

What They Are Saying: New Yorkers Support Mayor Adams' Blueprint for NYC's Economic Recovery

March 11, 2022

NEW YORK – New York City Mayor Eric Adams [yesterday unveiled](#) “[Rebuild, Renew, Reinvent: A Blueprint for New York City's Economic Recovery](#),” outlining his vision for the city's economic recovery and the future of the city's economy, all built on equity and inclusivity.

See below for what they are saying:

“As we attempt to recover from the devastating financial impact COVID-19 had on our economy, I look forward to working with Mayor Adams, the Bronx Overall Economic Development Cooperation, and all of our industry partners in restarting the New York City economic engine,” said **Bronx Borough President Vanessa L. Gibson**. “We need to leverage our public-private partnerships and relationships with community partners to support our businesses, business improvement districts (BIDs), entrepreneurs, cultural partners, and chambers of commerce to create a more inclusive economy. Every industry has been impacted by the pandemic, and we need to make sure we provide them with the necessary resources to come back stronger than before.”

“New York City's economic recovery is closely tied to the economic recovery of the Bronx,” said **New York State Senator Alessandra Biaggi**. “The Hunts Point Produce Market is not only one of the most vital resources in the city's food supply system, but also a crucial fixture for the Bronx's communities and economy. This \$140 million investment in the Hunts Point Market will be pivotal for our borough and allow us to further facilitate job growth, while tackling food insecurity in the Bronx. I applaud Mayor Adams for prioritizing Hunts Point and the Bronx community in his plan and look forward to working with him to build a better Bronx.”

“As New York prepares to try to get back to some normalcy after two years of pandemic turmoil, it is important that we have a plan that propels us forward instead of allowing us to slide backwards,” said **New York State Senator James Sanders**. “People are hurting, and they need relief. Mayor Adams has created a solid blueprint for success addressing many of today’s prevalent issues, such as job creation, helping small businesses, and inclusive economic growth. I support these initiatives and look forward to assisting Mayor Adams in moving our city onward and upward.”

“As the Bronx was once the epicenter of the COVID-19 pandemic, businesses in my district were devastated financially,” said **New York State Assemblymember Kenny Burgos**. “While our economy has drastically improved, we still lack the necessary resources for a full economic recovery. I thank Mayor Adams for his commitment to invest in the Hunts Point Produce Market and the surrounding areas, as it will bring much-needed relief to my district.”

“Mayor Eric Adams is seizing a once-in-a-generation opportunity to jumpstart the city’s economy and restore us to pre-pandemic prosperity,” said **New York State Assemblymember Jenifer Rajkumar**. “Through his economic blueprint plan, we will have a city that is more prosperous and more sustainable than ever before — where small and minority-owned businesses thrive, workers have the skills to succeed, and industry is bustling. As a senior advisor on the mayor’s transition team, I see how Mayor Adams again and again sets the right policies and priorities for New York City, from public safety to education to healthcare to our economy.”

“Following the economic downturn caused by COVID-19, New York City is in need of a plan that addresses the inequities highlighted by the pandemic. Mayor Adams’ blueprint for economic recovery does just that,” said **New York City Councilmember Rafael Salamanca, chair, Committee on Land Use**. “Activating the city’s economy through five fundamental pillars, the mayor’s blueprint focuses on investing in neighborhoods that were disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. Hunts Point, the economic engine of the 17th council district, will be boosted by an infusion of much-needed investment, following the hand-in-glove collaboration between the city and the community as part of the Hunts Point Vision Plan 2.0 coalition. I thank Mayor Adams and his administration for recognizing that New York City’s economic recovery begins in the zip codes that provided the essential workers who kept the city afloat during the pandemic.”

“As we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, our focus cannot simply be on recovery but rather how we adapt, innovate, and thrive in our new normal,” said **New York City Councilmember Amanda Farías, chair, Committee on Economic Development**. “To achieve this, the city’s post-pandemic economy must include all boroughs, small businesses, and workers from across various sectors. That is why I am encouraged by Mayor Adams’ five-pillar plan that includes all our neighborhoods in our city’s economic future. As the chair of the committee on economic development, I am looking forward to working with Mayor Adams and Deputy Mayor Torres-Springer, as we move our city toward jobs of the future and develop holistic models for skills training and reinvesting in the pipelines that connect New Yorkers to quality jobs. Now is the time to streamline our fragmented job market to create new opportunities for the next generation entering the workforce, all while growing the green jobs sector.”

“I applaud the administration on this impactful blueprint to spur economic development and help small businesses,” said **New York City Councilmember Julie Menin, chair, Committee on Small Business**. “In particular, I am thrilled that the administration included my proposal to subsidize BIDs that suffer from inequity and increase their funding. By investing in under-resourced, smaller BIDs, we can help thousands of struggling small businesses survive this pandemic. Aiding our commercial corridors is of paramount importance, and I thank Mayor Eric Adams for including this initiative in the ‘Blueprint for New York City’s Economic Recovery.’”

