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COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

3

PUBLIC HEARING

4

BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON STREETS AND SERVICES

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Room 400, City Hall
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
 Wednesday, May 13, 1998
 10:15 a.m.

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BILL NOS. - 980120, 980146, 980162, 980165, 980166,
 10 980169, 980192, 980210, 980229, 980237, 980243,
 980244, 980269, 980272, 980276, 980302, 980308,
 11 980309, 980310, 980313, 980336, 980337, 980338,
 980339, 980340, 980341, 980373, 980374, 980375,
 12 980376, 980377

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14 PRESENT:

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COUNCILMAN FRANK DiCICCO, Chair
 COUNCILMAN DAVID COHEN, Vice Chair

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COUNCILMAN RICHARD T. MARIANO
 COUNCILWOMAN DONNA REED MILLER
 COUNCILMAN FRANK RIZZO
 18 COUNCILMAN ANGEL L. ORTIZ

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1 BILL 980377

2 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Good afternoon,
3 everyone. The Committee on Streets and Services
4 will now conduct its Public Hearing.

5 There are a number of bills today
6 that this committee will take under consideration.
7 I think there are about 31 bills. Initially there
8 were about 58, but we reduced it down to 31.

9 I am going to try to get through this
10 as quickly as possible, while giving everyone an
11 opportunity to testify.

12 And as I have been doing in the past,
13 I will consolidate some of the bills as they relate
14 to specific city agencies. As an example, the
15 Streets Department may have a dozen or so bills, but
16 they may not be in the ordinance in which they are
17 on the notice, the public notice.

18 I have found that in the past, that
19 it seems to work a lot more efficiently that way,
20 rather than to get a representative from the Streets
21 Department to sit down, testify on one bill, get up,
22 go back, two other bills later have to come back and
23 reintroduce him or herself.

24 So while it may seem like it is
25 happening longer, actually we have found that it is

1 BILL 980377

2 a lot quicker.

3 I would like to introduce the other
4 members of the committee who are here today. To my
5 immediate right is Councilman Cohen. To his right
6 is Councilwoman Miller, and to her right is
7 Councilman Mariano, and to my extreme left is
8 Councilman Rizzo.

9 The clerk will read the title of the
10 first bill.

11 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980377, An
12 Ordinance authorizing the revision of lines and
13 grades grades on a portion of City Plan No. 308, by
14 relocating the southerly curblin of Rodman Street,
15 from 9th Street to 10th Street, under certain terms
16 and conditions.

17 MR. PAUL LONIE: Good afternoon,
18 Councilman DiCicco, members of the committee. My
19 name is Paul Lonie. I am a Manager of the Survey
20 Bureau of the Department of Streets. And the
21 Streets Department would like to offer the following
22 testimony on Bill No. 980377.

23 This is not an Administration
24 ordinance, but an ordinance requested by Mr. Irving
25 Shapiro, of Shapiro & Associates Architects, 1524

1 BILL 980377

2 Delancy Street, Philadelphia.

3 The purpose of this ordinance is to
4 widen the southerly cartway of Rodman Street by 4
5 feet between 9th Street and 10th Street to
6 facilitate easier access for delivery trucks to haul
7 foods of the parent company of Fresh Fields.

8 This ordinance is supported by the
9 Department of Streets and is recommended to your
10 committee for favorable action.

11 MR. MARTIN SOFFER: Good afternoon,
12 chairman, members of the committee. My name is
13 Martin Soffer.

14 The City Planning Commission staff
15 has approved this bill, and the Planning Commission
16 will formally approve this bill at its next
17 meeting. Therefore, the staff recommends that Bill
18 No. 980377 be approved.

19 Thank you.

20 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Any questions
21 for these witnesses from any members of the
22 Council?

23 Councilman Mariano.

24 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Thank you, Mr.
25 Chairman DiCicco. To the people representing, --

1 BILL 980377

2 what's the name of this company again? NexLink,
3 that's you?

4 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Wrong bill. We
5 are on the last one.

6 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Rodman Street,
7 377. All right. Never mind. But I am going to ask
8 you questions on the next one, so be ready.

9 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Anyone else here
10 who wishes to testify for or against the bill?

11 Please step forward and state your
12 name for the record.

13 MR. JEFFREY LICKMAN: Good afternoon,
14 Councilman DiCicco, other Councilpersons present.
15 My name is Jeffrey Lickman. I am here on behalf of
16 the Washington Square West Civic Association, of
17 which I Chair the Government Affairs Committee, and
18 I am also one of the directors.

19 The Board of the Civic has authorized
20 me to come here today to testify before you in
21 support of this bill.

22 As Councilman DiCicco is aware, the
23 Washington Square West Civic Association, in
24 connection with the Society Hill Civic Association,
25 the Bella Vista Neighbors, as well as the South

1 BILL 980377

2 Street Neighbors Association, and I think there
3 might have been another group involved at one point
4 in time or another, we have all been very much
5 involved with this project, the proposed Fresh
6 Fields Supermarket, and we are very much in support
7 of this.

8 There has been overwhelming community
9 support for this project. We ask that the city
10 please consider approving this legislation
11 expeditiously. We believe it does serve the public
12 good.

13 I have prepared a very brief letter
14 that basically sets this forth. And I would ask
15 that this be considered.

16 It is addressed to President Street,
17 in the event that this bill does indeed come out of
18 committee and go to the full Council.

19 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Are you asking
20 for a suspension of Rules, I assume?

21 MR. LICKMAN: We would think that
22 that would be a very good thing, Mr. DiCicco,
23 Councilman DiCicco, in that we would like this thing
24 to go forward as expeditioussly as possible.

25 As you are aware, we have already had

1 BILL 980377

2 several community meetings. And we would like to
3 see this with all due haste.

4 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

5 Anyone else who wishes to testify on
6 the bill?

7 Whoever is here to testify on the
8 bill, why don't you all come up at the same time and
9 grab a seat and pull up an extra chair, if you have
10 to.

11 MR. DICK OSTRANDER: Good afternoon.
12 Thank you for allowing me to come. I am Dick
13 Ostrander, the Executive Director of the South
14 Street Headhouse Special Services District.

15 The proposed development is within
16 our district. And our Board has acted favorably
17 toward this redevelopment, or new development, on
18 South Street, on every occasion that it has had a
19 chance to consider it, which is over the period of
20 the last year or year and a half.

21 Mr. Chairman, we recently sent you a
22 letter affirming that. I have extra copies of that
23 letter, if you wish to have them.

24 We, the District, look upon the Fresh
25 Fields development as an excellent new business

1 BILL 980377

2 driver for the South Street corridor, and one that
3 we will look forward to welcoming in the near
4 future. Thank you.

5 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

6 MR. STEPHEN POLLACK: Good afternoon,
7 members, Councilman DiCicco, Councilman Mariano,
8 Councilwoman Miller, and Councilman Rizzo. My name
9 is Stephen Pollack. I am an attorney representing
10 the developers of the Fresh Fields project.

11 This is a project that would be
12 intended to replace the existing two-tiered crafts
13 mall between 9th and 10th on South Street. We have
14 the usual artist's rendering to show you, Bill
15 Petrascus --

16 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: That is not a
17 usual artist's rendering.

18 MR. POLLACK: I know.

19 It shows you the streetscape along
20 South Street, which would try to incorporate display
21 windows, planter boxes, and some signage that would
22 be of possibly artistic to show you some of the
23 fruit and produce that is sold there. So we are
24 trying to pay attention to the streetscape.

25 But in order to be able to get our

1 BILL 980377

2 trucks in, because we are only going to have the
3 loading on the rear, on Rodman Street, we need to
4 widen the cartway, so that we narrow the sidewalk to
5 5 feet.

6 Which is still a considerably wider
7 sidewalk than what is existing, in an existing
8 condition, at the Super Fresh, which is in the next
9 block. They virtually have no sidewalk behind them
10 at this point in time.

11 So we would still have accessibility
12 for people that need to be able to walk along or
13 need the width of the sidewalk, that they can walk
14 back there with this proposed development.

15 And this job will hopefully generate
16 approximately 175 to 200 new wage earners for the
17 City of Philadelphia when it is completed.

18 And we would ask formally for a
19 suspension of the Rules.

20 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

21 No hot dog stands will be relocated?

22 MR. POLLACK: No hot dog stands at
23 this location.

24 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Anyone else here
25 to wishes to testify?

1 BILL 980377

2 Paul, are we okay? I remember at one
3 of the meetings I had, there was some discussion as
4 to the relocation of one of the utility poles. I
5 believe it was at the corner of 10th and Rodman,
6 setting it back.

7 We are okay on that? And that's all
8 been resolved? Okay. I just wanted to double check
9 on that.

10 MR. POLLACK: Thank you.

11 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

12 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Councilman,
13 could I say --

14 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Any questions
15 for these witnesses?

16 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: This is more of
17 a statement.

18 My esteemed colleague, Councilman
19 DiCicco, when they opened the Fresh Fields over
20 there on Broad Street, the Councilman bagged
21 groceries.

22 And I just have this picture in my
23 mind of him with that little apron on and bagging
24 groceries.

25 Now, he will probably be a Councilman

1 BILL 980192

2 for a long time. But if you ever need a night
3 manager, he is the guy.

4 Not me. I look bad in an apron. But
5 he looked really good in that Fresh Fields apron.
6 And the bags, those nice brown bags, the politically
7 correct brown bags.

8 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Any other
9 witnesses? Any questions? Any other questions from
10 the committee? No.

11 The clerk will read the title of the
12 next bill.

13 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980192, An
14 Ordinance authorizing the revision of lines and
15 grades on a portion of City Plan No. 119, by
16 striking from the City Plan and vacating a portion
17 of Harper Street, from 10th Street to 12th Street,
18 and reserving for drainage and water main purposes a
19 stricken portion of Harper Street, from 10th Street
20 to a point approximately 250 feet westwardly, and by
21 relocating certain curb lines of Harper Street, from
22 10th Street to 12th Street, all under certain terms
23 and conditions.

24 MR. PAUL LONIE: Good afternoon,
25 Mr. Chairman members of the Committee. Again my

1 BILL 980192

2 name is Paul Lonie. I am representing the Streets
3 Department. We would like to offer the following
4 testimony on Bill No. 980192.

5 This is not an Administration
6 ordinance, but an ordinance officially requested by
7 Mr. William McDow, of the Philadelphia Redevelopment
8 Authority.

9 Harper Street is on the City Plan 54
10 feet wide and variable width, legally opened and
11 improved.

12 The purpose of this ordinance is to
13 grant the authority to the Philadelphia Housing
14 Authority to expand a planned recreational facility
15 and develop a shopping center.

16 The ordinance is supported by the
17 Department of Streets and is recommended to your
18 committee for favorable action.

19 MR. MARTIN SOFFER: Good afternoon,
20 chairman, members of the committee. My name is
21 Martin Soffer.

22 The proposed ordinance authorizes the
23 striking from the City Plan and the vacating of a
24 20-foot-wide portion of the street located in the
25 West Poplar section of North Philadelphia.

1 BILL 980192

2 The purpose of this ordinance is to
3 assist the Redevelopment Authority to assemble
4 parcels of land for the construction of a tennis and
5 community center on the 1000 block of Harper Street
6 and a retail building on the 1100 block of Harper
7 Street.

8 Therefore, by action at its meeting
9 on April the 23rd, 1998, the Planning Commission
10 recommends that Bill No. 980192 be approved.

11 Thank you.

12 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Any questions
13 for these witnesses from the committee?

14 Do we have more testimony?

15 MS. YVONNE HASKINS: Good afternoon.
16 Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name
17 is Yvonne Haskins. I am an attorney, and I
18 represent one of the developers of one of the
19 blocks, and that's the 1100 block of Girard Avenue.

20 What I am showing you is the
21 elevation for the retail center that is planned in
22 the 1100 block of Girard Avenue.

23 The developer is the Renaissance
24 Community Development Corporation. This will bring
25 to that area much-needed retail shopping for the

1 BILL 980192

2 residential neighborhood that surrounds Girard
3 Avenue.

4 You may be aware that there's been a
5 tremendous increase in residential housing just
6 south of that area, the Nea Mia area, and there's
7 very little retail, decent retail, shopping in the
8 area. This will also bring 75 jobs to this
9 particular project.

10 Therefore, we very much want to get
11 started on the construction. We have been somewhat
12 delayed. And now we would like to have a suspension
13 of the Rules.

14 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you. This
15 is on the south side of Girard Avenue; right?

16 MS. HASKINS: That's correct, sir.

17 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Yes, I am
18 familiar with the area.

19 Any questions from the committee for
20 these witnesses? Anyone else here who wishes to
21 testify for or against the bill?

22 Hearing none, the clerk will read the
23 title of the next bill. Thank you. Thank you for
24 your testimony.

25 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980237, an

1 BILL 980237
2 ordinance authorizing and directing the revision of
3 lines and grades on a portion of City Plan No. 146
4 by striking from the City Plan and vacating Moore
5 Street, from Beach Street to Allen Street, by
6 striking from the City Plan and vacating Allen
7 Street from Moore Street northeastwardly
8 approximately 80 feet to a dead end, and by
9 reserving and placing a right-of-way for gas main
10 purposes within the lines of Moore Street from Beach
11 Street to Allen Street, all under certain terms and
12 conditions.

13 MR. PAUL LONIE: Good afternoon,
14 Councilman DiCicco members of the committee. My
15 name is Paul Lonie. I am the Manager of the Survey
16 Bureau, and I am representing the Streets
17 Department. And the Streets Department would like
18 to offer the following testimony on Bill No.
19 980237.

20 This is not an Administration
21 ordinance, but an ordinance requested by Edward A
22 Terrascus. He is an attorney, and he is
23 representing John Katagnis, who is the party in
24 interest and the abutting property owner.

25 Moore Street is 12 feet wide and

1 BILL 980237

2 legally open. Allen Street is variable width and
3 legally open. Neither are improved.

4 The purpose of this ordinance is to
5 grant the Authority to strike these streets from the
6 City Plan.

7 The ordinance is supported by the
8 Department of Streets and is recommended to your
9 committee for favorable action.

10 MR. MARTIN SOFFER: Good afternoon,
11 chairman, and members of the committee. My name is
12 Martin Soffer. I am representing the City Planning
13 Commission.

