

TESTIMONY

Presented by

Donna M. Corrado, PhD Commissioner

on

FY 2019 Executive Budget

before the

New York City Council Committee on Finance & Committee on Aging

on

Monday, May 7, 2018 3:00 P.M.

at

Council Chambers, City Hall New York, NY 10007 Good afternoon, Chairpersons Dromm, Chin and members of the Finance and Aging Committees. I am Donna Corrado, Commissioner of the New York City Department for the Aging (DFTA). I am joined this afternoon by Sasha Fishman, Associate Commissioner for Budget and Fiscal Operations. Thank you for this opportunity to discuss DFTA's Executive Budget for Fiscal Year 2019.

OVERVIEW

The FY '19 Executive Budget projects \$345.4 million in funding, which includes allocations of \$147 million to support senior centers, \$38 million for home delivered meals, \$37 million for case management, \$30 million to support home care for homebound seniors who are not Medicaid eligible, \$7 million for NORC programs, and \$8 million for caregiver services.

The Administration has made major investments in aging services, including an increase of more than 50 percent in baselined funding since the last year of the prior Administration – representing an overall increase of \$78 million. This enhanced funding benefits DFTA sponsored services, such as senior centers, case management, elder abuse programs, caregiver services, and home care.

DFTA is grateful for the ongoing support of the City Council. In FY '18, the Council allocated nearly \$30 million to DFTA programs. This level of support makes a significant impact on the services that our community based partners in the DFTA network provide. Through the close partnership of the Administration and the Council, DFTA has been able to address the needs of the growing population of older New Yorkers.

SENIOR CENTER MODEL BUDGET

Last March, during DFTA's testimony before the Aging Committee on the FY '19 Preliminary Budget, I announced that the Administration's additional \$10 million in baselined funding for senior centers in FY '18 will increase to \$20 million by FY '21. These funds were designated to help create parity in our senior center budgets, and provide adequate funding for enhanced staffing and programming. I will discuss updates since the FY '19 Preliminary Budget hearing.

DFTA and the Mayor's Office of Management and Budget, with input from our network of providers and other stakeholders, conducted a thorough analysis of the existing line-item budgets and spending patterns across our portfolio of 249 senior centers. As a result, we identified several characteristics

that exemplify high-quality programs, highlighting strong leadership and a rich array of health and education programming. We then compared existing budgets to the funding patterns that support the key attributes of high-quality programs, and calculated the need for each center based on where their current budgets compare to the 'model.'

The key objective of the model budget has been to achieve a more equitable distribution of available funds among senior centers by creating a "floor," whereby centers will receive funding to address fixed costs associated with staffing and programming that exist regardless of a center's size. The model budget reflects that a requisite amount of funds are needed to provide threshold levels of quality programming, and to pay competitive wages to attract and retain high-quality staff. The network of 249 senior centers was divided into five groups based on Average Daily Participants, in recognition of the fact that there are certain costs that vary based on the size of a center, such as the need for modestly more staff to run a very large center compared to a very small one. At the same time, as referenced earlier, the model accounts for certain fixed costs for running a center, irrespective of Average Daily Participants. The resulting amounts given to each center were divided between an amount for 'program staff' and another for 'programming,' based on each center's areas of need. However, funding remained flexible across line items, within certain parameters; thus, allowing centers to identify their most critical needs and submit proposals accordingly.

In March, 223 senior centers were notified of the amounts they will receive for both FY '18 and FY '19. Nearly all of the centers receiving this funding have submitted their proposals for use of the funds. Depending on individual urgent needs, a number of centers have proposed that some of the funds allocated to them be used for purposes other than those prescribed by the model. Centers were also permitted to propose one-time needs for the FY '18 allocation. These contract amendments are well underway.

