

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

STATED MEETING

Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Thursday, April 25, 2024
10:00 a.m.

PRESENT:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT KENYATTA JOHNSON
COUNCILWOMAN NINA AHMAD
COUNCILWOMAN CINDY BASS
COUNCILWOMAN KENDRA BROOKS
COUNCILMAN MICHAEL DRISCOLL
COUNCILWOMAN JAMIE GAUTHIER
COUNCILWOMAN KATHERINE GILMORE RICHARDSON
COUNCILMAN JIM HARRITY
COUNCILMAN CURTIS J. JONES, JR.
COUNCILWOMAN RUE LANDAU
COUNCILWOMAN QUETCY M. LOZADA
COUNCILMAN BRIAN J. O'NEILL
COUNCILMAN NICOLAS O'ROURKE
COUNCILMAN ANTHONY PHILLIPS
COUNCILMAN MARK F. SQUILLA
COUNCILMAN ISAIAH THOMAS
COUNCILMAN JEFFREY YOUNG, JR.

ELIZABETH MCCOLLUM NAZARIO, INTERIM CHIEF CLERK

- - -

1 4/25/24 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

3 Good morning, everyone.

4 (Good morning.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

6 Good morning, everyone.

7 (Good morning.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

9 I note that the hour has come and
10 that quorum of this Council is
11 present. Council will come to
12 order. Members will take their
13 seats. Visitors will retire to the
14 seats outside the rails. All
15 conversation must cease at this
16 moment. If you feel the need to
17 have a side bar conversation,
18 please step outside the chambers.
19 Before proceeding, I will ask all
20 those present to please set your
21 cell phones to silent or vibrate.
22 Thank you.

23 To give our invocation this
24 morning, the Chair recognizes
25 Pastor Nathaniel J. Holmes of

1 4/25/24 - STATED - INVOCATION
2 Community Baptist Church of West
3 Philadelphia. He is here as the
4 guest of Councilmember Katherine
5 Gilmore Richardson. I will ask all
6 Members and guests to please rise.

7 (Councilmembers and guests
8 rise.)

9 PASTOR HOLMES: Let us
10 pray. O Thou, in whose presence my
11 soul takes delight, and whom in
12 flesh I can call. My comfort by
13 day, my song in the night. My
14 hope, my salvation, my all.

15 Lord, before we ask you for
16 anything, we thank you for
17 everything, for our laying down
18 last night, at early rising this
19 morning. The book of Lamentations
20 tells us that morning by morning
21 new mercies we see; great is thy
22 faithfulness.

23 We thank you for these men
24 and women that gather this morning
25 to discuss the business of this

1 4/25/24 - STATED - INVOCATION
2 great city we call Philadelphia.
3 We pray that you crown them with
4 wisdom and understanding and
5 knowledge as they take their
6 training, the education and the
7 wisdom to take care of the business
8 of this great city.

9 You asked us in the Bible,
10 it said, Trust the Lord with all
11 your heart and lead not to your own
12 understanding. In all your ways
13 acknowledge Him and He will direct
14 your path. We thank you for
15 covering each and everyone that's
16 here today. We give glory and
17 praise your marvelous name. For
18 this day, we thank you for these
19 people that go together with
20 knowledge and wisdom.

21 In the name of the Lord
22 Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

23 (Amen.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

25 The Chair thanks the Pastor for his

1 04/25/24 - STATED - APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

2 invocation.

3 Council will now be at

4 ease.

5 (Council at ease.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

7 The next order of business is the

8 approval of the Journal of the

9 meeting of Thursday, April 18,

10 2024.

11 The Chair recognizes

12 Councilmember Bass.

13 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Thank

14 you, Mr. President.

15 I move that the Journal of

16 the meeting of Thursday, April 18,

17 2024 be approved.

18 (Duly seconded.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

20 It has been moved and properly

21 seconded that the Journal of the

22 meeting of Thursday, April 18, 2024

23 stand approved.

24 All those in favor will

25 signify by saying aye.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

2 (Aye.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

4 Those opposed?

5 (No response.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

7 The ayes have it and the Journal is
8 approved.

9 The next order of business
10 is the request for leaves of
11 absence. And the Chair recognizes
12 Councilmember Gilmore Richardson.

13 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

14 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
15 Mr. President.

16 On behalf of the Majority,
17 there are no requests for leaves of
18 absence today.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

20 Thank you. The Chair thanks the
21 Councilmember.

22 The Chair recognizes
23 Councilmember Brooks.

24 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Thank
25 you, Council President.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - MOTION CONCERNING CALENDAR

2 On behalf of the Minority,
3 there are no requests for leaves of
4 absence today.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
6 The Chair thanks the Councilmember.

7 The Chair now recognizes
8 Councilmember Gilmore Richardson
9 for a motion concerning certain
10 legislative matters that may arise
11 during the course of today's
12 session of Council that were not
13 listed on the Calendar circulated
14 prior to today's session.

15 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE
16 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
17 Mr. President.

18 I move that any of the
19 following matters, if considered
20 today, may be added to the agenda
21 for this session of Council and, as
22 required by law, subsequently
23 published on an amended agenda
24 after the consideration of those
25 matters: resolutions authorizing

1 04/25/24 - STATED - MOTION CONCERNING CALENDAR

2 hearings, amendments to bills on
3 first reading, the reconsideration
4 of a bill vetoed by or recalled
5 from the Mayor, amendments to bills
6 recalled from the Mayor,
7 resolutions taking substantive
8 actions to be voted on this
9 session, a motion to withdraw a
10 bill or resolution that is not on
11 the Calendar and a motion placing a
12 bill or resolution on or returning
13 a bill or a resolution from the
14 Suspension Calendar that is not
15 listed on today's Calendar.

16 The purpose of this motion
17 is to provide the public with
18 notice concerning possible actions
19 by Council that arose too late to
20 be included on the Calendar that
21 was published prior to today's
22 session.

23 (Duly seconded.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

25 It has been moved and properly

1 04/25/24 - STATED - SPECIAL GUESTS
2 seconded that the legislative
3 matters stated by Councilmember
4 Gilmore Richardson may be added to
5 the agenda for today should those
6 matters arose during the course of
7 this session of Council.

8 All those in favor will
9 signify by saying aye.

10 (Aye.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

12 Those opposed?

13 (No response.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

15 The ayes have it and the motion
16 carries.

17 The Chair will dispense
18 with the regular order of business
19 to recognize the guests and
20 visitors joining us in chambers
21 this morning. On behalf of all
22 members of City Council, we welcome
23 you to our Council session. We
24 appreciate you taking time out of
25 your schedule to join us as we

1 04/25/24 - STATED - SPECIAL GUESTS
2 attend the legislative affairs of
3 our City. We certainly invite you
4 to come again.

5 Special guests in our
6 chambers today, we have Philly
7 Bolt, who is here with the students
8 from the Academy at Palumbo who
9 have been learning about City
10 Council for the past few months in
11 our gallery of chambers. Let's
12 give them a round of applause.

13 (Applause.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
15 We also want to welcome the
16 participants from Community College
17 of Philadelphia who are legislators
18 for today. Let's give them a round
19 of applause as well.

20 (Applause.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
22 I also have President from
23 Community College, Ms. Hela Khadhr.
24 Give her a round of applause as
25 well.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - SPECIAL GUESTS

2 (Applause.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

4 We also have a couple of members
5 who have special guests. I want to
6 take a moment to acknowledge
7 Councilmember Mike Driscoll.

8 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: Thank
9 you, Mr. President.

10 I have the honor of a guest
11 today, Paul Maskey from West
12 Belfast. He flew in last night.
13 Tonight he is the guest speaker at
14 the Irish Society banquet, and he's
15 a sitting member of Parliament --
16 not a sitting member. He's a
17 member of Parliament. He chose not
18 to sit. He's renowned for his
19 constituent service and his
20 activities on behalf of the United
21 Ireland, so a warm welcome to our
22 friend Paul Maskey.

23 (Applause.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

25 We welcome you to our chambers

1 04/25/24 - STATED - SPECIAL GUESTS

2 today.

3 The Chair recognizes

4 Councilmember Isaiah Thomas.

5 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Good

6 morning, Council President.

7 Today I'm going to

8 introduce a resolution for our

9 Champion of the Week, but our

10 Champion of the Week is here. I

11 just want us to take a moment to

12 acknowledge someone who does a lot

13 of mentoring work through his

14 nonprofit organization in the City

15 of Philadelphia helping young

16 people as it relates to socializing

17 and engaging them through

18 athletics.

19 Can we take a moment to

20 give Mr. Buddy Martinez a round of

21 applause.

22 (Applause.)

23 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Thank

24 you, Buddy, for being here and

25 thank you for all the work that you

1 04/25/24 - STATED - SPECIAL GUESTS
2 do with our young people. Buddy is
3 a our Champion of the Week.

4 Thank you, Council
5 President.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
7 You're welcome.

8 As there are no
9 presentations today, the next order
10 of business is communications. The
11 Chair recognizes the Sergeant-at-
12 Arms to deliver the messages from
13 the Mayor to the Chief Clerk.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilmember
15 Gauthier raised her hand.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
17 The Chair recognizes Councilmember
18 Jamie Gauthier. I'm sorry.

19 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:
20 Thank you, Council President.

21 In honor of International
22 Jazz Day, we are honoring Lee
23 Morgan who was a phenomenal and
24 historic jazz legend who's from the
25 City of Philadelphia, and his

1 04/25/24 - STATED - SPECIAL GUESTS

2 family is joining us in chambers

3 today. So can we recognize them?

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: Absolutely. Can you

6 stand.

7 (Applause.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

9 Chair recognizes Councilmember

10 Quetcy Lozada.

11 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Thank

12 you, Council President.

13 Today I'm going to

14 introduce a privileged resolution

15 recognizing the difficult work but

16 necessary work of the Philadelphia

17 Children's Alliance of

18 Philadelphia, Department of Human

19 Services for their collaborative

20 work and their commitment to

21 healing and justice to child abuse

22 victims. So please help me welcome

23 them into chambers and

24 congratulating them for their very

25 important work.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - SPECIAL GUESTS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

3 Congratulations. Can you please
4 stand.

5 (Applause.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

7 The next order of business is
8 communications.

9 The Chair request that the
10 Sergeant-at-Arms delivers the
11 messages from the Mayor to the
12 Chief Clerk.

13 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

14 (Inaudible).

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

16 Excuse me. The Chair recognizes
17 Councilmember Rue Landau.

18 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU: Thank
19 you so much, Council President.

20 I just want to take one
21 second to also say I will be
22 introducing a resolution today
23 honoring Stephanie Haynes who is
24 retiring as the Executive Director
25 of Philly Family Pride, and we'll

1 04/25/24 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 be talking more about her. Thank

3 you.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

5 Yeah, Steph.

6 (Applause.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

8 Will the Chief Clerk read the

9 messages from the Mayor and any

10 other communications in her

11 possession.

12 CHIEF CLERK: To the

13 President and members of the

14 Council of the City of

15 Philadelphia, I am submitting

16 herewith for the consideration of

17 your Honorable Body the following

18 proposed ordinance: An ordinance

19 authorizing an increase in

20 non-electoral indebtedness of the

21 City within the Pennsylvania

22 constitutional limit, authorizing

23 the Bond Committee to sell bonds at

24 public or private negotiated sale,

25 to provide funds towards various

1 04/25/24 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS
2 capital municipal purposes,
3 providing for appropriations to the
4 Sinking Fund Commission for the
5 payment of such bonds, and
6 authorizing agreements to provide
7 credit or payment or liquidity
8 sources for the bonds in connection
9 with the issuance of the bonds and
10 certain other actions, and
11 resending the authorization set
12 forth in Bill No. 230186-A,
13 approved September 15, 2023.

14 An ordinance authorizing
15 the vacating of Beaumont Street
16 from 51st Street to its terminus
17 southwestwardly therefrom.

18 A resolution authorizing
19 the Philadelphia Land Bank to
20 execute and deliver to the
21 Philadelphia Housing Authority
22 deeds conveying fee simple title to
23 6657-59 Blakemore Street,
24 (including the former 530-34 Vernon
25 Road), 50 Collum Street, 56 Collum

1 04/25/24 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS
2 Street; 60-74 Collum Street; 101
3 Collum Street, 67 Church Lane; 83,
4 85, 87 Church Lane; 45 East
5 Garfield Street, 47, 51 East
6 Garfield Street; 5417, 5423 through
7 27, 5429-43, 5513, 5515 Lena
8 Street; 4949, 4951, 6526-34
9 Germantown Avenue; 117 Manheim
10 Street; 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46 and
11 63 East Wister Street in the 8th
12 Councilmanic District of the City
13 of Philadelphia; and
14 A resolution authorizing
15 the Philadelphia Land Bank to
16 execute and deliver to the
17 Philadelphia Housing Authority
18 deeds conveying fee simple title to
19 4419R Market Street and 4310R
20 Haverford Avenue in the 3rd
21 Councilmanic District of the City
22 of Philadelphia; and
23 A resolution authorizing
24 the Commissioner of Public Property
25 to execute and deliver to the

1 04/25/24 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS
2 Philadelphia Redevelopment
3 Authority deeds conveying fee
4 simple title to 4419R Market
5 Street, 4310R Haverford Avenue in
6 the 3rd Councilmanic District of
7 the City of Philadelphia and
8 further authorizing the
9 Philadelphia Redevelopment
10 Authority to transfer to the
11 Philadelphia Land Bank fee simple
12 title to such properties pursuant
13 to Section 16-405 of The
14 Philadelphia Code; and
15 A resolution authorizing
16 the Commissioner of Public Property
17 to execute and deliver to the
18 Philadelphia Redevelopment
19 Authority Deeds conveying fee
20 simple titled to 928 French Street
21 in the 5th Councilmanic District of
22 the City of Philadelphia and
23 further authorizing the
24 Philadelphia Redevelopment
25 Authority to transfer to the

1 04/25/24 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS
2 Philadelphia Land Bank fee simple
3 title to such properties pursuant
4 to Section 16-405 of The
5 Philadelphia Code; and
6 A resolution authorizing
7 the Commissioner of Public Property
8 to execute and deliver to the
9 Philadelphia Redevelopment
10 Authority deeds conveying fee
11 simple title to 49 East Earlham
12 Street, 207 East Penn Street, 313
13 East Brighthurst Street, 292, 278,
14 260, 226 East Brighthurst Street,
15 5222 Wakefield Street, 429 East
16 Ashmead Street, 5414, 5415, Morton
17 Street, 5608 Heiskell Street, 5642
18 Morton Street, 53 East Pastorius
19 Street, 261 East Sharpnack Street,
20 263 East Sharpnack Street, 112, 111
21 East Springer Street, 4925
22 Wakefield Street, 326 Shedaker
23 Street, 342 Shedaker Street, 4951,
24 4957, 4961, 4975 Sheldon Street,
25 4635 Germantown Avenue, 44 Regar

1 04/25/24 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS
2 Street, 42 Regar Street, 4946
3 Keyser Street, 1532 West Loudon
4 Street in the 8th Councilmanic
5 District of the City of
6 Philadelphia and further
7 authorizing the Philadelphia
8 Redevelopment Authority to transfer
9 to the Philadelphia Land Bank fee
10 simple title to such properties
11 pursuant to Section 16-405 of The
12 Philadelphia Code; and
13 A resolution authorizing
14 the Philadelphia Redevelopment
15 Authority to execute and deliver to
16 the Philadelphia Land Bank deeds
17 conveying title to various
18 properties located in the 8th
19 Councilmanic District, including on
20 the following streets: Mechanic
21 Street, Musgrave Street, East Phil
22 Ellena Street, East Sharpnack
23 Street, East Ashmead Street,
24 pursuant to the requirements of the
25 Commonwealth Land Bank Act.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 And to the President and
3 members of the Council of the City
4 of Philadelphia, pursuant to
5 Sections 4-604 and 2-307 of the
6 Home Rule Charter, I am today
7 transmitting to the Council the
8 recommendation of the City Planning
9 Commission on the following bills:

10 Bill Nos. 240215, '216, '220, '239,
11 '241, '243, '244, '247, '248, '249,
12 '250 and '281 for approval, and
13 Bill No. 240242 not for approval.

14 I am pleased to advise you
15 that on April 19, 2024 I signed the
16 following bill which was passed by
17 Council at its session on April 18,
18 2024, Bill No. 240176. And I am
19 pleased to advise you that on April
20 23, 2024 I signed the following
21 bills which were passed by Council
22 at its session on April 11, 2024:
23 Bill No. 240015, Bill No. 240017
24 and Bill No. 240020-A.

25 Council President, there

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 are no other communications in my
3 possession.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

5 Thank you. The messages will be
6 printed in the Journal.

7 The next order of business
8 is the introduction of bills and
9 resolutions.

10 The Chair recognizes
11 Councilmember Phillips.

12 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: Good
13 morning, Council President,
14 colleagues as well as the viewing
15 public.

16 I have no bills or
17 resolutions for introduction today.
18 Thank you.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

20 Thank you.

21 The Chair recognizes
22 Councilmember Kathy Gilmore
23 Richardson.

24 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

25 RICHARDSON: Good morning, Council

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 President.

3 I have one bill and four
4 resolutions. And good morning,
5 colleagues. One privileged and
6 three nonprivileged.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

8 Thank you.

9 Will the Clerk please read
10 the title of the bill and
11 resolutions.

12 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
13 amending Section 9-213 of The
14 Philadelphia Code, entitled
15 "Farmers Markets," by adding a
16 permissible location on Baltimore
17 Avenue between 58th Street and 59th
18 Street, all under certain terms and
19 conditions.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

21 This bill will be referred to the
22 appropriate committee.

23 CHIEF CLERK: And a
24 nonprivileged resolution also
25 naming the 1100 Block of South 53rd

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 Street as "Mama Nia Bay Al-Rasul
3 Way" to honor the life and cultural
4 contributions of Mama Nia Bey
5 Al-Rasul to the City of
6 Philadelphia.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
8 This resolution will be placed on
9 the Final Passage Calendar for
10 consideration at our next session
11 of Council.

