

# DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT

## NOVEMBER/2023

**Mayor's Office Reported:** Mayor Adams signed a bill to create the largest - and best - outdoor dining program in the United States, Dining Out NYC - Now what?

### What is Dining Out NYC?

Dining Out NYC is New York's permanent outdoor dining program.

Dining Out NYC builds upon lessons learned and will:

- Expand sidewalk dining to all boroughs — year-round
- Allow roadway dining for eight months a year
- Provide restaurants with clear design requirements
- Be managed by the New York City Department of Transportation (NYC DOT)

### When can I apply for outdoor dining?

Restaurants can apply in early 2024 via NYC DOT's online application portal.

### What is Dining Out NYC's current status?

The program is in the rulemaking process.

Proposed Dining Out NYC rules:

- Describe the application process for outdoor dining setups;
- Explain where dining setups can be located;
- Outline the types of materials that can be used, and Establish other requirements for outdoor dining setups;

NYC DOT new rules for outdoor dining released on October 19<sup>th</sup>. To review the rules in advance go to: [\*\*https://www.diningoutnyc.info/rules\*\*](https://www.diningoutnyc.info/rules)

DOT will hold its public hearing on the proposed rules online. The hearing will take place on November 20, 2023 at 10:00 am. Join Zoom

Meeting: [\*\*https://zoom.us/j/94117065380?pwd=M0xUVGhpVzFFVlF3S3NrUnA0NHhtQT09\*\*](https://zoom.us/j/94117065380?pwd=M0xUVGhpVzFFVlF3S3NrUnA0NHhtQT09) Meeting ID: 941 1706 5380 Password: 384818  
or join via phone: +1 646 518 9805 Meeting ID: 941 1706 5380 • Password: 384818

You may join the meeting or submit comments on the proposed rules in advance. To review the rules and for information on how to submit comments, go

to: <https://www.nyc.gov/assets/home/downloads/pdf/press-releases/2023/DOT%20Outdoor%20Dining%20Proposed%20Rules.pdf>

**Department of Health Mental Hygiene (DHMH) Reported:** The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene released a [Commissioner’s Advisory](#) for residents, providers and people who use drugs, urging action amidst a historically high number of overdose deaths in the city. [Newly released data](#) shows that overdose deaths increased by 12% from 2021 to 2022 and Fentanyl — an opioid 50 to 100 times stronger than morphine — was detected in 81% of drug overdose deaths in New York City.

Data shows persistent disparities in overdose deaths by age, race, poverty level and neighborhood of residence.

Black and Latino/a New Yorkers had the highest rates of overdose death and the largest increases in rate from 2021 to 2022. Black New Yorkers between the ages of 55 and 84 had the highest rate of overdose death compared to Black New Yorkers in other age groups, and New Yorkers of any age. Residents of the South Bronx neighborhoods of Crotona-Tremont, Hunts Point-Mott Haven, and Highbridge — continued to experience the highest rates of overdose death citywide.

For the first time, the Health Department reported on overdose deaths by setting. Approximately 60% of overdose deaths occurred in the person’s own or someone else’s home and 16% occurred in a public setting.

In response to the crisis, the New York City Health Department issued a Commissioner’s Advisory recommending that New Yorkers:

- Carry naloxone and know how to use it;
- Talk to their loved ones about substance use and overdose risk;
- Avoid using drugs alone and
- Keep all drugs — including medications — safely stored.

Past Commissioner’s advisories have focused on other public health emergencies such as COVID-19 and RSV.

Anyone can attend a Health Department training and receive a free naloxone kit. Naloxone, fentanyl test strips and xylazine test strips are also available for free at syringe service programs - comprehensive hubs that connect people who use drugs with a range of basic needs, social supports, and physical and mental healthcare - and Opioid Overdose Prevention Programs citywide.

