

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

----- X

TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

STATED MEETING

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September 12, 2019

Start: 2:00 p.m.

Recess: 3:30 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: Laurie Cumbo  
Majority Leader

COUNCIL MEMBERS:  
Adrienne E. Adams  
Alicka Ampry-Samuel  
Diana Ayala  
Inez Barron  
Joseph C. Borelli  
Justin Brannan  
Fernando Cabrera  
Margaret Chin  
Andrew Cohen  
Costa Constantinides  
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.  
Chaim Deutsch  
Ruben Diaz, Sr.  
Daniel Dromm  
Espinal  
Mathieu Eugene  
Vanessa Gibson  
Mark Gjonaj  
Barry Grodenchik

Robert Holden  
Ben Kallos  
Andy King  
Peter Koo  
Karen Koslowitz  
Rory I. Lancman  
Brad Lander  
Stephen T. Levin  
Mark Levine  
Farah N. Louis  
Alan N. Maisel  
Steven Matteo  
Carlos Menchaca  
I. Daneek Miller  
Francisco Moya  
Bill Perkins  
Keith Powers  
Antonio Reynoso  
Donovan J. Richards  
Carlina Rivera  
Ydanis Rodriguez  
Deborah Rose  
Helen Rosenthal  
Rafael Salamanca Jr.  
Richie Torres  
Mark Treyger  
Eric A. Ulrich  
Paul Vallone  
Jimmy Van Bramer  
Kalman Yeger  
Corey Johnson

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

Rosemarie Truglio  
Sesame Workshops

Rev. Doctor Shawn T. Adkins  
Antioch Baptist Church

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4

2 [Background comments]

3 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Mic test. Mic test.

4 One. Two. One. Two. This is a pre-recording test  
5 on the Stated Meeting on September 12th, 2019 and  
6 it's being recorded by Dane Hope.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: The New York City  
8 Council. I am Majority Leader Laurie Cumbo and we  
9 are about to begin our ceremonials. We have many of  
10 our brilliant educators and council members who are  
11 here today. We have Council member Alan Maisel who  
12 actually used to be my former teacher in school at  
13 John Wilson 211. So, we've got all the great  
14 educators. Yes. A little fun fact. You've got to  
15 stick around for these. We've got--

16 UNIDENTIFIED: Even David Greenfield,  
17 too.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Even David  
19 Greenfield. He was also his teacher. And we've got  
20 Danny Dromm, another great educator that's here  
21 today.

22 UNIDENTIFIED: Yeah. But I don't think  
23 Danny can claim any members of the Council.

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Danny, I don't  
25 think, can claim that he has been a teacher to any of

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5

2 the members of the Council, as Alan Maisel can, but  
3 they are coming.

4 [Background comments]

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: They're coming.

6 [Background comments]

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: We have Costa,  
8 right? Coming on down. Wonderful. Council member  
9 Costa Constantinides is here.

10 UNIDENTIFIED: And Moya.

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: And Council member  
12 Moya and Vallone are here. Wow. Wonderful. They  
13 are coming up to join us for the ceremonials, as  
14 well. This is a big one. This is a big one. They  
15 are coming on down. All right. Quiet in the  
16 chambers. I know everyone is very excited. Today,  
17 the New York City Council is proud to celebrate no  
18 one and all my, my favorite, Sesame Street's 50th  
19 anniversary. Rory, I know you don't want to get too  
20 comfortable and miss this. Come on down, Rory. For  
21 the last five decades, you have been children's first  
22 teachers. How many people learn their ABCs from  
23 these colorful characters? Raise your hand. Don't  
24 be shy.

25

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2 UNIDENTIFIED: I was in my 20s time,  
3 but it was--

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: We also honor the  
5 Sesame Street workshop which is the New York City  
6 based not-for-profit behind the show. We have  
7 Council member Chin, another great educator who is  
8 joined us. The workshop has an extraordinary role in  
9 shaping generations of children around the world. We  
10 are so deeply proud that you call New York City your  
11 home. And we have recently done a street code naming  
12 that we are all very proud of. Sesame Street holds a  
13 special place in all of our hearts and all of you at  
14 the Sesame Street workshop deserve our thanks. This  
15 iconic television program has taught us all the  
16 fundamentals such as shapes and colors, as well as  
17 compassion, empathy, and kindness. Characters like  
18 Big Bird, Cookie Monster, Bart, Ernie, Elmo, and  
19 others teach children how to navigate childhood  
20 landmines like sharing and conflict and, as many of  
21 you know, my two-year-old son, Prince, loves Elmo and  
22 loves Sesame Street and we spend goobles [sic] and  
23 gobbles and hours watching Sesame Street. Not too  
24 much because we limit the screen time. I don't want  
25 you all to get carried away. But we are certainly

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2 watching. As always celebrate 50 years of sesame  
3 workshop, we want to recognize the hard-working calf  
4 Stan crew and everyone associated with the show for  
5 their commitment to educating children of all walks  
6 of life. And I just want to say that we have been so  
7 proud to launch a new character to Sesame Street,  
8 Julia, who is on the autism--

9 UNIDENTIFIED: She's not here today,  
10 right?

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: She's not here  
12 today, but she is on the autism spectrum and it has  
13 been fascinating watching how this particular  
14 character, Julia, is just one of the many characters,  
15 but with special abilities and the ability for  
16 everyone to learn how to learn and grow from Julia as  
17 she does with the other characters. So, we are so  
18 very proud of how Sesame Street has taught all of us,  
19 even adults-- if you are not watching, tune in for  
20 an episode because Sesame Street is really on the go  
21 with technology and so many other aspects that make  
22 the show so fantastic. Great songs. That's the  
23 number of the day. Bounce, bounce. I know all the  
24 dances.

25 UNIDENTIFIED: You really do.

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2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I really do.

3 Prince has taught me quite a bit. So, it's my  
4 pleasure to call up Rosemarie Tru--

5 ROSEMARIE TRUGLIO: Truglio.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Truglio. I'm sorry  
7 about that. Rosemarie Truglio. Of course she would  
8 say that's okay because she is all about empathy and  
9 compassion. PhD. Sesame Street's senior vice  
10 president of curriculum and content, as well as Sarah  
11 Sexton and Britt Edwards of Sesame Street's speakers  
12 Bureau to accept this proclamation. And I want to  
13 thank all of my colleagues that are here today that  
14 are standing in support. This is really big now  
15 wonderful day and an opportunity to celebrate such  
16 great work that has had dynamic impact on all of us.  
17 Okay. We have Council member Alan Maisel, who rarely  
18 speaks in a ceremonial. So, this has got to be big.  
19 You guys got this on camera?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: I just wanted to  
21 thank Sesame Street for teaching me the importance of  
22 cookies and an average, healthy diet. Thank you.

23 ROSEMARIE TRUGLIO: You're welcome.

24 You're welcome.

25

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2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Well, what you  
3 might not know about cookie monster is that cookie  
4 monster has a new identity.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: I didn't know that.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Veggie Monster.  
7 Right? So, you got to keep up. If you miss an  
8 episode--

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Political  
10 correctness run amuck.

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: So, think is some  
12 months and now we would love to-- Oh, actually, I am  
13 stepping ahead of myself. We will have our city  
14 clerk read the proclamation and then we would love to  
15 hear everything about what is going on at Sesame  
16 Street 15 years later. Thank you so much.

17 CLERK: Council city of New York  
18 proclamation. The New York City Council is proud to  
19 honor Sesame Workshop, the New York City-based  
20 nonprofit behind Sesame Street, for 50 years of  
21 extraordinary work helping generations of kids grow  
22 smarter, stronger, and kinder and more than 150  
23 countries around the world when Sesame Street made  
24 its debut on public television stations nationwide on  
25 November 10th, 1969, it became an instant hit.

