

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
STATED MEETING

Via Microsoft Teams
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Thursday, December 10, 2020
10:18 a.m.

PRESENT:

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

MICHAEL A. DECKER, CHIEF CLERK

- - -

1 12/10/20 - STATED - ROLL CALL

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 Thank you and good morning, everyone.

4 We're going to get started.

5 I understand that the state law
6 currently requires that the following
7 announcement be made at the beginning of
8 every remote Council session:

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

20 I now note that the hour has
21 come. Clerk will please call the roll to
22 take attendance. Members that are in
23 attendance, please indicate that you are
24 present or some other word also to ensure
25 that your image is displayed on the

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1 12/10/20 - STATED - ROLL CALL

2 screen.

3 Mr. Decker, please call the
4 roll.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
6 Bass.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Good
8 morning, Council President and
9 colleagues. Looking forward to today's
10 session. Thank you.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
12 morning.

13 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Good
14 morning.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
16 Brooks.

17 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Good
18 morning.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
20 morning.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

22 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Good morning,
23 Council President and colleagues and the
24 listening public.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

1 12/10/20 - STATED - ROLL CALL

2 morning.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

4 Gauthier.

5 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Good

6 morning, Council President. Good

7 morning, colleagues. Good morning to the

8 public. Present.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

10 morning.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

12 Gilmore Richardson.

13 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Good

14 morning, Council President. Good

15 morning, colleagues. And good morning,

16 Philadelphia.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

18 morning.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

20 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Good

21 morning, Council President, and good

22 morning, colleagues. Good morning to the

23 viewing and listening public.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

25 morning.

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1 12/10/20 - STATED - ROLL CALL

2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

3 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Good

4 morning, everybody.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

6 morning.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

8 COUNCILMAN HENON: Good

9 morning, Council President, and good

10 morning, colleagues.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

12 morning.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

14 Johnson.

15 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Good

16 morning, Council President and good

17 morning, colleagues. Seeking justice for

18 Sadeek Clark-Harrison.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

20 morning.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

22 COUNCILMAN JONES: Good

23 morning, Mr. President, colleagues,

24 Philadelphia. Good morning.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

1 12/10/20 - STATED - ROLL CALL

2 morning.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

4 COUNCILMAN OH: Good morning,

5 Council President. Good morning,

6 colleagues.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

8 morning.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

10 O'Neill.

11 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Good

12 morning, everyone.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

14 morning.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

16 Parker.

17 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Present.

18 Good morning, Mr. President and

19 colleagues.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

21 morning.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

23 Quinones-Sanchez.

24 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Good

25 morning, good morning, good morning.

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1 12/10/20 - STATED - ROLL CALL

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
3 morning.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
5 Squilla.

6 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Good
7 morning, Council President and
8 colleagues. I'm present.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
10 morning.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
12 Thomas.

13 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Good
14 morning, Council President. Good
15 morning, colleagues. Good morning to the
16 listening public.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
18 morning.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
20 Clarke.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: And
22 good morning, everyone. I want to thank
23 you. A quorum of the Council is present.
24 We will now come to order.

25 Despite the great need, there

1 12/10/20 - STATED - APPROVAL OF JOURNAL
2 will be no invocation today. We will,
3 however, observe a very brief moment of
4 silent prayer for our city, its leaders,
5 and the citizens during the current
6 public health crisis.

7 Can we now observe a brief
8 moment of silence.

9 (Moment of silence.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

11 Thank you. Thank you all very much.

12 Our next order of business is
13 the approval of the Journal of the
14 meeting of Thursday, December 3rd, 2020,
15 and the Chair recognizes Councilman
16 Squilla.

17 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you,
18 Mr. President. I move that the Journal
19 of the meeting of Thursday, December 3rd,
20 2020 be approved.

21 (Duly seconded.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

23 Thank you. It has been moved and
24 properly seconded that the Journal of the
25 meeting of Thursday, December 3rd, 2020

1 12/10/20 - STATED - LEAVES

2 stand approved.

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 our Journal is
11 approved.

12 The next order of business is
13 requests for leave of absence, and the
14 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Parker.

15 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
16 you, Mr. President. On behalf of the
17 members of Council, there are no requests
18 for leaves of absence today.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

20 Thank you. The Chair thanks the
21 Councilwoman.

22 And our next order of business
23 is communications, and I'll ask
24 Mr. Decker to please read the messages
25 from the Mayor and any other

1 12/10/20 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS
2 communications that he may have in his
3 possession.

4 CHIEF CLERK: From the Mayor to
5 the President and members of the Council
6 of the City of Philadelphia, pursuant to
7 Sections 4-604 and 2-307 of the Home Rule
8 Charter, I am today transmitting to the
9 Council the recommendation of the City
10 Planning Commission on the following
11 bills: Bill Nos. 200571, 200575, 200576,
12 200577, 200578, 200592, 200595, 200596,
13 200598, 200601, 200602, 200604, 200613,
14 200622, 200623, 200628, 200576, 200613,
15 200626, 200656, 200661, and 200677.

16 And I am pleased to advise you
17 that on December 9, 2020, I signed the
18 following bill which was passed by
19 Council at its session on December 3,
20 2020: Bill No. 200574-A.

21 And I am submitting herewith
22 for the consideration of your honorable
23 body a resolution appointing James Aros,
24 Jr., to the position of Chief Assessment
25 Officer of the Office of Property

1 12/10/20 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Assessment; and

3 A resolution confirming the
4 appointment of Diana P. Cortes, Esquire,
5 as the City Solicitor, all under certain
6 terms and conditions.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

8 Thank you very much, Mr. Decker.

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

22 Mr. Decker, can you please read
23 the titles of the legislation that is
24 being offered today by the members.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 12/10/20 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Parker offers on behalf of Council

3 President Clarke four resolutions,

4 entitled a "Resolution appointing James

5 Aros, Jr., to the position of Chief

6 Assessment Officer of the Office of

7 Property Assessment."

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That
9 will be referred to committee.

10 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
11 confirming the appointment of Diana P.
12 Cortes, Esquire, as the City Solicitor.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Also
14 be referred to committee.

15 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
16 honoring the life and legacy of Joey
17 Temple.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: I'm
19 supposed to ask for this. Given the
20 timeframe of the Council and us coming
21 back and the unfortunate untimely death
22 of Mr. Temple, can I ask Majority Leader
23 to ask for a suspension of the rules to
24 allow that to be on today's Calendar.

25 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Yes,

1 12/10/20 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Mr. President. I ask for a suspension of
3 the rules to allow the resolution
4 honoring the life and legacy of Joey
5 Temple to be placed on today's Calendar.

6 (Duly seconded.)

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

9 All those in favor say aye.

10 (Aye.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

12 Those opposed?

13 (No response.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
15 ayes have it. That will be on today's
16 Calendar.

17 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
18 recognizing, honoring and celebrating the
19 extraordinary career of W. Wilson Goode,
20 Jr., distinguished four-term member of
21 Philadelphia City Council from 2000 to
22 2016.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: And
24 seeing that, I don't know if everybody is
25 familiar that our good friend and

1 12/10/20 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 colleague will be retiring. Never
3 thought he was old enough to do that.
4 I'm going to ask the Majority Leader if
5 we can ask that that can also be a rules
6 suspension so he can receive his honor
7 while he is still a member of the City
8 Council team.

9 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
10 you, Mr. President. I ask that we
11 suspend the rules for immediate
12 consideration of the resolution honoring
13 the service of former Councilman Wilson
14 Goode, Jr.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
16 Thank you.

17 (Duly seconded.)

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

21 All those in favor indicate by
22 saying aye.

23 (Aye.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
25 Those opposed?

1 12/10/20 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 (No response.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
4 ayes have it, and that will be placed on
5 today's Calendar.

6 I anticipate a call from my
7 good friend, because he had no idea we
8 were going to do this today.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones
10 offers four resolutions, entitled a
11 "Resolution congratulating and honoring
12 Joseph A. Lukaitis, Sr. on the occasion
13 of his retirement from the Philadelphia
14 Police Department after 24 years of
15 dedicated service to the residents of
16 Philadelphia."

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That
18 will be on next Council session's
19 Calendar.

20 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
21 celebrating the 50th Birthday of PBS.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
23 Thank you. That will be on next's
24 Council session's Calendar.

25 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution

1 12/10/20 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 recognizing and honoring Rue Landau for
3 her incredibly impactful work as
4 Executive Director of both the
5 Philadelphia Commission on Human
6 Relations and Fair Housing Commission,
7 and congratulating her on her new career
8 in academia as the "Beck Professor" at
9 Temple University Beasley School of Law.

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

12 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
13 Mr. President. I move for a rules
14 suspension so that this resolution can be
15 considered today.

16 (Duly seconded.)

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

19 All those in favor indicate by
20 saying aye.

21 (Aye.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
23 Those opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The

1 12/10/20 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 ayes have it. That will be on today's
3 Calendar.

4 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
5 recognizing and honoring the West Philly
6 Panthers for their success in competing
7 in the 2020 American Youth Football
8 National Championship in Kissimmee,
9 Florida.

10 COUNCILMAN JONES: Excuse me.
11 Mr. President?

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Yes.
13 Councilman Jones.

14 COUNCILMAN JONES: That was
15 supposed to be introduced by Member
16 Thomas. He is the youth athletic person
17 in Council now. So I don't know how we
18 do that.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Kind
20 of already started the process.

21 COUNCILMAN JONES: I just want
22 to recognize he is the youth sports
23 person in City Council.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: We
25 understand. He is the youth and he is

1 12/10/20 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 the athlete.

3 COUNCILMAN JONES: He is the
4 athlete.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Council
6 President, I have him down as a
7 co-introducer with Councilman Jones.

8 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Let
10 the record reflect that.

11 That will be on the next
12 session of Council's Calendar.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
14 Quinones-Sanchez offers four bills and
15 one resolution, entitled "An ordinance
16 amending Chapter 12-2700 of The
17 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Permit
18 Parking Districts,' by amending the
19 boundaries for certain permit parking
20 districts, and by establishing a new
21 permit parking district"; and

22 An ordinance amending Section
23 12-2705 of The Philadelphia Code,
24 entitled "Issuance of Resident Parking
25 Permits," to address the rules regarding

1 12/10/20 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 issuance of resident permit parking

3 permits; and

4 An ordinance amending Section

5 12-2705 of The Philadelphia Code,

6 entitled "Issuance of Resident Parking

7 Permits," to address the cost of resident

8 parking permits for certain low-income

9 individuals; and

10 An ordinance to amend the

11 Philadelphia Zoning Maps by changing the

12 zoning designations of certain areas of

13 land located within an area bounded by

14 Lehigh Avenue, Frankford Avenue, Master

15 Street and 6th Street.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

17 Those four bills just read by the Chief

18 Clerk will be referred to the appropriate

19 committee.

20 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution

21 calling upon the United States Congress,

22 including members of its Pennsylvania

23 delegation, to support the passage of

24 House Resolution 8113, which recognizes

25 the inherent authority of the people of

1 12/10/20 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 Puerto Rico to call for a Constitutional
3 Assembly on Status.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: And
5 that will be on the next session's
6 Calendar.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
8 Brooks offers one bill, entitled "An
9 ordinance amending Chapter 9-4100 of The
10 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Promoting
11 Healthy Families and Workplaces,' to
12 revise provisions concerning leave time
13 for public health emergencies, and making
14 technical changes."

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: That
16 will be referred to committee.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb
18 offers one resolution recognizing and
19 honoring Drew Weissman, M.D., Ph.D., and
20 Katalin Kariko, Ph.D., for their
21 visionary discoveries at the University
22 of Pennsylvania leading to development of
23 a messenger ribonucleic acid technology
24 which is the foundation of leading
25 COVID-19 vaccine candidates.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
3 Chair recognizes Councilman Domb.

4 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Thank you,
5 Council President. I just want to thank
6 everyone for their support of this
7 resolution. I think it's really
8 important that we highlight the work that
9 was done by University of Penn partners.
10 Because of their persistence in research
11 and what they have done, we're months
12 away from a vaccine. It's the work of
13 University of Penn that is allowing all
14 these other pharmaceutical companies to
15 come up with this vaccine. It's pretty
16 amazing that Penn has done this, and we
17 should be really proud of that. So we're
18 part of the whole like getting this
19 vaccine done because of Penn, so I just
20 wanted to recognize them.

21 Thank you, Council President.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

23 Thank you. Thank you, Councilman.

24 That will be on next session's
25 Calendar.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Thomas
3 offers one resolution honoring and
4 congratulating the Academy at Palumbo
5 Boys Volleyball team, on their successful
6 2019 season and their overall 15 to 6
7 record in the Philadelphia Public League.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
9 Thank you. Next session's Calendar.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
11 Squilla offers two resolutions, entitled
12 a "Resolution honoring the life and
13 legacy of Philadelphia Police Captain
14 Frank Milillo."

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Next
16 session's Calendar.

17 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
18 recognizing Monday, December 14 to
19 Friday, December 18 as PHLConnected Week.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: And
21 that will be on next session's Calendar.

22 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Council
23 President?

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Yes.
25 Councilman Squilla.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Yes.

3 Philadelphia ConnectED, next week is the
4 big week for how we're going through to
5 let people know some of the changes in
6 PHLConnectED, and so is it possible to
7 suspend the rules to have that heard this
8 week?

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

10 Yeah. I was kind of delaying. I thought
11 you may want to do that. Yes. Just make
12 a formal request for a suspension of the
13 rules.

14 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you,
15 Mr. President. I make a request to
16 suspend the rules to have this resolution
17 heard at this Council session.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Can
19 we get a second?

20 (Duly seconded.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

22 Thank you. All those in favor indicate
23 by saying aye.

24 (Aye.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

1 12/10/20 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Those opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
5 ayes have it, and that will be on this
6 week's Calendar.

7 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh
9 offers a resolution recognizing and
10 honoring legendary jazz host Bob Perkins
11 for his accomplishments and contributions
12 to radio and print media in Philadelphia.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
14 Thank you. That will be on next
15 session's Calendar.

16 CHIEF CLERK: There are no
17 other bills or resolutions being offered
18 by the members, Mr. President.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
20 Thank you very much, Mr. Decker.

21 There are actually no reports
22 from committee today, so our next order
23 of business is the consideration of the
24 Calendar.

25 There being no bills on the

1 12/10/20-STATED-RESOLUTIONS ON CONSENT AGENDA

2 First Reading Calendar, the Chair
3 recognizes Councilwoman Parker for a
4 motion concerning the resolutions on the
5 Final Passage Calendar.

6 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
7 you, Mr. President. I move that the
8 rules of Council be suspended to permit
9 the use of a Consent Agenda to consider
10 the following resolutions on the Final
11 Passage Calendar. They are Resolutions
12 Nos. 200679, 200680, 200682, 200684,
13 200685, 200686, 200689, 200691, 200692,
14 200693, 200694, 200695, 200696, 200697,
15 200700, 200701, 200702, 200703, 200704,
16 and 200705.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Can
18 I get a second?

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
21 been moved and properly seconded that the
22 rules of Council be suspended to permit
23 the use of a Consent Agenda to consider
24 the resolutions just read by Councilwoman
25 Parker.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - BILLS ON CONSENT AGENDA

2 All in favor indicate by saying
3 aye.

4 (Aye.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Those opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
9 ayes have it, the motion carries, and we
10 will consider the Resolution Consent
11 Agenda shortly.

12 The Chair now recognizes
13 Councilwoman Parker for a motion
14 concerning the bills on the Second
15 Reading and Final Passage Calendar.

16 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
17 you, Mr. President. I move that the
18 rules of Council be suspended to permit
19 the use of a Consent Agenda to consider
20 the following bills on the Second Reading
21 and Final Passage Calendars. They are
22 Nos. 200389, 200516, 200571, 200576,
23 200577, 200592, 200601, 200602, 200624,
24 200413, 200541, 200614, 200619, 200085,
25 200086, 200257, 200542, 200543, 200575,

1 12/10/20 - STATED - BILLS ON CONSENT AGENDA

2 200578, 200595, 200596, 200597, 200598,
3 200626, 200657, 200659, 200660, 200661,
4 200663, and 200616.

5 (Duly seconded.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

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

12 All in favor please indicate by
13 saying aye.

14 (Aye.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

16 Those opposed?

17 (No response.)

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

21 The Chair again recognizes
22 Councilwoman Parker for the purpose of
23 calling up bills and resolutions on the
24 regular Second Reading and Final Passage
25 Calendar.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - BILLS ON 2ND READING

2 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
3 you, Mr. President. In addition to the
4 resolutions and bills being considered on
5 the Consent Agendas, the following
6 resolutions and bills are being called up
7 from the Second Reading and Final Passage
8 Calendars today. They are Nos.

9 200491-AA, 200683, 200698, 200588-A,
10 200589-A, 200590-A, 200653, 200556,
11 200366, 200613, 200654, 200573, 200620,
12 200621, 200622, 200623, 200557, 200559,
13 200563, 200479, and 200593. All other
14 bills and resolutions are being held,
15 Mr. President.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
17 Thank you, Councilwoman.

18 Before we proceed with the
19 consideration of the public comment,
20 we'll take a brief moment, recess to give
21 our technology professionals some time to
22 connect the speakers we have for today's
23 meeting.

24 Take a brief break.

25 (Short recess.)

1 12/10/20 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 Thank you. We're going to get started.

4 Now that everyone is connected to the

5 meeting and before considering

6 resolutions and bills we have before us

7 today, we will consider public comment.

8 It will go as follows:

9 Public comment must concern

10 matters on the Second Reading and Final

11 Passage Calendars for possible action at

12 a session of Council. A speaker on any

13 of these matters must sign up in order to

14 testify. You must call 215-686-3406 by

15 5:00 p.m. the day before the session to

16 sign up for public comment.

17 When you call, we will take

18 your name, phone number, the number of

19 the legislative item you are commenting

20 on, and whether you are in support or

21 against the legislation and add you to

22 the list. We will then telephone each

23 person on the list during the Council

24 session and invite them to our remote

25 meeting.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Under ideal circumstances, we
3 would have about three minutes to speak,
4 but today we must have a time limit.
5 That is two minutes. We have a
6 significant number of individuals
7 testifying. So in order to ensure that
8 everybody has a chance to testify, we're
9 going to do two minutes.

10 I want to be fair, so I intend
11 to hold faithfully to the established
12 time limit, and once invited to the
13 meeting and asked to begin your
14 testimony, a timer will be started. We
15 will monitor your remaining time
16 throughout your testimony.

17 (Council President's computer
18 froze.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: So I
20 also reserve the right to limit the
21 number of speakers where repetitious
22 comments are being made on the same
23 matter and to limit the scope of the
24 testimony to only certain items on the
25 agenda during this emergency, which could

1 12/10/20 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 affect callbacks for the public comment
3 at the meeting.

4 So please be aware this is a
5 public meeting and it's being recorded.
6 So because the meeting is public,
7 participants and viewers have no
8 reasonable expectation of privacy. So by
9 continuing to be in the meeting, you are
10 consenting to being recorded.

11 I will now ask the Chief Clerk
12 to please read the name of our first
13 speaker.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Queen Judith
15 Robinson.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
17 morning.

18 COUNCIL SUPPORT: Chief Clerk,
19 she's not on the line.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
21 She's not on the line.

22 Next name.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Calvin Williams.

24 COUNCIL SUPPORT: He also did
25 not answer.

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2 CHIEF CLERK: Benjamin She.

3 MR. SHE: Hi. Can you hear me?

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
5 morning. State your name for the record
6 and proceed with your testimony.

7 MR. SHE: Okay. Yes. My name
8 is Benjamin She. Last name, S-H-E. I'm
9 speaking against Bill 200613 about the
10 Strawberry Mansion Neighborhood
11 Conservation Overlay.

12 A few days ago, there was
13 another Planning Commission meeting
14 giving more details for those NCOs in
15 Strawberry Mansion with some more
16 technical details on the applicability
17 and regulations on development it can
18 entail. I've been watching the process
19 very closely, and while we sympathize
20 with the wish for more community control
21 and as a historically underserved
22 community, we have big reservations on
23 what the precedent that could come out of
24 this overlay means when it's applied to
25 more affluent neighborhoods across the

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2 state.

3 Specifically, the criteria for
4 the NCO itself is not sound, in my
5 opinion, because the number of parcels
6 that it applies to goes far, far beyond
7 the stipulated 25-block limit in NCOs,
8 and the criteria for being
9 architecturally consistent across the
10 whole neighborhood does not apply here
11 because of the huge variance in porches.
12 You have several houses with and without
13 porches.

14 In our opinion also, the public
15 outreach process for this NCO was rushed
16 and compressed due to the pandemic. This
17 was an admission from Planning staff
18 itself, and I am told it does feel like a
19 step backwards (inaudible) Philadelphia
20 2035 planning process started in 2012 to
21 2018, and this will only entail more
22 (inaudible) per regulation that's
23 (inaudible) goals and could be
24 (inaudible) more conducive to our
25 processes.

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2 So I urge Council to really
3 reconsider the merits of this bill and to
4 further advise that (inaudible) between
5 Planning and the neighborhood as well.

6 Thank you very much.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

8 Thank you for your testimony.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Diane Davis.

10 MS. DAVIS: Yes. I'm here.

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

14 MS. DAVIS: Good morning. My
15 name is Diane Davis. I am the President
16 of the Strawberry Mansion NAC
17 Neighborhood Subcommittee and I'm here
18 today asking your support of the
19 Strawberry Mansion NCO Bill 200613.

20 With the outstanding assistance
21 of staff in Councilman Clarke's office
22 and the Planning Commission, our
23 coalition was able to put this overlay
24 together. As I understand it, the
25 overall goals of the conservation

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2 district is to make sure that a
3 neighborhood keeps its visual character,
4 and that is what we are trying to
5 accomplish.

6 In just about every
7 neighborhood, people have a sense of
8 civic pride, and all agree that there is
9 something distinctive about where they
10 live, and their community's older
11 buildings and parks help to define the
12 neighborhood. Strawberry Mansion is one
13 of those neighborhoods. Only a few
14 buildings have lost integrity of
15 Strawberry Mansion. Therefore,
16 maintaining sight lines and building
17 heights will help preserve the
18 architectural heritage and continuity in
19 the neighborhood. We want to preserve
20 the overall character when rehabbing old
21 structures and building new ones.

22 Recently we have been inundated
23 with developers coming to the
24 neighborhood, putting up structures
25 because they have the by-right privilege.

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2 They put up buildings that don't align
3 with the visual character of the
4 neighborhood. They also don't find it
5 necessary to inform the community of
6 their plans. Therefore, members of City
7 Council, there's an urgent need for this
8 overlay.

9 I have lived in Strawberry
10 Mansion for over 65 years, and by-right I
11 should have a say on what happens in my
12 neighborhood and not allow developers to
13 come in and tell us what we need. No one
14 knows the need better than those who live
15 in the neighborhood.

16 I'm not against development,
17 but development seems to be set against
18 me. I'm asking this Council to listen to
19 the testimonies given today in support of
20 this bill. Hear what we have to say.
21 Hear what we are saying to you. Hear
22 what we are attempting to do for our
23 neighborhood. We are Strawberry Mansion
24 strong, and we don't intend to leave.

25 So, again, I ask you to support

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2 our efforts by supporting overlay Bill
3 200613.

4 Thank you again. I'm Diane
5 Davis. Thank you for the comment.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
7 Thank you for your testimony.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Sherri Brown.

9 COUNCIL SUPPORT: Chief Clerk,
10 Sherri Brown is not on the line.
11 However, Queen Judith Robinson is.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Queen Judith
13 Robinson, you're the next speaker.
14 (No response.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
16 morning.

17 QUEEN ROBINSON: Judith
18 Robinson here --

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
20 morning.

21 QUEEN ROBINSON: -- testifying
22 on Bill 200613.

23 Do we as the citizens of
24 Strawberry Mansion have a right to
25 request an overlay? Yes, we do. Yes, we

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2 do. But with every right comes
3 responsibility.

4 Just to say this: These
5 developers were invited to our community.
6 NTI, the demolition program, brought them
7 into the community via a demolition derby
8 and made Strawberry Mansion a prototype
9 area.

10 In addition, in North
11 Philadelphia, Bill 150409 used PHA to use
12 eminent domain to take black people's
13 property as the property values were
14 increasing -- is increasing. Allowing
15 PHA, that was a big blow to take equity
16 out of the community.

17 Now we're asking for investors
18 to come under an overlay, and that's a
19 good thing, but without any government
20 stopgap measures or any stipulations,
21 investors were invited into the
22 community. So we wonder how we got here.
23 We got here through a governmental
24 process, giving land to developers,
25 inviting them in, letting them know that

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2 we're open for business. I look at
3 Fairmount Park now in the reclamation
4 area. Now I understand what that meant
5 in the NTI.

6 So, yes, we deserve to have an
7 overlay. We must have community
8 participation, people in the room that
9 can give this bill some real direction.

10 Thank you so much for the time.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

12 Thank you for your testimony.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Walt Barrett.

14 MR. BARRETT: Good morning.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
16 morning.

17 MR. BARRETT: My name is Walter
18 Barrett and I'm calling in from Georgia,
19 where I'm knocking on doors with my
20 fellow union members to make sure we turn
21 the Senate blue, but I'm here today to
22 speak to you about the Black Work Matters
23 Economic Recovery Act.

24 I've spent more than 20 years
25 as a cook in the hospitality industry,

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2 and for the last five years, I've been at
3 Sheraton Downtown Philadelphia. I was
4 laid off from my job on March 9th, and
5 ever since then I have been struggling
6 with uncertainty of what comes next.

7 I landed at the Sheraton and I
8 planned on retiring there. I need to
9 hold onto this job for a little while
10 longer so that I can get the full
11 benefits of my pension.

12 I know that the economic impact
13 of the pandemic has been hard on
14 everyone, but for people with so many
15 years in, it has been really brutal. I
16 have seven grandchildren, one
17 great-grandchild. They have always
18 looked to me for direction and guidance.
19 It's been really emotionally challenging
20 to have to depend on them for financial
21 help.

22 I didn't get my first
23 unemployment check until June. It has
24 been really hard. My savings have been
25 depleted, and that's a scary thing. I

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2 raised my kids to be independent, and the
3 last thing I want to do is be a burden on
4 them.

5 Knowing that I would have a job
6 when this pandemic ends would be a
7 game-changer for me financially. It
8 would help me save with security and feel
9 like I could retire securely and help my
10 family the way I always have. But it's
11 more than just financial. It's all about
12 the relationship you foster over the
13 decades of working in this industry, the
14 friends you make, the contributions you
15 make to the City. I want to spend my
16 last working days with co-workers who
17 have worked so hard going through so
18 much.

19 I'm really proud to be a part
20 of this fight, because I know it gives my
21 grand-kids hope to see their grandfather
22 working to help make our world better,
23 but it's hard to keep going on in times
24 like this. We need our elected officials
25 like you all to give us the hope. So I

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2 urge you to pass the Economic Recovery
3 Act so that me and my co-workers can rest
4 easy knowing that when this is all done,
5 we're going to have a job to go back to.

6 And I just want to say that
7 good things do happen in Philadelphia,
8 but it starts with our leader.

9 Thank you for your time.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

11 Thank you so much for your testimony.

12 Before we go to the next
13 person, the Chair would like to recognize
14 Councilman Squilla.

15 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you,
16 Mr. President. I do have to run to a
17 personal matter. I'd like to be recorded
18 aye on all bills and resolutions moving
19 forward. I plan to get back before the
20 end of the session.

21 Thank you.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

23 Thank you, Councilman. Leave shall be
24 granted.

25 Proceed, Mr. Decker.

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2 CHIEF CLERK: Rosslyn

3 Wuchinich.

4 MS. WUCHINICH: Good morning.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
6 morning.

7 MS. WUCHINICH: Good morning.

8 My name is Rosslyn Wuchinich and I'm the
9 President of Unite Here Local 274,
10 Philadelphia's hospitality and food
11 service workers union. I'm thrilled to
12 be here today with many members of our
13 union who are watching online to testify
14 in full support of Bills No. 200557,
15 200563, and 200559.

