

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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May 27, 2021
Start: 1:39 p.m.
Recess: 3:15 p.m.

HELD AT: Remote Hearing, Virtual Room 1

B E F O R E: Corey Johnson
Speaker

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Adrienne E. Adams
Alicka Ampry Samuel
Diana Ayala
Inez D. Barron,
Joseph C. Borelli
Justin L. Brannan
Fernando Cabrera
Margaret S. Chin
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.
Laurie A. Cumbo
Ruben Diaz, Sr.
Darma V. Diaz
Eric Dinowitz
Daniel Dromm
Mathieu Eugene
Oswald Feliz
Vanessa L. Gibson
Mark Gjonaj
Barry S. Grodenchik
Corey Johnson

Robert F. Holden
Ben Kallos
Peter A. Koo
Karen Koslowitz
Brad S. Lander
Stephen T. Levin
Mark Levin
Farah N. Louis
Alan N. Maisel
Steven Matteo
Carlos Menchaca
I. Daneek Miller
Francisco P. Moya
Bill Perkins
Keith Powers
Antonio Reynoso
Kevin C. Riley
Carlina Rivera
Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Deborah L. Rose
Helen K. Rosenthal
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.
Mark Treyger
Eric A. Ulrich
Paul Avalon
James G. Van Bramer
Kalman Yeger

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

Pastor Bayer Lee

2 SERGEANT AT ARMS: PC recording all set.

3 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Recording to the cloud
4 all set.

5 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Backup is rolling.

6 SERGEANT AT ARMS: OK, hello, and welcome
7 to today's Stated Meeting. At this time I ask that
8 you please turn all electronic devices to vibrate so
9 that we do not disturb the meeting. And Madam
10 Majority Leader, we are ready.

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: [gavel] Thank
12 you. Good afternoon and welcome to the Stated
13 Meeting of May 27, 2021. I am Majority Leader
14 Laurie Cumbo and I'd like to thank each of you for
15 joining us at this virtual meeting of the New York
16 City Council. If you would like to follow along,
17 the agenda for today's meeting is posted on our
18 website.

19
20 COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Please join us
21 for the Pledge of Allegiance. I pledge allegiance to
22 the flag of the United States of America, and to the
23 republic for which it stands, one nation under God,
24 indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

25 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We
will now go right into roll call.

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COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Adams.

3

COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Present.

4

COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Ampry-Samuel.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Present.

6

COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Ayala.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Present.

8

COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Barron.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Blessed and

10 present.

11

COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Borelli.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Present.

13

COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Brannan.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: I'm here.

15

COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Brooks-Powers.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Present.

17

COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Cabrera.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Present.

19

COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Chin.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Present.

21

COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Cornegy.

22

COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Darma Diaz.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER D. DIAZ: Present.

24

COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Ruben Diaz.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER R. DIAZ: Aqui.

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2 COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Dinowitz.
3 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Present.
4 COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Dromm.
5 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Present.
6 COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Eugene.
7 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Present.
8 COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Feliz.
9 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Presente.
10 COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Gennaro.
11 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here.
12 COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Gibson.
13 Gjonaj.
14 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Present.
15 COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Grodenchik.
16 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Here.
17 COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Holden.
18 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here.
19 COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Kallos.
20 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Here.
21 COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Koo.
22 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.
23 COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Koslowitz.
24 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Present.
25 COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Lander.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

3

COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Levin. Levine.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Present.

5

COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Louis.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present.

7

COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Maisel.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Here.

9

COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Menchaca.

10

COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Presente.

11

COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Miller.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: I'm here.

13

COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Moya.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Present.

15

COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Perkins.

16

Powers.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Present.

18

COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Reynoso.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Present.

20

COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Riley.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Good afternoon,

22

present.

23

COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Rivera.

24

Rodriguez. Rose.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Present.

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2 COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Rosenthal.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.

4 COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Salamanca.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Present.

6 COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Treyger.

7 Ulrich. Vallone.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

9 COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Van Bramer.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

11 COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Yeger.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here. Cornegy.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Present.

14 COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Thank you.

15 Ulrich.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Present.

17 COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Matteo.

18 MINORITY LEADER MATTEO: Here.

19 COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Cumbo.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Present.

21 COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Speaker

22 Johnson.

23 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I'm here.

24 COUNCIL CLERK MCSWEENEY: Madam Majority

25 Leader, we have a quorum.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We
3 will now have today's invocation, which will be
4 delivered by Pastor Bayer Lee, spiritual leader at
5 First Chinese Baptist Church, located at 21 Pell
6 Street in Manhattan. Welcome.

7 PASTOR LEE: Thank you. Let us pray.
8 Father, we thank you that you are a good shepherd. As
9 a result, we are not [inaudible]. You make lie down
10 in green pastures. You lead us beside quiet waters.
11 You also call us to be shepherds, both spiritual as
12 well as leaders of this free city. We are thankful
13 for men and women of this council, who shepherd the
14 flocks under their care. We pray for continued
15 provision of water that is plain, food that is
16 healthy, and perhaps energy that will be clean,
17 greened. Restore us our souls and guide us in the
18 path of righteousness as we seek to reform system that
19 are unjust. Even though we walk through the Valley of
20 the Shadow of Death, brought to us by COVID, we will
21 fear no evil. Not only are you with us, we are also
22 thankful for the healthcare workers who risked their
23 lives daily to save us and now to help us to be
24 vaccinated. You prepare a table before us in the
25 presence of our enemies. You anoint our heads with

2 oils. Our cup overflows. As the restaurants of our
3 city prepare tables to be fully open. Keep their
4 enemy, this pandemic, at bay. Protect your city with
5 your anointed oil of healing. Bring people back to us
6 for the summer celebration. Surely goodness and love
7 will follow us all the days of our lives and we will
8 dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Keep our city
9 as a destination all who are looking for a house and a
10 home. As we celebrate the contribution of Asian
11 American Pacific Islanders to the city, we remember
12 Dr. Mabel Ping-Hua Lee. She came to the city from
13 China in 1900, when she was only 3. When she was 16
14 she marched while mounted on a horse at the 5th Avenue
15 Suffrage Parade in 1914. She became the first Chinese
16 woman to graduate from Columbia with a Ph.D. in 1921.
17 She organized the First Chinese Baptist Church in 1936
18 and served the community and the church until her
19 passing in 1966. With the signing of HR-4463 the
20 Chinatown Post Office was designated as the Mable Lee
21 Memorial Post Office. We pray that more people from
22 all over the world will follow Mable's footsteps to
23 make New York City a home. As women and men of this
24 council gather with renewed strength, the spirit of
25 service, grant them wisdom from above as they take on

2 the challenges facing our people in this great city.
3 We pray all this in your great name. Amen.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Amen. Thank you
5 so much, Pastor Lee, for that very timely, grounding,
6 and centering prayer. It is much appreciated and we
7 are so happy to welcome you here to the New York City
8 Council. At this time I would now like to ask Council
9 Member Chin to spread the invocation onto the record,
10 and thank you so much for being here with us today, as
11 well as for your service to the City of New York and
12 beyond.

13 PASTOR LEE: Thank you.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you, Majority
15 Leader. And thank you to Reverend Dr. Bayer Jack Lee,
16 for your powerful words. Reverend Lee is it pastor of
17 the First Chinese Baptist Church, located at 6 Doyers
18 Street in my district in Chinatown. Before his
19 theological work in Manhattan, he was the pastor of
20 the Chinese Evangelical Mission Church of Queens. He
21 has quite an impressive resume and a long history of
22 serving New York City. He has two master's degree
23 from the Teachers College of Columbia University and
24 he currently lives in New Hyde Park. Um, thank you so
25 much, Majority Leader, and thank you again to, ah,

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2 Reverend Bayer Lee for your strong words, and for
3 being here today. And I want to make a motion, ah,
4 that the invocation be spread in full upon the record.
5 Thank you.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so
7 much, Council Member Chin. We will now have the
8 adoption of minutes by Council Member Brad Lander.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you,
10 Majority Leader. I move that the minutes of the
11 Stated Meeting of April 29, 2021 be adopted as
12 printed.

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so
14 much, Council Member Lander. Messages and papers from
15 the mayor.

16 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: M312, black car and
17 livery task force appointment.

18 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Received, ordered,
19 printed, and filed.

20 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: M313, ECB appointment
21 withdrawal.

22 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Received, ordered,
23 printed, and filed.

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Communication
25 from city, county, and borough offices.

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2 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: M314, discount rate.

3 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Finance.

4 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Preconsidered Ms 315
5 and 316, budget modifications.

6 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Finance.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Petitions and
8 communications.

9 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: None.

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Land use call-
11 ups.

12 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: None.

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

16 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Ah, good afternoon.

