

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

CITY COUNCIL STATED MEETING

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September 9, 2021  
Start: 2:18 p.m.  
Recess: 3:14 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  
Selvena N. Brooks-Powers  
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  
James F. Gennaro  
Vanessa L. Gibson  
Mark Gjonaj

Barry S. Grodenchik  
Robert F. Holden  
Ben Kallos  
Peter A. Koo  
Karen Koslowitz  
Brad S. Lander  
Stephen T. Levin  
Mark Levine  
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)

Rabbi David Niederman, Executive Director and  
Spiritual Leader  
United Jewish Organizations

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Majority Leader, it's  
3 all yours.

4 [gavel]

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Good afternoon and  
6 welcome to the Stated Meeting of September 9th, 2021.  
7 I am Majority Leader Laurie Cumbo and I would like to  
8 thank you for joining us. If you would like to  
9 follow along, the agenda for today's meeting is  
10 posted on our website.

11 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Please join us for  
12 the Pledge of Allegiance.

13 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: All rise.

14 ALL: I Pledge of Allegiance to the flag  
15 of the United States of America and to the republic  
16 for which it stands, one nation under God indivisible  
17 with liberty and justice for all.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. We will  
19 now go to roll call.

20 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Adams?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Present.

22 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Ampry-Samuel?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Present.

24 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Ayala?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Present.

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2 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Barron.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Blessed and  
4 present.

5 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Borelli? Brannan?  
6 Brooks-Powers? Cabrera?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

8 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Chin?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Present.

10 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Cornegy?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Here.

12 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Darma Diaz?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER D. DIAZ: Presente.

14 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Ruben Diaz?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER R. DIAZ: Presente.

16 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Dinowitz?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Present.

18 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Dromm?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Present.

20 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Eugene?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Present.

22 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Feliz?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Presente.

24 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Gennaro? Gibson?

25 Gjonaj?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Present.

3 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Grodenchik?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: I'm here.

5 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Holden?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Here.

7 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Kallos?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Here.

9 LEGISLATIVE CLERK ARMS: Koo?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

11 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Koslowitz? Lander?

12 Levin?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

14 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Levine? Louis?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Present.

16 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Maisel?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Here.

18 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Menchaca? Miller?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Present.

20 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Moya? Perkins?

21 Powers?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Here.

23 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Reynoso? Riley?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Present.

25 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Rivera?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Present.

3 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Rodriguez?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.

5 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Rose?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Present.

7 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Rosenthal?

8 Salamanca? Treyger?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.

10 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Gennaro?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here.

12 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Ulrich? Vallone?

13 Van Bramer?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

15 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Yeger?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Here.

17 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Matteo? Cumbo?

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBER: Present.

19 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Speaker Johnson?

20 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Here.

21 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Madam Majority

22 Leader, we have a [inaudible 00:03:09].

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much.

24 We will now have today's invocation which will be

25 delivered by Rabbi David Niederman, Executive

2 Director and spiritual leader at United Jewish  
3 Organizations in Williamsburg and North Brooklyn  
4 located at 32 Penn Street in Brooklyn.

5 RABBI DAVID NIEDERMAN: Distinguished  
6 members of the legislative body of this great city,  
7 yes, the Jewish community celebrated, we all know,  
8 the Rosh Hashanah. We ask Hashem for a happy and  
9 healthy new year to our brothers and sisters and for  
10 all mankind. It is from the Psalm prayers that I  
11 stand here to pray for your wisdom and success  
12 because so many people depend on you. When we look  
13 for somebody to have the prayer for the high  
14 holidays, our sages instruct us to look for somebody  
15 who is a large family and is not rich, but has a lot  
16 of needs, thus, he will pray from his heart. Hashem  
17 warms the heart. King David said in Psalms, a broken  
18 in pained heart, Hashem will not embarrass. As you  
19 sit down, to verse all responsibility of passing  
20 policies and laws, making no difference to millions  
21 upon millions of people's lives, the most important  
22 thing is that you should have a heart to understand  
23 and feel for those impacted by your decisions. Two  
24 days from now, our nation will memorize the thousands  
25 who were murdered just a few blocks away from here as



2 a result of an evil heart. Our nation at that time  
3 came to gather and our hearts connected. We shall  
4 strive to again feel for each other and to understand  
5 each other's needs and vulnerabilities. The us, I  
6 prayed to Hashem to please the stow his blessing  
7 Speaker of this Council and upon all of its members.  
8 May you, the distinguished legislators who graced  
9 this hall, continue to use your energies to keep our  
10 families safe, all of our cities isn't communities  
11 together, and help all New Yorkers to succeed and  
12 rise, especially our friends and neighbors devastated  
13 by hurricane Ida's flooding. May Hashem, the  
14 Almighty, bestow his blessing on all of you as well  
15 as those who will also chart a new path in their  
16 careers to succeed in all of your endeavors and  
17 uplift your neighbors, so help us Hashem. Amen.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Mr. Speaker, I  
19 would like to spread the-- a motion to spread the  
20 invocation in a part the record. And, if I may,  
21 very quickly, I would just like to welcome Rabbi  
22 Niederman here to the Council Chambers. You know, in  
23 my office-- and this has been the case for a number  
24 of years-- if anybody in my office gets a call and  
25 they say, it's Rabbi on the phone, everybody knows

