Voluntary Local Review

New York City’s Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

2019
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## Acronyms

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<td>ACS</td>
<td>Administration for Children’s Services</td>
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<td>AP</td>
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<td>AREA</td>
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<td>ASAP</td>
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<td>Commercially Sexually Exploited Children</td>
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<td>EI</td>
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<td>ENDGBV</td>
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<td><strong>Acronym</strong></td>
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<td>GHG</td>
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Dear Friends:

It is a great pleasure to present New York City's second Voluntary Local Review to the United Nations as part of the 2019 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

New York is honored to host the permanent headquarters of the United Nations, and our 8.6 million residents share in the commitment of the UN to promote international cooperation and tackle the world's most pressing issues. My administration is proud to work closely with this esteemed organization on a range of critical projects, including supporting the Paris Agreement and advancing the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

Urgent global issues are often felt most deeply at the local level, and cities have a responsibility to lead as well as activate our communities to address these matters. Today, more than half the world's population lives in cities, and that portion is forecast to reach two-thirds by the year 2050. Since 2015, New York has been fulfilling the Sustainable Development Goals in the five boroughs through OneNYC, our bold plan to bring increased economic growth, sustainability, resiliency, and equity to our neighborhoods. Last year, we created the concept of the Voluntary Local Review and then became the first city to submit one to the United Nations. The VLR allows New York City to be publicly accountable for reporting the progress we have made on the SDGs as well as share our challenges in order to learn from other cities and nations. Since then, we have been working with UN leadership, mayors, and civil society to share this tool with local authorities worldwide.

New York's second Voluntary Local Review highlights the progress and goals identified in OneNYC 2050: Building a Strong and Fair City, our recently published strategic plan to further combat climate change, improve our environment, strengthen our democracy, increase economic equality, fight injustice, expand access to education, and ensure a safer, healthier, more resilient city for New Yorkers of all backgrounds. Through the leadership of the Mayor's Office for International Affairs and its Global Vision | Urban Action program, my administration remains steadfast in its commitment to partner with the UN to help achieve the 2030 Agenda. We hope that by sharing New York's innovations and challenges in sustainability outlined in this VLR, the five boroughs will continue to inspire other cities and countries around the world. Together, we are building a brighter, greener, more equitable, and sustainable future for all.

Sincerely,

Bill de Blasio
Mayor
Letter from the Commissioner

A lot can happen in a year. In 2018 the Mayor’s Office for International Affairs created the concept of the Voluntary Local Review to ensure that subnational perspectives had an opportunity to be heard at the United Nations and influence the global policy dialogue that impacts our communities. In the last year, I’ve had the privilege to travel around the US and world to share our experience and mobilize other cities and states to join our movement.

I’m pleased to share that many subnational authorities are indeed joining the movement and committing to the VLR. Given that this is still a new movement, we are hearing about the ways different cities are approaching their VLR and all of them are important. For the first time there is a tool that allows subnational authorities to share their local leadership on the global goals.

That said, NYC is doing it the New York way and that is why we are submitting our second Voluntary Local Review. We believe in ensuring that the ‘barrier for entry’ for cities — of all sizes and regions — is low, that is why we are committed to reporting every year on the five SDGs that are highlighted during the High Level Political Forum.

We look forward to continued collaboration with you to keep this momentum going!

Sincerely,

Commissioner Penny Abeywardena
NYC Mayor’s Office for International Affairs
Highlights

In May 2018, New York City (NYC) announced the creation of the Voluntary Local Review (VLR), a tool for cities to report directly to the United Nations (UN) on their efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also called the Global Goals, are a set of 17 commitments made by world leaders in 2015 to end extreme poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and prevent the harmful effects of climate change by 2030. Following the announcement, NYC became the first city in the world to submit a VLR directly to the United Nations during the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) in July 2018. The foundation of this work was the April 2015 OneNYC strategy, which includes commitments, milestones, and metrics, and provides annual progress reports.

The VLR is a tool that was developed under the NYC Mayor’s Office for International Affairs Global Vision | Urban Action platform. GVUA was established in December 2015 to showcase NYC’s efforts to achieve the SDGs, and to create opportunities to share our experiences beyond borders. Through this platform, we present a variety of opportunities for NYC’s diplomatic corps, the largest in the world, to visit our communities to see firsthand how NYC is implementing the SDGs at the local level; we also use these engagements to discuss our shared challenges. Finally, we bring City voices to UN events to infuse local perspectives into policy discussions about achieving the SDGs.

UN leaders, government representatives, city networks, and civil society groups have expressed support for NYC’s award-winning VLR initiative. Following NYC’s call to action, cities around the world are now committing to submit a VLR to the UN during the HLPF, strengthening our efforts to both share our successes and learn from others in areas where we can and must do better.

In April 2019, NYC launched OneNYC 2050: Building a Strong and Fair City. The 2019 VLR reflects the critical developments that are in this new, comprehensive plan to prepare our city for the future and leading the way for the nation on how to address the existential threats posed by climate change, economic insecurity, inequity, and rising global intolerance.
OneNYC 2050 demonstrates a model for inclusive growth and climate action with a focus on:

- **Creating good-paying jobs**, including green jobs, and promoting prosperity and economic security for all.

- **Ensuring equitable access to nature**, clean air, and water; climate and community resiliency; and healthy food.

- **Guaranteeing the right** to quality health care and education in all communities.

- **Promoting justice** by recognizing, and repairing the damage caused by, historic oppression of communities of color, migrant communities, youth, and other frontline and marginalized communities.

In OneNYC 2050, SDG icons are incorporated to demonstrate how NYC’s initiatives align with and advance our progress towards achieving the SDGs. By demonstrating directly in our strategy how OneNYC aligns with the SDGs, we strengthen our efforts to build a strong and fair city and deepen the global engagement that makes NYC a leader on the world stage.

By taking action on these strategies, NYC will demonstrate not only the effectiveness of this model, but also its necessity. Our nation, and indeed our planet, deserve nothing less if we hope to secure a livable future for humanity.
Introduction

Since 2015, NYC has been localizing the SDGs using OneNYC as the foundation. Through Global Vision | Urban Action, the NYC Mayor’s Office for International Affairs (IA) has identified the synergies between the 2030 Agenda and NYC’s strategy, and employs the SDGs as a framework to discuss NYC’s innovations and challenges in sustainability with cities and countries around the world.

Building on this work over the past four years, NYC is submitting its second VLR to the United Nations, based on the progress and goals identified in OneNYC 2050, which was published in April 2019. Modeled after the Voluntary National Review (VNR), which all countries are invited to present every July at the HLPF, the VLR is an opportunity to reflect on our successes and identify areas where we can learn from others about how to address the remaining challenges. By submitting a VLR annually and focusing on the SDGs that are prioritized for review during each HLPF, we are able to provide in-depth reporting on all of the SDGs over the course of time.

This effort could not be more urgent. Today, more than half the world’s population lives in cities, and that share is expected to reach two-thirds by the year 2050. Cities are also where the challenges of climate, migration, inequality, and related issues are often felt most deeply, and where innovative solutions are being developed through partnerships and collaboration between local governments, nonprofits, and the private sector.

By using the common language of the SDGs to discuss our successes and challenges, we hope that people and governments around the world can work together to achieve all 17 SDGs by 2030.
Methodology and process for preparation of the review

The 2019 VLR was developed by the NYC Mayor’s Office for International Affairs in partnership with the NYC Mayor’s Offices of Operations, and is based on OneNYC 2050, developed by the NYC Mayor’s Office of Climate Policy and Programs and published on April 22, 2019. NYC agencies working on the five SDGs reviewed in this year’s report were also consulted. The policy and enabling environment chapter provides a comprehensive overview of OneNYC 2050’s development, implementation, and reporting mechanisms.

The format of the VLR is based on NYC’s 2018 VLR, which draws from the outline provided in the handbook for the preparation of Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) produced by the Division for Sustainable Development of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA). DESA’s 2019 VNR handbook was also reviewed. It was further shaped in consultation with SDG stakeholders as well as with NYC agencies. The SDG stakeholders include UN agencies, UN member states that have submitted VNRs, and other cities who are localizing the SDGs, as well as government and civil society experts involved in the development, implementation, and monitoring of the SDGs. Authors also conducted a desk review of previous VNRs and VNR analyses produced by civil society organizations.

The review addresses the five SDGs prioritized for the 2019 HLPF, namely SDGs 4 (Quality Education), 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), 10 (Reduced Inequalities), 13 (Climate Action), and 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions). Including complete information about all 17 SDGs would make the report unwieldy. Instead, NYC has committed in OneNYC 2050 to submitting a VLR annually, focusing on the SDGs prioritized each year at the HLPF. SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) is addressed in the Ownership of the SDGs section, which presents how the City has used the SDGs as a common language to discuss our local efforts with the UN community in NYC as well as partners in cities and countries around the world.

1 The City of New York, Mayor Bill de Blasio, OneNYC 2050, 22 April 2019 retrieved from https://onenyc.cityofnewyork.us/strategies/onenyc-2050/
The information presented in the SDG review section was selected based on a mapping of the SDGs to OneNYC 2050. Authors consulted with the City agencies responsible for implementing the five priority goals for the 2019 HLPF by selecting relevant content from OneNYC 2050, asking City agencies to review the text, and requesting that they add any additional information that may be applicable based on the SDG indicators. Some agencies asked to share updated statistics, but the authors decided to take all analysis of SDG progress directly from OneNYC 2050 in order to be consistent, unless otherwise noted.

Because there is not a one-to-one correlation between OneNYC 2050 and the SDGs, there are some OneNYC 2050 initiatives that are relevant to numerous SDGs and may not be included here. The authors selected the most relevant examples for the priority SDGs reviewed in this VLR, but OneNYC 2050 contains comprehensive information about NYC’s overall efforts and should serve as a reference to supplement the information in this report.

As there is no comprehensive SDG data reporting mechanism, this review presents a qualitative analysis of our goals and targets mapped to the relevant SDGs. NYC tracks more than 1,000 indicators through a monitoring system it has been developing since the 1970s, and examples of the data that NYC collects, including indicator names, descriptions, and sources, are included in the appendix.
Policy and enabling environment

Strategic Planning in New York City

In 2007, New York City released PlaNYC 2030, a successful effort to bring sustainability planning to New York City and confront the challenges of the time: namely economic and population growth and their impacts on infrastructure. In 2013, the devastation of Hurricane Sandy led to the creation of a first-ever resiliency plan to prepare for the growing risks of climate change. With OneNYC: The Plan for a Strong and Just City in 2015, Mayor de Blasio expanded on this foundation, broadening the City’s thinking about strategic threats and articulating equity as a strategic goal for the first time. It is in this context that we offer OneNYC 2050 to define our future and chart a course to get there.

OneNYC 2050 takes a global perspective on the long-term needs of the city and how we must grow responsibly and sustainably while supporting the well-being of all New Yorkers. OneNYC is a major component of the tool kit that guides the City’s long-term strategy, complementing the Ten-Year Capital Strategy, annual socioeconomic reports, Citywide Statements of Needs, Comprehensive Waterfront Plan, and other strategic plans on specific topics. Collectively, with OneNYC, these plans represent a comprehensive strategy to tackle the challenges of today, and secure a strong and fair future for New Yorkers.

OneNYC 2050 consists of eight goals and 30 initiatives that together comprise a strategy to prepare New York City for the future. These goals reflect both our core strengths as a city — our growing, diverse population, strong economy, and global leadership — as well as the significant challenges we must address: growing unaffordability, economic insecurity, inequity, and the existential threats posed by climate change, decaying infrastructure, and rising global intolerance.

OneNYC 2050 outlines bold actions New York City will take to overcome these challenges and create a strong and fair future for all New Yorkers. Supported by the initiatives outlined in this plan, the future New York City will have:
• **A Vibrant Democracy**, where every New Yorker is welcomed into the civic and democratic life of the city. Because an empowered public is the foundation of a successful democracy, both locally and nationally

• **Thriving Neighborhoods**, where all communities have safe, affordable housing and are well served by parks, cultural resources, and other shared spaces. Because our lives are better and our social connections are stronger when New Yorkers feel secure in their communities

• **Equity and Excellence in Education**, where diverse and fair schools provide a quality education for every student, and New York serves as a model for educating children of all backgrounds. Because education is essential for a fulfilling life

• **Efficient Mobility**, where affordable, reliable, safe, and sustainable transportation options mean no New Yorker needs to rely on a car. Because New York City’s transit system and walkability are core to our identity, economic competitiveness, and quality of life

• **An Inclusive Economy**, where economic growth creates opportunities for all New Yorkers and safeguards the American Dream. Because economic security and dignity are essential to overcome longstanding inequities and create a city where everyone can succeed

• **Healthy Lives**, where health inequities based on race and ethnicity are eliminated, and all residents have equal access to health care, clean air, and healthy food. Because health care is a human right

• **A Livable Climate**, where we no longer rely on fossil fuels and have mitigated the risks posed by climate change. Because inaction will have devastating consequences, with disproportionate harm on our most vulnerable populations

• **Modern Infrastructure**, where reliable physical and digital infrastructure allows New Yorkers to flourish. Because up-to-date, modern, resilient infrastructure is the foundation on which we build a strong and fair city

**We Face Mounting Local and Global Challenges**

While the city’s strengths underscore our dynamism and diversity, New York City has not been shielded from significant challenges, both local and global. In many cases, these challenges have exacerbated long-simmering tensions and unresolved inequities in wealth and income. At the same time, we are confronting the impacts of a changing climate, which threatens our city and way of life.
As we plan for the next 30 years, we must confront 6 core challenges:

1. Rising unaffordability
2. Economic insecurity
3. Wealth and health disparities
4. A climate emergency
5. Failing infrastructure and shifting needs
6. Threats to democracy

How New Yorkers shaped OneNYC

More than 16,000 New Yorkers’ voices shaped the vision and priorities that make up OneNYC 2050. Residents from every neighborhood attended community forums, took our public survey, and spent a few minutes with our team at their greenmarket or cultural events, and other venues to let us know what works — and what doesn’t — and what they want for the city of the future.

A few themes stood out almost everywhere. Public transit is in a state of emergency, as delays and rising fares affect quality of life on a daily basis. Rising housing costs are making it harder to get by for New Yorkers of all income levels, with the greatest burden on New Yorkers living in or near poverty. The city’s economy may be strong, but many New Yorkers feel left behind and want to see investments that support working people and small businesses rather than those already at the top.

Other issues affect some communities more than others, but are no less critical to our city’s future. Sandy-impacted areas such as the Rockaway Peninsula and Red Hook stressed the urgent need to address climate change and protect against future storms. Northern Queens and the Central Bronx sought greater support for immigrants. Communities with higher shares of young children urged more investment in our public schools.

These collective sentiments—from residents of all backgrounds, in all boroughs—guided the vision, priorities, and specific initiatives highlighted in this long-term strategy.
Who We Heard From

Inclusiveness is integral to effective planning. As important as data analysis and policy experts are, only broad-based public engagement can reveal how different communities experience New York City and how they want to see their city evolve over the next 30 years. Over seven months, OneNYC sought out diverse voices from all corners of New York City and, recognizing systemic barriers to participation, incorporated input from a broad mix of stakeholders.

September 2018 – Listen

OneNYC Survey
More than 14,000 New Yorkers participated in the OneNYC survey, submitting responses online, by text and social media, and on paper surveys distributed at public events, in 11 languages. Trends and comments from the survey informed all aspects of OneNYC.

5-Borough Tour
We met in person with more than 2,400 New Yorkers representing a cross-section of residents, small business owners, youths, seniors, and advocates. This “5-Borough Tour,” ranging from pop-up events to small-group discussions at community spaces, focused on neighborhoods underrepresented in our survey and were essential to build our understanding of local issues and gather input on evolving priorities.

January 2019 – Test

Advisory Board
The OneNYC Advisory Board helped shape our priorities. The 39-member board represents all five boroughs and the global community, and is a mix of civic and community leaders, advocates, elected officials, and policy experts. Board meetings helped shape our understanding of global trends and gave us insight on local challenges. Working groups focused on climate, transportation, civic, and workforce issues, inviting 110 participants from nonprofits and City agencies to workshop new approaches.

Regional Collaboration
Twenty-six senior officials, from cities and counties in Northern New Jersey, Long Island, Western Connecticut, and Westchester, Putnam, and Rockland Counties gathered for an interactive workshop on shared regional challenges such as housing, jobs, transportation, and climate change, identifying ways New York City and our regional partners can build on our work together to address shared regional needs.
**March 2019 – Create**

**Network Partners**
To spread the word about OneNYC, a network of partners distributed informational materials at locations in all five boroughs, including public libraries, senior centers, small business resource centers, and LinkNYC kiosks.

**Agency Partners**
OneNYC reflects the work of dozens of City agencies, many of which have conducted major public outreach efforts over the last four years and meet regularly with community and issue-area stakeholders to shape policies.

**OneNYC Survey**
From September to March, more than 14,000 New Yorkers participated in the OneNYC survey. The survey asked New Yorkers the question, “What do you think are the most important issues facing New York City’s future?” and offered the chance to share one or more ideas for how New York City could address those issues.

The survey respondents represent voices from every corner of the city and are broadly representative of New York City’s population by borough and gender. They send a strong message about the issues New Yorkers care about the most, and how priorities vary across New York’s diverse neighborhoods. OneNYC 2050 addresses all of these issues.

The issues New Yorkers care about differ by neighborhood. Residents of central Brooklyn identified housing as the issue they care most about, while their neighbors to the south care most about transportation and infrastructure. Residents in Soundview care most about jobs and the economy, and residents of nearby College Point were most concerned about public safety.

**How We Incorporated Input**
The diverse input gathered over the last seven months is reflected in OneNYC in ways big and small. Comments from the public survey and public meetings were reviewed by the OneNYC team that developed the strategy. As certain topics surfaced again and again, such as traffic congestion, we were able to deepen our focus with City agencies and on initiatives to address those challenges. In one case, a suggestion from a recent college graduate inspired the idea for an event celebrating civic life that the City is now exploring.
In other cases, ideas submitted by New Yorkers have us looking toward the future. How can we help the middle schoolers we met at the Manhattan Youth Engagement Tour reduce the use of plastic in public schools? How can we promote career fairs for non-English speakers who need job application assistance, as suggested by a resident in Sunset Park?

As we work to turn OneNYC from strategy to reality, we are continuing to evaluate the many great ideas offered by New Yorkers.

**Shaping the Future of NYC**

As we promoted the OneNYC survey, we had a call to action: “Help us shape the future of NYC.” We want to make sure that opportunity carries on. OneNYC 2050 is designed to not only set a path to a strong and fair city but to empower all New Yorkers to help create that city.

This plan offers a few guides for New Yorkers to get involved:

- Each OneNYC volume ends with a section titled “What You Can Do,” which suggests ways to get involved locally or globally.
- The A Vibrant Democracy volume spells out strategies to amplify all New Yorkers’ voices, broaden participation, and promote human rights.
- Keep your eye out for upcoming events and tools posted at nyc.gov/onenyc that will enable New Yorkers to act in support of OneNYC 2050.

**Ongoing measurement and accountability**

In order to track NYC’s progress toward meeting the goals detailed in OneNYC 2050, the City developed a set of key performance indicators that are publicly reported on an annual basis. In fact, Local Law 17 of 2008, which amended the New York City Charter to create a permanent sustainability office and require that the City publish updated long-term sustainability plans, also requires the City to “identify a set of indicators to assess and track the overall sustainability of the city.”

In 2013, the New York City Charter was again amended through Local Law 84, which established “planning for resiliency to climate change.”

The OneNYC 2050 metrics were designed to hold the City accountable for meeting specific, quantitative goals while providing instructive data on the effectiveness of OneNYC 2050 programs and policies. They are critical to maintaining transparency, but also represent the means by which we continue to assess our efforts. The OneNYC 2050 plan-

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4 Local Laws of the City of New York for Year 2008, Local Law 17 (2008)
5 Local Laws of the City of New York for the Year 2013, Local Law 84 (2013)
The formulation process sought to leverage data already available, but also entailed the formulation of new indicators that reflect the expanded scope and breadth of the plan (including OneNYC 2050’s emphasis on addressing issues of equity for our residents).

Undergirding OneNYC 2050, however, is a robust performance management data infrastructure that the City has been developing since the late 1970s. Many of these indicators serve as inputs for the top-line indicators found in OneNYC 2050, but also represent how the City uses performance management at the granular level of its operations to pursue lofty goals without losing sight of core service delivery objectives. Indeed, NYC continues to serve as a model for performance reporting due to:

- **Sheer volume and comprehensiveness of indicators.** By tracking over 1,000 indicators that provide more detail pertaining to more policy areas, public agencies, and initiatives, NYC is a national model for performance reporting.

- **NYC provides context and explanations for indicator outcomes and trends.** NYC publishes two extensive reports each year that feature deep insight into the metrics being reported.

