

New York City Council

Hon. Adrienne Adams, Speaker of the Council
 Hon. Joann Ariola, Chair, Fire and Emergency Management Committee

**Report on the Fiscal 2026 Preliminary Plan and
 the Fiscal 2026 Preliminary Capital Commitment Plan for
 the Committee on Fire and Emergency Management**

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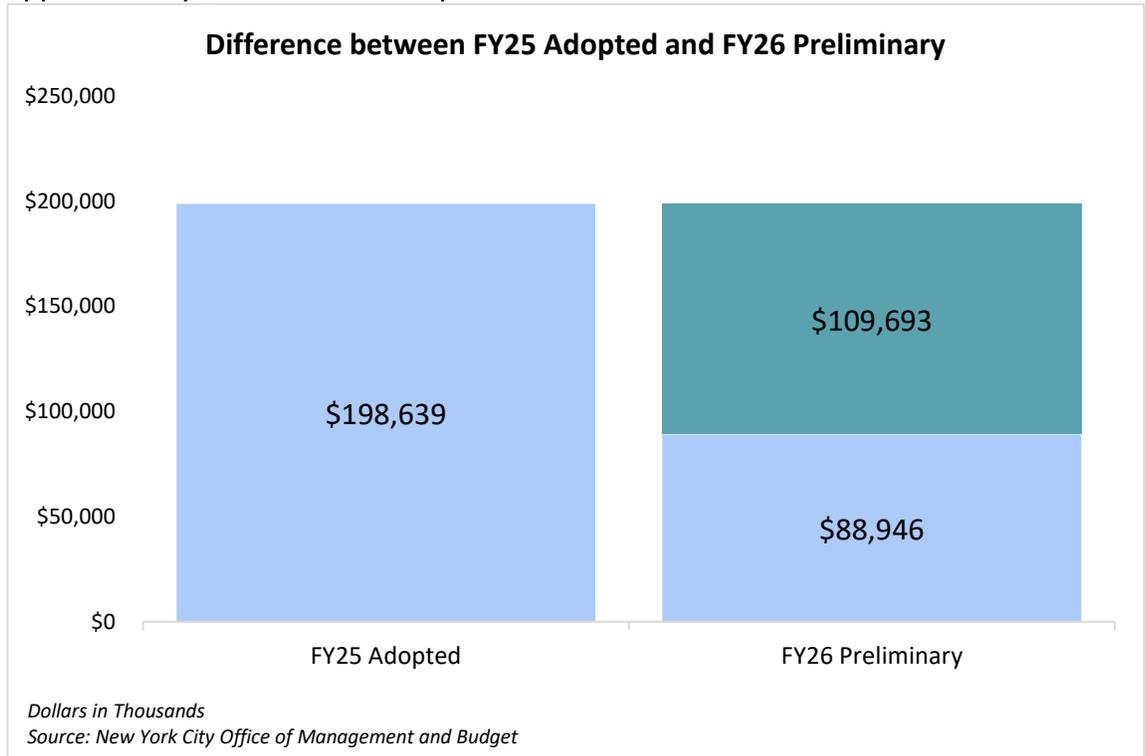
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Fiscal 2026 Preliminary Plan

New York City Emergency Management Budget Overview

The Preliminary Financial Plan for Fiscal 2025-2029 (Preliminary Plan), includes a proposed Fiscal 2026 budget of \$88.9 million for the New York City Emergency Management (NYCEM or the Agency). NYCEM’s Fiscal 2026 budget in the Preliminary Plan is \$45.4 million (51.2 percent) greater than its \$43.5 billion Fiscal 2026 budget in the November Financial Plan. The Fiscal 2026 Preliminary Budget is \$109.7 million less than the Fiscal 2025 Adopted Budget, as shown in the chart. Although this appears to be a steep decline in planned spending, it is important to note that funding for NYCEM’s budget is generally added during the current fiscal year as various federal and state grants are realized. Grants are only expendable during the fiscal year in which they are awarded, so NYCEM’s actual spending has typically averaged approximately \$200 million each year.