2 who Rabbi is and it is because Rabbi Niederman is  
3 such an important presence in the community that I  
4 represent in the 33rd District of Brooklyn and, in  
5 fact, you know, as you can see, I am not Orthodox  
6 Jewish, but Rabbi Niederman is my Rabbi well I have  
7 been in need in my life and have faced difficult  
8 decisions or difficult times or if I have needed  
9 somebody to pray for me, I've gone to Rabbi Niederman  
10 for that. And that's because of his amazingly  
11 generous heart and his thoughtful presence and his  
12 absolute dedication to his community. If you go to  
13 the UJO of Williamsburg on Penn Street, it's not on  
14 the fancy block. It's not in a fancy building. It's  
15 underneath the BQE next to the gas station on Penn  
16 Street. And you walk in, though, and you know-- and  
17 anybody who walks and knows that they will get the  
18 highest level of service, social services, that you  
19 can possibly expect and that everybody deserves. And  
20 it's that humbleness and just true dedication that  
21 really speaks volumes about him and it's my hope that  
22 many Councils in the future will get to know him and  
23 get to know his wise counsel. And, with that, I  
24 would like to spread the invocation upon the record.  
25 Thank you.

2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, Council  
3 member Levin. And I, too, would like to join in  
4 celebrating and recognizing Rabbi Niederman. We  
5 share him in our district and it's been an honor to  
6 know Rabbi Niederman over the last eight years. The  
7 power and the depth of the prayer that you just  
8 delivered speaks volumes as to why you are known both  
9 here in New York City and abroad and it is been an  
10 honor to serve with you. As you can see, so many  
11 members here know Rabbi Niederman for the incredible  
12 work that he has done in our community and our  
13 neighborhood and it has been an honor to work with  
14 you and I just want to say, when Rabbi Niederman  
15 arrived, I didn't recognize at first because of the  
16 rhinestone mask, but I can see very clearly he is a  
17 man beyond his time and is loved and adored  
18 throughout this entire community and beyond. So, we  
19 thank you. We thank you for the work that you have  
20 done and will continue to do and we look forward to  
21 seeing the best of what is yet to come in the future.  
22 Thank you so much for being here and thank you for  
23 serving New York City.

24 Thank you, Council member Levin. We will  
25 now have the adoption of minutes.

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2 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: None.

3 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Messages and  
4 papers from the Mayor?

5 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: M326 Board of  
6 Health appointment.

7 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Rules, Privileges, and  
8 Elections.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Communication from  
10 city, county, and borough offices?

11 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: M327 Board of  
12 Elections appointment.

13 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Roles, Privileges, and  
14 Elections.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Petitions and  
16 communications.

17 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: None.

18 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Land use call ups?

19 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: M328.

20 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Shh. If folks could  
21 quiet down. Coupled on a roll call vote. Coupled on  
22 a call up vote and I would ask that the clerk take a  
23 roll call vote on today's land use call ups. Again,  
24 colleagues, we're just right now voting on land use  
25 call ups.

2 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Adams?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Aye.

4 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Ampry-Samuel?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Aye.

6 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Ayala?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye.

8 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Barron.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye.

10 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Borelli? Brannan?

11 Brooks-Powers? Cabrera?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

13 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Chin?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

15 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Cornegy?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye.

17 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Darma Diaz?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER D. DIAZ: Aye.

19 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Ruben Diaz?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER R. DIAZ: Si.

21 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Dinowitz?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye.

23 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Dromm?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

25 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Eugene?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

3 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Feliz?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye.

5 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Gennaro?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Yes.

7 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Gibson?

8 [background comments]

9 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Borelli?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye.

11 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Okay. Council

12 member Borelli says yes. Says aye. Gjonaj?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Aye.

14 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Gjonaj says aye.

15 Grodenchik?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Aye.

17 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Grodenchik says

18 aye. Holden?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye.

20 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Holden says aye.

21 Kallos?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.

23 LEGISLATIVE CLERK ARMS: Kallos says

24 aye. Koo?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

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2 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Koo says aye.

3 Koslowitz? Lander? Levin? Levine?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Aye.

5 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Levine says aye.

6 Louis?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye.

8 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Louis say aye.

9 Maisel?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Yes.

11 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Maisel says yes.

12 Menchaca? Miller?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.

14 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Miller says aye.

15 Moya?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Aye.

17 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Moya says aye.

18 Perkins? Powers?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye.

20 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Powers votes aye.

21 Reynoso? Riley?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye.

23 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Riley votes aye.

24 Rivera?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye.

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2 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Rivera votes aye.  
3 Rodriguez?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

5 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Rodriguez votes  
6 aye. Rose? Rosenthal? Salamanca? Treyger?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

8 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Treyger votes aye.  
9 Ulrich?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Ulrich votes aye.

11 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Ulrich votes aye.  
12 Vallone? Van Bramer?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

14 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Van Bramer votes  
15 aye. Yeger?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye.

17 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Yeger votes aye.

18 Matteo? Cumbo?

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBER: I vote aye.

20 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Cumbo votes aye.

21 Speaker Johnson?

22 SPEAKER JOHNSON: I vote aye.

23 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Speaker Johnson  
24 votes aye.

25



2 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Today's land use  
3 call ups, we have a vote of 35 in the affirmative and  
4 zero negative. We will now have communication from  
5 Speaker Cory Johnson.

