



THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
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**TRANSCRIPT: MAYOR DE BLASIO APPEARS LIVE ON WABC-TV/ESPN**

**Ryan Field:** My pleasure to be joined now by the Mayor of New York, Mr. Bill de Blasio. Obviously New York City is such a grand sports stage – pro teams, college sports, so many special events. What is it about the marathon that makes it stand out and how does it come together with so many people involved?

**Mayor Bill de Blasio:** Let me tell you, the marathon is for everyone. This is what makes it unlike any other great sport event. This marathon goes through all five boroughs, through neighborhoods. You have over a million spectators, over 50,000 runners. This is amazing. Over 125 nations of the world represented among these runners. So, this is an event like no other on Earth. And New Yorkers feel it. They celebrate it, they want to be a part of it because it really exemplifies everything that is great about this town. This – when people come out in their neighborhood and they see the world-class runners, I mean, there is an energy and excitement like nothing else you experience the whole year.

**Field:** Such a big day in the city, no doubt. Why is it so important to New York – this event?

**Mayor:** This event exemplifies what's great about this city. This is a place for everyone. Here you have people of all backgrounds, all faiths – everyone in common cause. People come together to run this race and the people of New York City come out to support them. They're handing out water and they're cheering them on, and it's really about – look, all these folks are following their dreams, they're doing something amazing. Most human beings think I can't run 26 miles, right? These folks are actually going out and doing it, not just the professionals, the folks who are doing it for the first time. And that is a celebration of the human spirit. That's a celebration of everything we love about sports. And the people of New York City get into it themselves. So, something that really exemplifies what's great about this place and a sense that, you know what, everyone can work together. Everyone can actually make it work in common cause. That's it's a beautiful thing.

**Field:** Well said, Mr. Mayor. Enjoy the race today.

**Mayor:** Thank you, my friend – and perfect weather for it. Welcome to New York City, everyone.

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