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NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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February 11, 2021  
Start: 1:42 p.m.  
Recess: 3:31 p.m.

HELD AT: REMOTE HEARING - VIRTUAL ROOM 1

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 L. Brannan  
Fernando Cabrera  
Margaret S. Chin  
Andy Cohen  
Costa G. Constantinides  
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.  
Laurie A. Cumbo  
Chaim M. Deutsch  
Ruben Diaz, Sr.  
Darma V. Diaz  
Daniel Dromm  
Mathieu Eugene  
Vanessa L. Gibson  
Mark Gjonaj  
Barry S. Grodenchik  
Robert F. Holden

2 COUNCIL MEMBER: (CONT.)

- 3 Ben Kallos
- 4 Peter A. Koo
- 5 Karen Koslowitz
- 6 Brad S. Lander
- 7 Stephen T. Levin
- 8 Mark Levine
- 9 Farah N. Louis
- 10 Alan N. Maisel
- 11 Steven Matteo
- 12 Carlos Menchaca
- 13 I. Daneek Miller
- 14 Francisco P. Moya
- 15 Bill Perkins
- 16 Keith Powers
- 17 Antonio Reynoso
- 18 Kevin C. Riley
- 19 Carlina Rivera
- 20 Ydanis A. Rodriguez
- 21 Deborah L. Rose
- 22 Helen K. Rosenthal
- 23 Rafael Salamanca, Jr.
- 24 Mark Treyger
- 25 Eric A. Ulrich
- Paul A. Vallone
- James G. Van Bramer
- Kalman Yeger

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STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL 3

A P P E A R A N C E S

Venerable Youwang  
International Buddhist

1 STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL 4

2 SERGEANT BIONDO: Recording to PC started.

3 SERGEANT D'ALBA: Thank you.

4 SERGEANT HOPE: Cloud is rolling.

5 SERGEANT D'ALBA: Thank you.

6 SERGEANT PEREZ: Backup is rolling.

7 SERGEANT D'ALBA: Thank you. Hello and good  
8 afternoon and welcome to today's Stated Meeting. At  
9 this time I ask the everyone please turn all  
10 electronic devices to vibrate. Madam Majority  
11 Leader.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: [Gavel] Thank you so  
13 much. Good afternoon and welcome to the Stated  
14 Meeting of February 11, 2021. I am Majority Leader  
15 Laurie Cumbo and I would like to thank you for  
16 joining us at this virtual meeting of the New York  
17 City Council.

18 If you would like to follow along, the agenda for  
19 today's meeting is posted on our website.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Please join us for the Pledge of  
21 Allegiance. I pledge Allegiance to the flag of the  
22 United States of America and to the Republic for  
23 which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible,  
24 with Liberty and Justice for all.

25 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Roll call.

1 STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL 5

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Adams?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Present.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Ampry-Samuel?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Present.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Ayala?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Present.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Barron? Thank you.

9 Borelli?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Present.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Brannan?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Here.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Cabrera?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Present.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Chin?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Present.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Constantinides?

18 CHAIRPERSON CONSTANTINIDES: Present.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Cornegy? Deutsch?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Wait, wait, I am

21 here.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you Council Member.

23 Council Member Deutsch?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Here.

25

1 STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL 6

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Council  
3 Member Darma Diaz?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER D. DIAZ: Present.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member R. Diaz?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER R. DIAZ: Present.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Dromm?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Present.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Eugene?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Present.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Gibson?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Good afternoon

13 everyone. I am here and blessed. Thank you.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Gjonaj?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Present.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Grodenchik?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: I am here.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Holden?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Kallos?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: I am not a cat.

22 I am here.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Koo?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I am here.

25

1 STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL 7

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Koslowitz?

3 Lander?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Levin?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Levine? Louis?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Maisel?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Here.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Menchaca? Miller?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: I am here.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Moya?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Present.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Perkins?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Present.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Powers.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Here.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Reynoso? Riley?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Present.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Rivera?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: After joining

25 a press conference with the Majority Leader Cumbo,

1           STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL   8

2   Council Member Cornegy and Brooklyn Borough Present

3   Eric Adams, leaving the Borough of Brooklyn,

4   presente.

5           COUNCIL CLERK:   Thank you.   Rose?

6           COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE:   Present.

7           COUNCIL CLERK:   Thank you.   Rosenthal?

8           COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL:   I am here.

9   Thank you.

10          COUNCIL CLERK:   Salamanca?

11          COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA:   Present.

12          COUNCIL CLERK:   Treyger?

13          COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER:   Here.

14          COUNCIL CLERK:   Ulrich?

15          COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH:   I am present.

16          COUNCIL CLERK:   Vallone?

17          COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE:   Here.

18          COUNCIL CLERK:   Van Bramer?

19          COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER:   Here.

20          COUNCIL CLERK:   Levine?

21          COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE:   Here.

22          COUNCIL CLERK:   Yeger?

23          COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER:   Here.

24          COUNCIL CLERK:   Matteo?

25          COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO:   Here.



1 STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL 9

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Cumbo?

3 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Present.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Johnson?

5 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I am here.

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

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much. We  
9 will now have today's invocation which will be  
10 delivered by Venerable Youwang, Spiritual Leader and  
11 Executive Director of International Buddhist Progress  
12 Society, located at 154-37 Barclays Avenue in  
13 Flushing Queens. Welcome.

14 VENERABLE YOUWANG: Good afternoon. Thank you  
15 Council Members and guests. Thank you for inviting  
16 me to provide this invocation for this new year.

17 Tomorrow, Friday February 12<sup>th</sup> is the Lunar New  
18 Year. The year of Ox. I hope this prayer deludes a  
19 wonderful new year for all of us. May I tell you  
20 about the Buddha Art Teacher? He was a very wise man  
21 and much of what he shared with us. It's common in  
22 the spirits of all faith. That is to be kind to one  
23 another. To do no harm to one another in the world  
24 and to help relieve suffering.

25

1           STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL   10

2           Now, more than ever, we need to remember these  
3 shared beliefs. The COVID-19 pandemic has devastated  
4 much of our world but we believe that New York City  
5 will stand resilient and emerge stronger through  
6 these challenges.

7           Let us now pray in Buddha's name and the name of  
8 your spiritual leaders. Today, we ask the Buddha's  
9 wisdom to help guide our community leaders to use  
10 wisdom to govern in the conflicting interests in the  
11 issue of our times. To know the true sense of the  
12 welfare and needs of people in our community to  
13 understanding the importance of justice for all. Old  
14 and young, rich and poor, Black and White and all  
15 shades in between to protect our natural resources.  
16 Understanding that all citizens and in fact, all  
17 sanction beings are dependent upon open spaces, pure  
18 water and clean air, who have the ability to work  
19 together in harmony even when there is honest  
20 disagreement.

21           Let us pray that this body deliberates in a  
22 manner that is without ill will that brings comfort  
23 to the citizens in progress to the community. That  
24 all decisions are made with foresight in deep  
25 understanding of the needs of all citizens. And that

2 this body leads the community in the manner that  
3 celebrates our diversity. Understanding that we are  
4 all interconnected. That our welfare and happiness  
5 are dependent upon respect and the acceptance of all  
6 people. No matter their race, religion, sexual  
7 orientation in their original home.

8 Leadership requires the courage to make difficult  
9 in a time unpopular decisions. May our Council  
10 members have courage to lead our community today and  
11 always. May our leaders find personal peace and joy  
12 in their public responsibilities by helping others  
13 and assuring a bright future for all. We offer  
14 disperse pending by Venerable Master Singing's our  
15 founder of abortion monastic order. [SPEAKING IN  
16 OTHER LANGUAGE 10:23-10:32] By kindness, compassion,  
17 during equanimity pervade all words. May we cherish  
18 and build affinity to benefit all beings. [INAUDIBLE  
19 10:45] inspire equality and patience, make our  
20 humanity and gratitude give rise to gray evolves.

21 At last, I would like to use our venerable Master  
22 Singing's blessing for this year. How do you find  
23 our hearts that blooms all seasons? Thank you very  
24 much for having me.

1           STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL   12

2           MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much. I  
3 appreciate your presence here today and that very  
4 important and insightful prayer for our city and for  
5 our nation. Thank you so much again Venerable  
6 Youwang. It is an honor to have you here. I would  
7 not like to ask Council Member Peter Koo to have the  
8 honor spreading the invocation onto the record.

9           COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you. Thank you  
10 Majority Leader. Thank you Venerable Youwang Shih.  
11 I would like to wish my colleagues a very happy Lunar  
12 New Year and the year of the Ox. The Ox symbolizes  
13 strength and determination. Appropriate qualities  
14 that we only do this year.

15           Every year I host a luncheon for Council Staff  
16 and Council Member Chin and I hosted a celebration in  
17 City Hall. We cannot do that this year but I am sure  
18 if we stay strong and determined, we will get through  
19 this pandemic and better days are ahead. So, once  
20 again, thank you again to Venerable Shih.

21           Venerable Youwang, besides an international  
22 Buddha order, long as the international Buddhist  
23 progress society. She was fully ordained in 2008 at  
24 the North American headquarters, His Lai temple in  
25 California. Venerable Youwang was a volunteer of FGS

2 Xiang Yun Temple in Austin Texas, where she joined  
3 the Buddha's Light International Association and was  
4 elected as president prior to becoming monastic. Not  
5 only is she well versed in Buddhist teachings but she  
6 also specializes in teaching children Chinese as a  
7 second language and spent many years as a teacher in  
8 both Taiwan and the United States. She has served as  
9 the executive director at Buddha's Light Hsi Lai  
10 School for four years and director of general affairs  
11 of the His Lai Temple.

12 She has served us here in Flushing at the FGS  
13 Xiang Yun Temple since 2014 as the Executive Director  
14 and trusted spiritual leader of our community. I am  
15 deeply honored and ever grateful for her  
16 contributions to our community and I would like to  
17 make a motion to spread the invocation in full upon  
18 the record.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much Council  
20 Member Koo and thank you so much for sharing the  
21 Venerable Youwang with all of us here today.

22 We will now go to the Adoption of Minutes.

23 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: None.

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Messages and papers from  
25 the Mayor?

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2 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: None.

3 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Communication from city,  
4 county and borough offices?

5 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: None.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Petitions and  
7 communications?

8 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: M286 Council Rule 2.75B  
9 Report.

10 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Received, ordered, printed and  
11 filed.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Land use call ups?

13 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: None.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We will now  
15 have communication from Speaker Corey Johnson.

