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**MAYOR DE BLASIO AND COMMISSIONER CALISE RELEASE STATEMENT ON
THE PASSING OF EDITH PRENTISS**

NEW YORK—Mayor Bill de Blasio and Mayor’s Office for People with Disabilities Commissioner (MOPD) Victor Calise today released the following statements on the passing of disability advocate Edith Prentiss. Edith was a friend of MOPD and involved in numerous civic organizations including Manhattan Community Board 12, Disabled in Action, the 504 Democratic Club, and the Taxis for All Campaign.

Statement from Mayor Bill de Blasio:

“I am very saddened to hear of the passing of longtime disability advocate, Edith Prentiss. She was a force to be reckoned with and pushed us all to do better and make things more inclusive for all New Yorkers. Always a straight-shooter and unafraid to speak her mind, her advocacy has led to a fairer and more just New York City. She will be missed and we will honor her memory by continuing to become a more accessible city for all.”

Statement from Commissioner Victor Calise:

"Edith Prentiss was a fierce advocate who was straightforward, knowledgeable and unapologetic but also kind and loving towards everyone. Edith advocated for anyone and everyone, understanding that the disability rights movement was not just for people who use wheelchairs but for every person with every type of disability. Over the years she has left her mark in New York City by increasing wheelchair accessible taxis and for-hire vehicles, access in Parks programs, community board engagement, MTA matters, celebrations of disability pride and so much more. She was selfless, passionate and loved New York City with all of her being. Her advocacy, her spirit and her impact will be sorely missed."

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