17 Welcome to our stated meeting today. Thank you, Madam
18 Majority Leader. Happy Thursday. This weekend is
19 Memorial Day weekend, a time to remember the veterans
20 who died while defending our nation. We are grateful
21 to those women and men and we should remember them
22 every day. It is also the unofficial start to summer
23 and we've earned a great summer. It has been a tough
24 year. On Tuesday we marked the one-year anniversary
25 of the murder of George Floyd, an innocent black man

2 who was murdered in police custody. Since his death
3 the calls for police reform and racial justice have
4 been incessant and it's a good thing. George Floyd's
5 death marked a critical point in time in our nation's
6 history and sparked a massive nationwide protest
7 movement calling for change. George Floyd's death
8 will not be in vain. The city and nation's work to
9 change how we police must not end. Our city has also
10 seen a spike in hate crimes, including a string of
11 anti-Semitic and anti-Asian attacks across New York
12 City. This is completely unacceptable. Hate crimes
13 are up 70% as of May 16 of this year, compared to the
14 same period last year, according to the NYPD. This is
15 not the direction we want to go in. We must keep
16 working to end hate in our city. Before we delve into
17 our legislative agenda I would first like to provide
18 an update in our battle against COVID-19. In New York
19 City as of yesterday 33,169 New Yorkers died from
20 coronavirus. COVID numbers continue to fall, but the
21 war against COVID-19 is far from over. We need to
22 keep vaccinating more, and more New Yorkers, ah, are
23 crucial to getting that done. We need to be careful
24 and follow the guidelines to ensure that we finally
25 can get out of this pandemic. As always, we

2 acknowledge those who died while on the job and I'm
3 sad to say three of those, ah, deaths we're gonna
4 announce today are May 17, Gerard Fairmein, a livery
5 cab died while he lost control of vehicle on a
6 Brooklyn street. He was 29 years old. On May 19 a
7 construction worker was killed when an elevator
8 dropped in a building located in the Bronx. He was 30
9 years old. On May 22, construction worker Diego
10 Yigocota fell to his death while working on a six-
11 floor building in Queens. He was 32 years old. As we
12 do at every Stated, I want to remember those that
13 we've lost to, ah, 9/11-related illnesses. Retired
14 firefighter Thomas Elkers died on May 16. He was 46
15 years old. Let us pause for a moment of silence to
16 remember all of those that we've lost [moment of
17 silence]. Thank you. I'd also like to take a moment
18 to thank Monica Pepple for her service to this body.
19 She has been part of the finance division for over two
20 years and covered the budgets of various agencies and
21 several critical council initiatives. We wish her the
22 best of luck on her next professional endeavor. And
23 we're also losing from my district office Carl Michael
24 Wilson, who has been just an incredible worker,
25 someone who has been such a bright spot in my

2 district, helping so many constituents and community
3 leaders, working tirelessly. Ah, he has just been
4 amazing the last three and a half years, and I'm
5 deeply grateful to him. We're gonna miss you, Carl.
6 Now on to the agenda for today. The Land Use
7 Committee will be voting on the following items: The
8 Governors Island rezoning as modified in Council
9 Member Margaret Chin's district; 261 Walton Avenue in
10 Council Member Diana Ayala's district; the Arthur
11 Avenue hotel rezoning in Council Member Oswald Feliz's
12 district; 431 Concord Avenue rezoning, again in
13 Council Member Diana Ayala's district; Sideham Street
14 rezoning in Council Member Antonio Reynoso's district;
15 the Acme Smoked Fish and Gem Street rezoning in
16 Council Member Steve Levin's district; 606 Neptune
17 Avenue rezoning in Council District 48; and 300
18 Huntington Street in Council Member Brad Lander's
19 district. Out of the Finance Committee we'll be
20 voting on the following items: An expense budget
21 modification and revenue budget modification that will
22 implement the changes to the fiscal 2021 budget
23 reflected in it Executive Financial Plan. We also
24 have three Article 11 property tax exemptions. Ah,
25 we, actually I think it's four. We have Whitehall in

2 Council Member Levin's district, Dora Collazo in
3 Council Member Carlina Rivera's district; 840-50 St.
4 Mark's Avenue in Council Member Cornegy's district;
5 and 38 Putnam, 3800 Putnam in Council Member
6 Dinowitz's district. Today we are voting on seven
7 Home Rule messages. Ah, the first is going to reduce
8 speed limits in New York City. At least 243 New
9 Yorkers died as a result of traffic crashes in 2020,
10 the deadliest year on our streets since we launched
11 Vision Zero in 2014. While speed limit reductions and
12 traffic calming measures are proven policies that save
13 lives, state law limits our ability to reduce speed
14 limits. Named for a 12-year-old in Brooklyn killed by
15 a reckless driver in 2013, Sammy's Law, it happened in
16 Council Member Lander's district, Sammy's Law would
17 give New York City the authority to reduce speed
18 limits to 20 mph. I'm very happy the state is moving
19 on this bill and I am proud to support it. We have a
20 second transportation Home Rule item. This one will
21 create a program for limiting overweight trucks on the
22 BQE. We're voting on three other Home Rule messages
23 to support government workers. One will provide
24 parity among all of the Tier 2 members of the New York
25 City Fire Department Pension Fund from the calculation

2 of their salary bases. Another will allow certain
3 Triborough Bridge and tunnel members to retire
4 earlier. And the third one will provide benefits to
5 certain New York City Transit employees with lung
6 disease. Another Home Rule message will allow for the
7 Department of Environmental Protection to construct a
8 storm sewer in Idlewild Park in Queens. And finally
9 we're voting on a Home Rule that will increase fines
10 for parked or unattended trailers on New York City
11 streets. Moving into our legislative agenda, first we
12 have a resolution out of our Women and Gender Equity
13 Committee. The council will be voting on resolution
14 920-A, sponsored by Council Member Margaret Chin,
15 urging the United States Congress and the New York
16 State Legislature to support a woman's right to
17 abortion and to oppose a ban on sex-selective
18 abortions, which perpetuate racial stereotypes and
19 undermine access to care. And from the staff I want
20 to thank Chloe Rivera and Brenda McKinney. Today
21 we're voting on a bill to curb pregnancy-related
22 deaths. Introduction number 2042-A, sponsored by
23 Council Member Vanessa Gibson out of the Committee on
24 Health, will require the Department of Health and
25 Mental Hygiene to post information about licensed

2 midwives, including the services they offer and how to
3 find them on its website. More women in the United
4 States die of pregnancy-related complications than any
5 other developed country and the number of maternal
6 deaths have been increasing. Even more disturbing is
7 the disproportionate impact on black women. In New
8 York City black women die at a rate of eight to 12
9 times more frequently than white women. Data shows
10 that one possible solution to address maternal
11 morbidity is the use of midwives. However,
12 information about midwives can be difficult to find
13 and this legislation will help fix that. From the
14 staff I want to thank Harbani Ahuja, Sarah Liss, and
15 Em Belken. Next, we have two bills out of the Public
16 Housing Committee to help senior New Yorkers.
17 Introduction number 1827-A, sponsored by Council
18 Member Alicka Ampry-Samuel, will establish a public
19 housing liaison within the Department for the Aging.
20 The liaison will be responsible for, among other
21 things, coordinating with NYCHA about facilities and
22 other matters impacting older adults in NYCHA,
23 assisting with complaints and grievances regarding
24 senior centers located on NYCHA property, and making
25 recommendations to the commissioner of DFTA on how to

2 improve programs and facilities for participants of
3 DFTA-contracted senior centers at these locations.
4 Given that DFTA-contracted senior centers have
5 remained closed for indoor programming in response to
6 the COVID-19 pandemic, there is a greater need to
7 ensure that when their doors do reopen, we hope it's
8 soon, services are provided in a clear, efficient, and
9 effective manner. And I want to thank from the staff
10 Audrey Song, she worked on this bill and the next bill
11 that I'm gonna speak of. Also from the Committee on
12 Public Housing we're voting on Introduction number
13 415-A, sponsored by Council Member Margaret Chin.
14 Again, the New York City Department for the Aging is
15 required by state and federal law to provide various
16 services to seniors, including access to nutrition,
17 benefits counseling, employment opportunities, legal
18 assistance, and in-home services. One way DFTA
19 provides these services is through DFTA-contracted
20 senior centers. It has been reported, however, that
21 it is unclear who is responsible for receiving and
22 addressing complaints about DFTA-contracted senior
23 centers at these locations, particularly complaints
24 concerning the facilities rather than merely the
25 programming. In 2018 the council enacted Local Law

2 140, requiring DFTA to provide annual reports about
3 senior centers receiving DFTA funding, including, but
4 not limited to, information on participate attendance,
5 services, budgets, meals, costs, rates of utilization,
6 and other services at senior centers. This bill seeks
7 to increase the amount of information available about
8 DFTA-contracted senior centers located on property
9 owned by NYCHA. And, again, thank you to Audrey Song
10 for her work on that bill. Up next we have two bills
11 seeking to reduce eyesores from our streets.

12 Introduction number 1128-A, sponsored by Council
13 Member Bob Holden out of the Housing and Buildings
14 Committee, would require that where construction work
15 has been stopped for at least two years the green
16 wooden fence on the site be replaced with a chain link
17 fence. And I want to Janin Zilka for her work on that
18 bill. And from the Transportation Committee we're
19 voting on Introduction number 176-A, sponsored by
20 Council Member Alan Maisel. This bill will establish
21 an interagency task force to examine the city's
22 procedures for moving vehicles that are abandoned or
23 parked without a license plate or valid registration
24 from the streets of the city. And from the staff I
25 want to thank Jessica Steinberg Albin and Elliot Lin.

2 Today we're gonna be voting on a bill that is one of
3 the biggest and most important things we can do to
4 combat homelessness. Introduction number 146-C,
5 sponsored by Council Member Steve Levin, out of the
6 General Welfare Committee, will help move New Yorkers
7 out of the shelter system and into permanent housing.
8 Homeless New Yorkers and advocates have called for the
9 current city's Rental Assistance Voucher Program as
10 insufficient. We are taking steps to fix that.
11 We're voting to increase the amount the program pays,
12 which will increase the number of apartments available
13 to individuals and families with vouchers. By
14 increasing the amount the voucher pays the city would
15 increase the number of units available to individuals
16 and families with vouchers. The bill will remove time
17 limits on the amount of time where an otherwise
18 qualifying recipient of rental assistance vouchers
19 established by the Department of Social Services would
20 receive the voucher. Ah, the, this is an
21 extraordinarily important bill. I want to
22 congratulate Steve. Ah, I want to thank from the
23 staff Aminta Kilawan, Crystal Pond, Natalie Amari, and
24 Louis Cholden Brown. That concludes our legislative

2 agenda and with that I turn it back to you, Madam
3 Majority Leader.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
5 Speaker Johnson. We will now move into discussion of
6 general orders. We will recognize council members who
7 wish to speak by using the raise hand function in
8 Zoom. Please wait before you begin your remarks for
9 our Sergeant at Arms to announce he has begun the
10 countdown clock. The Sergeant at Arms will alert you
11 when your time has expired. Mr. Parliamentarian, are
12 there any members who wish to speak at this time?

