

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

----- X

TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

----- X

February 28, 2019

Start: 1:36 p.m.

Recess: 3:15 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: LAURIE COMBO
Acting President Pro Tempore

COREY D. JOHNSON
Speaker

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Adrienne E. Adams
Alicka Ampry-Samuel
Diana Ayala
Inez D. Barron
Joseph C. Borelli
Justin L. Brannan
Fernando Cabrera
Margaret S. Chin
Andrew Cohen
Costa G. Constantinides
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.
Laurie A. Cumbo
Chaim M. Deutsch
Ruben Diaz, Sr.
Daniel Dromm
Rafael L. Espinal, Jr.
Mathieu Eugene

Vanessa L. Gibson
Mark Gjonaj
Barry S. Grodencnik
Robert F. Holden
Ben Kallos
Andy L. King
Peter A. Koo
Karen Koslowitz
Rory I. Lancman
Brad S. Lander
Stephen T. Levin
Mark Levine
Alan N. Maisel
Steven Matteo
Carlos Menchaca
I. Daneek Miller
Francisco P. Moya
Bill Perkins
Keith Powers
Antonio Reynoso
Donovan J. Richards
Carlina Rivera
Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Deborah L. Rose
Helen K. Rosenthal
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.
Ritchie J. Torres
Mark Treyger
Eric A. Ulrich
Paul A. Vallone
James G. Van Bramer
Jumaane D. Williams
Kalman Yeger

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

INVOCATION - Delivered by: Pastor Baylor Lee of the
First Chinese Baptist Church located at 21 Pell Street,
New York, NY 10013

2 [sound check] [pause] [gavel]

3 SPEAKER JOHNSON: We're going to start
4 this very exciting ceremonial. [background comments]
5 Come over here, yes, please. Get in the middle.
6 Okay. Come on in. [background comments/pause] Yes.
7 So, we are so, so honored and excited. I'm so happy
8 to be here with Council Member Mathieu Eugene and
9 many of my colleagues here in the Council. The New
10 York City Council is proud to honor Yeon Hwan Park,
11 the Taekwondo Grand Master at the Y.H. Park Taekwondo
12 Academy. [cheers/applause] So, happy to have them
13 here. Grand Master Park began his martial arts
14 training as a young man in Korea where he honed his
15 skills daily, and he became the undefeated Korean
16 National Champion from 1971 to 1975. [cheers/
17 applause] and Grand Master Park moved to the United
18 States in the 1980s, and he became the head coach of
19 an American team, and after the Olympic team, after a
20 successful run during the Olympics in 1988, Grand
21 Master Park hosted the world Taekwondo Championships
22 in 1993 in my district at Madison Square Garden where
23 Taekwondo became a fully recognized Olympic sport as
24 it is today. [cheers/applause] So, congratulations.
25 So, along with various accolades throughout the

2 hearings, Grand Master Park is currently the
3 President of the United States Taekwondo Leaders
4 Union, and the Oversees Advisory Committee. He's a
5 member of the Oversees Advisory committee of the
6 Kookiwan World Taekwondo Headquarters. So, I am so
7 pleased that he's here with so many other important
8 people to him and to this important sport. I'm so
9 glad that Council Member Eugene wanted to honor him
10 today for his many contributions to our city and to
11 the entire world, and I want to thank his students
12 for being here today with him for this really, really
13 important occasion. So, before I turn it over to
14 Council Member Eugene and then to the Grand Master, I
15 want to ask the city Clerk to Please read the
16 Proclamation of us honoring Grand Master Park today.
17 [applause]

18 CLERK: Council City of New York
19 Proclamation. The New York City Council is proud to
20 honor Yeon Hwan Park for his extraordinary
21 achievements in Taekwondo; and

22 Whereas, Grand Master Park is a Ninth
23 Degree Black Belt, and one of the foremost
24 authorities on Taekwondo, the martial art often
25 characterized by kicks powerful enough to splinter

2 wood blocks. This martial art, however, is mental as
3 well as physical and is Grand Master Park has shown
4 to thousands of students in New York City and around
5 the world mastery of Taekwondo can have a positive
6 impact in all aspects of life; and

7 Whereas, Grand Master Park began his
8 martial arts training as a youth in Korea where he
9 honed his skills daily and became the undefeated
10 Korean National Champion from 1971 to 1975. Between
11 1978 and 1980, he was dispatched by the Korean
12 Government to the African nation of Lesotho where he
13 trained its Secret Service and Special Police agents,
14 and led the Lesotho National Taekwondo team to win a
15 gold medal in the African Regional Championships; and

16 Whereas, after moving to the United
17 States in the 1980s, Grand Master Park became the
18 head coach of the American Team. In 1988, he led his
19 team to the Olympics in Seoul where competing as a
20 demonstration sport, they won four gold medals, two
21 silver medals and three bronze medals and shocked the
22 Korean athletes who had dominated the sport for
23 decades. Despite such success, he has always valued
24 the development of character more than the winning of
25 medals. In 1993, Grand Master Park hosted the World

2 Taekwondo Championships at Madison Square Garden and
3 invited the International Olympic committee. There
4 it was decided that Taekwondo should become the fully
5 recognized Olympic sport it is today; and

6 Whereas, in more recent years Grand
7 Master Park has served as President of the New York
8 State Taekwondo Association, Secretary-General of the
9 U.S. Taekwondo Union, Vice President of the U.S.
10 Taekwondo Union and the author and co-author of more
11 than a dozen books on the martial art. He is
12 currently President of the U.S. Taekwondo Leaders
13 Union, and oversees advisory committee member of
14 the Kukkiwon World Taekwondo Headquarters; and

15 Whereas, at Grand Master Park's school,
16 the YH Park Taekwondo Academy, he has helped
17 transform the lives of thousands of students. Rather
18 than focusing on fighting, the training emphasizes
19 physical fitness and character development. In
20 addition to learning kicks, punches and throws,
21 student develop self-confidence, goal setting skills
22 and a commitment to steady improvement instead of
23 instant gratification. Why self-defense is also
24 taught, it is tempered with training on how to seek
25 alternatives to conflict; and

2 Whereas, today Grand Master Park
3 continues teaching New Yorkers of all ages, training
4 the top instructors and inspiring everyone to live up
5 to their highest ideals and bring out the best in
6 others. He remains a powerful and unifying force in
7 our community, and we wish him continued success.

8 Now, therefore, be it known that the New
9 York City Council is proud to honor Yeon Hwan Park
10 for his extraordinary achievements in Taekwondo.
11 Corey Johnson, Speaker for the Entire Council,
12 Mathieu Eugene, Council Member 40th District
13 Brooklyn. [pause]

14 SPEAKER JOHNSON: --Eugene, so please
15 introduce the Grand master.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you very
17 much, Speake Corey Johnson. Thank you. My
18 colleagues and distinguished guests, you know, I'm so
19 delighted to be here with the Speaker to honor Grand
20 Master Park, and Master Park, I know that I-I am
21 speaking on behalf of the entire City Council to
22 warmly welcoming you with your family, your
23 colleagues, your good friends in Chamber today, and
24 thank you for that, and I want to thank also the
25 Speaker for always--always recognize the contribution

2 of great New Yorkers and so many fear of expertise,
3 and today we are knowing a man, a gentleman who is
4 among the highest authorities of Taekwondo in the
5 world. I am so honored to do that. It very special
6 to me today because I know what Taekwondo have done
7 for those who have been participating in Taekwondo.
8 I started participating in Taekwondo when I was a
9 young kid Haiti, and I have opened a school in Haiti
10 and Mexico and Belgium and United States of America,
11 and I can say if I'm who I am today, it is first by
12 the grace of God, but it is also because of the
13 practice of Taekwondo. When I was inviting my
14 colleagues to join us, one of them told me, Grand
15 Master, is that going to break neck? [laughter] I
16 said, no, we masters we don't break necks. As a
17 matter of fact we prevent fighting. Taekwondo is not
18 about kicking and fighting and punching. This is
19 about bringing contests to become the best person
20 that you can become, and I've seen that because I've
21 been teaching students, as I told you, in many
22 countries, Haiti, Belgium, Mexico, United States and
23 I saw the transformation in young people who become
24 positive and proactive citizens because of the
25 practice of martial art. I have seen many grand

2 masters. Many of them have trained me also, but the
3 track record of Grand Master Park is remarkable,
4 impressive. What I love in Master Park is wisdom,
5 his simplicity. Grand Master Park embodied what
6 exactly Taekwondo is about, being a gentleman, being
7 somebody for peace, somebody who gives to other
8 people the opportunity to better themselves, and to
9 become the best they can become, and I know Master--
10 Grand Master Park continues also to teach so many
11 masters who themselves are creating good leaders of
12 tomorrow. You know what I admire also, I'm a father.
13 I got a family and my children, my daughter and my
14 son they used to be my students in martial arts and
15 Taekwondo. Well, grand master make everything
16 possible to make sure that he can talk, you know,
17 give the legacy to his children, and I'm pleased to
18 have two sons of Grand Master, Master Elliot Park.
19 [background comments/pause] Eddie park. [applause]
20 This is, you know, this respect of empowering family
21 values and we know that the legacy that you have
22 created will go far so far. It is my honor, Grand
23 Master to be with the Speaker of the City Council to
24 present you with this proclamation from the great
25 city of New York on behalf of all our colleagues and

2 the City Council. Congratulations, Grand Master.

3 [applause]

4 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Give this to your sons
5 to hold while you speak.

