

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
STATED MEETING

Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
March 20, 2025
10:00 a.m.

PRESENT:

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

ELIZABETH McCOLLUM NAZARIO, CHIEF CLERK

- - -

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Members, please take your
4 seats. I note that the hour has
5 come and that a quorum of this
6 Council is present. This Council
7 will now come to order.

8 Asking for all visitors
9 to please retire outside the rails.
10 Before proceeding, I will ask all
11 those present to please set your
12 cell phone to silent or vibrate.
13 Thank you. Please take all
14 conversations outside the Council
15 chambers.

16 To give our invocation
17 this morning, the Chair recognizes
18 Pastor Wilfredo Pedraza of One
19 Cross Church. He is here today as
20 the guest of the leader of the
21 Kensington Caucus, Councilwoman
22 Quetcy Lozada.

23 I will ask all members
24 and guests to please rise.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 (Councilmembers, guests
3 and visitors rise.)

4 PASTOR PEDRAZA: Hello.
5 How y'all doing. God bless, y'all.
6 Let's bow down our heads.

7 Heavenly Father, we give
8 you thanks in the name of Jesus.
9 Father, we ask you to put your
10 covenant over Philadelphia, Father
11 God. Father, we ask you to protect
12 the Council. Father, to protect
13 the Mayor, to protect the City of
14 Brotherly Love, Father God.

15 Father, give them
16 wisdom, give them understanding,
17 Father God. Father God, you picked
18 these people today, Father God, for
19 a reason. It's their season,
20 Father God. We ask in the name of
21 Jesus, Father, to give them peace,
22 to all the strength, to take them
23 up and give them peace and love and
24 understanding, Father God.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 Father, for they can
3 understand that you picked them for
4 they could be on top and not on the
5 bottom. For they can be in the
6 front and not in the back. For
7 they can be head and not tails.
8 For they can be winners and not
9 losers, Father God.

10 Father God, we ask you
11 in the name of Jesus, Father God,
12 in whatever they sign, Father.
13 Anoint their eyes, Father God, for
14 they can see things that the other
15 people cannot see, Father God.
16 Anoint their ears for they can be
17 able to hear your voice, Father
18 God. When they found themselves in
19 trouble, in danger, whatever,
20 Father God, for they can be able to
21 listen to your voice, Father God.

22 Anoint them. Anoint
23 their mouth, Father God, for they
24 can be bold and they can be able to

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 say things that other people do not
3 dare to say, Father God. Father,
4 anoint their hands, Father God.
5 That whatever they sign, Father
6 God, they can receive it by your
7 power, Father God.

8 Use this Philadelphia,
9 Father God, and protect the police
10 of Philadelphia, Father God. Give
11 them wisdom, hallelujah, Father,
12 because they're putting their
13 family to the side for they can
14 protect Philadelphia. Protect all
15 of us, Father God.

16 We give you glory, we
17 give you honor, Father God, because
18 I know that you picked them for
19 this season. In the name of the
20 Father, the Son and the Holy
21 Spirit, let the church say Amen.
22 God bless you.

23 (Amen.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 3/20/25 - STATED - APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

2 JOHNSON: Council will be at ease.

3 The Chair thanks the Pastor for his
4 invocation.

5 (Council at ease.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

7 JOHNSON: The next order of
8 business is the approval of the
9 Journal of the meeting of Thursday,
10 March 13th, 2025.

11 The Chair recognizes
12 Councilmember Cindy Bass.

13 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

14 Thank you, Mr. President.

15 I move that the Journal
16 of the meeting of Thursday, March
17 13, 2025 be approved.

18 (Duly seconded.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
21 properly seconded that the Journal
22 of the meeting of Thursday, March
23 13th of 2025 stand approved.

24 All those in favor of

1 3/20/25 - STATED - LEAVES

2 the motion will signify by saying
3 aye.

4 (Aye.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the
10 Journal is approved.

11 The next order of
12 business is the request for leaves
13 of absence.

14 The Chair recognizes
15 Majority Leader Katherine Gilmore
16 Richardson.

17 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

18 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
19 Mr. President.

20 On behalf of the
21 Majority, there are no requests for
22 leaves of absence today.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: The Chair thanks the

1 3/20/25 - STATED - MOTION REGARDING CALENDAR

2 Councilmember.

3 The Chair recognizes

4 Councilmember Brooks.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: On

6 behalf of the Minority party, there

7 are no requests for leaves of

8 absence today.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

11 The Chair thanks the

12 Councilmember.

13 The Chair now recognizes

14 councilmember Katherine Gilmore

15 Richardson for a motion concerning

16 certain legislative matters that

17 may arise during the course of

18 today's session of Council and that

19 were not listed on the Calendar

20 circulated prior to today's Council

21 session.

22 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

23 RICHARDSON: Thank you,

24 Mr. President.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - MOTION REGARDING CALENDAR

2 I move that any of the
3 following matters, if considered
4 today, may be added to the agenda
5 for this session of Council, and as
6 required by law, subsequently
7 published on an amended agenda
8 after the consideration of those
9 matters: resolutions authorizing
10 hearings, amendments to bills on
11 first reading, the reconsideration
12 of a bill vetoed by or re-called
13 from the Mayor, amendments to bills
14 re-called from the Mayor,
15 resolutions taking substantive
16 action to be voted on in this
17 session, a motion to withdraw a
18 bill or resolution that is not on
19 the Calendar and a motion placing a
20 bill or resolution on or returning
21 a bill or resolution from the
22 Suspension Calendar that is not
23 listed on today's Calendar.

24 The purpose of this

1 3/20/25 - STATED - MOTION REGARDING CALENDAR

2 motion is to provide the public
3 with notice concerning possible
4 actions by Council that arose too
5 late to be included on the Calendar
6 that was published prior to today's
7 session.

8 (Duly seconded.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: Thank you. It has been
11 moved and properly seconded that
12 the legislative matters stated by
13 Majority Leader Katherine Gilmore
14 Richardson, may be added to the
15 agenda for today should those
16 matters arise during the course of
17 this session of Council.

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

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPECIAL GUESTS

2 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the
3 motion carries.

4 The Chair will dispense
5 with the regular order of business
6 to recognize the guests and
7 visitors joining us in chambers
8 this morning. On behalf of all
9 members of City Council, I welcome
10 you to our Council session. We
11 appreciate your taking the time to
12 join us as we attend to the
13 legislative affairs of our great
14 city. We certainly invite you to
15 come again.

16 The Chair acknowledges
17 in the chambers today the Honorable
18 District Attorney Larry Krasner.
19 Thank you for joining us.

20 (Applause.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: The Chair also
23 acknowledges in our chamber today
24 the Honorable Alice Beck, Superior

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPECIAL GUESTS
2 Court Judge. Give her a round of
3 applause as well.

4 (Applause.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: At this moment the Chair
7 recognizes the gentleman from the
8 4th Councilmanic District, the
9 Honorable Councilman Curtis Jones,
10 Jr.

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

13 Please join me in
14 recognizing the ambassadors from
15 Roxborough High School who are here
16 to witness democracy at a local
17 level. Please stand.

18 Thank you,
19 Mr. President.

20 (Applause.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: Thank you. At this time,
23 the Chair recognizes Councilmember
24 Curtis Jones, who will present a

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS
2 resolution honoring and recognizing
3 the National Coalition of 100 Black
4 Women Inc. - Pennsylvania Chapter
5 on their Annual Legislative Day and
6 for their dedication of advancing
7 gender and racial equity and
8 empowering Black women during
9 Women's History Month.

10 Will Nyisha Chapman, the
11 President, and those accompanying
12 her please join the Councilmember
13 at the podium. Joining
14 Councilmember Jones are the ladies
15 of City Council; Councilmember
16 Kendra Brooks, Councilmember Jamie
17 Gauthier, Councilmember Cindy Bass,
18 Councilmember Katherine Gilmore
19 Richardson, Councilmember Quetcy
20 Lozada.

21 (Councilmembers and
22 guests approached podium.)

23 COUNCILMAN JONES: So
24 please join me in welcoming the

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 National Coalition of 100 Black

3 Women - Pennsylvania Chapter.

4 (Applause.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: Member Jones.

7 COUNCILMAN JONES: We

8 have always in this country been

9 led by strong women of color, going

10 back to Sojourner Truth or Harriet

11 Tubman, more recently with the

12 100th Mayor of the City of

13 Philadelphia as a member. Also in

14 these chambers in honor of Women's

15 History Month, don't forget

16 Dr. Ethel Allen who was the first

17 woman of color --

18 (Applause.)

19 COUNCILMAN JONES: And

20 Member O'Neill reminds us that she

21 was a Republican and wasn't --

22 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: And

23 an At-Large Councilmember.

24 COUNCILMAN JONES: Okay.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 And an At-Large. So for a very
3 long time we've been lucky,
4 fortunate, to be guided by a North
5 Star that women in this country
6 pointed to. To quote the famous
7 American philosopher Beyonce, she
8 asked the question, Who runs the
9 world?

10 (Girls.)

11 COUNCILMAN JONES: Yes.

12 But on a more serious note, I have
13 always talked to the brothers in
14 the barbershop and said, whoa, we
15 better get our game together
16 because they are running laps
17 around us. If you attend their
18 banquets or luncheons, if you
19 attend -- you're blessed to be able
20 to attend their workshop, they are
21 putting the work in to move us to
22 that North Star as a community, as
23 a city and as a nation. And,
24 therefore, be it another woman.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS
2 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE
3 RICHARDSON: Well, first thank you
4 so much to my District colleague
5 and member, Councilmember Curtis
6 Jones, for always recognizing the
7 women of the National Coalition of
8 100 Black Women - Pennsylvania
9 Chapter, which I am proud to be a
10 member of the Coalition joining in
11 '21, so shout-out to '21. But I
12 also wanted to remember and honor
13 the members of Philadelphia City
14 Council who were also members of
15 the National Coalition of 100 Black
16 Women - Pennsylvania Chapter,
17 Marian B. Tasco, the former
18 Councilwoman from the 9th
19 Councilmanic District; my mentor
20 Blondell Reynolds Brown who served
21 At-Large; and also our colleague
22 who you will hear from,
23 Councilmember Cindy Bass serving
24 the 8th District; as well as former

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS
2 Councilmember and now 100th Mayor
3 of the City of Philadelphia
4 Cherelle L. Parker.

5 I am so honored and
6 privileged to be a member and today
7 we are honoring and recognizing the
8 National Coalition of 100 Black
9 Women Inc. - Pennsylvania Chapter
10 on our Annual Legislative Day and
11 for our dedication to advancing
12 gender and racial equity and
13 empowering Black women during
14 Women's History Month;

15 Whereas, the Coalition
16 of Black Women was founded and
17 formed in 1970, by 24 visionary
18 Black women, led by Edna Beach,
19 gathered in New York City to
20 address social, economic and
21 political issues impacting their
22 families and communities, giving
23 rise to the Coalition of 100 Black
24 Women, a key organization dedicated

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS
2 to advancing gender and racial
3 equity; and -- and also must honor
4 the forever Councilwoman Jannie L.
5 Blackwell also member of the
6 Coalition; and

7 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

8 Whereas --

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: Okay.

11 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE: --

12 under Edna Beach's leadership --
13 yes, it's a brother up here too,
14 Council President.

15 Whereas, under Edna
16 Beach's leadership, the Coalition
17 addressed the root causes of
18 inequality, mobilized Black women
19 who shared their vision, and became
20 a visible force advocating for the
21 empowerment of Black women in both
22 the public and private sectors, of
23 which my beloved wife is of them;
24 and

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Smart man, smart man.

4 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: And

5 whereas, by 1981, the New York

6 Coalition had over 500 members, and

7 as they gained recognition, they

8 expanded their mission and vision

9 nationwide. On October 24th of

10 that year, the National Coalition

11 of 100 Black Women, Inc. was

12 formed, with Jewell Jackson McCabe

13 selected as their first National

14 President; and

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: The Chair also recognizes

17 Councilmember Rue Landau and Nina

18 Ahmad joining.

19 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS:

20 Whereas, in 1981 Jewel Jackson

21 McCabe encouraged Sylvia Webster of

22 Pennsylvania Chapter to a local

23 chapter. Embracing the idea,

24 Webster chartered the National

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc.

3 - Pennsylvania Chapter, with 42

4 progressive women; and

5 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

6 Whereas, over the years the

7 National Coalition of 100 Black

8 Women, Inc. -- PA Chapter

9 (NC100BWPA) has grown to 200

10 members and has worked tirelessly

11 to advocate for Black women and

12 girls, advancing leadership,

13 development, gender equity and

14 social justice, particularly in the

15 areas of health, education and

16 economic empowerment, while

17 empowering thousands of Black women

18 to lead in their communities,

19 workplaces and beyond; and

20 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

21 And whereas, NC100BWPA continues to

22 be a powerful voice of gender

23 equity and sociopolitical

24 advancement, driving meaningful

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS
2 change to benefit Black women and
3 girls. Additionally, NC100BWPA
4 plays a role in fulfilling the
5 National Coalition's vision of a
6 world where socioeconomic
7 inequality -- inequity does not
8 exist for Black women and girls;
9 and

10 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

11 Whereas, the National Coalition of
12 100 Black Women members consist of
13 a dynamic network of progressive
14 Black women, including physicians,
15 lawyers, educators, entrepreneurs
16 and other skilled professionals who
17 serve as change agents. They have
18 recognized various needs in the
19 Philadelphia community and
20 contributed in ways; including
21 advocating for racial and social
22 justice while striving to create a
23 positive impact in their
24 communities; and

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

3 Whereas, NC100BWPA remains
4 committed to mentoring leadership
5 development and fostering future
6 generations of Black women leaders,
7 recognizing that they are essential
8 to leadership continuity and must
9 continue to lead the charge in
10 effecting positive change; and

11 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

12 RICHARDSON: And whereas, the
13 National Coalition for 100 Black
14 Women - Pennsylvania Chapter's
15 continued success and impact are a
16 testament to the strength,
17 determination and vision of our
18 founders, who have bridged
19 generational gaps, created programs
20 that respond to the unique needs of
21 our communities and maintained a
22 steadfast focus on empowering Black
23 women through advocacy, education
24 and strategic partnerships; now,

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 therefore, be it

3 Resolved by the Council

4 of the City of Philadelphia, that

5 it hereby honors and recognizes the

6 National Coalition of 100 Black

7 Women, Inc. - Pennsylvania Chapter

8 for our tireless dedication to

9 advancing gender and racial equity

10 on wavering commitment to the

11 empowerment of Black women and our

12 significant contributions to

13 shaping the future of leadership

14 and advocacy for women of color

15 across the United States of

16 America. Congratulations and thank

17 you, Councilmember Jones.

18 (Applause.)

19 COUNCILMAN JONES:

20 Mr. President, a special shout-out

21 to Wilhelmina Moore and Charlita

22 Davis who makes me and you buy

23 tables every year.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes the
3 President, Council -- President
4 Nyima Chapman -- Nyisha Chapman.

5 MS. CHAPMAN: Thank you.

6 Thank you so much. Good morning,
7 Council President Johnson, members
8 of City Council and distinguished
9 guests. On behalf of the National
10 Coalition of 100 Black Women -
11 Pennsylvania Chapter, I am honored
12 to stand before you today as we
13 recognize our Annual Legislative
14 Day, a day dedicated to uplifting
15 the voices of Black women and
16 advocating for the policies that
17 shape our communities.

18 For over 43 years, our
19 Chapter has worked tirelessly to
20 advocate for equity, economic
21 justice, health, education and
22 civic engagement for Black women
23 and girls in the Philadelphia area
24 and surrounding counties. We know

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 that when Black women thrive, our
3 families, our neighborhoods and our
4 entire city prospers.

5 Today as we gather in
6 this chamber, we reaffirm our
7 commitment to partnership and
8 progress. We are here to engage,
9 to collaborate and to ensure that
10 the policies crafted within these
11 walls reflect the needs of the
12 people that we serve.

13 This year we are
14 especially focused on key
15 legislative priorities that will
16 impact thousands of Philadelphians,
17 including strengthening economic
18 opportunities for Black-owned
19 businesses by advocating for
20 stronger enforcement of minority
21 participation in City contracts,
22 addressing the affordable housing
23 crisis by supporting policies that
24 expand access and protect renters

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 from predatory practices, improving
3 Black maternal health by sustaining
4 and increasing our funding for
5 critical services that support
6 mothers and babies, ensuring
7 educational equity by calling for
8 transparency and reforms in school
9 discipline policies.

10 We believe that these
11 not only are not just -- sorry. We
12 believe these are not just policy
13 issues. These are moral
14 imperatives that demand our
15 collective action. City Council,
16 we thank you for your leadership
17 and your partnership in this work.
18 We look forward to continuing these
19 conversations today and in the
20 weeks and months ahead.

21 Together we can build a
22 Philadelphia that truly reflects
23 equity, access and opportunity for
24 all. We thank you again for this

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS
2 resolution and honor today and we
3 look forward to continuing to work
4 with you.

5 (Applause.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

7 JOHNSON: Council will be at ease.

8 (Council at ease.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes
11 Councilmember Quetcy Lozada.

12 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

13 Thank you, Council President.

14 As we celebrate Women's
15 History Month, I'd like you all to
16 help me welcome three guests to
17 chambers today who I'm also
18 recognizing with a privileged
19 resolution later on in session, but
20 wanted to welcome them and thank
21 them publicly for everything they
22 do in our community. That is
23 Elaine Gonzalez Johnson, please
24 stand, Bianca Solari and Coach Zha

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 Dadson.

3 (Applause.)

4 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

5 Thank you all, ladies. Thank you
6 ladies for changing the community
7 that we all serve.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: Thank you.

10 At this time, the Chair
11 recognizes Councilmember Brooks who
12 will present a resolution
13 recognizing March 20th, 2025 as
14 Children's First Day in the City of
15 Philadelphia.

16 (Applause.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: Would Donna Cooper and
19 those accompanying her please join
20 the Councilmember at the podium.
21 Joining Member Brooks are Members
22 O'Rourke, Squilla, Landau,
23 Phillips, Gauthier, Lozada, Gilmore
24 Richardson, Ahmad and Bass.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 (Councilmembers and
3 guests approached podium.)

4 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS:

5 All right. Thank you to my
6 colleagues who are joining me today
7 in celebrating Children First on
8 their 45th birthday. This
9 organization is a driving force
10 beyond so much of the work and
11 progress we've made for young
12 people over the past five decades.

13 From full day
14 kindergarten to SEPTA passes for
15 Philly students, many of the things
16 we take for granted today were made
17 possible through the work of
18 Children First. Year-after-year
19 they have spoken up for
20 Philadelphia's young people, laying
21 out the data, the research and the
22 detailed policy proposals that
23 compel elected leaders to invest in
24 our children.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 As a long-time education
3 activist, I know these wins are not
4 easy. I have seen Children First
5 take the fight for our children
6 from neighborhood elementary
7 schools all the way to the halls of
8 power in Harrisburg. Every time
9 we've had a win.

10 Children First has been
11 a part of the push that made it
12 happen. Their work has impacted
13 generations of Philadelphians and
14 will continue to brighten the
15 future of generations to come. I'm
16 so glad to have a chance to thank
17 and congratulate Executive Director
18 Donna Cooper and all the folks at
19 Children First for their lasting
20 contributions to the city.

21 Recognizing March 20,
22 2025 as Children First Day in the
23 City of Philadelphia.

24 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 Whereas, in 1978, Christie

3 "Cricket" Hastings, Ruth Madden,

4 Happy Fernandez, Marciene

5 Mattleman, Margaret Estey, Lucy

6 Sayre founded Philadelphia/Public

7 Citizens for Children and Youth,

8 PCCY, to ensure government agencies

9 and nonprofit institutions were

10 fulfilling their responsibilities

11 to improve the lives of the City's

12 youth; and

13 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

14 RICHARDSON: Whereas, PCCY

15 immediately formed a task force on

16 juvenile justice and has pushed for

17 dozens of reforms over the past 45

18 years, including leading the 2018

19 advocacy to create the Youth

20 Residential Placement Task Force

21 established in 2018, and the Youth

22 Ombudsperson's Office created in

23 2022 that added a layer of

24 protection for children who are

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 institutionalized; and

3 Whereas, PCCY's

4 inaugural report Status of Children

5 and Youth in Philadelphia in 1985,

6 establishing its reputation for

7 basing PCCY's advocacy efforts on

8 strong research and analysis, the

9 2025 report on the status of

10 children found that 47% of

11 Philadelphia's families need a

12 better partner in government to

13 meet the basic needs for healthy

14 child development of their

15 children; and

16 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

17 These citizen activists pushed to

18 redress the Rizzo administration's

19 legacy of disinvestment in

20 children, including failure to

21 repair playgrounds, reduction in

22 youth programs and hostility toward

23 Black teens who protested for

24 better public schools; and

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

3 Whereas, PCCY played a multi-decade
4 role in meeting the health care
5 needs of children, including
6 persuading the City to create three
7 teen-focused health clinics,
8 providing more than 10,000 children
9 free eye exams and dental care,
10 playing a leadership role in the
11 state's enactment of the Children's
12 Health Insurance Program, which is
13 CHIP, in 1992 and its current
14 statewide campaign addressing the
15 needs of 147,000 uninsured
16 children; and

17 Whereas, in 1990 PCCY
18 sought to address the lifetime
19 consequences of childhood lead
20 poisoning, paving the way for City
21 Council to pass groundbreaking
22 legislation lead poisoning
23 prevention ordinances in 2012 and
24 2018 that reduced childhood

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 exposure to lead by more than 50%;

3 and

4 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

5 Whereas, PCCY successfully

6 petitioned to get every city pool

7 open for the summer of 1989 and in

8 1993 to dramatically expand the

9 summer playstreets program that now

10 provides safe spaces for play and

11 summer meals for children living on

12 nearly 350 blocks in the city; and

13 Whereas, in 1995 Mayor

14 Rendell credited PCCY for

15 convincing him to make full-day

16 kindergarten universally available.

17 Mayor Street in response to a PCCY

18 call to action created the Office

19 of Early Childhood Education in

20 1999. And in 2022, Mayor Kenney

21 backed the organization's call for

22 universal PreK, paving the way for

23 the Philly PreK program that now

24 serves more than 5000 children; and

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

3 Whereas, in 1998 when new stadiums
4 were being constructed, PCCY worked
5 with leaders and Council to ensure
6 that \$1 of every ticket sold at new
7 venues would support afterschool
8 programs for children, generating
9 more than \$20 million for youth
10 programs; and

11 Whereas, in 2003 PCCY
12 convinced the state that funding
13 rural transit but not Philadelphia
14 school transit was unfair. 65,000
15 public school students now travel
16 to school for free in Philadelphia
17 just like peers across the state;
18 and

19 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:

20 Whereas, PCCY led the effort to
21 amend the Home Rule Charter in 2007
22 to create the Philadelphia Youth
23 Commission, which continues to give
24 21 youth leaders and their peers a

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 formal perch to advise Council and
3 the Mayor;

4 Whereas, youth and
5 parents call on PCCY to tackle
6 educational quality, making the
7 case to improve reading instruction
8 which calls PCCY to partner with
9 UAC to form the READ by 4th
10 Campaign, and parents and youth
11 demanded access to mental health
12 services for children and youth, a
13 cause now being advanced by the
14 newly-minted Strong Minds Bright
15 Futures Partnership; and

16 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

17 Whereas, PCCY ran successful
18 campaigns to allocate 1% of the
19 sales tax and a portion of the
20 cigarette tax to generate more than
21 \$170 million annually for public
22 schools and champion the sweetened
23 beverage tax, which supports 352
24 Philly PreK programs, paid for the

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS
2 upgrade of more than 30 recreation
3 centers with 40 more in the
4 pipeline and funds 20 Community
5 Schools; and

6 Whereas, in 2021 PCCY
7 changed its name to Children First
8 to reinforce its mission of putting
9 children first in public policy and
10 practices. Philadelphia is a
11 better place because of the focused
12 mission and advocacy efforts of
13 Children First; and

14 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:
15 Whereas, since 1980 Children First
16 has rallied thousands of parents to
17 call on elected officials to do
18 more to meet the needs of children,
19 helping them make demands on City
20 Council every year and taking bus
21 loads of Philadelphians to
22 Harrisburg; and

23 Whereas, in the last 10
24 years these advocacy efforts caused

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 the state and city to increase
3 investments in Philadelphia's
4 children by more than 2 billion;
5 and

6 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

7 Whereas, since its earliest years
8 the organization benefited from
9 long-serving, visionary and
10 uniquely dedicated leaders starting
11 with Shelly Yanoff who led the
12 charge for children there for 25
13 years, followed by her successor
14 Donna Cooper who has been here at
15 the helm for 13 dedicated years;
16 now, therefore, be it

17 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS:

18 Resolved that the Council of the
19 City of Philadelphia hereby
20 recognizes March 20, 2025, as
21 Children's First Day in
22 Philadelphia. Further resolved
23 that an Engrossed copy of this
24 resolution be presented to Children

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 First as an expression of gratitude
3 and admiration of the Council of
4 the City of Philadelphia.

5 (Applause.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

7 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes Donna
8 Cooper.

9 MS. COOPER: Thank you
10 very much. Especially, thank you
11 Councilperson Brooks, for being the
12 sponsor of this resolution. I've
13 never spoken from this point of
14 view. This is fascinating. I'm
15 usually over there.

16 So I want to say this
17 Council was formed 73 years ago,
18 and this is your I think 19th
19 Councilmanic session. And for
20 two-thirds of the life of this
21 Council, PCCY or Children First has
22 been here working side-by-side with
23 you, and we're grateful to all of
24 your effort to work with us.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 You'll notice that many
3 of us are wearing white sneakers
4 today, and we are doing that
5 because the names that Councilman
6 O'Rourke referenced, they walked
7 these halls with sneakers because
8 they knew the fight for kids had to
9 be tireless and they didn't want
10 their feet to get tired. So today
11 we wear them and we'll probably
12 keep wearing them because it's so
13 much better.

14 Only eight years after
15 we were founded, the great Marian
16 Tasco was elected to this Council.
17 And for 28 years she served on
18 behalf of the citizens of
19 Philadelphia and she and the great
20 Shelly Yanoff were joined at the
21 hip, advancing legislation for
22 kids.

23 And in 2000, another
24 champion for kids was elected,

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS
2 Blondell Reynolds Brown. And I
3 know Blondell wanted to be here
4 today. She and I spoke last week
5 but she could not come, but
6 together with Marian they were a
7 dynamic duo using every tool in the
8 tool book to pass legislation for
9 kids in every session. And they
10 were helped by Councilman Jones,
11 Councilwoman Blackwell,
12 Councilperson Happy Fernandez, John
13 Street, Maria Quinones-Sanchez and
14 Helen Gym, all used their positions
15 to help Marian and Blondell make it
16 possible for the great work you
17 heard about in our resolution.

18 We can only do as good
19 as our Councilpersons are. Well,
20 I'm very grateful to this Council
21 for taking the time to call out our
22 accomplishments because I know your
23 schedule is so busy. I want to
24 thank the Council as a body, you

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 now and your predecessors for
3 working with us to boldly stand up
4 for children.

5 Your courage and vision
6 has caused stadium owners and
7 landlords and lawyers and insurance
8 companies and large companies, at
9 times a reluctant megger, to stoop
10 down to the eye level of children
11 and from that vantage point see
12 that they have a role in playing to
13 give the children of the city what
14 they need to grow up and run our
15 city and for them to become the
16 stadium owners, the lawyers, the
17 landlords, the insurance companies,
18 the Councilpersons and even the
19 Mayor. That's our goal.

20 From the youth sports
21 leagues that build the leadership
22 that many of you see as how you got
23 your start as young leaders to the
24 superlative high schools that I

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS
2 hear you speak about, that you
3 graduated from and owe your start,
4 to the protections offered by our
5 health centers and social services
6 that some of you have relied on
7 when things were hard, to the
8 leadership opportunities, even
9 those you created today with the
10 students from Roxborough High that
11 create an opportunity for children
12 to see democracy in action.

13 Children First is
14 grateful for what you do and we
15 stand with you continue to make it
16 possible. And there's so much more
17 we need to do together. We're
18 inspired by the work in this
19 session of Councilpersons Phillips
20 and Landau to give our kids a
21 better second chance and we hope
22 that the great Alice Beck and Larry
23 Krasner will become champions with
24 them in our changes that we hope

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 for juvenile justice.

3 Councilperson Gilmore

4 Richardson was the technician who

5 crafted the most protective lead

6 ordinance in the nation and we will

7 rely on her expertise and

8 leadership to do all we can to get

9 that number of children poisoned by

10 lead to zero.

11 We are a partner in this

12 Council with the great persons

13 Councilpersons Brooks and Isaiah

14 Thomas working together to make our

15 schools better and to deliver on

16 educational justice. And we are

17 partners with Councilperson Squilla

18 and our great Council President

19 Kenyatta Johnson, who champion the

20 need to give every child in this

21 city access to great high-quality

22 PreK. These Councilpersons do what

23 they do because they have the

24 cooperation and support of all of

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 their colleagues. They are not
3 doing this alone and we know that
4 we have you as our partners.

5 We are deeply grateful
6 to each of you, every one of you
7 members of Council. And as Shelly
8 Yanoff would say at the close of
9 every day, I hope you will continue
10 and we will all continue to ask
11 ourselves what are we doing for
12 kids today. Thank you.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 MS. COOPER: With the
17 permission of the Council
18 President, I am very grateful to
19 introduce Jasmine Jones to you, one
20 of our parent --

21 MS. BANKS: (Inaudible).

22 MS. COOPER: Sorry?

23 MS. BANKS: (Inaudible).

24 MS. COOPER: Huh?

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS:

3 (Gestured).

4 MS. COOPER: Yeah.

5 Jasmine to you, my apologies. And
6 because she's a parent advocate and
7 what we're doing, we do with
8 parents every day in the city and I
9 hope you listen to her carefully.

10 (Applause.)

11 MS. BANKS: Good
12 morning. My name is Jasmine Banks,
13 and I am a grateful Children's
14 First parent advocate. I am also a
15 person who has raised 15, yes, 1-5
16 children, and I have adopted five
17 older sons. So I stand here today
18 before you as an at-risk parent
19 during Women's History Month to
20 honor and acknowledge one of the
21 most amazing and influential
22 organizations in my life, that
23 being Children's First, a powerful
24 organization which is celebrating

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 45 years of supporting youth like
3 mine.

4 And I happen to agree
5 with former Philadelphia Mayor and
6 Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell
7 who said that Donna Cooper, the
8 powerful Executive Director of
9 Children's First, is the conscience
10 and soul of his administration.

11 However, I'd like to add and I
12 strongly believe that many other
13 Children's First parent advocates
14 would agree with me that the entire
15 hard-working, dedicated and
16 committed staff at Children's First
17 under the leadership of Donna
18 Cooper collectively are the
19 conscience and soul of all parents
20 in Philadelphia.

21 In short, I say this
22 because they are also approachable,
23 courageous, ethical, inspiring,
24 serves as role models, teachers and

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS
2 mentors. And what is most
3 impressive to me is that they are
4 also integrative, always involving
5 parents and caregivers in all of
6 their initiatives and connecting us
7 to opportunities to learn, grow,
8 heal and serve. And it is these
9 combined qualities that places them
10 into a league of their own, causing
11 them to stand out from other
12 nonprofits and community-based
13 organizations. And despite all of
14 these attributes and all of these
15 years of dedicated service to our
16 youth, they and now we, since I am
17 now a part of Children's First
18 forever, continue to face
19 tremendous resistance with
20 providing basic and essential,
21 dedicated funding to support our
22 most vulnerable youth, like
23 maintaining the soda tax for
24 example.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 However, I assure you
3 that we will not give up nor will
4 we go away. Although the struggle
5 continues, victory is certain.
6 Thank you for allowing me to share.

7 (Applause.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: Council will be at ease.

10 (Council at ease.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: Before we move on to the
13 next order of business, the Chair
14 wants to acknowledge the birthday
15 of our colleague Councilmember Jim
16 Harrity. Give him a round of
17 applause.

18 (Applause.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: And Councilmember Mike
21 Driscoll. Give him a round of
22 applause.

23 (Applause.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 3/20/25 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 JOHNSON: And also, Mike Driscoll's
3 dad turns 101 years old today.

4 (Applause.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: That's them good genes.
7 Happy birthday members.

8 The next order of
9 business is Communications. The
10 Chair requests that the Sergeant-
11 at-Arms deliver the messages from
12 the Mayor to the Chief Clerk.

13 Will --

14 CHIEF CLERK: To the
15 President -- sorry, go ahead.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: Will the Chief Clerk
18 please read the message from the
19 Mayor and any other communication
20 in her possession.

21 CHIEF CLERK: To the
22 President and members of the
23 Council of the City of
24 Philadelphia, I am submitting

1 3/20/25 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS
2 herewith for the consideration of
3 your Honorable body the following
4 proposed ordinance repealing in
5 their entirety the following
6 ordinances, all approved on
7 December 23, 2024: Bill No. 240966
8 (granting the necessary
9 authorizations for the City to help
10 facilitate development of a new
11 arena for the Philadelphia 76ers);
12 Bill No. 240967 (authorizing the
13 execution of a Service Agreement
14 between the City and PAID); and
15 Bill No. 240968 (authorizing the
16 striking of Filbert Street from
17 10th Street to 11th street from the
18 City Plan); Bill No. 240969
19 (authorizing striking certain
20 aerial portions of 10th Street
21 between Market Street and Filbert
22 Street from the City Plan); Bill
23 No. 240970 (authorizing the
24 construction and maintenance of

1 3/20/25 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS
2 various right-of-way encroachments
3 in the vicinity of the proposed
4 arena); Bill No. 240963 (amending
5 the existing Gallery of Market East
6 Tax Increment Financing District in
7 the area of the proposed arena);
8 and Bill No. 240973 (approving the
9 amendment of a Neighborhood
10 Improvement District in the area of
11 the proposed arena); and

12 An ordinance repealing
13 in its entirety Bill No. 240972
14 (approved December, 23 2024)
15 entitled "An Ordinance amending
16 Title 14 of The Philadelphia Code,
17 entitled "Zoning and Planning," by
18 revising certain provisions of
19 Section 14-906, entitled "Market
20 Street East Sign Regulations," all
21 under certain terms and
22 conditions;" and

23 An ordinance repealing
24 in its entirety Bill No. 240971

1 3/20/25 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS
2 (approved December 23, 2024)
3 entitled "An Ordinance amending
4 Title 14 of The Philadelphia Code,
5 entitled "Zoning and Planning," by
6 amending certain definitions
7 relating to signs; creating an
8 "Arena Area" with the "/CTR, Center
9 City Overlay District" overlay; and
10 making related changes, including a
11 master plan requirement and changes
12 to accessory sign controls, all in
13 connection with the zoning rules
14 for a proposed Arena in Center
15 City; and approving a master plan
16 for the Arena Area, all under
17 certain terms and conditions;" and
18 A resolution authorizing
19 the Philadelphia Land Bank to
20 dispose of 708 North Sedgwick
21 Street, 710 North Sedgwick Street,
22 714 and 723 North Sedgwick Street
23 located in the 3rd Councilmanic
24 District, in accordance with the

1 3/20/25 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS
2 terms of Chapter 16-700 of The
3 Philadelphia Code.