13 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes, Madam Majority
14 Leader. Council Member Chin.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member
16 Chin, you may begin.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you.

18 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you, Madam
20 Majority Leader. I wanted to speak on the Governors
21 Island rezoning. And I first of all wanted to really
22 thank my colleagues, ah, my, my speaker, um, for
23 really pushing this forward and supporting it, and,
24 and my colleague, ah, Council Member Moya, for holding
25 the subcommittee hearing for so many, many, many

2 hours. You know, every time my district have a
3 rezoning, ah, it comes in his committee and all the
4 committee member and also, ah, the Land Use chair,
5 Council Member Salamanca. Um, Governors Island is a
6 treasure for the city, not even though it's located in
7 my district. Everyone enjoys it and it's a gem. And
8 one of this rezoning that we were able to do is that
9 we protected, ah, the parkland [inaudible] and
10 expanded open space, and I've heard, you know, from
11 constituent, from stakeholder, ah, the community
12 board, the borough president, um, they want to be able
13 to preserve this beautiful space. But Governors
14 Island also, was also meant to be mixed use so that it
15 can, ah, help sustain itself. It takes a lot of
16 resources and money to restore all those historic
17 buildings on the island that provide a lot of great
18 diverse cultural program, ah, for the city, but also
19 we have a wonderful Harbor School that is, has a real
20 diverse population of high student coming from all
21 borough and they will have an opportunity to expand
22 the school, the new expansion, will have a gym and,
23 guess what? A pool. I mean, the kids need to learn
24 how to swim and they want to go diving, you know, for

2 oysters and, and fixing up our harbor. And on the
3 island we have composting where we support...

4 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time expired.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: ...and this is, ah,
6 so these are all the things that Earth Matter, they'll
7 be able to stay there and expand, ah, and all the
8 wonderful thing that there's and expanding ferry
9 service, and I really urge my colleague to take the
10 time to visit the island and see how much open and
11 green space there are and you could just walk around
12 the island and really look at the waterfront, look at
13 the Statue of Liberty, and really help us make sure
14 Governors Island will be sustainable for the future
15 generation. So I really urge my colleagues to
16 support. Thank you.

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
18 Council Member Chin, and I look forward to
19 experiencing Governors Island with you. Are there any
20 other members who wish to speak at this time?

21 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes. Council Member
22 Yeger, followed by Council Member Feliz.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member
24 Yeger, you may begin.

25 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Appreciate that,
3 thank you very much, ah, Madam President. I wasn't
4 sure I was going to speak on this topic here today,
5 um, but I'm grateful for the speaker's words of
6 comfort and you sort of put this on the agenda. Ah,
7 earlier today I thought of former Councilman Lou
8 Fidler, who would have been 65 today, and I can
9 imagine if I said nothing he might have himself shown
10 up, so here we are. The last time I rose in this body
11 on this topic we were gathered in our chamber 16
12 months ago. And I supposes as we look back to before
13 the pandemic of COVID reared its ugly head the
14 pandemic of anti-Semitism was very much ravaging our
15 society and our city. And on that day I asked those
16 of you who market the us versus them messaging about
17 Orthodox Jews to stop, to stop painting us as
18 backwards members of society who are in need of your
19 specialized version of cure, to heal us from our
20 backwards ways. I asked you to stop your obsession
21 with our yeshivas, stop shining your cameras in our
22 neighborhoods, the ones you bring to display your
23 notion of an awkward backwardness of our people. I
24 asked you to do this. I asked you not to give us
25 tolerance, an offensive term as if the notion of our

2 existence is one that has to be told, but to give the
3 acceptance that every single other community in this
4 city and this nation gets to have. I asked you stop
5 associating with the most heinous of anti-Semites and
6 activist politics, to stop giving them aid and
7 comfort, to stop amplifying their hurtful words, their
8 lies, to stop accepting their endorsements, as if
9 their endorsements are of value. And here we are
10 again. Those of you who are responsible, and to be
11 sure it's not all of you, but it is some of you and
12 you know who you are, and you are oh so comfortable as
13 your predecessors in history have been with
14 associating yourselves with anti-Semitism. And when
15 the verbal pogroms, such as were in this chamber, led
16 to the physical pogroms, such as we see on the streets
17 of New York City, don't raise your hands in shock and
18 tell us that you stand with us. Raise your voices and
19 shun the anti-Semites with whom you stand. This is
20 not difficult. What's difficult is looking you in
21 yours eyes as you send your I stand with the Jews
22 tweets, and that's just those of you have bothered to
23 even do that much. When Pastor Lee quoted from
24 Chapter 23 of the Book of Psalms, as we call it by its
25 original name, Tehillim, to be sure it is apropos to

2 say that to be a Jew in New York today may indeed be
3 walking through the Valley of the Shadow of Death.
4 And yes, the Lord may be with us for sure, but that
5 doesn't mean we have to accept walking through the
6 Valley of the Shadow of Death. Thank you.

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

9 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Thank you, um,
11 Madam Majority Leader. I wanted to speak about the
12 Arthur Avenue hotel proposal. I proudly support the
13 Arthur Avenue hotel proposal, a proposal that so many
14 people in the 15th Council District are so excited
15 about. The application will allow the construction of
16 a 13-story hotel as well as a residential development
17 in the Arthur Avenue in the 15th Council District that
18 I so proudly represent. Arthur Avenue is a vibrant
19 community in the Bronx. It's been like that for a
20 long time. It's home to the best restaurants in the
21 City of New York. It's also the neighbor of the
22 greatest attractions in our nation, including the
23 Bronx Zoo and the Botanical Garden, ah, two
24 institutions that are heavily visited by people from
25 everywhere in the world, and also are walking distance

2 from Arthur Avenue. However, there is a need for
3 hotels in the area so that we can create an
4 opportunity of ensuring that people that visit our
5 neighborhood can maybe stay for another day. Ah, the
6 more people staying, ah, the more business can be done
7 in our community and the more economic activity in the
8 area the more people in the area are employed and the
9 better local businesses can do. Ah, this is a project
10 that is highly supported by everyone in our community,
11 supported by local businesses, supported by local
12 residents, many of whom are employed by local
13 businesses, and this is a good project for the, ah,
14 Arthur Avenue area in the Bronx, ah, in the 15th
15 Council District. It's a project that will help
16 ensure that Arthur Avenue continues to remain the
17 vibrant neighborhood that it is, ah, for many years
18 and many decades to come. Ah, for these reason I
19 proudly support the proposal and encourage all my
20 colleagues to support it as well. And I want to take
21 a minute to thank the applicants, ah, Harry and his
22 team, for being committed to the Bronx and also being
23 a very good friend, ah, to the Bronx. Thank you.

24

25

1 STATED MEETING

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2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. Are
3 there any other members who wish to speak, Mr.
4 Parliamentarian?

5 PARLIAMENTARIAN: No, Madam Majority
6 Leader.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Excuse me. Thank
8 you so much. We'll now move into the report of
9 special committees.

10 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: None.

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Reports of
12 standing committees.

13 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the
14 Committee on Finance, preconsidered Ms 315 and Reso
15 1649 and Ms 316 and Reso 1650, budget modifications.

16 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
17 orders.

18 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Preconsidered LU 793
19 and Reso 1651, for preconsidered LU 796 and Reso 1654,
20 tax exemptions.

21 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
22 orders.

23 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the
24 Committee on General Welfare, Intro 146-C, rental
25 assistance vouchers.

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2 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on
3 general orders.

4 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the
5 Committee on Health, Intro 2042-A, posting information
6 about midwives.

7 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on
8 general orders.

9 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the
10 Committee on Housing and Buildings, Intro 1128-A,
11 fences at construction sites.

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

14 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the
15 Committee on Land Use, LU 777 and Reso 1655, and LU
16 778 and Reso 1656, Arthur Avenue rezoning.

17 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
18 orders.

19 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: LU 779 and Reso 1657
20 and LU 780 and Reso 1658, Gem Street rezoning.

21 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
22 orders.

23 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: LU 781 and Reso 1659
24 and LU 782 and Reso 1660, 261 Walton Avenue rezoning.

25

1 STATED MEETING

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2 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
3 orders.

4 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: LU 783 and Reso 1661
5 and LU 784 and Reso 1662, Neptune Avenue rezoning and
6 300 Huntington Street.

7 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
8 orders.

9 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: LU 785 and 786, 30-02
10 Newtown Avenue.

11 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Approved with
12 modifications and referred to the City Planning
13 Commission pursuant to Section 197-D of the New York
14 City Charter.

15 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the
16 Committee on Public Housing, Intros 415-A and 1827-A,
17 senior center report and public housing liaison.

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

20 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the
21 Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections, M 310
22 and Reso 1663, approving the appointment of Matthew
23 Schneid, environmental control board.

24 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
25 orders.

2 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the
3 Committee on State and Federal Legislation,
4 preconsidered SLR 1 through SLR 7, various Home Rule
5 messages.

6 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
7 orders.

8 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the
9 Committee on Transportation, Intro 176-A, interagency
10 task force.

