

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

-----X

June 29, 2010
Start: 5:06pm
Recess: 6:34pm

HELD AT: Council Chambers
City Hall

B E F O R E:
JOEL RIVERA
Acting President Pro Tempore

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Christine C. Quinn
Maria del Carmen Arroyo
Charles Barron
Gale A. Brewer
Fernando Cabrera
Margaret S. Chin
Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.
Elizabeth S. Crowley
Inez E. Dickens
Erik Martin Dilan
Daniel Dromm
Mathieu Eugene
Julissa Ferreras

A P P E A R A N C E S

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Lewis A. Fidler
Helen D. Foster
Daniel R. Garodnick
James F. Gennaro
Vincent J. Gentile
Sara M. Gonzalez
David Greenfield
Daniel J. Halloran III
Vincent M. Ignizio
Robert Jackson
Letitia James
Peter A. Koo
G. Oliver Koppell
Karen Koslowitz
Brad S. Lander
Jessica S. Lappin
Stephen T. Levin
Melissa Mark-Viverito
Darlene Mealy
Rosie Mendez
Michael C. Nelson
James S. Oddo
Annabel Palma
Domenic M. Recchia, Jr.
Diana Reyna
Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Deborah L. Rose
James Sanders, Jr.
Eric A. Ulrich
James Vacca
Peter F. Vallone, Jr.
James G. Van Bramer
Albert Vann
Mark S. Weprin
Jumaane D. Williams

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

Rev. Anita Burson
Associate Minister
Holy Trinity Baptist Church

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: We're going
3 to start with Roll Call. Roll Call.

4 [Pause]

5 THE CLERK: Roll Call. Arroyo.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Here.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Quiet,
8 please. Please be quiet to all of you. Quiet on
9 the floor, quiet.

10 THE CLERK: Barron.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here.

12 THE CLERK: Brewer.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.

14 THE CLERK: Cabrera.

15 [Off Mic]

16 THE CLERK: Chin.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

18 THE CLERK: Comrie.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Here.

20 THE CLERK: Crowley.

21 [Off Mic]

22 THE CLERK: Dickens.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Here.

24 THE CLERK: Dilan.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Here.

1
2 THE CLERK: Dromm.
3 [Off Mic]
4 THE CLERK: Eugene.
5 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.
6 THE CLERK: Ferreras.
7 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Here.
8 THE CLERK: Fidler.
9 [Off Mic]
10 THE CLERK: Foster.
11 COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Here.
12 THE CLERK: Garodnick.
13 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.
14 THE CLERK: Gennaro.
15 [Off Mic]
16 THE CLERK: Gentile.
17 [Off Mic]
18 THE CLERK: Gonzalez.
19 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Here.
20 THE CLERK: Greenfield.
21 [Off Mic]
22 THE CLERK: Halloran.
23 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Here.
24 THE CLERK: Ignizio.
25 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Here.

1

THE CLERK: Jackson.

2

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Here.

3

THE CLERK: James.

4

[Off Mic]

5

THE CLERK: Koo.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Here.

7

THE CLERK: Koppell.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Here.

9

THE CLERK: Koslowitz.

10

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

11

THE CLERK: Lander.

12

[Off Mic]

13

THE CLERK: Lappin.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Here.

15

THE CLERK: Levin.

16

[Off Mic]

17

THE CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:

19

Here.

20

THE CLERK: Mealy

21

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Here.

22

THE CLERK: Mendez.

23

[Off Mic]

24

THE CLERK: Mendez.

25

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.
3 THE CLERK: Nelson.
4 [Off Mic]
5 THE CLERK: Palma.
6 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Here.
7 THE CLERK: Recchia.
8 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Aye.
9 THE CLERK: Reyna.
10 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Here.
11 THE CLERK: Rodriguez.
12 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.
13 THE CLERK: Rose.
14 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.
15 THE CLERK: Sanders.
16 [Off Mic]
17 THE CLERK: Seabrook.
18 [Pause]
19 THE CLERK: Ulrich.
20 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Here.
21 THE CLERK: Vacca.
22 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.
23 THE CLERK: Vallone.
24 [Off Mic]
25 THE CLERK: Van Bramer.

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.
3 THE CLERK: Vann.
4 [Off Mic]
5 THE CLERK: Weprin. Weprin.
6 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Here.
7 THE CLERK: White.
8 [Pause]
9 THE CLERK: Williams.
10 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.
11 THE CLERK: Gennaro.
12 [Pause]
13 THE CLERK: Fidler.
14 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Here.
15 [Pause]
16 THE CLERK: Lander.
17 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.
18 [Pause]
19 THE CLERK: Oddo.
20 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.
21 THE CLERK: Rivera.
22 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Here.
23 THE CLERK: Speaker Quinn.
24 SPEAKER QUINN: Present.
25 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All right.

1
2 Ladies and gentlemen, quorum is present. At this
3 point in time we're going to adjourn the recessed
4 meeting of June 9th, 2010, held on June 29th,
5 2010. The meeting is adjourned. Now we're going
6 to open the Stated Meeting for June 29th, 2010.
7 At this point, can I ask the clerk to call the
8 roll?

9 THE CLERK: Arroyo.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Still here.

11 THE CLERK: Barron.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here.

13 THE CLERK: Brewer.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.

15 THE CLERK: Cabrera.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

17 THE CLERK: Chin.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

19 THE CLERK: Comrie.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Here.

21 THE CLERK: Crowley.

22 [Off Mic]

23 THE CLERK: Dickens.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Here.

25 THE CLERK: Dilan.

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Here.
3 THE CLERK: Dromm.
4 [Off Mic]
5 THE CLERK: Eugene.
6 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.
7 THE CLERK: Ferreras.
8 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Here.
9 THE CLERK: Fidler.
10 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Here.
11 THE CLERK: Foster.
12 COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Here.
13 THE CLERK: Garodnick.
14 [Off Mic]
15 THE CLERK: Gennaro.
16 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here.
17 THE CLERK: Gentile.
18 [Off Mic]
19 THE CLERK: Gonzalez.
20 [Off Mic]
21 THE CLERK: Greenfield.
22 [Off Mic]
23 THE CLERK: Halloran.
24 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Here.
25 THE CLERK: Ignizio.

1

2

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Here.

3

THE CLERK: Jackson:

4

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Here.

5

THE CLERK: James.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Here.

7

THE CLERK: Koo.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Here.

9

THE CLERK: Koppell.

10

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Here.

11

THE CLERK: Koslowitz.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

13

THE CLERK: Lander.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

15

THE CLERK: Lappin.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Here.

17

THE CLERK: Levin.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

19

THE CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO:

21

Here.

22

THE CLERK: Mealy.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Present.

24

THE CLERK: Mendez.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.

1

2 THE CLERK: Nelson.

3 [Off Mic]

4 THE CLERK: Palma.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Here.

6 THE CLERK: Recchia.

7 [Off Mic]

8 THE CLERK: Reyna.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Here.

10 THE CLERK: Rodriguez.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.

12 THE CLERK: Rose.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.

14 THE CLERK: Sanders.

15 [Off Mic]

16 THE CLERK: Seabrook.

17 [Pause]

18 THE CLERK: Ulrich.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Here.

20 THE CLERK: Vacca.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.

22 THE CLERK: Vallone.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

24 THE CLERK: Van Bramer.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

1

2 THE CLERK: Vann.

2

3

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Here.

4

THE CLERK: Weprin.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Here.

6

THE CLERK: White.

7

[Pause]

8

THE CLERK: Williams.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.

10

[Pause]

11

THE CLERK: Greenfield.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Here.

13

[Pause]

14

THE CLERK: Oddo.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Here.

16

THE CLERK: Rivera.

17

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Here.

18

THE CLERK: Dromm.

19

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

20

[Pause]

21

THE CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

22

SPEAKER QUINN: Here.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: My

24

colleagues, quorum is present. If everyone could

25

please rise for the pledge of allegiance.

1
2 UNISON: I pledge allegiance to the
3 flag of the United States of America, and to the
4 Republic for which it stands, one nation under
5 God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for
6 all.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
8 very much. At this point in time, ladies and
9 gentlemen, please rise again for the invocation
10 being delivered by Reverend Anita Burson,
11 Associate Minister from Holy Trinity Baptist
12 Church.

13 REV. ANITA BURSON: Oh Creator,
14 Holy God of all things great and small, seen and
15 unseen, you have made us one city out of many
16 peoples. Amid our diversities of race and class
17 and tradition, unite us in a common love of
18 freedom. Help this legislative body cooperate
19 effectively with one another, beyond class
20 distinctions, racial differences, gender
21 expressions, sexual orientation personalities and
22 the seeking of one's self advantage. Help all
23 public officials not be forgetful of the general
24 good of the people they are elected to serve.
25 Help them be mindful of our common interest and

1
2 our common problems. Oh, we pause in gratitude at
3 this moment to recognize a democratic principle by
4 which we can all participate in the ordering of
5 our various communities to participate in the
6 greater good of all. We especially ask you for
7 the staff and legislative aides, who assist in
8 this goal working toward the greater good. Help
9 us be concerned enough to be informed, wise enough
10 to be leaders of integrity and ability, American
11 enough to rise above party loyalty, responsible
12 enough to always vote for the sake of justice.
13 Help us to be worthy to stand in this place and in
14 this time allotted to legislative deliberation.
15 Let our courage be steadfast and our hope
16 unwavering, to fulfill the tasks that await. Let
17 all those here assembled join me in saying Amen.