16 SPEAKER COREY JOHNSON: Thank you Madam Majority  
17 Leader. Good afternoon, happy Thursday to everyone.  
18 Welcome to our stated meeting today. I hope that you  
19 all and your families are safe and well and I am  
20 sending my thoughts and good wishes to our colleagues  
21 Justin Brannan and his wife who I know are dealing  
22 with COVID-19 right now. We hope you are okay Justin  
23 and we hope your wife is okay too.

24 More and more New Yorkers are becoming eligible  
25 for the COVID vaccine, allowing us to protect more

1           STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL   15  
2 people from this deadly virus but as this eligibility  
3 increases, we need to make sure that vaccines are  
4 distributed equitably. The racial disparities that  
5 we have been seeing in vaccinations are disturbing.  
6 We need to protect all New Yorkers, not just those  
7 who are best at navigating websites. Lives are  
8 depending on it.

9           As of yesterday, 27,949 of our fellow New Yorkers  
10 have succumb to the deadly effects of COVID-19. The  
11 vaccine gives us hope but we have to continue to stay  
12 vigilant, wearing a mask, practicing physical  
13 distancing, avoiding large gatherings. We must  
14 continue to work together to fight this devastating  
15 virus. And as I always do, I want to take a few  
16 moments and recognize some of the recent deaths of  
17 folks that we have lost in our city. Sergeant  
18 William Brautigam passed away on January 31<sup>st</sup> at the  
19 age of 47 due to complications from 911 related  
20 illnesses. His family is in my thoughts and prayers  
21 and his bravery will forever be appreciated.

22           I also want to acknowledge a tremendous loss for  
23 our city and for the Black community across the  
24 country. On January 28<sup>th</sup> the legendary, dynamic and  
25 amazing Cicely Tyson passed away at the age of 96.

2 She was a daughter of Harlem and made New York City  
3 proud with all that she accomplished. Ms. Tyson  
4 embodied a level of grace unmatched and dared to  
5 refuse roles that demeaned Black women. She dared to  
6 advocate for herself and unknowingly inspired so many  
7 people to do the same. We are grateful for Ms. Tyson  
8 and her legacy will never be forgotten. Thank you  
9 Cicely Tyson for everything.

10 We also lost Corky Lee, who devoted his life to  
11 not only capturing the intricacies of life for Asian  
12 Americans and Pacific Islanders in New York City but  
13 also correcting history. And ensuring that their  
14 stories were heard and amplified through the power of  
15 photography. He was beloved by so many and he will  
16 be truly missed. Our heart goes out to his loved  
17 ones.

18 I want us to take a moment of silence to remember  
19 all the lives that we have lost as a result of COVID-  
20 19, as well as Sergeant Brautigam, Cicely Tyson and  
21 Corky Lee. Thank you.

22 Today, as Council Member Koo said, is Lunar New  
23 Years Eve and we are saying goodbye to the year of  
24 the rat. Tomorrow, we will welcome the year of the  
25



1 STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL 17

2 ox. The ox stands for strength and steadiness.

3 Qualities we all need to recover from this pandemic.

4 I want to wish Council Member Chin and Council Member

5 Koo and every New Yorker who celebrate the healthy

6 and prosperous Lunar New Year.

7 Finally, this month marks Black history month.

8 This is always an opportunity to honor and celebrate

9 the achievements that Black Americans have made to

10 this country and to our city. It is also a solid

11 reminder of the inequality our nation still struggles

12 with. The Council is proud to work everyday to

13 tackle those inequalities and hopefully make New York

14 a national model for equity. We have a long way to

15 go but this Council is committed to engaging in the

16 fight for equality in everything we do.

17 Today, our agenda includes several bills designed

18 to strengthen our city. But first out of Land Use

19 Committee will be voting on the following items. 110

20 Lenox Avenue Cluster, a UDAP and Article 11 tax

21 exemption to facilitate the renovation of four city

22 owned buildings for the preservation of 55 affordable

23 units of housing including 37 cooperative home

24 ownership units in Council Member Bill Perkin's

25 district.

1 STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL 18

2 Angel Guardian Home is a landmarks preservation  
3 designation of a former orphanage built in 1899 and  
4 operated by the sisters of mercy in Council Member  
5 Carlos Menchaca's district.

6 Moving to our Legislative Agenda, our first bill  
7 is from the Housing and Buildings Committee and it is  
8 sponsored by Council Member Bob Holden. Introduction  
9 2044-A will extend the moratorium on the issuance of  
10 accessory sign violations and the temporary  
11 Department of Buildings Assistance Program  
12 established by Local Law 28 of 2019. While the  
13 moratorium expired earlier this year and the  
14 Buildings Department Assistance Program expired after  
15 six months, this bill would extend both for two years  
16 and I want to thank Austin Branford for his work on  
17 that bill from the staff.

18 Next, we have two bills related to the city's 311  
19 service. Introduction 1525-B sponsored by Council  
20 Member Peter Koo will require 311 to conduct at least  
21 five customer satisfaction surveys per year. 311  
22 would be required to conduct each survey in English  
23 and each of the top ten languages spoken by New  
24 Yorkers with limited English proficiency. This bill  
25 would also require the administration to produce an

1           STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL   19  
2   annual report containing the results of such surveys  
3   disaggregated by the language in which the survey was  
4   conducted.

5           Next, is Introduction Number 1830-A sponsored by  
6   Council Member Diana Ayala and it will require 311 to  
7   post each agency service level agreements on the open  
8   data portal. Service level agreements are  
9   commitments that agencies make to respond to a  
10   particular type of service request within a certain  
11   timeframe. By requiring these commitments to be  
12   published online, the bill would make the 311  
13   customer service process more transparent.

14           Our next bill is related to the integrity of  
15   holding public office in the city. Introduction 374-  
16   A, sponsored by Council Member Justin Brannan would  
17   disqualify individuals that have been convicted of  
18   certain felonies related to public corruption and  
19   depriving the public of honest services from holding  
20   the offices of Mayor, Public Advocate, Comptroller,  
21   Borough President or Council Member.

22           Convictions that have been vacated or pardoned  
23   would not prevent a person from holding office under  
24   this bill and I want to thank from the staff CJ  
25   Murray, Emily Forgione and Elizabeth Kronk.

1           STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL   20

2           Next up, we have one Resolution and one bill that  
3 tackles bias in our healthcare system and they are  
4 both sponsored by Council Member Helen Rosenthal.  
5 The COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the unfortunate  
6 disparities that exist in our healthcare system. A  
7 system we rely on for so much. The outcomes are not  
8 the same for all people and we know that women and  
9 communities of color are at a disadvantage when it  
10 comes to treatment. Research has clearly shown that  
11 implicit bias has been a major factor in negative  
12 health outcomes.

13          Today, the Council will vote on Resolution 512-A,  
14 which calls on New York State to require medical  
15 schools to train students in implicit bias. Although  
16 some medical schools provide such training to their  
17 students, not all do. Training in implicit bias  
18 includes instruction on structural racism, ableism  
19 and other forms of oppression in the medical field as  
20 well as reflection on individuals own implicit biases  
21 and I want to thank from the staff, Emily Balkan.

22          We also will vote on Introduction Number 2064-A.  
23 Again, by Council Member Rosenthal, which would  
24 require the creation of an Advisory Board to report  
25 on issues relating to gender and racial equity and

1           STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL   21  
2   the provision of healthcare services and hospitals or  
3   other healthcare services, covered healthcare  
4   services in New York City. The Advisory Board will  
5   consider factors that contribute to gender and racial  
6   inequity in hospitals and other healthcare services  
7   and examine existing protocols. These entities used  
8   to address such inequities.

9           The Board will consist of a multi-disciplinary  
10   panel of representatives and be required to submit a  
11   report including recommendations for addressing and  
12   eliminating such inequities by December 1, 2021 and  
13   December 1<sup>st</sup> annually thereafter. And I want to  
14   thank from the staff Harbani Ahuja, Sara Liss and  
15   Brenda McKinney.

16           As we learn more, excuse me, as we learn more  
17   about the COVID-19 disease and the virus that causes  
18   it, SARS-CoV-2, we know that early detection is  
19   critical and can help track circulation or  
20   reemergence in communities. One early detection tool  
21   is to test waste water samples for SARS-CoV2.

22           The Council will be voting on Introduction Number  
23   1966-A sponsored by Council Member Costa  
24   Constantinides that would establish a pilot sampling  
25   program to test for the presence of SAR-CoV2, the

2 virus that causes COVID-19 in sewage, no less than  
3 twice per week at each of the city's waste water  
4 treatment plants. Sampling results would be  
5 disaggregated by the site where the sample was  
6 collected, the date the sample was collected and the  
7 date the sample was tested. This bill also includes  
8 a plan for increased testing at each of the city  
9 waste water treatment plants if deemed appropriate  
10 and recommendations for making the pilot program  
11 permanent. And I want to thank from the staff Samara  
12 Swanston, Jessica Steinberg Albin, and Nicole Abene.

13 In 2019, the Council took the historic step and  
14 voted to close Rikers Island. It will no longer be a  
15 place for incarceration after August 31, 2027 and in  
16 late 2020, the Island was designated a public place  
17 when the city map was amended. We need to think  
18 about what comes next. The land presents us with  
19 some opportunity to build something that benefits all  
20 New Yorkers, we can't allow it to languish. The  
21 Council has been working tirelessly on developing a  
22 new vision for Rikers Island. Our final two bills  
23 sponsored by Council Member Costa Constantinides are  
24 focused on the Islands future.

2 Introduction Number 1593-A will require a  
3 feasibility study designed to ascertain whether  
4 different types of renewable energy sources combined  
5 with battery storage are feasible on Rikers Island.  
6 The city is already required to complete a long term  
7 energy plan to assess the feasibility of replacing in  
8 city gas fired power plants with renewable energy  
9 sources.

10 The bill would require an initial long term  
11 energy plan to now and also evaluate the feasibility  
12 of constructing renewable energy sources combined  
13 with battery storage on Rikers Island as part of the  
14 city's energy future. It would also include an  
15 evaluation of economic costs, value, rate of return  
16 and sustainability. And the Rikers Island Advisory  
17 Committee would be able to issue recommendations  
18 during the study process.

19 Introduction Number 1592-A will establish a  
20 process for transferring the land, buildings and  
21 facilities of Rikers Island from Department of  
22 Correction to the Department of Citywide  
23 Administrative Services and lay the ground work for  
24 transforming Rikers Island into renewable Rikers.  
25 And by annual evaluations, any portion not in active

2 use for the housing of persons or providing of  
3 services of such persons will be transferred with the  
4 entire Island being transferred no later than August  
5 31, 2027.

6 The DCAS Commissioner would have the authority to  
7 plan and coordinate the actions of city agencies with  
8 respect to perspective uses of Rikers Island for  
9 purposes that include sustainability and resiliency  
10 purposes.