6 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Good afternoon. Thank  
7 you, Madam Majority Leader. Welcome to today's  
8 Stated Meeting. Before I start, I would like to  
9 remind all of the members that are present here today  
10 that masks are required to be worn throughout the  
11 Stated Meeting, even when speaking. Let's do our  
12 best to protect each other and all New Yorkers as we  
13 continue to battle this pandemic. Today, we are  
14 voting on five bills to help strengthen our city,  
15 including one to expand access to primary health care  
16 and another to offer more mental health services to  
17 our veterans. As always, I am proud of those Council  
18 for tackling some of our city's biggest challenges.  
19 Like everyone here, I watched in horror last week as  
20 the remnants of hurricane Ida devastated our city.  
21 These are communities we all represent and find it so  
22 hard to protect. We lost 13 New Yorkers. Friends,  
23 neighbors, colleagues, and a child. It was another  
24 tragic reminder that we are in a climate crisis and  
25 must tomorrow to prepare our city for the extreme

2 weather that we have been experiencing. The lives of  
3 New Yorkers are at stake. As we do at every stated  
4 meeting, I want to acknowledge some new sad 9/11  
5 related deaths. On August 22nd, we lost retired FDNY  
6 Lieutenant Patrick Whalen. He was 62 on. On August  
7 24th, we lost retired firefighter Stephen Riley. He  
8 was 68 years old. I include these deaths at each  
9 stated because it is vital to remember that our  
10 city's suffering and sacrifice did not end on  
11 September 11th, 2001. Let's have a moment of silence  
12 for the 13 New Yorkers and their families who are  
13 coping with so much grief after hurricane Ida and  
14 also for Lieutenant Whalen and firefighter Riley. If  
15 people could arise for a moment of silence?

16 Thank you. This Saturday, as everyone  
17 knows, will mark 20 years since that life altering  
18 day on 9/11 2001. Our resilience was tested as a  
19 week-old with the shock of the terrorist attacks on  
20 the World Trade Center in lower Manhattan. 2753  
21 people were killed that day. These were workers,  
22 visitors, and first responders who started the day  
23 like many of us, expecting to return home safely. We  
24 will always remember them and continue to pray for  
25 their families, but the pain we felt that day is also

2 a reminder of our city's ability to rebuild and  
3 persevere, despite so much suffering. Our strength  
4 has been tested time and time again, including our  
5 ongoing battle against COVID 19. As of September  
6 7th, 33,914 New Yorkers have died from the  
7 coronavirus. Our city has endured a lot of tragedy  
8 in our history, but has always triumphed. No one  
9 should doubt our ability to work however and remain  
10 the greatest city in the world. Time and again, we  
11 have shown the world the meaning of strength and  
12 grace in the face of challenges. I am deeply proud,  
13 as I know all of you are, to represent the city and I  
14 am proud to work with all of you to make it better  
15 for all New Yorkers. So, again, let us, again,  
16 people could rise, pause for a moment of silence for  
17 those who we lost in the 9/11 attacks 20 years ago.  
18 Thank you.

19 I want to wish all who celebrated Rosh  
20 Hashanah L'Shana Tova. A happy, sweet, healthy, and  
21 prosperous new year. May the year 5782 bring joy to  
22 all those who celebrate and I want to wish all who  
23 observe Yom Kippur and easy and meaningful for us  
24 next week. I am so proud that our city has so many  
25 people of Jewish faith in it. People who have come

2 here from around the world and we need to remain a  
3 city that respects all religions, especially after  
4 the rise in anti-Semitism that we have seen. I am  
5 really grateful that I live in a city that celebrates  
6 Rosh Hashanah for Jewish New Yorkers and for Jews  
7 around the world. So, I hope everyone has a happy  
8 new year and I hope you all who are celebrating have  
9 an easy and meaningful fast next week. Today, I also  
10 want to take a moment to say a special, special,  
11 special thank you to Jennifer Fermino, my  
12 communications director who is leaving the city  
13 Council, sadly. I'm very sad issues leaving. For  
14 more than three years, Jen has been a trusted advisor  
15 for this Council and I am going to miss her very,  
16 very much and I wish her well in her future  
17 endeavors. Jen, you worked tremendously hard. You  
18 have worked with many, many members here. You've  
19 done so much to help this Council and to help the  
20 city. As many of you know, Jen worked at the New  
21 York Post and the New York Daily News. She was the  
22 city held bureau chief. Many of us had interacted  
23 with her when she was the bureau chief at the Daily  
24 News and then she eventually came here to the Council  
25 almost 4 years ago. So, we're going to miss her. I

2 am going to miss her terribly and tremendously, but  
3 I'm happy for her and I am happy for her future and  
4 so I want to thank you, Jen, for your service to the  
5 Council and to the city. Can we all have a big round  
6 of applause for Jennifer Fermino?

7 [applause]

8 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Hopefully, she's  
9 watching somewhere. Thank you, Jen. Really, really,  
10 really appreciate it.

11 Now, let's dive into our legislative  
12 agenda. The first bill comes out of the Committee on  
13 Technology edited is sponsored by Council member  
14 Peter Koo. Introduction number 1151-A will ensure  
15 that people and businesses won't incur late fees or  
16 interest on payments if an electronic system failure  
17 disables phase city website used to make online  
18 payments. This bill would establish a 48 hour grace  
19 period for a system failure that lasted 24 hours or  
20 longer, during which neither late payment fees, nor  
21 interest should be incurred for any payment due  
22 during the time period of the system failure.  
23 Affected city agencies would also have the discretion  
24 to extend to the grace period by up to seven days,

2 from the staff, want to thank Irene Bahalfski [sp?]  
3 and Christopher Sartori.

