

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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June 9, 2010
Start: 2:00 pm
Recess: 3:34 pm

HELD AT: Council Chambers
City Hall

B E F O R E:
CHRISTINE C. QUINN
Speaker

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- Council Member Maria del Carmen Arroyo
- Council Member Charles Barron
- Council Member Gale A. Brewer
- Council Member Fernando Cabrera
- Council Member Margaret S. Chin
- Council Member Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.
- Council Member Elizabeth S. Crowley
- Council Member Inez E. Dickens
- Council Member Erik Martin Dilan
- Council Member Daniel Dromm
- Council Member Mathieu Eugene
- Council Member Julissa Ferreras
- Council Member Lewis A. Fidler
- Council Member Helen D. Foster
- Council Member Daniel R. Garodnick
- Council Member James F. Gennaro
- Council Member Vincent J. Gentile
- Council Member Sara M. Gonzalez

A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council Member Daniel J. Halloran
III
Council Member Vincent M. Ignizio
Council Member Robert Jackson
Council Member Letitia James
Council Member Peter A. Koo
Council Member G. Oliver Koppell
Council Member Karen Koslowitz
Council Member Brad S. Lander
Council Member Jessica S. Lappin
Council Member Stephen T. Levin
Council Member Melissa Mark-
Viverito
Council Member Darlene Mealy
Council Member Rosie Mendez
Council Member Michael C. Nelson
Council Member James S. Oddo
Council Member Annabel Palma
Council Member Domenic M. Recchia,
Jr.
Council Member Diana Reyna
Council Member Joel Rivera
Council Member Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Council Member Deborah L. Rose
Council Member James Sanders, Jr.
Council Member Larry B. Seabrook
Council Member Eric A. Ulrich
Council Member James Vacca
Council Member Peter F. Vallone,
Jr.
Council Member James G. Van Bramer
Council Member Albert Vann
Council Member Mark S. Weprin
Council Member Jumaane D. Williams

A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

James G. Van Bramer
New York City Council Member
Introducing
Ballroom dancers from PS 152

Christine C. Quinn
Speaker
New York City Council

Committee Clerk
Reading Proclamation for
Ballroom dancers from PS 152

Vincent Vitolo
Principal
PS 152
Acknowledging:
Enid Maldonado
Assistant Principal
PS 152

Chris Gasti
Ballroom dancing teacher
PS 152

Inez E. Dickens
Assistant Majority Leader
New York City Council Member
Introducing
Dr. Rajendra C. Patel

Theresa Freeman
New York State Committee
District Leader in Harlem

Committee Clerk
Reading Proclamation for
Dr. Rajendra C. Patel

A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

Dr. Rajendra C. Patel
Pharmacist
Family Pharmacy and Surgical
Harlem

James S. Oddo
Minority Leader
New York City Council Member
Introducing
Buddy Murnane

Committee Clerk
Reading Proclamation for
Francis Buddy Murnane

Francis Buddy Murnane
Sergeant
New York City Police Department

Members of the New York City Police Department
To honor Sergeant Murnane

Family of
Francis Buddy Murnane

Christine C. Quinn
Introducing
Dorothy and Arthur Harris

Committee Clerk
Reading proclamation
The 56th wedding anniversary of Dorothy and Arthur
Harris

Arthur Harris
Resident of Greenwich Village

Arthur Harris acknowledges:
Jackie Filber
Lois Rackoff
Pete Diaz
Ray Cline

A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

Joanna Saccone
Filming presentation to the Harris's

Letitia James
New York City Council Member
Introducing
Brooklyn Botanic Garden Centennial Proclamation

Committee Clerk
Reading Proclamation for
Brooklyn Botanic Garden

Scott D. Medbury
President
Brooklyn Botanic Garden

Elizabeth Scholtz
Volunteer
Brooklyn Botanic Garden

Brad S. Lander
New York City Council Member
Commenting on Brooklyn Botanic Garden

Sharon and Mark
Chief Financial Officer and Vice President of
Education
Brooklyn Botanic Garden

Reverend Dr. Sean P. Gardner, Sr.
Invocation
East Ward Missionary Baptist Church

Inez E. Dickens
Moves to spread the invocation on the record

Inez E. Dickens
Acknowledges
Reverend Renee Washington Gardener
Senior Pastor
Memorial Baptist Church

A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

Christine C. Quinn
Regarding Intro 21-A
Speaker
New York City Council

Christine C. Quinn thanks:
Lyle Frank, Counsel
Patrick Mulvihill, Policy Analyst
Jeff Haberman, Infrastructure Division
Laura Popa, Governmental Affairs Division
Melissa Mark-Viverito
Mike Nelson

Melissa Mark-Viverito
Regarding Intro 21-A
Chairperson
Committee on Parks and Recreation

Melissa Mark-Viverito thanks:
Staff
Mike Nelson

Michael C. Nelson
Sponsor of Intro 21-A
New York City Council Member

Michael Nelson thanks:
Christine Quinn
Melissa Mark-Viverito
Lyle Frank, Counsel
Patrick Mulvihill, Policy Analyst
Chima Obichere, Finance Division

Christine C. Quinn
Speaking on Intros 232, 233-A and 235-A
Speaker
New York City Council

A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

Christine C. Quinn thanks:

Philip Hom, Counsel

Ordo Lopez

Terza Nasser, Human Services Division

James Vacca

James Vacca

Speaking on Intros 232, 233-A and 235-A

Chairperson

Committee on Transportation

Christine C. Quinn thanks:

Domenic M. Recchia, Jr.

Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.

Land Use Subcommittee Chair

Letitia James

Welcomes Carrie Mobley

Julissa Ferreras

Speaking on Resolution 267

New York City Council Member

James G. Van Bramer

Speaking on Resolution 169-A

Thanks to:

Damien Butvick, Policy Analyst

Rob Newman, Legislative Director

Christine C. Quinn

Dan Henrick

New York City Council Member

Deborah L. Rose

Speaking on Resolution 169-A

New York City Council Member

Michael C. Nelson

Speaking on Resolutions 169-A

New York City Council Member

Diana Reyna

Speaking on Resolution 247-A

A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

Diana Reyna thanks:
Christine C. Quinn
Brendan
Thomas
Eric Yars
Council Staff
Washington Staff

Gale A. Brewer
Speaking on Resolution 266
Acknowledges her summer interns:
Jack McClosky, NYU
Maria Manarino, McCauley Honors at Hunter
Alexander Lee, NYU
Talia Skalnick, Barnard College
Amy Peskugo, NYU
Carolyn Lisankey, Columbia University

Jumaane Williams
Speaking on Resolution 285
New York City Council Member

Melissa Mark-Viverito
Speaking concerning Osvaldo Rios
Speaking concerning Borough President Molinaro
New York City Council Member

Letitia James
Speaking on victory of Melissa Mark-Viverito and other
Latina Council Members concerning Osvaldo Rios
Thanking everyone for support after her mother's death
New York City Council Member

Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.
Congratulates Melissa Mark-Viverito concerning
domestic violence efforts
Welcomes four new interns
Thanks four leaving interns
Reminders concerning meeting schedules for budget
briefings and delegation meetings
New York City Council Member

A P P E A R A N C E S [CONTINUED]

Peter M. Vallone, Jr.
Speaking on Resolution 284
Thanking fellow sponsors of Resolution 284:
Ydanis Rodriguez
Jimmy Vacca
Jimmy Van Bramer
Eric Ulrich
Christine C. Quinn
New York City Council Member

James Sanders, Jr.
Speaking on Resolution 284
Speaking on pledge against domestic violence
Introducing interns:
Jessica Silverman
Eric Nafrito
Xian Chin
Juliet Mignette
Antonde Imbu
Abigail Fox Williams
Lydia Dulkovich
New York City Council Member

Michael C. Nelson
Speaking on Resolution 284
Speaking on Intro 275
New York City Council Member

Daniel J. Halloran III
Introducing summer intern Jeff Goldberg
New York City Council Member

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3 2.mp3]

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5 [START Stated_Meeting_6-9-
6 2010_part_3.mp3]

7 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: --for
8 this role specifically so they were chosen from
9 amongst other students in the student body. So we
10 wanted to recognize their accomplishments to date
11 and wish them luck in two weeks from today in the
12 citywide finals. So thank you so much on behalf
13 of the City Council, myself, your Council Member
14 Jimmy Van Bramer, our Speaker Christine Quinn and
15 all of the New York City Council for all that you
16 have done already and all that you will do. Thank
17 you so much. And congratulations.

18 [Applause]

19 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: If the
20 Clerk would read the proclamation.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council, City of
22 New York Proclamation:

23 The Council of the City of New York
24 is proud to honor the ballroom dancers of PS 152,
25 Queens, for their stellar performances and

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outstanding achievements.

And whereas for the past two years the talented fifth grade students at PS 152 in Woodside, Queens, have participated in American Ballroom Theater's Dancing Classrooms Program, an arts and education program founded by Otto Koppell, Pierre Dulaine and Yvonne Marseau [phonetic], this highly acclaimed program uses the challenging vocabulary of ballroom dance to cultivate confidence, respect and teamwork through social dancing so all children can step out and shine,

And whereas the ballroom dancers of PS 152 have learned, mastered and participated in the Colors of the Rainbow Team Citywide matches in Marengue, Rumba, Foxtrot, Tango and Swing, working together the children have not only learned about rhythm, body posture, culture, dance styles and the history of ballroom dance, but also the importance of collaboration, consistent practice, following directions and more.

And whereas during the 2008-2009 school year, PS 152's ballroom dancers received a gold medal for their performance in the Fall

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2 Quarter Round Level, PS 152's 2009-2010 ballroom
3 dancers received a gold medal at the Fall Semester
4 Finals. On June 23rd, 2010 they will compete
5 against the winners of the Spring Semester Finals
6 in the Citywide Championship Finals to take place
7 across all five Boroughs.

8 And whereas the hours, energy and
9 enthusiasm that the young ballroom dancers at PS
10 152 have invested in their training have been
11 rewarded with more than award-winning
12 performances, whether they have been challenged by
13 two left feet, a difficult routine, or an amazing
14 partner, these dancers have become strong
15 performers that can inspire others of any age.

