

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
STATED MEETING

Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
April 9, 2026
10:00 a.m.

PRESENT:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT KENYATTA JOHNSON
COUNCILWOMAN NINA AHMAD
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 NICHOLAS O'ROURKE
COUNCILMAN ANTHONY PHILLIPS
COUNCILMAN MARK SQUILLA
COUNCILMAN JEFFREY YOUNG, JR.
COUNCILMAN ISAIAH THOMAS

ELIZABETH MCCOLLUM NAZARIO, CHIEF CLERK

- - -

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: I would like to ask
4 everyone present to please put your
5 cell phones on vibrant or silent.

6 Council will be at ease.

7 (Council at ease.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: I note that the hour has
10 come and that a quorum of this
11 Council is present. This Council
12 is officially in order.

13 To give our invocation
14 this morning, the Chair recognizes
15 our very own Councilman Nicolas
16 O'Rourke, guest of our
17 Councilmember Jeffrey Jay Young. I
18 will ask all members and guests to
19 please rise.

20 The floor is yours,
21 Member Pastor Nicolas O'Rourke.

22 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

23 Thank you, Mr. President.

24 For many years, I was

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 able to say that Member Gauthier
3 was my Councilwoman. And now that
4 my wife and I have bought our first
5 home in the 5th Councilmanic
6 District, I'm honored to say that
7 Councilman Jeffrey Jay Young, Jr.
8 is now my Councilman, so thank you
9 again for the honor today, sir.

10 A quick word, more than
11 just prayer or grace before a meal,
12 essentially invocation is but a
13 fragile sign that the state knows
14 its limits, that the institution of
15 the state, or at least in our case,
16 the city itself, in all of its
17 grandeur and all of its glory,
18 knows that it's not in charge of
19 the universe, that it is
20 accountable, that it sits under
21 judgment in search of justice. The
22 state or the city gestures toward
23 God by calling a cleric or the
24 church to call upon God. Vocare in

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 Latin, to call upon.

3 The state doesn't
4 actually pray. The city doesn't
5 function as a prayer piece. The
6 (inaudible) or Shul prays. The
7 Muslims pray. The Church prays and
8 has persons trained in communal
9 prayer to offer aid or to ask for
10 aid from a deity on behalf of the
11 state. Because, I think we all can
12 admit, that we need help. That's
13 what this moment is.

14 The cleric provokes or
15 invokes the aid of God into our
16 proceedings today, all that we do
17 today. Because in our humility, we
18 ought to be able to admit that we
19 all need some help. So I want to
20 invite you to join me in the
21 posture that is most comfortable to
22 you as I offer this invocation this
23 morning.

24 Lord, help. I could say

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 Amen right there and it would be
3 enough. But every tradition
4 acknowledges that you have been the
5 voice of the prophets. And if that
6 is the case, then you remain a God
7 who speaks against exploitation, a
8 God who speaks against oppression.

9 May we heed your voice
10 in our proceedings today. May we
11 heed the voice of our own interior
12 prophets as we consider how we may
13 cast our votes today. We ask that
14 you soften our hearts to hear pain
15 and suffering exactly where it is,
16 and busy our hands to do something
17 to alleviate it, that we might
18 actually be a Council that shines
19 and lives up to the motto that we
20 emblazon on our shield and on our
21 seal on our flag. To be a City of
22 Sibling Solidarity, Brotherly Love,
23 Sisterly Effectiveness, that we
24 might be able to be a light on a

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 hill shining.

3 Help us to serve each
4 other with our full humanity. Hold
5 us in our purpose that we would
6 never become too accustomed to
7 injustice, that we would never
8 become numb to the pain of the
9 world.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: Amen.

12 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

13 May it be so in all of us. We pray
14 for the families of those who are
15 affected by the collapsing garage.
16 We lift up the Iron Workers. We
17 lift up the Building Trades. We
18 lift up each and every single
19 member of this body and the staff
20 that make them able to do what they
21 do and what we do every single day.
22 And for every name that has not
23 been uttered, we thank you for the
24 Tech staff. We thank you for the

1 4/9/26 - STATED - MOMENT OF SILENCE

2 Audio/Video team. We thank you for
3 every person who is sitting in the
4 gallery and in the chairs. Help
5 us, O God, to remember each other
6 in all that we do.

7 In your name and nature,
8 we pray and everybody say Amen.

9 (Amen.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: The Chair thanks
12 Councilman Nicolas O'Rourke for the
13 invocation.

14 Council will be at ease.

15 (Council at ease.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: I want to thank Member
18 O'Rourke for the very spiritual and
19 passionate opening of our Council
20 session. I want to ask that we all
21 pause to recognize the tragic
22 incident that occurred yesterday
23 afternoon in the Gray's Ferry
24 section of South Philadelphia,

1 4/9/26 - STATED - MOMENT OF SILENCE

2 which is in the 2nd Councilmanic
3 District.

4 John Fenton, lock the
5 door. Juvet, lock the door.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

7 JOHNSON: In the spirit of, as I
8 mentioned, Member Councilman
9 Nicolas O'Rourke, I want to thank
10 all my colleagues for reaching out
11 to me last night as well as this
12 morning. I ask that we pause to
13 recognize the tragic incident that
14 occurred yesterday in my
15 Councilmanic District, the Grays
16 Ferry community of South
17 Philadelphia, where a parking
18 garage under construction partially
19 collapsed, resulting in the loss of
20 life and leaving others injured and
21 still unaccounted for, particularly
22 members of the Iron Workers.

23 This heartbreaking event
24 has deeply affected the families of

1 4/9/26 - STATED - MOMENT OF SILENCE

2 the workers involved, the first
3 responders risking their safety in
4 the ongoing rescue efforts and the
5 entire Grays Ferry community and
6 the City of Philadelphia as a
7 whole. We are reminded of the
8 dangers that many of our hard-
9 working men and women of the
10 Building Trades face every day to
11 support their families and build
12 our city.

13 On behalf of
14 Philadelphia City Council, we
15 extend our deepest condolences to
16 the family of the individual who
17 lost his life, and we continue to
18 pray for the safe recovery of the
19 workers who remain missing. We
20 also express our gratitude to our
21 firefighters, police officers,
22 emergency personnel and union
23 brothers and sisters who are
24 working carefully and tirelessly

1 4/9/26 - STATED - MOMENT OF SILENCE

2 under extremely difficult and
3 dangerous conditions.

4 At this time, I ask all
5 members of Council, staff and
6 members of the public to please
7 rise, if you are able, and join me
8 in observing a moment of silence
9 for the victim, the missing
10 workers, their families and all
11 those impacted by this tragic
12 collapse.

13 (Standing moment of
14 silence.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: The next order of
17 business is the Approval of the
18 Journal of Thursday, March 26,
19 2026. The Chair recognizes
20 Majority Leader Councilmember
21 Katherine Gilmore Richardson.

22 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

23 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
24 Mr. President.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

2 I move that the Journal
3 of the meeting of Thursday, March
4 26, 2026 be approved.

5 (Duly seconded.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

7 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
8 properly seconded that the Journal
9 of the meeting of Thursday, March
10 26, 2026 stand approved.

11 All in favor will
12 indicate by saying aye.

13 (Aye.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

15 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

16 (No response.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the
19 Journal is approved.

20 The next order of
21 business is requests for leave of
22 absence. And the Chair recognizes
23 Majority Leader Katherine Gilmore
24 Richardson.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - LEAVES

2 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

3 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
4 Mr. President.

5 On behalf of the
6 Majority, a leave of absence is
7 requested for Councilmember Bass.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: The Chair thanks the
10 Majority Leader, and leave will be
11 granted.

12 The Chair recognizes
13 Minority Leader Kendra Brooks.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS:
15 Thank you, Council President.

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

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: The Chair thanks the
21 Minority Leader.

22 The Chair now recognizes
23 Majority Leader Katherine Gilmore
24 Richardson for a motion concerning

1 4/9/26 - STATED - MOTION REGARDING CALENDAR

2 certain legislative matters that
3 may arise on the course of today's
4 session of Council and that were
5 not listed on the Calendar
6 circulated prior to today's Council
7 session.

8 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

9 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
10 Mr. President.

11 I move that any of the
12 following matters, if considered
13 today, may be added to the agenda
14 for this session of Council, and as
15 required by law, subsequently
16 published on an amended agenda
17 after the consideration of those
18 matters: resolutions authorizing
19 hearings, amendments to bills on
20 first reading, the reconsideration
21 of a bill vetoed by or re-called
22 from the Mayor, amendments to bills
23 re-called from the Mayor,
24 resolutions taking substantive

1 4/9/26 - STATED - MOTION REGARDING CALENDAR

2 action to be voted on in this
3 session, a motion to withdraw a
4 bill or resolution that is not on
5 the Calendar and a motion placing a
6 bill or resolution on or returning
7 a bill or resolution from the
8 Suspension Calendar that is not
9 listed on today's Calendar.

10 The purpose of this
11 motion is to provide the public
12 with notice concerning possible
13 actions by Council that arose too
14 late to be included on the Calendar
15 that was published prior to today's
16 session.

17 (Duly seconded.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

19 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
20 properly seconded that the
21 legislative matters stated by
22 Majority Leader Katherine Gilmore
23 Richardson may be added to the
24 agenda for today should those

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2 matters arise during the course of
3 this session of Council.

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

6 (Aye.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the
12 motion carries.

13 The Chair will dispense
14 with the regular order of business
15 to recognize the guests and
16 visitors joining us in chambers
17 this morning.

18 On behalf of all members
19 of City Council, I welcome you to
20 our Council session. We appreciate
21 you taking the time to join us as
22 we attend to the legislative
23 affairs of our great city. We
24 certainly invite you to come again.

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2 We have a significant
3 number of guests joining us today.

4 I want to first start off by
5 acknowledging the Appropriations
6 Chairman of our State Senate, State
7 Senator Vincent Hughes. Thank you
8 for joining us.

9 (Applause.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: He's also joined by the
12 outstanding, incomparable,
13 empowering First Lady and beautiful
14 wife Sheryl Lee Ralph. Let's give
15 her a round of applause as well.

16 (Applause.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
19 Councilmember Isaiah Thomas.

20 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Good
21 morning, Council President. Good
22 morning, colleagues.

23 I want to just first
24 thank my sister and my coaching

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2 District Councilperson,
3 Councilmember Quetcy Lozada. Most
4 folks know that I coach high school
5 basketball. We won a State
6 championship a little while back.
7 And so, thank you. Councilmember
8 Lozada was gracious enough to honor
9 our team.

10 And so, with that being
11 said, I would ask that all of the
12 members of the Sankofa Freedom
13 Academy basketball team, please
14 stand up.

15 (Applause.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: Can we stand for our
18 young people please? Can we give
19 them a real big round of applause
20 and celebrate our youth?

21 (Applause.)

22 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: We
23 were the only public league team to
24 win a State championship this year.

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2 This is the first time in school
3 history going to the State
4 championship back-to-back. And
5 I've been coaching for 16 years.
6 Not only was this my hardest
7 journey to the State championship,
8 but honestly, it was my -- it was
9 my most rewarding journey going to
10 the State championship. Not just
11 because we were able to actually
12 coach basketball, but because it's
13 probably one of the best groups of
14 young men I've actually ever
15 coached in my life. So it's an
16 honor for their season to end the
17 way it did and I couldn't be more
18 proud of who they are off the
19 court, not just on the court.

20 (Applause.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: Congratulations.

23 The Chair recognizes
24 Majority Leader Katherine Gilmore

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2 Richardson.

3 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

4 RICHARDSON: Thank you. Thank you
5 so much, Mr. President. And
6 congratulations again to our
7 colleague Councilmember Isaiah
8 Thomas.

9 Today I wanted to
10 recognize special guests that we
11 have in Council chambers, the Ye
12 Olde Philadelphia Club. They will
13 be celebrating their 100th
14 anniversary today. We're joined by
15 their President Mike Brown and
16 members of the Ye Olde Philadelphia
17 Club. Please stand.

18 (Applause.)

19 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

20 RICHARDSON: I'm looking forward to
21 celebrating their 100th anniversary
22 next weekend. In addition to that,
23 Council President, we have from the
24 Free Library of Philadelphia, Kelly

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2 Richards, the President; Mark
3 Graham, Director of Communications;
4 Monique Moore Pryor, President of
5 the Free Library Foundation; Jenny
6 Bogoni, Chief of Community
7 Engagement and Public Programs;
8 Amir Richardson, Director of Event
9 Production, he's leading the One
10 Book One Philadelphia program this
11 year; and Daniel Blank, the
12 Managing Director of Public
13 Programs. Please stand from the
14 Free Library of Philadelphia.

15 (Applause.)

16 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

17 RICHARDSON: And this is in honor
18 of our annual tradition here in
19 Council that I'm continuing from my
20 mentor and former Councilmember
21 Blondell Reynolds Brown, One Book
22 One Philadelphia. This year's
23 selection is Our Missing Hearts by
24 Celeste Ng. Thank you so very

1 4/9/26 - STATED - GUESTS

2 much.

3 And thank you,
4 Councilwoman, for this tradition.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: Congratulations. To the
7 brothers from the Ye Olde Club.

8 Just let fellow Chuck Finney know
9 I'm looking for him.

10 Congratulations, fellas, and
11 welcome to City Council.

12 The Chair recognizes
13 Minority Leader Kendra Brooks.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS:
15 Thank you, Council President.

16 I would like to
17 recognize Signe Espinoza, the
18 Executive Director of Planned
19 Parenthood of Pennsylvania and the
20 advocates who are with us today in
21 Council. Under their leadership,
22 Planned Parenthood of Southeastern
23 Pennsylvania has weathered
24 harassment, attacks, funding cuts

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2 and remain one of the city's most
3 trusted health care providers
4 serving over 20,000 Philadelphians.
5 Her and her team will be here
6 visiting in City Council throughout
7 the day, and I encourage you to
8 take time to learn more about the
9 work they're doing and the
10 challenges they are facing under
11 this Trump administration.

12 Sydney and the folks
13 from Planned Parenthood, where are
14 you?

15 (Applause.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: Welcome to City Council.
18 Thank you for your advocacy.

19 Chair recognizes
20 Councilmember Quetcy Lozada.

21 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

22 Good morning, Council President,
23 and thank you.

24 I have three groups to

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2 welcome into chambers today, but
3 I'd like to start off by
4 congratulating and recognizing our
5 Council Colleague, Councilmember
6 and Coach Isaiah Thomas. I want to
7 read this because I want to get it
8 right, but Councilmember Thomas is
9 the second most -- has gone to the
10 championships. He's the second
11 most championships out of any
12 active coach in the Public League.
13 He has back-to-back appearances,
14 three total trips, two actual
15 championships, only second to
16 Brother Andre from Imhotep.
17 Impressive, right? Thank you so
18 much, Coach.

19 Sankofa, for many years,
20 was in the 7th Council District.
21 Sankofa started in the 7th Council
22 District, but I must share Sankofa
23 with the 1st Council District
24 Councilmember Squilla. Sankofa

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2 represents the heart and the hustle
3 of Philadelphia from the classroom
4 to the court. You've shown us the
5 way. Thank you, Coach and
6 Councilmember Isaiah Thomas, for
7 your leadership on and off the
8 court. We are lucky to have you.

9 The Sankofa team has
10 served as ambassadors for their
11 school and the greater Kensington
12 community. We are proud to honor
13 their achievement. This
14 championship is a win for the
15 school and for the City of
16 Philadelphia.

17 I'd also like to welcome
18 members of the Gift of Life. April
19 is National Donate Life Month.
20 Today the staff and leadership of
21 Gift of Life, the donor program,
22 are here in Council to receive a
23 resolution and recognition for
24 their vital work. Can they please

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2 stand?

3 (Applause.)

4 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

5 And last but not least, I'd like to
6 recognize the Philadelphia
7 Children's Alliance. PCA is a
8 child advocacy center dedicated to
9 supporting victims of child sexual
10 abuse. PCA provides a safe and
11 child-friendly space for victims to
12 share their stories with
13 specialized interviewers. Welcome
14 to chambers. Can you please stand?

15 (Applause.)

16 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

17 Thank you, Council President.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

19 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

20 Welcome to City Council this year.

21 I want to also acknowledge the
22 presence of former Councilwoman,
23 the Honorable Sharon Vaughn. Thank
24 you for joining us today.

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2 (Applause.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

4 JOHNSON: Chair also recognizes
5 community advocate and leader of
6 ManUpPHL, Mr. Solomon Jones. Thank
7 you for joining us today.

8 (Applause.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
11 Councilmember Mark Squilla.

12 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

13 Thank you, Mr. President.

14 Yes, another state
15 champion from my District. We
16 really appreciate Councilmember
17 Thomas, his great coaching prowess.
18 This is something that not only he
19 will remember, but the kids will
20 remember the rest of their lives.
21 They have an opportunity to walk
22 together and then when they have
23 reunions, will always remember that
24 day to be able to win a State

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2 championship at Sankofa. So
3 congratulations to Coach Thomas and
4 Sankofa. Keep up the great work.

5 (Applause.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

7 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes
8 Councilmember Dr. Nina Ahmad.

9 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

10 Thank you, Council President.

11 I wanted to recognize
12 Laquisha Anthony from WOAR, since
13 we are recognizing April 2026 as
14 Sexual Assault Awareness Month and
15 celebrating the extraordinary
16 efforts of WOAR, Philadelphia's
17 center for sexual violence.

18 Laquisha is now the Acting
19 Executive Director.

20 Congratulations. Hope it will
21 become permanent. Thank you for
22 all the work you do.

23 (Applause.)

24 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD: And

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2 later on, we will have the
3 principal of Lankenau and her staff
4 here. We are recognizing Earth
5 Week and thanking them for their
6 extraordinary contributions to
7 environmental safety in our city
8 and they'll be here later on.

9 Thank you, Council
10 President.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: Thank you.

13 Chair recognizes
14 Councilmember Quetcy Lozada.

15 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: My
16 apologies, Council President.

17 I just saw Councilmember
18 Sharon Vaughn has joined us, and
19 today we are going to introduce a
20 resolution for a street naming
21 after Councilwoman Vaughn for her
22 deep roots in the community and her
23 commitment as a servant leader.

24 (Applause.)

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2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Okay. Congratulations.

4 Sharon Vaughn Way. Okay. Got a
5 nice ring to it. Welcome back to
6 City Council.

7 The Chair recognizes
8 Councilmember Curtis Jones, Jr.

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

11 I won't need to be
12 acknowledged. I just was hyped
13 about my guest that I want to
14 present.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: Absolutely.

17 COUNCILMAN JONES: I was
18 doing a Phillips.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: Yes, sir. Thank you very
21 much, sir.

22 At this time, the Chair
23 recognizes Councilmember Jamie
24 Gauthier, who will present a

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2 resolution recognizing the life and
3 legacy of Joseph R. Syrnick for his
4 distinguished career of public
5 service to the City of
6 Philadelphia, his visionary
7 leadership in transforming the
8 Schuylkill River Corridor, the
9 Schuylkill River Trail and
10 Waterfront. Would Jerry Sweeney
11 and those accompanying him, please
12 join us at the podium as we honor
13 the life and legacy of Joseph R.
14 Syrnick.

15 And just before we get
16 started, most of you who have the
17 opportunity -- and if you haven't,
18 I encourage you to take the
19 opportunity -- to visit the
20 Schuylkill River Trail. It was a
21 trail that's one of the most
22 beautiful trails in our country,
23 and we continue to build on making
24 that trail an outstanding trail,

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2 under the Chair of the Schuylkill
3 River Board, Jerry Sweeney, and
4 thank you for joining us.

5 But also, this
6 resolution is introduced on my
7 behalf based upon the work of a
8 gentleman by the name of Joseph
9 Syrnick, who had done a lot of
10 great things to move our city
11 forward, but most importantly, the
12 work that he has done to transform
13 that trail, which is in the 2nd
14 Councilmanic District and the 5th
15 Councilmanic District, and it's
16 enjoyed by hundreds of thousands of
17 people every single year.

18 The Chair recognizes
19 Councilmember Jamie Gauthier. The
20 floor is yours.

21 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:
22 (Inaudible).

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
24 JOHNSON: Individuals who will be

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2 joining Jamie are Councilmember
3 Mike Driscoll, Councilmember
4 Nicolas O'Rourke, Councilmember Rue
5 Landau, Councilmember Jim Harrity
6 and Councilmember Brooks.

7 (Councilmembers and
8 guests approached podium.)

