What’s Up at Brooklyn Borough Hall?

Annual Interfaith Breakfast
On December 3rd, Borough President Adams invited faith leaders from across the borough for his annual interfaith breakfast at Brooklyn Borough Hall. During his remarks, he stressed the need for cooperation between religious communities to tackle the major moral issues facing the borough, from homelessness to hate.

Christmas Tree Lighting
Joy to Brooklyn! Brooklyn Borough Hall celebrated the arrival of the Christmas season with an annual tree lighting ceremony before the holidays officially began. Attendees enjoyed free food and drink while the Brooklyn Youth Chorus sang festive holiday tunes. Brooklyn Borough Hall also hosted children from a local shelter, who received books and pajamas donated by their fellow Brooklynites as part of Borough President Adams’ annual holiday donation drive.

How Not to Diet
Doc, you’re a lifesaver! Borough President Adams invited people to meet Michael Greger, MD, the man he credits with saving his life, for a talk based on Dr. Greger’s new book, “How Not to Diet.” The presentation explored a new way of thinking about chronic diseases such as heart disease and Type 2 diabetes. Borough President Adams was able to reverse his Type 2 diabetes by converting to a whole-food, plant-based diet, and believes everyone deserves to experience the benefits of healthy eating.

Sleeping Out at Borough Hall
More than 60,000 New Yorkers are homeless, and one in 10 public school students don’t have a permanent home. The homelessness crisis has reached levels not seen since the Great Depression. That’s why Borough President Adams participated in the World’s Big Sleep Out on December 7th, sleeping out with thousands of people across the globe in a night of compassion for and solidarity with our homeless brothers and sisters. Joining Borough President Adams were local Brooklynites who also slept out on the steps of Brooklyn Borough Hall.

Visiting Shelters for Christmas
Deputy Brooklyn Borough President Chaplain Ingrid P. Lewis-Martin brought some holiday cheer on December 20th to shelter residents at Junius Family Residence and Kingston Families, distributing bags of books and pajamas collected during Brooklyn Borough Hall’s holiday drive. The visits were part of a series of volunteering efforts undertaken by the Brooklyn Borough Hall team throughout the holidays, continuing a strong tradition of service that has endured throughout Borough President Adams’ time in office.

Celebrating Hanukkah
During Hanukkah, Jewish families remember the miraculous story of the Maccabees, who had only enough oil for the menorah in the Temple in Jerusalem to be lit for one day, but it remained lit for eight days. In recognition of this important holiday, Borough President Adams co-hosted a Hanukkah celebration in conjunction with the Flatbush Jewish Community Center (JCC) to light the menorah.
for the second night of the holiday. He was joined by local elected officials such as Council Members Chaim Deutsch, Mathieu Eugene, and Kalman Yeger, as well as Assembly Members Steven Cymbrowitz and Helene Weinstein, and others from the community.

Celebrating New Year's Eve!
Brooklyn Borough Hall rang in 2020 in style with two free New Year’s Eve celebrations in the borough. Revelers gathered at Grand Army Plaza to hear live entertainment provided by DJ Headache, and enjoyed fireworks at midnight. Some also congregated at Steeplechase Plaza in Coney Island, where Brooklyn Borough Hall team members watched fireworks with Council Member Mark Treyger and other local residents. It was the perfect way to welcome the new year.

COMMUNITY ALERTS

Capital Funding Applications Are Open
Not-for-profit organizations, such as community groups and New York City public schools seeking funding for projects can apply through the Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) Capital Budget Funding Application now through February 12, 2020. If you think your organization may be eligible for funding (non-City projects must serve a defined City purpose), check out these fact sheets (brooklynusa.org/applying-for-non-city-capital-funding [not-for-profits] and brooklynusa.org/capital-funding-fact-sheet-for-public-schools [public schools]) for help with eligibility. To fill out an application, please visit brooklynusa.org/capital-budget and contact Candice Julien at (718) 802-3981 or cjulien@brooklynbp.nyc.gov.

Serve on Your Community Board!
Want to get involved in local government? The 2020 Community Board applications are now available online — residents who live, own a business, have an interest, or work in the community are invited to submit applications to serve on their board. Applications for any vacancies on one of Brooklyn’s 18 boards are reviewed at the beginning of the year. The deadline for this application cycle is February 14, 2020. You must be a New York City resident to serve on a community board. Apply online here: brooklynusa.org/community-boards.

(1) On the second night of Chanukah, Borough President Adams joined local elected officials and community leaders for a lighting of the menorah.
(2) Borough President Adams extolled the benefits of drone technology during a press conference with New York City Council Members Justin Brannan, Robert Cornegy, Ben Kallos, DJJ, the largest drone manufacturer in the world, and civic tech advocates.
Subway Safety Measures

In response to mounting crimes and violence in the subways, Borough President Adams called for a comprehensive plan to address the safety of New Yorkers in and around our subways. Joined by members of Transport Workers Union (TWU) Local 100, the North Flatbush Avenue Business Improvement District (BID), and NYPD’s 78th Precinct, this call includes a $2,500 allocation to install security cameras near the subway entrance at Seventh and Flatbush avenues as an extension of his Operation Safe Shopper initiative.

