



Central Brooklyn Independent Democrats: 2021 Mayoral Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name: Eric Adams

Office Sought: Mayor of NYC

Candidate Email Address: info@ericadams2021.com

Candidate Phone Number: (929) 474-3793

Campaign Contact Name: Katie Moore

Campaign Contact Phone: (718) 757-4125

Campaign Contact Email: kmoore@ericadams2021.com

Name of person filling out this questionnaire: Eric Adams and his campaign team

Please answer each of the following questions to the best of your ability:

1) If elected, what would be your top priority in your first term?

Our turnaround starts with public health and public safety – but to deliver on New York City's promise for everyone, I would also prioritize improving City government performance, using technology to get every penny out of every dollar, making our service delivery much more effective, and bringing the City to the people.

It has never been more important that New Yorkers receive the full support of their government, especially communities that have been disadvantaged and disconnected for decades. Imagine typing only one number into a secure app or Web site and instantly receiving every service and benefit you qualify for – such as SNAP – without any paperwork, as well as constant up-to-date information that will help you protect you and your family. If you own a business, you can manage City paperwork through it. If you are making repairs to your property, you will have direct access to the Department of Buildings. And, if you opt-in to using a chip-enabled City ID, you can sail through in-person interactions with City agencies, instantly have access to a bank account, and even get City loyalty discounts at participating local businesses. With the technology now available, there is no reason New York City cannot do that for every New Yorker. This is a 311 for the digital age, and so much more.

Then we will take this digital platform one step further. Creating a program that helps New Yorkers is only half the job; educating New Yorkers about it and delivering those services is also necessary for it to be effective. We can do this by equipping City workers with computer tablets that are connected to the City's unified digital platform and sending them into the areas with the greatest need for City services, setting up shop in open storefronts, NYCHA complexes and even parks. These workers can also connect New Yorkers to federal services and programs that will help us return some of the \$20 billion-plus a year that New York taxpayers send to DC that we do not get back.

2) What personal and/or professional experiences do you believe make you uniquely qualified to run for New York City Mayor? Attach resume or CV if desired.

I've lived in New York City all my life. My single mom struggled to make ends meet for my five siblings and me. We didn't always know if we would come home to an eviction notice or food on the table. I was beaten by police in a precinct basement as a teenager. I have spent my entire adult life in public service because I want to turn pain into purpose. Because I lived the life of the people I want to help. I remember what it was like to live with crime. To be hungry. To be on the edge of homelessness. To be forgotten by the city you love.

That's why I put on a bulletproof vest as a police officer and walked the streets. That's why I fought racism in



the department. That's why I stood up for human rights in Albany. And that's why I have spent my borough presidency making government work better for the people who need it the most.

And during my 35 years in public service, and my experience growing up with adversity in this city, I have seen what works and what doesn't in New York. And the problems we face existed far before COVID-19 hit. Because inefficiency leads to inequality. Mismanagement creates crises. We can't continue to run this city the way we have been.

3) List all of your endorsements, including but not limited to elected officials, unions, political clubs and community-based organizations.

Council Member I. Daneek Miller, Council Member Laurie Cumbo, Council Member Darma Diaz, former Representative Ed Towns, State Senator Roxanne Persaud, Assembly Member Jaime Williams, Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez, former Assembly Member and Bronx Deputy Borough President Aurelia Green, NY State Court Officers Association, Our Time Press

4) What, if any, groups or industries will you not accept campaign contributions from? If any, please note specifically whose money you will not accept.

The campaign will not accept contributions from police unions like the PBA, SBA, and State Troopers that do not align with my view of justice and reform.

5) How do you propose helping NYC recover from the COVID pandemic and resulting economic recession, particularly given the projected shortfall in city revenue?

Given the crises we currently face, it all starts with public health and a just economic recovery. Until people feel it is safe to go to work, to go to stores and restaurants and to visit our city, our city cannot bounce back.

We need an unprecedented effort that restores public confidence as it protects public health, including:

- A robust rapid-testing program accessible to any New Yorker at grocery stores, pharmacies and other centralized locations;
- A regularly updated heat map of citywide COVID activity to build public confidence in the city's health;
- Adding health center storefronts in un-leased retail spaces in high-transmission areas that provide free PPE, testing, and health education;
- Ensuring a just distribution of the vaccine in communities of color. And in the face of unacceptable delays in vaccine distribution, I have put out a plan to get vaccination back on track.

