



# Murray Hill

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## NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

### News for Murray Hill...January 30, 2023

This information is provided by The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association. We are sharing it as a service to our members. If this notice does not interest you, please disregard it.

Please share this email with a friend, neighbor or colleague. You can sign up for these emails at [www.murrayhillnyc.org](http://www.murrayhillnyc.org), scroll down the Also Happening column.

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### Join The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association

Murray Hill is the Heart at the Center of Manhattan

Be a part of it!

[Join the MHNA here](#)

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### For those celebrating Chinese New Year

Have a happy Spring Festival (through February 1) and Lantern Festival (February 2 – 5)!

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### Transportation and traffic advisories

Visit [murrayhillnyc.org](http://murrayhillnyc.org) Traffic Change Updates section to see the work notices for public projects in the neighborhood: the 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue (and surrounding areas) infrastructure replacement project, Pershing Square East, street closure notices, and more.

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## **Grand Central Madison (East Side Access for the LIRR) is open!**

Source: [MTA website](#)

All aboard! Grand Central Madison (East Side Access) opened Wednesday, January 25 with shuttle service between the Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) stations at Jamaica and the new east side terminal below Grand Central Terminal.

With the opening of this new station, Long Island Rail Road service will go directly to Manhattan's east side for the first time. Grand Central Madison is located on the west side of the historic Grand Central Terminal, under Vanderbilt Avenue. Here's how long it may take you to get to the LIRR platforms: 42nd Street, 43rd Street, or the Shuttle platform: 6-8 minutes...There are four street-level entrances to get to the LIRR concourse, all of which are accessible: north side of 42nd Street east of Madison Avenue, southwest corner of 43rd Street and Vanderbilt Avenue. [See map of the new terminal.](#)

The Ticket Office, ticketed waiting area, nursing room, and customer service office are located at 47th Street. You'll find restrooms, ticket machines, and digital signs throughout the concourse. There are no waiting areas or restrooms in the platform areas, so the MTA recommends waiting at the concourse level until your train has been announced. LIRR customer ambassadors will be out at Grand Central Madison to help you navigate the new terminal. If you need help boarding or exiting a the train, you can speak to a LIRR Care representative. They're stationed at the customer service office on the Madison Concourse between 46th and 47th streets. If you have other questions, you can reach the MTA on Twitter or Facebook. You can also get customer support through the [TrainTime app](#).

## **[Governor Hochul Rides Inaugural LIRR Train to Grand Central Madison](#)**

January 25, 2023, press release

Governor Kathy Hochul and MTA Chair and CEO Janno Lieber today rode the inaugural Long Island Rail Road train to Grand Central Madison, which arrived at the terminal platform at 11:07 a.m. The train was the first of Grand Central Direct trains now operating between Jamaica and Grand Central Madison between 6:15 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on weekdays and between 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. on weekends...Grand Central Madison doubles LIRR capacity into Manhattan. In conjunction with the completion of a third track on the LIRR Main Line, the new terminal enables reverse commuting options that were not previously possible.

MTA Chair and CEO Janno Lieber said, "What we are opening today is truly breathtaking. The eight tracks, four platforms and 714,000 square feet of space at Grand Central Madison are only the most visible part of a project that also includes 40 miles of new track, 96 new switches, 550 miles of cables, 8,445 feet of retaining walls, five new railroad bridges, 296 new catenary poles, 51 signal towers, 2 million cubic yards of rock, soil and muck excavated, 1 million cubic yards of concrete poured, and tunnel ventilation plants with emergency exits every few blocks. Together with the successful Third Track project and L Train rehab, what was accomplished since the 2018 overhaul of East Side Access proves the MTA is a megaproject leader."

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## Public service announcement

### [The Cost of a Stamp Just Went Up Again](#)

January 24, 2023, *nytimes.com*, by Johnny Diaz

The price for a first-class Forever stamp increased to 63 cents from 60 cents, according to the U.S. Postal Service. The last increase was six months ago.

U.S. Post Office website – calculate postage page [postcalc.usps.com](https://postcalc.usps.com).

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## News from neighborhood businesses & nonprofits

### **Björk Cafe & Bistro joins the MHNA Member Discount Program!**

Please be prepared to show your MHNA discount card when requesting a member discount.

**Björk Cafe & Bistro** at Scandinavia House, 58 Park Avenue (between 37th & 38th Street), 212-779-3587, [info@bjorkcafe.com](mailto:info@bjorkcafe.com), 25% off from 11am to Noon and 3pm to 5:30pm (dine-in only).

[Learn more about the MHNA discount program.](#)

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### **Björk Cafe & Bistro**

\*Now featuring Princess Cake on Tuesdays\* Join the new Björk Cafe & Bistro for Nordic dining at Scandinavia House! Operated by renowned chef Ulrika Bengtsson and Sabina Lindmark, Björk

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(meaning "birch" in Swedish) features beloved Scandinavian classics, American favorites with a Nordic twist, and seasonal favorites, in an updated design. Björk was recently featured in the New Yorker.

58 Park Avenue (between 37th & 38th Street)

212-779-3587

[bjorkcafe.com](http://bjorkcafe.com)

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## **Metropolitan Synagogue Family Concert & Shabbat Services**

**Friday February 3  
6 - 7pm**

Celebrating Tu Be'Shevat--Jewish Arbor Day  
with a concert celebrating nature and the environment!

Join Rabbi Plaut and Sephardi musician, virtuoso and singer Avram Pengas for a monthly concert of Jewish music and in-person Shabbat services at Scandinavia House  
58 Park Avenue  
(between 37th & 38th Streets)

Please bring a friend or two – all ages welcome!

RSVP to: [inquiries@metropolitansynagogue.org](mailto:inquiries@metropolitansynagogue.org)

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**Bubo, a sophisticated venue for cocktails, little plates with international contemporary flavors, and weekend brunch, has renovated their private party room.** The party space is two private rooms at the back of the venue, easily holding 35 people comfortably. The new look for these rooms is warm and inviting with mirrors enlivening the space, a ceiling mural reminiscent of an Italian villa, and an amazing marble-topped bar. Staff is very friendly and accommodating and will help make your event a success. Bubo is located at 515 3rd Avenue (between 34<sup>th</sup> & 35<sup>th</sup> Street), 212-532-3300, [bubonyc.com](http://bubonyc.com), [bubonyny@gmail.com](mailto:bubonyny@gmail.com). And they also do delivery and takeout. Their hours are Monday – Thursday 4pm – 1am, Friday 4pm – 2:30am, Saturday 12pm – 1am, Sunday 12pm – 11:30pm. The food is good! Even if you are not a drinker, you can enjoy this neighborhood gem. All facilities are accessible. Trivia info: Bubo is the name of the owl associated with Athena, Greek goddess of wisdom.

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through February 12

### **NYC Hotel Week**

See hotel deals for Murray Hill, Kips Bay and Midtown East hotels at [nycgo.com/nyc-hotel-week/?neighborhood=kips-bay,midtown-east,murray-hill](http://nycgo.com/nyc-hotel-week/?neighborhood=kips-bay,midtown-east,murray-hill).

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through February 12

### **NYC Restaurant Week**

See restaurant deals for Murray Hill, Kips Bay and Midtown East at [nycgo.com/things-to-do/restaurants-dining/?neighborhood=kips-bay,midtown-east,murray-hill](http://nycgo.com/things-to-do/restaurants-dining/?neighborhood=kips-bay,midtown-east,murray-hill).

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through February 12

### **NYC Broadway Week**

Browse and purchase tickets at [nycgo.com/broadway-show-tickets-nyc](http://nycgo.com/broadway-show-tickets-nyc).

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through February 12

### **NYC Must-See Week**

Offers 2-for-1 tickets on attractions, tours, museums and performing arts across the five boroughs. Learn more and purchase tickets at [nycgo.com/must-see-week](http://nycgo.com/must-see-week).

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## **Villa Berulia Restaurant**

Featuring:

**Restaurant Week** (through February 12): \$30 Lunch / \$45 Dinner

10% Discount for Murray Hill Association members

Happy Hour (3pm-7pm)

Outdoor Seating

Private Party Room

Villa Berulia

107 East 34th Street

(between Lexington & Park Avenue)

Tuesday – Friday 11:30am – 10:00pm

Saturday 4:00pm – 10:00pm

212-689-1970

[villaberulia.com](http://villaberulia.com)

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## **Benjamin Steakhouse & Benjamin Prime and the Benjamin Restaurant Group are offering special Valentine Day menus**

Learn more and make reservations at [benjaminsteakhouse.com](http://benjaminsteakhouse.com).

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**February 23 6 - 9pm**

### **Cipriani 42nd Street's annual gala, Grand Gourmet – The Flavor of Midtown®**

This event showcases Midtown East's vibrant food and beverage businesses and generates vital resources for neighborhood homeless services programs. General Admission (7pm entry): \$150, VIP (6pm entry): \$500. All tickets purchased online through Eventbrite include a 3.70% + \$1.79 per ticket Service Fee in addition to a 2.90% per order Processing Fee. Net proceeds from the event support homeless service programs in Midtown East.

at Cipriani 42nd Street. Learn more and purchase your tickets at

[grandcentralpartnership.nyc/grandgourmet2023](http://grandcentralpartnership.nyc/grandgourmet2023).

110 East 42nd Street (between Park & Lexington Avenue)

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## **Spotlight on the upcoming Primary Elections 2023!**

This information is courtesy of NYC Votes - NYC Campaign Finance Board [nycvotes.org](http://nycvotes.org), 100 Church Street, 12th Floor, New York, NY 10007. Email : Voter Questions: [nycvotes@nyccfb.info](mailto:nycvotes@nyccfb.info), Media inquiries: [press@nyccfb.info](mailto:press@nyccfb.info), Phone 212-409-1800.

We will provide more information and links as the information becomes available. This information is also posted on the [MHNA website Calendar](#).

### **What will we be voting on?**

NYC's entire City Council is on the ballot! Our city's laws begin as legislation drafted and voted on by the City Council.

In addition to the City Council, some counties will also vote for District Attorney, Civil Court Judges, Delegates to the Judicial Convention, who nominate candidates for New York State Supreme Court, and party positions.

Local elections matter. On June 27, your community's future is in your hands!

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## Ranked Choice Voting will be used in the June 27 primary election.

The New York City Council offices will use ranked choice voting.

Learn more about ranked choice voting at [nycvotes.org/how-to-vote/ranked-choice-voting](https://nycvotes.org/how-to-vote/ranked-choice-voting).