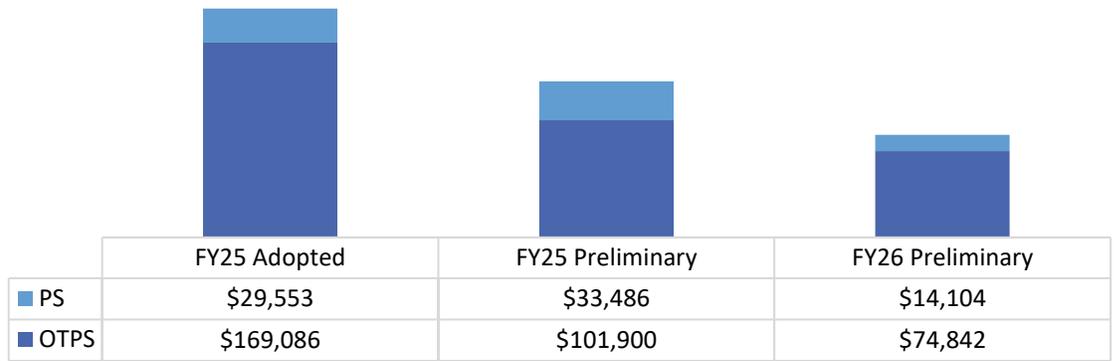
FY25	FY26
(\$63.3) million since Adopt.	\$48.0 million since Adopt.
(\$20.9) million since Nov.	\$45.4 million since Nov.



PS and OTPS:

**PS:
\$14,104**

**OTPS:
\$74,842**



*Dollars in Thousands
Source: New York City Office of Management and Budget*

**NYCEM
Financial
Summary**

	FY23	FY24	FY25	Preliminary Plan		*Difference
<i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Actual	Actual	Adopted	FY25	FY26	FY26 - FY25
Budget by Unit of Appropriation						
Personal Services	\$20,491	\$23,734	\$29,553	\$33,486	\$14,104	(\$15,449)
Other Than Personal Services	165,748	151,009	169,086	101,900	74,842	(94,244)
TOTAL	\$186,238	\$174,743	\$198,639	\$135,386	\$88,946	(\$109,693)
Funding						
City Funds			\$168,845	\$87,795	\$78,986	(\$89,860)
Other Categorical			0	42	0	0
State			0	900	0	0
Federal - Community Development			6,501	8,440	8,826	2,326
Federal - Other			23,293	38,208	1,134	(22,159)
TOTAL	\$186,238	\$174,743	\$198,639	\$135,386	\$88,946	(\$109,693)
Budgeted Headcount						
Full-Time Positions - Civilian	203	219	206	242	93	(113)
TOTAL	203	219	206	242	93	(113)

**The difference of Fiscal 2026 Preliminary Budget compared to Fiscal 2025 Adopted Budget.
Source: New York City Office of Management and Budget*