Then we have to prioritize communities of color in an economic recovery:

- Connect the unemployed with jobs and training while working with the private sector to fill jobs with trained workers. (There were 200,000 open jobs NYC employers couldn't fill before COVID--that's not a COVID problem, that's a skills problem).
- Help our small businesses with loans, back office help and tax breaks.
- Create a local banking network that gets investment into communities of color that need access to capital.
- Grow our economy by attracting entrepreneurs in biotech and technology, and partnering with CUNY schools to ensure students of color have access to internships and a pipeline from college to career.



6) What measures would you take to improve educational opportunities for all students in NYC? How do you plan to ensure that all NYC children are able to attend high-quality, integrated schools? Do you support D15's integration plan as it has been implemented? What changes, if any, would you make to the current D15 integration plan?

For starters, 3K is too late when it comes to the development of a child and CUNY doesn't go far enough. I believe in health and education programs that go from prenatal-to-career, not just cradle-to-career.

Eighty percent of a child's brain growth happens in the first 1,000 days. We need to follow the science and focus resources on prenatal care and early childhood education to make sure that children who enter 3K are not already at a disadvantage. I will put resources into teaching parents about their child and baby's brain development and making sure pregnant women get the nutrition they need.

I will implement a robust doula program for first-time mothers, where mothers and families are provided the support they need in the months before birth and in the immediate days afterward. Not only will this be beneficial from an early childhood development perspective; doulas are also associated with improved maternal health outcomes and lower rates of medical intervention in birth.

Next, we need to desegregate our public schools. As a young man I was among the first classes of students to be bused to high school — from South Jamaica to Bayside — so I understand what an important and emotional issue school desegregation is to parents and young people. I do not want young people of color to experience the same lack of diversity and unequal education that I did.

To desegregate our schools, we must first recognize that many students — particularly young people of color — are wrongly cast aside as low-aptitude because we are not evaluating the whole person and dealing with all of their challenges outside of school, including everything from their general health to the level of stress they face at home to their ability to get three healthy meals a day. That is why I will focus our evaluations of young students on how they learn and what impediments they face in the way of reaching their full potential — not just how they perform on a standardized exam.

For other students, I would prioritize a pathway for every student to go to a middle school and high school that best suits their interest, ability and learning needs. I will also designate funding for more gifted and talented programs at middle schools in low-income areas, as well as funding for test prep for low-income students who want to go to specialized schools that utilize the exam.

In regards to the District 15 integration plan, I believe it has been a very successful example for our city. It has worked as well as it has because community leaders and parent groups worked together to develop the plan and inform its implementation. Common-sense ways that we will build upon this are addressing how we spend capital and operational resources, how we track student performance, and creating more options for parents about how and when their children learn through new technology and a year-round school year.

Lastly, we need to make sure our children are prepared for careers. I would make internship and externship programming universally available to every high school student, with an accompanying pre-professional development curriculum that ensures young people have aforementioned "soft skills" like resume development and interviewing. Research indicates that broadening the horizons of students about potential career paths requires exposing them to high-quality professional opportunities and our children will be inspired to pursue what they set their minds to achieve.



7) How would you have handled the reopening of schools for the 2020-2021 academic year? How would you prepare for a second wave of this pandemic? How would you propose to ensure that the needs of highly vulnerable children with special needs, who are homeless, come from poor families, and/or live in households without adults who could aid their learning are not left further behind when remote learning has to be relied on?

My priority would have been ensuring comprehensive testing and tracing was in place to prevent outbreaks, combined with strict protocols around mask-wearing and social distancing. We have seen serious academic slide due to loss of classroom socialization and the ineffective rollout of remote learning. Families expect and deserve clear guidance, informed by science and the lessons we've already learned in this pandemic. Going forward, I continue to believe that school closures should be guided by school system transmission rates, not city-wide rates.

The stakes facing our most highly vulnerable children are tremendous. When we fail to educate today, we are more likely to incarcerate tomorrow. Our failures in remote learning will only widen the achievement gap, which falls hardest on students of color and those with unstable living situations. We are fighting for full transparency from the DOE, and for greater buy-in from our internet service providers, which have been raking in record profits during this time and must give back to the community. We need a mass mobilization of resources to make sure that children have the digital resources and are connected. This mass mobilization means pressuring tech companies to be a part of the solution. Given how much city business these companies receive, they should be providing devices at cost.