- **NYC is frequently developing new indicators, many of which reflect the work of new initiatives and emerging policy objectives.**

- **NYC created an Office of Data Analytics to centralize data sharing and analysis, and is a pioneer in enacting open data policy.**

- **NYC draws upon more sources to compile its data, ranging agency field inspectors, 311 complaints, customer surveys, and sophisticated data systems.**

Throughout the year, these performance metrics are updated and provided in monthly reports to agency commissioners and deputy mayors, and deployed as an instrument to monitor both operational performance and progress toward the administration’s ambitious goals.

**Means of implementation**

The NYC Office of Management and Budget, the Department of City Planning, and the Office of Operations were engaged throughout the development of OneNYC 2050 to help align the plan with the City’s budgeting process and ensure funding for OneNYC 2050 goals.
Leaving no one behind

The principle of leaving no one behind is central to OneNYC 2050. For nearly 400 years, New York City has served as a beacon to the world. From our earliest days as Nieuw Amsterdam through waves of immigration over decades, the Big Apple has attracted so many seeking refuge, economic security, the American Dream, or, simply, acceptance. As an iconic metropolis, people look to New York City for inspiration and ideas — and for generations, the culture, values, and talent incubated in New York City have influenced and helped shape the world.

Yet, like all great cities, New York in 2019 is a place of striking contradictions. We have extreme wealth alongside dire poverty and homelessness. There is unmatched cultural and population diversity amid some of the most racially segregated urban neighborhoods in the United States. Our landmark skyscrapers are recognizable worldwide, and towering high-rises are reshaping our skyline. Yet in many neighborhoods most buildings are just a few stories tall.

Our city gave rise to social justice movements and influential figures fighting for equality, and our streets are hotbeds of public activism. But we are still confronting injustice and social and economic inequities and a lack of faith in civic institutions. New York City’s subway system is one of the largest in the world, but it is decaying due to neglect and disinvestment. We have hundreds of miles of majestic waterfront, and a natural harbor, both built for commerce, but which now, in an era of climate change, are exposed and endangered.

These contradictions exist against the backdrop of national and international political trends that have led to broad distrust in government. There is a disturbing rise in nationalism, intolerance, and authoritarianism in many countries, including ours; this impacts New Yorkers personally, reflects a turning away from the values we hold dear, and contributes to voter apathy. Across the globe, governments are failing to take necessary actions to protect the climate, address economic inequity, and secure basic human rights, requiring that global cities such as New York take the lead and form partnerships to address these issues.

As we look to 2050, the challenges facing New York City are significant, but we have faced challenges of equal measure before and prevailed. Today, we are stronger than at any time in our history. In recent years, we have embraced progressive policies that address our most pressing challenges head-on. And as we look ahead, we are committed to resolving our city’s contradictions without compromising or relinquishing our legacy of openness, inclusion, and progress.
We strive to transform our city for the future, building on past achievements and using our unparalleled talent and resources as an antidote. *OneNYC 2050* aims high to achieve these goals. As New York has done so many times in the past, our city will serve as a model for the nation and the world, to repair divisions and create a better society. Together, we will build a strong and fair city.
Ownership of the SDGs

Global Vision | Urban Action

Several months after OneNYC was launched, world leaders gathered at the UN in New York to commit to the SDGs. Recognizing the overlap between OneNYC and the SDGs, including the potential for NYC to use the SDGs as a framework to communicate globally about shared challenges and innovative local solutions, the NYC Mayor’s Office for International Affairs launched the Global Vision | Urban Action platform in December 2015. The first step was the publication of a booklet entitled A City with Global Goals, which mapped the SDGs to the OneNYC strategy.

In April 2019, NYC published a new strategy, OneNYC 2050, and directly inserted the SDG icons throughout the document.

The mapping between OneNYC 2050 and the SDGs is included on the following pages.

While OneNYC 2050 demonstrates the links with the SDGs on paper, NYC also leverages its role as host to the UN and the world’s largest diplomatic community by organizing site visits and engaging in policy discussions with the UN community.

Together, these activities contribute to SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).
OneNYC 2050 and the SDGs

OneNYC 2050
Building a Strong and Fair City

The following text is included in the OneNYC 2050 Plan:

Aligning with the Sustainable Development Goals

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are the global blueprint adopted by all countries at the United Nations to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. The 17 SDGs recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth — all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.

With OneNYC, New York City was the first city to map our local strategy to the SDGs and to submit a Voluntary Local Review to the United Nations. The Voluntary Local Review monitors New York’s advancement toward the goals, identifies areas where we can learn from others, and addresses remaining challenges. By demonstrating directly in our strategy how OneNYC aligns with the SDGs, we strengthen our efforts to build a strong and fair city and deepen the city diplomacy that makes New York City a leader on the world stage.

In OneNYC 2050, SDG symbols appear in each volume to demonstrate how New York City’s initiatives align with and advance our progress towards achieving the goals. These goals are outlined at right.

Learn more about the SDGs online at sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs
Ownership of the SDGs

OneNYC 2050

A Vibrant Democracy

4 Quality Education
5 Gender Equality
8 Decent Work and Economic Growth
10 Reduced Inequalities
16 Peace and Justice Strong Institutions
17 Partnerships for the Goals

OneNYC 2050

An Inclusive Economy

1 No Poverty
4 Quality Education
5 Gender Equality
7 Affordable and Clean Energy
8 Decent Work and Economic Growth
9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
10 Reduced Inequalities
11 Sustainable Cities and Communities
16 Peace and Justice Strong Institutions

OneNYC 2050

Thriving Neighborhoods

3 Good Health and Well-Being
10 Reduced Inequalities
11 Sustainable Cities and Communities
16 Peace and Justice Strong Institutions

OneNYC 2050

Healthy Lives

2 Zero Hunger
3 Good Health and Well-Being
5 Gender Equality
10 Reduced Inequalities
14 Life Below Water
15 Life on Land
Ownership of the SDGs

OneNYC 2050

**Equity and Excellence in Education**

4. Quality Education
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth
10. Reduced Inequalities
16. Peace and Justice, Strong Institutions

OneNYC 2050

**A Livable Climate**

6. Clean Water and Sanitation
7. Affordable and Clean Energy
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth
9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
11. Sustainable Cities and Communities
12. Responsible Consumption and Production
13. Climate Action

OneNYC 2050

**Efficient Mobility**

3. Good Health and Well-being
7. Affordable and Clean Energy
9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
10. Reduced Inequalities
11. Sustainable Cities and Communities

OneNYC 2050

**Modern Infrastructure**

1. No Poverty
4. Quality Education
6. Clean Water and Sanitation
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth
10. Reduced Inequalities
11. Sustainable Cities and Communities
13. Climate Action
16. Peace and Justice, Strong Institutions
**Site Visits**

The site visits are an opportunity for the UN diplomatic community to see firsthand how a City agency’s work helps achieve the SDGs. Participants share experiences from their UN agency or country and discuss common challenges as well as potential solutions. Engaging with experts who share their interests and priorities is also a way for City agency staff to benefit from NYC hosting the UN.

In 2019, site visits included a tour of the Manhattan Family Justice Center hosted by the NYC Mayor’s Office to End Domestic and Gender Based Violence to explore SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions), and a panel hosted by the NYC Mayor’s Office of Sustainability to discuss how NYC is addressing SDG 13 (Climate Action). Additionally, the SDG lens was applied to bilateral discussions between visiting delegations and City agencies.

**NYC engagement in UN Policy Discussions**

To complement the site visits, NYC representatives also contribute to UN policy discussions. These engagements are an opportunity to both strengthen implementation by sharing good practices and to build broader political support for achieving the SDGs. For example, the NYC Commissioner for International Affairs spoke in February 2019 at a panel organized by the President of the General Assembly and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to address multilateral support to local action for sustainability. In March 2019, the Mayor’s Office for International Affairs partnered with the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom to host a luncheon for women Permanent Representatives to discuss promoting gender equity and the broader SDG agenda. During the high-level week of the UN General Assembly in September 2018, NYC organized a briefing hosted by the Consulate of Singapore that included representatives from the NYC Mayor’s Offices of Climate Policy and Programs, Resiliency, Sustainability, and International Affairs who shared their work on climate and the broader OneNYC strategy, and explained how NYC is joining global conversations about these topics using the framework of the SDGs.

In addition to serving as a core member of the SDG Strategy Hub, NYC is co-convening with Local2030 the Action Stream on Cities and SDG Localization.

**2018 High-Level Political Forum and the Voluntary Local Review**

In July 2018, NYC welcomed thousands of sustainability experts and diplomats for the third annual High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), which took place from Monday, July 9, to Wednesday, July 18. During the HLPF, NYC became the first city in the
world to report directly to the UN on our local progress towards achieving the Global Goals through a VLR. The NYC Commissioner for International Affairs presented NYC’s VLR during the plenary session on the implementation of SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), and also presented a Mayoral proclamation declaring July 11 Global Goals Day in New York City. Representatives from 10 City agencies and offices shared their expertise at events, held bilateral meetings on a range of topics, and attended additional meetings during the HLPF.

UN representatives, city networks, and civil society groups also expressed support for NYC’s VLR initiative. The UN Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, the UN Development Programme Administrator, the UN Habitat Executive Director, and numerous other high-level UN representatives lauded the VLR. Additionally, the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments committed in 2018 “to Promote Voluntary Local Reviews at both city and regional levels that include the development of accountability mechanisms.” NYC civil society groups invited City representatives to present our work, and the UN Foundation identified the VLR as a trend to watch.

“I applaud the leadership of Mayor de Blasio and the City of New York on the Sustainable Development Goals and am encouraged to see cities and local governments showing strong commitment to SDG action. The UN recently launched the Local2030 platform for cities and local governments to pursue new pathways for low-emission growth and climate action, poverty alleviation and inclusion of the most vulnerable residents. This Voluntary Local Review is a first step towards such progress and I urge other cities and local governments to follow suit.”

*United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres*

**OneNYC 2050 and the SDGs**

The process of NYC’s first VLR in 2018 directed our attention to policy areas where the City was making important progress, such as historic preservation and cultural heritage, but which had not been fully integrated into the 2015 long-term strategic planning vision. This informed discussions about the content of **OneNYC 2050**, and SDG icons were incorporated throughout the text of the document to demonstrate the links with our strategy. Additionally, OneNYC includes a commitment to submit a VLR to the UN every year.
Ownership of the SDGs

City outreach
Since the first VLR was published, NYC has continued to engage with cities and other stakeholders to highlight the importance of city engagement with the SDGs. This includes partnering with the Mayor of Helsinki to speak at the Social Good Summit and organize side events at Urban 20 Mayoral Summits in Buenos Aires and Tokyo. Helsinki and NYC also organized an event during the Pritzker Forum on Global Cities in Chicago, and the two cities partnered with Los Angeles for an event at the Milken Institute’s 2019 Global Conference.

In December 2018, NYC won the Guangzhou International Award for Urban Innovation for the VLR, and in May 2019, NYC was named a finalist in the Connector category of the SDG Action Awards. Additionally, DESA included the VLR as a Good Practice on its SDG Knowledge Platform.

In April 2019, NYC participated in a retreat organized by the Brookings Institution to bring 14 cities around the world to discuss ways to move the localization agenda forward. NYC representatives also shared the VLR experience during presentations at the Guangzhou International Award for Urban Innovation Conference in December 2018, and at the SDG Action Awards in Bonn in May 2019. Briefings for other cities and stakeholders were also conducted by teleconference.

NYC Junior Ambassadors
Youth engagement is key to achieving the SDGs. Launched in 2015, the IA NYC Junior Ambassadors program connects the work of the United Nations to NYC 7th graders (ages 11 – 13) in schools across all five boroughs of NYC to empower students to become global citizens. The program offers unique tools to educators, who integrate the UN and its work on the SDGs into their teaching to help students learn about global issues and make an impact in their own neighborhoods. Since 2015, the program has reached over 2,500 students and educators in nearly 60 classrooms and afterschool programs who are learning about topics ranging from climate change and gender equity to the refugee crisis and thinking critically about how to make a difference locally. NYC Junior Ambassadors are also invited to speak at UN events to share their perspective on the SDGs. We are creating an ecosystem that involves our students going home and talking to their families, friends, and neighbors about why the UN and this work matter. The NYC Junior Ambassadors program is also included in OneNYC 2050.
Review of Priority Goals

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

13 CLIMATE ACTION

16 PEACE AND JUSTICE STRONG INSTITUTIONS
Introduction

Our City has made great strides towards providing an excellent education for all New York City children. More children than ever are enrolled in our Universal Pre-K programs. A more diverse group of students are having conversations about college and accessing high-level college-preparatory coursework. And our high school on-time graduation rates are at a record high.

Still, our school system faces challenges. An elementary school student with limited access to a wide vocabulary at home struggles to read at grade level. A child who could benefit from a free 3-K program cannot find an available seat in their neighborhood. A student at a high school without access to restorative practices is removed from class and misses key instructional time.

Not all of our classrooms are created or valued equally. Inequities exist in the way resources are distributed to some classrooms. Further, New Yorkers’ opinions about a school are often informed by where a school is located or the demographics of the students in that school. As a result, many schools that are located in or serve students who come from historically underserved communities are unfairly written off as lacking, while schools in middle to upper income, white communities are perceived to be of high quality. The reality is excellent schools with dedicated staff exist in all of our communities.

OneNYC 2050 lays out a strategy to continue our City’s work of building a school system that ensures students in every borough, district, neighborhood, and school have the tools they need to achieve their dreams. In this plan, we formulate policies based on our understanding that excellence is more than a goal, it is the birthright of every child in our city. OneNYC 2050 lays out our commitment to doing the hard work that truly delivers the promise that every child, no matter who their parents are or what zip code they live in, deserves an excellent education.
**Context**

The New York City school system is the largest in the country, with more than one million students in more than 1,800 schools. This sprawling system includes many outstanding schools that for decades have provided a springboard for students’ self-actualization and social mobility. However, the legacy of government-facilitated housing segregation has created a system wherein too many of our neighborhood schools are socioeconomically, academically, and racially segregated.

This segregated system, together with both underinvestment in the city’s communities of color and academic screens historically rooted in excluding entire populations of students, has led to stark inequities in our public schools. Neighborhoods with large numbers of students of color (especially those with disabilities) and low-income families have borne the disproportionate burden of punitive suspension and disciplinary practices, inadequate learning facilities, and limited access to advanced placement (AP) courses.

Ensuring every child has access to an excellent school requires a commitment to addressing the root causes of inequality, while redoubling our efforts to ensure every New York City child has access to the resources they need to thrive from birth until graduation.

**Progress**

New York City’s public school system has made substantial progress since 2002, when the state legislature enacted mayoral accountability over city education. The shift away from the prior system — which was bankrupt and devoid of an overarching vision — to one focused on what is actually best for all kids, has led to more investment, equity-focused policies, and positive momentum toward expanding educational opportunities and improving outcomes. In addition, to improve the way it works with students, parents, and communities, the Department of Education (DOE) has realigned its structure, bringing leadership in closer contact with students and teachers, and establishing clear lines of communication and accountability.

Since Pre-K for All launched in 2014, the City has more than tripled the number of children in free, full-day, high-quality pre-K, with nearly 70,000 four-year-olds enrolled today, compared with 19,000 in 2014. Today, after starting in two districts, 3-K for All provides free, full-day, high-quality early childhood education to more than 5,000 three-year-olds in six districts in New York City. We are outpacing our rollout schedule, with as many as 20,000 three-year-olds expected to be enrolled in 14 districts within all five boroughs by 2020. We continue to expand access to bilingual and dual-language programs, career and technical education, sports programs, and postsecondary opportunities as
we develop holistic approaches to improve the way we teach all learners. Suspensions are down across the board. In 2018, we saw the highest-ever number of New York City students taking and passing AP exams, with more than a 10 percent jump in students taking — and students passing — at least one AP course over the previous year.

Seventy-six percent of students graduated high school in 2018, the highest rate in the city’s history, and we are well on our way to exceeding the original target of 80 percent by 2026. In fact, we will raise the target to 84 percent by 2026, in line with the national high school graduation average of 84.6 percent. At 7.5 percent, the class of 2018 also had the lowest dropout rate of any class since New York State started keeping records.

We are increasing college readiness, with 70 percent of students today prepared for higher education, compared with just 47 percent five years ago, and nearly 60 percent of the class of 2017 (around 45,000 students) having enrolled in college. Overall, the baseline experience of what it means to be educated in New York City has increased dramatically, with more low-income students of color offered opportunities long enjoyed by their more financially well-off peers. Today, every student has access to more educational opportunities than those of a generation ago — from birth to high school graduation.

**What We Will Do**

Still, there is much work to be done. While English language arts and math test scores have improved, disparities in performance across racial lines remain. Though the graduation gap between black and Hispanic students and their peers continues to narrow, it remains far too wide. For black students, the gap narrowed from 17 percent in 2014 to 12 percent in 2018 compared with white peers. For Hispanic students, the gap narrowed from 19 percent in 2014 to 14 percent in 2018 compared with their white peers. Overall, gaps in student outcomes from graduation rates to test scores correlate too closely to race/ethnicity, disability, socioeconomic status, and language. We continue to work toward a future when these gaps no longer exist.

We must view every school, no matter what community it is in or what kinds of students it serves, as a place where all students can and will succeed. To remake our school system around this vision, we will focus on expanding early childhood development programs, achieving the highest on-time high school graduation rates in line with the national average, improving college readiness, and, by 2026, achieving universal literacy by the second grade. *OneNYC 2050* is a blueprint for every student to achieve equity and excellence in education in every neighborhood — and at every level — so they are ready to succeed in the 21st century.
**SDG Target 4.1**

**By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes**

**Achieve Universal Literacy by Second Grade**

Reading is a critical tool for ensuring both a child’s academic success across all subjects and ability to thrive in all aspects of life. The Universal Literacy Program, launched in 2016, deploys reading coaches to schools to work with kindergarten to second grade teachers to improve student literacy. The program is particularly important for students who have less exposure to books or a wide range of words while outside of school.

The goal is to have at least two-thirds of all second graders reading proficiently by the end of the 2022 school year, and all second graders reading at grade level by 2026. In 2018, the Universal Literacy Program met its first benchmark: providing a literacy coach or other support to each of the 792 New York City elementary schools. This benchmark includes approximately 400 universal literacy reading coaches serving elementary schools citywide. Going forward, we will provide every school with dedicated literacy support for grades K–12.

This will also support children who speak a language other than English at home or who face reading delays.

**SDG Target 4.2**

**By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education**

**Ensure All Eligible Children Ages Birth to Three-Years-Old Have Access to Developmental Services**

The earlier children with developmental delays or disabilities receive services, the faster we can identify their individual needs and create a targeted plan to ensure they stay aligned with their peers and on track for academic success. The New York City Early Intervention (EI) Program provides developmental services to nearly 30,000 children from birth to three-years-old each year, at no direct cost to families. Yet not all communities access EI services at the same rate, due in part to the stigma attached to develop-
mental delays and disabilities. To close this gap, we will conduct outreach and education to strengthen relationships with community partners and engage populations that use EI services at a lower rate, with the goal of enrolling a total of 1,500 additional children from zip codes with referral rates lower than the city average.

- **Increase Community Awareness of Early Childhood Development and the Early Intervention Program to Diminish Stigma**
  
The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) will engage 5,000 community members per year to introduce the EI Program to parents, with the goal of overcoming the stigma associated with developmental delays and disabilities. DOHMH will provide information and training in small community venues, and participate in place-based problem-solving and other neighborhood initiatives related to early childhood development.

- **Increase Referrals from Pediatricians**
  
  DOHMH will engage the pediatric community to increase awareness of conditions that make children eligible for EI services, how children can enter EI, and the role pediatricians play while children are in these programs. We will distribute 700 clinician tool kits and partner with pediatric residency programs and practices serving children in neighborhoods with low rates of referral to the EI Program.

- **Increase Referrals from Childcare Providers**
  
  DOHMH will distribute 1,000 childcare tool kits and conduct outreach to childcare centers in neighborhoods with low rates of referral to the EI Program. The tool kits and outreach will focus on understanding both typical and atypical child development, communication with families regarding developmental concerns, and referral to the program. DOHMH will also distribute a video showing how childcare providers can observe and document children’s development, discuss their concerns with parents, and make referrals.

**Expand 3-K for All to More than One-third of All School Districts by the End of the 2020 School Year**

There is extensive research supporting the transformative value of free, full-day, high-quality 3-K to improve academic and social outcomes. To achieve the vision of 3-K for All citywide, we will need additional support from partners in the State and Federal governments, as the cost of scaling up the program will be approximately $200 million. This is a small price to pay for $10,000 in annual childcare savings for parents, and the invaluable gains that come from students starting on a level playing field as they enter kindergarten. In the meantime, we are working toward aligning our early childhood curriculums, integrating data collection, and providing a seamless connection to K–12 education.
Along with our 3-K for All efforts, we are also working toward transferring all EarlyLearn programming (which provides free or low-cost full-day, full-year childcare and education for children ages six weeks to four-years-old) from the Administration for Children’s Services (ACS) to DOE to create a unified education system under one department that meets the educational needs of all our children, from birth to graduation.

