

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
STATED MEETING

Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Thursday, October 26, 2023
10:43 a.m.

PRESENT:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT DARRELL L. CLARKE
COUNCILWOMAN CINDY BASS
COUNCILWOMAN KENDRA BROOKS
COUNCILMAN MICHAEL DRISCOLL
COUNCILWOMAN JAMIE GAUTHIER
COUNCILWOMAN KATHERINE GILMORE RICHARDSON
COUNCILMAN JIM HARRITY
COUNCILMAN KENYATTA JOHNSON
COUNCILMAN CURTIS JONES, JR.
COUNCILWOMAN QUETCY LOZADA
COUNCILMAN BRIAN J. O'NEILL
COUNCILMAN ANTHONY PHILLIPS
COUNCILMAN MARK SQUILLA
COUNCILMAN ISAIAH THOMAS
COUNCILWOMAN SHARON VAUGHN

MICHAEL A. DECKER, CHIEF CLERK

- - -

1 10/26/23 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

3 morning.

4 (Good morning.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Thank you. Good morning, everyone.

7 We're going to get started. We have

8 established our quorum. If the members

9 will take their seat, we will have our
10 invocation.

11 To give our invocation this
12 morning, the Chair recognizes Pastor
13 Dr. Darlene Pearce of the House of Prayer
14 where the Holy Spirit Leads and We
15 Follow. I like that. She is here today
16 as the guest of Councilman Harrity.

17 I would ask all members,
18 guests, and visitors to please rise.

19 (Councilmembers, guests, and
20 visitors rise.)

21 PASTOR DR. PEARCE: Good
22 morning, everyone.

23 (Good morning.)

24 PASTOR DR. PEARCE: If we can
25 be attentive to the word of God in

1 10/26/23 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 prayer.

3 Father God, grant us this day
4 wisdom, knowledge, and revelation in this
5 meeting to listen and to care each other
6 views. Grant us respect and patience
7 with kindness collectively on each topic.

8 Let peace be among us that this
9 session will have a positive, motivating,
10 productive outcome. Now unto him who is
11 able to keep us from falling and to
12 present us faultless, the only wise God,
13 our savior, be glorified, majesty and
14 dominion and power, both now and
15 forevermore.

16 Amen.

17 (Amen.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

19 Thank you, Pastor, so much for your
20 spiritual guidance this morning.

21 Council will be at ease.

22 (Council at ease.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

24 Thank you. And, again, Pastor, thank you
25 so much for being here this morning.

1 10/26/23 - STATED - APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

2 Our next order of business is
3 the approval of the Journal of the
4 meeting on Thursday, October 19th, 2023,
5 and the Chair recognizes Councilwoman
6 Bass.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Thank you,
8 Mr. President. I move that the Journal
9 of the meeting of Thursday, October 19th,
10 2023 be approved.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
13 Thank you. It has been moved and
14 properly seconded that the Journal of the
15 meeting of Thursday, October 19, 2023
16 stand approved.

17 All in favor indicate by saying
18 aye.

19 (Aye.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
21 Those opposed?

22 (No response.)

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

1 10/26/23 - STATED - LEAVES

2 And our next order of business
3 is requests for leave of absence, and the
4 Chair recognizes Councilman Jones.

5 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
6 Mr. President. On behalf of the members,
7 there are no requests for leaves of
8 absence today.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
10 Chair thanks the gentleman.

11 And our next order of business
12 is our Sunshine Act motion. The Chair
13 recognizes Councilwoman Bass for a motion
14 concerning certain legislative matters
15 that may arise during the course of
16 today's session of Council that were not
17 listed on the Calendar prior to our
18 session today.

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

1 10/26/23 - STATED - MOTION CONCERNING CALENDAR

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

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

21 (Duly seconded.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

23 Thank you. It's been moved and properly
24 seconded that the legislative matters
25 stated by Councilwoman Bass may be added

1 10/26/23 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 to the agenda for today, should those
3 matters arise during the course of the
4 Council session.

5 All in favor indicate by saying
6 aye.

7 (Aye.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

9 Those opposed?

10 (No response.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
12 ayes have it, and the motion carries.

13 And our next order of business
14 is communications, and the Chair requests
15 that the Chief Clerk read the messages
16 from the Mayor and any other additional
17 messages that he may have in his
18 possession.

19 CHIEF CLERK: From the Mayor to
20 the President and members of the Council
21 of the City of Philadelphia, I am
22 transmitting for the consideration of
23 your honorable body a resolution
24 authorizing the Philadelphia Land Bank to
25 dispose of 1511 through 17 South 55th

1 10/26/23 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 Street located in the 3rd Councilmanic
3 District; and

4 A resolution authorizing the
5 Philadelphia Land Bank to execute and
6 deliver to the Philadelphia Housing
7 Authority a deed conveying fee simple
8 title to 2342 through 48 North 27th
9 Street, also known as 2748 North 27th
10 Street (assessed as 2342, 2344, 2346 and
11 2348 North 27th Street, 2704, 2706, 2708
12 West York Street, and 2709 West Arizona
13 Street) in the Fifth Councilmanic
14 District; and

15 A resolution authorizing the
16 Commissioner of Public Property to
17 execute and deliver to the Philadelphia
18 Redevelopment Authority deeds conveying
19 fee simple title to certain City-owned
20 lots or pieces of ground with the
21 buildings and improvements thereon
22 situate in Third Councilmanic District,
23 all under certain terms and conditions.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

25 Thank you very much, Mr. Decker.

1 10/26/23 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 And our next order of business
3 is the introduction of bills and
4 resolutions. I would ask the Chief Clerk
5 to read the legislation that's being
6 offered by our members today.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
8 Phillips offers a privileged resolution
9 recognizing the 10th Graders at
10 Hill-Freedman World Academy for being
11 featured in the HBO Documentary "Stand Up
12 and Shout: Songs From a Philly High
13 School."

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
15 Today's Calendar.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
17 Gilmore Richardson offers a privileged
18 resolution recognizing, honoring, and
19 congratulating Elizabeth A. Murphy for
20 her exceptional leadership at PECO and
21 her subsequent retirement after an
22 astounding sixteen-year career.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
24 Thank you.

25 The Chair recognizes

1 10/26/23 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Councilwoman Gilmore Richardson.

3 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Thank
4 you, Council President.

5 I rise to recognize the
6 presence of Elizabeth Murphy at today's
7 Council session and all of our friends
8 from PECO in Doug Oliver and Jose
9 Aguirre, in her absence Michele Sanchez,
10 Keith Michele-Bates, Romona Riscoe
11 Benson, and of course Mike Innocenzo, but
12 I would be remiss not to mention our
13 friend who I'm sure we all miss dearly,
14 Ed McBride.

15 But I wanted to recognize,
16 honor, and congratulate Liz Murphy for
17 her exceptional leadership at PECO and
18 for all the work she has done over the
19 years to really help us move the needle
20 on energy issues here in the City of
21 Philadelphia.

22 I remember working with her as
23 a young legislative aide on the original
24 energy benchmarking legislation for our
25 commercial buildings doc, and she was

1 10/26/23 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 just phenomenal and exceptional during
3 that time in really helping us to do that
4 work. So I wanted to take a moment to
5 recognize Elizabeth A. Murphy and
6 congratulate her on her retirement from
7 PECO.

8 Liz and our friends from PECO,
9 please stand.

10 - - -
11 (Applause.)

12 - - -

13 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Thank
14 you, Council President.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
16 Thank you, Councilwoman.

17 Today's Calendar.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Thomas
19 offers a privileged resolution honoring
20 and congratulating the Champions of the
21 Week, the artists of "Legacy Reclaimed:
22 A 7th Ward Tribute," for their efforts in
23 promoting and showcasing the history of
24 the Black residents of Philadelphia's
25 historic 7th Ward.

1 10/26/23 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 Today's Calendar.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones

5 offers four bills and four resolutions.

6 On behalf of Council President Clarke, an
7 ordinance providing for the submission to
8 the qualified electors of the City of
9 Philadelphia of the proposal set forth in
10 a Resolution approved by Council
11 proposing an amendment to the
12 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter to provide
13 for indemnification and defense by the
14 City in connection with claims made
15 against any registered community
16 organization arising directly out of the
17 lawful participation by such organization
18 in zoning matters and related land-use
19 process.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

21 Referred to committee.

22 CHIEF CLERK: And on his own

23 behalf, Councilman Jones offers an
24 ordinance authorizing Basic Utilities and
25 Services use on a certain location within

1 10/26/23 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 a section of East Fairmount Park bounded
3 by the right-of-way of the CSX Railroad,
4 Girard Avenue, and 33rd Street.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Referred to committee.

7 CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
8 authorizing Basic Utilities and Services
9 use on a certain location within a
10 section of West Fairmount Park bounded by
11 Wynnefield Avenue (extended), Belmont
12 Avenue, and Parkside Avenue.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

14 Referred to committee.

15 CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
16 to amend the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by
17 changing the zoning designations of
18 certain areas of land located within an
19 area bounded by Queen Lane, Wissahickon
20 Avenue, Roosevelt Boulevard (Extended),
21 and Henry Avenue and to amend Section
22 14-524 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled
23 "/FDO, Fourth District Overlay District,"
24 and make related changes.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

1 10/26/23 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Referred to committee.

3 CHIEF CLERK: And on behalf of
4 Council President Clarke, Councilman
5 Jones offers a resolution proposing an
6 amendment to The Philadelphia Home Rule
7 Charter to provide for indemnification
8 and defense by the City in connection
9 with claims made against any registered
10 community organization arising directly
11 out of the lawful participation by such
12 an organization in zoning matters and
13 related land-use process.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
15 Referred to committee.

16 CHIEF CLERK: And a privileged
17 resolution honoring and celebrating the
18 life and memory of our friend and
19 colleague, Robert "Chris" Goy, II.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
21 week's Calendar.

22 CHIEF CLERK: And a privileged
23 resolution confirming the re-appointment
24 of Matthew Stitt -- I'm sorry; a
25 non-privileged resolution confirming the

1 10/26/23 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 re-appointment of Matthew Stitt to the
3 Board of the Philadelphia Energy
4 Authority.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Next
6 week's Calendar.

7 CHIEF CLERK: And on his own
8 behalf, Councilman Jones offers a
9 privileged resolution authorizing the
10 City Council Committee on Public Health
11 and Human Services to hold public
12 hearings exploring the effects of recent
13 pharmacy closures, including Rite Aid, in
14 the City of Philadelphia and the impact
15 this has on prescription access and vital
16 pharmacy health services for senior
17 citizens.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
19 week's Calendar.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
21 Johnson offers two bills, entitled "An
22 ordinance to amend the Philadelphia
23 Zoning Maps by changing the zoning
24 designations of certain areas of land
25 located within an area bounded by

1 10/26/23 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Dickinson Street, 23rd Street, Cross
3 Street and 24th Street"; and

4 An ordinance to amend the
5 Philadelphia Zoning Maps by changing the
6 zoning designations of certain areas of
7 land located within an area bounded by
8 Wharton Street, Newkirk Street, Reed
9 Street, and 29th Street.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
11 Those two bills will be referred to the
12 appropriate committee.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
14 Brooks offers a privileged resolution
15 honoring and recognizing Lori "Tree
16 Queen" Maple Hayes, on the occasion of
17 her retirement, for her vision,
18 leadership, integrity, and unwavering
19 dedication to curating Philadelphia's
20 parks, trees, and greenery over her
21 42-year career of service to the City of
22 Philadelphia.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
24 Today's Calendar.

25 CHIEF CLERK: And a privileged

1 10/26/23 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 resolution honoring and recognizing --

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Mr. Decker, hold on.

5 You want it for this one?

6 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: I'll just
7 do them all together.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: I'm
9 sorry. Please proceed, Mr. Decker.

10 CHIEF CLERK: And a privileged
11 resolution honoring and recognizing Uhuru
12 Furniture and Collectibles and the
13 African People's Education and Defense
14 Fund for defending the rights of the
15 African community; providing affordable
16 furniture and home goods to
17 Philadelphians; providing jobs, job
18 training, and volunteer opportunities;
19 and committing all profits to supporting
20 economic development and
21 self-determination programs for Black
22 communities across the country.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
24 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Brooks.

25 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Thank

1 10/26/23 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 you, Council President.

3 Today I'm introducing two
4 resolutions honoring remarkable Black
5 leaders whose vision, commitment, and
6 profound impact on Philadelphia over the
7 past several decades will be a lasting
8 legacy in our city.