9 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

10 Thank You, Council President.

11 And good morning,
12 everyone. It's an honor to be able
13 to present this resolution. I just
14 have to say that personally I was
15 so saddened to hear about the death
16 of Joe Syrnick, but all of us hope
17 to be remembered for our good works
18 and what a legacy that he has left
19 behind. Particularly, his work on
20 public spaces will be a forever-
21 lasting reminder of all the good
22 that he has done for the City of
23 Philadelphia. Now, on to the
24 resolution:

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2 A resolution recognizing
3 the life and legacy of Joseph R.
4 Syrnick for his distinguished
5 career of public service to the
6 City of Philadelphia and his
7 visionary leadership in
8 transforming the Schuylkill River
9 Corridor Trail and Waterfront;

10 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

11 Whereas, Joseph R. Syrnick was born
12 on December 19, 1946 in
13 Philadelphia and was raised in
14 Manayunk. He graduated from Roman
15 Catholic High School in 1964 and
16 earned his Bachelor's of Science
17 and Master's of Science degrees in
18 Civil Engineering from Drexel
19 University in 1969 and 1971
20 respectively, laying the foundation
21 for his career in public service;
22 and

23 Whereas, in 1971
24 Mr. Syrnick began his career with

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2 the Philadelphia Streets
3 Department, where he spent 34 years
4 overseeing hundreds of public works
5 and infrastructure projects to
6 support the functionality and the
7 safety of the city; and

8 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

9 Whereas, in 1986 he was appointed
10 Chief Engineer and Surveyor for the
11 Streets Department, supervising
12 major projects such as the
13 Schuylkill Expressway
14 Reconstruction, Martin Luther King
15 Drive improvements, South Broad
16 Street streetlight and tree
17 installation and safety
18 enhancements in Fairmount Park and
19 along Kelly Drive; and

20 Whereas, Mr. Syrnick's
21 leadership advanced bicycle and
22 pedestrian infrastructure
23 throughout the city. He is
24 responsible for the beautification

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2 of Penrose Avenue, the creation of
3 a bikeway in Schuylkill River Park
4 and countless collaborations with
5 civic partners to enhance
6 alternative transportation and
7 public space; and

8 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:

9 Whereas, following his retirement
10 from the Streets Department, in
11 2005 he became the President and
12 CEO of the Schuylkill River
13 Development Corporation, SRDC, the
14 nonprofit organization working in
15 partnership with public agencies to
16 revitalize the Schuylkill River
17 Corridor; and

18 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

19 Whereas, Mr. Syrnick's engineering
20 expertise and deep familiarity with
21 city, state and federal agencies
22 and City Council enabled SRDC to
23 secure millions of dollars in
24 funding and successfully deliver

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2 numerous complex capital projects,
3 including Grays Ferry Crescent, the
4 CSX Connector Bridge, the
5 Schuylkill River Boardwalk,
6 Bartram's Mile, the Christian to
7 Crescent Connector Bridge and the
8 long-awaited Swing Bridge; and

9 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS:

10 Whereas, Mr. Syrnick is remembered
11 for transforming the once
12 inaccessible industrial riverfront
13 into a continuous world-class
14 public trail and greenway
15 connecting neighborhoods and
16 expanding access to the Schuylkill
17 River; now, therefore, be it

18 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

19 Resolved, by the Council of the
20 City of Philadelphia, Hereby honors
21 the life and legacy of Joseph R.
22 Syrnick for his distinguished
23 career of public service to the
24 City of Philadelphia and his

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 visionary leadership in
3 transforming the Schuylkill River
4 Corridor, Trail and Waterfront.
5 What a breathtaking body of work.
6 Thank you so much.

7 (Applause.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: Congratulations. The
10 Chair recognizes Chair Sweeney for
11 remarks.

12 MR. SWEENEY: Well,
13 first of all, what a wonderful and
14 poignant moment for us. As you've
15 heard, SRDC's mission is for the
16 Schuylkill River Trail to connect
17 27 diverse neighborhoods that touch
18 the river, from the Art Museum down
19 to the Delaware, to integrate
20 Philadelphia's River into the very
21 fabric of city life, to make our
22 river trail a point of civic pride,
23 a place to be, a place to create
24 memories and a banner for

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2 Philadelphia's creative potential.

3 Joe Syrnick lived and
4 breathed that mission every single
5 day. His dedication was unmatched.
6 He always saw obstacles to our
7 mission, and there were many, as
8 opportunities to overcome. He was
9 a visionary leader, an excellent
10 coworker and a very dear friend to
11 many of us. His legacy is
12 experienced every single day by the
13 thousands of Philadelphians and
14 visitors to our city who celebrate
15 life on Schuylkill banks.

16 We all hope, and many of
17 you are in public service, we all
18 hope to have an impact on life, to
19 leave the world better than we
20 found it. Joe Syrnick did that.
21 Joe embodied the definition of a
22 good person. It's not what you
23 take. It's what you give back.
24 And Joe gave back every single day.

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2 He loved Philadelphia. And as you
3 heard, he gave his career making
4 Philadelphia a better place.

5 But his highest calling,
6 his greatest legacy, was being a
7 husband of 55 years to the love of
8 his life, Mary Beth, a father to
9 three wonderful daughters who are
10 up here this today, brother Blaze
11 and grandpop to seven
12 grandchildren. We miss Joe every
13 single day and at SRDC laid a solid
14 foundation to spur us on to greater
15 achievements, and his family an
16 amazing number of wonderful, long-
17 lasting memories.

18 Mr. President, members
19 of Council, thank you so much for
20 your support of SRDC. Over the
21 past 26 years, much has been
22 accomplished, but really for this
23 very special recognition of Joe,
24 our collective work, led by Joe has

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2 created an enduring world-class
3 asset for the entire city.

4 And, Mary Beth, to you
5 and your entire family, we're so
6 appreciative for you encouraging
7 Joe to pursue his passion for the
8 trail and to give so much of his
9 time to execute our wonderful
10 mission. Thank you all very much.

11 (Applause.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

13 JOHNSON: Council will be at ease.

14 (Council at ease.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: I would like to take a
17 moment to -- I guess today is City
18 Council Alumni Day. I want to take
19 a moment to acknowledge the
20 Honorable Jannie L. Blackwell.
21 Let's give her a round of applause.

22 (Applause.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: I also want to take a

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 moment to acknowledge one of my big
3 brothers and mentors, former
4 Councilmember, the Honorable George
5 Burrell.

6 (Applause.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: At this time, the Chair
9 recognizes Councilmember Dr. Nina
10 Ahmad, who will present a
11 resolution honoring Angelo Perryman
12 and Perryman Building and
13 Construction for 70 years of
14 excellent leadership and lasting
15 impact on the City of Philadelphia.

16 Will Mr. Perryman and
17 those accompanying him please join
18 the Councilmember at the podium.
19 Joining Councilmember Dr. Nina
20 Ahmad are the following
21 Councilmembers: Councilmember Mark
22 Squilla, Councilmember Rue Landau,
23 Councilmember Kendra Brooks,
24 Councilmember Anthony Phillips and

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2 Councilmember Jeffrey Jay Young.

3 (Councilmembers and
4 guests approached podium.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes

7 Councilmember Dr. Nina Ahmad.

8 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

9 Thank you, Council President. Good
10 morning, Councilmembers. Good
11 morning, guests.

12 I am proud today to
13 honor one of our great families and
14 civic leaders, Angelo Perryman, who
15 has served our city for 28 years as
16 the second-generation owner of
17 Perryman Construction Services, one
18 of the premier Black-owned major
19 construction companies in our city.

20 Perryman Construction
21 was established in 1954 by Jimmie
22 L. Perryman, Sr. and has a long
23 tradition of quality craftsmanship
24 and dependable service.

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2 Mr. Perryman is a shining example
3 of Black American excellence,
4 humility in leadership, a
5 commitment to shaping policy and
6 systems and taking leadership and
7 advisory roles when called upon.

8 He has served our city
9 as a Chair of the Mayor's Advisory
10 Council on Construction Industry
11 Diversity during the Nutter
12 Administration, member of the
13 Mayor's Advisory Council on
14 Construction Industry Diversity,
15 member of the Licenses and
16 Inspections Oversight Committee,
17 also in the Nutter Administration
18 and participant in the Small and
19 Local Business Roundtable.

20 Mr. Perryman is often called upon
21 in these types of roles due to his
22 position as a trusted partner in
23 the community and because of his
24 integrity and reliability.

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2 Mr. Perryman has
3 remained committed to Philadelphia.
4 Since moving here in 1998, he
5 assumed leadership of the
6 construction company and guided it
7 through 1000 projects, helping to
8 transform and modernize
9 Philadelphia.

10 Mr. Perryman, the
11 Perryman family, Perryman
12 Construction has grown with
13 Philadelphia and has never
14 relocated or scaled away from our
15 city, and we are likely seeing yet
16 another generation of Perrymans
17 inherit the business in his
18 daughter Angelina.

19 I just want to talk
20 about this is what wealth-building
21 looks like. This is what
22 excellence looks like. And so, it
23 is my honor to present this
24 resolution. And my colleagues will

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2 join me, honoring Angelo Perryman
3 and Perryman Construction for 72
4 years of excellence leadership and
5 lasting impact on the City of
6 Philadelphia.

7 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

8 Whereas, Perryman Construction, one
9 of the premier Black-owned major
10 construction companies, was founded
11 in 1954 by Jimmie Perryman in
12 Evergreen, Alabama. And over the
13 past 70 years, has become a
14 respected and enduring presence in
15 Philadelphia construction industry,
16 playing vital roles in shaping the
17 skyline and strengthening the
18 infrastructure of our city; and

19 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

20 Whereas, in 1998 Angelo Perryman
21 assumed leadership of the company
22 as President and relocated it to
23 Philadelphia, guiding its continued
24 growth and overseeing more than

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 1000 projects that have helped
3 transform and modernize the region;
4 and

5 Whereas, the company's
6 work includes landmark projects
7 such as the installation of
8 approximately 64,000 seats at
9 Lincoln Financial Field, the
10 expansion of the Pennsylvania
11 Convention Center, the Drexel
12 University Health Sciences
13 Building, improvements at
14 Philadelphia International Airport,
15 the Kimmel Center for the
16 Performing Arts and the
17 Philadelphia Zoo parking garage,
18 among numerous other commercial and
19 industrial developments; and

20 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS:

21 Whereas, on February 9, 2026 at the
22 General Building Contractors
23 Association Annual Business
24 Meeting, Angelo Perryman was

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 elected Chairman of the Board,
3 becoming the first African American
4 to serve in this role, a
5 distinction that reflects the
6 confidence of his peers and his
7 strong commitment to union
8 construction, workforce development
9 and public-private collaborations;
10 and

11 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:

12 Whereas, as a proud second-
13 generation leader, Angelo Perryman
14 has carried forward his family's
15 legacy of hard work and
16 opportunity, mentoring future
17 leaders and preparing the next
18 generation, including his children,
19 Angelina Perryman and Anthony
20 Perryman, to continue the company's
21 tradition of service and impact;
22 now, therefore, be it

23 COUNCILMAN YOUNG:

24 Resolved, by the Council of the

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 City of Philadelphia, Hereby
3 recognizes and honors Angelo
4 Perryman for his exemplary
5 leadership, significant
6 contributions to the construction
7 industry and enduring impact on the
8 City of Philadelphia.

9 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

10 Further resolved, that Engrossed
11 copies of this resolution are going
12 to be presented to Angelo Perryman
13 and to the Perryman Construction as
14 evidence of the Council's
15 admiration and support.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: Congratulations.

18 (Applause.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
21 Mr. Perryman. The floor is yours,
22 sir.

23 MR. PERRYMAN: Thank
24 you, Councilwoman Ahmad, Council

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2 President Johnson and Council
3 leaders of this great body for
4 allowing me just to be here today.
5 Today represents an intersection of
6 many dreams. Most people have
7 played a role in this business
8 never thought that what they were
9 helping to do would be where we are
10 today. There has been times when
11 the challenges of running a family-
12 owned business were almost
13 insurmountable, finding new
14 opportunities, access to affordable
15 financing, bonding and creating the
16 workforce of the future.

17 We have been so blessed
18 to have friends and family that saw
19 every challenge as a challenge for
20 themselves. When we had no work,
21 little jobs would just appear. And
22 they would be in the names of Jim
23 Roundtree, Wes Wyatt, John Baugh,
24 Craig Sabatino. And when there

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2 wasn't a standard even there to
3 even follow, Angelina and Anthony
4 and their Uncle Jimmie created a
5 standard with innovation, thinking
6 about the future and the desire
7 that this company would be what my
8 father wanted to be to last
9 forever.

10 When I had situations
11 where we ran into problems, people
12 like Kimmel Dawkins would say,
13 we'll figure it out. As a business
14 owner, there have been few times
15 when there's been a we that was
16 ever stated, and we are so much
17 appreciated to that. The business
18 challenges of tomorrow will require
19 more than friends and family. It
20 will require a network of leaders,
21 private, public committed to the
22 growth of new businesses, those
23 interested in seeing a new breed of
24 Black and Brown businesses, small

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2 and large, they are not all small,
3 with the capacity to grow in the
4 region.

5 And what is most
6 critical is that we need
7 governmental involvement every step
8 of the way to make sure that fair
9 access is possible. It is critical
10 that we now focus on that in this
11 day and time more than ever.

12 Friends and family can no longer do
13 it. It's going to require more.

14 Perryman Construction
15 has called Philadelphia home for
16 almost 25 years. Our business has
17 invested in Philadelphia. It has
18 grown in Philadelphia and through
19 the future leadership of Angelina
20 Perryman, where she had to remind
21 me that she's been with the company
22 now almost 20 years, that her
23 leadership will continue to be a
24 part of this fabric called

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2 Philadelphia Family for many years
3 to come. Thank you very much.

4 (Applause.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: Congratulations.

7 Council will be at ease.

8 (Council at ease.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: We almost have a quorum
11 of Alumni City Councilmembers. So
12 in the audience is the Honorable
13 Blondell Reynolds Brown. Can we
14 give her a round of applause?

15 (Applause.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: I know why she's here, to
18 support one of her members of Delta
19 Sigma Theta, Inc. who is being
20 honored today. So welcome back.

21 At this time, the Chair
22 recognizes Councilmember Curtis
23 Jones, who will present a
24 resolution honoring and recognizing

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2 Rick Williams, Sharrie Williams,
3 Ukee Washington, Thera Martin and
4 Solomon Jones for their service to
5 Philadelphia as trusted journalists
6 and stewards of truth during Black
7 History Month.

8 Would the honorees and
9 those accompanying them, please
10 join Councilman Jones at the
11 podium. Joining Member Jones are
12 the following members:

13 Councilmember Phillips,
14 Councilmember Jamie Gauthier,
15 Majority Leader Katherine Gilmore
16 Richardson, Councilmember Rue
17 Landau, Councilmember Jeffrey Jay
18 Young, Councilmember Jim Harrity,
19 Councilmember Nicolas O'Rourke,
20 Councilmember Cindy Bass and
21 Councilmember Dr. Nina Ahmad.

22 (Councilmembers and
23 guests approached podium.)

24 COUNCILMAN JONES:

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2 Council President, talk about a
3 Philadelphia Mount Rushmore for
4 communicators in our neighborhood,
5 you're looking at the starting
6 lineup. Give them a round of
7 applause.

8 (Applause.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: Since the beginning of
11 time, it has been important to get
12 credible messengers to give the
13 messages to the people. Words do
14 matter, we the people matter, and
15 truth in communications is
16 important. Now more than ever with
17 No. 47 in the White House, you got
18 to filter your news to figure out
19 what is true and what is made-up
20 fake news, to quote him.

21 But when you have
22 trusted members of our community,
23 our journalism community and our
24 communications network, you can

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2 look and say, I know them and they
3 know us. They know the difference
4 between Washington Avenue and
5 Washington Lane and don't need a
6 GPS signal to get there, and those
7 are important factors in how we
8 receive our news. So I'm proud and
9 pleased to recognize them today in
10 our chambers.

11 Dr. Phillips, where are
12 you? You're supposed to be up
13 here. So when I first came here, I
14 used to love to read these
15 citations. My eyes have betrayed
16 me, so I get my surrogates to take
17 over. Dr. Phillips -- I'm sorry,
18 Mr. President, your job.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: The floor is yours, sir,
21 Dr. Phillips.

22 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:

23 Thank you. Solomon Jones, as we
24 know is our incredible radio

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2 personality, along with Thera
3 Martin. Then we have Ukee
4 Washington, and to the most
5 incredible anchor team --

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

7 JOHNSON: He's only saying Solomon
8 Jones because they live up in the
9 Northwest.

10 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: A
11 lot of greatness comes from
12 Northwest. But we also have my two
13 favorite anchors, and it's not
14 because they're African American.
15 They just happen to be African
16 American and, that is, Rick
17 Williams and Sharrie Williams, who
18 are doing an incredible job with
19 6ABC.

20 Honoring and recognizing
21 Rick Williams, Sharrie Williams,
22 Ukee Washington, Thera Martin and
23 Solomon Jones for their service to
24 Philadelphia as trusted journalists

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2 and stewards of truth.

3 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

4 During Black History Month.

5 Whereas, access to reliable

6 information is essential to a

7 functioning democracy and to the

8 everyday decisions Philadelphians

9 make about their lives and

10 communities; and

11 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

12 Whereas, Rick Williams, Sharrie

13 Williams, Ukee Washington, Thera

14 Martin and Solomon Jones have built

15 public trust through consistent,

16 responsible reporting that centers

17 on the people of Philadelphia; and

18 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

19 Whereas, Rick Williams has served

20 Philadelphia for more than three

21 decades as an anchor and reporter

22 for 6ABC Action News, bringing

23 important local news to audiences

24 across the region, hosting

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2 community programs such as
3 Crimefighters and helping guide
4 viewers through major events, while
5 also supporting young people
6 through mentoring and nonprofit
7 work, such as his role with
8 Philadelphia Futures; and

9 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

10 I'm a local fan girling out. I
11 love this. Whereas, Sharrie
12 Williams is a co-anchor for Action
13 News at 5:00 p.m. on 6ABC and at
14 10:00 p.m. on PHL17 with a career
15 that includes reporting on national
16 political moments, major sporting
17 events and community issues. And
18 in 2024 was honored as Journalist
19 of the Year by the Philadelphia
20 Association of Black Journalists.
21 Williams also holds a Master's
22 Degree from the University of
23 Pennsylvania, and is deeply
24 committed to mentoring young people

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2 and advocating for mental health
3 awareness; and

4 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:

5 Whereas, Ukee Washington has long
6 been a trusted presence in
7 Philadelphia's journalism, as a
8 co-anchor of evening newscast on
9 CBS3 and KYW-TV, bringing
10 thoughtful reporting and community
11 context to viewers while also
12 engaging audiences through segments
13 like Keepin' It Reel and
14 discussions of local social issues.
15 Washington's long tenure in
16 broadcast journalism and his work
17 connecting with audiences across
18 generations reflect his dedication
19 to civic life and storytelling; and

20 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS:

21 Whereas, Thera Martin has been a
22 fixture in Philadelphia media
23 landscape for decades, working
24 across radio, cable television and

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2 print, hosting programs such as
3 News You Can Use and The Electric
4 Magazine Show, and using her voice
5 to spotlight small business owners,
6 nonprofits and community concerns
7 throughout the city. Martin's
8 career reflects a deep commitment
9 to community information, local
10 issues and supporting civic
11 engagement; and

12 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

13 Whereas, Solomon Jones is an award-
14 winning columnist and author whose
15 work for outlets including
16 Philadelphia Daily News, Access
17 Philly consistently addresses race,
18 class and social justice in
19 Philadelphia, while also serving as
20 radio host on WURD and contributing
21 to national outlets such as NPR and
22 CNN;

23 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Jones

24 has used his platform to elevate

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2 critical conversations about equity
3 and opportunity, and his books and
4 columns have made significant
5 contributions to the city's
6 literary and journalistic
7 tradition; and

8 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:

9 Whereas, their work has documented
10 the challenges, progress and lived
11 experience of Black communities
12 across the city of Philadelphia,
13 often during moments when clarity
14 and care were most needed; and

15 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS:

16 Whereas, their presence in local
17 news has helped shape how
18 Philadelphia sees itself and how
19 it's seen by others, while opening
20 doors for those who follow in their
21 paths; now, therefore, be it

22 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

23 Resolved, that the Council of the
24 City of Philadelphia, Hereby honors

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 and recognizes Rick Williams,
3 Sharrie Williams, Ukee Washington,
4 Thera Martin and Solomon Jones for
5 their service to Philadelphia as
6 trusted journalists and stewards
7 for the truth during Black History
8 Month. Congratulations.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: Congratulations.

11 (Applause.)

12 COUNCILMAN JONES: So
13 just real quick. Thank you,
14 Mr. President.

15 One of the things you
16 don't know is we watch you, right.
17 We watch you both, what you say and
18 how you dress.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: Pretty sharp, right.

21 COUNCILMAN JONES: We
22 get together in the closet, talk
23 about ties and we say, all right,
24 what did Rick have on today. And

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2 so, therefore we are proposing in a
3 budget that the President -- I
4 don't think this is going to
5 pass -- gets us a tie budget so
6 that we can keep up with you guys.

7 Thank you,
8 Mr. President.

9 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

10 Excuse me. We need something too.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: Congratulations to all
13 the honorees.

14 The Chair recognizes the
15 honorees for brief remarks.

16 MR. WILLIAMS: Good
17 morning. Thank you. I know
18 because I'm on the Councilman's
19 turf, I wore a turtleneck this
20 morning. He wears some wonderful
21 ties as well. And I knew the
22 Honorable Vincent, he was going to
23 be here. And so, I definitely got
24 to wear a turtleneck, because I'm

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2 not trying to compete. But thank
3 you for this distinction.

4 I love Philadelphia.

5 I've been working at 6ABC for
6 almost 40 years. Yeah, I'm older
7 than I look. Thank you.

8 (Applause.)

9 MR. WILLIAMS: But for
10 much of those years, I anchored
11 with a woman named Monica Malpass,
12 who retired a number of years ago.
13 And when she did, I said, who is
14 going to fill Monica's shoes? And
15 then in walks this diva right here,
16 Sharrie Williams. And we just
17 happened to have the same last
18 name, which is either serendipity
19 or coincidence. A lot of people
20 think we're married.

21 I was in the mall the
22 other day with my wife Jocelyn.
23 And a woman says, I just love
24 watching you and your wife on TV.

