our city's young people, will
12 grant our veterans financial relief through property
13 tax exemptions, will improve our community senior
14 centers, will outfit our FDNY teams with new boots
15 just in times for tomorrow's metal day and will
16 enhances our reserves ensuring that this great city
17 can weather any storm so again thank you to all of
18 you. It is an emotional time. We have obviously six
19 more months of this legislative session but this
20 budget in negotiating it and knowing that it will be
21 the last time that I stand here in this capacity,
22 really I am proud of it but also really proud of the
23 legacy that I will personally leave behind as I move
24 on to the next phase of my life. So again, I want to
25

1
2 thank you all for the confidence you bestowed on me
3 and the partnership in which we have worked together.
4 I think all of us should really be known to all of us
5 the impact we have had on this city and on the lives
6 of so many New Yorkers. Before we begin, I also want
7 to acknowledge a couple of people who have served our
8 city. I want to obviously extend my thoughts and the
9 thoughts of this council to NYPD Officer ?? ?? who is
10 currently recovering from grievous injury in the line
11 of duty at King's County Hospital. Let's keep him in
12 our thoughts please. I want to thank Council Member
13 Eugene for his leadership but also obviously to all
14 the staff and doctors at King's County Hospital that
15 are keeping him safe and hopefully we will see a
16 recovery. Finally, I want to thank Senior Project
17 Manager of the Land Use Division, Peter Janisick
18 whose -- for 32 years of service to the City Council
19 is ending his term here. He retires this week after
20 serving under five Speakers and over 20 Zoning
21 Subcommittee Chairs. And lastly, thank Council
22 Member Cabrera for his invocation but again to keep
23 Officer ?? ?? but also that young five year old in
24 our thoughts as we wish them both a recovery and with
25 that I would like to hand over the podium and

1 speaking time to Finance Chair Ferreras-Copeland to
2 hear more on budget. Obviously also her last budget
3 negotiating it as our Finance Chair. Julissa?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank
5 you very much, Madam Speaker. A few minutes ago the
6 Finance Committee voted to adopt the Fiscal 2018
7 budget which totals approximately 85.2 billion. I
8 just wanted to say that I thank many of the Finance
9 Committee members there but I wanted to take this
10 opportunity to acknowledge our fearless leader.
11 First and foremost, I want to thank our Speaker
12 Melisa Mark-Viverito. She's a wise Latina, a
13 tireless advocate for the people of this city and a
14 fearless leader for the members of the Council who
15 throughout the past four budget cycles she has
16 listened to concerns and priorities of each and every
17 one of us and our constituents and has approached
18 budget negotiations with clear purpose to ensure that
19 the Council's vision for this city is reflected in
20 each budget, helping us to finally end budget
21 [inaudible]. Because of her leadership, more young
22 people more than ever as she mentioned will be able
23 to be employed through our summer and year-round
24 jobs, more immigrants have access to education,
25

1 health and legal services, more police officers keep
2 out city safe, more students have access to
3 affordable healthy meals. This year's budget
4 delivers even more victories for New Yorkers and I
5 believe the Speaker can be proud of what she has
6 delivered in her final budget and my final budget. I
7 have to also thank the Speaker's Chief of Staff,
8 Ramon Martinez, who is actually here -- maybe not
9 here, but Ramon who has assisted us every step of the
10 way on behalf of the institution. Thank you as well
11 and I know that it was mentioned already but, you
12 know, you really can't acknowledge this amazing team
13 enough. To the fellow Finance Committee members for
14 their partnership over the last three and a half
15 years and of course I must express my enormous
16 gratitude to our dedicated and talented Finance staff
17 lead by the amazing Latonya McKinney. One of the
18 things I am most proud of about my tenure as Finance
19 Chair is that the first time in history that this
20 Council is represented by three women in the city's
21 budget negotiating. Latonya, you have been a
22 fantastic leader, negotiator, advocate and friend and
23 we are all very, very proud that you have lead us
24 through this way. I also want to thank the staff in
25

1
2 the Finance Division individually. Each one of you
3 has played an essential role in bringing us to
4 today's budget adoption and I thank you for the long
5 hours you have worked on this budget and many people
6 don't know but they were here through weekends and I
7 think if we were to add up all the time in the last
8 four years that we have been doing this, you have
9 probably been here a total of about a year of just
10 working non-stop. The Deputy Director Chief and
11 Doctor -- Chief Economist, Dr. Roman Jansky (?),
12 Deputy Director Regina Pereda-Ryan, Deputy Director
13 Nathan Toe (SP), Deputy Director Paul Simone,
14 Assistant Director ?? ??, Finance Counsel Eric
15 Bernstein, Supervising Economist Paul Strum, Finance
16 Unit Head Eisha Wright, [inaudible] John Russell,
17 Dohinee Sampora, Carlene Francisco, Jessica Ackerman,
18 Ali Aleek (SP), Maria ??, Sarah Gasta (SP), Kenny
19 Grace, Zachary Harris, Elizabeth Hoffman, Sheila
20 Johnson, Will Karamatang (SP), Jen Lee, Prince Menza
21 (SP), Jeanette Merrill, Namira Nazar (SP), Caitlin
22 O'Hagan, Jimmy Reyes, Steve Wrestle (SP), John
23 Seltzer, Kendal Stephenson, Brandon West and David
24 Winslow. I would also like to thank the support
25 staff Nicole Robert and Maria. And last but not

1
2 least to my incredible team, my Chief of Staff,
3 Catalina Cruz, my Deputy Chief of Staff Ivan Acosta
4 and everyone else who is back at the district office.
5 I also wanted to acknowledge often we don't
6 acknowledge them but they do a lot of work with the
7 Finance Division also and that is the General
8 Counsel's Office so to Jason Lotano (SP) and Chuck
9 Davis who runs around to make sure that we are legit
10 and okay and not getting into any trouble with our
11 disclosures so thank you to the General Counsel team
12 also. [applause] Then budget that we present to the
13 Council for adoption today reflects the balance of
14 meaningful investments in the people of our city with
15 measures safeguarding these important programs and
16 services for the future. I want to thank all of my
17 colleagues for putting their trust in me during this
18 budget process. This budget is a result of a
19 collective efforts with all of you. Thank you again
20 to the BNT and to everyone who has a piece and a
21 touch of this budget. I am very, very, very humbled
22 by this experience and proud to stand and say that I
23 was a member of this Council to vote on these
24 important budgets. While it is my last one, I am not
25 moving that far. Please take the Amtrak to visit me

1
2 in Maryland. This is one chapter of the Julissa
3 book. There will be many more. Gracias.

4 [applause]

5 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: All right. And -
6 - wow! Very touching. You know, I also do want -- I
7 want to -- there are so many people to thank and
8 obviously we don't do this work alone and so I want
9 to thank my staff as well and there are so many to
10 name but obviously Ramon, Joe, Joey and everyone else
11 in the Speaker's Office. A lot, a lot of
12 conversations with members, meeting with
13 organizations, helping really finalize and whittle
14 down what our priorities are and again a budget that
15 we can all be proud of and with that I end
16 communication from the Speaker.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you. Discussion
18 of General Orders for a vote. Council Member Palma?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Madam Public
20 Advocate, with permission I would like to vote on all
21 coupled items under general calendar and resolutions?

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Yes.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: I vote aye.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you. For a vote,
25 Council Member Dromm?

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: I would also like
3 to ask for permission to vote on all coupled items on
4 the calendar?

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Yes.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: I vote aye.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you. Council
8 Member Rose?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Yes, I would also
10 like to vote on all coupled general orders except for
11 pre-considered Reso 1520, 1521, 1535, 519 and SLR 2
12 and 4.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you. Council
14 Member Lancman?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Madam Public
16 Advocate, with your permission I would like to vote
17 on all coupled general orders and resolutions?

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Yes.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Disclosing that
20 the Young ?? Hillcrest is funded in the budget we are
21 adopting and I am associated with this entity as a
22 member, I vote aye.

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Council Member Rose you
24 wanted to make a disclosure?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Yes. I'd like to
3 also disclose for the record that New York City
4 Department of Sanitation is funded by in this budget
5 and we are adopting and my son is associated with
6 this not for profit.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Council Member Ulrich?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Madam Public
9 Advocate, I would like to vote on all matter on the
10 general order calendar?

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Yes.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Okay. Before I
13 do vote I would like to disclose on the record of the
14 Council proceedings that St. Francis College, my Alma
15 Mata, is funded in the budget we are adopting today
16 and my spouse is the Assistant Director of Human
17 Resources at this entity and with that I vote aye on
18 all with the exception of SLR 2 and 4 and pre-
19 considered Resolutions, well I will be do the pre-
20 considered resolutions with the Clerk, but those are
21 1520, 1521, 1537 and M519.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Anyone else for an
23 early vote? Council Member King?