## Key Dates for the June 27, 2023 NYS Primary Election

### What you can do now

- Check your registration status at [voterlookup.elections.ny.gov](https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov) and verify that your address and political party are correct and voter status is active. It is a best practice to check your registration status before every election. Manhattan is New York County.
- Use the **Voter Registration form** to register to vote, to update an inactive voter registration status, to update your address, or to change your political party. [nycvotes.turbovote.org](https://nycvotes.turbovote.org).

### Tuesday, February 14

#### Last day to change your political party before the June 27 primary election.

In New York State, you must be registered with a political party to vote in that party's primary election. To change your party affiliation, resubmit your voter registration with the party affiliation of choice [nycvotes.turbovote.org](https://nycvotes.turbovote.org).

### Wednesday, June 7

#### Deadline to update your address.

If you move, you must notify the Board of Elections of your new address by this date to vote in the primary election. Resubmit your voter registration with your new address [nycvotes.turbovote.org](https://nycvotes.turbovote.org).

### Monday, June 12

#### Absentee ballot request deadline (online). (link not yet available)

Deadline to request your absentee ballot online or by mail. Request your absentee ballot with a mail-in absentee ballot request (interactive PDF) [elections.ny.gov/NYSBOE/download/voting/AbsenteeBallot-English.pdf](https://elections.ny.gov/NYSBOE/download/voting/AbsenteeBallot-English.pdf).

### Saturday, June 17

#### Voter Registration Deadline.

NYC Board of Elections has partnered with Turbvote to make registration easy. Register to vote at [vote.nyc/page/register-vote](https://vote.nyc/page/register-vote).

### Saturday, June 17 - Sunday, June 25

#### Early Voting

Vote early in person before Election Day! Find your early voting site and hours.

**Monday, June 26****Absentee ballot request deadline (in person)**

Find your borough Board of Elections office.

**Tuesday, June 27****Primary Election Day**

Polls are open 6am - 9pm. Find your poll site.

Deadline to return absentee ballot

Last day to postmark your absentee ballot or drop it off at a poll site. Find your poll site.

Mail-in Absentee ballots must be postmarked by June 27 to be valid.

**Tuesday, July 4****Deadline for Board of Elections to receive absentee ballots.**

The Board of Elections must receive your absentee ballot by this date. Your ballot must be postmarked by June 27 to be valid.

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## COVID-19 updates

Data taken on **1/28/23** from the COVID-19 page on the NYC Department of Health website [www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-main.page](http://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-main.page).

### Commissioner's Advisory on Prevention

COVID-19, RSV and flu are spreading in NYC this winter season. The Health Commissioner strongly recommends everyone to wear masks in all indoor public settings to reduce the spread of these viruses.

- Stay up-to-date on [vaccinations](#) for Covid-19 and flu. Vaccine Finder app [vaccinefinder.nyc.gov](http://vaccinefinder.nyc.gov).  
Get the updated COVID-19 bivalent booster.  
If you have recently been infected with Covid-19, the CDC recommends waiting until three months after your infection to receive a booster.
- Wear a high-quality mask, such as a KN95 or KF94, in public settings.

- [Test](#) before and after travel or gatherings, or if you were recently exposed to someone who has COVID-19.
- [Stay home if sick](#).  
[CDC recommends: If you have COVID-19 symptoms:
  - Test
  - Talk—talk to a healthcare professional if you are eligible for treatment
  - Treat—start treatment within 5 days of developing symptoms]
- Wash [or sanitize] your hands frequently.
- Consider additional precautions if you are at [increased risk of severe illness](#).

NOTE: CDC also recommends: Good [ventilation](#)

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Proof of vaccination and/or masks may be required by employers, businesses and nonprofits.

CDC continues to [recommend](#) that people wear masks in indoor public transportation settings at this time.

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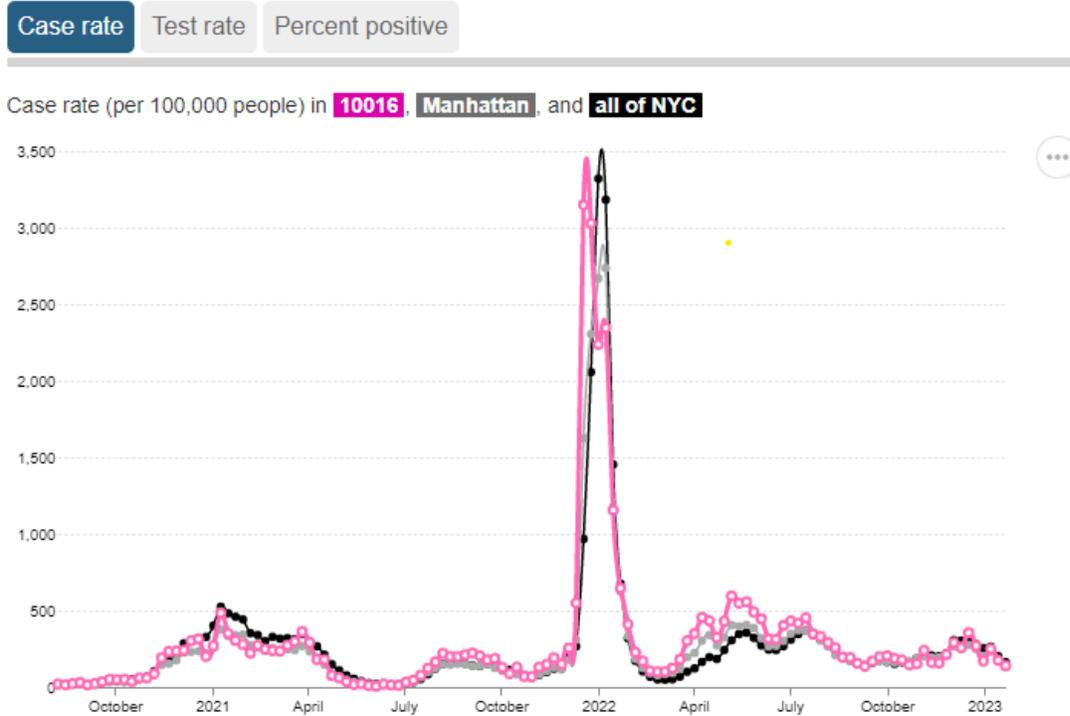
## Trends

Data taken on **1/28/23** from NYC Department of Health Covid Data page [www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-data-neighborhoods.page](http://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-data-neighborhoods.page) compares case rates for zip code 10016, Manhattan and NYC.

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## Trends

These charts compare data for your selected ZIP code to your borough and the city. They show whether the pandemic is getting better, getting worse or staying stable. The virus is considered controlled when neighborhoods have a high test rate, low percent positivity and low case rate.



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## [Long Covid Is Keeping Significant Numbers of People Out of Work, Study Finds](#)

January 24, 2023, *nytimes.com*, by Pam Belluck

Long Covid is having a significant effect on America's work force, preventing substantial numbers of people from going back to work while others continue needing medical care long after returning to their jobs, according to a new analysis of workers' compensation claims in New York State... "Long Covid has harmed the work force," said the report, by the New York State Insurance Fund, a state agency financed by employer-paid premiums. The findings, it added, "highlight long Covid as an underappreciated yet important reason for the many unfilled jobs and declining labor participation rate in the economy, and they presage a possible reduction in productivity as employers feel the strains of an increasingly sick work force."

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## Free at-home rapid COVID tests from the Federal government are now available.

Order them at [covid.gov/tests](https://www.covid.gov/tests).

Check with your pharmacist if your health plan covers the rapid at-home COVID-19 test kits (8 per month).

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## Kudos!

**Kudos to Michael-Ann Rowe**, Murray Hill Neighborhood Association Trustee, Chair of the Green & Clean Committee, and head of the Adopt A Tree initiative for Murray Hill. Michael-Ann has now also joined the St. Vartan Park Conservancy board of directors. The Adopt A Tree program had a successful fundraising campaign this fall, and worked with the NYC Parks and Forestry departments and Urban Arborists to designate 10 trees for planting in the neighborhood! Michael-Ann also spent many weekends with the Keep Murray Hill Clean volunteers to clean tree beds and curbs in the neighborhood.

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### Kudos to St. Vartan Park!

Source: St. Vartan Park Conservancy email of January 16, 2023

St. Vartan Park scores perfect city crime-free rating! New York City has released its 2022 crime data through the year's third quarter, and St. Vartan Park has earned a crime-free rating over the nine months. No complaints were reported for St. Vartan Park in the seven categories of crime detailed in a NYPD analysis of each NYC Parks space in the city.

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(better late than not to know about this—maybe next year!)

### Kudos to neighborhood organizations that participated in JanArtsNYC!

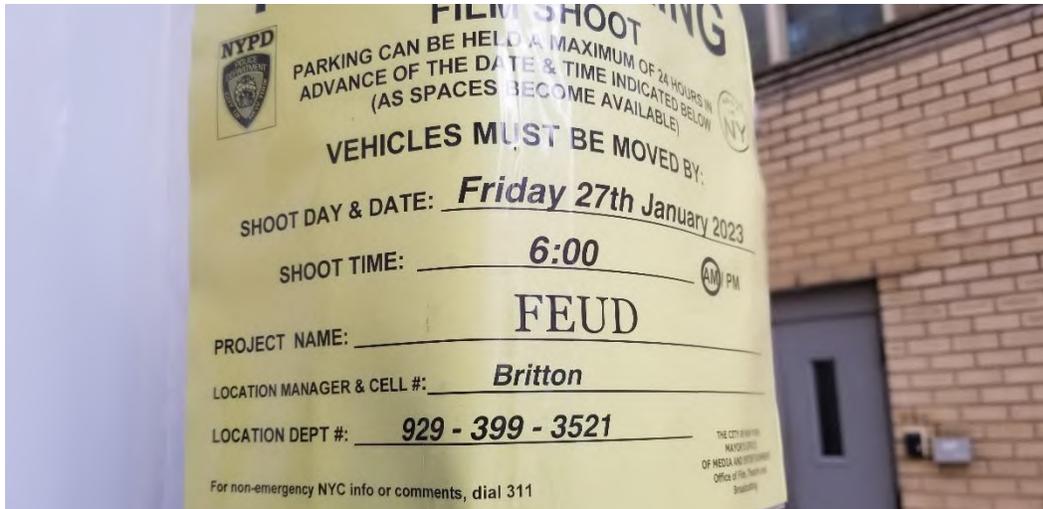
For 10 years, JanArtsNYC has helped to position January as “Performing Arts Month” in NYC, where the world’s best come annually to premiere the newest works in theater, dance, opera, music and performance. Visit the JanArtsNYC website at [janartsnyc.org](http://janartsnyc.org).

One of the participants

**Chamber Music America** develops and supports an evolving chamber music field through grant programs, professional development services, publications, networking events, an annual conference, and more. They are located at 12 West 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10001. [chambermusicamerica.org](http://chambermusicamerica.org).