14 The proposed ordinance authorizes the
15 striking from the City Plan and the vacating of two
16 unneeded paper streets in the Richmond section of
17 North Philadelphia.

18 The purpose of this ordinance is to
19 remove the legal encumbrances on these paper streets
20 in order to permit the party of interest to
21 construction a building addition.

22 Therefore, by action at its meeting
23 on April the 23rd, 1998, the Planning Commission
24 recommends that Bill No. 980237 be approved.

25 Thank you.

1 BILL 980243

2 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Any questions
3 for these witnesses from the committee? Anyone else
4 here to wishes to testify for or against the bill?

5 Hearing none, the clerk will read the
6 title of the next bill.

7 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980243, an
8 ordinance authorizing and directing the placing on
9 City Plan No. 382 of Anna Drive, from Worthington
10 Road, at a point approximately 173 feet southwest of
11 Michelle Drive, and extending in a southeastwardly
12 direction the approximate distance of 250 feet, to a
13 dead end turnaround, under certain terms and
14 conditions.

15 MR. PAUL LONIE: Good afternoon,
16 Mr. Chairman. I am representing the Department of
17 Streets, and I would like to give testimony on the
18 following two bills, since they are companion bills
19 dealing with the same street.

20 These bills are not Administration
21 ordinances, but are ordinances requested by Mr. Sean
22 Ward, a representative of Worthington Estates
23 Development.

24 The purpose of these ordinances is to
25 add a cul-de-sac street to the existing street

1 BILL 980243

2 system and develop an adjoining land lots for 12
3 single-family homes, and also the ordinance to pave,
4 and a drive.

5 These ordinances are supported by the
6 Department of Streets and are recommended to
7 committee for favorable action.

8 MR. MARTIN SOFFER: Good afternoon,
9 chairman, members of the committee. My name is
10 Martin Soffer, representing the Philadelphia City
11 Planning Commission.

12 The proposed ordinance authorizes the
13 placing on the City Plan of a new cul-de-sac street
14 in the Somerton section of Northeast Philadelphia.

15 The purpose of this ordinance is to
16 permit the construction of 12 single-family detached
17 housing units.

18 Therefore, by action at its meeting
19 on April the 23rd, 1998, the Planning Commission
20 recommends that Bill No. 980243 be approved.

21 Thank you.

22 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you. Any
23 questions for these witnesses? Anyone else here to
24 wishes to testify for or against the bill?

25 Hearing none, the clerk will read the

1 BILL 980244

2 title of the next bill.

3 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980244, an
4 ordinance authorizing the paving of Anna Drive,
5 under certain terms and conditions.

6 MR. PAUL LONIE: Good afternoon,
7 Mr. Chairman. My name is Pauline Lonie from the
8 Streets Department.

9 This is a companion bill to Bill No.
10 980243. And what we are requesting is the
11 authorization of the City Council to enter into a
12 contract to pave this street legally.

13 The Streets Department has no
14 objection to this bill.

15 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Any questions
16 for this witness from the committee? Anyone else
17 here that wishes to testify for or against the
18 bill?

19 Hearing none, the clerk will please
20 read the title of the the title of the next bill.

21 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980309, an
22 ordinance authorizing the changing of the name of
23 Webster Street, from Passyunk Avenue to 7th Street,
24 to Queen Street, under certain terms and
25 conditions.

1 BILL 980309

2 MR. PAUL LONIE: Good afternoon,
3 Mr. Chairman my name is Paul Lonie. We represent
4 the Streets Department. We would like to offer the
5 following testimony on Bill No. 980309.

6 This is not an Administration
7 ordinance. It was presented at the request of a
8 neighborhood organization. Webster Street is 25
9 feet wide, is on the City Plan, partially legally
10 opened and improved.

11 The Streets Department, although
12 generally opposed to these types of bills, but
13 because of the minimum number of properties fronting
14 on Webster Street, has no opposition to this bill.

15 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Any questions
16 for this witness? Anyone else here to wishes who
17 testify?

18 Hearing none, the the clerk will
19 please read the title of the next bill.

20 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980310, an
21 ordinance authorizing the paving of Depue Avenue and
22 Lindenhurst Street, under certain terms and
23 conditions.

24 MR. PAUL LONIE: Good afternoon,
25 Councilman DiCicco, members of the committee. My

1 BILL 980310

2 name is Paul Lonie. I am the manager of the Survey
3 Bureau, and I represent the Department of Streets.
4 And we would like to offer the following testimony
5 on Bill No. 980310.

6 This is not an Administration
7 ordinance, but an Ordinance requested by Mr. Philip
8 Harvey, Summerton Knowell, Incorporated, 511 West
9 Chester Pike, Havertown, Pennsylvania.

10 The purpose of this ordinance is to
11 acquire from the City Council legal authority to
12 pave Depue Avenue and Lindenhurst Streets.

13 These streets need to be paved to
14 support the proposed newly constructed homes which
15 would front on these streets.

16 This ordinance is supported by the
17 Department of Streets and is recommended to
18 committee for favorable action.

19 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Any questions
20 for this witness? Anyone else here who wishes to
21 testify?

22 Hearing none, the clerk will please
23 read the title of the next bill.

24 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980313, an
25 Ordinance authorizing the revision of lines and

1 BILL 980313
2 grades on a portion of City Plan No. 194, by
3 striking from the City Plan and vacating a portion
4 of Reese Street, from a point approximately 293 feet
5 south of Knorr Street, to a point approximately 60
6 feet southwardly therefrom, and by reserving and
7 placing on the City Plan a certain right-of-way for
8 gas main purposes, under certain terms and
9 conditions.

10 MR. PAUL LONIE: Good afternoon,
11 Mr. Chairman. My name is Paul Lonie. I am
12 representing the Department of Streets. We would
13 like to offer the following testimony on Bill No.
14 980313.

15 This is not an Administration
16 ordinance, but an ordinance officially requested by
17 Mr. William McDow, Director of Design and
18 Construction of the Redevelopment Authority, who
19 represents the interested party, the APM Shopping
20 Center.

21 Reese Street, 40 feet and 25 feet
22 wide is on the city plan, legally opened and
23 improved.

24 The purpose of this ordinance is to
25 grant the authority to strike from the City Plan and

1 BILL 980313

2 vacate a southern portion of Reese Street, in order
3 to expand the shopping center facility at this
4 location.

5 The ordinance is supported by the
6 Department of Streets and is recommended to your
7 committee for favorable action.

8 MR. MARTIN SOFFER: Good afternoon,
9 chairman, and members of the committee. My name is
10 Martin Soffer. I am representing the Philadelphia
11 City Planning Commission.

12 The proposed ordinance authorizes the
13 striking and vacating of a 60-foot portion of a
14 minor, unneeded street, in the West Kensington
15 section of North Philadelphia.

16 The purpose of this ordinance is to
17 assist the Community Development Corporation to
18 assemble a parcel for the development of a 40,000
19 square foot grocery store.

20 Therefore, by action at its meeting
21 on May 7, 1998, the Planning Commission recommends
22 that Bill No. 980313 be approved.

23 Thank you.

24 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Any questions
25 from the committee? Councilman Mariano.

1 BILL 980373

2 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Mr. Chairman, I
3 just request a suspension of the Rules so this can
4 be voted on at the next regular meeting of Council.

5 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

6 Please proceed. The clerk will
7 please read the title of the next bill.

8 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980373, an
9 Ordinance authorizing the revision of lines and
10 grades on a portion of City Plan No. 123, by
11 striking from the City Plan and vacating Watts
12 Street, from Susquehanna Avenue to Diamond Street,
13 by reserving and placing on the City Plan certain
14 rights-of-way for drainage purposes, water main
15 purposes, and gas main purposes, and granting a
16 right-of-way for drainage purposes in the former
17 Park Avenue, from Diamond Street to Susquehanna
18 Avenue, under certain terms and conditions.

19 MR. PAUL LONIE: Good afternoon,
20 Mr. Chairman, members of the committee. My Paul
21 Lonie, and I am representing the Department of
22 Streets. And we would like to offer testimony on
23 Bill No. 980373.

24 This is not an Administration
25 ordinance, but an ordinance requested by Mr. Michael

1 BILL 980373

2 Levin, President of North Broad Development Company,
3 2201 North Broad Street.

4 The purpose of this ordinance is to
5 strike and vacate the 2100 block of North Watts
6 Street to allow the construction of a Rite Aid
7 development at the southeast corner of Broad and
8 Susquehanna Avenues.

9 This ordinance is supported by the
10 Department of Streets and is recommended to the
11 committee for favorable action.

12 MR. MARTIN SOFFER: Mr. Chairman and
13 members of the committee, my name is Martin Soffer,
14 representing the City Planning Commission.

15 The City Planning Commission staff
16 has reviewed and approved this bill, and the
17 Planning Commission will formally approve this bill
18 at its next meeting.

19 Therefore, the staff recommends that
20 Bill No. 980373 be approved. Thank you.

21 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Any questions
22 from the committee for these witnesses? Anyone else
23 here who wishes to testify?

24 Hearing none, the clerk will please
25 read the title of the next bill.

1 BILL 980375

2 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980375, an
3 Ordinance authorizing the revision of lines and
4 grades on a portion of City Plan No. 308 by striking
5 from the City Plan and vacating Rosewood Street,
6 from Spruce Street to Delancy Street, by striking
7 from the City Plan Delancy Street, from 15th Street
8 to Rosewood Street, and abandoning a certain
9 right-of-way for drainage purposes, under certain
10 terms and conditions, including the dedication to
11 the city free and clear of encumbrances of certain
12 unopened portions of Spruce Street.

13 MR. PAUL LONIE: Good afternoon,
14 Mr. Chairman, members of the committee. My name is
15 Paul Lonie. I am representing the Department of
16 Streets. We would like to offer the following
17 testimony on Bill No. 980375.

18 This is not an Administration
19 ordinance, but an ordinance requested by Mr. Paul
20 Deegan, Senior Vice-President, Philadelphia
21 Industrial Development Corporation, 2600 Center
22 Square West, Philadelphia, PA.

23 The purpose of this ordinance is to
24 strike from the City Plan Rosewood Street, Delancy
25 Street, and abandon a drainage right-of-way to

1 BILL 980375

2 facilitate the new Regional Performing Arts Center
3 on this site.

4 This ordinance is supported by the
5 Department of Streets and is recommended to your
6 committee for favorable action.

7 MR. MARTIN SOFFER: Chairman and
8 members of the committee, my name is Martin Soffer,
9 representing the City Planning Commission.

10 The Planning Commission staff has
11 reviewed and tentatively approved this bill. This
12 approval is subject to the abandoning of
13 rights-of-way for water main, drainage, and gas main
14 purposes.

15 Therefore, the staff recommends
16 approval with those provisos for Bill No. 980375.
17 Thank you.

18 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Anyone else
19 here? Paul.

20 MR. PAUL DEEGAN: Good afternoon, my
21 name is Paul Deegan. I represent PIDC and also
22 PAID, the Philadelphia Authority for Industrial
23 Development, which is the actual owner of the land
24 surrounding these streets.

25 Striking these two streets will allow

1 BILL 980308

2 us to assemble the site for the future Regional
3 Performing Arts Center. And we recommend, we ask
4 the Council to give this bill favorable
5 consideration.

6 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Suspension of
7 Rules?

8 MR. DEEGAN: Yes, that would be good,
9 Councilman, thank you.

10 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: We will take
11 that under consideration when we vote the bills out
12 of committee. Thank you.

13 Any questions for these witnesses?
14 Anyone else here who wishes to testify for or
15 against these bills?

16 Hearing none, the clerk will call the
17 title of the next bill. Thank you.

18 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980308, an
19 ordinance establishing a parking regulation on South
20 Street, north side, from 2nd Street to 8th Street,
21 under certain terms and conditions.

22 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: All those who
23 wish to testify on this bill, would you please come
24 forward. I think you all might want to come up,
25 inspect or, everybody at the same time, I guess. It

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2 would be easier.

3 MR. HERBERT VEDERMAN: Herb Vederman
4 from the Mayor's Office. And I would like to start
5 off by giving sort of a genesis of South Street
6 since 1992, when the Rendell Administration took
7 office.

8 Presently, the traffic regulations
9 for South Street that is legally still in effect
10 states that, I think, on Friday night and all day
11 Saturday, and probably Sunday, barricades go up on
12 all the cross streets, not allowing traffic to go on
13 South Street.

14 We found that this caused mass
15 confusion, it caused police problems, it caused
16 windows being broken, parking was on both sides of
17 the street, the street turned out to be a place
18 where people partied, and it became quite a
19 situation for the police to handle.

20 We tried different ways to remedy the
21 situation. We tried to -- we'd like to use the
22 word -- upgrade the street in many ways. And some
23 of the things we did was, one, lighting.

24 South Street, along with PECO, and
25 the Mayor's Office, and at the time Joe Vignola, we

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2 received money to put new lights in. We became
3 probably one of the brightest streets in town.

4 We also started these traffic regs,
5 where we used the police powers to do away with the
6 barricades and eliminate parking on the north side.

7 So what you had was two moving lanes
8 of traffic, rather than one lane of traffic in the
9 middle with two lanes of parked cars.

10 What was happening, if anybody wanted
11 to park their car, traffic would stop and go back
12 past to Broad Street, because no one is moving
13 anywhere with only one moving lane and parking on
14 both sides.

15 We tried, as I say, to upgrade the
16 street and sort of balance the interests of the
17 communities that abut South Street, which is Queens
18 Village and Society Hill, which, when you had all
19 this confusion on South Street, you are getting a
20 quality of life that the residents weren't too happy
21 with.

22 Because when you had traffic backed
23 up and you had people, you know, milling through the
24 streets, that's when you used to hear about the
25 multiple urinations and the defecations and the cars

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2 broken into, and all the horrible things that you
3 were hearing that happened, you know, in the block
4 or two off of South Street every weekend.

5 And I might add that most of the
6 problem is on weekends. And later in my testimony,
7 I am going to explain why I think the problem is not
8 just a weekend problem, but is more than a weekend
9 problem.

