

UPDATE FROM [JANUARY 2016]
Gale A. Brewer
MANHATTAN BOROUGH PRESIDENT

SAVE
THE DATE!
State of the
Borough, 2 PM,
Sunday, Jan. 31st
The New School
63 Fifth Ave

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**My office recommends a “yes” on MIH, “no” on ZQA;
Planning Commission to vote in early February.**

As a result of my land use staff’s extensive work on the administration’s affordable housing initiatives, I was able to obtain enough significant improvements in the Mandatory Inclusionary Housing (MIH) from the administration to recommend its adoption by the City Planning Commission and the City Council. I continue to be dubious about the impact of the administration’s “Zoning for Quality and Affordability” proposal, and recommended against approval of that program. Read my [full statement](#).

The Planning Commission is working on the issue this month (including scheduled meetings on January 11 and 19) and will likely vote on both proposals in early February. Visit the Planning Commission's [website](#) to keep track of their meetings.

Capital funding application process begins for Manhattan public schools, cultural institutions, and nonprofits – including urban agriculture programs!

Capital funding gives us the opportunity to invest in Manhattan’s future. Whether we’re fixing the roof at a branch library, renovating a playground, or building out a new computer lab at a local school, capital funding awards made by my office help strengthen our borough, our city, and improve people’s lives.

Last year, my office awarded \$30 million to fund improvements and purchases for 92 public schools, nine CUNY and SUNY campuses, and 16 public parks. This year, we’ve earmarked up to \$1 million of our overall funding pool for grants to schools to invest in hydroponics, aquaponics and other urban gardening programs.

For more information on the process, including setting up an appointment to discuss your needs, visit my capital funding [webpage](#). Deadline for applying is February 12.

Mayor signs Brewer-Rose caregiver anti-discrimination legislation into law.

The mayor has signed legislation sponsored by me and Councilmember Debi Rose to protect workers who serve as caregivers for children, elderly parents and other family members. Many workers in New York City juggle work responsibilities while also acting as a caregiver, but until now city law did not prevent employers from retaliating against those acting in these capacities.

The roots of any community's strength are family, friendship, and our ability to support and care for others. Now, when someone takes on the responsibility to care for another, they won't suffer job loss or discrimination in the workplace, which is why I'm proud the Council passed and the Mayor signed our bill.

Solid Waste Advisory Board, Community Board applications due January 29.

The **Manhattan Solid Waste Advisory Board** (SWAB) is a nonprofit, non-governmental organization dedicated to increasing recycling, reducing solid waste, and advancing sustainability policies that impact Manhattan and New York City. My office is seeking new members, and if you would like to join the Manhattan SWAB, please fill out the [online application](#) by January 29, 2016. My office will be hosting an information session at 1 Centre St., 19th Floor, on Monday, January 11 at 6:30 pm—please see the events listing below.

There are 300 slots on **Manhattan's 12 Community Boards** due to be filled this year, and any New Yorker living, working, or studying in a given Community District can apply. We're working hard to improve the mix of Community Board members; we're especially interested in appointing small business, labor, and youth representatives. Applications are available online at manhattanbp.nyc.gov/cbapply and are due by 5:00 pm January 29.

Neighborhoods.nyc community website application deadline extended to February 12.

Did you know a prime component of the new “.nyc” web domain program is a set of local neighborhood websites, which will be assigned to local community-based organizations to manage? Web addresses such as EastHarlem.nyc, GreenwichVillage.nyc, and LowerEastSide.nyc have already been reserved, and will be assigned by the city to nonprofit or other bona fide community organizations to manage. Currently, each neighborhood has a bare-bones feed—do a search at neighborhoods.nyc—with official city and transit info flowing in, but the hope and belief is that with careful editorial management, they will become a hub for local news and information—and improve civic engagement.

I encouraged the administration to extend the deadline for organizations to apply, and applications are now due Feb. 12, 2016. You can find out more, and [apply here](#).

Small Business Administration reopens Sandy disaster loan application process.

New York businesses and residents affected by Superstorm Sandy from Oct. 27 through Nov. 8, 2012 have more time to request low-interest disaster loans, the U.S. Small Business Administration announced. The new deadline to submit applications for physical damage and economic injury losses is Dec. 1, 2016.

SBA’s customer service representatives are available at Disaster Loan Outreach Centers in each of the Sandy-affected counties to answer questions and help individuals complete their applications. New York County’s outreach center is at the NYC Business Solutions Center, 110 Williams St., and is open from 9 am to 6 pm.

Applications are available online using the [Electronic Loan Application](#) via SBA’s website, by calling the SBA’s Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955, or by emailing disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Loan applications are also [available](#). Completed applications should be submitted by Dec. 1, 2016.

EVENTS

January 8: “Revenge porn” forum.

2–5 pm, LGBT Community Center, 208 W. 13th St.

I am joining with State Senator Brad Hoylman, Assemblymember Deborah Glick,

Councilmember Johnson, and the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence in sponsoring a forum on what's known as "revenge porn." This event will bring together national experts, survivors and legislators to discuss this emerging issue at the intersection of intimate partner violence, nonconsensual pornography, and cyber harassment.

January 11: Learn more about the Solid Waste Advisory Board—and apply!

6:30–8 pm, 1 Centre Street, 19th Floor South

Learn more about the Manhattan Solid Waste Advisory Board—a non-governmental organization working to increase recycling, reduce solid waste, and advance sustainability policies—at an info session Monday, January 11, 2016. Please RSVP at swabinfosession.eventbrite.com or 212-669-3060.

January 19: Uptown Manhattan Youth Council info session.

4:30–6:30 pm, Adam Clayton Powell State Office Building, 163 W. 125th St., 2nd Floor Art Gallery

If you know of a Manhattan teen who's interested in our city, please have them RSVP to attend this important event. I want to hear young peoples' concerns about our future, and have them advise me on what matters most in their lives. Please RSVP at bit.ly/ManhattanYouthCouncilSignUp.

Art Students League Annual Show continues until January 27.

1 Centre Street, 19th Floor South

The Art Students' League annual "Small Works" show continues in my office Gallery through January 27, 2016. The works on exhibit include painting, drawing, and mixed media. The exhibit is on view during normal business hours.