[Care, Community, Action: A Mental Health Plan for New York City](#), released in March 2023, included overdose prevention as a central pillar and set a goal of reducing overdose deaths by 25% by 2025. To achieve this goal, the city committed to supporting comprehensive prevention, harm reduction, treatment and recovery services to reduce the risk of overdose and other drug-related harms. Since the launch of the plan in March, the city has:

- Launched the city's first [public health vending machine](#);
- Opened a [Buprenorphine Clinic at NYC Health + Hospitals/Gotham Health, Vanderbilt](#);
- Distributed more than 77,000 naloxone kits and hosted 38 naloxone trainings;
- Provided drug-checking services at five sites citywide and distributed tens of thousands of fentanyl and xylazine test strips;
- Provided 24/7 peer-led nonfatal overdose response services at 14 emergency rooms across New York City;
- Provided financial support and technical assistance to 14 syringe service providers in all 5 boroughs;
- Expanded hours and services at the nation's first 2 publicly recognized overdose prevention centers, where staff have effectively intervened more than 1,000 times to prevent overdose-related injury or death;
- Supported more than 85 preventions, substance use disorder treatment and recovery programs citywide; and
- Increased access to buprenorphine in primary care, emergency department, harm reduction, and homeless outreach settings.

The Harlem Bureau of Neighborhood Health within DOHMH has resources for the community and our partners to combat overdoses in our communities. We have Fentanyl and Xylazine (Tranq) test strips. We also provide Narcan and facilitate Narcan trainings. We have a limited supply of test strips. I've included the link to order a supply of test strips through MATTERS - We encourage you to place an order for your own supply.

**Please contact the Harlem Bureau of Neighborhood Health if interested in receiving a limited supply of strips or scheduling a Narcan training for your organization. They also welcome you to share your organization's experience with this crisis, and how the DOHMH Harlem Bureau can be supportive.**

[Link to Order Fentanyl & Xylazine Test Strips](#)

Also included are various links with more information below:

DOHMH Fentanyl Resource Webpage  
 Fentanyl Fact Sheet (English)  
 Fentanyl Fact Sheet (Spanish)  
 What is Xylazine?

**George Bruce Library Reported:** [George Bruce branch](#) will be closed for approximately four months, beginning November 20, to facilitate improvements to the building, including replacing the branch's flooring. The branch's last day of service before work begins will be November 18. The library is expected to reopen in early 2024.

During this temporary closure, patrons are encouraged to use the following nearby branches:

- [Harlem Library](#) (9 West 124th Street) & Fully accessible
- [Morningside Heights Library](#) (2900 Broadway) & Fully accessible
- [Harry Belafonte–115th Street Library](#) (203 West 115th Street) & Fully accessible

While the branch is closed, staff will be hosting select programs virtually or at alternative locations in the neighborhood. For upcoming events, please visit the Library's [event page](#).

### **HRA Reported: EBT Skimming Replacement Benefits Deadline Extension**

Previously, the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) stated that the below households impacted by electronic benefit theft had until October 31, 2023 (or 30 days from the date of discovery) to submit claims for replacement benefits.

- Households that had SNAP benefits stolen from October 1, 2022, to August 20, 2023 **and/or**
- Households Cash Assistance benefits stolen from January 1, 2022, to August 20, 2023.

**Effective November 1, 2023, the deadline for these households has been extended through December 31, 2023.**

Retroactive claims submitted through December 31, 2023 (or 30 days from the date of discovery) for the theft periods above will be considered timely and eligible for replacement (so long as all other conditions are met).

All other retroactive claims which fall outside of the periods listed above must be submitted within 30 days from the date the household discovered the theft.

Visit OTDA's [website](#) or HRA's [Benefit Replacement page](#) for more information on the extended submission dates.

### **IDNYC**

Launched in 2015, IDNYC is the largest and most successful municipal ID program in the country!

IDNYC is a card for all New Yorkers, regardless of immigration status. IDNYC benefits all city residents, including the most vulnerable communities - unhoused, youth, formerly incarcerated, and others who may have difficulty obtaining government-issued photo ID. The IDNYC card is free for all New Yorkers.

The free, municipal identification card for New York City residents, ages 10 and up, provides access to a wide variety of services and programs offered by the City. For cardholders 16 and older, cards are valid for five years from the date the application was approved. For cardholders under the age of 16, cards are valid for two years from the date the application was approved. IDNYC cardholders enjoy **benefits and discounts** offered by businesses and cultural institutions

across the five boroughs. IDNYC can be used as your public library card, to access your own and your child's immunization records, and to open a bank account at select financial institutions.