9 First I would like to honor
10 Lori "Tree Queen" Maple Hayes. Like many
11 of us who grew up in row homes in
12 Philadelphia, Lori yearned for green
13 spaces in her youth. She studied
14 agriculture at Saul High School and
15 horticulture at Penn State and Temple
16 before securing a job as a ground
17 maintenance worker for the City of
18 Philadelphia.

19 She rose through the ranks to
20 become Philadelphia Director of Urban
21 Forestry, and after 42 years of service
22 caring for and expanding Philadelphia's
23 green space, she is retiring this year.

24 Throughout her career, Lori has
25 insisted that green spaces are not a

1 10/26/23 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 luxury for some of us but a necessity for
3 all of us. She has nurtured and
4 protected countless trees in our city and
5 inspired countless Philadelphians with
6 her knowledge of horticulture and the
7 love for urban forestry. Because of her
8 leadership, we have a vast network of
9 healthy trees in our city providing
10 beauty, vitality, clean air, and precious
11 shade.

12 Her work to educate and engage
13 all of us, especially young people, in
14 the science, beauty, and benefits of
15 trees will be a gift to Philadelphia for
16 decades to come.

17 We can give her a hand there.
18 Thank you, Lori.

19 - - -

20 (Applause.)

21 - - -

22 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: I am also
23 introducing a resolution honoring Uhuru
24 Furniture and Collectibles and its parent
25 organization, African People's Education

1 10/26/23 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 and Defense Fund. I would like to thank
3 my friend and new colleague, Jay Young,
4 for calling my attention to the sad news
5 that Uhuru Furniture and Collectibles
6 will be closing its doors at the end of
7 this month.

8 Over the past 29 years, Uhuru
9 has furnished the homes of countless
10 Philadelphians and donated all of its
11 profits to support economic development
12 and self-determination programs for our
13 Black communities across the country.

14 Uhuru is a cherished
15 Philadelphia institution known for its
16 affordable up-cycled furniture as well as
17 its commitment to the history and
18 liberation of the African community.

19 While we mourn the loss of one
20 of Philadelphia's unique treasures, we
21 look forward with hope and gratitude to
22 the continued work of African People's
23 Education and Defense Fund, including the
24 African Independence Workforce program,
25 which aims to reverse the negative

1 10/26/23 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 economic impact of the colonial economy
3 and the prison system.

4 Today I am honored to be
5 presenting this resolution to the current
6 Board President of the African People's
7 Education Defense Fund, Ona Zene
8 Yeshitela.

9 Can you stand?

10 - - -

11 (Applause.)

12 - - -

13 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Thank you
14 all for your service, and I really do
15 appreciate honoring you today.

16 Thank you so much, Council
17 President.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

19 Thank you, Councilwoman.

20 The Chair recognizes
21 Councilwoman Gauthier.

22 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Thank
23 you, Council President.

24 I just wanted to add my
25 appreciation for the service of Lori "The

1 10/26/23 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Tree Lady" Hayes. She has given so much
3 to our city. She's helped our
4 neighborhoods to plant, steward, and care
5 for so many trees across the City, and I
6 think it's really important that she
7 served in this role as a Black woman. We
8 know that our neighborhoods are about
9 20 degrees hotter on average than other
10 neighborhoods in the City. So a tree is
11 not just something nice to look at. It's
12 really important for the environment and
13 for our health, and she's been just a
14 wonderful ambassador in Black and brown
15 neighborhoods and all across the City,
16 and she's left an indelible mark on the
17 City and is also a beautiful spirit. And
18 we're sorry to see her go, but also she
19 deserves a great retirement.

20 So thank you and
21 congratulations, Lori.

22 - - -

23 (Applause.)

24 - - -

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

1 10/26/23 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Thank you, Councilwoman.

3 That will be on today's
4 Calendar.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
6 Harrity offers one bill and one
7 resolution, entitled "An ordinance
8 amending Chapter 9-2300 of The
9 Philadelphia Code to provide greater
10 protections for displaced contract
11 workers."

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
13 Referred to committee.

14 CHIEF CLERK: And a privileged
15 resolution declaring October as Clergy
16 Appreciation Month in the City of
17 Philadelphia.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: And
19 today's Calendar.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
21 Gauthier offers three resolutions, a
22 non-privileged resolution authorizing the
23 Commissioner of Public Property to
24 execute and deliver to the Philadelphia
25 Redevelopment Authority deeds conveying

1 10/26/23 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 fee simple title to 5232 Chester Avenue,
3 5906 Market Street, and 5908 Market
4 Street.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Next
6 week's Calendar.

7 CHIEF CLERK: And a
8 non-privileged resolution authorizing the
9 Philadelphia Land Bank to dispose of 1511
10 through 17 South 55th Street located in
11 the 3rd Councilmanic District.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Next
13 week's Calendar.

14 CHIEF CLERK: And a
15 non-privileged resolution authorizing the
16 Philadelphia Land Bank to dispose of 5232
17 Chester Avenue located in the 3rd
18 Councilmanic District.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Also
20 next week's Calendar.

21 CHIEF CLERK: There are no
22 other bills or resolutions being offered
23 today by the members, Mr. President.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
25 Thank you very much, Mr. Decker.

1 10/26/23 - STATED - REPORTS

2 That concludes our introduction
3 of bills and resolutions by our members.

4 And our next order of business
5 is reports from committee, and the Chair
6 recognizes Councilman Johnson for a
7 report from the Committee on Rules.

8 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Thank you,
9 Mr. President. The Committee on Rules
10 reports 12 bills with a favorable
11 recommendation.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Mr.
13 Decker, please read that report.

14 CHIEF CLERK: To the President
15 and members of the Council of the City of
16 Philadelphia, the Committee on Rules, to
17 which was referred Bill No. 230547,
18 entitled "An ordinance to amend the
19 Philadelphia Zoning Maps by changing the
20 zoning designations of certain areas of
21 land located within an area bounded by
22 Mayfield Street, 6th Street, Indiana
23 Avenue, and Marshall Street"; and

24 Bill No. 230574, entitled "An
25 ordinance to amend Title 14 of The

1 10/26/23 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Zoning and
3 Planning,' by revising certain provisions
4 of Chapter 14-500, entitled 'Overlay
5 Zoning Districts,' by creating the
6 'Brewerytown-Sharswood Overlay Subarea';
7 and

8 Bill No. 230578, entitled "An
9 ordinance amending Chapter 14-1000 of The
10 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Historic
11 Preservation,' to establish a temporary
12 demolition moratorium with respect to
13 properties in the area bounded by Ridge
14 Avenue, Rochelle Avenue, Vicaris Street,
15 and Hermit Street"; and

16 Bill No. 230579, entitled "An
17 ordinance continuing the Aramingo Avenue
18 Shopping District beyond its termination
19 date, in an area that generally includes
20 the east and west sides of Aramingo
21 Avenue from 3300 Aramingo Avenue to 3995
22 Aramingo Avenue and certain blocks and
23 streets that intersect that portion of
24 Aramingo Avenue and for which Impact
25 Community Development Corporation, a

1 10/26/23 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Pennsylvania nonprofit corporation,
3 serves as the Neighborhood Improvement
4 District Management Association for the
5 District"; and

6 Bill No. 230585, entitled "An
7 ordinance amending the Philadelphia
8 Zoning Maps by changing the zoning
9 designations of certain areas of land
10 located within an area bounded by Johnson
11 Street, Germantown Avenue, Rittenhouse
12 Street, and Wissahickon Avenue"; and

13 Bill No. 230586, entitled "An
14 ordinance continuing the Chestnut Hill
15 Business Improvement District in the area
16 that generally includes both sides of
17 Germantown Avenue from 7640 to 8705, and
18 on certain blocks of streets that
19 intersect that portion of Germantown
20 Avenue, plus on Bethlehem Pike between 10
21 and 105 and within the district
22 boundaries 200 blocks of West Evergreen
23 Avenue and West Highland Avenue; Benezet
24 Street, East Springfield Avenue, 7600
25 block of Winston Road, unit block of East

1 10/26/23 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Willow Grove Avenue, unit block of
3 Moreland Avenue, unit block of Mermaid
4 Lane, unit block of East Moreland Avenue,
5 unit block of East Chestnut Hill Avenue;
6 approving an extension to the boundaries
7 of the District including the 7700 block
8 of Crittenden Street and the 400 block of
9 East Mermaid Lane between Crittenden
10 Street and Stenton Avenue; and continuing
11 Chestnut Hill Business Improvement
12 District, Incorporated, a Pennsylvania
13 nonprofit corporation, as the
14 Neighborhood Improvement District
15 Management Association for the District";
16 and

17 Bill No. 230626, entitled "An
18 ordinance amending Title 14 of The
19 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Zoning and
20 Planning,' by revising certain provisions
21 of Chapter 14-700 of The Philadelphia
22 Code, entitled 'Development Standards,'
23 by revising bulk and massing controls
24 within CMX-4 and CMX-5 zoning districts";
25 and

1 10/26/23 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Bill No. 230672, entitled "An
3 ordinance to amend the Philadelphia
4 Zoning Maps by changing the zoning
5 designations of certain areas of land
6 located within an area bounded by George
7 Street, 2nd Street, Laurel Street, the
8 Delaware Expressway, Spring Garden
9 Street, and 3rd Street"; and

10 Bill No. 230628, entitled "An
11 ordinance approving a new plan, estimated
12 costs and proposed method of assessment
13 of the Old City Special Services District
14 of Philadelphia for and concerning
15 business improvements and administrative
16 services to the Old City area of the City
17 of Philadelphia"; and

18 Bill No. 230629, entitled "An
19 ordinance to amend the Philadelphia
20 Zoning Maps by changing the zoning
21 designations of certain areas of land
22 located within an area bounded by Herman
23 Street, Baynton Street, Walnut Lane, and
24 Germantown Avenue"; and

25 Bill No. 230630, entitled "An

1 10/26/23 - STATED - REPORTS

2 ordinance authorizing the Philadelphia
3 Housing Authority to acquire fee simple
4 title to certain properties located in
5 the vicinity of 28th Street to the east,
6 29th Street to the west, Cumberland
7 Street to the north, and York Street to
8 the south"; and

9 Bill No. 230650, entitled "An
10 ordinance to amend the Philadelphia
11 Zoning Maps by changing the zoning
12 designations of certain areas of land
13 located within an area bounded by Arch
14 Street, 50th Street, Market Street, 49th
15 Street, Chestnut Street, and 51st
16 Street," respectfully reports it has
17 considered the same and returns the
18 attached bills to Council with a
19 favorable recommendation.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

21 Thank you, Mr. Decker.

22 The Chair again recognizes
23 Councilman Johnson.

24 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Thank you,
25 Council President. I move that the rules

1 10/26/23 - STATED - REPORTS

2 of Council be suspended so as to permit
3 first reading of this day of the 12 bills
4 that were just read into the record by
5 the Clerk.

6 (Duly seconded.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

8 Thank you. It has been moved and
9 properly seconded that the rules of
10 Council be suspended so as to permit
11 first reading this day of Bills No.
12 230547, 230574, 230578, 230579, 230585,
13 230586, 230626, 230627, 230628, 230629,
14 230630, and 230650.

15 All in favor indicate by saying
16 aye.

17 (Aye.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

19 Those opposed?

20 (No response.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
22 ayes have it, and these bills will be
23 placed on our First Reading Calendar
24 today.

25 The Chair recognizes Councilman

1 10/26/23 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Squilla for a report from the Committee
3 on Finance.

4 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you,
5 Mr. President. The Committee on Finance
6 reports one bill with a favorable
7 recommendation.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
9 Thank you.

10 Mr. Decker, please read that
11 report.

12 CHIEF CLERK: The Committee on
13 Finance, to which was referred Bill No.
14 230654, entitled "An ordinance approving
15 a Substantial Amendment to the
16 Consolidated Plan 2022 through 2026 and
17 Annual Action Plan 2022 through 2023 to
18 add \$163,204,000 in Community Development
19 Block Grant - Disaster Recovery funding,"
20 respectfully reports it has considered
21 the same and returns the attached bill to
22 Council with a favorable recommendation.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
24 Thank you.

25 The Chair again recognizes

1 10/26/23 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Councilman Squilla.

3 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you,
4 Mr. President. I move that the rules of
5 Council be suspended as to permit the
6 first reading this day of Bill No.
7 230654.

8 (Duly seconded.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
10 Thank you. It's been moved and properly
11 seconded that the rules of Council be
12 suspended so as to permit first reading
13 this day of Bill No. 230654.

14 All in favor indicate by saying
15 aye.

16 (Aye.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
18 Those opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
21 ayes have it, and this bill will be
22 placed on our First Reading Calendar
23 today.