“Last January, I stood on the front lines of the labor strike at Hunts Point Market, advocating on behalf of workers demanding fair wages and health care benefits,” said **New York City Councilmember Marjorie Velázquez, chair, Committee on Consumer and Worker Protection**. “It’s wonderful to see Mayor Adams highlighting these same workers, as he announces his blueprint for economic recovery, which includes fundamental policies and resources our businesses and workers need to bring New York City back to its pre-pandemic vibrancy. Our city is ready to ‘Rebuild, Renew, and Reinvent’ itself for a post pandemic revitalization, and I want to thank Mayor Adams, Governor Hochul, and my fellow councilmembers for prioritizing workers’ equity and economic development.”

“The economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic hit the hardest in low-income communities, communities of color, and the service sector, many of whom are still struggling to recover,” said **New York City Councilmember Carlina Rivera**. “In our pursuit of a just and equitable pandemic recovery, we must invest in these communities and build pathways to high-growth industries, such as technology and life sciences, for

all New Yorkers. I applaud Mayor Adams, Governor Hochul, and Deputy Mayor Torres-Springer on the development of this creative and robust plan for our recovery and look forward to working closely together on key initiatives in District 2 and throughout New York City.”

“We’re delighted to see real investments in building a talent pipeline,” said **Sandi Vito, executive director, 1199 SEIU Training and Employment Funds**. “Critical workforce shortages in the healthcare sector threaten our city’s well-being. Resources to grow and train the healthcare workforce couldn’t be more important and will result in good jobs for New Yorkers.”

“New Yorkers deserve a comprehensive vision for an equitable economy that brings a bold, worker-led recovery from COVID-19,” said **Kyle Bragg, president, 32BJ SEIU**. “I commend the mayor for his leadership and commitment to our city’s comeback, and as City Hall develops the details around this plan, I look forward to partnering with them to lift up working people.”

“People working in the performing arts and entertainment community enrich the lives of everyone,” said **Brian Stokes Mitchell, chair, Actors Fund**. “Those on stage and behind the scenes play important roles in the economic health of New York City.”

“Mayor Adams understands that our office workers are critical to the survival of our beloved local shops, immigrant entrepreneurs, and cultural gems,” said **Jessica Lappin, president, Alliance for Downtown New York**. “This plan also puts a valuable premium on fostering the quality jobs that we need for our future. The planned Climate Solutions Center on Governors Island is a key piece of that puzzle and has vast potential for creating jobs in emerging industries. Moreover, the center will also be a magnet for attracting the minds and developing the technologies we need to preserve our fragile world.”

“Mentorship and apprentice programs, in partnership with the Mayor’s Office of M/WBEs and the New York City Department of Small Business Services, can and will help our M/WBEs develop their business acumen, expand access to resources and contracting opportunities for M/WBEs, and build the requisite capacity among the M/WBEs who may need it,” said **Nayan Parikh, president, Ashnu International; member, M/WBE Advisory Council**. “I am excited about the direction of NYC’s M/WBE program and

Mayor Adams' ongoing commitment to ensuring an equitable economic recovery for New York City."

"This current mayoral policy agenda keeps us moving forward and on the road to increased M/WBE inclusion in New York City's procurement process, which in turn will result in M/WBE company growth and true community empowerment," said **Bonnie Wong, founder and president, Asian Women in Business; member, M/WBE Advisory Council**. "We must ensure that empowerment, diversity, and equity are at the forefront of New York City's economic recovery, and that M/WBEs are included in the conversation."

"We are enthused that this interagency approach to planning New York City's economic recovery prioritizes inclusivity," said **Melva M. Miller, CEO, Association for a Better New York**. "By focusing not only on the traditional indicators for economic growth, but also on the intersection of improving quality of life and advancement opportunities for all New Yorkers, this plan outlines a strategy to invest in our residents, communities, and industry sectors to revitalize and build a better New York."

"Tourism is crucial to the success of Broadway as well as the greater New York City area," said **Charlotte St. Martin, president, Broadway League**. "Sixty-five percent of our audiences hail from outside the tri-state area, and that represents more than 9.5 million theatergoers who visit the city to enjoy Broadway shows as well as take in all the exciting offerings that New York has to offer, from hotel stays to dining to nonstop shopping. NYC & Company is a great partner in helping us get the word out about the 41 theaters who produce spectacular year-round entertainment. We applaud the mayor's support to enhance the great marketing done by NYC & Company to help bring the hospitality industry back from the pandemic losses."

"There has been a dire need to chart a course to economic recovery for our five boroughs' small businesses," said **Lisa Sorin, president, Bronx Chamber of Commerce**. "As we move through what are hopefully the waning days of the pandemic, we are energized by Mayor Adams' commitment to help revitalize recovery and enhance economic development efforts with a focus on underserved commercial corridors, so that small business owners can reposition for success."

"We at the Bronx Museum of the Arts strongly support Mayor Adams' plan to accelerate and revitalize the economy of New York City," said **Klaudio Rodriguez, executive**

director, Bronx Museum of the Arts. “Community-oriented cultural institutions like ours are pivotal to the economic health and well-being of the residents of our borough. Great cities are only as strong as its public institutions, and, with support, we are able to engage further with our community, create jobs, help drive tourism, and create opportunities. I look forward to the Bronx Museum playing a major part in helping the city’s economy come back stronger than ever before.”