12 CHIEF CLERK: And a
13 resolution, a nonprivileged
14 resolution, authorizing the
15 Commissioner of Public Property to
16 execute and deliver to the
17 Philadelphia Redevelopment
18 Authority deeds conveying fee
19 simple title to 4419R Market Street
20 and 4310R Haverford Avenue in the
21 3rd Councilmanic District of the
22 City of Philadelphia and further
23 authorizing the Philadelphia
24 Redevelopment Authority to transfer
25 to the Philadelphia Land Bank fee

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 simple title to such properties
3 pursuant to Section 16-405 of The
4 Philadelphia Code.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
6 This resolution will be placed on
7 the Final Passage Calendar for
8 consideration at our next session
9 of Council.

10 CHIEF CLERK: And a
11 nonprivileged resolution
12 authorizing the Philadelphia Land
13 Bank to execute and deliver to the
14 Philadelphia Housing Authority
15 deeds conveying fee simple title to
16 4419R Market Street and 4310R
17 Haverford Avenue in the 3rd
18 Councilmanic District of the City
19 of Philadelphia.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
21 This resolution will be placed on
22 the Final Passage Calendar for
23 consideration at our next session
24 of Council.

25 CHIEF CLERK: And a

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 privileged resolution honoring and
3 recognizing Edward "Lee" Morgan
4 whose soulful melodies and blazing
5 improvisations continue to inspire
6 musicians and bring joy to his
7 legions of fans worldwide.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

9 This resolution will be placed on
10 today's Final Passage Calendar.

11 The Chair recognizes
12 Councilmember Isaiah Thomas.

13 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Good
14 morning again, Council President.

15 I have one resolution.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

17 Will the Clerk please read the
18 title of the resolution.

19 CHIEF CLERK: A privileged
20 resolution recognizing and
21 congratulating the Champion of the
22 Week, Buddy Martinez of Timoteo
23 Sports, which utilizes athletics to
24 engage with and mentor young people
25 in the City of Philadelphia.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

3 This resolution will be placed on
4 today's Final Passage Calendar.

5 The Chair recognizes
6 Councilmember Jones.

7 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank
8 you, Mr. President and colleagues.

9 Today I offer two bills and
10 two privileged resolutions.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
12 Thank you.

13 Will the Clerk please read
14 the titles of the two bills and two
15 privileged resolutions.

16 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
17 amending Chapter 21-1200 of The
18 Philadelphia Code, entitled
19 "Citizens Police Oversight
20 Commission," to modify the
21 procedure by which members of the
22 Citizens Police oversight
23 Commission may be removed,
24 providing a procedure to suspend
25 members, and clarifying the terms

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 in that chapter, all under certain
3 terms and conditions.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
5 This bill will be referred to the
6 appropriate committee.

7 CHIEF CLERK: And an
8 ordinance establishing a no parking
9 regulation on the west side of
10 North 34th Street between Indiana
11 Avenue and Clearfield Street.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
13 This bill will be referred to the
14 appropriate committee.

15 CHIEF CLERK: And a
16 privileged resolution honoring
17 Cynthia Kishinchand as a Champion
18 of Urban Greening and Community
19 Empowerment for her leadership of
20 the East Falls Trees Tenders.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
22 This resolution will be placed on
23 today's Final Passage Calendar.

24 CHIEF CLERK: And a
25 privileged resolution honoring and

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 celebrating the meaningful work
3 conducted by the Friends of
4 Wissahickon as well as for their
5 100 years of service to the City of
6 Philadelphia, the Wissahickon
7 Valley Park and the surrounding
8 areas.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
10 This resolution will be placed on
11 today's Final Passage Calendar.

12 The Chair recognizes
13 Councilmember Rue Landau.

14 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU: Good
15 morning. I have one bill
16 co-sponsored by Councilmembers
17 Driscoll and Young, one privileged
18 resolution and one nonprivileged
19 resolution. Thank you.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
21 Will the Clerk please read the
22 titles of the bill and the
23 resolution.

24 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
25 amending Section 9-215 of The

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 Philadelphia Code, entitled
3 "Streeteries," modifying
4 requirements related to the City's
5 revised standards and requirements
6 associated with the use of portions
7 of the right-of-way for outdoor
8 dining.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
10 This bill will be referred to the
11 appropriate committee.

12 CHIEF CLERK: And a
13 nonprivileged resolution urging the
14 Biden Administration to immediately
15 release the U.S. Department of
16 Housing and Urban Development's
17 "Affirmatively Furthering Fair
18 Housing" rule.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
20 This resolution will be placed on
21 the Final Passage Calendar for
22 consideration at our next session
23 of Council.

24 CHIEF CLERK: And a
25 privileged resolution recognizing

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 and honoring Stephanie Haynes for
3 her impact as Executive Director of
4 Philadelphia Family Pride.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
6 This resolution will be placed on
7 today's Final Passage Calendar.

8 The Chair recognizes
9 Councilmember Quetcy Lozada.

10 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Thank
11 you, Council President.

12 This morning I offer two
13 bills, one privileged resolution
14 co-introduced with Councilmember
15 Thomas.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
17 Will the Clerk please read the
18 titles of the bill and the
19 resolution.

20 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
21 amending Section 14-533 of The
22 Philadelphia Code, entitled "/MIN,
23 Mixed Income Neighborhood Overlay
24 District," to update the
25 illustrative maps to reflect recent

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 redistricting changes, all under
3 certain terms and conditions.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
5 This bill will be referred to the
6 appropriate committee.

7 CHIEF CLERK: And an
8 ordinance approving the Sixth
9 Amendment of the redevelopment
10 proposal for the American Street
11 Industrial Corridor Urban Renewal
12 Area, being the area generally
13 bounded by Lehigh Avenue, Berks
14 Street and Montgomery Avenue on the
15 north, by 2nd Street and Philip
16 Street on the east, by Girard
17 Avenue, Oxford Street and Jefferson
18 Street on the south, and by
19 Germantown Avenue, 6th Street and
20 3rd Street on the west, including
21 the Sixth Amendment to the Urban
22 Renewal Plan, which provides
23 interalia for changes that would
24 make it consistent with the North
25 Philadelphia Redevelopment Area

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 Plan and generally consistent with
3 the most recent comprehensive plan
4 approved by the City Planning
5 Commission of the City of
6 Philadelphia.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
8 This bill will be referred to the
9 appropriate committee.

10 CHIEF CLERK: And a
11 privileged resolution recognizing
12 and honoring the Philadelphia
13 Children's Alliance, PCA, and the
14 Philadelphia Department of Human
15 Services, DHS, for their
16 collaborative commitment to bring
17 healing and justice to victims of
18 child abuse in Philadelphia and
19 declaring April 2024 to be Child
20 Abuse Prevention Month in the City
21 of Philadelphia.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
23 This resolution will be placed on
24 today's Final Passage Calendar.

25 The Chair recognizes

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Jeffrey Jay Young.

3 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Good

4 morning, Mr. President.

5 No bills or resolutions

6 today.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

8 The Chair recognizes Councilmember

9 Brooks.

10 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Good

11 morning, Council President.

12 I have one privileged

13 resolution co-introduced with

14 Councilmember Landau. And another

15 privileged resolution co-introduced

16 with Councilmember O'Rourke.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

18 Thank you.

19 Will the Clerk please read

20 the title of the privileged

21 resolutions.

22 CHIEF CLERK: A privileged

23 resolution authorizing the

24 Committee on the Environment to

25 hold hearings to examine the

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 progress made since introduction of
3 the Philadelphia Urban Agriculture
4 Plan to convene agencies and
5 stakeholders needed to make further
6 progress and to create an
7 implementation strategy to
8 expeditiously meet the goals of the
9 plan.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

11 This resolution will be placed on
12 today's Final Passage Calendar.

13 CHIEF CLERK: And a
14 resolution honoring and expressing
15 gratitude to Philly Black Pride for
16 its ongoing work to center and
17 support underserved Black and Brown
18 folks in the LGBTQ+ community and
19 recognizing Thursday, April 25th
20 through Sunday, April 28th as
21 Philly Black Pride Weekend in the
22 City of Philadelphia.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

24 This resolution will be placed on
25 today's Final Passage Calendar.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 The Chair recognizes

3 Councilmember Jim Harrity.

4 COUNCILMAN HARRITY: Good

5 morning, Council President.

6 I have no bills or

7 resolutions today.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

9 Thank you.

10 The Chair recognizes

11 Councilmember O'Rourke.

12 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE: Good

13 morning, Mr. President.

14 No bills or resolutions

15 today.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

17 The Chair recognizes Councilmember

18 O'Neill.

19 (No response.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

21 The Chair recognizes Councilmember

22 Mark Squilla.

23 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank

24 you, Mr. President.

25 On behalf of Councilmember

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 O'Neill, I offer one bill.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

4 Will the Clerk please read the
5 title of the bill.

6 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
7 amending chapter 12-2700 of The
8 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Permit
9 Parking Districts," by changing
10 certain boundaries and establishing
11 new permit parking districts, all
12 under certain terms and conditions.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
14 This bill will be referred to the
15 appropriate committee.

16 For the record, Councilman
17 Driscoll has no bills or
18 resolutions.

19 The Chair recognizes
20 Councilmember Squilla.

21 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank
22 you, Mr. President.

23 I offer one bill and one
24 privileged resolution.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 Will the Clerk please read the
3 title of the bill and the
4 resolution.

5 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
6 amending Chapter 12-2700 of The
7 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Permit
8 Parking Districts," by extending
9 the authorized duration of
10 temporary parking permits and
11 setting new permit application
12 fees, all under certain terms and
13 conditions.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
15 This bill will be referred to the
16 appropriate committee.

17 CHIEF CLERK: And a
18 privileged resolution honoring and
19 congratulating Settlement Music
20 School on its 116th Anniversary and
21 recognizing and commending its
22 directors, officers, faculty, staff
23 and students both past and present
24 for making Settlement Music School
25 an institution known worldwide for

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 its excellence.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

4 This resolution will be placed on
5 today's Final Passage Calendar.

6 The Chair recognizes
7 Councilmember Cindy Bass.

8 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Thank
9 you, Mr. President.

10 I offer six nonprivileged
11 resolutions and one bill.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
13 Will the Clerk please read the
14 titles of the bill and resolutions.

15 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
16 amending Title 14 of The
17 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Zoning
18 and Planning," by adding
19 definitions and creating a new
20 Chestnut Hill Lower East /NCO in
21 the area generally bounded by the
22 SEPTA Chestnut Hill East Line,
23 Cresheim Valley Drive, Germantown
24 Avenue, Winston Road, Moreland
25 Avenue, Devon Street, Ardleigh

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 Street and Springfield Avenue,
3 under certain terms and conditions.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
5 This bill will be referred to the
6 appropriate committee.

7 CHIEF CLERK: A
8 nonprivileged resolution
9 authorizing the Philadelphia Land
10 Bank to execute and deliver to the
11 Philadelphia Housing Authority
12 deeds conveying fee simple title to
13 6657-59 Blakemore Street,
14 (including the former 530-34 Vernon
15 Road), 50 Collum Street, 56 Collum
16 Street, 60-74 Collum Street, 101
17 Collum Street, 67 Church Lane, 83,
18 85, 87 Church Lane, 45 and 47 and
19 51 East Garfield Street, 5417,
20 5423-27 Lena Street, 5429-43 Lena
21 Street, 5513, 5515 Lena Street,
22 4949, 4951, 6526-34 Germantown
23 Avenue, 117 Manheim Street; 36, 38,
24 40, 42, 44 and 46 East Wister
25 Street, and 63 East Wister Street

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 in the 8th Councilmanic District of
3 the City of Philadelphia.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
5 This resolution will be placed on
6 the Final Passage Calendar for
7 consideration at our next session
8 of Council.

9 CHIEF CLERK: And a
10 nonprivileged resolution
11 authorizing the Philadelphia
12 Redevelopment Authority to execute
13 and deliver to the Philadelphia
14 Land Bank deeds conveying title to
15 various properties located in the
16 8th Councilmanic District,
17 including on the following streets:
18 Mechanic Street, Musgrave Street,
19 East Phil Ellena Street, East
20 Sharpnack Street, East Ashmead
21 Street, pursuant to the
22 requirements of the Commonwealth
23 Land Bank.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
25 This resolution will be placed on

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 the Final Passage Calendar for
3 consideration at our next session
4 of Council.

5 CHIEF CLERK: And a
6 nonprivileged resolution
7 authorizing the Commissioner of
8 Public Property to execute and
9 deliver to the Philadelphia
10 Redevelopment Authority deeds
11 conveying fee simple title to 49
12 East Earlham Street, 207 East Penn
13 Street, 313, 292, 278, 260, 226
14 East Bringham Street, 5222
15 Wakefield Street, 429 East Ashmead
16 Street, 5514, 5515 Morton Street,
17 5608 Heiskell Street, 5642 Morton
18 Street, 53 East Pastorius Street;
19 261 East Sharpnack Street, 263 East
20 Sharpnack Street, 112 and 111 East
21 Springer Street, 4925 Wakefield
22 Street, 325 Sedaker Street, 342
23 Sedaker Street, 4951 Sheldon
24 Street, 4957, 4961, 4975 Sheldon
25 Street, 4635 Germantown Avenue, 44

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 Regar Street, 42 Regar Street, 4946
3 Keyser Street, 1532 West Loudon
4 Street in the 8th Councilmanic
5 District of the City of
6 Philadelphia and further
7 authorizing the Philadelphia
8 Redevelopment Authority to transfer
9 to the Philadelphia Land Bank fee
10 simple title to such properties
11 pursuant to Section 16-405 of The
12 Philadelphia Code.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
14 This resolution will be placed on
15 the Final Passage Calendar for
16 consideration at our next session
17 of Council.

18 CHIEF CLERK: And a
19 nonprivileged resolution
20 authorizing the Philadelphia
21 Redevelopment Authority to execute
22 and deliver to the Philadelphia
23 Land Bank deeds conveying title to
24 various properties located in the
25 8th Councilmanic District,

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 including on the following streets:
3 Mechanic Street, Musgrave Street,
4 East Phil Ellena Street, East
5 Sharpnack Street, East Ashmead
6 Street, pursuant to the
7 requirements of the Commonwealth
8 Land Bank Act.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
10 This resolution will be placed on
11 the Final Passage Calendar for
12 consideration at our next session
13 of Council.

14 CHIEF CLERK: And a
15 nonprivileged resolution
16 authorizing the Commissioner of
17 Public Property to execute and
18 deliver to the Philadelphia
19 Redevelopment Authority deeds
20 conveying fee simple title to 1532
21 West Loudon Street in the 8th
22 Councilmanic District of the City
23 of Philadelphia and further
24 authorizing the Philadelphia
25 Redevelopment Authority to transfer

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 to the Philadelphia Land Bank fee
3 simple title to such properties
4 pursuant to Section 16-405 of The
5 Philadelphia Code.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
7 This resolution will be placed on
8 the Final Passage Calendar for
9 consideration at our next session
10 of Council.

11 CHIEF CLERK: And a
12 nonprivileged resolution
13 authorizing the Commissioner of
14 Public Property to execute and
15 deliver to the Philadelphia
16 Redevelopment Authority deeds
17 conveying fee simple title to 5803
18 Knox Street in the 8th Councilmanic
19 District of the City of
20 Philadelphia and further
21 authorizing the Philadelphia
22 Redevelopment Authority to transfer
23 to the Philadelphia Land Bank fee
24 simple title to such properties
25 pursuant to Section 16-405 of The

1 04/25/24 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 Philadelphia Code.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
4 This resolution will be placed on
5 the Final Passage Calendar for
6 consideration at our next session
7 of Council.

8 The Chair recognizes
9 Councilmember Nina Ahmad.

10 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD: Thank
11 you, Council President.

12 I have one privileged
13 resolution.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
15 Will the Clerk please read the
16 title of the privileged resolution.

17 CHIEF CLERK: And a
18 privileged resolution honoring the
19 founding of Sigma Pi Phi
20 Fraternity, Inc. on the occasion of
21 its 120th Anniversary.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
23 This resolution will be placed on
24 today's Final Passage Calendar.

25 The next order of business

1 04/25/24 - STATED - REPORTS

2 is reports from Committees. The
3 Chair recognizes Councilmember
4 Katherine Gilmore Richardson for a
5 report from the Committee of the
6 Whole.

7 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

8 RICHARDSON: Thank you, Council
9 President.

10 The Committee of the Whole
11 reports out eight resolutions with
12 a favorable recommendation.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
14 Thank you.

15 Will the Clerk please read
16 the report.

17 CHIEF CLERK: To the
18 President and members of the
19 Council of the City of
20 Philadelphia, the Committee on the
21 Whole to which was referred
22 Resolution 240254 entitled,
23 resolution confirming the
24 appointment of Crystal Cabbage to
25 the Board of Education of the

1 04/25/24 - STATED - REPORTS

2 School District of Philadelphia
3 respectfully reports it has
4 considered the same and returns the
5 attached resolution to Council with
6 a favorable recommendation.

7 And the Committee on the
8 Whole to which was referred
9 Resolution No. 240255, entitled
10 Resolution confirming the
11 appointment of Sarah Ashley Andrews
12 to the Board of Education of the
13 School District of Philadelphia
14 respectfully reports it has
15 considered the same and returns the
16 attached resolution to the Council
17 with a favorable recommendation.

18 And Resolution 240256
19 entitled, Resolution confirming the
20 appointment of Joan Stern to the
21 Board of Education of the School
22 District of Philadelphia
23 respectfully reports it has
24 considered the same and returns the
25 attached resolution to Council with

1 04/25/24 - STATED - REPORTS

2 a favorable recommendation.

3 And Resolution 240257

4 entitled, Resolution confirming the

5 appointment of Reginald Streater to

6 the Board of Education of the

7 School District of Philadelphia

8 respectfully reports it has

9 considered the same and returns the

10 attached resolution to Council with

11 a favorable recommendation.

12 And Resolution 240258,

13 entitled Resolution confirming the

14 appointment of Wanda Novales to the

15 Board of Education of the School

16 District of Philadelphia

17 respectfully reports it has

18 considered the same and returns the

19 attached resolution to Council with

20 a favorable recommendation.