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2 That's visionary founders, Joan Ganz Cooney and Lloyd  
3 Morrisett, created the series to foster early  
4 learning through the medium of television with a  
5 special focus on reaching underserved children who  
6 lacked access to preschool. In doing so, they  
7 developed and enervated, curriculum-based format for  
8 the educational program which broke new ground with  
9 an ethnically diverse cast. Jim Henson's colorful  
10 Muppets and celebrity guests all hanging out on a  
11 street lined with classic brownstone row houses and  
12 whereas from the start, the fictional world of Sesame  
13 Street evoked a diversity, inclusivity, and  
14 commitment to positive social messages that have  
15 defined New York City since its earliest days. In  
16 this way, it has fostered community spirit of our  
17 five boroughs and homes across the country and  
18 beyond. And whereas five decades later Sesame Street  
19 is our nation's longest running children's television  
20 program and longevity is a testament to its  
21 effectiveness. Today, the internationally acclaimed  
22 show is produced in numerous languages and is  
23 broadcast to millions of children around the world.  
24 Every day, it's young viewers not only learn the  
25 alphabet and held account, but also learn valuable

2 life lessons. As preschool viewers spend time with  
3 the Cookie Monster, Bert and Ernie, Big Bird Oscar  
4 the Grouch, Elmo, Grover, Rosita, Julia, and other  
5 beloved characters, they are also developing their  
6 inner character. In addition to timeless teachings  
7 related to friendship, at thanks, emotions,  
8 compassion, and coping with loss or other challenges,  
9 Sesame workshop has addressed autism, and  
10 incarcerated parents, homelessness, HIV, and other  
11 issues. And whereas Sesame Street holds a special  
12 place in the hearts of New Yorkers. As we celebrate  
13 the programs 50 years of making an indelible impact  
14 on children everywhere, the New York City Council  
15 commands its talented cast and crew and everyone  
16 associated with this excellent program for their  
17 unwavering commitment to inspiring and uplifting  
18 children of all backgrounds. Now therefore be it  
19 known that the New York City Council gratefully  
20 honors sesame workshop in celebration of its 50th  
21 anniversary for its extraordinary work spreading love  
22 and nurturing children around the world. Corey  
23 Johnson, Speaker for the entire Council, Laurie  
24 Cumbo, Majority Leader, Helen Rosenthal, Council

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2 member six, district Manhattan, and many other  
3 members of the New York City Council.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Wow.

5 ROSEMARIE TRUGLIO: Wow. That is  
6 amazing.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

8 ROSEMARIE TRUGLIO: That's amazing.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: And I just want to  
10 acknowledge we have been joined by Council member  
11 Perkins here, as well as Council member Gjonaj,  
12 Holden, Ayala. Council member Gjonaj asked if he  
13 could get a photo with Big Bird personally, so we  
14 will have to arrange that for another time, but I am  
15 so happy to welcome you. In five decades usually  
16 change the world. Thank you so much.

17 ROSEMARIE TRUGLIO: Thank you. Wow.  
18 This is-- what an honor. I mean, what an honor to  
19 be honored by the city Council of New York. Yes,  
20 it's 50 years. We are turning 50. 50 and counting.  
21 We're not going away.

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: That's right.

23 ROSEMARIE TRUGLIO: From the very  
24 beginning, New York City has been our hometown, as  
25 well as the inspiration for our neighborhood. It is

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2 the New York City neighborhood where our Muppets and  
3 human character play and learn together. It is  
4 almost impossible to imagine that Sesame could have  
5 started anywhere else. What some call the longest  
6 street in the world starts right here in this amazing  
7 city. In 1969, our diverse cast broke new ground in  
8 our playful approach to learning change the world of  
9 children's media. Most importantly, Sesame Street  
10 brought quality preschool learning to the underserved  
11 children here and across the country. Getting kids  
12 ready to start kindergarten is a big job--

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes. It is.

14 ROSEMARIE TRUGLIO: and it's an  
15 extremely important job. Not just academically, but  
16 social and emotionally, too. But Sesame Street  
17 reminds families that learning and playing go hand-  
18 in-hand. Our research based comprehensive curriculum  
19 addresses the whole child and encourages parents to  
20 engage with their children and to make memories  
21 together. In my new book, Ready for School, I  
22 translated the curriculum into a guide for families  
23 helping them find playful learning moments in  
24 everyday life, whether running errands together or  
25 just playing pretend. Thank you so much to the

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2 Council and to all of the fans here. I just-- it's  
3 such heartwarming to just hear your experiences as  
4 you not only watched as a child or watched as an  
5 adult or are watching with your child as a parent.  
6 And it doesn't matter what age you are. Tune into  
7 Sesame Street and watch, laugh, and learn. So, New  
8 Yorkers can take a moment today to remind-- to  
9 remember the timeless lessons they learned on Sesame  
10 Street. We are all different, but were all the same,  
11 too, and a little kindness goes a long way. Thank  
12 you so much for your kindness.

13 [Applause]

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. Thank  
15 you. Can we all get together for a Sesame Street  
16 photo? All right. Let's get together.

17 [Background comments]

18 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Can I have your  
19 attention, please? Can I have your attention,  
20 please? At this time, please place all electronic  
21 devices to vibrate. Will all non-Council employees,  
22 non-Council employees, please leave the main floor of  
23 the chambers? We have additional seating upstairs in  
24 the balcony. Thank you. Madame Majority Leader.

25

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2 [Gavel]

3 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Good afternoon and  
4 welcome to the Stated Meeting of September 12th,  
5 2019. I am Majority Leader Laurie Cumbo. Please  
6 rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

7 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: All rise.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I pledge allegiance  
9 to the flag of the United States of America and to  
10 the republic for which it stands one nation under God  
11 indivisible with liberty and justice for all. Roll  
12 call.

13 CLERK: Adams?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Present.

15 CLERK: Ampry-Samuel?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Present.

17 CLERK: Ayala?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Present.

19 CLERK: Barron?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Present.

21 CLERK: Borelli?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Here.

23 CLERK: Brannan?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Here.

25 CLERK: Cabrera?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

3 CLERK: Chin?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

5 CLERK: Cohen?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Here.

7 CLERK: Constantinides?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Present.

9 CLERK: Cornegy? Deutsch?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Here.

11 CLERK: Diaz.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Aqui.

13 CLERK: Dromm?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

15 CLERK: Espinal?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Here.

17 CLERK: Eugene?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Present.

19 CLERK: Gibson? Gjonaj?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Here.

21 CLERK: Grodenchik?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Here.

23 CLERK: Holden?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here.

25 CLERK: Kallos?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Here.

3 CLERK: King?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Present.

5 CLERK: Koo?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

7 CLERK: Koslowitz?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

9 CLERK: Lancman?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Here.

11 CLERK: Lander?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

13 CLERK: Levin?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

15 CLERK: Levine?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Here.

17 CLERK: Louis?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Here.

19 CLERK: Maisel?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Here.

21 CLERK: Menchaca? Miller?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Present.

23 CLERK: Moya?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Present.

25 CLERK: Perkins?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Present.

3 CLERK: Powers?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Here.

5 CLERK: Reynoso?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Here.

7 CLERK: Richards?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Present.

9 CLERK: Rivera?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present.

11 CLERK: Rodriguez?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.

13 CLERK: Rose?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Present.

15 CLERK: Rosenthal?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.

17 CLERK: Salamanca?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present.

19 CLERK: Torres? Treyger?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.

21 CLERK: Ulrich? Vallone?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

23 CLERK: Van Bramer? Yeger?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here.

25 CLERK: Gibson?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Here.

3 CLERK: Matteo?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Here.

5 CLERK: Cumbo?

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Present.

7 CLERK: Speaker Johnson?

8 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I'm here. We have a

9 [inaudible 00:24:40].

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We will

11 now have today's invocation which will be delivered

12 by Rev. Dr. Shawn T. Adkins, pastor of Antioch

13 Baptist Church located at 515 West 125th Street in

14 Harlem, New York.

15 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: All rise.

16 REVEREND DOCTOR ADKINS: Gracious and

17 loving God, we give you praise for this day. We

18 thank you for these your precious people for these

19 local officials, city Council as well as the speaker.

20 Lord, your word says what does God require of us? To

21 do justice and love mercy and walk humbly before your

22 God. I pray that your hand be upon your people

23 today. Thank you, God, that you are giving them

24 wisdom, insight, and foresight to do the job that you

25 have called them to do. We pray, oh God, that you

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2 continue to bless them. That you would enlarge their  
3 territory and expand their borders. That your hand  
4 would be upon them and that you would keep us from  
5 any harm or danger. We dispatch angels around the  
6 city today. That your hand of mercy will protect us.  
7 That no weapon formed against the city shall prosper.  
8 We ask right now that your favor be upon your people  
9 today and, God, as they serve the city, that the  
10 first thing people will come in contact with is your  
11 favored shield. I pray right now that you will  
12 orchestrate their footsteps and continued I can have  
13 them wisdom to do the job that you have called them  
14 to do. Lead, guide, and direct them. In your name,  
15 Amen.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, Rev.  
17 Adkins for your very powerful words. I would now  
18 like to ask Council member Levine to spread the  
19 invocation on record.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Thank you, Madame  
21 Majority Leader and I would, indeed, like to make a  
22 motion to spread the invocation in full upon the  
23 record in to tell you how honored I am that, as we  
24 affectionately know her, Pastor Shawn has been a  
25 pillar in the West Harlem community now for decades.

