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COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

3

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

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Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Wednesday, February 22, 2006
10:20 a.m.

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PRESENT:

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COUNCILWOMAN JOAN L. KRAJEWSKI, CHAIR

11

COUNCILMAN W. WILSON GOODE, JR.

12

COUNCILMAN JACK KELLY

13

COUNCILWOMAN DONNA REED MILLER

14

COUNCILMAN MICHAEL A. NUTTER

15

COUNCILMAN JUAN RAMOS

16

COUNCILMAN FRANK RIZZO

17

COUNCILMAN DARRELL L. CLARKE

18

COUNCILWOMAN JANNIE BLACKWELL

19

COUNCILMAN JAMES F. KENNEY

20

BILLS 060047, 060048, 060049 and 051139

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COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: The Committee on Appropriations is now in session.

Will the Clerk please read the bills.

THE CLERK: Bill No. 060047, an ordinance authorizing transfers in appropriations for Fiscal Year 2006 within the Grants Revenue Fund from the Director of Finance - provision for other grants to the Streets Department, the Department of Public Property and the Department of Human Services - Office of Emergency Shelter Services; and

Bill No. 060048, an ordinance authorizing transfers in appropriations for Fiscal Year 2006 within the Water Fund from the Managing Director -- Office of Fleet Management to the Managing Director -- Office of Fleet Management; and

Bill No. 060049, an ordinance authorizing transfers in appropriations for Fiscal Year 2006 within the General

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2 Fund from certain or all City offices,
3 departments, boards and commissions to
4 certain or all City offices, departments,
5 boards and commissions; and

6 Bill No. 051139, an ordinance
7 amending Title 17 of The Philadelphia
8 Code, entitled "Contracts and
9 Procurement," by providing for a price
10 preference for hybrid-electric or
11 alternative fuel vehicles when the City
12 purchases vehicles, and by making
13 technical amendments; all under certain
14 terms and conditions.

15 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Thank
16 you.

17 I believe the first bill that
18 we will hear today is Bill 060047, but
19 before we begin, I would like to
20 acknowledge the Committee members. To my
21 left is Councilman Rizzo, Councilman
22 Goode, and to my right is Councilman
23 Kelly, and I believe Councilman Nutter is
24 here. Thank you.

25 Is there someone here to

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2 testify for Bill 060047?

3 Good morning.

4 MR. JANNETTI: Good morning,
5 Councilwoman Krajewski. I'm Vince
6 Jannetti, the Acting Director of Finance
7 for the City. I'm here to offer
8 testimony on Bills 060047, 060048 and
9 060049.

10 060049 is a mid-year transfer
11 ordinance for the General Fund. I think
12 the most notable transfers in this
13 ordinance are an increase in the
14 appropriations for Fleet Management for
15 equipment and for fuel and probably the
16 Sinking Fund Commission, an increase in
17 the appropriations of the Sinking Fund
18 Commission for the temporary loan notes
19 we do annually.

20 If you would like, I could read
21 my testimony or...

22 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: If you
23 have that, put it into the record, but
24 right now I would like to hear testimony
25 on Bill 060047, the first bill.

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2 MR. JANNETTI: I'm sorry. I
3 apologize.

4 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: The
5 testimony can be put into the record.

6 MR. JANNETTI: 060047
7 represents three increases in the Grants
8 Revenue Fund. There was an increase of
9 \$710,000 for the Streets Department,
10 Class 200/300. There's an increase of
11 13,706,000 in Public Property for Class
12 200 and an increase in the Office of
13 Emergency Shelter Services of \$7.4
14 million.

15 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Are
16 there any questions from the Committee?

17 Councilman Nutter.

18 Before we begin, Councilman,
19 I'd like to recognize Councilman Ramos as
20 part of the Committee.

21 I'm sorry, Councilman.

22 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: No problem.

23 Thank you, Madam Chair. I don't mean to
24 be out of my seat at the Committee table.

25 I'll rejoin you in a few moments.

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2 Mr. Jannetti, can you tell me
3 or explain, I guess, to the Committee, on
4 Page 1 of the testimony for 060047,
5 there's reference made to new funds for
6 coordination between police, courts, DA
7 and non-profit agencies for the benefit
8 of victims of domestic violence.

9 Could you go into a little more
10 detail about that?

11 MR. JANNETTI: I'll have to
12 have someone assist me with that,
13 Councilman.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Madam
15 Chair, may I make a statement, if you
16 don't mind, while they're coming forward?

17 Councilman Nutter?

18 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: That's
19 fine.

20 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank
21 you, because I have to leave the
22 building, but I wanted to speak on behalf
23 of the grant for OESS, Office of
24 Emergency Shelter Services.

25 As all of you know, this is

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2 part of what I spend most of my time on.

3 I hope the Committee will consider, with
4 the suspension of the rules, this aspect
5 of Bill No. 060047. And as all of you
6 know, the shelter numbers are up, so we
7 really, really need the transfer to do
8 what we need to try to take care of
9 people at the bottom rung of the ladder.

10 That's it from me, and thank
11 you.

12 Thank you, Madam Chair, for
13 allowing me to speak.

14 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: I'd
15 also like to recognize Councilwoman
16 Miller, who is a member of the Committee.

17 Are there any other questions?

18 Councilman Nutter, we're
19 waiting for your answer.

20 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you,
21 Madam Chair.

22 MS. SHARP: I'm happy to speak
23 to the domestic violence question from
24 Councilman Nutter. My name is Roberta
25 Sharp and I work for the Office of Adult

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2 Services.

