

LATEST INITIATIVES

On Thursday, December 3rd, Borough President Adams announced that his Renewable and Sustainable Energy Taskforce (ReSET) had produced a partnership with the Real Estate Board of New York (REBNY) to encourage energy efficiency and sustainable practices in privately-owned buildings in Brooklyn. Going forward, members of REBNY – which includes thousands of developers and property owners – will be encouraged to attach a rider to new and renewal leases that inform commercial and industrial tenants about cost-saving and rebate programs for green energy equipment or related upgrades. The “Tenant and Landlord Energy Efficiency Programs” rider lists energy-efficient equipment rebates offered by Con Edison, Energy Star, National Grid, New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC), and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), as well as information about tax abatements available through the New York City Department of Buildings (DOB) for green or solar roofs. Borough President Adams unveiled the initiative on the heels of a report by the Climate Works for All coalition, which highlighted how 70 percent of New York City’s greenhouse gas emissions come from buildings.

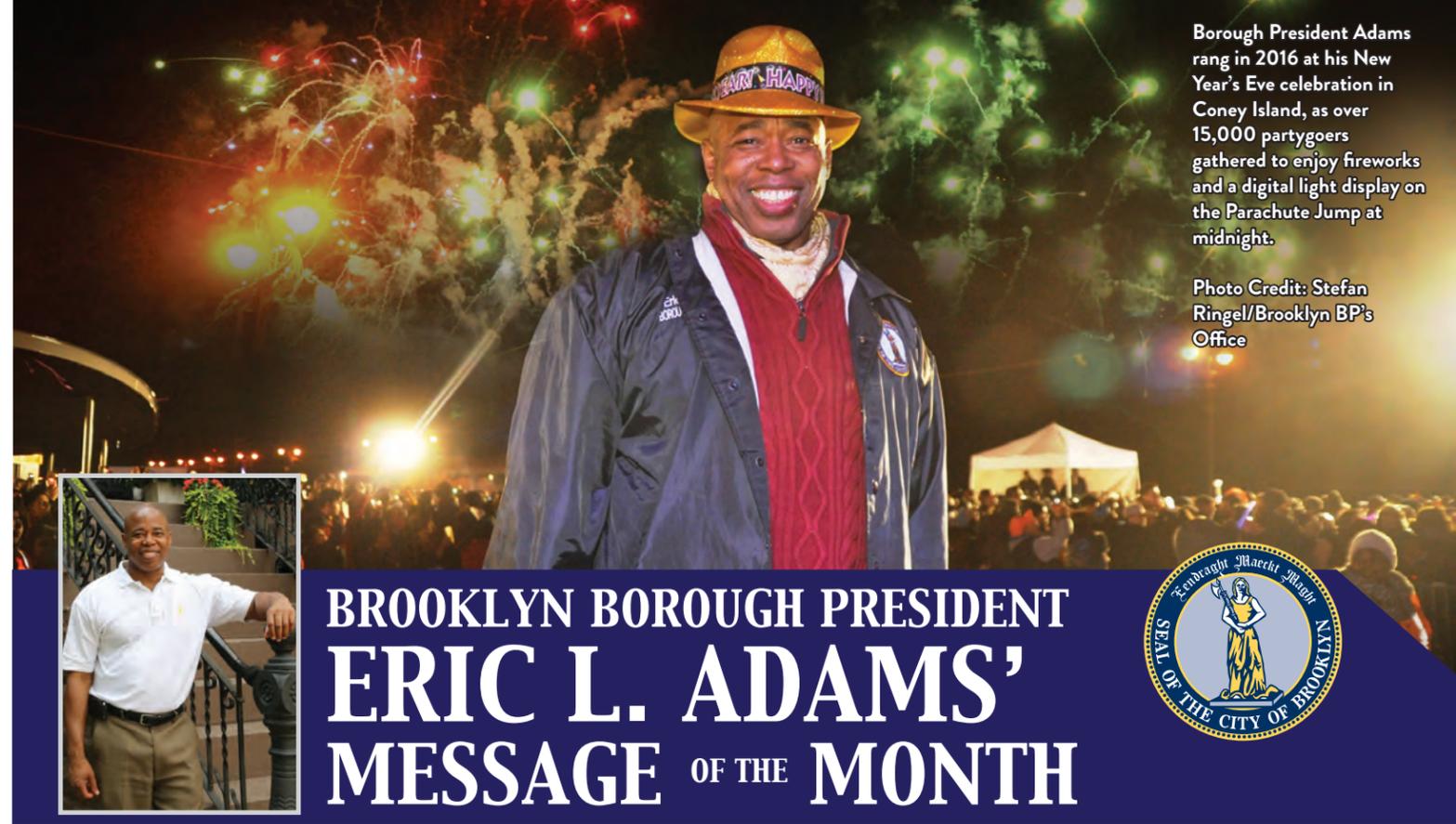
When the New York City Regional Economic Development Council (REDC) announced its awards on Thursday, December 10th, Borough President Adams