16 Now therefore be it known that the
17 Council of the City of New York honors the
18 ballroom dancers of PS 152, Queens, for their
19 outstanding achievements and we wish them
20 continued success in the Championship Finals.

21 Christine C. Quinn, Speaker for the
22 entire Council

23 Jimmy Van Bramer, Council Member,
24 26th District, Queens.

25 SPEAKER QUINN: Yeah.

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[Applause]

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SPEAKER QUINN: So I just want to ask the coach and the principal if they want to say a few words.

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MR. VINCENT VITOLO: Thank you very much for this opportunity. I want to thank Speaker Quinn and the Councilman Van Bramer for his wonderful support of our school and for what it's all about. When we work with children this is what it's all about. We teach holistically. The arts are of such importance to the children's self-esteem and their work that it's really a shining star for them, but also for our school community.

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So I thank everybody for recognizing our children and their parents for their support and my assistant principal who is not here today because she's recovering from back surgery, Enid Maldonado who is my right hand when it comes to the arts and supervising and organizing this. So I take a moment to thank her and her good wishes, not being able to be part of this. So thank you so much.

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[Applause]

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2 MS. CHRIS GASTI: Thank very much,
3 again, we are very, very proud of the children.
4 They worked very, very hard. They've been
5 practicing, huh, every single day for hours on
6 end, lots of hard work. They're tired all the
7 time but they just don't stop. I'm very, very
8 proud of them and they should be very proud of
9 themselves as well as their parents. Thank you.

10 [Applause]

11 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you all very
12 much and congratulations and best of luck. Take
13 care everybody.

14 [Cheering, applause]

15 SPEAKER QUINN: All right. Thank
16 you guys very much. You're welcome. All right.
17 Let's give them all a round of applause, as the PS
18 152 students leave.

19 [Applause]

20 SPEAKER QUINN: Let me next call us
21 our Assistant Majority Leader Inez Dickens for a
22 presentation to Dr. Patel. And let's just shhhh,
23 try to get a little quiet while we're exiting.
24 Here go talk to her.

25 [Off mic]

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: I'm so
3 pleased, Theresa would you join us please? This
4 is our New York State Committee person, Theresa
5 Freeman, District Leader in Harlem.

6 SPEAKER QUINN: I'm sorry I didn't
7 see you there Theresa. You were blocked by all
8 those dancers.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: The Harlem
10 community asked me to please make this
11 presentation to Dr. Patel because he, he is the--

12 SERGEANT AT ARMS: [Interposing]
13 Quiet please.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: --he is
15 the owner of a small pharmacy on 125th Street. But
16 when we have persons that come that cannot afford
17 to pay for their medications, seniors and
18 families, he will give them the medicine out of
19 his own pocket. So that's to be commended.

20 [Applause]

21 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: In
22 addition he will go into the senior citizens
23 centers because so many persons, seniors, will not
24 go to get tested for sugar and for hypertension.
25 And Dr. Patel goes into the senior citizens

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2 centers and voluntarily, with his staff, will do
3 sugar testing as well as hypertension.

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5 So Dr. Patel this was just the
6 Council's way of recognizing and saying thank you
7 for the work that you voluntarily do within a
8 community that oftentimes cannot afford medicine
9 and do not get the testing that is necessary. So
10 this is our way of saying thank you. Madam
11 Speaker, please?

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13 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
14 much. And if we could just get a little quiet in
15 the chambers. And Inez, I want to thank you and
16 the community in Harlem for asking you to do this
17 'cause Dr. Patel if Inez and the Harlem community
18 hadn't done this, many of us wouldn't know of your
19 great works. And I really want to thank you so
20 much. We all know sadly how expensive medication
21 can be now a days, particularly for seniors.

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23 And that you are just doing such a
24 tremendous act of charity on a regular basis to
25 make sure your customers can be as healthy as they
26 can possibly be. It is really very, very
27 inspirational. As we head into budget time. I
28 want you and Inez to know that this presentation

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2 is very well timed because it will remind us of
3 all of our collective missions to try to help our
4 neighbors in need. So thank you very much for
5 your service. And I'm going to ask the Clerk to
6 read the proclamation.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council, City of
8 New York Proclamation:

9 Whereas the Council of the City of
10 New York is proud to honor Rajendra C. Patel for
11 his outstanding service and contributions to the
12 Village of Harlem,

13 And whereas in an era when all
14 Americans are concerned about affordable, high
15 quality health care and the cost of a doctor's
16 visit weigh heavily on the mind of someone in dire
17 need of medical attention, it is a great privilege
18 to pay tribute to an individual who has been at
19 the forefront of these issues for many years,

20 And whereas Dr. Patel is the owner,
21 president and supervising pharmacist of Family
22 Pharmacy and Surgical, located at 379 West 125th
23 Street in Harlem, as well as several pharmacies
24 and other businesses. Since Dr. Patel began
25 working in Harlem in 1995 he has demonstrated

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profound care for the healthy of everyone in his community but especially seniors and young people.

And whereas of the years Dr. Patel has worked with the uninsured, the under insured and individuals on fixed incomes to help get them the appropriate medication and/or medical equipment such as a breathing machine for an asthmatic child, he has even been known to reduce the price and absorb the cost himself to help people regain and sustain their health,

And whereas Dr. Patel has gone to the Jackie Robinson Senior Center and other senior centers to offer free blood testing--

[Applause, cheering]

COMMITTEE CLERK: --blood pressure testing and immunization shots--

SPEAKER QUINN: [Interposing)
Jackie Robinson is in the house I think.

COMMITTEE CLERK: He has provided free seminars on blood pressure and diabetes and he has counseled residents young and old about developing healthy dietary habits. He has also helped young people through his support of the nonprofit organization Hugs for Harlem,

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And whereas Dr. Patel is a deeply spiritual person and a student of Raja Yoga Meditation who believes that self-transformation is the greatest gift you can give to the world. Through his daily work he has exemplified the collective energies needed to fortify the health of our community. Because of his great compassion, attention and expertise, countless residents and their families are now empowered with the essential information for healthy living,

Now therefore be it known that the Council of the City of New York gratefully honors Dr. Rajendra C. Patel for his outstanding service to the Village of Harlem and all of New York City.

Christine C. Quinn, Speaker for the entire Council

Inez E. Dickens, Council Member, 9th District, Manhattan.

SPEAKER QUINN: Yeah. And you brought a crowd with you even.

[Applause]

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you so very much and if you'd like to say a few words?

DR. RAJENDRA C. PATEL: I would

1
2 like to say thank you to the New York City Council
3 and the New York City Councilwoman Inez Dickens
4 and State Committeewoman Theresa Freeman. And we
5 have some seniors from Harlem, the Jackie Robinson
6 Center, please stand up.

7 [Cheering, applause]

8 DR. PATEL: Yeah, thank you. All
9 the seniors. Thank you for your support and again
10 I would thank everybody. Thank you. Let me give
11 the - - to Theresa.

12 MS. THERESA FREEMAN: You know, I'm
13 so sorry, I mean I'm up here crying because
14 everybody do not get honored who's supposed to get
15 honored. And the work that he do in Harlem, and
16 not only just Harlem, people come from all over.
17 And he's serviced them. And I know when a young
18 lady came to me and said I went to--I'm going to
19 call the name, Dwayne Reed [phonetic] and they
20 wouldn't let me have the breathing machine for my
21 6-month old son and the medication costs \$200.

22 I didn't know any other person to
23 call but Dr. Patel. And when I asked the doctor,
24 I said, Dr. Patel, we've got a crisis. I don't
25 have a dime. I said she's got about \$60. She

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2 needs a \$500 machine and the medicine costs \$200.
3 He said just send her over. He did not take the
4 money from her.

5 [Applause]

6 MS. FREEMAN: And I think a person
7 like this should be recognized. And I'm thinking
8 I'm going to solicit right here. I know I might
9 get locked up but you should go to 379 West 125th
10 Street in the Village of Harlem.

11 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. Thank
12 you very much. Thank you very much doctor. Take
13 care. And Inez I don't know if you want to go in
14 the back there [off mic]. And let me next, while
15 we're--as Dr. Patel is exiting, let me call up our
16 Minority Leader Jimmy Oddo.

17 MINORITY LEADER ODDO: If Council
18 Member Rose, now the other speaker just said it
19 best, not everyone who deserves to be honored gets
20 honored here. And I've been up here for a long
21 time and I haven't done many of these ceremonials
22 other than the obligatory, you know, league
23 championships, but a couple of months ago I was in
24 Lee's Tavern having a... Ssh.

25 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet please.

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2 Sit down.

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4 MINORITY LEADER ODDO: I was in a
5 local establishment in my District, some of the
6 best pizza in New York City, Lee's Tavern, and I
7 sat next to a Buddy Murnane. And this is a
8 phenomenal New York story. Born in Queens, when
9 to school in Brooklyn, at age 17 joined the
10 Marines, a Viet Nam vet. And for 37 years has
11 been part of the New York City Police Department.

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13 If you are the bad guy, the worst
14 of the worst, in the last 37 years, Buddy Murnane
15 has been part of the team looking for you and
16 bringing you to justice. And this is a great
17 City, not by accident; it's a great City because
18 there are great individuals. And we can debate
19 and we have, sometimes heatedly in this body,
20 policy and programs, but we've always been
21 supportive of the individuals.

22

23 Buddy Murnane is part of that thin
24 blue line that keeps law and order in this town.
25 And for 37 years he has put it on the line for all
of us. And in 37 years he's receive a lot of
awards and a lot of recognition from the
Department. In 37 years he's never had a sick

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2 day.

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[Applause, cheering]

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MINORITY LEADER ODDO: Everybody.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Come on up.

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[Pause]

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Didn't mean the day before you

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2 hadn't been, you know, working, getting the bad
3 guys, taking them to court, etcetera until way
4 past your shift was over. It meant you got up
5 every day 'cause you had a job to do protecting
6 people and you put that first every morning,
7 probably in a lot of cases above your own
8 wellbeing.