6 GRAND MASTER PARK: Yes. Honorable
7 Speaker and honorable all council members. I'm
8 honored to be receiving a proclamation. I'm happy.
9 My thanks to all our Councilmen and with the Speaker,
10 particular our Grand Master Eugene-Mathieu. He's a
11 true martial artist, and grand master. Thank you
12 all. I'm here for—our next project is our New York
13 City Public School—our Pooling System Program and
14 developing and helping for our New York City. That
15 is my next projects. Thank you all. I need the
16 supporting also, Councilmen and I'll do for service
17 for our New York City for future of our children.
18 Thank you very again. Thank you, Speaker. Thank
19 you, thank you.

20 SPEAKER JOHNSON: [off mic] Thank you so
21 much. Thank you and congratulations.
22 Congratulations and thank you for being here.

23 [applause] Let's get a photo together all of us.

24 GRAND MASTER PARK: Yes, please. Yes.
25 [pause] [background comments] [applause] [pause]

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Okay, can we please
3 clear the floor of the chambers, please. Please
4 clear the floor of the Chambers, please. Thank you.
5 [pause]

6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Sergeants, please
7 clear the floor. Please—please clear that center
8 aisle, please. Thank you. Exit through the rear
9 doors, please. Thank you.[background comments/pause]
10 Okay, folks, we need everybody out of here please,
11 out of the center aisle, please. Thank you.
12 [background comments]

13 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet, please, quiet
14 please, quiet on the floor, please, quiet on the
15 floor please. Council Members please take a seat,
16 thank you. At this time please place on electronic
17 devices, all electronic devices to vibrate. Will all
18 non-Council employees, non-Council employees please
19 leave the main floor of the Chambers. There is
20 additional seating upstairs in the balcony. Thank
21 you. [background comments/pause] [gavel]

22 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet, please.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Good afternoon
24 and welcome to the Stated Meeting of February 28,

1 CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

13

2 2019. I am Majority Leader Laurie Cumbo. Please
3 rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

4 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: All rise. [Pledge of
5 Allegiance] Roll call. [coughs]

6 CLERK: Adams.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Present.

8 CLERK: Ampry-Samuel.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY SAMUEL: Present.

10 CLERK: Ayala.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Presente.

12 CLERK: Barron.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Present.

14 CLERK: Borelli.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: I'm here.

16 CLERK: Brannan.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Here.

18 CLERK: Cabrera.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

20 CLERK: Chin.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

22 CLERK: Cohen.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Here.

24 CLERK: Constantinides.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Present.

1 CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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2 CLERK: Cornegy.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Here.

4 CLERK: Deutsch.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Here.

6 CLERK: Diaz.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: I'm here. Too.

8 CLERK: Dromm.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

10 CLERK: Espinal.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Here.

12 CLERK: Eugene.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here. .

14 CLERK: Gibson.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: I'm here.

16 CLERK: Gjonaj, Grodenchik.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Here.

18 CLERK: King, Koo.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

20 CLERK: Holden.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here.

22 CLERK: Koslowitz.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

24 CLERK: Lancman.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Here.

2 CLERK: Lander.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

4 CLERK: Levin.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

6 CLERK: Levine.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: I'm here.

8 CLERK: Maisel.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Here.

10 CLERK: Menchaca.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Presente.

12 CLERK: Miller.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Present.

14 CLERK: Moya.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Here.

16 CLERK: Perkins.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Here.

18 CLERK: Powers.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Here.

20 CLERK: Reynoso.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Here.

22 CLERK: Richards.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Present.

24 CLERK: Rivera.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present.

2 CLERK: Rodriguez.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Presente.

4 CLERK: Rose.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.

6 CLERK: Rosenthal.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.

8 CLERK: Salamanca.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Here.

10 CLERK: Torres.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Here.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

13 CLERK: Ulrich.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: [off mic] Aye.

15 (sic)

16 CLERK: Vallone.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

18 CLERK: Van Bramer.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

20 CLERK: Williams.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

22 CLERK: Yeger.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye.

24 CLERK: Borelli.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye.

2 CLERK: Matteo.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO:

4 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA:

5 CLERK: Cumbo.

6 ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEM CUMBO: Present.

7 CLERK: Speaker Johnson.

8 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I'm here.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: We will now have
10 today's invocation, which will be delivered by Pastor
11 Baylor Lee of the First Chinese Baptist Church, which
12 is located at 21 Bell Street in Manhattan. Please
13 rise.

14 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: All rise.

15 PASTOR BAYLOR LEE: Let us bow down for
16 prayer. We close our eyes in prayer so that our
17 heart may see first our blind spots so that we may
18 not stumble, our limitations so that we may be
19 humble, but not discourage our accomplishments so
20 that we may have hope in our great potentials. We
21 will call upon the power greater than ourselves. For
22 some, the holy one whom we worship in truth and
23 spirit. For others, the forces of the universe and
24 the very ground of our being. For still others the
25 memories of our ancestors and the heroes of our

2 celebration like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. who laid
3 down his life to help set his people and us free like
4 Dr. Mabel Lee who came to live and serve in Chinatown
5 from 1900 to 1966. Keep our diverse communities from
6 division and strife. Inspire us to by the example of
7 our Latina Congresswoman whose office is across from
8 Maple place where she died, who sponsored HR 4463 to
9 dedicate the Mabel Lee Memorial Post Office on 6
10 Doyers Street. We pray that the same spirit of
11 reaching out across cultural and ethnic aisles will
12 keep us in check from the propensity of some leaders
13 for hubris as well as Digital Goliath who seek to
14 dominate. Resist them with little Davids from our
15 communities. Yet our city does need these made in
16 America giants. May they continue to seek to do good
17 rather than to scheme to do harm we pray. We close
18 with Reverend Dr. King's inspiring words on faith to
19 take the first step even when we don't see the whole
20 staircase. His word on hope to accept finite
21 disappointment such as the Queens Project, but never
22 lose infinite hope. He urges us to stick with love
23 because hate is too great a burden to carry. Empower
24 us with faith, hope, and love, we thus pray. Amen.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Amen. Thank you,
3 Pastor Lee for your very inspirational prayer. I'd
4 like to ask Council Member Chin to spread the
5 invocation on record.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you, Majority
7 Leader--

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Quiet in the
9 Chamber.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: --and thank you to
11 Reverend Dr. Baylor Lee. Born in Hong Kong, Reverend
12 Dr. Baylor Jack Wall Lee arrived in Flushing, Queens
13 in 1962 alongside his grandmother. He spent his
14 youth working in Chinatown before eventually pursuing
15 a career in architecture. However, New York's
16 financial crisis in the 1970s caused him to reassess
17 his career path. In 1977 he decided to pursue the
18 ministry. Ordained at the First Baptist Church of
19 Flushing in 1986, Reverend Dr. Lee has served the
20 first Chinese Baptist Church located in Chinatown
21 since 2004. The first Chinese Baptist Church is an
22 institution with deep historical significance for the
23 Chinese-American community of New York. Mabel Lee the
24 trailblazing super jet led the church for 40 years.
25 Throughout the church's history, it has been a pillar

2 in the community. During his time at the First
3 Chinese Baptist Church, Reverend Dr. Lee has been a
4 fierce and advocate on behalf of the Chinatown
5 community, immigrants and the poor. I thank Reverend
6 Dr. Lee for gracing us with his invocation, and I
7 make a motion that the invocation be spread in full
8 upon the record. Thank you.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
10 Council Member Chin. We will now have adoption of
11 minutes.

12 CLERK: None.

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Messages and
14 papers from the Mayor.

15 CLERK: M-Excuse me. M 140 submitting
16 David Burney for appointment to the Planning
17 Commission.

18 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Rules, Privileges and
19 Elections.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: M 141 Preliminary
21 Mayor's Management Report.

22 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Received, ordered,
23 printed and filed.

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Communication from
25 City, County and Borough Offices.

2 CLERK: None.

3 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Petitions and
4 Communications.

5 CLERK: None.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Land Use Call-
7 ups.

8 CLERK: M 142 and M 143.

9 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on a call-up
10 vote, and at this time I would ask for a roll call
11 vote on today's Land Use Call-Ups. Again, we are
12 just voting right now an Land Use Call-ups.

13 CLERK: Adams.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Aye on all.

15 CLERK: Ampry-Samuel.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY SAMUEL: I vote aye.

17 CLERK: Ayala.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye.

19 CLERK: Barron.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye.

21 CLERK: Borelli. Brannan.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye.

23 CLERK: Cabrera.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

25 CLERK: Chin.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

3 CLERK: Cohen.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

5 CLERK: Constantinides.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Aye.

7 CLERK: Cornegy.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: [off mic] Aye.

9 CLERK: Deutsch.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Aye..

11 CLERK: Diaz.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: I aye.

13 CLERK: Dromm.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

15 CLERK: Espinal.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Aye.

17 CLERK: Eugene.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: With permission,

19 I'd like to vote on all Land Use call-ups, and a

20 couple of items on the other calendar and all

21 resolutions. With that I vote aye on all.

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission

23 granted.

24 CLERK: Gibson.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: I vote aye.

2 CLERK: Grodenchik.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Aye.

4 CLERK: Holden.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye.

6 CLERK: Kallos.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.

8 CLERK: King.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: [off mic] Aye. (sic)

10 CLERK: Koo.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

12 CLERK: Koslowitz.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: [off mic] Aye.

14 CLERK: Lancman.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Aye.

16 CLERK: Lander.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: [off mic] Aye.

18 (sic)

19 CLERK: Levin.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

21 CLERK: Levine.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: [off mic] Aye.

23 CLERK: Menchaca.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Aye.

25 CLERK: Miller.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.

3 CLERK: Moya.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Aye.

5 CLERK: Perkins.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Aye.

7 CLERK: Powers.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye.

9 CLERK: Reynoso.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Aye.

11 CLERK: Richards.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye.

13 CLERK: Rivera.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye.

15 CLERK: Rodriguez.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

17 CLERK: Rose.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

19 CLERK: Rosenthal.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Aye.

21 CLERK: Salamanca.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: I vote aye on

23 all Land Use Call-Ups and with permission, I would

24 like to vote aye on all items on the General Order

25 Calendar and all resolutions.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
3 granted.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Thank you.

