

Final Meeting of the 2025 Charter Revision Committee

Moderated by Chair Richard R. Buery Jr.

Monday, July 21, 2025

1:15 p.m.

Landmarks Preservation Commission - Hearing Room

253 Broadway, 2nd Floor

New York, NY 10007

Reported by: Chanyri Moh

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A P P E A R A N C E S

List of Attendees:

Richard R. Buery Jr., Chair

Sharon Greenberger, Vice Chair

Leila Bozorg, Secretary

Clava Brodsky, General Counsel

Shams DaBaron, Commissioner

Anita Laremont, Commissioner

Alec Schierenbeck, Executive Director

Dr. Lisette Nieves, Commissioner

Anthony Richardson, Commissioner

Julie Samuels, Commissioner

Diane Savino, Commissioner

Carl Weisbrod, Commissioner

Valerie White, Commissioner

Kathryn S. Wylde, Commissioner

Grace C. Bonilla, Commissioner

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 CHAIR BUERY: Welcome to the final
3 public meeting of the 2025 Charter Revision
4 Commission. My name is Richard Beury, and I'm honored
5 to serve as chair.

6 I'm going to ask the commissioners and
7 everyone speaking to please remember to use your mic
8 when you're speaking. Just hit the button. The mic
9 will go green. We are relying on the audio recording
10 to produce our transcript, so it's important that we
11 have clear audio, so please remember to speak into the
12 mic and to speak clearly. And I will try not to speak
13 at 40 miles an hour, as I usually do.

14 Since this commission was announced in
15 December, we have undertaken a thorough review of the
16 City charter to find ways to make City government more
17 transparent and responsive, with a particular focus on
18 the city's housing crisis.

19 Joining me in this task have been 12
20 other commissioners: our vice chair, Sharon
21 Greenberger; our secretary, Leila Bozorg; Grace
22 Bonilla; Shams DaBaron; Anita Laremont; Dr. Lisette
23 Nieves; Anthony Richardson; Julie Samuels; Diane
24 Savino; Carl Weisbrod; Valerie White; and Kathryn
25 Wylde.

1 Over the course of this year, we have
2 heard from thousands of New Yorkers from all walks of
3 life and every corner of the city. We have endeavored
4 to make our commission as accessible as possible,
5 holding ten hearings across the five boroughs. We
6 have updated the public along the way, releasing
7 preliminary and interim reports reflecting what we've
8 heard and the potential reforms that we have been
9 considering. We have released written comments to
10 every -- to the public every month and made
11 recordings, transcripts, and summaries of all of our
12 meetings available on a nearly immediate basis.

13 After a complete review of the city
14 charter, consideration of the public testimony, and
15 research and conversations with experts from across
16 the city and across the country, we are here today to
17 vote on five potential questions to forward to New
18 Yorkers on the November ballot as well as our final
19 report.

20 Before we get to that, I want to start
21 by expressing my deepest thanks to the dedicated staff
22 of the commission. They have worked long hours to
23 coordinate hearings, draft the charter language
24 changes, produce the interim and -- preliminary,
25 interim, and final reports as well as answering a lot

1 of off-hour phone calls from at least one
2 commissioner.

3 I especially want to thank our
4 executive director, Alec Schierenbeck, who is truly a
5 remarkable, organized, smart, caring, thoughtful, and
6 engaging leader. It has really been, for no other
7 reason, the last six months, a pleasure to get to know
8 you and call you a colleague. Thank you, Alec.

9 Also wanted to share thanks to my
10 fellow commissioners, some of whom I've known and
11 worked with for years, some of whom I've got to know
12 during this process. It has truly been a pleasure to
13 wrestle through such complex questions with such a
14 talented and committed group of New Yorkers. I am
15 honored to have my name among your number.

16 And finally, I want to express my
17 thanks to the more than 800 New Yorkers who came out
18 to hearings before our commission and the thousands
19 more who submitted written comments. You reflect the
20 boundless passion that New Yorkers have for building a
21 more affordable and responsive city and have been a
22 honor to serve you over these past few months.

23 A quick note on process. In a minute,
24 I will open the floor for any comments from other
25 members of the commission and the -- about the slated

1 proposals before us. I will ask the commissioners to
2 take this time to express any comments they have about
3 any of the proposals so that when we go to -- to
4 proposal, we can be focused on that part of the
5 agenda.

6 I will then ask our executive director
7 to read each of the five ballot proposals before we
8 vote on the ballot proposals and the final report. We
9 will vote on each proposal individually and then
10 voting on the report and then on the final resolution.

11 There will be a motion on each ballot
12 question, and after the motion is seconded,
13 discussions can be held. After discussion, I will ask
14 for a role call vote on each ballot question, and
15 after each of the votes for the five ballot questions,
16 we will then have a role call vote for the final
17 report. Finally, I will call for a role call vote on
18 the resolution that delegates the staff the
19 responsibility for filing these materials with the
20 city clerk and taking whatever other technical actions
21 are needed to make sure that the proposals appear on
22 the ballot in November and that voters are educated
23 about the proposals.

24 With that out of the way, I'd like to
25 share a few of my own comments before moving forward.

1 When we had the honor of joining this
2 commission, we were charged with tackling our city's
3 deep housing crisis. No one can deny that the status
4 quo is not working. We have worked exhaustively to
5 find solutions that meet this moment, and I'm proud to
6 say that we have a set of proposals before us that can
7 set us on the path towards a more equitable and
8 affordable city.

9 The four housing proposals before us
10 today which speed up the types of housing which New
11 Yorkers say that they want the most, but which suffer
12 the most under the status quo, affordable housing and
13 small projects. These changes will help us address
14 the most pressing citywide needs, like our housing and
15 climate crisis while maintaining local voice in land
16 use decisions. We have learned after 36 years of
17 ULURP, which will continue to be the primary vehicle
18 for land use changes in New York City. These
19 proposals are meant to fix a process where it is not
20 working but also to sustain it where it is working.

21 Beyond affordable housing, we had also
22 planned to consider a range of reforms to the way New
23 York City contracts with nonprofit organizations. The
24 City depends on nonprofit organizations to deliver a
25 range of viable services to New Yorkers, yet the City

1 is frequently late in paying those organizations for
2 the services they deliver at great risk to the
3 organizations themselves and the New Yorkers they
4 serve. However, in view of recent actions by the city
5 council to address these concerns and to avoid
6 conflicting with those initiatives, we ultimately
7 decided not to advance amendments on these subjects to
8 voters at this time.

9 Similarly, we heard compelling
10 testimony recommending changes to the civilian
11 complaint review board which pays a critical toll in
12 promoting -- a -- which plays a critical role in
13 promoting public trust in law enforcement and thus
14 public safety in our city. While we believe that this
15 work is critical, we also understand that our sister
16 charter commission, the New York City Commission to
17 Strengthen Local Democracy, may seek to forward CCRB
18 reforms of voters. This commission is declining to
19 advance proposals on that subject at this time.

20 Finally, I am proud that we are
21 tackling the issue of New York City's chronically low
22 voter turnout by promoting -- by proposing switching
23 New York City elections from odd years to presidential
24 election years. Increasing voter turnout gets at the
25 root of so many other challenges as a city, and I am

1 grateful to the passionate New Yorkers who put this
2 issue on our agenda. However, we are declining to
3 propose changes to the New York City's closed primary
4 process. Notably, this reform was not in our agenda
5 when we began this process, but it was the subject on
6 which we received the most testimony. We heard
7 compelling testimony on all sides of the issue, and I
8 remain personally convinced that it is time to open
9 our primary system to independent voters. However,
10 while there was significant consensus among
11 commissioners on the benefits of some -- on the
12 benefits of some type of reform, there was not
13 consensus on what type of open primary system would
14 work best for New York City, or whether now was the
15 time to advance such proposals to voters, so
16 unfortunately, we are not advancing open primaries at
17 this time. I strongly urge future commission to take
18 up this issue, and I am personally committed to
19 advocating for future reform.

20 Throughout this process, we as a
21 commission have strived to fulfill our responsibility
22 of independent commission, considering ideas on their
23 merits regardless of who propose them and regardless
24 of who supports them. In making our recommendation to
25 the city voters, I am confident we have lived up to

1 that charge.

2 Now I'd like to open up the floor to
3 any comments from other members of the commission.

4 First, our vice chair.

5 MS. GREENBERGER: Thank you. And I
6 will say, I know I speak for us all when I thank you,
7 Rich, for your expert and balanced chairing of this
8 commission. You led every public hearing with grace
9 and respect and have been a role model for us all. So
10 thank you for that.

11 I also want to thank my fellow
12 commissioners for the honor of working with you. I
13 admire your individual perspectives in your areas of
14 expertise and have learned from each of you.

15 And I also want to express my thanks to
16 the amazing commission staff led by the brilliant and
17 levelheaded and very gracious Alec Schierenbeck for
18 delving into issues and crafting a truly expert report
19 that accurately reflects the issues, the options, and
20 the nuances of every substantive area. You made us
21 all much smarter throughout this -- throughout this
22 journey, and I honestly believe that the reports
23 should be required reading for all.

24 Most of all, I want to thank my fellow
25 New Yorkers for engaging in this process and making

1 your voices heard. We have been compelled by your
2 engagement and your activism. We're grateful for your
3 participation. From our policy experts to our
4 passionate citizens, you helped shape our thinking and
5 helped shape these ballot measures and the final
6 report.

7 As Rich said, when we first met several
8 months ago, every single one of us spoke to the need
9 to address this city's housing crisis. That is what
10 drew us to this work. That is what we committed to
11 tackling, and that is what we did. We have an
12 extraordinary opportunity as a collective to enact
13 changes that will improve New York City's housing
14 development process and ameliorate our very
15 real -- real affordability crisis. These are
16 rational, realistic amendments to our charter that
17 will result in a demonstrable increase in housing
18 units, and I encourage every New Yorker to support
19 them.

20 And one final note. I do hope that we
21 continue to elevate the need for open primaries and
22 build the support and mechanisms to enable true civic
23 participation for more New Yorkers. I am also
24 personally committed to continuing engagement in this
25 area. Thank you.

1 CHAIR BUERY: Thank you.

2 I'll next open it up to Secretary
3 Bozorg.

4 MS. BOZORG: Thank you.

5 I want to echo the gratitude already
6 mentioned for Executive Director Alec Schierenbeck and
7 the entire staff -- commission staff. All of your
8 research, analysis, and general commitment to these
9 issues is really going to improve our city over time,
10 and thank you for that.

11 I also do want to thank Chair Buery and
12 the rest of the rest of the commissioners. It has
13 been an absolute honor to grapple with these issues
14 with you and consider ways that our charter can be
15 improved for our fellow New Yorkers.

16 And most importantly, I want to thank
17 the hundreds of people who took time to join any of
18 the ten hearings and the thousands more who provided
19 written testimony. Your perspectives have been
20 critical to designing proposals that target the
21 specific challenges and barriers to progress we face.

22 I'll say I'm personally incredibly
23 proud of the proposals being put forward today by this
24 commission. Throughout the past eight months of
25 hearings and written testimony, we heard very clearly

1 along with many of the issues Chair Buery summarized
2 about the ways that the city's land use process which
3 is prescribed by our charter is worker and the ways
4 that it can be approved, presuming our goals are to
5 build more housing in more neighborhoods.

6 We've heard very loud and clear that
7 ULURP has certain strengths, and we've heard very loud
8 and clear that we need communities to still have power
9 to shape and strengthen land use proposals with their
10 local perspectives, expertise, and experiences. As
11 such, the proposals maintain the strengths of ULURP
12 with its careful consideration by multiple public
13 bodies, and the proposals also preserve the role that
14 community boards play in shaping projects through
15 local feedback. ULURP will still serve as the primary
16 vehicle for significant land use changes across our
17 city. But these proposals will bring this decades-old
18 process into today's real world, one where millions of
19 New Yorkers and their families face an affordability
20 crisis that threatens their ability to stay here at
21 all.

22 These proposals acknowledge the uneven
23 shape and patterns of our current housing landscape
24 and acknowledge that we cannot continue to allow the
25 housing needs of all New Yorkers to be hostage to any

1 specific person's or group's or neighborhood's
2 parochial interests. So these housing and land use
3 proposals we are voting on today are carefully
4 designed to enable more balanced, more efficient, and
5 more fair consideration for the kinds of housing New
6 Yorkers say they need and want most, regulated
7 affordable housing and modest sized projects.

8 This all, of course, still requires
9 that we have strong housing leadership at every level
10 of government, as we have today with our current
11 mayor, our current speaker, many of our elected
12 officials, and we must all stay committed, whether
13 we're in the public or private sector to continue
14 interrogating all the systems, processes, and
15 practices that live outside our city's charter and
16 play a role in hampering housing creation across our
17 neighborhoods and region.

18 But as far as this commission's work is
19 concerned, I'm really proud that we found consensus
20 for these powerful ideas, which have the potential to
21 usher in a more equitable and abundant housing future,
22 and I really look forward to seeing whether voters
23 might agree through their ballots. Thank you.