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

1 10/26/23 - STATED - BILLS ON CONSENT AGENDA

2 I note that the bills just
3 reported from committee with a suspension
4 of the rules have been deemed to have had
5 their first reading. Those bills will be
6 placed on our Second Reading and Final
7 Passage Calendar at our next session.

8 As there are no additional
9 bills on the First Reading Calendar, the
10 Chair recognizes Councilman Jones as it
11 relates to bills and resolutions on the
12 Final Passage Calendar today.

13 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
14 Mr. President. I move that the rules of
15 Council be suspended to permit a Consent
16 Agenda for the following bills on Second
17 Reading and Final Passage Calendar:

18 230445, 230486, 230487, 230488, 230489,
19 230550, 230572, 230573, 230577, 230580,
20 230581, 230582, 230584, 230621, 230622,
21 230623, 230624, 230625, 230676, 230677,
22 and 230678.

23 (Duly seconded.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

25 Thank you. It has been moved and

1 10/26/23 - STATED - BILLS ON 2ND READING

2 seconded that the rules of Council be
3 suspended so as to permit the use of a
4 Consent Agenda to consider the bills just
5 read by Councilman Jones.

6 All in favor indicate by saying
7 aye.

8 (Aye.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

10 Those opposed?

11 (No response.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
13 ayes have it, the motion carries, and we
14 will consider the Consent Agenda shortly.

15 The Chair again recognizes
16 Councilman Jones for the purpose of
17 calling up bills and resolutions on the
18 regular and Second Reading Passage today.

19 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you
20 again, Mr. President. In addition to the
21 bills being considered on the Consent
22 Agenda, the following bills and
23 resolutions are being brought up from
24 Second Reading and Final Passage
25 Calendars today: Bills No. 230723,

1 10/26/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 230725, 230728, 230730, 230731, 230732,
3 230733, 2305 -- 230253, and 230570. All
4 other bills and resolutions are being
5 held.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

7 Thank you very much.

8 Our next order of business is
9 our public comment, but before
10 considering the resolutions and bills,
11 the public comment will go as follows:

12 Your public comment must
13 concern matters on the Second Reading and
14 Final Passage today. All speakers must
15 sign up in order to testify. If you have
16 not already signed up, you may do so at
17 the desk outside the Chambers with the
18 Sergeant-of-Arms.

19 Once you have signed up, you
20 will be called in the order in which you
21 signed up. When your name is called, you
22 will go to the podium in the middle of
23 the Council Chambers. There is a device
24 on that podium. When that light on that
25 device turns green, it will be your time

1 10/26/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 to speak. When the light turns yellow,
3 you will have 30 seconds to conclude your
4 remarks, and when the light turns red,
5 we'd ask that you please adhere to our
6 guidelines and conclude your remarks and
7 turn the podium over to the next speaker.

8 Today we have a relatively
9 lengthy list, so in order to make sure
10 that people don't have to have a lengthy
11 wait to testify and to ensure that
12 everybody who has signed up has an
13 opportunity to testify, we will have two
14 minutes. I would ask for you all to
15 please adjust your comments and your
16 remarks to a two-minute limit to ensure
17 that everybody has an opportunity.

18 Thank you very much for your
19 willingness to participate in your
20 government. We really appreciate you
21 coming down today.

22 Mr. Decker, please call the
23 first name.

24 CHIEF CLERK: The first speaker
25 is Connor Desheemaker, commenting on

1 10/26/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 230489.

3 (Witness approached podium.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
5 morning.

6 MR. DESHEEMAKER: Yes. My name
7 is Connor Desheemaker. Thank you so much
8 for the time to be here. Good morning,
9 Council President Clarke and Philadelphia
10 City Council. I'm the Coalition Manager
11 for Transit Forward Philadelphia
12 testifying today in support of Bill
13 230489, Councilmember Squilla's
14 legislation to establish a
15 camera-assisted enforcement system for
16 parking violations that disrupt public
17 transit access across the City of
18 Philadelphia, standing alongside of
19 environmental groups, disability and
20 elder advocates, and transportation
21 organizations in urging immediate action
22 to increase safety and accessibility
23 across our buses and trolleys.

24 As you may be aware, SEPTA
25 recently released a report that revealed

1 10/26/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 our bus system's safety, accessibility,
3 and reliability are severely harmed by
4 widespread illegal parking in bus stops
5 and bus only lanes. We must change this
6 behavior and reduce dangerous violations.
7 We believe Councilmember Squilla's bill
8 is the key to making our streets,
9 sidewalks, intersections safer and more
10 conducive to mobility for all residents.

11 Over just 70 days SEPTA's
12 report showed over 30,000 unique parking
13 violations at bus stops. These affect
14 safe curbside boarding for elders and
15 riders with disabilities who
16 disproportionately rely on public
17 transportation to meet daily needs.

18 Black and low-income workers
19 are similarly more likely to use transit,
20 and delays caused by illegally parked
21 cars contribute to a penalty of 34 extra
22 minutes of commuting as the Federal
23 Reserve Bank of Philadelphia recently
24 revealed.

25 These effects are not limited

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2 to Center City, Market, JFK, Chestnut,
3 Walnut, and the trolley lines. In fact,
4 the City of Philadelphia's own disability
5 representation map indicates the highest
6 concentrations of residents with
7 disabilities include areas such as North
8 Philly and the Lower Northeast.

9 Thus, while we strongly support
10 immediate passage of this legislation, we
11 strongly recommend reconvening with data
12 in six months and pushing towards
13 citywide implementation of
14 camera-assisted enforcement. On-time
15 service and safe, accessible boarding
16 should be for all residents of
17 Philadelphia.

18 Thank you for listening, and we
19 look forward to your support of this
20 legislation.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
22 Thank you for your testimony. We
23 appreciate it.

24 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
25 is Peter Furcht, commenting on 230489.

1 10/26/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 (Witness approached podium.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
4 morning.

5 MR. FURCHT: Thank you for the
6 opportunity to testify. My name is Peter
7 Furcht. I am also testifying in support
8 of Bill 230489.

9 I'm a Philadelphia resident and
10 a regular, but I must admit not to
11 frequent, rider of SEPTA. In my opinion,
12 one of Philadelphia's biggest problems is
13 that the City does not do a good job of
14 enforcing the rules that they already
15 have on the books. Bill 230489 simply
16 gives the City a tool to better enforce
17 already existing ordinances, nothing
18 more.

19 Enacting this bill will help
20 make public transportation more reliable,
21 timely, safe, in a word - usable. I see
22 no downsides to this bill and fully
23 support it.

24 I sold my car two years ago. I
25 rely on my feet, my bicycle, rideshare,

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2 and SEPTA. If SEPTA buses were faster,
3 predictable, I would use SEPTA over
4 rideshare, and better still, if buses
5 could pull over and not block traffic
6 while I loaded my bike on a rack on the
7 front of a bus, I would use combined bus
8 and bike transportation more frequently.

9 Philadelphia must prioritize
10 and promote public transportation for
11 many reasons. I'll talk about just two.

12 One, justice. Public
13 transportation is the only option for
14 thousands of individuals, whether they be
15 poor, handicapped, or for some other
16 reason unable to drive. They deserve a
17 timely, reliable, and safe system.

18 Number two, Vision Zero's
19 safety goals. Reliable, timely
20 transportation will get people out of
21 cars and cars off the road, making the
22 streets less congested and safer. Buses
23 won't be letting people off in the middle
24 of the street, and vehicles won't be
25 darting around buses into other vehicle

1 10/26/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 lanes or into the bike lanes.

3 There are many other potential
4 benefits, such as helping the City meet
5 their climate goals. There's City budget
6 benefits, and let's not ignore the new
7 revenue stream the City will realize by
8 collecting over fees from 36,000
9 violations every two months.

10 And, again, thank you. I fully
11 support this bill.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

13 Thank you. Thank you for your testimony.

14 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
15 is Joanna Otero, commenting on 230728.

16 (Witness approached podium.)

17 MS. OTERO: Joanna Otero Cruz.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
19 morning.

20 MS. OTERO: Good morning.

21 Good morning. Buenos dias,
22 everyone. My name is Joanna Otero Cruz
23 and I am the President and Executive
24 Director of Women Against Abuse. I am
25 honored for the opportunity to speak with

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2 you and support a privileged resolution
3 declaring October as Domestic Violence
4 Violation Awareness Month.

5 On behalf of Women Against
6 Abuse, our community partners, Congreso
7 Latinos Unidos, Lutheran Settlement
8 House, and Women in Transition and the
9 thousands of survivors of domestic
10 violence we serve, I want to thank
11 Councilmembers Brooks, Jones, Lozada, and
12 all of City Council for recognizing
13 October as Domestic Violence Awareness
14 Month in the City of Philadelphia.

15 This is the time to raise
16 awareness to a life-threatening issue
17 that impacts one in three women, one in
18 four men, and nearly half of the LGBTQ
19 plus community.

20 Domestic violence isn't a
21 hidden problem limited to people's homes
22 or private lives. It spills out onto our
23 streets and in our work spaces, schools
24 and entire communities. It also
25 interacts -- intersects with the very

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2 visible gun violence crisis that's
3 wreaking havoc on our neighborhoods
4 throughout our city. In fact, studies
5 show that when a male abuser has access
6 to a firearm, the risk that he will kill
7 a female partner increases by
8 1,000 percent.

9 One hundred and four victims
10 lost their lives to domestic violence in
11 Pennsylvania last year. Twenty of those
12 victims were from Philadelphia, more than
13 any other county in the Commonwealth, and
14 the vast majority of those homicides were
15 committed with guns, 60 percent.

16 It's a grim picture, but we are
17 not powerless. Together, with the City
18 Council's leadership, we have the
19 opportunity to heal and build a safer
20 tomorrow. This October let's commit to
21 ending domestic violence in our homes and
22 in our neighborhoods.

23 We have made significant
24 strides forward as the City with the
25 establishments of the Office of Domestic

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2 Violence Strategies, but we have miles to
3 go to ensure that all Philadelphians can
4 live safe and peaceful. One crucial way
5 is to continue to support our citywide
6 hotline.

7 Thank you.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

9 Thank you. Thank you for your testimony.

10 - - -

11 (Applause.)

12 - - -

13 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
14 is Latoya Maddox, commenting on 230489.

15 (Witness approached podium.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
17 morning.

18 MS. MADDUX: Good morning. My
19 name is Latoya Maddox and I'm testifying
20 today in support of Bill No. 230489.

21 Good morning, and thank you for
22 allowing me to testify today. My name is
23 Latoya Maddox and I'm a Senior
24 Independent Living Specialist at Liberty
25 Resources. I'm also the Chair of the

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2 SEPTA Advisory Committee and a
3 Commissioner on the Mayor's Commission on
4 Disability.

5 As you can see, I'm
6 physically -- I have physical limitations
7 and I use a power wheelchair to get
8 around. I recently moved to the East
9 Kensington section of Philadelphia.
10 Through home and community-based
11 services, I receive a monthly pass with
12 benefits on it and use the CCT Key card.

13 Liberty Resources is a
14 federally and state-funded center for
15 independent living that serves the
16 disability community in Philadelphia,
17 Delaware, Chester, and Montgomery
18 Counties. Our mission is to ensure that
19 people with disabilities can live
20 independently with full access to all
21 aspects in the community. This includes
22 reliable transportation.

23 The Homestead Act was passed in
24 1999 through the Supreme Court ruling
25 in -- yeah. Hold on. I lost my train of

1 10/26/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 thought.

3 Liberty Resources, the
4 disability community, are in full --
5 Liberty Resources and the disability
6 community are in full support of the
7 camera-assisted enforcement legislation,
8 which was introduced and passed in first
9 reading. However, the disability
10 representation map based on the U.S.
11 census data shows that Philadelphia
12 residents do not only live downtown.
13 Philadelphia also has the high percentage
14 of residents with disabilities,
15 approximately 17.4 percent.

16 I must attend events in the
17 community for work, parental, and at
18 times for leisure. Not being able to
19 board and exit buses safely on the
20 sidewalk in designated stop curb cut
21 areas is why I take CCT versus the bus.

22 When I'm needed on any given
23 day to fulfill any job or personal need,
24 I have to take the bus. When a
25 vehicle -- when vehicles block the bus

1 10/26/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 stop curb cut or the bus lane, the bus
3 has to board me in an undesignated area,
4 putting me and my son at risk of injury.