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

13 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: On the general orders
14 calendar, LU 753 and Reso 1664 through LU 763 and Reso
15 1666, Sideham Street rezoning.

16 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
17 orders.

18 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: LU 770 and Reso 1667
19 and LU 771 and Reso 1668, Governors Island rezoning.

20 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
21 orders.

22 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: LU 775 and Reso 1669
23 and LU 776 and Reso 1670, 431 Concord Avenue rezoning.

24 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general
25 orders. And I would now ask that the clerk take a

2 roll call vote on all of the items that are coupled on
3 today's general orders calendar.

4 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Adams.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Good afternoon.

6 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Oh, perfect.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: I vote aye.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Ampry-Samuel.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Permission
10 to speak on my bill?

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
12 granted.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Um, thank
14 you so much, Majority Leader, for the opportunity to
15 speak on my bill and to create, which is to create a
16 position within DFTA to coordinate with NYCHA about
17 matters impacting older adult public housing residents
18 and those that participate in senior centers on NYCHA
19 property. I introduced this bill in 2019 in efforts
20 to increase synergy between NYCHA and DFTA. One of
21 the reasons that we have senior centers is to bring
22 services directly to aging adults, to make it possible
23 for them to age safely in place. Senior centers are a
24 critical part of NYCHA's programming and DFTA
25 initiatives. But communication can suffer in the

2 midst of personnel changes and budget shifts. The
3 best way to ensure effect communication [inaudible] to
4 agencies is to create a specific role. Although I
5 introduced this legislation in 2019, the need became
6 extremely apparent during COVID. Our seniors were and
7 continue to be one of the most effective populations.
8 A dedicated liaison would circumvent miscommunication
9 and lack of communication and lack of information.
10 Thank you, Speaker Johnson, for your support, and the
11 cosponsors and Chair Chin for all of your ongoing
12 dedication to our seniors, and I encourage my
13 colleagues to vote in support of this bill. Thank you
14 so much, and I vote aye on all.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Ayala.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: I vote aye on all.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Barron.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Ah, permission to
20 explain my vote?

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
22 granted.

23 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you. Ah,
25 in, in relation to 2042-A, I want to call attention to

2 Mama Nonkululeko Tyehemba, who was a community
3 activist and very much involved in the push to have
4 birthing centers in the city. She was a renowned and
5 beloved midwife and activist. She was the founder of
6 the Harlem Birth Action Committee and when blocked
7 from becoming a doctor went on to become a school
8 nurse as well as a midwife. She held annual
9 conferences on birthing rights of parents and she
10 helped to fight, fight for the removal of the statue
11 of Dr. J. Marion Sims, whom we all know had abusive
12 experimentation on reproductive procedures on the
13 enslaved African women that he had. So I just want to
14 call attention to that, at the passing of this bill,
15 and I vote aye on all, with the exception of Land Use
16 753 and 754, 763, 770, and 771, 774, 777, and 778, and
17 785 and 786. Thank you.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Borelli.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Thank you. I
21 vote aye on all except Intro 14, ah, 146-C, ah,
22 preconsidered SLR 3 and 4, and, ah, no on Reso 920-A.
23 Thank you very much.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Brannan.

25

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Ah, I vote aye
3 on all with the exception of Land Use 771.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Brooks-Powers. Council
5 Member Brooks-Powers?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: I vote aye
7 on all.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Excuse me, Mr.
10 Parliamentarian? Ah, I would like just a matter of
11 order of correction. Ah, Council Member Vallone had
12 asked to vote earlier on, um, is it possible to call
13 on Council Member Vallone at this time so that he can
14 vote?

15 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes, Mr. Clerk, can you
16 please call on Council Member Vallone?

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Yes, I apologize.
18 Council Member Vallone.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: No apologies
20 necessary. Thank you, Madam Majority Leader. It's a
21 happy day, we're off to my daughter's, ah, first
22 graduation in the family, so we're going to the
23 [inaudible] School Theater of Graduation for my
24 daughter, Katina. I happily vote aye on all. God

25

2 bless. Happy Memorial Day, everyone, and thank you
3 for the courtesy.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Congratulations.
5 We're so proud and so happy for you.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Tell me
7 [laughs].

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: And all of that
9 today.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Thank you.

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

12 PARLIAMENTARIAN: While we're taking a
13 pause, Council Member Barron, we want to confirm that
14 you also wish to vote no on the accompanying
15 resolutions.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Yes, I do. Thank
17 you.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Cabrera.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: I vote aye on
20 all.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Chin.

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

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
25 granted.

2 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you. I
4 didn't get a chance to thank our fantastic land use
5 staff, Raju Mann, Angelina Martinez, Rubio, and
6 Chelsea Kelly. I mean, we work on month and my, ah,
7 land use director, Anthony Drum. I mean, it takes
8 months and months and months of discussion and
9 negotiation with the Governors Island team, ah, also
10 with the mayor's office. Um, I want to Sean
11 Fitzpatrick. It takes a lot of work to come to the
12 this resolution, ah, on what's best for Governors
13 Island going forward. There's still lots of precious
14 open space, parking space. There is a beautiful new
15 park with a 3 feet, you know, 3-story slide. I really
16 encourage my colleague to go there and take a look and
17 see much open space there is. But we need, you know,
18 sustainability for that island, and that's why there
19 have to be some development there and that will be
20 more towards educational, climate change, and it will
21 be, it's positive. I know that there's some advocates
22 out there and criticizing, oh, you're, you're
23 destroying open space. It's not open space. Go out
24 there and visit the island, OK, 'cause the island is
25 open for everyone and the Harbor School, look at the

2 diverse population of the Harbor School and the future
3 of our kids who will have great jobs and good-paying
4 jobs and see how enthusiastic they are in doing
5 composting with Earth Matter on Governors Island. So
6 come out and visit. And I want us to congratulate all
7 my colleagues on their important legislation, and
8 especially Council Member Ampry-Samuel for your strong
9 support for our senior, especially senior who go to
10 those centers in public housing that needs a lot more
11 resource. I'm proud to vote aye on all. Thank you.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Cornegy.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: I vote aye on
15 all.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Darma Diaz.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER D. DIAZ: I'd like to, um,
18 I [inaudible] on all. I'd like to explain, explain my
19 vote.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER D. DIAZ: Proposed Intro
22 146-C, was that a yes, Madam Chair?

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER D. DIAZ: I just want to
25 say to my colleagues, to the speaker, and Chair Levin,

2 for pushing forward on, on 146-C. Coming in from the
3 world of social services and displacement,
4 homelessness, I, I know you've opened [inaudible] for
5 many families. I just thank you. You know, I just
6 thank you because you're making a great dent in
7 removing temporary housing into permanent housing.
8 Again, I just thank you all.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Ruben Diaz.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER R. DIAZ: Voto si y todo.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Gracias.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER R. DIAZ: [inaudible].

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: De nada.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Dinowitz.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: I vote aye on
17 all.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Dromm.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Eugene. Council Member
21 Eugene?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Oh, hello, can
23 you hear me?

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Yes.

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Should I put my
3 video on?

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes, please.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: OK, I'm trying to
6 do that, but I don't think the host let me do it. OK.
7 Ah...

8 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Council Member, you can
9 just vote. It's fine.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: OK, thank you
11 very much. Ah, before I vote, let me take the
12 opportunity to commend and congratulate and thank also
13 Council Member Levin for this wonderful, wonderful
14 bill that will make a big difference in the life of so
15 many, so many New Yorkers. This is a wonderful bill,
16 good job, and I want to thank and congratulate all of
17 the staff, all of you who have been working on this
18 bill to make it, ah, pass today. With that, the bill,
19 you know, about increasing the value of the vouchers.
20 With that, I want to say I vote aye on all. Thank you
21 so very much.

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Feliz.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye on all. Thank
25 you.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Gennaro.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Madam Majority
4 Leader, I ask permission to explain my vote.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
6 granted.

7 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you, ah,
9 thank you, Madam Majority Leader. Ah, I wish to
10 support Council Member Chin in all of her work on
11 Governors Island. She's quite modest about the great
12 role that she played in getting the Harbor School
13 moved from, you know, central Brooklyn, ah, um, ah,
14 onto Governors Island. It was a pet project of mine
15 and, and some others and she played a great role in,
16 ah, getting the funding and getting the Harbor School
17 to happen. It's a great resource and I thank her for
18 her work on that and all of her work on Governors
19 Island and all my colleagues who are passing important
20 legislation today. With that I vote aye on all.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Gibson.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Permission to
23 explain?

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
25 granted.

2 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you, Madam
4 Majority Leader. Good afternoon, Speaker, and all my
5 colleague. I am proud to speak on my bill, Intro
6 2042, on today's agenda, that would require the
7 Department of Health to post information about
8 licensed midwives, including the services they offer,
9 how to find them, and offer them on its website. It
10 is truly and understatement to say that black women in
11 our city are in a maternal crisis. It is truly a
12 state-of-the-art of emergency. Black women are eight
13 to 12 times more likely than other women in New York
14 City to die from maternal complications. High rates
15 of black maternal mortality and morbidity is a sad
16 result of years of systemic racism, discrimination,
17 and bias in the healthcare industry that has
18 contributed to the mistreatment and mishandling of
19 black birthing individuals and it's unacceptable.
20 Black women and all women deserve access to quality
21 patient-centered reproductive health care that is
22 culturally sensitive and attuned to their unique
23 needs. Intro 2042 on today's agenda is the first
24 major step to ensuring that all birthing individuals
25 have access to midwife information and removes all the

2 barriers that could prevent potential maternal
3 complications. There's a lot of work that needs to be
4 done moving forward, but I'm grateful for today's
5 bill. And I want to thank Speaker Johnson, Health
6 Committee Chair Mark Levine, Women's Caucus
7 [inaudible] members, my cochair, Farah Louis, and I
8 also want to speak in support of Intro 146 and give a
9 huge shout-out to Chair Steve Levin and all the
10 housing advocates. We're finally going to raise the
11 value of the city FEPS voucher to provide so many
12 homelessness New Yorkers with access to truly
13 affordable housing. When you look at the faces of
14 homeless New Yorkers they are working class people
15 that have full-time jobs that cannot afford the rents
16 in our city. This is going to be a major step
17 forward, transformative in nature, and I'm really
18 grateful that we're voting on this. So
19 congratulations, Steve, and congratulations all my
20 colleagues who have bills on today's agenda. I vote
21 proudly eye on all, and congratulate all my colleagues
22 again. Thank you so much.