5 CLERK: Torres.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: I vote aye. **

7 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.

8 CLERK: Ulrich.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Here.

10 CLERK: Vallone.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

12 CLERK: Van Bramer.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

14 CLERK: Williams.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.

16 CLERK: Yeger.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here.

18 CLERK: Matteo.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Here.

20 CLERK: Cumbo.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye.

22 CLERK: Lander.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

24 CLERK: Matteo.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Aye.

2 ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEM CUMBO: Aye.

3 CLERK: Speaker Johnson.

4 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I vote aye. [pause]

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Today's Land Use

6 Call-Ups are adopted by a vote of 44 in the

7 affirmative and 0 negatives. We will now have

8 communication from Speaker Corey Johnson.

9 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam

10 Majority Leader. If folks could just be quiet for a

11 moment, there's something important I want to say.

12 Good afternoon. Thank you all for being here with us

13 on this Thursday. We have a busy agenda ahead of us.

14 Before we get to that, I start every Stated Meeting

15 as previous Speakers have by acknowledging the 9/11

16 first responders who have passed away in the

17 intervening week between our Stated Meetings. I do

18 this because it's important that we acknowledge the

19 bravery and the sacrifice shown by the women and men

20 who served down at Ground Zero. Today, we are lucky-

21 one day we are lucky. Since our last Stated Meeting,

22 to our knowledge we haven't lost a survivor or a

23 first responder. However, I am going to use this

24 time today to stand with the 9/11 survivors who are

25 still struggling with sickness that they developed at

2 the pile, and are now once again being forced to
3 fight for their lives. After 9/11 we as a city made
4 a promise to never forget. We did the right thing,
5 and we stood by first responders who got sick because
6 of their service, and now we're at a point once again
7 sadly where we need to renew that commitment. The
8 9/11 Victims Fund is running out of money, which
9 means that very soon checks sent to 9/11 survivors
10 could be cut by up to 70%. There are people who are
11 fighting to make sure that these survivors get the
12 help that they need. I want to thank John Fiel and
13 John Stewart who have been tireless advocates for
14 9/11 victims and for their families as well as dozens
15 of other people who were in D.C. this past weekend
16 pushing members of Congress to commit their support
17 to fully fund the 9/11 Victims Fund. I know that our
18 New York Delegation in a bi-partisan manner, both
19 Democrats and Republicans are leading the fight on
20 this, and I want to urge every member of Congress to
21 follow the lead of our Congressional Delegation and
22 to do right by the heroes who rushed into danger to
23 protect others on 9/11 and went down to that pile day
24 after day after the tragedy happened to ensure that
25 New York could get back on its feet. So, I really

2 want to implore that the public please reach out,
3 make sure that congress knows that these victims and
4 their families deserve this money, and that this fund
5 needs to be replenished immediately, and no one's
6 survivor benefit should be cut by 70%. Tomorrow,
7 March 1st marks an important and sad anniversary I'd
8 like to recognize. Twenty-five years ago, 16-year-
9 old Ari Halberstam, many of us know whose amazing
10 mother Devora was targeted and brutally murdered by a
11 gunman on the ramp to the Brooklyn Bridge. It was an
12 act of terrorism, and we remember Ari. We all must
13 stand against anti-semitism and against bigotry, and
14 sadly, we are seeing a rise, the rise of anti-
15 semitism across the world, across our country and
16 really sadly right here in New York City. I stand
17 with the Council's Jewish Caucus united against anti-
18 semitism, united against hatred and bigotry in any
19 form. Today is also a cause for celebration because
20 it is, of course, Black History Month. In a time
21 where hate seems to be on the rise, celebrating
22 diversity in our city, in our country is more
23 important than ever, and Black History Month is a
24 reminder of such an integral part of our nation's
25 heritage. Last night, we had some—we had an amazing

2 celebration here of African-American culture in the
3 Council chambers, and I want to give a special shout-
4 out to our amazing colleague Council Member Adrienne
5 Adams who graced us with her mellifluous voice.
6 [cheers/applause] Congratulations to Adrienne. I also
7 want to thank Council Member Miller who did a
8 wonderful job yesterday in preparing as co-chair of
9 the [cheers/applause] Black, Latino and Asian
10 Caucus., and Council Member Rodriguez as well who
11 wasn't able to be here, but again his leadership as
12 Co-Chair of the BLAC. As everyone here knows, on
13 Tuesday, New York City elected a new Public Advocate
14 for the city of New York--[cheers/applause] -and I
15 want to give an enormous congratulations to my friend
16 and colleague [cheers] our new Public Advocate-Elect
17 Jumaane Williams. [cheers/applause]

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yay, Jumaane.
19 [cheers/applause] Yay, Jumaane.

20 SPEAKER JOHNSON: As everyone here likely
21 knows, I've been the Acting Public Advocate for the
22 last two months, [background comments] and in my
23 thankfully very brief time as Acting Public Advocate,
24 I found the heart and soul of the office to be
25 listening to New Yorkers and helping solve their

2 problems. Jumaane, I know you have always embodied
3 the spirit of helping New Yorkers most in need. You
4 have been a powerful, powerful voice here in the New
5 York City Council over the last decade and you used
6 your powerful voice on Tuesday night when you spoke
7 off the cuff extemporaneously in a raw authentic
8 moving fashion at the end of your graceful and
9 gracious acceptance speech talking about your own
10 personal struggles, and I am sure you will continue
11 to use your powerful voice for the vulnerable and
12 marginalized, for the left behind as you have always
13 done. This City Council will miss you. We will miss
14 you even when you're a pain in the neck, we will miss
15 you, but we all wish you the best of luck in your new
16 role, and we know you're not going far. I also want
17 to acknowledge several council members who also ran
18 for Public Advocate and ran great campaigns. I want
19 to acknowledge Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez,
20 [applause] and I want to acknowledge Council Member
21 Rafael Espinal, and I want to acknowledge—and I want
22 to acknowledge Council Member Eric Ulrich for their
23 role. I want to congratulate them all on a race well
24 run. [cheers/applause] And lastly just on—on—on—on
25 Jumaane, I just want to—I just really want to say

2 though I'm sure many colleagues will have things to-
3 to say about our great friend and colleague, Jumaane
4 Williams, before I was elected to the City Council in
5 2013, I knew who Jumaane Williams was, and I knew who
6 Jumaane Williams was because of what he stood for. I
7 knew who Jumaane Williams was because even during his
8 first term in the New York City Council, he was
9 unafraid to take on the powers that be whether they
10 be the sitting Speaker, whether they be the Mayor,
11 whether they be the Governor, whether they be people
12 in powerful positions, and to see Jumaane so bravely
13 and courageously use his voice time and again, put
14 his body on the line for the most vulnerable, for the
15 marginalized, for other young men of color in New
16 York City who look up to him as a role model to do
17 that consistently and continually on a day-to-day
18 basis to be someone whose words match up with their
19 actions and their values. To be a formidable
20 candidate who ran for Speaker of this body in 2017
21 and the aftermath was completely gracious in working
22 with me on the things that are important to this
23 Council. To running for Lieutenant Governor last
24 year and spreading his message and his authenticity
25 all across our great state to passing over 50 bills

2 during the last decade of his time during the Council
3 to pushing for the Community Safety Act with Council
4 Member Brad Lander at the height of Stop, Question
5 and Frisk, which was tearing our city apart. And for
6 also acknowledging that sometimes, as we all do, we
7 could do a little better. That sometimes our words
8 and actions may not have been what we wished they
9 could have been at a moment in time, and
10 acknowledging that and recognizing that, and
11 understanding that each one of us can do better. I
12 admire Jumaane Williams. Jumaane Williams has been a
13 great colleague, has been a great leader, has been a
14 great Council Member for his district, and will be a
15 great public advocate for the city of New York.
16 Congratulations, Jumaane. [cheers/applause] Now, we
17 will dive into today's agenda. The Council will vote
18 on the following Land Use Items:--[coughs] Excuse me.
19 460 [coughs] 461 Alabama Avenue in Council Member
20 Inez Barron's district, East Village Housing in
21 Council Member Carlina's district; Caton Park Nursing
22 Home in Council Member Mathieu Eugene's District and
23 12 Franklin Street in Council Member Steven Levin's
24 District. The Council will vote on the following
25 four Article XI Property Tax Exemptions: 505 West

2 43rd Street in my Council District; 241 West 111th
3 Street in Council Member Perkins' district; 316 East
4 91st Street in Council Member Kallos' district, and
5 1010-1014 Hoe Avenue in Council Member Salamanca's
6 district. Moving on, the Council will be voting
7 [coughs] on the following legislation today:

8 Introduction 979 sponsored by Council Member Donovan
9 Richards would provide discretion to the Department
10 of Housing, Preservation and Development in choosing
11 whether to enter into a regulatory agreement with a
12 qualified community land trust. I know that Council
13 Member has worked on this for a very long time, and I
14 want to congratulate, and I want to thank the staff,
15 Jeanine Zilkha and Megan Chin for working on this.

16 Introduction 862 sponsored by Council Member Paul
17 Vallone would amend the Administrative Code of the
18 City of New York to allow the Department of Buildings
19 to issue stop work orders whenever notice to revoke a
20 work permit is issued, and again I want to thank the
21 staff Jeanine Zilkha, Austin Bradford and Megan Chin.

