LATEST INITIATIVES

to know where their children are, especially as they are being transported to and from school. For families with students who face disabilities or other medical challenges, this can be a matter of life and death. In 2018, there is zero reason why we haven’t developed a secure app to track a school bus along its route in real time. OPT needs to move out of the dark ages and outfit its contracted bus fleet with the technology, and “if they won’t do it on their own the City Council should require it by law. I urge my colleagues across the city to co-sponsor Intro 1099, and I pledge to do what I can to bring this measure to passage.”

On Monday, September 24th, Borough President Adams joined the Electric School Bus Campaign, along with the Carroll Gardens Association, Neighbor’s Allied for Good Growth, New York Lawyers for the Public Interest, and New York League of Conservation Voters (NYLCV). Environmental Fund, in presenting the concept of electric school buses at the quarterly Renewable and Sustainable Energy Taskforce (ReSiET) held at Brooklyn Borough Hall. The town hall-style public forum, moderated by NYLCV Program Director Adriana Espinoza, was composed of experts on public health and school buses. In New York, more than two million children ride to school on diesel buses each day. Numerous studies have linked diesel exhaust and its byproducts to cancer, cardiovascular illness, other issues such as respiratory disease, and higher mortality rates. Borough President Adams affirmed his support for electrifying the school bus fleet in Brooklyn.

Borough President Adams launched the inaugural meeting of his Year Parks Are Our Parks initiative at Brooklyn Borough Hall on Thursday, September 27th. The event, organized in partnership with organizations such as New Yorkers for Parks (NY4P), Partnership for Parks, and Red Hook Conservancy, brought together friends groups and green space advocates from all five boroughs to discuss the work that they do in their local communities to keep their parks clean and green. The initiative, which emerged from a comprehensive parks report he released earlier this year, started a parks coalition that will bring together stakeholders to speak up, share ideas, and organize around the need to preserve and expand green spaces in every community across the city.

In recognition of the Honorable United States Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg’s lifetime of service, Borough President Adams launched a public campaign on Thursday, September 27th to rename the Brooklyn Municipal Building located on Jaydenon Street in Downtown Brooklyn in her honor. He sent a public letter addressed to Mayor Bill de Blasio requesting the name change, which was signed by community leaders such as State Senator Brian Kavanagh, Assembly Member Jo Anne Simon, and Council Members Margaret Chin, Stephen Levin, and Helen Rosenthal. Other campaign partners include the Brooklyn Bar Association (BBA), Brooklyn Bar Association Volun- teer Lawyers Project (VLP), Brooklyn Heights Association (BHA), Brooklyn Historical Society (BHS), Brooklyn Law School (BLS); Columbia Law School; District Council 37 (DC37); Downtown Brooklyn Partnership (DBP); East Midtown, Jewish Center (EMJC); James Madison High School Alumni Association; Lambda Legal; League of Women Voters of the City of New York (LWVNYC), Long Island University (LIU), New York Jewish League (NYJL); National Organization of Women – New York City (NOW-NYC); Planned Parenthood of New York City, and YWCA Brooklyn. Supporters can join the campaign by signing a petition to Mayor de Blasio at Change.org/BBG.

Marching with pride, Borough President Adams took part in a number of parades across the city in September, highlighted by the West Indian Day Parade on September 3rd, bringing out more than a million people to Eastern Parkway in Crown Heights to celebrate Caribbean-American culture. He also marched in the New York City Labor Day Parade on September 7th, September 8th along Fifth Avenue in Midtown, the Staten Island Black Heritage Family Day Parade on Saturday, September 8th, and on Saturday, September 15th on Richmond Road in Stapleton, and the Muslim Day Parade on Sunday, September 23rd down Madison Avenue in Midtown.

On Thursday, September 6th, Borough President Adams partnered with the City University of New York (CUNY) to co-host a technology career training and job placement assistance information session at Brooklyn House, located on course offerings including information technology management, user experience design, and web development for those who are unemployed or underemployed.

Never forget. Borough President Adams commemorated the 17th anniversary of the September 11th attacks by bringing victims’ families and first responders together to unfurl a memorial banner with the names of all 266 Brooklyn residents who died that day. The ceremony was held on Friday, September 7th at Brooklyn Borough Hall, where he honored those lost to 9/11-related illnesses and injuries in the months and years following the attacks.