5 In closing, I must reiterate
6 allowing the camera-assisted enforcement
7 legislation to just focus on downtown
8 will not combat the problem for SEPTA and
9 the disability community. If anything,
10 it will make matters worse. I urge you
11 to pass the bill and promptly within six
12 months after its implementation, that
13 this enforcement be expanded citywide to
14 all SEPTA's routes. We not only need
15 accessible vehicles, we need accessible
16 right-of-ways to board and exit vehicles
17 citywide. Our safety should not be
18 rationalized just in Center City.

19 Thank you for your time today.
20 Thank you.

21 - - -

22 (Applause.)

23 - - -

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

25 Thank you for your testimony.

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2 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
3 is Queen Judith Robinson, commenting on
4 221015 and 230723.

5 (Witness approached podium.)

6 QUEEN ROBINSON: Good morning.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
8 morning.

9 QUEEN ROBINSON: Queen Judith
10 Robinson.

11 230723 --

12 (Microphone not working.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: A
14 little closer.

15 Hold on. Ms. Robinson, hold on
16 one second. We're not hearing you.

17 Is it connected? Are we good?

18 All right. Please go ahead
19 again.

20 QUEEN ROBINSON: This bill
21 gives me opportunity to talk about land
22 disposition in the 5th District. As
23 Council President Clarke moves to
24 retirement, since 2020 in COVID we've had
25 more land movement, more land disposition

25 - - -

1 10/26/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 (Applause.)

3 - - -

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

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

7 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
8 is Christina Vega, commenting on 230728.

9 (Witness approached podium.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
11 morning.

12 MS. VEGA: Good morning. My
13 name is Christine Vega and I am
14 testifying today in regards to Resolution
15 No. 230728 concerning domestic violence.

16 I represent Love Shouldn't
17 Hurt, a non-profit organization that
18 began five years ago after the tragic
19 death of Linda Rios, who was a part of
20 the human resources for City Hall. After
21 her death and my involvement on the day
22 of those events, it has changed me.

23 Being a survivor myself of six
24 years of physical and mental abuse and
25 being left for dead, her death pushed me

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2 to do more. So we continue to raise
3 awareness on domestic violence within our
4 community, not only this month but every
5 day. We assist victims in our community
6 with relocation services, podcasts to
7 educate our community. We provide
8 financial support to our victims,
9 assistance in obtaining a PFA. We hold
10 yearly events to honor those victims and
11 all of those that we have lost and are
12 still fighting the fight.

13 This resolution is important
14 not only for myself as a former victim
15 but all of the victims that I represent
16 in Philadelphia. Our victims need to
17 feel supported and know there are
18 resources that can help.

19 Domestic violence counts for
20 almost 80 percent of our deaths in our
21 city. It is our desire that we not only
22 focus on this act of violence this month
23 but all year around.

24 We appreciate the support given
25 by Councilwoman Lozada and her team to

1 10/26/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 provide resources for all of us and our
3 community.

4 Thank you for your time.

5 - - -

6 (Applause.)

7 - - -

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

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

11 CHIEF CLERK: Crystal Canty.

12 (Witness approached podium.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
14 morning.

15 MS. CANTY: My name is Crystal
16 Canty.

17 I come today to talk about the
18 affordable housing. I want to turn my
19 houses -- I'm located 4131 North Broad
20 Street. I'm actually in your area. You
21 are my Councilperson.

22 Crystal Canty.

23 What I'd like to see done is,
24 I'd like to house the single Black women
25 of Philadelphia with children. I want to

1 10/26/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 change my house over. I want you to
3 support me in this. There's a lot of
4 Black women and children that are facing
5 DHS right now, that are facing
6 homelessness, and I want to help with a
7 resolution.

8 I too was a part of the DHS
9 issue, but I won my children back, and
10 now I want to come back and help the
11 women that need help. They truly need
12 help. The shelter systems are filled
13 with Black women and single children.
14 There's about 20 different families in
15 there when I walked in there and so,
16 therefore, I have 12 rooms. I want you
17 to sign me up for the program that gives
18 out the 12 months funding. I want you to
19 help me fix my houses over.

20 I have never asked the City of
21 Philadelphia to help me with anything
22 ever before in my life. I've been there
23 for 25 years housing homeless people on
24 my own, and this is something that is my
25 passion and I want to do it. So I would

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2 like for you to help me.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Thank you. I'll have somebody reach out
5 to you.

6 MS. CANTY: I have some
7 paperwork. I have some things that --

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

9 Before you leave I'll have somebody talk
10 to you.

11 MS. CANTY: Okay. Thank you.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

13 Thank you. Thank you for your testimony.

14 - - -

15 (Applause.)

16 - - -

17 CHIEF CLERK: Louis
18 Bartholomew.

19 (No response.)

20 CHIEF CLERK: Louis
21 Bartholomew.

22 (No response.)

23 CHIEF CLERK: Gretjen Clausing.

24 (Witness approached podium.)

25 MS. CLAUSING: Good morning.

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2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
3 morning.

4 MS. CLAUSING: Council
5 President Clarke and members of City
6 Council, my name is Gretjen Clausing. I
7 am the Executive Director of Philadelphia
8 Community Access Media, better known to
9 many as PhillyCam, and I'm honored to be
10 here to testify this morning on behalf of
11 Bill 230728 declaring October Domestic
12 Violence Awareness Month, and I am also
13 honored to be here to testify in support
14 of a resolution that was passed last week
15 by Councilmember Lozada, Brooks and -- or
16 introduced by Councilwoman Lozada,
17 Brooks, and Jones recognizing Friday,
18 February 20th as Community Media Day and
19 honoring public, educational, and
20 government access channels in the City of
21 Philadelphia.

22 As I was preparing this
23 testimony, I realized it's been over
24 25 years since I first came here to
25 testify in City Council, and that was in

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2 support of the establishment of public
3 access television. Philadelphia at that
4 time held the dubious reputation of being
5 the largest city in the country without
6 public access television.

7 So fast forward to today and
8 I'm just so proud to be here representing
9 PhillyCam. Since launching our cable
10 channel in 2009, we've become a valued
11 City community resource that provides
12 transformative opportunities for
13 community members to express themselves,
14 learn from one another, and produce and
15 share media reflective of the experiences
16 of everyday people.

17 Last week PhillyCam joined with
18 our peers around the country to celebrate
19 Community Media Day to lift up the
20 important role that public, educational,
21 and government, PEG, access television
22 channels, often referred to as community
23 television, plays in the U.S. in over
24 1,700 organizations in all 50 states.

25 PhillyCam is proud to work

1 10/26/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 alongside the other PEG channels in
3 Philadelphia - PHL TV, broadcasting these
4 hearings today; the School District's PS
5 TV, TU TV at Temple University, Community
6 College of Philadelphia's CCP TV, and La
7 Salle TV.

8 The work of PEG channels
9 contributes to a healthy democracy by
10 providing services to communities
11 underserved by local news, promoting
12 transparency and open government,
13 contributing important information about
14 public safety and health communications,
15 covering local arts and culture, and
16 preserving a forum for freedom of
17 expression and promoting digital equity
18 and media access for all.

19 The ability of PEG channels to
20 do this vital -- well, I just want to
21 urge Council to pay attention to this as
22 the Verizon franchise will be coming in
23 front of you in hopefully just a matter
24 of weeks, and again thank you for this
25 acknowledgment.

1 10/26/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 Thank you. Thank you for your testimony.

4 We appreciate it.

5 - - -

6 (Applause.)

7 - - -

8 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
9 is Wick Savage, commenting on 210396.

10 (Witness approached podium.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
12 morning.

13 MR. SAVAGE: Good morning,
14 Council President and Councilmembers.
15 I'm here to discuss the matter pertaining
16 to Bill 210396 about the foreclosure
17 process.

18 This body needs to do
19 everything in its God-given power to hold
20 off these predator bankers and developers
21 that want to move people out of their
22 homes. The problem you have is most of
23 the folks that are in this situation do
24 not have the power, the political
25 awareness, or the financial ability to

1 10/26/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 fight off this big-time banking industry.
3 Most of these mortgages have already been
4 signed off.

5 President Obama, when he was in
6 office, gave the banking industry
7 billions of dollars to pull them out of
8 their debt, and they made an agreement to
9 work with homeowners to help them get out
10 of their situation that they were in.

11 I know from my own experience
12 with my family members, it took me and my
13 family and my finances ten years to fight
14 off four banks. By the time they
15 finished playing games, most of the
16 homeowners in Philadelphia are exhausted
17 and they give up.

18 Councilman Curtis Jones can
19 witness this with the movement of people
20 in his district of losing their homes.

21 We need to do everything in our
22 powers to help fight back this big, giant
23 industry.

24 Thank you.

25 - - -

1 10/26/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 (Applause.)

3 - - -

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

5 Thank you for your testimony.

6 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
7 is Ona Zene Yeshitela.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: She had
9 to leave, unfortunately.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: She
11 had to leave? Okay. She can forward her
12 testimony to us, and we'll make sure it's
13 part of the record.

14 Next speaker.

15 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
16 is --

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Hold
18 on. Mr. Decker, hold on one second.

19 Councilman Jones.

20 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
21 Mr. President, and I want to thank
22 Mr. Wick Savage for once again bringing
23 the looming problem of foreclosures to
24 this body. But I would be remiss if I
25 did not recognize that there was a Marian

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2 Tasco who some time ago raised the issue
3 of predatory lenders in our community,
4 which led to the first mortgage
5 foreclosure moratorium, which a young
6 Councilperson came after her and realized
7 that that wave of disinvestment,
8 predatory lending had resurfaced, and
9 this body instituted a second moratorium
10 on foreclosures citywide.

11 I remember -- I won't call them
12 out, but the Sheriff at the time when I
13 called him -- I said is it true that
14 we're getting ready to get the largest
15 wave of foreclosures in the history of
16 the City of Philadelphia? He hung up on
17 me, click. I mean, that is a true story.

18 We later got together with
19 Judge Rizzo, we got together with the
20 housing advocates, we got together and
21 worked it out with the banks that we
22 created the Mortgage Diversion --
23 Mortgage Foreclosure Diversion Program.
24 Since that time, over 15,000 homes have
25 been saved.

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2 Now, if that wave is raising
3 its head and we don't have enough housing
4 counselors, we need to revisit that. If
5 that wave has come and they're doing
6 things differently to disenfranchise,
7 creating an environment where people are
8 losing their number one asset that they
9 will ever have, let's look at it.

10 But I do not want us to ever
11 think that we have not been a part of the
12 solution and will continue to do so.

13 Thank you, Mr. President.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

15 Thank you, Councilman.

16 The Chair recognizes
17 Councilwoman Vaughn.

18 COUNCILWOMAN VAUGHN: Thank
19 you, Council President.

20 I also want to piggyback on
21 Councilman Jones's statement, because our
22 former Councilperson, Derek Green, wrote
23 the legislation for Councilwoman Marian
24 Tasco, and I worked closely with him,
25 because a former Councilperson, Cherelle

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2 Parker, was a victim of predatory lending
3 and that's what brought it to our
4 attention.

5 Please do whatever we can to
6 make sure that that problem doesn't come
7 again, because it caused a housing
8 crash -- a housing market to crash, and
9 it destroyed lots and lots of people. So
10 we always want to keep our -- someone on
11 that situation to make sure it doesn't
12 rear its ugly head again.

13 Thank you.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

15 Thank you, Councilwoman. Thank you.

16 Mr. Decker.

17 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
18 is Ruby Gittelsohn.

19 (Witness approached podium.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
21 morning.

22 MS. GITTELSON: Good morning.

23 My name is Ruby Gittelsohn and I am the
24 Assistant Manager of Uhuru Furniture and
25 I have had the honor to participate in

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2 the Uhuru Furniture store since 1996.

3 You know, unfortunately our
4 President, Ona Zene Yeshitela, who was
5 here to accept the award, did have to
6 leave early to go speak at another event,
7 but I just want to really, really
8 appreciate Kendra Brooks for that
9 beautiful resolution honoring the work of
10 Uhuru Furniture and the African People's
11 Education and Defense Fund, which has
12 been in Philadelphia for 30 years. And
13 we appreciate, you know, Kendra, your
14 whole team, and the eight other
15 Councilpeople that signed on to this
16 resolution.

17 Uhuru Furniture has played an
18 important role in Philadelphia as a
19 beacon for the fight for democratic
20 rights and self-determination for the
21 African community for the past 30 years
22 and calling on people of all
23 nationalities and walks of life that
24 everyone can support African freedom and
25 self-determination, and that that is in

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2 the best interest of all of humanity to
3 see African people having control over
4 their own lives and freedom. And Uhuru
5 Furniture has not only talked about that
6 and spoken out for it, but it has walked
7 the walk. It has done the work to change
8 these conditions, including funding
9 programs like the community basketball
10 court, farmers' markets, the community
11 health festival and marketplaces, and
12 constantly demonstrating in the real
13 world what African self-determination
14 looks like.