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## Movie shoots in Murray Hill & Kips Bay

Murray Hill has resumed being a spot for movie shoots, which have been spotted in the neighborhood on at least three occasions in recent months. Movie shoots have also been taking place near the Copper Building and St. Vartan Park, and near the Church of the Holy Trinity. If you see movie shoots in Murray Hill, please take a snapshot of the notice and send it to [info@murrayhillnyc.org](mailto:info@murrayhillnyc.org).

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## Make your views known

**February 7 10 – 11am (comment-by date & hearing date)**

(virtual) **Public hearing: Loading Zones Regulations**

The New York City Department of Transportation (DOT) is proposing an amendment to its traffic rules to establish loading zone regulations. The growth of e-commerce deliveries and for-hire vehicle trips throughout the city has changed the way New Yorkers use curbs. Nearly 90% of goods in New York City are delivered by trucks and, with the growth of e-commerce and demand for frequent home deliveries, the amount of goods that move through NYC is estimated to grow by 68% in the next 20 years. As demand for the City's limited curb space continues to grow, trucks, delivery vehicles, cargo bikes, and personal vehicles need safe ways to access the curbs without blocking traffic, including bus routes and bike lanes. These proposed rules would provide dedicated curb space for loading and unloading activities during daytime and evening hours, which would help to reduce double parking as well as other unwanted standing behaviors. The proposed rule would update Section 4-08 of the Traffic Rules for the purpose of establishing "Loading Only" dedicated use signage. The signage would make clear to the public that the purpose of a "Loading Only" zone is for the expeditious pick-up and drop-off of goods and passengers from commercial vehicles, for-hire vehicles, and personal vehicles. The signage would also include a set time limit for the vehicle to utilize the space. Learn more about how to join the meeting and comment, and see other comments at [rules.cityofnewyork.us/rule/loading-zones-regulations](https://rules.cityofnewyork.us/rule/loading-zones-regulations). Rule full text [rules.cityofnewyork.us/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Notice-of-Public-Hearing-and-Opportunity-to-Comment-Loading-Zones-FINAL-Certifications.pdf](https://rules.cityofnewyork.us/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Notice-of-Public-Hearing-and-Opportunity-to-Comment-Loading-Zones-FINAL-Certifications.pdf).

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## **[Mayor Adams unveils proposal to convert Midtown offices into apartments](#)**

January 26, 2023, *gothamist.com*, by David Brand

Mayor Eric Adams wants to transform Midtown's ailing business district into a "true live-work community" by turning thousands of empty offices into new apartments. During his State of the City address on Thursday, Adams announced plans to lift a ban on housing in a chunk of Midtown between West 23rd and 41st streets. Transforming Midtown "means creating housing in areas that currently only allow manufacturing and office uses while protecting good jobs in the center of our city's economy," Adams said...The proposal builds on [recently released recommendations](#) from an office conversion task force, which said that the city could unlock up to 20,000 new apartments by allowing landlords to convert office buildings constructed before 1991 to residential housing...New housing is sorely needed, especially for low-income New Yorkers who struggle to find apartments as rents, evictions and homelessness rise...Adams' office conversion proposal would target Midtown Manhattan, as well as other commercial districts, like Downtown Flushing and Bronx Hub. The plan would also allow for a range of housing types, including supportive housing for people who have experienced homelessness and would require changes to city and state laws around zoning requirements.

The Mayor's Office Conversion Blueprint, [New York City Office Adaptive Reuse Study](#), January 2023, NYC Department of City Planning, Office Adaptive Reuse Task Force

## **Related: [Adams seeks to juice housing with Midtown rezoning](#)**

January 26, 2023, *therealdeal.com*, by Kathryn Brenzel

Mayor Eric Adams wants to rezone Midtown to help meet his goal of adding half a million homes citywide. In his second State of the City address...He announced that in the coming weeks, community engagement will begin on the prospect of rezoning Midtown to allow residential construction in areas that only permit manufacturing and office use...The potential Midtown rezoning follows a recommendation by a city-led task force, which noted that much of the area between West 23rd and West 41st streets is zoned for manufacturing. That prevents ground-up residential development and conversions of vacant office space for residential use. The task force also recommended that the city consider creating a tax incentive for office-to-residential conversions that include affordable housing...The administration projects that office conversions could lead to 20,000 new apartments. But that would require changes to the Multiple Dwelling Law, including lifting the cap on the city's residential floor area ratio...Politico reported that the rezoning proposal already has the backing of local Council members Erik Bottcher and Keith Powers, whose positions would determine the outcome of the city's land use review. "They are not saying not in my backyard, they are saying build in my backyard," Adams said of Bottcher and Powers. "Hats off to them."...The rezoning would include the Garment District, which was rezoned in 2018 to encourage more office space. But the new plan has the support of the area's business improvement district. "Allowing for residential in this district would significantly expand the city's housing supply, fill inevitable vacancies within office buildings, and transform the Garment District into a truly mixed-use, 24/7 neighborhood, with a full-time population filling the streets and supporting small businesses," said Barbara Blair, president of the Garment District Alliance, in a statement...The Council, which has controlled land use since a landmark 1989 court case, is a necessary partner in that effort.

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**(opinion + petition) [Push to Allow Supersized Development in NYC Returns](#)**

January 23, 2023, email from Village Preservation, with an editable petition to send to our elected representatives

Governor Hochul, Mayor Adams, the Real Estate lobby, and upzoning advocates are again pushing the state legislature to lift the long-standing cap on the allowable size of residential developments in New York City, which would enrich developers and destroy the scale of neighborhoods...The truth is, the proposal to lift the cap wouldn't result in or require the creation of a single unit of affordable housing. And it's based on the premise that the supertalls of Billionaire's Row – built under the existing cap – aren't big enough, and that current zoning, designed to allow NYC to grow to 12 million people (almost 50% more than the current city's population, which has declined precipitously since Covid), doesn't afford New York enough room to grow. In fact, huge upzonings, like the ones lifting the cap would allow, encourage the demolition of affordable, rent-regulated housing that shelters longtime residents, who are disproportionately lower income and older. Former Mayor de Blasio and former Governor Cuomo also advocated for lifting the decades-old, very generous cap on the size of allowable residential development in NYC – long at the top of the wishlist of the real estate industry. We've beaten that effort back before, but old and new forces are now pushing stronger than ever for this ultimate developer prize. And neighborhoods across New York City could all pay the price, as it would allow the city to zone for bigger-than-Billionaire's-Row residential developments anywhere in the city. If you would like to send an editable message to our elected representative, sign the petition <https://p2a.co/rrlm7vg>. Or you can write your own message—contact information for our representatives is at the bottom of this newsletter.

Related: **(opinion) [HDC Provides Feedback on NYC's City of Yes Proposal](#)**

Source: Historic Districts Council ([hdc.org](http://hdc.org)) HDC Advocacy Roundup! email of January 26, 2023  
On January 17th HDC sent a letter to the New York City Department of City Planning (DCP), and a host of other city agencies, providing feedback on DCP's *City of Yes* proposals. HDC believes in the broad goals of *City of Yes*, and [their] feedback looked specifically at how preservation can support these goals, and these goals can support preservation...[HDC] called for a more robust dialog between DCP and LPC [Landmarks Preservation Commission] regarding these regulations, and supported the *City of Yes* provision easing conversion of underused buildings into housing, because advocating adaptive reuse is integral to our work as preservationists. [HDC] also encouraged the City to favor adaptive reuse citywide, and to highlight available historic preservation tax credits in any further *City of Yes* materials.

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## Job, training, grant & internship opportunities

### **New York Times Local Investigations Fellowship – Reporter Fellow**

Full time. REQ-013598. Join The New York Times Local Investigations Fellowship as a reporter. The Times is looking for reporters with a local story idea who want to investigate it under the editing guidance of Dean Baquet, The Times's former executive editor, and a group of veteran investigative

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editors. The goal of the Local Investigative Fellowship is to provide fellows the opportunity to learn the ways and means of investigative reporting from some of the best in the business. Our fellows will be based in the communities where they are reporting and make periodic trips to The Times's offices for training and support. This one year program is for reporters in local newsrooms or freelancers. Fellows ideally will have three to five years of experience working as a beat reporter, but reporters with more experience may be considered. The most competitive candidates will be journalists who have significant experience covering a beat and have an idea for an investigative story that they have not had the time, resources or editing support to pursue. Learn more at [nytimes.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/NYT/job/Remote/Local-Investigations-Fellowship---Reporter\\_REQ-013598](https://nytimes.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/NYT/job/Remote/Local-Investigations-Fellowship---Reporter_REQ-013598).

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**January 30 (training begins)**

**'Made in NY' Post-Production Training Program: Cycle 15 begins – January 30**

The Mayor's Office of Media & Entertainment (MOME) Post-Production training program, presented in partnership with Brooklyn Workforce Innovations (BWI) and the NYC Department of Small Business Services, is part of the 'Made in NY' series of workforce development initiatives, meant to prepare New Yorkers for entry-level positions in editing, graphic design, motion graphics, and visual effects. For more information about how to apply, please visit BWI's Post-production webpage at [bwiny.org/post/apply](http://bwiny.org/post/apply).

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**February 1 (application deadline)**

**The City Dept. of Transportation (DOT) Open Call for applicants to paint public artwork on DOT property throughout New York City**

Under their Asphalt Art Activations program; selected artists may receive up to \$20,000. Learn more and apply at [nyc.gov/html/dot/downloads/pdf/dotart-asphalt-art-application.pdf](https://nyc.gov/html/dot/downloads/pdf/dotart-asphalt-art-application.pdf). Learn more about DOT Art at [nyc.gov/html/dot/html/pedestrians/dotart.shtml](https://nyc.gov/html/dot/html/pedestrians/dotart.shtml).

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**February 1 6pm**

**(virtual) Community Board 5 State Licenses & Permits Committee Meeting**

Nick Athanail, Chair, Joseph Frewer, Vice-Chair. Agenda: Recommendations from CB5's Cannabis Task Force regarding how CB5 will review adult-use retail dispensary and on-site consumption cannabis applications. Proposing revisions to CB5's comments on the Office of Cannabis Management's proposed Adult-Use Cannabis Regulations. Register for the meeting at [us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Kk43UI3PSU2IYcSiVE0B9w](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Kk43UI3PSU2IYcSiVE0B9w).

