CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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April 22, 2020 Start: 1:40 p.m. Recess: 4:45 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: Corey Johnson

Speaker

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Adrienne E. Adams

Alicka Ampry-Samuel

Diana Ayala
Inez D. Barron
Joseph C. Borelli
Justin Brannan
Fernando Cabrera
Margaret S. Chin
Costa 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 Grodenchik Robert Holden

Corey Johnson Ben Kallos Andy King Peter Koo Karen Koslowitz Rory I. Lancman Brad Lander Stephen T. Levin Mark Levine Farah 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 Rodriquez Deborah Rose Helen K. Rosenthal Rafael Salamanca, Jr. Ritchie J. Torres Mark Treyger Eric A. Ulrich Paul Vallone Jimmy Van Bramer Kalman Yeger

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

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STATED MEETING 4

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Ladies and gentleman, 2 3 welcome to the New York City Council's first virtual 4 stated meeting. At this time, please place all 5 electronic devices to vibrate and turn on your video. 6 Please check to see that your microphone is on, is on 7 mute. Thank you for your cooperation. I now turn it 8 over to Majority Leader Laurie Cumbo.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Good afternoon, and welcome to the Stated Meeting of April 22, 2020. I am Laurie Cumbo and it is my pleasure to welcome you to the City Council's first virtual Stated Meeting. If you would like to follow along, the agenda for today's meeting is posted on our website. Please join us for the Pledge of Allegiance.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: I pledge allegiance...

UNIDENTIFIED: I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: ... to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

> MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Roll call.

1	STATED MEETING 5
2	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Adams.
3	COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Present.
4	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Ampry-Samuel.
5	COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Present.
6	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Ayala.
7	COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Present.
8	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Barron.
9	COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Present and
10	blessed.
11	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Borelli.
12	COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Blessed and
13	present.
14	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Brannan.
15	COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Present.
16	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Cabrera.
17	COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Present.
18	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Chin.
1,9	COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Present.
20	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Cohen.
21	COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Here.
22	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Constantinides.
23	COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Blessed
24	and present.

COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Cornegy.

STATED MEETING 6 1 2 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Blessed, 3 present, and highly favored. COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Deutsch. 4 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Present. 5 COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Diaz. 6 7 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Present. COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Dromm. 8 9 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here. 10 COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Eugene. 11 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Present. 12 COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Gibson. 13 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Blessed and highly favored. I'm here. 14 15 COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Gjonaj. 16 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Here. 17 COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Grodenchik. 18 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Also blessed 19 and most definitely here. 20 COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Holden. COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here. 21 22 COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Kallos. 23 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Here. 24 COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: King.

1	STATED MEETING 7
2	COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Present and
3	blessings to us all.
4	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Koo.
5	COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.
6	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Koslowitz.
7	COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.
8	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Lancman.
9	COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Present.
10	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Lander.
11	COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Grateful.
12	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Levin.
13	COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.
14	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Levine.
15	COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Very happy to be
16	present.
17	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Louis.
18	COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Blessed and here.
19	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Maisel.
20	COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Here.
21	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Menchaca.
22	COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Presente.
23	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Miller.
24	COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Present.

COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Moya.

1	STATED MEETING 8
2	COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Present.
3	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Perkins.
4	COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Present.
5	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Powers.
6	COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Nice to see
7	everybody. I am present.
8	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Reynoso.
9	COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Present. Peace.
10	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Richards.
11	COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Miss all y'all.
12	Present.
13	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Rivera.
14	COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present.
15	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Rodriguez.
16	COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: [speaking in
17	Spanish] Presente.
18	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Rose.
19	COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Blessed and
20	present.
21	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Rosenthal.
22	COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.
23	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Salamanca.
24	COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present.
25	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Torres.

1	STATED MEETING 9					
2	COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Present.					
3	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Treyger.					
4	COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.					
5	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Ulrich.					
6	COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: I am present and					
7	on time. Here.					
8	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Vallone.					
9	COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.					
10	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Van Bramer.					
11	COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Very grateful					
12	to be here with all of you. I am present.					
13	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Yeger.					
14	COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here.					
15	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Matteo.					
16	MINORITY LEADER MATTEO: Here.					
17	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Cumbo.					
18	MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Present.					
19	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: Speaker Johnson.					
20	SPEAKER JOHNSON: I'm here and I'm happy					
21	to see all my colleagues, very, very happy to see you					
22	all.					
23	COMMITTEE CLERK MARTIN: We have a					
24	quorum.					

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2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We 3 will now have today's invocation, which will be

4 delivered by Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum Beit Simcat

Torah, located at 130 West 30th Street in Manhattan.

