

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

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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2 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Present.
3 COUNCIL CLERK: Ampy-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

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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

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.

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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

1 STATED MEETING

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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