CAREGIVER SERVICES ENHANCEMENT

The current funding level of \$8 million for caregiver programs includes an additional \$4 million baselined in FY '18 to support caregivers. This was a major investment by the Administration, which doubles DFTA's existing Federal allocation for caregiver services. The additional caregiver funding is intended to provide support to the caregiver and/or care receiver with the creative flexibility they need to access services, while ensuring the quality of care by the selected service provider. Existing

caregiver program contracts have been amended to include this funding, and all of these contracts have been registered. Through the additional investment of \$4 million for caregiver services, we project that the number of people served by respite care will increase from approximately 1,200 to 2,100 annually. Also, the cap on the number of respite care hours for each caregiving family has been raised from 288 hours per year to 500 hours per year.

As a result of the increased funding, caregiver programs are in the process of hiring additional staff, and have been responding to respite requests from current and new caregiver clients. An example of a respite request made possible through the new funding includes home care put in place by the caregiver program, so that a daughter can attend a training to learn about dementia behaviors and how to safely care for her parent. Another program was able to provide assistance with paying for burial expenses, given that the caregiver had stopped working in order to care for her mother. In addition, a caregiver media campaign launches today, which will appear in buses, subways, bus shelters, the Staten Island Ferry terminals, and various digital formats.

CONCLUSION

Thank you for this opportunity to testify about DFTA's Executive Budget for FY '19. I look forward to continuing the partnership with the City Council in serving older New Yorkers. I am pleased to answer any questions you may have.

New York City Economic Development Corporation

Fiscal Year 2019 Executive Budget Hearing James Patchett, President and CEO

Good afternoon Chairs Dromm and Vallone and the members of the Finance and Economic Development Committee. My name is James Patchett, and I am president and CEO of New York City Economic Development Corporation, also known as EDC. I am pleased to testify before you to discuss funding in the executive budget and some of our exciting project updates since the preliminary budget hearing.

I am joined today by my colleagues Kim Vaccari, chief financial officer, and Lydia Downing, senior vice president for government relations. After my testimony, we are happy to answer any questions you may have.

EDC is a self-sustaining, non-profit organization that drives and shapes New York's economic growth. We use city resources to create a bridge between city agencies, private businesses, and local communities in three key ways:

- First, we own and operate over 66 million square feet of real estate, which we are constantly improving and upgrading to maximize economic impact.
- Second, we build neighborhood infrastructure to ensure that communities remain affordable.
- And finally, we invest in growth industries to create good-paying jobs for all New Yorkers.

Every single day, EDC employees work on projects with the goal of making the city fairer today and stronger tomorrow. Most of you know about our bigger projects working to achieve this, from trying to bring Amazon's second headquarters and 50,000 good-paying jobs to our boroughs, to rezoning neighborhoods like Downtown Far Rockaway that have historically not gotten their fair share of city investment.

But there are literally hundreds of EDC projects just as important as Amazon or the Downtown Far Rockaway rezoning that work towards this mission but often don't get their moment in the sun.

This afternoon, I'd like to spend some time talking about some of the citywide and borough-specific projects that are changing the lives of New Yorkers from the south shore of Staten Island to East Harlem, but don't always get the recognition they deserve:

In waterfront communities throughout the boroughs, too many small businesses have struggled in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. But EDC has helped by playing a critical role in **RISE:NYC**, which stands for Resiliency Innovations for a Stronger Economy. This Hurricane Sandy recovery program has a \$30 million program budget, and both provides small businesses

with free resiliency improvements and helps them pre-emptively protect their assets from future storms. Right now, EDC is working with 11 technology providers to provide resiliency technologies to Hurricane Sandy-impacted businesses for free. Thanks to this program, cuttingedge technologies like micro-grids, flood barriers, and emergency communication networks that might otherwise be cost-prohibitive are being installed at hundreds of businesses around the city.

On **Staten Island**, EDC is pleased to be working with The Nicotra Group to develop another parcel at Teleport, an important jobs hub on Staten Island's West Shore. In October 2017, construction began on a new building that will house commercial office space including medical space, a restaurant, and much-needed community facilities. We look forward to activating the rest of the parcels at Teleport and continuing to create quality jobs on Staten Island.