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

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Gjonaj.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: I vote aye on all
3 except for SLR 0003 of 2021.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Grodenchik.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Ah. Thank
6 you. I vote aye on all. I want to, ah, extend my,
7 um, congratulations to Steve Levin, who, um, I
8 mentioned this morning in, ah, committee vote, has
9 worked so hard to get the FEPS vouchers where they
10 should be, ah, so that people can live in dignity in,
11 in the greatest city in the world. Um, I can't
12 recount how many press conferences we stood sometimes
13 alone but, um, today is a great day and I want to
14 congratulate him and, ah, all the people who are
15 passing legislation today. With that I vote aye on
16 all.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Holden.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye on all.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Kallos.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye on all.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Koo.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye on all.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Koslowitz.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Can I be
25 excused to explain my vote?

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2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
3 granted.

4 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I would like
6 to, ah, attach myself to the remarks that Council
7 Member Yeger had made about anti-Semitism. It has to
8 stop. It has to stop. Over a hundred years ago my
9 grandfather was killed just because he was Jewish. We
10 have to really look at this and to all the members who
11 take, ah, endorsements from people that don't like the
12 Jews, shame on you. And with that I want to say thank
13 you to Margaret for taking care of our seniors. And
14 with that I vote aye.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Lander.

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

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
19 granted.

20 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you,
22 Majority Leader. First I want to give big props to
23 Council Member Levin and also to the homeless
24 individuals and advocates who have been fighting for
25 Intro 146 for years. It will make a profound

2 difference in the lives of many homeless families and
3 indeed in the life of our city as a whole. So thank
4 you, ah, for that pushing and that courage and for
5 today's bill. Ah, I'm voting no today on the
6 Governors Island rezoning, a place that I visited
7 multiple times every year for the past decade. Ah, I
8 appreciate and respect the work of Council Member Chin
9 and of those who have worked hard as stewards at the
10 Trust for Governors Island. And I'm thrilled that the
11 Harbor School will see meaningful new investments.
12 However, as Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer
13 and Community Board 1 have opined, I believe these
14 rezoning proposal does not justify the height and
15 scale of development that it would permit and that it
16 will have a profound impact on the island, a very
17 special place. In other rezonings, additional density
18 brings affordable housing or transit investments. But
19 that's not the case here and I don't accept the idea
20 that Governors Island's must generate all the revenue
21 needed to sustain the park. We don't ask that of
22 other parks. It could be a dangerous precedent to set
23 and we should not do it here. So I vote no Land Use
24 770 and 771 and accompanying Resolutions 1667 and

2 1668. I vote enthusiastically yes on Intro 146 and
3 aye on the rest.

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

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Levin.

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

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
10 granted.

11 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you, Madam
13 Majority Leader. Um, ah, so I want to, um, thank all
14 my colleagues for their kind words on Intro 146. And
15 I just want to thank, um, the speaker, um, ah, the
16 staff, Jason Goldman, um, ah, Committee Counsel Aminta
17 Kilawan, um, Crystal Pond, ah, Natalie Amari, um, ah,
18 I want to thank, ah, Doheny Sapporo, Frank Sarno, ah,
19 Regina Prader Ryan and, um, Latonya McKinney, um, from
20 Council Finance and, and Lou Stroll Brown, and, um,
21 and Andrea Vasquez on their, on their work on this
22 bill. Um, ah, I do think that this is going to be an
23 important bill in the lives of many New Yorkers. Um,
24 ah, it is my hope, ah, that this will, ah, ah, give
25 people the opportunity to have, ah, a solid roof over

2 their heads for them and their families, um, so that
3 they can have the same opportunity that me and my
4 family have, um, ah, and be able to get, get on a
5 solid footing and stay in New York City. Um, I want
6 to thank, ah, there's a lot of, ah, advocates that
7 worked on this, ah, Christine Quinn and Win, um, ah,
8 Urban Justice Center, Vocal New York, um, Polish for
9 the Homeless, and Legal Aid, ah, Neighbors Together,
10 ah, in particular Amy and Annie from Neighbors
11 together, um, and, and all of the, um, all of the
12 homeless individuals and families, ah, who have
13 advocated for this legislation. It's incredibly, um,
14 inspiring to see their advocacy, um, and, um, and
15 their hard work, ah, in holding us accountable. Um,
16 ah, I know that we have, still have work to do, ah,
17 for doing that work, ah, while I'm here in the
18 council, um, and, ah, I just want to thank everybody
19 that, that worked on this. Um, and again I hope, it's
20 my hope that, um, that this will make a real
21 difference in the lives of many New Yorkers. With
22 that, I vote aye on all, ah, and congratulations to my
23 colleagues in passing legislation today. Thank you.

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Congratulations,
25 Council Member Levin.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you.

3 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: This is ground-
4 breaking.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you. He's
6 tired, he's about to go for a nap. Thank you,
7 everybody.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Levine.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Thank you. Huge
10 congratulations, Steve, on that consequential
11 legislation. And I'll be voting aye on all.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Louis.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Sorry, um,
14 permission to explain my vote?

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
16 granted.

17 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Good afternoon,
19 and thank you, Madam Majority Leader. I want to
20 congratulate all my colleagues on passing legislation
21 that will strengthen our city's recovery. This mantle
22 [inaudible] create more sustainability. I just also
23 wanted to just quickly share that 11 years Haiti was
24 devastated by a 7.0 magnitude earthquake that
25 destroyed and help, and, and put Haiti, um, in a place

2 where they struggled to build infrastructure and to
3 recover economically, still going to it to till this
4 day and with harsh anti-immigrant policies under the
5 previous White House administration the fate of 50,000
6 Haitian nationals, many of them, many of them calling
7 New York City home, um, have TPS. And that TPS status
8 remained uncertain. Um, I'm happy to share and happy
9 that we were able to successfully get the Department
10 of Homeland Security to extend 18 month of extension
11 on TPS, which is a major relief for Haitian residents
12 all around New York City, um, as we celebrate the
13 Haitian Heritage Month and culture. So, happy to see
14 this move forward and hopefully we can eventually get
15 to a place where they don't need TPS anymore. Thank
16 you so, oh, I vote aye on all. And thank you so much,
17 Madam Majority Leader.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Maisel.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Yes.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Menchaca.

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

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
25 granted.

2 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you,
4 Majority Leader. Ah, I want to thank the advocates
5 who have been pushing for a long time to increase, ah,
6 what they are effectively doing, increasing the
7 voucher. Ah, the, the work that Vocal has done and so
8 many of the advocates have been [inaudible]. Ah,
9 Council Member Levin, thank you so much for, for
10 holding, ah, holding space for this conversation and
11 really pushing the council to do its best with the
12 administration's negotiations. Ah, I'm gonna be
13 voting yes on it. Um, but I know that there were some
14 last-minute moments that I think caused a little bit
15 of confusion, but I feel good about this now, ah, and,
16 and I'm gonna be voting yes. There's another, there's
17 another controversial piece, ah, that it landed on
18 today's agenda. That is the Governors Island
19 rezoning. And I think what I want to say about that
20 is Governors Island is part of the Manhattan district.
21 Ah, Council Member Chin represents that district. But
22 geographically it's actually a lot closer to Brooklyn.
23 And that geographic connection is one that has been in
24 pretty big, it's, it's been a big valley and something
25 that I've been doing for a long time is trying to

2 figure out how to build a relationship with the, the
3 future of Governors Island and while I have been
4 wanting a lot more I think it's only recently with the
5 relationship with, ah, the new leader, Claire Newman,
6 at the Governors Island Trust that I've just seen some
7 real changes. Um, I am moved by those changes, ah,
8 very quickly, Red Hook and that connection, ah, to the
9 island and the future of the island is for me real
10 enough to say yes. Yes for the rezoning, ah, but also
11 yes to the promise and the accountability that we're
12 gonna be placing on to Governors Island, and in hopes
13 in the future that the geographic connection to
14 Brooklyn, um, brings Governors Island, brings
15 Governors Island to, ah, CB6 and the District 38...

16 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time expired.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: ...um, that's
18 for, that's a future conversation. So I vote aye on
19 all. Thank you.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Miller.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: I vote aye with
23 the exception of SLR 3. Thank you.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Moya.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Perkins. Council Member
3 Perkins?

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: We'll come back.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Powers.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: I vote aye on
7 all. Thank you.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Reynoso.

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

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
12 granted.

13 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Thank you,
15 Majority Leader. Ah, just want to say, um, it's a
16 great day today to be a Council Member. Ah, what
17 we're passing today truly, um, exemplifies, um, what
18 values this council has. And I'm very proud of the
19 work that has been done in, ah, assisting and
20 addressing arguably the deepest inequity that exists
21 in our city, which is black women's health during
22 childbirth. Um, empowering midwives in doing this
23 work truly is going to make a difference. It's simply
24 a step in the right direction. We have a lot more to
25 do to make sure that we can close the gap on those

2 inequities, and I'm very proud of the work that is
3 being done here by this City Council, um, and
4 increasing our vouchers and making sure that people
5 have an opportunity, ah, to live in stable homes, and
6 we make it a reality and actual, and actually possible
7 is of value as well. So I just want to congratulate
8 all the members that have done this work today. I
9 think as a council, as a body, we should all be very
10 proud of the legislation that's being passed here
11 today. And I proudly vote aye on all. Thank you,
12 Majority Leader.