10 You know, we are here talking about
11 quality of life. And I think to make the quality of
12 life better for Wash West, for Queen's Village for
13 Society Hill, we have to treat this street as a
14 business street, and we also have to take into
15 consideration what it is doing to those
16 neighborhoods.

17 We have someone from the Parking
18 Authority here and from the Streets Department. And
19 I don't think there are any other commercial streets
20 in Philadelphia that have one moving lane of
21 traffic, with the two parked lanes on both sides.
22 So this makes this street different than any other
23 street.

24 And, again, I don't want to make this
25 street just like every other street. But, you know,

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2 I also don't want to make it so different that it
3 only serves the purpose of a few, rather than the
4 tens of thousands of people that live in the area
5 and some of the better, upscale businesses, also,
6 that need people who can spend money and bring their
7 families down to South Street to do well.

8 I think having traffic backed up past
9 Broad Street, having traffic backed up on 5th, 6th,
10 7th, and 8th Street and 2nd Street and 3rd Street
11 trying to go across South Street, I think this
12 creates an atmosphere that impacts the quality of
13 life of the people who live there.

14 Our new Police Commissioner, when he
15 first arrived, it happened to be a warm weekend a
16 month or so ago. And he said he was trying to drive
17 to South Street, and the traffic was so backed up,
18 he had to turn around and go back. And he had
19 lights and sirens, and it was difficult to get to
20 South Street.

21 You take Monday nights, when we have
22 trash pick-up, it is impossible, obviously for
23 anyone to drive Council South Street because there
24 is nowhere to go.

25 If the trash truck is in the middle

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2 of the street, you can't go left around it or right
3 around it, because obviously you have cars parked on
4 both sides.

5 We talk about it as a safety issue,
6 with the police and fire. We have the Police
7 Department here today, I think, that will talk about
8 their ability to get to situations in a reasonable
9 time, when it takes sometimes 10 and 15 minutes,
10 unless they are on foot.

11 But they can't get cars there. I
12 have heard lieutenant McCarthy testify that to get a
13 wagon to a scene to arrest somebody takes him quite
14 some time because the traffic is just there, cars
15 are parked on both sides of the street, and this
16 makes it impossible to get a wagon to transport a
17 prisoner that he has already arrested. Or he has a
18 crowd sort of encircling the prisoner, and it makes
19 for a very touchy situation.

20 We talk about continuity. I think it
21 is difficult to say, these couple of hours the
22 traffic regs are going to be one thing, and those
23 couple of hours, you know, the parking is going to
24 be something else.

25 I think in the long run, you get a

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2 lot of confused customers who are going to wind up
3 getting their cars towed because they were here last
4 night, and it was okay to park here, but they're
5 here tonight and it is not okay to park here.

6 And with the different hours, it is
7 okay to park here at 7:00, but it is not okay to
8 park here at 6:00.

9 So I think a lot of these things are
10 self-defeating. I think you have to look at this as
11 a philosophy. Do I want to upgrade and make this a
12 more pleasant experience for people who want to
13 shop, people who want to eat, people who want to
14 spend money, or do I want to make this a Mardi Gra
15 kind of atmosphere.

16 As one person said at your community
17 meeting, Frank, he wants his customers to be able to
18 shop from the highway. He wants his customers to be
19 able to drive down that center lane at a very slow
20 pace and be able to see his store, and then maybe
21 come back and buy something.

22 Maybe for his store or for a tattoo
23 parlor or a take-out pizza parlor, these things are
24 fine. But I know for the Snydermans, who were on
25 South Street for probably 20 or 30 years, they are

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2 not there anymore. They are in old city, and I
3 think are they in Manayunk, also? Yes. They are in
4 Old City and they are in Manayunk.

5 And they are the kinds of businesses
6 that bring people who are going to spend money and
7 maybe bring families back to South Street, and not
8 make it, quote, the scary place that people say it
9 is sometimes.

10 And, again, we want diversity. We
11 absolutely want diversity. And we want the Police
12 Department to enforce loitering laws and all the
13 things that they have to do. But we think that the
14 traffic regs are an integral part of it.

15 And we were, as I say, very
16 instrumental and very cooperative in establishing
17 the special Headhouse District, so the street would
18 be clean, so the street would be lit with bright
19 lights and traffic would move. Because in this
20 world, I mean, that's how it should be.

21 And if we want to have a street that
22 is not like that, and not lit with bright lights and
23 not clean and traffic backed up north and south and
24 east and west, and people shopping from their cars,
25 and drinking beer from their truck, then let's leave

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2 it alone, or let's just leave the laws that you have
3 on the books now.

4 But I think you have to do something
5 substantial. And if you don't, I just think it is
6 like the old expression, either you are in or you
7 are out, and you are going to do something that's
8 really going to be substantial.

9 And that's all I have to say.

10 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: And your
11 recommendation is? No. I think I know where you
12 are on, but I want to get it on the record.

13 MR. VEDERMAN: My recommendation has
14 been to make this like any other commercial corridor
15 in the city, which means 365 days a year that you
16 have two moving lanes of traffic and one lane of
17 parking.

18 Because in 99-and-three-quarters
19 percent -- and is that correct? -- is that most
20 commercial streets have two lanes of moving
21 vehicles, as opposed to two lanes of parking?

22 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: I think that's
23 correct as it applies to Center City.

24 MR. VEDERMAN: Yes, as it applies to
25 Center City. And that's my recommendation.

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2 And if you want to compromise,
3 because you have a group of businesses --

4 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: I am going to
5 stop you for a minute, Mr. Vederman.

6 365 days of the year, are you
7 suggesting that the two lanes of travel for a
8 24-hour period or specific hours?

9 I mean, you are just saying, open it
10 up, kind of like Duvall Street in Key West, where no
11 one parks on Duvall Street?

12 MR. VEDERMAN: No. I am saying just
13 the opposite. I am saying, 365 days a year, 24
14 hours a day, this street should be like every other
15 commercial street.

16 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: That's what I am
17 asking you. Two lanes of travel, one parking lane?

18 MR. VEDERMAN: Yes, one lane of
19 parking.

20 And if there is going to be some
21 compromises because of extenuating circumstances,
22 there should be continuity to it, and not just you
23 picked two days, and then -- like, for instance, the
24 meeting of, I think, the South Street District
25 recently said, well, let's just do Friday night and

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2 Saturday where we have two moving lanes.

3 But I tell you, you go there Sunday
4 afternoon, and you are going to have the same
5 traffic, on a warm Sunday afternoon, the same
6 traffic jams that you have on Friday night and
7 Saturday.

8 And even though you do get more
9 families and more people who spend money maybe
10 Sunday afternoon, I contend you would get a lot more
11 if you had more order there on Sunday afternoon.

12 And I believe when we go back to
13 these quality of life issues, a free flow of traffic
14 anywhere, if it is in this city or any other city,
15 causes a better quality of life and puts people in a
16 mind frame that there's rules and regulations, and
17 you just don't sit there and honk your horns and sit
18 in traffic and have your boom boxes going.

19 And I think it is almost unfair to
20 put the whole burden on the police, when we tell
21 them, you know, get the traffic moving better,
22 arrest more people, do this and do that, when they
23 are impeded by the fact that they have a constant
24 traffic jam on warm days and warm nights.

25 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: And your

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2 second -- what did you refer to it as?

3 MR. VEDERMAN: As a second compromise
4 have continuity and have the traffic regs Thursday,
5 Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, and do it from 7:00 to
6 7:00. And, again, that would be a compromise.

7 But you would be giving up
8 continuity. And the continuity means that the
9 Police Department, again, has to start going putting
10 bags on the traffic meters, the Parking Authority
11 has to come towing cars that aren't abiding by the
12 differences in traffic patterns.

13 I think continuity is an important
14 piece of this. But if the committee wants to
15 overlook it or feel that the extenuating
16 circumstances are great enough, then so be it.

17 But this is my opinion. And I have
18 been working with all these issues now for almost
19 seven years.

20 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: And I know that,
21 and I thank you. Because you and I have been
22 working on this for about two years, and at the
23 recent meeting a couple of nights ago.

24 And I am still wrestling with this
25 notion of the parking regs as the bill has been

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2 written.

3 And I don't know if by a miracle
4 something is going to happen to me in the next half
5 hour. But I am certainly hoping we can come to
6 something that works.

7 Because I don't really know what the
8 answer is, to be perfectly honest with you.

9 MR. VEDERMAN: See, Councilman, if
10 this is really a parking problem, if businesses are
11 saying that they need two lanes of parking because
12 their businesses suffer because there is not
13 parking, then I think that's a different problem.

14 I think we have to address that
15 either from the private sector of more parking lots
16 or the Parking Authority having a parking lot down
17 there, if it is a parking situation.

18 If it is an atmosphere situation, as
19 the gentleman said the other night at our community
20 meeting, that his customers like to shop from the
21 center lane, then that's an atmosphere kind of
22 problem.

23 And that's something that you on City
24 Council have to decide, is it a parking problem or
25 is it an atmosphere problem.

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2 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: I look at it
3 more, I think. I look at it two ways. I look at it
4 as a parking problem, and I also look at it as a
5 public safety issue.

6 And that's the problem for me, is
7 that I am trying to do what I think is best for the
8 business community and the residential community,
9 obviously, in getting people in and out of the South
10 Street corridor as quickly and as efficiently as
11 possible, while still recognizing that there are
12 businesses there that depend on people to come down
13 and shop.

14 And depending on, and you know this,
15 Herb, where you are standing and to what
16 businessperson you are speaking, everybody has a
17 different opinion about it.

18 There are people who have some of the
19 more eclectic kind of shops, the tattoo parlors and
20 places like that, who I don't think are as concerned
21 for the issue of parking as maybe someone with a
22 more upscale restaurant.

23 MR. VEDERMAN: And that's what I mean
24 by "atmosphere." And if you want that Mardi Gra
25 atmosphere, then you go back to the community

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2 complaints that we had listened to for many, many
3 years of the broken car windows and the multiple
4 people urinating in their front door, and so on.

5 Where I really felt that the
6 Administration and Council and the people who wanted
7 to do a Special Services District wanted to get rid
8 of that kind of thing and wanted to have less kind
9 of pizza take-out parlors and tattoo parlors and
10 pinball places and video places, and have some good
11 restaurants and good stores, and not have the Rick
12 Snyderman's, who literally spent 30 years on that
13 street, have to leave because they don't have these
14 problems in Old City and Manayunk.

15 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: My concern --
16 and I expressed this to you the other night after
17 the meeting -- people from the residential community
18 really didn't make their presence and opinions known
19 at the meeting the other night, for the most part.

20 And the other issue for me -- and I
21 understand your issue concerning continuity. I am
22 not as concerned with that. Because I look at the
23 seashore resorts as an example.

24 During the off-season in the
25 seashore, there are certain parking regulations that

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2 aren't in effect. But when the summer comes,
3 different parking regs take hold.

4 And South Street is, even though it
5 is busy all year-round, is primarily a seasonal
6 commercial corridor. And we obviously see a much
7 greater increase of traffic during the warm months,
8 as opposed to the winter months.

9 MR. VEDERMAN: Sure. There are all
10 kinds of compromises.

11 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Herb not to
12 interrupt, but we also have on just about every city
13 block in the city, we have parking signs that direct
14 people to park during certain hours or not park in
15 certain hours. So the continuity thing I am not as
16 concerned with.

17 MR. VEDERMAN: Right. But this is
18 the only street in the city that you have, on an
19 average, warm weather night, 30 or 40 thousand
20 people, and an awful lot of them even coming from
21 out of town, spending their money.

22 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: I agree. I
23 understand that.

24 MR. VEDERMAN: And I don't want to
25 chase them away, either.

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2 If I was king and I could make any
3 decision I wanted, I would say, if I couldn't do it
4 365 days a year, then pick the warm weather months,
5 but just do it all the warm weather months.

6 If I couldn't do it just on the warm
7 weather months, then I would do it every night. And
8 if I couldn't do it every night, then I would at
9 least do it those four nights of the week, because
10 they are the heaviest.

11 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: You can run for
12 Council and have to make that decision. Thank you
13 for your testimony.

14 I think we will go to Mr. Ostrander
15 now, and then we will hear from the Police and the
16 Parking Authority. Thank you, Herb.

17 MR. DICK OSTRANDER: Thank you, Mr.
18 Chairman. I am Dick Ostrander, the Executive
19 Director of the South Street Headhouse District, and
20 also a neighbor and nearby resident of South Street,
21 as was Mr. Vederman until just a few weeks ago, and
22 have certainly the concerns and Welfare of South
23 Street and the residential community at heart.

24 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: I was not being
25 offensive to you when I said, as far as I thought,

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2 there would have been a greater representation from
3 the community.

4 MR. OSTRANDER: I totally agree with
5 you, Mr. Chairman. But several people were there
6 from the residential community. Only one of them
7 really made her point of view known. But their
8 point of views were under consideration and taken
9 into account.

10 I would like to relate just a little
11 bit of the historical perspective of the special
12 traffic regulation in the South Street corridor.

13 And I find myself in a very awkward
14 position of being perhaps a little bit at odds with
15 Mr. Vederman because Mr. Vederman has been, as he
16 said, and it is absolutely true, a strong proponent
17 of the South Street Headhouse District, a great
18 supporter of us, helpful in originating us, and
19 doing all the things that we are trying to do to
20 make the South Street corridor a cleaner, safer
21 place to work, play, eat, shop, do all of the things
22 that people want to do.

23 And big crowds do come to the street,
24 and they are definitely weather driven, as we all
25 know. And I won't go through all of that.

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2 The historical part of the traffic
3 regulations that I would like to emphasize is that
4 the present temporary regulations, replacing the
5 barricading to which Mr. Vederman made reference,
6 the barricading was several years ago.

7 As of February of 1996, two years
8 ago, the temporary regulations as they now exist
9 were put in place. And those regulations, in fact,
10 covered Friday and Saturday evenings.

11 A great proportion, a major part, of
12 the business community took odds with those
13 regulations, found them very confusing, and were
14 very reluctant to have, even Friday and Saturday,
15 these special two lanes of traffic moving. But over
16 a period of time, they have been accepted.