24

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: With permission I
3 would like to vote on all coupled items on the
4 general order calendar and all resolutions?

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Yes.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: I vote aye. Also I
7 would like to add for disclosure on the record that
8 1199 National Benefit Education Fund is funded in the
9 budget which we are adopting and my wife is
10 associated with this entity and I would like to vote
11 on all.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Council Member Vacca?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Thank you so much
14 and I first want to disclose that for the record I am
15 disclosing that I work at Queens College which is
16 funded in this budget that we are adopting. I vote
17 aye on all except SLR 2 which I vote no and I vote no
18 on Resos 1520, 1521, 1537 and M519.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Council Member
20 Salamanca?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Thank you,
22 Madam Speaker. I am disclosing on the record of the
23 Council's proceedings that number one, St. Vincent
24 [inaudible] is funded in the budget we are adopting
25 and my father is associated with this entity and that

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the New York City Parks and Recreation is funded in the budget that we are adopting and my wife and stepson are associated with this entity as well and with permission I would like to vote on all coupled items on the general order calendar and all resolutions?

PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: I vote aye.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you. Council Member Wills?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Madam Public Advocate, I would like to vote on all general orders calendar?

PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: I vote aye on all except for Resolution 1533 which I abstain.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you. Any disclosures?

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: No.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you. Council Member Barron?

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you, Madam Public Advocate. With permission I would like to

1
2 vote on all general order calendar items and
3 accompanying resolutions?

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Yes.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Any disclosures?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: No.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you. And now
9 back to general order discussion beginning with
10 Council Member Van Bramer.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank you
12 very much, Madam Public Advocate. I wanted to rise
13 To talk a little bit about the budget but also to pay
14 tribute to the Speaker and the Finance Chair
15 particularly because as the Chair of Culture Affairs
16 and Libraries, it is at a time like this where it's
17 fitting to talk about a legacy for both Speaker
18 Melissa Mark-Viverito and Finance Chair Ferreras-
19 Copeland. In this year's budget alone, there's over
20 \$160 million in capital for cultural institutions,
21 over 132 million library capital dollars in this
22 budget before. In the four years that we have served
23 in this Council has been in session, these four
24 budgets alone have contributed nearly \$700 million in
25 cultural capital in the City of New York, over \$500

1 million in library capital for the City of New York
2 and we have restored and baselined six to eight
3 library service. So as the Speaker and the Finance
4 Chair continue to serve for another six years, I also
5 want to say that while other folks who have
6 previously served have been known as cultural and
7 library champions, it will be generations to come,
8 generations of children and seniors and immigrants
9 and every day New Yorkers who will benefit from the
10 wise choices and the leadership that we have all
11 benefited from with our Speaker and Finance Chair
12 championing libraries and cultural institutions of
13 the City of New York. This budget today is an
14 enormous victory, perhaps the best ever for culture
15 and arts in the City of New York. But cumulatively,
16 the four years that we've all served together have
17 been remarkable and I want to thank the Speaker and
18 the Finance Chair for their leadership and for
19 leaving the legacy that we can all be enormously
20 proud of. Thank you very much.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you. Council
23 Member Chin?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you, Madam
25 Public Advocate. Today, I'm going to be proud to

1
2 cast my vote for a budget that is compassionate and
3 responsible. This budget saves for an unpredictable
4 future and takes care of our vulnerable New Yorkers
5 and I am proud particularly to claim this fiscal year
6 as the year of the senior. This was a long time
7 coming. After we passed the budget last year, I told
8 the director Dean Fulihan (SP) and the Mayor that
9 this year is going to be our year so we did what we
10 do best. We organized. We gathered the aging
11 advocates like ?? New York, AARP, SPWA and asked them
12 for their wish list. We worked together to rally and
13 advocate and we never gave up. Today, we vote on a
14 budget that [inaudible] senior centers. It creates
15 the city's first-ever program to provide caregivers
16 the support they deserve. It provides seniors with
17 weekend meals so that they do not have to go hungry
18 and it makes sure that no seniors will have to wait
19 for case management or home care services. The 22.89
20 million in baseline funding is the most the
21 Department of Aging has received in at least a
22 decade. We fought, we advocate and we succeeded.
23 There's so many people to thank for this victory, but
24 especially to our Speaker and our Finance Chair who
25 created a culture of openness and fairness in the

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2 last four budgets. The City Council will surely miss
3 your leadership. I wanted to thank all the aging
4 advocates and all the seniors who came to all the
5 hearings and rallied and of course our finance staff
6 especially ?? ??, Regina Ryan and Latonya McKinney.
7 You work around the clock. You prepare us with
8 hearing and you make sure our priorities are included
9 in every discussion and thank you to all the speaker
10 staff and the Finance Chair staff and also to my
11 staff, especially Vincent who helped me kickoff and
12 pull off the Year of the Senior from the beginning.
13 And, thank you to all colleagues for your support.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you.
15 Congratulations and congratulations to Bobby Sachman.
16 Council Member Eugene?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you, Madam
18 Public Advocate. Good afternoon. I am pleased to be
19 voting on the budget today because it is for the all
20 the essential programs we all rely on every single
21 day and because [inaudible] to support our youth and
22 the health of our constituents. As Chairman of the
23 Youth Services Committee, I am proud the investment
24 we are making in our city youth by increasing funding
25 to other programs that increase employment. We are

1 helping more of our young men and women enter the
2 workforce and find opportunity to succeed. I would
3 like to take the opportunity also to thank all my
4 colleagues and the City Council for the support of
5 youth and the [inaudible] Program and I would also to
6 thank Madam Speaker for her leadership in all stuff
7 working diligently making to make sure that we pass
8 the budget today. I also want to thank the
9 Administration for their effort in supporting the
10 purchase of a new state-of-the-art dialysis machine
11 for SUNY Dialysis and Medical Center in my district.
12 The implementation of this equipment signifies an
13 important step in the treatment we are able to
14 provide for those who suffer from kidney disease.
15 Far too often, the people that we're serving they
16 don't receive the proper treatment because of lack of
17 resources. With the addition of this machine, we are
18 demonstrating a profound commitment to the health and
19 well-being of our community. We also giving hope to
20 the family members of loved one while require
21 dialysis for their treatment and also to survive. I
22 commend the Administration and the City Council for
23 understanding the importance for this [inaudible]
24 treatment. I am proud that we were able to work
25

1
2 together to provide the funding for important
3 programs and purchase that save life and make our
4 city great. Again, I would like to thank my
5 colleagues in City Council and the Administration for
6 their support in making that our hospital receive the
7 equipment need to survive and our young people to
8 receive the opportunity they need to succeed. I also
9 want to thank all of you who have been very
10 supportive to the family of Officer because as many
11 of us, he's an immigrant coming to the United States
12 and to do everything he can do to cultivate to the
13 goodness of this city of where we are living. Thank
14 you very much and congratulations to all of you for
15 this wonderful budget. Thank you, Madam Public
16 Advocate.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you, Council
18 Member, and we will keep Officer ?? in our thoughts
19 and prayers as well as the five-year-old child.
20 Anyone else for general orders? We are going to take
21 a break now for a minute or two. We're awaiting the
22 Speaker. In the meantime, thank you City Council for
23 funding universal school lunch. Thank you. Talk
24 amongst yourself. Anybody have a joke? Anyone want
25 to talk about what is happening in their district?

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Anyone have any programs they want to invite the general public to? Any news items? Any births, marriages, anniversaries? You have a what? You have a 5K? You want to tell anyone?

COUNCIL MEMBER ??: Madam Public

Advocate, --

PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Here we go. Okay, we are back in order. Now we have the Speaker. Speaker, we were just announcing programs and events in our respective districts. That's all. Back to the calendar. Report of special committees?

CLERK: None.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Reports of standing committees?

CLERK: Report of the Committee on Finance, pre-considered M516 and Reso 1529 on page three, expense budget.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on general orders.

CLERK: Pre-considered M517 and Reso 1530, appropriation of new revenues.

SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Couple general orders.

2 CLERK: Pre-considered M515, five-year
3 capital.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Wait, 518 no?
5 Did you say 515?

6 CLERK: 518, sorry.

7 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Okay. Yes,
8 couple general orders.

9 CLERK: Pre-considered resolution 1531,
10 five-year educational plan.

11 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
12 general orders.