22 We're going to vote on two bills sponsored by Council
23 Member Costa Constantinides, the Chair of our
24 Environmental Protection Committee. Introduction 425
25 would require DEP to submit a plan to prevent sewer

2 back-ups and that plan would be submitted to the
3 Mayor and the Council, and will be posted on the DEP
4 website annually. I want to thank the staff who
5 worked on this, and the next bill I'm gong to talk
6 about Samara Swanston, Nadia Johnson and Jonathan
7 Seltzer. Introduction 424 again by Chair
8 Constantinides would amend Title 24 of the
9 Administrative Code of the city of New York by adding
10 a new section to require the maintenance measures
11 needed to assure that sewage back-ups occur no more
12 frequently than 50 per 100 miles of sewer line.
13 Next, Introduction 268 sponsored by Council Member
14 Richards, another bill today for him would repeal a
15 section of the Administrative Code in the city of New
16 York and replace it with a new provision that would
17 require the Department of Environmental Protection to
18 report annually on the number of facilities estimated
19 to require the installation of backflow prevention
20 devices, the number of such facilities in which
21 backflow prevention devices have already been
22 installed, and the number of test reports filled with
23 DEP and in the preceding year and the number of
24 violations issued for failure to install a backflow
25 prevention device and again, I want to thank Samara

2 Swanston, Nadia Johnson and Jonathan Seltzer for
3 their work on that bill. Introduction 353 sponsored
4 by Council Member Helen Rosenthal would require the
5 Department of Buildings to provide a service whereby
6 users of its website could sign up to receive email
7 updates whenever a change in status is recorded on
8 selected construction projects, and I want to thank
9 Austin Bradford-Branford and Megan Chin for their
10 work on that piece of legislation. Finally, we're
11 going to vote on a package of three bills aimed at
12 protecting workers in the private carting industry.
13 Two of these introductions are prime sponsored by
14 Council Member and Chair of our Sanitation Committee
15 Antonio Reynoso and the third is sponsored by Council
16 Member Francisco Moya. The-the individuals employed
17 in this industry work hard to perform essential
18 services every single day and night under dangerous
19 conditions. We need to make sure they are being
20 treated fairly. I am committed to reforming the
21 trade waste-trade waste industry to make it safer for
22 employees and for the public to support good unions
23 who have workers' best interests in mind, and to
24 reduce the environmental burden of trade waste truck
25 traffic. I am excited and proud of the package of

2 bills, and look forward to continuing to work with
3 Council Members Reynoso and Moya to improve the
4 industry for everyone. The first bill Introduction
5 1329 would mandate that Business Integrity Commission
6 establish standards for the registration of labor
7 unions in the trade waste industry and authorize BIC
8 to disqualify union agents or officers who have ties
9 to organized crime. Introduction 1373 again by Chair
10 Reynoso, would require the Business Integrity
11 Commission to refer labor and wage violation cases
12 involving private carters to the New York State
13 Attorney General and the United States Department of
14 Labor or other relevant city and-city, state and
15 federal law enforcement agencies. And Introduction
16 1368 by Council Member Moya would require the
17 Business Integrity Commission to provide information
18 about workers' rights on their website and mandate
19 that private carters registered by BIC provide
20 information about workers' directly to their
21 employees. I just want to say lastly on this because
22 I don't want to gloss over these three bills, Chair
23 Reynoso has been really pounding the table and using
24 his voice as chair of this committee for the last 5-
25 1/2 years on reforming the private waste industry,

2 and he has stood with these workers time and again as
3 has Council Member Moya in ensuring they be
4 protected. Much of this, though not all of it came
5 out of some amazing reporting by Kiera Feldman at
6 ProPublica looking at issues in the Sanitation
7 industry across New York City and I really want to
8 thank Chair Reynoso for his incredible leadership,
9 his innovation and for working with advocates to
10 really get this done. This is very, very important.
11 It doesn't grab a lot of headlines, though it did
12 grab a lot of investigative reporting because of how
13 broken the industry is, and today is a big day for
14 him. He's worked on this issue for years and years
15 and years, though people may not be rally outside on
16 this today, he has been at many rallies over the last
17 many months pushing to get this done, and working to
18 get this done to protect some of those vulnerable New
19 Yorkers who put their lives on the line every single
20 day. So, I want to congratulate you, Antonio, for
21 these bills, and I'll congratulate Francisco for also
22 working on this as well, and with that, Madam
23 Majority Leader, that concludes our agenda for today.

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
25 Speaker Corey Johnson. We will now move to

2 discussion of General Orders, and we'll begin with
3 Council Member Vallone.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Thank you,
5 Speaker Johnson, Majority Leader Cumbo. Today, I am
6 proud to speak on Intro 862. Too often we elected to
7 watch construction sites continue their destructive
8 or illegal work even after the Building Department
9 Inspector has visited this site. Issuing additional
10 violations or a notice to revoke the existing permits
11 is simply not enough. Current practice allows
12 unscrupulous developers and builders to simply
13 continue their destructive or illegal work for week
14 even after these measure are used. Today's bill will
15 close that loophole and allow inspectors when
16 warranted to issue an immediate stop work order.
17 Where there is a residential or commercial site, we
18 will now be able to promote safety at construction
19 sites and ensure that all work immediately ceases
20 when there is clear evidence that violations of our
21 Building Codes are correct. Our offices are often
22 overwhelmed with requests from residents seeking
23 immediate help often at the beginning of a new
24 proposed construction site. Unfortunately, the bad
25 apples are rushed to finish or continue work without

2 regard to existing violations even with the existing
3 notice of revoke in place. Valid concerns and clear
4 evidence should be more than enough to warrant a stop
5 work order especially when a property owner or a
6 contractor has a history of violations. This bill
7 codifies into law and gives the Department of
8 Buildings the tools they need to combat reckless
9 developers and blatant disregard of construction
10 permit requirements. Once written into law, this
11 bill will allow homeowner associations and
12 communities groups another instrument to utilize in
13 an effort to protect their neighborhoods from the bad
14 actors. Thank you everyone for making this possible
15 including Jason Goldman, Laura Popa, Jeanine Zilkha,
16 Austin Bradford, my staff and our Speaker for their
17 efforts in bringing this bill to the floor for a vote
18 today. I urge all my colleagues to vote aye. Thank
19 you, Madam.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council
21 Member Vallone, and the next speaker will be speaker
22 Constantinides to speak on issues related to the
23 agenda.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Thank
25 you, Madam Majority Leader, and thank you Speaker

2 Johnson for your leadership. Today, I ask my
3 colleagues to support Intro 424 and 425-A. In August
4 of 2016, the EPA found that DEP experienced an
5 excessive number of sewage back-ups, more than 17,000
6 between 2011 and 2015, and there were also numerous
7 instances of repeat back-ups in the same locations
8 mainly to capacity issues or infrastructure
9 maintenance. Sewage contain all sorts of biological
10 and hazards and diseases that I will not name here,
11 but are hazardous to our communities, and these are
12 going into people's homes and basements and
13 businesses almost on a consistent basis. In 2016,
14 due to a significant number of confirmed and
15 unconfirmed back-ups, EPA entered an Administrative
16 Compliance Order bases on these—these back-ups.
17 These bills Intro 424-A would require the DEP
18 Commissioner to ensure that where a sewer segment is
19 causing a confirmed back-up, must identify that
20 segment that segment is inspected and cleaned as
21 necessary within 10 calendar days. Intro 425-A would
22 require the DEP to prepare a plan to prevent sewer
23 back-ups to reduce sewer back-ups and to target
24 recurring back-ups. The proposed Local Law also
25 requires DEP to review the root control strategies of

2 other municipalities and following the review,
3 consider recommending root control strategies for
4 private property. This law would take effect in 90
5 days. I want to thank the staff who worked on it,
6 and the EP Committee Samara Swanston, Nadia Johnson,
7 Ricky Ochola, Jonathan Seltzer and my staff Nick
8 Wizowski, Terrance Collin and Nick Wilson. Thank you
9 very much.

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you for
11 those very important bills that you've put forward.
12 We'll now have Council Member Barron. [pause]

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you. I
14 just want to call my colleagues' attention to the
15 Land Use Bill that cites 461 Alabama Avenue. As you
16 know, I have the same mantra over and over: We've
17 got to build housing, affordable particularly to the
18 people who live in the community where the housing is
19 being built. This is a project that is supportive
20 housing, and the other 20% of the units that will be
21 built will be affordable to people at 60% of the AMI
22 and below, and the developer is a black developer.
23 So, I really got all that I think is significant for
24 my community, and I urge all of my colleagues to vote
25 I the affirmative on this bill. Thank you. [pause]

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Is there anyone
3 else that cares to speak on the record at this time?
4 Council Member Donovan Richards.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Sure. Thank
6 you Majority Leader. I'm going to speak on my bill
7 Intro 268 requiring reporting on the installations of
8 backflow prevention devices, and while I know
9 preventing backflow doesn't sound like the sexiest
10 topic, we're going to put sexy back into backflow
11 devices today. Preventing the contamination of
12 potable drinking water is a serious issue that must
13 not be taken lightly, and is critical to preserving
14 and managing our city's water supply. Backflow
15 prevention devices prevent contaminated water or
16 chemicals from flowing back into the drinking water
17 supply if there is an unexpected change in water
18 pressure. The Department of Environmental Protection
19 is charged with preventing this contamination before
20 it occurs by ensuring city businesses comply with
21 city and state codes. If a property is required to
22 install a device, they must be installed on all water
23 service lines to the property. Should the building
24 owner fail to comply with the directive of the DEP
25 Commissioner, he or she is subject to enforcement