11 Additionally, a Rikers Island Advisory Committee  
12 which I mentioned before, would be established  
13 consisting of the relevant commissioners, persons  
14 impacted by Rikers and experts in environmental  
15 justice and sustainability. The Advisory Committee  
16 would evaluate and provide recommendations on  
17 potential uses of the island for purposes that  
18 include sustainability and resiliency. As there is  
19 no current specific plan for the future of Rikers  
20 Island, the bill will require that within three  
21 years, the Advisory Committee submit recommendations  
22 that include at least three options for perspective  
23 uses of the Island.

24 In order to encourage informed deliberation on  
25 future possible uses, the Advisory Committee's



1           STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL   25  
2    recommendation can be considered for further study or  
3    possible implementation.  And I want to thank from  
4    the staff Samara Swanston, Nicole Abene and Brad  
5    Reed.  I also want to congratulate our colleague  
6    Costa Constantinides, who has been working on this  
7    for so long.  A big day in the work that he has done  
8    and all the advocates that have been part of this.

9           So, that is our agenda for today.  And with that,  
10   I turn it back to you Madam Majority Leader.  You are  
11   on mute Madam Majority Leader.

12           MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO:  Thank you Speaker  
13   Johnson.  We will now move into discussion of General  
14   Orders.  We will recognize Council Members who wish  
15   to speak by using the raise hand function in Zoom.  
16   Please wait before you begin your remarks for our  
17   Sergeant at Arms to announce he has begun the  
18   countdown clock.  The Sergeant at Arms will alert you  
19   when your time has expired.

20           Mr. Parliamentarian, are there any Council  
21   Members registered to speak at this time?

22           PARLIAMENTARIAN:  Yes Madam Majority Leader.  The  
23   first three are Council Members Salamanca, Brannan  
24   and Constantinides.

25           COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA:  May I begin.

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2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member Salamanca,  
3 you may begin.

4 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Thank you Majority  
6 Leader Cumbo. I rise to speak on two bills that we  
7 will be voting on today, Intro.'s 1592 and 1593,  
8 relating to the future of Rikers Island.

9 First, I want to make it clear that I believe in  
10 the renewable energy and efficient future for Rikers.  
11 However, my concerns are that, when we voted in 2019  
12 to close Rikers Island, we pledged to our  
13 constituents that we would do so in a way that listen  
14 to the communities that have been marginalized for  
15 decades.

16 In the South Bronx neighborhoods that I  
17 represent, hundreds of thousands of young Bronx sites  
18 were targeted as part of the systemic racism that led  
19 to a surge in incarceration numbers. Whether it was  
20 Rikers Island, the floating jail, the barge or even  
21 Spofford Juvenile Detention Center. The  
22 politicization of young Black and Brown men behind  
23 bars was just one of the lasting legacies of the 80's  
24 and 90's in New York City.

25

2 But so many people don't realize is how the  
3 residence of the South Bronx continue to be  
4 victimized by these detention centers just for the  
5 mere presence. While Council district lines will  
6 tell you Rikers Island is in Queens, in Council  
7 District 22, Rikers is attached to the South Bronx  
8 and is part of the Bronx Community Board 2.  
9 Therefore, crimes that occur in Rikers are attached  
10 to the NYPD CompStat numbers in the South Bronx. The  
11 41 precinct in my Council District. Not in the  
12 Queens precinct in Council District 22. Therefore,  
13 the South Bronx appears on paper to be one of the  
14 most dangerous and violent precincts across the city.  
15 These crimes stats directly lead to some of the  
16 highest insurance rates for home owners, vehicle  
17 owners and small businesses. The history of Rikers  
18 intimately involves the South Bronx.

19 As we vote on these two bills today that begin  
20 the process of studying the future use of the island,  
21 my community and I are disappointed that not a single  
22 conversation has happened in an open forum in the  
23 South Bronx since the vote to close Rikers Island to  
24 provide input on what these studies will look like or  
25 who will make up these advisory committees. The plan

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2   to close Rikers and build a more humane and equitable  
3   future for those impacted by this legacy begins with  
4   being as transparent as possible and that has not  
5   occurred.

6           I feel that these two bills send a different  
7   message and for that reason, I will be voting no.  
8   Thank you.

9           MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO:   Thank you Council Member  
10   Salamanca.   We will now hear from Council Member; I  
11   will say Costa Constantinides at this time while I am  
12   reviewing my hand writing.

13           SERGEANT AT ARMS:   Time starts now.

14           COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES:   Thank you  
15   Majority Leader Cumbo.   I wanted to address Intro.'s  
16   5092 and 5093, the renewable Rikers Act.

17           In the 413 acres of Rikers Island for far too  
18   long have embodied unjust and racist criminal justice  
19   system.   Generations of New Yorkers have found  
20   themselves caught in a cycle of over policing and  
21   over incarceration.   Symbolized by an Island named  
22   for a family of a slave catcher.

23           Now, we have an opportunity, if we can grab it,  
24   to put the principals of a green new deal into  
25   practice with renewal Rikers.   These bills offer us a

2 pathway to build a hub for sustainability and  
3 resiliency that will serve the residents of all  
4 borough. 1592 would establish the process of  
5 transferring the land from Department of Corrections  
6 to DCAS. It would establish the Advisory Committee,  
7 consistent relevant commissioners, persons impacted  
8 by Rikers and experts in environmental justice and  
9 sustainability. Which would evaluate and provide  
10 recommendations on potentially uses of the Island for  
11 sustainability and resiliency purposes.

12 1593 would help us do an energy study connected  
13 with the Climate Mobilization Act that could help us  
14 close down power plants throughout the five boroughs.  
15 A sustainable CUNY did a study of just 35 acres of  
16 solar PV on the Island could have a capacity of 14.6  
17 megawatts and generate 17.2 gigawatt hours annually  
18 and 4 percent of the Island used for battery storage  
19 could have about 1520 megawatts worth of storage,  
20 about half of those set forth by the Climate  
21 Leadership Community Protection Act.

22 Rikers is placed in a central location in our  
23 city and it is ideally structured to host these types  
24 of infrastructure. I want to thank all of the  
25 advocates throughout the five boroughs Guzman, Kandra

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2 Clark, Marcos Barrios, Rebecca Bradsby[SP?], The  
3 Freedom Agenda, NIJA, The Lawyers for Public  
4 Interest, the Lippman Commission, The Point CBC in  
5 the Bronx. We asked for environmental justice in  
6 Manhattan, the National Resources Defense Council -

7 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time expired.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: As well as all of  
9 our staff, Samara Swanston, Brad Reid, Nicole Abene,  
10 Laura Popa, Jason Goldman and of course our Speaker  
11 for his vision of the future. Thank you.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much. We  
13 will now move to Council Member Brannan.

14 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Thank you Majority  
16 Leader. I rise today to speak on my bill 374-A. The  
17 bill was originally carried by former Councilman  
18 Ritchie Torres, who is now in Congress and I am proud  
19 to carry this across the finish line.

20 Trust in government is at an all-time low, at the  
21 absolute worst time. Because of the COVID pandemic,  
22 so many of our constituents depend on the government  
23 in ways that they have never before and are  
24 rightfully demanding the most of their elected  
25 officials but instead, all too often, they discover

2 misinformation, incompetence and corruption among the  
3 people who represent them. Unfortunately, this  
4 declining public trust is coming in at a time when we  
5 desperately need our governments to show unwavering  
6 leadership. With our budgets decimated, we have to  
7 find ways to not only dig ourselves out of multiple  
8 crisis but to envision and plan for a better future  
9 moving forward.

10 When at such a crucial moment in history, we no  
11 longer have the time for elected officials who use a  
12 position of power to bankroll themselves to enrich  
13 their friends or engage in wrongful dealings on the  
14 taxpayer dime.

15 Intro. 374-A would disqualify those who abuse the  
16 public trust or misappropriate a taxpayer dollars  
17 from running from Mayor, Public Advocate,  
18 Comptroller, Borough President or Council Member  
19 again. This legislation recognizes that serving the  
20 public in elected office is a privilege and it needs  
21 to be treated like one. Numerous other professions,  
22 doctors, lawyers, educators, uphold ethical standards  
23 for their practitioners. And upholding those  
24 standards, those professionals protect their  
25 patients, clients and students.

2 When a profession would entrust you with the  
3 lives of others, you must conduct yourself  
4 accordingly. Shouldn't holding in elected office  
5 have those standards as well? Should we not have our  
6 own standards to protect the public?

7 To be clear, this is not about disqualifying  
8 those who have committed just any crime. Those who  
9 have committed crimes in their personal past, have  
10 paid their debt back to society in whatever form,  
11 should have the opportunity to serve our city no  
12 question. To bar eligibility for anyone convicted of  
13 any crime, would be to elect legislative bodies who  
14 do not represent the lives of many New Yorkers.

15 I am sure none of us in this body have lived  
16 perfect lives. At least I know I haven't but they  
17 only allow those with spotless records would be to  
18 disqualify virtually everyone who is eligible. We  
19 are not trying to broadly deny anyone a second  
20 chance. But with this legislation, we recognize that  
21 the abuse of public office is a unique and distinct  
22 crime.

23 To have squandered taxpayer dollars, to have  
24 abused the power given by the public is to devalue  
25 the position of an elected official to devalue the



2 people you serve and to acutely endanger the public  
3 and it reflects poorly on the office in question and  
4 the city overall.

5 Some would say, why not just let the people  
6 decide? Because while an elected official was  
7 abusing the public trust, they built up power that  
8 makes it all too easy to win an election again, no  
9 matter how they paid back their debt to society. A  
10 widely known incumbent who misappropriated public  
11 funds and whose names were in headlines for many  
12 years, may in fact perform better on a low-  
13 information ballot than someone more qualified,  
14 deserving and new. They might still have the funds  
15 in their [INAUDIBLE 37:43], they might still hold  
16 sway over voters and institutions but why should they  
17 still enjoy those benefits? Why should they still  
18 enjoy the benefits of the power they built up while  
19 abusing the public trust?

20 In conclusion, in New York City in 2021, there  
21 are so many talented, committed people who are  
22 qualified to run for office and who would take their  
23 oath of office incredibly seriously but who choose  
24 not to run because they are disillusioned by the  
25 political system and disenfranchised by it.

2 When we allow someone who abused the public trust  
3 to serve again, we do not send the message that we  
4 want qualified, committed candidates. We effectively  
5 recruit those who seek public office for their own  
6 enrichment and we tell them that this is a place that  
7 welcomes them.