3 Adult Services, under the
4 Managing Director's Office and DSS,
5 brought together and served as the
6 applicant for a Department of Justice
7 grant to encourage arrest policies and
8 increase the enforcement of protection
9 from abuse orders.

10 We worked closely in
11 collaboration with the Police Department,
12 the courts, Adult Probation, the District
13 Attorney's Office and several non-profit
14 organizations to win this grant
15 opportunity.

16 The grant is for \$950,000 over
17 two years. It's one of the first DOJ
18 grants that the City has won for domestic
19 violence, and we're real excited to be
20 able to implement it. It includes
21 features like training the police,
22 lieutenants and sergeants, working to
23 better coordinate the sharing of
24 information across systems to help
25 support victims of domestic violence.

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2 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: I'm sorry,
3 Ms. Sharp. I may have missed this. What
4 department are you with?

5 MS. SHARP: Adult Services,
6 OESS.

7 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: What are we
8 doing with regard to trying to reduce the
9 amount of domestic violence in
10 Philadelphia?

11 MS. SHARP: The Mayor, as you
12 may know, appointed a task force to end
13 domestic violence co-chaired by the
14 Police Commissioner and by Carol Tracy,
15 who is Executive Director of Women's Law
16 Project. They forged out a plan that
17 includes several elements, many of them
18 on the City level, coordinating through
19 the various departments to determine
20 what's being done and to increase the
21 level of coordination across.

22 We also, in the last year,
23 implemented a City-wide hotline for
24 victims of domestic violence through
25 several non-profits. Prior, the

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2 non-profits had operated hotlines with
3 separate phone numbers, making it
4 confusing for a woman to touch base and
5 get the help she needed. We now have one
6 coordinated City-wide hotline that's
7 operated by several non-profit
8 organizations. They're seeing about 700
9 phone calls a month, spending a couple
10 hundred of hours doing counseling, and
11 we've seen increases in those agency
12 services to domestic violence victims as
13 a result of this better coordination.

14 So gradually following that
15 plan under the Mayor's task force, we
16 hope to reduce the incidence of domestic
17 violence over time.

18 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you.

19 Thank you, Madam Chair.

20 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Thank
21 you.

22 Are there any other questions?

23 (No response.)

24 MR. JANNETTI: Madam Chair, if
25 I may, I'd like to also ask Council for a

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2 suspension of the rules to allow for
3 first reading of this bill at the next
4 session of Council.

5 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI:

6 Suspension of the rules?

7 MR. JANNETTI: Yes.

8 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Yes.

9 Now we will hear testimony on
10 Bill 051139.

11 Mr. Muller from Fleet
12 Management.

13 Good morning.

14 MR. MULLER: Good morning. How
15 are you? Jim Muller, Commissioner of
16 Fleet Management for the City of
17 Philadelphia.

18 Good morning, Councilmembers
19 and Chairpersons and honorable members of
20 the Legislative Oversight Committee.
21 Thank you again for the opportunity to
22 testify on the subject of hybrid
23 vehicles. My name is James Muller,
24 Director of the Office of Fleet
25 Management for the City of Philadelphia.

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2 I am here to answer any further
3 questions on hybrid technology.

4 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: I'm
5 sorry. Are there any questions from
6 members of the Committee?

7 Councilman Rizzo.

8 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Good
9 morning.

10 MR. MULLER: How are you,
11 Councilman?

12 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: One of the
13 recommendations that I have, and I know
14 you've had experience with this type of
15 vehicle for a few years now since they've
16 been introduced, is there any
17 consideration, since it is kind of new,
18 that if a fleet is able to buy an
19 extended warranty on a car since it's a
20 bit complicated, that that be considered?
21 Because I know we try to keep our
22 vehicles for a number of years, that to
23 assume the entire maintenance and repair
24 of these high-tech vehicles might be
25 expensive on that end of it, after you

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2 wind up saving so much money on the fuel
3 and you wind up having a major component
4 fail and the vehicle is out of warranty.

5 So maybe there would be an
6 opportunity to buy an extended warranty
7 until we really get a feel for the
8 maintenance costs down the road.

9 MR. MULLER: Yes. We can look
10 into that, but as you know, hybrid
11 vehicles, their warranty is more
12 extensive than a regular vehicle, and
13 that's why we're testing them. I mean,
14 we have right now -- at the end, we have
15 six Priuses and eight Escapes right now
16 in the City's fleet, with an attempt to
17 order another 13 more to come in yet. So
18 we'll have almost 27 hybrid-type vehicles
19 in the fleet, and we'll be testing them
20 to find out what they do.

21 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: My
22 suggestion is simply this: That if there
23 is an opportunity to participate in some
24 add-on to the vehicle, it might be
25 something to be considered, if it's

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2 something that is available to a fleet
3 application.

4 MR. MULLER: Point well taken.

5 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Are
6 there any other questions?

7 Councilman Kelly.

8 COUNCILMAN KELLY: Mr. Muller,
9 I just want to know about the maintenance
10 of these vehicles. Can you use your
11 current equipment to maintain these
12 vehicles or do we have to invest in new
13 equipment to service these vehicles?

14 MR. MULLER: Well, there's some
15 new equipment that we need to order, and
16 also our technicians would need to be
17 trained on these type vehicles.

18 COUNCILMAN KELLY: How much
19 would the equipment cost? Do you have
20 any estimate?

21 MR. MULLER: Not yet. We're
22 putting that together now. That's why
23 we're testing a few of them. And right
24 now, most of them go back for warranty
25 because of the CNG and -- I'm sorry;

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2 because of the hybrid-type technology.

