NEWS FROM COMMUNITY BOARD #8

ACROSS THE BOARD

OCTOBER 2026 **VOLUME 47, NO. 7**

District Manager's Report

Municipal Services Update

The following is a summary of the year-to-date CompStat Crime report covering the week of 09/28/2026 through 10/04/2026.

	Year-to-Date		
	2026	2025	%Chg
Murder	1	4	-75
Rape	21	20	5.0
Robbery	116	143	-18.9
Felony Assault	339	364	-6.9
Burglary	96	116	-17.2
Grand Larceny	227	336	-17.6
GL Auto	91	85	7.1

The overall change year-to-date is ***-11.89.***

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Supt. Taranow of the BK8 Sanitation garage encourages all residents to please call the garage at 718-685-7240 if they have any issues such as missed pick-ups or if the broom does not sweep their street instead of calling 311. Calling your local garage ensures proper service delivery and fewer delays for remedy.

Additionally, we encourage all residents to familiarize themselves with www.sweepnyc.nyc.gov, a new interactive map that shows in real time broom locations and when the last time one appeared on your block.

Finally, we are pleased to report that in the weeks since the West Indian Day Parade, all 92 corner baskets that had either been lost, stolen, or decommissioned due to damage have all been replaced. CB8 now stands at full count with all 275 corner baskets in our District placed and accounted for.

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HEAT SEASON

Heat season began on October 1st and lasts until May 31, 2027. The Department of Housing, Preservation, and Development has strict minimum heat guidelines that all landlords must follow. When the outside temperature is below 55 degrees between the hours of 6:00am and 10:00pm, the inside temperature is required to be at least 68 degrees Fahrenheit. Between the hours of 10:00pm and 6:00am, the inside temperature is required to be at least 62 degrees Fahrenheit regardless of what the outside temperature is. Residents are encouraged to report the lack of heat and hot water to HPD via 311 immediately.

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EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TRAINING PROGRAM

With severe weather events becoming more frequent and more extreme, it is more important than ever that New Yorkers are prepared for disasters. The NY Citizen Preparedness Training Program teaches residents to have the tools and resources to prepare for any type of disaster, respond accordingly and recover as quickly as possible to normal conditions. This training course
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will provide an introduction to responding to a natural or human caused disaster. Participants will be advised on how to properly prepare for any disaster, including developing a family emergency plan and stocking up on emergency supplies. Each family that attends will receive one preparedness kit.

The training will be held on **Monday, October 12, 2026 at 7PM** at Calvary Community Church located at at 1575 St. John's Place (corner of Buffalo Avenue) during the 77th Precinct Community Council meeting. Register at www.prepare.ny.gov.

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BALLOT PROPOSALS

This November, voters will have the opportunity to weigh in on five (5) proposed amendments to the New York City Charter on the ballot this fall. You can vote "Yes" or "No" on each proposal.

The Charter sets the rules for how New York City government operates. These proposals would change processes for using public space, city contracting, street safety projects, city-owned property and office space, building permits, and the city's financial reserves.

Below are summaries of the five proposals, including what each one would change. You can only vote either "Yes" or "No" on each one.

1. Speed Up Process for Granting a Revocable Consent to Use Public Space

"Simplify process to use public space for uses such as ramps, planters, and cafes, by removing mandatory hearings and Council disapproval of sidewalk cafes, while maintaining community and Council input."

What this proposal means: This proposal would change how New York City permits public sidewalks and streets to be used for outdoor structures like accessibility ramps, benches, electrical poles, bus shelters, and outdoor cafes.

Currently, property and business owners who want to use public space must get City permission, called a "revocable consent." First, they submit applications to the Department of Transportation (DOT) or the Office of Technology and Innovation (OTI). The agency is then required to hold a public hearing, and the applicant must pay to publish ads in local newspapers. Community Boards, Council members, and Borough Presidents must also be notified. For sidewalk cafes specifically, the City Council can vote to reject the permit even after DOT approves it. The City can take back these permissions at any time, and permit holders pay an annual fee.