15 I see that the light is going
16 on and I need to get off, but I just want
17 to really, really appreciate the City
18 Council for your recognition of Uhuru
19 Furniture --

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

21 Thank you.

22 MS. GITTELSOHN: -- and
23 gratefully accept that resolution.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

25 Thank you.

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2 MS. GITTELSOHN: Thank you so
3 much.

4 - - -

5 (Applause.)

6 - - -

7 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
8 is Alfred Hutley.

9 (Witness approached podium.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
11 morning.

12 MR. HUTLEY: Good morning. My
13 name is Alfred Hutley. I am the Sales
14 and Operational Supervisor at Uhuru
15 Furniture and Collectibles, and I'd just
16 like to tell, you know, Council, you
17 know, what it did for me as being a part
18 of something so dynamic, changing the
19 conditions in not only my community but
20 in all Black communities around the
21 country.

22 You know, it changed me to the
23 point that I really know what
24 self-determination look like, you know.
25 It showed me how to engage with my

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2 community, bring people in. You know, it
3 taught me how and trained me how to sell
4 furniture. You know what I mean? And
5 that was a big push for me.

6 You know, I received a feasible
7 salary to take care of my family, you
8 know. I've seen generations come there,
9 you know, from grandmothers to mothers,
10 kids, you know, and to me, that is a
11 strong, strong pillar to have in our
12 community. You know what I mean?
13 Instead of seeing the furniture going to
14 landfills, be able to bring it to the
15 community and have a team that can clean
16 it up, fix it up, sell it at a reasonable
17 price. That just -- you know, it just
18 really took me by surprise. It made me a
19 proud -- to be proud to be a part of
20 something that's helping and uniting my
21 community.

22 And I appreciate y'all letting
23 me speak and, again, thank you all.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

25 Thank you. Thank you so much for your

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2 testimony.

3 - - -

4 (Applause.)

5 - - -

6 CHIEF CLERK: Jamie Miller.

7 (Witness approached podium.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
9 morning.

10 MS. MILLER: Good morning,
11 everyone. Good morning, Council
12 President and Councilmembers. My name is
13 Jamie Miller and I am here today as a
14 domestic violence survivor and to share
15 part of my journey to emphasize the
16 significance of proclaiming October as
17 Domestic Violence Awareness Month in
18 Philadelphia.

19 Nine years ago my daughter and
20 I fled my abusive ex-partner, which
21 resulted in us being homeless. We would
22 eventually find refuge at an emergency
23 shelter operated by Women Against Abuse.

24 Through their program, I
25 managed to rebuild my life in a

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2 remarkable way. I later became a world
3 champion, mixed martial arts fighter, and
4 I now serve as a fierce advocate,
5 spokesperson, and board member for Women
6 Against Abuse, the same organization that
7 saved my life.

8 My retirement from fighting
9 this year has redirected my focus toward
10 advocacy, education, and forging
11 partnerships. I dedicate a significant
12 portion of my time to mentoring and
13 aiding other victims and navigating the
14 Family Court system as well as teaching
15 self-defense where it's needed.

16 My current mission is to
17 elevate my advocacy to a political level,
18 aiming to instigate new policies and
19 reform in the Family Court procedures
20 related to domestic violence and intimate
21 partner violence. I've also had the
22 privilege of collaborating with elected
23 officials and advocating for new
24 legislation such as SB919, which was
25 successfully passed in 2018.

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2 My purpose is to provide
3 support and empowerment to those
4 suffering in silence, reassuring them
5 that they are never isolated in their
6 struggle, nor to be defined by their
7 circumstances.

8 I would like to express my
9 heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated City
10 Councilmembers for your collaboration,
11 your efforts in supporting domestic
12 violence organizations across
13 Philadelphia. Your commitment allows us
14 to work incessantly toward eradicating
15 this pervasive issue in our city, and
16 together we can continue to make a
17 significant impact.

18 Thank you.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

20 Thank you.

21 - - -

22 (Applause.)

23 - - -

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

25 Thank you for your testimony.

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2 CHIEF CLERK: Lori Hayes.

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

5 Ms. Hayes?

6 CHIEF CLERK: Lori Hayes.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Take
8 your time. Take your time.

9 (Witness approached podium.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
11 morning.

12 MS. HAYES: Sorry. Good
13 morning. I'm Lori Hayes and I wrote some
14 words. I am just so thankful to be
15 honored today, and I got good stuff to
16 say. I'm going to make you feel good
17 after these two minutes.

18 It's been an honor and a
19 privilege to be in the circle of City
20 government for 42 years. My connection
21 has been trees, selecting the City
22 Christmas trees for a number of years,
23 doing plant service, setting out plants
24 at events like here in Council, the
25 Thrill Show, Mayor's Office, and

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2 inauguration stages.

3 We made evergreen wreaths and
4 garland for the second floor, until live
5 greenery was banned here in City Hall as
6 a fire hazard.

7 I've planted bulbs, enjoyed
8 harvest shows, and planted -- well, I
9 planted for the Pope when the Pope came
10 in 2005. Most of all it's been
11 interactive in our communities. I even
12 drove a park trolley for a number of
13 years. Forty-two years will get you a
14 lot of stuff.

15 I helped out on the deer cull,
16 because I never wanted the men to do
17 something I didn't know about out there.
18 And when I took this job as an urban
19 forestry director, I treated it like a
20 battalion chief. I wore that big
21 battalion hat, and you'd call, I would
22 come, and my men, we worked together to
23 get everything done.

24 Wishing I could remove every
25 dead tree in the City, but we're chipping

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2 away at it.

3 I'm thankful for this honor.

4 As I look back, there are those who saw
5 something in me along the way. I want to
6 be fast, because I want to name these
7 names. Bob McConnell, he was an old park
8 director. John White, Jr., he made a
9 call for me to build Mifflin when they
10 seemed like they were dragging hiring
11 some people, and he called for me. I'm
12 so honored that he got a street name.

13 Family, friends, and
14 associates. Joe Cetraine, he saw
15 something in me. Ernesta Ballard, PHS
16 and Park Commission; Mrs. Pat Pollard
17 from Pickett Middle School.

18 Oh, I'm seeing a light.

19 My park colleagues.

20 My motivation continues with
21 music. One thing I want to say, many
22 days in the car, I listen to Bill
23 Withers, "Lovely Day."

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

25 Thank you.

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2 MS. HAYES: Because some of
3 them days were ugly, going to the
4 streets, trees are down, but we got
5 through it.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
7 Thank you.

8 MS. HAYES: The last thing I
9 want to say is, know that you're a
10 champion in their eyes.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
12 Thank you. Thank you for your testimony.

13 - - -

14 (Applause.)

15 - - -

16 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
17 is Antoine Haywood.

18 (Witness approached podium.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
20 morning.

21 MR. HAYWOOD: Good morning.
22 Thank you for the privilege to speak
23 today, Council President. My name is
24 Antoine Haywood. I am a doctoral
25 candidate at the University of

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2 Pennsylvania's Annenberg School for
3 Communication. I am here in support of
4 230728 declaring October Domestic
5 Violence Awareness Month in the City of
6 Philadelphia introduced by Brooks, Jones,
7 and Lozada. Thank you for that.

8 I'm also here in support of
9 Resolution 230726, which was introduced
10 last week by Councilmember Lozada to
11 recognize Friday, October 20th as
12 Community Media Day, honoring public,
13 education, and government access channels
14 in the City of Philadelphia.

15 Before Annenberg, I was a
16 Membership and Outreach Director for
17 eight years at PhillyCam. I had the
18 privilege of joining the organization in
19 2010. I went and opened the space up at
20 the Painted Bride Art Center in Old City.

21 It's an absolute honor to be
22 here to reflect on and celebrate what
23 makes PhillyCam such a relevant and
24 valuable, special place. I'm proud of
25 what this organization has become and

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2 what it offers citizens who reside in
3 Philadelphia and its neighboring
4 counties.

5 It look a long time to make
6 public access a reality in Philadelphia,
7 but I can confidently say the wait and
8 fight for access was well worth it.

9 My dissertation entails
10 researching PhillyCam's history. In my
11 deep dives in the archives, I have
12 enjoyed finding and reading public
13 testimonies in the 1980s when an
14 influential City Councilmember whose name
15 I want to lift up today, John C.
16 Anderson, co-presided over public utility
17 hearings.

18 It's important to note that
19 this month marks the 40th anniversary of
20 Anderson's untimely passing in 1983, and
21 I want to acknowledge the connection to
22 his legacy for this important
23 communication access of this utility that
24 we have in our city.

25 I've also learned how

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2 Anderson's connection to public access
3 and in this communication resource is
4 connected to the Black freedom struggle.

5 I've also been moved by
6 learning how, you know, lots of
7 coalitions fought for having this
8 resource to provide internships and
9 training experience for youth and adult
10 learners, give local non-profits and
11 community groups a low cost, no cost way
12 to distribute critical neighborhood
13 relevant information, such as messages
14 and stories raising up awareness about
15 domestic violence. It's also a
16 democratic platform that independent
17 filmmakers and community makers civic
18 journalists have actively used.

19 So I can say that PhillyCam is
20 well worth the fight and has lived up to
21 all of these things that people thought
22 it would, and I thank you for your time
23 today and I just encourage you to
24 continue to support this important
25 resource in our community.

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2 - - -

3 (Applause.)

4 - - -

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Thank you. Thank you for your testimony.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Jesse Amadio.

8 (Witness approached podium.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
10 morning -- good afternoon.

11 MS. AMADIO: Jesse Amadio
12 commenting in support of Bill 230489.

13 Good morning. I'm a 5th Square
14 Transit Committee member, and as a
15 Philadelphian who relies on City buses
16 every day, I strongly urge the passage of
17 Councilman Squilla's bill to enable
18 camera-assisted enforcement of parking
19 violations that obstruct public transit.

20 We know how it happens. People
21 are looking for a place to park. Bus
22 lanes and bus stops look convenient, and
23 they might not be thinking about the
24 impacts, but they are definitely thinking
25 that they can get away with it.

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2 The problem is, SEPTA's recent
3 report demonstrates crisis levels of
4 obstructions at bus stops and bus lanes.
5 In the two-month trial period, cameras
6 detected over 36,000 parking
7 obstructions. This kind of illegal
8 parking makes service slow and
9 unreliable. Just one car can delay over
10 50 people on the bus, but that's just on
11 a micro level. On a macro level, these
12 individual motorists are contributing to
13 a systemwide disruption that affects
14 millions of Philadelphians and, frankly,
15 makes people not want to take the bus at
16 all. It's reducing ridership, it's
17 reducing profits, and these trends
18 endanger our entire public transportation
19 system.

20 The good news is, we've got the
21 tools to turn this around. In New York
22 City when motorists received a violation
23 from bus-mounted automated camera
24 enforcement, 86 percent of those
25 motorists never received a second

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2 violation. That means they learned and
3 they learned quickly not to park in
4 transit zones.

5 Simply making sure that drivers
6 follow the rules can improve the
7 efficiency of our bus network by up to
8 40 percent, like we saw in New York.
9 Automated camera enforcement is a
10 no-brainer program for Philadelphia.
11 It's already a proven success in New York
12 and DC, and the two-month pilot that
13 happened here shows that it will be a
14 success in Philadelphia too.

15 We can have and we should have
16 a reliable, robust public transit network
17 so that everyone who lives here can be
18 served efficiently, accessibly, and
19 safely. Passing this bill today will be
20 an incredible step in that direction.

21 Thank you.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

23 Thank you for your testimony.

24 - - -

25 (Applause.)

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2 - - -

3 CHIEF CLERK: Nicolas Crosbie.

4 (Witness approached podium.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
6 morning.

7 MR. CROSBIE: Good morning.

8 Thank you so much. My name is Nick
9 Crosbie. I'm here to testify in favor
10 of --

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Hold
12 on. Pull that up. We can't hear you.

13 MR. CROSBIE: Hello. My name
14 is Nicolas Crosbie. I'm here to testify
15 in favor of Bill 230489 in favor of
16 cameras on top of buses.

17 As a frequent SEPTA rider, I
18 find it very frustrating when cars get in
19 the way of buses -- as a frequent SEPTA
20 rider, especially one who rides the bus,
21 I find it very frustrating when a car
22 gets in the way, especially when I'm on
23 my way to school or on my way to work.
24 There's times where I'm like ten minutes
25 late. And with the new program of

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2 putting cameras on buses, I find it
3 beneficial that we would get cars out of
4 the way.

