

## LETTER FROM THE MAYOR



Michael R. Bloomberg  
*Mayor*

Dear Friends:

As one of the most vibrant cities in the world, New York continues to attract the best and brightest from around the globe. It's no surprise: our City offers unrivaled cultural, educational, and business opportunities for residents and visitors alike. Supporting all that our City has to offer is a core of agencies filled with thousands of dedicated public servants who keep New York running day in and day out—and central to that effort is the Department of Environmental Protection.

DEP's work benefits all New Yorkers in a variety of ways. As one of only five large cities in the nation to have an unfiltered water supply, New York City has invested more than \$500 million in recent years to help DEP maintain and preserve our high-quality drinking water. Moreover, after 100 years of collecting data on water quality in New York Harbor, and a \$6 billion investment over the last eight years, our waterways are cleaner than they've been at any time in the last century—thanks to DEP. And in 2007, the noise code was revised by DEP for the first time in more than 30 years to maintain the City's vibrancy by balancing the need for construction, development, and an exciting nightlife with New Yorkers' right to peace and quiet.

Still, we have much more to do. Building on the successes of the past eight years, DEP has developed this exciting strategic plan that lays out the next generation of improvements to our water system, as well as ambitious strategies such as a Green Infrastructure Plan to reduce combined sewer overflows that will transform the City and improve water quality. We will continue to make core infrastructure investments—like fixing the leak in the Delaware Aqueduct—and to improve services to our nine million customers including faster response times to water main breaks, faster permitting, and real-time consumption data.

This plan lays out the distinct strategies and initiatives needed to carry out DEP's vital mission, and we'll hold ourselves accountable for implementing each one of them. We'll complete some within the next three years, and some will extend many years past that—to 2030 and beyond, ensuring that New York continues to be one of the largest, greenest, and most sustainable cities in the world.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael R. Bloomberg". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael R. Bloomberg  
Mayor