4 And I am pleased to
5 advise you that on March 19, 2025,
6 I signed the following bills which
7 were passed by Council at its
8 session on March 6, 2025: Bill
9 Nos. 241081, 241083, 241107,
10 250002, 250004, 250005, 250006,
11 250007, 250008, 250009, 250046,
12 250047, 250048, 250049, 250069 and
13 250070.

14 Council President, there
15 are no further communications in my
16 possession.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
18 JOHNSON: Thank you. The messages
19 will be printed in the Journal.

20 The next order of
21 business is the introduction of
22 bills and resolutions.

23 The Chair recognizes
24 Councilmember Dr. Anthony Phillips.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:

3 Thank you, Council President. Good
4 morning, colleagues. Good morning,
5 members of the viewing public.

6 Today I have no bills or
7 resolutions for introduction today.

8 Thank you, Mr. President.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: Thank you.

11 The Chair recognizes
12 Majority Councilmember Katherine
13 Gilmore Richardson.

14 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

15 RICHARDSON: Good morning, Council
16 President. Good morning,
17 colleagues.

18 Nothing today.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: Thank you.

21 The Chair recognizes
22 Councilmember Jamie Gauthier.

23 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

24 Good morning, Council President.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Today I have one

3 non-privileged resolution.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

6 Will the Chief Clerk

7 please read the title of the

8 non-privileged resolution.

9 CHIEF CLERK: A

10 non-privileged resolution

11 authorizing the Philadelphia Land

12 Bank to dispose of 708, 710, 714,

13 and 723 North Sedgwick Street

14 located in the 3rd Councilmanic

15 District in accordance with the

16 terms of Chapter 16-700 of The

17 Philadelphia Code.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

19 JOHNSON: This resolution will be

20 placed on the Final Passage

21 Calendar for consideration at the

22 next session of Council.

23 The Chair recognizes

24 Councilmember Majority Whip Isaiah

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Thomas.

3 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Good
4 morning, Council President. Good
5 morning, colleagues. Good morning
6 to the listening public.

7 Today I have three
8 privileged resolutions. Thank you,
9 Council President.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

12 Will the Chief Clerk
13 please read the title of the
14 privileged resolutions.

15 CHIEF CLERK: A
16 privileged resolution recognizing
17 March as National Nutrition Month
18 in the City of Philadelphia to
19 raise awareness of the importance
20 of nutrition education and healthy
21 eating habits, and to recognize the
22 contributions of veteran community
23 partnership in promoting health and
24 wellness.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

6 CHIEF CLERK: And a
7 privileged resolution recognizing
8 March 2025 as "Creative and
9 Nighttime Economies and Arts in
10 Education Month" in the City of
11 Philadelphia.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

16 CHIEF CLERK: And a
17 privileged resolution authorizing
18 the Committee on Legislative
19 Oversight to hold hearings on the
20 status conditions, operations and
21 economic factors at the
22 Philadelphia Museum of Art to
23 ensure the future of this City
24 cornerstone as we prepare to

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 welcome the world in 2026.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

4 JOHNSON: This resolution will be

5 placed on today's Final Passage

6 Calendar.

7 The Chair recognizes the

8 gentleman from the 4th Councilmanic

9 District, Councilmember Curtis

10 Jones.

11 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank

12 you, Mr. President.

13 On your behalf, I

14 introduce one privileged resolution

15 and five non-privileged resolutions

16 on my own behalf.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

19 Will the Chief Clerk

20 please read the titles of the

21 privileged and non-privileged

22 resolutions.

23 CHIEF CLERK: A

24 privileged resolution honoring the

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 Victim/Witness Services of South
3 Philadelphia for 35 years of
4 dedicated service to those affected
5 by violence in South Philadelphia
6 and across the City.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

11 CHIEF CLERK: And a
12 non-privileged resolution
13 appointing Malika Rahman to the
14 Citizen's Police Oversight
15 Commission.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: This resolution will be
18 placed on the Final Passage
19 Calendar for consideration at our
20 next session of Council.

21 CHIEF CLERK: And a
22 non-privileged resolution
23 appointing Gilberto Gonzalez to the
24 Citizen's Police Oversight

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 Commission.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

8 CHIEF CLERK: And a
9 non-privileged resolution
10 appointing Michelle Enix-Kenney to
11 the Citizen's Police Oversight
12 Commission.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

18 CHIEF CLERK: And a
19 resolution, a non-privileged
20 resolution, appointing LaTanya
21 Whitehead to the Citizen's Police
22 Oversight Commission.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: This resolution will be

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 placed on the Final Passage
3 Calendar for consideration at our
4 next session of Council.

5 CHIEF CLERK: And a
6 non-privileged resolution
7 re-appointing Haakim Peay to the
8 Citizen's Police Oversight
9 Commission.

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

15 The Chair recognizes
16 Councilman Rue Landau.

17 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:
18 Good morning, Council President,
19 colleagues and the public.

20 I have two privileged
21 resolutions and one non-privileged
22 resolution. And I ask to be
23 recognized for just a second on one
24 of the privileged resolutions upon

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 its reading.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

4 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes --
5 the Chair asks the Clerk to please
6 read the titles of the privileged
7 and non-privileged resolutions.

8 CHIEF CLERK: A

9 privileged resolution honoring the
10 life and legacy of the honorable
11 Phyllis W. Beck, retired judge of
12 the Superior Court, who was a
13 treasured member of the
14 Philadelphia legal community,
15 philanthropist, trailblazer and
16 mentor.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes
19 Councilmember Rue Landau.

20 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

21 Thank you so much, Council
22 President.

23 I just wanted to take
24 one moment to recognize the life

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 and legacy of Judge Phyllis Beck.
3 She was a trailblazer. She broke
4 so many boundaries and she was a
5 mentor, a friend and just an
6 incredible colleague of the legal
7 community. She was a mentor of
8 mine.

9 I was a Beck Fellow when
10 I taught at Temple Law School.
11 We're so honored to have her
12 daughter here, Judge Alice Beck
13 Dubow, as well as her niece --

14 (Applause.)

15 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU: --
16 and so many of her friends as well
17 who we'll hear during public
18 comment. Thank you so much for
19 that moment.

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

24 CHIEF CLERK: A

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 privileged resolution declaring
3 March 17th through March 21st,
4 2025, as National LGBTQ Health
5 Awareness Week in the City of
6 Philadelphia.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

11 CHIEF CLERK: And a
12 non-privileged resolution
13 condemning President Donald J.
14 Trump and his administration for
15 their decision to suspend income-
16 driven student loan repayment plans
17 and for politicizing the Public
18 Service Loan Forgiveness program to
19 target advocates working to oppose
20 his anti-immigrant, anti-trans and
21 anti-free speech agenda.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Calendar.

3 The Chair recognizes

4 Councilmember Quetcy Lozada.

5 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

6 Thank you, Council President.

7 Bienvenidos a todos. Today I offer

8 one privileged resolution.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

11 Will the Chief Clerk

12 please read the title of the

13 privileged resolution.

14 CHIEF CLERK: A

15 privileged resolution honoring and

16 recognizing women in the City of

17 Philadelphia who are leading

18 impactful initiatives in health,

19 wellness and fitness that empower,

20 connect and uplift women.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: This resolution will be

23 placed on today's Final Passage

24 Calendar.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 The Chair recognizes the
3 gentleman from the 5th Councilmanic
4 District, Councilmember Jeffrey Jay
5 Young.

6 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Thank
7 you and good morning,
8 Mr. President. Good morning,
9 colleagues.

10 No bills or resolutions
11 today.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
13 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

14 The Chair recognizes
15 Minority Councilmember Kendra
16 Brooks.

17 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS:
18 Thank you, Council President.
19 I have one privileged
20 resolution to introduce today.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
22 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.
23 Will the Chief Clerk
24 please read the title of the

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 privileged resolution.

3 CHIEF CLERK: A
4 privileged resolution honoring and
5 expressing gratitude to Nicole
6 Bartlett for her work helping
7 grieving families cope with loss
8 and mentoring young women in
9 Philadelphia and across the country
10 on the occasion of Women's History
11 Month.

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

16 The Chair recognizes the
17 birthday boy Councilmember Jim
18 Harrity.

19 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:
20 Council President, I have nothing
21 today.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
23 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

24 The Chair recognizes

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Minority Whip Councilmember

3 Nicholas O'Rourke.

4 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

5 Thank you, Mr. President.

6 I have nothing to

7 introduce today.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes the

10 next birthday boy Councilmember

11 Mike Driscoll.

12 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

13 Thank you, Mr. President.

14 I have one privileged

15 resolution today.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

18 Will the Chief Clerk

19 please read the title of the

20 privileged resolution.

21 CHIEF CLERK: A

22 privileged resolution honoring the

23 dedicated employees of the

24 Philadelphia Gas Works in

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 recognition of Natural Gas Utility
3 Workers' Day on March 18, 2025.

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

8 The Chair recognizes
9 Councilmember O'Neill.

10 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL:
11 Thank you, Mr. President.

12 I offer two bills.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
14 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.
15 Will the Chief Clerk
16 please read the titles of the
17 bills.

18 CHIEF CLERK: An
19 ordinance amending Chapter 12-900
20 ("Parking Regulations and
21 Penalties") and Chapter 12-2800
22 ("Administrative Adjudication of
23 Parking Violations") of The
24 Philadelphia Code, revising

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 penalties related to parking
3 certain large vehicles, including
4 boats, motor homes, house coaches,
5 house trailers, truck campers,
6 recreational cargo trailers and
7 recreational trailers, under
8 certain terms and conditions.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

13 CHIEF CLERK: And an
14 ordinance amending Section 2 of an
15 Ordinance (Bill No. 220454),
16 approved November 30, 2022,
17 entitled "An Ordinance Authorizing
18 the vacating of Krewstown Road from
19 Norwalk Road to its terminus
20 southwestwardly therefrom, under
21 certain terms and conditions," by
22 extending the period for compliance
23 with the terms and conditions
24 stated therein.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: This bill will be

4 referred to the appropriate

5 committee.

6 The Chair recognizes

7 Councilmember Mark Squilla.

8 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

9 Thank you, Mr. President.

10 I offer three bills on

11 your behalf.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

13 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

14 Will the Chief Clerk

15 please read the titles of the

16 bills.

17 CHIEF CLERK: An

18 ordinance repealing in its

19 entirety, Bill No. 240972 (approved

20 December, 23, 2024) entitled "An

21 Ordinance amending Title 14 of The

22 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Zoning

23 and Planning," by revising certain

24 provisions of Section 14-906,

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 entitled "Market Street East Sign
3 Regulations," all under certain
4 terms and conditions."

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

9 CHIEF CLERK: And an
10 ordinance repealing in its entirety
11 Bill No. 240971 (approved December
12 23, 2024) entitled "An Ordinance
13 amending Title 14 of The
14 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Zoning
15 and Planning," by amending certain
16 definitions relating to signs;
17 creating an "Arena Area" within the
18 "Center City Overlay District"
19 overlay; and making related
20 changes, including a master plan
21 requirement and changes to
22 accessory sign controls; all in
23 connection with the zoning rules
24 for a proposed arena in Center

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 City; and approving a master plan
3 for the Arena Area, all under
4 certain terms and conditions."

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

9 CHIEF CLERK: And an
10 ordinance repealing in their
11 entirety the following Ordinances,
12 all approved December 23, 2024:
13 Bill No. 240966 (granting the
14 necessary operations for the City
15 to help facilitate development of a
16 new arena for the Philadelphia
17 76ers); Bill No. 240967
18 (authorizing the execution of a
19 Service Agreement between the City
20 and PAID); Bill No. 240968
21 (authorizing striking Filbert
22 Street from 10th Street to 11th
23 Street from the City Plan); Bill
24 No. 240969 (authorizing striking

1 3/20/25 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 certain aerial portions of 10th
3 Street between Market Street and
4 Filbert Street from the City Plan);
5 Bill No. 240970 (authorizing the
6 construction and maintenance of
7 various right-of-way encroachments
8 in the vicinity of the proposed
9 arena); Bill No. 240963 (amending
10 the existing Gallery at Market East
11 Tax Increment Financing District in
12 the area of the proposed arena);
13 and Bill No. 240973 (approving the
14 amendment of a Neighborhood
15 Improvement District in the area of
16 the proposed arena).

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

21 The Chair recognizes
22 Councilmember Cindy Bass.

23 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

24 Thank you, Mr. President.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - REPORTS

2 I offer no bills or
3 resolutions this week.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

6 The Chair recognizes
7 Councilmember Dr. Nina Ahmad.

8 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

9 Good morning, Council President,
10 colleagues.

11 I have no bills or
12 resolutions today.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

15 The next order of
16 business is reports from committee.

17 The Chair recognizes Councilmember
18 Bass for a report from the
19 Committee on Rules.

20 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

21 Thank you, Mr. President.

22 The Committee on Rules
23 reports out one bill with a
24 favorable recommendation.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

4 Will the Chief Clerk
5 please read the report.

6 CHIEF CLERK: To the
7 Committee on Rules to which were
8 referred the following bill: Bill
9 No. 240333, an ordinance amending
10 Section 14-533 of The Philadelphia
11 Code, entitled "Mixed-Income
12 Neighborhoods Overlay District," to
13 update the illustrative maps to
14 reflect recent redistricting
15 changes, all under certain terms
16 and conditions, respectfully
17 reports it has considered the same
18 and returns the attached bill to
19 Council with a favorable
20 recommendation.

21 There are no further
22 bills to report out from the
23 Committee on Rules, Council
24 President.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes
4 Councilmember Bass for a motion.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

6 Thank you, Mr. President.

7 I move that the rules of
8 Council be suspended to permit
9 first reading this day of Bill
10 No. -- of the bill just read into
11 the record by the Chief Clerk.

12 (Duly seconded.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

23 (Aye.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 3/20/25 - STATED - BILLS ON 2ND READING

2 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: The ayes have it. The
6 motion carries. This bill will be
7 placed on our First Reading
8 Calendar for today.

9 The next order of
10 business is the consideration of
11 the Calendar. I note that the
12 bills just reported from committees
13 with suspension of rules have been
14 deemed to have had a first reading.
15 These bills will be placed on the
16 Second Reading and Final Passage
17 Calendars for the next session of
18 Council.

19 As there are no
20 additional bills on the First
21 Reading Calendar, the Chair
22 recognizes Councilmember Gilmore
23 Richardson for the purpose of
24 calling up bills and resolutions on

1 3/20/25 - STATED - BILLS ON 2ND READING
2 the Second Reading and Final
3 Passage Calendars.

4 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE
5 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
6 Mr. President.

7 The following bills and
8 resolutions are being called up
9 from the Second Reading and Final
10 Passage Calendars today: Nos.
11 250221, 240427-AA, 250100 and
12 250147.

13 The following bills and
14 resolutions on the Calendar are
15 being held: 250168 and 240665.
16 250066 is being amended.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: Thank you.

19 Before considering these
20 bills and resolutions, we will
21 consider public comment as follows:
22 Your public comment must concern
23 matters on the Second Reading and
24 Final Passage Calendars for

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 possible action at today's Council
3 session.

4 All speakers must sign
5 up in order to testify. If you
6 have not already signed up for
7 today's session, please do so now
8 by giving your name to Ms. Hasson
9 at the table outside the rails to
10 my left. Once you have signed up,
11 you will be called in the order in
12 which your name appears on the
13 sign-up sheet.

14 Under ideal
15 circumstances, public commenters
16 each will have three minutes to
17 speak. However, this time limit
18 may vary from session-to-session.
19 Due to today's volume, the time
20 limit will be two minutes. In
21 order to be fair to all those
22 wishing to speak, I intend to hold
23 faithfully to the two-minute limit.

24 When you begin speaking,

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 you will see a green light on the
3 podium. When there are 30 seconds
4 remaining to your time, the light
5 will turn yellow, which is your
6 reminder to conclude your remarks.
7 Once two minutes have passed, the
8 light will turn red and the
9 Sergeant-at-Arms will disconnect
10 the microphone.

11 At that point, please
12 yield the podium to the next
13 speaker if you have not already
14 done so. I also reserve the right
15 pursuant to our rules of Council to
16 limit repetitious comments on the
17 same subject matter.

18 I would now ask the
19 Chief Clerk to please read the name
20 of our first speaker.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Judge
22 Alice Beck Dubow. May Jeremy
23 Blatstein, Kate Perez, Kenneth
24 Bare, Susan Post and Garrett

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 O'Dwyer also make their way to the
3 podium.

4 (Witnesses approached
5 podium.)

6 JUDGE BECK DUBOW: Okay.

7 Thank you. I'm Alice Beck Dubow.

8 I'm Phyllis Beck's daughter. I'm
9 here speaking on behalf of the
10 resolution honoring the life of my
11 mom who recently passed away. I
12 just wanted to start by thanking
13 Councilman Landau for introducing
14 this resolution that honors my
15 mother's life.

16 The admiration that my
17 mother had for Councilwoman Landau
18 was mutual. She was thrilled that
19 Councilwoman Landau was a Beck
20 scholar at Temple Law School, which
21 meant that when Councilwoman Landau
22 ran for City Council we had no
23 choice, we had to vote for
24 Councilwoman Landau, and she was

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 thrilled that she won.

3 I also do want to thank

4 City Council as a whole for

5 considering this resolution. My

6 mom cared deeply about

7 Philadelphia. She cared most

8 deeply about government and

9 politics and City Council. It's

10 what she talked about a lot.

11 Some of you may know I'm

12 married to Rob Dubow, who is the

13 Finance Director. And I think I

14 might have been her special child

15 because Rob and I came to dinner

16 every Sunday night, and the first

17 question out of her mouth was, So,

18 Rob, what's going on in the city?

19 And Rob always had some insight

20 into what was going on.

21 So I just want to thank

22 you so much for considering this.

23 It's really meaningful to me and my

24 brothers and my sisters and her

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 friends and her grandkids because
3 this is an institution that she had
4 tremendous respect for, and we
5 really appreciate your making the
6 effort to pass a resolution
7 regarding her life. So thank you.

8 (Applause.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: Thank you.

11 MR. BLATSTEIN: Hello,
12 City Council. My name is Jeremy
13 Blatstein. We're talking about two
14 different bills today. The first
15 bill is 240427-AA. It's the
16 nonconformity bill. There's been a
17 lot of pushback. Obviously, 7 out
18 of 10 Districts are against this
19 bill. They've opted out.

20 Why? Because it's going
21 to be a burden on L&I and the ZBA.
22 The ZBA is already backed up. To
23 put this bill in there now is not a
24 good idea. So I challenge each and

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 every one of you to actually take a
3 stand because it's not going to
4 just affect these three districts.
5 It's going to affect the whole city
6 of Philadelphia. It's going to
7 force more properties to go to the
8 ZBA.

9 It is going to put an
10 undue burden on small businesses
11 and on your constituents. So I
12 really, really, really, really do
13 think you should really look at
14 voting no for this bill. It's not
15 something that's just going to
16 affect these three districts,
17 because every time you go to the
18 ZBA, guess what happens? It's
19 going to take three to six months,
20 and it's going to be backed up and
21 it's not going to end well for your
22 constituents. So you can say, oh,
23 I'm going to opt my district out,
24 councilmanic prerogative.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Ooh, councilmanic
3 prerogative, we love that. But
4 this is a time where you actually
5 could use the reverse councilmanic
6 prerogative, you At-Large members,
7 and take a stand and let's rework
8 this and figure out how to fix this
9 bill.

10 All right. The last
11 thing we're talking about, we're
12 talking about SEPTA. Raise your
13 hand if you rode SEPTA in the last
14 week. Oh, the glorious City
15 Council President Johnson and me
16 caught the Broad Street Line from
17 Tasker-Morris up to City Hall.

18 (Applause.)

19 MR. BLATSTEIN: We like
20 to ride the ride. It really is
21 important to fund SEPTA, right.
22 SEPTA is crucial to our city and I
23 really appreciate you this morning
24 riding. And I really think that

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 it's something that should be
3 worked into each of your schedules.
4 Ride it once a week. Ride the ride
5 and let's grow Philly to 2 milli.
6 Thank you.

7 CHIEF CLERK: We have
8 Kate Perez, Kenneth Bare, Susan
9 Post, Garret O'Dwyer. And may
10 David Ford and Michael McDonough
11 also make their way to the podium.

12 (Witnesses approached
13 podium.)

14 MS. PEREZ: Kate Perez.
15 Condemning cuts to the Housing and
16 Urban Development Department and
17 asking us to take it a step further
18 and condemn Trump bypassing
19 Congress to bomb Yemen, targeting
20 medical facilities and killing more
21 than 151 civilians in just two
22 days.

23 We have an unelected
24 foreign billionaire gutting fair

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 housing and social programs,
3 forcing Americans to fight for
4 resources instead of taxing the
5 wealthy. During our housing,
6 employment and education crisis, we
7 should also condemn Trump's prior
8 knowledge and more than \$12 billion
9 of material support to the
10 occupation's full resumption of its
11 ethnic cleansing campaign on
12 Tuesday, that all comes at the
13 expense of the American taxpayer.
14 Hamas offered to return
15 the hostage for a permanent truce,
16 and our sister city slaughtered
17 more than 970 civilians in just two
18 days, mostly children. Using
19 Google and Amazon's Project Nimbus,
20 the IOF know exactly who was in the
21 building and where making each
22 murder a deliberate choice that our
23 taxes paid for instead of
24 sustaining fair housing in our

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 country. All aid to Gaza has been
3 cut off since March 2nd.
4 Surgeries, intubations and
5 amputations done while patients are
6 wide awake and still Philadelphia
7 has done nothing to stop
8 manufacturers or ports in our city
9 from shipping more missiles and
10 robot dogs.

11 This resolution
12 reaffirms the City's commitment to
13 protect the rights of our most
14 vulnerable residents. Our
15 administration is using AI to comb
16 through social media accounts and
17 using McCarthy-era tactics to label
18 activists and immigrants terrorist
19 sympathizers or gang-affiliated to
20 immediately strip their rights and
21 have ICE detained, deport or
22 disappear people without proof or
23 due process.

24 Protecting our rights

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 means creating more safety nets as
3 the administration continues to
4 tear them down, creating offices to
5 take over their work, enacting rent
6 freezes, sanctuary policies,
7 refusing the presence of ICE,
8 refusing to conflate anti-Zionism
9 with anti-Semitism.

10 We normalize apartheid
11 and genocide by maintaining our
12 sister city's relationship, and
13 Fetterman accepting a silver-plated
14 beeper from an internationally
15 wanted war criminal. Cruelty we
16 send abroad turns inward as Temple
17 admin bring in PPD to surveil
18 Jewish voices for peace. Arms
19 embargo now. Free Palestine.

20 (Applause.)

21 MR. BARE: Good morning.
22 My name is Kenneth Bare. I'm here
23 on behalf of Bill No. 250221. I'm
24 a member of POWER Interfaith, okay,

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 thank you, which is representing
3 Arch Street United Methodist
4 Church, which is in Councilmember
5 Squilla's District. There are many
6 different housing issues
7 confronting the city, but I am most
8 concerned about making improvements
9 for the homeless and ensuring that
10 they minimally have consistent
11 roofs over their heads.

12 The overall housing
13 action plan for Philadelphia has an
14 impressive series of ways to
15 improve the housing status for
16 those who already have owned or
17 rented residents. The truly
18 homeless have a much smaller array
19 of services.

20 A homeless individual
21 can be provided emergency shelter
22 during extreme cold weather. Their
23 visits to intact or drop-in centers
24 may provide them meals, medical

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 services, showers, laundry,
3 et cetera. Otherwise on a day-to-
4 day basis, that individual must
5 seek and maybe find shelter at
6 night beneath a bridge, over a
7 grate or in an abandoned building.
8 These transitory, unstable and
9 discouraging settings contribute to
10 stress and worsening physical,
11 mental, behavioral and emotional
12 health.

13 In conclusion, we want
14 to partner with you, Councilmember
15 Squilla, to endeavor to solve these
16 problems. We'll be hosting a town
17 hall in your District this spring,
18 and we hope you'll join us to begin
19 this partnership. Thank you very
20 much.

21 (Applause.)

22 MS. POST: Good morning.
23 My name is Susan Post. I am
24 reading a testimony on behalf of my

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 friend and neighbor, Ms. Carol
3 Junious over here and she's the
4 mother of Nicole Bartlett who's
5 being honored today with a special
6 resolution for Women's History
7 Month.

8 In her mother's words,
9 Nicole Bartlett is indeed an
10 excellent person to celebrate
11 during this Women's History Month
12 in our city. Her extremely
13 wonderful life and contributions to
14 the people of Philadelphia have
15 been exceptional in many ways.

16 My daughter Nicole was
17 born in Philadelphia and attended
18 Catholic School in Hunting Park,
19 graduating from Little Flower
20 Catholic High School for Girls.
21 She later attended Mercer Community
22 College. From the beginning,
23 Nicole has always been strong in
24 what she believes. She is deeply

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 influenced by her father George
3 Junious, who has recently deceased,
4 to become the woman that she is
5 today.

6 She played an important
7 role in her life -- he did, and
8 they were always very close. While
9 Nicole was a young adult with the
10 passing of her little brother, she
11 chose to become a funeral director
12 and to help those experiencing the
13 loss of loved ones. But her first
14 business venture was a business
15 called Shop and Deliver, delivering
16 food to people at home.

17 God is first in Nicole's
18 life and that's why we are here
19 today, because he has made the path
20 for her to follow and her path has
21 blessed many people. She is
22 raising three children, Jordan,
23 Darren Jr. and Kylie with her
24 husband Darren who is always right

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 there at her side with all that she
3 does.

4 Nicole and Darren and
5 their children work together as a
6 family. They have opened day cares
7 in addition to the funeral home.
8 Beyond all this, they are looking
9 to care for the needs of their
10 community. Nicole's funeral work
11 in particular offers dignity and
12 space for families to celebrate the
13 lives of their loved ones.

14 Her work extends beyond
15 the funeral work to help families
16 in many ways to process grief,
17 which has been so important to the
18 people in her community. She's
19 provided grief classes, insurance
20 classes and assistance and has
21 gotten food and clothing.

22 In fact, Nicole went as
23 far as feeding families at
24 St. Christopher's Hospital for the

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 night. She keeps in touch with
3 families that are still grieving.
4 She started an event around
5 Valentine's Day each year when
6 families can gather letters written
7 to their loved ones in balloons
8 that are released. Everyone in the
9 community has lost someone -- okay.
10 Her father and I, Ms. Carol
11 Junious, have walked with her as
12 she has traveled this road, and we
13 are very proud of her. Nicole, you
14 make our community proud. Keep up
15 the good work.

16 (Applause.)

17 CHIEF CLERK: We have
18 Garret O'Dwyer, David Ford, Michael
19 McDonough. May John Busby, Tess
20 Feiler and Kate Esposito also make
21 their way to the podium.

22 (Witnesses approached
23 podium.)

24 MR. O'DWYER: Good

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 morning, Council President Johnson
3 and members of City Council. My
4 name is Garrett O'Dwyer and I'm the
5 Associate Policy Director for the
6 Philadelphia Association of
7 Community Development Corporations
8 or PACDC. Thank you for the
9 opportunity to offer testimony and
10 support Resolution 250221,
11 condemning staffing and budget cuts
12 at the United States Department of
13 Housing and Urban Development.
14 PACDC is a leading voice
15 in nonprofit community development
16 organizations in Philadelphia and
17 our members are responsible for
18 addressing key affordable housing
19 needs across the city. We know the
20 importance of having an adequately
21 staffed and funded HUD and the
22 important role these professionals
23 play in administering programs and
24 funding.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 It is through
3 partnerships with public servants
4 at all levels of government that we
5 have made significant progress
6 towards building a more equitable
7 Philadelphia. We share your
8 outrage at these proposed cuts,
9 they are cruel and they are
10 senseless. Now is the time for
11 strong local leadership to defend
12 our affordable housing gains and
13 protect our most vulnerable and
14 at-risk residents.

15 PACDC and our membership
16 stand ready to work with you to
17 ensure that this work continues
18 whatever may come. Thank you again
19 for the opportunity to testify in
20 support of this resolution.

21 (Applause.)

22 MR. FORD: Good morning.
23 Majority Leader Richardson, members
24 of Council. My name is David Ford

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 and I serve as the Vice-President
3 of External Affairs at the
4 Philadelphia Gas Works. With me
5 today from our management team are
6 Nyisha Chapman and Ken Anderson.
7 We also have -- Mike McDonough's
8 going to be speaking for us in a
9 minute from Local 686, and our
10 Chief of Staff was here a little
11 bit earlier, Melanie McCottry. On
12 behalf of our President and CEO
13 Seth Shapiro who sends his regrets
14 for not being able to attend today,
15 I'm speaking on behalf of PGW to
16 thank Council for recognizing our
17 workers on the occasion of Natural
18 Gas Utility Workers Day.

19 We are deeply
20 appreciative of Councilmember
21 Driscoll, happy birthday, for
22 introducing the resolution and hope
23 to have support of all members of
24 Council. On a personal note this

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 resolution means a lot to me, as I
3 had the privilege of working as a
4 staff member in this body for half
5 of my career for Councilmembers
6 Happy Fernandez and Blondell
7 Reynolds Brown.

8 That history has given
9 me the perspective of how hard-
10 working each and every one of you
11 are on behalf of the citizens of
12 Philadelphia. So knowing how hard
13 you all work, it's tremendously
14 meaningful to PGW employees that
15 you recognize our work on behalf of
16 the 500,000 customers that we have
17 across Philadelphia. Every day the
18 men and women of PGW ensure safe,
19 reliable, affordable and
20 sustainable service for
21 Philadelphians from service visits
22 to our homes and businesses to
23 extraordinary events, like being
24 among the first to arrive at the

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 scene of the recent plane crash in
3 Northeast Philadelphia.
4 PGW employees have
5 efficiently and bravely served the
6 people of Philadelphia since our
7 founding in 1836. I'll close by
8 mentioning one of the main things
9 we are proud of is our work on the
10 behalf of our low-income customers.
11 And thank you to Councilmembers
12 Landau, Brooks, Harrity, Lozada and
13 Bass who have done videos in
14 collaboration with us for LIHEAP,
15 and I think there's a couple more
16 coming in that are in the pipeline.
17 And we have an event next Wednesday
18 the 26th that we're collaborating
19 with Speaker McClinton.
20 Information is on your desks for
21 that. And we also would welcome to
22 collaborate with you any and all
23 times for the people of
24 Philadelphia. Thank you so much

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 for the recognition.

3 (Applause.)

4 MS. McDONOUGH: Good

5 morning, Councilwoman Richardson --

6 good morning, Councilwoman

7 Richardson and Council. My name is

8 Mike McDonough. I'm the Vice-

9 president of the (inaudible)

10 Workers Union Local 686 UWUA.

11 Today I'm joined by my union

12 brothers from the Executive Board,

13 Joe McGarrity, Jesse Gill and Jim

14 Bacon.

15 On behalf of our

16 President Keith Holmes, who cannot

17 be here to attend, and all the

18 hard-working union members of Local

19 686, we are honored and humbled to

20 receive this recognition by City

21 Council. Thank you, Councilman

22 Driscoll, for introducing the

23 resolution and honoring the natural

24 gas utility workers. And we

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 encourage all members of City
3 Council to please vote yes on this
4 resolution.

5 Local 686 members
6 include our field operations
7 employees working in the streets of
8 Philadelphia, our gas-processing
9 members who refine and deliver the
10 product and our army of customer
11 call center representatives that
12 professionally and efficiently
13 field nearly 1 million service
14 calls every year.

15 Additionally, our union
16 office workers help with
17 distributing over \$80 million in
18 social service support to
19 Philadelphians who need assistance.
20 Our field operations employees
21 proudly built, maintained and
22 restored 6000 miles of natural gas
23 infrastructure, infrastructure that
24 runs our city, heats our homes and

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 businesses and cooks our food, all
3 while keeping Philadelphian safe.

4 Local 686 has been
5 providing these services since our
6 Local's founding in 1937. We are
7 proud that our partnership with PGW
8 Local 686 secured economic
9 stability for generations of
10 families in Philadelphia,
11 throughout good-paying union jobs.
12 We look forward to serving our
13 customers and the City of
14 Philadelphia for years to come.
15 Thank you again.

16 (Applause.)

17 CHIEF CLERK: We have
18 John Busby, Tess Fieler, Kate
19 Esposito. May Barbara Gurley,
20 Julian Rios and Michael Caine also
21 make their way to the podium.

22 (Witnesses approached
23 podium.)

24 MR. BUSBY: Hello,

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 everyone. My name is John Busby.
3 I'm a member of POWER Interfaith,
4 and I want to address Bill No.
5 250221. Arch Street United
6 Methodist Church is in District 1,
7 Mark Squilla's District. And we
8 would like to invite him to a town
9 hall later in the spring. We want
10 to partner with him.

11 I also work at Arch
12 Street United Methodist Church as a
13 sexton. I deal with homeless our
14 population every day signing people
15 in, and I feel a deep appreciation
16 for their struggles because I
17 myself was homeless nine years ago
18 so I know what it's like. I've
19 been there. So that gives me a
20 unique opportunity to help this
21 population.

22 I'm also concerned with
23 our unhoused people population
24 because homelessness is increasing

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 in the last couple of years and we
3 see many, many more guests every
4 day. We register them into the
5 system. So I know it's a problem
6 and I really am concerned for the
7 homeless population because we're
8 living in a city where affordable
9 housing is going through the roof,
10 in a city that is the most poorest.
11 So please -- it is time to act now.

12 I would also like to
13 invite every Councilmember to come
14 over Monday through Thursday in the
15 morning to see what we're doing
16 over there. It's important work.
17 Thank you.

18 (Applause.)

19 MS. FEILER: Hi. My
20 name is Tess Feiler speaking in
21 support of Bill 250221. I'm also a
22 member of POWER Interfaith,
23 representing Arch Street United
24 Methodist Church which is in

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 Councilmember Squilla's District.
3 Arch Street's a
4 nonprofit. The center is a drop-in
5 center providing daytime services
6 to our unhoused, unsheltered
7 neighbors. I'm sure you all see
8 the line outside of the building,
9 either walking by it to or from
10 City Hall. You can literally look
11 out that window right now and see
12 the line coming in for our lunch
13 hour.

14 As a Director of
15 Congregational and Community
16 Development, I'm responsible for
17 advocating on behalf of my
18 congregation and the unhoused folks
19 that I provide case management for
20 every day. We might all know
21 someone who is unhoused. Maybe we
22 were unhoused or got close to it or
23 had we not had family or friends to
24 stay with, we also would have been.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 I'm actually closer to homelessness
3 than to owning my own home and I
4 earn a full-time salary.

5 I applaud our City

6 Councilmembers advocating for
7 rental assistance and application
8 fee limits and looking into AMIs.

9 I'm also incredibly afraid. Since
10 the Kensington encampment sweeps,
11 we have seen 1000, 1000 new
12 participants. I complete their
13 housing assessments. I help them
14 complete applications to restore
15 their lost or stolen IDs. I sit on
16 the phone with them for 40 minutes
17 their entire session waiting on
18 hold with the County Assistance
19 Office. And I'm here because I
20 need you to reduce and remove
21 barriers to allow our unhoused and
22 unsheltered neighbors to not fall
23 through the cracks, because housing
24 justice is not justice if it isn't

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 justice for everyone.

