

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
STATED MEETING

Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
September 17, 2026
10:00 a.m.

PRESENT:

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

ELIZABETH MCCOLLUM NAZARIO, CHIEF CLERK

- - -

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

9 I'm asking for all
10 visitors to please retire to the
11 seats outside the rails. Please
12 take all sidebar conversations out
13 of the Council chambers. I want to
14 ask all those present to please set
15 your cell phones to silent and/or
16 vibrate. I'm going to ask for all
17 the visitors to please take your
18 sidebar conversations out the
19 Council chambers so we can proceed.

20 Good morning, everyone.

21 (Good morning.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: Good morning, everyone.

24 (Good morning.)

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Welcome to all visitors.

4 Welcome back, City Councilmembers,
5 to our session of Council.

6 To give our remarks and
7 invocation this morning, the Chair
8 recognizes Father Vincent Smith of
9 the Resurrection of our Lord
10 Church. He is here today and the
11 guest of my good friend
12 Councilmember Jim Harrity. I will
13 ask all members and guests to
14 please rise.

15 (Councilmembers, guests
16 and visitors rise.)

17 FATHER SMITH: Good
18 morning, folks.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: Good morning.

21 FATHER SMITH: I'll
22 follow your lead. Good morning.

23 (Good morning.)

24 FATHER SMITH: It's a

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INVOCATION
2 privilege to be with you this
3 morning. I introduced myself
4 before we pray. As a son of
5 Philadelphia, 70 years' worth, and
6 it's been a privilege to introduce
7 myself as such when I travel a
8 great deal. But I'm back home here
9 in Philly. And for that, I'm
10 grateful.

11 First, the
12 Councilmembers and all those who
13 are in public service, if I may, as
14 one citizen, thank you for your
15 service. It's a calling. We
16 understand that. We also know the
17 sacrifices involved both for you
18 and your families. That doesn't go
19 unnoticed. I also, for my part,
20 offer you this: Born and raised in
21 Kensington of parents who worked in
22 the mills, they taught me service.

23 My dad was a community
24 activist, like many of those here

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 today. My mom worked the mills,
3 and like matriarchs in many of our
4 neighborhoods, looked after the
5 needs of other people. That's such
6 a wonderful part of our history.
7 The history of democracy here in
8 Philadelphia. And so, it's a joy
9 to listen to all of you this
10 morning here and outside. It's
11 what keeps us who we are. And it's
12 our neighborhoods that strengthen
13 us.

14 I serve presently, last
15 point, at a parish Resurrection of
16 Our Lord in Northeast Philly. It's
17 a wonderfully diverse community and
18 we are mindful of our blessings.
19 And surrounding us are many
20 immigrant families. Sadly, the ICE
21 moment touched our own church as a
22 man was taken into custody in front
23 of his son and wife outside.
24 They're back with us now, but

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 that's heartbreaking. That's not
3 who we are at our best, not as a
4 city or as a nation. So we hope
5 and pray that those matters will be
6 addressed as we move forward.

7 I also live in the part
8 of the city, I understand we deal
9 with waste management. I'm up near
10 Delaware Avenue or State Road. We
11 also have 3000-plus incarcerated on
12 the river. We try to be present
13 when they exit, when they're
14 discharged, but they are as
15 important to us as any other member
16 of our community --

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: Amen.

19 FATHER SMITH: -- their
20 dignity and worth, and we have to
21 be mindful of that and do what we
22 can to rectify that situation. I
23 also sadly meet many of our
24 citizens on the street, on the

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 Boulevard panhandling, as we call
3 it, surviving. That's part of our
4 mindfulness at our church as well
5 and perhaps many of yours. So I
6 mentioned those briefly. It's an
7 honor to be with you. I also know
8 the agony and the ecstasy of being
9 a Philadelphia sports fan, five
10 generations' worth now. I worked
11 at Franklin Field.

12 But please join me,
13 whatever your religious tradition,
14 I'd ask you let's bow our heads in
15 silence. Be mindful of the greater
16 good, and we may name as God, as
17 Lord, as Allah, as the higher power
18 at work in our lives. Deep within
19 us, my conviction. Perhaps yours
20 is an incredible grace at work that
21 invites us to goodness, to serve
22 the public interest, the good of
23 this remarkable city, to inspire
24 them with our leadership and to

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 invite them in a spirit of example
3 and leadership to be of service as
4 well.

5 Lord, I thank you for
6 the presence of all those here
7 present here this morning in any
8 capacity. Let's not underestimate
9 the capacity of good people when
10 they gather together to work for
11 justice and seek the truth, to
12 listen to one another. Compromise
13 and democracy is inevitable. But
14 to work for the good, mindful of
15 the good and evidence that in our
16 respect for one another as the City
17 of Brotherly Love. And we ask this
18 in the Lord's name. Amen.

19 (Amen.)

20 FATHER SMITH: That was
21 a polite Philadelphia Amen. But I
22 know many of you leaders in this
23 building approach it much more,
24 including the Mayor, with great

1 9/17/26 - STATED - APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

2 determination. I lived in the
3 South with devout Baptists. So
4 once again, to a good year, to a
5 good legislative period and the
6 blessing of God on us all. Amen.

7 (Amen.)

8 FATHER SMITH: Thank you
9 all.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: The Chair thanks the
12 Father for his invocation.

13 Council will be at ease.

14 (Council at ease.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: The next order of
17 business is the Approval of the
18 Journal of the meeting of Thursday,
19 June 11, 2026.

20 The Chair recognizes
21 Councilmember Cindy Bass.

22 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

23 Thank you, Mr. President.

24 I move that the journal

1 9/17/26 - STATED - LEAVES
2 of the meeting of Thursday, June
3 11, 2026 be approved.

4 (Duly seconded.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
7 properly seconded that the Journal
8 of the meeting of Thursday, June
9 11, 2026 stand approved.

10 All in favor indicate by
11 saying aye.

12 (Aye.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

15 (No response.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

24 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

1 9/17/26 - STATED - MOTION REGARDING CALENDAR

2 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
3 Mr. President.

4 On behalf of the
5 Majority, there are no requests for
6 leave of absence today.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: The Chair thanks the
9 Councilmember.

10 The Chair recognizes
11 Councilmember Kendra Brooks.

12 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS:

13 Thank you, Council President.

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

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: The Chair thanks the
19 Councilmember.

20 The Chair recognizes
21 Councilmember Katherine Gilmore
22 Richardson for a motion concerning
23 certain legislative matters that
24 may arise during the course of

1 9/17/26 - STATED - MOTION REGARDING CALENDAR

2 today's Council session, and that
3 were not listed on the Calendar
4 circulated prior to today's
5 session.

6 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

7 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
8 Mr. President.

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

1 9/17/26 - STATED - MOTION REGARDING CALENDAR

2 bill or resolution that is not on
3 the Calendar and a motion placing a
4 bill or resolution on or returning
5 a bill or resolution from the
6 Suspension Calendar that is not
7 listed on today's Calendar.

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

15 (Duly seconded.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
18 properly seconded that the
19 legislative matters stated by
20 Councilmember and Majority Leader
21 Katherine Gilmore Richardson may be
22 added to the agenda for today
23 should those matters arise during
24 the course of this session of

1 9/17/26 - STATED - GUESTS

2 Council.

3 All in favor will
4 indicate by saying aye.

5 (Aye.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

7 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

8 (No response.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

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

24 The Chair recognizes

1 9/17/26 - STATED - GUESTS

2 Councilmember Quetcy Lozada.

3 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

4 Thank you, Council President.

5 I'd like to recognize
6 and welcome to chambers some
7 individuals that work in the 7th
8 Council District and across the
9 City of Philadelphia who prepare
10 our children to be confident
11 readers. We have guests from
12 Congresso de Latinos Unidos,
13 Children's First, Read by 4th,
14 Teach Plus and the Free Library's
15 Leap afterschool program. Please
16 help me welcome them into the
17 chambers.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

19 JOHNSON: Would you please stand.
20 Welcome to City Council. Thank you
21 for your service.

22 (Applause.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes my

1 9/17/26 - STATED - GUESTS

2 Majority Whip Councilmember Isaiah
3 Thomas.

4 COUNCILMAN THOMAS:

5 Council President, good morning,
6 sir. Good morning, colleagues.
7 Good morning to the City of
8 Philadelphia.

9 Always try to bring good
10 news and make sure we start off on
11 a good foot. So today if you're
12 wondering who all these tall folks
13 over there are, today we are
14 honoring and congratulating Team
15 Final on the occasion of winning
16 the Amateur Athletic Union 14-and-
17 Under and 16-and-Under, another
18 national championship.

19 Team Final is a
20 Philadelphia-based grassroots
21 basketball organization and our
22 city's sole representation in the
23 Elite Youth Basketball League. For
24 context, Team Final has produced

1 9/17/26 - STATED - GUESTS

2 NBA players in the past couple of
3 years such as Jalen Duren, Mikal
4 Bridges, Donte DiVincenzo, Devin
5 DiVincenzo, Lonnie Walker, Derrick
6 Lively and of course Philadelphia
7 76ers' own Justin Edwards. So just
8 to provide context, these young
9 men, 14 and 16 years old, are
10 competing against teams from every
11 major city and small cities all
12 across the country.

13 For the first time in
14 our lifetime, Philadelphia was able
15 to produce two champions in that
16 tournament. And these young men
17 right here represent those two
18 championship teams. Can we give
19 them a round of applause?

20 (Applause.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: Congratulations.

23 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: And
24 they are all student athletes so

1 9/17/26 - STATED - GUESTS

2 they're going to be leaving to get
3 back to school so that they can
4 take care of their student part of
5 being a student athlete. So thank
6 you all.

7 Council President, I
8 also would like to say welcome to
9 members of the John Coltrane House.
10 The Coltrane 100 and the Coltrane
11 Symposium is here. For those who
12 don't know, next week we will be
13 celebrating what would have been
14 the 100th birthday of John Coltrane
15 and we will be recognizing them
16 here today.

17 In the words of Council
18 President, can you all stand up
19 please so we can recognize you?
20 Thank you for your leadership.
21 Thank you, Council President.

22 (Applause.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: Thank you. Welcome to

1 9/17/26 - STATED - GUESTS

2 City Council. Keep up the good
3 work.

4 The Chair recognizes
5 Councilmember Jim Harrity.

6 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:
7 Thank you, Council President.

8 Real quick, just like to
9 recognize Ward Leader, 8th Ward,
10 Elaine Petrovich and her committee.
11 People here to see their government
12 and their Councilpeople in action.
13 Will you please stand, our
14 committee people?

15 (Applause.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
17 JOHNSON: Thank you. Welcome to
18 City Council. I see a former
19 staffer from City Council over
20 there.

21 COUNCILMAN HARRITY: I
22 caught that too.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
24 JOHNSON: Welcome back.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 As there are no
3 presentations today, the next order
4 of business is communications. The
5 Chair requests that the Sergeant-
6 at-Arms deliver the messages from
7 the Mayor to the Chief Clerk.

8 Will the Chief Clerk
9 please read the messages from the
10 Mayor and any other communications
11 in his possession.

12 THE CLERK: To the
13 President, the members of the
14 Council of the City of
15 Philadelphia, I am hereby returning
16 unsigned the following bills: Bill
17 No. 251021, Bill No. 260238, Bill
18 No. 260239, Bill No. 260303, Bill
19 No. 260423 and Bill No. 260521.

20 I'm pleased to advise
21 you that on June 11, 2026, I signed
22 the following bills which were
23 passed by Council at its session on
24 June 11, 2026: Bill No. 260199,

1 9/17/26 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 Bill No. 260200, Bill No. 260201,
3 Bill No. 260203, Bill No. 260204,
4 Bill No. 260205 and Bill No.
5 260206.

6 I'm pleased to advise
7 you that on June 12, 2026, I signed
8 the following bills which were
9 passed by Council at its session on
10 June 4, 2026: Bill No. 250644,
11 Bill No. 250645, Bill No. 260385,
12 Bill No. 260386, Bill No. 260391,
13 Bill No. 260392, Bill No. 260393,
14 Bill No. 260394, Bill No. 260395
15 and Bill No. 260430.

16 I'm pleased to advise
17 you that on June 12, 2026, I signed
18 the following bills which were
19 passed by Council at its session on
20 June 11, 2026: Bill No. 260426,
21 Bill No. 260427, Bill No. 260428,
22 Bill No. 260431, Bill No. 260464-A,
23 Bill No. 260517, Bill No. 260518,
24 Bill No. 260519, Bill No. 260520

1 9/17/26 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 and Bill No. 260527.

3 I'm pleased to advise
4 you that on June 23, 2026, I signed
5 the following bills which were
6 passed by Council at its session on
7 June 4, 2026: Bill No. 260207,
8 Bill No. 260302-A, Bill No. 260457,
9 Bill No. 260458, Bill No. 260459
10 and Bill No. 260460.

11 I'm pleased to advise
12 you that on June 23, 2026, I signed
13 the following bills which were
14 passed by Council at its session on
15 June 11, 2026: Bill No. 260164,
16 Bill No. 260165, Bill No. 260211,
17 Bill No. 260239, Bill No. 260241,
18 Bill No. 260264-A, Bill No. 260299,
19 Bill No. 260300, Bill No. 260378,
20 Bill No. 260380, Bill No. 260382,
21 Bill No. 260383, Bill No. 260384,
22 Bill No. 260390, Bill No. 260422,
23 Bill No. 260425, Bill No. 260461,
24 Bill No. 260465-A, Bill No. 260506,

1 9/17/26 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 Bill No. 260507, Bill No. 260509,
3 Bill No. 260510, Bill No. 260511,
4 Bill No. 260512, Bill No. 260513.
5 I'm pleased to advise you -- and
6 Bill No. 260522, Bill No. 260523,
7 Bill No. 260524, Bill No. 260528,
8 Bill No. 260529, Bill No. 260530,
9 Bill No. 260531, Bill No. 260532,
10 Bill No. 260533, Bill No. 260534,
11 Bill No. 260535, Bill No. 260536
12 and Bill No. 260564.

13 I'm pleased to advise
14 you that on September 15, 2026, I
15 signed the following bill which was
16 passed by Council at its session on
17 June 11, 2026: Bill No. 251020. I
18 am pleased to advise you that on
19 September 15, 2026, I signed the
20 following bills which were passed
21 by Council at its session on June
22 4, 2026, Bill No. 260162 and Bill
23 No. 260163.

24 I'm submitting herewith

1 9/17/26 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 the consideration of your Honorable
3 body the following proposed: An
4 ordinance amending Bill No.
5 200253-A (approved November 13,
6 2023), entitled "An Ordinance
7 Amending Section 20-303 of The
8 Philadelphia Code, entitled
9 'Salaries of Specified Officers,'
10 to establish salaries based on an
11 Annual Compensation Plan, under
12 certain terms and conditions," to
13 eliminate a sunset provision set
14 forth in that bill.

15 An ordinance authorizing
16 and approving the execution and
17 delivery of a Service Agreement
18 between The City of Philadelphia,
19 Pennsylvania and Philadelphia
20 Authority for Industrial
21 Development relating to the
22 financing of the buildout,
23 construction, equipping,
24 installation and implementation of

1 9/17/26 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 improvements for the development of
3 a forensics laboratory for the
4 Philadelphia Police Department at a
5 specified property or properties
6 owned or leased, and operated, by
7 the City; approving the issuance by
8 such Authority of bonds, notes or
9 other evidences of indebtedness in
10 one or more series to finance or
11 refinance the costs of such project
12 and authorizing and approving the
13 obligation of the City to pay in
14 full when due the Service Fee and
15 other amounts payable under the
16 Service Agreement; authorizing
17 certain City officers to take
18 certain actions required to issue
19 such bonds, notes or other
20 evidences of indebtedness;
21 covenanting that the City will make
22 necessary appropriations in each of
23 the City's fiscal years to provide
24 for, and will make timely payments

1 9/17/26 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 of, the Service Fee and other
3 amounts due under the Service
4 Agreement; and authorizing City
5 officials to take other necessary
6 or appropriate actions to
7 effectuate the purposes of this
8 Ordinance; all under certain terms
9 and conditions.

10 An ordinance authorizing
11 the Sanitation Commissioner and
12 Procurement Commissioner, on behalf
13 of the City of Philadelphia, to
14 enter into agreements with several
15 vendors to process and market
16 recyclable materials, under certain
17 terms and conditions.

18 An ordinance authorizing
19 the Sanitation Commissioner and
20 Procurement Commissioner, on behalf
21 of the City of Philadelphia, to
22 enter into agreements for the
23 collection, transfer and disposal
24 of municipal solid waste, under

1 9/17/26 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 certain terms and conditions.

3 A resolution confirming
4 the appointment of Monique Myatt
5 Galloway, Esquire, as the City
6 Solicitor.

7 A resolution authorizing
8 the Philadelphia Land Bank to
9 dispose of 1941-47 East Huntingdon
10 Street, located in the 1st
11 Councilmanic District in accordance
12 with the terms of Chapter 16-700 of
13 The Philadelphia Code.

14 A resolution authorizing
15 the Philadelphia Land Bank to
16 dispose of 7120 Yocum Street
17 located in the 2nd Councilmanic
18 District in accordance with the
19 terms of Chapter 16-700 of The
20 Philadelphia Code.

21 A resolution authorizing
22 the Philadelphia Land Bank to
23 dispose of 2045, 2047, 2051 South
24 56th Street located in the 3rd

1 9/17/26 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 Councilmanic District in accordance
3 with the terms of Chapter 16-700 of
4 The Philadelphia Code.

5 A resolution authorizing
6 the Philadelphia Land Bank to
7 dispose of 4203 Leidy Avenue,
8 located in the 3rd Councilmanic
9 District in accordance with the
10 terms of Chapter 16-700 of The
11 Philadelphia Code.

12 A resolution authorizing
13 the Philadelphia Land Bank to
14 dispose of 225 South 52nd Street
15 located in the 3rd Councilmanic
16 District in accordance with the
17 terms of Chapter 16-700 of The
18 Philadelphia Code.

19 A resolution authorizing
20 the Philadelphia Land Bank to
21 dispose of 1718-26 North 52nd
22 Street located in the 4th
23 Councilmanic District in accordance
24 with the terms of Chapter 16-700 of

1 9/17/26 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 The Philadelphia Code.

3 A resolution authorizing
4 the Philadelphia Land Bank to
5 dispose of 855 North Orkney Street
6 located in the 5th Councilmanic
7 District in accordance with the
8 terms of Chapter 16-700 of The
9 Philadelphia Code.

10 And a resolution
11 authorizing the Philadelphia Land
12 Bank to dispose of 916, 920, 922,
13 924 West Auburn Street located in
14 the 5th Councilmanic District in
15 accordance with the terms of
16 Chapter 16-700 of The Philadelphia
17 Code.

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

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: Great job, Mr. Sabatina.
23 Let's give the young man a round of
24 applause please.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 (Applause.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

4 JOHNSON: Thank you very much. The
5 messages will be printed in the
6 Journal.

7 The next order of
8 business -- could you please put
9 your phones on silent and/or
10 vibrate. The next order of
11 business is introduction of bills
12 and resolutions.

13 The Chair recognizes
14 Councilmember Dr. Anthony Phillips.

15 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:
16 Thank you, Council President. And
17 welcome back, everyone.

18 I have two bills for
19 introduction today as well as one
20 non-privileged resolution and then
21 one privileged resolution on your
22 behalf, welcoming NBA superstar and
23 forward LeBron James to the City of
24 Philadelphia.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: The Chair -- will the
4 Chief Clerk please read the titles
5 of the bills and resolutions.

6 THE CLERK: An ordinance
7 amending Philadelphia Zoning Maps
8 by changing the zoning designations
9 of certain areas of land located
10 within an area bounded by Wyncote
11 Avenue, Ogontz Avenue and 68th
12 Avenue.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

17 THE CLERK: An ordinance
18 amending the Philadelphia Zoning
19 Maps by changing the zoning
20 designations of certain areas of
21 land located within an area bounded
22 by 65th Avenue, 3rd Street, Cheltenham
23 Avenue and 5th Street.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 JOHNSON: This bill will be
3 referred to the appropriate
4 committee.

5 THE CLERK: And a
6 privileged resolution authorizing
7 the Committee on Legislative
8 Oversight and the Committee on
9 Streets and Services to hold
10 hearings examining the City of
11 Philadelphia's "ticket-to-tow"
12 requirement under Section 9-605(11)
13 of The Philadelphia Code, including
14 its effectiveness, fairness,
15 transparency, enforcement, and
16 impact on private property owners,
17 vehicle owners, towing companies,
18 and City agencies.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

23 THE CLERK: And a
24 non-privileged resolution -- I

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 mean, I'm sorry. A privileged
3 resolution Welcoming NBA Superstar
4 and Forward LeBron James, better
5 known as King James, to
6 Philadelphia as he begins his
7 tenure with the Philadelphia 76ers.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: Now, before we refer this
10 resolution to today's Final
11 Passage, we want to thank Coach
12 Thomas for working with me to allow
13 the number one fan of LeBron James
14 here in the City of Philadelphia,
15 Member Dr. Anthony Phillips, for
16 introducing the resolution.

17 This resolution will be
18 placed on today's Final Passage
19 Calendar. Good job.

20 Will the Clerk please
21 read the resolution.

22 THE CLERK: That's all
23 for Phillips.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you very
3 much.

4 Chair recognizes
5 Councilmember Katherine Gilmore
6 Richardson.

7 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

8 RICHARDSON: Good morning, Council
9 President. Good morning,
10 colleagues.

11 Today I offer four
12 bills, two on your behalf, two
13 resolutions on your behalf, one
14 privileged and one non-privileged.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: Will the Chief Clerk
17 please read the titles of the bills
18 and resolutions.

19 THE CLERK: An ordinance
20 amending Section 14-601 of The
21 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Use
22 Categories" by making changes to
23 the retail sales use category
24 definitions, and amending Section

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 14-602, entitled "Use Tables" by
3 making changes to the use tables to
4 reflect the updated retail sales
5 use category definitions, all under
6 certain terms and conditions.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

11 THE CLERK: An ordinance
12 amending Section 14-705 of The
13 Philadelphia Code, entitled
14 "Landscape and Trees" by revising
15 heritage tree removal requirements,
16 all under certain terms and
17 conditions.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

22 THE CLERK: An ordinance
23 amending Section 14-504 of The
24 Philadelphia Code, entitled "/NCO,

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Neighborhood Conservation Overlay
3 District" by creating a new
4 Southwest Center City Neighborhood
5 Conservation Overlay District, and
6 by revising the boundaries of
7 Section 14-502 /CTR, Center City
8 Overlay District, and making
9 related changes, all under certain
10 terms and conditions.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

15 THE CLERK: An ordinance
16 authorizing and approving the
17 execution and delivery of a Service
18 Agreement between The City of
19 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and
20 Philadelphia Authority for
21 Industrial Development relating to
22 the financing of the buildout,
23 construction, equipping,
24 installation and implementation of

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 improvements for the development of
3 a forensics laboratory for the
4 Philadelphia Police Department at a
5 specified property or properties
6 owned or leased, and operated, by
7 the City; approving the issuance by
8 such Authority of bonds, notes or
9 other evidences of indebtedness in
10 one or more series to finance or
11 refinance the costs of such project
12 and authorizing and approving the
13 obligation of the City to pay in
14 full when due the Service Fee and
15 other amounts payable under the
16 Service Agreement; authorizing
17 certain City officers to take
18 certain actions required to issue
19 such bonds, notes or other
20 evidences of indebtedness;
21 covenanting that the City will make
22 necessary appropriations in each of
23 the City's fiscal years to provide
24 for, and will make timely payments

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 of the service fee and other
3 amounts due under the service
4 agreement; and authorizing city
5 officials to take other necessary
6 or appropriate actions to
7 effectuate the purposes of this
8 ordinance, all under certain terms
9 and conditions.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

14 THE CLERK: And a
15 privileged resolution honoring and
16 congratulating Reverend Joshua
17 Goodin on his elevation to the
18 status of Bishop, and recognizing
19 his years of ministry and
20 leadership to the South
21 Philadelphia community.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Calendar.

3 THE CLERK: And a
4 privileged resolution honoring
5 public servant Frances Adams by
6 renaming -- one second.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: That's non-privileged.

9 THE CLERK:

10 Non-privileged, yes. This is a
11 non-privileged resolution honoring
12 public servant Frances Adams by
13 renaming the 1800 Block of South
14 22nd Street to "Frances Adams Way"
15 in recognition of her dedication to
16 violence prevention in South
17 Philadelphia.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

23 The Chair recognizes
24 Councilmember Jamie Gauthier.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

3 Good morning, Council President.

4 Today I have three
5 non-privileged resolutions and one
6 non-privileged resolution on your
7 behalf.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

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

12 THE CLERK: A

13 non-privileged resolution
14 authorizing the Philadelphia Land
15 Bank to dispose of 7120 Yocum
16 Street located in the 2nd
17 Councilmanic District in accordance
18 with the terms of Chapter 16-700 of
19 The Philadelphia Code.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 THE CLERK: And a
3 non-privileged resolution
4 authorizing the Philadelphia Land
5 Bank to dispose of 2045, 2047, 2051
6 South 56th Street located in the
7 3rd Councilmanic District in
8 accordance with the terms of
9 Chapter 16-700 of The Philadelphia
10 Code.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

16 THE CLERK: And a
17 non-privileged resolution
18 authorizing the Philadelphia Land
19 Bank to dispose of 4203 Leidy
20 Avenue located in the 3rd
21 Councilmanic District in accordance
22 with the terms of Chapter 16-700 of
23 The Philadelphia Code.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

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

6 THE CLERK: And a
7 non-privileged resolution
8 authorizing the Philadelphia Land
9 Bank to dispose of 225 South 52nd
10 Street located in the 3rd
11 Councilmanic District in accordance
12 with the terms of Chapter 16-700 of
13 The Philadelphia Code.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

19 The Chair recognizes
20 Councilmember Isaiah Thomas.

21 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Good
22 morning again, Council President.
23 Good morning, Philadelphia.

24 Today I offer five

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 privileged resolutions.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

4 JOHNSON: Thank you. Thank you
5 very much.

6 Chief Clerk, please read
7 the titles of the resolutions.

8 THE CLERK: A privileged
9 resolution authorizing the
10 Committee on Legislative Oversight
11 to hold hearings on the structure
12 of the Philadelphia Law Department
13 and to consider the separation of
14 the department's functions between
15 the Administration and City
16 Council.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

21 THE CLERK: And a
22 privileged resolution honoring
23 September 23rd as John Coltrane Day
24 in the City of Philadelphia, on the

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 event of John Coltrane's 100th
3 birthday, celebrating his life and
4 Philadelphia's central role in
5 shaping his artistic and cultural
6 legacy.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

11 THE CLERK: And a

12 privileged resolution honoring and
13 congratulating Dr. Alycia Marshall,
14 PhD, as the Community College of
15 Philadelphia celebrates her
16 investiture as the College's
17 seventh President.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

22 THE CLERK: And a

23 privileged resolution honoring and
24 Congratulating Team Final, on the

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 occasion of winning the Amateur
3 Athletic Union (AAU) 14U and 16U
4 National Championship.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

9 THE CLERK: And a
10 privileged resolution authorizing
11 the Committee on Legislative
12 Oversight to hold hearings on the
13 competitive challenges created by
14 the net income portion of the
15 Business Income and Receipts Tax,
16 its history, the affordability
17 crisis and routes to take to ensure
18 a thriving business community in
19 Philadelphia.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

24 Chair recognizes

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Councilmember Curtis Jones.

3 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank
4 you, Mr. President. Good morning
5 all.

6 Today I offer three
7 bills. Two of them non-privileged
8 and three of them privileged.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
10 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

11 COUNCILMAN JONES: As a
12 matter of fact, reverse that.

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

18 THE CLERK: An ordinance
19 amending Section 9-208 of The
20 Philadelphia Code, entitled
21 "Sidewalk Cafés," to authorize
22 additional locations for sidewalk
23 cafés, all under certain terms and
24 conditions.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: This bill will be
4 referred to the appropriate
5 committee.

6 THE CLERK: An ordinance
7 authorizing encroachments in the
8 nature of a sidewalk café in the
9 vicinity of 4201 Manayunk Ave,
10 Philadelphia, PA, under certain
11 terms and conditions.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

16 THE CLERK: An ordinance
17 amending Section 14-503(4) of The
18 Philadelphia Code, entitled “/NCA,
19 Neighborhood Commercial Area
20 Overlay District, Main
21 Street/Manayunk and Venice Island”
22 by revising boundaries, restricting
23 additional uses, and replacing
24 illustrative maps, all under

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 certain terms and conditions.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

7 THE CLERK: A privileged
8 resolution honoring and recognizing
9 Ukee Washington for nearly forty
10 years of dedicated service to CBS 3
11 (KYW-TV) and to the people of
12 Philadelphia.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

17 THE CLERK: And a
18 privileged resolution honoring and
19 recognizing Cecily Tynan on the
20 occasion of her retirement, in
21 celebration of more than three
22 decades of dedicated service to
23 6abc/WPVI-TV Action News and to the
24 people of the City of Philadelphia.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

6 THE CLERK: And a
7 privileged resolution Honoring and
8 Recognizing the Key Stakeholders of
9 Philadelphia's Citywide Summer 2026
10 Events.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: This bill will be -- this
13 resolution will be placed on
14 today's Final Passage Calendar.

15 THE CLERK: And a
16 non-privileged resolution
17 authorizing the Philadelphia Land
18 Bank to dispose of 1718-26 North
19 52nd Street located in the 4th
20 Councilmanic District in accordance
21 with the terms of Chapter 16-700 of
22 The Philadelphia Code.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: This resolution will be

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 placed on the Final Passage
3 Calendar for consideration at our
4 next session of Council.

5 THE CLERK: And a
6 non-privileged resolution renaming
7 the 6000 Block of Market Street
8 "Sharif El-Mekki Way" to honor
9 Sharif El-Mekki and his decades of
10 distinguished service to
11 Philadelphia's students, educators,
12 schools, and communities.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: Very well-deserved,
15 Mr. Jones. This resolution will be
16 placed on the Final Passage
17 Calendar for consideration at our
18 next session of Council.

19 The Chair recognizes
20 Councilwoman Rue Landau.

21 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

22 Good morning, Council President,
23 colleagues, the public. Welcome
24 back, everybody. Thank you.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 This morning I have one
3 bill, one privileged resolution and
4 one non-privileged resolution.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

7 Chief Clerk, please read the titles
8 of the bill and resolutions.

9 THE CLERK: An ordinance
10 amending Section 14-601 of The
11 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Use
12 Categories" to revise the
13 definition of adult cabaret.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

15 JOHNSON: This bill will be
16 referred to the appropriate
17 committee.

18 THE CLERK: And a
19 privileged resolution recognizing
20 September 14-18, 2026 as Disability
21 Voting Rights Week in the City of
22 Philadelphia.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: This resolution will be

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 placed on today's Final Passage
3 Calendar.

4 THE CLERK: And a
5 non-privileged resolution calling
6 on the General Assembly and Senate
7 of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
8 to pass bipartisan legislation to
9 ban the use of Automatic License
10 Plate Reader (ALPR) cameras like
11 Flock cameras across the
12 Commonwealth and ban or develop
13 strong guardrails for the use of
14 automatic license plate reader
15 technology.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

21 Chair recognizes
22 Councilmember Quetcy Lozada.

23 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

24 Good morning, Council President.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Good morning, everyone.

3 Today I offer two
4 privileged resolutions.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

7 Chief Clerk, please read
8 the titles of the privileged
9 resolutions please.

10 THE CLERK: Recognizing
11 September 15th through October 15th
12 as Hispanic Heritage Month in the
13 City of Philadelphia, and
14 celebrating the rich history,
15 culture, and extraordinary
16 contributions of the Hispanic and
17 Latino communities to our city.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

22 THE CLERK: And a
23 privileged resolution Recognizing
24 September as National Literacy

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Month and Celebrating

3 Philadelphia's Commitment to

4 Expanding Literacy for All.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: This resolution will be

7 placed on today's Final Passage

8 Calendar.

9 Chair recognizes

10 Councilmember Jeffrey Jay Young.

11 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Good

12 morning, Mr. President.

13 Today I offer six bills,

14 eight resolutions; four are

15 privileged, four are

16 non-privileged. And for the

17 record, the resolution to authorize

18 a hearing to investigate the

19 closure of the Academy of Natural

20 Science is co-introduced by

21 Councilmember Nina Ahmad.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: Chief Clerk, please read

24 the titles of the bills and

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 resolutions.

3 THE CLERK: An ordinance
4 renaming the Penrose Recreation
5 Center to the "Shirley M. Kitchen
6 Recreation Center" to honor the
7 life and legacy of Shirley Kitchen,
8 a pioneering public servant and
9 civic leader with an immeasurable
10 impact on the greater North
11 Philadelphia community.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

13 JOHNSON: Very well done, Member
14 Young. This bill will be referred
15 to the appropriate committee.

16 I just want to take a
17 moment because I looked at all the
18 work that we're doing on behalf of
19 fighting on behalf of those who are
20 most needed here in the City of
21 Philadelphia, and Shirley Kitchen
22 was at the forefront of leadership
23 in the City of Philadelphia,
24 fighting for the most marginalized

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 people in this city. Very well
3 done.

4 This resolution will be
5 placed on the Final Passage
6 Calendar for consideration -- this
7 bill will be referred to the
8 appropriate committee.

9 THE CLERK: An ordinance
10 amending Section 9-647 of The
11 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Fifth
12 District Commercial Business Hour
13 Restriction," to extend business
14 hour restrictions to additional
15 locations; all under certain terms
16 and conditions.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

21 But let me take a moment
22 and go back to the former bill.
23 And just for clarification,
24 everyone, what Jeffrey Young is

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 doing is not ceremonial. He has an
3 actual bill for the actual street
4 to be officially renamed after
5 Shirley Kitchen. Thank you very
6 much.

7 (Applause.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: Please resume, Chief
10 Clerk.

11 THE CLERK: An ordinance
12 amending Chapter 10-700 of The
13 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Refuse
14 and Littering," to exempt
15 individuals from payment of certain
16 fines and penalties relating to
17 residential refuse and refuse
18 collection when the City fails to
19 complete collection on the
20 designated collection day; to
21 provide for cancellation of covered
22 fines and associated charges,
23 refunds, and administrative review;
24 and to make related changes; all

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 under certain terms and conditions.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

7 THE CLERK: And an
8 ordinance amending Chapter 12-3400
9 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled
10 "Use of an Automated Speed
11 Enforcement System to Improve
12 Safety," to reduce fines for
13 automated speed enforcement
14 violations based on the amount by
15 which a vehicle exceeds the posted
16 speed limit; all under certain
17 terms and conditions.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

22 THE CLERK: An ordinance
23 amending Chapter 14-600 of The
24 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Use

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Regulations," by requiring special
3 exception approval for limited
4 lodging in the RSA-5 zoning
5 district; all under certain terms
6 and conditions.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

11 THE CLERK: An ordinance
12 amending Chapter 19-2600 of The
13 Philadelphia Code, entitled
14 "Business Income and Receipts
15 Taxes," to establish a Philadelphia
16 Youth Employment Program Tax Credit
17 for businesses that employ eligible
18 youth or contribute to qualifying
19 tax-exempt organizations employing
20 such students; all under certain
21 terms and conditions.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: This bill will be
24 referred to the appropriate

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 committee.

3 THE CLERK: And a
4 privileged resolution recognizing
5 September 14-18, 2026, as Adult
6 Education & Family Literacy Week in
7 Philadelphia.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

12 THE CLERK: And a
13 privileged resolution authorizing
14 the Committee on Streets and
15 Services to investigate the
16 Philadelphia Parking Authority's
17 enforcement during Philadelphia's
18 summer 2026 events, including FIFA
19 World Cup 2026; its accountability
20 to Philadelphia residents and City
21 government, and reforms to protect
22 residents, strengthen oversight,
23 and restore meaningful local
24 control.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

6 THE CLERK: And a
7 privileged resolution honoring the
8 life and legacy of former
9 Pennsylvania State Senator Shirley
10 M. Kitchen and expressing
11 condolences to her family, friends
12 and the community she served.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

17 THE CLERK: And a
18 privileged resolution authorizing
19 the Committee on Legislative
20 Oversight to hold hearings
21 investigating the announced closure
22 of the Academy of Natural Sciences
23 of Drexel University's public
24 museum, its consequences for

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Philadelphia, and options to
3 preserve public access and the
4 institution's scientific and
5 educational mission, and
6 authorizing the issuance of
7 subpoenas to the full extent
8 authorized under Section 2-401 of
9 the Home Rule Charter.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

14 THE CLERK: A

15 non-privileged resolution urging
16 the Pennsylvania General Assembly
17 to enact House Bill 1678 to tax
18 digital advertising receipts and
19 provide additional property tax
20 relief for eligible senior
21 households.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 this resolution will be placed on
3 the Final Passage Calendar for
4 consideration at the next session
5 of Council.

6 THE CLERK: A
7 non-privileged resolution
8 authorizing the Philadelphia Land
9 Bank to dispose of 916, 920, 922,
10 924 West Auburn Street located in
11 the 5th Councilmanic District in
12 accordance with the terms of
13 Chapter 16-700 of The Philadelphia
14 Code.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

20 THE CLERK: And a
21 non-privileged resolution
22 authorizing the Philadelphia Land
23 Bank to dispose of 855 North Orkney
24 Street located in the 5th

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Councilmanic District in accordance
3 with the terms of Chapter 16-700 of
4 The Philadelphia Code.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

10 THE CLERK: And a
11 non-privileged resolution also
12 naming the 1400 block of Thompson
13 Street as "Samuel Staten Jr. Way"
14 to honor the life, leadership, and
15 enduring contributions of Samuel
16 Staten Jr. to organized labor,
17 working families, and the City of
18 Philadelphia.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

24 Chair recognizes

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Councilmember Kendra Brooks.

3 THE CLERK: Thank you,
4 Council President.

5 I have two resolutions
6 today. One privileged on my behalf
7 and one privileged resolution on
8 your behalf.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

11 Chief Clerk, please read
12 the resolutions please.

13 THE CLERK: A privileged
14 resolution recognizing the week of
15 September 14th to 19th, 2026, as
16 National Arts in Education Week in
17 the City of Philadelphia, and
18 celebrating the essential role arts
19 education plays in developing the
20 next generation of creative
21 thinkers, leaders, and community
22 builders.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: This resolution will be

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 placed on today's Final Passage
3 Calendar.

4 THE CLERK: And a
5 privileged resolution honoring and
6 congratulating Isaiah Thomas, known
7 as HMBL ZAYY on social media, for
8 completing an over 3,000-mile faith
9 walk and fundraiser from
10 Philadelphia to California to build
11 a trade school for the Philadelphia
12 youth.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

17 Chair recognizes
18 Councilmember Jim Harrity.

19 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:

20 Thank you, Council President.

21 I have two privileged
22 resolutions today.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

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

5 THE CLERK: A privileged
6 resolution recognizing September
7 2026 as National Recovery Month in
8 honoring the strength of those
9 impacted by addiction.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

14 THE CLERK: And a
15 privileged resolution honoring the
16 life and legacy of Dr. Michael A.
17 Schiavone, D.D.S., Beloved Husband,
18 Father, and Co-Founder of Caring
19 for Friends, and Recognizing His
20 Lifetime Commitment to Feeding the
21 Hungry and Caring for Those in
22 Need.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: Very well done. This

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

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

4 Chair recognizes
5 Councilman Nicolas O'Rourke.

6 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:
7 Thank you, Mr. President.

8 Nothing today.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
10 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

11 Chair recognizes
12 Councilman Mike Driscoll.

13 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:
14 Good morning, Mr. President.

15 I have one privileged
16 resolution and two bills.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
18 JOHNSON: Chief Clerk, please read
19 the titles of the bills and
20 resolution please.

21 Council will be at ease.

22 (Council at ease.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
24 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes the

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 presence of State Senator Sharif
3 Street. Thank you for joining us
4 today.