In **Queens**, we have supported artists through the Chocolate Factory Theater. This Long Island City-based non-profit organization supports international artists working in dance, theater, and interdisciplinary performance, and has drawn thousands of visitors. Last July, EDC used capital funds from DCLA to help the Chocolate Factory Theater purchase a one-story industrial building in the neighborhood, ensuring the group has a permanent home for decades to come.

In the **Bronx**, EDC is providing design and construction services in partnership with to restore the Orchard Beach Pavilion. When Orchard Beach was created in the 1930s, it was dubbed the "Rivera of New York." But since then, the Bronx's only public beach has fallen on hard times. EDC is now working to ensure Orchard Beach is just as memorable as Brighton Beach or the Rockaways.

In **Manhattan**, we are making huge investments in our most treasured assets: our city's children. A few months ago, EDC closed out the financing of the Madison Boys and Girls Club of Central Harlem. This 52,000 square-foot facility will serve 450 children every day, and provide them with a safe place to play after school. Not only did we work to finance the \$47 million project, but we also helped renegotiate the sale of air rights, adding another \$2 million to the non-profit's endowment.

And in **Brooklyn**, the NYCIDA board recently approved a supermarket condo in the Cypress Hills neighborhood of Brooklyn to receive FRESH tax incentives. The project is located in an area where over 30 percent of the population is living below the poverty level and there is close to 15 percent unemployment. The FRESH supermarket is projected to create 18 full-time equivalent jobs, with wages ranging from \$15.00 to \$25.00 per hour.

This month, we are also launching New York's first Blockchain Week, sending a clear message that the city embraces cutting-edge innovation. Blockchain week will draw industry leaders from around the globe, and include a hackathon and job fair that's free to any members of the public. We are excited about the potential of this innovative technology and believe that NYC has a real opportunity to be a leader in this new ecosystem.

These are just six examples of literally hundreds showing how EDC is working across the five boroughs to build a fairer city today and a stronger city tomorrow. We are connecting more New Yorkers to employment, to recreation centers, and to each other. And sometimes, we do all three with the same project. One example of this is the NYC Ferry system, a new transportation alternative that has proven to be increasingly important to New Yorkers.

New Yorkers are increasingly turning to NYC Ferry to travel across the boroughs. Longtime residents of places like Astoria Houses and Red Hook Houses, and newcomers to neighborhoods like DUMBO and Williamsburg—now have better access to jobs, schools, recreation and all the opportunity this city has to offer. For far too long, waterfront communities were left behind. Investing in the ferry system sends an important message about our commitment to make the city fairer.

The city's new ferry system has already proven to be wildly popular, having served over three million riders in its first six months of service. With four routes already in service, we will be launching two brand new lines from Soundview in the Bronx and the Lower East Side in Manhattan later this year. Based on NYC Ferry's current ridership, EDC has revised future annual ridership projections to as many as 9 million riders in the next five years; double the original estimate of 4.6 million riders.

In preparation for summer ferry service, we are thrilled about the arrival of the first three 350-passenger vessels, which will be deployed this July. Though we still expect to have lines on beautiful days when everyone decides to take the ferry to the beach and other waterfront locations, we will be moving more people a lot faster. In addition to these larger boats, we are reducing headways on all four NYC Ferry routes to an average of 25-30 minutes. We will also be launching a new express service to the Rockaways from Pier 11, which will be above and beyond the current levels of service to Brooklyn Army Terminal. This express service will help double capacity, shortening the trips during rush hours, and on those hot summer beach day weekends.

Though implementing this new service is a lot of work, ensuring quality customer service throughout the system is a top priority. This summer, Hornblower is adding staff to popular ferry landing locations like Wall Street Pier 11 and Brooklyn Bridge Park Pier 1 to help with passenger queuing and boarding. These staff will be essential to keeping passengers informed about the status of the next ferry departure.