“An equitable economic recovery will require a comprehensive approach that recognizes the fact that small businesses contribute almost half of all jobs to New York City’s economy,” said **Randy Peers, president and CEO, Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce.** “The programs and initiatives Mayor Adams outlined today represent a comprehensive approach, and they will empower many of our small businesses to move past the pandemic and establish a firm foundation to thrive in the future.”

“Bryant Rabbino LLP, a New York City certified MBE law firm, fervently supports enhancements to New York City’s M/WBE program,” said **Seth Bryant, managing partner, Bryant Rabbino, LLP; member, M/WBE Advisory Council.** “The combined initiatives presented by Mayor Adams in support of M/WBEs will greatly expand opportunities for M/WBE firms across the board, help the city to better identify and work directly with M/WBE firms, and create a more competitive and equitable environment within New York City’s procurement community.”

“This comprehensive plan really feels like it can be the catalyst New York needs right now to get New Yorkers back to work and put the city on the path for a lasting and equitable recovery,” said **Jonathan Bowles, executive director, Center for an Urban Future.** “I’m optimistic this will help our city come back even stronger.”

“As New York City emerges from a COVID-19-wracked economy, boosting job growth and fostering better-paying job opportunities are vital,” said **James Parrott, director of economic and fiscal policies, Center for New York City Affairs at The New School.** “Congratulations to Mayor Adams and his team for making a solid start in expanding training and the supports workers require to acquire the skills needed for in-demand jobs, and for prioritizing expanded worker protections. This ‘all-hands-on-deck’ approach will be critical in navigating the city’s job market that has been upended by the pandemic.”

“We’re delighted to see that the mayor, Department of Small Business Services, and Commissioner Kevin Kim are launching all these exciting new initiatives to make life easier for small businesses and by extension the customers and all New Yorkers,” said **Wellington Z. Chen, executive director, Chinatown BID**. “We look forward to partnering to make the city more business-friendly and to improve the quality of life together.”

“Unemployment among Asian American New Yorkers rose by 6,900 percent during the pandemic, which was the highest among all racial groups, so we are delighted that the mayor’s office is announcing its plan for economic recovery for New York City,” said **Wayne Ho, president and CEO, Chinese-American Planning Council**. “The plan’s focus on inclusive growth and small businesses is critical for the economic recovery of the diverse Asian American community. We look forward to working with the mayor’s office to ensure Asian Americans, immigrants, and other underserved communities are meaningfully included.”

“CUNY is an engine of economic mobility — it’s in our DNA,” said **Félix V. Matos Rodríguez, Chancellor, City University of New York (CUNY)**. “Through degree and non-degree programs developed in partnership with employers, CUNY is working to ensure that New Yorkers who want to be part of the inclusive recovery of New York City can access the credentials and connections they need to launch sustainable careers.”

“Columbia University is proud to be a major driver of New York City’s knowledge economy,” said **Mary Boyce, provost, Columbia University**. “We applaud the mayor for his forward-looking vision to sharpen New York’s competitive edge, by investing in emerging industry sectors powered by discovery and innovation. For New York to remain a destination for top talent from around the world, we must first invest in our own people, neighborhoods, and communities, ensuring that growth is both equitable and sustainable. Alongside our community partners in Upper Manhattan and beyond, we look forward to working closely with the mayor and his administration to make this vision a reality.”

“New York City is back in business, and at Cornell Tech we’re eager to work with the Economic Development Corporation to foster a more inclusive community of creative thinkers, tech leaders, and job creators,” said **Greg Morrisett, dean, Cornell Tech**. “In collaboration with local communities, city agencies, and industry, we’re excited to build upon the city’s superpower of diversity to expand our world-class entrepreneurial

ecosystem by tackling issues that help New York thrive — from urban tech and sustainability to education and healthcare.”

“As Mayor Eric Adams has laid out his bold vision for New York City’s economic recovery, the Council of Black Architecture and Engineering Companies (CBAEC) wholeheartedly supports his plan in reimagining New York City’s economy in an inclusive manner,” said **Julie Harris, executive director, CBAEC**. “Meaningful inclusion by black-owned architecture and engineering firms has been a seismic challenge. CBAEC stands ready for these increased opportunities, which will allow us to hire more talented professions that will bring more STEM jobs to our communities through participating in the infrastructure redevelopment, which has the promise to transform communities across the five boroughs and right many historic economic inequities.”

“COVID-19 has threatened the lives and livelihoods of everyone on this planet,” said **Hildalyn Colón Hernández, director of policy and strategic partnership, Los Deliveristas Unidos**. “As essential workers, Los Deliveristas Unidos/Workers Justice Project — a collective of app-based delivery workers — responded to this global challenge by delivering food and goods prepared and sold by small businesses that kept this city running during this dire time. But the truth is simple: This pandemic is not truly over until all workers get back to work and enjoy a living wage and essential workers’ protections. So, this year, Los Deliveristas partnered with New York City to implement new labor protections for more than 65,000 app-based delivery workers. Los Deliveristas Unidos agrees with Mayor Adams — we must increase our resilience and work together to build a more inclusive economy for all New Yorkers.”