3 So we're sending them back to the dealer

4 for --

5 COUNCILMAN KELLY: How long is
6 the warranty?

7 MR. MULLER: I believe it's
8 five years.

9 COUNCILMAN KELLY: And after
10 that, you would --

11 MR. MULLER: Then we would take
12 over.

13 COUNCILMAN KELLY: You would
14 take over from there?

15 MR. MULLER: Yes.

16 COUNCILMAN KELLY: Thank you.

17 Thank you, Madam Chair.

18 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Thank
19 you.

20 What is the life expectancy of
21 the vehicle, hybrid?

22 MR. MULLER: I don't know off
23 the top of my head, to be honest with
24 you. That's why we bought some to test,
25 same as New York and Boston and everybody

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2 else. They're looking -- it's a new
3 technology, and as I said, there's no
4 track record on this technology, and
5 that's our biggest problem that I have,
6 is the track record on these vehicles.
7 Once we buy them, we're stuck with them.
8 If something happens, then what do we do
9 now to replace these vehicles?

10 A few years ago we bought some
11 CNG brooms for the Streets Department and
12 every one of the engines blew up, so we
13 had major problems with those five brooms
14 that we purchased.

15 So, I mean, this is why we're
16 buying 21 of them or 27 basically, to
17 test them and see what they do and
18 evaluate, and then we'll go from there.

19 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Fair
20 enough. Thank you.

21 Councilman Kenney.

22 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Just to
23 make sure that the record is clear, the
24 technology that's been developed to date
25 on the hybrids are extremely much more

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2 dependable and long-lasting than the CNG
3 blow-up trucks that they bought. I mean,
4 I want to make sure it's understood that
5 these vehicles drive on the road just
6 like any other vehicle, and the benefits
7 to them are multiple, in that the
8 environment is better off for it, we're
9 spending 50 percent less gas. So right
10 there is two major benefits in savings.
11 And I see no reason why, under regular
12 maintenance, with the warranty and some
13 additional training, why these vehicles
14 could not be extended for the normal
15 lifespan of a vehicle that runs on full
16 fuel as opposed to a hybrid.

17 All the legislation is asking
18 to do is to use it as a preference, that
19 when available, when it makes sense
20 financially to purchase them instead of
21 gas-guzzling cars. I mean, I don't think
22 that that's all that complicated. We do
23 it with recycled material. We have a
24 preference for buying recycled material.
25 And having a preference to buy these

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2 vehicles -- I mean, the city of Los
3 Angeles has 7,000 vehicles in their
4 fleet, similar to the size of
5 Philadelphia. They have 575 hybrid
6 vehicles. So they must have been happy
7 with what's happening out there, and also
8 with the pressure they have relative to
9 the environment and the ozone and the air
10 quality, that they're moving in that
11 direction, and I see no reason why
12 Philadelphia should not be on the east
13 coast additional cutting edge, along with
14 New York, of purchasing these vehicles,
15 cleaning up our air and using less
16 gasoline.

17 As everyone knows, if you go to
18 fill your tank these days, it's an
19 amazing experience. You sometimes feel
20 like you need a mortgage to fill up your
21 tank. And if we can go in a direction to
22 save the taxpayer gasoline costs at the
23 same time having a vehicle that works
24 appropriately and cleaning up the air a
25 little bit, I see no reason why this

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2 should not be a preference.

3 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Thank
4 you, Councilman.

5 Councilman Rizzo.

6 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Since we
7 know that the hybrid vehicles are
8 electric gasoline powered, what I'd be
9 interested, if you know -- and if you
10 don't have it available, provide it to
11 the Chair -- I understand at some point
12 the battery pack needs to be replaced and
13 I understand that is a very, very
14 expensive replacement process. Could you
15 provide to us that information on --

16 MR. MULLER: Yes.

17 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: -- how long
18 is the expected life of the batteries and
19 once it's deemed that they need to be
20 replaced -- and I understand when you
21 replace them, you must replace them
22 all -- what that would involve, and also,
23 if you could, follow up on that extended
24 warranty, if available.

25 MR. MULLER: Okay.

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2 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Thank
3 you.

4 Are there any other questions?
5 Councilman Nutter.

6 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you,
7 Madam Chair.

8 Madam Chair, Councilman Kenney
9 has raised obviously an important issue,
10 and I don't have any particular concern
11 about the appropriateness of going to
12 these hybrid vehicles. I was a little
13 concerned about Mr. Muller's comments
14 from earlier, and so I'd like to ask him,
15 when you said that -- of course, there's
16 a track record issue with the vehicles,
17 but you're going to purchase 21 vehicles?

18 MR. MULLER: Yes, sir.

19 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Which type?

20 MR. MULLER: Ford Escapes.

21 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: I'm sorry?

22 MR. MULLER: Ford Escape
23 hybrid. It's a four-cylinder engine.
24 Right now we have eight in the fleet and
25 an additional 13 coming within the next

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2 two weeks for various departments.

3 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: And how
4 much do they cost?

5 MR. MULLER: Roughly \$29,000.

6 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: And given
7 your concerns about either longevity or
8 how they'll work or your previous
9 experience with other purchases, not that
10 this one would go in the same direction,
11 was a cost-benefit analysis done
12 comparing purchase versus lease?

13 MR. MULLER: That's what we're
14 doing now with -- well, with maintenance
15 and everything included, on how much fuel
16 we're going to save compared to a regular
17 Ford Escape that costs like \$21,000.
18 See, the initial cost is more, too,
19 Councilman. The initial cost to purchase
20 is four, five thousand dollars more.

