

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
STATED MEETING

Via Microsoft Teams
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Thursday, December 16, 2021
10:15 a.m.

PRESENT:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT DARRELL L. CLARKE
COUNCILWOMAN CINDY BASS
COUNCILWOMAN KENDRA BROOKS
COUNCILMAN ALLAN DOMB
COUNCILWOMAN JAMIE GAUTHIER
COUNCILWOMAN KATHERINE GILMORE RICHARDSON
COUNCILMAN DEREK S. GREEN
COUNCILWOMAN HELEN GYM
COUNCILMAN BOBBY HENON
COUNCILMAN KENYATTA JOHNSON
COUNCILMAN CURTIS JONES, JR.
COUNCILMAN DAVID OH
COUNCILMAN BRIAN J. O'NEILL
COUNCILWOMAN CHERELLE L. PARKER
COUNCILWOMAN MARIA D. QUINONES-SANCHEZ
COUNCILMAN MARK SQUILLA
COUNCILMAN ISAIAH THOMAS

MICHAEL A. DECKER, CHIEF CLERK

- - -

1 12/16/21 - STATED - ROLL CALL

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 Thank you, and good morning to everyone.

4 We're going to get started, but before we
5 begin the Council session, I'm just going
6 to make a couple of announcements.

7 Due to the continuing threat to
8 public health from the COVID-19, the
9 delta variant, City Council is currently
10 meeting remotely. We are using Microsoft
11 Teams to make this remote meeting
12 possible. Instructions for how the
13 public may view the meeting and offer
14 public comment are included in the Stated
15 Meeting notice that was published in the
16 Daily News, the Inquirer, and Legal
17 Intelligencer prior to the meeting, and
18 can also be found on PHLCouncil.com.

19 I now note that the hour has
20 come. The Clerk will please call the
21 roll to take attendance, and members that
22 are in attendance, just say a couple of
23 words to make sure that your image is
24 displayed on the screen.

25 Mr. Decker, please call the

1 12/16/21 - STATED - ROLL CALL

2 roll.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

4 Bass.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Good

6 morning, Mr. President, colleagues, and
7 the City of Philadelphia. Good morning,
8 everyone.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
10 morning.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
12 Brooks.

13 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Good
14 morning, Council President, colleagues,
15 and the City of Philadelphia. I'm
16 present.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
18 morning.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

20 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Good morning,
21 Council President, colleagues, Rabbi
22 Myers, and the City of Philadelphia.
23 Present.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
25 morning.

1 12/16/21 - STATED - ROLL CALL

2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

3 Gauthier.

4 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Good

5 morning, Council President, colleagues,

6 and Philadelphia. Present.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

8 morning.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

10 Gilmore Richardson.

11 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Good

12 morning, Council President. Good

13 morning, colleagues. And good morning to

14 the City of Sisterly Love.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

16 morning.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

18 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Good

19 morning, Council President. Good

20 morning, colleagues. Good morning to the

21 City of Brotherly Love and Sisterly

22 Effectiveness.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

24 morning.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

1 12/16/21 - STATED - ROLL CALL

2 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Good

3 morning, Council President. Good

4 morning, colleagues. I'm present.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

6 morning.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

8 COUNCILMAN HENON: Good

9 morning, Council President. Good

10 morning, colleagues.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

12 morning.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

14 Johnson.

15 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Good

16 morning, Council President. Good

17 morning, colleagues. Sending out prayers

18 to all the families who have lost their

19 loved ones to senseless gun violence.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

21 morning.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

23 COUNCILMAN JONES:

24 Mr. President, colleagues, Philadelphia,

25 good morning. I'm present.

1 12/16/21 - STATED - ROLL CALL

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
3 morning.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

5 COUNCILMAN OH: Good morning,
6 Council President. Good morning,
7 colleagues. I'm present.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
9 morning.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
11 O'Neill.

12 (No response.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
14 Councilwoman Parker.

15 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Good
16 morning, Mr. President, colleagues, and
17 to the people of our city.

18 And, Councilmember Katherine
19 Gilmore Richardson, the red is beautiful.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
21 morning.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
23 Quinones-Sanchez.

24 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Good
25 morning, Council President. Good

1 12/16/21 - STATED - ROLL CALL

2 morning, colleagues.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

4 morning.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

6 Squilla.

7 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Good

8 morning, President and colleagues.

9 Present.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

11 morning.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

13 Thomas.

14 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Good

15 morning, Council President. Good

16 morning, colleagues. Good morning to the

17 listening public. I'm present.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

19 morning.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

21 Clarke.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: And

23 I'm obviously present, and good morning.

24 A quorum is established and we will now

25 come to order.

1 12/16/21 - STATED - ROLL CALL

2 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Council
3 President, Councilman O'Neill, present.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Oh,
5 okay. Thank you, Councilman.

6 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Thank you,
7 sir.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Let
9 the record reflect that Councilman
10 O'Neill is present.

11 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Right on
12 cue, right as it starts.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
14 Absolutely.

15 Before we call for the Rabbi
16 for our invocation, the Chair would like
17 to recognize Councilman Domb.

18 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Thank you,
19 Council President. I just wanted to say
20 I invited Rabbi Jeffrey Myers to begin
21 this important final Council session of
22 2021 because he's no stranger to tragedy
23 and diversity. In fact, on October 27,
24 2018, the Tree of Life Synagogue in
25 Pittsburgh was the site of the worst

1 12/16/21 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 anti-Semitic attack on U.S. soil.

3 Since surviving this horrific
4 event, Rabbi Myers has worked tirelessly
5 to help communities overcome hate through
6 connection and understanding. I
7 appreciate him joining us on the other
8 side of the state today and for his work
9 to heal communities in times of struggle.

10 Thank you. Thank you, Council
11 President.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

13 Thank you, Councilman.

14 And to give our invocation this
15 morning, the Chair will recognize the
16 Rabbi Hazzan Jeffrey Myers of the Tree of
17 Life congregation. He is here today as
18 the guest of Councilman Domb.

19 I would ask all members and
20 guests to please bow your heads for the
21 invocation.

22 RABBI MYERS: Honorable
23 Mr. Clarke, Councilman Domb, who extended
24 this invitation, members of the City
25 Council, I'm honored to be present with

1 12/16/21 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 you virtually this morning to offer
3 prayer to open your meeting.

4 I bring greetings from the
5 western part of the Commonwealth to the
6 easternmost part of the Commonwealth.

7 While I have the opportunity to
8 in person, I want to extend the
9 appreciation of all of the Tree of Life
10 family for your strong resolution that
11 occurred after the horrific massacre on
12 October 27, 2018 and for your words of
13 support.

14 The real question is, what is
15 the best type of prayer to offer the
16 Philadelphia City Council, who represents
17 the City of Love? It is Jewish practice
18 to pray three times a day - morning,
19 afternoon, and evening. There are
20 elements of the liturgy found in all
21 three services, with the core being a
22 collection of 19 blessings whereby we
23 pray to God for healing for those who are
24 ill and forgiveness for sin, for example.

25 What is the most telling is

1 12/16/21 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 what the final blessing seeks. Of all
3 the possible final blessings, what might
4 be the one that culminates this section?
5 The liturgists chose a blessing for
6 peace, because they felt that if one had
7 peace, it covered all of the previous
8 blessings.

9 Most of you might be familiar
10 with the Hebrew word for peace, shalom.
11 The interesting thing about this word is
12 that its root, the source of the word,
13 does not mean peace. Rather it means
14 wholeness or completeness.

15 So how do we get from wholeness
16 or completeness to peace? Simply put,
17 when you feel whole and complete, you are
18 at peace.

19 To greet someone and wish them
20 shalom is indeed the greatest blessing
21 one can bestow upon someone else, for you
22 are wishing them wholeness and
23 completeness. Thus, the prayer that I
24 offer you this morning is my blessing for
25 peace, and I will offer the text found in

1 12/16/21 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 our daily prayer book.

3 Grant universal peace with
4 happiness, blessing, grace, love, and
5 mercy for us and for all people. Bless
6 us, our creator, one and all with your
7 light, for you have given us by that
8 light the guide to a life of caring,
9 filled with generosity and contentment,
10 kindness and well-being and peace.

11 May it please you to bless all
12 people in every season and at all times
13 with your gift of peace. Praised are
14 you, oh God, who blesses all people with
15 peace.

16 I wish all of you shalom.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

18 Thank you so much, Rabbi. We really
19 appreciate that spiritual guidance this
20 morning.

21 RABBI MYERS: Thank you for the
22 privilege.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

24 Thank you for being here this morning.

25 And our next order of business

1 12/16/21 - STATED - APPROVAL OF JOURNAL
2 is the approval of the Journal of the
3 meeting of Thursday, December 9, 2021.

4 The Chair recognizes Councilman
5 Squilla.

6 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you,
7 Mr. President. I move that the Journal
8 of the meeting of Thursday, December 9,
9 2021 be approved.

10 (Duly seconded.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
12 Thank you. It has been moved and
13 properly seconded that the Journal of the
14 meeting of Thursday, December 9, 2021
15 stand approved.

16 All in favor indicate by saying
17 aye.

18 (Aye.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
20 Those opposed?

21 (No response.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
23 ayes have it, and our Journal is
24 approved.

25 And our next order of business

1 12/16/21 - STATED - LEAVES

2 is requests for leave of absence, and the
3 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Parker.

4 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
5 you, Mr. President. On behalf of the
6 members of Council, there are no requests
7 for leaves of absence today.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
9 Thank you, Councilwoman.

10 And the Chair again recognizes
11 Councilwoman Parker for a motion
12 concerning certain legislative matters
13 that may arise during the course of
14 today's session of Council and that were
15 not necessarily listed on the Calendar
16 circulated prior to today's session.

17 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
18 you, Mr. President. I move that any of
19 the following matters, if considered
20 today, may be added to the agenda for
21 this session of Council and, as required
22 by law, subsequently published on an
23 amended agenda after the consideration of
24 those matters: resolutions authorizing
25 hearings, amendments to bills on first

1 12/16/21 - STATED - MOTION REGARDING CALENDAR

2 reading, the reconsideration of a bill
3 vetoed by or re-called from the Mayor,
4 resolutions taking substantive action to
5 be voted on in this session, a motion to
6 withdraw a bill or resolution that is not
7 on the Calendar, and a motion placing a
8 bill or resolution on or returning a bill
9 or resolution from the Suspension
10 Calendar that is not listed on today's
11 Calendar.

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

18 (Duly seconded.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

20 Thank you. It has been moved and
21 seconded that the legislative matters
22 stated by Councilwoman Parker may be
23 added to the agenda for today, should
24 those matters arise during the course of
25 this Council session.

1 12/16/21 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 All in favor indicate by saying
3 aye.

4 (Aye.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Those opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
9 ayes have it, and the motion carries.

10 And our next order of business
11 is communications.

12 And, Mr. Decker, please read
13 the messages from the Mayor and any other
14 communications that you may have in your
15 possession.

16 CHIEF CLERK: From the Mayor to
17 the President and members of the Council
18 of the City of Philadelphia, pursuant to
19 Sections 4-604 and 2-307 of the Home Rule
20 Charter, I am today transmitting to the
21 Council the recommendation of the City
22 Planning Commission on the following
23 bills: Bill Nos. 210922, 210926, 210930,
24 210931, 210932, 210933, and 210957.

25 And I am pleased to advise you

12/16/21 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

that on December 10 and December 15,
2021, I signed the remaining bills that
were passed by Council at its session on
December 2, 2021, except Bill No. 210808,
which I am returning without my
signature; and that on December 15, 2021,
I signed Bill Nos. 210771, 210901-A,
210924, and 210925, which were passed by
Council at its session on December 9,
2021.

And I am transmitting for the
consideration of your honorable body a
resolution authorizing the Commissioner
of Public Property to execute and deliver
to the Philadelphia Redevelopment
Authority deeds conveying fee simple
title to certain City-owned lots or
pieces of ground with the buildings and
improvements thereon situate in the Fifth
Councilmanic District of the City of
Philadelphia and further authorizing the
Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority to
transfer to the Philadelphia Land Bank
fee simple title to such properties; and

1 12/16/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 A resolution approving the
3 appointment of Seth Bluestein as City
4 Commissioner, to fill out the unexpired
5 term of a vacant seat in the Office of
6 the City Commissioners, all under certain
7 terms and conditions.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

9 Thank you, Mr. Decker.

10 Our next order of business is
11 the introduction of bills and
12 resolutions. And by way of a reminder,
13 we are asking that all resolutions,
14 including privileged resolutions, be
15 placed on the Final Passage Calendar for
16 our next session of Council, unless they
17 are being referred to committee. In our
18 current remote environment, this
19 procedure will provide the appropriate
20 opportunity for public comment.

21 I want to thank you in advance
22 for your anticipated cooperation.

23 Mr. Decker, please read the
24 titles of the legislation that's being
25 offered today by our members.

1 12/16/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
3 Parker offers, on behalf of Council
4 President Clarke, a resolution calling on
5 Mayor James F. Kenney and his
6 administration to work collaboratively
7 with City Council in the creation of a
8 Local Job Placement Task Force.

9 Mr. President, Councilwoman
10 Parker would like to be recognized for a
11 motion on your behalf on this resolution.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
13 Thank you.

14 The Chair recognizes
15 Councilwoman Parker.

16 (No response.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
18 Councilwoman, you're on mute.

19 (No response.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: I
21 know she was having some challenges on
22 her phone. I believe that --

23 CHIEF CLERK: We're just
24 anticipating a motion for a rules
25 suspension, Mr. President, for

1 12/16/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 consideration today of this resolution?

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Yeah.

5 Councilman Jones?

6 COUNCILMAN JONES: So moved.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: No.

8 You have to make it, I think. I don't
9 think Mr. Decker can do it.

10 COUNCILMAN JONES: All right.

11 I'd like to make a motion --

12 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
13 you, Mr. President.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Yes,
15 Councilwoman.

16 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
17 you, Mr. President. I move that the
18 rules of Council be suspended to permit
19 immediate consideration of this
20 resolution.

21 (Duly seconded.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: All
23 in favor of the motion indicate by saying
24 aye.

25 (Aye.)

1 12/16/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCILMAN JONES: I had you.

3 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
4 you.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Those opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
9 ayes have it. The motion passes. That
10 resolution will be on today's Calendar.

11 COUNCILMAN OH: You stepped in
12 and saved him.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
14 Gilmore Richardson offers a resolution
15 calling on the Pennsylvania General
16 Assembly to reject House Bills 412, 1332,
17 1642, and any other legislative
18 initiatives that decrease funding for
19 public schools and further inequities in
20 our educational systems.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
22 Councilwoman, is this the one you're
23 asking for a suspension?

24 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Yes.
25 Thank you, Mr. President. I move that

1 12/16/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 the rules of Council be suspended to
3 permit consideration of this resolution
4 on today's Final Passage Calendar.

5 (Duly seconded.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
7 been moved and properly seconded.

8 All in favor indicate by saying
9 aye.

10 (Aye.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
12 Those opposed?

13 (No response.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
15 ayes have it, and it will be on the Final
16 Passage Calendar.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones
18 offers one bill, entitled "An ordinance
19 establishing no truck or trailer parking
20 regulations on North 60th Street between
21 West Oxford Street and Clifford Terrace,
22 both sides; North 61st Street between
23 West Oxford Street and Clifford Terrace,
24 both sides; and West Columbia Avenue
25 between North 60th Street and North 61st

1 12/16/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Street, both sides."

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Referred to committee.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

6 Johnson offers one bill and three

7 resolutions, entitled "An ordinance

8 authorizing encroachments in the nature

9 of a sidewalk cafe in the vicinity of 762

10 South 10th Street."

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

12 Referred to committee.

13 CHIEF CLERK: And a

14 resolution -- and on behalf of Council

15 President Clarke, a resolution urging the

16 Biden Administration and the United

17 States Department of Justice to finalize

18 a proposed rule that would close a

19 regulatory loophole and require 'ghost

20 gun' kit makers to include serial numbers

21 in firearm kits and require federally

22 licensed firearms dealers to conduct

23 background checks prior to the sale of

24 these firearm kits."

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The

1 12/16/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Chair recognizes Councilman Johnson for a
3 motion.

4 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Yeah.
5 Council President, I move that the rules
6 of Council be suspended for the Inner
7 City Warriors resolution in order to
8 permit consideration for today's Council
9 session.

10 (Duly seconded.)

11 CHIEF CLERK: We're on a
12 different resolution, Mr. President.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
14 Councilman Johnson, that was the
15 suspension on the rules on the ghost guns
16 resolution?

17 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Yes, sir.
18 Okay. I'll wait until you read it. I
19 apologize, Council President.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: No.
21 I read it. I need you to call for a
22 motion for a suspension of the rules to
23 allow reading today.

24 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: So we're
25 voting on the ghost gun bills today?

1 12/16/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 Yeah. We're asking you for a suspension.

4 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Sure, sir.

5 Council President, I move that the rules
6 of Council be suspended so that we can
7 vote on the Biden Administration 'ghost
8 guns' resolution during today's Council
9 session.

10 (Duly seconded.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

12 Thank you. It's been moved and properly
13 seconded.

14 All in favor indicate by saying
15 aye.

16 (Aye.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

18 Those opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
21 ayes have it, and that resolution will be
22 on today's Final Passage Calendar.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
24 Johnson also offers a resolution
25 authorizing the Special Committee on Gun

1 12/16/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Violence Prevention to conduct hearings
3 to examine our national youth mental
4 health crisis and its role in the ongoing
5 epidemic of gun violence.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That
7 will be on today's Final Passage
8 Calendar.

9 CHIEF CLERK: And Councilman
10 Johnson offers a resolution honoring the
11 Inner City Warriors Youth Football Team
12 for winning the National United Youth
13 Football League 2021 Championship in
14 Plant City, Florida.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Did
16 you want a suspension on that also?

17 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON:
18 Absolutely, Council President.

19 Council President, I move that
20 the rules be suspended for the Inner City
21 Warriors resolution in order to permit
22 consideration at today's Council session.

23 (Duly seconded.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
25 been moved and properly seconded.

1 12/16/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 All those in favor?

3 (Aye.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

5 Those opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
8 ayes have it, and that will be on today's
9 Final Passage Calendar.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
11 Sanchez offers one bill and one
12 resolution, entitled "An ordinance
13 amending Chapter 20-600 of The
14 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Standards of
15 Conduct and Ethics,' including Section
16 20-607, entitled 'Conflict of Interest,'
17 and Section 20-610, entitled 'Statement
18 of Financial Interests,' to regulate and
19 restrict the receipt of outside income."

