

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

----- X

TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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June 18, 2020
Start: 2:09 p.m.
Recess: 4:53 p.m.

HELD AT: Remote Hearing

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 Rodriguez
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)

@

2 SERGEANT AT ARMS: [inaudible] your
3 screen please. As soon as that begins we'll start.
4 Can I have your attention, please place all
5 electronic devices to vibrate. Please place all
6 electronic devices to vibrate. Ah, Council members,
7 you will have the ability to mute and unmute
8 yourself. Thank you. Madam Majority Leader.

9 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Ah, Majority Leader
10 Cumbo, are you there?

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes, I am.

12 SPEAKER JOHNSON: We're ready.

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Can you hear me?

14 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Yes. We're ready to
15 begin.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: OK. Good
17 afternoon and welcome to the recessed stated meeting
18 of May 28, 2020, being held on June 18, 2020. I am
19 Majority Leader Laurie Cumbo and it is my pleasure to
20 welcome you to this virtual meeting of the New York
21 City Council. If you would like to follow along, the
22 agenda for today's meeting is posted on our website.
23 I personally will not be pledging my allegiance to
24 the United States of America, but certainly respect
25

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5

2 those who choose to do so at this time [people
3 reciting the Pledge of Allegiance].

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. Roll
5 call.

6 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Adams.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Present.

8 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Ampry-Samuel.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Present.

10 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Ayala.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Present.

12 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Barron.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: [inaudible].

14 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Thank you.

15 Borelli.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Present.

17 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Brannan. Cabrera.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Present.

19 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Chin.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Present.

21 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Cohen.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Logged on.

23 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Constantinides.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: With

25 video problems as indicated, but I am here.

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2 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Cornegy.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aqui.

4 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Thank you.

5 Deutsch.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: I'm here.

7 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: I'm sorry. Diaz.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Here.

9 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Dromm.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

11 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Eugene.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I'm here,

13 present.

14 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Gibson.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Present.

16 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Gjonaj.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Present.

18 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Grodenchik.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Here.

20 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Holden.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here.

22 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Kallos.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Here.

24 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: King. Koo.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Present.

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2 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Thank you. I'm
3 sorry, Koo.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

5 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Koslowitz.
6 Lancman.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Present.

8 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Lander.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: I'm here.

10 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Levin.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Present.

12 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Levine.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: I'm here.

14 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Louis. Maisel.
15 Menchaca.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Presente.

17 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Miller.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Present.

19 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Moya.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Present.

21 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Perkins. Powers.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Here.

23 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Reynoso.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Here.

25 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Richards.

- 2 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Present.
- 3 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Rivera.
- 4 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present.
- 5 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Rodriguez. Rose.
- 6 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Present.
- 7 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Rosenthal.
- 8 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.
- 9 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Salamanca.
- 10 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present.
- 11 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Torres.
- 12 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Present.
- 13 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Treyger.
- 14 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.
- 15 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Ulrich.
- 16 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Present.
- 17 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Vallone.
- 18 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.
- 19 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Van Bramer.
- 20 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.
- 21 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Yeger.
- 22 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here.
- 23 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Matteo.
- 24 MINORITY LEADER MATTEO: Here.
- 25 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Cumbo.

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2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Present.

3 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Speaker Johnson.

4 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I'm here.

5 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Madam Majority
6 Leader, we have a quorum.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, Mr.
8 City Clerk. The recessed Stated Meeting of May 28,
9 2020, is hereby adjourned. We will now begin the
10 Stated Meeting of June 18, 2020. [gavel] Roll call.

11 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Adams. Thank you.
12 Adams.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Still present.

14 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Ampry-Samuel.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Present.

16 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Ayala.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Present.

18 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Barron. Borelli.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Present, sorry.

20 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Thank you.

21 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Brannan.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Here.

23 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Cabrera.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Present.

25 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Chin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Present.

3

COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Cohen.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Here.

5

COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Constantinides.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Cornegy.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Presente.

8

COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Deutsch. Diaz.

9

Dromm. Eugene. Gibson.

10

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Eugene present.

11

COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Thank you.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Present. Gibson

13

present.

14

COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Thank you.

15

Gjonaj.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Present.

17

COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Grodenchik.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Still here.

19

COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Holden.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here.

21

COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Kallos.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Still here.

23

COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: King.

24

COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Present.

25

COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Koslowitz.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

3 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Lancman.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Here.

5 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Lander.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

7 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Levin.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

9 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Thank you.

10 Levine.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Here.

12 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Louis.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Still present.

14 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Thank you.

15 Maisel.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: I raised my hand.

17 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Menchaca.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Presente.

19 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Miller. Moya.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Presente.

21 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Perkins.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Present.

23 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Powers.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Present.

25 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Reynoso.

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COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Present.

3

COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Richards.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Present.

5

COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Rivera.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present.

7

COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Rodriguez. Rose.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Present.

9

COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Thank you.

10

Rosenthal.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.

12

COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Salamanca.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present.

14

COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Torres.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Present.

16

COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Treyger.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Present.

18

COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Ulrich.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Present.

20

COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Vallone.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

22

COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Van Bramer.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

24

COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Yeger.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here.

2 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Matteo.

3 MINORITY LEADER MATTEO: Here.

4 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Cumbo.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Present.

6 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Speaker Johnson.

7 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I'm here.

8 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: We have a quorum.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Do you
10 have me, Constantinides, do you have me as well?

11 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Oh yes we do, yes
12 we do, Council Member.

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We
14 will now have today's invocation, which will be
15 delivered by Reverend Yunus Coldman, spiritual leader
16 at Rivers of Living Water Ministries UCC, located at
17 263 West 86th Street in Manhattan.

18 REVEREND COLDMAN: Good afternoon,
19 everyone. To the all-knowing, the all-loving, the
20 divine presence, the great I Am, Emmanuel, eternal I
21 Amness, light, love, the One, we pray. There is one
22 life, the life of God. Therefore, I Am. There is
23 one universal creative intelligence. Therefore, I
24 Am. There is one mind, the mind of God. Therefore,
25 I Am. Love is universal spirit in action.

2 Therefore, I Am. God is, therefore I Am. I Am that
3 I Am. Therefore, I Am. For all of us gathered here
4 today, albeit virtually, we ask for strength and
5 wisdom, the holy support, those for whom we are
6 gathered. We ask you for your blessings as we move
7 forward as one, guiding us along the way. Let us
8 take this time on this day to develop what is needed
9 and wanted. Let us hear and discern the voices of
10 those we serve as we attempt to provide for them,
11 allowing their lead when needed and covering them
12 when necessary. We come together invoking your
13 presence here to do the work that ought to be done.
14 In them, through them, and for them. We ask for your
15 presence here, eyes open, minds open, hearts open.
16 In the name of all that is good and just and right
17 for them all, for us all. Amen, ashay, and so it is.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
19 Reverend Coldman. I now ask Council Member Rosenthal
20 to spread the beautiful invocation onto the record.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: I am honored
22 to have the opportunity to thank Reverend Coldman,
23 who became an ordained interfaith minister for the
24 sole purpose of bringing life and divine love to the
25 community. In 2013 Reverend Coldman made the

2 milestone, life-changing, life-affirming decision to
3 move forward in the process of transition and to
4 become a visible for the transgender community.

5 Reverend Coldman is the eastern regional minister of
6 Trans Saints, a community of transgendered faith
7 leaders focused on the unique perspectives of the
8 African American trans community. Reverend Coldman
9 is also a minister and board member at Rivers of
10 Living Water NYUCC. He provides ministerial support
11 with the national LGBT task force. He has provided
12 chaplaincy services to the trans community at Riker's
13 Island. And he works closely with LGBTQ young
14 people. For all of their incredible service to the
15 TGNCMB community specifically and the LGBTQ+
16 community overall, Reverend Coldman was honored with
17 the 2018 humanitarian award from Princess Janae Place
18 and the 2019 inaugural national trans visibility
19 march torch awarded, the Lois L. Bates award. So
20 thank you, Majority Leader Cumbo. I would like to
21 thank Reverend Coldman for being here today and make
22 a motion that the invocation be spread in full upon
23 the record.

24

25

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2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so
3 much, Council Member Rosenthal. We will now move
4 into the adoption of minutes.

5 SPEAKER JOHNSON: None.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Messages and
7 papers from the mayor.

8 SPEAKER JOHNSON: None.

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

11 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Finance.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Petitions and
13 communications.

14 SPEAKER JOHNSON: None.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Land use call-
16 ups.

17 SPEAKER JOHNSON: None.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: We will now have
19 communication from Speaker Corey Johnson.

20 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Ah, thank you, Madam
21 Majority Leader. I also want to thank Reverend
22 Coldman for being here today. That was a really
23 beautiful, ah, message that we got. So I want to
24 thank you so much for taking time out of your busy
25 schedule to be here. Good afternoon, everyone.

2 Happy Thursday. As always, I hope you and your
3 families are safe and well. Our city is slowly
4 beginning to reopen and it is all due to the hard
5 work of New Yorkers who flatten the curve. We are on
6 the right path, and I want to remind everyone that we
7 need to stay committed to continue the progress that
8 we've seen. The fight is not over. As of today we
9 have lost 22,199 New Yorkers, 22,199 New Yorkers, to
10 COVID-19. That number includes probable deaths.
11 Before the pandemic began we couldn't have fathomed
12 this loss of life in such a short period of time. My
13 heart is with every person who has lost a loved one
14 to this terrible disease. And as we do at every
15 Stated Meeting, I also want to acknowledge those who
16 have died from 9/11-related illnesses since our last
17 meeting. The FDNY lost Firefighters William McCarthy
18 and Paul McManamen, and the NYPD lost Detective Jewel
19 Jenkins and Detective Leonard Koko, Jr. Let's have a
20 moment of silence for Firefighters McCarthy and
21 McManamen and Detectives Jenkins and Koko, and let's
22 remember all the New Yorkers we've lost from COVID-
23 19. If folks could mute their line, please. [moment
24 of silence] Thank you. Moving forward, I'd like to
25 remind everyone that we have an upcoming primary, ah,

2 next Tuesday, June 23, and we have to make sure our
3 voices are heard. I'll also remind everyone that
4 absentee ballots must be postmarked by Monday, June
5 22. For those people who are voting in person please
6 remember to wear a mask and to socially distance
7 while at the polls. I also want to wish everyone a
8 very happy Father's Day to those who will be
9 celebrating this Sunday. I'm always inspired by the
10 amazing fathers who I know and who I love. I miss my
11 father. He died in 2012 at 57 years old, ah, and I'm
12 thinking about him. He was a veteran. He was a
13 Marine, um, thinking of him. I'm also inspired by
14 the many LGBT New Yorkers I know and love, which
15 brings me to, ah, our next item, and that is wishing
16 everyone a happy Pride. This, of course, is a Pride
17 month like no other, but we won't be able to
18 celebrate with the parades we typically have and the
19 marches we typically have. Ah, Pride will go on. We
20 had a great victory this past week thanks to the
21 tireless advocacy from advocates across the country.
22 The Supreme Court on Monday banned employment
23 discrimination against LGBT New Yorkers, ah, LGBT
24 workers. I think it's really important that we
25 highlight that transgender Americans are protected

2 under this decision. This ruling reaffirms our right
3 to live open and honestly, and I couldn't be prouder
4 to live in a city that codified this protection in
5 1986 for LGB New Yorkers and in 2002 for transgender
6 New Yorkers. During this month it's important that
7 we continue to recognize the intersectionality of
8 black lives and queer lives. We know that our
9 struggles are not always the same, but we must
10 continue to fight today for the fair treatment of
11 everyone under the law, especially black queer
12 people, black trans people. I'd also like to
13 acknowledge Juneteenth, which is tomorrow. It marks
14 the end of slavery in the United States. This year's
15 Juneteenth comes at a pivotal moment for our country.
16 This nation and our city are crying for change. The
17 murder of George Floyd, the latest in a long line of
18 black Americans who died in law enforcement custody,
19 triggered protests over police brutality and racist
20 policies that have disproportionately harmed black
21 women and men and trans people for generations. In
22 New York City people of all racial and economic
23 background have flooded our streets to protest our
24 current police system and demand change. And I want
25 them to know that I have heard them. I believe

2 everyone in this body and this chamber has heard
3 them. As a I white man I will not and will never
4 pretend to understand what black people have
5 experienced in this country and in our city. But I
6 am listening and I am committed to action. We can't
7 keep repeating the names of black women and men who
8 have been killed by police and continue to sit on the
9 sidelines. Sandra Bland, Tony McDade, Amadou Diallo,
10 George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Rayshard Brooks, Ahmaud
11 Arbery, Abner Louima, Patrick Dorismond, Eric Garner,
12 the list goes on. and we have to say that black
13 lives matter. Over the past few weeks protests
14 against police brutality have shown us that we must
15 do better as a city and our own approach to policing.
16 The relationship between community and police must
17 change. As a body it is up to us to use our power to
18 enact this true change. These measures that we are
19 voting on today increase accountability and
20 transparency in the department and provide clear
21 guidelines for addressing police misconduct. But I
22 want to be clear. We know that these measures are
23 important but this is the very beginning. To make
24 real lasting structural transformative change it's
25 going to me re-envisioning and rethinking and

2 reimagining what policing looks like. It's going to
3 mean looking in a serious way at the city's budget
4 and we hope the mayor will join us in our calls to
5 cut significantly from the NYPD's budget and reinvest
6 that money into communities of color, into housing
7 and homelessness and mental health and schools and
8 antiviolence programs and all the things that we know
9 really work to get to the root of so much of this
10 violence that we see in New York City. So now let's
11 start on today's legislative agenda. Proposed
12 Introduction number 1354-A, sponsored by Council
13 Member Robert Holden, would require all concrete
14 mixer trucks driving through the City of New York to
15 be equipped with a chute closure device during the
16 transport of liquid concrete by June 30, 2021. I
17 want to thank the staff who worked on this bill -
18 Elliot Lynn and Alex Washington. Next is a package
19 of legislation aimed at addressing police misconduct
20 and enacting some substantial police reforms.
21 Proposed Introduction number 760-B, sponsored by
22 Council Member Vanessa Gibson would require the New
23 York City Police Department to expand the categories
24 included in its early intervention system, which is
25 used to identify problematic officers. The NYPD

2 would also be required to increase transparency
3 around its system by regular reporting on the
4 information included and how it's utilized. And I
5 want to thank Brian Crow from the staff for his work
6 on this bill. Next is proposed Introduction number
7 487-A, sponsored by Council Member Vanessa Gibson,
8 and it would create civilian oversight over
9 surveillance technologies used by the NYPD. The
10 department would be required to issue a surveillance
11 impact and use policy about these technologies,
12 including a description of each technology's
13 capabilities, any safeguards to protect information
14 collected, and rules for how the technologies will be
15 used, including any potential for disparate impacts
16 on protected classes, such as race, religion, or
17 sexual orientation. The inspector general for the
18 NYPD would audit the surveillance impact and use
19 policy to ensure compliance with its terms. I'm glad
20 we're moving on this and I'm proud of the hard work
21 that went into getting this right. I want to thank
22 the advocates for their hard work on this as well.
23 Next is proposed Introduction number 1309-B,
24 sponsored by Council Member Donovan Richards, the
25 chair of our Public Safety Committee, who has done a

