

# City of Philadelphia

*City Council  
Chief Clerk's Office  
402 City Hall  
Philadelphia, PA 19107*



## Meeting Minutes (Long)

**Thursday, March 27, 2025**

**10:00 AM**

**Room 400, City Hall**

**CITY COUNCIL**

PRESENT: 16 - Councilmembers Bass, Brooks, Driscoll, Gauthier, Gilmore Richardson, Harrity, Jones, Lozada, O'Neill, Phillips, Squilla, Ahmad, Landau, O'Rourke, Young and Council President Johnson

EXCUSED: 1 - Councilmember Thomas

Council met, a quorum being present.

Elder Morris M. Singleton, Senior Pastor of Victory Community Baptist Church of Germantown, was introduced and offered an appropriate prayer.

COUNCILMEMBER BASS MOVED TO APPROVE THE JOURNAL

of the meeting of Thursday, March 27, 2025.

THE MOTION WAS DULY SECONDED AND AGREED TO.

Councilmember Gilmore Richardson requested leave of absence for

Councilmember Thomas

THE REQUEST WAS GRANTED.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Transmitting a Resolution authorizing the Philadelphia Land Bank to dispose of 2942 and 2944 W Wishart St; 3323 W Allegheny Ave; 3212 N 33rd St; and 3216 N Newkirk Street located in the 4th Councilmanic District in accordance with the terms of Chapter 16-700 of The Philadelphia Code. (File No. 250289)

THE COMMUNICATION WAS READ AND FILED.

Transmitting a message advising you that pursuant to Sections 4-604 and 2-307 of the Home Rule Charter, I am today transmitting to the Council the recommendation of the City Planning Commission on the following bills:

**Bill Number 250147**

**Bill Number 250149**

**Bill Number 250175 - 45 Days**

**Bill Number 250176**

**Bill Number 250177**

**Bill Number 250204**

**Bill Number 250205** (File No. 250290)

THE COMMUNICATION WAS READ AND FILED.

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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Councilmember Gauthier Introduced and Referred the following Bill, Sponsored by Councilmember Gauthier:

**Bill No. 250266:** An Ordinance Regulating the direction of movement of traffic on 47th Street between Chestnut Street and Kingsessing, all under certain terms and conditions.

THE BILL WAS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON STREETS AND SERVICES.

Attachments: [Bill No. 25026600](#)

Councilmember Gauthier Introduced and Referred the following Bill, Sponsored by Councilmember Gauthier:

**Bill No. 250267:** An Ordinance Amending Section 12-701 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled “Designation of Bicycle Lanes,” to authorize a bicycle lane and removal of a travel lane on 47th Street, under certain terms and conditions.

THE BILL WAS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON STREETS AND SERVICES.

Attachments: [Bill No. 25026700](#)

Councilmember Brooks Introduced the following Bill, Sponsored by Councilmember Brooks:

**Bill No. 250268:** An Ordinance Amending Chapter 19-2600 of The Philadelphia Code (“Business Income and Receipts Taxes”) to increase the amount of exemption from the receipts portion of the Business Income and Receipts Tax, under certain terms and conditions.

Attachments: [Bill No. 25026800](#)

Councilmember Brooks Introduced the following Bill, Sponsored by Councilmember Brooks:

**Bill No. 250269:** An Ordinance Amending Chapter 19-1100 of The Philadelphia Code (“Personal Property Taxes”) by deleting all existing Sections and replacing them with an annual tax on certain intangible personal property, all under certain terms and conditions.

Attachments: [Bill No. 25026900](#)

Councilmember Brooks Introduced the following Bill, Sponsored by Councilmember Brooks:

**Bill No. 250270:** An Ordinance Amending Chapter 19-1500 of The Philadelphia

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Code, entitled “Wage and Net Profits Tax,” and Chapter 19-2800, entitled “Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority Tax on Wages and Net Profits,” to expand eligibility for wage tax and net profits tax relief; to further reduce wage and net profits tax rates for low-income non-residents; and to provide for grants to low-income City residents in an amount equivalent to the PICA portion of wage and net profits taxes paid; all under certain terms and conditions.

**Attachments:** [Bill No. 25027000](#)

Councilmember O'Neill Introduced and Referred the following Bill, Sponsored by Councilmember O'Neill:

**Bill No. 250271:** An Ordinance Amending The Philadelphia Code by increasing the penalties for the prohibited parking or maintaining of semitrailers and truck tractors at residential properties, all under certain terms and conditions.

THE BILL WAS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON STREETS AND SERVICES.

**Attachments:** [Bill No. 25027100](#)

Councilmember Squilla Introduced and Referred the following Bill, Sponsored by Councilmember Squilla:

**Bill No. 250272:** An Ordinance Authorizing an encroachment in the nature of planters in the vicinity of 322-40 Race St, Philadelphia, PA 19106, under certain terms and conditions.

THE BILL WAS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON STREETS AND SERVICES.