13 CLERK: Pre-considered Reso 1520 and Reso
14 1521, base percentage and adjusted base proportion.

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

17 CLERK: Pre-considered Reso 1522,
18 transparency resolution.

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

21 CLERK: M498 and Reso 1532 and 1533,
22 expense budget?

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

1 CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING 33

2 CLERK: M499 and Reso 1534, and 1535

3 capital budgets.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on

5 general orders.

6 CLERK: M500 and Reso 1536 CD program.

7 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on

8 general orders.

9 CLERK: M506, ten-year capital strategy.

10 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on

11 general orders.

12 CLERK: Pre-considered M519 and Reso

13 1537, fixing the tax rate.

14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on

15 general orders.

16 CLERK: Pre-considered M515, discount

17 rate.

18 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on

19 general orders.

20 CLERK: Pre-considered Reso 1523 through

21 pre-considered Reso 1525, property tax rates.

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on

23 general orders.

24 CLERK: Pre-considered Reso 1526 and Reso

25 1527 water and sewer rents.

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2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
3 general orders.

4 CLERK: Pre-considered LU 674 and Reso
5 1538 through LU 676 and Reso 1540, various
6 applications.

7 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
8 general orders.

9 CLERK: M467 through M505, on the next
10 page, expense, contract, capital and executive budget
11 and supporting budget documents.

12 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled to be
13 filed.

14 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Land
15 Use, LU 631 and Reso 1541 and LU 632 and Reso 1542,
16 sidewalk cafés.

17 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
18 general orders.

19 CLERK: LU 635, zoning amendment.

20 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Approved in
21 modifications and refer to the City Planning
22 Commission pursuant to Rules 11.70B of the rules of
23 the council and Section 196D of the New York City
24 Charter.

2 CLERK: LU 643 and Reso 1543 and LU 644
3 and Reso 1544.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled To be
5 filed pursuant to letter of withdrawal.

6 CLERK: LU 647 and Reso 1545 and LU 648
7 and Reso --

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: May we please have
9 quiet in Chambers.

10 CLERK: -- 1546, sidewalk cafes.

11 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
12 general orders.

13 CLERK: LU 649 and 650.

14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Approved
15 modifications and referred to City Planning
16 Commission pursuant to 11.70B Rules of the Council
17 and Section 197D of the New York City Charter.

18 CLERK: LU 656 and Reso 1547 through LU
19 671 and Reso 1557 on page 15, tax exemptions.

20 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: You said through
21 Reso 1557, right?

22 CLERK: Yes, ma'am.

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

2 CLERK: LU 673 and Reso 1558, UDAAP
3 Manhattan.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
5 general orders.

6 CLERK: Report of the Committee on State
7 and Federal legislation pre-considered Reso 1519
8 Mayoral control.

9 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
10 general orders.

11 CLERK: Pre-considered SLR1, investments
12 by local governments.

13 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
14 general orders.

15 CLERK: Pre-considered SLR 2, property
16 transfer.

17 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
18 general orders.

19 CLERK: Pre-considered SLR 3, retirement
20 and Social Security law.

21 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
22 general orders.

23 CLERK: Pre-considered SLR 4, city tax
24 rates and taxes.

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2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
3 general orders.

4 CLERK: Report of Committee on Youth
5 Services, Intro 709A, Youth Workforce Program.

6 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Amended and laid
7 over.

8 CLERK: On the general order calendar,
9 resolution appointing various person Commissioner of
10 Deeds.

11 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on
12 general orders. I ask a roll call on all items
13 coupled on the general order calendar.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: As members vote, may we
15 please have some quiet.

16 CLERK: Borelli?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Voting no on SLR
18 2 and 4 and pre-considered Reso 1520, 1521, 1537 and
19 M519. Aye on the rest and I have to disclose that
20 the College of Staten Island is funded in this budget
21 and I am associated with this entity. I teach there
22 and my wife is a substitute this year. Hopefully,
23 she gets a job if you know anybody at PS55R on Staten
24 Island.

25 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Congratulations.

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CLERK: Cabrera?

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Yes, I am disclosing on the record on the council proceedings that Kiss Bay Boys and Girls Club is funded in the budget we are adopting and through my church I am associated with this entity and I vote aye on all.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you.

CLERK: Chin?

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: I am disclosing on the record of the council proceeding that PS3 is funded in the budget we are adopting and my husband is a teacher in this school and I vote aye on all. Thank you.

CLERK: Cohen?

COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: I'm disclosing that I really love our Finance Chair and with that I am voting aye.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you so much.

CLERK: Constantinides?

COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: I'm disclosing on the record of this council proceedings that the CUNY Law Foundations Program in support of PS85Q was funded in the budget we are adopting and that my child is a student at PS85Q and that PS151 is

1 funded in the budget we are adopting and that my wife
2 is associated with this entity and I vote aye on all
3 on calendar today.

4
5 CLERK: Cornegy?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye on all and
7 I'm going to miss you Julissa.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Any disclosures,
9 Council Member?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Nope.

11 CLERK: Crowley?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Can I have
13 permission to explain my vote? I would like to
14 commend our Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito, Finance
15 Chair Julissa Ferreras-Copeland and my council
16 colleagues for negotiating a budget that reflects the
17 needs of every day New Yorkers. With additional
18 funds for seniors, tax exemptions, veterans, new
19 boots for firefighters, more summer youth jobs all
20 while adding to the city's reserve funds, this budget
21 will improve countless New Yorkers' lives all while
22 safeguarding them for the future so thank you again
23 to the Speaker and I'm disclosing on the record of
24 this council proceedings that the New York City
25 Department of Education is funded in the budget we

1
2 are adopting and two of my sisters are teachers at
3 the Department of Education. CUNY is funded in the
4 budget we are adopting and my son is a CUNY student
5 and the New York Public Library and Carnegie Hall are
6 funded in the budget we are adopting and my domestic
7 partner is affiliated with these entities. That
8 completes my disclosures.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you.

10 CLERK: Cumbo?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Did I vote aye?

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: You voted aye?

13 [off mic]

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I'm waiting on
15 Council Member Crowley to finish. COUNCIL MEMBER
16 CROWLEY: I apologize Council Member Cumbo. I think
17 in my statement I forgot to vote aye. I vote yes on
18 the budget.

19 CLERK: Cumbo?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I'm disclosing on
21 the record of this council proceedings that the New
22 York City Department of Education is funded in the
23 budget we are adopting and I have two sisters who are
24 employed as teachers with the Department of Education
25 and I vote aye.

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CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

CLERK: Deutsch?

COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: I'm disclosing on the record of this council proceedings that ?? ?? funded in the budget we are adopting and that my child is a student at the school and that Kingsborough Community College is funded in the budget that we are adopting and my children are students at this school and that Brooklyn College is funded in the budget we are adopting and my children will be students at this school and I vote aye on all.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you.

CLERK: Espinal?

COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: I would like to disclose that CUNY is funded in the budget that we are adopting and my brother is one and a half-million students in the CUNY school system and with that said, I vote aye.

CLERK: Eugene?

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Any disclosures?

COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: None.

CLERK: Ferreras-Copeland?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS-COPELAND: I
3 proudly vote aye.

4 CLERK: Garodnick?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: I vote aye and
6 I've got a bunch of disclosures so bear with me. I'm
7 disclosing on the record of the council and this is
8 going to be good guys. It never ends here. Planned
9 Parenthood of New York City is funded in the budget
10 we are adopting and my wife is not affiliated with
11 that entity but she is the Senior Associate General
12 Counsel of Planned Parenthood Federation of America
13 which is the national organization. New York Road
14 Runners is funded in the budget and I am a card
15 carrying member of that entity. [cross talk] --
16 Tenant's Association, Inc., is funded in the budget
17 we are adopting and I am a member of that association
18 as a member of that community. The Peter Stuyvesant
19 Little League is funded in the budget we are adopting
20 and my child is a slugger in t-ball in that entity
21 and Asphalt Green is funded in the budget we are
22 adopting and my child, same child, if it matters was
23 a participant at this entity as an enthusiastic flag
24 football player and that concludes my disclosures and
25 I vote aye still.

1 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Very athletic child.