3 We recently shared some
4 solutions at Council President
5 Johnson's roundtable, and we've
6 invited him to come and take a
7 morning to talk to people and hear
8 their actual stories. And in
9 conclusion, we also want to partner
10 with you, Councilmember Squilla, to
11 try and solve these problems.

12 We'll be hosting a town hall in the
13 District in the spring, and we hope
14 you'll join us to begin this
15 partnership. And I also invite any
16 of you to spend a morning with us
17 and hear directly from your own
18 house constituents who can't get in
19 to testify because their IDs have
20 been stolen or thrown out amid
21 streetsweeps. Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23 MS. ESPOSITO: Good

24 morning -- good afternoon. My name

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 is Kate Esposito. I am a member of
3 POWER Interfaith. I represent the
4 Philadelphia Ethical Society, which
5 is in Council President Kenyatta
6 Johnson's District. I am deeply
7 concerned about the rising rent
8 costs, property taxes and increased
9 displacement in our city.

10 I've had conversations
11 with several people in my
12 congregation and neighborhood who
13 are also concerned and some of them
14 have experienced homelessness or
15 near homelessness. So I wanted to
16 thank Councilmember Landau for this
17 resolution, 250221, condemning the
18 defunding of HUD which will have a
19 devastating effect on the City's
20 poor and working families who are
21 in desperate need of housing.

22 It is why the City has
23 to step up and do everything
24 possible to solve this housing

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 crisis. In conclusion, we want to
3 partner with Council President
4 Johnson to try and solve these
5 problems. We will be hosting a
6 town hall in his District in the
7 spring at the Salt & Light Church.
8 We hope he'll be joining us to
9 continue this partnership. Of
10 course, the rest of Council is also
11 welcome. Thank you very much for
12 your time.

13 (Applause.)

14 CHIEF CLERK: We have
15 Barbara Gurley and Julian Rios,
16 Michael Caine. May Nicole
17 Bartlett, Darren Bartlett, Reverend
18 Stephanie Evans and Margie Witts
19 also make their way to the podium.

20 (Witnesses approached
21 podium.)

22 MS. GURLEY: Hi. My
23 name is Barbara Gurley and I'm a
24 member of POWER Interface

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 representing Old First United
3 Church of Christ, which is in
4 Councilman Squilla's District. I'm
5 deeply concerned about the rising
6 rent costs, property taxes and
7 increased displacement in our city.

8 I've had conversations
9 with people in my congregation and
10 neighborhood and they're concerned
11 too. I lived in my apartment
12 building for almost 36 years. My
13 building was located in West
14 Philly. It was old and had a lot
15 of issues and I could not afford to
16 move. I was hoping to eventually
17 move into senior housing. I'm
18 retired from the City of
19 Philadelphia Library system, and I
20 get a pension and Social Security.
21 I live check-to-check and have
22 almost no savings.

23 May 5, 2024 my apartment
24 building caught fire. My brother

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 was living with me until he got
3 senior housing. I stayed in the
4 Red Cross for three days and my
5 brother went to stay with his
6 friend. My building was condemned.
7 The property owner gave me back
8 May's rent plus utilities. The
9 organization where I volunteer
10 rented a townhouse on a college
11 campus. I could stay until August
12 1st, until the students returned.
13 The rent at the
14 townhouse was low and I was able to
15 save money to get an apartment. My
16 income is too high for senior
17 housing. There's at least a
18 two-year waiting list. Apartments
19 for rent are online, and I don't
20 have the computer skills to fill
21 that out so I had held filling out
22 the applications, including
23 scanning my signature. The only
24 apartment was available to rent by

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 August 1st was a studio in
3 Germantown. It was the only
4 apartment I could afford in that
5 building. Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: Buenos dias, Good
9 morning, Councilmembers. My name
10 is Julian Rios. I am the Bilingual
11 Collective Impact Coordinator at
12 Ceiba, a coalition building
13 organization in Philadelphia's
14 Latino community, and the backbone
15 to the Latino Equitable Development
16 Collective.

17 We applaud City Council
18 for considering Resolution 250221,
19 calling attention to and seeking to
20 stop the devastating cuts to
21 staffing and funding at HUD. These
22 cuts will worsen Philadelphia's
23 affordable housing crisis and
24 disproportionately harm vulnerable

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 communities.

3 We want to take
4 advantage of this opportunity to
5 also applaud City Council for
6 working with the Mayor on the
7 Housing Opportunities Made Easy
8 Initiative. The cuts in HUD
9 staffing and funding highlight the
10 importance of putting together a
11 strong home initiative.

12 We also urge you to keep
13 enhancing Philadelphia's capacity
14 to produce affordable housing by
15 reforming the Philadelphia Land
16 Bank and by supporting our
17 community development corporations.
18 CDC is our community-based agents
19 of change that address the
20 challenges of affordable housing in
21 many ways, not just through brick-
22 and-mortar work. Muchos gracias
23 for the opportunity to speak with
24 you today and for keeping the dream

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 of affordable housing alive for
3 many people in Philadelphia.

4 (Applause.)

5 MR. CAINE: Good
6 afternoon. My name is Michael
7 Caine. I am also from POWER. I'm
8 actually the Board Co-chair of
9 POWER, the largest interfaith
10 organizing effort in Pennsylvania
11 and I'm the pastor at Old First
12 Reformed United Church of Christ.

13 In 1986, the Mayor asked
14 congregations to open their doors
15 to homeless folks because the City
16 didn't have enough beds. We were
17 the first congregation to do it.
18 We did it all the way through until
19 two years ago when we started
20 building Old First House, permanent
21 supportive housing for chronically
22 homeless people.

23 We're about ready to
24 welcome the first residents in.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 We've done that with the help of
3 Councilman Squilla, funding from
4 the City and the federal
5 government. We're very, very
6 thankful for that. But we know
7 that 34 apartments isn't going to
8 make the kind of difference we need
9 in this city with our homeless
10 folks.

11 I decided because of our
12 affordable housing campaign of
13 POWER that I was going to begin
14 speaking to the homeless people
15 that we serve each week about the
16 issues in their housing, and the
17 stories are all over the place with
18 all kinds of difficulties.

19 The one I want to tell
20 you today is just to give you a
21 flavor of what it's like on the
22 street. So there's a woman named
23 Stephanie that has been coming to
24 us for years, was homeless for

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 years, finally got a house. It's
3 government funding for a private
4 apartment, but the building wasn't
5 in very good shape.

6 Last week there was a
7 fire there. Stephanie can't go
8 back, kind of like my parishioner
9 Barbara's story. There was a fire
10 there, in part because the
11 building's not kept very well and
12 the doors don't lock, and so people
13 also looking for home come in.

14 Now, the City's come in
15 and realize there's all kinds of
16 funding -- all kinds of issues with
17 the building so it can't open.
18 Stephanie is a transwoman who
19 doesn't find herself safe in
20 shelters and she's now back on the
21 streets. We're going to be having
22 a meeting with Councilman Squilla
23 and we hope to keep working with
24 our Councilman and all the Council

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 to solve this problem. Thank you.
3 (Applause.)

4 CHIEF CLERK: We have
5 Nicole Bartlett, Darren Bartlett,
6 Reverend Stephanie Evans, Margie
7 Witts. And may Zha Dadson, Bianca
8 Solari and Elaine Gonzalez Johnson
9 also make their way to the podium.
10 (Witnesses approached
11 podium.)

12 REVEREND EVANS:
13 Reverend Stephanie Evans.

14 MS. WITTS: My name is
15 Margie Witts.

16 REVEREND EVANS: And
17 we're here on behalf to speak and
18 honor Nicole Bartlett, who we've
19 known since she was a child and
20 grew up in the neighborhood, and
21 has exceeded beyond our wildest
22 dreams all her achievements.

23 Nicole and my daughter
24 grew up together, Dr. Ayesha

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Adolphus and Nicole have really
3 come -- in Philadelphia, been an
4 asset and been valuable to the city
5 and the improvement of the city.
6 Nicole served as a beacon of hope
7 for grieving families in the
8 Nicetown, Logan, Germantown,
9 Huntington Park areas and beyond.

10 Nicole assists families
11 beyond homegoing services. Her
12 ministry has allowed families to
13 grieve with grace. That is a
14 genuine social responsibility and
15 accountability. She's building
16 generational wealth in the
17 community and a legacy for her own
18 children.

19 She's creating a piece
20 of Wall Street right here in the
21 4400 block of North Germantown
22 Avenue -- Councilwoman Cindy Bass,
23 pay attention. She's a wife,
24 mother, sister, beautiful daughter,

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 a compassionate visionary and a
3 savvy business woman, community
4 liaison for the betterment of
5 family, friends and community.
6 She's example of the Philadelphia
7 sisterly brotherly love -- sisterly
8 affection and brotherly love. And
9 she is a woman history-maker here
10 in Philadelphia in March of 2025.

11 I'm just going to leave
12 you with a scripture partially of
13 Proverbs 31 Woman. I'm not going
14 to read the whole thing, but this
15 is so Nicole: She brings her food
16 from afar. She also arises while
17 it is yet night, and she provides
18 food for her household and a
19 portion for her maid service. She
20 considers a field and buys it; from
21 her profit she plants a vineyard.

22 She girds herself with
23 strength and strengthen her arms.
24 She perceives that her merchant is

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 good and her lamp does not go out
3 at night. She stretches out her
4 hands to the distaff, and her hands
5 hold the spindle. She extends her
6 hands to the poor. Yes, she
7 reaches out for the hands of the
8 needy. She is not afraid of snow
9 for our household, for all her
10 household is clothed with scarlet.
11 She makes tapestry for herself.
12 Her clothing is fine
13 linen and purple. Her husband is
14 known in the gates. She makes
15 linen and garments and she sells
16 them. She shall rejoice in the
17 time to come. She opens her mouth
18 with wisdom, and on her tongue is the
19 law of kindness.
20 She watches over her
21 ways of her household and does not
22 eat the bread of idleness. Her
23 children rise up and call her
24 blessed, her husband also and

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 praises her. Many daughters have
3 done well but she excels them all.
4 Charm is deceitful and beauty is
5 passing.

6 But a woman who fears
7 the Lord, she shall be praised.
8 Give her of her fruit of her hands
9 and let her own works praise her in
10 the gates and in the city of
11 Philadelphia.

12 MS. WITTS: Amen.

13 (Applause.)

14 MS. DADSON: Good
15 morning, everyone. My name is Zha
16 Dadson, but many know me as Coach
17 Zha. I'm a mother of two, a Nike
18 trainer, certified Pilates
19 instructor and lifelong advocate of
20 wellness. Movement has been at my
21 heart. Movement has been at the
22 heart of my journey, not just as a
23 passion but as a means of
24 empowerment, healing and community.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Standing here today

3 receiving this resolution from the

4 city that raised me is a full-

5 circle moment. I was born and

6 raised in West Philadelphia where

7 my journey and movement began at 8

8 years old at Point Breeze

9 Performing Arts Dance Center.

10 Dance led me to the Creative and

11 Performing Arts High School.

12 And from there, I went

13 to Spelman College where I studied

14 Comparative Women's Studies, an

15 experience that deepened my

16 understanding of representation in

17 the spaces where we deserve to take

18 up. For a long time, I believe

19 success meant leaving. I pursued a

20 career in creative production,

21 working in brands like Nike,

22 Ogilvy, Kamp Grizzly and

23 Westbrook.

24 And while living in New

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 York City, I trained for the New
3 York City Marathon, a journey that
4 led me to start run clubs in
5 Brooklyn and Oregon, creating space
6 for those often overlooked in
7 fitness. But despite all of that,
8 it wasn't until I returned to
9 Philadelphia, became a mother and
10 truly stepped into my calling that
11 I realized what fulfillment
12 actually meant.

13 Through Coach Zha
14 Pilates Club and Wellness Crawl, my
15 mission has been to disrupt the
16 norms of wellness, ensuring that
17 Black women and men feel seen,
18 supported and limitless. Whether
19 in a Pilates studio, a solid core
20 class, a wellness retreat in Ghana,
21 West Africa or a citywide event, my
22 goal is the same, to build
23 community, access and empowerment
24 through movement.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Toni Morrison once said,

3 Your real job is that if you are

4 free, you need to free somebody

5 else. If you have some power, then

6 your job is to empower somebody

7 else. That is the heart of my

8 work, to create space where it

9 didn't exist, to lift as I climb

10 and to make sure that wellness is

11 not just a privilege but a right.

12 I wouldn't be here today without

13 the people who have shaped me.

14 To my mother who is here

15 with me today, thank you for

16 showing me resilience and for

17 always believing in me. To my

18 children, you are my greatest

19 motivation, my reason for pushing

20 forward and for my daily reminder

21 of what that truly means. And to

22 Philadelphia, thank you for giving

23 me the ambition and the dream to

24 the foundation to make those dreams

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 a reality. The City has given me
3 the best chapters of my life and
4 I'm honored to give back to it.

5 And to anyone who has
6 ever felt like success was out of
7 reach, like the space you deserve
8 didn't exist, let this be your
9 reminder that you don't have to
10 wait for permission. Create it,
11 claim it, you belong here. To
12 those pushing for change in their
13 own way, keep going, your work
14 matters. Thank you to Quetcy
15 Lozada and the City of Philadelphia
16 for this honor. Thank, y'all.

17 (Applause.)

18 MS. SOLARI: Good
19 morning, everyone. Thank you so
20 much for having me. Councilwoman
21 Lozada, I'm truly grateful and
22 honored to have the opportunity to
23 share about my journey and the work
24 we're doing at Philly Girls Who

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Walk.

3 My name is Bianca
4 Solari, and I've been living in
5 Philadelphia for the past nine
6 years. When I first moved to this
7 city, I was passionate about
8 participating in group fitness
9 classes as a way to not only stay
10 healthy but to meet new people who
11 have since turned into lifelong
12 friends.

13 Despite my love for
14 fitness, I still struggled with
15 unhealthy habits and battled with
16 my mental health. In November of
17 2021, I made the decision to
18 embrace sobriety. This wasn't just
19 a shift in my lifestyle, it was a
20 complete transformation that
21 allowed for a new life and led to
22 creating Philly Girls Who Walk in
23 May of 2022.

24 What started as an idea

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 for a healthy, free activity for me
3 and my friends has blossomed into
4 something much more. What began
5 with a few walks around the city
6 has turned into a thriving
7 community. And since then, we've
8 expanded into book clubs, social
9 events and more.

10 We also partner with
11 local gyms and businesses to offer
12 opportunities for our members to
13 try new activities and explore ways
14 to enhance their physical and
15 mental health. We're more than
16 just a walking group. Philly Girls
17 Who Walk has become a space where
18 women can support each other and
19 inspire each other to live their
20 most authentic lives.

21 The connections we make
22 along the way are invaluable, and
23 they remind me every day that we
24 are all in this together. While I

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 run this group alone, I am nothing
3 without the support of my friends
4 and the businesses and the people
5 who believe in our mission,
6 especially Councilwoman Lozada,
7 thank you so much. And together,
8 we are creating a healthier, more
9 connected Philadelphia one step at
10 a time. Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 CHIEF CLERK: We have
13 Elaine Gonzalez. May David
14 Alexander Jenkins, Haley Ann
15 Schiller, Adam Mazeika, Jared
16 Marxuach and Matt Carrieri also
17 make their way to the podium.

18 (Witnesses approached
19 podium.)

20 MS. GONZALEZ JOHNSON:
21 Good morning, everyone. My name is
22 Elaine Gonzalez Johnson, and I'm
23 here to discuss the resolution
24 proposed by the amazing

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Councilwoman Quetcy Lozada,
3 honoring and recognizing women in
4 the city of Philadelphia who are
5 leading impacting initiatives in
6 health, wellness and fitness.

7 As we celebrate Women's
8 History Month, I want to remind you
9 of one of the most powerful things
10 we can do as women, prioritize our
11 wellness. This is why I created
12 Latinas in Motion, a community
13 where women of color, specifically
14 Latinas, could prioritize wellness,
15 supporting each other in health and
16 sisterhood.

17 This is why I also
18 launched the Crown and Grace
19 Women's Ministry at Response to
20 Grace Church to give women a space
21 to nourish their faith, build
22 community and grow spiritually.
23 This is also why I'm the host of
24 the Mogul Mami Podcast, where I

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 share tips and tools about

3 achieving whole life success and

4 creating harmony.

5 With every single thing

6 that I do and being exactly who I

7 am, I am often told that I do too

8 much. But I'm here to remind every

9 woman in this room, keep taking up

10 space. We are created with so much

11 purpose. We have talent, skills,

12 gifts and God-given anointing.

13 It's our responsibility to use

14 every single thing God has given

15 us.

16 And here is what I know

17 for sure, wellness isn't just

18 physical. It's about finding

19 balance in every single season of

20 our lives. This month let's honor

21 the women who have come before us

22 by taking care of ourselves,

23 standing in our power and reminding

24 each other that we are worthy of

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 health, we are worthy of joy and we
3 are worthy of peace. Because when
4 we thrive as women, our families
5 thrive, our communities thrive, and
6 we truly change the world.

7 (Applause.)

8 MR. JENKINS: Thank you,
9 Madam Chair. David Alexander
10 Jenkins. I arrive in favor of the
11 resolution introduced by
12 Councilmember Landau, condemning
13 our dear leader for reprehensible
14 actions concerning housing and
15 urban development.

16 Philadelphia, we are
17 under attack. A war on our
18 communities has begun slashing
19 funding for the U.S. Department of
20 Housing and Urban Development, an
21 institution borne out of the weary
22 years and silent tears of all of
23 us, which was created to ensure
24 every American has a safe and

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 affordable housing.

3 We declare and defend
4 that we in Philadelphia are not
5 comfortable leaving working
6 families, seniors and most
7 vulnerable people out in the cold
8 and that we are a city where
9 Housing Authority provides 12,850
10 public housing units and where an
11 additional 22,600 families receive
12 housing vouchers, a city where
13 approximately 800,000 neighbors
14 reside in housing owned and
15 supported by the PHA, a city that
16 still has a population of 5000
17 unhoused residents.

18 We declare again and
19 again and again from this very
20 chamber that with a resounding
21 voice that housing, Mr. Trump, is
22 not a privilege. It is a right.
23 It was Lyndon B. Johnson who
24 founded HUD as a part of his great

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 society, a vision for America where
3 economic and radical inclusion
4 recognized a historically and
5 systematically marginalized nation.

6 Some 60-short years on
7 we are fed a pervasive lie, one
8 that dishonors the dignity of the
9 marginalized one who, for many of
10 us, whose ancestors were stolen,
11 beaten, enslaved or running away
12 from tyranny, built this very
13 nation a lie bound to the idea that
14 in some way, shape or form, we are
15 made better by this root
16 mislabeled, misrepresented as
17 efficiency.

18 No, make no mistake,
19 this is not efficiency. This is a
20 calculated act of cruelty, one that
21 will gut our communities, displace
22 our families, and escalate the
23 housing crisis already gripping our
24 city to levels unprecedented. No,

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 no, no, this is not efficiency

3 unless you a spell efficiency,

4 e-v-i-c-t-i-o-n, because this is an

5 eviction by design.

6 It is not lost on me nor

7 should it be lost on you that we

8 wake up in a city in America

9 promised forged the city upon a

10 hill, a beacon of justice, equality

11 of opportunity, a city that is no

12 stranger to the resistance, that

13 the city not stand idly by the time

14 where our rights and the people

15 that we represent have rights which

16 are stripped away.

17 So I applaud Councilman

18 Landau and I stand ten toes down

19 with her as she calls upon every

20 Philadelphian, every advocate,

21 every worker, every neighbor to

22 rise up with arms arming themselves

23 for the fortitude necessary to face

24 this war, rejecting the policies

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 that defy of, by and for the
3 people.

4 (Applause.)

5 MR. SCHILLER: Hello.

6 My name is Halcyone Schiller. I'm
7 here to speak in support of the
8 resolution for the PMA or the
9 Philadelphia Museum of Art. I'd
10 like to thank Councilmember Thomas
11 for bringing that resolution here
12 today at the museum.

13 I work as a conservation
14 technician for gallery maintenance,
15 but I also serve as President of
16 Local 397 which is the union that
17 represents cultural workers in
18 Philadelphia. Some of you in City
19 Council might recognize me from the
20 productive conversations we had
21 last spring regarding the museum's
22 resistance to applying the
23 longevity pay that we fought hard
24 and won in our first contract, a

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 contract that we had to strike for
3 three weeks to win.

4 Unfortunately, longevity
5 pay was just our most visible
6 battle. Over the life of our first
7 contract, we have had 49 grievances
8 and several unfair labor practices
9 filed, 27 of which have had a
10 financial component. The museum
11 has actively and continuously
12 engaged in anti-union techniques,
13 frequently acting as though we do
14 not have a union or a contract at
15 all.

16 With me today I have
17 four of my fellow employees and
18 proud union members. You will hear
19 from them about how much of a
20 service the Philadelphia Museum of
21 Art provides to the community and
22 how union members are the ones
23 making that happen. You will also
24 hear about how working at the

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 museum is not sustainable for
3 people attempting to live and
4 participate in the community of
5 Philadelphia.

6 The City currently
7 provides ample funding to the
8 museum. The PMA pays a single
9 dollar in rent every year.
10 Cultural institutions are more in
11 need of support than ever and civic
12 funding is greatly felt and
13 appreciated, but supporting the
14 arts means supporting the workers
15 who make the arts function.

16 As we enter negotiations
17 for our second contract, we ask
18 City Council to question the use of
19 resources at the museum. The union
20 would love to have more peaceful
21 negotiations than we did last time,
22 but the museum's actions thus far
23 have given us little confidence in
24 that being a reality. Thank you.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 (Applause.)

3 MR. MAZEIKA: Hello. My
4 name is Adam Mazeika. I'm a proud
5 union member and the recording
6 secretary of Local 397. I'm here
7 to speak in support of the
8 resolution put forth by
9 Councilmember Thomas. Thank you,
10 Council and Councilmember Thomas
11 for supporting workers and our
12 union.

13 I work at the PMA as a
14 visitor services assistant, VSA,
15 for short. This position is the
16 most front-facing at the museum.
17 We are the first staff members that
18 visitors interact with when they
19 enter the museum, and we play an
20 essential role in the day-to-day
21 operations.

22 Daily VSAs interact with
23 anywhere from dozens to hundreds of
24 visitors. Yearly the museum

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 attracts an average of 800,000
3 visitors, including school groups,
4 tourists from around the world,
5 Philadelphia residents, world-
6 famous celebrities, athletes, Make
7 a Wish families, museum for all
8 cardholders and the Philly Fanatic.
9 Yet the stewards of this
10 institution do not feel that they
11 need to offer their staff, the very
12 people that represent the face of
13 the PMA, basic respect or
14 sustainable wages.

15 I was hired in the fall
16 of 2021 as a VSA at \$11.50 an hour.
17 It took a historic three-week
18 strike to raise the minimum pay
19 rate at the PMA to 16.75 an hour.
20 A starting yearly salary for VSA is
21 \$30,485, 27% lower than budget
22 class median as compared to other
23 institutions of similar size and
24 location.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 These are poverty wages
3 paid to staff at one of the most
4 prestigious museums in the country.
5 I watched the department almost
6 completely turn over with new staff
7 more times than I can count as my
8 colleagues leave for higher-pay
9 positions, often outside of the
10 PMA. This constant turnover
11 directly impacts the visitor
12 experience.

13 Management cannot retain
14 passionate staff and institutional
15 knowledge is lost. I love my job
16 and I care about our visitors. I
17 can't afford to make a career at
18 the PMA.

19 (Applause.)

20 MR. MARXUACH: Hello.

21 My name is Jared Marxuach, and I'm
22 an audio visual technician at the
23 Philadelphia Museum of Art. A
24 large part of why this position was

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 attractive to me was the fact that
3 it is a union job. I moved to
4 Philadelphia with my wife in 2023
5 from Texas where unions are
6 constantly weakened by the state
7 government. And I have become
8 enamored with the city of
9 Philadelphia in all of its facets,
10 partly because union labor and
11 working people thrive here and are
12 actually represented by their city
13 government.

14 Since working at the
15 PMA, I have become extremely proud
16 of the work that I do. My job
17 includes installing audio visual
18 artwork for the people of this city
19 to enjoy as well as setting up and
20 operating sound lighting and
21 projection systems for public
22 programs such as our Pay What You
23 Wish Family Festivals that serve
24 thousands of children in this city

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 every year, Friday Night Lounge and
3 our recent Women's History Month
4 celebration and countless other
5 events that have great cultural
6 value to the city and its
7 residents.

8 I'm so proud to be able
9 to help provide this cultural value
10 to the city and I would love to
11 make a long-term career out of
12 doing this. But at the moment,
13 this looks like an unsustainable
14 option because of comically-low
15 wages, inconvenient and expensive
16 benefit options, lack of career
17 trajectory and near-constant
18 hostility for management toward the
19 union and its members.

20 For this reason, I call
21 on City Council to support
22 Councilmember Thomas' resolution.
23 Thank you, Councilmember Thomas,
24 for your support and thank you to

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 the Council for your time.

3 (Applause.)

4 CHIEF CLERK: We have
5 Matt Carrieri, John McMillan. May
6 Lynn Landes and David Weisberg also
7 make their way to the podium.

8 (Witnesses approached
9 podium.)

10 MR. CARRIERI: My name
11 is Matthew Carrieri, and I'm here
12 to speak on the support of the PMA
13 resolution. I work at the
14 Philadelphia Museum of Art in the
15 Conservation Department and I'm a
16 member of AFSCME Local 397. I've
17 been at the Museum since 2017 and
18 have lived in Philadelphia since
19 2012.

20 My team at the
21 Philadelphia Museum of Art is a
22 patchwork of five part-time
23 employees. At least two to three
24 members of our team are working

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 Monday through Friday because there
3 is enough work to warrant it.
4 Instead of hiring us as full-time
5 employees, the museum is choosing
6 to keep us part-time barring us
7 from medical benefits and forcing
8 several of us to take on other
9 jobs. Because there are no health
10 care options for me at the museum,
11 I get my health care through
12 Pennsylvania State System, Pennie.

13 As wealthy of an
14 institution as the PMA is, there's
15 no reason it shouldn't be providing
16 more full-time, stable employment
17 as well as health care benefits for
18 its employees. I'm calling on
19 Councilmembers to hold the PMA
20 Board of Trustees and the
21 administration responsible for
22 their financial decisions. Thank
23 you, Councilmember Thomas, for
24 inviting us to speak.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 (Applause.)

3 MR. McMILLAN: Hello,
4 City Council. And thank you,
5 Councilman Thomas, for introducing
6 the resolution on our behalf today.
7 My name is John McMillan and I work
8 in the Events Department at the
9 PMA, and I'm also a steward in the
10 museum's union.

11 If you've ever been to a
12 concert on a Friday night, I find
13 the musical talent for that event.
14 It's an important event for many
15 up-and-coming Philadelphia artists,
16 and I'm very proud of the diverse
17 talent that we invite to perform in
18 one of the most beautiful public
19 spaces in Philadelphia.

20 I've been with the
21 museum for nearly 12 years. And
22 unfortunately, the relationship
23 between staff and management has
24 never been so hostile. Our

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 management has taken an adversarial
3 approach to its workforce, breaking
4 its contract with the union daily.
5 I started my career at the museum
6 in the Visitor Services Department.
7 My colleagues in Visitor Services
8 are the poorest paid and poorest
9 treated people at the museum.

10 Over the last six
11 months, their managers have started
12 denying staff their earned paid
13 time off. It's hard enough to make
14 ends meet and this denial of pay is
15 negatively impacting employees
16 financially and emotionally.

17 These denials are in
18 violation of our collective
19 bargaining agreement and will lead
20 to labor arbitration and thousands
21 of dollars in legal fees for the
22 museum. This is not a prudent use
23 of the museum's limited resources.
24 We ask that the Council pass

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Councilman Thomas' resolution.

3 Thank you for your time.

4 (Applause.)

5 MS. LANDES: Good

6 afternoon. I'm Lynn Landes of

7 Smallstreetsphilly.org. Regarding

8 Resolution 250221, where once again

9 City Council is condemning

10 President Trump. This time it's

11 regarding the U.S. Department of

12 Housing and Urban Development.

13 City Council would do

14 well to focus more of its attention

15 on our own shortcomings,

16 specifically on our own Department

17 of Licenses and Inspections and the

18 devastation brought down on many of

19 our neighborhoods because either

20 the regulations or the inspectors

21 or both are inadequate to the job

22 of ensuring that buildings are in

23 good repair in Philadelphia.

24 Too many buildings, some

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 of which are historically
3 important, are deliberately allowed
4 to deteriorate beyond the point of
5 salvation, as described in a recent
6 Philadelphia Inquirer series
7 Crumbling City. At the heart of
8 the problem is a culture of
9 complacency, the Philadelphia
10 shrug, if you will, as well as some
11 real engineering challenges when it
12 comes to problems such as the
13 complete removal and a replacement
14 of a rowhome and its possible
15 adverse impact on adjoining
16 properties. The good news is that
17 these are all solvable problems if
18 we seriously focus on them and give
19 them our best efforts. Thank you.

20 CHIEF CLERK: We have
21 David Weisberg. May Ogbonna
22 Hagins, Wanda Walker and Maddy
23 Booth also make their way to the
24 podium.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 (Witnesses approached
3 podium.)

4 MR. WEISBERG: Good
5 afternoon, Council President
6 Johnson, members of City Council.
7 My name is David Weisberg. I use
8 he/him pronouns. And I'm proud to
9 serve as the Executive Development
10 Communications Officer for Mazzoni
11 Center, Philadelphia's largest
12 comprehensive health and wellness
13 center serving our LGBTQ community.

14 When I learned earlier
15 this week of the opportunity to
16 come to City Council to provide
17 support for a declaration of this
18 week as National LGBTQ+ Health
19 Awareness Week in the City of
20 Philadelphia, it felt like an
21 important but rote exercise.

22 For the past 23 years,
23 this week in March has been a time
24 to recognize our beautiful and

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 diverse LGBTQ community and its
3 unique health needs, from HIV to
4 endocrine disorder to other
5 prevalent vulnerabilities. While
6 we've made great strides in these
7 areas often through a partnership
8 between the City and Mazzoni
9 Center, we've not yet met our goals
10 and there's much more work to be
11 done.

12 The sense that this was
13 any kind of a rote exercise,
14 however, changed dramatically over
15 the past couple days when news
16 began to surface of the
17 Presidential administration's plans
18 to potentially and perhaps very
19 quickly shuttered the CDC Division
20 of HIV Prevention, undermining
21 decades of progress in our efforts
22 to eradicate HIV.

23 We should all understand
24 this is not merely an attempt to

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 deny vital healthcare to the LGBTQ
3 community. It's an orchestrated
4 campaign by this administration to
5 deny the existence of LGBTQ people
6 whatsoever. In this context, the
7 declaration of this week is
8 National LGBTQ Health Awareness
9 Week in Philadelphia is not only a
10 symbolic gesture, but an act of
11 determination and defiance that our
12 city will not step back in its
13 efforts to provide the
14 compassionate and affirmative care
15 that our LGBTQ community needs and
16 deserves. Indeed it will require
17 increased efforts and participation
18 on our behalf.

19 And so, I urge members
20 of City Council not only to make
21 this valuable declaration about
22 this week of awareness, but even
23 more importantly to commit
24 yourselves to increasing our

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 partnership to care for some of the
3 most marginalized members of our
4 community. Our goal advanced in
5 this proposal, which I will
6 circulate to Council, for increased
7 participation between the City and
8 Mazzoni Center should be to
9 eradicate HIV in Philadelphia and
10 not as the administration in
11 Washington wishes to ignore and
12 erase the existence of a beautiful
13 LGBTQ community that is a vital
14 part of our vibrant city. Thank
15 you.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. HAGINS: Ogbonna
18 Hagins, unseated council president
19 and fourth generation chattel
20 slavery survivor. I stand before
21 you today not to speak against
22 Donald Trump. That's not my focus.
23 My focus is on the American
24 Freedmen, the very people this body

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 continues to ignore.

3 You found the time and
4 the energy and the urgency to write
5 this resolution condemning the
6 Donald Trump administration. You
7 put your heads together, drafted
8 language and stood firm to say this
9 is wrong. But where is the same
10 passion when it comes to the
11 American Freedmen, the progeny of
12 the emancipated, the cotton
13 pickers, ones that hung from trees?

14 Where is that same
15 urgency? I submitted the redlining
16 repair bill to this Council over a
17 year ago --

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

19 JOHNSON: Mr. Hagins, Mr. Ogbonna
20 Hagins?

21 MR. HAGINS: Yeah.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: Can you also talk about
24 the condemning of Trump, which is

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 germane to the resolution ahead of
3 you, sir.

4 MR. HAGINS: Jermaine or
5 Tito, whatever, I'm staying exactly
6 to this bill and this is not my
7 time being taken away, brother, you
8 know. You don't know what I'm
9 going to continue with.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: Proceed, sir. Proceed,
12 sir.

13 MR. HAGINS: You know,
14 you know what's up.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: Proceed, sir.

17 MR. HAGINS: American
18 Freedmen deserve the same priority
19 you gave this resolution. Where is
20 the outrage for the billions of
21 lost wealth, the families robbed of
22 generational stability and the
23 economic despair that's left
24 Freedmen communities vulnerable for

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 crime and violence?

3 You say you want to

4 reduce crime, yet you ignore one of

5 the root causes of crime, economic

6 deprivation. It's very possible

7 that if Freedmen home devaluation

8 had not been deliberately devalued,

9 right, maybe the drill killers

10 wouldn't have been happening.

11 Maybe the crime and violence that

12 we see --

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: Mr. Ogbonna Hagins, can

15 you speak on the title of the

16 resolution please?

17 MR. HAGINS: I am

18 speaking on the resolution but you

19 keep interrupting me, Council

20 President.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: The condemning of Trump,

23 sir.

24 MR. HAGINS: Council

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 President, you're not being right,
3 brother. If I was a Jewish person
4 standing up here, you wouldn't stop
5 me from speaking.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

7 JOHNSON: Thank you, sir. That's
8 enough.

9 Please call the next
10 speaker.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Wanda
12 Walker and Maddy Booth.

13 (Witnesses approached
14 podium.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: Please begin, Ms. Walker.

17 MS. WALKER: Good
18 morning, good afternoon, beautiful
19 people. My name is Wanda Walker.
20 And as always, I'm going to speak
21 about generational wealth. So I
22 would like to make a proposal or
23 resolution that seniors should not
24 have to pay property taxes. After

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 30 years of paying property taxes,
3 they should get an abatement. You
4 should not have to be poor or
5 struggling to get a tax abatement.
6 They've done their part and now we
7 have to find other ways to get
8 revenues.

9 I think from hearing
10 everyone speak today that there is
11 a housing hustle going on. From
12 2020 to 2024, 53,000 people left
13 Philadelphia. So where's the
14 urgency for 30,000 new units? We
15 have now discovered that everything
16 our developers build are generally
17 not affordable for the average
18 Philadelphia person.

