



Frequently Asked Questions

What is the purpose of these sites? Why is the City of New York doing this?

When the City of New York launched the .nyc top-level domain, it reserved nearly 400 neighborhood names across the five boroughs. By creating templated platforms for neighborhood.nyc domains, the City aims to help spur new online hubs for civic engagement, online organizing, economic development, and information-sharing.

What is the purpose of a template?

The purpose of the template is to share City data on a local, neighborhood level in a consistent manner across all neighborhoods in a clear, easy-to-use interface. The template consists of data-driven modules and look-up tools.

Who will operate these sites?

Whereas the City of New York will retain ownership of the neighborhood.nyc domains, local nonprofit organizations can apply to license and operate the domains. Licensing allows a community group to customize the template or embed the modules in a pre-existing site.

Who controls the content of the site?

The dynamic, data-driven modules pull information from the most-requested and most-utilized City-affiliated open data feeds. These feeds consist of information such as 311 Service Requests, Department of Transportation street closures, MTA delays, and emergency notifications, as well as polling place lookup finder, school lookup finder, and greenmarket lookup finder. When a community group secures a license to operate a specific neighborhood site, they will have the power to expand the content of these sites pursuant to a licensing agreement with the City of New York.

How can a neighborhood group apply to license and operate a neighborhood.nyc domain?

Any nonprofit or public interest corporation located in a particular neighborhood can apply for administrative rights to the neighborhood domain. The organization must complete a short application and file ten (10) affidavits of support from neighborhood organizations or businesses and/or twenty-five (25) affidavits of support from individuals, affirming their standing as a neighborhood partner.

How does the City determine who gets the domain license?

If an organization meets all of the criteria, securing the license should be straightforward. The

City encourages collaboration among neighborhood groups in cases where multiple organizations express interest in a domain.

Is there a cost to maintaining a neighborhood site?

No, there is no cost for a neighborhood domain. However, there are associated costs, such as the cost of registering the domain, which is approximately \$35 per year, and any platform hosting that an entity might want to select on its own.

How did the City determine all of the neighborhood names?

The City used Department of City Planning (DCP) designations to reserve specific neighborhood names.

How did the City determine neighborhood boundaries?

The boundaries of every neighborhood were determined by using the third-party mapping technology Padiacities, with the specific intent of focusing users on what is happening in and around their area, rather than with the intent of creating specific neighborhood boundaries. These borders are wider than DCP designations. Many of the modules on the sites are lookup tools that use address-based queries, so information is based on a specific address rather than the name of a neighborhood in any case.

Can residents add data or events to the map?

The neighborhood.nyc templates are data-driven and all information is pulled from open data feeds and official information hubs. Residents can file 311 Service Requests and give feedback via the sites.

Will the final sites have more information or more functionality than the beta version?

These sites are evolving, and future versions of the sites depend on your feedback and interests. Share your thoughts and let the City know what you would like to see in your neighborhood.