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
21 Referred to committee.

22 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
23 calling for the creation of the School
24 District of Philadelphia Building
25 Authority Workgroup.

1 12/16/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 Councilwoman, are you requesting a
4 suspension or not?

5 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: No

6 suspension required. Thank you, Council
7 President.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: You

9 said no? Okay. Thank you. Thank you,
10 Councilwoman.

11 Next Council session's

12 Calendar.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

14 Gauthier offers one bill and one
15 resolution, entitled "An ordinance
16 amending Chapter 16-400 of The
17 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Surplus
18 Properties,' by adding criteria for
19 evaluating non-competitive dispositions."

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

21 Referred to committee.

22 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution

23 authorizing the Philadelphia City Council
24 Committee on Housing, Neighborhood
25 Development and the Homeless to conduct

1 12/16/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 public hearings to explore the crisis of
3 expiring affordable housing subsidies,
4 the impact of these expirations on the
5 availability of affordable housing in the
6 City of Philadelphia, and the use of the
7 scattered site model to increase the
8 number of available affordable units."

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
10 Today's Calendar.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Thomas
12 offers one resolution, entitled a
13 "Resolution honoring and congratulating
14 champion of the week, John Bartram High
15 School Football team, on their successful
16 2021 season and winning their first
17 District 12 4A Public League title in
18 45 years."

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Wow.
20 Next week's Calendar. Sorry; next
21 session's Calendar.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh
23 offers one resolution declaring March 25,
24 2022 as Belarusian Heritage Day in
25 recognition of the contributions of

1 12/16/21 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Belarusian-Americans in the City of
3 Philadelphia.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That
5 will be on next session's Calendar.

6 CHIEF CLERK: There are no
7 other bills or resolutions being offered
8 today by the members, Mr. President.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
10 Thank you very much, Mr. Decker.

11 That concludes the introduction
12 of bills and resolutions, and our next
13 order of business is reports from
14 committee.

15 And the Chair recognizes
16 Councilman Green for a report from the
17 Committee on Finance.

18 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Thank you,
19 Council President. The Committee on
20 Finance reports out one bill with a
21 favorable recommendation.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
23 Thank you, Councilman.

24 Mr. Decker, please read that
25 report.

12/16/21 - STATED - REPORTS

CHIEF CLERK: To the President
and members of the Council of the City of
Philadelphia, the Committee on Finance,
to which was referred Bill No. 210956,
entitled "An ordinance signifying the
intention of the City of Philadelphia to
organize the Philadelphia Public
Financial Authority pursuant to authority
established under state law, and amending
Chapters 20-600 ('Standards of Conduct
and Ethics'), 20-1200 ('Lobbying'), and
17-1400 ('Non-Competitively Bid
Contracts; Financial Assistance') of The
Philadelphia Code to address ethics,
contractual and other requirements
applicable to the Philadelphia Public
Financial Authority, all under certain
terms and conditions," respectfully
reports it has considered and amended the
same and returns the attached bill to
Council with a favorable recommendation.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

Thank you.

The Chair again recognizes

1 12/16/21 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Councilman Green.

3 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Thank you,
4 Council President. I move that the rules
5 of Council be suspended so as to permit
6 first reading this day of Bill No.
7 210956.

8 (Duly seconded.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
10 Thank you. It has been moved and
11 properly seconded that the rules of
12 Council be suspended so as to permit
13 first reading this day of Bill No.
14 210956.

15 All in favor indicate by saying
16 aye.

17 (Aye.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

19 Those opposed?

20 (No response.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
22 ayes have it. This bill will be placed
23 on the First Reading Calendar today.

24 And our next order of business
25 is consideration of the Calendar. I note

1 12/16/21-STATED-RESOLUTIONS ON CONSENT AGENDA

2 that the bill just reported from
3 committee with suspension of the rules
4 has been deemed to have had its first
5 reading. It will be on its Final Passage
6 at our next session of Council.

7 As there are no additional
8 bills on the First Reading Calendar, the
9 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Parker for
10 a motion concerning the resolutions on
11 the Final Passage Calendar.

12 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
13 you, Mr. President. I move that the
14 rules of Council be suspended to permit
15 the use of a Consent Agenda to consider
16 the following resolutions on the Final
17 Passage Calendar today. They are
18 Resolution Nos. 210960, 210961, 210991,
19 210992, 210993, 210994, 210995, 210996,
20 210997, 210998, 210999, 211000, 211001,
21 211002, 211003, 211004, 211008, 211009,
22 211010, 211011, 211012, and 211013.

23 And, Whip Jones, please stay
24 close, because it's coming in and out.
25 Okay?

1 12/16/21-STATED-RESOLUTIONS ON CONSENT AGENDA

2 (Duly seconded.)

3 COUNCILMAN JONES: Got you.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

5 Thank you. It's been moved and properly
6 seconded that the rules of Council be
7 suspended to permit the use of a Consent
8 Agenda to consider the resolutions just
9 read by Councilwoman Parker.

10 All in favor indicate by saying
11 aye.

12 (Aye.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

14 Those opposed?

15 (No response.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
17 ayes have it, the motion carries, and we
18 will consider the Resolution Consent
19 Agenda shortly.

20 The Chair again recognizes
21 Councilwoman Parker for a motion
22 concerning the bills on the Second
23 Reading and Final Passage Calendar.

24 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
25 you, Mr. President. I move that the

1 12/16/21 - STATED - BILLS ON CONSENT AGENDA

2 rules of Council be suspended to permit
3 the use of a Consent Agenda to consider
4 the following bills on the Second Reading
5 and Final Passage Calendars today. They
6 are Nos. 210689, 210899, 210926, 210782,
7 210783, 210864, 210629, 210867, 210918,
8 210919, 210921, 210929, 210930, 210931,
9 210932, and 210920.

10 (Duly seconded.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

12 Thank you. It has been moved and
13 properly seconded that the rules of
14 Council be suspended to permit the use of
15 a Consent Agenda to consider the bills
16 just read by Councilwoman Parker.

17 All in favor indicate by saying
18 aye.

19 (Aye.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

21 Those opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
24 ayes have it, the motion carries, and we
25 will consider the Consent Agenda shortly.

1 12/16/21 - STATED - BILLS ON 2ND READING

2 The Chair one more time
3 recognizes Councilwoman Parker for the
4 purpose of calling up bills and
5 resolutions on the regular Second Reading
6 and Final Passage Calendar.

7 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
8 you, Mr. President. In addition to the
9 resolutions and bills being considered on
10 the Consent Agendas, the following
11 resolutions and bills are being called up
12 from the Second Reading and Final Passage
13 Calendars today. They are Nos. 210692,
14 210633-A, 210917-A, 210669, and 210923.
15 Mr. President, all other bills and
16 resolutions are being held.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
18 Thank you very much, Councilwoman.

19 So before we proceed, we're
20 going to consider the public comment. We
21 will now take a brief five- to ten-minute
22 recess to give our technology
23 professionals an opportunity to connect
24 our speakers today.

25 Take a brief recess. Thank

1 12/16/21 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 you.

3 - - -

4 (Short recess.)

5 - - -

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

7 Thank you, and good afternoon -- good
8 morning again. We are back. We're going
9 to start our public comment session.

10 So now that everyone is
11 connected to the meeting and before
12 considering the resolutions and bills we
13 have before us today, we will consider
14 our public comment session. It will go
15 as follows:

16 Public comment must concern
17 matters on the Second Reading and Final
18 Passage Calendar for possible action at a
19 session of Council. A speaker on any of
20 those matters must sign up in order to
21 testify. You must call 215-686-3406 by
22 3:00 p.m. the day before the session to
23 sign up for public comment.

24 When you call, we will take
25 your name, phone number, the number of

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2 the legislative item you are commenting
3 on and whether you are in support of or
4 against the legislation, and add your
5 name to the list. We will then telephone
6 each person of the list during the
7 Council session and invite them to our
8 remote meeting.

9 Today we will have two minutes
10 to speak, so please adjust your testimony
11 to reflect that. We have a significant
12 volume of people today and we want to
13 make sure everyone has an opportunity to
14 be on.

15 In order to be fair to all
16 those wishing to speak, I intend to hold
17 faithfully to the established time limit.
18 So once invited to the meeting and you're
19 asked to begin your testimony, a timer
20 will be started. We will monitor your
21 remaining time throughout your testimony,
22 and when there are 30 seconds remaining
23 to your time, you will be reminded of
24 this. Once your allotted time has
25 passed, you will be asked to conclude

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2 your remarks, and shortly thereafter you
3 will be muted and disconnected from the
4 remote meeting.

5 We traditionally reserve the
6 right to limit the number of speakers
7 where repetitious comments are being made
8 on the same subject matter, which could
9 affect callbacks for public comment at
10 the meeting.

11 Please be aware that the public
12 meeting is being recorded. So because
13 the meeting is public, participants and
14 viewers have no reasonable expectation of
15 privacy. So by continuing to be in the
16 meeting, you are consenting to being
17 recorded.

18 I will now ask Mr. Decker to
19 please read the name of our first
20 speaker.

21 CHIEF CLERK: The first speaker
22 we have today is Walt Reeder, commenting
23 on 210999.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
25 morning. State your name for the record

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2 and please proceed with your testimony.

3 MR. REEDER: (Connection
4 issues) -- the BPC. We are the Black
5 Promoter Collective. I'm the talent
6 buyer for the group. We are a national
7 entity of top Black promoters that have
8 gotten together to control and take back
9 our culture in the form of touring Black
10 and urban concerts.

11 I want to thank you for the
12 resolution, and I am also in favor of the
13 bill that has been placed forward.

14 Thank you.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
16 Mr. Reeder, just for the record, just say
17 your name. We didn't get it.

18 MR. REEDER: Walt Reeder, Jr.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
20 Thank you. Thank you so much for your
21 testimony. We appreciate it.

22 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
23 is Rida Haq.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
25 morning. Just state your name for the

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2 record and please proceed with your
3 testimony.

4 MS. HAQ: My name is Rida Haq
5 and I'm here to speak on Resolution No.
6 210995 recognizing my organization,
7 Philadelphia VIP, for its work extending
8 access to justice for 40 years.

9 In a city with a robust private
10 legal sector but also one where an
11 overwhelming percentage of the population
12 lives at or near the poverty level, VIP
13 offers a solution. By leveraging the
14 City's private legal sector for over
15 40 years, recruiting and training
16 attorneys who volunteer to represent
17 Philadelphians free of charge, VIP has
18 secured over 9,000 volunteer attorneys to
19 benefit over 23,000 Philadelphians and
20 their families during pivotal life
21 moments.

22 This is a mission of
23 empowerment. We support our volunteer
24 community in empowering their neighbors
25 and fighting back against legal threats

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2 to their incomes, their housing, both
3 rented and owned, their family stability,
4 and their hard-earned small businesses.

5 On behalf of our Board and
6 staff team, I want to express my
7 gratitude to the community, including
8 Councilmembers and staff on this call,
9 who enable this mission to continue
10 today.

11 Thank you, Councilwoman Parker,
12 for proposing this recognition and for
13 being a thoughtful and committed partner
14 over your many years serving as a bridge
15 between VIP services and your
16 constituents.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
18 Thank you very much for your testimony.
19 We appreciate it.

20 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
21 is Mindy Isser, commenting on 211010.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
23 Thank you.

24 Good morning.

25 MS. ISSER: Hi.

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2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 State your name for the record.

4 MS. ISSER: Sorry.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Go

6 ahead. Just state your name.

7 MS. ISSER: Sorry. I feel I'm
8 doing this right.

9 My name is Mindy Isser. I'm
10 calling on behalf of the resolution
11 honoring Ron Whitehorn. If anyone has
12 read the text of the resolution, they
13 will see what a wonderful storied big
14 life Ron has lived, and I think the most
15 amazing work that he's done has actually
16 been as a mentor and a friend to so many
17 younger organizers and activists who are
18 just trying to understand how the world
19 works and how to change it, myself
20 included.

21 Earlier this year Ron got into
22 a very, very bad bike accident and for a
23 short while, it was not clear what his
24 recovery would look like, and it was so
25 scary obviously for a number of reasons.

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2 A friend being sick is obviously very
3 bad, but also the knowledge and wisdom
4 and kindness, the potential for that to
5 be lost was just too much to bear. And
6 so I think so many of us are so happy and
7 grateful that he is doing so well and
8 really grateful to Councilmember Brooks
9 for putting this resolution forward.

10 So I urge all of City Council
11 to support this bill honoring Ron
12 Whitehorn, unless you have been a thorn
13 in his side in his past, in which case it
14 would make sense if you didn't support
15 this bill.

16 Thank you.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

18 Thank you so much for your testimony. We
19 appreciate it.

20 CHIEF CLERK: JR Reeves,
21 commenting on 210961.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
23 morning. Just state your name for the
24 record and please proceed with your
25 testimony.

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2 MR. REEVES: Good morning to
3 all. I hope everybody is doing well.

4 To the Council President, to
5 the members of the Council, the
6 Councilmembers, in particular to those
7 that sponsored Resolution 21096100, good
8 morning, all. My name is JR Reeves. I
9 am proud to serve as the 27th Eastern
10 Regional Director of the mighty Eastern
11 Region of the men of Phi Beta Sigma
12 Fraternity, Incorporated.

13 We represent the over 3,500
14 members of the mighty Eastern Region. We
15 have membership representing the
16 Northeastern corridor, the Mid-Atlantic
17 corridor, as far away as the Caribbean
18 and the Virgin Islands, in Europe, as
19 well as in the motherland and across
20 Ghana and Africa.

21 We are pleased that we are
22 bringing our Eastern Regional Conference
23 to the City of Brotherly Love, to
24 Philadelphia. That will take place
25 March 31st through April 3rd, 2022 in

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2 downtown Philadelphia. We espouse the
3 virtues of brotherhood, scholarship, and
4 service, and we are so excited to not
5 just leave these virtues with you, but
6 also to deposit a great deal of money and
7 our spend while we're in Philadelphia.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

9 Thank you. Thank you for your testimony
10 and thank you for your work. Appreciate
11 it.

12 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
13 is Brian Bishara, commenting on 210899.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
15 morning. State your name for the record.
16 Please proceed with your testimony.

17 MR. BISHARA: This is Brian
18 Bishara. I'm calling about Bill No.
19 210922. I'm the owner of Fountain Street
20 Auto. It's at the corner of Ridge and
21 Fountain Street.

22 The Councilman, who I respect
23 and I understand where he's coming from,
24 the over-development in Roxborough, he's
25 proposing to change the zoning here, and

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2 I feel like that we're being targeted and
3 I don't think this is fair.

4 There is going to be a
5 development next door to our building
6 that is on the lot, the same exact square
7 footage, and they're going to -- they are
8 proposed -- already passed through Zoning
9 to build a six-story building, and they
10 want to decrease our zoning from CM-2.5
11 to CA-1. We are an auto repair shop.
12 CA-1 is not included for auto repair and
13 that business. We would be grandfathered
14 in, but we don't think it's fair for
15 ourselves and my family that has
16 developed this business for the last
17 20 years in Philadelphia that we won't be
18 able to sell it, and it will decrease the
19 value of the business due to that reason.

20 We also can only develop
21 60 percent of the property, when before
22 we could develop 75 percent. So it's a
23 major decrease. And if we ever want to
24 expand the business or make it bigger, we
25 would have to go to Zoning and cost us a

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2 lot more money and variance problems.

3 We're trying to avoid that.

4 We just don't understand the
5 theory here. We thought we wanted more
6 affordable housing for Roxborough, and
7 this seems to be kind of contradicting
8 that -- that bill would stop that. If
9 we're looking for more affordable
10 housing, I don't understand why we want
11 to stop the building and, you know, cut
12 down businesses.

13 We got a lot of businesses that
14 are affected by this. They're all a lot
15 of older businesses. A few of them have
16 been here since the '60s and they were
17 getting their zoning changed also. I
18 don't agree with the bill. I do respect
19 the Councilman and the over-development,
20 but I don't think we should be penalized
21 for it, especially us being a corner
22 property and a prime spot in the
23 neighborhood.

24 Thank you.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

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2 Thank you for your testimony. We
3 appreciate it.

4 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
5 is Renee Fattah, commenting on 210996.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
7 morning. State your name for the record
8 and please proceed with your testimony.

9 MS. FATTAH: Good morning,
10 Council President Clarke and
11 Councilmembers. My name is Renee
12 Chenault Fattah and I'm here to speak on
13 Resolution 210996, and I want to thank
14 Councilmember Cherelle Parker for
15 introducing this resolution recognizing
16 the Tenth Anniversary of Philadelphia
17 Lawyers for Social Equity, or PLSE. I'm
18 the Executive Director of PLSE, and while
19 I'm new to the organization, PLSE is not
20 new in the arena of social justice and
21 equity.

22 PLSE was founded a decade ago
23 by civil rights attorneys. Many of you
24 in the room know Mike Lee and Ryan
25 Hancock, who went into communities, heard

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general consensus on the challenge that people were facing around criminal records. These are our friends, our co-workers, our neighbors, people who did something maybe 5, 10, 15 years ago, went to prison, served their time, didn't have any more problems with the law, but were still being kept back from job and education opportunities because of a criminal record.

So PLSE was formed to provide legal services around expungements and pardons. This past October we filed our 25,000th expungement petition, and we're closing in on 26,000 by the end of next week. And in the coming year, we've set an ambitious goal of helping Philadelphians file 1,000 pardons.

So we're going into communities, providing clinics and information and outreach and intake in the spirit of the community model created by the late Reverend Dr. Leon Sullivan, who believed that change happens when

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it's organic from our communities. So we are working with the faith-based leaders and trusted community organizations to spread the word on the power of pardons and expungement as a way to provide a second chance of better jobs. Jobs always, as we know, an answer to crime and is a way to lift our communities out of poverty.

This resolution that you hopefully will pass today helps us spread the word. So on behalf of all of us at PLSE, on behalf of the justice-involved community, of which I am a member, thank you for acknowledging our work. Know that we support and lift the important work you're doing every day.

Have a safe and happy holiday and, again, thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

Thank you. Thank you for your testimony. We appreciate it.

CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker is Shawn Moss, commenting on 210929.

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2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
3 morning. State your name for the record.
4 Please proceed with your testimony.