9 So I just really want to say thank
10 you. And it is that kind of dedication, that kind
11 of commitment that makes New York City's Police
12 Department the best police department in the
13 world. And it's that kind of dedication that
14 keeps the bad guys scared all the time. So thank
15 you very, very, very much.

16 [Applause]

17 SPEAKER QUINN: And if the Clerk
18 could read the proclamation.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council, City of
20 New York Proclamation:

21 The Council of the City of New York
22 is proud to honor Sergeant Supervisor, Detective
23 Squad, Francis Buddy Murnane for 37 years of
24 outstanding service as any NYPD officer without
25 taking a sick day,

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2 And whereas born in Queens,
3 Sergeant Murnane attended Westinghouse High School
4 while living in Canarsie, Brooklyn. On his 17th
5 birthday he enlisted in the United States Marine
6 Corps and served our nation for 3 years including
7 a tour in Viet Nam.

8 And whereas after Sergeant Murnane
9 returned to New York City, he attended Kingsboro
10 College for two years before being appointed by
11 the New York City Housing Authority Police
12 Department as a patrolman. In 1979 he was
13 reassigned to the Citywide Task Force in Robbery
14 Investigations Unit. During this time he also
15 enlisted in the United States Army Reserves.

16 And whereas during Sergeant
17 Murnane's career with the NYPD he has been
18 involved in thousands of investigations of violent
19 crimes, his work has also been recognized with
20 numerous honors including the Combat Cross, Medal
21 of Exceptional Merit, Commendation Medal, five
22 Meritorious Police medals and 14 Excellent Police
23 Duty medals.

24 And whereas over the course of the
25 last 37 years as a member of the New York City

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2 Police Department Sergeant Murnane has never take
3 a single sick day. He believes this is due to the
4 personal satisfaction he receives from doing his
5 job and the support he receives from his family,
6 friends and colleagues.

7 And whereas Sergeant Murnane has
8 truly distinguished himself with his dedicated
9 service, he is truly one of New York City's finest
10 and worthy of the esteem of all New Yorkers.

11 Now therefore be it known that the
12 Council of the City of New York most gratefully
13 honors Francis Buddy Murnane for serving with the
14 NYPD for 37 years without taking a sick day. And
15 we wish him continued good health in the years
16 ahead.

17 Christine C. Quinn, Speaker for the
18 entire Council

19 James S. Oddo, Minority Leader, 50th
20 District, Staten Island

21 Deborah Rose, Council Member, 49th
22 District, Staten Island

23 Vincent M. Ignizio, Council Member,
24 51st District, Staten Island

25 [Cheering, applause]

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SERGEANT MURNANE: No, no words.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Well let me,

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hopefully they'll get you to say something. I

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just want to say Buddy, that is, on top of the no

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sick days, that is one unbelievably impressive

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list of medals and commendations in your service

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as a police officer and as a member of our

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military. And those are medals and recognitions

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that people get because they're running into the

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bullets; they're running into harm's way, not

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because they're running away.

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So really, I hope you'll say a few

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words. I know you won't. And if you do you're

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going to say you were just doing your job. But

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thank you very, very much and I just want to

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recognize there's a lot of other representatives

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of the Police Department here and I want to thank

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you very much for joining us as well.

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Congratulations.

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[Applause]

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SPEAKER QUINN: And the family of

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course as well. Congratulations.

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[Pause]

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SPEAKER QUINN: So just as folks

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2 exit, we have two more ceremonials and if I could
3 ask Arthur Harris and the folks who are here for
4 that ceremonial to come on up.

5 [Pause]

6 SPEAKER QUINN: All right. Shh.
7 So myself and Council Member Chin have a
8 proclamation we wanted to present today to Dorothy
9 and Arthur Harris but Dorothy is in rehab so
10 couldn't join us today. But I'm really glad that
11 Arthur came because Margaret and I wanted to
12 congratulate Dorothy and Arthur on their 56th
13 wedding anniversary.

14 [Applause]

15 SPEAKER QUINN: Which is an
16 unbelievable accomplishment but more importantly
17 they are, anybody who ever wants to run for
18 anything, borough-wide or citywide in Manhattan,
19 you need to know the Harris's. They are an
20 institution in Greenwich Village politics and
21 people have committed their lives to making
22 Greenwich Village a better place and keeping it
23 the wonderful neighborhood that it is. So Arthur
24 we say happy anniversary and give Dorothy our best
25 and as soon as she's back we'll have you back for

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a second proclamation.

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MR. ARTHUR HARRIS: Thank you.

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SPEAKER QUINN: All right. Great.

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And if we could have the Clerk read the

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proclamation.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: The Council of

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the City of New York is proud to honor Dorothy and

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Arthur Harris on the glorious occasion of their

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56th wedding anniversary.

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And whereas wedding anniversaries

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provide a special opportunity to reaffirm the

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significance of marriage as a binding public

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commitment between two individuals which forms the

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foundation for healthy children, families and

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communities.

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And whereas throughout their 56

18

years of marriage, Arthur and Dorothy Harris have

19

experiences great success both as individuals and

20

as a couple and their enduring bond continues to

21

inspire unity across the broader spectrum of our

22

community.

23

And whereas Dorothy met Arthur

24

Harris during the McCarthy era at a dance in

25

Queens, Dorothy caught his eye with her multi-hued

1
2 striped dress. Arthur was decked out in an
3 Eisenhower style jacket that had a pocket that
4 carried the special knife he had used during his
5 days with the US Merchant Marines. In 1954 they
6 were married at City Hall during Arthur's lunch
7 hour unaware of how inspirational a union it would
8 be.

9 And whereas Dorothy worked for 32
10 years in the New York City public school system
11 acting as head librarian in the first multimedia
12 library for the last 16. After retiring from the
13 school system she was a consultant to the Bureau
14 of Libraries, playing a vital role in the movement
15 to modernize New York City's libraries.

16 And whereas at the same time
17 Dorothy worked with Arthur in the small but
18 thriving business he had built which dealt
19 primarily in designing and printing packaging and
20 record jackets, when dramatic changes in the
21 market required new endeavors they persevered.
22 Equipped with Dorothy's financial education and
23 Arthur's expertise in building construction, they
24 worked together for 15 years in conjunction with
25 the New York State Supreme Court.

1
2 And whereas the great milestone we
3 celebrate on this occasion represents not only the
4 length of their marriage but also the depth and
5 dimension of the love that Dorothy and Arthur have
6 shared for so many years. It is fitting that we
7 publicly honor their commitment to each other, to
8 their family and to community.

9 Now therefore be it known that the
10 Council of the City of New York is proud to
11 congratulate Dorothy and Arthur Harris on the
12 occasion of their 56th wedding anniversary.

13 SPEAKER QUINN: Yeah.

14 [Applause]

15 SPEAKER QUINN: And Arthur I could
16 ask you to say a few words.

17 MR. ARTHUR HARRIS: I want to thank
18 Christine Quinn and Margaret Chin and the entire
19 Council and whoever else was responsible for us
20 getting the plaque.

21 SPEAKER QUINN: [Laughing]

22 MR. HARRIS: This is Jackie Filber
23 [[phonetic] who is like a daughter to us. She's
24 been with us for a long time and she's more than
25 family. My other friends, Lois Rackoff [phonetic]

1
2 and Pete Diaz and Ray Cline are long-time friends
3 and allies in the group in the Village Reform
4 Democratic Club. Again my thanks to all.

5 SPEAKER QUINN: Yeah.

6 [Applause]

7 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you guys
8 very, very much. And I just want to give a little
9 shout out to Joanna Saccone [phonetic] in the
10 back, too, who's filming. All right, great.
11 Thank you. And we have one more ceremonial by
12 Tish James for the Brooklyn Botanical Garden which
13 looks pretty good at 100. So if the folks want to
14 come up from the Garden.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Brooklyn.

16 Brooklyn.

17 [Off mic]

18 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Members of
19 the Brooklyn delegation and all others who have
20 visited the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, please join
21 me as we celebrate the centennial of this great
22 organization. It is so fitting that we honor
23 Scott Medbury and the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. Oh
24 my favorite constituent in the whole world, how
25 are you, bless you, how are you doing? I love

1

2 you.

3 So--

4 SPEAKER QUINN: [Interposing) Oh

5 this is the star--

6 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES:

7 [Interposing) This is the star. This is the star.

8 So at a time when we are very much concerned in

9 the City Council about the--sure.

10 SPEAKER QUINN: Shh. Can we get
11 quiet? And I just want to--in addition to Tish
12 recognizing the Garden, we're going to hear about
13 an outstanding volunteer also. So I'm so glad.
14 We met at the I think it was the Cherry Blossom
15 Festival a couple of years ago. So thank you,
16 make your way here. So we really do need quiet
17 'cause these are two important New York
18 institutions.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: And this is
20 the very beautiful Elizabeth Scholtz who is
21 absolutely gorgeous. Let's give her a round of
22 applause. She's the number one volunteer for the
23 Brooklyn Botanic Gardens.

24 At a time when all of us in the
25 City Council are concerned about the future of

1

2 cultural organizations in the City of New York and
3 because we want them to go on and continue to
4 operate and contribute to the economy of the City
5 of New York, obviously we are just really
6 concerned.

7

8 And so we are here today to
9 celebrate your centennial. And we note that the
10 New York State legislature reserved 39 acres for a
11 botanic garden in 1910 creating the Brooklyn
12 Botanic Gardens, not the Brooklyn Botanical,
13 Brooklyn Botanic Gardens.

14

[Laughter, off mic]

15

16 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: you're
17 welcome Elizabeth. You taught me well. You
18 taught me well Elizabeth. And then early on the
19 Brooklyn Botanic--okay, Brooklyn Botanic Garden
20 attracted the attention of some of the most
21 creative minds of the time. For instance the
22 Japanese Hill and Pond Garden was the first
23 Japanese garden to be created in an American
24 public garden.

