Enacting a rule to allow Access-A-Ride (AAR) vehicles in dedicated bus lanes is just common sense, said Borough President Adams in a statement commending the New York City Department of Transportation (DOT) for enacting the rule on May 2nd. The rule, worked on in partnership with Council Member Diana Ayala, is an outgrowth from Borough President Adams’ “Barrier-Free-BK” initiative, launched late last year and made up of Borough President Adams’ recommendations to make mass transit, parks, public venues, and on-demand rides more accessible to those with disabilities. The rule, which was first proposed on March 8th, was then followed by a public hearing on April 11th. Its passage now means that for the more than 150,000 New Yorkers with disabilities who rely on AAR as their means of transportation, their commute can be quicker, safer, and more reliable, while preserving the expediency and quality of bus lanes for the general public. The rule changes, nested within the City Administrative Procedure Act, officially took effect on May 30th.

On May 13th, Borough President Adams announced the impact of his $1,155,000 capital budget investment in participatory budgeting (PB) for Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20). In the democratic process, Brooklynites voted to determine how millions of taxpayer dollars would be allocated for FY20 capital projects throughout Brooklyn, including Borough President Adams’ annual commitment to increasing constituent input in the PB process. At locations across the borough, including Brooklyn Borough Hall, tens of thousands of Brooklyn residents cast ballots during the 2019-2020 PB cycle voting period, which took place between Saturday, March 30th and Sunday, April 7th. Borough President Adams’ capital budget contribution was equally allocated to winning projects voted on by the 11 council members in the borough who are participating in this year’s PB. Projects that won funding include Real Time Passenger Information (RTPI) bus countdown clocks around the 45th Council District, playground renovation at PS 58 “The Carroll in Carroll Gardens,” Upgrades to Harmony Park and the Tompkins House Community Center in Bedford Stuyvesant, and a creative lab at Automative High School in Williamsburg (visit brooklyn-usa.org for a full list of awards). By putting democracy into action, residents were empowered to directly decide how the City’s money is spent, while enhancing civic engagement, effective government, and fiscal transparency.

Borough President Adams submitted testimony to the State Senate’s Standing Committee on Housing, Construction, and Community Development as part of a hearing on May 16th at Medgar Evers College in Crown Heights, calling for an extension of the City’s rent regulations and an expansion of tenant protections. Borough President Adams’ testimony, presented to the committee chaired by State Senator Brian Kavanagh, focused on a variety of policy recommendations aimed at combating New York City’s affordable housing crisis, including putting an end to preferential rent deductions. By putting democracy into action, residents were empowered to directly decide how the City’s money is spent, while enhancing civic engagement, effective government, and fiscal transparency.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

VARIOUS DATES
American Veterans Memorial Pier, 68th Street and Shore Road
Reach for the Stars Walk & Run
SUNDAY, JUNE 2ND
7:00 AM
Brooklyn Borough Hall
Constitution Assistance Center
Constitution Assistance Walk-In
MAY 31ST
6:00 PM
Brooklyn Borough Hall
Pride Month Kick-Off
MAY 31ST
6:00 PM
Brooklyn Borough Hall
Brooklyn Borough Board Meeting
THURSDAY, JUNE 6TH
12:00 Noon – 3:00 PM
Columbus Park and Brooklyn Borough Hall
Turkish-American Heritage Celebration
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.

VOTING CLASS OF 2019
FACULTY AND STAFF HONOR PROGRAM
FRIDAY, JUNE 7TH
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Brooklyn Borough Hall
Men’s Health and Wellness Fair
SUNDAY, JUNE 9TH
1:00 PM
Columbus Park
Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams’ Message of the Month
Yira México! The idea of celebrating Cinco de Mayo was so nice that Borough President Adams did it twice! On Friday, May 3rd at Brooklyn Borough Hall, in partnership with the Women from Puebla Association of Brooklyn, Borough President Adams hosted the annual celebration commemorating the date (May 5th) of the Mexican army’s 1862 victory over France at the Battle of Puebla in Mexico. Traditional costumes, dance, food, and music were all a part of the lively festivities. On Wednesday, May 8th, Mexican-Americans again embraced their Hispanic heritage during the Cinco de Mayo & Mother’s Day Parade and Festival held at Brooklyn Borough Hall, where the spirited revelry and celebration of Mexican traditions lasted well into the night.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Groundbreaking News! Borough President Adams extended his full support and allocated $1,000,000 in capital funding toward the development of Caton Flats, Flatbush’s newest 100 percent affordable housing and mixed-use redevelopment project, which broke ground on Wednesday, May 15th. The 255-unit community is being developed by BRP Companies, in partnership with the New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC), the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD), and the New York City Housing Development Corporation (NYCHDC).

WHAT’S UP AT BROOKLYN BOROUGH HALL?

Continued on next page
Borough President Adams assisted Chef Patricia Drew during a cooking demonstration and shared healthy eating tips and testimonials with seniors at Independence Towers Senior Center’s Healthy Eating Fair in Williamsburg.