5 Council will resume.

6 Chief Clerk, please read the titles
7 of the bills and resolution.

8 THE CLERK: An ordinance
9 adding a new Chapter 21-3800 to The
10 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Sound
11 Amplification Devices on Public
12 Bodies of Water," to establish
13 certain restrictions related to the
14 use of sound amplification devices
15 and provide for remedies for
16 violations, all under certain terms
17 and conditions.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

22 THE CLERK: And an
23 ordinance amending Chapter 14 of
24 The Philadelphia Code, entitled

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 "Zoning and Planning" by defining
3 self-service storage facilities and
4 prohibiting them in certain
5 locations and making related
6 technical changes, all under
7 certain terms and conditions.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: This resolution will be
10 placed on today's Final Passage --
11 excuse me. This bill will be
12 referred to the appropriate
13 committee.

14 THE CLERK: And a
15 privileged resolution recognizing
16 Ambassador John Giordano, United
17 States Ambassador to the Republic
18 of Namibia, and celebrating his
19 distinguished career of public
20 service.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Chair recognizes
3 Councilmember O'Neill.

4 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL:
5 Thank you, Mr. President.

6 I offer two bills.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
8 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

9 Chief Clerk, please read
10 the titles of the bills.

11 THE CLERK: An ordinance
12 amending Section 14-500 of The
13 Philadelphia Code, entitled
14 "Overlay Zoning Districts" by
15 combining the /FNE, Far Northeast
16 Overlay District and the /NE,
17 Northeast Overlay District into a
18 new /TEN, Tenth District Overlay
19 District and making related changes
20 all under certain terms and
21 conditions.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
23 JOHNSON: This bill will referred
24 to the appropriate committee.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 THE CLERK: And an
3 ordinance authorizing the
4 installation of all-way stop signs
5 at the intersection of Pine Road
6 and Susquehanna Road.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

11 Chair recognizes
12 Councilman Mark Squilla.

13 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

14 Thank you, Mr. President.

15 I offer three bills and
16 three non-privileged resolutions.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

19 Chief Clerk, please read
20 the titles of the bills and
21 resolutions.

22 THE CLERK: An ordinance
23 authorizing an encroachment in the
24 nature of a staircase in the

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 vicinity of 319-25 North 11th
3 Street, Philadelphia PA, under
4 certain terms and conditions.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

9 THE CLERK: An ordinance
10 authorizing encroachments in the
11 nature of a sidewalk café in the
12 vicinity of 544 E. Girard Ave.,
13 under certain terms and conditions.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

15 JOHNSON: This bill will be
16 referred to the appropriate
17 committee.

18 THE CLERK: An ordinance
19 to authorize a plan for evaluation
20 and potential restructuring of the
21 City's solid waste management and
22 recycling systems, including
23 consideration of long-term
24 recycling processing and long-term

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 waste disposal services featuring
3 specific infrastructure
4 developments, establishing strict
5 waste reduction and diversion
6 targets, and transition toward a
7 sustainable and equitable waste
8 management economy, to be known as
9 the "Philadelphia Zero Waste
10 Circular Economy Act ," all under
11 certain terms and conditions.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

16 THE CLERK: A

17 non-privileged resolution urging
18 the United States Congress to
19 support and enact the Ahmad Butler
20 Pediatric Cancer HOPE for a Cure
21 Act and calling for federal action
22 to recognize and respond to
23 pediatric cancer with national
24 emergency-level urgency while also

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 calling upon the President of the
3 United States to consider declaring
4 a national emergency concerning
5 pediatric cancer under the National
6 Emergencies Act.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

12 THE CLERK: And a
13 non-privileged resolution also
14 naming 4th Street between Hoffman
15 and Dudley Streets in honor of
16 Henry "Hank" Gonski, III.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

22 THE CLERK: And a
23 non-privileged resolution
24 authorizing the Philadelphia Land

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Bank to dispose of 1941-47 East
3 Huntingdon Street located in the
4 1st Councilmanic District in
5 accordance with the terms of
6 Chapter 16-700 of The Philadelphia
7 Code.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

13 The Chair recognizes the
14 Majority Deputy Whip Councilmember
15 Cindy Bass.

16 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

17 Thank you, Mr. President.

18 Today I offer three
19 bills, one privileged, one
20 resolution on your behalf and one
21 non-privileged resolution.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

24 Chief Clerk, please read

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 the titles of the bills and
3 resolutions.

4 THE CLERK: An ordinance
5 amending Section 14-530 of The
6 Philadelphia Code, entitled “/EDO,
7 Eighth District Overlay District”
8 by restricting additional uses and
9 making technical changes, all under
10 certain terms and conditions.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

15 THE CLERK: An ordinance
16 amending Chapter 9-645 of the
17 Philadelphia Code, entitled, Eighth
18 District Commercial Business Hour
19 Restriction, to provide a limited
20 exception to the curfew for a
21 specific area in the Eighth
22 Councilmanic District, all under
23 certain terms and conditions.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 JOHNSON: This bill will be
3 referred to the appropriate
4 committee. Very well done, Member
5 Bass.

6 THE CLERK: An ordinance
7 to amend the Philadelphia Zoning
8 Maps by changing zoning
9 designations of certain areas of
10 land located within an area bounded
11 by Roberts Avenue, Germantown
12 Avenue, Cayuga Street, 17th Street,
13 St. Paul Street, Germantown Avenue,
14 Brunner Street and Wayne Avenue.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: This bill will be
17 referred to the appropriate
18 committee.

19 THE CLERK: And a
20 non-privileged resolution also
21 naming the 1100 block of West
22 Rockland Street in the Logan
23 neighborhood as "Officer Melvin
24 Kilgore Way" in honor of the life,

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 legacy, and extraordinary community
3 service of Officer Melvin "Kil"
4 Kilgore.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: Very well done, Member
7 Bass.

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

12 THE CLERK: And a
13 privileged resolution welcoming NBA
14 All-Star and Swingman Jaylen Brown
15 to Philadelphia as he begins his
16 tenure with the Philadelphia 76ers.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

21 Chair recognizes
22 Councilmember Dr. Nina Ahmad.

23 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

24 Thank you, Council President.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Welcome back, everyone.

3 I am introducing three
4 privileged resolutions and one
5 non-privileged resolution, and also
6 introducing a privileged resolution
7 with Councilmember Young.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

10 Chief Clerk, please read
11 the resolutions.

12 THE CLERK: A
13 non-privileged resolution
14 requesting the Mayor to return to
15 Council Bill No. 260076, entitled
16 "Providing for the submission to
17 the qualified electors of the City
18 of Philadelphia of the proposal set
19 forth in a Resolution approved by
20 Council proposing an amendment to
21 the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter
22 relating to the creation of the
23 Philadelphia Child Welfare
24 Commission; and authorizing and

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 directing the appropriate officers
3 to publish notice and to make
4 arrangements for the special
5 election," for the purpose of
6 reconsideration by the Council of
7 the vote by which said bill passed
8 Council.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

14 THE CLERK: And a
15 privileged resolution recognizing
16 and celebrating September 2026 as
17 National Drive Electric Month in
18 the City of Philadelphia.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

23 THE CLERK: And a
24 privileged resolution recognizing

1 9/17/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 September as National Sickle Cell
3 Awareness Month in the City of
4 Philadelphia and honoring the life
5 of Dr. Roy Neil Gay and his
6 dedication to treating patients
7 with sickle cell disease.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

12 THE CLERK: And a
13 privileged resolution authorizing
14 the Committee on Public Health and
15 Human Services to hold hearings on
16 composting in Philadelphia,
17 including current best practices,
18 gaps in the City's composting
19 programs, infrastructure, and ways
20 to encourage residents and
21 businesses to compost.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPECIAL BUSINESS

2 Calendar.

3 As there are no reports
4 from committees today, we will now
5 have special business. The Chair
6 recognizes Councilmember Dr. Nina
7 Ahmad for a motion regarding
8 special business.

9 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

10 Thank you, Council President.

11 I move that the rules of
12 Council be suspended to permit
13 consideration of special business
14 at this time.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: Is there a second?

17 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

18 RICHARDSON: Second.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: Thank you, Majority
21 Leader.

22 It has been moved and
23 properly seconded that the rules of
24 Council be suspended so as to

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPECIAL BUSINESS

2 permit the consideration of special
3 business at this time.

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

7 (Aye.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

10 (No response.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

14 The Chair recognizes
15 Councilmember Dr. Nina Ahmad for a
16 motion regarding a resolution
17 introduced today to recall Bill No.
18 260076.

19 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

20 Thank you, Council President.

21 I move to suspend the
22 rules for allow --

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: One second. At this

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPECIAL BUSINESS

2 time, the Chief Clerk will read the
3 resolution.

4 THE CLERK: A resolution
5 requesting the Mayor to return to
6 Council Bill No. 260076, entitled
7 "Providing for the submission to
8 the qualified electors of the City
9 of Philadelphia of the proposal set
10 forth in a Resolution approved by
11 Council proposing an amendment to
12 the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter
13 relating to the creation of the
14 Philadelphia Child Welfare
15 Commission; and authorizing and
16 directing the appropriate officers
17 to publish notice and to make
18 arrangements for the special
19 election," for the purpose of
20 reconsideration by the Council of
21 the vote by which said bill passed
22 Council.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPECIAL BUSINESS

2 Councilmember Dr. Nina Ahmad.

3 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

4 Thank you, Council President.

5 I move to suspend the
6 rules to allow consideration of the
7 resolution today.

8 (Duly seconded.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
11 properly seconded that the rules of
12 Council be suspended so as to
13 permit the consideration of the
14 resolution at this time.

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

18 (Aye.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

21 (No response.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: The ayes have it. The
24 motion carries.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPECIAL BUSINESS

2 The Chair now recognizes
3 again Councilmember Dr. Nina Ahmad.

4 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

5 Thank you, Council President.

6 I move for the adoption
7 of the resolution.

8 (Duly seconded.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

16 (Aye.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

21 JOHNSON: The ayes have it. The
22 motion carries. The resolution is
23 adopted.

24 Will the Clerk please

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPECIAL BUSINESS

2 read a letter from the Mayor.

3 THE CLERK: To the
4 President and members of the
5 Council of the City of
6 Philadelphia, I'm returning
7 herewith, as requested by your
8 resolution adopted today, Bill No.
9 260076, entitled "Providing for the
10 submission to the qualified
11 electors of the City of
12 Philadelphia of the proposal set
13 forth in a Resolution approved by
14 Council proposing an amendment to
15 the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter
16 relating to the creation of the
17 Philadelphia Child Welfare
18 Commission; and authorizing and
19 directing the appropriate officers
20 to publish notice and to make
21 arrangements for the special
22 election," for the purpose of
23 reconsideration by the Council of
24 the vote by which said bill passed

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPECIAL BUSINESS

2 Council.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

4 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes
5 Councilmember Dr. Nina Ahmad for a
6 motion that Council reconsider the
7 vote by which Bill No. 260076 was
8 passed.

9 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD: So
10 moved, Council President.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

15 (Aye.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: The ayes have it. A
21 majority of all members having
22 voted in the affirmative, the
23 motion carries and the vote by
24 which Bill No. 260076 was passed

1 9/17/26 - STATED - BILLS ON 2ND READING

2 has been reconsidered. The bill
3 will be placed on our Second
4 Reading and Final Passage Calendars
5 for our next session of Council.

6 The next order of
7 business is the consideration of
8 the Calendar.

9 The Chair recognizes
10 Majority Leader Katherine Gilmore
11 Richardson for a motion concerning
12 bills on First Reading Calendar,
13 resolutions on the Final Passage
14 Calendar and bills on the Second
15 Reading and Final Passage
16 Calendars.

17 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

18 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
19 Mr. President.

20 The following bill on
21 the First Reading Calendar is being
22 held: Bill No. 260298. The
23 following resolutions are being
24 called up from the Final Passage

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Calendar and the following bills
3 are being called up from the Second
4 Reading and Final Passage Calendars
5 today: Resolution Nos. 260614,
6 260656, Bill Nos. 260381 and
7 260508.

8 The following
9 resolutions and bills on the
10 Calendar are being held: 250768
11 and 250807.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

13 JOHNSON: Before considering the
14 resolutions and bills, we will
15 consider public comment as follows:
16 Your public comment must concern
17 matters on the Second Reading and
18 Final Passage Calendars for
19 possible action at today's Council
20 session.

21 All speakers must sign
22 up in order to testify. If you
23 have not already signed up for
24 today's session, please do so now

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 by giving your name to Ms. Hasson
3 at the table outside the rails to
4 my left. Once you have signed up,
5 you will be called in the order in
6 which your name appears on the
7 sign-up sheet.

8 Under ideal
9 circumstances, public commenters
10 each will have three minutes to
11 speak. However, this time limit
12 may vary from session-to-session.
13 Due to the extremely repetitious
14 comments on the very same similar
15 subject matter, the time limit
16 today will be one minute. In order
17 to be fair to all those wishing to
18 speak, I intend to hold faithfully
19 to the one-minute limit.

20 When you begin speaking,
21 you will see a green light on the
22 podium. When there are 30 seconds
23 remaining to your time, the light
24 will turn yellow, which is your

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 reminder to please conclude your
3 remarks and be respectful of the
4 next person waiting to speak. Once
5 one minute has passed, the light
6 will turn red and the Sergeant-at-
7 Arms will disconnect the
8 microphone.

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

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

20 THE CLERK: Will Senator
21 Sharif Street, Adamary Sosa, John
22 McAuley, William Small, Jeremy
23 Blatstein and David Jenkins, please
24 make your way to the podium.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 (Witnesses approached
3 podium.)

4 SENATOR STREET: Thank
5 you. Thank you, Mr. President.
6 Mr. President, I rise to address
7 this body to support, and thank you
8 for the --

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: One second, Mr. Sharif.
11 Council will be at ease.

12 (Council at ease.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: Please proceed.

15 SENATOR STREET: Thank
16 you, Mr. President. Mr. President,
17 I rise, I stand here today to thank
18 you for the work that is being done
19 honoring my predecessor in the
20 Senate, Senator Shirley Kitchen.
21 Senator Kitchen served in the
22 Senate for over two decades and
23 many people know that.

24 Today I will focus on

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 the fact that Senator Kitchen was a
3 staffer who handled constituent
4 services. When my father served as
5 Council President, she would have
6 hundreds of people lined up in the
7 hallways, seeing them for hours,
8 dutifully wanting to make sure that
9 people were able to navigate all of
10 the parts of government,
11 understanding how important
12 accessing government was to the
13 people of Philadelphia.

14 I think it is fitting
15 that this body, where she spent so
16 much of her life serving, honors
17 her and honors her in a public way,
18 allowing for people in here, in the
19 community that loved her and that
20 she served to always be able to see
21 and remember her. And so, I thank
22 you and I urge support for the
23 matter. Thank you so much,
24 Mr. President. I yield.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Thank you very much. The
4 Chair also recognizes Commissioner
5 Lisa Deeley who is also present as
6 well. Thank you for joining us
7 today. Let's give her a round of
8 applause please.

9 (Applause.)

10 MS. SOSA: Members of
11 City Council today, my name is
12 Adamary Sosa and I grew up in the
13 7th District in the Badlands of
14 North Philadelphia. I'm the eldest
15 daughter of a teen mom and the
16 first in my family to graduate
17 college. And today I stand here as
18 a Puerto Rican woman, a daughter of
19 the city and a proud product of the
20 Philadelphia public Schools.

21 And when I think about
22 Hispanic Heritage Month, I think
23 about what was handed to me, my
24 culture, my language, my community,

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 my resilience and those that came
3 before me. But I also ask, what
4 are we handing to the next
5 generation? Our Latino community
6 does not lack talent, leadership,
7 nor potential. Our challenge is
8 making sure opportunity reaches
9 that potential with the access to
10 education, economic opportunity,
11 affordable neighborhoods and rural
12 representation.

13 So don't just celebrate
14 us for a month, invest in us,
15 listen to us, and make room for us
16 because progress isn't made that I
17 made it into the room. The
18 progress is that we're always
19 invited into the room and we need
20 more representation because in all
21 of City Council we only have one
22 voice for a whole community, and
23 that's Quetcy Lozada. So our hope
24 is that we build a better future

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 for the Latinos in the
3 Philadelphia. Thank you.

4 (Applause.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes Majority
7 Leader Katherine Gilmore
8 Richardson.

9 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

10 RICHARDSON: Thank you, Council
11 President. Thank you for the
12 recognition. I must respectfully
13 request a leave of absence due to
14 very important Council business and
15 my graduation today. Thank you so
16 much.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: Congratulations. Leave
19 is granted.

20 Please proceed.

21 MR. McAULEY: Good
22 morning. John Alonte McAuley in
23 regard to Bill No. 250768. It was
24 called the Stop Trashing Our Air

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Act. We watched Councilwoman
3 Gauthier spend the whole summer
4 trying to get Philly to rally
5 behind her for Mayor Cherelle
6 Parker not backing her Trash Act.
7 She had a better chance calling out
8 Mayor Parker for pointing out fake
9 crime stats.

10 How are we supposed to
11 believe crime is down when the
12 Mayor's District Attorney Larry
13 Krasner has just been referred to
14 the U.S. Attorney's Office for
15 possible criminal conduct? But
16 back to this Trash Act. You claim
17 ReWorld sees Black lives is
18 expendable.

19 But in reality, with all
20 of these legal and illegal vape or
21 smoke shops you allow in Philly is
22 our Black politicians who see our
23 lives as expendable teenagers to
24 adults vaping and smoking weed

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 every day. They don't care about
3 the air quality. It's a shame that
4 the most interesting subject on
5 this agenda today is this Trash
6 Act.

7 When 52 Philly schools
8 have inadequate air-conditioning
9 and asbestos problems and we have
10 to rely on the football player to
11 fix the problem, this is a waste of
12 time. We should have been talking
13 about Larry Krasner giving fake,
14 false statements and obstructing
15 justice, and why 57% of violent
16 crimes were withdrawn or dismissed.
17 Councilwoman Gauthier calls this
18 environmental racism.

19 Formerly Covanta now
20 report was cited there in the 1990s
21 because the land has been
22 industrial for generations
23 shipyards, steel mills and
24 factories. Poor neighborhoods of

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 any race get these facilities
3 because land is cheap and they only
4 have money or the political
5 connections to stop them. Thank
6 you for your attention to this
7 matter.

8 (Applause.)

9 MR. BLATSTEIN: Hello.

10 My name is Jeremy Blatstein.
11 Welcome back, City Council.
12 Philadelphia had quite a summer;
13 the World Cup, America's 250th and
14 the MLB All Star Game. But some
15 problems at City Hall didn't take
16 the summer off. For months, I
17 talked about 30 Turn the Key homes
18 in the 7th District. The Land Bank
19 approved them. Councilmember
20 Lozada opposed the project. The
21 developer pulled out and instead of
22 30 new homeowners, we still have
23 vacant land. Congratulations.

24 And speaking of the Land

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Bank, unauthorized squatting on
3 vacant land creates liability for
4 the City of Philadelphia. Don't
5 put that on the Land Bank.

6 Meanwhile, sheriff sales are under
7 court supervision and a federal
8 judge referred evidence involving
9 DA Krasner's office to federal
10 prosecutors. Where was City
11 Council? Crickets.

12 And we're talking about
13 SEPTA. Ride the ride. Fund SEPTA.
14 Congratulations. I'm glad to see
15 some members of City Council riding
16 SEPTA. Councilmember Bass said she
17 hadn't ridden since high school.
18 Hopefully it won't be another 40
19 years before Councilwoman Bass
20 rides SEPTA again. Ride the ride.
21 Fund SEPTA. Thank you.

22 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

23 Thank you for your testimony. But
24 correction, that's inaccurate.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Thank you.

3 THE CLERK: Will

4 Jannette Diaz, Maria Gilbert Rojas,

5 Rachael Garnick, Kimberly Hughes,

6 Madison Nardy and Lynn Landes,

7 please make your way to the podium.

8 (Witnesses approached

9 podium.)

10 MR. JENKINS: Madam

11 Chair, members and guests, David

12 Alexander Jenkins and I rise for

13 Resolution 250768. Madam Jamie

14 Gauthier, I am moved by you, by

15 your profound dedication and

16 commitment to the health and

17 welfare of humans. First, refusing

18 to bow before the throne of

19 corporate greed, political pressure

20 or self-enrichment that is evident

21 in the resolution before us today.

22 Confreres, take note.

23 When others chose to pass off the

24 indignity of their toxic refuse to

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 become the burden of one's
3 neighbors, say in Chester, a burden
4 that has plagued not only they, but
5 we, ourselves, as severe, localized
6 air pollution and childhood asthma,
7 it was Jamie who called us out for
8 knowingly aiding in the suffocation
9 of our brethren, and cavalierly in
10 so doing, creating downstream
11 effects for ourselves.

12 Incinerating discarded
13 matter is unlike many other
14 trifles, no doubt, to come before
15 this body, this next section, an
16 important one, as it is about our
17 very breath. While I cannot fathom
18 why any administration,
19 particularly one centered on clean,
20 green or energy-efficient
21 solutions, would walk back its
22 promise to end such a profoundly
23 harmful practice, I take solace in
24 the knowledge that this body today

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 will be moved by you. Moved to
3 choose humanity over corporate
4 profit, choose the preservation of
5 life over the politics of the day.

6 Councilmembers, I urge
7 the passage of this bill, but look
8 forward to the movement its passage
9 will inspire throughout this city,
10 the Commonwealth, the nation and
11 the world. May we today be on the
12 rails, be moved by you.

13 MS. DIAZ: Good morning.
14 Jannette Diaz, President and CEO of
15 Congresso. This morning I'm
16 speaking on National Literacy
17 Month. Reading is more than an
18 academic skill. It is a pathway to
19 opportunity, confidence, economic
20 mobility and lifelong learning.
21 When a child learns to read, that
22 child gains the ability to
23 understand the world, advocate for
24 themselves and imagine new

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 possibilities for their future.

3 At Congresso, literacy
4 is especially important because of
5 the communities we serve. Many of
6 our children are growing up in
7 bilingual and bicultural
8 households, navigating multiple
9 languages, cultures and experiences
10 every day. That diversity is a
11 tremendous strength.

12 Bilingualism expands
13 opportunities, strengthens
14 connections to family and culture,
15 and enriches our city. Too often
16 these challenges are misunderstood
17 as deficits. In reality, they
18 represent opportunities for us to
19 provide more intentional support.
20 Literacy is one of the strongest
21 predictors of long-term success.
22 Research shows that children are
23 not reading proficiently by the end
24 of 3rd grade, face significantly

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 greater risk of falling behind
3 academically and not graduating on
4 time. That is why intervention
5 matters so much. Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 MS. GILBERT: Thank you
8 for having me here. My name is
9 Marie Gilbert. I'm retired staff
10 from the very first Natural History
11 Museum of these United States, the
12 Academy of Natural Sciences. We
13 need this city to zone the Academy
14 and protect it from being torn
15 down. We need the Academy to
16 remain open because it is an
17 important part of not only
18 Philadelphia's history.

19 The United States
20 history, but the history of the
21 world we hold. We hold the
22 specimens of the Lewis and Clark
23 Expedition. We hold the fossils of
24 the very first dinosaur found in

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 these countries. Please save the
3 Academy. Audit Drexel. Something
4 stinky is going on.

5 MS. ROJAS: Good
6 morning, members of City Council.
7 I'm Kate Rojas, Northeast
8 Philadelphia resident of
9 Wissinoming in the 6th Council
10 District, speaking today in support
11 of the Stop Trashing Our Air Act.
12 I used to teach as a school
13 librarian to kids in Delaware
14 County, and I became an
15 environmental activist for their
16 sake to use whatever power I could
17 as a citizen to help ensure a
18 future where they could grow up
19 healthy and pursue their dreams to
20 their full potential.

21 I thought of my students
22 last May, when I traveled to
23 Chester and participated in an
24 Environmental Justice Day caravan.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 We walked a long way from City Hall
3 to the entrance of the Free World
4 Incinerator, and we stood in the
5 middle of a neighborhood.

6 Community members shared stories
7 about their loved ones who
8 developed conditions like asthma or
9 cancer because of the years of
10 exposure to unhealthy, toxic air.
11 Many died young. Their families
12 are still grieving.

13 We need to do better
14 right now for our children and
15 prioritize health over big
16 corporations profiting.
17 Philadelphia must stop sending our
18 trash to Chester and invest in
19 alternatives like composting
20 immediately. I urge Councilmembers
21 to reject any plans that burn trash
22 and to vote no on incinerator
23 contracts.

24 MS. GARNICK: Okay.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Good morning. My name is Rachael
3 Garnick and I am the Director of
4 the Pennsylvania Literacy
5 Coalition. I am here today to
6 support Councilmember Lozada's
7 resolution recognizing September as
8 National Literacy Month. The
9 resolution is a very important
10 celebration of Philadelphia's
11 commitment to literacy. But the
12 numbers also remind us why that
13 commitment must extend beyond just
14 September. According to the
15 Nation's Report Card, just 17%,
16 that is, 8 in 10 are not reading or
17 reaching this critical benchmark.

18 Fourth Grade is a
19 critical turning point, where
20 students go from reading, learning
21 to read, to reading in order to
22 learn. When children struggle with
23 reading, the consequences follow
24 them throughout their education and

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 into adulthood. We have taken such
3 important steps in recent years to
4 strengthen reading instruction, and
5 now we need to make sure that
6 progress reaches every single
7 child. So, yes, let's recognize
8 September as National Literacy
9 Month. But let this resolution not
10 just be a celebration of literacy,
11 but a call to action. Thank you.

12 (Applause.)

13 THE CLERK: Will Julia
14 Cadwallender, Lisa Hastings, Rob
15 Kutzik, Daniel Solomon, Eireann
16 Young, Rhoneesha Howerton, Darryl
17 Bellamy, Clayton Adams and Patricia
18 Eakin, please make your way to the
19 podium.

20 (Witnesses approached
21 podium.)

22 MS. DIXON HUGHES:
23 Members of Council, Councilman
24 Jones, Council President Johnson,

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 my name is Kimberly Dixon Hughes.

3 I'm speaking to the resolution

4 calling for a hearing on the

5 Academy of Natural Sciences Museum

6 closure. I care about this issue

7 for three reasons. I am an

8 educator of 18 years. Public

9 access is a public good.

10 The essential work of

11 our cities is to the generations of

12 first field trips, first spark of

13 the curious and creative mind. As

14 a resident and a Democratic

15 Committee person for Ward 38,

16 District 11, the Academy has about

17 200 years of shared values. The

18 arts and sciences must remain

19 standing institutions of this city.

20 And as a mother, in the

21 first week of this child's birth,

22 he took her two sisters to the

23 Academy of Natural Sciences to dig

24 with the dinos. That's where they

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 wanted to go. And then at four
3 weeks postpartum, I went there with
4 her because I can't imagine a
5 lifetime without the Academy of
6 Natural Sciences for my daughters.
7 So these institutions are at the
8 heart of who we are and is on all
9 of us to protect them. We can save
10 the museum. We owe it to our past,
11 present, and future to not only
12 pass this resolution, but to show
13 up for Philadelphia and the dinos.

14 (Applause.)

15 MS. NARDY: Hi. My name
16 is Madison Nardy. I am the
17 Executive Director of Northeast --
18 of 215 People's Alliance. We
19 organize working-class communities
20 across Northeast Philly to build
21 political power. And I am here
22 today standing with our members to
23 demand that City Council vote no to
24 any incinerator contract.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 People in Chester are
3 dying. People in Chester are dying
4 and there is blood on our hands,
5 and we have a responsibility to
6 stop it. We need long-term
7 solutions for zero waste and I
8 really applaud Councilmember Ahmad
9 and Councilmember Squilla. It is a
10 step in the right direction, but
11 incineration needs to end today.
12 And if we want to call this city
13 the cleanest, greenest city in the
14 world, we need to stop burning
15 trash, the region's largest
16 polluter.

17 And also, this fight
18 reflects a larger pattern. City
19 leadership continues to prioritize
20 corporate interests over
21 communities like us, communities of
22 working-class people. And we need
23 to vote no to any incinerator
24 contract and stop burning trash

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 today. Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 MS. LANDES: I agree
5 with her. I'm Lynn Landes,
6 Philly's Republican Network, and
7 you can go to zerowasteamerica.org
8 for more information. We're
9 opposed to Bill 250807, because
10 Center City District and other
11 business improvement districts are
12 engaged in taxation without
13 representation, and that they are
14 allowed to tax property owners
15 without any requirement to hold
16 public meetings or accept public
17 comment.

18 This is an unfortunate
19 extension of City Council and city
20 departments' own censorship policy
21 of restricting public comments to
22 agenda items only. In addition,
23 these districts promise to make our
24 neighborhoods safer. Yet Center

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 City District allows, if not
3 enables, the mentally ill, drug-
4 addicted and others to live on our
5 streets and sidewalks night and
6 day. Instead, these clearly
7 disabled people should be placed in
8 secure facilities where they can
9 get the proper care they are
10 entitled to under the Americans
11 with Disabilities Act and our
12 public safety laws. That is the
13 responsibility of city government
14 to whom we pay taxes. Center City
15 District should not be able to tax
16 anyone ever. Thank you.

17 (Applause.)

18 MS. CADWALLENDER: Good
19 morning. My name is Julia
20 Cadwallender. I'm the Managing
21 Director of Read by 4th,
22 Philadelphia's Early Literacy
23 Movement, convened and managed by
24 the Free Library of Philadelphia

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Foundation. Thank you,
3 Councilmember Lozada, for
4 recognizing National Literacy Month
5 and including the work of Read by
6 4th's partners in your resolution.

7 There's a story that I'm
8 sure you're all seeing, that
9 reading is disappearing, that
10 children would rather scroll on
11 their phones. Adults are reading
12 fewer books. Our attention spans
13 are fried. AI is coming for our
14 writing. Some have even argued
15 that we've entered a post-literate
16 society. There's a kernel of truth
17 here.

18 Philadelphia's literacy
19 crisis is real. Too many of our
20 children are not reading at grade
21 level, and over half of the adults
22 in our city are functionally
23 illiterate. We have work to do.
24 But there's another story being

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 written in Philadelphia and it
3 deserves our attention too. It's
4 families gathering around the
5 Philly ABCs. It's over 1000
6 reading captains sharing literacy
7 tips, neighborhood by neighborhood.
8 It's teachers embracing the science
9 of reading. It's the oldest
10 library system in our nation,
11 serving some of the freshest
12 programming, staffed by some of the
13 most amazing librarians and library
14 staff in the world.

15 Literacy is not just a
16 skill that a child learns, it's a
17 choice that a city makes. So
18 Philadelphia chooses literacy and
19 we must keep choosing it not just
20 during National Literacy Month but
21 every day. Because the ability to
22 read gives a child so much more
23 than school success. It gives them
24 the power to discover something new

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 about the world and about
3 themselves to be civically engaged.
4 Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 MS. HASTINGS: My name
7 is Lisa Hastings, and I'm here to
8 ask you, on behalf of
9 Philadelphia's public health and
10 air quality, to disapprove the
11 proposed contract with ReWorld to
12 continue incinerating trash for the
13 next four to seven years. There
14 are better ways. Reducing total
15 waste is a shared goal. However,
16 incineration is not needed to
17 reduce waste. It is a method to
18 produce robbing public health
19 problems and it needs to end now.

20 (Applause.)

21 MR. KUTZIK: My name is
22 Rob Kutzik. I'm a longtime
23 nonprofit professional, been in
24 five nonprofits, executive

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 director, fundraiser, etc., so I
3 know the kind of shenanigans that
4 happen in nonprofits. There seems
5 to be some emotion about the
6 Academy of Natural Sciences.

7 Well, wait a second.

8 Let's be scientific. I have a
9 scientific hypothesis based on some
10 evidence. That hypothesis is that
11 Drexel University did not take into
12 account the best interests of the
13 City of Philadelphia, its citizens,
14 its tourism, its arts and culture,
15 and especially its school children.
16 Instead, it took into account what
17 was in the best interest of Drexel
18 University specifically.

19 Thank you, Councilman
20 Young. What you need to look into
21 is where was the fundraising
22 campaign, where was the call to
23 action, where was the capital
24 campaign. They had reduced

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 attendance and why did they close
3 down to make attendance only one
4 day a week? There's a lot of very
5 interesting things. I'm not saying
6 it was illegal. I'm saying that it
7 was not their priority. It needs
8 to be your priority to make sure it
9 stays open.

10 (Applause.)

11 MR. SOLOMON: My name is
12 Dan Solomon. I'm a Northwest
13 Philly dad here in support of the
14 resolution by Councilmembers Ahmad
15 and Young for a hearing on the
16 closure of the National Academy of
17 the Academy of Natural Sciences.
18 Sorry, I'm not good at public
19 speaking.

20 I was talking to my
21 daughter after the news came out.
22 She told me how it was the -- that
23 was the first place where she first
24 started to, in her words, idolize

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 science, where she first got a
3 sense of the world as a deeper and
4 older and grander place than just
5 us humans. Personally, and don't
6 tell my wife this, this was the
7 place where I first lost her for
8 like a minute. I turned away. She
9 was a toddler, wasn't sure how
10 quick she went. She disappeared,
11 found her, thank goodness. But now
12 we're going to lose the Academy,
13 which is just irreplaceable. And
14 something needs to be done. Is my
15 time up? Okay.

16 (Applause.)

17 MS. HOWERTON: Hi. My
18 name is Rhoneesha Howerton. I
19 would first like to thank the
20 office of Cindy Bass, 8th District.
21 I stand here today in support of
22 the street naming for my
23 grandfather, retired Police Officer
24 Melvin Kilgore in the Logan

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 community. My grandfather served
3 the PAL Center for more than two
4 generations.

5 So not only did he serve
6 my father's generation, but also me
7 and my childhood friends as well.
8 My grandfather served with love.
9 He was an honorable man. He was a
10 father to the fatherless. So many
11 in our community were fatherless
12 and my grandfather stood in place.
13 My grandfather loved all the
14 children in our community. My
15 greatest flex is my grandfather.
16 He is 90 years old, mentally and
17 physically still able, standing
18 strong without a cane.

19 And a lot of the
20 children in the community dedicate
21 their success, dedicate what
22 they've become and the love and
23 support for my grandfather to the
24 Black strong men that they became

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 and are honorable Black women. So
3 please help us honor the naming of
4 the street, 11th and Rockland in
5 honor of my grandfather, Melvin
6 Kilgore. Thank you.

7 (Applause.)

8 MR. CHISHOLM: Good
9 morning. My name is Attorney
10 Donald Chisholm and I'm here on
11 behalf of Officer Melvin Kilgore
12 and what he did for me in my life.
13 See, Logan is a place that's a
14 little north of North Philly and a
15 little south of Uptown. You don't
16 understand unless you're from
17 Philadelphia.

18 Now, I'll give you a
19 little bit about Melvin Kilgore.
20 He's 6'7" and a police officer that
21 stood in the gym with us every day.
22 We sat outside on the steps until
23 the gym opened at 6:00, and that
24 van pulled up and we went in there

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 and we played with this officer
3 that's about to follow me. We've
4 had many wars over the years in the
5 last 40-plus years. So I'm here,
6 standing here for a guy that was a
7 part of the solution and didn't
8 complain about the problem. Thank
9 you.

10 (Applause.)

11 THE CLERK: Will Nico
12 Meyering, Elaine Fultz, Tim
13 Bennett, Jerry Henderson, Michael
14 Heaney, Abigail Hoffer, Alex Palma
15 and Lauren Alden, please make your
16 way to the podium.

17 (Witnesses approached
18 podium.)

19 OFFICER GRAVES: How are
20 you doing. My name is Officer
21 Brian Graves, Sr. I'm here to talk
22 about Officer Kilgore. I'm a PAL's
23 kid. I've been in the PAL system
24 since I was 8 years old. I'm 57

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 years old. Officer Kilgore wasn't
3 a police officer. He was a father
4 to us. Without that PAL Center, I
5 probably would not be standing here
6 with you all. That PAL Center was
7 like a safe haven.

8 Everybody in Logan knows
9 if you go into that PAL Center,
10 nobody messed with Kilgore kids.
11 That's what we call -- it's about
12 600 of us. We call it Kilgore
13 kids. Not the PAL kids. It was a
14 safe haven. I had 31 years on this
15 job. Without him, without the
16 family, we probably wouldn't be
17 here. We're police officers.
18 We're firefighters. We're lawyers.
19 We're teachers. We're
20 professional. And he was a major
21 part in that. So I'm here on
22 behalf of Logan kids, about a
23 thousand of us.

24 He definitely deserves

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 to have that street named after
3 him. He's 90 years old. We want
4 him to be here to show how much we
5 care for him. It's emotional
6 because without him, a lot of kids
7 wouldn't have made it out of Logan.
8 The sacrifice that he did and me
9 being a police officer, now that I
10 know all the hours that he spent
11 with us going to basketball
12 tournaments, dropping us home at
13 11:00, 11:30 at night, that was on
14 his time. He was off the clock.

15 I know now because hours
16 that we worked, he didn't have to
17 be there. That shows that he cared
18 about us and we want to give back
19 as the Logan kids. I'm
20 representing the females, the
21 males, everyone in Logan. He
22 deserved that. We want to be here
23 for him. He's 90 years old. We
24 don't know how much longer we have

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 for him to be here. We want to
3 show him as the Logan kids, Kilgore
4 kids, that we love him, that we
5 appreciate him, that we would not
6 be here without him. Thank you.

7 (Applause.)

8 THE CLERK: Correction,
9 it's not Sherry. It's Shari
10 Hirsch. Thank you.

11 MS. EAKIN: I don't know
12 if it's morning or afternoon. I'll
13 say good morning, everybody. My
14 name is Patty Eakin. And thank
15 you, Council, for allowing us to be
16 here to speak. I'm a member of 215
17 People's Alliance and I live in the
18 Lawncrest section of Philadelphia.
19 I'm a retired registered nurse from
20 Temple.

21 I'm here to speak in
22 opposition to any contract that
23 involves any waste contract that
24 involves incineration.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Incineration is deadly. It spews
3 toxins out everywhere. In Chester,
4 1 in 4 children has asthma, and
5 that's five times the national
6 average. As a nurse, I watched
7 children struggle to breathe and it
8 is heartbreaking.

9 But I would like to
10 spend a minute on one particularly
11 egregious situation, which is the
12 effects on pregnant women and
13 babies. It's a national disgrace
14 that Black mothers have far worse
15 outcomes and far worse care than
16 White women. The infant mortality
17 in Chester is double the rate of
18 the rest of Pennsylvania, in some
19 part, in probably large part,
20 because of ReWorld.

21 Your choices here,
22 Council, are moral as well as
23 fiscal. And I say if you feel
24 conflicted, then please spend a

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 second to think of one of those
3 babies. Because infant mortality
4 is a baby who has been born and is
5 alive and doesn't make it to their
6 first year. Chester people are
7 sick of this. They're sick of
8 being statistics. They've asked
9 you to stop and I ask you to.

10 Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 MR. MEYERING: Hi. My
13 name is Nico Meyering. I'm the
14 Board President of Disability Pride
15 Pennsylvania and the Chair of the
16 Mayor's Disability Commission.
17 Thank you, Councilmember Landau,
18 for introducing the Voter
19 Disability Voter Week registration
20 resolution. 274,000 Philadelphians
21 have a disability.

22 Nationally, we are the
23 largest minority voting bloc in the
24 country. And yet in this May's

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 primary, 28 of our 66 wards had
3 zero polling places that met the
4 city's highest accessibility
5 standards. Too many of our polling
6 sites are designed like the
7 Batcave, where you need a secret
8 entrance, your own equipment and
9 help from the Justice League just
10 to get inside.

11 This resolution says
12 that's not good enough and we have
13 the opportunity to back it with
14 action on October 6th at the Tech
15 Community Space from 5:30 to 7:00.
16 You can join us for an accessible
17 voting workshop along with the
18 three City Commissioners.
19 Accessible voting is a right.
20 Let's work together and make today
21 a great day for accessibility.
22 Thank you all.

23 (Applause.)

24 THE CLERK: Before we

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 hear -- thank you for your
3 testimony. Before we hear from our
4 next speaker, Council will be at
5 ease.

6 (Council at ease.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: And -- Council will be at
9 ease.

10 (Council at ease.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: I'm going to ask for a
13 brief recess. I'm going to ask for
14 everyone at this particular moment
15 in time -- one second.

16 We're going to evacuate
17 the building at this moment. You
18 have to take the stairs. No
19 elevators will be working at this
20 moment.

21 (Afternoon recess.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: I want to thank the Civil
24 Service Department of the

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Philadelphia Police Department,
3 Civil Service Unit of the
4 Philadelphia Police Department.

5 And I want to thank members and
6 officers of our Sheriff's
7 Department just for taking the time
8 and doing their due diligence.