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2 And I said, well, this is my wife
3 right here. And she said, yeah,
4 okay, sure, whatever. But Sharrie
5 makes me want to be a better anchor
6 and a better journalist, and I
7 thank her for that.

8 I thank the City of
9 Philadelphia and the city leaders
10 for making me want to be a better
11 Philadelphian and a better Black
12 man in this wonderful city. So
13 thank you very much for this
14 distinction. Thank you for
15 watching us. Thank you for
16 supporting us. You know, it's no
17 small thing that Sharrie and I
18 became the first Black anchor team
19 in Philadelphia at 5 o'clock. We
20 don't take that --

21 (Applause.)

22 MR. WILLIAMS: We don't
23 take that lightly. So thank you.
24 Thank you, Councilman. Thank you,

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2 everyone. Thank you,
3 Mr. President. And continue to
4 watch 6ABC. Thank you.

5 MS. WILLIAMS: What an
6 honor to be here this morning.
7 Thank you to this esteemed Council,
8 to Councilmember Curtis Jones who
9 represents the 4th District, so
10 what a privilege to be here. And
11 I'm so grateful to have a co-anchor
12 like Rick Williams. He welcomed me
13 in from the moment I got here.

14 I'm celebrating 12 years
15 now in Philadelphia with WPVI, 6ABC
16 Action News, and I did my test run
17 with him over 12 years ago to get
18 this job. And he encouraged me and
19 told me, you're going to be all
20 right. And so far, it's the truth.
21 In these 12 years, I've had the
22 privilege to tell the stories of
23 this community, to highlight its
24 triumphs, to bear witness to its

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2 struggles, but to amplify the
3 voices of the diverse, vibrant
4 people who make this city
5 extraordinary.

6 And it's true. Truth is
7 being challenged. Journalism is so
8 important right now. This city,
9 Philadelphia is built on grit. We
10 don't fold under pressure. We just
11 rise through it. And that's the
12 type of grit that we push for to do
13 our job with excellence and
14 purpose. I'm so grateful. Thank
15 you so much for this honor. Glad
16 to be here this morning.

17 (Applause.)

18 MR. JONES: I want to
19 thank this Council for this honor.
20 Thank you, Councilman Jones. No,
21 we are not related. But I
22 appreciate everything that this
23 city has given me.

24 When I started out as a

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2 journalist 33 years ago at the
3 Philadelphia Tribune, I wrote my
4 first story from a homeless
5 shelter. I was sleeping in Bed No.
6 65 at the Ridge Avenue Shelter.
7 I've lived on these streets. I
8 have written about these streets.
9 I know these streets like the back
10 of my hand. And when we talk about
11 Black History, I know that that
12 history is interwoven throughout
13 this city.

14 I said a few weeks ago
15 at the President's House Exhibit at
16 6th and Market, that you can't pry
17 the history of slavery off the
18 walls in Philadelphia.

19 (Applause.)

20 MR. JONES: That
21 literally, if you want to take away
22 the history of slavery in
23 Philadelphia, you'd have to dig up
24 Girard Avenue because it's named

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2 after an enslaver named Steven
3 Girard. That you'd have to change
4 the name of Stenton Avenue because
5 it's named after the residence
6 where an enslaver named James Logan
7 lived, that you'd have to rename
8 Cliveden Street because it's named
9 after the house where a family of
10 enslavers named the Chews lived,
11 and that Chew Avenue in the Logan
12 neighborhood are named after those
13 very same enslavers.

14 And so, you can't pry
15 our history off the walls. And so,
16 understanding that context is key
17 to what we do in journalism,
18 because in order to tell the truth,
19 you have to know where the truth
20 comes from. I've been grateful
21 that as a journalist, I've been
22 able to travel to Ghana and know
23 that our history does not start
24 with enslavement, that our history

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2 does not start with chains, that
3 our history starts with greatness,
4 and that that is where our history
5 is going.

6 Because when you know
7 where you come from, you can know
8 where you're going. And so, I'm
9 grateful for all that I have been
10 able to do as a journalist, but I
11 see myself not as someone who is on
12 CNN or on these various platforms.
13 I see myself as a servant to this
14 community that's given me so much.
15 So thank you for who you are and
16 thank you for pushing me and
17 pushing us to be better. Thank
18 you.

19 (Applause.)

20 MS. MARTIN: I also want
21 to say good morning to everyone
22 here today, and I am honored and
23 humbled for the opportunity to
24 stand here next to my brother, City

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2 Councilman Curtis Jones, Jr.

3 I stand on the shoulders
4 of Louise Williams Bishop. I stand
5 on the shoulders of W. Cody
6 Anderson. I stand on the shoulders
7 of Kernie Anderson and Butterball
8 and I stand on the shoulders of
9 Maddie Humphrey, just to name a
10 few. I am thankful for those who
11 came before me to cut a pathway
12 that I could have a voice in radio
13 today. So I'm thankful and I'm
14 grateful for that.

15 I also thank Dr. Walter
16 Lomax from WURD for the opportunity
17 he gave me to be a program director
18 at that radio station. So I'm just
19 honored. I'm humbled today.

20 Council President
21 Kenyatta Johnson, all of our
22 amazing Councilpeople who are here
23 and you, Councilmember Curtis
24 Jones, thank you, thank you, thank

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2 you for the honor.

3 (Applause.)

4 MS. GIROUX: Hello. I'm
5 Kathleen Giroux. I'm from CBS
6 Philadelphia, and I'm here to
7 represent Ukee Washington, which by
8 the way, is Mission Impossible.
9 Okay, as we all know Ukee is --
10 he's everything. He's everything
11 to our news operation. He sets the
12 tone. He makes sure we're in the
13 right neighborhoods. He makes sure
14 we're telling the right stories,
15 and he's done so there with us for
16 more than 40 years and we are so
17 grateful to have him. And Ukee
18 wanted me to tell you how grateful
19 he is for this honor. Thank you
20 very much.

21 (Applause.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: Council will be at ease.

24 (Council at ease.)

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2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: At this time, the Chair
4 will recognize Councilmember Curtis
5 Jones, who will have an opportunity
6 to present a resolution honoring
7 and recognizing a young lady who is
8 outstanding, empowering, graceful.
9 Before there was Jennifer Hudson
10 and Beyonce, it was Jennifer
11 Holiday and Sheryl Lee Ralph, the
12 original Dreamgirl.

13 (Applause.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

15 JOHNSON: You may have seen her on
16 Abbott Elementary. She's also an
17 Emmy Award winner as well. And so,
18 she will be recognized today by
19 Councilmember Curtis Jones for
20 being named one of Time magazine's
21 Most Influential Women of the Year
22 in 2026.

23 (Applause.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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2 JOHNSON: Will Ms. Sheryl Lee Ralph
3 and those accompanying her, please
4 join her at the podium. We can give
5 her a real big -- give her a
6 Philadelphia real big round of
7 applause, everyone.

8 (Applause.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: Joining Member
11 Phillips -- joining Member Jones is
12 Councilmember Dr. Anthony Phillips,
13 Councilmember Jamie Gauthier,
14 Majority Leader Katherine Gilmore
15 Richardson, Councilmember Rue
16 Landau, Councilmember Young,
17 Councilmember Harrity,
18 Councilmember Nicolas O'Rourke,
19 Councilmember Bass and
20 Councilmember Dr. Nina Ahmad.

21 (Councilmembers and
22 guests approached podium.)

23 COUNCILMAN JONES: So my
24 favorite quote in all of the parts

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2 you play, you did in an interview,
3 oh no, and it was actually a song,
4 I believe that said, I know I'm an
5 endangered species, but I don't
6 sing a victim song. And I thought
7 that was so very powerful for that
8 kind of statement, Senator, to be
9 said by a African American woman in
10 these times.

11 I struggled earlier
12 today and last night to say which
13 part did I enjoy you in most.
14 There was Dreamgirls. There was
15 the Mighty Quinn. She was bossing
16 that too, right. There's Abbott
17 Elementary. But Ray Donovan was
18 one of the ones I liked too, right.

19 But the part that I
20 enjoyed the most, Mr. President, is
21 her role as the First Lady of the
22 7th Senatorial District, married to
23 Senator Hughes. And you taught me,
24 Senator, to always let people smell

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 their flowers while they can
3 appreciate it. So would you do us
4 the honor of presenting?

5 SENATOR HUGHES: All
6 right.

7 COUNCILMAN JONES: Now,
8 that's how you stay married.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: The floor is yours, sir.

11 SENATOR HUGHES: Thank
12 you, Mr. President. Thank you,
13 Councilman Jones. Thank you,
14 members of City Council and all
15 those gathered. I mean, y'all know
16 me. I got the mic. I'm going to
17 take advantage of the moment. Just
18 sitting on the side watching this
19 Council and watching and seeing the
20 veteran Councilpeople in the room,
21 I have to tell you, I look at y'all
22 from the long view. You know,
23 especially when I'm 104 miles away
24 at the State Capitol in Harrisburg,

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2 Pennsylvania. Y'all doing some
3 hell of a work. Y'all doing a hell
4 of a job.

5 The work you've done to
6 reduce violent crime, the work
7 you've done and about to do on the
8 country's most innovative housing
9 program is envied all across the
10 country. And you all need to know
11 that, Mr. President, and all of my
12 friends and colleagues. Y'all are
13 doing some great work. I see it
14 and I wanted you to know that I see
15 it. And I value our relationship
16 and I value our friendship and I
17 certainly value the fact that y'all
18 have some good sense, Councilman
19 Jones, to recognize Time Magazine's
20 2026 Woman of the Year. She's been
21 my Woman of the Year since January
22 31 2002.

23 (Applause.)

24 SENATOR HUGHES: Amen.

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2 Sweetheart, there are no words
3 having watched this 40-year
4 overnight sensation bloom, all
5 right, in these moments and having
6 you recognized as the Woman of the
7 Year by TIME Magazine. But it
8 really is embodied in all of the
9 young people who look up to you in
10 so many ways. And I get the chance
11 to just sit back and watch that.
12 And I'm just the eye candy, what
13 can I say.

14 But just so very, very
15 proud of you, and although City
16 Council has honored a lot of folks
17 deserving today, this doesn't
18 happen to everybody and you are so
19 deserving of this.

20 (Applause.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes Member
23 Jones.

24 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:

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2 Well, today I was just having a
3 quick joke with Councilmember
4 Nicolas O'Rourke. We grew up in
5 the '90s. We're the same age, and
6 we knew Parenthood very, very well
7 as well as Sister Act, which we
8 were so thankful for you. And I
9 was just in Ocho Rios and I saw
10 this big, big billboard honoring
11 Sheryl Lee Ralph. I was like,
12 she's a Jamaican hero too. So it's
13 just wonderful.

14 Like he said, not many
15 people get this, Senator, and it's
16 definitely an honor for you to be
17 here with us today. Honoring and
18 recognizing Sheryl Lee Ralph for
19 being named one of TIME Magazine's
20 Most Influential Women of the Year
21 in 2026;

22 (Applause.)

23 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

24 Whereas, Sheryl Lee Ralph, an

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 acclaimed actress, singer and
3 activist has devoted nearly five
4 decades to excellence in performing
5 arts, captivating audiences with
6 her dynamic presence, powerful
7 voice and unwavering commitment to
8 her craft; and

9 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

10 Whereas, Ms. Ralph first rose to
11 national prominence with her Tony
12 Award-nominated performance as
13 Deena Jones in the original
14 Broadway production of Dreamgirls,
15 establishing herself as a
16 trailblazer in American theater and
17 opening doors for generations of
18 Black performers; and

19 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

20 Whereas, her distinguished career
21 spans television, film and stage,
22 including her celebrated portrayal
23 of Barbara Howard on the
24 critically-acclaimed ABC sitcom

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 Abbott Elementary where she brings
3 authenticity, humor and grace to
4 the role of a dedicated educator;
5 and

6 (Applause.)

7 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

8 The fan girl continues. Whereas,
9 in 2022, Ms. Ralph received a
10 Primetime Emmy Award for
11 Outstanding Supporting Actress in a
12 Comedy Series for her role in
13 Abbott Elementary, becoming only
14 the second Black woman to earn this
15 honor in the category and has since
16 continued to receive consecutive
17 nominations, solidifying her legacy
18 as a groundbreaking performer;

19 COUNCILMAN HARRITY: I
20 just got to say my wife is going to
21 be so mad the one day she didn't
22 come today. In my house, it's not
23 Christmas until I'm watching
24 Ms. Ralph on the Hallmark Channel,

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 you know what I'm saying. Every
3 time I come in, my wife sitting
4 there, listening to her sing,
5 dance. A triple threat is what
6 they call it, right.

7 Whereas, in April 2025
8 after nearly 50 years of
9 perseverance and artistic
10 excellence, Ms. Ralph was honored
11 with a Star on the Hollywood Walk
12 of Fame, baby, that's what I'm
13 talking about.

14 (Applause.)

15 COUNCILMAN HARRITY: A
16 long, overdue recognition of her
17 enduring contributions to the
18 entertainment industry; and

19 COUNCILMAN YOUNG:
20 Wednesday night is the staple in my
21 household. We have to watch Abbott
22 Elementary with my son and my wife.

23 Whereas, beyond her
24 artistic accomplishments, Ms. Ralph

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 has dedicated her life to advocacy
3 and public service, founding the
4 DIVA Foundation in 1990 to raise
5 awareness about HIV/AIDS and
6 provide critical support to
7 affected communities, particularly
8 those historically underserved and
9 overlooked;

10 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

11 Y'all know Sister Act 2 is
12 formative for theater and song kids
13 all over the world.

14 Whereas, her advocacy
15 continues through impactful
16 storytelling, including her role as
17 Executive Producer of the
18 documentary Living Proof, which
19 amplifies the voices of Black women
20 in the South living with HIV and
21 underscores her commitment to
22 ensuring that every individual's
23 story is heard and it's valued; and

24 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS:

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 Whereas, Ms. Ralph has also been a
3 passionate champion for educators,
4 using her platform through Abbott
5 Elementary to highlight the
6 dedication, compassion and
7 resilience of teachers who shape
8 the lives of young people and each
9 day; and

10 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

11 Whereas, in recognition of
12 exemplary influence, cultural
13 impact and unwavering dedication to
14 uplifting others, Ms. Ralph has
15 been named one of the honorees of
16 TIME's Most Influential Women of
17 the Year, a prestigious distinction
18 celebrating women who are shaping
19 the world through leadership,
20 advocacy and transformative impact;
21 and

22 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

23 Whereas, Ms. Ralph's legacy is
24 defined not only by her artistic

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 excellence but her commitment to
3 empowering communities, amplifying
4 underrepresented voices and
5 inspiring generations to persevere
6 with courage, authenticity and
7 purpose; now, therefore, be it;

8 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

9 Resolved, by the Council of the
10 City of Philadelphia, that it
11 Hereby honors and congratulates
12 Sheryl Lee Ralph on being named one
13 of TIME Magazine's Most Influential
14 Women of the Year and celebrates
15 her outstanding contributions to
16 the arts, advocacy and global
17 community; and

18 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:

19 Further resolved, that an Engrossed
20 copy of this resolution be
21 presented to Sheryl Lee Ralph as an
22 expression of the admiration and
23 gratitude of the Council of the
24 City of Philadelphia.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 (Applause.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

4 JOHNSON: Congratulations. The
5 floor is yours, Ms. Ralph.

6 MS. RALPH: Councilman,
7 the song is:

8 I am an endangered
9 species, but I sing no victim song.
10 I am a woman. I am an artist and I
11 know where my voice belongs.

12 (Applause.)

13 MS. RALPH: So I thank
14 you, Councilman Jones. I thank all
15 of the members of the City Council
16 of Philadelphia for this incredible
17 and outstanding honor.
18 Congratulations to everyone before
19 me who was honored and acknowledged
20 this morning. To be recognized by
21 this city, a city that shapes,
22 challenges and ultimately sustains
23 so many, there are few
24 acknowledgements more meaningful

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 than that. And I accept this honor
3 not as a finish line, but as a
4 reminder of the responsibility that
5 comes with being seen, being heard
6 and entrusted with purpose.

7 We often think of
8 recognition as something earned
9 individually, but the truth is none
10 of us arrives at moments of
11 significance alone. We are lifted
12 up by neighbors who believe in us,
13 mentors who guide us, critics who
14 sharpen us and haters who ignored
15 us -- got to thank your haters --
16 and also by communities that refuse
17 to let us settle for less than our
18 potential.

19 So I stand here as one
20 voice, but I carry so many voices
21 with me. This city, this great
22 city of Philadelphia, is more than
23 just streets and structures.
24 Philadelphia is resilience.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 Philadelphia is diversity, of
3 thought, culture and experience.

4 Philadelphia is quiet
5 courage of people who wake up every
6 day, every day committed to carry
7 on, committed to build something
8 better even when the path is
9 difficult and uncertain. And this
10 honor, if it represents anything, I
11 hope it reflects a shared
12 commitment of all of us, especially
13 of you, City Council, especially of
14 the people that come here to have
15 your voices heard. I heard you,
16 Planned Parenthood.

17 (Applause.)

18 MS. RALPH: All of you
19 coming to speak up and keep
20 reaching across lines, and some of
21 these lines are thick and hard that
22 can divide us these days. Progress
23 does not come from comfort. It
24 comes from connection. It comes

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 from listening. It comes from the
3 willingness to act even when it is
4 not popular, even when it is
5 difficult. And I am deeply
6 grateful and equally aware that
7 gratitude must be matched with
8 continued service.

9 So I accept this
10 recognition with humility and with
11 a renewed promise to contribute
12 meaningfully to uplift where I can,
13 and to stand firmly with what
14 brings us closer together. And I
15 especially want to thank the women
16 of Philadelphia for leaving Senator
17 Vincent Hughes alone --

18 (Applause.)

19 MS. RALPH: -- for a
20 woman to come all the way from
21 California to meet the love of her
22 life and proclaim it at the top of
23 the Rocky Stairs in front of the
24 museum that we love each other and

1 4/9/26 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 we love the great city that is
3 Philadelphia.

4 (Applause.)

5 MS. RALPH: Thank you.

6 Thank you, thank you, Philadelphia.

7 (Applause.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: Congratulations.

10 Council will be at ease.

11 (Council at ease.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

13 JOHNSON: Let's give Sheryl Lee
14 Ralph another big round of applause
15 please.

16 (Applause.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: Let's rock and roll. The
19 next order of business is
20 communications. The Chair requests
21 that the Sergeant-at-Arms deliver
22 the messages from the Mayor to the
23 Chief Clerk.

24 Will the Chief Clerk

1 4/9/26 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 please read the messages from the
3 Mayor and any other communications
4 in her possession.

5 CHIEF CLERK: To the
6 President and the members of the
7 Council of the City of
8 Philadelphia, I'm submitting
9 herewith for the consideration of
10 your Honorable body the following
11 proposed: An ordinance authorizing
12 the Chief Information Officer, on
13 behalf of the City, to enter into a
14 multi-year agreement to purchase
15 licenses for email, cloud services,
16 enterprise software, data services,
17 security software and other related
18 computing products and services,
19 under certain terms and conditions.

20 An ordinance authorizing
21 the Chief Information Officer, on
22 behalf of the City, to enter into a
23 multi-year agreement to purchase
24 support for mainframe and database

1 4/9/26 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 software protocols and
3 applications, under certain terms
4 and conditions.

5 An ordinance amending
6 Section 10-710 of The Philadelphia
7 Code, entitled "Dumping of Debris
8 and Short Dumping," to change the
9 standard for determining
10 violations, all under certain terms
11 and conditions.

12 An ordinance to amend
13 Title 14 of The Philadelphia Code,
14 entitled "Zoning and Planning" by
15 revising certain terms, certain
16 provisions relating to the Transit
17 Improvement Bonus, to clarify
18 parameters and revise the bonus
19 structure and by making related
20 changes, all under certain terms
21 and conditions.

22 Authorizing and
23 approving the execution and
24 delivery of a Service Agreement

1 4/9/26 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 between the City and the
3 Philadelphia Authority for
4 Industrial Development relating to
5 the provision by the Philadelphia
6 Authority for Industrial
7 Development of development
8 assistance to support certain costs
9 related to promoting economic and
10 commercial development of the City;
11 approving the guaranty by the
12 Philadelphia Authority for
13 Industrial Development of certain
14 obligations related to the issuance
15 of a letter of credit to secure the
16 funding of such costs; authorizing
17 and approving the obligation of the
18 City to pay in full when due the
19 Service Fee and other amounts
20 payable under the Service Agreement
21 and covenanting to make necessary
22 appropriations for such purposes;
23 and authorizing City officials to
24 take necessary or appropriate

1 4/9/26 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 actions to accomplish the intent
3 and purpose of the ordinance, all
4 under certain terms and conditions.

5 A resolution authorizing
6 the Commissioner of Public Property
7 to execute and deliver to the
8 Philadelphia Redevelopment
9 Authority deeds conveying fee
10 simple title to 45 and 75 East
11 Ashmead Street in the 8th
12 Councilmanic District of the City
13 of Philadelphia and further
14 authorizing the Philadelphia
15 Redevelopment Authority to transfer
16 to the Philadelphia Land Bank fee
17 simple title to such properties
18 pursuant to Section 16-405 of The
19 Philadelphia Code.

20 A resolution approving
21 the appointment of William Snyder,
22 Jr., as a member of the Board of
23 Commissioners of the Philadelphia
24 Housing Authority.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 A resolution confirming
3 the appointment of the Honorable
4 Idee C. Fox as a member of the
5 Board of Ethics to serve in the
6 term ending November 16, 2030.