18 UNISON: Amen.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council
20 Member Dickens?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: I make a
22 motion to spread the invocation in full upon the
23 record, and I want to thank my good friend,
24 Reverend Anita Burson, who deserted Harlem to go
25 to Brooklyn.

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: If we can
3 get silence in the chambers, thank you. Motion so
4 ordered. Thank you very much, Council Member
5 Dickens. Adoption of the minutes, Council Member
6 Brewer?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I move that
8 the minutes of the Stated Meeting of April 29th,
9 2010, be adopted and printed. Thank you.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.
11 Messages and papers from the mayor.

12 THE CLERK: M 164, Water Finance
13 Authority.

14 SPEAKER QUINN: If we could get
15 some quiet in the chambers. Received, ordered,
16 printed and filed.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:
18 Communications from City, County and Borough
19 Offices.

20 THE CLERK: Preconsidered M 165,
21 Expense Budget.

22 SPEAKER QUINN: Finance.

23 THE CLERK: Preconsidered M 166.

24 SPEAKER QUINN: Finance.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Petitions

1

2 and Communications.

3 THE CLERK: None.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Land Use
5 Call-Ups?6 THE CLERK: M 167 through M 171,
7 sidewalk cafés.8 SPEAKER QUINN: If I could get a
9 Roll Call vote, please on the coupled Land Use
10 Call-Ups, Mr. Majority Leader.

11 THE CLERK: Arroyo.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

13 THE CLERK: Barron.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye.

15 THE CLERK: Aye.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

17 THE CLERK: Cabrera.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

19 THE CLERK: Chin.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

21 THE CLERK: Comrie.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye.

23 THE CLERK: Crowley.

24 [Pause]

25 THE CLERK: Dickens.

1

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

2

3

THE CLERK: Dilan.

4

COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Aye.

5

THE CLERK: Dromm.

6

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye. And

7

with your permission, may I ask to vote on Aye on

8

all Call-Ups?

9

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

10

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: And general

11

orders.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

13

THE CLERK: Eugene.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

15

THE CLERK: Ferreras?

16

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.

17

THE CLERK: Fidler.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Yes.

19

THE CLERK: Foster.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Yes.

21

THE CLERK: Garodnick.

22

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

23

THE CLERK: Gennaro.

24

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Yes.

25

THE CLERK: Gentile.

1

[Pause]

2

THE CLERK: Gonzalez.

3

COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye.

4

THE CLERK: Greenfield.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

6

THE CLERK: Halloran.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN:

8

Permission to vote on all matters before the
Council.

9
10

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye on all

11

the Land Use; No to Intro 214-A; No to Intro--

12

SPEAKER QUINN: [Interposing] Wait.

13

Can we get quiet? Because we need to record the
Council Member's vote correctly, which would be
all yeses on tax increases--oh, I'm only kidding
Council Member Halloran.

14

15

16

17

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Wow.

18

SPEAKER QUINN: If we can get a

19

little quiet. Sorry.

20

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Thank

21

you, Madam Speaker. Your precognitive skills are
amazing. Intro 214-A, No; Intro 326, No--see, I

22

23

hadn't even gotten to the taxes yet. Of course No
to Resos 315, 316, Preconsidered 173, which is

24

25

1

2 Reso 329. Thank you, Mr. Majority Leader.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: - -

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

6 THE CLERK: Ignizio.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes.

8 THE CLERK: Jackson.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye on

10 all.

11 THE CLERK: James.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Aye on all.

13 THE CLERK: Koo.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Yes.

15 THE CLERK: Koppell.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Mr.

17 Majority Leader, I ask consent to vote Aye on Land

18 Use Call-Ups, Aye on all General Orders, Aye on

19 all Resolutions.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Thank you.

22 THE CLERK: Koslowitz.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

24 THE CLERK: Lander.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

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THE CLERK: Lappin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Yes.

THE CLERK: Levin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

THE CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye.

THE CLERK: Mealy.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye.

THE CLERK: Mendez.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.

THE CLERK: Nelson.

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Aye.

THE CLERK: Palma.

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

THE CLERK: Recchia.

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Aye.

THE CLERK: Reyna.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye.

THE CLERK: Rodriguez.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

THE CLERK: Rose.

[Pause]

THE CLERK: Sanders.

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Aye.

1

THE CLERK: Seabrook.

2

3

[Pause]

4

THE CLERK: Ulrich.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Yes.

6

THE CLERK: Vacca.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

8

THE CLERK: Vallone.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye on

10 all.

11

THE CLERK: Van Bramer.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

13

THE CLERK: Vann.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye.

15

THE CLERK: Weprin.

16

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye on all.

17

THE CLERK: Williams.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye on

19

all.

20

THE CLERK: Crowley.

21

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye.

22

THE CLERK: Rose.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

24

THE CLERK: Oddo.

25

[Off Mic]

1

THE CLERK: Rivera.

2

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye.

3

THE CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

4

SPEAKER QUINN: Yes.

5

[Pause]

6

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Today's

7

Land Use Call-Ups are adopted by a vote of 48 in
the affirmative, with zero in the negative.

8

9

Communications from the Speaker.

10

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very

11

much, Mr. Majority Leader. The next vote we cast

12

will be for the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2011

13

budget. And I think as all of us who have been

14

part of this budget process know, this was one of

15

the more difficult adoption processes we have had

16

in a number of years. It was a difficult budget

17

for a number of reasons. One, the budget of the

18

State of New York is still very unknown, and what

19

portion of the over \$11 billion we believe they

20

are going to give us--they owe us a lot more, but

21

that we've budgeted for--what part of that we're

22

going to get, we don't actually know. Will the

23

federal Medicaid money that is owed the City of

24

New York arrive this year and next year? We don't

25

1
2 know. But what we do know is that this City,
3 State and country are in the midst of one of the
4 worst recessions we have ever seen. And what we
5 knew is that we had an obligation to New Yorkers
6 to pass an on time budget, a budget that was
7 balanced, a budget that did not ask them to dig
8 any deeper into their wallets or pocketbooks to
9 fund our government, and a budget which did not
10 expand borrowing, and therefore add the bill to
11 our grandchildren and great grandchildren. We
12 accomplished all of those goals. But we also
13 wanted to make sure that the numbers in this
14 budget book were seen as more than just numbers on
15 a page, that we looked at those numbers and saw
16 the faces of the children they represented, the
17 faces of people with AIDS, the faces of seniors,
18 the faces of people who are protected and saved
19 every day by the New York City Fire Department and
20 the New York City Police Department.

21 And we wanted to go in to the
22 budget sent to us by Mayor Bloomberg and his staff
23 and add in funds that would make sure that the
24 core functions of city government--to protect New
25 Yorkers, to preserve services to the most

1
2 vulnerable and most needed--were in that budget.
3 That's why we went back into the Administration
4 for Children's Services and added over \$30
5 million, to make sure that the 202 social workers
6 and caseworkers who were hired after Nixzmary
7 Brown were not attritted out of the Administration
8 of Children's Services. That is what we owe those
9 children. That is why when there was a proposal
10 to cut staff in the HIV/AIDS Service
11 Administration, we added \$5 million back into HASA
12 to make sure New Yorkers in need got the support
13 we needed.

14 Now that list of areas, I could go
15 on a little bit longer, but I think you get the
16 point. We had two important jobs, to pass a
17 budget that was fiscally responsible because the
18 good times are not, sadly, around the corner. But
19 we also had a responsibility to pass a budget that
20 recognized that that lack of good times hit some
21 people harder than others. There was no way we
22 could protect every service. There was no way we
23 could restore every cut and still plan for the
24 future. We struck a balance in this budget that
25 meets all of the goals that I've articulated, a

1
2 budget where we should be proud of ourselves and
3 look our constituents in the eye and say, we did
4 the best job we could do balancing our fiscal
5 responsibility with the needs of New Yorkers.

6 So I want to thank everyone who has
7 worked long and hard on the FY '11 budget. I want
8 to start by singling out our new Finance Chair,
9 Domenic M. Recchia, Jr.

10 [Applause]

11 SPEAKER QUINN: Domenic, from the
12 way he conducted the budget hearings to the late,
13 late hours he spent here, to the food he brought
14 all of us from Brooklyn, to the attention to
15 detail of the things he cared about, the things I
16 cared about and the things his colleagues
17 mentioned and asked him to watch out for, has
18 raised the bar about what it means to be a Finance
19 Chair in the New York City Council. Domenic, you
20 have made me prouder than I thought you would. I
21 knew you would do a good job, but you have
22 exceeded even my expectations, so thank you so
23 very, very much, Domenic for that great work.

24 I want to thank the members of my
25 leadership team and the budget negotiating team

1
2 who took on--the leadership team, who every day
3 take on extra responsibilities, and the budget
4 negotiating team who take on extra
5 responsibilities throughout the year, for all of
6 your hard work. I want to thank the people in the
7 Speaker's Office, first and foremost our First
8 Deputy Chief of Staff Ramon Martinez, who was
9 simultaneously working on this and a major Land
10 Use proposal. And if you didn't notice, this is
11 the new, improved, Zen Ramon. I think it felt
12 different for everybody than it did in years past.
13 The new members, you may not have appreciated it,
14 but it is the new and improved Ramon. I want to
15 thank my Chief of Staff Chuck Meara, for all his
16 work.