4           We're also voting on Introduction number  
5 1828-A, sponsored by Council member Alicka Ampry-  
6 Samuel and those bill comes out of the Committee camp  
7 women in Gender Equity. Sadly, New York State is  
8 considered a hot bed-- I mean, it's hard to even  
9 understand this-- It's considered a hot bed for the  
10 practice of female genital mutilation and cutting,  
11 defined by the World Health Organization as all  
12 procedures that involve partial or total removal of  
13 the external female genitalia or other injury to  
14 female genital organs for nonmedical reasons. This  
15 legislation establishes an advisory committee on  
16 female genital mutilation and cutting led by their  
17 Mayors Office and domestic and gender-based violence  
18 with an aim of issuing recommendations to better  
19 engage communities and agencies to decrease the  
20 prevalence of and eventually eliminate the practice  
21 of female genital mutilation and cutting in New York  
22 City. The advisory committee would also be tasked  
23 with identifying supportive community based and  
24 culturally responsive resources for people who have  
25 undergone female genital mutilation and cutting.

2 Then, from the staff, I want to thank Brenda McKinney  
3 and Chloe Rivera and thank you to Council member  
4 Ampry-Samuel for bringing this issue up. It is  
5 important for people not to overlook this and for the  
6 city to take action.

7           Next, we have a bill from the Committee  
8 on Transportation aimed at helping mitigate traffic  
9 fatalities and serious injuries. Introduction number  
10 1789-A, sponsored by Council member and  
11 Transportation Committee Chair, Ydanis Rodriguez who,  
12 again, also Chose the Committee, would accelerate the  
13 existing timeline for equipping all large vehicles in  
14 the city fleet with side guards on January 1st, 2024  
15 starting with contracts registered with the  
16 Comptroller after January 1, 2023. Side guards will  
17 also be required for large vehicles, utilized to  
18 fulfill contracts with the city of at least \$2  
19 million. The bill would require that agency  
20 contracts involving the use of large vehicles contain  
21 the side guard requirement and penalties up to \$4000  
22 per vehicle could be issued for a lack of compliance.  
23 Fatalities and serious injuries from under the rides,  
24 crashes in which a motorist, pedestrian, or psychos  
25 is called Bernie a large truck following an impact

2 with the side of her vehicle can be easily mitigated  
3 through the installation of side guards. From the  
4 staff, I want to thank Elliot Lynn.

5           Next is a bill from the Committee on  
6 Veterans, sponsored by Council member Mathieu Eugene,  
7 which will create peers support services for  
8 veterans. Introduction number 0647-a will require  
9 the Department of Veterans Services in partnership  
10 with local veterans service organizations to  
11 establish a telephone hotline to provide your support  
12 services and information to veterans. Additionally,  
13 the bill requires the hotline to be staffed by  
14 certified veteran. Specialists. The veteran peers  
15 specialists will provide counseling and referral  
16 services for callers. The Department of Veteran  
17 Services will be required to post the peers support  
18 hotline telephone number and hours of operation on  
19 its website. And, from the staff, I want to thank  
20 Bianca Vitali.

21           Our final bills from the Committee on  
22 Health and it will help us expand healthcare access  
23 for uninsured New Yorkers. According to the 2018  
24 community health survey conducted by the Department  
25 of Health and Mental Hygiene, roughly 12 percent of



2 the cities residents don't have health insurance.  
3 Unfortunately, uninsured New Yorkers are less likely  
4 to get needed preventative care. Introduction number  
5 1668-A, sponsored by myself and our Health Committee  
6 Chair, Council member Mark Levine, aims at broadening  
7 access to primary care services in New York City.  
8 The bill will develop and manage a primary care  
9 services and patient navigation program which would  
10 provide primary care services and applicable patient  
11 navigator services to ensure medical services are  
12 provided in every community district. It also  
13 requires that at least one participating in a acute  
14 care hospital provides specialties services. So,  
15 that is provided in each borough. Under the  
16 legislation services that will be provided by Health  
17 and Hospitals Facilities, federally qualified health  
18 centers, and other nonprofits and private medical  
19 providers, the bill will also require the Health  
20 Access program to offer a telemedicine service  
21 providing access for patients 24 hours a day, seven  
22 days a week. I've been working on this bill for the  
23 last seven years and I really, really want to thank  
24 Louis Cholden Brown who has been with me the entire  
25 time. He has worked on this bill day in and day out

2 the last seven years. He is studying incredible job  
3 and I'm really grateful to Louis for his partnership  
4 with it. Louis, I want to thank you for everything  
5 you have done everything you always do. I want to  
6 thank him for the partnership he has had with Council  
7 member Levine in Council member Levine's staff. I  
8 also want to thank Harbani Ahuja and Sara Liss. So,  
9 that-- This is an important bill. This bill is  
10 going to help hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers  
11 who currently are underinsured and don't have primary  
12 care access across New York City until Louisville  
13 place that is near a Helping Hospital facility. So,  
14 this is really a game changer for undocumented New  
15 Yorkers, low income New Yorkers, New Yorkers who  
16 don't qualify for health insurance. It's a really,  
17 really big deal. So, that is our legislative agenda.  
18 And, with back, I turn it back over to you, Madam  
19 Majority Leader.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much,  
21 Speaker Johnson. We will now call on Council member  
22 Mark Levine to speak on his bill followed by Council  
23 member Alicka Ampry-Samuel and then followed by  
24 Council member Koo.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Thank you so much,  
3 Madam Majority Leader. Thank you, Speaker Johnson  
4 for your seven years of work on behalf of expanding  
5 healthcare access in this city. And it is customary  
6 to think staff at the end of your remarks, but I have  
7 to thank Louis Cholden Brown upfront who worked  
8 tirelessly for seven years to push this bill forward  
9 and went on overdrive in the last six months. We  
10 would not be here today with this momentous  
11 legislation if it hadn't been for Louis. So, can we  
12 give him one more round of applause?