21 It's a great --

22 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: You mean
23 than a non-hybrid?

24 MR. MULLER: Yes. Correct.

25 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: I

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2 understand that.

3 MR. MULLER: Like I said, we're
4 trying it. I mean, we're going in here
5 and buying some and putting them out.
6 And as I said, we're testing the vehicles
7 to make sure, but as I said, my problem
8 is that the track record, there's no
9 track record on these hybrid vehicles.
10 In other words, every time another
11 company comes out --

12 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: There's no
13 track record because they're new.

14 MR. MULLER: Correct.

15 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: It's hard
16 to have a track record when it's a brand
17 new car. I got that part. What I'm
18 asking you about is, do you have the
19 financial analysis that compares purchase
20 to lease, given your concerns about the
21 longevity of the vehicles, you had the
22 previous experience with whatever that
23 piece of equipment was that blew up? If
24 for some reason these don't work, what do
25 you do with them?

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2 MR. MULLER: Well, we're stuck
3 with 21 of them, basically. We have to
4 fix them. What we did --

5 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: So I'm
6 going to ask you now for the third time.
7 Did you do any cost-benefit analysis
8 comparing lease to purchase? Yes or no?

9 MR. MULLER: No, sir.

10 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: You didn't?

11 MR. MULLER: No.

12 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Is there
13 any reason?

14 MR. MULLER: Excuse me.

15 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Any time.

16 MR. MULLER: That was Bob, my
17 Administrative Services Director, Bob
18 Fox.

19 That's why we bought 21 of
20 them, Councilman, to test the vehicles to
21 find out how much fuel we could save, the
22 analysis of the price cost to a regular
23 vehicle. We didn't look into leasing
24 these vehicles.

25 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Do we lease

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2 any vehicles these days?

3 MR. MULLER: Yes.

4 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Why do we
5 lease vehicles?

6 MR. MULLER: Well, we lease
7 them for the Police Department.

8 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: No. Why do
9 we lease vehicles?

10 MR. MULLER: Why do we lease
11 them?

12 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Yes.

13 MR. MULLER: We lease them for
14 the Police Department because they need
15 various types and models to do the job
16 that they're assigned, undercover work.

17 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: I assume
18 there must also be either a flexibility
19 or a cost reason for leasing vehicles
20 versus purchasing them. That's what I'm
21 trying to understand.

22 MR. MULLER: Sometimes. Not
23 always.

24 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Okay. But
25 in this particular case, you apparently

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2 chose not to even analyze whether there
3 was a difference between them and you
4 just decided to go and buy 21 of them and
5 we'll just see what happens.

6 MR. MULLER: Well, what
7 happened is, we were looking into hybrid
8 vehicles since we have the Priuses and
9 people were looking for SUVs, a smaller
10 SUV, and we were getting into the
11 technology of hybrid, and we decided we
12 were going to buy 21 Escapes to try them
13 out and see what they do.

14 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: All right.
15 This one might be too far down the path,
16 but could you just forward through the
17 Chair if you would do an analysis between
18 cost of purchase versus lease? I mean,
19 buying them might ultimately be the best
20 decision, but I'd at least like to see it
21 on a piece of paper.

22 MR. MULLER: Sure.

23 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you,
24 Madam Chair.

25 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI:

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2 Councilwoman Miller.

3 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank
4 you, Madam Chair, but he actually
5 answered my question when he was
6 answering one of Councilman Nutter's
7 questions. Thank you.

8 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI:
9 Councilman Kenney.

10 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Just to add
11 to the record, this issue of having a
12 track record, there is a track record,
13 and the track record exists in New York
14 and Los Angeles that have been buying
15 them since probably 2001 and 2002.
16 Anecdotally my staff has talked to Fleet
17 Management people in both of those
18 cities. They're extremely happy with the
19 gas mileage savings. They're extremely
20 happy with the performance of the
21 vehicle. They're extremely happy with
22 the warranties that have not run out yet.
23 I mean, maybe we ought to talk to them
24 since they've been at this a few more
25 years than us as opposed to doing our own

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2 analysis.

3 So there seems to be no trouble
4 at all with the 800 cars that New York
5 has and the 575 vehicles that Los Angeles
6 has. So maybe they know something we
7 don't.

8 Thank you.

9 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Thank
10 you.

11 Councilman Rizzo.

12 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: If we do
13 lease, are our leases for municipalities
14 similar to a consumer? If you decided
15 that the best bet was to lease the
16 vehicles at the end of a period, whether
17 it's two years, three years, can you buy
18 it out?

19 MR. MULLER: You could. I
20 mean, we could look into that, yes.

21 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: In other
22 words, I know what Councilman Nutter is
23 saying. Rather than get stuck with 21
24 paper weights that might not work well
25 for us, that at least in two years or

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2 three years you bring them back to the
3 dealer and say, Thanks, but no thanks.
4 But if they work out, I assume you could
5 pre-negotiate, if you want to keep them,
6 you keep them.

7 MR. MULLER: Sure. No problem.

8 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Thank
9 you.

10 I believe we'd like to call up
11 Mr. Cheung and Mike Ewall, and the next
12 one would be our own Hurricane Schwartz.

13 MR. CHEUNG: Do you want us all
14 three here?

15 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Good
16 morning. You look just like you do on
17 TV, Hurricane.

18 MR. SCHWARTZ: I don't know
19 whether that's good or not, but thank
20 you.

21 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Very
22 good. It's my pleasure to say hello to
23 you.

24 MR. SCHWARTZ: My pleasure as
25 well.

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2 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: What's
3 the weather going to be today?