21 And Resolution 240249,

22 entitled Resolution confirming the

23 appointment of Whitney Jones to the

24 Board of Education of the School

25 District of Philadelphia

1 04/25/24 - STATED - REPORTS

2 respectfully reports it has
3 considered the same and returns the
4 attached resolution to Council with
5 a favorable recommendation.

6 And Resolution 240260
7 entitled, Resolution confirming the
8 appointment of Chau Wing Lam to the
9 Board of Education of the School
10 District of Philadelphia

11 respectfully reports it has
12 considered the same and returns the
13 attached resolution with a
14 favorable recommendation.

15 And Resolution 240262
16 entitled, Resolution confirming the
17 appointment of Cheryl Harper to the
18 Board of Education of the School
19 District of Philadelphia

20 respectfully reports it has
21 considered the same and returns the
22 attached resolution to Council with
23 a favorable recommendation.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
25 The Chair recognizes Councilmember

1 04/25/24 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Gilmore Richardson for a motion.

3 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

4 RICHARDSON: Thank you,

5 Mr. President.

6 I move that the rules of
7 Council be suspended as to permit
8 the consideration of the
9 resolutions that were just read
10 into the record by the Chief Clerk
11 at today's session of Council.

12 (Duly seconded.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

14 It has been moved and properly
15 seconded that the rules of Council
16 be suspended so as to permit the
17 consideration of the resolution
18 just read by the Chief Clerk at
19 today's session of Council.

20 All those in favor of the
21 motion will signify by saying aye.

22 (Aye.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

24 Those opposed?

25 (No response.)

1 04/25/24 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

3 The ayes have it and the motion
4 carries.

5 Resolution Nos. 240254,
6 240255, 240256, 240257, 240258,
7 240259, 240260 and 240262 will be
8 placed on today's Final Passage
9 Calendar.

10 The Chair recognizes
11 Councilmember Phillips for a report
12 from the Committee on Parks &
13 Recreation and Cultural Affairs.

14 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: Thank
15 you, Mr. President.

16 The Committee on Parks &
17 Recreation and Cultural Affairs
18 reports out one bill with a
19 favorable recommendation.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
21 Thank you.

22 Will the Chief Clerk please
23 read the report.

24 CHIEF CLERK: To the
25 President and members of the

1 04/25/24 - STATED - REPORTS
2 Council of the City of
3 Philadelphia, the Committee on
4 Parks, Recreation and Cultural
5 Affairs to which was referred Bill
6 No. 240003, entitled Authorizing
7 the Commissioner of Parks &
8 Recreation on behalf of the City of
9 Philadelphia to enter into a multi-
10 year agreement with Bennett
11 Compost, Inc. for food scrap
12 collection and management of a
13 compost facility on City property
14 located at 5650 Rising Sun Avenue,
15 under certain terms and conditions,
16 respectfully reports it has
17 considered and amended the same and
18 returns the attached bill to
19 Council with a favorable
20 recommendation.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
22 The Chair recognizes Councilmember
23 Phillips for a motion.

24 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: Thank
25 you, Mr. President.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - REPORTS

2 I move that the rules of
3 Council be suspended as to permit
4 the first reading this day of Bill
5 No. 240003 that was just read into
6 the record by the Chief Clerk.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

8 Can I have a second?

9 (Duly seconded.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

11 It has been moved and properly
12 seconded that the rules of Council
13 be suspended so as to permit first
14 reading this day of Bill No.
15 240003.

16 All those in favor of the
17 motion will signify by saying aye.

18 (Aye.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

20 Those opposed?

21 (No response.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

23 The ayes have it and the motion
24 carries.

25 Bill No. 240003 will be

1 04/25/24 - STATED - BILLS ON 2ND READING

2 placed on our First Reading

3 Calendar for today.

4 The next order of business

5 is the consideration of the

6 Calendar. I note that the bill

7 just reported from -- the bills

8 just reported from the Committee

9 with the suspension of the rules

10 has been deemed to have had a first

11 reading. These bills will be

12 placed on the Second Reading and

13 Final Passage Calendar for the next

14 session of Council.

15 As there are no additional

16 bills on the First Reading

17 Calendar, the Chair recognizes

18 Councilmember Gilmore Richardson

19 for the purpose of calling up bills

20 and resolutions on the Second

21 Reading and Final Passage Calendar.

22 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

23 RICHARDSON: Thank you,

24 Mr. President.

25 The following resolutions

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 are being called up from the Second
3 Reading and Final Passage Calendars
4 Today: Nos. 240254, 240255,
5 240256, 240257, 240258, 240259,
6 240260, 240262, 240306, 240308,
7 240309, 240318, 240321 and 240322.
8 All other bills are being held.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

10 Thank you. Before considering
11 these bills and resolutions, we
12 will consider public comment as
13 follows: Your public comment must
14 concern matters on the Second
15 Reading and Final Passage Calendar
16 for possible action at today's
17 Council session.

18 All speakers must sign up
19 in order to testify. If you have
20 not already signed up for today's
21 session, please do so now by giving
22 your name to Ms. Hassen at the
23 table outside the rails to my left.
24 Once you have signed up, you will
25 be called in the order in which

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 your name appears on the sign-up
3 sheet.

4 Under ideal circumstances,
5 public commenters each will have
6 three minutes to speak. However,
7 due to our volume of testifiers
8 today this time limit may vary from
9 session-to-session. And today's
10 time limit will be two minutes. In
11 order to be fair to all those
12 wishing to speak, I intend to hold
13 faithfully to the two-minute limit.

14 When you begin speaking,
15 you will see a green light on the
16 podium. When there are 30 seconds
17 remaining to your time, the light
18 will turn yellow which is a
19 reminder to conclude your remarks.
20 Once two minutes has passed, the
21 light will turn red and the
22 Sergeant-at-Arms will disconnect
23 the microphone.

24 At that time, please yield
25 the podium to the next speaker if

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 you have not done so already. I
3 also reserve the right pursuant to
4 our rules of Council to limit
5 repetitious comments on the same
6 matter.

7 I will now ask the Chief
8 Clerk to please read the name of
9 our first speaker.

10 CHIEF CLERK: We have
11 Darryl Raymond Cox. And can Faye
12 Anderson, Cornelia Swinson and
13 Jacqueline Wiggins also make their
14 way to the podium.

15 Darryl Raymond Cox.

16 CHIEF CLERK: This way,
17 sir.

18 (Witness approached
19 podium.)

20 CHIEF CLERK: And Faye
21 Anderson, Cornelia Swinson
22 Jacqueline Wiggins and Dr. Diane
23 Turner can also make their way to
24 the podium.

25 MR. COX: Hello. My name

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 is Raymond Darryl Cox. Good
3 morning and thank you for
4 representing my family today.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
6 One second, sir. Let's do a mic
7 check.

8 MR. COX: Hello?

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
10 Go ahead, sir. You can begin.

11 MR. COX: Okay. Good
12 morning, and thank you for
13 representing my family today. My
14 name is Raymond Darryl Cox and I'm
15 the first-born nephew of Lee
16 Morgan. Okay. I would like to
17 state that my family is very proud
18 of what the City is doing for us,
19 showing us the love that they have
20 for our beloved family member.

21 Lee is a homegrown
22 Philadelphia phenom from the Tioga
23 section of North Philadelphia. Lee
24 traveled the world performing with
25 the Jazz Messengers and with his

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 own band, but there is one thing
3 that he really loved more than
4 anything that I saw as a teenager,
5 because Lee was 15 when I was born,
6 he loved coming back home and
7 seeing family and performing at the
8 Aqua Lounge in South Phil -- South
9 Jersey and everywhere else where he
10 had an engagement with.

11 Once again I'm extremely
12 grateful to the City of
13 Philadelphia and everybody that
14 participated in making this plaque
15 a reality. It's been a long time
16 since he was assassinated, I guess
17 you could say. Like my uncle I
18 love Philadelphia as well and I'm a
19 homegrown Philadelphian too, and I
20 will always cherish what you have
21 done for me, my family as well as
22 the people of Philadelphia that
23 love him as much as we do. Thank
24 you so much.

25 (Applause.)

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

3 You're welcome. Thank you.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Faye

5 Anderson.

6 (Witnesses approached

7 podium.)

8 MS. ANDERSON: Good

9 morning.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

11 Good morning.

12 MS. ANDERSON: I want to
13 thank Councilwoman Gauthier for the
14 resolution honoring Edward Lee
15 Morgan. While his life was
16 tragically cut short, Lee Morgan
17 really lived a full life. That's
18 what Lee's beloved sister Ernestine
19 Morgan Cox, Darryl's mother, wrote
20 in an open letter published in the
21 Philadelphia Tribune 50 years ago.

22 Ms. Ernestine wrote "Though
23 he only lived to be 33, he managed
24 to accomplish more than some of us
25 who have 60 or more years in which

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 to do it. Lee did indeed live and
3 he has left an indelible impression
4 on the lives of many whose path he
5 has crossed." That's the Lee
6 Morgan, that's the Edward Lee
7 Morgan we are celebrating today.

8 And on International Jazz
9 Day when his historical marker is
10 unveiled in front of the Aqua
11 Lounge which was located at 52nd
12 and Chancellor, the Aqua Lounge, a
13 place that Lee loved and the only
14 jazz club listed in his address
15 book. Thank you. And I just want
16 to make note, this is Lee's
17 signature. This is from his
18 address book, if you can see it.
19 That's Lee's signature. Thank you.
20 He learned his penmanship in the
21 Philadelphia public schools.

22 (Applause.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

24 Thank you.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Cornelia

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Swinson.

3 MS. SWINSON: Good morning,
4 Council President, Councilmembers,
5 family and friends. I'm Cornelia
6 Swinson, Executive Director of
7 Johnson House Historic Site, an
8 Underground Railroad Station
9 located in the heart of Germantown.
10 I'm thrilled to be here today.

11 During Black History Month,
12 Johnson House hosted an event to
13 recognize the contributions of
14 Philadelphia Black musicians
15 including Jazz Trumpeter Edward Lee
16 Morgan. Today's resolution that
17 honors the legacy of Lee Morgan is
18 especially meaningful for Lee's
19 family and for Faye Anderson, the
20 leader who led the nominations
21 journey. I'm truly blessed to
22 witness their personal joy.

23 As a national historic
24 landmark, the dedication of a
25 historic marker is especially

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 meaningful and highly significant.
3 Each time a marker is proposed and
4 reaches the point of its unveiling,
5 those whose work in the realm of
6 the historic community are affirmed
7 by its erection. Lee Morgan
8 deserves this distinction.

9 My personal connection to
10 Lee Morgan and his artistry began
11 with my late father. I grew up
12 listening to Sidewinder on The Mark
13 of Jazz, narrated by Sid Mark, a
14 radio program. My dad insisted we
15 listen as children. I grew up on
16 Chestnut Street. And 52nd Street
17 was our local business corridor
18 where we shopped to buy the latest
19 trends in clothing and shoes.

20 I walked by the Aqua Lounge
21 on 52nd Street and wondered who got
22 in its iconic doors to enjoy an
23 evening of cultural music
24 expression and enrichment. I moved
25 to Germantown and met Lee's sister

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Ernestine, Darryl's mother.

3 Ernestine was a 59th Ward committee
4 person and I was a 12th Ward
5 committee person. We enjoyed each
6 other's company.

7 I listened to Ernestine
8 talk about how proud she was of her
9 brother. And Ernestine lived on
10 Washington Lane and years later I
11 started work at Johnson House
12 located at Germantown and
13 Washington Lane. Talk about full
14 circle. No matter Lee's zip code
15 or income it's clear to me that
16 family love and nurturing gave life
17 to his story. Today it will be
18 forever publicly preserved.

19 Unveiling this historic
20 marker couldn't have come at a
21 better time. Raising public
22 awareness of the significance of
23 historic markers, especially those
24 acknowledging the contributions of
25 African Americans and their

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 accomplishments, lifts up and
3 elevates a new opportunity to
4 educate us all. On behalf of
5 families, neighborhood business
6 corridors, schools and longstanding
7 private-public institutions in
8 Philadelphia and especially in West
9 Philadelphia, I want to express my
10 deep appreciation to Councilwoman
11 Gauthier for your support.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

13 Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 CHIEF CLERK: Jacqueline
16 Wiggins, and then Dr. Diane Turner,
17 Elizabeth Waring and Amelia
18 Schmertz can make their way to the
19 podium as well.

20 (Witnesses approached
21 podium.)

22 MS. WIGGINS: Good morning,
23 members of City Council, Lee Morgan
24 family members, friends and jazz
25 musicians and jazz lovers in our

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 City and everywhere, my name is
3 Jacqueline Wiggins. When Faye
4 Anderson asked me to give a few
5 remarks about Lee Morgan, I had to
6 smile. You see, I served on the
7 PHMC, Pennsylvania Historical and
8 Museum Commission Historic Marker
9 Panel when the nomination
10 application was reviewed, and what
11 an application it was.

12 As a retired teacher,
13 educator myself, it delights me
14 when family serves as a source of
15 introduction to the world of word
16 through reading, but it becomes
17 very special when it comes to also
18 an introduction to the arts, in the
19 case of Mr. Morgan when his sister
20 Ernestine gave him his first
21 trumpet. And hosting those jam
22 sessions at their home, going to
23 the Earle Theatre to see some of
24 the greats like Cab Calloway, Louis
25 Armstrong and Duke Ellington all

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 nurtured him in his early musical
3 development.

4 And when I saw in the
5 application Philadelphia school
6 names, Gillespie Junior High, now
7 closed, but where Lee Morgan
8 decided to make music his career
9 choice and Mastbaum Vocational
10 Technical High School known for its
11 respected music program and had
12 earned a reputation for training
13 great jazz players, I felt proud,
14 especially as an educator and
15 having taught at Mastbaum myself.

16 Thank you to the family for
17 their early fostering of
18 Mr. Morgan's interest in jazz,
19 giving his creativity a chance to
20 blossom. Much appreciation to all
21 of the talented teachers and
22 musician professionals who saw his
23 genius and paved a way for him to
24 grow.

25 And thanks also to

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 Councilwoman Gauthier for your
3 support. But there is someone else
4 to thank, and that's Faye Anderson.
5 Thank you for your thoroughly
6 excellent application in lifting
7 Mr. Morgan's work not only for the
8 City's historic marker, but also
9 for nominating Morgan's 1963 album
10 "The Sidewinder" to the Library of
11 Congress where Lee Morgan's name
12 will be preserved in the Library of
13 Congress's National Recording
14 Registry. Thank you, Faye and All
15 That Philly Jazz, for your tenacity
16 and perseverance and to the family.
17 Thank you.

18 (Applause.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
20 Dr. Diane Turner.

21 DR. TURNER: Good morning.
22 I bring you greetings from the
23 Charles L. Blockson Afro-American
24 Collection at Temple University.
25 And I know Mr. Blockson is smiling

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 down right now because he was
3 instrumental in having more than 63
4 African American historical markers
5 placed around the City of
6 Philadelphia through a grant that
7 Dr. Bernard C. Watson gave him when
8 he was at William Penn Foundation.

9 When Faye asked me to talk
10 about Lee Morgan, I was overjoyed.
11 One of my areas of research is jazz
12 in Philadelphia. Philadelphia is a
13 cradle of jazz. And I thank Faye
14 and the Lee Morgan family for being
15 dedicated and relentless in making
16 sure that this happens, because
17 often times we look and we
18 celebrate but people don't know
19 what you have to go through to get
20 this.

21 So Lee Morgan is well-
22 deserving and I was privileged
23 enough to interview his uncle who
24 Darryl looks like. When I came in
25 today, I said, hey, you look just

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 like your uncle, Jimmy Morgan. And
3 we sat down. One of the things I
4 do is conduct oral history
5 interviews. And when I worked at
6 the African American Museum, we
7 actually had Lee's trumpet on
8 display there.

9 But I learned a lot from
10 Jimmy Morgan. They loved Lee, and
11 there's just a couple things I'd
12 like to say about him. First of
13 all, Lee practiced all the time.
14 He was very disciplined and he was
15 very competitive, because during
16 that era music was in all the
17 public schools, so a lot of the
18 jazz musicians would compete in the
19 high school bands.

20 And so, I would say that
21 the arts are very important. And
22 to the City of Philadelphia, make
23 sure there is music in all the
24 public schools because --

25 (Applause.)

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 DR. TURNER: -- through the
3 art you learn discipline. You
4 can't fake it and talk about it.
5 You have to have a product, right.
6 So once again, I'd like to thank
7 everyone and I extend an open
8 invitation for you to come to the
9 Charles L. Blockson Afro-American
10 Collection. We have materials that
11 relate to Lee Morgan and other jazz
12 musicians, a very extensive
13 collection. So once again, thank
14 you. And once again, thank you,
15 Faye and the Lee Morgan family.

16 (Applause.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
18 Faye Anderson, could you come back
19 to the podium? Ms. Anderson, Faye
20 Anderson, can you come back to the
21 podium real quick?

22 MS. ANDERSON: Okay.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
24 We just want to say thank you for
25 your advocacy when it comes to the

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 preservation of Black History here
3 in the City of Philadelphia but
4 also your advocacy around making
5 sure as we address the issue of
6 gentrification, we're keeping up
7 our best murals across this City.
8 And so, we just want to thank you.
9 Continue your advocacy and making
10 sure that we keep what's best that
11 represents the City of
12 Philadelphia. So thank you very
13 much for your good work.

14 MS. ANDERSON: Thank you.
15 (Applause.)

16 CHIEF CLERK: Elizabeth
17 Waring. Amelia Schmertz. Can also
18 Evan Cannon, Byron Goldson and
19 Jaulie Cantaze make their way to
20 the podium.

21 (Witnesses approached
22 podium.)

23 MS. WARING: Good morning
24 and happy Thursday. My name is
25 Elizabeth Waring and I manage the

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 Holly Street Neighbors Community
3 Garden, which is a living memorial
4 for Winnie Harris. Winnie Harris
5 with neighbors, friends, many City
6 organizations, volunteers
7 established the garden in 2005.

8 Upon her demise from gun
9 violence, Councilwoman Blackwell at
10 her homegoing service said that the
11 garden would be preserved and we
12 were working to get it into the
13 Neighborhood Gardens Trust, and
14 that had been going on even before
15 her demise with Councilwoman
16 Blackwell. So far that has not
17 happened.

