

# ACROSS THE BOARD

**OCTOBER 2024**

**VOLUME 45, NO. 8**

***District Manager's Report***

***Municipal Services Update***

**The following is a summary of the year-to-date CompStat Crime report covering the week of 09/30/2024 through 10/06/2024.**

	Year-to-Date		
	2024	2023	%Chg
Murder	10	6	-85.1
Rape	19	13	46.2
Robbery	146	160	-8.8
Felony Assault	293	328	-10.7
Burglary	110	137	-19.7
Grand Larceny	269	316	-14.9
GL Auto	86	132	-34.8

The overall change year-to-date is **-14.56**.

***VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINES***

New Yorkers must register to vote by certain deadlines to be eligible to vote in Primary and General Elections. There are also deadlines for making changes to your registration, such as changes to address or enrollment.

Applications must be received by the board of elections no later than October 26, 2024 to be eligible to vote in the General Election on November 5<sup>th</sup>. You may register in-person at your

local board of elections or any state agency participating in the National Voter Registration Act, on any business day throughout the year but, to be eligible to vote in the General Election, your application must be received by the BOE no later than October 26, 2024. If you want to vote, ensure that your registration form will be received by the proper entity in time for your name to appear on the voter roll.

***BALLOT INITIATIVES***

On the November 5th General Election ballot, in addition to candidates for public office, there are six(6) ballot initiatives that must be voted on including a proposed amendment to the NYS Constitution. Below is a brief summary of each of the six initiatives.

**Amendment to Protect Against Unequal Treatment (Statewide)**

This proposal would protect against unequal treatment based on ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, and sex, including sexual orientation, gender identity and pregnancy. It also protects against unequal treatment based on reproductive healthcare and autonomy.

A "YES" vote puts these protections in the New York State Constitution.

A "NO" vote leaves these protections out of the State Constitution.

### **Cleaning Public Property**

This proposal would amend the City Charter to expand and clarify the Department of Sanitation's power to clean streets and other City property and require disposal of waste in containers.

### **Additional Estimates of the Cost of the Proposed Laws and Updates to Budget Deadlines**

This proposal would amend the City Charter to require fiscal analysis from the Council before hearings and votes on laws, authorize fiscal analysis from the Mayor, and update budget deadlines.

### **More Notice and Time Before Votes on Public Safety Legislation**

This proposal would require additional public notice and time before the City Council votes on laws respecting the public safety operations of the Police, Correction, or Fire Departments.

### **Capital Planning**

This proposal would amend the City Charter to require more detail in the annual assessment of City facilities, mandate that facility needs inform capital planning, and update capital planning deadlines.

### **Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (MWBES), Film Permits, and Archive Review Boards**

This proposal would amend the City Charter to establish the Chief Business Diversity Officer (CBDO), authorize the Mayor to designate the office that issues film permits, and combine archive boards.

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## ***RE-INSTATING YOUR VOTING RIGHTS***

You are eligible for a Certificate of Relief from Disabilities if you have been convicted of any number of misdemeanors and no more than one felony; two or more felony convictions in the same court on the same day are counted as one felony for determining your eligibility. The term "disability" refers to laws that disqualify people from holding

certain jobs or other rights because of their conviction.

A Certificate of Relief may remove any mandatory legal bar or disability imposed as a result of conviction of the crime or crimes specified in the certificate. The Certificate of Relief does not, however, enable you to retain or become eligible for public office.

Removing mandatory legal bars restores the right to apply and be considered for employment or license, but does not guarantee the employment or license will be granted.

A Certificate of Relief issued upon release or once on community supervision is a temporary certificate, which becomes permanent when the parolee is discharged from supervision. While temporary, the Certificate may be revoked by action of DOCCS.

In contrast to the Certificate of Relief, you are eligible for the Certificate of Good Conduct even if you have been convicted of more than one felony. You do not become eligible for a Certificate of Good Conduct until a minimum period of time has elapsed from the date of your unrevoked release from custody by community supervision or from the date your sentence ended.

You must show that you have completed/achieved a certain period of good conduct in the community. You must wait:

- five years if the most serious felony on your criminal record is an A or B;
- three years if the most serious felony on your criminal record is a C, D or E felony; or
- one year if you only have misdemeanors on your criminal record.

