

# DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT

## NOVEMBER, 2022

**MTA Reported:** NYPD and MTA Police to surge officer presence on platforms and trains by approximately 1,200 overtime shifts each day. Officers will be present at over 300 stations during peak hours new, dedicated units at psychiatric centers will address street and subway unhoused population with severe mental illness new training for MTA Police, NYPD, EMS/EMT on best practices for engaging unhoused population, authority for transporting individuals in need of psychiatric evaluation.

New York Governor Kathy Hochul and New York City Mayor Eric Adams announced expanded initiatives to keep New York City subways safe and address transit crime. The initiatives include a significant investment from the State's public emergency fund and a commitment to work with the city on a dedicated revenue source to support additional police presence in the subway system. NYPD and MTA will surge officer presence on platforms by approximately 1,200 additional overtime officer shifts each day on the subway equating to approximately 10,000 additional overtime patrol hours every day as well as two new dedicated units at psychiatric centers to help provide those experiencing serious mental health illness with the assistance they need.

MTA recently announced that Reduced-Fare customers can now put their reduced fare benefit on any personal payment device compatible with OMNY, becoming the first major transit system to offer reduced fares on personal payment devices. Seniors and people with disabilities who qualify for Reduced-Fare will now have more choice on how to pay their fare on public transit. The MTA is enabling customers to make this switch online, anytime from anywhere, in three easy steps.

Ahead of this system wide launch, the MTA successfully conducted a multi-month soft launch, in which several hundred Reduced-Fare customers switched from MetroCard to OMNY online and used OMNY on subways and buses. The MTA solicited feedback from these customers to develop customer resources and instruct call center staff to ensure riders have a seamless transition to OMNY.

By using a contactless card or smart device, Reduced-Fare riders benefit from increased accessibility to the transit system in a variety of ways. Customers will no

longer need to track a card that must be replaced upon expiration nor pre-load value onto a MetroCard. OMNY also gives Reduced-Fare customers the opportunity to benefit from the MTA's ongoing "Lucky 13" fare capping program, where customers ride free after 12 paid OMNY taps in a week from Monday to Sunday.

Reduced-Fare customers can make the switch from MetroCard to OMNY seamlessly online with the OMNY digital assistant, available 24/7 at OMNY.info. This process takes three easy steps – a how-to video for customers who want to switch to OMNY can be seen [here](#).

Customers can visit omny.info and create a free OMNY account. From the homepage, customers should navigate to the Digital Assistant (or "chat") and input their Reduced-Fare MetroCard information. Once the information is included, customers should select the contactless credit, debit card or smart device they would like as their OMNY payment method and put in an associated card number. When a "SUCCESS" message appears, the customer is now good to tap and go with OMNY and receive reduced fare on that card or device.

The OMNY call center is available to assist customers with the process as needed.

The MTA will soon also launch locations to help customers make the switch to OMNY in-person. In addition, for customers who do not have their own contactless payment cards or mobile devices, or who prefer to use a physical OMNY card, the MTA will begin providing free Reduced-Fare OMNY cards to eligible customers in 2023.

**Mayor's Office Reported:** New York City Mayor Eric Adams and Schools Chancellor David C. Banks recently outlined their long-term vision for Early Childhood Education (ECE) and the rapid-response plan to stabilize the ECE sector. To help the network of community-based ECE providers manage the effects of the pandemic and the glut of seats in some areas, Mayor Adams and Chancellor Banks have committed to paying all community programs at least 75% of the value of their FY22 contracts with New York City Public Schools. In addition, NYC Public Schools and the Mayor's Office are partnering to provide 1:1 support from a Rapid Response Team that will help community providers submit invoices and get paid promptly.

To stabilize the sector, all community based ECE providers will be paid at least 75% of their FY22 contract values, regardless of enrollment, when providers work with us to address outstanding invoices. To meet this important goal, they are immediately kicking off a service sprint to meet providers where they are with the resources they need to navigate the invoicing process. Currently, there is an estimated \$120 million in funding for providers sitting in unsubmitted FY22 invoices.

Over the next two weeks, the Mayor's Office is deploying a Rapid Response Team of highly experienced, cross-functional analysts and operational personnel to provide expeditious, one-to-one supports to individual providers to ensure that they can get up to date on submitting invoices and begin receiving payments. The Rapid Response team, which will also be supported by City resources, will:

- Conduct weekly meetings until all FY22 invoices are submitted and providers are up to date on FY23 invoices;
- Provide 1:1 virtual support session,
- Provide personalized in-person visit to the providers' workplace,
- Meet providers at a borough office near their place of residence or work for scheduled support sessions.

With these new structures in place, it will ensure that providers are supported in staying up to date on invoice submission and process all invoices within 30 days of receipt, moving forward. They are also conducting a comprehensive, community-based analysis of seat demand which will be used to drive the future allocation of infant, toddler, 3K and Pre-K seats, inclusive of students with disabilities. This assessment is projected to be completed by spring of next year.