4 MR. SCHWARTZ: Don't worry
5 about any snow that falls today. It will
6 just melt if it does occur.

7 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: How
8 about next weekend? Is it okay to go
9 away next weekend?

10 MR. SCHWARTZ: It might snow a
11 little bit Sunday morning, and then it's
12 going to get very cold after that.

13 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Thank
14 you. It's a pleasure meeting you.

15 MR. SCHWARTZ: You, too.

16 I have some prepared remarks
17 that there are copies made that you can
18 take a look at. The reason I'm here is
19 twofold: Partly because of my knowledge
20 or understanding about the atmospheric
21 effects of hybrid vehicles and also
22 because I'm an owner and have been an
23 owner of hybrids for about four years
24 now.

25 I now have a second-generation

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2 model Toyota Prius. I've been extremely
3 pleased with the vehicle. I've actually
4 demonstrated it to some other people, who
5 have ended up buying them themselves.

6 I have had virtually no
7 problems with these cars. We don't plug
8 them in. We drive them just like regular
9 vehicles. They get great acceleration
10 when necessary, great gas mileage, and
11 there's plenty of room. This technology
12 is working. There's really no doubt
13 about it.

14 The one maintenance issue that
15 is of greatest concern is the battery.
16 In various vehicles, it gets determined
17 how long that warranty is. My original
18 Prius had an eight-year warranty for the
19 battery. I believe my current one has a
20 ten-year warranty for the battery.

21 If you for any reason down the
22 road decide that you don't like these
23 vehicles, they are in great demand. They
24 depreciate less than practically any
25 other vehicle on the road, especially if

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2 the gas prices keep going up. So you'll
3 be able to sell them if you want to get
4 rid of them, but I don't see any reason
5 why you would.

6 Now, as far as the atmospheric
7 things, we're talking about pollution.
8 Pollution problems fall in two areas:
9 Ground level ozone and global warming.
10 Ozone at the ground is most often a
11 problem in the warm months since sunlight
12 and high temperatures combine with the
13 car exhaust and other pollution sources.
14 The higher the ozone concentration, the
15 harder it is to breathe. Those most
16 affected are children, the elderly and
17 those with respiratory problems, such as
18 asthma and chronic bronchitis. It can
19 also harm healthy people who exercise,
20 work or just spend a lot of time
21 outdoors.

22 The worst ozone days are called
23 Ozone Action Days when we in the media
24 urge sensitive groups to stay indoors as
25 much as possible and for even healthy

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2 people to limit their activity outdoors.

3 The number of Ozone Action Days varies a
4 lot from year to year, depending on how
5 hot and sunny the summer is. Our worst
6 year was 2002 when Philadelphia had 42
7 days that exceeded the EPA standards.

8 Recent studies have shown the EPA
9 standards to be too low, so they made
10 them more stringent starting this past
11 year.

12 The more cars we put on the
13 roads and the more miles those cars go,
14 the more ozone pollution there is. Now,
15 this is not related to the ozone hole.
16 That's a completely separate thing, since
17 ozone has different effects near the
18 ground and high up in the atmosphere.

19 Now, as far as global warming,
20 global warming is still a controversial
21 issue, even more so after some cold snowy
22 winters that we've had, but 2003 was
23 declared the second warmest in the
24 recorded history of the planet. 2005 was
25 also up there, and there's plenty of

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2 evidence that it's going on.

3 Cars release carbon dioxide,
4 which is one of the top emissions that
5 influence warming of the atmosphere.
6 Hybrid cars release much less CO2 than
7 conventional cars.

8 Now, the hybrid technology may
9 have even greater potential in the
10 future. A recent New York Times article,
11 which I also had copied here, on plug-in
12 hybrids mention that they could get
13 between 100 and 1,000 miles per gallon
14 depending on how far you drive on each
15 trip. The more successful today's
16 hybrids become, the sooner we'll see the
17 demand for the next generation.

18 Now, I didn't buy my hybrid
19 just because it's environmentally
20 friendly. It's a nice, comfortable,
21 affordable car. Nothing special to do.
22 I just drive it like everyone else. In
23 fact, I'll be trading in my other car, an
24 SUV, for a hybrid SUV when a truly
25 fuel-efficient version of that comes out.

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2 I feel that as a scientist in
3 the public eye, I can help set an example
4 for others and let them know about this
5 amazing technology, and that's what your
6 bill will do as well.

7 MR. CHEUNG: Good morning,
8 Madam Chair and members of the Committee.
9 My name is Eric Cheung. I'm the senior
10 attorney at the Clean Air Council. We
11 are a non-profit environmental advocacy
12 group dedicated to protecting everyone's
13 right to breathe clean air.

14 You guys have my testimony as
15 well, so I will just briefly just talk
16 over the major points, but I'm here to
17 look at the bill from an environmental
18 perspective and some of the policy
19 implications.

20 Clean Air Council supports the
21 City of Philadelphia's proposed
22 procurement policy to preference the
23 purchase of hybrid-electric and
24 alternative fuel vehicles as set out in
25 this bill, 051139. Given the high cost

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2 of transportation fuel and the poor air
3 quality in the Philadelphia region,
4 taxpayer money ought to be spent
5 responsibly. The City's decision to make
6 hybrid-electric and alternative fuel
7 vehicles a priority in vehicle purchasing
8 decisions offers definite health benefits
9 and will play a part in improving our
10 nation's energy security by reducing
11 petroleum consumption, and more specific
12 to hybrid-electric vehicles, this bill
13 will result in fuel cost savings,
14 especially in light of the high cost of
15 gasoline at the moment. And as a large
16 consumer of such products, the City will
17 increase demand for hybrid-electrics,
18 thereby encouraging car manufacturers to
19 bring more types of hybrid vehicles in
20 larger numbers to the market for all
21 Pennsylvania residents.