13 [applause]

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Thank you. This  
15 pandemic has laid bare the horrible cost of  
16 healthcare inequality in this city and there is no  
17 more devastating sign of that inequality than the  
18 fact that 600,000 New Yorkers move life without the  
19 basic security of health insurance meaning that they  
20 seek often primary care in the emergency room when  
21 they are in crisis which is the worst result for them  
22 and our healthcare system. There is a better way and  
23 the city has a program known as NYC Care that offers  
24 a very promising model to give people who lack  
25 insurance home for their primary care, Dr. to get

2 their annual physical, to get their vaccinations,  
3 their preventative screenings, referrals to  
4 specialists, help with prescriptions, ophthalmology  
5 and other services offered on a sliding scale  
6 available but anyone regardless of immigration  
7 status. Both the program as it exists today has a  
8 very serious limitation period it is only available  
9 at Health and Hospital facilities and we love H&H,  
10 but there are neighborhoods throughout the city:  
11 Flushing, Sunset Park, Brownsville, Far Rockaway, the  
12 Northeast Bronx, West Harlem that have no H&H  
13 facility and thousands of undocumented people,  
14 thousands of uninsured people living there. This  
15 bill will guarantee that every single community board  
16 has access to one primary care facility by activating  
17 our wonderful FQHC's or community healthcare  
18 facilities that are present throughout the city.  
19 This will be a game changer for the uninsured and the  
20 undocumented. Could I have time just to thank staff,  
21 Madam Majority Leader?

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Yes, please.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Okay. I want to  
24 thank the incredible coalition behind this that has  
25 worked for years. The Community Health Center

2 Association of New York State, the New York  
3 Immigration Coalition, 1199 SEIU, New York State  
4 Nurses Association, Somos Community Care, Planned  
5 Parenthood, and here on staff, Sara Liss, Harbani  
6 Ahuja, Em Balken, and Amy Slattery. Thank you so  
7 much, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Madam Majority Leader.

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much,  
9 Council member Levine, and congratulations. I would  
10 also like to call about this time Council member  
11 Alicka Ampry-Samuel.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Thank  
13 you, Madam Majority Leader. Good afternoon,  
14 everyone. As a former human rights worker with the  
15 United States State Department, I was once  
16 responsible for drafting our countries human rights  
17 report, traffic and in persons report, international  
18 religious freedom report. I was tasked with  
19 submitting my investigative findings back to  
20 Washington DC to determine what rating that country  
21 would receive and what level of funding that country  
22 should receive United States government based on how  
23 they treated its citizens and whether a country was  
24 still practiced female genital mutilation was a  
25 question I had to ask and respond to. And fast-

2 forward, I became a newly elected member of the New  
3 York City Council and I was approved on major female  
4 genital mutilation issues right here in New York  
5 City. But, here in New York City, young women are  
6 more silent, isolated, and continue to not have a  
7 voice about their bodies which is pretty ironic  
8 because this is New York City. Quite often, the  
9 practice of FGMC leads to depression, swelling,  
10 urinary problems, reproductive issues, and possibly  
11 death. Many women have reached out for help and  
12 advocacy related to health education in the schools  
13 and in the hospitals and they ask for resources to  
14 assist with community level outreach again here in  
15 New York City. Some are trying to escape genital  
16 mutilation of their daughters and some are just  
17 seeking comfort in their communities. Ironically,  
18 although rising in New York City, female genital  
19 mutilation is prohibited in many African and Middle  
20 Eastern countries around the world, but they still  
21 practice it. So, today, we are working with the  
22 Mayor's Office to end domestic violence and gender-  
23 based violence with community activists like Fatima,  
24 legal advocacy groups, legal experts like Natasha  
25 Johnson with Globalizing Gender, and the women who

2 have come forward to share their own personal  
3 stories. So, today, we are acting-- just two more  
4 seconds. Today, we are acting to employee  
5 preventative measures to protect women and girls who  
6 call New York City home while still preserving some  
7 of their cultural practices that speak to good health  
8 and prosperity. And, with that, what to thank  
9 everyone who had a hand in helping with this bill and  
10 end female genital mutilation everywhere and for  
11 good. Thank you.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, Council  
13 member Alicka Ampry-Samuel. We will now have Council  
14 member Peter Koo.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you, Majority  
16 Leader, and hello everyone. Today, we voting on my  
17 bill, Intro 1152 to create a grace period if a city  
18 payment system goes down. I introduced this bill and  
19 2018 following a hearing regarding cybersecurity  
20 attacks. At that time, the city of Atlanta had  
21 undergone a massive ransomware attack that prevented  
22 government employees from even turning on their own  
23 computers. Systems were down in any government  
24 services is supposed through computers were halted.  
25 This bill aims to protect New Yorkers from unjust

2 fees and fines in the event of such an attack here in  
3 New York City. As more of our society most online  
4 payments, we need to make sure there are protections  
5 in place Donald Lee to ensure the privacy of the  
6 information, but to safeguard against potential  
7 system outages. So this bill will establish a 48  
8 hour grace period for any system failure that  
9 disables the city website used to make online  
10 payments for a day or two. There will be no way  
11 payment fees nor interest incurred during that time.  
12 Additionally, city agencies will have the option to  
13 extend the grace period by up to seven days if  
14 needed. This accommodation is more than just a  
15 common courtesy that will make the lives of New  
16 Yorkers easier. It's simply the right thing to do.  
17 I want to thank Speaker Johnson, technology Chair  
18 Holden, Irene Bahalfski, Charles Keen, Chris Sartori,  
19 Jeff Baker, and Jason Goldman and the entire  
20 Technology Committee and staff for their work on this  
21 bill and I encourage my colleagues to vote in favor.  
22 Thank you.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, Council  
24 member Koo. And we will now have Council member  
25 Mathieu Eugene.