**NYCEM
Contract
Budget:**

**FY26 Contract
Budget:
\$11.4 million**

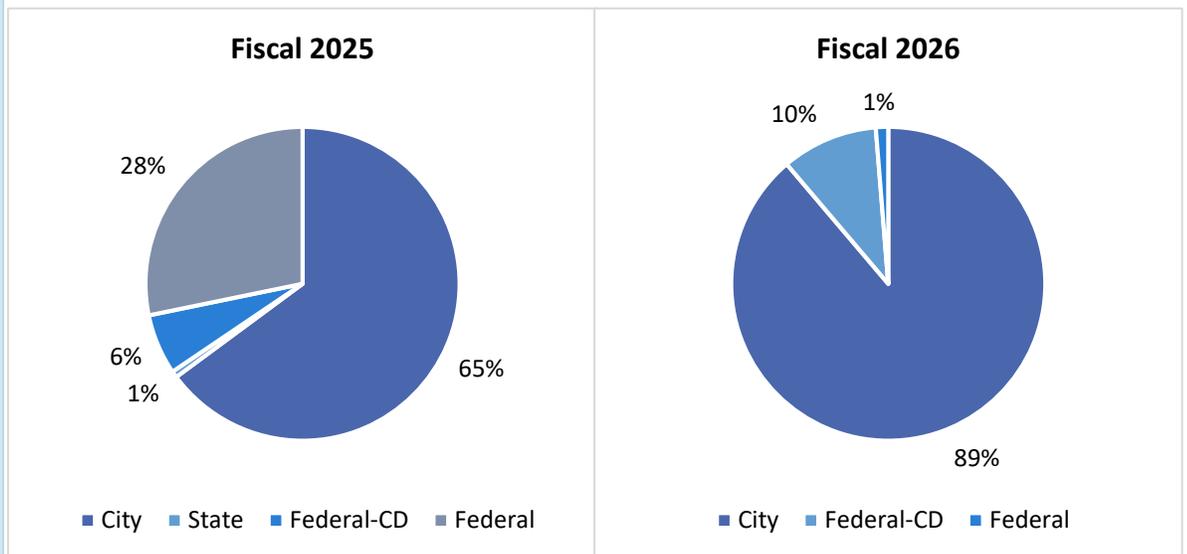
**Number of
Contracts in
FY26: 7**

Dollars in Thousands

Category	FY25 Adopted	Number of Contracts	FY26 Preliminary	Number of Contracts
Contractual Services - General	\$142,361	1	\$3,216	1
Office Equipment Maintenance	20	1	20	1
Data Processing Equipment Maintenance	20	1	20	1
Cleaning Services	3	1	3	1
Prof. Services - Other	7,779	3	8,175	3
TOTAL	\$150,183	7	\$11,434	7

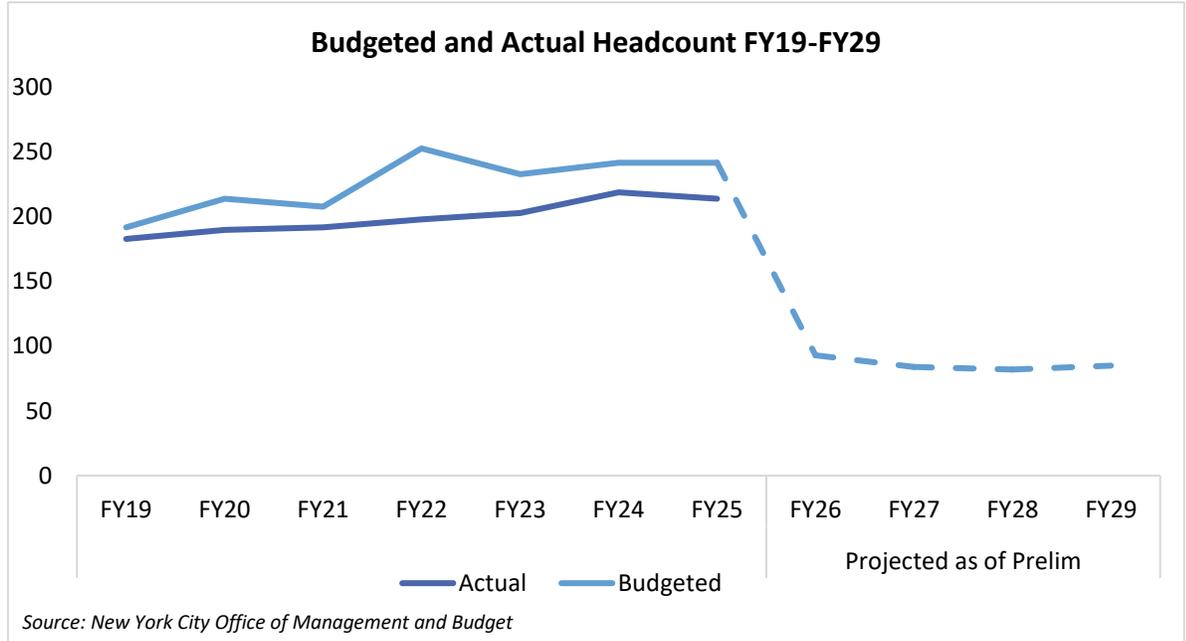
Source: New York City Office of Management and Budget

**NYCEM Budget
by Funding
Source**



Source: New York City Office of Management and Budget

FY26 Budgeted Headcount:
FY26 full-time positions: 93
FY25 full-time positions: 242
Headcount as of January: 211
Vacancies as of January: 31



Note: Budgeted and actual headcounts are as of the end of the fiscal year, except for FY26 where budgeted headcount is as of the Preliminary Plan and actual headcount is as of January 2025.