Since January, they have been working to better support their providers by re-allocating empty seats to better meet community and family needs, and expediting invoice payments, but many of our providers are still grappling with financial stress created by the pandemic and a surplus of PreK and PreK and 3K seats, in many neighborhoods. Our early childhood programming relies on a network of nearly 1,000 community-based providers, many of which are small non-profits run by women of color. These providers are our partners in this work but have been financially strained by the lack of adequate support and misallocation of seats across the city of the previous administration, resulting in under-enrollment, which destabilized early childhood programming across the five boroughs.

By actively addressing outstanding payment issues in our system, they are creating the capacity needed to pivot our focus to providing high quality, safe early childhood program for more of our youngest learners. Through this work NYC Public Schools will:

- Build a comprehensive ECE program that sees and caters to all our children, with a focus on serving children with special-education needs.
- Address funding concerns presented by the previous administration's use of one-time federal stimulus money to expand 3K seats.
- Work with our ECE providers to address any gaps in our current PreK/3K seat distribution to better meet the needs of our communities.
- Reform and address concerns around the procurement and contracting process that is cumbersome, time-consuming, and overly complex.

George Bruce Library Reported: In the Spotlight at the New York Public Library

### **Introducing! Teens 360° at the Library**

Our new Teens 360° initiative offers a holistic support package for teens, including resources for achieving academic success; welcoming, well-equipped spaces for building skills and developing creative projects; a wide array of materials for learning and exploring extracurricular interests; and mental health support.

In our branches across the Bronx, Manhattan, and Staten Island—as well as our newly expanded Teen Centers in select locations—we offer millions of books and e-books, tech and digital tools, and more to equip teens with what they need to succeed both today and in the future.

### **Back to School with NYPL**

The New York Public Library is here to support kids and teens of all ages—plus educators, parents, and caregivers—with free programs and resources in our branches and online. Explore everything the Library has to offer kids and teens all year round—from story times and free homework help to paid opportunities for teens, learning tools, and fun, engaging activities to help you develop your skills.

### **Technology, Jobs, and Education**

From ESOL classes to small business help, the Library has a wide range of resources to help you learn new skills, explore our collections, and stay connected—all from home.

### **Did You Know? Late Fines Are Gone for Good!**

Say goodbye to late fines and hello to the Library! We've eliminated all fines, past, and future, to ensure access and opportunity for all.

### **Multilingual Resources at The New York Public Library**

The New York Public Library welcomes people from all backgrounds and celebrates the rich multicultural diversity that defines New York City. The Library is committed to helping recent immigrants and bilingual and multilingual communities navigate our array of free services and resources for all ages.

### **OTHER RESOURCES AND VIRTUAL SERVICES**

#### **Download NYPL's App**

Get the power of The New York Public Library, anytime, anywhere. With the NYPL app, you can access everything the Library has to offer from home or while you're on the go.

#### **Shelf Help**

Discover The New York Public Library's new personalized book selection service! While browsing is limited, we offer a friendly, adventurous alternative. Tell us your reading interests and we'll pick five books for you!

#### **E-Books & Audiobooks**

SimplyE, the Library's free e-reader app, makes it easy to browse, borrow, and read more than 100,000 e-books with your library card. Plus, New York state residents who don't have a library card can sign up for one through SimplyE.

[Download SimplyE on iOS](#)

[Download SimplyE on Android](#)

#### **Expanded Research Collections**

Access more than 800 online databases for free—many available for use from anywhere—when you log in with your library card. Discover anything and everything from scholarly journals and historical archives to our Digital Collections.

[Discover](#)

#### **Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Reported:** The Health

Department's community sexual health clinics are re-launching with expanded services, including rapid testing for [sexually transmitted infections \(STIs\)](#) and HIV PrEP continuity of care.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Health Department sexual health clinics opened their doors for COVID-19 testing and vaccination. The pandemic response showcased the need for robust public health infrastructure. For example, in 2019 the Health Department opened its Quickie Lab at its Chelsea Express clinic, a state-of-the-art system that provides rapid testing for chlamydia and gonorrhea using the state-of-the-art Cepheid GeneXpert platform—with test results within hours instead of days. Those same machines were able to be deployed for rapid COVID-19 testing beginning in the summer of 2020. Cepheid machines were installed in the Health Department’s other Sexual Health clinics to enable rapid COVID-19 testing throughout the city. Now the Health Department has started to repurpose those machines for rapid chlamydia and gonorrhea testing.

Quickie Lab services have returned to Chelsea Express and we recently opened our Fort Greene Express Clinic for STI testing. Currently four of the city’s eight clinics are providing sexual health services. Corona clinic will be the fifth and opened this week.

In addition, by late November, the Corona clinic will offer [HIV PrEP](#) (pre-exposure prophylaxis) continuity of care—the first Health Department clinic to do so. Currently our Sexual Health clinics offer PrEP initiation, with referrals to other health care providers for ongoing care. Our Corona clinic will now offer ongoing PrEP services to patients, including routine periodic testing and monthly prescriptions.