24 CHAIR BUERY: Thank you.

25 I'll next invite Commissioner Bonilla.

1 MS. BONILLA: So I also want to thank
2 you, Chair, for your work, and these were I -- I think
3 challenging but important conversations.

4 I am also very proud of what we have
5 put before New Yorkers. It will make a marked
6 difference. I know we all brought our professional
7 expertise, but I want to say to New Yorkers who have
8 been doubled up, who have to call a family member
9 because they cannot afford a new lease, who have to
10 leave neighborhoods where they saw their -- their
11 friends and their -- and their parents age in place,
12 but they cannot stay because it's too unaffordable.
13 Help is coming. And I'm hoping that New Yorkers can
14 look at these proposals as an avenue to really respect
15 the dignity of New Yorkers who have given so much to
16 this city.

17 I know that the other proposals
18 and -- that we considered throughout this process
19 brought a lot of discussion, and I think they warrant
20 more discussion, open primaries being one of them --
21 one of the many that I think that we need to as New
22 Yorkers dig in and figure out what our democracy
23 should look like. But for the charge for this
24 commission, I think we have met the moment, so thank
25 you for your leadership.

1 And thank you, Vice Chair, for your
2 leadership.

3 CHAIR BUERY: Thank you so much.
4 Commissioner Nieves.

5 MS. NIEVES: Thank you, Commissioner
6 Buery for your leadership and integrity throughout
7 this process.

8 Thank you, commission staff. Thank you
9 fellow commissioners.

10 As a lifelong New Yorker, born, raised,
11 educated here, raising a family, managing elder care,
12 all those pieces that happen, there's no question
13 affordability was the reason why we were called to
14 this commission, and so I'm proud of that. I want to
15 highlight a couple of things I feel strong about, that
16 fast tracking is not undermining a process. What it
17 is is ensuring a greater level of equity than we've
18 seen before in building affordable housing.

19 The second thing I want to say is I am
20 a staunch supporter of a system that limits barriers
21 in the future to voting, and so I do hope that future
22 commissions take that up because the end of the day,
23 as much as I'm proud of being a longstanding New
24 Yorker, when I'm looking at our newest New Yorkers,
25 more and more of them are unaffiliated, and I want to

1 make sure they're part of this experiment as well.

2 With that said, thank you all my fellow
3 colleagues, and it's been an honor to serve with you.

4 CHAIR BUERY: Thank you, Commissioner.
5 Commissioner Richardson.

6 MR. RICHARDSON: Good afternoon.
7 Although I was not born and raised here, New York City
8 has been my home since I graduated from college. As
9 such, my friends and family tell me that I am a
10 legitimate New Yorker. While it can be debated
11 generally exactly how that legitimacy is earned or
12 defined, there are nonetheless more than eight million
13 people who wear this same title. The city with its
14 history, dynamism, and distinct boroughs presents a
15 captivating opportunity for recreation, career
16 advancement, and civic engagement. One could argue
17 that its ethnic and socioeconomic diversity is almost
18 rivalled by none other, yet a city as complex as this
19 does -- does contain some underlying formidable
20 challenges to its ongoing competitiveness.

21 I'm convinced that the lack of housing
22 and affordable housing in particular is near the top
23 of that list. The creation and preservation of
24 affordable housing is a daunting task, yet it has
25 provided me with some of the most rewarding

1 experiences of my professional life. As a former
2 government official, I can appreciate the robust
3 infrastructure of approvals that a city this complex
4 should require.

5 Simultaneously, I believe there is
6 credence in the saying that if you want new results,
7 you can't rely on the same methods. While it is not
8 conclusive that the exact same results are the
9 product, it is conceivable that there cannot be
10 significant change in result without some
11 corresponding significant change to methods. New
12 Yorkers are New York City's greatest assets.
13 Retaining them and giving them a platform from which
14 they can achieve and progress is the task that is
15 before us.

16 In this process, we have heard from
17 them in great number in testimony. I have been
18 heartened by the passion with which all the
19 perspectives have been shared. The experience was
20 both exhausting at times but definitely exhaustive as
21 well of all the facets of the issues. Whether it was
22 land use, voter participation, environmental
23 sustainability, nonprofit procurement, or the civilian
24 complaint review board, New Yorkers show that they
25 care greatly. Thank you to everyone who took the time

1 to testify.

2 My sincere appreciation is also
3 extended to Alec and staff for their outstanding
4 support of this commission. Your professionalism and
5 compassion left nothing to be desired.

6 Further, I'm thankful to this chair,
7 vice chair, and the other commissioners for your
8 contributions of time and talent.

9 To be clear, I support the proposals to
10 alter the land use process because I believe that
11 disincentives to support affordable housing should not
12 exist because I believe that we need developers, both
13 well resourced and those who continue to emerge as
14 partners to help address this crisis and because I
15 believe the people of this city deserve more, and they
16 deserve more now.

17 I look forward to giving New Yorkers a
18 chance to register their position on the matters. I
19 thank you all for allowing me to be a part of this
20 important process.

21 CHAIR BUERY: Thank you. I have to
22 say, my wife has lived in New York for 28 years since
23 we were married. I told her for our 30th anniversary,
24 I would finally acknowledge her as a New Yorker.

25 Commissioner Samuels.

1 MS. SAMUELS: Thank you.

2 I'd like to start by echoing the
3 comments of so many thanking my fellow commissioners,
4 chair, our vice chair, the amazing staff, Alec and
5 team. It has been a pleasure, a true pleasure to work
6 with you all. And not to mention, of course, the
7 hundreds of New Yorkers who showed up, the thousands
8 who submitted comments. Echoing all of your -- your
9 other statements, so eloquently put.

10 I firmly believe the proposals we're
11 putting forward can and will meaningfully improve the
12 lives of New Yorkers, and I'm proud of the work we've
13 done to reach this point. I'm especially encouraged
14 by the measures that will lead to a growth of housing
15 stock, especially affordable housing, proposals that
16 reflect the urgent need to make it easier to build
17 housing in every neighborhood.

18 A more affordable accessible housing
19 market is not just a social good, which of course it
20 is, but it's also an economic necessity. New York's
21 ability to attract and retain talent is utterly
22 essential for our continued growth as a hub for
23 technology, innovation, and entrepreneurship. That
24 means ensuring the people who power our economy,
25 especially young people and families, can afford to

1 live here.

2 At the same time, I would be remiss if
3 I did not express my regret that New Yorkers are not
4 going to get a chance to weigh in to empower more than
5 one million unaffiliated voters in our city.
6 Obviously I'm talking about open primaries. Many of
7 those unaffiliated voters are young. They're
8 independent minded, and they're disengaged from a
9 system that too often feels closed off to them. I
10 believe younger people increasingly do not see
11 themselves as wedded to a party, and our system should
12 meet them where they are. In short, expanding
13 participation in our democracy should not be
14 controversial, and I, like many others, do hope the
15 city will have another chance to look at this issue
16 again in the near future.

17 I am incredibly grateful for the
18 thoughtful deliberations we've had as a commission and
19 for the staff who've made this possible. I'll be
20 proud to vote in favor of the proposals that help make
21 New York City more livable, more fair, and
22 forward-looking. Thank you.

23 CHAIR BUERY: Thank you so much.

24 Commissioner Savino.

25 MS. SAVINO: Thank you.

1 Obviously, I'm going to join the chorus
2 of thanking the chair for this hard work, all of my
3 commission members, and I think it's important to
4 remember that everyone that's here does this on their
5 own time. This is a purely volunteer effort driven by
6 people who are committed to this city in many ways, in
7 the nonprofit world, in the -- in the corporate world,
8 and just in their communities, so I think it's really
9 important that we reflect on the fact that none of you
10 had to do this. You did it freely, openly because you
11 care about the future of this city.

12 I also want to thank the commission
13 staff. Last year, I had the opportunity to be the
14 executive director of the Charter Revision Commission,
15 so I know how hard that work is, and it would not have
16 happened this year without the leadership of the
17 person that I think -- I say it all the time -- is the
18 smartest young attorney I have ever met, and that's
19 Alec Schierenbeck and his staff.

20 You know, I grew up in New York City,
21 was born and raised in Queens. I find myself living
22 in Staten Island because the housing crisis that we
23 talk about today is not new. It has been a crisis for
24 decades now. I was forced to leave the community that
25 I grew up in because housing opportunities didn't

1 exist then. And now very -- the very same young
2 people in State Island are going to be forced to leave
3 Staten Island and New York City because there are no
4 opportunities in Staten Island or in any of the outer
5 boroughs.

6 This crisis has been decades in the
7 making, but we've taken some steps in the past couple
8 of years. We went to Albany. We got a lot of
9 substantive changes. We got the extension of 421-a,
10 485-x last year working with the city council, the
11 first rezoning in almost 50 years with the City of
12 Yes.

13 But still more work needs to be done.
14 We are not going to regulate our way out of this
15 crisis. We can only build our way out of it. And so
16 these proposals today will help us achieve those goals
17 of having smart solutions that will help move this
18 city forward.

19 On the one thing that I am profoundly
20 disappointed about, though -- because, as you know,
21 when you have a Charter Revision Commission, you open
22 the door to everything in the New York City Charter.
23 And the one thing we heard more than anything is that
24 the second largest group of voters in this city, the
25 1.1. million and growing unaffiliated voters, are

1 deliberately cut out because of the -- the process
2 that we use, the closed primary system. And they came
3 in record numbers, in -- either in person to sit
4 through hours long or submitting written testimony to
5 talk about how they felt that they were being denied
6 the opportunity to be able to have a say in the future
7 of their city.

8 It is a disappointment that we are
9 unable to get there, but I do believe that there are
10 legitimate questions that are still yet to be
11 answered. What type of system? Is it a top two? Is
12 it a top four? Is it a straight up nonpartisan
13 election?

14 And so to those who are really engaged
15 in this, I think the day after election day, the mayor
16 needs to create another Charter Revision Commission
17 for 2026 and task it with the -- with the requirement
18 that we study improving our democracy in the City of
19 New York bringing more voters in, and I hope that that
20 is exactly what will happen. We owe it to the -- to
21 the largest growing number of voters in this city, and
22 those -- those are -- who do not want to belong to any
23 party, and there are days when I understand why.

24 So thank you again for everyone's work
25 here. I am really proud to have been part of this

1 process this year as I was last year because I know
2 everybody in this room is committed to making New York
3 City better for everyone. Thank you.

4 CHAIR BUERY: Thank you.

5 Commissioner Weisbrod.

6 MR. WEISBROD: I'm reminded of Mo
7 Udall's very famous observation that everything that's
8 had to be said has been said. It's just that not
9 everyone's not had an opportunity to say it.

10 So I will just add to what has bene
11 said, which is that I'm really proud of the work that
12 we all did together, and I think that we've met the
13 moment in terms of the most critical issue facing the
14 City of New York which is housing, and it's been
15 overwhelmingly the issue that New Yorkers have
16 repeatedly mentioned as their number one priority for
17 years now, and this is a major step forward in -- in
18 achieving that.

19 Second, I not only am impressed -- was
20 impressed with the large number of New Yorkers who
21 turned out to speak before us, 800 plus, but the high
22 level of their testimony. I -- it was -- having sat
23 through hundreds of public meetings and public
24 hearings over the course of my career, the quality of
25 the testimony we got was just about the highest that

1 I've seen, and it's a real tribute to New Yorkers
2 generally.

3 Third, I really do thank you,
4 Mr. Chair, for your adroit management of this as the
5 chair and for your assurance that this was an
6 independent commission and -- and as such, we could go
7 about our work and -- and provide the -- the best
8 results that we could.

9 And finally, again, as everyone else
10 has mentioned, to the brilliance staff led by Alec,
11 and I just want to say that fortunately for the City
12 of New York, Alec is going on to become -- has gone on
13 to become general counsel of the Department of City
14 Planning following a -- quite a distinguished set of
15 footsteps, but New York is blessed to have him and
16 hopefully will have for many years to come.

17 So thank you very much.

18 CHAIR BUERY: Thank you.

19 Commissioner White.

20 MS. WHITE: I want to just say thank
21 you to the commission, and again, I won't even say
22 what's said --

23 With your quote again.

24 But yes. This was the first time I had
25 the opportunity to do something like this, to sit on a

1 commission, to hear from my fellow New Yorkers, and I
2 made it my business to be here in person every single
3 time because I thought that it was really, really
4 important to understand the needs of our fellow
5 citizens of New York and to take that into account as
6 we deliberated on these very important issues.

7 I am really, really proud of the
8 report. I've been an affordable housing professional
9 since 1991, and for those of you that know tax
10 credits, that's when tax credits were 35 the first
11 time before the -- the end of the market.

12 And just looking at the opportunity and
13 the ability to fast track and make available more
14 opportunity for production which will not only allow
15 people a safe place to live. We talked about the
16 economic impact of housing and affordable housing, but
17 there's also the social determinants of how all of
18 these issues that having a safe affordable place to
19 live make our New Yorkers stronger. So I was just
20 very pleased to have the opportunity to be a part of
21 the discussion.