5 MR. MOSS: My name is Shawn
6 Moss. I am opposing Ordinance 210929. I
7 am not a special interest or anything.
8 I'm a citizen from District 5, and I
9 oppose this ordinance because for its --
10 number one, it's non-specific,
11 establishing parking regulations in the
12 vicinity of. It should be establishing
13 parking regulations as necessary in the
14 vicinity of these things. Handicap
15 parking regulation I think is fine, but
16 there is already too much parking
17 regulation in the City to begin with.

18 And, number two, I'm not
19 confident that the money accrued from
20 parking meters, electronic meters, or
21 parking violations, for example, will be
22 reinvested into improving the quality of
23 life for Philadelphia. It wasn't that
24 long ago that there was a corruption
25 trial here in Council, and I'm not

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2 confident that the funds will be
3 appropriated correctly.

4 That's all.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Thank you. Thank you for your testimony.
7 We appreciate it.

8 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
9 is Linda Bell, commenting on 210434.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
11 morning. State your name for the record
12 and please proceed with your testimony.

13 MS. BELL: My name...

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

15 Hello, Ms. Bell?

16 (No response.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Ms.

18 Bell, are you still connected?

19 (No response.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

21 Modesto --

22 MS. BELL: Hello. Can you hear
23 me?

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

25 Yeah. We have you now. Just state your

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2 name for the record and proceed with your
3 testimony.

4 MS. BELL: My name is Linda
5 Bell and I'm a CPI alum and Board member
6 of East Mount Airy Neighbors.

7 What was -- I had three bills
8 or four bills to speak on and they only
9 mentioned one. Which one am I supposed
10 to be speaking on now?

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
12 Well, you have two minutes to speak on
13 whatever bill you may. If you can speak
14 on all four in two minutes, please do so.

15 MS. BELL: Okay. I want to
16 speak on and support Bill No. 210434,
17 Councilman Oh, for a resolution for
18 minimum force training and Bill 2100 --
19 211008, Councilmember Johnson's
20 resolution for calling for the General
21 Assembly to prohibit the use of deadly
22 force in a citizen's arrest, and Bill
23 210296, Councilmember Parker's temporary
24 stay on mortgage and tax foreclosures.

25 I also want to support Bill

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2 210692, 210669, which a colleague from
3 Crosstown -- sorry; Citywide RCO
4 Coalition will speak on later and read a
5 letter talking about the ZBA reform.

6 I also want to talk about Bill
7 210991. I'm opposed to the term "BIPOC"
8 being used in that bill, because the term
9 "POC," people of color, was a phrase
10 chosen by Black Latinos and Native
11 Americans and Asian and Pacific Islanders
12 activists in the '90s to actively
13 de-center whiteness. It came to replace
14 the terms "non-white" and "minorities"
15 that carried with them the idea that we
16 were less than, but the substitution of
17 BIPOC just doesn't accomplish the same
18 goal.

19 Beyond the confusion of what it
20 stands for, when you insist on naming
21 Black people separately from other people
22 of color, BIPOC does -- as BIPOC does,
23 you are, in effect, claiming that Black
24 people aren't people of color, though
25 Black people coined that phrase.

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2 So I just humbly request that
3 you strike that term from your submission
4 of that bill, 210991.

5 Thank you.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

7 Thank you. Thank you for your testimony.
8 We appreciate it.

9 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
10 we have on the line is Abraham Reyes
11 Pardo, commenting on 210920.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
13 morning. State your name for the record
14 and please proceed with your testimony.

15 MR. PARDO: Hi. Good morning.
16 This is Abraham Reyes Pardo. I'm the
17 Director of Housing at the Urban League
18 of Philadelphia, a HUD-approved housing
19 counseling agency. I'm part of a team of
20 seven HUD-approved housing counselors
21 dedicated to provide guidance for tenants
22 participating in the eviction diversion
23 program. Today I'm here to support Bill
24 No. 210920.

25 Back in September of 2020, the

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2 Urban League of Philadelphia was prompt
3 to answer the call from the City of
4 Philadelphia and join the then-emerging
5 eviction diversion program. Here we are
6 almost 15 months and thousands of cases
7 later.

8 To say that the coalition of
9 agencies led by the City has made this a
10 very successful program would be an
11 understatement. Many of the cases
12 entering the process have been resolved
13 or at least continued before the
14 scheduled hearing. Without it means less
15 stress added on to an already overloaded
16 court system.

17 In addition to providing safe
18 space to review these cases in detail,
19 the existence of this program has allowed
20 us to look closer at and address some of
21 the current fair housing violations that
22 otherwise will have gone unreported.

23 Part of the cost being the
24 dynamic between landlords and tenants,
25 some tenants can choose to forego basic

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living conditions in fear of retaliation
in the form of excessive fees or an
eviction filing. With a handful of
appearance of law firms handling or
filing the vast majority of these cases,
the program helps us to identify areas
for collaboration. We continue to learn
from each other's perspective, having the
concerns of tenants and landlords at
stake.

If the collective data has
proven anything, it is that many of these
cases do not belong in court,
particularly referring to disputes
involving significantly small balances
that could be easily satisfied through a
repayment plan.

The Urban League of
Philadelphia supports the continuation of
the eviction diversion program and will
continue to advocate for underresourced
and struggling tenants.

Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

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2 Thank you for your testimony. We
3 appreciate it.

4 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
5 is Jacob Speidel, commenting on 210920.

6 MR. SPEIDEL: Good morning and
7 thank you for taking -- yes. Can you
8 hear me?

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Yes.
10 I'm sorry. Go ahead.

11 MR. SPEIDEL: Yes. Good
12 morning and thank you for taking the time
13 to consider this important issue our city
14 is facing. My name is Jacob Speidel and
15 I'm the Director of Tenant Rights at
16 SeniorLAW Center. I'm here to support
17 passage of Bill No. 210920.

18 At SeniorLAW Center, we seek
19 justice for older adults. We're the only
20 non-profit organization in Pennsylvania
21 whose mission is dedicated solely to
22 providing legal services to seniors.

23 While families and individuals
24 across Philadelphia have been devastated
25 by the COVID-19 pandemic, older

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Philadelphians have been hardest hit.

They've been the most at risk for the

virus and the most likely to have severe

health consequences and the most likely

to die. Housing has never been more

crucial.

SeniorLAW Center represents

people 60 years of age and older,

including tenants facing evictions, lack

of repairs or exhumation. We also

represent landlords who are facing abuse

or financial exploitation.

We support today's legislation

to continue Philadelphia's highly

successful eviction diversion program.

The Philadelphia Municipal Court's

authority to continue to extend the

requirement for landlord participation is

ending at the end of this month. Today's

legislation is needed to extend the

successful eviction diversion program.

Philadelphia's eviction

diversion program is a pre-filing program

that has been operational for over a year

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2 now and has received local, state, and
3 national attention. Governor Wolf has
4 called Philadelphia's program a national
5 model. Madeo Jay (ph) has held out
6 Philadelphia's program as a national
7 model.

8 Philadelphia's eviction
9 diversion program benefits both landlords
10 and tenants. For landlords, the program
11 connects them to mediators who can
12 improve communication with tenants and
13 resolve problems, while giving courts the
14 capacity to schedule speedy hearings for
15 landlords that need court hearings.

16 Unlike most legal services
17 organizations, SeniorLAW Center
18 represents both low-income older
19 landlords and tenants. We've seen
20 firsthand how these programs benefit
21 landlords and tenants. The Philadelphia
22 diversion program has been enormously
23 successful.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

25 Thank you.

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2 MR. SPEIDEL: Thank you for
3 this opportunity to testify, and we
4 appreciate your taking the time to
5 consider this issue.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
7 Thank you. Thank you so much for your
8 testimony. We appreciate it.

9 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
10 is Bonita Cummings, commenting on 210669
11 and 210692.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
13 morning. State your name for the record
14 and proceed with your testimony.

15 MS. CUMMINGS: Good morning.
16 Can you hear me?

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Yes,
18 we can hear you. Please proceed.

19 MS. CUMMINGS: Okay. Good
20 morning, Council President and members of
21 City Council. My name is Bonita Cummings
22 and I'm the Director of Strawberry
23 Mansion Community Concerns and a member
24 of the Citywide RCO Coalition of
25 Philadelphia.

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2 The need for Resolution No.
3 210692 and Bill No. 210669 appealing to
4 the electors is due to the overzealous
5 change of the Philadelphia Zoning Code of
6 2011 and becoming effective in 2012.

7 The change to the Zoning Code
8 (connection issues) assisted by our
9 Zoning Code practices. Failure of
10 developers to act in an empathetic human
11 state for my neighborhood of Strawberry
12 Mansion has led to lynching behind the
13 walls of developers' buildings.

14 2848 West Diamond Street has
15 trapped the mural art of African American
16 musician John Coltrane, and at 3006-3008
17 Ridge Avenue on the corner of Ridge and
18 Diamond, our revered civil rights leader,
19 Martin Luther King, Jr., was desecrated
20 and his body laid shattered on the
21 sidewalk for days, with his arm being
22 left behind the wall of a huge new
23 development.

24 All our holy books tell us that
25 life is in the spirit, and then from the

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2 spirit of these great leaders who
3 sacrificed for the world were treated by
4 developers with their conglomerate of
5 investors, banks, and design companies
6 like trash. We agree this action must be
7 rectified.

8 So this legislation is one
9 aspect of correction to what is wrong
10 with the development as well as the
11 community. However, this regulation
12 ballot question if passed in May 2022
13 won't go into effect until October 2022.
14 In addition, Council must take an
15 overhaul approach to our Zoning Code now.

16 So we ask that our at-large
17 members with their District
18 Councilmembers pause this trauma on
19 neighborhoods. Call for some town hall
20 meetings and let the residents have a
21 say. Most times when the neighborhoods
22 are hearing about changes for their
23 neighborhood, it is too late or they
24 can't make Council hearings or meetings
25 and sit all day due to need for work for

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2 survival of their families.

3 Last, our present zoning
4 process has led to an increase in White
5 wealth as compared to Black and Brown
6 wealth. Ten percent of 100 apartment
7 units is ten units. No matter how you
8 cut it, mixed-income housing, et cetera,
9 the 90 percent is wealth and the 10
10 percent is wealth to the same owner,
11 because affordable is subsidized at
12 market-rate rent.

13 Thank you for allowing me to
14 speak today.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

16 Thank you for your testimony. We
17 appreciate it.

18 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
19 is Odessa Tate, commenting on 210669 and
20 210692.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
22 morning. State your name for the record
23 and proceed.

24 MS. TATE: Hello, everyone. My
25 name is Odessa Tate of All in the Family

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2 CDC in Strawberry Mansion, and I'm also a
3 member of the Citywide RCO Coalition.

4 I'm in support of Bill No. 210669,
5 Resolution 210692 of the ZBA reform.

6 Democracy is for the people,
7 and the leaders of the City have a great
8 responsibility to its residents to ensure
9 security, protection, and fairness. The
10 City's Zoning Code impacts all of
11 Philadelphians through land use and is
12 pivotal in the long-term impact of our
13 microcosm socially and economically.

14 The ZBA is critical in the
15 City's survival with land use impacts.
16 Having the power to grant variances does
17 not only impact development changes, but
18 can also contribute to mental, emotional,
19 and environmental stressors for
20 individuals.

21 Having adequate representation
22 to make informed and well-rounded
23 decisions can help the City's credibility
24 with people and development.

25 Thank you for your

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2 consideration -- thank you for
3 considering making these appropriate
4 changes to ensure support for the ZBA to
5 help them best support the people and
6 eradicate development challenges.

7 The message from many people in
8 communities throughout the metropolis are
9 clear. There are more conducive ways to
10 create opportunities for larger and
11 mid-sized multi-unit development. It's
12 been mentioned before about the use of
13 old factories, warehouses, and even
14 commercial buildings to accommodate such
15 living. Some areas are more appropriate
16 than others to create multi-family usage
17 or larger-scale development.

18 For the ZBA having someone
19 represented will demonstrate the
20 sensitivity to community concerns
21 regarding development, and the protection
22 of the character of Philadelphia's
23 neighborhood balances expertise and
24 objectives. In each community and
25 economic development plan, it should

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2 include decent housing opportunities for
3 low income, accessibility, and
4 availability for the community's economic
5 health. We need teachers, firefighters,
6 police officers, municipal employees,
7 healthcare workers, and people of other
8 professions to have access to safe,
9 affordable housing.

10 We also cannot disregard the
11 elderly demographic on a fixed income and
12 people starting out in careers with
13 student loan debt. We need communities
14 with age and income diversity, not
15 ballooning incidences of individuals
16 spending the majority of their earnings
17 on higher rent, mortgages, and property
18 taxes.

19 We have issues within our
20 communities, and displacement should not
21 add to the new system.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Ms.
23 Tate?

24 MS. TATE: We need to achieve a
25 healthy balance to build sustainable

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2 communities. Homeownership is a form of
3 wealth that everyone is deserving of the
4 opportunity to attain. There's no
5 stability in communities --

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Ms.
7 Tate? Ms. Tate? I need you to -- can
8 you wrap it up?

9 MS. TATE: I'm sorry.

10 Communities have the right to
11 control their narrative, and displacement
12 and discourse should not be an option.

13 Thank you so much for giving me
14 the opportunity to speak.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
16 Thank you. Thank you so much for your
17 testimony. We appreciate it.

18 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
19 is the Reverend Chester Williams,
20 commenting on 210669 and 210692.

21 REVEREND WILLIAMS: Good
22 morning, everyone.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
24 morning.

25 REVEREND WILLIAMS: This is

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2 Reverend Chester H. Williams. Glad to
3 see you all. I want to say thank God for
4 this opportunity. I am the President and
5 founder of the Chew and Belfield
6 Neighborhood Organization since 1981 and
7 I'm also a supporter and a partner in the
8 Citywide RCO Coalition.

9 I'd like to say thank you,
10 President of City Council, for writing up
11 this resolution. I thank God for you
12 getting the wisdom to restructure it and
13 for City Council, your members, to
14 support you. We support you
15 wholeheartedly for this bill, which is
16 210692.

17 We'd like to say also I pray
18 that each and every one of you continue
19 praying for God to give you wisdom that
20 you can understand the significant
21 importance of a community to have a
22 voice. We were organizing RCOs to have a
23 voice to represent the community. Please
24 don't take that from us.

25 We'd also like to say as we see

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2 new developments are coming in and trying
3 to build buildings three and four stories
4 high in a commercial -- in a residential
5 area where there's family-owned property,
6 we pray that you do not overlook what
7 we've come to in the past.

8 We do not need projects
9 anymore, and these buildings to me and
10 others are looking like they're building
11 them high enough to bring back those
12 structures, just a different face, to say
13 and to look as a project. People don't
14 need to be cattled in no more. We don't
15 need cattle up on top of each other.
16 They need space to live and to breathe
17 and to think.

18 We're asking you, help us, not
19 to let this go into a structured building
20 that we look up and Philadelphia will be
21 all over the City having building
22 structured and stacking people on top of
23 that looks like the old-fashioned project
24 but back to the old way.

25 We congratulate you on this,

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2 and we pray the next steps go forth to
3 help to reorganize the ZBA even more and
4 more and more and also restructure the
5 CDR also.

6 Thank you, thank you, thank
7 you. May God bless all of you, and we're
8 praying faithfully and constantly for all
9 the City Council. God bless.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

11 Thank you, Reverend. We appreciate your
12 testimony.

13 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
14 is Michael Khoo, commenting on 210669 and
15 210692.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
17 morning. State your name for the record
18 and please proceed.

19 MR. KH00: Good morning,
20 everyone. My name is Michael Khoo.
21 Thank you for inviting me to speak. I'm
22 also addressing the bills for reform of
23 the ZBA. I'm a member of the 46th Ward
24 Democratic RCO, so I'd like to express my
25 support for the comments made by people

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2 previously, the last two to three
3 speakers, and I'd also like to express my
4 support for a letter written by Lew Baum,
5 46th Ward Democratic RCO, which I think
6 will be read into the record at some
7 point.

8 Both the speakers and the
9 letter make excellent points regarding
10 the desirability of ZBA reform, which I
11 urge you to vote for.

12 Thank you.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
14 Thank you so much for your testimony. We
15 appreciate it.

16 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
17 is Crystal Morris, commenting on 210669
18 and 210692.

19 MS. MORRIS: Good morning.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
21 morning.

22 MS. MORRIS: My name is Crystal
23 Morris, President of the Wynnefield
24 Residents Association, and I'm reading a
25 statement of the 46th Ward Democratic

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2 RCO, along with other Citywide RCO
3 Coalition members that I will identify
4 later.

5 We support Council President
6 Clarke's ZBA reform referendum to change
7 the composition of the ZBA and allow for
8 City Council's advice and consent
9 regarding the Mayor's appointments to the
10 body.

11 With the present ZBA, we have
12 continually experienced one-sidedness
13 both in decisions and also the way
14 meetings are being run. In fact, an
15 astounding 92 percent of recent ZBA
16 decisions have gone in favor of the
17 applicant despite sometimes explicit
18 rules in The Philadelphia Code governing
19 ZBA decisions.

20 Community leaders and members
21 have been subject to interruption and
22 disrespect when testifying. Many
23 Philadelphians, your constituents, are
24 disappointed and frustrated with the
25 present situation and need to be better

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2 served. We feel that a more professional
3 approach will benefit all involved. A
4 more diverse and qualified Board will
5 help to increase community trust of this
6 important City institution.

7 When outcomes are based on
8 application of the law, costs may
9 actually go down. We believe that City
10 Council's advice and consent would be an
11 important check and balance to help
12 ensure that the best people are appointed
13 and that appointees will be judicious and
14 respectful of City code and City
15 residents.

16 We're asking you to please
17 support ZBA reform and vote for the
18 referendum. Sincerely, Catherine Blunt
19 from the 46th Ward Democratic RCO, Mark
20 Harris from Cathedral Park CDC, Crystal
21 Morris from Wynnefield Residents,
22 Reverend Chester Williams from Chew and
23 Belfield Neighbors Club, and Eloise Young
24 on behalf of HMC Squared Community
25 Association.

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2 Also, communities are being
3 decimated by aggressive development. We
4 desperately need Councilmembers to stand
5 with us and, more importantly, for us.
6 We understand this will not solve all
7 problems, but passing this bill and
8 resolution will be a great start.