2 Part of the dynasty in the neighborhood. Her father,  
3 in 1977, walked into an abandoned supermarket on 125  
4 Street and brought it back to life as the Antioch  
5 Baptist Church. It's been driving now for four  
6 decades. The Reverend Doctor Pastor Shawn entered  
7 the ministry in 1996 and, along the way, has picked  
8 up an astounding number of advanced degrees  
9 including, from North Carolina and a state university  
10 and bachelor of science in management, a Master in  
11 social work from Fordham University, a Masters of  
12 Divinity and theology from Drew University, and most  
13 recently, a doctor it from Drew, also in divinity.  
14 She is known by many as a pastor's pastor because of  
15 her commitment to supporting the health and well-  
16 being of her fellow clergy and she is also lovingly  
17 referred as the pastor with a big heart and, simply,  
18 as I mentioned, Pastor Shawn. She envisions her  
19 ministry as one of effectively and efficiently making  
20 an impact wherever she is called in the lives of  
21 whomever she meets and she certainly demonstrated  
22 that touch today and I have really honored that she  
23 was able to offer the invocation today. Thank you,  
24 Madame Majority Leader.

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2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much.  
3 We will now have the adoption of minutes then I make  
4 a motion that the minutes of the Stated Meetings of  
5 June 26th, 2019, as well as July 23rd, 2019 be  
6 adopted as printed. We will now have messages and  
7 papers from the mayor.

8 CLERK: None.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Communication from  
10 city, county, and borough offices?

11 CLERK: None.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Petitions and  
13 communications?

14 CLERK: None.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Land use call ups?

16 CLERK: M 181 through M 185. Various  
17 applications on page two of the agenda.

18 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Give me one moment.

19 Coupled on a call up vote and at this time I will ask  
20 for a call up vote on all of today's land use call  
21 ups. This is just land use call ups.

22 CLERK: Louis?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye on all.

24 CLERK: Constantinides?

25

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Aye on  
3 all.

4 CLERK: Adams?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: With permission,  
6 I'd like to vote on all land use call ups and coupled  
7 items on the general order calendar and all  
8 resolutions. I vote aye.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

10 CLERK: Ampy-Samuel?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Aye on  
12 all.

13 CLERK: Ayala?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye on all.

15 CLERK: Barron?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye.

17 CLERK: Borelli?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye.

19 CLERK: Brannan?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye.

21 CLERK: Cabrera?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

23 CLERK: Chin?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

25 CLERK: Cohen?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

3 CLERK: Cornegy? Deutsch?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Aye.

5 CLERK: Diaz.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Aye.

7 CLERK: Dromm?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

9 CLERK: Espinal?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Aye.

11 CLERK: Eugene?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I vote aye.

13 CLERK: Gibson?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: I vote aye.

15 CLERK: Gjonaj?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Aye on all.

17 CLERK: Grodenchik?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Aye.

19 CLERK: Holden?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye on all.

21 CLERK: Kallos? King?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Aye on all.

23 CLERK: Koo?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye on all.

25 CLERK: Koslowitz?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

3 CLERK: Louis?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: With permission,  
5 I'd like to vote on all land use call ups and coupled  
6 items on the general order calendar and all  
7 resolutions. I vote aye on all.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

9 CLERK: Lancman?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Aye on all.

11 CLERK: Lander?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

13 CLERK: Levin?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

15 CLERK: Levine?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Aye.

17 CLERK: Maisel?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Yes.

19 CLERK: Menchaca?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Aye.

21 CLERK: Miller?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.

23 CLERK: Moya?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Aye.

25 CLERK: Kallos?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.

3 CLERK: Perkins?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Aye on all.

5 CLERK: Powers?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye.

7 CLERK: Reynoso?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Aye.

9 CLERK: Richards?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye on all.

11 CLERK: Rivera?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye.

13 CLERK: Rodriguez?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

15 CLERK: Rose? Rosenthal?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: With

17 permission, I would like to vote on all land use call

18 ups and coupled items on the general order calendar

19 and all resolutions and I vote aye.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Thank you.

22 CLERK: Salamanca?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye.

24 CLERK: Torres?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Aye.

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2 CLERK: Treyger?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

4 CLERK: Ulrich? Vallone?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: With

6 permission, on today's vote, if you have enough for  
7 the majority, I'd like to vote I on all matters on  
8 today's calendar and call ups. Based on my one arm  
9 status.

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted  
11 and--

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Thank you, my  
13 dear.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: heal and feel  
15 better.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: I don't know  
17 how much more I can handle.

18 CLERK: Van Bramer?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye on all.

20 CLERK: Yeger?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye.

22 CLERK: Rose?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Yes. Thank you.

24 CLERK: Matteo? Cumbo?

25 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I vote aye.

2 CLERK: Speaker Johnson?

3 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I vote aye.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

5 Today's land use call ups are adopted by a vote of 49  
6 in the affirmative and zero negative. We will now  
7 have communication from Speaker Corey Johnson.

8 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Good afternoon. Thank  
9 you all for being with us today and I see you, Madame  
10 Majority Leader.

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

12 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Before we jump into our  
13 legislative agenda, I would like to take a few  
14 minutes to address some of the news and events that  
15 have taken place over the last few weeks. Yesterday,  
16 course, was the 18th anniversary of the September  
17 11th attacks. September 11th is always a difficult  
18 day for New Yorkers and for our great city. It was  
19 18 years ago, but that pain is still so fresh for so  
20 many people who were affected, survived, or who  
21 tragically lost a loved one or a friend. I had the  
22 honor of attending the ceremony at the September 11th  
23 Memorial right around the corner from here and I saw  
24 firsthand how difficult it is for the families and  
25 friends of those who tied. The mother of a fallen

2 firefighter sees the spirit of her fallen son and her  
3 grandchildren, the twin brother of a man who died in  
4 the attacks who misses laughing with him, and the  
5 many children and grandchildren, cousins, never met  
6 failed members who died on September 11th, but heard  
7 stories of how they touched everyone. As a city, we  
8 must remember their loss and do everything we can to  
9 comfort them through their pain. We must also never  
10 forget the heroism demonstrated by all of the first  
11 responders that they and in the days after. We are  
12 thankful and grateful for their bravery and I'm glad  
13 we made the majors step that we just talk and,  
14 finally, extending the victims compensation fund for  
15 the families and survivors of folks who work down at  
16 Ground Zero and the aftermath.

17 I would also like to member a former  
18 colleague of ours, Rev. Councilmember Wendell Foster  
19 who passed away last week. Rev. Foster was a friend  
20 to many of us. Especially to members from the Bronx  
21 delegation. Rev. Foster was the first African-  
22 American to be elected as a city all liked it  
23 official in the Bronx. He was a pioneer, a leader in  
24 the civil rights movement, and a mentor to many. Our  
25 thoughts are with Rev. Foster's family, including his

2 daughter, another former colleague of members here,  
3 Helen Diane Foster, and our thoughts are with their  
4 friends. I want to also acknowledge another member  
5 of the NYPD family who has tragically died by  
6 suicide. He was a retired transit sergeant who was  
7 48 years old. His name has not been released, but he  
8 is the 10th member of the NYPD Ted died by suicide  
9 this year. That is, as we continue the day, has  
10 become an epidemic. And my message to all members of  
11 the NYPD and all New Yorkers who are struggling is we  
12 are here for you and, please, do not hesitate to  
13 reach out to get the help that you need. We have  
14 legislation being introduced today that seeks to  
15 address this crisis in some way. We work closely  
16 with mental health professionals and first responders  
17 to put together a meaningful legislation and we will  
18 have a hearing on it next week on the 17th. Now, I  
19 want to ask that everyone lives and have a moment of  
20 silence and honor of the many, many lives that we  
21 have lost in the last few weeks, both here in New  
22 York City and around the country and we also are  
23 remembering September 11th. Thank you.

24 Last month, we, as a country, marked,  
25 sadly, the 400th anniversary of 1619 when the roots

2 of slavery in America are first documented. We are  
3 still coping with the injustice slavery created in  
4 our nation, but it's important to continue to  
5 acknowledge the harm it has done to our country.  
6 This is an important part of the healing process, to  
7 talk about it, to recognize that, to understand the  
8 roots of it in the effect that it has had over the  
9 last 400 years and the effect that it still has today  
10 in our country and our city and our society. So,  
11 it's important for us to acknowledge that.