A Certificate of Good Conduct has the same effect as the Certificate of Relief. However, the Certificate of Good Conduct may restore your right to seek public office and remove all legal bars or disabilities, or specific bars or disabilities.

The Certificate of Good Conduct issued to you while under community supervision is a temporary certificate. The Certificate becomes permanent upon discharge from supervision.

For more information or to download the application for either certificate, visit <https://doccs.ny.gov/certificate-relief-good-conduct-restoration-rights>.



### ***NEW REDUCED SPEED LIMITS IN EFFECT FOR CERTAIN STREETS***

Lower speed limits are now in effect on a number of city streets, with Sammy’s Law now in effect. Passed in the 2024 legislative session in Albany, Sammy’s Law grants New York City the authority to reduce speed limits to 20 MPH with proper signage on individual streets.

For roads undergoing safety-related redesigns, speed limits may be further reduced to 10 MPH.

#### Brooklyn

- Seventh Ave, 43 St to 44 St
- Dean St, Saratoga Ave to Thomas Boyland St
- MacDonough St, Lewis Ave, Marcus Garvey Blvd
- Christopher Ave, Sutter Ave to Belmont Ave
- Ashford St, Belmont Ave to Pitkin Ave
- Prospect Park West, Grand Army Plaza to Bartel Pritchard Square
- E 94 St, E New York Ave to Rutland Rd
- Fenimore St, Brooklyn Ave to Rutland Rd
- Ninth Ave, 63 St to 64 St
- 45 St, Fort Hamilton Parkway to Tenth Ave
- Lenox Rd, E 39 St to E 40 St
- E 96 St, Ave D to Foster Ave
- Sackman St, Belmont Ave to Sutter Ave
- Fort Greene Pl, Fulton St to Dekalb Ave
- Lewis Ave, Hart St to Willoughby Ave

### **PROPOSED 10 MPH SHARED STREETS**

#### Brooklyn

- Willoughby Ave, from Washington Park to Washington Ave
- Berry St, from Broadway to N12th St
- Underhill Ave, from Pacific St to Eastern Parkway
- Sharon St, from Olive St to Morgan Ave



### ***ANNUAL PARAPET OBSERVATIONS***

As of January of this year, every building owner must have an observation of the parapet on their building(s) performed in accordance with the requirements of Section 28-301.1.1 of the New York City Administrative Code. This requirement applies to all buildings with parapets fronting the public right-of-way, regardless of height. A parapet is defined as the part of any wall entirely above the roof line, the elevation of an exterior wall is part of the public right-of-way if a member of the public who is not associated with the property in question can freely walk up to the façade of the building, even if that exterior wall is on private property. Buildings with a continuous barrier within a perpendicular distance from the exterior wall that is equal to or less than half the height of the exterior wall must be inspected.

There are a few exceptions to the Parapet Observation requirement. These exceptions are:

- Detached 1- or 2- family homes
- Buildings with a fence or other barrier preventing access to the exterior wall.

For all other properties, the observation must include close-up inspections of the entire parapet which could be conducted from a fire escape or roof. See 1 RCNY §103-15 for more information on observation and report requirements.

To comply with reporting requirements, the person performing the observation or the owner in consultation with the person performing the observation is required to prepare a report of the

observation. Owners must maintain the observation reports for at least 6 years and make the reports available to DOB upon request. Review 1 RCNY §103-15 for more information about the observation and report requirements.

As per Maintenance of Buildings, (Chapter 3 §28 - 301.1.1 Parapets), a building's parapet shall be maintained in a safe condition. A building owner must have an annual parapet observation performed as described in the rules of the department. This observation must be performed on all buildings, regardless of height.

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### **UNIFORM COLOR GUIDE FOR STREET MARKINGS**

What are the colors for utility marking?