9 Better safe than sorry. So we
10 thank you for being on top of it
11 and we thank you for having your
12 eyes wide open.

13 We will resume public
14 comment. Chair recognizes
15 Councilmember Brian O'Neill.

16 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL:

17 Thank you, Mr. President.

18 I have a very important
19 meeting in my district that I was
20 hoping to leave a little earlier
21 for. And I'd like to be recorded
22 excused for the rest of the session
23 and recorded as aye on all bills
24 and resolutions.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Leave is granted, sir.

4 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL:

5 Okay. Thank you.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

7 JOHNSON: You're welcome.

8 Council resume. Elaine
9 Fultz, please come forward.

10 THE CLERK: Elaine
11 Fultz, Tim Bennett, Shari Hirsch,
12 Michael Heaney, Abigail Hoffer,
13 Alex Palma, Lauren Alden, would you
14 please make your way to the podium.

15 (Witnesses approached
16 podium.)

17 MS. ALDEN: Good
18 afternoon. My name is Lauren Alden
19 and I'm with Liberty Resources.
20 We're the Philadelphia Center for
21 Independent Living for people with
22 disabilities. First, I want to
23 thank Councilmember Rue Landau for
24 introducing the resolution

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 recognizing Voter Registration Week
3 for highlighting the importance of
4 making sure every Philadelphian has
5 the opportunity to participate in
6 our democracy.

7 At Liberty, we're a
8 disability-led org that works every
9 day to support people with
10 disabilities to live independently
11 in the community. We provide
12 advocacy, independent living
13 skills, peer support, housing
14 assistance. But most of all, we
15 provide nursing home transition
16 where we help free our people with
17 disabilities from nursing homes and
18 other institutions so they can
19 return to their homes.

20 And when we talk about
21 voting, we need to remember the
22 size and power of the disability
23 community. City data shows that
24 roughly 17% of Philadelphia

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 residents have a disability, more
3 than a quarter million
4 Philadelphians. By recent
5 estimates, that's a major voting
6 bloc. I'd be remiss if I stood
7 here without talking about civic
8 participation and mentioning what
9 is happening to disabled people
10 outside the voting booth. At a
11 time when people with disabilities
12 are fighting for their right to
13 live in the community and health
14 care and basic supports, a company
15 contracted with the city recently
16 sent an incredibly ableist
17 communication regarding disability
18 access at Philadelphia's Christmas
19 Village. People with disabilities
20 should not have to fight to
21 participate in public events. My
22 time is up. But thank you,
23 Councilwoman Lan --

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 JOHNSON: Go ahead and finish.

3 MS. ALDEN: Oh. Thank
4 you. At a time when people with
5 disabilities are fighting for their
6 right to live in the community for
7 health care, food, housing and
8 basic supports, a company
9 contracted with the city recently
10 sent an incredibly ableist
11 communication regarding disability
12 access at Philadelphia's Christmas
13 Village.

14 People with disabilities
15 should not have to fight to
16 participate in a public event in
17 their own city and they certainly
18 should not be treated as the
19 problem when they raise
20 accessibility concerns. Someone
21 within the city needs to address
22 this please. Thank you again to
23 Councilmember Landau for
24 recognizing Voter Registration Week

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 and the importance of civic
3 participation.

4 (Applause.)

5 THE CLERK: Will Aaron,
6 Anderson, Jacob Erfer, Katherine
7 Houde, Mandy Katz, Marisa Diaz,
8 Christy Schneider and Zemoria
9 Brandon, please make your way to
10 the podium.

11 (Witnesses approached
12 podium.)

13 MS. HOUDE: Good
14 afternoon. My name is Katherine
15 Houde. I wanted to say thank you
16 to Councilmembers Nina Ahmad and
17 Jeffrey Young for introducing the
18 resolution to hold hearings on the
19 proposed closing of the Academy of
20 Natural Sciences. I would like to
21 use my time today to elevate the
22 voice of Meredith Elizalde, the
23 mother of Nick Elizalde, who was
24 murdered in Philadelphia on

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 September 27, 2022 at age 14.

3 His mother gave a
4 statement last week covered by
5 NBC10 and available on YouTube.
6 Everyone should look at it. In it,
7 she talks about the importance of
8 violence, prevention over
9 punishment and the role of cultural
10 institutions in inspiring children
11 and helping them engage with and
12 understand the world in real
13 non-virtual ways.

14 She asks rightly, why we
15 are not investing in these
16 institutions, and she specifically
17 calls out the planned closure of
18 the Academy of Natural Sciences, a
19 place beloved by her son Nick, who
20 celebrated his 9th birthday there.
21 I am in awe of her activism and
22 want to thank her publicly and urge
23 Council, the Mayor, our elected
24 representatives at the state level

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 and my fellow Philadelphians to
3 heed her call. Other states and
4 cities fund their cultural
5 institutions. Why don't we.

6 (Applause.)

7 MS. DIAZ: Good
8 afternoon, Council President and
9 members of Council. My name is
10 Marisa Diaz and I was born and
11 raised in Philadelphia. I'm the
12 founder of EV Fast, a Philadelphia-
13 based company that installs and
14 operates electric vehicle chargers.
15 I'm here in support of Councilwoman
16 Nina Ahmad's resolution recognizing
17 September as National Drive
18 Electric Month.

19 The resolution notes
20 that gas-powered cars produce 17%
21 of Philadelphia's greenhouse gas
22 emissions and up to 60% of our air
23 pollution. That matters because
24 this spring, the American Lung

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Association gave our region failing
3 grades for ozone and particle
4 pollution, and both are linked to
5 asthma and heart disease, with
6 children most affected.

7 A study published last
8 month found that residents living
9 along I-95 and near industrial
10 zones have higher asthma rates than
11 the rest of the region. Tailpipe
12 emissions are not an abstraction in
13 Kensington, Hunting Park or Port
14 Richmond. So when we talk about
15 electric vehicles, we're also
16 talking about health of our
17 neighbors, not just the climate.

18 Philadelphia is already
19 building through that for this.
20 Through charge (inaudible), more
21 than 800 public charging stations
22 are planned for our sidewalks and
23 parking garages across the city
24 over the next decade. But chargers

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 alone will not get people into
3 electric vehicles. Community
4 engagement is paramount to the
5 success of this resolution.

6 The hesitation I hear
7 from Philadelphians come down to
8 two fears of range anxiety, will I
9 get stranded and cost, now that
10 there are no rebates no longer
11 available, can I afford one. The
12 truth is that hundreds of thousands
13 of low mileage EVs are coming off
14 lease this year, and used EV prices
15 are now roughly on par with used
16 gas cars. There's an opportunity
17 here to build on this resolution.

18 Imagine an actual drive
19 electric celebration day with
20 electric vehicles on display, local
21 vendors and experts who can answer
22 questions face-to-face backed with
23 neighborhood town halls and clear
24 city resources, where residents can

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 get honest answers about range
3 charging and what EV really costs
4 to buy and to run. Nobody switches
5 to something they don't understand.
6 Chargers are coming through
7 education and support this
8 resolution can help Philadelphians
9 to feel more secure about the
10 switch. Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 THE CLERK: Will Don
13 Chisholm, II, Esq., Corey Miller,
14 Suzanne Urban Ryan, James
15 Dougherty, Ogbonna Paul Hagins,
16 Jigar Mehta, Lea Yeager, Laura
17 Hanley, Leanne Moss, Max Scott and
18 Anna Forrester, please make your
19 way to the podium.

20 (Witnesses approached
21 podium.)

22 MS. BRANDON: Greetings,
23 Council President Kenyatta Johnson
24 and members of the Philadelphia

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 City Council. My name is Zemoria
3 Brandon and I serve as the
4 Administrator Social Worker for the
5 Philadelphia Delaware Valley
6 Chapter of the Sickle Cell Disease
7 Association of America.

8 Councilmember Ahmad, I
9 am deeply grateful to you for
10 introducing this resolution
11 recognizing September as Sickle
12 Cell Awareness Month in the city of
13 Philadelphia. We also want to
14 acknowledge that this resolution is
15 in memory of Dr. Roy Gay, one of
16 the premier physicians in
17 Philadelphia, treating adults
18 living with sickle cell disease.
19 We thank you for helping to bring
20 greater visibility to sickle cell
21 disease and the individuals and
22 families whose lives are touched by
23 it.

24 For me, this work is

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 personal and professional. You
3 see, my husband, late husband of 25
4 years, Rev. Walter E. Brandon,
5 lived with sickle cell disease. I
6 witnessed his pain and struggles
7 but also witnessed his strength,
8 faith, compassion and lifelong
9 commitment to serving others.
10 Walter believed that every person
11 living with sickle cell disease
12 deserved to be seen, heard,
13 respected and treated with dignity.

14 Since his passing, I
15 have continued this work in his
16 spirit, walking alongside sickle
17 cell warriors and their families
18 and helping to ensure that they
19 receive the recognition and support
20 they deserve. His legacy continues
21 through our organization's advocacy
22 and this year's 28th Annual Walter
23 E. Brandon Sickle Cell 5K Walk and
24 Run on September the 26th. This

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 recognition sends a meaningful
3 message for families throughout
4 Philadelphia that you are not
5 forgotten. Your lives do matter
6 and you do not walk this journey
7 alone. May this moment lead to
8 greater understanding,
9 compassionate and equitable health
10 care, increased blood donations,
11 continued research and stronger
12 support for everyone living with
13 sickle cell disease.

14 We say thank you,
15 Councilmember Ahmad, for your
16 leadership, your commitment to
17 raising awareness, and for helping
18 to shine a light on sickle cell
19 disease. Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 MR. MILLER: Hi. My
22 name is Corey Miller. I come
23 before you to speak on behalf of
24 the Academy of Natural Sciences.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Let me begin by thanking
3 Councilpersons Ahmad, Young, Landau
4 and Phillips for lifting their
5 voices to draw attention to this
6 shameful ploy -- I'm trying not to
7 curse, I apologize, shameful ploy
8 by Drexel University to shutter a
9 200-year-old institution.

10 I do want to correct the
11 record that has sold the narrative
12 that this is inevitable. It is
13 not. We all found out, with less
14 than a month's notice, that Drexel
15 had a half-baked plan to close down
16 the museum and then move out all of
17 the specimens costing millions of
18 dollars. If we care about science,
19 if we care about a basic
20 understanding of the world around
21 us, we cannot let this institution
22 fail. At a time when people around
23 us lack a fundamental understanding
24 of basic science, we cannot let

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 this institution fail. If we are
3 going to call this a world-class
4 city, a City of Firsts, we cannot
5 let the first natural history
6 museum in this hemisphere fail. We
7 cannot let this institution fail,
8 not for a lack of vision, not for a
9 lack of inspiration, not for a lack
10 of will.

11 I want every
12 Councilperson here to think about
13 how they got here, where they came
14 from. Somewhere along the line,
15 they felt that spark that charged
16 you to get involved and to do
17 something. That institution is the
18 spark for millions of children to
19 study science in a way that makes
20 us all healthier, stronger, and at
21 a basic level, better. The city
22 did not cause this failure. I
23 don't hold all of you responsible
24 for this. The Commonwealth did not

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 cause this failure. Drexel did.

3 Drexel and the complicit
4 Board of the Academy have failed
5 this city, the Commonwealth, the
6 scientific community and society in
7 general. We need to find a way to
8 bring people together who can be
9 responsible partners, to keep the
10 Academy open to the public so that
11 future scientists can visit it and
12 feel that spark again. If this
13 building closes as a result of
14 inaction or complacency, that is a
15 moral failure of our city and of
16 our community. Thank you.

17 (Applause.)

18 MS. RYAN: Good
19 afternoon. My name is Suzanne Ryan
20 and I am a resident of
21 Philadelphia. I am here today in
22 support of Committee woman Landau
23 and Dr. Ahmad's resolutions
24 regarding the closing of the

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Academy of Natural Sciences. With
3 the closing of the doors to the
4 public will come the closing of
5 many children and adults' minds.
6 Please let that sink in. That
7 statement is not hyperbole. That
8 is reality.

9 In this era where
10 education in all curricular areas
11 has come under attack, where being
12 smart is insulted, where science
13 has been damaged through the denial
14 and discarding of basic scientific
15 tenets, where scientific research
16 has been questioned and called
17 fraudulent, where funding for
18 education has been slashed by our
19 federal government, we require now
20 more than ever the need to hold
21 fast to our museums that support
22 learning and studying about the
23 natural world.

24 We need natural world

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 study to enlighten minds and to
3 fight the greatest threat to our
4 existence climate change. To plan
5 for our future, we need to
6 understand the past. The Academy
7 provides such a perspective. I had
8 the wonderful pleasure of taking my
9 3-year-old granddaughter to the
10 Academy of Natural Sciences in
11 early June. Her excitement grew
12 with her passage from gallery to
13 gallery.

14 She was so proud of
15 herself when she discovered her own
16 artifact. We joyfully sought
17 various animals in the dioramas.
18 We spoke to a living arachnid. She
19 fell in love with the magnitude of
20 the dinosaurs. She asked question
21 after question. As a retired
22 educator, I labeled her questions
23 as the first phase of scientific
24 inquiry. I would hope that you all

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 recognize the extreme treasure that
3 we hold here in that museum, and I
4 implore all of you to work to keep
5 it open and treasure it as much as
6 the many members who do. Thank
7 you.

8 (Applause.)

9 MR. DOUGHERTY:

10 Afternoon, Council President.

11 Afternoon, Council. The City of
12 Philadelphia -- my name is James
13 Dougherty -- President of the City
14 of Philadelphia. The City of
15 Philadelphia has history all over.
16 We celebrate the birth of the 250th
17 anniversary of America. I'm here
18 to stand on the Academy of Natural
19 Science.

20 As a kid, I went there.
21 That was the place we learned about
22 science and dinosaurs. It's
23 amazing to see how many museums we
24 have here and how much history.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 We're sitting in a building who's
3 had history of government all over
4 judges, lawyers, council, council
5 presidents, mayors, and it's in
6 Councilman Young's District. I'm
7 asking you all to please consider
8 saving the Academy of Natural
9 Science, because what can we learn
10 if there's nothing to show in the
11 history. Thank you.

12 (Applause.)

13 MR. HAGINS: Good
14 afternoon. My name is Ogbonna Paul
15 Hagins. I'm here to speak about
16 Monique Galloway, the new City
17 Solicitor and in honor of her
18 getting that position. I want to
19 remind you about 250781, and the
20 pattern of delay that's historical.
21 In the 1800s, Congress introduced
22 multiple measures to enforce the
23 13th Amendment and deliver material
24 remedies for the American Freedmen,

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 including HR 29 in 1867.

3 In 1867, there was a
4 \$300 million compensation bill that
5 was introduced for the American
6 Freedmen and it was stalled and
7 delayed, the same way this body is
8 stalling and delaying the Office of
9 Freedmen Affairs. So in regards to
10 history, you guys are acting as
11 confederates in modern time the
12 same way in 1877.

13 I implore you to bring
14 the Office of Freedmen Affairs to
15 the floor. Number one, it's an
16 equal protection issue. All other
17 groups have offices, agency within
18 this building. And the American
19 Freedmen don't have an office
20 within this building. My tax
21 dollars go to pay for their office.
22 Their tax dollars should go to pay
23 for the Office of Freedmen Affairs
24 for the American Freedmen in this

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 city. And, Council President, you
3 can bring it to the floor. You
4 have the power to do that for your
5 people.

6 Whether you believe that
7 you're an American Freedmen or not,
8 you're a lineal descendant of
9 chattel slavery. You can trace
10 your lineage to 1870. There's no
11 reason why you shouldn't want that
12 for your very own people. Ogbonna
13 Hagins. Over and out.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

15 JOHNSON: Over and out.

16 Chair recognizes
17 Councilmember Curtis Jones.

18 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank
19 you, Mr. President.

20 As you know, we
21 introduced a resolution to examine
22 this, had hearings on it. I want
23 you to know that during this
24 session, I'd like to come to some

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 conclusion, resolution or
3 compromise that addresses these
4 questions, because those ill
5 effects of slavery follow us today
6 in every aspect of society in
7 Philadelphia. So I just want him
8 to know that we have not forgotten
9 this important question. Thank
10 you.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: Thank you, sir.

13 Please proceed.

14 MS. FORRESTER: Good
15 afternoon. My name is Anna
16 Forrester. And as a landscape
17 architect, focused on -- oh, sorry.
18 I'm here to talk about the Academy.
19 As a landscape architect focused on
20 urban green spaces for children. I
21 was involved for a lot of years
22 with different historic
23 Philadelphia institutions. Smith
24 Memorial Playhouse and Playground.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 The Academy and Smith
3 have overlapping missions. Both
4 serve the city's families and
5 children and both provide families
6 access to the natural world. A
7 volunteer, an employee, a board
8 member, the board chair, and most
9 recently, researcher and co-author
10 of a book exploring Smith's
11 125-year-plus history has left me
12 wanting to talk for a minute about
13 Smith's recent history today,
14 because in 2001, Smith was where
15 the Academy is now.

16 It was a historic
17 institution with a high-needs
18 physical plant threatened with
19 closure, Smith closed and Smith
20 survived. And in Smith's recovery,
21 there are a couple lessons about
22 who you need at the table during a
23 fight like this. First, big
24 boosters. In Smith's case, that

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 was Jim Strazzella, a Temple law
3 professor who just loved the fact
4 of Smith's improbable existence and
5 became Smith's first board chair.

6 Second, someone who
7 understands the money for Smith,
8 that was a guy named Bob Prischak,
9 who was a loan officer at Wachovia
10 Bank. And at that point, Wachovia
11 handled the Smith Trust. Third,
12 local press. That's really paying
13 attention. And the Inquirer was
14 great back then, and they're being
15 great for the Academy now. And of
16 course, we have social media now
17 too.

18 And last but certainly
19 not least, a committed advocate in
20 City Hall, Smith had Michael
21 Nutter. The Academy has
22 Councilpeople Nina Ahmad, Jeffrey
23 Young and more. And a shout-out to
24 them all for their leadership and

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 advocacy. But we also need Mayor
3 Parker, the Mayor, who talks all
4 about being about education and
5 things. Greensmith is this
6 treasure that's tucked away in the
7 park, and one that a crazy number
8 of Philadelphians don't even know
9 exists. The Academy, though, is a
10 different beast, holding up one end
11 of museum row and known and beloved
12 by so, so many. If Mayor Parker
13 puts up a half-hearted fight, she's
14 ignoring the will of Philadelphians
15 and she does so at her own peril, I
16 think.

17 (Applause.)

18 THE CLERK: Will Kevin
19 Brown, Rhemar Pouncey, Michael
20 Stahler, Tanya Morris, Nayeli
21 Perez, Dyson Kennedy, Cyrus Patel,
22 Anthony Tidd, Anyab Love, Bigga
23 Dre, Fatima Bogan and Brian Graves,
24 please make your way to the podium.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 (Witnesses approached
3 podium.)

4 MR. SCOTT: Hello. My
5 name is Maximilian Scott. I am a
6 paleontologist and science
7 educator. I've done a lot of
8 volunteer work with the Academy of
9 Natural Sciences. Throughout my
10 own education, my mentors have
11 always repeated the most basic and
12 integral principle of any
13 geological science that the present
14 is the key to the past, that the
15 basic laws that govern nature today
16 are the same as they have been
17 throughout time.

18 But what I have learned
19 through the practice of my science
20 and the education of others, is
21 that the past is also the key to
22 the present, that the past which
23 created the present helps us
24 appreciate what we have now and how

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 we may protect our future. For two
3 centuries, the Academy has made the
4 lessons of our planet's past and
5 present accessible to every person
6 of every walk of life, through the
7 power of their educational
8 resources.

9 That museum represents
10 our shared heritage in this city,
11 country and planet and as a
12 reminder of the literal common
13 ground beneath all of our feet.
14 Today in a time where science,
15 education and our ability to
16 protect our future are under
17 attack, we condemn any attempt to
18 shut down the beacon, such as the
19 Academy that makes the lessons of
20 our natural world accessible to
21 everybody in a time when they are
22 needed the most. We ask our
23 officials to help reverse this
24 horrific closure and protect our

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 shared heritage. Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 THE CLERK: Amanda
5 Soskin and Chris Johnson, please
6 make your way to the podium.

7 (Witnesses approached
8 podium.)

9 MR. LOVE: Anyab Love.
10 And as a citizen and educator who
11 developed part of the legislative
12 framework for this resolution, I
13 want to express my deepest
14 gratitude to Philadelphia City
15 Council, Majority Whip Isaiah
16 Thomas for introducing and
17 championing this bill into the
18 entire City Council for officially
19 declaring September 23, 2026 as
20 John Coltrane Day.

21 Thank you for
22 recognizing that John Coltrane's
23 legacy is not just a chapter in
24 music history, but a living,

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 breathing part of Philadelphia's
3 cultural identity. By honoring his
4 time in Strawberry Mansion and
5 throughout Philadelphia, this city
6 ensures that future generations of
7 Philadelphians will always know
8 that a global musical revolution
9 was perfected right here in our
10 neighborhoods. This official
11 recognition is a beautiful triumph
12 for our community and for the
13 culmination of our collective
14 efforts to preserve Mr. Coltrane's
15 unmatched spiritual and artistic
16 genius. Thank you.

17 (Applause.)

18 MR. TIDD: Hi. My name
19 is Anthony Tidd. I'm here speaking
20 on behalf of Ravi Coltrane. The
21 Coltrane family, John Coltrane
22 estate, John Coltrane House and
23 Advisory Group extend our deepest
24 gratitude to the City of

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Philadelphia for this extraordinary
3 honor. We hope that September
4 23rd, John Coltrane Day, will
5 inspire people in Philadelphia and
6 around the world.

7 While serving as a
8 source of pride for the Strawberry
9 Mansion community, the City of
10 Philadelphia, and music lovers
11 everywhere, preserving John
12 Coltrane's story is essential.
13 Like so many who emerged from the
14 Great Migration, his is a
15 quintessentially American story,
16 the story of a people who, against
17 tremendous odds, preserved their
18 culture and humanity, transformed
19 their experience, and in doing so,
20 changed America and the world for
21 the better.

22 We would especially like
23 to thank Councilman Isaiah Thomas,
24 Senator Vincent Hughes,

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Dr. Anyabwile Love and John
3 Coltrane Symposium, the African
4 American Cultural Heritage Action
5 Fund, the Mellon Foundation and the
6 many others whose hard work and
7 dedication went to make this day
8 possible, wherein the future John
9 Coltranes of this great city.

10 Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

13 JOHNSON: Thank you.

14 Chair recognizes
15 Councilmember Mark Squilla.

16 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

17 Thank you, Mr. President.

18 I'd like to be excused
19 for Council business and to be
20 voted aye on all bills and
21 resolutions.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

24 Leave is granted.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Please proceed.

3 MS. SOSKIN: My name is
4 Amanda Soskin. I'm a Philadelphia
5 resident and I author the Substack
6 newsletter, Neighborhood
7 Fundamentals. I support the
8 resolution for public testimony in
9 regard to the closure of the
10 Academy of Natural Sciences. What
11 I want to iterate is that timing is
12 of the essence.

13 Once a living civic
14 institution is dismantled, staff
15 dispersed, programs stopped, school
16 relationships unwound, that
17 capacity cannot easily be rebuilt.
18 Closing the public museum first
19 makes permanent loss far more
20 likely. Philadelphia has already
21 run this experiment. The
22 Philadelphia History Museum at the
23 Atwater Kent closed in 2018 under
24 the premise of a six-month

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 temporary pause and it never
3 reopened.

4 I am asking City Council
5 to help establish a limited time
6 option to keep the Academy of
7 Natural Sciences open, while its
8 long-term future is determined. To
9 make that window meaningful,
10 Council's upcoming proposed hearing
11 must establish a factual baseline
12 by requiring Drexel and the Academy
13 to place core documents into the
14 public record.

15 The 2018 Walt Krim
16 Associates Feasibility Study and
17 the 2024 Pew-funded Business Model
18 Report, a clear breakdown showing
19 what closure saves versus what
20 carrying costs for the building,
21 collections and security continues
22 regardless, current versus post-
23 closure budgets, transition costs
24 and prior alternative models

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 evaluated and that each board
3 member describes their position and
4 their rationale and that's placed
5 on record. September 30th should
6 be a deadline to launch a
7 structured public option and not a
8 deadline to close the public
9 museum. Thank you.

10 (Applause.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: Thank you.

13 The Chair recognizes
14 Councilmember Isaiah Thomas.

15 COUNCILMAN THOMAS:

16 Thank you, Council President.

17 I would like to request
18 for leave and I would like to vote
19 aye on all bills and resolutions
20 that's coming up, but also aye on
21 all bills and resolutions that I
22 might have missed prior to this
23 moment.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 JOHNSON: Leave will be granted.

3 COUNCILMAN THOMAS:

4 Thank you, Council President.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes

7 Councilmember -- excuse me, one
8 second, sir.

9 Chair recognizes

10 Councilmember Nicolas O'Rourke.

11 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

12 Thank you, Mr. President.

13 I'd like to be excused
14 for Council business. I'd like to
15 be voted aye on all bills and
16 resolutions going forward. Thank
17 you, sir.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

19 JOHNSON: Leave will be granted.

20 Thank you very much.

21 Please proceed, sir.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:

23 Good afternoon, City Council and
24 interested personnel. I'm here on

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 behalf of the Academy of Natural
3 Sciences. Started in 1812 by a
4 group of seven scientists here
5 today. I've heard people talk
6 about important issues environment,
7 education, history. This is an
8 institution that covers all those
9 bases. It's been around and
10 educating the youth of our city.

11 Now, if you've been
12 grown up in the city, you've
13 probably been there. Your kids
14 will be there. Your grandkids will
15 be there. You can help give their
16 kids and their grandkids this same
17 opportunity. The Academy needs
18 your help. Simple as that. Thank
19 you for this time.

20 (Applause.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: Thank you, sir.

23 MS. KRISTEN: Thank you.

24 My name is Kristen and I'm speaking

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 in support of the resolution
3 calling for a City Council hearing
4 on the planned closure of the
5 Academy of Natural Sciences Public
6 Museum. The Academy is a beloved
7 public Philadelphia institution, a
8 place where generations have
9 encountered science for the first
10 time and its irreplaceable resource
11 for the children of Philadelphia,
12 many of whom don't have the
13 resources to travel to another city
14 to see science firsthand.

15 It's 200 years old and
16 we should be honored to host it in
17 our city and not just let it slip
18 away. The closure or relocation of
19 the Academy would completely change
20 the Benjamin Franklin Parkway and
21 Philadelphia's Museum district.
22 The public deserves to know whether
23 every realistic alternative has
24 been considered before such an

1 9/17/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 important institution disappears
3 from the public.

4 The abrupt announcement
5 seemed to leave many options
6 unexplored. A hearing is needed to
7 examine the decision-making
8 process, the financial facilities
9 needs, possible public-private
10 partnerships. And the role the
11 city can play in preserving the
12 Academy is a public, cultural and
13 educational asset. Please vote in
14 favor of this resolution and hold a
15 public solution-oriented hearing.
16 Philadelphia has the opportunity to
17 bring people together and find a
18 way to preserve the academy, not
19 just its specimens behind closed
20 doors, but its public mission,
21 research and ability to inspire the
22 next generation. Thank you for
23 your time.

24 (Applause.)

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 THE CLERK: Honor to the
3 President, this concludes our
4 listing of public comment for
5 today.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

7 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

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

13 The Clerk will please
14 read the title of Resolution No.
15 260614.

16 THE CLERK: A resolution
17 authorizing the Philadelphia Land
18 Bank to dispose of 4152, 4154, and
19 4220 Viola Street; 4153 and 4157
20 Leidy Ave; 1703 and 1711 North 42nd
21 Street; and 1129, 1135, and 1137
22 North 41st Street located in the
23 3rd Councilmanic District in
24 accordance with the terms of

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Chapter 16-700 of The Philadelphia
3 Code.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
6 Councilmember Jaime Gauthier for a
7 motion regarding Resolution No.
8 260614.

9 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

10 Thank you, Council President.

11 I move for the adoption
12 of the resolution.

13 (Duly seconded.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

15 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
16 properly seconded that Resolution
17 No. 260614 be adopted.

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

21 (Aye.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

24 (No response.)

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

6 Will the Clerk please
7 read the title of Resolution No.
8 260656.

9 THE CLERK: A resolution
10 also naming South Christopher
11 Columbus Boulevard from Washington
12 Avenue to Race Street as "Veteran's
13 Memorial Highway" to honor the
14 contributions of veterans to our
15 country.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes
18 Councilmember Cindy Bass for a
19 motion regarding Resolution No.
20 260656 on behalf of Councilmember
21 Mark Squilla.

22 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

23 Thank you, Mr. President.

24 On behalf of

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Councilmember Squilla, I move for
3 the adoption of the resolution.

4 (Duly seconded.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
7 properly seconded that Resolution
8 No. 260656 be adopted.

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

12 (Aye.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

15 (No response.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: The ayes have it. The
18 motion carries. The resolution is
19 adopted.

20 Will the Clerk please
21 read the title of Bill No. 260381.

22 THE CLERK: An ordinance
23 amending Title 14 of The
24 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Zoning

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 and Planning," by adding a new
3 chapter to require specific permit
4 applicants to provide notice of the
5 presence of particular murals on
6 the property to the Department of
7 Licenses and Inspections, all under
8 certain terms and conditions.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: This bill having been
11 read on two different days, the
12 question now is shall the bill be
13 passed finally.

14 Chief Clerk, please call
15 the roll.

16 THE CLERK:

17 Councilmember Phillips was aye.
18 Councilmember Gilmore Richardson
19 was aye.

20 Councilmember Gauthier.

21 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

22 Aye.

23 THE CLERK:

24 Councilmember Thomas was aye.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Councilmember Jones.

3 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

4 THE CLERK:

5 Councilmember Landau.

6 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

7 Aye.

8 THE CLERK:

9 Councilmember Lozada.

10 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

11 Aye.

12 THE CLERK:

13 Councilmember Young.

14 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Aye.

15 THE CLERK:

16 Councilmember Harrity.

17 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:

18 Aye.

19 THE CLERK:

20 Councilmember O'Rourke was aye.

21 Councilmember Driscoll.

22 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

23 Aye.

24 THE CLERK:

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Councilmember O'Neill was aye.

3 Councilmember Squilla was aye.

4 Councilmember Bass.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

6 THE CLERK:

7 Councilmember Ahmad.

8 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

9 Aye.

10 THE CLERK: And, Council
11 President Johnson.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

13 JOHNSON: Aye. Council will be at
14 ease.

15 (Council at ease.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: Ayes are 16. Nays are 0.
18 Majority of all members having
19 voted in the affirmative, the bill
20 passes.

21 Would the Clerk please
22 read the title of Bill No. 260508.

23 THE CLERK: An ordinance
24 authorizing an increase in the

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 non-electoral indebtedness of the
3 City within the Pennsylvania
4 constitutional limit; authorizing
5 the Bond Committee to sell bonds at
6 public or private negotiated sale,
7 to provide funds toward various
8 capital municipal purposes;
9 providing for appropriations to the
10 Sinking Fund Commission for the
11 payment of such bonds; and
12 authorizing agreements to provide
13 credit or payment or liquidity
14 sources for the bonds in connection
15 with issuance of the bonds, and
16 certain other actions.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: This bill having been
19 read on two different days, the
20 question now is shall the bill pass
21 finally.

22 Chief Clerk, please call
23 the roll.

24 THE CLERK:

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Councilmember Phillips.

3 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:

4 Aye.

5 THE CLERK:

6 Councilmember Gilmore Richardson
7 was aye.

8 Councilmember Gauthier.

9 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

10 Aye.

11 THE CLERK:

12 Councilmember Thomas was aye.

13 Councilmember Jones.

14 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

15 THE CLERK:

16 Councilmember Landau.

17 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

18 Aye.

19 THE CLERK:

20 Councilmember Lozada.

21 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

22 Aye.

23 THE CLERK:

24 Councilmember Young.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Aye.

3 THE CLERK:

4 Councilmember Harrity.

5 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:

6 Aye.

7 THE CLERK:

8 Councilmember O'Rourke was aye.

9 Councilmember Driscoll.

10 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

11 Aye.

12 THE CLERK:

13 Councilmember O'Neill was aye.

14 Councilmember Squilla was aye.

15 Councilmember Bass.

16 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

17 THE CLERK:

18 Councilmember Ahmad.

19 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

20 Aye.

21 THE CLERK: And, Council

22 President Johnson.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: Ayes are 16. The nays

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 are 0. Majority of all members
3 having voted in the affirmative,
4 the bill passes.

5 Will the Clerk please
6 read any additional resolutions on
7 today's Calendar.

8 THE CLERK: A privileged
9 resolution authorizing the
10 Committee on Legislative Oversight
11 and the Committee on Streets and
12 Services to hold hearings examining
13 the City of Philadelphia's "ticket-
14 to-tow" requirement under Section
15 9-605(11) of The Philadelphia Code,
16 including its effectiveness,
17 fairness, transparency,
18 enforcement, and impact on private
19 property owners, vehicle owners,
20 towing companies, and City
21 agencies. Introduced by
22 Councilmember Anthony Phillips.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Councilmember Anthony Phillips for
3 a motion.

4 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:

5 Thank you, Council President.

6 I move for the adoption
7 of the resolution.

8 (Duly seconded.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

13 All those in favor
14 signify by saying aye.

15 (Aye.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

24 THE CLERK: A privileged

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 resolution welcoming NBA Superstar
3 and Forward LeBron James, better
4 known as King James, to
5 Philadelphia as he begins his
6 tenure with the Philadelphia 76ers.
7 Introduced by Councilmember Anthony
8 Phillips on behalf of Council
9 President Johnson.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
12 Councilmember Anthony Phillips for
13 a motion.

14 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: To
15 the best player in the world and to
16 my hero LeBron James, I proudly
17 moved for the adoption of the
18 resolution.

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

24 All those in favor

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 signify by saying aye.

3 (Aye.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

10 Chief Clerk, please read
11 the title of the resolution.

12 THE CLERK: A privileged
13 resolution honoring and
14 congratulating Reverend Joshua
15 Goodin on his elevation to the
16 status of Bishop and recognizing
17 his years of ministry and
18 leadership to the South
19 Philadelphia community.

20 Introduced by Councilmember
21 Katherine Gilmore Richardson on
22 behalf of Council President
23 Johnson.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
3 Councilmember Cindy Bass to make a
4 motion on behalf of Majority Leader
5 Katherine Gilmore Richardson.

6 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

7 Thank you, Mr. President.

8 On behalf of
9 Councilmember Kathy Gilmore
10 Richardson, I move for the adoption
11 of the resolution.

12 (Duly seconded.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

17 All those in favor
18 signify by saying aye.

19 (Aye.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

21 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: The ayes have it. The

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 resolution is adopted.

3 Chief Clerk, please read
4 the title of the resolution.

5 THE CLERK: A privileged
6 resolution authorizing the
7 Committee on Legislative Oversight
8 to hold hearings on the structure
9 of the Philadelphia Law Department
10 and to consider the separation of
11 the department's functions between
12 the Administration and City
13 Council. Introduced by
14 Councilmember Isaiah Thomas.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
17 Councilmember Cindy Bass to make a
18 motion on behalf of Councilmember
19 Isaiah Thomas.

20 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

21 Thank you, Mr. President.

22 On behalf of
23 Councilmember Thomas, I move for
24 the adoption of the resolution.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 (Duly seconded.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

7 All those in favor
8 signify by saying aye.

9 (Aye.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

12 (No response.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

16 Chief Clerk, please read
17 the title of the resolution.

18 THE CLERK: A privileged
19 resolution honoring September 23rd
20 as John Coltrane Day in the City of
21 Philadelphia, on the event of John
22 Coltrane's 100th birthday,
23 celebrating his life and
24 Philadelphia's central role in

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 shaping his artistic and cultural
3 legacy. Introduced by
4 Councilmember Isaiah Thomas.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
7 Councilmember Cindy Bass to make a
8 motion on behalf of Councilmember
9 Isaiah Thomas.

10 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

11 Thank you, Mr. President.

12 On behalf of
13 Councilmember Thomas, I move for
14 the adoption of the resolution.

15 (Duly seconded.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

20 All those in favor
21 signify by saying aye.

22 (Aye.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 (No response.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

6 Chief Clerk, please read
7 the title of the resolution.

8 THE CLERK: A privileged
9 resolution honoring and
10 congratulating Dr. Alycia Marshall,
11 PhD, as the Community College of
12 Philadelphia celebrates her
13 investiture as the College's
14 seventh President. Introduced by
15 Councilmember Isaiah Thomas.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
18 Councilwoman Cindy Bass to make a
19 motion on behalf of Councilmember
20 Isaiah Thomas.

21 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

22 Thank you, Mr. President.

23 I move for the adoption
24 on behalf of Councilmember Thomas.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 (Duly seconded.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

7 All those in favor
8 signify by saying aye.

9 (Aye.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

12 (No response.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

16 Chief Clerk, please read
17 the title of the next resolution.

18 THE CLERK: A privileged
19 resolution honoring and
20 Congratulating Team Final, on the
21 occasion of winning the Amateur
22 Athletic Union (AAU) 14U and 16U
23 National Championship. Introduced
24 by Councilmember Isaiah Thomas.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
4 Councilmember Cindy Bass to make a
5 motion on behalf of Councilmember
6 Isaiah Thomas.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

8 Thank you, Mr. President.

9 On behalf of
10 Councilmember Thomas, I move for
11 the adoption.

12 (Duly seconded.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

17 All those in favor
18 signify by saying aye.

19 (Aye.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

21 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 resolution is adopted.

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

5 THE CLERK: A privileged
6 resolution authorizing the
7 Committee on Legislative Oversight
8 to hold hearings on the competitive
9 challenges created by the net
10 income portion of the Business
11 Income and Receipts Tax, its
12 history, the affordability crisis,
13 and routes to take to ensure a
14 thriving business community in
15 Philadelphia. Introduced by
16 Councilmember Isaiah Thomas.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
19 Councilmember Cindy Bass to make a
20 motion on behalf of Councilmember
21 Isaiah Thomas.

22 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

23 Thank you, Mr. President.

24 On behalf of

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Councilmember Thomas, I move for
3 the adoption of the resolution.

4 (Duly seconded.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

9 All in favor signify by
10 saying aye.

11 (Aye.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

13 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

14 (No response.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

20 THE CLERK: A privileged
21 resolution honoring and recognizing
22 Ukee Washington for nearly forty
23 years of dedicated service to CBS 3
24 (KYW-TV) and to the people of

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Philadelphia. Introduced by
3 Councilmember Curtis Jones, Jr.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
6 Councilmember Cindy Bass to make a
7 motion on behalf of -- I'm sorry.
8 Chair recognizes Councilmember
9 Curtis Jones for a motion.

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

12 I move for the adoption.

13 (Duly seconded.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

18 All those in favor
19 signify by saying aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

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

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

6 THE CLERK: A privileged
7 resolution honoring and recognizing
8 Cecily Tynan on the occasion of her
9 retirement, in celebration of more
10 than three decades of dedicated
11 service to 6abc/WPVI-TV Action News
12 and to the people of the City of
13 Philadelphia. Introduced by
14 Councilman Curtis Jones, Jr.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
17 Councilmember Curtis Jones, Jr.,
18 for a motion.

19 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank
20 you again, Mr. President.

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

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: It has been moved and

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 properly seconded that the
3 resolution be adopted.

4 All those in favor
5 signify by saying aye.

6 (Aye.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

15 THE CLERK: A privileged
16 resolution Honoring and Recognizing
17 the Key Stakeholders of
18 Philadelphia's Citywide Summer 2026
19 Events. Introduced by
20 Councilmember Curtis Jones, Jr.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
23 Councilmember Curtis Jones, Jr.,
24 for a motion.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

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

4 I move for its adoption.

5 (Duly seconded.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

10 All those in favor
11 signify by saying aye.

12 (Aye.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

15 (No response.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

21 THE CLERK: A privileged
22 resolution recognizing September
23 14-18, 2026 as Disability Voting
24 Rights Week in the City of

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Philadelphia. Introduced by
3 Councilmember Rue Landau.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
6 Councilmember Rue Landau for a
7 motion on the resolution.

8 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

9 Thank you, Council President.

10 I move for the adoption
11 of the resolution.

12 (Duly seconded.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

17 All those in favor
18 signify by saying aye.

19 (Aye.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

21 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: The ayes have it. The

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 resolution is adopted.