**Offer Training for Home-Based Childcare Providers**

Family childcare is a critical component of the early childhood system in New York City, serving thousands of infants, toddlers, and preschool-aged children every year. Through the EarlyLearn system, ACS supports about 1,600 family childcare providers accessed by low-income families that otherwise would not be able to afford high-quality care. As the City prepares to transition the EarlyLearn system from ACS to DOE in July 2019, family childcare remains a critical part of this effort.

Over the next few years, DOE will build out its support structure to ensure family childcare providers receive the resources they need to provide a high-quality, developmentally appropriate education that is also sensitive to the different languages and cultural diversity of the students they serve.

DOE will support family childcare providers and offer expertise in areas including infant and early childhood education, mental health, special education, and family and community engagement. In so doing, we will ensure families and their young children from all socioeconomic backgrounds are able to enjoy the stability, benefits, and educational gains from home-based, trained childcare.

**Offer Free, Full-Day, High-Quality Prekindergarten for Every Four Year-Old**

Pre-K for All brings free, full-day, high-quality pre-K to every four-year-old in New York City, helping prepare them for kindergarten, and giving them a strong start in school and life.

Pre-K for All classrooms are full of joy and discovery as children learn to problem-solve, ask questions, and explore the world around them.

The expansion of the program has focused not only on increasing access, but also on investing in quality instruction and family engagement. Enrollment is strong across every community, with strong participation among low-income families.
SDG Target 4.3
By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university

Strengthen and Expand the Capacity of Adult Education in a Connected Workforce System

A high school credential is required for roughly 80 percent of jobs with advancement potential, and is a prerequisite for many training programs. Yet more than 1 million residents do not have the equivalent of a high school diploma. The City is committed to increasing the capacity of the adult-education system, which currently provides instruction for nearly 70,000 residents annually.

We will capitalize on existing successful models and explore new innovative solutions to help more New Yorkers earn a high school equivalency diploma, which will position them for better jobs, advanced training, and economic security and mobility. We will also connect adult education with the broader workforce system, including employers, apprenticeships, industry partnerships, subsidized jobs, and other training programs, so New Yorkers can access a range of career opportunities.

- **Strengthen and Expand Department of Education Programming and Partnerships**
  We will leverage the expertise of the newly-reorganized Department of Education (DOE) District 79, increasing the service age for youth programs from 21 to 24, building and expanding adult Career and Technical Education (CTE) offerings, and fostering instructional partnerships with community providers in order to serve more New Yorkers.

- **Expand CUNY’s Accelerated Study in Associate Programs (ASAP)**
  Post-secondary education can provide a critical path to living wage jobs but many too many New Yorkers lack such opportunities. To support such opportunities, the City has expanded its support to Accelerated Study in Associate Programs (ASAP), an effort focusing on improving college preparation, retention, and graduation rates for community college students. CUNY’s Accelerated Study in Associate Programs (ASAP) helps students earn associate degrees within three years by providing a range of financial, academic, and personal supports including comprehensive and personalized advisement, career counseling, tutoring, waivers for tuition and mandatory fees, MTA MetroCards, and additional financial assistance to defray the cost of textbooks.
- **Expand Strong Bridge Program Models and Explore Innovative Approaches to Bridge Programming**
  Bridge programs provide both career services and formal educational training in areas such as reading, writing, and computer skills with occupation-specific training and career services. We will increase access to professional development and technical assistance to strengthen existing bridge programs and support programs in launching bridge models, developing service-year bridge programs in order to create paid training opportunities for jobseekers.

- **Expand the Reach and Support of Programs to Connect Underrepresented Communities**
  We will engage more New Yorkers by working more intentionally through existing connector programs such as Jails to Jobs, Jobs Plus, and Youth Pathways that focus on specific underrepresented communities. The City will foster partnerships among service providers and connector programs to ensure all New Yorkers have the social supports they need to overcome barriers, complete programs, and advance toward their goals.

- **Partner with Employers**
  The City will support employers to foster their employees’ educational attainment and upskilling by connecting employers to adult education providers and the workforce development system. We will also convene employers to explore skills-based hiring using a common skills taxonomy that does not rely on standard credentials, thereby making jobs more accessible to those with lower educational attainment.

- **Launch WorkingNYC**
  A network of adult education and workforce development programs and opportunities, Working NYC will increase connections and referrals between employers, educational providers, and specialized programs. We will create and launch a Citywide campaign highlighting this network, introducing career opportunities and helping New Yorkers find opportunities.

- **Advance Common Metrics across Programs**
  We will increase accountability and understanding of what works well within the areas of adult education and workforce development by expanding the use of common metrics.
Strengthen College Access for All

With more and more jobs requiring at least some form of postsecondary education, it is important that all students have the option to attend college. While New York City students are graduating from high school and enrolling in college in record numbers, many still face a gap when it comes to gaining the language skills and knowledge needed to navigate the college application process successfully. Too often, access to this knowledge depends on family members and friends who are themselves college students, which means students with these experiences have earlier exposure to college compared with those who only learn about it late into high school.

Launched in 2016, the College Access for All initiative is aimed at ensuring every student has the resources and support to apply to and enter college. The program helps students prepare to engage with the college process, starting in middle school with seventh grade visits to college campuses and going through high school, with support for 12th graders taking SAT exams and filling out college and financial aid applications. In the 2017–2018 school year, 350 middle schools in 22 districts participated in college access programming. In 2018–2019, we provided college access programming to middle schools in every district.

Additionally, starting this school year, every high school will provide resources and support for students to graduate with a college and career plan. The initiative has also eliminated the CUNY college application fee for low-income students, and made the SAT exam available free of charge during the school day for all high school juniors — increasing the number of juniors who took the SAT by 51 percent in 2016–2017.

SDG Target 4.4

By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship

Improve College Readiness by Expanding Algebra, Advanced Placement (AP), and Computer Science Programs

To prepare students for the rigors of higher education and the competitive demands of an ever-changing economy, we must provide access to algebra and AP classes as well as computer science. Algebra is widely recognized as the “gatekeeper” to higher-level math and science courses, and students who pass Algebra I by no later than the end of ninth grade are more likely to graduate from high school as well as college. Classes
in computer science are critical to success in nearly all fields, from medicine and technology to the humanities. Providing access to these classes along with AP is especially important for low-income students and students of color who would not otherwise be exposed to college-level coursework. Along with greater preparedness for college-level work, the potential to earn credit toward college courses through qualifying AP test scores gives students a head start in their postsecondary education.

Algebra for All launched in 2016 to improve elementary- and middle-school math instruction and ensure that all students complete Algebra by the end of the ninth grade. The program partners with districts to build teacher capacity in the subject.

AP for All, also launched in 2016, enables every high school student to access a range of AP courses. More than 55,000 students — a record — have already taken at least one AP exam, with increases in every borough and across ethnic groups. AP for All has driven citywide gains in participation and performance, particularly among black and Hispanic students. By fall 2021, students at all high schools will have access to at least five AP classes.

The Computer Science for All initiative, launched in fall 2015, is a public-private partnership to provide every student with a computer science education — including coding, robotics, and web design — in elementary, middle, and high school. Too many students in New York City public schools either lack access to computer science or gain it too late, after biases and stereotypes have formed. Approximately 134,000 students participated in computer science at more than 500 schools in 2017–2018 school year. Seven hundred schools had at least one teacher trained in computer science. More than 5,000 students took an AP computer science exam that year, and some 1,600 teachers have received training over the course of the program.

By 2025, all New York City public school students at each school level will receive high-quality computer science education.
SDG Target 4.5
By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations

Ensure Inclusion for Students of All Gender Identities and Sexual Orientations
New York City schools are at the forefront of efforts to create a safe and supportive environment for students of all gender expressions and identities. Examples of this work include providing access to resources for transgender and gender non-binary students, and sexual health education that affirms students of all gender expressions, identities, and sexual orientations. With these efforts, we combat gender-based biases, from relationship abuse to transphobic policies, that act as barriers to receiving an excellent education.

- Implementing Health Ed Works
  Comprehensive sexual health education is fundamental to the wellness of students. Our programs incorporate medically accurate, affirming, age-appropriate, and culturally competent information about anatomy, physiology, family involvement, personal safety, healthy relationships, sexually transmitted infections such as HIV, contraceptives, sexual orientation, pregnancy, media navigation and literacy, and more. In 2018, the City launched Health Ed Works, a four-year, $24 million initiative to increase comprehensive, medically accurate, and age-appropriate health education resources for students. The program provides additional professional-development opportunities for teachers, increases family and community engagement around health education, and offers individualized support to 500 targeted schools.

- Supporting LGBTQ Students, Families, and Staff
  LGBTQ youth experience nearly twice as much bullying on school property as cisgender and heterosexual youth, and are more than twice as likely to attempt suicide. LGBTQ youth of color may also experience stress related to racism and discrimination. Supporting all students, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, is a key part of our mission to ensure Equity and Excellence for All.

To achieve this goal, DOE’s Office of Counseling Support Programs has hired an LGBT community liaison and gender equity coordinator to expand supports for the community. These programs include:
• **Community Based Resources**
  The LGBT Advisory Council, established in 2014, solves issues of LGBTQ inequity across the five boroughs. The Council’s 40 partners include community based organizations, City agencies, and DOE offices.

• **Supportive Adults**
  To date, the LGBTQ community liaison and gender equity coordinators have trained more than 4,000 school-based and central staff members. Through funding from the City Council, more than 450 school-based staff members were trained at the annual Sexuality, Women, and Gender (SWAG) Conference. Because students who feel supported are more likely to attend school, we have implemented the OUT for Safe Schools program, which allows teachers to identify themselves as visible allies by wearing a badge in school, and has been rolled out to hundreds of staff citywide.

• **Inclusive Policies**
  DOE has been a leader in creating policies supporting LGBTQ students. In March 2014, DOE released its first-ever Transgender Student Guidelines. In March 2017, the Department issued expanded and updated transgender and gender non-conforming student guidelines in collaboration with City agencies and community-based organizations. We are committed to recognizing and supporting our trans students and ensuring they receive an equitable education.

• **Affirming Curriculums**
  Students with access to developmentally appropriate curriculum resources that include LGBTQ content are less likely to be bullied or called names. Through funding from the City Council, schools have been able to participate in the Lambda Literary LGBTQ Writers in Schools Program. The inaugural program paired 80 teachers with an LGBTQ author, provided copies of all of that author’s books, and brought the author into the classroom.

• **LGBTQ Student Clubs**
  Clubs such as gender and sexuality alliances (GSAs) create spaces for LGBTQ students to socialize, support one another, and advocate for inclusive practices in their schools. These clubs have a positive impact on school climate and culture: Schools that offer GSAs report lower incidences of bullying and harassment based on sexual orientation. DOE is committed to identifying and strengthening GSAs, and supports the creation of new clubs in schools. As part of this work, DOE offered an annual GSA summit, attended by more than 1,500 middle and high school students.
SDG Target 4.6
By 2030, ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy

Please see information under 4.3

SDG Target 4.7
By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture’s contribution to sustainable development

Empower the Next Generation of New Yorkers to Become Informed Residents and Activists

A vibrant democracy depends on the passion and engagement of young adults. Activating youth is a core strategy to promote civic leadership and foster a diverse and inclusive government. To support and promote youth involvement in civic action, New York City will:

- **Teach Students across the City about the Foundations of Democracy**
  New York City believes teaching the foundations of American government and the democratic process is necessary to building more-engaged, active future citizens and informed voters. Launched in 2018, Civics for All is an interactive, culturally relevant civics education program that will be available to all grade levels in all communities by fall 2019. The curriculum uses real-life learning opportunities — including research projects, participatory budgeting, field trips, week-long celebrations of civic engagement, and public-speaking competitions — to cultivate future generations of engaged, active, and informed leaders.

- **Educate New Yorkers about Human Rights**
  The New York City Commission on Human Rights will deepen after-school and community-based programs to empower youth with rights-based information and promote self-confidence, pride, and a sense of responsibility to one another.
For example, a peer-mediation program de-escalates tension between students, as well as empowering them to create their own solutions to conflict. Other Commission programs for youth focus on empowerment of young women, dismantling white supremacy, and human rights education, such as equitable quality education and gender equality.

Please see information about the NYC Junior Ambassadors Program in the Ownership of the SDGs section.

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**SDG Target 4.a.1**

Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all

**Improve School Facilities, Particularly in High-Need Districts**

The City’s proposed Capital Plan includes investments to improve educational performance, maintain existing facilities in good repair, create nearly 57,000 seats in 89 new facilities, reduce class size, and support removal of transportable classroom units.

One-third of funding targets school facilities, including safety enhancements along with technology and other general improvements to the learning environments. The proposed plan allocates $750 million to make schools more accessible, which is by far the most ever spent by the City to achieve this goal. The improvements, developed with families and advocates for people with disabilities, will add accessible bathrooms, classrooms, and auditoriums, and offer more opportunities for students with accessibility needs to learn in an equitable environment. We are committed to making one-third of the buildings in every district fully accessible by 2024, and at least 50 percent of our buildings housing elementary school grades fully or partially accessible by 2024.
Introduction

After decades of wage stagnation, earnings are rising across the board following the introduction of the $15/hour minimum wage. Wages do not reflect the productivity gains of the last several decades, and many New Yorkers can’t make ends meet — let alone move up the ladder. A low-wage home health aide, for example, puts in extraordinarily long hours but struggles to support their family without such basics as health insurance or paid sick leave. An aspiring entrepreneur with a great idea for a new business can’t secure funding or find an affordable space to start their company.

We must adopt policies to build an inclusive economy, because when economic growth is pursued as a strategy — a means rather than an end — it becomes a key driver to achieve wider social benefits. OneNYC2050 will ensure all New Yorkers have the right skills and education for 21st century jobs, fair pay and good working conditions, as well as opportunities for career advancement, economic mobility, and wealth creation.

Context

Our economy is growing and diversifying. Once overly reliant on the financial sector, the city is now a tech hub and center for life sciences, professional services, and advanced manufacturing. We attract talent and investors from around the world who are drawn to the city’s universities and research institutions, our vibrancy, and the enduring reality that New York City is a place where strivers and dreamers can make their own success. We have also made strides toward greater economic equity, with a reduction in the gender wage gap and all-time highs in high school graduation and college readiness rates to prepare our young people for successful careers.

While these are the most favorable economic conditions since the Great Recession, not every New Yorker is benefiting. Record job growth has been largely driven by high-paying
professional occupations that require high educational attainment and low-wage service sector jobs that are not sufficient to support a family, build savings, or secure a retirement. Many New Yorkers must work multiple jobs, and more than 1.6 million want to work more hours but cannot find opportunities to do so. Others are in entry-level jobs with limited pathways for advancement, and many face exploitation and unfair work conditions. Although poverty rates are decreasing citywide, more than 40 percent of the population still lives in or near poverty today.

More than 2 million New Yorkers lack the basic education and skills to access middle-class jobs because they either do not have a high school diploma or high school equivalency, or have a diploma but lack the required proficiency in English to secure most good-paying jobs. One in four transgender New Yorkers face barriers in accessing employment. Racial discrimination and historical inequities in job access and education have resulted in a persistent racial wealth gap: In 2016, black women working full-time in New York City made 57 cents for every dollar paid to white men. The unemployment rate remains higher for black and Hispanic workers — twice as high for black New Yorkers than white New Yorkers.

Nationally, the white-to-black disparity in median net worth (the value of a family’s combined assets minus its liabilities) is 19 to 1. This wealth disparity has a self-perpetuating effect as black children born today are less likely to be able to turn to family for help to pay for college, start a business, or weather a life emergency, thereby limiting their economic opportunity. The growing wealth divide is also exacerbated by a decline in union membership and employer provided worker benefits, with fewer employers investing in training or providing long-term economic security for their workers.

Similarly, LGBTQ poverty and unemployment is a significant concern, particularly for LGBTQ communities of color and transgender and gender non-binary people. Over 60% of low-income LGBTQ New Yorkers report having had difficulty paying for a basic need in the past year. Over 1 in 4 transgender New Yorkers have experienced barriers to accessing employment, with even higher rates for LGBTQ people of color. Black transgender people, for example, experience four times the rate of unemployment as compared to the general population nationally.

The changing nature of work poses new risks and opportunities. At least 400,000 New Yorkers work full-time as freelancers, supported by the growth of app-based hiring in service industries such as home health care, for-hire driving, and hospitality. While the “gig economy” has increased job accessibility and the flexibility of hours, it has also meant less security; most freelancers lack benefits like employer subsidized access to health care, paid time off, and assistance with employer disputes. Automation threatens to impact
nearly 40 percent of occupations, mostly those with low education requirements or involving repetitive tasks.

Income is directly linked to the ability to live a long and healthy life, impacting the ability to afford nutritious food, adequate housing, or health care. Poverty can also cause toxic stress among those who experience it, leading to poor health among children and adults. Reducing income inequality could save New Yorkers’ lives. A recent study demonstrated that the $15/hour minimum wage would have averted as many as 5,500 premature deaths in New York City between 2008 and 2012 had it been in place.

**Progress**

The city’s strong economy — paired with wage increases and improved work rules — has helped significantly reduce poverty since 2014. More than 1.5 million New Yorkers have benefited from the $15/hour minimum wage since it took effect in New York City in January 2019. With minimum-wage earners seeing their income double in the last 10 years, the City is on track to meet our 2015 goal of moving 800,000 residents — nearly 10 percent of our population — out of poverty or near poverty by 2025.

Thanks to strategic investments by the City, we have become a leading innovation hub, attracting global firms such as Google and Facebook, successful homegrown start-ups such as Etsy and ZocDoc, and countless entrepreneurs looking to start the next big thing. The City continues to look ahead, releasing New York Works, a 10-year plan for creating 100,000 good-paying jobs in strategic growth industries.

We have also made significant investments in City properties to create more access to affordable industrial and commercial space, particularly for small businesses. The City has committed to workforce development programs such as Career Pathways and its associated Industry Partnerships, partnering with employers, industry and trade organizations, unions, and nonprofits to build a robust pipeline of local talent to fill jobs in targeted sectors.

The City enacted some of the strongest worker protection mandates in the country, such as paid safe and sick leave policies. This is supported by the newly renamed Department of Consumer and Worker Protection, which enforces stronger work rules and holds employers accountable. For small businesses, we made policy and procedural changes that are expected to save businesses $50 million annually. To increase participation in the economy from underrepresented groups and companies, the City has certified a record number of minority- and women-owned businesses (M/WBEs) and awarded them more than $10 billion in contracts since 2015.
We’ve made significant efforts to ensure fair employment practices and close the pay gap for women and people of color, becoming the first municipality in the nation to enforce a law prohibiting all employers from inquiring about job seekers’ salary history during the hiring process. By removing questions about an applicant’s previous earnings, the law allows applicants who have been systemically underpaid, particularly women and people of color, to negotiate a salary based on their qualifications and earning potential rather than being measured by their previous salary. To help businesses and job seekers understand the new law, the NYC Commission on Human Rights launched a digital ad campaign targeting human resources professionals and job seekers.

And we did this all while strengthening the City’s financial outlook, thereby earning a credit-rating upgrade from Moody’s, which cited our increased economic diversity and strong fiscal management.

What We Will Do

OneNYC 2050 recognizes the need for a new social contract to make New York City the fairest big city in America. To create an equitable and inclusive economy, we will attract and create good-paying jobs by investing in businesses and sectors that promise fair wages and working conditions. We will train New Yorkers for the jobs of the future, protect workers, and expand the safety net. To support wealth creation and shared prosperity, we will grow worker-owned businesses and enable workers and labor unions to have more say and decision-making power. In addition, we will strengthen the fiscal health of the City to sustain and broaden economic security.

SDG Target 8.1

Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances and, in particular, at least 7 per cent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries

An inclusive economy means protecting core industries essential to maintaining our leading role in the global economy, focusing on growing sectors that create good-paying jobs, and supporting emerging industries such as cybersecurity and digital health care for which New York City is well positioned to become a global hub. The administration will continue implementing the New York Works plan, a series of 25 initiatives to spur 100,000 jobs with good wages over the coming decade.
Invest in the Space for Equitable Growth

To continue growing our economy in an equitable way, New York City must have adequate commercial and industrial space, and promote job opportunities in all five boroughs. Policy changes and City investments over the past few years have helped stabilize the decline in industrial and manufacturing jobs. The City has also seen job growth — and not only in Manhattan.