Under the proposal, public hearings would become optional, meaning many applications could proceed without one. Community Boards, Council members, and Borough Presidents would still be notified of the application and could submit comments to DOT or OTI, but they would have fewer formal review steps. Permit applicants would no longer pay for newspaper ads, but notices would still be posted in the City Record, the City's official public notice publication. Sidewalk cafes would be treated the same as all other revocable consents, removing the City Council's authority to reject those permits.
The new approval process and removal of required hearings and reviews would go into effect March 1, 2027 and would not apply to petitions already submitted.

2. Reduce City Contractor Paperwork; Require Regular Meetings of Procurement Policy Board

"Reduce paperwork for City's contractors by authorizing Procurement Policy Board to simplify contractor questionnaire. Require quarterly meetings of the Procurement Policy Board. Remove mandatory hearing for required client services report."

What this proposal means: This proposal would change the City's contracting process, which governs how the City hires businesses and nonprofits to provide goods and services. It would also require regular meetings of the Procurement
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Policy Board (PPB), which sets rules for City contracting.

Currently, prospective contractors must fill out the same detailed questionnaire, maintained by the Mayor's Office of Contract Services (MOCS) and the Comptroller, regardless of the value of the contract. Under this proposal, the PPB would determine the questionnaire's contents and could reduce requirements for certain contractors, such as smaller contractors or lower-value contracts. For franchises and concessions, the Franchise and Concession Review Committee would have the same authority.

Agencies that award contracts for direct services like shelters, job training programs, and youth services must currently develop an annual plan for these contracts. Under this proposal, these agencies would no longer have to hold a public hearing on their draft plan but would still need to publish a final plan each year.

Currently, the Mayor's Office can delegate contract approval authority to Agency Chief Contracting Officers, but not for certain contracts over $5 million. This proposal would allow the Mayor's Office to delegate approval of those contracts as well, with the approval of the agency's Commissioner.

Under State law, the City can currently accept public comments on certain higher value contracts instead of holding an in-person public hearing. Under the proposal, this option would become permanent in City law, and the PPB would decide the contract value at which a public comment period is required.

Lastly, the PPB is not currently required to meet on any regular schedule, and this proposal would require them to meet at least once every three months.

3. Speed Up Street Safety Projects, Disposition of Unused City Property, Office Leasing

"Simplify review of street safety projects to reduce construction timelines. Fast track disposition of unused City property with approval from City Planning Commission. Expedite leasing offices used for City workforce."

What this proposal means: This proposal would change the City's approval processes in three different areas: major transportation projects like bike lanes and road redesigns, the sale or lease of certain City-owned properties, and the City's acquisition of office space for its employees.

Currently, before implementing major transportation projects, such as adding or removing bike and bus lanes, the Department of Transportation (DOT) must notify local elected officials and Community Boards and consult with the Police Department, Fire Department, the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities, and the Department of Small Business Services. In limited cases where public safety concerns require immediate action, this proposal would clarify existing law that DOT can start work prior to notifying elected officials and community boards, when DOT finds that the project is necessary based on safety data. Additionally, technical errors or missed consultations would not be a valid reason to stop a project.

Most sales or leases of City-owned property currently require the Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) to complete a seven-month process, called the Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP). Under this proposal, sales or leases of smaller lots and development rights on City-owned landmark sites could use a shorter review process, so long as the project does not require an environmental impact statement. This shorter process, called the Expedited Land Use Review Procedure (ELURP), allows for concurrent review by Community Boards and Borough Presidents and final decision by the City Planning Commission, without final review by the City Council. The proposal would also make permanent a program that allows the City to sell undevelopable lots to adjacent property owners without public auction. Lastly, the proposal would remove a required public hearing from the process when more than two years pass after Council approval of a property sale or acquisition.