“We are pleased that Mayor Eric Adams has been responsive to the needs of the film, television, and commercial production industry, which provides high-quality union jobs with excellent benefits, contributes to the broader economy and countless local businesses, and will help lead New York’s post-pandemic comeback,” said **Neil Dudich, eastern executive director, Directors Guild of America**. “We look forward to working with the mayor’s office and his new industry advisory group to ensure that New York City remains a leading worldwide production destination.”

“It is critically important to create an inclusive recovery that will lead to quality jobs that are in demand,” said **Katy Gaul-Stigge, president and CEO, Goodwill Industries of Greater New York and Northern New Jersey**. “Mayor Adams’ blueprint is a bold step

to invest in programs and businesses that will ensure that no talent is left on the sidelines. At Goodwill, we applaud investments into nonprofits that can work closely with employers to ensure this vision becomes a reality here in New York City.”

“We are very excited to see what the new administration has in store and welcome the mayor to Hunts Point,” said **Donald C. Eversley, executive director, Greater Hunts Point Economic Development Corporation**. “The South Bronx is home to several of our most stable industries, yet so many challenges remain in providing sustainable career paths for some of the city’s poorest residents who live right here.”

“We know that people who employ workers in their homes, by and large, want to do the right thing but struggle to know what the laws and best practices are,” said **Ximena Frankel, New York City employer organizer, Hand In Hand: The Domestic Employers Network**. “When domestic workers are paid living wages and have the rights, benefits, and protections they deserve, they are able to do better work, which benefits employers. Increased funding for outreach, education, and enforcement is key to ensuring that every home in New York City is a fair workplace.”

“It’s critical for the city to continue to prioritize M/WBE firms with a targeted focus on Black entrepreneurs, who continue to be the ‘disparity in the disparity,’” said **Regina Smith, executive director, Harlem Business Alliance**. “Access to contracts is what allows a business to build capacity and a successful track record doing business with the city. However, entry points for available and capable Black businesses continue to be a challenge locally and nationwide. I welcome the initiatives that Mayor Adams has chosen to embrace, as we continue to move forward in our economic recovery, and look forward to continued enhanced policy and programming that will help New York City successfully close its disparity gap among Black firms.”

“New York City’s workforce development landscape is comprised of a complex constellation of important stakeholders, including businesses, social service providers, government agencies, coalitions, networks, and, most importantly, our city’s most valuable resource: its people,” said **David Garza, president and CEO, Henry Street Settlement**. “As an organization that has been providing employment services for over a century, Henry Street Settlement commends Mayor Adams and his team for putting forward this thoughtful and comprehensive plan to meaningfully connect the parts to build a system that will aim to help the city recover from COVID-19, in hopes of restoring it to a robust and meaningful level of economic vitality. More importantly, the

integration and investment are appropriately value-driven by the principles of equity, inclusion, and sustainability, in a way that the people of our city — including our most vulnerable — deserve. We look forward to playing a meaningful part, alongside our social service agency partners, in the city’s recovery, and we appreciate the hopefulness and strategic ambition of the plan.”

“New York City's workforce development system is the key to quality jobs and career advancement opportunities for so many New Yorkers,” said **Jennifer Mitchell, executive director, Hope Program**. “The mayor’s plan to support both struggling industries and jobseekers will be an incredibly impactful investment in our city’s future.”

“The hotel industry in New York City deeply appreciates and applauds Mayor Adams and his team for this wonderful initiative that will considerably help the hotel industry on its path to recovery from the economic damage caused by COVID-19,” said **Vijay Dandapani, president and CEO, Hotel Association of New York**. “We are very confident that NYC & Company will use these resources to quickly restore domestic and international travel to the levels our great city witnessed before COVID-19.”

“We are very excited to hear Mayor Adams’ vision of what New York City’s economy can become,” said **Bruce Reingold, market manager, Hunts Point Cooperative Market**. “As a major company located in the Food Distribution Center, employing thousands of Bronx residents, the Hunts Point Market supports any plan that will provide much needed help to our great city.”

“We are very happy to have Mayor Eric Adams here at the Hunts Point Produce Market,” said **Phillip Grant, market manager, Hunts Point Produce Market**. “Our merchants, who have been supporting food infrastructure for over a century, are excited by his commitment to revitalizing and updating this important food resource for millions in our city and tens of millions across the region. We look forward to working with the mayor and his economic development team on plans to allow the market to continue serving all New Yorkers and our region for decades to come.”

“The increase in the discretionary threshold for the M/WBE noncompetitive small purchase method will support M/WBEs tremendously,” said **Paul Vieira, founder and president, IDL Electric**. “Any increase in this method that supports an M/WBE is helpful because it allows us to not have to only bid against larger companies, thereby allowing small businesses to compete on an equal-level playing field.”

“The Korean American community applauds Mayor Adams for prioritizing small businesses, which are the backbone of the Korean American immigrant community,” said **Charles Yoon, president, Korean American Association of Greater New York**. “Many Korean American-owned small businesses continue to struggle to survive from the impact of the pandemic, and we are grateful to the mayor for his initiatives, which are designed to assist — as opposed to punish — small businesses, with respect to compliance with a myriad of regulations.”

“As one of the oldest tenants in the Food Distribution Center, employing many Bronx residents, we are excited to hear about Mayor Adams’ vision for New York City’s economy moving forward,” said **Gus Lebiak, president, Krasdale Food**.