**SDG Target 8.2**

*Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors*

Diversify the City’s Economy and Broaden Access to Good-Paying Jobs

The City’s sectoral development initiatives must be complemented by programs to create career pathways for underemployed New Yorkers and jobseekers with low educational attainment by ensuring access to training and other opportunities for career advancement. As part of this commitment, in 2018, the City launched ApprenticeNYC, a first-of-its-kind program to create 450 paid apprenticeships in the industrial, health, and tech industries by 2021.

We’re committed to attracting employers that are building a more competitive and inclusive economy. The City will continue to provide resources to these businesses through the Best for NYC program. To support growth in high-opportunity sectors, the City will invest in programming and technical assistance, workforce development, and adequate commercial and industrial space.

- **Grow the Tech Sector and Invest in Diverse Tech Talent**

  New York City is already a global tech hub, supported by world-class research, a deep well of talent, and major industries, from banking to media to health care, that feed a robust tech ecosystem. The City is committed to investing in emerging industries that leverage technology, such as urban tech, cybersecurity, and blockchain. As part of Cyber NYC, a $100 million public-private investment to meet growing threats from cyberattacks, the City will also launch the Global Cyber Center to provide the tools and connections cyber start-ups need to grow, catalyzing the creation of 10,000 good-paying jobs in the sector. Blockchain is another emerging technology that will change how businesses create and store information. The City launched the NYC Blockchain Center in Flatiron to provide shared space, public education, and business support. To strengthen that investment, the City also launched the NYC
BigApps Blockchain Challenge, and sponsors Blockchain Week to keep New York City at the forefront of innovation in this technology.

**Address Climate Change and Create Green Jobs**

New York City is addressing climate change head-on, committing to carbon neutrality by 2050, and adapting our city to emerge stronger from the impacts of climate change. This will generate economic activity, and open up opportunities in the green economy as we transform our energy system, retrofit our buildings, innovate green forms of production, and protect residents from environmental hazards. Promoting local hiring policies through City-funded contracts will create opportunities for good-paying jobs with career paths. The City will expand access to the green economy beyond the Green Jobs Corps initiative by launching training programs, providing pathways into career-track jobs, developing pre-qualified lists, and supporting business development.

**Meet the Health Care Needs of the Future While Creating Good-Paying Jobs**

Health care plays a huge part in the City’s economy — accounting for one in six jobs in New York City. As the sector rapidly changes, driven by trends in population health, including the continued growth of chronic conditions and improved understanding of mental health, as well as technological advances, the City will ensure it is meeting these challenges head-on while creating new career opportunities for all New Yorkers. With a growing senior population, the City must change the way it provides health care and other services to meet the needs of older residents. Many seniors receive unpaid care from relatives. According to a 2018 survey conducted by the City, there are about a million unpaid caregivers in New York City, mostly women over 50, many of whom are struggling financially. Additionally, while there is growing demand for entry-level health care positions such as home health aides, community health workers, and certified nursing assistants, these positions are often poorly compensated and provide limited pathways to advancement and higher wages. The City will invest in programs and initiatives that elevate entry-level positions in health care and provide a career track within the industry, such as for Career and Technical Education (CTE) high school students who transition to nursing.
SDG Target 8.3
Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services

Create Affordable Workspaces for Artists
Artists in New York City face challenges finding affordable workspaces. In 2015, the City announced a goal of developing 500 units of workspace for the cultural community over the next decade through the Affordable Real Estate for Artists (AREA) initiative. AREA workspace units will be rented at below-market rates and made accessible to artists from diverse backgrounds for years to come.

Integrate Human Capital Investment into All City Initiatives
Support the Growth and Retention of Small Businesses
New York City is home to more than 230,000 small businesses, 50 percent of which are owned by immigrant New Yorkers. Small businesses are essential to both the local economy and the character of our neighborhoods, providing opportunities for individuals to strengthen their own economic security and employ members of their communities. The City supports businesses as they start, operate, and grow by providing free services at scale and investing in innovative projects that create long-term change for entrepreneurs across the City.

- **Streamline Regulatory Interactions**
  The City will create a unique business identifier citywide to track business records across agencies, improving operational efficiency and saving time for small businesses. Eventually these reforms will allow for a real-time feedback exchange between businesses and regulatory agencies, ensuring that laws, policies, and regulations appropriately balance business interests and public purpose.

- **Ensure Businesses Are Resilient**
  The City will work to ensure that businesses are resilient and prepared for emergencies. A newly established Business Resiliency Steering Committee will identify the most valuable measures for businesses and facilitate implementation by aligning laws and regulations, by providing business owners with the resources they need to adopt these measures, and by mobilizing businesses across the city to implement them.
• **Support Women Entrepreneurs**

Women Entrepreneurs NYC (WE NYC) addresses the unique barriers women face when starting businesses by providing workshops to equip women with knowledge and skills, networking and mentorship opportunities, free legal clinics, and a crowdfunding platform. The City recently launched WE Fund: Growth, a targeted loan program providing over $5 million in capital to women entrepreneurs. WE Fund: Credit helps women entrepreneurs access lines of credit. WE Venture is a $10 million NYC EDC initiative to encourage Venture Capital Partners to invest in companies founded by women.

• **Support Neighborhood Business**

A complex mix of factors is influencing the retail sector today, from e-commerce to changing consumer habits and preferences. To help small businesses navigate these challenges, SBS will double down on its support of longstanding businesses confronting changing market conditions. Last year the City launched its Commercial Lease Assistance Program, which provides a range of services including guidance on new leases and lease renewals and assistance with breach of contracts and landlord harassment. Through the Love Your Local Small Business Grant program, SBS awarded in-depth assessments with business consultants and grant funding to small businesses in neighborhoods with rising commercial rents. SBS will learn from these engagements and test creative business interventions with the aim of developing scalable solutions to support longstanding businesses.

**Produce Value for Working New Yorkers**

To create a more fair, democratic, and resilient city, the City will invest in a comprehensive strategy to grow employee-owned businesses. Workers drive innovation and deserve a fair-share of our City's economic prosperity. Ownership of businesses increases job stability, income, and wealth for workers. Employee ownership increases productivity and helps improve the bottom line for businesses. Such businesses are on average 2.4 percent more productive than firms without those practices. The vision of employee-ownership and economic democracy has been seeded across the country. New York City has the opportunity to realize this at scale and ensure inclusive and lasting growth for the future. The City will build a business development ecosystem and make investments so that our businesses and workers are equipped to share in the profits and decision-making that grows our economy.
SDG Target 8.4
Improve progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavour to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, in accordance with the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production, with developed countries taking the lead

Transition New York City toward a Circular Economy
New York City will become a center of excellence for sustainable product design by partnering with the private sector to design and market products that are reusable, repairable, or recyclable. We will create incentives and infrastructure for city businesses and consumers to use recycled materials to support the growth of closed-loop recycling. Through the power of policy, advocacy, procurement, and regulation, we will take a leadership role in driving brands and product manufacturers to design for returnability, reusability, repairability, recyclability, and compostability. We will also expand the use of extended producer responsibility measures to keep more products out of our landfills. We will raise consumer awareness, explore new business models, and incorporate technological innovations.

SDG Target 8.5
By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value

Increase Economic Opportunities for Minority-and Women-Owned Business Enterprises
New York City is committed to leveraging its spending power and resources to increase economic opportunity and close the disparity gap for M/WBEs. Since 2015, the City has awarded more than $10 billion in contracts to M/WBEs, certified over 7,400 businesses, and made over $70 million in low-cost capital available to M/WBEs and small business vendors, with a goal of awarding $20 billion by 2025. The City will continue to move forward with implementing new policies and providing resources to support an unprecedented number of contract awards by M/WBEs to create a more inclusive economy. This will include expanding the availability of low-interest loans administered by SBS and NYCEDC and advocating for State legislation that will help unlock more opportunities for M/WBEs.
Leverage the Buying Power of Anchor Institutions to Strengthen Local Economies

The City has taken bold steps to address income inequality, but policy alone cannot meet the rapidly changing demands of our economy, or our climate. We harness the shared mission and power of community anchors, such as universities, hospitals, and other large employers that are unable to address equity and sustainability in the communities in which they are located. To strengthen local businesses and economies, the City will work with citywide stakeholders to support 25 percent of New York City-based anchor institutions making commitments and taking measurable actions toward generating community wealth and resilience by 2025.

SDG Target 8.6
By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training

Engage Summer Youth Employment Program Participants

The City will train a segment of the 70,000 annual Summer Youth Employment Program participants in the fundamentals of economic democracy, the belief that major economic decisions should be made by broad stakeholders, including the public, not just corporate shareholders. These interns between the ages of 14 and 24 will work on the 2020 Census and other initiatives focused on civic engagement, community organizing, and grassroots change.

SDG Target 8.7
Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms

Help Labor Trafficked and Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) and Youth Achieve Safety and Obtain Resources to Help Them Heal and Thrive

The Administration for Children’s Services (ACS) is committed to identifying and helping labor trafficked and commercially sexually exploited children (CSEC) and youth achieve safety and obtain resources to help them heal and thrive.

7 Information provided by DCAS and DYCD
safety and obtain resources to help them heal and thrive. ACS established the Office of Child Trafficking Prevention & Policy (CTPP) to provide guidance for work with this vulnerable population. CTPP also works collaboratively with the NYC Department of Youth & Community Development (DYCD) to provide a wide range of services to prevent trafficking and meet the needs of youth at-risk and victims of exploitation through funding from the New York State Office of Family and Children’s Services’ Safe Harbour Program.

Local Law 41 of 2016 requires an annual report to the Speaker of the City Council, documenting the number of youth in contact with DYCD and ACS “who are referred as, self-report as, or who the department (DYCD) or ACS later determines to be sexually exploited children, disaggregated by age, gender and whether the children had contact with either DYCD or ACS or both agencies”. The law also requires DYCD and ACS to provide a “description of the services provided by the department and ACS to meet the needs of youth who are or have been sexually exploited.” Lastly, the law requires DYCD and ACS to document their methods for collecting data regarding this population.

SDG Target 8.8
Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment

Aggressively Enforce Fair Wages and Working Conditions

The City promotes quality jobs by ensuring more residents work full-time hours, have stable schedules, earn paid leave, and have access to their other employment rights. Over the past few years, the City has enacted laws and rules to protect the rights of workers, such as ensuring more predictable schedules for fast food and retail workers, as well as paid safe and sick leave, which allows employees to take paid time off work for their own health and safety-related needs or to care for family members in similar circumstances. The City has also proposed mandated paid personal time to help more than 500,000 residents working full- and part-time who do not have paid time off. The new law would require private businesses with five or more employees to offer 10 annual days of paid personal time, to be used at the employees’ discretion.

To effectively enforce worker protections and benefits, the City is expanding the mission and name of the Department of Consumer Affairs to the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection (DCWP). With a powerful new mandate, DCWP is building upon its successful implementation and enforcement of new workplace laws and expanding its enforcement
powers to better protect workers (including the city’s 400,000 freelance and for-hire workers). The City has already recovered $7.5 million in money for workers since 2014 through the enforcement of laws to protect workers, including Paid Safe and Sick Leave, Fair Workweek, and Freelance isn’t Free. As this work expands, the City will pilot alternative dispute resolution of wage hour disputes for paid caregivers and other domestic workers, many of whom are immigrants vulnerable to workplace problems such as wage theft and sexual harassment.

**Guarantee Access to Lifeline Benefits**

The gig economy highlights that fewer jobs today offer the income security and lifeline benefits American workers have traditionally depended on. The City is innovating new models for ensuring worker access to benefits outside the employer-employee relationship, allowing movement of accrued benefits from job to job. Among the City's efforts:

- **The City is creating a Retirement Plan that Will Provide Access to Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) For All Working New Yorkers**
  
  Forty percent of New Yorkers between the ages of 50–64 have less than $10,000 saved for retirement. These people are mostly lower income and disproportionately female and people of color. The City will seek to require all employers with at least five employees to either offer access to a retirement plan or auto-enroll their employees in the City plan with a default contribution of the employees' own earnings of 5 percent, which could then be increased or reduced by the employee.

- **The City Will Guarantee Health Care for All City Residents By 2021**

  NYC Care, launching in summer 2019, will connect thousands of New Yorkers who are ineligible for health insurance to reliable care. Once fully implemented, anyone will be able to access comprehensive care across NYC Health + Hospitals' more than 70 locations. Priced on a sliding scale to ensure affordability, NYC Care will provide access to primary care, specialty care, prescription drugs, mental health services, hospitalization, and more.

- The Mayor's Office for Economic Opportunity is contributing funding to a study in New York City and three other cities testing the impact of a child allowance on child development and other family effects. This study will build on prior research that associates higher family income with children's brain development, including those regions implicated in language and executive functions.

- The City will convene a task force to study the impact of automation on the future of work and workers, including its impact on working New Yorkers, potential to be harnessed for growth and opportunity, and strategies to prepare for and respond to both of these effects.
In addition to these expanded income and benefit models, the City is working to improve the experience of applying for and receiving benefits and services. This work includes promoting expanded online access, increased collaboration across agencies, and using human-centered design for programs and processes.

**SDG Target 8.9**

*By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products*

NYC & Company is a non-profit trade association that is contracted by the City of New York to serve as the official destination marketing organization and convention and visitors bureau for the five boroughs. The mission is to maximize travel and tourism opportunities throughout the City, build economic prosperity and spread the dynamic image of New York City around the world. NYC & Company represents the interests of nearly 2,000 member organizations across the spectrum of businesses and organizations in the City.

NYC & Company provides resources for visitors to discover everything they need to know about what to do and see in NYC. In addition to an integrated market development team in New York City with a focus on group, meeting/convention, leisure and events motivated travel, NYC & Company has a global communications and market promotion network, including 17 representative offices on five continents, to promote visitation. Together with satellite convention sales offices in the US to develop group business, NYC & Company’s marketing efforts—both consumer and business facing—position the City to attract business and leisure travelers.

**Sustainable Tourism Committee**

As part of these global outreach efforts, NYC & Company has established a Sustainable Tourism Committee to generate, collect, and disseminate information on sustainable practices and act as a catalyst by engaging tourism-related entities seeking to establish sustainability programs.

**Climate Week NYC**

In September 2018, NYC & Company contributed to the 10th annual Climate Week NYC by undertaking numerous activities to highlight New York City’s sustainability efforts, and will host an event in September 2019 on sustainable tourism that will be part of the official Climate Week program.
Tips for travelers and planners
NYC & Company also produces tips for travelers and planners that address a range of topics related to the Sustainable Development Goals. This includes a Green Guide with 10 recommendations for the tourism industry. NYC & Company continually updates the accessibility section of our website, nycgo.com, for every member of the Accessibility Community. We strive to make sure each piece of accessibility content we create provides accurate information.

WorldPride
When NYC expects a large number of visitors for a major event, NYC & Company also undertakes targeted sustainability initiatives. For example, in advance of WorldPride NYC 2019 and the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising, NYC & Company established Project Rainbow, a unique initiative empowering member businesses to unify their branding in celebration of the event and in solidarity with all that it represents.

Additionally, six Broadway shows participated in a new initiative called Proudly Sustainable that launched June 1, 2019. Proudly Sustainable was created to encourage and remind travelers and New Yorkers to keep our city clean—from NYC’s iconic tourist sites to vibrant neighborhoods across the five boroughs—while visiting during WorldPride.

SDG Target 8.10
Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all

Address High Living Costs and Debt Loads
In addition to promoting wage growth, the City is committed to mitigating expenses that create burdens for residents, especially vulnerable populations. Housing costs are often the biggest expense for residents, and rising rents can mean rising evictions. To lower the risk of eviction, we will strengthen tenant protections, expand vouchers to higher-opportunity neighborhoods, increase counselling assistance for voucher holders, ensure homeless shelters provide safe and livable homes, and continue to promote successful programs, such as the City’s Rent Freeze Program, which helps seniors and individuals with disabilities freeze their rents.

The City is also influencing the national, state, and local debate regarding the student debt crisis. In 2019, the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection will publish a series of research and policy briefs, launch a public-awareness campaign, and provide financial coaching and tools to student loan borrowers. As the population of New York
City ages, families often struggle to meet the high costs of care to seniors. Additionally, many adults, often seniors, care for children or individuals with disabilities. A recent study by the Department of the Aging estimated that New York City is home to about 1 million unpaid caregivers taking care of family members. The City will explore responses to these findings to support families and caregivers in the decades ahead.
Goal 10
Reduce inequality within and among countries

Equity is at the core of OneNYC 2050’s agenda, and incorporated throughout the strategy. The City publishes a Social Indicators report that analyzes social conditions across NYC. This report is meant to help guide the City’s efforts to reduce disparities and advance equity. Presenting data about conditions in disaggregated form can reveal differences that exist among different parts of the City and within specific populations. The review of Goal 10 includes a selected set of programs to indicate how NYC is approaching this issue, in addition to the activities in other sections of the Voluntary Local Review.

SDG Target 10.1
By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average

The City successfully advocated for a $15-per-hour minimum wage and strengthened worker protections and benefits, putting us on track to lift 800,000 New Yorkers out of poverty or near poverty by 2025. Please see review of Sustainable Development Goal 8 for comprehensive information about NYC’s efforts to achieve this SDG target.

SDG Target 10.2
By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status

The U.S. Census is a constitutionally mandated survey of the national population that takes place every 10 years. It is used to determine each state’s representation in Congress,
as well as allocate billions of federal dollars for schools, housing, health care, community development, and other programs. Ensuring an accurate count during each Census is particularly critical to New York City, as the census provides rich demographic data the City uses to set policy. The stakes will be particularly high in 2020 because the federal government plans to add a question to the Census regarding citizenship status that will likely discourage thousands of immigrant New Yorkers from completing a census form, thus reducing our overall count. New York City has joined states and municipalities from across the country to challenge the citizenship question in the courts. Regardless of the outcome to these challenges, we recognize the urgent need to reach hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers in “hard-to-count” households — those who are unlikely to respond on their own to the census, and therefore require proactive steps to bring awareness and education to the importance of the census to their communities.

Starting this year, the City is spearheading a comprehensive, multiyear effort to count every New Yorker — an effort that will also serve as a model for future Censuses in 2030 and beyond. This effort consists of a multi-pronged, campaign-style strategy in coordination with a broad range of stakeholders to proactively engage New Yorkers from all walks of life:

- First-of-its-kind community group granting program, with a focus on localized, on-the-ground outreach and engagement work, particularly in hard-to-count populations through grants to community-based organizations across the five boroughs;
- Sophisticated “Get Out the Count” operation relying on smart, metrics-driven field organizing strategies, new technologies, and direct engagement;
- Robust and innovative advertising and marketing campaign, covering all forms of media outlets, with a particular focus on digital, as well as foreign-language and community media;
- An in-depth and multi-layered City Agency engagement strategy that ensures that all City Agencies, their employees, and their infrastructures, are utilized to promote census participation.

**Promote Community Organizing Through Youth Leadership Councils**

The City will also grow the number of NYC Youth Leadership Councils (YLC) to 300 in City agencies, NYPD precincts, schools, and nonprofits across the city by 2021. These YLCs will enable 4,500 high school youth from diverse communities and socioeconomic backgrounds to influence City policies.
Advance Gender Equity by Engaging Diverse Stakeholder Groups

Conversations to advance gender equity must include voices that are representative of the city’s diverse population, including the spectrum of gender identity, age, race, and immigration status. Among the strategies the City is exploring are hosting gender equity summits across the city to gather feedback on program offerings; building a network of cisgender and transgender males to help change culturally informed norms of masculinity, and foster the accountability of men for advancing gender equity for all New Yorkers; and engaging youth who represent diverse gender identities, sexual orientations, and backgrounds in conversations on gender equity to inform program offerings that increase youth voice in City agency work.

SDG Target 10.3
Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard

NYC Human Rights Law Prohibits Discrimination in NYC

The NYC Human Rights Law, Title 8 of the Administrative Code of the City of New York, prohibits discrimination in New York City. Individuals are protected from discrimination in many areas, based on a number of protected classes.

Areas Covered by the Human Rights Law:
- Employment (interns, whether paid or not, are considered employees)
- Housing (rentals and home ownership, including lending practices)
- Public accommodations (doctor’s offices, stores, theaters, stadiums, taxi cabs, etc.)
- Retaliation
- Discriminatory harassment
- Bias-based profiling by law enforcement

Protected Classes under the Human Rights Law:
- Age
- Alienage or citizenship status
- Color
- Disability
- Gender (including sexual harassment)

Information provided by CCHR
Gender Identity
Marital status and partnership status
National origin
Pregnancy
Race
Religion/Creed
Sexual orientation
Status as a Veteran or Active Military Service Member

Additional protections are afforded in employment based on:
Arrest or conviction record
Caregiver
Credit history
Unemployment status
Salary History
Status as a victim of domestic violence, stalking, and sex offenses
Sexual and reproductive health decisions

Additional protections are afforded in housing based on:
Lawful occupation
Lawful source of income
The presence of children
Status as a victim of domestic violence, stalking, and sex offenses

The Law Enforcement Bureau (LEB) of the Commission on Human Rights enforces the NYC Human Rights Law. Allegations of discrimination come to LEB for investigation in several ways. Members of the public may file a complaint with LEB about their own experience. A lawyer may file a complaint with LEB on a client’s behalf. Service providers, community organizations, elected officials, or individuals may bring specific incidents or potential patterns of discrimination to LEB’s attention, and LEB can initiate its own investigation.