12 On a more festive note, I want to wish  
13 everyone, especially Asian New Yorkers, a happy mid-  
14 autumn Festival. This is one of the most important  
15 holidays in the Asian community and our great city.  
16 For thousands of years, Asian families get together  
17 on this day and celebrate the fall harvest. Mid-  
18 autumn is also a day for people to reflect on the  
19 hard work that came before the harvest. Plowing the  
20 land, planting the seeds, attending the crops, and,  
21 eventually, reaping what you have sown. And, as  
22 speaker of the Council, I really appreciate the  
23 effort that every member here has put into making our  
24 city a better place. I am also proud of the work

2 that we have done may gather. I look forward to  
3 accomplishing a lot more with you all.

4 September also marks national sickle-cell  
5 awareness month. Sickle-cell disease affects  
6 approximately 100,000 Americans, mostly African  
7 Americans, and we must do everything we can to help  
8 our loved ones living with sickle-cell disease and  
9 provide as many resources as possible.

10 And, lastly, I want to take a minute to  
11 acknowledge the departure of one of the great, great,  
12 great members of the staff here at the city Council,  
13 our deputy general counsel Serena Longley. I am very  
14 sad that Serena is leaving us. She is amazing. She  
15 is leaving us this week to begin her next chapter in  
16 the New York State Attorney General's Office. Tish.  
17 Hm. I'm going to miss Serena, but I am thrilled that  
18 she'll be using her talents and I am happy for New  
19 York and I am happy for our country because Serena is  
20 going to continue to contribute in public service and  
21 in public life. So Serena has been with us, really,  
22 every step of the way. I worked with her before I  
23 was Speaker when I chaired the health committee and  
24 she has done just an incredible, incredible job. She  
25 is been arguing cases in the court room for us on

2 land use and on our ability to have a representative  
3 through [inaudible 00:40:36]. She is just a fount of  
4 knowledge, someone with a great demeanor. Someone  
5 who really cares about this institution and this body  
6 and we are really going to miss her. So, serene,  
7 best of luck. Thank you for everything. Let's give  
8 her a very big round of applause.

9 [Applause]

10 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Steve Matteo is not  
11 going to miss you, Serena, though. Let's start with  
12 land-use. The Council will vote on the following  
13 items. A site selection of a new 3079 seat high  
14 school in Council member Jimmy Van Bramer's district  
15 in Woodside. The new facility will house three  
16 different high school programs including a district  
17 75 program and 273 Avenue U in Council member Mark  
18 Treyger's district will facilitate the development of  
19 a four story mixed-use building with a nine dwelling  
20 units. Moving on, the Council will be voting on the  
21 following pieces of legislation. First, the Council  
22 will vote on a series of public charge bills. The  
23 final rule regarding inadmissibility on public charge  
24 grounds was published by the Trump administration in  
25 August. We have already seen a drop in benefit

2 enrollment programs due to fear. This is devastating  
3 and a discriminatory proposal and I am proud that our  
4 Attorney General, Tish James, and the city are  
5 involved in a lawsuit challenging this proposal.  
6 This rule was complicated and confusing and people  
7 are understandably scared. That's what the federal  
8 government wants, for people to do's and role in  
9 their benefits out of fear and we, as a city, have to  
10 fight back. Then that is why, today, we are voting  
11 on four bills that will ensure that our city agencies  
12 are properly trained on this issue. That the correct  
13 public information about public charge is being said  
14 to families across the city and now we are helping  
15 families connect with safe immigration legal  
16 services. We are voting on a resolution calling on  
17 Congressional representatives to task. They must  
18 take action to stop the implementation of this new  
19 public charge rule. The first is pre-considered  
20 introduction number 1711, sponsored by Council member  
21 Carlina Rivera, which would require the Mayor's  
22 Office of Immigrant Affairs, MOIA, to create  
23 educational materials on the new public charge rule  
24 and the Department of Education would be required to  
25 distribute these materials and make them available to

2 every DOE's school for students and parents. Next is  
3 introduction number 1690 A, sponsored by Council  
4 member Fernando Cabrera, which would require the  
5 Human Resources Administration to develop and provide  
6 materials to legal service organizations with which  
7 it contracts to inform individuals about public  
8 benefits and relation to the federal regulations  
9 relating to inadmissibility on public charge grounds.  
10 The Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs would be  
11 required to provide a dedicated telephone number for  
12 referrals to legal services for assistance with  
13 questions regarding the federal regulations. Next,  
14 proposed introduction 1707 A, sponsored by Council  
15 member Carlos Menchaca, the chair of our Immigration  
16 Committee who has done an amazing job on this and on  
17 everything immigration related, will require the  
18 Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs to conduct  
19 training on the provisions included in the new public  
20 charge rule to employees in the Human Resource  
21 Administration, the Department of Homeless Services,  
22 and the Department of Housing Preservation and  
23 Development. The training would also be made  
24 available to those at the New York City Housing  
25 Authority. And we also have pre-considered

2 introduction 1708, sponsored by Council member  
3 Francisco Moya, which would require the Human  
4 Resources Information to distribute information by  
5 mail or email regarding all city funded emergency  
6 food programs to individuals who have closed SNAP  
7 cases as of or after January 1st, 2016. The bill  
8 would also require that a notice about emergency food  
9 programs be disbursed to all individuals before their  
10 benefits recertification deadline. Information about  
11 emergency food programs would need to be made  
12 accessible on the HRA website and available via  
13 mobile applications. And, lastly, on this, pre-  
14 considered resolution number 1047, sponsored by  
15 Council member Steve Levin, calls upon the Congress  
16 to take legislative action to stop the enactment of  
17 the new rule entirely, an inadmissibility on public  
18 charge grounds. The staff that worked on this  
19 package of bills Harbone Haluja [sp?], Elizabeth  
20 Kronk, Bryan Crow, and Rob Calandra [sp?].

21 Next, we are going to go on a package of  
22 health and wellness legislation that will directly  
23 impact New York City public schools. Introduction  
24 560 A, sponsored by our Education Chair, Mark  
25 Treyger, will require the Department of Education to

2 report schools start time pilot program. The report  
3 will include the names of participating schools, the  
4 start times, community outreach and engagement, and  
5 key findings. The report will also include whether  
6 the DOE plans to continue or expand the pilot  
7 program.

8                   Next, introduction 1348 A, sponsored by  
9 Majority Leader Laurie Cumbo, would require more  
10 detailed information on HIV and AIDS education and  
11 including the number of full-time and part-time  
12 licensed health instructors at each school and what  
13 methods the DOE employees to solicit student feedback  
14 regarding the health education they receive.

15                   Next, a few resolutions. Resolution 716  
16 A, sponsored by Council member Steve Levin, calls on  
17 the DOE to implement the recommendations of the  
18 sexual health education task force which was formed  
19 in 2017 pursuant to a local law passed by the  
20 Council. Recommendations include HIV and needs  
21 lessons in elementary schools and condom  
22 demonstrations and high schools.

23                   Resolution 632, sponsored by Council  
24 member Inez Barron, calls upon the DOE to create a  
25 diabetes and pre-diabetes health-based curriculum and

2 resolution 238, sponsored by Council member Fernando  
3 Cabrera calls upon the DOE to band process meets from  
4 being served in New York City public schools. I want  
5 to thank the staff who worked on this package,  
6 Malcolm Butehoran [sp?], Jen Atwell, and Colima  
7 Johnson.

8 In addition, the Council will vote on two  
9 bills that will support minority and women owned  
10 business, AKA MWBEs. Introduction 1293 B, sponsored  
11 by Council member Debbie Rose, would amend the  
12 definition of minority group for purposes of the  
13 city's MWBE program to include native Americans and  
14 all cover procurement categories and add Asian  
15 Americans in the category for professional service  
16 contracts. The bill would also citywide procurement  
17 goals for all minority groups across all procurement  
18 categories in accordance with the findings of the  
19 most recent citywide disparities study.

20 Next, introduction 1452 A, sponsored by  
21 Council member Robert Cornegy, would improve agency  
22 performance in meeting MWBE contract participation  
23 goals. The bill would also require the director of  
24 the Mayor's office of contract services and the  
25 director of the Mayor's office of MWBEs to enable

2 minority and women owned businesses to compete more  
3 effectively in city procurement. This would be  
4 achieved via additional training for agency  
5 contracting staff and outreach to the city's MWBE  
6 community. The bill would also allow contracting  
7 staff at city agencies to identify MWBEs that could  
8 be available for certain contracts. I think the  
9 staff that worked on these two bills, Alex Palanoff  
10 [sp?], Daniel Collins, Casey Addison, Rachel Cordero,  
11 Andrew Wilber, and John Russell.