Currently, when the City seeks to acquire or lease office space for employees, the proposal must go through a process that requires notifying the local Community Board and all five Borough Presidents, a public hearing and vote by the City Planning Commission, and City Council review with the power to disapprove by a two-thirds vote. This proposal would remove hearing requirements and approvals from the City Council and City Planning Commission. Instead, the DCAS Commissioner would certify the acquisition and notify the local Community Board, City Council member, and Borough President in advance. After the acquisition is final, DCAS would also notify the City Council and Comptroller.

Most changes would take effect immediately upon voter approval certification, except the permanent authorization for selling undevelopable land, which would take effect on December 31, 2030.

4. Simplify Building Permitting and Move Waterfront Permitting to Department of Buildings

"Create centralized construction permits hub to simplify permitting. Move waterfront permitting from Department of Small Business Services to Department of Buildings. Allow construction approval by additional Department of Buildings officials."

What this proposal means: This proposal would change how New York City handles construction and building permits and approvals. It would authorize additional agency officials to approve construction projects, create a centralized construction permitting system, and move waterfront construction permitting to the Department of Buildings (DOB).

Currently, the DOB Commissioner can only appoint a limited number of officials with the ability to approve construction documents. This proposal would allow the Commissioner to appoint additional officials with this power, expanding the number of officials authorized to sign off on permits. In the Charter, Borough Superintendents would be formally called Borough Commissioners to reflect their present-day titles.

Applicants seeking construction permits must currently submit documents to multiple City agencies through separate systems. Under this proposal, DOB would be required to develop a single, centralized system for submitting permit applications and receiving approval by 2030, and all City agencies would be required to use that system.

Lastly, the Department of Small Business Services (SBS) currently manages construction permitting for certain waterfront structures, including maritime buildings. Under this proposal, that responsibility would move from SBS to DOB, but existing permits and approvals would remain unchanged.

These changes would go into effect immediately upon voter approval certification, except for the transfer of waterfront construction permitting, which would go into effect on December 31, 2030, or as soon as a new waterfront-structure code is adopted and goes into effect.

5. Set Contribution Targets for Rainy Day Fund to Promote Sufficient Budgetary Reserves

"Set target amount of money to hold in reserve funds, including rainy day fund, to address unexpected financial hardships in future years, and require development of methodology to calculate contributions."

What this proposal means: This proposal would set savings targets for the City's Rainy Day Fund and require the City to publish a plan for how it adds money to the fund.

In 2019, voters approved the creation of a Rainy Day Fund, which allows the City to set aside money for use during economic downturns, emergencies, or unexpected revenue shortfalls. However, there is currently no requirement to save any particular amount each year.

This proposal would set a goal of maintaining a minimum balance equal to at least 12% of the

City's previous year's tax revenue in the Rainy Day Fund or other fund reserves. By May 2027, the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Comptroller, would publish a plan outlining how deposits should be made when the fund is below target. The methodology would be updated by May 2030 and every four years after that. Deposits could take place over several years or be skipped during financial hardship and would still require approval by the Mayor and City Council through the normal annual budget process.

The proposal would also make permanent in City law a State requirement that limits withdrawals to 50% of the fund unless the Mayor certifies a compelling fiscal reason.

These changes would go into effect immediately upon voter approval certification.

For additional information and hyperlinks for greater detail, visit https://www.nycvotes.org/whats-on-the-ballot/2026-ballot-proposals/.

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GROCERIES SURVEY

As part of Mayor Mamdani's N.Y.C. Grocery Initiative, the Mayor's office is seeking input from residents across the five boroughs to better understand their grocery shopping experiences, spending habits, and priorities. Community feedback will help inform the planning and operation of future public grocery stores designed to make healthy, high-quality food more affordable and accessible for New Yorkers.

Please take a few moments to complete the Mayor's Groceries survey at www.grocery.nyc/survey.