Like any well-loved and well-used transit system, NYC Ferry has significant infrastructure needs that will require additional funding. It is EDC's responsibility to ensure that the NYC Ferry system remains reliable and meets the demands of the New Yorkers we're tasked with serving. That is why in the FY19 Executive Budget, the de Blasio administration has allocated \$298.9 million over the next five years to address critical needs related to this system.

This vital source of funding allocated by the administration will be used to achieve these two objectives. Approximately \$202M of this investment will be used to purchase additional boats to

meet increased demand and reduce our reliance on charter boats The more boats we have in the water, the more passengers we can serve and the shorter their wait time.

\$31M will be used to make improvements to our landings, allowing us to accommodate more passengers in the queue. We'll also be making security and technology improvements that will enhance the ridership experience.

In adding more boats to our fleet, we'll need to build out an additional homeport, and we've allocated \$65M for that. We've not yet identified a site for the second homeport but we will be sure to engage your offices as those decisions are being made.

No matter the size and scope of our projects, EDC is proud to be building a city with more opportunities for the middle-class, better infrastructure in every neighborhood, and stronger industries that keep our economy humming.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I now welcome any questions you may have.

TESTIMONY

BY

COMMISSIONER GREGG BISHOP NEW YORK CITY

DEPARTMENT OF SMALL BUSINESS SERVICES
BEFORE

THE COMMITTEES ON FINANCE & SMALL BUSINESS

OF THE

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL

MONDAY, MAY 7, 2018

Good afternoon Chairs Dromm and Gjonaj and the members of the Committees on Finance and Small Business. My name is Gregg Bishop and I am the Commissioner of the New York City Department of Small Business Services ("SBS"). I am joined by SBS First Deputy Commissioner Jackie Mallon and my senior leadership team.

At SBS, we aim to unlock economic potential and create economic security for all New Yorkers by connecting them to quality jobs, building stronger businesses, and fostering thriving neighborhoods across the five boroughs. Today, I want to share an update on our efforts since our last hearing. After my testimony, I am happy to take your questions.

First, I'd like to give you an overview of our agency budget. From there, I will delve into the services made possible through this funding. SBS's FY19 Executive Budget is \$258.4 million with a headcount of 376 employees. The Executive Budget includes pass-through funding for other financial needs within City government. This funding is not spent or managed by SBS, but is used as conduit funding for other City entities. Of the \$258.4 million, 34% or \$87.5 million is pass-through funding, which includes: \$48.7 million for NYCEDC, \$21.2 million for NYC & Co., \$16.2 million for Governors Island and \$1.4 million for the Brooklyn Navy Yard. The remaining \$171 million, or 66% of the FY19 Executive Budget, is allocated for SBS's programs. This funding supports SBS's mission of economically empowering New Yorkers through our employment, business, and neighborhood services.

OUTREACH:

As the City's advocate for small businesses, SBS is committed to ensuring that businesses can easily connect to our services--no matter where they are in our city. We understand that it's not always easy for business owners to come to us, so we are bringing our resources directly to their doorsteps. SBS works closely with community partners to get the word out about our services. The Council-funded Chamber On-the-Go initiative allows us to send trained business specialists to canvas commercial corridors and connect with business owners. SBS also recently launched our Mobile Outreach Unit, an additional resource equipped to serve New Yorkers on-site in their neighborhoods. We look forward to partnering with the committees to reach more New Yorkers across the city.

SUPPORT FOR BUSINESSES:

Small businesses are essential to the local economy and character of our neighborhoods. They provide opportunities for individuals to strengthen their own economic security and provide jobs for members of their communities. SBS operates a network of seven NYC Business Solutions Centers that provide free, high-quality services. In FY17, the centers served more than 9,000 businesses. To provide assistance to industrial and manufacturing businesses, SBS contracts with nine Industrial Business Services Providers ("IBSPs"). In FY17, the IBSPs connected more than 550 businesses to nearly 1,000 services.