RABBI KLEINMAN: Thank you so much, and I'm honored to be here with all of you to offer these words as you begin your work on behalf of this great city, and we're so grateful to all of you for stepping forward and doing the work of our city. May the One who has blessed all of our ancestors and all of our lands and in all of our histories, bless all of us here today. We stand on the shoulders, each one of us, of those who have come before us, who have lived through times even worse than the ones we are in right now, and have blessed us with our lives, to remember them, to bring their strength, and to bring their vision to create a world for those who will come after us as we have come after them. those healthcare workers in our city who every day take their lives into their hands as they save lives. Bless those essential workers and those on the streets of our city keeping it clean and safe and delivering food and essential services so that all of us may live. Bless all those who are working to

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bring dignity to the dead. Our city now counts over 10,000 dead from this virus. We pray for the immigrants, the refugees, the asylum seekers, those who are teachers and parents and grandparents, those who are in our homeless shelters and those who are in our homes and on our streets. We pray for everyone today. And we pray for those of you who represent this city, to continue doing the work of government to make things better for all of us, to bring to us a vision of what it could be when we gather together with intention for the good and for the health of all. Please, all of us, those of various faiths and those of no faith, we join together to bring our intentions and to bring our talents , to bring our vision and to bring our humanity, to create a city on which we will build into a future. We use technology to gather together today, but knowing that the One who has made all of us is present wherever each of is right now. We pray that though we are physically distant we are spiritually connected and we pray we will use whatever tools necessary to build up toward the future. We say these words of the Jewish prayer which expresses gratitude for living to this moments. [speaking in Hebrew]. We thank the One above, the

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One who has created our souls, the One who is in our hearts for the honor, the privilege to be alive at this moment, to use the work of our hands and our hearts for the good of all humanity, and less us say amen.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amen.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Amen. Amen.

Thank you so much, Rabbi Kleinbaum, for that powerful and timely and important prayer that our city needs so much right now. I'd now like to ask Speaker

Johnson to spread the invocation on the record.

Majority Leader, and I want to thank my friend, whom I'm so happy to see, ah, on the screen, Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum, ah, who serves as the spiritual leader of Congregation Beit Simcat Torah. She was installed as CBST's first rabbi in 1992, arriving at the height of the AIDS crisis. She guided the congregation through a period of tremendous loss and also tremendous change while addressing social issues of the day and building a strong and deeply spiritual community. Under her leadership the congregation has become a powerful voice in the movement for equality and justice for all people, of all sexual orientations,

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2	gender identities, and expressions.
3	personally worked closely with Rabbi
4	is a source of inspiration to so man
5	community and she is a source of ins
6	personally. Her temple is in my cou

Kleinbaum, who y in our piration to me ncil district on West 30th Street. I have been there many times for Friday night services and I particularly have enjoyed their Pride Shabbat the last couple of years. fond memories of not that long ago surprising Rabbi Kleinbaum with a proclamation for her 60th birthday. Rabbi, again, I want to thank you for everything you do and for being with us today as part of this special Stated Meeting. I also want to thank you for your work serving New Yorkers in your community during this coronavirus crisis. We are deeply, deeply grateful for you and everything you do for our city, but especially the importance of your voice and of your spirituality and of your guidance during these painful weeks we have just lived through. want to thank you for your friendship and for being a wonderful New Yorker. And Madam Majority Leader, with that I make a motion to spread the invocation in full upon the record.

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MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much, Speaker Johnson. I will now recognize you again so that you can provide an overview of today's very historical meeting.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Ah, thank you again, Madam Majority Leader, and this is not my speaker time, this is just, ah, an overview to give the council members and also the folks that are watching an understanding of what we're going to be doing today. I want to welcome everyone to the New York City Council Stated Meeting for April 22, 2020. is a Stated unlike anything, unlike any we've ever had before, and I think it's fair to say that this crisis is unlike anything we've faced in modern history. New York City is the epicenter of the coronavirus pandemic in the United States of America. And as of yesterday our city has had 134,874 confirmed cases of COVID-19. We have also lost 14,427 New Yorkers to this terrible disease, and I don't want to get lost in numbers. Each one of those losses is a personal story, a family that has lost someone, lives that have been altered by this terrible virus. It is a death toll that defies the imagination and includes many frontline workers and

2 public servants who have died in service to our great 3 city. As New Yorkers, we have faced adversity many times before. Hurricane Sandy, September 11, the 4 Great Recession, the fiscal crisis of the 1970s. But 5 6 none of those tragic experiences were quite like But although this crisis is unprecedented, we will get through this the same way we got through 8 other hard times. We will look out for one another. 9 We will fight to protect the most vulnerable. And we 10 will work together to benefit the common good for the 11 city that we love. We know that the days and months 12 ahead will not be easy. But this City Council is 13 14 committed to doing everything we can to help New York 15 City recover. Today we are voting on several 16 important affordable housing items that are crucial 17 to our city, and we are also introducing a COVID 18 relief package that includes bills to extend time for tenants to repay rent and debts, as well as new 19 20 protections from harassment for commercial and residential tenants. And we're introducing a plan to 21 22 reopen our streets to pedestrians so they can 23 practice safe social distancing while getting fresh air and exercise that people need to stay healthy. 2.4 25 This relief package also includes a New York City