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HEALTHY LIFESTYLE MONTH

October is Healthy Lifestyle Month in New York and all New Yorkers are encouraged to take this opportunity to embrace healthier habits and promote healthy living within their families, workplaces and communities.
Each year, humans spend billions of dollars treating illnesses and health conditions that, in some cases, can be reduced through healthier lifestyles and preventive care. The best healthcare is not always about treating illness after it occurs. Prevention, healthy choices and early action can help people live healthier and longer lives.

Healthy eating, regular physical activity, adequate sleep, preventive health checks and avoiding harmful habits are simple steps that can make a meaningful difference to individual and community health.

Prevention, not reaction, is the key to improving quality of life and supporting healthy longevity.

Join the National Center for Health Equity throughout Healthy Lifestyle Month as they promote healthier choices, stronger communities and a culture of prevention. Learn more and join the campaign at www.nationalhealthequity.org.

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NYC SPOOKY SEASON

New Yorkers of all ages can enjoy free pumpkin patches, haunted houses, arts and crafts, games, music, recreation activities and more throughout October.

Mayor Zohran Mamdani and Parks Commissioner Tricia Shimamura are inviting New Yorkers of all ages to celebrate the season with a series of free, family-friendly fall festivals and Halloween events across the five boroughs. Throughout October, recreation centers and parks will transform into festive fall destinations featuring haunted houses, pumpkin patches, obstacle courses, face-painting, seasonal crafts, music, games and more.

Spooky season is officially taking over New York City. Last week, Mayor Mamdani announced the return of the beloved Trick-or-Streets, with a record 160 car-free Open Streets and plazas across
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the five boroughs set to host Halloween and fall celebrations throughout October.

In CB8, the following streets have partners with the programming:

Saturday, October 10th from Noon to 10PM on Vanderbilt Avenue from Park Place to Atlantic Avenue. Sponsoring organization: Prospect Heights Open Streets Inc.

Saturday, October 24th from Noon to 5: Franklin Avenue from Dean Street to Eastern Parkway. Sponsoring organization: Bridge Street Development Corp.

Saturday, October 31st from 8AM to 9PM: Prospect Place from Grand to Classon Avenues. Sponsoring organization: Prospect Place Block Association

Saturday, October 31st from 4PM to 8PM: Underhill Avenue from Prospect Place to St. John's Place. Sponsoring organization: Prospect Heights Open Street, Inc.

Saturday, October 31st from 4PM to 8PM on Park Place from Underhill to Vanderbilt Avenues. Sponsoring organization: Prospect Heights Open Streets Inc.

Saturday, October 31st from 4PM to 8PM on Sterling Place from Washington to Underhill Avenues. Sponsoring organization: Prospect Heights Open Streets Inc.

Saturday, October 31st from Noon to 2 PM in Brower Park: Doggone Great Halloween Parade Sponsoring organizations: 1200 Dean Street Block Association, Friends of Brower Park, Crown Heights North Association.

For more information and a full list of locations, visit the interactive map at https://www.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/pedestrians/trick-or-streets-map.shtml.

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FIRE SAFETY PREVENTION MONTH

October is Fire Prevention Month. The goal is to make sure people recognize that fire remains a very real risk and that everyone needs to take action to protect themselves and their families.

As part of Fire Safety Prevention Month, the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) seeks to bring attention to a growing trend in modern architecture that could cause any fire to become deadly quite quickly. The NFPA claims that someone who has a reported home fire today is more likely to die than they would have been in past decades because of several factors, including the way homes are built and the contents inside them. They explain that open floor plans and the prevalence of modern synthetic furnishings make homes burn faster, and the fires produce deadly smoke and gases within moments that can debilitate those inside very quickly. A resident can have as little as two to three minutes to escape a home fire today as compared to having eight to ten minutes years ago.

