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## Who's who of Silicon Alley turn out for de Blasio

By: Thornton McEnery

If things seem quiet on Silicon Alley Thursday morning, that might be because NYC tech's biggest names are all in one room at the Empire State Building.

Mayor Bill de Blasio and his Tech Talent Pipeline director, Kristen Titus, are convening the first meeting of the initiative's advisory board, a roster of 25 executives who represent a collective workforce of 40,000 people in the New York city innovation economy. The meeting is the biggest signal yet that the mayor's \$10 million public-private partnership is bringing more New Yorkers into the tech economy by creating a dialogue between Silicon Alley's strongest players and City Hall policy makers.

"Our goal with this group is to define the job needs in their sector and find ways to train people to fill those needs," said Ms. Titus.

"These people have direct, hands-on experience with this world."

And what big hands they have. Crain's has obtained a list of the advisory board, which reads like a who's who of the New York city tech ecosystem. In addition to investors extraordinaire Fred Wilson and Kevin Ryan, the board includes entrepreneurs like Etsy's Chad Dickerson, Shutterstock's Jon Oringer and Facebook co-founder/New Republic publisher Chris Hughes. The roster of advisers also lists Alley insiders like Google's William Floyd and investor/entrepreneur David Tisch.

The collective volume of private-sector influence on the advisory board is something that was commonplace under the Bloomberg administration, but is striking for Mr. de Blasio and his team, who have had an uneasy relationship with Silicon Alley, and even some members of the Tech Talent Pipeline board.

But that is where Ms. Titus comes in. As someone who has shifted between the private and public sectors (having worked at one point for Mr. Hughes) she has been charged with bringing this group together. "We're terribly excited to have this caliber around the table," she said. "Getting all of these people in one room will be a very powerful moment."

That room is in the New York offices of LinkedIn, which will not only play host to the meeting but will also release a report on the city's tech economy. That data reportedly shows that one in every five New York city businesses employs tech talent, with a variety of sectors growing their share of tech jobs.

"Home for us is definitely Silicon Valley, but it's also New York," said LinkedIn co-founder Allen Blue. "The people here today really speak to the mayor's commitment to this project. We want to do whatever we can to help fire up this effort."

LinkedIn's findings are sure to be a topic of conversation at the closed-press event, but the overall idea will be leveraging these new relationships to create more hometown tech talent and funnel it directly to Silicon Alley.

The full list of the Tech Talent Pipeline advisory board is below:

- Allen Blue, Co-Founder, LinkedIn
- Shankar Arumugavelu, CIO, Verizon Wireless
- Judy Spitz, CIO, Verizon
- Fred Wilson, Partner, Union Square Ventures
- Kevin Ryan, Chairman, Gilt Groupe; Founder, MongoDB, Business Insider, Zola
- Don Duet, Co-Head of Technology, Goldman Sachs
- Serkan Piantino, Head of Facebook New York
- Chad Dickerson, CEO, Etsy
- Jon Oringer, CEO, Shutterstock
- Yancey Strickler, CEO, Kickstarter
- Charles Phillips, CEO, Infor
- William Floyd, Head of External Affairs, Google NY
- Marissa Shorenstein, President, AT&T New York
- Oliver Kharraz, Founder & President, ZocDoc
- Max Haot, CEO, Livestream
- David Fullerton, VP of Engineering, Stack Overflow
- Eliot Horowitz, Co-Founder and CTO, MongoDB
- Jon Williams, Co-founder, CTO Club
- John Paul Farmer, Director of Tech & Civic Innovation, Microsoft NY
- Andrew Pile, CTO, Vimeo
- David Tisch, Co-founder, Techstars; Head of Startup Studio, Cornell Tech; Managing Partner, BoxGroup
- Chris Hughes, Co-Founder, Facebook; Publisher, The New Republic
- Ali Marano, Head of Technology and Social Good, JP Morgan
- Brandon Atkinson, Chief People Person, AppNexus
- Jocelyn Leavitt, Co-Founder and CEO, Hopscotch