You can schedule an appointment through **IDNYC's Online Portal** to apply for an IDNYC in person at an IDNYC Enrollment Center or an IDNYC Pop-Up Enrollment Center. Appointments are highly encouraged. During your appointment, you will fill out an **application** and present proof of identity and New York City residency. Many types of documents are accepted, all of which are listed on the **Document Calculator**. After you submit your application, and the application is approved your card will be sent to you in the mail.

Do not delay submit your renewal application online. Learn **how to renew** your card today. To enroll, visit one of the IDNYC **locations** near you.

### **City Services for Asylum Seekers Arriving in NYC**

As of October 29, 2023, over 136,500 asylum seekers have gone through the system and been offered a place to rest at night since last spring. Over 65,600 asylum seekers are currently in the City's care. The City has opened 210 emergency shelters, including 17 large-scale humanitarian relief centers. This does not reflect the total number of asylum seekers in New York City, it does not include those who are staying with family, friends, and networks here after being connected.

Additional information on the City's efforts to support asylum seekers can be found **here**.

### **Ride for Half Price – Fair Fares**

Fair Fares NYC is a City program that offers eligible New Yorkers, regardless of immigration status, a 50% discount on subway and eligible bus fares or Access-A-Ride paratransit trips.

Fair Fares is open to all eligible New Yorkers aged 18-64 at or below the Federal Poverty Level without discounted transportation from the MTA or the City. The program's NYC residency requirement does not include a minimum timeframe. Many of the Department of Homeland Security documents provided to asylees are accepted as proof of identity.

District Attorney of New York (DANY) Reported: The creation of the Special Victims Division Advisory Council (“the Advisory Council”) to allow the District Attorney and his staff to gain input from a large variety of external stakeholders on a quarterly basis. The Advisory Council includes more than a dozen representatives of advocacy, survivor services, and legal services providers, and is led by Co-Chairs Maria Lizardo, Executive Director of the Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation (“NMIC”), and Judge Judy Harris Kluger, Chief Executive Officer of Sanctuary for Families.

### ***The Advisory Council -The member-driven Advisory Council will meet quarterly to:***

Provide advice and input on topics related to the work of the Special Victims Division and other areas of the D.A.'s Office,

Identify and recommend strategies to enhance the support and engagement of survivors of crime in cases handled by the Special Victims Division as well as the Office's other Divisions, and Communicate feedback from Manhattan stakeholders, including the members' organizations, survivors, and other community organizations.

Members serve on a volunteer basis for a two-year term. The Advisory Council's membership reflects the diversity of Manhattan and includes members who represent organizations that serve a range of communities, including underserved geographic communities.

***Manhattan D.A.'s Special Victims Division:***

D.A. Bragg created the Office's first Special Victims Division, elevating the role of our Intimate Partner & Sexual Violence Bureau, and the Child Abuse, Human Trafficking, and Elder Abuse Units. The Division includes specially trained Assistant D.A.s, as well as investigators, analysts, and social workers who work exclusively on these extremely sensitive cases. In line with its mission to center survivors, the Special Victims Division is helmed by leaders with expertise in providing services to survivors and implementing trauma-informed policies.

**Did You Know:**

Alternate Side of the Street Parking will be suspended on the following days:

- Friday, November 10th - Veterans Day (Observed);
- Saturday, November 11th - Veterans Day;
- Sunday, November 12th - Diwali  
Parking meter rules remain in effect;
- Thursday, November 23rd - Thanksgiving Day - Parking meter rules are suspended on Thanksgiving Day

**Covid-19** is still a serious threat to public health, and getting vaccinated is one of the most effective ways to protect yourself, your family and community. We urge everyone to get information about the Covid-19 vaccine, as well as flu and pneumonia shots. Many pharmacies offer the vaccine at no cost, and appointments are easy to make. Please be aware that anyone trying to sell the Covid-19 vaccine or promote a tablet or capsule alternative is not legitimate.

If you need assistance with vaccinations, please call **212-COVID19 212-268-4319**

**Respectfully Submitted by,**

**Eutha Prince  
District Manager  
11/09/23**