25

26 And in addition to that it has the
27 Fulger [phonetic] Shakespeare Library, the founder
28 of the Fulger Shakespeare Library in Washington,

1

2

D.C. donated bonsai trees in what would become the Shakespeare Garden. In 1955 in the first garden in the country designed for the vision impaired was designed by the landscape architect Alice Irese [phonetic].

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14

Today the Brooklyn Botanic Gardens continues in the tradition of excellence through their continuation of research programming. In addition it's committed to educational outreach, creating BASE, Brooklyn Academy for Sciences and the Environment. A significant number of the constituents in the great Borough of Brooklyn attend that great school.

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In addition to that BASE is operated by a partnership between the Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, Prospect Park Alliance, and the New York City Department of Education. The Center for Urban Restoration Ecology collaboration between the Garden and Rutgers University seeks to understand patterns of urban biodiversity and to use this information to create protocols for successful restoration of degraded urban environments.

25

How many of you have been to the

1

2 Cherry Blossom Festival? Raise your hand. Make
3 some noise.

4 [Cheering, applause]

5 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: How many of
6 you love bees? Raise your hand.

7 [Chuckling]

8 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Well they're
9 celebrating their Bee Garden this Saturday. And
10 today we celebrate the centennial of the greatest
11 garden in the greatest Borough, Brooklyn Botanic
12 Gardens and so we, on behalf of the City Council,
13 we honor you today Mr. Medbury--

14 MR. SCOTT MEDBURY: [Interposing)
15 Thank you.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: --so let's
17 get...

18 [Applause]

19 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. And
20 Brad I don't know if you want to add a few words?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you,
22 well, you know, we just couldn't be happier, you
23 know, the number of Brooklyn families that are
24 there has just grown and grown and grown over the
25 years. To have the two leaders that have led it

1

2 for so much of the last couple of decades is
3 really wonderful. Thank you for all your
4 incredible stewardship. And as we look to the
5 future, thank you very much.

6

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you all very
7 much. And I just, you guys do amazing work and
8 it's so very important on so many different
9 levels. So thank you for the great legacy you
10 began and for continuing that legacy. So thank
11 you all so much. And if we could ask the Clerk to
12 read the proclamation.

13

14

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council, City of
New York Proclamation:

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18

Whereas the Council of the City of
New York is proud to honor the Brooklyn Botanic
Garden on the occasion of its centennial
anniversary.

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20

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And whereas, 13 years after the New
York State legislature reserved 39 acres for a
botanic garden, Brooklyn Botanic Garden was
established in 1910. The seeds of the garden were
planted on the grounds of an ash dump but within
all the patience, care and attention of a normal
garden, it soon began to flourish with the help of

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many generous contributors.

And whereas today Brooklyn Botanic Garden is an extraordinary 52-acre urban oasis with more than 10,000 different kinds of plants from around the world, nestled in the heart of Brooklyn, this vibrant living museum welcomes more than 900,000 visitors annually and inspires them to learn--

SPEAKER QUINN: [Interposing) Shh.

COMMITTEE CLERK: --how plants--

SERGEANT AT ARMS: [Interposing)

Quiet please.

COMMITTEE CLERK: --are essential to life and the extremely important role they perform in this critical time of our ecological history.

And whereas for 100 years Brooklyn Botanic Garden has remained at the forefront of scientific plant research and innovative programs for sharing such research with others. The New York Metropolitan Flora Project was launched in 1990 to catalog and describe all vascular plants growing in our region. Its garden apprentice program provides internships for students in

1
2 gardening, science education and environmental
3 issues. And Project Green Reach is a science-
4 focused school outreach program targeting schools
5 in under served areas.

6 And whereas Brooklyn Botanic Garden
7 has also demonstrated its commitment to the
8 communities of Crown Heights, Prospect Heights and
9 Park Slope by hosting the annual Greenest Block in
10 Brooklyn contest...

11 [Cheering, off mic]: I love that
12 contest.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: To encourage
14 neighborhood beautification by recognizing
15 outstanding efforts in outdoor planting.

16 Now therefore be it known that we
17 the Council of the City of New York honor and
18 congratulate Brooklyn Botanic Garden on the
19 occasion of its 100th anniversary for a century of
20 extraordinary contributions to Brooklyn and all of
21 New York City.

22 Christine C. Quinn, Speaker for the
23 entire Council

24 Letitia James, Council Member, 35th
25 District, Brooklyn

1
2 Brad Lander, Council Member, 39th
3 District, Brooklyn.

4 [Applause]

5 SPEAKER QUINN: Yeah. All right.
6 Let me turn the mic over to the Brooklyn Botanic
7 Garden. A girl learns something every day. I
8 didn't know that.

9 MR. SCOTT MEDBURY: Thank you
10 Speaker. Well in celebrating a century of service
11 in New York City, we're just so mindful of the
12 fine work of all who have gone before us. So I'm
13 especially delighted to have Elizabeth Scholtz
14 with us. She was director of the garden in the
15 1970s through another challenging time.

16 And so extraordinary service. Our
17 current team are just so mindful of that. I've
18 got our Chief Financial Officer and our Vice
19 President of Education here with us and
20 representing the team, Sharon and Mark. But as we
21 celebrate, everybody in this room are invited to
22 join us on Saturday for our birthday, our Bee Day
23 where we'll be talking about bees but also have
24 some fabulous music. So check us out on the web
25 if you'd like to be there.

1
2 The Garden wouldn't be what it is
3 if it wasn't for generations of support from the
4 New York City Council. And so we are especially
5 appreciate of that legacy and of the current team
6 today. So thank you very much Speaker. Thank you
7 Tish. Thank you Brad for this. We're really very
8 delighted. And please join us on Saturday.

9 [Cheering, applause]

10 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you all. And
11 we're going to buzz you on out and buzz into the
12 Stated Meeting. Bye-bye. And that concludes our
13 ceremonials.

14 [Pause]

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ladies and
16 gentlemen, can I have your attention please. Can
17 I please have your attention? Ladies and
18 gentlemen can I have your attention please.

19 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet please.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Quiet please.

21 [Gavel banging]

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: At this time can
23 you please place all electronic devices to
24 vibrate. Will all non-Council employees and
25 lobbyists please leave the main floor of the

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chambers? Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Everyone,
please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Roll call.

[Pause]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Arroyo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Who me?

COMMITTEE CLERK: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Cabrera.

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Chin.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here

COMMITTEE CLERK: Comrie.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Here.

1

COMMITTEE CLERK: Crowley.

2

3

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.

4

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dickens.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Here.

6

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dilan.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Here.

8

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dromm.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

10

COMMITTEE CLERK: Eugene.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.

12

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ferreras.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Here.

14

COMMITTEE CLERK: Fidler.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Here.

16

COMMITTEE CLERK: Foster.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Here.

18

COMMITTEE CLERK: Garodnick.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.

20

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gennaro.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: [No

22

audible response]

23

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gentile.

24

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.

25

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gonzalez.

1

COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Here.

2

3

COMMITTEE CLERK: Greenfield.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Here.

5

COMMITTEE CLERK: Halloran.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Present.

7

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ignizio.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: [No

9

audible response]

10

COMMITTEE CLERK: Jackson.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Here.

12

COMMITTEE CLERK: James.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Here.

14

COMMITTEE CLERK: Koo.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Here.

16

COMMITTEE CLERK: Koppell.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Here.

18

COMMITTEE CLERK: Koslowitz.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

20

COMMITTEE CLERK: Lander.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

22

COMMITTEE CLERK: Lappin.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Here.

24

COMMITTEE CLERK: Levin.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: [No audible

1

2 response]]

3

COMMITTEE CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:

5

Here.

6

COMMITTEE CLERK: Mealy.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: [No audible

8

response]

9

COMMITTEE CLERK: Mendez.

10

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.

11

COMMITTEE CLERK: Nelson.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Here.

13

COMMITTEE CLERK: Palma.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Here.

15

COMMITTEE CLERK: Recchia.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Here.

17

COMMITTEE CLERK: Reyna.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Here.

19

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rodriguez.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.

21

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rose.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.

23

COMMITTEE CLERK: Sanders.

24

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Present.

25

COMMITTEE CLERK: Seabrook.

1

COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Here.

2

3

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ulrich.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Here.

5

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vacca.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.

7

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vallone.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: [No

9

audible response]

10

COMMITTEE CLERK: Van Bramer.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

12

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vann.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Here.

14

COMMITTEE CLERK: Weprin.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Here.

16

COMMITTEE CLERK: White.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER WHITE: [No audible

18

response]

19

COMMITTEE CLERK: Williams.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.

21

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ignizio.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Here.

23

COMMITTEE CLERK: Oddo.

24

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Here.

25

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rivera.

1

2 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Here.

2

3

COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

4

SPEAKER QUINN: Here.

5

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Ladies and

6

gentlemen; please rise for the invocation to be

7

delivered today by Reverend Doctor Sean Gardner,

8

Sr. from the East Ward Missionary Baptist Church.

9

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet please.

10

REVEREND DOCTOR SEAN P. GARDNER,

11

SR.: Shall we pray? Gracious and oh wise God our

12

Father, indeed it is once again that a few of your

13

humble servants come to share in this experience.

14

We pray now in the, in this opportunity or in this

15

place and at this time that you will guide our

16

hearts, our thoughts, and our mind to do the work

17

that you have assigned to our hands.

18

We pray today that you will bless

19

our Speaker, be with her and all of the Council

20

men and women; be with each one of them as they

21

deal with the business of the City of New York.

22

Indeed give them what they need in order to make

23

it day by day, pray for their staff and those who

24

stand side by side with them. Praying for our

25

Mayor and those who indeed fight for this

1

2 democracy. Lead us and guide us is our prayer.

3 For we ask in the name of He who orders our steps,

4 our Lord and our God. Amen.

5 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Council

6 Member Dickens?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Thank you

8 and I want to thank Dr. Gardner for coming to give

9 us invocation. He is married to the Reverend

10 Renee Washington Gardner, Senior Pastor of

11 Memorial Baptist Church. He also serves as a

12 Detective in the Bronx and needs our prayers as

13 well as he's giving prayers to us. And he serves

14 as a Major with the Harlem Youth Marines to help

15 guide our young people. So thank you Dr. Gardner.