5 Let me get my notes.

6 As a frequent rider of SEPTA,
7 I'm one that is in favor of smooth rides
8 across the system. However, when I take
9 the bus, problems start to arise,
10 especially when cars start getting in the
11 way. Even when there's clearly a bus
12 lane indicating that cars aren't allowed,
13 this still happens, and with the study of
14 36,000 violations happening, I see this
15 as a no-brainer to enforce tickets
16 getting in the way of bus lanes.

17 Bus lanes are meant for buses.
18 Cars already have enough space in the
19 City, and they don't deserve more space
20 considering how many people in this city
21 take alternative modes of transportation,
22 including buses.

23 Please consider adding in
24 cameras to the buses, as it will not only
25 ensure a smoother ride on buses but also

1 10/26/23 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 create an extra source of revenue for the
3 City.

4 - - -

5 (Applause.)

6 - - -

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

8 Thank you. Thank you for your testimony.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Aazim Muhammad.

10 MR. MUHAMMAD: I decline.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

12 Okay. Thank you.

13 CHIEF CLERK: There are no
14 other speakers on the public comment
15 list, Mr. President.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

17 Thank you very much.

18 That concludes our public
19 comment session. Again, I want to thank
20 everyone for their participation today.

21 Our next order of business, we
22 will consider today's Bill Consent
23 Agenda.

24 I would ask Mr. Decker please
25 read the titles of all the bills on the

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2 Consent Agenda. After each title is
3 read, any member may object to the
4 inclusion of the bill on the Consent
5 Agenda. Upon such an objection, without
6 debate, that bill will immediately be
7 removed from the Consent Agenda and
8 placed on our regular Second and Final
9 Passage Calendar.

10 I will now ask the Clerk please
11 read the titles of the bills on the
12 Consent Agenda and resolutions.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Bill No. 230445,
14 entitled "An ordinance authorizing
15 Brandywine Realty Trust to construct, own
16 and maintain various right-of-way
17 encroachments at 3001 through 3 John F.
18 Kennedy Boulevard, 3025 John F. Kennedy
19 Boulevard, 3025 through 53 Market Street,
20 and 3101 through 57 Market Street
21 (Rear)"; and

22 Bill No. 230486, entitled "An
23 ordinance authorizing the revision of
24 lines and grades on a portion of City
25 Plan No. 308 by striking from the City

1 10/26/23 - STATED - CONSENT AGENDA

2 Plan and vacating Addison Street from a
3 point approximately eighty feet east of
4 Fifth Street to its terminus further
5 eastwardly therefrom"; and

6 Bill No. 230487, entitled "An
7 ordinance amending Chapters 12-900
8 ('Parking Regulations and Penalties') and
9 12-2800 ('Administrative Adjudication of
10 Parking Violations') of The Philadelphia
11 Code to revise requirements, limitations,
12 and fines with respect to angle parking";
13 and

14 Bill No. 230488, entitled "An
15 ordinance authorizing the revision of
16 lines and grades on a portion of City
17 Plan No. 146 by striking from the City
18 Plan and vacating Morse Street from Beach
19 Street to Allen Street and Allen Street
20 from Morse Street to its terminus"; and

21 Bill No. 230489, entitled "An
22 ordinance adding a new Chapter 12-3600 of
23 The Philadelphia Code, entitled
24 'Camera-Based Enforcement System For
25 Parking, Stopping, and Standing

1 10/26/23 - STATED - CONSENT AGENDA

2 Violations That Interfere With Mass
3 Transit,' to decrease traffic congestion,
4 improve traffic safety, and address the
5 climate crisis"; and

6 Bill No. 230550, entitled "An
7 ordinance authorizing the installation of
8 all-way stop signs at the intersection of
9 34th Street and West Allegheny Avenue";
10 and

11 Bill No. 230572, entitled "An
12 ordinance authorizing encroachments in
13 the nature of a sidewalk cafe in the
14 vicinity of 1216 North 29th Street"; and

15 Bill No. 230573, entitled "An
16 ordinance authorizing encroachments in
17 the nature of a sidewalk cafe in the
18 vicinity of 635 West Girard Avenue"; and

19 Bill No. 230577, entitled "An
20 ordinance granting permission to
21 Wynnefield/Overbrook Eruv Association, in
22 order to demarcate the boundaries of a
23 Wynnefield/Overbrook eruv district, to
24 construct and maintain a clear nylon cord
25 and other ancillary facilities including

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2 a maximum of one hundred poles and
3 forty-five pieces of plexiglass along,
4 over, and in certain public
5 rights-of-way"; and

6 Bill No. 230580, entitled "An
7 ordinance authorizing encroachments in
8 the nature of a sidewalk cafe in the
9 vicinity of 817 Christian Street"; and

10 Bill No. 230581, entitled "An
11 ordinance authorizing encroachments in
12 the nature of a sidewalk cafe in the
13 vicinity of 1524 South 10th Street"; and

14 Bill No. 230582, entitled "An
15 ordinance authorizing encroachments in
16 the nature of a sidewalk cafe in the
17 vicinity of 2301 East Albert Street"; and

18 Bill No. 230584, entitled "An
19 ordinance amending Section 9-212 of The
20 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Newsstands,'
21 by modifying the list of products that
22 may be sold from newsstands"; and

23 Bill No. 230621, entitled "An
24 ordinance establishing a no truck parking
25 regulation on both sides of Nevada Street

1 10/26/23 - STATED - CONSENT AGENDA

2 between North 51st Street and West

3 Dauphin Street"; and

4 Bill No. 230622, entitled "An

5 ordinance authorizing encroachments in

6 the nature of a sidewalk cafe in the

7 vicinity of 4629 through 4631 Baltimore

8 Avenue"; and

9 Bill No. 230623, entitled "An

10 ordinance authorizing encroachments in

11 the nature of a sidewalk cafe in the

12 vicinity of 701 South 50th Street"; and

13 Bill No. 230624, entitled "An

14 ordinance authorizing encroachments in

15 the nature of a sidewalk cafe in the

16 vicinity of 4430 Pine Street"; and

17 Bill No. 230625, entitled "An

18 ordinance amending Section 9-208 of The

19 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Sidewalk

20 Cafes,' by permitting sidewalk cafes to

21 be maintained in certain locations in the

22 Sixth District of Council"; and

23 Bill No. 230676, entitled "An

24 ordinance amending Chapter 12-3000 of The

25 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Use Of An

1 10/26/23 - STATED - CONSENT AGENDA

2 Automated Red Light Enforcement System To
3 Prevent Red Light Violations,' by
4 authorizing the installation of red light
5 enforcement systems at the intersection
6 of Belmont Avenue, Ford Road and
7 Overbrook Avenue"; and

8 Bill No. 230677, entitled "An
9 ordinance amending Chapter 12-3000 of The
10 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Use Of An
11 Automated Red Light Enforcement System To
12 Prevent Red Light Violations,' by
13 authorizing the installation of red light
14 enforcement systems at the intersection
15 of Kelly Drive and Falls Bridge"; and

16 Bill No. 230678, entitled "An
17 ordinance amending Chapter 12-3000 of The
18 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Use Of An
19 Automated Red Light Enforcement System To
20 Prevent Red Light Violations,' by
21 authorizing the installation of red light
22 enforcement systems at the intersection
23 of 17th Street and Washington Avenue, all
24 under certain terms and conditions."

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

1 10/26/23 - STATED - CONSENT AGENDA

2 Thank you, Mr. Decker.

3 These bills having been read on
4 two different days, the question for each
5 bill now is shall the bill pass finally.

6 The Clerk shall call the roll,
7 and upon being called, each Councilmember
8 shall vote aye on each of the bills, nay
9 on each of the bills or indicate those
10 bills for which the member is voting aye
11 or nay.

12 Mr. Decker, please call the
13 roll.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
15 Bass.

16 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye on all
17 bills.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
19 Brooks.

20 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye on
21 all bills.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
23 Driscoll.

24 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: Aye on
25 all bills.

1 10/26/23 - STATED - CONSENT AGENDA
2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
3 Gauthier.
4 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye on
5 all bills.
6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
7 Gilmore Richardson.
8 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye
9 on all bills.
10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
11 Harrity.
12 COUNCILMAN HARRITY: Aye on all
13 bills.
14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
15 Johnson.
16 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye on all
17 bills.
18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
19 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye on all
20 bills.
21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
22 Lozada.
23 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Aye on
24 all bills.
25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

1 10/26/23 - STATED - CONSENT AGENDA
2 O'Neill.
3 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye on all
4 bills.
5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
6 Phillips.
7 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: Aye on
8 all bills.
9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
10 Squilla.
11 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye on all
12 bills.
13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
14 Thomas.
15 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye on all
16 bills.
17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
18 Vaughn.
19 COUNCILWOMAN VAUGHN: Aye on
20 all bills.
21 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
22 Clarke.
23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye
24 on all bills.
25 A majority of all members

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 having voted in the affirmative for each
3 of the bills, the bills on the Consent
4 Agenda are passed.

5 We will now consider bills and
6 resolutions on the regular Second Reading
7 and Final Passage Calendar.

8 Mr. Decker, please read the
9 title of Resolution No. 230723.

10 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
11 authorizing the Philadelphia Land Bank to
12 dispose of 3112 West Dakota Street
13 located in the 5th Councilmanic District.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
15 Chair recognizes Councilman Jones for a
16 motion.

17 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
18 Mr. President. On your behalf, I move
19 for the adoption.

20 (Duly seconded.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
22 been moved and properly seconded.

23 All in favor indicate by saying
24 aye.

25 (Aye.)

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 Those opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
6 ayes have it, the motion carries, and the
7 resolution is adopted.

8 Mr. Decker, Resolution No.
9 230725.

10 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution also
11 naming the 4200 block of Houghton Street
12 as "William "Speedy" Morris Way" to honor
13 the legendary and impactful coaching of
14 William "Speedy" Morris a lifelong
15 resident of the Roxborough neighborhood
16 of Philadelphia.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
18 Chair again recognizes Councilman Jones.

19 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
20 Mr. President. I move for the adoption.

21 (Duly seconded.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
23 been moved and properly seconded.

24 All in favor indicate by saying
25 aye.

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 (Aye.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Those opposed?

5 (No response.)

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

9 Mr. Decker, please read the
10 title of Resolution No. 230728.

11 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
12 declaring October as Domestic Violence
13 Awareness Month in the City of
14 Philadelphia.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
16 Thank you.

17 The Chair recognizes
18 Councilwoman Brooks.

19 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Council
20 President, thank you. I move for the
21 adoption of the resolution.

22 (Duly seconded.)

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

25 All in favor indicate by saying

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 aye.

3 (Aye.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

5 Those opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The

8 ayes have it. The resolution passes.

9 The Chair recognizes Councilman

10 Johnson.

11 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Yeah.

12 Thank you, Council President.

13 I just wanted to acknowledge

14 Councilwoman Kendra Brooks as well as

15 Lozada and Jones for introducing this

16 resolution on a very, very critical and

17 sensitive issue, and that's addressing

18 the issue of domestic violence here in

19 the City of Philadelphia, and also

20 Councilwoman Kendra Brooks for taking the

21 lead on organizing this body today as we

22 all wore purple to acknowledge Domestic

23 Violence Awareness Month. And I remember

24 when I arrived in City Council in 2011

25 under your leadership and working in

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 partnership with former Councilman Bill
3 Greenlee, we raised significant funding
4 to provide 100 additional beds for Women
5 Against Abuse.

6 So I just want to thank the
7 members for stepping forward and making
8 sure this is a priority here in the City
9 of Philadelphia, as well as the work that
10 has been done in the past to keep guns
11 out of hands of partners and spouses who
12 carry guns.

13 And so it's a very, very
14 sensitive issue, as well as making sure
15 that when we're dealing with protections
16 of abuse orders, right, that we're
17 working in partnership with our Sheriff's
18 Office and the Philadelphia Police
19 Department to make sure that when that
20 telephone call to the Philadelphia Police
21 Department is made by a young lady, it's
22 taken serious as it relates to them
23 responding and making sure that when
24 there is a protection order against an
25 individual, that the woman partner is

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 actually protected and they don't resolve
3 in the individual losing their life or
4 shot after the fact.

5 And so thank you very much. I
6 just wanted my comments to be noted for
7 the record, Council President.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

9 Thank you, Councilman. Thank you much.
10 Councilman Jones, did you
11 need -- the Chair recognizes Councilman
12 Jones.

13 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
14 Mr. President.