The question is: **How do we save lives in case of a fire with these new developments?** According to the FDNY, the answer is three-fold:

1. **Look for places fire can start.**

Looking for potential fire hazards in the home, making sure your smoke alarms are working properly, and having a home escape plan that everyone has practiced can heighten your chances of survival in a fire.

- Don't burn candles or incense near combustible materials such as curtains, rugs, and comforters, and do not leave them unattended.
- If using an electric heater, make sure to buy fire safe heaters or keep heaters away from combustible materials.

2. **Listen for the sound of the smoke alarm.**

Make sure you have working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in every sleeping quarter or close enough to be heard.
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3. **Learn two ways out of each room.**

If a fire breaks out and doors are available, close all doors to block and slow down the fire. Keep fire extinguishers in the home and in easy to reach places.

These little things could save your life or the lives of your loved ones.

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FDNY OPEN HOUSE 2026

On **Saturday October 17th and Sunday October 18th** more than 200 Firehouses and EMS locations will open their doors to the public from 11:00am to 1:00pm and from 1:00pm to 3:00pm for the **2026 FDNY Open House.**

Firefighters, EMTs and paramedics will be educating the public about fire and life safety, conducting demonstrations, discussing careers within the Department, and offering tours of FDNY Engines, Ladder Trucks and EMS Stations. Visit a location near you!

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FREE RESOURCES FOR PARENTS

Hyperdreamers Collection helps parents organize meaningful gifts for kids via a free family gifting platform that helps parents turn birthdays and holidays into experiences, enrichment, and opportunities their children can grow through.

A parent creates a collection for their child — lessons, activities, cultural experiences, savings goals — and shares one link. Family and friends choose what they want to support. Since families already spend generously on children at birthdays and holidays — much of it on toys that are set aside within weeks. The lessons, camps, and cultural experiences that shape a child's path are often the first costs a household has to cut. Hyperdreamers does not ask anyone to spend more. It gives families a simple way to point generosity that already exists toward opportunity.

To learn more or to sign up, visit https://hyperdreamerscollection.com/.

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FREE MAMMOGRAMS

In conjunction with Assemblymember Robert Carroll, the American-Italian Cancer Foundation will be offering free mammograms from 9AM to 4PM on Wednesday, November 4, 2026 via the mammogram van in front of the member's office located at 416 7th Avenue, Brooklyn.

All services are at no-cost to users. Eligibility requirements are no mammogram in the last 12 months, ages 40 to 75, currently living in NYC. To schedule your appointment to avoid not being able to be seen, call 718-788-7221.

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INCLUDENYC

INCLUDEnyc connects young people to resources and helps them thrive in school, at work, and in the community. Their focus is on increasing love, equity, and access for young people with disabilities.

College is Possible Registration is Open! Join INCLUDEnyc for two free nights of information for high school students with IEPs graduating with a diploma or who take Alternate Assessments, their families, and support professionals.

You can register now for DIploma Options on October 20th. During this session, you can expect to receive college information for high school students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) who will leave high school with a diploma.

You can register now for Non-DIploma Options on October 27th. During this session, you can expect to receive information on educational programs on college campuses for students with developmental and/or intellectual disabilities who use Alternate Assessment and will leave high school with a non-diploma credential).

Families are welcome for both events. Register for each at https://includenyc.org/college-is-possible-registration/.

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THE CITY EDIT, NYC

The City Edit, NYC, is an editorial guide to neighborhood events, openings, free things to do, food and drink, pop-ups, and timely city plans. They focus on spaces where neighborhood businesses, families, cultural institutions, restaurants, and community events make local discovery especially useful. You can access The City Edit via their website at https://thecityeditnyc.com/.

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COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR EMPLOYMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Community Resources for Employment and Development Program (CRED) NYC will offer work readiness training, occupational training, and internships for in-demand, emerging sectors for up to 24 weeks, as well as job placement within a three-month follow-up period. CRED offers holistic support to participants, providing access to mental health counseling, housing, academic support, and health care access.