17 At this point of time, this is the
18 beginning of the third summer of the so-called
19 summer regulations, which went into effect, Penn
20 Relays weekend, the last weekend in April, and are
21 scheduled to remain in effect, I believe the signage
22 says, until mid October or late October, I'm not
23 sure of the exact date. It is on the signs which
24 the Parking Authority very recently put up.

25 Taking all of those things into

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2 account, the public meeting was held on Monday
3 night.

4 This morning, the South Street
5 District had its regular monthly Board meeting. At
6 that Board meeting, a resolution on this issue was
7 prepared. I would like to read it, if I may. I
8 have several copies of it here, if you would like to
9 have that sent to you, or extra copies available.

10 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Did Herb get a
11 copy of that?

12 MR. OSTRANDER: I offered him one and
13 he did not take a copy. Is he gone?

14 Having heard the various opinions
15 expressed on Monday night from 50 or 60
16 businesspeople and some community residents, and the
17 Board enacted unanimously a resolution this morning
18 about the proposed ordinance.

19 So you have to take into account that
20 this does not repeat the ordinance; all it does is
21 suggest what the District supports as a proper
22 amendment or modification of that, Mr. Chairman.

23 Resolved that the South Street
24 Headhouse District Board supports the modification
25 of the ordinance introduced by Councilman Frank

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2 DiCicco to specify, quote, No Parking, 7:00 p.m.
3 Friday and Saturday to 6:00 a.m. the following
4 morning, to be effective the Friday nearest the last
5 day of April to the Saturday nearest to the 15th day
6 of October, starting in April of 1999.

7 A footnote to that. The District has
8 been advised that the ordinance needs to contain a
9 specific date, rather than the approximate dates
10 noted above.

11 The vast majority of the merchants in
12 the District would prefer that the start date be May
13 1, and that the end date be September 30. And this
14 would simplify the signage problem.

15 If those dates are adopted, the
16 police can apply the regulations as needed for
17 reasons of public safety for the last weekend in
18 April, parenthesis, which is the Penn Relay's
19 weekend, and also into the first weekend or two of
20 October, as the weather requires.

21 In any case, the police have the
22 option of applying the regulations any time during
23 the year, as weather or special events may require.
24 And they do from time to time, because of weather or
25 because of special events or other occurrences.

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2 They have that option 365 days a year.

3 The point of staying with the Friday
4 and Saturday special regulations is that those are
5 by far the heaviest periods of traffic on the
6 street.

7 I totally agree with Mr. Vederman,
8 that the Sunday afternoons can be very crowded on
9 the street. But the regulations are never and have
10 never been effect in the daytime in any case. So
11 that would not affect Sunday, one way or the other.

12 Sunday is family day on South
13 Street. Generally you see a lot of kids, moms and
14 dads, strolling and having fun on South Street,
15 doing the things you do on South Street.

16 We would very much support, and
17 strongly support, as this says, the continuation of
18 the Friday and Saturday regulations, because those
19 are the heavy known days.

20 The people who come to South Street
21 with some regularity are now accustom to that. The
22 merchants have gradually accepted it as a reasonable
23 compromise over their needs, which would be for no
24 regulation at all.

25 So we propose that you adopt this

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2 minor, we think it is minor, amendment to the
3 resolution as you originally presented it, sir, and
4 we will support that 100 percent.

5 Thank you very much for the
6 opportunity to be here. And I certainly would be
7 glad to respond to questions.

8 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

9 Who wants to go next? Let the police
10 go. Inspector or Lieutenant McCarthy, whoever.

11 INSPECTOR GIORGIO FOX: Good
12 afternoon, chairman, I am Inspector Giorgio Fox,
13 newly assigned to South Police Division.

14 And while my tenure in South Police
15 has been relatively short, my knowledge of South
16 Street extends due to my prior experience in the 6th
17 District.

18 I was fortunate enough to attend the
19 meeting with you all on Monday night, and I am aware
20 of the issues.

21 From the police perspective, I would
22 like to say that there are a variety of issues that
23 the police deal with on South Street throughout the
24 year.

25 Traffic regulations, vehicular

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2 traffic is one. And we have crowd control,
3 pedestrian control, crime issues, quality of life
4 issues.

5 To the degree that we can deal with
6 those others, we are often in a position to have to
7 deal with traffic first.

8 In our opinion, the control of the
9 traffic on South Street is a public safety issue.
10 And we have to deal with the public safety issue,
11 the ability to keep everyone on that street, the
12 businesses and the residents, as well as our
13 visitors, safe.

14 And so it has been discussed with me
15 during my brief stay here that the need to keep that
16 street running is essential.

17 Our ability to decrease our police
18 numbers for traffic control will provide us the
19 ability to increase our numbers when we talk about
20 other issues on the street.

21 I am not in a position to give you a
22 historical perspective because my command of that
23 street has been seven days. Lieutenant McCarthy is
24 with me. He has a great deal more historical
25 knowledge, and I'm sure he would be happy to share

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2 that with you.

3 I am speaking from a common sense
4 tactical position when I say that the ability to run
5 two lanes of traffic on the heavy nights is
6 essential for us to be able to do the rest of our
7 job.

8 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you. You
9 can stay there.

10 Lieutenant, if you are going to be
11 testifying, you can come up. Because I think my
12 questions, I will pose a question, and you could
13 decide between the two of you who would like to
14 answer that.

15 Do you have anything to add, to
16 testify to, before we begin some questions,
17 Lieutenant?

18 I mean you have heard the testimony
19 so far from Mr. Ostrander, Mr. Vederman, and your
20 Inspector. Would you like to make a statement
21 first?

22 LIEUTENANT MCCARTHY: I would prefer
23 to answer questions, rather than make a statement,
24 sir.

25 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Okay. Thank

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2 you.

3 Do you want to hold your testimony,
4 Rick? Why don't we do your comments.

5 MR. RICHARD DIXON: My name is
6 Richard Dixon. I am the Director of Parking
7 Management at the Philadelphia Parking Authority.

8 We have enforced these regulations
9 for the last two years, both in issuing tickets and
10 in towing vehicles parked in violation of the
11 temporary regulation which has been in effect.

12 Last year and the beginning of this
13 year particularly, there has been a very high
14 compliance rate on the part of the public in terms
15 of abiding by the regulation.

16 We issue very few tickets at this
17 stage, tow even fewer vehicles. So there seems to
18 be a level of acceptance of the regulation as it is
19 currently configured.

20 One thing that I could caution
21 against is a major change in the hours when the
22 regulation goes into effect.

23 Part of the problem is, because it
24 now goes into effect at 6 o'clock, the vehicles are
25 moved off the street before most of those people

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2 coming for dining would arrive on South Street.

3 So we're not confronted with a
4 situation where a person is in a restaurant, in the
5 middle of his dinner, comes out at 7:00 or 8 o'clock
6 and finds his vehicle has been towed.

7 If we move the regulation back much
8 further, 7 o'clock, I think, is getting a little
9 dicey. 8 o'clock, I think, would be very dangerous,
10 to move the beginning time of the regulation back
11 that late.

12 It seems to work very well as it is
13 now. But I understand that you are trying to
14 balance the competing needs of a whole bunch of
15 people here.

16 So if 7 o'clock is a reasonable
17 accommodation to all of the interests there, it is
18 certainly something that we could live with and we
19 could enforce in a reasonable way.

20 The only other thing is, I would
21 suggest a technical amendment to the bill. As it is
22 currently written, it calls for a No Parking
23 regulation. The way the temporary regulation is,
24 that's a No Stopping regulation, which enables us to
25 ticket and move the vehicles immediately.

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2 No Parking regulations permit people
3 to load and unload for some period of time. And I
4 think that that's not what you are trying to
5 accomplish here.

6 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

7 Herb, do you have any questions for
8 Mr. Dixon while he is here? If you do, you have to
9 come up to the witness table.

10 MR. VEDERMAN: When we say there has
11 been compliance over the last year or so, I mean, my
12 point is, there's been compliance because we have
13 done it steadily for the last year to two years.
14 And once we come to agreement what the permanent
15 regs should be, there will be compliance again.

16 When we started this, Rick, I
17 couldn't tell you how many cars a night we towed and
18 how many angry customers we had.

19 And because there is continuity
20 Friday and Saturday night, we have eliminated the
21 irate customer, or the person coming from Jersey and
22 losing their car.

23 So this is a good thing. And I think
24 it just proves the point out. If you decide you are
25 going to do something, and you have continuity in

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2 what you do, you will be successful.

3 MR. DIXON: I think that that's
4 probably true, that no matter what the regulation
5 is, after a period of time people are going to begin
6 to comply with it at a very high level.

7 I am not making a recommendation as
8 to the days that this should be in effect. I think
9 that's something that needs to be worked out based
10 on all of the different interests that are involved
11 here.

12 The only thing that I would say, is
13 addressing the time of the regulation. If the needs
14 of the community suggest it needs to be seven days a
15 week or four days a week, we can accommodate the
16 enforcement of that regulation no matter what you
17 decide it should be.

18 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

19 Lieutenant McCarthy, how long have
20 you been on the South Street detail now?

21 LIEUTENANT MCCARTHY: Approximately
22 ten years.

23 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: And you have
24 seen various types of regulations over that ten-year
25 period?

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2 LIEUTENANT MCCARTHY: Yes, sir.

3 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: And my question
4 is, as it presently is regulated, under the present
5 regulations where it is 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m., I
6 believe, the following morning Friday and Saturday,
7 would you, in your professional opinion, answer, the
8 best as is possible, any flaws with that program.

9 And if you had -- and I don't mean to
10 put you on the spot, but we have been toying around
11 with this thing, me, only two years, but you guys,
12 ten years or whatever, what would you, what problems
13 do you see with the present regs?

14 And if you were in a different
15 position, and had to make the recommendations, what
16 recommendations would you make?

17 LIEUTENANT MCCARTHY: Well, I would
18 recommend that --

19 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: And they love
20 you on South Street, and they will love you no
21 matter what you say, I guarantee you.

22 LIEUTENANT MCCARTHY: Well, I would
23 say that if anything was to happen, certainly if we
24 tamper too much with Friday and Saturday nights, I
25 believe it would be to a detriment to the city and

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2 everyone in the city.

3 I think that South Street, you make
4 or break on Fridays and Saturday nights. And that's
5 always going to be the case.

6 I think traffic issues are most
7 important. Although we are getting busier during
8 the week now than we have ever been before, it
9 doesn't compare to the amount of people that come in
10 on Friday and Saturday nights.

11 And as I tell the officers when they
12 go to work on the weekends, while we are concerned
13 at all times about traffic and quality of life, we
14 have to be at our best on Friday and Saturday nights
15 at peak hours.

16 One of the concerns when we go to
17 clear traffic -- we have become pretty good at
18 this. As a matter of fact, we can clear that street
19 without towing a vehicle.

20 We do that with the use of orange No
21 Stopping bags. Because people tend to ignore the
22 signs, and they start putting money in the meters
23 and end up being towed away, and sometimes up to 20
24 cars are towed away when we don't use the bags on
25 the meters.

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2 The Parking Authority doesn't really
3 get much towing on South Street anymore. I'm sure
4 that Mr. Dixon will agree. And we can clear the
5 street. And I believe we can clear it at any time.

6 There is a certain time of the
7 evening when we have to have the street cleared.
8 And if I was to say that, that would be around 9
9 o'clock p.m., when we need to really start to get
10 control of all aspects of the street regarding
11 pedestrians, traffic, et cetera.

12 So whatever is decided, I mean,
13 whatever is easier for the police, whatever is not
14 easier for the police, whatever you decide, I think
15 that Friday and Saturday nights are obviously very
16 crucial to the continuing success of the street.

17 And I think we have seen great
18 improvements regarding assaults and things of that
19 sort since we put the traffic patterns in on Friday
20 and Saturday nights.

21 Most definitely 100 percent, to be
22 exact 600 percent, less assaults than we used to
23 have when things were chaotic on the street on those
24 nights.

25 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: And what you are

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2 saying, I think I hear you saying, is much of that
3 has to do with the regulations by eliminating the
4 parking on the north side, having the two travel
5 lanes, which gives your officers a better handle on
6 conditions that are on the sidewalk.

7 LIEUTENANT MCCARTHY: That is
8 correct.

9 And when we first put the regs in,
10 there was a concern because of the narrowness of the
11 sidewalks, that we were to have problems with
12 pedestrians being so close to the running lane. And
13 there was concern about that.

14 And as I stated at the meeting, it
15 proved negative. We have had zero pedestrian
16 accidents since we have applied these regulations.

17 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: In terms of the
18 logistics, you as the commanding officer there, when
19 you need to deploy your resources to get things
20 done, bag the meters, remind people that they need
21 to move their cars or get the cars off the street,
22 how much lead time do you need to really be able to
23 do that effectively and then be able to do whatever
24 it is that you need to do to get that control onto
25 the sidewalks?

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2 Now, I have a concern, I think I
3 expressed this to you the other night after the
4 regular meeting, that I don't want to put the Police
5 Department in a situation where you are literally
6 rushing from one staging event to the next staging
7 event, you know, whether that means getting the bags
8 on and getting your resources back to the various
9 intersections, or what-have-you. I don't think it
10 is fair for us to ask that of the Police
11 Department.

12 I think we have to give you all the
13 time that you need, the lag time, lead time,
14 whatever we call it, to get your people in place.
15 Because there are always things that are unforeseen,
16 and you know that better than anyone.

17 And rather than to say we are going
18 to do it, if we move this time, as an example, to 7
19 o'clock p.m., which has been suggested, does that in
20 any way limit your ability to do some of the things
21 that are necessary, as opposed to keeping it at 6
22 o'clock?

23 Does that shorten that window of
24 opportunity? And if it does, is it significant
25 enough that it may interfere with what you need to

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2 do to ensure the quality of life on South Street?

3 LIEUTENANT MCCARTHY: Well, as
4 Mr. Dixon said earlier, the original idea was to try
5 to get this thing cleaned up before, as a
6 convenience to the people, before the restaurant
7 people started to come in.

8 I would say that we need about an
9 hour to clear that street. And if you were to
10 decide to move it to 7 o'clock for whatever purposes
11 we decide to do it for, I see no problem, on the
12 public safety perspective, I don't see a problem
13 with that at all.

