Dear Friends,

I want to take a moment to thank the hardworking people of New York City for their efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and for helping those in need during this very difficult time. We are fortunate to live in a resilient city that is able to respond to and overcome challenges as they arise. A true testament to our character is that we always emerge stronger and more focused than before, and I believe that our resurgence from the novel coronavirus will be equally as beneficial to the community. COVID-19 has presented its own set of unique circumstances that have required the bravery and dedication of our first responders, essential workers, and medical personnel. We owe these individuals a tremendous debt of gratitude for their commitment to keeping the city running in the face of a deadly disease.

I am most appreciative to my colleagues in government and community leaders, who have worked together to acquire critical resources to protect our most vulnerable residents. Their collaboration to help those in need is a model for future generations to emulate.

The summer months will soon be upon us, and while there will be a natural urge to go outside and congregate, it is important to continue to practice the same methods of social distancing that we have embraced since this crisis began. These are the habits that we need to continue until there is a sufficient vaccine available to fight this horrible disease, and protect our immunocompromised and at-risk populations.

Thank you again for your cooperation and do not hesitate to contact my Legislative Office at 212-788-7352 or my District Office at 718-287-8762 with any questions or concerns you may have.
I want to commend and thank Governor Andrew Cuomo, comedian Chris Rock, and actress Rosie Perez for coming to the Madison Square Boys and Girls Club in the 40th District to advocate for testing and wearing a face covering to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Their message of personal responsibility regarding how we can better protect ourselves and those around us from this horrible virus is extremely important, and I urge all New Yorkers to abide by this very timely advice as we work to reopen New York City.

Governor Cuomo has issued an Executive Order that will allow business owners to prevent patrons from entering if they are not wearing a mask so that we can emerge from this public health crisis and continue to provide essential resources to those who need them.
Free COVID-19 Testing at St. Gabriel’s Episcopal Church Senior Center in the 40th District

Free Testing for COVID-19 is now available at St. Gabriel’s Episcopal Church Senior Center, located at 331 Hawthorne St. in Brooklyn, NY, now through June 1st. Testing is by appointment only by calling 1-888-364-3065.
“Take Care Initiative” to Help New Yorkers Safely Separate

The “Take Care Initiative” is a comprehensive system to test and trace all positive cases of COVID-19. The City will provide free hotel rooms with wraparound services for New Yorkers who are unable to safely separate in their own home and support those who are separating at home with designated Resource Navigators.

The Test and Trace Corps tracers will check-in via daily calls, text messages, and conduct in-person visits as necessary. These calls and texts will allow the monitors to gauge the progress of patients, ensure proper compliance with separation protocol, and connect patients to more supportive services.

Any doctor, nurse, or physician’s assistant can refer a patient to a room by emailing CommCareCP@nychhc.org. Any symptomatic New Yorker can call 1-844-692-4692 and ask for the COVID Hotel Program. 1200 rooms are now available with a goal of 3000 to be available by late summer.
New York City Expected to Enter Phase 1 of Reopening on June 8th

Permitted return of Construction, Manufacturing, and Retail (Curbside and In-Store Pick-Up only)

Phase 2 Reopening of Businesses (TBD)

- All Office-Based Jobs
- Professional Services
- Administrative Support
- Information Technology
- Real Estate Services: Building and Property Management, Leasing, Rental, and Sales Services
- Retail: In-store Opening, Rental, Repair, and Cleaning

Barbershop and Hair Salon Guidance

50% maximum occupancy required in all salons
Allow hair services only
Employees must wear face coverings and face shields while performing hair services at all times.
Customers must wear face coverings at all times
By appointment only- services
Employees strongly encourage to get tested before opening
Customers urged to inquire about employee testing status
Employees interacting with customers must be tested at least once every two weeks.
Shops must keep a log of customers to trace if positive

In-Store Retail Guidelines

50% maximum occupancy of all retail stores in the region
Employees must wear face coverings when interacting with customers and coworkers
Stores must control foot traffic with designated signage and markers
Continue use of curbside/in-store pickup where possible, as well as...
New York Forward Loan Fund

The New York Forward Loan Fund is a new economic recovery program designed to support New York State small businesses, non-profits and small landlords as they reopen after the COVID-19 outbreak and NYS on PAUSE.

The NYFLF targets the state’s small businesses with 20 or fewer full-time equivalent employees, nonprofits and small landlords with less than 200 units that have seen a loss of rental income. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis as regions and industries reopen. Businesses who have already received SBA funding through the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) or the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) are not eligible.

