

JOURNAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF PHILADELPHIA



Monday, January 6, 2020

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: 17 - Councilmembers Domb, Green, Gym, Oh, Squilla, Johnson, Jones, Council President Clarke, Henon, Quiñones Sánchez, Bass, Parker, O'Neill, Brooks, Gauthier, Gilmore Richardson and Thomas

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Councilmember Quiñones Sánchez Introduced and Ordered Placed On Next Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Quiñones Sánchez:

Resolution No. 200001: Resolution To provide Rules for the Government of the Council of the City of Philadelphia.

COMMUNICATIONS

1

2 COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

3 STATED MEETING

4

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6 The Met Philadelphia
858 North Broad Street
7 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
January 6, 2020
8 10:02 a.m.

9

JOURNAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF PHILADELPHIA

10 PRESENT:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT DARRELL L. CLARKE

11 COUNCILWOMAN CINDY BASS

COUNCILWOMAN KENDRA BROOKS

12 COUNCILMAN ALLAN DOMB

COUNCILWOMAN JAMIE GAUTHIER

13 COUNCILWOMAN KATHERINE GILMORE RICHARDSON

COUNCILMAN DEREK S. GREEN

14 COUNCILWOMAN HELEN GYM

COUNCILMAN BOBBY HENON

15 COUNCILMAN KENYATTA JOHNSON

COUNCILMAN CURTIS JONES, JR.

16 COUNCILMAN DAVID OH

COUNCILMAN BRIAN J. O'NEILL

17 COUNCILWOMAN CHERELLE L. PARKER

COUNCILWOMAN MARIA D. QUINONES-SANCHEZ

18 COUNCILMAN MARK SQUILLA

COUNCILMAN ISAIAH THOMAS

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MICHAEL A. DECKER, CHIEF CLERK

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1 1/6/20 - STATED MEETING

2 MR. TALIAFERRO: Ladies and

3 gentlemen, please be seated. Welcome to

4 the investiture of members of Council,

5 the organization of the City Council, the

6 inauguration of the Honorable James F.

7 Kenney as Mayor, and the investiture of

8 members of the Judiciary, City

9 Commissioners, Sheriff, and Register of

10 Wills.

11 We ask that you please silence

12 all digital communicative devices, all

13 cell phones for the remainder of the

14 ceremony. Thank you.

15 Ladies and gentlemen, please

16 rise and bow your heads for the

17 invocation given by Monsignor Daniel

18 Sullivan from the Archdiocese of

19 Philadelphia.

20 MONSIGNOR SULLIVAN: Let us

21 pray.

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22 Mighty and eternal God, you
23 have revealed your glory to all the
24 nations. God of power and might, wisdom
25 and justice, through you authority is

3

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2 rightly administered, laws are enacted,
3 and judgment is decreed.
4 We pray today for James Kenney,
5 Mayor of the City of Philadelphia. We
6 pray for our City Council, the judges,
7 and all elected officials who are
8 entrusted to guard our welfare. May they
9 be enabled by your powerful protection to
10 discharge their duties with honesty and
11 ability.
12 May they all seek to preserve

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13 peace, promote the common good, continue
14 to bring us the blessings of liberty and
15 equality.
16 We likewise remember in prayer
17 all of those who support the cause of our
18 common good. We pray for our police
19 officers, firefighters, and first
20 responders, whose sole mission is to make
21 Philadelphia our home, a place where all
22 of us can enjoy and share the many
23 blessings with which you have gifted us.
24 Today also we commend to your
25 powerful mercy all the citizens of the

4

1 1/6/20 - STATED MEETING
2 United States. May we be preserved in
3 union and in peace and gratefully share
4 these blessings with all of our sisters

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5 and brothers throughout the world.

6 Be with us, Lord, today and

7 always.

8 Amen.

9 (Amen.)

10 MR. TALIAFERRO: Ladies and

11 gentlemen, please remain standing as the

12 Philadelphia Police and Fire Departments

13 and the Prison System guards present the

14 colors, while the Philadelphia Boys Choir

15 and Chorale lead us in singing the

16 National Anthem.

17 (Colors are presented and the

18 National Anthem sung.)

19 MR. TALIAFERRO: Ladies and

20 gentlemen, you may now be seated.

21 And now citizens and friends,

22 please welcome City Council President,

23 the Honorable Darrell L. Clarke, to the

24 podium.

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25 (Applause.)

5

1 1/6/20 - STATED MEETING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

3 morning.

4 (Good morning.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: We

6 can do better than that. I know there's

7 a little Eagles hangover, but it's all

8 good. They'll be back next year.