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**February 3 10am – 2pm**

**(in person) NYC Dept. of Transportation (DOT) Job Fair to fill full-time entry-level engineering positions**

RSVP at [on.nyc.gov/dotjf](https://on.nyc.gov/dotjf). Those unable to attend can complete the online form and attach their resume for consideration for future job openings and agency events. Candidates must have at least a bachelor's degree in civil, electrical, or mechanical engineering by June 2023, and be authorized to work in the U.S. The salary is \$59,125 for a 35-hour week with robust benefits.

at 55 Water St.,

Concourse Level, BID Room

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**February 4 10am – 3pm**

**(virtual) Youth Jive job, internship and volunteering expo**

Sponsored by the Wildlife Conservation Society, the nonprofit behind the city's zoos (Bronx, Central Park, Prospect Park, Queens) as well as the NYC Aquarium. It's an opportunity for New Yorkers ages 14–26 to learn about paid and unpaid positions at their facilities. Participants can attend employment workshops to gain important skills; attend career panels with a variety of WCS staff; and connect directly to hiring managers from a variety of departments. Fourteen and 15-year-olds can learn more about WCS's volunteer opportunities and how to use volunteer positions as a springboard into paid positions down the line. 16-26 year olds can meet hiring managers and learn about the many jobs, internships, and volunteer opportunities available at the WCS Zoos and Aquarium. Register at [eventbrite.com/e/wcs-virtual-youth-jive-registration-495229814707](https://eventbrite.com/e/wcs-virtual-youth-jive-registration-495229814707). Also check out WCS's job, volunteer, and internship opportunities anytime. Email [youth@wcs.org](mailto:youth@wcs.org) with questions.

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**Bryant Park job openings**

Project Director

Graphic Designer Intern

Learn more at [bryantpark.org/about-us/job-openings](https://bryantpark.org/about-us/job-openings).

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## How you can help

### Join a MHNA committee

The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association is an all-volunteer organization. We need your help to keep the Association's work going. Volunteering can be for individual events, such as the Street

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Festival, and also for ongoing activities, such as Membership. Many administrative activities can be done remotely. [Learn about the different committees](#). If you are interested in joining a committee, please email [info@murrayhillnyc.org](mailto:info@murrayhillnyc.org).

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## Ukraine aid

[New York State website with information about resources and aid for Ukrainians](#)

### State Department program Uniting for Ukraine

To help fulfill President Biden’s promise to temporarily resettle 100,000 Ukrainian refugees, the State Department has established Uniting for Ukraine, in which legal residents of the United States can apply to be sponsors of migrants under a process called Humanitarian Parole. Learn more at [uscis.gov/forms/explore-my-options/humanitarian-parole](https://uscis.gov/forms/explore-my-options/humanitarian-parole). Welcome.US, a humanitarian group for refugee resettlement, has created a [guide to the process](#) (and offers a [mailing list](#)) for people interested in becoming a sponsor. “Sponsors may apply as individuals, as a group, or as a representative of a non-governmental agency. The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) lists the [eligibility requirements](#) and the [instructions](#) for completing [Form I-134](#) (the Declaration of Financial Support).

[Source: Council Member Gale Brewer’s Update email of 4/28/2022]

**Ukrainians in the U.S. since March 1 are eligible for Temporary Protective Status (TPS)** for an 18 month period. CUNY’s Citizenship Now project is ready to help the Ukrainian community apply for this benefit. Call 646-664-6400.



The banner features the Federal Trade Commission logo in the top left corner. The main text reads: "Donating to help people in Ukraine? Check out the group or person before sending money — by cryptocurrency or any other payment method." To the right of the text is an illustration of a hand holding two coins. At the bottom left, there is a button that says "Start here: [ftc.gov/charity](https://ftc.gov/charity)".

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## For businesses, nonprofits & buildings

### **Advice for the new year from neighborhood business, Roark Tech Services, a Murray Hill Neighborhood Association business member**

Source: Roark Tech Services (info@roarktechservices.com) email SMB (Small, Medium-Sized Businesses) Technology Outlook 2023, January 3, 2023

Despite inflation, economic uncertainties, geopolitical unrest and fears of a recession, many businesses are looking toward 2023 with a sense of cautious optimism. Here is how Roark sees technology trends unfolding in 2023.

#### **Doubling Down on Cloud Technology**

In 2023 many SMB owners will integrate cloud IT into their business operations, doubling down on this proven IT investment rather than spending on unproven emerging technologies.

#### **Zero-Trust Cybersecurity**

The SMB community is still the favored target of hackers and cybercriminals because they are less likely to enact safeguards and educate their employees, which makes cybercrime much more difficult...SMB owners are adopting a zero-trust cybersecurity policy. "Zero trust" is an approach to security based on the idea of never trusting, always verifying.

#### **Creating A Sustainability Posture**

The SMB community is beginning to feel the pressure from clients and customers who are raising awareness about the importance of protecting the planet and sustaining resources for future generations.

#### **Becoming More Mobile Friendly**

Mobile devices like smartphones and tablets will increasingly become the personal and professional device of choice for clients and consumers.

#### **Adopting Software Integrations**

Business owners...are turning to built-in software integrations and platforms that allow them to automate business workflows and tasks.

#### **Investing in Digital Collaboration**

Now that it's clear that remote and hybrid work environments aren't short-term fixes, more small businesses with employees who work remotely some or all the time will invest in more robust technologies that help their teams more effectively collaborate and get the information they need.

### **Roark Tech Services**

515 Madison Avenue  
8th Floor  
New York, NY NY 10022  
212-682-3555  
[roarktechservices.com](http://roarktechservices.com)

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### **The Dept. of Small Business Services (SBS) this week announced the creation of a \$75 million NYC Small Business Opportunity Fund**

The fund will serve approximately 1,500 local businesses with loans up to \$250,000 with a low 4% interest rate and flexible terms to ensure broad access. Businesses may use the loan to refinance existing higher-interest debt, expand customer base, or hire new employees; startups will pay only

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interest for the first six months, regardless of loan size. To be eligible, businesses must have less than \$5 million in annual revenue and be located within New York City. Certain groups, such as minority, women or immigrant-owned businesses will have preference. Learn more at [sbsopportunityfund.nyc.gov](https://sbsopportunityfund.nyc.gov). To sign up for workshops visit [eventbrite.com/o/nyc-department-of-small-business-services-5423713077](https://eventbrite.com/o/nyc-department-of-small-business-services-5423713077). For more information on all services, call 888-SBS-4NYC (888-727-4692) or visit <http://nyc.gov/sbs>.

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**January 30 5pm**

**(virtual) Party Safety Tips webinar**

Council Member Erik Bottcher joins the Mayor’s Office of Nightlife and the NYC Anti-Violence Project in a session that will provide an opportunity to learn tips and best practices for keeping yourself and others safe from harm. Drug overdose deaths have reached historic highs in New York City. This can be partly attributed to the presence of deadly fentanyl in all types of drugs. It is vital that people have information about this and other dangers as well as the tools to protect themselves. Register at [us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_lxtZpt82SCOhZ8AIEGWqmA](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_lxtZpt82SCOhZ8AIEGWqmA).

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**January 31 2 – 3pm**

**(virtual) [Is Starting a Nonprofit Right for You?](#)**

(free) Presented by Candid. Featuring: Lori Guidry, Network Engagement Manager, Candid. Find out what it takes to start a successful and sustainable nonprofit. Get expert guidance, as well as to discover the free tools and resources that are available to you. Learn more and register at [learning.candid.org/training/2023-01-31-is-starting-a-nonprofit-right-for-you](https://learning.candid.org/training/2023-01-31-is-starting-a-nonprofit-right-for-you).

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**New York City Council funding for not-for-profit and religious organizations**

Source: Council Member Gale Brewer’s weekly email of January 28, 2023

The Council’s FY 24 [Non Profit Budget Training](#) for Manhattan nonprofits held Tuesday (1/24) was recorded for those who missed it. These documents were explained:

[FY24 Expense Discretionary Application](#) – Blank PDF of the application.

[FY24 Discretionary Policies and Procedures](#) – General Counsel’s formal list of rules and guidelines associated with expense discretionary funding (PDF).

[FY24 Discretionary Expense and Capital](#) - (CBO Budget Workshop) – PDF of the PowerPoint used during the training.

**January 31 1 – 3pm**

**A Budget Workshop for members of the faith-based community**

[Register for the workshop](#).

Not-for-profit community-based organizations that wish to apply for expense discretionary funding ([council.nyc.gov/budget](https://council.nyc.gov/budget)) for FY 2024 must submit a Council Application by **Tuesday, February 21, 2023**.

[Apply for FY2024 Discretionary Funding](#)

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### [Access Submitted and In-Progress Applications](#)

If an application is not submitted within the filing period, the community-based organization will not be eligible for funding. For any issues or questions regarding the FY 2024 application, please contact [discretionary@council.nyc.gov](mailto:discretionary@council.nyc.gov).

Non-City organizations applying for FY 2024 capital funding may now download and submit applications at the CapGrants portal [nyc.gov/site/capitalgrants/index.page](https://nyc.gov/site/capitalgrants/index.page). Application deadlines vary depending on the source of the funding your group has requested. [See additional information](#) on the process and deadline here.

Lastly, the Manhattan Borough President's [Capital funding application](#) is open; the submission deadline is February 23, 2023.

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### **For buildings: Your compliance checklist for Local Law 97**

Source: NYC Accelerator ([info@accelerator.nyc](mailto:info@accelerator.nyc)) email of Jan 19, 2023

With 2023 underway, owners of buildings over 25,000 gross square feet have less than one year left to meet emission limits set by Local Law 97 (LL97). Review [the NYC Accelerator] LL97 checklist to get started and contact NYC Accelerator to take advantage of free advisory services.

#### **Local Law 97 Checklist**

1. Know where you stand. Look up your building in our Building Energy Snapshot to see if its on track to meet emission limits by 2024 or if you're at risk of receiving annual fines.
2. Connect with an expert. Get free, personalized assistance from a compliance expert who can help you understand how LL97 impacts your building, identify retrofit opportunities, and develop a plan for compliance.
3. Explore incentives and financing. Speak to an NYC Accelerator Financing Specialist about incentives and financing options to help you cover the cost of building upgrades.
4. Make building upgrades. Use our Find a Contractor Tool to identify vetted service providers and design professionals in your area.
5. Meet emissions limits by 2024. Submit your 2024 benchmarking data by May 1, 2025 to meet Local Law 97 reporting requirements and avoid late fees.

Take advantage of free help for your building. Contact NYC Accelerator at [accelerator.nyc/ll97](https://accelerator.nyc/ll97).

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## **Join The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association**

Murray Hill is the Heart at the Center of Manhattan

Be a part of it!