19 Problem is we have low
20 wages and our median income is only
21 35,000. We are the number one
22 poorest big city. So we need to
23 build our workforce. That means
24 educate our children in the trades

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 and the technology and then they
3 can get the jobs for the
4 development that the developers
5 want to do.

6 Right now I challenge
7 everybody to go to a development
8 site and find a Black person
9 working on that site or a young
10 person. It's a problem when they
11 claim they're building something
12 affordable that's not affordable
13 for us, and we don't see us on
14 those jobs. The jobs will make it
15 possible for us to be able to
16 afford what they're building.

17 As it stands right now,
18 only outsiders can afford the
19 average house that's going up.
20 Development starts at about 280 --

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
22 JOHNSON: Ms. Walker, how are you
23 doing? And you know we welcome
24 your comments. But the bill you're

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 speaking on is talking about
3 condemning Trump. It has nothing
4 to do with housing. And so, could
5 you keep it --

6 MS. WALKER: I hear
7 people talking about condemning
8 Trump. And I would like to say
9 don't focus so much on one person.
10 We don't know if he'll make it
11 through the whole term or not. We
12 need to get ourselves together --

13 (Laughter.)

14 MS. WALKER: I'm just
15 telling the truth, you know me. We
16 need to get ourselves together
17 because funds are being cut and we
18 need the funding. But when we do
19 get the funding, we have to make
20 sure we put it in the proper hands
21 and the proper places.

22 And rehabbing is
23 one-third the price of developing
24 something from the ground up. It

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 would also supply jobs to the
3 smaller contracts. So I'm just
4 trying to use a little bit of
5 common sense here. We need to get
6 our kids educated for the
7 development that Philadelphia is
8 trying to do. Thank you. You sure
9 you don't want me to do another
10 five minutes?

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: No, that's it. Thank you
13 very much.

14 MS. WALKER: Thank you.

15 MS. BOOTH: Thank you,
16 Council President and members of
17 Council. Good morning or -- I
18 don't know if it's afternoon yet.
19 My name is Maddy Booth, and I am
20 the proud CEO of Vetri Community
21 Partnership, a local nonprofit
22 founded by Chef Marc Vetri and
23 restaurateur Jeff Benjamin to
24 nourish minds, bodies and

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 communities with nutrition

3 education through cooking.

4 I'm thrilled and excited

5 that Councilmember Thomas and

6 hopefully Council will recognize

7 the need to mark March as National

8 Nutrition Month here in

9 Philadelphia. I'd like to take a

10 few minutes to talk about why

11 nutrition through cooking is

12 important to build a healthier and

13 happier Philadelphia.

14 Now, I know at least

15 some of you are thinking, here

16 comes another lady to lecture us

17 about eating our vegetables.

18 You're a little bit right about

19 that. Vetri Community Partnerships

20 programs offer a really unique

21 opportunity for kids and people of

22 all ages to learn how to cook using

23 nutritious ingredients, accessible

24 techniques and delicious recipes.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Our talented educators
3 put the tools, including knives,
4 into people's hands and offer
5 age-appropriate instruction in how
6 to cook nutritious, delicious
7 recipes that help build a love of
8 cooking and eating food that tastes
9 good and nourishes your body. We
10 teach anyone, any age, any skill
11 level, any socioeconomic status how
12 to cook.

13 Cooking and nutrition go
14 hand-in-hand. Research shows that
15 self-perceived cooking skills,
16 believing you're a good and capable
17 cook leads to individuals making
18 more nutritious choices for
19 themselves and their families.
20 This is particularly important in
21 Philadelphia where data has shown
22 that kids eat fewer than one
23 serving of vegetables per day.

24 Diet-related health

1 3/20/25 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 conditions like hypertension and
3 diabetes also impact adults across
4 the city. While we can prevent and
5 manage disease entirely through
6 cooking and nutrition, we can
7 certainly help people gain the
8 skills and the confidence to cook
9 and eat well.

10 With our food and
11 nutrition security partners and the
12 task force newly-formed by City
13 Council, we will continue to work
14 to make Philadelphia a healthier,
15 more joyful place to live. On
16 behalf of our team -- hi team --
17 I'm grateful to be here for the
18 opportunity to talk to the esteemed
19 members and members of the public
20 about the importance of nutrition
21 and cooking.

22 And if you haven't yet
23 joined us for a free cooking class,
24 please come by. I do recognize

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 some faces. You have been in our
3 teaching kitchen. You can find
4 more information at our website,
5 vetrcommunity.org. And we look
6 forward to seeing you all in our
7 teaching kitchen.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: Y'all got any tofu?
10 Okay.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Council
12 President, there are no further
13 names for public comment.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

15 JOHNSON: Thank you very much. We
16 will now consider the bills and
17 resolutions of the Second Reading
18 and Final Passage Calendars.

19 Will the Clerk please
20 read the title of Resolution No.
21 250221.

22 CHIEF CLERK: A
23 resolution condemning the Trump
24 Administration for its

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 reprehensible actions to

3 drastically defund the U.S.

4 Department of Housing and Urban

5 Development (HUD) which will have a

6 devastating --

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: Proceed, please.

9 CHIEF CLERK: -- which

10 will have a devastating effect on

11 the enforcement of fair housing

12 laws, damage communities and

13 escalate the affordable housing

14 crisis.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes

17 Councilmember Rue Landau for a

18 motion regarding Resolution No.

19 250221.

20 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

21 Thank you, Council President.

22 I move for the adoption

23 of the resolution.

24 (Duly seconded.)

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
4 properly seconded that Resolution
5 No. 250221 be adopted.

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

9 (Aye.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

12 (No response.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the
15 motion carries. The resolution is
16 adopted.

17 Will the Clerk please
18 read the title of Bill No.
19 240427-AA.

20 CHIEF CLERK: An
21 ordinance amending Section 14-305,
22 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled
23 "Nonconformities," by providing
24 further provisions on changes from

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 nonconforming uses, all under
3 certain terms and conditions.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: Member Young, do you want
6 to be acknowledged before I call up
7 the bill?

8 COUNCILMAN YOUNG:
9 (Nodded affirmatively).

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes the
12 gentleman from the 5th Councilmanic
13 District, Councilmember Jeffrey Jay
14 Young.

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

17 I just wanted to provide
18 a little bit of clarity on what
19 this bill does. There seems to be
20 some confusion. What this bill
21 does is prevent bad actors from
22 returning to a use that they have
23 already abandoned, right. And
24 essentially when it comes to

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 zoning, grandfather uses, you're
3 considered to abandon your
4 grandfather use once you change
5 your use.

6 And this particular
7 piece of legislation just clarifies
8 that by saying if you abandon a
9 grandfather use without a zoning
10 permit, which you are legally
11 obligated to get a zoning permit
12 for whatever use change you have
13 unless it's a single family, you're
14 obligated to get a zoning permit.
15 And what this legislation does is
16 if you change your use without
17 getting a zoning permit, then you
18 cannot go -- you don't have the
19 benefit of going back to that
20 grandfather use by-right.

21 And so, that's what this
22 legi -- this legislation aims to
23 protect communities by allowing
24 communities some say when there is

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 a change in use from a
3 grandfathered use to a new use.
4 And so, I've been working with my
5 colleagues on this legislation,
6 worked with the Administration on
7 this legislation, worked with
8 stakeholders on this legislation.

9 And when it comes to the
10 overall arching of nonconformities,
11 the Administration and the Planning
12 Commission specifically said that,
13 yes, we need to take a look at this
14 entire section of the Code. We
15 were waiting on some changes. We
16 never received that. So we moved
17 forward with just working with the
18 stakeholders that we've been
19 working with on the legislation.

20 But I wanted to thank my
21 colleagues for their robust
22 conversations around this
23 legislation. We've again made some
24 changes to exempt certain Districts

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 from colleagues who felt that this
3 legislation will impact the
4 District differently. I respect
5 that wholeheartedly. But I'm going
6 to ask my colleagues today for a
7 yes vote on this legislation as we
8 look to protect the public health,
9 safety and welfare of some of the
10 residents in the city.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
12 JOHNSON: This bill having been
13 read on two different days, the
14 question now is shall the bill
15 passe finally.

16 Will the Chief Clerk
17 please call the roll.

18 CHIEF CLERK:
19 Councilmember Phillips.

20 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:
21 No.

22 CHIEF CLERK:
23 Councilmember Gilmore Richardson.

24 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 RICHARDSON: Aye.
3 CHIEF CLERK:
4 Councilmember Gauthier.
5 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:
6 Aye.
7 CHIEF CLERK:
8 Councilmember Thomas.
9 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.
10 CHIEF CLERK:
11 Councilmember Jones.
12 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
13 CHIEF CLERK:
14 Councilmember Landau.
15 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:
16 No.
17 CHIEF CLERK:
18 Councilmember Lozada.
19 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:
20 Aye.
21 CHIEF CLERK:
22 Councilmember Young.
23 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Aye.
24 CHIEF CLERK:

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Councilmember Brooks.

3 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS:

4 Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK:

6 Councilmember Harrity.

7 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:

8 Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK:

10 Councilmember O'Rourke.

11 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

12 Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK:

14 Councilmember Driscoll.

15 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

16 Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK:

18 Councilmember O'Neill.

19 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL:

20 Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK:

22 Councilmember Squilla.

23 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

24 Aye.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK:

3 Councilmember Bass.

4 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK:

6 Councilmember Ahmad.

7 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

8 Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: And,

10 Council President Johnson.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: Aye. The ayes are 15.

13 The nays are 2. Majority of all

14 members having voted in the

15 affirmative the bill passes.

16 Will the Clerk please

17 read the title of Bill No. 250066.

18 CHIEF CLERK: An

19 ordinance amending Chapter 11-200

20 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled

21 "Openings and Excavation in the

22 Streets," to impose additional

23 penalties on violators of

24 underground permitting

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 requirements, under certain terms
3 and conditions.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
5 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes
6 Councilmember Jim Harrity for a
7 motion.

8 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:
9 Sorry, Council President. I make a
10 motion to amend the bill. Is that
11 what I'm doing?

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
13 JOHNSON: Yes, you are.
14 COUNCILMAN HARRITY: I'm
15 sorry. I was lost there for a --

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
17 JOHNSON: You're amending Bill No.
18 250066. Has a copy of the
19 amendment been circulated to all
20 members of Council?

21 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:
22 Yes, Councilman. I have it in
23 front of me now.

24 Thank you, Council

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 President. I would like to offer
3 an amendment to Bill No. 250066. A
4 copy of the amendment has been
5 circulated to all members of
6 Council and I move for the adoption
7 of the amendment.

8 (Duly seconded.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
11 properly seconded that the
12 amendment to Bill No. 250066 be
13 adopted.

14 All in favor will
15 signify by saying aye.

16 (Aye.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

21 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the
22 bill has been amended. This bill
23 will be placed on the Final Passage
24 Calendar for our next session of

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Council.

3 Will the Clerk please
4 read the title of Bill No. 250100.

5 CHIEF CLERK: An
6 ordinance authorizing encroachments
7 in the nature of a sidewalk cafe in
8 the vicinity of 177 Markle Street,
9 Philadelphia, PA 19127, under
10 certain terms and conditions.

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

16 Will the Chief Clerk
17 please call the roll.

18 CHIEF CLERK:
19 Councilmember Phillips.

20 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:
21 Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK:
23 Councilmember Gilmore Richardson.

24 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 RICHARDSON: Aye.
3 CHIEF CLERK:
4 Councilmember Gauthier.
5 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:
6 Aye.
7 CHIEF CLERK:
8 Councilmember Thomas.
9 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.
10 CHIEF CLERK:
11 Councilmember Jones.
12 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
13 CHIEF CLERK:
14 Councilmember Landau.
15 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:
16 Aye.
17 CHIEF CLERK:
18 Councilmember Lozada.
19 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:
20 Aye.
21 CHIEF CLERK:
22 Councilmember Young.
23 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Aye.
24 CHIEF CLERK:

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Councilmember Brooks.

3 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS:

4 Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK:

6 Councilmember Harrity.

7 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:

8 Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK:

10 Councilmember O'Rourke.

11 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

12 Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK:

14 Councilmember Driscoll.

15 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

16 Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK:

18 Councilmember O'Neill.

19 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL:

20 Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK:

22 Councilmember Squilla.

23 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

24 Aye.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK:

3 Councilmember Bass.

4 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK:

6 Councilmember Ahmad.

7 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

8 Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: And,

10 Council President Johnson.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: Aye. The ayes are 16.

13 The nays are 0. A majority of all

14 members having voted in the

15 affirmative the bill passes.

16 Will the Clerk please

17 read the title of Bill No. 250 --

18 Council will be at ease.

19 Councilmember Thomas,

20 would you like to be voted aye or

21 nay on the last bill?

22 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: I

23 vote aye.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 JOHNSON: Thank you. That's 17 to
3 0 for Bill No. 250100.

4 Will the Clerk please
5 read the title of Bill No. 250147.

6 CHIEF CLERK: An
7 ordinance authorizing PHILIPPIAN
8 BAPTIST CHURCH or a subsequent
9 owner to install, own and maintain
10 an encroachment at 5801 North Broad
11 Street, Philadelphia, PA 19141,
12 under certain terms and conditions.

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

18 Will the Chief Clerk
19 please call the roll.

20 CHIEF CLERK:
21 Councilmember Phillips.

22 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:
23 Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK:

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 Councilmember Gilmore Richardson.
3 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE
4 RICHARDSON: Aye.
5 CHIEF CLERK:
6 Councilmember Gauthier.
7 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:
8 Aye.
9 CHIEF CLERK:
10 Councilmember Thomas.
11 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.
12 CHIEF CLERK:
13 Councilmember Jones.
14 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
15 CHIEF CLERK:
16 Councilmember Landau.
17 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:
18 Aye.
19 CHIEF CLERK:
20 Councilmember Lozada.
21 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:
22 Aye.
23 CHIEF CLERK:
24 Councilmember Young.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Aye.
3 CHIEF CLERK:
4 Councilmember Brooks.
5 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS:
6 Aye.
7 CHIEF CLERK:
8 Councilmember Harrity.
9 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:
10 Aye.
11 CHIEF CLERK:
12 Councilmember O'Rourke.
13 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:
14 Aye.
15 CHIEF CLERK:
16 Councilmember Driscoll.
17 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:
18 Aye.
19 CHIEF CLERK:
20 Councilmember O'Neill.
21 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL:
22 Aye.
23 CHIEF CLERK:
24 Councilmember Squilla.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

3 Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK:

5 Councilmember Bass.

6 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK:

8 Councilmember Ahmad.

9 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

10 Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: And,

12 Council President Johnson.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: Aye. The ayes are 17.

15 The nays are 0. Majority of all

16 members having voted in the

17 affirmative the bill passes.

18 Will the Clerk please

19 read any additional resolutions on

20 today's Calendar.

21 CHIEF CLERK: A

22 privileged resolution recognizing

23 March as National Nutrition Month

24 in the City of Philadelphia to

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 raise awareness of the importance
3 of nutrition education and healthy
4 eating habits, and to recognize the
5 contributions of Vetri Community
6 Partnership in promoting community
7 health wellness. Introduced by
8 Councilmember Thomas.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes
11 Councilmember Thomas for a motion
12 on the resolution.

13 COUNCILMAN THOMAS:

14 Thank you, Council President.

15 I move for the adoption
16 of the resolution.

17 (Duly seconded.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 (Aye.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

4 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

5 (No response.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

12 CHIEF CLERK: A
13 privileged resolution recognizing
14 March 2025 as "Creative and
15 Nighttime Economies and Arts in
16 Education Month" in the City of
17 Philadelphia. Introduced by
18 Councilmember Thomas.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes
21 Councilmember Thomas for a motion
22 on the resolution.

23 COUNCILMAN THOMAS:

24 Thank you, Council President.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 I move for the adoption
3 of the resolution.

4 (Duly seconded.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

12 (Aye.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

15 (No response.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the
18 resolution is adopted.

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

22 CHIEF CLERK: A
23 privileged resolution authorizing
24 the Committee on Legislative

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 Oversight to hold hearings on the
3 status, conditions, operations and
4 economic factors at the
5 Philadelphia Museum of Art to
6 ensure the future of this City
7 cornerstone as we prepare to
8 welcome the world in 2026.

9 Introduced by Councilmember Thomas.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes
12 Councilman Thomas for a motion on
13 the resolution.

14 COUNCILMAN THOMAS:

15 Thank you, Council President.

16 I definitely want to
17 recognize Councilmember Jones, the
18 District Councilperson for the
19 museum and the great work that he
20 does as well as yourself, Council
21 President, who's on the Board of
22 the museum. And as a collective
23 body, we're always concerned about
24 the workers there.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 So with that energy and
3 with the support of my colleagues,
4 I move for the adoption of the
5 resolution.

6 (Duly seconded.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

13 (Aye.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

15 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

16 (No response.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

23 CHIEF CLERK: A

24 privileged resolution honoring

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 Victim/Witness Services of South
3 Philadelphia for 35 years of
4 dedicated service to those affected
5 by violence in South Philadelphia
6 and across the City. Introduced by
7 Councilmember Jones on behalf of
8 Council President Johnson.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes the
11 Chair of Public Safety,
12 Councilmember Curtis Jones, for a
13 motion on the resolution.

14 COUNCILMAN JONES: On
15 your behalf, Mr. President, I move
16 for the adoption.

17 (Duly seconded.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 (Aye.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

4 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

5 (No response.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

12 CHIEF CLERK: A
13 privileged resolution honoring the
14 life and legacy of the honorable
15 Phyllis W. Beck, retired judge of
16 the Superior Court, who was a
17 treasured member of the
18 Philadelphia legal community,
19 philanthropist, trailblazer and
20 mentor. Introduced by
21 Councilmember Landau.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes
24 Councilmember Landau for a motion

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 on the resolution.

3 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

4 Thank you, Council President.

5 I move for the adoption
6 of the resolution.

7 (Duly seconded.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

15 (Aye.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: A

3 privileged resolution declaring

4 March 17th through the 21st, 2025

5 as National LGBTQ Health Awareness

6 Week in the City of Philadelphia.

7 Introduced by Councilmember Landau.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes

10 Councilmember Rue Landau for a

11 motion on the resolution.

12 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

13 Thank you. I move for the adoption

14 of the resolution.

15 (Duly seconded.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: It has been moved and

18 properly seconded that the

19 resolution be adopted.

20 All those in favor will

21 signify by saying aye.

22 (Aye.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 (No response.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

9 CHIEF CLERK: A
10 privileged resolution honoring and
11 recognizing women in the City of
12 Philadelphia who are leading
13 impactful initiatives in health,
14 wellness and fitness that empower,
15 connect and uplift women. By
16 Councilmember Lozada.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes
19 Councilmember Lozada for a motion
20 on the resolution.

21 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

22 Thank you, Council President.

23 I move for the adoption
24 of the resolution.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 (Duly seconded.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

10 (Aye.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

13 (No response.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

20 CHIEF CLERK: A
21 privileged resolution honoring and
22 expressing gratitude to Nicole
23 Bartlett for her work helping
24 grieving families cope with loss

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 and mentoring young women in
3 Philadelphia and across the country
4 on the occasion of Women's History
5 Month. Introduced by Councilmember
6 Brooks.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
8 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes
9 Councilmember Brooks for a motion
10 on the resolution.

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

15 (Duly seconded.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
17 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
18 properly seconded that the
19 motion -- that the resolution is
20 adopted.

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

23 (Aye.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

10 CHIEF CLERK: A
11 privileged resolution honoring the
12 dedicated employees of the
13 Philadelphia Gas Works in
14 recognition of Natural Gas Utility
15 Workers' Day on March 18, 2025.
16 Introduced by Councilmember
17 Driscoll.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

19 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes
20 Councilmember Driscoll for a motion
21 on the resolution.

22 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

23 Thank you, Mr. President.

24 I move for the adoption

1 3/20/25 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 of the resolution.

3 (Duly seconded.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: It has been moved and

6 properly seconded that the

7 resolution be adopted.

8 All those in favor of

9 the motion will signify by saying

10 aye.

11 (Aye.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

13 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

14 (No response.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the

17 resolution is adopted.

18 Will the Chief Clerk

19 please read the title of the next

20 resolution.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Council

22 President, there are no further

23 resolutions in my possession.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 JOHNSON: That completes our
3 Calendar for today.

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

6 The Chair recognizes
7 Councilmember Kendra Brooks.

8 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS:
9 Thank you, Council President.

10 Today for Women's
11 History Month, I want to recognize
12 an outstanding Black woman business
13 owner, Nicole M. Bartlett with her
14 business Nicole M. Bartlett Funeral
15 Home. She has succeeded in the
16 male-dominated industry and served
17 as a guiding light for countless
18 grieving families. She puts the
19 service at the center of her work,
20 offering free workshops and
21 consultations and mentoring young
22 women in the industry. She is a
23 gem in our community and in our
24 city, and I'm so glad to have a

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 chance to honor her here today.

3 So thank you so much,

4 Council President.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: Thank you. Y'all can

7 clap. It's okay.

8 (Applause.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes

11 Councilmember Nic O'Rourke.

12 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

13 Thank you, Mr. President.

14 There are a couple

15 things I wanted to kind of talk

16 about today, but I think a lot of

17 it's been hit up during the public

18 comment. So let me just direct our

19 friends and colleagues that after

20 our session today, I invite you all

21 to join us for a very important

22 briefing on cooperative businesses.

23 Some may recall that we

24 did call 2025 the Year of the

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Cooperative, kind of keeping in
3 that pattern that Councilwoman Bass
4 did some years ago. We'll hear
5 from local and national cooperative
6 leaders about how these models
7 empower workers and strengthen our
8 economy.

9 And if great
10 conversation is enough, we've got
11 some great food. My Legs Director
12 just texted me and said, tacos are
13 set up and looking real tasty. So
14 if you're hungry, come by and grab
15 you a bite. The briefing will be
16 catered by TacoTaco Mexicano, a
17 worker-owned cooperative. So come
18 hungry and ready to learn. I
19 believe that you will benefit
20 greatly by this briefing.

21 Thank you very much,
22 Council President.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: You're welcome.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Any speeches on behalf
3 of the Majority?

4 The Chair recognizes
5 Councilman Thomas.

6 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: No
7 speeches, Council President.

8 Just on standby to close
9 out session.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: Absolutely. Your light
12 is on.

13 COUNCILMAN THOMAS:
14 Sorry about that.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes
17 Councilmember Rue Landau.

18 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:
19 Thank you, Council President.

20 First of all, I want to
21 wish a very happy birthday to our
22 colleague Mike Driscoll, and just
23 one day, happy birthday to Jimmy
24 Harrity.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Ay.

4 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU: I

5 think we may have set the record

6 this year for birthdays on or about

7 Thursdays, I think. So we'll do a

8 little count on that. This is a

9 very special year. Anyway, thank

10 you.

11 Today I introduced a

12 resolution honoring my longtime

13 friend and mentor to many, the

14 Honorable Phyllis W. Beck. Phyllis

15 was a pioneering member of the

16 Philadelphia legal community, a

17 philanthropist, trailblazer and a

18 mother.

19 She was the first woman

20 to serve on the Pennsylvania

21 Supreme Court, which is especially

22 impactful to recognize during

23 Women's History Month, as she

24 opened the door for so many women

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 to pursue careers in the legal
3 profession and in public service.
4 She was appointed to the bench 44
5 years ago and went on to serve as a
6 fierce advocate for reforms to
7 create a more equitable justice
8 system.

9 I was so lucky to have
10 known her and learned from her, and
11 I'd like to thank her and her
12 family members and friends who
13 showed up today and came out to
14 celebrate her legacy. She will be
15 dearly missed.

16 Today I also introduced
17 a resolution recognizing this week
18 as National LGBTQ+ Health Awareness
19 Week in the City of Philadelphia.
20 As a member of the community, I am
21 hearing the fears of the LGBTQ
22 community in the wake of constant
23 attacks from the Trump
24 Administration.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 In fact, just yesterday
3 the Trump Administration discussed
4 cuts to the CDC Domestic HIV
5 Program, including funding for
6 prevention. Decisions like these
7 aren't rooted in science. They're
8 rooted in ignorance. And our
9 community, especially its most
10 marginalized members, are very,
11 very fearful.

12 The LGBTQ+ community is
13 disproportionately impacted by a
14 wide range of health threats. And
15 as we recognize National LGBTQ
16 Health Awareness Week here in
17 Philadelphia, we reaffirm our
18 commitment to health equity and
19 access to care for all. The
20 disparities faced by LGBTQ+
21 individuals are not just
22 statistics. We are real people who
23 deserve to be treated with respect
24 and compassion. I urge my

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 colleagues, health care providers
3 and every Philadelphian to take
4 this week as an opportunity to
5 learn, engage and act.

6 Finally, I also
7 introduced a resolution condemning
8 President Trump and his
9 Administration's decision to
10 suspend income-driven repayment
11 plans and politicize the Public
12 Service Loan Forgiveness Program.
13 This choice is not just an attack
14 on borrowers. It's an attack on
15 working people, the LGBTQ+
16 community, undocumented immigrants
17 and those who serve the American
18 public.

19 I vehemently disapprove
20 of Trump's policies and recommit to
21 working tirelessly for those
22 Philadelphia residents and impact
23 anybody impacted by his executive
24 orders. Thank you very much.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

4 The Chair recognizes

5 Councilmember Cindy Bass.

6 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

7 Thank you, Mr. President.

8 Mr. President, I just

9 wanted to say a couple of things

10 and just want to pull something up

11 really quickly because I wanted to

12 talk just briefly on the bill that

13 we just passed today on the

14 nonconformities. And I voted for

15 the bill. I want to thank my

16 colleagues that voted for the bill.

17 And I just wanted to

18 remind everyone that a few weeks

19 ago I talked about a nuisance

20 business in my District that was in

21 business and is still in business

22 right now. And when it opened up,

23 it had no license to operate which

24 is required. It had no certificate

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 of occupancy which is required.

3 It had done construction

4 without the required permits and

5 had illegal signage. The sale of

6 tobacco was happening without a

7 license which is required. The

8 sale of loose cigarettes, loosies,

9 which is prohibited and illegal.

10 They did tobacco sales on the same

11 block as an elementary school which

12 is prohibited.

13 There was a lack of heat

14 and air circulation which is

15 required. There were exposed

16 radiator pipes which is a plumbing

17 code violation. There were loose

18 and exposed wires which is an

19 electrical code violation. And

20 they were selling drug

21 paraphernalia.

22 And so, all of that

23 combined if this bill was in place

24 when they set up shop, we would

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES
2 have been able to shut them down
3 immediately because they would not
4 have been able to rely on the
5 zoning which was actually in place
6 previously. So again, I just
7 really wanted to thank my
8 colleagues who found themselves
9 able to vote for what I think is
10 going to be groundbreaking
11 legislation.

12 I also wanted to give a
13 shout-out to Dr. Shervon Thompson,
14 a proud North Philadelphia native
15 and Dobbins alum and now its
16 inspiring principal. She has been
17 walking the halls as a student to
18 leading one of the City's largest
19 schools, and Dr. Thompson's journey
20 is a true testament to
21 perseverance, passion and the power
22 of education.

23 Earning her Doctorate in
24 education is not just a personal

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES
2 milestone, it is a victory for our
3 entire community and I would say
4 for our entire city. She has
5 broken barriers, uplifted countless
6 students and remained a shining
7 example of excellence, dedication
8 and leadership. We are beyond
9 proud of her accomplishments and
10 grateful for her unwavering
11 commitment to our young people. So
12 again, congratulations, Dr. Shervon
13 Thompson.

14 And I also wanted to
15 share with 8th District residents
16 that my budget survey is still
17 alive. If you live in the 8th
18 District and you would like to
19 share your thoughts through the
20 budget survey, it's on our social
21 media. And there is a QR code, but
22 you can also visit us at
23 bit.ly/BassBudget, BassBudget.
24 That's bit.ly/BassBudget. Capital

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 B for Bass and capital B for
3 Budget.

4 Thank you,
5 Mr. President.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

7 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.
8 Great idea to survey with the QR
9 code to get ideas about the budget.
10 Very forward-thinking, Member Bass.

11 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

12 Thank you, Mr. President.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: You're welcome.

15 The Chair recognizes
16 Councilwoman Quetcy Lozada.

17 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

18 Thank you, Council President.

19 As you are all aware,
20 March is Women's History Month.
21 This is a time to recognize and
22 honor the achievements,
23 contributions and resilience of
24 women not just throughout history,

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 but in the present day who are
3 taking action to make impact in our
4 city.

5 Often times we tend to
6 focus on large-scale
7 accomplishments, but each day women
8 throughout our city are doing small
9 things to bring our communities
10 together and make impacts on each
11 other's lives. Today I introduced
12 a resolution recognizing the
13 efforts of community organizations
14 who promote both physical and
15 mental wellness, Latinas in Motion,
16 Philly Girls Who Walk and Coach Zha
17 Pilates Club are local
18 organizations in our city who have
19 built communities of their own
20 through inclusive fitness programs.

21 I am proud to have had
22 them here today as my guests in
23 Council. These groups are
24 resources for women to connect and

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 find companionship. They have
3 fostered a safe, inclusive
4 environment for women throughout
5 the movement, conversation and a
6 shared sense of love and support
7 for one another.

8 As we celebrate Women's
9 History Month, let us continue to
10 uplift and recognize the women and
11 organizations in our communities
12 who are creating these spaces,
13 spaces where women are supported.
14 By supporting their work and
15 amplifying their voices, we
16 contribute to a stronger and more
17 inclusive city of Philadelphia.

18 I'd also like to share
19 that we are having a Thriving
20 Together Expo Community Resource
21 Fair in my District. All of you
22 are welcome to join us on Saturday
23 from 11:00 to 2:00 p.m. at Roberto
24 Clemente Middle School and share

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 with your constituents as well.

3 Thank you, Council

4 President.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: Thank you.

7 The Chair recognizes

8 Majority Leader Gilmore Richardson.

9 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

10 RICHARDSON: Thank you. Thank you,

11 Council President.

12 First, I wanted to just

13 acknowledge again our colleague

14 Councilmember Phillips for earning

15 his Doctorate degree. I know we

16 found out about that last week --

17 (Applause.)

18 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

19 RICHARDSON: -- but I'm sure it's

20 been a hard journey to earn your

21 Ph.D. over these last several years

22 while serving as a member of

23 Philadelphia City Council. So

24 kudos and congratulations to you.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 I also wanted to remind
3 all of our colleagues that the
4 women of the National Coalition of
5 100 Black Women - Pennsylvania
6 Chapter are still here and are
7 looking forward to the members of
8 Council stopping by to meet with
9 them as they discuss their
10 legislative priorities. Because
11 there were so many members, we had
12 to move them down to Conversation
13 Hall on the 2nd floor. So if you
14 have any time in your schedule to
15 stop by and say hello, that would
16 be greatly appreciated.

17 Thank you, Council
18 President.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: You're welcome.

21 The Chair recognizes
22 Councilman Mike Driscoll.

23 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

24 Thank you, Mr. President.

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 I'd like to begin by
3 thanking the St. Patrick's Day
4 Observance Association for all
5 their hard work and putting
6 together a wonderful weekend. We
7 had a great parade.

8 Thank you,
9 Mr. President, for joining us all
10 day. I'd like to thank Mayor
11 Parker. She was a big hit in her
12 green outfit. We certainly had a
13 wonderful time. And these things
14 just don't happen. A lot of work
15 goes into it. And, Council
16 President, you were there for
17 honoring our Grand Marshal Paddy
18 Rooney and our Ring of Honor. So
19 we appreciate everyone's well
20 wishes over the weekend. It was
21 just a wonderful, wonderful
22 weekend.

23 Councilman Harrity, born
24 on St. Joseph's Day, happy

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 birthday.

3 And lastly, I'd like to
4 recognize a lifelong Philadelphian,
5 graduate of St. Stephen's Parish
6 on Broad Street, a graduate of
7 Roman Catholic High School, Hall of
8 Fame basketball player, Councilman
9 Isaiah Thomas, last living player
10 to play for Billy Markwood, a
11 graduate of LaSalle College, a
12 World War II veteran, Army, served
13 in the South Pacific, American hero
14 to me, my father, 100 years old
15 today, Joseph Driscoll.

16 (Applause.)

17 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

18 And to quote a line from the movie
19 Old School, You're my boy, Blue.
20 Happy birthday.

21 (Applause.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes the
24 gentleman from the 5th Councilmanic

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 District, Jeffrey Jay Young.

3 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Thank
4 you, Mr. President.

5 So yesterday, my office
6 in conjunction with the National
7 Alliance of Women Veterans hosted a
8 ceremony in honor of Women's
9 History Month honoring women
10 veterans in Philadelphia,
11 specifically there were many of
12 those who lived in the 5th Council
13 District. So I want to thank
14 Dr. Cathy Santos-Bennett for
15 partnering with my office and
16 sharing her resources with us to
17 allow us to celebrate those women
18 veterans.

19 Just news for residents
20 of the 5th Council District. My
21 office in partnership with
22 Committed Community Mentors is
23 hosting a grant-writing party. So
24 if you are a nonprofit, you're

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 looking to start a nonprofit, you
3 just want information on how to
4 apply for grants, this event is for
5 you.

6 We have two dates
7 scheduled. One is Saturday, March
8 22nd. The other is Saturday, March
9 29th. Times are 11:00 a.m. to
10 2:00 p.m., and it will be located
11 at 3002 Cecil B. Moore Avenue in
12 Suite C203. So this event is for
13 anyone, specifically folks who live
14 in the 5th District, but anyone
15 who's looking to gain insight on
16 how to apply for grant funding. We
17 are looking to provide you with
18 some of that information to make
19 sure your organization and your
20 business is as successful as it can
21 be.

22 And I also want to thank
23 my colleagues today for passing
24 legislation Bill No. 240427-AA with

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 a super majority. So since coming
3 to Council, I've been focused on
4 quality-of-life issues for
5 residents in the 5th Council
6 District. And I just want the
7 listening public to understand what
8 this bill seeks to do.

9 It seeks to protect
10 communities by preventing a
11 property owner from reverting back
12 to a grandfather use when a new use
13 is established without a zoning
14 permit. So what that means is
15 essentially if we have a
16 grandfather use and the zoning
17 changes for that use over time,
18 typically when the zoning of a
19 property changes, it's because that
20 use is no longer desired in that
21 community. And because the use is
22 no longer desired, what we are
23 seeking to do is if you change that
24 use without a zoning permit,

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 without legally going through the
3 process of obtaining a zoning
4 permit, which every single property
5 owner must do when you change your
6 use, unless it's a single family
7 and some other limited
8 circumstances, you're a bad actor.

9 And so, what we are
10 seeking to do is prevent bad actors
11 from going back to an undesired
12 grandfather use by-right. And we
13 want to make sure that the
14 communities have some say in that
15 and allow folks to go through that
16 Zoning Board process to make sure
17 that the community is okay with
18 that particular grandfather use,
19 again after someone has changed the
20 use of their property illegally,
21 right.

22 And so, I think that is
23 the point that we have to stick to,
24 is that they're changing the use of

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES
2 their property illegally. And so,
3 we should not reward them by
4 allowing them to go back to a use
5 that is not allowed under the
6 current zoning because they did
7 something illegal. And so, that's
8 what we're seeking to do, is to
9 root out bad actors in our city, to
10 protect our communities, to allow
11 our communities to have some say in
12 what is happening in their
13 neighborhoods.