2 essential workers bill of rights that requires premiums for non-salaried essential employees at 3 large companies, prohibitions on the firing of 4 5 essential workers without just cause, and paid sick 6 leave for gig workers. I know that we are anxious to 7 get started, but before we begin I want to explain how we were able to meet today and to provide 8 9 everyone with a road map on the steps we are taking 10 in today's meetings. We are able to meet virtually today because of Governor Cuomo's emergency order 11 202.1 which suspended certain portions of the public 12 officers law. This had the effect of allowing for 13 14 public bodies like the New York City Council to meet 15 virtually. We are also able to meet pursuant to the 16 mayor's executive order 100, which suspended Section 42 of the New York City Charter to the extent it 17 18 requires the City Council to hold meetings as provided by its rules and requires us to have two 19 20 Stated Meetings per month. This means that we do not need to follow our council rules regulating Stated 21 22 Meetings, including the in-person voting requirement. 23 Based on those executive orders we are going to move forward with today's meeting and we'll be following 2.4 25 all of our rules except for Rule 8.40-A, requiring

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in-person voting. Here is what will happen. we'll vote on a motion from Council Member Karen Koslowitz, the chair of our Rules Committee, that allows for the suspension of City Council rules that would otherwise prevent us from conducting our regular business virtually. After we vote on that motion, we will take a recess from this Stated Meeting. Then I will suspend the rule requiring inperson votes for committees. And we will then have a meeting of the Committee of the Whole. That is a committee made up of all of the members of the City The reason why we are convening the Council. Committee of the Whole is to enable the council to seamlessly pass laws and resolutions out of committee and still vote on them today, the ones we'll be voting on today. After that committee meets we will then reconvene the Stated Meeting and consider the items that passed the Committee of the Whole, along with other items that were already passed through committees prior to the coronavirus hitting New York City. For all of these steps we will stay in the same Zoom conference, so the Zoom conference that you're in right now or that you're watching right now is the same Zoom conference where all of this will

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occur. With that, I turn the floor back to you,

Madam Majority Leader Cumbo.

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MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,

Speaker Corey Johnson. At this time I would now like
to recognize Council Member Koslowitz, the chair of
our Committee on Rules, Privileges, and Elections.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Thank you very I move to suspend the rules of the council pursuant to Rule 10.20 in relationship to certain emergency measures to respond to the public health risk posed by the coronavirus. The suspension and this amendment to the rules of the council would only last for the duration of the declared coronavirus emergency by the governor of New York State or the mayor of New York City, pursuant to New York executive law. Since I have not provided one week notice for this motion, unanimous consent is required. I move to suspend the founding rules of the council, Rule 2.30, Committee of the Whole to the extent it requires physically posting a hard copy notice in City Hall. Rule 5.10, public access, to the extent it requires that a complete transcript of each committee meeting be available for in-person public inspection at the Office of the City Clerk.

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2	Rule 6.00, preparation and presentation of papers to
3	the extent it can be read as requiring that all
4	papers other than committee reports must be deposited
5	in person with the office of the speaker before 1:00
6	p.m. at least three business days, excluding
7	municipal holidays proceeding the meeting day.
8	Papers referred to committee, change of reference, to
9	the extent it only allows the Speaker to change the
10	committee assignment of the Local Law or Resolution
11	up until the first meeting of any such committee.
12	Rule 7.50, meetings subsection B, to the extent it
13	prohibits a committee from meeting on the day of the
14	Stated or Special Meeting of the council unless the
15	item to be considered by such committee will out of
16	necessity be proposed as a general order for that day
17	or such committee meeting is called with the consent
18	of two-thirds of the members of such committee.
19	Subsection C, to the extent it requires certain
20	standing committee, committees, to meet once a month
21	or once every two months. Rule 7.70, required voting
22	subsection to the extent it requires that all
23	committee votes must be cast in person. Rule 7
24	PARLIAMENTARIAN: Council Member

Koslowitz. Which, which subsection of rule 7.70?

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Subsection A.

3 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Great. You can

4 continue.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: OK. 7.130, discharge of committee to the extent it would prohibit a change of reference of the committee assessment pursuant to Rule 6.30. Rule 8.40, voting, subsection A, to the extent it requires that all votes cast at Stated, Charter, and Special Meetings of the council must be in person. Rule 11.60, discharge of committee, subsection A, to the extent it prohibits the council from acting on a matter referred to the Land Use Committee or its subcommittees pursuant to Section 11.20 until the committee has reported thereon or the expiration of the time limits the consideration of that matter. In addition, my motion would allow the Speaker to suspend any other rule of the council that would prevent the council and its committees from conducting their regular business remotely, as long as that suspension is consistent with federal, state, and local law. To do so the Speaker would need to publish the rules being suspended on the council website.

