

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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July 29, 2021  
Start: 1:47 p.m.  
Recess: 2:51 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers, City Hall

B E F O R E: Corey Johnson  
Speaker

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Adrienne E. Adams  
Alicka Ampry Samuel  
Diana Ayala  
Inez D. Barron,  
Joseph C. Borelli  
Justin 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  
Corey Johnson  
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 A. Vallone  
James G. Van Bramer  
Kalman Yeger

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

Pastor Ben Hur  
Promise Church

1 STATED MEETING

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2 SERGEANT AT ARMS ANDREW: Microphone  
3 check. Today's date is July 29, 2021. Recording of  
4 the Stated Meeting by Sergeant at Arms John B.  
5 Andrew.

6 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Can we have your  
7 attention please? At this time please place all  
8 electronic devices to vibrate, all electronic devices  
9 to vibrate. Madam Majority Leader.

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: [gavel] Good  
11 afternoon and welcome to the stated meeting of July  
12 29, 2021. I am Majority Leader Laurie Cumbo and I'd  
13 like to thank you for joining us today. If you would  
14 like to follow along, the agenda for today's meeting  
15 is posted on our website.

16 UNIDENTIFIED: Please join us for the  
17 Pledge of Allegiance. Please stand.

18 SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise.

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

23 Majority Leader Cumbo thank you. We'll now do roll  
24 call.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Adams.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Present.

3

COUNCIL CLERK: Ampry-Samuel.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Present.

5

COUNCIL CLERK: Ayala.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Present.

7

COUNCIL CLERK: Barron.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Blessed and

9

present.

10

COUNCIL CLERK: Borelli.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: [inaudible]

12

COUNCIL CLERK: Brannan.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Here.

14

COUNCIL CLERK: Brooks-Powers

15

COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Present.

16

COUNCIL CLERK: Cabrera. Chin.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Present.

18

COUNCIL CLERK: Cornegy. Darma Diaz.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER R. DIAZ: Present.

20

COUNCIL CLERK: Ruben Diaz.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER R. DIAZ: Presente.

22

COUNCIL CLERK: Dinowitz.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Present.

24

COUNCIL CLERK: Dromm.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Present.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Present.  
3 COUNCIL CLERK: Feliz.  
4 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Presente.  
5 COUNCIL CLERK: Gennaro. Gibson.  
6 Gjonaj.  
7 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Present.  
8 COUNCIL CLERK: Grodenchik.  
9 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Here.  
10 COUNCIL CLERK: Holden.  
11 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here.  
12 COUNCIL CLERK: Kallos. Koo.  
13 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.  
14 COUNCIL CLERK: Koslowitz.  
15 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.  
16 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.  
17 COUNCIL CLERK: Levin.  
18 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.  
19 COUNCIL CLERK: Levine.  
20 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Here.  
21 COUNCIL CLERK: Louis. Maisel.  
22 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Here.  
23 COUNCIL CLERK: Menchaca. Miller.  
24 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Present.  
25 COUNCIL CLERK: Moya.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Present.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Perkins.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Present.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Powers.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Here.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Reynoso. Menchaca.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Presente.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Riley.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Present.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I'm present.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Rodriguez. Rose.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Present.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Rosenthal.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Present.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Salamanca. Treyger.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Gibson.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Present.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Ulrich. Vallone. Van

21 Bramer.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Yeger.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Matteo. Cumbo.

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2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Present.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Johnson.

4 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I'm here.

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

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: We have a quorum,  
8 and thank you so much. We will now have today's  
9 invocation, which will be delivered by Pastor Ben  
10 Hur, senior pastor and spiritual at Promise Church  
11 and Ministries International, located at 130-30 31st  
12 Avenue in Flushing, Queens. Welcome.

13 PASTOR BEN HUR: Let us pray.

14 SERGEANT AT ARMS: All rise.

15 PASTOR BEN HUR: Father God, the creator  
16 and the ruler of all the universe. We thank you,  
17 that your name is a strong tower where the righteous  
18 can run to you and are safe. Thank you for giving  
19 New York City and the United States resilience in the  
20 face of all the despair of the past year and a half  
21 with the unprecedented global corona pandemic  
22 catastrophe. Father, within this unfinished battle  
23 with the pandemic above all we pray for our  
24 courageous first responders in the medical field who  
25 are working around the clock for the health and



2 safety of our communities in hospitals, clinics, and  
3 emergency rooms. Oh, Lord, we lift to you our  
4 concern for people who have already been affected by  
5 this pandemic. Please take away the fear, anxiety,  
6 and feelings of isolation from people receiving  
7 treatment in this time of uncertainty. We pray for  
8 those who have been impacted financially from this  
9 interruption, regardless of race, color, religion, as  
10 we realize that our current difficulties are an open  
11 tunnel, not a closed cave. Grant us the patience to  
12 endure a little more. Finally, we pray for New York  
13 City council members in this room. New York City is  
14 the capitol of the world, so what is discussed and  
15 decided here will have a global impact. Therefore,  
16 please grant the speaker, Corey Johnson, and the City  
17 Council members inside to accurately analyze reality,  
18 foresight to precisely predict the future, and the  
19 wisdom and courage to seamlessly connect the two. So  
20 through each agenda and resolution in this chamber  
21 may all New Yorkers experience a safer and better  
22 quality of life, and that New York City, which used  
23 to be the epicenter of pandemic could be the  
24 [inaudible] center that provides dreams and  
25 inspiration to people all around the world again. In

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2 the name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit we  
3 pray. Amen.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Amen. Thank you.

5 Thank you so much. That was a very, very, very  
6 powerful prayer, Pastor Hur, and we welcome you as  
7 well as the other members of your congregation and  
8 the youthful members that are here, that are in our  
9 balcony. We thank you so much for being here, and it  
10 is an honor at this time to have Council Member Peter  
11 Koo to spread the invocation onto the record.