17 [Applause]

18 SPEAKER QUINN: I want to thank
19 everyone in the Speaker's Office, all the
20 Seargents-At-Arms, all the assistants and
21 secretaries for taking care of us throughout this
22 process. I didn't, when I was mentioning Domenic,
23 but I meant to. I want to single out a member of
24 his staff, who really became an adjunct member of
25 the Speaker's Staff and the Finance Staff, Karen

1
2 Becker, really, I mean, just unbelievable. Thank
3 you very, very much. She still will only call me
4 Madam Speaker, no matter how many times I ask her
5 to call me Chris. But thank you very much, Karen.

6 I think we all know the next thing
7 I'm going to say, but it bears repeating a million
8 times over. We are blessed with an amazing staff
9 in our Finance Division, with a group of people
10 who work incredibly hard, make far less money than
11 they would if they worked for the Administration
12 or somewhere on Wall Street or for some other
13 financial entity, people who are here every day,
14 sometimes days on end without sleep, because they
15 care about the city they call home, because they
16 care about the schools their children go to,
17 because they care about the services they received
18 growing up in this city, because they want to keep
19 their neighborhoods the places that they love. I
20 wish I could mention each of you, because you each
21 in different ways have really done an amazing job.
22 As I said to some of you on Friday, you scare me
23 with your knowledge. I had to leave one meeting
24 because a particular member of the staff had so
25 much knowledge I was just afraid. It was too much

1
2 information. But I really want to thank all of
3 you. And I know at times we lurk around--me in
4 particular--wanting info more quickly, wanting
5 things faster. You guys are really just the best,
6 and we are so incredibly, incredibly lucky to have
7 you. And if I could ask all of the Finance staff
8 to please stand up for a minute.

9 [Applause]

10 SPEAKER QUINN: And I just want to
11 just add on the Finance Staff. I know the thing
12 that's--one thing I just want to add that's
13 remarkable to me is, I feel like every member of
14 the Finance Staff knows the things that are my
15 priorities and watches out for them in a
16 particular, particular way. But the truth is, you
17 do that for all 51 members, and that is really,
18 really remarkable.

19 Lastly, but certainly not least, I
20 want to single out the two men who are charged
21 with leading our finance division, our First
22 Deputy Director of Finance Jeff Rodus.

23 [Applause]

24 SPEAKER QUINN: Where is Rodus?
25 Rodus is in the back.

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[Applause]

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SPEAKER QUINN: And our Finance

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Director, who when he accepted the job I asked if

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he needed to now go see a psychiatrist, because I

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thought he was out of his mind--but I'm glad he

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didn't Preston Niblack.

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[Applause]

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SPEAKER QUINN: And really, in any

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job one could have, but nonetheless charged with

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the unbelievable responsibility of working towards

12

the adoption of the budget of the City of New

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York, you couldn't have two better people at your

14

side. If you were in a foxhole, you would want

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Preston Niblack and Jeff Rodus with you, because

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they would be there 'til the end. They would

17

stick with you. There are no two harder working,

18

more loyal, more competent people anywhere in City

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Government, or probably any company or

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organization in the City of New York than Preston

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and Jeff. Literally Preston, on Friday night or

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Saturday night, sent me an email outlining what I

23

should be thinking about for 2012. That's the

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kind of dedication or sickness we have on our

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staff. So, thank you both more than I can ever

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2 say.

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[Applause]

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Lastly, let me thank the Mayor's Office. Mark Page, everyone at the Office of Management and Budget, everyone in the Mayor's Office of Legislative Affairs, for working with us on this budget. And I urge all of my colleagues to vote yes on this budget, and that concludes Communications from the Speaker.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. At this point in time we'll move on to Discussion of General Orders. First we have Council Member Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: My colleagues, I rise today because while you're clapping and celebrating, some New Yorkers are going to be crying. This budget was not a budget of necessity; this was a budget of choice. We chose to cut \$2.7 million from the Vallone Scholarships. Some students are going to be crying. We chose to say libraries can't open for six days; they have to open now for five days. We chose to say to the Legal Services, go try to get an RFP going instead of giving them enough money

1
2 for a year to last and provide the services. We
3 chose to only have 31,000 jobs for our youth--
4 140,000 young people applying for 31,000 jobs. We
5 used to have 55,000 jobs. We chose that. We
6 chose to close some daycare centers, still, and
7 restore others. We chose to close some senior
8 centers, still, and restore others. We chose to
9 sit here and cut \$200 million worth of programs,
10 some programs are zeroed out. And we're
11 celebrating. Some New Yorkers are going to be
12 fired; they're going to lose their jobs. While we
13 celebrate and clap, some are going to be crying.
14 And I say we chose it, because if this was
15 necessary to do, I'd vote for it myself. But when
16 you have \$3.3 billion in the rainy day fund called
17 the Healthcare Retirement Fund, use about \$900
18 million of it, and you choose not to take a simple
19 \$200 million out, leave the other \$2 billion for
20 the rainy day, and spend the \$200 million for the
21 rain today--that's a choice you made that wasn't
22 necessary. This pain didn't have to be the pain
23 that the people of New York will be suffering as
24 you celebrate your budget balancing. It didn't
25 have to happen. We had options. The State is

1
2 going to kill us. They're not going to tax the
3 rich--

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:

5 [Interposing] Council Member?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: --they're
7 going to tax the poor. Governor's cutting
8 everything and we're doing the same--

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:

10 [Interposing] Council Member?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: --thing.
12 I'm voting No on this budget, because I promised
13 the CUNY students--

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:

15 [Interposing] Thank you, Council Member.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: --I would
17 not support a budget that hurt the most vulnerable
18 people of New York City.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
20 very much, Council Member. Next we have Council
21 Member Robert Jackson.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you,
23 Majority Leader. I didn't know I was going to
24 follow my colleague, Charles Barron. But, you
25 know, life is what it is. And in fact, every

1
2 single day that I wake I have to make decisions in
3 my life about how am I going to pay a bill, in
4 what order of priorities to I have to do A, B and
5 C. And you know, every day I constantly refocus
6 about the needs of our great city, and the
7 community that I represent in Northern Manhattan.
8 Am I totally satisfied with this budget? No. But
9 I know it's a budget that has been agreed to by
10 the executive branch and the legislative branch,
11 and we've reached a consensus. Could we possibly
12 have done more? Yes. Could we have done worse
13 than we have done? Absolutely, yes. And In fact
14 I was on radio this morning at WWRL and the
15 conclusion that was asked, that Mayor Bloomberg
16 said, that is this going to be painful--yes. But
17 it's going to be devastating--my answer was no.
18 And could I agree with that assessment? My answer
19 was yes. Because, quite frankly, knowing what I
20 know as a member of this body for the past nine
21 years, as a member of the finance committee for
22 the past nine years, as a member of the Budget
23 Negotiating Team for the past five years, as Co-
24 Chair of the Black, Latino and Asian Caucus for
25 several years, I say to you that this budget is

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2 better than I had expected it to be. And I do
3 know my colleagues, based on the State and the
4 federal government, especially with G20 meeting,
5 and they're supposed to cut the deficit in half in
6 several years, that we have tough roads ahead.
7 And we have to be able to make sure that we focus
8 now in order to ensure for the future. And so
9 with that, I want to congratulate everyone
10 involved in putting this budget together the way
11 it is today, and I'm obviously going to vote yes.
12 Thank you.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
14 very much. Council Member and Finance Chairman
15 Domenic Recchia.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Thank you
17 very much. I'll just make a statement to my
18 colleagues. And I've let you know that this has
19 not been an easy process. Between the economic
20 downturn and the loss of funding from the State
21 and federal governments and the difficulty of
22 balancing the needs of the biggest city in the
23 world, it was time for us to take a hard look at
24 the budget. It's time for us to move past that.
25 This was a difficult process, but it also

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2 represents what's great about New York City--our
3 ability to work together in a time of crisis and
4 to move forward no matter what obstacles are in
5 our path. The most important thing is that we
6 came together and we passed a balanced budget on
7 time, that preserves the core services--and one
8 that doesn't raise taxes.

9 By working with the Mayor, the City
10 Council was able to prevent the closure of 20 fire
11 companies, maintain citywide library services at
12 an average of five days a week. We were able to
13 maintain the current level of staffing for our
14 child welfare workers at ACS. And the Council
15 demonstrated its commitment to our cultural
16 institutions by avoiding devastating cuts to
17 museums, zoos, botanical gardens and protecting
18 the City's cultural economy. We even restored
19 funding for public pools as a sign to New Yorkers
20 that we understand the needs, but we also
21 understand what a cold pool on a hot summer day
22 can mean to a neighborhood.

23 Most importantly, we are laying the
24 foundation that will ensure our long-term
25 financial health by making decisions that aren't

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2 just focused on this year's budget, but the years
3 beyond this. And to address Council Member
4 Charles Barron, I have to say, Council Member
5 Barron, we acted responsible and in a way that we
6 are going to help the future--because next year's
7 budget is going to be harder for us and the
8 decisions are just going to get tougher; and
9 that's what we did by putting money in the
10 Healthcare Trust Fund. Because we are looking to
11 the future of this city and the future of our
12 children.

