

District Manager's Report

September – 2026

Mayor's Office Reported: Mayor Zohran Kwame Mamdani announced the appointment of the Commission on Government Efficiency (COGE), a Charter Revision Commission focused on improving how City government works for New Yorkers.

COGE will examine ways to:

- Improve government efficiency and effectiveness
- Modernize City government
- Ensure government keeps pace with New Yorkers' needs
- Strengthen public service and excellence

The Commission held public hearings across all five boroughs to hear directly from New Yorkers. Following this public engagement, COGE will advance its proposals for consideration by voters on the November ballot.

Department of Finance (DOF) Reported: The New York City Department of Finance (DOF) has adopted Immediate Amendment of Rule Relating to Surcharge on Certain Non-Primary Residences an emergency rule, effective **August 3, 2026**, that extends the application period and expands the methods by which eligible property owners may apply for an exemption from the surcharge on certain non-primary residential properties. The rule was adopted pursuant to the emergency rulemaking procedures under Section 1043(i)(1) of the New York City Charter and the Department's rulemaking authority under Charter Sections 1043 and 1504, and Chapter 32 of Title 11 of the New York City Administrative Code.

The rule will be published in the **City Record** and is available on the Department of Finance website and through NYC Rules.

DOT Reported: Trick-or-Streets returns for its fifth year in 2026, bringing harvest and Halloween-themed activities to neighborhoods throughout New York City. Taking place across the entire month of October, the initiative transforms Open Streets, plazas, and other public corridors into engaging, pedestrian-friendly destinations.

The 2026 Trick-or-Streets initiative offers communities a festive way to celebrate the harvest and Halloween season while promoting pedestrian-friendly streets and public spaces. With activities throughout October and the introduction of neighborhood walking tours, the fifth annual program provides new opportunities for community engagement, local exploration, and seasonal celebration across New York City. This seasonal program is designed to create additional pedestrian space during the Halloween season and leading up to Halloween, one of the busiest nights of the year for NYC streets.

DOT works with community partners to organize festive events and activities throughout the city. Trick-or-Streets provides residents, families, and visitors with opportunities to gather, socialize, and enjoy the season in welcoming, car-free public spaces.

A new opportunity in 2026 is the ability for participating partners to organize neighborhood-walking tours. These tours can showcase local culture, history, landmarks, community stories, and other neighborhood points of interest.

Trick-or-Streets supports stronger neighborhood connections by creating opportunities for people to gather and celebrate together outside of traditional indoor spaces. The program also encourages walking, exploration, and the use of public spaces while highlighting the unique character of NYC neighborhoods.

DOHMH Reported: NYC Health Department launched a [new public awareness campaign](#) encouraging New Yorkers to keep themselves and their family healthy by signing up for low- to no-cost health insurance through the department's free health insurance enrollment services. Through the campaign, the department seeks to expand health insurance coverage among underserved communities, making affordable health services more accessible to those who need them most. In total, over 5 million people in New York City are currently insured through low- or no-cost health insurance plans. Many of these New Yorkers may be eligible to renew or assess their options for health insurance in the near future.

The NYC Health Department provides free enrollment assistance through certified counselors to support individuals and families in enrolling in low- or no-cost health insurance through the New York State of Health Marketplace. Enrollment counselors offer guidance on health insurance and care options, assist with choosing a health plan and primary care provider, and help with renewing health insurance. Additionally, enrollment counselors can help with applications for other benefits, including SNAP. Services are available in multiple languages and accessible to everyone, regardless of immigration status.

This campaign comes at a critical time as changes at the federal level continue to impact people's health insurance coverage. Several changes in federal laws and funding threaten to cause hundreds of thousands of New York City residents to lose coverage. Starting January 2027, Medicaid work requirements will go into effect for certain Medicaid beneficiaries. Additional changes, such as more frequent eligibility redeterminations, will make it harder for many Medicaid beneficiaries to stay enrolled.

Anyone who fears they may be at risk of losing their coverage may contact an enrollment counselor for free. To connect with an NYC Health Department enrollment counselor, call 347-665-0214 or visit nyc.gov/healthcoverage.

DSNY Reported: DSNY Residential Waste Containerization Program -The New York City Department of Sanitation (DSNY) is proposing a citywide program to containerize residential waste collection to improve street cleanliness and reduce rodent activity. The program would

apply to residential buildings receiving DSNY collection services across all five boroughs, as well as schools in Manhattan Community District 9 and Brooklyn Community District 2.

Under the proposal:

- Buildings with **10–30 residential units** could use either stationary on-street containers or individual rigid bins with tight-fitting lids (up to 55 gallons) for refuse.
- Buildings with **31 or more residential units** would be required to use stationary on-street containers for refuse.
- Schools in **Manhattan CD 9** and **Brooklyn CD 2** would use stationary on-street containers for all waste streams, including refuse, organics, recycling, and paper/cardboard.

The program would be implemented in phases, with full citywide implementation expected by **June 1, 2032**. The initiative is intended to support cleaner streets, reduce food sources for rodents and other pests, and advance the City's broader efforts to improve waste management and neighborhood quality of life.