12 Council Member Koo.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you, Majority  
14 Leader. Thank you, Reverend Hur. Reverend Ben Hur  
15 serves as the senior pastor at Promise Church, located  
16 in Flushing, Queens. Over his 25 years of service at  
17 Promise Ministries, Reverend has taken a local  
18 immigrant church to the global stage, a testament to  
19 his leadership, commitment, and the servant-minded  
20 attitude. He runs local programs for youth and our  
21 elderly, and during the pandemic his ministry provided  
22 food, personal care packages, and medical supplies to  
23 our most vulnerable. Globally, he has used soccer to  
24 connect millions of people across 30 cities through  
25 his Soccer With Values initiative. Reverend Hur has

2 even brought his faith to the Apollo Theater, where  
3 his work, a musical called His Life received positive  
4 reviews from the *New York Times*, and for the movie  
5 buffs wondering why the reverend's name might sound  
6 familiar he does in fact share his name with the  
7 Oscar-winning movie, *Ben Hur*. In fact, he was born  
8 the same year it was produced. Guess what year.  
9 1959. Thank you, Madam, ah, Public, ah, no, Madam  
10 Majority Leader. I would like to thank Pastor Hur for  
11 being here today and make a motion for unanimous  
12 consent to spread the invocation in full upon the  
13 record. Thank you.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so  
15 much, Council Member Peter Koo. If you could just  
16 remain at the microphone, because we have another task  
17 for you. But I also want to thank you again, Pastor  
18 Hur, for that powerful prayer, very timely, and it's  
19 an honor to have you in the Council Chambers today.  
20 At this time we will now have the adoption of minutes,  
21 also by Council Member Peter Koo.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I make a motion for  
23 unanimous consent to adopt the minutes of Stated  
24 Meeting of June 17, 2021, in full upon the record.

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2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We'll  
3 pause for one moment.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: So let me repeat  
5 that again. I make a motion for unanimous support,  
6 unanimous consent to adopt the minutes of Stated  
7 Meeting, ah, as printed, ah, of June 17, 2021, in full  
8 upon the record.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so  
10 much, Council Member Koo. We will now go into  
11 messages and papers from the mayor.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Preconsidered M 322,  
13 corporation counsel appointment.

14 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Rules, privileges, and  
15 elections.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Communication  
17 from city, county, and borough offices.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Petitions and  
20 communications.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Land use call-  
23 ups.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

25

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We  
3 will now have communication from Speaker Corey  
4 Johnson.

5 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam  
6 Majority Leader. Good afternoon. Welcome to our July  
7 Stated Meeting. While I hope everyone is enjoying  
8 their summer, it is important to acknowledge that  
9 COVID cases have been surging in New York City,  
10 primarily due to the delta variant. We need more and  
11 more New Yorkers to get vaccinated. We have already  
12 lost too many New Yorkers to this deadly virus. As of  
13 yesterday 33,519 New Yorkers have died from the  
14 coronavirus. Unfortunately, we recently had a COVID  
15 death in the council family. Dalsia Philips, the  
16 grandmother of Council Member Vanessa Gibson, died of  
17 COVID in Trinidad, where she was living in a nursing  
18 home. We are sending our prayers to Vanessa and her  
19 entire family during this time. We also lost Matthew  
20 Peccarino, who was Council Member Eric Ulrich's budget  
21 director. He passed away unexpectedly on June 30. He  
22 was 40 years old. I want to send my deep condolences  
23 to his family, to his friends, to Council Member  
24 Ulrich, and his entire office, and those of us who  
25 personally knew him here at the council. And as I do

2 at every Stated, I want to remember the lives lost to  
3 9/11-related illnesses. On July 19 we lost retired  
4 firefighter Wayne Gering. We also acknowledge those  
5 who died while on the job in New York City. On July  
6 22 Federico Zaput Palox, a food delivery worker, died  
7 in a traffic crash in Brooklyn. He was 27 years old.  
8 On July 8 Warcot Ola, another delivery worker, was  
9 killed when he was struck by a hit-and-run driver  
10 while riding his e-bike in Manhattan. He was 24 years  
11 old. On June 14 Bronx grocery store worker Jose  
12 Carreno died from injuries he suffered when he was  
13 beaten by a customer. He was 50 years old. On June  
14 13 for-hire vehicle driver Mohammed Hussein died when  
15 he was struck by an unlicensed driver in Queens. He  
16 was 47. These tragic deaths remind us of the  
17 important work that delivery workers, drivers, and  
18 grocery store workers do every day to keep our city  
19 thriving and our collective prayers are with their  
20 loved ones and family during this time. On July 25  
21 Harlem-born Bob Moses, one of our nation's most  
22 relentless civil rights activist died. He was 86  
23 years old. Moses endured violence to register black  
24 voters in Mississippi in the 1960s and helped organize  
25 poor and rural black residents. He is an example for

2 all of us of the importance of fighting injustices no  
3 matter what the obstacles are. And lastly I would  
4 want to acknowledge the anniversary of a tragic loss  
5 that happened here. Council Member James Davis, who  
6 was killed in City Hall on July 23, 2003. His  
7 senseless death is a stark reminder that gun violence  
8 can occur anywhere, even in City Hall. So let us  
9 pause for a moment of silence for Wayne Gering,  
10 Matthew Peccarino, Dalsia Philips, Federico Zupat,  
11 Borkot Allah, Jose Carreno, Mohammed Hussein, Bob  
12 Moses, and James Davis [moment of silence]. Thank  
13 you. Now onto our agenda for the day. Out of the  
14 Finance Committee today will be voting on first the  
15 transparency resolutions. Second, Intro number 2291,  
16 sponsored by our Finance Committee chair, Danny Dromm,  
17 which will authorize changes to the Flat Iron 23rd  
18 Street partnership BID in my council district. Third,  
19 a property tax exemption for Beck Street HDFC in  
20 Council Member Salamanca's district to preserve 83  
21 units of affordable housing. And fourth, a property  
22 tax exemption for Maimonides in Council Member  
23 Menchaca's district to preserve 221 units of  
24 affordable housing. I'm also pleased that today we'll  
25 be confirming Georgia Pestana to be the corporation

