

# District Manager's Report

## April, 2026

**OCM Reported:** The Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) is currently building their 2026 public education campaign focused on supporting teens, families, and trusted adults. This work is grounded in what they heard through community Listen and Learn sessions and reflects a shift toward supporting families as they navigate conversations around cannabis. As part of this effort, OCM is seeking original artwork from young people and authentic photos from New Yorkers to be featured in the campaign.

**OCM is looking for:**

- Artwork from young people (18 and under) that reflects wellness, connection, support, and healthy choices
- Photos of teens, families, and trusted adults that capture everyday moments—conversations, hiking, time spent together, etc.

**Selected submissions may be featured in campaign materials used across New York State, including digital, print, and community-based education efforts. This is an opportunity to help the campaign reflect the lived experiences of the communities it serves.**

**Deadline for submissions: April 30.** Submissions can be sent to: [casting@bellweather.agency](mailto:casting@bellweather.agency)

**How you can help:**

- Share the attached/amplify OCM's art/photo submission posts across social media with your networks
- Forward this email to partners, educators, youth-serving organizations, and community groups
- Reach out directly to young people, families, and creatives who may want to participate
- Amplify through your newsletters, listservs, and community channels

**EDC Reported:** NYC Economic Development Corporation, in partnership with NYC DOT and NYC Parks, is working to enhance and expand the greenway network and provide high-quality, continuous biking and walking facilities for New Yorkers in all five boroughs.

To find more information, please visit the project website: <https://edc.nyc/citywide-greenways>

This initiative is just getting underway, and community input is being sought from a diverse set of New Yorkers. Sharing your thoughts in the 5-minute survey will help EDC understand how these spaces are used and will shape the future of greenways in New York City.

**SSA Reported:** On information shared about the **Federal Communications Commission (FCC)** and **Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) Lifeline Program**, a federal initiative that helps make **phone and internet services more affordable for low-income households**.

Eligible participants can receive a **monthly discount of up to \$9.25**, while residents living on Tribal lands may qualify for an **enhanced discount of up to \$34.25 per month**. The program aims to improve access to online services and essential resources.

Individuals, who receive benefits such as **Supplemental Security Income (SSI)**, **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**, or **Medicaid**, as well as households earning **135% or less of the Federal Poverty Guidelines**, may qualify.

Clients are encouraged to **check eligibility and apply through USAC**, and once enrolled, to create a **“my Social Security”** account for secure and convenient access to their Social Security records and services.

As more services move online, SSA recognizes that accessing these services can sometimes be challenging for their clients. SSA wants to share information about the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) Lifeline program, which may be helpful to the people they serve. This federal initiative is designed to make phone and internet services more affordable for low-income households, ensuring that more individuals have the connectivity needed to access important resources and services online. Eligible consumers can receive a monthly discount of up to \$9.25. Consumers living on Tribal lands are eligible for an enhanced discount of up to \$34.25 per month, making it even easier to stay connected and access essential services. Individuals receiving Supplemental Security Income, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Medicaid, and other Federal Assistance programs, as well as households with income of 135 percent or less than the Federal Poverty Guidelines are eligible. Clients can visit Home - Universal Service Administrative Company to check their eligibility and submit an application. Once enrolled, clients can create a personal my Social Security account, ensuring safe, secure, and convenient access to their Social Security records and online services. SSA will continue to make more services available with an account.

**Small Business Services (SBS) Reported:** Applications for NYC Department of Small Business Services (SBS) Commercial Revitalization Grants are now open. These grants offer funding to help Community Based Organizations (CBOs) across the city to enact programs and delivery services to increase foot traffic on commercial corridors, enhance the public realm, and build organizational management and leadership capacity.

**Grants include but are not limited to:**

- **Merchant Organizing Grant**: Funding to support projects that aim to form new merchants associations or revitalize existing ones.
- **BID Development Grants**: Funding for the staffing, planning, and implementation of a Business Improvement District (BID) formation or expansion proposal
- **Small BID Support Grants**: Funding to support smaller BIDs address issues of resource access and equity across the city
- **Avenue NYC Commercial Revitalization Grants**: Funding to CBOs conduct carry out a Commercial Needs Assessment (CDNA) and programs targeting commercial districts in LMI communities.
- **Public Realm Grant**: Funding for CBOs to design, produce, and install creative streetscape improvement projects on commercial corridors such as lighting, public art, or wayfinding.