9 Thank you very much for your
10 time.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

12 Thank you for your testimony. We
13 appreciate it.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Mr. President,
15 I'm going to return to the previous page
16 on the list and call Vince Patel, who is
17 now on the line, to speak on 210920.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

19 Thank you.

20 Good morning. Just state your
21 name for the record and proceed.

22 MR. PATEL: Good morning.

23 Thank you. My name is Vince Patel from
24 Community Legal Services. I'm a
25 Supervising Attorney of the Housing Unit

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2 and I'm here to speak on behalf of Bill
3 No. 210920.

4 This bill will extend the
5 requirements that landlords participate
6 in the Philadelphia eviction diversion
7 program, which has been an enormous
8 success.

9 Before the pandemic,
10 Philadelphia had over 19,000 eviction
11 filings per year. In 2021, thanks to the
12 success of the diversion program, there
13 have been just over 6,000 eviction
14 filings. This is an incredible reduction
15 in filings, which has enabled households
16 most at risk to maintain some sense of
17 stability in these very unstable times.

18 Now, the diversion program has
19 been very successful at mediating
20 disputes between landlords and tenants.
21 When landlords and tenants both engage in
22 mediation, they've been able to reach a
23 resolution 93 percent of the time. This
24 is because the diversion program matches
25 tenants with Philadelphia's well-trained

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network of housing counselors, where we heard from one earlier today. And these housing counselors know the tenants, review their finances, connect them with rental assistance or other resources, and support them through the mediation process.

Now, a year ago when a landlord would come to file in court, they had to wait four to five months before they could get a hearing. This is because of the huge backlog of cases as a result of the pandemic.

Now because of the diversion program and the requirement that landlords participate in that program, the wait time has dropped to be about 30 days. Without the diversion requirement, Philadelphia risks overwhelming the court system with cases that could easily be resolved through mediation.

Community Legal Services is a proud part of the coalition that has

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2 helped to build the eviction diversion
3 program and has instead continued to work
4 to improving and growing it. We strongly
5 support this program and ask that you
6 support it by voting for this bill today.

7 Thank you.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

9 Thank you for your testimony. We
10 appreciate it.

11 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
12 is Valerie Ross, commenting on 210669 and
13 210692.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
15 morning. State your name for the record
16 and please proceed with your testimony.

17 MS. ROSS: Good morning. I'm
18 Val Ross, Co-Founder of Citywide RCO
19 Coalition of Philadelphia and of RCO WP3P
20 here to speak in strong support of the
21 bill and resolution for ZBA reform and to
22 thank you, President Clarke, and
23 Councilmembers who put it forward.

24 Our coalition resulted from
25 RCOs across the City recognizing that the

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2 ZBA badly needed reform. Unqualified,
3 out of control, it's turned its back on
4 participatory democracy, the heart of
5 urban planning and City government.

6 The trial of former ZBA Chair
7 John Dougherty has fully displayed the
8 dangers of allowing a Mayor to hand-pick
9 members of this powerful Board, giving
10 private interest control over public
11 matters. The Mayor then replaced
12 Mr. Dougherty with Frank DiCicco, a
13 developer's consultant, contemptuous of
14 any who interfered with developers'
15 interests, jovially joining with
16 developers' attorneys to silence, rebut,
17 rebuke, and ridicule community members
18 and RCOs protesting appeals. He allowed
19 developers' attorneys to control Zoom
20 screen speakers and speech, and he and
21 his fellow Board members went along
22 rubber-stamping 92 percent of all
23 appeals, a rigged game, developer
24 attorneys and lobbyist-larded hearings
25 with sketches and talks of design

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2 density, parking, and meanwhile residents
3 and RCOs objecting to these same things
4 were told their remarks were irrelevant.

5 Our coalition was shocked at
6 how unqualified and riddled with
7 conflicts of interest our ZBA is and how
8 unusual that such a powerful organization
9 undergoes no oversight and has no
10 qualifications required.

11 To quote a California judge,
12 the power to rezone is the power to
13 create great wealth, and using that power
14 wrongfully is just as bad as stealing
15 public money.

16 The ZBA's decisions have harmed
17 our city's most vulnerable neighborhoods,
18 wiping out affordable housing stock,
19 jacking up prices, destroying coherent
20 neighborhoods, and kicking out small
21 businesses and long-term residents,
22 including 30,000 Black residents in the
23 last ten years.

24 The ZBA ignores the only legal
25 grounds for granting an appeal,

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2 demonstrating unnecessary hardship,
3 because frankly they don't have the
4 credentials to do so even if they had the
5 will.

6 Our city needs and deserves a
7 qualified, vetted, forward-thinking ZBA
8 capable of applying the Zoning Code and
9 grasping how thoughtless decisions
10 promote environmental infrastructural
11 economic damage, social and racial
12 injustice, crime, despair, and
13 homelessness.

14 It may take a little work to
15 find qualified members and vet them, but
16 that's a shockingly bad reason to reject
17 desperately needed reform.

18 Thank you.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

20 Thank you, Ms. Ross. We appreciate your
21 testimony.

22 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
23 is Eloise Young, commenting on 210669 and
24 210692.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

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2 morning. State your name for the record
3 and please proceed.

4 (No response.)

5 CHIEF CLERK: Eloise Young.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

7 Ms. Young?

8 MS. YOUNG: Hello. I'm sorry.

9 My name is Eloise Young. I'm a
10 facilitator for the HMC Squared RCO in
11 West Philly and I'm also a member of the
12 Citywide RCO Coalition. I'm also a
13 longtime -- lifelong Philadelphia
14 resident.

15 HMC Squared supports Bill No.
16 210669 and Resolution No. 210692 for the
17 reasons outlined in the letter to City
18 Council from the Citywide RCO Coalition
19 as well as the letter by the 46th Ward
20 Democratic that was just read by Crystal
21 Morris.

22 We also support the statement
23 of Val Ross, who spoke just before me,
24 and we thank you for introducing the bill
25 and for giving us the chance to express

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2 our support.

3 Thank you.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

5 Thank you. Thank you so much for your
6 testimony. We appreciate it.

7 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
8 is Susan Nam, commenting on 210669 and
9 210692.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
11 morning. State your name for the record
12 and please proceed.

13 MS. NAM: Good morning. My
14 name is Susan Nam. I'm commenting as a
15 Mount Airy resident and activist, artist
16 from District 8. I'm here today to
17 continue vocalizing my support for Bill
18 No. 210669 and Resolution 210692.

19 There's a reminder that needs
20 to be made about where the people have
21 been and continue to stand in the City of
22 Philadelphia. The movement of some but
23 not all policymakers, developers, and
24 active political action groups are the
25 absolute smallest percentage that make up

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2 for the overall population of this city
3 versus the over 60 percent Black and
4 Brown community that make up for the
5 City.

6 As a city ecosystem, the people
7 entrust our policymakers to uphold the
8 integrity of the principles, values, and
9 culture that make our city unique.
10 Campaigns may be funded by dollars, but
11 our elected officials are powered by the
12 people.

13 Perhaps we've been somewhat
14 absent from these kind of conversations
15 on this level due to the fact that all of
16 our time is consumed by attending balloon
17 releases, candlelight vigils, planning
18 and cooking for block parties and
19 community cookouts, attending for block
20 captain duties, creating programming from
21 scratch for our children, serving our
22 advisory councils in our over 157 rec
23 centers, tending to our community
24 gardens, applying for grants and so much
25 more.

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2 This is Philadelphia. This
3 public statement is a full circle of how
4 our housing landscape is a direct
5 reflection of our culture. Where we live
6 and what those homes look like and to
7 what density they exist matter. The
8 90-plus percent of the variances we have
9 seen passed just in the past four years
10 with now the former chairman is enough to
11 show for.

12 In three short minutes, we
13 couldn't express our deep understanding
14 for housing trends, the rising cost of
15 construction costs in Philadelphia that
16 is topping \$300 per square gross feet,
17 which is a direct result of the notable
18 uptick in half million priced dollar
19 homes in the midst of hundred thousand
20 average comped priced neighborhoods.

21 This updated legislation is
22 necessary in order to protect the threats
23 to cold leased in compromising basic
24 principalities of sharing and quality of
25 life for the name of pure profit.

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2 Thank you, Council President,
3 for this time.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

5 Thank you for your testimony. We
6 appreciate it.

7 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
8 is Crystal Morris, commenting on 210669
9 and 210692.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

11 Mike, didn't Ms. Morris already testify
12 or is this a different Ms. Morris?

13 COUNCILMAN JONES: I believe I
14 heard her voice, Prez.

15 CHIEF CLERK: You're right,
16 Mr. President. My error. Good eyes.

17 The next speaker is Mark
18 Zachary, commenting on 210669 and 210692.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
20 morning.

21 MR. ZACHARY: Yes. Hello.

22 Good morning. My name is Mark Zachary.

23 I'm a resident of West Kensington in the
24 Seventh Councilmanic.

25 You know, this is -- I'm going

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2 to have a different opinion. This is
3 obviously a transparent power grab to
4 arrest control of the ZBA from the
5 Mayor's Office, and it's being done
6 because certain members of the Council
7 and some shortsighted individuals think
8 that the ZBA approves buildings that are
9 too tall and too dense and that that
10 reduces affordability and increases
11 overall prices in the neighborhoods, and
12 you couldn't be farther from the truth.
13 You couldn't be more wrong about that.

14 The fact is is that members use
15 down-zoning bills as a weapon to force
16 developers to come to the community and
17 beg Councilpersons to help slide their
18 development through, and all this bill is
19 going to do is exponentially increase the
20 politicized nation of that process. And
21 if areas were zoned properly in the first
22 place, there would be less need for the
23 ZBA. American Street, for example, Front
24 Street under the El, Kensington Ave, West
25 Girard Ave are a few that come to my

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2 mind.

3 Now, North American had two
4 huge developments approved by the ZBA,
5 thankfully. But why? Because North
6 American is entirely zoned for industrial
7 and commercial mixed use. It should have
8 been zoned residential for years now.
9 It's been vacant mostly for decades.

10 The bottom line is is that
11 especially along major transit corridors,
12 like Girard, under the El, Second Street,
13 American Street, buildings should be much
14 taller by-right and need to be more
15 dense. This is the way that you will
16 increase affordability, along with the
17 mixed-income housing overlay that has the
18 affordability requirement built in. This
19 is the way. The way that you want to do
20 it and the way that everybody else is
21 thinking it's going to get done, it's
22 going to have the exact opposite effect.

23 Now, you know, Councilmembers
24 have also used these overlays to disallow
25 bonuses for affordable units. We should

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2 be looking forward, not backward to
3 exclusionary suburban outlooks on zoning
4 that went out of fashion in the '50s and
5 '60s but for some reason are coming back.
6 These exclusionary policies have roots in
7 classism and racism. Buildings tall and
8 dense with an affordability requirement
9 is the best way to manage affordability
10 and ensure that we can continue to grow.
11 These bills are going to take us
12 backward, and I hope that Philadelphia
13 voters will see through this absolute
14 farce. But I also know that it's
15 probably going to get approved and you're
16 not going to get what you want out of it.

17 Thanks a lot. Have a great
18 day.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

20 Thank you so much for your testimony. We
21 appreciate it.

22 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
23 is Susanna Burger, commenting on 210669
24 and 210692.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

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2 morning. State your name for the record
3 and please proceed.

4 MS. BURGER: Good morning. My
5 name is Susanna Burger and I speak in
6 opposition to Bill 210669 and Resolution
7 210692. The legislative process behind
8 this bill and this resolution will have
9 negative effects for Philadelphia, and it
10 should be slowed down. With the new ZBA
11 Chair, any justification for this
12 legislation is no longer applicable and
13 we need to wait and see how the ZBA
14 operates under this new Chair until any
15 restructuring decisions are made.

16 I feel that if these changes
17 are implemented, developers are not going
18 to want to go before the ZBA, which would
19 make bad by-right development more
20 common. This is the complete opposite
21 effect of the legislation's design.

22 Thank you.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

24 Thank you so much for your testimony. We
25 appreciate it.

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2 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
3 is Chris Hinkley, commenting on 210669
4 and 210692.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
6 morning. State your name for the record
7 and please proceed.

8 MR. HINKLEY: Hi. My name is
9 Chris Hinkley and I'm speaking in
10 opposition to Bill 210669 and Resolution
11 210692.

12 I think the proposal will have
13 negative impacts for Philadelphia and I
14 think its passage should be delayed.
15 With the new ZBA Chair, things have
16 changed and the legislation needs to be
17 slowed down. We need to see how the new
18 ZBA Chair operates with the ZBA until any
19 restructuring decisions are made. And
20 I'm afraid if the changes are
21 implemented, developers won't go before
22 ZBA and we'll see an increase in bad
23 by-right development, so the resolution
24 and bill would backfire.

25 I'm asking that you delay a

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2 vote on the final passage of this
3 legislation today.

4 That's all. Thank you.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Thank you. Thank you.

7 Just for the record, this must
8 be voted on by the citizens of the City
9 of Philadelphia. So this cannot be
10 enacted unless there is a positive vote
11 in the May primary election, because this
12 is a ballot referendum. So there will be
13 time from the installation of the new
14 Zoning Board Chair and the time that
15 citizens actually get to vote, so people
16 have an opportunity to review that work.

17 But I just wanted to say that
18 for the record. This does not
19 automatically enact the reforms. It must
20 be a vote by the citizens on the ballot
21 referendum. Thank you.

22 Mr. Decker, please proceed.

23 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
24 is Christopher Mejah Smith, commenting on
25 210669 and 210692.

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2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
3 morning. State your name for the record
4 and please proceed.

5 MR. SMITH: Good morning.
6 Thank you for this opportunity. My name
7 is Christopher Mejah Smith. I'm a
8 longtime member of my local RCO zoning
9 committee, but these comments are my own.

10 I speak in opposition to Bill
11 210669 and Resolution 210692. The
12 legislative process behind this bill and
13 resolution is being rushed and should be
14 slowed down until we fully understand its
15 impact.

16 City Council controls what's in
17 the Zoning Code. City Council controls
18 how properties are zoned in the Zoning
19 Maps. City Council controls zoning
20 overlays in various neighborhoods. City
21 Council controls policies like the
22 expiring tax abatement and the new
23 construction tax. And now City Council
24 wants to control the makeup of the ZBA
25 itself.

1 12/16/21 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 It seems that this is a
3 situation where we keep trying to tighten
4 and tighten our grip, but yet more and
5 more sand keeps trickling through our
6 fingers.

7 My worry is that if
8 implemented, developers are not going to
9 want to go before the ZBA, and if that
10 happens, developers are going to take bad
11 Zoning Maps and create bad by-right
12 development. That's what's happening on
13 North 11th Street on the edge of
14 Yorktown. Despite the Civic Design
15 Review's request that they go back to the
16 drawing board, this developer can legally
17 build 320 studios, regardless of what is
18 appropriate for the neighborhood.

19 This legislation would not
20 prevent that development from happening,
21 and I fear that the legislation will
22 actually make this type of bad
23 development happen more regularly.

24 As others have said, we have a
25 new ZBA Chair, and so the bulk of the

1 12/16/21 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 justification for this legislation is now
3 made moot. Let's wait and see how this
4 new leadership of the ZBA conducts itself
5 before we radically transform the ZBA
6 structure, and there's no reason at this
7 time that we should be rushing towards
8 getting this out. Let's wait and see and
9 let's talk about this for the November
10 ballot.

11 Thank you.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

13 Thank you for your testimony. We
14 appreciate it.

15 CHIEF CLERK: The final speaker
16 we have this afternoon, Mr. President, is
17 Tiffany Green, commenting on 210669,
18 210633-A, and 211009.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
20 morning. State your name for the record
21 and please proceed.

22 MS. GREEN: Good morning. Made
23 me last. Okay. How is everyone?

24 I want to speak on -- since we
25 had a lot of talk on 669, I'll skip that.

1 12/16/21 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 210633, more of our city
3 properties are being transferred from
4 Public Property into RDA, and there has
5 not been any community process. We
6 should have a community process right
7 now. Most of the properties that have
8 been transferred are being sold at
9 185,000 and 195,000, and that's not fair
10 to us.

11 I spoke to an industry
12 professional, and he laughed when he
13 thought about \$15 an hour is going to be
14 able to sustain a \$185,000 home. That is
15 not right. We need to find community
16 developers who can build at a much lower
17 price, and why not have the people buy a
18 home at 125,000 and invest the rest in
19 college scholarships and generational
20 wealth. Why try to push that 185?

21 I'm asking that we have a
22 community meeting regarding these
23 properties to find out if we're going to
24 have low-wage housing.

25 Finally, I want to talk about

1 12/16/21 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 this bonus FAR bill. It is the most
3 detrimental bill I've ever seen in my
4 activism career. This bill is not right.
5 You give the impression that you're
6 giving affordable housing, but you're
7 not.

8 The thing about it is is that
9 you're allowing developers to get seven
10 feet in height and 11 mini bonus units
11 more than we're getting for affordable,
12 and then you make it a by-right. It is
13 not right to sit here and tell the
14 community that it's a by-right and
15 there's nothing you can do about it.
16 That is not true. And God knows the
17 truth, and you know the truth.

18 Why not -- why is it fair --
19 and I'm saying to Council President. Why
20 are you not making this prohibit --
21 require a community process for all of
22 the City? Okay. We have the right to
23 address trash, materials, types of units,
24 rental crisis, parking requirements, and
25 everything at this point.

1 12/16/21 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 This bill at this point is
3 really detrimental to us. We have
4 99 units coming to our community and we
5 have practically no say.

6 If you say you care about your
7 constituents and you respect us, then why
8 not put a community process in here? Why
9 allow a developer and a plan examiner at
10 L&I to make all the decisions for a
11 multi-family unit, like 90 units,
12 100 units? That's not fair to us.

13 I just want people to know
14 by-right means bypass the community.
15 By-right means bypass the community. And
16 know this, and I'm not being smart, the
17 turkey that you give will have more
18 community process and community input
19 than you do.

20 This is not right. Stop the
21 by-right process and put a community
22 process in this bonus FAR bill.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

24 Thank you for your testimony. We
25 appreciate it.

1 12/16/21 - STATED - RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA

2 CHIEF CLERK: There are no
3 other speakers on the public comment
4 list, Mr. President.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
6 Thank you very much, Mr. Decker.