2 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you very  
3 much, Mr. Speaker and Madam Majority Leader. I want  
4 to begin by saying that all those that were affected  
5 by hurricane Ida across New York City are in my  
6 prayers and as the government body, we have to do  
7 everything that we can do to provide assistance to  
8 all of the people in need. I'm proud to have  
9 sponsored Intro 647-A, legislation that requires the  
10 Department for Veterans Services to coordinate with  
11 you Veteran Service organizations to establish a line  
12 to provide peer support services and information to  
13 veterans. As the former Chair the Committee on  
14 Veterans and a longtime supporter of local veterans  
15 organizations, I'm well aware of the [inaudible  
16 00:36:24] plight and [inaudible 00:36:26] of many of  
17 our service member who return home with the mental  
18 and emotional scars and baggage of being in a war  
19 zone. These symptoms take a toll over their mental  
20 health of all veterans and make their return to  
21 civilian life difficult and even dangerous. It is an  
22 unfair burden on the individual, the families and  
23 also the friends and all of whom want the best for  
24 our returning soldiers. September is national  
25 suicide prevention month, so it is only fitting that

2 we take this moment to remember those who have  
3 struggled with mental illness and serving the  
4 military and take the necessary steps to have them  
5 lead a normal life upon their return. These veterans  
6 have committed themselves to tremendous acts of  
7 bravery and heroism in services to our country, while  
8 protecting our freedoms and it is only right that--  
9 Madam-- Okay. Thank you. And it is only right  
10 that we, as people, equal the commitment to them by  
11 providing more focused mental health resources and  
12 involve peer-to-peer support. We want our soldiers  
13 to have a more friendly support structure to rely on  
14 and this legislation is a very important part of that  
15 process. During my time as the Chair, as the Chair  
16 of the Veterans Committee, I met with accomplished  
17 veterans who have returned home from service and  
18 needed more mental health support that was not  
19 available to them. It is long overdue that the  
20 Department of Veterans Services improve resources in  
21 place to help our veterans. I want to take the  
22 opportunity to also mentioned that I am very grateful  
23 and thankful to those service members for their  
24 bravery and heroism in serving the United States. I  
25 want to take the opportunity to thank my cosponsors.

2 Council member Yeger, Council member Riley, and also  
3 Jeff Baker and the Veterans Committee staff, Bianca  
4 Vitali, Elizabeth Arts, and Sebastian [inaudible  
5 00:38:56] and also Jason Goldman. Thank you very  
6 much, Mr. Speaker. Then thank you, Madam can  
7 majority Leader. And I urge my colleagues to vote  
8 yes. Thank you very much.

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you so much,  
10 Council member Eugene. With no other members on the  
11 docket to speak, we will now move into the report of  
12 special committees.

13 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: None.

14 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Reports of standing  
15 committees.

16 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: For the Committee  
17 on Health, Introduction 1668-A, primary care services  
18 program.

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

21 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: For the Committee  
22 on Technology, Introduction 1152-A, online payment  
23 grace period.

24 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on  
25 general orders.

2 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report on the  
3 Committee and Transportation, Introduction 1789-A.  
4 Side guards.

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

7 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report on the  
8 Committee and Veterans, Introduction 647-A, Veterans  
9 support services.

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

12 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Report of the  
13 Committee on Women and Gender Equity, Introduction  
14 1828-A, advisory committee on female genital  
15 mutilation.

16 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Amended and coupled on  
17 general orders. And at this time, I'm going asked  
18 the clerk to take a roll call vote on all of the  
19 items that are coupled on today's general orders  
20 calendar.

21 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Adams?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: [inaudible  
23 00:40:20]

24 SPEAKER JOHNSON: You have to speak at the  
25 mic or it won't record you. Thank you.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Thank you so much,  
3 Mr. Speaker. I just wanted to rise to congratulate  
4 my colleague, Council member Alicka Ampry-Samuel, for  
5 such groundbreaking legislation that really does put  
6 an exclamation point to this story. And I want to  
7 thank you for that. I'm a proud cosponsor of Intro  
8 1828. With that, I congratulate you and I do about  
9 aye on all.

10 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Ampry-Samuel?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: Aye.

12 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Ampry-Samuel votes  
13 aye. Ayala?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: I vote aye.

15 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Ayala votes aye.

16 Barron?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye.

18 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member

19 Barron votes aye. Borelli?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: I vote aye.

21 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member

22 Borelli votes aye. Brooks-Powers?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: I vote

24 aye.

25

2 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member  
3 Brooks-Powers votes aye. Cabrera?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

5 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Cabrera votes aye.  
6 Council member Chin?

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

9 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Yeah. Before I  
11 vote, I just wanted to thank the Committee on Aging's  
12 committee counsel, Nusah Tradari [sp?]. Yesterday  
13 was her last day and I just wanted to thank her for  
14 all the great work that she has helped the Council  
15 build a strong Committee on Aging and serving our  
16 older adults and I wish her the very best in her new  
17 adventure. And I also want to congratulate all my  
18 colleagues on such important legislation and I vote  
19 aye on all. Thank you.

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

21 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Cornegy?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye.