22 I do hope that we come -- have the
23 opportunity to hear from a future commission or
24 someone else on the issue of open primaries -- not
25 just open primaries, different ways to make elections

1 fair and accessible for everyone. Voting is the key
2 right that we have as citizens, and you know, we're --
3 we debated quite a bit, and I continue to feel that
4 there does need to be some change, but as Commissioner
5 Savino mentioned, there are a number of different
6 things that need to be studied before the opportunity
7 to make those changes, you know, would be available.
8 So I agree with that as well, but I do think it's
9 something that -- it disappointed me that we weren't
10 able to come to an agreement where we were all
11 comfortable.

12 That being said, thank you Chair Buery.
13 This is the first time I met you. I had the
14 opportunity to work with you, Vice Chair Greenberger,
15 and the rest of the commissioners. I actually enjoyed
16 the exhaustive opportunity to hear from my fellow New
17 Yorkers.

18 Thank you to Alec and staff, who were
19 just amazing, and I had the opportunity to get to know
20 them, and they were very gracious and helpful and just
21 providing us with information and research and
22 encouraging us to participate.

23 And to my fellow New Yorkers who
24 submitted written testimony as well as those that came
25 in person, I just again was overwhelmed at the -- the

1 strength of us as New Yorkers with our passion and our
2 determination to make the city better, and I'm very
3 grateful that I had the opportunity to hear from my
4 fellow New Yorkers, so I thank you.

5 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Wylde.

6 MS. WYLDE: Thank you.

7 And -- and I would add to what everyone
8 has said about the work of this commission. I think
9 it's important to point out as we close out our work
10 that this commission really does represent people who
11 are knowledgeable and deeply involved with all sectors
12 of New York City and its communities and that we very
13 much used our sensibilities with regard to the
14 importance of the community role in the land use
15 process as we have deliberated over changes in the
16 charter which are -- which are certainly threatening
17 to some interests -- or seem threatening. They are
18 not in fact.

19 I think that those of us who have been
20 involved in the affordable housing movement, for
21 myself over 50 years, that we understand that time and
22 risk are the biggest contributors to the high cost of
23 housing development in the city, and those factors are
24 what we tried to squarely address, not to
25 disenfranchise anybody, but rather to say we have to

1 figure out how to make it faster and cheaper to
2 deliver on the promise of more affordable housing.
3 That is what the recommendations we have made squarely
4 focus on, and I think that that demonstrates -- that
5 we have demonstrated there is a way to do this while
6 not disenfranchising anybody from their role in the
7 process.

8 So as we work to educate the public
9 about the importance of these provisions that will be
10 on the ballot in November, I think that all of us will
11 stay engaged and stand up to answer any questions, any
12 concerns and to demonstrate that we really have
13 through the testimony that we've received and through
14 our research and consultation, we really have
15 considered all those elements, and we have really
16 designed recommendations that we think will only
17 advance the interests of the communities of this city.

18 Finally, I will say that I am deeply
19 disappointed we have not taken up the issue of open
20 primaries. I understand that there are questions
21 about exactly, you know, is it the California, the
22 Alaska, or the Massachusetts system. I think what
23 it's -- has become clear to all of us which we didn't
24 know in the past is 80 percent of the large cities in
25 America have open primaries, and it has done nothing

1 but increase participation and understanding of our
2 role in a democratic society. I don't think that's
3 ever been more important than it is today in our
4 current situation in this country, and -- and so I --
5 I am disappointed but hopeful. I -- I second Diane's
6 recommendation that this quickly be taken up by a new
7 charter revision commission, and I'm sure all of us
8 will contribute our support to that effort.

9 So thank you again to the commission
10 members, the leadership, Richard and Sharon, and to
11 the staff that Alec has led so well.

12 CHAIR BUERY: Thank you so much.

13 Commissioner Laremont.

14 MS. LAREMONT: Thank you.

15 -- heartened by the thoughtful
16 collaboration with our fellow commissioners here and
17 the great leadership of our chair and vice chair.
18 Also, I just can't say enough, echoing what everyone
19 else has said about the caliber and the dedication of
20 the staff that led us. Alec truly is one of the
21 smartest people I have ever met in city government,
22 and his way of dealing with these problems so deftly
23 has been really "awestrucking" to me. So I -- I can't
24 thank you enough for that.

25 I will say that I was not born a New

1 Yorker, but both of my parents were. I can't tell you
2 what there cognitive problems were that they thought
3 this was -- that this was not the place to live. They
4 chose to move to the Midwest. Never did understand
5 it. Soon as I could get here, I did, and I've been
6 here ever since but -- because New York is really, I
7 think, the greatest city in the world.

8 However, this housing crisis, I do
9 believe, is really a great threat to the greatness of
10 this city. It's a threat to our ability to attract
11 talent to maintain the city's preeminence. It's a
12 threat to job creation as we move forward, and most
13 importantly, to me, it's a threat to our ability to be
14 that place where people of every walk of life can find
15 a home. We're just not that place anymore, and we
16 need to have more homes, so people can live here. The
17 work that we have done here aims to create more
18 opportunity for housing to be developed by letting the
19 citywide interest in creating housing be arbitrated
20 through a broader perspective but always informed by
21 local views.

22 I'm really grateful and struck by the
23 public's interest in our work, which was reflected in
24 the strong attendance at our hearings, the many
25 comment letters we received, and the very thoughtful

1 conversations that we held with stakeholders, all of
2 which informed our ultimate proposals.

3 And finally, I echo what's been said
4 previously that I fervently hope that a subsequently
5 convened Charter Revision Commission will facilitate
6 open primaries which is I think a proposal whose time
7 has come. It's vitally important to encourage civic
8 engagement if we want our democracy to survive and
9 thrive. Careful consideration of the form of open
10 primaries should be undertaken so that New Yorkers
11 have the ability to participate without regard to
12 party affiliation, a cry that we heard over and over
13 in these hearings.

14 So thank you for the privilege of
15 letting me be part of it.

16 CHAIR BUERY: Thank you.

17 And finally, but certainly not least,
18 Commissioner DaBaron.

19 MR. DABARON: I'm literally speechless.
20 I think I'm going to attempt to say a few words.

21 So first, I'd like to thank my fellow
22 commissioners, the chair, vice chair. I'd like to
23 thank the commission staff, Alec, who answers his
24 phone on the weekends, 1 a.m. in the morning; it
25 doesn't matter. I'd like to also thank Mayor Adams,

1 former FDM Maria, current FDM Randy Mastro, Chief of
2 Staff Camille, all the deputy mayors, commissioners,
3 agency heads, and other civic people that I engaged.

4 As someone who I don't wear any of the
5 fancy titles or anything like that, but I am a person
6 who was impacted -- has been impacted by housing
7 insecurity, homelessness. Starting with housing
8 insecurity as a foster kid, going from home to home.
9 Starting experiencing homelessness at 10. Permanently
10 discharged from the foster care system at 12, sleeping
11 on streets, subways, buildings, unsafe places. I know
12 what it's like not to be able to access homes. Rising
13 as an advocate during the Lucerne controversy in
14 the -- during the pandemic. I felt like at my age, I
15 just had to change things. And so I dealt with it
16 from the outside and under this administration came,
17 as they say on the inside, to learn to grow but also
18 to make change.

19 And so having the opportunity to be a
20 part of this commission is giving me the ability to --
21 and -- and us the ability to address something that is
22 basically impacting so many New Yorkers. That's being
23 able to bring more housing. And I don't want the work
24 that we're doing to be missed. I want New Yorkers to
25 stay engaged and to vote in favor of these proposals.

1 This is very important, and it affects all New
2 Yorkers, rich, poor, White, Black. It doesn't matter.
3 We have to be engaged.

4 I'm going to end by saying one, I do
5 want to apologize -- I think I can do that -- to my
6 kids. I have six of them, and I think three of them
7 or four of them are all independents. They don't
8 claim a party affiliation.

9 I want to say to New Yorkers across the
10 city, young, old, many who have spoke to me and
11 educated me on the idea of open primaries, and I do
12 want us as a city to really look into that so that we
13 can create a more democratic and truly democratic
14 city.

15 But I'm thankful to be here, and I
16 appreciate the opportunity. I've learned a lot from
17 all of you. I've learned a lot from New Yorkers,
18 and -- and I do want to end by saying I do -- I've
19 seen so much in New Yorkers. A reporter had asked me,
20 said in previous commissions there wasn't a large
21 turnout, and I think here, you see the numbers speak
22 for themselves.

23 I've seen some people who attempt to
24 weaponize or politicize this commission, and I've
25 always taken that and said you are also looking at all

1 of these public servants and people who've been around
2 for many years doing good. You've got to appreciate
3 the fact that people are sacrificing their time to
4 come and make significant change, historic change so
5 that New Yorkers can be housed. And thank you.

6 CHAIR BUERY: Here here. Thank you so
7 much.

8 With that, let's get to work. In front
9 of each commissioner is a list of ballot questions,
10 along with associated abstracts and legislative text.
11 I'll no call -- I'll now call on Alec to read proposal
12 one.

13 MR. SCHIERENBECK: Question number one,
14 proposed charter amendment, fast-track affordable
15 housing to build more affordable housing across the
16 city. Fast-track publicly financed affordable
17 housing. Fast-track applications delivering
18 affordable housing in the community districts that
19 produce the least affordable housing, significantly
20 reducing review time. Maintain community board
21 review.

22 "Yes" fast-tracks applications at the
23 Board of Standards and Appeals or City Planning
24 Commission.

25 "No" leaves affordable housing subject

1 to longer review and final decision at the city
2 council.

3 CHAIR BUERY: Thank you.

4 I'll now obtain a motion to vote on the
5 first ballot proposal.

6 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: So moved.

7 CHAIR BUERY: Can I have a second?

8 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Second.

9 CHAIR BUERY: Any discussion? Proposed
10 changes? If not, I'll now call the question.

11 Vice chair.

12 MS. GREENBERGER: Yes.

13 CHAIR BUERY: Secretary.

14 MS. BOZORG: Yes.

15 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Bonilla.

16 MS. BONILLA: Yes

17 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner DaBaron.

18 MR. DABARON: [No audible response.]

19 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Laremont.

20 MS. LAREMONT: Yes.

21 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Nieves.

22 MS. NIEVES: Emphatic yes.

23 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Richardson.

24 MR. RICHARDSON: Yes.

25 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Samuels.

1 MS. SAMUELS: Yes.

2 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Savino.

3 MS. SAVINO: Yes.

4 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Weisbrod.

5 MR. WEISBROD: Yes.

6 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner White.

7 MS. WHITE: Yes.

8 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Wylde.

9 MS. WYLDE: Yes.

10 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Buery.

11 Yes.

12 By a count of 13 in favor, none
13 opposed, and no abstentions, the proposal to put forth
14 a ballot proposal related to an affordable housing
15 fast track has passed.

16 I'll now ask Alec to read the second
17 ballot proposal.

18 MR. SCHEIRENBECK: Question two,
19 proposed charter amendment, simplify review of modest
20 housing and infrastructure projects. Simplify review
21 of modest amounts of additional housing and minor
22 infrastructure projects, significantly reducing review
23 time. Maintain community board review with final
24 decision by the City Planning Commission.

25 "Yes" simplifies review for limited

1 land use changes, including modest housing and minor
2 infrastructure projects.

3 "No" leaves these changes subject to
4 longer review with final decision by city council.

5 CHAIR BUERY: Thank you.

6 I'll now obtain a motion on the second
7 ballot proposal.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 1: Second.

9 CHAIR BUERY: Any discussion? If not,
10 I will now call the question.

11 Vice chair.

12 MS. GREENBERGER: Yes.

13 CHAIR BUERY: Secretary.

14 MS. BOZORG: Yes.

15 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Bonilla.

16 MS. BONILLA: Yes

17 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner DaBaron.

18 MR. DABARON: Yes.

19 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Laremont.

20 MS. LAREMONT: Yes.

21 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Nieves.

22 MS. NIEVES: Yes.

23 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Richardson.

24 MR. RICHARDSON: Yes.

25 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Samuels.

1 MS. SAMUELS: Yes.

2 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Savino.

3 MS. SAVINO: Yes.

4 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Weisbrod.

5 MR. WEISBROD: Yes.

6 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner White.

7 MS. WHITE: Yes.

8 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Wylde.

9 MS. WYLDE: Yes.

10 CHAIR BUERY: I also vote yes.

11 So by a count of 13 in favor and none
12 opposed and no abstentions, the proposal that put
13 forth a ballot proposal related to an expedited land
14 use procedure has now passed.

15 Alec can you read -- please read the
16 third ballot proposal.

17 MR. SCHIERENBECK: Question three,
18 proposed charter amendment, establish an affordable
19 housing appeals board with council, borough, and
20 citywide representation. Establish an affordable
21 housing appeals board with the council speaker, local
22 borough president, and mayor to review council actions
23 that reject or change applications creating affordable
24 housing.