2 CLERK: Gentile?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: I have one
4 disclosure. William McKinley IS259 is funded in the
5 budget that we are adopting and my sister is
6 associated with this entity. I vote aye on all. I
7 say bravo to Julissa and Julissa you will be joining
8 me and the Speaker and several others in the room
9 learning about life after the council.
10

11 CLERK: Gibson?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Permission to
13 explain my vote?

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Yes.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you, Madam
16 Public Advocate and I thank you and I want to join
17 all my colleagues in expressing my sincere
18 appreciation to the dynamic trio of women who have
19 lead this council, our Speaker, our Finance Chair and
20 our Budget Director and the entire Finance Division.
21 Thank you so much for being continued advocates for
22 every New Yorker. I am so grateful that this budget
23 makes incredible investments in children and families
24 and immigrants and seniors and veterans, more slots
25 for summer youth which are sorely needed particularly

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2 in our district, cultural institutions, the universal
3 free lunch, food pantries to make sure that less New
4 Yorkers go to bed hungry at night. I want to
5 particularly thank the Speaker for investing, finally
6 the Bronx is going to receive the first ever
7 children's museum in Bronx County and we are the last
8 county in the city to get it and it is rightfully
9 deserved for so many children in the Bronx and beyond
10 and just on a personal note, I want to thank the
11 Speaker and Julissa and LaTonya and I also want to
12 recognize my former budget director that is now
13 joined the finance division, Caitlin O'Hagan,
14 congratulations on completing your first budget. I
15 want to thank my new budget director for her
16 completion of the first budget, Wendy Guyagos (SP)
17 and I also want to recognize my senior financial
18 analyst for helping me through the budget this year,
19 Steve Ryster. Thank you, Regina. Thank you Eisha
20 Wright, thank you to everyone on the finance
21 division. Thank you Ramon and everyone for really
22 making it a lot easier as council members. I thank
23 you all. Looking forward to our continued work and
24 God Bless you all and I proudly vote aye on all.
25 Thank you.

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2 CLERK: Greenfield?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank you.

4 May I explain my vote? Thank you, very much Public
5 Advocate. I too want to thank and congratulate and
6 recognize the hard work and leadership of Julissa
7 Ferreras-Copeland. She is fortunate. I have had the
8 good fortune of meeting her husband and her wonderful
9 child and she has an amazing family and I salute her
10 for putting family first and I can assure everyone
11 that is something that is happening and she worked
12 literally around the clock for years to make sure
13 that we would have the best possible budget in New
14 York and I am proud of the work you have done and I'm
15 proud of you. Congratulations. I want to thank the
16 Speaker as well. I know how much time and effort goes
17 into this. I know it is not easy balancing all the
18 interests and you have done it again and we are
19 appreciative and we're grateful. I want to thank
20 Latonya for her leadership. She doesn't get paid
21 overtime, which is something we should work on
22 Speaker, but her and the staff they deserve it. The
23 finance staff is extraordinary and I am very grateful
24 for all their work and you know the saying goes
25 behind three great women is a pretty good guy, Ramon

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2 Martinez, and I want to thank him for his work,
3 pretty good guy. I am going to copyright that term.
4 I want to thank him for his work in keeping the
5 trains running on time. I do want to disclose that I
6 own a car so I drive on the streets that I expect to
7 be repaved. My children and I we go to the libraries
8 and we plan on taking out more books in newer
9 buildings and occasionally my wife and I we decide to
10 visit some of the great cultural institutions that
11 are going to be improved in this town so I directly
12 benefit from all of those as a resident and a
13 taxpayer of the City of New York. That being said, I
14 vote aye on all.

15 CLERK: Grodenchik?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Thank you,
17 Madam Public Advocate. First let me disclose,
18 [inaudible] in Queens is funded in this budget. My
19 wife, son and I have served as volunteers there. The
20 Samuel Field Y is also funded, great place in Eastern
21 Queens, the Speaker's been there. My mother in law
22 takes yoga classes there and I would -- I am a card
23 carrying member of the Queens Borough Public Library.
24 I really want to say to every single one of my
25 colleagues, those who are here today and those who

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2 have already left for other places, a heart-felt
3 thank you on behalf of all the citizens of the City
4 of New York. When I got here 18 months ago I never
5 expected having won a six way primary in a tough
6 general that I would become one of the leading
7 spokesperson for feeding people in this city but that
8 is the city but that's the way life works so I want
9 to thank the Speaker, especially Steve Levin, the
10 Chair of General Welfare. In this budget that we are
11 passing today, there is \$18.2 million for emergency
12 food. That is the backstop. The last defense for
13 many New Yorkers, over a million whom rely on food
14 pantries ever year, that is 165 percent of where we
15 were two short years ago. I want to thank my budget
16 director Deborah Wasty (SP), the rest of my staff for
17 helping with that and especially Rachel Sabbelo (SP)
18 from the food bank for New York City. I also want to
19 thank my long-term friend, Julissa Ferreras, for
20 shepparding this budget through. We are going to
21 miss you and Baltimore, right, north Baltimore, I
22 wanted to make sure I got it right, North Baltimore's
23 gain is Corona's loss so thank you. God bless you
24 all. With that, I vote aye on all.

25 CLERK: Johnson?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Permission to
3 explain my vote? Madam Public Advocate, a budget is
4 really a glimpse into the soul of the people creating
5 it. In contrast to the abstract and fleeing ideas of
6 a speech, a budget uses stark number to reveal true
7 priorities. The permanence of ink holds the writer
8 responsible for what is inside making them answer for
9 each and every piece. We saw these harsh truths
10 revealed in the recently proposed budgets down in
11 Washington coming out of Congress. In spite of this
12 constant rhetoric about putting Americans first,
13 what's happening in Washington is trying to gut
14 essential programs that keep people alive compare
15 that budget to the one that we are passing today,
16 expertly negotiated by Speaker Mellissa Mark-Viverito
17 and Finance Chair Julissa Ferreras-Copeland. Our
18 budget reflects New York's belief that it is our duty
19 to identify the most vulnerable and do everything in
20 our power to help them. We know there are children
21 living on the street so we put \$12.7 million for
22 programs to assist runaway and homeless youth. We
23 are nearing our goal of ending the HIV and AIDS
24 epidemic in New York by 2020, we know that more needs
25 to be done so we added \$6.3 million towards teaching

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2 prevention and education in underserved communities
3 of color and senior populations. And finally,
4 despite the recent gains of the LGBT community, we
5 continue to suffer discrimination and violence
6 especially our city's transgender population so we
7 are focusing on education regarding the community's
8 needs and history. We are funding the Department of
9 Education programs to support LGBT students and
10 introduce LGBT history in our schools curriculum,
11 Department of Youth and Community Development
12 programs to house and feed LGBT homeless and runaway
13 youth and the Department of Aging programs to care
14 for LGBT seniors. This budget represents my values,
15 those of this council and this city and I am proud to
16 support it and all the New Yorkers it will help. I
17 want to thank my colleagues for their advocacy on
18 behalf of their constituencies, especially Council
19 Member Margaret Chin, my Manhattan Delegation, Co-
20 Chair. I want to thank again the Speaker for this
21 final budget. She has been remarkable. Your
22 experience and leadership over these past four years
23 has produced budgets that will serve as your legacy,
24 a progressive legacy that has helped more people than
25 you know. This is a people's budget, a budget for

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2 the vulnerable, the forgotten and those left behind.
3 Washington should take note of what that looks like.
4 With that, I have no disclosures. I vote aye and I
5 was very happy to see Councilwoman Ferreras-
6 Copeland's father dancing in the Queens' Pride
7 Parade.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you, Council
9 Member.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: He was very,
11 very happy.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you, Council
13 Member. Next.

14 CLERK: Kallos?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Permission to
16 explain my vote. Proud to be voting on a budget with
17 \$12.5 million for universal school lunch for
18 elementary schools which leaves high schools next. I
19 want to thank Julissa for her leadership. It has
20 been a pleasure to work with you. We have saved the
21 city hundreds of millions if not billions that we
22 have been able to spend in great places. In the
23 budget, we are adopting I am associated with Asphalt
24 Green Ware, I swim and exercise, Progressive
25 Technology Project who's free and open software I

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2 use, modify and redistribute. Friends of the
3 [inaudible], I am an ex-officio board member, Sutton
4 Parks Conservancy which I helped found and where I
5 serve as an ex-officio board member, Kabab Levatich
6 (SP) of the Upper East Side, who I join in prayer,
7 Lennox Hill Neighborhood House where I have lunch
8 with my mother quite frequently and will be lunching
9 with her for her birthday tomorrow. The public New
10 York Classical Theater, which does a free Shakespeare
11 show in my district, which I am proud to attend with
12 my wife, the East 72nd Street Neighborhood
13 Association which I helped found, the East 86th
14 Street bid steering committee which receives
15 consulting from the Dough Fund, which I also helped
16 found, and that concludes my disclosures and I vote
17 aye on all.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you. Tell your
19 mother happy birthday. Next.