8 This is contrary to the spirit of public service  
9 and is the opposite of what we need in our great  
10 city, especially during this challenging time. And I  
11 hope – I encourage all of my colleagues to support  
12 374-A today. Thank you.

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much. We  
14 will now have Council Member Rosenthal. I just want  
15 to remind all of the colleagues that have signed up  
16 to speak, that we are only speaking at this time  
17 about the bills that we are going to vote on.

18 So, I want to call on Council Member Rosenthal  
19 followed by Council Member Holden and then Koo.

20 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Thank you so much.

22 Intro. 2064 will shine an ongoing spotlight on the  
23 racial and gender discrimination impacting our  
24 healthcare workers and in turn their patience.

25 Similarly, my Resolution 5128 calls on New York State

2 Medical Schools to educate future doctors about  
3 underlying biases which can severely effect patient  
4 care.

5 Together, my Bill and Resolution are important  
6 steps toward addressing the historic and ongoing  
7 discrimination that plagues our healthcare systems.  
8 Improving workplace conditions and tackling implicit  
9 bias head on. Both will improve patient outcomes and  
10 I am thinking about maternal mortality and morbidity  
11 in particular.

12 I want to thank my prime co-sponsor Public  
13 Advocate Jumaane Williams, all my Council counsel  
14 colleagues who signed on and all of the advocates and  
15 healthcare workers who helped make passage today  
16 possible. I really want to thank Speaker Johnson and  
17 his legislative staff for drafting and ushering the  
18 bill through, especially Kelly Taylor, Lewis Children  
19 Brown, Sara Liss, Harbani Ahuja and Emily Balkan and  
20 also Brenda McKinney. And much gratitude goes to the  
21 many advocates who channeled their righteous anger to  
22 cultivating the content of the legislation. In  
23 particular, the Mount Sinai Equity Group, the Black  
24 Women's Blueprint, UN Women USA, the CIR SEIU, the  
25 NYCLU and the League of Women Voters.

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2 Lastly, I very much look forward to passing the  
3 baton and continuing to work with the new Chair of  
4 the Committee on Women and Gender Equity Council  
5 Member Diaz, who -

6 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time expired.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Who I know will work  
8 hard to combat gender discrimination. Thank you.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much Council  
10 Member Rosenthal and thank you so much for your  
11 leadership.

12 We will now go to Council Member Holden followed  
13 by Council Member Koo, then Levin.

14 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Thank you Madam Majority  
16 Leader and as many of my colleagues are aware, small  
17 businesses are the life blood of our communities and  
18 we need to alleviate their burdens whenever possible.  
19 We must be strong advocates on behalf of the mom and  
20 pop shops who are seriously struggling right now.  
21 Even before the pandemic, regulations and fines on  
22 small businesses were often burdensome and punitive.  
23 COVID-19 has made the matter all the more urgent.

24 As you all recall prior to Local Law 28, our  
25 small businesses were being hit with fines of up to

2 \$20,000 over sign and awning violations. In my  
3 district, commercial strips along Jamaica Avenue,  
4 Fresh Pond Road, Grand Avenue, Myrtle Avenue and  
5 Metropolitan area were hit particularly hard.

6 As the Speaker mentioned earlier, Intro. 2044  
7 will extend the expired two year moratorium on sign  
8 and awning fee violations for two additional years.  
9 It also extends a temporary Department of Buildings  
10 assistance program for two years which assists  
11 business owners in legalizing their signs and equally  
12 important, the difference between Local Law 28, this  
13 bill would weigh 100 percent of permit fees.

14 This is the type of support our small businesses  
15 need. I want to thank all of the co-sponsors of  
16 Intro. 2044 and others members who are supporting  
17 this bill. I particularly want to thank our Speaker  
18 Corey Johnson, Chief of Staff Jason Goldman and the  
19 Staff of the Speakers Office for their assistance.

20 I sincerely thank Housing and Buildings Chair  
21 Council Member Cornegy for his advocacy on behalf of  
22 the bill and small business and to move this bill  
23 along. Also, the Housing Staff and Buildings  
24 Committee especially Counsel Austin Bradford and  
25

2 Christopher Pepe of the legislative division for  
3 their hard work on this bill.

4 Last but certainly not least -

5 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time expired.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: I want to thank my Chief  
7 of Staff Danny Kurzyna, Communication Director Kevin  
8 Ryan and Legislative Director Craig Karawana.  
9 Together, we are going to provide immediate relief to  
10 businesses across the city. Obviously there is still  
11 more to be done and I intend on continuing to be a  
12 strong voice for our mom and pop stores citywide.

13 I encourage all my colleagues to vote aye on  
14 Intro. 2044-A. Thank you Madam Majority Leader.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council Member  
16 Holden. We will go now to Council Member Koo.

17 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you Majority Leader.  
19 Today, we are voting on my Bill to require 311 to  
20 conduct five annual customer satisfaction surveys in  
21 the ten most common spoken languages in New York  
22 City.

23 The bill also requires an annual report be filed  
24 by the Mayor's Office of Operations based on the  
25 results of those surveys. I introduced this bill

2 after an oversight hearing two years ago, where the  
3 city counted really high satisfaction from its  
4 customer surveys. Those surveys; however, were only  
5 conducted in English. Chinese, Korean or Bengali New  
6 Yorkers couldn't voice their opinions because they  
7 were never surveyed or contacted in their own  
8 language.

9 Residents of our city speak hundreds of languages  
10 and for far too long, they have been cut off from our  
11 city's main source of government information and on  
12 emergency services. Conducting 311 surveys in  
13 multiple languages will help 311 identify ways in  
14 which it can better serve all our residents,  
15 especially our immigrant New Yorkers.

16 I encourage my colleagues to vote in favor of  
17 this bill, so we can close the gap and ensure the  
18 voices of our immigrant New Yorkers are heard.

19 Thank you Speaker Johnson, Chair Cabrera, Jason  
20 Goldman, Jeff Baker, Laura Popa, CJ Murray and  
21 Elizabeth Kronk, Emily Forgione, Audrey Son and my  
22 former Technology Committee Staff. Thank you  
23 Majority Leader.

24

25

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2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much Council  
3 Member Koo. Now, we will hear from Council Member  
4 Levin.

5 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you very much Madam  
7 Majority Leader and normally I don't speak prior to  
8 the bills being voted on when it is not legislation I  
9 am introducing but I did want to speak for a moment  
10 about 1592 and 1593, the renewable Rikers bills.

11 First, I want to acknowledge Council Member  
12 Salamanca's remarks and I hope that we can - and it  
13 should be our objective to make sure we are including  
14 the communities of the South Bronx in entirely equal  
15 measure to the communities of Northwest Queens, when  
16 we talk about the future of Rikers Island. I want to  
17 acknowledge his concerns that he voiced.

18 One thing I wanted to say about this action that  
19 we are taking today in these two bills, and an  
20 additional action that we are taking for our Land Use  
21 Committee and to the Land Use process. When we voted  
22 on the borough-based jails in 2019, we said, we are  
23 closing Rikers Island definitively. We are closing  
24 Rikers Island and understandably members of the  
25 public were concerned that there was no action taken



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2   at the time to close Rikers Island.  That we were  
3   opening for borough-based jails but not necessarily  
4   taking any official action to close Rikers.

5           This is part of the process of actually closing  
6   Rikers Island.  So, I want to make sure that the  
7   public understands that this is us doing what we said  
8   we were going to do.  This is us doing what we said  
9   we were going to do.  When we said we were going to  
10   close Rikers Island, we really meant it.  That means  
11   taking official process and us taking so long and I  
12   understand the frustration with that but this is us  
13   doing what we said we were going to do.

14           And so, I just want to make that very clear to  
15   the members of the public who had expressed doubt,  
16   who had had doubt about this.  Here today -

17           SERGEANT AT ARMS:  Time expired.

18           COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN:  By passing these two  
19   bills, we are coming through with the actions that we  
20   said we were going to do and that's what we are doing  
21   here today.  Thank you.

22           MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO:  Thank you so much Council  
23   Member Levin.  Mr. Parliamentarian, are there any  
24   other members who wish to speak at this time?

25           PARLIAMENTARIAN:  No, Madam Majority Leader.

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2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you very much. We  
3 will now move into Report of Special Committees.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Reports of Standing  
6 Committees?

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee on  
8 Environmental Protection, Intro.'s 5092-A and 5093-A  
9 Rikers Island.

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

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Intro. 1966-A sewage tests for  
13 SARS-CoV-2?

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

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee on  
17 Governmental Operations Intro. 374-A, qualifications  
18 for city office holders?

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

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Intro.'s 1525-B and 1830-A City  
22 311 System?

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

25

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2 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee on  
3 Health, Intro. 2064-A Advisory Board for Hospitals?

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

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee on  
7 Housing and Buildings Intro. 2044-A Accessory Sign  
8 Violations?

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

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee on Land  
12 Use LU 711 and Reso. 1540?

13 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on the general orders  
14 calendar.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: 712 and 713 Court Theatre?

16 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Approved as modifications and  
17 referred to the City Planning Commission pursuant to  
18 Section 197-D of the New York City Charter.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: LU 717 and Reso. 1542 Angel  
20 Guardian Home?

21 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on the general orders  
22 calendar.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: LU's 720 and 721, 4201, 28<sup>th</sup>  
24 Avenue rezoning?

25

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2 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Approved with modifications and  
3 referred to the City Planning Commissioner pursuant  
4 to Section 197-D of the New York City Charter. And  
5 Mr. Clerk, at this time, I am asking that the Clerk  
6 takes a roll call vote on all the items that are  
7 coupled on today's general orders calendar.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Council  
9 Member Rose?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye on all.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Adams?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Aye on all.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Ampry-Samuel?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Aye on all.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Ayala?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye on all.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Barron?

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

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

21 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you. I want  
23 to wish everyone a happy Black history month, which  
24 of course takes us back all the way to African  
25 history. In terms of my vote, I vote aye on all with

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2   the exception of the following on which I am  
3   abstaining. 711 and the accompanied Resolution and  
4   720 and 721 because I feel that one if them is an  
5   Article 11, which I usually support but I think that  
6   in both these instances, there is not enough housing  
7   that's being included so that persons who are 80  
8   percent and below or even 100 and below will have an  
9   opportunity to find housing in these two projects  
10  that are being presented.

11           And in terms of 1592 and 1593, I am concerned  
12  that my colleague Chair Salamanca of the Land Use  
13  Committee has indicated that his community has not  
14  been involved in making discussions and plans. And I  
15  am always concerned about those persons who act in a  
16  manner that they think they know best or excluding  
17  others that should be at the table. So, I am  
18  abstaining on those as well. Thank you.