25 "Yes" creates the three-member

1 affordable housing appeals board to reflect council,
2 borough, and citywide perspectives.

3 "No" leaves affordable housing subject
4 to the mayor's veto and final decision by city
5 council.

6 CHAIR BUERY: Thank you.

7 I'll now obtain a motion to vote on the
8 third ballot proposal.

9 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: So moved.

10 CHAIR BUERY: Do I have a second?

11 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Second.

12 CHAIR BUERY: Before we continue, I
13 would like to recognize Commissioner Laremont.

14 MS. LAREMONT: Thank you.

15 I'm just going to take a moment to
16 highlight a really substantial change to this proposal
17 since the release of the interim report, responding to
18 feedback that we heard from stakeholders over the past
19 few weeks.

20 This is now the Affordable Housing
21 Appeals Board, a more limited purview for appeals.
22 Previously the appeals board could've applied to any
23 application in ULURP. Now, though, we are limiting
24 the power of the -- the appeals board to actions that
25 would create additional affordable housing, such as

1 the rezoning application that will require development
 2 to include affordable housing under the city's
 3 mandatory inclusionary housing program. In other
 4 words, all actions subject to the board must include
 5 the creation of affordable housing. Land use actions
 6 that do not directly advance affordable housing, such
 7 as the siting of new city-owned facilities would
 8 remain subject to ULURP as it exists today. Because
 9 housing proposals face particular challenges in the
 10 city's existing land use process, there is a special
 11 need to bring more boroughwide and citywide
 12 perspectives to bear on land use decisions that create
 13 housing. Thanks.

14 CHAIR BUERY: Thank you.

15 Is there any additional discussion? I
 16 will now call the question.

17 Commissioner Greenberger.

18 MS. GREENBERGER: Yes.

19 CHAIR BUERY: Secretary Bozorg.

20 MS. BOZORG: Yes.

21 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Bonilla.

22 MS. BONILLA: Yes

23 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner DaBaron.

24 MR. DABARON: Yes.

25 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Laremont.

1 MS. LAREMONT: Yes.

2 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Nieves.

3 MS. NIEVES: Yes.

4 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Richardson.

5 MR. RICHARDSON: Yes.

6 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Samuels.

7 MS. SAMUELS: Yes.

8 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Savino.

9 MS. SAVINO: Yes.

10 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Weisbrod.

11 MR. WEISBROD: Yes.

12 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner White.

13 MS. WHITE: Yes.

14 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Wylde.

15 MS. WYLDE: [No audible response.]

16 CHAIR BUERY: I also vote yes.

17 So by a count of 13 in favor and none
18 opposed, no abstentions, the proposal that put forth
19 the ballot proposal related to an affordable housing
20 appeals board has passed.

21 Alec, can you please now read the
22 fourth ballot proposal?

23 MR. SCHIERENBECK: Question four,
24 proposed charter amendment, create a digital city map
25 to modernize city operations. Consolidate borough map

1 office and address assignment functions and create one
2 digital city map at the department of city planning.
3 Today, the city map consists of paper maps across five
4 offices.

5 "Yes" creates a consolidated digital
6 city map.

7 "No" leaves in place five separate map
8 and address assignment functions administered by
9 borough president offices.

10 CHAIR BUERY: Thank you. I'd love to
11 consider a motion on the fourth ballot proposal.

12 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: So moved.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 2: Second.

14 CHAIR BUERY: Is there any discussion?
15 If no, I will now call the question.

16 Vice chair.

17 MS. GREENBERGER: A strong yes.

18 CHAIR BUERY: Secretary.

19 MS. BOZORG: Yes.

20 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Bonilla.

21 MS. BONILLA: Yes

22 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner DaBaron.

23 MR. DABARON: Yes.

24 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Laremont.

25 MS. LAREMONT: Yes.

1 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Nieves.

2 MS. NIEVES: Yes. Yes.

3 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Richardson.

4 MR. RICHARDSON: Yes.

5 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Samuels.

6 MS. SAMUELS: Yes.

7 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Savino.

8 MS. SAVINO: Yes.

9 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Weisbrod.

10 MR. WEISBROD: Yes.

11 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner White.

12 MS. WHITE: Yes.

13 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Wylde.

14 MS. WYLDE: Yes.

15 CHAIR BUERY: I also vote yes.

16 So by a count of 13 in favor, none
17 opposed, and no abstentions, the proposal that puts
18 forth a ballot proposal related to modernizing the
19 city map has passed.

20 Alec, if you would now read the fifth
21 and final proposal.

22 MR. SCHIERENBECK: Question five,
23 proposed charter amendment, move local elections to
24 presidential election years to increase voter
25 participation. Move the city's primary and general

1 election dates so that city elections are held in the
2 same year as federal presidential elections when
3 permitted by state law.

4 "Yes" moves city elections to the same
5 year as federal presidential elections when permitted
6 by state law.

7 "No" means laws unchanged.

8 CHAIR BUERY: Thank you. Can I have a
9 motion on the fifth proposal?

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 3: So moved.

11 CHAIR BUERY: Is there a second?

12 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Second.

13 CHAIR BUERY: Any discussion?

14 MS. SAVINO: Yes. Yes. Thank you,
15 Chair.

16 On this question, I -- I'm actually
17 going to vote "no" on this question, not because I did
18 not hear the arguments from various good government
19 groups, but absent action by the state legislature,
20 this doesn't provide any change to New York City law
21 in any event, even if it passes.

22 I also have serious concerns as having
23 been a down-ballot candidate that in a presidential
24 year, local candidates, who are the closest people to
25 their community, will not get the type of attention in

1 that election year when it will be drowned out by the
2 top of the ticket, which is they buy up all the air
3 time. They buy up all the campaign time. And if you
4 are a local elected official, a council person running
5 in the same year as the president is very possible the
6 drop off from the top of the ticket to the bottom,
7 would do a serious disservice to local government.

8 So I'm not quite there yet, but I
9 respect the work of the commission and of course the
10 people who testified on it. And since it can't go
11 into effect without a state constitutional amendment,
12 I -- I feel confident that I can vote no on this
13 without just, you know, killing this ballot box.
14 Thank you.

15 CHAIR BUERY: Thank you, Commissioner.
16 Any other discussion on this question?
17 If no, I will now call the question.

18 Vice Chair Greenberger.

19 MS. GREENBERGER: Yes.

20 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Bozorg.

21 MS. BOZORG: Yes.

22 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Bonilla.

23 MS. BONILLA: Yes

24 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner DaBaron.

25 MR. DABARON: Yes.

1 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Laremont.

2 MS. LAREMONT: Yes.

3 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Nieves.

4 MS. NIEVES: Yes.

5 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Richardson.

6 MR. RICHARDSON: Yes.

7 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Samuels.

8 MS. SAMUELS: Yes.

9 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Savino.

10 MS. SAVINO: No.

11 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Weisbrod.

12 MR. WEISBROD: Yes.

13 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner White.

14 MS. WHITE: Yes.

15 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Wylde.

16 MS. WYLDE: Yes.

17 CHAIR BUERY: And I also vote yes.

18 So by a count of twelve in favor and
19 one opposed, with no abstentions, the proposal to the
20 ballot proposal related to shifting municipal
21 elections to even number years has passed.

22 Thank you, Senator, for keeping it
23 interesting on the last vote.

24 I'm now going to ask for a motion to
25 accept and approve the final report as amended by the

1 amendments presented at today's meeting, which
2 contains the five ballot proposals already voted upon
3 and the summary of the proposals.

4 Ballot questions, abstracts, and the
5 text amendments to the New York City Charter are
6 attached as appendices to the final report. The
7 report also includes an introduction with background
8 on the commission and processes as well as
9 recommendations for future charter revision
10 commissions. Do I have a motion to approve the final
11 report?

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 4: So moved.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 5: Second.

14 CHAIR BUERY: Any discussion? I will
15 now call the question.

16 Our vice chair.

17 MS. GREENBERGER: Yes.

18 CHAIR BUERY: Secretary Bozorg.

19 MS. BOZORG: Yes.

20 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Bonilla.

21 MS. BONILLA: Yes

22 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner DaBaron.

23 MR. DABARON: Yes.

24 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Laremont.

25 MS. LAREMONT: Yes.

1 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Nieves.

2 MS. NIEVES: Yes.

3 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Richardson.

4 MR. RICHARDSON: Yes.

5 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Samuels.

6 MS. SAMUELS: Yes.

7 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Savino.

8 MS. SAVINO: Yes.

9 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Weisbrod.

10 MR. WEISBROD: Yes.

11 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner White.

12 MS. WHITE: Yes.

13 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Wylde.

14 MS. WYLDE: Yes.

15 CHAIR BUERY: I also vote yes.

16 So by count of 13 in favor and none
17 opposed and no exemptions -- abstentions, the final
18 report has been approved.

19 Finally, I now seek a motion to approve
20 a resolution that directs the staff to take the
21 appropriate actions to deliver materials to the city
22 clerk in order for the ballot questions to be placed
23 before the voter -- the voters and to take whatever
24 action they deem necessary to educate the public about
25 the ballot questions. Commissioners were set this

1 resolution in advance and have had the chance to
2 review it. Do I have a motion to approve the
3 resolution?

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 6: So moved.

5 CHAIR BUERY: May I have second?

6 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Second.

7 CHAIR BUERY: Any discussion? If not,
8 I will now call the question.

9 Vice chair.

10 MS. GREENBERGER: Yes.

11 CHAIR BUERY: Secretary.

12 MS. BOZORG: Yes.

13 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Bonilla.

14 MS. BONILLA: Yes

15 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner DaBaron.

16 MR. DABARON: Yes.

17 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Laremont.

18 MS. LAREMONT: Yes.

19 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Nieves.

20 MS. NIEVES: Yes.

21 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Richardson.

22 MR. RICHARDSON: Yes.

23 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Samuels.

24 MS. SAMUELS: Yes.

25 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Savino.

1 MS. SAVINO: Yes.

2 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Weisbrod.

3 MR. WEISBROD: Yes.

4 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner White.

5 MS. WHITE: Yes.

6 CHAIR BUERY: Commissioner Wylde.

7 MS. WYLDE: Yes.

8 CHAIR BUERY: And I am also a yes.

9 So by a count of 13 in favor and none
10 opposed with no abstentions, the resolution has been
11 approved.

12 Now I'd like to make a motion to
13 approve -- I'd like to entertain a motion to approve
14 the minutes from our meeting held on July 7, 2025, in
15 Manhattan, which was shared with everyone earlier in
16 the week. May I have a motion to approve the minutes?

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 7: So moved.

18 CHAIR BUERY: May I have a second?

19 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Second.

20 CHAIR BUERY: All in favor?

21 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Aye.

22 CHAIR BUERY: Any opposed? Any
23 abstentions?

24 I would also like to ask the commission
25 for unanimous consent to approve the minutes of this

1 meeting after they have been distributed to you and
2 have an opportunity to offer any corrections or
3 comments. I will direct the staff to share the
4 minutes by email, and you will have the opportunity to
5 make any edits. After two weeks, we will incorporate
6 any revisions, and I will approve the minutes with
7 your consent. All in favor?

8 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Aye.

9 CHAIR BUERY: Any opposed?

10 I want to thank you all for your time,
11 for your partnership, for your friendship. I look
12 forward to continuing to working with you over the
13 next few months to educate the public about what we
14 have voted on here today and what will appear on the
15 ballot of this year's general election.

16 And with that, I would -- for the final
17 time, I would like to ask for a motion adjourn today's
18 meeting.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 8: So moved.

20 CHAIR BUERY: Is there a second? I'd
21 like to give -- Commissioner Wylde is the second.

22 MS. WYLDE: Second.

23 CHAIR BUERY: All in favor?

24 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Aye.

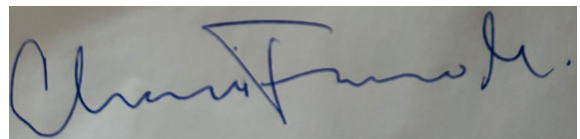
25 CHAIR BUERY: Any opposed?

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Thank you. Thank you all.
(Whereupon, the meeting concluded at
2:11 p.m.)

CERTIFICATE

I, CHANYRI MOH, the officer before whom the foregoing proceedings were taken, do hereby certify that any witness(es) in the foregoing proceedings, prior to testifying, were duly sworn; that the proceedings were recorded by me and thereafter reduced to typewriting by a qualified transcriptionist; that said digital audio recording of said proceedings are a true and accurate record to the best of my knowledge, skills, and ability; that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which this was taken; and, further, that I am not a relative or employee of any counsel or attorney employed by the parties hereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of this action.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chanyri Moh", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

CHANYRI MOH

Notary Public in and for the
State of New York

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

I, HANNAH KRCMAR, do hereby certify that this transcript was prepared from the digital audio recording of the foregoing proceeding, that said transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings to the best of my knowledge, skills, and ability; that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which this was taken; and, further, that I am not a relative or employee of any counsel or attorney employed by the parties hereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of this action.