2 actions such as cease and desist orders, civil or
3 criminal enforcement actions, fines or penalties and
4 ever ultimately termination of the water supply to
5 the building or any portion of the facility. This
6 Local Law will require DEP to submit an annual report
7 to the Mayor and Council on the number of backflow
8 device needed installed, tested and the number of
9 violations issued for failure to install a backflow
10 device. Where the city must be mindful of keeping of
11 our water—drinking water clean and remember that
12 potable water is not a bottomless commodity that
13 should be spoiled away. Every New Yorker has an
14 important role to play here. Lastly, I just wanted
15 to touch on Intro 979, which is on community land
16 trusts, which is going to be the new frontier in
17 affordable housing in our community, but affordable
18 homeownership, and I think we have to be mindful as a
19 city as we talk about rentals, and we look at the
20 decline in ownership—homeownership opportunities for
21 people of color, young people of color in the city
22 that we have a responsibility to keep this at the
23 cusp of affordable housing conversations [bell] as
24 well. So, with that, I'm asking all my colleagues to
25 vote aye, and I want to thank all the staff and the

2 Speaker for working on these bills. Thank you. I
3 vote aye.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
5 Council Member Richards, and finally we have Council
6 Member Reynoso.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Thank you.
8 [coughs] As this body has heard me state many times
9 before the private sanitation industry operates
10 without regard for the health and safety of its
11 workers, or the city at larger. Routes are
12 insufficient, safety standards are poor, and
13 environmentally sustainable practices are non-
14 existent in many of these companies. However, it is
15 the treatment of workers, many of whom are immigrants
16 and formerly incarcerated individuals. Some of those
17 most vulnerable members of our society that I find
18 most tragic. In many of these shops it is the very
19 unions that are supposed to represent and protect
20 these workers who are aiding and abetting their
21 mistreatment. These are not unions like the
22 Teamsters and, TC37 or 1199, organizations that have
23 a long history fighting for their members and
24 delivering meaningful benefits to workers. What
25 we're talking about today are sham union,

2 organizations that are in collusion with company
3 ownership to prevent legitimate unions from
4 organizing workers and ensure these workers never
5 receive meaningful benefits and protections from
6 their employers. Sham unions have been used as a
7 vehicle for organized crime to retain a foothold
8 within the carting industry. BIC's oversight
9 authority only extends to companies themselves not
10 the officers of these sham unions. One of my pieces
11 of legislation Intro 1329 would expand BIC's
12 authority giving them the necessary tools to
13 investigate union officers within the commercial
14 waste industry. We will also be passing two other
15 bills sponsored by myself and Council Member Moya
16 that will further codify BIC's oversight on workers'
17 rights to unionize—to organize. I want to thank the
18 Teamsters for first bringing the existence of sham
19 unions to my attention, the great Kiera Feldman from
20 ProPublica for her reporting on the connections these
21 unions have to organized crime. I also want to thank
22 the Transform Don't Trash Coalition for their
23 continued efforts to fight for reform. And finally,
24 I want to thank the Speaker Corey Johnson for his
25 unwavering commitment to ensure that the status quo

2 of the private carting industry becomes a thing of
3 the past, and I also want to thank Nadia Johnson,
4 Jonathan Seltzer and Nicole Beam (sp?) for all of the
5 great work they have done in this committee, and I
6 encourage all of my colleagues to vote aye on these
7 important bills. Thank you, Corey.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
9 Council Member Reynoso, and we will now move into
10 Report of Special Committees.

11 CLERK: None. [coughs]

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Reports of
13 standing committees.

14 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
15 Environmental Protection, Intros 268-A, 424-A and
16 425-A Backflow Prevention and Sewer System Backups.

17 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on
18 General Orders.

19 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
20 Finance, Preconsidered Reso 763, Transparency Reso.

21 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on General
22 Orders.

23 CLERK: Preconsidered LU 352 and Reso 768
24 through LU 355 and Reso 771, tax exemptions.

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2 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on General
3 Orders.

4 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Housing
5 and Buildings, Intro 353-B and 862-A, Construction
6 and stop work orders.

7 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on
8 General Orders.

9 CLERK: Intro 979, Community Land Trust.

10 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on General
11 Orders.

12 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Land
13 Use, Resolution 621 Burt's Service Franchise

14 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled to be filed
15 pursuant to letter of withdrawal.

16 CLERK: [coughs] Excuse me. LU 326 and
17 Reso 772 through LU 328 and Reso 774, 461 Alabama
18 Avenue.

19 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on General
20 Orders.

21 CLERK: LU 329 and Reso 775, East Village
22 Housing.

23 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on General
24 Orders.

25

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2 CLERK: LU 333 and Reso 776 and LU 334 and
3 Reso 777, Caton Park.

4 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on General
5 Orders.

6 CLERK: LU 338 and Reso 778 through LU 340
7 and Reso 780, 12 Franklin Street.

8 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on General
9 Orders.

10 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
11 Sanitation and Solid Waste Management Intros 1329-A,
12 1368-A and 1373-A Private Carting.

13 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on
14 General Orders.

15 CLERK: On the General Order Calendar
16 Intro 720 Site Safety Training.

17 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Laid over.

18 CLERK: Resolution appointing various
19 persons Commissioner of Deeds.

20 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on General
21 Orders and at this time I'm asking for a roll call
22 vote on all of the items on today's General Order
23 Calendar.

24 CLERK: Adams.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: I vote aye on all.

2 CLERK: Ampry-Samuel.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY SAMUEL: Aye on all.

4 CLERK: Ayala.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye on all.

6 CLERK: Barron.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote Aye on
8 all.

9 CLERK: Borelli.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye on all.

11 CLERK: Brannan.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye on all.

13 CLERK: Cabrera.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

15 CLERK: Chin.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye on all.

17 CLERK: Cohen.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

19 CLERK: Constantinides.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Aye.

21 CLERK: Cornegy.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye

23 CLERK: Deutsch.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Permission to
25 say a few words.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
3 granted.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Thank you.
5 Firstly, I—I want to congratulate Jumaane Williams on
6 his election, and also I would like to congratulate
7 our Majority Leader because you are the first member
8 who actually presided for the Council for three
9 Public Advocates, and I vote aye on all.

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

11 CLERK: Diaz.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: [off mic] Aye. (sic)

13 CLERK: Dromm.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

15 CLERK: Espinal.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: With
17 congratulations to all my colleagues, I vote aye.

18 CLERK: Gibson.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Permission to
20 explain to briefly explain my vote.

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
22 granted.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you, Madam
24 Majority Leader. I want to congratulate all of my
25 colleagues who are passing important legislation

2 today, and certainly want to join the Speaker and all
3 of my colleagues in congratulating Jumaane Williams
4 on his election. As a member of this body for the
5 past five plus years, it's been an honor and a
6 privilege working side-by-side with Jumaane
7 particularly on issues of criminal justice reform,
8 and Summer Youth Employment, and making sure we
9 continue to lift up the voices of young people, the
10 first ever creation of the Mayor's Office to Prevent
11 Gun Violence. Along with you, Madam Majority Leader,
12 as well as the New York City Crisis Management System
13 and all of the Cure Violence Work we've done through
14 the years, we're not done yet, and I know that only
15 the best is yet to come with Jumaane at the helm of
16 being our new Public Advocate. So, I just want to
17 join all of our colleagues in just celebrating this
18 incredible season. He's been elected four times such
19 as this, and I am truly grateful to call him my
20 friend, my colleague, and I want to wish him and his
21 entire staff all the very best. Congratulations,
22 Jumaane Williams, and I proudly vote aye on all of
23 today's agenda items. Thank you.

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council
25 Member Gibson.

2 CLERK: Grodenchik.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Brief
4 permission to talk?

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
6 granted.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: I don't want
8 to explain my vote. [laughter] First, I want to
9 thank—I usually don't ask permission to talk, but
10 today I do. [laughter] I want to thank Speaker
11 Johnson for his passionate remarks on 9/11 benefits,
12 and remember my dear friends Mike Samanowitz, the
13 Assemblyman who was at the pile on several occasions
14 as the member of the 107 Precinct Auxiliary. He was
15 a Commander of that before he became an elected
16 official, and his life was certainly cut short
17 because of that. Today, we launched our Play Fair
18 for Parks Campaign. I want to thank my 39 colleagues
19 who have signed onto that, and the rest of you I'm
20 coming after you, and today before I vote aye, which
21 I do, I remember my parents, Blanche and Nathan who
22 were married this day 67 years ago in the Bronx
23 County Courthouse. Yes, they eloped. They did
24 eloped, but they were married 15 days later by the
25 Rabbi to make it all, so to speak, kosher. With that

2 I vote aye and I thank you for indulging me, Madam
3 Majority Leader. Thank you.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

5 CLERK: Holden.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye on all.

7 CLERK: Kallos.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Permission to
9 talk about Jumaane. [laughter]

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
11 granted, and just to let us know, we can also hold
12 our celebratory remarks to general discussion as
13 well, but I'm certainly eager to hear your comments
14 at this time, Council Member Kallos.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Thank you. I
16 want to start by thanking this body for passing Local
17 Law 1 of 2019 that extended November's Campaign
18 Finance Rule to the Public Advocate's race, and I
19 want to congratulate Jumaane Williams for making
20 history on Tuesday as the first citywide candidate to
21 win an election with no real estate money.