7 That concludes our public
8 comment session. We will now consider
9 today's Resolution Consent Agenda.

10 I would ask Mr. Decker to
11 please read the titles of all the
12 resolutions on the Consent Agenda. After
13 each title is read, any member may object
14 to the inclusion of the resolution on the
15 Resolution Consent Agenda. Upon such an
16 objection and without debate, the
17 resolution will be immediately removed
18 from the Resolution Consent Agenda and
19 placed on today's regular Final Passage
20 Calendar.

21 Mr. Decker, will you please now
22 read the titles on the Resolution Consent
23 Agenda.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Resolution No.
25 210960, entitled a "Resolution

1 12/16/21 - STATED - RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA

2 recognizing, honoring and congratulating
3 Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated on
4 its 102nd Founders' Day and the upcoming
5 International Convention being held in
6 the City of Philadelphia, July 18 through
7 July 24, 2022"; and

8 Resolution No. 210961, entitled
9 a "Resolution recognizing, honoring and
10 congratulating Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity,
11 Incorporated on its 108th Founders' Day
12 and the upcoming Eastern Region
13 Conference being hold in the City of
14 Philadelphia, March 31 through April 3,
15 2022"; and

16 Resolution No. 210991, entitled
17 a "Resolution recognizing and
18 congratulating WHYY and the News and
19 Information Community Exchange
20 collaborative on their steadfast
21 commitment to diversify local news
22 sources, and empower local, BIPOC, and
23 underserved communities through
24 grassroots news"; and

25 Resolution No. 210992, entitled

1 12/16/21 - STATED - RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA

2 a "Resolution authorizing the
3 Philadelphia Land Bank to dispose of 2929
4 North 13th Street located in the 5th
5 Councilmanic District"; and

6 Resolution No. 210993, entitled
7 a "Resolution authorizing the
8 Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority to
9 execute and deliver to the Philadelphia
10 Land Bank deeds conveying title to
11 certain properties located in the Fifth
12 Councilmanic District"; and

13 Resolution No. 210994, entitled
14 a "Resolution authorizing the
15 Commissioner of Public Property to
16 execute and deliver to the Philadelphia
17 Redevelopment Authority deeds conveying
18 fee simple title to 1335 North 8th
19 Street, 1401 North 8th Street, 1402 North
20 30th Street, 1410 North Myrtlewood
21 Street, 1421 North Myrtlewood Street,
22 1424 North Myrtlewood Street, 1429 North
23 Myrtlewood Street, 1437 North Myrtlewood
24 Street, 1438 Franklin Street, 1440 North
25 Myrtlewood Street, 1451 North Myrtlewood

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2 Street, 1452 North Myrtlewood Street,
3 1457 North Myrtlewood Street, 1459 North
4 Myrtlewood Street, 1460 North Hollywood
5 Street, 1463 North Myrtlewood Street,
6 1500 North Hollywood Street, 1511 North
7 Myrtlewood Street, 2955 North 8th Street,
8 3003 Redner Street, 3601 Germantown
9 Avenue, and 729 Master Street in the
10 Fifth Councilmanic District"; and

11 Resolution No. 210995, entitled
12 a "Resolution honoring Philadelphia VIP
13 on the Special Occasion of its Fortieth
14 Anniversary"; and

15 Resolution No. 210996, entitled
16 a "Resolution honoring the Philadelphia
17 Lawyers for Social Equity on the Occasion
18 of its Tenth Anniversary"; and

19 Resolution No. 210997, entitled
20 a "Resolution commending Patricia Wilson
21 Aden on her Appointment as President and
22 CEO of the Greater Philadelphia Cultural
23 Alliance"; and

24 Resolution No. 210998, entitled
25 a "Resolution honoring the Local

1 12/16/21 - STATED - RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA

2 Initiatives Support Corporation on the
3 Occasion of its Fortieth Anniversary";
4 and

5 Resolution No. 210999, entitled
6 a "Resolution commending The Black
7 Promoters Collective on their official
8 formation as a 100 percent Black-owned
9 organization"; and

10 Resolution No. 211000, entitled
11 a "Resolution also naming the 1500 block
12 of West Cabot Street from 15th Street to
13 16th Street, 'Vivian VanStory Way' to
14 honor and commemorate the life of Vivian
15 VanStory and her lasting impact on her
16 North Philadelphia community"; and

17 Resolution No. 211001, entitled
18 a "Resolution also naming the 2500 block
19 of West Stewart Street from 25th Street
20 to 26th Street, 'Warren McMichael Way' to
21 honor and commemorate the life of Warren
22 McMichael and his lasting impact on the
23 Brewerytown-Sharswood community"; and

24 Resolution No. 211002, entitled
25 a "Resolution recognizing and honoring

1 12/16/21 - STATED - RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA

2 Terrence Foley for fifteen years of
3 committed service as the President and
4 Chief Executive Officer of the City
5 Avenue Special Services District in the
6 4th Councilmanic District"; and

7 Resolution No. 211003, entitled
8 a "Resolution recognizing and honoring
9 legendary sports journalist Donald Hunt
10 on the occasion of his retirement after
11 over thirty years of writing for the
12 Philadelphia Tribune"; and

13 Resolution No. 211004, entitled
14 a "Resolution recognizing and honoring Al
15 Schmidt for his 10-year tenure as a
16 Philadelphia City Commissioner, and
17 wishing him well as he begins a new
18 chapter in his career as President and
19 Chief Executive Officer of the Committee
20 of Seventy"; and

21 Resolution No. 211008, entitled
22 a "Resolution calling on the General
23 Assembly to prohibit the use of deadly
24 force to make a citizen's arrest"; and

25 Resolution No. 211009, entitled

1 12/16/21 - STATED - RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA

2 a "Resolution authorizing the
3 Commissioner of Public Property to
4 execute and deliver to the Philadelphia
5 Redevelopment Authority deeds conveying
6 fee simple title to 1306, 1308, 1310,
7 1312 and 1329 South 21st Street, 1303
8 South 23rd Street, 1306 South 28th
9 Street, 1213 South Bonsall Street, 1148
10 South Cleveland Street, 2632 Ellsworth
11 Street, 1410 South Hicks Street, 2054
12 Gerrit Street, 2612, 2741 and 2743 Latona
13 Street, 2123 Montrose Street, 1701 and
14 1703 South Ringgold Street and 1714 South
15 Taylor Street in the Second Councilmanic
16 District"; and

17 Resolution No. 211010, entitled
18 a "Resolution recognizing the work and
19 contributions of labor and grassroots
20 community activist Ronald Whitehorn,
21 whose leadership and mentorship has
22 inspired generations of activists and
23 leaders in the City of Philadelphia"; and

24 Resolution No. 211011, entitled
25 a "Resolution designating Tuesday

1 12/16/21 - STATED - RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA

2 December 21, 2021 as National Homeless
3 Persons' Memorial Day in the City of
4 Philadelphia"; and

5 Resolution No. 211012, entitled
6 a "Resolution honoring, congratulating,
7 and thanking Frank DiCicco on the
8 occasion of his retirement from the
9 Zoning Board of Adjustment and his many
10 years of service to the citizens of
11 Philadelphia"; and

12 Resolution No. 211013, entitled
13 a "Resolution proclaiming January 13,
14 2022 as Korean American Day in
15 Philadelphia to celebrate and commemorate
16 the proud heritage of Korean Americans
17 and their invaluable contributions to
18 enhance the City's culture, economy, and
19 the founding ideals of independence and
20 democracy."

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

22 Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Decker.

23 The Chair recognizes
24 Councilwoman Parker for a motion to adopt
25 each of the resolutions on the Resolution

1 12/16/21 - STATED - RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA

2 Consent Agenda.

3 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
4 you, Mr. President. I move the adoption
5 of each of the resolutions on the
6 Resolution Consent Agenda.

7 (Duly seconded.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
9 Thank you. It has been moved and
10 seconded that each of the resolutions on
11 the Resolution Consent Agenda be adopted.

12 All in favor indicate by saying
13 aye.

14 (Aye.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
16 Those opposed?

17 (No response.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
19 ayes have it, and the Consent Agenda has
20 been adopted.

21 We will now consider today's
22 Bill Consent Agenda. I would ask
23 Mr. Decker please read the titles of all
24 the bills on the Consent Agenda. After
25 each title is read, any member may object

1 12/16/21 - STATED - BILL CONSENT AGENDA
2 to the inclusion of the bill on the
3 Consent Agenda. Upon such an objection
4 and without debate, the bill will be
5 immediately removed from the Consent
6 Agenda and placed on our regular and
7 Second Reading Final Passage Calendar
8 today.

9 Mr. Decker, now please read the
10 titles of the bills on the Consent
11 Agenda.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Bill No. 210689,
13 entitled, "An ordinance to amend the
14 Philadelphia Zoning Maps by changing the
15 zoning designations of certain areas of
16 land located within an area bounded by
17 Old York Road, Broad Street, and 65th
18 Avenue"; and

19 Bill No. 210899, entitled "An
20 ordinance amending Chapter 14-1000 of The
21 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Historic
22 Preservation,' to establish a temporary
23 demolition moratorium with respect to
24 properties in the area bounded by Henry
25 Avenue, Roxborough Avenue, Silverwood

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Street, and Fountain Street"; and

Bill No. 210926, entitled "An ordinance to amend the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by changing the zoning designations of certain areas of land located within an area bounded by Crispin Street, Willits Road, Academy Road, and Frankford Avenue"; and

Bill No. 210782, entitled "An ordinance amending Bill No. 210320 (approved June 28, 2021), entitled 'An ordinance to adopt a Capital Program for the six Fiscal Years 2022 through 2027 inclusive,' by adding, revising, and/or removing certain projects, amounts and sources, for the purpose of providing Safe Play Zone security cameras"; and

Bill No. 210783, entitled "An ordinance amending Bill No. 210321 (approved June 28, 2021), entitled 'An ordinance to adopt a Fiscal 2022 Capital Budget,' by adding, revising, and/or removing certain projects, amounts and sources, for the purpose of providing

12/16/21 - STATED - BILL CONSENT AGENDA

Safe Play Zone security cameras"; and

Bill No. 210864, entitled "An

ordinance amending Subsection 19-2604(6)

of The Philadelphia Code ('Credit for

Contributions to Community Development

Corporations, Nonprofit Organizations

Engaged in Developing and Implementing

Healthy Food Initiatives and Nonprofit

Intermediaries') to clarify the number of

contribution agreements that may be

entered into"; and

Bill No. 210629, entitled "An

ordinance authorizing the revision of

lines and grades on a portion of City

Plan No. 120 by striking from the City

Plan and vacating Nicholas Street and

Turner Street, each from Twentieth Street

to Twenty-First Street, and reserving and

placing on the City Plan rights-of-way

for various utility purposes within the

beds of Nicholas and Turner Streets being

stricken"; and

Bill No. 210867, entitled "An

ordinance amending Chapter 12-2700 of The

12/16/21 - STATED - BILL CONSENT AGENDA

Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Permit
Parking Districts,' by amending the
boundaries for Permit Parking District
19"; and

Bill No. 210918, entitled "An
ordinance regulating the direction of
movement of traffic on Camac Street
between Wagner Avenue and Fisher Avenue";
and

Bill No. 210919, entitled "An
ordinance regulating the direction of
movement of traffic on East Godfrey
Avenue between Summerdale Avenue and
Pratt Street"; and

Bill No. 210921, entitled "An
ordinance authorizing various
encroachments at 3536 Calumet Street";
and

Bill No. 210929, entitled "An
ordinance establishing parking
regulations in the vicinity of: Day
Street and Wildey Street; Thompson Street
and Columbia Avenue; Oxford Street and
Belgrade Street; East Montgomery Street

12/16/21 - STATED - BILL CONSENT AGENDA

and Thompson Street; Columbia Avenue and
Belgrade Street; Crease Street and
Thompson Street; and Belgrade Street and
Oxford Street"; and

Bill No. 210930, entitled "An
ordinance amending Section 5 of an
ordinance (Bill No. 200423) approved
November 10, 2020, entitled 'An ordinance
authorizing Keystone Property Group to
construct, own, and maintain a proposed
exterior building ramp at 100 South
Independence Mall West,' by extending the
period for compliance with the terms and
conditions stated therein"; and

Bill No. 210931, entitled "An
ordinance amending Section 5 of an
ordinance (Bill No. 200092) approved
March 11, 2020, entitled 'An ordinance
authorizing Independence Park Hotel to
construct, own, and maintain a proposed
exterior building ramp at 235 Chestnut
Street,' by extending the period for
compliance with the terms and conditions
stated therein"; and

1 12/16/21 - STATED - BILL CONSENT AGENDA

2 Bill No. 210932, entitled "An
3 ordinance authorizing various
4 encroachments on North Broad Street in
5 the vicinity of 1344 through 1348 Arch
6 Street"; and

7 Bill No. 210920, entitled "An
8 ordinance amending Chapter 9-800 of The
9 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Landlord and
10 Tenant,' to provide for an eviction
11 diversion program, to make associated
12 changes related to the landlord and
13 tenant relationship, and making certain
14 technical changes."

15 Mr. President, I got a late
16 request from a member that may have an
17 issue with 210920 being put on the
18 Consent Agenda.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
20 Thank you. It shall be removed without
21 debate, placed on the regular Second
22 Reading.

23 Is that a resolution?

24 CHIEF CLERK: That was a bill,
25 Mr. President.

1 12/16/21 - STATED - BILL CONSENT AGENDA

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
3 a bill? Okay.

4 CHIEF CLERK: 210920. We'll
5 place that on the regular Second Reading
6 Calendar.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
8 Thank you. Is that it, Mr. Decker?

9 CHIEF CLERK: That's it,
10 Mr. President.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
12 Thank you.

13 These bills having been read on
14 two different days, the question for each
15 bill now is shall the bill pass finally.

16 Mr. Decker, call the roll, and
17 upon being called, each Councilmember
18 shall vote aye on each of the bills, nay
19 on each of the bills, or indicate those
20 bills for which the member is voting aye
21 and those bills for which the member is
22 voting nay.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
24 Bass.

25 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye on all

1 12/16/21 - STATED - BILL CONSENT AGENDA

2 bills.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

4 Brooks.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye on

6 all bills.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

8 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye on all

9 bills.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

11 Gauthier.

12 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye on

13 all bills.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

15 Gilmore Richardson.

16 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye

17 on all bills.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

19 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye on all

20 bills.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

22 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye on all

23 bills.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

25 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye on all

1 12/16/21 - STATED - BILL CONSENT AGENDA

2 bills.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

4 Johnson.

5 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye on all

6 bills.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

8 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye on all

9 bills.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

11 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye on all

12 bills.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

14 O'Neill.

15 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye on all

16 bills.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

18 Parker.

19 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye on

20 all bills.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

22 Quinones-Sanchez.

23 (No response.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

25 Councilwoman Sanchez?

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 (No response.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Go
4 ahead, Mr. Decker.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
6 Squilla.

7 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye on all
8 bills.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
10 Thomas.

11 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye on all
12 bills.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
14 Clarke.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye
16 on all bills.

17 And a majority of all members
18 having voted in the affirmative for each
19 of the bills, the bills on the Consent
20 Agenda are passed.

21 We will now consider the bills
22 and resolutions on the regular Second
23 Reading and Final Passage Calendar.

24 Mr. Decker, please read the
25 title of Resolution No. 210692.

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
3 proposing an amendment to the
4 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter to revise
5 the composition of the Zoning Board of
6 Adjustment, by increasing the number of
7 appointees, providing for confirmation by
8 Council of appointees, and specifying
9 qualifications that appointees must
10 possess; and providing for the submission
11 of the amendment to the electors of
12 Philadelphia.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
14 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Parker for
15 a motion.

16 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
17 you, Mr. President. On your behalf, I
18 move for the adoption of the resolution.

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
21 been moved and properly seconded that the
22 resolution be adopted. Because
23 Resolution No. 210692 is an amendment to
24 the Home Rule Charter, it requires
25 two-thirds vote. Therefore, the question

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 is shall the resolution be adopted.

3 The Chief Clerk will call the
4 roll.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
6 Bass.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
9 Brooks.

10 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

12 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
14 Gauthier.

15 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

17 Gilmore Richardson.

18 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

20 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

22 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

24 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Johnson.

3 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

5 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

7 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

9 O'Neill.

10 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

12 Parker.

13 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

15 Quinones-Sanchez.

16 (No response.)

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

18 Squilla.

19 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

21 Thomas.

22 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

24 Clarke.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 The ayes are 16; the nays are
3 zero. The resolution -- two-thirds of
4 all members of Council voting in the
5 affirmative, Resolution No. 210692 has
6 been adopted. Thank you.

7 Mr. Decker, please read the
8 title of Bill No. 210 -- you know what,
9 Mr. Decker, Bill No. 210633-A. I'm
10 sorry.

11 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
12 amending Title 14 of The Philadelphia
13 Code by amending certain provisions of
14 Chapter 14-500, entitled "Overlay Zoning
15 Districts," by creating the "/MIH, Mixed
16 Income Neighborhoods Overlay District";
17 by revising certain provisions of Chapter
18 14-702, entitled "Floor Area, Height, and
19 Dwelling Unit Density Bonuses"; and by
20 making related changes.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
22 Thank you.

23 This bill having been read on
24 two different days, the question now is
25 shall the bill pass finally.

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

4 Bass.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

7 Brooks.

8 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

10 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

12 Gauthier.

13 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

15 Gilmore Richardson.

16 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

18 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

20 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

22 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

24 Johnson.

25 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
3 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.
5 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.
6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
7 O'Neill.
8 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
10 Parker.
11 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.
12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
13 Quinones-Sanchez.
14 (No response.)
15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
16 Squilla.
17 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.
18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
19 Thomas.
20 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.
21 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
22 Clarke.
23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.
24 The ayes are 16; the nays are
25 zero. A majority of all members having

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 voted in the affirmative, the bill
3 passes.

4 Mr. Decker, please read the
5 title of Bill No. 210917-A.

6 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
7 adding a new Chapter 9-5700, entitled
8 "Leasing of Commercial Property," to
9 require commercial lessors to provide
10 certain disclosures before entering lease
11 agreements and to provide related
12 protections to tenants.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
14 bill having been read on two different
15 days, the question now is shall the bill
16 pass finally.

17 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
19 Bass.

20 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
22 Brooks.

23 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

25 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

3 Gauthier.

4 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

6 Gilmore Richardson.

7 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

9 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

11 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

13 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

15 Johnson.

16 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

18 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

20 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

22 O'Neill.

23 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

25 Parker.

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

3 And, Mr. President, for the
4 record, Councilmember Sanchez is having
5 audio challenges right now for the
6 record, but she is trying to -- she had
7 to go out. She's trying to get back in,
8 Mr. President.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
10 Squilla.