Lastly, we need universal broadband. We will close the broadband gap by using rezoning powers to require affordable Mandatory Inclusionary Internet, creating incentives for 5G providers to offer affordable access, and forcing cable providers to expand affordable internet offerings to every single low-income New Yorker using requirements for their City contracts that are already in place. And we can use proceeds from our Data Tax on Big Tech to pay for any capital and digital literacy costs needed to ensure access to the Internet. This will allow for us to create the remote learning option students need and deserve.

8) Do you support allowing non-citizen New York City residents to vote in City-based elections? Why or why not?

Absolutely. I have called for it as Borough President and it is part of my policy platform. By allowing lawfully permanent residents and other non-citizens authorized to work in the United States the right to vote, we will enfranchise nearly 1 million New Yorkers who deserve a say in how their city is run--and who runs it.

9) Do you support any campaign finance reforms for NYC? If so, please describe.

I support all elections being fully publicly financed. This is the best way to ensure that New Yorkers of all backgrounds have an opportunity to represent their communities. Fully publicly financed municipal campaigns will maximize women and minority participation in electoral politics, reduce quid pro quo corruption, and help restore faith in our electoral system. My hope is that democracy vouchers and other transformational ideas around campaign finance reform that we have advanced through previous charter revision commissions are put directly to voters in the future, so they can decide for themselves.



10) Now that the State government has passed the Reproductive Health Act, what steps would you have the Council and City Hall take to increase reproductive healthcare access, including maternal healthcare, and to do so equitably?

I support the move in the City Council in June 2019 to allocate money in the city budget for abortion funding. Abortion is healthcare and the inability to pay should not preclude a person from getting access.

Additionally, NYC has some of the worst disparities in maternal mortality between white and black women in this country. This is why I have called for making a doula accessible to every pregnant person giving birth for their first time. Doulas provide information about health and child-rearing, critical emotional support, and make sure that pregnant people are aware of their rights during labor.

Maternal health has been a priority of mine as borough president. In 2015, I launched “Family Friendly Brooklyn” which called for the expansion of breastfeeding empowerment zones and the creation of publicly accessible lactation rooms in government buildings, as well as funding for screening for postpartum depression and paid family leave. As part of this initiative, my office conducted free trainings for health care providers to screen for postpartum depression and introduced a bill, ultimately passed by the City Council and signed into law by the Mayor, mandating the establishment of lactation rooms throughout New York City. Prior to passing this legislation, I opened a state of the art lactation room at borough hall during my second year in office. I championed the expansion of birth centers in Brooklyn and midwifery care for women, which research suggests leads to better outcomes for women and children during childbirth, including fewer cesarean section interventions which are inordinately conducted on Black and Brown women. I also had a bill introduced on my behalf to create a task force on female genital mutilation in New York City as a way to educate NYC agency staff to identify and prevent female genital mutilation in communities across the City.

11) The MTA is facing a significant revenue shortfall and many parts of the city lack access to reliable public transportation. What measures would you implement and/or enforce, to promote safe, efficient, and accessible transportation options for mass transit users, pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers in Brooklyn and in the City as a whole?

There are a variety of measures we can do to promote transportation options.

Build out a state of the art bus transit system: New York City can't build its way out of congestion so it must use its existing roadways more efficiently. The fastest way to do this is to prioritize the infrastructure that New York City controls, namely its street network. We must act quickly to improve the commutes and quality of life for millions of New Yorkers through re-envisioning our streetscape. This means striping more bus lanes, building an interconnected Bus Rapid Transit system starting on roadways with service roads in transit deserts, and creating more busways throughout New York City.

Create shared electric bike and scooter networks for transit-starved communities: Millions of New Yorkers -- mostly people of color in lower-income and middle-income communities -- are not within walking distance of the subway and do not have access to decent public transit options. CitiBike says it will close some of those gaps—but it is right now largely in higher-income areas. To connect underserved communities to mass transit and allow them to get around their communities and connect to transit more easily, we will create a citywide network of shared electric bikes and scooters that prioritizes those New Yorkers disconnected from transit.



Commit capital funding to bike share expansion: New York City is home to the only bike share system that does not receive public subsidy. To quickly expand our bike and scooter share system to neighborhoods across New York City that are transit deprived, we will upfront capital costs for private providers.