The Commission on Human Rights has the authority to assess fines and obtain cash settlements for those aggrieved by violations of the NYC Human Rights Law. Additional settlements and provisions successfully negotiated by the Commission might also include rehirings, policy changes, and modifications for accessibility. The Commission also may require trainings or encourage the parties to engage in restorative justice mechanisms, including apologies to victims and community service.

Through encouraging increased reporting and resolving far more cases annually, LEB is
ensuring protections for individuals interested in pursuing justice in a timely manner. In FY18 The Commission received 10,372 inquiries. This is a 24% increase from 2016. We saw a 480% increase in bias incidents reports in 2016.

After reporting, the Law Enforcement Bureau uses various methods to ensure claims are handled appropriately. Through practices like Pre-Complaint Intervention, the bureau was able to address concerns of individuals without filing a complaint. In FY18, CCHR completed 180 pre-complaint interventions. CCHR Opened 592 commission-initiated investigations. The Commission filed 751 claims in FY 2018 and obtained settlements in 22% of those cases.

New Yorkers must have greater knowledge of human rights and human rights law to understand global challenges and engage local government to ensure their rights are protected. To this end, the New York City Commission on Human Rights will continue to enforce and educate the public about the City Human Rights Law, the nation’s most progressive and expansive civil rights legislation. The commission will continue to conduct educational workshops, town halls, roundtables, and listening sessions in multiple languages to educate New Yorkers about discrimination based on race, religion, disability, gender identity, and/or sexual orientation.

Established NYC Automated Decision Task Force

The New York City Automated Decision Systems Task Force (ADS Task Force) was established by Local Law 49 of 2018 and is tasked with recommending a process for reviewing the City’s use of automated decision systems (more commonly known as algorithms). Because many City agencies and offices use algorithms to aid their decision-making, and because automated decision systems are becoming more prevalent in all fields, the City is examining ways to ensure these systems align with the goal of making New York City a fairer and more equitable place. The first of its kind in the country, Task Force members include senior City officials as well as partners from the private sector, nonprofit, advocacy, and research communities.

SDG Target 10.4
Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality

Please see the review of SDG 8.8 for more detailed information about NYC’s efforts.

SDG Target 10.5
Improve the regulation and monitoring of global financial markets and institutions and strengthen the implementation of such regulations

Not applicable.

SDG Target 10.6
Ensure enhanced representation and voice for developing countries in decision-making in global international economic and financial institutions in order to deliver more effective, credible, accountable and legitimate institutions

Not applicable.

SDG Target 10.7
Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies

Our Diverse Immigrant Residents Fuel the Dynamism of Our Society, Our Economy, and Our Democracy

New York City is home to more than three million foreign-born residents. More than half have naturalized, but some 1.5 million remain noncitizens. Moreover, more than one million households are of mixed status, meaning they have at least one undocumented household member. In this city of immigrants, we are committed to doing more to help New Yorkers from around the world thrive in the city’s civic life. New York City will strengthen our reputation as a welcoming city for individuals of all documentation statuses, and help all immigrants integrate into the civic, economic, and social fabric.

Expand the Reach of IDNYC

IDNYC, the City’s municipal identification card, was launched in 2015 and has grown to more than 1.2 million cardholders. The program reaches those in highest need of identification and access to services, as well as those seeking additional opportunities to engage in the cultural life of the city. With the unprecedented reach of this program in traditionally underserved communities such as disconnected youth, the homeless, undocumented immigrants, and LGBTQ residents, IDNYC represents an important opportunity to provide more and deeper connections to services and supports. To better serve IDNYC cardholders, the City is exploring IDNYC functionality that would give cardholders the choice to
opt in to low-cost banking services like low-cost cash-loading, withdrawals, and debit card purchases in order to expand its banking utility beyond the 14 existing banks and credit unions that currently accept the card.

**Raise Naturalization Rates through Targeted Outreach and Assistance**

Increasing immigrant access to citizenship is a powerful tool for fighting poverty, and has been shown to lead to higher rates of home ownership, better pay, increased political participation, and protection from deportation. Naturalized citizens can vote in national and local elections, are protected from deportation, travel with a U.S. passport, qualify for federal government jobs, and can access the same government benefits as U.S.-born citizens. Expanding citizenship pathways helps immigrants achieve greater economic, social, and political stability. Naturalization also benefits New York City as a whole. A 2015 report commissioned by the Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs (MOIA) found that government benefit expenditures would decline by $34 million if all residents went through the process of naturalization. The City is exploring methods of raising the naturalization rate among those who are eligible to naturalize but have not yet done so. Importantly, a substantial number of these immigrants are eligible for full or partial waivers of the federal application fees, and may therefore apply for free or at half the cost, thereby helping to address one of the major barriers to seeking citizenship. In addition, the City is exploring ways of empowering newly naturalized New Yorkers to impact policy and become leaders in their community, through expanded voter education, voter registration, language access at the polls, and other forms of civic participation.

**Protect and Provide Resources to Support New and Undocumented New Yorkers**

Recently arrived New Yorkers, especially those lacking documentation, have long faced exploitation and challenges accessing services. Policy changes and increased immigration enforcement at the federal level have created particularly acute needs for immigrant New Yorkers already navigating a complex and broken immigration system. New York City will:

- **Provide Deportation Assistance in the Face of Overaggressive Enforcement**

  Through City-managed legal services, programs such as ActionNYC, the Immigrant Opportunities Initiative, and others, the City facilitates the provision of high-quality advice and representation, and helps trusted providers build their capacity to assist immigrant communities. The City has dramatically expanded funding for these services in recent years, paying particular attention to addressing crises precipitated by federal policy changes such as the travel ban, family separation, and attempts to terminate Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Temporary Protected Status (TPS) designations. The City is exploring avenues to expand legal representation even further.
• **Guarantee Affordable Health Care Regardless of Immigration Status**
  Recognizing that inequities persist in health care access for immigrant residents — and in particular, undocumented immigrants — the City will guarantee access to care for all. The NYC Care initiative, set to launch in the Bronx in the summer of 2019, will provide support to uninsured and underinsured residents, including a population of undocumented residents estimated at about 300,000 — a number that is expected to rise due to the chilling effects created by the proposed federal public charge rule and ongoing immigration enforcement concerns. The City is undertaking a large-scale effort to connect any and all residents in need of health care services, regardless of their immigration status.

• **Provide Protections for Immigrant Workers to Prevent Exploitation and Unfair Labor Practices**
  Low-wage workers, a disproportionate number of whom are immigrants, are at increased risk of being victimized by unfair labor practices. In New York City, low-wage immigrant workers are more than twice as likely as other low-wage workers to be paid below the minimum wage. The City is exploring expansions of legal services for workers, as well as legislative, policy, and public education measures to address unfair practices in immigrant-dense sectors with high rates of exploitation, including home care, nail salons, taxi services, and the construction industry.

• **Educate New Yorkers about Driver Licenses for All**
  As of June 2019, the City helped successfully advocate for the passage of the “Green Light” Driver’s License Bill, which will allow New Yorkers — regardless of immigration status — to apply for New York State driver’s licenses. In a city with nearly half a million undocumented New Yorkers, now anyone who passes the required driving tests will be able to drive their children to school, their family members to their doctor’s appointments, and themselves to work. With its successful passage, the City will continue to work with the State to now help educate New Yorkers about this new legislation, which is slated to take effect in December 2019.

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9 Updated information provided by MOIA as the Driver’s License Bill was passed after OneNYC 2050 was published.
Goal 13

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Introduction

It is happening on both a national and global level and on our city’s streets. Communities across the city devastated by Hurricane Sandy fear another extreme weather event. We all worry about aging relatives and children during heat waves that now occur more frequently. New Yorkers are already affected by regular tidal flooding — and it will only get worse and more widespread as sea levels continue to rise in New York City at twice the global average. Lives are on the line, time is not on our side, and the future of our city is in jeopardy.

The science behind climate change is indisputable: The burning of fossil fuels is the single largest contributor to human-caused climate change. Unfortunately, climate change is a national emergency without a national policy, and efforts to curb fossil fuels and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions have been stymied by federal actions such as the repeal of the Clean Power Plan, the federal government’s intention to withdraw from the Paris Climate Agreement, and the weakening of vehicle fuel standards— as well as a persistent campaign of deception and denial by fossil fuel companies.

Our goal is to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050, and do so in a just and equitable way. To make our communities safe and resilient, we will continue to invest in flood and heat mitigation, and in hardening our critical infrastructure, including transit, energy, telecommunications, water, wastewater, and waste management. We will also ensure our air and water are clean, residents have access to open and natural spaces and sustainable transportation options are available to everyone. We will do all of this while housing a diverse and growing population and creating good-paying and accessible jobs. New York City will have a livable climate and take a leadership role both at home and abroad in confronting climate change.
Context

Climate change is already having an impact on our health, our livelihoods, our communities, and our built and natural environments, with a disproportionate burden falling on the city’s most vulnerable populations and communities. Heat and rising temperatures threaten the city’s livability: In fact, extreme heat is nationally the number one cause of mortality from weather conditions. Destructive storms are also dangerous to the city: In 2012, Hurricane Sandy killed 44 people and caused $19 billion in damages in New York City. Unfortunately, that storm was not an isolated incident.

More-frequent extreme weather events are likely to come. Recently, we’ve seen massive hurricanes batter the U.S. Gulf Coast and Puerto Rico, inland flooding hit the Midwest, extreme heat waves in Japan send tens of thousands of people to the hospital, and deadly wildfires devastate communities in California. These disasters killed hundreds, displaced many more, and resulted in hundreds of billions of dollars in damages and lost economic activity.

And it will only get worse. As a result of climate change, we will see disruptions in the global food supply as flood, droughts, and pests damage crops, and ocean fisheries collapse from acidification and oxygen depletion; mass migrations — particularly of communities dependent on agricultural or coastal livelihoods — as whole regions become uninhabitable; impacts on human health with more heat related deaths and vector-borne diseases, such as malaria, dengue fever, Zika, and Lyme disease; and unpredictable impacts on our economy and way of life.

By the 2050s, New York City will be hotter than ever before. Average temperatures are expected to increase by up to 5.7 degrees Fahrenheit, and many more New Yorkers may die each summer from intense heat than the 130 who die annually today. By the 2050s, the estimated average annual precipitation increase of up to 11 percent will pose significant risks to the entire city. The nearly 1 million residents who will live in the expanded coastal floodplain will be particularly vulnerable to coastal flooding, with sea levels expected to rise by up to 30 inches. High tides will cause flooding twice a day in some areas, and permanent inundation in others. Without added protections, much, if not all, of Coney Island, the Rockaway peninsula, Flushing Meadows, Hunts Point, East Harlem, Throgs Neck, and the East Shore of Staten Island could be flooded during storms.

Scientists continue to generate ever-more sophisticated climate models and projections related to flooding, heat, drought, and other climate impacts, and deepen our understanding of how human-caused activity could further exacerbate these effects. In a landmark report released in 2018, the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) concluded that the world has as few as 12 years to keep global
temperature rise under the 1.5 degrees Celsius threshold, beyond which the impacts of climate change could become both catastrophic and irreversible.

**Progress**

New York City is rising to the challenge, and has become a global leader in the fight against climate change. We are putting into action a bold vision that meets the twin challenges of climate change and inequality, demonstrating what the Green New Deal looks like in practice, at the local level.

Because of our density and vast public transportation system, New York City already has a smaller per-capita carbon footprint than any big city in the United States. In 2017, the City committed to developing a pathway to limit global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius, in alignment with the Paris Climate Agreement, and in response to the urgency of the climate crisis as presented by the IPCC and echoed in the Fourth U.S. National Climate Assessment. The City released 1.5°C: Aligning New York City with the Paris Climate Agreement, which, alongside near-term action commitments, provided a vision and a plan for how the City and its partners can both reach carbon neutrality and aggressively reduce GHG emissions as soon as possible.

The City has been actively working to reduce GHG emissions. As of 2017, we have reduced municipal GHG emissions by nearly 30 percent, and citywide emissions by 17 percent, from a 2005 baseline. The City has committed billions of dollars to energy-efficiency measures in municipal buildings, resulting in more than $60 million per year in recurring annual savings. To date, these measures are in place in more than 1,600 municipal buildings. Our Retrofit Accelerator and Community Retrofit NYC programs have also helped more than 5,000 privately-owned buildings complete energy retrofits. The City also operates the largest electric municipal fleet in the nation, with more than 1,750 electric vehicles (EV), and are on track to meet our Clean Fleet goal of 2,000 EVs by 2025. And we have expanded the bicycle network, adding 244 miles of bike lanes since 2015, installed 550 EV charging stations for the City’s municipal fleet, and provided incentives to replace or upgrade 500 old, dirty trucks with clean new models through the Hunts Point Clean Truck Program.

New York City has also experienced significant growth in solar power. Since the beginning of 2014, installed solar capacity has increased sevenfold, and we now have enough solar installed across the city to meet the needs of nearly 50,000 households. Installation and equipment costs also continue to go down and have dropped by 25 percent since that start of 2014 — thanks, in part, to the City’s solar property tax abatement of up to 20 percent off system costs — making solar more affordable and more accessible.
than ever.

Not only has the city reduced GHG emissions, it has also become safer and more resilient. Several important coastal protection projects have been completed, including the reconstructed Rockaway Boardwalk, a coastal erosion protection project in Sea Gate, and nearly 10 miles of dunes across Staten Island and the Rockaway Peninsula. Other projects are underway to curb the effects of extreme heat and increased precipitation — and to help engineers, architects, and planners integrate future climate change data into their designs.

Along with our efforts to reduce emissions and become more resilient, we are investing in the future and will double the investment of City pension funds in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and climate solutions. New York City is also bringing the fight against climate change straight to the fossil fuel industry that caused the climate crisis in the first place. We are divesting our pension funds from fossil fuel reserve owners and have filed a lawsuit against five investor-owned fossil fuel companies that have contributed the most to climate change. While they deceptively encouraged dependence on fossil fuels and reaped the profits, cities like New York have been left to foot the bill for the damage fossil fuels have caused.

What We Will Do

New York City is already demonstrating its determination to confront the climate change crisis, fight for climate justice, and take a leading global role in ensuring a livable climate. But much more must be done, especially for our most vulnerable populations and communities.

We must achieve carbon neutrality — which means a 100 percent reduction in net GHG emissions — by 2050. This will require a radical shift to end our reliance on fossil fuels and ensure 100 percent clean electricity resources, and to transform the city’s buildings, energy, transportation, and waste sectors to fully electrify the city. It will also require major shifts in our own lives — to more sustainable lifestyles — and smart urban planning to prioritize sustainable modes of transit in dense neighborhoods (see more in Efficient Mobility and Thriving Neighborhoods). At the same time, to limit the effects of climate change and protect people and communities, we must continue to invest in infrastructure that mitigates the physical risks posed by climate change — including our natural infrastructure such as wetlands and upland forests; ensure City capital investments take into account the changing climate; and promote programs that protect New Yorkers from the impacts of extreme heat and flooding. To ensure these resiliency strategies keep up with climate science and continue to reflect the most innovative and
effective ways to adapt, we will create a Climate Adaptation Roadmap that thoroughly evaluates the climate hazards we face and prioritizes our responses for the decades to come.

The transformation to carbon neutrality and climate resiliency will create new jobs and opportunities for New Yorkers. It will require innovation to find less expensive and more effective solutions; creative financing and financial investment; and partnerships across communities, sectors, geographies, and all levels of government. And to ensure the transition is just and equitable, we will demand that the costs are borne by those most responsible for our climate crisis — and the benefits shared — so no community is left behind.

Our multifaceted strategy for action is ambitious and far-reaching — as it must be. And by focusing on the intersection between climate action and growth, equity, and justice, New York City is demonstrating how the ideals of a Green New Deal are put into practice. We know that environmental and economic sustainability must go hand in hand. And our actions will not only demonstrate the effectiveness of this model, but also its necessity. Our city, and indeed our planet, deserve nothing less.

**SDG Target 13.1**

**Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries**

**Mitigate Physical Risks Posed by Climate Change by Delivering Critical Projects**

New York City is making changes to its physical environment to promote resiliency and mitigate the most dangerous and destructive climate impacts. This includes hardening stormwater, wastewater, and other critical infrastructure to withstand climate impacts, and advancing nature-based solutions, such as wetland and forest restoration, to stabilize shorelines, reduce erosion, act as carbon sinks, and mitigate urban heat island effects. The City is also working with federal partners and making significant investments to mitigate neighborhood coastal flood risks, with a series of projects.

- **Mitigate Neighborhood Coastal Flood Risks**
  
The City will implement coastal projects designed to protect vulnerable coastal areas. These projects will be located in Lower Manhattan, Red Hook, the Rockaways, Jamaica Bay, the East Shore of Staten Island, and other at-risk areas.

- **Mitigate Physical Risks to Critical Infrastructure**
The City will collaborate with local utilities to strengthen their energy and telecommunications assets against the impacts of climate change, and ensure climate risks are incorporated into system planning and design. The City will also harden transportation services, wastewater treatment plants, and sewers to provide critical services in the face of climate change.

- **Advance Nature-Based Solutions to Mitigate Physical Risks Posed by Climate Change**

  The City will increase the health and resiliency of green and natural infrastructure that provide vital services through stormwater management, coastal protection, and heat mitigation, as well as provide spaces that offer opportunities for education, engagement, and stewardship, and foster community interactions and togetherness that lead to neighborhood trust and social resiliency.

**Use the Best Available Science to Inform a Multi-Hazard Approach to Climate Adaptation**

While there is overwhelming agreement that climate change is occurring now and is caused by human activity, climate science remains an evolving field. Climate impact projections are affected by and are inseparable from worldwide efforts to curb GHG emissions. We must continually study emerging climate impacts and modify our adaptation planning to reflect the best available science.

- **Study Emerging Climate Impacts to Better Understand New York City’s Built Environment and Communities**

  The City continues to expand its understanding of the multiple hazards posed by climate change. Examples of this work include a citywide study on flooding from extreme precipitation and a project that collects baseline neighborhood-level outdoor temperature data across 14 New York City neighborhoods with high heat vulnerability. The City will also continue to work with key partners, including local utilities, transit agencies, community groups, and private developers, to ensure resiliency planning is transparent and based on the best available science and environmental monitoring data.

- **Create a Climate Adaptation Roadmap**

  Building on recent NPCC findings and other scientific evidence, the City will develop a Climate Adaptation Roadmap that will incorporate successes and lessons learned from the post-Sandy recovery and rebuilding period, while also planning for the next generation of climate hazards. This roadmap will identify the great-
est climate-related threats facing New York City, and recommend a prioritized sequence of climate adaptation measures for the short, medium, and long-term, with a particular focus on the most vulnerable New York City residents and neighborhoods.

**SDG Target 13.2**
Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning

*OneNYC 2050* is testament to the integration of climate change measures into NYC policy.

**Expand Community Ownership of Renewable Energy Infrastructure**
New York City has taken bold policy actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase the production of clean electricity, introducing unprecedented wealth-generating and ownership opportunities for communities across the city. Specifically, New York City has committed to carbon neutrality by 2050 and mandating energy efficiency retrofits for existing buildings. We will explore programs to accelerate access to clean, reliable, affordable, and community-owned renewable energy infrastructure for all residents. Harnessing the opportunities of the energy-efficiency mandate and other climate change mitigation policies will not only expand access to the renewable energy necessary to move away from fossil fuel dependency, but also further community-ownership and wealth-generating initiatives.

**Develop Policies and Governance Structures to Support Climate Resiliency and Adaptation**
Our scientific understanding of climate change has deepened significantly over recent decades. The government’s response to climate risks has not kept pace. Important tools are embedded in the City’s legal and regulatory frameworks, including the zoning resolution, building codes, and others. By undertaking strategic regulatory reforms, the City can improve these tools, integrate climate resiliency features into future City capital projects, and help streamline ongoing resiliency projects. In developing new policies and reevaluating and modernizing governance structures, New York City will streamline and improve the planning and management of its multilayered resiliency plan in cooperation with state and federal partners.

- **Explore Establishing a Waterfront Management Structure for New and Existing Infrastructure**
City-level legislation, regulation, and governance structures play an important role in helping public entities, households, and private businesses prepare for the impacts of a changing climate. The City is exploring establishing a management structure that will address oversight, inspections, and ongoing maintenance and operations of flood-control infrastructure such as floodwalls, berms, and levees, as well as existing waterfront infrastructure such as bulkheads and piers.