11 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
13 Thomas.

14 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye. I
15 apologize.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
17 Clarke.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
19 Mr. Decker, I'm sorry. I apologize. I
20 was having a good conversation with
21 myself without understanding that both my
22 screen and my microphone was off. Sorry
23 about that.

24 Please read the title of Bill
25 No. 210669.

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2 CHIEF CLERK: We're not done
3 with the disposition of 210917-A,
4 Mr. President. You were the last vote to
5 be called.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Oh,
7 I'm sorry. I was having a little issue
8 over here. I thought I read that.

9 Aye.

10 The ayes are 16; the nays are
11 zero. A majority of all members having
12 voted in the affirmative, the bill
13 passes.

14 And now, Mr. Decker, can you
15 please read the title of Bill No.
16 210669-A.

17 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
18 providing for the submission to the
19 qualified electors of the City of
20 Philadelphia of the proposal set forth in
21 a Resolution approved by Council
22 proposing an amendment to the
23 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter to revise
24 the composition of the Zoning Board of
25 Adjustment, by increasing the number of

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2 appointees, providing for confirmation by
3 Council of appointees, and specifying
4 qualifications that appointees must
5 possess; and authorizing the appropriate
6 officers to publish notice and to make
7 arrangements for the special election.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
9 bill having been read on two different
10 days, the question now is shall the bill
11 pass finally.

12 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
14 Bass.

15 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
17 Brooks.

18 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

20 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
22 Gauthier.

23 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
25 Gilmore Richardson.

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COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

Johnson.

COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

O'Neill.

COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

Parker.

COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

Quinones-Sanchez.

COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Squilla.

3 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

5 Thomas.

6 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

8 Clarke.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

10 The ayes are 17; the nays are

11 zero.

12 Councilwoman Quinones-Sanchez,
13 there were a number of, I think three,
14 maybe four, bills and resolutions that we
15 moved while you were interrupted. Do you
16 want to cast your vote now on those bills
17 and resolutions?

18 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Thank
19 you, Council President. Yes. I was
20 disconnected for an expired password, but
21 I want to be recorded as voting aye on
22 all bills and resolutions. Thank you.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

24 Thank you, Councilwoman.

25 Let the record reflect the

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 votes are now 17; zero as opposed to 16;
3 zero.

4 Okay. Mr. Decker, please read
5 the title of Bill No. 210923.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Mr. President, we
7 got a last-minute request to hold that
8 bill from a member.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
10 Okay.

11 COUNCILMAN OH: Hold what bill?

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
13 We're going to hold 210923.

14 COUNCILMAN OH: 923.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Hold
16 that and --

17 CHIEF CLERK: We have Bill No.
18 210920, Mr. President, that was removed
19 from the Consent Agenda.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
21 Yeah. For the inclusion of 210920 on the
22 Consent Agenda, it is now on the regular
23 Second Reading and Final Passage. So,
24 Mr. Decker, can you please read --

25 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON:

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2 Excuse me, Mr. President.

3 Councilmember Oh, you need to
4 go on mute.

5 COUNCILMAN OH: I'm sorry.

6 Thank you very much. I'm looking for
7 these things. Thanks.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

9 Mr. Decker, read the title of 210920.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Yes,
11 Mr. President.

12 An ordinance amending Chapter
13 9-800 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled
14 "Landlord and Tenant," to provide for an
15 eviction diversion program, to make
16 associated changes related to the
17 landlord and tenant relationship, and
18 making certain technical changes.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

20 Thank you.

21 This bill having been read on
22 two different days, the question now is
23 shall the bill pass finally.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Mr. President, a
25 member wants to make a statement prior to

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 the vote.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Councilwoman Gym, did you want to make a
5 statement prior?

6 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Yes. I did
7 not plan to speak.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: I
9 was wondering.

10 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Just a
11 little bit. I wasn't expecting to speak
12 today, but, you know, I especially want
13 to thank the co-sponsors of this bill,
14 Councilmember Thomas, Gauthier, Brooks,
15 members of the Housing Committee, and
16 certainly all members of City Council who
17 in last month signed on to a letter to
18 the Pennsylvania Supreme Court urging an
19 extension of Philadelphia's historic
20 eviction diversion program.

21 You know, Philadelphia's
22 eviction diversion program was created in
23 an emergency and crisis. It happened
24 before we had hundreds of millions of
25 dollars in rent assist coming through.

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2 It happened before we knew how long the
3 COVID crisis would last, but I think what
4 this Council body ultimately understood
5 was that COVID exposed existing breaks
6 and crises within a system. It didn't
7 just create them. And one of the crises
8 that we have in Philadelphia, the poorest
9 large city in the country, is that
10 poverty is a lived experience, and one of
11 the lived experiences comes through
12 evictions.

13 Philadelphia was the fourth
14 highest evicting city in the nation
15 pre-pandemic. Almost 22,000 evictions
16 were processed and filed annually every
17 single year. Since the pandemic, we
18 have -- this Council body has been
19 dedicated to putting in place new
20 protections.

21 I want to thank the Council
22 President for helping establish a tenant
23 legal defense fund, for this Council body
24 for funding and supporting the
25 Philadelphia Eviction Prevention Project,

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which this body has supported the funding
of through 2024. I want to thank this
body for approving right to counsel,
which guarantees legal representation in
Landlord-Tenant Court for low-income
tenants so that they are not denied a
landlord when facing complicated issues
that could result in the loss of their
home.

And of course I want to thank
this Council body and especially my
colleagues on Council who helped pass
through the Emergency Housing Protections
Act. At that time, it included an
eviction moratorium that was temporary,
the eviction diversion program, mandatory
payment plans, and the curtailing of late
payment fees. Together combined, for two
years in a row, Philadelphia, the poorest
large city in America, has reduced the
number of evictions by 75 percent, from
22,000 evictions in 2019. We did less
than 4,500 in 2020. We'll be around
6,000 or a little bit more than that in

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2 2021.

3 There are alternatives to what
4 has often been one of the worst days of
5 some people's lives, which is having
6 everything that you own thrown out with
7 not even advanced notification. There
8 can be solutions that result in helping
9 us distribute rent assistance. Almost
10 \$230 million in rent assistance has gone
11 to almost nearly 40,000 Philadelphia
12 households to keep them housing stable
13 and to ensure that landlords are paid in
14 the process.

15 And it's made sure that we have
16 due process in our courts. Prior to the
17 pandemic, there was an almost 90-day wait
18 in Municipal Court when filing for an
19 eviction. That wait is now 30 days.
20 There's due process.

21 There are options for exiting
22 situations, and there is this eviction
23 diversion program, which has had a
24 93 percent success rate for all
25 participants, which has included several

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 thousand individuals.

3 My hope is is that this program
4 will continue to evolve and grow and that
5 our Council body and our city will
6 continue to evolve and grow in our
7 responses to a complicated, complicated
8 situation, but one that has been
9 devastating to a number of -- to
10 thousands of Philadelphians.

11 And, again, I want to thank
12 this Council body for being dedicated.
13 Again, I want to thank every single
14 person on this City Council who signed
15 off on that letter to the Supreme Court.
16 As you heard from one of the testifiers
17 today from the SeniorLAW Center, the
18 Supreme Court's emergency extension
19 expires at the end of this month, and so
20 this bill allows for local authorization.

21 The program will continue to
22 evolve. We will have our landlord and/or
23 renter advocates at the table as we look
24 forward to a new era that takes us out of
25 an emergency and into a permanent

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 approach towards seeing evictions as a
3 course of last resort and not the first
4 and default option that landlords and
5 tenants have to see through.

6 I want to thank everybody for
7 that, and I look forward to the vote.

8 Thank you very much, Council
9 President.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

11 Thank you, Councilwoman.

12 This bill having been read on
13 two different days, the question now is
14 shall the bill pass finally.

15 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
17 Bass.

18 (No response.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

20 Councilwoman Bass?

21 (No response.)

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
23 Brooks.

24 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.
3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
4 Gauthier.
5 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.
6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
7 Gilmore Richardson.
8 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.
9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.
10 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.
11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.
12 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.
13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.
14 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.
15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
16 Johnson.
17 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.
18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
19 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.
21 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.
22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
23 O'Neill.
24 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Parker.

3 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

5 Quinones-Sanchez.

6 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

8 Squilla.

9 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

11 Thomas.

12 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

14 Clarke.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

16 The ayes are 16; the nays are
17 zero. A majority of all members having
18 voted in the affirmative, the bill
19 passes.

20 Mr. Decker, do you have any
21 additional resolutions?

22 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
23 calling on Mayor James F. Kenney and his
24 administration to work collaboratively
25 with City Council in the creation of a

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Local Job Placement Task Force,
3 introduced by Councilwoman Parker on
4 behalf of Council President Clarke.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
6 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Parker.

7 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
8 you, Mr. President. On your behalf, I
9 move for the adoption of the resolution.

10 (Duly seconded.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
12 Thank you. It's been moved and properly
13 seconded.

14 All in favor indicate by saying
15 aye.

16 (Aye.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
18 Those opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
21 ayes have it, and that resolution is
22 adopted.

23 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
24 calling on the Pennsylvania General
25 Assembly to reject House Bills 412, 1332,

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 1642, and any other legislative
3 initiatives that decrease funding for
4 public schools and further inequities in
5 our educational systems, introduced by
6 Councilwoman Gilmore Richardson.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
8 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Gilmore
9 Richardson.

10 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Thank
11 you, Mr. President. I move the adoption
12 of the resolution.

13 (Duly seconded.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
15 been moved and properly seconded.

16 All in favor indicate by saying
17 aye.

18 (Aye.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
20 Those opposed?

21 (No response.)

22 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Oh, they
23 cancelled the lunch.

24 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Squilla,
25 I'm going to lunch. Go on mute.

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Those opposed?

5 (No response.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
7 ayes have it, and that resolution is
8 adopted.

9 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
10 urging the Biden Administration and the
11 United States Department of Justice to
12 finalize a proposed rule that would close
13 a regulatory loophole and require 'ghost
14 gun' kit makers to include serial numbers
15 in firearm kits and require federally
16 licensed firearms dealers to conduct
17 background checks prior to the sale of
18 these firearm kits, introduced by
19 Councilman Johnson on behalf of Council
20 President Clarke.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
22 Chair recognizes Councilman Johnson.

23 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Council
24 President, I enthusiastically adopt this
25 resolution -- move for the adoption of

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 this resolution.

3 (Duly seconded.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
5 been moved and properly seconded.

6 All in favor indicate by saying
7 aye.

8 (Aye.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
10 Those opposed?

11 (No response.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
13 ayes have it, and that resolution is
14 adopted.

15 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
16 authorizing the Special Committee on Gun
17 Violence Prevention to conduct hearings
18 to examine our national youth mental
19 health crisis and its role in the ongoing
20 epidemic of gun violence, introduced by
21 Councilman Johnson.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
23 Chair recognizes Councilman Johnson.

24 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Council
25 President, I move for the adoption of the

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 resolution.

3 (Duly seconded.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
5 been moved and properly seconded.

6 All those in favor indicate by
7 saying aye.

8 (Aye.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
10 Those opposed?

11 (No response.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
13 ayes have it, and that resolution is
14 adopted.

15 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
16 honoring the Inner City Warriors Youth
17 Football Team for winning the National
18 United Youth Football League 2021
19 Championship in Plant City, Florida,
20 introduced by Councilman Johnson.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
22 Chair again recognizes Councilman
23 Johnson.

24 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: I know,
25 Council Prez, you led the way a couple

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 years ago with a youth football team
3 national title in Florida. So the Second
4 District now has one, and so I
5 enthusiastically move for the adoption of
6 the resolution.

7 (Duly seconded.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

9 Thank you. It's been moved and
10 enthusiastically seconded.

11 All in favor say aye.

12 (Aye.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

14 Those opposed?

15 (No response.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: And
17 the championship has moved south, and the
18 resolution is approved.

19 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
20 authorizing the Philadelphia City Council
21 Committee on Housing, Neighborhood
22 Development and the Homeless to conduct
23 public hearings to explore the crisis of
24 expiring affordable housing subsidies,
25 the impact of these expirations on the

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 availability of affordable housing in the
3 City of Philadelphia, and the use of the
4 scattered site model to increase the
5 number of available affordable units,
6 introduced by Councilwoman Gauthier.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
8 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Gauthier.

9 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Thank
10 you, Council President. I move for the
11 adoption of the resolution.

12 (Duly seconded.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
14 been moved and properly seconded.

15 All in favor indicate by saying
16 aye.

17 (Aye.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
19 Those opposed?

20 (No response.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
22 ayes have it, and that resolution is
23 adopted.

24 The Chair recognizes
25 Councilwoman Bass. I think she was --

1 12/16/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Yes. Thank
3 you, Mr. President. I was having some
4 challenges with technology, so I wanted
5 to be registered as aye on eviction
6 diversion.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: All
8 right. That's No. 210 --

9 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: I think
10 that's the only vote that I may have
11 missed.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
13 Correct.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Okay.
15 Thank you.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Let
17 the record reflect that Councilwoman Bass
18 is voting aye on 210920. That vote is
19 now 17; zero.

20 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Thank you.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
22 Thank you.

23 Mr. Decker, please proceed.

24 CHIEF CLERK: There are no
25 other resolutions on the Final Passage

1 12/16/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Calendar, Mr. President.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Okay. With that, we will move towards
5 our speeches, and prior to recognizing
6 members regarding those speeches, I will
7 note for the record at this time we will
8 use the Chat feature available in
9 Microsoft teams to allow members to
10 signify that they wish to be recognized.
11 In order to comply with the Sunshine Act,
12 the Chat feature must only be used for
13 this particular purpose.

14 With that said, speeches on
15 behalf of the minority?

16 The Chair recognizes Councilman
17 Oh.

18 COUNCILMAN OH: Thank you very
19 much, Council President.

20 Yesterday the Council's
21 Committee on Education held a very
22 substantive and lengthy hearing on a
23 relevant, important, and sometimes
24 complicated topic, and that has to do
25 with criteria-based schools and the

1 12/16/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 admission process.

3 I think in summary, at least
4 from what I understand -- and I invite
5 the public to look at the video of the
6 hearing. I will warn you it's about four
7 and a half hours. However, you can skip
8 around, and you will see a lot of very
9 impressive learned people as well as
10 excellent representatives providing
11 expert testimony and important testimony,
12 but what I believe is revealed is that
13 the Philadelphia Board of Education has
14 already implemented -- they're not
15 planning to implement this. They already
16 have implemented -- a new admissions
17 process for these criteria-based schools,
18 and some of us know them as magnet
19 schools.

20 It is fundamentally a system
21 where you have to get past the first
22 phase. The first phase is that you have
23 to have A's and B's, but A's and B's are
24 not distinguished. So someone with all
25 A's and someone with all B's are equal.

12/16/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

From there, you have to take an essay, a 90-minute essay, that is graded by the computer program that cannot evaluate content, cannot distinguish humor, insight, determination, aspiration. It basically will flag for a teacher sentence structure, grammar, and spelling.

Once a student gets past this first phase, they are then in a lottery system. The lottery system, however, the School District has selected six, to my knowledge, six zip codes where a weight is given to any applicant within that zip code. The zip codes, as far as I know, you know -- I'm not sure the point of the selection, but that's, I think, in controversy.

Depending on how you look at, I believe the official count of zip codes in Philadelphia is 87, but some of those are just buildings, government buildings, and so perhaps the zip codes as we know it, neighborhoods, is 47, and entire

1 12/16/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 areas of Philadelphia are absent from
3 this weighted zip code. Some of the
4 poorest, most crime-ridden neighborhoods
5 are not included.

6 There is no standardized test
7 and there is no, from what I can tell,
8 evaluation based on letters of
9 recommendation. And the computer program
10 specifically says it is not to be used
11 for grading and certainly not for
12 high-stakes evaluation.

13 Also, this new process was
14 announced the day before the process of
15 admissions, which was very disturbing and
16 shocking to a lot of people, especially
17 those who wanted to get in.

18 And now there is also the issue
19 of middle schools where parents and
20 students understood that because these
21 were selective schools and many of them
22 awarded for their diversity and
23 inclusion, that there would be a
24 preference for the children who attended
25 schools like Carver and SLA Beeber and

1 12/16/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Masterman and other schools like that.

3 So there is that confusion.

4 I do think that, as many of my
5 colleagues have stated, that whatever the
6 good intentions, that this process was
7 not well thought out, was not available
8 to the public, was not inclusive, and
9 part of the problems also raise legal
10 issues.

11 For example, the process of
12 selection is extremely detrimental to
13 children with intellectual and emotional
14 disabilities. It is extremely
15 detrimental to children who have certain
16 physical disabilities. It is detrimental
17 to children who are immigrants, who grow
18 up in a household that English is not the
19 language spoken, to children from poor
20 neighborhoods that have underperforming
21 schools where English is not, when it
22 comes to grammar, spelling, and sentence
23 structure, something that is really
24 emphasized.

25 And I think it also

1 12/16/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 disadvantages other students, but
3 particularly I think those who are
4 trying, those who are smart, those who
5 are gifted but are poor, because they
6 cannot go to a tuition-based school.

7 And what we're really talking
8 about, I believe, is the Constitution.
9 The Constitution of the United States and
10 the Constitution of Pennsylvania
11 guarantee as a right, not a privilege, a
12 quality education, quality education, not
13 separate and unequal and unfair
14 education, a quality education that is as
15 good as anyone else's education based on
16 its public stature. It doesn't matter
17 you're a citizen, a non-citizen.
18 Whatever your physical or intellectual
19 situation, your race, your gender, you
20 know, all of those things, you are
21 guaranteed a right to a quality
22 education.

23 Philadelphia is ranked 597th
24 out of 707 school districts in the state.
25 Children can simply go to school in a

1 12/16/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 neighborhood that they live in which is
3 wealthy. They have an excellent school.
4 They don't need to compete for it. They
5 don't need to take tests. They don't
6 need to write essays. They just go to
7 their neighborhood school.

8 Other kids cannot go there
9 because they don't live there. They
10 don't have the money to live there. They
11 can't afford to live there.

