

District Manager's Report January, 2021

RECENT UPDATE ON VACCINE: The COVID-19 vaccine is now available to certain groups in NYC. The following groups have recently become eligible:

- People ages 65 and older
- Teachers and education workers
- First responders
- Public Safety Workers
- Public Transit Workers

[Learn which groups are currently eligible for the vaccine, and which may be eligible next.](#)

Mayor's Office Reported: *Eligible New Yorkers in Phases 1A and 1B can reserve their vaccine appointments at nyc.gov/VaccineFinder or by calling 877 – VAX – 4NYC*

Over 100,000 COVID-19 vaccine doses were administered in New York City last week, Mayor Bill de Blasio announced today, surpassing the City's initial benchmark goal. This comes as New Yorkers 75 or older and frontline essential workers such as teachers and education workers, childcare staff, first responders, public safety workers, and public transit workers are now eligible to get the free COVID-19 vaccine. Eligible New Yorkers in Phase 1A or 1B can reserve their appointment by calling 877 – VAX – 4NYC or visiting nyc.gov/VaccineFinder.

New Yorkers can now make their vaccine appointments using the City's [Vaccine Finder](#), launched yesterday, which aggregates all vaccination locations open to the eligible public citywide into a single, accessible five-borough network, including:

- City-run sites, like the NYC Vaccine Hubs and 24/7 the City has opened and continues to open,
- as well as private provider locations, not run by the City, but accessible to eligible individuals for appointments

This helpful tool allows New Yorkers to access the vaccine however works for them, at locations they know and trust in their own communities. Eligible New Yorkers who wish to make an appointment over the phone can do so by calling 877 – VAX – 4NYC between the hours of 8:00 AM - 9:00 PM, seven days a week.

Phase 1A priority groups also continue to be eligible for vaccines including healthcare workers and staff with direct patient contact, emergency responders, staff at COVID-19 testing and vaccination locations, home health aides, and long-term care staff and residents, among others.

HHC Test and Trace Reported: Test and Trace is providing in-person and virtual community events with the Test and Trace Unit's Manhattan Outreach Team. Also, each week their team hosts events called **Get Tested Tuesday** - a Day of Action dedicated to a targeted community such as seniors or youth, etc. In addition, Test and Trace has contracted local CBOs and canvassers who are working tirelessly, on a daily basis, to connect with NYC residents.

If you are hosting an in-person or virtual event - such as a community stroll, Zoom meeting, or testing site – Test and Trace would be happy to partner with groups. Volunteers who wish to assist, or have an event in the near future, please email details to Lorean Valentin, Manhattan Borough Outreach Director, via email: ValentiL8@nychhc.gov.

New York City Office of Emergency Management kicked off *Ready Up NYC*, a monthly webinar series focused on providing preparedness tips to all residents of New York City for any emergency that may come their way. On Thursday, January 14 the agency's Ready New York team hosted the first webinar geared at helping New Yorkers identify items that should be included in their emergency Go Bag. Go Bags are essential to any emergency plan, and should include a collection of items needed in the event you must leave your home quickly during an emergency. Please watch the webinar at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=stOo-qG-omI&feature=youtu.be>.

During the webinar, the Ready New York team highlighted the three basic steps to emergency preparedness: making a plan, gathering supplies and staying informed. Participants learned about important items they should pack in their Go Bags including first aid kits, flashlights, water, and nonperishable foods. The presenters also discussed the importance of creating individualized Go Bags for every member of the home including children and pets. New Yorkers can request a virtual Ready New York training for their organization, workplace, or house of worship by visiting, <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/em/ready/request-event.page>.

READY NEW YORK

Ready New York is NYC Emergency Management's public education campaign. Through the program, you can learn about the hazards you may face in New York City and prepare for all types of emergencies by writing an emergency plan, choosing a meeting place, gathering supplies for your home, and preparing a Go Bag in case you need to leave your home in a hurry. For more information on how you can stay prepared visit, <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/em/ready/ready-new-york.page>.

Department of Design and Construction Reported: Montefiore Park and Plaza Project # HWPLZ003M The New York City Department of Design and Construction (NYCDDC) is managing the reconstruction of the Montefiore Park and Plaza.