12           And, finally, the Council is voting on a  
13 bill that expands the city's human rights law.  
14 Introduction 136 A, sponsored by Council member Brad  
15 Lander, extends the protections of the city's human  
16 rights law to independent contractors and  
17 freelancers. It applies the New York City human  
18 rights law to any employer that employs four or more  
19 employees at any time during the period beginning 12  
20 months before the start of then unlawful  
21 discriminatory practices and continuing through the  
22 end of such unlawful discriminatory practice. An  
23 employer's parent, spouse, domestic partner, or  
24 child, is employed by an employer, would now be  
25 included in the employee count. And I want to thank

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2 the staff who worked on this bill. Balkis Murig  
3 [sp?], Leah Scrupiak [sp?], Rachel Cordero, Aisha  
4 Wright, and Monica Pepple. That includes our agenda  
5 for today's stated meeting and I look forward to  
6 proceeding with today's votes. Thank you, Madame  
7 Majority Leader.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so  
9 much, Speaker Corey Johnson. We will now move into  
10 discussion of general orders on bills only that we  
11 are voting on today. Are there any members who wish  
12 to discuss? We have Council member Debbie Rose.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Thank you. Our  
14 small businesses collectively employ more than 3.9  
15 million people in this city and, while many of them  
16 are minority and women owned, they have historically  
17 struggled with participation in the city contracting  
18 process. Our city has made an attempt to correct  
19 these disparities with outreach and procurement goals  
20 for minority and women owned business enterprises, or  
21 MWBEs. It came to my attention that this program  
22 contains a glaring omission, one which failed to  
23 recognize our nations dark, checkered past regarding  
24 the treatment of members of Native American tribes.  
25 A shameful legacy that has resulted in higher rates

2 of poverty and unemployment compared to the general  
3 population. And yet, and members of Native American  
4 tribes have not been included in our MWBE outreach.  
5 Intro 1293 B will remedy this omission and add Native  
6 American to the list of business owner categories who  
7 can register as an MWBE in New York City and it will  
8 also restore Asian American professional services to  
9 the list of business owner categories who can  
10 register as an MWBE in New York City. Many Asian  
11 American businesses have suffered long since losing  
12 the ability to gain projects through MWBE set-asides  
13 and this bill remedies that. Finally, this bill will  
14 update citywide procurement goals for all  
15 historically underrepresented groups across all  
16 procurement categories in accordance with the  
17 findings from the 2018 citywide disparities study.  
18 This is a significant and long needed step towards  
19 righting past wrongs and I want to thank all who  
20 helped move this bill forward, especially Speaker  
21 Corey Johnson, my cosponsor Council member Robert  
22 Cornegy, the chair of the Contracts Committee,  
23 Council member Ben Kallos, and Contract Committee  
24 counsel, Alex Palanoff. And, finally, I want to  
25 thank my constituent, Jacqueline Tacaronte [sp?], who

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2 has been a relentless advocate for this bill sends  
3 its very inception. Thank you.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,  
5 Council member Debbie Rose for your leadership. This  
6 is a huge stab for the--

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: It is.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Native American  
9 community here in New York City and abroad. Are  
10 there any other members who wish to speak on the  
11 items on today's agenda and for bills that we are  
12 voting on today exclusively? Okay. Seeing none, we  
13 will now, have a report on special committees.

14 CLERK: None.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Reports of  
16 standing committees?

17 CLERK: Report of the Committee on  
18 Contracts Intros 1293 B and 1452 A, MWBEs.

19 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on  
20 general orders.

21 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Civil  
22 and Human Rights Intro 136 A, worker protections.

23 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on  
24 general orders.

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2 CLERK: Report of the Committee on  
3 Education Intro 560 A, pilot program for school start  
4 time.

5 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on  
6 general orders.

7 CLERK: Intro 1348 A, sexual health  
8 education.

9 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on  
10 general orders.

11 CLERK: Report on the Committee on  
12 Immigration Intros 1707 A, 1708, and 1711, public  
13 charge legislation.

14 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general  
15 orders.

16 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Land  
17 Use LU 507 and Reso 1051, sidewalk café.

18 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general  
19 orders.

20 CLERK: Preconsidered LU 512 and Reso  
21 1052, high school.

22 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general  
23 orders.

24 CLERK: Report of the Committee on Rules,  
25 Privileges, and Elections M 187 and Reso 1053

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2 approving the appointment of Jared E. Whittington of  
3 the Environmental Control Board.

4 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general  
5 orders.

6 CLERK: M 179 and Reso 1054 approving the  
7 appointment of Alvarado Jefferson, Land Marks  
8 Preservation Commission.

9 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general  
10 orders.

11 CLERK: On the general order calendar,  
12 Intro 1281 A, cashless transactions.

13 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Recommit to the  
14 Committee on Consumer Affairs and Business Licensing.

15 CLERK: LU 479 and Reso 1059 and LU 480  
16 and Reso 1056, Avenue U rezoning.

17 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general  
18 orders.

19 CLERK: Resolution appointing various  
20 persons, Commissioner of Deeds.

21 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general  
22 orders and at this time, I ask for a roll call vote  
23 on all of the items on today's general order  
24 calendar.

25 CLERK: Ampry-Samuel?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Aye on  
3 all.

4 CLERK: Ayala?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye on all.

6 CLERK: Barron?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye on all.

8 CLERK: Borelli?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye on all  
10 with the exception of Intro 136, 1293, 1707, and  
11 1711. Thank you.

12 CLERK: Brannan?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye on all.

14 CLERK: Cabrera?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye on all.

16 CLERK: Matteo?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: I'm voting no on  
18 136, 1293, 1707, and 1711. Aye on the rest. I just  
19 want to mention that we're going to miss Serena  
20 Longley. She's been an absolute great, great  
21 confidante and counsel to me as the Chair of  
22 Standards and Ethics. I think I speak on behalf of  
23 the committee members when she has been there for all  
24 of us and counseled us and the Attorney General's  
25 gain is certainly the City Council's loss. We're

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2 going to miss her, but we know she's going to do  
3 great things at the Attorney General's office and we  
4 just want to wish Serena the best of luck. Thank  
5 you.

6 CLERK: Chin?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye on all.

8 CLERK: Cohen?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

10 CLERK: Constantinides?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Aye on  
12 all.

13 CLERK: Deutsch?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Abstain on  
15 1348 A and aye on the rest.

16 CLERK: Diaz.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Yes on all except  
18 on Resolution 716 A. Voting no on that one. 716 A,  
19 no. Yes on all of the rest.

20 CLERK: Dromm?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

22 CLERK: Espinal?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Aye.

24 CLERK: Eugene?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I vote aye.

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2 CLERK: Gibson?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: I vote aye on all

4 and also want to express my warmest regards and

5 congratulations to Serena Longley and wish you all

6 the very best in the Attorney General's office.

7 Thank you for all your service and we will truly miss

8 you. I vote aye on all. Thank you.

9 CLERK: Gjonaj?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Aye on all.

11 CLERK: Grodenchik?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Aye on all.

13 CLERK: Holden?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye on all except

15 for Intros 1690, 1707, and 1711. I vote no.

16 CLERK: Kallos?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Permission to

18 explain my vote?

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: I urge my

21 colleagues to vote in favor of Introduction 1293 B by

22 Council member Rose and Introduction 1452 A by

23 Council member Cornegy. And I congratulate my

24 colleagues on carrying these two important pieces of

25 legislation. Discrimination against women and people

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2 of color in this city when dealing with city  
3 contracts is just so rampant that when he can  
4 professional service providers were finally getting  
5 their fair share of the market and there was no  
6 longer a substantial disparity for how many contracts  
7 they were getting and they were removed from having  
8 the benefit of having the MWBE program, we now  
9 discover that they lost their market share. Without  
10 MWBE, they faced so much discrimination that there is  
11 now a disparity and, today, we are actually having to  
12 bring them back in and that is the right thing to do,  
13 but that is not a good thing and it is not a good  
14 reflection on our society and moving forward against  
15 discrimination. And so I want to thank the alliance  
16 of New York Asian Architects and Engineers who are  
17 here in the balcony for their advocacy for coming out  
18 and, as we try to right this wrong and hopefully can  
19 move forward towards a society without discrimination  
20 and as we look at our own country's centuries of  
21 discrimination against Native Americans, they finally  
22 have enough of a market share to be recognized in the  
23 MWBE program and they will be added and have those  
24 benefits, as well. It's high time and I'm glad to do  
25 so. I vote aye on all.