Many businesses struggle to adapt to changes in the business environment. To support businesses that are facing issues with their lease, we provide free legal

assistance through our **Commercial Lease Assistance Program.** Businesses can work one-on-one with attorneys to review lease renewal terms, negotiate with their landlord, and even prepare court papers and motions when litigation cannot be avoided.

To support long-standing companies, SBS launched **Love Your Local**. The program encourages New Yorkers to support their favorite neighborhood businesses through an interactive map available at nyc.gov/loveyourlocal. We will soon be launching the next phase of the program which will provide eligible businesses with expert business advice and grants of up to **\$90,000**.

Support for Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises

Along with our support of all small businesses, SBS also plays a key role in the City's Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise ("M/WBE") program. The M/WBE program aims to support the growth of minority and women-owned businesses through City procurement and ensure our vendors reflect the diversity of our city. SBS certifies M/WBEs and provides essential capacity building services and technical assistance to ensure they can compete for and execute City contracts. Through the support and investment of this administration, we have seen a nearly 50% increase in certified firms. At the end of Quarter 2 of FY18, SBS had nearly 5,500 certified M/WBEs.

SBS offers a number of capacity building programs and technical assistance resources designed for M/WBEs. Cash flow is often an issue for companies working on City projects, particularly for M/WBEs, so the Administration created the **Contract**Financing Loan Fund. This \$10 million revolving fund offers low-interest loans of up to

\$500,000, capped at a 3% interest. Since the launch of the fund in March 2017, we have awarded nearly \$6 million to small businesses.

Support for Jobseekers

SBS is responsible for helping New Yorkers find jobs by connecting jobseekers to employers and local residents to industry-informed training. Through our network of **21 Workforce1 Career Centers**, SBS provides recruitment expertise, industry knowledge, and skill-building workshops to match candidates to jobs. Annually, we successfully connect more than 25,000 New Yorkers with quality employment and nearly 4,000 New Yorkers with the training needed to advance their careers. In the executive budget, SBS received \$7.1 million to continue the Mayor's *Career Pathways* strategic plan, a roadmap to create a more inclusive workforce.

SBS offers a number of trainings that are designed to meet employer needs identified through our **Industry Partnerships**. The goal of these industry partnerships is not only to connect New Yorkers to employment, but also to build a long-term, sustainable connection between employers and training organizations. These trainings are designed to help low-income New Yorkers gain access to living wage jobs that they would otherwise struggle to find and secure.

Since our preliminary budget hearing, SBS launched **Apprentice NYC**, a new employer-partnership model that provides New Yorkers with good jobs in sectors that include tech, healthcare, and industrial and manufacturing. Partnering with 8 local manufacturing small businesses for the first cohort, participants with limited or no prior

experience will be connected to paid, full-time apprenticeships as computer numerical control (CNC) machinists.

SUPPORT FOR COMMERCIAL CORRIDORS:

The expertise of local, on-the-ground partners is essential to tackling the unique challenges faced by New York City's diverse neighborhoods and business communities. SBS oversees the largest network of **Business Improvement Districts (BIDs)** in the country, with 75 BIDs delivering more than \$147 million in services to 93,000 businesses throughout the five boroughs. We are proud that this administration has led an increase in smaller BIDs located in outer boroughs, giving business communities across the city an opportunity to raise their collective voice. We recently released our annual **BID Trends Report**, which highlights the tremendous impact BIDs have on neighborhoods across the city. During FY17, BIDs collected 4 million trash bags and held nearly 4,700 public events for 12.1 million New Yorkers and visitors.

SBS recently announced the winners of the **Avenue NYC** Initiative which provides \$1.2 million in grant awards to community based development organizations (CBDOs) to boost underserved neighborhoods through community development projects.

Grantees will be awarded up to \$100,000 per year for up to three years and this year's winners include **Chhaya Community Development Corporation** in Jackson Heights, **Flatbush Development Corporation** in Flatbush and **Mosholu Preservation Corporation** in Norwood among others.