celebrated more than \$1.8 million in State funding that he and the Brooklyn Greenway Initiative (BGI) had acquired to advance three resiliency and open space projects along the Brooklyn Waterfront Greenway, an in-development, 14-mile landscaped route for pedestrians, runners, and cyclists that will connect neighborhood parks and open spaces from Greenpoint to Bay Ridge. The capital allocation will go toward the creation of Columbia Waterfront Park as well as integrated flood protection for Red Hook and industrial areas in Sunset Park. Borough President Adams also recognized additional REDC awards to dozens of Brooklyn projects, including efforts in which his office provided support such as Solar One’s Here Comes Solar community access program, which earned more than \$2.9 million, and Pratt Institute’s Brooklyn Fashion + Design Incubator, which received \$125,000.

“Activating the Bedford Union Armory has been a labor of love, a truly community-driven process where the residents of Crown Heights have ensured their voices were heard.” Those were Borough President Adams’s words as he joined NYCEDC and Bedford Courts LLC, a joint venture of Brooklyn-based developers BFC Partners and Slate Property Group, on Thursday, December 17th to announce an approximately 500,000 square-foot, mixed-use development that will bring hundreds of units of housing, a multi-sport recreational facility, commu-

nity event space, office space and commercial space to the vacant building. The project was developed in response to feedback from local elected officials and the community after a comprehensive outreach campaign to solicit public input on the redevelopment. It is expected that Bedford Courts LLC will utilize NYCEDC’s HireNYC program for disadvantaged workers, as well as commit to contracting goals for minority and women-owned business enterprises.

In response to a terror attack in San Bernardino, California, where authorities have determined that thousands of bullet rounds were purchased leading up to the assault, along with a series of deadly mass shootings nationwide, Borough President Adams joined State Senator Roxanne J. Persaud and Assembly Member Jo Anne Simon on Sunday, December 20th to announce a new joint state legislative initiative regarding ammunition control. Under the proposal, the New York State Penal Law would be amended to prevent gun dealers from selling ammunition for a firearm to anyone unauthorized to have such a weapon, regardless of the weapon type; under the current code, only pistols and revolvers are specifically regulated, creating a loophole for those seeking to purchase ammunition for assault weapons. Additionally, the new measure would create a cap on the amount of ammunition that a person can purchase over a period of 90 days.



Borough President Adams rang in 2016 at his New Year’s Eve celebration in Coney Island, as over 15,000 partygoers gathered to enjoy fireworks and a digital light display on the Parachute Jump at midnight.

Photo Credit: Stefan Ringel/Brooklyn BP’s Office



BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT ERIC L. ADAMS’ MESSAGE OF THE MONTH

WHAT’S UP AT BROOKLYN BOROUGH HALL?

In commemoration of World AIDS Day, Borough President Adams partnered with Circle of Voices and DBGM to screen the documentary “You Are Not Alone” at Brooklyn Borough Hall on Wednesday, December 2nd. Dozens of Brooklynites came to see the film, which examines mental health issues facing people of color in the LGBT community, and to participate in a panel discussion, which followed.

Borough President Adams hosted his annual interfaith breakfast at Brooklyn Borough Hall on Thursday, December 3rd. He presented five of the longest-serving clergy leaders in Brooklyn, who have a combined 230 years of leadership in their respected houses of worship, with a golden Brooklyn Cornerstone award in recognition of their work and commitment to social justice. The event also served as the launch of

his Seeds of Kindness campaign, which calls on communities of faith to provide donations of weekly and monthly MetroCards to ensure that those in need can have access to mass transit.