13

During the Executive Budget
14 Hearings, New Yorkers came out in droves to tell
15 us what was important to them. They flooded our
16 offices, and my colleagues', with emails, letters
17 and phone calls.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council
Member.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: I want to
thank everyone for their passion and ensure them--

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:
[Interposing] Council Member.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: --that we
did the best we could to protect them. It was

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2 impossible to pass a budget without making cuts,
3 but I believe we passed a budget that makes smart,
4 thoughtful cuts. I want to thank our Speaker
5 Quinn for putting her faith in me to chair the
6 Finance Committee. You are an amazing leader and
7 I hope that I was able to make you proud.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council
9 Member.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: I want to
11 thank Chief of Staff Chuck Meara and First Deputy
12 Chief of Staff Ramon Martinez. To my colleagues
13 in the City Council, thank you--

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:
15 [Interposing] Council Member.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: --for
17 supporting me and working with me to deliver a
18 responsible spending plan, and for advocating so
19 strongly for your constituents.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Council
21 Member, time to wrap up. Thank you.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: All right.
23 I just want to end it with; I just want to thank
24 Mayor Bloomberg. I want to thank his staff from
25 OMB, Mark Page, Deputy Mayor Patti Harris, Deputy

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2 Mayor Wolfson, and Hada Mahaltis [phonetic],
3 Nanette Smith. But I also have to thank my
4 wonderful Finance Staff who did a great job. They
5 did a great job. People do not realize how hard
6 the Finance Staff works.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:

8 [Interposing] Council Member, you have to wrap up.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: And they
10 have to be recognized. And I just want to thank
11 my General Counsel Tanisha Edwards for always
12 being at my side.

13 [Applause]

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: And last
15 but not least, of course Preston and Jeff, but I'd
16 also like to thank my staff, Felicia Steel
17 [phonetic], Rob Hart [phonetic], and of course my
18 wonderful Chief of Staff, Karen Becker. Thank you
19 very much.

20 [Applause]

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Now we have
22 Council Member Lou Fidler.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Sorry,
24 Lou. There's no time for you.

25 [Laughter]

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: He's the
3 Finance Chair, he controls the purse.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: I think you
5 can give him another five minutes. It's okay with
6 me. As usual, Council Member Barron and I live in
7 different worlds. And I am going to say my thank
8 yous. And I want to preface that by saying six
9 days ago, six weeks ago, six months ago, I was
10 expecting slaughter. I was expecting people to be
11 hurt throughout the City of New York at every
12 level. And of course there's some pain in this
13 budget, but I think we made good choices. I think
14 we made the best possible choices. I think if
15 Washington and Albany had stepped up in the right
16 way, those choices would have been even better.
17 And I want to point out that amongst the largest
18 restorations on our list were to our youth. And
19 they don't have high paid lobbyists pressing us;
20 they don't even vote. And in that category, the
21 most at-risk youth, those that don't even have
22 parents to speak for them, who are homeless on the
23 street; this Council restored every penny of the
24 funding for shelter beds. I thank each and every
25 one of you for that.

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[Applause]

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: So I do want to say thank you. I want to say thank you to our Speaker, for engineering a terrific budget; to our Finance Chairman, my friend Domenic Recchia, for the work that he's done; to Preston and Jeff and on behalf of the youth, a special shout out for Rocco Di Angelo [phonetic].

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[Applause]

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Yeah, you can applaud that. Rocco deserves a round of applause. To Chuck and to Ramon and to every member of the Finance Staff that seemed to know the answer to just about every question; and if they didn't know the answer they found out the answer. I think we really did the job of protecting as many people as we possibly could, and very importantly, did it without reaching into the pockets of New Yorkers who are already economically stressed. I'm very proud to be part of this body. I'm very proud to serve with each and every one of you.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you very much. Seeing no others, we're going to move

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on. Reports of Special Committees?

THE CLERK: None.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Reports of
Standing Committees?

THE CLERK: Report of the Committee
on Finance, Intro 23, elevator inspection fees.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

THE CLERK: Intro 210, fees for
probation services.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

THE CLERK: Intro 214-A, enhanced
9/11 system surcharge.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
on General Orders.

THE CLERK: Intro 236-A, taxicab
inspection fees.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
on General Orders.

THE CLERK: Preconsidered Reso 315,
base percentages.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

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THE CLERK: Preconsidered Reso 316,
adjusted base proportion.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

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THE CLERK: Preconsidered Reso 317,
transparency reso.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

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THE CLERK: M 91 and Reso 323 and
324, Contract Budget.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

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THE CLERK: M 92 and Reso 325 and
326, Capital Budget.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

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THE CLERK: M 93 and Reso 327.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

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THE CLERK: Preconsidered M 172 and
Reso 328, Five-year Facilities Capital Plan.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

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THE CLERK: Preconsidered M 173 and

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2 Reso 329.

3 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
4 Orders.5 THE CLERK: Preconsidered M 165 and
6 Reso 330, Transfer of Funds Between Agencies.7 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
8 Orders.9 THE CLERK: Preconsidered M 166 and
10 Reso 331.11 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
12 Orders.13 THE CLERK: M 8 and Reso 332
14 through M 98 and Reso 343, various Budget items.15 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled to be
16 filed.17 THE CLERK: Report of the Committee
18 on Governmental Operations, Intro 260-A,
19 information regarding same-sex marriages.20 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and laid
21 over.22 THE CLERK: Report of the Committee
23 on Land Use LU 166 and Reso 344 through LU 119 and
24 Reso 347, sidewalk cafés.

25 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General

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2 Orders.

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THE CLERK: LU 120 and Reso 348
through LU 122 and Reso 350, zoning amendments.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

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THE CLERK: LU 123 and Reso 351,
Landmark Designation.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders.

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THE CLERK: LU 124 and Reso 352
through LU 129 and Reso 357, School Facilities.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders, and congratulations to Council Member
Arroyo.

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THE CLERK: LU 130 through LU 133,
various applications.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Approved with
modifications and referred to the City Planning
Commission, pursuant to Rule 11.70-B of the rules
of the Council, and Section 197 D of the New York
City Charter.

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THE CLERK: Preconsidered LU 134
and Reso 358.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General

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2 Orders.

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THE CLERK: Report of the Committee on Public Safety. Preconsidered Intro 296, Sound Permits.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders, with a message of necessity.

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THE CLERK: Report of the Committee on State and Federal Legislation, Preconsidered SLR 10, Taxi and Limousine Commission.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders, and I just want to thank the State and Federal Legislation Chair, Helen Foster, for moving so quickly on these last minute home rules.

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THE CLERK: Preconsidered SLR 11, Sale of Real Property.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders.

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THE CLERK: Preconsidered SLR 12, Coney Island Plan.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General Orders.

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THE CLERK: Preconsidered SLR 13, Bicycles for Commercial Purposes.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General

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2 Orders.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: General
Order Calendar.

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THE CLERK: Resolution appointing
various persons Commissioner of Deeds.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on General
Orders. And at this time, I'd like to ask for a
Roll Call on all items that have been coupled on
the General Order Calendar, please.

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THE CLERK: Foster.

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CHAIRPERSON FOSTER: Thank you.
I'd like to thank everybody, disclose for the
record that we are funding SCAN New York, and that
my husband does work for SCAN, and I vote Aye on
all.

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THE CLERK: Arroyo.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

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THE CLERK: Barron.

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COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: May I be
excused to explain my vote?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes, You
may.

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COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Too my
colleague Lou Fidler, if you thought for one

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2 minute that they were going to close 50 senior
3 centers, shut down 21 fire companies, and if you
4 thought for one second they were going to close
5 all the daycare centers, then you haven't been
6 around for the budget dance that we go through
7 every year. You knew that wasn't going to happen.
8 So don't act like you thought something terrible
9 was going to happen and something less happened.
10 That's to get you to the point to cut what you cut
11 this time. And to the Finance Chair, you're
12 talking about fiscally responsible or being
13 fiscally prudent. When you talk about that
14 Healthcare Retirement Fund, I didn't say take it
15 all out and have nothing for a rainy day, but a
16 fiscally responsible thing to do would be to take
17 some out, a little bit, Domenic--like \$200 million
18 out of the \$2 point some odd billion. And you
19 didn't have to cut what you cut this time, and you
20 would have still had money for the rainy day. So
21 if you want to give lectures about fiscal
22 responsibility, then do the right thing today and
23 tomorrow. On that--

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA:

25 [Interposing] He votes yes.

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[Laughter]

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COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: --I cannot appeal to my colleagues more to vote no for this budget. The only way you could protect the people of this City is to not allow the Mayor and the Speaker to get you to cut all of these programs unnecessarily. You're not going to do it; and there will be people that are going to be tremendously hurt and in real pain. And the only reason why I'm voting no for this budget, because the pain really wasn't necessary, no matter how you try to flip it or spin it. The pain was not necessary. So I vote No on M 91 and Reso 323 and Reso 324, the Expense Revenue Contract Budget for Fiscal Year 2011, and Aye on all the rest.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you very much, Council Member.