Together, SBS and our community partners are supporting vibrant neighborhoods where New Yorkers can shop, work, and live. We look forward to working with Council in the year ahead. Thank you and I would be happy to take your questions.



The City of New York

Mayor's Office of Management and Budget

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Melanie Hartzog

TESTIMONY OF MELANIE HARTZOG, DIRECTOR, MAYOR'S OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK TO THE CITY COUNCIL ON THE EXECUTIVE BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2019

May 7, 2018

Thank you, Speaker Johnson, Finance Chair Dromm, members of the Finance Committee and City Council, for the opportunity to testify today concerning the Fiscal Year 2019 Executive Expense Budget.

I also want to thank Latonia McKinney and the Council Finance staff for their positive and collaborative approach to the budget.

I am joined by OMB First Deputy Director Ken Godiner. And our dedicated and hard-working OMB staff is here to assist me in answering questions.

As requested by the Council, I will focus today on the Fiscal Year 2019 Executive Expense Budget, specifically changes made since presentation of the Preliminary Budget. Changes to the capital budget since February will be discussed at the hearing scheduled for tomorrow, May 8.

The Fiscal Year 2019 Executive Budget is \$89.06 billion.

It is important to highlight that we have a new revenue projection. New York City tax revenue is expected to grow by 6.6 percent in Fiscal Year 2018 to \$58 billion, and by 3.1 percent in Fiscal Year 2019 to just over \$60 billion. As a result of this growth, our Fiscal Year 2018 revenue projection increased by \$973 million, and our Fiscal Year 2019 projection increased by \$77 million.

The notable increase in Fiscal Year 2018 is driven primarily by a 14.4 percent growth in personal income tax, representing a revision of \$800 million over the Preliminary Budget projection. The majority of this increase was a one-time gain caused by several unrelated events. First, a 2008 federal tax law required hedge fund managers to repatriate offshore funds before December 31, 2017. Second, The Trump tax act set the same deadline for repatriation of other earnings. Finally, strong stock market gains in 2017 increased incomes and led to substantial Wall Street bonuses.

This positive news is tempered by the impact of the State's Fiscal Year 2019 Enacted Budget and threats from Washington. Our partners in Albany pushed back more than \$340 million in proposed cuts and cost shifts. We avoided funding cuts of \$129 million to Child Welfare Services and \$65 million to Special Education. An attempt to shift \$144 million in charter school costs to the City also failed. The State's MTA value capture plan was rejected, as was an attempt to force the City to fund the entire NYC Transit capital budget.

However, the State Budget imposed more than \$530 million in cuts, costs shifts, and unfunded mandates, on the City. This includes a \$254 million payment towards the MTA's Subway Action Plan. Including this payment, New York City contributes \$2.1 billion annually in operating funds to the MTA. The City's

state school aid increase was \$140 million below projected levels, and State funding of \$31 million for the Close to Home program was cut. The State also shifted \$108 million in Raise the Age costs to the City. While we supported the legislation, it should not be an unfunded mandate.

Cuts and unfunded mandates of this magnitude jeopardize the City's financial position. Because of the windfall tax revenue, we were able to backfill them in the Executive Budget without significant reductions to programs or services. This half a billion dollars represents 25 percent of the new City dollars spent in Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019 in this Plan.

Washington has also taken action that may impact the City budget. The recent federal omnibus spending bill was less harmful than we anticipated. However, the Trump tax law spikes the federal budget deficit by more than \$1 trillion over 10 years. House and Senate leaders have threatened to close these large budget gaps by cutting social safety net programs that help the most vulnerable New Yorkers.

The Mayor has responded clearly to these actions. We will work closely with you, and our allies in the Assembly, State Senate, House and U.S. Senate, to stop cuts or shifts that put New Yorkers at risk. We will also continue to act as good stewards of the City's finances. This means that in the Executive Budget we make cautious revenue and debt service estimates, maintain record levels of reserves, continue the savings plan, and make strategic investments.