2 fantastic job over these last few weeks and few
3 months and during his entire time chairing the
4 committee, and it will require the NYPD to develop a
5 disciplinary matrix which gives a recommended range
6 of penalties to each type of violation. The bill
7 would require public reporting on how the matrix was
8 developed and when the commissioner deviates from the
9 matrix recommendation on these two bills. I want to
10 thank from the staff Daniel Adus. Next is proposed
11 Introduction number 16, number 1962-A, sponsored by
12 Council Member Alicka Ampry-Samuel, which would
13 require officers to make their badge numbers visible
14 at all times when they are performing their official
15 duties. This bill would also allow someone to sue if
16 an officer refuses to display their shield number or
17 rank designation. This bill is important because we
18 saw at citywide protests we had, ah, some officers
19 who were hiding their information and that is totally
20 unacceptable. Next, proposed Introduction number
21 721-B, sponsored by our public advocate, Jumaane
22 Williams, would affirm the right to film police
23 activities generally and establish a cause of action,
24 enable individuals to sue in state court for any
25 violation of this right. Police brutality is nothing

2 new, but cell phones are. The fact that so many
3 instances of brutality and people losing their lives
4 and being killed have been filmed has helped the
5 world see the depth of this long-standing problem and
6 we must make sure that the right to film police
7 activities is codified into law. Net is a resolution
8 by Council Member Carlina Rivera which urges the US
9 Congress to pass the Eric Garner Excessive Use of
10 Force Prevention Act of 2019, which is sponsored by
11 Congressman Hakeem Jeffries. If made law, this bill
12 would make the use of chokeholds a civil rights
13 violation. This would enable federal authorities to
14 hold accountable police officers who use this deadly
15 technique. And on these bills I want to thank the
16 staff. I want to thank Brian Crow. Finally, the
17 council's taking a historic step to affirm the ban on
18 chokeholds and make the use of them law enforcement
19 punishable by law. I don't have to tell New Yorkers
20 why this bill is important. When George Floyd cried
21 I can't breathe or Momma it was a tragic reminder for
22 all of us of Eric Garner, who died on a sidewalk in
23 Staten Island killed because of a police chokehold.
24 This legislation is long overdue. We are taking this
25 action today to honor the memory of Eric Garner. We

2 were proud to stand with his mother, Gwenn Carr, a
3 few weeks ago, and this bill, proposed introduction
4 number 536-B, sponsored by Council Member Rory
5 Lancman, the chair of our Committee on the Justice
6 System would make it illegal for an arresting officer
7 to use a restraint that restricts the flow of air or
8 blood by compressing another individual's windpipe or
9 the arteries on the side of their neck, or putting
10 pressure on the back or the chest. And I want to
11 thank from the staff Maxwell Kampfner for his work on
12 this bill. Is our public advocate with us today?

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE WILLIAMS: Yes

14 [inaudible].

15 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Great. Before I turn
16 it back to you, ah, Madam Majority Leader, I want to
17 turn the floor over to Public Advocate Jumaane
18 Williams to speak about his bill and the other bills
19 that we are considering today. Ah, I want to
20 recognize him during speaker time so he has as much
21 time as he needs to discuss this package of critical
22 criminal justice reform bills. And I want to thank
23 him for his leadership, not just over the last many
24 weeks since the protests started in New York City
25 after the murder of George Floyd, but, ah, we in the

2 council know that Council Member, that, sorry, Public
3 Advocate Williams, former Council Member Williams,
4 has been leading on these issues for many years. In
5 2012 on the Community Safety Act and pushing these
6 bills during his entire time in office, being out
7 there in the streets, ah, shining alight on these
8 injustices every step of the way, we are really
9 grateful for his leadership. We're grateful that he
10 was a member of this body and that now he is Public
11 Advocate of the City of New York, where he has an
12 even bigger platform to work on these issues and to
13 shine the light on this brutality and on these
14 reforms that he has worked on for years. So Public
15 Advocate Williams, I'm grateful that you're here
16 today and I want to thank you for your leadership and
17 give you as much time as you need to discuss your
18 bill, but also the other bills that we're considering
19 today. You're on mute.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE WILLIAMS: Thank you,
21 thank you so much, ah, ah, Speaker Johnson. Ah,
22 thank you and, ah, the Majority Leader for, ah,
23 giving me some time to speak today and indeed the
24 entire council for giving me a small amount of time
25 to speak today. Ah, and I want to thank, ah, you,

2 Speaker. Ah, I want to thank the chair, Donovan
3 Richards, ah, for all of your work in getting these
4 bills forward. Ah, I do want to lift up something
5 you said in, in previous press conferences, ah, in
6 actually acknowledging, ah, that a lot of these could
7 have been done before and acknowledging, ah, your
8 role in making sure that it moves forward now and
9 what you could have done before, I think that's a
10 real important part of this conversation and
11 something, ah, that our leaders, ah, could learn
12 from. Ah, and I wish, ah, our, ah, mayor would take
13 the same tactic. He seems to always be in a
14 defensive posture. So I want to thank you for those
15 statements and even, ah, our governor I think could
16 learn for some of the verbiage that you used. Um,
17 but I'm proud of this body today, pushing forward
18 this package of legislation. Ah, my bill, ah, the
19 right to record, ah, we have been obviously, ah,
20 trying to push forward for some time to reaffirm, ah,
21 people's right to, ah, record the police. Obviously
22 it did not interfere, interfere with police activity.
23 Um, it does do some things that the recent state bill
24 does not do. Ah, so, ah, we're thankful that we're
25 able to push that through. But, you know, even more

2 important, ah, the time we're in, ah, ah, I'm proud
3 that this council is taking leadership. But I want
4 to make sure that this body continues to push on the
5 overarching conversation which is redefining what
6 public safety is, you know, making sure that people
7 don't get stuck on the policing, which is important.
8 But the same issues we have in policing, as you
9 alluded to, we have in housing, we have in education,
10 we have in health care, mental health, ah, we have
11 in, ah, make sure that people have quality jobs so
12 they can get healthy food on the table. And that
13 conversation is, ah, just so important and hoping
14 people don't get caught up in the terminology of
15 defund the police versus divest or reinvest. Um, I'm
16 OK with all those terminologies because they all mean
17 one thing. There has been too much money given to,
18 ah, police departments and not enough in the other
19 places that set up social structures that redefine
20 what public safety is. In the places where people
21 have all the things that we spoke about, public
22 safety looks a lot different. Ah, we're moving into,
23 ah, a new phase and it takes real leadership to have
24 those honest discussions about structural inequities
25 that have been around for far too long. So I just

2 wanted to say thank you. Ah, I wanted to shout out
3 my team and of course the council's, ah, the
4 council's team. But on, on my side, ah, Nick Smith,
5 Veronica Davies, and the entire policy department,
6 but especially Casey Adderson, who many of you may
7 know, this is her, ah, first bill, ah, she worked on
8 while she was in my office. So thank you again so
9 much and, ah, I'm looking forward to the leadership
10 that this council is gonna to provide. Please
11 continue to push this mayor. Um, sadly he is not
12 providing the leadership that he said he would. But
13 this is me speaking. Ah, we have an opportunity for
14 this budget to really, really reflect the equity and
15 justice, um, that he campaigned on but I don't see
16 delivered. I believe this council can do it. Thank
17 you so much.

18 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Public
19 Advocate for, for that. And yes, I do think it's
20 important to normalize apologizing and saying we were
21 wrong, and I, I have acknowledged that and will
22 continue to do that, ah, during this time. It's
23 nothing wrong with saying we've made mistakes and,
24 ah, and I'm OK with doing that. It's about learning
25 and changing and I think it shows leadership to

2 acknowledging we've been wrong. So thank you for
3 that. Ah, I want to turn it back over to the
4 Majority Leader and I want to thank her for her
5 constant leadership as well. I'm sure she'll speak
6 at some point today whenever she wants, but she has
7 been incredible throughout this as well and I'm
8 really grateful for her and for her leadership.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so
10 much, Speaker Corey Johnson, and I thank you so much
11 Public Advocate Jumaane Williams for your leadership
12 and at this time we'll move into discussion of
13 general orders. We will first recognize council
14 members who have signed up by email and then
15 recognize members who wish to speak by using the
16 raise hand function in Zoom. I will wait until the
17 first listing of those who wish to speak on the
18 discussion of general orders is presented to me.

19 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Thank you, Madam
20 Majority Leader. Ah, as a reminder to all members
21 please wait to begin your remarks for the Sergeant at
22 Arms to announce that he has begun the countdown
23 clock. The Sergeant at Arms will alert you when your
24 time has expired. Madam Majority Leader, the first
25

2 three members who have signed up to speak are Council
3 Members Gibson, Ampry-Samuel, and Richards.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.
5 Council Member Gibson.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you so
7 much...

8 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you so
10 much, Madam Majority Leader. Good afternoon,
11 Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Public Advocate, for your
12 commitment and your leadership during this challenge
13 time. Jumaane, you have been all across the city and
14 certainly vocal about your own experiences, and
15 certainly the sentiments of many New Yorkers,
16 particularly black and brown New Yorkers, so we
17 appreciate your work. And good afternoon to all of
18 my colleagues and to all of those who are watching
19 today. Ah, today is a very important day in our
20 city, where the New York City will take a very bold
21 step forward in recognizing that a sleeping nation
22 has finally woke up following the horrific murder of
23 George Floyd in Minneapolis. While I applaud all of
24 the advocates, activists, allies, and New Yorkers who
25 have stepped up, demanded more, those of us who are

2 tired of being tired and those who simply have seen
3 far too much and really had enough. I am saddened
4 that we are here today because we've seen another
5 black man killed by police in America. We can't say
6 all lives matter until black lives matter and black
7 trans lives matter. Today I am proud to sponsor the
8 POST Act, first introduced back in 2017 which will
9 increase the transparency and oversight of the NYPD's
10 use of surveillance technologies and information-
11 sharing networks to keep New Yorkers safe. It will
12 require the department to develop and disclose an
13 impact and use policy for each piece of surveillance
14 technology it purchases as well as new purchases in
15 the future. Ah, we're talking about items such as
16 drones and license plate readers, Stingrays, and
17 other measures such as that, and we would get a
18 description of the capabilities, the rules, the
19 processes, and guidelines any safeguards and security
20 measures designed to protect the information that has
21 been collected. These measures are important
22 safeguards to protect the civil liberties and privacy
23 rights of New Yorkers in an effort to balance law
24 enforcement and national security concerns with need
25 for transparency and accountability. We will as the

2 City of New York join other cities like San
3 Francisco, Berkeley, Oakland, Seattle, Detroit,
4 Cambridge, and Nashville in our efforts to know about
5 and understand the surveillance tools that law
6 enforcement uses in our communities. The
7 legislation...

8 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time expired.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: This legislation
10 is the floor and not the ceiling, and if I could just
11 acknowledge the advocates who worked really, really
12 hard, Mr. Public Advocate, ah, I really want to thank
13 our former colleague, Dan Garadnick, who led the way
14 as the original bill sponsor, and I also want to
15 thank the Brennan Center for Justice, the
16 Surveillance Technology Oversight Project, Urban
17 Justice Center, American Civil Liberties Union, New
18 York Civil Liberties Union, the Legal Aid Society,
19 the Council on American Islamic Relations, the
20 National Lawyers Guild, National Action Network, the
21 Empire State Indivisible, and all of our colleagues
22 who have signed on and added their voices to this
23 very important bill. Today is the real defining
24 moment for us in the history of and I look forward to
25 the bill's passage. Thank you so much to all of my

2 colleagues, and I urge all of you to vote aye on the
3 POST Act. Thank you so much.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you for
5 that historical piece of legislation. I'd now like
6 to hear from Council Member Alicka Ampry-Samuel.

7 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Madam Majority Leader,
8 before, um, ah, Council Member Ampry-Samuel goes and
9 the other council members, if we could just be sure
10 to give, ah, people extra time if they need it to
11 discuss these bills.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Certainly.

13 SPEAKER JOHNSON: They've worked very
14 hard on them and I want to make sure that no one
15 feels like they didn't have the opportunity to say
16 what they need to say. So if you could just be
17 liberal with the amount of time today. Thank you.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so
19 much.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Thank you,
21 Speaker Johnson, and thank you...

22 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Thank you,
24 Majority Leader Cumbo and thank you, Speaker Johnson,
25 for, um, adding the additional time. For June 18 in

2 1948 the United Nations Commission of Human Rights
3 adopted its universal declaration of human rights.
4 And on June 19, 2018, the United States of America
5 withdrew from the United Nations Human Rights
6 Council. Yesterday the Human Rights Council heard
7 debates and arguments from leaders, ambassadors, high
8 commissioners, all around the globe condemning the
9 killings, murders, lynchings of countless black
10 people at the hands of police officers and just
11 overall systemic racism in this country. The United
12 Nations high commissioner for human rights said
13 yesterday that it was not enough to condemn racism
14 and police brutality, but that, and this is her
15 quotes, "It was also necessary to make amends for
16 centuries of violence and discrimination, including
17 through formal apologies, truth-telling processes,
18 and reparations in various forms." I think it's
19 quite appropriate that on this same day in history
20 this body, not far from where the United Nations
21 delegation body met that this body has drafted,
22 discussed, and debated the police reform bills and we
23 finally addressed head-on some real ills in society,
24 and at the same time that the Human Rights Council
25 debates yesterday our very own state attorney

2 general, Letitia James, was hearing testimony from
3 protestors and demonstrators, all recounting their
4 interactions with police across the city and state,
5 while exercising their First Amendment right to
6 freedom of speech and to peaceably assemble and
7 covered under that right is to demonstrate. The city
8 has trampled over the rights time and time again and
9 we've watched it in videos and saw countless photos
10 of police knocking down, aggressively pushing
11 demonstrators, and we watched in horror when 20-year-
12 old Donya Zayer was violently assaulted by a police
13 officer who used to be assigned to the 73rd Precinct
14 in my district. And when we watched the footage we
15 all noticed badge numbers not being visible. So my
16 bill, preconsidered Intro 1962-A requires uniform
17 officers to make visible their badge number and rank
18 during a protest. And when they cover their badge
19 and interact with an individual who requests to see
20 the number and rank. If not displayed this action
21 will allow the individual a private right to action
22 in court. This next step is the law and will finally
23 allow average New Yorkers the opportunity to take
24 action and hold officers accountable. This was not
25 made available under the patrol guide because

2 punishment was at the discretion of the boss. And we
3 all know fellow officers find it difficult and
4 challenging to reprimand their brothers and sisters
5 in blue. So we have to step in and force change and
6 eventually force a change in behavior. And I'm about
7 to end. Behavior, this is all about changing
8 behavior and shifting a mindset of I am above the
9 law, or, better yet, the law protects me and not you,
10 a mindset that we have to change. So today we knock
11 down those barriers to freedom. Today we give people
12 back their voice. Today we give people back their
13 power. And today we change the game with rules and
14 new players. And this will allow an injunctive
15 relief by a judge through punitive damages based on
16 the gravity, and when agency policies prove
17 ineffective it's always time to legislate. So,
18 again, I thank you, Mr. Speaker and the legislative
19 staff. And I want to say a special thank-you to the
20 woman behind the scene, Kelly Taylor, for your legal
21 sharp mind in helping to make this happen. Although
22 today is a good moment in the council, this is just
23 the first step of many to reform and abolish systemic
24 racism in this city, state, and country. And as we
25 celebrate Juneteenth tomorrow hopefully this is the

2 start of one day ensuring that when we stand up one
3 day to pledge allegiance to the flag that last part
4 that says liberty and justice for all will one day
5 truly mean justice for all. Thank you.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so
7 much, Council Member Alicka Ampry-Samuel. We will
8 now hear from Council Member Richards.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Thank you,
10 Madam...