THE CLERK: Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I vote Aye. I want to thank particularly the Manhattan Delegation and Jonathan Rosenberg, who was our main contact. Regina, Pakhi, Kristal, Shawdon [phonetic], John, Rocco, Latonia [phonetic], Aisha and Lionel, and of course Preston and Jeff. Scott

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2 Crowley helped a whole lot. And we have a Budget
3 Chair who has a heart, which is what we all care
4 desperately about. And I also want to thank my
5 staff, Kunal Malhotra, Shula Warren. And I also
6 want to say, thank the computer staff, because
7 none of this would be helpful without them. I
8 want to disclose Hunter College, where I teach;
9 the New York Historical Society, where my husband
10 works part-time. And to say, it's a tough budget.
11 I know that we should all be congratulating
12 ourselves, but there are a lot of groups that are
13 not getting cut. And I hope that sometime before
14 we all die, we'll have seven-day library service,
15 which I think we all want. But particularly a
16 huge thanks to the Manhattan delegation and all
17 the members and the work that we did together, my
18 Co-Chair Dan Garodnick, and ever member. And
19 thank you. And I vote Aye.

20 THE CLERK: Cabrera.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

22 THE CLERK: Chin.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

24 THE CLERK: Comrie.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Permission

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2 to explain my vote?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: I want to
5 thank, as I did--I want to thank my delegation
6 members. As Chair of the Queens Delegation, you
7 may know I had the most new members that came in
8 this year, their first time in the budget. They
9 were an active group, an inquisitive group and a
10 group that I enjoyed working with. And I want to
11 thank them because they came to all of the budget
12 meetings that were run by the Finance staff in an
13 excellent and forthcoming and thorough manner. I
14 can't thank the Finance staff enough for
15 everything that they did to delineate all of the
16 necessary details in this budget so that we can
17 make the hard choices to protect as much as we
18 could, at a time when we don't know how much money
19 we're actually going to get from Washington. We
20 may be losing FMAP money. We are already losing
21 AIM money. This Council made some hard choices in
22 this budget. Yes, I would have liked to fund
23 everything at the same levels that we did last
24 year, but the reality is that we are losing money
25 now from Albany. The reality is we may lose

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2 millions of dollars from the federal government if
3 we don't fight together in the next couple of
4 months to ensure FMAP.

5 I want to thank all of the people
6 that came to all of our meetings and talked to the
7 delegation members about those things that we
8 thought for. And I want to thank the Speaker and
9 her office and all of the people that worked to
10 make sure that the choices we made in this budget
11 were choices that we made with full disclosure and
12 full knowledge. It's not often that we have to--
13 we are the body that's most transparent, that's
14 most obvious, and the only body that has to do
15 things on a clock that ends at July 1st. And we
16 met that clock. This is our ninth time, my ninth
17 time, meeting an on time budget, a budget that was
18 more inclusive than ever before, more transparent
19 than ever before--thanks to all of the
20 participation of everyone in this room and
21 everyone in this city.

22 I am happy--I'm not happy to vote
23 Aye on this budget, but I'm proud to say that I
24 had a significant place and part, and to do
25 everything I could to save as many residents as

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2 possible. I vote Aye.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Crowley.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Thank you.

5 I vote Aye on the budget. I'd like to thank the

6 Speaker and my colleagues in the City Council.

7 I'd like to also disclose that while my sons are

8 students in the local public school, which will be

9 receiving funding from the City, I am also funding

10 Sacred Heart Youth Program, where my sons play

11 basketball, and my sister is a nurse at the

12 Visiting Nurse Service of New York. Thank you.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: I forgot my

14 disclosure. My kids are both in public school,

15 one in high school and one in middle school. And

16 my wife works for CUNY, both entities which get

17 public funds.

18 THE CLERK: Dickens.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Permission

20 to explain my vote?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: I want to

23 thank the Finance Chair, Domenic Recchia, for your

24 dedication, your hard work, and I know it was

25 difficult. But you fought and stayed here at City

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2 Hall until midnight. And you were here first
3 thing in the morning. An incredible Finance
4 staff, Jeff, Preston, Scott, Jonathan--all of you
5 that worked hard to give us the answers and to get
6 back and fight for us when you asked us to. The
7 staff of Speaker Quinn, Chuck, Ramon. You were
8 here, you worked with us and yes, it was
9 difficult. Speaker Quinn, thank you, because you
10 stood up and said no. Manhattan Delegation Chairs
11 Brewer and Garodnick, and the delegation from
12 Manhattan, thank you for working hard and working
13 together. I want to thank Council Members Arroyo
14 and Jackson from the Black, Latino and Asian
15 Caucus. But most importantly, I want to thank the
16 advocates who sat on the steps morning, noon and
17 night, fighting for Legal Aid, Cultural, our youth
18 programs. Because it was because of your advocacy
19 that gave the City Council Members the strength to
20 fight.

21 It is a difficult budget. It is
22 pain in this budget. But it is not nearly as
23 devastating as I was fearful as it was going to be
24 a mere two weeks ago. So I thank all of you.

25 THE CLERK: Dilan.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Yes.

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THE CLERK: Eugene.

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COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I just want to disclose that my children go to public school, and I vote yes. I vote Aye.

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THE CLERK: Dickens?

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COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: I vote Aye, and I have nothing to disclose.

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THE CLERK: Ferreras.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: I vote Aye.

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THE CLERK: Fidler.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: I'll rely on the written disclosure that I filed earlier today, that contains the same things that I disclosed last year and the year before. I also neglected to thank Scott Crowley and Jonathan Rosenberg. I apologize. I'm sure I've forgotten other people. I definitely don't want to forget to thank Barbara Scafidi [phonetic] for not beating me to within an inch of my life.

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And, you know, clearly Councilman Barron does not have the remotest idea of what I believe. And I hope you're all reading my

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2 thoughts a lot better than that right now. And I
3 vote Aye on all.

4 THE CLERK: Garodnick.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Thank
6 you. I just wanted to thank the Finance staff for
7 being available to answer a lot of very difficult
8 questions, as well as the Manhattan Delegation for
9 continuing its tradition of working very
10 collaboratively together. I also wanted to note
11 that there is an allocation in this year's budget
12 for Planned Parenthood New York City, and I would
13 like to disclose that my wife is the Associate
14 General Counsel of the Planned Parenthood
15 Federation of America. And with that, I vote Aye.

16 THE CLERK: Gennaro.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Mr.
18 Leader, I'd like to speak on my vote, if I could?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you.
21 Yes, I'd like to thank the Speaker for her
22 leadership and Chairman Recchia, all of the
23 Council Leadership; the Budget Negotiating Team,
24 all of the delegation Chairs; Chuck and Ramon, I
25 know all of the Speaker's good staff; Preston and

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2 Jeff, Scott, Jonathan and many others from the
3 Finance staff; David Troyce of my staff that
4 worked very hard. And I proudly vote Aye on this
5 budget.

6 THE CLERK: Gentile.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye on
8 all.

9 THE CLERK: Gonzalez.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: For
11 purposes of disclosure, three members of my
12 immediate family work at Maimonides Medical
13 Center, all of which I already disclosed; and my
14 granddaughter attends public school in the
15 district. I vote Aye.

16 THE CLERK: Greenfield.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

18 THE CLERK: Ignizio.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: I'd asked
20 if I may be temporarily excused to explain my
21 vote?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Thank you
24 very much. What began as a budget which was given
25 at the end of a hatchet became that at the end of

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2 a scalpel. And that--I think the reason for it is
3 because the Council really brought the humanity
4 and the compassion to this budget that was lacking
5 in the executive. When all my colleagues work
6 together, we built a better mousetrap; we built a
7 better budget. No, it's certainly not perfect.
8 No, it certainly doesn't reflect some needs
9 juxtaposed to others. But this is a model of a
10 budget process that should be heard a couple of
11 hundred miles away in Albany. I know, because I
12 have been in both places. I served on Ways and
13 Means in the Assembly and it was nothing like the
14 openness, transparency and personal involvement of
15 members that we have here in this body. So no
16 budget is perfect. No budget reflects everybody's
17 priorities. But this budget is one where every
18 member in this house has an active role and takes
19 part in--be it on budget negotiating, be it on
20 delegation. And that is a credit to the Speaker;
21 that is a credit to the process by which we
22 conduct ourselves, and that is a testament, I
23 think, to the openness and transparency which this
24 body has been a forerunner for, for many years. I
25 hope that my colleagues in Albany are listening. I

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2 hope that they see what we do, and I hope they
3 appreciate the timeliness and compassion with
4 which we conduct our business, while not getting
5 into a process were we'll hold up government in
6 perpetuity. With that, I need to vote No on
7 several items that I disagree with.

8 [Laughter]

9 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: I didn't
10 say everybody agreed, Madam Speaker. I just said
11 it was done right. But I proudly vote No on 214-
12 A, 315, 316, M 173, Companion resolution 329, SLR
13 13, Intro 23--I abstain on Intro 210. No on 236-
14 A, and yes on all others. Thank you very much.

15 THE CLERK: Jackson.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: May I be
17 excused to explain my vote?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Obviously
20 I vote yes on the particular matter. But I think
21 it's important at this point in time, for me on
22 behalf of all the constituents that I represent,
23 to thank everyone involved in this budgetary
24 process. And obviously it was not an easy one.