18 The garden has been
19 operating with volunteers, friends,
20 various organizations. High
21 schools have volunteered. Just
22 many people, we are keeping it
23 going. But we would like to know
24 that the garden will be preserved.
25 And thanks to Councilwoman Brooks

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 and Councilwoman Gauthier, I've
3 been in contact with them, but we
4 have not heard anything from the
5 Land Bank.

6 It is a complicated
7 situation with four different
8 parcels involved, but I'm looking
9 forward to the whole problem being
10 resolved. So at this time we do
11 serve the neighborhood very well.
12 Seniors, we contribute to the
13 street fridges, just donate, but
14 our main issue is water. We do not
15 have a water source.

16 So a neighbor has been very
17 kind and helping us. He has moved
18 and relocated so we are still in
19 limbo. And I was out watering the
20 garden before coming here this
21 morning because it's just something
22 that has to be done with the help
23 of another neighbor supplying
24 water. So we hope that this is
25 resolved real soon. Thank you.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 (Applause.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

4 Thank you.

5 The Chair recognizes

6 Councilwoman Jamie Gauthier.

7 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

8 (Inaudible) -- it's working now.

9 Thank you, Council President.

10 I just wanted to

11 acknowledge Ms. Waring and say that

12 this has been a longstanding issue.

13 Sometimes it can take quite a lot

14 to untangle some of these land

15 issues and sort of push that

16 through the Land Bank, but my

17 office is committed to that. We're

18 going to keep working and fighting

19 because I understand how important

20 the garden is to the community and

21 to the people who have been

22 stewarding it. So thank you very

23 much.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

25 Thank you, Member Gauthier. And we

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 would like to join you in those
3 efforts, so we'll have Nic Dema
4 reach out to you and see how we can
5 strategize and get the Land Bank
6 moving in the right direction.
7 Thank you.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Amelia
9 Schmertz. Can Evan Cannon, Byron
10 Goldson and Jaulie Cantaze also
11 make their way to the podium.

12 (Witness approached
13 podium.)

14 MS. SCHMERTZ: Good
15 morning, Council President Johnson,
16 members of City Council. My name
17 is Amelia Schmertz and I am the
18 Chief Advancement Officer at
19 Settlement Music School. I am here
20 this morning to support the
21 resolution recognizing the 116th
22 anniversary of Settlement Music
23 School. Thank you to Councilman
24 Squilla for sponsoring this
25 legislation.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 We celebrate the
3 anniversary every year with a gala
4 that raises an enormous amount to
5 support the financial aid that we
6 provide for all who need it. It
7 will be Saturday, May 4th. And
8 Stephanie Grant who is in the
9 Office of Legislative Affairs is
10 co-chairing along with her husband
11 Byron Goldson.

12 At Settlement Music School
13 we have heart. We were founded in
14 1908 by two young women who wanted
15 to welcome new Americans and
16 started giving piano lessons for a
17 nickel. Where we are today, we
18 have five community branches; four
19 in Philadelphia, one in Willow
20 Grove serving people of all ages
21 and all backgrounds. We believe
22 that everybody deserves access to a
23 creative arts education.

24 We teach people 6 months to
25 96 years from all zip codes in

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 Philadelphia with 12,000 services
3 every single week and we make more
4 than \$2.8 million available in
5 financial aid to more than 60
6 percent of our students. I know
7 there are many people in this room
8 who have gone to Settlement or who
9 have families who have gone to
10 Settlement, I see you, and I have a
11 feeling potentially that the
12 wonderful jazz musician we heard
13 about earlier today has some sort
14 of connection with Settlement.
15 One of our Board members
16 likes to say that Settlement Music
17 School is an antidote to poverty.
18 We believe it. We believe that
19 arts education can solve many
20 problems and we have outcomes to
21 prove it. If I had more time, I
22 could tell you about those
23 outcomes. But we have outcomes for
24 PreK, for our programs in schools
25 for how we diversify the field of

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 classical music. These are proven
3 numerical outcomes.

4 There's so much to say
5 about what we do. We offer all
6 instruments, dance, choir. We're
7 online. We have creative arts
8 therapy for people with
9 disabilities and for people who
10 just need that extra help getting
11 through their day or their week.
12 We have more than 70 active
13 community partnerships. We are in
14 all your neighborhoods creating
15 joy.

16 City Council should know
17 that Settlement is here and ready
18 to partner in any way to make this
19 City even better. Thank you for
20 all that you do to make this
21 wonderful city the beautiful,
22 historic, musical and joyous place
23 that it is.

24 (Applause.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Thank you.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Evan Cannon.

4 (Witness approached
5 podium.)

6 MS. CANTAZE: Hello, and
7 good morning. Thank you,
8 Councilmember Kendra Brooks, for
9 inviting me here today. My name is
10 Jaulie Cantaze and I am the Health
11 and Wellness Coordinator of the
12 Colours organization. The Colours
13 organization was founded in 1991 as
14 an advocacy for Black gay issues.
15 And today it serves as a safe space
16 for people often tossed to the
17 wayside.

18 Being a part of this
19 recognition of this resolution is
20 the culmination of decades to
21 service and commitment to
22 underserved communities. For our
23 founders, Philly Black Pride
24 represents a community that
25 stretches across generations.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Additionally, all the community
3 organizations who have been
4 dedicated to sexual wellness, queer
5 existence and liberation, it's
6 amazing to see how far we've come.

7 Philly Black Pride is so
8 special. It's a representation of
9 intersected personalities and how
10 those personalities deserve the
11 same exultation as their
12 counterparts is also at the crux of
13 the Colour's mission. So to say
14 that we are grateful, thankful,
15 speechless is not enough. It is an
16 honor truly.

17 Happy 25 years to those who
18 beat their drums loud enough so
19 that we could have a seat at the
20 table. Happy Philly Black Pride to
21 the activists, scholars, performers
22 who made this organization what it
23 is today. We could not have made
24 it without you and we are thrilled
25 to serve you. Thank you so much.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 (Applause.)

3 CHIEF CLERK: Evan Cannon

4 and Byron Goldson.

5 (Witnesses approached
6 podium.)

7 MR. CANNON: Good morning,
8 Council President Johnson and
9 members of the Philadelphia City
10 Council. I am here this morning to
11 support the resolution recognizing
12 the 116th Anniversary of Settlement
13 Music School. My name is Evan
14 Cannon. And for the last three
15 years, I have been the director of
16 one of Settlement's signature
17 programs, Music Education Pathways.

18 Pathways is one of the ways
19 Settlement moves outside of its
20 doors to be part of the community,
21 by partnering with public schools
22 and afterschool bands, orchestras,
23 choirs and drum lines. We serve
24 250 children after school in eight
25 public schools in five Councilmanic

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Districts.

3 In our 11 years, we have
4 been in 13 different schools and
5 have served over 1,400 students.
6 This program is geared to building
7 solid music foundations as well as
8 great citizens of our city. To
9 that end, we provide high-level
10 music education sequentially twice
11 a week for a full school year
12 taught by experienced music
13 educators who provide large and
14 small group instruction.

15 We focus on strong core
16 values of creativity, teamwork,
17 responsibility, persistence and
18 self-evaluation, all the tools
19 necessary to become an upstanding
20 member of the community. Our
21 afterschool programs are an
22 important part of each partner
23 school's culture as well.

24 Every year the ensembles
25 from all eight schools come

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 together to make music together,
3 developing new relationships across
4 the City as a whole. There's so
5 many special moments with the kids,
6 musicians and our partner schools.
7 One of which I was very proud
8 recently to speak with a young
9 violinist at the Thomas Holme
10 Elementary School named Precious,
11 who was on the verge of quitting
12 her instrument. We spent time
13 talking the other week and she came
14 to me in tears saying that it was
15 so difficult and she didn't think
16 that she could continue.

17 And through conversation, I
18 reminded her that she started
19 knowing nothing about an instrument
20 just a few months ago and now was
21 learning many pieces for our
22 concert. And through that, she was
23 reminded that through persistence
24 and through self-evaluation what
25 she can accomplish. Something that

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 I hope will stay with her for the
3 rest of her life.

4 We are grateful to have
5 such eager partners in the School
6 District of Philadelphia and
7 Mastery Charter Schools. If you
8 were to ask me my greatest dream, I
9 would say I would love for our
10 program to be in all schools to
11 provide free afterschool education
12 for all students. Thank you for
13 your time.

14 (Applause.)

15 CHIEF CLERK: Byron
16 Goldson. Can Michael Galvan,
17 Sheila Emerson and Gina Rose also
18 make their way to the podium.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
20 You can begin.

21 MR. GOLDSOON: Good morning,
22 President Johnson and members of
23 Council. I am Byron Goldson and
24 I'm here to support the resolution
25 honoring Settlement Music School

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 introduced by Councilmember
3 Squilla. I was a Settlement Music
4 School student and now I'm a Board
5 member and Co-chair of our upcoming
6 116th Anniversary.

7 I grew up in North
8 Philadelphia and was the youngest
9 of five children. My parents
10 decided to put me and my twin
11 brother at age 9 in music at
12 Settlement Music School, after all
13 our cousin is the famous composer
14 and saxophonist Benny Goldson who
15 was honored in these chambers 10
16 years ago by Councilmember Young.
17 I'm sure he remembers that.

18 We would take the bus to
19 the Mary Louise Curtis branch at
20 4th and Queen and began with piano
21 lessons and music theory.
22 Settlement along with sports kept
23 us very busy after school and on
24 weekends. My mom didn't tolerate
25 us being idle. We learned

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 structure, discipline and teamwork,
3 like I learned playing sports.

4 Fast-forward, my twin
5 brother Gene and I were both music
6 majors at West Chester University.
7 And after grad school, we both
8 began working in the Philadelphia
9 public schools as music teachers.
10 I retired as an assistant principal
11 at Webster in Kensington after 37
12 years with the School District of
13 Philadelphia. And, yes, more Black
14 men are needed in the public
15 schools, but that's another
16 resolution.

17 I had two professions in
18 music because of Settlement. The
19 other was that I had been a music
20 director at an Episcopal Church in
21 West Philadelphia. I met Amelia
22 from whom you've heard, as her son
23 was my student at Bache-Martin
24 Elementary. It's a great option to
25 keep children occupied and to get

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 exposure to positive role models
3 and other children who are going
4 places. They may end up with
5 college scholarships like one of
6 the winners of the Omega Psi Phi
7 Fraternity Talent Hunt last year
8 who is now at Syracuse on a full
9 scholarship. She was a student at
10 Central High School and Settlement.
11 Settlement founded in 1908
12 now has five branches, including
13 ones in South Philadelphia,
14 Wynnefield, Germantown and the
15 Northeast. We award scholarships
16 of 2.5 million a year for musicians
17 of all ages. Famous people like
18 Quest Love, Christian McBride,
19 Stanley Clark and Kevin Bacon got
20 their start at Settlement.
21 I have to give a shout-out
22 to former Board member Tiffany
23 Thurman who is Chief of Staff to
24 the Mayor and our new Arts and
25 Culture Chief Valerie Gay at our

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Art Sparks Gala May 4th, please
3 support Helen Eaton, our highly
4 touted CEO and students and this
5 resolution. Thank you to
6 Councilmembers Squilla and Sean and
7 all co-sponsors.

8 (Applause.)

9 CHIEF CLERK: Michael
10 Galvan.

11 (Witnesses approached
12 podium.)

13 MR. GALVAN: Hi. Good
14 morning. Thank you, Council
15 President and members of City
16 Council. My name is Michael
17 Galvan. I'm here to say thank you
18 for your support and your
19 resolution honoring Stephanie
20 Haynes, the Executive Director of
21 Philly Family Pride for the last 15
22 years, and special thanks to
23 Councilmember Landau for
24 introducing this resolution for us.

25 So I want to start with a

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 brief story. My husband and I
3 moved to the area about 10 years
4 ago from the suburbs of Dallas,
5 Texas. We knew from our first date
6 that we wanted to start a family,
7 raise kids and be an active member
8 of our community wherever we lived.
9 We moved here in 2015 and Stephanie
10 was one of the first people that
11 connected us to Philly Family Pride
12 and the ability to start a family
13 in the City of Philadelphia.
14 We decided to start our
15 family around the winter 2019,
16 spring of 2020. Probably not the
17 best time given what was going on
18 at that time, but Stephanie was
19 there from the get-go. She
20 introduced us to PFP's Pathways to
21 Parenthood class, where we took off
22 and were able to successfully adopt
23 a young man named Jordan, who is a
24 wonderful and incredible part of
25 our lives.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 I tell the story not
3 because it's unique but because
4 it's something that Stephanie does
5 for every member of the LGBTQ+
6 community that's looking to start a
7 family. She builds community. She
8 helps people connect. And I think
9 that there's an aspect of being
10 queer in any community, that you
11 get to choose your own family. And
12 Stephanie through PFP and her work
13 there has allowed us to build and
14 choose our family here in the City
15 of Philadelphia, and I am so happy
16 to be able to have this resolution
17 to honor and recognize her work.

18 I would be remiss if I
19 didn't recognize that our incoming
20 Executive Director Sandra Telep is
21 here with us today as well PFP.
22 Hi, Sandra. And I just wanted to
23 say thank you again for all of your
24 time, your dedication and your
25 support for our community here in

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 the City of Philadelphia and making
3 LGBTQ+ Philadelphians feel
4 welcomed, supported and safe. So
5 thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 CHIEF CLERK: Sheila
8 Emerson. Gina Rose and then Jenny
9 Greenberg also make their way to
10 the podium.

11 MS. ROSE: I'm Gina Rose
12 who made a little switch. Sheila
13 is a little nervous so I'm going to
14 go before her. I'm Gina Rose. I
15 am a former -- I was a longtime
16 Board member of Philadelphia Family
17 Pride, and I'm here to talk a
18 little bit about Stephanie who is
19 the epitome of a connector and a
20 coalition builder.

21 When I joined the Board at
22 Philly Family Pride which was only
23 because Stephanie insisted, she
24 told me that her main goal was that
25 both the organization and the Board

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 looked more like the LGBTQ+
3 families in Philadelphia, that we
4 be more multi-cultural, more
5 diverse in terms of gender and
6 socioeconomic status and part of
7 the Philadelphia area, and she has
8 more than achieved that.

9 Under her leadership, we
10 are an organization that is
11 dedicated to ensuring that LGBTQ
12 families are everywhere in
13 Philadelphia and that we belong
14 everywhere. And I just want to say
15 thank you to Stephanie for her
16 leadership, her friendship and her
17 determination in building a more
18 diverse LGBTQ+ organization for our
19 community. Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 CHIEF CLERK: Sheila
22 Emerson and then Jenny Greenberg,
23 Queen Judith Robinson and Stephanie
24 Haynes make their way to the
25 podium.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 (Witnesses approached
3 podium.)

4 MS. EMERSON: Good morning
5 everyone.

6 (Good morning.)

7 MS. EMERSON: Okay. All
8 right. I love that. Thank you. I
9 am Sheila Lorette Emerson. I am
10 the President of PFLAG
11 Philadelphia, woohoo, yes. PFLAG
12 is a national organization with
13 international affiliates of LGBTQIA
14 to us Plus people, parents,
15 families and allies who work
16 together to create an equitable and
17 inclusive world.

18 We have hundreds of
19 chapters who are leading with love
20 to support families, educate allies
21 and advocate for just, equitable
22 and inclusive legislation and
23 policies. A few years ago before I
24 became involved with PFLAG, I was a
25 volunteer with Philadelphia Family

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 Pride Planning Committee for their
3 annual conference.

4 These planning sessions
5 were led by Stephanie Haynes. At
6 one planning session Stephanie
7 shared that PFLAG Philadelphia
8 Chapter had been inactive for quite
9 a while and was officially shutting
10 down. Stephanie said it was still
11 a much needed resource and asked if
12 any of us were interested in
13 revising the chapter. It is
14 because of Stephanie saying not on
15 my watch that PFLAG Philadelphia
16 did not die and is rebuilding and
17 rising from the ashes like a
18 phoenix.

19 Now, our chapter is once
20 again a resource in the community.
21 For example, we have free monthly
22 support meetings for families of
23 LGBTQIA+ loved ones so they know
24 they're not alone. And on
25 Saturday, May 18th we'll be

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 co-hosting an event with GALAEI
3 where Hollywood professional makeup
4 artists will provide free gender-
5 affirming makeovers for teens,
6 young adults and for the young at
7 heart so that they can feel their
8 authentic selves.

9 I mention these things
10 because none of the resources my
11 Chapter is able to provide today
12 would be available if it weren't
13 for Stephanie being the caliber of
14 person that she is -- was that me?
15 I'm sorry, I think it's my
16 hearing -- Stephanie is one of the
17 rare people who says what she's
18 going to do and actually follows
19 through in her actions.

20 Her word is her bond and
21 she is someone you can count on.
22 It was her commitment to ensuring
23 the resurrection of the PFLAG
24 Philadelphia Chapter by providing
25 mentorship, valuable connections

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 and support that makes us once
3 again an impactful asset for our
4 community. Thank you, Stephanie
5 Haynes, Executive Director of
6 Philadelphia Family Pride, and
7 congratulations on being recognized
8 for your superlative and impactful
9 work in our community for over 15
10 years. Bravo.

11 (Applause.)

12 CHIEF CLERK: Jenny
13 Greenberg, Queen Judith Robinson
14 and Stephanie Haynes.

15 MS. GREENBERG: Good
16 morning, Council President Johnson
17 and City Councilmembers. Thanks
18 for the opportunity to speak in
19 support of Councilmember Brooks'
20 resolution for a hearing on urban
21 agriculture. My name is Jenny
22 Greenberg. I serve as Executive
23 Director of the Neighborhood
24 Gardens Trust.

25 NGT is Philadelphia's land

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 trust for the protection of
3 community gardens and shared open
4 spaces. For decades Philadelphia
5 has been a national leader in the
6 community gardening and urban
7 agriculture movement. There are
8 more than 400 growing spaces where
9 residents have transformed
10 abandoned lots into places of
11 nourishment, healing and community
12 building.

13 These gardens and farms
14 address pressing needs in our city
15 by providing healthy, affordable
16 food, access to peaceful green
17 space and reducing gun violence.
18 They address historic environmental
19 injustices and support climate
20 resiliency, cooling dangerous
21 summer heat and reducing flooding.

