

ACROSS THE BOARD

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***A NOTE FROM CB8 CHAIRPERSON
MS. IRSA WEATHERSPOON***

Grace and Peace!

I hope that a great summer was had by all.

As we start this new season, I look forward to working with you all to continue the work of service in our community.

Although at times, we may have ideas or methods that are juxtaposed, remember that we are One Community. Let us always strive to reach goals that enhance our community with neighborly love, respect and understanding. This is a community that we all love!

We are also in an election season, so please exercise your fundamental right to vote and encourage others to do the same. Your vote always matters!

Yours in partnership,
Irsa Weatherspoon, CB 8 Chairperson

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***MEMBER TRAININGS***

In the continuing commitment to ensure members are equipped for their advocate role, Borough President Reynoso has

coordinated a series of workshops for all community residents and especially community board members and members of the Land Use Committee. New community board members should make every effort to attend.

The first workshop will be held on Wednesday, September 26, 2024 from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. via Webex. The topic will be the NYC Board of Standards and Appeals. The link for the session will be issued 7 days in advance of the meeting. You can register for the session to obtain the access link by calling the BPs office at 718-802-3700.

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District Manager's Report

Bedford Avenue Protected Bike Lane

The New York City Department of Transportation (NYC DOT) will begin the construction on a new protected bicycle lane and other major safety improvements planned for Bedford Avenue from Dean Street to Flushing Avenue. NYC DOT Roadways crews will begin milling the street this week, the first step in a multi-week redesign process. Streets typically remain milled for 2-3 weeks before being paved to allow the utility companies to do work that would otherwise require digging up pavement. We expect the entire redesign process along

Bedford Avenue to be completed by the end of the year.

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### ***Municipal Services Update***

The following is a summary of the year-to-date CompStat Crime report covering the week of 09/02/2024 through 09/08/2024.

|                | Year-to-Date |      |       |
|----------------|--------------|------|-------|
|                | 2024         | 2023 | %Chg  |
| Murder         | 9            | 5    | 80    |
| Rape           | 16           | 12   | 0     |
| Robbery        | 130          | 142  | -8.5  |
| Felony Assault | 261          | 288  | -9.4  |
| Burglary       | 98           | 121  | -19.0 |
| Grand Larceny  | 246          | 279  | -11.8 |
| GL Auto        | 66           | 121  | -45.5 |

The overall change year-to-date is **-14.67**.

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DISCRIMINATION SURVEY

The NYC Commission on Human Rights is requesting your support in spreading the word about their “Understanding New Yorkers’ Experiences with Discrimination” [survey!](#) (Click to go to survey)

This comprehensive citywide survey explores New Yorkers' experiences and perceptions of discrimination in their daily lives. The survey covers several key themes around the perceptions of where and why discrimination occurs, contributors to discrimination, willingness to report discrimination and familiarity with the Commission. All responses will inform the Commission’s impact, outreach efforts, and collaborations with other local government agencies.

Available in over 10 languages, this survey is part of the new [TogetherNYC campaign](#), which encourages all New Yorkers to take actions to reduce and prevent discrimination.

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### ***RESIDENTIAL WASTE CONTAINERIZATION***

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 disposal.

If you already use a bin with a secure lid that is 55 gallons or less for trash disposal, 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>.

## ***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.

Voting “Yes” will expand and clarify the Department of Sanitation’s power to clean streets and other City property and require disposal of waste in containers. Voting “No” leaves laws unchanged.

### **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.

Voting “Yes” would amend the City Charter to require additional fiscal analysis prior to hearings and votes on local laws, and update budget deadlines. Voting “No” leaves laws unchanged.

### **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.

Voting “Yes” will require additional notice and time before the Council votes on laws respecting public safety operations of the Police, Correction, or Fire Departments. Voting “No” leaves laws unchanged.

### **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.

Voting “Yes” would require more detail when assessing maintenance needs of City facilities, mandate that facility needs inform capital planning, and update capital planning deadlines. Voting “No” leaves laws unchanged.

### **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.

Voting “Yes” would establish the CBDO to support MWBEs, authorize the Mayor to designate the office that issues film permits,

and combine two boards. Voting “No” leaves laws unchanged.