25 So, starting with Speaker Christine

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2 Quinn and the Leadership Team; and of course
3 Domenic Recchia, our new Finance Chair. We've
4 gone to Albany together to lobby and I've sat with
5 you through many Finance hearings. And I called
6 former City Council Member Bill Perkins the
7 Marathon Man, now you are the half-marathon man.
8 Because obviously Domenic did run the half-
9 marathon, the Brooklyn Half-Marathon, and
10 obviously that's not an easy feat. If you think
11 it is, then try to do it. So Domenic, you're the
12 Half-Marathon Man, and when you run the Marathon,
13 you will become the Marathon Man. But also, all
14 of the Finance staff--obviously they work hard on
15 behalf of ourselves as members and of the City of
16 New York. And they all deserve a vacation,
17 obviously.

18 But also, let me just say that I
19 was blessed to have two new people in my office
20 Joanna Garcia, my Legislative and Budget Director;
21 and Beth Schuler [phonetic], who is my Assistant
22 Legislative Budget Director; and Chioma Ohakum
23 [phonetic] is new, she's working with the Caucus
24 right now and helping Joanna. But also we have
25 some fabulous interns, Sandy Rodriguez [phonetic]

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2 from Upper Manhattan; a retiree, Bernice Jones
3 from Queens, Leroy Comrie's District; Tasmir
4 Gathers [phonetic], from the Bronx; and Martin
5 Baez [phonetic] from Harlem. With all of that, I
6 thought that we did a good job in representing the
7 people from Northern Manhattan, and I thank
8 everyone involved in this budgetary process, even
9 though it's not everything we want, but we can
10 live with it. Thank you.

11 THE CLERK: James.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: May I be
13 excused to explain my vote?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: As someone
16 who has attended a number of daycare center
17 graduations within the last two weeks, in fact I
18 attended every one in my district, all of the
19 centers in my district, and as someone who was
20 raised on public assistance, whose mother had to
21 struggle each and every day, who placed me and my
22 brothers and sisters in a daycare center--I am
23 proud of this body for saving the daycare centers.
24 I want to thank each and every one of my
25 colleagues for standing strong, to save out of the

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2 15 at least seven centers. And six have three
3 months to basically apply for an RFP, and two were
4 slated to be closed, and in fact were closed. I
5 thank all of my colleagues and I thank the Speaker
6 for standing together, standing strong, to stand
7 up for those children who unfortunately are often
8 times ignored.

9 I also want to thank all of you for
10 your efforts in restoring funds to cultural
11 institutions, which are an economic base to a lot
12 of our communities; as well as restoring jobs to
13 those who need them most, those who stand up for
14 children, the preventive workers. I want to thank
15 each and every one of you, and I vote Aye on all.
16 And on all subsequent votes, I'd like to vote Aye.
17 Thank you.

18 THE CLERK: Koo.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Mr. Leader,
20 may I explain my vote?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I want to
23 thank all my colleagues for showing their
24 professional courtesy and cooperation. And thank
25 Speaker Quinn and Minority Leader Jimmy Oddo, and

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2 of course our Delegation Leader, Leroy Comrie, for
3 showing me the work in this Council. And with
4 that, I want to vote No on some items. I vote No
5 on 214-A, 315, 316, and M 173 and SLR 13. On the
6 rest I vote Aye. Thank you.

7 THE CLERK: Koslowitz.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: May I be
9 excused to explain my vote?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Although
12 this is the toughest budget I ever went through in
13 my prior years on the City Council, it was the
14 best experience I ever had. I want to thank
15 Speaker Quinn for her outstanding leadership and
16 inclusiveness in this difficult budget process.
17 Thank you so much for everything. I also want to
18 thank Preston and Jeff for being there whenever I
19 had a question, and also--and I had a lot. And
20 also to Jonathan Rosenberg. I also want to thank
21 the entire Council Finance Staff for everything
22 that you did. I know you'll be sleeping a lot
23 tonight.

24 I also want to thank Chuck Meara
25 and Ramon Martinez for their help and guidance in

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2 this. I want to thank Council Member Recchia.
3 It's a pleasure to be on your Committee. You make
4 it seem easy. And I also want to thank Liz Fine,
5 Jim Karras [phonetic] and Nadir [phonetic], for
6 their help in this. And I also want to thank,
7 especially our delegation leader, Leroy Comrie,
8 for all the guidance he gave us.

9 Last but not least, I want to thank
10 my treasure and Staff Member Vicky Morales
11 [phonetic] for all the work she did in this budget
12 process. I vote Aye.

13 THE CLERK: Lander.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: May I be
15 granted leave to explain my vote?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: That was an
18 outstanding job thanking everyone that was on my
19 list, so I will just echo the thanks to the staff
20 for helping it the first budget process. I want
21 to specifically mention that I'm grateful that we
22 were able to restore funding for the Amico Court
23 Street Daycare Center, which serves a whole slew
24 of families that really need it, and we're
25 thrilled to know that they will be able to get the

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2 care as a result of this. I want to thank the
3 Speaker and the Finance Chair and especially
4 recognize Pakhi Sengupta for her help in that
5 process.

6 [Applause]

7 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Civic life
8 in Park Slope is somewhat extensive, so I have to
9 do a fair number of disclosures. We're funding
10 the Prospect Park YMCA, the 78th Precinct Youth
11 Council, the Prospect Park Alliance, the Brooklyn
12 Arts Exchange, all of which my children or my
13 family and I are participants; the Pratt Institute
14 where I teach and my kids are students are PS 107.
15 All the public schools in my district receive
16 funding for technology. I vote Aye on all Land
17 Use and General Items Orders. Thank you.

18 THE CLERK: Lappin.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: I'd like to
20 thank Chuck Meara and Ramon, and Preston and Jeff
21 and Jonathan Rosenberg and Scott Crowley. But I
22 have to really give an extra special shout out and
23 thank you to Pakhi, who has spent hours with me--

24 [Applause]

25 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: --over the

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2 last couple of months. You have been--really just
3 gone above and beyond and have been a pleasure to
4 work with. And thank you to Speaker Quinn as
5 well, and I vote Aye.

6 THE CLERK: Levin.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: May I be
8 excused to explain my vote?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: I just want
11 to acknowledge the hard work of everybody in
12 passing this budget. This is my first budget, and
13 I am very grateful to be a part of this body. I
14 want to acknowledge the leadership of Speaker
15 Christine Quinn, and the Leadership Team, all the
16 hard work of Chuck Meara, Ramon Martinez; the
17 entire Finance Staff, led by Preston Niblack, Jeff
18 Rodus, Pakhi Sengupta, Jonathan Rosenberg, Scott
19 Crowley, and really the entire staff for all the
20 hard work they put into this.

21 I want to acknowledge Brooklyn
22 Delegation Co-Chairs Eric Martin Dilan and Tish
23 James. And last, but certainly not least, my
24 friend and Finance Chair Domenic Recchia and Karen
25 Becker and his entire staff, for all the hard work

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2 that they did, and all the members of this body.
3 This is a process that we can all be proud of.
4 And with that, I vote Aye. Thank you.

5 THE CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye
7 on all.

8 THE CLERK: Mealy.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye on all.

10 THE CLERK: Mendez.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye on all.

12 THE CLERK: Nelson.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Aye on all.

14 THE CLERK: Palma.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

16 THE CLERK: Recchia.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: May I be
18 excused to explain my vote?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Yeah,
21 more. I have some more thank yous. I have to
22 thank Scott Crowley and Jonathan Rosenberg and
23 Paul Simone [phonetic], all right? And of course
24 Pakhi, Kristal and the rest of the whole team.
25 But also I want to thank our Brooklyn Delegation

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2 Chairs, Tish James and Erik Dilan. And with that,
3 I would like to disclose for the record that I
4 have provided discretionary capital funding to a
5 number of schools in my district, including Mark
6 Twain and PS 215, where my daughters are students.
7 I vote Aye.

8 THE CLERK: Reyna.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: I vote Aye.
10 And I want to in the best way possible say thank
11 you to all of the finance staff, by letting them
12 go home early, if we all vote, and limit our
13 words. Thank you, so they can rest.

14 THE CLERK: Rodriguez.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: May I
16 explain my vote, please?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: I would
19 like to first of all say that I express my
20 disappointment for cutting the funding to the
21 Dominican Studies Institute and the Puerto Rican
22 Studies Institute from \$470,000 to \$250,000. CUNY
23 has said that they are committed to add that--
24 whatever we needed to complete the \$470,000,
25 however, as I express it, CUNY also could add it

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2 from the \$20.4 million. I also would like to add
3 that I am disappointed that I was never consulted,
4 as a Chair of the Committee on Higher Education on
5 this decision. Those questions were questions
6 that I expressed to a number of staff on Friday.
7 And I am so displeased [phonetic] that that
8 decision was taken a cutting to those
9 institutions. Thank you.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: How do you
11 vote, Council Member?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: I vote
13 Aye.

14 THE CLERK: Rose.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: I'd like to
16 be excused to explain my vote, please.