7 And pursuant to Sections
8 4-604 and 2-307 of the Home Rule
9 Charter, I am today transmitting to
10 the Council the recommendation of
11 the City Planning Commission on the
12 following bills: Bill No. 260133,
13 not for approval. Bill No. 260165,
14 Bill No. 260207, Bill No. 260211,
15 Bill No. 260212, Bill No. 260213,
16 Bill No. 260214, Bill No. 260216,
17 Bill No. 260217 for approval.

18 I'm pleased to advise
19 you that on March 30, 2026 I signed
20 the following bills which were
21 passed by Council on its session
22 March 26, 2026: Bill No. 260131
23 and Bill No. 260161.

24 I'm pleased to advise

1 4/9/26 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 you that on March 30, 2026 I signed
3 the following bills which were
4 passed by Council at its session on
5 March 19, 2026: Bill No.
6 250843-AA, Bill No. 260021, Bill
7 No. 260022, Bill No. 260055, Bill
8 No. 260073 and Bill No. 260074.

9 Finally, I'm pleased to
10 advise you that on April 7, 2026 I
11 signed the following bills which
12 were passed by Council at its
13 session on March 26, 2026: Bill
14 No. 250844, Bill No. 250980-A, Bill
15 No. 251068, Bill No. 251069, Bill
16 No. 251099, Bill No. 251102, Bill
17 No. 260025, Bill No. 260095, Bill
18 No. 260115 and Bill No. 260132.

19 There are no further
20 communications in my possession,
21 Council President.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: Thank you very much. The
24 messages will be printed in the

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Journal.

3 The next order of
4 business is the introduction of
5 bills and resolutions.

6 Chair recognizes
7 Councilmember Dr. Anthony Phillips.

8 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:
9 Thank you, Council President.

10 I have no bills or
11 resolutions for introduction today.
12 Glad to see that our Councilmember
13 Sharon Vaughn is here today.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
15 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

16 Chair also recognizes
17 Mr. Sam Staten, Jr. Thank you for
18 joining us today as well.

19 (Applause.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
21 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes Majority
22 Leader Katherine Gilmore
23 Richardson.

24 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
3 Mr. President.

4 Today I offer two
5 privileged resolutions and one bill
6 on your behalf.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

9 Would the Chief Clerk
10 please read the titles of the bill
11 and resolutions.

12 CHIEF CLERK: An
13 ordinance authorizing and approving
14 the execution and delivery of a
15 Service Agreement between the City
16 and the Philadelphia Authority for
17 Industrial Development relating to
18 the provision by the Philadelphia
19 Authority for Industrial
20 Development of development
21 assistance to support certain costs
22 related to promoting economic and
23 commercial development of the City;
24 approving the guaranty by the

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Philadelphia Authority for
3 Industrial Development of certain
4 obligations related to the issuance
5 of a letter of credit to secure the
6 funding of such costs; authorizing
7 and approving the obligation of the
8 City to pay in full when due the
9 Service Fee and other amounts
10 payable under the Service Agreement
11 and covenanting to make necessary
12 appropriations for such purposes;
13 and authorizing City officials to
14 take necessary or appropriate
15 actions to accomplish the intent
16 and purpose of the ordinance, all
17 under certain terms and conditions.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

19 JOHNSON: This bill will be
20 referred to the appropriate
21 committee.

22 CHIEF CLERK: And a
23 privileged resolution recognizing
24 and congratulating the members of

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Ye Olde Philadelphia Club of
3 Philadelphia on the occasion of
4 their 100th anniversary.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

9 CHIEF CLERK: And a
10 privileged resolution celebrating
11 the selection of Our Missing Hearts
12 by Celeste Ng for the 2026 One
13 Book, One Philadelphia program.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

15 JOHNSON: This resolution will be
16 placed on today's Final Passage
17 Calendar.

18 Chair recognizes
19 Councilmember Jamie Gauthier.

20 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:
21 Thank you, Council President.

22 Today I have two bills
23 and three non-privileged
24 resolutions.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

4 Chief Clerk, please read
5 the titles of the bills and
6 resolutions.

7 CHIEF CLERK: An
8 ordinance to approve amendments to
9 the University of Pennsylvania
10 Master Plan in the area bounded by
11 Walnut Street, 36th Street, Spruce
12 Street and 39th Street related to
13 the Class of 1920 Commons Building
14 at 3800 Locust Walk, and the Stuart
15 Weitzman Theatre addition to the
16 Annenberg Center for the Performing
17 Arts (ACPA) at 3680 Walnut Street.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

19 JOHNSON: This bill will be
20 referred to the appropriate
21 committee.

22 CHIEF CLERK: And an
23 ordinance to amend the Philadelphia
24 Zoning Maps by changing the zoning

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 designations of certain areas of
3 land located within an area bounded
4 by Spruce Street, 34th Street,
5 Civic Center Boulevard and
6 University Avenue.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: This bill will be
9 referred to the appropriate
10 committee.

11 CHIEF CLERK: And a
12 non-privileged resolution also
13 naming the 200 block of South Alden
14 Street as "Dr. Wesley Proctor Way"
15 to honor the life, leadership and
16 lasting contributions of Dr. Wesley
17 T. Proctor to the Philadelphia
18 community.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

24 CHIEF CLERK: And a

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 non-privileged resolution also
3 naming the 700 block of 48th Street
4 as "Sean Perretta Way" to honor the
5 life and memory of Sean Perretta,
6 Esquire, and his enduring
7 contributions to the Mill Creek and
8 West Philadelphia communities.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

14 CHIEF CLERK: And a
15 non-privileged resolution also
16 naming the 4700 block of Brown
17 Street as "Tiffany Fletcher Way -
18 Gone But Never Forgotten," to honor
19 the life and legacy of Tiffany
20 Fletcher and her impact on the Mill
21 Creek community.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: This resolution will be
24 placed on the Final Passage

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Calendar for consideration at our
3 next session of Council.

4 Chair recognizes
5 Councilmember Isaiah Thomas.

6 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Good
7 morning, Council President -- good
8 afternoon, Council President. Good
9 afternoon, everybody.

10 Today I offer one
11 resolution.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
13 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

14 Chief Clerk, please read
15 the title of the resolution. Is it
16 privileged or non-privileged?

17 CHIEF CLERK:
18 Privileged. A privileged
19 resolution recognizing and honoring
20 Malala Yousafzai for being the
21 recipient of the 2026 WHY? Lifelong
22 Learning Award for her
23 contributions to the fundamental
24 right to education for all

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 individuals.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

7 Chair recognizes
8 Councilmember Curtis Jones, Jr.

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

11 Today I offer one bill,
12 supported and introduced by
13 Dr. Nina Ahmad and the Chair of
14 Education Coach Thomas.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

17 Will the Chief Clerk
18 please read the title of the bill.

19 CHIEF CLERK: An
20 ordinance to amend the Philadelphia
21 Zoning Maps by changing the zoning
22 designations of certain areas of
23 land located within an area bounded
24 by Ridge Avenue, Spring Lane,

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Hagy's Mill Road, Port Royal
3 Avenue, River Road, and the
4 Montgomery County Line.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: This bill will be
7 referred to the appropriate
8 committee.

9 Chair recognizes
10 Councilmember Rue Landau.

11 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:
12 Good morning, Council President,
13 colleagues and the public.

14 Today I have one bill
15 and three privileged resolutions.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

18 Chief Clerk, please read
19 the title of the bill on
20 resolutions.

21 CHIEF CLERK: An
22 ordinance amending Section 9-803 of
23 The Philadelphia Code, entitled
24 "Fair Housing Commission" and

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Section 20-304 of The Philadelphia
3 Code, entitled "Compensation for
4 Members of Boards, Commissions,
5 Committees and Councils," to amend
6 the compensation paid to members of
7 the Fair Housing Commission and
8 delete superfluous provisions, all
9 under certain terms and conditions.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: This bill will be
12 referred to the appropriate
13 committee.

14 CHIEF CLERK: And a
15 privileged resolution recognizing
16 and honoring CASA for children of
17 Philadelphia County on its 20th
18 anniversary for its outstanding
19 service, advocacy and commitment to
20 ensuring the safety, stability and
21 well-being of children in
22 Philadelphia's foster care system.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: This resolution will be

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 placed on today's Final Passage
3 Calendar.

4 CHIEF CLERK: And a
5 privileged resolution honoring and
6 congratulating Philadelphia's
7 iconic chefs and restaurants named
8 as nominees for the 2026 James
9 Beard Awards.

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

14 CHIEF CLERK: And a
15 privileged resolution declaring
16 April 2026 as Jazz Appreciation
17 Month in the City of Philadelphia
18 and celebrating the City's
19 extraordinary jazz legacy.

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

24 Chair recognizes

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Councilmember Quetcy Lozada.

3 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

4 Thank you, Council President.

5 Today I have two
6 non-privileged and two privileged
7 resolutions.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

10 Chief Clerk, please read
11 the titles of the resolutions.

12 CHIEF CLERK: A
13 non-privileged resolution renaming
14 the 300 block of East Rockland
15 Street between North 2nd Street and
16 North 3rd Street "Sharon Vaughn
17 Street" in honor of her service,
18 advocacy and dedication to public
19 service.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 CHIEF CLERK: And a
3 non-privileged resolution renaming
4 the 400 block of West Lehigh Avenue
5 to "Wilfredo Gonzalez Way" in
6 recognition of Wilfredo Gonzalez's
7 lifelong contributions to the Latin
8 American community, devoted service
9 to his country and commitment to
10 cultural empowerment in
11 Philadelphia.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

17 CHIEF CLERK: And a
18 privileged resolution Honoring and
19 Recognizing Sankofa Freedom Academy
20 Charter School on Winning the 2026
21 PIAA Class 1A Boys Basketball State
22 Championship.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: This resolution will be

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 placed on today's Final Passage
3 Calendar.

4 CHIEF CLERK: And a
5 privileged resolution honoring
6 Councilmember Isaiah Thomas'
7 dedication towards elevating the
8 lives of young people throughout
9 Philadelphia.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
11 JOHNSON: This resolution will be
12 placed on today's Final Passage
13 Calendar. Council supports
14 Council.

15 Chair recognizes
16 Councilmember Jeffrey Jay Young.

17 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Thank
18 you, Mr. President.

19 Today I offer one bill,
20 one privileged resolution.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
22 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

23 Chief Clerk, please read
24 the titles of the bill and

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 resolution.

3 CHIEF CLERK: An
4 ordinance amending Section 9-208,
5 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled
6 "Sidewalk Cafes," to authorize
7 additional locations for sidewalk
8 cafes, all under certain terms and
9 conditions.

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

14 CHIEF CLERK: And a
15 privileged resolution recognizing
16 April 2026 as School Library Month
17 in the City of Philadelphia.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
19 JOHNSON: This resolution will be
20 placed on today's Final Passage
21 Calendar.

22 Chair recognizes
23 Councilmember Jeffrey Jay Young.

24 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Thank

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 you, Mr. President.

3 I ask that this
4 resolution just read by the Clerk
5 be held until the next session of
6 Council.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: Shall be granted, sir.

9 Chair recognizes
10 Councilmember Kendra Brooks.

11 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS:
12 Thank you, Council President.

13 I have no bills or
14 resolutions to offer today.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

17 Chair recognizes
18 Councilmember Jim Harrity.

19 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:
20 Good morning, Council President.

21 One privileged, one
22 non-privileged today.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Will the Chief Clerk
3 please read the titles of the
4 resolutions.

5 CHIEF CLERK: A
6 privileged resolution recognizing
7 the 100th Anniversary of Glaziers
8 Local No. 252 of the International
9 Union of Painters and Allied
10 Trades, chartered on April 12, 1926
11 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
13 JOHNSON: This resolution will be
14 placed on today's Final Passage
15 Calendar.

16 CHIEF CLERK: And a
17 non-privileged resolution
18 recognizing Commonwealth v. Derek
19 Lee (2026), the Pennsylvania
20 Supreme Court's landmark decision
21 striking down Pennsylvania's
22 outdated felony murder law; and
23 calling on the Pennsylvania General
24 Assembly to pass SB387, reforming

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Pennsylvania's unconstitutional
3 felony murder law.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

9 Chair recognizes
10 Councilmember Nicolas O'Rourke.

11 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:
12 Thank you, Mr. President.

13 I have one
14 non-privileged resolution to
15 introduce today.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

18 Chief Clerk, please read
19 the title of the resolution.

20 CHIEF CLERK: A
21 non-privileged resolution calling
22 on the United States Congress to
23 pass, and the President to sign,
24 the Living Wage for Musicians Act.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

7 Chair recognizes
8 Councilmember Mike Driscoll.

9 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:
10 Good morning, Mr. President.

11 I have one bill on my
12 behalf and one privileged
13 resolution on Councilmember
14 O'Rourke's and my behalf.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

17 Chief Clerk, please read
18 the titles of the bill and
19 resolution.

20 CHIEF CLERK: An
21 ordinance to amend the Philadelphia
22 Zoning Maps by changing the zoning
23 designations of certain areas of
24 land located within an area bounded

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 by Milnor Street, Cottman Avenue,
3 Cottman Avenue (Extended), the
4 Delaware River, Unruh Avenue
5 (Extended), Unruh Avenue,
6 Wissinoming Street, and New State
7 Road.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

12 CHIEF CLERK: And a
13 privileged resolution designating
14 April 18, 2026 as Lineworker
15 Appreciation Day in the City of
16 Philadelphia, and recognizing and
17 honoring the dedication and
18 resilience of lineworkers who
19 build, maintain and repair the
20 infrastructure that powers our
21 City.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: This resolution will be
24 placed on today's Final Passage

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Calendar.

3 Chair recognizes

4 Councilmember O'Neill.

5 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL:

6 Thank you, Mr. President.

7 I have no bills or
8 resolutions.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

11 Chair recognizes

12 Councilmember Mark Squilla.

13 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

14 Thank you, Mr. President.

15 I have two resolutions,
16 one privileged, one non-privileged.

17 And I have one non-privileged
18 resolution on behalf of

19 Councilmember Bass and one bill on
20 behalf of Councilmember Bass.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

23 Will the Chief Clerk
24 please read the bills and

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 resolutions.

3 CHIEF CLERK: An

4 ordinance to amend the Philadelphia

5 Zoning Maps by changing the zoning

6 designations of certain areas of

7 land located within an area bounded

8 by Lippincott Street, 20th Street,

9 Toronto Street and 22nd Street.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: This bill will be

12 referred to the appropriate

13 committee.

14 CHIEF CLERK: And a

15 non-privileged 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 45

21 and 75 East Ashmead Street in the

22 8th Councilmanic District of the

23 City of Philadelphia, and further

24 authorizing the Philadelphia

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Redevelopment Authority to transfer
3 the Philadelphia Land Bank fee
4 simple title to such properties
5 pursuant to Section 16-405 of The
6 Philadelphia Code.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

12 CHIEF CLERK: And a
13 non-privileged resolution also
14 naming South Street between 8th and
15 9th Streets as "Octavius Catto Way"
16 to honor the life and legacy of the
17 civil rights warrior.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

24 CHIEF CLERK: And a

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 privileged resolution honoring and
3 recognizing Lodge No. 2 of the
4 Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Free
5 and Accepted Ancient York Masons,
6 for its historical significance in
7 the founding of the nation, its 268
8 years of dedication to leadership
9 and mentorship and its continued
10 contributions to charitable
11 organizations in the City of
12 Philadelphia.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: This resolution will be
15 placed on today's Final Passage
16 Calendar.

17 Chair recognizes
18 Councilmember Dr. Nina Ahmad.

19 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

20 Thank you, Council President.

21 I offer one bill and
22 three privileged resolutions.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Chief Clerk, please read
3 the titles of the bill and
4 resolutions.

5 CHIEF CLERK: An
6 ordinance amending Title 21 of the
7 Philadelphia Code, entitled
8 "Miscellaneous" to add a Chapter
9 entitled "U-Visa and T-Visa
10 Certifications," providing for a
11 process for Certifying Agencies,
12 including timely responses to
13 requests, confidentiality of
14 requests, guidelines for the grant
15 or denial of a request, and other
16 procedures, all under certain terms
17 and conditions.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
19 JOHNSON: This bill will be
20 referred to the appropriate
21 committee.

22 CHIEF CLERK: And a
23 privileged resolution recognizing
24 the week of April 6 through April

1 4/9/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 12, 2026 as a National Public
3 Health Week.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

8 CHIEF CLERK: And a
9 privileged resolution recognizing
10 April 2026 as Sexual Assault
11 Awareness Month and celebrating the
12 extraordinary efforts of WOAR -
13 Philadelphia Center Against Sexual
14 Violence.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: This resolution will be
17 placed on today's Final Passage
18 Calendar.

19 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

20 And a privileged resolution
21 recognizing April 2026 as National
22 Earth Month and celebrating the
23 Lankenau Environmental Science
24 Magnet School's commitment to

1 4/9/26 - STATED - REPORTS

2 fostering the next generation of
3 environmental stewards.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

8 The next order of
9 business is reports from
10 committees.

11 The Chair recognizes
12 Majority Leader Katherine Gilmore
13 Richardson for a report from the
14 Committee on Law and Government.

15 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

16 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
17 Mr. President.

18 The Committee on Law and
19 Government reports out one bill
20 with a favorable recommendation.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

23 Will the Chief Clerk
24 please read the report.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - REPORTS

2 CHIEF CLERK: The

3 Committee on Law and Government to

4 which was referred the following

5 bill: Bill No. 260263, an

6 ordinance to repeal in its entirety

7 Bill No. 241056 (approved March 10,

8 2026), entitled "An Ordinance

9 Providing for the submission to the

10 qualified electors of the City of

11 Philadelphia of the proposal set

12 forth in a Resolution approved by

13 Council proposing an amendment to

14 the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter

15 to eliminate the requirement that

16 City officers and employees resign

17 from their City office or

18 employment before becoming

19 candidates for public office; and

20 authorizing the appropriate

21 officers to publish notice and to

22 make arrangements for the special

23 election;" and to rescind the

24 direction provided to various City

1 4/9/26 - STATED - REPORTS
2 officers set forth therein,
3 respectfully reports it has
4 considered the same and returns the
5 attached bill to Council with a
6 favorable recommendation.

7 There are no further
8 bills to report out from the
9 Committee on Law and Government,
10 Council President.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

13 The Chair recognizes
14 Councilmember Katherine Gilmore
15 Richardson for a motion.

16 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

17 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
18 Mr. President.

19 I move that the rules of
20 Council be suspended as to permit
21 first reading this day of the bill
22 just read into the record by the
23 Chief Clerk.

24 (Duly seconded.)

1 4/9/26 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
4 properly seconded that the rules of
5 Council be suspended so as to
6 permit the consideration of the
7 bill just read by the Chief Clerk
8 at today's session of Council.

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

11 (Aye.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

13 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

14 (No response.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: The ayes have it, the
17 motion carries. The bill will be
18 placed on our First Reading
19 Calendar for today.

20 The Chair recognizes
21 Councilmember Jamie Gauthier for a
22 report from the Committee on
23 Housing, Neighborhood Development
24 and The Homeless.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

3 Thank you, Council President.

4 The Committee on
5 Housing, Neighborhood Development
6 and The Homeless reports out two
7 bills with a favorable
8 recommendation.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

11 Chief Clerk, please read
12 the report.

13 CHIEF CLERK: The
14 Committee on Housing, Neighborhood
15 Development and The Homeless to
16 which were referred the following
17 bills: Bill No. 250329-A, an
18 ordinance amending Chapter 9-3900
19 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled
20 "Property Licenses and Owner
21 Accountability" to clarify
22 licensing requirements, authorize
23 the department to create a
24 Proactive Inspection program,

1 4/9/26 - STATED - REPORTS

2 require public reporting related to
3 Code compliance and establish
4 remedies, damages and protections
5 for tenants, all under certain
6 terms and conditions.

7 And Bill No. 250330-A,
8 an ordinance amending Chapter 9-800
9 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled
10 "Landlord and Tenant," to modify
11 the requirements related to good
12 cause for ending a tenancy, add
13 protections against retaliation and
14 harassment for tenants and tenant
15 organizations, specify tenants'
16 rights related to the implied
17 warranty of habitability and
18 provide a legal presumption related
19 to breaches of the implied warranty
20 of habitability, create a tenant
21 right to organize, specify
22 deadlines for asserting claims, and
23 establish and enhance enforcement
24 mechanisms, remedies, damages, and

1 4/9/26 - STATED - REPORTS

2 protections, all under certain
3 terms and conditions, respectfully
4 reports it has considered the same
5 and returns the attached bills to
6 Council with a favorable
7 recommendation.

8 There are no further
9 bills to report out from the
10 Committee on Housing, Neighborhood
11 Development and The Homeless,
12 Council President.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes
15 Councilmember Jamie Gauthier for a
16 motion.

17 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

18 Thank you, Council President.

19 I move that the rules of
20 Council be suspended to permit
21 first reading this day of the bills
22 just read into the record by the
23 Chief Clerk.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 4/9/26 - STATED - REPORTS

2 JOHNSON: Is there a second?

3 (Duly seconded.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
6 properly seconded that the rules of
7 Council be suspended so as to
8 permit the consideration of these
9 bills just read by the Chief Clerk
10 at today's session of Council.

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

14 (Aye.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

17 (No response.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

19 JOHNSON: The ayes have it. The
20 motion carries. These bills will
21 be placed on our First Reading
22 Calendar for today.