This reconstruction involves the expansion onto Hamilton Place to create a pedestrian plaza, replacing existing 36” Trunk Main along Broadway and replacing existing 12” and 20” Water Mains along Broadway and W.138th Street. The anticipated completion date for this project is June 2021. Work is completed to date the crews completed a “Final Restoration” including curbs, sidewalk, and roadway on Broadway between W.135 & W. 139th Street, and on W.138th Street between Broadway & Amsterdam Ave.

The crew has also worked on the installation of a New Park Granite Retaining Wall on Broadway between W. 137th & W. 138th St. as well as a New Park Granite Header on Hamilton Pl. between Broadway & W. 138th St. There was Trench excavation for the removal of abandoned Con Edison Gas Main on Hamilton Pl. between Broadway & W. 138th St. Contractor installed New Park Sewer Manholes, Catch Basins, and Basin Connections on Hamilton Pl. between Broadway & W. 138th St. and street lighting and traffic signal work on W.138th St. between Broadway & Hamilton Pl. as well as on Broadway between W. 136th St. and W. 138th St.

Proposed Scheduled Work involves the following:

- Excavation for the removal of abandoned Con Edison Gas Main on Hamilton Pl. between Broadway & W.138th St.;
- Installation of new park catch basins and 12” basin connections on Hamilton Pl. between Broadway & W.138th St.;
- Installation of new park granite header including concrete cradle on Hamilton Pl. between Broadway & W.138th St. (pictured below);
- Installation of new park street lighting on Hamilton Pl. between Broadway & W.138th St.;

As well as beginning installation of new park precast concrete paving on Hamilton Pl. between Broadway & W.138th St.

George Bruce Library NYPL Reported: It is extending their suspension of overdue fines for any physical material currently checked out. Fines will not accrue until at least June 30, 2021. Additionally, patrons with library cards set to expire will not have to renew their cards until at least June 30, 2021.

[Visit us online](#) to learn more about the Library's policies and procedures during our partial reopening or contact [Ask NYPL](#) if you have any questions. Download the new NYPL app, available on [iOS](#) and [Android](#), to review your account information, use contactless checkout, and more.

[**NEW! 125 NYC Books We Love**](#)

As the Library wraps up its 125th anniversary year, check out our love letter to the city we call home.

Please Note: The Booklist of 125 NYC Books We Love (noted above) is at the top of the link. once you click on it. Please disregard all programming that you see below the booklist.

[New Checkout Procedures](#)

The Library is now offering three safe socially distant ways for patrons to check out their holds and other materials. Starting November 9, all patrons must check out items before leaving our branches, using either our staff-assisted process or express self-checkout stations, or the new NYPL app.

Bring your library card—[download our mobile app](#)—when you visit the library.

[Shelf Help](#)

Tell our librarians your reading interests and they'll choose five books for you. The Library has got you covered!

UPCOMING VIRTUAL EVENTS @ GEORGE BRUCE

For Adults:

[Online Portrait Drawing Class](#)

Wednesdays January 6,13, 20, 27, and February 3 at 6:00 pm

Explore your artistic potential with **Learning how to draw a PORTRAIT**; a series of online workshops based on classical atelier drawing technique

For Teens:

[Teen Open Book Discussion](#)

Tuesday, January 26 at 4 pm.

Please join us for a teen open book discussion. It's not about a specific book. Bring whatever you are reading.

[Help with Library Resources for Teens](#)

Tuesdays, January 5, 12, 19, at 4 pm and 26 at 3 pm.

Need help using NYPL databases for your homework? Make an appointment for 30 minutes to speak with a YA librarian on Google Meet. Pre-registration is required. You will need a valid library card and PIN. Registration is open to teens 13-18 years old.

VARIOUS FEATURED INITIATIVES

Best Books of 2020

The New York Public Library is proud to present our Best Books of 2020. Our annual recommendations for kids, teens, and adults, curated by our expert librarians, encompass fiction, nonfiction, graphic novels, poetry, kids' books in Spanish, and much more. Discover our top 10 books in five categories, then explore the lists in full.

Announcements/Upcoming Events and Donations in and around the district:

COVID-19 Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL)

SBA is currently accepting new **Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL)** applications from all qualified small businesses, including agricultural businesses, and private nonprofit organizations.

You can request for Reconsideration if you receive a declined letter. You can also request for Increase if you can prove you need more than you have received.

**If you have already applied via the streamlined application portal, please do not resubmit your application.*

***Deadline has been extended to: November 30th, 2023**

Respectfully Submitted by:

Eutha Prince
District Manager