Health Department Sexual Health Clinics have also been on the frontlines of the [MPV](#) response, serving as an important safety net provider, particularly during the early months of the outbreak when few providers offered MPV care. The clinics quickly incorporated MPV screening, testing, and treatment into their suite of services. Beginning November 14, the Fort Greene, Jamaica, Chelsea and Morrisania clinics will offer MPV vaccination to patients, as part of the City’s shift to incorporating MPV vaccination into routine medical care.

STIs such as gonorrhea, syphilis, and chlamydia are common and curable. However, if left untreated, they can cause lasting health effects, including infertility and chronic pelvic pain. Syphilis can cause vision and hearing loss, dementia, paralysis, and can be passed from a pregnant person to their fetus (congenital syphilis). Having an STI can also make it easier to get or transmit HIV. Most STIs have no signs or symptoms early on, so it is important to get tested routinely or if indicated, and treated promptly. Using condoms during sex can help prevent STIs, and PrEP is a safe and effective medicine to prevent HIV.

The NYC Sexual Health Clinics continue to provide low- to no-cost services for sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV. Anyone who is 12 or older can receive services, regardless of immigration status. No parental consent is necessary. If you do not have health insurance or cannot pay the sliding scale fee, you can still get services.

**Department of Sanitation Reported:** Trash, curbside composting and recycling collection will be picked up on Veterans Day, Friday, November 11, 2022.

Residents who normally receive Friday trash, curbside composting or recycling collection may place their material at the curb between 4 p.m. and midnight Thursday evening, for collection beginning Friday. Residents may experience collection delays, as is common after holidays.

The Department of Sanitation will be collecting leaves in paper lawn & leaf bags or in unlined rigid containers.

Leaves, grass, branches, and yard clippings can be placed for curbside collection on the following days in Community Board 10. Set out leaves curbside in paper lawn/leaf bags or unlined bins after 4 p.m. the evening before these days:

- **Sunday, November 20th, and**
- **Sunday, December 4th, 2022**

**NYC Civic Engagement Commission (CEC) Reported: THE PEOPLE'S MONEY Citywide Participatory Budgeting** Since launching The People's Money, the CEC & our 82 partners have held over 370 idea generation sessions, engaging over 8,000 New Yorkers in the participatory budgeting process. CEC has seen over 900 ideas proposed for the 5 boroughs and over 1,000 ideas for the 33 TRIE neighborhoods. **Friday, November 18th is the last day to submit an idea for an expense project in your borough or neighborhood!** You can find an updated list of the events that will be happening in your neighborhood and/or borough [here](#). If you can't make it to a virtual or in-person event, you can also submit an idea online at [participate.nyc.gov](https://participate.nyc.gov).

CEC Public Meeting will be held on November 29th this meeting will be held virtually to provide updates to CEC Commissioners and New Yorkers on their core program areas, including the People's Money: Citywide Participatory Budgeting, as well as highlight the agency's work to provide language access assistance to



voters during the recent November General Election. For more information, please [visit the CEC website](#).

### **Did you Know??**

November is Alzheimer's Awareness Month NYC raises awareness for the more than 6 million Americans affected by [Alzheimer's disease](#) There are over **6 million** Americans living with Alzheimer's Disease with 3 million new cases diagnosed each year.

- Alzheimer's is deadlier than **breast cancer and prostate cancer combined**.
- The disease is most prevalent in **women and Black Americans**.
- **11 million** Americans act as unpaid caregivers for a loved one diagnosed with Alzheimer's.
- **Fewer than 1 in 5** Americans are familiar with mild cognitive impairment, which can be an early stage of Alzheimer's.

**Alternate Side of the Street Parking will be suspended** on Friday, November 11, 2022 in Observance of Veterans Day; however, parking meters will remain in effect.

**Property owners are responsible for cleaning the sidewalk in front of their property** and 18 inches into the street. This includes the areas around and about catch basins.

Cleaning near catch basins will allow a clear path for rainwater, potentially avoiding flooding during storms, especially during the fall when the leaves come down. Read the complete DSNY Cleaning Laws [here](#) to learn more about cleaning outside your property, routing times, penalties, etc.

**Employment Opportunities:** The MTA NYC Transit Authority is hosting an OPEN HOUSE for Elevator & Escalator Maintainers on Saturday, December 3, 2022 Doors Open at 9:00 a.m. Last On-Site Interview is at 2:00 p.m. Arrive no later than 1:30 p.m. to be considered for an on-site interview.

**JOB DUTIES:** Elevator & Escalator Maintainers, under supervision, perform frequent and routine maintenance, inspection, testing, alteration, and repair of



electric and hydraulic passenger and freight elevators, escalators, and associated electro-mechanical equipment in MTA NYC Transit stations, shops, and buildings; prepare reports; operate a motor vehicle; and perform related work.

**REQUIREMENTS:** • NYS Elevator Mechanic License • Motor vehicle Driver License valid in the State of New York with no restrictions • Three (3) years of full-time Journey-level experience (fully trained, knowledgeable, proficient, and competent mechanic) repairing electric/hydraulic elevators and/or escalators, or a satisfactory equivalent • Work authorization for the United States.

Respectfully Submitted by:

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MCB9