2 counsel for the City of New York. She will be the  
3 first woman to serve as the city's corporation counsel  
4 and this is the first time the council has confirmed  
5 the head lawyer for the city. We are proud to approve  
6 her nomination. Ms. Pestana is a 35-year veteran of  
7 the Law Department, who has now twice served as acting  
8 corporation counsel. Her qualifications for the  
9 position are indisputable. We asked her a lot of  
10 tough and important questions in her confirmation  
11 hearing. In the 30-plus years since the council has  
12 been a coequal branch of government with the mayor, we  
13 have generally worked well with the amazing lawyers at  
14 the Law Department. But there had been some long-  
15 standing concerns about the Law Department's  
16 independence from whoever the mayor is, and that is  
17 why we pushed for the council to have advise and  
18 consent when it comes to the corporation counsel in  
19 the 2019 Charter Revision Commission and that was  
20 overwhelmingly approved by voters. Ms. Pestana made  
21 clear to us that she understood our concerns and  
22 committed to always putting the needs of the city and  
23 city government as a whole before those of any mayor.  
24 We look forward to working with the new corporation  
25 counsel and having an even better working relationship



2 with the Law Department under her tenure. Moving on,  
3 moving on, from the Committee on Human Rights, we're  
4 voting on Introduction number, ah, 339-B, which is  
5 sponsored by Council Member Debbie Rose, and it will  
6 extend employment protections of the Human Rights Law  
7 to all domestic, domestic workers regardless of staff  
8 size. Debbie, you've worked on this a very, very  
9 long. Congratulations. I'm very proud of you.  
10 Domestic workers include those employed at an  
11 employer's residence for the purpose of caring for a  
12 child, sick or elderly person, or for housekeeping or  
13 other domestic services. The protections in this bill  
14 include prohibitions against discrimination  
15 employment, such as hiring, firing, and promoting  
16 based on a protected category, such as gender, race,  
17 and unlawful discrimination against victims of  
18 domestic violence, sex offenses, or stalking.  
19 Domestic workers would also be entitled to reasonable  
20 accommodations for pregnancy, childbirth, and related  
21 conditions, such as lactation accommodations upon  
22 request. And from the staff I want to Giastry  
23 Gadapafi and Wyom Diori. Today we're voting on my  
24 bill, Introduction number 2252-A, from the Committee  
25 on Civil Service and Labor. This bill would require

2 city human service contractors and certain  
3 subcontractors to enter into labor peace agreements  
4 with labor organizations seeking to represent their  
5 employees rendering services under the city's human  
6 service contracts. During such agreements, employers  
7 agree to maintain a neutral posture at union efforts  
8 to organize employees, meaning they agree not to  
9 hinder or disrupt the organizing process, while the  
10 union in turn agrees not to go on strike or otherwise  
11 stop work. While labor peace agreements can be  
12 helpful to worker organizing, they likewise benefit  
13 employers and recipients of city services by ensuring  
14 service delivery will continue uninterrupted. No  
15 later than 90 days after the award or renewal of a  
16 human services contract the contractor would be  
17 obligated to submit evidence that, number one, the  
18 employer has entered into one or more labor peace  
19 agreements with a labor organization, or no labor  
20 organization has sought to represent their employees.  
21 Such evidence would be updated annually. And from the  
22 staff I want to thank Nuzhat Chowdhury and Thomas  
23 Nath. We're also voting here today on a five-bill  
24 package that will help small mom and pop restaurants  
25 and regulate third-party food delivery services, ah,

2 in our city. This package extends some of the  
3 measures that the council already put in place to help  
4 restaurants during the pandemic, at the beginning of  
5 the pandemic, and new provisions will help create an  
6 equitable playing field between these platforms and  
7 the restaurants that use them. Door Dash, Grub Hub,  
8 Uber Eats, and similar apps are the middle people  
9 between restaurants and their customers. Customers  
10 rely heavily on these already-popular platforms for  
11 good delivery, ah, especially that's been the case  
12 during the pandemic. As the city opens up and  
13 restaurants attempt to return to normal, New Yorkers  
14 continue to rely on these third-party delivery apps at  
15 a high frequency. Unfortunately, when food orders are  
16 placed through these platforms it greatly reduces or  
17 eliminates restaurants' ability to fully profit on  
18 delivery orders. Introduction number 2333-A from our,  
19 ah, Committee on Small Business is sponsored by Chair  
20 Gjonaj and it will prohibit third-party delivery  
21 platforms from listing restaurants on their  
22 application or website and making deliveries from  
23 those restaurants without a written agreement to do  
24 so. Additionally, the legislation prohibits the  
25 delivery platforms from acquiring the restaurants in

2 these written agreements to indemnify the platform  
3 where their independent contractors or agents from  
4 damage that occurs after food or beverages leave the  
5 restaurant. The commissioner of the Department of  
6 Consumer and Worker Protection will be required to  
7 conduct outreach about the requirements of this bill  
8 to restaurants. Violations of this bill would result  
9 in a civil penalty to a delivery platform of up to  
10 \$500 per day per restaurant. And from the staff I  
11 want to thank Stephanie Jones and Noah Mexler. Also  
12 from the Committee on Small Business we're voting on  
13 Introduction number 2335-A, again sponsored by Chair  
14 Gjonaj. This bill will require the platforms to list  
15 the restaurants' actual telephone number if listing  
16 any telephone number for a restaurant. If the  
17 platform also includes an alternative number,  
18 typically one created by the platform itself, they  
19 must provide a description of the telephone numbers  
20 that identify each type of telephone number and any  
21 fees associated with their use. The commissioner,  
22 again, of DCWP would be required to promulgate rules  
23 defining the content, size, and location of the  
24 description. Violations of this bill again would  
25 result in a civil penalty of up to \$500, ah, to the

2 delivery platform per day per restaurant. And again I  
3 want to thank Stephanie and Noah for their work. From  
4 the Committee on Consumer Affairs and Business  
5 Licensing we're voting on Introduction number 2311-A,  
6 sponsored by Council Member Keith Powers. This bill  
7 will require third-party delivery platforms to share  
8 information with restaurants related to the food and  
9 beverage orders those restaurants prepare.  
10 Restaurants that request it would receive the name of  
11 the customer who placed an order with their  
12 establishment along with the customer's phone number,  
13 email address, delivery address, and the contents of  
14 their order. Customers will be able to opt out of  
15 sharing this information with restaurants and the  
16 third-party platform would be required to provide a  
17 clear disclosure to customers explaining what  
18 information would be shared with the restaurant. The  
19 restaurant fulfilling the customer's order would be  
20 permitted to retain that information, which must be  
21 provided by the platform in machine-readable format.  
22 Platforms could not set their own limits on  
23 restaurants' use of the information. But the bill  
24 will prohibit the restaurants from selling, renting,  
25 or disclosing the information without express consent