- **Continue to Refine the Climate Resiliency Design Guidelines**
  
  As climate science continues to evolve and resilient design matures, the City will continue to refine and strengthen the Climate Resiliency Design Guidelines, which help architects and engineers integrate future-looking climate change data into the design of buildings, landscapes, and infrastructure. The City developed these guidelines as a tool to help prepare our municipal facilities for the impacts of climate change. The guidelines can help the City increase the resiliency of essential services New Yorkers rely upon and save taxpayers money by reducing damages from future storms and chronic climate stresses.

- **Advocate for Local, State, and Federal Legislation, Regulations, and Policies that Support Climate Adaptation and Resiliency**
  
  The federal government and New York State are critical partners in ensuring New York City is prepared for the impacts of climate change. The City must continue to partner with state and federal authorities to facilitate the massive transitions that are necessary, including developing updated and accurate floodplain maps, securing funding for resiliency projects, and achieving key legal and regulatory changes. At the local level, the City will propose updates to the city’s building code in conjunction with developing and adopting flood maps that delineate future conditions based on the best available and actionable climate projections to ensure the safety and functionality of all new buildings built in locations with current or future risks associated with sea level rise. The City will also advance a citywide zoning text amendment to accommodate proactive investments in resilient building design that are informed by sea level rise projections.

**Invest in a Carbon Neutral and Climate Resilient Future**

The City will leverage our financial resources to invest in job-creating climate solutions, while also supporting the development and commercialization of innovative carbon neutral and climate resilient technologies of the future. Many technologies exist today to make cities more livable, sustainable, and resilient; however, they are not widely in use and may still need iteration to be faster, better, and cheaper. We will continue to coordinate with public and private partners to create market opportunities
for emerging technology and innovation, while helping to remove the technical, financial, and regulatory barriers that limit scale.

- **Double the New York City Pension Funds’ Investments in Climate Solutions**
  New York City will change the paradigm for public pension plans and set a new standard for how such asset owners may use their investments to do well financially while also helping to save the planet. By the end of 2021, the City will double its investments in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and other climate change solutions to $4 billion, thereby, reaching 2 percent of the $195 billion pension portfolio. And we will pursue opportunities to leverage New York City’s position as a financial capital to encourage public and private actors and financial institutions to join us and drive larger investments into climate solutions.

- **Create Opportunities for Technology and Innovation in Climate Action**
  The City will continue to invest in programs and new models that leverage the city as a platform for technology and innovation that supports the development and adoption of new technologies and solutions. These include programs such as NYCx Co-Labs and Moonshot Challenges, wherein the City, entrepreneurs, and communities partner to co-create and demonstrate technologies that solve real urban challenges and improve the way we live; the Innovative Demonstrations for Energy Adaptability (IDEA) program that engages entrepreneurs to test new or underutilized energy technologies in City-owned buildings; and the RISE : NYC program that provides small businesses impacted by Hurricane Sandy with innovative resiliency technologies to help them adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change.

**Pursue the City’s Lawsuit Against the Five Largest Investor-Owned Fossil Fuel Companies**

The City is suing BP, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, Exxon Mobil, and Royal Dutch Shell to recover billions of dollars the City will spend on resiliency measures to protect the city from the ongoing and increasingly severe impacts of climate change. The resiliency measures include physical infrastructure — such as coastal protections, upgraded water and sewer infrastructure, and heat mitigation — and public health programs, such as to help protect residents from the effects of extreme heat.

**Divest the City’s Pension Funds of All Fossil Fuel Reserve Owners**

The City’s pension funds hold roughly $5 billion in securities in more than 100 fossil fuel reserve owners — those companies that own the oil and gas in the ground. The City’s strategy is to divest these holdings by 2022, consistent with prudent practice and in line with our fiduciary responsibilities. Fossil fuel securities have consistently underper-
formed in the market in recent years, and the outlook for fossil fuel investments continues to be poor — making divestment not just the right thing to do in the fight against climate change, but also the responsible action to protect our pensions. And we will pursue opportunities to leverage New York City’s position as a financial capital to further drive divestment from the fossil fuel industry.

**Advocate for Robust Regulation of Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

It is essential that the City is a strong voice in advocating for strict GHG emissions regulation and that we fight federal attempts to divorce regulatory efforts from sound science. The City will support the State’s inclusion in the Transportation and Climate Initiative’s regional low carbon transportation proposal. And we will continue to pursue a lawsuit to fight federal attempts to rollback essential regulations limiting GHG emissions, including those that govern new and existing power plants and light duty vehicles. We will also continue to fight the federal government’s attempts to discount valuable science and create insurmountable administrative and logistical hurdles to impede consideration of the best available scientific evidence.

**Pursue Deep Cuts in Emissions and Gains in Efficiency across All Buildings and Infrastructure**

We have made progress since 2015 in reducing GHG emissions in residential and commercial buildings, with more than 5,000 privately owned buildings assisted by the Retrofit Accelerator and Community Retrofit NYC programs, reducing 95,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent. Buildings, however, still represent roughly 70 percent of the city’s GHG emissions profile; our buildings—old and new—will need to change dramatically in order to achieve carbon neutrality. The City will expand our initiatives to support deep energy retrofits in nearly every building in New York City, as well as require new buildings to eliminate their carbon emissions footprint. This includes buildings with inefficient glass facades. Existing glass-walled buildings will be required to dramatically improve performance, in line with the City’s mandates, and we will not allow all-glass facades in new construction, unless they meet strict new performance guidelines. Together, these actions will make inefficient glass-heavy building designs a relic of the past. And to help ensure that every building in New York City is able to participate in the transition to carbon neutrality, we will increase technical assistance programs and the availability of financing.

- **Implement Citywide Energy Efficiency and Intensity Mandate**

  In 2017, the City recognized that voluntary action was not sufficient and proposed mandatory energy use limits for existing buildings. The City is now working with City Council to implement legislative requirements to dramatically cut emissions in buildings over 25,000 square feet. We will then continue to protect affordability
while expanding the benefits of energy efficiency upgrades to all buildings including affordable housing units and buildings smaller than the previously mandated threshold. To ensure every building has flexibility to meet the mandates, the City will study and launch an emissions trading regime. This first-of-its-kind program will provide an alternate pathway for mandate compliance while encouraging building owners to achieve even deeper savings than required by law.

- **Require New Buildings Be Built to Net-Zero Energy**
  Local Law 32 of 2017 introduced performance-based stretch-energy codes that require new construction be built to the latest energy efficiency standards. To meet the commitment of the Net-Zero Buildings Declaration, signed alongside 19 global cities in 2018, we will continue to work toward net-zero energy for all newly constructed buildings by 2030. The City will also pursue legislation to further regulate glass-walled buildings.

- **Achieve Deep Emissions Reductions from City-Owned Buildings**
  We will continue to lead by example and reduce GHG emissions using a portfolio-based approach for City buildings. Through creative and ambitious energy efficiency, clean energy, and innovative technology projects and programs, the City has already achieved a 30 percent reduction from 2005 levels across our building portfolio, and will achieve a 50 percent reduction from City-owned buildings and operations by 2030 on the path to carbon neutral buildings.

- **Reach net-zero energy across city wastewater resource recovery facilities**
  The City will continue to implement deep energy-saving measures, increase the production of renewable gas through digestion of wastewater and organic waste, and generate renewable electricity to reach net-zero energy for treatment of wastewater by 2050.

- **Increase the Capacity of Technical and Financial Assistance Programs**
  The City will triple the capacity of the Retrofit Accelerator and Community Retrofit NYC programs to include new construction, smaller buildings, more neighborhoods, and support for deeper energy retrofits. These programs provide technical assistance and guidance to help building owners upgrade their systems, identify incentives, connect with qualified contractors, and train building operators. We will also strengthen the City’s Green Housing and Preservation Program, which provides low- or no-interest loans to finance energy efficiency improvements.

- **Make Property-Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Financing Available in New York City**
The City will work with City Council and local financial institutions to enable property owners to access PACE financing, a low-cost mechanism for making energy-efficiency upgrades that is available in states and cities across the country.

**SDG Target 13.3**

*Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning*

**Support Every New Yorker in the Shift to Sustainable Living**

Carbon neutrality is an “all-hands-on-deck” effort requiring collaboration, hard work, creativity, and ingenuity from individuals and organizations. We will work with existing and new partners from communities, corporations, and all sectors of civil society to create a just and accessible carbon neutral future. To help New Yorkers participate in the transition to carbon neutrality, we will build on the progress made so far and expand successful efforts.

- **Expand the GreeNYC Program to Maximize Civic Action and Encourage More New Yorkers to Live Sustainably**
  
  GreeNYC, which supports resident behaviors that reduce emissions, will be expanded to include single-use plastics and other nonrecyclable or non-compostable waste, as well as awareness and behavior-change campaigns to support residents as they transition to EVs, and implement building energy efficiency measures.

- **Expand the Scope of the NYC Carbon Challenge to Further Engage the Private Sector**
  The NYC Carbon Challenge, which partners with New York City institutions in committing to lowering their emissions beyond what’s legally required, has so far reduced 600,000 metric tons of GHG emissions. To achieve greater impact, the program will be expanded to measure additional sources of emissions, including transportation and waste, and will consider expansion to new building categories not currently represented in the Challenge.

- **Adopt More Sustainable Consumption Practices in City Government Operations**
  The City will shift away from goods that have an outsized impact on the environment and identify opportunities to reduce waste and cut GHG emissions throughout City government. Through updates to our Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) and executive action, we are ending the purchasing of unnecessary single-use plastic foodware, reducing the purchasing of beef, and phasing out the
purchasing of processed meat.

Single-use plastic foodware — including straws, cutlery, cups, plates, bowls, and trays — are designed to be used once and then thrown away. These petroleum-based products are a threat to our neighborhoods, waterways, and climate. The City is ending the purchasing of unnecessary single-use plastic foodware, switching to compostable, reusable, or recyclable alternatives while maintaining a sufficient supply of single-use plastic foodware for those who need it. And we will work with City Council to expand these requirements to private businesses.

Building on the success of implementing Meatless Mondays at all New York City public schools, the City will reduce the purchasing of beef by 50 percent. Beef has a relatively high environmental footprint compared to poultry, pork, and plant-based foods. Beef cattle, managing manure, and manufacturing fertilizer produces nitrous oxide and methane, two climate-warming pollutants 298 and 25 times more powerful than carbon dioxide, respectively. Processed meat consumption is linked with increased risk of cancer and is often high in saturated fat and sodium which is linked with heart disease. This policy would offer health benefits to the most vulnerable New Yorkers.

- **Expand Opportunities for Climate and Sustainability Literacy for Educators and Students**

  The City will support local programs, organizations, and our agencies to expand climate and sustainability education resources in schools, including professional learning and curriculum development or alignment. Building on successful efforts such as Solar Schools curricula and youth climate summits, we will leverage and promote resources, programming, and events to engage and empower youth in climate action.

### Empower New Yorkers to take Climate-smart Adaptation Measures

New York City will build capacity and provide the necessary tools and information to enable individuals, community groups, civic organizations, and businesses to prepare and plan for climate change.

- **Expand Flood-Risk Awareness, Flood-Insurance Uptake, and Resiliency Retrofits Citywide**

  The impacts of climate change on the city’s built environment will be exacerbated over the coming years by sea level rise, torrential rainfall, and more powerful storms. We must build awareness and enable resiliency retrofits among all property owners and renters in the floodplain. The City is developing resources for prop-
Property owners and renters to understand their flood risk and invest in flood mitigation to adapt — and build resiliency — to climate change. As the City’s flood risk increases, flood insurance is a critical tool to ensure financial resiliency. The City will partner with FEMA and community organizations to increase the number of flood insurance enrollments.

- **Promote Community-Led Emergency Preparedness and Planning, and Increase Civic Engagement in Response to Climate Change**

  Civic engagement and community-led emergency preparedness and planning help strengthen communities and encourage neighbors to help one another before and after climate-related disasters. Promoting volunteer opportunities, building volunteer capacity in nonprofits and agencies that provide services to at-risk New Yorkers, and engaging a diverse cross section of city residents as volunteers to address the city’s greatest needs are all critical steps to building resiliency.

- **Encourage Community Organizations and Small Businesses to Take Climate-Smart Adaptation Measures**

  Community groups and small businesses can provide vital services in neighborhoods in times of disaster. Assisting small businesses with developing emergency and continuity of operations plans — and providing support for them to make climate-smart investments — increases overall community resiliency.

- **Promote Climate Health Preparedness for Heat-Vulnerable New Yorkers**

  As summers become hotter and our population ages, it is critical the City continues to engage New Yorkers in extreme-heat preparedness. Stewarding street trees and green infrastructure; coating roofs white; and checking in on at-risk family, friends, and neighbors are all critical steps to increase community resiliency and promote equity.
Introduction

As we confront the challenges of climate change, affordable housing, and the racial wealth gap, we need an engaged, empowered public that trusts the power of democracy to improve our lives. A vibrant democracy requires participation. Yet for too long, many New Yorkers, especially communities of color, young people, immigrants, and individuals who have had an interaction with the criminal justice system, have been disengaged, disenfranchised, or shut out from local and national democratic processes.

It is easy to understand why. Nationally, our civic institutions have eroded, and voter suppression continues to be a troubling reality. Despite recent reforms, New York State’s election system has made it far too difficult to cast a ballot. On Election Day in New York City, as many as four in five registered voters stay away from the polls.

Increasingly, we hear from immigrants that their documentation status has made them afraid to participate in civic life. New Yorkers want to volunteer in their communities or join a broader effort to bring change, but don’t know how to get involved. Entire communities are disconnected from the political process because of past criminal justice policies, institutionalized racism, and the widespread sentiment that City leaders aren’t listening.

We need to ensure the voice of every New Yorker is heard, participating in the democratic process becomes easier, and people learn to trust their civic institutions again. OneNYC 2050 outlines strategies to expand voting rights, ensure residents are better informed about democracy, and create opportunities for residents to directly impact their communities. We will better enable immigrants to take part in civic life, and work to ensure all New Yorkers are afforded transformative justice, basic human rights, and racial and gender equity. New York City can help shape the future of democracy in and beyond our borders. Our city — and our world — deserves nothing less.
Context

Throughout its history, New York City has been a leader in civic activism, fueled by its diverse and passionately engaged population. Historically, New Yorkers, many of whom came here from different countries and backgrounds, have participated in political and civil rights movements with the hope of creating a more equitable future for all. The Stonewall Uprising for queer liberation, the Young Lords Party for the self-determination of Latino and “third world” communities, and the shirtwaist garment workers strike — such organization and acts of resistance are examples of New York City’s central role in civil rights and social justice movements.

Today, the city has never been more diverse. Nearly 40 percent of the population is immigrants, and 68 percent of residents are people of color. We continue to welcome newcomers regardless of where they come from or their religion or sexual orientation, and we support their effort to seek opportunity and the chance to build a new life.

Yet, renewed forces of exclusion are more vocal now than ever, globally, nationally, and on our own streets. Anti-immigrant sentiment, hate crimes, nationalism, intolerance, and populism threaten the values and communities that make New York City a model of inclusion around the world, and compound existing problems of democratic engagement. Across the United States, monied interests have an outsized influence on our politics, and voter suppression, misinformation, voter fraud, and gerrymandering continue to disenfranchise communities, increase mistrust in democracy, and limit the ability of the government to be truly representative of diverse identities and beliefs.

In New York City, the federal refugee restrictions, travel bans, overly aggressive immigration enforcement, and heated rhetoric surrounding federal immigration policy have increased levels of fear and threatened to dampen participation in public life. Apathy is widespread, with many New Yorkers — especially the young and low-income voters — staying away from the polls. As few as one in five are casting ballots in nonpresidential elections, and more than 700,000 eligible New Yorkers are not registered to vote.

Progress

New York City has made great strides since 2015 in the areas of civic innovation, immigration, criminal justice, and gender equity.

In 2018, New Yorkers answered the call to expand democracy by passing a charter reform to increase participatory budgeting, make community boards more accountable to residents, and improve civic engagement. The City created a chief democracy officer position charged with inviting residents everywhere to participate in democratic
Goal 16   Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

processes, both locally and nationally. We also launched the Civics for All initiative to educate students in the foundations of civic life, expanded the City’s identification card (IDNYC), and made critical resources available to immigrants facing a changing federal legal landscape.

We took bold steps to address gender-based disparities by creating the Commission on Gender Equity, which addresses issues of inequity and discrimination facing girls, women, and transgender and gender non-conforming persons. We also took significant steps to support and affirm LGBTQ communities, by launching the NYC Unity Project, the City’s first multi-agency policy and program initiative aimed at developing affirming services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and LGBTQ communities across NYC. In 2017, New York City became the safest large city in the United States, with the lowest crime and incarceration rates. This was achieved through engagement and meaningful partnerships with communities, proving that a big city can keep its residents safe through greater community involvement and less reliance on enforcement and incarceration.

New York City has also been active on the global stage. World leaders convened at the United Nations in 2015 to commit to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of eradicating poverty, fighting inequality, and addressing climate change. In 2018, New York became the first city in the world to submit a review of progress on implementing the SDGs directly to the United Nations. New York City has also established itself as a global leader in the areas of climate change and immigration, partnering with cities around the world in coalitions such as the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, and leading more than 50 cities in 2018 to advocate for the inclusion of local voices in the negotiations around the Global Compact for Migration. When the United States withdrew from the Paris Climate Agreement in 2017, Mayor de Blasio took practical action by signing an executive order committing the City to the principles of the Paris Agreement, inspiring cities around the country to do the same.

What We Will Do

To create a vibrant democracy, the city will engage in a dual strategy of reducing barriers to participation in civic life, particularly for underserved New Yorkers, and expanding resources to empower communities to improve their neighborhoods and bring about meaningful change. To reduce barriers to participation, we will expand voting rights, make polling sites more language accessible, enhance legal-assistance resources for immigrants, and create programs targeting the needs of specific races and justice-involved communities. The City will ensure all New Yorkers are counted in the 2020 Census, educated in the foundations of the democratic process, equipped to combat mis-
information, engaged in participatory budgeting, and better able to access economic opportunities. We will continue to be on the front lines of city diplomacy to make sure our voice is heard in global policy discussions that impact the lives of New Yorkers.

**SDG Target 16.1**

**Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere**

**Invest in Communities Working to End Gun Violence in New York City**

The Mayor’s Office to Prevent Gun Violence (OPGV) serves as a coordinating agency, linking City initiatives, community-based nonprofit organizations, and everyday New Yorkers to partner in creating healthy, vibrant communities and addressing the causes and traumas of gun violence in New York City. The City, through OPGV, is built on the understanding that violence is a crisis with roots in structural racism, economic distress, trauma, and behavioral and public health. Community engagement, a true partnership with the people and organizations most affected by gun violence, is at the center of OPGV’s approach. City programs, such as the Peer Leadership Council and Safe in the City grants, enable the participation of youth in community responses to violence, and fund residents who are positioned to create the strongest impact within their own communities.

In 2018, the City announced an additional $34 million investment in evidence-based strategies to prevent gun violence throughout the city. The new funding will enable OPGV to launch five mobile trauma units, expand the Crisis Management System with four new locations in the Bronx and Brooklyn, hire six new domestic violence coordinators, and support the formation of a new public safety coalition in Bushwick, following the success of the first coalition in East Flatbush.

**Create Design Solutions for Public Safety through Neighborhood Activation**

The City’s 2018 Neighborhood Activation Study includes design recommendations such as enhanced lighting, public art, and community programming, in addition to infrastructure solutions, to help transform local precincts and public properties into transparent and inviting spaces that support productive encounters between police officers and residents — and provide access to economic, employment, and recreational opportunities for residents. These recommendations are incorporated into multi-step plans for investment in specific sites in the Brownsville and Morrisania neighborhoods, including lighting and cultural programming to activate neighborhood hot spots. Going forward,
the City will continue to seek and lead partnerships with other City agencies to catalyze community transformation using these guiding principles.

### Involve Residents in Crime Prevention Using Environmental Design

Through the Mayor’s Action Plan for Neighborhood Safety (MAP), the City has trained NYCHA residents in the 15 MAP developments in Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design. Trainees learn how to develop effective solutions to address unsafe conditions related to physical spaces in their developments. Each team is granted access to up to $50,000 to fund plans that propose either physical improvements or social programming projects that increase opportunities for positive engagement within the community. These include revitalizing underutilized green spaces, promoting increased stewardship of public spaces, and community-led public art projects.

### Improve Neighborhood Cleanliness and Safety

The City is preparing a targeted strategy to ensure neighborhood public spaces are clean, safe, and enjoyable. Based on an analysis of New York City residents of survey data collected by the Citizens Budget Commission, mobility, cleanliness, and safety stand out as the most significant drivers of quality of life in the public realm. In fact, overall neighborhood approval rates are 47 percent higher in areas that are considered cleaner and safer, when controlling for other factors. The City has created a multi-agency task force to develop programs that address quality-of-life issues in the 25 highest-need neighborhoods, and will conduct additional analysis going forward to inform these efforts.