12 And so one of the things that I
13 really urge the School District to
14 consider is the message that it is
15 sending, and I think the message that
16 it's sending is where you live matters.
17 Where you live matters, because you do
18 not have a good school. You do not have
19 an equal school. And now if you try as
20 hard as you might to get out of that
21 situation to go to a magnet school, even
22 that now seems blocked, because you are
23 now subject to a lottery and you don't
24 have the money.

25 What are the choices for these

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children and their families? One is to move out of the City, you know, if you can, and if you can't, what do you do?

I am very concerned and I believe many people are. We've had excellent witnesses, like the Chair of our Pennsylvania Legislative Black Caucus, our colleague from our colleague State Representative Donna Bullock, Archbishop Mary Floyd Palmer, civic activist and radio show host Solomon Jones, as well as many academic experts and other persons. And the quandary is, what happens now?

I am circulating a letter. I'm just letting people know. And I appreciate the Councilmembers that are aware of it that are signing on, and for those who don't know, I will circulate it, just laying out what happened, what was made evidence, and urging the School District to take a pause in terms of working with City Council to see if there is a way to address this situation.

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2 The damage has been done. The
3 process is in play, but if we don't do
4 anything, are we just allowing this to
5 continue?

6 I really believe that at heart
7 is the failure to deliver a
8 constitutionally guaranteed right to a
9 good quality, free public education right
10 where you live, and this is a challenging
11 situation.

12 I will circulate that letter
13 and I hope that good will come of this,
14 and I appreciate everyone who
15 participated and everyone's concern.
16 Thank you.

17 Thank you, Council President.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

19 Thank you, Councilman.

20 The Chair recognizes
21 Councilwoman Brooks.

22 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Thank
23 you, Council President.

24 (Connection issues.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

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2 Councilwoman, we can't hear you.

3 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Can you
4 hear me now?

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
6 There's a lot of static in the
7 background.

8 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Can you
9 hear me?

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
11 That's better.

12 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Can you
13 hear me now?

14 COUNCILMAN JONES: Yes.

15 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: All
16 right. Go off camera. All right. I'm
17 working from home today.

18 Can you hear me now?

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
20 Yeah, we hear you.

21 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: All
22 right. Thank you, Council President.

23 I want to take a moment to talk
24 about the resolution that I introduced
25 today, which is the third in a series

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2 that my office has been doing to
3 recognize the contributions and work of
4 community activists and leaders in the
5 City of Philadelphia. Today's
6 resolution, which so many of my
7 colleagues were kind enough to support,
8 recognizes my friend Ron Whitehorn.

9 Ron's life thus far is a
10 laundry list of hard-fought campaigns for
11 justice and equity. Ron was an early
12 supporter of the desegregation efforts,
13 civil rights, and Black liberation
14 movements. He was a leading voice in the
15 anti-war activism even when penalties for
16 engaging in such work were a high risk
17 and resulted in being put behind bars.

18 He mobilized rank and file
19 workers to fight for better pay and
20 worker conditions and build grassroots
21 power for housing justice and voter
22 rights. But perhaps one of Ron's most
23 prominent accomplishments is his work as
24 a Philadelphia public school teacher for
25 over two decades and his deep commitment

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to education. This commitment includes not only accolades for his teaching, helping found a youth-serving organization and serving as the leadership with the PFT, Ron also fought to improve the accuracy and depth of the curriculum that was taught in schools and exposed injustices in the District through community power journalism.

His work didn't stop in the classroom, and if you know Ron, you know that he is committed to education in a broader sense, to the practice of teaching and learning from other people, hearing each other out, and building communities of care and understanding. This is what -- this is at the heart of what makes him such a great activist and leader.

His work has always been about giving other people the tools to realize justice for themselves, to sharing resources and knowledge and power-building from the ground up.

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2 And if I were to list each of
3 the essential movement campaigns that he
4 has been a key part of, we will be here
5 all day.

6 Many of you know him from his
7 work, his integrity, and his good heart.
8 I know him as a person who paved the way
9 for my third-party election to City
10 Council, as a person who envisioned an
11 independent-minded elected official for
12 years before I even knew what was
13 possible, and as a person who believed in
14 and supported me from the very start.

15 Ron draws his strength from the
16 belief that change happens when ordinary
17 people come together and demand it. And
18 it's people like Ron who inspire me to
19 continue my work and to use my position
20 to empower others and build a better
21 Philadelphia for generations to come.

22 And I want to thank you, Ron,
23 and I want to thank his wife, Patty, who
24 is also a powerhouse organizer and labor
25 leader, for everything that they do for

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2 this city. And I want to thank my
3 Council colleagues and Council President.

4 Have a great day.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Thank you, Councilwoman. Thank you so
7 much. Appreciate it.

8 Speeches on behalf of the
9 majority?

10 The Chair recognizes Councilman
11 Thomas.

12 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Thank you,
13 Council President, and a couple things
14 that I think are really important that I
15 want to highlight as we close out our
16 last Council session of the year.

17 I first want to just take a
18 moment to say congratulations to the
19 workers at Unite Here. They were able to
20 put themselves in a position where they
21 were going through some tough
22 negotiations, and those workers, who are
23 mostly City residents that we all
24 represent, have been put in a position
25 where they have some level of stability.

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2 So I just want to say congratulations to
3 them.

4 I also want to offer my
5 condolences to the staff and all of the
6 folks over at Olney High School. This
7 COVID situation, this COVID crisis is one
8 that we talk about often from an economic
9 perspective, from a mental health
10 perspective, the impact it has on crime,
11 but at the end of the day, the virus
12 itself is still killing people and we're
13 seeing a number of different variants.

14 This week we lost our first
15 student as it relates to a COVID death
16 here in the City of Philadelphia, and
17 that was a young lady who attended Olney
18 High School. There will be a memorial
19 for the student, and I don't want to put
20 their business out there, but there will
21 be a memorial for the student. And I
22 know I talked to a number of my
23 colleagues in Council as we as a
24 collective offer our condolences not just
25 to the family of the student but to the

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2 student's friends as well as the staff
3 and the other community members in Olney
4 who are hurt by this tragedy.

5 With that being said, we as a
6 Council body must assure that we continue
7 to do the due diligence that we've
8 stepped up to do to make sure that we're
9 educating and encouraging people to get
10 vaccinated. I'm in a number of different
11 conversations where this idea of being
12 vaccinated is still something that folks
13 feel like it's not necessary, whether
14 you're talking about sports and issues
15 there or whether you're talking about the
16 new guidelines around restaurants. It is
17 a sad situation when someone has to die
18 from this unfortunate virus while we have
19 vaccinations available.

20 I'm not judging anybody based
21 on how you feel about a vaccine or what
22 you think should be done, but at the end
23 of the day, this is a serious matter.
24 It's a global pandemic. It's impacting
25 people all across the world, not just in

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2 Philadelphia. So before folks come with
3 their conspiracy theories, we got to
4 recognize that this is global. This is
5 not just a Philadelphia, Pennsylvania,
6 United States thing. People are taking
7 vaccines in countries all across the
8 world, because folks recognize that
9 vaccines are what we are dealing with as
10 it relates to current science and the
11 impact they have on our everyday life.

12 We take vaccines outside of
13 just COVID. We take them for other
14 issues and other things, for our children
15 to attend schools and for -- I think
16 about my father, who is 72 years old. He
17 takes a number of medicines and vaccines
18 to ensure that his health stays up to
19 par.

20 So I did want to get longwinded
21 about that part, because my heart was
22 broken when I found out, and I just want
23 to continue to push people to get
24 vaccinated.

25 The last thing for me on my end

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2 is just want to communicate my
3 disappointment in some of the things that
4 we're hearing as it relates to student
5 loan debt. One of our colleagues,
6 Councilmember Brooks, introduced a
7 resolution a little while back looking at
8 this issue around student loan debt, and
9 we know that the federal government is
10 looking to have student loan payments
11 resume sometime early next year. That is
12 something that is extremely unfortunate.

13 When you look at the poverty in
14 the City of Philadelphia and other urban
15 areas all across the country, one of the
16 things that people really were banking on
17 is this idea of some type of initiative
18 to address the student loan debt that an
19 entire generation of people are dealing
20 with.

21 I myself am a victim, victim of
22 student loan debt. I know a lot of my
23 colleagues in Council also have issues
24 with student loan debt. And at the end
25 of the day, we have some important

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elections and initiatives taking place
next year, and not to be partisan at all,
because that's not what this is about, we
have a catastrophe in this country as it
relates to the cost of a quality
education, and when you look at the
amount of debt that an entire generation
is faced with as it relates to student
loans, it is crippling households. It
will cripple households next year.

The inflation that we're seeing
not just in Philadelphia but all across
the country is significant. The stimulus
dollars that people got seems like it was
years ago.

So at the end of the day, I am
really concerned about the student loan
debt issue that we have as a nation,
specifically the impact it has on us as
folks who represent the people of
Philadelphia, and I am challenging myself
first and my colleagues to figure out
what can we do to advocate to the federal
government to put together some type of

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2 program or relief or initiative to be
3 able to deal with the student loan crisis
4 that we're facing.

5 Thank you, Council President.
6 Thank you, colleagues. I appreciate your
7 time.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

9 Thank you, Councilman. Thank you. And
10 our hearts are heavy for that young
11 person that was lost due to COVID. This
12 is real in every sense of the word.
13 Unfortunately, we may have a very
14 difficult winter if people don't figure
15 out a way to get vaccinated.

16 The Chair recognizes Councilman
17 Green.

18 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Thank you,
19 Council President.

20 I echo those comments that you
21 made and thank you, Councilmember Thomas,
22 for bringing this to our attention, and
23 thank you, Council President, for your
24 leadership in getting us as members of
25 Council to do PSAs to get people to get

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2 their booster shots. It's so important
3 that we do that.

4 As this is our last Council
5 session, I want to wish all of my
6 colleagues, the staff, City employees,
7 and all of Philadelphia a happy holiday
8 season. It's important for us to get
9 those booster shots and even original
10 shots so that we can get together during
11 the holiday season.

12 I know this has been a very
13 challenging time period, and fortunately
14 many of us will be able to get together
15 over the holidays. And as we prepare for
16 the holiday season, we also prepare for a
17 new year. Many of us make resolutions to
18 possibly eat less, work out more, lose a
19 little weight. I know on a personal
20 level, I'm going to try to not wait until
21 the last minute to do some of my "honey
22 do" tasks that I need to do in the
23 household.

24 But even though we can make
25 these personal resolutions to do better,

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2 I think we as a city can also resolve to
3 do better. And when I talk about
4 resolutions, I hope we as a city can
5 resolve to do a better job to address the
6 gun violence in our city.

7 We have to acknowledge there's
8 a gun violence crisis in order to address
9 gun violence. And so I want to thank our
10 District Attorney, Larry Krasner, for
11 making that apology and acknowledging the
12 gun crisis issue in our city. And it's
13 an issue that all of us know has really
14 impacted our city in a lot of different
15 ways.

16 And this issue is not an
17 either/or situation, and if you listened
18 to the recent comments by San Francisco
19 Mayor, London Breed, it's not one or the
20 other. It's not safety or justice. It's
21 safety and justice. It's not reform or
22 accountability. It's reform and
23 accountability.

24 And we can applaud and also be
25 critical at the same time. Just like I

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can applaud as a former Assistant District Attorney the DA's Office and Larry Krasner and the great work they're doing regarding the Conviction Integrity Unit and also making great efforts regarding bail reform, I can also be critical of the decrease in the gun case convictions in our city.

I can also applaud the Police Department, who is on a record number of gun arrests in our city, but our clearance rates for homicides are very, very low.

So we can applaud and also be critical. And we know we have a gun crisis in this city, and this body has stated to the Mayor, Mayor Kenney, we need a state of emergency in our city. We also as members of City Council, the Mayor, the District Attorney, and Police Commissioner all need to work together collaboratively to address this issue.

Now, on Tuesday there was an announcement that we had a decrease in

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shootings in the 18th and 19th Police District in West Philadelphia, and that's a step in the right direction, the collaboration between Attorney General Shapiro and Commissioner Outlaw and the type of collaboration we need going forward, and we need this collaboration at the federal, state, and local level if we're going to address gun violence in the City of Philadelphia.

So as we prepare for the holiday season, I wish everyone a happy and safe holidays. And as we prepare for 2022, let's as a city, let's resolve to have a safer city next year for all of Philadelphians.

Thank you, Council President.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

Thank you, Councilman. Well spoken on those very, very pertinent issues.

The Chair recognizes Councilwoman Gauthier.

COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: I think Councilmember Gilmore Richardson was

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2 before me.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: I'm
4 sorry. I'm sending what they send me.

5 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Oh,
6 okay. I'm happy to go if she doesn't
7 want to go then.

8 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON:
9 You're first, colleague.

10 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Okay.

11 Thank you, Council President,
12 and good afternoon, everyone. As we
13 approach the end of our last Council
14 meeting of 2021, it feels like an
15 appropriate moment to look back on what
16 we've accomplished and what's to come.

17 For one thing, it's hard to
18 believe that the "Freshmen Four" are
19 coming up on two full years in Council.
20 I'm grateful for the partnership of my
21 freshmen colleagues, whose support and
22 friendship has been invaluable during
23 this extremely unique time to enter
24 elected office.

25 The opportunity to use policy

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2 to build equitable communities and
3 affordable neighborhoods was what
4 inspired me to run in the first place,
5 and I'm proud of the progress we've made
6 on that front this session.

7 Today, this body approved the
8 mixed-income neighborhoods overlay bill,
9 which Councilmember Quinones-Sanchez and
10 I have been collaborating on for
11 practically my entire time in office.
12 This is Philadelphia's first-ever
13 mandatory inclusionary zoning
14 legislation. It will preserve
15 affordability in some of Philadelphia's
16 most rapidly gentrifying neighborhoods by
17 requiring that affordable housing be part
18 of new, large development projects in
19 certain parts of the Third and Seventh
20 District. This is critically important
21 because of the ever-increasing risk of
22 displacement that our low-income Black
23 and Brown communities are facing.

24 To give you a sense of the kind
25 of impact this would have in West and

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2 Southwest Philly, if we look at data on
3 residential development just in the Third
4 District alone, if we look at all the
5 permits for apartment buildings with ten
6 or more units, over the last three years
7 that comes out to 3,100 new units that
8 have been approved. Virtually none of
9 these units were affordable.

10 So if we do the math, if our
11 bill had been in place just three years
12 ago, we'd have 620 additional affordable
13 homes in our district built by the
14 private sector.

15 We all want to see Philadelphia
16 grow, but not if it's at the expense of
17 low-income and working-class residents,
18 who are seeing their options for safe and
19 stable housing shrink with each passing
20 year. I think I speak for both
21 Councilmember Sanchez and myself when I
22 say that keeping our neighborhoods
23 affordable for the individuals and
24 families who have lived there for
25 generations is our number one priority.

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2 Thank you, Councilmember, for
3 your partnership and for always being
4 such a strong champion for affordable
5 housing and sustainable communities.
6 It's so exciting to see this finally
7 cross the finish line, and I want to
8 thank all of my colleagues for your
9 support.

10 We need to use every tool at
11 our disposal to generate new affordable
12 housing, and with that in mind, today I
13 introduced a new bill to encourage the
14 use of City-owned vacant land for
15 affordable housing as well as community
16 gardens.

17 With each piece of City-owned
18 land lost to for-profit development, the
19 City loses an opportunity to shore up
20 affordability and community-serving uses
21 that will have long-term benefits. If
22 passed, this bill would give grassroots
23 community organizations a leg up in the
24 competition to acquire this land.

25 I'm incredibly grateful to the

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2 Philadelphia Coalition for Affordable
3 Communities for their close collaboration
4 on this effort and for their tireless
5 advocacy on behalf of Philadelphia
6 residents.

7 In addition to generating new
8 units of affordable housing, we need to
9 focus on preserving the ones that already
10 exist. That's why this session I
11 introduced a bill to protect expiring
12 affordable housing in the Third District,
13 including the University City Townhomes,
14 an affordable housing development at 40th
15 and Market that is in danger of being
16 sold and razed and replaced by a
17 market-rate commercial development.

18 But the reality is that the
19 University City Townhomes are
20 irreplaceable, dozens of three-bedroom
21 apartments with rents that are 90 percent
22 cheaper than what you can get on the open
23 market in the middle of some of the
24 hottest real estate in the City. This is
25 something that can't be replicated in

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2 today's real estate climate.

3 Furthermore, this site was
4 formerly part of the Black Bottom, the
5 Black working-class neighborhood that was
6 destroyed to make way for the University
7 City Science Center back in the late '60s
8 and early '70s. This makes the prospect
9 of its loss even more of an injustice.

10 Unfortunately, the affordable
11 housing emergency we're seeing with the
12 townhomes isn't limited to this site.
13 Hundreds of developments across
14 Philadelphia, including dozens in my
15 district, have affordability contracts
16 with HUD that could potentially expire
17 within the next five years. Thousands
18 more units in low-income housing tax
19 credit properties could also go offline.

20 Because property values have
21 increased so much during the course of
22 these contracts, for-profit operators are
23 more and more choosing not to continue
24 offering affordable housing so that they
25 can maximize their profits, and

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2 low-income families are the ones who
3 suffer the consequences of that.

4 That's why today I introduced a
5 resolution calling for hearings to
6 explore the issue of expiring
7 affordability contracts and how those
8 expirations will impact the availability
9 of affordable housing in our city. We
10 look forward to examining the roles and
11 responsibilities of every level of
12 government to stave off this impending
13 crisis.

14 And, Council President, I would
15 be remiss if I did not take the time to
16 recognize some of the other vital work
17 this body has done on housing this
18 session, in particular NPI, the
19 \$400 million initiative that will
20 strengthen our neighborhoods and combat
21 critical issues like housing
22 affordability. This is a historic
23 investment, and these funds are
24 critically needed by our constituents.
25 So thank you, Council President, for your

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2 leadership and your vision on this.

3 I also want to take a moment to
4 recognize my colleague Councilmember
5 Helen Gym for her groundbreaking work on
6 Philadelphia's eviction diversion
7 program, which has become a national
8 model to keep renters safely housed.

9 This program has been a lifeline for many
10 during an unprecedented global pandemic,
11 and I'm thrilled that this body today
12 extended the program for the year to
13 come. Thank you, Councilmember Gym, for
14 your leadership, your partnership, and
15 your friendship.