The program will help the NYPD during investigations of these subway crimes. This announcement also came with a renewal of his appeal to the MTA to fund bystander intervention training, including de-escalation skills to defuse tensions during a potential subway incident, as well as lauding the MTA for the hiring of 500 new police officers to patrol the subways and his continued commitment for officers to be deployed with body cameras.

Rally for Incarcerated Families

The holiday season means time together with family for some. But for the more than 105,000 children in New York State with incarcerated parents, it can be difficult to see their families. Borough President Adams joined Assembly Members Carmen De La Rosa and Tremaine Wright, Senator Velmanette Montgomery, and the Osborne Association to rally for Albany to pass better in-person visiting laws. Seventy percent of people incarcerated in New York prisons are located more than 100 miles from their homes — and more than a quarter were further than 300 miles away. Borough President Adams believes we should invest in public transportation and other programs to help facilitate in-person visits. Call your State legislators and let them know you support these initiatives.

(b.) Following a violent weekend on the subways, Borough President Adams joined Transport Workers Union Local 100 and the North Flatbush Avenue Business Improvement District (BID) to call for a suite of safety measures to protect riders and transit employees.

LATEST INITIATIVES

Brooklyn Welcomes Oonee

As an avid cyclist, Borough President Adams knows one of the main deterrents for would-be bike riders in the city is the lack of safe places to park. On December 13th, he joined Council Speaker Corey Johnson, Council Majority Leader Laurie Cumbo, Oonee founder and CEO Shabazz Stuart, and advocates for the unveiling of the first permanent Oonee kiosk in New York City at Atlantic Terminal. Oonee is a modular bike parking facility that houses anywhere from 20 to 60 bicycles at a time for free or a small monthly fee. Cycling is increasing throughout the city, and particularly in Brooklyn: According to a report by the New York City Department of Transportation (DOT), there were 20,771 cyclist commuters in Brooklyn as of 2017. That number is projected to grow in the coming years.

Tune in to News 12 Brooklyn on Monday, January 13, 2020 from 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM for “Ask the Borough President.” Weigh in live 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) 861-6827 or tweet using the hashtag #BKAskTheBP.

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 topics such as alternate side parking, sidewalk garbage pickup, or other community matters, including the topics in this month’s update, call the Center at (718) 802-3700.
Safe Holiday Shopping
As the holidays approach each year, shops fill up with people seeking gifts for their loved ones. Borough President Adams often says safety is the prerequisite to prosperity, and that’s especially true during the holiday shopping season. That’s why he allocated $2,500 to expand his Operation Safe Shopper initiative to a stretch of Nostrand Avenue between Crown Heights and Prospect-Lefferts Garden on Friday, December 6th. Operation Safe Shopper is a public-private partnership between Brooklyn Borough Hall, local civic organizations, and Business Improvement Districts (BIDs), and the NYPD, which funds the deployment of street-facing security cameras in neighborhoods across Brooklyn to assist with the investigation of local crimes.

Drones for Building Safety
Following the tragic death of Erica Tishman, a Manhattan-based architect who was killed by a falling piece of a building façade on 49th Street and Seventh Avenue, Borough President Adams joined Council Members Justin Brannan, Robert Cornegy, and Ben Kallos to announce new legislation requiring initial drone inspections within 48 hours of a 311 complaint or New York City Department of Buildings (DOB) violation. At the press conference, Borough President Adams emphasized the need for a 21st-century city to govern using 21st-century tools, instead of being stuck in the past. Under a 1948 City law, the flying of drones is forbidden. The new legislation would make it legal for the purposes of building inspections.

UPCOMING EVENTS

VARIABLE TIMES
FREE Legal Services for All
Brooklyn Borough Hall – Room G-80

EVERY MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY
9:30 AM – 4:00 PM
Constituent Assistance Center
Walk-In
Brooklyn Borough Hall
Constituent Assistance Center

EVERY MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
VARIABLE TIMES
SCORE NYC Small Business Mentoring
Brooklyn Borough Hall – Room G-80

EVERY TUESDAY AND THURSDAY
JANUARY 21ST – FEBRUARY 27TH
6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
OSHA Training Workshops
Brooklyn Borough Hall

EVERY TUESDAY AND THURSDAY
JANUARY 21ST – MARCH 5TH
6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
HVAC Training Workshops
2300 86th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11214

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7TH
6:00 PM
Brooklyn Borough Board Meeting
Brooklyn Borough Hall – Community Room

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8TH
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Uniform Land Use Review Procedure Public Hearing
Brooklyn Borough Hall

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15TH
6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
Bed-Stuy Housing Initiative – Workshop 3
Restoration Plaza – Community Room 3 Lower Level
1368 Fulton Street
Brooklyn, NY 11212

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17TH
11:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Chinese Lunar New Year Cultural Temple Festival Celebration
Brooklyn Borough Hall

If you have an interest in any of these events, please contact us by visiting www.brooklyn-usa.org for more information or by calling our event hotline at (718) 802-2338. Additionally, to stay up-to-date with the office, visit brooklyn-usa.org to sign up for Borough President Adams’ paperless notifications, “like” his Facebook page, and follow him @BPEricAdams on Twitter and Instagram.

Questions about the Census? Make Brooklyn Count!

Email bkccensus2020@gmail.com

Our programs, our communities, our families need you to make Brooklyn Count 100%