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MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,

Council Member Koslowitz, for your important work.

Would any council members at this time like to debate this motion? If you would like to speak please raise your hand using the feature in Zoom.

PARLIAMENTARIAN: Madam Majority Leader,
Council Member Menchaca has raised his hand.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,

Council Member Menchaca. If you would like to speak

please wait before you begin your remarks for our

Sergeant at Arms to announce he has begun the

countdown clock. The Sergeant at Arms will alert you

when your time expires.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Council Member, your two minutes is starting now.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you. Ah, thank you to the Speaker and the staff and our Majority Leader Cumbo. Um, I just have one question, after listening to, ah, Council Member Koslowitz's review of the changes. Can I just get a sense of comparison to what we're voting on today to an earlier version of a systems change proposed by, ah, by you, Council Member Koslowitz back in early March? Are there any differences with that and this one?

22 STATED MEETING 1 2 And whoever wants to answer that question it'd be 3 great. 4 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Lance Polivy. 5 PARLIAMENTARIAN: I'd be happy to answer that question, Council Member Menchaca. The 6 7 difference between the motion that Council Member Koslowitz distributed to members in March and the one 8 that she has just proposed is that the one in March 9 did not, ah, lay out each of the rules that would be 10 suspended. The motion that she has made today that 11 12 requires unanimous consent lists all of the, ah, 13 provisions of the council rules that would be 14 suspended. 15 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thanks. Laurie? 16 Sorry, Madam Majority Leader? 17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Are there any 18 other members that wish to speak at this time? OK. As required by rule 10.20 I ask for unanimous consent 19 20 to adopt Council Member Koslowitz's motion to

22 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Madam Majority Leader.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes?

24 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Council Member Yeger

25 has raised his hand.

suspend...

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2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: My apologies.

3 | Council Member Yeger, please.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Council Member Yeger, your two minutes is starting now.

COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you, Madam President. Um, I just want to, ah, reflect in addition to what the parliamentarian spoke, ah, and to Madam Chair Koslowitz's, ah, remarks earlier, ah, and specifically a reference to my colleague, Council Member Menchaca's question. The, ah, a month ago the, the resolution that was proposed would have enable the Speaker to suspend any rule of the council and, ah, the counsel to the council has worked very hard together with the Speaker to, and Chair Koslowitz, to limit the suspension only to such, ah, portions of our rules as would, ah, inhibit our ability to conduct these meetings online, and to no other matter at all. So it's, it's a, it's a simple, ah, listing of those rules, ah, that would have otherwise prohibited us from proceeding the way we're proceeding today and later at the Committee of the Whole, um, and it's a, it's a statement, I think, by the Speaker that he recognized, ah, the, the rights and obligations and authorities of members of the

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will be voting yes on this.

council and has respected us in great way to allow us
to keep the rules intact except what is absolutely
necessary, and I'm grateful, ah, to the Speaker. I

SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you, Council Member Yeger. I appreciate that statement.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,

Council Member Yeger. And I will begin with, as

required by Rule 10.20, I ask for unanimous consent

to adopt Council Member Koslowitz's motion to suspend

and amend certain rules of the council. Any member

wishing to vote against Council Member Koslowitz's

motion should raise their hand now in Zoom or object

by saying no.

PARLIAMENTARIAN: Madam Majority Leader, there are no objections.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Seeing none, the motion is adopted. I now recognize Speaker Corey Johnson.

SPEAKER JOHNSON: I would like to make a motion for a recess for about, ah, one hour, it might be less, to allow the Committee of the Whole to meet. If the motion passes we will stay in this Zoom conference and wait for the committee to begin. We

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will then consider and vote on the items on the agenda for the Committee of the Whole. Then we will stay in the same Zoom conference and reconvene this Stated Meeting.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,

Speaker Corey Johnson. I would ask whether there is

unanimous consent for this motion for a recess. Any

member wishing to vote against the recess should

raise their hand now in Zoom or object by saying so.

PARLIAMENTARIAN: Madam Majority Leader, there are no objections.

MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Seeing none, the motion is adopted. We will take a recess to convene a meeting of the Committee of the Whole. The Stated Meeting of April 22, 2020, is now in recess. [gavel]

1 STATED MEETING

${\tt C} \ {\tt E} \ {\tt R} \ {\tt T} \ {\tt I} \ {\tt F} \ {\tt I} \ {\tt C} \ {\tt A} \ {\tt T} \ {\tt E}$

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 26, 2020