23 The next order of
24 business is the consideration of

1 4/9/26 - STATED - BILLS ON 2ND READING

2 the Calendar. I note that the
3 bills just reported from committees
4 with the suspicion of the rules
5 have been deemed to have had a
6 first reading. These bills will be
7 placed on the Second Reading and
8 Final Passage Calendars for the
9 next session of Council.

10 As there are no
11 additional bills on the First
12 Reading Calendar, the Chair
13 recognizes Councilmember Katherine
14 Gilmore Richardson for a motion
15 concerning the bills and
16 resolutions on the Second Reading
17 and Final Passage Calendars.

18 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

19 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
20 Mr. President.

21 The following bills and
22 resolutions are being called up
23 from the Second Reading and Final
24 Passage Calendars today: No.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 260269.

3 The following bills and
4 resolutions on the Calendar are
5 being held: 260244, 250768 and
6 250807.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

16 All speakers must sign
17 up in order to testify. If you
18 have not done so already, please do
19 so now by seeing Ms. Hasson outside
20 the rails to my left. Once you
21 have signed up, you will be called
22 in the order in which your name
23 appears on the sign-up sheets.

24 Under ideal

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 circumstances, each commenter will
3 have three minutes to speak.

4 However, this time limit may vary
5 from session-to-session. Today the
6 time limit will be two minutes. In
7 order to be fair to all those
8 wishing to speak, I intend to hold
9 faithfully to the two-minute limit.

10 When you begin speaking, you will
11 see a green light on the podium.

12 When there are 30
13 seconds remaining to your time, the
14 light will turn yellow, which is
15 your reminder to conclude your
16 remarks. Once two minutes have
17 passed, the light will turn red and
18 the Sergeant-at-Arms will
19 disconnect the microphone. At that
20 point, please yield the podium to
21 the next speaker if you have not
22 done so already. I also reserve
23 the right, pursuant to the rules of
24 Council --

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 (Background
3 interruption.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: I also reserve the right,
6 pursuant to the rules of Council,
7 to limit repetitious comments on
8 the same subject matter -- Council
9 will be at ease.

10 (Council at ease.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: I just want to make one
13 edit. To the extremely repetitious
14 comment, the time limit would
15 actually be one minute.

16 Chief Clerk, please call
17 the first person.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Will Lew
19 Blum, Renee Platz, Sherrell
20 Slaffey, Happi Grillon and Michael
21 Brown, please make your way to the
22 podium.

23 (Witnesses approached
24 podium.)

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 MR. BLUM: Good morning,
3 Philadelphia City Council and good
4 morning, President of City Council
5 Kenyatta Johnson. My name is Lew
6 Blum. I am here today with
7 gratitude and with energy because
8 of what you do matters. Serving
9 the people of Philadelphia is not
10 easy. It takes long hours, tough
11 decisions and real commitment. And
12 too often, the hard work goes
13 unnoticed.

14 But today, I want to
15 make sure it doesn't. You chose to
16 step into public service for a
17 reason. You chose to stand up for
18 your communities, to be a voice for
19 the people and to help move this
20 city forward. That takes courage,
21 that takes heart --

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: Just speak on what bill
24 that you're referring to for public

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 comment please.

3 MR. BLUM: I just don't
4 have that bill in front of me right
5 now, Council President. May I
6 finish please?

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: Council will be at ease.

9 MR. BLUM: I just got
10 about maybe 60 seconds.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: What bill is it?

13 MR. BLUM: The Clean Act
14 bill.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: Stop Trashing Our Air
17 bill. Go ahead, sir.

18 MR. BLUM: Thank you,
19 Councilman President. Philadelphia
20 is a city full of strength,
21 resilience and pride and your
22 leadership plays a big role in
23 shaping his future. Every decision
24 you make, every effort you put in

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 has the power to impact lives
3 across the city. Sure, I'm here to
4 say, we see you, we appreciate you
5 and we need you to keep going.

6 Keep showing up, keep
7 fighting for the people, keep
8 remembering why you started.

9 Because when you leave with purpose
10 and passion, this entire city moves
11 forward. And at the end of the
12 day, the work you do isn't just
13 about policy. It's about people.
14 It's about lives changed, futures
15 shaped and a city that becomes
16 stronger because you chose to
17 serve. So stand proud, stay
18 focused and never forget Philly
19 rises when you rise to serve it.
20 Thank you.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: Thank you, sir.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:

24 Good afternoon. I'm here for the

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 recognition of the 20th anniversary
3 of CASA Philadelphia County. Good
4 afternoon, Councilmembers, and
5 thank you for this incredible
6 honor. On behalf of everyone at
7 Court Appointed Special Advocates
8 for Children or CASA Philadelphia
9 County, I'm deeply grateful to be
10 recognized as we celebrate our 20th
11 anniversary.

12 This moment is not just
13 about our organization. It is
14 about the children we serve and the
15 community that has stood beside
16 them for two decades. CASA has
17 worked to ensure that children
18 involved in the child welfare
19 system, children who have
20 experienced abuse and neglect are
21 not alone.

22 We believe every child
23 deserves a consistent, caring adult
24 who will advocate for their safety,

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 their education, their well-being
3 and their future. Over the past 20
4 years, we have trained more than
5 1000 community volunteers to step
6 into that role. Those volunteers
7 show up in courtrooms, in schools
8 and in everyday moments that matter
9 to make sure each child's voice is
10 heard together. We have advocated
11 for over 1800 children across
12 Philadelphia. Behind each of these
13 numbers is a young person who
14 hopes, challenges enormous
15 potential. Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. BROWN: Good

18 afternoon. Michael Brown, here for
19 the Ye Olde Philadelphia Club.
20 Good afternoon, President Johnson,
21 members of City Council and all
22 present in Council chambers. I'm
23 Michael Brown and it's my honor and
24 privilege to serve as the President

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 of the Ye Olde Philadelphia Club.

3 I'm here along with
4 other members of the club to
5 support the resolution that honors
6 Ye Olde Philadelphia Club on the
7 100th anniversary of its founding,
8 and to thank the Majority Leader
9 Councilmember Katherine Gilmore
10 Richardson for sponsoring this
11 resolution. 100 years ago a dream
12 was born, and today we stand on the
13 shoulders of those who built this
14 foundation.

15 Founded in April of 1926
16 by John M. Brown, the first Black
17 Superintendent of a Philadelphia
18 branch of the U.S. Post Office, the
19 Ye Olde Philadelphia Club began as
20 a visionary effort to unite African
21 American men in the spirit of
22 permanent fellowship and mutual
23 support.

24 For 100 years, Ye Olde

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Philadelphia Club has served as a
3 sanctuary for African American men
4 across all walks of life, who
5 shared a common goal, uplifting our
6 community and fostering a spirit of
7 camaraderie. As we mark this
8 extraordinary milestone, we
9 celebrate the enduring legacy of
10 our founders and the generations of
11 members who have sustained our
12 traditions.

13 Celebrating our 100th
14 year is a remarkable
15 accomplishment, but it is not a
16 finish line. It's our first steps
17 along the bicentennial path, our
18 bridge to the second century. On
19 April 18th, Ye Olde Philadelphia
20 Club will honor a century of
21 history and traditions and we will
22 celebrate our growth and
23 achievements as we look forward to
24 an even brighter future. They say

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2 it takes a village to reach a
3 century, and the City of
4 Philadelphia is a vital part of
5 ours.

6 Reaching this historic
7 milestone is a testament to the
8 community that has supported us for
9 a century and we look forward to
10 our next 100 years. With sincere
11 appreciation from the gentlemen of
12 the Ye Olde Philadelphia Club, we
13 thank the Majority Leader
14 Councilwoman Katherine Gilmore
15 Richardson and the Philadelphia
16 City Council for this honor. Thank
17 you.

18 (Applause.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: Thank you.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Will

22 Monique Moore Pryor, Ella Ganz,
23 David Kronheim, Patricia Zirin-
24 Kronheim and Lauren Minsky, Erica

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2 Burman, please make your way to the
3 podium.

4 (Witnesses approached
5 podium.)

6 MS. MOORE PRYOR: Good
7 morning, President Johnson and City
8 Council. Thank you for this
9 opportunity to speak today. My
10 name is Monique Moore Pryor,
11 President of the Free Library of
12 Philadelphia's Foundation. And
13 this is Kelly Richardson, President
14 of the best Free Library of
15 Philadelphia in the country --

16 MR. RICHARDS: The best
17 library in the universe.

18 MS. MOORE PRYOR: Yes.
19 We are honored to be here today to
20 support the resolution recognizing
21 the 2026 One Book, One Philadelphia
22 selection. At this moment of
23 division in our country when so
24 much pulls us apart, One Book One

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2 Philadelphia helps bring us back
3 together in a moment at which our
4 work has never been more important.

5 Last year One Book, One
6 Philadelphia achieved significant
7 wide reach, drawing an estimated
8 10,000 attendees at 100 free
9 events. We honored Tariq Trotter,
10 Black Thought, one of our favorite
11 sons. Thank you. And we look
12 forward to this year's Our Missing
13 Hearts with Celeste Ng. Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 MS. GANZ: Hi. My name
16 is Ella Ganz and I'm a resident of
17 Swarthmore, Pennsylvania here to
18 speak about the Stop Trashing Our
19 Air Act. You have heard a lot of
20 the general reasons as why you
21 should support this Act over the
22 last few weeks. Any extension of
23 the contract with the Reworld
24 Incinerator is appalling.

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2 As a reminder, 1/3 of
3 the waste at the incinerator comes
4 from Philly. Every time you throw
5 your trash out for the week, there
6 is a chance that the very chip bags
7 and water bottles you throw away
8 will end up in the lungs of the
9 very people in this room. The
10 extension of the contract with
11 Reworld is a direct attack on the
12 lives of people of both Chester and
13 Philadelphia.

14 As a student of
15 Swarthmore College, I'm about six
16 miles from the Reworld Incinerator.
17 This very building is about 15
18 miles. I know that seems like a
19 long distance, but it is not. I've
20 walked 15 miles before, and many of
21 you have run that. Air does not
22 need to break to catch its breath.
23 There's no traffic rules it needs
24 to follow.

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2 This affects
3 Philadelphia just as much as
4 Chester. You cannot keep on
5 waiting, and you need to be acting
6 on this bill. People are dying.
7 And if you don't vote yes to stop
8 trashing our air, you will be
9 complicit. Thank you.

10 (Applause.)

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:

12 Increasing Philadelphia's local
13 recycling and composting is
14 cheaper, more sustainable and
15 competitive than relying on
16 expensive oligarch's landfill and
17 incinerated disposal. Diverting
18 20% of residential food waste
19 through local composting, costing
20 roughly \$60 a ton, could save the
21 city a million yearly.

22 Recycling is often under
23 15 per ton, compared to
24 landfilling, which averages 65 per

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2 ton. Local recycling and
3 composting stimulate local
4 employment with existing recycling
5 centers, together employing over
6 100 people in South Philly. The
7 Covanta Reworld incinerator in
8 Chester occupies about 22 acres
9 with about 120 people working
10 there. A 22-acre facility can
11 employ between 80 to over 2000
12 people, depending on how the land
13 is used. Please save money for
14 Philly, reduce pollution and create
15 more jobs by passing the Stop Trash
16 Our Air Act.

17 MS. ZIRIN-KRONHEIM: My
18 name is Patricia Zirin-Kronheim. I
19 sat here today listening to all the
20 great acts people have done in
21 Philadelphia, but it all needs a
22 solid foundation, which
23 Philadelphia does not have because
24 it is dumping its waste onto people

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2 in Chester who are dying from that
3 trash, being turned into poisonous
4 fumes that are causing children to
5 die from asthma and their parents
6 to die from cancers, all as a
7 result of the poisons leaking from
8 Reworld. You are complicit in
9 those murders if you vote against
10 this bill.

11 (Applause.)

12 MS. MINSKY: My name is
13 Lauren Minsky. I teach
14 environmental health studies at
15 Haverford College, and I'm here to
16 speak in support of the Stop
17 Trashing Our Air Act. I want to
18 quickly recount what goes into the
19 air from that incinerator and what
20 we are breathing here in this
21 courtroom every day, because
22 there's no bubble that contains
23 this, of these emissions.

24 This comes from the

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2 Department of Environmental
3 Protection website. 1.9 billion
4 pounds of carbon dioxide per year,
5 between 500,000 and a million
6 pounds of nitrous oxide, carbon
7 monoxide and sulfur oxides, all
8 forms of particulate matter. PM2.5
9 PM10 and condensable particulate
10 matter comes to 1.4 million pounds
11 per year, significant amounts of
12 mercury, nickel and lead and
13 volatile organic chemicals.

14 But this doesn't account
15 for everything they also emit out
16 of their emergency vents, all kinds
17 of incomplete products of
18 combustion, including dioxins and
19 ferns, which are carcinogens.

20 Thank you.

21 (Applause.)

22 MS. BURMAN: Hello. My
23 name is Erica Burman. I'm a
24 resident of Delaware County. I

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2 work with CRCQL. I'm here to speak
3 in support of the Stop Trashing Our
4 Air Act. Today we're here to talk
5 about choices, choices, choices
6 that this elected body gets to
7 make. It is their duty to serve
8 Philadelphia constituents, a choice
9 each of you get to make voting for
10 Stop Trashing Our Air Act.

11 Today choices are a
12 liberty. When it comes to
13 pollution, Chester residents do not
14 have this liberty. They do not
15 have a choice whether or not to
16 breathe toxic air. Most residents
17 do not have a choice to move and
18 relocate, as industries like
19 Reworld Covanta have been quietly
20 pushing for over 30 years. Without
21 these choices, residents are
22 captive to the polluted air that
23 cuts their lives short one
24 second --

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2 (Background
3 interruption.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: One second, ma'am.

6 (Background
7 interruption.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: Please proceed, ma'am.

10 MS. ZIRIN-KRONHEIM:

11 Thank you. They do not have a
12 choice on burying loved ones due to
13 cancer or illness. But today each
14 of you has a choice to stop
15 allowing Philly to feed the largest
16 trash incinerator in the United
17 States and be complicit in the
18 pollution environmental racism that
19 is choking out our people and
20 yours. Today is the time to end
21 this toxic relationship with
22 Reworld. You have a choice to do
23 the right thing. Pass this bill
24 today. Thank you.

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2 (Applause.)

3 CHIEF CLERK: Will Shari

4 Hersh, Lois Williams, Towanda

5 Tymes, Lynn Landes, Joshua Kisvers,

6 Jeremy Blatstein, William Small and

7 Purdie Force, please make your way

8 to the podium.

9 (Witnesses approached

10 podium.)

11 MS. LANDES: Good

12 morning. I'm Lynn Landes of

13 Philly's Republican Network and I'm

14 opposed to Bill 250807, because I'm

15 opposed to neighborhood improvement

16 districts as a whole, as they are

17 in violation of the spirit and

18 intent of the First Amendment and

19 the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act.

20 These districts are not

21 required to hold public meetings or

22 accept public comments, even though

23 they act like government entities.

24 However, they are not alone. City

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2 Council and all city departments,
3 with the exception of the School
4 Board are also in violation of the
5 First Amendment and Sunshine Act as
6 they systematically restrict public
7 comments to agenda items only.

8 Today there were only
9 four items on the agenda. Is City
10 Council seriously telling the
11 public we must limit our comments
12 to only the four items that City
13 Council has chosen to put on the
14 agenda. That defies common sense
15 and fairness. It's time for City
16 Council to correct this error. In
17 a representative democracy, a
18 government is required to hold
19 public meetings so that the
20 citizens can petition the
21 government for redress of their
22 grievances. Thank you.

23 (Applause.)

24 MR. BLATSTEIN: Jeremy

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2 Blatstein. Hello, Council. Don't
3 worry, no coughing today,
4 Councilman. We're talking about
5 Turn the Key. We got seven Turn
6 the Key homes that are getting
7 approved or getting reassessed
8 because of the increase of costs.
9 The costs are going up, the
10 subsidies are going up a little
11 bit, but it's still a great program
12 that you all have signed up for.
13 There's still 30 homes that are
14 sitting on Councilwoman Lozada's
15 desk that she's refusing to pass,
16 introduce it.

17 And the last thing I'm
18 talking about is SEPTA. I'm going
19 to challenge you guys all to ride
20 SEPTA again once a week to see the
21 system that you are inviting our
22 visitors to ride starting in June,
23 right. We are going to be the
24 center of the country and SEPTA is

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2 not really doing everything it
3 could.

4 So I really just think
5 that once a week, ride it, take
6 your pictures, get your videos, get
7 your clicks. I know you guys all
8 want to be social media stars.
9 Ride the ride. Grow Philly to 2
10 milli. Thank you.

11 MR. SMALL: Good
12 morning. William Small from West
13 Philadelphia, candidate for U.S.
14 Congress Philadelphia, Third
15 Congressional District. I
16 appreciate being invited to the
17 Council's award show. It's fun
18 every week. This bill, we're
19 talking about allocating
20 significant resources toward land
21 acquisition and park expansion.

22 I mean, how many times I
23 have to come up here and tell you
24 guys, when you moving this property

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2 around us in the city, we getting
3 tired of you just giving it to
4 anybody who got the paper. Put
5 something together to where the
6 residents of Philadelphia can
7 actually thrive off of this,
8 actually benefit from it. Make the
9 programs easily -- it's programs
10 available, but nobody know how to
11 get a part of them. Make it easy.
12 Really care about the people.

13 Honestly, we need
14 generational wealth. We need
15 better education in our school
16 systems. You know 1 out of 4 of
17 our kids in Philadelphia School
18 District is reading at grade level.
19 1 out of 5 is doing math at grade
20 level. We're the fifth dumbest
21 city in the United States of
22 America, but we're awarding
23 everybody every week, but these are
24 the people who are going to take

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2 your positions years from now, so
3 let's get them right. Thank you.

4 Mr. FORCE: Salutations
5 already been given. Good morning,
6 everyone. My name is Purdie Force.
7 I'm a lifelong resident of city of
8 Philadelphia. I'm here this
9 morning to speak in regards to
10 Sharon Vaughn in the 300 East Block
11 of Rockland be named on her behalf.

12 I've heard some words
13 used here today like advocate,
14 activist, excellent, dedicated and
15 I can go on, on, on, but y'all only
16 gave me a minute. So I'm a
17 lifelong friend of Sharon. And
18 when I say I get to say this, this
19 morning, right, I've been knowing
20 her for more than 50 years. I'm
21 better known as baby daddy.

22 But more importantly,
23 right, I grew up in North
24 Philadelphia, down there off of

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2 19th and what they call it, Cecil
3 B. Moore now. And I didn't know
4 when we were children growing up,
5 Sharon, when we would walk past
6 Cecil B. Moore and I lived up the
7 street from -- you would visit us
8 with the Reverend Leon Sullivan,
9 right, the great line (inaudible).
10 I just want to add, right, that
11 she's worthy. She's dedicated and
12 more importantly, right, it's like
13 Leon Sullivan, she climbs and lifts
14 in our community.

15 (Applause.)

16 COUNCILMAN THOMAS:

17 Thank you. Thank you, sir. Thank
18 you for your remarks. And
19 congratulations, Councilwoman. We
20 appreciate you.

21 Mr. McCAULEY: Good
22 morning, everybody. My name is
23 John Alonte McCauley. I run a
24 grassroots organization called Flip

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2 Philly Red. We're here to offer
3 you something different, because
4 you've been voting Democrat for the
5 Mayor's Office for the past 70
6 years.

7 In regard to Bill No.
8 250330, it was part of the Safe
9 Healthy Homes Act. Nowhere in the
10 United States Constitution of the
11 Pennsylvania State Constitution
12 does it say government has a right
13 to interfere in private contracts
14 between tenants and landlords.
15 Clearly, the Democratic party does
16 not care about small businesses.
17 Mom-and-pop owners don't get into
18 real estate to be trash landlords.
19 Mom-and-pop owners pay the taxes
20 that fund this city.

21 Mom-and-pop owners
22 provide the housing for the working
23 families in the city. But yet,
24 mom-and-pop owners continually get

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2 overregulated by this democratic
3 city. None of this is intelligent.
4 None of this attracts investment,
5 but we see the game. Make it too
6 risky, make it too expensive until
7 government controls everything.

8 Tax everything we make, and then we
9 have to come to you guys for
10 everything. My minute is up -- but
11 we don't come here for your award
12 shows. We will have our full two
13 minutes if we don't come here for
14 your award shows. We want our --

15 COUNCILMAN THOMAS:

16 Thank you, sir.

17 CHIEF CLERK: John

18 McCauley -- that was him. Larry
19 Anastasi, Dallas J. Herbert, Sr.,
20 Doron Tal, David Alexander Jenkins,
21 Zulene Mayfield and Michael Lewis,
22 please make your way to the podium.

23 (Witnesses approached
24 podium.)

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2 COUNCILMAN THOMAS:

3 Please state your name for the
4 record and you may begin with your
5 testimony.

6 MR. TAL: Doron Tal,
7 thank you. I know a man who lived
8 most of his life in Chester when he
9 was 27. His doctor looked at him
10 at a routine physical and said, you
11 have asthma before any tests,
12 before any symptoms. When my
13 friend asked why, the doctor said,
14 because you live in Chester. And
15 this isn't only Chester's problem.
16 Due to the prevailing wind
17 patterns, Chester air flows into
18 Philadelphia much of the year.