HANNAH KRCMAR

1	421 23:9 485 23:10	abundant 14:21	29:24 34:21 44:1,8
1 33:24 39:8 1.1. 23:25 10 34:9 10007 1:13 12 3:19 34:10 13 38:12 40:11 43:17 45:16 50:16 52:9 1991 27:9 1:15 1:8	5 5 49:13 50 23:11 29:21 6 6 51:4 7 7 52:14,17 7439840 1:20	accept 48:25 access 34:12 accessible 4:4 20:18 28:1 account 27:5 accurate 55:9 56:5 accurately 10:19 achieve 18:14 23:16 achieving 25:18 acknowledge 13:22,24 19:24 action 46:19 50:24 55:12,16 56:8,12 actions 6:20 8:4 40:22 41:24 42:4,5 50:21 activism 11:2 actually 28:15 46:16 adams 33:25 add 25:10 29:7 additional 38:21 41:25 42:15 address 7:13 8:5 11:9 19:14	adjourn 53:17 administered 44:8 administration 34:16 admire 10:13 adroit 26:4 advance 8:7,19 9:15 30:17 42:6 51:1 advancement 17:16 advancing 9:16 advocate 34:13 advocating 9:19 affects 35:1 affiliation 33:12 35:8 afford 15:9 20:25 affordability 11:15 13:19 16:13 affordable 5:21 7:8,12,21 14:7 16:18 17:22,24 19:11 20:15,18 27:8,16,18 29:20 30:2 36:14,15,16,18 36:19,25 38:14
2	8 8 53:19 80 30:24 800 5:17 25:21 a a.m. 33:24 ability 13:20 20:21 27:13 32:10,13 33:11 34:20,21 55:10 56:7 able 24:6 28:10 34:12,23 absent 46:19 absolute 12:13 abstentions 38:13 40:12 43:18 45:17 48:19 50:17 52:10,23 abstracts 36:10 49:4		
2 44:13 2025 1:1,7 3:3 52:14 2026 24:17 21 1:7 253 1:12 25639 55:18 28 19:22 2:11 54:3 2nd 1:12			
3			
3 46:10 30th 19:23 32981 56:14 35 27:10 36 7:16			
4			
4 49:12 40 3:13			

40:18,20,23 41:1,3,20,25 42:2,5,6 43:19 afternoon 17:6 age 15:11 34:14 agency 34:3 agenda 6:5 9:2 9:4 ago 11:8 agree 14:23 28:8 agreement 28:10 aims 32:17 air 47:2 alaska 30:22 albany 23:8 alec 2:9 5:4,8 10:17 12:6 19:3 20:4 22:19 26:10,12 28:18 31:11,20 33:23 36:11 38:16 40:15 43:21 45:20 allow 13:24 27:14 allowing 19:19 alter 19:10 amazing 10:16 20:4 28:19 ameliorate 11:14	amended 48:25 amendment 36:14 38:19 40:18 43:24 45:23 47:11 amendments 8:7 11:16 49:1 49:5 america 30:25 amounts 38:21 analysis 12:8 anita 2:8 3:22 anniversary 19:23 announced 3:14 answer 30:11 answered 24:11 answering 4:25 answers 33:23 anthony 2:11 3:23 anybody 29:25 30:6 anymore 32:15 apologize 35:5 appeals 36:23 40:19,21 41:1 41:21,21,22,24 43:20 appear 6:21 53:14	appendices 49:6 application 41:23 42:1 applications 36:17,22 40:23 applied 41:22 appreciate 18:2 35:16 36:2 appreciation 19:2 appropriate 50:21 approvals 18:3 approve 48:25 49:10 50:19 51:2 52:13,13 52:16,25 53:6 approved 13:4 50:18 52:11 arbitrated 32:19 area 10:20 11:25 areas 10:13 argue 17:16 arguments 46:18 asked 35:19 assets 18:12 assignment 44:1,8 associated 36:10	assurance 26:5 attached 49:6 attempt 33:20 35:23 attendance 32:24 attendees 2:2 attention 46:25 attorney 22:18 55:14 56:10 attract 20:21 32:10 audible 37:18 43:15 audio 3:9,11 55:8 56:3 available 4:12 27:13 28:7 avenue 15:14 avoid 8:5 awestruck 31:23 aye 52:21 53:8 53:24
b			
background 49:7 balanced 10:7 14:4 ballot 4:18 6:7 6:8,11,14,15,22 11:5 30:10 36:9 37:5			

38:14,17 39:7 40:13,16 41:8 43:19,22 44:11 45:18 46:23 47:13 48:20 49:2,4 50:22 50:25 53:15 ballots 14:23 barriers 12:21 16:20 basically 34:22 basis 4:12 bear 42:12 began 9:5 believe 8:14 10:22 18:5 19:10,12,15 20:10 21:10 24:9 32:9 belong 24:22 bene 25:10 benefits 9:11 9:12 best 9:14 26:7 55:9 56:6 better 25:3 29:2 beury 3:4 beyond 7:21 biggest 29:22 bit 28:3 black 35:2 blessed 26:15	board 8:11 18:24 36:20,23 38:23 40:19,21 41:1,21,22,24 42:4 43:20 boards 13:14 bodies 13:13 bonilla 2:17 3:22 14:25 15:1 37:15,16 39:15,16 42:21 42:22 44:20,21 47:22,23 49:20 49:21 51:13,14 born 16:10 17:7 22:21 31:25 borough 40:19 40:22 41:2 43:25 44:9 boroughs 4:5 17:14 23:5 boroughwide 42:11 bottom 47:6 boundless 5:20 box 47:13 bozorg 2:5 3:21 12:3,4 37:14 39:14 42:19,20 44:19 47:20,21 49:18,19 51:12 brilliance 26:10	brilliant 10:16 bring 13:17 34:23 42:11 bringing 24:19 broader 32:20 broadway 1:12 brodsky 2:6 brought 15:6 15:19 buery 1:6 2:3 3:2 12:1,11 13:1 14:24 16:3,6 17:4 19:21 21:23 25:4 26:18 28:12 29:5 31:12 33:16 36:6 37:3,7,9 37:13,15,17,19 37:21,23,25 38:2,4,6,8,10 38:10 39:5,9 39:13,15,17,19 39:21,23,25 40:2,4,6,8,10 41:6,10,12 42:14,19,21,23 42:25 43:2,4,6 43:8,10,12,14 43:16 44:10,14 44:18,20,22,24 45:1,3,5,7,9,11 45:13,15 46:8 46:11,13 47:15	47:20,22,24 48:1,3,5,7,9,11 48:13,15,17 49:14,18,20,22 49:24 50:1,3,5 50:7,9,11,13,15 51:5,7,11,13,15 51:17,19,21,23 51:25 52:2,4,6 52:8,18,20,22 53:9,20,23,25 build 11:22 13:5 20:16 23:15 36:15 building 5:20 16:18 buildings 34:11 business 27:2 button 3:8 buy 47:2,3
			c
			c 2:1,17 3:1 caliber 31:19 california 30:21 call 5:8 6:14,16 6:17,17 15:8 36:11,11 37:10 39:10 42:16 44:15 47:17 49:15 51:8 called 16:13

calls 5:1	22:2 25:4 26:4	chairing 10:7	49:5,9
camille 34:2	26:5,18 28:12	challenges 8:25	cheaper 30:1
campaign 47:3	28:14 29:5	12:21 17:20	chief 34:1
candidate	31:12,17,17	42:9	chorus 22:1
46:23	33:16,22,22	challenging	chose 32:4
candidates	36:6 37:3,7,9	15:3	chronically
46:24	37:11,13,15,17	chance 19:18	8:21
captivating	37:19,21,23,25	21:4,15 51:1	cities 30:24
17:15	38:2,4,6,8,10	change 18:10	citizens 11:4
care 16:11	39:5,9,11,13,15	18:11 28:4	27:5 28:2
18:25 22:11	39:17,19,21,23	34:15,18 36:4	city 3:16,16 4:3
34:10	39:25 40:2,4,6	36:4 40:23	4:13,16 5:21
career 17:15	40:8,10 41:6	41:16 46:20	6:20 7:8,18,23
25:24	41:10,12 42:14	changes 4:24	7:24,25 8:4,14
careful 13:12	42:19,21,23,25	7:13,18 8:10	8:16,23,25
33:9	43:2,4,6,8,10	9:3 11:13	9:14,25 12:9
carefully 14:3	43:12,14,16	13:16 23:9	13:17 15:16
caring 5:5	44:10,14,16,18	28:7 29:15	17:7,13,18
carl 2:14 3:24	44:20,22,24	37:10 39:1,3	18:3 19:15
ccrb 8:17	45:1,3,5,7,9,11	chanyri 1:19	21:5,15,21
certain 13:7	45:13,15 46:8	55:2,19	22:6,11,20
certainly 29:16	46:11,13,15	charge 10:1	23:3,10,11,18
33:17	47:15,18,20,22	15:23	23:22,24 24:7
certificate 55:1	47:24 48:1,3,5	charged 7:2	24:18,21 25:3
56:1	48:7,9,11,13,15	charter 1:1 3:3	25:14 26:11,13
certify 55:3	48:17 49:14,16	3:16 4:14,23	29:2,12,23
56:2	49:18,20,22,24	8:16 11:16	30:17 31:21
chair 1:6 2:3,4	50:1,3,5,7,9,11	12:14 13:3	32:7,10 35:10
3:2,5,20 10:4	50:13,15 51:5	14:15 22:14	35:12,14 36:16
12:1,11 13:1	51:7,9,11,13,15	23:21,22 24:16	36:23 37:1
14:24 15:2	51:17,19,21,23	29:16 31:7	38:24 39:4
16:1,3 17:4	51:25 52:2,4,6	33:5 36:14	41:4 42:7
19:6,7,21 20:4	52:8,18,20,22	38:19 40:18	43:24,25 44:2
20:4 21:23	53:9,20,23,25	43:24 45:23	44:2,3,6 45:19

46:1,4,20 49:5 50:21 city's 3:18 7:2 8:21 9:3 11:9 11:13 13:2 14:15 18:12 32:11 42:2,10 45:25 citywide 7:14 32:19 40:20 41:2 42:11 civic 11:22 17:16 33:7 34:3 civilian 8:10 18:23 claim 35:8 clava 2:6 clear 3:11 13:6 13:8 19:9 30:23 clearly 3:12 12:25 clerk 6:20 50:22 climate 7:15 close 29:9 closed 9:3 21:9 24:2 closest 46:24 cognitive 32:2 collaboration 31:16	colleague 5:8 colleagues 17:3 collective 11:12 college 17:8 come 26:16 27:22 28:10 33:7 36:4 comfortable 28:11 coming 15:13 comment 32:25 comments 4:9 5:19,24 6:2,25 10:3 20:3,8 53:3 commission 1:11 3:4,14 4:4 4:22 5:18,25 7:2 8:16,16,18 9:17,21,22 10:3,8,16 12:7 12:24 15:24 16:8,14 19:4 21:18 22:3,12 22:14 23:21 24:16 26:6,21 27:1,23 29:8 29:10 31:7,9 33:5,23 34:20 35:24 36:24 38:24 47:9 49:8 52:24 commission's 14:18	commissioner 2:7,8,10,11,12 2:13,14,15,16 2:17 5:2 14:25 16:4,5 17:4,5 19:25 21:24 25:5 26:19 28:4 29:5 31:13 33:18 36:9 37:15,17 37:19,21,23,25 38:2,4,6,8,10 39:15,17,19,21 39:23,25 40:2 40:4,6,8 41:13 42:17,21,23,25 43:2,4,6,8,10 43:12,14 44:20 44:22,24 45:1 45:3,5,7,9,11 45:13 47:15,20 47:22,24 48:1 48:3,5,7,9,11 48:13,15 49:20 49:22,24 50:1 50:3,5,7,9,11 50:13 51:13,15 51:17,19,21,23 51:25 52:2,4,6 53:21 commissioners 3:6,20 5:10 6:1 9:11 10:12 12:12 16:9	19:7 20:3 28:15 31:16 33:22 34:2 50:25 commissions 16:22 35:20 49:10 commitment 12:8 committed 5:14 9:18 11:10,24 14:12 22:6 25:2 committee 1:1 communities 13:8 22:8 29:12 30:17 community 13:14 22:24 29:14 36:18,20 38:23 46:25 compassion 19:5 compelled 11:1 compelling 8:9 9:7 competitiven... 17:20 complaint 8:11 18:24 complete 4:13 complex 5:13 17:18 18:3
--	---	--	--