3 Chief Clerk, please read
4 the title of the resolution.

5 THE CLERK: A privileged
6 resolution recognizing September
7 15th through October 15th as
8 Hispanic Heritage Month in the City
9 of Philadelphia and celebrating the
10 rich history, culture, and
11 extraordinary contributions of
12 Hispanic and Latino communities to
13 our city. Introduced by
14 Councilmember Quetcy Lozada.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

19 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

20 Thank you, Council President.

21 I move for the adoption
22 of the resolution.

23 (Duly seconded.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

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

5 All those in favor
6 signify by saying aye.

7 (Aye.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

10 (No response.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

16 THE CLERK: A privileged
17 resolution recognizing September as
18 National Literacy Month and
19 celebrating Philadelphia's
20 commitment to expanding literacy
21 for all. Introduced by
22 Councilmember Quetcy Lozada.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Councilmember Quetcy Lozada for a
3 motion on the resolution.

4 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

5 Thank you, Council President.

6 I move for the adoption
7 of the resolution.

8 (Duly seconded.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

13 All those in favor
14 signify by saying aye.

15 (Aye.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

24 THE CLERK: A privileged

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 resolution recognizing September
3 14-18, 2026 as Adult Education and
4 Family Literacy Week in
5 Philadelphia. Introduced by
6 Councilmember Jeffrey Young, Jr.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
9 Councilmember Jeffrey Jay Young for
10 a motion on the resolution.

11 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: I
12 move for the adoption.

13 (Duly seconded.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

18 All those in favor
19 signify by saying aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

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

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

6 THE CLERK: A privileged
7 resolution authorizing the
8 Committee on Streets and Services
9 to investigate the Philadelphia
10 Parking Authority's enforcement
11 during Philadelphia's Summer 2026
12 events, including FIFA World Cup
13 2026; its accountability to
14 Philadelphia residents and city
15 government; and reforms to protect
16 residents, strengthen oversight and
17 restore meaningful local control.
18 Introduced by Councilmember Jeffrey
19 Young, Jr.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

21 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
22 Councilmember Jeffrey Jay Young for
23 a motion and resolution.

24 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Thank

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 you. I move for the adoption.

3 (Duly seconded.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

8 All those in favor
9 signify by saying aye.

10 (Aye.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

13 (No response.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

19 THE CLERK: A privileged
20 resolution honoring the life and
21 legacy of former Pennsylvania State
22 Senator Shirley M. Kitchen and
23 expressing condolences to her
24 family, friends and the community

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 she served. Introduced by
3 Councilmember Jeffrey Jay Young.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: Can we all stand and do a
6 moment of silence vote please.

7 (Moment of Silence
8 Vote.)

9 THE CLERK: And a
10 privileged resolution authorizing
11 the Committee on Legislative
12 Oversight to hold hearings
13 investigating the announced closure
14 of the Academy of Natural Sciences
15 of Drexel University's public
16 museum, its consequences for
17 Philadelphia and options to
18 preserve the public access and the
19 institution's scientific and
20 educational mission, and
21 authorizing the issuance of
22 subpoenas to the full extent
23 authorized under Section 2-401 of
24 the Home Rule Charter. Introduced

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 by Councilmember Jeffrey Jay Young.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

4 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes

5 Councilmember Jeffrey Jay Young.

6 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Thank
7 you, Mr. President.

8 I also want to
9 acknowledge again for the record
10 that this is co-introduced by
11 Councilmember Nina Ahmad. And I
12 move for the adoption.

13 (Duly seconded.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

18 All those in favor
19 signify by saying aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

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

4 I just want to make
5 sure -- good work, good work,
6 Member Young. I just also want to
7 go back to the previous resolution
8 just for the record.

9 We're not going to do a
10 revote, but I just want you to
11 second the motion for the Shirley
12 Kitchen.

13 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: I
14 move for the adoption of the
15 resolution regarding Shirley
16 Kitchen.

17 (Duly seconded.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

19 JOHNSON: All agree?

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: Just for the record.

23 Thank you, sir.

24 Please proceed.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 THE CLERK: A privileged
3 resolution recognizing the week of
4 September 14th to 19th, 2026 as
5 National Arts in Education Week in
6 the City of Philadelphia, and
7 celebrating the essential roles
8 arts education plays in developing
9 the next generation of creative
10 thinkers, leaders and community
11 builders. Introduced by
12 Councilmember Kendra Brooks.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
15 Council -- that's a whole different
16 party. Wait a minute.

17 Chair recognizes
18 Councilmember Cindy Bass to make a
19 motion on behalf of the Minority
20 Leader who isn't here today.

21 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

22 Thank you, Mr. President.

23 On behalf of
24 Councilmember Brooks, I move for

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 the adoption of the resolution.

3 (Duly seconded.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: It has been properly
6 seconded that the resolution be
7 adopted. All those in favor
8 signify by saying aye.

9 (Aye.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

12 (No response.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

16 Chief Clerk, please read
17 the resolution.

18 THE CLERK: A privileged
19 resolution honoring and
20 congratulating Isaiah Thomas, known
21 as HMBL ZAYY on social media, for
22 completing an over 3,000-mile faith
23 walk and fundraiser from
24 Philadelphia to California to build

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 a trade school for the Philadelphia
3 youth. Introduced by Councilmember
4 Kendra Brooks on behalf of Council
5 President Johnson.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

7 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
8 Councilwoman Cindy Bass to make a
9 motion on behalf of Councilmember
10 Kendra Brooks.

11 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

12 Thank you, Mr. President.

13 On behalf of
14 Councilmember Brooks, I move for
15 the adoption of the resolution.

16 (Duly seconded.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

21 All those in favor
22 signify by saying aye.

23 (Aye.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

9 THE CLERK: A privileged
10 resolution recognizing September
11 2026 as National Recovery Month and
12 honoring the strength of those
13 impacted by addiction. Introduced
14 by Councilmember Jim Harrity.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: Chief recognizes
17 Councilmember Jim Harrity for a
18 motion.

19 COUNCILMAN HARRITY: I
20 move for the adoption of the
21 resolution, Council President.

22 (Duly seconded.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: It has been moved and

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 properly seconded that the
3 resolution be adopted.

4 All those in favor
5 signify by saying aye.

6 (Aye.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

15 THE CLERK: A privileged
16 resolution honoring the life and
17 legacy of Dr. Michael A. Schiavone,
18 D.D.S., Beloved Husband, Father,
19 and Co-Founder of Caring for
20 Friends, and Recognizing His
21 Lifetime Commitment to Feeding the
22 Hungry and Caring for Those in
23 Need. Introduced by Councilmember
24 Jim Harrity.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
4 Councilmember Jim Harrity for a
5 motion.

6 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:

7 Thank you, Council President.

8 I move for the immediate
9 adoption of the resolution.

10 (Duly seconded.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

15 All those in favor
16 signify by saying aye.

17 (Aye.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

19 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

20 (No response.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

24 Chief Clerk, please read

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 the title of the resolution.

3 THE CLERK: A privileged
4 resolution recognizing Ambassador
5 John Giordano, United States
6 Ambassador to the Republic of
7 Namibia, and recognizing his
8 distinguished career of public
9 service. Introduced by
10 Councilmember Michael Driscoll.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

15 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: I
16 move for adoption.

17 (Duly seconded.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

22 All those in favor
23 signify by saying aye.

24 (Aye.)

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: The ayes have it. The
7 resolution is adopted.

8 Chief Clerk, please read
9 the title of the resolution.

10 THE CLERK: A privileged
11 resolution welcoming NBA All Star
12 and Swingman Jaylen Brown to
13 Philadelphia as he begins his
14 tenure with the Philadelphia 76ers.
15 Introduced by Councilmember Cindy
16 Bass on behalf of Council President
17 Johnson.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

19 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
20 Councilmember Cindy Bass for a
21 motion on the resolution.

22 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

23 Thank you, Mr. President.

24 On your behalf, I move

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 for the adoption of the resolution.

3 (Duly seconded.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

8 All those in favor
9 signify by saying aye.

10 (Aye.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

13 (No response.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

19 THE CLERK: A privileged
20 resolution recognizing and
21 celebrating September 2026 as
22 National Drive Electric Month in
23 the City of Philadelphia.

24 Introduced by Councilmember Nina

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Ahmad.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

4 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
5 Councilmember Dr. Nina Ahmad for a
6 motion on the resolution.

7 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

8 Thank you, Council President.

9 I move for the adoption
10 of the resolution.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

16 All those in favor
17 signify by saying aye.

18 (Aye.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

21 (No response.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

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

4 THE CLERK: A privileged
5 resolution recognizing September as
6 National Sickle Cell Awareness
7 Month in the City of Philadelphia
8 and honoring the life of Dr. Roy
9 Neil Gay and his dedication to
10 treating patients with sickle cell
11 disease. Introduced by
12 Councilmember Nina Ahmad.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
15 Councilmember Nina Ahmad for a
16 motion on the resolution.

17 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

18 Thank you, Council President.

19 I move for the adoption
20 of the resolution.

21 (Duly seconded.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
24 properly seconded that the

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 resolution be adopted.

3 All those in favor
4 signify by saying aye.

5 (Aye.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

7 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

8 (No response.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

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

15 THE CLERK: A privileged
16 resolution authorizing the
17 Committee on Public Health and
18 Human Services to hold hearings on
19 composting in Philadelphia,
20 including current best practices,
21 gaps in the City's composting
22 programs and infrastructure, and
23 ways to encourage residents and
24 businesses to compost. Introduced

1 9/17/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 by Councilmember Nina Ahmad.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

4 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes

5 Councilmember Dr. Nina Ahmad for a
6 motion on the resolution.

7 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

8 Thank you, Council President.

9 I move for the adoption
10 of the resolution.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

16 All those in favor
17 signify by saying aye.

18 (Aye.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

21 (No response.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

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

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

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: Are there any speeches on
9 behalf of the Majority?

10 The Chair recognizes
11 Councilmember Dr. Anthony Phillips.

12 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:

13 Thank you, Council President and
14 greetings to my colleagues, most
15 importantly, to neighbors across
16 Philadelphia.

17 As we begin our new
18 Council session, I want to reflect
19 briefly on the work that continued
20 throughout the summer and speak
21 about what we are carrying forward
22 this fall. Today I introduced a
23 resolution calling for a hearing on
24 Philadelphia's ticket to tow

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 requirements.

3 I introduced this
4 resolution because we continue to
5 hear concerns about how the current
6 process impacts neighbors, private
7 property owners, businesses and
8 vehicle owners. Property owners
9 and businesses should be able to
10 address unauthorized vehicles on
11 their property through a process
12 that is timely and effective.
13 Right now it is not timely and
14 effective.

15 At the same time, every
16 vehicle owner deserves protection
17 from improper towing, excessive
18 fees, and practices that lack
19 transparency or accountability.
20 Way too often in our district, we
21 receive calls about cars that need
22 to be moved. But the police who
23 were responding to many issues
24 often times have to slowly get to

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 them to ticket the vehicle in order
3 for the vehicle to be towed. So
4 this is not about deciding today
5 that the current requirements
6 should stay, change or go away.
7 It's about bringing the people
8 affected by it to the table,
9 understanding how the process is
10 working in practice, and
11 determining how Philadelphia can
12 better protect both consumers and
13 private property rights.

14 Nearly a decade after
15 its requirement was established, it
16 is time to listen and learn. We
17 brought in the same vein, the same
18 commitment to listening and
19 responding, and guided our work
20 throughout the summer. Although
21 Council was not in session, our
22 office remained active across the
23 9th District.

24 We brought thousands of

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 neighbors together for Wadsworth
3 Day launch. We launched the 9th
4 District Community Farmer's Market.
5 We hosted our first Family Fun and
6 Learning Day in Olney and continue
7 bringing City Hall closer to home
8 through our satellite office hours
9 at Bushrod Library in Northeast.
10 We also responded to serious
11 housing concerns at the Golden Age
12 Living Accommodations Senior
13 Apartment space in West Oak Lane as
14 well as help residents prepare for
15 water infrastructure improvements
16 and SEPTA's new bus network. And
17 we connect the students and
18 families with vital resources
19 throughout the summer.

20 Finally, as we talk
21 about connecting our neighbors with
22 opportunities, I want to highlight
23 an upcoming event centered on the
24 future of our city, our young

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 people. On Saturday, September
3 26th, our office will host the
4 second annual Philly Afterschool
5 Hype in partnership with
6 Councilmember Isaiah Thomas, the
7 School District of Philadelphia and
8 Philadelphia Youth Basketball at
9 the Alan Horowitz Sixth Man Center,
10 located at 4250 Wissihackon Avenue,
11 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., which
12 is a fine center in Councilmember
13 Jones's District.

14 Philly Afterschool Hype
15 will connect young people and
16 families with afterschool programs,
17 mentorship, recreation, academic
18 support, the arts and other
19 opportunities available across
20 Philadelphia. We also listen to
21 families who told us that
22 transportation was a barrier, and
23 now transportation is available for
24 Philly Afterschool Hype. So get

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 your kids signed up. Check out our
3 social media for how to sign up or
4 call our office.

5 So lastly, I just want
6 to say as the Chair of the
7 Committee on Children and Youth,
8 I'm just tired of hearing that
9 there is nothing for our young
10 people to do. There are programs
11 that exist. Mentors exist.
12 Opportunities exist. And it's our
13 responsibility to bring them
14 together, remove the barriers that
15 keep families from accessing them,
16 and making sure that our young
17 people know what it is, know what
18 is available to them. So I will
19 see you at Philly Afterschool.

20 I want to thank
21 Councilmember Jamie Gauthier,
22 Councilwoman Quetcy Lozada, for
23 partnering with us on
24 transportation. Pick-up will take

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES
2 place from 10:00 to 10:30 and
3 registration is required. Seats
4 are available on a first come,
5 first serve basis. And I look
6 forward to continuing to listen,
7 legislate for our neighbors this
8 Council session.

9 Thank you, Council
10 President.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

13 Councilmember Jim
14 Harrity.

15 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:

16 Thank you, Council President.

17 I'm thrilled to invite
18 you to the second Annual Wellness
19 Expo, presented by me and the
20 Department of Health and Human
21 Services -- I'm sorry, Department
22 of DBHIDS. The expo will take
23 place next Tuesday, September 22nd
24 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Right

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 here in the City Hall courtyard.

3 This will be a conglomeration of

4 different wellness providers

5 throughout the City of

6 Philadelphia, including city

7 departments, community groups and

8 other organizations.

9 Our goal is to connect

10 Philadelphians with any of the

11 resources they may need to stay

12 healthy, happy and successful. We

13 will also have light refreshments,

14 a DJ, fun activities for the kids,

15 and maybe even a special appearance

16 from one of Philadelphia's favorite

17 mascots. We're waiting on that

18 confirmation now.

19 But I also would like to

20 thank Councilman Jeffrey Jay Young

21 for his introduction of Senator

22 Kitchen to name the street after

23 Senator Kitchen. You know,

24 everybody knows that me and Senator

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Street are brothers. We're best
3 friends. And I can tell you right
4 now that I was out of politics. I
5 was working on a highway job
6 connecting 95 and 413 with the
7 Turnpike when Senator Kitchen
8 decided that she was not going to
9 run for another term. And she told
10 Senator Street that she was going
11 to support him.

12 And then I took a leave
13 of absence to go help work on his
14 campaign. And as they say, the
15 rest is history. I thought I was
16 out of politics. And it's funny
17 how it is, but I'll share one funny
18 story that always made us laugh.
19 One day, me and Senator Street were
20 out campaigning. And Senator
21 Kitchen asked if she could speak to
22 Sharif alone in her office. So I
23 laughed. I went, oh, you're in
24 trouble, you know what I mean,

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 something like that. And we
3 laughed and he went in to talk to
4 Senator Kitchen.

5 And when he comes out,
6 he was laughing beyond belief
7 because Senator Kitchen called him
8 in the office to ask him if I was
9 White, because all the seniors in
10 North Philadelphia she was talking
11 to said they really liked the tall,
12 light-skinned brother that was
13 always with Street. And it always
14 struck me as funny, that she knew I
15 was White. She just had to ask
16 what the deal was there. And
17 Sharif says, you know, he's one of
18 us. But that always struck me as
19 funny, that she would actually ask
20 that question. So I figured I'd
21 lay a little light to the
22 situation. And thank you, Jeffrey,
23 for honoring Senator Kitchen.
24 Well-deserved. Good job.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Well-deserved.

4 Councilmember Jones.

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

7 Like Dr. Phillips, we
8 had an aggressive summer. I don't
9 remember taking too much time off.
10 If you want to follow what we've
11 done over the summer, hit my social
12 media. As you pointed out, we've
13 been busy. But it's more important
14 to talk about what we are going to
15 do. And what I want to do is break
16 that up into four quick quarters.

17 Like a football game,
18 the first quarter is for our most
19 vulnerable, our young people that
20 need to feel confident that in June
21 their schools will still be open,
22 that their lunches they will like,
23 that their safety while they're in
24 those transportation times to and

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 from school, they are safe. We
3 need to codify resources to make
4 sure that it happens.

5 The second group is
6 those people entering the
7 workforce, those young people that
8 want to believe that AI will not
9 take all of their jobs. They want
10 to believe that the mortgage rates
11 that went up yesterday will still
12 be affordable for their first-time
13 homebuying, and that, in fact, they
14 can raise a family with the quality
15 of life that their parents had.

16 The third group are the
17 more established folk, like many of
18 you in this room, that we want to
19 make sure that they aren't ALICE,
20 Access Limited Income Constricted
21 and Employed, that their math
22 doesn't add up to their bills and
23 that, in fact, they can fix their
24 houses with this H.O.M.E. program

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 and be able to maintain their
3 living standard.

4 The final group, which
5 we've already introduced a bill
6 about, is a resolution to look at
7 the seniors when they go into these
8 multi-unit tenants, like the
9 Pavilion, and they come in at
10 night, there should be a security
11 presence that looks over them, that
12 somebody doesn't follow them into
13 an elevator and take advantage of
14 them.

15 They need to also know
16 that their health care from the
17 federal government will be there.
18 And we want to take a look at
19 working with the state. I've
20 talked to our Tarik Khan about a
21 joint hearing to see what the
22 impact is on Philadelphia when
23 these cuts finally hit their mark.
24 And then ultimately, I want to work

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 with my colleagues to figure out an
3 agenda that keeps all of those four
4 quarters safe.

5 Thank you,
6 Mr. President.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Jones.
9 And count me in.

10 Chair recognizes
11 Councilmember Dr. Nina Ahmad.

12 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:
13 Thank you, Council President.

14 Good afternoon,
15 everyone. I'll try to be brief.
16 What an incredible day to be back
17 in the People's House, giving voice
18 to the concerns of our residents.
19 I'd like to start by shouting out
20 those who joined me in the chambers
21 today. From Bennett Compost to
22 Zamoria Brandon of the Sickle Cell
23 Disease and Marissa Diaz of EV
24 Fast.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 And they don't need any
3 introduction. But let me take a
4 moment to give a big shout-out to
5 Save the Academy Coalition. I was
6 so proud to join you this morning
7 for a rally calling on Drexel to
8 save the Academy. And we are not
9 done yet. This is just a glimpse
10 into some of my priorities this
11 fall session. And I look forward
12 to working with my colleagues on
13 Council collaboratively to arrive
14 at solutions that benefit all
15 Philadelphians.

16 I am very proud to
17 announce that my Bill No. 260303
18 regarding U and T Visas, which
19 passed unanimously out of Council
20 last year, goes into effect today.
21 My legislation establishes
22 guidelines for U and T visa
23 certification requests,
24 guaranteeing timely responses to

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 application, written explanation of
3 denial and protections against
4 applicants immigration status being
5 shared without their consent. This
6 bill is part of my commitment to
7 addressing quality of life for
8 immigrant crime survivors and
9 survivors of human trafficking.

10 Being trafficked is
11 traumatic enough, and the process
12 seeking for asylum should not be to
13 people out there. The National
14 Human Trafficking Hotline
15 is 1-888-373-7888. Once again
16 1-888-373-7888. And the local
17 Salvation Army New Day to Stop
18 Trafficking Hotline
19 is 267-838-5866. Local hotline
20 267-838-5866.

21 This summer has been an
22 incredibly busy time for me and my
23 team and you'll be seeing the
24 results of our work throughout the

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES
2 session. Today I introduced
3 resolutions recognizing National
4 Drive Electric Month and the
5 National Sickle Cell Awareness
6 Month. As Chair of Public Health
7 and Human Services Committee and a
8 scientist by training, these are
9 issues near and dear to my heart.

10 I also want to take a
11 moment to acknowledge the passing
12 of a dear friend and dedicated
13 provider of care for those with
14 sickle cell disease, Dr. Roy Neil
15 Gay. His legacy of service healing
16 Philadelphians will not soon be
17 forgotten.

18 I also introduced two
19 resolutions authorizing committees
20 to explore two issues of great
21 importance to my constituents.
22 First, authorizing the Committee on
23 Public Health and Human Services to
24 explore composting in Philadelphia.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 That was just introduced. The
3 hearings will examine current best
4 practices for composting, gaps in
5 city programs and infrastructure,
6 and ways to encourage residents and
7 businesses to compost. We have to
8 reduce our trash footprint.

9 Second, I co-introduced
10 a resolution with my colleague, 5th
11 District Councilmember Jeffrey
12 Young, authorizing the Legislative
13 Oversight Committee to hold
14 hearings investigating the
15 announced abrupt closure of the
16 Academy of Natural Sciences. Many
17 of you know, as a scientist by
18 training, I cannot allow this
19 announcement about the Academy to
20 be made without Drexel providing
21 all of Philadelphia with more
22 information on how we got to this
23 sorry state.

24 And needless to say, we

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 don't have to stay in that sorry
3 state. There are options and
4 opportunities to address this issue
5 without closure being on the table.
6 So we are going to be busy this
7 session, not just for me but all my
8 colleagues.

9 I'm excited for the
10 discussions we will have this year
11 and look forward to finding ways
12 for us to serve all residents of
13 Philadelphia.

14 Thank you, Council
15 President. And I yield back.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

18 Chair recognizes
19 Councilmember Quetcy Lozada.

20 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

21 Thank you, Council President.

22 I'd like to begin by
23 thanking many of my colleagues who
24 this summer knew that my family and

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 I were experiencing a very
3 challenging season. But you all
4 reached out, you texted, you
5 called, you sent messages of
6 encouragement and prayers. And I
7 want you to know that we felt them.
8 We received them and we appreciate
9 them. Thank you so much. I am
10 grateful for being a part of a
11 family like the one that we are.

12 I'd also like to express
13 gratitude to Managing Director
14 Carlton Williams. He and his
15 entire leadership team have been
16 doing Kensington Blitz for the past
17 several weeks. Every single member
18 of his team, whether it's a
19 commissioner, a deputy, anyone in
20 leadership positions have been out
21 on the streets of Kensington and
22 Harrowgate witnessing for
23 themselves the challenges that
24 community residents experience

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 every day. They've been doing
3 their best to provide support,
4 learn exactly what is happening,
5 and are really working towards
6 making impactful change.

7 We've never seen a
8 managing director who has been
9 boots on the ground like he has.
10 And so, I wanted to make sure that
11 I publicly thanked him and his
12 leadership team for the work that
13 they are doing.

14 It's Hispanic Heritage
15 Month. Happy Hispanic Heritage
16 Month, everyone. You will all be
17 receiving a list of events that are
18 happening across the city. Latinos
19 make up about 16% of the population
20 in Philadelphia. We're about
21 250,000 strong. Latinos contribute
22 to all aspects of making our city
23 the great city that it is. And so,
24 I invite you to participate. Learn

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 more about what we're doing and all
3 of our contributions so that we're
4 not going anywhere. We're just
5 going to grow and we're just going
6 to take the city over. So please
7 join us, join us for the
8 celebrations. They're going to be
9 a lot of fun.

10 And then I introduced a
11 Literacy Month resolution. Thank
12 you to those who co-sponsored. I
13 think that is extremely important
14 if we want to continue to move our
15 city forward. And if we want our
16 future leaders to be prepared, we
17 need to prioritize literacy. And
18 so, I ask you, like one of the
19 members of our community mentioned,
20 not just to recognize September as
21 Literacy Month, but also to take it
22 as a call to action and ensure that
23 our children are prepared for the
24 future. Thank you so much.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Thank you.

4 Councilmember Rue

5 Landau.

6 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

7 Thank you, Council President.

8 I will be brief. I've

9 got three quick things. Today I

10 introduced legislation updating

11 Philadelphia's commercial zoning

12 code. Some of you may have seen

13 the news from South Philly's

14 beloved bar Tattooed Mom, which

15 recently got caught up in a permit

16 crackdown. It unraveled a few

17 things about our code, namely, drag

18 performances have at times been

19 restricted due to outdated and

20 offensive language under the

21 definition of adult cabaret.

22 The language of male and

23 female impersonators is not

24 representative of the 2026 Philly I

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 know and love. Drag shows belong
3 in Philly and I'm pleased to kick
4 off Council with a tweak of the
5 language that will help keep them
6 here without any barriers.

7 I'm also excited to
8 recognize this week, September 14th
9 through 18th, as Disability Voting
10 Rights Week. This is a national
11 movement to increase civic
12 engagement within the disability
13 community, and I'm proud to stand
14 with the disability community.

15 Everyone deserves the right to vote
16 and an accessible path to do so. I
17 was proud that Minority Leader
18 Kendra Brooks co-introduced this
19 with me to let the Philadelphia
20 disability community know we got
21 you.

22 Finally, I introduced a
23 resolution calling on the General
24 Assembly and the Pennsylvania

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Senate to develop guardrails around
3 the use of automatic license plate
4 readers like Flock. Emerging
5 technologies have the potential to
6 keep Philadelphia safe, but they
7 also have huge risks to our civil
8 liberties if left unchecked. Flock
9 is the most high-profile actor in
10 this space, but other companies are
11 pushing surveillance products that
12 will turn the calendar to 1984
13 without proper guardrails. This
14 technology is widely unregulated
15 and increasingly all around us.
16 It's time for action, and
17 Harrisburg has proposals to act on.
18 Thank you.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

21 Chair recognizes

22 Councilmember Jeffrey Jay Young.

23 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Thank
24 you, Mr. President.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 I'm going to save my
3 remarks for next week, but really
4 quick I just want to take a pause
5 to recognize Senator Shirley
6 Kitchen, the trailblazer, the
7 dedicated public servant, the
8 daughter of North Philly. Her
9 leadership created opportunities
10 for others. As Councilmember
11 Harrity mentioned, she strengthened
12 our neighborhoods, and she helped
13 open doors too often that's been
14 closed to Black women in
15 government.

16 And today I introduced
17 legislation to rename the Penrose
18 Recreation Center in her honor.
19 She literally can look out her door
20 and see that rec center. She held
21 all her meetings at that rec
22 center. The community knows that
23 to be the place where you want to
24 go and talk to Senator Kitchen.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 And so, I'm honored to introduce
3 that legislation to rename that rec
4 center in honor of Senator Kitchen.

5 And this Saturday we
6 will be gathering at that rec
7 center for Shirley Kitchen Day,
8 which is a celebration of her life,
9 her service and her enduring
10 legacy. Also, this Saturday I
11 believe it's the 19th annual
12 Strawberry Mansion Day. That's
13 taking place at 33rd and Diamond at
14 Mander Rec Center. So we have a
15 weekend packed full of events in
16 the 5th Council District. No
17 matter which part, whether you're
18 on the east side of Broad or the
19 west side of Broad, there are some
20 things for you to do.

21 Today we also introduced
22 legislation -- after listening to
23 constituents all summer, we
24 introduced legislation that would

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 lower the red light violation
3 fines, red light camera violation
4 fines in the city. Not to say that
5 people don't deserve to be ticketed
6 when there's a violation, but I
7 represent some of the most
8 challenged communities in
9 Philadelphia.

10 And when folks are
11 getting hit with \$100 fine each
12 time some of these fines are more
13 than what they get a month, right.
14 And so, we want to be able to
15 ensure that we are providing, you
16 know, we're not taxing our folks
17 more than we should, right. The
18 penalty needs to fit the crime
19 here. And I do think that we want
20 to encourage better behavior, but
21 at the same time we don't want our
22 citizens to feel like their city is
23 punishing them inequitably.

24 We also introduced a

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 youth employment tax credit today.

3 We see the things that are

4 happening in and around City Hall

5 with our young people. We

6 understand that our young people

7 need things to do. There are

8 things to do. But one of the

9 things that when I talk to young

10 people, what they say they need or

11 what they want is money. They want

12 a job. They want an opportunity.

13 And so, with this tax

14 credit we're trying to incentivize

15 employers in the city to just do

16 that, to hire these young people.

17 We know this summer, with our

18 summer job program for the youth,

19 there were more youth than jobs,

20 right. And so, I believe that

21 every young person in this city who

22 wants to work should have the

23 opportunity to work. And again,

24 hopefully this tax credit will

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 incentivize our employers here in
3 the city to hire our young people.

4 We also introduced
5 legislation after talking to
6 community as well that would change
7 the qualifications for limited
8 lodging in single-family
9 residential and RSA-5 districts.

10 What we have been hearing is that
11 folks have been getting the limited
12 lodging license for Airbnb and
13 other type of uses saying that they
14 lived there for six months, but in
15 reality they don't, right. And
16 they just are getting these
17 permits. And it's causing a huge
18 quality-of-life issue in our city.
19 So I look forward to working with
20 my colleagues on this bill to see
21 how we can provide some relief for
22 some of the residents in our city.

23 And another bill we
24 introduced today is to provide

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 relief from sanitation tickets. If
3 your trash wasn't collected, we've
4 gotten complaints all summer that
5 when the recycling doesn't come and
6 it blows down the street and, say,
7 a sweep officer just so happens to
8 be on your block that day, you're
9 going to get a ticket. I don't
10 think that's fair. I don't think
11 that's fair at all. And so, we
12 want to make sure that our laws
13 again are equitable and fair to our
14 citizens in the city.

15 We heard a lot of
16 testimony today about the Academy
17 of Natural Sciences. And I want to
18 thank Councilmember Ahmad for her
19 leadership on this. And we
20 introduced this resolution to hold
21 this hearing to examine what the
22 consequences are for our city to
23 lose this asset. And we're going
24 to be working hard to make sure we

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 preserve this asset. Because
3 again, this is the only place that
4 our children have in this city to
5 go to learn about the natural
6 sciences.

7 This is the only place
8 we can go see a T-Rex in this city,
9 right. What kid doesn't like
10 dinosaurs, right. And to take that
11 away from our kids in this city --
12 my son is 8 years old. He loves
13 that, right. I as a father, right,
14 I don't feel right allowing that
15 place to just disappear. And so,
16 we're going to be working to see
17 how we can preserve our cultural
18 institutions in this city.

19 So I just want to run
20 through a couple of events that we
21 have coming up. Again, I mentioned
22 Strawberry Mansion Day on Saturday.
23 I mentioned Shirley Kitchen Day on
24 Saturday. But also Saturday

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 evening, my office will be hosting
3 an intergenerational game night at
4 The LENNI at 1608 Ridge Avenue.
5 This is all a part of literacy,
6 right, and understanding how to
7 play, understanding rules and
8 critical thinking.

9 And so, we want folks,
10 young and old, to come out and have
11 a time to fellowship and enjoy one
12 another's company, bringing
13 neighbors of all ages together for
14 a friendly competition, music and
15 again, that community connection.
16 So that is this Saturday from 5:00
17 to 9:00 at The LENNI, 1608 Ridge
18 Avenue.

19 Our Quality of Life Town
20 Hall series resumes September 24th
21 with an outdoor meeting hosted in
22 partnership with the Strawberry
23 Mansion Faith-Based Coalition.
24 That'll be September 24th at 5:30.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 And September 26th, we will gather
3 at Broad and Green to rename that
4 street after Coach Kenneth "Ham"
5 Hamilton, a legendary coach at Ben
6 Franklin High School.

7 And finally, we had some
8 hiccups with Norf Philly Day
9 regarding the weather, but Norf
10 Philly Day Family Reunion has been
11 rescheduled for October 3rd at
12 Chalmers Playground. So I look
13 forward to joining the residents,
14 the businesses, the artists, the
15 community organizations and the
16 families for a celebration of
17 culture, history and the people who
18 make North Philly special.

19 Thank you,
20 Mr. President.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

23 Councilmember Cindy
24 Bass.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

3 Thank you, Mr. President. And I
4 also am looking forward to Norf
5 Philly Day too.

6 So I just wanted to
7 start, Mr. President, number one,
8 welcome back to everyone. We're
9 looking forward to another
10 productive legislative session here
11 in Council. And today we
12 introduced a resolution designating
13 the street outside of the Logan
14 Police Athletic League as "Officer
15 Melvin Kilgore Way" to honor his
16 commitment to youth programming and
17 community service.

18 We heard from some of
19 his family members today, and we're
20 excited to welcome more of his
21 family and friends when this bill
22 is up for final passage next week.
23 And so, we also want to put this
24 out as an announcement of sorts.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 For any alumni who were
3 participating at the PAL who know
4 Mr. Kilgore, please come out and
5 support him when we actually do the
6 street renaming, but also next week
7 when we do final passage. So
8 that's an invitation for all.

9 We also introduced three
10 bills that may not be flashy, but
11 are a direct response to
12 conversations that we've had about
13 the change our communities want to
14 see. One bill amends the curfew
15 ordinance after speaking to the
16 landlords and tenants of the
17 businesses that offer late night
18 food to our Temple University
19 Hospital doctors, nurses and
20 visitors, and the surrounding
21 community.

22 This bill cleans up our
23 8th District overlay so that we can
24 make sure community members have a

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 say in development, that
3 development matters, that impact
4 density, and that's a different
5 bill. And so, we want to make sure
6 that people have a say in terms of
7 how zoning will work, how it will
8 work for their community, and the
9 amount of density that will be
10 allowed in particular
11 neighborhoods. So we're excited
12 about that as well, to give our
13 community more control over what's
14 happening in their own
15 neighborhood. This will also help
16 us make sure that we're able to
17 better serve our district and move
18 forward elements of the H.O.M.E.
19 Plan.

20 And the last bill that
21 we offered today rezones areas of
22 Nicetown, which will allow for the
23 Nicetown Sports Complex. And we're
24 so excited to see state-of-the-art

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Sports Court for our community.

3 We've been talking about this for
4 about a decade now, and we're super
5 excited to see that this is finally
6 being prepared to come online. So
7 the zoning will be in effect soon
8 and we will see that Nicetown
9 Sports Complex and Sports Court,
10 thanks to Nicetown CDC.

11 Shout-out to Zakariyya
12 and Majeedah for all of their hard
13 work on this and their entire team.
14 We're excited to move forward on
15 legislation that impacts our
16 community and also activities that
17 impact our community, such as next
18 Saturday, September 26th, we'll be
19 doing a street renaming for former
20 Councilwoman Donna Reed Miller.

21 We certainly hope that
22 folks can come out. It will be at
23 11:00 a.m. At Haines and Morton
24 Streets in the heart of Germantown.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 So again, this was a former
3 colleague who served here on
4 Philadelphia City Council. I know
5 Councilman Jones served directly
6 with the Council Lady, and she was
7 just a huge part of the Germantown
8 community for forever. She was a
9 former staffer to the Honorable
10 David P. Richardson. We all know
11 that. And so, she was instrumental
12 in making Germantown and the
13 community putting them on the map.
14 So we want to make sure we come out
15 and give her the respect, to her
16 and her family.

17 The one other thing I
18 just wanted to mention, Council
19 President, on your behalf is that
20 there is going to be a Night Market
21 on Wednesday, September 23rd, which
22 is next Wednesday. It's going to
23 be the Point Breeze Night Market in
24 partnership with the Point Breeze

1 9/17/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Business Association, sponsored by
3 yourself and in conjunction with
4 Pennsylvania House Appropriations
5 Chair State Representative Jordan
6 Harris.

7 This is going to run
8 from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. On the 1400
9 block of Point Breeze Avenue in
10 South Philadelphia. And for more
11 information, contact Special Events
12 Coordinator Lynne Wilkins at
13 215-686-3412. And we certainly
14 look forward to that event next
15 Wednesday, Mr. President. Thank
16 you.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

19 As there are no more
20 speeches, the Chair recognizes
21 Councilmember Cindy Bass for a
22 motion to adjourn.

23 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

24 Thank you, Mr. President.

1 9/17/26 - STATED - ADJOURNMENT

2 I move that Council
3 stand adjourned until Thursday,
4 September 24, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

5 (Duly seconded.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

7 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
8 properly seconded that Council will
9 stand adjourned until Thursday,
10 September 24, 2006 at 10:00 a.m.

11 All those in favor
12 signify by saying aye.

13 (Aye.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

15 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

16 (No response.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: The ayes have it. The
19 motion carries.

20 Thank you for a very
21 exciting and interesting first day
22 of Council, and thank you all for
23 your resolve, staying strong and
24 finishing out the Council session

1 9/17/26 - STATED - ADJOURNMENT

2 in spite of our circumstances.

3 - - -

4 (Stated Meeting

5 adjourned at 2:50 p.m.)