DSNY Reminder: The **NYC Bin** is the official trash container for properties with **1–9 residential units**, as well as some larger buildings. While separate NYC Bins are available for recycling and composting, their use for those materials is not currently required.

As of **June 1, 2026**, properties with 1–9 residential units are required to use only official NYC Bins when setting out trash. A warning period was in effect through **September 7, 2026**, with **full enforcement beginning September 8, 2026**.

Official NYC Bins are available for pickup at participating **Home Depot** stores or can be ordered online for delivery through Home Depot's on-demand delivery partners. Property owners and residents should ensure they have the appropriate NYC Bin and comply with the City's containerization requirements to avoid enforcement issues.

George Bruce Library Reported: **George Bruce Library** is welcoming the community this fall with special programs, events, and resources for all ages.

During **Library Open House Week (Sept. 10–19)**, visitors can explore special events, programs, and resources in many languages. New and existing library users can also receive free giveaways by signing up for a library card, checking out two books, or completing a special activity.

Upcoming highlights include:

- **Sept. 14:** NYPL After School begins
- **Sept. 15–Oct. 15:** Hispanic & Latinx Heritage Month
- **Oct. 5:** Little Learners Program begins

- **Oct. 4–10:** Banned Books Week
- **Oct. 7:** Teen College Fair at The Stephen A. Schwarzman Library

Visit the George Bruce Library at **518 W. 125th Street, New York, NY 10027** to participate and learn more.

Hamilton Grange Library Reported: The New York Public Library's After School program is offering free educational and enrichment activities for children ages **6–12**. Children can enjoy:

- Homework help and book recommendations
- Fun writing activities
- STEAM and enrichment activities
- Free snacks

No registration is required—just show up! Programs are available at NYPL locations throughout the city. For locations and more information, visit nypl.org/afterschool.

Dept. of Parks and Recreation Reported: The Central Park Conservancy are pleased to announce a new partnership between the Central Park Conservancy and Unity Market NY to bring fresh food, cultural programming, and community engagement to Harlem.

Beginning June 20 through October 31, 2026, the Farmers Gate Farm Stand will operate every Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the historic Farmers' Gate entrance at 110th Street and Malcolm X Boulevard, overlooking the Harlem Meer and adjacent to the new Davis Center.

The farm stand will offer:

- Fresh, locally sourced produce, including SNAP/EBT-eligible items
- Seasonal prepared foods
- Curated household goods
- Educational and community programming throughout the season

Social Security Administration (SSA) Reported: Repayment Update - The Social Security Administration (SSA) announced updated procedures for repaying overpaid benefits, expanding secure digital payment options in support of Executive Order 14247, *Modernizing Payments To and From America's Bank Account*. Individuals are now encouraged to repay debts electronically through Pay.gov using their Remittance ID or through their bank or credit union's online bill payment service. SSA will no longer request repayment by mailed checks or credit card forms to reduce the risk of lost, delayed, or intercepted payments. Individuals who are unable to use online payment methods may contact the SSA Debt Management Unit by phone for assistance. Additional information is available on the SSA's Repay Overpaid Benefits webpage.

Survivor Benefits Service Improvements-The Social Security Administration (SSA) has implemented enhancements to improve service for customers seeking survivor benefits. A key improvement includes updated National 800 Number call routing, which connects callers reporting a death or applying for survivor benefits more quickly with specially trained employees.

SSA also established a dedicated queue of trained agents to process and adjudicate survivor claims. These changes have reduced wait times, provided more specialized assistance, and decreased the need for in-person office visits.

Since the dedicated queue launched last July, more than **60,000 survivors** have received assistance without needing to visit an SSA office. SSA plans to continue refining its call routing and staffing strategies to further enhance customer service.

Upcoming Events/Announcements:

Alternate side of the street parking will be suspended on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 12th and 13 in observance of Rosh Hashanah. Regular parking meter rules will be in effect.

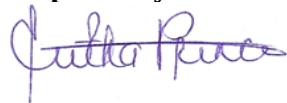
Alternate side of the street parking will be suspended on Monday, Sept. 21st in observance of Yom Kippur. Regular parking meter rules will be in effect.

Harlem Cares Prostate Cancer Walk and Health Resource Fair will be held on Saturday, September 26 (*See Flyer Attached*)

Prostate Cancer – Let’s Talk About It (Panel Discussion) held on Tuesday, September 29, 2026, at the Renaissance New York Harlem Hotel, Grand Ballroom 235 West 125th Street, New York, NY 10027, 6PM-8PM. (*See Flyer attached*)

Board Members Only!! Manhattan Borough President is hosting the Manhattan Community Boards Appreciation Reception on Wednesday, September 30, 2026, 5–7 pm, light bites and refreshments will be served, at the Temple of Dendur, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1000 5th Avenue; individual invites have been sent directly, please RSVP upon receipt.

Respectfully Submitted by,



Eutha Prince
District Manager
09/17/26