To learn more, please visit their application site to see the [list of grants](#) and and share with CBOs in your district. Feel free to post the [link](#) or the [application site](#) on your social media. Please reach out to [intergov@sbs.nyc.gov](mailto:intergov@sbs.nyc.gov) with any questions.

**Department of Transportation (DOT) Reported:** Milling and Paving operations in Community District 9 began on March 30, 2026. To facilitate this work, the Department of Sanitation (DSNY) **temporarily removed** Empire Bins located outside approximately 30 buildings, beginning Thursday, March 26.

Impacted Empire Bins **received** their final service on Wednesday, March 25, after which they **were removed** for the duration of DOT's roadwork. Beginning March 26, affected buildings **temporarily returned** to citywide setout rules, placing trash in black garbage bags curbside after 8:00 PM the night before their scheduled collection day. Recycling and compost setout rules **remained** unchanged.

Once DOT **completed** the paving work, Empire Bins **were reinstalled** within a few weeks. No Parking signs **were posted** 3–5 days prior to reinstallation, and buildings **resumed** using their Empire Bins as soon as they **were returned**.

DSNY **conducted** extensive outreach to the affected buildings later that week, including door-to-door canvassing, phone calls, and emails. A flyer with additional information **was finalized** and **was shared** when available.

**DOT Milling and Paving Locations:**

- W 150th Street between Edgecombe Avenue and Riverside Drive
- Amsterdam Avenue between W 154th Street and W 145th Street
- St. Nicholas Place between W 153rd Street and Edgecombe Avenue

**Department of Parks & Recreation (DPR) Reported:** Mayor Mamdani has announced that **St. Nicholas Park – 133rd Street Playground** is one of ten sites citywide selected to receive capital investment through the Community Parks Initiative (CPI) for Fiscal Year 2027.

Through this initiative, **St. Nicholas Park will receive \$14.8 million in funding** to support improvements to the playground, barbeque area, basketball courts, and handball courts. This investment reflects a strong commitment to the Harlem community and the importance of maintaining and improving our local parks.

The funding is made possible through contributions from the **Mayor's Office, former Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine, and Council Member Yusef Salaam**.

The Community Parks Initiative focuses on bringing critical capital improvements to underserved neighborhood parks. We look forward to sharing more information as planning and community engagement begin so that local voices can help shape the future of this space.

**DSNY Reported:** Property owners must clean sidewalks (including areas like tree pits, grass strips, etc.) and gutter areas (18 inches from the curb into the street) along the building perimeter.

- If you fail to keep the sidewalks and gutters near your property clean and unobstructed, **you may be fined up to \$100**.

Litter and sweepings must be picked up and placed in bins with secure lids for collection. Public DSNY litter baskets may not be used for this purpose.

We inspect sidewalks during specific times of the day. Sidewalk cleaning enforcement times depend on the type of property.

Although enforcement agents will issue tickets for dirty sidewalks and gutters only during the specified times, they may issue tickets for all other violations at any time.

DSNY employees may not be obstructed when they are sweeping or cleaning a street or removing trash, recycling, snow, or ice. Violators may be fined.

**Residential property enforcement occurs during a 1-hour time period twice a day, 7 days a week.**

- 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM
- 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM

**Commercial property enforcement times are limited to two 1-hour periods per day.** The exact times depend on your address. Although the commercial routing times vary by where the business is located, all commercial premises should be maintained (the sidewalk and the area 18 inches from the curb) at the beginning and end of the day. This makes good business sense and helps keep the community clean.

**NOTE:** When businesses are closed, they must arrange to have the area maintained.

**Look up commercial enforcement routing times for a specific address.**

For more information about the specific commercial enforcement routing times for a particular location, call 311.

**Mixed-use properties are used for both residential and commercial purposes.**

Enforcement times depend on the use of the **first floor** of the building.

If the business on the first floor is operating, we issue tickets during commercial routing times for the address.

**NOTE:** If the business on the first floor is permanently closed or vacant, we can only issue tickets during residential routing times.