“On behalf of La Peninsula Community Organization, a premier early childhood organization in the South Bronx, we are thrilled to work closely with EDC and community partners to inform the Bronx communities that we are hiring teachers and teacher assistants to open additional classrooms for the most vulnerable families in the community,” said **Johann DeJesus-Cortes, executive director, La Peninsula**.

“Throughout the pandemic, we have heard prognostications that New York City is ‘dead’ and will never regain its position as the best city in the world,” said **Jessica Walker, president and CEO, Manhattan Chamber of Commerce**. “But today, Mayor Adams has given us the definitive roadmap back to prosperity that should quiet the naysayers and finally put that argument to rest.”

“The city of New York has been instrumental in helping us at [FultonFishMarket.com](https://www.fultonfishmarket.com) fulfill our mission of bringing premium, sustainable seafood to homes across the United States, with the iconic Fulton Fish Market as our home base,” said **Mike Tonetti, CEO, Meade Enterprises**. “We are excited for the positive impact this plan will have on continuing to support local communities of fishermen and fishmongers, consumers, and businesses alike!”

“On behalf of the Motion Picture Association, our member companies, producer, union, and soundstage partners, we salute Mayor Adams for his extraordinary initiatives to enhance New York City services to the streaming, television, and film production industry,” said **Vans Stevenson, senior vice president of state government affairs, Motion Picture Association**. “We are gratified that Mayor Adams asked for our recommendations and worked with us directly. The mayor’s plan will motivate the ever-

increasing demand to locate productions in New York City, which will create thousands more new, good-paying union jobs, particularly for low-income New Yorkers, and billions of dollars in additional investment.”

“The last two years have been incredibly challenging for our city, as we have faced unparalleled challenges,” said **Sade Lythcott, CEO, National Black Theatre; chair, Coalitions of Theatres of Color**. “We are grateful to Mayor Adams for recognizing that the city’s vibrancy is anchored by arts and culture. Not only is our sector a generator of economic and community revitalization, but it also serves as a transgenerational pipeline of hope for the residents of our great city. The mayor’s blueprint and investment in culture will support to bring New York City’s world-renowned arts and culture back to the world stage, while restoring soul of our great city.”

“The National Domestic Workers Alliance applauds the steps that the Adams administration and the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection are taking to expand support for paid care workers and the many other essential workers of New York City,” said **Marrisa Senteno, New York director, National Domestic Workers Alliance**. “Our organization has worked with thousands of domestic workers during the pandemic, and we saw firsthand the catastrophic impact it had on paid care workers. Yet, throughout it all, domestic workers never gave up hope that we would come through the other side with the resources and support needed to get back on their feet better than before. They are the lifeblood of caring for New Yorkers, and it is exciting to know that their voices and needs were heard. Last year, the National Domestic Workers Alliance collaborated directly with the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection to ensure that care workers were getting needed access to resources, referrals, and education, and now we know that with newly-won protections, on top of this initiative, that domestic workers will also have access to better outreach and enforcement of rights.”

“We overcame a lot to get to this point, so make no mistake about it: Tomorrow we will rally,” said **Lenny Guerra, market manager, New Fulton Fish Market**.

“The New York Botanical Garden (NYBG) applauds Mayor Adams on the release of today’s economic recovery blueprint and stands ready to keep doing our part here in the Bronx,” said **Aaron Bouska, vice president of government relations, NYBG**.

“Cultural organizations like NYBG are not just drivers of this recovery as tourist magnets but also remain community-centered anchors employing thousands of Bronx residents,

offering free access to families, while educating our next generation of scientists and environmental stewards. Thank you, Mayor Adams and Deputy Mayor Torres-Springer, for your ongoing support of the cultural sector.”

“The New York Building Congress applauds Mayor Adams and Deputy Mayor Maria Torres-Springer’s bold economic recovery initiatives,” said **Carlo A. Scissura, president and CEO, New York Building Congress**. “This blueprint will bring much-needed improvements to the city today and create jobs and a lasting impact for years to come. Better interagency cooperation, clearer zoning regulations, and streamlined approval processes will allow the building industry to quickly begin work on essential development projects across the city. From combating the housing crisis through vacant commercial building conversions to allowing mixed-use districts to thrive under more flexible zoning codes, this plan will kickstart a robust, equitable economic recovery across the city. These are the types of pragmatic reforms we’ve all been waiting for. We would also like to thank Dan Garodnick, director of the Department of City Planning, for his expert guidance as we move to implement these policies.”

“New Yorkers deserve an ambitious vision for a fairer, more inclusive economy that invests in the development of our workforce, and Mayor Adams’ blueprint for the city’s economic recovery is an incredibly powerful step in the right direction,” said **Annie Garneva, vice president, New York City Employment and Training Coalition**. “We thank the Adams administration for its commitment to cultivating a comprehensive, long-term approach that invests in people from early education to adulthood and that helps break down systemic barriers to ensure fairer, more equitable opportunities for all. New York City has an extraordinarily diverse and talented workforce ready to be a part of our renewed economy, and we’re excited to work together so that every person has the tools they need to thrive.”

