

UPDATE FROM [JULY 2015]

Gale Brewer

MANHATTAN BOROUGH PRESIDENT

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Our Fight for Small Business "Storefronters" in Full Swing.

Our Storefronters campaign to help preserve Manhattan small businesses is in full swing on the heels of our [Small Business, Big Impact](#) report this spring.

Two small business roundtables will be held this month, one in Hell's Kitchen on July 8 and another in the West Village on July 14, giving each neighborhood's small business owners, community stakeholders, Community Board members, and small business agencies the chance to discuss problems and brainstorm solutions.

My staff is also taking our show on the road, speaking to Business Improvement Districts, non-profits, and other civic groups throughout the borough about our proposals, including:

- Legislation that would mandate third-party mediation of lease renewals.
- Modernizing policies governing street vending to better fit the capacity of each neighborhood.
- Encouraging "condo-ization" so that more storefronters can purchase their spaces.

If you'd like to be invited to either of the roundtables or have our office speak before your group, please email or call [Ahmed Tigani](#) at (212) 669-3223.

Fresh Food for Seniors Expands for 2015 Season.

We're excited to expand our summer-long program giving older adults the chance to order a bag of fresh, locally grown fruit and vegetables from local farmers for only \$8 cash, pay-as-you-go, one week ahead of each delivery date.

We've tripled the number of locations where seniors can order and pick up their bags, now stretching from the West Village to Northern Manhattan, with nearly 40 locations. To find the one nearest you, [visit our website](#). You can also email or call [Shula Warren](#) at (212) 669-2392.

LGBT Brown Bag Luncheon Yields Action Agenda.

In honor of Pride Month in June, my office brought together young people, seniors, Community Board members, service providers, and city agency representatives for a brown bag lunch in my office to talk about what it's like to be LGBT in Manhattan. We had a great dialogue that ranged from the treatment of young people by the NYPD to the growing trans population—and the services that should be provided to support them—to making all neighborhoods more LGBT friendly.

Concrete suggestions emerged, such as ensuring that Community Boards, schools and hospitals all receive training on LGBT concerns; creating better interagency communication; finding housing for LGBT youth; and promoting libraries as welcoming hubs for the LGBT community. We look forward to bringing this group together again soon.

EVENTS

July 8 & 14: New York City Housing Authority Town Halls.

My office is hosting two town hall meetings to discuss the recently-released **NYCHA NextGeneration Plan** and its impact on NYCHA developments in partnership with NYCHA, the Community Service Society, NYCHA's tenant leadership and virtually every Manhattan elected official.

– Session for Northern Manhattan NYCHA residents: July 8
6-8pm, Hunter College School of Social Work, 2180 3rd Ave. (at E. 119th St.).

– Session for Southern Manhattan NYCHA residents: July 14
6-8pm, Baruch College Newman Conference Center 151 East 25th Street, Room 750.

Register for either event [online](#) or by phone at 212-531-1609.

July 15: Open Data Dump Day.

12-2pm, Civic Hall, 156 5th Avenue (at West 20th Street)

On the date of the annual update of **NYC's Open Data Law**, my office will lead a workshop at Civic Hall around the next phase of open data in New York: utilization of available data for community problem solving. Members of Manhattan community boards and Civic Hall members will strategize around the opportunities and obstacles in using the wealth of open data that's now

available. [Register online](#) to join us.

July 16: Annual Iftar Dinner.

6:30-9pm, Shabazz Center, 3940 Broadway (at 165th Street)

In honor of the blessed month of Ramadan, my office is again hosting a dinner to break the fast. The event will also honor Muslim leaders in Manhattan for their civic engagement and contributions to our community. Doors open at 6:30 pm, program begins promptly at 7:15 pm, dinner to follow. Please [register online](#).

July 19: Rescheduled Make Music New York Concert.

4-7pm, Carl Schurz Park, East End Avenue at 86th Street

Join the MBPO and Carl Schurz Park Conservancy for our rescheduled MMNY concert! For wheelchair access, enter at 87th or 84th Streets.

July 20: Mitchell-Lama Residents' Forum.

6-8pm, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, 524 W 59th Street

Join us for a forum on Mitchell-Lama housing as we work to foster a dialogue between tenants and relevant agencies. After a general update on Manhattan-based Mitchell-Lamas from my staff, participants will break into small groups to brainstorm questions for the City's Department of Housing, Preservation and Development (HPD) and the State Division of Housing and Community Renewal (DHCR). Monday July 20, 6 – 8 pm, at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Please [register online](#).

July 21: Lower East Side Community-Police Dialogue.

6-9pm, Manny Cantor Center, 197 East Broadway

My office is continuing our series of Community-Police Dialogues with a forum, on the Lower East Side. We'll be bringing together representatives from youth, civic, faith-based, non-profit, business and law-enforcement sectors for a solutions-driven discussion. With findings from this and previous forums in Washington Heights and East Harlem, my office will compile a report highlighting actions to improve community-police relations. [RSVP online](#) and follow the conversation on twitter: [#PoliceDialogue](#).

July 9-August 25: Arts Students League 22" x 30" Exhibit.

9am-5pm: MBPO Gallery, 1 Centre Street, 19th Floor South.

A juried exhibition of work by artists from the Art Students League of New York opens July 9 and continues until August 25. The show, 22" x 30", explores how 40 different artists

conceive and execute works that are essentially the same size. The artists work in different styles and employ a variety of mediums. Join us at the opening reception on July 9th from 5 - 7 pm.