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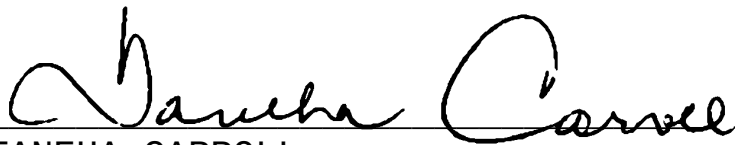
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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

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


TANEHA CARROLL
Court Reporter - Notary Public

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\$	14 17:9 69:23 139:2 176:23	18 112:8
\$100 250:11	14-18 51:20 60:5 199:23 204:3	1800 39:13
\$300 154:4	14-500 71:12	1800s 153:21
0	14-502 36:7	1812 170:3
0 179:17 183:2	14-503(4) 47:17	1867 154:2,3
1	14-504 35:23	1870 155:10
1 129:4	14-530 77:5	1877 154:12
1-888-373-7888 238:15,16	14-600 58:23	18th 246:9
10 110:16	14-601 34:20 51:10	19-2600 59:12
10-700 57:12	14-602 35:2	1941-47 27:9 76:2
100 18:10	14-705 35:12	1984 247:12
1000 118:5	14-and- 16:16	1990s 100:20
100th 18:14 44:2 189:22	1400 64:12 262:8	19th 65:15 210:4 249:11
10:00 229:2 262:8 263:4, 10	14th 65:15 210:4 246:8	1:00 227:11
10:30 229:2	14U 45:3 192:22	1st 27:10 76:4
11 9:19 10:3,9 20:21,24 21:20 22:15 23:17 112:16	15 23:14,19	2
1100 78:21	15th 53:11 201:7	2-401 62:8 207:23
1129 173:21	16 17:9 179:17 182:24	20-303 24:7
1135 173:21	16% 243:19	200 112:17 171:15
1137 173:21	16-700 27:12,19 28:3,10, 17,24 29:8,16 40:18 41:9, 22 42:12 49:21 63:13 64:3 76:6 174:2	200-year-old 147:9
11:00 127:13 227:11 229:24 260:23	16-and-under 16:17	2001 157:14
11:30 127:13	1608 255:4,17	200253-A 24:5
11th 73:2 124:4	1678 62:17	2006 263:10
12 21:7,17	16U 45:3 192:22	2018 166:23 167:15
12-3400 58:8	17% 110:15 135:24 140:20	2022 139:2
125-year-plus 157:11	1703 173:20	2023 24:6
13 24:5	1711 173:20	2024 167:17
13th 153:23	1718-26 28:21 49:18	2026 9:19 10:3,9 20:21,24 21:7,10,17,20 22:4,7,12, 15 23:14,17,19,22 49:9 51:20 60:5,18,19 65:15 67:7 81:16 162:19 198:18 199:23 204:3 205:11,13 210:4 213:11 218:21 245:24 263:4
	17th 78:12	

2045 27:23 41:5	260204 21:3	260428 21:21
2047 27:23 41:5	260205 21:4	260430 21:15
2051 27:23 41:5	260206 21:5	260431 21:22
21-3800 69:9	260207 22:7	260457 22:8
215 113:18 128:16	260211 22:16	260458 22:9
215-686-3412 262:13	260238 20:17	260459 22:9
225 28:14 42:9	260239 20:18 22:17	260460 22:10
22nd 39:14 229:23	260241 22:17	260461 22:23
23 22:4,12 162:19	260264-A 22:18	260464-A 21:22
23rd 43:23 164:4 189:19 261:21	260298 90:22	260465-A 22:24
24 263:4,10	260299 22:18	260506 22:24
24th 255:20,24	260300 22:19	260507 23:2
25 145:3	260302-A 22:8	260508 91:7 179:22
250,000 243:21	260303 20:18 237:17	260509 23:2
250644 21:10	260378 22:19	260510 23:3
250645 21:11	260380 22:20	260511 23:3
250768 91:10 98:23 103:13	260381 91:6 176:21	260512 23:4
250781 153:19	260382 22:20	260513 23:4
250807 91:11 115:9	260383 22:21	260517 21:23
250th 101:13 152:16	260384 22:21	260518 21:23
251020 23:17	260385 21:11	260519 21:24
251021 20:17	260386 21:12	260520 21:24
260076 80:15 84:18 85:6 88:9 89:7,24	260390 22:22	260521 20:19
260162 23:22	260391 21:12	260522 23:6
260163 23:23	260392 21:13	260523 23:6
260164 22:15	260393 21:13	260524 23:7
260165 22:16	260394 21:14	260527 22:2
260199 20:24	260395 21:14	260528 23:7
260200 21:2	260422 22:22	260529 23:8
260201 21:2	260423 20:19	260530 23:8
260203 21:3	260425 22:23	260531 23:9
	260426 21:20	260532 23:9
	260427 21:21	260533 23:10

260534 23:10	31 126:14	57% 100:15
260535 23:11	319-25 73:2	5:00 255:16
260536 23:11	33rd 249:13	5:30 131:15 255:24
260564 23:12	38 112:15	5K 145:23
260614 91:5 173:15 174:8, 17	3:00 229:24	5th 29:6,14 31:23 63:11, 24 240:10 249:16
260656 91:6 175:8,20 176:8	3rd 27:24 28:8,15 31:22 41:7,20 42:10 106:24 173:23 256:11	
267-838-5866 238:19,20		6
26th 145:24 227:3 256:2 260:18	4	6'7" 124:20
27 139:2	4 21:10 22:7 23:22 129:4	60% 140:22
274,000 130:20	40 102:18	600 126:12
28 131:2	40-plus 125:5	6000 50:7
28th 145:22	413 231:6	65th 31:22
29 154:2	4152 173:18	66 131:2
2nd 27:17 40:16 90:1 173:1 174:1 175:1 176:1 177:1 178:1 179:1 180:1 181:1 182:1 183:1 184:1 185:1 186:1 187:1 188:1 189:1 190:1 191:1 192:1 193:1 194:1 195:1 196:1 197:1 198:1 199:1 200:1 201:1 202:1 203:1 204:1 205:1 206:1 207:1 208:1 209:1 210:1 211:1 212:1 213:1 214:1 215:1 216:1 217:1 218:1 219:1 220:1 221:1 222:1	4153 173:19	68th 31:11
	4154 173:18	6:00 124:23 262:8
	4157 173:19	6abc/wpvi-tv 48:23 197:11
	41st 173:22	6th 108:9 131:14
	4201 47:9	
	4203 28:7 41:19	7
	4220 173:19	70 4:5
	4250 227:10	7120 27:16 40:15
	42nd 173:20	76ers 33:7 79:16 185:6 217:14
	4th 15:13 28:22 49:19 75:14 116:21	76ers' 17:7
	4th's 117:6	7:00 131:15
3	5	7th 15:7 96:13 101:18
3 48:10 195:23	52 100:7	8
3,000-mile 66:8 211:22	52nd 28:14,21 42:9 49:19	8 110:16 125:24 254:12
3-year-old 151:9	544 73:12	800 141:21
30 92:22 101:17,22	56th 27:24 41:6	855 29:5 63:23
3000-plus 6:11	57 125:24	8th 19:9 122:20 258:23
30th 168:5		

9

9-208 46:19**9-605(11)** 32:12 183:15**9-645** 77:16**9-647** 56:10**9/17/26** 2:1 3:1 4:1 5:1 6:1

7:1 8:1 9:1 10:1 11:1 12:1

13:1 14:1 15:1 16:1 17:1

18:1 19:1 20:1 21:1 22:1

23:1 24:1 25:1 26:1 27:1

28:1 29:1 30:1 31:1 32:1

33:1 34:1 35:1 36:1 37:1

38:1 39:1 40:1 41:1 42:1

43:1 44:1 45:1 46:1 47:1

48:1 49:1 50:1 51:1 52:1

53:1 54:1 55:1 56:1 57:1

58:1 59:1 60:1 61:1 62:1

63:1 64:1 65:1 66:1 67:1

68:1 69:1 70:1 71:1 72:1

73:1 74:1 75:1 76:1 77:1

78:1 79:1 80:1 81:1 82:1

83:1 84:1 85:1 86:1 87:1

88:1 89:1 90:1 91:1 92:1

93:1 94:1 95:1 96:1 97:1

98:1 99:1 100:1 101:1

102:1 103:1 104:1 105:1

106:1 107:1 108:1 109:1

110:1 111:1 112:1 113:1

114:1 115:1 116:1 117:1

118:1 119:1 120:1 121:1

122:1 123:1 124:1 125:1

126:1 127:1 128:1 129:1

130:1 131:1 132:1 133:1

134:1 135:1 136:1 137:1

138:1 139:1 140:1 141:1

142:1 143:1 144:1 145:1

146:1 147:1 148:1 149:1

150:1 151:1 152:1 153:1

154:1 155:1 156:1 157:1

158:1 159:1 160:1 161:1

162:1 163:1 164:1 165:1

166:1 167:1 168:1 169:1

170:1 171:1 172:1 173:1

174:1 175:1 176:1 177:1

178:1 179:1 180:1 181:1

182:1 183:1 184:1 185:1

186:1 187:1 188:1 189:1

190:1 191:1 192:1 193:1

194:1 195:1 196:1 197:1

198:1 199:1 200:1 201:1

202:1 203:1 204:1 205:1

206:1 207:1 208:1 209:1

210:1 211:1 212:1 213:1

214:1 215:1 216:1 217:1

218:1 219:1 220:1 221:1

222:1 223:1 224:1 225:1

226:1 227:1 228:1 229:1

230:1 231:1 232:1 233:1

234:1 235:1 236:1 237:1

238:1 239:1 240:1 241:1

242:1 243:1 244:1 245:1

246:1 247:1 248:1 249:1

250:1 251:1 252:1 253:1

254:1 255:1 256:1 257:1

258:1 259:1 260:1 261:1

262:1 263:1

90 123:16 127:3,23**916** 29:12 63:9**920** 29:12 63:9**922** 29:12 63:9**924** 29:13 63:10**95** 231:6**9:00** 255:17**9th** 139:20 225:23 226:3

A

a.m. 227:11 229:24

260:23 263:4,10

Aaron 138:5**AAU** 45:3 192:22**ABCS** 118:5**Abigail** 125:14 134:12**ability** 105:22 118:21

161:15 172:21

ableist 136:16 137:10**abrupt** 172:4 240:15**absence** 10:21 11:6,16
98:13 231:13**abstraction** 141:12**academic** 105:18 227:17**academically** 107:3**academy** 54:19 61:22

107:12,13,15 108:3

112:5,16,23 113:5 120:6

121:16,17 122:12 138:19

139:18 146:24 149:4,10

150:2 151:6,10 152:18

153:8 156:18 157:2,15

158:15,21 159:9 160:8

161:3,19 166:10 167:6,12

170:2,17 171:5,6,19

172:12,18 207:14 237:5,8

240:16,19 253:16

accept 115:16**access** 62:3 97:9 112:9

136:18 137:12 157:6

207:18 234:20

accessibility 131:4,21

137:20

accessible 131:16,19

161:5,20 246:16

accessing 95:12 228:15**Accommodations** 226:12**accordance** 27:11,18

28:2,9,16,23 29:7,15

40:17 41:8,21 42:11

49:20 63:12 64:2 76:5

173:24

account 120:12,16**accountability** 60:19

205:13 224:19

acknowledge 144:14

208:9 239:11

act 74:10,21 75:6 99:2,6,

16 100:6 108:11 116:11 247:17	Administrator 144:4	affected 141:6 225:8
acting 154:10	adopted 87:12,23 88:8 174:17 175:5 176:8,19 184:12,21 185:23 186:9 187:16 188:2 189:6,15 190:19 191:5 192:6,15 193:16 194:2 195:8,17 196:17 197:3 198:3,12 199:9,18 200:16 201:2 202:4,13 203:12,21 204:17 205:3 206:7,16 208:17 209:3 211:7,15 212:20 213:6 214:3,12 215:14,23 216:21 217:7 218:7,16 219:15,24 221:2,11 222:15,24	affirmative 89:22 179:19 183:3
action 12:23 19:12 48:23 74:21 91:19 111:11 120:23 131:14 165:4 197:11 244:22 247:16		afford 142:11
actions 13:11 25:18 26:6 37:18 38:6 180:16		affordability 45:16 194:12
active 225:22		affordable 97:11 234:12
activism 139:21		African 165:3
activist 4:24 108:15		afternoon 128:12 132:21 134:18 138:14 140:8 149:19 152:10,11 153:14 156:15 169:23 236:14
activities 230:14 260:16		afterschool 15:15 227:4, 14,16,24 228:19
actor 247:9		age 139:2 226:11
actual 57:3 142:18	adoption 87:6 174:11 176:3 184:6 185:17 187:10 188:24 190:14 191:23 193:11 195:3 196:12 197:21 199:4 200:10 201:21 203:6 204:12 206:2 208:12 209:14 211:2 212:15 213:20 215:9 216:16 218:2 219:9 220:19 222:9	agencies 32:18 183:21
Adamary 93:21 96:12		agency 154:17
Adams 39:5,12,14 111:17		agenda 12:11,14 13:22 100:5 115:22 236:3
add 234:22		ages 255:13
added 12:11 13:22		aggressive 233:8
addicted 116:4		agony 7:8
addiction 67:9 213:13		agree 115:4 209:19
adding 69:9 177:2	adult 51:13 60:5 204:3 245:21	agreement 24:17 25:16 26:4 36:18 37:16 38:4
addition 115:22	adulthood 111:2	agreements 26:14,22 180:12
additional 46:22 47:23 56:14 62:19 77:8 183:6	adults 99:24 117:11,21 144:17	ahead 137:2
address 94:6 137:21 224:10 241:4	adults' 150:5	Ahmad 54:21 74:19 79:22,23 83:7,9 84:15,19 86:2,3 87:3,4 89:5,9 114:8 121:14 138:16 144:8 146:15 147:3 158:22 179:7,8 182:18,19 208:11 219:2,5,7 220:12, 15,17 222:2,5,7 236:11, 12 253:18
addressed 6:6	advantage 235:13	Ahmad's 140:16 149:23
addresses 156:3	advertising 62:18	AI 117:13 234:8
addressing 238:7	advise 20:20 21:6,16 22:3,11 23:5,13,18	
adjourn 262:22	Advisory 163:23	
adjourned 263:3,9	advocacy 135:12 145:21 159:2	
ADJOURNMENT 263:1	advocate 105:23 158:19	
administration 43:15 104:18 188:12	affairs 14:22 154:9,14,23	
administrative 57:23		

aiding 104:8 air 98:24 100:3 104:6 108:11 109:10 119:10 140:22 air-conditioning 100:8 Airbnb 252:12 Alan 227:9 Alden 125:15 134:13,17, 18 137:3 Alex 125:14 134:13 Alexander 103:12 ALICE 234:19 alive 130:5 All-star 79:14 all-way 72:4 Allah 7:17 Alliance 113:18 128:17 allowed 115:14 259:10 allowing 95:18 128:15 254:14 alongside 145:16 Alonte 98:22 ALPR 52:10 alternative 167:24 171:23 alternatives 109:19 alumni 258:2 Alycia 44:13 191:10 Amanda 162:4 166:4 Amateur 16:16 45:2 192:21 amazing 118:13 152:23 Ambassador 70:16,17 216:4,6 Amen 6:18 8:18,19,21 9:6, 7	amend 78:7 amended 12:14 amending 24:4,7 31:7,18 34:20,24 35:12,23 46:19 47:17 51:10 56:10 57:12 58:8,23 59:12 69:23 71:12 77:5,16 176:23 amendment 80:20 85:11 88:14 153:23 amendments 12:17,20 amends 258:14 America 144:7 152:17 164:20 America's 101:13 American 140:24 153:24 154:5,18,24 155:7 164:15 165:4 Americans 116:10 amount 58:14 259:9 amounts 25:15 26:3 37:15 38:3 amplification 69:11,14 and/or 2:15 30:9 Anderson 138:6 animals 151:17 Anna 143:18 156:15 anniversary 152:17 announce 237:17 announced 61:21 207:13 240:15 announcement 172:4 240:19 257:24 annual 24:11 145:22 227:4 229:18 249:11 another's 255:12 answers 143:2 Anthony 30:14 33:15	159:22 163:19 183:22 184:2 185:7,12 223:11 anxiety 142:8 Anyab 159:22 162:9 Anyabwile 165:2 Apartment 226:13 apologize 147:7 appearance 230:15 appears 92:6 applaud 114:8 applause 15:22 17:19,20 18:22 19:15 29:24 30:2 57:7 96:8,9 98:4 101:8 107:6 111:12 113:14 115:3 116:17 119:5,20 121:10 122:16 124:7 125:10 128:7 130:11 131:23 138:4 140:6 143:11 146:20 149:17 152:8 153:12 159:17 162:3 163:17 165:11 168:10 170:20 172:24 applicants 177:4 238:4 application 238:2 appointment 27:4 approach 8:23 approached 94:2 103:8 111:20 125:17 134:15 138:11 143:20 160:2 162:7 appropriations 25:22 37:22 180:9 262:4 approval 9:1,17 59:3 approved 10:3,9,18 24:5 80:19 85:10 88:13 101:19 approving 24:16 25:7,12 36:16 37:7,12 arachnid 151:18
--	--	--

architect 156:17,19 area 31:10,21 47:19 77:21 78:10 areas 31:9,20 78:9 150:10 259:21 argued 117:14 arise 11:24 13:23 Arms 93:7 Army 238:17 arose 13:11 arrangements 81:4 85:18 88:21 arrive 237:13 artifact 151:16 artistic 44:5 163:15 190:2 artists 256:14 arts 65:16,18 112:18 120:14 210:5,8 227:18 asbestos 100:9 asks 139:14 aspect 156:6 aspects 243:22 Assembly 52:6 62:16 246:24 asset 172:13 253:23 254:2 assistance 135:14 Associates 167:16 Association 141:2 144:7 262:2 asthma 104:6 109:8 129:4 141:5,10 asylum 238:12 at-arms 20:6 athlete 18:5 athletes 17:24	Athletic 16:16 45:3 192:22 257:14 attack 150:11 161:17 attempt 161:17 attend 14:21 attendance 121:2,3 attention 101:6 117:12 118:3 147:5 158:13 Attorney 99:12 124:9 Attorney's 99:14 Atwater 166:23 Auburn 29:13 63:10 Audit 108:3 author 166:5 Authority 24:20 25:8 36:20 37:8 Authority's 60:16 205:10 authorize 46:21 54:17 73:19 authorized 62:8 207:23 authorizing 12:16 24:15 25:12,16 26:4,10,18 27:7, 14,21 28:5,12,19 29:3,11 32:6 36:16 37:12,16 38:4 40:14 41:4,18 42:8 43:9 45:10 47:7 49:17 60:13 61:18 62:6 63:8,22 72:3, 23 73:10 75:24 80:24 82:13 85:15 88:18 173:17 179:24 180:4,12 183:9 188:6 194:6 205:7 207:10,21 221:16 239:19, 22 240:12 automated 58:10,13 automatic 52:9,14 247:3 Ave 47:9 73:12 173:20 Avenue 6:10 28:7 31:11, 12,22,23 41:20 78:11,12, 13,14 175:12 227:10	255:4,18 262:9 average 129:6 awareness 82:3 144:12 146:17 220:6 239:5 awe 139:21 aye 10:11,12 14:4,5 84:6,7 86:17,18 87:15,16 89:14, 15 133:23 165:20 168:19, 20 169:15 174:20,21 176:11,12 177:17,19,22, 24 178:3,7,11,14,18,20, 23 179:2,3,5,9,13 181:4, 7,10,12,14,18,22 182:2,6, 8,11,13,14,16,20 184:14, 15 186:2,3 187:18,19 189:8,9 190:21,22 192:8, 9 193:18,19 195:10,11 196:19,20 198:5,6 199:11,12 200:18,19 202:6,7 203:14,15 204:19,20 206:9,10 208:19,20 209:20 211:8,9 212:22,23 214:5,6 215:16,17 216:23,24 218:9,10 219:17,18 221:4,5 222:17,18 263:12,13 ayes 10:17 14:10 84:12 86:23 87:21 89:20 175:3 176:17 179:17 182:24 184:20 186:8 187:24 189:14 191:4 192:14 193:24 195:16 197:2 198:11 199:17 200:24 202:12 203:20 205:2 206:15 209:2 211:14 213:5 214:11 215:22 217:6 218:15 219:23 221:10 222:23 263:18 B babies 129:13 130:3 baby 130:4
---	--	---

back 3:4 4:8 5:24 18:3
19:24 30:17 50:24 56:22
80:2 99:16 101:11 104:21
127:18 131:13 158:14
209:7 236:16 241:15
257:8

backed 142:22

backing 99:6

Badlands 96:13

ban 52:9,12

Bank 27:8,15,22 28:6,13,
20 29:4,12 40:15 41:5,19
42:9 49:18 63:9,23 76:2
101:18 102:2,5 158:10
173:18

Baptists 9:3

bar 245:14

barrier 227:22

barriers 228:14 246:6

based 24:10 58:14 120:9
140:13

baseline 167:11

bases 170:9

basic 136:14 137:8
147:19,24 148:21 150:14
160:11,15

basis 229:5

basketball 16:21,23
127:11 227:8

Bass 9:21,22 76:15,16
78:5 79:7 102:16,19,22
122:20 175:18,22 179:4,5
182:15,16 187:3,6
188:17,20 190:7,10
191:18,21 193:4,7
194:19,22 196:6 210:18,
21 212:8,11 217:16,20,22
256:24 257:2 262:21,23

Batcave 131:7

beacon 161:18

beast 159:10

beautiful 163:11

begin 92:20 147:2 223:17
241:22

begins 33:6 79:15 185:5
217:13

behalf 11:4,14 14:17
26:12,20 30:22 34:12,13
40:7 55:18,19 65:6,8
76:20 119:8 124:11
126:22 146:23 163:20
170:2 175:20,24 185:8
186:22 187:4,8 188:18,22
190:8,12 191:19,24
193:5,9 194:20,24 196:7
210:19,23 212:4,9,13
217:16,24 223:9 261:19

behavior 250:20

belief 232:6

believed 145:10

Bellamy 111:17

belong 246:2

beloved 67:17 139:19
159:11 171:6 214:18
245:14

Ben 256:5

benchmark 110:17

beneath 161:13

benefit 237:14

Benjamin 171:20

Bennett 125:13 134:11
236:21

bicultural 106:7

big 109:15 157:23 237:4

Bigga 159:22

bilingual 106:7

Bilingualism 106:12

bill 12:19 13:2,4,5 20:16,
17,18,19,24 21:2,3,4,10,
11,12,13,14,15,20,21,22,
23,24 22:2,7,8,9,10,15,
16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,
24 23:2,3,4,6,7,8,9,10,11,
12,15,17,22 24:4,14
31:14 32:2 35:8,19 36:12
38:11 47:3,13 48:4 49:12
51:3,8,15 55:14 56:7,18,
22 57:3 58:4,19 59:8,23
62:17 70:11 71:23 72:8
73:6,15 74:13 77:12 78:2,
16 80:15 81:7 84:17 85:6,
21 88:8,24 89:7,24 90:2,
20,22 91:6 98:23 105:7
115:9 154:4 162:17
176:21 177:10,12 179:19,
22 180:18,20 183:4 235:5
237:17 238:6 252:20,23
257:21 258:14,22 259:5,
20

bills 12:17,20 20:16,22
21:8,18 22:5,13 23:20
30:1,11,18 31:1,5 32:1
33:1 34:1,12,17 35:1 36:1
37:1 38:1 39:1 40:1 41:1
42:1 43:1 44:1 45:1 46:1,
7,16 47:1 48:1 49:1 50:1
51:1 52:1 53:1 54:1,13,24
55:1 56:1 57:1 58:1 59:1
60:1 61:1 62:1 63:1 64:1
65:1 66:1 67:1 68:1,16,19
69:1,7 70:1 71:1,6,10
72:1,15,20 73:1 74:1 75:1
76:1,19 77:1,2 78:1 79:1
80:1 81:1 82:1 90:1,12,14
91:2,9,14 133:23 165:20
168:19,21 169:15 173:10
234:22 258:10

bipartisan 52:8

birth 112:21 152:16

birthday 18:14 44:3
139:20 189:22

Bishop 38:18 186:16

bit 124:19 Black 99:17,22 123:24 124:2 129:14 248:14 Blatstein 93:23 101:9,10 blessing 9:6 blessings 5:18 Blitz 242:16 bloc 130:23 136:6 block 39:13 50:7 64:12 78:21 253:8 262:9 blood 114:4 146:10 blows 253:6 board 130:14 149:4 157:7, 8 158:5 168:2 Bob 158:8 Bodies 69:12 body 24:3 94:7 95:15 104:15,24 154:7 Bogan 159:23 Bond 180:5 bonds 25:8,19 37:8,19 180:5,11,14,15 book 157:10 books 117:12 boosters 157:24 booth 136:10 boots 243:9 born 4:20 130:4 140:10 Boulevard 7:2 175:11 boundaries 36:6 47:22 bounded 31:10,21 78:10 bow 7:14 103:18 Brandon 138:9 143:22 144:3 145:4,23 236:22 break 233:15	breakdown 167:18 breath 104:17 breathe 129:7 breathing 163:2 Breeze 261:23,24 262:9 brethren 104:9 Brian 125:21 133:15 159:23 Bridges 17:4 briefly 7:6 223:19 bring 16:9 144:19 149:8 154:13 155:3 172:17 228:13 bringing 225:7 226:7 255:12 Broad 249:18,19 256:3 Brooks 11:11,12 65:2 210:12,24 212:4,10,14 246:18 brother 232:12 Brotherly 8:17 brothers 231:2 brought 225:17,24 Brown 79:14 159:19 217:12 Brunner 78:14 budgets 167:23 build 66:10 97:24 113:20 142:17 211:24 builders 65:22 210:11 building 8:23 132:17 141:19 149:13 153:2 154:18,20 167:20 buildout 24:22 36:22 burden 104:2,3 burn 109:21	burning 114:14,24 bus 226:16 Bushrod 226:9 business 9:17 10:20 14:13 20:4 30:8,11 45:15, 18 56:12,13 59:14 77:18 83:1,5,8,13 84:1,3 85:1 86:1 87:1 88:1 89:1 90:7 98:14 115:11 165:19 167:17 169:14 194:10,14 262:2 businesses 59:17 82:21 221:24 224:7,9 240:7 256:14 258:17 busy 233:13 238:22 241:6 Butler 74:19 buy 143:4
C		
cabaret 51:13 245:21 Cadwallender 111:14 116:18,20 café 47:8 73:11 cafés 46:21,23 calendar 11:1 12:1,3 13:1, 3,6,7,12 32:22 33:19 39:2,21 40:23 41:14 42:4, 17 43:20 44:10,21 45:8, 23 48:16 49:5,14 50:3,17 52:3,19 53:21 54:8 56:6 60:11 61:5,16 62:13 63:3, 18 64:8,22 66:3,16 67:13 68:3 69:21 70:24 75:10, 20 76:11 79:10,20 81:12, 22 82:11 83:2 90:8,12,14, 21 91:2,10 173:10 183:7 247:12 Calendars 90:4,16 91:4, 18 173:12 California 66:10 211:24		

call 7:2 111:11 114:12 120:22 126:11,12 140:3 148:3 177:14 180:22 228:4 244:22 called 90:24 91:3 92:5 98:24 104:7 150:16 232:7 242:5 calling 4:15 52:5 74:21 75:2 99:7 112:4 171:3 223:23 237:7 246:23 calls 100:17 139:17 224:21 camera 250:3 cameras 52:10,11 campaign 120:22,24 231:14 campaigning 231:20 cancellation 57:21 cancer 74:20,23 75:5 109:9 cane 123:18 capacity 8:8,9 166:17 capital 120:23 180:8 captains 118:6 caravan 108:24 Card 110:15 care 18:4 100:2 112:6 116:9 127:5 129:15 136:14 137:7 146:10 147:18,19 235:16 239:13 cared 127:17 career 70:19 216:8 Caring 67:18,21 214:19, 22 Carlton 242:14 carries 14:11 84:13 86:24 87:22 89:23 175:4 176:18 263:19	carrying 167:20 223:21 cars 140:20 142:16 224:21 case 157:24 Categories 34:22 51:12 category 34:23 35:5 caught 19:22 245:15 causing 252:17 cavalierly 104:9 Cayuga 78:12 CBS 48:10 195:23 CDC 260:10 Cecily 48:19 197:8 celebrate 97:13 152:16 celebrated 139:20 celebrates 44:15 191:12 celebrating 18:13 44:3 53:14 54:2 65:18 70:18 81:16 189:23 201:9 202:19 210:7 218:21 celebration 48:21 110:10 111:10 142:19 197:9 249:8 256:16 celebrations 244:8 cell 2:15 82:2,7 144:6,12, 18,20 145:5,11,17,23 146:13,18 220:6,10 236:22 239:5,14 censorship 115:20 center 36:4,7 55:5,6 115:10,24 116:14 123:3 126:4,6,9 134:20 227:9, 12 248:18,20,22 249:4,7, 14 centered 104:19 226:23 central 44:4 189:24 centuries 161:3	CEO 105:14 ceremonial 57:2 certification 237:23 chair 3:7 9:11,20 10:21 11:8,10,18,20 14:12,24 15:24 19:4 20:5 30:13 31:3 34:4 39:23 42:19 45:24 50:19 52:21 54:9 64:24 66:17 68:4,11,24 71:2 72:11 76:13 79:21 83:5 84:14 85:24 87:2 89:4 90:9 96:4 98:6 103:11 130:15 133:14 155:16 157:8 158:5 165:14 168:13 169:6,9 174:5 175:17 183:24 185:11 187:2 188:16 190:6 191:17 193:3 194:18 196:5,8 197:16 198:22 200:5 201:16 202:24 204:8 205:21 208:4 210:14,17 212:7 215:3 216:12 217:19 219:4 220:14 222:4 223:10 228:6 236:10 239:6 241:18 247:21 262:5,20 challenge 97:7 challenged 250:8 challenges 45:13 106:16 194:9 242:23 challenging 242:3 Chalmers 256:12 chambers 2:13,19 14:16 15:6,17 236:20 championing 162:17 champions 17:15 championship 16:18 17:18 45:4 192:23 chance 99:7 change 151:4 171:19
---	--	--

225:6 243:6 252:6 258:13 changed 164:20 changing 31:8,19 78:8 chapter 27:12,19 28:3,10, 17,24 29:8,16 40:18 41:9, 22 42:12 49:21 57:12 58:8,23 59:12 63:13 64:3 69:9,23 76:6 77:16 144:6 162:23 174:2 177:3 charge 141:20 charged 148:15 chargers 140:14 141:24 143:6 charges 57:22 charging 141:21 143:3 Charter 62:9 80:21 85:12 88:15 207:24 chattel 155:9 cheap 101:3 Check 228:2 Chelten 31:22 Cherelle 99:5 Chester 104:3 108:23 109:18 114:2,3 129:3,17 130:6 Chief 20:7,8 31:4 34:16 40:10 43:6 46:15 51:7 53:7 54:23 57:9 65:11 67:2 68:18 69:6 71:9 72:19 76:24 80:10 85:2 93:17 177:14 180:22 184:22 186:10 188:3 189:16 191:6 192:16 194:3 195:18 197:4 198:13 199:19 201:3 202:14 203:22 205:4 206:17 211:16 213:7,16 214:13 215:24 217:8 218:17 220:2 221:12 223:2	child 80:23 85:14 88:17 105:21,22 111:7 118:16, 22 child's 112:21 childhood 104:6 123:7 children 15:10 106:6,22 109:14 110:22 117:10,20 120:15 123:14,20 129:4,7 139:10 141:6 148:18 150:5 156:20 157:5 171:11 228:7 244:23 254:4 Children's 15:13 Chisholm 124:8,10 143:13 choice 118:17 choices 129:21 choose 105:3,4 chooses 118:18 choosing 118:19 chose 103:23 Chris 162:5 Christmas 136:18 137:12 Christopher 175:10 Christy 138:8 church 3:10 5:21 7:4 Cindy 9:21 76:15 122:20 175:18 187:3 188:17 190:7 191:18 193:4 194:19 196:6 210:18 212:8 217:15,20 256:23 262:21 Circular 74:10 circulated 12:4 circumstances 92:9 cited 100:20 cities 17:11 112:11 140:4	citizen 4:14 108:17 162:10 citizens 6:24 120:13 250:22 253:14 city 2:5,6 3:4 6:4,8 7:23 8:16 14:18,22 15:9,20 16:7 17:11 19:2,18,19 20:14 24:18 25:7,13,17, 21 26:4,13,21 27:5 30:23 32:10,18 33:14 36:4,7,18 37:7,13,17,21 38:4 43:15, 24 48:24 51:21 53:13,17 55:20,23 56:2 57:18 60:20 64:17 65:17 80:17 81:18 82:3 85:8 88:5,11 93:13 96:11,19 97:21 101:11,15 102:4,10,15 105:9 106:15 107:13 108:6 109:2 112:19 113:23 114:12,13,18 115:10,19 116:2,13,14 117:22 118:17 120:13 131:18 135:23 136:15 137:9,17,21 141:23 142:24 144:2,12 148:4,21 149:5,15 152:11,13,14 153:16 155:2 158:20 161:10 162:14,18 163:5, 24 164:9 165:9 167:4 169:23 170:10,12 171:3, 13,17 172:11 180:3 183:13,20 188:12 189:20 197:12 199:24 201:8,13 205:14 210:6 218:23 220:7 226:7,24 230:2,5,6 240:5 243:18,22,23 244:6,15 250:4,22 251:4, 15,21 252:3,18,22 253:14,22 254:4,8,11,18 261:4 city's 16:22 82:18 131:4 157:4 221:21 Citywide 49:9 198:18 City's 25:23 37:23 73:21
---	---	---

civic 55:9 136:7 138:2
166:13 246:11

civically 119:3

civil 132:23 133:3 247:7

claim 99:16

clarification 56:23

Clark 107:22

Clayton 111:17

clean 104:19

cleanest 114:13

cleans 258:22

clear 142:23 167:18

Clerk 20:7,8,12 31:4,6,17
32:5,23 33:20,22 34:16,
19 35:11,22 36:15 38:14
39:3,9 40:10,12 41:2,16
42:6 43:6,8,21 44:11,22
45:9 46:15,18 47:6,16
48:7,17 49:6,15 50:5
51:7,9,18 52:4 53:7,10,22
54:23 55:3 56:9 57:10,11
58:7,22 59:11 60:3,12
61:6,17 62:14 63:6,20
64:10 65:3,11,13 66:4
67:2,5,14 68:18 69:6,8,22
70:14 71:9,11 72:2,19,22
73:9,18 74:16 75:12,22
76:24 77:4,15 78:6,19
79:12 80:10,12 81:14,23
82:12 85:2,4 87:24 88:3
93:18,20 103:3 111:13
125:11 128:8 131:24
134:10 138:5 143:12
159:18 162:4 173:2,13,16
175:6,9 176:20,22
177:14,16,23 178:4,8,12,
15,19,24 179:6,10,21,23
180:22,24 181:5,11,15,
19,23 182:3,7,12,17,21
183:5,8 184:22,24
186:10,12 188:3,5
189:16,18 191:6,8
192:16,18 194:3,5

195:18,20 197:4,6
198:13,15 199:19,21
201:3,5 202:14,16
203:22,24 205:4,6
206:17,19 207:9 210:2
211:16,18 213:7,9
214:13,15 215:24 216:3
217:8,10 218:17,19
220:2,4 221:12,15 223:2,
4

climate 141:17 151:4

clock 127:14

close 121:2 147:15 168:8

closed 157:19 166:23
172:19 248:14

closer 226:7

closes 149:13

closing 138:19 149:24
150:3,4 166:18

closure 54:19 61:21 112:6
121:16 139:17 157:19
161:24 166:9 167:19,23
171:4,18 207:13 240:15
241:5

co-author 157:9

Co-founder 67:18 214:19

co-introduced 54:20
208:10 240:9 246:18

co-sponsored 244:12

coach 33:11 256:4,5

Coalition 110:5 237:5
255:23

code 24:8 27:13,20 28:4,
11,18 29:2,9,17 32:13
34:21 35:13,24 40:19
41:10,23 42:13 46:20
47:18 49:22 51:11 56:11
57:13 58:9,24 59:13
63:14 64:4 69:10,24
71:13 76:7 77:6,17 174:3
176:24 183:15 245:12,17

codify 234:3

collaboratively 237:13

colleague 240:10 261:3

colleagues 16:6 34:10
50:23 223:14 236:2
237:12 241:8,23 252:20

collected 253:3

collection 26:23 57:18,19,
20

collections 167:21

collective 163:13

college 44:14 96:17
191:11

College's 44:16 191:13

Coltrane 18:9,10,14 43:23
162:20 163:20,21,22
164:4 165:3 189:20

Coltrane's 162:22 163:14
164:12

Coltranes 165:9

Coltrane's 44:2 189:22

Columbus 175:11

combining 71:15

comment 91:1,15,16 92:1
93:1 94:1 95:1 96:1 97:1
98:1 99:1 100:1 101:1
102:1 103:1 104:1 105:1
106:1 107:1 108:1 109:1
110:1 111:1 112:1 113:1
114:1 115:1,17 116:1
117:1 118:1 119:1 120:1
121:1 122:1 123:1 124:1
125:1 126:1 127:1 128:1
129:1 130:1 131:1 132:1
133:1,14 134:1 135:1
136:1 137:1 138:1 139:1
140:1 141:1 142:1 143:1
144:1 145:1 146:1 147:1
148:1 149:1 150:1 151:1
152:1 153:1 154:1 155:1
156:1 157:1 158:1 159:1

160:1 161:1 162:1 163:1 164:1 165:1 166:1 167:1 168:1 169:1 170:1 171:1 172:1 173:4 commenters 92:9 comments 92:14 93:15 115:21 commercial 47:19 56:12 77:18 245:11 Commission 80:24 85:15 88:18 130:16 180:10 commissioner 26:11,12, 19,20 96:4 242:19 Commissioners 131:18 commitment 54:3 67:20 103:16 110:11,13 145:9 146:16 202:20 214:21 225:18 238:6 257:16 committed 158:19 committee 19:10,14 31:16 32:4,7,8 35:10,21 36:14 38:13 43:10 45:11 47:5, 15 48:6 51:17 55:15 56:8, 20 58:6,21 59:10 60:2,14 61:19 70:13 71:24 72:10 73:8,17 74:15 77:14 78:4, 18 82:14 112:15 149:22 180:5 183:10,11 188:7 194:7 205:8 207:11 221:17 228:7 239:7,22 240:13 committees 83:4 239:19 common 161:12 Commonwealth 52:7,12 105:10 148:24 149:5 communication 136:17 137:11 communications 20:1,4, 10 21:1 22:1 23:1 24:1 25:1 26:1 27:1 28:1 29:1, 19	communities 50:12 53:17 106:5 113:19 114:21 201:12 250:8 258:13 community 4:23 5:17 6:16 38:21 44:14 45:18 55:11 61:12 65:21 79:2 95:19 96:24 97:5,22 109:6 123:2,11,14,20 131:15 135:11,23 136:13 137:6 142:3 149:6,16 163:12 164:9 186:19 191:11 194:14 206:24 210:10 226:4 230:7 242:24 244:19 246:13,14, 20 248:22 252:6 255:15 256:15 257:17 258:21,24 259:8,13 260:2,16,17 261:8,13 companies 32:17 183:20 247:10 company 136:14 137:8 140:13 255:12 compassion 145:8 compassionate 146:9 compensation 24:11 154:4 competing 17:10 competition 255:14 competitive 45:13 194:8 complacency 149:14 complain 125:8 complaints 253:4 complete 57:19 completely 171:19 completing 66:8 211:22 Complex 259:23 260:9 complicit 149:3 compost 82:21 221:24 236:21 240:7	composting 82:16,18 109:19 221:19,21 239:24 240:4 compromise 8:12 156:3 concern 91:16 concerns 137:20 224:5 226:11 236:18 conclude 93:2 concludes 173:3 conclusion 156:2 condemn 161:17 conditions 24:12 26:9,17 27:2 35:6,17 36:10 38:9 46:24 47:11 48:2 56:16 58:2,17 59:6,21 69:17 70:7 71:21 73:4,13 74:11 77:10,23 109:8 177:8 condolences 61:11 206:23 conduct 99:15 confederates 154:11 confidence 105:19 confident 15:10 233:20 confirmation 230:18 confirming 27:3 conflicted 129:24 Confreres 103:22 conglomeration 230:3 congratulating 16:14 38:16 44:13,24 66:6 186:14 191:10 192:20 211:20 Congratulations 17:22 98:18 101:23 102:14 Congress 74:18 153:21 Congresso 15:12 105:15 106:3
---	--	--

conjunction 262:3	contracted 136:15 137:9	52:16,20,24 53:5,18 54:5,
connect 226:17 227:15 230:9	contracts 109:23	22 55:12 56:17 57:8 58:3,
connecting 226:21 231:6	contribute 59:18 243:21	18 59:7,22 60:8 61:2,13
connection 180:14 255:15	contributions 53:16 64:15 175:14 201:11 244:3	62:10,22 63:5,15,19 64:5,
connections 101:5 106:14	control 60:24 205:17 259:13	9,19,23 65:4,9,23 66:13,
consent 238:5	convened 116:23	20,23 67:10,23 68:9,17,
consequences 61:24 110:23 207:16 253:22	conversations 2:12,18 258:12	21,22,23 69:5,18 70:8,21
Conservation 36:2,5	conviction 7:19	71:7,22 72:7,17 73:5,14
consideration 12:15 24:2 39:21 40:23 41:14 42:4, 17 50:3,17 52:19 56:6 63:4,18 64:8,22 73:23 75:10,20 76:11 79:10 81:12 83:13 84:2 86:6,13 90:7	Coordinator 262:12	74:12 75:7,11,17,21 76:8,
considered 12:10 171:24	core 167:13	12,22 77:11,24 78:15
constituent 95:3	Corey 143:13 146:22	79:5,11,17,24 80:8,15,20
constituents 239:21 249:23	corporate 103:19 105:3 114:20	81:6,8,9,13,19 82:8,22
constitutional 180:4	corporations 109:16	83:10,12,15,19,24 84:8,
Constricted 234:20	correct 147:10	11,20,23 85:6,11,20,22,
construction 24:23 36:23	correction 102:24 128:8	23 86:4,9,12,19,22 87:5,
consumers 225:12	cost 142:9	9,17,20 88:5,14,23 89:2,
contact 262:11	costing 147:17	3,6,10,12,16,19 90:5
context 16:24 17:8	costs 25:11 37:11 143:3 167:20,23	91:12,19 93:14 94:9,11,
continue 119:12 224:4 226:6 244:14	council 2:2,6,7,13,19,22 3:2,5,19 6:17 9:10,13,14, 15 10:5,13,16 11:7,13,17 12:2,12 13:11,16 14:2,6, 9,15,18,19 15:4,8,18,20, 23 16:5 17:21 18:7,17,21, 23 19:2,7,16,18,19,23 20:14,23 21:9,19 22:6,14 23:16,21 29:20,21 30:3, 16 31:2,13,24 32:19 33:8, 24 34:8,15 35:7,18 36:11 38:10,22 39:7,18,22 40:3, 8,20,24 41:11,15,24 42:5, 14,18,22 43:3,16,17 44:7, 18 45:5,20 46:9,13 47:2, 12 48:3,13 49:2,11,23 50:4,13,18,22 51:5,14,23	102:11,15 108:6,9
continued 145:15 146:11 223:19		111:23,24 113:23 115:19
continues 114:19 145:20 167:21		128:15 129:22 132:4,6,7, 8,10,11,22 134:2,6,8
continuing 229:6		136:24 139:23 140:8,9
contract 113:24 114:24 119:11 128:22,23		143:23 144:2 152:10,11
		153:4 155:2,14 156:11
		162:15,18 165:12,19,22
		167:4 168:11,16,24
		169:4,5,14,18,23 170:21
		171:3 173:6 174:4,10,14,
		22 175:2,16 176:5,13,16
		177:9 179:10,12,13,15,16
		180:17 182:21,23 183:23
		184:5,9,16,19 185:8,10,
		20 186:4,7,22,24 187:13,
		20,23 188:13,15 189:3,
		10,13 190:5,16,23 191:3,
		16 192:3,10,13 193:2,13,
		20,23 194:17 195:5,12,15
		196:4,14,21,24 197:15,23
		198:7,10,21 199:6,13,16
		200:4,9,13,20,23 201:15,
		20,24 202:8,11,23 203:5,
		9,16,19 204:7,14,21,24
		205:20 206:4,11,14 207:4
		208:3,14,21,24 209:18,21