conceivable 18:9 concerned 14:19 concerns 8:5 30:12 46:22 concluded 54:2 conclusive 18:8 confident 9:25 47:12 conflicting 8:6 consensus 9:10 9:13 14:19 consent 52:25 53:7 consider 7:22 12:14 44:11 consideration 4:14 13:12 14:5 33:9 considered 15:18 30:15 considering 4:9 9:22 consists 44:3 consolidate 43:25 consolidated 44:5 constitutional 47:11 consultation 30:14	contain 17:19 contains 49:2 continue 7:17 11:21 13:24 14:13 19:13 28:3 41:12 continued 20:22 continuing 11:24 53:12 contracts 7:23 contribute 31:8 contributions 19:8 contributors 29:22 controversial 21:14 controversy 34:13 convened 33:5 conversations 4:15 15:3 33:1 convinced 9:8 17:21 coordinate 4:23 corner 4:3 corporate 22:7 corrections 53:2 corresponding 18:11	cost 29:22 could've 41:22 council 8:5 23:10 37:2 39:4 40:19,21 40:22 41:1,5 47:4 counsel 2:6 26:13 55:10,13 56:7,10 count 38:12 40:11 43:17 45:16 48:18 50:16 52:9 country 4:16 31:4 couple 16:15 23:7 course 4:1 14:8 20:6,19 25:24 47:9 crafting 10:18 create 24:16 32:17 35:13 41:25 42:12 43:24 44:1 creates 40:25 44:5 creating 32:19 40:23 creation 14:16 17:23 32:12 42:5	credence 18:6 credits 27:10 27:10 crisis 3:18 7:3 7:15 11:9,15 13:20 19:14 22:22,23 23:6 23:15 32:8 critical 8:11,12 8:15 12:20 25:13 cry 33:12 current 13:23 14:10,11 31:4 34:1 cut 24:1
			d
			d 3:1 dabaron 2:7 3:22 33:18,19 37:17,18 39:17 39:18 42:23,24 44:22,23 47:24 47:25 49:22,23 51:15,16 dates 46:1 daunting 17:24 day 16:22 24:15,15 days 24:23 dealing 31:22 dealt 34:15

debated 17:10 28:3 decades 13:17 22:24 23:6 december 3:15 decided 8:7 decision 37:1 38:24 39:4 41:4 decisions 7:16 42:12 declining 8:18 9:2 dedicated 4:21 dedication 31:19 deem 50:24 deep 7:3 deepest 4:21 deeply 29:11 30:18 defined 17:12 definitely 18:20 deftly 31:22 delegates 6:18 deliberated 27:6 29:15 deliberately 24:1 deliberations 21:18 deliver 7:24 8:2 30:2 50:21	delivering 36:17 delving 10:18 democracy 8:17 15:22 21:13 24:18 33:8 democratic 31:2 35:13,13 demonstrable 11:17 demonstrate 30:12 demonstrated 30:5 demonstrates 30:4 denied 24:5 deny 7:3 department 26:13 44:2 depends 7:24 deputy 34:2 deserve 19:15 19:16 designed 14:4 30:16 designing 12:20 desired 19:5 determinants 27:17 determination 29:2	developed 32:18 developers 19:12 development 11:14 29:23 42:1 diane 2:13 3:23 diane's 31:5 difference 15:6 different 27:25 28:5 dig 15:22 digital 43:24 44:2,5 55:8 56:3 dignity 15:15 direct 53:3 directly 42:6 director 2:9 5:4 6:6 12:6 22:14 directs 50:20 disappointed 23:20 28:9 30:19 31:5 disappointment 24:8 discharged 34:10 discussion 6:13 15:19,20 27:21 37:9 39:9 42:15 44:14 46:13 47:16	49:14 51:7 discussions 6:13 disenfranchise 29:25 disenfranchis... 30:6 disengaged 21:8 disincentives 19:11 disservice 47:7 distinct 17:14 distinguished 26:14 distributed 53:1 districts 36:18 diversity 17:17 doing 34:24 36:2 door 23:22 doubled 15:8 dr 2:10 3:22 draft 4:23 drew 11:10 driven 22:5 drop 47:6 drowned 47:1 duly 55:5 dynamism 17:14
--	---	--	---

<p>e</p> <p>e 2:1,1 3:1,1 earlier 52:15 earned 17:11 easier 20:16 echo 12:5 33:3 echoing 20:2,8 31:18 economic 20:20 27:16 economy 20:24 edits 53:5 educate 30:8 50:24 53:13 educated 6:22 16:11 35:11 effect 47:11 efficient 14:4 effort 22:5 31:8 eight 12:24 17:12 either 24:3 elder 16:11 elected 14:11 47:4 election 8:24 24:13,15 45:24 46:1 47:1 53:15 elections 8:23 27:25 45:23 46:1,2,4,5 48:21</p>	<p>elements 30:15 elevate 11:21 eloquently 20:9 email 53:4 emerge 19:13 emphatic 37:22 employed 55:11,14 56:8 56:11 employee 55:13 56:10 empower 21:4 enable 11:22 14:4 enact 11:12 encourage 11:18 33:7 encouraged 20:13 encouraging 28:22 endeavored 4:3 enforcement 8:13 engaged 24:14 30:11 34:3,25 35:3 engagement 11:2,24 17:16 33:8 engaging 5:6 10:25 enjoyed 28:15</p>	<p>ensuring 16:17 20:24 entertain 52:13 entire 12:7 entrepreneurs... 20:23 environmental 18:22 equitable 7:7 14:21 equity 16:17 es 55:4 especially 5:3 20:13,15,25 essential 20:22 establish 40:18 40:20 ethnic 17:17 event 46:21 everybody 25:2 everyone's 24:24 25:9 exact 18:8 exactly 17:11 24:20 30:21 executive 2:9 5:4 6:6 12:6 22:14 exemptions 50:17 exhausting 18:20 exhaustive 18:20 28:16</p>	<p>exhaustively 7:4 exist 19:12 23:1 existing 42:10 exists 42:8 expanding 21:12 expedited 40:13 experience 18:19 experiences 13:10 18:1 experiencing 34:9 experiment 17:1 expert 10:7,18 expertise 10:14 13:10 15:7 experts 4:15 11:3 express 5:16 6:2 10:15 21:3 expressing 4:21 extended 19:3 extension 23:9 extraordinary 11:12</p> <p>f</p> <p>face 12:21 13:19 42:9</p>
---	---	---	---

facets 18:21 facilitate 33:5 facilities 42:7 facing 25:13 fact 22:9 29:18 36:3 factors 29:23 fair 14:5 21:21 28:1 families 13:19 20:25 family 15:8 16:11 17:9 famous 25:7 fancy 34:5 far 14:18 fast 16:16 27:13 36:14,16 36:17,22 38:15 faster 30:1 favor 21:20 34:25 38:12 40:11 43:17 45:16 48:18 50:16 52:9,20 53:7,23 fdm 34:1,1 federal 46:2,5 feedback 13:15 41:18 feel 16:15 28:3 47:12 feels 21:9	fellow 5:10 10:11,24 12:15 16:9 17:2 20:3 27:1,4 28:16 28:23 29:4 31:16 33:21 felt 24:5 34:14 fervently 33:4 fifth 45:20 46:9 figure 15:22 30:1 filing 6:19 final 1:1 3:2 4:18,25 6:8,10 6:16 11:5,20 37:1 38:23 39:4 41:4 45:21 48:25 49:6,10 50:17 53:16 finally 5:16 6:17 8:20 19:24 26:9 30:18 33:3,17 50:19 financed 36:16 financially 55:15 56:11 find 3:16 7:5 22:21 32:14 firmly 20:10 first 10:4 11:7 23:11 26:24 27:10 28:13	33:21 37:5 five 4:5,17 6:7 6:15 44:3,7 45:22 49:2 fix 7:19 floor 1:12 5:24 10:2 focus 3:17 30:4 focused 6:4 following 26:14 footsteps 26:15 forced 22:24 23:2 foregoing 55:3 55:4 56:4 form 33:9 former 18:1 34:1 formidable 17:19 forth 38:13 40:13 43:18 45:18 fortunately 26:11 forward 4:17 6:25 8:17 12:23 14:22 19:17 20:11 21:22 23:18 25:17 32:12 53:12 foster 34:8,10	found 14:19 four 7:9 24:12 35:7 43:23 fourth 43:22 44:11 freely 22:10 frequently 8:1 friends 15:11 17:9 friendship 53:11 front 36:8 fulfill 9:21 functions 44:1 44:8 further 19:6 55:12 56:9 future 9:17,19 14:21 16:21,21 21:16 22:11 24:6 27:23 49:9
			g
			g 3:1 general 2:6 12:8 26:13 45:25 53:15 generally 17:11 26:2 give 53:21 given 15:15 giving 18:13 19:17 34:20

go 3:9 6:3 26:6 47:10 goals 13:4 23:16 going 3:6 12:9 21:4 22:1 23:2 23:14 26:12 33:20 34:8 35:4 41:15 46:17 48:24 good 17:6 20:19 36:2 46:18 government 3:16 14:10 18:2 31:21 46:18 47:7 grace 2:17 3:21 10:8 gracious 10:17 28:20 graduated 17:8 grapple 12:13 grateful 9:1 11:2 21:17 29:3 32:22 gratitude 12:5 great 8:2 18:17 31:17 32:9 greater 16:17 greatest 18:12 32:7 greatly 18:25	greatness 32:9 green 3:9 greenberger 2:4 3:21 10:5 28:14 37:12 39:12 42:17,18 44:17 47:18,19 49:17 51:10 grew 22:20,25 group 5:14 23:24 group's 14:1 groups 46:19 grow 34:17 growing 23:25 24:21 growth 20:14 20:22	13:6,7 18:16 23:23 33:12 41:18 hearing 1:11 10:8 hearings 4:5,23 5:18 12:18,25 25:24 32:24 33:13 heartened 18:18 31:15 held 6:13 33:1 46:1 52:14 help 7:13 15:13 19:14 21:20 23:16,17 helped 11:4,5 helpful 28:20 hereto 55:14 56:11 high 25:21 29:22 highest 25:25 highlight 16:15 41:16 historic 36:4 history 17:14 hit 3:8 holding 4:5 home 17:8 32:15 34:8,8 homelessness 34:7,9	homes 32:16 34:12 honestly 10:22 honor 5:22 7:1 10:12 12:13 17:3 honored 3:4 5:15 hope 11:20 16:21 21:14 24:19 27:22 33:4 hopeful 31:5 hopefully 26:16 hoping 15:13 hostage 13:25 hour 3:13 5:1 hours 4:22 24:4 housed 36:5 housing 3:18 7:3,9,10,12,14 7:21 11:9,13 11:17 13:5,23 13:25 14:2,5,7 14:9,16,21 16:18 17:21,22 17:24 19:11 20:14,15,17,18 22:22,25 25:14 27:8,16,16 29:20,23 30:2 32:8,18,19 34:6,7,23 36:15,15,17,18
	h		
	hampering 14:16 hannah 56:2,15 happen 16:12 24:20 happened 22:16 hard 22:2,15 heads 34:3 hear 27:1,23 28:16 29:3 46:18 heard 4:2,8 8:9 9:6 11:1 12:25		

36:19,25 38:14 38:20,21 39:1 40:19,21,24 41:1,3,20,25 42:2,3,5,6,9,13 43:19 hub 20:22 hundreds 12:17 20:7 25:23	improved 12:15 improving 24:18 include 42:2,4 includes 49:7 including 39:1 inclusionary 42:3 incorporate 53:5 increase 11:17 31:1 45:24 increasing 8:24 increasingly 21:10 incredibly 12:22 21:17 independent 9:9,22 21:8 26:6 independents 35:7 individual 10:13 individually 6:9 information 28:21 informed 32:20 33:2 infrastructure 18:3 38:20,22 39:2	initiatives 8:6 innovation 20:23 insecurity 34:7 34:8 inside 34:17 int 29:20 integrity 16:6 interest 32:19 32:23 interested 55:15 56:12 interesting 48:23 interests 14:2 29:17 30:17 interim 4:7,24 4:25 41:17 interrogating 14:14 introduction 49:7 invite 14:25 involved 29:11 29:20 island 22:22 23:2,3,4 issue 8:21 9:2,7 9:18 21:15 25:13,15 27:24 30:19 issues 10:18,19 12:9,13 13:1 18:21 27:6,18	j job 1:20 32:12 join 12:17 22:1 joining 3:19 7:1 journey 10:22 jr 1:6 2:3 julie 2:12 3:23 july 1:7 52:14
i			k
idea 35:11 ideas 9:22 14:20 immediate 4:12 impact 27:16 impacted 34:6 34:6 impacting 34:22 importance 29:14 30:9 important 3:10 15:3 19:20 22:3,9 27:4,6 29:9 31:3 33:7 35:1 importantly 12:16 32:13 impressed 25:19,20 improve 11:13 12:9 20:11			kathryn 2:16 3:24 keeping 48:22 key 28:1 kid 34:8 kids 35:6 killing 47:13 kinds 14:5 know 5:7,11 10:6 15:6,17 22:15,20 23:20 25:1 27:9 28:2 28:7,19 30:21 30:24 34:11 47:13 knowledge 55:9 56:6 knowledgeable 29:11 known 5:10 krcmar 56:2,15

