TURNING PAIN INTO PURPOSE.
VIEW MORE INSIDE
Here we are, weeks after our borough was put on “Pause” in response to the ravaging effects of COVID-19. As a result of civil obedience and the extraordinary efforts of our first responders, health care providers, and frontline workers, the hospitalization and death rates have been steadily declining, and our city is finally moving toward a modified state of “Play.” We have been cautiously moving away from the terror, the trauma, the isolation, and the profound loss experienced as a result of the pandemic, while moving forward toward the distant, yet assured light of recovery.

And then George Floyd was killed.

Now, another layer of pain, topped with boiling, righteous outrage over yet another Black man being senselessly and brutally murdered—this time by a Minneapolis police officer while his uniformed colleagues passively looked on—was added to the toxic soup of insecurity and unrest that had been simmering beneath the surface in cities across the nation. It didn’t matter that he didn’t live or die here. Once it inevitably boiled over, in the form of grief, protests, violence, and destruction, we as a nation, and particularly as a borough, have been left with the question: Where do we go from here?

The answer is as straightforward as it is difficult to fathom: We must move forward. It’s our duty to acknowledge and never forget the ways and means by which each of our lives have been interrupted and forever changed as a result of the atrocities visited upon us by the sickness, death, disparity, racism, and mayhem that unexpectedly played out among us over the past months. And since neither COVID-19, nor racism, have by any means been eradicated from our midst, it must be our mission to continue the lifesaving measures that keep our loved ones, our neighbors, and ourselves safe, protected, and healthy as we ride out this storm. It will take constant vigilance on the part of every New Yorker to stay the course as we work to restore, rebuild, and restart our lives after the unimaginable. But Brooklynites haven’t yet met a challenge they couldn’t overcome or an adversary that they couldn’t defeat. So I implore you to keep focused, remain encouraged, and to stay connected as we work together, as One Brooklyn, to fight the scourges of disease, racism, disparity, and violence that threaten our peaceful and successful recovery. Our very lives depend on it.

—Eric Adams
KEEPING IT GOING IN BROOKLYN

BROOKLYN TOGETHER:
Click on the images to view video of the visits

(top left) BP Adams supported Muslims Giving Back, who distributed 1,000 meals daily to Brooklyn communities

(middle) BP Adams visited Asisa Urgent Care in Williamsburg

(bottom left) BP Adams dropped off PPE supplies to Bishop Hezekiah Walker at Love Fellowship Tabernacle

(bottom right) BP Adams joined Pak American Skilled Women Organization (PASWO) to distribute food and masks to the community
CONTINUING TO GIVE:

(top right) BP Adams joined District Leader Tommy Torres, Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez, Council Member Robert Cornegy, and the Lindsey House Board to give out food, sanitizer, gloves and mask

(middle) BP Adams visited the new warehouse for The Campaign Against Hunger along with Broadway Stages and State Senator Roxanne Persaud

(bottom left) BP Adams joined Knicks basketball player, Taj Gibson, to distribute meals and masks at NYCHA Ingersoll Houses where Taj grew up

(bottom right) BP Adams joined Council Member Justin Brannan to distribute masks in Dyker Heights
Please click on the links below to learn more about the BP's efforts to provide relief and services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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May 4, 2020
As City’s “Death Care System” Becomes Overwhelmed By Death Toll From Covid-19, BP Adams Convenes Bereavement Task Force

May 7, 2020
BP Adams Joins 44 Medical Professionals To Release PSA Highlighting Health Disparities Faced By People Of Color From Covid-19

May 7, 2020
BP Adams Statement On Brooklyn Day Of Prayer

May 9, 2020
As Covid-19 Frays Social Fabric, Leading To Rise In Bias Incidents, Borough President Adams Holds Inaugural Virtual ‘Breaking Bread, Building Bonds’ Dinner With Diverse Array Of New Yorkers