“New York City’s restaurant and nightlife industry has been devastated by COVID-19, but as we emerge from crisis, we have an opportunity to build back a stronger, more supportive, and more inclusive small business economy, while reestablishing our city as the hospitality capital of the world,” said **Andrew Rigie, executive director, New York City Hospitality Alliance**. “We’re proud to stand with Mayor Adams and not only talk about small business and New York’s economic and social recovery, but also be about it and lead the way with a comprehensive policy blueprint to build back better than ever.”

We commend the Adams administration for taking proactive steps to address New York City's worsening housing crisis, including the creation of a new affordable housing zoning bonus that we have long been supportive of and other common-sense zoning changes to help build more housing in every borough," said **Rachel Fee, executive director, New York Housing Conference; organizer, United for Housing coalition.** "It will be important for the Department of Housing Preservation and Development to maximize use of these zoning changes across their programs, and we look forward to working with City Hall as they develop a comprehensive housing plan to fully combat New York City's affordable housing crisis."

"Independent venues in New York are cultural and business anchors of their communities that were severely impacted by COVID-19, and today are still struggling to recover financially," said **Jen Lyon, co-chair, New York Independent Venue Association.** "We applaud Mayor Adams for recognizing the vital role that independent venues, promoters, and festivals, both nonprofit and for-profit, play in the city's economic recovery. We especially look forward to working with him on deeply-needed financial support for the independent cultural sector."

"With today's announcement, Mayor Adams has once again demonstrated that he understands the needs of small businesses and is administering every resource necessary for pandemic recovery," said **Arelia Taveras, president, New York State Latino Restaurant Association.** "It is clear that Mayor Adams is administering every resource necessary and has a vision to bring back our city."

"New York City and NYU's trajectories are inextricably tied together," said **Andrew Hamilton, president, New York University.** "We not only recognize that, but we also consider it a point of pride. Every sector of New York City's economy needs to be ready to do its part to contribute to our economic revival, and we are grateful for the city's leadership in bringing higher education into this effort. NYU looks forward to playing an active role in shaping New York City's next chapter."

"Raising the city's discretionary threshold for the M/WBE noncompetitive small purchase method is needed if we really want to achieve diversity, inclusion, and economic equity for our smaller M/WBE firms in New York City contracting opportunities," said **Quenia Abreu, president, New York Women's Chamber of Commerce; member, M/WBE Advisory Council.** "This will help level the playing field, open the doors of opportunity

even wider, and significantly increase the number of M/WBE firms obtaining government contracts. It makes sense, so let's make it happen!"

"Culture is the soul of New York City," said **Lucy Sexton, executive director, New Yorkers for Culture and Arts**. "We thank the mayor for this investment in cultural groups and arts workers and for recognizing that culture works in so many areas, from education and mental health to aging and criminal justice. When we invest in culture for every community, we build the vibrant, safe, equitable city we know New York City can be!"

"We are excited to see Mayor Adams focus on New York City's greatest asset: the people," said **Melinda Mack, Executive Director, New York Association of Training and Employment Professionals**. "Utilizing and investing in the world-class workforce system is vital to economic recovery and growth."

"Tourism is one of New York City's most critical economic engines," said **Charles Flateman, board chair, NYC & Company; executive vice president, Shubert Organization**. "We thank Mayor Adams for his continued commitment to reviving this critical sector and restoring the jobs, economic impact, and tax revenues that come with it. With additional investment and focus, NYC & Company will be well positioned to capture increased visitation and spending this year and beyond."

"Arts and culture are the lifeblood of New York City," said **Kimberly Olsen, executive director, New York City Arts in Education Roundtable**. "It is imperative that our city equitably invest in arts and cultural workers as a means of supporting the sustainability of this essential workforce, working in the heart of schools and communities across the five boroughs. In particular, we applaud our city's investment in the Youth Artist Laureate program, which deservedly raises the importance for supporting career pathways in the arts."

"On behalf of the New York City BID Association, representing 76 BIDs serving over 100,000 small businesses across every borough, we welcome the mayor's recovery blueprint and its prominent inclusion of regulatory reform, small business and neighborhood support, and essential interagency coordination," said **David Estrada, executive director, Sunset Park BID; and Elizabeth Lusskin, executive director, Long Island City BID; co-chairs, New York City BID Association**. "Removing hurdles for new businesses, reducing fines and fees, and simplifying how businesses

engage city agencies are all opportunities to drive citywide economic recovery — particularly for M/WBEs and low-income neighborhoods. As frontline community service nonprofits, BIDs especially appreciate any direct support for local programs like Open Streets, small business help desk resources, and one-stop online portals. It is heartening that the mayor and his team understand business support and economic development in a broad context that includes public safety, leveraging technology, improving public spaces, and making New York City the best place in the world to run or open a new business.”

“It’s inspiring to see the city mobilize to provide much-needed resources and protections to ensure that New York City remains vibrant, diverse, and special,” said **Diana Mora, founding partner, NYC Nightlife United**. “From the mom-and-pop shops to the local bookstores to the jazz clubs, these businesses have always defined the culture of New York City — without them New York City wouldn’t be New York City. We are excited that the new administration is making strides to support New York City’s culture.”