17 THE CLERK: So ordered.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Thank you.
19 Being a newbie to this process was quite
20 elucidating. And I would just like to say that
21 while it was not--while the outcome was not all
22 that I had hoped it would be, that I am thankful
23 that we were able to save certain things,
24 specifically the pools. As of today I went to the
25 opening and saw how happy the children in my

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2 district were as a result of the vote to restore
3 the funds for pools. And on Friday, we celebrated
4 with cake, the reopening of the center, a senior
5 center, as opposed to a closing. But I want to
6 thank specifically the Finance Committee, the
7 Speaker's staff. And I think it's necessary for
8 me to mention that as a newbie, the senior council
9 members here were so helpful in helping me get
10 through this process. And I want to thank all of
11 you, and it's too long to list you by name, but
12 you know who you were. Thank you for helping me
13 through this process. And my vote is Aye on all.
14 Thank you.

15 THE CLERK: Sanders.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Yes, to
17 all.

18 THE CLERK: Ulrich.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Mr.
20 Majority Leader, may I explain my vote?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Mr.
23 Majority Leader, Madam Speaker, I'd like to thank
24 you for once again putting together a very
25 difficult budget, your finance staff and the

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2 Directors of your Finance Division especially.
3 I'd also like to thank my Finance and Budget
4 Director on my staff, Guy Ognibeni [phonetic], for
5 helping me put together a very difficult budget,
6 but one that I believe will service the needs of
7 all of my constituents. But, I do want to
8 recognize at this time another unsung hero, at
9 least for five members of this body, and that is
10 the Republican leader of this delegation, Jimmy
11 Oddo.

12 [Applause]

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Now back in
14 January, the newly expanded Republican delegation
15 of a mighty five members, put their full faith and
16 their trust in Jimmy Oddo's leadership
17 capabilities, and we unanimously reelected him to
18 the position of Minority Leader. And he made a
19 promise that he would fight with us and he would
20 stand with us in our ability to deliver for our
21 districts. And when you consider the political
22 nature, especially during these times, of
23 partisanship that exists in Congress, the
24 partisanship that exists in Albany--and then you
25 take a City Council where you have 46 Democrats

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2 and only five Republicans, and you consider how
3 many millions of dollars that Jimmy Oddo was able
4 to advocate for, for the five minority members of
5 this body, I think that there's a heck of a lot of
6 credit that goes his way. And I just want to say
7 thank you, Jimmy Oddo. Thank you very much.

8 [Applause]

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: And with
10 that, I vote No on Intro 214-A, on Preconsidered
11 Reso 315, 316, Preconsidered M 173, accompanying
12 Reso 329, and SLR 13. Thank you very much.

13 THE CLERK: Vacca.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: I vote Aye
15 on all, and I thank everyone here. I think the
16 Council can be proud of the work we did, all of
17 us. I thank the Speaker and the staff and I vote
18 Aye very proudly.

19 THE CLERK: Vallone.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Mr. Chair,
21 may I speak? Thank you.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: I'd like
24 to thank our Speaker. This is a budget that
25 recognizes that public safety, even at the

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2 toughest times, has to be our priority. It saves
3 our police, our fire, our ACS caseworkers, while
4 it doesn't raise taxes and makes responsible cuts.
5 When we talk about cuts, I'd like to remind
6 everyone that these tough cuts that we have to
7 make are all the fault of Albany. We don't ask
8 for aid from Albany. We ask for our own money
9 back from Albany. If we had it, we wouldn't have
10 to make any of these cuts--although as Jimmy Oddo
11 will tell you, there are still some responsible
12 ones that need to be made.

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I am concerned about some of these
cuts, and the only thing I agree with Charles
Barron on is the cuts to the CUNY, the New York
City Council CUNY Scholarship. Funding is down
one-third for those poor kids who worked so hard
to achieve those scholarships based on merit. And
that was the Mayor's choice. We restored our
funding; the Mayor did not restore his funding,
and I think that is very unfortunate. I'm going
to have to disclose that I provided a list of my
father's clients to the Conflict of Interest Board
and to our Council. And I assume some of those
are receiving funds or he would a pretty lousy

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2 consultant. So, I'm going to also vote No on
3 preconsidered Resos 315, 316, 317, Intro 214-A,
4 236-A, 23 M 173 and Reso 329. Vote Aye on all the
5 rest, and thank our great staff for all the work
6 they've done. Thank you.

7 THE CLERK: Van Bramer.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER:

9 Permission to explain my vote?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: I'd
12 like to thank Speaker Quinn; Finance Chair
13 Recchia; our Queens Delegation Chair, Leroy
14 Comrie; and all of my colleagues here in the
15 Council for their ongoing commitment to our
16 cultural organizations, the institutions and the
17 arts community. The restorations that we made to
18 the arts are incredibly meaningful and important,
19 and will keep New York City the cultural capital
20 of the world.

21 I'd also like to congratulate
22 everyone who had a hand in what is the largest
23 restoration of library funding in history.
24 Together we've stopped 40 libraries from closing,
25 saved several hundred people from being laid off,

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2 and saved countless programs from being cut in all
3 five boroughs. I know this budget affirms Speaker
4 Quinn's and this body's ongoing support for public
5 libraries and the arts. In closing, I'd like to
6 thank Chuck Meara, Ramon Martinez, and
7 particularly Preston Niblack and Jeff Rodus and
8 the entire Finance team. They are not simply
9 number crunchers; the truth is they care about the
10 programs and services and the people they help,
11 just as much as we the members do. I want to
12 thank them for caring and for all their hard work.
13 And with that, I vote Aye.

14 THE CLERK: Vann.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: I believe
16 that protocol has been established, so I will not
17 be redundant other than to state I agree with the
18 commendation to the Speaker and her staff and
19 Domenic Recchia and all of the financial or fiscal
20 staff for doing an excellent job. I would also
21 like to comment on the process, the--well,
22 compassion that the leadership has shown in this
23 process. They tried to address the critical needs
24 of the most vulnerable in our city. And I commend
25 you for that. I also have some disclosures. I

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2 have seven grandchildren in public schools, two in
3 high school, one in middle school and four in
4 elementary. I also have two children who work at
5 Medgar Evers College, and a son-in-law as well. I
6 also serve on the Board of Directors of the
7 National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS. I
8 withdraw my - - and I vote Aye on all.

9 THE CLERK: Weprin.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Permission
11 to explain my vote?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Thank you
14 very much. I want to thank all the staff also for
15 all their great hard work. I want to thank
16 Speaker Quinn, Jimmy Oddo and all my colleagues,
17 really, for making my transition to the City
18 Council a very pleasant one. People have reached
19 out to be helpful where I need it. And I finally
20 learned what an on time budget feels like. I had
21 a couple of them along the way, but it's been a
22 while. And I do want to thank them all.

23 I do want to make--as a son of
24 former retired schoolteacher--just acknowledge the
25 teachers in this city. They sometimes get lost in

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2 the shuffle here a little bit. They took no pay
3 raise this year. They have no pay raise this year
4 and they took a lot of crap in a lot of different
5 places, in the course of a lot of discussions
6 going on, not only in this state but across the
7 country. In addition we had a cut; made the
8 difficult choice of cutting Teachers' Choice,
9 which is the money allocated by teachers to pay
10 for books and for extra supplies in classrooms.
11 So many of these teachers pay out of their own
12 pockets so much money and don't get reimbursed. I
13 really think they deserve a little bit of a shout
14 out there.

15 As far as disclosures go, I have to
16 disclose I have a sister-in-law who works at
17 Queensborough Community College, which receives
18 funding through CUNY; and I also have two children
19 in the New York City Public Schools, which receive
20 money through the Department of Education. I also
21 fund personally all the little leagues equally in
22 my area, and my two boys happen to play in one of
23 those little leagues. On the bill, I do vote Aye,
24 and thank you very much.

25

THE CLERK: Williams.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: May I be
3 excused to explain my vote?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank
6 you. This also was my first vote--I mean, sorry,
7 first budget. Very, very interesting. I did
8 first though want to thank and congratulate
9 everyone who was involved, although I disagree
10 with how some of it turned out. I did see that
11 many people worked very, very hard to make this
12 happen. And I was debating which way to go,
13 because as I said, some things were tough in
14 there.

15 But, you know, I think we saved
16 some thing, and we didn't save some others. And I
17 think there were some other options that weren't
18 explored, and I hope we explore the in the future.
19 Also, I've spoken to a lot of people. And while I
20 think this budget wasn't as bad as it could have
21 been, which I'm happy about, it could have been a
22 little bit better. As I spoke to people, people
23 are also frustrated about the paradigm and
24 structure of how we do this budget. So I feel
25 like we are the ones who build the house, and we

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2 build it too small and then complain it's too
3 small. And I'm hoping we'll discuss the paradigm
4 of how we build this to begin with, and how we
5 make these decisions in the upcoming budget.
6 Because it's going to be tougher. And instead of
7 making these tougher decisions we might be able to
8 look at some other options that we have available
9 to us. So with that, I vote Aye on all, except
10 for Intro 210. Thank you. I vote No on Intro
11 210.

12 THE CLERK: Oddo.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: May I be
14 temporarily excused to explain my vote?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Normally when
17 a member stands up and says he would like to
18 associate himself with the remarks of someone,
19 it's usually another member; but today I'd like to
20 associate myself with my own remarks from June
21 7th--

22 [Laughter]

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: --when I
24 essentially cross-examined Mark Page. It was a
25 brilliant dissertation by me, and I ask that you

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watch it on Crosswalks.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: It's not called Crosswalks anymore.