23 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member  
24 Cornegy votes aye. Darma Diaz?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER D. DIAZ: Aye.

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2 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member

3 Darma Diaz votes aye. Ruben Diaz?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER R. DIAZ: Si.

5 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member

6 Ruben Diaz votes si. Dinowitz?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Yes.

8 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member

9 Dinowitz votes yes. Council member Dromm?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

11 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member

12 Dromm votes aye. Council member Eugene?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I vote aye.

14 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member

15 Eugene votes aye. Feliz?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye on all.

17 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member

18 Feliz votes aye on all. Gennaro?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Yes.

20 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member

21 Gennaro votes yes. Gibson?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: I vote aye.

23 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member

24 Gibson votes aye. Gjonaj?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Aye.

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2 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member  
3 Gjonaj votes aye. Grodenchik?  
4 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Aye.  
5 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member  
6 Grodenchik votes aye. Council member Holden?  
7 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye on all.  
8 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member  
9 Holden votes aye on all. Kallos?  
10 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye on all.  
11 LEGISLATIVE CLERK ARMS: Council member  
12 Kallos votes aye on all. Council member Koo?  
13 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I vote aye.  
14 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member Koo  
15 votes aye. Levin?  
16 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.  
17 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member  
18 Levin votes aye. Levine?  
19 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Aye.  
20 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member  
21 Levine votes aye. Council member Louis?  
22 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye.  
23 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member  
24 Louis votes aye. Council member Maisel?  
25 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Yes.



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2 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member

3 Maisel votes yes. Miller?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.

5 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member

6 Miller votes aye. Moya?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Aye.

8 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member Moya

9 votes aye. Powers?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye.

11 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member

12 Powers votes aye. Riley?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye.

14 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member

15 Riley votes aye. Rivera?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye.

17 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member

18 Rivera votes aye. Rodriguez?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Permission to  
20 explain my vote?

21 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Permission granted.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: I would like

23 to dedicate the vote that we have taken today on the

24 bill that will expedite the process to install the

25 side guards on all city fleets and the private sector

2 doing business with the city that are doing business  
3 with \$2 million dollars to those advocates of  
4 Families for Safe Streets and Transportation  
5 Alternatives. We know that we will beat COVID 19.  
6 But by 2020, we have large numbers of New Yorkers who  
7 lost their lives because as a result of crashes.  
8 Those numbers were 246 traffic fatalities. So I know  
9 that we heard the private sector concerned about  
10 expensive for them to install the side guards, but we  
11 know in many cases when those crashes happen, the  
12 body of those individuals, pedestrians and cyclists,  
13 end up under the trucks. So, I hope that, working  
14 together, we can be able to expedite the process even  
15 though the bill is established in 2023, but we need  
16 to install side guards as soon as possible so that we  
17 can save lives. I hope that we will continue working  
18 [inaudible 00:45:20] that we have in this  
19 administration with Vision Zero and the new ones  
20 coming on board in 22 also should continue this  
21 policy. [Speaking foreign language] with that, I  
22 vote aye.

23 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

24 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Rose?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

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2 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member Rose  
3 votes aye. Treyger?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

5 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member  
6 Treyger votes aye. Ulrich?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Yes.

8 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member  
9 Ulrich votes yes. Council member Van Bramer?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

11 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member Van  
12 Bramer votes aye. Yeger?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye.

14 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Council member  
15 Yeger votes aye. Cumbo?

16 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBER: I vote aye.

17 LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Speaker Johnson?

18 SPEAKER JOHNSON: Council member Yeger and  
19 Council member Borelli both voted aye on all which is  
20 like a historic day at the New York City Council. I  
21 vote aye on all. And Holden. I put Bob Holden in a  
22 different sphere.

23 UNIDENTIFIED: Can I change my vote?

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: All items on  
25 today's general order calendar are adopted by a vote

2 of 39 in the affirmative, zero negative, and zero  
3 abstentions. That's it. We will now go to the  
4 introduction and reading of bills.

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

8 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you. There  
9 are no resolutions on today's calendar, so we will  
10 now move into general discussion.

11 SPEAKER JOHNSON: No one? Oh.

12 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I see Council  
13 member Miller followed by Council member Barron  
14 followed by Council member Rodriguez followed by  
15 Council member Levin and that concludes our remarks  
16 for today, so we will go ahead and speak in that  
17 order. Council member Miller, you may proceed  
18 forward. Yes.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you. I'm  
20 going to be brief. I just want to acknowledge that  
21 on tomorrow, there will be a ribbon-cutting for the  
22 very new school in District 19, the East New York  
23 Family Academy. It is a new five-story building with  
24 a swimming pool that has been renovated and we've got  
25 two science labs, we've got a music lab, we have a

2 library, and we have a brand-new gym-atorium, as it's  
3 called, and we have a brand-new kitchen with several  
4 walk-in freezers another accommodations. And I'm  
5 sure there is an opportunity for a kitchen workers to  
6 applied it was called, they're going to want to be  
7 there. It is a beautiful score. It now has an  
8 outdoor courtyard which has a basketball court. We  
9 have their walking and running track. We've got  
10 flowers planted on the outside. And for any of you  
11 that want to come and see this beautiful new building  
12 which replaces 12 portables in a Department of Health  
13 building that existed on that site. And I want to  
14 ignore knowledge that the Mayor, with his  
15 administration, bringing in a chancellor who  
16 understood education in continuing that policy  
17 understood that this had to be. It was an  
18 embarrassment. It was a disgrace, but it's been  
19 replaced with a brand-new building. The ribbon-  
20 cutting is tomorrow at, I believe, 2:30. You are  
21 all invited to come. It's on the corner of Van  
22 Sickland Avenue and Linden Boulevard. The East New  
23 York Family Academy which has grades sixth or 12 and  
24 an amazing principal whether that for many years.  
25 The conditions existed for about 35 years, but

2 finally it has been done and I have to acknowledge  
3 former Chancellor Carranza who promised that it would  
4 be done on time and open for this school year. So,  
5 you are all invited to come. Thank you.