19           MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council  
20  Member Barron.

21           COUNCIL CLERK: Borelli?

22           SPEAKER JOHNSON: Council Member Borelli,  
23  are you there?

24           MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: We will move on.

25           COUNCIL CLERK: Okay. Brannan?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye on all.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Cabrera?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Permission to  
5 explain my vote.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

7 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Thank you so much.

9 I will be voting yes on 1592, 1593 but with the  
10 understanding, with the expectation that the Bronx  
11 especially when it comes to Council Member Salamanca,  
12 would be brought to the table because the issue that  
13 he presented is very real. I will abstaining Intro.  
14 274-A and I am voting aye on the rest.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council  
16 Member Cabrera.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Chin?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye on all.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Constantinides?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: May I be  
21 excused to explain my vote Madam Majority Leader?

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

23 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: I just  
25 wanted to - I was rushing the beginning statement. I

2 just want to really talk about how this legislation  
3 came to be. This legislation came to be through  
4 advocates. As the Speaker said during a rally today,  
5 the best ideas don't come from Council Members, they  
6 come from people and you know, when we talk about  
7 restorative justice and environmental justice, the  
8 advocates that I talked about today, formerly  
9 incarcerated men and women like Vidal Guzman and  
10 Kendra Clark, Marcos Barrios, Freedom Agenda, the  
11 Point CDC, New York City Environmental Justice  
12 Alliance, New York Lawyers for the Public Interest,  
13 the Lippman Commission, the National Resources  
14 Defense Council and many, many others, Sunrise NYC  
15 came together advocated for a renewable Rikers  
16 Island, having - holding meetings all over the city  
17 and the men and women who are advocating for this  
18 bill come from all over the City of New York.

19 So, I will say that the main purpose of this bill  
20 is to make New York City hopeful. If we grab this  
21 opportunity, a greener more sustainable place,  
22 generating enough power to close down dirty power  
23 plants in every borough. The Queens, the Bronx, you  
24 know, Brooklyn. To close waste water treatment

2 plants and to decrease the amount of sewage going  
3 into our water ways all throughout New York City.

4 So, when we talk about the opportunity here, it's  
5 an opportunity for all of New York City to benefit in  
6 the long run and create good jobs in doing so. So,  
7 these bills today are a down payment. The Renewable  
8 Rikers Act is a beginning of a process that hopefully  
9 will lead us to place for a greener, more sustainable  
10 New York for all and every neighborhood that has been  
11 impacted by the over policing and the stain the  
12 Lippman Commission talked about that is Rikers  
13 Island.

14 So, again, I will be voting aye on all today and  
15 I wish my brother Justin Brannan a safe and speedy  
16 recovery. And wish my Legislative Counsel Nicholas  
17 Widowski a very happy birthday and thank him for all  
18 his hard work as well as all the staff Brad Reid,  
19 Nicole Abene and Jason Goldman and everyone else that  
20 helped work today to get these bills done. Thank you  
21 so much.

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I think that covers  
23 everyone.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: I tried.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Cornegy?



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

4           MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO:   Permission granted.

5           SERGEANT AT ARMS:   Time starts now.

6           COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY:   So, I will be  
7 voting yes on all items on the agenda today. I just  
8 wanted to take this opportunity to wish both Justin  
9 and his lovely wife a speedy recovery. For those of  
10 us who feel as though somehow this is a hoax or that  
11 there is no validity to this pandemic. My colleagues  
12 and myself are even – of course, I don't want to call  
13 folks out but there are several members of this body  
14 who have suffered through this pandemic and its not  
15 over. So, those of us who want to take our masks off  
16 and who want to do all kinds of things, you should be  
17 aware that there are people who are currently  
18 suffering. I mean, I just wanted to take the time to  
19 wish those people who have lost loved ones and who  
20 are suffering through this pandemic a speedy  
21 recovery, especially Justin and his wife. I vote aye  
22 on all.

23           MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO:   Thank you Council  
24 Member Cornegy.

25           COUNCIL CLERK:   Deutsch?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Aye on all.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Darma Diaz?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Aye on all.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Ruben Diaz?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: I am voting yes on all  
7 except Introduction 374, 2064, 2209 and Resolution  
8 1538. I repeat no on 374, no on 2064, no on 2209 and  
9 no on 1538. Yes on the rest. Thank you.

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council  
11 Member Diaz.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Dromm?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Eugene?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I vote aye.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Gibson?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: I vote aye.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Gjonaj?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Majority Leader,  
20 permission to explain my vote?

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

22 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Thank you. Intro.'s  
24 1592 and 1593 were developed independently of the  
25 Bronx. As my colleague Councilman Salamanca stated

2 so eloquently, criminal cases on Rikers Island have  
3 been tried in the Bronx courts reflecting not only  
4 Bronx crime rate but insurance rates and affecting  
5 the Bronx in a very negative matter in so many  
6 different ways.

7 Additionally, Bronx homeless numbers are  
8 reflective of those that are being released from  
9 Rikers Island and reflect in the number of homeless  
10 for the Borough of the Bronx. Exploring renewable  
11 energy and establishing an advisory board of good of  
12 those were done without collaboration in the Bronx  
13 delegation. Representing a Bronx shoreline district  
14 sharing the waters with Rikers and belonging to the  
15 borough that it resides in.

16 I am voting against 1592 and 1593, not for the  
17 objectives but for the procedure which for they were  
18 conceived. And with that, I vote aye on the rest.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Grodenchik?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Aye on all. I  
22 want to wish everybody who is celebrating a happy  
23 Lunar New Year tomorrow. That will be the second  
24 time it falls on my birthday, so that's kind of  
25 exciting. In my life in the past 61 years, so I am

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2 excited about that. Although, I think like the rest  
3 of you, I will be home unfortunately like most New  
4 Yorkers. And a happy and healthy to everybody and to  
5 my friend Justin Brannan and to his wife, a very  
6 quick and speedy healing. [SPEAKING IN DIFFERENT  
7 LANGAUGE 1:00:31], as we say in the Jewish business  
8 and with that, I vote aye on all. Congratulate  
9 especially my friend Costa on a long fought battle  
10 over Rikers Island. Thank you.

11           MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you and happy  
12 birthday Council Member Grodenchik.

13           COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: It's not until  
14 tomorrow, so you know I want to savor every day but  
15 thank you.

16           MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: You dropped it in  
17 nicely.

18           COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Thank you.

19           COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Holden?

20           COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: I vote aye on all  
21 with the exception of Intro. 1592-A for which I vote  
22 no and all the best to Justin Brannan and his wife.

23           COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Kallos?

24           COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye on all.

25           COUNCIL CLERK: Koo?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I vote aye. Aye.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Koslowitz?

4 Lander?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: I vote aye on all  
6 with congratulations especially to Costa, to Council  
7 Member Rosenthal and best wishes Justin.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Levin? Council Member

9 Levin?

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member

11 Levin, are you on mute? Alright, we will come back.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: I vote aye on all.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Louis?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: I vote aye on all and  
15 wishing Council Member Brannan and his wife a speedy  
16 recovery.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

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

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted

21 Council Member Levin.

22 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: I apologize, I didn't  
24 have my ear piece in. Just one last thing I want to  
25 say about the Renewable Rikers vote is that you know,

2 this is our last best chance as a city to get on a  
3 sustainable footing when it comes to our energy and  
4 Rikers Island for a host of reasons is not a suitable  
5 location for most other uses. Housing, it's not  
6 suitable there because of environmental concerns, as  
7 well as its proximity to the approach and ascent out  
8 of LaGuardia Airport, which makes a certain building  
9 height prohibited. It's a terribly - it's built on a  
10 landfill and ash. So, it has a myriad of  
11 environmental hazards. But largely, if we are going  
12 to leave our planet with the fighting chance to  
13 survive through our children and grandchildren, we  
14 have to take every opportunity on that climate change  
15 in meaningful ways and chief among those ways is to  
16 power our city through renewable energy and get off  
17 of fossil fuels and get off of dirty electric  
18 production. And the only way to do that is to go big  
19 with solar, with wind, with batteries in ways that  
20 can be renewable and so, I think that - I vote aye  
21 wholeheartedly -

22 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time expired.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: And I thank your  
24 Chair Costa Constantinides and again, I want to work  
25 to make sure that this is equitable and that all

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2 communities have a say but I do vote aye on all and I  
3 thank the Chair, the Speaker and everyone that worked  
4 on this bill.

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

7           COUNCIL CLERK: Maisel?

8           COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Yes.

9           COUNCIL CLERK: Menchaca?

10          COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Permission to  
11 explain my vote.

12          MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

13          SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

14          COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you. I want  
15 to speak on two items. The first is the Resolution  
16 1542 and Land Use item 717. Angel Guardian Home will  
17 be Dyker Heights in Brooklyn first historic landmark.  
18 For years I have met with community members many  
19 times and I know that there is huge support for  
20 landmarking and preserving this specific site.

21          Both the architectural quality and the human  
22 history of this building are immensely important and  
23 I am proud to be here with you all now getting this  
24 done in the City Council. However, at the Landmarks  
25 Preservation Committee, and they are well aware,

2 there is a significant disappointment and frustration  
3 while the largest building is being preserved, the  
4 equally significant adjacent building known as the  
5 Mercy building is being excluded.

6 I am sure that the community will continue to  
7 advocate for including the Mercy building but right  
8 now we have to celebrate that. And I want to use the  
9 remainder of my time just to comment on the Rikers  
10 bills. I am in support of these bills and the vision  
11 that you are setting and listening to my colleague  
12 Council Member Salamanca in the Bronx talk about his  
13 community being separated from this conversation.  
14 That we can't allow to happen.

15 So much of what we need to do is continue to do  
16 what we say we are going to do. The fact is Rikers  
17 is still open today and we have the power as a  
18 Council and the Mayor to do that. It's still open  
19 today and there are four borough jails on their way.  
20 The tag price of \$9.2 billion, maybe that's going to  
21 grow. That's on us and so, we have just pushed this  
22 at the end of the day past the date and outside our  
23 jurisdiction after this year. And so, that's on us  
24 and I hope that we can carry that to as much as we



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2   are celebrating this moment, thank you. I vote aye  
3   on the rest.

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

6           COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Council Member  
7   Borelli?

8           COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Thank you and  
9   permission to vote on all Land Use call ups and  
10  general order items please.

11          MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

12          COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Thank you. I will  
13  vote aye on all except Intro.'s 1592-A, 2064-A and  
14  Reso. 512-A. Thank you very much Madam Majority  
15  Leader.

16          MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I didn't know you  
17  were going to vote against so many things before I  
18  agreed.

19          COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: I know, I am  
20  killing too much time. I am sorry.