Councilmember Squilla Introduced and Referred the following Bill, Sponsored by Councilmember Squilla:

**Bill No. 250273:** An Ordinance Amending Title 12 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled “Traffic Code,” to revise procedures for operation of an automated vehicle noise enforcement system and creating Section 12-1138, entitled “Automated Vehicle Noise Enforcement”.

THE BILL WAS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON STREETS AND SERVICES.

**Attachments:** [Bill No. 25027300](#)

Councilmember Bass Introduced and Referred the following Bill, Sponsored by Councilmember Bass:

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**Bill No. 250274:** An Ordinance Authorizing an encroachment in the nature of planters in the vicinity of 219 West Rittenhouse St, Philadelphia, PA 19144, under certain terms and conditions.

THE BILL WAS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON STREETS AND SERVICES.

Councilmember Phillips Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Phillips:

**Resolution No. 250275:** Resolution Honoring March as National Reading Month and Recognizing the "Read by 4th" Initiative for Its Commitment to Early Childhood Literacy.

Councilmember Phillips Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Phillips:

**Resolution No. 250276:** Resolution Honoring and Celebrating Beyond the Bars on the Occasion of Their 10th Anniversary for Their Dedication to Empowering Philadelphia's Youth Through Music, Leadership, and Community Engagement

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

**Resolution No. 250277:** Resolution Authorizing the Philadelphia Land Bank to dispose of 2942 and 2944 W Wishart St; 3323 W Allegheny Ave; 3212 N 33rd St; and 3216 N Newkirk Street located in the 4th Councilmanic District in accordance with the terms of Chapter 16-700 of The Philadelphia Code.

Councilmember Landau Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Landau:

**Resolution No. 250278:** Resolution Declaring March 17, 2025, as "Bayard Rustin Day" in the City of Philadelphia.

Councilmember Landau Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Landau:

**Resolution No. 250279:** Resolution Recognizing March 31, 2025 as Transgender Day of Visibility in the City of Philadelphia, a day to celebrate and recognize the achievements and contributions of Transgender people, and to lift up the joy, light, and laughter that Transgender people experience and bring into our communities.

Councilmember Young Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Young:

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**Resolution No. 250280:** Resolution Recognizing Sanaa Rahming, Samiyah Rahming, and Julissa Ortiz for their middle and high school girls' wrestling accomplishments on the occasion of Women's History Month.

Councilmember O'Rourke Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution for Councilmember Young, Sponsored by Council President Johnson, Johnson, Phillips, Gilmore Richardson, Gauthier, Jones, Landau, Lozada, Brooks, Harrity, O'Rourke, Driscoll, O'Neill, Squilla, Bass and Ahmad:

**Resolution No. 250281:** Resolution Honoring the Life and Legacy of former heavyweight champion "Big" George Foreman

Councilmember Young Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Young:

**Resolution No. 250282:** Resolution Honoring the Life of Eusebio "Bonn" Batan, Fishtown's "Mayor of Crease Street".

Councilmember Young Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Young:

**Resolution No. 250283:** Resolution Honoring and congratulating Chef Kyle Timpson for winning Season 23 of Gordon Ramsay's *Hell's Kitchen*.

Councilmember Brooks Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Brooks:

**Resolution No. 250284:** Resolution Recognizing March as National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month and honoring the work done by advocates to reduce barriers to social and civic participation experienced by people living with developmental disabilities.

Councilmember Bass Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Bass:

**Resolution No. 250285:** Resolution Recognizing the Montreux Jazz Festival and the rich jazz history of Philadelphia and expressing the City's desire to host a world-class jazz festival in Philadelphia.

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

**Resolution No. 250286:** Resolution Recognizing and Celebrating Sharon A. Powell on the Occasion of Her Official Retirement.

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Councilmember Ahmad Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Ahmad:

**Resolution No. 250287:** Resolution Recognizing and honoring Dr. Arlene Parsons Bennett for her contributions to the City as a prominent community organizer and the first Black woman to graduate from the University of Pennsylvania's medical school, on the occasion of Women's History Month.

Councilmember Ahmad Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar the following Resolution, Sponsored by Councilmember Ahmad:

**Resolution No. 250288:** Resolution Recognizing April 2025 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Celebrating the Extraordinary Efforts of WOAR - Philadelphia Center Against Sexual Violence.

**REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

There were no Reports from Committees.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE CALENDAR**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Representative Andre Carroll Ahmad Resolution  
Dr. Arlene Bennett Ahmad Resolution  
Kate Perez 250255  
Julia Cadwallender Phillips Resolution  
Jeremy Blatstein 250245  
Autumn Wynde 250255  
Megan Malkemes 250245  
Shane Janick Introducing  
Kysheen Wilson 250245  
Denise Anderson 250245  
Lurline Jones 250245  
Margaret Laramée 250245  
Joshua Stein 250245  
Adelaide Lyall 250245  
Ethan M. Stein 250245  
Kathleen Brindle 250245  
Rebecca Graham Phillips Resolution  
Matthew Kerr Phillips Resolution  
Isaiah Robinson Phillips Resolution  
Shilynn Black Phillips Resolution  
David Alexander Jenkins 250255

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Tawanna Fleming 250245

Lynn Landes 250255

Vanessa Ewing 240245

Ogbonna Haggins 250255

Wanda Walker 250245

SEE NOTES OF TESTIMONY FOR FULL COMMENT FROM STATED MEETING OF THURSDAY,  
MARCH 27, 2025.