l	22:16 31:10,17	limiting 41:23	love 44:10
lack 17:21	learn 34:17	limits 16:20	low 8:21
land 7:15,18	learned 7:16	lisette 2:10 3:22	lucerne 34:13
13:2,9,16 14:2	10:14 35:16,17	list 2:2 17:23	m
18:22 19:10	lease 15:9	36:9	made 4:10
29:14 39:1	leave 15:10	literally 33:19	10:20 21:19
40:13 42:5,10	22:24 23:2	livable 21:21	27:2 30:3
42:12	leaves 36:25	live 14:15 21:1	maintain 13:11
landmarks	39:3 41:3 44:7	27:15,19 32:3	32:11 36:20
1:11	led 10:8,16	32:16	38:23
landscape	26:10 31:11,20	lived 9:25	maintaining
13:23	left 19:5	19:22	7:15
language 4:23	legislative	lives 20:12	major 25:17
laremонт 2:8	36:10	living 22:21	make 3:16 4:4
3:22 31:13,14	legislature	local 7:15 8:17	6:21 15:5 17:1
37:19,20 39:19	46:19	13:10,15 32:21	20:16 21:20
39:20 41:13,14	legitimacy	40:21 45:23	27:13,19,25
42:25 43:1	17:11	46:24 47:4,7	28:7 29:2 30:1
44:24,25 48:1	legitimate	long 4:22 24:4	34:18 36:4
48:2 49:24,25	17:10 24:10	longer 37:1	52:12 53:5
51:17,18	leila 2:5 3:21	39:4	making 9:24
large 25:20	letters 32:25	longstanding	10:25 23:7
30:24 35:20	letting 32:18	16:23	25:2
largest 23:24	33:15	look 14:22	management
24:21	level 14:9 16:17	15:14,23 19:17	26:4
late 8:1	25:22	21:15 35:12	managing
law 8:13 46:3,6	levelheaded	53:11	16:11
46:20	10:17	looking 16:24	mandatory
laws 46:7	life 4:3 18:1	21:22 27:12	42:3
lead 20:14	32:14	35:25	manhattan
leader 5:6	lifelong 16:10	lot 4:25 15:19	52:15
leadership 14:9	limited 38:25	23:8 35:16,17	map 43:24,25
15:25 16:2,6	41:21	loud 13:6,7	44:2,3,6,7

45:19 maps 44:3 maria 34:1 marked 15:5 market 20:19 27:11 married 19:23 massachusetts 30:22 mastro 34:1 materials 6:19 50:21 matter 33:25 35:2 matters 19:18 mayor 14:11 24:15 33:25 40:22 mayor's 41:4 mayors 34:2 meaningfully 20:11 means 20:24 46:7 meant 7:19 measures 11:5 20:14 mechanisms 11:22 meet 7:5 21:12 meeting 1:1 3:3 49:1 52:14 53:1,18 54:2	meetings 4:12 25:23 member 15:8 40:25 members 5:25 10:3 22:3 31:10 mention 20:6 mentioned 12:6 25:16 26:10 28:5 merits 9:23 met 11:7 15:24 22:18 25:12 28:13 31:21 methods 18:7 18:11 mic 3:7,8,12 midwest 32:4 miles 3:13 million 17:12 21:5 23:25 millions 13:18 minded 21:8 minor 38:21 39:1 minute 5:23 minutes 52:14 52:16,25 53:4 53:6 missed 34:24 mo 25:6 model 10:9	moderated 1:6 modernize 43:25 modernizing 45:18 modest 14:7 38:19,21 39:1 moh 1:19 55:2 55:19 moment 7:5 15:24 25:13 41:15 monday 1:7 month 4:10 months 5:7,22 11:8 12:24 53:13 morning 33:24 motion 6:11,12 37:4 39:6 41:7 44:11 46:9 48:24 49:10 50:19 51:2 52:12,13,16 53:17 move 23:17 32:4,12 45:23 45:25 moved 37:6 41:9 44:12 46:10 49:12 51:4 52:17 53:19	movement 29:20 moves 46:4 moving 6:25 multiple 13:12 37:6,8 41:9,11 44:12 46:12 51:6 52:19,21 53:8,24 municipal 48:20
			n
			n 2:1 3:1 name 3:4 5:15 near 17:22 21:16 nearly 4:12 necessary 50:24 necessity 20:20 need 11:8,21 13:8 14:6 15:21 19:12 20:16 28:4,6 32:16 42:11 needed 6:21 needs 7:14 13:25 23:13 24:16 27:4 neighborhood 20:17 neighborhood's 14:1

neighborhoods 13:5 14:17 15:10 neither 55:10 56:7 never 32:4 new 1:13 4:2,17 5:14,17,20 7:10,18,22,25 8:3,16,21,23 9:1,3,14 10:25 11:13,18,23 12:15 13:19,25 14:5 15:5,7,9 15:13,15,21 16:10,23,24 17:7,10 18:6 18:11,12,24 19:17,22,24 20:7,12,20 21:3,21 22:20 22:23 23:3,22 24:19 25:2,14 25:15,20 26:1 26:12,15 27:1 27:5,19 28:16 28:23 29:1,4 29:12 31:6,25 32:6 33:10 34:22,24 35:1 35:9,17,19 36:5 42:7 46:20 49:5 55:21	newest 16:24 nieves 2:10 3:23 16:4,5 37:21,22 39:21 39:22 43:2,3 45:1,2 48:3,4 50:1,2 51:19 51:20 nonpartisan 24:12 nonprofit 7:23 7:24 18:23 22:7 notably 9:4 notary 55:20 note 5:23 11:20 november 4:18 6:22 30:10 nuances 10:20 number 5:15 18:17 24:21 25:16,20 28:5 36:13 48:21 numbers 24:3 35:21 ny 1:13	obviously 21:6 22:1 odd 8:23 offer 53:2 office 44:1 officer 55:2 offices 44:4,9 official 18:2 47:4 officials 14:12 old 13:17 35:10 ongoing 17:20 open 5:24 9:8 9:13,16 10:2 11:21 12:2 15:20 21:6 23:21 27:24,25 30:19,25 33:6 33:9 35:11 openly 22:10 operations 43:25 opportunities 22:25 23:4 opportunity 11:12 17:15 22:13 24:6 25:9 26:25 27:12,14,20,23 28:6,14,16,19 29:3 32:18 34:19 35:16 53:2,4	opposed 38:13 40:12 43:18 45:17 48:19 50:17 52:10,22 53:9,25 options 10:19 order 50:22 organizations 7:23,24 8:1,3 organized 5:5 outcome 55:15 56:12 outer 23:4 outside 14:15 34:16 outstanding 19:3 overwhelmed 28:25 overwhelmin... 25:15 owe 24:20 own 6:25 22:5 owned 42:7
	o		p
	o 3:1 observation 25:7 obtain 37:4 39:6 41:7		p 2:1,1 3:1 p.m. 1:8 54:3 pandemic 34:14 paper 44:3 parents 15:11 32:1

parochial 14:2 part 6:4 17:1 19:19 24:25 27:20 33:15 34:20 participate 28:22 33:11 participation 11:3,23 18:22 21:13 31:1 45:25 particular 3:17 17:22 42:9 parties 55:11 55:14 56:8,11 partners 19:14 partnership 53:11 party 21:11 24:23 33:12 35:8 passed 38:15 40:14 43:20 45:19 48:21 passes 46:21 passion 5:20 18:18 29:1 passionate 9:1 11:4 past 5:22 12:24 23:7 30:24 41:18 path 7:7	patterns 13:23 paying 8:1 pays 8:11 people 12:17 17:13 19:15 20:24,25 21:10 22:6 23:2 27:15 29:10 31:21 32:14,16 34:3 35:23 36:1,3 46:24 47:10 percent 30:24 permanently 34:9 permitted 46:3 46:5 person 22:17 24:3 27:2 28:25 34:5 47:4 person's 14:1 personally 9:8 9:18 11:24 12:22 perspective 32:20 perspectives 10:13 12:19 13:10 18:19 41:2 42:12 phone 5:1 33:24	pieces 16:12 place 15:11 27:15,18 32:3 32:14,15 44:7 placed 50:22 places 34:11 planned 7:22 planning 26:14 36:23 38:24 44:2 platform 18:13 play 13:14 14:16 plays 8:12 please 3:7,11 40:15 43:21 pleased 27:20 pleasure 5:7,12 20:5,5 plus 25:21 point 20:13 29:9 policy 11:3 politicize 35:24 poor 35:2 position 19:18 possible 4:4 21:19 47:5 potential 4:8 4:17 14:20 power 13:8 20:24 41:24 powerful 14:20	practices 14:15 preeminence 32:11 preliminary 4:7,24 prepared 56:3 prescribed 13:3 presented 49:1 presents 17:14 preservation 1:11 17:23 preserve 13:13 president 40:22 44:9 47:5 presidential 8:23 45:24 46:2,5,23 pressing 7:14 presuming 13:4 previous 35:20 previously 33:4 41:22 primaries 9:16 11:21 15:20 21:6 27:24,25 30:20,25 33:6 33:10 35:11 primary 7:17 9:3,9,13 13:15 24:2 45:25 prior 55:5
---	---	--	--

priority 25:16 private 14:13 privilege 33:14 problems 31:22 32:2 procedure 40:14 proceeding 56:4 proceedings 55:3,4,6,8 56:6 process 5:12,23 7:19 9:4,5,20 10:25 11:14 13:2,18 15:18 16:7,16 18:16 19:10,20 24:1 25:1 29:15 30:7 42:10 processes 14:14 49:8 procurement 18:23 produce 3:10 4:24 36:19 product 18:9 production 27:14 professional 15:6 18:1 27:8 professionali... 19:4 profoundly 23:19	program 42:3 progress 12:21 18:14 projects 7:13 13:14 14:7 38:20,22 39:2 promise 30:2 promoting 8:12 8:13,22 proposal 6:4,9 33:6 36:11 37:5 38:13,14 38:17 39:7 40:12,13,16 41:8,16 43:18 43:19,22 44:11 45:17,18,21 46:9 48:19,20 proposals 6:1,3 6:7,8,21,23 7:6 7:9,19 8:19 9:15 12:20,23 13:9,11,13,17 13:22 14:3 15:14,17 19:9 20:10,15 21:20 23:16 33:2 34:25 42:9 49:2,3 propose 9:3,23 proposed 36:14 37:9 38:19 40:18 43:24 45:23	proposing 8:22 proud 7:5 8:20 12:23 14:19 15:4 16:14,23 20:12 21:20 24:25 25:11 27:7 provide 26:7 46:20 provided 12:18 17:25 providing 28:21 provisions 30:9 public 3:3 4:6 4:10,14 8:13 8:14 10:8 13:12 14:13 25:23,23 30:8 36:1 50:24 53:13 55:20 public's 32:23 publicly 36:16 purely 22:5 purview 41:21 put 9:1 12:23 15:5 20:9 38:13 40:12 43:18 puts 45:17 putting 20:11	q qualified 55:7 quality 25:24 queens 22:21 question 6:12 6:14 16:12 36:13 37:10 38:18 39:10 40:17 42:16 43:23 44:15 45:22 46:16,17 47:16,17 49:15 51:8 questions 4:17 5:13 6:15 24:10 30:11,20 36:9 49:4 50:22,25 quick 5:23 quickly 31:6 quite 26:14 28:3 47:8 quo 7:4,12 quote 26:23
			r r 1:6 2:1,3 3:1 raised 16:10 17:7 22:21 raising 16:11 randy 34:1 range 7:22,25 rather 29:25

rational 11:16 reach 20:13 read 6:7 36:11 38:16 40:15,15 43:21 45:20 reading 10:23 real 11:15,15 13:18 26:1 realistic 11:16 really 5:6 12:9 14:19,22 15:14 22:8 24:14,25 25:11 26:3 27:3,3,7,7 29:10 30:12,14 30:15 31:23 32:6,9,22 35:12 41:16 reason 5:7 16:13 received 9:6 30:13 32:25 recent 8:4 recognize 41:13 recommenda... 9:24 31:6 recommenda... 30:3,16 49:9 recommending 8:10 record 24:3 55:9 56:5	recorded 55:6 recording 3:9 55:8 56:4 recordings 4:11 recreation 17:15 reduced 55:6 reducing 36:20 38:22 reflect 5:19 20:16 22:9 41:1 reflected 32:23 reflecting 4:7 reflects 10:19 reform 9:4,12 9:19 reforms 4:8 7:22 8:18 regard 29:13 33:11 regardless 9:23 9:23 region 14:17 register 19:18 regret 21:3 regulate 23:14 regulated 14:6 reject 40:23 related 38:14 40:13 43:19 45:18 48:20 55:11 56:7	relative 55:13 56:10 release 41:17 released 4:9 releasing 4:6 rely 18:7 relying 3:9 remail 42:8 remain 9:8 remarkable 5:5 remember 3:7 3:11 22:4 reminded 25:6 remiss 21:2 repeatedly 25:16 report 4:19 6:8 6:10,17 10:18 11:6 27:8 41:17 48:25 49:6,7,11 50:18 reported 1:19 reporter 35:19 reports 4:7,25 10:22 represent 29:10 representation 40:20 require 18:4 42:1 required 10:23	requirement 24:17 requires 14:8 research 4:15 12:8 28:21 30:14 resolution 6:10 6:18 50:20 51:1,3 52:10 resourced 19:13 respect 10:9 15:14 47:9 responding 41:17 response 37:18 43:15 responsibility 6:19 9:21 responsive 3:17 5:21 rest 12:12,12 28:15 result 11:17 18:10 results 18:6,8 26:8 retain 20:21 retaining 18:13 review 3:15 4:13 8:11 18:24 36:20,21 37:1 38:19,20 38:22,23,25
--	--	--	--