22 Just in terms of your looking
23 at the cost of these vehicles, since
24 they're more expensive than their
25 traditional counterparts, the City is

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2 eligible to receive rebates from the
3 state's Alternative Fuel Incentive Grant
4 Program. So at least some of that cost
5 can be defrayed through state subsidies.

6 So basically in conclusion, the
7 Clean Air Council encourages the City to
8 pass this bill. It is in perfect
9 position to lead by example and raise a
10 profile of these cleaner vehicles. Clean
11 Air Council urges the City to take the
12 next step and establish this policy of
13 purchasing hybrid-electric and
14 alternative fuel vehicles where feasible.

15 Thank you.

16 MR. EWALL: My name is Mike
17 Ewall. I live in Northeast Philadelphia,
18 and I'm the Director of Action PA and
19 also the Energy Justice Network. Action
20 PA is a state-wide organization where we
21 help communities on the front line with
22 struggles against polluting energy and
23 waste facilities. And Energy Justice
24 Network works in the national and
25 international level doing that same

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2 thing.

3 We've done more research into
4 different types of technologies on
5 alternative fuels and the community level
6 impacts of them than probably any other
7 environmental group out there, and in my
8 testimony, I outline eight different
9 so-called alternative fuels, and I just
10 want to outline a couple of them to draw
11 your attention to.

12 One of the things that we've
13 been working on here in Philadelphia is
14 this proposed liquefied gas terminal, and
15 we're proud that City Council last week
16 passed that strong resolution opposed to
17 that terminal.

18 Now, natural gas vehicles are
19 one of the main types of alternative fuel
20 vehicles that would be talked about, and
21 natural gas, obviously the prices are
22 going up. Production in North America
23 has already peaked, and we're looking at
24 building these terminals in order to
25 essentially try to build a new dependency

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2 on foreign sources of energy and start to
3 go to war for these things, and that's
4 why these import terminals are being
5 proposed, because we don't have enough in
6 this country. And so promoting natural
7 gas vehicles will put our cars in
8 competition with home heating, which is
9 not what we're aiming to do here, I would
10 hope.

11 There are also plans for
12 plug-in hybrids and electric vehicles
13 where promoting them at this time would
14 also be very problematic. In this
15 country right now, there are 135 new coal
16 power plants being planned and about a
17 dozen nuclear reactors so far, and the
18 numbers of those proposals are going up
19 as we speak. In Pennsylvania alone,
20 there are three new waste coal fire power
21 plants that have been permitted by the
22 state in the last ten months, and I don't
23 think that is the type of thing that we
24 want to be promoting if we're going to
25 start putting cars on the grid. And I

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2 think it would be appropriate if there
3 were something that were more specific in
4 this proposal that said if we're going to
5 start putting cars in the grid, we're
6 going to make sure that's done with clean
7 electricity, like wind or solar. That is
8 not in here.

9 I think promoting hybrids is
10 excellent. I own a hybrid. I'm a happy
11 hybrid owner. I would like to see that
12 promoted as much as possible as part of a
13 comprehensive strategy for conservation
14 and efficiency tactics, which could do
15 far more than any alternative fuel can.
16 And I would encourage the passage of
17 this, but in doing so, I would encourage
18 striking any language about alternative
19 fuels until that could be clarified as to
20 exactly what that means and what
21 communities will be impacted by the
22 production of those fuels.

23 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Great.

24 Thank you for your testimony.

25 Any questions?

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2 (No response.)

3 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: I recognize
4 that Councilman Clarke has joined the
5 Committee.

6 Gentlemen, thank you very much.

7 Is there anyone else to testify
8 on Bill 051139?

9 COUNCILMAN KENNEY:

10 Mr. Chairman, I think you are aware there
11 is an amendment that's going to be
12 offered.

13 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Yes.

14 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: If someone
15 on the Committee could offer it on my
16 behalf, I would appreciate it.

17 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: I was --

18 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Well,
19 you're the Chairperson now, so I don't
20 know if you can offer it.

21 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: I
22 understand.

23 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you
24 very much anyway.

25 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Sure.

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2 I think Councilman Goode is
3 going to do that. The Chair recognizes
4 Councilman Goode.

5 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you,
6 Mr. Chairman. An amendment to Bill No.
7 051139 has been circulated to all members
8 of the Committee, and for the meeting
9 portion, we will move for the adoption.

10 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: All right.
11 The amendment has been offered. It will
12 be taken up in the public meeting portion
13 of today's proceedings for a vote. It
14 has been circulated to all members of the
15 Committee.

16 Any other questions?

17 (No response.)

18 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: We
19 will now hear 060048. Is there someone
20 here to testify? And also on 0049.

21 MR. JANNETTI: Thank you, Madam
22 Chair. Again, I'm Vince Jannetti, Acting
23 Director of Finance for the City. I'm
24 here to offer testimony on Bill 060049
25 and 060048.

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2 Bill No. 060049 has a total of
3 30 transfers requested, including 23
4 transfers involving change in
5 departmental appropriations and seven
6 transfers between classes within a
7 Department, without any resulting change
8 in the Department's total appropriations.

9 And Bill No. 060048 is in the
10 Water Fund. It's an internal transfer
11 within the Office of Fleet Management
12 from Class 200 to 300/400 for vehicle
13 parts.