Get creative about creating safe byways for bikes: In addition to building out protected bike lanes throughout the city, we will also find unused space such as road space under elevated highways and railways that can become bicycle superhighways.

Create a “Safe Routes to Parks” program: Build out protected bike and pedestrian infrastructure to safely connect neighborhoods far from large open spaces to destination parks.

Repurpose curb space: I would establish minimum allotments to transition car storage spaces to parklets or bike corrals in each community district. I would baseline the number of parklets or bike corrals available to each community district and allow community boards to site each.

12) How would you ensure fairness in employment, salary, workplace conditions, and promotion? What is your position on strengthening and increasing access to union membership?

Being a member of a union is life-changing. The stability and advocacy ensure that a middle class can continue in New York City. I plan to use my bully pulpit to advocate for workers’ rights to negotiate contracts and emphasize the importance of unions. Additionally, I will use the full force of the city’s investigative powers to investigate wage theft issues and enforce laws that protect workers defined schedules that they must receive two weeks in advance.

I am committed to transparency and shining a light on employment practices because I see it as one of the most effective ways to improve fairness. I will implement a Gender and Racial Equity Index, similar to the one undertaken by the United Kingdom. This will ensure that we have standardized metrics to assess all employers in this city. These metrics will demonstrate pay gaps, problems with companies nurturing talent along their entire pipeline, and friendly policies towards child-rearing. We will first implement this at each city agency and then roll out to any employer with more than 200 employees in NYC.

13) How would you ensure that underserved communities receive fair and equitable treatment from city government? What policies do you support that would level the playing field for historically marginalized groups?

We need policies that center the historically marginalized. Right now it is a full-time job to be poor and access city aid and services. I will cut through the bureaucracy and ensure those who need the most help can readily access it.

No budget cuts will happen in my city budget without first undergoing an equity audit to ensure it doesn’t hurt marginalized communities.

The problem with City services isn’t just the lack of them — it is access to them. We must bring the City to the community, right to the doorstep of New Yorkers. Creating a program that helps New Yorkers is only half the job; educating New Yorkers about it and delivering those services is also necessary for it to be effective. We can do this by equipping City workers with computer tablets that are connected to the City’s unified digital platform and sending them into the areas with the greatest need for City services.

We can increase access to social services by making them co-located with the Health + Hospitals network.



Poverty, homelessness, unemployment and food insecurity all directly lead to poor health — yet hospitals are largely not equipped to address those issues. By utilizing the extra capacity in H+H hospitals to co-locate social services, we will address both the social and physical causes of illness, leading to much better outcomes and cost savings.

When it comes to New Yorkers of different abilities we need to ensure that every New Yorker has the right to enjoy our city and to have access to the same basic quality of life as their neighbors. Yet many of the approximately 1 million New Yorkers who live with a disability are prevented from easily using City buildings, streets, and even housing because their needs have not been prioritized. So we will conduct a citywide audit of City infrastructure and properties — including cultural institutions and other groups that lease City property — to determine where those needs are not being met, and then turn that into a plan for action.

Lastly, we can generate \$1-2 billion annually by instituting a “Recovery Share” — a modest increase to the income taxes of city earners who make more than \$5 million a year, sunseting after two years. Those funds would go directly into initiatives that help us bounce back from the pandemic, including testing and vaccination programs, anti-hunger efforts, and financial help for those New Yorkers and industries hardest hit by COVID-19.

14) What policy and practice changes are needed for NYC government to ensure sufficient quality housing that actually is affordable for existing residents in Brooklyn neighborhoods?

This is important to me because I was housing insecure as a young man. That’s why I fought for affordable housing my entire career, including:

- The Faith-Based Development Initiative, which helps local houses of worship explore opportunities for developing their properties.
- The Brooklyn Mitchell-Lama Task Force, which helped secure \$250 million from the City to save more than 15,000 subsidized units from market rates.
- Projects like the one I’m pushing in Brownsville to create housing where it is needed. (174 affordable apartments--50% would be for the formerly homeless and 87 would be supportive housing units for youth aging out of foster care.)

Looking forward, as Mayor, I would tackle the affordable housing crisis in a variety of ways.

First and foremost, we need to add housing — for everyone — in wealthy neighborhoods. For years, our rezonings focused on adding apartments in lower-income areas — which often just led to higher-income people moving in, making communities less affordable, and often forcing out longtime residents. Instead, we will build in wealthier areas with a high quality of life, allowing lower- and middle-income New Yorkers to move in by adding affordable housing and eliminating the community preference rule in those areas, which prevents many New Yorkers from living in desirable neighborhoods.