Borough President Adams co-sponsored a series of walks and runs that focused on environmental and health issues impacting Brooklynites. On Saturday, September 8th, he partner on the 10th Annual Tell Every Amazing Lady About Ovarian Cancer (T.E.A.L.) Walk/Run in Prospect Park to raise awareness and raise funds for research on ovarian cancer, as well as the 5K Walk/Run in Spring Creek Park co-sponsored by the East New York Restoration Local Development Corporation (LDC). Additionally, on Saturday, September 15th, Borough President Adams co-sponsored the Brooklyn Queens Land Trust’s seventh Annual Bike and Walk- ing Tour, highlighting community gardens in Bushwick and Central Brooklyn.

WHAT’S AT BROOKLYN BOROUGH HALL?

Marching with pride, Borough President Adams took part in a number of parades across the city in September, highlighted by the West Indian Day Parade on September 3rd, bringing out more than a million people to Eastern Parkway in Crown Heights to celebrate Caribbean-American culture. He also marched in the New York City Labor Day Parade on September 7th, September 8th along Fifth Avenue in Midtown, the Staten Island Black Heritage Family Day Parade on Saturday, September 8th, and on Saturday, September 15th on Richmond Road in Stapleton, and the Muslim Day Parade on Sunday, September 23rd down Madison Avenue in Midtown.

On Thursday, September 6th, Borough President Adams partnered with the City University of New York (CUNY) to co-host a technology career training and job placement assistance information session at Brooklyn House, located on course offerings including information technology management, user experience design, and web development for those who are unemployed or underemployed.

Never forget. Borough President Adams commemorated the 17th anniversary of the September 11th attacks by bringing victims’ families and first responders together to unfurl a memorial banner with the names of all 266 Brooklyn residents who died that day. The ceremony was held on Friday, September 7th at Brooklyn Borough Hall, where he honored those lost to 9/11-related illnesses and injuries in the months and years following the attacks.

Borough President Adams co-sponsored a series of walks and runs that focused on environmental and health issues impacting Brooklynites. On Saturday, September 8th, he partner on the 10th Annual Tell Every Amazing Lady About Ovarian Cancer (T.E.A.L.) Walk/Run in Prospect Park to raise awareness and raise funds for research on ovarian cancer, as well as the 5K Walk/Run in Spring Creek Park co-sponsored by the East New York Restoration Local Development Corporation (LDC). Additionally, on Saturday, September 15th, Borough President Adams co-sponsored the Brooklyn Queens Land Trust’s seventh Annual Bike and Walking Tour, highlighting community gardens in Bushwick and Central Brooklyn.

***Félix de la Herencia Hispana!***

In celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month, Borough President Adams hosted a reception and film screening of Sembrando Tradiciones y Costumbres (Sowing Customs and Traditions) on Wednesday, September 12th as a commemora- tion of the 20th anniversary of Mexican independence alongside Diego Gómez.

Continued on next page
Borough President Adams joined Representative Carolyn Maloney (right) and State Senator Brian Kavanaugh (left) on Bedford Avenue in Williamsburg to speak out about the need for better communication between the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) and the public leading up to the L train shutdown in April 2019. Photo Credit: Erica Sherman/Brooklyn BP's Office

Borough President Adams took the floor at the 13th annual Brooklyn Book Festival outside Brooklyn Borough Hall. Photo Credit: Stefan Ringel/Brooklyn BP's Office

### COMMUNITY ALERTS

**Our Constituent Assistance Center is here to serve all of Brooklyn. If you or someone you know are facing any issues, or if you have questions about topics such as alternate side parking, sidewalk pickup, or other community matters, including the topics in this month’s update, call the Center at (718) 802-3700.**