22 [cheers/applause] and like the Speaker, I—I knew
23 Jumaane before I even ran for office mostly because I
24 kept seeing him on TV getting arrested, and he—he—he
25 was well know for the Community Safety Act. I joined

2 the Progressive Caucus in part because of Jumaane
3 Williams and how much I looked up to him. I-I-I can
4 be a little bit aggressive at times and Jumaane has
5 always tolerated that. I believe I followed him
6 around all of last term saying, We need to sign a
7 motion to discharge on the Right to Know Act, and it
8 was an honor to actually get to sign that with him
9 and get it passed last term. You've already gotten
10 so much done, and there is so much more to do. Let's
11 go. I vote Aye on all.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

13 CLERK: Matteo. Koo.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye

15 CLERK: Koslowitz.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: May I be
17 excused to explain my vote.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
19 granted.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I just want to
21 congratulate Jumaane. Job well done, and I vote aye.

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

23 CLERK: Lancman.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: [off mic] Aye.

25 CLERK: Lander.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Permission to
3 refrain from saying anything more about Jumaane.
4 [laughter]

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
6 granted.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: I vote aye.

8 CLERK: Levin.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: With deep
10 heartfelt congratulations to Jumaane Williams on
11 being elected next Public Advocate, congratulations
12 Jumaane, I vote Aye on all.

13 CLERK: Levine.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Ditto on what
15 Levin said. That's an aye.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: And you vote how?
17 Okay.

18 CLERK: Menchaca.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Permission to
20 explain my vote.

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
22 granted.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: I want to say
24 thank you to the Chair of the Sanitation committee
25 Council Member Antonio Reynoso for now in the second

2 term of his career finally passed this incredible
3 package, and really wit the work of the workers on
4 the ground with the Teamsters with all of our support
5 was able to do something that really—really felt
6 impossible on the ground, and while there have been
7 casualties that have been felt on the ground, this is
8 going to really, really bring justice to workers and
9 remove the sham unions that do not have any place in
10 our city. So, I want to say thank to him and Council
11 Member Moya as well who had one of the bills in the
12 package, and with that I'll say aye on all, and get
13 onto the general discussions to both talk about
14 Jumaane and a bill that I'm reintroducing.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: You are on the
16 list.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you.

18 CLERK: Miller.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: I vote aye on all
20 with the exception of 1329, I abstain.

21 CLERK: Moya.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Permission to
23 explain my vote.

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
25 granted.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Thank you, Madam
3 Deputy Speaker. I just want to say that a union job
4 is supposed to be a thing of pride, and when you go
5 to work knowing your union leaders are safeguarding
6 you against a greedy and abusive employer, it's
7 often-it's-it's too often that unions established for
8 a private carting company will pick up most of the
9 city's commercial waste are themselves frauds abusing
10 the very workers they are here to protect. These
11 sham unions are nothing more than Trojan horses, and
12 many of them dispatched to do the bidding of and
13 provide cover for shady employees—employers.
14 Workers' rights are not a luxury. They're
15 fundamental and they belong to every man and woman
16 punching in for an honest day's work. Unfortunately
17 for private sanitation employees their industry is
18 littered with companies that consider workers' rights
19 open for dispute. Some see it as something to be
20 subverted entirely, but let's be clear. Employers
21 who see their employees this way are nothing more
22 than parasites leaching off of their labor. Basic
23 worker rights are the foundation upon which all an
24 empowered working class and a robust middle class is
25 built. The continuous workers rights abuse of the

2 private carting employees are a matter of public
3 record, so widely reported it appears almost endemic
4 to the industry. This bill will take the necessary
5 steps to empowering workers to protect them from
6 greedy employers, and these shame unions. I want to
7 take this opportunity to thank the Chair and I want
8 to thank the Speaker, and thank my colleagues who are
9 voting to support these workers today, and affirming
10 this body's commitment to protecting working class
11 New Yorkers. I thank you. I will be voting aye and
12 will be abstaining on Intro 1329.

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

14 CLERK: Perkins.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: [off mic] Aye on
16 all.

17 CLERK: Powers.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye on all and I-
19 I want to reflect what Council Member Moya said and
20 thank both him and thanks to Council Member Reynoso
21 for their bills here today, and a big congratulations
22 to Council Member Williams. I should say Public
23 Advocates Williams as well. Thank you.

24 CLERK: Reynoso.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Permission to
3 explain my vote.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
5 granted.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: I just want to
7 again thank Council Member Johnson. For a long time
8 in the Sanitation, as Chair of Sanitation I felt like
9 I was on an island fighting by myself to bring
10 justice to workers, to bring justice to businesses
11 against the lobby's bad players in this industry. I
12 truly felt alone, and as soon as he got elected, in
13 less than year we've seen the changes we've been able
14 to accomplish, and I really thank you for putting
15 yourself in the front lines of this, saying that
16 you're going to stand up, and fight for this and
17 actually following through is something that I think
18 has changes the game when it comes to the private
19 sanitation industry, and it's—a lot has to do with
20 your leadership. So, I want to thank you again for
21 having my back, and I want to vote aye on all.

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

23 CLERK: Richards.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: I vote aye and
25 I just wanted to thank Chair Costa Constantinides and

2 all so Samara Swanson for their work on the bills as
3 well. Thank you. I vote aye

4 CLERK: Rivera.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Permission to
6 explain my vote.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
8 granted.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Just want to
10 shout out a couple of constituents. First, I'm going
11 to start with Jack Brown who because of his issues in
12 the district, I'm introducing a piece of legislation
13 around ventilation and HVAC systems, but more
14 importantly we are passing East Village Housing
15 today, and there are tenants from that building—this
16 is a building in which they have not been able to be
17 inside their own buildings in their own homes for
18 many years. Not only will this create a brand new
19 building that is ADA compliant, but it will really
20 just right this kind of injustice of-of-of
21 instability for so many. So, I want to give a shout-
22 out. I know 204 Avenue, eight tenants are in the
23 balcony. So, thank you for being here, and thank you
24 for your years of fighting, and with that, I vote aye
25 on all.

2 CLERK: Rodriguez.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Permission to
4 explain my vote?

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
6 granted.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ:
8 Congratulations, Public Advocate Williams, someone
9 with the honor of being—going through a lot of
10 struggles together, fighting together, arrested
11 together. So, we've been over there in the field
12 going through many debates, but I know that in New
13 York City is one—one of the finest Public Advocates
14 that we have ever had. So, congratulations. With
15 that, I vote aye.

16 CLERK: Rose.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Permission to
18 congratulate Jumaane.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
20 granted.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Thank you.
22 Congratulations Jumaane, and I want to thank you for
23 being your authentic self because New Yorkers are the
24 beneficiaries of that, and I just want to give you

25

2 this hashtag. #You were born to be Public Advocate
3 and with that, I vote aye.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

5 CLERK: Rosenthal.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: #Jumaane
7 Williams was born to be Public Advocate. I'd like to
8 vote aye on that, vote aye on everything else. Thank
9 you very much.

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

11 CLERK: Torres.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: I vote aye on
13 all.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: permission to
15 explain my vote.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
17 granted.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: I just want to
19 first congratulate my colleagues on—and the Speaker
20 on—on—with all their bills today. I want to also
21 congratulate Public Advocate Jumaane Williams. I
22 believe that the turning point in his in his campaign
23 was when he received the endorsement of the
24 outstanding Patricia Williams, his also mom who—yes.
25 [laughter] [applause] That's right. That—that did

2 it for me. So, I want to congratulate my colleague
3 and I encourage the public to watch the final minutes
4 of—of his remarks of his victory speech. It's one of
5 the most powerful remarks I've ever heard in a forum.
6 Jumaane, you certainly were born for this role. We
7 are all fortunate that you will be a ferocious status
8 quo disruptor as Public Advocate. Congratulations.
9 I vote aye on all.

10 CLERK: Ulrich.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: I vote aye on all,
12 and also want to congratulate again my friend and
13 colleague Jumaane Williams on his tremendous win. He
14 really earned it. He was out there in every borough
15 and every community, and I look forward to working
16 closely with him to drive Mayor de Blasio crazy. So,
17 congratulations and I vote aye on all. [laughter]

18 CLERK: Vallone.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye on all, and
20 we're going to have to get used to not saying Madam
21 Advocate any more, but we can proudly call Jumaane
22 our new Public Advocate. Well done, my brother.
23 You've been there for all us, and now you're going to
24 be there for the whole city. Aye on all.

25 CLERK: Van Bramer.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Permission to
3 briefly explain my vote.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
5 granted.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank you.
7 First, I want to congratulate all of the candidates
8 for Public Advocate Public Advocate including my
9 good friend Eric Ulrich who did a terrific job, and
10 he continues to make us laugh every day that he
11 serves here, but I do want to say to Jumaane, you
12 know, there have been in the almost ten years that
13 we've served together a number of incredible moments
14 that I will always remember, and for those who were
15 here in the Chamber when we voted to stop Stop
16 Question and Frisk as we know it that vote took place
17 somewhere around 1:00 in the morning or 2:00 in the
18 morning. I can't remember, but it was an empowering
19 and really, really powerful night and morning and
20 journey and Jumaane and Council Member Lander led the
21 way. He was amazing, and after the death of Trayvon
22 Martin there was a lot of activism here at City Hall,
23 and I'll always remember Jumaane marching with us
24 onto Broadway and seeing him read the names of other
25 black men who had been killed and crying as he did

2 so. You know, it's-it's hard to imagine this body
3 without Jumaane because every day that I've been
4 here, he's been here, and his voice has always been
5 heard. Obviously, he's moving up and on and that
6 voice will be louder than ever for justice for all,
7 and I just want to thank him and congratulate him and
8 indeed as Council Member Treyger said, the last
9 couple of minutes of Jumaane's speech were as
10 authentic and as deeply moving as any as I've heard
11 from an elected official particularly on the stage
12 that he was at that particular moment in time. And I
13 shared with him a message from a very dear friend of
14 mine a black gay man from [bell] Monsurat, Jumaane is
15 doing amazing things more than he even knows I think,
16 but Jumaane you will be missed. Congratulations.