Ramadan Mubarak Muslims throughout Brooklyn were invited by Borough President Adams to break fast at his 14th annual Iftar Dinner, held at Brooklyn Borough Hall on Thursday, May 23rd. Muslims and non-Muslims gathered in fellowship and prayer as they celebrated a holy month that tests the attributes of inner reflection and self-control of the faithful. Borough President Adams marked the occasion by imploring that all present honor and respect the borough’s religious diversity while strengthening interfaith ties, particularly in the face of divisive national political rhetoric and an increase in local bias-based attacks.

Saving Weeksville Heritage Center became an urgent call to action when it was announced on May 7th that, due to rising costs and limited funding, a crowdfunding initiative had been launched in order to keep the historic African-American settlement in Crown Heights open past June 30th. Borough President Adams joined the city’s leadership to support the efforts of the Weeksville Heritage Center.

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Fiscal Fitness Lunchtime munchers and sun worshipers were treated to a free Financial Education on the Plaza event as Borough President Adams hosted News 12’s Kristie Reeter Dinner, held at Brooklyn Borough Hall on Thursday, May 23rd. In the morning, he marched and joined other dignitaries in bringing greetings at Bay Ridge’s 152nd Brooklyn Memorial Day Parade, sponsored by the United Military Veterans of Kings County, Inc. Later in the day, Borough President Adams joined his Brooklyn Borough Hall. The series, featuring entertainment provided by local school children, provides an opportunity for the borough’s talented youth to perform for the public, while lending support to performing arts programs in Brooklyn schools. Starting at noon and lasting for an hour, the concerts will run each Wednesday now through June 12th.

Borough President Adams brought his message of “healthy eating at any age” to the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) Independence Towers Senior Center in Williamsburg on Friday, May 17th. As part of the center’s Healthy Eating Fair for Seniors, the 70 seniors in attendance were offered practical nutrition information, food preparation demonstrations, and giveaways.

Borough President Adams brought the star power when he and some residents struck a pose while enjoying the Spanish-flavored sights and sounds at the Latin Professional Spring Soiree, hosted at Brooklyn Borough Hall.

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By appointment, Borough President Adams welcomed Latino residents and visitors to the borough during the Latin Professional Spring Soiree on Monday, May 20th. Business mixed with pleasure at the networking event as attendees were free to dance, eat, mingle, and attend a presentation on technical assistance for accessing capital, sponsored by Ponce Bank.

When Borough President Adams pulled up to The Table, Sunset Park’s newest healthy food pantry on May 15th, he not only got the chance to sample and prepare fresh produce and proteins, but he also got introduced to a new way in which food insecurity is being combated on behalf of those in need in that community. The grocery store-styled pantry, New York University (NYU) Langone Health’s groundbreaking nutrition program, has the goal of improving the health of those in the community by ensuring that its residents have access to healthy food choices. The program is an answer to the health agency’s discovery that a third of the residents at six of its Family Health Center locations, many who were pregnant women and families with children under age five, were experiencing food scarcity. Visitors to the pantry, who file applications, are screened, and who book reservations for access, are able to choose the day’s fresh produce and other food items, and then learn how to prepare it in ways that maximize its nutritional value. For more information on the program and center locations, go to nyulangone.org.

Rally for Youth The stats are sobering: Of the young people who age out of foster care in New York City, one in five will enter a homeless shelter within three years of aging out of the system; only 12 percent will enroll in a college or vocational program, and only 22 percent will earn a high school diploma or its equivalency. In support of this often marginalized population, Borough President Adams hosted a rally at Brooklyn Borough Hall on May 16th, led by representatives from Fair Futures, a coalition of advocates, child welfare agencies, foundations, non-profits, and young people who age out of foster care in New York City.

Brother Mayor • Douglaston Memorial Day Parade, sponsored by the United States Marine Corps League, Queens Valley Detachment No. 91, and the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Unit 1816, sponsored by the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Hawaii Detachment. The parade, which starts at 10 a.m., will march along Northern Boulevard from the Douglaston station to the Douglaston Memorial Park, where the ceremony will take place.

The deadline for application submission is Sunday, June 16, 2019, for valid permits to be used before June 30, 2019 for the Extended Use Harshward Pilot Program, an effort to provide community-based organizations (CBOs) with greater access to the use of school facilities, without incurring the cost of space usage. Extended Use Harshward Pilot Program applications are now being accepted through the Office of the Brooklyn Borough President for eligible groups. If you are interested, please call (718) 802-3700.

Tune in to News 12 Brooklyn every Monday from 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM for “Ask the Borough President.” Watch as Borough President Adams discusses topics of the day, in person and in real time. If you have a question you’d like answered, call (718) 561-8877 or tweet using the hashtag #BKAAUthBPB.

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 repairs, or other community matters, including the topics in this month’s update, call the Center at (718) 802-3700.

Committed to the future of the future of New York City, Borough President Adams continues to bring his message of “healthy eating at any age” to the Brooklyn community, working with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields, promising to work with a consultant to develop a business plan and executive director, Rob Fields.