14 Again, I would ask for a
15 suspension of the rules to allow for
16 first reading at the next session of
17 Council, and if there's any questions,
18 I'd be happy to answer them.

19 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: On
20 both bills?

21 MR. JANNETTI: On both bills,
22 yes.

23 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Thank
24 you.

25 Are there any questions from

1 2/22/06 - APPROPRIATIONS - BILL 060047, ETC.

2 members of the Committee?

3 Councilman Nutter.

4 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you,
5 Madam Chair. This is for all the other
6 bills? Everything is up?

7 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: 48,
8 49.

9 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: 48 and 49,
10 great.

11 I'm looking at the testimony
12 for Mr. Nucci, Director of the Office of
13 Emergency Management. There's mention
14 made of the Emergency Preparedness Review
15 Committee, which I think we had a
16 briefing from that committee some time
17 ago. Can we have some additional
18 information about the pending consultant
19 relationship that you anticipate through
20 the EPRC?

21 MR. NUCCI: Yes, Councilman
22 Nutter. Do you have a question or should
23 I --

24 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: You might
25 want to identify yourself first and then

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2 tell us what you want to tell us.

3 MR. NUCCI: My name is Michael
4 Nucci. I'm the Director of the Office of
5 Emergency Management and I'm here to
6 present testimony on Bill 060049, which
7 is a mid-year transfer requesting a
8 transfer of \$1 million to be used for
9 consultant services for the Emergency
10 Preparedness Review Committee.

11 The City of Philadelphia is, we
12 feel, prepared to respond to most major
13 emergencies, and its emergency responders
14 and indeed all City departments have
15 proven time and time again that they have
16 the determination and resources to
17 respond to the challenge. In the wake of
18 9/11, we have used both federal and local
19 resources to train and equip our
20 first-responders, including the
21 Philadelphia Health Department, to meet
22 the new challenges of terrorism. We have
23 forged new alliances with the area's
24 hospitals and surrounding counties. At
25 no time in the City's history has it been

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2 better prepared to meet the challenges of
3 a major emergency. Yet, there is still a
4 lot more to be done.

5 The failures at all levels of
6 government in responding to Hurricane
7 Katrina and the continuing threat from
8 terrorism has caused us to believe that
9 we need to take a fresh look at our
10 capabilities to evaluate our strengths
11 and weaknesses, the adequacy of our
12 resources and provide a blueprint for
13 correcting any weaknesses. To this end,
14 on September 16, 2005, Mayor John F.
15 Street announced the creation of an
16 Emergency Preparedness Review Committee,
17 whose purpose is to analyze the potential
18 catastrophic threats to the City; to
19 evaluate the plans, procedures and
20 resources in place to meet those threats;
21 to recommend measures to deter as well as
22 respond to those threats.

23 The Emergency Preparedness
24 Review Committee consists of members from
25 virtually every City department, the

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2 hospital community, utilities industry
3 and the private sector, including two
4 selected by City Council leadership. It
5 is co-chaired by Pedro A. Ramos, the
6 Managing Director, and Dr. Harvey Rubin,
7 Director of the University of
8 Pennsylvania's Institute for Strategic
9 Threat Analysis and Response. Its
10 various subcommittees will examine
11 everything from continuity of government
12 to emergency response, to critical
13 infrastructure, to public communications
14 and vulnerable and special-needs
15 populations. To assist with the process,
16 provide expertise and develop a final
17 report, the City, after a detailed
18 evaluation, has selected James Lee Witt
19 Associates as consultant for the project.
20 Pursuant to its contract, James Lee Witt
21 Associates will analyze data, plans and
22 documents; enlist experts to advise on
23 certain issues; facilitate the work of
24 the various issue-based subcommittees and
25 prepare the final evaluation and

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2 recommendations.

3 This completes the formal
4 portion of my testimony. I will be
5 pleased to respond to any of the
6 questions you may have. Thank you.

7 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI:

8 Councilman Nutter.

9 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you,
10 Madam Chair.

11 Mr. Nucci, Mr. Witt was
12 formerly with --

13 MR. NUCCI: FEMA.

14 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: -- FEMA?

15 In what administration?

16 MR. NUCCI: The Carter
17 administration.

18 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: That's a
19 little while ago. And, what, he
20 presently has a firm and provides
21 consulting services?

22 MR. NUCCI: Yes, sir.

23 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: And how
24 many people participated in the RFI
25 process?

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2 MR. NUCCI: We sent the
3 proposals out to four different firms
4 that we felt had the experience in this
5 area.

6 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: And when
7 was it completed? When was the process
8 completed?

9 MR. NUCCI: I think the final
10 choice was made by the Managing Director
11 and the Mayor December, early December.

12 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Early
13 December. How did you arrive at the
14 million dollar figure?

15 MR. NUCCI: Well, the actual
16 proposal is close to a million. It's
17 980-some thousand dollars.

18 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: I
19 understand. In the government, that's a
20 million dollars. How did you arrive at
21 that figure?

22 MR. NUCCI: That was the
23 proposal that was submitted by James Lee
24 Witt & Associates.

25 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: How long is

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2 he going to be working for us?

3 MR. NUCCI: This will be until
4 the end of June at least when the report
5 is due.

6 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: When did he
7 start work?

8 MR. NUCCI: He started work
9 December.

10 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: So
11 basically it's a million dollars for six
12 months?

13 MR. NUCCI: Six months and they
14 have about 25 people working on this full
15 time, plus they bring in experts in
16 different areas where we don't have the
17 expertise. So it includes the whole --
18 plus really running the whole
19 subcommittee structure, providing the
20 minutes, everything from all the
21 subcommittee meetings.