### ***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>.



### ***HOMEBASE***

Homebase Homeless Prevention Network can help you with eviction prevention, relocation, obtaining public benefits, employment search, short-term financial assistance, and budgeting. They can help you stay out of a shelter and keep your permanent housing. For more information on Homebase or to find

your local Homebase service provider, call 311 or visit [www.nyc.gov/homebase](http://www.nyc.gov/homebase).

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SAFE DISPOSAL EVENTS

SAFE Disposal Events give residents an easy way to dispose of potentially harmful household items. DSNY hosts SAFE (Solvents, Automotive, Flammables, and Electronics) Disposal events every year. Events are held in all five boroughs, and NYC residents can drop off chemical products, medical waste, and electronics. You may be asked to provide proof of NYC residency (NYS driver license, utility bill). These events are for NYC residents ONLY, not businesses. Commercial vehicles are NOT allowed.

All events run from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM – rain or shine.

Queens: Saturday, September 14, 2024

Cunningham Park, Ball Field Parking Lot
Cars enter on Francis Lewis Boulevard between Union Turnpike and Grand Central Parkway

Manhattan: Sunday, September 22, 2024

Union Square, North Plaza
South side of 17th Street, between Park Avenue South and Broadway
Cars approach from Park Avenue South & 20th Street. There is a space for walk-ins.

Brooklyn: Sunday, September 29, 2024

Brooklyn Army Terminal, Pier 4 Parking Lot
Cars line up at 63rd Street and 2nd Avenue (follow blue signs to Ferry Parking). There is a space for walk-ins.

Staten Island: Saturday, October 19, 2024

Midland Beach Parking Lot 8
Father Capodanno Boulevard & Hunter Avenue

Cars approach from Slater Boulevard. There is a space for walk-ins.

Bronx: Saturday, October 26, 2024

Orchard Beach Parking Lot
Cars follow Park Drive to the end. There is a space for walk-ins.

What can you bring to a SAFE Disposal event?

- Automotive products (antifreeze, car batteries gasoline, motor oil, transmission fluid)
- Electronics (computers and accessories, TVs and video equipment, cell phones, tablets, e-readers, video game consoles)
- Household products including cleaners, pesticides, nail polish, paint, compact fluorescent light bulbs, flammable gas, fire extinguishers, rechargeable batteries, thermostats, e-cigarettes, vape pens
- Medical items (medications, syringes, needles, scalpels, lancets)

SAFE events do not accept plug-in appliances (microwaves, vacuum cleaners, box fans) or ones containing CFCs.

For more information, visit <https://www.nyc.gov/site/dsny/what-we-do/programs/safe-disposal-events.page>.

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### ***SMALL BUSINESS SEMINAR***

Attention small business owners! Join RBxA on September 19, 2024 for the third annual Access to Capital event. Connect with local funders and learn how to secure funding to grow your business. The event will be held from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM at Restoration Plaza, 1368 Fulton Street Brooklyn, NY 11216, in the Multipurpose Room.

This event is designed to provide small business owners with the resources and connections they need to secure funding for their growth and success. Here's what attendees can expect:

**1:1 Meetings with Funders:** Get personalized advice and guidance from several local funders who are eager to learn about your business and help small businesses access the capital they need.

**Funder Introductions:** Hear directly from financing experts about what kind of funding they provide and what it takes to obtain financing from them, and learn the critical steps to build a relationship with a funder.

**Networking Opportunities:** Meet fellow entrepreneurs and start building relationships that can lead to long-term success.

Register now: <https://bit.ly/3Xp3K0B>.

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FREE ACTIVITIES FOR SENIORS

Fort Green Council Inc., Hugh Gilroy Older Adult Club offers free activities to older adults including computer literacy courses, strength training, cardio aerobics, nutrition/health education, art workshops, line dancing, yoga, and much more! Congregate lunch is provided daily.

Hugh Gilroy Older Adult Club is located at 447 Kingsborough 4th Walk and is open Monday through Friday from 9AM to 5PM. For more information call 718-756-8400.