Let’s convert a number of City office buildings into 100% affordable housing by taking advantage of more City workers working from home and consolidating workers that will still be in-person to free up space.

We can change outdated rules that prevent New York developers from building the kind of small, cheaper micro-units that are common today around the world. Homeowners in single family zones are also prevented from legally leasing “accessory units” like “granny flats”. And single room occupancy units, or SROs, and basement apartments are still illegal, despite their common use elsewhere. By allowing for all of these to be built or legally used, we will quickly add hundreds-of-thousands of affordable apartments.



We can also make sure development includes the community's buy-in through by utilizing community development corporations (CDCs). CDCs were a major reason New York was able to build its way out of the fiscal crisis in the 70s and 80s — by granting these local organizations property and funding to bring economic investment to their own neighborhoods. We will do that again to reinvigorate distressed lower-income areas by creating new economic activity and affordable housing.

Lastly, faith-based institutions have the social vision and local understanding to advance affordable and supportive housing projects with excess development rights on their own properties, but they also often do not have the financial or technical capacity to do so. We will partner with faith-based institutions across New York City to leverage development rights for a public purpose.

15) What policies would you pass or enforce to ensure public housing/NYCHA repair, upkeep and security, and access to alternate housing and services when lacking essentials such as heat, gas and hot water? What is your position on “privatization” of public housing/NYCHA, and on City government sale of public housing “open areas” (outdoor seating & recreation plots) and air rights to private developers?

NYCHA needs funding and we cannot wait for the federal government to take action. By selling the developable “air rights” over NYCHA properties to builders within the same community district, we will raise up to \$8 billion that can be used to make badly needed repairs and quality of life improvements for NYCHA tenants. Local community developers -- especially non-profit groups -- should get first shot at these air rights if they want them.

Additionally, NYCHA tenants are understandably skeptical of the City program to get more money out of the federal government by transitioning some complexes to private management under the PACT to Preserve program. But the program can also unlock billions of dollars to improve their homes. To raise needed revenue and give tenants more control over the process, we will provide free legal counsel to tenants going through the conversion. This will ensure that tenants can select an attorney who they trust to fight for their needs and the confidence that they will end up with the better housing that is promised.

Lastly, NYCHA is notoriously opaque about progress on repairs and its own spending. This has led to unacceptable conditions and huge deficits. We will apply crystal clear transparency through constant reporting of progress on apartment and building repairs, as well as spending, posted in real-time through a dashboard. We will also do an audit to see what budgeted money has actually been spent. And we will promote further transparency and tracking by placing QR codes on buildings as a way for anyone to point, click and track progress.

16) Given the City's Covid and post-Covid economic crisis, how would you approach your role in addressing the city's carceral system, including the plan to close Rikers?

For all the effort it has taken to close the physical structures on Rikers Island, it will be much more difficult to close the pipeline that has fed Rikers for decades. That will be my focus as Mayor. Solving the underlying causes of crime and recidivism are a pressing challenge we must take on as a city, while remaining vigilant on violent offenses. The ULURP disapproval recommendation that I put forward last year on the City's borough-based jail proposal lays out a vision for how to achieve that: It includes focusing on rehabilitation over incarceration, providing workforce and educational opportunities for inmates, providing mental health services and mindfulness training to those struggling with trauma, as well as finally addressing the taboo



around the prevalence of people with learning disabilities in our jails.

Expanding ATI programs and rehabilitative services in our communities is certainly part of what I see as an upstream approach to reducing incarceration, as is supporting early intervention programs like Fair Futures, which would provide full-time life coaches and tutors for current and former foster youth from middle school through age 26.

16) Describe your vision for public safety in New York City? What, if any, functions would you like to see removed from the police department? What agencies assume the functions removed from the NYPD?

I joined the NYPD to change it from the inside after suffering brutality at the hands of police, and spent a good share of my career as an officer speaking out against racism and other systemic issues in the department. I am proud to have forced some of the worst behavior into the light, including the abusive use of Stop & Frisk, which I fought in the street and in court.