Preliminary Plan Changes

FY25 = (\$20.9)	FY26 = \$45.4	FY27 = (\$0.07)	FY28 = \$0	FY29 = \$0
New Needs = \$0	New Needs = \$0	New Needs = \$0	New Needs = \$0	New Needs = \$0
Other Adjustments = \$3.9	Other Adjustments = \$45.4	Other Adjustments = (\$0.07)	Other Adjustments = \$0	Other Adjustments = \$0
Savings = (\$24.8)	Savings = \$0	Savings = \$0	Savings = \$0	Savings = \$0

Dollars in Millions
Savings in this chart are the sum of all expense savings, from all revenue sources, including but not limited to, City, State, and federal savings.

**FY26 Changes
in Preliminary
Plan:**

**Total: \$45.4
million**

**Other
Adjustments:
\$45.4 million**

**Savings:
\$0**

Significant Preliminary Plan Changes

Other Adjustments

- **Asylum Seeker City Funding Reallocation.** The Preliminary Plan reflects a decrease of \$419,279 in Fiscal 2025 and an increase of \$45.6 million in Fiscal 2026 for spending related to the provision of services for asylum seekers. The decrease in funding for Fiscal 2025 is the result of underspending in the current fiscal year relative to the forecast in July 2024, which anticipated a greater number of new entries to the system. The increase in Fiscal 2026 is a result of the administration placing asylum seeker spending in the appropriate agencies rather than keeping it confined to a limited number of agencies, such as the Human Resources Administration.

Savings

- **Asylum Seeker Savings.** The Preliminary Plan includes one-time savings of \$24.8 million in Fiscal 2025 only, based on a revised forecast of the asylum seeker census. According to NYCEM, this is largely due to lower than anticipated new entries into the system since July 2024. NYCEM coordinates with other citywide agencies to ensure safe and efficient services for asylum seekers. It also provides services such as operating emergency shelters, managing resource distribution, and disseminating critical information to shelter residents.

**Preliminary
Mayor's
Management
Report**

The Mayor's Office publishes the Preliminary Mayors Management Report (PMMR) to highlight agency performance through the first four months of the fiscal year, monitoring specific items for each agency. NYCEM has two service goals, first to ensure that City government is ready for emergencies, and second, to prepare New York City residents and private sector entities for emergencies. Below are highlights from the Fiscal 2025 PMMR.

The reporting in the PMMR does not include any significant changes in indicators for NYCEM in Fiscal 2025. The indicators that are included appropriately report on NYCEM's actions, however, additional indicators about the watch command, types of incidents, and daily functions of NYCEM would offer more context about the agency's functions.

- **Days Emergency Operations Center Activated.** The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) has been activated every day since Fiscal 2022, currently spanning more than 730 days, largely due to the prolonged COVID-19 response. While NYCEM has stated that it has ended the perpetual EOC model and will now primarily activate for weather-related emergencies, the center was still activated for 123 days during the first four months of Fiscal Year 2024 and 2025. This continued high activation rate suggests that NYCEM remains heavily engaged in emergency response operations beyond just weather events, likely including infrastructure failures, asylum seeker response efforts, and other citywide incidents. Given this trend, NYCEM may need to assess whether current staffing and resource levels are sufficient to sustain such frequent activations without straining long-term operational capacity.
- **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Volunteer Hours and Deployments.** CERT volunteers are trained members of the community who provide basic response skills for emergencies and assist in disaster preparedness efforts. Through the first four months of Fiscal 2025, CERT members volunteered for 3,766 hours, compared to 3,899 hours during the same period in Fiscal 2024, reflecting a slight decline in engagement. Additionally, CERT was deployed 61 times in Fiscal 2025, compared to 79 times in Fiscal 2024, due to fewer deployment opportunities during emergencies. However, CERT volunteers continued to play a crucial role in citywide response efforts, including staffing service centers to support the asylum seeker crisis. Given the variability in deployment needs, NYCEM may need to explore additional training opportunities and alternative roles for CERT members to maintain engagement levels and ensure their capabilities are fully utilized in future emergencies.
- **Participants at Emergency Preparedness Education Sessions.** NYCEM conducts emergency preparedness education sessions, including CERT seminars, public preparedness presentations for residents and community groups, preparedness activities conducted at outreach fairs, and preparedness in the workplace presentations. In the first four months of Fiscal 2025, NYCEM has 16,630 participants at their education sessions, a 60 percent increase from the 10,386 participants in the first four months of Fiscal 2024. Although these numbers have risen in recent years, they still lag behind the participation levels seen in Fiscal 2019 when NYCEM had 90,325 participants attending these events,. NYCEM states that staffing vacancies are the reason for this severe drop-off over the last few fiscal years.
- **NotifyNYC CorpNet, Advance Warning System, and Community Preparedness Newsletter.** Notify NYC is New York City's dedicated emergency public communications program, providing real-time alerts and updates on emergencies