19 I noticed that
20 (inaudible) smell the day I arrived
21 here from Brooklyn, New York. I
22 still smell it. Many long-time
23 participants don't anymore.
24 They've adapted. That adaptation

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2 is not a sign the air is safe. It
3 is a sign of how long this has gone
4 on. Philadelphia ranks 26th worst
5 in the nation for particle
6 pollution. That's out of more than
7 3100 counties. The American Lung
8 Association gives this city an F,
9 not once, year after year. That's
10 not a ranking or a grade to be
11 proud of. Every person who votes
12 to let this continue and be
13 remembered, history does not forget
14 those who have the power to protect
15 people and choose not to.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. JENKINS: Mr. Chair,
18 David Alexander Jenkins. And I
19 rise -- I would have risen in
20 support of the National Public
21 Health Week as positioned by Member
22 Ahmad. Sadly, the two-minute limit
23 has been cut to one for many
24 people, and it's rare that I come

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2 up and agree with the member here.

3 But I think that what is
4 true is that if I were a Robert's
5 Rules person, I would ask the Chair
6 to extend that with a friendly
7 amendment so that it was limited to
8 the resolution that was actually
9 repetitious. But since I am not in
10 a position to ask for that, I will
11 simply yield this time, hand the
12 speech to Ms. Ahmad, which would
13 have spoken to that resolution, and
14 pray that people can say more than
15 their name before their time is up.

16 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:

17 Thank you. Thank you for your
18 testimony.

19 Please state your name
20 for the record.

21 MS. MAYFIELD: Good
22 morning -- good afternoon. Zulene
23 Mayfield, Chairperson of Chester
24 Residents Concerned for Quality of

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Living. Yes, we in the house again
3 and we will continue to be here.

4 Okay. I'm going to use my one
5 minute wisely.

6 I want to give you a
7 couple of cancer statistics for the
8 city of Chester. Liver and bile
9 cancer, 91% higher than national
10 average. Laryngeal cancer, 84%
11 higher than the national average.
12 Pancreatic cancer, 50% higher than
13 the national average. Today I have
14 standing with me Ruth Richardson.
15 We are holding -- since the last
16 time I was here, within one week,
17 we lost three Black women under the
18 age of 50.

19 This young lady died at
20 the age of 40 from cancer. She's a
21 mother. She has three children, a
22 1-year-old, an 8-year-old and a
23 21-year-old child, a son. The same
24 week, we lost three of them, three,

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2 Lita Smith. Okay. So as you all
3 sit in here and debate and play
4 these games with our lives about a
5 paltry \$6 million that you would
6 have to pay more to put it in the
7 landfill, we are freaking dying and
8 then blood is on your hands.

9 (Applause.)

10 COUNCILMAN THOMAS:

11 Thank you for your testimony.

12 Please state your name
13 for the record and you may begin
14 with your testimony.

15 MR. ANASTASI: Larry
16 Anastasi. Good afternoon, City
17 Council. I'm speaking on the Line
18 Workers Appreciation Day
19 resolution. I represent proud PECO
20 energy workers, IBEW Local 614.
21 Thank you, Councilmember Driscoll,
22 O'Rourke for co-introducing this
23 resolution designating April 18,
24 2026 as Line Worker Appreciation

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2 Day.

3 The union represents
4 approximately 500 linemen who
5 maintain Philadelphia's electrical
6 power lines, underground electric
7 and substations, the city's
8 electrical infrastructure. I
9 appreciate the City Council for
10 taking this important step to
11 recognize the work and the
12 dedication of the lineman. It's an
13 incredibly dangerous job.

14 I'm also here to let
15 everyone know that our 1600 PECO
16 workers who perform a variety of
17 jobs for the company are working
18 without a contract. They have a
19 rate increase scheduled for another
20 12.5% after a 50% increase.
21 Workers deserve better and so do
22 its residents. Thank you.

23 COUNCILMAN THOMAS:

24 Thank you. Thank you for your

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 testimony.

3 Please state your name
4 for the record.

5 MS. ANTHONY: Good
6 morning. My name is Laquisha
7 Anthony. I am the Acting Executive
8 Director of WOAR Philadelphia
9 Center Against Sexual Violence. I
10 am an advocate, advocate for
11 survivors. And as Sheryl Lee Ralph
12 said, I know where my voice comes
13 from and I won't stop using it for
14 this cause.

15 Thank you to
16 Councilmember Ahmad for introducing
17 this resolution in regards to
18 Sexual Assault Awareness Month,
19 SAAM, and we also are celebrating
20 the 25th anniversary of SAAM each
21 day we support survivors across
22 Philadelphia through hotline, court
23 accompaniment and counseling. And
24 we see both profound harm and

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2 remarkable resilience.

3 According to

4 Philadelphia police data reported,

5 sexual assaults have increased

6 nearly 16% since 2014, with 126

7 rates reported so far in 2026.

8 These are not just numbers. They

9 represent people and their lives.

10 This resolution affirms that our

11 city stands with survivors, and we

12 urge its adoption and continued

13 investment in survivor services.

14 Sustainable funding and strong

15 partnerships are essential to

16 building a safer city to survivors

17 that are here today. We see you,

18 we believe you and we're here.

19 Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 CHIEF CLERK: Will

22 Victor Cabral, Wadia Abu -- okay.

23 (Witnesses approached

24 podium.)

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2 MR. CABRAL: Good
3 afternoon. My name is Victor
4 Cabral and I'm here on behalf of
5 Four Circles Beyond, in solidarity
6 with Chester Residents Concerned
7 for Quality Living. I've been
8 working in Chester with youth
9 through Four Circles Beyond,
10 providing youth programming for the
11 last year.

12 And what I've witnessed
13 beyond their brilliance, warmth,
14 tenacity and spirit is asthma,
15 grief and the loss of a hospital.
16 With the hospital gone when someone
17 can't breathe, there's nowhere to
18 go at the same time. 37% of what's
19 burned at the incinerator comes
20 from Philadelphia. This is not
21 abstract. This is environmental
22 genocide. We have a responsibility
23 to ask ourselves, are we choosing
24 power over communities or power

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2 with them when decisions
3 prioritized cause convenience over
4 human life. That's a choice. I'm
5 asking that you support the Stop
6 Trashing Our Air Act.

7 And if you hear me say
8 we, even though I'm from Reading
9 and not from Chester, it's because
10 none of us are free until we're all
11 free.

12 (Applause.)

13 MS. SABOR: Radea Sabor.
14 I'm 14 years old and this won't be
15 a long-winded rant because we
16 weren't taught about this growing
17 up. I'm 14 years old. We're not
18 educated about the incinerator at
19 school. We're not educated on
20 what's happening to our air.

21 But since I'm not
22 educated, I will ask four short
23 questions: Why must the people at
24 Chester suffer for the Philadelphia

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2 trash? Are we not people like
3 those of Philadelphia? Don't our
4 youth deserve to be healthy too?
5 Don't we deserve clean air just the
6 same as all of you?

7 Why I ask must we suffer
8 if we all want and need the same?
9 I pose these questions and I ask,
10 as a youth of Chester, that you
11 ponder over them and answer them in
12 your heads. Thank you. That's all
13 I have to say.

14 (Applause.)

15 MS. GOLDSTEIN: Hi.

16 Good morning, Mayor and student
17 council. My name is Skylar
18 Goldstein. I'm 13 years old and
19 I'm from Chester. Today I will be
20 speaking about how Philly is
21 polluting our air. I'm worried
22 about this because my uncle, my mom
23 and my brother have asthma. This
24 is a very bad -- a very big problem

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2 in our city. Please keep Chester
3 pollution-free and cancer-free.
4 Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 MS. HAYES: Hi. Dear
7 Council, my name is Kennedy Hayes
8 and today I will be speaking to
9 bring up a big problem in the
10 Chester community because I'm
11 concerned about how Philadelphia's
12 trash is being sent to Chester to
13 be burned. Many people have spoken
14 about how the incidence of
15 pollution has affected their
16 health, including high rates of
17 asthma and other breathing health
18 issues. It's a serious public
19 issue and deserves attention so
20 then it could be dealt with.

21 I understand the big
22 question is what to do with trash
23 in the long run, if not burning it.
24 We all know waste has to go

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2 somewhere, although that's exactly
3 why there needs to be a change of
4 thinking such as using less
5 plastic, reducing waste or finding
6 cleaner and safer solutions that
7 don't harm other communities.

8 The Chester community
9 should not have to suffer pollution
10 in the air. This is why we are
11 here today, encouraging support for
12 the Stop Trashing Our Air Act. Our
13 supporters say that it would help
14 push farther for cleaner air, a
15 safer environment and create a
16 better future for Chester and
17 surrounding areas. I hope you will
18 listen to all who speak today who
19 were asking for change. When the
20 community is harmed, all are
21 affected. There is a need to make
22 better choices moving forward to
23 protect everyone's health.

24 (Applause.)

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2 MS. KAYLA: Good
3 morning, Council. My name is
4 Kayla. I'm 17 years old. I'm from
5 Chester. I care about my health,
6 my family and the future of my
7 community. I'm speaking because
8 Philadelphia sends trash to Chester
9 to be burned and that pollution
10 affects us every single day.

11 People don't always
12 understand that we're the ones
13 breathing it in. I've learned that
14 places like Taiwan and Singapore
15 have found safer and smarter ways
16 to deal with trash. So I know that
17 this does not have to be our
18 reality. I'm here, but here the
19 air doesn't always feel clean. And
20 the hardest part is knowing that
21 this is preventable.

22 Sometimes I think about
23 what it means to grow up knowing
24 that the air around me might not be

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2 safe, knowing that my community is
3 being put at risk for something we
4 didn't choose. It makes me feel
5 like that our lives are being
6 valued less. That's what hurts the
7 most.

8 (Applause.)

9 MS. DANNER: My name is
10 Khloe Danner and I'm a 16-year-old
11 from Chester. I feel like
12 Philadelphia should not send its
13 trash to Chester, because it's not
14 fair enough to our community, our
15 people or our health. Chester is a
16 much smaller city than and it
17 places a burden of pollution a
18 community that did not generate the
19 waste in the first place.

20 We have enough of our
21 own trash and it pollutes our air
22 and sometimes makes it smell bad.
23 It contributes to a climate change
24 and it's also harmful to animals.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 I feel like Philadelphia should
3 come up with a plan to find a
4 location to build their own
5 incinerator for their city and
6 adapt environmentally-friendly
7 options like recycling, composting
8 and other waste reduction programs,
9 talk to its residents and find
10 other ways to handle this problem
11 without sending its trash to
12 another city.

13 There should be policies
14 to protect all residents regardless
15 of where they live. And just
16 because Chester is a small city
17 doesn't mean we should be taken
18 advantage of. I'm still a teenager
19 and I want to grow up healthy and
20 strong and I want the same for my
21 family and everyone in Chester.

22 (Applause.)

23 COUNCILMAN THOMAS:

24 Thank you all for your testimony.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Definitely very much appreciated,
3 especially to the young people
4 making your voices be heard.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Will Ameen
6 Akbar, Terreance Fortson, Jonathan
7 Hoffmeier, Jessica N. McAtamney and
8 Julian Vander Tak, please make your
9 way to the podium.

10 (Witnesses approached
11 podium.)

12 MR. AKBAR: My name is
13 Ameen Akbar, Philadelphia born and
14 raised, on the playground is where
15 I spent most of my days. I'm here
16 in support of Councilwoman Lozada's
17 bill for Sankofa Freedom Academy
18 Charter School. I wear many hats
19 in this city, father, educated
20 nonprofit leader. But today I wear
21 the title of coach. Want for your
22 brother what you want for yourself
23 is our motto this year and to carry
24 our young men to a city title game.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 I share that because
3 this lineage started with fathers
4 like Isaiah's father and my father
5 Skip that carried that message to
6 me, and young men in the city like
7 Coach John Chaney and Marcus Foster
8 who instilled those messages in my
9 father that we could instill in
10 these young players. These young
11 brothers represent the best that
12 this city has in education and in
13 life. And again thank you,
14 Councilmember Thomas, for your
15 commitment to young people. And
16 thank you, Councilwoman Lozada, for
17 your recognition of our young
18 brothers in this city and Sankofa
19 Freedom Academy Charter School.

20 (Applause.)

21 MR. FORTSON: Hello. My
22 name is Terreance Fortson. I'm a
23 17-year-old junior at Sankofa
24 Freedom Academy Charter School. I

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 just want to say thank you to Coach
3 Zeke. Y'all might know him as
4 Councilmember Isaiah Thomas, but to
5 us he is Coach Zeke, a big brother
6 role model. We want to say thank
7 you, Coach Zeke, for this
8 experience, this role. And thank
9 you, Councilmember Lozada, for
10 acknowledging us and doing this for
11 us. And I just want to say thank
12 y'all.

13 (Applause.)

14 COUNCILMAN THOMAS:

15 Thank you. And congratulations
16 again, fellas, Truly, truly, well-
17 deserved. Congratulations.

18 (Applause.)

19 CHIEF CLERK: Will Evan
20 Snyder, Tara Murtha, Jonathan
21 Hoffmeir, Jessica N. McAtamney and
22 Julian Vander Tak, please make your
23 way to the podium.

24 (Witnesses approached

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 podium.)

3 DR. FONTAINE: My name
4 is Dr. Nolan L. Fontaine. And
5 after me, you'll hear the voices of
6 the youth group Choices, which is
7 an environmental justice group ages
8 8 through 18, who is leading the
9 environmental justice movement in
10 Chester, Pa. I'm an American
11 Indian man who hails from the
12 former Lamokin Village in Chester,
13 Pennsylvania and I'm also a member
14 of Chester Residents Concerned for
15 Quality Living, also known as
16 CRCQL.

17 I'm going to be very
18 quick because I know it's only 60
19 seconds, but one of my favorite
20 movies is Red Tails. And Terrence
21 Howard, my fraternity brother
22 notably says in that movie,
23 Politics is the art of postponing
24 something until it is no longer

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 relevant. I want y'all to think
3 about that. For folks like the
4 Mayor and Council who are
5 continuing to sit on their votes
6 and twiddle their thumbs, I want to
7 let you know that the people in
8 Chester and Philadelphia are
9 continuing to die at a
10 disproportionate rate.

11 Will you stand on the
12 side of babies and elders who are
13 dying or will you stand on the side
14 of a Birkin bag full of Reworld
15 money. Thank you so much. And
16 now, you'll hear from Choices.

17 (Applause.)

18 MS. JOHNSON: Hello. My
19 name is Adriel and I'm a 15-year-
20 old resident of Chester. I am
21 writing to bring your attention to
22 the serious impact that the trash
23 incinerator is having on our air
24 quality in our community. This

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 issue is important to me because I
3 have asthma, which places me at a
4 higher risk for health
5 complications.

6 Many residents in
7 Chester are exposed to poor air
8 conditions that increase the risk
9 of respiratory illness and other
10 serious health problems. While
11 some areas are less infected, the
12 odor and pollution becomes very
13 noticeable when traveling through
14 the city, especially near the
15 incinerator.

16 Living near this
17 facility makes it difficult for
18 residents to enjoy a healthy and
19 comfortable quality of life. It is
20 concerning that our city is being
21 used as a location for waste
22 disposal that negatively impacts
23 the health of its residents. I
24 respectfully urge the city to

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 consider policies that limit or
3 prevent outside waste from being
4 processed in Chester. No community
5 should have to bear a
6 disproportionate burden of
7 environmental harm. Stronger
8 regulations could help ensure that
9 all residents have access to clean
10 air. Thank you for your time and
11 consideration. I hope you will
12 take action to address this issue
13 and protect the health of our
14 community.

15 (Applause.)

16 MS. ADGER: Hello. My
17 name is Terona Adger. I'm 15 years
18 old and I'm a leader of Choices.
19 As someone who has lived in this
20 area where the center is majority
21 of my life, I've met people who
22 have severe asthma, respiratory
23 issues and even gotten cancer from
24 the incinerator, playing a huge

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 factor in their role in health.

3 And their role in the health all of
4 our lives are at risk.

5 And it's not fair that
6 we have other cities giving their
7 trash to the incinerators. I've
8 seen and known people who have died
9 due to the health decline. This is
10 not something we could just skip
11 over like a little fantasy. You
12 are all causing this. Y'all, do
13 you want to see better for your
14 community? How would you feel if
15 your families were at this risk
16 too? Thank you.

17 (Applause.)

18 MR. MOOD: Hi. My name
19 is Cedric. I'm 14. I'm
20 homeschooled through Chester Upland
21 Digital Academy. I'm an activist.
22 I'm in an activist group named
23 Choices. We are an environmental
24 justice group, youth group ages 8

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 to 18. The air pollution has
3 affected me and my family by our
4 asthma flaring up and many of my
5 family members passing from cancer
6 at young ages. Thank you.

7 (Applause.)

8 MS. RICHVILLE: Hi. My
9 name is Sylvia Richville, and I'm a
10 parent of Choices. Behind me is my
11 nephew and my daughter Terona.
12 Earlier y'all had the Perryman
13 family in here with the
14 construction business and y'all
15 gave them awards. My family can't
16 do that. We can't build
17 generational wealth because they
18 keep dying from the incinerator.

19 I moved to Chester in
20 1992 with my mother and her six
21 kids. We resided at 600, 608 and
22 611 West 2nd Street, just less than
23 a mile away from the incinerator.
24 And in the early 2000s, I lost my

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 grandmother and my grandfather. My
3 grandfather worked at Sun Shipyard.
4 My grandmother worked at Crozer,
5 which is now shuttered.

6 Two years ago I buried
7 my youngest brother, 34. I buried
8 my mother 2019, pancreatic cancer;
9 my youngest brother, ALL; my
10 grandmother, melanoma; my
11 grandfather, he had a different
12 type of cancer but he still had
13 cancer. And some of them,
14 environmental factors still
15 contributed. I lost my 17-year-old
16 cousin to ALL as well. Like, this
17 is just -- it's too much. It's too
18 much. Y'all, please stop sending
19 your trash.

20 (Applause.)

21 MR. HOFFMEIER: Good
22 afternoon. My name is Jonathan
23 Hoffmeier. I rise today to support
24 the resolution recognizing National

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Earth Month and celebrating
3 Lankenau Environmental Magnet High
4 School's unique land-learning
5 campus that's instrumental in
6 creating the next generation of
7 environmental leaders.

8 Students study ecology,
9 agro-oncology and GIS. They work
10 with partners like the United
11 States Environmental Protection
12 Agency, the USDA. They engage
13 directly with water system
14 sustainability practice that
15 prepare them for real careers and
16 real impact. This resolution
17 correctly states that Lankenau is
18 building the next generation of
19 environmental stewards.

20 I invite members to the
21 Council out to our campus in the
22 Grounded in Greatness celebration
23 April 22nd where you can witness
24 Lankenau provide one of a kind

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 education because of its location.
3 Earth Month is more than symbolism.
4 It's about action. It's about
5 investing in the future and our
6 planet and young people who inherit
7 it in a city like Philadelphia,
8 where environmental justice is
9 deeply tied to equity.

10 Protecting and investing
11 in schools like Lankenau allows a
12 template for success for the City
13 of Philadelphia. Let this
14 resolution not be words on papers.
15 Let it be a commitment to
16 protecting Lankenau and invest and
17 ensure that Earth Month in this
18 city stands for real, lasting
19 action. Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Sir,
22 thank you so much. You're looking
23 sharp, as usual like you do in the
24 school, and thank you for the work

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 that you do for the young people.

3 We appreciate you and the entire

4 family over at Lankenau. Thank

5 you.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Will Ella

7 Peterson, Lisa Bonitatibus, Mary

8 Murray, Hannah Utain-Evans, Bigga

9 Dre, Ruth Richardson, Leo Godson,

10 William Felder, Cedric Mood, please

11 make your way to the podium.

12 (Witnesses approached

13 podium.)

14 MS. McATAMNEY: Hi. My

15 name is Jess McAtamney and I'm the

16 principal of Lankenau High School,

17 and I'm here to comment on the

18 National Earth Month designation

19 resolution. Lankenau is extremely

20 humbled to receive Dr. Nina's, as

21 the students call her, resolution

22 recognizing the school's commitment

23 to fostering environmental sources.

24 Youth are the critical component of

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 the city.

3 Like it or not, they're
4 our future. They're currently the
5 audience that are receiving
6 messaging from adults as to what we
7 care about, how we care about it
8 and what we do with it. Youth are
9 able to be culturally empathetic,
10 humble and culturally aware. As
11 Philly's key factors to
12 environmental stewardship,
13 recognition of the natural built
14 system and essential to our
15 community's physical health.

16 Council is doing the
17 work by supporting Lankenau, as you
18 are directly impacting the
19 ecological functioning of the city.
20 When we care, the kids care.
21 Lankenau students will be providing
22 you, the Council, the voice for
23 your very own Food and Nutrition
24 Security Task Force. Lankenau

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 learners will be looking at the
3 plan, investigating neighborhood
4 reality, discussing being seen and
5 taking a critical stab at the
6 school food gap. This is work that
7 is quietly being done independently
8 with force and rigor.

9 Lankenau would like to
10 thank you for your support and we
11 continue to stand strong. Closing
12 Lank will deprive students, other
13 youth and various partnerships that
14 promote opportunity to develop our
15 youth ecologically. Come any time
16 to join us at 201 Spring Lane
17 Philly's largest track of
18 developable land. We'll even put
19 you in a uniform.

20 (Applause.)