11 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Thank you,
13 Madam Majority Leader, and I first want to start by
14 thanking the speaker for being an ally in this fight
15 and really giving this committee the flexibility to
16 really address a lot of the systemic issues, even
17 prior to the death of George Floyd. It has been a
18 tricky balance, I must admit, um, but, you know, we
19 know that we're here for this moment and we have to
20 make sure that we are doing everything we can to
21 change the systemic racism that has endured, um,
22 within the NYPD and this city for a long time. You
23 know, without struggle there can be no progress and
24 the struggle to preserve black lives from the
25 clutches of brutality in this nation have long been

2 an issue for black folks for over 400 years. The
3 murder of George Floyd seems to have awakened a broad
4 coalition of New Yorkers to the fight that has been
5 raging in communities of color, but have largely gone
6 unnoticed by the rest of the city. And it has
7 inspired national, state, and local lawmakers to take
8 steps that were previously unimaginable. Cut the
9 NYPD budget by a billion dollars. A month ago you,
10 you would have been laughed out of the room. 50-A
11 untouchable until now. Nevertheless, we know what's
12 got us here and that is the lack of transparency,
13 accountability, and fairness that pervades the New
14 York City Police Department and it encourages a
15 culture of brutality and abuse. That abuse is the
16 reason we find ourselves in the middle of a global
17 pandemic, where we are fighting for our lives against
18 COVID-19 and offers us who are using it as an excuse
19 to throw us to the ground, smack us, tase us, and
20 completely treat us as animals because they know the
21 chances of them facing significant discipline are
22 little to none. My discipline matrix bill, Intro
23 1309-B, is the start to finally reining in the NYPD's
24 wild, wild west disciplinary system. We are creating
25 a standard of fair discipline process to fit the

2 misconduct of officers. There's no reason we should
3 have to wait five years for the NYPD to fire an
4 officer that killed an unarmed black man with a
5 chokehold tactic that was banned decades earlier.
6 Today we are giving the police department the
7 opportunity to show us that they truly are New York
8 City's finest and that the officers who can't follow
9 the high standard of conduct will no longer be
10 allowed to wield the authority that comes with a
11 badge. This legislation will also bring a new-found
12 sense of fairness to the department. While some
13 officers are targeted for their misconduct. Others
14 with the same infractions are given a slap on the
15 wrist with a nice promotion on the side. Today the
16 message is simple. Every single police officer
17 should be held at the same standard. Gone are the
18 days of your connections helping get you out of being
19 held accountable. I'm speaking directly to the
20 officers that refuse to uphold the courtesy,
21 professionalism, and respect that we all deserve.
22 The credibility of the NYPD's internal system for
23 disciplining misconduct by officers is nonexistent.
24 It is time for us to step in and remind them that
25 they work for all taxpayers and we need them to

2 respect each and every one of us. Lasting trust
3 between communities and the department can only be
4 achieved with a fair and transparent police
5 discipline process and that's how we make New York
6 City communities safer all around. So today we take
7 one small step towards justice with these bills and
8 resolutions. We must use this moment to create
9 everlasting change. The deaths of Sean Bell, my
10 neighbor, George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and so many
11 others must not be in vain. Today our city and
12 country are demanding change like never before and
13 this council is fulfilling our mandate. May our work
14 continue. I want to thank you, Mr. Speaker, once
15 again. I want to thank, ah, some other individuals.
16 Daniel Addis, who has been in this struggle for a
17 long time, ah, my former, ah, legislative director,
18 Jordan Gibbons, ah, Casey Addison, ah, ah, Jumaane
19 Williams, public advocate. You've stolen a gem from
20 us, um, but it is your gain and I want to thank her
21 for the work she did, ah, during the time when she
22 here in committee on this bill, Brian Crow, and to my
23 current, ah, legislative directory, Tiffany Eason.
24 Thank you so much. And thank you to all my colleague
25 who called and checked in during this difficult time,

2 ah, while we shoulder a lot of burden, ah, during
3 this difficult time between COVID and police,
4 policing in this country. Thank you all for being
5 allies. Ah, I urge everyone to vote for this bill.
6 Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so
8 much, Council Member Richards. We will now hear from
9 Council Members Lancman, Holden, followed by Barron.

10 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: I can't breathe.
12 As God is my witness, I never want to see another
13 human being cry out I can't breathe as their life is
14 choked or squeezed out of them by a police officer.
15 This isn't a radical idea. The NYPD banned
16 chokeholds as a matter of policy nearly three decades
17 ago. Tell that to Anthony Baez. Tell that to Eric
18 Garner. Tell that to the hundreds of New Yorkers who
19 file chokehold complaints with the Civilian Complaint
20 Review Board in the years after Eric Garner's death.
21 Someone must police the police. It hasn't been the
22 Commissioner's office, other than Daniel Pantaleo,
23 who was finally fire department after five years of
24 unrelenting political pressure. No officer found to
25 have performed the chokehold was sanctioned with

2 anything more than a loss of vacation days. It
3 hasn't been the mayor, who has used every tool at his
4 disposal to shield lawbreaking officers from scrutiny
5 and accountability. So it will be us, the City
6 Council, policing the police. And we will do so with
7 the most powerful tool at our disposal, the most
8 powerful force in our country, the force of law. It
9 will now be a crime for an office to perform a
10 chokehold or restrict someone's breathing by sitting,
11 kneeling, or standing on their back or chest in the
12 course of making an arrest. We will no longer rely
13 on internal NYPD policy that has failed so many. It
14 will now be the law. And we will be watching to make
15 sure that our district attorneys enforce this law.
16 Many people are responsible for this day finally
17 coming. Let me thank one person above all else. And
18 that is Gwen Carr, Eric Garner's mother. She
19 marched. She rallied. She testified. She never
20 gave up. Her courage and determination in the face
21 of a parent's worse trauma is nothing short of
22 heroic. She and all the mothers of the movement are
23 our heroes. Colleagues, I ask you to honor them by
24 voting yes. Thank you.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Wow, thank you so
3 much, Council Member Lancman, for your tireless work
4 and dedication and for lifting up Gwen Carr. I'd now
5 like to hear from Council Members Holden, Barron, and
6 Koo.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Thank you, Madam
8 Majority Leader.

9 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Thank you, Madam
11 Majority Leader, ah, for the opportunity to speak on
12 my bill, Intro 1354, which will be, ah, voted on
13 today. The bill requires all concrete mixing trucks
14 operating in New York City to be equipped, equipped
15 with chute shutters or similar devices to prevent the
16 spillage of concrete and materials used in, ah, mixed
17 concrete to, ah, no later than June 30, 2021. The
18 idea for this legislation came from multiple
19 constituents and transportation advocates who reached
20 out to my office complaining about concrete mounds on
21 roads, bike lanes, and even sidewalks. Um, and, you
22 know, I looked at, at this for about, ah, 20 years as
23 a civic leader and, and figured out how to, how do we
24 stop this, and, ah, finally, um, we had some
25 suggestions from the industry, ah, ah, and, um,

2 talking to other people. So, you know, we traveled
3 around the district and saw several locations, really
4 bad spills. And, again, it is a hazard to
5 pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists alike. So Intro
6 1354 is cost-neutral legislation, which could
7 actually save the city money because now DOT or
8 Sanitation will not have to clean these mounds, ah,
9 which take, ah, you know, it takes time and
10 resources. They have to actually jackhammer, um, the
11 concrete up. So my staff and I spoke with, ah, like
12 I said, the industry professionals, trade unions, and
13 they all agree that this is a problem and all agree
14 that it's a simple, quick fix. So the legislation
15 would mandate that cement mixing trucks have their
16 chutes capped and prevent spillage of cement, which
17 later hardens, of course, like I mentioned, in the
18 form of mounds, the concrete mounds. So I want to
19 thank, ah, Speaker Corey Johnson and his staff of,
20 um, ah, his chief of staff, Jason Goldman, who has
21 patience with me because I, I bugged him on this, but
22 this is an important piece of legislation, as well as
23 Jeff Baker and Noah Popa to, ah, for their support on
24 the bill, and also Ydanis Rodriguez, the chair of the
25 Transportation Committee, and Alex Washington for,

2 ah, the legislative vision who helped draft this
3 bill. And I'd also like to thank DOT Commissioner
4 Polly Trottenberg and her staff for working with us
5 on this bill. It's rare that both the council and
6 the administration agree on a bill so early on, and
7 her help in finalizing the legislation, ah, does not
8 unnoticed. Finally, I'd like to thank my staff for
9 all the hard work on this, ah, over many, many
10 months, including several phone calls from
11 constituents and getting the city agencies to remove
12 the cement mounds. So with that I urge all my
13 colleagues to support this bill and thank you all who
14 signed on. Thank you.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
16 Council Member Holden. We will now hear from Council
17 Member Barron, Koo, and Cornegy.

18 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member
20 Barron? OK, we will move on to Council Member Koo
21 and come back to Barron.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: It has not opened
23 up yet. Is it OK?

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: OK.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Is it open?

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: We can hear you.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: OK, good. Thank
4 you so much. Ah, thank you, Madam Majority Leader.
5 I want to commend all of my colleagues who have
6 introduced legislation. I think that this is a great
7 response to the push from the people. However, I
8 think that we need to, ah, we make sure that we catch
9 up make sure that we catch up to the people if we are
10 the leaders and that we listen to what they're saying
11 and respond. I have one concern about legislation,
12 1309-B, and I think that the original bill was one
13 that I could have supported and voted for. But the
14 revision allows for the police commissioner to reject
15 or modify the, the recommendations that will be
16 established by the matrix. We have a police
17 commissioner who does not think that police officers,
18 ah, patrol black communities any differently than
19 they do white communities. We have a police
20 commissioner who has given the loss of vacation days
21 for major vacation days for major and serious crimes.
22 I don't think that we should allow the police
23 commissioner to have the authority to not implement
24 what it is that the matrix has, will establish, and
25 it's interesting that they're offering a matrix now.

2 The bill that I will be introducing to establish an
3 elected civilian review board will also include a
4 matrix and it's, finally to talk about allowing
5 officers who kill unarmed civilians to evade
6 investigations by the department and the district
7 attorney as did Lt. Shell when he shot Laconda Bovo
8 in the back in 2008 and was never investigated or
9 charged, even though the death was ruled a homicide
10 is unbelievable and unacceptable. Shell continued to
11 work. He rose through the ranks. He became an
12 inspector and continued to boost his pension. I
13 don't think that the statute of limitations has
14 expired and I want to know what actions we can look
15 to take so that we can bring justice to the family of
16 Ortanzo Bowville. So with all due respect I will not
17 be voting in favor of Bill 1309-B. Thank you very
18 much.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
20 Council Member Barron. Council Member Koo, Cornegy,
21 and Miller.

22 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you. Thank
24 you, Majority Leader, and thank you, Speaker. Ah,
25 I'd like to speak about this police reform bills and

2 the state of our law enforcement today. I have a
3 very good working relationship with the local police
4 department. Many of them feel the reforms we vote on
5 today will make their jobs more difficult. In the
6 short time in my, it is my deepest hope that these
7 reforms will be a long-term solution and help to mend
8 the bonds of trust that have been so deeply fractured
9 between the public and law enforcement. We simply
10 cannot continue on the path we have been. I, for
11 one, do not think we need to abolish the police. We
12 can reform the police, give them more sustained
13 training instead of one-offs, and we [inaudible]
14 transparency so we can build trust without
15 compromising security. We should not be talking
16 about maybe defunding the police, but [inaudible]
17 create objective. But we do need to stop relying on
18 them to do jobs they shouldn't be doing. Let them
19 focus on fighting crime, ensuring quality of life
20 issues. Police should serve as a backup to other
21 enforcement agencies like Park enforcement patrols
22 and Urban Power Rangers. But too often we, but too
23 often we rely on them to do their jobs, too. So we
24 need to redirect funding to where it needs to go. I
25 hope as our city begins to get back on its feet that

2 these bills will help heal our city. Thank you.

3 Thank you, Speaker, and thank you, Majority Leader.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
5 Council Member Koo. We will now hear from Cornegy
6 and Miller.

7 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Thank you so
9 much, um, Majority Leader Cumbo. Ah, good afternoon.
10 This week in partnership with Billie Holiday Theater,
11 Bed-Sty Restoration, artist Dawoo West, Say Adams,
12 and Hollis King, um, we created a giant Black Lives
13 Matter street mural on Fulton Street. That mural
14 forms part of the expressive awareness-raising
15 dimension of Black Lives Matter. We came together as
16 a Bed-Sty and Crown Heights community. There were
17 Fulton Arts there, artists, colleagues in government,
18 clergy, and neighborhood residents. No one,
19 absolutely no one who wanted to help us paint those
20 words was turned away. We pitched in together to
21 create something magnificent together. We made a
22 monument to honor the countless named and unnamed who
23 did not live to see this day. Today the City Council
24 advances critical legislation and policy dimensions
25 of Black Lives Matter. Policing must be more

2 transparent. Policing must be more accountable.
3 Policing cannot be about choking and brutalizing the
4 public. Police brutality and murder have no place in
5 policing. I honor all those police who understand
6 the message Black Lives Matter conveys, a message of
7 human dignity for every member of our shared
8 communities, a message that says repression and
9 oppression must give way to equality and equity. We
10 demand structures and systems to advance equity and
11 equality. We have a right to expect systems that
12 advance equality and equity. We will not have peace
13 until we have uplifted equity and equality. I want
14 to honor the transformative power of peaceful
15 protests. I honor all those who urge us to rethink,
16 reimagine, and fundamentally reform our approaches to
17 public safety and to our budget. Today is not the
18 end of the journey. It's a step as we work to
19 recenter our neighborhood organizations, our
20 community health workers, our social workers, our
21 educators, and all our neighborhood institutions.
22 There is an interconnected fabric in our
23 neighborhoods that keeps us safe and we want police
24 to be a constructive part of that. The legislation
25 we advance today helps us reach towards that end. I

2 want to congratulate all my colleagues on great
3 legislation being passed. I want to say how proud I
4 am to be a part of a council that would make this a
5 priority no matter what the ethnicities are and what
6 the, the, um, what the makeup is of this 51-member
7 body. To make this a priority makes me incredibly
8 proud. Thank you.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
10 Council Member Cornegy. We'll now hear from Council
11 Members Miller, Rodriguez, and Van Bramer.