17 CLERK: Williams.

18 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Madam Majority Leader,
19 before Council Member Public Advocate begins, (sic)
20 I'd like to waive the time and allow him to speak for
21 as long as he would like.

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Uh-oh.

24 [laughter]

25

2 SPEAKER JOHNSON: We're not going to be
3 here all night, though, Jumaane. [cheers/applause]
4 [background comments.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: May I be
6 excused to explain my vote, please?

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
8 granted.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Oh, boy.
10 Alright, I'm going to try to get through this. So,
11 the fact of the matter is we didn't realize this was
12 my last stated until we were about come over. So,
13 tried to put something together. I apologize if I
14 don't thank that folks I'm supposed to thank. So,
15 thank you to the Speaker. Thank you to Public
16 Advocate who was here before and, of course, the
17 Majority Leader. Thank you to my colleagues who ran,
18 Council Members Espinal, Rodriguez and Ulrich. I
19 don't—I don't know if it's going to be a farewell
20 speech because I'm—I'll just be switching seats for a
21 few times so I'll still be around, but I have
22 gathered here for—I'm very comfortable (sic) right
23 now, by the way. I have gathered here for over 200
24 Stated meetings. Years ago when I decided to run for
25 City Council it was really so that, you know, I could

2 try to make transformational change as an elected
3 official. I really wanted to try to be a different
4 kind of elected official, and the many elected
5 officials I have seen, you know, I wanted to not have
6 the system change me. I wanted to try my best to
7 change the system, and now I just want to say thank
8 you to everyone. Thank you for working with me on so
9 many of the issues that we got done. I would not
10 have been able to do it without my colleagues, and this
11 far we've done so many awesome things. It's just
12 amazing. When I first became an elected official
13 from a community organizer, if you had asked me what
14 was the big difference, and I said well the big
15 difference is people want to hear what I got to say
16 right now. That was a—that was an amazing change.
17 And the battle we fought back against the bullying
18 and the Mayor and a powerful Police Commissioner in
19 passing the Community Safety Act where people began
20 to I guess know who I was and we did a lot of work
21 myself and Council Member Lander. Believe it or not,
22 it is—when people ask me what is my most proudest
23 moment, I usually mention that people know a brother.
24 (sic) I'm proud of so many others that helped I think
25 change the barriers that—that people had whether it

2 was Ban the Box, whether it was working President
3 Brewer or the Summer Youth Jobs and working with
4 people like Council Member Rose. The thing I'm
5 actually most proud of is what this body did around
6 gun violence. The work that we did to change what
7 people thought was public safety and how to address
8 the issues of gun violence. I see it widely. I'm
9 not going to cry about it. I know I see your face
10 waiting for me--[laughs] [background comments/
11 laughter]--to change the discussion of how people were
12 dealing with young black and brown people in this
13 city and understanding that they--they weren't
14 animals. They were human beings. They're young
15 people who are going through issues, and if you
16 address those issues, we would see a decline in--in
17 the violence that we didn't have to stop more young
18 black men that actually live in the city of New York
19 and this body took a chance. It was the only with
20 the task force with Council Member Cabrera. It was
21 the only new initiative that was funded during the
22 Recession. We had a pilot program of \$5 million. I
23 think we're up to about \$40 million working with
24 Council Member Gibson and Majority Leader Cumbo, and
25 now we have the Office of Gun Violence Prevention

2 along with the Crisis Management System and gun
3 violence and murders are at historic lows more than
4 when we were stopping those young black men.
5 [cheers/applause] So, this body should be immensely
6 proud for what it did, and I hope others across the
7 country are looking. You know, if I can go back to
8 speak to myself six years go when I—when I lost my
9 dad, 20 years ago as a tenant organizer or 20 years—
10 26 years ago as a young kid struggling to get through
11 school. Most people saw a troublemaker, and that's
12 actually what I was trying to speak to when I spoke
13 that night because it was important to let the folks
14 know to just hold on. Just hold on. You can get
15 through it. [cheers/applause] And so—and—and—and to
16 let them know something that took me far too long to
17 figure out that it's okay to talk about it, and that
18 more than likely that you are not going through what
19 you're going through by yourself. There are so many
20 people going through it as well. For the last nine
21 years it's just been an honor and a privilege to sit
22 here. Wherever I was sitting, I still get excited
23 going up those steps to be a member of the City
24 Council every single time I walk up. I thank the
25 Speaker, because, you know, for the time I've been

2 here while you were Speaker, I feel like this body
3 actually found its voice in being a critical branch
4 of government and holding this mayor accountable, and
5 I only ask that you keep that going. It's been
6 amazing. Since we didn't plan this out, I don't want
7 to call it too many thank you. So, I'm just going to
8 thank my staff. I understand my mom is watching
9 somewhere in my office and so--[cheers/applause]-a
10 shout-out to my mom Patricia Williams who has
11 threatened to run for against me a few times,
12 [laughter] and she-I heard she's been called the
13 Mariana Rivera of Politics, and a shout-out to Ms.
14 Jeannie Ned my fifth grade teacher. I finally
15 understood why she has meant so much to me for all
16 these years. When everybody saw a trouble maker, she
17 saw a young man, and she gave the young man training
18 that she needed-he needed. Our teachers are not
19 babysitters. [applause] They're-they are-they're
20 instrumental in forming minds in our schools, and we
21 should start treating them as the professionals that
22 they are. [cheers/applause] I've always---I've
23 always tried to live by the motto: Do all that you
24 can with what you have, where you are for as many
25 people as possible. We done a lot of good. Let's

2 keep going as the next Public Advocate I'm excited to
3 achieve (sic) with the people's work alongside
4 everyone here maybe in a different way, with new
5 view, but the same passion and dedication to the
6 people. I'm going to end with a quote from Marcus
7 Garvey: Look for the whirlwind. I'll be there.
8 Thank you so much. [cheers/applause] [pause]

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: And how do you
10 vote Council Member Williams? [laughter]

11 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Uh-

12 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Put him on the clock.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: [laughs] With
14 abstaining on Land Use No. 333 and 334 and aye on all
15 the rest.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.
17 You've kept it consistent [laughter]

18 CLERK: Yeger.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye.

20 CLERK: Cumbo.

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I respectfully
22 vote aye.

23 CLERK: Speaker Johnson.

24 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I vote aye. [pause]

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. All
3 items on today's General Order Calendar are adopted
4 by a vote of 48 in the affirmative, 0 negative and 0
5 abstentions with the exception of Intro 1329-A, which
6 was adopted by a vote of 46 affirmative, 0 negative
7 and 2 abstentions, and LUs 333 and 334, which was
8 adopted by a vote of 47 in the affirmative 0 negative
9 and 1 abstention. The Revised Land Use Call-Up vote
10 is 48 affirmative and 0 negative. [pause] We will now
11 have the Introduction and the Reading of Bills.

12 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Madam Majority Leader,
13 all bills have been refereed to committees as
14 indicated on today's agenda.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We
16 will now move into the discussion of resolutions.
17 Are there any members who wish to speak on any of
18 today's resolutions?

19 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet please.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Seeing none, I
21 will now read today's resolutions into the record.
22 Members who wish to vote against or abstain on any of
23 these resolutions should register your vote with the
24 clerk at the dais. Resolution 509: Resolution
25 calling on the United States Army Corps of Engineers

2 to consider the proposals made in New York, New
3 Jersey Harbor and—and tributaries coastal storm risk
4 management feasibility study pursuant to the National
5 Environment Policy Act to consider sea rise in
6 addition to storm surge. All in favor say aye.

7 COUNCIL MEMBERS: [in unison] Aye.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: All opposed?
9 Abstentions? The ayes have it. We will now move
10 into general discussion, and if you did not have an
11 opportunity to wish your congratulations onto Council
12 Member Jumaane Williams, you can—

13 SPEAKER JOHNSON: [interposing] You can
14 do it privately. [laughter]

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: And we will begin
16 with Council Member Cornegy.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Structural
18 racism ensnares and suddenly twists bantu, Fulani
19 braids and all natural hair and natural and natural
20 hair styles precisely because structural racism has
21 many component parts including demeaning the very
22 person who are the black and brown people. Our
23 strategies to dismantle structural racism must be
24 wide ranging. Often under the guise of
25 unprofessionalism, natural hair has been cited as an

2 excuse from its treatment, abuse and discrimination.
3 New York City's Commission on Human Rights chose to
4 combat this discrimination by issuing legal guidance
5 against race discrimination on the basis of hair.
6 This legal guidance says we take seriously the
7 painful experience of disrespect and discrimination,
8 too many New Yorkers with natural hair styles have
9 faced. Upholding New York City's Human Rights Law
10 Uplifts all diverse communities and ensures everyone
11 has an opportunity to fully participate in the life
12 of our city. This legal guidance puts schools,
13 employers and public accommodations on notice that
14 they should not mistreat, abuse or discriminate
15 against individuals who have natural hair and hair
16 styles. Our Human Rights Law shines a light on
17 discrimination that the broader society responds to
18 with an apathetic shrug. What was ignorant cabined as
19 an isolated incident or unacknowledged altogether
20 receives due attention the Human Rights lens sends
21 says that your individual experience has worked, and
22 we need to match your lived experience while
23 expecting the human rights dignity of each
24 individual. Varying-valuing human rights means no
25 less. So, for some of us who wear our hair

2 naturally, and who have been told that it would
3 advance in not only this industry, but in industries
4 across corporate America in education. It's great to
5 see that Commission on Human rights standing up for
6 those of us who have decided that it has a spiritual
7 context or a cultural context and are able to wear
8 our hear with pride knowing that there's a law that
9 protects us from discrimination. Thank you.