16 This legislation, in a sense,
17 is very simple. It's just ensuring that
18 hospitality workers in our city will be
19 able to return to their jobs when those
20 jobs return. But that protection and
21 that promise is historic and it's
22 essential.

23 We are deeply thankful to the
24 sponsors of this legislation,
25 Councilmembers Gym, Johnson, and Thomas.

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2 Thank you to all the co-sponsors of the
3 legislation, and thank you to all the
4 members of the Law and Government
5 Committee who voted it unanimously out of
6 committee.

7 There are certainly many
8 employers who have and will do the right
9 thing by making sure their employees are
10 offered their jobs back when business
11 resumes. Unfortunately, there are some
12 who will not. This legislation protects
13 our industry's workers from any
14 unscrupulous employers who might dare to
15 use this pandemic to further their
16 financial interest. And it protects
17 against those who would do so at the
18 expense of long-term employees who are
19 overwhelmingly black and overwhelmingly
20 female.

21 We are proud to have been part
22 of City Council's collaborative process
23 with stakeholders to craft legislation
24 that addresses the industry's concerns
25 while protecting workers in Bill No.

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2 200557. We are also proud to stand with
3 you today to expand existing protections
4 in The Philadelphia Code through Bills
5 No. 200563 and 200559.

6 Your support for these bills
7 today is a victory for worker justice,
8 racial justice, gender justice in
9 Philadelphia. We thank you and urge you
10 to vote in favor of these three bills,
11 the Black Workers Matters Economic
12 Recovery package.

13 Thank you.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

15 Thank you for your testimony.

16 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
17 is Charles Patton.

18 MR. PATTON: And I've worked
19 at -- good morning. Can you hear me?

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

24 MR. PATTON: All right. My
25 name is Charles Patton. I am a cook and

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2 I worked at the Philadelphia
3 International Airport for seven years.
4 I'm testifying in support of Bills
5 200577, 200559, and 200563. Together, we
6 call this the Black Workers Matter
7 Economic Recovery package.

8 I organized my union at my job
9 to better my life and better the working
10 conditions of my co-workers. I, like so
11 many others, was laid off last March
12 because of the pandemic. I think that
13 everybody in my position should have the
14 right to return to their job no matter
15 how long it takes, because nobody lost
16 their job because of something they did.

17 At the airport, we worked hard
18 to make these jobs good enough to support
19 our families on, and I want to make sure
20 everybody has a right to go back to those
21 jobs when the economy recovers. I don't
22 know how long that's going to take.

23 When my company first offered a
24 voluntary recall, I was unable to take it
25 because I care for my elderly mother, who

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2 suffers from diabetes and diabetic
3 neuropathy, which makes her a fall risk.
4 She also has fibromyalgia, which is
5 aggravated when she falls.

6 It has been harder to line up
7 help from home healthcare providers
8 because of the pandemic, making it even
9 more difficult to figure out everything.

10 At the beginning of the month,
11 I did -- at the beginning of November, I
12 did decide that I was ready to go back to
13 work and was asked to be put back on the
14 schedule. I was planned to return, but
15 my company decided it wasn't profitable
16 enough for me to come back to work yet.
17 And now with indoor dining being in
18 effect again, I don't know when I'll get
19 back to work.

20 I have a union job with recall
21 rights and an employer who is working
22 with us. I can't imagine what workers
23 who don't have some of the basic
24 protections that I have are going through
25 right now.

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2 So I urge you to pass the Black
3 Work Matters Economic Recovery package.
4 These three bills are critical to ensure
5 the final security -- the financial
6 security of hospitality workers across
7 the City.

8 Thank you.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

10 Thank you for your testimony.

11 I'd like to recognize
12 Councilman Squilla one more time.

13 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Yes.

14 Thank you, Mr. President. I'd like to be
15 recorded as voting aye on all bills and
16 resolutions.

17 Thank you.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Just
19 want to request a leave of absence?
20 You're going to be leaving --

21 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Yes.

22 Request a leave of absence and to be
23 recorded aye on all bills and
24 resolutions.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

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2 Thank you. Leave shall be granted.

3 Thank you, Councilman.

4 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you.

5 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
6 is Reverend Greg Holston.

7 COUNCIL SUPPORT: Chief Clerk,
8 Reverend Holston is not on the line.

9 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
10 is Kaydene Grant.

11 MS. GRANT: Hi. Hello.

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

16 MS. GRANT: Thank you. My name
17 is Kaydene Grant. I am a member of the
18 Women's Community Revitalization Project,
19 a concerned citizen, a former
20 Philadelphia School District teacher, and
21 a former teacher with Philadelphia's
22 Opportunity Network. I'm here to speak
23 on the importance of passing the impact
24 tax Bill 200556.

25 As a former teacher within the

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2 Opportunity Network, I faced many
3 challenges teaching in an alternative
4 high school. I was tasked with pulling
5 out the potential from students who face
6 many social and economic issues,
7 including students who have been kicked
8 out of multiple schools, students who
9 were in (inaudible), and students that
10 require house visits just to get them to
11 come to school.

12 One particular student shined
13 above the rest. He showed up to school
14 early, just ten minutes after the
15 teachers arrived. He ate the packaged
16 breakfast and lunch with no complaints,
17 unlike his peers. He would stay in the
18 student lounge to complete his
19 assignments until the last school
20 employee left. Even to the average eye,
21 a star student. But every teacher knows
22 our job is to see the child, not just the
23 student, and learn the why behind every
24 behavior, good or bad.

25 I learned this student arrived

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2 early every morning because he had to be
3 out of his shelter early. He ate the
4 school breakfast and lunch so he wouldn't
5 have to take food out of the mouth of his
6 siblings. He stayed late so he can
7 finish assignments because he had to go
8 to work every night to help his mom and
9 five other siblings. They were trying to
10 save up money to find a place to stay.
11 You see, after his grandma died, they
12 couldn't afford to keep up repairs and
13 pay the increased taxes on the house,
14 even though the house was paid off. They
15 struggled to find rent that they can
16 afford. He said for now, they were in
17 shelter, but he promised his mom it will
18 only be temporary because he will do
19 whatever it takes to get them into a
20 place of their own.

21 He was supposed to graduate
22 last June, but being in a shelter made it
23 impossible for him to log into virtual
24 school. I checked up on him a few months
25 ago, and he was worried about his

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2 siblings not being able to physically
3 attend school. He said virtual learning
4 from home is impossible when you are
5 homeless.

6 This is just one story, but it
7 reflects the reality of hundreds of
8 students across Philadelphia.

9 The many vulnerable
10 Philadelphians need you to pass this
11 bill. This bill will bring affordable
12 housing such as more affordable rental
13 units. And I don't mean affordable
14 according to HUD's small definition.
15 They define affordable as earning more
16 than 48,000 per year for a family of
17 four. Nearly half of Philadelphians earn
18 less than 48,000 a year. I mean
19 affordable so that a mother doesn't have
20 to place her children in a shelter where
21 the younger children don't have a safe
22 place for virtual learning while the
23 older child works and can no longer go to
24 physical school early every day.

25 We want to thank City Council

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2 President Darrell Clarke for introducing
3 this legislation, and hope that this body
4 will vote to ensure truly affordable
5 housing for all.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

7 Thank you. Thank you for your testimony.

8 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
9 is Beth McConnell.

10 MS. McCONNELL: Good morning,
11 Council President.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
13 morning.

14 MS. McCONNELL: My name is Beth
15 McConnell. I'm the Policy Director of
16 the Philadelphia Association of CDCs.

17 We urge Council to pass Bills
18 200556 and 200366 today, the legislative
19 package to invest in affordable homes,
20 community economic development, and job
21 creation. Philadelphia desperately needs
22 action to stimulate economic activity to
23 recover from the devastating impacts of
24 COVID on our local economy. That action
25 also must be equitable and center

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2 recovery strategies on attacking the
3 inequality that has led to people of
4 color in Philadelphia being the hardest
5 hit by shutdowns, job losses, and the
6 health crisis of COVID.

7 While some may tell you that
8 the development impact tax will hurt
9 economic activity, you must remember that
10 the activities these funds will support
11 will create economic activities for the
12 people and places that have been hurt the
13 most by COVID and its impacts. The work
14 that CDCs across Philadelphia do on these
15 activities and have done over the last 28
16 years have led to a \$5.4 billion economic
17 impact in Philadelphia, including an
18 added \$18 million every single year for
19 our schools. This included building new
20 affordable homes, repairing and
21 preserving existing affordable homes,
22 improving our neighborhood commercial
23 corridors, and supporting small
24 businesses. These investments build
25 wealth and opportunity for neighborhood

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2 residents, again particularly people of
3 color that have too long been denied
4 access to these critical opportunities.

5 We continue to call on Council
6 to dedicate at least a quarter of those
7 funds to support our corridors and the
8 other for affordable homes. Create an
9 advisory committee with community
10 representation, and work with the
11 building trades unions to bring down the
12 cost of construction for projects funded
13 with these and other public subsidies.

14 We applaud Council for taking
15 this bold move to support our communities
16 during this unprecedented crisis.
17 Nothing less than bold is necessary to
18 create a more equitable Philadelphia.

19 Thank you for the opportunity
20 to testify.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

22 Thank you for your testimony.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Dr. Cora Turpin.

24 DR. TURPIN: Hello.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

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

4 DR. TURPIN: Yes. I am
5 Dr. Cora M. Turpin. I'm a Northern
6 Liberties resident, and I've been a
7 committee person for many years.

8 I am against your bills that
9 you have, 200556, 200653. My
10 disappointment is that these bills for
11 \$400 million have no provisions to
12 protect the elderly, who have stabilized
13 these neighborhoods for decades, people
14 too old for loans but whose homes suffer
15 most from neglect because of their
16 financial inability as a result of
17 inflation, increased medical costs, and
18 the real estate taxes that this city
19 requires.

20 I understand that a tax freeze
21 on the real estate are limited by the
22 state. However, if you are taxing the
23 developers for low taxes, then the same
24 can be done for residents over 65 who
25 have paid escalating taxes for decades.

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2 I have every confidence that
3 our esteemed Council will find ways to
4 grant subsidies and the like that result
5 in no increase in real estate taxes for
6 people 65 and older regardless of income.
7 I hope there is a common determination to
8 do this, for many of you are also aging
9 and will find that however generous your
10 salaries are, your purchasing ability
11 during retirement will continue to
12 dwindle all the days of your lives. You
13 will not be able to compete with the
14 higher salaries of youthful workers and
15 will be -- you will see the quality of
16 your life eroded.

17 Please do not pass these bills,
18 and generate other bills that ensure
19 homeowners the stability for all ages of
20 residents.

21 Thank you, and I appreciate
22 your attention.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

24 Thank you for your testimony, Ms. Turpin.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Reverend Jerome

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2 Fordham.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
4 morning.

5 COUNCIL SUPPORT: Chief Clerk,
6 he's not on the line.

7 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
8 is Zachary Lewis.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
10 morning.

11 MR. LEWIS: Good morning.
12 Hello.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Just
14 state your name for the record and
15 proceed with your testimony, please.

16 MR. LEWIS: Yes. My name is
17 Zachary Lewis. Hello, everyone. I am
18 Executive Director of Disabled in Action,
19 a local grassroots advocacy group run and
20 controlled by people with disabilities
21 and allies. I'm a proud motivated
22 organizer with ADAPT, A-D-A-P-T, for just
23 about 15 years or so. I'm also a
24 consumer who receives home and
25 community-based services through the

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2 Department of Health and Human Services,
3 which allows me to live independently in
4 the community. I thank God for that.

5 I know and understand that I
6 just named a bunch of different titles.
7 I get it, I wear a lot of hats. However,
8 as a person with a disability, I
9 represent over 50-plus percent of the
10 population who are renters in
11 Philadelphia. In addition to the -- I'm
12 sorry. In addition to that statistic, I
13 represent 16 percent of the disabled
14 population here in Philadelphia, for me
15 and a lot of people who look like me live
16 on a fixed income because of government
17 assistance such as SNAP benefits, cash
18 assistance, SSI, SSDI that is anywhere
19 between \$738 and \$1,200 a month. It
20 equals to about \$14,000 a year or less.
21 Most of the disability community lives on
22 18 percent of the average median income,
23 which is extremely low income. These
24 various government-funded income streams
25 are critical for people that look like

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2 me. Being a part of Philadelphia
3 Coalition for Affordable Communities is
4 something (inaudible). I believe the
5 saying goes there's strength in numbers.

6 For this tremendous amount of
7 support together, we have developed a
8 strong Philadelphia Housing Trust Fund.
9 I'm here to testify in favor for the Bill
10 200556. With this ordinance, it would
11 allow for the Philadelphia Housing Trust
12 Fund to receive a one percent tax on all
13 construction in Philadelphia. I'm in
14 favor of the tax because it allows for
15 development without displacement
16 throughout neighborhoods in Philadelphia.
17 This means that for every new structure
18 that is built, there will be -- the
19 Philadelphia Housing Trust Fund will
20 receive a one percent tax construction
21 cost. This newly generated fund will
22 allow for the Philadelphia Housing Trust
23 Fund the ability for accessible,
24 affordable, integrated housing. This is
25 an option for renters and the sale of

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2 housing units in Philadelphia -- to
3 Philadelphians who desire to become
4 homeowners.

5 The one percent construction
6 tax would also fund people that are dying
7 in nursing facilities. People that are
8 in nursing facilities are lacking the
9 resources needed to transition out into
10 the communities.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

12 Thank you. Mr. Lewis?

13 MR. LEWIS: People are in need
14 of home modifications and accessible
15 equipment that would allow them to gain
16 their independence and live in the
17 community.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

19 Mr. Lewis? Mr. Lewis?

20 MR. LEWIS: Yes.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: I'm
22 going to ask -- you have to kind of wrap
23 it up. Your time is gone. If you can
24 just wrap it up, please.

25 MR. LEWIS: I believe I was.

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2 This bill will basically allow
3 access for gaining that one percent tax
4 to have accessible, affordable,
5 integrated housing for people to
6 transition out of nursing facilities.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

8 Thank you. Thank you for your testimony,
9 sir. Appreciate you.

10 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
11 is Stephanie Biello.

12 COUNCIL SUPPORT: Chief Clerk,
13 the next three callers are not on the
14 line. However, we do have Reverend
15 Holston.

16 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
17 is Reverend Greg Holston.

18 REVEREND HOLSTON: Good
19 morning, Councilmembers.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
21 morning.

22 REVEREND HOLSTON: Again, my
23 name is Reverend Gregory Holston. I am
24 here as the Senior Advisor for the
25 District Attorney on Policy and Advocacy,

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2 and I'm reading a statement from him.

3 Good morning, Councilmembers.

4 I'm here today to stand in support of the
5 Black Worker Matter bill package, 200557,
6 200559, and 200563. I stand with you not
7 only because these bills are anti-poverty
8 measures, but they are also gun violence
9 prevention measures.

10 The DAO believes the best way
11 to fight for -- to fight crime is more
12 jobs, economic opportunity, education,
13 summer programs, building communities and
14 rec centers. We believe that the best
15 gun violence prevention measures are
16 measured that send tens of millions of
17 dollars back to the community each year
18 to build up the things that give youth
19 hope and make them believe that they have
20 a future. When you do those things over
21 time, they don't pick up guns. They
22 don't shoot each other.

23 It's not a coincidence the
24 highest levels of gun violence in our
25 city are in the poorest sections of

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2 Philadelphia. We are still the poorest
3 big city in this country with nearly
4 400,000 people living in poverty and
5 about 200,000 living in deep poverty. If
6 we reduce poverty, we reduce gun
7 violence.

8 The efforts of the movement for
9 change have taken workers as little as
10 \$2.50 an hour and have increased their
11 salary as much as \$15 to \$20 an hour. It
12 is during this COVID time that all of
13 these workers -- most of these workers
14 have suffered great job loss.

15 I applaud the sponsors,
16 Councilmembers Gym, Johnson, Thomas, and
17 co-sponsors Parker, Henon, Jones, Gilmore
18 Richardson, Brooks, Gauthier,
19 Quinones-Sanchez, and Clarke on these
20 bills and make a preemptive strike and
21 telling these financial institutions,
22 these hedge funds you can't undermine our
23 work here in the City of Philadelphia.

24 I thank you for your
25 determination to give hospitality workers

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2 hope, to give black people hope, to give
3 our communities hope by standing with
4 these workers to fight crime through
5 economic prosperity.

6 Thank you so much.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

8 Thank you for your testimony.

9 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
10 is Dominique Howell.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Ms.
12 Howell?

13 MS. HOWELL: Yes. I'm right
14 here. This is Dominique Howell
15 testifying on Bill No. 200556.

16 I was having to go to the
17 bathroom in the middle of our thing.

18 My name is Dominique Howell and
19 I am an Independent Living Specialist at
20 Liberty Resources, the Leading Center for
21 Independent Living in Philadelphia.
22 Liberty Resources is also a member of the
23 Philadelphia Coalition for Affordable
24 Communities. Liberty Resources has
25 existed for nearly four decades and is

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2 run by people with disabilities. We
3 advocate for people with disabilities to
4 have equal and affordable and accessible
5 housing in Philadelphia.

6 We have been working on making
7 the Housing Trust Fund one that meets our
8 city needs for over 20 years. We live in
9 a city where half of its residents are
10 renters, where 16 percent of people are
11 disabled, and many are on fixed incomes
12 making anywhere between 738 or 1,200 a
13 month. This equals to 14,000 a year or
14 less. As the population grows, they
15 continue to be underserved.

16 Our coalition and our members
17 continue to fight for affordable housing
18 for the broader population. We support
19 this bill because it would establish a
20 400 million bond to preserve and create
21 affordable housing. It also allows to
22 help consumers get out of the nursing
23 home and get safely into the community.
24 (Inaudible) of the affordable housing --
25 okay. So I'm just asking you all today

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2 to understand that in support of this
3 bill, it would provide accessible housing
4 and affordable housing units for all
5 Philadelphians that are underserved.

6 Thank you very much.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

8 Thank you so much for your testimony.

9 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
10 is Brendan Lynch.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
12 morning.

13 MR. LYNCH: Good morning. Yes.
14 Good morning, Chairman Clarke, members of
15 Council. My name is Brendan Lynch. I'm
16 an attorney with the Employment Unit at
17 Community Legal Services. I'm testifying
18 today to urge you to support Bill No.
19 200479 to amend the Fair Criminal Record
20 Screening Standards Ordinance.

21 In my work and my colleagues'
22 work, we've seen the need for
23 improvements to the law, and this bill --
24 this amendment would make two important
25 changes.

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2 Number one, it would expand the
3 law from covering only job applicants to
4 covering current employees. There are
5 many, many situations where people come
6 to us because they've been thrown out of
7 a job that they had already shown they
8 had the ability to do because a new
9 background check was done after they had
10 started the job. The current text of the
11 ordinance does not cover them, but with
12 this amendment, it would cover people in
13 that situation and, as they ought to,
14 would receive the same protections as
15 people applying initially to get a job.

16 The bill would also expand the
17 law to cover independent contractors and
18 gig workers. This is a huge and growing
19 sector of the economy for our fellow
20 Philadelphians, and many people are
21 finding that they are being excluded from
22 these jobs due to their records,
23 including old or minor records.

24 The Ban the Box ordinance, as
25 the ordinance is known, has always served

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2 to try to weed out some very common forms
3 of bias. First of all, the results of
4 the criminal justice system are not
5 neutral. They disproportionately affect
6 in particular black and the EEOC's
7 characterization is Hispanic (inaudible).
8 And there is also, of course, a
9 longstanding tendency of employers who
10 assume that someone who has a conviction
11 once convicted is always permanently more
12 of a risk to commit a crime in the future
13 than other people. In fact, repeated
14 studies have shown that that is not true,
15 that after a number of years without an
16 arrest, people are no more likely to
17 commit a crime than any other person off
18 the street.

19 And so this amendment will
20 ensure that that bias -- that those
21 biases are not used as excuses and
22 reasons to exclude our fellow citizens,
23 in particular citizens of color, from the
24 ever-expanding array of gig economy jobs
25 that so many of them are depending upon.

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2 Lastly, I just wanted to note
3 that we have not heard in the nine years
4 that Ban the Box has been the law in
5 Philadelphia, we haven't heard any
6 problems with the bill. If those people
7 who are concerned about the bill will
8 come forward with evidence of problems --
9 this amendment would be the third
10 amendment in nine years. There can be a
11 fourth, if necessary. If people come
12 forward with actual evidence that it's
13 causing problems, we certainly would not
14 want to see any concerns about safety or
15 employee suitability in Philadelphia, but
16 we have not heard those problems, and our
17 office is confident that we will not with
18 these amendments, and so we urge City
19 Council to adopt them.

20 Thank you.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

22 Thank you. Thank you for your testimony.

23 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
24 is Rashon Howard.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

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2 morning.

3 COUNCIL SUPPORT: Chief Clerk,
4 I'm not sure Rashon Howard is on the
5 line. I think Mr. Bennett is.

6 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
7 is Leonard Bennett.

8 (No response.)

9 CHIEF CLERK: Leonard Bennett.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
11 Mr. Bennett?

12 MR. BENNETT: On behalf of --
13 can you hear me?

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: We
15 hear you now, yes. Proceed. Just state
16 your name for the record and proceed with
17 your testimony.

18 MR. BENNETT: I am Leonard
19 Bennett, the Pennsylvania State Director
20 of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity,
21 Incorporated. On behalf of the
22 International President, Michael Cristal,
23 and the Eastern Regional Director, JR
24 Reeves, I would like to thank City
25 Council for considering this resolution.

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2 I appreciate the actions of
3 Councilmembers Katherine Gilmore
4 Richardson, Derek Green, Cherelle Parker,
5 and Kenyatta Johnson for this resolution,
6 recognizing and honoring and
7 congratulating Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity,
8 Incorporated on its 107th Founder's Day.

9 Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity was
10 founded at Howard University on January
11 9th, 1914 by Honorable A. Langston
12 Taylor, Leonard F. Morse, and Charles I.
13 Brown. This means Phi Beta Sigma, just
14 as our sister organization, Zeta Phi Beta
15 out of Philadelphia, is one of the
16 founding members. Founder Charles I.
17 Brown lived and worked in the
18 Philadelphia area until his death in
19 1981.

20 Our motto of culture for
21 service, service for humanity was
22 expressed by members that you might know
23 as Brother George Washington Carver; A.
24 Philip Randolph; John Lewis; Huey P.
25 Newton, co-founder of the Black Panther

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2 Party; James Weldon Johnson; fellow
3 Central High alum, Alain Leroy Locke, the
4 first African American Rhodes Scholar;
5 and currently Reverend Waller of Enon
6 Tabernacle; State Representative Jordan
7 Harris; Judge Virgil Walker of Montgomery
8 County; the Philadelphia Phillies Ryan
9 Howard. These are members of
10 Pennsylvania -- I mean, these are certain
11 members of Phi Beta Sigma that you might
12 know of.

13 So on behalf of all Sigmas in
14 the State of Pennsylvania, from Indiana
15 University, from Pennsylvania University,
16 from Pittsburgh, Temple, on behalf we
17 thank you for considering this resolution
18 of honoring our Founder's Day.

19 Thank you very much.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

21 Thank you for your testimony.

22 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
23 is Victoria Fernandez.

24 MS. FERNANDEZ: Yes.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

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2 morning. Just state your name for the
3 record and proceed with your testimony,
4 please.

5 MS. FERNANDEZ: My name is
6 Victoria Fernandez. I'm calling about
7 Bill 200366, the abatement bill. Council
8 should vote no on this bill. This bill
9 is destroying the City and losing -- yes.
10 I'm here. Victoria Fernandez. I'm
11 calling about Bill 200366, the abatement
12 bill.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Go
14 ahead.

15 MS. FERNANDEZ: To all vote no
16 on this bill. This bill is costing the
17 City millions of dollars. The only
18 people who should have an abatement is
19 who own their homes and have stayed in
20 the neighborhoods for 20, 30 years.

21 (Pause.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
23 Okay. Is that it, ma'am?

24 MS. FERNANDEZ: I'm here.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: We

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2 hear you.

3 MS. FERNANDEZ: Yes.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Is
5 that all? Okay. Thank you. Thank you
6 very much for your testimony.

7 MR. FERNANDEZ: I haven't
8 finished.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: I'm
10 waiting for you to conclude. Go ahead.
11 Go ahead.

12 MS. FERNANDEZ: If you can
13 afford to buy a home that costs a half a
14 million dollars or more, you can pay your
15 real estate taxes.

16 The money collected for
17 abatement can help two groups that this
18 Council seems to forget. One is the
19 children who go to school and, two,
20 seniors.

21 Stop catering to the affluent
22 and rich, and cater to the people who
23 vote you in office.

24 Thank you.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

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2 Thank you, ma'am. Thank you for your
3 testimony.

4 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
5 is Madeline Shikomba.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
7 morning.

8 (No response.)

9 CHIEF CLERK: Madeline
10 Shikomba.

11 MS. SHIKOMBA: Hello.

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

15 MS. SHIKOMBA: This is Madeline
16 Shikomba. I'm representing North of
17 Washington Avenue and I'm talking about
18 Bill No. 200366, the abatement bill.
19 Okay? Can I finish? Can I go on?

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Yes.
21 Go ahead.

22 MS. SHIKOMBA: I want the
23 people of Philadelphia to remember these
24 names. These are the City Council people
25 who are supporting this bill and are

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2 against the full funding of our education
3 for our children: Councilman Clarke,
4 Henon, Green, Bass, Quinones-Sanchez,
5 Parker, Oh, Johnson, Jones, and
6 Councilman Oh. They voted in committee
7 hearing to continue the gentrification of
8 our neighborhood, the continued
9 underfunding of our school, the
10 de-education of our children.

11 Today they lump all the bills
12 together, forcing members to ascend to
13 approval, even though many in committee
14 have expressed opposition to this bill.

15 Stop abatements and restore
16 full education funding to our schools.

17 We beg City Council not to pass
18 200366, and if it is passed, we beg the
19 Mayor to veto it. Stop destroying our
20 children mental development. Provide
21 good education, decent buildings --

22 Yes, I'm on the phone.

23 -- (continued) and teachers to
24 our children. Our children are entitled
25 to this.

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2 Hello?

3 And stop abating the full
4 funding of education. This is
5 predominantly composed of people of color
6 for the past 20 years who have supported
7 the abatement and underfunding
8 children -- the education of children,
9 who are predominantly children of color.

10 We beg the City to support our
11 children and the people of this city, who
12 are predominantly people of color. Our
13 schools are deteriorating. Our children
14 lack books and other needed supplies.
15 Teachers have to go into their pockets to
16 pay for it.

17 Many of the parents have been
18 withdrawing their kids from public
19 schools and placing them in charter
20 schools, and if they can afford it, they
21 put them in private schools.

22 COVID has added another layer
23 of destruction in our education, and yet
24 our City Council sit up there ready to
25 pass an abatement bill to further deny

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2 the education and money for our children.

3 In 2017, they passed the sugar
4 tax, putting an extra burden on the poor
5 to pay for pre-K education for their
6 children. Why? We have abatement money.
7 Many City Council members already
8 mentioned -- because in 2023, we need to
9 have an election year and we need to
10 throw these people out if they vote for
11 this bill.

12 We cannot have them continue to
13 de-educate our children and support
14 developers who are in the process of
15 gentrifying. Is that what City Council
16 is trying to do? Gentrify us out of our
17 homes and reduce the education of our
18 children?

19 The jobs that were created, our
20 children can't even afford to get because
21 they are undereducated and they do not
22 qualify. They only get the unskilled
23 jobs. And the only thing -- I go down to
24 where they have these school sites and
25 what they are taking. We need to stop

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2 this. Stop abatements now.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Thank you. Thank you for your testimony,
5 ma'am.

6 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
7 is Tiffany Green.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
9 morning.

10 MS. GREEN: Good morning.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Just
12 state your name for the record and
13 proceed with your testimony.

14 MS. GREEN: Hi. Tiffany Green.
15 I'm addressing Bill 200366 and Bill
16 200556.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Go
18 ahead.