9 So I'd just like to thank

10 everybody so much for being here today to

11 welcome you to the inaugural proceedings

12 for the investiture of City Council, the

13 inauguration of the Mayor, and the

14 induction of the Judiciary and other

15 elected officials.

16 Our special guests joining us

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17 today are Monsignor Daniel Sullivan, the
18 Reverend John Roberts, Reverend Martini
19 Shaw, Imam Muhammad Abdul-Aleem, Reverend
20 Naomi Washington-Leapheart, Rabbi Jill
21 Maderer, former Mayor John Street, my
22 mentor, former Mayor Bill Green, former
23 Mayor W. Wilson Goode, Congressman
24 Brendan Boyle, former Congressman Robert
25 Brady, the Honorable Rosalyn Robinson,

6

1 1/6/20 - STATED MEETING
2 and the Honorable Kevin Dougherty and the
3 Honorable Patrick Dugan and the Honorable
4 Carolyn Nichols.
5 I also wish to acknowledge the
6 elected officials joining us in the
7 audience today as well as members of the

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8 Honorary Inaugural Committee.

9 This being the day fixed by the

10 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter for the

11 organization of the Council of the City

12 of Philadelphia, the hour has arrived,

13 and we will now proceed with the

14 organization of Council and the

15 investiture of Councilmembers.

16 The first order of business

17 will be the election of a temporary

18 chairperson. Nominations are now in

19 order, and the Chair recognizes

20 Councilman Henon.

21 COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you,

22 Mr. President. I nominate Councilwoman

23 Cherelle Parker.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The

25 Chair now recognizes Councilman Squilla.

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2 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

3 Mr. President, I second the nomination.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Are

5 there any other further nominations?

6 (No response.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

8 Hearing none, the Chair recognizes

9 Councilman Domb.

10 COUNCILMAN DOMB:

11 Mr. President, I move the nominations be

12 closed.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The

14 Chair thanks the gentleman.

15 The Chair now recognizes

16 Councilman Green.

17 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Mr.

18 President, I second that motion.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: All

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20 in favor of the motion say aye.

21 (Aye.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

23 Those opposed, nay.

24 (No response.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The

8

1 1/6/20 - STATED MEETING

2 ayes have it, and the nominations are

3 closed. There being no further

4 nominations, all in favor of the election

5 of Councilwoman Parker will say aye.

6 (Aye.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

8 Those opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The

11 ayes have it, and Councilwoman Parker has

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12 been duly elected temporary Chairperson.

13 Councilwoman.

14 (Applause.)

15 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank

16 you. Thank you, Councilman Clarke.

17 As the first order of business,

18 I appoint Mr. Michael Decker temporary

19 Clerk.

20 I will also at this time remind

21 all Bible holders to please follow the

22 program and make your way to the stage at

23 the appropriate time.

24 The next order of business is

25 the filing of the certificates of

9

1 1/6/20 - STATED MEETING

2 election. The Clerk will call the roll.

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3 I direct the Clerk to call the roll
4 beginning with the
5 Councilpersons-at-large in alphabetical
6 order and then to proceed with the
7 District Councilpersons in order of their
8 district, beginning with the First
9 District.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Ms. Kendra

11 Brooks.

12 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Present.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Mr. Allan Domb.

14 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Present.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Ms. Katherine

16 Gilmore Richardson.

17 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON:

18 Present.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Mr. Derek Green.

20 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Present.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Ms. Helen Gym.

22 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Present.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Mr. David Oh.

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24 COUNCILMAN OH: Present.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Mr. Isaiah

10

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2 Thomas.

3 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Present.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Mr. Mark Squilla.

5 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Present.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Mr. Kenyatta

7 Johnson.

8 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Present.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Ms. Jamie

10 Gauthier.

11 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

12 Present.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Mr. Curtis Jones,

14 Jr.

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- 15 COUNCILMAN JONES: Present.
- 16 CHIEF CLERK: Mr. Darrell
- 17 Clarke.
- 18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
- 19 Present.
- 20 CHIEF CLERK: Mr. Bobby Henon.
- 21 COUNCILMAN HENON: Present.
- 22 CHIEF CLERK: Ms. Maria
- 23 Quinones-Sanchez.
- 24 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ:
- 25 Presente.

11

- 1 1/6/20 - STATED MEETING
- 2 CHIEF CLERK: Ms. Cindy Bass.
- 3 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Present.
- 4 CHIEF CLERK: Ms. Cherelle
- 5 Parker.
- 6 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Present.