[Join the MHNA here](#)

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## Upcoming events

January 30 7pm

**(virtual) Community Board 6 Housing & Homelessness Committee meeting**

The CB6 committee will discuss proposals by Mayor Adams and Gov. Hochul to simplify the permitting of new housing as well as discuss a proposal for CB6 to serve as a source of information and resources to tenants about their housing rights. Register for the meeting at

[us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_NKTJznO-R3uNHDplgpsHcg](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_NKTJznO-R3uNHDplgpsHcg).

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January 31 5 – 7pm

**(virtual) Rat Academy**

(free) For building supers and staff, homeowners and tenants, and management companies. This free course is open to anyone who wants to learn about rat management. Learn more at

[www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/services/rats-control-training.page](http://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/services/rats-control-training.page). Register at

[survey.alchemer.com/s3/5639842/Rat-Academy-](https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/5639842/Rat-Academy-Registration?eventid=a1Q4V00000YT8ajUAD&Programname=Pest%20Control%20Services)

[Registration?eventid=a1Q4V00000YT8ajUAD&Programname=Pest%20Control%20Services](https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/5639842/Rat-Academy-Registration?eventid=a1Q4V00000YT8ajUAD&Programname=Pest%20Control%20Services).

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January 31 6pm

**(virtual) Community Board 5 Meeting: Budget, Education & City Services Committee Meeting**

Renee Kinsella, Chair, Julie Chou, Vice-Chair. Agenda: Health & Hospital update on the Humanitarian Emergency Response and Relief Centers (HERC) sites in the CB5 district for asylum seekers.

Mayor's Office on Immigrant Affairs (MOIA) update on services available and processes for asylum seekers. Discussion of Mayor's Preliminary Budget. Register at

[us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_qe-LjIU-Q-y-UvHN\\_UKGg](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_qe-LjIU-Q-y-UvHN_UKGg).

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January 31 6pm

**(hybrid) NYPL Book Club Event! *The Revolutionary: Samuel Adams* by Stacy Schiff**

(free) Join Pulitzer Prize-winning author Stacy Schiff and Get Lit with All of It host Alison Stewart at the Library for an in-person discussion of Schiff's latest biography, *The Revolutionary: Samuel Adams*, presented in partnership with WNYC. The book, researched in part at The New York Public Library, illuminates Adams's transformation from aimless son of a well-off family to radical who

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mobilized the colonies during the American Revolution. Schiff will take audience questions—plus don't miss a special musical performance from Grammy Award–winning artist Rosanne Cash! at Stavros Niarchos Foundation Library (SNFL) & Online (in-person tickets are sold out) Register for livestream ticket at [showclix.com/event/get-lit-january-book-club-stacy-schiff/tag/nyplconnect](https://showclix.com/event/get-lit-january-book-club-stacy-schiff/tag/nyplconnect).

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**January 31 6:30pm**

**(in person) 17th Precinct Community Council meeting**

The Community Council is an open forum that welcomes residents and businesses interested in establishing and maintaining working partnerships with the New York City Police Department. at Sutton Place Synagogue. This meeting will present the annual report on crime, 2022. Save the dates for upcoming monthly meetings (Tuesdays) January 31, February 28, March 28, April 25, May 30, June 27.

at 225 East 51st Street  
(between 2nd and 3rd Avenues)

[17thprecinctcc.org](https://17thprecinctcc.org)

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**January 31 7pm**

**(virtual live) Japanese Animation in a Global Era**

(free) Exploring topics ranging from fan culture to marketing strategies in Japan vs. North America, this program illuminates the historical framework behind the anime industry and its role within an increasingly interconnected world. Mike Toole, editor at large at *Anime News Network*, and Thomas Lamarre, author of *The Anime Ecology: A Genealogy of Television, Animation, and Game Media* examine this uniquely Japanese visual media. Moderator: Julia Mechler, manga creator. Advance registration required at [japansociety.org/events/japanese-animation-in-a-global-era](https://japansociety.org/events/japanese-animation-in-a-global-era). Presented by Japan Society.

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**February 1 12pm**

**Governor Hochul presents the Fiscal Year 2024 Executive Budget**

Media details to follow.

State Capitol, Red Room

Albany, NY

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**February 1 2pm** [Reel to Read Movies: Creed \(2015\)](#)

**February 1 6pm** [Reel to Read Movies: Creed \(2015\)](#)

**February 4 2pm** [Reel to Read Movies: Creed \(2015\)](#)

**(in person) New York Public Library Reel to Read Movies**

(free) The page meets the screen at Reel to Read, a curated series of independent and classic cinema, hand-picked by librarians, local authors, and film experts, include a Recommended Reads list based on the movie. Fully accessible, assistive listening and ASL. Registration required at the links above. [See the full lineup](#). Masks recommended.

at Stavros Niarchos Foundation Library (SNFL)

Room 303

455 Fifth Avenue (40<sup>th</sup> Street)

[nypl.org/locations/snfl](http://nypl.org/locations/snfl)

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**February 1 7pm**

**(in person) Film screening: *Rashomon***

Dir. Akira Kurosawa, 1950, 88 min., 35mm, b&w, in Japanese with English subtitles. With Toshiro Mifune, Machiko Kyo, Masayuki Mori. Screening on 35mm! A riveting psychological thriller that investigates the nature of truth and the meaning of justice, *Rashomon* is widely considered one of the greatest films ever made. Based on a story by Ryunosuke Akutagawa, father of the modern Japanese short novel, *Rashomon* follows four people who give different accounts of a man's murder and the rape of his wife—brilliantly presented by director Akira Kurosawa with striking imagery and an ingenious use of flashbacks. This eloquent masterwork and international sensation revolutionized film language and introduced Japanese cinema—and a commanding new star by the name of Toshiro Mifune—to the Western world. (Janus Films). Tickets \$15 General Admission / \$5 Members (more pricing tiers). Learn more and purchase tickets at

[japansociety.org/events/rashomon-2](http://japansociety.org/events/rashomon-2).

at Japan Society

333 East 47th Street (between 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue)

[boxoffice@japansociety.org](mailto:boxoffice@japansociety.org)

212-715-1258

[japansociety.org](http://japansociety.org)

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**February 2 10am - 2:30pm**

**(in person) AARP Tax Preparation at 58th St Library (closest location to Murray Hill)**

Registration required: call 1-914-363-8510. Masks are required. Also available on (Thursdays from 10am – 2:30pm): February 9, February 16, February 23). To participate you need to: have a valid email address, bring all necessary documents and information, meet the requirements for NYC tax assistance programs or IRS VITA programs, meet the requirements for any of the following tax assistance providers: Ariva, AARP, Food Bank, Single Stop. Masks are required. Learn more about

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eligibility and what to bring, and register at [nypl.org/events/programs/2023/02/02/aarp-tax-preperation-58th-st-library](https://nypl.org/events/programs/2023/02/02/aarp-tax-preperation-58th-st-library).

at 58th Street Library  
Community Meeting Room (not wheelchair accessible)  
127 East 58th Street  
212-759-7358

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**February 4 1:30pm**

**A conversation with the artists featured in the exhibit *On the Arctic Edge: Artists Explore the Far North***

(free) Artists Marion Belanger, Clare Benson, and Steve Giovinco, whose works are currently featured in the exhibition, *On the Arctic Edge: Artists Explore the Far North*. Moderated by photographer Erika Larsen, the discussion will examine the individual experiences and work of each artist, as well as the broader perspective the exhibition brings as a collective reflection on the rapidly changing landscape of the Arctic region. Learn more and reserve your spot at [scandinaviahouse.org/events/arctic-edge-marion-belanger-clare-benson-steve-giovinco](https://scandinaviahouse.org/events/arctic-edge-marion-belanger-clare-benson-steve-giovinco).

**extended through February 18**

**Exhibit: *On the Arctic Edge – Artists Explore the Far North***

Three contemporary photo-based artists whose work traverses the regions of the Arctic Circle to probe themes ranging from time and memory, to landscape and the built environment, to science and mythology, to our changing climate. The exhibition was recently chosen as a "Must See" by *Artforum*.

at Scandinavia House  
58 Park Avenue (between 37<sup>th</sup> & 38<sup>th</sup> Street)

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**The Morgan Library & Museum**

225 Madison Avenue (between 36th & 37th Street)  
212-685-0008  
[themorgan.org](https://themorgan.org)

Timed admissions. Purchase tickets at [themorgan.org](https://themorgan.org) / Morgan Library members free. Fridays free from 5 – 7pm. [Reservations required](#). See the [MHNA Merchants Discount page](#) for details about discounts to Morgan Library events and membership.

**Exhibits**

**through February 5**

**[Georg Baselitz: Six Decades of Drawings](#)**

One of the most celebrated contemporary German artists, Georg Baselitz (b. 1938) gained international recognition in the 1960s for revitalizing figurative painting. This exhibition celebrates the gift from Baselitz to the Morgan of fifty drawings covering the span of his entire career. On display will be examples from the iconic Heroes series and fractured drawings of the mid-1960s;

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landscape and figure drawings from the 1970s, when Baselitz began turning his images upside-down to emphasize their structure and materiality over their subject; colorful pastels and watercolors from the 1980s and 90s; and a group of Remix drawings from the last twenty years, in which Baselitz revisits themes from his early works.

**through February 5**

**[The Little Prince: Taking Flight](#)**

The Morgan holds the original manuscript and art for one of the world's most widely read and cherished books, Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's *The Little Prince* (1943). Writing in exile during the second World War, Saint-Exupéry distilled his experience as a pilot into the unforgettable fictive landscape of *The Little Prince*—a world of wise creatures, headstrong plants, and lovely, lonesome deserts. Photographs, portraits, non-fiction writing, and personal effects will contextualize the author's milieu, while objects related to the book's translation and adaptation will follow the subsequent travels of *The Little Prince* across world languages and media.

**[Concerts, Talks, and More](#)**

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## Changes in the neighborhood

### **St. Vartan Park Second Avenue entrance is open**

Source: St. Vartan Park Conservancy email newsletter of January 27, 2023.

The public can now access St. Vartan Park's sports courts directly from Second Avenue, through a wheelchair-accessible entrance. The courts' East 35th Street entranceway is now closed for New York City Design and Construction street infrastructure work. The Conservancy has requested that a door be placed on the new entranceway for safety reasons, in part to stop handball, pickleball and tennis balls from rolling into the path of cyclists and motorists on Second Avenue.

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609 Second Avenue. Designed by Fischer + Makooi Architects

## **[609 Second Avenue Rises Above Street Level In Kips Bay, Manhattan](#)**

January 16, 2023, *newyorkyimby.com*, by Michael Young and Matt Pruznick

Construction is rising on 609 Second Avenue, an 18-story residential building in Kips Bay, Manhattan. Designed by Fischer + Makooi Architects and developed by The Horizon Group, the 212-foot-tall structure will span 74,528 square feet and yield 65 condominium units in studio to three-bedroom layouts with sales led by Douglas Elliman Development Marketing Group. Britt Realty is the general contractor for the project, which is located between East 33rd and 34th Streets, just south of Murray Hill. Recent photos show the reinforced concrete superstructure standing three stories above street level, with a network of formwork aiding the settling of the floor plates...The building will contain four to five units per level up to the 14th floor, and penthouses units will each span an entire floor from 15 to 18.