16 Clearly we have a lot to be
17 grateful and hopeful for, but at the same
18 time, I can't help but feel devastated by
19 how gun violence continues to tear our
20 communities apart. As we all know, this
21 has been a record-breaking year of
22 violence. With two weeks still left to
23 go in 2021, we've already lost dozens
24 more Philadelphians to gun violence than
25 in 2020, which also saw record levels of

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2 gun violence. This loss is incalculable,
3 but I'm grateful to partner with all of
4 you on steps that bring us closer to
5 restoring peace and safety in our
6 communities.

7 This body made an extraordinary
8 investment in anti-violence efforts in
9 the FY22 budget. The City's Violence
10 Prevention and Opportunity Monitoring
11 Group has prioritized the distribution of
12 over \$13 million in grants to grassroots
13 organizations who are on the ground
14 working with residents to stem the
15 violence in a variety of ways. I'm so
16 thrilled that so many organizations will
17 benefit from this support and that our
18 neighborhoods will too, and I'm proud
19 that this is a direct result of the work
20 and advocacy of City Council.

21 At the same time, I must point
22 out that the Kenney Administration still
23 has not implemented a comprehensive
24 emergency response to this crisis, and I
25 think that many of my colleagues

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2 recognize this too. My friend and
3 colleague in the Second District,
4 Councilmember Johnson, continues to
5 exemplify this body's commitment to
6 combatting the City's gun violence
7 crisis. He has continued to lead the
8 Special Committee on Gun Violence,
9 holding multiple hearings this session,
10 and continues to push all of our
11 government partners to do more to combat
12 this epidemic.

13 Councilmember, I admire your
14 work and deeply value our partnership.

15 I also want to take a moment to
16 highlight our recent work with Controller
17 Rebecca Rhynhart. There are 14 zip codes
18 in our city where the vast majority of
19 gun violence is concentrated. This
20 session I partnered with the Controller
21 to advocate for communities in these zip
22 codes to be flooded with resources and
23 supports, from enhanced rec center
24 offerings, to behavioral health services,
25 to high-quality jobs for people most

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2 likely to get caught in the cycle of
3 violence, and expanded crisis
4 intervention efforts. And the reason why
5 we're pushing so hard on this is because
6 it's a matter of racial justice.

7 Decades of racist public policy
8 of disinvestment in our Black
9 neighborhoods have left people suffering.
10 In this moment when our city and country
11 are laser focused on ending racial
12 oppression, this should be the moment
13 that we break this cycle of violence.

14 We can't have equity in our
15 communities when people are scared for
16 their lives and the lives of their
17 families because of gun violence in their
18 neighborhoods. And so we need to
19 intentionally reinvest in these
20 neighborhoods to counteract the
21 cumulative systemic harm they've
22 experienced and to continue -- and that
23 they continue to experience right now.

24 But I also want to be clear
25 that gun violence is a net loss for every

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single person in every single corner of
our city. It puts a mint strain on our
medical institutions. It generates
staggering costs to our criminal justice
entities, which get handed down to
taxpayers, and it disincentivizes
economic growth, threatening to stifle
Philadelphia's long-term prosperity.

All of this is why I won't stop
pushing on this issue until we see the
kind of response that Philadelphians
expect and deserve.

But even though we still have a
long road ahead of us, I'm very proud of
the work that my colleagues and I are
doing to build a city that prioritizes
the well-being of all Philadelphians. We
are on the path towards equity and
fairness across the City.

Thank you so very much.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

Thank you, Councilwoman.

The Chair recognizes
Councilwoman Gilmore Richardson.

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2 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Thank
3 you, Mr. President.

4 First, I just wanted to offer
5 my sincere condolences to the family on
6 the loss of the young person at Olney
7 High to COVID-19. It's a very, very sad
8 and difficult time, and their family will
9 be in my prayers.

10 Mr. President, as we conclude
11 year two of this term, I wanted to pause
12 and thank you and all of my colleagues in
13 City Council for the work we continue to
14 do together to really take substantial
15 steps to move Philadelphia forward. I
16 truly am honored to serve with each and
17 every one of you, and I look forward to
18 the hard but necessary work we will do
19 together ahead in the new year.

20 And to all the staffers and all
21 the team members in Council, from one
22 former staffer to another, thank you all
23 for the work that you continue to do to
24 make us look good, because it's not us.
25 It's really the work that you do. So

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2 thank you, each and every one of you
3 behind the scenes, from the tech team to
4 your team, Council President, all of our
5 Council, staff members, sergeant-at-arms,
6 everyone. We thank you, thank you, thank
7 you for your work.

8 Mr. President, I also wanted to
9 thank my sorors of Zeta Phi Beta
10 Sorority, Incorporated and my brothers of
11 Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated
12 for providing testimony during our public
13 comment session today in advance of
14 several high-profile meetings that will
15 take place here in the City of
16 Philadelphia.

17 First, the members of Zeta will
18 be here for our International Executive
19 Board meeting January 6th through the
20 8th. We have a hybrid model, some in
21 person and some will be online virtually.
22 And our brothers will be here March 30th
23 through April 3rd for their Regional
24 Conference. And, finally, Mr. President,
25 the members of Zeta will be here for our

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2 International Convention -- we call it
3 our Boule -- in July.

4 So we are really looking
5 forward to welcoming the blue and white
6 family to the City of Brotherly Love and
7 Sisterly Effectiveness, Councilmember
8 Green, next year. We are really going to
9 paint this city blue and white all year
10 long.

11 Next, Mr. President, I wanted
12 to thank my colleague Councilmember Jones
13 for the resolution recognizing and
14 congratulating Mr. Donald Hunt on his
15 retirement from the Philadelphia Tribune.
16 He is indeed a Philadelphia sports media
17 legend, and Mr. Hunt once said, I hope
18 that people remember that I worked
19 extremely hard to get the best story that
20 I could and that I always gave them
21 something that they didn't know about
22 from before. And with over 40 years in
23 the industry, his determination and
24 diligent work will be reflected in the
25 legacy he leaves behind.

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2 Mr. Hunt has broken limits and
3 inspired generations of journalists with
4 his passion for his field, from the NFL
5 to the NBA and even college sports. He
6 became the first African American
7 sportswriter to enter the Philadelphia
8 Sports Hall of Fame.

9 So, Mr. Donald Hunt, I hope
10 you're listening. Thank you for leading
11 such a remarkable career and for all you
12 have done for both the City of
13 Philadelphia and the field of
14 sportswriting. Your reputation and
15 career precedes you, and we are so
16 grateful for your service. So enjoy
17 every moment of your well-deserved
18 retirement, and thank you so much for the
19 stories on Emlen Tunnell when we were
20 trying to keep his name alive in the
21 media.

22 And, finally, Mr. President, I
23 wanted to give kudos to another sister in
24 service, the Mayor of San Francisco,
25 Mayor London Breed, who boldly declared

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that she is leading the way to improve public safety in the City of San Francisco. She stated, We are past the point where what we see is even remotely acceptable. She stated, All of our residents, our workers and everyone who visits our city, should feel safe no matter what part of town they are in.

She went on to state, We are a city that prides ourselves on second chances and rehabilitation, but we are not a city where anything goes. Our compassion should not be mistaken for weakness and indifference.

And lastly, Mr. President, she stated, At the end of the day, the safety of the people of San Francisco is the most important thing to me.

Mr. President, the safety and well-being of the residents of the City of Philadelphia is the most important thing to me, and we have a lot of work to do to address the inequities and disinvestment that has happened over the

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2 years, and we are doing that work.

3 And I thank you, colleagues,
4 for supporting the work to update our
5 minor curfew law and establish curfew
6 centers that will open in four days, four
7 days. And I thank you all for making an
8 unprecedented investment in gun violence
9 prevention and intervention in our city.
10 But we must be clear that lawlessness in
11 our city cannot be tolerated, and we must
12 do all we can to ensure our city, our
13 neighbors and our friends, our visitors,
14 and others feel safe in our city.

15 So I look forward to being a
16 part of the solutions that lead to a
17 safer Philadelphia.

18 Thank you so much,
19 Mr. President. Thank you, colleagues.
20 Happy holidays to you and your families.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
22 Thank you. Thank you, Council Lady.

23 The Chair recognizes
24 Councilwoman Parker.

25 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank

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2 you, Mr. President.

3 Mr. President, when I'm usually
4 having a difficult time, I don't care if
5 it's work and juggling a heavy load or
6 personally of family, I have a cousin
7 whose name is Ameen and he calls me and
8 he says, Cherelle, God gives the hardest
9 jobs to his strongest soldiers. God
10 gives the hardest jobs to his strongest
11 soldiers.

12 It's with that spirit in mind,
13 Mr. President, that I wanted to take this
14 opportunity to say to you and to all of
15 our colleagues that it is more than an
16 honor and a privilege to serve our great
17 city with each of you.

18 Mr. President, heavy is the
19 head that wears the crown. Some people
20 would like to think that this is a
21 dictatorship, but they don't see the
22 behind-the-scenes work that you do when
23 you're pulling myself and Whip Jones and
24 Deputy Whip Squilla and all of our
25 members together. Everybody has a body

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of work that they work on to get done to contribute to this legislative body, and I want each and every one of you to know that I am proud of our work as a body.

I will not single out any specific piece of legislation and/or administrative change that has been made as a result of our advocacy, but I want each of us to just take a minute during this time to recognize the work that we have done together as a team. I think that's extremely important, and it's not something that we get an opportunity to do, because we find ourselves often in robotic mode where we are constantly responding to crises and trying to address issues, but I wanted to make sure that we put that on the radar.

In addition to that, Mr. President, I do have to note for the record that earlier in the session, I held a hearing on the issue of violence in our city and its connection to the economic viability of our neighborhood

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2 commercial corridors, and it was a
3 citywide representation, those who
4 testified, from community development
5 corporations, from BIDs, from RCOs, who
6 were very direct and intentional,
7 Mr. President, about acknowledging the
8 fact that we need community policing,
9 that residents throughout the City of
10 Philadelphia have said there is no better
11 way for us to try to mend and rebuild
12 relationships with law enforcement
13 without community policing.

14 What does that mean? Beat
15 officers in our neighborhoods,
16 Mr. President, walking the beat, those
17 officers who were on bike patrol, who
18 were going in and out of small
19 businesses, stopping at recreation
20 centers, stopping at schools just to
21 check in to say, hey, is everything okay,
22 anything needs to be brought to my
23 attention, please let me know. We have
24 to make that a priority.

25 I appreciate Councilmembers

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Green along with Gilmore Richardson
acknowledging the very bold step taken by
San Francisco Mayor London Breed and her
efforts, because sometimes when you don't
put up your finger to see which way the
wind blows but you have to make a tough
decision, there's a lot of noise around
it, but usually that noise is not
connected to the people who are closest
to the pain. And in our instance, in our
great City of Philadelphia, I hope we
will continue to keep our ears to the
ground and listen to the people and what
they are saying to us in neighborhoods
across the City about our need to have a
more safer, cleaner, and an economically
viable city for all that provides
opportunity for all.

In addition to that, I want to
say this, Mr. President: Councilmember
Brooks, thank you so very much for
acknowledging Ron, who is a resident of
the Ninth Councilmanic District, who I've
had the opportunity to work with on a

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2 number of occasions, both he and his
3 wife, Patty. He's more than
4 well-deserving of this honor, and I want
5 to thank you, Councilmember Brooks.

6 I want to thank you,
7 Councilmember Thomas, for bringing to my
8 attention the tragedy that occurred with
9 the student relative to COVID at Olney
10 High School and do want to send my
11 condolences not only to the student's
12 family but to the entire Olney High
13 School family.

14 Now, finally, Mr. President,
15 this is something fun.

16 And, Councilmember Green, I got
17 a little angry when you talked about
18 resolutions about losing weight, because
19 this is food time, and I am hoping that
20 everybody, everybody will find a way to
21 enjoy some time with their family and
22 friends and don't take lightly, don't
23 take lightly the importance of fellowship
24 in any way that we possibly can.

25 And to Councilmember Gym, I

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2 wanted to say this to you, Councilmember:

3 I know you said you weren't prepared to

4 speak today, but I want you to know you

5 were well prepared. Okay? You didn't

6 intend on it, but you were prepared

7 today, and I thank you for the work you

8 have done on the legislation that you

9 acknowledge.

10 Again, colleagues, special

11 thank you to each of you. Remember, God

12 gives the hardest jobs to his strongest

13 soldiers. I'm proud to work with each

14 and every one of you. You're strong

15 soldiers.

16 To all of our staff, to the

17 Administration, we can't get anything

18 done without you. We can legislate all

19 we want, but when it comes to

20 implementation, we have to work with the

21 men and women who keep this city going.

22 And to our tech team, thank you

23 so very much for making sure that

24 dinosaur folks like Cherelle Parker, who

25 can't seem to get a grip and to wrap her

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2 hands around this technology, that I find
3 a way to make it on here every week and
4 through hearings just to get done.

5 Thank you all. Happy holidays.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

7 Thank you. Thank you, Councilwoman.

8 The Chair recognizes Councilman
9 Jones.

10 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,

11 Mr. President. Thank you, colleagues.

12 Just real quick, because I've heard some
13 really powerful points today about the
14 work we do, about the reason we do it,
15 and so I don't need to echo any of that,
16 but just say amen.

17 But I do want to have three
18 wishes for 2022. One of them is to look
19 at that hundred shooter review with a
20 goal towards no more kids going to jail
21 for murder and no more kids dying because
22 of it. That's number one.

23 Number two, that we do our
24 redistricting and finally from the
25 federal level, to the state level, to the

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2 local level know the areas that we will
3 serve going forward. That's number two.

4 Then number three is voter
5 education, voter registration, and I link
6 the two because a famous state rep, my
7 mentor, said to me, David P. Richardson,
8 that to give a voter registration card
9 without doing voter education is like
10 giving the keys to a car without driving
11 lessons, and I totally agree.

12 So those are my three wishes,
13 Mr. President, and I hope my colleagues
14 will help me to get all three of them
15 through.

16 Thank you, Mr. President.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

18 Thank you, Councilman. Councilman, I can
19 tell you on one of those wishes with
20 respect to redistricting, that's going to
21 happen, because one of the probably only
22 two members here in this current Council
23 remember what it was like not to get paid
24 when we didn't conclude our
25 redistricting, right? That was not fun.

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2 So we will get that done at the
3 appropriate time.

4 I think that concludes our
5 speeches. Just real brief, and I'm not
6 supposed to speak on the podium, virtual
7 as it may be. The bottom line, I just
8 want to, first of all, say how much I
9 appreciate all of you. You know, as the
10 Council President, I get to talk to all
11 of you on a very confidential and
12 personal level, and you know how much I
13 appreciate those relationships, right?
14 Some of you all make me feel like the old
15 uncle and some of you all make me feel
16 like the child when I get scolded by some
17 of you, but at the end of the day, it's a
18 special kind of relationship that most
19 people don't see. And I know how much
20 you all care about the City on a very
21 personal level, and I just want to say
22 how much I really enjoy having this
23 relationship with you all.

24 The last two years have been --
25 I don't have to tell anybody. You all

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know. Everybody knows how difficult it has been, but in spite of it, I must say how proud I am of all of the members of Council how in spite of all of the things that we've had to deal with, we continue to work. We continue to work hard. We didn't take a step back. We didn't get cautious. We moved full steam ahead.

I mean, you think about those issues that we had to deal with in this environment, starting with COVID, I mean, we were out there. We continue. Councilman Thomas referenced, we're out here messaging, doing masks, all those kind of things since COVID determines the direction on pretty much everything at this point in time. You know, continuing to push forward on jobs and education, just creative matters that you all have come with.

Education, we are involved in it on a day-to-day basis, sometimes way more than we should be, but we can't help ourselves, because we understand how

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2 important education is at the end of the
3 day.

4 This whole issue with respect
5 to gun violence, it is, first and
6 foremost, on everybody's mind regardless
7 of where you live. I represent the most
8 diverse district in the state, and
9 whenever I go to a town meeting in my
10 district, it comes up, right, this whole
11 issue with violence. And I don't care
12 however we want to characterize it or
13 what we should be doing, the terms that
14 have been used, from emergency to crisis,
15 all that, at the end of the day, we have
16 to agree on one thing - the scope of what
17 we're dealing with, so we can truly work
18 together and everybody can take a role.
19 Everybody can take the responsibility of
20 their role and take it to the fullest.

21 Finger pointing is not going to
22 get it done, right? Just get it done.
23 The citizens expect that from us.

24 Our neighborhood quality of
25 life, the significant investment that we

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2 are prepared to make, both federal,
3 state, and local, is so important.

4 So while I want to say how much
5 you all have given and from the heart,
6 from the soul, as hard as you guys have
7 worked, the average citizen out there
8 wants you to take it up to another level.
9 I mean, that's just the simple reality.
10 They're not going to let us pat ourselves
11 on the back and talk about how good we
12 were and all the great we did.

13 So as we've listened to these
14 speeches over the last half hour,
15 45 minutes, we have pretty much set a
16 threshold for us to do a lot of things
17 and a lot of good things, and I know that
18 you all are capable of it, and we're
19 going to take it to the next level.

20 So we ask all the citizens to
21 continue to lean on us, to continue to
22 look for us to do better things, more
23 things, because we are truly the people's
24 elected official. All due respect to
25 everybody else, we are the front line

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2 when it comes to politics. They see us
3 more. They have more access to us, and
4 that expectation rises based on that
5 ability to interact with us and to access
6 us.

7 So I just want to say, first
8 and foremost, thank you all. Thank you
9 for the personal relationship. Thank you
10 for the work you do. Enjoy your holiday,
11 because we got to get back to work in
12 January. So whatever you're going to do,
13 be prepared to take it to the next level.
14 All of our feet will be on the pedals.

15 God bless you all. Thank you
16 so much. I really appreciate you all.
17 We're going to continue to handle the
18 people's business as aggressively as we
19 can.

20 And with that, I will recognize
21 the Whip, Councilman Jones, for a motion
22 to adjourn.

23 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
24 Mr. President. I move that Council stand
25 adjourned until Thursday, January 20th,

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2 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

3 (Duly seconded.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: All

5 those in favor indicate by saying aye.

6 (Aye.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

8 Those opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The

11 ayes have it. The motion carries.

12 Thank you all very much. Love

13 you all. See you soon.

14 - - -

15 (Stated Meeting adjourned at

16 1:17 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the
proceedings, evidence and objections are
contained fully and accurately in the
stenographic notes taken by me upon the
foregoing matter, and that this is a true and
correct transcript of same.

MICHELE L. MURPHY
RPR-Notary Public

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