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7 CHIEF CLERK: Mr. Brian
8 O'Neill.
9 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Present.
10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
11 Parker, a quorum of the members-elect is
12 present, and I have in my possession
13 certificates of election from the County
14 Board of Elections in Philadelphia
15 indicating their election on November
16 5th, 2019 for a term of four years,
17 commencing the first Monday of January
18 2020.
19 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
20 you.
21 The investiture of members of
22 Council will now proceed. The
23 members-elect will rise to take the oath
24 of office, which will be administered by
25 the Honorable Kevin Dougherty, Justice of

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12

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2 the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

3 (Applause.)

4 JUSTICE DOUGHERTY: Will each

5 member please rise. Place your left hand

6 on the Bible, raise your right hand, and

7 repeat after me.

8 (Oath of office administered.)

9 JUSTICE DOUGHERTY:

10 Congratulations.

11 (Applause.)

12 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: The next

13 order of business is the election of a

14 President of the City Council for

15 Philadelphia to serve for four years,

16 commencing January 6th, 2020.

17 Nominations are now in order,

18 and the Chair recognizes Councilwoman

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19 Gilmore Richardson.
20 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: I
21 proudly and with great honor nominate
22 Darrell L. Clarke.
23 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Y'all can
24 clap.
25 (Applause.)

13

1 1/6/20 - STATED MEETING
2 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
3 you.
4 At this time, the Chair
5 recognizes Councilman Thomas.
6 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Madam
7 Chair, I second the nomination.
8 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Are there
9 any further nominations?

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- 10 (No response.)
- 11 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Hearing
- 12 none, the Chair recognizes Councilwoman
- 13 Gauthier.
- 14 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Madam
- 15 Chair, I move the nominations be closed.
- 16 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: The Chair
- 17 recognizes Councilwoman Brooks.
- 18 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Madam
- 19 Chair, I second that motion.
- 20 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: All in
- 21 favor will say aye.
- 22 (Aye.)
- 23 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Those
- 24 opposed, nay.
- 25 (No response.)

14

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2 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: There
3 being no further nominations, all those
4 in favor of the election of the Honorable
5 Darrell L. Clarke as President of the
6 City Council of Philadelphia will say
7 aye.

8 (Aye.)

9 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Those
10 opposed, nay.

11 (No response.)

12 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: The ayes
13 have it. However, the temporary Clerk
14 will call the roll.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
16 Bass.

17 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
19 Brooks.

20 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

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- 22 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.
- 23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
- 24 Gauthier.
- 25 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

15

- 1 1/6/20 - STATED MEETING
- 2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
- 3 Gilmore Richardson.
- 4 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.
- 5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.
- 6 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.
- 7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.
- 8 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.
- 9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.
- 10 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.
- 11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
- 12 Johnson.
- 13 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

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- 14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
- 15 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.
- 16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
- 17 O'Neill.
- 18 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
- 19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.
- 20 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.
- 21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
- 22 Parker.
- 23 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.
- 24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
- 25 Quinones-Sanchez.

16

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- 2 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.
- 3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
- 4 Squilla.

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5 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

7 Thomas.

8 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

10 Clarke.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

12 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: The ayes

13 are 17 and the nays are zero. Councilman

14 Clarke, having been unanimously chosen by

15 the members of Council, I declare that

16 Councilman Clarke is the duly elected

17 President of this body.

18 Let's give our President a

19 round of applause.

20 (Applause.)

21 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: I appoint

22 Councilwoman Gym, Councilman Jones,

23 Councilman Johnson, and Councilwoman Bass

24 to escort Council President Clarke to the

25 rostrum. And joining Council President

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17

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2 at the rostrum will be Nita Wroten.

3 The oath of office will be

4 administered by the Honorable Rosalyn

5 Robinson, Judge of the Court of Common

6 Pleas.

7 (Applause.)

8 JUDGE ROBINSON: Place your

9 left hand on the Bible and raise your

10 right hand and repeat after me.

11 (Oath of office administered.)

12 JUDGE ROBINSON:

13 Congratulations.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

15 Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

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17 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: It is my
18 honor and my privilege to present to each
19 of you President of the City Council of
20 Philadelphia, the Honorable Darrell L.
21 Clarke.

22 (Applause.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
24 morning.

25 (Good morning.)

18

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2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
3 an exciting day, and this will be an
4 exciting year.

5 I want to thank everybody who
6 has come here today for the investiture
7 and the organization of City Council.
8 This is truly democracy in action, and I

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9 hope that you find today not only a
10 pleasurable one but an interesting one,
11 and it will be that.

12 We are proud to bring this
13 inauguration to The Met Philadelphia for
14 the first time and celebrate the
15 continuation of the North Broad Street
16 Renaissance.

17 (Applause.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Its
19 Chair, Ken Scott, sitting right in front
20 of me.