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2 [Applause]

3 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. Quiet  
4 in the chamber.

5 CLERK: King?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Abstain on 716 A  
7 and aye on all the rest.

8 CLERK: Koo?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye on all.

10 CLERK: Koslowitz?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye. Aye on  
12 all.

13 CLERK: Lancman?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Aye.

15 CLERK: Lander?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Request permission  
17 to explain my vote.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you and I  
20 want to thank my colleagues for supporting Intro 136  
21 A. I think people know that, in recent years,  
22 corporations have significantly increased their use  
23 of independent contractors and freelancers as a way  
24 of getting work done with less liability to them.  
25 And I think people know that those independent

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2 contractors and freelancers, of course, you know,  
3 don't get health insurance, don't have retirement  
4 security, don't have the right to join a union or  
5 employment insurance, but I think it surprises most  
6 of us-- is certainly surprised me to learn those  
7 freelancers in independent contractors also don't  
8 have the employment protections from discrimination  
9 and harassment of the New York City Human Rights Law.  
10 So, when Angela Ivana, a freelance beauty  
11 professional and makeup artist was told by her agent  
12 that he didn't want to put her picture up on their  
13 website because he didn't want the clients to see she  
14 was African-American or when Erin Bagwell who is a  
15 filmmaker and freelance write or Carolina Salas, a  
16 marketer, faced sexual harassment from their clients,  
17 that they did not have recourse to the New York City  
18 Human Rights Law to clearly protect them from  
19 discrimination and harassment. I'm glad New York  
20 City is taking this step today to make sure that all  
21 workers, regardless of how they are hired or  
22 classified are clearly protected from discrimination  
23 and harassment and I thank you for supporting this  
24 bill. I vote aye on all.

25 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

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2 CLERK: Levin?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

4 CLERK: Levine?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Aye.

6 CLERK: Maisel?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Yes.

8 CLERK: Menchaca?

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

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you. I  
13 am voting aye on all, but I want to lift up the  
14 packages or package that pertains to public charge.  
15 I want to thank the incredible Vanguard of Council  
16 members that rose to the occasion and promoted bills  
17 that will allow for us, as the city, to respond to  
18 the public charge and the changes that would,  
19 essentially, make our city and our neighbors  
20 hungrier, unhealthy, and potentially lose housing.  
21 That is the wrong direction for, not just our city,  
22 but the country. What I want to do is also safe  
23 thank you to the administration, the Mayor's Office  
24 of Immigrant Affairs on public charge has been  
25 incredibly strong and I want to continue to support

2 their work. The work that we are doing is in  
3 contrast to what the federal government continues to  
4 do which is to focus on white supremacy policies that  
5 remove the power away from our people on the ground  
6 and in our cities and access to these services that  
7 are free of charge and that are the right thing to do  
8 is how we want to keep people connected. I know that  
9 some members in this Council have voted no against  
10 those bills, so fine. Vote no. But do not deny them  
11 the opportunity to connect to important services  
12 including lawyers. So, a fierce staff are here, I'm  
13 giving them number 1-800-566-7636. Make sure that  
14 your constituents, at least, have access to lawyers  
15 so that they can understand their specific case as  
16 they engage this question after October 15th that may  
17 change public charge roles. The New American hotline  
18 is open from 9 to 8 p.m. 1-800-566-7636. They have  
19 that right to access and I hope you give that to  
20 them. Thank you. I will aye on all.

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

22 CLERK: Miller?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Permission to  
24 explain my vote, please?

25 SPEAKER JOHNSON: You're good, Daneek.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you, Mr.  
3 Speaker. I want to congratulate my colleagues on the  
4 thoughtful legislation this afternoon that protects  
5 workers that protects the rights of immigrants, as  
6 well. That is what this body is about. With that  
7 being said, that because my colleague, Vanessa  
8 Gibson, is not here today, I'd be remiss if I did not  
9 mention the work of Rev. Wendell Foster, our  
10 colleague in the Council here and in the various  
11 chambers here. He convenes hearings that address the  
12 African burial grounds that, ultimately, led to the  
13 national monuments and some of the work that is being  
14 done around the area and his legacy. So, I want to  
15 send my condolences to his family, of. And I vote  
16 aye on all. Thank you.

17 CLERK: Moya?

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

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Thank you. I'd  
22 like to take this opportunity to thank Speaker  
23 Johnson, to Chair Menchaca, my colleagues for being  
24 fierce advocates for immigrant New Yorkers. I am  
25 using every mechanism at our disposal to fight

2 Trump's public charge policy change. I'm proud to be  
3 part of a legislative body that refuses to stand by  
4 while the White House pushes a white nationalist  
5 agenda. Most people don't strike gold when they  
6 arrive at this country and they don't expect to,  
7 either. Instead, they take tough jobs and work long  
8 hours. For some of these new Americans, though, that  
9 is not enough. They may need a little help to keep  
10 their heads above water and, make no mistake. As  
11 lawful American citizens, they qualify for these  
12 social benefits just like everyone else that was  
13 lucky enough to have been born within our borders.  
14 I will never begrudge someone who comes here in  
15 search of the American dream and perseveres through  
16 blood, sweat, and tears to turn that dream into a  
17 reality. The pursuit of this dream is the  
18 quintessential American story and, as the son of  
19 immigrants, I will never forget that this is also my  
20 family's story and, as foods for other countless  
21 immigrant families. Needing help is not an  
22 indictment of their character, but refusing help in  
23 the wealthiest country the world has ever known for  
24 no other reason than pure xenophobia, that absolutely  
25 is an indictment of our national character. And that

2 is exactly what this administration is doing here.  
3 Their wealth test for the public charge will  
4 frightening immigrants into disenrolling from life  
5 sustaining programs and deter them from getting the  
6 help that they need. When and where we can help, we  
7 must. My bill will provide information on emergency  
8 feeding programs for anyone who disenrolls in SNAP  
9 and whose SNAP benefits are set to lapse and ensure  
10 that those who need help feeding themselves and their  
11 families will not starve. It is incumbent upon us as  
12 elected officials to take care of all of our  
13 constituents regardless of their nation origin or  
14 economic status. Thank you and I will be voting aye.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

16 CLERK: Perkins?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Aye on all.

18 CLERK: Powers?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye on all.

20 CLERK: Reynoso?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: I vote aye on  
22 all.

23 CLERK: Richards?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye one all.

25 CLERK: Rivera?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Permission to  
3 explain my vote?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Permission granted.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you. You  
6 know, I'm just echoing my colleagues in the public  
7 charge package that we passed on the leadership of  
8 the Chair of the Immigration Committee, Carlos  
9 Menchaca. And these resources are already available.  
10 We want to make sure that the people know that they  
11 are their disposal. That they are available in  
12 spaces that they trust by people they know. And if  
13 this rule goes into effect on October 15th, this  
14 hateful rule rooted in bigotry, it's going to force  
15 New Yorkers to make the unfathomable choice between  
16 feeding their children and becoming an American  
17 citizen and we don't want anyone to have to make that  
18 choice, so I'm proud of the package of legislation  
19 that we passed-- that hopefully we are passing today  
20 and I vote aye on all.

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

22 CLERK: Rodriguez?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

24 CLERK: Rose?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Yes.

2 CLERK: Salamanca?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye on all.

4 CLERK: Torres?

5 [Background comments]

6 CLERK: Treyger?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Permission to  
8 explain my vote?

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Thank you very  
11 much. Colleagues, I would appreciate your support on  
12 my bill, Intro 560 A. I think this is the first, in  
13 recent memory, comprehensive analysis of programming  
14 in our schools. This is a bill that will require the  
15 DOE to report on a pilot that we pushed for on moving  
16 schools start time to a more reasonable hour. There  
17 are over 50 schools in our public school system that  
18 we are learning the start school even before 8:15.  
19 Before 8 o'clock in the morning. This is personal  
20 for me where I taught a high school Regents class at  
21 7:30 in the morning in Brooklyn. I had students  
22 traveling to trains and a bus from the Bronx to get  
23 to class on time on an unreliable transportation  
24 system. CDC is reporting that a number of  
25 adolescents-- or addressed reports of sleep

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2 deprivation, the impact it has on learning and  
3 schools. So, we are asking DOE just to report on the  
4 pilot and to also look at the school lunch hour. We  
5 are hearing that schools are serving lunch at 9  
6 o'clock in the morning. That is not lunch. That is  
7 breakfast. So, we need to have a comprehensive look  
8 at programming in our school system and I think my  
9 colleagues for their support and I vote aye on all.