22 Yet many gardens and farms
23 do not have secure land access and
24 their future is uncertain. Once a
25 garden is lost it's gone for good,

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 along with all the benefits it

3 provided. NGT provides a solution

4 to this problem by securing

5 ownership for community gardens.

6 I've had the privilege to work with

7 many of you to preserve gardens

8 that were in jeopardy of being lost

9 to real estate development.

10 We've also worked with City

11 Council to tackle systemic threats

12 to gardens like U.S. Bank liens and

13 provided recommendations for

14 Philadelphia's first urban

15 agriculture plan, but there's much

16 more work for us to do together.

17 It's critical the City treat

18 gardens as the highest and best use

19 and streamline pathways to

20 preservation. That means the

21 Philadelphia Land Bank must be

22 fully funded for green space

23 acquisition and held accountable.

24 In addition, we need more

25 resources so gardens and farms have

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 the infrastructure they need to
3 grow bumper crops of fruits and
4 vegetables for our neighbors. We
5 also need funding to purchase
6 gardens acquired by real estate
7 speculators so that we don't lose
8 them. In conclusion, thanks for
9 the opportunity to speak and I look
10 forward to participating in the
11 urban agriculture hearing next
12 month.

13 (Applause.)

14 CHIEF CLERK: Queen Judith
15 Robinson, Stephanie Haynes. Then
16 Kate Perez.

17 MS. HAYNES: Hi. Thank you
18 so much. I just wanted to quickly
19 say thank you to City Council.
20 Thank you to Councilmember Rue
21 Landau. I'm so proud of you
22 sitting there. Also, thanks to the
23 supporters who came to testify
24 today. And Michael shouted out
25 Sandra, but I also just wanted to

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 thank Sandra for taking over the
3 reins of the organization. And
4 then last, just to say hi to my mom
5 who's watching the live stream.

6 (Applause.)

7 CHIEF CLERK: Kate Perez,
8 Bonita Williams and Kay Schipper
9 also make their way to the podium.

10 MS. PEREZ: I come in
11 support of Resolution 240309.
12 First, I'd like to say happy
13 birthday to Mumia Abu-Jamal, who
14 turned 70 yesterday. A French
15 delegation handed petitions to RDA
16 in Shapiro's office to call for his
17 immediate release. We can't wait
18 to see Mumia free.

19 Now, while we might support
20 the Biden Administration's
21 initiative to close this gun show
22 loophole, Biden has permanently
23 lost the support of millions of
24 voters. Just this past Tuesday,
25 Pennsylvania had a historic number

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 of write-in ballots with over
3 57,951 people statewide voting
4 uncommitted with more to be
5 counted, thousands of people who
6 are refusing to be complicit in and
7 vote for genocide.

8 This closing of the gun
9 show loophole was issued under a
10 provision of the 2022 Safer
11 Communities Act, a rule that
12 followed the tragic Uvalde
13 shooting, where the Texas
14 Department of Safety responded to
15 the Robb Elementary shooting on May
16 24, 2022.

17 91 DPS personnel were at
18 the school where law enforcement
19 waited over an hour before
20 breaching the classroom where the
21 gunman was. 19 children and two
22 teachers were killed. Violence
23 against students is especially
24 horrifying and we should be doing
25 everything we can to prevent it in

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 all its forms. This includes
3 banning guns and stopping the
4 selling of bombs that have already
5 dropped on every university and
6 hundreds of schools and
7 kindergartens in Palestine.

8 We should support the
9 students of Penn University and
10 Swarthmore for their rights to
11 protest free speech and for
12 refusing to move until we have a
13 complete divestment from all
14 companies that are complicit in the
15 violent colonization of Palestine.
16 In response, our universities are
17 staunchly defending their right to
18 profit from genocide and keep their
19 community safe by inviting the
20 National Guard to pepper spray and
21 arrest their students.

22 This loophole was created
23 in 2022 but won't be signed until
24 2024 showing how slowly things move
25 unless it's weapon sales or

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 strangling free speech by banning

3 TikTok. All eyes on Rafah.

4 (Applause.)

5 CHIEF CLERK: Bonita

6 Williams, Kaye Schipper and Helen

7 Bradley.

8 (Witnesses approached

9 podium.)

10 MS. WILLIAMS: Good

11 morning, Council President Johnson,

12 Councilwoman Lozada and Councilman

13 Isaiah Thomas and members of City

14 Council. My name is Bonita

15 Williams and I am the Executive

16 Director of the Philadelphia

17 Children's Alliance. Thank you for

18 having my colleagues and myself

19 here today to accept this

20 resolution on behalf of the

21 Philadelphia Children's Alliance.

22 Child sexual abuse is a

23 widespread and underreported

24 problem, the kind of abuse that

25 occurs to all kinds of children, in

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 all of our neighborhoods, in all
3 socioeconomic levels. Each year
4 hundreds of thousands of children
5 in our area are sexually abused.

6 Let me give you some alarming
7 statistics. 1 in 4 girls and 1 in
8 13 boys will experience child
9 sexual abuse.

10 60 percent of child sexual
11 abuse victims will never disclose
12 their abuse. 90 percent of child
13 abuse victims are abused by someone
14 they know. And in half those
15 cases, it's a family member.
16 Although teaching kids about
17 strangers is important, we need to
18 teach our children about the uncle
19 that the entire family knows has
20 issues. We also need to teach them
21 about the neighbor that eagerly
22 wants to watch your children after
23 school.

24 Philadelphia Children's
25 Alliance is a nonprofit

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 organization that has been serving
3 children in the Philadelphia area
4 for over 35 years. We are the only
5 accredited child advocacy center in
6 our City. Our specially-trained
7 staff perform forensic interviews
8 and provide trauma therapy. Our
9 victim advocates provide step-by-
10 step support to the entire family
11 for the duration of each case,
12 which in some cases could include
13 years.

14 We provide support to
15 children that have been
16 commercially sex trafficked and
17 children who have witnessed
18 domestic violence. We offer court
19 support, a caregiver support
20 program for non-offending parents
21 at no cost to children and their
22 families. We thank you again for
23 this proclamation for April Child
24 Abuse Prevention Month, and special
25 thanks to Councilwoman Lozada and

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Councilman Isaiah Thomas. Thank
3 you.

4 (Applause.)

5 CHIEF CLERK: Kaye

6 Schipper, Helen Bradley, Amy Leech
7 and Dan Urevick-Ackelsberg. Please
8 make your way to the podium. We
9 have Kaye Schipper, Helen Bradley,
10 Amy Leech, Dan Urevick-Ackelsberg,
11 Jeremy Blatstein and Lynn Landes.

12 (Witnesses approached
13 podium.)

14 MR. UREVICK-ACKELSBERG:

15 Good morning. My name is Dan
16 Urevick-Ackelsberg. I am a senior
17 attorney at the Public Interest Law
18 Center. In that capacity I was
19 part of the legal team that brought
20 and won the school funding lawsuit
21 that will hopefully benefit all the
22 students of the School District of
23 Philadelphia District schools and
24 Charter students alike.

25 In that capacity, I am here

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 to urge you to support the Mayor's
3 nominees to the School Board. That
4 includes Reginald Streater who is
5 before you today and Joyce
6 Wilkerson who should be. The
7 School District has come a long way
8 in the last 10 years. In part,
9 that is because of this body,
10 right.

11 For those of us who
12 remember where we were in 2013 and
13 2014, those were dark times in the
14 School District. We have a moment
15 in front of us. It is important
16 that we build on it, that we seize
17 the moment for real progress for
18 the District and protect against
19 anything that will take us
20 backwards. The School District of
21 Philadelphia was long not a good
22 partner in the fight for fair
23 funding, but that has changed in
24 recent years.

25 Dr. Hite and Uri Monson

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 testified at trial, right. They
3 testified because Joyce Wilkerson
4 decided that that was a priority of
5 the District and she made that
6 happen. Reginald Streater has been
7 leading advocacy efforts to get
8 Philadelphia children, District and
9 Charter alike, the resources that
10 they deserve after the decision.

11 I know that there is
12 inevitable push and pull between
13 Charter schools and the Board that
14 must authorize them. But to serve
15 Charter school students, we must
16 have oversight for Charter Schools
17 themselves. That's how we protect
18 our kids. I urge you to confirm
19 these nominees and let's build the
20 education that all our children
21 deserve. Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23 CHIEF CLERK: Jeremy
24 Blatstein. Lynn Landes, then
25 Horace Clouden.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 MR. BLATSTEIN: Hello, City
3 Council. My name is Jeremy
4 Blatstein. I'm talking about Bill
5 No. -- wow, what number is it? I
6 lost it. Sorry about that.

7 CHIEF CLERK: 240 --

8 MR. BLATSTEIN: 240321. An
9 appeal for an ADU over a garage,
10 that is what you are authorizing
11 O'Neill to sue. This is the same
12 thing that we've talked about in
13 the past about allowing City
14 Council to appeal a ZBA ruling. It
15 doesn't really make sense. It's
16 literally an add-on to a garage
17 outside of a house.

18 So if we're talking about
19 housing and we're talking about
20 green space, we need density.
21 That's the trade-off. And if we're
22 going to allow City Council to use
23 government dollars, tax pay dollars
24 to appeal, then you are going
25 against everything you also are

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 saying about affordable housing.

3 So as you move forward, I
4 would challenge each and every one
5 of you to really look at where the
6 density is going to come from if we
7 also are going to be saying that
8 green space is important. Because
9 if you just say I want affordable
10 housing but at the same time you're
11 saying I care about green space,
12 it's not going to lead to more
13 affordable housing because you're
14 not allowing there to be density.

15 So as we move forward, I
16 just would challenge each and every
17 one of you to really look at how
18 you can add density and housing in
19 your Districts along with how do
20 the At-large members contribute to
21 housing in Philadelphia, because
22 right now that At-large people kind
23 of say, oh, it's not my thing
24 because of this thing called
25 Councilmanic prerogative, you know,

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 my favorite little term. But I
3 just would really like to see
4 housing be a priority along with
5 streamlining the Land Bank process
6 so that we don't continue to get
7 ourselves in this position to
8 choose between housing and green
9 space. Thank you.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Lynn Landes,
11 Horace Clouden, Leah Clouden and
12 Gail Clouden. Please make your way
13 to the podium.

14 (Witnesses approached
15 podium.)

16 MS. LANDES: Good morning.
17 I'm Lynn Landes, publisher of
18 Protocols for Democracy. Regarding
19 the resolution confirming
20 appointments to the School Board,
21 it seems more appropriate and
22 democratic for Philadelphia
23 citizens to be voting for school
24 members to represent them like most
25 other school districts do.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 That said, today's
3 appointing appointees will face
4 some daunting challenges. To
5 include recent changes in Title 9,
6 which appear to require the
7 admittance into girls sports and
8 girls locker rooms, biological boys
9 who identify as girls. This defies
10 commonsense and logic, as it
11 defeats the original purpose of
12 Title 9 which was to give girls an
13 equal but separate opportunity to
14 participate in sports in a safe
15 manner.

16 There is no denying the
17 scientific fact that after a
18 certain age boys have a
19 considerable physical advantage
20 over girls. To pit them against
21 each other in athletic competition
22 put girls at serious disadvantage
23 as well as risk of serious physical
24 injury. In addition to that
25 controversial issue, the School

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 Board should make it clear to
3 parents that in order to attend
4 school, their children are not
5 required by state or City laws to
6 get vaccines, none of which have
7 been tested for their potential to
8 cause cancer, damage DNA or impair
9 fertility which is printed in
10 Section 13 of every manufacturer's
11 product insert and is also
12 published on the FDA website.

13 In addition, it appears
14 that the School Board may face
15 another health crisis as government
16 health agencies, medical
17 institutions and big pharma are
18 issuing warnings about a bird flu
19 or ex-pandemic. Since those same
20 entities got nearly everything
21 wrong about the COVID pandemic,
22 hopefully the next time School
23 Board members will not blindly
24 follow the Board of Health who
25 blindly follows federal health

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 agencies. Thank you very much.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Horace

4 Clouden, Leah Clouden, Gail Clouden
5 and Ogbonna Hagins.

6 MR. CLOUDEN: Good morning,
7 City Council. My name is Horace
8 Clouden. Bill 240254 to '262 I'm
9 opposing because you don't have any
10 true community people on the Board.
11 I have applied for the Board. I've
12 been a community person who has
13 been involved in School Board
14 matters for years.

15 As a member of the Parent
16 Community Advisory Council to the
17 Board where 50 percent of the
18 Council has fallen to the wayside,
19 I stayed. I was the individual who
20 had the Board focused on student
21 achievement and teacher attendance
22 whereas you have monthly updates on
23 both at School Board meetings.

24 Last Friday you saw a
25 display of defending a failing

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 School District along with new
3 members eager to join in with
4 support. Many of the Council's
5 concerns were equity and education,
6 Driver's Ed., CTE high school or
7 comprehensive high school, facility
8 master plan pulls 13 middle-grade
9 sports, six forms of the arts, K to
10 8 a failing model. Junior High
11 School, 7th, 8th and 9th
12 overcrowding and underutilized
13 buildings. Again, I have spoken on
14 all of these matters at School
15 Board meetings and Goals and
16 Guardrail meetings and have given
17 solid solutions.

18 Right now you have the
19 opportunity to change the direction
20 with whom you put on the Board.
21 I'm asking you to put me on the
22 Board to make a difference. I am
23 up-to-date with the issues. Right
24 now the School Board buildings have
25 went from assisting in 10 percent

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 of learning to 50 percent of
3 mismanagement.

4 The community voice needs a
5 seat at the table, not just two
6 minutes or written testimony.

7 There were 21 high schools out of
8 52 that had 0 percent in student
9 achievement performance 2021-2022.

10 With the new SPREE report, the
11 District has hidden that reference.

12 I do challenge the Superintendent
13 at School Board meetings. I know
14 that you were displeased with
15 Friday's account of what was going
16 on.

17 Don't just pass this
18 through, stand up, make a
19 difference, oppose this. Have the
20 Mayor re-assess the appointees and
21 come up with a better nine people.
22 Thank you.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Leah Clouden,
24 Gail Clouden and Ogbonna Hagins.

25 (No response.)

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 CHIEF CLERK: Symbol Lai.

3 Lisa Haver and Victor Young.

4 (Witnesses approached
5 podium.)

6 MR. HAGINS: My name is
7 Ogbonna Hagins and I'm a fourth
8 generation chattel slavery
9 survivor. April being established
10 as Philadelphia History's Month is
11 great. Hopefully you will include
12 in this yearly celebration some
13 recent history as well as his
14 history from the distant past.

15 I'm reminded of the
16 history-making event, the first
17 time in recorded history in
18 Philadelphia an Eid celebration was
19 shot up. Even in the times of
20 Prophet Muhammad nobody shot up an
21 Eid celebration. Whoever the
22 muslim community members,
23 councilmembers are, just know that
24 you presided over the first time
25 that an Eid celebration was shot

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 up.

3 I want you to remember and
4 be reminded and celebrate the fact
5 that I introduced historic
6 legislation to eradicate structural
7 racism and I want to remind you
8 that the descendants of slavery in
9 this body didn't even stand up for
10 it. But if I was talking about
11 anti-Semitism and there were Jewish
12 members in here, you could be rest
13 assured they would stand up against
14 anti-Semitism.

15 So what I'm saying is this,
16 have this April celebration but
17 remember the tragedies that this
18 Council is responsible for.
19 Remember that your study said that
20 the root cause of gun violence is
21 structural racism and the solution
22 is large scale investments in the
23 areas that have been decimated by
24 crime, violence and unemployment.

25 If you refuse to address

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 structural racism again, it's the
3 equivalent of a Holocaust survivor
4 not addressing the Holocaust, not
5 addressing anti-Semitism. So
6 again, you're on the clock. The
7 structural racism bill is still
8 there. And furthermore, let it be
9 noted in this history-making event
10 that Council President said that he
11 would do me a favor and read my
12 bill, not do his job and represent
13 his constituent.

14 You can't do me a favor
15 when you go and ask for suggestions
16 from the community and the
17 community gives you suggestions.
18 And you just say, I'm going to do
19 you a favor. I'm your constituent
20 in the 2nd District, and I expect
21 you to read it and get back to your
22 constituents because you work for
23 me. I don't work for you. Ogbonna
24 Hagins, fourth generation chattel
25 slavery survivor. Over and out.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 (Applause.)

3 CHIEF CLERK: Symbol Lai,
4 Lisa Haver and Victor Young.

5 MS. LAI: Hi. Good
6 morning, City Council. My name is
7 Symbol Lai. I'm here for Children
8 First. I'm here to testify in
9 support of Mayor Parker's full
10 slate of School Board nominees.
11 And I'm also here to testify in
12 support of Joyce Wilkerson, whose
13 nomination is being held.
14 Ms. Wilkerson provides invaluable
15 institutional knowledge to a new
16 School Board comprised of many new
17 faces who have never served the
18 District in this capacity before.
19 She has served in the
20 District in a Board capacity since
21 2015 and has helped steer the
22 district from severe budget cuts,
23 dire fiscal straits to fiscal
24 stability.

25 So you know that Children

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 First has been here every week

3 since March asking you to increase

4 local investment in the School

5 District by raising the share of

6 property taxes going to the School

7 District from 55 percent to 58

8 percent. Just for a point of

9 reference, we expect that to be

10 about 100 million of local

11 recurring revenue every year.

12 One of the main concerns

13 Councilmembers shared is that you

14 wanted to know that the District

15 would be a good steward of this

16 money. And, Council President

17 Johnson, when I testified on March

18 27th, you said that you wanted to

19 make sure that every dollar given

20 to the School District goes to the

21 benefit of Philly students and

22 Children First agreed, I agreed

23 with that statement.

24 So one way to ensure that

25 happens is by appointing Joyce

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 Wilkerson. She knows how to
3 weather storms and knows how to
4 turn the District's physical
5 situation around. Without
6 Ms. Wilkerson's experience, we'll
7 have a School Board where the
8 longest serving member only has 2
9 years of experience. Ensuring good
10 fiscal stewardship becomes that
11 much harder when with a Board
12 that's comprised of largely new
13 folks.