21 They strategically placed you,
22 Ken. I asked that to be done.

23 So before we begin, I just want
24 to take one moment to express my sincere
25 gratitude and appreciation to four very

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2 special people not only to me but of all

3 of us, Councilmembers who are concluding

4 their term. They leave a legacy that

5 will be truly written in stone -

6 Councilman Bill Greenlee, Councilwoman

7 Blondell Reynolds Brown, Councilmember Al

8 Taubenberger, and Council Lady Jannie

9 Blackwell.

10 Let's give them a hand.

11 (Applause.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: They

13 were awesome.

14 And to the newest members, you

15 got some pretty big shoes to fill. So I

16 want to acknowledge the four newly

17 elected members being sworn in today -

18 Councilwoman Kathy Gilmore Richardson.

19 (Applause.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

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21 Councilwoman Kendra Brooks.

22 (Applause.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

24 Councilwoman, I see you brought the crowd

25 that you had at your inauguration party

20

1 1/6/20 - STATED MEETING

2 Saturday night.

3 And Councilwoman Jamie

4 Gauthier.

5 (Applause.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: And

7 probably the only person that I can't

8 beat in basketball on the stage,

9 Councilman Isaiah Thomas.

10 (Applause.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

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12 Lastly, I just want to say it is truly an
13 honor to have allowed me and a privilege
14 to have served as your Council President
15 for the last four years. I want to thank
16 my members for again giving me this
17 awesome opportunity. You guys, thank you
18 all so much. We look forward to
19 continuing some very good things for the
20 City of Philadelphia. So to all of you,
21 thank you so much.

22 (Applause.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Now
24 the work begins.

25 So four years ago, I stood on

21

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2 stage at the last inauguration and I made
3 a number of pledges as we sought new ways

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4 to grow our city's economy while helping
5 more Philadelphians participate in that
6 growth, and we made some progress.

7 I said we would unveil a
8 comprehensive energy strategy to help
9 homeowners, businesses, City government
10 increase efficiencies, reduce costs, and
11 create 10,000 jobs over the next decade.

12 And I got kicked three, four times by my
13 staff that said, Darrell, what in the
14 world are you saying.

15 But I meant it. No, we didn't
16 get 10,000 new jobs yet, but I'm happy to
17 say that with the Philadelphia Energy
18 Authority and the Office of
19 Sustainability of Philadelphia, we have
20 more than 1,000 new jobs in the very,
21 very awesome energy-efficient projects
22 coming on board.

23 (Applause.)

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24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: More

25 Philadelphians have actually installed

22

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2 solar systems in their homes, and over

3 \$100 million has been invested by

4 companies and government agencies to

5 retrofit their buildings to become more

6 energy efficient.

7 Our comprehensive energy

8 strategy is saving energy, reducing

9 utility costs and, more importantly,

10 creating jobs.

11 We promise to continue our

12 efforts to ensure equitable growth

13 throughout Philadelphia and make sure

14 every neighborhood is a community of

15 choice. That is very important.

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16 And while we have made much
17 progress, we still have much more work to
18 do.

19 Our Philly First Home
20 initiative -- this was really, really a
21 special program, which provides one-time
22 grants to help first-time homebuyers
23 afford the down payment and closing costs
24 of their home -- is working extremely
25 well. And if anybody bought a home

23

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2 recently, you understand what a challenge
3 that is.
4 So as a result of that, in six
5 months, this program has helped nearly
6 900 homebuyers achieve their dream of the

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7 most significant investment in one's
8 lifetime, buying a home in the City of
9 Philadelphia.

10 (Applause.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
12 program is also helping to stabilize our
13 middle neighborhoods and returning money
14 to the City.

15 Now, frequently we spend money,
16 and it doesn't necessarily come back. In
17 this program, in return of 8 million in
18 grants, the City actually realized \$4.5
19 million to the City in real estate
20 transfer tax. That's nearly a 60 percent
21 return on investment. That's a win-win
22 for everybody.

23 But this is no time to rest on
24 our laurels. We must build on all of the
25 positive momentum happening in

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2 Philadelphia, particularly in our
3 downtown area. From the Comcast
4 Technology Center to the FMC Tower in
5 West Philly, our skyline is growing, our
6 economy is booming. Look out, New York,
7 we're coming for you.

8 (Applause.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Our
10 world-class academic institutions -
11 Temple, Penn, Drexel, La Salle, and St.
12 Joe's - are producing thousands of
13 college graduates, ready to take on the
14 world, and increasingly these graduates
15 are staying in Philly, drawn to our
16 neighborhoods, our affordability, our
17 vibrant arts and culture, and restaurant
18 scene that continues to grow.

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19 (File No. 200002)

THE COMMUNICATION WAS READ AND FILED.