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175 Park Avenue. Rendering by The Boundary.

## [New Rendering Released For Project Commodore Supertall At 175 Park Avenue In Midtown East, Manhattan](#)

January 18, 2023, *newyorkyimby.com*, by Michael Young and Matt Pruznick

An updated rendering has been released for Project Commodore, an approved 85-story supertall skyscraper at 175 Park Avenue in Midtown East. Designed by Skidmore Owings & Merrill and developed by RXR Realty and TF Cornerstone, the 1,575-foot-tall mixed-use tower will replace the Hyatt Grand Central New York hotel and yield 2.1 million square feet of Class A office space, 500 Hyatt hotel rooms spread across 453,000 square feet on the upper floors, and 10,000 square feet of retail space on the ground, cellar, and second levels. The development will also include a 25,000-square-foot elevated public plaza surrounding the tower and abutting the adjacent Grand Central Terminal. If built to its current scope, Project Commodore will also wrest the title of tallest building in the western hemisphere by roof height from the Central Park Tower.

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[Vanbarton eyes life sciences project at former HFZ site in NoMad](#) (paywall)

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January 23, 2023, *therealdeal.com*, TRD New York

Dev site next to Marble Collegiate Church was foreclosed in 2021 as HFZ collapsed...One of New York's most anticipated office projects appears to be changing course. Vanbarton Group is considering developing its vacant site next to the Marble Collegiate Church at West 29th Street and Fifth Avenue as a life science project rather than an office tower.

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## Murray Hill in the news

### [Manhattan District Attorney Alvin L. Bragg, Jr., today announced the indictment of Charmaine Crossman](#)

January 19, 2023, Press Release

Manhattan District Attorney Alvin L. Bragg, Jr., today announced the indictment of Charmaine Crossman, 42, for fatally stabbing her roommate in a Midtown East women's shelter following a dispute. CROSSMAN is charged in a New York State Supreme Court indictment one count of Murder in the Second Degree. [1]

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## Schools and students

### [Thousands of NYC students lost parents to COVID. Many aren't getting the help they need.](#)

January 26, 2023, *ny.chalkbeat.org*, by Liz Donovan and Fazil Khan, Columbia Journalism Investigations

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## NYC Board of Education Public School applications

### **Need a School for your child now?**

Learn what to do on the [New Students](#) page.

Learn more at the NYC Board of Education website [schools.nyc.gov/enrollment/enroll-grade-by-grade](https://schools.nyc.gov/enrollment/enroll-grade-by-grade), including how to apply if you need a school for your child now, and the *Admissions Guide*. Get help with enrollment at [schools.nyc.gov/enrollment/enrollment-help](https://schools.nyc.gov/enrollment/enrollment-help).

- [3-K](#). Apply when your child turns three.
- [Head Start](#). For qualifying families: Head Start provides safe, positive learning environments for children ages 3-4.

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- [Pre-K](#). Apply when your child turns four.
  - [kindergarten](#) applications are closed. For children turning five. You can add kindergarten G&T programs to your kindergarten application.
  - [Gifted & talented](#). Eligible children entering kindergarten, grade 1, grade 2, or grade 3 can participate in G&T admissions.
  - [High school](#)
  - [Middle school](#)
  - [Specialized High Schools](#)
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## Policing

### Weekly crime reports

#### 17th precinct

[www1.nyc.gov/assets/nypd/downloads/pdf/crime\\_statistics/cs-en-us-017pct.pdf](http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/nypd/downloads/pdf/crime_statistics/cs-en-us-017pct.pdf)

#### 13th Precinct

[www1.nyc.gov/assets/nypd/downloads/pdf/crime\\_statistics/cs-en-us-013pct.pdf](http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/nypd/downloads/pdf/crime_statistics/cs-en-us-013pct.pdf)

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### [Governor Hochul and Mayor Adams Announce Significant Progress on Subway and Transit Public Safety Initiatives](#)

January 27, 2023, Press release

Major Subway Crime Down 16 Percent Since Cops, Cameras and Care Initiative Announced in October...Crime Rate on Subway Returning to Pre-Pandemic Levels...Second Lowest Level of Transit Crime in Any January Since 1993.

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### [Adams says he'll target 1,700 people who are responsible for violent crimes in NYC](#)

January 26, 2023, *gothamist.com*, by Samantha Max

Mayor Eric Adams said in his State of the City speech Thursday that he wants to target 1,700 people who are responsible for a disproportionate number of violent crimes in the city. "We all agree that no one should be in jail simply because they can't afford to post bail," he said. "But we should also

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agree that we cannot allow a small number of violent individuals to continue terrorizing our neighbors over and over again.”

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*A still from an NYPD video released Wednesday shows a new design for the city's patrol cars. (NYPD Video)*

### **[NYPD Green: Patrol Cars Could Get Striped Makeover](#)**

January 25, 2023, *patch.com*, by Matt Troutman

"Sometimes, even icons need an update," the NYPD tweeted Wednesday as it unveiled a potential redesign for patrol vehicles...[Police Commissioner] Sewell also said the cars also will have 360-degree cameras that can constantly monitor streets, as well as a QR code linking to the department's websites, the New York Daily News first reported. "With a new look outside and a more comfortable feel inside – this potential new design for our fleet encompasses input from our members while representing the traditions of the police department," Sewell said in a tweet. Not all New Yorkers were as optimistic about the change. "I can't really get a sense of the new design," tweeted The Bike Mafia. "Can you park it in a #bikeNYC lane so it's more realistic?"

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## **Housing, zoning, planning, preservation & affordability**

FEDERAL

### **[Biden-Harris Administration Announces New Actions to Protect Renters and Promote Rental Affordability](#)**, January 25, 2023

Today, the Biden-Harris Administration is announcing new actions to increase fairness in the rental market and further principles of fair housing. These actions align with a new [Blueprint for a Renters Bill of Rights](#) that the Administration is also releasing today. The Blueprint lays out a set of

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principles to drive action by the federal government, state and local partners, and the private sector to strengthen tenant protections and encourage rental affordability.

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## **[Senate Bill S162 \(2023-2024 Legislative Session\) Limits the authority of cities, villages and towns to impose certain zoning requirements](#)**

Source: State Senator Brad Hoylman-Sigal (hoylman@nysenate.gov) email newsletter of January 20, 2023

Governor Hochul's State of the State last Tuesday included an ambitious and progressive housing plan to build 800,000 new units of housing over the next 10 years, in part by building more transit-oriented development within a half mile of transit. [Hoylman has] a bill that helps accomplish this goal ([S162](#)) by setting robust statewide standards for local zoning. Across much of the state, our bill would legalize duplexes and four-unit buildings, allow housing to be built without unnecessary off-street parking, rein in excessive minimum lot sizes, and let more New Yorkers live near high-quality transit.

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Even migrants prefer living in housing with cooking facilities! Is this the best use for Midtown hotels in the Theater District? What about affordable housing with priority for theater workers?

## **Six Midtown hotels on west side being used to house migrants, including Row, Paramount**

### **[NYC opening sixth emergency shelter in Midtown to deal with migrant crush](#)**

January 24, 2023, *nypost.com*, by Bernadette Hogan and Nolan Hicks

### **[Workers at migrant hotel in Midtown tell Eyewitness News about safety, health concerns](#)**

January 10, 2023, *abc7ny.com*, by Kristin Thorne

### **(opinion) [This migrant mess is ruining NYC's Midtown](#)**

January 25, 2023, *nypost.com*, by Miranda Devine

### **Related: [NYC Asylum Seekers Returning to Port Authority for Help](#)**

January 16, 2023, *thecity.nyc*, by Gabriel Poblete

Migrants are coming to the bus terminal every day to seek services from the government workers and volunteers there.

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### **(opinion) [Rental Housing Can't Be Reserved for the Wealthy: New York Must Regulate the Application Process](#)**

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January 12, 2023, *gothamgazette.com*, by Khiteriara Brown, Founder and Director of Millennial Channel

If Mayor Eric Adams wants to solve New York City's housing crisis, he must challenge some of the city's most powerful players: landlords. The absurd demands that landlords place on renters is one major part of New York City's housing crisis that simply does not get enough attention...landlords typically require tenants to make 40 times the rent, have a minimum credit score of 700, and provide upfront payments of first month's rent and a security deposit – while also paying an exorbitant broker fee that is pushed onto tenants by landlords. Tenants typically need several thousand dollars upfront to rent an apartment, sometimes approaching what could be a down payment on homeownership.

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## Elections, voting & appointments

### Professionalizing the BOE (Board of Elections) with Split Shifts

New York State forces poll workers to work 16-hour shifts, unheard of in most other professions. [State Senator Brad Hoylman's] bill (S609), which passed in the NY Senate on January 10, will allow eight-hour shifts. Through this, we hope to recruit additional poll workers.

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STATE

### Reviewing Nominee for Chief Judge

Source: State Senator Brad Hoylman-Sigal ([hoylman@nysenate.gov](mailto:hoylman@nysenate.gov)) email newsletter of January 20, 2023

On January 19, as Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, [Hoylman] led a hearing in Albany to review the qualifications, background and record of the Governor's nominee of Hector LaSalle as Chief Judge of the NYS Court of Appeals, New York's highest court. While Justice LaSalle is a committed public servant and decent individual, [Hoylman] was troubled by numerous ambiguous opinions in the areas of workers' rights, criminal justice, civil rights and immigration. His nomination was opposed by a broad array of civil rights and labor organizations, including the nation's preeminent civil rights law firms, the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, NYC NOW, CWA, SEIU-32BJ, and the NYS AFL-CIO...the hearing, which lasted nearly five hours, was thorough and fair, which the nominee acknowledged. In the end, [Hoylman] voted with the majority of [his] Democratic colleagues on the committee not to advance the nomination. [Hoylman] look[s] forward to working with Governor Hochul and Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart Cousins to find the right candidate.

### Related: [Senate committee rejects Hochul's pick for NY chief judge](#)

January 18, 2023, *gothamist.com*, by Jon Campbell

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## Budget, finances & taxes

FEDERAL

### [US Treasury buys time for Biden and GOP on debt limit deal](#)

January 19, 2023, *apnews.com*, by Josh Boak

WASHINGTON (AP) – The U.S. government bumped up against its debt limit Thursday, prompting the Treasury Department to take “extraordinary” accounting steps to avoid default...The Treasury Department said in a letter to congressional leaders it had started taking “extraordinary measures” as the government had run up against its legal borrowing capacity of \$31.381 trillion. An artificially imposed cap, the debt ceiling has been increased roughly 80 times since the 1960s. “I respectfully urge Congress to act promptly to protect the full faith and credit of the United States,” Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen wrote in the letter.