2 from the customer, and the customer would be able to  
3 withdraw their consent to using their information.  
4 Violations again of this would create a civil penalty  
5 to the delivery platform of up to \$500 per day per  
6 restaurant. And again I want to thank Stephanie and  
7 Noah, as well as Alia Scripiak for their work on this  
8 bill. The last two bills are from the Committee on  
9 Small Business again and extend measures that have  
10 been in place for more than a year and were set to  
11 expire next month. We're voting on Introduction  
12 number 2356-A, sponsored by again committee chair Mark  
13 Gjonaj, which extend local laws 51 and 87 of 2020.  
14 This legislation prohibits third-party delivery  
15 platforms from charging restaurants for telephone  
16 orders that did not result in a transaction. This  
17 bill also would extend protections until February 17,  
18 2022. Violations of this bill will result in a civil  
19 penalty to the delivery platform of not more than \$500  
20 per day per restaurant. And again Stephanie and Noah  
21 worked on this. And finally Introduction number 2359-  
22 A, sponsored by Council Members Francisco Moya and  
23 again Chair Gjonaj prohibit delivery platforms from  
24 charging restaurants more than 15% per order for a  
25 delivery and more than 5% per order for all other

2 fees. It would also clarify the types of transaction  
3 fees exempted from these limits on changes, on  
4 charges. This bill would extend protections until  
5 again February 17, 2022. Violations of this bill  
6 would result in a civil penalty of not more than \$1000  
7 to the delivery platform per day per restaurant. And  
8 again I want to thank Stephanie and Noah for their  
9 work on this entire package of bills. I want to  
10 congratulate the chair, ah, for getting these bills  
11 done and all the sponsors of the bills. And that is  
12 our agenda. With that, I turn it back over to you,  
13 Madam Majority Leader.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,  
15 Speaker Corey Johnson, and thank you for all that you  
16 have highlighted, and congratulations to all of my  
17 colleagues for passing very important bills today. At  
18 this time we are going to move to the discussion of  
19 General Orders. Are there any members who wish to  
20 speak at this time? Council Member Rose.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Thank you, Madam  
22 Majority Leader.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: First, I want to  
25 start by saying thank you to the speaker. Um, and

2 today I stand before you for the almost 300,000  
3 domestic workers in New York City. Today I stand for  
4 the women and men that have endured untold hardships  
5 while working without human rights protections. I  
6 know that they are proud watching us today as we vote  
7 to pass this life-changing legislation. Intro 339  
8 will extend the employment protections of the Human  
9 Rights Law to all domestic workers, regardless of  
10 staff size. Domestic workers include those employed  
11 at an employer's residence for the purpose of caring  
12 for a child, sick or elderly person, or for  
13 housekeeping or any other domestic service. Too often  
14 antidiscrimination and harassment laws have proven to  
15 be useless to domestic workers because of the nature  
16 of their work. Yet these workers are among those who  
17 most need the protection of such laws. The COVID-19  
18 health crisis intensified an already-crippling work  
19 environment for many domestic workers. Currently some  
20 workers are forced to work 15-hour work days without  
21 breaks, and sleep in closets. They feel, they, they  
22 face sexual harassment, racial discrimination, threats  
23 of deportation, and are fired for contracting COVID-  
24 19, all without the ability to bring any human rights  
25 violation cases against their employer or collect



2 unemployment insurance. Establishing enforceable  
3 legal protections for domestic workers has been one of  
4 my top priorities as a member of the New York City  
5 Council since 2011. The passage of Intro 339 is long  
6 overdue. It is time for the city to make an  
7 investment in this vital workforce. Today we will  
8 pass Intro 339 and finally give domestic workers the  
9 human rights protections that they deserve. I want to  
10 again thank Speaker Corey Johnson for his leadership,  
11 his steadfast, steadfast dedication to the people of  
12 our city and his support of this bill. Madam Chair, I  
13 would just like to do the thank-yous, because this has  
14 been a long time coming.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Please continue.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Thank you.

17 It's been a long time coming and a lot of people work  
18 really hard, and I just want to make sure that they  
19 get the accolades that they deserve. Jason Goldman,  
20 who is the chief of staff for the speaker, who, you  
21 know, had to put up with my persistent calls, Isa  
22 Cortez, my legislative and budget director, who has  
23 fervently worked over the years to get this bill  
24 passed, through pregnancy, illness, and everything,  
25 and Edwin Francis Martin, my previous legislative

2 budget director, who recognized that the Human Rights  
3 Law excluded protections for many workers back in  
4 2011. And Jayshri Ganapi, who is the legislative  
5 counsel to the Committee of Civil Rights and, Civil  
6 and Human Rights, Rachel Cordero, the deputy director  
7 of governmental affairs division, and Marissa  
8 Sintenio, who is the New York codirector at the  
9 National Domestic Workers Alliance, and, and worked on  
10 this 24/7. And everyone at the Domestic Workers  
11 Alliance, all of my colleagues here who signed onto  
12 this bill, and all of the domestic workers and  
13 healthcare workers across the state. I thank you all  
14 for helping pass this very important legislation.  
15 Thank you, Madam Majority Leader.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so  
17 much, Council Member Rose. At this time, seeing that  
18 there are no other members that have wished to sign up  
19 to speak we will now move into the report of special  
20 committees.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: None.

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Reports of  
23 standing committees.

24

25

1 STATED MEETING

27

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee  
3 on Civil and Human Rights, Intro 339-B, protections  
4 for domestic workers.

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

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee  
8 on Civil Service and Labor, Intro 2252-A, labor peace  
9 agreements.

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

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee  
13 on Consumer Affairs and Business Licensing, Intro  
14 2311-A, third-party food delivery services.

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

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee  
18 on Finance, Intro 2291, business improvement  
19 districts.

20 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general  
21 orders.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Preconsidered Reso 1715,  
23 transparency Reso.

24 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general  
25 orders.

1 STATED MEETING

28

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Preconsidered LU 818 and  
3 Reso 1718, and preconsidered LU 819 and Reso 1719, tax  
4 exemptions.

5 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general  
6 orders.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee  
8 on Rules, Privileges and Elections, preconsidered M-  
9 322 and Reso 1720, approving the appointment of  
10 Georgia Pestana, New York City corporation counsel.