20 CLERK: Koo?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Madam Public
22 Advocate, may I explain my vote?

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Yes, sir.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: First, I want to
25 disclose that I have [inaudible] admiration and

1
2 respect to our three ladies in the room, Speaker
3 Mark-Viverito, Finance Chair Julissa Ferreras-
4 Copeland and Finance Chief Latonya McKinney. Thank
5 you for the quick work and for passing this budget in
6 a speedy manner. I also want to thank Ramon Martinez
7 for his friendship and advice all the time and also
8 my Chief of Staff Elaine (SP) Chung for doing a
9 wonderful job and I vote aye on this budget.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you.

11 CLERK: Koslowitz?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Can I be
13 excused to explain my vote?

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Certainly.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I have
16 absolutely no conflicts of interest. My sister is
17 gone, my parents are gone and my children one lives
18 in Florida and one lives on the Island so no
19 conflicts. I would like to at this time thank the
20 Finance staff and Latonya for all the hard work that
21 you have put in and answering all the questions that
22 we have had. Thank you. And to, of course, the
23 Speaker. I want to thank you for this wonderful
24 budget. To Julissa, I wish you the best of luck. We
25 are going to miss you. I really wish you lots of

1
2 luck. And, of course, to Ramon and to Joey Presley
3 for working alongside me, I thank you very much and
4 with that I vote aye.

5 CLERK: Lander?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Request
7 permission to explain my vote? I will just add my
8 voice of thanks and praise to the Speaker, to
9 LaTonya. I want to shout Regina and Nathan for all
10 their help and Julissa, of course, the look in
11 people's eyes that said take me with you, I think
12 speaks to something going on in American Democracy
13 although I am not sure in exactly what. My daughter
14 is a student at MS51 and I will disclose that the
15 Public Advocate is her favorite elected official and
16 not her father.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: That's right.

18 COUNCIL MEMEBR LANDER: That's true,
19 really. There's no doubt. My son is an athlete,
20 umpire and coach in the 78th Precinct Youth Sports
21 and Prospect Park Baseball Association. He is
22 grateful to the Minority Leader for those
23 defibrillators. My wife is the Chief of Staff and
24 General Counsel at Planned Parenthood of New York
25 City and also a board member of Women for Afghan

1
2 Women which is one of the most remarkable
3 organizations that we are funding in this budget.
4 Here is my Brooklyn Public Library library card. I am
5 a member of the Prospect Park YMCA to which I walk
6 and you gotta disclose and though I am not a member
7 of New York Roadrunners, I will be cohosting
8 tomorrow's run around City Hall event with Council
9 Member Garodnick.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: And what hours do you
11 get there?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Three things in
13 this budget I want to call attention to because I
14 feel really good about them. First, it was a lot of
15 work from this council to make sure that we will get
16 air-conditioning in every single New York City public
17 classroom over the next five years, something we have
18 been trying for for a long time. There are \$2.76
19 million to strengthen the law enforcement bureau of
20 the New York City Commission on Human Rights, another
21 shout out to the Public Advocate for working with my
22 office on that and the top participatory budget vote
23 getting item in my district of all time is a two-
24 stall mobile shower unit that the Chip's Soup Kitchen
25 is going to have outside of their soup kitchen so

1
2 that their homeless patrons can take shower to get
3 clean and not only did that win, it got the most
4 votes of any project in the history of participatory
5 budgeting in my district. It suggests that when we
6 put -- open up democracy and also ask people to be
7 common stewards, at least sometimes it brings out our
8 best democratic selves and I am really grateful to be
9 part of a body that made that possible. I vote aye on
10 all.

11 CLERK: Koslowitz?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I cannot
13 forget to thank Amanda Mennaquinni (SP) for all the
14 hard work she has put into this budget and also the
15 delegation budget. Thank you, Amanda so much.

16 CLERK: Levin?

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

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Yes.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: I am disclosing on
21 the record of the council proceeding that CUNY is
22 funded in this budget that we are adopting and my
23 wife, Ann Carol, is a CUNY graduate student and the
24 Public Advocate is also her favorite elected
25 official. I --

1
2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: And your baby.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: And my baby. I

4 want to acknowledge members of the finance staff:

5 LaTonya McKinney, the Director, Regina Parada-Ryan,

6 Dohinee Sampora (SP), Ramon Martinez obviously,

7 Namera Newshut (SP), James Ryan, Paul Simon,

8 particularly James and Paul because I tortured them I

9 think more than anybody else, Kenny Grace and Nathan

10 Toth. I want to acknowledge my colleague Barry

11 Grodenchik for all the work that he did in advancing

12 emergency food here in New York City and for leading

13 the charge and taking on this issue and as a result,

14 increasing the emergency food budget over two budget

15 cycles here by 60 percent here in New York City.

16 That is a remarkable achievement on his part and I

17 want to acknowledge that. I want to thank the

18 Speaker on four amazing budgets that she has led this

19 council through and in particular I want to

20 acknowledge my colleague Julissa Ferreras, out

21 Finance Chair. When Julissa took over as the Finance

22 Chair that is an awesome responsibility. Taking on

23 the budget of this great city and a lot of ways the

24 destiny of millions of people, millions of New

25 Yorkers that rely on city services. It requires an

1
2 immense amount of responsibility and seriousness of
3 purpose and dedication and you took on that
4 responsibility. You carried that weight admirably
5 and this city is grateful. Thank you, Julissa. I
6 vote aye on all.

7 CLERK: Levine?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Madam Public
9 Advocate, permission to briefly explain my vote.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Yes, sir.

11 COUNCIL MEMEBR LEVINE: I will be voting
12 aye on all and I would like to disclose that Columbia
13 Secondary School, otherwise known as MS362, is funded
14 in the budget we are adopting and my child is a
15 student at the school and while he can't compete with
16 the athletic prowess of the Lander and Garodnick
17 kids, he did have a starring role in the school play
18 so there. And, Friends of New York County Courts is
19 funded in the budget we are adopting and I am a
20 voluntary council representative with this
21 organization. Someone should tell them I'm not an
22 attorney. I just want to say that I am incredibly
23 proud of this budget for the fourth year in a row and
24 it would not have been possible without the
25 brilliance and tenacity of our Council Speaker, our

1
2 Finance Chair and Finance team lead by the amazing
3 LaTonya McKinney and I want to acknowledge a few
4 members of her team who are usually helpful in this
5 process including Ken Grace, Chima Overchair (SP),
6 Nathan Toth and James Reyes. I want to acknowledge
7 the Council's Mr. Sunshine, Ramon Martinez, and the
8 Council's Mr. Fix-It, Joe Toronto, and of course my
9 own fabulous budget director, Amy Slattery. Thank
10 you very much.

11 CLERK: Maisel?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Yes.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: We love you. We just
14 love you.

15 CLERK: Menchaca?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Permission to
17 explain my vote?

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Yes.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: I will try to
20 be as short as possible. I want to disclose a couple
21 items. I am disclosing that the New American's
22 Leaders Project, incredible organization that is
23 trying to elect first and second generation
24 immigrants into places like this, will be in the
25 budget we are adopting and I am associated with this

1
2 entity. I also want to disclose that Falcon Works
3 Artist Group in Red Hook is funded in this budget
4 that we are adopting and my domestic partner, Ahmed
5 (SP), is associated with this entity as well. I want
6 to now thank the Speaker, Melissa Mark-Viverito,
7 Julissa, thank you so much for your incredible work
8 in this budget. I learned so much from you. So much
9 of what we did was groundbreaking including working
10 with us to bring the first ever budget hearings with
11 immigration hearing for the Immigration Committee.
12 The three of us really changed the way we talk about
13 immigrant services and if we think about what is
14 happening now in our times we couldn't have done it
15 more -- it couldn't be more important for us. We are
16 a different council because of that conversation and
17 those conversations are happening even now and they
18 happen because we have incredible staff so I want to
19 say thank you to the staff as well. Your work that
20 you do every day, not just for the budget process,
21 but all delegations that happen throughout the year
22 are really a signal to your year-round effort so
23 thank you for that. You see, our great city is being
24 tested right now and all the families who make up New
25 York City and make this city the best city in the

1 world are made up of youth and seniors and people of
2 many faiths and people of many gender expressions and
3 sexual orientations. We are a community of
4 immigrants and what we do in this budget and what we
5 have done in this budget is protect them in courts.
6 We are making them healthy by giving them access to
7 healthcare and we are educating them. I want to give
8 a shout out to all the incredible NYCAL partners in
9 the room, \$12 million really came back because of
10 them. Every borough got love and you brought the
11 people out. Their voices are being heard today
12 because of this budget. The legal services with all
13 our legal defense programs is shown here with all the
14 love of all of you here today and teacher's choice is
15 another one that hasn't been mentioned yet but is an
16 important one that talks about how teachers have so
17 much to do for our future in teaching our kids and we
18 are giving them the opportunity to do that. We are
19 bringing you parks so let me finish by saying when we
20 pass this budget we are going to stand up and we are
21 going to fight back. We are going to fight back
22 against anyone who says that we cannot -- that every
23 family deserves representation in courts that every
24 family deserves education that every family deserves
25

1
2 health care and that we will fight anyone that says
3 otherwise. Thank you.