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Riley.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Proudly voting aye
16 on all. Congratulations to all my colleague.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Rivera.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez. Rose.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: I vote aye on all.

21 And I, I want to congratulate Steve. Um, I do believe
22 by changing the amount of the vouchers, um, that are
23 going to have a big impact on homelessness in New York
24 City. So congratulations. And to my colleague,
25 Margaret Chin, who's worked a long, long time on

2 Governors Island. Thank you for getting all of the
3 benefits that you did for the Harbor School. And I
4 vote aye on all.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Rosenthal.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Permission to
7 explain my vote?

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
9 granted.

10 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Well, I wanna
12 echo the words of Council Member Rose and Reynoso, who
13 just spoke. Um, you know, it is, ah, always great to
14 be part of a body that, ah, is listening to, ah, the
15 voices of those who, um, need help and, and, and
16 certainly Council Member Levin, um, Council Member
17 Gibson, Council Member Chin with her resolution coming
18 up, have done that, um, all the others, ah, including
19 all the others. But I do just wanna say on Governors
20 Island, um, you know, my office did also receive, ah,
21 quite a bit of email, um, about it. But what's so
22 admirable about Margaret Chin is she listened, she,
23 she has the capacity to sort of cut out the noise and
24 listen to the people who will be directly affected by
25 this rezoning. She satisfied the needs of the Harbor

2 School. She satisfied the needs of the, um, Governors
3 Island Alliance. You know, I, and yes, there's gonna
4 be some development on the island. I don't think, ah,
5 and, and I support my colleague, Council Member Chin,
6 a hundred percent and I'm voting yes on that
7 resolution. But I just want to make clear how, how
8 cynical it would be of me representing Central Park
9 and Riverdale Park, parks who can fund raise on their
10 own, um, to pass judgment on Governors Island which
11 has tried for so long to raise money and just can't.
12 And so what Margaret did was listen...

13 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time expired.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: ...[inaudible]
15 and to, ah, make sure this rezoning went through, um,
16 and I just want to reiterate how much I admire her for
17 doing that and, ah, thank you. Thank you for that.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Salamanca.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye on all.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Treyger.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Ah, permission
22 to explain my vote?

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
24 granted.

25 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: I'd also like,
3 ah, permission to vote on previous, ah, land use call-
4 ups, Majority Leader.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
6 granted.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Ah, thank you.
8 I, I want to congratulate, ah, my colleague, Council
9 Member Steve Levin, ah, for, ah, never giving up.
10 It's, it's one thing to issue a press release. It's
11 one thing to put out a tweet. But it is something
12 else to actually get something very big done. So I
13 want to congratulate him and all the staff, his staff,
14 the committee staff. But I also want to thank Speaker
15 Corey Johnson and his senior staff, Jason Goldman and
16 others, because this is the work also of, of
17 independent speaker. I think, ah, I think back to a
18 lot of the landmark legislation and accomplishments,
19 ah, of, of this council. That's because we have an
20 independent speaker, because the barrier to this has
21 not been the council. It has been the administration
22 and others. So I want to thank you, Corey. I want to
23 thank the, the staff. And with that I vote aye on
24 all. Thank you.

25 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Ulrich.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Ah, good

4 afternoon. I'm voting aye on all, with the exception
5 of SLR 3 and SLR 4, but aye on all others. Thank you.

6 COUNCIL CLERK: Van Bramer.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye on all.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Yeger.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you. Um,
10 Madam President, may I be excused to explain my vote?

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission
12 granted.

13 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you. Thank
15 you, sorry, Sarge. Ah, first I'll just state my votes
16 and, ah, will be voting aye on all with the exception
17 of, ah, M 315 and accompanying resolution 1649, ah,
18 SLR 3, SLR 4. I will be abstaining on SLR 5, LU 770
19 and accompanying resolution 1667, LU 771 and
20 accompanying resolution 1668. Ah, and also, ah, I
21 would like to just call my colleagues' attention to,
22 ah, an item we're not voting on today, but which, ah,
23 ah, we have accepted and referred over to Finance
24 Committee, um, M 314 is communication for the Banking
25 Commission. As, um, my colleagues will recall, last

2 year we had a debate on the floor of this council, ah,
3 with respect to the usurious interest rates that the
4 city charges those who are unable to afford to pay
5 their real property taxes on time. And at that time
6 many of, ah, my colleagues were dismayed by the notion
7 that we would have a conversation on the floor of the
8 council. Why wouldn't we have this conversation on
9 the Finance Committee? Well, I couldn't agree with
10 that more. So I'm flagging for my friends here in the
11 City Council that the communication with the Banking
12 Commission recommends that the council adopt, which we
13 usually do with a rubber stamp, ah, interest rates of
14 3.25%, 4.5%, 12%, and 18%, ah, to punish those who are
15 not able to pay their property taxes on time. As this
16 moves through the council and we'll be voting on it,
17 ah, next month, I would like to draw the attention of
18 my colleagues to this, ah, because it is coming up at
19 us and, ah, I hope that those of us in the council who
20 don't want to abuse, ah, New Yorkers and continue to
21 abuse New Yorkers will join those of us who last year
22 opposed these usurious interest rates and, ah, let's
23 get together and do it, ah, now that we have this in
24 front of the Finance Committee. And with that, thank
25 you very much, Madam President. I appreciate it.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Perkins.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member
5 Perkins?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Hello?

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Yes, hi.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes, you're on.
9 You're on, Council Member Perkins.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: OK.

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: What do you vote?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: What's the,
13 what's the, hello? Is anybody there?

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes, we're here.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: It is the roll call on
16 general orders. What is your vote, Council Member
17 Perkins, please?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Um, I vote aye.

19 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Matteo.

22 MINORITY LEADER MATTEO: I'm voting no on
23 SLR 3, no on SLR 4, and no on 146-C. Aye on the rest.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Cumbo.

25 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I vote aye.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Johnson.

3 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Aye.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Today's
5 general order vote, 48 in the affirmative, zero in the
6 negative, no abstentions, with the exceptions Intro
7 146-C with 46 in the affirmative, 2 in the negative,
8 no abstentions; LU 77-A and accompanying resolution,
9 which is 45 in the affirmative, 3 negatives; LU 771
10 and accompanying resolution, which was 44 in the
11 affirmative, 4 negative; SLR 3 which was, excuse me,
12 42 in the affirmative, 6 negatives; SLR 4 which was 44
13 in the affirmative, 4 negative; SLR 5, 47 in the
14 affirmative, 0 negative, 1 abstention; LUs number 753,
15 754, 763, 777, 778, no accompanying resolutions, 47 in
16 the affirmative, 1 negative, no abstentions; and that
17 is it, thank you.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Madam President?

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes, Council
21 Member Yeger.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: I, thank you,
23 Madam President. Um, ah, if I may just through the
24 president, ah, address the clerk, I believe I
25 abstained on...

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2 COUNCIL CLERK: Yes, you did, 3, ah, M
3 315.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: No, 315 and 649 I
5 was a no, but on LU 770, 771, and the two accompanying
6 resos I'm an abstention.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: OK.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Sorry about that.

9 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you, Council
10 Member, for clarifying that.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: I've got M 315, 47
12 affirmative, 1 negative, no abstentions. LU 771,
13 revised vote, 44 in the affirmative, 3 negative, 1
14 abstention. LU 770, again 45 in the affirmative, 3
15 negative, 1 abstention.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: I'm sorry, LU 770, excuse
18 me, 45 in the affirmative, 2 negative, 1 abstention.
19 I apologize.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Would you like to
21 read the, the tally in totality again all together?

22 COUNCIL CLERK: OK. General order 48 in
23 the affirmative, 0 negative, no abstentions. 146-C,
24 um, excuse me, 45 in the affirmative, 3 negative, 0
25 abstentions. LU 753, 754, 763, 777, 778 and all

2 accompanying resolutions, 47 in the affirmative, 1
3 negative, no abstentions. SLR 5, 47 in the
4 affirmative, no negative, 1 abstention. SLR 4, 44 in
5 the affirmative, 4 in the negative. SLR 3, 46 in the
6 affirmative, 6 in the negative. M 315, 47 in the
7 affirmative, 1 negative, no abstentions.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

9 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Mr. Clerk, can you
10 please clarify the vote on SLR 3?

11 COUNCIL CLERK: 42 in the affirmative, 6
12 in the negative, and no abstentions.

13 SPEAKER JOHNSON: OK, are those correct?
14 OK.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Yes.

16 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you. Ah, Council
17 Member Yeger, did that address your, ah, discrepancy?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: I, I, I think so,
19 ah, Mr. Speaker. But, um, when the, ah, when the
20 chart comes later I guess we can all look at it. It's
21 on the tape, however we all voted, so if there's a
22 program we can always go back and, and revise it
23 later. But I think that the, that the, ah, numbers
24 are stated. How do you have LU 777 and [inaudible],
25 ah, ah, the two, 770, 71, and 1667 and 1668?

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2 COUNCIL CLERK: All right, for 770, OK,
3 for 770 I believe, I believe you, did you abstain on
4 that?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: I'm abstention.
6 It should be, I think...

7 COUNCIL CLERK: OK.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: ...I think 45, 2,
9 1, those two. OK.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: 45, 2, and 1.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: All right, thank
12 you.