21          MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

22          COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Thank you.

23          COUNCIL CLERK: Miller?

24          COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: I vote aye on all  
25  with the exceptions of 1592, 1593.

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2           MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO:   Thank you Council  
3 Member Miller.

4           COUNCIL CLERK:   Moya?

5           COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA:   I vote aye on all.

6           COUNCIL CLERK:   Perkins?

7           COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS:   Aye on all.

8           COUNCIL CLERK:   I got you Council Member  
9 Perkins, thank you.   Powers?

10          COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS:   I vote aye and get  
11 better Justin Brannan.

12          COUNCIL CLERK:   Reynoso?

13          COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO:   I vote aye on all.

14          COUNCIL CLERK:   Thank you.   Riley?

15          COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY:   Permission to explain  
16 my vote.

17          MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO:   Permission granted.

18          SERGEANT AT ARMS:   Time starts now.

19          COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY:   Well first, I would  
20 like to wish happy Black history month to everybody  
21 and I will be voting aye on all.   I just want to echo  
22 the same sentiments from my colleagues here in the  
23 Bronx regarding Intro. 1592 and 1593.   Here in the  
24 Bronx, we feel like we never have a say so at the  
25 table when it comes to anything good.

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2           Coming from something that came from something  
3 bad that had to deal with Rikers Island. Everything  
4 negative that came from Rikers Island was coming into  
5 the Bronx and we had to go through a lot of you know  
6 struggles over here, especially in Council Member  
7 Salamanca's district and we just want to make sure  
8 moving forward that we have a seat at the table. We  
9 make sure that we have a seat at the table,  
10 especially when it comes to the Advisory Board and I  
11 just want to echo that sentiment moving forward, no  
12 matter what the project is if it has anything to do  
13 with the Bronx, if we could just make sure that you  
14 know, we are having a discussion with the elected  
15 officials here in the Bronx.

16           Thank you Majority Leader and I just want to wish  
17 a speedy recovery to my colleague Justin Brannan and  
18 his wife. Thank you.

19           MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

20           COUNCIL CLERK: Pardon me Council Member,  
21 your vote was? Excuse me.

22           COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye on all.

23           COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Rivera?

24           COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

25

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2 COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez? Council Member  
3 Rodriguez?

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: We will come back.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Okay. Rosenthal?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: I vote aye.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Salamanca?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Permission to  
9 explain my vote.

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

11 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Thank you. I  
13 just want to make it clear that I strongly believe in  
14 closing out Rikers and I strongly believe in making  
15 Rikers renewable and an energy efficient piece of  
16 property and creating green jobs but when decisions  
17 are being made and communities who have been  
18 marginalized for decades are being excluded from  
19 those conversations, it's important for our elected  
20 officials to speak up and it's important for us to  
21 say and that's what I am doing at this stage. We  
22 need to be on the table when we are talking about the  
23 future of Rikers. Because everything that's bad got  
24 attached to the South Bronx. Now, that things are  
25 about to change and the bad is going to be gone and

1           STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL   61  
2   then that community wants that piece of land and that  
3   is wrong. And so, that's why I will be voting no on  
4   1592 and 1593 and aye on all. Thank you.

5           MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

6           COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Rodriguez?

7           COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

8           COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you sir. Treyger?

9           COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: I vote aye and I  
10   wish a speedy recovery to my colleague Council Member  
11   Justin Brannan and his wife Lay.

12          COUNCIL CLERK: Ulrich?

13          COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: I vote aye on all  
14   with the exception of 1592. I vote no on that bill  
15   and I wish a speedy recovery to my good friend and  
16   colleague Council Member Brannan and his wife.

17          COUNCIL CLERK: Vallone? Council Member  
18   Vallone?

19          MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: We will come back.

20          COUNCIL CLERK: Van Bramer?

21          COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye on all.

22          COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Yeger?

23          COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye.

24          COUNCIL CLERK: Matteo?

25

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: No on 1592 and no on  
3 2064. Aye on the rest.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Cumbo?

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I vote aye.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Vallone?  
7 Speaker Johnson?

8 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I vote aye on all. I also  
9 want to mention that Council Member Miller, I am glad  
10 that he reminded me that in my opening remarks there  
11 was an individual that I forgot to mention and  
12 recognize who died of COVID. His name was Timothy  
13 James. He was 54-years-old and he was an employee at  
14 the Board of Elections in Queens and I know Council  
15 Member Miller has been working on safety issues there  
16 but I do want to recognize that a worker from New  
17 York City Timothy James lost his life over the  
18 weekend, I believe.

19 With that, I vote aye on all.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council  
21 Member Johnson and are we going to wait for Council  
22 Member Vallone?

23 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Yeah, let's wait a moment  
24 for Council Member Vallone. I am going to check in  
25 with him. Hold on one second.

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2           MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO:   Thank you.

3           SPEAKER JOHNSON:   Council Member Vallone was  
4   disconnected and he is signing back in right now.  
5   So, if we could just wait a couple of moments Madam  
6   Majority Leader.

7           MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO:   Thank you.   And  
8   while we are waiting, I also want to express my  
9   heartfelt prayers for the entire Brannan family.   I  
10   know how challenging these times are.   So certainly  
11   heart and prayers and speedy recovery to your entire  
12   family because this impacts everyone.

13          SPEAKER JOHNSON:   Council Member Vallone is  
14   back on.   Mr. Clerk, if you could call on him.

15          COUNCIL CLERK:   Sure, Council Member  
16   Vallone, General Order Calendar.

17          COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE:   Can you guys hear  
18   me now?

19          MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO:   Yeah.

20          COUNCIL CLERK:   Yes sir.

21          COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE:   Perfect, thank you  
22   for the little chaos there.   I am voting aye on all  
23   with the exception of 1592-A and a speedy recovery to  
24   Justin and his family.   Happy Asian Lunar New Year to  
25   everyone.

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2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much  
3 Council Member Vallone.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Thank you Laurie.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. And we  
6 will take a brief pause while we have the items on  
7 today's General Orders Calendar tallied.

8 [PAUSE 1:16:26-1:16:37]

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Okay, thank you. All items  
10 on today's General Order Calendar have a vote of 46  
11 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative and no  
12 abstentions with the exception of the following:

13 Land Use item 711 and Resolution 1541 has a vote of  
14 45 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative and 1  
15 abstention. Introduction 1592-A has a vote of 37 in  
16 the affirmative, 7 in the negative, 2 abstentions.

17 Introduction 1593-A has 42 in the affirmative, 2  
18 in the negative and 2 abstentions. Introduction 374-A  
19 has a vote of 44 in the affirmative, 1 in the  
20 negative, 1 abstention and Introduction 2064-A has a  
21 vote of 43 in the affirmative and 3 in the negative.  
22 Thank you.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. The items on  
24 today's General Orders Calendar are adopted.  
25 Introduction and Reading of Bills?



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2           SPEAKER JOHNSON: All bills are referred to  
3 committees as indicated on today's agenda.

4           MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, we will now  
5 move into the discussion of Resolutions. As a  
6 reminder, please wait until the Sergeant at Arms  
7 begins the countdown clock before you begin your  
8 remarks.

9           Mr. Parliamentarian, are there any members who  
10 have signed up to speak on today's Resolutions?

11          PARLIAMENTARIAN: Majority Leader, we have quite  
12 a few hands up. I think many of them are for general  
13 discussion.

14          SPEAKER JOHNSON: Yeah, I believe those hands are  
15 for general discussion.

16          PARLIAMENTARIAN: If there are any members who  
17 wish to speak on the Resolutions that we are voting  
18 on today, can you come off mute and let us know that  
19 you would like to be recognized.

20          SPEAKER JOHNSON: Okay, we can move forward with  
21 the vote on Council Member Rosenthal's Resolution.

22          MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We will now  
23 have a voice vote on today's Resolution. If you wish  
24 to vote against or abstain from either of today's

25

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2   Resolutions, please notify the legislative documents  
3   unit by email.

4           I will now read today's Resolution into the  
5   record. Resolution 512-A calls on New York State to  
6   require medical schools to train all students about  
7   implicit bias. Will all those in favor say Aye.

8           COUNCIL MEMBERS: Many members say Aye.

9           MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: All opposed, say nae.

10          [SILENCE]

11          MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Any abstentions?

12          [SILENCE]

13          The ayes have it. We will now move into general  
14   discussion. As a reminder, please wait until the  
15   Sergeant at Arms begins the countdown clock before  
16   you begin your remarks.

17          Mr. Parliamentarian, are there member signed up  
18   that would like to speak at this time?

19          PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes, we have quite a few Madam  
20   Majority Leader. Let's start with Council Members  
21   Levin, Grodenchik and Darma Diaz.

22          MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Okay, we will begin with  
23   Council Member Levin.

24          SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

25

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2           COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN:  Thank you very much Madam  
3 Majority Leader.  First, I want to acknowledge  
4 Council Member Brannan and his wife Lay and I wish  
5 them both a speedy recovery from COVID-19.  I want to  
6 wish also a happy birthday to my friend Council  
7 Member Barry Grodenchik.  Happy birthday Barry.

8           So, my colleagues today, we are introducing a  
9 suite of bills around police discipline reform,  
10 policing reform.  There is one Resolution in  
11 particular that I would – that our Majority Leader  
12 Laurie Cumbo is sponsoring, Resolution 1538.  I  
13 implore and urge all my colleagues to sign onto this  
14 legislation, this Resolution which would – it calls  
15 on the states to work with the Council to remove the  
16 final disciplinary authority from the Police  
17 Commissioner.

18           This is because according to part of the City  
19 Administrative Code 14115 that was added by the State  
20 legislature over 80 years ago, the Police  
21 Commissioner has final disciplinary authority over  
22 police officers.  So, we go through a process where  
23 the CCRB conducts an investigation, holds a trial,  
24 makes findings while the trial has witnesses.  Or the  
25 Police Department has administrative judges that

2 conduct a trial. Those findings and those  
3 recommended sanctions have been passed along to the  
4 police commissioner who overrules the CCRB or the  
5 Administrative trial judge 71 percent of the time.  
6 71 percent of the time, the Police Commissioner  
7 overrules the findings and the recommended  
8 discipline. That has to change if we are going to  
9 have confidence in policing in our city.

10 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time expired.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: So, I strongly urge you  
12 all to sign on to 1538, sponsored by Majority Leader  
13 Laurie Cumbo. Thank you very much and I will be  
14 following up with you all.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council Member  
16 Levin and it's an honor to work with you on this  
17 revolutionary Resolution.