12 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member
14 Miller?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Madam Majority
16 Leader.

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: OK. Ah, Breonna
19 Taylor, George Floyd, and now Rayshard Brooks are
20 tragic figures in the never-ending saga of black
21 lives stolen by police. And because of these
22 atrocities committed against them our city, state,
23 and nation are being confronted with what Dr. King
24 referred to as the fierce urgency of now. Today
25 among a host of other important legislation we vote

2 to ban the use of chokeholds by the police
3 department, which gained notoriety, notoriety, in
4 1994 with the death of Anthony Baez and in 2014 with
5 the death of Emmet Garnell. Chokeholds and other
6 forms of asphyxiation represent more than unusual
7 [inaudible] unlawful police tactics. They are
8 symbolic of systematic oppression, torture, murder
9 against generations of black Americans, past and
10 present. In the shadows of 99, the 99th anniversary
11 of the black Wall Street massacre of Tulsa, Oklahoma
12 and the fifth anniversary of Mother Emmanuel Nine,
13 Charleston, South Carolina, we continue to see these
14 symbols throughout our country and throughout our
15 nation. We see the bodies of three black men most
16 recently found hanging from trees. And in vacant
17 chambers of City Hall we see Thomas Jefferson,
18 someone who we believe, who, who we know did not
19 treat blacks as equals, but treated them as inferiors
20 and own more than 700 slaves. With this vote that we
21 take today we no longer will be delaying, but we'll
22 take a significant step forward in compelling our
23 city to reconcile with the racially motivated
24 brutality and murder of black New Yorkers. But this
25 alone does not represent the justice that we for the

2 families of these stolen lives seek. The fierce
3 sense of urgency and the fierce sense of now that
4 this requires will be addressed and we'll address the
5 institutional systemic unconscious and conscious
6 racism, both real and symbolic. On behalf of the
7 Black, Latino and Asian Caucus I congratulate all of
8 my colleagues on this great and thoughtful, impactful
9 legislation. I want to thank the speaker and the
10 public advocate for their leadership on these as
11 well, and I'm looking forward to their passage.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so
13 much, Council Member Miller. Council Member
14 Rodriguez, followed by Council Member Van Bramer.

15 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member
17 Rodriguez? Let's move to Council Member Van Bramer
18 and come back to Council Member Rodriguez.

19 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank you
21 very much, ah, Madam Majority Leader. I just wanted
22 to also, ah, say how proud I am to support this
23 legislation and, ah, particular, ah, congratulate
24 Council Member Lancman who worked long and hard on
25 this bill. It should have happened a long time ago

2 and we all, um, ah, are, ah, in some part responsible
3 for it not having moved more quickly. I also just
4 want to say, um, the urgency of it, ah, and the
5 urgency of, of what, what Council Member Barron said
6 about, ah, her bill to propose an elected Civilian
7 Complaint Review Board, which I wholeheartedly
8 support, is so important. Ah, just in Ara Louis's
9 column in the *Daily News* today, he wrote that even
10 after the murder of Eric Garner, ah, the Civilian
11 Complaint Review Board reported 996 separate civilian
12 complaints of police using chokeholds. And those are
13 just the ones that were reported to the Civilian
14 Complaint Review Board. And having spoken to Council
15 Member Barron, um, we both know how difficult it is
16 to get any kind of justice through the Civilian
17 Complaint Review Board, um, and have anything
18 substantiated. So, ah, these bills are great. I
19 congratulate all of my colleagues. Ah, but I know
20 that this is just the beginning in so many ways.
21 This is just the beginning. We have so much more to
22 do. We need radical transformative change, um, and,
23 ah, of course I support defunding the NYPD which is
24 part of that, but, ah, we've got to actually take
25 this moment to reimagine our society and make sure

2 that the urgency of this moment is not lost, ah, or
3 frittered away. Ah, so I encourage all of us, um, to
4 be as bold as we possibly can imagine being as we,
5 ah, work to dismantle, ah, the systemic and
6 structural racism throughout our, our society. So
7 with that I just want to congratulate again my
8 colleagues, ah, and lift up Council Member Barron. I
9 look forward to her introducing that legislation and
10 moving it and seeing it passed. Thank you.

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
12 Council Member Van Bramer. Is Council Member
13 Rodriguez, ah, here at this time? OK, we will move
14 to Council Members Rose, followed by Council Member
15 Menchaca.

16 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Thank you. Thank
18 you, Madam. Um, this afternoon I stand before you to
19 say that I am not OK. I am not OK that the ark of
20 justice is fractured. I am not OK relegating my
21 whole life to a hashtag. And I am not OK that the
22 new black national anthem is I can't breathe.
23 Today's Stated for me is one of the most significant
24 in the, in my tenure on the City Council. Nearly six
25 years ago we heard Eric Garner say to the police

2 officers when they approached him, "This ends today."
3 Little did he know that it meant his life was going
4 to end that day. But before pleading with New York
5 City police officers Eric Garner wound up saying I
6 can't breathe 11 times as he was pressed to the hot
7 pavement outside of a store in my district after
8 being put into a chokehold, and nearly six years ago
9 Council Member Lancman introduced a bill that made
10 deadly chokeholds illegal. But yet we now find
11 ourselves having witnessed another death of a son
12 that could have been mine, George Floyd, six years
13 later. Um, Council Member Lancman introduced his
14 bill that would make deadly chokeholds illegal. The
15 overdue passage of this legislation today is very
16 personal for me and my constituents, and for Gwen
17 Carr, who witnessed her son's death. We still hear
18 the echoes of Eric Garner's voice reverberating I
19 can't breathe, the direct result of Officer
20 Pantaleo's deadly chokehold as we watched once again
21 this scenario played out in the death of George
22 Floyd. Mr. Garner's death proved that it is not
23 enough that the NYPD prohibits this practice. And
24 history has shown us that violations of the New York
25 City Police Department rules too often result in

2 little or no discipline of officers. So six years
3 today we say again this ends today. And so I want to
4 thank my colleagues for this package of bills that
5 makes real, tangible changes in policing in New York
6 City. And I hope that we will set the example for
7 the rest of the country. I want to thank the Speaker
8 for bringing these bills to the floor and all the
9 sponsors for their leadership and persistence in
10 moving these bills forward and us closer to a more
11 equitable justice system. Thank you. And I support
12 these bills.

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much
14 Council Member Rose. And we will now hear from
15 Council Member Menchaca.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you,
17 Majority Leader.

18 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: And I, I just
20 want to say thank you for all those who've spoken for
21 me and lift up those voices in a council that have
22 been fighting for such a long time, even longer than
23 I have been in the council. Ah, thank you to Speaker
24 Johnson and Public Advocate Williams and Chair
25 Richards and Council Member Gibson and Ampry-Samuel,

2 Lancman, Cabrera, Rivera, all my colleagues. The
3 bills that we're voting on today are, are good bills
4 and they're a step in the right direction. I want to
5 also celebrate and honor the record, ah, today's
6 decision in the Supreme Court this morning which
7 upheld the DACA arrivals, ah, this is a moral and
8 legal victory for over 50,000 New Yorkers, of which
9 9200 are essential workers, including 1200 healthcare
10 workers. But the fight continues and, and until
11 Congress abolishes ICE and transforms our immigration
12 system we will never stop this nation's inhumane
13 history of separating families and ruining lives.
14 The system is broken and we're trying to fix it, and
15 these bills that we're passing today are getting us
16 closer. I want to echo something that Public
17 Advocate Williams said, ah, which is that we must
18 never lose sight of the ultimate goal, our ultimate
19 goal, with these reforms, which is to completely
20 transform the way that we conceive of public safety
21 and deliver justice to the most vulnerable. That is
22 the ultimate goal. And so until, until we start
23 investing heavily in social services and stop
24 investing in police and jails and persecution we will
25 never, never undermine the foundations of the prison

2 industrial complex, which includes the immigration
3 system and, and, and is structurally supporting the
4 oppressive and unjust systems that we're talking
5 about today. And finally I want to say thank you to
6 Council Member Barron. And finally I want to say
7 thank you to Council Member Barron. She was the only
8 vote against the police additions in 2015 and I voted
9 yes on that bill. And I was wrong. And I was wrong
10 and I want to say thank you to her. Um, it was that
11 courage, it was that courage and that listening and
12 that relationship that we have created together over
13 these years. We have sat and talked together a lot.
14 They got me to the Riker's vote and against the
15 Riker's plan, and so Council Member Barron, thank you
16 so much for your courage. Let's continue to do this
17 together [speaking in Spanish]. Thank you.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so
19 much, Council Member Menchaca. And I will try to
20 give Council Member Rodriguez one last try, if he's
21 able to, ah, unmute himself.

22 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Hi. I, I
24 think that, you know, as I see it the police safety
25 committee, this is a day that we never thought that

2 it would be. Those of us that have been marching for
3 justice for Juan Rodriguez, a Dominican brother that
4 was killed in Brooklyn, when they went [inaudible] to
5 those of us December 12 [inaudible] Jordan,
6 Dominicans, Juan Rodriguez, was killed because he
7 forgot to take the medicine. And [inaudible] case we
8 were there [inaudible]. So for me as someone that my
9 around 15 arrests that I have had for civil
10 disobedience, I can share [inaudible] New Yorkers
11 that when I was arrested at Occupy Wall Street I
12 feared for my life a few seconds. I feel the
13 pressure losing air when I was arrested [inaudible]
14 to be deported. They [inaudible] for me to. So I'm
15 not just having compassion. I have lived it. 1989 I
16 was arrested. After learning my constitutional
17 rights when I say that I have a right to be using my
18 Fourth Amendment I was told you don't have any rights
19 if Dominican. Well, today is a new day. I never
20 thought sitting on the council for my first four year
21 for this one not any spirit to police reform that
22 after Council Member Gibson and Richard using the
23 leadership with the support of the speaker we will be
24 see today the level of reform that we're doing and as
25 I say my role there was a police office at the 42nd.

2 I'm proud to see Jim Pichardo also at the NYPD. I
3 lost, I, I'm sorry for the loss of Chief Morris, who
4 also did a great job. But at the same time when I
5 signed to be a teacher and I taught for 13 years I
6 knew the job I wanted to do. There's opportunity for
7 the men and women who want to redress [inaudible]
8 work around this reform. If anyone is all ready to
9 work with that reform that we're making get another
10 job. We can have, we can, we have the opportunity to
11 be a city that will be a role model for the whole
12 nation. We can build NYPD that do a new type of
13 police, policing in our community based on respect
14 with the community sitting with the respect that they
15 deserve and they also should get, give the respect to
16 the community. Not anyone have the confidence to
17 have a gun, so I believe that, you know, with the
18 bills that we voting, again my daughter is 7 and 13,
19 then we will see a new beginning. This is only a
20 beginning. A police department in any countries have
21 been built to suppress. I think that we can build a
22 new type of police department in the City of New York
23 that can be a role model to the whole nation. I
24 support this bill. They are important. They
25 strength, it strengthens the relationship between the

2 community and the police. I'm also happy to see how
3 Speaker Johnson and [inaudible] have been able to
4 move this bill regardless of any opposition. There's
5 no time for [inaudible] from those of us that have
6 any opposition to this bill, that most of the New
7 Yorker want this bill. I'm proud to be voting on
8 this bill and I thank the Chair Richard and previous
9 Chair Gibson and Speaker, eh, eh, Corey Johnson in
10 the spirit of [inaudible] for the job that we bring,
11 we bring a reform to this. With that I'm proud to be
12 voting aye when the time comes.

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so
14 much, Council Member Rodriguez, and thank you to all
15 of the members, um, who have spoken today on general
16 orders. We will now move into the report of special
17 committees.

18 SPEAKER JOHNSON: None.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Reports of
20 standing committees.

21 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Report on the
22 Committee on Public Safety, Intro 487-A, police
23 surveillance technologies.

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

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2 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Intros 536-B and
3 712-B, chokeholds and recording police activities.

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

6 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Intros 760-B and
7 1309-B, early intervention system and disciplinary
8 matrix.

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

11 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Preconsidered
12 Intro 1962-A, requiring visible shield numbers.

13 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on
14 general orders.

15 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Report of the
16 Committee on Transportation, Intro 1354-A, concrete
17 truck spillage prevention.

18 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on
19 general orders. And at this time I would ask that
20 the clerk please take a roll call vote on all of the
21 items on today's general order calendar that we are
22 voting and that we just discussed.

23 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Cabrera.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: I vote aye on
25 all.

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2 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Adams.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: So proud to be,
4 ah, sponsor and sign on to every last piece of
5 legislation today. Ah, so proud of my colleagues for
6 their courage, their strength, and their leadership.
7 Thank you to all of my colleagues that have waited
8 all these years, all these years for this change to
9 come, and it starts here with this New York City
10 Council. Congratulations to all of you. I vote aye
11 on all.

12 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Ampry-Samuel.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: I vote aye
14 on all.

15 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Ayala.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye on all.

17 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Barron.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member
19 Barron?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Permission to
21 explain my vote?

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
23 granted.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you. Once
25 again, I want to commend my colleagues for the

2 legislation that they've introduced and perhaps give
3 some sense of, ah, perhaps give some sense of closure
4 to the families [inaudible] killed in 1994, or
5 Michael, Arthur Miller, killed by a chokehold in
6 1978, and, ah, Michael Stewart, killed by a chokehold
7 in 1983. So other families, as we've heard, perhaps
8 have not even, have not even reported those
9 incidents. But I do want to commend, ah, all my
10 colleagues for the legislation they have presented
11 and I'm voting in the affirmative with all with the
12 exception of 1309-B. Once again, looking to
13 [inaudible] and elected civilian review board and
14 that board will have three main tenets. One is that
15 all of the members are elected. Secondly, that the
16 review, that the elected civilian review board will
17 have the authority to determine what it is that the
18 disciplinary action should be administered, and the
19 commissioner cannot change what it is that their
20 decision is. And thirdly that there be an
21 independent, not special, not special who relates to
22 other executive positions, an independent prosecutor
23 who will adjudicate those cases that rise to the
24 level of a crime because we have not gotten any
25 results of an effective prosecution by the present

2 special prosecutor who uses ex-police for their
3 investigations. Thank you.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
5 Council Member Barron.

6 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Borelli.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Thank you, and,
8 um, Madam Majority Leader, please forgive me for not
9 being on camera. I am at the graduation of my son,
10 ah, so I want to congratulate him for the record for
11 graduating preschool. Ah, I am voting no on all
12 except, ah, Intro 1309-B and 1354-A. Again, that is
13 no on all except 1309-B and 1354-A. Thank you.