15 Member Johnson brought back the
16 memory in '11 when Bill Greenlee and he
17 fought for the extra hundred beds, which
18 was a time, but we had a rally over in
19 Love Park which I'll never forget, and
20 the novelty was how could men be a part
21 of domestic violence when the stereotype
22 was that it was only about women, and we
23 discovered that many men, many men were
24 abused in relationships that they had.

25 What was enlightening at the

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 time too and brought back memories
3 personally is that children witnessed
4 this, and hurt people hurt people later.

5 My dad, 100 percent love him to
6 death and may God be pleased with his
7 soul, wasn't a perfect man, and I
8 remember watching TV growing up where
9 Lucy and Desi Arnaz, it was okay when
10 Desi Arnaz got mad at Lucy, for him to
11 bend over and spank her, and that was
12 acceptable. Or when Gleason used to say,
13 Alice, I'm going to knock you to the
14 moon, and at the time, that was
15 acceptable behavior to be able to visibly
16 verbally and physically abuse women.

17 We have come a very long way,
18 thanks to the organization being
19 recognized today, where that ain't cool
20 and it should not happen.

21 So I'm thankful for 2011 when
22 that was brought to this Chambers and it
23 was raised to a level where we actually
24 put our money where our mouth was.

25 Thank you, Mr. President.

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 Thank you, Councilman.

4 The Chair recognizes

5 Councilwoman Lozada.

6 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Thank
7 you, Council President.

8 I also just want to say thank
9 you to my colleagues for this resolution.
10 I also want to say a special thank you to
11 those organizations who educate and bring
12 resources to women, men, and others,
13 right, who are confronted and in this
14 type of situation.

15 A special shout-out to
16 Christina Vega, who was here today. She
17 is a domestic violence survivor but, more
18 important, for the organization that
19 she's created on her own and all of the
20 work that she does to make sure that
21 women on a daily basis get connected to
22 the resources necessary so that they can
23 live safe lives and kind of can start
24 over. And to Joanna Otero Cruz and
25 Maritza Padua from Women Against Abuse

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 for all of the work that they do in the
3 Latino community specifically to make
4 sure that there isn't a language barrier
5 and that that community also receives the
6 services that they need.

7 Thank you.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

9 Thank you. Thank you, Councilwoman.

10 The Chair recognizes
11 Councilwoman Brooks again.

12 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Thank
13 you, Council President. I do have some
14 remarks, and I wasn't paying attention,
15 I'm going to be honest.

16 I want to thank Councilmember
17 Jones and Councilmember Lozada for
18 co-introducing the Domestic Violence
19 Awareness Month resolution with me and to
20 all my Council colleagues and their staff
21 who demonstrated their support for this
22 issue by wearing purple today.

23 As some of you know, I lost my
24 cousin, Tianna, ten years ago to domestic
25 violence, and a few -- six or seven

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 months ago, I lost a sister as well, not
3 to domestic violence but she also was a
4 domestic violence survivor.

5 I will continue to honor both
6 Tianna and Tamika's memory by fighting
7 for victims of domestic violence, making
8 the resources more visible and accessible
9 and ensuring that survivors know that
10 they are not alone.

11 So I want to recognize Women
12 Against Abuse, the Purple House Project,
13 and everyone in the City that stands up
14 for survivors for their essential work to
15 reduce the stigma and create pathways to
16 safety.

17 Whether we're aware of it or
18 not, all of us know someone who has been
19 impacted by domestic violence. Domestic
20 violence is a public health crisis that
21 impacts people across race, class,
22 gender, sexuality, and ability.

23 Domestic violence often happens
24 behind closed doors, and survivors often
25 face intimidation, threats, and shame

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 that prevent them from speaking out. It
3 can be hard to recognize and even harder
4 to talk about.

5 By declaring October Domestic
6 Violence Awareness Month, we commit to
7 ending the silence surrounding domestic
8 violence and send a clear message to
9 survivors, we see you, we value you, and
10 you are not alone.

11 So thank you to all my Council
12 colleagues for their strong support.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

14 Thank you. Thank you, Councilwoman.
15 Thank you for this very, very important
16 issue and bringing it to the light. It's
17 so underreported and underfunded. Thank
18 you so much. We appreciate you.

19 Mr. Decker, please read the
20 title of 230730.

21 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
22 authorizing the Philadelphia Land Bank to
23 dispose of 1511 through 17 South 55th
24 Street located in the 3rd Councilmanic
25 District.

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
3 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Gauthier
4 for a motion.

5 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Thank
6 you, Council President. I move for the
7 adoption of the resolution.

8 (Duly seconded.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
10 been moved and properly seconded.

11 All in favor indicate by saying
12 aye.

13 (Aye.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
15 Those opposed?

16 (No response.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
18 ayes have it, and that motion carries and
19 that resolution is adopted.

20 Mr. Decker, 230731.

21 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
22 authorizing the Commissioner of Public
23 Property to execute and deliver to the
24 Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority
25 deeds conveying fee simple title to 5232

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Chester Avenue, 5906 Market Street, 5908
3 Market Street, and 6025 Washington Avenue
4 in the Third Councilmanic District.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Thank you.

7 The Chair again recognizes
8 Councilwoman Gauthier.

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

12 (Duly seconded.)

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

15 All in favor indicate by saying
16 aye.

17 (Aye.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

19 Those opposed?

20 (No response.)

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

24 Mr. Decker, 230732.

25 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 authorizing the Commissioner of Public
3 Property to execute and deliver to the
4 Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority
5 deeds conveying fee simple title to 2106
6 East Cumberland Street in the First
7 Councilmanic District.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
9 Chair recognizes Councilman Squilla.

10 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you,
11 Mr. President. I move for the adoption
12 of the resolution.

13 (Duly seconded.)

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

16 All in favor indicate by saying
17 aye.

18 (Aye.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
20 Those opposed?

21 (No response.)

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

25 Mr. Decker, 230733.

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
3 recognizing Governor Shapiro's Executive
4 Order to create a Behavioral Health
5 Council in which state leaders, local
6 governments, and community providers join
7 forces to design and implement a
8 statewide action plan with aim to address
9 how to effectively deliver exceptional
10 mental health and addiction care
11 services.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
13 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Bass.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Thank you,
15 Mr. President. I move for the adoption
16 of the resolution.

17 (Duly seconded.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
19 been moved and properly seconded.

20 All in favor indicate by saying
21 aye.

22 (Aye.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

24 Those opposed?

25 (No response.)

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
3 ayes have it, and that resolution is
4 adopted.

5 Mr. Decker, 200253.

6 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
7 amending Section 20-303 of The
8 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Salaries of
9 Specified Officers," to establish
10 salaries based on an Annual Compensation
11 Plan.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

13 Thank you.

14 The Chair recognizes Councilman
15 Jones for an amendment to Bill No.
16 200253.

17 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
18 Mr. President. I move that the amendment
19 to Bill No. 200253, which has been
20 circulated to members of the body, be
21 approved.

22 (Duly seconded.)

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

25 All in favor of the motion

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 signify by saying aye.

3 (Aye.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

5 Those opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
8 ayes have it. Bill No. 200253 has been
9 amended, and Bill No. 200253 will be
10 placed on our next Reading Calendar at
11 our next session of Council.

12 Mr. Decker, please read the
13 title of Bill No. 230570.

14 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
15 amending Chapter 11-700 of The
16 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Right of Way
17 Management," by amending Section 11-705,
18 entitled "Construction", by adding new
19 provisions relating to notice.

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

24 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 Bass.
3 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.
4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
5 Brooks.
6 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.
7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
8 Driscoll.
9 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: Aye.
10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
11 Gauthier.
12 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.
13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
14 Gilmore Richardson.
15 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.
16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
17 Harrity.
18 COUNCILMAN HARRITY: Aye.
19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
20 Johnson.
21 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.
22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
23 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
25 Lozada.

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Aye.
3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
4 O'Neill.
5 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
7 Phillips.
8 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: Aye.
9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
10 Squilla.
11 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.
12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
13 Thomas.
14 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.
15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
16 Vaughn.
17 COUNCILWOMAN VAUGHN: Aye.
18 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
19 Clarke.
20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.
21 The ayes are 15; the nays are
22 zero. A majority of all members present
23 voting in the affirmative, the bill
24 passes.
25 Mr. Decker, do you have any

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 additional resolutions?

3 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
4 recognizing the 10th Graders at
5 Hill-Freedman World Academy for being
6 featured in the HBO Documentary "Stand Up
7 and Shout: Songs From a Philly High
8 School," introduced today by Councilman
9 Phillips.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
11 Chair recognizes Councilman Phillips.

12 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS: Thank
13 you, Council President. I move for the
14 resolution. Thank you. Adoption of the
15 resolution. Excuse me.

16 (Duly seconded.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
18 been moved and properly seconded.

19 All in favor indicate by saying
20 aye.

21 (Aye.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
23 Those opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 ayes have it, and that resolution is
3 adopted.

4 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
5 recognizing, honoring, and congratulating
6 Elizabeth A. Murphy for her exceptional
7 leadership at PECO and her subsequent
8 retirement after an outstanding
9 sixteen-year career, introduced today by
10 Councilwoman Gilmore Richardson.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
12 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Gilmore
13 Richardson.

14 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Thank
15 you, Council President. I
16 enthusiastically move the adoption of the
17 resolution.

18 (Duly seconded.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
20 been moved and enthusiastically seconded.

21 All in favor indicate by saying
22 aye.

23 (Aye.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
25 Those opposed?

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 (No response.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
4 ayes have it, and that resolution is
5 adopted.

6 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
7 honoring and congratulating the Champions
8 of the Week, the artists of "Legacy
9 Reclaimed: A 7th Ward Tribute," for
10 their efforts in promoting and showcasing
11 the history of the Black residents of
12 Philadelphia's historic 7th Ward,
13 introduced today by Councilman Thomas.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
15 Chair recognizes Councilman Thomas.

16 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Thank you,
17 Council President. I move for the
18 adoption of the resolution.

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
21 been moved and properly seconded.

22 All in favor indicate by saying
23 aye.

24 (Aye.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Those opposed?

3 (No response.)

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

7 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
8 honoring and celebrating the life and
9 memory of our friend and colleague,
10 Robert "Chris" Goy, II, introduced today
11 by Councilman Jones on behalf of Council
12 President Clarke.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: We
14 will -- the Chair recognizes Councilman
15 Jones.

16 COUNCILMAN JONES: Yes,
17 Mr. President. I'd like to affirm this
18 resolution by a standing moment of
19 silence.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
21 Councilmembers, please stand.

22 (All Councilmembers standing.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
24 Thank you. An awesome friend and an
25 awesome colleague gone too soon. Thank

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 you.

3 Mr. Decker.

4 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
5 authorizing the City Council Committee on
6 Public Health and Human Services to hold
7 public hearings exploring the effects of
8 recent pharmacy closures, including Rite
9 Aid, in the City of Philadelphia and the
10 impact this has on prescription access
11 and vital pharmacy health services for
12 senior citizens, introduced today by
13 Councilman Jones.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
15 Chair again recognizes Councilman Jones.

16 COUNCILMAN JONES: Yes.
17 Briefly, Mr. President and colleagues.

18 This was introduced not just by
19 this single action of Rite Aid filing for
20 bankruptcy but a series of calls and
21 response ranging all the way from
22 Kensington to shoplifting in Center City
23 to take a look at if the culmination of
24 all of these questions are causing our
25 valuable partners in Rite Aid and CVS and

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 others to leave, and we need to get to
3 the bottom of it, get to the bottom of it
4 quickly.

5 One of the companion pieces is
6 the "three strikes you're out" resolution
7 that makes shoplifting the kind of
8 violation that a person can be banned
9 from a store so that we can actually not
10 lose stores in underserved communities
11 that our aunties and uncles rely on for
12 their prescription meds.

13 So I move for the adoption.

14 (Duly seconded.)

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

17 All in favor indicate by saying
18 aye.

19 (Aye.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
21 Those opposed?

22 (No response.)

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

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
3 honoring and recognizing Lori "Tree
4 Queen" Maple Hayes, on the occasion of
5 her retirement, for her vision,
6 leadership, integrity, and unwavering
7 dedication to curating Philadelphia's
8 parks, trees, and greenery over her
9 42-year career of service to the City of
10 Philadelphia, introduced today by
11 Councilwoman Brooks.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
13 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Brooks.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Thank
15 you, Council President. I move for the
16 adoption of the resolution.

17 (Duly seconded.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
19 been moved and properly seconded.

20 All in favor indicate by saying
21 aye.

22 (Aye.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

24 Those opposed?

25 (No response.)