19 MS. GREEN: Okay. I believe
20 that this bill, the abatement bill, this
21 is about favoring developers. Okay? And
22 you're really manipulating the community
23 with this, because the reality of it is,
24 if you go to -- I'd like the public to go
25 to Civic Design Review, which is taking

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2 place today. You have over eight
3 projects total over 3,551 residential
4 units coming in. We have one of these
5 held today at 1,100 market-rate units at
6 Broad and Washington Avenue. You have
7 another one at 1,100 on Hancock Street
8 for 1,100. We are being out-built at
9 this particular point.

10 Do you think that these
11 developers who are building large
12 developments like this should get a
13 ten-year tax abatement or should they get
14 one at all?

15 We're saying do not vote for
16 this. They're not talking about the
17 small developer. These are large
18 developers coming in, building 400 units,
19 300 units. Then you want to cover this
20 up with trickery with the one percent
21 construction tax.

22 We're being out-built. We need
23 an inclusionary bill. If you're going to
24 shop mixed-income housing to us, then
25 let's be mixed-income housing. If you're

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2 doing something for 1,100 units, then 400
3 should be for affordable units. Okay?

4 By the time we get that money
5 for construction tax, by the time you go
6 through the two-year process of trying to
7 build a house -- build affordable
8 housing, we will be out-built, and at
9 this point, we have more market rate than
10 we have affordable.

11 These bills are not where
12 they're at, and we ask you to vote no.
13 I'm asking Councilman Johnson for his
14 area to vote no and Councilman Oh. And
15 then when the Land Bank want to sell your
16 properties at 195,000 to 250,000 and call
17 if affordable, that's not affordable.
18 That is trickery, and this is
19 manipulation.

20 We've been down this road
21 before, Council President Clarke, and
22 every time you sell a sizzle and when you
23 pull back the curtains, we never get the
24 affordable housing that we say we're
25 going to get.

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2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 Thank you. Thank you for your testimony.

4 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
5 is Ronald Whitehorne.

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

9 MR. WHITEHORNE: My name is Ron
10 Whitehorne. I'm a member of 215 People's
11 Alliance and part of Our City Our Schools
12 coalition. I'm speaking on Bill No.
13 200366.

14 I'm a retired public school
15 teacher who spent my whole career
16 teaching at Julia de Burgos in the
17 Fairhill neighborhood, where I saw
18 firsthand the impact of
19 de-industrialization and systemic racism
20 on children and their families. I'm also
21 a parent of two children who went through
22 our public schools, a residential
23 property owner from the Lawncrest
24 neighborhood, and for decades an advocate
25 for equitable, fully resourced public

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2 schools.

3 For many years, I've been a
4 vocal opponent of the ten-year tax
5 abatement. There is no better symbol of
6 our city government's long-headed
7 priorities than this policy, which has
8 subsidized developers and rich people at
9 the expense of schools that serve mostly
10 black, brown, and poor children and
11 families.

12 This is certainly no less true
13 as we reel from the COVID virus and its
14 economic dislocations. Council must
15 reject the attempt to delay the reduction
16 of the residential abatement and should
17 instead press for the total elimination
18 of both the residential and commercial
19 abatement. The priority needs to be on
20 funding our schools, providing housing
21 for the homeless, and protection for
22 low-income renters and homeowners.

23 Certainly jobs, including
24 construction jobs, need to be a priority
25 as well, but this can be addressed by

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2 robust investment in public
3 infrastructure, in schools, green energy,
4 and affordable housing, investments that
5 will benefit working people. This is in
6 stark contrast to the model of economic
7 development embedded in the ten-year
8 abatement, subsidized corporations and
9 rich white people, and hope some will
10 trickle down to the rest of us. Please
11 vote no on Bill 200366.

12 Thank you.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

14 Thank you for your testimony.

15 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
16 is Hana Sabree.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
18 morning.

19 MS. SABREE: Good morning. I
20 am Hana Sabree and I'm a lifelong
21 resident of Philadelphia. I am
22 respectfully requesting you do not
23 sponsor or support abatement Bill 200366.
24 It represents the worst regard of the
25 common residents of Philadelphia. It is

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2 a slap in the face to my family members,
3 neighbors, the children of the City, and
4 myself, who are hard-working essential
5 workers and lifelong members of the
6 councilmanic districts you represent.

7 Bill 200366 does not empower or
8 support the children of our city, who
9 before COVID-19 went to school in
10 dilapidated and environmentally unsafe
11 structures. This bill does not empower
12 or support lifelong residents in
13 obtaining skilled laborer jobs to
14 contribute towards the City's tax base.
15 This bill assesses the privilege at a
16 lower tax rate and is not fair and
17 equitable to our constituencies. You
18 have -- those who voted you to support
19 them.

20 I respectfully ask that you do
21 not continue to pander and (inaudible)
22 service to the developers and privileged
23 newcomers. Lifelong residents do not
24 want no more developers and the newcomers
25 moving in, but we don't want less

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2 equality either.

3 I implore you, in the interest
4 of the many citizens of the City, to
5 unite together to fairly and equitably
6 support the hard-working common residents
7 who have supported you versus the
8 privileged few.

9 I'm asking particularly my
10 Councilperson, Curtis Jones, to not
11 support this bill, and I'm also
12 requesting that Cherelle Parker, Cindy
13 Bass, Maria Sanchez, Derek Oh -- David Oh
14 and Derek Green and Mark Squilla also not
15 support Bill 200366.

16 Thank you very much.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

18 Thank you for your testimony.

19 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
20 is Hannah Holliday.

21 MS. HOLLIDAY: My name is
22 Hannah Holliday and I'm a resident of
23 West Philadelphia and a former educator.
24 I'm speaking to you today to ask you all
25 to vote no on Bill 200366. This bill

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2 would delay reforms to the abatement
3 right at a time when we need funds the
4 most.

5 This past Wednesday, we learned
6 that federal COVID relief funds that
7 otherwise would have gone to the School
8 District of Philadelphia were denied to
9 us due to the republican-designed
10 distribution plan. Philly should have
11 received 30 million more federal dollars
12 of school funding. And then just last
13 week, teachers and staff members of the
14 School District received an e-mail
15 indicating that there could be layoffs in
16 the future. Board members have mentioned
17 school closures. Schools are not even
18 safe to have students and teachers back
19 in them.

20 In light of all that is going
21 on and all of the funds that we need and
22 have not yet received for our public
23 schools, the question I have for the
24 Council is if you will act to support
25 students and teachers over developers and

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2 corporations.

3 You have likely heard that
4 developers and corporations say starting
5 reforms now is harmful due to the
6 unexpected losses they have experienced
7 because of COVID. These are large
8 developers and corporations. So I would
9 ask what their profits were in previous
10 years and why they cannot draw from the
11 profits they have accrued over the years
12 of not having to pay taxes.

13 If this is the time for them to
14 pay to be in the city that they are in,
15 vote to reform the abatement now in 2021,
16 not later.

17 Thank you.

18 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
19 is Laverne Johnson.

20 COUNCIL SUPPORT: Chief Clerk,
21 we do not have Ms. Johnson on the phone.
22 We do have Calvin Williams.

23 MR. WILLIAMS: Hello.

24 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
25 is Calvin Williams.

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2 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes. Hello.

3 Can you hear me?

4 CHIEF CLERK: Yes, sir. Please
5 state your name for the record and
6 proceed with your testimony.

7 MR. WILLIAMS: My name is
8 Calvin Williams and I am speaking to the
9 overlay bill, No. 200613. I am a
10 70-year-old senior, 19121 zip code North
11 Philadelphia lifer, and a homeowner in
12 the 32nd Ward of Strawberry Mansion, and
13 I've been at this for three decades.

14 We are a city of neighborhoods.
15 Each neighborhood has a vision of who
16 they are and what they want to be. As a
17 legislative body, you are here because
18 the neighborhoods and the districts chose
19 you to help them fulfill the dreams of
20 what their communities can do to stay
21 safe and inviting. Collectively, you
22 have agreed to work as a body to do for
23 them and the rest of the City.

24 East Park and West Park are the
25 front yards of all of Strawberry Mansion.

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2 With the facing historical significance
3 in houses on North 33rd Street and the
4 architectural and cultural heritage in
5 the back streets, we are poised to take
6 our place among the neighborhoods as a
7 destination for naturalists, recreation
8 bus, and tours. The shops, cafes, and
9 businesses will follow. This has always
10 been the vision that we've had of
11 ourselves.

12 Now, we remember the large
13 billboards posted in Brewerytown by
14 developers announcing boldly, it's our
15 turn now, referring to the new arrivals
16 to the North Philadelphia neighborhood.
17 I say to you, we never got our turn to
18 rebuild our community.

19 Now, the Philadelphia City
20 Planning Commission gives the
21 recommendation for you to move this bill
22 forward. Thank you for them. In the
23 neighborhoods, community organizing and
24 the power of the vote are the only
25 weapons we have to protect ourself

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2 against those we perceive would do us
3 harm. We gave you our vote. From time
4 to time, you are required to give it
5 back. Please use that vote for the good
6 residents of Strawberry Mansion and all
7 communities wishing to plot their own
8 destiny.

9 I am urging you to move this
10 bill forward and vote in favor of Bill
11 No. 200613.

12 Thank you. God bless you, and
13 be safe.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
15 Thank you for your testimony, sir.

16 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
17 is Marcos Lomeli.

18 MR. LOMELI: Yes. Good
19 morning. Can you hear me okay?

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Yes.
21 Just state your name for the record and
22 proceed with your testimony, please.

23 MR. LOMELI: Thank you. My
24 name is Marcos Lomeli. I'm a Program
25 Coordinator at Ceiba, an organization

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2 serving the Latino community here in
3 Philadelphia. I'm testifying on Bill
4 200556 and 200573, if that's all right
5 with you, Council.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
7 Please do.

8 MR. LOMELI: Thank you. We're
9 asking you to -- I'll try to keep my
10 remarks brief. We're asking you to pass
11 200556, the one percent construction
12 impact tax, as it will infuse our Housing
13 Trust Fund with millions of dollars that
14 our community desperately needs for
15 development of affordable housing.

16 We know that the economic
17 impact of this pandemic will be felt by
18 our most vulnerable communities for many
19 years. It will be a long time before our
20 city recovers economically, but this bill
21 and the infusion of cash into the Housing
22 Trust Fund will help cushion the impact
23 for our city's low-wage workers, seniors
24 living in unsafe conditions, and
25 moderate-income families that want to

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2 stay in the City and pay their fair share
3 of property and wage tax.

4 A strong affordable housing
5 market makes for a healthy city. So
6 we're thankful for the Council's
7 commitment to helping ensure that our
8 people can afford to live here, and we
9 see this impact tax as an important part
10 of that effort. So we're asking you to
11 pass that bill.

12 That was the good. Now the not
13 so good. We are asking you to not pass
14 Bill 200573. In particular, we are
15 concerned that the language on the bill,
16 by specifically singling out the,
17 quote/unquote, misclassification of
18 workers as one of the causes of unpaid
19 employer wage tax and, therefore, one of
20 the barriers to various tax exemptions,
21 this language unfairly targets
22 unauthorized users for exclusion from
23 jobs that they already hold and from
24 economic opportunity.

25 We sympathize and agree with

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the Council's effort to combat the scourge of non-taxpaying developers who are making big bucks at the expense of our city. However, this bill would have the unintended effects of scapegoating immigrant workers. Contrary to popular belief, these folks contribute mightily to the City's well-being. Since 2006, Ceiba alone -- and we're a small organization -- has helped prepare more than 2,000 tax returns for taxpayers with ITINs, resulting in millions of dollars paid in federal, state, and local income taxes. These folks are more than willing to pay their fair share, even when they are being paid cash or as independent contractors, because it is the right thing to do.

Please reconsider the wording of this bill.

Thank you for your attention.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

Thank you so much for your testimony.

CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker

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2 is Diane Wilson.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
4 morning.

5 MS. WILSON: Diane Wilson. I
6 am the State Director for the
7 Commonwealth of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority,
8 Incorporated. On behalf of our
9 International President, Regional
10 Director, the members of the Commonwealth
11 of Pennsylvania, and especially all of
12 the members in Philadelphia, I come to
13 speak on behalf of Resolution 200685, the
14 resolution recognizing, honoring, and
15 congratulating Zeta Phi Beta Sorority,
16 Incorporated on its 101st Founder's Day.

17 You can read the history and
18 accomplishments of our organization as
19 expressed in the resolution, but I am an
20 educator by trade, so I'm naturally
21 inquisitive. So I ask myself, what is so
22 special about the number 101. Well, in
23 college, 101 represents beginning in any
24 area. 101 courses teach all the basic
25 principles and concepts that are expected

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2 in a particular field. Just like the 101
3 courses, Zeta has stayed true to our
4 basic principles of scholarship, service,
5 sisterhood, and finer womanhood.

6 In mathematics, 101 is the 26th
7 prime number. As we all remember from
8 elementary school, prime numbers are
9 natural numbers that cannot be broken
10 down into small numbers. Just like prime
11 numbers, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority,
12 Incorporated has stood strong and never
13 broken through depression, Jim Crow,
14 segregation, and today's racial unrest.

15 In English, 101 is a
16 palindrome, which means it reads the same
17 backwards as forward. Zeta Phi Beta
18 Sorority, Incorporated holds onto our
19 traditions, our history. We hold our
20 past, our founders, our accomplishments,
21 our firsts while pressing forward and
22 blazing new paths.

23 On January 16th, 2021, Zeta Phi
24 Beta Sorority, Incorporated will
25 celebrate 101 years of embracing

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2 scholarships, providing true service,
3 setting a standard for sisterly love, and
4 maintaining the image of a finer woman.
5 That's 101 years of staying true to our
6 basic principles, 101 years of standing
7 strong, 101 years of honoring our past
8 while blazing new paths. And as the poet
9 Sam Walter Foss said in his poem The
10 House by the Side of the Road, we have
11 spent 101 years in our house by the side
12 of the road being a friend to man.

13 Thank you.

14 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank you
15 so very much for your testimony, and I'm
16 looking at your sorer, Councilwoman
17 Katherine Gilmore Richardson, and she was
18 just beaming with pride. So thank you
19 for your testimony.

20 Mr. Decker, please call the
21 next witness.

22 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
23 is Dana Moore.

24 MS. MOORE: Good morning. My
25 name is Dana Moore. I am the President

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2 of the Beta Delta Zeta Chapter, the
3 Philadelphia Graduate Chapter of Zeta Phi
4 Beta Sorority, Incorporated. I speak in
5 support of Resolution No. 200685.

6 I come before you this morning
7 speaking on behalf of the women who
8 continue to honor our principle founder
9 who chartered our illustrious
10 organization 101 years ago, and she
11 chartered the Philadelphia Graduate
12 Chapter 76 years ago on the principles of
13 scholarship, service, sisterhood, and
14 finer womanhood.

15 This resolution celebrates the
16 partnership of Beta Delta Zeta Chapter
17 with the City of Philadelphia as we
18 continue to honor our principle founder
19 and solidify her wish for an organization
20 to thrive and make an impact in all
21 communities around the globe.

22 The Philadelphia Graduate
23 Chapter makes its impact with ownership
24 of Founder Stemons' home in the South
25 Philadelphia community, the distribution

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2 of over \$2,000 in scholarships annually
3 to local students, and working with
4 various members of City Council on social
5 action and service initiatives.

6 The Philadelphia Graduate
7 Chapter wishes to thank our sorer,
8 Katherine Gilmore Richardson, sponsor of
9 this bill; our Councilman Kenyatta
10 Johnson; Councilmembers Derek Green and
11 Cherelle Parker, co-sponsors, and all
12 members of Council for allowing us to be
13 a service to your constituents and for
14 consideration of this resolution.

15 Thank you.

16 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank you
17 for your testimony.

18 Please call the next witness,
19 Mr. Decker.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Stefan Zajic.

21 COUNCIL SUPPORT: Chief Clerk,
22 Stefan Zajic and Meghan Swyryn are not on
23 the line. However, Rashon Howard is.

24 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
25 is Rashon Howard.

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2 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Hello.

3 Mr. Howard, are you connected?

4 MR. HOWARD: Good morning.

5 Good morning. Yes, I am.

6 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Good.

7 Thank you. Please state your name for
8 the record and proceed with your
9 testimony.

10 MR. HOWARD: My name is Rashon
11 Howard and I am the President of Mu Sigma
12 Chapter, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity,
13 Incorporated, and I am here today
14 speaking on behalf of Resolution 200684.
15 I'm also speaking on behalf of
16 International President, of 27th Regional
17 Director, and the State Director of the
18 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and all of
19 our brothers of Phi Beta Sigma as the
20 resolution celebrates the 107 years of
21 Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated,
22 a fraternity that has built and made
23 great men like Honorable John Lewis and
24 the late Honorable Elijah Cummings, a
25 fraternity of service that continues to

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2 help and lead the way to ensure that we
3 are able to bring great gratitude to our
4 community.

5 Again, I speak in support of
6 Resolution 200684.

7 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
8 you. Thank you so much for your
9 testimony.

10 Mr. Decker, please call the
11 next witness.

12 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
13 is Daniel Trubman.

14 MR. TRUBMAN: Hi. Can you hear
15 me?

16 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Yes, we
17 can hear you, Daniel. Just state your
18 name for the record and proceed with your
19 testimony.

20 MR. TRUBMAN: Thank you. My
21 name is Daniel Trubman, T-R-U-B-M-A-N,
22 and I'm calling today to testify against
23 200613, the overlay legislation for
24 Strawberry Mansion.

25 I thought my colleague Ben She

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2 made a lot of great points, but I just
3 wanted to testify and reiterate two
4 points. The first being a conservation
5 district by definition should focus on
6 maintaining what already exists and
7 emphasize continuity, but when we look at
8 the micro management requirements of this
9 new NCO, well, we see that their
10 requirements are so strict that scores
11 and scores of houses within the district
12 would actually not meet those
13 requirements. So I would ask Council
14 what does continuity really mean if many
15 of the houses within the district would
16 not actually meet those requirements?

17 This isn't about continuity but
18 actually forcing new requirements. There
19 are scores of buildings that would not
20 meet because they don't have porches or
21 they have the wrong type of porches or
22 their houses are slightly too high or
23 they have slightly the wrong kind of
24 materials. So this isn't really a
25 conservation district. This is just a

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2 down-zoning bill, which gets me to my
3 other point.

4 I would ask Council to realize
5 that the best way the City can set these
6 development standards is through a
7 citywide process through the
8 Comprehensive Plan. I think that we're
9 beginning the process between this bill
10 and with the Society Hill bill a few
11 weeks ago where we're going to have
12 neighborhood by neighborhood spot
13 rezoning, and I think it's a horrible
14 process. It's not nearly as democratic
15 as setting policy at the citywide level,
16 and I'm afraid it's going to lead to a
17 cycle where each neighborhood attempts to
18 get a different form of down-zoning,
19 which will only exacerbate the citywide
20 affordability issue.

21 So I hope City Council would
22 consider tabling this bill and taking
23 another look at it, and if not, I would
24 hope Mayor Kenney would veto it.

25 Thank you.

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2 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank you
3 so much for your testimony.

4 Mr. Decker, can you please call
5 the next witness.

6 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
7 is Max Tuttleman.

8 COUNCIL SUPPORT: Chief Clerk,
9 Mr. Tuttleman is not on the line and
10 Leonard Bonarek is not on the line, but
11 we do have Jihad Ali.

12 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
13 is Jihad Ali.

14 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Mr. Ali,
15 are you connected?

16 MR. ALI: Yes, I am,
17 Councilwoman.

18 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
19 you. State your name for the record and
20 proceed with your testimony.

21 MR. ALI: My name is Jihad Ali.
22 I want to give testimony on Bill 200613.
23 I'm asking Council to support -- approve
24 this bill. I support the Council
25 President in presenting this bill.

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2 I'd like to acknowledge the
3 hard work of the Strawberry Mansion
4 Council in putting this coalition and
5 bringing this bill forward. As some of
6 the neighbors have testified, this has
7 been an ongoing fight to maintain this
8 area. This is one of the hardest hit
9 areas impacted by gentrification. We
10 never mentioned that. So I think that
11 this is a great step in the right
12 direction. This is one of several --
13 once this is passed, this will be one of
14 several overlay districts throughout
15 Philadelphia, but I think this is the
16 first one in an African American
17 predominantly community.

18 So I would ask all you
19 Councilmembers to support the Council
20 President and respect the people in the
21 neighborhood.

22 I'd also like to testify on
23 Bill No. 200556 on the one percent tax.
24 I think that's a great bill. I think it
25 will do a lot to increase the aggressive

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2 expansion of opportunities for minority
3 workers and business. I think it will do
4 thousands of units of affordable housing.
5 I think the caution is that we make --
6 like you said, Councilwoman Parker, we
7 can't wait for other people to do
8 anything for us. We have to do it for
9 ourself, but we also have to ensure that
10 we're protected and we receive the
11 benefit from this stuff. Too often even
12 you as Council, you make the assumption
13 that all the work go to workers from
14 Philadelphia unions, union workers of
15 Philadelphia, but that's not the case.
16 We found out it's predominantly outside
17 the area.

18 So we need to make sure that
19 Philadelphians participate in this and
20 particularly African Americans
21 participate, including African American
22 developers.

23 Thank you for allowing me to
24 speak.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

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2 Thank you. Thank you for your testimony.

3 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
4 is Bonita Cummings.

5 MS. CUMMINGS: Hello.

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

9 MS. CUMMINGS: My name is
10 Bonita Cummings and I am the Director of
11 Strawberry Mansion Community Concerns
12 testifying on Bill No. 200613.

13 Conservatives support
14 Strawberry Mansion's stance and our
15 concerns. I would like this body to
16 listen to the following context:

17 In 1988, Elliot Jaspin, author
18 of the book Buried in the Bitter Waters:
19 The Hidden History of Racial Cleansing in
20 America, was visiting Berryville,
21 Arkansas when he realized that after
22 several days of being there, he had not
23 seen one African American. While touring
24 about and visiting the towns and museums,
25 Jaspin came upon the will of a farmer who

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2 owned slaves during the period right
3 before the Civil War. Wedged in between
4 the lines for livestock and land were
5 five slaves to be given away. Surely
6 this was an indication that there should
7 be a present-day black or African
8 American population in that town.
9 However, there were no black people in
10 sight.

11 Mr. Jaspin left that museum
12 with several nagging questions. Were
13 black people still living in this town?
14 And if not, then when they did leave and
15 why? By learning the history, he
16 uncovered that this quiet campaign of
17 racial cleansing leading to the expulsion
18 of African Americans from certain
19 geographical areas were swift and in many
20 cases took no more than 24 hours to
21 eliminate an entire black population.

22 Now, let's fast forward to 2020
23 and examine the modern-day tools that
24 have been quietly utilized to implement
25 racial cleansing all over the City of

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2 Philadelphia. Through a new Zoning Code
3 that disproportionately favored
4 developers and their consistent skirting
5 of by-right building laws, the larger
6 Hispanic and African American populations
7 have been driven from Spring Garden,
8 Francisville, North Central, and
9 Brewerytown, and now Strawberry Mansion
10 is under siege.

11 So the question remains, will
12 this body of City Council support the
13 residents of Strawberry Mansion with not
14 only being allowed to have a voice and
15 shapen their own communities but also in
16 not allowing the process of racial
17 cleansing to start sprouting its roots in
18 this historical area?

19 If gone unchecked, the African
20 American population of Strawberry Mansion
21 will have declined by 50 to 60 percent in
22 a few short years under the guise of
23 development. The process of by-right
24 expulsion of residential direct racial
25 cleansing of neighborhoods must stop, and

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2 this bill does a good job of addressing
3 and negating some of the strategies and
4 taxes that are consistently being used to
5 effect forced migration and racial
6 cleansing. So we appreciate your support
7 of Bill No. 200613.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

9 Thank you for your testimony.

10 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
11 is Tonnetta Graham.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
13 morning.

14 MS. GRAHAM: Good morning. My
15 name is Tonnetta Graham and I'm here to
16 speak on Bill No. 200613.

17 Strawberry Mansion is an
18 established African American
19 neighborhood, rich in history, culture,
20 and a notable variety of housing stock.
21 From our picturesque porch-lined blocks
22 to rows of brownstones to blocks sprawled
23 with two- and three-story homes, all made
24 with brick and masonry and ornate
25 cornices, Strawberry Mansion's mixture of

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2 houses truly define the character of the
3 neighborhood.

4 Today, that character is
5 currently under assault with the by-right
6 zoning options that afford developers the
7 right to build with little to no input
8 from the community. As the Strawberry
9 Mansion Community Development Corporation
10 aims to preserve our neighborhood and
11 what we know as Strawberry Mansion, we
12 worked diligently with a coalition of
13 block captains, RCOs, long-term concerned
14 residents, and community-based
15 organizations to seek relief to preserve
16 the character of our community. We
17 thoroughly researched overlays from
18 various Philadelphia communities, drafted
19 this legislation, and worked with the
20 Planning Commission and Council President
21 Clarke to ensure its legality and to
22 solidify our voice in the preservation
23 and continuity of our neighbors' housing
24 stock.

25 It's imperative that the

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2 by-right plans of developers, who have
3 admittedly devised neighborhood plans
4 without the neighborhood, be disrupted
5 now.

6 We did the work. Now we ask
7 for your support to strengthen our voice
8 by passing the Strawberry Mansion NCO
9 Bill No. 200613.

10 Thank you, Councilwoman Parker,
11 for introducing this bill on behalf of
12 City Council President Darrell Clarke,
13 who we especially thank for his
14 commitment to honoring our work and
15 supporting our goals to preserve
16 Strawberry Mansion as we know it. I ask
17 that all of City Council members join
18 them and vote to pass this bill.

19 Thank you.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

21 Thank you for your testimony.

22 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
23 is Teresa Redmond.

24 MS. REDMOND: Good afternoon,
25 Council. I'm calling in support of

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2 Resolution 200683 for your support in
3 requesting that the Archdiocese of
4 Philadelphia speak with the board and
5 alumni as well as even families and all
6 stakeholders regarding the recent
7 announcement of closures of John W.
8 Hallahan Catholic Girls High School and
9 Bishop McDevitt High School.

10 During the time of COVID, it is
11 a disgrace for the Archdiocese to make
12 these decisions without consultation from
13 those in the school community. I ask
14 that you support this bill which has been
15 brought forth by Councilwoman Richardson
16 and all supporters because we need to
17 support our students, as this impacts the
18 students of Philadelphia, especially the
19 Northwest region in reference to Bishop
20 McDevitt as well as other areas of
21 Philadelphia in reference to Hallahan.

22 Thank you.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

24 Thank you for your testimony.

25 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker

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2 is Paula Sahm.

3 MS. SAHM: Hi. I am calling in
4 regards to Bill No. 200683.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
6 Yeah. Just state your name for the
7 record, please, and then proceed.

8 MS. SAHM: Oh, I'm sorry.
9 Paula Sahm.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Go
11 ahead.

12 MS. SAHM: I am a proud board
13 member and a proud alum of 1987. My
14 Catholic education continued from
15 Bachelor's, Master's, and Ph.D. in all
16 Catholic universities. My daughter is a
17 graduate of the Class of 2010 and is also
18 working on her Ph.D. in engineering.

19 My daughter and I were able to
20 increase our level of education due to
21 Hallahan's educational foundation.
22 Hallahan has always offered a stellar
23 education. My daughter received \$450,000
24 worth of scholarships for her endeavors.
25 As a single mother, I could have never

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2 afforded the universities my daughter
3 attended. It was because of Hallahan
4 that my daughter felt the sisterhood that
5 she could focus on her studies.

6 My daughter chose Hallahan due
7 to the diversity. The middle class
8 all-girls school has given myself and my
9 daughter opportunities that we would have
10 never had before.

11 Faith in the Future, who did
12 the study, who is working with the
13 Archdiocese of Philadelphia, they are
14 overwhelmingly male and Caucasian. They
15 do not look like the women they abandoned
16 and cast aside. In the midst of a
17 national reckoning on race and gender
18 equity, the Archdiocese has made a
19 tone-deaf decision to cut off an
20 accessible all-girls educational option
21 which attracts girls of every race,
22 socioeconomic status, ethnicity, and
23 creed in the heart of Philadelphia. They
24 made a game-changing decision that will
25 forever alter the educational landscape

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2 of Philadelphia in a vacuum, absent of a
3 single meeting with the leadership of
4 Hallahan, City leaders or the very
5 students and parents adversely affected
6 by their decision.