11 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general  
12 orders.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Report of the Committee  
14 on Small Business, Intros 2333-A, 2335-A, 2356-A, and  
15 2359-A, third-party food delivery services.

16 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on  
17 general orders.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Resolution appointing  
19 various persons, Commissioner of Deeds.

20 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Coupled on general  
21 orders. And at this time I'm asking the clerk to take  
22 a roll call vote on all of the items that are coupled  
23 on today's general order calendar.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Van Bramer.

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank you.

3 With permission, I'd like to vote aye on all general  
4 orders.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission  
6 granted.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank you.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Adams.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: I vote aye on all.

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Ampry-Samuel.

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

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Ayala.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: I vote aye on all.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Barron.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye on  
19 all.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Borelli.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Ah, thank you.

22 I vote aye on all except Intros 233, ah, 2333-A, 2335-  
23 A, 2356-A, 2359-A, 2311-A, and land use 819. Thank  
24 you.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Brannan.

1 STATED MEETING

30

2 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye on all.

3 COUNCIL CLERK: Brooks-Powers.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Permission  
5 to explain my vote? Um, I vote aye on all and I, with  
6 the exception of Intro 2311-A, which I'll abstain on.  
7 Um, I'm super excited about all of the bills looking  
8 to support our small businesses. Um, I just had one  
9 concern in terms of the data privacy component,  
10 looking to see an opt-in versus an opt-out, but I  
11 think it's still a very good bill and speaking to  
12 advocates in the small business community as well. So  
13 I'm super thankful to see such a package to help, um,  
14 ensure that we are removing a lot of these fees and  
15 penalties that harm our small businesses. So thank  
16 you.

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Chin.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: I want to  
20 congratulate all my colleagues on passing important  
21 legislation, and especially to Council Member Rose on  
22 your legislation. It was a long time coming. I'm  
23 glad you got it done, and I vote aye on all.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Darma Diaz.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER D. DIAZ: Aye on all.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Ruben Diaz.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER R. DIAZ: [speaking in  
4 Spanish]

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Dinowitz.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: I vote aye on  
7 all.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Dromm.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Eugene.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I vote aye.

12 COUNCIL CLERK: Feliz.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye on all. Thank  
14 you.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Gibson.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Permission to  
17 explain?

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission  
19 granted.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you, Madam  
21 Majority Leader, and good afternoon colleagues and  
22 everyone here. Ah, first and foremost, I thank you  
23 all for your expressions of condolence on the passing  
24 of my beloved grandmother. Um, unfortunately she is  
25 one of the cases where she was unvaccinated and caught

2 COVID in her assisted-living facility. And she tried  
3 to get the vaccine and was unable to get it. And so  
4 it's painful when you think about so many of our  
5 family members and constituents that are affected.  
6 And we have to do our part to make sure that as many  
7 New Yorkers are vaccinated as possible. And so I  
8 thank you for your prayers of healing and strength,  
9 um, on behalf of my family and I. I am voting aye on  
10 all of today's agenda. And I want to congratulate  
11 Council Member Debbie Rose, the domestic workers bill  
12 is a long time coming, but so worth [applause] and so  
13 necessary. Congratulations for never giving up on  
14 making sure that we protect all of our domestic  
15 workers in the City of New York. I want to recognize,  
16 ah, Intro 2252, which is a bill that will provide the  
17 ability for many of our workers in the nonprofit  
18 sector to enter into labor peace agreements. This is  
19 a great bill and I do believe it will make a real  
20 impact. But I represent many of those workers in the  
21 nonprofit sector. And I also have heard many of the  
22 concerns from the Human Services Council and others.  
23 And so while I support this bill, I also want to  
24 ensure that this administration is recognizing that in  
25 any efforts to raise wages for our hard-working



2 members of this industry we have to amend these  
3 contracts. Human service contracts have not been  
4 amended to reflect cost of living, to reflect COVID,  
5 to reflect any new additions of services that have  
6 been incurred. And these are the nonprofits that have  
7 been serving food at food pantries and community  
8 centers in all of our districts. And we've been out  
9 there with them. They need to be paid equally, just  
10 like everyone else. And so as we look to the future,  
11 as we encourage them to enter into these labor peace  
12 agreements I just want to make sure that contracts are  
13 reflective of that. I think that's a fair argument  
14 and I think it's reasonable. And with that,  
15 congratulations, colleagues, and I vote aye on today's  
16 agenda. Thank you so much.

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you,  
18 Council Member Gibson, and our entire condolences to  
19 you and your family, and unfortunately may this loss  
20 be a reminder to so many to get vaccinated. Thank you  
21 so much.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Gjonaj.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Madam Speaker,  
24 permission to explain my vote?

25

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission  
3 granted.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: My condolences to  
5 Council Member Gibson on the loss of her grandmother.  
6 I'll keep you and your family in my prayers. I want  
7 to thank, ah, Speaker Johnson and, um, Jason Goldman  
8 for their commitment to, and dedication to leveling  
9 the playing field with third-party food delivery apps  
10 and our restaurants. I want to recognize the hard  
11 work of Stephanie Jones, Noah Mexler, and Alia Ali,  
12 and my staff, Reggie Johnson, Austin Seckler, and most  
13 of all Council Member Francisco Moya for the work that  
14 we've done, ah, protecting our restaurants. And thank  
15 all my colleagues for supporting these protections.  
16 And with that I vote aye on all.

17 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

18 COUNCIL CLERK: Grodenchik.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Aye.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Holden.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: I vote aye on  
22 all, with the exception of Intros 2252, 2311-A, and LU  
23 18, I'm sorry 819, and Reso 1719, of which I vote no.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Excuse me, Council Member  
25 Holden, what was the first item? My apologies.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Once again, I  
3 vote aye on all with the exception of Intros 2252,  
4 2311-A, and LU 819 and the accompanying Reso 1719.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you, sir. Kallos.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: We do a mean  
7 duet. I vote aye on all.

8 COUNCIL CLERK: Koo.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I vote aye on all.

10 COUNCIL CLERK: Koslowitz.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye on all,  
12 and congratulations to Debbie Rose.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Lander.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Request  
15 permission to explain my vote?