14 We want Council to invest
15 more in the School District in this
16 year's budget and we want the
17 District to do what Council wants,
18 which is to maximize all its money
19 to the benefit of kids. And that's
20 why I'm urging City Council to
21 support Mayor Parker's full slate
22 of School Board nominations,
23 including Joyce Wilkerson. Thank
24 you.

25 (Applause.)

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 CHIEF CLERK: Lisa Haver.

3 MS. HAVER: Thank you and

4 good morning. My name is Lisa

5 Haver. I'm a member of the

6 Alliance for Philadelphia Public

7 Schools. We're a grassroots

8 organization of volunteers.

9 Members of APPS have also attended

10 meetings of the SRC and the Board

11 of Education, but we are actually

12 urging you to confirm all nine of

13 the Mayor's nominees.

14 We have criticized the

15 Board. We have criticized Joyce

16 Wilkerson. We have sued them in

17 court, but when Mayor Cherelle

18 Parker included Ms. Wilkerson in

19 her nominees for School Board, I

20 thought that was a good move.

21 Joyce Wilkerson has kept the best

22 interests of the children, children

23 in all schools as her guide. When

24 over half of the District's Charter

25 schools are underenrolled, some

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 very significantly, it can only be
3 seen as fiscally irresponsible to
4 start approving more Charter
5 schools.

6 In truth though, this is
7 not about any one Board member
8 because votes on all issues
9 including Charter renewals,
10 non-renewals, new Charter
11 applications have been unanimous in
12 many cases and in some, a vote of 7
13 to 2. Scapegoating one of the
14 Mayor's nominees is really not
15 about the best interest of the
16 children or the City. It's a show
17 of strength by those who want to
18 push for free-market approaches to
19 public education, many of whom are
20 funded by billionaires including
21 Jeff Yass, who does not live in the
22 City. We are urging the Board to
23 approve all of the Mayor's
24 nominees. Thank you.

25 (Applause.)

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 CHIEF CLERK: Victor Young.

3 MR. YOUNG: Good morning.

4 My name is Victor Young and I --

5 thank you. All right. Good

6 morning, Council President and

7 Councilmembers. My name is Victor

8 Young and I'm not here to represent

9 NGT. I started to write some

10 things down, but I said, you know,

11 my heart will speak better than me

12 putting something on paper.

13 I'm here as a guard -- I'm

14 in support of Councilwoman Brooks'

15 resolution for Urban Act. Now, I

16 heard a lot of good things spoken

17 today. We are stewards of the

18 land. And without the trees, the

19 birds and all these other things,

20 none of this other stuff exist,

21 none of it exist. As you know in

22 your Districts, we have gardens.

23 Well, I have a garden in

24 West Philadelphia thanks to

25 Councilman Jones and his help. We

1 04/25/24 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 took a vacant lot full of trash, if
3 you step out there today, you have
4 fruit trees, you have benches, you
5 have people gathering there. We
6 have people in a in a desert. It's
7 a food desert because the nearest
8 supermarket is at least a mile away
9 from some of these people and they
10 don't have food.

11 They can come by our garden
12 and be fed. It's important that we
13 be stewards of the land. So I'm in
14 great support of Councilwoman
15 Brooks' resolution. Not just make
16 it a resolution, let's go even
17 further, okay, and you know what
18 I'm saying. Don't let it be a
19 resolution. Let it be something
20 that's viable.

21 I was here in 2015 with
22 this same problem, and here we are
23 today. Land Bank pops in, you
24 can't inhale concrete. You can't
25 eat steel, so that's my words for

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 you.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

4 Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 CHIEF CLERK: Council

7 President, there are no other names
8 for public comment.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

10 We will now consider the
11 resolutions on the Second Reading
12 and Final Passage Calendar.

13 Will the Clerk please read
14 the title of Resolution No. 240254.

15 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
16 introduced by Councilmember Thomas
17 for Council President Johnson.

18 Resolution confirming the
19 appointment of Crystal Cubbage to
20 the Board of Education of the
21 School District of Philadelphia.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

23 The Chair recognizes Councilmember
24 Thomas for a motion regarding
25 Resolution No. 240254.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Thank
3 you, Council President.

4 I do want to take a moment
5 to say thank you to all of the
6 folks as it relates to the level of
7 engagement around this particular
8 process, and also thank my
9 colleagues for being laser-sharp
10 focused on our children and those
11 who work with our children on a
12 consistent basis. So thank you
13 everybody.

14 With that being said,
15 Council President, on your behalf I
16 move for the adoption of the
17 resolution.

18 (Duly seconded.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
20 It has been moved and properly
21 seconded that Resolution No. 240254
22 be adopted.

23 All those in favor of the
24 motion will signify by saying aye.

25 (Aye.)

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

3 Those opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

6 The ayes have it. The motion

7 carries and the resolution is

8 adopted.

9 Will the Clerk please read
10 the title of Resolution No. 240255.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Resolution
12 confirming the reappointment of
13 Sarah Ashley Andrews to the Board
14 of Education of the School District
15 of Philadelphia.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
17 The Chair recognizes Councilmember
18 Thomas for a motion regarding
19 Resolution No. 240255.

20 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Thank
21 you, Council President.

22 On your behalf, I move for
23 the adoption of the resolution.

24 (Duly seconded.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 It has been moved and properly
3 seconded that Resolution No. 240255
4 be adopted.

5 All those in favor of the
6 motion will signify by saying aye.

7 (Aye.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

9 Those opposed?

10 (No response.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

12 The ayes have it. The motion
13 carries and the resolution is
14 adopted.

15 The Clerk will please read
16 the title of Resolution No. 240256.

17 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
18 confirming the appointment of Joan
19 Stern to the Board of Education of
20 the School District of
21 Philadelphia.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

23 The Chair recognizes Councilmember
24 Thomas for a motion regarding
25 Resolution No. 240256.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Thank
3 you, Mr. President.

4 On your behalf, I move for
5 the adoption of the resolution.

6 (Duly seconded.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

8 It has been moved and properly
9 seconded that Resolution No. 240256
10 be adopted.

11 All those in favor of the
12 motion will signify by saying aye.

13 (Aye.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

15 Those opposed?

16 (No response.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

18 The ayes have it. The motion
19 carries and the resolution is
20 adopted.

21 Will the Clerk please read
22 the title of Resolution No. 240257.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Resolution
24 confirming the re-appointment of
25 Reginald Streater to the Board of

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 Education of the School District of
3 Philadelphia.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
5 The Chair recognizes Councilmember
6 Thomas.

7 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Thank
8 you, Council President.

9 On your behalf, I move for
10 the adoption of the resolution.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
13 And that's Resolution No. 240257.
14 It has been moved and properly
15 seconded that Resolution No. 240257
16 be adopted.

17 All those in favor of the
18 motion will signify by saying aye.

19 (Aye.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
21 Those opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
24 The ayes have it and the motion
25 carries. The resolution is

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 adopted.

3 Will the Clerk please read
4 the title of Resolution No. 240258.

5 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
6 confirming the appointment of Wanda
7 Novales to the Board of Education
8 of the School District of
9 Philadelphia.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
11 The Chair recognizes Councilmember
12 Thomas for a motion regarding
13 Resolution No. 240258.

14 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Thank
15 you, Council President.

16 On your behalf, I move for
17 the adoption of the resolution.

18 (Duly seconded.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
20 It has been moved and properly
21 seconded that Resolution No. 240258
22 be adopted.

23 All those in favor will
24 signify by saying aye.

25 (Aye.)

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

3 Those opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

6 The ayes have it. The motion

7 carries. The resolution is

8 adopted.

9 Will the Clerk please read
10 the title of Resolution No. 240259.

11 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
12 confirming the appointment of
13 Whitney Jones to the Board of
14 Education of the School District of
15 Philadelphia.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
17 The Chair recognizes Councilmember
18 Thomas for a motion regarding
19 Resolution No. 240259.

20 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Thank
21 you, Council President.

22 On your behalf, I move for
23 the adoption of the resolution.

24 (Duly seconded.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 It has been moved and properly
3 seconded that Resolution No. 240259
4 be adopted.

5 All those in favor of the
6 motion will signify by saying aye.

7 (Aye.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

9 Those opposed?

10 (No response.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

12 The ayes have it. The motion
13 carries and the resolution is
14 adopted.

15 Will the Clerk please read
16 the title of Resolution No. 240260.

17 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
18 confirming the re-appointment of
19 Chau Wing Laum to the Board of
20 Education of the School District of
21 Philadelphia.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

23 The Chair recognizes Councilmember
24 Thomas for a motion regarding
25 Resolution No. 240260.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Thank
3 you, Mr. President.

4 On your behalf, I move for
5 the adoption of the resolution.

6 (Duly seconded.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

8 It has been moved and properly
9 seconded that Resolution No. 240260
10 be adopted.

11 All those in favor of the
12 motion will signify by saying aye.

13 (Aye.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

15 Those opposed?

16 (No response.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

18 The ayes have it. The motion
19 carries and the resolution is
20 adopted.

21 Will the Clerk please read
22 the title of Resolution No. 240262.

23 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
24 confirming the appointment of
25 Cheryl Harper to the Board of

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Education of the School District of
3 Philadelphia.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
5 The Chair recognizes Councilmember
6 Thomas for a motion regarding
7 Resolution No. 240262.

8 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Thank
9 you, Council President.

10 Again on your behalf, I
11 move for the adoption of the
12 resolution.

13 (Duly seconded.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
15 It has been moved and properly
16 seconded that Resolution No. 240262
17 be adopted.

18 All those in favor of the
19 motion will signify by saying aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
22 Those opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
25 The ayes have it. The motion

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 carries and the resolution is

3 adopted.

4 Will the Clerk please read
5 the title of Resolution No. 240306.

6 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
7 establishing the month of April as
8 Philadelphia Histories Month in the
9 City of Philadelphia commencing in
10 2025 and continuing annually
11 thereafter.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
13 The Chair recognizes Councilmember
14 Gilmore Richardson for a motion
15 regarding Resolution No. 240306.

16 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

17 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
18 Mr. President.

19 On your behalf, I move the
20 adoption of the resolution.

21 (Duly seconded.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
23 It has been moved and properly
24 seconded that Resolution No. 240306
25 be adopted.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 All those in favor of the
3 motion will signify by saying aye.

4 (Aye.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

6 Those opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

9 The ayes have it. The motion
10 carries and the resolution is
11 adopted.

12 Will the Clerk please read
13 the title of Resolution No. 240308.

14 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
15 calling on the Pennsylvania State
16 Senate to pass House Bill 1130 to
17 create the Safer Communities Grant
18 program, which will make
19 Philadelphia safer by providing
20 funding for lighting and security
21 cameras around schools,
22 playgrounds, community centers and
23 other high-crime areas.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

25 The Chair recognizes Councilmember

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Jones for a motion regarding

3 Resolution No. 240308.

4 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank
5 you, Mr. President.

6 In support of
7 Representative Roni Green, I move
8 for the adoption.

9 (Duly seconded.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
11 It has been moved and properly
12 seconded that Resolution No. 240308
13 be adopted.

14 All those in favor of the
15 motion will signify by saying aye.

16 (Aye.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
18 Those opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
21 The ayes have it. The motion
22 carries and the resolution is
23 adopted.

24 Will the Clerk please read
25 the title of Resolution No. 240309.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
3 supporting Biden Administration's
4 finalized rule that aims to expand
5 certain background check
6 requirements for firearm purchases
7 and close the "gun-show loophole."

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
9 The Chair recognizes Councilmember
10 Jones for a motion regarding
11 Resolution No. 240309.

12 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank
13 you, Mr. President.

14 In memory of our trip up to
15 Oaks, Pa with former President
16 Clarke, I move for the adoption.

17 (Duly seconded.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
19 It has been moved and properly
20 seconded that Resolution No. 240309
21 be adopted.

22 All those in favor of the
23 motion will signify by saying aye.

24 (Aye.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Those opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

5 The ayes have it. The motion
6 carries and the resolution is
7 adopted.

8 Will the Clerk please read
9 the title of Resolution No. 240318.

10 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
11 proclaiming May 2024 as Dual Asian
12 American Pacific Islander and
13 Jewish American Heritage Month in
14 Philadelphia to pay tribute to the
15 rich history and significant
16 contributions made by generations
17 of Asian Americans and Pacific
18 Islanders and Jewish Americans to
19 our country, Commonwealth and City.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
21 The Chair recognizes Councilmember
22 Driscoll for a motion regarding
23 Resolution No. 240318.

24 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: I
25 move for the adoption of the

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 resolution.

3 (Duly seconded.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

5 It has been moved and properly

6 seconded that Resolution No. 240318

7 be adopted.

8 All those in favor of the

9 motion will signify by saying aye.

10 (Aye.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

12 Those opposed?

13 (No response.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

15 The ayes have it and the motion

16 carries. The resolution is

17 adopted.

18 Will the Clerk please read

19 the title of Resolution No. 240321.

20 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution

21 authorizing and ratifying

22 Councilmember O'Neill's appeal on

23 behalf of and as representative of

24 City Council of the decision of the

25 Zoning Board of Adjustment with

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 respect to 4100 Orchard Lane.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

4 The Chair recognizes Councilmember

5 O'Neill for a motion regarding

6 Resolution No. 240321.

7 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Thank

8 you, Mr. President.

9 I move for the adoption of
10 the resolution.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

13 It has been moved and properly

14 seconded that Resolution No. 240321

15 be adopted.

16 All those in favor of the
17 motion will signify by saying aye.

18 (Aye.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

20 Those opposed?

21 (No response.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

23 The ayes have it. The motion

24 carries and the resolution is

25 adopted.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Will the Clerk please read
3 the title of Resolution No. 240322.

4 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
5 authorizing the Philadelphia
6 Redevelopment Authority to execute
7 and deliver to the Philadelphia
8 Land Bank deeds conveying title to
9 various properties located in the
10 8th Councilmanic District,
11 including on the following streets:
12 West Manheim Street, East Wister
13 Street, East Garfield Street,
14 Collum Street, Lakemore Street,
15 Vernon Road, Lena Street,
16 Germantown Avenue and Church Lane,
17 pursuant to the requirements of the
18 Commonwealth Land Bank Act.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
20 The Chair recognizes Councilmember
21 Bass for a motion regarding
22 Resolution No. 240322.

23 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Thank
24 you, Mr. President.

25 I move for the adoption of

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 the resolution.

3 (Duly seconded.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

5 It has been moved and properly

6 seconded that Resolution No. 240322

7 be adopted.

8 All those in favor of the

9 motion will signify by saying aye.

10 (Aye.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

12 Those opposed?

13 (No response.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

15 The ayes have it. The motion

16 carries and the resolution is

17 adopted.

18 We will now have the

19 consideration of privileged

20 resolutions. Will the Clerk please

21 read any additional resolutions on

22 today's Final Passage Calendar.

23 CHIEF CLERK: A privileged

24 resolution introduced by

25 Councilmember Gauthier honoring and

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 recognizing Edward "Lee" Morgan
3 whose soulful melodies and blazing
4 improvisations continue to inspire
5 musicians and bring joy to his
6 legions of fans worldwide.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
8 The Chair recognizes Councilman
9 Jamie Gauthier for a motion on the
10 resolution.

11 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:
12 Thank you, Council President.
13 I move for the adoption of
14 the resolution.

15 (Duly seconded.)

16 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: It
17 has been moved and properly
18 seconded that the resolution be
19 adopted.

20 All those in favor will
21 signify by saying aye.

22 (Aye.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
24 Those opposed?

25 (No response.)

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

3 The ayes have it and the resolution
4 is adopted.

5 Will the Clerk please read
6 the next resolution.

7 CHIEF CLERK: A privileged
8 resolution introduced by
9 Councilmember Thomas recognizing
10 and congratulating the Champion of
11 the Week, Buddy Martinez of Timoteo
12 Sports, which utilizes athletics to
13 engage with and mentor young people
14 in the City of Philadelphia.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
16 The Chair recognizes Councilmember
17 Thomas for a motion on a
18 resolution.

19 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Thank
20 you, Council President.

21 I move for the adoption.
22 (Duly seconded.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
24 It has been moved and properly
25 seconded that the resolution be

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 adopted.

3 All those in favor will

4 signify by saying aye.

5 (Aye.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

7 Those opposed?

8 (No response.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

10 The ayes have it and the resolution

11 is adopted.

12 Will the Clerk please read

13 the title of the next resolution.

14 CHIEF CLERK: A privileged

15 resolution introduced by

16 Councilmember Jones honoring

17 Cynthia Kishinchand as Champion of

18 Urban Greening and Community

19 Empowerment for her leadership of

20 the East Falls Tree Tenders.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

22 The Chair recognizes Councilmember

23 Jones for a motion on the

24 resolution.

25 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 you, Mr. President.

3 I move for the adoption.

4 (Duly seconded.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

6 It has been moved and properly
7 seconded that the resolution be
8 adopted.

9 All those in favor will
10 signify by saying aye.

11 (Aye.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

13 Those opposed?

14 (No response.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

16 The ayes have it and the resolution
17 is adopted.

18 Will the Clerk please read
19 the title of the next resolution.

20 CHIEF CLERK: A privileged
21 resolution honoring and celebrating
22 the meaningful work conducted by
23 the Friends of Wissahickon as well
24 as for their 100 years of service
25 to the City of Philadelphia, the

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Wissahickon Valley Park and the
3 surrounding areas introduced by
4 Councilmember Jones.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
6 The Chair recognizes Councilmember
7 Jones for a motion on the
8 resolution.

9 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank
10 you, Mr. President.

11 Cleaner, greener, safer, I
12 move for the adoption.

13 (Duly seconded.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
15 It has been moved and properly
16 seconded that the resolution be
17 adopted.

18 All those in favor will
19 signify by saying aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
22 Those opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
25 The ayes have it and the resolution

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 is adopted.

3 Will the Clerk please read
4 the title of the next resolution.

5 CHIEF CLERK: A privileged
6 resolution introduced by
7 Councilmember Landau recognizing
8 and honoring Stephanie Haynes for
9 her impact as Executive Director of
10 Philadelphia Family Pride.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
12 The Chair recognizes Councilmember
13 Rue Landau for a motion on the
14 resolution.