Monday, December 7th was the anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, an event that led to the United States entering World War II. In honor of the 2,403 victims lost that day, Borough President Adams joined Council Member Darlene Mealy in hosting a memorial at Brooklyn Borough Hall, featuring local veterans and music from the MS 2 Parkside Preparatory Academy in Prospect Lefferts Gardens.

Happy Hanukkah, Brooklyn! Borough President Adams celebrated the Festival of Lights with the borough’s Jewish community at a Brooklyn Borough Hall gathering on Monday, December 7th,

the second night of the holiday. Festivities included the lighting of the giant menorah in Columbus Plaza as well as chocolate gelt and refreshments for children.

Amid a backdrop of rising fears over global terror, Borough President Adams arrived in Turkey on Tuesday, December 10th for a six-day mission aimed at spreading a message of transatlantic solidarity. He visited the Nizip refugee camp near the Syrian border to donate clothes to children and families as well as to deliver holiday greetings created by students at PS 133 William A. Butler in Park Slope. His trip was also highlighted by a keynote address he delivered to the World Tourism Forum at their 2015

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UPCOMING EVENTS

2ND WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH
2:00 PM-5:00 PM
Brooklyn Borough Hall – Room G-80
Access to Legal Service – Foreclosure Intervention/Prevention Services

2ND AND 4TH THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH, 2:00 PM-5:00 PM
Brooklyn Borough Hall – Room G-80
Access to Legal Service – Elder Law/Housing Law/Pension Law Services

MONDAY, JANUARY 18TH
10:30 AM-1:00 PM
Brooklyn Academy of Music
Brooklyn Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. 2016

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19TH
12:00 PM-6:00 PM
Brooklyn Borough Hall – Community Room
Healthy Brooklyn Resource Fair

If you have an interest in any of these events, please contact us by visiting brooklyn-usa.org for more information or by calling our event hotline at (718) 802-2328. Additionally, to stay up-to-date with the office, visit www.brooklyn-usa.org to sign up for Borough President Adams’s paperless notifications, like his Facebook page, and follow @BPEricAdams on Twitter.



Borough President Adams visited a group of young Syrian girls at the Nizip refugee camp, located in Turkey near the Syrian border, to donate clothes to children and families as well as deliver holiday greetings created by students at PS 133 William A. Butler in Park Slope; they held up one finger to symbolize the philosophy of one world united in the pursuit of peace.

Photo Credit: Ama Dwimoh/Brooklyn BP's Office



Borough President Adams and Assembly Member Ron Kim watched the Honorable Margo K. Brodie swear in 48 new Americans at the first-ever naturalization ceremony held in Brooklyn Borough Hall.

Photo Credit: Erica Sherman/Brooklyn BP's Office



Borough President Adams joined Deputy Borough President Diana Reyna and contestants at the New York City finals of the International Coquito Masters as the competition prepared to kick off in Brooklyn Borough Hall.

Photo Credit: Louise Wateridge



Borough President Adams presented a football, donated at one of his holiday toy drives that collected hundreds of gifts for underserved children, to a young patient at Maimonides Medical Center in Borough Park.

Photo Credit: Kenny Rub/Maimonides Medical Center

challenges of terrorism while growing the tourism industry and balancing the concerns of local communities.

Upon Borough President Adams's return from Turkey on Monday, December 14th, he convened a group of interfaith leaders to light Brooklyn Borough Hall's Christmas tree and issue a call for global peace and tolerance. Dozens of Brooklynites gathered to sing holiday songs with members of the Brooklyn Conservatory Chorale and enjoy dancing from youth at the Brownsville Recreation Center.

Dozens of new American citizens, hailing from 28 different nations, were sworn in on Tuesday, December 15th at the first-ever naturalization ceremony held in Brooklyn Borough Hall. Borough President Adams offered congratulations and gave a welcome speech focused on the value of the immigrant experience, as well as the richness and diversity of Brooklyn and the entire country.

Brownsville, Cypress Hills, and East New York are three of Brooklyn's many neighborhoods facing an increasing risk for tenant harassment, a key issue for Borough President Adams. As part of his

ongoing efforts to address this crisis, he hosted a tenant displacement legal clinic at the offices of Community Board 5 on Tuesday, December 15th. Lawyers from the Legal Aid Society and Brooklyn Legal Services were on hand to deliver free legal advice to affected residents.