7 While the City of Philadelphia
8 and the School District are taking
9 monumental steps forward in racial and
10 gender equity, Faith in the Future and
11 the Archdiocese are taking ten steps back
12 by closing the first all-girls school in
13 the United States and the heart of
14 Philadelphia.

15 Thank you.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
17 Thank you. Thank you for your testimony.

18 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
19 is Zoe Kelly.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
21 morning -- good afternoon.

22 MS. KELLY: I'm Zoe Kelly.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Go
24 ahead.

25 MS. KELLY: Sorry. I'm Zoe

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2 Kelly. I'm here for Resolution 200683.

3 I'm a senior at John W. Hallahan and also
4 Student Council Class President.

5 Hallahan was the first Catholic
6 school in the country and has been a
7 second home for girls all across the City
8 of Philadelphia for over a hundred years.
9 The school is a melting pot of diversity
10 and does not deserve to be shut down.

11 I'm the first person in my
12 family to go to Catholic school, and it's
13 an immense struggle to send your kids to
14 have a Catholic education. Faith in the
15 Future is tearing apart a family from its
16 building that has been here way longer
17 than any of the buildings or skyscrapers
18 that you see in Philadelphia.

19 I'm here to please say that you
20 can please reconsider closing our school.
21 The family that we have here, you will
22 never be able to understand, to be able
23 to walk through the halls of Hallahan and
24 be with your sisters.

25 Please reconsider for

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2 Resolution 200683.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Thank you. Thank you for your testimony.

5 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
6 is Kimberly Taylor-Benns.

7 DR. TAYLOR-BENNS: Good
8 morning.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
10 morning. State your name for the record.

11 DR. TAYLOR-BENNS: Good
12 morning. My name is Dr. Kimberly
13 Taylor-Benns, Class of 1980. I'm
14 speaking in support of Bill 200683.

15 I am a lifelong resident of
16 Philadelphia and a proud alum of John W.
17 Hallahan. I cannot stress the impact
18 that my Hallahan education has had on my
19 life and the lives of over 40,000 women
20 from every zip code in the City of
21 Philadelphia for more than 120 years.

22 Hallahan continues its
23 tradition of educating women. Alumni of
24 this great institution leave with a solid
25 christian foundation grounded in faith,

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2 so necessary in these unprecedented
3 times, opportunity for social mobility.
4 John W. Hallahan prepares women to enter
5 higher education with scholarships or
6 careers, fully armed for success,
7 empowered to change locally, nationally
8 or global issues.

9 My career spans 35-plus years
10 in higher education. I currently provide
11 access and affordability to higher
12 education at Lincoln University. I owe
13 part of my success to the solid
14 foundation of a christian education
15 generally and John W. Hallahan
16 specifically.

17 Therefore, I am in full support
18 of Resolution 200683 to keep John W.
19 Hallahan Catholic Girls High School open.
20 I want to thank sorer Councilwoman
21 Gilmore Richardson and Councilwoman
22 Cherelle Parker for sponsoring this bill
23 and all of City Council for your support
24 in our efforts.

25 Thank you.

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2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 Thank you so much for your testimony.

4 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
5 is Mary Beth Driscoll.

6 MS. DRISCOLL: Hello.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
8 Hello.

9 MS. DRISCOLL: Council
10 President Clarke and Councilmembers, my
11 name is Mary Beth Driscoll and I am
12 speaking in support of Resolution 200683.
13 We very much appreciate Councilwoman
14 Richardson's sponsorship and all of your
15 support.

16 I'm a proud alum and I've
17 served on the board of Bishop McDevitt
18 for nine years. We, the board, and the
19 entire school community were shocked by
20 the sudden announcement by the
21 Archdiocese of Philadelphia and Faith in
22 the Future Foundation. We were
23 completely blind-sided, and there was
24 zero transparency in this process. They
25 say they conducted a study and there is

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2 data and a report, and they refused to
3 share it. Why? What are they hiding?

4 McDevitt's diverse student base
5 is proudly over 70 percent black and
6 brown and from Philadelphia. The
7 consequences of closing McDevitt and
8 Hallahan will be devastating to the
9 community, the students, and the
10 families, many of whom are your
11 constituents.

12 We ask Archbishop Perez, the
13 Archdiocese of Philadelphia, and Faith in
14 the Future to reverse this wrongheaded
15 and shortsighted decision. Because we
16 all have to ask, which Catholic high
17 school is next?

18 Again, we appreciate Council's
19 support of this extremely important
20 Resolution 200683.

21 Thank you.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
23 Thank you for your testimony.

24 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
25 is Carly Monahan.

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2 MS. MONAHAN: Hi. My name is
3 Carly Monahan, a proud member of the
4 Class of 2022 at John W. Hallahan. Thank
5 you for hearing me out today and
6 especially thank you to Councilwoman
7 Katherine Gilmore Richardson for bringing
8 Resolution 200683 before you.

9 I'm involved with a variety of
10 different clubs and activities. I am a
11 part of the Golf team, where we won the
12 PCL and the District Title in 2018; the
13 Cheer team; the Book and Film Club; and
14 Ambassadors, where we work together as a
15 community to bring girls to our amazing
16 school.

17 My proudest achievement at John
18 W. Hallahan is being one of the pilot
19 students for the Hundred Step program.
20 The joint program with the Community
21 College of Philadelphia allows me, as
22 well as eight of my peers in the junior
23 class, to graduate Hallahan with our
24 Associate's degree in hand. By taking
25 away our school, you are not only

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2 separating our family but making us lose
3 out on an amazing opportunity for
4 multiple students now but for more
5 students to come. By not graduating from
6 Hallahan, me and other CCP girls will not
7 be able to complete the program and
8 obtain our Associate's degree that we
9 have worked so hard to earn. We are just
10 a couple of credits away from graduation,
11 and this can't be the end.

12 You are making this hard for
13 everyone, especially the junior class.
14 You are erasing everything we have worked
15 so hard for in the past three years. We
16 have evolved to proper young women, and
17 you are now closing the doors to a world
18 of tradition and sisterhood.

19 Our traditions date all the way
20 back to 1950 when Walt Disney himself
21 wrote a letter giving us permission to
22 use Mickey Mouse as our mascot. In 1969,
23 the first ever iconic fountain jump was
24 born. We also have an amazing Hallahan
25 Day that continues to grow every year and

1 12/10/20 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 brightens up the atmosphere.

3 Hallahan is a family that
4 continues to grow. (Inaudible) will be
5 able to follow in my footsteps and make
6 Mickey proud.

7 Thank you.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

9 Thank you for your testimony.

10 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
11 is Tim Speice.

12 MR. SPEICE: Yes. Good
13 afternoon. Good morning. My name is Tim
14 Speice, as cited. I am the Board Chair
15 of Bishop McDevitt High School and have
16 served in this capacity for nearly 30
17 years.

18 As Mary Beth pointed out, this
19 announcement by the Archdiocese was very
20 sudden, abrupt, unexpected, and also
21 occurred as we were in the process -- we
22 had just concluded bringing on an
23 additional nine board members to help
24 manage and run our school and to bring it
25 forward, which gave us a full complement

1 12/10/20 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 of nearly 19 board members.

3 We serve a very diverse
4 community. Many of you in the room
5 represent certainly the City of
6 Philadelphia, but you have relationships
7 in Cheltenham Township, probably Abington
8 Township. We draw a large number of
9 students from the Philadelphia area,
10 specifically in the Northwest area.

11 Our school has been in
12 existence in the community since 1958,
13 which represents 62 years of educating
14 families, children of faith, and we view
15 that as our mission, and we want to
16 continue that mission.

17 We also recognize Hallahan here
18 with us today, John W. Hallahan. They've
19 been in existence for 120 years. These
20 two schools collectively have nearly 200
21 years of service and want to continue as
22 such.

23 A couple of other points.
24 We've invested much in our school. We
25 have a functioning science lab, STEM lab.

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We've done a lot to invest in the curriculum. We're also looking at a joint venture presently as a part of the announcement with Arcadia University, and we are looking for time to reinvigorate the school. We do want to be increasing enrollment, and considering those factors, very disappointed that the Archdiocese chose at this time of year, in the midst of a COVID epidemic, with really little ability to rally our school community and very, very concerned why they do not want to hear the reason we're asking now for our continuance, and we would certainly request that City Council bring whatever resources they have to bear on the Archdiocese and on any additional governing bodies connected to the Office of Catholic Education to, at a minimum, hear our plans for the future, to sustain our school, to continue to deliver academic programs, and to support the community we serve, which includes residents of the City of Philadelphia.

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2 We thank you.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Thank you for your testimony.

5 CHIEF CLERK: There are no
6 other speakers on the public comment
7 list, Mr. President.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

9 Thank you very much, Mr. Decker.

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

22 The Clerk will now read the
23 titles of the resolutions on the
24 Resolution Consent Agenda.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Resolution No.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA

2 200679, entitled a "Resolution
3 recognizing, congratulating, and honoring
4 State Representative Joanna McClinton
5 (191st State House District) on being
6 elected by her peers to serve as the
7 Democratic Caucus Leader, making her the
8 House Minority Leader, as well as the
9 first woman of any race or ethnicity to
10 serve in this capacity in the General
11 Assembly"; and

12 Resolution No. 200680, entitled
13 a "Resolution declaring each Friday in
14 December of 2020 as 'Shop Black Business
15 Friday' in the City of Philadelphia"; and

16 Resolution No. 200682, entitled
17 a "Resolution approving the appointment
18 of Ismail Shahid as a member of the Board
19 of Commissioners of the Philadelphia
20 Housing Authority"; and

21 Resolution No. 200684, entitled
22 a "Resolution recognizing, honoring and
23 congratulating Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity,
24 Incorporated on its 107th Founder's Day";
25 and

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2 Resolution No. 200685, entitled
3 a "Resolution recognizing, honoring and
4 congratulating Zeta Phi Beta Sorority,
5 Incorporated on its 101st Founder's Day";
6 and

7 Resolution No. 200686, entitled
8 a "Resolution honoring the life and
9 legacy of Philadelphia labor leader James
10 Moran"; and

11 Resolution No. 200689, entitled
12 a "Resolution approving the redevelopment
13 contract of the Philadelphia
14 Redevelopment Authority for the
15 redevelopment and urban renewal of a
16 portion of the West Parkside Urban
17 Renewal Area, identified by house number
18 and street address as 1728 North
19 Fifty-First Street"; and

20 Resolution No. 200691, entitled
21 a "Resolution also naming 24th Street,
22 between Wharton and Reed Streets,
23 'Dorothy Allen Way,' to honor the life
24 and legacy of Dorothy D. Allen"; and

25 Resolution No. 200692, entitled

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2 a "Resolution also naming the 1800 block
3 of Wharton Street as 'Walter P. Lomax,
4 Jr., M.D. Way' to recognize, honor, and
5 celebrate Dr. Walter P. Lomax, Jr. for
6 his leadership, dedication, philanthropy,
7 and support of Black Philadelphians"; and

8 Resolution No. 200693, entitled
9 a "Resolution also naming the 3200 block
10 of Reed Street 'Irene Russell Way' to
11 recognize, honor, and celebrate the life
12 and legacy of Irene Russell and her
13 dedication to the Grays Ferry
14 neighborhood"; and

15 Resolution No. 200694, entitled
16 a "Resolution also naming the 1300 block
17 of South Capitol Street 'Mamie Nichols
18 Way' to recognize, honor, and celebrate
19 the legacy of Mamie Nichols and her
20 dedication to the people of Point
21 Breeze"; and

22 Resolution No. 200695, entitled
23 a "Resolution also naming the 2100 block
24 of Federal Street 'Claudia Sherrod Way,'
25 to honor the legacy of Claudia Sherrod";

1 12/10/20 - STATED - RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA

2 and

3 Resolution No. 200696, entitled
4 a "Resolution also naming the 1800 block
5 of South 20th Street 'Terrance Carpenter
6 Way,' to honor the life and legacy of
7 Terrance 'Terry' Carpenter"; and

8 Resolution No. 200697, entitled
9 a "Resolution also naming the 1500 block
10 of Fitzwater Street 'United Supreme
11 Council Way' to recognize the United
12 Supreme Council, Ancient and Accepted
13 Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Prince Hall
14 Affiliation, Northern Jurisdiction, USA,
15 Incorporated, for their long track record
16 of charitable works in Philadelphia"; and

17 Resolution No. 200700, entitled
18 a "Resolution also naming the 3600 block
19 of Haverford Avenue 'Reverend Dr. Andy
20 Jenkins Way' to recognize, honor and
21 celebrate the life and legacy of Reverend
22 Dr. Andy Jenkins for his dedication and
23 service to the Mantua community and the
24 City of Philadelphia"; and

25 Resolution No. 200701, entitled

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2 a "Resolution honoring and congratulating
3 the Roman Catholic High School Mock Trial
4 team, on their successful 2019-2020
5 season and the City Title in
6 Philadelphia"; and

7 Resolution No. 200702, entitled
8 a "Resolution also naming Reed Street
9 between 12th Street and 13th Street as
10 'Mario Lanza Way'"; and

11 Resolution No. 200703, entitled
12 a "Resolution proclaiming January 13,
13 2021 as Korean American Day in
14 Philadelphia to Celebrate and Commemorate
15 the Proud Heritage of Korean Americans
16 and their Invaluable Contributions to
17 Enhancing the City's Culture, Economy,
18 and the Founding Ideals of Independence
19 and Democracy"; and

20 Resolution No. 200704, entitled
21 a "Resolution recognizing and Honoring
22 the Korean American Association of
23 Greater Philadelphia (KAAGP) on the
24 Occasion of its 50th Anniversary"; and

25 Resolution No. 200705, entitled

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2 a "Resolution recognizing December 9,
3 2020 through December 13, 2020 as Army
4 Week in the City of Philadelphia."

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Good?

7 CHIEF CLERK: Yes,

8 Mr. President.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

10 Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Decker.

11 The Chair recognizes
12 Councilwoman Parker for a motion to adopt
13 each of the resolutions on the Resolution
14 Consent Agenda.

15 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
16 you, Mr. President. I move for the
17 adoption of each of the resolutions on
18 the Resolution Consent Agenda.

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

21 Thank you. It has been moved and
22 properly seconded that each of the
23 resolutions on the Consent Agenda be
24 adopted.

25 All in favor indicate by saying

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2 aye.

3 (Aye.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

5 Those opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
8 ayes have it, and each of the resolutions
9 on the Resolution Consent Agenda have
10 been adopted.

11 We will now consider today's
12 Bill Consent Agenda. I would ask the
13 Clerk to read the titles of all the bills
14 on the Consent Agenda. After each title
15 is read, any member may object to the
16 inclusion of the bill on the Consent
17 Agenda. Upon such an objection and
18 without debate, the bill will be
19 immediately removed from the Consent
20 Agenda and placed on our regular Final
21 Passage Calendar.

22 Mr. Decker, will you now read
23 the titles of the bills on the Consent
24 Agenda.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Bill No. 200389,

1 12/10/20 - STATED - RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA

2 entitled "An ordinance continuing the
3 Mayfair Business Improvement District
4 beyond its termination date, in an area
5 that generally includes both sides of
6 Frankford Avenue from the north side of
7 Harbison Avenue to the south side of
8 Sheffield Street and certain blocks of
9 streets that intersect that portion of
10 Frankford Avenue and for which the
11 Mayfair Business Improvement District,
12 Incorporated, a Pennsylvania non-profit
13 corporation, is the Neighborhood
14 Improvement District Management
15 Association for the District"; and

16 Bill No. 200516, entitled "An
17 ordinance amending Title 14 of The
18 Philadelphia Code by creating an overlay
19 district entitled 'WYN, Wynnefield
20 Overlay District,' to include certain
21 areas of land within the area bounded by
22 City Avenue, Bryn Mawr Avenue, Parkside
23 Avenue, 53rd Street, Jefferson Street,
24 Upland Way, and Drexel Road"; and

25 Bill No. 200571, entitled "An

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2 ordinance to amend the Philadelphia
3 Zoning Maps by changing the zoning
4 designations of certain areas of land
5 located within an area bounded by Diamond
6 Street, 11th Street, Norris Street, and
7 Marvine Street"; and

8 Bill No. 200576, entitled "An
9 ordinance amending Section 14-513 of The
10 Philadelphia Code, entitled '/NCO,
11 Neighborhood Conservation Overlay
12 District,' by revising and clarifying
13 certain provisions"; and

14 Bill No. 200577, entitled "An
15 ordinance amending Title 14 of The
16 Philadelphia Code to revise certain
17 provisions of Chapter 14-200, entitled
18 'Definitions' and Chapter 14-500,
19 entitled 'Overlay Zoning Districts,' by
20 amending the provisions of the /WWO
21 Wissahickon Watershed Overlay"; and

22 Bill No. 200592, entitled "An
23 ordinance amending the Philadelphia
24 Zoning Maps by changing the zoning
25 designations of certain areas of land

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2 located within an area bounded by
3 Wissahickon Avenue, Hunting Park Avenue,
4 Fox Street, and Roberts Avenue"; and

5 Bill No. 200601, entitled "An
6 ordinance amending Title 14 of The
7 Philadelphia Code by amending certain
8 provisions of Chapter 14-500, entitled
9 'Overlay Zoning Districts,' by creating
10 the '/HVO, Haverford Village Overlay
11 District'; and amending the Philadelphia
12 Zoning Maps by changing the zoning
13 designations of certain areas of land
14 located within an area bounded by Wallace
15 Street, 36th Street, Mount Vernon Street,
16 and 37th Street"; and

17 Bill No. 200602, entitled "An
18 ordinance amending Title 14 of The
19 Philadelphia Code by amending certain
20 provisions of Chapter 14-500, entitled
21 'Overlay Zoning Districts,' by creating
22 the '/TSO, 30th Street Overlay District';
23 by revising certain provisions of Section
24 14-702, entitled 'Floor Area, Height, and
25 Housing Unit Density Bonuses'; and

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2 amending the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by
3 changing the zoning designations of
4 certain areas of land located within an
5 area bounded by Chestnut Street, 30th
6 Street, Walnut Street, and 31st Lower
7 Level Street"; and

8 Bill No. 200624, entitled "An
9 ordinance approving a Second Substantial
10 Amendment to the Annual Action Plan 2019
11 through 2020 to add \$11,311,404 in
12 Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and
13 Economic Security Act funding"; and

14 Bill No. 200413, entitled "An
15 ordinance amending Section 9-1130 of The
16 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Unlawful
17 Credit Screening Practices in
18 Employment,' by revising restrictions";
19 and

20 Bill No. 200541, entitled "An
21 ordinance amending Chapter 21-1500 of The
22 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Boards and
23 Commissions - Public Deliberations,' to
24 require recording or transcription of
25 certain meetings and provision to the

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2 public of access to such recordings and
3 transcriptions"; and

4 Bill No. 200614, entitled "An
5 ordinance amending Section 9-1130 of The
6 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Unlawful
7 Credit Screening Practices in
8 Employment,' by revising conditions on
9 the use of credit information for adverse
10 employment actions"; and

11 Bill No. 200619, entitled "An
12 ordinance authorizing the Chief Executive
13 Officer of Philadelphia International
14 Airport, the Director of Commerce, the
15 Commissioner of Public Property, the
16 Streets Commissioner and the Water
17 Commissioner, or any or all of them, on
18 behalf of the City of Philadelphia, to
19 enter into a non-exclusive license
20 agreement with the owner of 6900
21 Essington Avenue, 6902 Essington Avenue
22 and 6904 Essington Avenue, to allow for
23 the continued use of a utility corridor
24 and related improvements through property
25 owned by the City of Philadelphia"; and

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2 Bill No. 200085, entitled "An
3 ordinance establishing a no parking
4 regulation on Kingessing Avenue, from
5 Cemetery Avenue to South 62nd Street";
6 and

7 Bill No. 200086, entitled "An
8 ordinance establishing a no parking
9 regulation in the vicinity of Cemetery
10 and Kingessing Avenues"; and

11 Bill No. 200257, entitled "An
12 ordinance regulating the direction of
13 movement of traffic on certain portions
14 of Manton Street"; and

15 Bill No. 200542, entitled "An
16 ordinance authorizing DSW1, LLC doing
17 business as Nifty Fifty's to install,
18 own, and maintain a proposed sidewalk
19 cafe at 2700 South 10th Street"; and

20 Bill No. 200543, entitled "An
21 ordinance authorizing Stephen Garafolo to
22 construct, own, and maintain a proposed
23 exterior stairway at 3000 South 15th
24 Street"; and

25 Bill No. 200575, entitled "An

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2 ordinance authorizing an encroachment in
3 the nature of a pedestrian staircase to
4 directly access Green Lane Bridge in the
5 vicinity of 1 Leverington Avenue"; and

6 Bill No. 200578, entitled "An
7 ordinance authorizing the revision of
8 lines and grades on a portion of City
9 Plan No. 46-S by striking from the City
10 Plan and vacating Penrose Ferry Road from
11 Penrose Avenue to its terminus
12 northeastwardly therefrom and reserving
13 and placing on the City Plan a
14 right-of-way for various public utility
15 purposes within the lines of Penrose
16 Ferry Road being stricken"; and

17 Bill No. 200595, entitled "An
18 ordinance authorizing the revision of
19 lines and grades on a portion of City
20 Plan Nos. 32-S, 33-S, 40-S, 47-S, 48-S,
21 and 53-S by placing on the City Plan
22 Frances Harper Drive from Passyunk Avenue
23 to Penrose Avenue, Pollock Street from
24 South 26th Street to Frances Harper
25 Drive, Schuylkill Avenue from Passyunk

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2 Avenue extending northwesterly and
3 northeasterly to a cul-de-sac, and Forten
4 Way from Vare Avenue extending
5 southwesterly to a cul-de-sac"; and

6 Bill No. 200596, entitled "An
7 ordinance authorizing the revision of
8 lines and grades on a portion of City
9 Plan Nos. 32-S, 33-S, 40-S, 46-S, 47-S,
10 and 53-S by relocating the existing
11 curblines and houselines along the
12 southern side of West Passyunk Avenue at
13 its intersection with South 28th Street
14 and Passyunk Avenue Service Road (also
15 known as Frontage Road), along both sides
16 of Passyunk Avenue Service Road (also
17 known as Frontage Road) at its
18 intersections with Frances Harper Drive,
19 along the western side of 26th Street and
20 center median of South 26th Street at its
21 intersection with Pollock Street and
22 Penrose Avenue, along both sides of the
23 northwesterly Service Road of Penrose
24 Avenue (also known as Lanier Avenue),
25 along the northern side of Penrose Avenue

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2 and center median of Penrose Avenue at
3 its intersection with the northwesterly
4 Service Road of Penrose Avenue (also
5 known as Lanier Avenue) and 26th Street
6 to accommodate various intersection
7 improvements"; and

8 Bill No. 200597, entitled "An
9 ordinance authorizing the paving of
10 Frances Harper Drive from Passyunk Avenue
11 to Penrose Avenue, Pollock Street from
12 South 26th Street to Frances Harper
13 Drive, Schuylkill Avenue from Passyunk
14 Avenue extending northwesterly and
15 northeasterly to a cul-de-sac, and Forten
16 Way from Vare Avenue extending
17 southwesterly to a cul-de-sac"; and

18 Bill No. 200598, entitled "An
19 ordinance authorizing the striking from
20 City Plan Nos. 40-S, 47-S, and 48-S and
21 abandonment of a certain right-of-way
22 reserved for drainage purposes, located
23 along the former Hartranft Street, west
24 of 26th Street, and extending westwardly
25 therefrom to the Schuylkill River"; and

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2 Bill No. 200626, entitled "An
3 ordinance authorizing the revision of
4 lines and grades on a portion of City
5 Plan No. 238 by relocating the
6 southeasterly houseline and curbline of
7 Christopher Columbus Boulevard, from
8 Washington Avenue to Christian Street,
9 thereby creating a more uniform
10 right-of-way width and continuous footway
11 area for said Christopher Columbus
12 Boulevard from Washington Avenue to
13 Christian Street"; and

14 Bill No. 200657, entitled "An
15 ordinance amending Bill No. 010267,
16 entitled 'An ordinance establishing a no
17 truck parking regulation on Lancaster
18 Avenue, from Fifty-Second Street to
19 Sixty-Third Street, both sides' to
20 include and establish tow-away
21 regulations for trucks on Lancaster
22 Avenue, from Fifty-Second Street to
23 Sixty-Third Street, both sides"; and

24 Bill No. 200659, entitled "An
25 ordinance establishing a no truck parking

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2 regulation on Parkside Avenue, both
3 sides, from 50th Street to Belmont
4 Avenue, 50th Street, both sides, from
5 Parkside Avenue to Jefferson Street,
6 Jefferson Street, both sides, from 50th
7 Street to its terminus and 49th Street,
8 both sides, from Parkside Avenue to
9 Jefferson Street"; and

10 Bill No. 200660, entitled "An
11 ordinance establishing a no truck parking
12 regulation on Henry Avenue, both sides,
13 from Allegheny Avenue to Abbotsford
14 Avenue"; and

15 Bill No. 200661, entitled "An
16 ordinance authorizing encroachments in
17 the nature of structural artwork
18 consisting of metal manhole covers and
19 traffic signs located in the vicinity of
20 6200 Osage Avenue"; and

21 Bill No. 200663, entitled "An
22 ordinance amending Section 12-701 of The
23 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Bicycle
24 Lanes,' by authorizing the Department of
25 Streets to designate a bicycle lane, in

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2 the southbound direction, on North 8th
3 Street, from Vine Street to Race Street,
4 and to remove a travel lane, in the
5 southbound direction, on North 8th
6 Street, from Vine Street to Race Street";
7 and

8 Bill No. 200616, entitled "An
9 ordinance amending Chapter 9-800 of The
10 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Landlord and
11 Tenant,' to address matters related to
12 the landlord and tenant relationship
13 during the novel coronavirus of 2019
14 pandemic, including but not limited to
15 period of applicability of various
16 provisions, such as the applicable period
17 of the eviction diversion program, and
18 time frames applicable to qualification
19 for certain provisions, all under certain
20 terms and conditions."

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

22 Thank you, Mr. Decker.

23 We will now go to the vote.

24 These bills having been read on two
25 different days, the question for each

1 12/10/20 - STATED - RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA

2 bill now is shall the bill pass finally.

3 Mr. Decker will call the roll,
4 and upon being called, each Councilmember
5 shall vote aye on each of the bills, nay
6 on each of the bills or indicate those
7 bills for which the member is voting aye
8 and those bills for which the member is
9 voting nay.

10 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

12 Bass.

13 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye on all

14 bills.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

16 Brooks.

17 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye on

18 all bills.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

20 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye on all

21 bills.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

23 Gauthier.

24 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye on

25 all bills.

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2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

3 Gilmore Richardson.

4 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye

5 on all bills.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

7 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye on all

8 bills.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

10 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye on all

11 bills.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

13 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye on all

14 bills.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

16 Johnson.

17 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye on all

18 bills.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

20 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye on all

21 bills.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

23 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye on all

24 bills.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

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2 O'Neill.

3 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye on all

4 bills.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

6 Parker.

7 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye on

8 all bills.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

10 Quinones-Sanchez.

11 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye on

12 all bills.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

14 Squilla is voting aye on all bills.

15 Councilman Thomas.

16 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye on all

17 bills.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

19 Clarke.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye

21 on all bills.

22 The majority of all members

23 having voted in the affirmative for each

24 of the bills, the bills on the Consent

25 Agenda are passed.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 We will now consider the bills
3 and resolutions on the regular Second
4 Reading and Final Passage Calendar.

5 Mr. Decker, please read the
6 title of Resolution No. 200491-AA.

7 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
8 calling on the Kenney administration to
9 develop a plan to be more inclusive of
10 City Council when creating and
11 implementing emergency public safety
12 measures and restrictions.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
14 Chair recognizes Councilman Oh.