6 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you and  
7 congratulations, Council member Barron. Council  
8 member Miller.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Thank you, Madam  
10 Majority Later. I just want to, unfortunately, to  
11 the roles of those New Yorkers that was lost in the  
12 past few weeks. Some of my constituents that resided  
13 in the 27 Council District that unfortunately lost  
14 their lives during the unfortunate flash flood that  
15 occurred by virtue of hurricane Ida. And that is  
16 Krishna Ramsari [sp?] and his mom, Pramari Ramsari  
17 [sp?]. They were unable to get out of their basement  
18 apartment and, unfortunately, succumbed to water.  
19 Also, while we're here and, obviously, acknowledging  
20 the 20th anniversary of 9/11, I want to thank my  
21 colleagues and those who are a part of the Committee  
22 on Civil Service and Labor and others such as  
23 Margaret Chin who done a lot of work to support those  
24 workers in the compensation fund and all those who  
25 had succumbed to 9/11. And so, as we remember the

2 work that this Council has done on behalf of all  
3 those folks, want to thank all of my colleagues for  
4 their partnership.

5 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: My condolences to  
6 you, Council member Miller, and thank you so much.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: I would like  
8 to invite all my colleagues to say presente on the  
9 20th as were going to be holding a historic hearing  
10 related to municipal voting rights. Where many  
11 people in many states have been experiencing voting  
12 rights being under the attack, we have the  
13 opportunity to address no taxation without  
14 representation. I lived with a green card since 83  
15 to 2000. I was a taxi driver. I washed dishes. I  
16 was an activist. I was a teacher. I did the same  
17 contributions that I have done and have been a  
18 citizen in 2000. There's 1 million of those New  
19 Yorkers that they have green cards and that they have  
20 working papers. No, their faces are not only Latino,  
21 their faces are not only Africans, their faces are  
22 not only, you know, Asian. They can be Poland. They  
23 can be Thailand. They can be Irish. They can be  
24 individuals that are walking in the street, but  
25 because of the color of their skin, we do not see

2 them as undocumented or have working papers or have  
3 green cards. The federal law already established the  
4 city in the state or the ones that decide who votes  
5 in the local elections. The municipal voting rights  
6 already have the support of New York State NAACP, the  
7 house of Justice, Brooklyn Borough President,  
8 Manhattan Borough President, Browns Borough  
9 President, and many-- in the immigration [inaudible  
10 00:53:22] and more than 55 institutions that they  
11 have said New York City has to be progressive by  
12 action. So I hope that at a moment when we have veto  
13 power, we not only will hold this hearing, but we  
14 also will take this bill to the vote and make by  
15 example making New York City the largest municipality  
16 that should be following other cities that already  
17 have reestablished their rights of individuals with  
18 working papers and immigration and green cards to  
19 vote in the local election. Let's make history.  
20 Let's say presente. Let's pass this bill. Thank  
21 you.

22 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, Council  
23 member Ydanis Rodriguez. We will now go to Council  
24 member Steve Levin.



2 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you, Madam  
3 Majority Leader. Just wanted to take a moment and  
4 send a message from my heart to all the New Yorkers  
5 who continue to live with the scars of 9/11 for these  
6 past 20 years. The trauma that our city suffered and  
7 continues to suffer is really beyond comprehension  
8 and the Speaker for every Still good Moving reminding  
9 us of those that have lost their lives to 9/11  
10 related illnesses who at this point outnumber those  
11 who died at that day. And every single day in a  
12 single week, we continue to lose people to 9/11  
13 related illnesses. And just to take a moment to just  
14 extend my deepest sympathy and empathy to everybody  
15 that lives with those scares. You know, we think  
16 about just steps away from here what our neighbors  
17 had to endure. So, I just wanted to take a moment to  
18 do that. Thank you.

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you, Council  
20 member Levin. I just want to wish all of the parents  
21 that are going to be starting school on Monday my  
22 best wishes. I know there's a lot of anticipation  
23 and a lot of energy and some apprehension and  
24 nervousness. I also want to give a special, special  
25 shout out to all those that are going to be beginning

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2 UPK-3 and UPK-4 like myself. So we are all excited  
3 and looking forward to that. I also want to extend  
4 my congratulations to Council member Riley on his  
5 recent marriage on August 31st.

6 [applause]

7 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I saw the beautiful  
8 photos of you and your wife. It was absolutely  
9 gorgeous. And so we certainly congratulate you.  
10 This has been a huge year for you and so we are extra  
11 excited for you. I also saw that it was Council  
12 member Peter Koo's birthday recently. Is that--  
13 when was it?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Sunday.

15 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Sunday. My  
16 apologies. But it was recent, so we gave you a happy  
17 birthday, Council member Koo.

18 [Applause]

19 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: And, with that, I  
20 turn it over to Council member and Speaker Corey  
21 Johnson.

22 SPEAKER JOHNSON: The Stated Meeting of  
23 September 9th, 2021 is hereby adjourned thank you.

24 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: Thank you.

25 [gavel]

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 September 10, 2021