**Look up commercial enforcement routing times for a specific address.**

**The Department of Sanitation (DSNY or the Department) is proposing to amend its rules** regarding its program for the collection of commercial waste to include the implementation schedule for the Brooklyn North and Upper Manhattan Commercial Waste Zones (CWZ).

DSNY will hold a public hearing on the proposed rule. The public hearing will take place via Microsoft Teams at 10:00AM on Friday, May 8, 2026 using the following

link: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/25995452089903?p=Kkhd0pdIjAzoGDIHxY>

Meeting ID: 259 954 520 899 03

Passcode: 5yV37xp2

Dial in by phone +1 646-893-7101, 495029528# Phone conference ID: 495 029 528#

Anyone can comment on the proposed rules by:

· Website. You can submit comments to the DSNY through the NYC rules Web site at <http://rules.cityofnewyork.us>.

· Email. You can email written comments to [nycrules@dsny.nyc.gov](mailto:nycrules@dsny.nyc.gov).

· Mail. You can mail written comments to DSNY, 125 Worth Street, Room 710, New York, NY 10013.

**MTA Reported:** As a reminder, **MetroCard sales ended on December 31 2025**, marking the full transition to the contactless Tap and Ride system and OMNY. Customers can no longer buy or refill a MetroCard but can still use the balance on their MetroCards until they expire. All customers who were enrolled in the Reduced Fare program were directly mailed replacement Reduced Fare OMNY cards.

**At a Later in 2026, buses will no longer accept coins as payment.** The exact date will be shared ahead of time. Instead, customers can tap and ride using their OMNY card, phone, or

contactless debit or credit card. OMNY cards can be reloaded with cash or coins at OMNY vending machines in subway stations or at participating retail locations near you like Walgreens or CVS. If there is a local business or retailer in your district that would be a good candidate for the OMNY retail network, you can nominate them at this link. There is no cost for a store to participate.

As a reminder customers can transfer balances from MetroCard to OMNY, apply for the Reduced Fare program, buy or refill an OMNY card, and learn more about tap and ride at Customer Service Centers which are staffed 24/7. New Customer Service locations have opened throughout the system to provide customers with information and support. Customers can also visit the MTA at our Mobile sales buses and vans deployed at scheduled locations and times across the boroughs.

In addition, the MTA is visiting senior centers, older adult clubs, organizations, and community hubs across the five boroughs to help communities make the transition.

#### **Upcoming Events/Announcements:**

**NYCEM's 14th Annual Community Preparedness Symposium: Stronger Together in Emergencies** will be held on **Tuesday, April 21, 2026 @9:00 am - 3:30 pm** at the **CUNY Graduate Center**.

This free, in-person event that will bring over 200 community and faith-based leaders together to share strategies that will strengthen local preparedness, response, and recovery efforts. **Register here at [on.nyc.gov/2026symposium](https://on.nyc.gov/2026symposium).**

On **Tuesday, April 28, 2026 @12:00 - 1:00 PM**, **Ready New York** will be hosting a flood preparedness webinar for faith leaders with the **New York Disaster & Interfaith Services (NYDIS)** and **Neighbors Helping Neighbors**.

Designed for clergy, faith leaders, and administrators responsible for community safety and sharing, this webinar will go over the essential strategies needed to lead your house of worship and congregation through preparing for, responding to, and recovering from flood events.

**Register here at [on.nyc.gov/RNYfloodWebinar](https://on.nyc.gov/RNYfloodWebinar)**

#### **Job Announcements:**

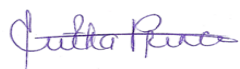
NYC Emergency Management has a variety of vacancies within multiple bureaus across the agency – the jobs summaries below are grouped by bureau. For the full job description, go

to [NYC.gov/jobs](https://nyc.gov/jobs) and search by the Job IDs listed below, or scan the QR code to be taken the NYCEM Careers site to learn more. [jobs@oem.nyc.gov](mailto:jobs@oem.nyc.gov).

**Alternate side of the street parking will be suspended on the following days.** Parking meters will remain in effect:

- Thursday, April 9 - Passover/Holy Thursday, Orthodox
- Friday, April 10 - Good Friday, Orthodox

Respectfully Submitted by,



Eutha Prince  
District Manager  
04/16/26