15 COUNCILMAN OH: Thank you very
16 much. I move for the adoption of the
17 resolution.

18 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Council
19 President, a point of information.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
21 Chair recognizes -- was that Councilman
22 Green?

23 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Yes. Thank
24 you, Council President.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Chair recognizes Councilman Green.

3 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Point of
4 information. Actually, it's a point of
5 inquiry.

6 Councilmember Oh, in your
7 resolution you reference to a Western
8 District case. I believe it's County of
9 Butler versus Thomas Wolf, Governor, et
10 al. Who were the other plaintiffs in
11 that matter you reference in your
12 resolution?

13 COUNCILMAN OH: I don't know.
14 I looked at it and I got the information
15 that I need and I don't recall, but you
16 could tell us. I think you know.

17 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Well, I
18 didn't -- I'm sorry. There was a cough.
19 I didn't hear the rest of that.

20 COUNCILMAN OH: I said I don't
21 know. I got the information that I
22 needed. I put it in the -- because I
23 look at the decision, and it's on appeal
24 and it's stayed. I don't know who the
25 parties are, but certainly if you know,

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 please tell everybody.

3 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Well, I just
4 made reference to that because you
5 pointed reference to that case as one of
6 the whereas clauses for your resolution.

7 I definitely understand the
8 concern in reference to the balance of
9 two branches of government, executive
10 branch and legislative branch. I've been
11 critical of the Kenney Administration in
12 reference to their outreach to
13 restaurants and small businesses as new
14 measures have come on board to protect
15 their health, but I just want to provide
16 information to my colleagues that part of
17 the support for your resolution, two of
18 the plaintiffs in that Federal District
19 case, one was Congressman Mike Kelly, the
20 other was State Representative Daryl
21 Metcalf. I just want to let my
22 colleagues know that they were two of the
23 plaintiffs to that lawsuit.

24 I think many of us are familiar
25 with some of their recent litigation that

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 they've undertaken against the electoral
3 process in the Commonwealth of
4 Pennsylvania.

5 Thank you, Council President.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

7 Thank you.

8 COUNCILMAN OH: Thank you very
9 much, Councilmember Derek Green. Please
10 don't interpret anything I said as
11 disrespectful. I respect and appreciate
12 all your commentary, insights, and
13 perspectives.

14 Having said that, whoever --
15 anyone who is not comfortable for
16 whatever reason, please vote against it.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: I
18 think, Councilwoman Gym, you wanted to
19 have some comments?

20 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Yes. Thank
21 you very much, Council President.

22 I will be one of those,
23 Councilmember Oh, who will be voting no
24 on this resolution. This resolution has
25 gone through multiple iterations, but the

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2 main thrust of its arguments still remain
3 the same.

4 As was stated two weeks ago, it
5 continues to root its logic in the now
6 stayed ruling out of the Western District
7 Court that lasted not even two weeks
8 before the Third Circuit Court of Appeals
9 reinstated Governor Wolf's COVID
10 executive orders on October 1st.

11 It continues to assert that
12 when a pandemic is in play, when a 9/11's
13 worth of citizenry of our people are
14 dying each day in this country, that
15 somehow the individual who is in charge
16 here, whether it's the Governor or the
17 Mayor, has no right to issue temporary
18 and necessary orders to protect the
19 public health. The Council sponsor has
20 chosen not only just to leave this as a
21 matter of words and language, but to
22 double down on this overreach with a
23 bill.

24 So, again, all of us have
25 shared frustrations about communications

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2 and all of us have actually committed
3 hours to finding ways of helping our
4 constituents seek audience with the
5 Mayor's team or ourselves as
6 Councilmembers, and while I understand
7 our colleague's frustrations, again, I
8 cannot support a resolution that uses
9 that frustration as a pretext to advance
10 failed and flawed logic of irresponsible
11 lawsuits and propose bills which would
12 endanger our city and state, and they are
13 perpetuated by GOP legislators who have
14 routinely flaunted COVID rules themselves
15 and have failed to do their duty in
16 Harrisburg.

17 Over a billion dollars in CARES
18 Act money sits at the state while GOP
19 legislators have refused to responsibly
20 distribute that money to small
21 businesses, which are now going under in
22 our city, or give it out to landlords and
23 tenants crying out for rent relief,
24 assistance or cancellation.

25 So at a time when irresponsible

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2 political rhetoric has resulted in
3 everything from open defiance of public
4 safety orders to kidnapping plots, armed
5 demonstrations outside of state capitals,
6 and threats of physical violence and
7 transphobic hate directed at our
8 Pennsylvania Health Director, Dr. Rachel
9 Levine, who was in your last resolution,
10 for no possible reason at all, we cannot
11 risk feeding into this.

12 There is an alternative. This
13 Council has requested dialogue between
14 the Mayor's Administration and
15 Councilmembers, and they should continue.
16 The Administration can and must do
17 better, and we will keep encouraging them
18 to do so.

19 If the Council sponsor wants to
20 issue a statement to this effect, he
21 should do so, but not invoking the
22 lawsuits of extremists when there is no
23 consensus on this body in support, and
24 that is why I'll be voting no.

25 Thank you, Council President.

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2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 Thank you, Councilwoman.

4 COUNCILMAN OH: Thank you,
5 Council President. I will respond to
6 that statement. I don't mean to be
7 particular about it, but I will say
8 responsibility, three branches of
9 government, an executive has to be
10 checked and balanced by the legislative
11 branch. Responsibility is to meet our
12 duties. If any Councilmember, knowing
13 the matrix, looking at the science and
14 the data, looking at reports from this
15 city as to the effectiveness of the
16 restrictions agrees with them, supports
17 them, then after 60 days when the
18 Administration -- well, that is the
19 bill -- comes to Council, Council can
20 approve it.

21 This is a resolution that
22 says -- and I do so not in a private
23 statement or a statement as a
24 Councilmember but as a body -- that we as
25 a body have a responsibility to provide

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 oversight regarding the restrictions,
3 whether they're needed, whether they're
4 necessary, and if any Councilmember
5 agrees and even if that Councilmember
6 believes that it is a fantastic job, they
7 have a duty to put their signature and
8 their vote behind it to say yes, keep
9 doing what you're doing.

10 It is irresponsible not to take
11 up a position of participation, which is
12 the basis of our democracy, checks and
13 balances. Whether it is the President of
14 the United States, the Governor of any
15 state, the city of any municipality,
16 there is a check and a balance. It
17 doesn't mean it's adversarial or it
18 doesn't mean it's aggressive, but it
19 provides the public an opportunity to
20 reach out to us, because we are much more
21 accessible than any executive, and we can
22 support or we can try to amend, we can
23 criticize, we can complement, whatever it
24 is that the executive orders are.

25 So the reason that I cite the

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 case is regardless of party or who is
3 involved. There was a decision. It has
4 been stayed, and there are other
5 decisions that go to this issue.

6 But of course every
7 Councilperson will look at this the way
8 they do. I simply say that we owe it to
9 the residents and the constituents of
10 this city to make sure that we let the
11 Mayor know as a body that when it comes
12 to planning the reopening or when it
13 comes to restrictions, to let us know
14 ahead of time and to have us involved.
15 And beyond that, yes, I do have a bill as
16 well.

17 Thank you.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

19 Thank you.

20 Anyone else?

21 (No response.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

23 Thank you. I believe there was a motion
24 on the floor. Was that motion seconded?

25 (Duly seconded.)

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
3 motion was seconded.

4 It's been moved and seconded
5 the resolution be adopted.

6 All in favor indicate by saying
7 aye.

8 (Aye.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
10 Those opposed?

11 (Nay.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: We
13 need a roll call, Councilman Oh?

14 COUNCILMAN OH: Yes. We'll
15 have a roll call vote.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: All
17 right.

18 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
20 Bass.

21 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
23 Brooks.

24 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Nay.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

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2 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Nay.
3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
4 Gauthier.
5 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Nay.
6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
7 Gilmore Richardson.
8 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Nay.
9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.
10 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Nay.
11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.
12 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: No.
13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.
14 COUNCILMAN HENON: Nay.
15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
16 Johnson.
17 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Nay.
18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
19 COUNCILMAN JONES: Nay.
20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.
21 COUNCILMAN OH: Yea.
22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
23 O'Neill.
24 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Parker.

3 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: No.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

5 Quinones-Sanchez.

6 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

8 Squilla is voting aye.

9 Councilman Thomas.

10 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Nay.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

12 Clarke.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

14 The nays have it. The

15 resolution is not adopted.

16 Mr. Decker, please read the

17 title of Resolution No. 200683.

18 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution

19 calling on the Archdiocese of

20 Philadelphia to keep John W. Hallahan

21 Catholic Girls High School and Bishop

22 McDevitt High School open to engage with

23 students, alumni, board, and other

24 stakeholders in decision making around

25 the schools' futures.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
3 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Gilmore
4 Richardson for a motion on the
5 resolution.

6 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Thank
7 you, Mr. President. I move for the
8 adoption of the resolution.

9 (Duly seconded.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
11 been moved and properly seconded that the
12 resolution be adopted.

13 All in favor indicate by saying
14 aye.

15 (Aye.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
17 Those opposed?

18 (No response.)

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

22 Mr. Decker, please read the
23 title of Resolution No. 200698.

24 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution
25 calling on the United States Congress to

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 extend payroll tax relief to small and
3 midsize essential businesses providing
4 paid sick leave to their employees, and
5 the Pennsylvania General Assembly to
6 enact legislation to expand paid sick
7 leave eligibility for all essential
8 workers.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
10 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Brooks for
11 a motion on the resolution.

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

15 (Duly seconded.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
17 Thank you. It has been moved and
18 properly seconded that the resolution be
19 adopted.

20 All in favor indicate by saying
21 aye.

22 (Aye.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
24 Those opposed?

25 (No response.)

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

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

5 Mr. Decker, the Clerk will
6 please read the title of Bill No.
7 200588-A.

8 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
9 amending Title 17 of The Philadelphia
10 Code, entitled "Contracts and
11 Procurement," by amending Chapter 17-100,
12 entitled "Procurement Contracts," to add
13 disclosure requirements related to prior
14 contracting experience and the
15 demographic characteristics of employees
16 and board members of contractors and
17 subcontractors for City contracts for
18 competitively bid goods; and by adding
19 reporting requirements.

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 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Bass.

3 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

5 Brooks.

6 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

8 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

10 Gauthier.

11 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

13 Gilmore Richardson.

14 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

16 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

18 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

20 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

22 Johnson.

23 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

25 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

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2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

3 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

5 O'Neill.

6 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

8 Parker.

9 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

11 Quinones-Sanchez.

12 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

14 Squilla is voting aye.

15 Councilman Thomas.

16 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

18 Clarke.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

20 The ayes are 17; the nays are

21 zero. A majority of all members having

22 voted in the affirmative, the bill

23 passes.

24 Mr. Decker, please read the

25 title of Bill No. 200589-A.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
3 amending Chapter 17-100, entitled
4 "Procurement Contracts," by adding
5 requirements related to the provision of
6 information regarding the demographic
7 characteristics of employees of, and the
8 labor force used by, City contractors and
9 subcontractors in the performance of work
10 under certain City contracts for
11 competitively bid services.

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

16 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
18 Bass.

19 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
21 Brooks.

22 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

24 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Gauthier.

3 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

5 Gilmore Richardson.

6 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

8 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

10 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

12 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

14 Johnson.

15 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

17 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

19 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

21 O'Neill.

22 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

24 Parker.

25 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

3 Quinones-Sanchez.

4 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

6 Squilla is voting aye.

7 Councilman Thomas.

8 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

10 Clarke.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

12 The ayes are 17; the nays are
13 zero. A majority of members present
14 voting in the affirmative, the bill
15 passes.

16 Mr. Decker, please read the
17 title of Bill No. 200590-A.

18 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
19 amending Title 17 of The Philadelphia
20 Code, entitled "Contracts and
21 Procurement," by amending Chapter 17-100,
22 entitled "Procurement Contracts," and
23 Chapter 17-1400, entitled
24 "Non-Competitively Bid Contracts;
25 Financial Assistance," to add disclosure

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requirements related to prior contracting
experience and the demographic
characteristics of employees, other
sources of labor, and board members of
contractors and subcontractors for City
contracts for public works, other
competitively bid services, and
professional services, and by adding
reporting requirements.

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

Mr. Decker, call the roll.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
Bass.

COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
Brooks.

COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
Gauthier.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

4 Gilmore Richardson.

5 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

7 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

9 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

11 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

13 Johnson.

14 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

16 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

18 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

20 O'Neill.

21 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

23 Parker.

24 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Quinones-Sanchez.

3 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

5 Squilla is voting aye.

6 Councilman Thomas.

7 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

9 Clarke.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

11 The ayes are 17; the nays are
12 zero. A majority of all members having
13 voted in the affirmative, the bill
14 passes.

15 Mr. Decker, please read the
16 title of 200653.

17 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
18 amending Chapter 19-1300 of The
19 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Real Estate
20 Taxes," by modifying the amount of
21 certain tax abatements.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
23 bill having been read on two separate
24 days, the question now is shall the bill
25 pass finally.

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2 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

4 Bass.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

7 Brooks.

8 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Nay.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

10 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

12 Gauthier.

13 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Nay.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

15 Gilmore Richardson.

16 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

18 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

20 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Nay.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

22 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

24 Johnson.

25 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

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2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
3 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.
5 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.
6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
7 O'Neill.
8 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
10 Parker.
11 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.
12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
13 Quinones-Sanchez.
14 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.
15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
16 Squilla is voting aye.
17 Councilman Thomas.
18 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.
19 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
20 Clarke.
21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.
22 Mr. Decker, who were the nays?
23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
24 Brooks, Councilwoman Gauthier, and
25 Councilwoman --

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2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
3 number.

4 CHIEF CLERK: The nays are
5 three; the ayes are 14.

6 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Council
7 President, point of information.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: When
9 I referenced earlier about the
10 sequencing, that the difference in the
11 script that I have versus the one -- this
12 is a point in time where the sequencing
13 is out of kilter. I'm sorry. I should
14 have referenced that.

15 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Can you
16 give me the bill number again?

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Yes.
18 Say that number. 200653. This is the
19 bill on the commercial 90 percent.

20 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Oh, I
21 didn't know --

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: I'm
23 sorry. I should have said that before.

24 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Council
25 President, I was voting -- I believed

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 that I was voting on 200366.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: And
4 that's my fault. I told you earlier I
5 screwed up on the sequencing. My fault.
6 This is where I was saying that the
7 sequencing was a little different. So
8 let me reference it and --

9 CHIEF CLERK: Shall we move to
10 reconsider the vote, Mr. President?

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
12 Let's move to reconsider the vote, yeah.
13 Thank you for your -- I was trying to
14 figure out how we did this procedurally
15 correct. Thank you, Mr. Decker.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Can we move to
17 reconsider, put it back on the Calendar
18 and then --

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Move
20 to reconsider the vote on Bill No.
21 200653.

22 (Duly seconded.)

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

25 All those in favor of

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 consideration say aye.

3 (Aye.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

5 Those opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
8 ayes have it.

9 We will now -- Mr. Decker, read
10 the title of Bill No. 200653.

11 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
12 amending Chapter 19-1300 of The
13 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Real Estate
14 Taxes," by modifying the amount of
15 certain tax abatements.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: And
17 this is the commercial real estate 90
18 percent.

19 All right. Mr. Decker, call
20 the roll again.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
22 Bass.

23 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
25 Brooks.

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COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

Gauthier.

COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

Gilmore Richardson.

COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

Johnson.

COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

O'Neill.

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2 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

4 Parker.

5 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

7 Quinones-Sanchez.

8 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

10 Squilla is voting aye.

11 Councilman Thomas.

12 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

14 Clarke.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

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

20 One more time, Bill No. 556,
21 Mr. Decker, read that title, please.

22 CHIEF CLERK: This is an
23 ordinance providing for a payment to the
24 City upon the construction of certain
25 real estate, and directing Council to

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appropriate revenues from such payments
to the Department of Planning and
Development - Division of Housing and
Community Development, in order to
support equitable neighborhood
development by constructing affordable
housing, including units for sale or
rent; providing assistance to
Philadelphians who desire to become
homeowners; providing opportunities for
workforce development and apprenticeship;
and requiring M/W/DBE participation
goals, including monitoring and
enforcement.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Also
known as the development impact tax.

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

Mr. Decker, please call the
roll.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
Bass.

COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

3 Brooks.

4 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

6 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Nay.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

8 Gauthier.

9 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

11 Gilmore Richardson.

12 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

14 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

16 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

18 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

20 Johnson.

21 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

23 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

25 COUNCILMAN OH: Nay.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

3 O'Neill.

4 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Nay.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

6 Parker.

7 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

9 Quinones-Sanchez.

10 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

12 Squilla is voting aye.

13 Councilman Thomas.

14 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

16 Clarke.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

18 CHIEF CLERK: The ayes are 14;

19 the nays are three.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The

21 ayes are 14; the nays are three. A

22 majority of all members having voted in

23 the affirmative, the bill passes.

24 Mr. Decker, another sequencing

25 bill. Please read the title of Bill No.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 200366.

3 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
4 amending Section 19-1303(4) of The
5 Philadelphia Code, entitled
6 "Authorization to Offer Exemption from
7 Real Estate Taxes on New Construction of
8 Residential Properties," by modifying the
9 start date of certain changes to tax
10 abatements with respect to new
11 residential construction.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
13 Everybody clear? All right.

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

17 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
19 Bass.

20 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
22 Brooks.

23 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Nay.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

25 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Nay.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

3 Gauthier.

4 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Nay.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

6 Gilmore Richardson.

7 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Nay.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

9 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

11 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Nay.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

13 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

15 Johnson.

16 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

18 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

20 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

22 O'Neill.

23 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

25 Parker.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.
3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
4 Quinones-Sanchez.
5 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.
6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
7 Squilla is voting aye.
8 Councilman Thomas.
9 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Nay.
10 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
11 Clarke.
12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.
13 The ayes are 11 and the nays
14 are six. A majority of all members
15 having voted in the affirmative, the bill
16 passes.
17 Mr. Decker, please read the
18 title of Bill 200613.
19 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
20 amending Title 14 of The Philadelphia
21 Code by creating a new Strawberry Mansion
22 /NCO bounded by Lehigh Avenue, 29th
23 Street, Sedgley Avenue, Montgomery
24 Avenue, Conrail Right-Of-Way, Oxford
25 Street, and 33rd Street.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
3 bill having been read on two different
4 days, the question now is shall the bill
5 pass finally.

6 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
8 Bass.

9 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
11 Brooks.

12 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

14 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

16 Gauthier.

17 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

19 Gilmore Richardson.

20 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

22 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

24 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.
3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
4 Johnson.
5 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.
6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
7 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.
9 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.
10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
11 O'Neill.
12 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
14 Parker.
15 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.
16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
17 Quinones-Sanchez.
18 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.
19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
20 Squilla is voting aye.
21 Councilman Thomas.
22 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.
23 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
24 Clarke.
25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 The ayes are 17; the nays are
3 zero. A majority of all members having
4 voted in the affirmative, the bill
5 passes.

6 Mr. Decker, please read the
7 title of Bill No. 200654.

8 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
9 authorizing the Procurement Commissioner
10 to enter into agreements to purchase
11 electricity, natural gas and motor fuel
12 for use by the City in City facilities
13 and vehicles, including agreements that
14 obligate payment for delivery of such
15 energy supplies in future fiscal years.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
17 bill having been read on two different
18 days, the question now is shall the bill
19 pass finally.

20 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
22 Bass.

23 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
25 Brooks.

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COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

Gauthier.

COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

Gilmore Richardson.

COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

Johnson.

COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

O'Neill.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

4 Parker.

5 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

7 Quinones-Sanchez.

8 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

10 Squilla is voting aye.

11 Councilman Thomas.

12 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

14 Clarke.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

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

20 Mr. Decker, Bill No. 200573.

21 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
22 amending Chapter 19-1300 of The
23 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Real Estate
24 Taxes," by clarifying definitions and
25 process regarding qualification for

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 certain tax abatements based on tax
3 delinquency.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
5 Chair recognizes Councilwoman
6 Quinones-Sanchez -- I'm sorry; Henon,
7 Councilman Henon. It's coming in a
8 little show. The Chair recognizes
9 Councilman Henon.

10 COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you,
11 Council President. I hope everybody has
12 a little patience with me here, because
13 this is an important issue that deserves
14 some clarity.

15 So members of the Finance
16 Committee will remember that we had in
17 that committee a very lively conversation
18 about this bill, and I'm seeking final
19 passage here today on this legislation.
20 This bill simply says that someone who is
21 reaping the benefit of a tax abatement
22 needs to ensure that they remitted all
23 taxes that they are owed to the City,
24 including wage taxes.

25 If an applicant is found to

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2 have misclassified any workers and,
3 therefore, is found to have failed to
4 remit all wage taxes, which means that
5 they are delinquent in not paying their
6 taxes, they will not be able to collect
7 the benefit of a very lucrative tax
8 abatement.

9 As I said in the Committee,
10 misclassification of workers is an
11 unlawful practice. It is already against
12 the law on the local, state, and federal
13 level, but it is happening in
14 Philadelphia all the time. It occurs in
15 the construction sector, but it is most
16 common in ride-sharing services,
17 healthcare, childcare, and domestic work.
18 Simply put, the misclassification of
19 workers is an unlawful practice of
20 labeling a worker as an independent
21 contractor instead of an employee. These
22 are not arbitrary terms. These are
23 defined through the Fair Labor Standards
24 Act, the Economic Realities Test, and
25 years of caselaw.

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2 In order to be classified as an
3 independent contractor, the person
4 performing the work must have the right
5 to control and direct the work that they
6 have and how it is done. If a worker is
7 under the direction, supervision or
8 control of another person or entity, they
9 are an employee, not an independent
10 contractor.

11 I want to reiterate why this
12 matters. It matters for a lot of
13 reasons, because there are two issues I
14 want to address today especially. One,
15 when working people are misclassified,
16 the City absolutely loses tax revenues
17 that are due. So, in turn, it generates
18 revenue. We don't collect it.
19 Especially in the times that we are
20 seeing right now through the pandemic, we
21 have a major loss of revenue, and it
22 affects every part of our city, every
23 household and every person in our city.
24 That lack of revenue cuts short our
25 schools, small business programs,

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2 programs in rent assist, affordable
3 housing, and programs of the like.

4 Number two, when working people
5 are misclassified, they are not entitled
6 to the protections afforded to an
7 employee. These protections include
8 everything from workmen's compensation to
9 unemployment benefits to (inaudible) our
10 laws, which we will pass in this body and
11 now sits in our Department of Labor in
12 the Mayor's Office.

13 This City Council has made it
14 abundantly clear that these (inaudible)
15 protections for working people through
16 countless pieces of legislation just this
17 year alone.

18 We care about working people.
19 We cannot overlook what is staring us
20 right in the face. Thousands of people
21 who are taking advantage of it are
22 (inaudible) because they are
23 misclassified by companies who are trying
24 to cut costs.

25 Because this bill applies the

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 requirements that wage tax be remitted
3 before property tax abatement is issued,
4 this bill applies to construction sites,
5 construction sites only with the tax
6 abatement. And in other construction
7 sites, the only people on the
8 construction site who can lawfully be
9 classified as an independent contractor
10 are those who own, operate, and are
11 licensed specific contractors.

12 If a construction worker is
13 working at the direction of a supervisor
14 for a construction company, he must be
15 classified, again, as an employee.

16 For those who want to be a part
17 of the conversation or who were part of
18 the conversation in the Committee, you
19 know that I am committed to having a
20 conversation with the Administration,
21 which I had, specifically Department of
22 Revenue, about how can we ensure that
23 this legislation does not negatively
24 impact undocumented workers.

25 First, I want to make clear

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 that undocumented workers can and do have
3 ways to pay taxes that are owed. In
4 fact, nationally undocumented workers
5 contribute billions of dollars in taxes
6 every single year. As many as 75 percent
7 of undocumented workers are regularly
8 remitting taxes. They are able to do so
9 because immigration status does not
10 prohibit a resident from paying taxes.
11 They obtain an ITIN. That's an
12 individual taxpayer ID number. A worker
13 who has an ITIN who is remitting taxes
14 owed is considered tax compliant
15 regardless of the decision of an employer
16 to misclassify them.

17 Secondly, the misclassification
18 of workers is a violation of law
19 perpetrated by employers, not the
20 employees. I'm going to say that again.
21 It's perpetrated by the employers, not
22 the employees, meaning the workers. So
23 any enforcement actions that will be
24 taken will be against the employers only.

25 Finally, in response to the

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 conversation I had with Revenue, the
3 Commissioner has committed to launching a
4 pilot program in response to the passage
5 of this legislation. And typically
6 regulations are formed after a piece of
7 legislation is passed, and that has been
8 the standard since the 1950s.

9 The pilot program will focus
10 specifically on the property tax
11 abatement and the enforcement of
12 requirements related to the wage tax.
13 The Commissioner is committed to
14 designing this pilot program that aims to
15 protect workers and will be in
16 communication with Councilmember Sanchez
17 and myself about the design and
18 implementation of that pilot.

19 The Commissioner is clear that
20 the pilot needs to be designed in a way
21 that is congruent with our collective
22 concerns about undocumented workers and
23 our desire to focus in on tax
24 collections, that's revenue, for the
25 programs that help and support that our

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2 citizens need.

3 So I hope this resolves any of
4 the outstanding concerns raised by my
5 colleagues in the Committee, and I
6 appreciate the decision around these
7 issues and respectfully ask my colleagues
8 to support me on this legislation.

9 Thank you, Council President.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

11 Thank you, Councilman.

12 The Chair recognizes
13 Councilwoman Quinones-Sanchez.

14 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Thank
15 you, Mr. President. I want to thank the
16 bill sponsor for acknowledging some of
17 the challenges with the nuances through
18 this process.

19 From the initial hearing of
20 this bill back in February, I've always
21 made it clear, as I have in the 13 years
22 that I've worked in Council, that the
23 exploitation of workers, of any workers,
24 around public safety and construction
25 sites, I have always been in the

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2 forefront of that and willing to work
3 with folks. And since the bill sponsor
4 makes several different declarations, I
5 just want to for the record continue to
6 be consistent in my position around this.

7 We have many times piloted and
8 the Revenue Department has piloted
9 situations to go after these unscrupulous
10 contractors and has the ability to do so
11 without this piece of legislation. In
12 the context of a federal government that
13 has systematically pursued undocumented
14 folks and has used the law, as the bill
15 sponsor's does, it is illegal for someone
16 who is not an employee to be on the work
17 site, but he also acknowledges that the
18 pathway there is complicated, and over
19 the last four years even more
20 complicated, for folks to be able to do
21 what they want to do, which is pay taxes,
22 so that when a pathway to immigration is
23 provided, they have a record for serving
24 and showing that they are contributing
25 citizens.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 I support a pilot that
3 demonstrates that the target is the
4 contractors, because this work is being
5 done across the country. What I don't
6 support is a bill where we have had many
7 public discussions on without draft
8 regulations. And, yes, normally
9 regulations are drafted afterwards, but
10 as was stated in the Council hearing, the
11 bill sponsor told all of us, and it's in
12 the script, regulations will be drafted
13 before he calls for a final vote, and
14 then the following week, the final vote
15 is called.

16 I don't think we're saying
17 different things. If there are bad
18 actors who are contractors, then they
19 should not be allowed to exploit workers,
20 but when the legislation specifically
21 outlines them and the misclassification
22 in an issue that they have no other
23 bearing on, they become the unintended
24 consequences.

25 This is the same language that

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2 Trump uses when he says he could put kids
3 in cages because their parents are
4 illegal in the United States.

5 The nuances and the lack of
6 federal guidance creates a space where
7 cities -- and cities have rejected
8 language that puts immigrant and
9 non-documented workers in harm's way.

10 So I support the intent of
11 collecting any money and limiting any
12 exploitation and making sure that job
13 sites are safe, and I believe the Revenue
14 Department can demonstrate this through a
15 pilot without us getting in a space that
16 we've rejected time and time again
17 through our sanctuary status and what we
18 say and what we've done. Just today
19 we're approving a package of bills that
20 affirms and confirms our commitment to
21 workers, the most vulnerable workers.