18 I will now hear from Council Member Grodenchik.

19 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Than you Majority  
21 Leader. Today I am introducing legislation that  
22 would exempt the approximately 20,000 Garden  
23 Apartments in my district and tens of thousands or  
24 more across the city from certain provisions of Local  
25 Law 97 of 2019.

2 The lowest pass by this Council as part of the  
3 historic Climate Mobilization Act and Local Law 97  
4 was a cornerstone of this act and requires New York  
5 City's 50,000 largest buildings to reduce their  
6 carbon emissions by 50 percent over time. And excuse  
7 me, my internet is playing games with me. By 40  
8 percent by 2030 and 80 percent by 2050.

9 The law was specifically drafted to apply to  
10 large buildings which consumed large amounts of  
11 energy. It was not drafted to cover one and two  
12 family homes and Garden Apartments are akin to these  
13 one and two family homes and have energy use  
14 footprints similar to those homes.

15 Garden Apartment co-ops are affordable housing  
16 that allow middle class New Yorkers an affordable way  
17 to own their own home. For most middle class  
18 families who own a Garden Apartment co-op, they are  
19 interested in the co-op represents by far the largest  
20 part of their wealth.

21 Subjecting Garden Apartments to the provisions of  
22 Local Law 97 will not create significant  
23 environmental benefits but will harm a significant  
24 source of affordable housing by adding huge costs to  
25 these co-ops and possibly bankrupting some of them

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2   while destroying a middle class homes and middle  
3   class.

4           So, I urge my colleagues to join with me today.  
5   This is an important Act which will protect the homes  
6   of tens of thousands of New Yorkers. Thank you very,  
7   very much.

8           MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We will now  
9   hear from Council Member Darma Diaz.

10          SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

11          COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Thank you for the  
12   opportunity. I just want to say thank you to my  
13   brother Justin Brannan. When COVID first hit us he  
14   was the first one to jump and assist us in the 37  
15   Councilmanic district. On behalf of DHS Police  
16   Officer Allison Diaz, it happens to be my daughter,  
17   let you know that we love you. We care for you and  
18   we are hear to help you whatever that means to you  
19   and your family. Thank you for all the PPE's that  
20   you made available to us. Thanks to your efforts,  
21   many of us have been COVID free.

22          Thank you Justin. That is all.

23          MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. Mr.  
24   Parliamentarian, are there any other members who wish  
25   to speak at this time?

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2 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes Madam Majority Leader.

3 Council Members Miller, Koo and Menchaca.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member Miller,  
5 you may begin.

6 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Council Member Miller is  
8 back. I want to thank our leader Speaker Johnson for  
9 mentioning the passing of Timothy James.

10 I want to share briefly a bit of the letter that  
11 has been drafted and sent to the leadership of the  
12 Board of Elections.

13 On January 27<sup>th</sup>, the City Council Committee on  
14 Civil Service and Labor heard testimony from union  
15 representatives, government officials and experts  
16 with the outreach to multiple sources close to the  
17 Board of Election and Mr. James cares doubt when the  
18 accuracy and advocacy of the pandemic measures  
19 employed by your agency. Mr. James appeared to be no  
20 less than the 5<sup>th</sup> employee employed by the BOE to  
21 succumb to COVID-19 and was one of the hundreds this  
22 deadly virus infected.

23 As a representative of Workforce Communications,  
24 Workers of America Local 11831 testified at the  
25 hearing on January 27<sup>th</sup>, that the pandemic while

2 working multiple elections BOE workers have been  
3 denied access to PPE's, forced to work in tight  
4 quarters without social distancing in conditions that  
5 pose fire and safety and risk. BOE staff has labored  
6 under these circumstances while working 80 hours with  
7 antiquated and outdated equipment and under increased  
8 productivity of the 2020 elections.

9 And I am going to jump down because this is a  
10 long letter but important. In this instance,  
11 responsibility to provide adequate working conditions  
12 amidst COVID-19 pandemic, the Board of Elections  
13 chose to sacrifice the wellbeing of those essential  
14 worker staff, particularly accrue as your agency  
15 employees and older workforce including hundreds of  
16 temporary workers who were the deprived of  
17 prescription drugs and coverage due to lack of  
18 permanent status.

19 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time expired.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: In recent days, the  
21 Council has learned however, despite continued  
22 previous outbreaks, the office throughout the City,  
23 the BOE failed to respond adequately in emerging in  
24 the middle village facility.



2 Unlike the Board of Election, this Council can  
3 not sit idly by while workers lives are put at risk  
4 and we cannot wait for the contact tracing results  
5 for further investigation, which will surely be  
6 needed to assure the full extent of the boards  
7 complicity in allowing COVID-19 to run rampant in  
8 these facilities.

9 Board of Election leadership has failed the  
10 staff, the city and in lieu of these drastic reforms,  
11 the agency on Albany's reform. We immediately  
12 request hiring, empowering professional executive  
13 management and terminate the current leadership.

14 Mr. James and other deaths cannot be in vain. We  
15 must make sure that this instance of the ultimate  
16 canary in the coalmine does not happen again to other  
17 workers.

18 So, I ask our colleagues to stand with us and  
19 members of the Civil Service and Labor Committee and  
20 the James family and calling for the resignation of  
21 BOE leadership and the reform and the protection of  
22 all workers throughout the city. Thank you and thank  
23 you for the additional time Madam Majority Leader.

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you and my  
25 condolences to you and the entire family. I know

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2           that this was a close and personal friend and what a  
3           hardship this is on you and everyone in Queens and  
4           the entire family. Thank you.

5           COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you.

6           MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: We will now hear from  
7           Council Member Koo.

8           SPEAKER JOHNSON: Madam Majority Leader, before  
9           Council Member Koo goes, I just want to let you know  
10          I have to jump off because I have to testify on the  
11          Albany budget related to the city. So, you are going  
12          to have to close the meeting. They are waiting for  
13          me. So, I want to thank you and thank all of our  
14          colleagues for their participation today.

15          Thank you Daneek for what you said. Thanks a  
16          lot.

17          MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, we will now  
18          have unlimited time for all members who would like to  
19          speak.

20          Thank you, we will go to Council Member Koo.

21          SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

22          COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you. Thank you  
23          Majority Leader. Today, I am introducing two bills  
24          Intro. 2219 will require the DOH to provide voluntary  
25          guidance to medical facilities for disinfecting and

1           STATED MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL   75

2 sanitizing clothing worn in medical facilities during  
3 public health emergencies.

4           As we all know information about how COVID-19  
5 spreads is constantly evolving. So, in the event of  
6 another public pandemic, we need to be especially  
7 important concerning best practices of medical staff,  
8 patients and visitors to medical facilities.

9           Intro. 2218 is an expansion of the city's  
10 temporary outdoor dining program. This bill seems to  
11 include food service establishments that do not have  
12 direct sidewalk access and opportunity to allow  
13 limited food preparation on the sidewalks and  
14 roadways. In my district and throughout the city,  
15 there are many restaurants and food courts that are  
16 not on street level who would be allowed some cooking  
17 provided they get permission from the building owner.

18           I urge my colleagues to sign on to my two bills.  
19 Thank you.

20           MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council Member  
21 Koo. We will now go to Council Member Menchaca.

22           SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

23           COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you Majority  
24 Leader and I want to talk a little bit about bill  
25 that we are introducing today on the Office of Adult

2 Education. Every day thousands of adult New Yorkers  
3 are one crisis away from losing their jobs, health or  
4 security because they lack the skills or education.  
5 Worst, still because of this, they often don't know  
6 how to ask the city for help or advocate for  
7 themselves effectively. Double for adult immigrants  
8 who suffer even more if their English gives them no  
9 sense of where to start.

10 Imagine the desperation of a father or a mother  
11 who feels – who has just lost their job, doesn't know  
12 where to go, doesn't have the access for English and  
13 can't easily translate anything that is being offered  
14 to her.

15 In 2006, Mayor Bloomberg created the Mayor's  
16 Office of Adult Education to help out New Yorkers.  
17 It coordinated across city agencies to promote adult  
18 education, particularly English programs for adult  
19 immigrants. Unfortunately, the office was not  
20 codified and discontinued by the de Blasio  
21 Administration and since then adult education has  
22 lacked a unified center forcing adult educators to  
23 spend precarious months every year teaching policy  
24 makers why their work matters.

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2           You know this because this Council continues to  
3 stand up for each and every one of them. This office  
4 will promote adult educational literacy services  
5 including but not limited to classes to teach new  
6 skills and pass exams for career advancement.  
7 Resources and programs to enhance digital and tech  
8 literacy and programming for immigrants, particularly  
9 English and literacy classes.

10           We will overcome this pandemic and become  
11 stronger than ever before but only if we can create a  
12 foundation for a just and equitable recovery. That  
13 must include restoring and codifying a unified  
14 response to adult education. This is something that  
15 this Council understands and fights for every year.  
16 I know we are going to continue to fight for that  
17 this year. This office will take it to the next  
18 level.

19           Let's make this a legacy project for the City  
20 Council and the work that we have been doing together  
21 for the last seven years. Thank you.

22           MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council Member  
23 Menchaca. He will be followed by Council Members  
24 Barron, Chin and Kallos.

25           SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

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2           COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON:   Thank you Madam Majority  
3   Leader.   We know that in the Black community and the  
4   Brown community there is a lot of mistrust of the  
5   processes and treatments that are a part of the  
6   medical system.   We know that they are founded.   We  
7   know that there has been experimentation.   We know  
8   that there has been withholding of treatments, such  
9   as in the syphilis experiments.   We know about Jay  
10   Maron Sims and other horrors that were meted out to  
11   Black and Brown people.

12           So, we understand that there is a great mistrust  
13   amongst the Black and Brown community but today as we  
14   are talking about Black history month and going back  
15   to Africa, I want to talk to you about Onesimus.   Not  
16   the Onesimus of the bible but Onesimus who had been  
17   one in Ghana was kidnapped, was subjected to the  
18   Mapfre which is the middle passage and brought here  
19   to Boston Massachusetts.   He was given to a puritan  
20   minister by the name of Cotton Mather.   But Onesimus  
21   had a lot of experience of having traveled throughout  
22   much of Africa and he introduced the concept of  
23   variolation to the United States.

24           At that time, there were often times of outbreaks  
25   of small pox and Onesimus described variolation which

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2   is the process of taking an infectious material from  
3   an infected person and introducing it through a cut  
4   in a controlled manner into a healthy person.

5           So, he described this variolation process and  
6   said that it was a procedure in Africa and it  
7   protected people from small pox.   In 1721, Boston had  
8   a small pox epidemic and there was a doctor who used  
9   the process described by Onesimus on 242 patients.  
10   Only six of those patients died.