14 I think, as Mr. Vederman said
15 earlier, I think in an ideal, if it was an ideal
16 world, every day having a running lane would
17 certainly make my job easier.

18 But also I can understand from
19 listening to people how difficult it is for people
20 to accept. And sometimes on a winter night when
21 there is snow on the ground and we are clearing the
22 street, I can also relate to that.

23 But on an ideal perspective, every
24 day would be great, but...

25 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: And in your

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2 experiences, and in your opening statement or your
3 opening comment, you mentioned that it is getting
4 busier during the week nights, which is contrary to
5 what some of the businesspeople suggested the other
6 night, that business is going down the tubes.

7 But I rely on your testimony as to at
8 least the number of people that are coming to South
9 Street. Now, whether or not they are spending,
10 that's another issue.

11 What nights of the week have you
12 realized an increase in people coming down to South
13 Street?

14 LIEUTENANT MCCARTHY: Actually, it is
15 very busy as the week proceeds into Thursday. But
16 we have had nights, depending upon the size of the
17 conventions this town, we have lot of tourists
18 coming down that street, a lot.

19 And a lot of out-of-towners, from 40,
20 50 miles around. And we are getting more, we are
21 seeing more weekday business, and I think it is more
22 to do with convention business.

23 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: But in general,
24 Monday through Sunday, a seven-day-a-week period --
25 there are conventions, sometimes when conventions

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2 are in town things will be busier, not only on South
3 Street, but hopefully throughout the city -- on any
4 given normal night, without conventions, taking
5 conventions in, have you seen an increase on a
6 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, whatever? Any
7 significant increase that may warrant an additional
8 night for parking regs?

9 And, again, I know you are on the
10 spot. I go down there, but I don't see it the way
11 you do, and I need to know that.

12 LIEUTENANT MCCARTHY: The crowd
13 starts to build Wednesday nights, Thursday a little
14 bit more, Friday much more, Saturday much more,
15 Sunday afternoons much more.

16 And Sunday being an early finish,
17 unless there is a holiday on Monday, we have about a
18 2 o'clock peak on a Sunday, where we might have a 7
19 o'clock peak on a Friday. It is a different,
20 totally different, scenario.

21 So Saturdays and Sundays it is
22 extremely busy, but it is also the kind of crowd --
23 it is more a family walking kind of crowd on Sunday
24 afternoons, never any problems.

25 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you. One

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2 other thing. You and I discussed the regulations
3 and the Police Department's ability to apply
4 regulations as the need warrants; you know, as the
5 need comes up.

6 Have you ever had the occasion to
7 implement those regulations on a Sunday afternoon,
8 with the exception of maybe a holiday weekend?

9 LIEUTENANT MCCARTHY: We have had to
10 do -- yes, regulations on an extremely busy Sunday
11 night.

12 We have what they call Belmont
13 Plateau. I don't know if you are familiar with
14 Belmont Plateau.

15 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Yes.

16 LIEUTENANT MCCARTHY: And the Belmont
17 Plateau closes when it gets dark in the park, and
18 everybody comes to South Street.

19 So depending on the situation, I
20 normally don't impose traffic regs as much as I do
21 impose no stopping, because it becomes a party
22 zone.

23 And what I end up having to do to get
24 rid of the party is, I put up No Stopping signs all
25 along the block. And we have to take control of the

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2 blocks.

3 And we do that by doing that
4 sometimes, by imposing an Emergency No Stopping
5 regulations, basically for crowd control. Because
6 everybody is working, operating, and partying out of
7 their vehicles, actually.

8 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: And if you were
9 the person who had to make a decision as to either
10 include another evening, and your choice was
11 Thursday or Sunday, is it safe to say that you would
12 include Thursday, as opposed to Sunday, or the other
13 way around? Sunday evening, I'm speaking of.

14 LIEUTENANT MCCARTHY: Well,
15 historically these have been called weekend traffic
16 restrictions. Sunday is busier than Thursday.

17 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: In the evening?

18 LIEUTENANT MCCARTHY: Not in the
19 evening.

20 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: I am speaking of
21 the evening hours.

22 LIEUTENANT MCCARTHY: In the
23 evening?

24 In the evening, I would say it's
25 probably no different than Thursday, either one of

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2 them. Thursdays and Sundays is probably the same in
3 the evening.

4 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: But Sunday
5 afternoon, we all agree, it is almost like a Friday
6 night or Saturday night, depending on the weather;
7 right?

8 LIEUTENANT MCCARTHY: Yes.

9 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Does anyone else
10 up there wish to make a statement or have anything
11 else to add to this?

12 Mr. Ostrander.

13 MR. OSTRANDER: Just one thing
14 suggests itself on the basis of the very recent
15 testimony.

16 It's been a number of years, in fact
17 I have no idea when, I doubt if anybody here does,
18 know when, I certainly do not and I have not heard
19 from anybody, when there was an actual traffic count
20 done on a day-to-day basis.

21 If that is the deciding point, I
22 would suggest that it might be worthwhile to
23 postpone final decision until traffic counts have
24 been accomplished and we have a real firm sense of
25 what we're dealing with.

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2 Now, I know that those counts will
3 vary depending upon the weather. Because we are
4 certainly a weather-driven street. I suppose all
5 streets are.

6 But our experience certainly is that
7 Friday and Saturday can be quite overwhelming, and
8 the other nights are not.

9 And that's why the District and its
10 advisory Council and its entire Board supported the
11 Friday and Saturday concept, and would continue to
12 do so, sir. Thank you.

13 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

14 MR. VEDERMAN: Listening to
15 Lieutenant McCarthy go through when he has traffic
16 problems, when he doesn't have traffic problems, I
17 think by listening to that, you could see it's not
18 only one day or two days; it could be almost any
19 time, you know, in warm-weather months.

20 And it is a decision that you have to
21 make. Do you want to put the burden of handling
22 these traffic problems on the police, which you may
23 want to do. And they certainly, if the city wants
24 to spend the money to do that or have those
25 resources taken out of Queen's Village and Society

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2 Hill, if you want to put the burden, or Council
3 wants to put the burden, on the Police Department to
4 handle these traffic situations that he described,
5 that could very well be done.

6 I just go back to my original thesis
7 of saying that in all commercial districts in Center
8 City, there is no other place where there is one
9 lane of traffic, period, end of sentence.

10 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: And I agree,
11 Herb. And I am looking to see if I can find some
12 ground here that will relieve the police of some of
13 that traffic business that they have to do -- and
14 they are doing a fantastic job -- but give them a
15 little bit more time to deal with the quality of
16 life issues that seem to be even more on the minds
17 of everyone else than the traffic. At least that's
18 what I got out of the meeting the other night.

19 MR. VEDERMAN: At one point when we
20 first started these new traffic regs, and the Mayor
21 had a meeting with at the time Commissioner Neal, we
22 thought we would be in a position to take some of
23 those police that were on corners and moving traffic
24 around and --

25 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: And send them

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2 into the neighborhoods.

3 MR. VEDERMAN: -- sending them into
4 the neighborhoods.

5 Because we were getting, obviously,
6 lots of complaints about quality of life living in a
7 neighborhood that was a block off of South Street.

8 So I just think that the traffic regs
9 Friday and Saturday night has proved that there is
10 an improvement.

11 And if you want to keep improving
12 that improvement, I think you should add to it, not
13 keep it the same or take it away.

14 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

15 Do you have a comment, Dick?

16 MR. OSTRANDER: Well, yes. But it
17 puts me again at odds with the Deputy Mayor.

18 I have 27 years experience living
19 about 150 feet from South Street. And I cannot
20 recall more than a half a dozen instances in that
21 time -- and it is usually one of the large holiday
22 weekends or some special celebration, Greek Picnic
23 weekend, 4th of July weekend, Penn Relays weekend,
24 one of those very significant bursts of visiting
25 energy -- where I have been uncomfortable being a

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2 block and a half from South Street.

3 And, in fact, South Street traffic
4 rarely backs up to my home, which is in the middle
5 of the 400 block, which is exactly a block and a
6 half north of South Street, where if there is
7 backup, we get it. We rarely get it.

8 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

9 Any questions of these witnesses from
10 the committee?

11 Donna Miller.

12 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Good
13 afternoon. I just want to make a statement.

14 Because sitting here listening, even
15 though in the beginning of the testimony I wasn't
16 here, so I didn't hear everything, but I became very
17 overwhelmed.

18 I used to go to South Street when I
19 worked in South Philly 20 years ago. Certainly
20 there was a whole different South Street.

21 I had not been to South Street
22 shopping until recently, the Saturday night before
23 Easter. I have a 14-year-old daughter that died for
24 me to take her to a store, Unica store.

25 I was truly overwhelmed by the

1 BILL 980120

2 pedestrian traffic on South Street. I had no idea
3 on a Saturday. About 6:00 or 7:00 at night, it was
4 just hundreds and hundreds. I thought maybe a movie
5 theater or something let out, and droves of people
6 started walking down the street.

7 So I am glad that that's in
8 Councilman DiCicco's district. I just needed to say
9 that.

10 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you. Any
11 questions for these witnesses? Anyone else here who
12 wishes to testify?

13 Thank you all for your testimony
14 today. Thank you. Thank you, Herb.

15 The clerk will please read the title
16 of the next bill.

17 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980120, an
18 Ordinance authorizing the Hard Shell Cafe, located
19 at the northeast corner of 9th and Market Streets,
20 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19107, to construct and
21 maintain an electrified marquise projecting from the
22 facade of the Gallery at Market East over the
23 footways of 9th Street and Market Street, under
24 certain terms and conditions.

25 MR. MICHAEL LONGSHORE: Good

1 BILL 980120

2 afternoon, Chairman DiCicco, Councilmembers. My
3 name is Mike Longshore, representing the Streets
4 Department as the Chief Permits Officer, here to
5 testify today on the following bills.

6 In reference to Bill No. 980120, this
7 is not an Administrative ordinance, but an ordinance
8 requested by Hard Shell Cafe located at 9th and
9 Market Street.

10 The purpose of this ordinance is to
11 acquire from City Council the legal authority to
12 construct and maintain an electrified marquise
13 projecting over the legal right-of-ways of 9th
14 Street and Market Street.

15 This ordinance has no objection by
16 the Streets Department.

17 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Any questions
18 for this witness? Anyone else here who wishes to
19 testify?

20 Hearing none, the clerk will please
21 read the title of the next bill.

22 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980146, an
23 ordinance authorizing Boyd's Philadelphia to
24 construct and maintain a canvas canopy on a minimum
25 of 9 feet above the footway in front of the facade

1 BILL 980146
2 of 1818 Chestnut Street, and projecting
3 approximately 16 feet from the facade of said
4 property, under certain terms and conditions.

5 MR. MICHAEL LONGSHORE: Once again,
6 Councilmembers, my name is Mike Longshore,
7 Department of Streets, Chief Permits Officer, here
8 to testify on Bill No. 980146.

9 This is not an Administration
10 ordinance, but an Ordinance requested by Boyd's
11 Philadelphia, located at 1818 Chestnut Street.

12 The purpose of this ordinance is to
13 acquire from City Council the legal authority to
14 construction and maintain a canvas canopy adjacent
15 to the front facade of the property, a minimum of 9
16 foot above the south footway, and projecting
17 approximately 16 foot over the south footway of
18 Chestnut Street.

19 This ordinance is not objected to by
20 the Department of Streets.

21 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Are we looking
22 for a suspension on any of these?

23 MR. LONGSHORE: For Boyd's, yes, and
24 also for the Hard Shell.

25 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Bill No. 980120

1 BILL 980162

2 suspension of Rules?

3 MR. LONGSHORE: That's correct.

4 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Bill No. 980146,

5 suspension of Rules?

6 MR. LONGSHORE: Please.

7 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you. Any

8 questions? Anyone else here wishes to testify?

9 The clerk will read the title of the
10 next bill.

11 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980162, an
12 ordinance authorizing Norman Walgen and Marian
13 Walgen, husband and wife, owners of the property
14 located at 1811 Delancy Street, Philadelphia,
15 Pennsylvania, 19103, to construct and maintain a
16 garden terrace over a portion of the south footway
17 of Cypress Street, adjacent to the rear of the
18 property 1811 Delancy Street, under certain terms
19 and conditions.

20 MR. MICHAEL LONGSHORE: Once again,
21 Council, my name is Mike longshore, Department of
22 Streets, here to testify on Bill No. 980162.

23 This is not an Administration
24 ordinance, but an ordinance requested by Norman
25 Walgen and Marian Walgen, owners of the property at

1 BILL 980162

2 1811 Delancy Street.

3 The purpose of this ordinance is to
4 acquire from City Council legal authority to
5 construct and maintain a garden terrace over a
6 portion of the south footway of Cypress Street,
7 adjacent to the rear of the property.

8 The Department of Streets has no
9 objection to this bill.

10 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

11 MR. LONGSHORE: I would ask for a
12 suspension of the Rules, please.

13 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Is there other
14 testimony?

15 MR. JOSH GRIMES: Good afternoon,
16 Mr. Chairman, members of the committee. My name is
17 Josh Grimes, representing Norman and Marian Walgen.
18 I have prepared testimony, although I wonder whether
19 it would be better to give you written testimony.

20 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: That would be
21 wonderful. I will get the clerk to pick them up.
22 Just leave them up, the clerk will come and get
23 them.

24 MR. GRIMES: Thank you, Mr.
25 Chairman.

1 BILL 980165

2 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: You are
3 requesting, I assume, a suspension?

4 MR. GRIMES: Absolutely. Thank you.

5 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980165, an
6 ordinance authorizing Robert Farrell, owner of the
7 property located at 6300 Torresdale Avenue,
8 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19135, to construct and
9 maintain a canopy roof over the portion of north
10 footway of Robbins Avenue adjacent to the side of
11 the property 6300 Torresdale Avenue, under certain
12 terms and conditions.

13 MR. MICHAEL LONGSHORE: Once again,
14 Council members, my name is Mike Longshore,
15 Department of Streets, Chief Permits Officer, here
16 to testify on Bill No. 980165.

17 This is not an Administration
18 ordinance, but an ordinance requested by Robert
19 Farrell, owner of the property located at 6300
20 Torresdale Avenue.