4 CLERK: Miller?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Permission to
6 explain please?

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Yes.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: I just want to
9 say that it's been a long few months working on the
10 executive budget here and that the challenges that
11 have become before the finance committee have been
12 met because of the dynamic leader of our Chair,
13 Julissa Ferreras-Copeland, and it has been a pleasure
14 working with her. I want to thank the Speaker as
15 well for her leadership around this budget. I will
16 be abstaining on 1520, 1521 and 1537. I vote aye on
17 all the rest.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you. Any
19 disclosures?

20 CLERK: Perkins?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Thank you very
22 much. I want to disclose for the record that my
23 wife, Pamela Perkins, works for the New York City
24 Board of Elections and also that I am a member of an
25

1
2 organization called New York Roadrunners. Otherwise,
3 I vote aye on all.

4 CLERK: Reynoso?

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

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Ye.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: My wife is also
9 a graduate student at CUNY. North Brooklyn really
10 supports these institutions. I am really proud of
11 that. I want to say thank you again to Speaker
12 Melissa Mark-Viverito for the continued work that she
13 has done truly pushing a progressive agenda here in
14 the City Council and to Chair Julissa Ferreras on her
15 last budget. I remember during the special election
16 when Jimmy Van Bramer and I were standing on a corner
17 handing out pamphlets. We talked about this. We
18 said she is probably going to be Finance Chair. We
19 should hand these out quicker but honestly, thank you
20 so much for everything you've done, truly a sister to
21 me and thank you for supporting communities like mine
22 that continue to need help so thank you very much and
23 thank you Melissa.

24 CLERK: Richards?

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Thank you and I
3 want to congratulate the Speaker, our Finance Chair
4 Julissa, and all the Finance staff for not only their
5 work but their sacrifice of time. I know it's not
6 easy sacrificing times with our families and friends
7 and trying to have a personal life but I wanted to
8 thank them all for their commitment, not only to this
9 institution but to this city as well and with that
10 being said, I vote aye.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you. Council
12 Member Reynoso, did you vote aye?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Aye.

14 CLERK: Rodriguez?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Permission to
16 explain my vote?

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Yes.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: First I would
19 like disclosure that one of my daughter's is a
20 participant in the Association of Dominican Classic
21 (??). She is also in the swimming team. As for
22 Green, both institution being funded by the council.
23 I want to thank Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito and to
24 our great Finance Chair Julissa Ferreras-Copeland on
25 their last budget. I also want to thank LaTonya

1
2 McKinney, Ramon Martinez, Joe Toronto and my staff
3 and the full council finance staff. You are the best
4 financial staff that any council can have in the
5 whole nation. You have been working so hard to be
6 sure that we get this budget done so early that a
7 number of great items funded in this budget and also
8 supporting New Yorkers [inaudible]. I want to
9 specifically highlight two important projects in my
10 community including new funding of \$5 million to
11 restore the National Landmark [inaudible] House on
12 204th Street built in the 1800s. This structure is
13 an important symbol for the community and for the
14 whole city of New York. I also want to acknowledge a
15 funding [inaudible] \$5 million to restore the
16 [inaudible] playground so important for our children
17 in our community. We have great programming in this
18 part so important related to science and biology. I
19 also want to thank all my colleagues for their
20 support, for the fear of campaign and the effort to
21 help lift more New Yorkers out of poverty through
22 mobility. Unfortunately, this did not make it to the
23 final cut but I want to emphasize that I am not
24 giving up this fight and I know our partners in this
25 effort [inaudible] and many other partners stand

1 fully committed as well. And, I [Spanish speaking].
2
3 I vote ate.

4 CLERK: Rosenthal?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Thank you.
6 Permission to explain my vote?

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Yes.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: I vote aye on
9 all. I just want to thank the Speaker and Chair,
10 Finance Chair Julissa Copeland-Ferrereras -- Ferreras-
11 Copeland. Thank you. We were going to do Rosarino,
12 I can't quite the combined, but I want to thank them
13 for setting the bar so high. Over the past four
14 years, you have passed a progressive budget, one that
15 is fair, one that is democratic and that means so
16 much to me and of course people of New York City. I
17 want to thank the staff for being so patient really
18 over the last four years for my many changes
19 including, I think, at ten o'clock last night so
20 thank you for that and I want to thank Julissa really
21 and my colleagues for pushing so hard so that we
22 could achieve an agreement with the administration to
23 right size so many social service contracts. This
24 funding will stabilize the social service programs
25 that serve our grandparents and grandchildren and

1
2 children and those with disabilities. Particularly
3 over the last year although it didn't have the sex
4 appeal of many of the items that we've funded. You
5 guys stood up for funding, indirect costs, OTPS and
6 salary parody which is absolutely critical to 1.5
7 million New Yorkers and nearly 100,000 workers, 80
8 percent of whom are women and people of color. The
9 fight was worth it. I so appreciate the effort that
10 everyone put into it. Thank you. I vote aye on all.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you.

12 CLERK: Torres?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Permission to
14 briefly explain my vote?

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Yes.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: First I am
17 grateful to be part of a City Council lead my wise
18 Latinas so thank you for protecting this institution
19 from the outside [inaudible] of this body and the
20 men. I am just proud of a budget that has delivered
21 historic investments in NYCHA, \$1.3 billion in roofs
22 and over \$300 million in facades. I suspect that is
23 the largest investment of city capital dollars
24 probably in the history of the New York City Housing
25 Authority and so that alone makes this budget

1
2 historic. Proud of the new investments that we are
3 making in the area of education whether it is a put
4 for positive learning, collaborative, teacher's
5 choice, community learning schools, senior services.
6 There is more than I can possibly mention so I
7 proudly vote aye.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Any disclosures?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: No disclosures.
10 I have no assets, no friends.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Council Member
12 Rosenthal, did you have any disclosures?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: None, but he's
14 not telling the truth. He has a lot of friends and a
15 lot of people who love him.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Okay. Thank you.

17 CLERK: Treyger?

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

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Yes.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Council Member
22 Torres, I'm your friend. I just want to note that
23 this year this time not one person complained about
24 the length of the Brooklyn Delegation Budget Meetings
25 so a lot of history has been made this year. Thank

1
2 you. Thank you. I do want to note that in this
3 budget as we have heard from my colleagues, victory
4 for seniors thanks to Council Member Margaret Chin,
5 Victory for Veterans thanks to Minority Leader
6 Matteo, a victory for the libraries and culture
7 thanks to Majority Leader Van Bramer and the list can
8 go on for our schools and parks, Council Chair
9 Levine, so many different things but I have to note
10 that the Speaker and our Finance Chair and LaTonya,
11 our finance director, and the entire finance team,
12 they have significantly raised the bar on what an
13 inclusive, constructive budget process should look
14 like. Every step of the way when we had questions,
15 they came back with answers. We had more questions
16 they had more answers. I wish that that is the
17 direction that this council heads even in years
18 future. You have set the bar, Speaker, and I also
19 want to note that in this budget, we have funding in
20 place thanks to the Speaker and I really want to
21 publically thank her on this. There's funding in
22 place for additional translators for pole site,
23 election sites, including for Russian speaking New
24 Yorkers. That is the first time in history that is
25 happening where thousands of people have been turned

1
2 away because they were not sure if the right place so
3 I am so proud to be a part of this council with
4 leadership that gets it and that has been very
5 supportive and very responsive to the needs of all
6 New Yorkers and I proudly vote aye on all.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you.