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
3 ayes have it, and that resolution is
4 adopted.

5 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
6 honoring and recognizing Uhuru Furniture
7 and Collectibles and the African People's
8 Education and Defense Fund for defending
9 the rights of the African community;
10 providing affordable furniture and home
11 goods to Philadelphians; providing jobs,
12 job training, and volunteer
13 opportunities; and committing all profits
14 to supporting economic development and
15 self-determination programs for Black
16 communities across the country,
17 introduced today by Councilwoman Brooks.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
19 Chair again recognizes Councilwoman
20 Brooks.

21 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Thank
22 you, Council President. I move for the
23 adoption of the resolution.

24 (Duly seconded.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's

1 10/26/23 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 been moved and properly seconded.

3 All in favor indicate by saying

4 aye.

5 (Aye.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

7 Those opposed?

8 (No response.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
10 ayes have it, and that resolution is
11 adopted.

12 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
13 declaring October as Clergy Appreciation
14 Month in the City of Philadelphia,
15 introduced today by Councilman Harrity.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
17 Chair recognizes Councilman Harrity.

18 COUNCILMAN HARRITY: I move for
19 the adoption of the resolution.

20 (Duly seconded.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
22 been moved and properly seconded.

23 All in favor indicate by saying
24 aye.

25 (Aye.)

1 10/26/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 Those opposed?

4 (No response.)

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

8 CHIEF CLERK: There are no
9 other resolutions on the Final Passage
10 Calendar, Mr. President.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
12 Thank you very much.

13 That concludes our Calendar for
14 today.

15 Are there any speeches on
16 behalf of the minority?

17 (No response.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
19 Speeches on behalf of the majority?

20 The Chair recognizes Councilman
21 Johnson.

22 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Thank you,
23 Council President. Just a couple
24 announcements.

25 One, on Saturday, October

1 10/26/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 the 28th at Elmwood Park in Southwest
3 Philadelphia, we'll be hosting our Peace
4 Not Guns Fall Festival. It's an
5 opportunity for individuals to come out
6 for a day of food, fun, entertainment,
7 and, most importantly, resources to stop
8 the violence in our communities. And,
9 again, that's going to be Saturday,
10 October the 28th from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00
11 p.m. at Elmwood Park in Southwest
12 Philadelphia, 71st and Buist Avenue. And
13 so I just wanted to make that
14 announcement for all those who are
15 hearing to come on out and participate.

16 And also on November the 3rd at
17 16th and South in South Philadelphia, we
18 will be naming the 1500 block of South
19 Street Ronald K. Washington Way. That's
20 in honor and memory of Ron's Ribs. I
21 don't know if anyone ever ate Ron's Ribs
22 back in the day.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

24 Absolutely.

25 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Yes,

1 10/26/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 absolutely. It started in South
3 Philadelphia on South Street, and we want
4 to honor the life and memory of
5 Mr. Ronald K. Washington, who was an
6 outstanding African American small
7 business owner. So before my vegan days,
8 I would go down there for my nana to get
9 me some good ribs.

10 On a serious note, also all of
11 my colleagues are just talking amongst
12 ourselves as it relates to the senseless
13 gun violence that's taking place here in
14 the City of Philadelphia, and we just got
15 notice that a SEPTA bus driver was
16 murdered on the bus, which is totally
17 unacceptable, and we were already -- I
18 talked to Kathy Gilmore Richardson last
19 night and Morgan Cephas about making sure
20 we do a briefing with SEPTA regarding
21 their current negotiations with TWU and
22 just making sure if a strike does take
23 place, that we're in preparation in all
24 areas and making sure that we continue to
25 move the City of Philadelphia forward,

1 10/26/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 but also making sure that as they go
3 through the process of negotiating, that
4 the TWU workers are in a space that a
5 just contract should move forward, and
6 obviously the issue of public safety is
7 something that should be taken serious.

8 We've seen this too many times
9 here in the City of Philadelphia, and so
10 we're going to be meeting with the
11 Philadelphia delegation as well as
12 representatives of SEPTA regarding how
13 TWU and SEPTA move forward, but obviously
14 this issue of public safety is going to
15 be a part of the conversation, because at
16 the end of the day, you should have the
17 opportunity to go to and from work
18 without fear of losing your life.

19 And before I had the
20 opportunity to actually own a car, right,
21 I think like everybody else inside this
22 room, we didn't have a family car growing
23 up, just to be quite frank with everybody
24 in here, but we had SEPTA. And so I'm a
25 frequent rider of the Broad Street line.

1 10/26/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 I was a frequent rider of the 17 bus line
3 as well as the 2 bus line. That's kind
4 of pretty much how I got around the City
5 of Philadelphia, particularly from Point
6 Breeze and downtown, but I've never in my
7 life thought in a million years I was
8 seeing people being shot and murdered on
9 our public transportation system.

10 And then it makes me even think
11 about my two boys, Isaiah and Elijah. At
12 some point in time, I'm going to have to
13 allow them to go to and from school on
14 their own, and with this kind of
15 environment, you know, I just feel for
16 all the parents who have children going
17 to and from school on our transportation
18 system, as well as all of the riders who
19 are citizens in this great City of
20 Philadelphia.

21 And so with that being said,
22 those are the comments I want to note for
23 the record as Chairman of Transportation
24 and Public Utilities, Council President.
25 Thank you.

1 10/26/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 Thank you. Thank you, Councilman. Sad
4 day. Sad day.

5 The Chair recognizes
6 Councilwoman Lozada.

7 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Thank
8 you, Council President.

9 I just want to invite folks to
10 join us on Saturday, October 28th. We're
11 partnering with the DEA and the Sheriff's
12 Department on a prescription take-back.
13 We'll be collecting expired prescriptions
14 that folks have sitting at home at the
15 Juniata Boys and Girls Club at 1227 East
16 Cayuga Street. Please join us. We'll be
17 there from 10:00 to 2:00.

18 I'd also like to recognize one
19 of our students from Mariana Bracetti
20 Academy who is here today joining us to
21 see how we conduct City business. She's
22 a 10th grader, Jestainia Miller (ph).

23 You want to stand up.

24 - - -

25 (Applause.)

1 10/26/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 - - -

3 COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Thank
4 you, Council President.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
6 Thank you, Councilwoman.

7 The Chair recognizes
8 Councilwoman Bass.

9 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Thank you,
10 Mr. President.

11 Just a couple things I wanted
12 to say this afternoon, and the first is
13 that there's a lot of things happening on
14 Saturday, a lot really great events, but
15 I want to encourage people before they go
16 to those events, that they can start off
17 their day early with a street renaming on
18 the 5200 block of Wayne Avenue for
19 Reverend Melvin Floyd.

20 We all remember Reverend Floyd
21 as the minister who drove around with the
22 casket on the van. And his daughter, I
23 know Mary Floyd Palmer was here. She was
24 here. I don't know if she's still here.
25 She's still here, back here? My good

1 10/26/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 friend, who jokingly used to say how her
3 father would take her to school and drop
4 her off right in front of the school door
5 with the casket on the top.

6 But we're going to have a
7 great, great ceremony this Saturday
8 morning at 9:30 on the 5200 block of
9 Wayne Avenue, which is Wayne and
10 Hansberry. We're going to have former
11 mayors and we're going to have former
12 members of Council and current and
13 members of the state legislature and our
14 congressmen. So we certainly hope that
15 you can join us this coming Saturday.

16 You know, just in thinking
17 about Councilman Kenyatta Johnson's
18 comments earlier regarding the shooting
19 death of a SEPTA employee, a SEPTA bus
20 driver, you know, it's not lost on any of
21 us, especially since we just went to a
22 funeral earlier this week for a police
23 officer, that these are people who died
24 because they showed up at work. They
25 showed up to work, to help us, and lost

1 10/26/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 their lives.

3 You know, I'm certainly
4 hopeful -- I know I get accused sometimes
5 of beating up on SEPTA just a little bit,
6 I have like -- just a tiny bit, because I
7 have someone very near and dear to me who
8 works for SEPTA, and we hear all kinds of
9 things that are happening currently in
10 the transit system. And so the idea is
11 that when we talk about things that need
12 to happen, it's not about being difficult
13 or being hard on SEPTA but really
14 providing the quality of service and care
15 for our ridership and for our SEPTA
16 employees to make sure that they're safe
17 as well, that they're not chasing people
18 down about fares and get into an argument
19 with folks. It's just not worth it. But
20 there are things we think that can be
21 done to make everybody safer across the
22 system.

23 So we certainly hope SEPTA will
24 be taking a look at improved safety
25 measures, and we stand at the ready to be

1 10/26/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 helpful in that manner.

3 And the last thing I just
4 wanted to mention is that as the Chair of
5 Public Health and Human Services, I'm
6 beyond enthusiastic that today we passed
7 a resolution supporting Governor Shapiro
8 with the very much needed Behavioral
9 Health Council, which is going to deal
10 with mental health and mental health
11 issues throughout the entire
12 Commonwealth.

13 We have a real mental health
14 problem here in the City of Philadelphia.
15 I don't think that anyone can deny that.
16 And so the work that he's doing, the work
17 that he is going to be putting into this
18 Council I think is critically important,
19 especially for a city like Philadelphia.

20 So we really look forward to
21 making sure that the challenges that face
22 those who are dealing with these
23 situations are addressed, and I want to
24 thank all of my colleagues for being so
25 supportive on this resolution.

1 10/26/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 So thank you, Mr. President.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Thank you, Councilwoman.

5 The Chair recognizes

6 Councilwoman Vaughn.

7 COUNCILWOMAN VAUGHN: Thank
8 you, Council President.

9 I just want to acknowledge one
10 of our colleagues who reached an
11 important milestone in turning the big
12 50. Happy birthday, Councilman Kenyatta
13 Johnson, and may you experience and share
14 many, many more on this earth.

15 I remember those days way back
16 when and I just felt so old at 50, but
17 life is just beginning. Life is just
18 beginning, and you could begin to lie
19 about your age at this point, you know.

20 But last night was phenomenal.
21 Your team did a great job in celebrating
22 you, and I had a wonderful experience and
23 the great opportunity to share it with
24 you.

25 Thank you so much.

1 10/26/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 Thank you.

4 - - -

5 (Applause.)

6 - - -

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

8 Halfway point of your public service.

9 Fifty more, sir.

10 The Chair recognizes

11 Councilwoman Gauthier.

12 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Thank

13 you, Council President.

14 I just wanted to extend my
15 condolences to the family of the SEPTA
16 bus driver who was shot and killed. It's
17 just a horrible thing to happen for that
18 family, for SEPTA as an agency, but also
19 for everyone who experienced that. I
20 frankly would never want to get on a bus
21 again if that happens in front of me, and
22 I feel badly for the riders that have to
23 deal with that trauma probably for a long
24 time.

25 Certainly we have to do

1 10/26/23 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 something about this, right? It's
3 crucial that our public transit agency is
4 safe.

5 My own child uses public
6 transportation to get to and from school,
7 as do many people in our communities, but
8 I also -- I think it's about pushing
9 SEPTA, but I also think -- you know, we
10 talk about collaboration a lot, and this
11 is also about collaboration, right?
12 What's happening on SEPTA, whether it's
13 gun violence or opioid use or people who
14 are homeless, is a microcosm of what's
15 happening in the City. These are major
16 issues we have to get a handle on as a
17 city. And, yeah, we push them, but I do
18 think we need to have sort of a
19 cooperation of the City with SEPTA to get
20 a handle on all of these issues so that
21 the City can be safe again and so that
22 public transit can be safe again.

23 Thank you.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

25 Thank you, Councilwoman.

1 10/26/23 - STATED - ADJOURNMENT

2 That concludes our speeches by
3 the minority and the majority members of
4 Council.

5 And with that, the Chair
6 recognizes Councilman Squilla for a
7 motion to adjourn.

8 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you,
9 Mr. President. I move Council stands
10 adjourned until Thursday, November 2nd,
11 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

12 (Duly seconded.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
14 been moved and properly seconded that
15 Council stand adjourned until Thursday,
16 November 2nd, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

17 All in favor indicate by saying
18 aye.

19 (Aye.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
21 Those opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
24 ayes have it.

25 Thank you all very much.

1 10/26/23 - STATED - ADJOURNMENT
2 - - -
3 (Stated Meeting adjourned at
4 12:32 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

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I HEREBY CERTIFY that the

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proceedings, evidence and objections are

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contained fully and accurately in the

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stenographic notes taken by me upon the

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foregoing matter, and that this is a true and

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correct transcript of same.

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Michele L. Murphy

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MICHELE L. MURPHY

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