On Monday, September 10th, Borough President Adams called on the New York City Police Pension Fund to change its punitive rules on disability pension claims review for New York City Police Department (NYPD) personnel with 9/11-related illnesses. The NYPD’s pension board requires multiple forms of proof from 9/11 first responders who participated in rescue, recovery, debris cleanup, or related support services. Seventeen years after the terror attack a number of claims have been denied or caught up in bureaucratic red tape due to the difficulty in recovering lost records, a fact acknowledged by the NYPD. Borough President Adams, a former NYPD officer who was himself a 9/11 first responder who reported to Ground Zero, was joined by fellow 9/11 first responders Detectives Vinny DiGiacomo, who is facing breast cancer, and Lieutenant Maurice Gill, who was diagnosed with ovarian cancer; both have had their disability pension claims denied by the pension board. Despite this, Borough President Adams called on the NYPD’s pension board to allow 9/11 first responder claimants to provide a single form of proof of presence, a reform he feels may become even more important as 9/11-related illnesses possibly emerge in the years to come. Additionally, on Monday, September 10th, Borough President Adams spoke out in support of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) workers who are facing 9/11-related illnesses to be provided with unrelated paid sick leave as it has been implemented for firefighters, police officers, and other public sector workers. In a public statement, he noted “none of our first responders should be treated as second-class citizens, including our first-class EMS workers.” He strongly believes that government must go above and beyond its call of duty to help those that performed the ultimate duty on our most tragic day. If you believe you should receive benefits due to a 9/11-related illness or injury, please call our Constituent Assistance Center at (718) 802-3700.

Borough President Adams partnered with the Brooklyn Alcoholism and Addictive Services Council to host the annual Brooklyn Recovery Conference held at Brooklyn Borough Hall on Friday, September 14th, with support from organizations including Bridge Back to Life Center, Inter-borough Development and Consultation Center, Foundation for a Drug-Free World, The Americas Chapter, Peer Alliance Recovery Center, Phoenix House, Quest Diagnostics, Smart Recovery, and The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Community (LGBT) Center. The theme at this year’s conference was “Innovation, Information, and Inspiration: What’s Different This Time?” discussing the importance of raising awareness of battling addiction across a range of substances including alcohol, amphetamines, marijuana, and opioids. More than 800 Brooklyn residents have been trained in overdose prevention training with an ongoing partnership between Borough President Adams, the Brooklyn Committee of Alcoholism and Addictive Services, Brooklyn Community Recovery Center, Brooklyn Public Library (BPL), DOHMH, and NYPD on a series of free training sessions that have been held throughout this year. Brooklyn residents who would like to request an opioid overdose prevention training in their neighborhood should email askeric@brooklynbp.nyc.gov.

On Tuesday, September 18th, the New York Economic Development Corporation (NYEDC) released a report examining the existing NYC Ferry system, which currently stops in the Brooklyn neighborhoods of Bay Ridge, Brooklyn Heights, DUMBO, Greenpoint, Red Hook, Sunset Park, and Williamsburg. The first phase of the study will include discussions with community stakeholders, and an evaluation of population density, existing transit access, and environmental impacts. Residents are asked to submit their comments on where they suggest a study for a new ferry stop. Borough President Adams has been outspoken about the need to expand ferry services to southern Brooklyn including in Canarsie and Coney Island – two transit-starved locations that would greatly benefit from increased connectivity in terms of helping residents get to their destinations, increasing tourism, and promoting economic development. To submit your feedback on potential new ferry routes and stops, visit nyedc.com/resources/studies/2018-ferry-feasibility-study.

On the one year anniversary of Hurricane Maria, which devastated Puerto Rico and other Caribbean islands, Borough President Adams issued a statement on September 20th, stating that “while our fellow citizens continue to struggle, from full recovery, we are amid another deadly hurricane season. Puerto Rico is more vulnerable today than it was a year ago, and should another storm strike in the weeks ahead, it is hard to imagine how children and families will cope. Just as important is how FEMA and our Federal government will respond, as the fragile and half-hearted relief efforts of the Trump Administration to date have been a principal cause for the escalating toll of lives lost. I join the mounting call across our nation for Congressional legislation to establish an independent inquiry, on the model of the 9/11 Commission, that would thoroughly review the response to Hurricane Maria. Lives are at stake, both now and in the future.” Borough President Adams also participated in the NYC4PR silent procession on Sunday, September 23rd, marching from East Harlem to Trump Tower in Midtown to focus attention on the ongoing crisis facing American citizens in Puerto Rico. To track the Federal response to Hurricane Maria, visit fema.gov/hurricane-maria.