14 So again, I want to
15 thank my colleagues. We've worked
16 with all of our colleagues on this
17 legislation. We worked with the
18 Planning Commission, as I mentioned
19 before, to try to just come up with
20 legislation to look at
21 nonconformities in general, right,
22 and grandfather uses in general in
23 our city.

24 We've worked with

1 3/20/25 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 stakeholders in industry to make
3 sure that this amendment doesn't --
4 the bill doesn't affect those who
5 are good actors, right. We want to
6 make sure we are penalizing bad
7 actors for not obtaining the
8 necessary permits that are required
9 when changing the use.

10 So again thank you,
11 colleagues, for passing this
12 legislation. I believe it's going
13 to help us in the 5th Council
14 District as we look to make sure
15 that we protect the public health,
16 safety and welfare of our
17 communities.

18 Thank you,
19 Mr. President.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

21 JOHNSON: Thank you, Member Young.

22 There are no more
23 speeches. The Chair recognizes
24 Councilmember Thomas for a motion

1 3/20/25 - STATED - ADJOURNMENT

2 to adjourn.

3 COUNCILMAN THOMAS:

4 Thank you, Council President.

5 Congratulations,

6 Councilmember Young, on your bill

7 being passed. Happy birthday to

8 our colleagues. Congratulations to

9 Councilmember Phillips.

10 And with that being

11 said, Council President, I move

12 that Council stands adjourned until

13 Thursday, March 27, 2025 at

14 10:00 a.m.

15 (Duly seconded.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: It has been moved and

18 properly seconded that the Council

19 stand adjourned until Thursday,

20 March 27, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

21 All those in favor of

22 the motion will signify by saying

23 aye.

24 (Aye.)

1 3/20/25 - STATED - ADJOURNMENT

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: The ayes have it. The
7 motion carries. Thank you all very
8 much.

9 - - -

10 (Stated Meeting
11 adjourned at 12:50 p.m.)

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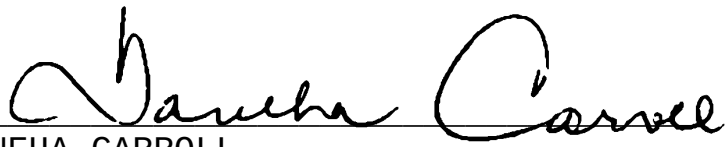
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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

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


TANEHA CARROLL
Court Reporter - Notary Public

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	14:2	12-2800	17th	34:13	2020
\$	16:8, 15	70:21	65:3	1998	160:12
\$1	17:8, 23	12-900	195:4	35:3	2021
35:6	19:11	70:19	18	1999	37:6
\$11.50	20:2, 7	13	70:3	34:20	129:17
142:16	21:12	38:15	199:15	19th	142:16
\$12	22:13	14	1836	39:18	2022
89:8	23:6	52:16	102:7	1st	31:23
\$170	24:10	53:4	19	114:12	34:20
36:21	217:5	72:21	54:5	115:2	71:16
\$20	219:14	73:13	19127		129:23
35:9	1000	14-305	179:9	2	2023
\$30,485	109:11	169:21	19141	2	144:4
142:21	100th	14-533	183:11	38:4	2024
\$80	14:12	77:10	1937	71:14	51:7
104:17	17:2	14-906	105:6	88:5	52:14
	101	52:19	1970	176:13	53:2
	50:3	72:24	17:17	20	72:20
0	10:00	147,000	1978	30:21	73:12
0	226:14,	33:15	31:2	37:4	74:12
182:13	20	15	1980	38:20	113:23
183:3	10th	46:15	37:15	200	160:12
186:15	51:17,	176:12	1981	20:9	2025
	20	151	19:5, 20	2000	28:13
1	74:22	88:21	1985	40:23	30:22
1	75:2	16	32:5	2003	32:9
104:13	11-200	182:12	1986	35:11	38:20
106:6	176:19	16-700	117:13	2007	54:5, 8
1%	11:00	54:2	1989	35:21	58:8
36:18	215:23	56:16	34:7	2012	65:4
1-5	221:9	16.75	1990	33:23	70:3
46:15	11th	142:19	33:17	146:19	122:10
10	51:17	17	1992	2017	188:14
37:23	74:22	183:2	33:13	146:17	195:4
85:18	12	186:14	1993	2018	199:15
10,000	148:21	177	34:8	31:18,	202:24
33:8	12,850	179:8	1995	21	226:13,
100	135:9			33:24	20
					2026
					59:2

190:8	240966	250004	250168	171:1	21:1
20th	51:7	54:10	80:15	172:1	22:1
28:13	74:13	250005	250221	173:1	23:1
21	240967	54:10	80:11	174:1	24:1
16:11	51:12	250006	91:23	175:1	25:1
35:24	74:17	54:10	98:10	176:1	26:1
21st	240968	250007	106:5	177:1	27:1
65:3	51:15	54:11	107:21	178:1	28:1
195:4	74:20	250008	111:17	179:1	29:1
22, 600	240969	54:11	115:18	180:1	30:1
135:11	51:18	250009	150:8	181:1	31:1
220454	74:24	54:11	167:21	182:1	32:1
71:15	240970	250046	168:19	183:1	33:1
22nd	51:23	54:11	169:5	184:1	34:1
221:8	75:5	250047	26th	185:1	35:1
23	240971	54:12	102:18	186:1	36:1
51:7	52:24	250048	27	187:1	37:1
52:14	73:11	54:12	139:9	188:1	38:1
53:2	240972	250049	226:13,	189:1	39:1
72:20	52:13	54:12	20	190:1	40:1
73:12	72:19	250066	27%	191:1	41:1
74:12	240973	80:16	142:21	192:1	42:1
152:22	52:8	176:17	28	193:1	43:1
24	75:13	177:18	40:17	194:1	44:1
17:17	241081	178:3,	280	195:1	45:1
240333	54:9	12	161:20	196:1	46:1
77:9	241083	250069	29th	197:1	47:1
240427 -	54:9	54:12	221:9	198:1	48:1
AA	241107	250070	2:00	199:1	49:1
80:11	54:9	54:13	215:23	200:1	50:1
85:15	24th	250100	221:10	217:13	51:1
169:19	19:9	80:11	2nd	3	52:1
221:24	25	179:4	79:1	3/20/25	53:1
240665	38:12	183:3	80:1	14:1	54:1
80:15	250	250147	90:3	15:1	55:1
240963	182:17	80:12	167:1	16:1	56:1
52:4	250002	183:5	168:1	17:1	57:1
75:9	54:10		169:1	18:1	58:1
			170:1	19:1	59:1
				20:1	60:1
					61:1
					62:1

63:1	105:1	147:1	189:1	82:3	44
64:1	106:1	148:1	190:1	160:2	206:4
65:1	107:1	149:1	191:1	30,000	4400
66:1	108:1	150:1	192:1	160:14	121:21
67:1	109:1	151:1	193:1	3002	45
68:1	110:1	152:1	194:1	221:11	31:17
69:1	111:1	153:1	195:1	31	47:2
70:1	112:1	154:1	196:1	122:13	45th
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73:1	115:1	157:1	199:1	35	32:10
74:1	116:1	158:1	200:1	60:3	49
75:1	117:1	159:1	201:1	192:3	139:7
76:1	118:1	160:1	202:1	35,000	4th
77:1	119:1	161:1	203:1	160:21	36:9
78:1	120:1	162:1	204:1	350	59:8
79:1	121:1	163:1	205:1	34:12	
80:1	122:1	164:1	206:1	352	5
81:1	123:1	165:1	207:1	36:23	5
82:1	124:1	166:1	208:1	36	113:23
83:1	125:1	167:1	209:1	113:12	50%
84:1	126:1	168:1	210:1	397	34:2
85:1	127:1	169:1	211:1	138:16	500
86:1	128:1	170:1	212:1	141:6	19:6
87:1	129:1	171:1	213:1	146:16	500,000
88:1	130:1	172:1	214:1	3rd	101:16
89:1	131:1	173:1	215:1	53:23	5000
90:1	132:1	174:1	216:1	56:14	34:24
91:1	133:1	175:1	217:1		135:16
92:1	134:1	176:1	218:1	4	53,000
93:1	135:1	177:1	219:1	40	160:12
94:1	136:1	178:1	220:1	37:3	5801
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96:1	138:1	180:1	222:1	42	5th
97:1	139:1	181:1	223:1	20:3	67:3
98:1	140:1	182:1	224:1	43	170:12
99:1	141:1	183:1	225:1	24:18	219:24
100:1	142:1	184:1	226:1		220:12,
101:1	143:1	185:1	30		
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103:1	145:1	187:1	71:16		
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20	76ers	Absolute	achievem	activist	17:20
221:14	51:11	ly	ents	s	33:18
222:5	74:17	204:11	120:22	32:17	106:4
225:13		acceptin	213:22	90:18	116:19
	8	g	achievin	activiti	addresse
6	8	91:13	g	es	d
6	125:7	access	133:3	130:13	18:17
54:8	800,000	25:24	acknowledge	activity	addressi
60-short	135:13	26:23	dge	130:2	ng
136:6	142:2	36:11	46:20	actor	25:22
6000	8th	44:21	49:14	223:8	33:14
104:22	16:24	126:23	216:13	actors	98:18
65,000	212:15,	207:19	acknowledge	170:21	adequate
35:14	17	accessib	dged	223:10	ly
686		le	170:6	224:9	98:20
100:9	9	164:23	act	225:5,7	adjoinin
103:10,	970	accessor	107:11	actual	g
19	89:17	y	136:20	110:8	151:15
104:5	9th	53:12	154:10	Adam	adjourn
105:4,8	16:18	73:22	208:5	131:15	226:2
		accompan	acting	141:4	adjourne
7	A	ying	139:13	add	d
7	a.m.	28:19	action	47:11	226:12,
85:17	221:9	accompli	26:15	added	19
708	226:14,	shments	34:18	31:23	ADJOURNM
53:20	20	41:22	43:12	addition	ENT
56:12	abandon	212:9	81:2	96:7	226:1
710	171:3,8	214:7	92:13	addition	Adjudica
53:21	abandone	ce	214:3	al	tion
56:12	d	53:24	actions	79:20	70:22
714	93:7	56:15	134:14	135:11	admin
53:22	170:23	accounta	140:22	176:22	91:17
56:12	abatemen	bility	168:2	186:19	administ
723	t	121:15	actively	Addition	rating
53:22	160:3,5	accounts	139:11	ally	98:23
56:13	abroad	90:16	activist	21:3	administ
73	91:16		30:3	104:15	ration
39:17				address	47:10

65:14	21	advantag	75:2	20	ages
90:15	195:19	e	afar	117:2	164:22
91:3	196:5	116:4	122:16	118:12	agree
147:21	197:6,	adversar	Affairs	135:2	47:4, 14
154:4	16	ial	100:3	160:17	agreemen
155:10	198:20	149:2	affect	161:12	t
156:6	199:6	adverse	86:4, 5,	168:13	51:13
167:24	200:7,	151:15	16	afraid	74:19
172:6,	17	advise	225:4	109:9	149:19
11	adoption	36:2	affected	123:8	ahead
206:24	168:22	54:5	60:4	Africa	26:20
207:3	178:6	advocacy	192:4	126:21	50:15
administ	187:15	22:23	affectio	AFSCME	157:2
ration's	189:2	23:14	n	146:16	Ahmad
32:18	191:4	31:19	122:8	afternoon	19:18
153:17	192:16	32:7	affirmat	110:24	21:10
208:9	194:5	37:12,	ive	117:6	28:24
administ	195:13	24	154:14	150:6	34:4
rative	196:23	advocate	176:15	152:5	76:7, 8
70:22	198:13	20:11	182:15	159:18	176:6, 7
admirati	199:24	24:20	186:17	163:18	182:6, 7
on	adult	46:6, 14	affirmat	afterschool	186:8, 9
39:3	95:9	124:19	ively	35:7	AI
83:16	adults	137:20	170:9	age	90:15
Adolphus	166:3	206:6	afford	165:10	aid
121:2	advanced	advocate	113:15	age	90:2
adopted	36:13	s	115:4	age-	aims
46:16	155:4	47:13	143:17	appropri	171:22
169:5,	advancem	65:19	161:16,	ate	air
16	ent	advocati	18	165:5	210:14
178:13	20:24	ng	affordab	agencies	Alexande
187:21	advancin	18:20	le	31:8	r
188:8	g	21:21	25:22	agenda	131:14
189:8,	17:11	24:16	98:18	65:21	134:9
18	18:2	25:19	99:12	agents	Alice
191:10,	20:12	108:17	101:19	21:17	43:22
19	23:9	109:6	107:8	116:18	64:12
192:21	40:21	aerial	115:23		82:22
193:8		51:20	116:14,		83:7
194:11,					

alive 117:2 212:17	70:19 71:14 72:21	amplifyi ng 215:15	anti- trans 65:20	39:5 45:15 46:10	applicat ions 109:14 114:22
Allen 14:16	73:13, 15 75:9 77:9	amputati ons 90:5	anti- union 139:12	49:7, 17,18, 22,23 50:4	apply 221:4, 16
Alliance 220:7	169:21 176:19 177:17	analysis 32:8	anti- zionism 91:8	64:14 85:8 87:18	applying 138:22
allocate 36:18	amendmen t 52:9 75:14	ancestor s 136:10	aparthei d 91:10	91:20 93:21 97:16	appointe d 206:4
allowed 121:12 129:21 151:3 224:5	177:19 178:3, 4,7,12 225:3	and- mortar 116:22	apartmen t 113:11, 23 114:15, 24 115:4 119:4	99:21 103:3 105:16 107:18 110:22 112:13 115:6 117:4 120:3 124:13 128:17 131:11 134:7 138:4 141:2 143:19 146:3 148:2 150:4 155:16 202:8 216:17 219:16, 21	appointi ng 60:13, 23 61:10, 20
allowing 49:6 171:23 224:4	America 23:16 136:2 137:8	Anderson 100:6			apprecia ted 140:13 217:16
alum 211:15	American 15:7 89:13 134:24 155:23 156:11 157:17 208:17 219:13	Ann 131:14	apartmen ts 114:18 118:7		apprecia tion 106:15
amazing 46:21 131:24		Annual 17:10 24:13	apologie s 46:5		apprecia tive 100:20
Amazon's 89:19		annually 36:21	appears 81:12		approach 149:3
ambition 127:23		anointin g 133:12	applaud 109:5 115:17 116:5 137:17		approach able 47:22
Amen 124:12	American s 89:3	Anthony 54:24	applause 14:4,18 23:18 27:5 28:3,16	applicat ion 109:7	approach ed 29:3 83:4 88:12 97:22
amend 35:21 177:10	amid 110:20	anti- free 65:21			
amended 80:16 178:22	AMIS 109:8	anti- immigran t 65:20			
amending 52:4,15 53:3,6	ample 140:7	anti- semitism 91:9			

105:22	74:3	146:14,	assure	150:14	Avenue
112:20	75:12,	21	49:2	attracti	121:22
120:10	15	190:5	at-arms	ve	221:11
131:18	areas	artists	50:11	144:2	average
146:8	20:15	148:15	At-large	attracts	142:2
152:2	121:9	arts	14:23	142:2	160:17
159:13	153:7	58:9	15:2	attribut	161:19
approved	arena	125:9,	16:21	es	awake
51:6	51:11	11	87:6	48:14	90:6
52:14	52:4, 7,	140:14,	at-risk	audio	aware
53:2	11	15	46:18	143:22	213:19
71:16	53:8,	188:15	99:14	144:17	awarenes
72:19	14, 16	artwork	athletes	August	s
73:11	73:17,	144:18	142:6	114:11	57:19
74:12	24	asks	attached	115:2	65:5
approvin	74:3, 16	63:5	77:18	authenti	152:19
g	75:9,	assessme	attack	c	154:8,
52:8	12, 16	nts	134:17	130:20	22
53:15	arises	109:13	208:13,	Authorit	187:2
74:2	122:16	asset	14	y	195:5
75:13	arming	121:4	attacks	135:9	206:18
approxim	137:22	assistan	206:23	authoriz	207:16
ately	arms	ce	attempt	ations	Ay
135:13	91:18	96:20	153:24	51:9	205:3
arbitrat	122:23	104:19	attempti	authoriz	aye
ion	137:22	109:7,	ng	ing	78:22,
149:20	army	18	140:3	51:12,	23
Arch	104:10	assistan	attend	15, 19,	169:8, 9
92:3	219:12	t	15:17,	23	174:2,
106:5,	array	141:14	19, 20	53:18	6, 9, 12,
11	92:18	assists	100:14	56:11	20, 23
107:23	arrive	121:10	103:17	58:17	175:4,
108:3	101:24	Associat	attended	71:17	8, 12,
arching	134:10	e	94:17,	74:18,	16, 20,
172:10	Art	98:5	21	21, 24	24
area	58:22	Associat	attentio	75:5	176:4,
24:23	138:9	ion	n	179:6	8, 12
52:7, 10	139:21	98:6	115:19	183:7	178:15,
53:8, 16	143:23	218:4	121:23	189:23	16
73:17					179:21

180:2, 6, 9, 12, 16, 20, 23 181:4, 8, 12, 16, 20, 24 182:4, 8, 12, 20, 23 183:23 184:4, 8, 11, 14, 18, 22 185:2, 6, 10, 14, 18, 22 186:3, 6, 10, 14 187:24 188:2 189:11, 12 191:12, 13 192:24 193:2 194:14, 15 195:21, 22 197:9, 10 198:22, 23 200:10, 11 226:23, 24	Ayeesha 120:24 ayes 79:5 169:14 176:12 178:21 182:12 186:14 188:7 189:17 191:18 193:7 194:20 196:4 197:15 199:5 200:16 B babies 26:6 back 14:10 114:7 119:8, 20 128:4 154:12 171:19 222:11 223:11 224:4 backbone 115:14 backed 34:21 85:22 86:20	Bacon 103:14 bad 170:21 223:8, 10 224:9 225:6 balance 133:19 balloons 97:7 Bank 53:19 56:12 116:16 Banks 45:21, 23 46:11, 12 banquets 15:18 BAPTIST 183:8 Barbara 105:19 112:15, 23 Barbara' s 119:9 barbersh op 15:14 Bare 82:24 88:8 91:21,	22 bargaini ng 149:19 barriers 109:21 212:5 barring 147:6 Bartlett 68:6 94:4, 9 112:17 120:5, 18 197:23 201:13, 14 basic 32:13 48:20 142:13 basing 32:7 basis 93:4 basketba ll 219:8 Bass 16:23 19:4 28:24 33:2 75:22, 23 76:18, 20 78:4, 5	102:13 121:22 176:3, 4 182:3, 4 186:5, 6 203:3 209:5, 6 213:2, 10, 11 Bassbudg et 212:23 battle 139:6 battled 129:15 Beach 17:18 Beach's 18:12, 16 beacon 121:6 137:10 beaten 136:11 beautifu l 121:24 148:18 152:24 155:12 159:18 beauty 124:4 Beck 43:22 63:11 64:2, 9,	12 82:22 83:6, 7, 19 193:15 205:14 Beck's 83:8 beds 117:16 beeper 91:14 began 125:7 130:4 153:16 begin 81:24 93:18 110:14 118:13 159:16 218:2 beginnin g 94:22 begun 134:18 behalf 24:9 40:18 59:13, 16 72:11 83:9 91:23 93:24 100:12, 15 101:11,
---	--	---	--	---	---

15	17	76:23	billion	167:16	18:18,
102:10	Benjamin	77:8, 18	38:4	Billy	21
103:15	163:23	78:9,	89:8	219:10	19:11
108:17	betterme	10, 18	billiona	birthday	20:2, 7,
120:17	nt	79:6	ire	29:8	11, 17
148:6	122:4	85:15,	88:24	49:14	21:2, 8,
154:18	beverage	16, 19,	billions	50:7	12, 14
166:16	36:23	23	157:20	68:17	22:6,
192:7,	Beyonce	86:14	bills	69:10	13, 22
15	15:7	87:9	54:6, 22	100:21	23:6, 11
201:5	Bianca	91:23	55:1, 6	204:21,	24:10,
204:2	27:24	106:4	56:1	23	15, 22
behavior	120:7	107:21	57:1	219:2,	25:2
al	129:3	156:16	58:1	20	26:3
93:11	Bienveni	157:6	59:1	226:7	32:23
believes	dos	161:24	60:1	birthday	126:17
94:24	66:7	169:18	61:1	s	161:8
believin	big	170:7,	62:1	205:6	201:12
g	160:22	19, 20	63:1	bit	217:5
127:17	218:11	173:12,	64:1	100:11	Black-
165:16	Bilingua	14	65:1	163:4	owned
belong	l	176:15,	66:1	164:18	25:18
128:11	115:10	17	67:1, 10	170:18	Blackwel
beloved	bill	177:10,	68:1	bit.ly/	l
18:23	51:7,	17	69:1	bassbudg	18:5
bench	12, 15,	178:3,	70:1,	et	41:11
206:4	18, 22	12, 22	12, 17	212:23	Blatstei
beneath	52:4, 8,	179:4,	71:1	bit.ly/	n
93:6	13, 24	12, 14	72:1,	bassbudg	82:23
benefit	54:8	182:15,	10, 16	et.	85:11,
21:2	71:10,	17, 21	73:1	212:24	13
145:16	15	183:3,	74:1	bite	87:19
171:19	72:3, 19	5, 14, 16	75:1	203:15	blessed
203:19	73:6, 11	186:17	76:2, 11	Black	15:19
benefite	74:6,	209:12,	77:22	14:2	95:21
d	13, 17,	15, 16	79:1,	16:8, 15	123:24
38:8	20, 23	210:23	12, 15,	17:8,	block
benefits	75:5, 9,	221:24	20, 24	13, 16,	121:21
147:7,	13, 18	222:8	80:1, 7,	18, 23	210:11
		225:4	13, 20		
		226:6	85:14		

blocks 34:12	163:15, 19	203:15, 20	198:6, 9,11	building 89:21	54:21 76:16
Blondell 16:20	born 94:17	briefly 209:12	201:7,8	93:7	79:10
41:2,3, 15	125:5	Bright 36:14	brother 18:13	99:6	95:14
101:6	218:23	brighten 30:14	95:10	108:8	122:3
blossome d 130:3	borne 134:21	bring 91:17	113:24	113:12,	201:12,
Blue 219:19	borrower s 208:14	214:9	114:5	13,24	14
Board 103:12	bound 136:13	bringing 138:11	157:7	114:6	209:20,
117:8	boundari es 64:4	brings 122:15	159:3	115:5,	21
147:20	boy 68:17	Broad 87:16	brotherl y 122:7,8	12	221:20
190:21	69:10	183:10	brothers 15:13	117:20	business es 25:19
223:16	219:19	219:6	84:24	119:4,	86:10
boats 71:4	brands 125:21	broke 64:3	103:12	17	101:22
bodies 163:24	bravely 102:5	broken 212:5	brought 150:18	121:15	105:2
body 41:24	bread 123:22	Brooklyn 126:5	Brown 16:20	161:11,	130:11
51:3	breaking 149:3	Brooks 19:19	41:2	16	131:4
101:4	Breeze 125:8	28:11,	101:7	building 's 119:11	202:22
155:24	brick- 116:21	21 29:4	budget 98:11	building s 150:22,	busy 41:23
165:9	bridge 93:6	38:17	142:21	24	buy 23:22
190:23	bridged 22:18	39:11	212:16,	built 104:21	buys 122:20
boldly 42:3	briefing 202:22	44:13	20	136:12	by-right 171:20
bomb 88:19		46:2	213:3,9	214:19	223:12
book 41:8		67:16,	Buenos 115:8	burden 85:21	bypassin g 88:18
130:8		17	build 26:21	86:10	
Booth 151:23		102:12	42:21	bus 37:20	C
159:12		175:2,3	126:22	Busby 97:19	C203 221:12
		181:2,3	132:21	105:18,	cafe 179:7
		185:4,5	160:16,	24	Caine 105:20
			23	106:2	
			164:12	business 49:13	
			165:7	50:9	

112:16	173:17	cardhold	Carrieri	132:7	certifie
117:5,7	179:17	ers	131:16	206:14	d
calculat	183:19	142:8	146:5,	215:8	124:18
ed	202:24	care	10,11	220:17	cetera
136:20	called	33:4,9	carries	celebrat	93:3
Calendar	80:8	96:9	79:6	ing	Chair
56:21	81:11	133:22	169:15	29:7	19:16
58:5,15	95:15	143:16	case	46:24	24:2
59:6	calling	147:10,	36:7	celebrat	27:10
60:10,	26:7	11,17	108:19	ion	28:10
19	79:24	154:14	catered	145:4	39:7
61:6,16	115:19	155:2	203:16	celebrit	49:13
62:3,13	126:10	207:19	Catholic	ies	50:10
64:23	147:18	208:2	94:18,	142:6	54:23
65:10	calls	cared	20	center	55:11,
66:2,24	36:8	84:6,7	219:7	53:8,14	21
68:15	104:14	career	Cathy	73:18,	56:23
70:7	137:19	101:5	220:14	24	59:7
79:8,	campaign	125:20	caught	104:11	62:15
11,21	33:14	143:17	87:16	108:4,5	63:4,5,
80:14	36:10	145:11,	113:24	125:9	18 66:3
178:24	89:11	16	caused	152:11,	67:2,14
186:20	118:12	149:5	37:24	13	68:16,
201:3	154:4	careers	42:6	153:9	24 69:9
Calendar	campaign	206:2	causing	155:8	70:8
s	s	carefull	48:10	201:19	72:6
79:17	36:18	y	CDC	centers	75:21
80:3,	campers	46:9	116:18	37:3	76:6,17
10,24	71:5	caregive	153:19	43:5	78:3
167:18	campus	rs	207:4	92:23	79:21
call	114:11	48:5	Cecil	CEO	134:9
34:18,	capable	cares	221:11	100:12	168:16
21 36:5	165:16	96:6	Ceiba	163:20	170:11
37:17	capacity	cargo	115:12	ceremony	177:5
41:21	116:13	71:6	celebrat	220:8	187:10
104:11	capital	Carol	e	certific	188:20
123:23	212:24	94:2	27:14	ate	190:11
145:20	213:2	97:10	94:10	209:24	192:10,
159:9			96:12		11
170:6					193:23
					195:9

196:18	21:2, 17	chapters	65:11	179:5,	120:19
198:8	22:10	128:3	66:11,	16, 18,	childhood
199:19	116:19	charge	14	22	
201:6	128:12	22:9	67:23	180:3,	33:19,
202:10	134:6	38:12	68:3	7, 10,	24
204:4,	171:4,	Charlita	69:18,	13, 17,	34:19
16	12, 16	23:21	21	21, 24	children
209:4	172:2	Charm	70:15,	181:5,	29:7,
213:15	222:23	124:4	18	9, 13,	18, 24
216:7	223:5	Charter	71:13	17, 21	30:4, 5,
217:21	changed	35:21	72:14,	182:2,	10, 19,
219:23	37:7	charters	17 73:9	5, 9	22
225:23	153:14	d	74:9	183:6,	31:7, 24
challenge	223:19	19:24	77:4, 6	18, 20,	32:4,
e	changing	chattel	78:11,	24	10, 15,
85:24	28:6	155:19	18	184:5,	20
161:6	223:24	check-	82:19,	9, 12,	33:5, 8,
challenges	225:9	to-check	21 88:7	15, 19,	16
116:20	Chapman	113:21	97:17	23	34:11,
151:11	24:4, 5	Chef	100:10	185:3,	24 35:8
chamber	100:6	163:22	105:17	7, 11,	36:12
25:6	chapter	Cherelle	112:14	15, 19,	37:7, 9,
135:20	14:3	17:4	120:4	23	13, 15,
chambers	16:9, 16	Chief	131:12	186:4,	18
14:14	17:9	50:12,	146:4	7, 11, 21	38:4,
27:17	19:22,	14, 17,	151:20	188:12	12, 24
champion	23	21	159:11	189:22	39:21
36:22	20:3, 8	56:6, 9	167:11,	191:23	42:4,
40:24	23:7	57:12,	22	193:12	10, 13
44:19	24:11,	15	168:9	194:22	43:11,
champions	19 54:2	58:6, 16	169:20	195:2	13 44:9
43:23	56:16	59:19,	173:16,	196:9	46:16
chance	70:19,	23	18, 22	197:20	89:18
30:16	21	60:11,	174:3,	199:7,	95:22
43:21	176:19	21	7, 10,	10	96:5
202:2	217:6	61:8, 18	13, 17,	200:18,	121:18
change	Chapter 's	62:5	21, 24	21	123:23
	22:14	63:8	175:5,	child	127:18
		64:24	9, 13,	32:14	144:24
			17, 21	44:20	160:24
			176:2,	84:14	
			5, 9, 18		

Children	113:3	citizens	18	18	119:14
's	117:12	31:7	85:12	144:8,	211:18
28:14	132:20	40:18	86:5	12,18,	citywide
33:11	183:8	101:11	87:14,	24	126:21
38:21	cigarette	city	17,22	145:6,	civic
46:13,	e	14:12	89:16	10,21	24:22
23	36:20	15:23	90:8	148:4	140:11
47:9,	cigarette	16:13	92:7	150:9,	civilian
13,16	es	17:3,19	94:12	13	s
48:17	210:8	23:4	98:3,19	151:7	88:21
CHIP	Cindy	24:8	103:20	152:6,	89:17
33:13	16:23	25:4,21	104:2,	16,19	claim
choice	75:22	26:15	24	153:8	128:11
83:23	121:22	28:14	105:13	154:12,	161:11
89:22	209:5	30:20,	107:8,	20	clap
208:13	circle	23	10	155:7,	202:7
choices	125:5	33:6,20	108:10	14	clarified
165:18	circulate	34:6,12	109:5	160:22	s
choosing	e	37:19	111:9,	166:4,	171:7
147:5	155:6	38:2,19	22	12	clarity
chose	circulate	39:4	113:7,	173:10	170:18
95:11	ed	42:13,	18	186:24	class
Christ	177:19	15	115:17	188:16	126:20
113:3	178:5	44:21	116:5	190:6	142:22
117:12	circulate	46:8	117:15	192:6	166:23
Christie	ion	50:23	118:4,9	195:6	classes
31:2	210:14	51:9,	121:4,5	196:11	96:19,
Christop	circumst	14,18,	124:10	201:24	20
her's	ances	22	125:4	206:19	129:9
96:24	81:15	53:9,15	126:2,3	212:4	cleansing
chronica	223:8	57:18	128:2,	214:4,	g
lly	citizen	58:10,	15	8,18	89:11
117:21	32:17	23 60:6	129:7	215:17	Clemente
Church	Citizen's	65:5	130:5	216:23	215:24
92:4	s	66:16	132:4	224:9,	Clerk
106:6,	60:14,	73:18	135:8,	23	50:12,
12	24	74:2,	12,15	city's	14,17,
107:24	61:11,	14,19,	136:24	31:11	21
112:7	21 62:8	23 75:4	137:8,	90:12	
		83:22	9,11,13	91:12	
		84:4,9,	138:18	111:19	
			140:6,		

56:6, 9	20	22	Coach	212:21	211:8
57:12,	173:16,	191:20,	27:24	213:9	217:3
15	18, 22	23	124:16	cold	221:23
58:6, 16	174:3,	193:9,	126:13	92:22	224:15,
59:19,	7, 10,	12	214:16	135:7	16
23	13, 17,	194:22	coaches	collabor	225:11
60:11,	21, 24	195:2	71:4	ate	226:8
21	175:5,	196:6, 9	coalitio	25:9	collecti
61:8, 18	9, 13,	197:17,	n	102:22	ve
62:5	17, 21	20	14:2	collabor	26:15
63:5, 8	176:2,	199:7,	16:7,	ating	115:11,
64:24	5, 9, 16,	10	10, 15	102:18	16
65:11	18	200:18,	17:8,	collabor	149:18
66:11,	179:3,	21	15, 23	ation	190:22
14	5, 16,	climb	18:6, 16	102:14	collecti
67:23	18, 22	127:9	19:6, 10	colleagu	vely
68:3	180:3,	clinics	20:2, 7	e	47:18
69:18,	7, 10,	33:7	21:11	16:4, 21	college
21	13, 17,	close	22:13	49:15	94:22
70:15,	21, 24	45:8	23:6	64:6	114:10
18	181:5,	95:8	24:10	204:22	125:13
71:13	9, 13,	102:7	115:12	216:13	219:11
72:14,	17, 21	108:22	217:4	colleagu	color
17 73:9	182:2,	204:8	Coalitio	es	14:9, 17
74:9	5, 9, 16	closer	n's	29:6	23:14
77:4, 6	183:4,	109:2	21:5	45:2	132:13
78:11,	6, 18,	clothed	code	55:4, 17	comb
18	20, 24	123:10	52:16	57:5	90:15
82:19,	184:5,	clothing	53:4	62:19	combined
21 88:7	9, 12,	96:21	54:3	67:9	48:9
97:17	15, 19,	123:12	56:17	76:10	210:23
105:17	23	club	70:24	143:8	comforta
112:14	185:3,	126:14	72:22	149:7	ble
120:4	7, 11,	214:17	73:14	172:5,	135:5
131:12	15, 19,	clubs	77:11	21	comicall
146:4	23	126:4	169:22	173:2, 6	y-low
151:20	186:4,	130:8	172:14	191:3	145:14
159:11	7, 11,	Co-chair	176:20	202:19	comment
167:11,	18, 21	117:8	210:17,	208:2	64:18
19, 22	188:9,		19	209:16	
168:9	12				
169:17,	189:19,				

80:21,	122:1	164:1	73:8	19	164:19
22 81:1	123:1	165:1	74:8	215:11	187:5, 6
82:1	124:1	166:1	75:20	222:10	193:18
83:1	125:1	167:13	76:16,	223:14	201:23
84:1	126:1	202:18	19, 22	224:10,	205:16
85:1	127:1	commente	77:7, 23	11	206:20,
86:1	128:1	rs	189:24	225:17	22
87:1	129:1	81:15	committe	communit	207:9,
88:1	130:1	comments	es	y	12
89:1	131:1	82:16	79:12	15:22	208:16
90:1	132:1	161:24	common	21:19	212:3
91:1	133:1	Commissi	163:5	27:22	214:13
92:1	134:1	on	communic	28:6	215:20
93:1	135:1	35:23	ation	37:4	220:22
94:1	136:1	60:15	50:19	57:22	222:21
95:1	137:1	61:2,	communic	63:14	223:17
96:1	138:1	12, 22	ations	64:7	communit
97:1	139:1	62:9	50:1, 9	94:21	y-based
98:1	140:1	172:12	51:1	96:10,	48:12
99:1	141:1	224:18	52:1	18	116:18
100:1	142:1	commit	53:1	97:9, 14	companie
101:1	143:1	154:23	54:1, 15	98:7, 15	s
102:1	144:1	commitme	152:10	108:15	42:8, 17
103:1	145:1	nt	communit	115:14	companio
104:1	146:1	23:10	ies	116:17	nship
105:1	147:1	25:7	17:22	121:17	215:2
106:1	148:1	90:12	20:18	122:3, 5	Comparat
107:1	149:1	207:18	21:24	124:24	ive
108:1	150:1	212:11	22:21	126:23	125:14
109:1	151:1	committe	24:17	130:7	compared
110:1	152:1	d	116:2	132:12,	142:22
111:1	153:1	22:4	134:5,	22	compassi
112:1	154:1	47:16	18	139:21	on
113:1	155:1	220:22	136:21	140:4	207:24
114:1	156:1	committe	157:24	152:13	compassi
115:1	157:1	e	164:2	153:2	onate
116:1	158:1	58:18	168:12	154:3,	122:2
117:1	159:1	71:12	171:23,	15	154:14
118:1	160:1	72:5	24	155:4,	compel
119:1	161:1		214:9,	13	
120:1	162:1			163:20	
121:1	163:1				

