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**MAYOR DE BLASIO ISSUES STATEMENT ON CONGRESS' STIMULUS  
NEGOTIATIONS**

**NEW YORK**—Mayor Bill de Blasio today issued the following statement on stimulus negotiations in Congress:

"Direct payments to people are a step in the right direction, but a deal that sidelines local aid is a deal that sidelines our recovery. Congress must work together to provide funding for localities to ensure public services can remain intact. Local governments like New York City are in the midst of fighting back COVID-19, and without local aid, this deal fails to meet the moment."

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