22 So I will continue to disagree.
23 I will -- and I will ask everyone to look
24 and monitor as this gets rolled out and
25 ensure -- that I will make sure that if

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2 anybody, right, non-union contractors who
3 work with undocumented, if anybody uses
4 this bill to weaponize a department
5 against vulnerable communities, I'm going
6 to shout it out, and I'm going to remain
7 firm in my position that this is a space
8 we don't need to be in.

9 Thank you so much, Council
10 President.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
12 Thank you, Councilwoman.

13 The Chair recognizes Councilman
14 Henon.

15 COUNCILMAN HENON:
16 Councilmember Sanchez, I appreciate your
17 work on these issues, not just your 13
18 years here in City Council but your
19 entire life. You go up in neighborhoods
20 and you see it firsthand.

21 So I look forward to working
22 with you and the Revenue Department to
23 make sure that nobody gets exploited and
24 nobody takes advantage or weaponizes
25 undocumented workers, because that's not

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2 who we are as the City of Philadelphia,
3 and look forward to ongoing conversation
4 as we can hopefully, hopefully come to a
5 common ground with our departments to
6 make sure that our spirit and our intent
7 and what we do here in City Council
8 reflects all those same values. So thank
9 you.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

11 Thank you, Councilman.

12 The Chair recognizes
13 Councilwoman Bass.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Thank you,
15 Mr. President. I just really wanted to
16 weigh in for a brief minute here. I
17 intend to vote for the bill today, but I
18 am -- I do want to make it absolutely
19 clear that I understand Councilwoman
20 Maria Quinones-Sanchez's concerns and I
21 am absolutely prepared to revisit this
22 bill if it has the unintended consequence
23 of disenfranchising workers who are
24 undocumented.

25 So I have every intention to do

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 what we do as members of Council, which
3 is to pay attention to the bills once we
4 pass them and make sure that folks are
5 not being hurt by something that we're
6 doing that has some sort of unintended
7 consequence.

8 So I just wanted to be on the
9 record for that, that I will be voting
10 for the bill but also am prepared to
11 revisit this matter in the future.

12 So thank you very much,
13 Mr. President.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
15 Thank you, Councilwoman.

16 The Chair recognizes Councilman
17 Domb.

18 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Thank you,
19 Council President. I just wanted to
20 chime in here, because I did ask to see
21 if we could compromise this back in the
22 Finance Committee, and I'm going to vote
23 yes on the bill today, but I wanted to
24 just make sure that I put out there that
25 I share the concerns expressed by

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2 Councilmember Quinones-Sanchez in our
3 Committee hearing and here today.

4 After speaking with the Revenue
5 Department and understanding the intent
6 to go after the lead contractors or
7 developers applying for tax abatements,
8 I'm going to lean on them to make sure
9 these guidelines are really followed,
10 because it's clear to me that we will not
11 put our undocumented workers, with
12 already limited access to jobs in the
13 country, at risk.

14 I would have preferred that
15 these regulations were attached to the
16 bill, but by the same token, I just want
17 to let you know I will vote yes, but I'm
18 going to be watching this very carefully,
19 because I don't want anyone to get hurt
20 from this legislation.

21 Thank you.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

23 Thank you.

24 Just for the record, the bill
25 will not be returned to Council either

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2 approved or disapproved by the Mayor

3 until we come off of recess in January.

4 So that will give the Department time,

5 along with members of Council, to start

6 the process of working on regulations.

7 So hopefully if we want to expedite this

8 process, we can have that done in a

9 meaningful way before the bill actually

10 comes back to Council with either the

11 Mayor's signature or not. So there's

12 some time for us before it's actually

13 ingrained in stone with the legislation.

14 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Council

15 President, I have a point of information.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

17 Councilman Green.

18 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Yeah. This

19 is for either Councilmembers Henon or

20 Domb. In your conversations with the

21 Revenue Commissioner, did he give you

22 some context in reference to the pilot in

23 reference to a timeframe when they'd be

24 moving forward with implementation?

25 Also, with the new

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2 administration coming in, I'm not sure if
3 there's any other connections at the
4 federal level that we may need some
5 additional guidance, because I know
6 Councilwoman Sanchez raised that both in
7 today's points as well as in the Finance
8 Committee hearing.

9 COUNCILMAN HENON: I could
10 answer that, Council President. This is
11 Councilman Bobby Henon.

12 Councilmember Green, in the
13 several conversations with the Revenue
14 Department, as other members have also,
15 and I appreciate their interest in making
16 sure that there are no unintended
17 consequences, as soon as the bill is
18 signed and becomes law, they are eager to
19 work on this and not wait to have
20 regulations in place. So I think now
21 they are on their end looking at what
22 they could do as a pilot. They haven't
23 indicated what that is yet, but they will
24 be certainly looking into that right now
25 during the month of December as we

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 approach our new year and get into 2021.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Councilman Domb.

5 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Thank you.

6 Councilmember Green, let me
7 share with you an e-mail I received from
8 the Revenue Department on this issue,
9 because we all are concerned. It just
10 said, To follow up on your question, we
11 received the opinion from the Law
12 Department that we can hold up an
13 abatement approval at the subcontractor
14 level. However, this doesn't mean we
15 wouldn't investigate a subcontractor if
16 we felt there was a reason to dig deeper.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

18 Thank you.

19 Anybody else?

20 (No response.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

22 Thank you.

23 We will move ahead. Bill No.
24 200573, this bill having been read on two
25 different days, the question now is shall

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 the bill pass finally.
3 Mr. Decker, can you please call
4 the roll.
5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
6 Bass.
7 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.
8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
9 Brooks.
10 (No response.)
11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
12 Brooks.
13 (No response.)
14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.
15 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.
16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
17 Gauthier.
18 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Nay.
19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
20 Gilmore Richardson.
21 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.
22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.
23 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.
24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.
25 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

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CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

Johnson.

COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

COUNCILMAN JONES: No.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

COUNCILMAN OH: No.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

O'Neill.

COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

Parker.

COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

Quinones-Sanchez.

COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: No.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

Squilla is voting aye.

Councilman Thomas.

COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Council President

Clarke.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

3 The ayes are 13 [sic]; the nays
4 are four. A majority of members present
5 voting in the affirmative, the bill
6 passes.

7 Mr. Decker, please read the
8 title of 200620.

9 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
10 authorizing transfers in appropriations
11 for Fiscal Year 2021 from the General
12 Fund, certain or all City officers,
13 departments, boards and commissions, the
14 Grants Revenue Fund, certain or all City
15 offices, departments, boards and
16 commissions, the Aviation Fund, certain
17 or all City offices, departments, boards
18 and commissions, the Community
19 Development Fund, certain or all City
20 offices, departments, boards and
21 commissions, and the Housing Trust Fund,
22 certain or all City offices, departments,
23 boards and commissions, to the General
24 Fund, certain or all City offices,
25 departments, boards and commissions, the

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2 Water Residual Fund, certain or all City
3 offices, departments, boards and
4 commissions, the Aviation Fund, certain
5 or all City offices, departments, boards
6 and commissions, the Grants Revenue Fund,
7 certain or all City offices, departments,
8 boards and commissions, the Community
9 Development Fund, certain or all City
10 offices, departments, boards and
11 commissions, and the Housing Trust Fund,
12 certain or all City offices, departments,
13 boards and commissions.

14 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: This bill
15 having -- the Chair recognizes
16 Councilmember Johnson.

17 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Yeah.
18 Madam Leader, Council President, I need
19 to recuse myself for potential conflicts
20 of interest on Bill No. 200620.

21 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
22 you, Councilmember Johnson. That will be
23 noted for the record.

24 This bill having been read on
25 two different days, the question now is

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2 shall the bill pass finally.

3 The Chief Clerk will call the
4 roll.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
6 Bass.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
9 Brooks.

10 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

12 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

14 Gauthier.

15 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

17 Gilmore Richardson.

18 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

20 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

22 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

24 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

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2 Johnson is abstaining.
3 Councilman Jones.
4 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.
6 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.
7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
8 O'Neill.
9 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
11 Parker.
12 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.
13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
14 Quinones-Sanchez.
15 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.
16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
17 Squilla is voting aye.
18 Councilman Thomas.
19 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.
20 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
21 Clarke.
22 (No response.)
23 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Council
24 President Clarke has indicated that he
25 will be voting aye. So the ayes are 16

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2 and there's one abstention, and the bill
3 passes finally.

4 The Clerk will please read the
5 title of Bill No. 200622.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Madam Leader, are
7 we considering 621?

8 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: 621,
9 please. 200621. Thank you, Mr. Clerk.

10 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
11 authorizing transfers in appropriations
12 for Fiscal Year 2020 from the General
13 Fund, certain or all City offices,
14 departments, boards and commissions, the
15 Grants Revenue Fund, certain or all City
16 offices, departments, boards and
17 commissions, and the Water Fund, certain
18 or all City offices, departments, boards
19 and commissions, to the General Fund,
20 certain or all City offices, departments,
21 boards and commissions, and the Water
22 Fund, certain or all City offices,
23 departments, boards and commissions.

24 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: This bill
25 having been read on two different days,

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2 the question now is shall the bill pass
3 finally.

4 The Chief Clerk will call the
5 roll.

6 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Madam
7 Majority Leader?

8 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: The Chair
9 recognizes Councilwoman Gilmore
10 Richardson.

11 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Yes.
12 I wish to be recognized briefly before
13 200621 is voted on, but I just wanted to
14 be very clear that my vote is a vote to
15 ensure that we continue to meet our
16 contractual obligations to pay any Class
17 100 funds that we are obligated to pay,
18 particularly to the Police Department
19 under the terms of the most recent
20 contract, which is a one-year extension.
21 Because this bill is tied to our fiscal
22 responsibility and if voted down could
23 put us in jeopardy of litigation, which
24 will cost the City more revenue during a
25 time when we are strapped fiscally and

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2 will be for some time, I'm voting yes,
3 knowing that we are continuing the
4 important work we started earlier this
5 year to have a laser-beam focus on police
6 reform and public safety in the City of
7 Philadelphia.

8 Thank you, Madam Majority
9 Leader, for that opportunity.

10 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
11 you, Councilwoman.

12 Will the Chief Clerk call the
13 roll.

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

17 Will the Chief Clerk please
18 call the roll.

19 (Pause.)

20 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: I'm
21 sorry. Is my sound not working?

22 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: I heard
23 you loud and clear, Madam Leader.

24 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: I think,
25 Mr. Decker, you are muted.

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2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

3 Bass.

4 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

6 Brooks.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Nay.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

9 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

11 Gauthier.

12 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Nay.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

14 Gilmore Richardson.

15 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

17 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

19 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Nay.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

21 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

23 Johnson.

24 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

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2 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

4 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

6 O'Neill.

7 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

9 Parker.

10 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

12 Quinones-Sanchez.

13 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

15 Squilla is voting aye.

16 Councilman Thomas.

17 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Nay.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

19 Clarke.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

21 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: The nays

22 are four; the ayes are 13. The majority

23 of members having voted in the

24 affirmative, the bill passes.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

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2 Thank you. Thank you, Councilwoman
3 Parker. I had to step away briefly. I
4 believe I missed maybe one or two votes.
5 Let the record reflect I'm voting aye on
6 Bill 620. I may have missed one other
7 while I was away.

8 Okay. Mr. Decker, please read
9 the title of Bill No. 200622.

10 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
11 amending Bill No. 200285 (approved June
12 26, 2020), entitled "An ordinance to
13 adopt a Capital Program for the six
14 Fiscal Years 2021 through 2026
15 inclusive."

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
17 bill having been read on two different
18 days, the question is shall the bill pass
19 finally.

20 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
22 Bass.

23 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
25 Brooks.

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COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

Gauthier.

COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

Gilmore Richardson.

COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

Johnson.

COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

O'Neill.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

4 Parker.

5 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

7 Quinones-Sanchez.

8 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

10 Squilla is voting aye.

11 Councilman Thomas.

12 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

14 Clarke.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

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

20 Mr. Decker, please read the
21 title of Bill No. 200623.

22 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
23 amending Bill No. 200286 (approved June
24 26, 2020), entitled "An ordinance to
25 adopt a Fiscal 2021 Capital Budget."

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2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
3 bill having been read on two different
4 days, the question now is shall the bill
5 pass finally.
6 Mr. Decker, call the roll.
7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
8 Bass.
9 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.
10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
11 Brooks.
12 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.
13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.
14 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.
15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
16 Gauthier.
17 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.
18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
19 Gilmore Richardson.
20 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.
21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.
22 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.
23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.
24 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.
25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

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2 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.
3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
4 Johnson.
5 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.
6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
7 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.
9 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.
10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
11 O'Neill.
12 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
14 Parker.
15 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.
16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
17 Quinones-Sanchez.
18 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.
19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
20 Squilla is voting aye.
21 Councilman Thomas.
22 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.
23 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
24 Clarke.
25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

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2 The ayes are 17; the nays are
3 zero. A majority of all members having
4 voted in the affirmative, the bill
5 passes.

6 Mr. Decker, please read the
7 title of Bill No. 200557.

8 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
9 adding a new Chapter 9-5300 to The
10 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Travel and
11 Hospitality Worker Recall and Retention,"
12 to require that certain laid-off
13 employees in certain hospitality
14 travel-related industries are offered job
15 positions as they become available.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
17 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Gym.

18 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Thank you so
19 much, Council President. I am proud
20 today to present to this body, along with
21 my co-sponsors Councilmembers Johnson and
22 Thomas, as well as a broad majority of
23 City Council, to present and request a
24 vote on the Black Workers Matter Economic
25 Recovery package for thousands of

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2 Philadelphia's hospitality, tourism, and
3 airport workers.

4 Quite frankly, and very clearly
5 stating, there are no hotels or stadiums
6 or Philadelphia International Airport
7 without these people. They are the
8 backbone of our local economy, they are
9 the breadwinners for their families, and
10 they are the labor and civic leaders for
11 colleagues and neighbors.

12 This bill is for workers like
13 Aisha Johnson of South Philadelphia. She
14 worked at Lincoln Financial Field and
15 Citizens Bank Park for over ten years in
16 maintenance and concessions, supporting
17 her three sons, all of whom are out of
18 work right now because of COVID. She
19 told our Committee on Law and Government
20 a few weeks ago that COVID has, quote,
21 "Hit me and my family hard. It has hit
22 my co-workers hard. It's like we are on
23 a roller coaster with no end in sight.
24 Unemployment has not been enough for us.
25 It makes us anxious about when it's going

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2 to end and when we can return to our
3 jobs. My co-workers and I get worried
4 and ask what if Aramark's revenues don't
5 come back, what if they walk away from
6 their contract with the Eagles or
7 Phillies or Flyers or what if their
8 contract isn't even renewed? What will
9 happen to us? We need to be protected.
10 We didn't ask for this pandemic, and we
11 shouldn't be penalized because of it. My
12 ten years working at these stadiums
13 should matter."

14 So today we vote on a
15 legislation that sends this message back
16 to Aisha. Council stands with workers
17 who make our hospitality economy what it
18 is. We vote on legislation that tells
19 Aisha and all of her colleagues that her
20 work has mattered and her work will
21 continue to matter, because black workers
22 matter here in our city.

23 The package of bills before you
24 has come together through a deeply
25 engaged process with industry and those

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2 most impacted by the bill's passage.

3 Through business labor roundtables,
4 meetings, and exhaustive negotiations, we
5 bring before this body a bill that
6 reflects the spirit of the law and
7 careful attention to the legislative
8 process of compromise and negotiation.

9 I shared with all of you dozens
10 of amendments which have been made to the
11 bills, ensuring that industry has been
12 heard and that we collectively are
13 building towards Philadelphia's recovery.

14 None of the industries directly
15 impacted by the bill testified during
16 committee hearings, nor are they here
17 today, and I think that that speaks
18 volumes to the work that has been put
19 into amending the package so that it is
20 fair and balanced. It ensures that we
21 get things right for businesses while
22 guaranteeing economic dignity for
23 workers. We will, of course, be equally
24 attentive to the regulatory process as
25 well.

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2 I want to thank all the
3 co-sponsors of these bills -
4 Councilmembers Johnson, Thomas,
5 Quinones-Sanchez, Parker, Jones, Henon,
6 Squilla, Gauthier, Brooks, Gilmore
7 Richardson, and of course to you, Council
8 President. I also want to acknowledge
9 the work of POWER and OIC, the original
10 authors of the 2016 Black Work Matters
11 Report, which stays with me not just in
12 spirit but in action.

13 Most of all, I want to thank
14 the hundreds of people that we've met
15 over this difficult year of 2020 whose
16 stories have driven us to action. I've
17 walked the streets with women, mothers,
18 and caretakers. They are black women,
19 they are immigrants who have lost loved
20 ones to COVID because they couldn't
21 afford health insurance, they are single
22 parents trying to keep a roof over their
23 children's heads. They have never lost
24 faith in themselves and in the
25 possibility of better days ahead, and

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2 they understand their own determination
3 and faith to control their own futures
4 and to organize like hell to make it
5 happen.

6 So for Aisha, for Stephanie,
7 Ron, Charles, Joanna, Kat, Nay-Nay,
8 Renee, and Walt in Georgia, I know all of
9 you are watching and listening right now.
10 There's no substitute for your voices or
11 for your power. I look forward to taking
12 this vote in favor of this package of
13 bills in your names.

14 Thank you.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

16 Thank you, Councilwoman.

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

20 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

22 Bass.

23 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

25 Brooks.

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COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

Gauthier.

COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

Gilmore Richardson.

COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

Johnson.

COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

O'Neill.

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2 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

4 Parker.

5 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

7 Quinones-Sanchez.

8 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

10 Squilla is voting aye.

11 Councilman Thomas.

12 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

14 Clarke.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

16 The ayes are 17; the nays are

17 zero. A majority of members present

18 voting in the affirmative, the bill

19 passes.

20 Mr. Decker, please read the

21 title of 200559.

22 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance

23 amending Chapter 9-2300 of The

24 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Protection

25 of Displaced Contract Workers," by

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 clarifying definitions and scope of
3 applicability.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
5 bill having been read on two different
6 days, the question is shall the bill pass
7 finally.

8 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
10 Bass.

11 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
13 Brooks.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

16 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

18 Gauthier.

19 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

21 Gilmore Richardson.

22 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

24 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

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COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

Johnson.

COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

O'Neill.

COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

Parker.

COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

Quinones-Sanchez.

COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

Squilla is voting aye.

Councilman Thomas.

COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

CHIEF CLERK: Council President

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Clarke.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

4 The ayes are 17; the nays are
5 zero. A majority of all members present
6 having voted in the affirmative, the bill
7 passes.

8 Mr. Decker, please read Bill
9 No. 200563.

10 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
11 adding a new Chapter 9-5400 of The
12 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Retention of
13 Hotel Workers," to require that hotel
14 employees receive notice of changes in
15 hotel ownership or control, and providing
16 related employment protections.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
18 bill having been read on two different
19 days, the question now is shall the bill
20 pass finally.

21 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
23 Bass.

24 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Brooks.

3 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

5 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

7 Gauthier.

8 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

10 Gilmore Richardson.

11 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

13 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

15 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

17 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

19 Johnson.

20 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

22 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

24 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 O'Neill.

3 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

5 Parker.

6 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

8 Quinones-Sanchez.

9 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

11 Squilla is voting aye.

12 Councilman Thomas.

13 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

15 Clarke.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

17 The ayes are 17; the nays are
18 zero. A majority of all members present
19 voting in the affirmative, the bill
20 passes.

21 Mr. Decker, please read the
22 title of 200479.

23 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
24 amending Chapter 9-3500 of The
25 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Fair

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 Criminal Record Screening Standards," by
3 amending definitions, revising
4 restrictions, and amending and clarifying
5 remedies.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
7 Chair recognizes Councilman Jones.

8 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
9 Mr. President and colleagues. I rise to
10 talk about Bill No. 200479, and that
11 speaks to Fair Criminal Record Standards.
12 It's affectionately known as Ban the Box.
13 It is ironic that Rue Landau is leaving
14 the City of Philadelphia's Human
15 Relations Commission today. I recall her
16 being one of the strongest advocates for
17 this bill, along with Wendy Jacobs from
18 North Philadelphia, who brought it to
19 then Chair of Public Safety Donna Reed
20 Miller. That's eight years ago.

21 I remember during that time
22 serving on Public Safety Committee how
23 many business groups came together and
24 they were frightened and said how this
25 would fundamentally cause them great

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2 problems and how it was just going to be
3 horrible in their ability to vet
4 employees.

5 Eight years later, we find that
6 it probably allowed them to find quality
7 employees that they would have otherwise
8 summarily dismissed due to the box -- the
9 check of that box.

10 We then, this body, many of
11 you, in 2012 came back and tightened it
12 up a little bit. My colleague came after
13 that, Member Gym, to make it applicable
14 to college students, to make sure that
15 that box did not hinder their ability to
16 find their better selves.

17 Today what we have before us
18 simply is a 2.0 of Ban the Box. Why?
19 Because the individual applying for a
20 job, whether it's at that hotel that we
21 just passed laws for, can come in and
22 realize the protection of past
23 legislation, but the person working in
24 the kitchen who decided to go back to
25 Community College and say, I don't want

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2 to work in the kitchen anymore, I want to
3 work at the front desk and receive a
4 promotion and an increase in pay, is not
5 covered by the law.

6 Many people that once again
7 rose -- fear, not facts -- and came back,
8 and we had dozens of meetings. I want to
9 applaud Samantha Williams for her
10 patience and Ms. Landau for her patience
11 and Community Legal Services for their
12 patience working out a lot of those
13 details, but they said, you know, we in
14 the ride-share business are particularly
15 concerned about this. Facts, not fear.

16 The Commonwealth of
17 Pennsylvania covers ride-share, that
18 there are certain types of offenses that
19 no matter what this bill says, they can
20 not be employed, and rightfully so. And
21 they cover crimes like assault,
22 particularly on women, but assault on
23 anyone, and they cover these things
24 naturally.

25 And so I scratch my head,

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2 Mr. President and members of this body,
3 to say, well, why did they sneak back and
4 start to raise the fear? And then I
5 remembered the conversation. They said
6 that this bill, by having to first offer
7 a tentative offer of employment and then
8 running the background check, would add
9 three days to their hiring, three days.

10 I would say to you and remind
11 you, we are the poorest big city in the
12 country. I would remind you all of the
13 progressive legislation that we just
14 passed today, that this is another arrow
15 in our quiver to -- God gives and takes
16 away. Council in its own way gives too.
17 We give opportunity to people to have a
18 second chance and we take away barriers
19 to meaningful employment.

20 One out of three African
21 American men has been in jail, on
22 probation or on parole. That person
23 sitting in that cubicle scared to death
24 that if they raise their head, that they
25 could be found out that they had a

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 record, should not after seven years have
3 that fear.

4 All criminologists suggest that
5 after seven years of not being in contact
6 with the criminal justice system, the
7 chances of people re-offending goes all
8 the way back down to people who have
9 never offended at all.

10 Facts, not fears.

11 And so I encourage my
12 colleagues to pursue Ban the Box 2.0 to
13 just cover the person sitting in the
14 cubicle right now saying that I would go
15 after that job, but they might run me
16 through, the person that's sitting in
17 that job that when the company was bought
18 by a new owner fears the fact that they
19 may do a background check and find out
20 that when I was 19 years old, I did
21 something stupid.

22 I will remind you that every
23 seven years, we change. When you were
24 seven years old, Member Green, you
25 thought you were a rapper. When you

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 turned 14, you thought that you were in
3 love. When you turned 21, you knew you
4 better be a family man. Every seven
5 years, we change, and we should give
6 everyone an opportunity to come back to
7 society. If not, the trends of
8 shootings, the trends of murders in our
9 city will continue.

10 Thank you, Mr. President.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

12 Thank you, Councilman.

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

16 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

18 Bass.

19 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

21 Brooks.

22 (No response.)

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

24 Brooks.

25 (No response.)

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

3 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

5 Gauthier.

6 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

8 Gilmore Richardson.

9 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

11 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

13 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

15 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

17 Johnson.

18 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

20 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

22 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

24 O'Neill.

25 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

3 Parker.

4 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

6 Quinones-Sanchez.

7 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

9 Squilla is voting aye.

10 Councilman Thomas.

11 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

13 Clarke.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

15 The ayes are 16; the nays are

16 zero. A majority of members present

17 voting in the affirmative, the bill

18 passes.

19 Mr. Decker, please read the

20 title of 200593.

21 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance

22 amending Chapter 10-2000 of The

23 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Use of

24 Three-Dimensional Printer to Manufacture

25 Firearms," to change the Chapter title,

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 to add definitions, to add additional
3 prohibitions on the use of
4 three-dimensional printers, to improve
5 prohibitions relating to the transfer,
6 use, or conversion of unfinished firearms
7 and certain equipment, the manufacture of
8 firearms, and to prescribe additional
9 penalties for violations of this Chapter.

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

14 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
16 Bass.

17 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

19 Brooks.

20 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

22 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

24 Gauthier.

25 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

3 Gilmore Richardson.

4 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

6 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

8 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

10 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

12 Johnson.

13 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

15 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

17 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

19 O'Neill.

20 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

22 Parker.

23 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

25 Quinones-Sanchez.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.
3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
4 Squilla is voting aye.
5 Councilman Thomas.
6 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.
7 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
8 Clarke.
9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.
10 The ayes are 17; the nays are
11 zero. A majority of all members having
12 voted in the affirmative, the bill
13 passes.
14 Councilwoman Brooks, I don't
15 think we recorded you on 200479.
16 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.
17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
18 You're aye? Okay. Let the record
19 reflect that Councilwoman Brooks is an
20 aye on 200479, and that number is 17;
21 zero.
22 Thank you.
23 Mr. Decker, do you have any
24 additional resolutions?
25 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 honoring the life and legacy of Joey
3 Temple, introduced by Councilwoman Parker
4 on behalf of Council President Clarke.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
6 Councilwoman Parker, ask for a motion.

7 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Yes.
8 Move for the adoption of the resolution.

9 (Duly seconded.)

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

12 All those in favor indicate by
13 saying aye.

14 (Aye.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
16 Those opposed?

17 (No response.)

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

21 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
22 recognizing, honoring, and celebrating
23 the extraordinary career of W. Wilson
24 Goode, Jr., distinguished four-term
25 member of Philadelphia City Council from

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 2000 to 2016, introduced by Councilwoman
3 Parker on behalf of Council President
4 Clarke.

5 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
6 you, Mr. 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 those in favor indicate by
12 saying aye.

13 (Aye.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
15 Those opposed?

16 (No response.)

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

20 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
21 recognizing and honoring Rue Landau for
22 her incredibly impactful work as
23 Executive Director of both Philadelphia
24 Commission on Human Relations and Fair
25 Housing Commission, and congratulating

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 her on her new career in academia as the
3 "Beck Professor" at Temple University
4 Beasley School of Law, introduced by
5 Councilman Jones.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
7 Chair recognizes Councilman Jones.

8 COUNCILMAN JONES: Yes.

9 Mr. President, I'd like to speak briefly
10 and say that a lot of times in
11 Philadelphia you are around the person so
12 much, you don't recognize how special
13 they are until you go out of town and you
14 go to Harrisburg and you are a part of
15 the Pennsylvania Human Relations
16 Commission, which I am, and then I
17 mention Philadelphia, and whose name is
18 mentioned in reverence, like being a rock
19 star of human relations issues, that in
20 fact I figured, all right, in the
21 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, maybe she's
22 known a little bit. Okay. So we go to a
23 national convention, Mr. President, out
24 in Denver, and I mentioned Philadelphia,
25 and the first thing out of their mouth

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 is, oh, you work with the Landau, like
3 she was a Star Wars super hero. And when
4 I start to come back home, I started
5 looking at her different, because she
6 is -- like there have been a lot of heads
7 of the Human Relations Commission in
8 Philadelphia, and many of them have
9 distinguished themselves in many areas,
10 but none like her.