29:23	concert	170:3	Congress	78:17	154:6
complace	148:12	177:3	88:19	79:10	continue
ncy	conclude	179:10	conjunct	consider	22:9
151:9	82:6	183:12	ion	ed	30:14
complete	conclusi	190:3	220:6	77:17	43:15
109:12,	on	confiden	connect	171:3	45:9, 10
14	93:13	ce	66:20	consider	48:18
129:20	110:9	140:23	196:15	s	112:9
151:13	112:2	166:8	214:24	122:20	157:9
complete	condemn	conflate	connecte	consist	166:13
ly	88:18	91:8	d	21:12	215:9
143:6	89:7	confront	131:9	consiste	continue
complete	condemne	ing	connecti	nt	d
s	d	92:7	ng	92:10	22:15
201:2	114:6	confusio	48:6	constant	continue
complian	condemni	n	connecti	143:10	s
ce	ng	170:20	on	206:22	20:21
71:22	65:13	congratu	53:13	constant	35:23
componen	88:15	late	73:23	ly	49:5
t	98:11	30:17	connecti	144:6	91:3
139:10	111:17	congratu	ons	constitu	99:17
comprehe	134:12	lations	130:21	ents	156:2
nsive	150:9	23:16	conscien	86:11,	continui
152:12	156:5,	212:12	ce	22	ng
computer	24	216:24	47:9, 19	110:18	26:18
114:20	158:22	226:5, 8	consequ	216:2	27:3
concern	162:3, 7	congrega	nces	construc	ty
80:22	167:23	tion	33:19	ted	22:8
concerne	208:7	108:18	conserva	35:4	continuo
d	conditio	111:12	tion	construc	usly
92:8	ns	113:9	138:13	tion	139:11
106:22	52:22	117:17	146:15	51:24	contract
107:6	53:17	Congrega	consider	75:6	138:24
111:7,	58:20	tional	ation	210:3	139:2,
13	71:8,	108:15	51:2	consulta	7, 14
113:5,	21, 23	congrega	56:21	tions	140:17
10	73:4	tions	60:19	201:21	149:4
190:23	74:4	117:14	61:6, 16	context	
	77:16		62:3, 13		
	166:2				

contract	34:15	copy	44:12,	73:5	152:5,
s	cook	38:23	18	74:5	6, 16
25:21	164:22	177:18	45:7,	75:17	154:20
163:3	165:6,	178:4	13, 17	76:4, 9,	155:6,
contribu	12, 17	core	49:8, 9,	13	18
te	166:8	126:19	10, 11,	77:2,	156:16,
93:9	cooking	cornerst	19, 24	19, 23	18, 22
215:16	164:3,	one	50:5,	78:2, 8,	157:10,
contribu	11	58:24	16, 23	13, 16,	15
ted	165:8,	190:7	54:7,	19, 24	158:13,
21:20	13, 15	corporat	14, 17	79:4, 18	19, 21,
contribu	166:6,	ions	55:3, 9,	80:17	24
tions	21, 23	98:7	15, 19,	81:2	159:6,
23:12	cooks	116:17	24	82:15	15
30:20	105:2	costs	56:4,	83:22	161:21
57:22	Cooper	111:8	18, 22	84:4, 9	163:11,
94:13	28:18	113:6	57:4, 9,	85:9, 12	16, 17
187:5	30:18	cotton	10	87:15	164:6
213:23	38:14	156:12	58:2, 12	98:2, 3	166:13
controls	39:8, 9	council	59:3, 17	99:24	167:8,
53:12	45:16,	14:5	60:7,	100:16,	11, 14
73:22	22, 24	16:14	16, 20	24	168:7,
conversa	46:4	18:9, 14	61:3, 7,	103:7,	15, 21
tion	47:7, 18	19:2, 15	13, 17,	21	169:2,
203:10	cooperat	23:3, 24	23	104:3	10, 13
215:5	ion	24:3, 7,	62:4,	110:4	170:4,
217:12	44:24	8 26:15	10, 14,	111:5	10
conversa	cooperat	27:6, 7,	18	112:3,	173:11
tions	ive	8, 9, 13	63:3,	10	176:10,
26:19	202:22	28:8, 17	17, 21	115:7,	11
111:10	203:2,	33:21	64:20	17	177:4,
113:8	5, 17	35:5	65:7, 22	116:5	9, 12,
138:20	Coordina	36:2	66:6, 9,	119:24	16, 20,
172:22	tor	37:20	21	138:19	24
convince	115:11	38:18	67:12,	140:18	178:6,
d	cope	39:3, 6,	18, 21	141:10	9, 17, 20
35:12	68:7	17, 21	68:12,	145:21	179:2,
convinci	197:24	40:16	20, 22	146:2	11
ng		41:20,	69:8, 16	148:4	182:10,
		24	70:4, 13	149:24	11, 18,
			71:9	150:9,	24
			72:2, 12	13	183:13

186:12, 13	213:6, 13, 18	103:21 113:4	217:22, 23	70:9 72:7	6, 10, 14, 18,
187:9, 14, 18	214:23 216:3,	118:3 119:22,	218:23 219:8,	75:22 76:7, 17	22 182:3,
188:3, 6, 19, 24	5, 11, 23 217:8,	24 137:17	17 220:3	78:4 79:22	6, 19 183:21
189:5, 13, 16	17, 19 218:15	148:5 150:2	226:3 councilm	92:4 93:14	184:2, 6, 10,
190:10, 15, 20	219:22 220:12,	170:8, 15	anic 16:19	100:20 107:13	13, 16, 20, 24
191:7, 14, 17	20 222:3, 5	173:20 174:9,	39:19 53:23	108:2 110:10	185:4, 8, 12,
192:8, 9, 18	225:13, 20	12, 23 175:7,	56:14 59:8	111:16 134:12	16, 20, 24
193:3, 6, 22	226:4, 11, 12,	11, 15, 19, 23	67:3 86:24	138:10 141:9,	186:5, 8 187:8,
194:4, 8, 16, 19	16, 18 Councilm	177:8, 14, 21,	87:2, 5 170:12	10 145:22,	11 188:18,
195:8, 16, 23	an 14:7,	22 179:20	219:24 Councilm	23 147:23	21 190:9,
196:3, 17, 22	19, 22, 24	180:9, 12, 23	ember 14:23	164:5 168:17	17 192:7,
197:3, 11, 14	15:11 18:7, 11	181:7, 11, 15,	16:5, 23 17:2	170:13 173:19,	12 193:21,
198:7, 12, 16,	23:19 30:24	19, 23 182:22	19:17 23:17	23 174:4,	24 195:7,
24 199:4,	32:16 35:19	183:22 184:11,	27:11 28:11,	8, 11, 14, 18,	10 196:16,
18 200:4,	38:6 40:5	14 185:2,	20 49:15,	22 175:2,	19 198:5, 9
12, 15, 21, 24	41:10 55:2	9, 13, 17, 21	20 54:24	6, 10, 14, 18,	20 199:16,
201:9 202:4,	57:3 59:11	186:2 187:13	55:12, 22	22 176:3, 6	201:7 202:11
5, 9 203:22,	62:16 67:6	188:23 190:12,	56:24 59:9	177:6 179:19,	204:17 209:5
23 204:7,	68:19 69:4, 12	14 192:14	63:19 66:4	23 180:4,	216:14 225:24
10, 15, 19	70:10 72:8	199:22 202:12	67:4, 15 68:17	8, 11, 14, 18,	226:6, 9 councilm
205:2 209:2	83:13	204:5, 6, 13	69:2, 10	22 181:2,	embers

29:2	62:17	16, 17	crafted	credited	culture
101:5	63:20	216:9,	25:10	34:14	151:8
102:11	64:15	18	44:5	Cricket	current
109:6	66:5	count	crash	31:3	33:13
115:9	67:17	143:7	102:2	crime	224:6
147:19	75:23	205:8	Crawl	158:2,	Curtis
Councilp	76:8, 20	counties	126:14	4, 5, 11	16:5
erson	78:5	24:24	create	criminal	59:9
39:11	80:4	countles	21:22	91:15	192:12
41:12	83:17,	s	31:19	crisis	customer
44:3, 17	19, 21,	145:4	33:6	25:23	104:10
190:18	24	201:17	35:22	89:6	customer
Councilp	103:5, 6	212:5	43:11	112:2	s
ersons	121:22	country	127:8	115:23	101:16
41:19	128:20	14:8	128:10	136:23	102:10
42:18	131:6	15:5	206:7	168:14	105:13
43:19	132:2	68:9	created	critical	cut
44:13,	168:20	90:2	22:19	26:5	90:3
22	173:24	143:4	31:22	Cross	162:17
Councilw	174:5,	198:3	34:18	114:4	cuts
oman	175:3	County	43:9	Crown	88:15
16:2, 18	176:4, 7	109:18	132:11	132:18	98:11
18:4	179:24	couple	133:10	crucial	99:8
19:4, 19	180:5,	102:15	134:23	87:22	115:20,
20:5, 20	15, 19	107:2	creating	cruel	22
21:10	181:3	153:15	53:7	99:9	116:8
22:2, 11	182:4, 7	202:14	73:17	cruelty	207:4
27:12	184:3,	209:9	91:2, 4	91:15	
28:4	7, 17, 21	courage	121:19	136:20	D
29:4	185:5	42:5	126:5	Crumblin	dad
31:13	186:6, 9	courageo	129:22	g	50:3
33:2	194:3	us	131:8	151:7	Dadson
34:4	195:12	47:23	133:4	CTR	28:2
35:2	196:21	Court	215:12	53:8	120:7
36:16	198:11	63:12	creative	cultural	124:14,
37:14	201:8	193:16	58:8	138:17	16
38:17	203:3	205:21	125:10,	140:10	daily
41:11	204:18	cracks	20	145:5, 9	127:20
46:2	205:4	109:23	188:14		141:22
55:14,	209:6				
23	213:11,				

149:4	28:14	dear	declarin	definiti	democrac
damage	29:13	134:13	g	ons	y
168:12	30:22	dearly	65:2	53:6	43:12
Dance	38:21	206:15	195:3	73:16	denial
125:9,	45:9	decades	dedicate	defund	149:14
10	46:8	29:12	d	168:3	denials
Darren	70:3	153:21	17:24	defundin	149:17
95:23,	78:9	deceased	24:14	g	dental
24 96:4	93:4	95:3	38:10,	111:18	33:9
112:17	96:6	deceitfu	15	defy	deny
120:5	97:5	l	47:15	138:2	154:2,5
data	100:18	124:4	48:15,	degree	denying
29:21	101:17	December	21 60:4	216:15	149:12
165:21	106:14	51:7	69:23	delibera	departme
dates	107:4	52:14	192:4	te	nt
221:6	108:20	53:2	199:12	89:22	88:16
daughter	130:23	72:20	dedicati	delibera	98:12
64:12	165:23	73:11	on	tely	134:19
83:8	199:15	74:12	17:11	151:3	143:5
94:16	204:23	decided	23:8	158:8	146:15
120:23	214:2,7	118:11	212:7	deliciou	148:8
121:24	218:3,	decision	deemed	s	149:6
daughter	10,24	65:15	79:14	164:24	150:11,
s	day-to-	129:17	deep	165:6	16
124:2	93:3	208:9	106:15	deliver	168:4
David	day-to-	decision	deepened	44:15	deport
88:10	day	s	125:15	50:11	90:21
97:18	141:20	147:22	deeply	95:15	deprivat
99:24	days	207:6	45:5	104:9	ion
131:13	88:22	declarat	84:6,8	deliveri	158:6
134:9	89:18	ion	94:24	ng	deserve
146:6	114:4	152:17	100:19	95:15	125:17
151:21	153:15	154:7,	111:6	demand	128:7
152:7	173:13	21	113:5	26:14	157:18
Davis	179:13	declare	defend	demand	207:23
23:22	183:15	135:3,	99:11	demand	deserves
day	daytime	18	135:3	36:11	154:16
17:10	108:5	deal	defiance	demands	design
24:14	106:13		154:11	37:19	137:5

desired 222:20, 22	161:4	difficul	160:15	distingu	district
desks 102:20	developi	ties 118:18	discuss 131:23	ished 24:8	s 85:18
despair 157:23	ng 162:23	dignity 96:11	217:9	distribu	86:4,16
desperat	developm	136:8	discusse	ting 104:17	172:24
e 111:21	ent 20:13	dinner 84:15	d 207:3	district 16:4,	diverse 148:16
detailed 29:22	22:5	direct 202:18	disease 166:5	19,24	153:2
detained 90:21	32:14	directly 110:17	dishonor	52:6,10	Division 153:19
deterior	74:15	143:11	s 136:8	53:9,24	Dobbins 211:15
ate 151:4	88:16	director 30:17	disinves	56:15	Doctorat
determin	98:7,	47:8	tment 32:19	59:9	e 211:23
ation 22:17	13,15	84:13	disorder 153:4	67:4	216:15
154:11	108:16	95:11	disparit	73:18	dogs 90:10
devaluat	115:15	98:5	ies 207:20	75:11,	dollar 140:9
ion 158:7	116:17	108:14	displace 136:21	15	dollars 149:21
devalued 158:8	134:15,	203:11	displace	77:12	Domestic 207:4
devastat	20	disappea	ment 111:9	86:23	Donald 65:13
ing 111:19	150:12	r 90:22	113:7	92:5	155:22
115:20	152:9	disappro	dispose 53:20	93:17	156:6
168:6,	161:4,	ve 208:19	56:12	106:6,7	Donna 28:18
10	7,20	discipli	dispropo	108:2	30:18
devastat	163:7	ne 26:9	rtionate	110:13	38:14
ion 150:18	168:5	ct 82:9	ly 115:24	111:6	39:7
develope	diabetes 166:3	discoura	207:13	112:6	47:7,17
rs 160:16	dias 115:8	ging 93:9	disrupt 126:15	113:4	door 205:24
	Diet-	discover	distaff 123:4	170:13	doors 117:14
	related 165:24			173:4	119:12
	differen			190:18	
	ce 118:8			209:20	
	differen			212:15,	
	tly 173:4			18	
				215:21	
				220:2,	
				13,20	
				221:14	
				222:6	
				225:14	

dozens 31:17 141:23	Driscoll 's 50:2	41:7 E	164:17 165:8 187:4	89:6 164:3 187:3 188:16 211:22, 24	151:19 153:21 154:13, 17 214:13
drafted 156:7	driven 65:16	e-v-i-c- t-i-o-n	economic 17:20 20:16 24:20 25:17 58:21 105:8 136:3 157:23 158:5 190:4	educatio nal 26:7 36:6 44:16	Elaine 27:23 120:8 131:13, 22
dramatic ally 34:8 153:14	driving 20:24 29:9	137:4 earlier 100:11 152:14	earliest 38:7 Early 34:19	educator s 21:15 165:2	elected 29:23 37:17 40:16, 24
drastica lly 168:3	drop-in 92:23 108:4	earn 109:4 216:20	Economie s 58:9 188:15	effect 111:19 168:10	electric al 210:19
dream 116:24 127:23	drug 210:20	earned 149:12	economy 203:8	effectin g 22:10	elementa ry 30:6 210:11
dreams 120:22 127:24	Dubow 64:13 82:22 83:6, 7 84:12	earning 211:23 216:14	Ed 47:6	efficien cy 136:17, 19 137:2, 3	emancipa ted 156:12
drill 158:9	due 81:19 90:23	ease 27:7, 8 49:9, 10 182:18	Edna 17:18 18:12, 15	efficien tly 102:5 104:12	embargo 91:19
Driscoll 49:21 69:11, 12 100:21 103:22 175:14, 15 181:14, 15 185:16, 17 199:17, 20, 22 204:22 217:22, 23 219:15, 17	duly 78:12 168:24 178:8 187:17 189:4 191:6 192:17 194:7 195:15 197:2 198:15 200:3 226:15	East 52:5, 20 73:2 75:10	educate 160:24	effort 35:20 39:24 85:6 117:10	embrace 129:18
	duo 41:7	eat 123:22 165:22 166:9	educated 163:6	efforts 32:7 37:12, 24	Embracin g 19:23
	dynamic 21:13	eating 57:21	educatio n 20:15 22:23 24:21 30:2 34:19 57:20 58:10		emergenc y 92:21
					emotiona l 93:11

emotionally 149:16	enactment 33:11	engage 25:8 208:5	150:22	99:6 115:15 206:7	establishing 32:6
employees 69:23 101:14 102:4 104:7, 20 139:17 146:23 147:5, 18 149:15 199:12	enamored 144:8 encampment 109:10 encourage 104:2 encouraged 19:21 encroachment 183:10 encroachments 52:2 75:7 179:6 end 86:21 endeavor 93:15 endocrine 153:4 ends 149:14 energy 156:4 191:2 enforcement 25:20 168:11	engaged 139:12 engagement 24:22 engineering 151:11 Engrossed 38:23 enhance 130:14 enhancing 116:13 Enix-kenney 61:10 enjoy 144:19 enslaved 136:11 ensure 25:9 31:8 35:5 58:23 99:17 101:18 134:23 190:6 ensuring 26:6 92:9 126:16	enter 140:16 141:19 entire 25:4 47:14 109:17 172:14 212:3,4 entirety 51:5 52:13, 24 72:19 73:10 74:11 entitled 52:15, 17,19 53:3,5 71:17 72:20, 22 73:2, 12,14 77:11 169:22 176:20 entrepreneurs 21:15 environm ent 215:4 equality 137:10 equitable	equity 17:12 18:3 20:13, 23 23:9 24:20 26:7,23 207:18 eradicate 153:22 155:9 erase 155:12 escalate 136:22 168:13 Esposito 97:20 105:19 110:23 111:2 essential 22:7 48:20 141:20 essentially 170:24 222:15 established 31:21 222:13	esteemed 166:18 Estey 31:5 Ethel 14:16 ethical 47:23 111:4 ethnic 89:11 Evans 112:18 120:6, 12,13, 16 event 97:4 102:17 126:21 148:13, 14 221:4, 12 events 101:23 130:9 145:5 148:8 eventually 113:16 everyone's 218:19

eviction 137:5	exist 21:8	215:20	142:12	219:8	97:10
exams 33:9	127:9	exposed 210:15,	faced 207:20	families 17:22	219:14
Excavati on 176:21	128:8	18	faces 167:2	25:3	favor 78:20
exceeded 120:21	existenc e 154:5	exposure 34:2	facets 144:9	32:11	134:10
excellen ce 212:7	155:12	expressi ng 68:5	facilita te 51:10	68:7	169:6
excellen t 94:10	existing 52:5	197:22	74:15	96:12,	178:14
excels 124:3	75:10	expressi on 39:2	faciliti es 88:20	15, 23	187:22
exceptio nal 94:15	expand 25:24	extendin g 71:22	fact 96:22	97:3, 6	189:9
excited 164:4	34:8	extends 96:14	144:2	105:10	191:11
executio n 51:13	expense 89:13	123:5	207:2	111:20	192:22
74:18	expensiv e 145:15	External 100:3	factors 58:21	121:7,	194:12
executiv e 30:17	experien ce 125:15	extraord inary 101:23	190:4	10, 12	195:20
47:8	experien ced 111:14	extreme 92:22	failure 32:20	134:4	197:7
103:12	experien cing 95:12	extremel y 94:12	fair 81:21	135:6,	198:21
152:9	expertis e 44:7	144:15	88:24	11	200:8
208:23	explore 130:13	eye 33:9	89:24	136:22	226:21
exempt 172:24	Expo	42:10	168:11	142:7	favorabl e 76:24
exercise 152:21		F	215:21	157:21	77:19
153:13		face 48:18	faith 132:21	165:19	fearful 207:11
		137:23	faithful ly 81:23	197:24	fears 124:6
			fall 109:22	201:18	206:21
			142:15	family 96:6	fed 136:7
			Fame	108:23	federal 118:4
				122:5	fee 109:8
				144:23	feeding 96:23
				171:13	feel 106:15
				206:12	126:17
				223:6	142:10
				famous 15:6	
				142:6	
				Fanatic 142:8	
				fascinat ing 39:14	
				father 95:2	

fees 149:21	30:5 40:8	Finance 84:13	fix 87:8	18:20 29:9	fortunat e 15:4
feet 40:10	89:3	financia l	flavor 118:21	31:15, 20 86:7	forward 26:18
Feiler 97:20	figure 87:8	139:10	floor 217:13	166:12	27:3
107:19, 20	Filbert 51:16, 21	147:22	Flower 94:19	forcing 89:3 147:7	105:12 127:20
fellow 64:9	74:21	149:16	focus 22:22	Ford 88:10	167:6 172:17
139:17	75:4	Financin g	150:14	97:18	217:7
felt 128:6	filed 139:9	52:6	151:18	99:22, 24	forward- thinking 213:10
140:12	fill 114:20	75:11	155:22, 23	foreign 88:24	fostered 215:3
152:20	filling 114:21	93:5	162:9	forever 18:4	fosterin g 22:5
173:2	Final 56:20	119:19	214:6	48:18	fought 138:23
Fernande z 31:4	58:4, 14	148:12	focused 25:14	forged 137:9	found 32:10
41:12	59:5	160:7	37:11	14:15	156:3
101:6	60:9, 18	161:8	222:3	forget 136:14	211:8 216:16
Festival s 144:23	61:5, 15	215:2	folks 30:18	form 36:9	foundati on 127:24
Fetterma n 91:13	62:2, 12	finding 133:18	108:18	Forgiven ess 65:18	founded 17:16
fewer 165:22	64:23	fine 123:12	117:15	208:12	31:6 40:15
field 104:6, 13, 20	65:9, 24	fire 113:24	118:10	formal 36:2	135:24 163:22
122:20	66:23	119:7, 9	221:13	formed 17:17	founders 22:18
Fieler 105:18	68:14	firm 156:8	223:15	19:12	founding 102:7
fierce 206:6	70:6	fitness 66:19	follow 95:20	31:15	
fight	79:16	126:7	food 95:16	39:17	
	80:2, 9, 24	129:8, 14	96:21	fortitud e 137:23	
	167:18	132:6	105:2		
	178:23	196:14	122:15, 18		
	finally 119:2	214:20	165:8		
	173:15		166:10		
	179:15		203:11		
	183:17		force		
	208:6				

105:6	206:12	115:21	75:10	Gauthier	157:22
fourth	front	116:9	138:14	22:2	159:21
155:19	177:23	118:3	game	28:23	generati
free	front-	119:3,	15:15	36:16	ons
33:9	facing	16	gang-	55:22,	22:6
35:16	141:16	134:19	affiliat	23	30:13,
91:19	fruit	140:7,	ed	174:4,5	15
127:4	124:8	12	90:19	180:4,5	105:9
130:2	fulfilli	162:18,	gaps	184:6,7	genes
166:23	ng	19	22:19	gave	50:6
201:20	21:4	207:5	garments	114:7	genocide
Freedmen	31:10	221:16	123:15	157:19	91:11
155:24	fulfillm	funds	Garret	Gaza	gentlema
156:11	ent	37:4	88:9	90:2	n
157:18,	126:11	162:17	97:18	gem	59:8
24	full	funeral	Garrett	201:23	67:3
158:7	29:13	95:11	82:24	gender	170:12
freezes	89:10	96:7,	98:4	17:12	219:24
91:6	full-	10,15	gas	18:2	genuine
frequent	125:4	201:14	69:24	20:13,	121:14
ly	full-day	future	70:2	22 23:9	George
139:13	34:15	22:5	100:4,	general	95:2
Friday	full-	23:13	18	224:21,	germane
145:2	time	30:15	103:24	22	157:2
147:2	109:4	58:23	104:22	generall	Germanto
148:12	147:4,	190:6	199:13,	y	wn
friend	16	Futures	14	160:16	115:3
64:5	function	36:15	gas-	generate	121:8,
94:2	140:15	G	processi	36:20	21
114:6	fund	gain	ng	generati	gesture
205:13	87:21	166:7	104:8	ng	154:10
friends	funded	221:15	gates	35:8	Gestured
64:16	98:21	gained	123:14	generati	46:3
85:2	funding	19:7	124:10	on	Ghana
108:23	26:4	gains	gather	155:19	126:20
122:5	35:12	99:12	25:5	generati	gifts
129:12	48:21	gallery	97:6	onal	133:12
130:3	98:24	52:5	gathered	22:19	Gilberto
131:3			17:19	121:16	
202:19					

60:23	124:8	24	99:4	grandkid	145:5
Gill	128:4	57:3,4,	118:5	s	153:6
103:13	132:20	5 62:18	119:3	85:2	190:19
Gilmore	151:18	67:7,8	144:7,	grant	203:9,
16:2	211:12	76:9	13	221:16	11
22:11	giving	85:24	Governor	grant-	213:8
28:23	17:22	91:21	47:6	writing	218:7
31:13	81:8	93:22	grab	220:23	greatest
44:3	127:22	97:15,	203:14	granted	127:18
55:13,	glad	24	grace	29:16	greatly
14	30:16	99:22	121:13	granting	140:12
79:22	201:24	103:4,6	132:18,	51:8	203:20
80:4	glorious	110:23,	20	74:13	217:16
173:23,	87:14	24	gracias	grants	green
24	goal	115:8	116:22	221:4	82:2
179:23,	42:19	117:5	graduate	grate	218:12
24	126:22	119:5	219:5,	93:7	grew
184:2,3	155:4	123:2	6,11	grateful	120:20,
216:8,	goals	124:14	graduate	39:23	24
9,18	153:9	128:18	d	41:20	grief
girds	God	131:21	43:3	43:14	96:16,
122:22	95:17	150:5,	graduati	45:5,18	19
girls	133:14	23	ng	46:13	grievanc
15:10	God-	151:16	94:19	128:21	es
20:12	given	152:4	Grand	166:17	139:7
21:3,8	133:12	159:17,	218:17	212:10	grieve
24:23	Gonzalez	18	grandfat	gratitud	121:13
94:20	27:23	163:17	her	e	grieving
128:24	60:23	165:9,	171:2,	39:2	68:7
129:22	120:8	16	4,9,20	68:5	97:3
130:16	131:13,	good-	222:12,	197:22	121:7
214:16	20,22	paying	16	great	197:24
give	good	105:11	223:12,	40:15,	201:18
35:23	24:6	Google	18	19	gripping
42:13	41:18	89:19	224:22	41:16	136:23
43:20	46:11	governme	grandfat	43:22	Grizzly
44:20	50:6	nt	hered	44:12,	125:22
49:3,	55:3,4,	31:8	172:3	18,21	ground
16,21	15,16,	32:12		135:24	162:24
118:20		84:8			

groundbr	Gym	40:7	43:7	he'll	206:18
eaking	41:14	211:17	101:12	112:8	207:14,
33:21	gyms	Hamas	138:23	162:10	16, 18
211:10	130:11	89:14	149:13	he/him	208:2
group		hand	216:20	152:8	225:15
129:8	H	87:13	218:5	heads	healthca
130:16	Haakim	hand-in-	hard-	92:11	re
131:2	62:7	hand	101:9	156:7	154:2
groups	habits	165:14	hard-	heal	healthie
142:3	57:21	hands	working	48:8	r
214:23	129:15	123:4,	47:15	healing	131:8
grow	187:4	6, 7	103:18	124:24	164:12
42:14	Hagins	124:8	harm	health	166:14
48:7	151:22	162:20	115:24	20:15	healthy
88:5	155:17,	165:4	harmony	24:21	32:13
132:22	18	happen	133:4	26:3	57:20
grown	156:19,	30:12	Harriet	33:4, 7,	129:10
20:9	20, 21	47:4	14:10	12	130:2
guess	157:4,	139:23	Harrisbu	36:11	187:3
86:18	13, 17	218:14	rg	43:5	hear
guests	158:14,	happenin	30:8	57:23	16:22
24:9	17, 24	g	37:22	65:4	43:2
27:16	Halcyone	158:10	Harrity	66:18	64:17
29:3	138:6	210:6	49:16	93:12	110:7,
107:3	Haley	224:12	68:18,	129:16	17
214:22	131:14	happier	19	130:15	139:18,
guided	half	164:13	102:12	132:6,	24
15:4	101:4	happy	175:6, 7	15	162:6
guiding	hall	31:4	177:6,	134:2	203:4
201:17	87:17	41:12	8, 14, 21	147:9,	heard
Gurley	93:17	50:7	181:6, 7	11, 17	41:17
105:19	106:9	100:21	185:8, 9	152:12,	hearing
112:15,	108:10	101:6	204:24	18	160:9
22, 23	110:12	204:21,	218:23	153:3	206:21
gut	112:6	23	Hasson	154:8	hearings
136:21	217:13	218:24	81:8	165:24	58:19
gutting	219:7	219:20	Hastings	173:8	190:2
88:24	halls	226:7	31:3	187:7	heart
	30:7	hard		195:5	124:21,
				196:13	

22	highlight	218:11	109:2	69:22	32:22
127:7	t	HIV	111:14,	83:10	145:18
151:7	116:9	153:3,	15	103:23	hosting
heat	hill	20, 22	homes	132:3	93:16
210:13	137:10	155:9	71:4	191:24	110:12
heats	hip	207:4	101:22	193:13	112:5
104:24	40:21	hold	104:24	196:10	220:23
held	hired	58:19	honor	197:21	hour
80:15	142:15	81:22	14:14	199:11	108:13
114:21	hiring	109:18	16:12	205:12	142:16,
Helen	147:4	123:5	18:3	218:17	19
41:14	historic	147:19	27:2	220:9	house
helm	142:17	190:2	46:20	honors	71:4, 5
38:15	historically	Holmes	120:18	23:5	110:18
helped	ally	103:16	128:16	83:14	117:20
41:10	136:4	home	133:20	hope	119:2
helping	151:2	35:21	202:2	43:21,	161:19
37:19	history	95:16	213:22	24 45:9	household
68:6	14:15	96:7	218:18	46:9	d
197:23	17:14	109:3	220:8	93:18	122:18
herewith	27:15	116:11	honorabl	100:22	123:9,
51:2	46:19	119:13	e	110:13	10, 21
hero	68:10	158:7	51:3	112:8	housing
219:13	94:6, 11	201:15	63:10	119:23	25:22
high	101:8	homegoing	193:14	121:6	88:15
42:24	132:8	g	205:14	hoping	89:2, 5,
43:10	145:3	121:11	honored	113:16	24
94:20	198:4	homeless	17:5	Hospital	92:6,
114:16	201:11	92:9,	24:11	96:24	12, 15
125:11	205:23	18, 20	64:11	host	98:13,
219:7	213:20,	106:13,	94:5	132:23	18
high-	24	17	103:19	hostage	99:12
quality	215:9	107:7	128:4,	89:15	107:9
44:21	220:9	117:15,	22	hosted	109:13,
higher-	history-	22	honoring	220:7	23
pay	maker	118:9,	17:7	hostile	111:21,
143:8	122:9	14, 24	59:24	148:24	24
hit	hit	homeless	63:9	hostilit	113:17
	202:17	ness	66:15	y	114:3,
		106:24	68:4		17

115:23	husband	II	205:22	48:3	33:5
116:7,	95:24	219:12	impactin	92:14	53:10
14,20	123:13,	illegal	g	improve	71:3
117:2,	24	210:5,9	17:21	31:11	73:20
21	hustle	224:7	132:5	36:7	114:22
118:12,	160:11	illegall	149:15	92:15	142:3
16	hyperten	y	impacts	improvem	165:3
134:14,	sion	223:20	143:11	ent	207:5
20	166:2	224:2	214:10	52:10	inclusio
135:2,		illustra	imperati	75:15	n
9,10,	I	tive	ves	121:5	136:3
12,14,	ICE	77:13	26:14	improvem	inclusiv
21	90:21	immediat	importan	ents	e
136:23	91:7	ely	ce	92:8	214:20
150:12	idea	31:15	57:19	improvin	215:3,
160:11	19:23	90:20	98:20	g	17
162:4	85:24	211:3	116:10	26:2	income
168:4,	129:24	immigran	166:20	inadequa	114:16
11,13	136:13	ts	187:2	te	160:20
HUD	213:8	90:18	importan	150:21	income-
98:21	ideal	208:16	t	inaudibl	65:15
111:18	81:14	impact	87:21	e	income-
115:21	ideas	21:23	95:6	45:21,	driven
116:8	213:9	22:15	96:17	23	208:10
135:24	idleness	25:16	98:22	103:9	inconven
168:5	123:22	115:11	107:16	inaugura	ient
humbled	idly	151:15	148:14	l	145:15
103:19	137:13	166:3	151:3	32:4	increase
hundreds	IDS	173:3	152:21	include	38:2
141:23	109:15	208:22	164:12	104:6	increase
hung	110:19	214:3	165:20	includes	d
156:13	ignoranc	impacted	202:21	144:17	111:8
hungry	e	30:12	importan	cludin	113:7
203:14,	207:8	207:13	tly	g	154:17
18	ignore	208:23	154:23	21:14,	155:6
Hunting	155:11	impactfu	impose	20	increasi
94:18	156:2	66:18	176:22	25:17	ng
Huntingt	158:4	196:13	impressi	31:18	26:4
on			ve	32:20	106:24
121:9					

154:24 incredib le 64:6 incredib ly 109:9 Incremen t 52:6 75:11 individu al 92:20 93:4 individu als 165:17 207:21 industry 201:16, 22 225:2 inequali ty 18:18 21:7 inequity 21:7 influenc ed 95:2 influent ial 46:21 informat ion 102:20	167:4 221:3, 18 infrastr ucture 104:23 ingredie nts 164:23 initiati ve 116:8, 11 initiati ves 48:6 66:18 132:5 196:13 Inquirer 151:6 insight 84:19 221:15 Inspecti ons 150:17 inspecto rs 150:20 inspire 130:19 inspired 43:18 inspirin g 47:23 211:16	install 183:9 installi ng 144:17 institut ion 85:3 134:21 142:10 147:14 institut ional 143:14 institut ionalize d 32:2 institut ions 31:9 140:10 142:23 instruct ion 36:7 165:5 instruct or 124:19 insuranc e 33:12 42:7,17 96:19 intact 92:23	integrat ive 48:4 intend 81:22 interact 141:18, 22 Interfac e 112:24 interfai th 91:24 106:3 107:22 111:3 117:9 internat ionally 91:14 interrup ting 158:19 INTRO 55:1 56:1 57:1 58:1 59:1 60:1 61:1 62:1 63:1 64:1 65:1 66:1 67:1 68:1	69:1 70:1 71:1 72:1 73:1 74:1 75:1 introduc e 45:19 59:14 67:20 69:7 introduc ed 134:11 187:7 188:17 190:9 192:6 193:20 195:7 198:5 199:16 205:11 206:16 208:7 214:11 introduc ing 83:13 100:22 103:22 148:5 introduc tion 54:21 55:7 intubati ons	90:4 invaluab le 130:22 invest 29:23 investme nts 38:3 invite 106:8 107:13 110:15 148:17 202:20 invited 110:6 inviting 147:24 involvin g 48:4 IOF 89:20 Isaiah 44:13 56:24 219:9 issues 17:21 26:13 92:6 113:15 118:16 119:16 222:4
---	---	---	--	---	---