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you for your  
11 leadership. Us moms appreciate it.

12 CLERK: Torres?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Aye on all.

14 CLERK: Ulrich?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: I vote aye on all.

16 CLERK: Van Bramer?

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Bless you.

18 CLERK: Yeger?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye on all with the  
20 exception of Intro 136 and Intro 1293 in which I vote  
21 no.

22 CLERK: Cumbo?

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I vote aye.

24 CLERK: Van Bramer?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye on all.

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2 CLERK: Speaker Johnson?

3 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I vote aye.

4 [Background comments]

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: All items on  
6 today's general order calendar are adopted by a vote  
7 of 50 in the affirmative, zero negative, and zero  
8 abstentions. With the exception of intro 136 - A  
9 which was adopted by a vote of 47 in the affirmative,  
10 three negative, and zero abstentions and Intro 1293 B  
11 which was adopted by a vote of 47 in the affirmative,  
12 three negative, and zero abstentions and Intro 1348 A  
13 which was adopted by a vote of 49 and me affirmative,  
14 zero negative, and one abstention. Intro 1690 A  
15 which was adopted by a vote of 49 in the affirmative,  
16 one negative, and zero abstentions and Intro 1707  
17 which was adopted by a vote of 47 in the affirmative  
18 and three negative. Intro 1711 was adopted by a vote  
19 of 47 in the affirmative, three negative, and zero  
20 abstentions. The revised land use call ups vote is  
21 50 in the affirmative and zero negative. That's it?  
22 Okay. And that concludes our tally.

23 SPEAKER JOHNSON: And the introduction  
24 reading of bills?

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2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Uh-hm. Okay. We  
3 will now go into introduction and reading of bills.

4 SPEAKER JOHNSON: All bills have been  
5 referred to committee as indicated on today's agenda.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: We will now move  
7 into discussion of resolutions. Are there any  
8 members who wish to speak on today's resolutions? We  
9 have Council member Barron.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you. I just  
11 want to call your attention to Reso 3632 which  
12 requires the Department of Education to establish a  
13 curriculum on diabetes and pre-diabetes. It's the  
14 seventh leading cause of death in the United States  
15 and, in New York City, about 40 percent of the  
16 elementary school children are overweight, which is a  
17 contributing factor to diabetes. However, the Board  
18 of Education does not require that this content be  
19 taught or introduced or strictly identify how  
20 students can be able to be sensitive to this very  
21 healthy-- to this very chronic disease which is  
22 prevalent among the black community. So, this would  
23 require them to establish a curriculum that is  
24 medically accurate, that is age and developmentally  
25 appropriate, and culturally inclusive and links

2 healthy eating habits to mental and emotional health.  
3 Thank you.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, Council  
5 member Barron, for your leadership. Council member  
6 Cabrera, did you wish to speak on resolutions or on  
7 general discussion?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Yes. In the  
9 Reso.

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Okay.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Thank you so  
12 much. I'll make it really quick. This is in regards  
13 to Reso 238 that's been coined as 'ban the bologna'.  
14 I want to give it thanks to borough president Eric  
15 Adam, the co-- [inaudible 01:13:07] sponsor of this  
16 letter to Shannon and also a strong advocate for  
17 healthy lifestyle who had a similar experience like I  
18 did four years ago-- almost four years ago. My  
19 arteries were clogged 99 percent in one spot, 90 in  
20 another spot. The person who did the angiogram  
21 literally said-- when told him, hey, I had like 24  
22 hours to live? He goes, no. You were going to die  
23 today. I had no contingency arteries because I was  
24 too young four years ago for the heart to develop  
25 that. That caused me to really think about, well,

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2 it's not a matter of God, of people. I was saying  
3 that of myself because of way I had treated this  
4 temple, this body, and from that point forward, have  
5 been on a point-- Can I have 30 seconds more?

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Please continue.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Thank you. I  
8 made it a point to try to be as much of an advocate  
9 as possible for healthy eating, especially when it  
10 comes to our children and we know when we see the  
11 reports, the research empirical data coming out from  
12 Harvard school of health policy where the chances of  
13 death increases by 50 percent. We know the  
14 carcinogens that are in these processed meats that  
15 that is the last thing that should be on the plate of  
16 children in our school. And we have control over  
17 that. And so, with that, I would like to thank the  
18 Speaker, Chair Treyger, and the staff for all your  
19 help in making this Reso a reality today and to my  
20 colleagues for their support. Thank you so much.

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you for  
22 sharing your truth and we are so blessed to have you.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Thank you.

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council member  
25 Levin?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you, Madame  
3 Majority Leader. Today, I am proud to pass two  
4 resolutions that address critical issues in our city  
5 and across the country. Resolution 716 A calls on  
6 the New York City Department of Education to fully  
7 adopt the recommendations of the Mayor's sexual  
8 health education taskforce and provide comprehensive  
9 sexual education on a regular basis in all grade  
10 levels. Sexual health education is medically  
11 accurate, developmentally appropriate, and culturally  
12 responsive programming that provides young people  
13 with the tools to make informed and empowered  
14 decisions about the health and wellbeing, including  
15 how to build healthy relationships, understand  
16 consent and bodily autonomy, and learned to value and  
17 respect people's identities across genders, gender,  
18 sexuality, race, and culture. The second resolution,  
19 1047, calls on Congress to pass legislation to  
20 overturn the trump administration's rule on public  
21 charge. This rule is predicated on cruel and bigoted  
22 assumptions about immigrants. People who are our  
23 friends, loved ones, and neighbors and stigmatizes  
24 the use of basic healthcare and nutrition. Medicaid,  
25 SNAP, and housing assistance has made a difference

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2 for countless families across the city, but if  
3 enacted, this rule would change the impact on upwards  
4 of 475,000 residents. No one should ever be  
5 discriminated against or punished for taking care of  
6 their family's well-being and I urge my colleagues to  
7 vote yes on both of these resolutions. Thank you.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: And I vote--

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council member  
11 Gibson?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you, Madame  
13 Majority Leader, and I want to thank the Speaker and  
14 all of my colleagues for your expressions of  
15 condolence and prayers on behalf of the family of the  
16 late, great Wendell Foster. I have had an  
17 opportunity to talk to the family. To the wife, to  
18 his daughter, and they are so thankful and  
19 overwhelmed with all of the love and support and, as  
20 the speaker mentioned, Rev. Wendell Foster served in  
21 this body from 1978 until 2001 and was succeeded by  
22 his daughter, Helen Diane Foster from 2002 until 2013  
23 and that I have the honor survey and still serve as  
24 the Council member for district 16. Rev. Foster was  
25 an icon, a pioneer, a trailblazer. He was the very

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2 first ever African-American elected to any position  
3 in Bronx County at a time during the 80s and 90s when  
4 there was no African-American leadership in the Bronx  
5 and he stood tall among Mandy when you talk about his  
6 faith based work. He served as the pastor of  
7 Christchurch for over 42 years and he was on one  
8 loved and truly admired. And so, I want to thank all  
9 of you for your love and your support and ask you to  
10 continue to pray for his family. He and his wife, on  
11 Tuesday, would've celebrated their 63rd wedding  
12 anniversary and so we thank you so much. The  
13 services are tomorrow and Saturday and if anyone  
14 needs any further information, please let me know or  
15 call my office and we are happy to provide it. So,  
16 thank you and may Rev. Wendell Foster rest in eternal  
17 peace. Thank you, Madam Public Advocate. Oh. Madam  
18 Majority Leader. Sorry.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I'm getting  
20 promotions. May he rest in peace. And thank you for  
21 sharing that biography and sharing more about his  
22 work in the Bronx. All now read today's resolutions  
23 into the record. Members who wish to vote against or  
24 abstain on any of these resolutions should register  
25 your vote with the clerks at the dais.

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2 Resolution 238. Resolution calling upon  
3 the New York City Department of Education the band  
4 processed means from being served in the New York  
5 City public schools. All in favor say aye.

6 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: All opposed?

8 [Inaudible 01:18:43]

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Aye. Abstentions?

10 The ayes have it. Resolution 632. Resolution  
11 calling upon the New York City Department of  
12 Education to create a diabetes and pre-diabetes  
13 health-based curriculum. All in favor say aye.