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Whatever.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH:

[Interposing] I take back everything I said before. Thank you very much.

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: I have five minutes; I have to stretch this. The point is, on a serious note, that unless we get to the heart of the matter of what is driving these multibillion-dollar deficits, those of us that have limited time here, and even those of our successors, will always have to deal with the pressures of threats to firehouses and senior centers. And we continue to have a structural imbalance in the City of New York. We continue to have more recurring expenses than recurring revenue, and that is a challenge for us. And I hope we don't lose sight of that, despite passing what I think, under the conditions, is a responsible budget. So I would be remiss if I didn't stand up here and drive that point home. I think it's my obligation as the Minority Leader.

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2 Another general point I'd like to
3 make is that I was a staff member in this body for
4 seven years; it was a great seven years. And I
5 have a tremendous amount of respect for all of the
6 staff that works here. They work tirelessly.
7 They take lots of our frustration and aggravation.
8 And I'm so proud of all of them. The Finance
9 staff, particularly this time of year, I want you
10 to know you are respected. You are liked. 15 of
11 the 20-some odd members in the Budget Negotiating
12 found it in their hearts to help feed these guys.
13 Next years, that should be 51 members who find a
14 way to show, in a very small way, some respect and
15 get these people some decent food, who work day in
16 and day out.

17 You know, I heard the word
18 compassion used, and I know Charles Barron is
19 upset about cuts, and other members are. And I
20 respect their concerns. But I have a privileged
21 view of this budget process. The Speaker, as
22 Councilman Ignizio pointed out, allows a
23 Republican into the inner chamber. And there was
24 a moment a couple of days ago, late in this
25 process, where we've done a lot of work to reduce

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2 the number. And we're at that point where you're
3 literally shifting a few dollars here, a few
4 dollars there. And we were throwing some numbers
5 around and Christine said, okay. Because at that
6 point you kind of go where the money is. And then
7 she said, no; I can't do that to the kids. And it
8 was a human moment, and it was a moment that her
9 critics and the critics of this institution will
10 not see. And I was there and I got to see it.
11 And I made a comment to Preston and I made a
12 comment to the speaker that I was glad and
13 privileged to be in that room to see it.

14 We understand that these numbers
15 are not just numbers in a ledger--that these are
16 people. And she, and the leadership team did the
17 best they could to balance the pain. And I was
18 proud of that entire leadership team. And I will
19 close on this note. Last year, the community,
20 Jimmy Vacca, others, people of Staten Island,
21 really were the driving force, I think, behind
22 saving the firehouses. This year there was a
23 different dynamic to the budget. And I will, and
24 I have, and I will continue, to make the world
25 know that it was this City Council that put every

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2 dime back. It was this speaker who willed these
3 20 companies. And I disagree with Charles Barron.
4 Those 20 companies were in jeopardy, and it's a
5 fight that's going to continue. That's how real
6 it is. But I want the world to know that it
7 wasn't splitsies [phonetic]. It wasn't 50-50. It
8 was this Council who ate a big chunk of our money
9 because this Speaker understands that this
10 Department is not too big, and this Department is
11 on the cutting edge of protecting this City.

12 I want everybody to take a good
13 look around. I'm not sure if we'll ever be back
14 in this building. It's construction; it's New
15 York City. But on a serious note, life changes on
16 a dime. I didn't think I was going to be here for
17 my 11th budget. I am. I'm grateful. But
18 everybody sort of take in this moment for five
19 seconds; this is a good body. We have some warts,
20 we have some self-inflicted wounds, but this is a
21 good body. And Karen Koslowitz sees the old body
22 to the new body; not that the old body was bad--
23 she gets it. Mark Weprin mentioned it. Vinnie
24 Ignizio mentioned it, vis-à-vis upstate. This is
25 a good body and I'm proud of it. I will vote Yes

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2 on all, with the exception of 214-a, which is a
3 no; Preconsidered SLR 13 is a no; Preconsidered
4 Resos 315 and 316; M 173 and accompanying Reso
5 329, which are Nos. And I will abstain on Intro
6 210. Thank you.

7 [Applause]

8 THE CLERK: Rivera.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
10 very much. I also just want to echo the remarks
11 of my colleagues here in the chambers in thanking
12 our Speaker, Christine Quinn; in thanking our
13 Finance Chair, Domenic Recchia; Chuck and Ramon;
14 Preston and Jeff; the entire Finance staff for
15 staying hours upon hours, sometimes until 4:00 in
16 the morning, making sure that we have a budget
17 that's sound, and making sure that we know where
18 every single dollar is going. I want to thank the
19 Dean of my Delegation in the Bronx, Annabel Palma,
20 for her leadership in making sure that our
21 delegation was run effectively and efficiently
22 during this tough budget time. And I also want to
23 thank the advocates and the activists who were out
24 there every single day making sure that we members
25 understand what these restorations mean to New

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2 Yorkers and to the City of New York. We literally
3 were bombarded, giving, you know, documents and
4 information on paper from our Finance division to
5 the activists. And my request at this point,
6 since we are finalizing this budget--recycle,
7 recycle, recycle. With that being said, I vote
8 Aye on all. If you didn't get the little joke, it
9 means that there was a lot of paper distributed,
10 and I hope we all recycle it. There are trees
11 being torn down in the Amazon. With that, I vote
12 Aye on this budget. Thank you very much. It's a
13 budget well done.

14 THE CLERK: Speaker Quinn.

15 SPEAKER QUINN: Just in closing, I
16 want to thank everyone very much for their kind
17 words and recognition of my work and the work of
18 my staff. I was remiss in my thanks in not
19 thanking the General Counsel's Office, who has the
20 unpleasant job of all of the disclosure forms and
21 the General Counsel's Office, who headed up the
22 vetting process with the Finance staff. So I just
23 want to add my thanks to everyone who did the
24 vetting staff. And Council Member Ferreras just
25 handed me a note thanking me for the budget books;

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2 and I was remiss in not thanking the staff for the
3 budget books, so I wanted to add that thanks as
4 well. And I, just before voting, want to just
5 remind people what Council Member Oddo said. The
6 next Council Meeting will be at the Immigrant
7 Savings Bank, because we will be out of here for a
8 year, if that means that we're coming back when
9 it's under construction--that's all we've agreed
10 to. So don't come here, come to the Immigrant
11 Savings Bank. And I vote Aye on the FY 2011
12 Budget, and all other items that we're voting on
13 today. I vote Aye.

14 [Pause]

15 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Take your
16 time tallying the vote; I had 7:00 in the pool.

17 SPEAKER QUINN: I've got 6:30,
18 hurry up.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Actually, I
20 had 6:30 also. All items on today's General Order
21 Calendar were adopted by a vote of 49 in the
22 affirmative, zero in the negative and zero
23 abstentions, with the exception of Intro 214-A,
24 which was adopted by a vote of 43 in the
25 affirmative, 6 in the negative with zero

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2 abstentions; and Intro 236-A, which was adopted by
3 a vote of 47 in the affirmative, 2 in the negative
4 with zero abstentions; Reso 315, which was adopted
5 by a vote of 43 in the affirmative, 6 in the
6 negative with zero abstentions; Reso 316, which
7 was adopted by a vote of 43 in the affirmative, 6
8 in the negative with zero abstentions; and M 173
9 and Reso 329, which was adopted by a vote of 43 in
10 the affirmative, 6 in the negative with zero
11 abstentions; and M 91 and Reso 323 and 324, which
12 was adopted by a vote of 48 in the affirmative,
13 with one in the negative and zero abstentions; and
14 Intro 23, which was adopted by a vote of 47 in the
15 affirmative, with 2 in the negative and zero
16 abstentions; and Intro 210, which was adopted by a
17 vote of 46 in the affirmative, 1 in the negative
18 and 2 abstentions; also SLR 13 was adopted by a
19 vote of 45 in the affirmative, 4 in the negative
20 and zero abstentions; and Reso 317, which was
21 adopted by a vote of 48 in the affirmative, 1 in
22 the negative and zero abstentions; and Revised
23 Land Use Call-Ups was 49 in the affirmative, with
24 zero abstentions. That's all. That being said,
25 Introductions and Reading of the Bills.

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: All bills are
3 referred to committees as indicated on the agenda.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Seeing as
5 there are no Resolutions, General Discussions.
6 Council Member Jackson?

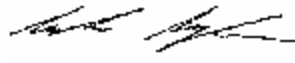
7 SPEAKER QUINN: He's passing on
8 that.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: He's
10 passing on that. And at this point in time, the
11 Budget Adoption Declaration for June 29th, 2010,
12 by the President Pro Tempore, Council Member--
13 myself--I now formally declare the Executive
14 Expense Revenue Contract Budget the Executive
15 Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2011, and the
16 Capital Program for the three succeeding Fiscal
17 Years all as modified and all in accordance with
18 the relevant sections of the New York City
19 Charter, as hereby adopted on the 29th day of June
20 2010, at 6:34 p.m. in the evening--I'm four
21 minutes late in the pool--is adopted and
22 recognized. Thank you very much. This meeting is
23 adjourned.

24 [Applause]

C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Signature_____

Date July 13, 2010_____