J	Jewell	28:9, 18	98:2	188:4,	Johnson'
Jackson	19:12	39:7	112:4	7, 20	s
19:12,	Jewish	44:19	115:8	189:6,	110:5
20	91:18	45:14	120:8	14, 17	111:6
Jamie	159:3	49:9,	131:20,	190:11	join
55:22	Jim	12, 20	22	191:8,	28:19
Jannie	49:15	50:2, 6,	135:23	15, 18	93:18
18:4	68:17	17	152:6	192:8,	110:14
Jared	103:13	54:18	156:19,	10, 19	202:21
131:15	177:6	55:10,	23	193:4,	215:22
143:21	Jimmy	20	157:11,	7, 23	joined
Jasmine	204:23	56:5, 19	16	194:9,	40:20
45:19	job	57:11	158:14,	17, 20	103:11
46:5, 12	127:3, 6	58:3, 13	22	195:9,	166:23
Jay	143:15	59:4, 18	159:7,	17, 24	joining
67:4	144:3,	60:8, 17	16	196:4,	16:10
170:13	16	61:4,	161:22	18	19:18
220:2	150:21	14, 24	163:12	197:4,	28:21
Jeff	jobs	62:11	167:9,	12, 15	29:6
163:23	105:11	63:4, 18	15	198:8,	112:8
Jeffrey	147:9	64:21	168:8,	17	218:9
67:4	161:3,	65:8, 23	16	199:2,	Jones
170:13	14	66:10,	169:3,	5, 19	14:6, 7,
220:2	163:2	22	11, 14	200:5,	19, 24
Jenkins	Joe	67:13,	170:5,	13, 16	15:11
131:14	103:13	22	11	201:2	16:6
134:8,	John	68:13,	173:12	202:6,	23:17,
10	41:12	23	176:10,	10	19
Jeremy	97:19	69:9, 17	12	203:24	41:10
82:22	105:18	70:5, 14	177:5,	204:11,	45:19
85:12	106:2	71:10	13, 17	16	59:10,
Jermaine	146:5	72:3, 13	178:10,	205:3	11
157:4	148:7	73:6	18, 21	209:3	174:11,
Jesse	Johnson	74:6	179:12	213:7,	12
103:13	14:6	75:18	182:10,	14	180:11,
Jewel	18:10	76:5, 14	12	216:6	12
19:20	24:2, 7	77:3	183:2,	217:20	184:13,
	27:7,	78:3, 14	14	219:23	14
	10, 23	79:2, 5	186:12,	225:21	190:17
		80:18	14	226:17	192:7,
		85:10	187:10,		
		87:15	19		

12, 14	24:21	Kenney	119:15,	lady	205:4
Jordan	31:16	34:20	16	164:16	Landes
95:22	44:2, 16	Kensingt	kitchen	lamp	146:6
Joseph	109:24	on	167:3, 7	123:2	150:5, 6
219:15	110:2	109:10	knew	Land	landlord
Joseph's	137:10	Kenyatta	40:8	53:19	s
218:24	206:7	44:19	knives	56:11	42:7, 17
Journal	juvenile	111:5	165:3	116:15	language
54:19	31:16	key	knowing	Landau	156:8
journey	44:2	17:24	101:12	19:17	laps
124:22	K	25:14	knowledg	20:5	15:16
125:7	Kamp	98:18	e	28:22	large
126:3	125:22	kids	89:8	37:14	42:8
128:23	Kate	40:8,	143:15	43:20	71:3
211:19	82:23	22, 24	Krasner	62:16,	143:24
216:20	88:8, 14	41:9	43:23	17	large-
joy	97:20	43:20	Krewstow	63:19,	scale
134:2	105:18	45:12	n	20	214:6
joyful	111:2	163:6	71:18	83:13,	largest
166:15	Katherin	164:21	kudos	17, 19,	117:9
Jr	e	165:22	216:24	21, 24	152:11
95:23	55:12	killers	Kylie	102:12	211:18
judge	keeping	158:9	95:23	111:16	Larry
63:11	105:3	killling		134:12	43:22
64:2, 12	116:24	88:20	L	137:18	Lasalle
82:21	203:2	kind	L&i	168:17,	219:11
83:6	Keith	118:8	85:21	20	lasting
193:15	103:16	119:8	label	174:14,	30:19
Julian	Ken	153:13	90:17	15	lastly
105:20	100:6	202:15	labor	180:14,	219:3
112:15	Kendra	203:2	139:8	15	Latanya
115:10	67:15	kinderga	144:10	184:16,	61:20
Junious	201:7	rten	149:20	17	Latinas
94:3	Kenneth	29:14	lack	193:21,	132:12,
95:3	82:23	34:16	145:16	24	14
97:11	88:8	kindness	210:13	194:3	214:15
justice	91:22	kinds	ladies	195:7,	Latino
20:14		118:18	28:5, 6	10, 12	115:14,
21:22				204:17,	
				18	

15	leadership	leaving	41:8	LGBTQ+	lifetime
Laughter	18:12,	125:19	171:7,	152:18	33:18
162:13	16	135:5	15, 22	206:18	lift
launched	20:12	lecture	172:5,	207:12,	127:9
132:18	22:4, 8	164:16	7, 8, 19,	20	light
laundry	23:13	led	23	208:15	82:2, 4,
93:2	26:16	14:9	173:3, 7	liaison	8 112:7
law	33:10	17:18	211:11	122:4	201:17
64:10	42:21	35:20	221:24	Library	204:11
83:20	43:8	38:11	224:17,	113:19	lighting
123:19	44:8	125:10	20	license	144:20
laws	47:17	126:4	225:12	209:23	LIHEAP
168:12	99:11	129:21	legislat	210:7	102:14
lawyers	212:8	left	ive	Licenses	limit
21:15	leading	81:10	17:10	150:17	81:17,
42:7, 16	31:18	157:23	24:13	lie	20, 23
layer	66:17	160:12	25:15	136:7,	82:16
31:23	98:14	legacy	58:18	13	limited
laying	132:5	32:19	189:24	life	149:23
29:20	196:12	63:10	217:10	39:20	223:7
lead	211:18	64:2	Legs	46:22	limitles
20:18	leads	121:17	203:11	63:10,	s
22:9	165:17	193:14	letters	24	126:18
33:19,	league	206:14	97:6	83:10,	limits
22 34:2	48:10	legal	level	15 85:7	109:8
44:5, 10	leagues	63:14	42:10	94:13	linen
149:19	42:21	64:6	165:11	95:7, 18	123:13,
leader	learn	149:21	levels	128:3	15
99:23	48:7	193:18	99:4	129:21	list
134:13	164:22	205:16	136:24	133:3	114:18
216:8	203:18	206:2	LGBTQ	139:6	listen
leaders	208:5	legally	65:4	193:14	46:9
22:6	learned	171:10	152:13	lifelong	listenin
29:23	152:14	223:2	153:2	124:19	g
35:5, 24	206:10	legi	154:2,	129:11	57:6
38:10	leave	171:22	5, 8, 15	219:4	222:7
42:23	122:11	legislat	155:13	lifestyl	literall
203:6	143:8	ion	195:5	e	y
		33:22	206:21	129:19	
		40:21	207:15		

108:10	138:16	longtime	95:13	luncheon	maintain
live	141:6	205:12	96:13	s	ing
113:21	146:16	loose	97:7	15:18	48:23
130:19	163:21	210:8,	low	Lyndon	91:11
140:3	203:5	17	114:14	135:23	maintena
166:15	214:17	loosies	160:19	Lynn	nce
212:17	Local's	210:8	low-	146:6	51:24
221:13	105:6	Lord	income	150:6	75:6
lived	located	124:7	102:10		138:14
113:11	53:23	loss	lower	M	majority
146:18	56:14	68:7	142:21	Madam	55:12
220:12	113:13	95:13	Lozada	134:9	56:24
lives	221:10	197:24	20:20	Madden	99:23
31:11	location	lost	27:11,	31:3	176:13
96:13	142:24	97:9	12	Maddy	182:13
130:20	lock	109:15	28:4, 23	151:22	186:15
133:20	119:12	137:6, 7	35:2	159:12	204:3
214:11	Logan	143:15	66:4, 5	163:19	216:8
living	121:8	157:21	102:12		222:2
34:11	long	177:15	128:15,	made	make
107:8	15:3	lot	21	29:11,	34:15
114:2	125:18	84:10	131:6	16	37:19
125:24	long-	85:17	132:2	30:11	41:15
129:4	serving	101:2	174:18,	95:19	43:15
219:9	38:9	113:14	19	99:5	44:14
loads	long-	202:16	180:18,	116:7	83:2
37:21	term	218:14	19	129:17	88:11
loan	145:11	Lounge	184:20,	136:15	97:14,
65:16,	long-	145:2	21	153:6	20
18	time	love	196:16,	172:23	105:21
208:12	30:2	87:3	19, 21	maid	112:19
local	longer	122:7, 8	213:16,	122:19	118:8
19:22	222:20,	129:13	17	main	120:9
99:11	22	140:20	lucky	102:8	127:10,
100:9	longevit	143:15	15:3	maintain	24
103:10,	y	145:10	206:9	183:9	130:21
18	138:23	165:7	Lucy	maintain	131:17
104:5	139:4	215:6	31:5	ed	136:18
105:4, 8		loved	lunch	22:21	140:15
130:11			108:12	104:21	142:6
					143:17

145:11	man	199:15	Marshal	19	meaningful
146:7	19:3	213:20	218:17	116:6	20:24
149:13	manage	221:7,8	Marxuach	117:13	84:23
151:23	166:5	226:13,	131:16	218:10	101:14
154:20	manageme	20	143:20,	Mazeika	means
159:22	nt	Marciene	21	131:15	91:2
161:14	100:5	31:4	master	141:3,4	101:2
162:10,	108:19	Margaret	53:11,	Mazzoni	124:23
19	143:13	31:5	15	152:10	127:21
166:14	145:18	Margie	73:20	153:8	140:14
177:9	148:23	112:18	74:2	155:8	160:23
214:3,	149:2	120:6,	material	Mccabe	222:14
10	managers	15	89:9	19:12,	meant
221:18	149:11	marginal	maternal	21	83:21
223:13,	manufact	ized	26:3	Mccarthy	125:19
16	urers	136:5,9	Matt	-era	126:12
225:2,	90:8	155:3	131:16	90:17	media
6,14	maps	207:10	146:5	Mcclinto	90:16
makes	77:13	Maria	matter	n	212:21
23:22	Marathon	41:13	82:17	102:19	median
123:11,	126:3	Marian	matters	Mccottry	142:22
14	Marc	16:17	80:23	100:11	160:20
making	163:22	40:15	128:14	Mcdonoug	medical
36:6	March	41:6,15	Matthew	h	88:20
53:10	28:13	mark	146:11	88:10	92:24
73:19	30:21	72:7	Mattlema	97:19	147:7
85:5	38:20	106:7	n	103:4,8	meet
89:21	54:5,8	164:7	31:5	Mcdonoug	32:13
92:8	57:17	Market	May's	h's	37:18
139:23	58:8	51:21	114:8	100:7	129:10
165:17	65:3	52:5,19	Mayor	Mcgarrit	149:14
male-	70:3	73:2	14:12	y	217:8
dominate	90:3	75:3,10	17:2	103:13	meeting
d	122:10	Markle	34:13,	Mcmillan	33:4
201:16	152:23	179:8	17,20	146:5	119:22
Malika	164:7	Markwood	36:3	148:3,7	megger
60:13	186:23	219:10	42:19	meals	42:9
Mami	188:14	married	47:5	34:11	Melanie
132:24	195:4	84:12	50:12,	92:24	

100:11 member 14:6, 13, 20 16:5, 10 17:6 18:5 28:21 63:13 91:24 101:4 106:3 107:22 111:2 112:24 141:5 146:16 170:5 193:17 205:15 206:20 213:10 216:22 225:21 members 16:13, 14 19:6 20:10 21:12 24:7 28:21 45:7 50:7, 22 55:5 87:6 98:3, 17 99:23 100:23 103:18 104:2, 5, 9	130:12 139:18, 22 141:17 145:19 146:24 152:6 154:19 155:3 163:16 166:19 176:14 177:20 178:5 182:14 186:16 206:12 207:10 217:7, 11 membersh ip 99:15 men 101:18 126:17 mental 36:11 93:11 129:16 130:15 214:15 mentione d 224:18 mentioni ng 102:8 mentor 16:19	63:16 64:5, 7 193:20 205:13 mentorin g 22:4 68:8 198:2 201:21 mentors 48:2 220:22 Mercer 94:21 merchant 122:24 message 50:18 messages 50:11 54:18 met 153:9 Methodis t 92:3 106:6, 12 107:24 Mexicano 203:16 Michael 88:10 97:18 105:20 112:16 117:6	Michelle 61:10 micropho ne 82:10 Middle 215:24 Mike 49:20 50:2 69:11 100:7 103:8 204:22 217:22 miles 104:22 mileston e 212:2 milli 88:5 million 35:9 36:21 104:13, 17 minds 36:14 163:24 mine 47:3 64:8 minimall y 92:10 minimum 142:18	ministry 121:12 132:19 minority 25:20 67:15 69:2 201:5 minute 100:9 minutes 81:16, 20 82:7 109:16 163:10 164:10 mislabel ed 136:16 misrepre sented 136:16 missed 206:15 missiles 90:9 mission 19:8 37:8, 12 126:15 131:5 mistake 136:18 Mixed- income 77:11 mobilize d 18:18	models 47:24 203:6 Mogul 132:24 mom 83:11 84:6 moment 63:24 64:19 125:5 145:12 Monday 107:14 147:2 money 114:15 month 14:15 17:14 27:15 46:19 57:17 58:10 68:11 94:7, 11 132:8 133:20 145:3 164:8 186:23 188:16 198:5 201:11 205:23 213:20 215:9 220:9
---	--	---	---	--	---

months	124:17	motor	movement	149:23	207:15
26:20	126:9	71:4	124:20,	museums	217:4
86:19	127:14	mouth	21	143:4	220:6
149:11	205:18	84:17	125:7	musical	nationwi
Moore	mother's	123:17	126:24	148:13	de
23:21	83:15	move	215:5	mutual	19:9
221:11	94:8	15:21	movie	83:18	native
moral	mothers	49:12	219:18		211:14
26:13	26:6	78:7	Muchos	N	natural
morning	motion	113:16,	116:22	named	70:2
24:6	78:4, 21	17	multi-	118:22	100:17
46:12	79:6	168:22	decade	names	103:23
55:4,	132:12	178:6	33:3	40:5	104:22
15, 16,	168:18	187:15	murder	167:13	199:14
24	169:7,	189:2	89:22	nation	nature
57:4, 5	15	191:4	museum	15:23	179:7
62:18	177:7,	192:15	58:22	44:6	nay
67:7, 8	10	194:5	138:9,	136:5,	182:21
76:9	187:11,	195:13	12	13	nays
87:23	23	196:23	139:10,	national	176:13
91:21	188:21	198:13	20	14:2	182:13
93:22	189:10	199:24	140:2,	16:7, 15	186:15
98:2	190:12	217:12	8, 19	17:8	NC100BWP
99:22	192:13,	226:11	141:16,	19:10,	A
103:5, 6	23	moved	19, 24	13, 24	20:9, 21
107:15	193:24	78:14	142:7	20:7	21:3
110:7,	194:13	129:6	143:23	21:5, 11	22:3
16, 24	195:11	144:3	146:14,	22:13	near -
115:9	196:19	169:3	17, 21	23:6	constant
124:15	197:8	172:16	147:5,	24:9	145:17
128:19	198:9,	178:10	10	57:17	needy
131:21	19	187:19	148:21	65:4	123:8
159:18	199:20	189:6	149:5,	152:18	negative
163:17	200:9	191:8	9, 22	154:8	ly
Morrison	214:15	192:19	190:5,	164:7	149:15
127:2	225:24	194:9	19, 22	186:23	negotiat
mother	226:22	195:17	museum's	195:5	ions
83:17	motivati	197:4	138:21	203:5	140:16,
94:4	on	198:17	140:22	206:18	21
121:24	127:19	200:5	148:10		
		226:17			

neighbor 94:2 137:21	Nicetown 121:8	Nimbus 89:19	221:2	71:16	175:18,
neighborhood 30:6 52:9 75:14 111:12 113:10 120:20	Nicholas 69:3	Nina 19:17 76:7	nonprofits 48:12	nuisance 209:19	19 181:18, 19 185:20, 21
neighborhoods 25:3 77:12 150:19 224:13	Nicole 68:5 94:4, 9, 16, 23 95:9 96:4, 22 97:13 112:16 120:5, 18, 23 121:2, 6, 10 122:15 197:22 201:13, 14	nodded 170:9	normalize 91:10	number 44:9 160:21	O'ROURKE 18:7, 11 28:22 30:24 32:16 40:6 69:3, 4 175:10, 11 181:10, 11 185:12, 13
neighbors 108:7 109:22 135:13	Nicole's 95:17 96:10	non-privileged 56:3, 8, 10 59:15, 21 60:12, 22 61:9, 19 62:6, 21 63:7 65:12	norms 126:16	nutrition 57:17, 20 164:2, 8, 11 165:13 166:6, 11, 20 186:23 187:3	obligated 171:11, 14
nets 91:2	niece 64:13	nonconforming 170:2	Northeast 102:3	nutrition 164:23 165:6, 18	Observance 218:4
network 21:13	night 84:16 93:6 97:2 122:17 123:3 145:2 148:12	nonconformities 169:23 172:10 209:14 224:21	Norwalk 71:19	Nyisha 24:4 100:6	obtaining 223:3 225:7
newly-formed 166:12	newly-minted 36:14	nonconformity 85:16	Nos 54:9 80:10	Nyima 24:4	occasion 68:10 100:17 198:4
news 151:16 153:15 220:19	Nighttime 58:9 188:15	nonprofit 31:9 98:15 108:4 163:21 220:24	note 15:12 79:11 100:24	notice 40:2	occupancy 210:2
Nic 202:11	Nike 124:17 125:21		nourish 132:21 163:24	nourishes 165:9	
			November	November 70:9, 10	

occupati	155:17	104:6,	200:13	169:21	outrage
on's	156:19	20	opt	176:19	99:8
89:10	158:14	141:21	86:23	179:6	157:20
October	Ogilvy	190:3	opted	183:7	outsider
19:9	125:22	opportun	85:19	ordinanc	s
offer	older	ities	option	es	161:18
66:7	46:17	25:18	145:14	33:23	outstand
70:12	Ombudspe	43:8	options	51:6	ing
72:10	rson's	48:7	145:16	74:11	201:12
76:2	31:22	116:7	147:10	Oregon	overlay
98:9	one-	130:12	orchestr	126:5	53:9
130:11	third	opportun	ated	organiza	73:18,
142:11	162:23	ity	154:3	tion	19
164:20	online	26:23	order	17:24	77:12
165:4	114:19	43:11	49:13	29:9	overlook
178:2	Ooh	98:9	50:8	38:8	ed
offered	87:2	99:19	54:20	46:24	126:6
43:4	open	106:20	76:15	114:9	Oversigh
89:14	34:7	116:4,	79:9	115:13	t
offering	117:14	23	81:5,	221:19	58:19
201:20	119:17	128:22	11,21	organiza	60:14,
offers	opened	137:11	orders	tion's	24
96:11	96:6	152:15	208:24	34:21	61:11,
office	205:24	164:21	ordinanc	organiza	22 62:8
31:22	209:22	166:18	e	tions	190:2
34:18	Openings	208:4	44:6	46:22	owe
104:16	176:21	oppose	51:4	48:13	43:3
109:19	opens	65:19	52:12,	98:16	owned
220:5,	123:17	opposed	15,23	214:13,	92:16
15,21	operate	79:2	53:3	18	135:14
Officer	209:23	169:11	70:19	215:11	owner
152:10	operatin	178:18	71:14,	organiz	114:7
offices	g	188:4	15,17	ng	183:9
91:4	144:20	189:14	72:18,	117:10	201:13
official	operatio	191:15	21	other's	222:11
s	ns	193:4	73:10,	214:11	223:5
37:17	58:20	194:17	12	outfit	owners
Ogbonna	74:14	195:24	74:10	218:12	42:6,16
151:21		197:12	77:9		
		199:2			

owning 109:3	parents 36:5, 10 37:16 46:8 47:19 48:5	particip ate 140:4	153:7 155:2 163:21 187:6 220:21	82:7 83:11 209:13 226:7	Patrick' s 218:3
P		particip ating 129:8	partners hips 22:24 99:3 164:19	passes 29:14 176:15 182:15 186:17	pattern 203:3
p.m. 215:23 221:10	Parish 219:5	particip ation 25:21 154:17 155:7	party 220:23	passing 95:10 124:5 221:23 225:11	paving 33:20 34:22
PA 20:8 179:9 183:11	parishio ner 119:8	partly 144:10	pass 33:21 41:8 85:6 149:24 179:14 183:16	passion 124:23 156:10 211:21	pay 121:23 138:23 139:5 142:18 144:22 149:14 159:24
PACDC 98:8, 14 99:15	Park 94:18 121:9	partner 32:12 36:8 44:11 93:14 106:10 110:9 112:3 130:10	Passage 56:20 58:4, 14 59:5 60:9, 18 61:5, 15 62:2, 12 64:23 65:9, 24 66:23 68:14 70:6 79:16 80:3, 10, 24 167:18 178:23	passiona te 129:7 143:14	paying 160:2
Pacific 219:13	Parker 17:4 218:11	partneri ng 220:15		past 29:12 31:17 129:5 152:22 153:15	pays 140:8
Paddy 218:17	parking 70:20, 23 71:2	partners 44:17 45:4 166:11		pastor 117:11	PCCY 31:8, 14 33:3, 17 34:5, 14, 17 35:4, 11, 20 36:5, 8, 17 37:6 39:21
paid 36:24 51:14 74:20 89:23 143:3 149:8, 12	part 30:11 48:17 119:10 135:24 143:24 155:14 160:6	partners hip 25:7 26:17 36:15 57:23 93:19 105:7 110:15 112:9	passe 173:15	patchwor k 146:22	PCCY's 32:3, 7
Palestin e 91:19	part- time 146:22 147:6		passed 54:7	path 95:19, 20	peace 91:18 134:3
parade 218:7	partiall y 122:12			patients 90:5	peaceful 140:20
parapher nal ia 210:21	particip ants 109:12				Peay 62:7
parent 45:20 46:6, 14, 18 47:13					

peers	23	88:8, 14	161:8,	28:15	102:3,
35:17,	106:14,	perform	10	30:23	6, 24
24	23	148:17	162:9	32:5	104:8
penalizi	110:7	Performi	personal	35:13,	105:10,
ng	111:11	ng	100:24	16, 22	14
225:6	113:9	125:9,	211:24	37:10	111:4
penaltie	117:3,	11	persons	38:19,	113:19
s	22	period	44:12	22 39:4	116:15
70:21	118:14	71:22	perspect	40:19	117:3
71:2	119:12	permanen	ive	47:5, 20	121:3
176:23	127:13	t	101:9	50:24	122:6,
Pennie	129:10	89:15	persuadi	51:11	10
147:12	131:4	117:20	ng	52:16	124:11
Pennsylv	135:7	permissi	33:6	53:4, 19	125:6
ania	137:14	on	pervasiv	54:3	126:9
14:3	138:3	45:17	e	56:11,	127:22
16:8, 16	140:3	128:10	136:7	17	128:15
17:9	142:12	permit	petition	57:18	129:5
19:22	144:11,	78:8, 17	ed	58:11,	131:9
20:3	18	171:10,	34:6	22	132:4
22:14	149:9	11, 14,	PGW	60:3, 5	134:16
23:7	154:5	17	100:15	63:14	135:4
24:11	155:24	222:14,	101:14,	65:6	138:9,
47:6	159:19	24	18	66:17	18
117:10	160:12	223:4	102:4	68:9	139:20
147:12	162:7	permits	105:7	69:24	140:5
205:20	164:21	210:4	Ph.d.	70:24	142:5
217:5	166:7	225:8	216:21	72:22	143:23
pension	207:22	permitti	PHA	73:14	144:4, 9
113:20	208:15	ng	135:15	74:16	146:14,
people	212:11	176:24	Philadel	77:10	18, 21
25:12	people's	persever	phia	84:7	148:15,
29:12,	165:4	ance	14:13	86:6	19
20	s	211:21	16:13	90:6	150:23
90:22	perceive	person	17:3	92:13	151:6, 9
94:14	122:24	46:15	21:19	94:14,	152:20
95:16,	perch	94:10	23:4	17	154:9
21	36:2	159:3	24:23	98:6, 16	155:9
96:18	Perez	160:18	26:22	99:7	160:13,
102:6,	82:23			100:4	18
				101:12,	163:7
				17	164:9,

13	208:3	142:8	place	219:10	82:3, 12
165:21	219:4	214:16	37:11	played	83:3, 5
166:14	Philadel	philosop	118:17	33:3	88:11,
169:22	phians	her	166:15	95:6	13
176:20	25:16	15:7	210:23	player	97:21,
179:9	30:13	phone	211:5	219:8, 9	23
183:11	37:21	109:16	Placemen	playgrou	105:21,
186:24	101:21	Phyllis	t	nds	23
188:17	104:19	63:11	31:20	32:21	112:19,
190:5	philanth	64:2	places	playing	21
192:3, 5	ropist	83:8	48:9	33:10	120:9,
193:18	63:15	193:15	162:21	42:12	11
195:6	193:19	205:14	plan	plays	131:17,
196:12	205:17	physical	51:18,	21:4	19
198:3	PHILIPPI	93:10	22	playstre	146:7, 9
199:13	AN	130:14	53:11,	ets	151:24
205:16	183:7	133:18	15	34:9	152:3
206:19	Phillips	214:14	73:20	pleased	159:14
207:17	28:23	physicia	74:2, 23	54:4	point
208:22	35:19	ns	75:4	plumbing	39:13
211:14	43:19	21:14	92:13	210:16	42:11
215:17	54:24	pickers	plane	PMA	82:11
216:23	55:2	156:13	102:2	138:8	125:8
220:10	173:19,	piece	Planning	140:8	151:4
Philadel	20	121:19	52:17	141:13	223:23
phia's	179:19,	171:7	53:5	142:13,	pointed
29:20	20	Pilates	72:23	19	15:6
32:11	183:21,	124:18	73:15	143:10,	poisoned
38:3	22	126:14,	172:11	18	44:9
115:13,	216:14	19	224:18	144:15	poisonin
22	226:9	214:17	plans	146:12	g
116:13	Philly	pioneeri	65:16	147:14,	33:20,
152:11	29:15	ng	153:17	19	22
Philadel	34:23	205:15	208:11	148:9	Police
phia/	36:24	pipeline	plants	Podcast	60:14,
public	88:5	37:4	122:21	132:24	24
31:6	113:14	102:16	play	podium	61:11,
Philadel	128:24	pipes	34:10	28:20	21 62:8
phian	129:22	210:16	98:23	29:3	policies
105:3	130:16		141:19		24:16
137:20					

25:10, 23 26:9 91:6 137:24 208:20 policy 26:12 29:22 37:9 98:5 political 17:21 politicize 208:11 politicizing 65:17 politics 84:9 pool 34:6 poor 111:20 123:6 160:4 poorest 107:10 149:8 160:22 population 106:14, 21, 23 107:7 135:16 portion 36:19	122:19 portions 51:20 75:2 ports 90:8 position 141:15 143:24 position s 41:14 143:9 positive 21:23 22:10 possession on 50:20 54:16 200:23 Post 82:24 88:9 93:22, 23 potentially 153:18 poverty 143:2 power 30:8 91:24 106:3 107:22 111:3 112:24 117:7, 9	118:13 127:5 133:23 211:21 powerful 20:22 46:23 47:8 132:9 PPD 91:17 practice s 26:2 37:10 139:8 praise 124:9 praised 124:7 praises 124:2 predator y 26:2 predecessors 42:2 Prek 34:22, 23 36:24 44:22 prepare 58:24 190:7 prerogative 86:24	87:3, 6 presence 91:7 present 28:12 214:2 PRESENTATIONS 14:1 15:1 16:1 17:1 18:1 19:1 20:1 21:1 22:1 23:1 24:1 25:1 26:1 27:1 28:1 29:1 30:1 31:1 32:1 33:1 34:1 35:1 36:1 37:1 38:1 39:1 40:1 41:1 42:1 43:1 44:1 45:1 46:1	47:1 48:1 49:1 presented 38:24 president t 14:5 18:9, 14 19:2, 14, 15 23:20, 24 24:3, 7 27:6, 9, 13 28:8, 17 39:6 44:18 45:13, 18 49:8, 11, 19, 24 50:5, 15, 16, 22 54:14, 17 55:3, 8, 9, 16, 19, 24 56:4, 18 57:4, 9, 10 58:2, 12 59:3, 12, 17 60:7, 16 61:3,	13, 23 62:10, 18 63:3, 17, 22 64:20 65:7, 13, 22 66:6, 9, 21 67:8, 12, 18, 21 68:12, 20, 22 69:5, 8, 13, 16 70:4, 11, 13 71:9 72:2, 9, 12 73:5 74:5 75:17, 24 76:4, 9, 13, 21 77:2, 24 78:2, 6, 13, 24 79:4 80:6, 17 85:9 87:15 98:2 100:12 103:9, 16 110:4 111:5 112:3 115:7
--	---	---	--	--	--

138:15	190:10,	19, 24	printed	20, 22	producti
150:10	15, 21	218:9,	54:19	186:22	ve
152:5	191:7,	16	prior	188:13	138:20
155:18	14, 17	219:22	89:7	189:23	professi
156:18,	192:8,	220:4	prioriti	191:24	on
22	9, 15, 18	225:19,	es	193:13	206:3
157:10,	193:3,	20	25:15	195:3	professi
15	6, 22	226:4,	217:10	196:10	onally
158:13,	194:4,	11, 16	prioriti	197:21	104:12
20, 21	8, 16, 19	Presiden	ze	199:11	professi
159:2,	195:8,	tial	132:10,	problem	onals
6, 15	16, 23	153:17	14	107:5	21:16
161:21	196:3,	prestigi	priority	120:2	98:22
163:11,	17, 22	ous	157:18	151:8	profit
16	197:3,	143:4	private	160:19	122:21
167:8,	11, 14	prevalen	18:22	161:10	progeny
12, 14	198:7,	t	119:3	problems	156:11
168:7,	12, 16,	153:5	privileg	93:16	program
15, 21	24	prevent	e	110:11	33:12
169:2,	199:4,	166:4	101:3	112:5	34:9, 23
10, 13	18, 23	170:21	127:11	151:12,	65:18
170:4,	200:4,	223:10	135:22	17	207:5
10, 16	12, 15,	preventi	privileg	Proceed	208:12
173:11	22, 24	ng	ed	157:11,	programs
176:10,	201:9	222:10	17:6	16	22:19
11	202:4,	preventi	27:18	168:8	32:22
177:4,	5, 9, 13	on	57:8,	process	35:8, 10
9, 12, 16	203:22,	33:23	14, 16	90:23	36:24
178:2,	23	153:20	58:7, 17	96:16	89:2
9, 17, 20	204:7,	207:6	59:14,	223:3,	98:23
179:11	10, 15,	previous	21, 24	16	144:22
182:10,	19	ly	62:20,	produce	164:20
11, 24	205:2	211:6	24	116:14	214:20
183:13	208:8	price	63:6, 9	product	progress
186:12,	209:2,	162:23	65:2	104:10	25:8
13	7, 8	principa	66:8,	producti	29:11
187:9,	213:5,	l	13, 15	on	99:5
14, 18	6, 12,	211:16	67:19	125:20	153:21
188:3,	13, 18		68:2, 4		
6, 19, 24	216:4,		69:14,		
189:5,	5, 11				
13, 16	217:18,				

progressive	198:18	171:23	122:13	65:17	120:1
20:4	200:6	173:8	provide	80:21,	121:1
21:13	226:18	222:9	92:24	22	122:1
prohibit	properties	224:10	108:19	81:1, 15	123:1
ed	86:7	225:15	145:9	82:1	124:1
210:9,	151:16	Protecti	152:16	83:1	125:1
12	property	ng	154:13	84:1	126:1
Project	111:8	90:24	170:17	85:1	127:1
89:19	113:6	protecti	221:17	86:1	128:1
projecti	114:7	on	provided	87:1	129:1
on	159:24	31:24	92:21	88:1	130:1
144:21	160:2	protecti	96:19	89:1	131:1
promised	222:11,	ons	provider	90:1	132:1
137:9	19	43:4	s	91:1	133:1
promote	223:4,	protecti	208:2	92:1	134:1
214:14	20	ve	providin	93:1	135:1,
promotin	224:2	44:5	g	94:1	10
g	proposal	proteste	33:8	95:1	136:1
57:23	155:5	d	48:20	96:1	137:1
187:6	159:22	32:23	105:5	97:1	138:1
pronouns	proposal	proud	108:5	98:1	139:1
152:8	s	16:9	147:15	99:1, 3	140:1
proof	29:22	97:13,	169:23	100:1	141:1
90:22	proposed	14	provisio	101:1	142:1
proper	51:4	102:9	ns	102:1	143:1
162:20,	52:3, 7,	105:7	52:18	103:1	144:1,
21	11	139:18	72:24	104:1	21
properly	53:14	141:4	169:24	105:1	145:1
78:15	73:24	144:15	prudent	106:1	146:1
169:4	75:8,	145:8	149:22	107:1	147:1
178:11	12, 16	148:16	public	108:1	148:1,
187:20	99:8	152:8	18:22	109:1	18
189:7	131:24	163:20	32:24	110:1	149:1
191:9	prosper	211:14	35:15	111:1	150:1
192:20	25:4	212:9	36:21	112:1	151:1
194:10	protect	214:21	37:9	113:1	152:1
195:18	25:24	proudly	55:5	114:1	153:1
197:5	90:13	104:21	57:6	115:1	154:1
	99:13	Proverbs	62:19	116:1	155:1
			64:17	117:1	156:1
				118:1	157:1
				119:1	158:1