#### SDG Target 16.2

**End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children**

The Administration for Children’s Services (ACS) Protects and Promotes the Safety and Well-Being of New York City’s Children and Families

The Administration for Children’s Services (ACS) protects and promotes safety and well-being of New York City’s children and families by providing child welfare, juvenile justice, and early care and education services. In child welfare, ACS contracts with private nonprofit organizations to support and stabilize families at risk of a crisis through preventive services, and provides foster care services for children not able to safely remain at home. Each year, the agency’s Division of Child Protection conducts more than 55,000 investigations of suspected child abuse or neglect.

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10 Information provided by ACS
ACS has five key commitments:

- No child we come into contact with will be left to struggle alone with abuse or neglect.
- No family who needs and wants help to keep their children safe will be left without the help it needs.
- Every child we come into contact with will get the help she/he needs to be healthy and achieve her/his full educational and developmental potential.
- No child in our care will leave us without a caring, committed, permanent family.
- Every team member at Children’s Services and each of our partner agencies can expect guidance, respect and emotional support to achieve our goal. Every child, family, community member and foster parent we come into contact with will be treated with concern and respect.

The Mayor’s Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence

The Mayor’s Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence (ENDGBV) develops policies and programs, provides training and prevention education, conducts research and evaluations, performs community outreach, and operates the New York City Family Justice Centers. The office collaborates with City agencies and community stakeholders to ensure access to inclusive services for survivors of domestic and gender-based violence (GBV). GBV can include intimate partner and family violence, elder abuse, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking.

The NYC Family Justice Centers (FJCs) are co-located multidisciplinary service centers providing vital social services, civil legal, and criminal justice assistance for survivors of domestic and gender-based violence and their children—all under one roof.

At any NYC FJC, survivors of domestic and gender-based violence and their children can get connected to organizations that provide case management, economic empowerment, counseling, civil legal, and criminal legal assistance. Located in all five boroughs, FJCs are safe, caring environments that provide one-stop services and support. Key City agencies, community, social and civil legal services providers, and District Attorney’s Offices are located on-site at FJCs, to make it easier for survivors to get help. All are welcome regardless of language, income, gender identity, or immigration status. Interpretation services are available on-site at every FJC, and locations are wheelchair accessible.

Information provided by ENDGBV
In September 2018, the mission of ENDGBV (formerly the Mayor’s Office to Combat Domestic Violence) was expanded and the Office re-launched. ENDGBV now plays a coordinating role in the City’s response to gender-based violence, including human trafficking. In its new role, ENDGBV convenes City agency and community partners to better understand the landscape of the issue and the breadth of citywide programming and services in New York City. Moving forward, this will inform the City’s strategies to identify and respond to human trafficking, including the development of community engagement opportunities and ways to enhance existing services.

**SDG Target 16.3**

Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all

Bring Together Residents, Agencies, and Community-Based Organizations to Increase Neighborhood Safety and Trust

The Mayor’s Action Plan for Neighborhood Safety (MAP), launched in July 2014. This complex City initiative channels resources into 15 high-need public-housing developments and surrounding neighborhoods, and, more significantly, creates a larger role for residents in improving their own communities — because stronger neighborhoods are also safer ones. In 2016, MAP launched NeighborhoodStat (NSTAT), a problem identification and solving process that brings together residents, government, and nonprofits. MAP enhanced NSTAT in 2018 by expanding it to the local level in all 15 MAP communities. Facilitated by MAP engagement coordinators, local NSTAT meetings are led by stakeholder teams made up of residents and partners from over 10 City agencies who gather to discuss issues of concern, identify common goals, and begin the process of organizing people and resources to implement real change. As NSTAT ensures more residents have the opportunity to have their voices heard, the City will continue to support it.

The City’s Goal is to Operate the Smallest Jail System Possible without Compromising Public Safety

This is a matter of justice: no one should ever be incarcerated who does not pose a risk, either to public safety or of not returning to court. And those who are in jail should be matched with programs in jail in an effort to address their needs and form connections with community-based supports, thereby helping them reintegrate into their communities upon release — a model that can successfully reduce recidivism and encourage positive, productive outcomes.
To meet this goal, the City released “Smaller, Safer, Fairer: A Roadmap to Closing Rikers Island” in 2017, detailing 18 concrete strategies that will move the City toward a smaller jail population, safer facilities, and fairer culture inside jails. In 2014, there were more than 11,000 people in city jails. By the end of 2018, that number had dropped 30 percent to below 8,000 — the lowest since 1980. By continuing these strategies to reduce the number of people who enter jail, and the amount of time people spend in jail, the City will work toward the goal of safely reducing the size of the jail population to 7,000 by 2022.

**SDG Target 16.4**

*By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime*

**Business Integrity Commission (BIC)**

BIC regulates the trade-waste-hauling industry and the public wholesale food markets in the City. Its mission is to eliminate organized crime and other forms of corruption and criminality from the industries it regulates. BIC’s goals are numerous: to ensure that the regulated businesses are able to compete fairly; that the marketplaces remain free from violence, fraud, rackets, and threats; that customers receive fair treatment; and that the businesses which are allowed to operate in these industries always conduct their affairs with honesty and integrity.

The Commissioner and Chair of BIC is responsible for the direction, management and operations of BIC. The Commission consists of the Chair of BIC, the Commissioners of the New York City Department of Police, the New York City Department of Investigation, the New York City Department of Sanitation, the New York City Department of Consumer Affairs, and the New York City Department of Small Business Services.

The Commission meets throughout the year to make decisions on the companies doing business in the trade waste and public wholesale markets industries. The Commission makes final determinations on whether or not a company’s license or registration should be denied. These decisions are based on a comprehensive review of the application, and information from an in-depth analysis by BIC’s background investigations, legal, investigations, and audit units.

While BIC has successfully prevented the wide-scale reemergence of organized crime in the industries it regulates, the influence and appearance of these actors and behaviors remains. Clearly, there is still the strong need for investigation, enforcement, and
vigilance to prevent theft, fraud, and other manipulation of the industries BIC regulates. BIC’s goal is to ensure that the trade waste and public wholesale market industries remain a level playing field for honest companies and their customers.

**SDG Target 16.5**
Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms

**Conflicts of Interest Board**

The Conflicts of Interest Board (COIB) is the independent New York City agency tasked with administering, enforcing and interpreting Chapter 68 of the New York City Charter, the City’s Conflicts of Interest Law, and Section 12-110 of the Administrative Code, the City’s Annual Disclosure Law.

Through a combination of engaging training, confidential advice, and vigorous enforcement, the Board seeks to prevent ethics questions from becoming ethics problems for public servants.

Appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the City Council, the Board’s five members serve staggered six-year terms and are eligible for reappointment to one additional six-year term. Under the Charter, the members must be selected on the basis of their “independence, integrity, civic commitment and high ethical standards.” While serving on the Board, they may not hold any other public office or any political party office.

Chapter 68 of the City Charter is the comprehensive ethics code for all of New York City’s public servants. Enacted to preserve both the perception and reality of integrity in City government, Chapter 68 contains bright-line standards to govern conflicts between the public duties and private interests of its public servants. It covers such topics as gifts, outside employment, volunteering, political activities, and misuse of position.

New York City’s annual disclosure law requires that approximately 9,000 New York City employees, elected officials, and candidates for office file annual reports of their financial affairs and outside positions and interests, as well as those of their spouses or domestic partners and dependent children.

The purpose of the annual disclosure law is to provide accountability by public servants and to help ensure that there are no prohibited conflicts of interest between City employees’ official responsibilities and private interests. Only the public portions of annual disclosure reports are available for inspection.

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13 Information taken from COIB website
Department of Investigation

The Department of Investigation (DOI) serves as the City’s independent inspector general. Pursuant to the City Charter, DOI reports to the Mayor and the City Council, but operates independently of both. As a law enforcement agency, DOI arrests individuals who corrupt the process and issues reports on our investigations. The City Charter and various Executive Orders empower DOI to carry out its mission, including giving it access to City documents, workers and information; the power to subpoena documents and take testimony under oath; and the breadth of scope to see across all City agencies, enabling DOI to root out systemic problems.

Founded in 1873 (as the Office of the Commissioner of Accounts), DOI is one of the oldest law-enforcement agencies in the country. DOI’s staff consists of Inspectors General, investigators, attorneys, forensic auditors, computer forensic specialists and administrative personnel.

DOI’s major functions include investigating and referring for criminal prosecution cases of fraud, corruption and other illegal activities by City employees, contractors and others who do business with the City. As part of its investigations, DOI identifies systemic corruption vulnerabilities and recommends improvements to reduce the City’s exposure to corruption, fraud, waste and abuse, and improve the function of City agencies. In addition, DOI investigates the backgrounds of City workers who earn more than $100,000 annually and those selected to work in sensitive City jobs; conducts checks on companies who are awarded contracts with the City of $250,000 or more; and acts as the investigative arm of the Conflicts of Interest Board (COIB).

DOI’s strategy attacks corruption comprehensively through systemic investigations that lead to arrests, and recommendations that result in reforms and preventive controls that improve the way the City operates and delivers services to all New Yorkers.

SDG Target 16.6
Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels

Deepen Public Accountability through Expansion of the Capital Projects Dashboard

The City maintains a dashboard that tracks all capital projects over $25 million, which allows New Yorkers to track and analyze the City’s delivery of projects. As modern project management software becomes more widely used by agencies, the Capital Projects
Dashboard can integrate with these systems and expand to include a larger universe of projects and better geographic information.

**SDG Target 16.7**

Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels

**Advance Diversity in Leadership Roles**

A democratic government must be representative of its population. To that end, the City will create a Borough Civic Leadership Academy in partnership with borough presidents to increase the pool of candidates prepared for public leadership opportunities. The academy aims to create an equitable leadership pipeline by recruiting New Yorkers who are representative of diverse race, gender identity, sexual orientation, and other backgrounds to serve in civic leadership positions around the City.

Staff and leadership of cultural institutions in New York City must also reflect the city’s diversity of age, race, gender, and disability. In 2016, the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCLA) found that only 38 percent of employees at cultural organizations identify as people of color, as opposed to 66% of all city residents. Addressing this problem became a centerpiece of CreateNYC, the city’s first comprehensive cultural plan, released in 2017. DCLA has worked with institutions and made major investments to promote greater equity in the cultural workforce at City-supported institutions, including establishing the CUNY Cultural Corps, a program that places undergraduate students in paid internships at the city’s cultural organizations. To help junior level staff grow into the next generation of cultural leaders, DCLA launched the CreateNYC Leadership Accelerator, a professional development program for cultural workers. DCLA is also requiring diversity, equity, and inclusion plans of all City-owned cultural institutions.

Through these efforts, the City will aim to build an inclusive leadership pipeline by recruiting, training, and preparing a diverse group of New Yorkers to meaningfully participate in public service in and out of City government.

**Expand Voting Rights and Representation to Bring More New Yorkers to the Polls**

The right to choose our government is fundamental to our democracy. Despite recent reforms, New York State’s archaic election laws have made it too difficult for many New Yorkers to exercise their right to vote, and too easy for well-funded special interests to influence the outcomes of elections. In early 2019, after years of advocacy by New York
City, the State Legislature passed meaningful reforms to cap corporate contributions, introduce early voting, enable online registration and allow 16- and 17-year-olds to pre-register to vote, among other measures. Lawmakers also began the process to allow same-day voter registration and no-excuse absentee voting — two policies the City will actively support when they come up for vote in 2020.

But we cannot stop there. To increase voter participation, the State must enact automatic voter registration and restore voting rights for citizens on parole. In parallel, the City must increase voter registration among underrepresented groups. For example, the City registered 10,000 young people during its first Student Voter Registration Day in 2018 and 18,000 young people in 2019. We also hosted registration drives on Rikers Island to ensure the voices of justice-involved individuals are heard, and coordinated with advocates of New Yorkers with disabilities to broaden representation. These efforts will accelerate in the years ahead, with campaigns in all five boroughs encouraging more New Yorkers to exercise their right to vote.

Expand Opportunities for Democratic Engagement

In 2018, New Yorkers voted decisively to establish a Civic Engagement Commission in order to have a greater say in policymaking. As the Commission begins its work, it will focus on three core areas:

- **Implement Participatory Budgeting (PB) Citywide to Give New Yorkers a Say in How City Dollars Are Spent**

  By 2020, New York City will ensure a citywide process is in place to facilitate participatory budgeting in every neighborhood — a process in which residents vote on improvement projects in their communities to fund with City capital dollars. Citywide PB builds on a program launched by the New York City Council in 2012, through which New Yorkers have directed $210 million to more than 700 local projects. In 2018 alone, nearly 100,000 residents in 34 of New York City’s 51 Council Districts voted to allocate more than $36 million to more than 120 projects at schools, parks, libraries, public housing, and other public spaces in their communities. Their votes count regardless of citizenship status or age. The total dollars set aside for PB — and the number of local projects that will benefit from it — will grow in the years ahead.

- **Provide Language Interpreters at Poll Sites**

  The U.S. Voting Rights Act requires the New York City Board of Elections to offer interpretation services for languages (Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, Korean, and
Bengali) at poll sites. Still, we need to do more in a city as diverse as New York. Beginning in 2017, the City has operated a pilot project to place interpreters at poll sites to provide assistance in other languages beyond those covered by the Voting Rights Act — including Russian, Haitian Creole, Yiddish, Polish, Italian, and Arabic in the past two years. The Civic Engagement Commission will formalize a program for providing language interpreters at poll sites to help eligible voters, through the voting process, regardless of their English proficiency.

- **Develop a Citywide Community Engagement Strategy to Foster Greater Community Participation**

At any given time, dozens of City and community organizations — including community boards, City agencies, and community-based organizations — engage with the public to gather input and distribute information at hundreds of locations across the five boroughs and online. Community spaces such as libraries, community centers, and health centers serve more people in more ways than ever before — and many are places where New Yorkers go for trusted information and access to public services. The Civic Engagement Commission will assess the current landscape of civic activity to identify best practices and resource gaps, and opportunities for partnerships, and then develop a citywide strategy to enhance and expand its efforts. In partnership with the Department of City Planning and other relevant City agencies, the Commission will also establish a process to identify qualified firms, professional staff members, or consultants that will provide assistance and training to community boards related to land use expertise. Further, in consultation with the Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs, the Commission will identify and provide services requested by community boards to address the needs of limited English proficient individuals, such as staff training and language assistance tools.

In addition, New York City will explore two new ways to promote civic connectedness and action: The first is a citywide sentiment survey that, if undertaken, would gauge New Yorkers’ satisfaction with various aspects of city life, and solicit ideas for creating a better city. The survey would elevate the diverse perspectives needed to drive change and innovation, and build on the OneNYC 2050 survey, which polled more than 14,000 New Yorkers from every New York City neighborhood over six months. The second is an event aimed at engaging all New Yorkers in civic action. Every year, more than 250,000 people move to New York City. Hundreds of thousands more New Yorkers search for ways to get involved in their communities and in issues both local and global. The City will explore hosting or partnering on an event — part festival, part New York City “orientation” — that promotes civic connectedness and activism.
SDG Target 16.8
Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance

Not applicable.

SDG Target 16.9
By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration

In NYC, we recognize that enumeration at birth is a human right that fosters empowerment and enables statehood through US citizenship.

Our local Health Code requires that all births occurring in or en-route to New York City, regardless of individual residency status, are reported to the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene within five business days of birth. Birth data are generally collected using two worksheets: mother/parent and facility worksheets. Effective January 2008, BVS requires all hospitals registering more than 100 births per year to electronically register births using the DOHMH vital registration system. Since 2012, more than 99% of all births were registered electronically.

Recent birth certificate initiatives to promote inclusion and access include making upgrades to our in-person customer service area, where 100,000 customers purchase birth certificates each year, and easing the criteria for making gender marker changes to birth certificates, allowing for transgender and non-binary people to have birth certificates more in alignment with their gender identity.

For many years New York City has mailed out one free newborn certificate to birth parents at the address indicated on their mother/parent worksheet. This establishes lifelong access to a birth certificate, which is used to access numerous additional resources, such as education, housing, and healthcare, in the US.

Please see 10.7 for information about additional efforts that are relevant to this target.
SDG Target 16.10
Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements

Increase Digital Literacy and Combat the Misinformation and Hate Speech That Threatens Democracy

Maintaining the city’s democracy will increasingly depend on the digital and data literacy of New Yorkers of all ages. In 2018, more than half of all NYC 311 service requests were submitted digitally, while the 2020 Census will be the first to encourage responses via an online form. Both are examples of how engaging with government through digital platforms is becoming more commonplace. NYC Open Data — the nation’s largest free municipal data service — is a digital pathway for New Yorkers to learn more about how government works, and to use data to better understand their communities. To leverage the NYC Open Data Program, New York City will:

- Increase the usability of the NYC open data platform by improving resources through Metadata for All, continuing efforts in universal design and accessibility, and developing new product features to enable discoverability and usability of the data.

- Train Students from the City University Of New York (CUNY) to identify, collect, clean, and publish data from its 24 different college campuses onto NYC Open Data.

- Develop a repository of open source educational resources to empower teachers, including curriculums for teaching data, computer science, statistics, and civics using open data, and commissioning curriculums for targeted communities such as data journalists, activists, nonprofits, and New York City staff.

- Empower local activists and researchers to publish community-collected data onto NYC Open Data and provide a civic solutions pathway for locally developed data-driven solutions.

- Scale civic data literacy efforts by training volunteers across all five boroughs to provide NYC Open Data training at libraries and other community centers.

- Incubate the first NYC open data advisory council, composed of leaders from academia, nonprofits, civic technology organizations, and City agencies, which will inform the vision and expansion of the City’s Open Data program.
We also recognize the threats posed by coordinated online misinformation during elections and other important public campaigns. As such, New York City will educate New Yorkers to identify and combat misinformation by expanding the City’s free NYC Secure App, launch public awareness campaigns, and leverage the City’s various communications channels at critical moments. Launched in 2018, NYC Secure has become a model for how to effectively inform residents to protect their smartphones from cyberattacks and data breaches. To build on this progress, NYC Cyber Command (NYC3), an organization created by executive order to lead the City’s digital defense efforts, will enhance the application in future iterations to better safeguard users’ digital lives. Through a partnership among NYC3, New York City’s chief democracy officer, and leaders across local government, we will launch public awareness campaigns concerning digital content and recognizing misinformation, especially during critical moments such as Election Day.
Conclusion and next steps

Through Global Vision | Urban Action, NYC demonstrates its commitment to the core principles of the Sustainable Development Goals that are laid out in OneNYC 2050. By mapping NYC’s local actions to the SDGs and committing to submit a VLR to the United Nations every year, NYC also aims to contribute to global efforts to ensure a better future for us all.

The VLR will be most effective if other cities and subnational governments undertake similar reviews. In the coming year, we will continue to lead efforts to ensure cities are systematically engaging in the 2030 Agenda, both in NYC and around the world.

To that end, NYC has developed three key commitments that we believe cities and subnational governments can undertake to strengthen our engagement with the SDGs.

The first commitment is to identify how existing strategies, programs, data, and targets align with the SDGs. The second commitment is to provide at least one forum where stakeholders can come together to share experiences, lessons learned, and information gathered using the framework of the SDGs. The third commitment is to submit a VLR to the UN during the HLPF.