The color of street markings means something different for each color. Depending on the color maintenance workers are using, you know exactly what type of work will be performed. The following chart will help you better understand the type of work and identify which utility company is performing it:

White	Proposed Excavation
Pink	Temporary Survey Markings
Red	Electric Power Lines, Cables, Conduit, and Lighting Cables
Yellow	Gas, Oil, Steam, Petroleum, or Gaseous Materials
Orange	Communication, Alarm or Signal Lines, Cables, or Conduit
Blue	Potable Water
Purple	Reclaimed Water, Irrigation, and Slurry Lines
Green	Sewers and Drain Lines

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### **AGING AND MENTAL CLARITY**

Aging is a natural part of life, but that doesn't mean we can't take steps to ensure healthy aging. Keeping the mind sharp is a key aspect of healthy aging, as cognitive decline is a common concern as we age. Here are some ways to keep your mind sharp...

**Stay Active:** Physical activity is good for the body and the mind. Exercise increases blood flow to the

brain, which can help to improve memory and cognitive function. Aim for at least 30 minutes of moderate intensity exercise most days of the week.

**Eat a Healthy Diet:** Eating a healthy diet can also help to keep the mind sharp. A diet rich in fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean protein, and healthy fats can provide the nutrients needed for optimal brain function. Avoid processed foods, excess sugar, and saturated fats.

**Stay Socially Active:** Social interaction is important for mental health and can help to keep the mind sharp. Join a club or group, volunteer, or spend time with friends and family.

**Challenge the Brain and Stay Curious:** Keeping the brain active and engaged is crucial for healthy aging. Engage in activities that challenge the brain, such as reading, puzzles, and learning new skills, explore new ideas, travel, learn a new language, etc.

**Manage Stress:** Chronic stress can have harmful effects on the brain and cognitive function. Manage stress through things like meditation, yoga, and deep breathing exercises.

Healthy aging involves taking care of both the body and the mind. Engaging in activities that challenge the brain, eating a healthy diet, staying socially active, getting enough sleep, managing stress, limiting alcohol, quitting smoking, and staying curious are all ways to keep the mind sharp as you age. Making these habits a part of your lifestyle can help to support healthy aging and cognitive function.

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### **VITAL PARKS AND UPCOMING PARKS DEPARTMENT PROGRAMMING**

This summer, NYC Parks released a plan called Vital Parks for All: Investing in NYC's Living Infrastructure. Learn more about the plan and the agency's tools to improve the ability of dedicated New Yorkers to advocate for the city's parks.

Public forums are currently scheduled with the borough presidents of the Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens, and Staten Island. Attend an upcoming Vital Parks forum and find out how we as a community can equitably strengthen our city's health, environment, and communities through our parks system.

Brooklyn's Vital Parks Forum will be held on Tuesday, October 29, 2024 from 6:30PM to 8:30PM at Brooklyn Borough Hall located at 209 Joralemon Street, Downtown Brooklyn. You can register here for Brooklyn's or any other borough's vital parks meeting (case sensitive): <https://on.nyc.gov/4dNsrtL>.

**City of Forests events will be held across the city this month!** Join Forest for All NYC, and Parks and Open Space Partners - NYC Coalition to learn about, care for, and celebrate NYC's seven million trees. To find a City of Forests event near you, visit (case sensitive): <https://on.nyc.gov/4eCmCR7>.

Other Parks programming events include:

### **Help the Garden Day at Highland Park Community Garden**

Join community gardeners at Highland Park Community Garden for their monthly Help the Garden Day event! Learn about this beautiful space and help keep it thriving. Tasks may include weeding communal beds, composting, and more.

Location: Highland Park Community Garden, 400 Jamaica Avenue

Date/Time: Saturday, October 12, 2024, 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

### **Native Species Planting Party**

Learn all about how to use native plants to strengthen the ecology of our urban landscape, and then get your hands dirty in the gardens of the Bowling Green Cottage.

Location: Bowling Green Cottage in Parade Ground

Date/Time: Saturday, October 12, 2024, 10:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m.

### **Java St. Jazz at Java Street Community Garden**

Java St. Community Garden will be holding another installment of our Java Jazz Series. Cole Davis and Greg Lapine will perform 2 sets, leading into an open jam. All are welcome!

Location: Java Street Community Garden, 59 Java Street

Date/Time: Sunday, October 13, 2024, 2:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

### **Family Camping: Brooklyn**

We camp to create lasting memories, connect with the natural world, and bond with our families. The Urban Park Rangers celebrate the tradition of camping, and we look forward to welcoming your family. Families are chosen by lottery. Lottery registration opens on Wednesday October 2.