8 CLERK: Vallone?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Madam Advocate,
10 a moment to explain my vote?

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Yes.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: I just want to
13 congratulate our Speaker and Finance Chair Julissa
14 Ferreras. Clearly, your mark will be felt for a long
15 time. You put your heart and soul in this budget and
16 these last four years and we all thank you for that.
17 I know our delegation chair, Karen Koslowitz, just
18 left but she was a strong advocate to Queens this
19 year and I thank her for that and Margaret Chin, our
20 aging chair, I'm always proud to stand with you as we
21 fight for our seniors year after year but this year
22 all of us screaming and yelling saying seniors,
23 seniors, seniors finally worked. There are many
24 happy seniors today and I thank everyone of our
25 colleagues for standing with us for that success. I

1
2 would like to disclose on the record that Ally Pond
3 Environmental Center is funded in the budget and my
4 child is a proud volunteer there with APEC and on a
5 side note, also want to thank the Speaker and the
6 delegation for finally bringing the dream of a new
7 APEC center to a reality as it was funded this year
8 and there are many happy APEC family and friends in
9 Queens for that. Also, St. Andrew Avalina was my
10 parish and the athletic association was funded in the
11 budget. As a proud soccer coach of my son's playoff
12 bound soccer team, even though he broke his arm, he's
13 still fighting the battle. Also for Sports, Art,
14 School Foundation and the LGBT Health and Human
15 Services, New York Junior Tennis League and Citizen
16 Schools are also funded in the budget of which my
17 father and brother are associated with these
18 entities. Lastly, I vote aye on all except pre-
19 considered resolutions 1520, 1521, 1537 and 519 and
20 SLR2 I abstain. Thank you Madam Advocate.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you.

22 CLERK: Williams?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: May I be
24 exclusive [sic] to explain my vote?

25 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Yes.

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Sorry. Thank
3 you very much, Madam Public Advocate. As budgets go,
4 this one is pretty dope. We should all be excited
5 about what we are doing here today. I know I am.
6 Whether it is the veterans relief that we are giving
7 to veteran homeowners, housing preservation and legal
8 service that we are putting more money in, the crisis
9 manager system which is really, I believe, helped
10 dramatically reduce shootings in this city although
11 they don't get the recognition they so often deserve
12 and of course the youth jobs, whether it is summer
13 youth or work, learn and grow, I think we have done a
14 fantastic job in really showing this was a priority
15 which increased to 70,000 summer youth employment
16 slots which baselined up from 60,000 last year. I
17 want to thank the Black, Latino, Asian Caucus, the
18 Progressive Caucus, the Brooklyn Delegation and all
19 of the councilmen for helping to advocate for this.
20 We do definitely need to continue, 70,000, although I
21 know I was a pain in the butt on pushing for more, I
22 do know that 70,000 was the cap that actually the
23 system could sustain this year but hopefully we work
24 and make sure that structure is built out so that
25 every young person that applies for one can have

1
2 because we know that this job is a number one thing
3 that all the statistics show can prevent crime,
4 particularly violent crime. This is a budget that
5 all New Yorkers can be proud of. I look forward to
6 sharing more details about this budget with my
7 constituents in particular who I think will be
8 excited once the council passes it's adoption. I do
9 want to thank our fearless women, the Speaker,
10 Julissa Ferreras-Copeland, the Finance Chair, LaTonya
11 McKinney and her whole team. I don't want to mention
12 manes because I might forget someone. This is New
13 York City and I think it bodes well that we had a
14 team of women leading us probably to the best budget,
15 I know the best budget I've seen since I've been here
16 and maybe the best budget altogether and to Council
17 Member Ferreras-Copeland who has been a very good
18 friend to me since I've been here. You are going to
19 be severely missed. You have been a dear friend and
20 I thank you very much and I wish you and your family
21 a lot of luck. I wanted to say how proud I am of the
22 decision you made. So many people think about that
23 and do not have the bravery to step out and do and so
24 again, even as you're leaving, you're providing
25 leadership so you should be very, very proud of

1
2 yourself. I do want to disclose on the record that
3 Millennium Development Senior Center is funded in the
4 budget and one of the -- I will say their best, one
5 of the best members is my mom, Patricia Williams, who
6 is associated with the entity. I said, no I changed
7 it. I said the best. I do want to shout out Ferra
8 Lewis, my deputy chief of staff in budget, who
9 stepped in when Nick Smith was stolen from me. She
10 stepped in the middle of the budget and she did a
11 fantastic job. Thank you very much. I vote aye on
12 all.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you. Council
14 Member Cumbo? Okay. Continuing.

15 CLERK: Matteo?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Madam Public
17 Advocate, may I be excused to explain my vote?

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Yes, sir.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Start off with
20 some disclosures. My wife and I keep having children
21 so we have a lot of disclosure. My children go to
22 IS51, Susan Wagner and PS30 and we fund them.
23 Aluminart is in Susan Wagner where my daughter
24 participates. My daughter participates in the summer
25 youth employment program. My two boys participate in

1
2 UAU and my brother works at Rumsey which we are
3 funding again this year. It is no question that we
4 don't agree on everything in this budget, but I want
5 to thank my colleagues and the Speaker, the
6 Administration, the Mayor for working with one of my
7 main priorities and that was making sure the veterans
8 property tax exemption was including in this budget.
9 It was certainly a bipartisan effort and while we are
10 not going to vote on the legislation today, I am very
11 proud that it is in the budget and that we are going
12 to make this a reality. I think we certainly need to
13 do more to alleviate the financial burden for more of
14 our families in the city but there is no better way
15 and better place to start with property tax relief
16 for those who served and sacrificed for all of us so
17 I want to thank this bipartisan effort to make this a
18 reality to finance staff, to those of us who are BNT,
19 we see each other a lot every day. I want to thank
20 you. It's seeing your dedication effort first hand.
21 It's a pleasure to work with you so thank you. To
22 the rest of the delegations, I hope you realize and
23 aim to follow the Staten Island Delegation and end
24 your meetings as quick as we do. To Julissa, as I
25 said in Finance, this council is going to miss you

1
2 but as your friend I am going to miss you more. You
3 have been an effective council member but you are an
4 even better person and I wish you and your family the
5 best of luck. I also want to thank my staff, my
6 budget director Angela San and my chief of staff
7 David Carr and Chief Operations of the Minority
8 Leader's Office Pete Spencer. With that, I am going
9 to vote no on SLR 2 and 4, no on pre-considered resos
10 1520, 1521, 1537 and M519 and aye on the rest. Thank
11 you.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you.

13 CLERK: Van Bramer?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Briefly,
15 permission to explain my vote. Having spoken earlier
16 the Speaker and Finance Chair's roles in this
17 historic year for libraries and cultural, I wanted
18 the thank all of the members of the council who
19 supported libraries and culture, particularly those
20 in BNT and the delegations who have really fought
21 hard to make this day a reality. I also want to
22 thank the staff because the truth is there's a lot of
23 folks in the finance staff who really get the
24 importance of libraries and culture who I think
25 really root for us very, very hard every year and I

1
2 want to thank LaTonya and Nathan, Allia Ali who works
3 on the cultures and libraries, Jimmy Reyes, the
4 cultural affairs staff Amita (SP) [inaudible], Cloe
5 Rivera and my staff. My chief of staff Matt Wallace,
6 my deputy chief of staff Andre (SP) who worked really
7 hard on this outcome and also Ramon who, not everyone
8 knows, but he is a really lover of libraries and a
9 voracious reader. So I want to --

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Why is everyone
11 laughing?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: I want to
13 thank Ramon for his closeted love of libraries. With
14 that, I would like to make a disclosure. Not of that
15 kind, I already made that years ago. So I am
16 disclosing on the record of the council proceedings
17 that Breaking Ground is funded in the budget we are
18 adopting and I am very proud that my sister Dawn
19 works and helps that agency with its work serving the
20 homeless and she is of course associated with that
21 entity and with that I vote aye on all.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you.

23 CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito?

24 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye on all.
25

1
2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you. All items
3 on today's general order calendar were adopted by a
4 vote of 49 in the affirmative, 0 negative and 0
5 abstentions with the exception of Resolution 1520
6 which was adopted by a vote of 42 in the affirmative,
7 6 negative and 1 abstention. Resolution 1521 which
8 was adopted by a vote of 42 in the affirmative, 6
9 negative and 1 abstention and M519 and Reso 1537
10 which was adopted by a vote of 42 in the affirmative,
11 6 negative and 1 abstention and M499 and Reso 1534
12 and 1535 which was adopted by a vote of 48 in the
13 affirmative, 1 negative and 0 abstentions and M498
14 and Reso 1532 and Res 1533 which was adopted by a
15 vote of 48 in the affirmative, 0 negative and 1
16 abstention. SLR2 which was adopted by a vote of 43
17 in the affirmative, 5 negative, 1 abstention and SLR4
18 which was adopted by a vote of 45 in the affirmative,
19 4 negative and 0 abstentions. I would like to
20 congratulate the Mayor, the Speaker and the Finance
21 Chair and the entire council for the early completion
22 of the 2018 budget and I now formally declare I,
23 Latisha James, favorite elected official of so many
24 people --

25 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Oh God.