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission  
17 granted.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you very  
19 much. I'll be voting aye on all today. Um, ah, I'm  
20 enthusiastic to be voting for the first time in this  
21 body to confirm the corporation counsel. I want to  
22 give, ah, credit to the speaker and the team that made  
23 that happen in the Charter revision back in 2019. Ah,  
24 the corporation counsel is the whole city's lawyer,  
25 including this body's, and getting advice and consent

2 on that position was really important. Ms. Pestana is  
3 highly qualified. I'm honored to vote for her. I  
4 think she's gonna do a great job. But there were  
5 critical issues raised at her confirmation hearing  
6 about the role of the Law Department given the balance  
7 of powers and independent, ah, role of this body and  
8 other elected officials that I'm glad had a chance to  
9 be heard and out there. Um, on 2252 I really want to  
10 echo the words of Council Member Gibson. I'm a long-  
11 time supporter of labor rights. I think all workers  
12 have the right to a union, including the staff of this  
13 City Council, ah, and I support and am voting for  
14 2252. At the same time, we have to recognize the role  
15 of the city here. The nonprofits, including their  
16 leaders wanted a cost of living adjustment for their  
17 staff this year and it wasn't in the city budget. So  
18 it wasn't about their lack of desire to support their  
19 workers. It was that the city didn't provide them the  
20 resources to do it. On average those folks are  
21 waiting a year to get paid on their contract. So if  
22 we want to step for workers in the nonprofit human  
23 service sector in addition to supporting this bill we  
24 got to do more to support the nonprofit human services  
25 sector and the nonprofits so that they get paid in a

2 timely way and can pay and support their workers. So  
3 I'll be voting yes, but I think we all have an  
4 obligation to step up there. And finally on 339-A, I  
5 just want to add my voice of congratulations to  
6 Council Member Debbie Rose, who has been fighting this  
7 for two terms now, standing with workers who in so  
8 many cases have the least protections, are the most  
9 vulnerable. Ah, I want to give big props to them, to  
10 the Domestic Workers Alliance, to [inaudible], to We  
11 Dream in Black, ah, to Carroll Gardens Association.  
12 Ah, they fought so hard for these essential  
13 protections, and Council Member Rose, thank you for  
14 having their back every step of the way. I vote aye  
15 on all. Thank you.

16 COUNCIL CLERK: Levin.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: With  
18 congratulations to my friend, Debbie Rose, on her  
19 landmark legislation. I vote aye on all.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Levine.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Thank you.  
22 Congrats to all the sponsors of this consequential  
23 legislation. I will be voting aye on all.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Maisel.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Yes.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: MENCHACA.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Permission to  
4 explain my vote?

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission  
6 granted.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Mucho gracias.

8 Well, um, I am voting aye on all, but I want to just  
9 note that, ah, in the last few hours we've been  
10 getting a lot of notes about, ah, Council Member  
11 Powers' bill and I'm going to be voting aye, but I  
12 think one of the great things about the notes are the  
13 impacts to privacy relating to immigrants. And so,  
14 ah, Council Member Powers and I will be working  
15 together to figure out how we can make that stronger  
16 so that we can protect all New Yorkers, including our  
17 immigrant workers. Some of the ideas that are coming  
18 up in that discussion are relating to protecting data  
19 from federal agencies like ICE and DHS, who have been  
20 connected to deportations of our neighbors. So, ah,  
21 looking forward to working with, ah, Council Member  
22 Powers on that, and with that I vote aye on all.

23 Thank you.

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: Miller.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye on all, with  
3 the exception [inaudible]. Aye on all with the  
4 exception of 2311-A.

5 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Moya.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

7 COUNCIL CLERK: Perkins.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: I vote aye.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Council Member Perkins  
10 votes aye. Council Member Powers.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: I vote aye on  
12 all.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Riley.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: I vote aye on all,  
15 and congratulations to my colleague, Council Member  
16 Gjonaj, on his bill, and Council Member Rose.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Rivera. Rodriguez.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

19 UNIDENTIFIED: Council Member Rodriguez  
20 votes aye.

21 COUNCIL CLERK: Rose.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Um, permission to  
23 explain my vote? Um, grandmothers are so very special  
24 and any of us who have had our grandmothers know that.  
25 And I just want to say to my sister, Vanessa Gibson,

2 um, you have my love and condolences on the loss of  
3 your grandmother. I know how special that is. And,  
4 again, I just want to say thank you to all of my  
5 colleagues who are recognizing the importance of this  
6 bill and for all of your support and, um, again to the  
7 speaker for, you know, actual getting us over the  
8 finishing line. And, um, I want to thank all of the  
9 advocates. They worked on this night and day and they  
10 never gave up. I want to thank you for your  
11 persistence and giving voice to a class of people who  
12 otherwise were invisible and voiceless. And I vote  
13 aye on all.

14 COUNCIL CLERK: Rivera.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye on  
16 all.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Rosenthal.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Thanks so  
19 much. Ah, permission to explain my vote?

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission  
21 granted.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Thank you. I  
23 want to start by congratulating Debbie Rose. She  
24 deserves all this kudos. Um, it's an amazing bill.  
25 You've worked, as long as I've known you you've worked



2 on this bill and, ah, you made it happen.  
3 Congratulations. Um, I'm gonna support, ah, Keith  
4 Powers' bill, but I hope it will be amended to, um,  
5 to, to further protect people's privacy. And I'd like  
6 to speak very briefly about Intro 2252-A, regarding  
7 workers in the human services sector. Um, sorry, I'm  
8 getting old. Ah, I support workers in the human  
9 services sector. They are predominantly women and  
10 women of color. Many are single moms raising a family  
11 on one income. For the past eight years many of us  
12 has worked, have worked with the sector to get the  
13 city to fund these providers enough to pay their  
14 workers a decent wage, provide full benefits and a  
15 pension, and pay enough overhead to the, for the  
16 programs to function. It has been an uphill and  
17 Sisyphean battle. While we are, ah, while we have in  
18 the past added funding for three years' worth of  
19 COLAs, that funding was never ongoing and the salary  
20 base was so low that the COLAs made little dent, ah,  
21 for the workers', um, take-home pay. And while we  
22 added funding for indirect rates, the nonprofits still  
23 have yet to see a dime. I'm voting yes with  
24 reservations. We need to address the concerns raised  
25 by the human services sector themselves. They've