21 The purpose of this ordinance is to
22 acquire from City Council legal authority to
23 construct and maintain a canopy tent roof over a
24 portion of the north footway of Robbins Avenue
25 adjacent to the side of the property 6300 Torresdale

1 BILL 980166

2 Avenue.

3 The Streets Department has no
4 objection to the passage of this bill.

5 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Any questions
6 for the witness?

7 MR. LONGSHORE: I would ask for a
8 suspension of the Rules, also.

9 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Any questions
10 for this witness? Anyone else wishes to testify?

11 The clerk will please read the title
12 of the next bill.

13 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980166, an
14 ordinance authorizing Walter Jedrzej, owner of the
15 property located at 4200 Shelmire Street,
16 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19136, to construct and
17 maintain a one-story, wood-frame building addition
18 onto a portion of the north footway of Erdrick
19 Street, adjacent to the side of the property 4200
20 Shelmire Street, under certain terms and
21 conditions.

22 MR. MICHAEL LONGSHORE: Once again,
23 Council, my name is Mike Longshore, Department of
24 Streets, Chief Permits Officer, here to testify on
25 Bill No. 980166.

1 BILL 980166

2 This is not an Administration
3 ordinance, but an Ordinance requested by Walter
4 Jedrzej, owner of the property located at 4200
5 Shelmire Street.

6 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Why don't we
7 spell that.

8 MR. LONGSHORE: I will, Councilman.
9 It is spelled J-E-D-R-Z-E-J.

10 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: The stenographer
11 is very thankful for that.

12 Is there a request for a suspension
13 on this?

14 MR. LONGSHORE: Yes, Councilman. I
15 am going to ask for a suspension on all the bills.

16 The purpose of this ordinance is to
17 acquire from City Council the legal authority to
18 construct and maintain a one-story, wood-frame
19 building addition onto a portion of the north
20 footway of Erdrick Street, adjacent to the side of
21 the property, 4200 Shelmire Street.

22 This construction project is pending
23 before the Board of Highway Supervisors. The
24 Department of Streets has no objection to the
25 passage of this bill.

1 BILL 980169

2 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Any questions?
3 Anyone else wishing to testify?

4 The clerk will please read the title
5 of the the title of the next bill.

6 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980169, an
7 Ordinance authorizing Frank Borda and Lou Gentile,
8 owners of the property located at 1547-1549 South
9 13th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19147, to
10 construct and maintain a one-story masonry building
11 addition onto a portion of the south footway of
12 Tasker Street, adjacent to the property 1547-1549
13 South 13th Street, under certain terms and
14 conditions.

15 MR. MICHAEL LONGSHORE: Good
16 afternoon, Council. My name is Mike Longshore,
17 Department of Streets, Chief Permits Officer,
18 representing the Streets Department on Bill No.
19 980169.

20 This is not an Administration
21 ordinance, but an ordinance requested by Frank Borda
22 and Lou Gentile, owners of the property 1547 to 1549
23 South 13th Street.

24 The purpose of this ordinance is to
25 acquire from City Council the legal authority to

1 BILL 980169

2 construct and maintain a one-story masonry building
3 addition onto a portion of the south footway of
4 Tasker Street adjacent to the side of the property
5 1547-1549 South 13th Street.

6 This construction project is pending
7 before the Board of Highway Supervisors. This
8 project also appears to have community support.

9 The Department of Streets has no
10 objection, and we would ask for a suspension of the
11 Rules.

12 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you. Any
13 questions? Anyone else wishing to testify?

14 Please read the title of the next
15 bill.

16 Mike, would you be willing to take a
17 five-minute break so we can get Cass out of here?
18 You can stay there. Just why don't you come up,
19 Cass. We will get that bill done.

20 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980210, an
21 ordinance establishing a parking regulation on
22 Dorcas Street, east side, Cottman Avenue, to a point
23 75 feet north of Cottman Avenue.

24 MS. CATHERINE CONFARE: Good
25 afternoon. I am Catherine Confare, an analyst

1 BILL 980210

2 representing the Philadelphia Parking Authority.

3 Bill 980210, introduced by Councilman
4 O'Neill by request. This bill establishes a parking
5 regulation on Dorcas Street, east side, Cottman
6 Avenue to a point 75 feet north of Cottman Avenue.

7 This new regulation has been in
8 effect for a period of at least eight months, with
9 no apparent problems.

10 The Philadelphia Parking Authority
11 recommends favorable consideration of this bill.

12 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Any questions?
13 Thank you. Again, I apologize. That was the only
14 bill you had; right?

15 MS. CONFARE: Yes.

16 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: I should have
17 grabbed you earlier. I am sorry.

18 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980229, an
19 Ordinance regulating the direction of traffic on
20 Carpenter Street, from Broad Street to 15th Street.

21 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you for
22 your patience, I know my earlier statement that we
23 would do it a lot more quickly only applies to the
24 people who get heard first, not for the people who
25 have to wait at the end. But there is just no way

1 BILL 980229

2 we can do you all number one. Sorry.

3 MR. MICHAEL SWEIDER: Good afternoon,
4 Councilmembers. My name is Mike Sweider. I am with
5 McDonald's Corporation. And my associate is Scott
6 Lange. He is a Project Manager for McDonald's.

7 And we propose to rebuild the
8 McDonald's restaurant on the northwest corner of
9 Broad and Carpenter Street, at the location, at the
10 same site as our former restaurant.

11 And we plan to rebuild this location
12 consistent with and in cooperation with the Avenue
13 of the Arts, Incorporated.

14 And in doing so, it is necessary, in
15 order to accommodate left-hand turns off of Broad
16 Street onto Carpenter Street, to make Carpenter
17 Street a two-way street, to allow those left turns
18 to happen.

19 In order to do this, we contracted
20 with Traffic Planning And Design, Incorporated, to
21 conduct a traffic analysis to determine the
22 feasibility of this change of the street traffic
23 pattern.

24 At this point I will turn it over to
25 Kevin Johnson of Traffic Planning And Design, who

1 BILL 980229

2 conducted that analysis.

3 MR. KEVIN JOHNSON: I will just put
4 copies of our written report into the record.

5 But as far as the traffic study goes,
6 currently Carpenter Street is one way, in an
7 eastbound direction, between 15th and Broad.

8 On the east side of Broad Street,
9 Carpenter is one way westbound. What's proposed,
10 right now there's no way for anybody traveling north
11 on Broad Street to be able to get into the subject
12 property directly from Broad Street.

13 Therefore, it is necessary to convert
14 that section of Carpenter Street to two-way flow.
15 It is 26 feet wide, it is wide enough to accommodate
16 a single travel lane in each direction.

17 The operations at the intersection
18 itself is a traffic signal at Carpenter and Broad.
19 It would not be impacted.

20 The intersection, and the left-turn
21 movement from northbound Broad Street onto Carpenter
22 Street would operate at the highest possible levels
23 of service, a level service of A.

24 The signage that would be necessary
25 to implement this procedure, that is contained

1 BILL 980229

2 within the traffic study. We have larger ex
3 exhibits, if you would like to see that.

4 But figure 2 in the report shows
5 existing signage along the corridor, and how the
6 one-way flow is enforced.

7 Figure 3 shows our proposal for the
8 signage and striping that would be necessary to
9 implement this change.

10 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.
11 Anyone else?

12 MR. SWEIDER: Yes. Mr. Chairman,
13 Matthew Schultz, from Avenue of the Arts,
14 Incorporated.

15 MR. MATTHEW SCHULTZ: Good
16 afternoon. I am Matthew Schultz, Assistant Director
17 and Project Manager of Avenue of the Arts, Inc. And
18 I am here to represent the Avenue of the Arts as the
19 custodian of South Broad Street, and to share with
20 you that we wholeheartedly endorse the ordinance as
21 proposed.

22 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Mr. Schultz, are
23 we still on track with the signage? I see
24 Mr. Marone smiling.

25 MR. SCHULTZ: We spent half of our

1 BILL 980229

2 lives on signage. And, yes, we are on signage. We
3 are working directly with McDonald's to design a
4 store which will fit in with the atmosphere on South
5 Broad Street, the Avenue of the Arts.

6 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: This is
7 Councilwoman Verna's district, but I face it across
8 the street. I want to make sure we are all okay on
9 that.

10 Any questions?

11 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: We are not going
12 to call this the DiCicco family McDonald's or
13 anything like that?

14 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Any other
15 questions?

16 Mike, do you need to testify on
17 this? Okay. Anyone else here to wishes who
18 testify?

19 MS. KATHLEEN MURRAY: Good morning,
20 good afternoon, Councilman DiCicco, Councilman
21 Mariano. My name is Kathleen Murray, Chief of Staff
22 to Councilwoman Verna.

23 There is an amendment to this bill
24 that has been requested from our meetings with the
25 Avenue of the Arts staff and various city agencies.

1 BILL 980229

2 And it would read as such: A new
3 Section 3. This ordinance shall not take effect
4 until the Department of Streets has inspected and
5 approved all operational and physical changes needed
6 to affect the change from one-way to two-way
7 operation.

8 The party in interest shall obtain
9 all necessary permits and pay all costs of such
10 changes, which shall be made in a manner that
11 reflects and retains the level of workmanship of the
12 Avenue of the Arts streetscape improvements.

13 Plans and specifications for these
14 changes shall be subject to the review and approval
15 of the Department of Streets, and the party in
16 interest shall be required to post a performance
17 bond by the Law Department in an amount approved by
18 the City's Risk Manager. Thank you.

19 We would also ask for a suspension of
20 the rules.

21 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: The clerk will
22 read the title of the next bill.

23 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980269, an
24 ordinance authorizing Patricia Wallace, owner of the
25 property located at 7027 West Passyunk Avenue,

1 BILL 980269

2 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19153, to construct and
3 maintain a deck on and over a portion of the north
4 footway of Passyunk Avenue adjacent to the front of
5 the property, 7027 West Passyunk Avenue, under
6 certain terms and conditions.

7 MR. MICHAEL LONGSHORE: Councilman
8 DiCicco, Councilman Mariano, my name is Mike
9 Longshore, Department of Streets, Chief Permit
10 Officer, here to testify on Bill No. 980269.

11 It is not an Administration
12 ordinance, but an Ordinance requested by Patricia
13 Wallace, owner of the property located at 7027 West
14 Passyunk Avenue, Philadelphia, PA, 19153.

15 The purpose of this ordinance is to
16 acquire from City Council the legal authority to
17 construct and maintain an elevated deck on and over
18 the legal right-of-way of Passyunk Avenue adjacent
19 to the front of this property.

20 The owner has made application to the
21 Board of Highway Supervisors, and it has been
22 approved.

23 This ordinance is supported by the
24 Department of Streets and recommended to your
25 committee for favorable action. I also ask for a

1 BILL 980272

2 suspension of the Rules.

3 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

4 Any questions. Anyone else who
5 wishes to testify?

6 Please read the title of the next
7 bill.

8 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980272, an
9 Ordinance authorizing Jose Rodriguez, owner of the
10 property located at 7101 Rutland Street,
11 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19149, to construct and
12 maintain aside deck on and over a portion of the
13 north footway of Princeton Avenue, adjacent to the
14 side of the property 7101 Rutland Street, under
15 certain terms and conditions.

16 MR. MICHAEL LONGSHORE: Good
17 afternoon, Councilman DiCicco, Councilman Mariano.
18 My name is Mike Longshore, Departments of Streets,
19 Chief Permit Officer, here to testify on Bill No.
20 980272.

21 This is not an Administration
22 ordinance, but an ordinance requested by Jose
23 Rodriguez, owner of the property located at 7101
24 Rutland Street Philadelphia, PA, 19149.

25 The purpose of this ordinance is to

1 BILL 980276

2 acquire from City Council the legal authority to
3 construct and maintain an elevated deck on and over
4 the legal right-of-way of Princeton Avenue adjacent
5 to the side of this property.

6 This ordinance has no objection by
7 the Department of Streets. And I also will ask for
8 a suspension of the Rules.

9 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Any questions?

10 The clerk will please read the title
11 of the next bill.

12 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980276, an
13 Ordinance authorizing Richard Miller and Laura
14 Miller, husband and wife, owners of the property
15 located at 3470 Amber Street, Philadelphia,
16 Pennsylvania, 19134, to construct and maintain a
17 one-story masonry garage addition onto a portion of
18 the east footway of Coral Street, adjacent to the
19 rear of the property 3470 Amber Street, under
20 certain terms and conditions.

21 MR. MICHAEL LONGSHORE: Good
22 afternoon, Councilman DiCicco, Councilman Mariano.
23 My name is mike Longshore, Department of Streets,
24 Chief Permit Officer, here to testify on Bill No.
25 980276.

1 BILL 980276

2 This is not an Administration
3 ordinance, but an ordinance requested by Richard and
4 Laura Miller, owners of the property located at 3470
5 Amber Street.

6 The purpose of this ordinance is to
7 acquire from City Council the legal authority to
8 construct and maintain a one-story masonry garage
9 addition adjacent to the rear of the property, which
10 extends onto and over the east footway and legal
11 right-of-way of Coral Street.

12 The Streets Department has no
13 objection to the passage of this bill and asks for a
14 suspension of the Rules.

15 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Any questions?

16 THE CLERK: Mr. Miller sent a letter
17 from his doctor, I will just give it, stipulating
18 that he needs this because he suffers from various
19 health ailments.

20 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.
21 Please read the title of the next bill.

22 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980302, an
23 ordinance authorizing the Sanmore Partnership to
24 construct and maintain an illuminated marquise,
25 minimum of 12 feet, 4 inches, above the footway in

1 BILL 980302

2 front of the facade of the Adrian Theater at 2032
3 Sansom Street, and projecting approximately 6 feet,
4 8 inches, from the facade of said property, under
5 certain terms and conditions.

6 MR. MICHAEL LONGSHORE: Good
7 afternoon, Councilman DiCicco, Councilman Mariano.
8 My name is Mike Longshore, Department of Streets,
9 Chief Permit Officer, here to testify on Bill No.
10 980302.

11 This is not an Administration
12 ordinance, but an ordinance requested by Sanmore
13 Partnership, owners of the property located at 2032
14 Sansom Street.