11 I remember when we first
12 started Ban the Box and we were going to
13 negotiate with members of the business
14 community, she -- I was worn out,
15 Mr. President. I was ready to concede
16 certain aspects of the bill and I was
17 getting ready to go on the floor. I'll
18 never forget this. You got to remember
19 she's only like 5'6". She shut my office
20 door and said, you will not concede
21 another thing on this bill. It is
22 meritorious of passage.

23 I'm from West Philly, Member
24 Johnson. I was scared to death. I said,
25 okay, and I literally went out, my back

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 got a little straighter, we ran the vote
3 and it passed.

4 I am so thankful to have met
5 her and so thankful that she has added
6 value to the City of Philadelphia.

7 I move for the adoption.

8 (Duly seconded.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: I
10 think, Councilwoman Gym, did you have
11 something to say?

12 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Yes. I just
13 wanted to be brief. First of all, I want
14 to thank the Council sponsor for this
15 incredible resolution to a woman who has
16 truly been a leader in our city. I think
17 there's very little to add to what you
18 said, except that Rue Landau is shorter
19 than 5'6". She can just look like she's
20 a giant amazon.

21 She served the City for 12
22 years, and she's helped define what this
23 work looks like. She's brought us
24 forward with a sense of moral clarity,
25 but also an ability to do this work

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 boldly and to do it in ways that bring
3 people in. She's the very definition of
4 what it means to be in true partnership.

5 It's been an honor to be on
6 Team Rue for the last four years, but I
7 was a fan long before I came into office.
8 But she's been a true hero and champion,
9 and we'll miss her terribly, but I know
10 she's very nearby and will continue to do
11 great work. And I just want to thank the
12 Council sponsor for honoring just a
13 tremendous person in Philadelphia.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
15 Thank you.

16 The Chair recognizes
17 Councilwoman Quinones-Sanchez.

18 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Thank
19 you, President Clarke. I also just for
20 the record just want to really personally
21 thank Rue Landau and her wife. These are
22 two amazing social justice warriors who
23 used their legal expertise to help the
24 most vulnerable communities through the
25 mortgage foreclosure. There's very few

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 policies I can think of that have
3 economic impact where one of them wasn't
4 involved.

5 So to Rue, thank you so, so
6 very much for your friendship, for your
7 leadership, and I look forward to many
8 great things from you.

9 Thank you.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

11 Thank you, Councilwoman.

12 Next to be recognized is
13 Councilwoman Gilmore Richardson.

14 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Thank
15 you so much, Mr. President. I too wanted
16 to echo the sentiments of all of our
17 colleagues here in Council in thanking
18 Rue Landau for her service to the City of
19 Philadelphia. I had the pleasure of
20 working with Rue as a staffer when we
21 worked on a bill to give equal benefits
22 to life partners of City employees, and
23 this was back in 2011 or '12. So she has
24 been a longtime champion of the issues
25 that we have worked on that have been so

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 important to the fabric of our city, and
3 I just wanted to wish her well and thank
4 her so much for her service.

5 Thank you so much,
6 Mr. President.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

8 Thank you, Councilwoman.

9 The Chair recognizes
10 Councilwoman Parker.

11 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
12 you, Mr. President. I as well want to
13 lend my voice to the choir here and say a
14 special thanks to Rue for using her
15 intellectual prowess as a tool, in
16 essence, to help us close the gap between
17 the have's and the have not's, and to
18 think that she is now going to use that
19 same intellectual prowess to teach and
20 train the next generation of leaders in
21 our quest for social and economic justice
22 right here at one of our universities is
23 something for us to be proud of.

24 And so, colleagues, although
25 she is not going to be here officially

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 working with us in her capacity at the
3 Human Relations Commission, I would argue
4 that we are about to get a little more,
5 because we are about to get access to
6 some Temple students who are being
7 trained and taught by Rue Landau. And
8 I'm putting my ask out there right now,
9 Rue, I want an intern that's coming out
10 of your class.

11 So, look, I cannot make an ask,
12 right, colleagues? She needs to send a
13 cadre of them here so that they can place
14 them with us.

15 Thank you, colleagues.
16 Councilmember Jones, thank you so much
17 for your leadership in this effort.

18 Thank you, Mr. President.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

20 Thank you, Councilwoman.

21 The Chair recognizes Councilman
22 Henon.

23 COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you,
24 Council President. And I would be remiss
25 not to congratulate my dear friend Rue

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Landau, whom I've known for 20 years.

3 She has been an incredible resource for

4 advice and guidance through challenges as

5 an elected official, spanning back from

6 2011 to present. She was a part,

7 instrumental part, in making sure that my

8 office as a Council office, district

9 Council office specifically, knows who

10 our constituents are, and understanding

11 who they are is a better reflection on

12 how we can help serve them.

13 She was an incredible resource

14 when it came to advising us in the

15 trainings that we had, the behavior and

16 mental health training that the Health

17 Department gave out. It helped with

18 guidance in my office training in

19 implicit bias training and diversity

20 training from Temple and Drexel.

21 So, Rue, we are absolutely

22 going to miss you. You are somebody who

23 is one of the most genuine, real people

24 that I know, especially in your quest and

25 continuing fight for justice for all.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 So, Rue, thank you, thank you, thank you.

3 I am going to miss you, but I know where
4 you are. God bless you.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Thank you, Councilman Henon.

7 I think that concludes the
8 comments on Ms. Landau, and there's been
9 a motion on the table. Can we get a
10 second?

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
13 been moved and properly seconded that the
14 resolution be adopted.

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 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
25 recognizing Monday, December 14 to

1 12/10/20 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 Friday, December 18 as PHLConnected Week,
3 introduced by Councilman Squilla.

4 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
5 you, Mr. President. On behalf of
6 Councilman Squilla, I move for the
7 adoption of the resolution.

8 (Duly seconded.)

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

12 All those in favor say aye.

13 (Aye.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

15 Those opposed?

16 (No response.)

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

20 CHIEF CLERK: There are no
21 other resolutions on the Final Passage
22 Calendar, Mr. President.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

24 Thank you very much, Mr. Decker.

25 That completes our Calendar for

1 12/10/20 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 today. We're going to start with
3 speeches.

4 By the way, guys, I think lunch
5 should be delivered to you all in your
6 individual locations shortly. I just
7 want to say you're welcome ahead of time.

8 We're now going to move to our
9 speeches. Prior to recognizing members
10 regarding speeches, I will note for the
11 record at this time that we will use the
12 Chat feature available in Microsoft Teams
13 to allow members to signify that they
14 wish to be recognized. In order to
15 comply with the Sunshine Act, the Chat
16 feature must only be used for this
17 purpose.

18 With that said, are there any
19 speeches on behalf of the minority?

20 The Chair recognizes
21 Councilwoman Brooks.

22 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Thank
23 you, Council President. Can you hear me?

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: We
25 absolutely can.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Okay. I
3 want to first speak briefly about the
4 bill to extend the public health
5 emergency leave that I introduced today.
6 The bill, which was passed in September
7 and co-sponsored by my colleague
8 Councilmembers Henon and Gym, extended
9 paid sick leave benefits to thousands of
10 Philadelphians who were left out of the
11 Families First Coronavirus Response Act.

12 The law targets the people who
13 do the labor and keeps our community
14 safe, healthy, and well fed. We're
15 talking about the delivery drivers,
16 ride-share drivers, grocery store
17 workers, healthcare workers, pharmacy
18 workers, and childcare providers. These
19 jobs are disproportionately low wage, and
20 the majority are filled by black and
21 brown people, especially women. Many
22 don't have the option to work from home,
23 and with COVID-19 cases skyrocketing
24 every day, they go to work and put
25 themselves and their families at risk.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Paid sick leave is the least
3 that we can do for them and one of the
4 best tools we have to protect our city
5 from this devastating pandemic.

6 We know that our workers
7 desperately need protections, and we also
8 know that small businesses are the
9 lifeblood of Philadelphia's economy and
10 are suffering in the absence of federal
11 aid. The wage tax relief for small and
12 mid-sized businesses included in the FCRA
13 is crucial to sustaining our local
14 economy, and any paid sick leave
15 legislation must go hand in hand with the
16 support for these businesses.

17 Once paid sick legislation is
18 passed by Congress, this bill will
19 complement that legislation and ensure
20 that no person is left behind in
21 Philadelphia by extending these critical
22 protections, because we know that when
23 sick workers can afford to stay home, our
24 entire city is healthier and safer for
25 it.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 I also want to quickly address
3 my reasons for voting no on the transfer
4 ordinance that gives \$17 million to the
5 Philadelphia Police Department. As we
6 know, this money has already been spent
7 on overtime and personnel in the wake of
8 protests. The protests emerged in
9 response to, first, George Floyd and then
10 Walter Wallace's murder to reject a
11 broken system that continues to steal
12 black people from their families and from
13 their communities. The protests were
14 intense, and I remember I was on the
15 ground with Councilmember Gauthier for
16 hours that night after Walter Wallace was
17 killed, and that pain was visual.

18 It would be an understatement
19 to say that giving millions of dollars to
20 the police in the wake of Walter
21 Wallace's murder feels tone deaf to that
22 pain. And anyone who read the Inquirer's
23 recent story about the brutality that
24 Rakia Young and her family faced that
25 night can attest to the fact that a

1 12/10/20 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 robust police presence does not
3 necessarily mean community safety. Rakia
4 was senselessly beaten and taken away
5 from her toddler when she accidentally
6 drove through the center of one of the
7 protests.

8 In light of these repeated
9 instances of police violence toward
10 community members, we are discussing the
11 \$17 million transfer, and that stings.
12 It stings hard. Why is it that we give
13 the Police Department almost a sixth of
14 our entire operating budget as a city and
15 then permit them to overspend and ask for
16 more?

17 We have the power to reject
18 this power imbalance and to say it's not
19 okay for the police to spend whatever
20 they want, while our schools and our
21 neighborhoods are begging for scraps.
22 And that's why I, along with a few fellow
23 members of the Police Reform Working
24 Group, Councilmembers Thomas, Johnson,
25 Gilmore Richardson, with the support of

1 12/10/20 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Councilmembers Gauthier, Gym, Green, and
3 Domb, have requested a formal audit of
4 the Philadelphia Police's budget.

5 I am in conversations with the
6 Controller's Office about this audit so
7 that we can better understand what is
8 being spent where and achieve greater
9 transparency moving forward. We have a
10 right to see where the money is going.
11 Police funding should not be in a black
12 box. It should be a result of community
13 input and rigorous speaking, and I'm
14 hopeful that this audit will lead us on
15 that path.

16 Lastly, I have learned a great
17 deal this year, both through working with
18 my colleagues to push legislation forward
19 and observing the way that others
20 approach this work. I have learned
21 nearly as much through the successes of
22 this year as I have through the
23 challenges, and it has been tiring,
24 invigorating, and at times extremely
25 frustrating.

1 12/10/20 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 As I reflect back on past
3 Council sessions, what has been the most
4 remarkable is the level of community
5 input and engagement. We have seen
6 extraordinary displays of community
7 organizing, worker solidarity, visionary
8 activism, and neighborhood support across
9 our city, and a common thread has been a
10 profound hunger for change. And we have
11 a choice how we respond to that. We can
12 choose to grow our legislation from the
13 grassroots or make decisions behind
14 closed doors and legislate from the top
15 down.

16 We have all had to throw out
17 roadmaps for what we thought this year
18 would be, and as we approach 2021, I
19 encourage us to continue disposing of
20 what doesn't serve us, to leave behind
21 these deeply entrenched ways of thinking
22 that bind us to business as usual, to say
23 no to lobbyists, political pressure, and
24 instead listen to the voices of the
25 people, and the people do not mince their

1 12/10/20 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 words.

3 Philly's staggering racial
4 wealth gap is inevitable. Suffering is
5 not inevitable. And it is always a
6 policy choice, and the power is in our
7 hands. And although as a Council body we
8 have accomplished a great deal this past
9 year and I know we all recognize that
10 there's significantly more that we can do
11 in years to come, I hope that the new
12 year brings us the courage we need to
13 meet this moment, to meet persistent
14 structural problems with bold ideas and
15 real transformative change. Because
16 we're not holding back in 2021.

17 And I want to thank you,
18 Council President and my colleagues, and
19 I wish you all and the viewing public a
20 safe, socially distanced, restful, and
21 rejuvenating holiday season.

22 Thank you all.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

24 Thank you, Councilwoman.

25 Speeches on behalf of the

1 12/10/20 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 majority?

3 The Chair recognizes Councilman
4 Johnson.

5 (No response.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
7 Councilman Johnson.

8 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Thank you,
9 Council President.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
11 You're welcome.

12 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: First and
13 foremost, I just want to thank all of my
14 colleagues for their hard work and their
15 dedication throughout this very, very
16 challenging year. As we faced crisis
17 after crisis, we had to adjust on the fly
18 to a new way of life, including a new way
19 of working. All of you have gone above
20 and beyond the call of duty to serve the
21 people of Philadelphia.

22 We have brought solutions to
23 the table for public health, housing
24 preservation, small business relief,
25 racial equity, black workers' rights,

1 12/10/20 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 dignity for our black judges, police
3 accountability, fiscal stability,
4 government transparency, and so much
5 more.

6 As we look forward to the
7 arrival of a COVID-19 vaccine, there are
8 glimmers of hope on the horizon, but our
9 work is far from over. Although many
10 will remember 2020 as the year of the
11 COVID-19 pandemic, I will also remember
12 2020 as the bloodiest year of the 21st
13 century. Indeed, this has been
14 Philadelphia's deadliest year since 1990.
15 As of yesterday, we have had 465
16 homicides in our city this year. This
17 cannot continue. It must not continue,
18 and it's totally unacceptable.

19 I pledge that I will not stop
20 working on solutions with my colleagues.

21 Today we voted on legislation I
22 sponsored to cut off the flow of ghost
23 guns in our communities. This bill was a
24 direct result of hearings I held this
25 fall. At those hearings, law enforcement

1 12/10/20 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 testified that an increasing share of
3 crime guns recovered in Philadelphia are
4 ghost guns made from kits with simple
5 tools from Home Depot and tutorial videos
6 on the internet. Those ghost guns don't
7 carry a serial number, don't require a
8 background check, and can't be traced by
9 investigators. This will give law
10 enforcement an important tool to keep
11 guns out of the neighborhoods and hold
12 gun traffickers accountable.

13 And although today is the last
14 meeting of Council in 2020, my colleagues
15 and I are going to keep working
16 throughout the end of the year. On
17 Monday, I'll be hosting a hearing of the
18 City Council's Special Committee on Gun
19 Violence at 10:00 a.m. This is a
20 follow-up on a series of hearings that
21 had started from this summer and fall
22 that examined the reasons for our massive
23 spike in gun violence. Topics would
24 include the new Group Violence
25 Intervention program, victim services and

1 12/10/20 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 trauma counseling for affected
3 communities, the homicide and non-fatal
4 clearance rate, and the conviction rate
5 for shootings that result in arrest.

6 Another pressing issue facing
7 our city is the rapid spread of COVID-19
8 within Philadelphia jails and
9 Pennsylvania prisons, which affects
10 thousands of Philadelphians, both inmates
11 and staff. During this pandemic, jails
12 and prisons have been infection hotspots,
13 and Philadelphia is no exception. At the
14 beginning of the pandemic, there was a
15 significant and collaborative effort on
16 the part of City stakeholders, including
17 City Council, to limit the spread of
18 COVID-19 within Philadelphia jails and
19 keep non-violent offenders out of the
20 jails. Now that COVID-19 infection rates
21 are surging, we must renew these efforts.

22 Currently there are over 4,000
23 Philadelphians being housed in the
24 Philadelphia Department of Prisons.
25 There are thousands more housed by the

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2 Pennsylvania Department of Corrections,
3 and of course there are thousands of
4 corrections officers and staff. We owe
5 it to these fellow Philadelphians to
6 address this issue. We also owe it to
7 ourselves.

8 If the staff and the inmates
9 are infected in our prisons, when they
10 come back into our communities, they will
11 bring COVID-19 with them. We cannot
12 afford to ignore this issue as the second
13 wave of this pandemic rises.

14 Accordingly, I will be
15 partnering with my colleague Councilman
16 Curtis Jones, Chairman of the Committee
17 on Public Safety, and Councilwoman Cindy
18 Bass, Chairwoman of the Committee on
19 Public Health, to hold a hearing on
20 December the 21st at 10:00 a.m. to
21 examine how we are addressing COVID-19 in
22 our prison system.

23 I look forward to continuing
24 Council's work to protect all
25 Philadelphians and I invite my colleagues

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2 to attend these hearings.

3 Thank you very much, and I look
4 forward to working with all of you. God
5 bless everyone and have a beautiful
6 holiday.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

8 Thank you, Councilman.

9 The Chair recognizes
10 Councilwoman Gym.

11 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Thank you
12 very much, Council President. I want to
13 also echo the beautiful words that
14 Councilmembers Brooks and Johnson have
15 already delivered about what it feels
16 like to work together on City Council
17 through an extraordinary year.

18 I also want to highlight one of
19 the issues that we've had a lot of
20 challenges around, and that's the issue
21 around the eviction process. But the
22 vote that we took earlier today on the
23 Consent Agenda around extending the
24 diversion program, with much gratitude to
25 our Appropriations Chair, Councilmember

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2 Quinones-Sanchez, and many others,
3 including Councilmember Gilmore
4 Richardson and Councilmember Oh, who
5 reached out to help navigate our
6 relationship with the courts, shows that
7 there are actually alternatives to
8 eviction that can work when we put
9 efforts into it.

10 I think it's profound that when
11 the pandemic hit, there was a lot of
12 dialogue about the importance of housing,
13 but this City Council body actually took
14 the time to act on that and not just to
15 talk about it. We enacted a broad-based
16 eviction moratorium through August. We
17 created, in a matter of weeks, an
18 eviction -- a mandatory pre-filing
19 eviction diversion program, and all
20 thanks to our wonderful Deputy Mayor Anne
21 Fadullon and Eva Gladstein, to Melissa
22 Long and Greg Heller and their shops, to
23 make sure that we got rent assist and
24 resources out to both landlords and
25 tenants and then modified the programs

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2 all the way through.

3 But the early results on
4 eviction diversion should be a point of
5 pride for this Council body. This is a
6 city that in 2019 evicted over 19,000
7 households. We ranked fourth in the
8 nation in terms of evicting people. We
9 know that in the way that a criminal
10 record can impact one in three black men
11 here in the City of Philadelphia, an
12 eviction filing can be a mark for so many
13 black women who are seeking shelter not
14 only for themselves but for the children
15 and for the seniors and others that they
16 take care of.

17 What we saw through the
18 pre-filing diversion program is that when
19 we have a housing counselor sit down with
20 a landlord and tenant in a mediated
21 discussion, we come out with positive
22 agreements over 80 percent of the time,
23 and actually only 5 percent of the
24 mediated agreements where both parties
25 are sitting down together don't end up in

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2 an agreement. There's no reason for us
3 to continue what we have done before that
4 has been destructive to families, that
5 has been destructive to children, to have
6 not resulted in better outcomes for
7 landlords or tenants either.

8 We want to commit to make sure
9 that this is a balanced process, and in
10 2021, I look forward to working with our
11 Council colleagues to transfer the
12 diversion program over, but I do just
13 want to underscore that it's my belief
14 that the City has started something
15 important, extraordinary, and in the way
16 that diversion works in the criminal
17 justice system, it can also work in
18 systems that are equally oppressive,
19 including in Landlord Tenant Court.
20 We've shown it. We've proved it. We've
21 shown people that there can be better
22 outcomes in desperate, desperate times.
23 And as we face January and the fact that
24 the CDC eviction order expires, we
25 eagerly await the announcement of

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2 hopefully a federal package, a bipartisan
3 package, that will once again put money
4 towards rent assist and supports for
5 families and communities in need. But
6 this work needs to continue loudly into
7 January.

8 It's not wrong to disrupt
9 processes that are themselves wrong. We
10 can show that we can break cycles of
11 abuse, exploitation, of oppression if we
12 put all of our work towards it, and I am
13 really proud to be part of a Council body
14 that has done this.

15 I also want to thank just all
16 of the Councilmembers who are on here. I
17 think our power is our diversity and the
18 way -- and the creative ways in which we
19 approach problems and the way we look at
20 solutions, even if we disagree. And so I
21 am extremely grateful for all the
22 colleagues who have worked together to
23 really stand up on housing, on gun
24 violence issues, on holding the School
25 District accountable, holding many people

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2 who have responsibilities right now
3 accountable.

4 And, finally, I just want to
5 say a note of gratitude to a number of
6 different people, some of whom are
7 leaving the City. Rue Landau got a lot
8 of love, and deservedly so, from all of
9 us, but I will also say gratitude to
10 Council President for acknowledging the
11 work of Marcel Pratt, our City Solicitor,
12 who has truly brought a sense of dignity,
13 a moral conscience, and an uplifting of
14 the morale over in City government. He's
15 going on to great things, but it has been
16 an honor to serve with him and to see how
17 he executes his work with such dignity
18 and with such a sense of the public
19 trust.

20 I also want to thank you for
21 honoring the retirement of an inspiring
22 mentor for me, Wilson Goode, Jr. I know
23 he has been many other people's
24 colleagues for a really long time, but
25 for those who may not know, before I came

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2 into City Council, Councilmember Goode
3 met with me every single week for several
4 hours at a time in the summer after I was
5 elected in May 2019 and then all the way
6 through until my election -- rather,
7 until I was seated formally on City
8 Council.

9 He's not just somebody who
10 delivers brilliant policy and is a great
11 partner and an incisive person, he truly
12 believes in building out a better world
13 in which policy ideas that are cared for
14 and done in collegial partnership with
15 others can actually transform the world.
16 I know this because he started a
17 wonderful organization called Local
18 Progress, which has people from all over
19 the country. When he first started it,
20 it was just a small number of people who
21 believed that municipal politics could
22 actually lead from a policy angle,
23 especially when we were in states or saw
24 a federal government that was lagging on
25 housing, on justice reform, on youth, on

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2 schools, and on immigrant rights. And he
3 built it into what is now a 50 state --
4 49 state 1,000-plus member strong
5 organization.

6 I will be coming in in 2021 as
7 its new co-chair, along with our
8 Councilmember from Texas, Austin, Texas,
9 Greg Casar, and I just wanted to
10 acknowledge and thank Councilmember Goode
11 for always believing and seeing
12 possibilities in so many people as well.

13 And I also want to thank our
14 Council staff, Michael Decker, Modesto,
15 and others. It's been a really hard time
16 technologically speaking, and it's been
17 really great, and just your work has been
18 really appreciated. I know we probably
19 don't say it enough, but thank you to
20 your whole team for keeping us able to do
21 the work that we do.

22 Thank you very much, Council
23 President.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

25 Thank you, Councilwoman.

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2 Next up, Councilwoman Bass.

3 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Good

4 afternoon. Thank you, Mr. President.

5 Thank you for the recognition. I want to

6 just first, number one, start out by

7 thanking you for your leadership and for

8 all of my colleagues for all of the work

9 that we do. We don't always agree.

10 Clearly at times we agree to disagree,

11 but I have no doubt whatsoever that we

12 all have the same mindset, which is that

13 we want to help people, we want to make a

14 difference, we want to get things done in

15 the City of Philadelphia.

16 So I just really wanted to

17 start out by saying that and also

18 thanking just a couple of people in

19 particular and recognizing a few people,

20 and I want to pick up where my colleague

21 just left off and mention W. Wilson

22 Goode, Jr., who is just a great friend, a

23 great human being, most importantly, and

24 someone who is surely going to be missed

25 in the City of Philadelphia. When it

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2 comes to public policy, I will dare say
3 there's no one better. Wilson is just
4 incredible, an incredible thinker and
5 someone that you can always lean on.

6 So I just really wanted to give
7 a shout-out to my good friend Wilson
8 Goode, Jr. We are really going to miss
9 you in the building, even though we're
10 not in the building right now, but we are
11 really truly going to miss you.

12 Also Rue. I've known Rue for
13 well over 20 years. It seems like just
14 yesterday that we were working together
15 on some campaigns back in the late '90s
16 and early 2000s. But I want to say to
17 Rue congratulations on moving up, moving
18 out, doing some different things. And
19 we're going to miss you as well, but we
20 all have your number on speed dial, so we
21 will feel free to reach out to you and to
22 be in touch. So congratulations to you
23 on your future endeavors.

24 Joey Temple, Joey Temple was a
25 great guy. He's going to really be

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2 missed. He isn't someone who worked with
3 us on public policy, but when you want to
4 talk about knowing the neighborhood,
5 knowing what's happening in the streets,
6 knowing what's going on, Joey Temple was
7 that person. And so when I first heard
8 about his passing, I was shocked, because
9 I didn't know he was sick, but I heard
10 someone on WURD say on his last show,
11 because he had a radio show, on his last
12 show that he came on and he played songs
13 such as My Prerogative and Frank
14 Sinatra's I Did It My Way and songs with
15 that kind of theme, and if you knew Joey
16 Temple, then you knew that he did it his
17 way, and he was unapologetic about being
18 for the neighborhood.

19 And so we are really, really,
20 really going to miss Joey Temple. I know
21 I'm really going to miss him.

22 And one other person I want to
23 point out is an unsung hero, and that's a
24 good friend of mine, Dominick Cipollini.
25 Going back to Councilwoman Katherine

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2 Gilmore Richardson earlier and her
3 resolution on Hallahan and so many of us
4 grew up -- I didn't go to Hallahan, but
5 everyone knew someone who went to
6 Hallahan or has a connection, and I
7 certainly have a connection with Bishop
8 McDevitt where my nephew attended for a
9 moment.

10 And so Dominick Cipollini, who
11 many of us know from many different
12 avenues, heard about what was happening
13 and just put up some billboards. Nobody
14 asked him to. Nobody called him. He
15 just heard what was happening and thought
16 it was a travesty and wanted to do
17 something.

18 And so if we all in our own way
19 just do something to make this city
20 better, it goes a long way.

21 So that being said,
22 Mr. President, I just want to thank you
23 for your leadership, for all of Council's
24 leadership, and for all of my colleagues
25 for the work that you do, and as we look

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2 forward to a new year, which I think
3 we're all very much looking forward to,
4 even though it's just -- 2020 has really
5 been something quite unexpected, and it's
6 time to move on, and what we move on to
7 nobody knows. Nobody knew what 2020 was
8 going to be. Nobody knows what 2021 is
9 going to be, but we're looking forward to
10 that change, and I pray that everyone is
11 safe and healthy and taking care of those
12 close to them and their loved ones and
13 especially us look out for our children
14 and our seniors.

15 The only other thing I need to
16 add, Mr. President, is that for those of
17 us -- back to work. For those of us who
18 are on the Health and Human Services
19 Committee, we had a hearing originally
20 scheduled for 1:00 p.m. It's 2:23 right
21 now. We're going to ask to reconvene
22 around 3:00. So for those who are on the
23 Public Health and Human Services
24 Committee, please reconvene at 3 o'clock.

25 Thank you, Mr. President.

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2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 Thank you. Thank you, Councilwoman.

4 Thank you so much.

5 The Chair recognizes Councilman
6 Green.

7 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Thank you,
8 Council President. I just wanted to echo
9 a lot of the comments made by my
10 colleagues in this holiday season. 2020
11 has been a year like none other. We wish
12 everyone who is watching, participating
13 in the City of Philadelphia Merry
14 Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Kwanzaa.

15 I know it's a challenging time
16 period for many of us because we can't do
17 the things we normally would do due to
18 the pandemic. In that regard, my staff
19 will be doing our annual Toys for Tots
20 drive. This Saturday there will be a
21 drivethrough Toys and Tots drive at the
22 One Olney Shopping Center from 11:00 a.m.
23 to 1:00 p.m. So if you want to pass on
24 that spirit of cheer and joy by dropping
25 off a gift, please stop by the One Olney

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2 Shopping Center this Saturday from 11:00
3 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. where my staff will be
4 doing our annual Toys for Tots
5 drivethrough and toy drive.