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### ***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 Churches United for Fair Housing (CUFFH) 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. The next one will be held on September 24<sup>th</sup> at 6PM via Zoom. Call the office for information.
- Film screening and community roller skating event in partnership with Rooftop Films and 4Play. Rollerskating to start at 4PM and the film, "Rollbounce" will be shown at 7PM at Jackie Robinson Playground located on Montgomery Street between Franklin Avenue and McKeever Place.

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

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NEWS AND UPDATES FROM COUNCILMEMBER CHI OSSE

Councilmember Chi Ossé of the 36th 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 September 19th, October 3rd, 17th, and 31st, November 14th, and December 12th from 10AM to 4PM by appointment only.
- Free Immigration Legal Advice is offered September 18th, October 2nd, 16th, November 13th and 27th, and December 11th from 10 AM to 4 PM by appointment only.
- The last Movie Night in Brower Park will be held on September 21st at 7 PM. The movie selection is “Luther: Never Too Much.” Seating begins at 3PM.

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, September 28, 2024 at PS 268 located at 133 E. 53rd Street (between Winthrop Street and Clarkson Avenue) from 11AM to 12:30PM.
- Food pantry on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month.
- Free housing assistance is offered in the office every Tuesday.

- Free legal immigration assistance every Thursday.

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.



***HIGH SCHOOL INTERSHIPS WITH THE
KINGS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY’S
OFFICE***

The Brooklyn District Attorney’s Office is offering internships to high school juniors and seniors during the winter and spring of 2025. These highly competitive internships offer students a unique opportunity to be part of a district attorney’s office. An intern’s duties may include assisting in investigations, attending trials, preparing and compiling documents and financial data, conducting and analyzing legal research, and supporting community outreach programs.

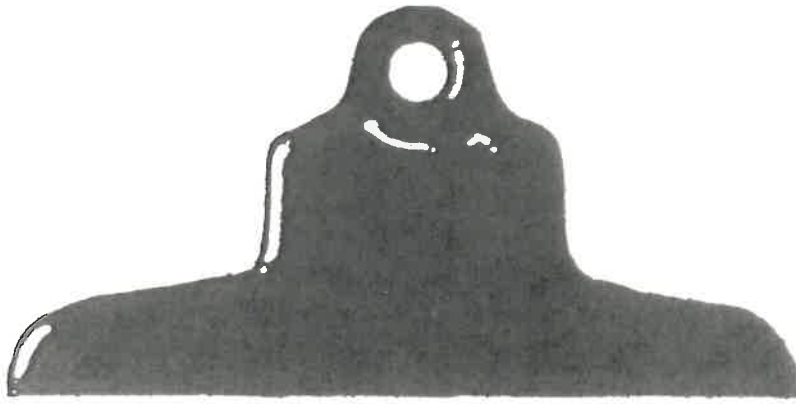
Interested students must meet certain requirements and also provide specific documentation. They include: resume, most recent transcript, working papers, 300+ word personal essay on why they want an internship with the DA’s office and how such an internship will support their career goals.

Internships run from February 18th through 21st and April 14th through 18th. For more information, visit www.brooklyn.org/intershops.



TIMELESS TALENT: SENIOR TALENT EXPO

Please join NYC Aging at the Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM) on Tuesday, September 17th as our borough’s talented



older adults compete for top prize and a chance to participate in the Citywide Finale!

The Timeless Talent Expo will be held on Tuesday, September 17, 2024 from 10 AM to 12PM at BAM – Fishman, 321 Ashland Place, Brooklyn. For more information, please contact your local Older Adult Center (OAC) or Naturally Occurring Retirement Community (NORC) or dial 212-AGING-NYC (212-244-6469).

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We wish the happiest of birthdays to CB8 member Ms. Tamika Gibbs, who will celebrate a birthday in the month of September.

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The next **Community Board 8 general meeting** will be held on **Thursday, October 10, 2024 at 6:30 PM at** Calvary Community Church located at 1575 St. John's Place (corner of Buffalo Avenue). All are invited to attend.

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*ACROSS THE BOARD* is a monthly publication:

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