159:1	32:17	Quetcy	raising	176:17	181:1
160:1	pushing	27:11	95:22	179:4,	182:1
161:1	127:19	66:4	rallied	13	183:1
162:1	128:12	128:14	37:16	182:17	184:1
163:1		132:2		183:5,	185:1
164:1	put	213:16	ran	15	186:1
165:1	85:23		36:17	186:19	187:1
166:1,	86:9	quickly	83:22	188:10	188:1
19	141:8	153:19	range	189:20	189:1
167:13	156:7	209:11	207:14	191:21	190:1
173:8	162:20	Quinones	rate	193:10	191:1
192:11	165:3	-sanchez	142:19	194:23	192:1
202:17	puts	41:13	re-	196:7	193:1
206:3	201:18	quote	appointi	197:18	194:1
208:11,	putting	15:6	ng	199:8	195:1
18	15:21	219:18	62:7	200:19	196:1
222:7	37:8		reach	reading	197:1
225:15	116:10	R	128:7	36:7	198:1
publicly	218:5	racial	reaches	63:2	199:1
27:21		17:12	123:7	78:9	200:1
pull	Q	18:2	read	79:1,7,	ready
209:10	QR	21:21	36:9	14,16,	99:16
purple	212:21	23:9	50:18	21	117:23
123:13	213:8	radiator	56:7	80:1,2,	203:18
purpose	qualitie	210:16	57:13	9,23	reaffirm
79:23	s	radical	59:20	93:24	25:6
133:11	48:9	136:3	63:6	167:1,	207:17
pursuant	quality	Rahman	66:12	17	reaffirm
82:15	36:6	60:13	67:24	168:1	s
pursue	quality-	rails	69:19	169:1	90:12
206:2	of-life	81:9	70:16	170:1	real
pursued	222:4	raise	72:15	171:1	127:3
125:19	question	57:19	77:5	172:1	151:11
push	15:8	87:12	78:10,	173:1	203:13
30:11	84:17	142:18	18	174:1	207:22
pushback	140:18	187:2	82:19	175:1	reality
85:17	173:14	raised	122:14	176:1	128:2
pushed	179:14	46:15	167:20	177:1	140:24
31:16	183:16	125:4,6	169:18	178:1	realize
			173:13	179:1	119:15
				180:1	

realized 126:11	57:21 63:24	72:6 75:21	188:13 196:11	reductio n	70:20 73:3
reason 127:19 145:20 147:15	101:15 138:19 152:24 164:6	76:6, 17 78:3 79:22 168:16	206:17 214:12 recommen dation	32:21 referenc ed	150:20 rehabbin g
recall 202:23	166:24 187:4 190:17	170:11 177:5 187:10	76:24 77:20 recommit	40:6 referred	162:22 reinforc e
receive 103:20 135:11	201:11 205:22 207:15	188:20 190:11 192:10	208:20 record	71:11 72:4 73:7	37:8 rejectin g
received 172:16	213:21 215:10 219:4	193:23 195:9 196:18	78:11 205:5 recordin g	74:7 75:19 77:8 refine	137:24 rejoice 123:16
receivin g 125:3	recogniz ed 21:18	198:8 199:19 201:6	141:5 recreati on	104:9 reflect	related 53:10
recent 77:14 102:2 145:3 151:5	62:23 136:4 recogniz es	202:10 204:4, 16 209:4	37:2 recreati onal	25:11 77:14 reflects	71:2 73:19 relating
recently 14:11 83:11 95:3 110:3	19:16 23:5 24:2 27:10 28:11	213:15 216:7 217:21 219:23 225:23	71:6, 7 red	26:22 Reformed	53:7 73:16 relation ship
recipes 164:24 165:7	38:20 39:7 54:23 55:11, 21	recogniz ing 16:6 17:7 22:7	redistri cting 77:14 redlinin g	117:12 reformin g	91:12 148:22 released 97:8
recognit ion 19:7 70:2 103:2, 20 199:14	56:23 59:7 62:15 63:4, 18 66:3 67:2, 14 68:16, 24 69:9 70:8	27:18 28:13 30:21 57:16 58:7 66:16 100:16 132:3 186:22	156:15 redress 32:18 reduce 109:20 158:4 reduced	116:15 reforms 26:8 31:17 206:6 refusing 91:7, 8 register 107:4 regrets 100:13 regulati ons	reliable 101:19 relied 43:6 reluctan t 42:9 rely 44:7 211:4
recogniz e 24:13			33:24	52:20	

remained 212:6	24 140:9	16, 23 77:1, 17 78:1	154:16	resilien ce 127:16 213:23	13 69:15, 20, 22 70:5
remainin g 82:4	rental 109:7	reprehen sible 134:13 168:2	required 209:24 210:2, 4, 7, 15 225:8	resistan ce 48:19 137:12 138:22	83:10, 14 84:5 85:6 90:11 94:6 98:10 99:20
remains 22:3	92:17 114:10	represen t 111:3 137:15 142:12	requirem ent 53:11 73:21	resoluti on 27:2, 19 28:12 38:24 39:12 41:17 53:18 56:3, 8, 10, 19 57:16 58:3, 7, 13, 17 59:4, 14, 24 60:8, 12, 17, 22 61:4, 9, 14, 19, 20, 24 62:6, 11, 22 63:9 64:22 65:2, 8, 12, 23 66:8, 13, 15, 22 67:20 68:2, 4,	100:22 101:2 103:23 104:4 111:17 115:18 125:3 131:23 134:11 138:8, 11 141:8 145:22 146:13 148:6 150:2, 8 156:5 157:2, 19 158:16, 18 159:23 167:20, 23 168:18, 23 169:4, 15 186:22 187:12, 16, 21
remarks 82:6	renters 25:24	represen t 111:3 137:15 142:12	requirem ents 177:2	research 29:21 32:8 165:14	
remember 16:12	repair 32:21 150:23 156:16	represen tation 125:16	reserve 82:14 135:14		
remind 130:23 132:8 133:8 209:18 217:2	repaymen t 65:16 208:10	represen tatives 104:11	reside 135:14		
reminder 82:6 127:20 128:9	repealin g 51:4 52:12, 23 72:18 73:10 74:10	represen ted 144:12	Resident ial 31:20		
remindin g 133:23	repetiti ous 82:16	represen ting 92:2 107:23 113:2	resident s 90:14 92:17 99:14 117:24 135:17 142:5 145:7 173:10 208:22 212:15 220:19 222:5		
reminds 14:20	replacem ent 151:13	represen ts 138:17			
removal 151:13	replacem ent 151:13	Republic an 14:21			
remove 109:20	report 32:4, 9 76:18 77:5, 22	reputati on 32:6			
Rendell 34:14 47:6	reported 79:12	requests 50:10			
rent 91:5 111:7 113:6 114:8, 13, 19,	reports 76:1,	require			

188:8, 11, 13, 22 189:3, 8, 18, 21, 23 190:13 191:5, 10, 19, 22, 24 192:13, 21 193:8, 11, 13 194:2, 6, 11, 21, 24 195:3, 11, 14, 19 196:5, 8, 10, 20, 24 197:6, 16, 19, 21 198:10, 14, 19 199:6, 9, 11, 21 200:2, 7, 17, 20 205:12 206:17 208:7 214:12 resoluti ons 54:22 55:7 57:8, 14	59:15, 22 62:21, 24 63:7 67:10 76:3, 12 79:24 80:8, 14, 20 167:17 186:19 200:23 resolved 23:3 38:18, 22 resoundi ng 135:20 Resource 215:20 resource s 89:4 140:19 149:23 214:24 220:16 respect 85:4 142:13 173:4 207:23 respectf ully 77:16 respond 22:20 response	34:17 79:3 132:19 169:12 178:19 188:5 189:15 191:16 193:5 194:18 196:2 197:13 199:3 200:14 responsi bilities 31:10 responsi bility 121:14 133:13 responsi ble 98:17 108:16 147:21 rest 112:10 restaura teur 163:23 restore 109:14 restored 104:22 resumpti on 89:10	retain 143:13 retired 63:11 113:18 193:15 retreat 126:20 return 89:14 returned 114:12 126:8 returnin g 170:22 returns 77:18 revenues 160:8 Reverend 112:17 120:6, 12, 13, 16 reverse 87:5 revertin g 222:11 revising 52:18 70:24 72:23 reward 224:3 rework 87:7	Reynolds 16:20 41:2 101:7 Richards on 16:3 22:12 28:24 31:14 44:4 55:13, 15 79:23 80:5 99:23 103:5, 7 173:23 174:2 179:23 180:2 184:2, 4 216:8, 10, 19 ride 87:20 88:4 riding 87:24 right- of-way 52:2 75:7 rights 90:13, 20, 24 137:14, 15 Ring 218:18	Rios 105:20 112:15 115:10 rise 17:23 123:23 137:22 rising 111:7 113:5 Rizzo 32:18 road 71:18, 19 97:12 Rob 84:12, 15, 18, 19 robbed 157:21 Roberto 215:23 robot 90:10 robust 172:21 rode 87:13 role 21:4 33:4, 10 42:12 47:24 95:7 98:22 141:20
---	---	---	--	---	---

roll	63:19	safety	scarlet	211:19	77:10
173:17	168:17	91:2	123:10	science	169:21
179:17	195:10	173:9	scene	207:7	172:14
183:19	204:17	192:11	102:2	scriptur	sectors
Roman	Rule	225:16	schedule	e	18:22
219:7	35:21	salary	41:23	122:12	secured
roof	rules	109:4	217:14	season	105:8
107:9	53:13	142:20	schedule	133:19	security
roofs	73:23	sale	d	seconded	113:20
92:11	76:19,	210:5, 8	221:7	78:12,	166:11
room	22	sales	schedule	15	Sedgwick
133:9	77:7, 23	36:19	s	168:24	53:20,
Rooney	78:7, 15	210:10	88:3	169:4	21, 22
218:18	79:13	Salt	Schiller	178:8,	56:13
root	82:15	112:7	131:15	11	seek
18:17	run	salvatio	138:5, 6	187:17,	93:5
136:15	42:14	n	scholar	20	seeking
158:5	126:4	151:5	83:20	189:4, 7	115:19
224:9	131:2	sanctuar	school	191:6, 9	222:23
rooted	running	y	26:8	192:17,	223:10
207:7, 8	15:16	91:6	35:14,	20	224:8
rote	136:11	Santos-	15, 16	194:7,	seeks
152:21	runs	bennett	64:10	10	222:8, 9
153:13	15:8	220:14	83:20	195:15,	selected
round	104:24	Saturday	94:18,	18	19:13
49:16,	rural	215:22	20	197:2, 5	self-
21	35:13	221:7, 8	125:11	198:15,	perceive
roundtab	Ruth	save	142:3	200:3, 6	d
le	31:3	114:15	210:11	226:15,	165:15
110:5	S	savings	215:24	18	selling
rowhome	safe	113:22	219:7,	seconds	210:20
151:14	34:10	savvy	19	82:3	sells
Roxborou	101:18	122:3	schools	secretar	123:15
gh	105:3	Sayre	30:7	y	send
43:10	119:19	31:6	32:24	141:6	91:16
Rue	134:24	scanning	37:5	section	sends
19:17	215:3	114:23	42:24	52:19	100:13
62:16			44:15	71:14	
				72:24	

senior	152:9	149:6, 7	sexton	Shervon	shuttere
113:17	205:20	192:2	106:13	211:13	d
114:3,	206:5	serving	shape	212:12	153:19
16	208:17	16:23	24:17	shift	side
seniors	served	105:12	119:5	129:19	96:2
135:6	16:20	152:13	136:14	shining	side-by-
159:23	40:17	165:23	shaped	212:6	side
sense	102:5	216:22	127:13	shipping	39:22
153:12	121:6	session	shaping	90:9	sidewalk
163:5	201:16	27:19	23:13	shop	179:7
215:6	219:12	39:19	Shapiro	95:15	sign
senseles	serves	41:9	100:13	210:24	52:20
s	34:24	43:19	share	short	53:12
99:10	47:24	54:8	49:6	47:21	73:2, 22
SEPTA	service	56:22	99:7	141:15	81:4
29:14	48:15	60:20	128:23	shortcom	sign-up
87:12,	51:13	61:7, 17	133:2	ings	81:13
13, 21,	60:4	62:4, 14	212:15,	150:15	signage
22	65:18	78:19	19	shout-	210:5
Sergeant	74:19	79:17	215:18,	out	signatur
-	101:20,	81:3, 7	24	16:11	e
50:10	21	109:17	shared	23:20	114:23
Sergeant	104:13,	178:24	18:19	211:13	signed
-at-arms	18	202:20	110:3	showed	54:6
82:9	122:19	204:9	215:6	206:13	81:6, 10
series	139:20	session-	sharing	showers	signific
92:14	192:4	to-	220:16	93:2	ant
151:6	201:19	session	sheet	showing	23:12
servants	206:3	81:18	81:13	127:16	99:5
99:3	208:12	set	Shelly	shown	signify
serve	services	203:13	38:11	165:21	78:21
21:17	26:5	205:5	40:20	shows	169:7
25:12	36:12	210:24	45:7	165:14	178:15
28:7	43:5	Seth	shelter	shrug	187:23
48:8	60:2	100:13	92:21	151:10	189:10
100:2	92:19	setting	93:5	shut	191:12
118:15	93:2	144:19	shelters	211:2	192:23
138:15	105:5	settings	119:20		194:13
144:23	108:5	93:9			195:21
	121:11				
	141:14				

197:8	sit	sobriety	solution	215:12,	132:13
198:22	109:15	129:18	s	13	150:16
200:9	site	social	110:4	speak	172:12
226:22	161:8, 9	17:20	solvable	43:2	220:11
signing	size	20:14	151:17	81:17,	221:13
106:14	142:23	21:21	solve	22	speech
signs	skill	43:5	93:15	116:23	65:21
53:7	165:10	89:2	110:11	120:17	speeches
73:16	skilled	90:16	111:24	138:7	201:1, 4
silent	21:16	104:18	112:4	141:7	202:1
134:22	skills	113:20	120:2	146:12	203:1
silver-	114:20	121:14	sons	147:24	204:1,
plated	133:11	130:8	46:17	155:21	2, 7
91:13	165:15	212:20	sought	158:15	205:1
similar	166:8	society	33:18	159:20	206:1
142:23	slashing	111:4	soul	160:10	207:1
single	134:18	136:2	47:10,	speaker	208:1
133:5,	slaughte	socioeco	19	82:13,	209:1
14, 19	red	nomic	sound	20	210:1
140:8	89:16	21:6	144:20	102:19	211:1
171:13	slavery	165:11	South	159:10	212:1
223:4, 6	155:20	sociopol	60:2, 5	speakers	213:1
sir	small	itical	192:2, 5	81:4	214:1
157:3,	86:10	20:23	219:13	speaking	215:1
11, 12,	214:8	soda	southwes	81:24	216:1
16	smaller	48:23	twardly	83:9	217:1
158:23	92:18	Sojourne	71:20	100:8,	218:1
159:7	163:3	r	space	15	219:1
sister	Smallstr	14:10	96:12	107:20	220:1
89:16	eetsphil	Solari	126:5	118:14	221:1
91:12	ly.org.	27:24	127:8	158:18	222:1
121:24	150:7	120:8	128:7	159:5	223:1
sisterho	smart	128:18	130:17	162:2	224:1
od	19:3	129:4	132:20	special	225:1,
132:16	sneakers	sold	133:10	23:20	23
sisterly	40:3, 7	35:6	spaces	84:14	spell
122:7	snow	solid	34:10	94:5	137:3
sisters	123:8	126:19	125:17	205:9	Spelman
84:24			148:19	specific	125:13
				ally	spend

110:16	106:7	stand	starts	45:1	87:1
spindle	108:2	24:12	161:20	46:1	88:1
123:5	113:4	27:24	state	47:1	89:1
spiritua	St	42:3	35:12,	48:1	90:1
lly	96:24	43:15	17 38:2	49:1	91:1
132:22	218:3,	46:17	144:6	50:1	92:1
spoke	24	48:11	147:12	51:1	93:1
41:4	219:5	86:3	state's	52:1	94:1
spoken	stabilit	87:7	33:11	53:1	95:1
29:19	y	99:16	stated	54:1	96:1
39:13	105:9	137:13,	14:1	55:1	97:1
sponsor	157:22	18	15:1	56:1	98:1
39:12	stable	155:20	16:1	57:1	99:1
sports	147:16	226:19	17:1	58:1	100:1
42:20	stadium	standby	18:1	59:1	101:1
spring	42:6, 16	204:8	19:1	60:1	102:1
93:17	stadiums	standing	20:1	61:1	103:1
106:9	35:3	125:2	21:1	62:1	104:1
110:13	staff	133:23	22:1	63:1	105:1
112:7	47:16	159:4	23:1	64:1	106:1
138:21	100:10	stands	24:1	65:1	107:1
Squilla	101:4	161:17	25:1	66:1	108:1
28:22	141:17	226:12	26:1	67:1	109:1
38:6	142:11	Star	27:1	68:1	110:1
44:17	143:3,	15:5, 22	28:1	69:1	111:1
72:7, 8	6, 14	start	29:1	70:1	112:1
93:15	148:23	42:23	30:1	71:1, 24	113:1
110:10	149:12	43:3	31:1	72:1	114:1
118:3	staffed	83:12	32:1	73:1	115:1
119:22	98:21	126:4	33:1	74:1	116:1
175:22,	staffing	221:2	34:1	75:1	117:1
23	98:11	started	35:1	76:1	118:1
181:22,	115:21	97:4	36:1	77:1	119:1
23	116:9	117:19	37:1	78:1	120:1
185:24	stakehol	129:24	38:1	79:1	121:1
186:2	ders	149:5,	39:1	80:1	122:1
Squilla'	172:8,	11	40:1	81:1	123:1
s	18	starting	41:1	82:1	124:1
92:5	225:2	38:10	42:1	83:1	125:1
		142:20	43:1	84:1	126:1
			44:1	85:1	127:1
				86:1	128:1

129:1	171:1	213:1	steadfas	217:15	streets
130:1	172:1	214:1	t	stopping	104:7
131:1	173:1	215:1	22:22	217:8	119:21
132:1	174:1	216:1	step	stories	176:22
133:1	175:1	217:1	88:17	110:8	streetsw
134:1	176:1	218:1	111:23	118:17	eeps
135:1	177:1	219:1	131:9	story	110:21
136:1	178:1	220:1	154:12	119:9	strength
137:1	179:1	221:1	Stephani	stranger	22:16
138:1	180:1	222:1	e	137:12	122:23
139:1	181:1	223:1	112:18	strategi	strength
140:1	182:1	224:1	118:23	c	en
141:1	183:1	225:1	119:7,	22:24	122:23
142:1	184:1	226:1	18	street	203:7
143:1	185:1	States	120:6,	34:17	strengthening
144:1	186:1	23:15	13	41:13	25:17
145:1	187:1	98:12	Stephen'	51:16,	stress
146:1	188:1	statewid	s	17,20,	93:10
147:1	189:1	e	219:5	21,22	stretche
148:1	190:1	33:14	stepped	52:20	s
149:1	191:1	statisti	126:10	53:21,	123:3
150:1	192:1	cs	steward	22	strides
151:1	193:1	207:22	148:9	56:13	153:6
152:1	194:1	status	stewards	73:2	strike
153:1	195:1	32:4,9	142:9	74:22,	139:2
154:1	196:1	58:20	stick	23	142:18
155:1	197:1	92:15	223:23	75:3,4	striking
156:1	198:1	165:11	stolen	87:16	51:16,
157:1	199:1	190:3	109:15	92:3	19
158:1	200:1	stay	110:20	106:5,	74:21,
159:1	201:1	108:24	136:10	12	24
160:1	202:1	114:5,	stood	107:23	strip
161:1	203:1	11	156:8	118:22	90:20
162:1	204:1	129:9	stoop	121:20	stripped
163:1	205:1	stayed	42:9	179:8	137:16
164:1	206:1	114:3	stop	183:11	striving
165:1	207:1	staying	90:7	219:6	21:22
166:1	208:1	157:5	115:20	Street's	
167:1	209:1		159:4	108:3	
168:1	210:1				
169:1	211:1				
170:1	212:1				

strong 14:9 32:8 36:14 94:23 99:11 116:11	subject 82:17	Superior 63:12 193:16	132:15 140:13, 14	suspensi on 79:13	tables 23:23
stronger 25:20 215:16	submitte d 156:15	superlat ive 42:24	141:11 215:14	sustaina ble 101:20 140:2 142:14	tackle 36:5
strongly 47:12	submitti ng 50:24	supply 163:2	supporti ve 117:21	sustaini ng 26:3 89:24	tacos 203:12
struggle 49:4	subseque nt 183:8	support 26:5 35:7 44:24 48:21 89:9 98:10 99:20 100:23 104:18 107:21 130:18 131:3 138:7 140:11 141:7 145:21, 24 146:12 152:17 191:3 215:6	supports 36:23 Supreme 205:21 surface 153:16 Surgerie s 90:4 surround ing 24:24 surveil 91:17 survey 212:16, 20 213:8 survivor 155:20 Susan 82:24 88:8 93:23 suspend 65:15 208:10 suspende d 78:8, 16	stable sweep 109:10 sweetene d 36:22 Sylvia 19:21 symbolic 154:10 sympathi zers 90:19 system 107:5 113:19 147:12 206:8 systemat ically 136:5 systems 144:21 T table 81:9	Tacotaco 203:16 tactics 90:17 taking 37:20 41:21 133:9, 22 214:3 talent 133:11 148:13, 17 talented 165:2 talk 110:7 156:23 164:10 166:18 202:15 209:12 talked 15:13 84:10 209:19 talking 85:13 87:11, 12 162:2, 7
struggled 129:14	succeede d 201:15				
struggle s 106:16	success 22:15 125:19 128:6 133:3				
struggli ng 160:5	successf ul 36:17 221:20				
student 65:16 211:17	successf ully 34:5				
students 29:15 35:15 43:10 114:12 212:6	successo r 38:13 Suite 221:12 summer 34:7, 9, 11 Sunday 84:16 super 222:2				
studied 125:13					
Studies 125:14					
studio 115:2 126:19					

tapestry 123:11	taxpayer 89:13	83:20 91:16	testimon y 93:24 98:9	147:23 148:5 164:5 174:8,9 180:8,9 182:19, 22 184:10, 11 187:8, 11,13 188:18, 21,23 190:9, 12,14 204:5, 6,13 219:9 225:24 226:3	three- week 142:17
target 65:19	teach 165:10	ten 137:18	Texas 144:5		thrilled 83:18 84:2 164:4
targetin g 88:19	teachers 47:24	tend 214:5	texted 203:12		thrive 25:2 134:4,5 144:11
Tasco 16:17 40:16	teaching 167:3,7	term 162:11	thankful 118:6		thriving 130:6 215:19
task 31:15, 20 166:12	team 100:5 146:20, 24 166:16	terminus 71:19	thanking 83:12 218:3		thrown 110:20
Tasker- morris 87:17	tear 91:4	terms 52:21 53:17 54:2 56:16 71:8, 21,23 73:4 74:4 77:15 170:3 177:2 179:10 183:12	therefro m 71:20		Thursday 107:14 226:13, 19
tastes 165:8	tears 134:22		thing 87:11 122:14 133:5, 14	Thomas ' 145:22 150:2	Thursday s 205:7
tasty 203:13	technici an 44:4 138:14 143:22	terroris t 90:18	things 29:15 43:7 102:8 132:9 202:15 209:9 214:9 218:13	Thompson 211:13 212:13	ticket 35:6
taught 64:10	techniqu es 139:12 164:24	Tess 97:19 105:18 107:20	thinking 164:15	Thompson 's 211:19	time 15:3 28:10 30:8 41:21 81:17, 19 82:4 86:17 87:4 99:10 107:11 112:12 123:17 125:18
tax 36:19, 20,23 48:23 52:6 75:11 160:5	technolo gy 161:2	testamen t 22:16 211:20	Thomas 44:14 57:2,3 138:10 141:9, 10 145:23	thoughts 212:19	
taxes 89:23 111:8 113:6 159:24 160:2	teen- focused 33:7	testify 81:5 99:19 110:19		thousand s 20:17 25:16 37:16 144:24 149:20	
taxing 89:4	teens 32:23			threats 207:14	
	telling 162:15				
	Temple 64:10				

131:10	72:21	55:6, 7,	58:4, 14	townhous	35:15
137:13	73:13	18 56:2	59:5	e	traveled
140:21	158:15	57:7	60:9	114:10,	97:12
146:2	167:20	66:7	64:23	14	treasure
149:13	169:18	67:11,	65:9, 24	trades	d
150:3,	176:17	20	66:23	160:24	63:13
10	179:4	68:21	68:14	trailbla	193:17
152:23	182:17	69:7, 15	70:6	zer	treated
156:3	183:5	76:12	78:19	63:15	149:9
157:7	188:10	79:8	81:2, 7,	64:3	207:23
213:21	189:20	80:10	19	193:19	trees
217:14	191:21	85:14	186:20	205:17	156:13
218:13	193:10	94:5	todos	trailers	tremendo
222:17	194:23	95:5, 19	66:7	71:5, 6,	us
times	196:7	100:5,	toes	7	48:19
42:9	197:18	14	137:18	trained	85:4
102:23	199:8	103:11	tofu	126:2	tremendo
143:7	200:19	116:24	167:9	trainer	usly
214:5	titles	118:20	told	124:18	101:13
221:9	59:20	125:2	133:7	trajecto	truce
tips	63:6	127:12,	tone	ry	89:15
133:2	70:16	15	123:18	145:17	truck
tired	72:15	138:12	Toni	transfor	71:5
40:10	Tito	139:16	127:2	mation	true
tireless	157:5	148:6	tool	129:20	211:20
23:8	tobacco	155:21	41:7, 8	transit	Trump
40:9	210:6,	160:10	tools	35:13,	65:14
tireless	10	173:6	133:2	14	88:18
ly	today	201:3,	165:3	transito	135:21
20:10	17:6	10	touch	ry	150:10
24:19	24:12	202:2,	97:2	93:8	155:22
208:21	25:5	16, 20	tourists	transpar	156:6,
title	26:19	205:11	142:4	ency	24
52:16	27:2, 17	206:13,	town	26:8	158:22
53:4	29:6, 16	16	93:16	transwom	162:3, 8
56:7	40:4, 10	209:13	106:8	an	167:23
57:13	41:4	214:11,	110:12	119:18	206:23
66:12	43:9	22	112:6	travel	207:3
67:24	45:12	219:15			208:8
69:19	46:17	221:23			
	50:3	today's			

Trump's 89:7 208:20	U U.S. 134:19 150:11 168:3	unhoused 106:23 108:6, 18, 21, 22 109:21 135:17	12 107:23 113:2 117:12	uplift 66:20 196:15 215:10	Valentin e's 97:5
Trustees 147:20	UAC 36:9	uninsure d 33:15	units 135:10 160:14	uplifted 212:5	valuable 121:4 154:21
truth 14:10 162:15	undergro und 176:24	union 103:10, 11, 18 104:15 105:11 138:16 139:14, 18, 22 140:19 141:5, 12 144:3, 10 145:19 148:10 149:4	universa l 34:22	upliftin g 24:14	vantage 42:11
Tubman 14:11	undermin ing 153:20	unseated 136:24	universa lly 34:16	urban 88:16 98:13 134:15, 20 150:12 168:4	vary 81:18
Tuesday 89:12	understa nd 153:23 222:7	unshelte red 108:6 109:22	unprecedented 136:24	urge 116:12 154:19 207:24	vegetabl es 164:17 165:23
turn 82:5, 8 143:6	understa nding 125:16	unstable 93:8	unseated 155:18	urgency 156:4, 15 160:14	vehement ly 208:19
turned 129:11 130:6	undesire d 223:11	unshelte red 108:6 109:22	unshelte red 108:6 109:22	urgency 156:4, 15 160:14	vehicles 71:3
turnover 143:10	undocume nted 208:16	unstable 93:8	unshelte red 108:6 109:22	urgency 156:4, 15 160:14	venture 95:14
turns 50:3 91:16	undue 86:10	unions 144:5	unshelte red 108:6 109:22	urgency 156:4, 15 160:14	venues 35:7
two- minute 81:23	unelecte d 88:23	unique 22:20 106:20 153:3 164:20	unsustai nable 145:13	utilitie s 114:8	veteran 57:22 219:12
two- thirds 39:20	unfair 35:14	unions 144:5	unswaveri ng 212:10	utility 70:2 100:18 103:24 199:14	veterans 220:7, 10, 18
two-year 114:18	unhealth y 129:15	uniquely 38:10	unswaveri ng 212:10	utility 70:2 100:18 103:24 199:14	Vetri 163:20, 22 164:19 187:5
typicall y 222:18	unhealth y 129:15	United 23:15 92:3 98:12 106:5,	up-and- coming 148:15	UWUA 103:10	vetricom munity. org. 167:5
tyranny 136:12			update 77:13 upgrade 37:2	vacating 71:18	

vibrant 155:14	violence 60:5	155:13	vulnerab ilities 153:5	19 161:22	137:24 219:12
Vice- 103:8	158:2, 11	voice 20:22 98:14	vulnerab le 48:22	162:6, 14 163:14	warrant 147:3
Vice- presiden t 100:2	visible 18:20 139:5	voices 24:15 91:18	le 48:22 90:14 99:13 115:24 135:7 157:24	walking 108:9 130:16 211:17	Washingt on 155:11
vicinity 52:3 75:8 179:8	vision 18:19 19:8 21:5 22:17 42:5 136:2	215:15 volume 81:19		walks 130:5	watched 143:5
Victim/ witness 60:2 192:2	visionar y 17:17 38:9 122:2	voluntee r 114:9	W	Wall 121:20	watches 123:20
victory 49:5 212:2	visit 212:22	vote 83:23 104:3 173:7 182:23 211:9	wages 142:14 143:2 145:15 160:20	walls 25:11	wavering 23:10
videos 102:13	visitor 141:14 143:11 149:6, 7	voted 176:14 182:14, 20 186:16 209:14, 16	wait 128:10	Wanda 151:22 159:11, 19	ways 21:20 92:14 94:15 96:16 116:21 123:21 130:13 160:7
view 39:14	visits 92:23 101:21	voting 86:14	waiting 109:17 114:18 172:15	wanted 16:12 27:20 41:3 63:23 83:12 91:15 111:15 170:17 172:20 202:15 209:9, 11, 17 211:7, 12 212:14 216:12 217:2	weakened 144:6
viewing 55:5	visual 143:22 144:17	vouchers 135:12	wake 137:8 206:22	walk 129:2, 22 130:17 214:16	wealth 121:16 157:21 159:21
vineyard 122:21	vital 154:2	VSA 141:14 142:16, 20	walked 40:6 97:11	war 91:15 134:17	wealthy 89:5 147:13
violatio n 149:18 210:17, 19		VSAS 141:22	Walker 151:22 159:12, 16, 17,		wear 40:11
Violatio ns 70:23					wearing 40:3, 12
violator s 176:23					weary 134:21
					weather

92:22	welfare	173:5	152:2	20 68:8	138:24
website	173:9	wide	159:13	101:18	wonderfu
167:4	225:16	90:6	Witts	126:17	l
Webster	wellness	207:14	112:18	130:18	94:13
19:21,	57:24	wife	120:7,	132:3,	218:6,
24	66:19	18:23	14,15	10,13,	13,21
Wednesda	124:20	121:23	124:12	20	words
y	126:14,	144:4	woman	133:21	94:8
102:17	16,20	wildest	14:17	134:4	work
week	127:10	120:21	15:24	196:11,	15:21
41:4	132:6,	Wilhelmi	95:4	15	26:17
65:5	11,14	na	118:22	198:2	27:3
76:3	133:17	23:21	122:3,	201:22	29:10,
87:14	152:12	win	9,13	205:24	17
88:4	187:7	30:9	124:6	213:24	30:12
118:15	196:14	139:3	133:9	214:7,	39:24
119:6	214:15	window	201:12	24	41:16
152:15,	West	108:11	205:19	215:4,	43:18
18,19,	113:13	wins	women	10,13	68:6
23	125:6	30:3	14:3,9	217:4,5	91:5
154:7,	126:21	wires	15:5	220:7,	96:5,
9,22	Westbroo	210:18	16:7,8,	9,17	10,14,
195:6	k	wisdom	16	Women's	15
206:17,	125:23	123:18	17:9,	14:14	97:15
19	whatsoev	wishes	13,16,	17:14	99:16,
207:16	er	155:11	18,24	27:14	17
208:4	154:6	218:20	18:18,	46:19	101:13,
216:16	Whip	wishing	21	68:10	15
weekend	56:24	81:22	19:11	94:6,11	102:9
218:6,	69:2	witnesse	20:2,4,	125:14	106:11
20,22	white	s	8,11,17	132:7,	107:16
weeks	40:3	83:4	21:2,8,	19	116:22
26:20	Whitehea	88:12	12,14	145:3	127:8
139:3	d	97:22	22:6,	198:4	128:13,
209:18	61:21	105:22	14,23	201:10	23
Weisberg	whoa	112:20	23:7,	205:23	138:13
146:6	15:14	120:10	11,14	213:20	141:13
151:21	wholehea	131:18	24:10,	215:8	144:16
152:4,7	rtedly	146:8	15,22	220:8	146:13
			25:2	won	147:3
			66:16,	84:2	148:7

153:10	working	142:4	202:24	yellow	32:5, 22
166:13	39:22	190:8	205:6, 9	82:5	35:9,
190:19	42:3	219:12	Year -	Yemen	22, 24
197:23	44:14	world -	after -	88:19	36:4,
201:19	65:19	142:5	year	yesterda	10, 12
215:14	101:3,	worsen	29:18	y	42:20
218:5,	10	115:22	yearly	207:2	47:2
14	104:7	worsenin	141:24	220:5	48:16,
worked	111:20	g	142:20	yield	22
20:10	116:6	93:10	years	82:12	
24:19	119:23	worthy	20:6	York	Z
35:4	125:21	133:24	24:18	17:19	ZBA
88:3	135:5	134:2, 3	31:18	19:5	85:21,
172:6, 7	139:24	write	37:24	126:2, 3	22
224:15,	144:11,	156:4	38:7,	young	86:8, 18
17, 24	14	written	13, 15	29:11,	Zha
worker	146:24	97:6	39:17	20	27:24
137:21	161:9	wrong	40:14,	42:23	120:7
worker -	172:4,	156:9	17 47:2	67:5, 6	124:15,
owned	17, 19		48:15	68:8	17
203:17	208:15,	Y	50:3	95:9	126:13
workers	21	y'all	60:3	161:9	214:16
100:17,	workplac	128:16	105:14	170:5,	zoning
18	es	167:9	106:17	8, 14, 15	52:17
103:10,	20:19	202:6	107:2	174:22,	53:5, 13
24	works	Yanoff	113:12	23	72:22
104:16	69:24	38:11	117:19	180:22,	73:14,
138:17	100:4	40:20	118:24	23	23
140:14	124:9	45:8	119:2	184:24	171:2,
141:11	199:13	year	125:8	185:2	9, 11,
190:24	workshop	19:10	129:6	198:2	14, 17
203:7	15:20	23:23	134:22	201:21	211:5
Workers'	workshop	25:13	136:6	212:11	222:13,
70:3	s	37:20	148:21	220:2, 3	16, 18,
199:15	201:20	97:5	152:22	225:21	24
workforc	world	104:14	160:2	226:6	223:3,
e	15:9	140:9	192:3	youth	16
149:3	21:6	145:2	203:4	31:7,	224:6
160:23	59:2	156:17	206:5	12, 19,	
	134:6		216:21	21	
			219:14		