15 The purpose of this ordinance is to
16 acquire from City Council the legal authority to
17 construct and maintain an illuminated marquise
18 adjacent to the front facade of the property,
19 projecting over the south footway of Sansom Street.

20 The Streets Department has no
21 objection to the passage of this bill and asks for a
22 suspension of the Rules.

23 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Anyone here that
24 wishes to testify?

25 Please read the title of the next

1 BILL 980338, 980339

2 bill.

3 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980338, an
4 Ordinance authorizing the Crime Prevention
5 Association of Philadelphia, 230 South Broad Street,
6 Suite 4E, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19102, owner
7 of the property 2407, 2419-37 South Broad Street,
8 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19148, to construct and
9 maintain one electrified marquise with ground level
10 wing walls and one marquise projecting over the east
11 footway of South Broad Street, under certain terms
12 and conditions.

13 And companion Bill No. 980339, an
14 Ordinance authorizing the Crime Prevention
15 Association of Philadelphia, 230 South Broad Street,
16 Suite 4E, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19102, owner
17 of the property located at 2407, 2419-37 South Broad
18 Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19148, to
19 construct and maintain various encroachments onto
20 the east footway of South Broad Street, under
21 certain terms and conditions.

22 MR. MICHAEL LONGSHORE: Good
23 afternoon, Councilman DiCicco, Councilman Mariano.
24 My name is Mike Longshore, Departments of Streets,
25 Chief Permit Officer, here to testify on Bill No.

1 BILL 980338, 980339

2 980338 and companion Bill No. 980339.

3 These are not Administration
4 ordinances, but an ordinance requested by the Crime
5 Prevention Association of Philadelphia, located at
6 230 South Broad Street, Suite 4E, Philadelphia, PA,
7 19102.

8 The purpose of Ordinance 980338 is to
9 acquire from City Council the legal authority and
10 permission to construct and maintain two marquises,
11 one being electrified with ground-level wing walls,
12 onto and above the east footway of South Broad
13 Street.

14 In reference to Bill No. 980339, the
15 purpose of that ordinance is to acquire from City
16 Council the legal authority and permission to
17 construct and maintain two sets of masonry steps and
18 railings onto the east footway of South Broad
19 Street, extending a maximum of 5 foot, 5 inches.

20 Both ordinances are supported by the
21 Department of Streets, both are recommended to your
22 committee for favorable action, with the suspension
23 of the Rules on both.

24 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you. Any
25 questions?

1 BILL 980340, 980341

2 Please read the title of the next
3 bill.

4 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980340, an
5 ordinance authorizing Harry Sarkisian, owner of the
6 property 604 through 606 South 3rd Street,
7 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19106, to construct and
8 maintain two electrified signs projecting from the
9 facade of the building 604 to 606 South 3rd Street
10 over the west footway of South 3rd Street and over
11 the south footway of South Street, under certain
12 terms and conditions.

13 And companion Bill No. 980341, an
14 ordinance authorizing Harry Sarkisian, owner of the
15 property located at 604 to 606 South 3rd Street,
16 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19106, to construct and
17 maintain various encroachments onto and over the
18 south footway of South Street and the west footway
19 of South 3rd Street, adjacent to 604 to 606 South
20 3rd Street, under certain terms and conditions.

21 MR. MICHAEL LONGSHORE: Good
22 afternoon, Chairman DiCicco. My name is Mike
23 Longshore, Department of Streets, Chief Permit
24 Officer, here to testify on Bill No. 980340 and
25 companion Bill No. 980341.

1 BILL 980340, 980341

2 These are not Administration
3 ordinances, but ordinances requested by Harry
4 Sarkisian, the owner of the property located at 604
5 to 606 South 3rd Street.

6 The purpose of Bill No. 980340 is to
7 acquire from City Council the legal authority and
8 permission to construct and maintain two electrified
9 and projecting signs that extend a maximum of 5 foot
10 over the public right-of-way.

11 In reference to Bill No. 980341, the
12 companion bill, the purpose of this ordinance is to
13 acquire from City Council the legal authority and
14 permission to construct and maintain various
15 encroachments which include an 8 inch raised deck
16 and adjoining fence, which encroaches a maximum of 5
17 foot, 4 inches, on both South Street and South 3rd
18 Street frontages, also a stationary awning which
19 extends over the west footway of South 3rd Street, a
20 maximum of 3 foot, 6 inches.

21 The Streets Department has no
22 objection to passage of Bill No. 980340 or 980341.
23 We ask for a suspension of Rules on both bills.

24 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Any questions?
25 Thank you.

1 BILL 980374

2 Please read the title of the next
3 bill.

4 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980374, an
5 ordinance authorizing DemCore II, L.P., 2006 Sansom
6 Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19103, to
7 construct and maintain an electrified marquise
8 attached to the property 2010 through 12 Sansom
9 Street, and projecting over the south footway of
10 Sansom Street, under certain terms and conditions.

11 MR. MICHAEL LONGSHORE: Good
12 afternoon, Councilman DiCicco and Councilman
13 Mariano.

14 My name is Mike Longshore, Department
15 of Streets, Chief Permit Officer, here to testify on
16 Bill No. 980374.

17 This is not an administrative
18 ordinance, but an ordinance requested by DemCore II,
19 Limited Partnership, located at 2006 Sansom Street.

20 The purpose of this ordinance is to
21 acquire from City Council the legal authority to
22 construct and maintain an electrified marquise
23 adjacent to the front facade of the property
24 projecting over the south footway of Sansom Street.

25 The Department of Streets has no

1 BILL 980336

2 objection to the passage of this bill and asks for a
3 suspension of the Rules.

4 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you. Any
5 questions?

6 The clerk will read the title of the
7 next bill.

8 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980336, an
9 ordinance granting permission to Level Three
10 Communications LLC, a Delaware limited liability
11 company registered to do business in Pennsylvania,
12 and its successors, assigns, and agents, to
13 construct, maintain, and operate, replace and remove
14 a telecommunications system in and under the public
15 rights-of-way in city streets, and/or to place such
16 telecommunication system within the existing
17 facilities owned by Bell Atlantic PA, PECO Energy
18 Company, Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation
19 Authority, Consolidated Rail Corporation, CSX
20 Corporation, or other entity holding a grant
21 pursuant to other city ordinances, all under certain
22 terms and conditions.

23 MR. MICHAEL LONGSHORE: Good
24 afternoon, Councilman DiCicco, Councilman Mariano.
25 My name is Mike Longshore, Department of Streets,

1 BILL 980336

2 Chief Permit Officer, here to testify on Bill No.
3 980336.

4 This is not an Administration
5 ordinance, but an Ordinance requested by Level Three
6 Communications, Incorporated, located at 2010
7 Corporate Ridge, Suite 700, McKlees, Virginia.

8 The purpose of this ordinance is to
9 acquire from City Council the legal authority and
10 permission to construct and maintain a fiber optics
11 network and telecommunications system in and under
12 the public right-of-way at various locations along
13 their specified route.

14 This ordinance is supported by the
15 Department of Streets and recommended to your
16 committee for favorable action. I ask for a
17 suspension of the Rules.

18 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Any questions?
19 Anyone here who wishes to testify?

20 Please read the title of the next
21 bill.

22 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980337, an
23 ordinance granting permission to NexLink of
24 Pennsylvania, L.P., registered to do business in
25 Pennsylvania, and its successors, assigns, and

1 BILL 980337

2 agents, to construct, maintain and operate, replace
3 and remove a telecommunications system in and under
4 the public rights-of-way and city streets and/or to
5 place such telecommunications system within the
6 existing facilities owned by Bell Atlantic PA, Inc.,
7 PECO Energy Company, Southeastern Pennsylvania
8 Transportation Authority, Consolidated Rail
9 Corporation, CSX Corporation, or other entity
10 holding a grant pursuant to other city ordinances,
11 all under certain terms and conditions.

12 MR. MICHAEL LONGSHORE: Good
13 afternoon, Councilman DiCicco and Councilman
14 Mariano. My name is Mike longshore, Department of
15 Streets, Chief Permit Officer here to testify on
16 Bill No. 980337.

17 This is not an Administration
18 ordinance, but an ordinance requested by NexLink of
19 Pennsylvania, Limited Partnership, located at 925
20 Berkshire Boulevard, Wilmosing, Pennsylvania.

21 The purpose of this ordinance is to
22 acquire from City Council the legal authority and a
23 permission to construct and maintain a fiber optics
24 network and telecommunications system in and under
25 the public right-of-way at various locations along

1 BILL 980337

2 their specified route.

3 This ordinance is supported by the
4 Department of Streets and is recommended to your
5 committee for favorable action. Once again, I ask
6 for a suspension of the Rules.

7 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you. Any
8 questions? Is there anyone else here who wishes to
9 testify?

10 Please come forward state your name
11 for the record and speak directly into the
12 microphone, please.

13 MR. GARY RAUDING: Good afternoon,
14 Councilman DiCicco, Councilman Mariano. My name is
15 Gary Rauding. I am the President of NexLink,
16 Pennsylvania, and I am really here today just to
17 request that the committee approve Bill No. 980337.

18 And I have brought information on
19 NexLink, as well as some written testimony that I
20 would like to provide for the committee, and answer
21 any questions you might have.

22 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: I may have one
23 question. Earlier today there was some testimony
24 concerning the development of a Fresh Fields
25 Supermarket on South Street, from between 9th and

1 BILL 980337

2 10th.

3 Are you familiar with that?

4 MR. RAUDING: No.

5 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: I am just
6 wondering, because there will be considerable
7 construction going on there. I'm not certain if
8 there will be any underground utilities that will be
9 affected.

10 Just as a word of advisement to you,
11 that you might want to double check with the
12 construction schedule to see if, I don't know if it
13 would interfere with what you are planning to do
14 here or not.

15 MR. RAUDING: Thank you. I will do
16 that.

17 MR. LONGSHORE: Councilman, Fresh
18 Fields, when they begin construction, had already
19 contacted me as far as underground plans for utility
20 work, to see if there was any interference with the
21 work.

22 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: I just wanted to
23 make sure. I didn't want to see you guys have to do
24 something, and later have to remove it, or whatever,
25 or vice versa.

1 BILL 980376

2 I thank all of you for your patience
3 and time here.

4 THE CLERK: Bill No. 980376, an
5 ordinance granting permission to IXC Carrier, Inc.,
6 a Nevada Corporation, registered to do business in
7 Pennsylvania, and its successors, assigns, and
8 agents, to construct, maintain, and operate, replace
9 and remove, a telecommunications system in and under
10 the public rights-of-way of city streets, and/or to
11 place such telecommunications system within the
12 existing facilities owned by Bell Atlantic PA, PECO
13 Energy Company, Southeastern Pennsylvania
14 Transportation Authority, Consolidated Rail
15 Corporation, CSX Corporation, or other entity hold a
16 grant pursuant to other city ordinances, all under
17 certain terms and conditions.

18 MR. MICHAEL LONGSHORE: Good
19 afternoon, Councilman DiCicco, Councilman Rizzo,
20 Councilman Mariano. My name is Mike Longshore,
21 Department of Streets, Chief Permit Officer, here to
22 testify on behalf of Bill No. 980376.

23 This is not an Administration
24 ordinance, but an Ordinance requested by IXC
25 Carrier, Incorporated, located 1122 Capital of Texas

1 BILL 980376

2 Highway South, Austin, Texas, 78746.

3 The purpose of this ordinance is to
4 acquire from City Council the legal authority and
5 permission to construct and maintain a fiber optics
6 network and telecommunications system in and under
7 the public right-of-way at various locations along
8 their specified route.

9 This ordinance is supported by the
10 Department of Streets and is recommended to your
11 committee for favorable action. I would also ask
12 for a suspension of the Rules, Councilman.

13 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you. Any
14 questions from the committee?

15 Councilman Rizzo.

16 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: I don't know if
17 the appropriate person is here to answer this
18 question. If not, maybe you can get back to me.

19 I would like to know, when fiber
20 optic cable is installed overhead and it is
21 replacing a Bell Atlantic of Pennsylvania existing
22 facility, I have been told that Bell and other
23 utilities are abandoning in place the old cable.

24 Do you know that communities complain
25 about clutter cables, overhead, unnecessary cables?

1 BILL 980376

2 I would like to know, has the Streets
3 department -- and I know that there are some
4 regulations that require a utility that is
5 abandoning a cable that is no longer being utilized,
6 to be removed.

7 MR. LONGSHORE: Councilman Rizzo, I
8 am not the person to answer that for you, but I will
9 look into it.

10 Now that you mention it -- and some
11 of the sizes of the fiber optics cables coming out
12 are one-sixteenth of an inch, I believe.

13 That has not come up in any -- I
14 believe it came up a couple of times on construction
15 sites, but particularly 2nd and Girard, before I
16 came downtown. We removed some PECO and Bell lines
17 that were abandoned there.

18 Whether it is common practice, I'm
19 not quite sure. But I will look into that.

20 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: I would certainly
21 hope that with the overhead congestion that we have,
22 that anything that is no longer being utilized by a
23 utility, they find that sometimes just leaving it
24 there is less expensive than recovering it.

25 And it disappoints me sometimes. The

1 BILL 980376

2 electric utility business, when it is copper, they
3 recover it. When it is not copper, they let it hang
4 there. And in some of the innercity neighborhoods
5 that junk really needs to b removed.

6 MR. LONGSHORE: Perhaps I believe
7 there was a future telecommunications bill that
8 possibly may come up next session. Perhaps I could
9 talk to the Legal Department and see if they can add
10 those clauses in there.

11 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Great. Thank
12 you.

13 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: This concludes
14 the Public Hearing on the Committee of Streets and
15 Services.

16 Anyone else here to wishes who
17 testify? I apologize. I didn't see you back
18 there.

19 MR. KEN BATES: Ken Bates, and I
20 represent IXC in this. And good afternoon to
21 Chairman DiCicco and the committee members.

22 In regards to Councilman Rizzo's
23 question, as far as abandoned facilities, I would
24 like to reassure him that IXC as a corporation, in
25 the event that we do replace systems or subsystems,

1 BILL 980376

2 we do remove the equipment that we no longer use.

3 And with the project we have here, it
4 does not replace anything. This would be an
5 addition to what we already have in place.