1
2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: -- the executive expense
3 revenue contract budget, the executive capital budget
4 and the community development budget for Fiscal Year
5 2018 all as modified in accordance with the relevant
6 sections of the New York City Charter as hereby
7 adopted on the 6th Day of June.

8 [applause]

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: At exactly 3:19 p.m.

10 [applause]

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: But, our work is not
12 over. Please be seated. Introduction and reading of
13 bills.

14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: All bills are
15 referred to committees as indicated on the agenda. I
16 know we have general discussion coming up. I am
17 hoping my colleagues will refrain.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: SO let me take this
19 opportunity to invite my colleagues to sign onto 1643
20 which would require ACS to submit and post on its
21 website data related to childcare enrollment and
22 capacity which would allow ACS to access and track
23 the service gaps that exist in different areas of the
24 city. This bill will ensure that ACS is thinking
25 ahead and planning for future where every child gets

1
2 the care they need. General discussion beginning
3 with Council Member Koo?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you Madam
5 Advocate. I rise today to ask my colleagues to join
6 me in supporting two bills, Intro 1639 and Intro
7 1640. Intro 1639, use of solar power residential
8 projects in New York City is on the rise because New
9 Yorkers know that long term effects of renewal energy
10 is beneficial to our environment and also to their
11 bottom line. Today we introduce a bill to extend
12 those benefits to our city's 64 business improvement
13 districts. The outlying causes of going solar can be
14 daunting which is why we are looking to require the
15 city to research more buildings in our business
16 improvement districts with the most approval rate of
17 solar capacity and then to establish both discounts
18 for our BIDs as long as we target those areas with
19 the highest capacity for solar. As an industry,
20 solar is growing rapidly and as a city, we must be
21 sure that this in-demand technology is attainable by
22 our small businesses by facilitating [inaudible]
23 purchasing customers can be able to obtain better
24 prices for solar installations if they seek
25 installation collectively. This is just another way

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2 that we as a city can continue our push to
3 incentivize green industry while at the same time
4 supporting our mom and pop industry. I would like to
5 ask my colleagues to join me in this effort and also
6 have Intro 1640 which is [inaudible] another one of
7 those [inaudible] nuisances that too often get
8 overlooked by city agencies. However, if you take a
9 -- can I continue for one minute?

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Go ahead.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: However, if you take
12 a walk through my district you will find it
13 impossible to overlook because they are everywhere.
14 What is worse, they have been there for years, taking
15 up space, collecting garbage and tripping up
16 pedestrians. New York City can do better. Quite
17 simply, [inaudible] replaced with another [inaudible]
18 or pave to provide more walking space and should not
19 take years to do it. It should be a simple matter of
20 making a complaint to 311 and having the city
21 schedule a cure within a reasonable amount of time.
22 What should not happen is year after year of
23 inactivity allowing trippers to become tripping
24 hazards to pedestrians and tracks for garbage. For
25 this reason, I am introducing a bill today to require

1
2 action to be taken by the city to remedy abandoned
3 tree picks within three months of inspection. I ask
4 that my colleagues join me in this effort to keep our
5 sidewalks clean, green and safe. Thank you.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you. Council
7 Member Williams?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you very
9 much. I just want to continue to ask my colleagues
10 and the City of New York to continue praying for
11 Officer ?? who was critically injured in a hit and
12 run this weekend. All who know him and speak of him
13 talk about how wonderful a human being he is. I was
14 there in the morning to show support to the Officer
15 and family and I was amazed particularly by his wife,
16 ??, how stoic and strong she was during this time and
17 his cousin who is a Sergeant in another Precinct, the
18 laughter that he provided. I worked very closely
19 with 67 Precinct so this is our -- hit close to home
20 and I want to just say although he is not out of the
21 woods he is showing some small signs of improvement
22 so I believe that the prayers are working and I would
23 ask everyone to please continue to send those prayers
24 up. Lastly, this is Gun Violence Awareness Month,
25 please continue the work that we are doing to prevent

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2 gun violence. Yes, shootings are down but that means
3 nothing to the victims who are being shot including
4 the young boy who was shot yesterday on his birthday.
5 In the past three weeks, I have had three shootings
6 in my district, two homicides. We have a lot of work
7 to do so please continue the good work and my prayers
8 for that young man and anyone else who is affected by
9 gun violence.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Thank you. We will
11 keep them both in our prayers. Lastly, Council
12 Member Kallos?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Today, I am proud
14 to propose Introduction 1638 with Education Chair
15 Danny Dromm on behalf of East Side Middle School
16 students, Neil Sacard (SP), Chloe Chimisso (SP) and
17 Catarina Core who are part of the Manhattan
18 Leadership Council, the legislation they helped
19 author requires the Department of Education to report
20 on which schools have a gender sexuality alliance
21 club. Whether existing clubs have a budget, what
22 support the schools providing to the GSA, whether
23 parents and teachers are involved, how frequently the
24 GSA has met, and which teachers have received GSA
25 training. The Gender Sexuality Alliance is a student

1
2 run club that provides a safe space for LGBTQ
3 students and their allies to meet, have discussions,
4 offer support, and plan events and activities usually
5 with the aim of raising awareness. According to
6 Advocates for Children of New York, the presence of a
7 GSA in schools increases anti-LGBTQ bullying and
8 harassment and makes students feel safer and more
9 comfortable. Under the Federal Equal Access Act,
10 students have rights to start such clubs and schools
11 may not prohibit students from starting or attending
12 one provided there or other non-academic clubs at the
13 school. All student clubs must be treated equally
14 with equitable access to school resources. According
15 to the NYPD, hate crimes have been doubling in New
16 York City with anti-transgender incidents cited as a
17 major cause. The rise of hate crimes nationally and
18 in the city means that it is more important than ever
19 that the city supports our LGBTQ youth and these
20 student run clubs. New York City has always been a
21 leader on LGGBTQ issues and that includes supporting
22 our students and we are really grateful and I hope
23 that other middle school students can also introduce
24 legislation like you. Thank you.

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2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: I apologize, one more.
3 Council Member Cumbo?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you. I rise
5 at this time to express our condolences as Chuck
6 Davis, the legendary founding artistic director of
7 Dance Africa's band, we bid him farewell. Last week
8 at Band Dance Africa, it was a glorious occasion but
9 also very sad. Dance Africa is bands longest running
10 program and he was a phenomenal choreographer, dancer
11 as well as friend and connected hundreds of thousands
12 of people of the African diaspora back to their roots
13 in Africa. Also want to acknowledge our summer
14 interns, Remy Author, who attends Sarah Lawrence
15 College, Lena Labine (SP) who attends Sarah Lawrence
16 College, Emily Graham who attends NYU Wagner Graduate
17 Program and Grant Robertson who just graduated Bishop
18 Lockland High School and will be headed to Howard
19 University in the fall. Yes, yes. I also want all of
20 you, everyone, join us and connect this Thursday at
21 noon on the steps of City Hall for the 8th Annual New
22 York City Father's Day Pledge. I am also asking all
23 of you, members that are part of the women's caucus
24 to also be in attendance. We want to have a full
25 breath of city council participation. I am also very

1
2 proud at this time as Chair of the Women's Issue
3 Committee, so proud of the work that the women in our
4 city council have done, Speaker Melissa Mark-
5 Viverito, Finance Chair Julissa Ferreras-Copeland and
6 LaTonya McKinney and for the men in the council, as I
7 always say, you are so much stronger and you are so
8 much more empowered under the leadership of women and
9 I hope you will continue this trend moving forward.
10 Now, I am really pleased because in this budget,
11 downtown Brooklyn, Fort Green, Clinton Hill, Prospect
12 Heights, Crown Heights and Bedford Styvson, the
13 cultural epicenter of the Borough of Brooklyn did
14 extraordinary well with organizations such as the
15 Brooklyn Museum, the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, the
16 Jewish Children Museum, Bam, Medgar Evers College,
17 Brooklyn Music School, Brooklyn Technical High
18 School, all receiving capital allocations that they
19 should be very pleased with and I am proud that we
20 were able to work together to achieve these victories
21 and doing all of that while eight months pregnant, I
22 am very proud of myself. Thank you so much.

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE: That will close.
24 Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito?

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SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Again, thank you
all. This is a budget we can all be proud of.
Really, the partnership has been unbelievable on all
sides and with that, we are adjourned.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE: Stand in recess.

[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 July 4, 2017