16 Motion to spread the invocation in full upon the

17 record.

18 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So

19 ordered. Adoption of the minutes, Council Member

20 Lappin?

21 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Can we get

22 some silence in the chambers please?

23 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet please.

24 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: I move that

1
2 we adopt the minutes of the Stated Meeting of
3 April 14th, 2010 as printed.

4 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So
5 ordered. Messages and papers from the Mayor.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: None

7 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA:
8 Communication from City, County and Borough
9 Offices.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered M
11 102.

12 SPEAKER QUINN: Finance

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: M 103.

14 SPEAKER QUINN: Received, ordered,
15 printed and filed.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: M 104 through M
17 157 on page 8, base station licenses.

18 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Sit down please.
19 Sit down.

20 [Gavel banging]

21 SPEAKER QUINN: Transportation.

22 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Petitions
23 and communications.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

25 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Land use

1

2 call ups?

3

COMMITTEE CLERK: MM 158 through M

4

162.

5

SPEAKER QUINN: I'd like couple all

6

of those on a Land Use call up vote, please. And

7

Mr. Majority Leader if we could have roll call on

8

the Land Use call up please.

9

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So

10

ordered.

11

COMMITTEE CLERK: Arroyo.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

13

COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: [No audible

15

response]

16

COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

18

COMMITTEE CLERK: Cabrera.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

20

COMMITTEE CLERK: Chin.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

22

COMMITTEE CLERK: Comrie.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye.

24

COMMITTEE CLERK: Crowley.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

1

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dickens.

2

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

3

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dilan.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Aye.

5

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dromm.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

7

COMMITTEE CLERK: Eugene.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

9

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ferreras.

10

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.

11

COMMITTEE CLERK: Fidler.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Aye.

13

COMMITTEE CLERK: Foster.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye.

15

COMMITTEE CLERK: Garodnick.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

17

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gennaro.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: [No

19

audible response]

20

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gentile.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

22

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gonzalez.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: [No

24

audible response]

25

1
2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Greenfield.
3 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.
4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Halloran.
5 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Aye.
6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ignizio.
7 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Aye.
8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Jackson.
9 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye.
10 COMMITTEE CLERK: James.
11 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Aye.
12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Koo.
13 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.
14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Koppell.
15 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Aye.
16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Koslowitz.
17 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: [No
18 audible response]
19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lander.
20 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.
21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lappin.
22 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.
23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Levin.
24 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.
25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

1

2

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye

3

on all.

4

COMMITTEE CLERK: Mealy.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye on all

6

Land Use call ups. General orders.

7

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So

8

ordered.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: With

10

permission. Thank you.

11

COMMITTEE CLERK: Mendez.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.

13

COMMITTEE CLERK: Nelson.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Aye.

15

COMMITTEE CLERK: Palma.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

17

COMMITTEE CLERK: Recchia.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Aye.

19

COMMITTEE CLERK: Reyna.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye.

21

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rodriguez.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

23

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rose.

24

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

25

COMMITTEE CLERK: Sanders.

1

2

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Aye. On

3

all.

4

COMMITTEE CLERK: Seabrook.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Aye.

6

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ulrich.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.

8

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vacca.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

10

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vallone.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

12

COMMITTEE CLERK: Van Bramer.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

14

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vann.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: [No audible

16

response]

17

COMMITTEE CLERK: Weprin.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

19

COMMITTEE CLERK: White.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER WHITE: [No audible

21

response]

22

COMMITTEE CLERK: Williams.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

24

COMMITTEE CLERK: Oddo.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

1

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rivera.

2

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

3

COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

4

SPEAKER QUINN: Aye.

5

[Pause]

6

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Today's

7

Land Use call ups were adopted by a vote of 49 in
the affirmative, with 0 in the negative.

8

9

Communication from the Speaker.

10

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. First I

11

just want to note and ask all Council Members to
please make note that today's Stated Meeting will
stand in recess. We will not adjourn. People
need to be available to come back to the Council
within just a few hour's notice between now and
June 28th, the final day of budget adoption. We
may on very short notice have to send home rules
to Albany.

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So people need to make sure the

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Speaker's Office has all of your most up to date

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phone numbers, your Chief of Staff's up to date

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phone numbers. And you need to be able to make

23

yourself available in just a few hours if we need

24

to regroup. All right.

25

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2 Let me then make note of the items
3 that we're voting on today. First we're voting on
4 Intro 21-A which is a piece of legislation in
5 relation to the location of concessions within
6 parks. I want to thank Lyle Frank, Patrick
7 Mulvihill--

8 SERGEANT AT ARMS: [Interposing)
9 Quiet please.

10 SPEAKER QUINN: Jeff Haberman and
11 Laura Popa. I want to thank Council Member
12 Melissa Mark-Viverito whose committee this went
13 through and Mike Nelson who is the sponsor of this
14 piece of legislation. This is a bill which will
15 make sure that concessions in our parks no longer
16 are able to expand of their own accord and kind of
17 grow larger and take over vital and limited open
18 space in our City.

19 It'll do that by making sure that
20 concessions have visible markings around them.
21 What is the boundaries that they have been granted
22 and also make sure that those boundaries and
23 perimeters are noted on the Parks Department
24 website.

25 So if you think a concession is

1
2 taking over too much space you'll now very easily
3 be able to know if it is, make a complaint and
4 violation can be levied against that concession.
5 And again I want to thank everyone who's worked on
6 this bill. First I call on Chairperson Melissa
7 Mark-Viverito and then the sponsor Mike Nelson.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:

9 Thank you Madam Speaker and I want to thank all
10 the staff that helped on this legislation and
11 particularly obviously Council Member Nelson for
12 taking the lead. And as has been indicated, this
13 is a great piece of legislation that is really
14 going to help form a partnership between the
15 concerns in the community that has raised concerns
16 about the encroachment of concessions within
17 parks, making sure that they don't overstep or
18 overreach their boundaries. It's very selective
19 in that it's for those concessions that are larger
20 than 200 square feet but not more than 2 acres.

21 There has to be delineations as to
22 where they are to be within parks. And it's also
23 a way of also the community being vigilant and
24 being able to help the Department of Parks in
25 terms of enforcing those concessions that are

1

2 encroaching beyond their borders.

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So I want to thank just again Council Member Nelson who I know will speak on the legislation. Again, this is a great partnership that is being developed between the community at large and the Department of Parks to make sure that we have full accountability and access to our parks. Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: I want to thank Madam Speaker and Melissa Mark-Viverito, Lyle Frank, Patrick Mulvihill and Chima Obichere as well and Sherry, rather. And one of my Community Boards was complaining about this for a while, that we were getting a lot of calls about people just usurping land that was not really theirs to sell anything in.

So this will have defined lines. This will have the boundaries. There won't be any more confusion in the future. So I thank you all and I'll pass the baton back to the Speaker.

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very much. I also want to make note of three important pieces of legislation that we're voting on, coming out of our Transportation Committee. I want to

1
2 thank Phil Hom, Ordo Lopez [phonetic] and Terza
3 Nasser for their work on this legislation. I want
4 to thank Chairperson Vacca who is both the Chair
5 of the Transportation Committee and the sponsor of
6 Intro 232, 233-A and 235-A. These are all pieces
7 of legislation written in response to the
8 Council's oversight of the scandal related to taxi
9 drivers ripping off cab passengers in the City of
10 New York. And these three pieces of legislation
11 are going to amend the Taxicab Rider's Bill of
12 Rights. They're going to make sure we have
13 clearer, more detailed reporting information and
14 that more data is kept by the TLC on cab drivers.
15 And I think these three pieces of bills are not
16 the final legislation you'll see on this topic but
17 they're a very good step in the direction of
18 making sure nothing like this happens again.
19 Chairperson Vacca?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Thank you.

21 Thank you Speaker Quinn and I hope the body today
22 will vote in favor of all three pieces of
23 legislation that have come out of my Committee.
24 This is basically holding the Taxi and Limousine
25 Commission to account on a transparency and an

1
2 accountability level for the complaints that come
3 into that agency. How those complaints are
4 aggregated. Also how those complaints are
5 disposed of.

6 We want vendors to collect
7 information on fares and to retain that
8 information so that it can be produced if there is
9 a question about overcharges or any other
10 irregularity. We want cabbies to use the E-Z Pass
11 lane as required and we're now going to do so by
12 law so that those passengers are not overcharged
13 by way of a toll or further time in the car.

14 All of this is an attempt by this
15 body to give meaningful oversight to the Taxi and
16 Limousine Commission. Oversight that I think in
17 the past could have been stronger but also I just
18 state the onus must be on the Taxi and Limousine
19 Commission to reform. I have confidence that
20 under the new Chairperson David Yassky, there will
21 be reform. But we in this body have a continued
22 obligation as the Speaker indicated. My Committee
23 will be considering further legislation to assist
24 in this agency collecting fines and to make sure
25 that fines are increased where appropriate and

1

2 that fines are not fixed at levels that are too
3 low to be meaningful.

4

5 So therefore I urge the members to
6 begin this process today and to vote yes on the
7 bills before you from the Transportation
8 Committee. Thank you.

9

10 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very much
11 Chairperson Vacca. I also wanted to thank Finance
12 Chair Domenic Recchia for the items we have coming
13 out of the Finance Committee today. Chairperson
14 Comrie and the other Land Use Subcommittee Chairs
15 for the items we have coming out of those
16 committees. Chairperson Rivera for the
17 appointment to the Youth Board that is coming out
18 of his Committee. And that concludes
19 communications from the Speaker.

20

21 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
22 Madam Speaker. Now we'll move on to discussion
23 of general orders. Seeing none, we'll move on
24 from here. We'll go on to the reports of special
25 committees.

26

27 COMMITTEE CLERK: None.

28

29

30 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Reports of
31 standing committees.

1
2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the
3 Committee on Finance, Preconsidered M 102 and
4 companion Resos 274 through 278.