	<p>throughout the city. Notify NYC staff operate 24/7 out of Watch Command, continuously monitoring emergency activity in New York City and the metropolitan area. The program had 1,287,403 subscribers in the first four months of Fiscal 2025, an increase from 1,198,986 subscribers during the same period in Fiscal 2024. This 7.4 percent growth reflects increasing public reliance on emergency notifications and the city’s efforts to expand outreach. However, ensuring accessibility for non-English speakers, individuals with disabilities, and communities with limited digital access remains a key challenge. Expanding language translation services, targeted outreach, and integration with additional communication platforms could help make Notify NYC more inclusive and effective in reaching all New Yorkers.</p>
<p>Budget Issues and Concerns</p>	<p>Climate Change. NYCEM’s ability to prepare for and respond to climate-related disasters relies on securing adequate funding for hazard mitigation, emergency preparedness, and response operations. Without sufficient resources, the agency may face challenges in implementing critical flood protection measures, expanding community resilience programs, and scaling response efforts for extreme weather events.</p> <p>NYCEM is requesting funding to enhance the city’s preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation efforts against climate-related disasters. A key focus is obtaining federal grants through FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Assistance programs, including the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant, to support projects that reduce risks in New York City’s most vulnerable areas. These federal funds are used to strengthen infrastructure, improve flood mitigation strategies, and enhance community resilience. NYCEM also manages the Interim Flood Protection Measures (IFPM) Program, which deploys temporary flood barriers and other risk-reduction measures to protect at-risk neighborhoods while the city continues to advance long-term coastal resiliency projects. The portion of this project under NYCEM’s management is approximately \$3.5 million.</p>
<p>Federal and State Budget Risks</p>	<p>Trump Administration. On January 27, 2025, the Trump Administration issued a directive to pause federal loan and grant spending. This directive was quickly rescinded two days later, but an executive order issued by the President to review funding remains in effect. The outcome of the executive order is currently uncertain. The Preliminary Plan includes approximately \$46.7 million of federal funding for NYCEM in Fiscal 2025 and \$10 million for Fiscal 2026. If the City is unable to collect this federal funding, NYCEM’s budget could have a shortfall that would need to be resolved in a future financial plan.</p>