15 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU: Thank
16 you, Council President.

17 I move for the adoption of
18 the resolution.

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
21 It has been moved and properly
22 seconded that the resolution be
23 adopted.

24 All those in favor will
25 signify by saying aye.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 (Aye.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

4 Those opposed?

5 (No response.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

7 The ayes have it and the resolution
8 is adopted.

9 Would the Clerk please read
10 the title of the next resolution.

11 CHIEF CLERK: A privileged
12 resolution introduced by
13 Councilmember Lozada, recognizing
14 and honoring the Philadelphia
15 Children's Alliance and the
16 Philadelphia Department of Human
17 Services for their collaborative
18 commitment to bring healing and
19 justice to victims of child abuse
20 in Philadelphia and declaring April
21 2024 to be Child Abuse Prevention
22 Month in the City of Philadelphia.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

24 The Chair recognizes Councilmember
25 Lozada for a motion on a

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 resolution.

3 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Thank
4 you, Council President.

5 I move for the adoption.

6 (Duly seconded.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

8 It has been moved and properly
9 seconded that the resolution be
10 adopted.

11 All those in favor will
12 signify by saying aye.

13 (Aye.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

15 Those opposed?

16 (No response.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

18 The ayes have it and the resolution
19 is adopted.

20 Will the Clerk please read
21 the next resolution.

22 CHIEF CLERK: A privileged
23 resolution introduced by
24 Councilmember Brooks authorizing
25 the Committee on the Environment to

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 hold hearings to examine the
3 progress made since introduction of
4 the Philadelphia Urban Agricultural
5 Plan to convene agencies and
6 stakeholders needed to make further
7 progress and to create an
8 implementation strategy to
9 expeditiously meet the goals of the
10 plan.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
12 The Chair recognizes Councilmember
13 Brooks for a motion on the
14 resolution.

15 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Thank
16 you, Council President.

17 I move for the adoption of
18 the resolution.

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
21 It has been moved and properly
22 seconded that the resolution be
23 adopted.

24 All those in favor will
25 signify by saying aye.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 (Aye.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

4 Those opposed?

5 (No response.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

7 The ayes have it and the resolution
8 is adopted.

9 Would the Clerk please read
10 the title of the next resolution.

11 CHIEF CLERK: A privileged
12 resolution introduced by
13 Councilmember Brooks honoring and
14 expressing the gratitude to Philly
15 Black Pride for its ongoing work to
16 center and support underserved
17 Black and Brown folks in the LGBTQ+
18 community and recognizing Thursday,
19 April 25th through Sunday, April
20 28th as Philly Black Pride Weekend
21 in the City of Philadelphia.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

23 The Chair recognizes Councilmember
24 Brooks for a motion on the
25 resolution.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Thank
3 you, Council President.

4 I move for the adoption of
5 the resolution.

6 (Duly seconded.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

8 It has been moved and properly
9 seconded that the resolution be
10 adopted.

11 All those in favor will
12 signify by saying aye.

13 (Aye.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

15 Those opposed?

16 (No response.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

18 The ayes have it and the resolution
19 is adopted.

20 Will the Clerk please read
21 the title of the next resolution.

22 CHIEF CLERK: A privileged
23 resolution introduced by
24 Councilmember Squilla honoring and
25 congratulating Settlement Music

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 School on its 116th Anniversary and
3 recognizing and commending its
4 directors, officers, faculty, staff
5 and students, both past and present
6 for, making Settlement Music School
7 an institution known worldwide for
8 its excellence.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
10 The Chair recognizes Councilmember
11 Squilla for a motion on the
12 resolution.

13 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank
14 you, Mr. President.

15 I move for the adoption of
16 the resolution.

17 (Duly seconded.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
19 It has been moved and properly
20 seconded that the resolution be
21 adopted.

22 All those in favor will
23 signify by saying aye.

24 (Aye.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Those opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

5 The ayes have it and the resolution
6 is adopted.

7 Will the Clerk please read
8 the title of the next resolution.

9 CHIEF CLERK: A privileged
10 resolution introduced by
11 Councilmember Ahmad honoring the
12 founding of Sigma Pi Phi
13 Fraternity, Inc. on the occasion of
14 its 120th Anniversary.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
16 The Chair recognizes Councilmember
17 Nina Ahmad for a motion on the
18 resolution.

19 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD: Thank
20 you, Council President.

21 I move for the adoption of
22 this resolution.

23 (Duly seconded.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

25 It has been moved and properly

1 04/25/24 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 seconded that the resolution be
3 adopted.

4 All those in favor will
5 signify by saying aye.

6 (Aye.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

8 Those opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

11 The ayes have it and the resolution
12 is adopted.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Council
14 President, there are no other
15 resolutions for consideration.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

17 That completes our Calendar for
18 today.

19 The Chair recognizes
20 Councilmember Kendra Brooks.

21 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: I
22 wanted to be marked aye on all the
23 resolutions I missed while I was
24 out.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

1 04/25/24 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Duly noted.

3 Are there any speeches on
4 behalf of the Minority?

5 The Chair recognizes
6 Councilmember Kendra Brooks.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Thank
8 you, Council President.

9 First, I want to note that
10 after session Mural Arts,
11 Councilmember O'Rourke and I are
12 hosting a people's budget
13 roundtable. This is a culmination
14 of a series of community
15 conversations that Mural Arts has
16 been hosting with residents,
17 business owners, advocates and City
18 workers around the City.

19 The Caucus room will be
20 transformed with artwork to
21 represent the outcomes of the
22 conversations. Lunch will be
23 provided and it should be fun, and
24 we hope to see Councilmembers and
25 their staff there.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Now, today Minority Whip
3 Councilmember Nicolas O'Rourke and
4 I are introducing a resolution to
5 call for a hearing on
6 Philadelphia's Urban Agricultural
7 Plan. We are calling for this
8 hearing because we know that
9 Philly's future depends on what we
10 do today to manage one of the most
11 important resources our land.

12 In the past, our government
13 has helped White families to buy
14 homes, build generational wealth
15 while pushing Black families to the
16 margin with the racist policies of
17 redlining. To this day we see the
18 impact of those policies on our
19 neighborhoods. The same
20 neighborhoods that were redlined
21 are the neighborhoods with high
22 rates of instability, poverty and
23 violence.

24 But in those same
25 neighborhoods we also have seen the

1 04/25/24 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 astounding resilience of Black and
3 Brown communities who cleaned up
4 vacant lots and transformed them
5 into beautiful community gardens
6 that provide food, shade and safety
7 for the whole neighborhood. Not
8 many people realize this, but the
9 majority of active gardens and
10 farms in our City, about 70 percent
11 are in high poverty neighborhoods
12 where the majority of the residents
13 are people of color.

14 So when we talk about our
15 an urban agriculture plan, we're
16 talking about a lot more than just
17 flowers. We're talking about
18 racial justice. We're talking
19 about stabilizing our neighborhoods
20 and providing free healthy food in
21 places where people need them the
22 most, and we're talking about
23 planning for a future where our
24 children can truly thrive.

25 Last June alongside

1 04/25/24 - STATED - SPEECHES
2 community gardeners, members of the
3 Administration and fellow
4 Councilmembers I introduced that we
5 were able to protect over 90
6 parcels of land from the threat of
7 sheriff's sale. With this hearing
8 on the Urban Agricultural Plan and
9 with the hearing later this spring
10 on a priority bid for the Land
11 Bank, we are taking the necessary
12 steps to put the land and the
13 resources into the hands who use it
14 the best, the people who live
15 there.

16 Today with Councilmember
17 Rue Landau I am introducing a
18 resolution to recognize this
19 weekend as Philly Black Pride
20 Weekend in Philadelphia. And when
21 I think of Black Pride, I think of
22 Marsha P. Johnson, Bayard Rustin
23 and my good friend, rest in peace,
24 Michael P. Hinson and all the other
25 Black queer ancestors who devoted

1 04/25/24 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 their lives to their collective
3 liberation.

4 I also think of all the
5 young Black people in my life who
6 deserve to feel honored and valued
7 for who they are wherever they are,
8 whether it's in their classrooms,
9 at their jobs, in their doctor's
10 office or even in City Hall.

11 Across the country with the
12 escalating attacks of queer youth,
13 their teachers and librarians,
14 Philadelphia must answer that
15 hatred and bigotry with the
16 resounding support of Black queer
17 Philadelphians.

18 Thank you so much, Council
19 President and colleagues.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
21 You're welcome.

22 The Chair recognizes
23 Councilmember O'Rourke.

24 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE: Thank
25 you, Council President.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 It's so, so, so nice to
3 have my Minority Leader back in
4 town who has been deep in the fight
5 to maintain urban green space.
6 It's an honor to join her in
7 introducing this resolution to hold
8 a hearing on Philly's Urban
9 Agriculture Plan. It's also great
10 to have the support of the Chair of
11 the Committee on the Environment,
12 Councilmember Gauthier, who has
13 also fought for urban agriculture
14 in her District.

15 Some of you may have had
16 the pleasure of reading through
17 Philly's Urban Agriculture Plan or
18 at least the executive summary and
19 key recommendations. If you
20 haven't taken a look, I do
21 encourage you to find it online or
22 reach out to our office for a link
23 because you'll be amazed by the
24 hyper local facts, findings and
25 suggestions that the plan contains.

1 04/25/24 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 At the neighborhood block-
3 to-block level, this plan puts that
4 green in the clean and green that
5 we've been looking for. Amen. You
6 heard our Minority Leader explain
7 the benefits of urban gardens, but
8 seeing and feeling it for yourself,
9 that's another matter entirely. I
10 just got the chance to do so
11 joining folks, including the
12 Councilmember Dr. Nina Ahmad at
13 Glenwood Green Acres this past
14 weekend to celebrate Earth Day.

15 At almost 4 acres, Glenwood
16 Green Acres is one of the largest
17 community gardens in Philadelphia
18 and sits on a beautiful site in
19 North Philly. I do think that the
20 Councilmember would agree with me
21 on that one. The energy and
22 potential in that space, the
23 community that's been fostered
24 there, it's not something to
25 overlook or even consider trivial.

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2 It turned 40 last year, and I think
3 that's worth acknowledging as well.

4 Cities by their nature are
5 everchanging, so a community hub
6 that has passed hands and stewards
7 over decades is a key point of
8 connection and camaraderie, a site
9 where neighbors can grow more
10 neighborly, learn from each other
11 and literally share the fruits of
12 their labor.

13 I just want to shout out
14 some of the over 100 gardens,
15 friends groups and organizations
16 that have been a part of this
17 agricultural work. I'm talking
18 about the Neighborhood Gardens
19 Trust, talking about Black Farmers
20 Collective, the Neighborhood Land
21 Power Project, Cesar Iglesias
22 Garden, the beautiful work done at
23 the Sankofa Farm at Bartram's
24 Gardens, my Southwest folk would
25 know about that, and so, so, so

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2 many more.

3 I want to stress it one
4 more time this is not small ball.
5 Community gardens span our City and
6 touch thousands of lives each and
7 every growing season. To me it
8 would be beautiful and powerful if
9 everyone in Philly lived close
10 enough to green spaces that build
11 these sorts of connections, and
12 that's the reality that the Urban
13 Ag Plan aims to help facilitate.

14 As we work to implement the
15 agenda, we'll need to ensure that
16 gardeners can establish permanent
17 ownership over the land they stored
18 and that the officials disposing of
19 public property understand and
20 value these spaces as a form of
21 productive land use.

22 Philadelphians will only stand to
23 benefit, especially as we do more
24 to incorporate green spaces in
25 City-run efforts from

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2 collaborations with our public
3 schools to joint ventures with
4 members of Philly's creative
5 economy and much, much, much more.
6 This is all feasible, actually
7 within reach. And in some cases
8 it's actually already happening.

9 So this Earth Week I hope
10 that we can all take some time to
11 think about the fullness of what we
12 mean when we talk about a green
13 transition. There are so many
14 important changes wrapped up in
15 those two little words, green
16 transition, which is the work of so
17 many Philadelphians.

18 The Majority Leader has led
19 the charge on greening our City's
20 investments among other
21 improvement, environmental
22 initiatives; and many public
23 officials have toiled to reduce
24 emissions from our built
25 environment to plant trees citywide

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2 to boost SEPTA ridership and to
3 develop a green workforce, and
4 there's a ton of important work
5 that I'm actually leaving out
6 there.

7 But I want to make a
8 specific case here. Any just green
9 transition worth its name must show
10 up in our human connections to the
11 land, our material connections to
12 the land where we live, where we
13 work and where we play. That means
14 providing ample space for people to
15 get their hands in the dirt, to
16 learn to cultivate life and
17 community together.

18 That also means
19 acknowledging this land as Leni
20 Lenape and grasping our history in
21 new ways. It's truly grassroots
22 work. So I'm excited to have this
23 hearing and to see what we can do
24 to implement this truly impressive,
25 exciting and visionary plan.

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2 Thank you, Council

3 President.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

5 You're welcome.

6 (Applause.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

8 Good work, brother. Good job.

9 Speeches on behalf of the
10 Majority, Majority Whip Isaiah
11 Thomas.

12 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Thank
13 you, Council President.

14 A couple things today.
15 First and foremost, I just want to
16 take again a moment to commend the
17 members of City Council as it
18 relates to our School Board. As
19 the Chair of the Education
20 Committee, I'm prepared and ready
21 to work with the folks who were
22 confirmed today and more than
23 willing to do whatever we need to
24 do to make sure that we're putting
25 our children and the families who

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2 are impacted the most by this issue
3 in the best position to be
4 successful.

5 I also wanted to take a
6 moment to speak on the Sixers.
7 Clearly I'm a huge Sixers fan. I
8 think a lot of us were disappointed
9 in the outcome of the game the
10 other day, and I could probably
11 blame the referees or a bunch of
12 other people. But I think what was
13 more disappointing than the Sixers
14 going down 0-2 is the issues that
15 the workers are facing with
16 Aramark.

17 Unfortunately I'm not going
18 to be able to go to the game today,
19 but I do stand in solidarity with
20 those workers. Because at the end
21 of the day, I'm going be honest,
22 Council President, we are fighting
23 very hard for some of the economic
24 issues that we have in the City and
25 we do advocate for quality jobs for

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2 people, but it's very difficult to
3 make an argument that we need to
4 make some structural change as it
5 relates to what we do to court
6 businesses when businesses don't
7 treat workers the right way.

8 When we look at what's
9 going on with the workers down at
10 the stadiums, the sad part is that
11 we've protested and stood with
12 these workers so many times, from
13 the Black Workers Matter package
14 that we passed with you, Council
15 President, and former Councilmember
16 Gym to the numerous times that
17 we've stood in support of these
18 workers.

19 At the end of the day,
20 we've been listening to a lot of
21 budget hearings. One of the things
22 that we're hearing people talk
23 about constantly is the fact that
24 there are too many people in
25 Philadelphia who have a job that

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2 doesn't pay them a livable wage.
3 Things have changed post-pandemic.
4 And while we as government
5 recognize that things are
6 different, so we are trying to
7 adjust where we are, we have to
8 also acknowledge that inflation has
9 hit every single household. So
10 when workers are standing up on a
11 consistent basis and asking for
12 support as it relates to health
13 care, they're not being greedy.
14 They're trying to take care of
15 their family.
16 When they're telling us on
17 a consistent basis that \$15 an
18 hour, which we all fought for at
19 one time, is no longer a livable
20 wage, we have to believe them. If
21 we're going to use studies to
22 determine how we govern and how we
23 make decisions and who we should
24 fight for, then we have to respect
25 those same studies when they tell

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2 us that people are not earning a
3 quality living.

4 So as somebody who has
5 always stood with workers in the
6 City of Philadelphia but at the
7 same time has tried to do our due
8 diligence to be good stewards to
9 attract businesses to the City of
10 Philadelphia, I say shame on
11 Aramark. I'm proud to have my
12 UNITE HERE shirt on in Council here
13 today and I stand with those
14 workers, and I know other
15 Councilmembers are just as
16 passionate as I am.

17 So when you go to the
18 Sixers game tonight, we're going to
19 cheer on our team. We're probably
20 going to boo the referees, but
21 please don't buy anything from the
22 concession stands. Stand with the
23 workers, don't cross the line,
24 fight for UNITE HERE.

25 Thank you, Council

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2 President. Thank you, colleagues.

3 (Applause.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

5 You're welcome, Member Thomas.

6 Thank you very much. Keep up the
7 good work as well.

8 The Chair recognizes

9 Councilwoman Jamie Gauthier.

10 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

11 Thank you, Council President.

12 So first, here, here to the
13 Majority Whip's or Deputy Whip's
14 comments. I support the UNITE HERE
15 Aramark workers as well. But I
16 wanted to talk about a couple of
17 other resolutions introduced today.

18 In honor of International
19 Jazz Day, I introduced a resolution
20 honoring Lee Morgan. Lee Morgan
21 grew up in Tioga and began playing
22 the trumpet at 14. After
23 graduating from the Jules E.
24 Mastbaum Area Vocation Technical
25 High School, he joined the Dizzy

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2 Gillespie Big Band and signed with
3 Bluenote Records.

4 He began his career as a
5 band leader with his debut album
6 "Lee Morgan" indeed and was a
7 sideman on John Coltrane's Blue
8 Train and Art Blakey and the Jazz
9 Messengers Moanin'. Lee Morgan's
10 "The Sidewinder" was one of the
11 Bluenote Records best-selling
12 albums and was inducted into the
13 Grammy Hall of Fame in 2000. And
14 just last week the Library of
15 Congress announced that it added
16 this seminal album to the National
17 Recording Registry.

18 I want to give a special
19 shout-out here to Faye Anderson
20 from All That Philly Jazz whose
21 advocacy made this listing
22 possible. We know that people who
23 look like us tend to get
24 overlooked, and I appreciate Faye
25 for ensuring Lee Morgan gets his

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2 rightful place in the Library of
3 Congress.

4 Lee Morgan's contributions
5 extend -- go ahead, you can clap
6 for that.

7 (Applause.)