22 The committee, as Council
23 knows, is rather large. We've drawn in
24 experts from industry, from Unysis, from
25 the hospitals, utilities. So to manage

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2 that large of an operation, that's most
3 of what their work involves.

4 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: How many
5 other cities are they working for right
6 now?

7 MR. NUCCI: They did work for
8 New Orleans during and after and the
9 state of Louisiana during and after
10 Katrina. So they have that experience.
11 And I think it was Dallas or Houston that
12 they did work in.

13 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: So all of
14 this work and all of this coordination,
15 is there going to be like a report or a
16 series of recommendations made?

17 MR. NUCCI: Their contract
18 requires to come up with an evaluation of
19 what we're vulnerable to, an evaluation
20 of our capabilities to respond to those
21 things, and a blueprint for
22 recommendations on how to correct any
23 deficiencies.

24 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: And all of
25 that is going to get done by June 30th?

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2 MR. NUCCI: That's what the
3 Mayor's charge calls for. We're on
4 schedule to do that right now, unless
5 something falls behind, but it looks like
6 the end of June is when we'll have that.

7 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: For which
8 they're going to charge us a million
9 dollars?

10 MR. NUCCI: For which James Lee
11 Witt & Associates submitted their...

12 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Clearly,
13 I'm in the wrong line of work. Clearly.
14 Okay.

15 Thank you, Madam Chair.

16 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Point of
17 information.

18 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI:
19 Councilman Rizzo.

20 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Did they
21 work for New Orleans before or after the
22 hurricane?

23 MR. NUCCI: No. They were
24 called in by the state of Louisiana and
25 New Orleans during and then --

1 2/22/06 - APPROPRIATIONS - BILL 060047, ETC.

2 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: I was hoping
3 it wasn't before.

4 MR. NUCCI: No.

5 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Thank you.

6 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Are
7 there any other questions from members of
8 the Committee?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Thank
11 you, gentlemen.

12 MR. JANNETTI: Thank you.

13 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: I
14 believe that ends our public hearing on
15 appropriations. Now we'll go into our
16 public meeting.

17 The Chair recognizes
18 Councilwoman Miller on Bill 060047.

19 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank
20 you, Madam Chair. I move that Bill
21 060047 be reported out of this Committee
22 with a favorable recommendation and
23 further request that the rules are
24 suspended so as to permit first reading
25 at our next session.

1 2/22/06 - APPROPRIATIONS - BILL 060047, ETC.

2 (Duly seconded.)

3 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Thank
4 you.

5 All those in favor?

6 (Aye.)

7 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: All
8 those opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI:

11 Therefore, Bill 060047 will be reported
12 out of this Committee with a favorable
13 recommendation, with a suspension of
14 rules so as to permit first reading at
15 the next session of Council.

16 The Chair recognizes Councilman
17 Goode on 060048.

18 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you,
19 Madam Chair. I move that Bill 060048 be
20 reported out of Committee with a
21 favorable recommendation and that the
22 rules of Council be suspended so as to
23 permit first reading at our next Council
24 session.

25 (Duly seconded.)

1 2/22/06 - APPROPRIATIONS - BILL 060047, ETC.

2 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: All

3 those in favor?

4 (Aye.)

5 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI:

6 Opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI:

9 Therefore, Bill 060048 will be reported
10 out of this Committee with a favorable
11 recommendation, with a suspension of
12 rules so as to permit first reading at
13 the next session of Council.

14 The Chair recognizes Councilman
15 Nutter on Bill 060049.

16 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you,
17 Madam Chair. I move that Bill 060049 be
18 reported out of this Committee with a
19 favorable recommendation and further
20 recommendation that the rules of Council
21 be suspended so as to permit first
22 reading at our next session.

23 (Duly seconded.)

24 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Thank
25 you.

1 2/22/06 - APPROPRIATIONS - BILL 060047, ETC.

2 All those in favor?

3 (Aye.)

4 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI:

5 Opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI:

8 Therefore, Bill 060049 will be reported
9 out of this Committee with a favorable
10 recommendation, with a suspension of
11 rules so as to permit first reading at
12 the next session of Council.

13 The Chair recognizes Councilman
14 Clarke on Bill 051139 with an amendment.

15 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Madam
16 President, I move for the adoption of the
17 amendment to Bill 051139.

18 (Duly seconded.)

19 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: All in
20 favor?

21 (Aye.)

22 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI:

23 Opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI:

1 2/22/06 - APPROPRIATIONS - BILL 060047, ETC.

2 Councilman Clarke.

3 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: I move that
4 Bill No. 051139 as amended be reported
5 out of Committee with a favorable
6 recommendation and a request for rules
7 suspension as to allow reading at the
8 next session of Council.

9 (Duly seconded.)

10 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: All in
11 favor?

12 (Aye.)

13 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI:
14 Opposed?

15 (No response.)

16 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI:
17 Therefore, Bill 051139 will be reported
18 out of this Committee with a favorable
19 recommendation and that the rules of
20 Council be suspended so as to permit
21 first reading at the next session of
22 Council.

23 Thank you very much.

24 (Committee on Appropriations
25 adjourned at 11:15 a.m.)

1

2

CERTIFICATE

3

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the

4

proceedings, evidence and objections are

5

contained fully and accurately in the

6

stenographic notes taken by me upon the

7

foregoing matter on February 22, 2006, and

8

that this is a true and correct transcript of

9

same.

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MICHELE L. MURPHY

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RPR-Notary Public

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