6 So many comments have been
7 made. I just wanted to echo the comments
8 made by members of Council saluting the
9 career and work of former Councilmember
10 W. Wilson Goode, Jr., as well as Rue
11 Landau, someone that I went to law school
12 with. We were joking earlier in the week
13 of how we used to see each other in
14 Temple Law School, me coming out of
15 either the Student Bar Association Office
16 or the Blacks Law Student Association
17 Office, and she's done phenomenal work in
18 her career as an attorney. I'm glad to
19 see she's going back to those acre of
20 diamonds on North Broad Street as a
21 professor at Temple Law School, as well
22 as my fraternity brother Marcel Pratt.
23 He's done an excellent job as the City
24 Solicitor, now going back into private
25 practice.

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2 So those are examples of great
3 public servants. This body has been
4 doing public service in spite of this
5 pandemic, but as some of my colleagues
6 have said, we have more work to do and we
7 need to continue to press and advocate
8 for things that have helped our city.

9 Many people have read about the
10 stimulus package that's being debated in
11 DC. It's right now proposed at \$908
12 billion. \$160 billion have been
13 identified for cities, states, and travel
14 governments. We know that we have a very
15 precarious financial situation here in
16 the City of Philadelphia with only a \$22
17 million fund balance. And so the
18 National League of Cities recently did a
19 survey of about 900 cities around this
20 nation. 71 percent of those cities said
21 that if Congress does not take action,
22 their financial situation will definitely
23 worsen in 2021.

24 The Pennsylvania Municipal
25 League did a survey of about over 2,500

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2 cities in the Commonwealth of
3 Pennsylvania. Some of you may know that
4 we have legislation in Harrisburg called
5 Act 47, which is for distressed cities,
6 basically cities who are going through
7 some type of like basic bankruptcy. We
8 have 31 cities in Act 47. Based on the
9 survey that the Pennsylvania Municipal
10 League did, 23 cities are seriously
11 looking at going into Act 47 as we go
12 into the new year if Congress does not
13 pass some relief measures for cities
14 around this nation, more particularly in
15 this state and also for the City of
16 Philadelphia.

17 So hopefully the Senators and
18 members of Congress get the message and
19 they pass that legislation before they
20 recess to make sure that we have the
21 dollars that we need, especially as we go
22 into Calendar Year 2021 and as we begin
23 our budget process, because we know this
24 year's budget process was so challenging.

25 And so we've had a theme, I

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2 think, in this Council in a lot of the
3 speeches this afternoon about public
4 service. We've commended and lauded a
5 lot of public servants. We've also
6 lauded public servants who have done
7 public service in a unique way, like Joey
8 Temple, but I would be remiss if I did
9 not acknowledge a gentleman that has been
10 a longtime public servant in the City of
11 Philadelphia that passed away somewhat
12 recently, James Stanley White. He was a
13 former Executive Vice President of Temple
14 University where he served basically as
15 the Chief Operating Officer for Temple
16 University. He was a retired United
17 States Colonel. He was a former
18 Commissioner of Licenses and Inspection,
19 as well as a former Managing Director for
20 the City, also a former Vice President of
21 Provident National Bank, and also before
22 becoming EVP at Temple was a former Vice
23 President at Temple University.

24 For those of you who go up and
25 down North Broad Street and drive by

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2 Temple University, if you're going north,
3 you will notice on your left-hand side
4 that back in the late '90s as he was
5 retiring from Temple University, the
6 Board of Trustees, where he served, named
7 a residence hall after James Stanley
8 White. That was his first major
9 construction project while working at
10 Temple University, and it was named in
11 his honor as the James Stanley White
12 Student Residence Hall. And Jim White,
13 or Stan White if those of you who went to
14 that outstanding university of Morgan
15 State University called him Stan White,
16 he was also a board member of the
17 Philadelphia Tribune. He was also an
18 outstanding member of my fraternity,
19 Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated.
20 He was also a member of the Alpha Boule
21 Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated.

22 So I just wanted to acknowledge
23 the life and memory of James Stanley
24 White, a public servant. So many public
25 servants have transitioned in 2020 as

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2 we've gone through this COVID-19 year,
3 but I think we can lift up their memories
4 to encourage us to continue to do the
5 work so we will have a better year in
6 2021 as we transition through some of the
7 challenges that we have this year.

8 With that, Council President,
9 I'll just ask if we can have a moment of
10 silence in the memory of James Stanley
11 White.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
13 Absolutely.

14 Can we please have a moment of
15 silence.

16 (Moment of silence.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
18 Thank you. Thank you so much, to a great
19 guy.

20 The Chair recognizes Councilman
21 Thomas.

22 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Thank you,
23 Council President, and thank you to my
24 colleagues. Today is a really special
25 day for me. Two years ago I announced my

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2 campaign for this seat, and today we're
3 finishing our last session for our first
4 year. And also like so many of my
5 colleagues, it's truly an honor to honor
6 former Councilmember Wilson Goode, Jr.
7 today. It's been a long journey for me
8 to get here, and in the midst of that
9 journey, I've had some unsuccessful
10 campaigns. I remember running in 2015
11 and being a part of an event in New York
12 with Councilmember Goode, and that really
13 gave me a good schooling and
14 understanding not just who he was to the
15 City of Philadelphia but similar to what
16 Councilmember Gym talked about earlier,
17 who he is to the entire country. And so
18 when you talk about someone who has
19 inspired people to run for office, who
20 has inspired legislation, it's definitely
21 an honor and a privilege to serve on this
22 body after him, inspired by him, with so
23 many other great legislators, both past
24 and present. So I commend him. I just
25 wanted to say thank you to him and make

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2 sure that -- and thank you to you,
3 Council President, for assuring that he
4 gets his flowers while he can smell them.

5 I also wanted to echo the
6 sentiments of my colleague Councilmember
7 Green and bring homage to Marcel Pratt,
8 our former City Solicitor, who did a
9 great job, who is an inspiration to a lot
10 of people in our generation and who I'm
11 optimistic about will do other things.

12 And I also wanted to recognize
13 another good friend of mine, somebody who
14 has meant a lot to this Council body who
15 also moved on, and that was a good friend
16 of all of ours, Matt Stitt, who again
17 just another person who is an inspiration
18 from my generation, who now is in the
19 private sector, former public servant
20 doing great things.

21 So I did want to recognize all
22 three of them. They had a huge impact on
23 my first year in City Council. I'm
24 pretty sure a lot of my colleagues would
25 echo the sentiments that I just talked

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2 about.

3 Now, in the spirit of what
4 Councilmember Johnson who was
5 communicating as it relates to the work
6 still needing to be done, he's exactly
7 right. Not only are there hearings
8 taking place, we'll still be doing a lot
9 brainstorming and researching and
10 creating different collaborations around
11 policing, around our schools, around
12 regulatory relief, around supporting poor
13 people, people of color and figuring out
14 what can we do to provide more and more
15 resources to help people get through this
16 Coronavirus pandemic to make sure we're
17 good on the other side.

18 So thank you, Council
19 President. Thank you, colleagues. It's
20 been a roller coaster of a first year,
21 but I couldn't ask for a better team to
22 be a part of.

23 Thank you.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

25 Thank you, Councilman.

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2 The Chair recognizes
3 Councilwoman Quinones-Sanchez.

4 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: I'll be
5 very brief, but I want to thank
6 Councilmember Bass for her indulgence. I
7 know we have this hearing at 3 o'clock.

8 Council President, I just want
9 to thank you for your leadership and to
10 all my colleagues and members. I
11 appreciate folks, particularly those who
12 share my values and the work that I do,
13 but I also highly respect those who I
14 disagree with and really do honor and
15 respect the fact that we're all
16 independent elected officials who truly
17 represent our constituencies and were
18 brought here and honored with people's
19 vote to do the people's work and get to
20 compromises and moving this city forward.
21 You have done that this year with
22 significant legacy projects, whether it's
23 the poverty partnership, to the \$400
24 million bond. Council President, I want
25 to thank you and all my colleagues for

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2 your leadership.

3 I also want to thank Marcel
4 Pratt for his service, and really just
5 want to end on our good colleague Wilson
6 Goode. For those of us continuing his
7 work around social economic justice,
8 because that's what he did here, a body
9 of work of hundreds of bills that were
10 impactful to how we run business, we
11 stand on his shoulders. He was the
12 trailblazer in this space and was
13 unapologetic in his work. And so I
14 personally also want to thank him for
15 being a friend, for always answering the
16 call and giving the advice around this,
17 how we want to impact and do this kind of
18 work.

19 So thank you, Council
20 President, for your patience and for our
21 leadership team. And to all the members,
22 have a safe holiday season. I know all
23 of us are going to be working. Shout out
24 to my partner Councilmember Squilla. As
25 Governor Wolf, during this very crazy

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2 pandemic time, we are in a health crisis,
3 and I look forward to our leadership and
4 helping people feel more secure about
5 where we are.

6 Thank you, Council President.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

8 Thank you, Councilwoman. Thank you so
9 much.

10 The Chair recognizes

11 Councilwoman Gilmore Richardson.

12 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Thank
13 you so much, Mr. President. And I too
14 wanted to echo the sentiments of my
15 colleagues in thanking and congratulating
16 Marcel Pratt, who has been a good friend
17 and trusted advisor.

18 To my friend and former
19 colleague Matt Stitt, to Rue Landau, who
20 I worked with very early on in my career
21 as a legislative aide, on the next leg of
22 her journey, and certainly Councilmember
23 W. Wilson Goode, Jr., I had the honor and
24 the privilege to watch him work while he
25 passed so many bills, good bills as he

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2 called them, on behalf of the people we
3 serve and was a seat mate to my
4 predecessor and my mentor, Councilmember
5 Blondell Reynolds Brown.

6 I still remember how he would
7 set up his desk, the items he would have
8 on his desk, and his deep knowledge of
9 the legislative process and our internal
10 procedures of City Council. I wish him
11 well and truly thank him for his
12 continued work.

13 And I too am grateful for the
14 lessons I've learned this year. As you
15 all know, I've worked in City Council for
16 quite some time, so I knew that when I
17 became a member, there would be lots of
18 new things to learn, but the challenges
19 this year made the transition
20 particularly difficult. So I want to
21 thank each and every one of you for your
22 support. Whether we agreed or disagreed,
23 I have learned so much from you, and I
24 look forward to our continued work
25 together.

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2 I think this crisis has taught
3 all of us new ways to collaborate, adapt,
4 and partner to better serve the people of
5 Philadelphia, and it showed us that no
6 matter how tough a challenge, we can get
7 through it together.

8 In addition to the COVID-19
9 pandemic, we continued to grapple with a
10 gun violence crisis here in Philadelphia,
11 systematic inequities and racism,
12 generational poverty, and climate change
13 and other crises that really force us to
14 ask ourselves what kind of city do we
15 want to be, a Philadelphia where your zip
16 code does not determine your life
17 expectancy; a Philadelphia where we don't
18 have to live in fear of gun violence in
19 our neighborhoods; a Philadelphia where
20 the economy is inclusive of all education
21 levels and skills and invested in our
22 local talent and resources.

23 Workforce development,
24 re-skilling and up-skilling for careers,
25 as indicated in our labor market

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2 indicators, will be vital to our
3 recovery, as well as prioritizing our
4 environment in all decisions moving
5 forward across government; a Philadelphia
6 where every neighborhood is safe,
7 walkable, and has well-maintained
8 community resources like commercial
9 corridors, schools, parks,
10 transportation, and recreation centers; a
11 Philadelphia where temperatures aren't 20
12 degrees higher in some neighborhoods than
13 in others; a Philadelphia where everyone
14 has a safe, healthy, affordable home.

15 This is a vision that I truly
16 believe can be a reality, but it will
17 take hard work.

18 This past year we faced a \$750
19 million hole in our budget. We know that
20 next year may be even harder with our
21 fund balance dwindling. It is my sincere
22 hope that we will see support from our
23 state and federal governments, but it is
24 also my hope that we use this crisis to
25 think innovatively about what challenges

1 12/10/20 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 we need to make and take right here in
3 Philadelphia and what changes we need to
4 continue to take, how have our choices
5 played a role in the City we have today
6 and what should we do differently to move
7 the needle on these issues.

8 We have been asking these tough
9 questions since the beginning of this
10 year, and I will say even when it was
11 extremely difficult, I learned from you,
12 Councilmember Oh, and I appreciate you,
13 Councilmember O'Neill, for pulling me
14 aside after a hearing one day. Your
15 words really helped me, and I will
16 always, always be grateful for you. I
17 learned so much from you and your great
18 institutional knowledge.

19 Since the onset of COVID, we've
20 been listening to our small business
21 owners about their challenges and needs,
22 like we did yesterday in the Committee on
23 Commerce and Economic Development, and I
24 want to thank our Majority Leader,
25 Councilmember Cherelle L. Parker, for her

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2 laser focus on the needs of our
3 commercial corridors.

4 We spent seven hours hearing
5 some community members about police
6 reform, over 100 witnesses, and truly
7 shedding light on the contracting
8 practices that tie up over \$700 million
9 of our budget each and every year. I
10 want to thank all of you colleagues for
11 your support of the public comment bill,
12 a first in the City of Philadelphia.

13 We held listening sessions in
14 the community through Councilmember
15 Quinones-Sanchez's Poverty Action Task
16 Force and the Disadvantaged Communities
17 Task Force with Councilmember Isaiah
18 Thomas and myself and all the members of
19 Council, and we are finding new ways to
20 leverage resources to invest in those who
21 need it most.

22 We passed legislation to help
23 business owners and restaurants pivot
24 during this pandemic under the leadership
25 of Councilmember Domb and Henon; the

1 12/10/20 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Emergency Housing Protection Act and the
3 Black Workers Matter package from
4 Councilmembers Brooks, Gym, Gauthier,
5 Thomas, and Johnson; and also,
6 Councilmember Johnson, for your focus on
7 gun violence prevention; and a bill -- we
8 also passed a bill to help our
9 environment and our important outdoor
10 spaces we use more and more during this
11 time by Councilmember Bass.

12 We passed a New Normal Budget
13 Act with your leadership, Council
14 President, and Councilmembers Parker,
15 Squilla, and Jones, and also our
16 Appropriations Chair, Councilmember
17 Quinones-Sanchez, and our Finance Chair,
18 Councilmember Green, to make it
19 abundantly clear that this body
20 recognizes the disparities caused by
21 generations of systematic racism and
22 poverty and that we are ready to put
23 money where our mouth is.

24 We may not always agree, but it
25 is clear that we are willing to work

1 12/10/20 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 together to move closer to achieving
3 those goals.

4 Philadelphia, I ask you to join
5 us. Tell us what your vision is for our
6 great city, and please continue showing
7 up to let us hear from you. This year
8 you came out to make your voices heard in
9 the streets, in our sessions, in our
10 e-mails, and at the ballot box, and I
11 want you to know we hear you and we are
12 working for you.

13 Finally, I want to say thank
14 you. Thank you to our essential workers,
15 the doctors and nurses, grocery store
16 clerks, postal carriers, SEPTA drivers,
17 and first responders. You have done so
18 much to keep us going, and I'm so
19 grateful for you.

20 Thank you to our educators. As
21 you all know, I'm a mom of three and I
22 have a daughter in kindergarten and one
23 in high school, and I've watched how hard
24 our teachers have worked to adapt to
25 virtual school and keep our kids engaged

1 12/10/20 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 in their learning. This is hard work, so
3 I thank each and every teacher out there.

4 Special shout-out to all the
5 working parents, especially those of us
6 with little people. We are making it day
7 by day, and if no one told you, you are
8 doing a great job.

9 Finally, thank you to our
10 amazing Council staff who have worked
11 extremely hard this year to help us get
12 through this time. From our Council
13 President's administrative team, our
14 amazing Council Support team and tech
15 team, all of our staff members, but
16 especially our Chief Clerk, Mike Decker.
17 I remember seeing you 8 and 9 o'clock at
18 night leaving City Hall. Thank you so
19 much for helping us to navigate these
20 extremely difficult times. I am looking
21 forward to what will come next year, and
22 our journey continues.

23 Thank you so much, Council
24 President.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

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2 Thank you, Councilwoman. I look forward
3 to it.

4 The Chair recognizes
5 Councilwoman Parker.

6 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
7 you, Mr. President. Mr. President, I
8 want to start where Councilwoman
9 Katherine Gilmore Richardson ended and,
10 that is, in thanking the staff. I know
11 you guys always hear me say people see
12 us. They press the button and they vote
13 for us. But we don't get the opportunity
14 to be effective and efficient in what we
15 do if we don't have dynamic teams behind
16 each of us.

17 So I too want to say a special
18 thank you to our Chief Clerk Decker and
19 his team, to all of the technical staff,
20 the communication staff, but I do have a
21 confession to make, Mr. President.
22 Mr. President, when we started this Teams
23 work and I was just learning how to use
24 it, if I couldn't see them and I just
25 heard their voices, I could not tell the

1 12/10/20 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 difference between Modesto and Lonnie.

3 And so sometimes I would call Lonnie

4 Modesto and I will call Modesto Lonnie,

5 because I couldn't get it, and it was

6 only --

7 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: I still

8 don't know who is who, Madam Leader.

9 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Well,

10 thank you, Councilman Johnson. I thought

11 I was alone there. But today for the

12 first time when I heard the two of them

13 communicating with each other, Lonnie

14 said Modesto, and I said, oh, my God. So

15 now I got it. So I want to say thank

16 you. Thank you to both of them.

17 In the spirit of acknowledging

18 Councilmember Wilson Goode, Jr. and

19 talking about Marcel Pratt and Matt

20 Stitt, they made me think about an

21 African dodge that we often hear that

22 says that people without knowledge of

23 their history are like trees without

24 their roots. And when I think of the

25 body of work that we have done in this

1 12/10/20 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Council -- and I'm not speaking about any
3 one of us individually, Mr. President,
4 because we really do have much more work
5 to be done, but when you think about our
6 body of work, you cannot not acknowledge,
7 if we've been pushing for support of
8 public education, the work of Augusta
9 Clark and Jannie Blackwell. When we've
10 been talking about housing and fiscal
11 supports for the homeless and those with
12 mental health challenges and
13 disabilities, you can't without thinking
14 about Blackwell.

15 I love commercial corridors.
16 That was one of the first assignments I
17 had when working with Councilmember
18 Tasco, my mother mentor, but I can't talk
19 about commercial corridors without
20 acknowledging that it was Joan Krajewski
21 that developed the first districtwide
22 neighborhood commercial corridor study,
23 and after I saw that, I ran back to the
24 office and said, Councilwoman,
25 Councilwoman, we have to do this, and we

1 12/10/20 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 did that work.

3 When we talk about diversity
4 and inclusion, you can't have that
5 discussion, we know, without talking
6 about Councilman Wilson Goode, but
7 Councilman Angel Ortiz and Blondell
8 Reynolds Brown -- I'm also getting ready
9 to show my age -- Howard Rye (ph), Howard
10 Rye, Carolyn Rye's brother, when I didn't
11 even understand what it meant and how we
12 needed to try to use access to the
13 opportunity to do business with the City
14 as leverage, you know, to get black and
15 brown people working.

16 When we talk about housing, I
17 can't -- I have to think about David
18 Cohen. I'm talking about our late
19 Councilman David Cohen. When we talk
20 about supports like OOPAs and just giving
21 people access to payment plans, that was
22 him, and he was Johnny-on-the-spot.

23 When we talk about paid sick
24 leave, he's no longer here, but
25 Councilman Greenlee, if you're watching,

1 12/10/20 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 I'll never forget that call. When you
3 found out they were trying to pass
4 preemption legislation on the work you
5 all were doing here in Council, he very
6 quietly, Mr. President, picked up the
7 phone and called. Nobody knew. It
8 wasn't like a press conference or
9 anything. He just said, Cherelle, I hear
10 us coming, you're on that Labor
11 Committee, and let me send you the
12 correct language. He said, don't call it
13 paid sick leave. He said, you call it
14 earned paid sick leave, and he was very
15 specific about the language. And so I
16 used the information that he gave me to
17 advocate in that committee.

18 In addition to that, when I've
19 seen advocates come into Council this
20 year -- I'm talking about when we've been
21 in person and/or during public comment
22 here -- I want to say for the record that
23 I thought about the women who are no
24 longer here who I learned a lot from, and
25 I'm talking about Joan Howe, I'm talking

1 12/10/20 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 about Edwina Baker, I'm talking about
3 Onah Weldon and Audrey Johnson-Thornton,
4 Marilyn Clyburn and Flo Burley and Donna
5 Black. Those names might not mean much
6 to you all, but, again, when I reflect on
7 this work, I always think of those people
8 who taught many of us when we didn't know
9 what in the world we were doing. The
10 only thing we knew was that we wanted to
11 help.

12 With that being said,
13 Mr. President, I want to encourage all
14 Philadelphians to shop local this year.
15 I know these are challenging times and
16 everybody is on Amazon, but if there is
17 any way you can find a way to patronize
18 businesses that are located here in our
19 city, please do. If you want to visit
20 some bakeries, come to Katherine's on
21 Washington Lane or Gilben's on Stenton
22 Avenue, David Simms on Wadsworth. Thank
23 you, Councilwoman Gilmore Richardson, for
24 leading that advocacy during the
25 Thanksgiving era. But, listen, they are

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2 open for business now for Christmas, so
3 get your orders in soon.

4 And, finally, I want to say
5 this to you, Mr. President. There was no
6 roadmap to navigate this fiscal crisis
7 and this global health pandemic,
8 particularly for local governments.

9 You've been the steady arm and the steady
10 mind we needed to help lead us through
11 this process.

12 I want to just remind you and
13 the public, Mr. President, when I was in
14 Harrisburg, I watched people use divide
15 and conquer against Philadelphia from a
16 legislative perspective on more occasions
17 than I'd like to acknowledge, but this
18 year, Mr. President, we had unprecedented
19 intergovernmental cooperation and
20 planning between local, state, and
21 federal governments. We worked and got
22 on the same page with the Administration
23 when that was possible so we could
24 advocate for what we believed in.

25 And, colleagues, in the name of

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2 the late John Myers, who told me when my
3 grandfather died that my problem was I
4 couldn't fix it, and those of us who were
5 elected to public office, our job is to
6 fix things. And we might not be able to
7 do it all immediately, but when I look at
8 the work that each and every one of you
9 have done, you give me hope that no
10 matter how tall the challenge is in the
11 future, we're going to find a way to
12 address these pressing issues facing our
13 city.

14 Thank you, Mr. President.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

16 Thank you so much, Councilwoman.

17 Appreciate you.

18 Councilman Domb.

19 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Thank you,
20 Council President. I originally had a
21 three-hour speech, but I'm going to cut
22 it down to about a minute. Okay? I just
23 want to thank everybody, and I'm going to
24 second the comments of everyone who has
25 spoken, in the effort of time. I also

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2 want to give a special shout-out to my
3 staff and everyone's staff and the tech
4 team. I mean, I've learned a lot
5 technology-wise this year.

6 I want to give the big picture
7 here, and the big picture is, the vaccine
8 is on the horizon. The vaccine is
9 coming. We can see that light at the end
10 of the tunnel, thank God. And we have to
11 make sure that residents and every small,
12 medium business, large also gets there.
13 We can't leave anyone behind.

14 So on your leadership, Council
15 President, we've come through this pretty
16 well. I really enjoyed that budget
17 committee we put together -- that you put
18 together, and thank you for your
19 leadership.

20 Thank you to my colleagues, and
21 let's make sure nobody is left behind and
22 we get them all there to that vaccine and
23 get that vaccination done.

24 Happy holidays to everybody.
25 Thank you very much.

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2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3 Thank you. Thank you, Councilman.

4 It looks like that's the end of
5 the speeches on behalf of the majority.

6 Guys, I just want to thank you
7 all so much. Another productive session,
8 another productive Council. We have
9 stepped it up because of the challenges
10 that were put before us, but I must say
11 that requires that we step it up another
12 level, because the implementation stage,
13 the monitoring stage, making sure that
14 all those people are in a position to
15 take advantage of all of the great things
16 that we've done over the last several
17 months are real.

18 So I don't want to come off
19 with a little downer. We were on a high,
20 but we got a lot of work to do. All this
21 stuff that we've laid and the level of
22 threshold that we've placed on everything
23 we've done, we got to get it done,
24 because a lot of people are depending on
25 us to get it done.

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2 So I just want to thank all of
3 you so much, tell you how much I
4 appreciate -- and I know sometimes I get
5 a little frustrated. I try not to show
6 it, but it's good. It's good. It's good
7 for you, to understand the ability to
8 listen to everybody. You learn patience.
9 And I've gotten to be so much more
10 patient over the years. When I first
11 came here, my God, I remember Council
12 President Verna was like, my God, like
13 where are you on the rush to? I said,
14 well, I'm just used to being in a hurry.
15 Right?

16 But, no. On a serious note, I
17 just appreciate you all so much, and your
18 commitment, your passion is awesome. The
19 infusion of new blood is always good, and
20 that is again proving to be the case as
21 the newer members have come on and taken
22 it to another level.

23 So I just want to wish you all
24 a very, very happy holiday. Look forward
25 over the next month of having --

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2 Councilman Johnson has already announced
3 a couple of hearings that he's going to
4 have, and I anticipate there will be a
5 minimum of two or three more over the,
6 quote/unquote, recess so we can be
7 prepared to move forward on the adoption
8 of legislation when we get back.

9 So, again, everybody, thank you
10 all. I appreciate you all so much. I
11 even can say I love you. It's okay for a
12 man to say that, you know, in public. I
13 love you all. So, guys, just have a
14 happy one and be safe.

15 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Council
16 President?

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Yes,
18 sir.

19 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: If you
20 allow me to just wrap up, I want to give
21 you your props just for your leadership
22 and always working with this body as we
23 move forward. Obviously we all are
24 advocating around a variety of different
25 diverse issues for our constituency, with

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2 the overall common goal of moving the
3 City of Philadelphia forward, and I want
4 to thank you. I want to thank your
5 staff. I want to thank the tech staff
6 for keeping this Council moving forward,
7 because we didn't know what the new
8 normal was going to look like in terms of
9 how we were going to conduct Council.
10 (Inaudible) in terms of moving forward.

11 Special shout-out to Colia from
12 your staff for making sure those
13 citations still get done, and she's
14 coming in in the midst of COVID being out
15 there, and you have a variety of
16 different other staffers that are still
17 stepping up to the plate, like John
18 Fenton and the rest of them, that are
19 still moving Council forward in the midst
20 of this pandemic while we're home dealing
21 with virtual.

22 So I just want to thank you and
23 your team and, most importantly, the tech
24 staff, because they're doing like a
25 million zooms, a million virtual hearings

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2 to make sure we get this business done on
3 behalf of the City of Philadelphia. So I
4 just wanted to give a shout-out to you
5 and your overall staff and to say God
6 bless you to all my colleagues. Take
7 care, Council President.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
9 Thank you, Councilman. It takes a team,
10 and the team, as was said earlier, goes
11 way beyond the person's name that's on
12 the door of the office. It's inclusive
13 of us all. It doesn't happen without
14 everybody engaged.

15 So thank you all, appreciate
16 you, and again I'll say it publicly, love
17 you.

18 The Chair now recognizes
19 Councilman Jones for a motion to adjourn.

20 COUNCILMAN JONES: Before I do
21 that, I want to say one thing about
22 Wilson Goode, Jr. Nobody knew
23 parliamentary procedure and Council rules
24 better than him, but what I admired most
25 and what I copied off of him was nobody

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2 could second a motion quicker than him.

3 And I tried very hard to imitate him in

4 our present body. That's something I

5 took from him.

6 And with that, Mr. President, I

7 move that Council stand adjourned until

8 Thursday, January 28th, 2021 at 10:00

9 a.m.

10 (Duly seconded.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

12 Thank you.

13 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: I know it

14 wasn't that fast, Councilman Jones, but I

15 tried. I want you to know I tried.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

17 Thank you. It has been moved and

18 seconded that Council stand adjourned

19 until Thursday, January 28, 2021 at 10:00

20 a.m.

21 All those in favor indicate by

22 saying aye.

23 (Aye.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

25 Those opposed?

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2 (No response.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
4 ayes have it. The motion carries.

5 Thank you all very much. Have
6 a great holiday.

7 (Stated Meeting adjourned at
8 2:57 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

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

MICHELE L. MURPHY
RPR-Notary Public

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