May 13, 2020
BP Adams Statement On Unveiling Of ‘Heroes Act’ In Congress

(top) BP Adams joined the Yemeni-American Merchants Association to give out food and masks to people in Bay Ridge
(bottom) BP Adams runs for #IRunWithMaud after joining Council Member Andy King whose cousin Ahmaud Arbery was murdered. They also passed out masks to those utilizing the MTA
May 13, 2020
BP Adams Statement On City Council's Passage Of Legislation Protecting Local Restaurants From Crippling Third-Party Delivery Fees

May 15, 2020
BP Adams Response To Mayor De Blasio’s Announcement Of Changes To NYPD Enforcement Policies On Social Distancing And Face Coverings

May 17, 2020
Mysterious Condition Linked To Coronavirus Detected In Children Prompts BP Adams To Join Doctors And Lawmakers In Urging DOE To Educate Parents On Safety Tips Through Remote Learning Portals

May 20, 2020
Amid Concerns About Nutritional Quality Of Food Being Distributed By City, BP Adams And Others Announce New Legislation Strengthening Nutritional Guidelines For Meals Served To Most Vulnerable New Yorkers

May 22, 2020
As Restaurants Suffer From Covid-19, Bp Adams Calls On Mayor De Blasio To Issue Executive Order Opening Curbside Space For Restaurant Seating

May 25, 2020
To Address Psychological Toll Of Fighting Covid-19 And To Honor Our Vets, BP Adams Joins First Responders And Veterans For A Guided Meditation On Coney Island Beach

(top) BP Adams hosted a beach meditation with Brooklyn Meditation at Coney Island on Memorial Day
(bottom) BP Adams’s message on re-culturing. Click the image above for the video
POLICY INITIATIVES

It became increasingly clear that a herculean effort was going to be needed to ensure that residents and businesses could remain safe and economically whole throughout the COVID-19 crisis. The Office of the Brooklyn Borough President has been active in advocating for and advancing policies to do just this, including:

- **BP called for universal mask distribution from the government.** The City and State have now started delivering masks more broadly, particularly to NYCHA.
- **BP called for increased universal COVID-19 testing.** The City opened up more centers for testing, with more coming in June.
- **BP called for Executive Order allowing for outdoor seating waiver for local restaurants.** The City Council has put forth a bill to do this, although the Mayor has not yet put forth the order.
- **BP called for Alternate Side Parking to be periodically reinstated to clean the streets.** This has been done.
- **BP called on community groups to help with social distancing in lieu of NYPD.** Mayor has announced that cure vio nce groups will assist in this work.
- **BP called for Compassionate Helper Volunteer program for people to visit their loved ones.** State is allowing visitors in a safe manner.
- **BP called for better food nutrition at food distribution sites/pantries (with Council Member Ben Kallos). BP called for safe beach reopening and a comprehensive plan for the summer (with Council Member Mark Treyger).**
- **BP called for funding for Better Buses program and to expand dedicated bus lanes (with BPs Gale Brewer, James Oddo, Ruben Diaz, and other advocates).** The Mayor announced approximately 20 miles of bus lanes to open by the end of 2020.
- **BP called on the City to protect arts funding in the budget.**
- **BP called on City to restore funding for the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP).**

(top) Information sheet on Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children. Click the image above for more information
While Brooklyn Borough Hall remains closed, digital workshops and programming continue to provide for our communities.

Stay tuned for new offerings as they develop.
IN REMEMBRANCE AND THANKSGIVING:

In the midst of COVID-19, we continue to remember and honor those who we have lost.

Click on the images to navigate:

(top) Click the image if you are interested in joining or hosting a virtual vigil

(middle) Faith organizations and individuals are welcome to join in 24 hours of prayer. Click on the image to join

(bottom) We continue to be thankful for our essential workers, our first responders, and frontline medical staff for being our heroes during these trying times
For specific COVID-19 inquiries, click here.

To help feed First Responders, click here.

For all other inquiries, email askeric@brooklynbp.nyc.gov or call 718.802.3700

For real-time updates, follow:
Facebook: Eric Adams
Twitter: @BPEricAdams
Instagram: @BPEricAdams

Sign up for e-blasts here. Spanish e-blast updates, click here.

#BrooklynStrong

All photos and graphics courtesy of Brooklyn Borough Hall
NOTE: The photos in this edition reflect a progression of physical distancing and Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) protocols over time.