2 never gotten a good answer to the question who's gonna  
3 pay for the higher wages and benefits that we all hope  
4 will be negotiated. The vast majority of funding now  
5 comes from government contracts. Will the contracts  
6 be increased to pay for the higher wages? Secondly,  
7 how can we ensure parity in this sector for workers in  
8 the same job title, some are unionized, some are not,  
9 some already receive union-negotiated wages. I'm  
10 almost done, Speaker. Um, like the situation that we  
11 have today with UPK providers the wages are all over  
12 the map and the impact of that is falls, falls  
13 directly on our children who suffer because they have  
14 multiple teachers across the year. At the end of the  
15 day the government must stop taking advantage of our  
16 nonprofit institutions and put enough money in their  
17 contracts so they can pay their workers a good wage  
18 with good benefits. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Salamanca.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye on all.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Treyger.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Congratulations  
24 to my colleague, Council Member Debbie Rose, on her

25

2 bill. Ah, I will be voting aye on all, but I, I will  
3 be abstaining on 2311.

4 COUNCIL CLERK: Ulrich.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Thank you very  
6 much. I'm voting aye on all, with the exception of  
7 2311, and also voting no on Land Use, ah, 819. I just  
8 want to thank my colleagues for their condolences, um,  
9 on the news of Matt's passing. It happened about an  
10 hour and a half after we passed the budget on the day  
11 of the budget adoption. I was on the train on the way  
12 back to the office, ah, going to thank him for the  
13 great job that he did, ah, in serving my constituents  
14 and my community, and when I got back to the office  
15 they said he wasn't feeling well and we found out that  
16 around 5:30 that evening, ah, while he was at his car  
17 around the corner that he had collapsed and, ah, he  
18 suffered a, a massive heart attack. So Matt was a  
19 wonderful addition to my staff. Ah, he worked for us  
20 for several years. Only 40 years old. He just  
21 recently passed the bar exam. He was looking forward  
22 to continuing his public service at another agency.  
23 Ah, that was already being worked and unfortunately  
24 God had other plans. So, again, I want to my  
25 colleagues for their sincere condolences, for their

2 prayers, ah, for his family, and for the other members  
3 of my staff who were deeply affected by, ah, by his  
4 loss. Um, lastly, I, you know, I, I just want to, on  
5 a lighter note mention that I knew that, ah, you know,  
6 one way or another, no matter what happens in  
7 November, that a woman would be occupying my seat for  
8 the first time in District 32, but I didn't know it  
9 was gonna happen before January. And here's Lily at  
10 my seat now. So there is a woman [laughter] in the  
11 council member's seat already in District 32, and I'm  
12 very pleased to, ah, bring Lily with me to work today.  
13 So thank you all to all my colleagues. Thank you.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Our condolences  
15 to you. And we're so happy to have you, Lily, here  
16 today. You're making a wonderful council member.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: Yeger.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: [inaudible]

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission  
20 granted.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you very  
22 much. This is, on some of these bills we're returning  
23 here for the second time and the argument had been  
24 made the last time we voted on some of them that, ah,  
25 they made sense. They were for purposes of, ah,

2 saving restaurants from the pandemic. But in my view  
3 some of them, ah, interfere with the constitutional  
4 obligations, with the, ah, contractual obligations of,  
5 of parties that have entered into arm's length  
6 transactions, ah, with each other and I don't believe  
7 that we should do that. So for that reason I'm voting  
8 no on Intros 2356 and 2359, ah, in being consistent  
9 with how I voted last year. Ah, I am voting no on  
10 2311 for reasons, ah, stated by Council Member Brooks-  
11 Powers and so many others. Although I'm voting  
12 differently, I do have concerns about the data. I  
13 have concerns about, ah, whether or not we once again,  
14 ah, are weaponizing, ah, the pandemic for purposes of  
15 attacking an industry that we don't like. I don't  
16 like the app industry, either. But if there's gonna  
17 be a reason that we should, ah, regulate them better  
18 than the way they are regulated now, let's just say  
19 that instead of, you know, hiding under COVID as a  
20 reason for data to transmit from one party to another.  
21 I'm voting no on, ah, Intro 2291. Um, as I have said  
22 prior hereto in this council BIDs are taxes. The  
23 assessments of BIDs are taxes. When we allow BIDs to  
24 raise their assessments that's a tax. The BIDs exist  
25 to supplement the service that the City of New York

2 ought to be providing, which it, it should be  
3 providing based on the taxes that are paid. So when  
4 we ignore the fact that the BIDs are there to  
5 supplement a service that the people who live around  
6 there and work around there are not getting because  
7 the city isn't doing their job, let's get here and say  
8 that and let's fix that. But everybody living in the  
9 BID has already paid the taxes for the services  
10 they're receiving, and I don't think it's the right  
11 time to raise taxes on them. I'm voting no on Intro  
12 339, um, for, ah, for a very simple reason. I believe  
13 that the Human Rights Commission, the, ah, enforcement  
14 agency is going to weaponize this bill to, to hurt  
15 very small employers that have just one employee, and  
16 I think everything else in the bill is right. We  
17 ought to be figuring out ways to protect these  
18 employees, but allowing the Human Rights Commission to  
19 walk into a household and, and, ah, target them with  
20 summonses that are unforgiving in many respects I  
21 don't think is someplace that we ought to be. And  
22 last but not least, Madam President, thank you very  
23 much, I'm voting no on Land Use 819, Resolution 1719.  
24 From the day that I first ran for office until this  
25 day I have always promised that I will back up my

2 community boards. I will continue to back up my  
3 community board. My community board is vehemently  
4 opposed to this, vehemently. It will, in my, in my,  
5 ah, judgment and in their judgment hurt the  
6 neighborhood in many, many ways. Ah, it's a  
7 boondoggle, but it's passing and, ah, it will pass  
8 with my no vote. Thank you very much, Madam  
9 President.

10 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Matteo.

12 MINORITY LEADER MATTEO: Thank you. I'm  
13 voting no on 2311, 339-B, 2252, 2356, 2359, and Land  
14 Use 819, and yes on the rest.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Cumbo.

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I, too, want to  
17 congratulate my colleagues, Council Member Gjonaj and  
18 my sister, Council Member Debbie Rose, so incredibly  
19 proud of you for your persistence. You continue to  
20 trail blazes all over the city. So I thank you so  
21 much, and I thank you and congratulate you, and I  
22 proudly vote aye.