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### [Where to Get Your Taxes Done for Free](#) (Wall St Journal free link):

Source: Council Member Gale Brewer’s weekly newsletter, January 28, 2023

“If you are a middle-income earner, even if you have relatively complicated taxes, you should qualify to file your taxes for free through the [IRS’s Free File program](#)...available to filers with an adjusted gross income of \$73,000 or less...you will qualify even if your taxes are more complicated and you need to access other forms or schedules...One important thing to note: The private-sector partners in the IRS free tax filing program are many of the same big tax software companies that offer free versions of their services. However, [IRS] Free File is a separate program and distinct from these company’s free online offerings...You have to access Free File through the IRS.gov Free File portal and create an account through the program. Even if you’ve used the same company’s commercial offerings in the past, you won’t be able to use your same login credentials...Taxpayers of all income levels can access [ordinary] free fillable tax forms online, although they will not enjoy the same benefits as those that qualify for Free File, such as assistance with your calculations, extensive error-checking and the ability to file a free state return. If your income is higher than the threshold for Free File and you want free tax help, check out [the WSJ] roundup of the best tax software programs, which includes details about each company’s qualifications for free filing, many of which include one state return along when you file your federal return.

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STATE

### [DiNapoli: State Tax Receipts Exceed Latest Projections by \\$7.7 Billion](#)

January 18, 2023, Press release, Office of the State Comptroller

State tax receipts totaled \$79.8 billion through the third quarter of State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2022-23, exceeding the latest projections from the Division of the Budget’s (DOB) Mid-Year Update to the State Financial Plan by nearly \$7.7 billion, according to the monthly State Cash Report released by State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli.

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# Government, executive orders, legislation, rules, policies (including pending)

## FEDERAL

### **(opinion) [As the Most Senior Jewish Member of Congress, I Now Fear Deeply for the U.S.-Israel Relationship](#)**

January 25, 2023, *haaretz.com*, by Jerrold Nadler, Rep. 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District (incl. Murray Hill)  
Rep Jerrold Nadler, Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Committee writes: The U.S.-Israel alliance is rooted in shared democratic principles. But Benjamin Netanyahu's proposed anti-democratic judicial amendments could irrevocably strain this critical relationship.

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## STATE

### **[After Second Legislative Passage, New York State Equal Rights \[Equality\] Amendment To Go Before Voters in 2024](#)**

January 24, 2023, *gothamgazette.com*, by Ethan Geringer-Sameth  
Voters in the fall of 2024 will have a chance to enshrine civil rights protections for women, LGBTQ people, and abortion access into the state constitution after lawmakers on Tuesday pass the New York State Equal Rights Amendment for the second time. If approved by voters, the state constitution will for the first time prohibit discrimination on the basis of ethnicity, national origin, disability, and sex, "including pregnancy and pregnancy outcomes, sexual orientation, gender expression." The amendment's sponsors say those protections include reproductive rights, which would add New York to the minority of states that include access to abortion in their highest governing documents. Though there is that final step to go...[it comes] 100 years after Congress first introduced the Equal Right Amendment for women to the U.S. Constitution, which has never been ratified...New York would be part of a growing number of states to adopt an ERA in recent years...Twenty-two states have adopted some form of ERA...The amendment would go further than the federal Equal Protections Clause by protecting against actions that have a discriminatory effect, regardless of intent...State Senator Liz Krueger, a Manhattan Democrat [is] the resolution's sponsor...The amendment would be "self-executing," meaning it wouldn't require further implementing legislation in order to enforce it, if it is passed by voters this fall..."Women have waited far too long to be included in our State Constitution," Senator Krueger said in a statement, "but so have LGBTQ people, people with disabilities, Latinos, and everyone who has faced discrimination based on characteristics that are beyond their control."...State constitutional amendments must be passed in two consecutive legislative terms and then be approved by voters in a referendum. Tuesday's vote marks the ERA's second passage. New Yorkers casting ballots in the fall of 2024 will be able to vote to approve or disapprove the ERA.

Source: State Senator Liz Krueger's email of January 25, 2023

If approved by New Yorkers next November, the Equal Rights Amendment will amend our Constitution to specifically prohibit discrimination on account of a person's age, disability, ethnicity, national origin, or sex including sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, pregnancy outcomes, and reproductive healthcare choices.

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STATE

**[A new amendment was introduced for Senate Bill S2888](#)**, 2023-2024 Legislative Session, relates to certain absentee ballots received by a board of elections that do not bear or display a dated postmark. For purposes of this section, any absentee ballot received by the board of elections by mail that does not bear or display a dated postmark shall be presumed to have been timely mailed or delivered if such ballot bears a time stamp of the receiving board of elections indicating receipt by such board on the day after the election. You can weigh in on this amendment at the above link.

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CITY

### **Mayor Adams State of the City Address**, January 26, 2023

The Mayor, looking spiffy as he walked to the podium at the Queens Theater used the State of the City Address to lay out his vision for the next years, spotlight his accomplishments and give many shout-outs to people he works with at various levels of government, including his own team. The audience was packed with state and city political leaders, from Governor Hochul in the front row, State Comptroller Tom Di Napoli, New York Attorney General Letitia James, City Comptroller Lander, NY State Senate Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Public Advocate Jumaane Williams, borough presidents, City Council speaker Adrienne Adams, agency commissioners, and more. The mayor made a commitment to work closely with the Governor.

### **Mayor Adams Outlines "Working People's Agenda" for NYC in Second State of the City Address**

**[Transcript and summary](#)**. Video available at: [youtu.be/xpdsCGEVBal](https://youtu.be/xpdsCGEVBal). Agenda Rests on Four Pillars That Uphold Strong and Sustainable Society: Jobs, Safety, Housing, and Care...Building on the mayor's "Get Stuff Built" plan and his moonshot goal to meet the need for 500,000 new homes across the city, the Adams administration will work with New York City Councilmembers Erik Bottcher, Keith Powers, and Kamillah Hanks to kick off two major community planning processes. In the coming weeks, community engagement will begin with the goals of creating more housing, including rent-restricted housing—in Midtown Manhattan where current zoning only allows for manufacturing and office space.

The Mayor wants to communicate directly with New Yorkers. Sign up for the Mayor's newsletter at [nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/stay-in-touch-with-city-hall.page](https://nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/stay-in-touch-with-city-hall.page).

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### **Muffler noise roadside camera enforcement program comes to NYC Council District 3**

Source: Council Member Erik Bottcher ([district3@council.nyc.gov](mailto:district3@council.nyc.gov)), email of January 5, 2023  
As you know, vehicles with illegally modified mufflers and tailpipes that emit extremely loud noise have been a growing problem in recent years... Earlier this year, [CM Bottcher] introduced City Council legislation to double the penalties for excessive motor vehicle noise violations. But fines only work if there's enforcement...The NYC Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has

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installed and activated a roadside sound meter and camera in Council District 3. According to DEP, this enforcement device has already begun issuing violations to drivers with illegally modified mufflers/tailpipes. We are having conversations with DEP about the possibility of the devices issuing violations for unnecessary horn usage. While the device's location can't be divulged (because people have vandalized/disabled these cameras in the past), we've asked that the meter be periodically moved throughout the district... Hopefully this new enforcement will result in fewer window-rattling disruptions and fewer sleepless nights for New Yorkers.

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### **“Skip the Stuff” bill passed City Council**

Source: Council Member Erik Bottcher's email of January 19, 2023

Today the City Council passed [Intro 0559-2022](#), known as “Skip the Stuff,” co-sponsored by [CM Erik Bottcher], which will require restaurants, food delivery apps, and online delivery platforms to give out single use plastic utensils, napkins, and condiments only when it is requested by the customer...this...will cut down on plastic waste and other unwanted trash and also save NYC's restaurants money every year by reducing operating costs.

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### **Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg [wrapped up his office's 2022 accomplishments](#)**

in his year-end newsletter, which also announced a revamped website at [manhattanda.org](#). There's a newsletter signup box on the home page.

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### **[City Workers Losing Patience With Slow Crawl to Union Contracts](#)**

January 27, 2023, *thecity.nyc*, by Claudia Irizarry Aponte

In the second year of the Adams administration, public employees are asking when raises might be coming – but a bitter and costly fight over retiree health care isn't over...Most city employees are now working under expired labor contracts that lapsed as far back as 2020 – frustrating rank-and-file union members whose anticipated pay raises are tied up in an escalating battle over proposed changes to retired colleagues' health coverage.

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## **Stories we are following**

Kudos to the Justice Department and the FBI!

### **[U.S. Department of Justice Disrupts Hive Ransomware Variant](#)**

January 26, 2023, *justice.gov*, Department of Justice press release

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FBI Covertly Infiltrated Hive Network, Thwarting Over \$130 Million in Ransom Demands...the Hive ransomware group...has targeted more than 1,500 victims in over 80 countries around the world, including hospitals, school districts, financial firms, and critical infrastructure...the Justice Department dismantled an international ransomware network responsible for extorting and attempting to extort hundreds of millions of dollars from victims in the United States and around the world

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## [How Congress Finally Cracked Down on a Massive Tax Scam](#)

January 9, 2023, *propublica.org*, by Peter Elkind

The recently signed \$1.7 trillion spending bill could accomplish what six years of IRS audits and DOJ prosecutions could not: shutting down “syndicated conservation easements” that exploit a charitable tax break meant to preserve open land.

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## **Council Member Gale Brewer's January 18 hearing on *Proliferation of Unlicensed Smoke Shops in NYC***

Source: Council Member Gale Brewer's Update email of January 19, 2023

Held jointly with CM Brewer's Oversight and Investigations Committee, the Health Committee (chaired by Council Member Lynn Schulman), and the Committee on Consumer and Worker Protection (chaired by Council Member Marjorie Velázquez) received testimony from NYPD, the NYC Sheriff, consumer affairs, the Dept. of Health, parents, and store owners. We learned just how prevalent it is to sell illegal cannabis from these shops. Police have identified 1,400 stores selling illegal cannabis citywide—more than Dunkin and Starbucks stores combined...Clearly, the number of legal cannabis sellers needs to be ramped up—there's only one in the state right now—to meet some of this demand, and so does enforcement against illegal sellers.