5 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
6 orders.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered LU
8 114 and Reso 286, Bronx Plaza.

9 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
10 orders.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the
12 Committee on Land Use, LU 83 and Reso 287, and LU
13 95 and Reso 288, UDAAPs.

14 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
15 orders.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 99 and Reso
17 289, and LU 100 and Reso 290, sidewalk cafes.

18 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
19 orders.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 104 and Reso
21 291.

22 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
23 orders.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 107 and Reso
25 292; and LU 108 and Reso 293, various ULURPs.

1

2

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

3

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COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 109 and Reso 294, zoning amendment.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: LU 110 and Reso 295 through LU 113 and Reso 298, landmark designations.

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11

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

12

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered LU 115 and Reso 299, UDAAP, Brooklyn.

14

15

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

16

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee on Parks and Recreation, Intro 21-A, park concessions.

19

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SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on general orders.

21

22

COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections, Preconsidered M 163 and Reso 300, approving the recommendation of Victoria Sammartino, New York

25

1

2 City Youth Board.

3 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
4 orders.5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the
6 Committee on State and Federal Legislation,
7 Preconsidered SLR 3, bus lane cameras.8 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
9 orders.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered SLR

11 --

12 [Gavel banging]

13 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet please.

14 SPEAKER QUINN: [Interposing) Thank
15 you.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: --4, CAP bill.

17 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
18 orders.19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered SLR
20 5.21 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
22 orders.23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered SLR
24 6, commercial vehicles on residential streets.

25 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general

1

2 orders.

3

4

COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered SLR
7, Brooklyn Bridge Park.

5

6

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered SLR
8.

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10

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

11

12

COMMITTEE CLERK: Preconsidered SLR
9, police, fire pensions.

13

14

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

15

16

COMMITTEE CLERK: Report of the
Committee on Transportation, Intro 232, Taxicab
Passenger's Bill of Rights.

17

18

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

19

20

COMMITTEE CLERK: Intro 233-A,
Overcharge Complaints.

21

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SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
on general orders.

23

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Intro 235-A.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled

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on general orders. Shh.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet down
please.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: General
order calendar.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Resolution
appointing various persons, Commissioner of Deeds.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders. And at this point I like ask for a roll
call on all of the items that are being coupled on
the general order calendar. And I want to remind
my colleagues that we have a number of important
resolutions that we will be voting on after the
general order calendar as well. Thank you.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Arroyo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote no
on Preconsidered SLR 3, no on Preconsidered SLR 4,
no on Preconsidered SLR 1861 and aye on all the
rest.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I would
like to speak particularly about SLR 3 which is

1
2 the bus lane that would--cameras that would
3 enforce the restrictions on the bus lane and thank
4 particularly Chair Foster and to state that for
5 many years the buses in my neighborhood were the
6 pokey awardees. And we have a lot of hearings
7 with the neighborhood and many times suggested
8 that the bus lanes be cleared. And using cameras,
9 I'm delighted to be a sponsor of that home rule.
10 I vote yes on all except Intro 232 and I abstain,
11 that's the drivers of taxis and E-Z Pass. And the
12 reason I abstain is it is impossible to get an E-Z
13 Pass if you are an individual without a car. If
14 you rent a car you have to pay extra just to have
15 the E-Z Pass. So do think that the whole E-Z Pass
16 system, for those of us without cars, needs to be
17 looked at very carefully and changed. And so I am
18 making a protest on that particular Intro 232.
19 Thank you. Everything else aye.

20 [Pause]

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cabrera.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Chin.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Comrie.

1

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye.

2

3

COMMITTEE CLERK: Crowley.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

5

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dickens.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

7

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dilan.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Aye on all

9

except for Preconsidered SLR 3 which I vote no.

10

COMMITTEE CLERK: Dromm.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

12

COMMITTEE CLERK: Eugene.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

14

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ferreras.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.

16

COMMITTEE CLERK: Fidler.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: May I be

18

briefly excused to explain my vote?

19

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Thank you.

21

Regarding SLR 3--

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SPEAKER QUINN: [Interposing) I

23

just want to shh.

24

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet down

25

please.

1
2 SPEAKER QUINN: If you could just
3 get a little quieter please. Thanks. Sorry
4 Council Member.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Thank you.
6 Regarding SLR 3, I am very supportive of it. I
7 would love to see what would actually happen if
8 New York drivers actually honored bus lanes. I
9 tend to think right now they know there's
10 absolutely no consequence to blocking a bus lane.
11 However I do want to say that I think our
12 colleagues from the MTA came here or from New York
13 Transit came here a little unprepared today. And
14 to suggest that there aren't going to be tens of
15 thousands of tickets written as a result of SLR 3
16 is naïve. It'll take many, many years if at all
17 for behavior to follow the enforcement. And
18 obviously ticketing will help that but no signs
19 are going to change that. There's going to be a
20 revenue stream from this. I think we ought to
21 recognize it and understand what we're doing here
22 today. I think we should do it anyway. But to
23 suggest that this is not going to generate large
24 numbers of tickets is foolish. I know that the
25 red light camera bill comes with an estimated

1
2 revenue stream. This one should too. And we
3 should acknowledge it and budget for it.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Foster.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye on all.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Garodnick.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gennaro.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: I vote yes
10 and I ask to vote yes on all the Land Use items.
11 So I vote yes on everything.

12 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So
13 ordered.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gentile.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye on
16 all.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gonzalez.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye on
19 all.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Greenfield.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye on
22 all.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Halloran.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN:
25 Permission to explain my vote.

1

2

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Yes.

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COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: I vote no to SLRs 3 and 4 and to Reso 296, Land Use item 111. I read a book in high school called George Orwell's 1984. And every year I am more and more surprised at how prolific that gentleman was in describing how invasive government could become if we allowed it. I don't believe law enforcement should be left to a camera. And someone who served in law enforcement community and comes from four generations of people who served in the law enforcement community, I don't believe relegating cameras to do the job of our police officers is an appropriate use of the power of government. And so I don't believe in bus cameras or cameras anywhere else for that matter. While I understand the public safety venue that they may provide, in the end, every time we put up another camera, another bit of our liberty dies. And so I vote no.

22

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ignizio.

23

24

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COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: No on Land Use 111 and Reso 296; and no on SLR 4. Aye on all others.

1

COMMITTEE CLERK: Jackson.

2

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COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye on

4

all.

5

COMMITTEE CLERK: James.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: I vote aye

7

on all. Welcome back Carrie Mobley.

8

COMMITTEE CLERK: Koo.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I voting no on

10

LU 111 and Resolution 296, and SLR 4 and the rest

11

I vote yes.

12

COMMITTEE CLERK: Koppell.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Mr.

14

Majority Leader I'd like to vote no on

15

Preconsidered SLR 9. I vote aye on all the other

16

coupled orders.

17

COMMITTEE CLERK: Koslowitz.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye on

19

all.

20

COMMITTEE CLERK: Lander.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye on all.

22

I ask permission to explain my vote.

23

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So ordered.

24

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: I just want

25

to say that I'm very enthusiastic to vote for SLR

1
2 3. I think it's--we're long overdue to bring bus
3 service into the 21st century. There are millions
4 of New Yorkers who rely on it and in times of
5 scarce capital it's essential we do what we can to
6 make that service work for New Yorkers.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lappin.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Levin.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye on all.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

12 [Pause]

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

14 [Pause]

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: [No
16 audible response]

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mealy.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: [No audible
19 response]

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mendez.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: [No audible
22 response]

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Nelson.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: [No audible
25 response]

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Palma.

2

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COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: [No audible

4

response]

5

COMMITTEE CLERK: Recchia.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Aye.

7

COMMITTEE CLERK: Reyna.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye on all.

9

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rodriguez.

10

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

11

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rose.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye on all

13

except for SLR 4. And I'd like permission to

14

explain my vote on Resolution 169-A.

15

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So

16

ordered.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Thank you.

18

Resolution 169-A was presented before my Civil

19

Rights Committee. And I'm--

20

SPEAKER QUINN: [Interposing) Mr.

21

Majority Leader if the Councilwoman is speaking

22

about the Resolution, so don't--that one is for

23

later in the--

24

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: [Interposing)

25

Okay. Sorry.

1
2 SPEAKER QUINN: --so I think you
3 might have thought she was speaking of a Finance
4 resolution. Thank you.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Sorry.

6 SPEAKER QUINN: No problem. And
7 thank you Minority Leader for letting me use your
8 microphone. I feel instantly more conservative.
9 Let's cut something Jimmy.

10 [Laughter, crosstalk]

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Sanders.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: No to SLR
13 3, yes to the rest.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Seabrook.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Aye on
16 all.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ulrich.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: No on SLR 4
19 and aye on all others.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Vacca.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Vallone.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: No on SLR
24 4, aye on all others.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Van Bramer.

1

2

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye on

3

all.

4

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vann.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye.

6

COMMITTEE CLERK: Weprin.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

8

COMMITTEE CLERK: Williams.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS:

10

Permission to explain my vote?

11

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: So

12

ordered.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote

14

aye on all. I did have some particular concern

15

about SLR 9 that deals with pensions. I'm pretty

16

concerned because I was torn between being fair

17

and that the system having some problems to begin

18

with. I decided to vote aye simply because I also

19

benefit from it. But I do think we should look

20

into the way the pension system and who can get it

21

depending in what particular crimes they

22

committed. Aye on all. Thank you.

23

COMMITTEE CLERK: Oddo.

24

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: I vote yes on

25

all with the exception of Preconsidered SLR 4

1

2 which I vote no.

3

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rivera.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye

5

on all.

6

COMMITTEE CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

7

SPEAKER QUINN: [Chuckling] I'm

8

sorry. I vote aye on all. Jimmy just made me

9

laugh so...