Location: Salt Marsh Nature Center in Marine Park, 3301 Avenue U

Date/Time: Sunday, October 13, 2024, 6:00 p.m.–7:00 a.m.

More info: <https://www.nycgovparks.org/events/2024/10/13/family-camping-brooklyn>

Contact: NYC Parks Urban Park Rangers, (718) 421-2021

### **Autumn Wildflower Walk**

Join the Urban Park Rangers on a walk to discover the soon-to-be dormant wildflower population. Learn how to find wildflowers and collect and prepare seeds for planting in this unique habitat.

Location: Salt Marsh Nature Center in Marine Park, 3301 Avenue U

Date/Time: Saturday, October 19, 2024, 11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

### **Open House New York: Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument**

It's Open House New York Weekend! Discover the history of this Brooklyn landmark that pays tribute to the 11,000 men, women, and children who died on British Prison Ships during the Revolutionary War.

Location: Fort Greene Park Visitor Center

Date/Time: Sunday, October 20, 2024, 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

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## ***PROSPECT PARK ALLIANCE LISTENING TOURS***

Prospect Park Alliance is embarking on their second annual listening tour with PPA President, Morgan Monaco. These sessions will offer an opportunity for more intimate conversations with Prospect Park Community Committee members and civic leaders representing key constituencies that use the park. This year, the focus is on three key groups: youth, older adults, and faith-based organizations.

These discussions are pivotal for PPA to understand how the park meets the needs of the community and how they can deepen their engagement.

The Youth Listening Session will be held on October 16, 2024 at 9:00 am.

The Older Adults Listening Session will be held on October 30, 2024 at 9:00 am.

The Faith-based Organizations Listening Session will be held on November 15, 2024 at 9:00 am.

Any organization in the community that falls into any of the categories may participate in the listening session. To register, email the Prospect Park Alliance at [info@prospectpark.org](mailto:info@prospectpark.org).

## ***HIGH SCHOOL LISTENERS PUBLIC FORUM***

New York Public Radio's independent body of volunteer listener advisors is hosting their first ever public forum for listeners in high school, all throughout the listening area, on Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 6:30pm.

The forum will be held via Zoom, and interested listeners should register via this link (case sensitive): <https://bit.ly/47YI8gG>.

## ***RESIDENTIAL WASTE CONTAINERIZATION***

Great news! All five boroughs now have curbside organics collection. In addition, NYC is set to roll out new requirements for trash set out starting fall 2024. These changes are citywide. Containerization will now be mandatory for residential units just like it is for commercial spaces, but there are certain requirements to be in compliance.

Beginning November 12, 2024, all properties with 1-9 residential units will be required to use bins, 55 gallons or less, with secure lids for trash set out.

If you already use a bin with a secure lid that is 55 gallons or less for trash set out, you may continue to use it until June 2026. After that, you will need to switch to the official NYC Bin.

NYC is also advancing a plan to containerize trash in larger residential buildings. Buildings with 10 to 30 units will be able to choose between stationary on-street containers and smaller wheelie bins.

Buildings with 31 or more residential units will be required to use stationary, on-street containers for their trash, serviced by DSNY's new automated side-loading garbage trucks. On-street containers will be assigned to a specific building, solely for residents of that building.

For more information, visit <https://www.nyc.gov/site/dsny/collection/containerization/residential-containerization.page>.

## ***CITY COUNCIL'S PUBLIC HEARING ON CITY OF YES FOR HOUSING OPPORTUNITY***

On October 22, 2024 in Council Chambers, the NYC Council will host a public hearing on the City of Yes for Housing Opportunity proposal. The public will have an opportunity to express their opinions on the massive city-wide zoning text amendments to help guide the council's decision

making process. To testify at this hearing on the following item(s), please register at [www.council.nyc/land-use](http://www.council.nyc/land-use) if you would like to testify.