13 SPEAKER JOHNSON: So for those two it's
14 45 in the affirmative, 2 in the negative, and 1
15 abstention.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Yes.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you, Mr.
18 Speaker.

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

24 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Madam Majority Leader,
25 I think we have the introduction and reading of bills.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I'm so sorry.
3 Thank you. We'll now have today's, ah, the items on
4 today's general orders calendar are adopted. Intro
5 and reading of bills.

6 SPEAKER JOHNSON: All bills have been
7 referred to committees, as indicated on today's
8 agenda.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We
10 will now move into the discussion of resolutions. As
11 a reminder, please wait until the Sergeant at Arms
12 begins the countdown clock before you begin your
13 remarks. Are there any members at this time who wish
14 to speak?

15 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes, Madam Majority
16 Leader. Council Member Chin.

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member
18 Chin, you may begin.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Yes, I want...

20 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Thank you. Thank
22 you, Madam Majority Leader. I just wanted to, ah,
23 speak briefly on Resolution 920, and I wanted to
24 really thank the Committee on Women and Gender Equity,
25 our chair, ah, Council Member Darma Diaz, for, ah,

1
2 doing the vote, um, this morning and for her support
3 and the committee's support, and also Council Member
4 Rosenthal, who was the former chair of the committee,
5 ah, for conducting for conducting the hearing with the
6 Health Committee chair, I think Council Member Levine,
7 ah, last year. Right now, you know, Roe v Wade and
8 women's right to choose is under attack. And it's
9 just so important for us to really send a strong
10 message to Washington and to the state legislature to
11 stop this. And also the, you know, sex selection
12 abortion, I mean, they're using that to really
13 discriminate and targeting especially, you know, Asian
14 Pacific Islander women and perpetuating that kind of
15 stereotype. So I think we really need to send a
16 strong message. And I also wanted to thank, um, my
17 sisters in the Women's Caucus for your strong support
18 and to the cochairs and also to the staff who work on,
19 um, this resolution, of course to our, ah, speaker,
20 for your strong support on this. Thank you.

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. Are
22 there any other members who wish to speak at this
23 time?

24 PARLIAMENTARIAN: No, Madam Majority
25 Leader.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We'll
3 now have a voice vote on today's resolution. If you
4 wish to vote against or abstain from today's
5 resolution please notify the legislative documents
6 unit by email. I'll now read today's resolution into
7 the record. Resolution 920-A urges the United States
8 Congress and the New York State Legislature to pass a
9 woman's right to abortion and to oppose a ban on sex-
10 selective abortions, which perpetuate racial
11 stereotypes and undermine access to care. Will all
12 those in favor please say aye.

13 [chorus of voices saying aye]

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: All those opposed
15 say nay. Any abstentions? The ayes have it. We will
16 now move into general discussion. As a reminder,
17 please wait until the Sergeant at Arms begins the
18 countdown clock before you begin your remarks. Are
19 there any members who wish to speak up in general
20 discussion at this time, Mr. Parliamentarian?

21 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Yes, Council Members
22 Barron, Menchaca, and Koo.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member
24 Barron, you may begin.

25 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member
3 Barron?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: OK, sorry.
5 Reclaiming my time. We recently commemorated the
6 death of George Floyd, a black man killed without
7 cause by an officer of the law and that horrendous
8 criminal act is sadly a part of the history of this
9 country that manifests a litany of crimes embedded and
10 protected in the systems that perpetuate innumerable
11 political, economic, and social injustices against
12 black people. I want to call attention to the race
13 massacre which occurred a hundred years ago on May 31,
14 1921, against a black community of Greenwood in Tulsa,
15 Oklahoma, perpetuated by, perpetrated by law officers
16 and those that they deputized. Greenwood was founded
17 in 1960 by O. W. Gurley who purchased property in so-
18 called Indian territory. There were many African
19 Americans who had traveled with the Native Americans
20 during that Trail of Tears to that territory. The
21 community of Greenwood became an epicenter for black
22 families and entrepreneurs and professionals and
23 laborers as well. The businesses included hotels,
24 banks, hospitals, churches, newspapers, school system,
25 transportation systems, restaurants, jewelry stores,

2 theaters, and clothing stores. It is said the dollar
3 exchanged 19 times in Greenwood before it left the
4 community. This, ah, thriving, self-sufficient, self-
5 reliant [inaudible] black Wall Street community drew
6 the envy, the jealousy, the animosity, and ire of the
7 white community that literally was on the other side
8 of the railroad tracks. Following the resurgence of
9 the KKK, the continuing rise of Jim Crow, and the
10 horrible incidents of the Red Summer of 1919 and the
11 spread of lynching, law enforcement attacked Tulsa,
12 burned it to the ground, dropped firebombs from
13 airplanes, and leveled that community known as Black
14 Wall Street.

15 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time expired.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you. It is
17 said that the damages included 30, what would be 35
18 million dollars in today's property value. Six
19 thousand people were [inaudible] in Tulsa, 10,000
20 homeless, and 300 were killed. So I want to call
21 attention to the 100th anniversary of the Tulsa race
22 massacre May 31, 1921, and say that they have still
23 not received adequate compensation and reparation.
24 Thank you.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We
3 will now have Council Member Menchaca.

4 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you,
6 Majority Leader. I want to make brief remarks about
7 two resolutions I'm introducing today, one with Public
8 Advocate Jumaane Williams and the other with Council
9 Member Alicka Ampry-Samuel. The New York For All Act,
10 when President Trump was elected in 2016 I drew
11 strength from the fact that we had already built a
12 sanctuary system that disentangled local law
13 enforcement from immigration enforcement. His
14 presidency was a stress test for that system and for
15 the most part it protected immigrant New Yorkers from
16 his worst policies. But our sanctuary system only
17 applies to New York City. There are thousands of New
18 Yorkers in the rest of the state who continue to be
19 subject to the worst excess of our deportation
20 machine. This is why Public Advocate Jumaane Williams
21 and I are introducing a resolution calling on the
22 state to pass the New York For All Act. The bill
23 would take the New York City sanctuary system and
24 apply it statewide, while strengthening it in the
25 process. There's not much time left in the state

2 legislature session, which is why I'm grateful that
3 the speaker is moving our resolution forward today and
4 helping us secure something hopefully in the next few
5 weeks while we go up and fight in Albany. Next, the
6 second resolution I'm introducing today with Council
7 Member Alicka Ampry-Samuel, which also involves some
8 of our most vulnerable neighbors. As we all know, for
9 years now NYCHA has been plagued by gas stoppages,
10 electrical outages, and lead in drinking water. Too
11 often, those of us who are fortunate, ah, too often
12 those of us fortunate enough to represent NYCHA
13 residents make a big deal about some of the failures.
14 Then we celebrate a very long-delayed, ah, return of
15 the service, but what is happening here is that NYCHA
16 residents are still paying full 100% rent. What we
17 are asking in this bill in the state is for people in
18 our communities, NYCHA residents, to get compensation,
19 to get abatement. This is why I'm proud to represent
20 this, ah, ah, and introduce this resolution with
21 Ampry-Samuel to call on the state to pass...

22 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time expired.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: ...[inaudible]

24 Utility Accountability Act. Um, we'll be in touch
25 with you throughout the next few weeks so we can bring

2 those voices to the state legislative body and pass
3 this in this session in the next few weeks. Thank you
4 so much, Speaker Johnson, and everyone who's worked on
5 this.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.
7 Council Member Koo.

8 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you, Majority
10 Leader. Today I am asking my colleagues to join me in
11 signing onto a resolution by myself and Council Member
12 Chin and Treyger, calling upon the New York State
13 Legislature to pass and the governor to sign
14 legislation that will require public schools to teach
15 Asian American history and civic impact. This
16 resolution supports state legislation that has
17 recently introduced by Senator John Liu and Assembly
18 Member Ron Kim. And it follows a year that has seen
19 150% increase in Asian hate crimes across the United
20 States, according to recent studies. It also follows
21 a recent survey that found 40% of Americans were
22 unable to identify, to identify even one prominent
23 Asian American. In that survey the most common answer
24 was I don't know. The second most common answer was
25 Jackie Chan, who is not even American. Clearly we

2 have a lot of work to do. The best way to combat
3 hatred and hate crimes is through education and the
4 best place to get an education is in our classrooms.
5 This is where our young people form their ideas and
6 social skills. It is where they establish identities,
7 which in turn helps to teach children to appreciate
8 one another and to reduce implicit bias. In so many
9 ways American history is world history. Most New
10 Yorker know this, but too many do not. From the rise
11 in anti-Asian hate crimes it must be our
12 responsibility to ensure future generations have every
13 opportunity to learn about the history, the
14 contributions, and the civic impact of all of us, not
15 just some of us. So I hope you will join us in
16 supporting this resolution that will require Asian
17 American history and civic impact in our public
18 schools. Thank you, Majority Leader.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
20 Council Member Koo. Mr. Parliamentarian, if there are
21 no other members that wish to speak I'll close.

22 PARLIAMENTARIAN: There are. Um, Council
23 Member Chin would also like to speak, and then you may
24 close.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member
3 Chin.