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We'll
11 now have Council Members Koo followed by Barron and
12 then finally Menchaca.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: [off mic] Thank you,
14 Madam Majority Leader. I rise today--wait. [on mic]
15 I rise today to ask my colleagues to sign on a
16 package of bills co-primed by myself and Council
17 Member Miller and supported by many of you here
18 today. Intro 1455 will require the Parks Department
19 to notify all homeowners of the rating on Trees and
20 Sidewalks Program. For many homeowners, the Trees
21 and Sidewalks Program started off as a way to protect
22 homeowners from damage caused by the city-owned
23 trees. However, as trees have grown so have the
24 problems. Now, homeowners are enrolled into the
25 program by city, but many wait 10 ten years for the

2 city to come and fix their sidewalk. My bill would
3 notify homeowners of their overall sidewalk rating
4 and whether they should wait for the city to repair
5 the sidewalk or repair it themselves. In conjunction
6 with Council Member Miller's bill this package of
7 bills will protect our city's homeowners and the
8 trees. I ask you to sign on [coughs]—I ask you to
9 join all of us to sign—to sign on, and that Intro
10 1435 today and, of course, I want to congratulate
11 Council Member Jumaane Williams for his election as
12 public advocate, and I think his political potential
13 is unlimited. So, congratulations.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
15 Council Member Koo. Now, Council Member Barron and
16 followed by Council Member Menchaca.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you. I
18 don't know how many people saw the cover of the front
19 page of the Daily News for Tuesday's edition, but it
20 was very disturbing. It talked about Professor Joe
21 Wilson who had been a staff member, had been a
22 professor in CUNY and it talked about his research
23 that he had conducted over 30 years, and the fact
24 that it had been trashed. Dr. Martin Luther King
25 said: The tendency to ignore the Negro's

2 contribution in American life and to strip him of his
3 personhood is as old as the earliest history books,
4 and as contemporary as the morning newspaper, and I
5 think that that story that ran in there on that day,
6 talked about exactly that. For CUNY to have without
7 notice come in and search and seize all of the
8 research and the work that Professor Wilson had done
9 not chronicle the documents that they took, not have
10 a chain of custody to indicate where those papers
11 were is unacceptable. I believe one of the alum of
12 the program that Dr. Wilson ran is going to be our
13 next Public Advocate, Public Advocate Elect, is a
14 product of that program. So, certainly it was a
15 worthy program, and Professor Wilson's documents
16 included notes, photos, correspondence, transcripts,
17 and research that had been conducted with
18 organization—organizations such as the Brotherhood of
19 Sleeping Porter—Sleeping Car Porters, an interview
20 with Ray Charles, a letter from Dr. Martin Luther
21 King, and other irreplaceable documents. I'm calling
22 on CUNY to rectify the situation, although Dr. Wilson
23 now has a lawsuit so we will get—we will get a
24 resolution of that, but I would say it's similar to
25 what CUNY did with the Shakur Morales Center at City

2 College where they came in then, and took the
3 documents of black organization, which they still
4 have not received, and I'm calling on CUNY to show
5 that they value African-American history. Not just
6 give lip service—service and not just say we're
7 trying to do better. I wouldn't want to come to CUNY
8 as a professor knowing that this is the behavior that
9 they engage in, but yet they continue to talk about
10 they can't attract black faculty. Maybe this is why.
11 Thank you.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We
13 will now have Council Member Menchaca.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you, and
15 I want to start with my thank you to Public Advocate
16 Elect, Jumaane Williams. I'm going to miss you,
17 buddy, brother [Speaking Spanish]. Many times when
18 we—I think we're both on the same page. We reached
19 out to each other and said, how—how are we voting on
20 this, and it was a we because there was a shared
21 sense of values whether it was a Land Use item or a
22 controversial moment in the Council where the right
23 voices needed to come out, we joined forces. One
24 that I haven't year heard, but I want to lift is the
25 Construction Safety for All. I remember working with

2 you on that every step of the way, and you invited me
3 as a co-prime sponsor with open arms, and really
4 sharing that burden, and really, it wasn't a burden.
5 It was an offer to join forces and bring the
6 advocates and bring all sectors, MWBEs, the unions,
7 the workers and letting the workers be at front end
8 including our immigrant workers, our day laborers and
9 you never ever hesitated and you brought me in as a
10 partner. That is the spirit that I think is going to
11 carry you forward into this position as Public
12 Advocate, and you have me as your partner here and
13 forever. Keep us accountable. Keep us accountable
14 and I can't wait to do that work with you. I'm going
15 to keep you accountable, though, and there's a bill
16 that I'm introducing that I hope you'd love to co-
17 sponsor as the Public Advocate, and that's
18 essentially 1457. This is something that everybody
19 knows. It's called the LPI Law, the Leading
20 Pedestrian Interval that I want to actually change
21 and call it the Leading Pedestrian and Bicycle
22 Interval because this is essentially what allow for
23 bicycles to use the LPI at intersections to cross
24 safely. Despite the incredible success of Vision
25 Zero, we still use language that brings bicycles and

2 motor vehicles as the same thing. Today, the
3 Administration uses and reacts to delivery workers
4 deaths by cracking down on bikes—bicycles. It's out
5 of the vulnerable conditions that lead delivery
6 workers to use the bikes. It's poverty income
7 inequality. This bill will help us move that
8 forward. Thank you so much and I hope you can get on
9 1457. Thank you.

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much
11 Council Member Menchaca, and I just want to close
12 with the 35th Council District is so proud to
13 celebrate its very own Spike Lee on its first Oscar
14 Win. His film Blackkkclansman won best adapted
15 screen play and the night was historic for many.
16 There were a total of seven black artists who took
17 home awards in seven different categories on Oscar
18 Sunday during Black History Month: Regina King,
19 Mahershala Ali, Peter Ramsey, Spike Lee, Ruth Carta,
20 Hannah Beacher, Kevin Wilmont and all took home
21 awards, and unprecedented number of awards for black
22 artists. Women also awarded at the 91st Academy
23 Awards picking up a record breaking 15 trophies, the
24 most ever in Oscar history. The Oscars are changing,
25 period end of sentence. A movie about menstruation

2 won an Oscar this year. This particular production
3 sheds light on menstrually equality and access to
4 period products particularly in parts of the world
5 where access to affordable menstrual products is
6 scarce. When I think about the magnitude of the
7 wins, it brings me back to Black Panther, a superhero
8 adventure that transcended the gender, the genre to
9 become a favorite film by so many winning a total of
10 three Oscars. Finally, we were please to see a
11 handful of incredible people to join the Oscar night
12 as presenters including Sarina Williams, Congress
13 Member John Lewis, Tyler Perry, Queen Latifah and
14 others. For the first time there was an effort in
15 Oscar history recognizing what we all knew, and that
16 was God distributes talent and creativity equally
17 amongst all cultures and that we all have a very
18 valuable story to share. And I just also want to
19 join with all of my colleagues in congratulating our
20 new Public Advocate Elect. Our new Public Advocate
21 Elect is a very good friend of mine, and I'm so proud
22 of you. This is such an incredible moment. Your
23 family coming from Granada, you growing up in the
24 Flatbush section of community, going to Brooklyn
25 Technical High School, going to Brooklyn College,

2 becoming our City Council Member and now Public
3 Advocate Elect is a story that so many little black
4 boys are going to find inspiration in when they know
5 that someone named Jumaane who's from Flatbush, who
6 went to the schools in the neighborhood who still
7 lives on the block, who still looks like, walks like
8 and dresses just like them is going to be a story
9 that they are going to find inspiration in, and we
10 are going to see the results of that in the upcoming
11 years. I just want to add as in a time when
12 relationships and dynamics between colleagues
13 continues to break down, and respect for one another
14 continues to break down, you showed what First Lady
15 Obama has always said: When they go low, you go so
16 very high, and I applaud you for the way you
17 conducted yourself during the campaign where some
18 individuals feel that they must attack others just to
19 win a race. But you showed that if you stick to your
20 work, if you let the work that you have done speak
21 for yourself that you will be victorious and I think
22 that you've led and shown in so many ways that that's
23 the way to run a campaign. And as you now as the
24 Public Advocate I'm going to be so happy because your
25 presence in my district will now make sense.

2 [laughter] So, I'm so pleased to welcome you to the
3 35th District. You're always welcome, and will be
4 greeted with a smile. I love you. I'm proud of you.
5 You have done our community proud. We salute you,
6 Public Advocate Jumaane Williams. [cheers/applause]
7 Speaker Corey Johnson will close us out.

8 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I want to let folks
9 know that [coughs] Madam Majority Leader, I've been
10 really proud of you the last few months in chairing
11 these hearings and doing an excellent job in running
12 the Stated Meetings. We look forward to you
13 continuing that role with Public Advocate Elect
14 Williams filling in every now and then as you guys
15 work out the schedule, but you've done an excellent
16 job, and I look forward to continuing to see you up
17 there in the place that Tish James sat and the place
18 that Jumaane Williams will [applause] sit every now
19 and again, and the State Meeting-

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: [interposing]
21 Every now and again. Yes.

22 SPEAKER JOHNSON: And the Stated meeting
23 of February 28, 2019 is hereby adjourned.

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

25 [gavel]

1 CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Date April 2, 2019