“The last few years have been devastating for many New Yorkers who have lost their jobs,” said **Roderick Jenkins and Cass Conrad, co-chairs, New York City Workforce Development Fund in the New York Community Trust**. “As workforce funders, we are dedicated to preparing workers with what they need, so they can meet the needs of city employers, and we commend Mayor Adams for his commitment to building the city’s workforce. Together, we can help get New Yorkers back to work and into well-paying jobs they love.”

“New York City is ready to get back on its feet, and Mayor Adams understands that our city will never fully thrive until every New Yorker can afford their rent or fulfill their dreams of homeownership,” said **William Thomas, executive director, Open New York**. “The Adams administration knows that the city’s recovery should not just aim for a return to the status quo — it must seize this moment as a historic opportunity to build housing to benefit the city as whole. We need bold thinking and big ideas to tackle a housing crisis that has driven rents to sky-high levels, locked young people out of homeownership, and forced long-time residents out of the neighborhoods they helped build.”

“Rebuilding our economy after the pandemic cannot be a matter of restoring conditions to the way they were, because those conditions were unacceptable and made Hunts Point more vulnerable to the public health threat posed by COVID-19 and exposed

longstanding inequities in our economy,” said **Maria Torres, president and CEO, The Point Community Development Corporation**. “We need to do better — by addressing enduring economic and environmental justice challenges that have held our community back.”

“We applaud the mayor’s strategy to work with emerging industries, such as green building technologies, the expanding fields of game arts and design, and the creative/design sector to drive more inclusive economic growth,” said **Frances Bronet, president, Pratt University**. “Pratt has deep expertise in these areas, shares the mayor’s commitment to equity and inclusion, and looks forward to working with the administration.”

“Mayor Adams’ economic recovery initiative is robust and confirms the dedication to the people of New York City,” said **Colleen Molter, president, QED National**. “The particular support for small businesses is necessary to promote economic growth, workforce diversity and quality job opportunities for our workers. Thank you for this commitment.”

“All of us at the Queens Chamber of Commerce are honored to participate in this effort at Hunts Point up in the Bronx,” said **Thomas J. Grech, president and CEO, Queens Chamber of Commerce**. “We are all New Yorkers, and as we exit this post COVID-19 phase and begin to grow our businesses again, it’s great to know that Mayor Eric Adams and his economic team are doing all they can to facilitate the growth of all of New York City.”

“As the global destination for arts and culture, I’m proud to see that the mayor’s economic blueprint announced today recognizes the value of culture and arts for New Yorkers, domestic, and international visitors,” said **Taryn Sacramone, executive director, Queens Theatre; chair, Cultural Institutions Group**. “Continuing to fund culture will fuel economic resiliency and growth, kickstart the return of tourism, enable cultural organizations to service their communities, and lay the foundation for an equitable, educated, and safe city.”

“A robust economic recovery for New York City will require us to be firing on all cylinders,” said **James Whelan, president, Real Estate Board of New York**. “Mayor Adams’ plan does just that. We are committed to working closely with the Adams

administration and other stakeholders to support the mayor's comprehensive plan for New York's economic recovery."

"Our regional and national economies cannot recover or reach their full potential if New York City does not lead the way," said **Tom Wright, president and CEO, Regional Plan Association**. "The Regional Plan Association commends Mayor Eric Adams and his administration for developing a blueprint for economic recovery that focuses on the needs of all New Yorkers, including workforce development, improvements to the public realm, and improving public transit. We look forward to working with the Adams administration to ensure this plan lifts the city's economy and, with it, the fortunes of the entire region."

"New York City needs to fully reopen for business, but that also means strengthening worker protections to ensure that the jobs that are created are good jobs," said **Stuart Appelbaum, president, Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union**. "The pandemic also highlighted the injustices built into certain jobs — like app-based work — and we need reforms to expand protections for app-based delivery workers. We look forward to working with the mayor as he develops and implements his blueprint for economic recovery."

"The past two years have thrown New York City's economic inequities into stark relief, disproportionately impacting New Yorkers living in poverty and perpetuating the generational cycles of poverty that have too long plagued our city," said **Richard R. Buery, Jr., CEO, Robin Hood**. "It is no coincidence that we are standing alongside the mayor today in the Bronx — home to high rates of unemployment and child poverty, which continue to wreak havoc on our communities. But we know Mayor Adams has a path to move us forward, and we commend and support his bold agenda to get New Yorkers back to work. We look forward to continuing to work in partnership across sectors to invest in workforce development programs with a proven track record, to connect New Yorkers to quality jobs, and to ensure that all New Yorkers have access to the supports that they need — including childcare and education — so that our city can become the nation's greatest engine of opportunity."

"We are excited about the mayor's plan to invest in Hunts Point," said **Adam Green, executive director, Rocking the Boat**. "Investments that support this neighborhood will be crucial to supporting the city's recovery and its future."

“SAG-AFTRA members tell the stories that inspire and reflect New Yorkers by showing the glam, the grit, and the essence of this incredible city,” said **Rebecca Damon, executive vice president, SAG-AFTRA**. “We applaud Mayor Adams’ continued commitment to supporting the arts, entertainment, and media industries and look forward to our ongoing work together to showcase our city’s unique experiences and iconic landscapes.”