If you have any questions or need help with your application, visit nyc.gov/financingassistance.

Supporting Community Health Providers

The City of New York will continue its efforts to support community health providers in areas that are home to at-risk residents who are more susceptible to infection from COVID-19.

Health centers in areas including Flatbush and East Flatbush will receive 120,000 surgical masks per week and 115,000 gloves per week with a focus on high-risk patients and an increase in staffing. These centers will also receive free personnel resources, expanded Tele-Medicine, and support for the implementation of test and trace measures that track cases and prevent the spread of COVID-19.
Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children

COVID-19 can cause severe illness in children, with symptoms similar to Kawasaki disease and toxic shock-like syndrome.

You are advised to seek immediate medical care for your child if they display any of the symptoms below:
- Prolonged fever (more than 5 days)
- Difficulty feeding (infants) or too sick to drink fluids
- Severe abdominal pain, diarrhea, or vomiting
- Change in skin color - becoming pale, patchy, and/or blue
- Trouble breathing or breathing very quickly
- Racing heart or chest pain
- Decreased amount or frequency of urine
- Lethargy, irritability, or confusion
COVID-19 Resources Available Through The City of New York

The Free Phone-A-Clinician Hotline is available at 1-844-NYC-4NYC.

If you or someone you know is in an unsafe home environment, you may call 1-800-621-4673 for assistance to prevent domestic violence.

The State of New York has extended the moratorium on COVID-19 related evictions for an additional 60 days until August 20, 2020. There will also be a ban on fees for missed payments during the eviction moratorium. Renters facing financial hardship will be allowed to use their security deposit as payment and repay their security deposit over time.

If you are a healthcare worker in need of a place to stay to reduce the spread of COVID-19, visit nyc.gov/covid19hotel to reserve a hotel room.

Pet owners impacted by COVID-19 can call the pet hotline at 1-877-204-8821 from 8am to 8pm 7 days a week.


Cash Assistance: You may be eligible for an emergency cash grant if it will meet certain special needs. For more information call HRA’s Infoline at 718-557-1399.

If you are first responder, healthcare provider, transit worker, or other key personnel in need of childcare, and you would like to enroll in a Regional Enrichment Center, complete the REC Enrollment Form: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/5518161/REC-Enrollment-Form

If your child needs a Remote Learning Device, visit: schools.nyc.gov/devices or call 718-935-1000 (press 5) to make a request.
COVID-19 Financial Services Available Through The Department of Consumer Affairs

NYC Free Tax Prep: The tax filing deadline is July 15th. While all NYC free tax prep providers have suspended in-person services, the Department of Consumer Affairs is now providing virtual and assisted self-prep free tax prep services.

New Yorkers who earned $64,000 or less in 2019 are eligible for Virtual Free Tax Preparation with a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)/Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) certified preparer.

New Yorkers who earned $69,000 or less in 2019 are eligible for free Assisted Self-Preparation. Filers will need access to a computer, tablet, or smartphone and a stable internet connection.

Services are available in English, Spanish, French, Haitian Creole, Russian, Arabic, with others to come. Please visit www.nyc.gov/taxprep for latest updates and the list of providers.

Counselors are available to assist with bill management over the phone during the coronavirus crisis. To book an appointment, go to www.nyc.gov/talkmoney. Additional information about student loan payments and resources can be accessed at www.nyc.gov/studentloans.

OATH offices are currently closed and OATH will not be holding in-person hearings until the state’s "stay-at-home" order has been lifted. OATH is still holding remote hearings, trials, conferences and Help Center sessions.

For Respondents Who Have Upcoming OATH Hearings:

OATH is accommodating all requests to reschedule hearings. OATH is not penalizing Respondents for not responding to their summons during this time. If a Respondent does not respond to a summons during this time, they will have their case automatically rescheduled.

If a Respondent would like to respond to their summons, they can do so by mail or online, or by requesting a Hearing by Phone. For Hearings by Phone, OATH offers free, over-the-phone language interpretation. To schedule a Hearing by Phone, Respondents should email the OATH office in the borough listed on their summons:

- BRONX: RemoteBronx@oath.nyc.gov
- BROOKLYN: RemoteBKLYN@oath.nyc.gov
- MANHATTAN: RemoteManhattan@oath.nyc.gov
- QUEENS: RemoteLI@oath.nyc.gov
- STATEN ISLAND: RemoteSI@oath.nyc.gov

For Respondents Who Want to Appeal a Hearing Decision:

The time for a Respondent to file an appeal of an OATH hearing decision issued on or after February 19, 2020, has been temporarily increased to 60 days from the date of the hearing decision, or 65 days if the hearing decision was mailed.