<p>39:4 40:22 51:2 revision 1:1 3:3 22:14 23:21 24:16 31:7 33:5 49:9 revisions 53:6 rewarding 17:25 rezoning 23:11 42:1 rich 10:7 11:7 35:2 richard 1:6 2:3 3:4 31:10 richardson 2:11 3:23 17:5 17:6 37:23,24 39:23,24 43:4 43:5 45:3,4 48:5,6 50:3,4 51:21,22 right 28:2 rising 34:12 risk 8:2 29:22 rivalled 17:18 robust 18:2 role 6:14,16,17 8:12 10:9 13:13 14:16 29:14 30:6 31:2 room 1:11 25:2</p>	<p>root 8:25 running 47:4 s s 2:1,16 3:1 sacrificing 36:3 safe 27:15,18 safety 8:14 samuels 2:12 3:23 19:25 20:1 37:25 38:1 39:25 40:1 43:6,7 45:5,6 48:7,8 50:5,6 51:23 51:24 sat 25:22 savino 2:13 3:24 21:24,25 28:5 38:2,3 40:2,3 43:8,9 45:7,8 46:14 48:9,10 50:7,8 51:25 52:1 saw 15:10 saying 18:6 35:4,18 scheirenbeck 38:18 schierenbeck 2:9 5:4 10:17 12:6 22:19 36:13 40:17 43:23 45:22</p>	<p>second 16:19 23:24 25:19 31:5 37:7,8 38:16 39:6,8 41:10,11 44:13 46:11,12 49:13 51:5,6 52:18 52:19 53:20,21 53:22 seconded 6:12 secretary 2:5 3:21 12:2 37:13 39:13 42:19 44:18 49:18 51:11 sector 14:13 sectors 29:11 see 21:10 35:21 seeing 14:22 seek 8:17 50:19 seem 29:17 seen 16:18 26:1 35:19,23 senator 48:22 sensibilities 29:13 separate 44:7 serious 46:22 47:7 servants 36:1 serve 3:5 5:22 8:4 13:15 17:3 services 7:25 8:2</p>	<p>set 7:6,7 26:14 50:25 several 11:7 shams 2:7 3:22 shape 11:4,5 13:9,23 shaping 13:14 share 5:9 6:25 53:3 shared 18:19 52:15 sharon 2:4 3:20 31:10 shifting 48:20 short 21:12 show 18:24 showed 20:7 sides 9:7 signature 55:18 56:14 significant 9:10 13:16 18:10,11 36:4 significantly 36:19 38:22 similarly 8:9 simplifies 38:25 simplify 38:19 38:20 simultaneously 18:5 sincere 19:2</p>
---	---	--	---

single 11:8 27:2 sister 8:15 sit 24:3 26:25 siting 42:7 situation 31:4 six 5:7 35:6 sized 14:7 skills 55:10 56:6 slated 5:25 sleeping 34:10 small 7:13 smart 5:5 23:17 smarter 10:21 smartest 22:18 31:21 social 20:19 27:17 society 31:2 socioeconomic 17:17 solutions 7:5 23:17 soon 32:5 speak 3:11,12 3:12 10:6 25:21 35:21 speaker 14:11 39:8 40:21 44:13 46:10 49:12,13 51:4 52:17 53:19 speakers 37:6,8 41:9,11 44:12	46:12 51:6 52:19,21 53:8 53:24 speaking 3:7,8 special 42:10 specific 12:21 14:1 speechless 33:19 speed 7:10 spoke 11:8 35:10 squarely 29:24 30:3 staff 4:21 6:18 10:16 12:7,7 16:8 19:3 20:4 21:19 22:13,19 26:10 28:18 31:11,20 33:23 34:2 50:20 53:3 stakeholders 33:1 41:18 stand 30:11 standards 36:23 start 4:20 20:2 starting 34:7,9 state 23:2 46:3 46:6,19 47:11 55:21 statements 20:9	staten 22:22 23:3,4 status 7:3,12 staunch 16:20 stay 13:20 14:12 15:12 30:11 34:25 step 25:17 steps 23:7 stock 20:15 straight 24:12 streets 34:11 strength 29:1 strengthen 8:17 13:9 strengths 13:7 13:11 strived 9:21 strong 14:9 16:15 32:24 44:17 stronger 27:19 strongly 9:17 struck 32:22 studied 28:6 study 24:18 subject 8:19 9:5 36:25 39:3 41:3 42:4,8 subjects 8:7 submitted 5:19 20:8 28:24 submitting 24:4	subsequently 33:4 substantial 41:16 substantive 10:20 23:9 subways 34:11 suffer 7:11 summaries 4:11 summarized 13:1 summary 49:3 support 11:18 11:22 19:4,9 19:11 31:8 supporter 16:20 supports 9:24 sure 6:21 17:1 31:7 survive 33:8 sustain 7:20 sustainability 18:23 switching 8:22 sworn 55:5 system 9:9,13 16:20 21:9,11 24:2,11 30:22 34:10 systems 14:14
---	--	--	---

t	24:4 25:22,25	things 16:15	12:17 18:25
tackling 7:2	28:24 30:13	28:6 34:15	19:8 21:2 22:5
8:21 11:11	text 36:10 49:5	think 15:2,19	22:17 26:24
take 6:2 9:17	thank 5:3,8	15:21,24 22:3	27:3,11 28:13
16:22 27:5	10:5,6,10,11,24	22:8,17 24:15	29:21 33:6
41:15 50:20,23	11:25 12:1,4	25:12 28:8	36:3,20 38:23
taken 23:7	12:10,11,16	29:8,19 30:4	47:3,3 53:10
30:19 31:6	14:23,24 15:1	30:10,16,22	53:17
35:25 55:3,12	15:24 16:1,3,5	31:2 32:7 33:6	times 18:20
56:9	16:8,8 17:2,4	33:20 35:5,6	title 17:13
talent 19:8	18:25 19:19,21	35:21	titles 34:5
20:21 32:11	20:1 21:22,23	thinking 11:4	today 4:16 7:10
talented 5:14	21:25 22:12	third 26:3	12:23 14:3,10
talk 22:23 24:5	24:24 25:3,4	40:16 41:8	22:23 23:16
talked 27:15	26:3,17,18,20	thorough 3:15	31:3 42:8 44:3
talking 21:6	28:12,18 29:4	thought 27:3	53:14
target 12:20	29:6 31:9,12	32:2	today's 13:18
task 3:19 17:24	31:14,24 33:14	thoughtful 5:5	49:1 53:17
18:14 24:17	33:16,21,23,25	21:18 31:15	together 25:12
tax 27:9,10	36:5,6 37:3	32:25	told 19:23
team 20:5	39:5 41:6,14	thousands 4:2	took 12:17
technical 6:20	42:14 44:10	5:18 12:18	18:25
technology	46:8,14 47:14	20:7	top 17:22 24:11
20:23	47:15 48:22	threat 32:9,10	24:12 47:2,6
tell 17:9 32:1	53:10 54:1,1	32:12,13	towards 7:7
ten 4:5 12:18	thankful 19:6	threatening	track 27:13
terms 25:13	35:15	29:16,17	36:14,16,17
testified 47:10	thanking 20:3	threatens 13:20	38:15
testify 19:1	22:2	three 35:6	tracking 16:16
testifying 55:5	thanks 4:21 5:9	40:17,25	tracks 36:22
testimony 4:14	5:17 10:15	thrive 33:9	transcriber
8:10 9:6,7	42:13	ticket 47:2,6	56:1
12:19,25 18:17	thing 16:19	time 6:2 8:8,19	transcript 3:10
	23:19,23	9:8,15,17 12:9	56:3,5

transcriptionist 55:7	42:8	units 11:18	vitaly 33:7
transcripts 4:11	unable 24:9	unsafe 34:11	voice 7:15
transparent 3:17	unaffiliated 16:25 21:5,7	updated 4:6	voices 11:1
tribute 26:1	23:25	urge 9:17	volunteer 22:5
tried 29:24	unaffordable 15:12	urgent 20:16	vote 4:17 6:8,9
troll 8:11	unanimous 52:25	use 3:7 7:16,18	6:14,16,17
true 11:22 20:5	unchanged 46:7	13:2,9,16 14:2	21:20 34:25
55:9 56:5	under 7:12	18:22 19:10	37:4 40:10
truly 5:4,12	34:16 42:2	24:2 29:14	41:7 43:16
10:18 31:20	underlying 17:19	39:1 40:14	45:15 46:17
35:13	undermining 16:16	42:5,10,12	47:12 48:17,23
trust 8:13	understand 8:15 24:23	used 29:13	50:15
try 3:12	27:4 29:21	usher 14:21	voted 49:2
turned 25:21	30:20 32:4	usually 3:13	53:14
turnout 8:22	understanding 31:1	utterly 20:21	voter 8:22,24
8:24 35:21	undertaken 3:15 33:10	v	18:22 45:24
twelve 48:18	uneven 13:22	valerie 2:15	50:23
two 24:11	unfortunately 9:16	3:24	voters 6:22 8:8
38:18 53:5	unidentified 39:8 44:13	various 46:18	8:18 9:9,15,25
type 9:12,13	46:10 49:12,13	vehicle 7:17	14:22 21:5,7
24:11 46:25	51:4 52:17	13:16	23:24,25 24:19
types 7:10	53:19	veto 41:4	24:21 50:23
typewriting 55:7		viable 7:25	votes 6:15
u		vice 2:4 3:20	voting 6:10
udall's 25:7		10:4 16:1 19:7	14:3 16:21
ultimate 33:2		20:4 28:14	28:1
ultimately 8:6		31:17 33:22	w
ulurp 7:17 13:7		37:11 39:11	walk 32:14
13:11,15 41:23		44:16 47:18	walks 4:2
		49:16 51:9	want 4:20 5:3
		view 8:4	5:16 7:11
		views 32:21	10:11,15,24
			12:5,11,16

14:6 15:1,7 16:14,19,25 18:6 22:12 24:22 26:11,20 33:8 34:23,24 35:5,9,12,18 53:10 wanted 5:9 warrant 15:19 way 4:6 6:24 7:22 23:14,15 30:5 31:22 ways 3:16 12:14 13:2,3 22:6 27:25 we've 4:7 13:6 13:7 16:17 20:12 21:18 23:7 25:12 30:13 weaponize 35:24 wear 17:13 34:4 wedded 21:11 week 52:16 weekends 33:24 weeks 41:19 53:5 weigh 21:4 weisbrod 2:14 3:24 25:5,6 38:4,5 40:4,5	43:10,11 45:9 45:10 48:11,12 50:9,10 52:2,3 welcome 3:2 went 23:8 whatveer 6:20 white 2:15 3:24 26:19,20 35:2 38:6,7 40:6,7 43:12,13 45:11 45:12 48:13,14 50:11,12 52:4 52:5 who've 21:19 36:1 wife 19:22 witness 55:4 words 33:20 42:4 work 8:15 9:14 11:10 14:18 15:2 20:5,12 22:2,15 23:13 24:24 25:11 26:7 28:14 29:8,9 30:8 32:17,23 34:23 36:8 47:9 worked 4:22 5:11 7:4 worker 13:3 working 7:4,20 7:20 10:12 23:10 53:12	world 13:18 22:7,7 32:7 wrestle 5:13 written 4:9 5:19 12:19,25 24:4 28:24 wylde 2:16 3:25 29:5,6 38:8,9 40:8,9 43:14,15 45:13 45:14 48:15,16 50:13,14 52:6 52:7 53:21,22 x x 23:10 y year 4:1 22:13 22:16 23:10 25:1,1 46:2,5 46:24 47:1,5 year's 53:15 years 5:11 7:16 8:23,24 19:22 23:8,11 25:17 26:16 29:21 36:2 45:24 48:21 york 1:13 7:18 7:23 8:16,21 8:23 9:3,14 11:13 17:7 18:12 19:22 21:21 22:20	23:3,22 24:19 25:2,14 26:12 26:15 27:5 29:12 32:6 46:20 49:5 55:21 york's 20:20 yorker 11:18 16:10,24 17:10 19:24 32:1 yorkers 4:2,18 5:14,17,20 7:11,25 8:3 9:1 10:25 11:23 12:15 13:19,25 14:6 15:5,7,13 15:15,22 16:24 18:12,24 19:17 20:7,12 21:3 25:15,20 26:1 27:1,19 28:17 28:23 29:1,4 33:10 34:22,24 35:2,9,17,19 36:5 young 20:25 21:7 22:18 23:1 35:10 younger 21:10
---	---	--	--