CRED is investing in communities most impacted by gun violence and providing the holistic support needed to help justice-impacted New Yorkers enter the workforce. All New Yorkers deserve an opportunity to receive training and resources they need to secure a job. "A job is more than just a way to earn a living — it provides purpose, a sense of pride, and the means to keep people on the right path."

Occupational Training in these Industries and many more:

- Industrial and Infrastructure
- Service
- Media & Entertainment
- Health Care
- Technology

Participants will receive up to 24 weeks or 600 hours of paid training and internships at $20 per hour in high-demand career fields.

- Eligibility for CRED – NYC:
- Between the ages of 18 – 40 years old
- Legally authorized to work in New York City
- Currently not working and not in school
- Previously been involved in the criminal justice system or has been impacted by community violence.
- impacted by community violence, as a resident of a priority precinct area*

If you meet these criteria; you may be eligible for the CRED – NYC program.

To learn more or to apply, complete the form via https://bit.ly/3VrbmCL. Additionally, for the official website, visit https://bit.ly/47K0qTm.

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DYCD LITERACY AND IMMIGRANT SERVICES

The Adult Literacy Program is a partnership with the New York City Adult Literacy Initiative (NYCALI), the City's system for providing literacy and English language services for adults and out-of-school youth over the age of 16.

Programs provide full instructional and support services to anyone over the age of 16 who is not enrolled or required to be enrolled in school and who is unable to speak, read and/or write the English language well enough to participate in education or training programs conducted in English. The program connects participants to a range of reading, writing, English-language and high school equivalency/General Educational Development (GED) Tests preparation programs.

All programs help New Yorkers learn the reading, writing and communication skills they need to get a job and/or continue their education.

Programs offered include:
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- Adult Basic Education (ABE) programs that teach reading, writing and math to native English or English-fluent speakers;
- GED programs that prepare students for the tests required to receive a high school equivalency diploma.
- English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes that help students improve their English language communication skills

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BROOKLYN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

Sunday, October 11 and Monday, October 12.
Join Native artists sharing their living traditions in this two-day celebration of Indigenous cultures.

Take part in Haudenosaunee social dances, create your own beadwork and pottery, learn traditional mush making, and shop at our Native artisan marketplace. Presented with the North American Indigenous Center of New York.

Opening Saturday, October 24th (Included with general admission)

What makes a bike go faster, and what keeps a rider balanced?

Explore the science of BMX in BCM's newest exhibit. Through hands-on activities, discover how bike setup, track design, and safety equipment help riders move faster, stay balanced, and ride safely.

Saturday, October 31st (All activities included with general admission)

Dress up, collect treats, and take your turn on the runway – Halloween is taking over BCM!

Additional programming:

Join the museum and AniTOMO Con for a celebration of costumes, candy, and Japanese pop culture. Trick-or-treat around the Museum, show off your costume, meet creepy-crawly animals, create anime-inspired art, and settle in for storytimes with professional cosplayers.

Art in ColorLab: Flying Felt Kids
Wednesdays – Fridays: 2:15 pm – 5:00 pm
Weekends: 10:15 am – 12:15 pm and 1:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Make a felt doll inspired by Faith Ringgold's story quilts and her children's book Tar Beach. Use felt, foam, fabric, and buttons to bring your character to life before taking it home, or add it to our community quilt where it will soar above Brooklyn landmarks.

STEM in Nature's Engineers: My Chemical Reaction
Thursdays: 2:30 pm – 5:00 pm
Weekends: 10:30 am – 1:00 pm and 2:30 pm – 5:00 pm

What happens when you mix everyday things together? Explore chemistry and use pipettes to combine cabbage water and other household ingredients at our sensory stations. What colors, smells, and changes will you discover?

Antiracist Family Day
Thursday, October 15
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm, during Community Access Thursdays

Explore antiracist practices through fun, age-appropriate activities that celebrate different identities and inspire activism.