21 MS. MURTHA: Tara
22 Murtha. Good morning, Council. My
23 name is Tara Murtha. I'm here
24 representing Women's Law Project in

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 support of the Public Health Week
3 resolution. I stand here as a
4 proud Philadelphian, echoing the
5 call of my colleagues and concerned
6 Philadelphians calling on the city
7 to allocate funding for Planned
8 Parenthood to help protect us from
9 the escalating public health crisis
10 purposely manufactured by our
11 federal government.

12 While media often refers
13 to the federal government's
14 decision to block federal Medicaid
15 coverage as defunding Planned
16 Parenthood, the real targets are
17 the 20,000 Philadelphians that rely
18 on the Locust Street Planned
19 Parenthood for annual checkups,
20 contraception and cancer screenings
21 as a direct result of the federal
22 cuts. So far across the country,
23 breast exams are down 25%, STI
24 testing down 11% and contraception

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 visits have declined at least 36%.

3 Meanwhile, breast cancer
4 is the most common cancer among
5 women in Philadelphia. We already
6 have a catastrophic STI crisis and
7 already have a high rate of
8 unintended pregnancy that is
9 driving up maternal mortality and
10 morbidity. So I respectfully ask
11 the city to help protect us by
12 funding critical reproductive
13 health care. This federal regime
14 will not last forever. But if the
15 city refuses to act at this
16 critical moment, the harm caused by
17 that decision will last far, far
18 longer. Thank you.

19 (Applause.)

20 MS. PETERSON: Good
21 afternoon. My name is Ella
22 Peterson. I am a Philadelphia
23 resident, a member of the Abortion
24 Rights Coalition and a proud

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 supporter of Planned Parenthood. I
3 am here for the recognition of
4 Public Health Week and to state the
5 urgency of funding essential health
6 care like abortion providers here
7 in Philadelphia.

8 Low barrier access to
9 sexual and reproductive care is an
10 essential building block to living
11 a healthy and dignified life.
12 Despite ongoing attacks, providers
13 like Planned Parenthood play a
14 critical role in ensuring that
15 Philadelphians of all genders,
16 races and socioeconomic statuses
17 are able to access the care that
18 they need.

19 Amidst a backdrop of
20 STIs increasing across our city and
21 a national conversation surrounding
22 Black maternal mortality rates
23 rising at alarming rates, the
24 services of Planned Parenthood and

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 other providers are more essential
3 than ever. A generation or so ago,
4 access to contraception opened the
5 doors of opportunities for women.

6 I am grateful for the
7 generations of advocates before me
8 who have fought to ensure that we
9 have freedom to make choices about
10 our own bodies and lives. Now, it
11 is our responsibility to stand up
12 for these freedoms and keep the
13 doors of clinics open. Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 MS. UTAİN-EVANS: Good
16 afternoon. My name is Hannah
17 Utain-Evans. I was born and raised
18 in Philadelphia. But today I'm not
19 speaking as a teacher, a mother or
20 a patient, but someone who grew up
21 as a little girl in a society that
22 told us to be deeply afraid of our
23 own sexuality and our own bodies,
24 our own capacity to love and our

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 own capacity to have and raise our
3 own families.

4 The consequences of an
5 unwanted pregnancy can range
6 between deep shame to financial
7 instability to death, and the
8 consequences for wanted pregnancies
9 honestly aren't really that much
10 different in a country where the
11 maternal health rates are the
12 lowest of any industrialized
13 country in the world.

14 I'm urging City Council
15 during this resolution to recognize
16 National Public Health to reinstate
17 the funding that was originally in
18 the city budget for reproductive
19 health care in this city that is
20 now gone from the 2026 budget, to
21 reinstate this funding. Because to
22 fail to do so is really to give in
23 to the fear that is already ruining
24 our lives and running this country.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 MR. DRE: Good

5 afternoon. My name is Bigga Dre,
6 advocating for the city of Chester
7 on behalf of Chester Residents
8 Concerned for Quality Living. My
9 opening statement is, Chester is
10 not a sacrifice zone. Philadelphia
11 had five incinerators and the
12 district attorney actually sued the
13 city to get these incinerators out
14 of the City of Philadelphia.

15 So I keep saying the
16 same thing, how many more studies
17 do we have to take? It's time to
18 take action. The bill in itself
19 says, Stop Trashing Our Air Act.
20 On April 7th, there was a
21 (inaudible) in here right on the
22 grounds of City Council. Well,
23 people are dying every day in the
24 city of Chester. We don't need to

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 study anymore. It's time to take
3 action. It's time to be active.

4 And the last message I
5 want to say, for those of you who
6 are in a position to do something
7 and you stand still, your hands are
8 accountable. So support the Stop
9 Trashing Our Air Act. Let's not do
10 no more delay because people are
11 dying every day.

12 (Applause.)

13 MR. FELDER: My name is
14 William Felder and I'm here to
15 represent Leo Godson and the
16 Producers Guild, and to thank this
17 distinguished body, President
18 Kenyatta Johnson and the
19 Councilmanic body of Philadelphia,
20 especially Councilwoman Landau, for
21 the continuing effort to promote
22 appreciation for jazz.

23 I'm here to thank you
24 because we stand on some strong

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 shoulders and try to promote this
3 music, a music that has been denied
4 but has been worldwide. And it has
5 been accepted from the drum beat to
6 sitting at your seat. So if you're
7 patting your feet or tapping your
8 head and nodding and it's bringing
9 you to life, the energy that you
10 get from that music is jazz. Thank
11 you.

12 (Applause.)

13 CHIEF CLERK: Will

14 Dr. Nolan Fontaine, Serafia Cecil,
15 Terona Adger Paul, Ogbonna Hagins,
16 Craig Coleman, Adriel Johnson,
17 Charles Freeman, Christine Ganella
18 and Tracy Burrell, please make your
19 way to the podium.

20 (Witnesses approached
21 podium.)

22 MR. CRAWLEY: Good
23 afternoon. My name is Cornell
24 Crawley on behalf of the Burrell

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 family. Bill 260 --

3 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

4 RICHARDSON: Excuse me, sir. May
5 you speak into the mic please.

6 Thank you very much.

7 MR. CRAWLEY: All right.

8 The resolution also naming the
9 intersection of 40th and Chestnut
10 Street as Darcenia Burrell Way in
11 honor of the life and legacy of
12 Darcenia V. Burrell and her lasting
13 contributions to the community.

14 This is her
15 granddaughter.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I
17 just want to thank the Council.
18 Darcenia was my grandmother and she
19 held down the business for over 40
20 years. It is a staple in the
21 community and we are so honored to
22 have her name as the intersection.
23 It'll be a legacy for years to
24 come. Thank you.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 (Applause.)

3 MS. BURRELL: Good

4 afternoon, Council. I know it's
5 been a long day. The business that
6 we're speaking of has been
7 established in --

8 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

9 RICHARDSON: Excuse me. Please
10 state your name for the record.

11 MS. BURRELL: Tracy

12 Burrell. The business has been
13 established since 1932, so that's
14 94 years, six years short of 100.
15 So we are privileged and honored
16 that we have been granted this
17 privilege of renaming 40th and
18 Chestnut. Thank you.

19 (Applause.)

20 MR. HAGINS: Good

21 morning. Ogbonna Hagins, unseated
22 council president and the President
23 of the Philadelphia Reparations
24 Coalition. What you've been

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 hearing in regards to not Trashing
3 my Air bill, it's a badge of
4 slavery. See, during slavery the
5 slaves lived in the worst part of
6 the plantation, you know, like
7 where the pigsties was, where all
8 the garbage and everything was
9 thrown at. It's a fact, right.

10 So now, what's happening
11 today in Chester? It's the exact
12 same thing. The American Freedmen
13 are being treated just like the
14 slaves of old and it's actually a
15 constitutional violation. So what
16 I'm saying is that if this body
17 understands that and they really
18 want to stop the trashing the air,
19 we need an agency to be able to
20 deal with that. The Office of
21 Freedmen Affairs needs to be at the
22 floor. And I'm going to be meeting
23 with the Chester Mayor to establish
24 one there. Because with the 13th

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Amendment, you can get rid of that.
3 You don't have to just be stopping.
4 You can get rid of it. But if you
5 don't know the 13th Amendment, you
6 don't want to learn the 13th
7 Amendment, you can't be effective
8 with representing your people.

9 Philadelphia Reparations
10 Coalition is the only organization
11 that represents the 700,000
12 descendants of slavery in
13 Philadelphia. I don't understand
14 why you're ignoring the 700,000
15 descendants of slavery. Ogbonna
16 Hagins, over and out.

17 (Applause.)

18 MS. GANELLA: Thank you.
19 Good afternoon. Thank you,
20 Councilmember Ahmad, for
21 introducing today's important
22 resolution. My name is Christine
23 Ganella. I'm representing Public
24 Health Management Corporation, and

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 I'm the Executive Director of the
3 Pennsylvania Public Health
4 Association. I'm joined at the
5 podium with Monica Harmon,
6 President-elect of the Pennsylvania
7 Public Health Association and a
8 public health nurse.

9 We strongly support this
10 resolution recognizing April 6th to
11 the 12, 2026 as National Public
12 Health Week in the City of
13 Philadelphia, and commend
14 Councilmember Ahmad and the entire
15 City Council of Philadelphia for
16 affirming the importance of public
17 health for our 1.6 million
18 residents.

19 This resolution reflects
20 the real and measurable progress
21 that public health efforts have
22 achieved in our city and region
23 alike, from reductions in childhood
24 mortality and smoking rates, to

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 advancements in HIV prevention and
3 expanded access to mental health
4 care. Public Health touches all of
5 us. Public health is everywhere.
6 These successes demonstrate that
7 when cities invest in developing
8 evidence-based policies, fostering
9 community partnerships and
10 tailoring prevention strategies,
11 communities are strengthened and
12 lives are not only improved, but
13 saved. We fully support this
14 resolution and applaud the City
15 Council for recognizing the vital
16 role of public health in shaping a
17 healthier, more equitable and
18 unified future for Philadelphia.
19 Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:

22 Thank you, City Council, for giving
23 us a chance to speak. And I'm
24 talking on the clean air. You can

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 take a ship, put it out in the
3 middle of the ocean and put one of
4 those trash, the steam-operating
5 gizmos out there and you'll tear up
6 the air over the ocean.

7 I don't know why we're
8 making policies that are deaf
9 policies. And if we had the Office
10 of Freedmen Affairs, a lot of us
11 would have a voice to say in things
12 like this. There's over 60 to 75
13 trash-to-steam operating only on
14 the East Coast and they're all in
15 urban areas. So there's a paper
16 trail that we going to start
17 investigating. And for the record,
18 get the Freedmen Office up.

19 (Applause.)

20 MS. CECIL: Good
21 afternoon. My name is Serafia
22 Cecil and I'm here to urge
23 Philadelphia City Council to
24 support the Stop Trashing Our Air

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Act. I'm speaking as a student at
3 Swarthmore College and a member of
4 CRCQL. I'm also a doula,
5 representing a network of birth
6 workers working to address the
7 maternal and infant mortality
8 crisis in the region, which are
9 disproportionately affecting Black
10 women and children and directly
11 exacerbated by the polluting
12 industries that target Chester.

13 I echo what has already
14 been said by my colleagues and
15 fellow students. As long as you
16 allow this incineration to
17 continue, Philadelphia City Council
18 is responsible for each life that
19 is taken prematurely. You must act
20 with urgency. As a college
21 student, I want to emphasize to you
22 that as students and youth, as you
23 have seen, we are watching your
24 decision on this matter and looking

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 to Philadelphia City Council to set
3 a precedent. Your decision on this
4 act will not go unnoticed and your
5 support will be remembered. Thank
6 you.

7 (Applause.)

8 MR. COLEMAN: Good
9 afternoon, everyone. My name is
10 Craig Coleman and I'm a lifelong
11 Philadelphian. I want to start off
12 with saying OCO, City Council and
13 attendees. These ancestral lands
14 are referred to as Lenapehoking and
15 to our Chester neighbors,
16 Okehocking. The air kemah(ph)
17 gives life to all. Let us breathe.
18 I breathe the city's rhythm in
19 every street, its heartbeat, its
20 sidewalks beneath my feet.

21 Let us breathe, but
22 smoke and fumes cloud the song of
23 today, turning poems of life into
24 whispers that fray. Let us

1 4/9/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 breathe. Children laugh, yet
3 coughing morning air. Trees
4 stretch high, gasping for care.
5 Let us breathe. We hold the choice
6 in our hands. It's true to keep
7 the sky clear, the spirit Kemah
8 new. Let us breathe.

9 The Stop Trashing the
10 Air Act is more than policy. It's
11 a promise, a promise that our
12 children can breathe freely, our
13 elders can continue to share their
14 wisdom, and that life itself can
15 continue its poetry here in
16 Philadelphia City Council. I ask
17 you to practice the air and honor
18 to let us breathe back. And this
19 is Poetry Month. So thank you.
20 Appreciate everybody.

21 (Applause.)

22 CHIEF CLERK: Council
23 President, this concludes our
24 listing for public comment today.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Thank you very much. We
4 will now consider the bills and
5 resolutions on the Second Reading
6 and Final Passage Calendars.

7 Would the Clerk please
8 read Resolution No. 260244.

9 CHIEF CLERK: A
10 resolution also naming the
11 intersection of 40th and Chestnut
12 as "Darcenia Burrell Way" to honor
13 the life and legacy of Darcenia V.
14 Burrell and her lasting
15 contributions to the community.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: Congratulations. The
18 Chair recognizes Councilmember
19 Jamie Gauthier for a motion
20 regarding Resolution No. 260244.

21 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:
22 Thank you, Council President.

23 I move for the adoption
24 of the resolution.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 (Duly seconded.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

4 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
5 properly seconded that Resolution
6 No. 260244 be adopted.

7 All those in favor of
8 the motion will signify by saying
9 aye.

10 (Aye.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

13 (No response.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

15 JOHNSON: The ayes have it. The
16 motion carries. The resolution is
17 adopted.

18 Would the Clerk please
19 read the title of Resolution No.
20 260269.

21 CHIEF CLERK: A
22 resolution authorizing the
23 Philadelphia Land Bank to dispose
24 of 1212 South 17th Street; 1511

1 4/9/26 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 South 20th Street; 1904 South 23rd
3 Street; 1216 South 31st Street;
4 1911 Gerritt Street; 1932 and 2044
5 Titan Street located in the 2nd
6 Councilmanic District in accordance
7 with terms of Chapter 16-700 of The
8 Philadelphia Code.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
11 Councilmember Katherine Gilmore
12 Richardson for a motion regarding
13 Resolution No. 260269.

14 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

15 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
16 Mr. President.

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

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

21 JOHNSON: It has been moved
22 properly and seconded that
23 Resolution No. 260269 be adopted.

24 All those in favor of

1 4/9/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 the motion will signify by saying
3 aye.

4 (Aye.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: The ayes have it. The
10 motion carries. The resolution is
11 adopted.

12 Will the Clerk please
13 read any additional resolutions on
14 today's Calendar.

15 CHIEF CLERK: A
16 privileged resolution recognizing
17 and congratulating the members of
18 Ye Olde Philadelphia Club of
19 Philadelphia on the occasion of
20 their 100th anniversary.
21 Introduced by Councilmember Gilmore
22 Richardson.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes

1 4/9/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Councilmember Katherine Gilmore
3 Richardson for a motion on the
4 resolution.

5 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

6 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
7 Mr. President.

8 On behalf of their
9 president, President Brown,
10 Mr. Finney and all members of Ye
11 Olde Philadelphia, I move the
12 adoption of the resolution.

13 (Duly seconded.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

18 All those in favor
19 signify by saying aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 4/9/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the
3 resolution is adopted.

4 Chief Clerk, please read
5 the title of the next resolution.

6 CHIEF CLERK: A
7 privileged resolution celebrating
8 the selection of Our Missing Hearts
9 by Celeste Ng for the 2026 One
10 Book, One Philadelphia program.
11 Introduced by Councilmember Gilmore
12 Richardson.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
15 Councilmember Katherine Gilmore
16 Richardson for a motion on the
17 resolution.

18 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

19 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
20 Mr. President.

21 I move the adoption of
22 the resolution.

23 (Duly seconded.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 4/9/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
3 properly seconded that the
4 resolution be adopted.

5 All those in favor
6 signify by saying aye.

7 (Aye.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

10 (No response.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the
13 resolution is adopted.

14 Would the Chief Clerk
15 please read the next resolution.

16 CHIEF CLERK: A
17 privileged resolution recognizing
18 and honoring Malala Yousafzai for
19 being the recipient of the 2026
20 WHYY Lifelong Learning Award for
21 her contributions to the
22 fundamental right to education for
23 all individuals. Introduced by
24 Councilmember Thomas.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes

4 Councilmember Katherine Gilmore

5 Richardson for a motion.

6 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

7 RICHARDSON: Thank you,

8 Mr. President.

9 On behalf of

10 Councilmember Thomas, I move the

11 adoption of the resolution.

12 (Duly seconded.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: It has been moved and

15 properly seconded that the

16 resolution be adopted.

17 All those in favor

18 signify by saying aye.

19 (Aye.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

21 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the

1 4/9/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 resolution is adopted.

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

6 CHIEF CLERK: A
7 privileged resolution recognizing
8 and honoring CASA for Children of
9 Philadelphia County on its 20th
10 Anniversary for its outstanding
11 service, advocacy and commitment to
12 ensuring the safety, stability and
13 well-being of children in
14 Philadelphia's foster care system.
15 Introduced by Councilmember Landau.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
17 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
18 Councilmember Landau for a motion
19 on the resolution.

20 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:
21 Thank you. I move for the adoption
22 of the resolution.

23 (Duly seconded.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 4/9/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
3 properly seconded that the
4 resolution be adopted.

5 All those in favor
6 signify by saying aye.

7 (Aye.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

10 (No response.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: The ayes have it. The
13 resolution is adopted.

14 Chief Clerk, please read
15 the title of the next resolution.

16 CHIEF CLERK: A
17 privileged resolution honoring and
18 congratulating Philadelphia's
19 iconic chefs and restaurants named
20 as nominees for the 2026 James
21 Beard Awards. Introduced by
22 Councilmember Landau.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes

1 4/9/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Councilmember Rue Landau for a
3 motion on the resolution.

4 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU: I
5 move for the adoption of the
6 resolution.

7 (Duly seconded.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
10 properly seconded that the
11 resolution be adopted.

12 All those in favor
13 signify by saying aye.

14 (Aye.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

17 (No response.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

19 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the
20 resolution is adopted.

21 Chief Clerk, please read
22 the title of the next resolution.

23 CHIEF CLERK: A
24 privileged resolution declaring

1 4/9/26 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 April 2026 as Jazz Appreciation
3 Month in the City of Philadelphia,
4 and celebrating the City's
5 extraordinary jazz legacy.
6 Introduced by Councilmember Landau.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
9 Councilmember Landau for a motion
10 on the resolution.

11 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU: I
12 move for the adoption of the
13 resolution.

14 (Duly seconded.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

19 All those in favor
20 signify by saying aye.

21 (Aye.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

24 (No response.)

1 4/9/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: The ayes have it. The
4 resolution is adopted.

5 Chief Clerk, please read
6 the title of the next resolution.

7 CHIEF CLERK: A

8 privileged resolution Honoring and
9 Recognizing Sankofa Freedom Academy
10 Charter School on winning the 2026
11 PIAA Class 1A Boys Basketball State
12 Championship. Introduced by
13 Councilmember Lozada.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

15 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
16 Councilmember Quetcy Lozada for a
17 motion on the resolution.

18 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

19 Thank you, Council President.

20 I move for the adoption
21 of the resolution.

22 (Duly seconded.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: It has been moved and

1 4/9/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 properly seconded that the
3 resolution be adopted.

4 All those in favor
5 signify by saying aye.

6 (Aye.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: The ayes have it. The
12 resolution is adopted.

13 Chief Clerk, please read
14 the title of the next resolution.

15 CHIEF CLERK: A
16 privileged resolution honoring
17 Councilmember Isaiah Thomas'
18 dedication towards elevating the
19 lives of young people throughout
20 Philadelphia. Introduced by
21 Councilmember Lozada.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
24 Councilmember Quetcy Lozada for a

1 4/9/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 motion on the resolution.

3 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

4 Thank you, Council President.

5 I enthusiastically --

6 what is it, move for the adoption.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: Move for the adoption.

9 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

10 I'm so enthusiastic.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

13 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
14 enthusiastically seconded that the
15 resolution be adopted.

16 All those in favor
17 signify by saying aye.

18 (Aye.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

21 (No response.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: The ayes have it. The
24 resolution is adopted.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 I love that camaraderie
3 in Council. That's what I'm
4 talking about. Jeffrey Young,
5 bringing up Pastor Nicolas O'Rourke
6 to do prayer. You honoring
7 Councilmember Thomas. That's what
8 it's all about. I like that.

9 Will the Chief Clerk
10 please read the title of the next
11 resolution please.

12 CHIEF CLERK: A
13 privileged resolution recognizing
14 the 100th anniversary of Glaizers
15 Local No. 252 on the International
16 Union of Painters and Allied
17 Trades, chartered on April 12, 1926
18 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
19 Introduced by Councilmember
20 Harrity.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
22 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes the
23 Chair of Labor Councilmember Jim
24 Harrity for a motion on the

1 4/9/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 resolution.

3 (Duly seconded.)

4 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:

5 Thank you, Council President.

6 I move for the adoption
7 of the resolution.

8 (Duly seconded.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
11 properly seconded that the
12 resolution be adopted.

13 All those in favor
14 signify by saying aye.

15 (Aye.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the
21 resolution is adopted.