210:13,15 211:4,10,13
 212:4,6,17,24 213:4,15,
 21,23 214:7,10 215:2,7,
 11,18,21 216:11,18
 217:2,5,16,18 218:4,11,
 14 219:3,8,12,19,22
 220:13,18,22 221:6,9
 222:3,8,12,19,22 223:6,7,
 13,18 225:21 229:8,9,11,
 16 233:2 236:7,13
 237:13,19 241:14,16,21
 245:2,7 246:4 247:19
 249:16 256:21 257:11
 261:4,6,18 262:17 263:2,
 6,8,14,17,22,24

Council's 167:10

Councilman 16:4 17:23
 19:6,21 30:15 42:21 46:3,
 11 54:11 66:19 68:5,6,12,
 13 71:4 72:12,13 111:23
 120:19 133:16 134:4
 153:6 155:18 164:23
 165:16 168:15 169:3,11
 178:3,14,17,22 181:3,14
 182:2,5,10 184:4 185:14
 196:10 197:14,19 199:2
 204:11 205:24 208:6
 209:13 213:19 215:6
 216:15 223:12 229:15
 230:20 233:5 247:23
 261:5

Councilmanic 27:11,17
 28:2,8,15,23 29:6,14
 40:17 41:7,21 42:11
 49:20 63:11 64:2 76:4
 77:22 173:23

Councilmember 3:12
 9:21 10:22 11:9,11,19,21
 13:20 15:2 16:2 19:5
 30:14 34:5 39:24 42:20
 46:2 52:22 54:10,21 65:2
 66:18 71:3 76:14 79:22
 80:7 83:6 84:15 86:2 87:3
 89:5 101:19 102:16 110:6
 114:8,9 117:3 130:17
 133:15 134:23 137:23

144:8 146:15 155:17
 165:15 168:14 169:7,10
 174:6 175:18,20 176:2
 177:17,18,20,24 178:2,5,
 9,13,16,20,21 179:2,3,4,7
 181:2,6,8,12,13,16,20,24
 182:4,8,9,13,14,15,18
 183:22 184:2 185:7,12
 186:20 187:3,9 188:14,
 17,18,23 190:4,7,8,13
 191:15,19,24 192:24
 193:4,5,10 194:16,19,20
 195:2 196:3,6,8 197:17
 198:20,23 200:3,6
 201:14,17 202:22 203:2
 204:6,9 205:18,22 207:3
 208:2,5,11 210:12,18,24
 212:3,9,14 213:14,17
 214:23 215:4 216:10,13
 217:15,20 218:24 219:5
 220:12,15 222:2,5 223:11
 227:6,12 228:21 229:13
 233:4 236:11 240:11
 241:19 245:4 247:22
 248:10 253:18 256:23
 262:21

councilmembers 3:4,15
 4:12 105:6 109:20 121:14
 138:16

Councilpeople 19:12
 158:22

Councilperson 148:12

Councilpersons 147:3

Councilwoman 9:22
 10:24 11:12 12:6 15:3
 34:7 40:2 50:20,21 52:23
 76:16 79:23 83:9,17
 84:19 86:3 87:4 89:9
 90:17 98:9 99:2 100:17
 102:19,22 136:23 140:15
 174:9 175:22 177:21
 178:6,10 179:5,8 181:9,
 17,21 182:16,19 187:6
 188:20 190:10 191:18,21
 193:7 194:22 200:8

201:19 203:4 210:21
 212:8,11 217:22 219:7
 220:17 222:7 228:22
 236:12 241:20 245:6
 257:2 260:20 262:23

count 236:9

countries 108:2

country 17:12 130:24
 161:11 175:15

County 108:14

couple 17:2 157:21
 254:20

court 102:7 260:2,9

courtyard 230:2

Covanta 100:19

covenanting 25:21 37:21

covered 57:21 139:4

covers 170:8

crackdown 245:16

crazy 159:7

created 45:13 160:23
 194:9 248:9

creates 102:3

creating 36:3 104:10

creation 80:22 85:13
 88:16

creative 65:20 112:13
 210:9

credit 59:16 180:13 251:2,
 14,24

Crickets 102:11

crime 99:9,11 238:8
 250:18

crimes 100:16

criminal 99:15

crisis 45:17 117:19
 194:12

critical 110:17,19 255:8 CTR 36:7 culmination 163:13 cultural 44:5 139:9 140:4 163:3 165:4 172:12 190:2 254:17 culture 53:15 96:24 106:14 120:14 164:18 201:10 256:17 cultures 106:9 Cup 60:19 101:13 205:12 Cure 74:20 curfew 77:20 258:14 curious 112:13 current 82:17 167:22 221:20 224:5 225:5 240:3 curricular 150:10 curse 147:7 Curtis 46:2 155:17 196:3, 9 197:14,17 198:20,23 custody 5:22 cuts 235:23 Cyrus 159:21	daughters 113:6 David 93:23 103:11 261:10 day 43:23 57:20 100:2 105:5 106:10 108:24 116:6 118:21 121:4 124:21 131:21 135:9 142:19 162:20 164:4 165:7 189:20 226:3,6 231:19 236:16 238:17 243:2 249:7,12 253:8 254:22,23 256:8,10 257:5 263:21 days 177:11 180:19 DBHIDS 229:22 de 15:12 deadline 168:6,8 deadly 129:2 deal 4:8 6:8 232:16 dear 239:9,12 decade 141:24 225:14 260:4 decades 48:22 50:9 94:22 197:10 decided 231:8 deciding 225:4 decision-making 172:7 declaring 75:3 162:19 dedicate 123:20,21 dedicated 48:10,22 195:23 197:10 239:12 248:7 dedication 39:15 82:6 103:15 165:7 220:9 Deeley 96:5 Deep 7:18 deeper 122:3 deepest 162:13 163:23	deeply 144:9 deficits 106:17 defining 70:2 definition 51:13 245:21 definitions 34:24 35:5 Delaware 6:10 108:13 144:5 delay 153:20 delayed 154:7 delaying 154:8 deliver 20:6 153:23 delivery 24:17 36:17 demand 113:23 democracy 5:7 8:13 135:6 Democratic 112:14 denial 150:13 238:3 density 259:4,9 Department 25:4 37:4 43:12 132:24 133:2,4,7 177:6 188:9 229:20,21 department's 43:14 188:11 departments 230:7 departments' 115:20 deputy 76:14 242:19 Derrick 17:5 descendant 155:8 describes 168:3 deserve 145:20 250:5 deserved 127:22 145:12 deserves 118:3 126:24 171:22 224:16 246:15 designated 57:20 designating 257:12 designations 31:8,20
D		
D.D.S. 67:17 214:18 DA 102:9 dad 4:23 121:13 damaged 150:13 Dan 121:12 Daniel 111:15 Darryl 111:16 data 135:23 daughter 96:15,18 121:21 248:8		

78:9 designed 131:6 determination 9:2 determined 167:8 determining 225:11 develop 52:12 247:2 developed 109:8 162:11 developer 101:21 developing 65:19 210:8 development 24:21 25:2 36:21 37:2 259:2,3 developments 74:4 devices 69:11,14 Devin 17:4 devout 9:3 Diamond 249:13 Diaz 103:4 105:13,14 138:7 140:7,10 236:23 died 109:11 dig 112:23 digital 62:18 dignity 6:20 145:13 diligence 133:8 dinos 112:24 113:13 dinosaur 107:24 dinosaurs 151:20 152:22 254:10 dioramas 151:17 direct 258:11 directing 81:2 85:16 88:19 direction 114:10 directly 261:5 director 110:3 113:17 116:21 120:2 242:13	243:8 disabilities 116:11 134:22 135:10,17 136:11,19 137:5,14 disability 51:20 130:14, 16,19,21 135:22 136:2,17 137:11 199:23 246:9,12, 14,20 disability-led 135:8 disabled 116:7 136:9 disappear 254:15 disappeared 122:10 disappearing 117:9 disappears 172:2 disapprove 119:10 discarded 104:12 discarding 150:14 discharged 6:14 disconnect 93:7 discover 118:24 discovered 151:15 discussions 241:10 disease 82:7 141:5 144:6, 18,21 145:5,11 146:13,19 220:11 236:23 239:14 disgrace 129:13 dismantled 166:14 dismissed 100:16 dispense 14:12 dispersed 166:15 display 142:20 disposal 26:23 74:2 dispose 27:9,16,23 28:7, 14,21 29:5,12 40:15 41:5, 19 42:9 49:18 63:9,23 76:2 173:18	distinguished 50:10 70:19 216:8 district 15:8 27:11,18 28:2,9,16,23 29:7,14 36:3,5,8 40:17 41:7,21 42:11 47:20 49:20 56:12 59:5 63:11 64:2 71:16,17, 18,19 76:4 77:7,18,22 96:13 99:12 101:18 108:10 112:16 115:10 116:2,15 122:20 133:19 153:6 171:21 173:23 224:20 225:23 226:4 227:7,13 240:11 249:16 258:23 259:17 districts 71:14 115:11,23 252:9 diverse 5:17 diversion 74:5 diversity 106:10 Divincenzo 17:4,5 Dixon 111:22 112:2 DJ 230:14 doctors 258:19 documents 167:13 dollars 147:18 154:21,22 Don 143:12 Donald 124:10 donations 146:10 Donna 260:20 Donte 17:4 door 248:19 doors 150:3 172:20 248:13 double 129:17 doubt 104:14 Dougherty 143:15 152:9, 13
---	---	---

downstream 104:10 drag 245:17 246:2 draw 147:5 Dre 159:23 dreams 108:19 Drexel 61:23 108:3 120:11,17 147:8,14 149:2,3 167:12 207:15 237:7 240:20 Driscoll 68:12,13 178:21, 22 182:9,10 216:10,13,15 drive 81:17 140:17 142:18 218:22 239:4 dropping 127:12 drug- 116:3 Dudley 75:15 due 25:14 26:3 37:14 38:3 92:13 98:13 133:8 245:19 duly 10:4 13:15 86:8 87:8 89:11 174:13 176:4 184:8 185:19 187:12 189:2 190:15 192:2 193:12 195:4 196:13 197:22 199:5 200:12 201:23 203:8 204:13 206:3 208:13 209:17 211:3 212:16 213:22 215:10 216:17 218:3 219:11 220:21 222:11 263:5 Duren 17:3 dutifully 95:8 dying 114:3 Dyson 159:21 E Eakin 111:18 128:11,14 earlier 133:20 early 116:22 151:11	ease 9:13,14 68:21,22 94:11,12 132:5,6,9,10 179:14,15 easily 166:17 east 27:9 76:2 249:18 economic 97:10 105:19 economy 74:8,10 ecstasy 7:8 EDO 77:6 educating 170:10 education 60:6 65:16,19 97:10 110:24 143:7 150:10,18 159:4 160:10, 20 161:15 170:7 204:3 210:5,8 educational 62:5 161:7 172:13 207:20 educator 112:8 151:22 160:7 162:10 educators 50:11 Edwards 17:7 effect 237:20 260:7 effective 224:12,14 effectiveness 32:14 183:16 effects 104:11 129:12 156:5 effectuate 26:7 38:7 efforts 163:14 egregious 129:11 Eighth 77:7,17,21 Eireann 111:15 El-mekki 50:8,9 Elaine 19:10 125:12 134:8,10 eldest 96:14	elected 139:23 election 81:5 85:19 88:22 electors 80:17 85:8 88:11 electric 81:17 140:14,18 141:15 142:3,19,20 218:22 239:4 elements 259:18 elevate 138:21 elevation 38:17 186:15 elevator 235:13 elevators 132:19 eligible 59:17 62:20 eliminate 24:13 Elite 16:23 Elizalde 138:22,23 embracing 118:8 emerged 164:13 Emergencies 75:6 emergency 75:4 emergency-level 74:24 Emerging 247:4 emissions 140:22 141:12 emotion 120:5 emotional 127:5 employ 59:17 Employed 234:21 employee 157:7 employers 251:15 252:2 employing 59:19 employment 59:16 251:2 enables 116:3 enact 62:17 74:19 encountered 171:9 encourage 82:20 221:23
--	--	---

240:6 250:20	108:15,24	evident 103:20
encouragement 242:6	equal 154:16	EVS 142:13
encroachment 72:23	equipment 131:8	examine 155:21 172:7 240:3 253:21
encroachments 47:7 73:10	equipping 24:23 36:23	examining 32:10 183:12
end 104:22 106:23 114:11 119:19 159:10	equitable 74:7 146:9 253:13	exceeds 58:15
enduring 64:15 249:9	era 150:9	exception 59:3 77:20
energy-efficient 104:20	Erfer 138:6	excessive 224:17
enforce 153:22	Esq 143:13	excited 241:9 246:7 257:20 259:11,24 260:5, 14
enforcement 32:15 58:11, 13 60:17 183:18 205:10	Esquire 27:5	excitement 151:11
engage 139:11	essence 166:12	exciting 263:21
engaged 115:12 119:3	essential 65:18 112:10 164:12 210:7	excuse 70:11 169:7
engagement 142:4 246:12	establish 24:10 59:15 69:12 167:5,11	excused 133:22 165:18 169:13
enjoy 255:11	established 225:15 234:17	execution 24:16 36:17
enlighten 151:2	establishes 237:21	executive 113:17 119:24
enriches 106:15	establishing 74:4	exempt 57:14
ensure 45:17 108:17 145:18 194:13 244:22 250:15	estate 163:22	exist 228:11,12
ensures 163:6	estimates 136:5	existence 151:4 158:4
enter 26:14,22	EV 140:12 142:14 143:3 236:23	exists 159:9
entered 117:15	evacuate 132:16	exit 6:13
entering 234:6	evaluated 168:2	expanding 54:4 202:20
entire 162:18 242:15 260:13	evaluation 73:19	expands 106:12
entitled 24:6,8 34:21 35:2, 13,24 46:20 47:18 51:11 56:11 57:13 58:9,24 59:13 69:10,24 71:13 77:6,17 80:15 85:6 88:9 116:10 176:24	evening 255:2	Expedition 107:23
entrance 109:3 131:8	event 44:2 137:16 189:21 226:23 262:14	expendable 99:18,23
environment 170:6	events 49:10 60:18 136:21 198:19 205:12 243:17 249:15 254:20 262:11	experience 164:19 242:24
environmental 100:18	evidence 8:15 102:8 120:10	experiences 106:9
	evidences 25:9,20 37:9, 20	experiencing 242:2
		experiment 166:21
		experts 142:21
		explanation 238:2
		explore 239:20,24

exploring 157:10**expo** 229:19,22**exposure** 109:10**express** 162:13 242:12**expressing** 61:10 206:23**extend** 56:13 110:13
163:23**extension** 115:19**extent** 62:7 207:22**extraordinary** 53:15 79:2
164:2 201:11**extreme** 152:2**extremely** 92:13 244:13**eyes** 133:12

F

face 106:24**face-to-face** 142:22**facilities** 70:3 101:2 116:8
172:8**fact** 46:12 95:2 158:3
234:13,23**factories** 100:24**factual** 167:11**fail** 147:22 148:2,6,7**failed** 149:4**failing** 141:2**fails** 57:18**failure** 148:22 149:2,15**fair** 92:17 253:10,11,13**fairness** 32:14 183:17**faith** 66:8 145:8 211:22**Faith-based** 255:23**faithfully** 92:18**fake** 99:8 100:13**fall** 223:22 237:11**falling** 107:2**false** 100:14**families** 4:18 5:20 64:17
109:11 118:4 144:22
145:17 146:3 157:4,5
226:18 227:16,21 228:15
256:16**family** 60:6 61:11 96:16
106:14 126:16 163:21
204:4 206:24 226:5
234:14 241:24 242:11
256:10 257:19,21 261:16**fan** 7:9 33:13**Farmer's** 226:4**fast** 140:12 150:21 236:24**father** 3:8,17,21,24 6:19
8:20 9:8,12 67:18 95:4
123:10 126:3 214:18
254:13**father's** 123:6**fatherless** 123:10,11**fathom** 104:17**Fatima** 159:23**favor** 10:10 14:3 84:4
86:15 87:13 89:13 172:14
174:18 176:9 184:13
185:24 187:17 189:7
190:20 192:7 193:17
195:9 196:18 198:4
199:10 200:17 202:5
203:13 204:18 206:8
208:18 211:7 212:21
214:4 215:15 216:22
218:8 219:16 221:3
222:16 263:11**favorite** 230:16**fears** 142:8**Feasibility** 167:16**featuring** 74:2**federal** 74:21 102:7,9
150:19 235:17**fee** 25:14 26:2 37:14 38:2**Feeding** 67:20 214:21**feel** 129:23 143:9 149:12
233:20 250:22 254:14**fees** 224:18**feet** 161:13**fell** 151:19**fellow** 140:2**fellowship** 255:11**felt** 148:15 242:7**female** 245:23**females** 127:20**fewer** 117:12**field** 7:11 112:12**FIFA** 60:18 205:12**fight** 114:17 136:20
137:15 151:3 157:23
159:13**fighting** 55:19,24 136:12
137:5**figure** 236:2**figured** 232:20**final** 16:15,19,24 32:21
33:10,18 38:24 39:20
40:22 41:13 42:3,16
43:19 44:9,20,24 45:7,22
48:15 49:4,14 50:2,16
52:2,18 53:20 54:7 56:5
60:10 61:4,15 62:12,24
63:3,17 64:7,21 66:2,15
67:12 68:3 69:20 70:10,
23 75:9,19 76:10 79:9,19
81:11,21 82:10,24 90:4,
13,15,24 91:4,18 173:9,
11 192:20 235:4 257:22
258:7

finally 177:13 180:21 226:20 235:23 246:22 256:7 260:5 finance 25:10 37:10 financial 172:8 financing 24:22 36:22 find 149:7 172:17 finding 241:11 fine 227:12 250:11 fines 57:16,22 58:12 250:3,4,12 finish 137:2 finishing 263:24 firefighters 126:18 first-time 234:12 firsthand 171:14 Firsts 148:4 fiscal 25:23 37:23 129:23 fit 250:18 fitting 95:14 fix 100:11 234:23 flashy 258:10 flex 123:15 Flock 52:11 247:4,8 floor 154:15 155:3 FNE 71:15 focus 94:24 focused 156:17,19 folk 234:17 folks 3:18 16:12 250:10, 16 252:11 255:9 260:22 follow 3:22 110:23 125:3 156:5 233:10 235:12 food 137:7 258:18 foot 16:11	football 100:10 233:17 footprint 240:8 forefront 55:22 forensics 25:3 37:3 forever 261:8 forgotten 146:5 156:8 239:17 Forrester 143:18 156:14, 16 forty 48:9 195:22 forward 6:6 30:23 33:4 105:8 134:9 169:16 185:3 223:21 229:6 237:11 241:11 244:15 252:19 256:13 257:4,9 259:18 260:14 262:14 fossils 107:23 found 107:24 122:11 141:8 147:13 Foundation 117:2 165:5 founder 140:12 Fourth 110:18 framework 162:12 Frances 39:5,12,14 Franklin 7:11 171:20 256:6 fraudulent 150:17 free 15:14 109:3 116:24 135:16 Freedmen 153:24 154:6, 9,14,19,23,24 155:7 freshest 118:11 fried 117:13 friend 3:11 239:12 friendly 255:14 friends 61:11 67:19 123:7 206:24 214:20 231:3	257:21 front 5:22 full 25:14 37:14 62:7 108:20 207:22 249:15 Fultz 125:12 134:9,11 fun 226:5 230:14 244:9 functionally 117:22 functions 43:14 188:11 fund 102:13,21 140:4 165:5 180:10 fundamental 147:23 Fundamentals 166:7 funding 150:17 fundraiser 66:9 120:2 211:23 fundraising 120:21 funds 180:7 funny 231:16,17 232:14, 19 future 97:24 106:2 108:18 113:11 149:11 151:5 161:2,16 163:6 165:8 167:8 226:24 244:16,24
G		
		gains 105:22 gallery 151:12,13 Galloway 27:5 153:16 game 101:14 233:17 255:3 gaps 82:18 221:21 240:4 garages 141:23 Garnick 103:5 109:24 110:3 gas 140:21 142:16 gas-powered 140:20

gather 8:10 256:2	good 2:20,21,23,24 3:11, 17,20,22,23 7:16,22 8:9, 14,15 9:4,5 16:5,6,7,9,11 19:2 33:19 34:8,9 40:3 42:21,23 46:4 50:22 52:24 53:2 54:11 68:14 98:21 105:13 108:5 110:2 112:9 116:18 121:18 124:8 128:13 131:12 134:17 138:13 140:7 149:18 153:13 156:14 169:23 209:5 232:24 236:14	Graves 125:19,21 159:23
gathering 118:4 249:6		great 4:8 8:24 14:22 29:22 131:21 158:14,15 164:14 165:9 239:20 243:23
Gauthier 39:24 40:2 99:3 100:17 103:14 174:6,9 177:20,21 181:8,9 228:21		greater 7:15 55:10 107:2 144:20 146:8
gave 139:3 141:2		greatest 123:15 151:3
Gay 82:5 144:15 220:9 239:15		greed 103:19
general 52:6 62:16 149:7 246:23		green 92:21 104:20 156:20 256:3
generation 65:20 97:5 123:6 172:22 210:9	Goodin 38:17 186:15	greenest 114:13
generations 100:22 112:11 123:4 163:6 171:8	goodness 7:21 122:11	greenhouse 140:21
generations' 7:10	govern 160:15	Greensmith 159:5
genius 163:16	government 19:11 60:21 95:10,12 116:13 150:19 153:3 205:15 235:17 248:15	grew 96:12 151:11
geological 160:13		grieving 109:12
Germantown 78:11,13 260:24 261:7,12	grace 7:20	ground 161:13 243:9
Gilbert 103:4 107:7,9	grade 106:24 110:18 117:20	group 163:23 170:4 234:5,16 235:4
Gilmore 10:23,24 11:21 12:6 13:21 34:5,7 83:17 90:10,17 98:7,9 177:18 181:6 186:21 187:5,9	grades 141:3	groups 154:17 230:7
Giordano 70:16 216:5	graduate 96:16	grow 108:18 244:5
Girard 73:12	graduating 107:3	growing 106:6
give 3:6 17:18 29:23 96:7 124:18 127:18 170:15 237:4 259:12 261:15	graduation 98:15	grown 170:12
giving 92:2 100:13 236:17	granddaughter 151:9	guaranteeing 237:24
glad 102:14	grander 122:4	guardrails 52:13 247:2,13
glimpse 237:9	grandfather 122:23 123:2, 8,12,13,15,23 124:5	guest 3:11
global 163:8	grandkids 170:14,16	guests 3:13,15 14:1,14 15:1,11 16:1 17:1 18:1 19:1 103:11
goal 119:15 230:9	granted 98:19 134:3 165:24 169:2,19	guided 225:19
God 7:16 9:6	grassroots 16:20	guidelines 237:22
Golden 226:11	grateful 4:10 144:9 242:10	guy 125:6 158:8
Gonski 75:16	gratitude 162:14 163:24 242:13	guys 154:10
		gym 124:21,23

H		
H.O.M.E. 234:24 259:18	Hasson 92:2	herewith 23:24 88:7
Hagins 143:15 153:13,15 155:13	Hastings 111:14 119:6,7	heritage 35:15 53:12 96:22 161:10 162:2 165:4 201:8 243:14,15
Haines 260:23	haven 126:7,14	hero 185:16
half 117:21	heads 7:14	hesitation 142:6
half-baked 147:15	healing 239:15	hiccups 256:8
half-hearted 159:13	health 82:14 103:16 109:15 119:9,18 136:13 137:7 141:16 146:9 221:17 229:20 235:16 239:6,23	high 102:17 256:6
Hall 101:15 109:2 158:20 226:7 230:2 251:4 255:20	healthier 148:20	high-needs 157:17
halls 142:23	healthy 108:19 230:12	high-profile 247:9
hallways 95:7	Heaney 125:14 134:12	higher 7:17 141:10
Ham 256:4	hear 132:2,3 142:6 224:5	highest 131:4
Hamilton 256:5	heard 145:12 170:5 253:15 257:18	highlight 226:22
handed 96:23	hearing 54:18 112:4 121:15 167:10 171:3 172:6,15 223:23 228:8 235:21 252:10 253:21	highlighting 135:3
handing 97:4	hearings 12:17 32:10 43:11 45:12 61:20 82:15 138:18 155:22 183:12 188:8 194:8 207:12 221:18 240:3,14	highway 175:13 231:5
handled 95:3 158:11	heart 113:8 141:5 239:9 260:24	hire 251:16 252:3
hands 114:4	heartbreaking 6:2 129:8	Hirsch 128:10 134:11
Hank 75:16	heed 140:3	Hispanic 53:12,16 96:22 201:8,12 243:14,15
Hanley 143:17	held 90:22 91:10 248:20	historic 156:22 157:16
happen 120:4	helped 248:12	historical 153:20
happening 136:9 243:4, 18 251:4 259:14	helping 139:11 144:19 145:18 146:17	history 5:6,7 45:16 53:14 107:10,18,20 148:5 152:15,24 153:3,11 154:10 157:11,13 162:24 166:22 170:7 194:12 201:10 231:15 256:17
happy 230:12 243:15	helps 160:23	hit 233:11 235:23 250:11
hard 165:6 253:24 260:12	hemisphere 148:6	HMBL 66:7 211:21
harmful 104:23	Henderson 125:13	Hoffer 125:14 134:12
Harris 262:6	Henry 75:16	Hoffman 75:14
Harrisburg 247:17		hold 32:9 43:11 45:12 61:20 82:15 92:18 107:21,23 115:15 138:18 148:23 150:20 152:3 172:14 183:12 188:8 194:8 207:12 221:18 240:13 253:20
Harrity 3:12 19:5,6,21 66:18,19 178:16,17 182:4,5 213:14,17,19 214:24 215:4,6 229:14,15 248:11		
Harrowgate 242:22		

holding 159:10 home 4:8 62:9 80:21 85:12 88:15 127:12 135:15 207:24 226:7 homebuying 234:13 homeowners 101:22 homes 101:17 135:17,19 honest 143:2 honor 7:7 50:8 55:6 64:14 75:15 78:24 124:3,5 153:17 164:3 173:2 175:13 248:18 249:4 257:15 honorable 24:2 123:9 124:2 261:9 honored 171:16 249:2 honoring 16:14 38:15 39:4,11 43:22 44:12,23 48:8,18 49:7 61:7 66:5 67:8,15 82:4 94:19 163:3 186:13 189:19 191:9 192:19 195:21 197:7 198:16 206:20 211:19 213:12 214:16 220:8 232:23 honors 95:16,17 hope 6:4 74:20 97:23 151:24 164:3 260:21 hoping 133:20 Horowitz 227:9 horrific 161:24 Hospital 258:19 host 171:16 227:3 hosted 226:5 255:21 hosting 255:2 hotline 238:14,18,19 Houde 138:7,13,15 hour 2:4 56:12,14 77:18	hours 95:7 127:10,15 226:8 House 18:9 62:17 163:22 236:17 262:4 households 62:21 106:8 houses 234:24 housing 135:13 137:7 226:11 Howerton 111:16 122:17, 18 HR 154:2 huge 247:7 252:17 261:7 Hughes 103:5 111:22 112:2 164:24 human 82:15 221:18 229:20 238:9,14 239:7,23 humanity 105:3 164:18 humans 103:17 122:5 hundreds 95:6 142:12 Hungry 67:21 214:22 Hunting 141:13 Huntingdon 27:9 76:3 husband 67:17 145:3 214:18 Hype 227:5,14,24 hyperbole 150:7 hypothesis 120:9,10	II 143:13 III 75:16 ill 116:3 156:4 illegal 99:20 121:6 illiterate 117:23 illustrative 47:24 imagine 105:24 113:4 142:18 immeasurable 55:9 immediately 109:20 immigrant 5:20 238:8 immigration 238:4 impact 32:16 55:10 183:18 235:22 259:3 260:17 impacted 67:9 213:13 impactful 243:6 impacts 224:6 260:15 impersonators 245:23 implementation 24:24 36:24 implore 152:4 154:13 importance 135:3 138:2 139:7 239:21 important 6:15 95:11 98:14 104:16 106:4 107:17 110:9 111:3 133:18 156:9 170:6 172:2 233:13 244:13 importantly 223:15 improbable 158:4 improper 224:17 Improve 58:11 improvement 115:11 improvements 25:2 37:2 226:15
I		
I-95 141:9 ICE 5:20 ideal 92:8 identity 163:3 idolize 121:24 ignoring 159:14		

inaccurate 102:24	infant 129:16 130:3	intersection 72:5
inaction 149:14	information 115:8 240:22 262:11	intervention 107:4
inadequate 100:8	infrastructure 74:3 82:19 221:22 226:15 240:5	INTRO 30:1 31:1 32:1 33:1 34:1 35:1 36:1 37:1 38:1 39:1 40:1 41:1 42:1 43:1 44:1 45:1 46:1 47:1 48:1 49:1 50:1 51:1 52:1 53:1 54:1 55:1 56:1 57:1 58:1 59:1 60:1 61:1 62:1 63:1 64:1 65:1 66:1 67:1 68:1 69:1 70:1 71:1 72:1 73:1 74:1 75:1 76:1 77:1 78:1 79:1 80:1 81:1 82:1
inaudible 141:20	Inquirer 158:13	introduce 4:6 249:2
incarcerated 6:11	inquiry 151:24	introduced 4:3 84:17 153:21 154:5 155:21 183:21 185:7 186:20 188:13 190:3 191:14 192:23 194:15 196:2 197:13 198:19 200:2 201:13 202:21 204:5 205:18 207:2,24 210:11 212:3 213:13 214:23 216:9 217:15 218:24 220:11 221:24 223:22 224:3 235:5 239:2,18 240:2 244:10 245:10 246:22 248:16 249:21,24 250:24 252:4,24 253:20 257:12 258:9
incentivize 251:14 252:2	inside 131:10	introducing 33:16 80:3,6 130:18 134:24 138:17 144:10 162:16
incinerating 104:12 119:12	Inspections 177:7	introduction 30:11,19 230:21 237:3
incineration 114:11 119:16 128:24 129:2	inspiration 148:9	invest 97:14 109:18
incinerator 109:4,22 113:24 114:23	inspire 7:23 105:9 164:5 172:21	investigate 54:18 60:15 205:9
included 13:12	inspiring 139:10	investigating 61:21 207:13 240:14
including 8:24 32:13 60:18 73:22 82:17 117:5 154:2 183:16 205:12 221:20 230:6	installation 24:24 36:24 72:4	investing 139:15
income 45:14,15 59:14 194:10,11 234:20	installs 140:13	investiture 44:16 191:13
increase 179:24 246:11	institution 147:9,21 148:2,7,17 157:17 166:14 170:8 171:7 172:2	
increased 146:10	institution's 207:19	
increasingly 247:15	institutions 112:19 113:7 135:18 139:10,16 140:5 156:23 254:18	
incredible 7:20 236:16	institution's 62:4	
incredibly 136:16 137:10 238:22	instruction 111:4	
indebtedness 25:9,20 37:9,20 180:2	instrumental 261:11	
independent 134:21 135:12	insulted 150:12	
independently 135:10	integral 160:12	
indignity 103:24	intend 92:18	
individuals 15:7 57:15 144:21	intentional 106:19	
industrial 24:20 36:21 100:22 141:9	interest 7:22 120:17	
inequitably 250:23	interested 169:24	
inevitable 8:13 147:12	interesting 100:4 121:5 263:21	
	interests 114:20 120:12	
	intergenerational 255:3	

invitation 258:8**invite** 8:2 14:23 229:17
243:24**invited** 97:19**invites** 7:21**invocation** 2:1 3:1,7 4:1
5:1 6:1 7:1 8:1 9:12**involved** 4:17 148:16
156:21**involves** 128:23,24**involving** 102:8**irreplaceable** 122:13
171:10**Isaiah** 16:2 42:20 66:6
162:15 164:23 168:14
188:14,19 190:4,9
191:15,20 192:24 193:6
194:16,21 211:20 227:6**Island** 47:21**issuance** 25:7 37:7 62:6
180:15 207:21**issue** 25:18 37:18 112:6
154:16 241:4 252:18**issues** 170:6 224:23
239:9,20**items** 115:22**iterate** 166:11

J

Jacob 138:6**Jaime** 174:6**Jalen** 17:3**James** 30:23 33:4,5,13
143:14 152:12 185:3,4,16**Jamie** 39:24 103:13 104:7
228:21**Jannette** 103:4 105:14**Jay** 54:10 204:9 205:22
207:3 208:2,5 230:20
247:22**Jaylen** 79:14 217:12**Jeffrey** 54:10 56:24
138:17 158:22 204:6,9
205:18,22 207:3 208:2,5
230:20 232:22 240:11
247:22**Jenkins** 93:23 103:10,12**Jeremy** 93:22 101:10**Jerry** 125:13**Jigar** 143:16**Jim** 3:12 19:5 66:18 158:2
213:14,17 214:24 215:4
229:13**job** 29:22 33:19 126:15
231:5 232:24 251:12,18**jobs** 234:9 251:19**John** 18:9,14 43:23 44:2
70:16 93:21 98:22
162:20,22 163:21,22
164:4,11 165:2,8 189:20,
21 216:5**Johnson** 2:3,23 3:3,20
6:18 9:11,16 10:6,14,17
11:8,18 13:17 14:7,10
15:19,24 17:22 18:24
19:17,24 29:22 30:4 31:3,
14 32:2,20 33:9 34:2,16
35:8,19 36:12 38:11,23
39:8,19 40:9,21 41:12
42:2,15 43:4,18 44:8,19
45:6,21 46:10,14 47:3,13
48:4,14 49:3,12,24 50:14
51:6,15,24 52:17 53:6,19
54:6,23 55:13 56:18 57:9
58:4,19 59:8,23 60:9
61:3,14 62:11,23 63:16
64:6,20 65:10,24 66:14,
24 67:11,24 68:10,18,24
69:19 70:9,22 71:8,23
72:8,18 73:6,15 74:1375:8,18 76:9,23 77:12
78:2,16 79:6,18 80:9
81:10,20 82:9,23 83:16,
20 84:9,12,24 85:24
86:10,20,23 87:10,18,21
89:4,13,17,20 91:13
94:10,14 96:3 98:6,18
111:24 132:8,12,23
134:3,7 137:2 143:23
155:15 156:12 162:5
165:13,23 168:12 169:2,
6,19 170:22 173:7 174:5,
15,23 175:3,17 176:6,14,
17 177:10 179:11,13,17
180:18 182:22,24 183:24
184:10,17,20 185:9,11,21
186:5,8,23 187:2,14,21,
24 188:16 189:4,11,14
190:6,17,24 191:4,17
192:4,11,14 193:3,14,21,
24 194:18 195:6,13,16
196:5,15,22 197:2,16,24
198:8,11,22 199:7,14,17
200:5,14,21,24 201:16
202:2,9,12,24 203:10,17,
20 204:8,15,22 205:2,21
206:5,12,15 207:5 208:4,
15,22 209:2,19,22 210:14
211:5,11,14 212:5,7,18
213:2,5,16,24 214:8,11
215:3,12,19,22 216:12,19
217:3,6,17,19 218:5,12,
15 219:4,13,20,23
220:14,23 221:7,10
222:4,13,20,23 223:8
229:12 233:3 236:8
241:17 245:3 247:20
256:22 262:18 263:7,15,
18**join** 7:12 14:20 131:16
237:6 244:7**joined** 236:20**joining** 14:15 69:3 96:6
256:13**joint** 235:21

Jones 46:2,3,11 50:15 111:24 155:17,18 178:2,3 181:13,14 196:3,9,10 197:14,17,19 198:20,23 199:2 233:4,5 236:8 261:5 Jones's 227:13 Jordan 262:5 Joshua 38:16 186:14 journal 9:1,18,24 10:7,18 30:6 journey 146:6 joy 5:8 joyfully 151:16 Jr 64:13,16 196:3 197:14, 17 198:20,23 204:6 205:19 judge 102:8 judges 153:4 Julia 111:13 116:19 June 9:19 10:2,8 20:21,24 21:7,10,17,20 22:4,7,12, 15 23:17,21 151:11 233:20 justice 8:11 100:15 108:24 131:9 Justin 17:7	Kenneth 256:4 Kensington 4:21 141:13 242:16,21 Kent 166:23 Kenyatta 143:23 kernel 117:16 Kevin 159:18 key 49:8 101:17 160:14,21 198:17 Khan 235:20 kick 246:3 kid 125:23 152:20 254:9 kids 108:13 126:10,13,22 127:6,19 128:3,4 170:13, 16 228:2 230:14 254:11 Kil 79:3 Kilgore 78:24 79:4 122:24 124:6,11,19 125:22 126:2,10,12 128:3 257:15 258:4 Kimberly 103:5 112:2 kind 120:3 King 33:5 185:4 Kitchen 55:5,7,21 57:5 61:10 94:20,21 95:2 206:22 209:12,16 230:22, 23 231:7,21 232:4,7,23 248:6,24 249:4,7 254:23 knew 232:14 241:24 knowingly 104:8 knowledge 104:24 Krasner 99:13 100:13 Krasner's 102:9 Krim 167:15 Kristen 170:23,24 Kutzik 111:15 119:21,22	KYW-TV 48:11 195:24
L		
		labeled 151:22 labor 64:16 laboratory 25:3 37:3 lack 97:6 147:23 148:8,9 224:18 Lady 261:6 Lan 136:23 land 27:8,15,22 28:6,13, 20 29:4,11 31:9,21 40:14 41:4,18 42:8 49:17 63:8, 22 75:24 78:10 100:21 101:3,18,23,24 102:3,5 173:17 Landau 50:20,21 130:17 134:23 137:23 147:3 149:22 178:5,6 181:16,17 200:3,6,8 245:5,6 Landes 103:6 115:4,5 landlords 258:16 landscape 35:14 156:16, 19 Lane 226:13 language 96:24 245:20,22 246:5 languages 106:9 large 129:19 larger 114:18 largest 114:15 130:23 Larry 99:12 100:13 lastly 228:5 late 13:12 145:3 258:17 Latino 53:17 97:5 201:12 Latinos 15:12 98:2 243:18,21
K		
Kate 108:7 Katherine 10:23 11:21 13:21 34:5 90:10 98:7 138:6,14 186:21 187:5 Kathy 187:9 Katz 138:7 Kendra 11:11 65:2 210:12 212:4,10 246:18 Kennedy 159:21		

laugh 231:18	leased 25:6 37:6	library 116:24 118:10,13 226:9
laughed 231:23 232:3	leave 10:20 11:6,16 98:13, 18 133:20 134:3 165:24 168:18 169:2,19 172:5 231:12	Library's 15:14
laughing 232:6		license 52:9,14 247:3 252:12
launch 168:6 226:3	LEAVES 10:1	Licenses 177:7
launched 226:3	leaving 18:2	life 44:3 55:7 61:8 64:14 67:16 78:24 82:4 95:16 105:5 124:12 161:6 189:23 206:20 214:16 220:8 234:15 238:7 249:8 255:19
Laura 143:16	Lebron 30:23 33:4,13 185:3,16	lifelong 105:20 145:8
Lauren 125:15 134:13,18	left 92:4 157:11 247:8	lifetime 17:14 67:20 113:5 214:21
law 12:13 43:12 158:2 188:9	legacy 44:6 55:7 61:8 67:16 79:2 145:20 162:23 190:3 206:21 214:17 239:15 249:10	lifting 147:4
Lawncrest 128:18	legal 99:20	light 92:21,23 93:5 146:18 230:13 232:21 250:2,3
laws 116:12 160:15 253:12	legendary 256:5	light-skinned 232:12
lawyers 126:18 153:4	legislate 229:7	limit 58:16 92:11,15,19 93:14 180:4
lay 232:21	legislation 52:8 237:21 245:10 248:17 249:3,22, 24 252:5 260:15	limited 59:3 77:19 167:5 234:20 252:7,11
Lea 143:16	legislative 9:5 11:23 13:19 14:21 32:7 43:10 45:11 61:19 162:11 183:10 188:7 194:7 207:11 240:12 257:10	lineage 155:10
lead 3:22 146:7	Leidy 28:7 41:19 173:20	lineal 155:8
leader 10:22 13:20 19:9 55:9 83:21 90:10 98:7 187:4 210:20 246:17	LENNI 255:4,17	lined 95:6
leaders 8:22 65:21 210:10 244:16	lessons 157:21 161:4,19	linked 141:4
leadership 7:24 8:3 18:20 38:20 55:22 64:14 97:6 114:19 146:16 158:24 186:18 242:15,20 243:12 248:9 253:19	letter 88:2	liquidity 180:13
League 16:23 131:9 257:14	level 117:21 139:24 148:21	Lisa 96:5 111:14 119:7
Leanne 143:17	Lewis 107:22	list 243:17
Leap 15:15	liability 102:3	listed 12:3 13:7
learn 110:22 153:9 225:16 243:4,24 254:5	liberties 247:8	listen 5:9 8:12 97:15 225:16 227:20 229:6
learned 152:21 160:18	Liberty 134:19 135:7	listening 225:18 249:22
learning 105:20 110:20 150:22 226:6	librarian 108:13	listing 173:4
learns 105:21 118:16	librarians 118:13	literacy 53:24 54:4 60:6 105:16 106:3,20 110:4,8, 11 111:8,10 116:22
lease 142:14		