**Please note that this is an in-person meeting, and it is open to the public. This meeting may also be viewed on Xfinity Channel 64, Fios Channel 40 or <http://phlcouncil.com/watch-city-council/>**

**Public comment will be received in-person regarding those matters printed on the agenda on the following pages. Speakers interested in participating in public comment at this meeting may call 215-686-3406 by no later than 3 p.m. the day before the meeting and they must submit the following information:**

- **Full name (including proper pronunciation and spelling)**
- **Identify the bill number or resolution number that will be addressed**
- **State whether you support or oppose that particular bill or resolution**
  - **Telephone number where you can be reached**

**Speakers may also sign-up to participate in public comment on the day of the meeting in Room 400, City Hall. Speakers who submitted the above information within the required time frame will be added to the list. Speakers will have up to three minutes to speak; the Council President, however, reserves the right based on circumstances to establish a different time limit. The Council President may also limit testimony where repetitious comments are offered on an agenda item.**

**ORDER OF BUSINESS IN A COUNCIL SESSION**

**Note: Some items do not occur at every session:**

**Invocation.**

**Approval of the journal of the preceding meeting.**

**Requests by Councilmembers for permission to be absent from  
the session.**

**Reading of communications from the Mayor.**

**Introduction of bills and resolutions (to be referred to  
appropriate Committees of Council).**

**Reports from Committees of Council.**

**Special business.**

**Bills on first reading.**

**Public comment on bills and resolutions on the Second  
Reading and Final Passage Calendars - titles are printed below.**

**Bills that Council passed but that need to be returned by the  
Mayor for reconsideration.**

**Consideration of bills and resolutions on the Second Reading  
and Final Passage Calendars.**

**Bills and resolutions on the Suspension Calendar.**

**Speeches by Councilmembers.**

**BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS ON FINAL PASSAGE**

Councilmember Gauthier called up:

**Resolution No. 250245:** Resolution Authorizing the Philadelphia Land Bank to dispose of 708 N. Shedwick Street, 710 N. Shedwick Street, 714 N. Shedwick Street and 723 N. Shedwick Street located in the 3rd Councilmanic District in accordance with the terms of Chapter 16-700 of The Philadelphia Code.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Landau called up:

**Resolution No. 250255:** Resolution Condemning President Donald J. Trump and his administration for their decision to suspend income-driven student loan repayment plans and for politicizing the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program to target advocates working to oppose his anti-immigrant, anti-trans, anti-free speech agenda.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

**BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS ON SECOND READING AND FINAL  
PASSAGE**

**Bill No. 250066-A, as amended:** An Ordinance Amending Chapter 11-200 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled “Openings and Excavations in the Streets,” to impose additional penalties on violators of underground permitting requirements, under certain terms and conditions.

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THE BILL WAS READ AND PASSED.

*The Ayes and Nays were as follows:*

*Ayes: 16 Councilmembers Bass, Brooks, Driscoll, Gauthier, Gilmore Richardson, Harrity, Jones, Lozada, O'Neill, Phillips, Squilla, Ahmad, Landau, O'Rourke, Young and Council President Johnson*

*Nays: 0*

**RESOLUTIONS**

Councilmember Phillips called up:

**Resolution No. 250275:** Resolution Honoring March as National Reading Month and Recognizing the "Read by 4th" Initiative for Its Commitment to Early Childhood Literacy.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Phillips called up:

**Resolution No. 250276:** Resolution Honoring and Celebrating Beyond the Bars on the Occasion of Their 10th Anniversary for Their Dedication to Empowering Philadelphia's Youth Through Music, Leadership, and Community Engagement

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Landau called up:

**Resolution No. 250278:** Resolution Declaring March 17, 2025, as "Bayard Rustin Day" in the City of Philadelphia.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

Councilmember Landau called up:

**Resolution No. 250279:** Resolution Recognizing March 31, 2025 as Transgender Day of Visibility in the City of Philadelphia, a day to celebrate and recognize the achievements and contributions of Transgender people, and to lift up the joy, light, and laughter that Transgender people experience and bring into our communities.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

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THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

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Councilmember Ahmad called up:

**Resolution No. 250288:** Resolution Recognizing April 2025 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Celebrating the Extraordinary Efforts of WOAR - Philadelphia Center Against Sexual Violence.

THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

**SPEECHES**

Councilmember Brooks, Councilmember O'Rourke, Councilmember Phillips, Councilmember Ahmad, Councilmember Jones, Councilmember Landau, Councilmember Bass, Councilmember Young, Councilmember Harrity, and Councilmember Gilmore Richardson

**ADJOURNMENT**

COUNCILMEMBER BASS MOVED TO ADJOURN

to Thursday, April 3, 2025.

THE MOTION WAS DULY SECONDED AND AGREED TO.