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## [The Casino–Apartment–Ferris-Wheel–Hotel Proposal for Midtown East](#)

January. 10, 2023, *curbed.com*, by Christopher Bonanos, New York's city editor

Stefan [Soloviev, heir to developer Sheldon Solow]...revealed the vision for [a five-acre stretch of land along the East River from 35th to 41st Streets] on the East River. It's showy. Three big towers (plus the one already built) with open-to-the-air amenity spaces partway up, all facing a broad green hill crowned with an enormous Ferris wheel. There will be a 1,000-room hotel and a performance space as well as a museum devoted to the history of democracy, which is a cute enough way to marry hard-core capitalism with social relevance. (The whole project will be called Freedom Plaza.) Most of all, he's gunning for the one precious downstate casino license to be doled out by New York State. The application period opened on Friday, and Soloviev is competing against potential operators at Citi Field, Hudson Yards, Coney Island, and a couple of other sites. If he doesn't get the license, the hotel-casino will become an office building instead...Soloviev has noted that a lot of discussions happened with community residents before the plan was put forward, and that greensward at the center of the development was a decent gesture...It's going to be one of those

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quasi-public private spaces, like Little Island, and will certainly have private security and minders to keep it tidy and sanitized...The casino, though, will almost surely upend any neighborhood goodwill established by the big lawn. I can't imagine a Manhattan residential area that would actively want one, even if eastern Murray Hill is less likely to get up and roar about it than, say, Tribeca would...The casino, though, will almost surely upend any neighborhood goodwill established by the big lawn. I can't imagine a Manhattan residential area that would actively want one, even if eastern Murray Hill is less likely to get up and roar about it than, say, Tribeca would...If you want to talk about civic priorities, though, it is a little dispiriting to look at the older projects flanking this one. To the north is the United Nations, built in the 1940s on a giant swath of riverbank...To the south is Waterside Plaza, the complex of chunky brick 1970s towers that went up under the Mitchell-Lama program creating middle-income housing for thousands of New Yorkers. Each took a big bite out of our finite river real estate and used it, however imperfectly, toward an ideal: global peacekeeping, housing for teachers and firefighters. The new projects, by contrast, are entirely free-market driven, and all depend on the whims of their billionaire owners...If we get something great or something gross here, it's not because we as a society have much choice in the matter; it's because we got what the Solovievs offered, entirely on their terms.

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### **(opinion) Link5G Tower roll out**

Source: Historic Districts Council ([hdc.org](http://hdc.org)) HDC Advocacy Roundup! email of January 26, 2023  
On January 12th [HDC sent a joint letter to City Hall](#) in conjunction with eight preservation colleague organizations, pressing the City for information about its Link5G Tower roll out, and questioning both the tower design and locations chosen for the program's initial phase. [The HDC] believe[s] that every neighborhood in New York deserves well-designed resources that will help all New Yorkers flourish...[they] called on the City to increase public knowledge and community engagement around this installation process by providing: (1) clarification of the process for identifying and approving locations for Link5G towers, including reviews by City agencies and how the borough presidents are informing residents of the installations and the community feedback process; (2) a detailed list of the siting limitations and requirements, with representative illustrations; (3) A list of Link5G installations to date, with equity districts noted; and (4) maps showing all installations to date at the borough, neighborhood and street scale. [They] also called on the Landmarks Preservation Commission to hold Public Hearings on those towers sited within historic districts, or adjacent to historic landmarks, and charged the City to return to PDC with global design comparisons, and to explain how sites chosen for the towers will equitably close gaps in carrier coverage, rather than benefit the carrier itself.

### **Related: [What to Know About Cellphone Radiation](#)**

January 4, 2023, *propublica.org*, by Peter Elkind

To many people, the notion that cellphones or cell towers might present a health risk long ago receded into a realm somewhere between trivial concern and conspiracy theory. For decades, the wireless industry has dismissed such ideas as fearmongering, and federal regulators have maintained that cellphones pose no danger. But a growing body of scientific research is raising questions, with the stakes heightened by the ongoing deployment of hundreds of thousands of new transmitters in neighborhoods across America...the chief government regulator, the Federal Communications Commission, relies on an exposure standard from 1996, when the Motorola StarTAC flip phone was cutting edge, and that the agency brushed aside a lengthy study by a different arm of the federal government that found that cellphone radiation caused rare cancers and

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DNA damage in lab animals. The newest generation of cellphone technology, known as 5G, remains largely untested.

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## The MHNA Discount Program

Please be prepared to show proof of membership when you ask for a discount. Full list of discounts at the links below.

### [Restaurant and Food Discounts](#)

### [General Discounts](#)

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## Our government representatives

When contacting your representative, be sure to state your address so that they know that you are a constituent. You can see the District maps and sign up for their emails on their websites.

**Manhattan Community Board 5:** [www.cb5.org](http://www.cb5.org), 212-465-0907, [office@cb5.org](mailto:office@cb5.org)

**Manhattan Community Board 6:** [cbsix.org](http://cbsix.org), 212-319-3750, [office@cbsix.org](mailto:office@cbsix.org)

**NYC Councilwoman Carlina Rivera, Council District 2:** [council.nyc.gov/carlina-rivera](http://council.nyc.gov/carlina-rivera), 212-677-1077, [District2@council.nyc.gov](mailto:District2@council.nyc.gov)

**NYC Council Member Erik Bottcher, Council District 3:** [council.nyc.gov/district-3](http://council.nyc.gov/district-3), 212-564-7757, [District3@council.nyc.gov](mailto:District3@council.nyc.gov).

**NYC Council Member Keith Powers, Council District 4:** [council.nyc.gov/keith-powers](http://council.nyc.gov/keith-powers), 212-818-0580, [KPowers@council.nyc.gov](mailto:KPowers@council.nyc.gov)

**NYC Council Member Julie Menin, Council District 5:** [council.nyc.gov/julie-menin](http://council.nyc.gov/julie-menin), 212-788-6865, [District5@council.nyc.gov](mailto:District5@council.nyc.gov).

**NYC Council Speaker Adrienne E. Adams** (speaker) [SpeakerAdams@council.nyc.gov](mailto:SpeakerAdams@council.nyc.gov), 718-206-2068 [council.nyc.gov/district-28](http://council.nyc.gov/district-28).

**Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine:** [manhattanbp.nyc.gov](http://manhattanbp.nyc.gov), 212-669-8300, [info@manhattanbp.nyc.gov](mailto:info@manhattanbp.nyc.gov)

**Public Advocate Jumaane Williams**, #GetHelp, The Office of the Public Advocate assists with complaints and inquiries involving government-related services and regulations. Telephone Hotline:

212-669-7250, email: [GetHelp@advocate.nyc.gov](mailto:GetHelp@advocate.nyc.gov)

**Mayor Eric Adams:** [www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor](http://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor), 311, online message: <https://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/mayor-contact.page>.

**Dan Garodnick, Director, Department of City Planning,** 120 Broadway, 31st Floor, New York, NY 10271, Tel. 212-720-3480, Fax. 212-720-3488, Email via website at [www1.nyc.gov/site/planning/about/email-the-director.page](http://www1.nyc.gov/site/planning/about/email-the-director.page)

**Landmarks Preservation Commission:** [www1.nyc.gov/site/lpc/about/contact-us.page](http://www1.nyc.gov/site/lpc/about/contact-us.page)

**Schedule of hearings, sign-up forms to attend and more.**

**New York Senate** website [nysenate.gov](http://nysenate.gov).

**New York State Assembly** website [nyassembly.gov](http://nyassembly.gov).

**NY State Senator Brad Hoylman, 27th Senate District, chair of the Judiciary Committee:** [nysenate.gov/senators/brad-hoylman](http://nysenate.gov/senators/brad-hoylman), 212-633-8052, [hoylman@nysenate.gov](mailto:hoylman@nysenate.gov)

**NY State Senator Liz Krueger, 28th Senate District:** [nysenate.gov/senators/liz-krueger](http://nysenate.gov/senators/liz-krueger), 212-490-9535, [lkrueger@nysenate.gov](mailto:lkrueger@nysenate.gov)

**NY State Senator Kristen Gonzalez, 59<sup>th</sup> Senate District:** [nysenate.gov/senators/kristen-gonzalez](http://nysenate.gov/senators/kristen-gonzalez), [online contact form](#), 718-765-6674, [gonzalez@nysenate.gov](mailto:gonzalez@nysenate.gov)

**NY State Assembly Member Alex Bores, Assembly District 73,** 212-605-0937, [boresa@nyassembly.gov](mailto:boresa@nyassembly.gov), [nyassembly.gov/mem/Alex-Bores/contact](http://nyassembly.gov/mem/Alex-Bores/contact).

**NY State Assembly Member Harvey Epstein, Assembly District 74,** [nyassembly.gov/mem/Harvey-Epstein](http://nyassembly.gov/mem/Harvey-Epstein), 212-979-9696, [epsteinh@nyassembly.gov](mailto:epsteinh@nyassembly.gov)

**NY Assembly Member Tony Simone , Assembly District 75,** [SimoneT@nyassembly.gov](mailto:SimoneT@nyassembly.gov), 212-807-7900.

**New York Assembly Upcoming Public hearings** [And archived videos can also be accessed on this page.] [nyassembly.gov/av/upcoming](http://nyassembly.gov/av/upcoming)

**New York Assembly Upcoming Public hearings calendar**  
<https://www.nyassembly.gov/leg/?sh=hear>

**Governor Kathy Hochul,** New York State, [governor.ny.gov](http://governor.ny.gov), contact page on website [governor.ny.gov/content/governor-contact-form](http://governor.ny.gov/content/governor-contact-form)

**U.S. Representative Jerrold Nadler, New York's (redrawn) 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District.** Manhattan Office: 201 Varick Street, Suite 669, New York, NY 10014, Phone: 212-367-7350, website contact form [nadler.house.gov/contact](http://nadler.house.gov/contact).

**U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer:** [schumer.senate.gov](https://schumer.senate.gov), 212-486-4430, website contact form: [schumer.senate.gov/contact/email-chuck](https://schumer.senate.gov/contact/email-chuck)

**U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand:** [gillibrand.senate.gov](https://gillibrand.senate.gov), 212-688-6262, website contact form: [gillibrand.senate.gov/contact/email-me](https://gillibrand.senate.gov/contact/email-me)

**U.S. President Joseph Biden:** website contact form: [whitehouse.gov/contact](https://whitehouse.gov/contact)

The White House site [whitehouse.gov](https://whitehouse.gov) is once more a trusted source for news on legislation, press releases, White House press briefings, and more. Presidential actions [whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions](https://whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions).

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You can also find these weekly newsletters online in PDF (printable) format at [www.murrayhillnyc.org](https://www.murrayhillnyc.org) in the News section, look for Weekly Eblasts 2023.

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