Hundreds of Brooklynites participated in more than 30 drives that Borough President Adams held at businesses, cultural institutions, and schools across the borough, making it possible for his office to deliver thousands of toys to dozens of local organizations caring for underserved youth this holiday season. On Thursday, December 17th, he distributed approximately 1,200 gifts beside the Christmas tree inside Brooklyn Borough Hall to more than 50 community-based organizations and houses of worship.

¡Delicioso! Borough President Adams celebrated a popular Latino Christmas tradition on Friday, December 18th as he opened Brooklyn Borough Hall to host the New York City finals of the International Coquito Masters, the first time the competition was held in Brooklyn. Contest attendees, who also served as judges,

savored the flavor of various versions of this traditional holiday beverage, typically made with cinnamon, coconut, nutmeg, rum, and a variety of "secret" ingredients.

The anniversary of the tragic assassinations of NYPD Detectives Wenjian Liu and Rafael Ramos was observed on Sunday, December 20th. Borough President Adams spoke at the unveiling of memorial plaques recognizing the fallen heroes at the 84th Precinct stationhouse in Downtown Brooklyn. Later, he joined in a moment of silence at the site of the shooting in Bedford-Stuyvesant.

There's no place like Brooklyn to ring in the new year! Borough President Adams hosted two New Year's Eve celebrations on Thursday, December 31st, which attracted thousands of revelers. In Coney Island, a digital "burst" of lights from the iconic Parachute Jump and a dazzling fireworks display ushered in 2016, along with free rides and an array of sideshow entertainers. At Grand Army Plaza, partygoers enjoyed music from DJ C. Live and the Brooklyn Mash It Up Band, which led into a big pyrotechnic display at midnight.

COMMUNITY ALERTS

In 2014, the City launched .nyc, a new top-level domain for web addresses in the five boroughs. Building on that, Neighborhoods.nyc debuted in October, a community platform providing New Yorkers with real-time updates on transit, emergency notifications, and other information that might be useful for residents, including 311 complaints. Roughly 400 neighborhood names have been reserved to create hyperlocal online hubs, and the Mayor's Office of Technology and Innovation (MOTI) is currently seeking organizations to manage those domains and the back-end content. On Tuesday, December 15th, Borough President Adams joined MOTI to host an info session at Brooklyn Borough Hall. In order to be eligible for a .nyc neighborhood name, the lead organization must be registered as a not-for-profit, public benefit corporation, or local development corporation, in addition to being located within the neighborhood for which the domain is sought. Those who are interested can apply at nyc.gov/forward.

On Friday, December 18th, Borough President Adams formally opened the application process for capital funding from his office for Fiscal Year (FY) 2017. In FY 2016, he received a total capital allocation of \$61,800,000, which was distributed to 188 budget investments across all 18 community districts in Brooklyn. All requests for capital funding must be submitted via Borough President Adams's online capital funding application, which can be found at brooklyn-usa.org/capital-budget; the deadline is 11:59 PM on Sunday, February 7th. Those applying for a non-City project must also complete the requisite capital application from either the Department of Cultural Affairs or Office of Management and Budget; the deadline for those applications is 5:00 PM on Friday, February 12th. Projects are generally considered non-City projects if the applicant is a not-for-profit organization. Those with questions regarding the need to submit a non-City project application can visit nyc.gov/capgrants.

As of January 1st, the City is providing its approximately 20,000 managerial and original jurisdiction employees with paid parental leave. The new policy, announced on Tuesday, December 22nd, will allow six weeks of paid time off at 100 percent of salary for maternity, paternity, adoption, and foster care leave – or up to 12 weeks total when combined with existing leave. Borough President Adams applauded the measure as a focus of his since the launch of Family Friendly Brooklyn, his vision for a borough that prioritizes the wellness of nearly 200,000 Brooklynites under the age of five. The new benefit will come at no new cost to the city's taxpayers. More information is available at nyc.gov.



Our Constituent Assistance Center is here to serve all of Brooklyn. If you or someone you know are having any issues, or if you have questions about issues like alternate side parking, sidewalk pickup or other community matters, such as the matters in this month's update, call the Center at (718) 802-3777.