**Budget Actions
in the
November and
Preliminary
Plans**

<i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	FY25			FY26		
	City	Non-City	Total	City	Non-City	Total
NYCEM Budget as of the Adopted FY25 Plan	\$168,845	\$29,794	\$198,639	\$34,432	\$6,550	\$40,982
Changes Introduced in the November 2024 Plan						
New Needs						
N/A	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal, New Needs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Adjustments						
Asylum Seekers City Funding Realignment	(\$1,788)	\$0	(\$1,788)	\$0	\$0	\$0
City Service Corps	(23)	0	(23)	0	0	0
2024 CTP Grant	0	225	225	0	0	0
2024 EMPG FY25	0	3,104	3,104	0	0	0
Various Fed Grants	0	38	38	0	0	0
22 UASI Realign	0	85	85	0	0	0
25RCPGP20	0	487	487	0	0	0
Various Fed ROLLS	0	7,420	7,420	0	961	961
Various CBDG Grants	0	2,360	2,360	0	1,580	1,580
25FY 3016	0	5	5	0	0	0
25FY2097A	0	6	6	0	0	0
FY25 Mayors Fund UP	0	32	32	0	0	0
DASNY GRANT	0	725	725	0	0	0
Subtotal, Other Adjustments	(\$1,811)	\$14,487	\$12,676	\$0	\$2,542	\$2,542
Savings						
Asylum Seeker Savings	(\$54,985)	\$0	(\$54,985)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal, Savings	(\$54,985)	\$0	(\$54,985)	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL, All Changes in the November 2024 Plan	(\$56,796)	\$14,487	(\$42,309)	\$0	\$2,542	\$2,542
NYCEM Budget as of the November 2024 Plan	\$112,049	\$44,281	\$156,330	\$34,432	\$9,092	\$43,524
Changes Introduced in the FY26 Preliminary Plan						
New Needs						
N/A	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal, New Needs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Adjustments						
22 UASI ACC& Correction	\$0	(\$370)	(\$370)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Asylum Seeker Adjustment	(419)	0	(419)	0	0	0
Asylum Seeker City Funding Reallocation	0	0	0	44,554	0	44,554
DASNY PROJ ID 26710	0	175	175	0	0	0
Decrease 2150/600	0	(15)	(15)	0	0	0
EMPG Headcount Decrease	0	(0)	(0)	0	0	0
FY25 BC 2648 UP MOD	0	98	98	0	0	0
FY25 Down UASI for ACC	0	(52)	(52)	0	0	0
FY25 MILTON INCREASE	0	3,896	3,896	0	0	0
Incident Management System	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lease Adjustment	1,000	0	1,000	0	0	0
NYCEM CDBG-DR REALIGNMENT	0	(421)	(421)	0	868	868
Subtotal, Other Adjustments	\$581	\$3,891	\$3,891	\$44,554	\$868	\$45,422
Savings						
Asylum Seeker Savings	(\$24,835)	\$0	(\$24,835)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal, Savings	(\$24,835)	\$0	(\$24,835)	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL, All Changes in the FY26 Preliminary Plan	(\$24,255)	\$3,891	(\$20,944)	\$44,554	\$868	\$45,422
NYCEM Budget as of the FY26 Preliminary Plan	\$87,795	\$48,172	\$135,386	\$78,986	\$9,960	\$88,946

Source: New York City Office of Management and Budget

**Budget by
Units of
Appropriation**

NYCEM Unit of Appropriation						
<i>Dollars in Thousands</i>						
	FY23 Actual	FY24 Actual	FY25 Adopted	Preliminary Plan		*Difference
				FY25	FY26	FY26-FY25
Spending						
Personal Services						
Full-Time Salaried - Civilian	\$18,518	\$21,161	\$28,678	\$31,196	\$13,662	(\$15,016)
Full-Time Salaried - Uniformed	0	2	0	0	0	0
Additional Gross Pay	406	447	5	5	5	0
Additional Gross Pay - Labor Reserve	6	621	0	0	0	0
Fringe Benefits	0	0	501	1,916	55	(446)
Overtime - Civilian	1,116	1,005	184	184	184	0
P.S Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unsalariad	444	497	185	185	198	13
Subtotal	\$20,491	\$23,734	\$29,553	\$33,486	\$14,104	(\$15,449)
Other Than Personal Services						
Contractual Services	113,605	101,363	142,404	61,292	3,260	(139,145)
Contractual Services - Professional Services	27,541	20,710	7,779	14,529	8,175	396
Fixed and Misc. Charges	57	48	25	7	20	(5)
Other Services & Charges	22,657	25,904	17,981	20,419	62,768	44,787
Property and Equipment	1,014	1,009	499	2,143	387	(112)
Supplies and Materials	875	1,977	398	3,510	233	(165)
Subtotal	\$165,748	\$151,009	\$169,086	\$101,900	\$74,842	(\$94,244)
TOTAL	\$186,238	\$174,743	\$198,639	\$135,386	\$88,946	(\$109,693)
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