117:4,18 118:6,15,18,20 202:18,20 204:4 244:11, 17,21 255:5	Lord 3:9 5:16 7:17 8:5	Majeedah 260:12
literal 161:12	Lord's 8:18	major 17:11 126:20 136:5
literally 248:19	lose 122:12 253:23	majority 10:22 11:5 13:20 16:2 76:14 83:20 89:21 90:10 98:6 162:15 179:18 183:2 187:4 223:9
Littering 57:14	loss 166:19	make 16:10 25:21,24 37:21,24 57:24 81:3 85:17 88:20 93:24 95:8 97:15 103:7 111:5,18 115:23 121:3,8 125:15 130:5 131:20 134:14 138:9 143:18 159:24 162:6 165:7 167:9 187:3 188:17 190:7 191:18 193:4 194:19 196:6 209:4 210:18 212:8 234:3,19 243:10,19 253:12,24 256:18 258:24 259:5,16 261:14
live 6:7 116:4 128:17 135:10 136:13 137:6	lost 122:7	makes 118:17 148:19 161:19 166:19
lived 9:2 145:5 252:14	lot 121:4 123:19 127:6 156:21 160:7 244:9 253:15	making 34:22 35:3 36:8 70:5 71:19 77:9 97:8 135:4 228:16 243:6,22 261:12
Lively 17:6	love 8:17 123:8,22 128:4 151:19 159:22 162:9 165:2 246:2	male 245:22
lives 7:18 99:17,23 144:22 146:5	loved 95:19 109:7 123:13 158:3	males 127:21
living 134:21 135:12 141:8 144:18 145:11 146:12 151:18 162:24 166:13 226:12 235:3	lovers 164:10	man 5:22 29:23 123:9 227:9
loan 158:9	loves 254:12	managed 116:23
local 60:23 142:20 158:12 205:17 238:16,19	low 142:13	management 6:9 73:21 74:8
localized 104:5	lower 250:2	managing 116:20 242:13 243:8
located 27:10,17,24 28:8, 15,22 29:6,13 31:9,21 40:16 41:6,20 42:10 49:19 63:10,24 76:3 78:10 173:22 227:10	Lozada 15:2,3 52:22,23 97:23 101:20 117:3 178:9,10 181:20,21 201:14,17,19 202:22 203:2,4 228:22 241:19,20	Manayunk 47:9
locations 46:22 56:15 70:5	Lozada's 110:6	Mander 249:14
lodging 59:4 252:8,12	lunches 233:22	Mandy 138:7
Logan 78:22 122:24 124:13 126:8,22 127:7, 19,21 128:3 257:13	Lung 140:24	Mansion 163:4 164:9 249:12 254:22 255:23
long 109:2	Lynn 103:6 115:5	
long-term 73:23,24 106:21 114:6 167:8	Lynne 262:12	
longer 127:24 142:10		
longtime 119:22		
Lonnie 17:5		
looked 5:4 55:17		

M

Madam 103:10,13**made** 97:16,17 127:7
161:3 231:18 240:20**Madison** 103:6 113:16**magnitude** 151:19**Main** 47:20**maintain** 235:2

map 261:13	228:3 233:12	Meyering 125:12 130:12, 13
maps 31:7,19 47:24 78:8	meet 6:23	Michael 67:16 125:13 134:12 158:20 159:19 214:17 216:10
marginalized 55:24	meeting 9:18 10:2,8 133:19 255:21	microphone 93:8
Maria 103:4	meetings 115:16 248:21	middle 109:5
Marie 107:9	Mehta 143:16	Migration 164:14
Marisa 138:7 140:10	Mellon 165:5	Mikal 17:3
Marissa 236:23	Melvin 78:23 79:3 122:24 124:5,11,19 257:15	Mike 68:12 216:13
mark 72:12 165:15 175:21 235:23	member 6:15 33:15 55:13 78:4 79:6 128:16 157:8 168:3 209:6 242:17	mileage 142:13
market 26:15 50:7 226:4 261:20,23	members 2:3 3:13 14:17 18:9 20:13 88:4 89:21 96:10 102:15 103:11 108:6 109:6 111:23 113:22 133:5 140:9 143:24 152:6 179:18 183:2 244:19 257:19 258:24	Miller 143:13 146:21,22 260:20
Marshall 44:13 191:10	Memorial 156:24 175:13	million 136:3 154:4
mascots 230:17	memory 144:15	millions 147:17 148:18
material 153:23	men 17:9,16 123:24	mills 4:22 5:2 100:23
materials 26:16	mentally 116:3 123:16	mind 112:13
math 234:21	mention 261:18	mindful 5:18 6:21 7:15 8:14
matriarchs 5:3	mentioned 7:6 244:19 248:11 254:21,23	mindfulness 7:4
matter 46:12 92:15 93:16 95:23 101:7 104:13 146:5 249:17	mentioning 136:8	minds 150:5 151:2
matters 6:5 11:23 12:10, 16 13:19,23 91:17 107:5 140:23 259:3	mentors 160:10 228:11	ministry 38:19 186:17
Max 143:17	mentorship 227:17	minority 11:15 130:23 210:19 246:17
Maximilian 160:5	Meredith 138:22	minute 92:16 93:5 122:8 129:10 157:12 210:16
May's 130:24	message 146:3	minutes 92:10
Mayor 8:24 12:20,21 20:7, 10 80:14 85:5 88:2 99:5,8 139:23 159:2,3,12	messages 20:6,9 30:5 242:5	missed 168:22
Mayor's 99:12 130:16	messed 126:10	mission 62:5 172:20 207:20
mayors 153:5	met 131:3	missions 157:3
Mcauley 93:22 98:21,22	method 119:17	misunderstood 106:16
meaningful 60:23 146:2 167:9 205:17		MLB 101:14
measures 153:22		mobility 105:20
media 66:7 158:16 211:21		Model 167:17
		models 167:24

modern 154:11 mom 5:2 96:15 245:14 moment 5:21 55:17 56:21 132:14,17,20 146:7 168:23 207:6,7 237:4 239:11 money 101:4 158:7 251:11 Monique 27:4 153:16 month 53:12 54:2 67:7 81:17 82:3 96:22 97:14 105:17 110:8 111:9 117:4 118:20 140:18 141:8 144:12 201:8 202:18 213:11 218:22 220:7 239:4,6 243:15,16 244:11,21 250:13 month's 147:14 months 101:16 252:14 moral 129:22 149:15 morning 2:20,21,23,24 3:7,18,20,22,23 4:3 5:10 8:7 14:16 16:5,6,7 34:8,9 40:3 42:22,23 46:4 50:22 51:2 52:24 53:2 54:12 68:14 98:22 105:13,15 108:6 110:2 116:19 124:9 128:12,13 237:6 Morris 159:20 mortality 129:16 130:3 mortgage 234:10 Morton 260:23 Moss 143:17 mother 112:20 138:23 139:3 mothers 129:14 motion 11:1,22 12:1,24 13:1,3,9 14:11 83:7 84:5, 13,16 86:16,24 87:14,22 89:6,14,23 90:11 174:7,	19 175:4,19 176:10,18 184:3 185:13 187:4 188:18 190:8 191:19 193:5 194:20 196:7,9 197:18 198:24 200:7 201:18 203:3 204:10 205:23 209:11 210:19 212:9 213:18 215:5 216:14 217:21 219:6 220:16 222:6 262:22 263:19 move 6:6 9:24 12:9 83:11 84:21 86:5 87:6 147:16 174:11 176:2 184:6 187:10 188:23 190:13 191:23 193:10 195:2 196:12 197:21 199:4 200:10 201:21 203:6 204:12 206:2 208:12 209:14 210:24 212:14 213:20 215:8 216:16 217:24 219:9 220:19 222:9 244:14 259:17 260:14 263:2 moved 10:6 13:17 83:22 86:10 87:10 89:10 103:14 105:2,12 174:15 176:6 184:10 185:17,21 187:14 189:4 190:17 192:4 193:14 195:6 196:15 197:24 199:7 200:14 202:2 203:10 204:15 206:5 208:15 212:18 213:24 215:12 216:19 218:5 219:13 220:23 222:13 224:22 263:7 movement 105:8 116:23 246:11 multi-unit 235:8 multiple 106:8 153:22 municipal 26:24 180:8 murals 177:5 murdered 138:24	museum 61:24 107:11 112:5 113:10 147:16 148:6 152:3 159:11 161:9 166:18,22 168:9 171:6,21 207:16 museums 150:21 152:23 music 162:24 164:10 255:14 musical 163:8 Myatt 27:4 N named 127:2 158:8 Namibia 70:18 216:7 naming 64:12 75:14 78:21 122:22 124:3 175:10 Nardy 103:6 113:15,16 narrative 147:11 nation 6:4 105:10 118:10 Nation's 110:15 national 16:18 45:4 53:24 65:16 67:7 74:23 75:4,5 81:17 82:2 105:16 110:8 111:8 117:4 118:20 121:16 129:5,13 140:17 192:23 202:18 210:5 213:11 218:22 220:6 238:13 239:3,5 246:10 Nationally 130:22 natural 54:19 61:22 107:10,12 112:5,23 113:6 120:6 121:17 138:20 139:18 146:24 148:5 150:2,23,24 151:10 152:18 153:8 157:6 160:9 161:20 166:10 167:7 170:2 171:5 207:14 240:16 253:17 254:5 nature 47:8 72:24 73:11 160:15
---	---	---

navigate 95:9 navigating 106:8 Nayeli 159:20 nays 179:17 182:24 NBA 17:2 30:22 33:3 79:13 185:2 217:11 NBC10 139:5 NCA 47:18 NCO 35:24 NE 71:16 needed 55:20 119:16 161:22 172:6 needless 240:24 negotiated 180:6 neighborhood 36:2,4 47:19 78:23 109:5 118:7 142:23 166:6 259:15 neighborhoods 5:4,12 97:11 100:24 115:24 163:10 248:12 259:11 neighbors 104:3 141:17 223:15 224:6 226:2,21 229:7 255:13 Neil 82:5 220:9 239:14 net 45:14 194:9 network 115:6 226:16 news 16:10 48:23 121:21 197:11 245:13 newsletter 166:6 Nicetown 259:22,23 260:8,10 Nick 138:23 139:19 Nico 125:11 130:13 Nicolas 68:5 169:10 night 116:5 127:13 235:10 255:3 258:17 261:20,23	Nina 54:21 79:22 83:6 84:15 86:2 87:3 89:5 138:16 140:16 158:22 208:11 218:24 219:5 220:12,15 222:2,5 236:11 non-electoral 180:2 non-privileged 30:20 32:24 34:14 39:8,10,11 40:5,6,13 41:3,17 42:7 46:7 49:16 50:6 51:4 52:5 54:16 62:15 63:7,21 64:11 72:16 74:17 75:13, 23 76:21 78:20 80:5,13 non-virtual 139:13 nonprofit 119:23 nonprofits 119:24 120:4 Norf 256:8,9 257:4 north 28:21 29:5 49:18 55:10 63:23 73:2 96:14 124:14 173:20,22 232:10 248:8 256:18 Northeast 5:16 71:15,17 108:7 113:17,20 226:9 Northwest 121:12 Nos 91:5,6 note 2:4 103:22 notes 25:8,19 37:8,19 140:19 notice 13:10 81:3 85:17 88:20 147:14 177:4 November 24:5 number 33:13 154:15 159:7 257:7 numbers 110:12 nurse 128:19 129:6 nurses 258:19 nursing 135:15,17 Nutter 158:21	O O'NEILL 71:3,4 133:15,16 134:4 179:2 182:13 O'ROURKE 68:5,6 169:10,11 178:20 182:8 Oak 226:13 obligation 25:13 37:13 obstructing 100:14 occasion 16:15 45:2 48:20 192:21 197:8 October 53:11 131:14 201:7 256:11 odds 164:17 offensive 245:20 offer 4:20 34:11 42:24 46:6 53:3 54:13 71:6 72:15 76:18 258:17 offered 259:21 office 99:14 102:9 122:20 154:8,14,19,21,23 225:22 226:8 227:3 228:4 231:22 232:8 255:2 officer 78:23 79:3 122:23 124:11,20 125:2,19,20,22 126:2,3 127:9 158:9 253:7 257:14 officers 24:9 25:17 37:17 81:2 85:16 88:19 126:17 133:6 offices 154:17 official 163:10 officially 57:4 162:18 officials 26:5 38:5 161:23 Ogbonna 143:15 153:14 155:12 Ogontz 31:11 older 122:4
---	---	--

oldest 118:9	46:18 47:6,16 51:9 55:3	PAL 123:3 125:23 126:4, 6,9,13 258:3
Olney 226:6	56:9 57:11 58:8,22 59:11	PAL's 125:22
one's 104:2	69:8,23 71:11 72:3,22	paleontologist 160:6
one-minute 92:19	73:9,18 77:4,15 78:6	Palma 125:14 134:13
online 260:6	176:22 179:23 258:15	panhandling 7:2
open 107:16 121:9 133:12	org 135:8	par 142:15
149:10 152:5 167:7	organization 16:21	paramount 142:4
233:21 248:13	organization's 145:21	parents 4:21 234:15
opened 124:23	organizations 59:19	parish 5:15
operated 25:6 37:6	230:8 256:15	park 141:13 159:7
operates 140:14	organize 113:19	Parker 99:6,8 159:3,12
opportunities 106:13,18	organized 64:16	parking 60:16 141:23
226:22 227:19 228:12	Orkney 29:5 63:23	205:10
241:4 248:9	outcomes 129:15	Parkway 171:20
opportunity 97:8,10	outdated 245:19	part 4:19 5:6 6:7 7:3 18:4
105:19 131:13 135:5	outdoor 255:21	107:17 125:7 126:21
142:16 170:17 172:16	overlapping 157:3	129:19 162:11 163:2
251:12,23	overlay 36:2,5,8 47:20	238:6 242:10 249:17
opposed 10:14 14:7 84:9	71:14,16,17,18 77:7	255:5 261:7
86:20 87:18 89:17 101:20	258:23	participate 135:5 136:21
115:9 174:23 176:14	oversight 32:8 43:10	137:16 243:24
184:17 186:5 187:21	45:12 60:22 61:20 183:10	participated 108:23
189:11 190:24 192:11	188:7 194:7 205:16	participating 258:3
193:21 195:13 196:22	207:12 240:13	participation 136:8 138:3
198:8 199:14 200:21	owe 113:10	particle 141:3
202:9 203:17 204:22	owned 25:6 37:6	partnering 228:23
206:12 208:22 211:11	owner 224:16	partners 117:6 149:9
213:2 214:8 215:19 217:3	owners 32:16,17 115:14	partnership 227:5 255:22
218:12 219:20 221:7	183:19 224:7,8	261:24
222:20 263:15	ozone 141:3	partnerships 172:10
opposition 128:22		parts 95:10
option 167:6 168:7		party 210:16
options 62:2 172:5 207:17		pass 52:8 103:23 113:12
241:3		180:20
order 2:8 9:16 10:19		passage 32:21 33:11,18
14:13 20:3 30:7,10 90:6		
91:22 92:5,16 110:21		
225:2		
ordinance 24:4,6,15 26:8,		
10,18 31:6,17 34:19		
35:11,22 36:15 38:8		

P

p.m. 227:11 229:24 262:8

PA 47:10 73:3

packed 249:15

pain 145:6

38:24 39:20 40:22 41:13 42:3,16 43:19 44:9,20 45:7,22 48:15 49:4,14 50:2,16 52:2,18 53:20 54:7 56:5 60:10 61:4,15 62:12,24 63:3,17 64:7,21 66:2,15 67:12 68:3 69:20 70:10,23 75:9,19 76:10 79:9,19 81:11,21 82:10, 24 90:4,13,15,24 91:4,18 105:7,8 151:12 173:9,11 257:22 258:7 passed 20:23 21:9,19 22:6,14 23:16,20 81:7 85:21 88:24 89:8,24 93:5 177:13 237:19 passes 179:20 183:4 passing 145:14 239:11 past 17:2 113:10 151:6 160:14,21,22 161:4 242:16 Patel 159:21 path 246:16 pathway 105:18 patients 82:6 220:10 Patricia 111:17 pattern 114:18 153:20 Patty 128:14 Paul 78:13 143:15 153:14 pause 167:2 248:4 Pavilion 235:9 pay 25:13 37:13 116:14 154:21,22 payable 25:15 37:15 paying 158:12 payment 57:15 180:11,13 payments 25:24 37:24 pediatric 74:20,23 75:5	peer 135:13 penalties 57:16 penalty 250:18 Pennsylvania 24:19 36:19 52:7 61:9 62:16 110:4 129:18 130:15 180:3 206:21 246:24 262:4 Penrose 55:4 248:17 people 5:5 8:9 19:11,14 48:11,24 56:2 94:23 95:6, 9,13,18 114:2,3,22 116:7 130:6 134:21 135:9,16 136:9,11,19 137:4,14 142:2 147:22 149:8 155:5,12 164:5,16 170:5 172:17 195:24 197:12 225:7 227:2,15 228:10,17 233:19 234:6,7 238:13 250:5 251:5,6,10,16 252:3 256:17 259:6 People's 113:18 128:17 236:17 Perez 159:21 perfected 163:9 performances 245:18 peril 159:15 period 9:5 permanent 166:19 permit 83:12 84:2 86:13 177:3 245:15 permits 252:17 person 93:4 112:15 145:10 161:5 251:21 personal 145:2 Personally 122:5 personnel 169:24 perspective 151:7 Petrovich 19:10	Pew-funded 167:17 phase 151:23 Phd 44:14 191:11 Philadelphia 4:5 5:8 7:9 8:21 15:9 16:8 17:6,14 20:15 24:8,18,19 25:4 26:13,21 27:8,13,15,20, 22 28:4,6,11,13,18,20 29:2,4,9,11,16 30:24 31:7,18 32:13 33:6,7,14 34:21 35:13,24 36:19,20 37:4 38:21 39:17 40:14, 19 41:4,9,18,23 42:8,13, 23 43:12,24 44:15 45:19 46:20 47:10,18 48:12,24 49:17,22 51:11,22 53:13 55:11,21,23 56:11 57:13 58:9,24 59:13,15 60:7,16, 20 62:2 63:8,13,22 64:4, 18 65:17 66:10,11 69:10, 24 71:13 73:3 74:9 75:24 76:6 77:6,17 78:7 79:15, 16 80:18,21,23 81:18 82:4,16 85:9,12,14 88:6, 12,15,17 95:13 96:14,20 98:3 101:12 102:4 108:8 109:17 113:13 116:24 118:2,18 120:13 124:17 128:18 133:2,4 134:20 135:24 138:24 140:11 141:18 143:24 144:5,13, 17 146:4 149:21 152:12, 14,15 156:7,23 162:14 163:5 164:2,5,10 166:4, 20,22 171:7,11 172:16 173:17 174:2 176:24 183:15 185:5,6 186:19 188:9 189:21 191:12 194:15 196:2 197:13 200:2 201:9 204:5 205:9, 14 207:17 210:6 211:24 212:2 217:13,14 218:23 220:7 221:19 223:16 225:11 227:7,8,20 230:6 232:10 235:22 239:24 240:21 241:13 243:20
--	---	---

246:19 247:6 250:9 261:4 262:10	places 131:3	policy 115:20
Philadelphia's 49:9 50:11 54:3 60:17 107:18 110:10 116:22 117:18 119:9 136:18 137:12 140:21 163:2 171:21 198:18 202:19 205:11 223:24 230:16 245:11	placing 13:3	polite 8:21
Philadelphia- 140:12	plagued 104:4	political 101:4 103:19 113:21
Philadelphia-based 16:20	plan 24:11 73:19 147:15 151:4 259:19	politicians 99:22
Philadelphian 135:4	planet 161:11	politics 105:5 231:4,16
Philadelphians 130:20 136:4 140:2 142:7 143:8 159:8,14 163:7 230:10 237:15 239:16	planet's 161:4	polling 131:3,5
Philadelphia's 32:11 44:4 183:13 189:24	planned 139:17 141:22 171:4	polluter 114:16
Phillips 30:14,15 33:15,23 147:4 177:17 181:2,3 183:22 184:2,4 185:8,12, 14 223:11,12 233:7	Planning 70:2 177:2	pollution 104:6 140:23 141:4
Philly 4:9 5:16 99:4,21 100:7 113:20 118:5 121:13 124:14 227:4,14, 24 228:19 245:24 246:3 248:8 256:8,10,18 257:5	plans 109:21	Poor 100:24
Philly's 115:6 245:13	plant 157:18	population 243:19
phones 2:15 30:9 117:11	plate 52:10,14 247:3	Port 141:13
physical 157:18	play 172:11 255:7	portion 45:14 194:10
physically 123:17	played 125:2	position 153:18 168:3
physicians 144:16	player 100:10 185:15	positions 242:20
Pick-up 228:24	players 17:2	possession 20:11 29:19 223:6
Pine 72:5	Playground 156:24 256:12	possibilities 106:2
pioneering 55:8	Playhouse 156:24	post- 167:22
place 121:23 122:4,7 123:12 124:13 139:19 152:21 167:13 171:8 229:2,23 248:23 249:13 254:3,7,15	plays 65:19 210:8	post-literate 117:15
	pleased 20:20 21:6,16 22:3,11 23:5,13,18 246:3	posted 58:15
	pleasure 151:8	postpartum 113:3
	ploy 147:6,7	potential 73:20 97:7,9 108:20 247:5
	podium 92:22 93:10,24 94:3 103:7,9 111:19,21 125:16,18 134:14,16 138:10,12 143:19,21 159:24 160:3 162:6,8	Pouncey 159:19
	point 5:15 93:9 110:19 158:10 261:23,24 262:9	power 7:17 108:16 113:21 118:24 135:22 155:4 161:7
	pointed 233:12	practice 104:23 160:19 225:10
	pointing 99:8	practices 82:17 221:20 224:18 240:4
	police 25:4 37:4 122:23 124:20 126:3,17 127:9 133:2,4 224:22 257:14	pray 4:4 6:5
		prayers 242:6
		predecessor 94:19

predictors 106:21	75:2,7,17 76:8,17,22	presidents 153:5
pregnant 129:12	77:11,24 78:15 79:5,17, 24 80:8 81:9,19 82:8,22	press 158:12
premier 144:16	83:10,15,19 84:8,11,20, 23 85:23 86:4,9,19,22	pressure 103:19
premise 166:24	87:5,9,17,20 88:4 89:3, 10,12,16,19 90:19 91:12	prevention 39:16 139:8
prepare 15:9 226:14	94:5,6,9,13,16 95:5,24	previous 209:7
prepared 244:16,23 260:6	96:2 98:5,11,17 105:14	prices 142:14
presence 8:6 69:2 177:5 235:11	111:24 130:14 132:7,11, 22 133:17 134:2,6 136:24	pride 130:14 164:8
present 2:6,14 6:12 8:7 96:5 113:11 160:13,22,23 161:5	140:8 143:23 152:10,13 155:2,14,19 156:11	primary 131:2
presentations 20:3	165:12,17,22 168:11,16, 24 169:4,5,12,18 170:21	principle 160:12
presented 229:19	173:3,6 174:4,10,14,22	printed 30:5
presently 5:14	175:2,16,23 176:5,13,16 177:9 179:11,12,16	prior 12:4 13:13 167:24 168:22
preservation 105:4	180:17 182:22,23 183:23	priorities 237:10
preserve 62:3 163:14 172:18 207:18 254:2,17	184:5,9,16,19 185:9,10, 20 186:4,7,22,24 187:7, 13,20,23 188:15,21	prioritize 109:15 114:19 244:17
preserved 164:17	189:3,10,13 190:5,11,16, 23 191:3,14,16,22 192:3, 10,13 193:2,8,13,20,23	priority 121:7,8
preserving 164:11 172:11	194:17,23 195:5,12,15 196:4,11,14,21,24	Prischak 158:8
President 2:2,22 3:2,19 6:17 9:10,15,23 10:5,13, 16 11:3,7,13,17 12:8 13:16 14:6,9 15:4,18,23 16:5 17:21 18:7,18,21,23 19:7,16,23 20:13 29:20, 21 30:3,16 31:2,13,24 32:19 33:8,24 34:9,15 35:7,18 36:11 38:10,22 39:7,18 40:3,8,20 41:11, 24 42:14,22 43:3,17 44:7, 17,18 45:5,20 46:4,9,13 47:2,12 48:3,13 49:2,11, 23 50:13,22 51:5,14,23 52:16,24 53:5,18 54:5,12, 22 55:12 56:17 57:8 58:3, 18 59:7,22 60:8 61:2,13 62:10,22 63:15 64:5,19 65:4,9,23 66:13,20,23 67:10,23 68:7,9,14,17,23 69:18 70:8,21 71:5,7,22 72:7,14,17 73:5,14 74:12	197:15,20,23 198:7,10,21 199:3,6,13,16 200:4,9,13, 20,23 201:15,20,24 202:8,11,23 203:5,9,16, 19 204:7,14,21,24 205:20 206:4,11,14 207:4 208:3, 7,14,21,24 209:18,21 210:13,22 211:4,10,13 212:5,6,12,17,24 213:4, 15,21,23 214:7,10 215:2, 7,11,18,21 216:11,18 217:2,5,16,18,23 218:4, 11,14 219:3,8,12,19,22 220:13,18,22 221:6,9 222:3,8,12,19,22 223:6,7, 13 229:10,11,16 233:2,6 236:6,7,13 241:15,16,21 245:2,7 247:19,24 256:20,21 257:3,7 261:19 262:15,17,24 263:6,14,17	private 32:16 180:6 183:18 224:6 225:13
		privilege 4:2,6
		privileged 30:21 32:6 33:2 34:14 38:15 39:4 43:2,8, 22 44:12,23 45:10 46:8 48:7,18 49:7 51:3,19 53:4,8,23 54:15 60:4,13 61:7,18 65:6,7,13 66:5,21 67:3,5,15 68:15 70:15 76:19 79:13 80:4,6 81:15, 24 82:13 183:8 184:24 186:12 188:5 189:18 191:8 192:18 194:5 195:20 197:6 198:15 199:21 201:5 202:16 203:24 205:6 206:19 207:10 210:2 211:18 213:9 214:15 216:3 217:10 218:19 220:4 221:15
		problem 100:11 125:8 137:19

problems 100:9 101:15 119:19 proceed 2:19 94:14 98:20 156:13 166:2 169:21 209:24 process 26:15 172:8 224:6,11 225:9 238:11 processing 73:24 Procurement 26:12,20 produce 17:15 119:18 140:20 produced 16:24 product 96:19 productive 257:10 products 247:11 professional 119:23 126:20 145:2 professor 158:3 proficiently 106:23 profit 105:4 profiting 109:16 profound 103:15 profoundly 104:22 program 15:15 59:16 234:24 251:18 programming 118:12 257:16 programs 82:19 166:15 221:22 227:16 228:10 240:5 progress 97:16,18 111:6 prohibiting 70:4 project 25:11 37:11 101:20 promise 104:22 115:23 proper 116:9 247:13	properly 10:7 13:18 83:23 86:11 87:11 174:16 176:7 184:11 185:22 187:15 189:5 190:18 192:5 193:15 195:7 196:16 198:2 199:8 200:15 202:3 203:11 204:16 206:6 208:16 211:5 212:19 214:2 215:13 216:20 218:6 219:14 220:24 222:14 263:8 properties 25:5 37:5 property 25:5 32:16 37:5 62:19 115:14 177:6 183:19 224:7,8,11 225:13 proposal 80:18 85:9 88:12 proposals 247:17 proposed 24:3 119:11 138:19 167:10 proposing 80:20 85:11 88:14 prosecutors 102:10 protect 60:21 107:14 113:9 161:2,16,24 205:15 225:12 protection 154:16 224:16 protections 238:3 proud 96:19 151:14 237:6,16 246:13,17 proudly 185:16 provide 13:9 17:8 25:23 37:23 57:21 62:19 69:15 77:19 106:19 135:11,15 157:5 177:4 180:7,12 243:3 252:21,24 provider 239:13 providers 230:4 providing 80:16 85:7 88:9 180:9 240:20 250:15	provision 24:13 public 4:13 7:22 13:9 39:5,12 50:23 55:8 61:23 62:3 69:11 70:19 82:14 91:1,15,16 92:1,9 93:1 94:1 95:1,17 96:1,20 97:1 98:1 99:1 100:1 101:1 102:1 103:1 104:1 105:1 106:1 107:1 108:1 109:1 110:1 111:1 112:1,8,9 113:1 114:1 115:1,16,21 116:1,12 117:1 118:1 119:1,9,18 120:1 121:1, 18 122:1 123:1 124:1 125:1 126:1 127:1 128:1 129:1 130:1 131:1 132:1 133:1,13 134:1 135:1 136:1,21 137:1,16 138:1 139:1 140:1 141:1,21 142:1 143:1 144:1 145:1 146:1 147:1 148:1 149:1, 10 150:1,4 151:1 152:1 153:1 154:1 155:1 156:1 157:1 158:1 159:1 160:1 161:1 162:1 163:1 164:1 165:1 166:1,8,18 167:1, 14 168:1,7,8 169:1 170:1 171:1,5,7,22 172:1,3,12, 15,20 173:4 180:6 207:15,18 216:8 221:17 239:6,23 248:7 public-private 172:9 publicly 139:22 243:11 publish 81:3 85:17 88:20 published 12:14 13:13 141:7 Puerto 96:18 pulled 101:21 124:24 punishing 250:23 punishment 139:9 purpose 13:8 81:5 85:19 88:22
---	--	---

purposes 26:7 38:7 180:8
pursuant 93:13
pursue 108:19
pushing 247:11
put 30:8 102:5 257:23
puts 159:13
putting 261:13

Q

qualifications 252:7
qualified 80:17 85:8 88:10
qualifying 59:18
quality 100:3 119:10
 234:14 238:7 255:19
quality-of-life 252:18
quarter 136:3 233:18
quarters 233:16 236:4
question 151:20,21 156:9
 177:12 180:20 232:20
questioned 150:16
questions 142:22 151:22
 156:4
Quetcy 15:2 52:22 97:23
 201:14,17 202:22 203:2
 228:22 241:19
quick 19:8 122:10 233:16
 245:9 248:4
quintessentially 164:15
quorum 2:5

R

race 101:2 175:12
Rachael 103:5 110:2
racism 100:18
rails 2:11 92:3 105:12

raise 137:19 234:14
raised 4:20 140:11
raising 146:17
rally 99:4 237:7
range 142:8 143:2
rate 129:17
rates 141:10 234:10

rationale 168:4

Ravi 163:20

reached 242:4

reaches 97:8 111:6

reaching 110:17

read 15:13 20:9 31:4
 33:21 34:17 40:10 43:6
 46:15 51:7 53:7 54:23
 65:11 67:2 68:18 69:6
 71:9 72:19 76:24 80:10
 85:2 88:2 93:18 105:21
 110:21 116:21 117:5
 118:22 173:14 175:7
 176:21 177:11 179:22
 180:19 183:6 184:22
 186:10 188:3 189:16
 191:6 192:16 194:3
 195:18 197:4 198:13
 199:19 201:3 202:14
 203:22 205:4 206:17
 211:16 213:7 214:13
 215:24 217:8 218:17
 220:2 221:13 223:2

reader 52:10,14

readers 15:11 247:4

reading 12:18 90:1,4,12,
 15,21 91:4,17 105:17
 106:23 110:16,20,21,23
 111:4 117:9,11,20 118:6,
 9 173:1,11 174:1 175:1
 176:1 177:1 178:1 179:1
 180:1 181:1 182:1 183:1
 184:1 185:1 186:1 187:1
 188:1 189:1 190:1 191:1

192:1 193:1 194:1 195:1
 196:1 197:1 198:1 199:1
 200:1 201:1 202:1 203:1
 204:1 205:1 206:1 207:1
 208:1 209:1 210:1 211:1
 212:1 213:1 214:1 215:1
 216:1 217:1 218:1 219:1
 220:1 221:1 222:1

real 19:8 117:19 139:12

realistic 171:23

reality 99:19 106:17 150:8
 252:15

reason 155:11

reasons 112:7

rebates 142:10

rebuilt 166:17

rec 248:20,21 249:3,6,14

recall 12:19 84:17

recalled 12:21

receipts 45:15 59:14
 62:18 194:11

receive 145:19 224:21

received 242:8

receiving 243:17

recent 111:3 136:4 157:13

recently 136:15 137:9
 157:9 245:15

recess 132:13,21

recognition 39:15 98:12
 145:19 146:2 163:11

recognize 14:14 15:5
 18:19 19:9 74:22 111:7
 152:2 244:20 246:8 248:5

recognizes 3:8 9:20 10:21
 11:10,20 14:24 15:24
 19:4 30:13 34:4 39:23
 42:19 45:24 50:19 52:21
 54:9 64:24 66:17 68:4,11,
 24 71:2 72:11 76:13

79:21 83:6 84:14 85:24 87:2 89:4 90:9 96:4 98:6 133:14 155:16 165:14 168:13 169:6,9 174:5 175:17 183:24 185:11 187:2 188:16 190:6 191:17 193:3 194:18 196:5,8 197:16 198:22 200:5 201:16 202:24 204:8 205:21 208:4 210:14,17 212:7 213:16 215:3 216:12 217:19 219:4 220:14 222:4 223:10 236:10 241:18 247:21 262:20	reduce 58:12 119:17 240:8 reduced 120:24 Reducing 119:14 reduction 74:5 Reed 260:20 refer 33:9 referred 31:15 32:3 35:9, 20 36:13 38:12 47:4,14 48:5 51:16 55:14 56:7,19 58:5,20 59:9,24 70:12 71:23 72:9 73:7,16 74:14 77:13 78:3,17 99:13 102:8 refinance 25:11 37:11 reflect 35:4 223:18 reflects 114:18 reforms 60:21 205:15 refreshments 230:13 refunds 57:23 refuse 57:13,17 103:24 refusing 103:17 regard 98:23 166:9 region 141:2,11 region's 114:15 registered 128:19 registration 130:19 135:2 137:24 229:3 regular 14:13 Regulations 59:2 reject 109:21 related 36:9 57:24 69:13 70:5 71:19 relating 24:21 36:21 57:16 80:22 85:13 88:16 relationships 166:16	relief 62:20 252:21 253:2 religious 7:13 relocation 171:18 rely 100:10 remain 107:16 112:18 remained 225:22 remaining 92:23 remarkable 7:23 remarks 3:6 93:3 248:3 remedies 69:15 153:24 remember 95:21 135:21 233:9 remind 110:12 153:19 reminder 93:2 161:12 remiss 136:6 removal 35:15 remove 228:14 rename 248:17 249:3 256:3 renamed 57:4 renaming 39:6,13 50:6 55:4 258:6 260:19 reopened 167:3 repeated 160:11 repetitious 92:13 93:14 replacing 47:23 report 100:20 110:15 167:18 reports 83:3 represent 17:17 106:18 250:7 representation 16:22 97:12,20 115:13 representative 245:24 262:5
recognizing 18:15 38:18 48:8,19 49:8 51:19 53:10, 23 60:4 65:14 67:6,19 70:15 81:15,24 110:7 117:4 135:2 137:24 140:16 144:11 162:22 186:16 195:21 197:7 198:16 199:22 201:6 202:17 204:2 210:3 213:10 214:20 216:4,7 218:20 220:5 239:3 reconsider 89:6 reconsideration 12:18 81:6 85:20 88:23 reconsidered 90:2 record 54:17 147:11 167:14 168:5 208:9 209:8,22 recorded 133:21,23 recovery 67:7 157:20 213:11 recreation 55:4,6 227:17 248:18 rectify 6:22 recyclable 26:16 recycling 73:22,24 253:5 red 93:6 250:2,3		

representatives 139:24	43:9,18,22 44:8,12,19,23	224:4 235:6 240:10
representing 127:20	45:6,10,21 48:8,14,18	244:11 246:23 253:20
represents 161:9	49:3,7,13,16,24 50:6,15	257:12
Republic 70:17 216:6	51:3,4,19,24 52:5,17	resolutions 12:16,22
Republican 115:6	53:19,23 54:6,17 56:4	30:12 31:5 34:13,18 40:5,
request 98:13 168:17	60:4,9,13 61:3,7,14,18	11 43:2,7 46:17 51:8
requested 88:7	62:11,15,23 63:2,7,16,21	53:4,9 54:14 55:2 65:5,12
requesting 80:14 85:5	64:6,11,20 65:7,14,24	66:22 67:4 72:16,21 77:3
requests 10:20 11:5,15	66:5,14 67:6,11,15 68:2,	80:4,11 90:13,23 91:9,14
20:5 237:23	16,20 69:7,19 70:9,15,22	133:24 149:23 165:21
require 150:19 177:3	74:17 75:8,13,18,23 76:9,	168:19,21 169:16 173:9
required 12:13 25:18	20,21 78:20 79:8,13,18	183:6 223:5 239:3,19
37:18 229:3	80:5,6,13,19 81:10,15,20,	resolve 263:23
requirement 32:12 115:15	24 82:9,13,23 84:16 85:3,	resource 171:10
183:14 225:15	4,10 86:7,14 87:7,12,22	resources 134:19 142:24
requirements 35:15 224:2	88:8,13 91:5 103:13,21	161:8 171:13 226:18
225:5	110:7,9 111:9 112:3	230:11 234:3
requiring 59:2 167:12	113:12 117:6 121:14	respect 8:16 261:15
rescheduled 256:11	130:20 131:11 134:24	respected 145:13
research 106:22 146:11	138:18 140:16,19 142:5,	respectful 93:3
150:15 172:21	17 143:8 144:10,14	respectfully 98:12
researcher 157:9	155:21 156:2 162:12	respond 74:22
reserve 93:12	166:8 171:2 172:14	responded 226:10
resident 108:8 112:14	173:14,16 174:7,12,16	responding 224:23
149:20 166:5	175:4,7,9,19 176:3,7,18	225:19
residential 57:17 252:9	183:9 184:7,12,21,23	response 10:15 14:8
residents 60:20,22 82:20	185:2,18,23 186:9,11,13	84:10 86:21 87:19 89:18
136:2 141:8 142:24	187:11,16 188:2,4,6,24	174:24 176:15 184:18
205:14,16 221:23 226:14	189:6,15,17,19 190:14,19	186:6 187:22 189:12
236:18 240:6 241:12	191:5,7,9 192:6,15,17,19	191:2 192:12 193:22
242:24 252:22 256:13	193:16 194:2,4,6 195:3,8,	195:14 196:23 198:9
resilience 97:2	17,19,21 196:17 197:3,5,	199:15 200:22 202:10
resolution 13:2,4,5 27:3,	7 198:3,12,14,16 199:9,	203:18 204:23 206:13
7,14,21 28:5,12,19 29:3,	18,20,22 200:7,11,16	208:23 211:12 213:3
10 30:20,21 32:6,20,24	201:2,4,6,18,22 202:4,13,	214:9 215:20 217:4
33:3,10,16,17,21 38:15,	15,17 203:3,7,12,21,23	218:13 219:21 221:8
23 39:4,11,19 40:6,13,21	204:2,10,17 205:3,5,7,23	222:21 258:11 263:16
41:3,12,17 42:2,7,15	206:7,16,18,20 207:10	responses 237:24
	208:17 209:3,7,15 210:3	responsibility 114:5
	211:2,6,15,17,19 212:15,	116:13 228:13
	20 213:6,8,10,21 214:3,	responsible 148:23 149:9
	12,14,16 215:9,14,23	
	216:2,4,14,21 217:7,9,11,	
	21 218:2,7,16,18,20	
	219:6,10,15,24 220:3,5,	
	16,20 221:2,11,14,16	
	222:6,10,15,24 223:3,23	

rest 129:18 133:22 141:11 231:15	Rhoneesha 111:16 122:18	routes 45:17 194:13
restore 60:23 205:17	Rican 96:18	row 159:11
restricted 245:19	rich 53:14 201:10	Roy 82:5 144:15 220:8 239:14
restricting 47:22 77:8 115:21	Richardson 10:23 11:2,22 12:7 13:21 34:6,8 83:18 90:11,18 98:8,10 177:18 181:6 186:21 187:5,10 261:10	RSA-5 59:4 252:9
Restriction 56:13 77:19	Richmond 141:14	Rue 50:20 134:23 200:3,6 245:4
restrictions 56:14 69:13	ridden 102:17	Rule 62:9 80:21 85:12 88:15 207:24
restructuring 73:20	ride 102:13,20	rules 83:11,23 84:22 86:6, 11 93:13 255:7
result 149:13	rides 102:20	run 143:4 145:24 166:21 231:9 254:19 262:7
results 238:24	Ridge 255:4,17	rural 97:11
resume 57:9 69:5 133:13 134:8	riding 102:15	Ryan 143:14 149:18,19
resumes 255:20	rightly 139:14	
Resurrection 3:9 5:15	rights 51:21 199:24 225:13 246:10	S
retail 34:23 35:4	rise 3:14,16 94:6,17 103:12	Sabatina 29:22
retire 2:10	risk 107:2	sacrifice 127:8
retired 107:9 122:23 128:19 151:21	risks 247:7	sacrifices 4:17
retirement 48:20 197:9	river 6:12	sadly 5:20 6:23
return 80:14 85:5 135:19	Road 6:10 72:5,6	safe 126:7,14 133:9 234:2 236:4 247:6
returning 13:4 20:15 88:6	Rob 111:14 119:22	safer 115:24
Reunion 256:10	robbing 119:18	safety 58:12 116:12 233:23
Rev 145:4	Roberts 78:11	sake 108:16
Reverend 38:16 186:14	Rockland 78:22 124:4	salaries 24:9,10
reverse 46:12 161:23	Rojas 103:4 108:5,7	sale 180:6
review 57:23	role 44:4 65:18 139:9 172:10 189:24	sales 34:23 35:4 102:6
revise 51:12	roles 210:7	Salvation 238:17
revising 35:14 36:6 47:22	roll 177:15 180:23	Samuel 64:13,15
revolution 163:8	room 97:15,17,19 234:18	sanitation 26:11,19 253:2
revote 209:10	roughly 135:24 142:15	sat 124:22
Reworld 99:17 119:11 129:20	round 17:19 29:23 96:7	satellite 226:8
rezones 259:21		
Rhemar 159:19		