14 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: All opposed?

16 Abstentions? The ayes have it. Resolution 716 A.  
17 in amended resolution calling upon the New York City  
18 Department of Education to adopt all of the policy  
19 recommendations of the Mayor's sexual health  
20 education task force and provide comprehensive sexual  
21 health education on a regular basis across all grade  
22 levels. All in favor say aye.

23 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: All opposed?

25 Abstentions? The ayes have it. Pre-considered

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2 resolution 1047. Resolution calling on the United  
3 States Congress to pass and the president to sign.  
4 Hm. Legislation that would prohibit the enactment of  
5 the federal rule and entitled Inadmissibility on  
6 Public Charge Grounds. All in favor say aye.

7 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: All opposed?  
9 Abstentions? The ayes have it. We will now move  
10 into general discussion and congratulations to all of  
11 those who put forward resolutions today. We will  
12 begin with Council member Ben Kallos.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Thank you. One by  
14 one, we see storefronts shutter, lights out in  
15 apartments at night. At first just buildings and  
16 then whole city blocks abandoned. Amber light in  
17 even the nicest of neighborhoods. We are solving the  
18 mystery of who is buying what so that neighbors know  
19 what is going on in their communities and can respond  
20 in time to do something about it. I am asking my  
21 colleagues to join me, Manhattan borough president  
22 Gail Brewer, Council members Rosenthal, Reynoso,  
23 Levine, and Powers in passing introduction 1701 of  
24 2019 which would require that any time there is a  
25 transfer of development rights recorded with the

2 city, that a copy be provided within five days to the  
3 relevant community board Council member and borough  
4 president along with the Speaker of the city Council.  
5 Thank you.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much,  
7 Council member Kallos. We will be followed by  
8 Rodriguez and then by Eugene.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Thank you,  
10 Majority Leader. So, first of all, I would like to  
11 invite everyone to use their social media to invite  
12 all New Yorkers to join in the climate change March  
13 that will take place next Friday. Today, New York  
14 City's schools announced that they would be granting  
15 permission to all the students to be excused the next  
16 Friday from the schools if they will be participating  
17 in this march which is part of a national movement.  
18 I would also like to ask that CUNY and SUNY follow  
19 the same thing that the DOE is doing because I think  
20 that this is about sending the message that from  
21 North Manhattan to the South Bronx to each borough in  
22 the city of New York, we are determined to build a  
23 strong boys not only in the city of New York, but  
24 also to build the boys to DC that climate change is  
25 real. The Maria, Katrina, Sandy [inaudible

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2 01:22:14], happened in the Bahamas, that the whole  
3 fire in the Amazon, Peru, Uruguay, and all those  
4 places, it means a lot for us and ordered to take the  
5 necessary steps to save the planet. So, I would  
6 like, again, to invite all New Yorkers to be part of  
7 this march that will take place next Friday and to  
8 say congratulations, especially to the youngsters who  
9 are the ones leading this initiative. [Speaking  
10 foreign language]

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, Council  
12 member Rodriguez. Now we will be hearing from  
13 Council member Eugene and then Council member Barron.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you very  
15 much, Mme. majority leader. I would like to take  
16 this moment to talk about Intros 1699, a bill I  
17 introduced [inaudible 01:23:20] to establish a task  
18 force that will study the danger and economic impacts  
19 on elevated railways that exist throughout our  
20 transit system in New York City. It is critically  
21 important that such a study is commissioned since  
22 non-has been done in recent memory and many think the  
23 way do not concern of the impact of elevated railways  
24 are very troubling. We are all aware of the hazard  
25 created by [inaudible 01:23:50] that fall off

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2 elevated tracks and denting cars and, in certain  
3 incidents, shattering the windows of the vehicles.  
4 What I am describing is bad enough, but it is only a  
5 matter of time before pieces of metal are falling  
6 from elevated rails and result in fatalities. It  
7 appears that there is a direct correlation between  
8 underserved communities and elevated railways, the  
9 hazard. There are associated with elevated trains  
10 combined with the noise and vibration that they  
11 generate. May all be factors impacting the quality  
12 of life of people. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues, I  
13 call upon you to support intros 1699 which will call  
14 for a study on elevated railways that is long overdue  
15 and analyze the promise of improving the safety and  
16 quality of life of countless numbers of people living  
17 in New York City. Thank you very much, Madame  
18 Majority Leader.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, Council  
20 member Eugene. Council member Barron?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you. I want  
22 to add my voice to those who have talked about the  
23 great work of Rev. Wendell Foster, both as a Council  
24 member, as a community leader, and his fight to make  
25 sure that there was justice and equity and

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2 acknowledgment of the contributions of African  
3 Americans to this country.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Excuse me one  
5 moment. Quiet in the chamber, please.

6 [Background comments]

7 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Keep it down, please.  
8 Keep it down.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: So we send our  
10 condolences to his family and say that his  
11 accomplishments will be remembered. Secondly, I want  
12 to call my colleagues attention to three pieces of  
13 legislation. The piece on the intro 1687 which calls  
14 on city contractors of 100,000 dollars or more to  
15 search their history and to declare if they have had  
16 any involvement in the slave trade. And the resos  
17 1039 and 1040 which I'm sponsoring also with my  
18 colleague, Council member Miller, which supports HR  
19 40 in Congress which has been around for about 20  
20 years which calls for a study and development of  
21 reparations proposals and then the state legislature,  
22 A 3020 and assembly 2964 which establishes a New York  
23 State commission on reparations remedies, as has been  
24 said until we address these issues and examine them  
25 and acknowledge them, their impact will not be

2 removed from our functioning. And, lastly, I want to  
3 acknowledge the life of Robert Mugabe who was the  
4 president of Zimbabwe. He was trained as a teacher  
5 and he joined the movement to form an independent  
6 state to be led by the representatives of the black  
7 majority. He protested against Rhodesia led by Ian  
8 Smith and, for that, he was imprisoned for 10 years.  
9 At the end of that time, he did participate in the  
10 peace negotiations at Lancaster Castle which said  
11 that, moving forward, the United States and Great  
12 Britain would pay those European farmers who had, and  
13 stolen the land from the indigenous people. That the  
14 United States and Great Britain would pay those  
15 persons for their land. There was no movement for 20  
16 years and, after that time, Robert Mugabe and the  
17 government said to those landowners, pick one of the  
18 many farms that you have and we will pay you for  
19 that, but you cannot continue to monopolize the  
20 farmlands that belong to the people that you stole it  
21 from. So, that was when he became a villain and that  
22 was when sanctions were imposed and the conditions  
23 also of the drought that led to the severe  
24 conditions, but we want to acknowledge him for the  
25 great work that he did and then establishing the

2 country of Zimbabwe and making sure that the people  
3 were represented. Thank you.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you and I  
5 also want to say our thoughts and prayers go out to  
6 the many people of the Bahamas. Over 2500 people are  
7 still listed as missing as of today. 50 people have  
8 been reported as dead and we certainly want to make  
9 sure that this country supports the Bahamas in their  
10 time of need because they are certainly facing a  
11 tremendous impact after Dorian ripped across their  
12 country just a week ago. Then our thoughts and  
13 prayers should continue to remain with them and all  
14 levels of support should also be with them. I also  
15 want to invite everyone to my district on Sunday for  
16 a celebration. It is the friends of Crown Heights  
17 along with the Jewish children's Museum and the  
18 Brooklyn children's Museum and the Jewish children's  
19 Museum to recognize the Crown Heights uprising that  
20 happened 28 years ago in our community. It's a way  
21 to recognize the tragedy that happened, but also to  
22 begin to heal our community and to bring the various  
23 members of our community together. So, it will be  
24 Sunday, September 15th from one to 6 p.m. at Brower  
25 park right next door to the Brooklyn children's

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2 Museum and we will close out with Council member  
3 Steve Levin.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you, Madam  
5 Majority Leader. I just wanted to echo Council  
6 member Matteo's remarks earlier and Council member  
7 Gibson's remarks thanking Serena Longley for her  
8 service to the Council and for being, you know, such  
9 a real partner and great resource. And we wish her  
10 well working with our great Attorney General, Latisha  
11 James. Thank you, Serena. And that's all. Thank  
12 you.

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. And  
14 this meeting of September 12th is now adjourned. I  
15 will now turn it over to the Speaker Corey Johnson.

16 SPEAKER JOHNSON: You said it. This  
17 meeting is adjourned. Thank you.

18 [Background comments]

19 [Gavel]

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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 September 16, 2019