14 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Brannan.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Ah, permission
16 to explain my vote?

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
18 granted.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Ah, with deep
20 gratitude, um, for the leadership of my colleagues in
21 the BLAC I proudly vote aye on all.

22 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Chin.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Ah, permission to
24 explain my vote?

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
3 granted.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you, Majority
5 Leader. You know, first I wanted to thank all the
6 colleagues who sponsor important legislation. And I
7 really want to express my gratitude, ah, to my black
8 colleague in the City Council, especially in the BLAC
9 Caucus and the Women's Caucus for really stepping up
10 in their leadership to push forward this package of
11 bills to fight against police brutality and
12 systematic racism. It took a lot of courage and, you
13 know, going through this pandemic, but they found the
14 courage and the stamina and with the leadership ours,
15 from our speaker and his support were able to get to
16 this point and all the outliers in the council and all
17 the people who have been demonstrating on the street.
18 I have been a strong ally in the City Council from
19 the beginning. You know, we fought against stop and
20 frisk. We, we stood together for the Right to Know
21 Act. And we stood together to fight for justice for
22 Eric Garner. But this is not enough. We gotta
23 continue to fight and when we say Black Lives Matter
24 we gotta turn those words into action, and to
25 continue to make sure there's social justice, there's

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2 economic justice, and an equitable budget. Equitable
3 budget this year [inaudible]..

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Yeah, ah, let me
5 call right back in a few minutes.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: ...are taking care
7 of our youth, our senior, our safety net program, so
8 I want to ask all my colleagues, let's strong, stand
9 strong together and make sure that we have a strong
10 equitable budget, too. So I am proud to vote aye on
11 all. Thank you.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
13 Council Member Chin.

14 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Cohen.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

16 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Constantinides.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Aye on
18 all.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: I proudly vote
20 aye on all.

21 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Deutsch.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Permission to
23 explain my vote? Permission to explain my vote?

24 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Ah, Majority Leader?

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: I think we lost
3 her.

4 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Mr. Speaker?

5 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Yes, go ahead, Chaim,
6 permission granted.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: So I want to
8 start by saying that not only do I understand calls
9 for police reform, but I actually agree with them.
10 We need to do something to challenge, ah, the
11 changed, ah, to change the culture that allowed a man
12 to kneel, ah, on another man's neck for 8 minutes and
13 46 seconds. And I want to see a true reform and that
14 means investment in our youth services and
15 communities of color. It means working hand in hand
16 with the police department to identify where there is
17 a need for enhancing training, for enhanced training,
18 and it means working from the bottom up to rebuild
19 the broken relationship between minorities and police
20 officers. I have real issues with some of the bills
21 in this package of legislation. Ah, first Intro 487,
22 the POST Act. It's no secret that the NYPD has
23 expressed grave concern with this legislation,
24 concerns that I echo. The real-life effects of this
25 bill could endanger the lives of undercover police

2 officers, particularly those who are fighting
3 terrorism in this city that experienced the most
4 terrorist attack on US soil. We must not take any
5 steps to undermine law enforcement's ability to
6 identify and apprehend terrorists. So I vote no on
7 Intro 487. Second, Intro 536, banning chokeholds.
8 While I strongly agree with this, ah, with the intent
9 of this bill, there are serious issues with some of
10 the bill's language, which would essentially
11 criminalize a police officer's behavior, ah, if they
12 take steps to subdue a prisoner as they attempt to
13 make an arrest. For the records, I will be voting
14 yes on Intro 536 because I agree with the intent.
15 But I have real problems with the consequences of
16 this bill. Ah, how can we ask the NYPD officers to
17 keep the peace and maintain law and order in this
18 city, but they can't have, also they have to also be
19 afraid of being prosecuted for reasonable actions
20 that they take in the course of their job. I will
21 also be voting yes on the other pieces of legislation
22 in this package, but I just want to add that I
23 challenge the idea that these bills are genuine, ah,
24 police reform. Many of our elected officials are
25 contributing to a climate of divisiveness in this

2 city by affirming that New Yorkers should view police
3 as the enemy. Each of us have dealt with police on a
4 personal level and yes, there are bad apples, of
5 course. And those individuals need to be retrained
6 and disciplined where appropriate. But we are not
7 helping anyone by besmirching 36,000 of our fellow
8 New Yorkers and promoting distrust of law enforcement
9 throughout the city. If we really want to reform
10 policing in New York City, and I do, then let's work
11 in concert with all the stakeholders. Thank you.

12 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Diaz.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Yes on all. Yes on
14 all.

15 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Excuse me, thank
16 you. Dromm. Eugene.

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member
18 Dromm?

19 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Oh, I'm sorry. I
20 don't see him listed.

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: OK.

22 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Council Member
23 Eugene.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Ah, I vote yes,
25 sir.

2 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Thank you.
3 Gibson.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Permission to
5 explain?

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
7 granted.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: OK, thank you so
9 much, and again I want to commend our speaker, Corey,
10 for your leadership and your commitment during this
11 challenge time. I'm certainly allowing the BLAC, the
12 Women's Caucus, and those council members whose
13 districts have been really affected by a lot of the
14 issues we're talking about. I thank you for allowing
15 us a chance to really talk about these issues and
16 really carry a leadership role. Um, I did want to
17 add on to my previous comments and just recognizing
18 that the POST Act legislation is literally the floor
19 and it's not the ceiling, and it's a basic reporting
20 bill that will create a foundation of information on
21 technology and surveillance that is used by the
22 department, um, and all of the advocates who work so
23 hard, I give them so much credit and admiration for
24 this moment in history because they have been
25 committed and consistent from the very beginning.

2 And I truly believe, like all of my colleagues do,
3 that this is really a defining moment for us in the
4 City of New York. We have an opportunity to set a
5 tone, to make a difference, and show our young people
6 something better than they have been shown, to show
7 them that they should not be treated nor judged by
8 the color of their skin, but who they are as God's
9 children. That is all of our responsibility, the
10 NYPD, the City Council, and all New Yorkers, and, and
11 simply put, recognizing that we've been dealing with
12 two pandemics in this society, COVID-19 and 401 years
13 of systemic racism. We have to do better and we must
14 do better and so I thank all of you because we are
15 here for a time, a reason, and a season and the work
16 we do as legislators will have a profound next
17 generation of leaders, ah, and so I thank all of you,
18 to all of my colleagues and all the advocates, and
19 all New Yorkers out there who sometimes feel like
20 nothing is happening and feel like giving up.
21 Continue to stand in your purpose and know that you
22 have a role to play. You don't need a title in front
23 of your name to care about your neighbor and your
24 community, but we need everyone's help. Um, and so
25 with that, Mr. Speaker, Madam Majority Leader, our

2 public advocate, I want to commend all of the
3 sponsors of all the bills today and really the
4 legislative division who've worked endless hours,
5 your labor of love to see these bills through. Thank
6 you very much and to all the young people we do this
7 work for you. I vote aye on all items on today's
8 agenda. Thank you so much.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
10 Council Member Gibson.

11 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Gjonaj.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Aye on all.

13 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Grodenchik.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Aye on all.

15 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Holden.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Permission to
17 briefly explain my vote?

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
19 granted.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Ah, upholding
21 public safety is one of the highest priorities of an
22 elected official. While we should always be open to
23 logical reforms, ah, we also must weigh public safety
24 and recognize the extremely tough jobs our police
25 officers have. Ah, I believe two of these bills the

2 way they are written will hinder police officers when
3 they put in situations where they have to make quick,
4 life-saving decisions, and that will ultimately make
5 our city less safe. So with that I vote no on Intros
6 487-A and 536-B, and aye on the rest. Thank you.

7 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Kallos.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Permission to
9 explain my vote?

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
11 granted.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Congratulations
13 to all the bill sponsors. I ran for office inspired
14 by elected officials like Jumaane Williams, who
15 originally authored the Right to Know Act. As
16 council members, this is what we are here to do. I'm
17 a sponsor of every bill in this package of
18 legislation that will take another step towards
19 reforming the NYPD. I want to thank you to those who
20 have taken to the streets and the 100,000 residents
21 who have emailed, demanding that we defund the NYPD
22 and bring meaningful police reform. This vote is for
23 all of you. I proudly vote aye on all. This is a
24 first step. The budget is a next step, and we have
25 much more to do. Black lives matter.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

3 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Excuse me.

4 Council Member King.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Permission to
6 briefly explain my vote?

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
8 granted.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Thank you, Madam
10 Cumbo. Um, I just want to echo the words of Chaim
11 Deutsch, Inez Barron, and Holden. Um, I have family
12 and friends who are on the force and I know what they
13 experience each and every day. I say to them who get
14 it right kudos. For those who get it wrong, then
15 they shouldn't be police officers anymore. I'm not
16 sure of all this legislation gets us to that place
17 because everybody can't be a [inaudible], can't be a
18 police officer shouldn't be a police officer. But we
19 want to continue to make our, our communities and our
20 city safe. So with that all being said, I
21 reluctantly vote aye on all, but I'm hoping that we
22 [inaudible] when it comes to public safety. Thank
23 you.

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

25 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Koo.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member
3 Koo.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye on all.

5 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Thank you.
6 Koslowitz.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I say enough
8 is enough. I proudly vote aye.

9 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Lancman.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Yes.

11 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Lander.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Request
13 permission to explain?

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
15 granted.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you, Madam
17 Majority Leader. I want to honor the hard work of
18 all the sponsors and advocates who have worked to get
19 today's legislation to the floor and I want to take a
20 moment to especially acknowledge our black colleagues
21 for your leadership and your honesty, even when it is
22 really painful. I've been thinking in recent weeks
23 about something I learned from Trevor Noah about what
24 Amy Cooper revealed when she made that phone call in
25 Central Park, putting Christian Cooper's life in

2 danger. She revealed that she knew that the state
3 power of weaponized racism could be called down at
4 any moment, that these aren't isolated incidents, but
5 that they exist in a systemic way, like they're in
6 the air all the time, and that's not only true in
7 policing, but when you go to rent or buy a home or
8 seek a job or take your kids to school how could you
9 be OK? How could any of us? So it should not have
10 taken a popular uprising for the City Council to make
11 chokeholds a crime or require a standard disciplinary
12 matrix for the NYPD, or make hiding a badge number
13 illegal, or demand basic transparency about NYPD
14 surveillance technology. Um, but I'm glad that we
15 are voting to do all of those today and I support all
16 those bills. Now I wish I believed these bills would
17 restore some measure of trust between the NYPD and
18 the communities that they are supposed to protect and
19 serve, but at the hearing on these bills NYPD
20 representatives made clear they had no understanding
21 of what is required to rise to this moment and they
22 did not even stay to hear the testimony of so many
23 New Yorkers who came just to speak about the violence
24 that they had experienced at the hands of officers,
25 and just asked to be heard. And I have to note that

2 even now literally while we are voting to pass these
3 bills and even after the mayor has indicated that he
4 is going to sign it, the NYPD's official account on
5 Twitter is opposing the POST Act with the same fear
6 mongering that they have been using to delay the bill
7 for the past three years. I cannot remember a city
8 agency running a rogue policy advocacy operation at
9 any point in time, much less during the City Council
10 meeting, much less at this moment in our city and our
11 nation's history. So I have to say, sadly, it's
12 impossible for me to have confidence that any measure
13 of trust is going to be restored here. So we'll be
14 back here next week and following advocates,
15 including Communities United for Police Reform.
16 We'll need to cut at least one billion dollars from
17 the NYPD budget to invest in our communities and then
18 we'll move forward. We'll need to move forward to
19 more fundamentally reinvent how we achieve public
20 safety in our city and to confront the systemic
21 racism that we know pervades our schools and our
22 economy and our housing market and our healthcare
23 system and so many other domains. I vote aye on all
24 with the exception of Intro 1354, on which I abstain.

25 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Levin.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Um, permission to
3 explain my vote.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
5 granted.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you, Madam
7 Majority Leader. Um, I want to thank, um, the
8 sponsors of these bills. I want to thank and
9 acknowledge, um, Council Member Donovan Richards, our
10 chair of Public Safety. Um, I want to acknowledge,
11 um, the members of the Black, Latino and Asian Caucus
12 and the council for their leadership and their, um,
13 diligent work on this, um, Council Member Lancman,
14 Council Member Gibson, and the speaker and the staff
15 the worked on this. Um, I, I agree and concur with
16 my colleagues. Um, this is, um, overdue, um, and it,
17 it marks a small, um, indication of the immense
18 amount of work that we need to continue to do. Today
19 is not the end of that work. Um, we should not think
20 of it as such. Um, we have to rise to this moment in
21 history because that is what, um, is required of us
22 and that is what the people that we represent are
23 asking us to do and are calling on us to do. And,
24 um, that's gonna be, that's gonna require a lot of
25 difficult work. It's gonna require a lot of, a lot

2 more votes like this today. Um, and it's gonna
3 require, um, a real fortitude, um, but the moment
4 demands nothing less than that and, um, and so I
5 encourage all, everybody that's out there marching to
6 continue to march, ah, continue to hold us
7 accountable, and, um, and push for greater
8 accountability in your government, um, and, and a
9 greater, um, effort towards justice. And, and I also
10 just want to acknowledge, um, ah, all the family
11 members of people who, um, were killed at the hands
12 of the NYPD, Gwen Carr, mothers of the movement, and
13 everybody, um, else who has, um, worked so
14 tirelessly. I just want to especially acknowledge
15 Nicholas Hayward, who passed away last year, um, who,
16 who dedicated, um, half of his life, um, to, um,
17 police accountability when his son was murdered, um,
18 25 years ago. Um, and, and so my vote is in honor
19 of, of Nicholas Hayward and I vote aye on all.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

21 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Council Member
22 Dromm.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: [inaudible]
24 permission I'd like to vote. I had to step away for
25 a moment.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
3 granted.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you, and I
5 vote aye on all today. Thank you.

6 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Thank you.
7 Levine.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Well, thank you
9 so much Madam Majority Leader, with deep appreciation
10 to the sponsors who worked years for passage of these
11 bills and with gratitude for the leadership of the
12 BLAC today throughout this crisis and beyond. I will
13 proudly be voting aye on all.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

15 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Louis.

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

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
19 granted.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Thank you. Ah, I
21 proudly vote aye on all, and I just want to thank
22 you, Speaker Johnson, for your commitment and your
23 consistency and for being an ally to black and brown
24 leaders, um, seeking to make change in the community
25 and the system, and I just want to applaud all of the

2 bill sponsors, um, and my colleagues for pushing for
3 these bills. I think it's really sad and disgraceful
4 that we have to have these conversations and that we
5 have to debate if black and brown people's lives
6 really matter, um, and if we have to debate if it's
7 OK for us to live and for us to breathe. Um, I think
8 it's really sad and disgraceful that we have to have
9 a conversation about how black and people are treated
10 by law enforcement, um, how we're treated inhumanely
11 and like animals. Um, but what I'm happy about is
12 that the actions that are being taking place today
13 and moving forward in the future would ensure that
14 families of Akay Girly, Sean Bell, um, Eric Garner
15 and so many other people who, who were killed by
16 police officers, we're ensuring that they know that
17 we're speaking up for them and that the system will
18 become equitable and more transparent due to the
19 actions today and moving forward. So proudly voting
20 aye on all and just want to thank all my colleagues
21 for being strong and for pushing forward. Thank you.