Saturday 227:2 249:5,10 254:22,24 255:16 260:18 save 108:2 113:9 237:5,8 248:2 saves 167:19 saving 153:8 Schiavone 67:17 214:17 Schneider 138:8 school 18:3 66:11 102:17 108:12 118:23 120:15 166:15 212:2 227:7 234:2 256:6 schools 50:12 96:20 100:7 233:21 science 54:20 118:8 122:2 147:18,24 148:19 150:12 152:19,22 153:9 160:6,13,19 161:14 171:9,14 sciences 61:22 107:12 112:5,18,23 113:6 120:6 121:17 138:20 139:18 146:24 150:2 151:10 160:9 166:10 167:7 170:3 171:5 207:14 240:16 253:17 254:6 scientific 62:4 120:8,9 149:6 150:14,15 151:23 207:19 scientist 239:8 240:17 scientists 149:11 170:4 Scott 143:17 160:4,5 scroll 117:10 season 242:3 seats 2:4,11 229:3 seconded 10:4,7 13:15,18 83:23 86:8,11 87:8,11 89:11 174:13,16 176:4,7 184:8,11 185:19,22 187:12,15 189:2,5	190:15,18 192:2,5 193:12,15 195:4,7 196:13,16 197:22 198:2 199:5,8 200:12,15 201:23 202:3 203:8,11 204:13,16 206:3,6 208:13,16 209:17 211:3,6 212:16,19 213:22 214:2 215:10,13 216:17, 20 218:3,6 219:11,14 220:21,24 222:11,14 263:5,8 seconds 92:22 secret 131:7 section 24:7 32:12 34:20, 24 35:12,23 36:7 46:19 47:17 51:10 56:10 62:8 71:12 77:5 104:15 128:18 183:14 207:23 secure 116:8 143:9 security 167:21 235:10 seek 8:11 seeking 238:12 sees 99:17 self-enrichment 103:20 self-service 70:3 sell 180:5 Senate 52:6 94:20,22 247:2 Senator 61:9 69:2 93:20 94:4,15,20,21 95:2 164:24 206:22 230:21,23, 24 231:7,10,19,20 232:4, 7,23 248:5,24 249:4 sending 109:17 sends 146:2 senior 62:20 226:12 seniors 232:9 235:7 sense 122:3 separation 43:13 188:10	SEPTA 102:13,16,20,21 SEPTA's 226:16 September 23:14,19 43:23 51:20 53:11,24 60:5 65:15 67:6 81:16 82:2 110:7,14 111:8 139:2 140:17 144:11 145:24 162:19 164:3 168:5 189:19 199:22 201:6 202:17 204:2 210:4 213:10 218:21 220:5 227:2 229:23 244:20 246:8 255:20,24 256:2 260:18 261:21 263:4,10 Sergeant- 20:5 Sergeant-at- 93:6 series 25:10 37:10 255:20 servant 39:5,12 55:8 248:7 serve 5:14 7:21 106:5 123:5 144:3 157:4 229:5 241:12 259:17 served 61:12 94:21 95:4, 20 123:2,8 207:2 261:3,5 service 4:13,15,22 8:3 15:21 24:17 25:14,16 26:2,3 36:17 37:14,16 38:2,3 48:10,22 50:10 70:20 79:3 132:24 133:3 195:23 197:11 216:9 239:15 249:9 257:17 services 32:9 60:15 74:2 82:15 95:4 183:12 205:8 221:18 229:21 239:7,23 serving 95:16 118:11 145:9 164:7 session 2:7 3:5 12:2,5,12, 24 13:14,24 14:19 20:23 21:9,19 22:6,14 23:16,21 39:22 40:24 41:15 42:5, 18 50:4,18 52:20 63:4,19 64:9,23 75:11,21 76:12
---	---	---

79:11 81:13 90:5 91:20, 24 133:22 155:24 223:18 225:21 229:8 237:11 239:2 241:7 257:10 263:24	153:10	single 111:6 242:17
session-to-session 92:12	showing 167:18	single-family 252:8
set 2:14 24:13 80:18 85:9 88:12	shows 106:22 127:17 135:23 246:2	sink 150:6
seventh 44:17 191:14	shut 161:18	Sinking 180:10
severe 104:5	shutter 147:8	sir 16:6 46:14 134:3 156:12 169:8,17,21 170:22 209:23
shame 100:3	sick 130:7	sisters 112:22
shameful 147:6,7	sickle 82:2,7 144:6,11,18, 20 145:5,11,16,23 146:13,18 220:6,10 236:22 239:5,14	sites 131:6
shaping 44:5 190:2	side 249:18,19	sitting 153:2
share 231:17	sidebar 2:12,18	situation 6:22 129:11 232:22
shared 109:6 112:17 119:15 161:10 162:2 238:5	sidewalk 46:21,22 47:8 73:11	six-month 166:24
Shari 128:9 134:11	sidewalks 116:5 141:22	Sixth 227:9
Sharif 50:8,9 69:2 93:21 94:10 231:22 232:17	sign 91:21 228:3	size 135:22
sharing 118:6	sign-up 92:7	skill 105:18 118:16
sheet 92:7	signed 20:21 21:7,17 22:4,12 23:15,19 91:23 92:4 228:2	skills 135:13
shenanigans 120:3	significantly 106:24	slashed 150:18
sheriff 102:6	signify 84:5 86:16 87:14 89:14 174:19 176:10 184:14 186:2 187:18 189:8 190:21 192:8 193:18 195:9 196:19 198:5 199:11 200:18 202:6 203:14 204:19 206:9 208:19 211:8 212:22 214:5 215:16 216:23 218:9 219:17 221:4 222:17 263:12	slavery 155:9 156:5
Sheriff's 133:6	signs 72:4	slip 171:17
Sherry 128:9	silence 7:15 207:6,7	slowly 224:24
shine 146:18	silent 2:15 30:9	small 17:11 93:22
shipyards 100:23	similar 92:14	smart 150:12
Shirley 55:5,7,21 57:5 61:9 94:20 206:22 209:11,15 248:5 249:7 254:23	Simple 170:18	Smith 3:8,17,21,24 6:19 8:20 9:8 156:23 157:2,14, 19 158:7,11,20
shops 99:21		Smith's 157:10,13,20,24 158:4,5
shout-out 158:23 237:4 260:11		smoke 99:21
shouting 236:19		smoking 99:24
show 113:12 127:4 128:3		social 66:7 144:4 158:16 211:21 228:3 233:11
		society 117:16 149:6 156:6
		solace 104:23
		sold 147:11

sole 16:22	121:19 163:19 170:24 258:15	staff 107:9 118:14 166:14
Solicitor 27:6 153:17		staffed 118:12
solid 26:24 73:21	special 59:2 81:4 83:1,5, 8,13 84:1,2 85:1,18 86:1 87:1 88:1,21 89:1 230:15 256:18 262:11	staffer 19:19 95:3 261:9
Solomon 111:15 121:11, 12		Stahler 159:20
solution 125:7	specific 74:3 77:21 177:3	staircase 72:24
solution-oriented 172:15	specifically 120:18 139:16	stairs 132:18
solutions 104:21 114:7 237:14	specimens 107:22 147:17 172:19	Stakeholders 49:8 198:17
son 4:4 5:23 139:19 254:12	speeches 223:1,8 224:1 225:1 226:1 227:1 228:1 229:1 230:1 231:1 232:1 233:1 234:1 235:1 236:1 237:1 238:1 239:1 240:1 241:1 242:1 243:1 244:1 245:1 246:1 247:1 248:1 249:1 250:1 251:1 252:1 253:1 254:1 255:1 256:1 257:1 258:1 259:1 260:1 261:1 262:1,20	stalled 154:6
sorts 257:24	speed 58:10,13,16	stalling 154:8
Sosa 93:21 96:10,12	spend 99:3 129:10,24	stand 10:9 15:19 18:18 19:13 94:17 96:17 122:21 152:18 207:5 246:13 263:3,9
Soskin 162:5 166:3,4	spent 95:15 127:10	standard 235:3
sought 151:16	spews 129:2	standards 131:5
sound 69:10,14	spirit 8:2 145:16	standing 112:19 113:22 123:17 125:6 126:5
source 164:8	spiritual 163:15	Star 101:14 217:11
sources 180:14	spoke 151:18	start 16:10 236:19 257:7
south 9:3 27:23 28:14 38:20 39:13,16 41:6 42:9 124:15 175:10 186:18 245:13 262:10	sponsored 262:2	started 121:24 170:3
Southwest 36:4	sports 7:9 259:23 260:2,9	state 6:10 61:9 69:2 139:24 206:21 235:19 240:23 241:3 262:5
space 131:15 226:13 247:10	spring 140:24	state-of-the-art 259:24
spaces 156:20	squatting 102:2	stated 2:1 3:1 4:1 5:1 6:1 7:1 8:1 9:1 10:1 11:1 12:1 13:1,19 14:1 15:1 16:1 17:1 18:1 19:1 20:1 21:1 22:1 23:1 24:1 25:1 26:1 27:1 28:1 29:1 30:1 31:1 32:1 33:1 34:1 35:1 36:1 37:1 38:1 39:1 40:1 41:1 42:1 43:1 44:1 45:1 46:1 47:1 48:1 49:1 50:1 51:1 52:1 53:1 54:1 55:1 56:1 57:1 58:1 59:1 60:1 61:1 62:1 63:1 64:1 65:1 66:1 67:1 68:1 69:1 70:1 71:1 72:1 73:1 74:1 75:1 76:1 77:1 78:1 79:1 80:1 81:1
spark 112:12 148:15,18 149:12	Squilla 72:12,13 114:9 165:15,16 175:21 176:2 179:3 182:14	
speak 92:11,18 93:4 128:16,21 146:23 153:15 223:20 231:21	Sr 125:21	
speaker 93:11,19 132:4 169:22	St 78:13	
speakers 91:21		
speaking 92:20 101:24 105:16 108:10 112:3		

82:1 83:1 84:1 85:1 86:1
 87:1 88:1 89:1 90:1 91:1
 92:1 93:1 94:1 95:1 96:1
 97:1 98:1 99:1 100:1
 101:1 102:1 103:1 104:1
 105:1 106:1 107:1 108:1
 109:1 110:1 111:1 112:1
 113:1 114:1 115:1 116:1
 117:1 118:1 119:1 120:1
 121:1 122:1 123:1 124:1
 125:1 126:1 127:1 128:1
 129:1 130:1 131:1 132:1
 133:1 134:1 135:1 136:1
 137:1 138:1 139:1 140:1
 141:1 142:1 143:1 144:1
 145:1 146:1 147:1 148:1
 149:1 150:1 151:1 152:1
 153:1 154:1 155:1 156:1
 157:1 158:1 159:1 160:1
 161:1 162:1 163:1 164:1
 165:1 166:1 167:1 168:1
 169:1 170:1 171:1 172:1
 173:1 174:1 175:1 176:1
 177:1 178:1 179:1 180:1
 181:1 182:1 183:1 184:1
 185:1 186:1 187:1 188:1
 189:1 190:1 191:1 192:1
 193:1 194:1 195:1 196:1
 197:1 198:1 199:1 200:1
 201:1 202:1 203:1 204:1
 205:1 206:1 207:1 208:1
 209:1 210:1 211:1 212:1
 213:1 214:1 215:1 216:1
 217:1 218:1 219:1 220:1
 221:1 222:1 223:1 224:1
 225:1 226:1 227:1 228:1
 229:1 230:1 231:1 232:1
 233:1 234:1 235:1 236:1
 237:1 238:1 239:1 240:1
 241:1 242:1 243:1 244:1
 245:1 246:1 247:1 248:1
 249:1 250:1 251:1 252:1
 253:1 254:1 255:1 256:1
 257:1 258:1 259:1 260:1
 261:1 262:1 263:1

statement 139:4 150:7

statements 100:14

Staten 64:13,16

states 70:17 74:18 75:3
 107:11,19 140:3 216:5

stations 141:21

statistics 130:8

stats 99:9

status 38:18 186:16 238:4

stay 225:6 230:11 241:2

staying 263:23

stays 121:9

steel 100:23

step 114:10

steps 111:3 124:22

stinky 108:4

stood 109:4 123:12
 124:21 136:6

stop 72:4 98:24 101:5
 108:11 109:17 114:6,14,
 24 130:9 238:17

stopped 166:15

storage 70:3

stories 109:6

story 117:7,24 164:12,15,
 16 231:18

stranded 142:9

Strawberry 163:4 164:8
 249:12 254:22 255:22

Strazzella 158:2

street 6:24 27:10,16,24
 28:14,22 29:5,13 31:22,
 23 39:14 40:16 41:6
 42:10 49:19 50:7 57:3
 63:10,24 64:13 69:3 73:3
 75:14 76:3 78:12,13,14,
 22 93:21 94:4,15 122:22
 124:4 127:2 173:19,21,22
 175:12 230:22 231:2,10,

19 232:13 253:6 256:4
 257:13 258:6 260:19

Street/manayunk 47:21

streets 32:9 60:14 75:15
 116:5 183:11 205:8
 242:21 260:24

strength 67:8 106:11
 145:7 213:12

strengthen 5:12 60:22
 111:4 205:16

strengthened 248:11

strengthens 106:13

strict 74:4

strong 52:13 123:18,24
 243:21 263:23

stronger 146:11 148:20

strongest 106:20

struck 232:14,18

structure 43:11 188:8

structured 168:7

struggle 110:22 129:7

struggles 145:6

student 17:24 18:4,5

students 50:11 59:20
 108:21 110:20 226:17

study 141:7 148:19 151:2
 167:16

studying 150:22

subject 92:15 93:15 100:4

submission 80:16 85:7
 88:10

submitting 23:24

subpoenas 62:7 207:22

subsequently 12:13

Substack 166:5

substantive 12:22

success 106:21 118:23 123:21 142:5 successful 230:12 suffocation 104:8 summer 49:9 60:18 99:3 101:12,16 198:18 205:11 223:20 225:20 226:19 233:8,11 238:21 241:24 249:23 251:17,18 253:4 sunset 24:13 super 260:4 superstar 30:22 33:3 185:2 supervision 102:7 support 74:19 94:7 95:22 106:19 108:10 110:6 121:13 122:21 123:23 135:9,13 140:15 143:7 145:19 146:12 149:22 150:21 166:7 171:2 227:18 231:11 243:3 258:5 supports 136:14 137:8 supposed 99:10 surrounding 5:19 258:20 surveillance 247:11 survived 157:20 surviving 7:3 survivors 238:8,9 suspend 84:21 86:5 suspended 83:12,24 86:12 Suspension 13:6 Susquehanna 72:6 sustainable 74:7 Suzanne 143:14 149:19 sweep 253:7	Swingman 79:14 217:12 switch 143:10 switches 143:4 Symposium 18:11 165:3 system 58:11 118:10 125:23 systems 73:22 T T-REX 254:8 table 92:3 157:22 225:8 241:5 tables 35:2,3 Tailpipe 141:11 taking 12:22 14:20 133:7 151:8 233:9 249:13 talent 97:6 talk 125:21 135:20 141:14 156:18 157:12 170:5 226:20 232:3 233:14 248:24 251:9 talked 101:17 235:20 talking 100:12 102:12 121:20 136:7 141:16 232:10 252:5 260:3 talks 139:7 159:3 tall 16:12 232:11 Tanya 159:20 targets 74:6 Tarik 235:20 Tattooed 245:14 taught 4:22 tax 45:15 59:16 62:17,19 115:14 116:15 154:20,22 194:11 251:2,13,24 tax-exempt 59:19	taxation 115:12 taxes 59:15 116:14 taxing 250:16 teach 15:14 108:12 teachers 118:8 126:19 team 16:14,19,24 44:24 192:20 238:23 242:15,18 243:12 260:13 teams 17:10,18 Tech 131:14 technical 70:6 77:9 technologies 247:5 technology 52:15 247:14 teen 96:15 teenagers 99:23 Temple 128:20 158:2 258:18 temporary 167:2 TEN 71:18 tenants 235:8 258:16 tenets 150:15 Tenth 71:18 tenure 33:7 79:16 185:6 217:14 term 231:9 terms 24:12 26:8,17 27:2, 12,19 28:3,10,17,24 29:8, 15 35:6,16 36:10 38:8 40:18 41:8,22 42:12 46:23 47:11 48:2 49:21 56:15 58:2,17 59:5,21 63:12 64:3 69:16 70:7 71:20 73:4,13 74:11 76:5 77:10,23 173:24 177:8 259:6 testify 91:22 testimony 102:23 132:3 166:8 253:16
--	---	--

texted 242:4	84:3 85:2 86:14 92:11,15, 23 100:12 107:4 122:15 127:14 132:15 133:7 136:11,22 137:4 138:21 147:22 154:11 160:17 161:14,21 163:4 167:5 170:19 171:10 172:23 224:15 225:16 233:9 238:22 247:16 250:12,21 255:11	115:2 122:21 131:20 138:21 149:21 156:5 157:13 160:15 161:14 170:5 173:5 210:20 223:22 225:4 236:21 237:20 239:2 245:9 248:16 249:21 251:2 252:24 253:16 257:11,19 259:21
thanked 243:11	timely 25:24 37:24 224:12,13 237:24	today's 12:2,4 13:7,13 32:21 33:10,18 38:24 43:19 44:9,20 45:7,22 48:15 49:4,14 52:2 53:20 54:7 60:10 61:4,15 62:12, 24 66:2,15 67:12 68:3 69:20 70:10,23 79:19 81:21 82:10,24 91:19,24 183:7
thanking 147:2 241:23	times 129:5 224:24 233:24 245:18	toddler 122:9
That'll 255:24	timing 166:11	told 121:22 227:21 231:9
thing 261:17	tips 118:7	top 133:10
things 121:5 159:5 245:9, 17 249:20 251:3,7,8,9	tired 228:8	torn 107:14
thinkers 65:21 210:10	title 173:14 175:7 176:21, 23 179:22 184:23 186:11 188:4 189:17 191:7 192:17 194:4 195:19 197:5 198:14 199:20 201:4 202:15 203:23 205:5 206:18 213:8 214:14 216:2 217:9 218:18 220:3 221:13 223:3	total 119:14
thinking 255:8	titles 31:4 34:17 40:11 43:7 46:16 51:7 53:8 54:24 67:3 68:19 69:6 71:10 72:20 77:2	touched 5:21 144:22
Thomas 16:3,4 17:23 33:12 42:20,21 66:6 162:16 164:23 168:14,15 169:3 177:24 181:12 188:14,19,23 190:4,9,13 191:15,20,24 192:24 193:6,10 194:16,21 195:2 211:20 227:6	to-tow 183:14	tourism 120:14
Thompson 64:12	today 3:10 5:2 11:6,16 12:11 13:22 16:11,13 18:16 20:3 30:19 34:11 40:4 42:24 46:6 53:3 54:13 65:6 66:22 68:8 69:4 76:18 83:4 84:17 86:7 88:8 91:5 92:16 94:17,24 96:7,11,17 98:15 100:5 103:21 104:24 105:11 108:10 110:5 113:22 114:11	tournament 17:16
thought 108:21 231:15		tournaments 127:12
thousand 126:23		tow 223:24
thousands 142:12 225:24		towed 225:3
threat 151:3		towing 32:17 183:20 224:17
threatened 157:18		town 142:23 255:19
thrilled 229:17		toxic 103:24 109:10
thriving 45:18 194:14		toxins 129:3
throne 103:18		trace 155:9
Thursday 9:18 10:2,8 263:3,9		trade 66:11 212:2
ticket 223:24 225:2 253:9		tradition 7:13
ticket- 183:13		trafficked 238:10
ticket-to-tow 32:11		
ticketed 250:5		
tickets 253:2		
Tidd 159:22 163:18,19		
Tim 125:12 134:11		
time 14:20 17:13 83:14		

trafficking 238:9,14,18	turned 122:8	University's 61:23
trailblazer 248:6	turning 110:19	unlike 104:13
training 239:8 240:18	Turnpike 231:7	unmatched 163:15
transfer 26:23	tweak 246:4	unnoticed 4:19
transformed 164:18	Tynan 48:19 197:8	unraveled 245:16
transition 74:6 135:15 167:23	type 252:13	unregulated 247:14
transparency 32:15 183:17 224:19	U	unsigned 20:16
transportation 227:22,23 228:24 233:24	U.S. 99:14	unwound 166:16
trash 99:6,16 100:5 109:18,21 114:15,24 119:12 240:8 253:3	Ukee 48:9 195:22	upcoming 167:10 226:23
Trashing 98:24 108:11	ultimately 235:24	updated 35:4
traumatic 238:11	unanimously 237:19	updating 245:10
travel 4:7 171:13	unauthorized 102:2 224:10	Uptown 124:15
traveled 108:22	unchecked 247:8	urban 143:14 156:20
treasure 152:2,5 159:6	underestimate 8:8	urge 95:22 105:6 109:20 139:22
treated 137:18 145:13	understand 4:16 6:8 105:23 124:16 139:12 143:5 151:6 251:6	urgency 74:24
treating 82:6 144:17 220:10	understanding 95:11 146:8 147:20,23 225:9 255:6,7	urging 62:15 74:17
tree 35:15	understands 158:7	V
Trees 35:14	unexplored 172:6	vacant 101:23 102:3
tremendous 106:11 164:17	unfortunate 115:18	Valley 144:5
trifles 104:14	unhealthy 109:10	values 112:17
trips 112:12	UNIDENTIFIED 169:22	van 124:24
triumph 163:11	Unidos 15:12	vape 99:20
trouble 231:24	Union 16:16 45:3 192:22	vaping 99:24
Trust 158:11	Unit 133:3	vary 92:12
truth 8:11 117:16 142:12	United 70:16 74:18 75:3 107:11,19 216:5	vehicle 32:17 58:15 140:14 183:19 224:8,16 225:2,3
tucked 159:6	University 120:11,18 147:8 258:18	vehicles 141:15 142:3,20 224:10
Tuesday 229:23	University's 207:15	vein 225:17
turn 92:24 93:6 101:17 247:12		vendors 26:15 142:21
		Venice 47:21

versus 167:19,22	vulnerable 233:19	week 18:12 51:21 60:6 65:14,16 112:21 121:4 130:19 135:2 137:24 139:4 199:24 204:4 210:3,5 246:8,10 248:3 257:22 258:6
veterans 175:14		weekend 249:15
Veteran's 175:12	W	weeks 113:3 242:17
vetoed 12:19	Wachovia 158:9,10	welcoming 30:22 33:3 79:13 185:2 217:11
vibrate 2:16 30:10	Wadsworth 226:2	welfare 80:23 85:14 88:17 103:17
vicinity 47:9 73:2,12	wait 120:7 210:16	well-deserved 50:14 232:24 233:3
Village 136:19 137:13	waiting 93:4 230:17	wellness 229:18 230:4
Vincent 3:8 164:24	walk 66:9 104:21 145:23 146:6 161:6 211:23	west 29:13 63:10 78:21 226:13 249:19
Viola 173:19	walked 109:2	Whip 16:2 76:14 162:15
violation 250:2,3,6	Walker 17:5	White 129:16 232:9,15
violations 58:14 69:16	walking 145:16	wide 133:12
violence 39:16 139:8	Walt 167:15	widely 247:14
violent 100:15	Walter 145:4,10,22	wife 5:23 122:6
visa 237:22	wanted 113:2 138:15 243:10 257:6 261:18	Wilkins 262:12
Visas 237:18	wanting 95:8 157:12	William 93:22
visibility 144:20	Ward 19:9 112:15	Williams 242:14
vision 148:8	wards 131:2	window 167:9
visit 149:11	warriors 145:17	winning 16:15 45:2 192:21
visitors 2:10,17 3:3,16 14:15 258:20	wars 125:4	wishing 92:17
vital 226:18	Washington 48:9 175:11 195:22	Wissihackon 227:10
voice 97:22 138:22 236:17	waste 6:9 26:24 73:21 74:2,5,7,9 100:11 114:7 119:15,17 128:23	Wissinoming 108:9
voices 147:5	watched 99:2 129:6	withdraw 12:24
volunteer 157:7 160:8	water 69:12 226:15	withdrawn 100:16
vote 81:7 85:21 88:24 89:7,23 109:22 113:23 114:23 168:18 172:13 207:6,8 246:15	Wayne 78:14	witnessed 145:6,7
voted 12:23 89:22 165:20 169:15 179:19 183:3	ways 82:19 119:14 139:13 221:23 240:6 241:11	witnesses 94:2 103:8 111:20 125:17 134:15 138:11 143:20 160:2
Voter 130:18,19 135:2 137:24	weather 256:9	
voting 51:21 130:23 131:17,19 135:21 136:5, 10 199:23 246:9	Wednesday 261:21,22 262:15	
	weed 99:24	

162:7 witnessing 242:22 woman 96:18 149:22 women 124:2 129:12,16 248:14 wonderful 5:6 151:8 wonderfully 5:17 wondering 16:12 words 18:17 121:24 work 7:18,20 8:10,14 15:7 19:3 55:18 94:18 112:10 117:5,23 131:20 144:24 145:15 152:4 160:8 165:6 209:5 223:19 225:19 231:13 235:24 238:24 243:12 251:22,23 259:7,8 260:13 worked 4:21 5:2 7:10 127:16 Worker 144:4 workforce 234:7 working 33:12 64:17 132:19 225:10 231:5 235:19 237:12 243:5 252:19 253:24 254:16 working-class 113:19 114:22 works 135:8 workshop 131:17 world 60:19 101:13 105:11,23 107:21 109:3 114:14 118:14 119:2 122:3 139:12 147:20 150:23,24 157:6 161:20 164:6,20 185:15 205:12 world-class 148:3 worse 129:14,15 worth 4:5 6:20 7:10	writing 117:14 written 118:2 238:2 Wyncote 31:10 Y Yeager 143:16 year 9:4 130:6 142:14 237:20 241:10 year's 145:22 years 17:3,9 25:23 37:23 38:19 48:10 102:19 109:9 111:3 112:8,17 119:13 123:16 125:4,5,24 126:2, 14 127:3,23 145:4 156:21 171:15 186:17 195:23 254:12 years' 4:5 yellow 92:24 yesterday 234:11 yield 93:10 95:24 241:15 Yocum 27:16 40:15 young 17:8,16 29:23 54:10,11 55:14 56:24 80:7 109:11 111:16 120:20 121:15 138:17 147:3 158:23 178:13,14 181:24 182:2 204:6,9,11 205:19,22,24 207:3 208:2,5,6 209:6,13 226:24 227:15 228:9,16 230:20 233:19 234:7 240:12 247:22,23 251:5, 6,9,16,21 252:3 255:10 Young's 153:6 youth 16:23 59:16,18 66:12 170:10 212:3 227:8 228:7 251:2,18,19 257:16 Youtube 139:5	Z Zakariyya 260:11 Zamoria 236:22 ZAYY 66:7 211:21 Zemoria 138:8 144:2 zerowasteamerica.org 115:7 zone 107:13 zones 141:10 zoning 31:7,8,18,19 59:4 70:2 71:14 78:7,8 176:24 245:11 259:7 260:7
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City of Philadelphia
City Council Calendar
Thursday, September 17, 2026

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

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

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

Speakers may also submit public comment electronically by email to chiefclerk@phila.gov no later than 3 p.m. the day before the meeting, preferably as a PDF attachment to the email. Electronic submissions become part of the written record of the proceedings but they are not read aloud in Council. To sign up the day of the meeting, come to Room 400, City Hall and check in at the desk by the entrance.

***If you require an accommodation or service to fully participate, please let the Chief Clerk's Office know when signing up for Public Comment.**

***If you need an interpreter for these events, please call or email the Chief Clerk's office for information about our language services.**

***Please note that this is an in-person meeting, and open to the public. This meeting may also be viewed on Xfinity Channel 64, Fios Channel 40, or <http://phlcouncil.com/watch-city-council/>.**

ORDER OF BUSINESS IN A COUNCIL SESSION

Note: Some items do not occur at every session:

Invocation.

Approval of the journal of the preceding meeting.

Requests by Councilmembers for permission to be absent from the session.

Reading of communications from the Mayor.

Introduction of bills and resolutions (to be referred to appropriate Committees of Council).

Reports from Committees of Council.

Special business.

Bills on first reading.

**Public comment on bills and resolutions on the Second Reading and Final Passage
Calendars - titles are printed below.**

Bills that Council passed but that need to be returned by the Mayor for reconsideration.

**Consideration of bills and resolutions on the Second Reading and Final Passage
Calendars.**

Bills and resolutions on the Suspension Calendar.

Speeches by Councilmembers.

BILLS ON FIRST READING**260298****INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Jones

An Ordinance to amend the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by changing the zoning designations of certain areas of land located within an area bounded by Ridge Avenue, Spring Lane, Hagy's Mill Road, Port Royal Avenue, River Road, and the Montgomery County Line.

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS ON FINAL PASSAGE**260614****INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Gauthier

Resolution authorizing the Philadelphia Land Bank to dispose of 4152, 4154, and 4220 Viola Street; 4153 and 4157 Leidy Ave; 1703 and 1711 North 42nd Street; and 1129, 1135, and 1137 North 41st Street located in the 3rd Councilmanic District in accordance with the terms of Chapter 16-700 of The Philadelphia Code.

260656**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Squilla

Resolution also naming S. Christopher Columbus Boulevard from Washington Avenue to Race Street as "Veteran's Memorial Highway" to honor the contributions of veterans to our country.

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS ON SECOND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE**250768****INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Gauthier

An Ordinance amending Title 17 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled "Contracts and Procurement," to prohibit contractors providing solid waste, recycling or composting services to the City from incinerating discarded matter, under certain terms and conditions.

250807**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Squilla

An Ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property to acquire, on behalf of the City, fee simple title or a lesser interest, by purchase, dedication, donation, condemnation, agreement in lieu of condemnation or otherwise, for the purpose of making, enlarging, connecting, extending, operating, and maintaining public parks for recreational use, certain parcels of land, generally bounded and located between Vine Street, Fairmount Avenue, 8th Street and 12th Street, together with all improvements thereon and all associated easements and appurtenances; and to lease the property, or a portion thereof, to the Center City District; all under certain terms and conditions.

260381**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Gauthier for Council President Johnson

An Ordinance amending Title 14 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled “Zoning and Planning,” by adding a new chapter to require specific permit applicants to provide notice of the presence of particular murals on the property to the Department of Licenses and Inspections, all under certain terms and conditions.

260508**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Gilmore Richardson for Council President Johnson

An Ordinance authorizing an increase in the non-electoral indebtedness of the City within the Pennsylvania constitutional limit; authorizing the Bond Committee to sell bonds at public or private negotiated sale, to provide funds toward various capital municipal purposes; providing for appropriations to the Sinking Fund Commission for the payment of such bonds; and authorizing agreements to provide credit or payment or liquidity sources for the bonds in connection with issuance of the bonds, and certain other actions.

RESOLUTIONS

260712**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Phillips

Privileged Resolution authorizing the Committee on Legislative Oversight and the Committee on Streets and Services to hold hearings examining the City of Philadelphia’s “ticket-to-tow” requirement under Section 9-605(11) of The Philadelphia Code, including its effectiveness, fairness, transparency, enforcement, and impact on private property owners, vehicle owners, towing companies, and City agencies.

260713**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Council President Johnson

Privileged Resolution welcoming NBA Superstar and Forward LeBron James, better known as King James, to Philadelphia as he begins his tenure with the Philadelphia 76ers.

260714**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Council President Johnson

Privileged Resolution honoring and congratulating Reverend Joshua Goodin on his elevation to the status of Bishop and recognizing his years of ministry and leadership to the South Philadelphia community.

260715**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Council President Johnson

Privileged Resolution honoring public servant Frances Adams by renaming the 1800 Block of South 22nd Street to “Frances Adams Way” in recognition of her dedication to violence prevention in South Philadelphia.

260720**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Thomas

Privileged Resolution authorizing the Committee on Legislative Oversight to hold hearings on the structure of the Philadelphia Law Department and to consider the separation of the department’s functions between the Administration and City Council.

260721**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Thomas

Privileged Resolution honoring September 23rd as John Coltrane Day in the City of Philadelphia, on the event of John Coltrane’s 100th birthday, celebrating his life and Philadelphia’s central role in shaping his artistic and cultural legacy.

260722**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Thomas

Privileged Resolution honoring and congratulating Dr. Alycia Marshall, PhD, as the Community College of Philadelphia celebrates her investiture as the College’s seventh President

260723**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Thomas

Privileged Resolution honoring and Congratulating Team Final, on the occasion of winning the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) 14U and 16U National Championship

260724**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Thomas

Privileged Resolution authorizing the Committee on Legislative Oversight to hold hearings on the competitive challenges created by the net income portion of the Business Income and Receipts Tax, its history, the affordability crisis and routes to take to ensure a thriving business community in Philadelphia.

260725**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Jones

Privileged Resolution honoring and recognizing Ukee Washington for nearly forty years of dedicated service to CBS 3 (KYW-TV) and to the people of Philadelphia.

260726**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Jones

Privileged Resolution honoring and recognizing Cecily Tynan on the occasion of her retirement, in celebration of more than three decades of dedicated service to 6abc/WPVI-TV Action News and to the people of the City of Philadelphia.

260727**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Jones

Privileged Resolution honoring and Recognizing the Key Stakeholders of Philadelphia's Citywide Summer 2026 Events.

260731**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Landau

Privileged Resolution recognizing September 14-18, 2026 as Disability Voting Rights Week in the City of Philadelphia.

260732**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Lozada

Privileged Resolution recognizing September 15 through October 15 as Hispanic Heritage Month in the City of Philadelphia and celebrating the rich history, culture, and extraordinary contributions of the Hispanic and Latino communities to our City.

260733**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Lozada

Privileged Resolution recognizing September as National Literacy Month and Celebrating Philadelphia's Commitment to Expanding Literacy for All

260734**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Young

Privileged Resolution recognizing September 14-18, 2026, as Adult Education & Family Literacy Week in Philadelphia.

260735**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Young

Privileged Resolution authorizing the Committee on Streets and Services to investigate the Philadelphia Parking Authority's enforcement during Philadelphia's summer 2026 events, including FIFA World Cup 26; its accountability to Philadelphia residents and City government, and reforms to protect residents.strengthen oversight, and restore meaningful local control.

260736**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Young

Privileged Resolution honoring the life and legacy of former Pennsylvania State Senator Shirley M. Kitchen and expressing condolences ro her family, friends, and the communities she served.

260737**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Young

Privileged Resolution authorizing the Committee on Legislative Oversight to hold hearings investigating the announced closure of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University's public museum, its consequences for Philadelphia, and options to preserve public access and the institution's scientific and educational mission, and authorizing the issuance of subpoenas to the full extent authorized under Section 2-401 of the Home Rule Charter.

260742**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Brooks

Privileged Resolution recognizing the week of September 14th to 19th, 2026, as National Arts in Education Week in the City of Philadelphia, and celebrating the essential role arts education plays in developing the next generation of creative thinkers, leaders, and community builders.

260743**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Council President Johnson

Privileged Resolution honoring and congratulating Isaiah Thomas, known as HMBL ZAYY on social media, for completing an over 3,000-mile faith walk and fundraiser from Philadelphia to California to build a trade school for the Philadelphia youth.

260744**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Harrity

Privileged Resolution recognizing September 2026 as National Recovery Month and honoring the strength of those impacted by addiction

260745**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Harrity

Privileged Resolution honoring the life and legacy of Dr. Michael A. Schiavone, D.D.S., Beloved Husband, Father, and Co-Founder of Caring for Friends, and Recognizing His Lifetime Commitment to Feeding the Hungry and Caring for Those in Need.

260746**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Driscoll

Privileged Resolution recognizing Ambassador John Giordano, United States Ambassador to the Republic of Namibia, and celebrating his distinguished career of public service

260751**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Council President Johnson

Privileged Resolution welcoming NBA All-Star and Swingman Jaylen Brown to Philadelphia as he begins his tenure with the Philadelphia 76ers.

260752**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Ahmad

Privileged Resolution recognizing and celebrating September 2026 as National Drive Electric Month in the City of Philadelphia.

260753**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Ahmad

Privileged Resolution recognizing September as National Sickle Cell Awareness Month in the City of Philadelphia and honoring the life of Dr. Roy Neil Gay and his dedication to treating patients with sickle cell disease.

260754**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilmember Ahmad

Privileged Resolution authorizing the Committee on Public Health and Human Services to hold hearings on composting in Philadelphia, including current best practices, gaps in the City's composting programs and infrastructure, and ways to encourage residents and businesses to compost.