“SBIDC is eager to help implement Mayor Adams’ blueprint for New York City’s economic recovery,” said **Jesse Solomon, executive director, Southwest Brooklyn Industrial Development Corporation**. “Having served small businesses on Brooklyn’s industrial waterfront for 45 years, we know how hard businesses and low-income communities have been impacted by this pandemic. Equitable economic development must start with building career pathways for low-income New Yorkers and strengthening the city’s workforce services. It’s time to build inclusive ecosystems of economic mobility by investing in growing sectors like green energy and advanced manufacturing, especially in environmental justice communities like Sunset Park and here in Hunts Point.”

“Street vendors are our city’s smallest businesses and an essential part of the fabric of New York City’s culture and economy,” said **Carina Kaufman-Gutierrez, deputy director, Street Vendor Project at the Urban Justice Center**. “Today, nearly 20,000 entrepreneurs — primarily immigrants, people of color, military veterans, and women — are employed as street vendors, keeping our streets and sidewalks vibrant and ensuring commercial corridors have diversity of business. An equitable economic recovery includes creating a pathway to licensure for street vendors, and we are thrilled Mayor Adams’ ‘Blueprint for New York City’s Economic Recovery’ supports expanding the street vendor industry.”

“Pre-pandemic, small businesses were already facing an uphill climb to operate in this city. As we all know, the pandemic has only exacerbated the problems our businesses face,” said **Linda Baran, president and CEO, Staten Island Chamber of Commerce**. “That is why I am happy to stand alongside Mayor Adams today at Hunts Point to support his teams’ efforts to help all of New York City’s businesses, including our local mom-and-pop shops, entrepreneurs and startups, restaurants, and all other businesses that encompass the diverse and vibrant business sectors throughout the five boroughs. It is encouraging to see the administration’s sensitivity to the plights facing our small business community. Creating a robust strategy to attract, retain, and help businesses thrive in all of our neighborhoods is crucial as we move towards the future.”

“New York’s working families have been hit hard by the pandemic and job losses of the last two years,” said **Tommy Gesualdi, president, Teamsters Joint Council 16**. “We need to reinvest in union jobs, like those at Hunts Point Market, that workers have counted on for decades, while ensuring that the new jobs that are being created in e-commerce are good union jobs too. We commend Mayor Adams for acknowledging the crisis facing New York workers and taking action.”

“Our union supports Mayor Adams’ vision of public investment that supports our community and working-class people,” said **Daniel J. Kane, Jr., president, Teamsters Local 202**.

“Our emergence from the pandemic presents a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to remake our economy into one that uplifts all New Yorkers,” said **Jason Myles Clark, executive director, Tech:NYC**. “Mayor Adams clearly recognizes the impact the tech industry can have in achieving this goal. From promoting BIPOC entrepreneurship to creating a strong tech talent pipeline, this plan will ensure tech’s growth is a boon to the entire city. We applaud Mayor Adams for taking on this challenge with full force, and we look forward to working together to help New York reach its full potential.”

“United Way of New York City supports the mayor’s blueprint for the economic recovery of New York City,” said **Amy Sananman, senior vice president, United Way of New York City**. “We are especially excited for the pillars centered around small business supports and workforce development, as these are timely and essential areas of focus for the communities we serve. We look forward to collaborating with the mayor’s office in the equitable and inclusive economic rebuilding of our city for the benefit of all New Yorkers.”

“The health and well-being of New York City residents continues to be our highest priority; however, we also recognize that the economy of our city, especially in neighborhoods of the Bronx and Queens, has been severely impacted as a result of this pandemic,” said **Paloma Hernandez, president and CEO, Urban Health Plan**. “We are grateful to Mayor Adams for creating a path forward that is inclusive of disproportionately distressed businesses and communities. As we rebound from the challenges we’ve collectively experienced during the past 24 months, I look forward to seeing all New Yorkers thrive, regardless of zip code.”

“At the Wildlife Conservation Society’s five wildlife parks — the Bronx Zoo, New York Aquarium, and Prospect Park, Queens, and Central Park zoos — we are proud to be a part of the cultural and economic engines that make New York the greatest city on earth,” said **John Calvelli, executive director of public affairs, Wildlife Conservation Society**. “The cultural community has a history of cultivating change-makers that reflect the diversity of our city. Thanks to the city’s support, Wildlife Conservation Society leads a partnership among 12 science institutions, who together make the SciNetwork NYC — a program that meets the internship needs for over 1,200 young people, ensuring that New York City youth from backgrounds historically underrepresented in STEM and leadership positions are provided the opportunity to cultivate and launch careers. As the city emerges, we will continue to support Mayor Adams’ plan to ensure our city’s recovery and greatness.”

“Worker’s Justice Project commends Mayor Adams for his commitment to rebuild our city and our economy by expanding labor protections for essential workers and resources for small businesses — whose work, heart, and expertise make New York’s recovery possible,” said **Ligia Gualpa, executive director, Worker’s Justice Project**. “We are delighted that this administration is proposing and is committed to delivering an inclusive economic recovery plan for all New Yorkers. Worker’s Justice Project is proud to be working with Mayor Adams in making this a reality.”