23 COUNCIL CLERK: Speaker Johnson.

24 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I vote aye on all.

25 COUNCIL CLERK: One moment, please.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: All items on  
3 today's general order calendar are adopted by a vote  
4 of 43 in the affirmative, 0 negative, and 0  
5 abstentions, with the exception of Intro 2311-A, which  
6 was adopted by a vote of 36 affirmative, 5 negative,  
7 and 2 abstentions, and Intro 233-A, which was adopted  
8 by a vote of 41 in the affirmative, 2 negative, and 0  
9 abstentions, Intro 2335-A, which was adopted by a vote  
10 of 41 in the affirmative, 2 negative, and 0  
11 abstentions, and Intro 2356-A, which was adopted by a  
12 vote of 40 in the affirmative, 3 negative, and 0  
13 abstentions, Intro 2359-A, which was adopted by a vote  
14 of 40 in the affirmative, 3 negative, and 0  
15 abstentions. LU 819 plus Resolution 1719, which was  
16 adopted by a vote of 40 in the affirmative, 3  
17 negative, and 0 abstentions. Quiet in the chambers.

18 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Quiet, please.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: And Intro 2252-A,  
20 which was adopted by a vote of 42 in the affirmative,  
21 1 negative, and 0 abstentions. Intro 2291, which was  
22 adopted by a vote of 42 in the affirmative, 1  
23 negative, and 0 abstentions. Intro 339-B, which was  
24 adopted by a vote of 41 in the affirmative, 2  
25 negative, and 0 abstentions. Thank you. At this



2 time, let me just count this. Introduction and  
3 reading of bills.

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

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. There  
8 are no resolutions on today's calendar. So we will  
9 now move into general discussion. Before we adjourn  
10 this meeting, we have one member signed up to speak on  
11 general discussion. That is Council Member Barron.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Ah, thank you,  
13 Madam Majority Leader. I just want to take time to  
14 call attention to the recent celebration of the 100th  
15 birthday of Ms. Inna L. Johnson. And I just want to  
16 share a little bit of her bio. Ms. Johnson was born  
17 initially in Havana, Cuba, and moved to the United  
18 States as a young child. She was educated in the  
19 public school system and her first employment was with  
20 the federal government working under very restrictive  
21 Jim Crow laws. She married Booker T. Johnson. They  
22 had 10 children together, and her oldest son was my  
23 former husband. She remained a housewife until 1962,  
24 when she became a stenographer for the, for the state  
25 government, and then a school secretary at Boys and

2 Girls High School. She was very much, ah, a proponent  
3 of getting education. So after raising her children  
4 she returned to school and at the age of 53 she  
5 attained her associate's degree and then her  
6 bachelor's degree in African studies from Brooklyn  
7 College. And then at the age of 61 she went and  
8 attained her master's degree in history from Brooklyn  
9 College. She has many talents, including hand crafts  
10 and sewing and gardening and she loves to read. She's  
11 a member of organizations, including Sisters Assisting  
12 Sisters of South Africa. She traveled in her  
13 eighties, I think it was, to Kenya, as well as to  
14 Egypt, and while they were in Kenya the group that she  
15 was traveling with built a well that would bring  
16 potable water to the village that was there. And  
17 she's just a model and an inspiration of love and  
18 determination and success, and I just wanted to put  
19 into the record that, ah, she is a member of Council  
20 Member Alicka Ampry-Samuel's district and we just  
21 wanted to give her that acknowledgement. They had  
22 grand celebration at the house. And you had to have  
23 presented your, ah, your vaccination card in order to  
24 come in, because we realize how important it is. So I  
25 just wanted to put on the record the 100th anniversary

2 of my former mother-in-law, Inna Louise Johnson.  
3 Thank you. Oh, and my Joanza celebrated his birthday  
4 July 23rd also.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We  
6 will now have Council Member Koo.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Ah, I rise today to  
8 ask my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring Intro  
9 2365 and Intro 2366. Intro 2365 will codify the  
10 [inaudible] Task Force, which would ensure that this  
11 important task force is continued in the future.  
12 Intro 2366 addresses the health of our city's urban  
13 canopy and provides transparency on how our city's  
14 trees are inspected and assessed. Too often our  
15 offices have received complaints from constituents who  
16 are concerned about unhealthy and dangerous trees.  
17 However, after reporting the condition we are given  
18 little information as to whether the trees are  
19 inspected. The results of this, ah, the results of  
20 those inspections and actions taken in response, the  
21 bill will require reporting on what the city when it  
22 receives complaints and referrals about unhealthy and  
23 dangerous trees, requires regular inspections between  
24 reporting cycles, and is a step towards ensuring that

2 our city's urban canopy is healthy and will last for  
3 generations to come. Thank you.

4 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so  
5 much, Peter Koo. That concludes our general  
6 discussion at this time. I'll now call on Speaker  
7 Corey Johnson to close today's meeting.

8 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam  
9 Majority Leader. I want to wish, ah, your beautiful  
10 son, Prince, a happy birthday.

11 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

12 SPEAKER JOHNSON: He's turning 4.

13 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

14 SPEAKER JOHNSON: And the Stated Meeting  
15 of July 29, 2021, is hereby adjourned. [gavel]

16 TRANSCRIBER'S NOTE: General Order  
17 Calendar items adopted by a vote of 43 in the  
18 affirmative, 0 in the negative, and 0 abstentions,  
19 with the exception of the following items adopted with  
20 votes of: Intro 339-B 41 affirmative, 2 negative, 0  
21 abstentions; Intro 2252-A 41 affirmative, 2 negative,  
22 0 abstentions; Intro 2291 42 affirmative, 1 negative,  
23 0 abstentions; Intro 2311-A 35 affirmative, 6  
24 negative, 2 abstentions; Intro 2333-A 42 affirmative,  
25 1 negative, 0 abstentions; Intro 2335-A 42

2 affirmative, 1 negative, 0 abstentions; Intro 2356-A  
3 40 affirmative, 3 negative, 0 abstentions; Intro  
4 2359-A 40 affirmative, 3 negative, 0 abstentions;  
5 Preconsidered LU 819 and Reso 1719 38 affirmative, 5  
6 negative, 0 abstentions.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Date July 29, 2021