8 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Lee
9 Morgan's contributions extend
10 beyond his musical talents. He was
11 heavily involved with Jazz and the
12 People's Movement, a cultural group
13 that advocated for greater
14 representation of Black jazz
15 musicians on broadcast television.
16 Unfortunately Lee Morgan's life was
17 cut short when he died at the age
18 of 33. And while he may no longer
19 be with us, his soulful melodies
20 and blazing improvisations continue
21 to inspire musicians and radiate
22 Joy.

23 I want to thank everyone
24 who spoke in honor of Lee Morgan
25 during public comment today,

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2 especially Darryl Raymond Cox, Faye
3 Anderson, Cornelia Swinson,
4 Jacqueline Wiggins and Dr. Diane
5 Turner. And thank you to my
6 colleagues for voting to honor one
7 of our City's great musical minds.

8 I look forward to Lee
9 Morgan being permanently
10 memorialized on 52nd Street next
11 week when he receives a historical
12 marker outside the former Aqua
13 Lounge where he gave his final
14 hometown performance. Thank you so
15 much.

16 And I also want to take a
17 moment to uplift the resolution
18 authorizing hearings on urban
19 agriculture that was introduced
20 today by Minority Leader Brooks and
21 Minority Whip O'Rourke. Last year
22 the City released its first ever
23 Urban Agriculture Plan. This
24 launch represented the first time
25 that the City formerly committed to

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2 being a partner rather than a
3 barrier to urban farms and gardens.

4 And as the Chair of the
5 Committee on the Environment, I'm
6 proud that the 3rd Councilmanic
7 District is home to many grassroots
8 green spaces. Not only do urban
9 farms provide neighbors the chance
10 to build community, gain valuable
11 skills, beautify their blocks,
12 improve air quality and access
13 fresh produce, but they also help
14 us to reduce violence. Green and
15 vacant lots reduces violent crimes
16 by 29 percent in the surrounding
17 area.

18 A 2018 study conducted by
19 Penn Medicine's Dr. South found
20 that greening every vacant lot
21 across Philadelphia could prevent
22 up to 350 shootings every year.
23 So, yes, urban farms foster food
24 sovereignty, promote sustainability
25 and build community, but they must

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2 also be a part of the conversation
3 when we're talking about gun
4 violence.

5 Historically the City's
6 policies do not recognize the
7 importance and permanence of urban
8 and community gardens, but I'm
9 proud that this body has already
10 taken steps to reverse this trend.
11 We enacted the Community Land for
12 Community Benefit legislation,
13 which makes it easier for urban
14 farms to acquire City-owned vacant
15 land in certain Districts.

16 And thanks to Minority
17 Leader Brooks' leadership, the City
18 is finally buying back many of the
19 lots sold to the U.S. Bank,
20 allowing us to preserve long-
21 established farms and gardens. But
22 we still have a long way to go
23 until urban farmers and gardeners
24 have the support and the resources
25 that they deserve from our City.

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2 I look forward to this
3 hearing so we can examine the
4 progress we've made since the
5 introduction of the Philadelphia
6 Urban Agriculture Plan and ensure
7 we are moving quickly and
8 collaboratively to achieve the
9 plan's goals. Thank you so much.

10 (Applause.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

12 You're welcome. Good job.

13 Chair recognizes
14 Councilmember Jay Young.

15 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Thank
16 you, Mr. President.

17 First, I just want to echo
18 the sentiments of our Majority Whip
19 Councilmember Isaiah Thomas. As we
20 speak right now, the members of
21 UNITE HERE are on strike. And I
22 want them to know and everyone else
23 in the City to know that this body
24 supports your efforts for a livable
25 wage and health benefits. That's

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2 all they're asking for. They're
3 asking for the bare minimum to be
4 able to survive out here in this
5 City.

6 And I think a corporation
7 like Aramark should be able to
8 provide those opportunities for
9 workers in this City to be able to
10 live. So thank you, Councilmember
11 Thomas, for your impassioned speech
12 on that.

13 Second, I want to talk
14 about a bill that I introduced last
15 week. I was not here and able to
16 speak about it, but it's Bill No.
17 240304, which I am calling the
18 Construction Activity
19 Accountability bill. And what this
20 bill would do, essentially we've
21 all seen that throughout the 5th
22 District and beyond in our City
23 there has been property damage done
24 by developers, done by contractors
25 and their faulty work.

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2 So what this bill would do
3 is prevent any permits from being
4 applied for without first
5 presenting a plan to L&I that shows
6 that your neighboring property is
7 now considered an additional
8 insured on your insurance policy.

9 Now, what this does is it allows
10 the neighboring property owner to
11 then reach out to your insurance
12 company directly to file any claims
13 that's necessary for any property
14 damage rather than trying to find
15 the developer, rather than then you
16 got to go sue them in court. But
17 what this does is it allows you to
18 go to the insurance company
19 directly to be made whole again.

20 And we've seen this time
21 and time again throughout our City,
22 properties are collapsing because
23 of faulty development. We have old
24 structures, old churches with
25 cracks and foundations because of

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2 construction. So with this bill
3 any new construction or any
4 demolition will be required to name
5 the abutting property owners as an
6 additional insured on their
7 insurance policies. We are here to
8 protect the citizens of
9 Philadelphia, and that's what this
10 bill aims to do.

11 Third and last,
12 Mr. President, tonight at 6:00 p.m.
13 at the John Street Center located
14 at 11th and Poplar we will be
15 hosting our third iteration of our
16 neighborhood budget town halls.
17 I'm encouraging everyone under the
18 sound of my voice to come out to
19 this town hall to speak to your
20 City Council.

21 Let us know how you want
22 your tax dollars spent. Provide us
23 feedback so we can do the people's
24 work. And so, I look forward to
25 seeing you all tonight at 6:00 p.m.

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2 at the John F. Street Center.

3 Thank you, Mr. President.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

5 Thank you. Good work.

6 Councilmember Rue Landau.

7 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU: Thank
8 you, Council President.

9 So first, I'm proud to
10 present a proposed amendment to The
11 Philadelphia Code to help our
12 vibrant restaurant scene continue
13 to flourish. Thank you,
14 Councilmembers Driscoll, Young and
15 Squilla for co-sponsoring.

16 Our streeteries have become
17 an integral part of Philadelphia's
18 dining scene, offering residents
19 and visitors alike the opportunity
20 to enjoy our City's culinary
21 delights in unique and vibrant
22 outdoor settings. And it's crucial
23 that we strike a balance between
24 supporting these establishments and
25 ensuring public safety and the

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2 efficient use of our streets.

3 The proposed amendment will
4 open up the possibility for
5 restaurants to enhance the
6 experience of outdoor dining while
7 maintaining the integrity of our
8 public spaces, which is crucial as
9 we head into not only our summer
10 months but also 2026 when our City
11 will be front and center on the
12 national stage and when
13 Philadelphia will welcome tens of
14 thousands of visitors.

15 Secondly, I was honored to
16 introduce the resolution
17 recognizing and honoring Stephanie
18 Haynes for her remarkable impact as
19 Executive Director of Philadelphia
20 Family Pride. For over 30 years
21 Stephanie has dedicated herself to
22 advancing the lives of
23 Philadelphians, particularly within
24 the LGBTQ community.

25 Since joining PFP in 2009,

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2 Stephanie has been instrumental in
3 expanding the organization's reach
4 and educational resources. Under
5 her leadership, PFP has organized
6 annual conferences, foster parent
7 information sessions and social
8 gatherings, providing invaluable
9 support to LGBTQ+ parents and
10 prospective parents.

11 Stephanie's tireless
12 advocacy and commitment to
13 diversity and inclusion has
14 enriched the lives of countless
15 families including mine in our
16 City. Thank you, Stephanie. And
17 as we recognize Stephanie's
18 outstanding contributions, we also
19 celebrate her upcoming transition
20 as she steps down from her role at
21 PFP. Her Legacy of leadership and
22 compassion will continue to inspire
23 us for years to come.

24 (Applause.)

25 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

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2 Finally, I introduced a resolution
3 that will be on the Calendar for
4 adoption next week that calls on
5 the Biden Administration to
6 immediately release the U.S.
7 Department HUD's Affirmatively
8 Furthering Fair Housing rule. This
9 is the rule that directs state and
10 local governments to come up with a
11 plan to combat historically
12 discriminatory practices that have
13 left marginalized people,
14 especially Brown and Black people,
15 from purchasing homes and renting
16 and leaves a very unlevelled playing
17 field.

18 We've been talking about
19 this since 1968 with the passage of
20 the Fair Housing Act. And as we
21 discussed last week, Philadelphia
22 is way ahead of it. In 1963 we've
23 had rules against discriminatory
24 housing and lending practices, and
25 still today we see the vestiges of

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2 redlining and all of discriminatory
3 practices in the past.

4 And as my colleagues Brooks
5 and O'Rourke and Gauthier explained
6 today that we are working hard to
7 try to combat this, but what this
8 rule does is it instructs state and
9 local entities that receive federal
10 HUD funds and says, you've got to
11 come up with a plan that is going
12 to combat this discrimination. In
13 the Obama Administration they
14 revised this entire Affirmatively
15 Furthering Fair Housing Plan and
16 actually gave it teeth. They
17 rewrote the entire thing and made
18 it fantastic. And Philadelphia
19 jumped in, I was a part of this, to
20 help come up with a plan for
21 Philadelphia that would really,
22 really tackle discrimination and
23 open inclusive housing practices
24 for all.

25 Unfortunately, as soon as

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2 Donald Trump was elected President,
3 he immediately turned back that
4 rule and other entities like state
5 and local entities did not have to
6 go forward on this. Philadelphia
7 kept its plan. It kept its
8 promise. We kept moving forward on
9 this, but now we have a problem
10 that we have the final rule pending
11 and the Biden Administration has
12 not moved it forward.

13 This rule would make
14 Philadelphia accountable to all of
15 the things we've talked about
16 today, urban agriculture, the Land
17 Bank, making affordable housing for
18 all. I invite you all to view my
19 hearing tomorrow as we look at the
20 57+ blocks with the most gun
21 violence here in Philadelphia
22 because it's all connected. And we
23 need to make sure that we have the
24 tools in order to eradicate the
25 discrimination and make us all have

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2 neighborhoods and homes in which we
3 can thrive and equal access to all
4 of it. So, Biden Administration,
5 please do the right thing and move
6 the rule forward.

7 And very, very finally, I
8 just wanted to say Philly Black
9 Pride this weekend, super happy
10 about it. I am having an event on
11 Saturday from 3:00 to 7:00 at the
12 University of Pennsylvania LGBT
13 Center. It's Philly Black Queer
14 Magic. Especially colleagues, I
15 hope you all come. Thank you very
16 much.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
18 Good job, Rue.

19 The Chair recognizes
20 Councilmember Nina Ahmad.

21 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD: Thank
22 you, Council President.

23 I just wanted to follow up
24 on what my colleague Councilmember
25 Nicolas O'Rourke spoke about, our

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2 visit last Saturday to the
3 beautiful urban garden, and really
4 the follow-up is to say what does
5 the green transition look like,
6 right. We all understand that we
7 are in peril. We have a climate
8 crisis that is endangering so much.
9 I come from a small country called
10 Bangladesh where as we speak, the
11 sea level is rising and land is
12 lost, and those with the least
13 resources are losing their
14 livelihoods. They're losing their
15 homes. And this is all connected.
16 We're in one globe. We are
17 interconnected, and we really have
18 to move towards this green
19 transition.

20 In that light, I actually
21 have a hearing tomorrow. And it's
22 Friday 3 o'clock, and this is with
23 the Joint Committees of the
24 Environment and Global
25 Opportunities and Creative

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2 Innovative Economy, and this is to
3 hear about and understand the
4 issues of reliability and servicing
5 of publicly accessible electric
6 vehicle charging stations in the
7 City of Philadelphia.

8 And this is an important
9 issue for us. You know, we are an
10 autocentric country. And we have
11 to move from these gas-guzzling
12 cars to at least those that have no
13 emissions. And if we are to reach
14 our 2050 goals, we have to move
15 very expeditiously to those types
16 of vehicles. And the federal
17 government has been really pushing
18 a lot of resources towards doing
19 that.

20 But what has not happened
21 is the actual piece around the
22 reliability and servicing of these
23 chargers. I look upon this as an
24 opportunity for a job creation as
25 well in terms of creating a

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2 workforce that could look to be
3 trained hopefully by our IBEW
4 Electrical Workers Union to
5 understand how to service this and
6 then have a small business that
7 could be spread across the City to
8 make sure these chargers are
9 working in realtime, and most
10 importantly to improve the user
11 experience so we adopt these cars.
12 So I invite everyone. And
13 I in advance apologize to my
14 colleagues that it's at 3 o'clock
15 on a Friday afternoon, but the
16 issue is critical. And I hope my
17 members will join us on these
18 Committees as well as the public
19 will view. We have a host of
20 robust number of witnesses lined
21 up. We really need to dig into
22 this and I appreciate all the
23 support I've received from my
24 colleagues to allow me to hold this
25 hearing at an inopportune 3 o'clock

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2 on Friday.

3 But I thank you all. And I

4 thank you, Council President.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

6 Good job, Nina. Go hard or go

7 home.

8 The Chair recognizes

9 Councilmember Katherine Gilmore

10 Richardson.

11 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

12 RICHARDSON: Thank you, Council

13 President.

14 First, I wanted to thank

15 our colleague and Majority Whip

16 Councilmember Thomas for his

17 remarks regarding UNITE HERE. We

18 support the workers at the stadium

19 and appreciate all of their service

20 and work throughout the City of

21 Philadelphia. And so thank you,

22 Councilmember Thomas, for those

23 remarks.

24 I also wanted to take a

25 very brief moment to welcome,

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2 officially welcome the men of Alpha
3 Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. to the
4 great City of Brotherly Love and
5 Sisterly Effectiveness. This
6 weekend they will celebrate their
7 92nd Anniversary Eastern Regional
8 Conference here in the City of
9 Philadelphia. Their theme for the
10 convention this year is Everywhere
11 we go, we tell our story advancing
12 Alpha's footprint.

13 For those of you who are
14 not familiar, Alpha Phi Alpha
15 Fraternity, Inc. is the first
16 historically Black fraternity in
17 the country and really around the
18 world. And so, we welcome the men
19 of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
20 to Philadelphia this weekend. We
21 thank them for their investment in
22 our City. They will have several
23 service projects in addition to
24 several million dollar economic
25 impact and also several thousand

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2 members.

3 So thank you to their 29th
4 Eastern Regional Vice-president
5 Christopher G. Ellis, Jr., and
6 their 63rd Eastern Regional
7 Assistant Vice-president Yusef N.
8 Omar. We welcome you to the City
9 of Philadelphia. Thank you.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
11 You're welcome.

12 I would remiss if I didn't
13 acknowledge the newest member of
14 Alpha Phi Alpha, Mr. Ernest Owens.
15 Let's give him a round of applause.

16 (Applause.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:
18 We appreciate your hard work.

19 The Chair recognizes
20 Councilman Curtis Jones.

21 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank
22 you, Mr. President, colleagues.

23 On Tuesday we had an
24 election. I want to congratulate
25 the victors, whatever party,

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2 whatever philosophy.

3 Congratulations for being a part of
4 the democratic process.

5 I missed my annual
6 pilgrimage to South this year
7 because we were in an aggressive
8 race out West Philly. It went down
9 to hand-to-hand combat. I actually
10 took a poll, went door-to-door. I
11 got reminiscent. It was nostalgic.
12 I got fired up.

13 But two things I observed:
14 Number one, the folks that were
15 representing the other opponent
16 were there because they believed.
17 You know, I grew up on the corners
18 so I know how to shoot the Dozens,
19 but he was giving me every bit I
20 could give to him. But what
21 happened was something interesting,
22 people cared about what we were
23 talking about. They engaged in the
24 process with only 17 percent
25 turnout citywide.

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2 People in this chambers,
3 people who are hearing my voice, we
4 got work to do. No matter what
5 party you're from, no matter red
6 state, blue state, purple state,
7 we're in a state of crisis.

8 Because if only 17 people out of
9 100 can decide elections in this
10 country, we have to up our game.
11 We got to really be relevant.

12 I talk to people going
13 door-to-door. And some people, you
14 know, the super voters, they do it
15 because Martin, Medgar, Malcolm was
16 out there during Black History
17 Month. And that's fine, whatever
18 is your reasoning. But some people
19 don't care about Black History
20 Month because they're getting
21 evicted next month. So we have to
22 be relevant when we knock on those
23 doors.

24 And I listen to what we
25 talked about working on tonight the

1 04/25/24 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 budget in the field. We have to do
3 a better job of translating that of
4 what we do on a given Thursday to
5 people when they open their doors
6 that it is relevant to their lives.
7 If we can do that, we can move it
8 from 17 percent to something more
9 respectable.

10 Now, wherever you are on
11 November as they said on one of
12 those shows, winter is coming. And
13 we better really engage those
14 voters on the issues that they care
15 about. So congratulations to
16 everyone who won. You know, God
17 don't make mistakes. For those who
18 lost, there's something in your
19 future. But we have to get on our
20 job to translate the good work that
21 you do in these chambers to the
22 doors in our neighborhoods.

23 Thank you, Mr. President.

24 (Applause.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

1 04/25/24 - STATED - ADJOURNMENT

2 You're welcome, Member Jones. I
3 echo those sentiments, transforming
4 policy to impact. Because other
5 than that, it's going to be an
6 uphill battle.

7 There are no more speeches
8 on behalf of the Majority. So at
9 this time, the Chair recognizes
10 Councilmember Thomas for a motion
11 to adjourn.

12 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Thank
13 you, Council President.

14 I move that Council stands
15 adjourned until Thursday, May 2,
16 2024 at 10:00 a.m. promptly.

17 (Duly seconded.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

19 It has been moved and properly
20 seconded that Council stand
21 adjourned until Thursday, May 2,
22 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

23 All those in favor will
24 signify by saying aye.

25 (Aye.)

1 04/25/24 - STATED - ADJOURNMENT

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

3 Those opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

6 The ayes have it and the motion

7 carries.

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9 (Stated Meeting adjourned

10 at 12:37 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, hereby certify that the proceedings
and evidence noted are contained fully and
accurately in the stenographic notes taken by
me in the foregoing matter, and that this is
a correct transcript of the same.



TANEHA CARROLL
Court Reporter - Notary Public

(The foregoing certification of this
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