10

[Pause]

11

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: All items

12

on today's general order calendar were adopted by

13

a vote of 50 in the affirmative, with 0 in the

14

negative with 0 abstentions with the exception of

15

Intro 232 which was adopted by a vote of 49 in the

16

affirmative, with 1 in the negative and 0

17

abstentions and Preconsidered SLR 3 which was

18

adopted by a vote of 46 in the affirmative, 4 in

19

the negative and 0 abstentions. Going on to the

20

next page. And Preconsidered SLR 4 which was

21

adopted by a vote of 42 in the affirmative, 8 in

22

the negative and 0 abstentions. And SLR 6 which

23

was adopted by a vote of 49 in the affirmative, 1

24

in the negative and 0 abstentions. And

25

Preconsidered SLR 9 which was adopted by a vote of

1
2 49 in the affirmative, 1 in the negative with 0
3 abstentions. And Land Use Item 11 and
4 accompanying Reso 296 which was adopted by a vote
5 of 47 in the affirmative, with 3 in the negative
6 and 0 abstentions. And the revised Land Use call
7 ups was adopted by a vote of--okay 50 in the
8 affirmative and 0 in the negative. And
9 correction, Intro 232 was adopted by a vote of 49
10 in the affirmative with 0 in the negative and 1
11 abstention. Introduction and reading of the
12 bills.

13 SPEAKER QUINN: All bills are
14 referred to committees as indicated on the agenda.

15 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Discussion
16 of Resolutions. We're going to separate them. We
17 have Resolution 267; Council Member Ferreras will
18 speak on that one first.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: I'd like
20 to thank Madam Speaker and Council Member Vallone
21 for their support and leadership on this
22 Resolution. I would like to urge all of my
23 colleagues to vote in support of this crucial
24 Resolution. Domestic violence as a criminal
25 category stands apart for many reasons. Its

1
2 prevention is not aided by surveillance or
3 additional police presence in the community.
4 Prosecution of no other type of crime is so
5 baffled by the reluctance of victims to testify.
6 And no other type of crime are children so often
7 witnesses and victims themselves.

8 For these and other reasons
9 domestic violence continues to plague our City
10 even while violent crimes as a whole has decreased
11 generally. One particularly heinous form of
12 domestic violence is choking or strangulation.
13 Choking is statistically a predictor of further
14 battery. In fact 2/3's of DV victims report
15 having been choked by their partner. 10% of
16 violent deaths in the US are due to
17 strangulations. Female victims outnumber males by
18 a number of 6. These statistics demonstrate both
19 that strangulation is a major component of
20 domestic violence and a major crime in itself.

21 I urge you to vote yes on the
22 Resolution before you now which urges Albany to
23 pass these bills immediately. Thank you.

24 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
25 very much. And we'll move onto Resolution 169-A,

1
2 first person to speak on that will be Council
3 Member Van Bramer followed by Council Member Rose.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank
5 you very much. I want to thank the Speaker and
6 Rob Newman and Damian Butvick for their work on
7 this Resolution. In particular I'd like to thank
8 Chair Rose and Chair Eugene for hearing this
9 important Resolution yesterday. The policy known
10 as Don't Ask, Don't Tell is a miserable failure by
11 any standard and is an affront to the civil rights
12 of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered folks,
13 prohibiting them from serving openly in the
14 military. And since its implementation over
15 14,000 brave men and women have been forcibly
16 removed from the military and from service to
17 their country simply because they were gay or
18 lesbian.

19 That policy has cost the military
20 over \$550 million which could have been spent to
21 protect our country further. And this should be
22 an affront to all people. I want to mention that
23 yesterday we heard testimony from none other than
24 my partner of 11 years, Dan Henrick [phonetic] who
25 served in the US Navy and was a Russian linguist,

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2 proudly serving his country honorably with medals
3 of honor. But he too was removed from serving in
4 the military because he was a gay man. This is an
5 outrage we should definitely end this practice--

6 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA:

7 [Interposing) Council Member?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: in this
9 country and I hope everyone will vote to raise
10 their voice in defense of justice and equality for
11 all Americans. Thank you.

12 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
13 very much. We're going to try to keep to the 1
14 minute time clock imposed for Resolutions 'cause
15 there's other members who want to speak as well.
16 Council Member Rose, followed by Council Member
17 Nelson on Reso 169-A.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Thank you Mr.
19 Chair. My Committee heard Resolution number 169-A
20 yesterday and it passed unanimously. This bill,
21 Reso 169-A is to change the language in the 2011
22 Defense Authorization Act. It would repeal the
23 Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Harass, Don't Pursue.
24 And it would allow lesbian, gay and bisexual
25 persons to serve openly in the military.

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2 Don't Ask, Don't Tell is a failed
3 and discriminatory policy. And after 16 years
4 there's been nothing positive to show for it
5 except for the fact that 14,000 soldiers have been
6 discharged based on their sexual orientation. And
7 4,000 soldiers had to voluntarily leave the armed
8 forces. This bill was discriminatory whereas war
9 does not discriminate. And I'm glad that we were
10 able to pass this Resolution. Thank you.

11 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
12 very much. Next we will hear from Council Member
13 Nelson.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Thank you.
15 In reference to Don't Ask, Don't Tell. I heard
16 many decent citizens and former military members
17 who appeared before the Civil Rights Committee
18 when I was on it. And I was really saddened by
19 their stories. I wish everybody in this room
20 would have heard their stories. Good, decent
21 people were forced out of the military. Something
22 that they wanted to be in, defending our country
23 because they told or whatever, they got caught.

24 Now I'm a veteran and somewhat
25 conservative but this issue transcends all this

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2 for me. And I really think everybody should have
3 really heard some of those stories. Before I
4 heard them I was also for keeping it that way.
5 But you know what? You heard their stories and it
6 can really change and soften your heart on this.
7 Thank you.

8 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you.
9 Seeing no others on Reso 169-A we'll move on to
10 Reso 247-A, Council Member Reyna.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Thank you so
12 much. I urge my colleagues here today to support
13 Reso 247-A. This Resolution calls upon the
14 Federal government to apply the Community
15 Reinvestment Act on innovative projects to
16 leverage opportunities such as the Housing Asset
17 Renewal Program of which this Council was so
18 instrumental with the leadership of our Speaker to
19 implement in the City of New York on stalled
20 construction sites where the creation of
21 multifamily affordable rentals and home ownership
22 opportunities can be possible.

23 The regulations will further
24 encourage to weight factors like community support
25 through partnerships with not-for-profit

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2 organizations and the length of affordability for
3 greater credit to incentivize banks to participate
4 in City programs like HARP. I'd like to thank
5 Brendan, Thomas, Eric Yars and a host of Council
6 staff that have been so instrumental as well as
7 Washington supportive staff in promoting this
8 Resolution and in discussion of the CRA
9 legislation. Thank you.

10 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
11 very much. Seeing no others on Resolution 247-A
12 we'll move on to a vote on the Resolutions. We'll
13 vote on them independently of each other. So the
14 first one we'll vote on will be Resolution 169-A,
15 an amended Resolution calling on the United States
16 Congress to pass language in the 2011 Defense
17 Authorization Act that would repeal Don't Ask,
18 Don't... individually.

19 [Pause]

20 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Okay.
21 We're going to vote on the first one, Resolution
22 169-A, an amended Resolution calling on the United
23 States Congress to pass language in the 2011
24 Defense Authorization Act that would repeal Don't
25 Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Harass, Don't Pursue and to

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2 allow lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered
3 persons to serve openly in the military. On this
4 item, all in favor say aye.

5 MANY VOICES: Aye.

6 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: All
7 opposed say nay.

8 [No nays]

9 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Any
10 abstentions?

11 [No abstentions]

12 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: The ayes
13 have it. The Resolution is passed. Next we'll
14 vote on Resolution 247-A, an amended Resolution
15 calling upon the United States Congress to amend
16 the Community Reinvestment Act to provide credits
17 to financial institutions that fund affordable
18 middle income housing construction projects that
19 have stalled or suspended their activities due to
20 a discontinuance of project funding. All in favor
21 say aye.

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23 MANY VOICES: Aye.

24 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: All
25 opposed say nay.

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[No nays]

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Any

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abstentions?

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[No abstentions]

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: The ayes

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have it. Next we will vote on Preconsidered

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Resolution 264, a Resolution calling upon the

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United States Congress to extend the Federal

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Medical Assistance Percentage for six months,

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which is further known as the FMAP. All in favor

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say aye.

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MANY VOICES: Aye.

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: All

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opposed say nay.

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[No nays]

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: The ayes

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have it. Any abstentions?

20

[No abstentions]

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MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: The ayes

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have it. Next we will vote on Preconsidered

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Resolution 267, a Resolution in support of pending

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legislation in the New York State legislature

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which would amend the penal law by creating the

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2 crimes of criminal obstruction of breathing or
3 blood circulation and strangulation in the first
4 and second degrees. All in favor say aye.

5 MANY VOICES: Aye.

6 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: All
7 opposed say nay.

8 [No nays]

9 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Any
10 abstentions?

11 [No abstentions]

12 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: The ayes
13 have it. That's all on the Resolutions. We'll
14 now move onto general discussion. Council Member
15 Brewer.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you
17 very much. One of the Resolutions we have before
18 you, it has to do with illegal hotels, Resolution
19 266 that will be introduced today. Some of you
20 have asked me about this. To make a long story
21 short as the Speaker knows in many of our
22 communities we have residential hotels or single
23 room occupancies and I'm afraid to say even
24 regular apartment buildings. And over the last
25 five years that I know of, the owners of these

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2 buildings have taken the rooms, they are often
3 rooms with kitchens and bathrooms down the hall,
4 sometimes some combination, and made them hotel
5 rooms. So in one case I know an older woman lived
6 there for 40 years and all of a sudden with all
7 due respect a young couple with backpacks just
8 throwing up because they'd been out drinking all
9 night and they think it's a hotel. That's the
10 short version.

11 After 100 meetings with something
12 close to 60 City and State agencies, when I say
13 100 meetings, that's probably a low number,
14 certainly Council Member Garodnick and Lappin and
15 all of us have been to these meetings. And the
16 fact of the matter is we have determined, thanks
17 to the great staff of the City Council,
18 corporation counsel and many others, that this
19 issue of illegal hotels is not a City matter. We
20 are preempted and it must go to the State
21 legislature. Again, that's the short version.