6 And would like to hope that we can do
7 business with the City of Philadelphia and that you
8 pass our ordinance. We have a few people employed
9 here in the city right now, and this is an expansion
10 of our efforts.

11 Thank you.

12 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: I'm glad to hear
13 that you are one of the few that do that. Because
14 you are in that few.

15 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Any other
16 questions?

17 This concludes the Public Hearing of
18 the Committee on Streets and Services.

19 We will now go to the Public Meeting.

20 (Public Hearing adjourned.)

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1
2 COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
3 PUBLIC MEETING
4 of the
5 COMMITTEE ON STREETS AND SERVICES
6 - - -
7 Wednesday, May 13, 1998
8 - - -
9 Public Meeting conducted by the Committee
10 on Streets and Services, held in Room 400, City
11 Hall, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on the above date,
12 to consider action on the following:
13 BILLS 980120, 980146, 980162, 980165,
14 980166, 980169, 980192, 980210, 980229, 980237,
15 980243, 980244, 980269, 980272, 980276, 980302,
16 980308, 980309, 980310, 980313, 980336, 980337,
17 980338, 980339, 980340, 980341, 980373, 980374,
18 980375, 980376, 980377
19 - - -
20 PRESENT:
21 COUNCILMAN FRANK DiCICCO, Chair
22 COUNCILMAN RICHARD T. MARIANO
23 COUNCILMAN FRANK RIZZO
24 COUNCILMAN ANGEL L. ORTIZ
25 - - -

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: The Chair wants
3 to recognize that Councilman Ortiz has now joined
4 us.

5 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
6 move that Bill No. 980120 be moved out of committee
7 with a favorable recommendation, and a
8 recommendation that the Rules of Council be
9 suspended so as to permit first reading in the next
10 session of Council.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
13 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980120 be
14 referred out of committee with a favorable
15 recommendation and with a recommendation that the
16 Rules of Council be suspended.

17 All those in favor signify by saying
18 aye.

19 Nay.

20 The bill is passed.

21 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman I
22 move that Bill No. 980146 be moved out of committee
23 with a favorable recommendation and a recommendation
24 that the Rules of Council be suspended so as to
25 permit first reading at our next session of City

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 Council.

3 (Duly seconded.)

4 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
5 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980146 be
6 reported out of committee with a favorable
7 recommendation, and that the Rules of Council be
8 suspended.

9 All those in favor signify by saying
10 aye.

11 Nay The bill is passed.

12 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
13 move that Bill No. 980162 be moved out of committee
14 with a favorable recommendation, and a
15 recommendation that the Rules of Council be
16 suspended so as to permit first reading at the next
17 session of City Council.

18 (Duly seconded.)

19 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
20 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980162 be
21 reported out of committee with a favorable
22 recommendation and that the rules of Council be
23 suspended.

24 All those in favor let it be known by
25 saying aye.

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 Those opposed say nay.

3 The bill is passed.

4 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
5 move that Bill No. 980165 be moved out of committee
6 with a favorable recommendation, and a
7 recommendation that the Rules of Council be
8 suspended so as to permit first reading at the next
9 session of City Council.

10 (Duly seconded.)

11 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
12 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980165 be
13 reported out of committee with a favorable
14 recommendation and that the Rules of Council be
15 suspended.

16 All those in favor let it be known by
17 saying aye.

18 Those opposed say nay.

19 The bill is passed.

20 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
21 move that Bill No. 980166 be moved out of committee
22 with a favorable recommendation, and a
23 recommendation that the Rules of Council be
24 suspended so as to permit first reading at the next
25 session of City Council.

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 (Duly seconded.)

3 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
4 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980166 be
5 reported out of committee with a favorable
6 recommendation and that the Rules of Council be
7 suspended.

8 All those favor let it be known by
9 saying aye.

10 Those opposed say nay.

11 The bill is passed.

12 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
13 move that Bill No. 980169 be moved out of committee
14 with a favorable recommendation, and a
15 recommendation that the Rules of Council be
16 suspended so as to permit first reading at the next
17 session of City Council.

18 (Duly seconded.)

19 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
20 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980169 be
21 reported out of committee with a favorable
22 recommendation and that the Rules of Council be
23 suspended.

24 All those in favor let it be known by
25 saying aye.

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 Those opposed say nay.

3 The bill is passed.

4 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
5 move that Bill No. 980192 be moved out of committee
6 with a favorable recommendation, and a
7 recommendation that the Rules of Council be
8 suspended so as to permit first reading at the next
9 session of City Council.

10 (Duly seconded.)

11 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
12 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980192 be
13 reported out of committee with a favorable
14 recommendation and that the Rules of Council be
15 suspended.

16 All those in favor let it be known by
17 saying aye.

18 Those opposed say nay.

19 The bill is passed.

20 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
21 move that Bill No. 980210 be moved out of committee
22 with a favorable recommendation, and no
23 recommendation for Rules.

24 (Duly seconded.).

25 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980210 be
3 reported out of committee with a favorable
4 recommendation.

5 All those in favor let it be known by
6 saying aye.

7 Nay.

8 The bill is passed.

9 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
10 move that Bill No. 980229 be moved out of committee
11 with a favorable recommendation, as amended, and a
12 recommendation that the Rules of Council be
13 suspended so as to permit first reading at the next
14 session of City Council.

15 (Duly seconded.)

16 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
17 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980229, as
18 amended, be reported out of committee with a
19 favorable recommendation and that the Rules of
20 Council be suspended.

21 All those in favor let it be known by
22 saying aye.

23 Those opposed say nay.

24 The bill is passed.

25 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 move that Bill No. 980237 be moved out of committee
3 with a favorable recommendation.

4 (Duly seconded.)

5 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
6 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980237 be
7 reported out of committee with a favorable
8 recommendation.

9 All in favor let it be known by
10 saying aye.

11 The bill is passed.

12 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
13 move that Bill No. 980243 be moved out of committee
14 with a favorable recommendation.

15 (Duly seconded.)

16 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
17 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980243 be
18 reported out of committee with a favorable
19 recommendation.

20 All those in favor let it be known by
21 saying aye.

22 The bill is passed.

23 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
24 move that Bill No. 980244 be moved out of committee
25 with a favorable recommendation.

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 (Duly seconded.)

3 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
4 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980244 be
5 reported out of committee with a favorable
6 recommendation.

7 All those in favor let it be known by
8 saying aye.

9 The bill is passed.

10 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
11 move that Bill No. 980269 be moved out of committee
12 with a favorable recommendation, and a
13 recommendation that the Rules of Council be
14 suspended so as to permit first reading at the next
15 session of City Council.

16 (Duly seconded.)

17 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
18 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980269 be
19 reported out of committee with a favorable
20 recommendation and that the Rules of Council be
21 suspended.

22 All those in favor let it be known by
23 saying aye.

24 The bill is passed.

25 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 move that Bill No. 980272 be moved out of committee
3 with a favorable recommendation, and a
4 recommendation that the Rules of Council be
5 suspended so as to permit first reading at the next
6 session of City Council.

7 (Duly seconded.)

8 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
9 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980272 be
10 reported out of committee with a favorable
11 recommendation and that the Rules of Council be
12 suspended.

13 All those in favor let it be known by
14 saying aye.

15 The bill is passed.

16 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
17 move that Bill No. 980276 be moved out of committee
18 with a favorable recommendation, and a
19 recommendation that the Rules of Council be
20 suspended so as to permit first reading at the next
21 session of City Council.

22 (Duly seconded.)

23 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
24 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980276 be
25 reported out of committee with a favorable

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 recommendation and that the Rules of Council be
3 suspended.

4 All those in favor let it be known by
5 saying aye.

6 The bill is passed.

7 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
8 move that Bill No. 980302 be moved out of committee
9 with a favorable recommendation, and a
10 recommendation that the Rules of Council be
11 suspended so as to permit first reading at the next
12 session of City Council.

13 (Duly seconded.)

14 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
15 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980302 be
16 reported out of committee with a favorable
17 recommendation and that the Rules of Council be
18 suspended.

19 All those in favor let it be known by
20 saying aye.

21 The bill is passed.

22 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
23 move that Bill No. 980308 be held in committee.

24 (Duly seconded.)

25 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980308 be
3 held in committee.

4 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
5 move that Bill No. 980309 be moved out of committee
6 with a favorable recommendation, and a
7 recommendation that the Rules of Council be
8 suspended so as to permit first reading at the next
9 session of City Council.

10 (Duly seconded.)

11 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
12 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980309 be
13 reported out of committee with a favorable
14 recommendation and that the Rules of Council be
15 suspended.

16 All those in favor let it be known by
17 saying aye.

18 The bill is passed.

19 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
20 move that Bill No. 980310 be moved out of committee
21 with a favorable recommendation.

22 (Duly seconded.)

23 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
24 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980310 be
25 reported out of committee with a favorable

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 recommendation.

3 All those in favor let it be known by
4 saying aye.

5 The bill is passed.

6 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
7 move that Bill No. 980313 be moved out of committee
8 with a favorable recommendation, and a
9 recommendation that the Rules of Council be
10 suspended so as to permit first reading at the next
11 session of City Council.

12 (Duly seconded.)

13 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
14 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980313 be
15 reported out of committee with a favorable
16 recommendation and that the Rules of Council be
17 suspended All in favor let it be known by saying
18 aye.

19 The bill is passed.

20 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
21 move that Bill No. 980336 be moved out of committee
22 with a favorable recommendation, and a
23 recommendation that the Rules of Council be
24 suspended so as to permit first reading at the next
25 session of City Council.

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 (Duly seconded.)

3 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
4 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980336 be
5 reported out of committee with a favorable
6 recommendation and that the Rules of Council be
7 suspended.

8 All those in favor let it be known by
9 saying aye.

10 The bill is passed.

11 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
12 move that Bill No. 980337 be moved out of committee
13 with a favorable recommendation, and a
14 recommendation that the Rules of Council be
15 suspended so as to permit first reading at the next
16 session of City Council.

17 (Duly seconded.)

18 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
19 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980337 be
20 reported out of committee with a favorable
21 recommendation and that the Rules of Council be
22 suspended.

23 All those in favor let it be known by
24 saying aye.

25 The bill is passed.

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
3 move that Bill No. 980338 be moved out of committee
4 with a favorable recommendation, and a
5 recommendation that the Rules of Council be
6 suspended so as to permit first reading at the next
7 session of City Council.

8 (Duly seconded.)

9 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
10 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980338 be
11 reported out of committee with a favorable
12 recommendation and that the Rules of Council be
13 suspended.

14 All those in favor let it be known by
15 saying aye.

16 The bill is passed.

17 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
18 move that Bill No. 980339 be moved out of committee
19 with a favorable recommendation, and a
20 recommendation that the Rules of Council be
21 suspended so as to permit first reading at the next
22 session of City Council.

23 (Duly seconded.)

24 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
25 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980339 be

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 reported out of committee with a favorable
3 recommendation and that the Rules of Council be
4 suspended.

5 All those in favor let it be known by
6 saying aye.

7 The bill is passed.

8 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
9 move that Bill No. 980340 be moved out of committee
10 with a favorable recommendation, and a
11 recommendation that the Rules of Council be
12 suspended so as to permit first reading at the next
13 session of City Council.

14 (Duly seconded.)

15 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
16 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980340 be
17 reported out of committee with a favorable
18 recommendation and that the Rules of Council be
19 suspended.

20 All those in favor let it be known by
21 saying aye.

22 The bill is passed.

23 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
24 move that Bill No. 980341 be moved out of committee
25 with a favorable recommendation, and a

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 recommendation that the Rules of Council be
3 suspended so as to permit first reading at the next
4 session of City Council.

5 (Duly seconded.)

6 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
7 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980341 be
8 reported out of committee with a favorable
9 recommendation and that the Rules of Council be
10 suspended.

11 All those in favor let it be known by
12 saying aye.

13 The bill is passed.

14 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
15 move that Bill No. 980373 be moved out of committee
16 with a favorable recommendation.

17 (Duly seconded.)

18 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
19 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980373 be
20 reported out of committee with a favorable
21 recommendation.

22 All those in favor let it be known by
23 saying aye.

24 The bill is passed.

25 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 move that Bill No. 980374 be moved out of committee
3 with a favorable recommendation, and a
4 recommendation that the Rules of Council be
5 suspended so as to permit first reading at the next
6 session of City Council.

7 (Duly seconded.)

8 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
9 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980374 be
10 reported out of committee with a favorable
11 recommendation and that the Rules of Council be
12 suspended.

13 All in favor let it be known by
14 saying aye.

15 The bill is passed.

16 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
17 move that Bill No. 980375 be moved out of committee
18 with a favorable recommendation, and a
19 recommendation that the Rules of Council be
20 suspended so as to permit first reading at the next
21 session of City Council.

22 (Duly seconded.)

23 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
24 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980375 be
25 reported out of committee with a favorable

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 recommendation and that the Rules of Council be
3 suspended.

4 All in favor let it be known by
5 saying aye.

6 The bill is passed.

7 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
8 move that Bill No. 980376 be moved out of committee
9 with a favorable recommendation, and a
10 recommendation that the Rules of Council be
11 suspended so as to permit first reading at the next
12 session of City Council.

13 (Duly seconded.)

14 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
15 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980376 be
16 reported out of committee with a favorable
17 recommendation and that the Rules of Council be
18 suspended.

19 All in favor let it be known by
20 saying aye.

21 The bill is passed.

22 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
23 move that Bill No. 980377 be moved out of committee
24 with a favorable recommendation, and a
25 recommendation that the Rules of Council be

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 suspended so as to permit first reading at the next
3 session of City Council.

4 (Duly seconded.)

5 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: It has been
6 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 980377 be
7 reported out of committee with a favorable
8 recommendation and that the Rules of Council be
9 suspended All in favor let it be known by saying
10 aye.

11 The bill is passed.

12 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: This concludes
13 the Public Meeting of the Committee of Streets and
14 Services. Thank you.

15 (Public Meeting adjourned at 3:30
16 p.m.)

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

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing
proceedings of the Council of the City of
Philadelphia of Wednesday, May 13, 1998, were
reported fully and accurately by me, and that this
is a correct transcript of same.

RE: Committee on Streets and Services

DEBRA A. WHITEHEAD, RPR