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

23 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Maisel.

24 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Council Member Maisel,
25 I think you're muted.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Yes.

3 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Thank you.

4 Menchaca.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: I want to
6 dedicate my vote to all the protestors, the marchers,
7 the agitators. Keep doing your work. Keep marching.
8 We're listening to you. We're gonna keep doing more
9 if you stay loud. I vote aye on all.

10 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Miller.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Permission to
12 explain, Madam Public Advocate? I'm sorry, did I say
13 that? Ah, Madam Majority Leader.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: You're so
15 prophetic.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Ah, there you go
17 [laughs]. OK, thank you, ah, Madam Majority Leader.
18 So, um, my Muslim faith or someone's affiliation with
19 Black Lives Matter or the Black Panther movement
20 should not arbitrarily subject them to some random,
21 illicit and, and untransparent surveillance by the
22 NYPD. Um, but it has. And so we, we've, as, ah,
23 Council Member Gibson said, the POST Act is merely
24 the floor. Something has to get done and so, um, we
25 are, I'm very proud to support this legislation and I

2 am dedicating, ah, my vote, um, to my good friend
3 lost at the age of, of 14, to the hands of Police
4 Officer Robert Torsney in 1975. Um, Randolph Evans.
5 I proudly vote aye on all.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. I'm
7 sorry for your loss.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you.

9 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Moya.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye on all.

11 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Perkins.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member
13 Perkins, can you unmute yourself?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: No problem.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: How do you vote,
16 Council Member Perkins?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Ah, I vote aye.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

19 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Powers.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: I vote aye. Ah,
21 congratulations to all of my colleagues who worked
22 very hard and, ah, on these bills and to all of my
23 colleagues at BLAC, who I know worked very hard on
24 these, and both congratulations to my colleague,
25 Vanessa Gibson, but I also wanted, she noted, I want

2 to thank my predecessor, Dan Garadnick, for his work
3 on the POST Act which, ah, I know, lots of folks have
4 been working on to get it done, so I want to say
5 congratulations to them as well. I vote aye.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

7 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Reynoso.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Permission to
9 explain my vote?

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
11 granted.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Thank you,
13 Majority Leader. I just want to, ah, say thank you
14 to all the bill sponsors, ah, and the work that we've
15 done in just holding the line for so many years so
16 that we could see some semblance of, of justice and
17 just, ah, a sensible reaction to what's happening in
18 our, in our city, ah, long before George Floyd, ah,
19 was murdered. Ah, I hope that moving forward the
20 City Council can have the same urgency related to
21 issues of education, health, transportation, ah, and
22 education, um, to start bringing justice to a lot of
23 this, ah, infrastructure that exists in our city that
24 has made it so that black and brown lives are
25 devalued. Ah, so I'm looking forward to having,

2 continuing those conversations as well and that, ah,
3 and I vote aye on all. Thank you.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

5 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Richards.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Thank you, and
7 I want to congratulate once again all the bill
8 sponsors. We still have a lot more work to do, ah,
9 this is a lifetime struggle. It won't end with this
10 council, just like it didn't begin with this council,
11 ah, and I happily vote aye on all. Thank you.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

13 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Rivera.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Many thanks and
15 congratulations to my colleagues and everyone else
16 out there who made this happen. I proudly vote aye
17 on all.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

19 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Rodriguez.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Yes, eh, as I
21 said before, give me one second, as I said before I
22 think that, you know, the, all the, the whole body of
23 this council can be so proud, but we, all we have to
24 give credit to the advocate, those who march, those
25 who even break the curfew that was established, who

2 took the street. Without that movement we would not
3 be here today. I know that for many of us who are
4 elected are by heart we are progressive. I know when
5 I sit from here the face of Council Member Dromm and
6 I see like many faces, you know, people that we've
7 been arrested, that we've been [inaudible], you know,
8 of protesting against police brutality. I know that
9 we are so, we can be so proud because Danny, you
10 know, those of us who stood together from 2009 we
11 know what was going on in the criminal justice
12 community. We know what was going on [inaudible]
13 Riker's Island and there was completely a position
14 from the speaker to the mayor, it was [inaudible] to
15 have this conversation. I know that when we marched
16 together in all those cases, when we got arrested two
17 together in many occasion, we never thought that the
18 council would be voting this reform that we're doing
19 today. But let's dedicate to the lives of those
20 loved one that we lost. Let's dedicate to those who
21 their family also been crying. We cannot bring
22 nobody back. But we can continue fighting for
23 justice from their name. Everyone who have marched
24 regardless is some people some time, you know, those
25 of us elected sometime we don't have to agree on

2 everything. Let's give credit. [speaking in
3 Spanish] very proud to be voting aye on this bill and
4 very proud that 51 council member that is voting for
5 this bill and especially to the [inaudible]
6 community. [speaking in Spanish] with that I vote
7 aye.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
9 Council Member Rodriguez.

10 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Rose.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Um, permission to
12 explain my vote, and I just want to thank, I want to
13 thank the protestors for their persistence, for their
14 energy, and for being the catalyst that got us to
15 this point, and I want to thank my colleagues for
16 standing firm and in the face of injustice and saying
17 that this, the silence about injustice ends today,
18 and I vote aye on all.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

20 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Rosenthal.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Permission to
22 explain my vote?

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
24 granted.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: I want to
3 congratulate and express gratitude to my colleagues
4 for their legislation and leadership during these
5 challenging times. The bill sponsors and staff have
6 done a remarkable job and thank you, Speaker Johnson,
7 for moving this legislation to the floor for our
8 vote, and I am proud to vote aye on all. Since the
9 outbreak of the pandemic the City Council has led the
10 way with thoughtful legislation and policy
11 suggestions. Council Members Daneek Miller and
12 Adrienne Adams have shown real leadership as cochairs
13 of the BLAC. Council Member Donovan Richards has
14 held the NYPD's feet to the fire as chair of the
15 Committee on Public Safety. I am proud to be an ally
16 of my black colleagues in the council and I'm
17 listening to what they are saying and particularly
18 want to thank Council Members Ampry-Samuels, Adams,
19 Barron, Gibson, Louis, Rose, and Majority Leader
20 Cumbo for their wisdom. And lastly I want to send a
21 message to the mayor. Passing the fiscal year 21
22 budget is around the corner. Be clear. Defunding
23 the NYPD is imperative, whether that be by moving
24 responsibilities to other agencies or decreasing the
25 size of the force. And funding for youth, seniors,

2 and social services must be maintained. Replacing
3 75,000 summer youth employment slots with 3300 is
4 unacceptable. Cutting social service contracts to
5 save government jobs is nonsensical. Reductions to
6 your social senior service contracts for meals has
7 already resulted in layoffs. Your proposed budget is
8 adding to the city's unemployment rolls. I am proud
9 to serve with this council that fights for justice
10 and equity through legislation and the budget. Thank
11 you.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
13 Council Member Rosenthal.

14 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Salamanca.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes.

16 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Sorry, Council
17 Member.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: No problem.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye on all.

20 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Thank you.
21 Torres.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Aye on all.

23 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Treyger.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

25 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Ulrich.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Ah, good
3 afternoon. I'm voting aye on all with the exception
4 of two Intros, Intro 47-A and 1309-B. I'm voting no
5 on those two bills. But I'm voting aye on all the
6 rest and, um, I am wishing all my fellow dads out
7 there a very happy Father's Day and, ah, to all of my
8 colleagues who are passing all the other pieces of
9 legislation, congratulations and, um, God bless.
10 Thank you.

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

12 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Vallone.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Permission to
14 explain my vote?

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
16 granted.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Thank you, Madam
18 Majority Leader, and to all our leaders, Speaker
19 Johnson. Ah, during this profoundly painful times
20 for all of us our City Council once again has stepped
21 up to lead. Emotional anguish and trauma sparked by
22 the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis has spurred
23 demonstrations that continue today. Here in New York
24 City after the death of Eric Garner in 2014 we as a
25 council stood with our NYPD to usher in reform and

2 bring community policing to our five boroughs. These
3 are changes and reforms that other large cities have
4 still yet to implement. Now today once again our
5 council is leading the way. While I completely agree
6 with today's ban on the use of chokeholds in New York
7 City, we must always remember that our officers can
8 be placed in deadly situations. That is why I and
9 others have requested one amendment, the right to
10 defend your life, and include a life-threatening
11 exclusion, the very same exclusion that exists within
12 federal and state laws. This request was denied. It
13 remains my hope that the sponsor of today's bill sees
14 the right path and includes this amendment in the
15 near future. I want to personally thank my fellow
16 council members who have shared their personal and
17 emotional stories with myself and this body. These
18 conversations were heartfelt and shaped from our
19 individual life experiences and allowed each of us to
20 share, learn, and perhaps understand pieces of our
21 personal stories. This is how we will go forward and
22 this is the compassionate and strong leadership that
23 is represented today in these historic policy
24 changes. My dad taught me long ago that we must
25 always listen and implement changes for the common

2 good of all people. These bills today show that in
3 our time of anguish we listened and that change is
4 coming today. Happy Father's Day to everyone. God
5 bless everyone, and thank you for the time. I vote
6 aye on all.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
8 Council Member Vallone.

9 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Van Bramer.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Permission to
11 briefly explain my vote?

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
13 granted.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank you
15 very much. Um, first I, I too want to, um, echo
16 what, ah, Council Member Menchaca said before, ah,
17 Council Member Barron, ah, was the one who had the
18 courage to vote, ah, against, ah, ah, putting all
19 that money in for extra police officers years ago.
20 Ah, and she was right then, ah, and I was wrong, and
21 I want to say that as well. Um, and over the last,
22 ah, two-and-a-half years, ah, Council Member Barron
23 often gets up and speaks, ah, at the end of the
24 meetings and, ah, I listen to every word she says,
25 and I have to say, ah, ah, I've learned an awful lot

2 and appreciate, ah, so much, ah, of, of the truths
3 that she speaks, ah, truths that people like me need
4 to hear, ah, and we need to finally act on it. Um,
5 ah, you know, white folks can't just keep saying it's
6 a shame that happens, it's a shame that happened, ah,
7 we've got to use our privilege and our power, um, to
8 actually, ah, create systemic and fundamental change
9 in our society. Um, so thank you, Council Member
10 Barron, ah, for, ah, for being there, and I also want
11 to thank the protestors. I've, I've marched in, ah,
12 four, ah, Black Lives Matter marches myself, um, and,
13 ah, choose to march towards the back because, ah, the
14 young people and the young people of color are
15 leading and should be leading, um, and, ah, and I
16 don't speak at any of them. Ah, I listen and I
17 march. And, ah, I started as a young, ah, queer
18 activist who was arrested several times for civil
19 disobedience, ah, and, ah, I'm enthralled by their
20 activism. I really am. And I just want to tell them
21 to keep going 'cause the pressure works on elected
22 officials. Keep putting pressure on us. Keep
23 emailing. Keep phone calling. Keep marching,
24 because it is pushing this City Council to the left
25 and to do the right thing, so do not stop, do not let

2 up. Don't tell Governor Cuomo that it's done and
3 just go home. Ah, it's just starting. The
4 revolution is just starting. Keep going. Ah, and
5 you will force us, ah, to do the right thing. Thank
6 you. With that, I vote aye on all.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

8 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Yeger.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: I vote aye on all
10 with the exception of Introduction 721 and
11 Introduction 487. Thank you.

12 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Matteo.

13 MINORITY LEADER MATTEO: I'm voting no on
14 487, 536, 721, 760, and 1962, and aye on the rest.

15 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Cumbo.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I proudly vote
17 aye on all and this is certainly the proudest day of
18 my life as a City Council member. And I want to
19 thank all of my colleagues who dug deep and found the
20 courage to vote in support of this package of
21 legislation. We thank you. Our ancestors thank you
22 and hopefully our sons and daughters moving forward
23 into the future will truly know what justice,
24 equality, and fairness is. I proudly vote aye on all
25 items.

2 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: Speaker Johnson.

3 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Before I, ah, vote aye
4 on all I just want to thank all of, um, my colleagues
5 for this, ah, very moving Stated today, to hear from
6 so many members from the BLAC and, ah, I have learned
7 a tremendous amount over the last, ah, many weeks and
8 months, and I'm really grateful for their, ah,
9 friendship and, and, ah, for being colleagues and for
10 being able to do some of this work together and, um,
11 I have really tried to listen, um, and make sure that
12 we are hearing voices, especially from our black
13 colleagues, ah, who we have to really lift up and
14 elevate, ah, right now. So I'm really grateful to
15 all of them. I want to mention one thing that I was
16 remiss in not mentioning at the beginning during the
17 speaker's time. But before I say what it is, I just
18 want to give a big thanks to Council Member Inez
19 Barron. I want to give a big thanks to council
20 member Debbie Rose. I want to give a big thanks to,
21 ah, the cochairs of the Black, Latino and Asian
22 Caucus, Council Members I. Daneek Miller and Adrienne
23 Adams. I want to give a big thanks to our public
24 safety chair, Donovan Richards, and I could thank all
25 of the members from the BLAC, but I wanted to

2 highlight those four individuals today because, ah,
3 they have been pushing for years, literally for
4 years, and it predates I believe even Council Member
5 Barron being in the council when it was her, ah,
6 husband who was her predecessor, Council Member
7 Charles Barron [coughs], excuse me, I apologize, who
8 was pushing for the statue of Thomas Jefferson to be
9 removed, ah, from the City Council Chambers. And
10 tomorrow marks Juneteenth, and so, ah, some of the
11 members that I just mentioned, all the members that I
12 just mentioned, led by the Black, Latino and Asian
13 Caucus. In the last week, Council Member Debbie Rose
14 has been one of the fiercest and loudest voices on
15 this. Over the last many years it has been
16 consistently been Council Member Inez Barron, and
17 again preceding that was her husband, Assembly Member
18 Charles Barron, former council member. So I just
19 wanted to say today that the City Council is sending
20 a letter to the mayor and to the Public Design
21 Commission requesting that that statue be removed
22 from the City Council Chambers and this is not
23 because of me, this is because of, ah, our
24 colleagues. I am happy to support them and will of
25 course sign on to that letter. Ah, we can't

2 unilaterally do it on our own or we would. , ah, we
3 need the Public Design Commission, ah, which the
4 mayor has control over, to green light that, and so
5 we are ready to move that statue out of the chambers
6 as quickly as they'll facilitate making that happen.
7 So I really want to thank Council Member Barron, I
8 really want to thank Council Member Rose, and I
9 really want to thank the cochairs of the Black,
10 Latino and Asian Caucus, Council Members Daneek
11 Miller and Adrienne Adams, not just on this issue,
12 but I'll tell you that the cochairs of the caucus
13 have been leading on so many issues, even pre George
14 Floyd being murdered. They were leading on issues
15 related to COVID-19 and the inequities. They were
16 leading on issues around restoring youth programming
17 before it became a big thing in the press. Debbie
18 Rose has spent literally hundreds of hours the last
19 few months working on this issue, um, meeting with
20 advocates. So I am just so grateful for their
21 leadership and for their advocacy and, ah, I'm
22 grateful to be able to work with them and, ah,
23 support them in making these important changes and
24 moves right now. So I know we're going to have
25 general discussion. I didn't mean to leave this to

2 the end. I honestly just forgot 'cause there's so
3 much going on today. But I'm sure people are gonna
4 want to speak about this in, ah, general discussion
5 and I look forward to hearing about it. And again I
6 want to thank my colleagues. And with that, Madam
7 Majority Leader, I vote aye on all, and I want to
8 thank you, Madam Majority Leader. I apologize. I'm
9 very sorry. Ah, you have been on this issue as well
10 the last few weeks, ringing the bell on this, talking
11 about this, on this issue. Ah, so I am tremendously
12 grateful for your leadership that you have
13 consistently shown throughout this entire time and
14 even before, ah, these painful but necessary days
15 that we're in. So thank you, Majority Leader Cumbo.
16 I vote aye and I turn it back to you.