22 Chief Clerk, please read
23 the title of the next resolution.

24 CHIEF CLERK: A

1 4/9/26 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 privileged resolution designating
3 April 18, 2026 as Lineworkers
4 Appreciation Day in the City of
5 Philadelphia, and recognizing and
6 honoring the dedication and
7 resilience of lineworkers who
8 build, maintain and repair the
9 infrastructure that power our City.
10 Introduced by Councilmember
11 Driscoll.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
13 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
14 Councilmember Mike Driscoll for a
15 motion on the resolution.

16 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: I
17 move for the adoption.

18 (Duly seconded.)

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

23 All those in favor
24 signify by saying aye.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 (Aye.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

4 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

5 (No response.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

9 Chief Clerk, please read
10 the title of the next resolution.

11 CHIEF CLERK: A
12 privileged resolution honoring and
13 recognizing Lodge No. 2 of the
14 Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Free
15 and Accepted Ancient York Masons,
16 for its historical significance in
17 the founding of the nation, its 268
18 years of dedication to leadership
19 and mentorship and its continued
20 contributions to charitable
21 organizations in the City of
22 Philadelphia. Introduced by
23 Councilmember Squilla.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 4/9/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
3 Councilmember Mark Squilla for a
4 motion on the resolution.

5 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

6 Thank you, Mr. President.

7 I move for the adoption
8 of resolution.

9 (Duly seconded.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
12 properly seconded that the
13 resolution be adopted.

14 All those in favor
15 signify by saying aye.

16 (Aye.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

21 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the
22 resolution is adopted.

23 Chief Clerk, please read
24 the title of the next resolution.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: A

3 privileged resolution recognizing
4 the week of April 6 through April
5 12, 2026 as National Public Health
6 Week. Introduced by Councilmember
7 Ahmad.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
10 Councilmember Dr. Nina Ahmad for a
11 motion on the resolution.

12 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

13 Thank you, Council President.

14 I move for the adoption
15 of the resolution.

16 (Duly seconded.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

21 All those in favor
22 signify by saying aye.

23 (Aye.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 4/9/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

7 Chief Clerk, please read
8 the title of the next resolution.

9 CHIEF CLERK: A
10 privileged resolution recognizing
11 April 2026 as Sexual Assault
12 Awareness Month, and celebrating
13 the extraordinary efforts of WOAR -
14 Philadelphia Center Against Sexual
15 Violence. Introduced by
16 Councilmember Ahmad.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes for a
19 motion on the resolution.

20 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

21 Thank you, Council President.

22 I move for the adoption
23 of the resolution.

24 (Duly seconded.)

1 4/9/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
4 properly seconded that the
5 resolution be adopted.

6 All those in favor
7 signify by saying aye.

8 (Aye.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

11 (No response.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

13 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the
14 resolution is adopted.

15 Chief Clerk, please read
16 the next resolution.

17 CHIEF CLERK: A
18 privileged resolution recognizing
19 April 2026 as National Earth Month,
20 and celebrating Lankenau
21 Environmental Science Magnet
22 School's commitment to fostering
23 the next generation of
24 environmental stewards. Introduced

1 4/9/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 by Councilmember Ahmad.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

4 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes

5 Councilmember Dr. Nina Ahmad for a

6 motion on the resolution.

7 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

8 Thank you, Council President.

9 I move for the adoption
10 of the resolution.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

13 JOHNSON: It has been moved and

14 properly seconded that the

15 resolution be adopted.

16 All those in favor

17 signify by saying aye.

18 (Aye.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

21 (No response.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the

24 resolution is adopted.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Chief Clerk, please read
3 the title of the next resolution.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Council
5 President, there are no further
6 resolutions in my possession.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: That completes our
9 Calendar for today.

10 Are there any brief
11 speeches on behalf of the Minority?

12 (No response.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: Speeches on behalf of the
15 Majority?

16 Chair recognizes
17 Councilmember Quetcy Lozada.

18 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

19 That's a first. I'm going to keep
20 it very short. Just want to say
21 again that today we are honoring
22 our dear friend Councilmember
23 Sharon Vaughn. As everyone knows,
24 Councilmember Vaughn has always led

1 4/9/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 with deep roots in the community.

3 Has been a public leader for many,
4 many years. Her community all came
5 together to ask for this
6 recognition. I appreciate the
7 support that this legislative body
8 also provided in recognizing her as
9 well.

10 Today I also introduced
11 legislation to rename the 400 block
12 of West Lehigh Avenue "Wilfredo
13 Gonzalez Way," honoring Gonzalez's
14 lifelong service to the Latino
15 community and cultural life of
16 Philadelphia. Gonzalez was born in
17 Puerto Rico and raised in
18 Philadelphia. Mr. Gonzalez was the
19 beloved owner of Centro Musical, a
20 cornerstone of the Hispanic
21 community for more than 50 years.
22 Devoted to his family, a U.S. Army
23 veteran, a man of deep faith, he
24 led relief efforts to Puerto Rico

1 4/9/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 for Hurricane Maria.

3 Gonzalez championed
4 Hispanic commerce and community
5 culture. He supported community
6 organizations like (inaudible),
7 Concilio, a merchant of the Fifth
8 Street Merchants Association. We
9 lost him on March 30th and we honor
10 him and thank his family for
11 sharing him with us in the
12 community.

13 Thank you, Council
14 President.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: Thank you.

17 Chair recognizes
18 Councilmember Dr. Nina Ahmad.

19 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

20 Thank you, Council President.

21 I'll try to be as brief
22 as possible. I'd like to take a
23 moment to recognize National Earth
24 Month and speak on the resolution

1 4/9/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 that we introduced and honoring the
3 principal and the entire incredible
4 student body of Lankenau
5 Environmental Science Magnet High
6 School.

7 You've heard me speak
8 about Lankenau before. There's not
9 much more I can add. Just to draw
10 attention to this incredible
11 institution and the unjust
12 recommendation by our school
13 district to close it. I want to
14 thank Councilmember Curtis Jones
15 for introducing a bill today to do
16 a zoning overlay that would make
17 sure this space is kept for
18 educational and civic purposes and
19 hopefully stay green and clean into
20 the future.

21 Second, I just wanted to
22 speak on the bill that I
23 introduced, which was about
24 changing the Philadelphia Code to

1 4/9/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 add a chapter entitled "U Visa and
3 T Visa certifications." This
4 ordinance establishes a
5 standardized process for U & T Visa
6 certifications, including timely
7 responses to requests,
8 confidentiality of requests,
9 guidelines of the grant or denial
10 of request as well as other
11 relevant procedures.

12 U & T Visas are
13 essential for immigrant survivors
14 of human trafficking and victims of
15 crime to advocate for themselves.
16 With these individuals experiencing
17 numerous other boundaries to
18 support and resources, this
19 ordinance adds transparency to the
20 U & T Visa process and removes one
21 more layer of stress from the
22 process. So I look forward to
23 hopefully having that heard in
24 committee.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 And finally, I wanted to
3 just remind everybody that our
4 online grooming hearing is going to
5 be held on April 24th at 10:00 a.m.
6 in City Hall, Room 400. And all
7 interested constituents can reach
8 out if they're interested in
9 testifying.

10 Thank you, Council
11 President.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

13 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

14 Chair recognizes
15 Councilmember Rue Landau.

16 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

17 Thank you, Council President.

18 I will be brief. Today
19 I introduced a resolution honoring
20 and correct congratulating
21 Philadelphia's iconic chefs and
22 restaurants named as nominees for
23 the 2026 James Beard Awards. Our
24 unique and diverse food scene here

1 4/9/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 in Philadelphia showcases cuisine
3 from around the world and from all
4 throughout our diverse
5 neighborhoods. Congratulations to
6 the teams of Friday Saturday
7 Sunday, Royal Sushi Izakaya, Her
8 Place Supper Club, Honeysuckle,
9 Fiore, Kalaya, and also Emmett who
10 was here today but they couldn't
11 stay for public comment.

12 I also introduced a
13 resolution today declaring April as
14 Jazz Appreciation Month in
15 Philadelphia, celebrating the
16 city's extraordinary jazz legacy,
17 jazz's unique history, especially
18 when it comes to Philly, which has
19 produced legends like John
20 Coltrane, Dizzy Gillespie, Nina
21 Simone, Billie Holiday and more.
22 It's also the 60th anniversary of
23 the Cleft Club here in
24 Philadelphia.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 We're also the home to
3 the Musicians Protective Union
4 Local 274, which fought for
5 justice, racial equity, workers'
6 rights and dignity in the workplace
7 for Black musicians. This month we
8 honor not just the work they
9 created, but the enduring legacy
10 they left behind.

11 As a reminder to
12 Councilpeople, we're having a
13 celebration upstairs in my office
14 of 592 with the meet and greet for
15 my exhibition and with some artists
16 upstairs highlighting the legacy of
17 jazz. It's happening right now,
18 592.

19 And finally, I wanted to
20 just acknowledge that today ICE
21 agents are expected to leave PHL
22 Airport following their deployment
23 during the government shutdown.
24 This is another step to keep ICE

1 4/9/26 - STATED - SPEECHES
2 out of Philly. And I look forward
3 to Monday's hearing that I
4 introduced with Minority Leader
5 Brooks and the entire Committee of
6 the Whole here on Monday at
7 10:00 a.m. Ice out of
8 Philadelphia. Thank you so much.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
11 Councilmember Jeffrey Jay Young.

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

14 First, I want to
15 congratulate Ms. Sharon Vaughn on
16 the street renaming. It is very
17 well-deserved. Many folks already
18 know I grew up with Ms. Vaughn's
19 daughter Kanika, so I hope she
20 doesn't say what we used to do as
21 teenagers.

22 But this weekend, our
23 office is proud to host our Youth
24 Job Fair this Saturday, April 11th,

1 4/9/26 - STATED - SPEECHES
2 from 11:00 to 2:00 p.m. the Temple
3 Star Complex. We're hosting our
4 youth job fair for young people,
5 ages 14 to 24. We partnered with
6 National Center for Urban Solutions
7 C2L program, Temple University, to
8 just provide our young people with
9 opportunities.

10 So if you're hiring this
11 summer, if you're trying to build
12 out your program, if you're looking
13 to connect with young people, this
14 is where you need to be. We have
15 over 200 young people registered so
16 far, and that shows a lot, that our
17 young people are really looking for
18 opportunities here in the City of
19 Philadelphia.

20 And, Mr. President, I
21 think that we should find funding
22 for every single young person who
23 wants a job in the City of
24 Philadelphia. That should be a

1 4/9/26 - STATED - SPEECHES
2 no-brainer for us here on this
3 Council. And we're looking for
4 partners. I also believe that
5 every single entity that receives a
6 dime from the City of Philadelphia
7 should partner with us in hiring a
8 young person at their facilities.
9 So we need more partners,
10 especially our retailers, our
11 summer programs, our youth service
12 organizations, we need you to come
13 out full force. So please, you can
14 reach out to my office if you want
15 to register. You can show up on
16 the spot. Again, it's this
17 Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
18 at 15th and Montgomery at the
19 Temple Star Complex.

20 This Saturday, I'm also
21 partnering with Councilmember
22 Brooks and Hair & Company, a new
23 hair store at Broad and Hunting
24 Park, is having a community day.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 So we will be out there from 12:00
3 to 5:00 as well at Broad and
4 Hunting Park. So if you're in that
5 area, please come out and bring
6 your family.

7 And last, but not least,
8 Mr. President, it is also spring
9 cleanup time. And so tomorrow, my
10 office will be on Montgomery Avenue
11 between 22nd and 24th cleaning up
12 our community. So See Me Clean and
13 Love Where I Live Tour is what
14 we're calling it. I'll be out
15 there 22nd and Montgomery at
16 9:00 a.m. tomorrow, April 10 and on
17 Saturday, April 11. I'll be out
18 there at 9:00 a.m. at 30th and
19 Cumberland before our Youth Fair.

20 So I want a huge thank
21 you to our Black Male Community
22 Council Philadelphia, the office of
23 Clean and Green and the Strawberry
24 Mansion Community Concern for

1 4/9/26 - STATED - SPEECHES
2 helping us organize these cleanups
3 as we continue to make our city the
4 cleanest, greenest city in the
5 country.

6 Thank you,
7 Mr. President.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
9 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

10 Chair recognizes
11 Councilmember Isaiah Thomas.

12 COUNCILMAN THOMAS:
13 Council President, very briefly I
14 just want to be recorded as voting
15 aye on all bills and resolutions.
16 I apologize for stepping off the
17 floor for a little bit.

18 I also just wanted to
19 again thank all of my colleagues,
20 especially Councilmember Lozada as
21 well as well as Councilmember
22 Squilla, it being in his district,
23 but all of my colleagues for all of
24 the support and celebration,

1 4/9/26 - STATED - SPEECHES
2 including you, Council President,
3 on winning a State championship and
4 being able to welcome my young men
5 here today. And I could let y'all
6 know they'll never forget this for
7 the rest of their life.

8 So a lot happened today
9 and a lot happens every Thursday.
10 But I could tell you for about 18
11 young men, this is a day they'll
12 never forget. So colleagues, thank
13 you all for making today very
14 special for them.

15 Council President, thank
16 you, sir.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: Great job, sir.

19 Chair recognizes
20 Councilmember Quetcy Lozada.

21 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:
22 Council President, thank you very
23 much.

24 Very quickly, lunch will

1 4/9/26 - STATED - SPEECHES
2 be provided in the Caucus room by
3 the Philadelphia Children's
4 Alliance, where they will be
5 sharing their information with all
6 of us.

7 I also would like to ask
8 for thoughts and prayers for the
9 two firefighters that were hurt in
10 the line of duty responding to a
11 fire last Sunday. One of them was
12 discharged at home, Will
13 Cochato(ph) and the other
14 firefighter is still in very
15 serious condition at Temple
16 Hospital. And so, I ask for
17 thoughts and prayers for their
18 speedy recovery. Thank you.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: Thank you, Member Lozada.

21 Chair recognizes
22 Councilmember Isaiah Thomas for a
23 motion to adjourn.

24 COUNCILMAN THOMAS:

1 4/9/26 - STATED - ADJOURNMENT

2 Thank you, Council President.

3 Truly appreciate your leadership
4 today.

5 And I move that Council
6 stands adjourned until Thursday,
7 April 26, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: For the record, that's
10 April 16th, 2026.

11 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Let
12 me restate that for the record so
13 we are getting everything correct.
14 Thank you, Mr. President. I
15 apologize for the error.

16 I move that Council
17 stands adjourned until Thursday,
18 April 16, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

21 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
22 properly seconded that Council
23 stands adjourned until Thursday,
24 April 16, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

1 4/9/26 - STATED - ADJOURNMENT

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

4 (Aye.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and this
10 Council session is adjourned.

11 - - -

12 (Stated Meeting
13 adjourned at 1:05 p.m.)

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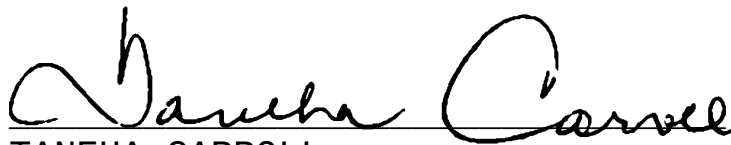
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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

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

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City of Philadelphia
City Council Calendar
Thursday, April 9, 2026

PUBLIC COMMENT

City Council receives public comment on bills and resolutions that are printed on this agenda for the meeting. Speakers will have up to three minutes to speak; please prepare your comments to fit within that time limit. The Council President, may, depending on circumstances, establish a lower time limit. The Council President will announce the applicable time limit at the beginning of the public comment portion of the agenda. The Council President may also limit repetitious comments on the same agenda item or defer comments to the next meeting of Council.

Speakers for public comment can sign up in advance, submit comments electronically, or sign up to speak the day of the meeting. To sign up in advance, speakers may call 215-686-3406 or email chiefclerk@phila.gov by no later than 3 p.m. the day before the meeting. Speakers who sign up in advance will be added to the list. Speakers must sign up individually, not on behalf of others or groups, and provide the following information:

- Full name (including proper pronunciation and spelling)
- The bill number or resolution number that will be addressed
- Whether you support or oppose that particular bill or resolution
- Telephone number where you can be reached
- Street address

Speakers may also submit public comment electronically by email to chiefclerk@phila.gov no later than 3 p.m. the day before the meeting, preferably as a PDF attachment to the email. Electronic submissions become part of the written record of the proceedings but they are not read aloud in Council. To sign up the day of the meeting, come to Room 400, City Hall and check in at the desk by the entrance.

***If you require an accommodation or service to fully participate, please let the Chief Clerk's Office know when signing up for Public Comment.**

***If you need an interpreter for these events, please call or email the Chief Clerk's office for information about our language services.**

***Please note that this is an in-person meeting, and open to the public. This meeting may also be viewed on Xfinity Channel 64, Fios Channel 40, or <http://phlcouncil.com/watch-city-council/>.**

ORDER OF BUSINESS IN A COUNCIL SESSION

Note: Some items do not occur at every session:

Invocation.

Approval of the journal of the preceding meeting.

Requests by Councilmembers for permission to be absent from the session.

Reading of communications from the Mayor.

Introduction of bills and resolutions (to be referred to appropriate Committees of Council).

Reports from Committees of Council.

Special business.

Bills on first reading.

**Public comment on bills and resolutions on the Second Reading and Final Passage
Calendars - titles are printed below.**

Bills that Council passed but that need to be returned by the Mayor for reconsideration.

**Consideration of bills and resolutions on the Second Reading and Final Passage
Calendars.**

Bills and resolutions on the Suspension Calendar.

Speeches by Councilmembers.

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS ON FINAL PASSAGE**260244****INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Gauthier

Resolution also naming the intersection of 40th and Chestnut Street as “Darcenia Burrell Way” to honor the life and legacy of Darcenia V. Burrell and her lasting contributions to the community.

260269**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Gilmore Richardson for Council President Johnson

Resolution authorizing the Philadelphia Land Bank to dispose of 1212 South 17th Street; 1511 South 20th Street; 1904 South 23rd Street; 1216 South 31st Street; 1911 Gerritt Street; 1932 and 2044 Titan Street located in the 2nd Councilmanic District in accordance with the terms of Chapter 16-700 of The Philadelphia Code.

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS ON SECOND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE**250768****INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Gauthier

An Ordinance amending Title 17 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled “Contracts and Procurement,” to prohibit contractors providing solid waste, recycling or composting services to the City from incinerating discarded matter, under certain terms and conditions.

250807**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Squilla

An Ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property to acquire, on behalf of the City, fee simple title or a lesser interest, by purchase, dedication, donation, condemnation, agreement in lieu of condemnation or otherwise, for the purpose of making, enlarging, connecting, extending, operating, and maintaining public parks for recreational use, certain parcels of land, generally bounded and located between Vine Street, Fairmount Avenue, 8th Street and 12th Street, together with all improvements thereon and all associated easements and appurtenances; and to lease the property, or a portion thereof, to the Center City District; all under certain terms and conditions.

RESOLUTIONS**RESOLUTIONS****260304****INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Gilmore Richardson

Resolution recognizing and congratulating the members of Ye Olde Philadelphia Club of Philadelphia on the occasion of their 100th anniversary.

260305**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Gilmore Richardson

Resolution celebrating the selection of Our Missing Hearts by Celeste Ng for the 2026 One Book, One Philadelphia program

260309**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Thomas

Resolution the Council of the City of Philadelphia recognizes and honors Malala Yousafzai for being the recipient of the 2026 WHYY Lifelong Learning Award for her contributions to the fundamental right to education for all individuals.

260310**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Landau

Resolution recognizing and honoring CASA for Children of Philadelphia County on its 20th anniversary for its outstanding service, advocacy, and commitment to ensuring the safety, stability, and well-being of children in Philadelphia's foster care system.

260311**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Landau

Resolution honoring and congratulating Philadelphia's iconic chefs and restaurants named as nominees for the 2026 James Beard Awards.

260312**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Landau

Resolution declaring April 2026 as Jazz Appreciation Month in the City of Philadelphia and celebrating the City's extraordinary jazz legacy.

260315**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Lozada

Resolution honoring and Recognizing Sankofa Freedom Academy Charter School On Winning the 2026 PIAA Class 1A Boys' Basketball State Championship

260316**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Lozada

Resolution honoring Councilmember Isaiah Thomas' Dedication Towards Elevating the Lives of Young People Throughout Philadelphia.

260318**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Harrity

Resolution recognizing the 100th Anniversary of Glaziers Local No. 252 of the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, chartered on April 12, 1926, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

260321**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Driscoll

Resolution designating April 18, 2026 as Lineworker Appreciation Day in the City of Philadelphia, and recognizing and honoring the dedication and resilience of lineworkers who build, maintain, and repair the infrastructure that powers our City.

260322**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Squilla

Resolution honoring and Recognizing Lodge No. 2 of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons, for its Historical Significance in the Founding of the Nation, its 268 Years of Dedication to Leadership and Mentorship, and its Continued Contributions to Charitable Organizations in the City of Philadelphia.

260325**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Ahmad

Resolution recognizing the week of April 6 through April 12, 2026, as "National Public Health Week"

260326**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Ahmad

Resolution recognizing April 2026 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Celebrating the Extraordinary Efforts of WOAR - Philadelphia Center Against Sexual Violence.

260327**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Ahmad

Resolution recognizing April 2026 as National Earth Month and celebrating Lankenau Environmental Science Magnet School's commitment to fostering the next generation of environmental stewards