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EATS, STREETS, AND BEETS

On Sunday, October 18, 2026, SUNY Downstate will host the "Eats, Streets, and Beets" (ESB) festival on the hospital campus. The ESB festival is a vibrant, free-to-attend community block party and health fair held in conjunction with a pediatric nutrition science conference. The primary mission is to connect Central Brooklyn's families with accessible health resources, pediatric nutrition guidance, preventive health screenings, and local neighborhood support systems.

They are actively seeking local Brooklyn-based artists, performers, musicians, and community-based organizations to participate in the festival. Participation is entirely free of charge, they are offering performance honorariums of up to $200, and they will provide full logistical setup support and complimentary food to all our participating community partners.

Interested residents, local merchants, or performance groups can learn more and get in touch with them by emailing Thomas.wallach@downstate.edu.

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LITERACY FIESTA 2026

The Brooklyn Crown Heights Lions Club in association with Bethany United Methodist Church invites you to Literacy Fiesta 2026 on Saturday, November 7, 2026 from 11AM to 1PM at 1208 St. John's Place. Enjoy an afternoon of arts and craft, poetry writing, story telling, vision screening, and high school equivalency information.

For more information, contact Dr. Paulette Kenwood at 718-679-8811 or Juliet Henry at 718-501-0671.

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BROOKLYN ORG OPPORTUNITIES

Brooklyn Org is pleased to announce several upcoming funding opportunities and nonprofit events.

The Microgrants Program deadline is November 30, 2026. Brooklyn Org provides one-year general operating support grants of up to $10,000 for community and neighborhood-based organizations with annual operating budgets under $100,000. Learn More at https://brooklyn.org/microgrants/.

Organizations interested in applying can also view our most recent application clinic recording: https://vimeo.com/1171099762.

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NEW MEDICAID REQUIREMENTS

Medicaid is changing January 1, 2027. Notices about these changes from NY State of Health are going out now to Medicaid beneficiaries.

Beginning January 2027, certain New York City Medicaid beneficiaries, age 19-64, will need to comply with new "community engagement" requirements imposed by changes to federal law—often referred to as Medicaid work requirements.

What are the requirements?

To keep Medicaid coverage, certain Medicaid beneficiaries age 19-64 will be required to show that they completed at least 80 hours a month of work, school, job training, community service, or a combination of those activities, or that they have a household income of at least $580 a month.

People may be exempt if they are:

- Pregnant, or were pregnant in the last 12 months
- The parent, guardian, or caregiver of a child under age 14 or a disabled individual
- Diagnosed with a physical or mental health condition that makes it hard to work
- In SNAP (food assistance) household subject to SNAP work requirements
- Enrolled in TANF (cash assistance) and meeting work requirements
- Participating in a program to help with drug or alcohol use
- Have been released from jail or prison in the last three months
- In foster care, or formerly in foster care and under 26

Enrollment help is available citywide. New Yorkers may have worked with an enrollment counselor, assister, or organization in the past and can reach back out to them with questions about their coverage.

The NYC Health Department also offers resources, including certified application counselors who can
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answer questions and support New Yorkers in meeting the new requirements to stay covered by Medicaid or to enroll in a new plan. To speak with a NYC Health Department counselor, call 347-665-0214 or request a callback using this link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7BB62M3.

New Yorkers should continue to see their healthcare providers when they need care. If someone is unsure about their current coverage, they can check their NY State of Health account, speak to a NYC Health Department counselor by calling 347-665-0214, or talk with their healthcare provider.
In New York City, care is available regardless of insurance coverage, immigration status, or ability to pay. Low- or no-cost healthcare services can be found at an NYC Health + Hospitals location through NYC Care or by calling 646-NYC-CARE (646-692-2273) or 311. You can also find a health center by visiting https://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov/.