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so
18 much, Speaker Corey Johnson, and we will now, um,
19 hear the results of today's vote on the general order
20 calendar.

21 COUNCIL CLERK MARTIN: The vote on
22 today's general order calendar is as follows.
23 Introduction 487-A has 44 in the affirmative, 6 in
24 the negative, no abstentions. Intro 536-A, 47 in the
25 affirmative, 3 in the negative, no abstentions.

2 Introduction 721-A, 47 in the affirmative, 3 in the
3 negative, zero abstentions. Introduction 760-B, 48
4 in the affirmative, 2 in the negative, no
5 abstentions. Introduction 1309-B, 48 in the
6 affirmative, 2 in the negative, zero abstentions.
7 Preconsidered Introduction 1962-A, 48 in the
8 affirmative, 2 in the negative, zero abstentions.
9 And Introduction 1354-A, 49 in the affirmative, zero
10 in the negative, one abstention. Thank you.

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so
12 much, Billy Martin, for reading this very historical,
13 ah, vote today, and we now will have at this
14 particular time the items on today's general order
15 calendar are adopted today, and we will now have the
16 introduction and reading of bills.

17 SPEAKER JOHNSON: One moment, Madam
18 Majority Leader. All bills have been referred to
19 committees as indicated on today's agenda.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We
21 will now move into the discussion of resolutions. As
22 a reminder, please wait until the Sergeant at Arms
23 begins the countdown clock before you begin your
24 remarks.

2 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Madam Majority Leader,
3 Council Member Rivera would like to speak on the
4 resolution.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.
6 Council Member Rivera.

7 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you, ah,
9 Madam Majority Leader. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
10 Thank you to my colleagues. I'm very proud of this
11 body today that after debate and discussion we voted
12 to pass Council Member Lancman's bill to ban
13 chokeholds here in New York City. Chokeholds and
14 other violence uses of excessive force that have been
15 used by police to kill so many black and brown people
16 have no place in New York City. And they have no
17 place anywhere in this country. I ask for that same
18 support for my resolution calling for the passage of
19 the Eric Garner Excessive Use of Force Prevention Act
20 of 2019, which would ban chokeholds at the national
21 level. This bill is an important step in changing
22 the way we think about public safety and policing in
23 America as the other bills voted on today help us
24 address the misconduct that we see here in our back
25 yard. With the lives of people such as Anthony Baez,

2 Eric Garner, George Floyd, and many, many more lost
3 over these decades, I want to thank Congressman
4 Jeffries for introducing this bill and naming it
5 after Eric Garner, whose tragic murder fueled a
6 movement that got us to this place we find ourselves
7 today. And as we remember his last words, I can't
8 breathe, a rallying cry for activists everywhere,
9 fighting against police misconduct and brutality,
10 this resolution before you is an anti-chokehold bill
11 that would set the national standard for excessive
12 police force, and I ask that you vote aye to help see
13 it through. Thank you.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so
15 much, Council Member Rivera. Lance, are there any
16 additional members that would like to speak on
17 today's resolutions?

18 PARLIAMENTARIAN: No, Madam Majority
19 Leader.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: OK. I will now
21 read today's resolutions onto the record.
22 Preconsidered Resolution 1343 calls upon the US
23 Congress to pass and the president to sign the Eric
24 Garner Excessive Use of Force Prevention Act of 2019,
25 HR number 4408, which would prohibit police

2 chokeholds and other tactics that result in
3 asphyxiation. We will now have a voice vote on
4 today's resolution. If you wish to vote against or
5 abstain from today's resolution please notify the
6 legislative documents unit by email. Will all those
7 in favor say aye?

8 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: All opposed say
10 nay. Any abstentions? The ayes have it. We will
11 now move and have general discussion. As a reminder,
12 please wait until the Sergeant at Arms begins the
13 countdown clock before you begin your remarks.

14 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Madam Majority Leader.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes.

16 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Council Members Rose
17 and Rivera wish to speak in general discussion.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We
19 will begin with Council Member Rose, followed by
20 Council Member Rivera.

21 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Thank you, Madam
23 Majority Leader. The, the evils of slavery is more
24 than a chapter in American history books. The legacy
25 of systemic brutal dehumanization of human beings,

2 sanctioned and practiced by men and women like Thomas
3 Jefferson, still lives with us today. The
4 disparities we experience daily in education, health
5 care, and public safety, as well as often violent
6 interactions between NYPD and people of color, are a
7 direct result of slavery. This is why we protest.
8 This is why we kneel. And this is why we must say
9 black lives matter. As a member of the City Council,
10 I work with my colleagues to rid our society of this
11 legacy and make this a more fair, equitable city.
12 Doing so under this statue that commemorates a man
13 who enslaved human beings is unacceptable for many of
14 us and it is truly painful. Thomas Jefferson
15 enslaved more than 600 men, women, and children
16 during his lifetime. His words are "all men are
17 created equal" but they were not matched by his
18 actions, which included the ability to sell, buy,
19 mortgage, and lease human beings. He believed black
20 people to be racially inferior, said that black
21 Americans and white Americans could not live
22 peacefully side by side, and he fathered as many as
23 six children with the woman whom he enslaved. I
24 believe that the New York City Council should neither
25 glorify nor ignore this dark side of American

2 history. I am not the first to raise this issue. I
3 want to thank those who came before us here, most
4 notably Assembly Member and former City Council
5 member, Charles Barron, as well as my colleague Inez
6 Barron and my colleagues in the Black, Latino and
7 Asian Caucus. I also want to thank Speaker Johnson
8 for understanding what many Americans do not, that
9 this is a symbol that perpetuates racism and
10 inequality. And I want to thank you for taking
11 action, Speaker Johnson. The immediate removal of
12 the statue is long overdue and I'm proud to say that
13 it will bring us yet another step closer to truly
14 living up to the inclusive values that we talk about
15 every day. So I want to thank you all, um, I want to
16 thank you, Speaker Johnson, and the Black, Latino and
17 Asian Caucus, and Council Member, um, Adrienne Adams
18 and Daneek Miller for helping to push this very
19 important issue, and the Majority Leader. Thank you.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
21 Council Member Rose. And then we have Council Member
22 Rivera.

23 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I can yield my
25 time, I think. I have two housing bills that I'm

2 introducing today that I wanted to speak to, but I
3 think I'll just, ah, yield my time and say thank you
4 to everyone for your words on the important bills on
5 police brutality and misconduct that we passed.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
7 Council Member Rivera. Are there any other members
8 who wish to speak on general discussion?

9 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes, Madam Majority
10 Leader, Council Members Barron and Menchaca.

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member
12 Barron, you may begin.

13 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

14 UNIDENTIFIED: Council Member Barron, we
15 can't hear you.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Am I unmuted now?

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes. I can hear
18 you.

19 SPEAKER JOHNSON: [inaudible] thank you.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: OK. Ah, the
21 current protests in America and across the world,
22 spurred by the recent police killings of unarmed
23 George Floyd is a call by millions to end
24 institutionalized racism that results in injustice in
25 the court systems, inequality in social programs,

2 marginalization in literary and cultural systems, and
3 discrimination in economic opportunities and, yes,
4 death for black and brown people in the racist
5 capitalist system. In cities across the nation
6 legislative bodies are designing profound bold
7 measures to create new models of policing and
8 requiring that police accountability boards be
9 composed entirely of community residents. The
10 legislation that is being draft calling for an
11 elected civilian review board has three main tenets.
12 One, that all of the members are elected. Two, that
13 the decision of the board be binding to the
14 commissioner and that he implement them. And three,
15 that there be an independent prosecutor, not a part
16 of the attorney general or the district attorney
17 because they use police for their investigations.
18 And as a legislative body that represents millions we
19 have the opportunity to show that we understand that
20 symbols matter and we're glad to know that the statue
21 of Thomas Jefferson will be removed. In 2002 my
22 husband, then a Council Member, Charles Barron, was
23 the first to call for the statue to be removed and
24 I've carried that baton since my tenure coming in,
25 the BLAC as a body has endorsed that, and other

2 members beyond the BLAC are supportive of that. So
3 we look forward to the removal of the statue
4 imminently. And in that same vein I'm calling for
5 eliminating the Pledge of Allegiance as a part of our
6 proceedings. The refrain black lives matter and no
7 justice, no peace mean business will not go on as
8 usual while black and brown people are brutalized and
9 victimized by the very systems of this country. The
10 ongoing massive protests that have taken to the
11 streets are the demands to our ever-growing throngs
12 of people who demand that deep radical change, beyond
13 gaining access to police personnel records, beyond
14 requiring that additional training be done, beyond
15 requiring a loss of vacation days, lead to the fact
16 that we are demanding that police be charged,
17 arrested, vigorously prosecuted, and when convicted
18 go to jail. So I want to thank my colleagues and I
19 want to invite you all to our 19th annual Juneteenth
20 celebration. That has been the event that Charles
21 and I have sponsored, ah, for 19 years and we do
22 recognize that Juneteenth did not in fact free the
23 slaves, that those that were enslaved, because the
24 Thirteenth Amendment didn't get passed until December
25 of 1865. So that Juneteenth celebration was earlier

2 and it did not end slavery. What it did was it ended
3 the military campaign that was focused on that. So I
4 want to thank you all and invite you to go my website
5 and see the information about the Juneteenth. It
6 will be a virtual celebration. Thank you.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
8 Council Member Barron. Thank you, and now we'll have
9 Council Member Menchaca.

10 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Only by
12 defunding the NYPD and reinvesting that money back
13 into our communities will we achieve a fair and just
14 people's budget that ensures a just and equitable
15 recovery from COVID-19. Yet right now we've heard
16 and we, all of us, understand that the mayor is
17 standing our way, which is why New Yorkers are
18 calling for his resignation. And I'm calling on this
19 body to express a loss of confidence in the mayor and
20 for the governor to remove him from office. For
21 decades we have falsely assumed that more cops mean
22 more public safety. But in reality the public safety
23 does not come from more cops, more jails, or more
24 punishment, but from investing in critical resources
25 that address the root causes of trauma, displacement,

2 and poverty. The safest communities in America do
3 not have more police, but more resources. Just
4 compare whiter, more affluent areas of the city with
5 less white and less affluent areas, better schools,
6 better services, and better investments mean less
7 police, less reliance on the criminal justice system.
8 That reality should extend to all. Yet COVID-19
9 pandemic has destroyed any semblance that our city's
10 approach is working. Even, even if black, brown,
11 Latinx immigrant New Yorkers survive COVID-19 they
12 could still die at the hands of a militarized and
13 unaccountable carceral system. We are failing our
14 most fundamental function, to protect the most
15 vulnerable. Recognizing this, these same New Yorkers
16 are demanding nothing short of a complete
17 reimagining. We keep on hearing it over and over
18 today, a reimagining of public safety to ensure a
19 just and equitable recovery, a vision to end our
20 reliance on policing and incarceration and instead
21 prioritize community needs with community-led
22 solutions. But the mayor's response to these demands
23 was to send more police, who then brutalized peaceful
24 protestors and the press, and whose actions the mayor
25 denied or downplayed, even today. But the mayor's

2 response to these demands to send more police is
3 wrong. So watching in horror New Yorkers have
4 realized that the mayor represents the single-
5 greatest obstacle, the single-greatest obstacle, the
6 single greatest obstacle to peace and justice in New
7 York City, and to passing a fair and just budget. So
8 I believe it is our duty and the people's
9 representatives to elevate all the demands of
10 accountability and to debate them openly in New
11 Yorkers' spaces on Zoom in a public hearing as soon
12 as possible, and I'm asking the speaker of the City
13 Council and the chair and our body to put something
14 on the calendar as soon as possible in July so that
15 we can look forward to organizing and speaking our
16 voices. This should be a debate between the people
17 and we should be listening. Thank you.

18 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Madam Majority Leader,
19 Council Members Adams, Miller, and Vallone wish to
20 speak.

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member
22 Adams, you may begin.

23 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Thank you so much,
25 Madam Majority Leader. Um, I, I just want to speak

2 as one of the cochairs of the Black, Latino and Asian
3 Caucus, um, and to commemorate, um, my mother's
4 sister, Auntie, um, Council Member Barron, ah, and
5 her husband, Uncle Charles Barron, ah, for their hard
6 work, ah, in, in seeing to it that the statue of
7 Thomas Jefferson is removed. You know, the first day
8 that I walked into chambers I felt, I felt
9 exhilaration, I felt my spirit say welcome home, and
10 then I looked up and saw slave master looking down on
11 my head. Um, on the strength of Sally Hemings, who
12 fathered many of his children, who continued to be
13 enslaved under Thomas Jefferson, I can't wait for
14 that statue to be removed. We will celebrate. It
15 will be amazing. It will be wonderful. And it is so
16 overdue. I congratulate Council Member Rose, Council
17 Members Barron, Assembly Member Barron. What a day
18 for the New York City Council. He's coming down and
19 he's getting out of our chambers. Thank you, Madam
20 Majority Leader.

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so
22 much, Council Member Adams. And we will now hear
23 from Council Member Miller and then Council Member
24 Vallone.