We hope that these commitments can serve as a catalyst to identify additional possibilities for engagement with cities as well as other with stakeholders so that we can build momentum towards achieving all 17 SDGs by 2030.
Appendix I: Sample Indicators for OneNYC

NYC tracks more than 1,000 indicators through a monitoring system it has been developing since the 1970s, which is maintained by the NYC Mayor’s Office of Operations and published in the form of the Mayor’s Management Report (MMR). A massive data infrastructure sits beneath the top-line indicators, and in many cases also aligns more directly with the SDG indicators. For each SDG, the NYC Mayor’s Office for Operations has included top-line OneNYC 2050 indicators, and then a sampling of specific indicators, a description, and the source to demonstrate how the City monitors both operational performance and progress toward its goals. The complete set of OneNYC 2050 and MMR indicators can be found online.
SDG/MMR (+OneNYC 2050) Crosswalk

Goal 4
Equity and Excellence in Education

Top-line OneNYC 2050 indicators:

- Number of children with access to 3-K
- Four-year-olds enrolled in full-day Pre-K
- Literacy rate by second grade (3rd grade ELA as proxy)
- College-readiness %
- Public school students who graduate on time
- Public school students who attain associate's or higher within 6 years
- Graduation rate gap by race
- Average length of suspensions
- Districts with diversity plans
- Teachers who receive implicit bias training

Sample indicators

Indicator name:  Average daily attendance (%)  
Elementary/middle (%)  
High school (%)

Description:  The percentage of students present as calculated by the number of students present divided by the number of students present and absent, not including charter school students, for each school day. Includes District 75. Elementary/middle and high school breakouts are calculated by grade level.
Indicator name: **Phone calls responded to by parent coordinator or parent engagement designee**

Description: The citywide total number of phone calls responded to by parent coordinators is a measure of how many parents have their issues and concerns addressed by parent coordinators. *Source: Office of Parent Engagement.*

Indicator name: **In-person consultations with parents by PC or parent engagement designee**

Description: The citywide total number of parents who were seen by parent coordinators as walk-ins to the school is a measure of how many parents have their issues and concerns addressed by parent coordinators. *Source: Office of Parent Engagement.*

Indicator name: **School-based workshops offered to parents**

Description: Key functions of parent coordinators are to increase parents’ involvement with their children’s education and to help parents support their children’s learning. The number of workshops held by parent coordinators is a measure of the opportunities parents are provided at the school level to accomplish these goals. *Source: Office of Parent Engagement.*

Indicator name: **Parents attending school-based workshops**

Description: Key functions of Parent Coordinators are to increase parents’ involvement with their children’s education and to help parents support their children’s learning. The number of parents who attended workshops organized by Parent Coordinators is a measure of how many parents participated and benefited from parent coordinators’ efforts to accomplish the above goals. *Source: Office of Parent Engagement.*
Goal 8
Decent Work and Economic Growth

Top-line OneNYC 2050 indicators:

- Income Disparity by Race (median household earnings of white households divided by median household earnings of black, Hispanic, Asian, and other race households)
- Individuals connected to employment through the City’s workforce system
- Labor force participation rate
- Securities sector share of total wage earnings
- Total employment (thousands)
- Percentage of New Yorkers living in or near poverty
- Amount awarded to City-certified M/WBE businesses, including subcontracts
- Total number of Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprises certified
- Total number of worker cooperatives created through the Worker Cooperative Business Development Initiative

Sample indicators

Indicator name: Occupancy rate of NYCEDC-managed property (%)
Description: For NYCEDC-managed properties, the number of square feet leased as a percent of the total available space.
**Appendix**

**Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth**

**Indicator name:** Businesses served by industry-focused programmatic initiatives

**Description:** The number of businesses actively enrolled in NYCEDC’s Center for Urban Innovation-sponsored programmatic initiatives, including NYCEDC’s incubator network and centers for excellence, technology competitions, partnership funds and programmatic ventures throughout the five boroughs. *Source: NYCEDC’s Center for Urban Innovation.*

**Indicator name:** New York City unemployment rate (%)

**Description:** Average unemployment rate of New York City residents. *Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.*

**Indicator name:** Project employees reported to be earning a living wage or more (%)

**Description:** The number of employees on projects receiving financial assistance from NYC’s Industrial Development Agency, BuildNYC Resource Corporation or NYCEDC programs that earned a living wage, or more than a living wage, as defined by the Fair Wages for New Yorkers Act, as a percent of the total number of project employees. *Source: Compliance Department.*

**Indicator name:** New jobseekers registered through the Workforce1 Career Center system

**Description:** The number of new jobseekers registered in the Workforce1 Career Center system. *Source: Division of Workforce Development.*

**Indicator name:** Unique customers served

**Description:** The number of unduplicated customers who received value-added services through the Workforce1 system – not including activities such as registration or brief orientations – that contribute to clients attaining positive employment or educational outcomes. *Source: Division of Workforce Development.*
Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

Indicator name: Businesses awarded funding for employer-based training
Description: The number of businesses awarded dollars for employer-based training programs, such as NYC Business Solutions training funds and On-The-Job Training funds. Source: Business Development Division.

Indicator name: Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) participants
Description: Number of participants enrolled in summer youth employment programs during the current or latest summer’s SYEP. Source: Summer Youth Employment Program.

Indicator name: Paid Sick Leave (PSL) complaints investigated
Description: The total number of PSL complaint investigations completed. Complaints may be investigated individually, or based upon a class of complainants. Source: Office of Labor Policy and Standards.

Indicator name: Clients served by Office of Financial Empowerment financial counseling programs

Indicator name: Financial counseling program clients – Percent achieving measurable success (%)
Description: The percent of Office of Financial Empowerment financial counseling program clients with at least two financial counseling sessions that have achieved at least one short or long-term change in financial behavior during the most recent fiscal year. Client behavioral changes include: (1) opening a safe and affordable bank account; (2) transitioning to a safe and affordable bank account; (3) maintaining a bank account for at least six months; (4) increasing credit score by at least 35 points (over a baseline credit score that cannot have occurred more than 15 months in the past); (5) establishing a credit score; (6) decreasing debt by 10% (compared to a baseline debt amount that cannot have occurred more than 15 months in the
past); or (7) increasing savings by at least 2% of net income (over a baseline savings value that cannot have occurred more than 15 months in the past). Source: Office of Financial Empowerment.

**Indicator name:** Total debt reduced by clients ($000) (cumulative)

**Description:** The cumulative debt reduction, since inception of the respective program, by Office of Financial Empowerment financial counseling program clients over the entire course of their counseling, measured from the point the client began participating in the program. Fiscal year first quarter data is used as a proxy for the October YTD number reported in the Preliminary Mayor’s Management Report. Source: Office of Financial Empowerment.

**Indicator name:** Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) participants

**Description:** Number of participants enrolled in summer youth employment programs during the current or latest summer’s SYEP. Source: Summer Youth Employment Program.
Goal 10
Reduce inequality within and among countries

Top-line OneNYC 2050 indicators:

- Wealth gap between immigrant and U.S.-born households
- Income disparity by race (median household earnings of white households divided by median household earnings of black, Hispanic, Asian, and other race households)
- Lift New Yorkers out of poverty or near poverty

The City publishes a Social Indicators report that analyzes social conditions across NYC. This report is meant to help guide the City’s efforts to reduce disparities and advance equity. Presenting data about conditions in disaggregated form can reveal differences that exist among different parts of the City and within specific populations.

Sample indicators

Indicator name: Responses to bias-based incidents
Description: The number of incidents responded to by the bias-based response team. Source: Community Relations Bureau, Research Division.

Indicator name: Matters initiated
Description: The number of inquiries that result in a matter being opened that requires follow-up from Commission staff. Possible outcomes include resolution before filing a complaint or the filing of a complaint. Source: Case Tracking System, Law Enforcement Bureau.

Indicator name: Cases successfully mediated
Description: The number of cases or complaints resolved through mediation, a conflict resolution process, during the reporting period. Source: Case Tracking System, Law Enforcement Bureau.

Indicator name: **Cases closed (%) - no probable cause determination**

Description: The percentage of closed cases where the Commission does not believe the claim of discrimination can be proven in court. Source: Case Tracking System, Law Enforcement Bureau.

Indicator name: **Cases closed (%) - probable cause determination**

Description: The percentage of closed cases where the Commission believes a claim of discrimination can be proven in court. Source: Case Tracking System, Law Enforcement Bureau.

Indicator name: **Participants achieving positive outcomes in immigrant assistance programs (%)**

Description: The percentage of participants enrolled in an immigrant assistance program achieving at least one positive outcome as defined by the program area. Source: DYCD Office of Immigrant Initiatives.

Indicator name: **Participants in immigrant assistance programs**

Description: The number of participants in DYCD funded immigrant assistance programs during the reporting period. Source: DYCD Office of Immigrant Initiatives.

Indicator Name: **Applications filed with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services**

Description: The number of applications for permanent residence, citizenship, asylum, or other special immigration status that HRA funded community-based organizations helped file with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). Other special immigration status applications can include U or T visas, Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS), DACA and immigration relief under VAWA or the VTVPA. Source: HRA Office of Civil Justice.
Goal 13: Climate Action

Top-line OneNYC 2050 Indicators:

- Greenhouse gas emissions eliminated, reduced, or offset
- Percent of electricity mix from clean sources
- Curbside diversion rate
- Customer Average Interruption Duration Index in hours
- Flood insurance enrollments, using January 2019 NFIP policies in force as a baseline
- System Average Interruption Frequency Index per 1,000 customers
- City pension fund investments in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and other climate change solutions
- City pension fund investments in fossil fuel reserve owners (eliminate)
- GHG emissions from the transportation sector
- Share of NYC trips by sustainable modes (walking, biking, and mass transit)

Sample indicators

**Indicator name:** Electricity purchased (kilowatt hours) (billions)

**Description:** Total electricity purchased in billions of kilowatt hours (kWh). *Source: Bills paid by DCAS.*

**Indicator name:** Total energy purchased (British thermal units) (trillions)

**Description:** Total energy purchased in trillions of British thermal units (BTUs), including electricity, gas and steam. *Source: Bills paid by DCAS.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator name</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electricity (%)</td>
<td>Electricity purchased as a percent of the total energy purchased by the City (in British thermal units (BTUs)). Source: DCAS Energy Management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural gas (%)</td>
<td>Natural gas purchased as a percent of total energy purchased (in British thermal units (BTUs)). Source: DCAS Energy Management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steam (%)</td>
<td>Steam purchased as a percent of total energy purchased (in British thermal units (BTUs)). Source: DCAS Energy Management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual estimated reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from all energy projects (metric tons)</td>
<td>The annual reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, by metric ton, (carbon dioxide equivalent or CO2e) estimated to be reduced as a result of energy efficiency and retrocommissioning projects that have been funded, in whole or in part, by DCAS on behalf of the City and are completed within the fiscal year reported. This measurement only reports on the estimated GHG reductions in building-related emissions for buildings with energy projects completed within a fiscal year and does not account for adjustments in other variables (e.g., changes in weather, occupancy, operation, etc.) that may impact the actual change in energy usage as reported in MMR energy usage data. Funded refers to funds invested by DCAS, or awarded by DCAS, to other City agencies for that agency’s implementation of a project. Source: DCAS Energy Management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative estimated reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from all energy projects (metric tons)</td>
<td>Using Fiscal 2012 as a baseline, or starting point, the cumulative reduction in GHG emissions, by metric ton, (carbon dioxide equivalent or CO2e) estimated to be reduced as a result of energy efficiency and retro-commissioning projects that have been funded, in whole or in part, by DCAS on behalf of the City and are completed within the fiscal year reported. This measurement only reports on the estimated GHG reductions in building-related emissions for buildings with energy projects completed within a fiscal year and does not account for adjustments in other variables (e.g., changes in weather, occupancy, operation, etc.) that may impact the actual change in energy usage as reported in MMR energy usage data. Funded refers to funds invested by DCAS, or awarded by DCAS, to other City agencies for that agency’s implementation of a project. Source: DCAS Energy Management.</td>
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Indicator name: **Annual estimated avoided energy cost from all energy projects ($000,000)**

Description: The annual estimated energy cost avoided, in millions of dollars, derived from municipal energy and retro-commissioning projects completed within a fiscal year based on project scopes, that have been funded, in whole or in part, by DCAS on behalf of the City, without adjusting for other variables (e.g., changes in weather) that may impact the actual change in energy usage as reported in MMR energy usage data. Source: DCAS Energy Management.

Indicator name: **Cumulative estimated avoided energy cost from all energy projects ($000,000)**

Description: Using Fiscal 2012 as a baseline, or starting point, the cumulative estimated energy cost avoided, in millions of dollars, derived from municipal energy and retro-commissioning projects completed within a fiscal year based on project scopes, that have been funded, in whole or in part, by DCAS on behalf of the City, without adjusting for other variables (e.g., changes in weather) that may impact the actual change in energy usage as reported in MMR energy usage data. Source: DCAS Energy Management.

Indicator name: **Annual energy retrofit/conservation projects completed**

Description: The annual number of energy retrofit, retro-commissioning, solar thermal and co-generation projects installed and operational within or on municipal buildings/structures in a given fiscal year. Source: DCAS Energy Management.
### Appendix Goal 13: Climate Action

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Source</th>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Annual Energy Efficiency Reports (EER) completed</strong></td>
<td>The annual number of Energy Efficiency Reports (EERs), comprised of energy audits and retro-commissioning reports as per Local Law 87 of 2009. Energy audits are compliant energy efficiency assessments completed in municipal buildings. <em>Source: DCAS Energy Management.</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cumulative Energy Efficiency Reports (EER) completed</strong></td>
<td>Using Fiscal 2012 as a baseline, or starting point, the cumulative number of Energy Efficiency Reports (EERs), comprised of energy audits and retro-commissioning reports as per Local Law 87 of 2009. Energy audits are compliant energy efficiency assessments completed in municipal buildings. <em>Source: DCAS Energy Management.</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Cumulative installed solar capacity (megawatts)</strong></td>
<td>Using Fiscal 2012 as a baseline, or starting point, the cumulative energy generating capacity, in megawatts, of exclusively solar systems that are installed and operational within or on City-owned buildings/structures, including those operated by City-affiliated public benefit corporations or not-for-profit corporations. <em>Source: DCAS Energy Management.</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hybrid or alternative fuel vehicles in the citywide fleet (%)</strong></td>
<td>The percentage of the City’s total fleet that is hybrid and/or runs on fuels other than the traditional petroleum gasoline/diesel. Alternative fuels include compressed natural gas, biodiesel blends, electricity and solar. <em>Source: Citywide Fleet Management.</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix

Goal 13: Climate Action

Indicator name: Hybrid or alternative fuel vehicles in the DCAS-managed fleet (%)
Description: The percentage of the DCAS-managed fleet, a subset of the City’s total fleet that is managed directly by DCAS, which is hybrid and/or runs on fuels other than the traditional petroleum gasoline/diesel. Alternative fuels include compressed natural gas, biodiesel blends, electricity and solar. Source: Citywide Fleet Management.

Indicator name: Vehicles with highest emission ratings purchased pursuant to Local Law 38 in the citywide fleet (%)
Description: The percentage of light-duty and medium-duty vehicles purchased for the City through DCAS that are certified with the three highest ratings defined by California Low-Emission Vehicle (LEV) II standards. The three highest ratings are zero emission vehicles (ZEV), advanced technology partial zero emission vehicles (ATPZEV), and partial zero emission vehicles (PZEV). Pursuant to Local Law 38 of 2005, each light- and medium-duty vehicle that the City purchases should have the best certified emission rating within its vehicle category while meeting the requirements for the City’s intended use. According to the law, some exceptions apply based on cost and other limited exemptions, including exceptions for certain emergency vehicles. Source: Vehicle Tracking System.

Indicator name: Vehicles with highest emission ratings purchased pursuant to Local Law 38 in the DCAS-managed fleet (%)
Description: The percentage of light-duty and medium-duty vehicles purchased for the DCAS-managed fleet, a subset of the City’s total fleet, which is managed directly by DCAS, that are certified with the three highest ratings defined by California Low-Emission Vehicle (LEV) II standards. The three highest ratings are zero emission vehicles (ZEV), advanced technology partial zero emission vehicles (ATPZEV), and partial zero emission vehicles (PZEV). Pursuant to Local Law 38 of 2005, each light- and medium-duty vehicle that the City purchases should have the best certified emission rating within its vehicle category while meeting the requirements for the City’s intended use. According to the law, some exceptions apply based on cost and other limited exemptions, including exceptions for certain emergency vehicles. Source: Vehicle Tracking System.
Appendix

Goal 13: Climate Action

Indicator name: Electric vehicles in the citywide fleet
Description: The number of electric and plug-in vehicles in the citywide fleet. The fiscal year figure is the number of electric vehicles on the last day of the reporting period. Source: Citywide Fleet Management.

Indicator name: Electric vehicles in the DCAS-managed fleet
Description: The number of electric and plug-in vehicles in the DCAS-managed fleet, a subset of the citywide fleet. The fiscal year figure is the number of electric vehicles on the last day of the reporting period. Source: Citywide Fleet Management.

Indicator name: Citi Bike annual membership
Description: Total count of Citi Bike annual memberships activated, including renewals. Source: Department of Transportation Planning & Management - Bike Share Program.

Indicator name: Citi Bike – Trips
Description: Total count of Citi Bike trips by all users (annual and short-term members). Source: Department of Transportation Planning & Management - Bike Share Program.

Indicator name: Bicycle racks installed
Description: The total number of bicycle racks installed by DOT or its contractors citywide. Source: Division of Transportation Planning & Management - Bicycle Program.

Indicator name: Regular cyclists (annual) calendar year
Description: The number of NYC adult residents who bike at least several times a month as reported in the NYC Community Health Survey. Source: Division of Transportation Planning & Management - Bicycle Program.
**Indicator name:**  
Select Bus Service ridership (000) (annual)

**Description:** The number of passengers traveling on Select Bus Service routes during weekday and weekends hours. *Source: Metropolitan Transportation Authority – Long Range Bus Planning.*

**Indicator name:**  
Select Bus Service – Route miles (cumulative)

**Description:** The total length of Select Bus Service routes, traveling one way. *Source: Department of Transportation Planning & Management – Transit Development.*
Goal 16
Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

Top-line OneNYC 2050 indicators:
- Voter registrations
- Voter turnout in local elections (%)
- Volunteers counted in the annual survey
- Immigrant New Yorkers who are naturalized
- Wealth gap between immigrant and U.S.-born households
- Average daily jail population (reduce)
- Major felony crimes

Sample indicators

Indicator name: **Average number of families served per day in the domestic violence shelter program**
Description: The monthly average of the number of families served per day in emergency domestic violence shelters. *Source: HRA ODVEIS Shelter Occupancy Referral Tracking System*

Indicator name: **Number of domestic violence emergency beds (capacity)**
Description: At the end of the reporting period, the number of domestic violence emergency beds that HRA administers. *Source: HRA Office of Domestic Violence & Emergency Intervention Services (ODVEIS) recorded state certifications of facilities.*
Appendix

Goal 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

Indicator name: **Domestic violence non-residential services programs average monthly caseload**

Description: The number of unique clients who have received non-residential domestic violence services each month, averaged to determine the City fiscal year to date value. *Source: Contracted non-residential shelter provider reports*

Indicator name: **Crime related to domestic violence - Murder - Rape - Felonious assault**

Description: The number of murders, rapes and felonious assaults involving family members who are either related by blood, related by marriage (in-laws), married, have children in common, formerly married to one another (separated or divorced), or live in a family-type arrangement, as well as people who are not related by blood or marriage and who are or have been in an intimate relationship, regardless of whether such persons have lived together at any time. *Source: NYPD Office of Management Analysis and Planning.*

Indicator name: **Inmates participating in skills-building activities/discharge planning (%)**

Description: The percent of inmates in custody for more than ten days during the reporting period who participated in skills-building activities including vocational, educational and life-skill programs, and discharge planning services. *Source: DOC Strategic Planning and Programs database*

Indicator name: **Corruption prevention and whistleblower lectures conducted**

Description: The number of lectures conducted by DOI to new City employees, agencies undergoing major investigations and vendors conducting business with, or receiving benefits from, the City. *Source: Offices of the Inspectors General computerized database.*
Appendix

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Indicator name: **Corruption prevention lecture e-learning attendees**
Description: The number City employees, including employees at agencies under major investigations, and consultants that complete the City's online anti-corruption lectures. Source: Department of Citywide Administrative Services/DOI.

Indicator name: **Integrity monitoring agreements**
Description: The number of active monitoring agreements currently in place entered into by City vendors who have been required to retain an Integrity Monitor at the company's expense in order to be found responsible to do business with the City. Integrity Monitors are generally retained to monitor a vendor's ongoing operations, with an emphasis placed on the areas that have raised integrity issues in the past. DOI also engages in proactive monitoring for vendors working on City projects to prevent or reduce fraud, waste or abuse –particularly on large-scale construction projects. Integrity Monitors are selected by DOI and report directly to DOI. Source: Integrity Monitor Program.

Indicator name: **Referrals for civil and administrative action**
Description: The number of referrals made to federal, state or City agencies. Civil actions may include financial recoveries, restitution or recommendations for the initiation of lawsuits to collect damages. Administrative actions may include disciplinary, civil and Conflicts of Interest Board referrals. Source: Case Management System (CMS).

Indicator name: **Referrals for criminal prosecution**
Description: The number of referrals made to federal, state and local prosecutors' offices as a result of information obtained from a DOI investigation. Source: Case Management System (CMS).
**Indicator name:** Financial recoveries to the City ordered/agreed ($)

**Description:** The total dollar value of financial recoveries ordered or agreed to be paid to, or otherwise recovered by, the City as a result of DOI investigations in civil, criminal, and administrative cases, including Special Commissioner of Investigation for the City School District and Department of Buildings Inspector General Office/Buildings Special Investigations Unit cases. These funds include restitution (money paid to the City as compensation for monetary loss); fines (monetary penalties levied by a court, administrative tribunal, or agency action upon an individual or company for criminal or civil offenses); forfeiture (the seizure of assets that were used in the commission of a crime or the proceeds of a crime); or other money recovered by the City, such as the satisfaction of debt owed to the City, including the reinstatement of fines or taxes collected, contract adjustments or credits, reimbursements or the recovery of City equipment or property. Source: Offices of Inspector General and General Counsel.