4 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Yeah, thank you,
6 thank you, Madam Majority Leader. I just wanted to,
7 ah, bring my colleagues' attention to a bill that I am
8 introducing on, in relation to senior center
9 reopening. And I've heard all my colleague asking me
10 when are we gonna open our senior center, and a lot of
11 the, our constituency, our seniors, have been asking
12 this. And the administration still have not put a
13 plan together. They said that they started grab-and-
14 go and it hasn't happened. Um, and so we demand that
15 they should definitely have a plan in place.
16 Restaurants are open, venues are open, Broadway is
17 gonna be open. When are we gonna open our senior
18 center? So I urge my colleague to sign on, um, to
19 this introduction so that we can get our center open
20 as quickly as possible. Ah, the other thing is my
21 resolution, um, calling on the New York State Assembly
22 to pass and the governor to sign S14 and A613, the
23 Jose Webster's Untraceable Firearm Act. I think
24 people have heard about ghost guns and those things
25 are not regulated, um, in our state and with so much

2 gun violence happening in our city we need to stop
3 that. And I, so I urge my colleague to also sign on
4 to support this resolution. Thank you. Thank you,
5 Majority Leader.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,
7 Council Member Chin. And I just wanted to close
8 addressing so much of the hate that we are seeing all
9 across this city. Um, when Reverend Dr. Martin
10 Luther...

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Hand raised. I'm
12 sorry.

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: It's OK.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: When Reverend Dr.
15 Martin Luther King, Jr....

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: I'm, I'm sorry,
17 um, Majority Leader.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: I had my hand
20 raised, so would you, of course, you know.

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: OK, then you go
22 and then I'll go.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: OK. Thank you.

24 Ah, thank you, Madam Majority Leader. So this
25 afternoon we, we, we are introducing legislation, and,

2 and, and let me just say happy Memorial Day to all and
3 thank you for those who have protected, ah, during
4 time of war, in time of peace, and let us also
5 remember those, ah, who we've lost during the time of
6 COVID, who we have not had the opportunity to
7 memorialize. Ah, let's keep them in mind. Today we
8 will be introducing two pieces of legislation. The
9 first introduction, 2325, at the request of the mayor,
10 would amend the administrative code of New York City
11 in relationship to protection of restaurant, food,
12 food service, and airport workers displaced due to
13 COVID-19. This legislation would require covered
14 employees to be rehired, laid-off employees due to
15 government order, lack of business, reduction in, in
16 the working force and/or other economic reasons before
17 hiring new employees. It would give certain workers
18 who have been laid off through, through no fault of
19 their own, the opportunity to get back to, to their,
20 ah, positions. This is ensuring that New Yorkers are
21 affordable, afforded most, ah, their most experienced
22 workforce. [inaudible] please support, ah, Intro
23 2325. And then next, ah, I along with some of my
24 colleagues will, ah, who have signed on, I want to
25 thank you, we'll be introducing Intro 2326 related to

2 rank choice voting. Out of deep concern for the June
3 22 primary, ah, and how it may play out, the software
4 to count rank choice voting ballots was only approved
5 on May 25, with the state noting ongoing security
6 concerns and their RSCV proponents admitting that the
7 lack of cast votes record, records being related in a
8 timely fashion could frustrate public trust and
9 accountability. Both Dominion and the city's in-home
10 election vendor declined to bid...

11 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: ...on the city's
13 RFP, citing serious concerns about timeless and
14 significant risk to ensuring successful elections.
15 Based solely on what we have seen thus far, it is
16 apparent that New York City deserves the opportunity
17 to make an informed decision about rank choice voting.
18 This proposed legislation would allow a much wider
19 swath of voters to determine whether or not rank
20 choice voting is right for New York City and we'll be
21 able to use the June 22 primary as the benchmark for
22 making their decision. I want to the Majority Leader
23 and the colleagues that have signed on to this
24 legislation. Should we find that New York City is not
25 ready for rank choice voting, ah, by virtue of the

2 June 22 primary this introduction, this legislation
3 will be prepared and will allow us, ah, New Yorkers to
4 have, to give informed choice, ah, ah, and decisions
5 come November, ah, general election. I want to thank
6 you, Madam Majority Leader, for your time.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so
8 much, Council Member Miller. And thank you so much
9 for your leadership.

10 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Madam Majority Leader,
11 we now recognize Council Member Yeger.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member
13 Yeger, you may begin.

14 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you, Madam
16 President. Ah, and I recognize that I'm, I'm signing
17 on late, ah, signing up late. I just want to add, ah,
18 to my good colleague, ah, Council Member Miller's
19 remarks, um, you know, because, ah, Twitter and, and
20 the intelligentsia of reporters are already exploding
21 about this bill because unlike, ah, those of us here
22 who read the bills, ah, they don't bother. So to be
23 very clear, this would do nothing to this primary.
24 Ah, this would do nothing to the special elections
25 that have already happened and, um, you know, I think

2 folks who know me by now know I don't cosponsor
3 something that I didn't read. And all this would do,
4 all this would do, is put it in front of the voters,
5 for them to make a choice, an intelligent choice, not
6 in a low-turnout election, and, and a flag which I
7 raised in 2018 on the Government Affairs Committee,
8 um, ah, Government Operations Committee, when, ah, the
9 public advocate and the Manhattan borough president
10 were testifying and I specifically asked why would we
11 want to put this on the ballot in 2019 when nobody is
12 going to vote. And the statistic is that 73% of those
13 who bother to show up to vote voted in favor. Well,
14 first of all, not my district. We opposed it and it
15 was beaten in my district. But secondly, the totality
16 of the number of people who voted in favor of this
17 represents a pittance of registered enrolled voters in
18 New York City. Let's put this on the ballot in a
19 mayoral election year. I would have preferred doing
20 it in a presidential election year. Let the greater
21 part of New York City participate. But with the full,
22 ah, set of information and facts after all the ballots
23 are counted this year in the primary, let's ask the
24 electorate in November to decide whether this is what
25 they want their future to be, and that's why I'm proud

2 to join, ah, Council Member Miller, the Majority
3 Leader, ah, Council Member Adams, and I hope many,
4 many of my colleagues here in the council who love
5 democracy the way we do. Thank you very much, Madam
6 President.

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so
8 much, Council Member Yeger.

9 PARLIAMENTARIAN: We now recognize
10 Council Member Cornegy.

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Council Member
12 Cornegy.

13 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Time starts now.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: So I apologize
15 deeply for the late sign-up, ah, but Majority Leader,
16 I don't know if you're aware of the tragic loss we've
17 just suffered in the Crown Heights community. Ah,
18 very recently we lost, ah, a stalwart, um, for our
19 community and for especially for our seniors, ah, the
20 president of the precinct council, president of,
21 former president of his block association, his titles
22 go on and on. He's a friend, a mentor, somebody who
23 I, I just don't know how I'm gonna get through this
24 and, and, and these deaths seem to be coming, ah, so
25 quickly. But, um, rest in peace to Mr. James

2 Caldwell. I just wanted to take an opportunity during
3 the Stated, ah, during this time, ah, to mention to
4 people that there are people in our community that are
5 not elected officials, but do a yeoman's job in making
6 sure that the elected officials are aware and held
7 accountable, and Mr. Caldwell was one of those people.
8 So, thank you, ah, Madam Majority Leader, for this
9 time.

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. May
11 Mr. Caldwell rest in peace.

12 PARLIAMENTARIAN: We now recognize the
13 Majority Leader.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. As I
15 had started out saying, um, when we think about the
16 hate crimes that are happening across this city, we
17 think about Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who
18 stated that injustice anywhere is a threat to justice
19 everywhere. And truer words could not have been
20 spoken. Hate works in much of the same way as
21 injustice. There is no doubt that hate crimes have
22 been on the rise across this country during and since
23 the presidency of Donald Trump against black, Latinos,
24 Asians, Muslims, Jews, women, and the LGBTQ community.
25 We saw during the capital riots a conversion of hatred

2 onto our nation with nooses being hung, Camp Auschwitz
3 paraphernalia, and a consistent message of the Chinese
4 virus, which made our Asian community that much more
5 vulnerable. Living in a city as diverse as New York
6 City requires everyone to speak out against hatred in
7 any form, when it is against your community, but
8 especially when it is against a community that you
9 don't necessarily identify with or shame, share the
10 same values or beliefs with. Elected officials can
11 continue to issue quotes or statements condemning hate
12 and violence, but until we realize that hate and
13 violence are like a virus that does not remain
14 isolated against any one group of people we will never
15 make progress. At baseline we all have to agree that
16 in order to live in a diverse community we have to
17 have a shared responsibility to collectively work and
18 condemn hate, even when your silence benefits us in
19 the short term. So I will close with that, and I will
20 turn it over to Speaker Corey Johnson to close today's
21 meeting of May 27, 2021.

22 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam
23 Majority Leader. The Stated Meeting of May 27, 2021,
24 stands in recess. Thank you.

25 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

2 **Transcribers Note:

3
4 Vote Clarification:

5
6 All items on today's General Order Calendar are
7 adopted by a vote of:
8 48 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative and 0
9 abstentions,

10
11 With the exception of the following which are adopted:

12
13 M-315 & Res. No. 1649 with:

14 47 in the affirmative, 1 negative, 0 abstentions

15
16 Int. No. 146-C with:

17 46 affirmative, 2 negative, 0 abstentions

18
19 SLR No. 3 with:

20 42 affirmative, 6 negative, 0 abstentions

21
22 SLR No. 4 with:

23 44 affirmative, 4 negative, 0 abstentions

24
25 SLR No. 5 with:

1 STATED MEETING

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2 47 affirmative, 0 negative, 1 abstention

3

4 LU No. 770 & Res. No. 1667 with:

5 45 affirmative, 2 negative, 1 abstention

6

7 LU No. 771 & Res. No. 1668 with:

8 44 affirmative, 3 negative, 1 abstention

9

10 &

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12 LU No. 753 & Res. No. 1614,

13 LU No. 754 & Res. No. 1615,

14 LU No. 763 & Res. No. 1666,

15 LU No. 777 & Res. No. 1655,

16 LU No. 778 & Res. No. 1656 with

17 47 affirmative, 1 negative and 0 abstentions

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STATED MEETING

C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Date July 3, 2021