22 And so this Resolution is in
23 support of legislation on the State level that
24 would then prohibit this kind of illegal use.
25 Needless to say the Fire Department, the Buildings

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2 Department, anybody who's concerned about safety,
3 the Mayor's Office of Special Enforcement, have
4 been trying for five years to deal with it. And
5 we're in such a grey area, lawsuits are also in
6 the middle of this discussion, and so we do not
7 have a resolution unless Albany acts.

8 So I urge you to support Resolution
9 266.

10 Second I have great interns this
11 summer, Jack McClosky is from NYU. Maria Manarino
12 with the McCauley Honors at Hunter, Alexander Lee
13 at NYU, Talia Skalnack at Barnard College, Amy
14 Peskugo at NYU and Carolyn Lisankey at Columbia
15 University. I hope they'll stand up and we all
16 give them a round of applause so.

17 [Applause]

18 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you.
19 Thank you very much Council Member. Next we move
20 onto Council Member Williams.

21 [Gavel banging]

22 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank
23 you. I'm asking my colleagues to support
24 Resolution 285 which is asking the United States
25 Congress to immediately repeal the ban on Federal

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2 funding for ACORN and its subsidiaries. Recently
3 there was a court ruling saying that it was
4 unconstitutional for the United States government
5 to take the money away from them. It was
6 completely unprecedented. And whether you agree
7 with ACORN or don't, I don't think there's
8 precedent that we want to set that money can just
9 be yanked without having any fair hearing or fair
10 trial or even actually an official charge of any
11 kind. So they're actually in an appeal session
12 now, the United States court is. And we're asking
13 to completely reverse that and just give the money
14 to what's left of ACORN and its subsidiaries.
15 Thank you.

16 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
17 very much. Next we move on to Council Member
18 Melissa Mark-Viverito. People may be wondering
19 about all the flowers going on here today. I
20 really want to say that we've had a great victory
21 in the Puerto Rican community by not allowing
22 Osvaldo Rios to represent us. And I want to thank
23 all the colleagues, my Latina colleagues that
24 signed on to the statement that we put out,
25 Assemblywoman Arroyo as well. So Diana and Rosie

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2 and Julissa and Annabel and Maria that signed the
3 strong statement that we put out and the pressure
4 really is a strong statement on behalf of
5 survivors of domestic violence in response. And
6 on behalf of our community to know that these
7 individuals that abuse women and have a record are
8 not people that we want to emulate in our
9 community. It's a very strong statement. I think
10 it's a great victory for our community. So thank
11 you all and thank you to the Speaker for really
12 being supportive of our stand and our position and
13 thank you for the flowers.

14 I also just wanted to take a moment
15 to say that I'm extremely disturbed by comments
16 that were made by Borough President of Staten
17 Island Molinaro today when he was referring to
18 President of Mexico, Felipe Calderone as a
19 despotic idiot and talking about putting him on a
20 one-way ticket back to his banana republic. It's
21 unbelievable that in this day and age we are still
22 hearing this kind of language that is extremely
23 pejorative, that is very divisive and that is not
24 accepted in this City. We stand strong on behalf
25 of immigrants. We stand strong on the rights of

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2 our immigrant communities. And this kind of
3 language is extremely troubling. So there will be
4 a letter that me and some colleagues will be
5 sending to the Borough President to again indicate
6 our real concern. So I just wanted to say that.
7 It came out in the press today and it should
8 definitely go--it has to go--it couldn't go
9 without mentioning it. Thank you.

10 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: All right.
11 Tank you very much. Before we move on to the next
12 presenter, it was just brought to my attention
13 that the Puerto Rican and Latino men in the barrio
14 as well supported the ban and the strike of the
15 parade because of the issues at hand. So we also
16 congratulate you. So. Next, just for the record.
17 We did not get flowers Madam Speaker so we will
18 hope they're forthcoming.

19 SPEAKER QUINN: Duly noted. Duly
20 noted.

21 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Okay.
22 Next we'll move onto Council Member James.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Let me
24 congratulate Council Member Melissa Mark-Viverito
25 and my Latina sisters on taking a very strong

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2 stand against domestic violence. Congratulations
3 to each and every one of you. And let me thank
4 all of you for all of your cards and condolences
5 and prayers during my bereavement, the loss of my
6 mother who was 90 years old. I was overwhelmed
7 with grief and obviously overwhelmed with the
8 response from the City of New York. Literally
9 thousands of cards and I just want to thank each
10 and every one of you. And as each day goes by I
11 get better and better and better. And she's no
12 longer in pain. She's no longer suffering. She's
13 in a better place. And she's home with our Lord
14 and Savior Jesus Christ. So I really truly thank
15 you. And I just wanted to say that. Thank you.

16 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
17 very much Council Member. Next we'll move on to
18 Council Member Comrie.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Sorry. I
20 didn't realize you were up to me already. I just
21 want to take the opportunity to congratulate
22 Council Member Viverito for everything that she
23 did to make sure that domestic violence issues are
24 kept forefront. To make sure that anyone who is
25 involved in a public event is following the mores

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2 and standards that need to be followed. I also
3 just wanted to take the opportunity to welcome
4 four interns that have joined my office and to
5 thank the four interns that are leaving my office.
6 And also I want to remind members that we will be
7 doing the budget briefings next week. And that we
8 have delegation meetings Tuesday, Wednesday and
9 Thursday. Thank you.

10 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
11 very much. Next we move on to--

12 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE:
13 [Interposing) Thank you. Right. There's a budget
14 briefing later today.

15 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you.
16 Now we move onto Council Member Vallone followed
17 by Council Member Sanders.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: I'm sorry,
19 did you just say Vallone? Okay. I just want to
20 briefly call attention to Resolution 284 which
21 calls on the Empire State Building to honor Mother
22 Theresa on August 26th by turning the lights blue
23 and white. To be brief they have denied our
24 request to do this. And we are trying to speak as
25 a body to say that we are upset about this.

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2 Mother Theresa's importance transcends religion.
3 She is perhaps the world's greatest humanitarian
4 the world has ever known. She's been honored with
5 a Nobel Peace Prize, Congressional Medal of Honor,
6 so many other awards for her humanitarian work
7 which included the first AIDS hospice here in New
8 York. So anyone who would like to sign on again
9 it's Resolution 284. Because of the time
10 constraints it might not move through the entire
11 Council in time so I'd like to say that it has a
12 majority of sponsors so that I could speak for the
13 entire City Council when I continue to speak out
14 about this. So with Ydanis Rodriguez, Jimmy
15 Vacca, Jimmy Van Bramer, Eric Ulrich, so many
16 others who expressed support for this already. So
17 thank you.

18 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
19 very much. Next we have Council Member Sanders
20 followed by Council Member Nelson.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Of course
22 this City and the Empire State Building should
23 honor Mother Theresa. Seemingly that's a no-
24 brainer. It seems that we need some brains, may
25 they do it.

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2 I look forward to honoring the
3 pledge, rather to signing the pledge around
4 domestic abuse. It's something that everyone
5 should stand against. I've heard a lot said about
6 interns today but I want to introduce the best
7 interns that the City has produced to this moment.
8 And I want to introduce in no particular order,
9 and when I finish I'll have them stand for a
10 moment, Jessica Silverman, Eric Nafrito, Xian
11 Chin, Juliet Mignette, Antonde Imbu--whose name I
12 just ruined. Abigail Fox Williams and Lydia
13 Dulkovich whose name I also just ruined. Ruining
14 their names my friends does not take away from the
15 greatness that they possess. Having said that I
16 will have them stand for a moment.

17 [Applause]

18 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: The
19 absolute best. Thank you very much. Thank you.

20 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you.
21 Council Member Nelson followed by Council Member
22 Vallone.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: I just
24 want--I neglected to point out that one of the
25 leaders in the fight for Mother Theresa has been

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2 Speaker Quinn. I did not want to mention all
3 those people and leave her out. She's been
4 tremendous in her support of this. I want to
5 thank her for that.

6 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
7 very much. Council Member Nelson?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Yeah. Two
9 issues, one is, of course, the Mother Theresa
10 issue too. It seems really ridiculous, the
11 denial. And I strongly urge the decision-makers
12 to reconsider this immediately. There's something
13 very strange going on.

14 And Intro 275, I want to bring out
15 that it seems like every other month or so or more
16 a child is missing on a school bus. And you can't
17 imagine the horror that would be, not to know
18 where your kid is an hour, two, three, four, five
19 or more hours later. Now Intro 275 would
20 eradicate that. Now I've been pushing for this
21 for probably six years, maybe more. And we've
22 always gotten promises that the Administration was
23 going to do it.

24 Well we were flush with money and
25 it wasn't done. Now we're not flush with money

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and I fear that it's not going to be done that quickly. They are doing it on buses here and there. I have not gotten the amount yet. But anyway if my colleagues were familiar with this or they weren't, they are now, I wonder how many of my colleagues are satisfied with this status quo. As I look around I don't think anybody should be satisfied that we don't know where our school children are every day.

I think we should address this issues. Oh, I've got to speak into the mic. All right. Anyway basically what that was, is Nelson getting a little bit PO'ed. I want you all to look at this, strongly and actually put it on record that the City Council cared enough about our kids to mandate that there's GPS in every school bus. Thank you.

MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: all right. Thank you very much. Seeing no others to talk, oh Council Member Halloran.

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Well since everyone's mentioning their interns are here, I have one of mine, Jeff Goldberg is in the gallery today. It's his first time at City Hall.

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2 He'll be working for me over the summer. He comes
3 down to us from SUNY Buffalo. And hopefully his
4 City Hall experience will be better than mine.

5 MAJORITY LEADER RIVERA: Thank you
6 very much. Seeing no others, this meeting is now
7 in recess.


8 [Gavel banging]

9 [END Stated_Meeting_6-9-

10 2010_part_3.mp3]

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Laura L. Springate certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura L. Springate". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Signature _____Laura L. Springate_____

Date _____June 21, 2010_____