In light of ongoing uncertainty, we set aside \$1 billion in general reserves and \$250 million in the Capital Stabilization Reserve for each year of the financial plan. The Retiree Health Benefits Trust Fund is at \$4.25 billion, \$3.5 billion added as a result of actions taken by this administration in partnership with the Council.

Our savings plan remains strong. In February, the Mayor asked OMB to find \$500 million in savings in the Executive Budget. We exceeded that goal substantially, finding \$754 million across Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019. \$123 million of this savings is related to the partial hiring freeze and hiring delays, which have generated \$421 million in savings since last year's Executive Budget. Further, we saved \$49 million due to the elimination of 1,000 vacancies across City agencies in the upcoming fiscal year. This brings total agency and citywide savings since Adoption across Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019 to \$2.1 billion.

In addition to citywide and agency savings, we are taking \$1.3 billion in annual healthcare savings due to reductions in employee healthcare costs. We will continue to work with the Municipal Labor Committee to find savings in this area.

Now, I would like to discuss the investments we made in the Executive Budget. The majority of spending serves to meet existing obligations and support the Administration's prior commitments. New spending goes towards funding investments that expand educational opportunities, make New York City more affordable, and enhance public safety.

Much of this new spending reflects priorities that we share, including services for homeless youth and education.

In Fiscal Year 2019 we invested nearly \$12 million in the Students in Shelters program. This funding supports all students who live in shelters, with a focus on facilities that have a high rate of school absenteeism. This year's funding included an additional \$1.6 million to bring the number of social workers at schools with high rates of shelter residents to 52.

We deepened our commitment to the Equity and Excellence for All initiative by investing \$30 million in the Universal Literacy program, so that all children read at grade level by 3rd grade. This investment will

be used to enhance teacher training, double after-school reading programs for students in shelters, and add literacy coaches at low-performing schools.

We also invested almost \$5 million to provide anti-bias training to all DOE employees by 2022.

And, in partnership with the Council, we invested \$125 million in Fair Student Funding to raise the funding floor for more than 850 schools across every school district. This will increase the funding floor from 87 to 90 percent, and raise the average level of funding per school from 91 to 93 percent. Schools can devote these funds to essentials such as hiring more teachers, buying additional classroom materials, and expanding after school programming.

We are also deepening our support for NYCHA developments, which have suffered from years of state and federal disinvestment. In March 2018, NYCHA closed 244,000 work orders – 1,000 more than were opened that month. The Agency is also making gains in reducing the backlog of non-emergency repairs. To accelerate this process, we are investing \$20 million over Fiscal Years 2019 and 2020 to eliminate a backlog of 50,000 non-emergency work orders. These funds will be used to make repairs that require skilled trade contractors.

We also invested \$3 million in Fiscal Year 2019 to keep 14 NYCHA Senior Centers open. These facilities provide a variety of activities and services including fitness programs, educational trips, and health screenings.

In this Plan we also committed an additional \$3.4 million to help meet the goal of awarding 30 percent of City contract dollars to Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprises by 2021. These funds will be used by SBS to market loans to target communities, and expand the City's capacity to offer loan packages.

Turning to public safety, we added \$41 million to DoITT's Cyber Command to strengthen our defense against cyber-threats, and implement security technology across City agencies.

In Fiscal Year 2018 we partnered with the Council to invest \$28 million in the Crisis Management System, which includes the Cure Violence Initiatives. In the Executive Budget we invested an additional \$1.9 million in Cure Violence. Most of these funds will be used to create a mobile crisis unit in each borough that will respond to shootings in order to reduce street violence.

I want to thank you again for the opportunity to testify today. We look forward to continued discussions as we work together to implement the Fiscal Year 2019 Adopted Budget.

And now I am happy to answer your questions.

THE COUNCIL THE CITY OF NEW YORK

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