11           SERGEANT AT ARMS:   Time expired.

12           COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON:   That's one out of four as  
13   opposed to one out of seven who died who did not have  
14   this procedure.

15           In 1796, Edward Jenner used that concept of  
16   variolation and developed a vaccine for small pox  
17   which would be used worldwide for 200 years.   So, I  
18   just wanted to share that information and as people  
19   are weighing their options, encourage you to look at  
20   all of your opportunities and make your decision that  
21   you think best suits you.

22           Onesimus introduced variolation to the United  
23   States and you can check it out in the Boston Globe,  
24   October 17, 2014 edition.   Thank you.

25

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2           MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO:   Thank you so much Council  
3 Member Barron.   We will now call on Council Member  
4 Chin followed by Council Member Kallos.

5           SERGEANT AT ARMS:   Time starts now.

6           COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN:   Thank you Majority Leader.  
7 I just wanted to – everyone to join me in wishing a  
8 happy Lunar New Year.   This year tomorrow will be the  
9 first day of Lunar New Year and it just reminded me  
10 of you know, what a difficult year last year was and  
11 I am really hopeful that we are beginning a new year  
12 and this is the year of the ox and the ox represents  
13 strength and determination and inspiring people to do  
14 things right.   And I think this is a good beginning  
15 for us to be able to push through any challenges that  
16 we face this year and help the city recover from this  
17 COVID-19 pandemic and on our way to economic  
18 recovery.

19           I am really hopeful on that.   Even though we  
20 cannot celebrate in the City Council in the Chamber,  
21 celebrating Lunar New Year or with Council Member Koo  
22 and our staff and we bring in this delicious lunch of  
23 all the Asian food, but we can do that when this  
24 whole pandemic is over, we can continue with our  
25 celebration.



2 And we just wanted to make sure that when we  
3 celebrate Lunar New Year, we also make a commitment  
4 to continue to fight against hate and to really  
5 support all the marginalized community.

6 So, I just wanted to wish everyone in the year of  
7 the ox. May it bring you good fortune, good health  
8 and happiness. [SPEAKING IN CHINESE 3:38:31-  
9 1:38:39]. And Justin, speedy recovery in the year of  
10 the ox, give you the strength and to your wife.  
11 Thank you.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council Member  
13 Chin. I think we all miss our Lunar Year celebration  
14 with you and Council Member Koo. It was the  
15 highlight of the beginning of the year and we look  
16 forward to being able to reunite with you both once  
17 again. Thank you, we will call on Council Member  
18 Kallos.

19 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Today, I will be  
21 introducing three pieces of legislation that will  
22 bring added transparency and equity to city  
23 government and our constituents are climbing for.

24 To reform policing in the city we need good data  
25 to know how our police are spending their time.

2 Introduction 2217 will add non-criminal summonses,  
3 violations and tickets to the city's interactive  
4 crime map. Is over policing rampant in some  
5 communities and not others? Let's have a  
6 transparent, easily accessible way for both leaders  
7 in government and the community to see where  
8 violations are happening.

9 Data helped to shed light on the lack of equity  
10 and stop and frisk tactics of the past and now this  
11 mapped information can power us to continue to  
12 establish equitable and antiracist policing policy.

13 Next, COVID has shown us that our public school  
14 students have not only lost educational opportunities  
15 but need wrap around service. Introduction 2215 will  
16 shed light on equity and access to critical health  
17 services our young people need to receive in school-  
18 based health centers and will compel the Department  
19 of Education to report on access to services  
20 including dental, vision, sexual and reproductive  
21 health and substance abuse counseling. Allowing us  
22 in government to identify the underserved and act.

23 Finally, Introduction 2216 will require all job  
24 vacancies at city agencies including the board of  
25

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2 elections to be posted online. Working in government  
3 should be about what you know, not who you know.

4 I want to associate myself with the remarks made  
5 by Council Member I.Daneek Miller, just spoke about  
6 everything that's wrong at the Board of Elections.

7 No one should get a job that was never posted  
8 without an interview or having to compete against  
9 other candidates. With the pandemic, the people  
10 deserve access to city jobs and the people deserve  
11 better.

12 I hope you will sign on to these three bills to  
13 stand for transparency and equity. Thank you.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. Are there any  
15 additional members who wish to speak at this time?

16 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes Madam Majority Leader.  
17 Council Members Adams and Rodriguez.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member Adams, you  
19 may begin.

20 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Thank you very much Madam  
22 Majority Leader. Like our colleague I.Daneek Miller,  
23 I also wish to express my extreme sorrow for the loss  
24 of our gentle giant Timothy James and we are still  
25 wondering why.

2 I spoke with him 48 hours before he passed.  
3 That's how close we were. So, we mourn his loss and  
4 extremely, extremely difficult for those of us in  
5 Queens.

6 With that said, I am introducing Intro. 2209, it  
7 is part of our robust package of police reform. And  
8 Intro. 2209 would require the Police Commissioner to  
9 be confirmed by the Council. Within ten days of a  
10 vacancy, the Mayor must submit a nominee to the  
11 Council. If the Council disapproves, the Mayor must  
12 submit a new nomination within ten days of the  
13 Council's disapproval. The term limit of the  
14 Commissioner would also be changed from five years to  
15 four years and I also echo the sentiments of our  
16 colleague Council Member Levin with regard to the  
17 authority that is placed with the Police  
18 Commissioner.

19 I believe that we need to take a closer look of  
20 the authority of the Police Commissioner within the  
21 realm of the CCRB and other spaces as well.

22 Intro. 2209 will give the Council the capacity to  
23 have a part of that oversight of the selection of the  
24 Police Commissioner for the NYPD. I encourage all of  
25 my colleagues to support this Intro. 2209. Please

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2 sign on. We look forward to your support. Thank you  
3 very much Madam Majority Leader.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council Member  
5 Adams. We will now hear from Council Member  
6 Rodriguez.

7 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Thank you Majority  
9 Leader, I am using my limited time that you say we  
10 have today. First of all, I would like to thank you  
11 together with Council Member Cornegy for being with  
12 us. Together with the great leaders that we have  
13 that have been fighting for the last couple of months  
14 on COVID. Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams, as  
15 we together asked for Governor Cuomo to let  
16 restaurant owners, especially those in underserved  
17 community to be open to 12 midnight instead of 10  
18 p.m. and to also increase the capacity to 50 percent.

19 This is racism, this is discrimination of how we  
20 allow restaurant owners in Yonkers Long Island State  
21 to be open until midnight and to be open up to 50  
22 percent capacity here in our great New York City  
23 where we were hit harder. We need to be sure that  
24 starting tomorrow, that restaurants will be allowed  
25 to open 50 percent capacity and also up to midnight.

2 Second, I would like to invite everyone to join  
3 me on the 22<sup>nd</sup> at a hearing that we have Chaired by  
4 Chairman Koo, the Parks Committee. We are going to  
5 be discussing a bill that I already have that  
6 supports the Speaker to create the Mayor's Office of  
7 Sports and Recreation. That plan is intended to put  
8 a group of people lead by a person to put strategies  
9 and initiatives to support a sport, to create  
10 pipeline to serve underserved kids who have a real  
11 path on how they can start from the early age to also  
12 be competitive when they move to middle school and to  
13 high school.

14 The last thing is, I would like also to invite my  
15 colleagues to join me also at a hearing of the  
16 Cultural Committee. We also have a bill to create  
17 the freedom train, similar to the one that we have in  
18 Boston. We are intended to create a freedom train in  
19 New York City to dedicate a specific area for which  
20 we celebrate all the fight, all the struggle that we  
21 went through to get our freedom.

22 So, thank you and [SPEAKING IN OTHER LANGUAGE  
23 1:45:08-1:45:19]. Thank you.

24

25

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2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you Council Member  
3 Ydanis Rodriguez. Are there any other members who  
4 wish to speak?

5 PARLIAMENTARIAN: No, Madam Majority Leader.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I just want to close with  
7 thanking Speaker Corey Johnson for the recognition of  
8 our beloved Cicely Tyson. She was not only an  
9 incredible actress to the world, she was also my  
10 grand God mother if you will and I had the blessing  
11 of being able to grow up watching her, as well as  
12 traveling as her personal assistant for about 10  
13 years. Which was an incredible opportunity to see  
14 the world and to meet so many extraordinary people.  
15 From Dr. Maya Angelou to Rosa Parks to Stevie Wonder  
16 and so many others. It's been an incredible ride and  
17 an incredible journey and over her 70-year career,  
18 she has been such a remarkable figure and impacting  
19 so many lives. Over 100 film television and stage  
20 roles. She brought her characters to  
21 multidimensional life in ways that seemed to defy the  
22 intent of the entertainment industry.

23 In an era where most African American performers  
24 were hired for demeaning stereotypical roles, Ms.  
25 Tyson refused to play stereotypes, even if it meant

2 going without work. In doing so, she raised the bar  
3 and inspired generations of actors to follow. She  
4 showed and proved that you could be a successful  
5 actress or anything that you set your mind to without  
6 having to take demeaning roles. Although the role  
7 would be challenging, it is so very possible. Many  
8 know her for her work in co-founding the dance  
9 theater of Harlem and she was so instrumental in so  
10 many films that we all know and have learned to love  
11 from Roots to the autobiography of Ms. Jane Pittman  
12 to Souther, to the Oldest Living Confederate Widow  
13 Tells All.

14           She won the hearts of audiences and critics  
15 alike, earning three Emmy Awards and numerous honors.  
16 She took a wide range of stage, TV and film roles  
17 that moved audiences of all ages. At the age of 89,  
18 she won the Tony Award for best actress in a play for  
19 her performance in A Trip to Bountiful on Broadway.  
20 In her 90's, listen to me in her 90's, she received  
21 the Presidential Medal of Freedom and an honorary  
22 Oscar from the Academy of Motion Pictures and was  
23 inducted into the American Theater Hall of Fame and  
24 the Television Hall of Fame in 2020.



2 She is such a beloved figure in American history  
3 and her memory and the body of work that she created  
4 will live on in eternity. We miss her, we celebrate  
5 her during this Black history month and we also  
6 celebrate her in Women's History Month that is coming  
7 up very quickly.

8 I just want to bring to your attention on  
9 February 15<sup>th</sup>, a Monday, from 10 to 5 p.m., there  
10 will be a public viewing of Ms. Tyson at Abyssinian  
11 with all social distancing and mask requirements in  
12 place.

13 I thank you all today for the incredible work  
14 that we are all doing. Again, we extend our  
15 heartfelt speedy recovery for the Brannan family.

16 And with that, today's meeting of the Stated is  
17 now closed and adjourned. Thank you all. [GAVEL]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Date March 25, 2021