25 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you, ah,
3 Madam Majority Leader. I want to echo what was said
4 and, ah, so eloquently said by, ah, my, my cochair,
5 also Council Member Barron as well as Council Member
6 Rose with the removal of the Jefferson statue is long
7 overdue. I also want to remind folks that, um, last
8 year we were visited in the chambers by PS-34 in, in,
9 ah, Hollis, Queens. And the first thing that this
10 group of elementary school students noticed was that
11 statue. And we made a promise to them that that
12 statue would be gone when they came back. And so
13 they will no longer have that in their future. They
14 will not, no longer when they are members of the
15 council, won't have that symbol hanging over their
16 head. I want to thank the members of the Black,
17 Latino and Asian Caucus for the work that they've
18 done on this package of bills that happened here
19 today. And most of all I also want to thank the
20 speaker. I want to thank him for his leadership, but
21 I want to thank him also for his understanding when,
22 when, we, we spoke nearly every day, right, between
23 Adrienne, myself, and, and, and the executive council
24 [inaudible] and, and, and his leadership team. But
25 our early message to our colleagues and, and, and our

2 allies was kind of just fall back, um, and let us
3 have this experience. We need your support, but that
4 support comes in the matter in, in, in this moment of
5 you just falling back and, and, and, and thank you
6 for that understanding and then the eventual support,
7 standing in the street, as Jimmy said, being in the
8 protesting to young people but kind of falling back
9 and allowing them to have their moment. They can
10 call for the phone calls that we've kind of went back
11 and forth and ultimately getting into where you are
12 today, to Barry, to, to, to Rory, and, and Kalman,
13 and so many others, um, that we've spoken to for your
14 support. Um, but most of all the understanding that,
15 you know, that black lives do matter and that there's
16 a lot of work to, to, to, ah, for us to do as we move
17 forward and I look forward to working with each and
18 every one of you all and doing so, and this is a just
19 reminder, we're going to be prompt, but the
20 [inaudible] is meeting immediately after, so, thank
21 you again.

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so
23 much. Thank you for the reminder, and Council Member
24 Vallone.

25 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Starting time.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Ah, thank you
3 for that. I, I just wanted to remind everyone who's
4 listening that at this point of the Stated this is
5 where the council members speak their individual
6 thoughts. These are not the thoughts of the entire
7 body. So when somebody says, ah, I want to remove
8 the Pledge of Allegiance from the Stated or a City
9 Council hearing, make sure you know I'm opposed to
10 that. And I'm sure there's many others also. So we
11 will have discussions on that. That's not something
12 that's going to happen until we all discuss, major
13 conversations over something like that over our
14 country, ah, and I think that [inaudible]. So I just
15 wanted to put mine on the record for that, and thank
16 you very much.

17 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Madam Majority Leader.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes?

19 PARLIAMENTARIAN: There are no other
20 members who wish to speak. I believe you have an
21 announcement before you turn it back over to the
22 speaker.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes. Let me pull
24 the announcement up. Give me a moment. At this
25 time, ah, we want to have, ah, a corrected reading,

2 um, by Billy Martin after general discussion. I want
3 to clarify the vote on one of the bills today. Intro
4 536-B passed by a vote of 47 in the affirmative, 3 in
5 the negative, and no abstentions. And I just wanted
6 to make that clear. And I will just close out just
7 by I want to thank my son, ah, Prince, who has gone
8 through this entire four months with me, watching 10
9 to 12 hours of television every day, missing meals,
10 we're still behind in diaper training. But I do all
11 of this essentially inspired by him and every day I
12 go to bed feeling guilty that I have not spent enough
13 time with him, especially in his developmental years.
14 So I just want to dedicate today to him and, um, and
15 to all of the fathers. I have a father who is 82
16 years old, I have a brother who is 50 years old, who
17 are both the fathers of five children each. And we
18 did this today so that hopefully my son can be a
19 father and to have a family. And so I'm so
20 supportive of all of them and I thank everyone. I'm
21 so inspired and excited by what we're seeing right
22 now. The young people from here to Australia have
23 spoken loudly. They refuse to inherent the world
24 that we are giving them and are fighting to change
25 it, to have a better world, a more just and equitable

2 world. And we are listening. And all of what you're
3 seeing today could not have happened if you didn't
4 have the bravery and the courage to continue. If we
5 look at the, the Montgomery Bus Boycotts, they lasted
6 over 381 days. So we have to continue to stay
7 vigilant because it is your energy, your protest,
8 your voice that's allowing legislation that has taken
9 generations to pass, to pass today, and we're gonna
10 continue to pass legislation and to continue to have
11 budget changes that are more reflective of the world
12 that you deserve to inherit. But I also want to say
13 that I'm inspired, ah, by the global energy that
14 we're seeing. But the Black Lives Matter movement
15 must be a complete movement and I would be remiss if
16 I didn't as a black woman speak on this. This is a
17 moment of justice, equality, and transformation that
18 must include the shared fight for justice for all
19 black people, black women included. Black women are
20 at the forefront of the Black Lives Matter movement,
21 the Democratic party, the Me Too movement, the pay
22 parity and pay equity movement. We are the heads of
23 our households. We have to make sure that our voice
24 is lifted up equitably during this Black Lives
25 Matter movement. Malcolm X once said that the most

2 unprotected woman in America is the black woman. The
3 most disrespected person in America is the black
4 woman. And we have to make sure that black women are
5 respected and are lifted up equitably. If black
6 women were free it would mean that everyone else
7 would have to be free, since our freedom would
8 necessitate the destruction of all systems of
9 oppression. And Sojourner Truth also said it when
10 she said, "Ain't I a woman?", demanding a woman's
11 equal place in this world. And as we look and as we
12 continue to lift up George Floyd, I want us to
13 continue to lift up Breonna Taylor equally. She was
14 gunned down in a hail of eight bullets and we have to
15 make sure that she receives justice. While she
16 successfully in her death people have lifted up her
17 name and we have created a law, the Breonna Taylor
18 Law, that outlaws no-knock warrants, that allowed
19 police officers to enter her home late at night
20 without knocking, with guns drawn, and we have to
21 dismantle all forms of racism and we have to demand
22 that our, ah, entire system rises up to demand
23 justice from Attorney General Daniel Cameron as well
24 as Governor Andy Beshear, demanding that those that
25 are responsible for the death of Breonna Taylor are

2 brought to justice. And I just want to close by
3 continuing to lift up the names of black women who
4 have also been lost at the hands of law enforcement.
5 Pamela Turner, Sandra Bland, Breonna Taylor, Corrine
6 Gaines, Atiana Jefferson, Shantelle Davis, Eleanor
7 Bumpers, Deborah Danner, and so many others who we
8 have lost at this time. Again, I want to close with
9 just saying the Black Lives Matter movement has to
10 equally lift up men and women. When we lift up geo
11 we must lift up Breonna because this movement will
12 not truly be equitable and truly complete until we
13 are all seen as equitable. Thank you, and I want to
14 thank Speaker Corey Johnson for having the courage
15 and the tenacity to listen, to hear, and to act. You
16 have been incredible during this entire time and we
17 want to continue to work with you and to continue to
18 change because this is the most historical moment in
19 history. This is most herstorical moment in history.
20 I've never felt like I was part of anything until
21 this moment. We are in the cusp and it will be
22 recorded by our artists, by our filmmakers, by our
23 writers this time in history and the role that we
24 played, and so it's important that we are measured
25 and understanding that the role that we play is going

2 to go down in history and it's important for us to
3 continue to err on the right side of history. So
4 thank you so much to all of my colleagues. Thank you
5 for all of those who had the courage to stand up
6 today. And I continue to look forward to being a
7 part of this City Council that creates real change.
8 Thank you, Speaker Corey Johnson.

9 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam
10 Majority Leader always for your incredibly moving,
11 beautiful, inspiring remarks, and I love your son,
12 Prince. He is such a gift. He is so beautiful. I
13 was there on the first day that he was born...

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I know [laughs].

15 SPEAKER JOHNSON: ...[inaudible] and he is
16 just a total treasure in this world and you are such
17 an amazing mom.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

19 SPEAKER JOHNSON: You are such an amazing
20 mom and you've been an amazing mom to your son since
21 the day he was born, even before he was born. So for
22 you to dedicate today to him is, ah, really
23 emotionally stirring and moving and, ah, got me a
24 little emotional actually to hear you talk about him
25 that way 'cause I love him so much.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

3 SPEAKER JOHNSON: So, um, so thank you,
4 Laurie. Thank you, Madam Majority Leader. Thank you
5 to all of our colleagues. The Stated Meeting of June
6 18, before I say this, before I adjourn the meeting,
7 I just want to make a remark, a comment. We are not
8 putting up with the budget that was given to us by
9 this mayor. We are not putting up with it. We are
10 gonna fund social services and human services and
11 communities of color and schools and youth programs
12 and Cure Violence initiatives. We know we have a 10
13 billion dollar budget deficit and we as a council
14 have been working, you can ask every member on this
15 call right now, literally every single day on
16 identifying savings, on even being willing to cut
17 some our own programs that we like, ah, to achieve
18 savings. But the budget that's been presented to us
19 in the executive budget and the lack of
20 responsiveness in movement when we have sent letters.
21 We sent a letter calling for a reduction in the
22 NYPD's budget, before George Floyd was murdered we
23 did that. Debbie Rose has been talking about SYEP
24 and Cornerstone and Beacon and Sonic every single day
25 since that executive budget was unveiled defunding

2 135,000 youth slots across New York City. We are not
3 putting up with it. This City Council is not putting
4 up with it. So I'm saying this to the public, I'm
5 saying this to the mayor, I'm say this to everyone.
6 This is not a normal budget year.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: That's right.

8 SPEAKER JOHNSON: This is not a normal
9 negotiation, give and take, little bit here, little
10 bit there. No. These communities that have been
11 ravaged by COVID-19, and I don't want to overly
12 generalize 'cause I know the youth programs serve all
13 youth, but predominantly they serve black and brown
14 youth. They serve low-income, vulnerable black and
15 brown youth across New York City. We are not putting
16 up with you decimating these programs. We aren't
17 doing it. This council will not vote for a budget
18 like that. We need to cut the NYPD and invest that
19 money back into communities in a meaningful way. And
20 if this council has to look at our own budget as the
21 City Charter allows us to, we will potentially do
22 that. Because we're not, we are not, we are not
23 passing a budget that does not work for New Yorkers.
24 That means cutting the NYPD's budget significantly,
25 reinvesting in communities of color, restoring all

2 those youth programs, restoring that education money,
3 restoring money for immigrants, restoring money for
4 seniors, restoring money for children, restoring
5 money for social services [inaudible]...

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: [inaudible]

7 SPEAKER JOHNSON: ...services. Our
8 initiatives that this council funds every year, that
9 is us filling the gap of what city government is not
10 doing. We are funding nonprofits that are doing work
11 that the government isn't doing in undocumented
12 communities and naturally occurring retirement
13 communities, children who are on the spectrum,
14 special ed children. We are not, they are not a
15 political chip or pawn in this game.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: That's right.

17 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I have the goosebumps
18 saying it right now. We are not doing it. We are
19 not doing it. So look at our cuts, look at what we
20 proposed on the NYPD. Look at what we've proposed on
21 other agencies. This council will not pass a budget
22 that is not just, that is not fair, and that is not
23 equitable. We are not doing it. We will be here, I
24 mean, I have nowhere to go. We will be here until
25

2 the night of June 30. We can even go into July if we
3 have to.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: That's right.

5 SPEAKER JOHNSON: But this is not a game.
6 We are not allowing these nonprofits, this education
7 money, this youth money to be a pawn, to be a
8 bargaining chip in this process. We're not, we're
9 not doing it. The budget that is being proposed, the
10 budget that is attempting to be negotiated with this
11 council, I'm not sure five members would vote for the
12 budget. So I, I didn't plan on saying this today,
13 but you know, I just want to be crystal clear. I
14 want to be transparent. I want the public to know.
15 I want the administration to know. I want the
16 colleagues to know. This is a reckoning. This
17 moment is a reckoning in our country and in our city.
18 And the old rules are out the window. This is about
19 us using every charter-mandated power that was given
20 to us in 1989, which gave the City Council budget
21 authority away from the Board of Estimate and it is
22 prescribed in there and we will use it. And if, if
23 people want to impound money that is nonprofit human
24 services money, that is crazy in the height of a
25 pandemic. So we, you know, I did not run this by the

2 members saying this today. I didn't say I was gonna
3 say this at Democratic Conference yesterday. But I
4 felt moved to say this, because so much of this
5 moment is not just about legislation. The
6 legislation we did is good and it's important and I'm
7 glad we did it, and it's a nice first step. But it
8 is about fundamentally shifting things. It's about a
9 reckoning. And we are not putting up with you
10 cutting black and brown nonprofits while holding them
11 hostage. We're not doing it. That's what defunding
12 the NYPD means. It means taking money that is
13 unnecessary right now and putting it into housing and
14 education and health and social services and human
15 services and youth programs and rehabilitative
16 programs. That's what we're fighting for. Today is
17 June 18. We have sent letter after letter. We have
18 pushed since the day the executive budget came out.
19 Debbie Rose has literally spent hundreds of hours
20 working on this. Our demands are clear. You are not
21 cutting safety net programming in this moment. You
22 aren't doing it. You aren't doing it. That's what
23 this moment calls for and that's what this council
24 will stand up for. And we will do it every day until
25 we get a budget that works for us and for the people

2 of New York City who we represent, who we hear from,
3 who we see at the grocery store, who have been
4 protesting in the streets. Listen to this moment.
5 Hear this moment. Be a part of this moment. Don't
6 let history pass you by, by tinkering around the
7 edges. Let's do something transformative. Don't
8 nickel and dime us, and don't nickel and dime
9 communities that have been underfunded for years and
10 we see what COVID-19 has done to them. We are
11 standing united, together, to get this done. The
12 Stated Meeting is hereby adjourned. Thank you all
13 very much.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: We stand with you,
15 Speaker, united.

16 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you, Margaret.

17 UNIDENTIFIED: Well said.

18 UNIDENTIFIED: God bless, it's a blessing.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Well said,
20 united.

21 UNIDENTIFIED: Bravo Mr. Speaker.

22 [chorus of members speaking]

23 UNIDENTIFIED: [inaudible] representing
24 our constituents, thank you, Speaker. Thank you.

25 UNIDENTIFIED: Piece of work.

2 UNIDENTIFIED: We support you.

3 UNIDENTIFIED: Thank you.

4 UNIDENTIFIED: Well said.

5 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I hope, I hope everyone
6 who is watching sees that this is not just me. This
7 whole body feels this way. I would say the vast
8 majority of the body feels this way.

9 UNIDENTIFIED: That's right.

10 SPEAKER JOHNSON: A super-majority that
11 could override a veto feels this way.

12 UNIDENTIFIED: Thank you.

13 UNIDENTIFIED: Yep.

14 UNIDENTIFIED: We're with you.

15 UNIDENTIFIED: All right.

16 UNIDENTIFIED: Thank you.

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you
18 everyone.

19 UNIDENTIFIED: Thanks everyone.

20 SPEAKER JOHNSON: The Stated Meeting, the
21 Stated Meeting of June 18, 2020, is hereby adjourned,
22 and we will be back in the next two weeks or longer
23 for budget justice. Thanks, everyone. Goodbye.

24 UNIDENTIFIED: Wooh.

25 UNIDENTIFIED: Woooh.

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STATED MEETING

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Date June 26, 2020