The time for a Respondent to respond to an appeal served by an enforcement agency after February 19, 2020, has also been temporarily increased to 60 days from the date the appeal was served on the Respondent, or 65 days if the appeal was served by mail.

Help for Respondents Who Do Not Have a Lawyer or a Paid, Professional, Registered Representative:

The OATH Help Center provides Respondents with the opportunity to speak with an OATH Procedural Justice Coordinator who can provide information about the hearing process, describe the options available to them, and answer Respondents’ questions. OATH Procedural Justice Coordinators do not provide legal advice or represent Respondents at their hearings.

To request assistance, Respondents can email the Help Center in the borough listed on their summons:

- BRONX: BXhelpcenter@oath.nyc.gov
- BROOKLYN: BKhelpcenter@oath.nyc.gov
- MANHATTAN: Manhelpcenter@oath.nyc.gov
- QUEENS: Qhelpcenter@oath.nyc.gov
- STATEN ISLAND: Shelpcenter@oath.nyc.gov

OATH offers free, over-the-phone language interpretation. All appointments with the OATH Help Center must be conducted prior to the day of the hearing.

For more information and updates visit OATH online at nyc.gov/oath
COVID-19 in New York City

Cases: 199,038  
Hospitalized: 51,481  
Deaths: 21,477

Don’t Go Hungry!

Hello neighbors!

Help is on the way as the Brooklyn Museum launches a partnership with The Campaign Against Hunger to offer food distribution starting on Monday, June 1, 3–5 pm.

To ensure we have the right amount of food, **sign-up by emailing is required:** healthymeals@brooklynmuseum.org

The Campaign Against Hunger (TCAH) is one of the most trusted nonprofits working to end hunger and build health in our local communities. As we witness the vastly disproportionate economic and social impacts of COVID-19 on already-struggling New Yorkers, we know many of our neighbors are in need of emergency food for their families. Learn more at https://www.tcahnyc.org

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| Brooklyn Museum  
Biergarten (in the parking lot behind the Museum)  
200 Eastern Parkway  
Brooklyn, NY 11238 |

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| Weekly starting  
Monday, June 1, 3–5 pm |

Spread the word!
Tuesday, June 2 at Brooklyn Botanic Garden @ Home  9 a.m.–4 p.m.
and 7:30–10 p.m. Spring Fling
Enjoy free BBG workshops, classes, and performances during the day. At night, wear your festive florals and enjoy BBG’s virtual Garden Soiree and Dance with Your Plants After Party. All programming is free and available at https://www.bbg.org/visit/event/spring_fling

Tuesday, June 2 Brooklyn Admissions Engagement : The DOE will be engaging with parents, school leaders, students, and other stakeholders to collect ideas and perspectives on admissions for fall 2021. Join Executive Superintendents Watts and Freeman on Tuesday June 2nd (6pm-8pm).


Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88214186470us02web.zoom.us/j/88214186470

Thursday, June 4 Chancellor's Conference Day. No School for Students: Professional Learning Day for Staff.

Remote Learning Device: If your child still needs an internet connected device to participate in remote
learning and you have not yet filled out a device request form, please visit to request a device on loan from the DOE: https://www.schools.nyc.gov/learn-at-home/ipad-distribution

**Remote Learning Technical Support Ticket System:** If you have ongoing issues with technology to support learning at home: https://www.schools.nyc.gov/learn-at-home/technical-tools-and-support/technical-support-for-families

For more information on resources available during The COVID-19 Pandemic, click the links below:

**Finding a COVID-19 Testing Site Near You:**
https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/find-test-site-near-you

**NYC Contact Tracing Program:**
https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/get-involved-how-you-can-help

**NYC Open Streets Initiative:**

http://www.nyc.gov/covid19hotel

**For information on How To Respond To Summonses issued by NYC Enforcement Agencies:**
http://nyc.gov/oath

https://www.nyc.gov/getfood

**Funeral Assistance for Low-Income Residents of New York is available:**
https://portal.311.nyc.gov/article/?kanumber=KA-01549

https://www.labor.ny.gov/home/

http://www.nyc.gov/financingassistance


https://www1.nyc.gov/content/tenantprotection/pages/covid19-home-quarantine

https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dsny/contact/services/COVID-19FoodAssistance.shtml
https://nycwell.cityofnewyork.us/en/

https://www.schools.nyc.gov/school-life/food/free-meals

https://schools.nyc.gov/RLSurvey
