

THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, NY 10007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 18, 2020

CONTACT: pressoffice@cityhall.nyc.gov, (212) 788-2958

**MAYOR DE BLASIO APPOINTS MAGALIE AUSTIN AS SENIOR ADVISOR AND
DIRECTOR OF THE MAYOR'S OFFICE OF MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED
BUSINESS ENTERPRISES**

NEW YORK—Mayor Bill de Blasio today announced the appointment of Magalie Austin as Senior Advisor and Director of the Mayor's Office of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (M/WBE). In this role, she will work to foster the success of minority and women-owned businesses and oversee the City's M/WBE Program. Along with access to procurement opportunities, Austin will ensure that M/WBEs also have access to services to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 as they recover from the pandemic. Maggie Austin previously served as the Chief Diversity and Industry Relations Officer for the NYC Department of Design and Construction (DDC). While at DDC, she oversaw a massive increase in the department's M/WBE utilization.

"M/WBEs are the backbone of New York City's economy," said **Mayor Bill de Blasio**. "I am confident Maggie will continue on the important work we've done to ensure our M/WBEs have what they need to thrive and that they are recognized for the essential role they play across the five boroughs."

"This is an amazing opportunity to continue the work I started at the New York City Department of Design and Construction. I'm extremely honored Mayor de Blasio has tasked me to help lead this very important program, especially at this time," said **Maggie Austin, Senior Advisor for Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises**. "M/WBE's play a vital role in the City's economy and I will work every day to ensure that we provide them opportunities to succeed. Their success makes New York City a stronger city, a fairer city, and a better city."

"Maggie has achieved impressive results in her role as the Chief Diversity and Industry Relations Officer at the NYC Department of Design and Construction, and we look forward to her continued leadership as Senior Advisor for Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises," said **J. Phillip Thompson, Deputy Mayor for Strategic Policy Initiatives**.

"Maggie is a true champion for M/WBEs with a proven track record of successfully increasing M/WBE participation in City contracting while at DDC" said **Jonnel Doris, Commissioner of the NYC Department of Small Business Services**. "She knows and understands the most pressing challenges faced by M/WBEs, and will continue to work tirelessly to advocate and address their needs."

About Maggie Austin

Maggie Austin previously served at the Department of Design and Construction as the Chief Diversity and Industry Relations Officer. In this role, she developed, implemented, and monitored innovative policies, procedures and programs that promoted the agency's utilization of M/WBEs. Maggie served as the M/WBE Officer for DDC and over the past five years has tripled the percentage of M/WBEs the department utilizes. Maggie is an alumna of St. John's University and holds a Juris Doctor from Tulane University School of Law.

###