



NOTES FROM BWICA MEETING

AUGUST 26, 2020

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At **Nonprofit New York**, we work to strengthen and unite New York's nonprofits. We're building a thriving community of extraordinary nonprofits — a relentless, collective force for good.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN

In terms of advocacy, we're trying to do a big push for the state to pass new revenue measures because the federal government has NOT come through with relief and the Governor could make the payment withholdings for nonprofits permanent. Here's a link to the sign on: <https://p2a.co/qo2vyz1>

Talking points:

Federal

Families First (enacted March 18) & CARES Act (enacted March 27)

- Paid sick and family leave, PPP, EIDL, funding for organizations that “self-insure
- PPP forgivable expenses: 75% personnel, 25% OTPS

Paycheck Protection Flexibility Act (enacted June 5)

- PPP forgivable expenses: 60% personnel, 40% OTPS

(Paycheck Protecting Nonprofits from Catastrophic Cash Flow Act (enacted August 3))

- For nonprofits that “self-insure”

Next federal stimulus

- Negotiations between HEROES (passed May 15) and HEALS (introduced July 27), likely will go into September
- Four EOs from August 8
 - \$400 unemployment payments (\$300 federal, \$100 state)
 - Payroll tax deferrals
 - Residential eviction prevention
 - Student loan payment and interest suspension

State

Budget: \$177B enacted (April 1), with new Executive powers to adjust throughout the year

- Currently facing a \$14B deficit
- 20% reduction in aid to localities; nonprofit payment withholdings

Governor Cuomo executive orders

- August 5: [EO- 202.55](#) extends order 202.48, which suspends the state’s prompt contracts and prompt payments laws, until September 4.
- August 20th: extending the state’s moratorium on coronavirus-related commercial evictions and foreclosures to September 20th.

Legislation we’re monitoring

- Revenue
 - Senate and Assembly leaders announced a revenue working group and will be called back at any moment (multiple bills introduced)
- Commercial tenant rent relief
 - **Save Our Storefronts bill (S8865)**, suspending rent payments for certain tenants due to the state of emergency declared by Executive Order No. 202, where they have lost earned income or were forced to close their place of business (25 employee cap)

- **A10387/S08473**, would provide protection against defaulting commercial rent payments for small businesses and nonprofits between March 7th and 6 months after state disaster emergency(100 employee cap)
- Business interruption insurance
 - **A10226/S8211**, which would allow business interruption claims to be filed for losses sustained as a result of COVID-19 (prospective)
 - **A10837/S8853** would require future losses to be covered under business interruption insurance during the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic. Many nonprofits are being denied business interruption insurance coverage, and realizing they did not have access to more sophisticated insurance plans.

City

Budget: FY21 \$88.2B (July 1 2020)

AGING Issues – NYC Budget

- Healthy Aging Initiative **fully cut**
- LGBT Senior Services in Every Borough cut 7%
- Senior Centers for Immigrant Populations maintained at same level
- Senior Centers, Programs, and Enhancements maintained
- Support Our Seniors maintained
- Access to Critical Services for Seniors cut 32%
- Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities (NORCs) 1.4% increase
- City faced a \$9B deficit
- November Plan will again adjust the budget

Programs hit with cuts or eliminated altogether include:

- The elimination of the City's composting program
- \$65M in cuts to Fair Fares
 - CM Levin says this is not a cut but a "reduction in FY21 as a re-estimate because the pandemic has caused a significant decrease in ridership" and that new enrollment will continue unabated
- \$5.7M in cuts to the Better Bus program
- 19% overall reduction in discretionary funding
- Communities of Color Nonprofit Stabilization cut 32%
- Nonprofit indirect cost rate initiative cut \$20M

- 70% cut to an initiative to help formerly incarcerated people reenter their communities
- 70% cut to an initiative which provides arts programming to senior centers
- Foster Care Task Force pilots Kinship and Family Time have been eliminated
- Fair Futures was initially cut down to only \$2.7M (from \$17 million annualized) but then RESTORED to \$12M on July 6
 - Funding Fair Futures was a priority of the Council
 - Leading up to the budget deadline, the Council was told by the Mayor, ACS, and OMB that a certain amount of CTL was available to preserve FF current funding; Council thought there was an agreement but that did not happen when the budget was passed
 - CM Levin and Gibson lead supporters of Fair Futures
- \$23M (11%) cut to the Department of Cultural Affairs
- Annie Miguez (Good Shepherd Services): Community Schools Initiative was cut \$9.1M. City budget deal included \$115M of Summer Youth Programs.
 - i. 35,000 slots for SYEP/summer bridge
 - ii. 81,000 slots for summer camp
 - iii. 2,000 slots for Work Learn and Grow
 - iv. 500 slots for a social distancing program
- Over 90% cuts in the hate crimes intervention initiative, many organizations no longer have any funding for this program
- 40% cut on The Department of Housing Preservation and Development (in charge of affordable housing), pretty much everybody is unhappy about it.
- 4-5 housing initiatives that saw 20% in cuts.
 - v. Biggest cut was the basement campaign - derived from commitment in rezoning.
 - vi. HPD cuts were not restored, resulting in a loss of about 20k affordable and 3k supportive units
- The cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) for human service workers was not renewed, so it'll expire after FY20. The city decided not to renew it in FY21, so human service workers are no longer receiving this benefit.
- Commercial Lease Assistance program was cut completely (for pro bono legal services for small businesses). \$1.2M down to \$0

- The Parks Equity Initiative was also cut from \$4.3M to \$1.7M this year. Last year this funding was distributed amongst roughly 80 parks and open space focused nonprofits.
- The Parks Department's budget was also cut by at least 14%
- Ending the Epidemic Initiative went from \$7,735,000 in FY20 to \$6,000,000 about a 22% decrease