As an elected official, I have continued the fight, and laid out a comprehensive plan for reform. It includes:

- Allowing communities to choose their own precinct commander from applicants.
- Recruiting officers from high crime neighborhoods.
- Making it easier for the "minor league" cops (parks department, CUNY, etc.), who are much more likely to be people of color, to be promoted to the NYPD in order to diversify the ranks and reduce bias.
- Civilianizing large parts of the police force which are not tasked with fighting crime, including, potentially, the police commissioner.
- Publicly releasing the department's own "monitoring list" of cops with records of complaints and violent incidents.
- Making it easier for cops to anonymously report bad behavior by their colleagues that results in swift action by the department.

I also believe that the police need to have a reduced role in responding to some emotional health crisis calls and I'm willing to explore pilots that utilize teams of peer responders and EMTs. I have firsthand experience responding to mental health crisis calls and I have seen both situations: the ones where my presence exacerbated the situation and the ones where I needed to protect a person from bodily harm. However, asking even more of our overtaxed EMS workers while paying them the same salary as they were paid before the pandemic is completely unfair. Our paramedics and EMTs deserve more than applause. They deserve real pay parity that acknowledges the depth of their sacrifice, and their contributions to New York.

My approach towards bettering policing will be to find savings in the police budget that can be used to prevent crimes so that we are not simply responding to them. For example, we can cut the overtime budget in half by properly deploying personnel.

I will make big changes to the department — changes that I have been fighting for since I called out racism in the department as an officer — to ensure rights are respected and systemic bias is weeded out. We cannot have prosperity without public safety; and we cannot have public safety without good cops living up to their vow to respect and protect every New Yorker.

17) Do you support changes to the ULURP process and to other NYC zoning mechanisms? If so, what specific changes do you support?



The current ULURP process is too slow and there need to be reforms that allow the process to begin with community and stakeholder input so that we are more likely to have a productive end result.

Other updates to zoning that I support include a focus on upzoning wealthy neighborhoods, such as Soho, to ensure that low- and middle-income New Yorkers can live in areas with good infrastructure and a great quality of life.

18) Do you have a plan to reduce and prevent homelessness in Brooklyn and NYC? Explain your plan.

Any solutions to homelessness need to acknowledge the different types of people who are homeless. Each requires different solutions.

For many families experiencing homelessness, they are often in situations where they cannot pay their rent for a few months and need some help making up the difference. We need to reinstate the Advantage program that would help families make up the difference between what they could pay and what they needed to pay. I have also been a long-time supporter of the Home Stability Support program which is pending in Albany which would serve as a new statewide rent supplement for families and individuals. If passed, HSS will be 100% federally and state-funded, and will replace all existing optional rent supplements.

For single adults who are experiencing homelessness, we need to build options of housing that allow them to get on stable footing. Right now, there is an excess capacity of hotels in the outer boroughs, and the city should purchase them and retrofit them into dorm-style housing with wraparound services.

For those who are on the street, we need to help them get the care they need and mental health services. During my time as Borough President I fully funded the first mobile care bus in Brooklyn that provided services and a hot shower for street homeless individuals. We need more of these buses throughout New York City.

Also, in concert with my late colleague and friend Lew Fidler, I prioritized support for Runaway Homeless Youth by leading the charge to extend the age of designation from 21 to 25. RHY are largely LGBTQ+ individuals and are some of the most vulnerable among our homeless populations.

For families with children, we must provide additional priority to students for affordable housing in areas where they are attending schools even if they are currently in shelter elsewhere. We must create stable housing solutions for our young people so we do not perpetuate the cycle of instability for future generations.

Overall, New York City simply does not have enough units of supportive housing. For every six eligible applicants, only one unit of supportive housing is available. As Mayor, I would modify the 15/15 plan, cutting the time it takes for the city to build 15,000 units of supportive housing to 10 years, as the Coalition for the Homeless has called for, by investing significantly more money into the project. Every dollar invested in supportive housing is a dollar saved: the costs of housing someone in a supportive housing unit are exponentially lower than in a hospital or jail cell.

Lastly, New Yorkers on the brink of homelessness and in shelters need far greater assistance than is available now to transition into permanent housing. One way we will accomplish this is by increasing the value of the City FHEPS housing vouchers so they reflect the value of the housing that is actually available in our city. There was a time when \$1,323 a month for a one bedroom and \$1,580 for a two bedroom was



sufficient, but that time is long gone. And when the daily cost of a person in the shelter system is \$124, and \$196 per day for a family, increasing the value of vouchers is common sense governing.