***NEWS AND UPDATES FROM  
COUNCILMEMBER CRYSTAL HUDSON***

Councilmember Crystal Hudson of the 35<sup>th</sup> Council District, is pleased to share the following information with the community:

- Every Wednesday, the member hosts a free housing clinic with CHUFF from 11AM to 5PM. Walk-ins welcome.
- Free legal clinic every Thursday from 2 to 6PM by appointment only.
- Monthly housing workshop in partnership with IMPACCT Brooklyn and Take Root Justice on the recently passed Good Cause Eviction Bill. The next one will be held on October 15<sup>th</sup> at 6PM via Zoom. Call the office for information.

For more information or to RSVP for any of the upcoming events, please call 718-260-9191.



***NEWS AND UPDATES FROM  
COUNCILMEMBER CHI OSSE***

Councilmember Chi Ossé of the 36<sup>th</sup> Council District, is pleased to share the following information with the community:

- Wellness Wednesdays every Wednesday from 11 AM to 1PM or supplies last at Restoration Plaza 1360 Fulton Street.
- Housing Info with CUFFH Affordable Housing Services is held every Tuesday from Noon to 5 p.m.

- Free Legal Advice will be offered on October 17<sup>th</sup>, and 31<sup>st</sup>, November 14<sup>th</sup>, and December 12<sup>th</sup> from 10AM to 4PM by appointment only.
- Free Immigration Legal Advice is offered October 16<sup>th</sup>, November 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, and December 11<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM to 4 PM by appointment only.
- Homeownership and Financial Counseling in partnership with Brooklyn Neighborhood Services will be held starting October 10, 2024 from 10AM to 3PM in the office.
- Family Law Clinics will be held on November 15, 2024 from 10AM to 4PM with individual and confidential legal consultations on issues like child/spousal support, custody and visitation, orders of protection, assistance for victims of financial abuse, consumer debt and identity theft, assistance completing crime victims compensation applications, and much more.

All services are provided at the Councilmember’s office located at 1360 Fulton Street, Suite 500. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 718-919-0740.



***NEWS AND UPDATES FROM  
COUNCILWOMAN DARLENE MEALY***

Councilwoman Mealy is pleased to share the following information with the community:

- The next Community Advisory Board meeting will be held on Saturday, October 26, 2024 at PS 268 located at 133 E. 53<sup>rd</sup> Street (between Winthrop Street and Clarkson Avenue) from 11AM to 12:30PM.
- Food pantry on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month.
- Free housing assistance is offered in the office every Tuesday.



- Free legal immigration assistance every Thursday. Starting October 21<sup>st</sup>, immigration assistance will move to Mondays.

All services are offered at the Councilwoman's office located at 400 Rockaway Avenue. To register or more information, call their office at 718-953-3097.

Additionally, Councilwoman Mealy is pleased to present an Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings (OATH) Resource event on Tuesday, October 22, 2024 from 11 AM to 3PM at East Flatbush Branch of the Brooklyn Public Library located at 9612 Church Avenue (at Rockaway Pkwy), Brooklyn.

OATH staff will be present to answer questions about summonses, the hearing process, check the status of summons, help you understand the rules of how a summons can be responded to, help you submit an online defense to a summons, reschedule an upcoming hearing or request a hearing, and help you better understand OATH's processes.

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We offer our heartfelt condolences to CB8 member Esmond Turnbull for the loss of his brother.

We offer our heartfelt condolences to longtime community participant Dorothy Bemby-Guet for the loss of her longtime partner and community meeting participant, Williard Hawkins.

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We wish the happiest of birthdays to CB8 members Ms. Akua Aidoo and Mr. Yahya Raji, who will both celebrate a birthday in the month of October.

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The next 77<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council meeting will be held on Monday, October 21, 2024 at 7 PM at Friends of Crown Heights Educational Center located at 671 Prospect Place, Brooklyn. You are encouraged to wear something pink or red in observance of breast cancer and domestic violence awareness. Note: this is a different meeting date due to the Indigenous People's Holiday on the second Monday.

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The next **Community Board 8 general meeting** will be held on **Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 6:30 PM** at the Co-Cathedral of St. Joseph located at 856 Pacific Street (between Vanderbilt and Underhill Avenues). All are invited to attend.

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***ACROSS THE BOARD*** is a monthly publication:  
**Irsa Weatherspoon, Chairperson**  
**Michelle George, District Manager/Editor**  
**Julia Neale, Community Coordinator**  
**Zoie Moses, College Aide**


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