Attend a Webinar: The NYC Health Department is hosting monthly webinars on the upcoming changes to Medicaid. Webinars will take place on the third Wednesday of each month and are intended for community-based and/or faith-based organizations who work directly with impacted New Yorkers.

October 21st at 2:00pm- register at https://bit.ly/4i8x1Iv.

November 18th at 2:00pm- register at https://bit.ly/4hBVNkk.

To receive periodic updates, resources and information about future webinars, sign up here.

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"GREEN INDUSTRY" OPPORTUNITIES

Wondering what's new in advancing energy and climate justice in New York State? The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) has made funding available to grow New York's Clean Energy Supply chain.

NYSERDA is making $4 million available in technical support and implementation resources to develop actionable, data-driven economic development plans that will improve New York's competitiveness in attracting and growing clean energy supply chain opportunities. All public, for-profit, and/or non-profit Economic Development Entities can apply for funding. Proposals for Round 1 are due on October 21, 2026.

Green Construction Training Program: Andromeda Community initiative offers an 8-Week Green Construction Training Program to provide hands-on training in general construction and building restoration while developing the skills needed to succeed in green construction and energy efficiency careers. The program begins October 26, 2026. To apply, fill out Andromeda Community Initiative's interest form.

The program is funded by New York State Department of Labor (NYSDOL) Office of Just Energy Transition (OJET) Growing the Clean Energy Workforce (GCEW) funding opportunity.

To learn more about NYSERDA and to learn about additional funding, training, or job opportunities, visit https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/About.

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UPDATE FROM COUNCILMEMBER CRYSTAL HUDSON

A note from Councilmember Cyrstal Hudson: "As many of you know, our office worked with the Department of Sanitation (DSNY) to secure a first-of-its-kind Alternate Side Parking (ASP) pilot program in parts of Prospect Heights and Crown Heights. From Monday, August 3 to Friday, September 25, DSNY temporarily reduced ASP enforcement to once a week, down from twice a week (per side). DSNY resumed enforcing on all posted ASP days on Monday, September 28.

"For years, our office has heard from local residents who have asked whether twice-a-week Alternate Side Parking is still necessary to keep neighborhood streets clean. We undertook this pilot to determine whether once-a-week ASP can

maintain the same level of cleanliness while reducing the burden on residents. As we mentioned when the pilot was launched, strong community participation would help make the case for expanding similar efforts elsewhere in the district.

"Based on the results, DSNY has informed us that they will not extend the pilot, citing reduced compliance on ASP days and reduced cleanliness.

"During the pilot period, DSNY deployed several monitoring tools, took photos of the block during enforcement periods, and had officers physically observe compliance. According to DSNY, one month prior to the ASP reduction pilot (July 1–31), vehicle compliance averaged 73% and 455 ASP summonses were issued with enforcement occurring four days per week.Following implementation of the pilot, vehicle compliance declined by 11% to 62%, reflecting fewer vehicles moving on Thursdays and Fridays. During the pilot period, 913 ASP summonses were issued despite enforcement occurring only two days per week - an average of approximately 457 summonses per month with half the enforcement days. Using these tools and stats regarding vehicle and cleaning summonses, DSNY concluded that cleanliness dropped and vehicle compliance fell.

"Though the pilot program will not result in a permanent roll back of ASP regulations, we'd like to thank DSNY for its willingness to partner with us and test a new hypothesis, and for our many community partners for conducting outreach to ensure neighbors knew about the program.

"We are disappointed that the program won't become permanent at this time, but remain hopeful that there could be an opportunity to revisit ASP regulations across District 35 in the future."

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We wish the happiest of birthdays to Ms. Akua Aidoo and Mr. Yahya Raji, who will each celebrate a birthday in the month of October.

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The next Community Board 8 general meeting will be held on Thursday, November 12, 2026 at 6PM at the Brooklyn Children's Museum located at 151 Brooklyn Avenue. All are invited to attend.

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ACROSS THE BOARD is a monthly publication:

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