



**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE**  
Alister F. Martin, MD, MPP  
*Commissioner*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 6, 2026

**STATEMENT FROM NYC HEALTH COMMISSIONER DR. ALISTER MARTIN ON RELEASE  
OF THE PRELIMINARY CITYWIDE RACIAL EQUITY PLAN**

**NEW YORK, NY** – Today, NYC Health Commissioner Dr. Alister Martin issued the following statement on Mayor Zohran Mamdani’s release of the [Preliminary Citywide Racial Equity Plan](#):

Today marks a pivotal moment in our city’s history as Mayor Zohran Mamdani unveils the Preliminary Citywide Racial Equity Plan, delivering on a key priority mandated by voters years ago that reflects the voices of those who have long called for its release.

Racial equity and public health go hand in hand. Our health is shaped by the conditions in which we live, work, and play, not simply our personal decisions. Despite our city’s vibrant diversity, we are deeply segregated. Inequities in access to food, housing, health care, education, and economic opportunity persist across New York City, disproportionately affecting the health of Black, Latino, and other communities of color. This is the result of centuries of structural racism and unjust exclusion, and we must first acknowledge and confront these injustices to dismantle them.

Today is a testament to the progress we have made and the work that lies ahead. As racial equity efforts face challenges across the country, New York City remains steadfast in its commitment to addressing it. We will continue to ensure that our local government works for everyone, regardless of race, ethnicity, or background.

This is the beginning of a new chapter in our city’s history. Together, we will build a healthier city that reflects equity, justice, and opportunity for all.

Visit the [city’s website](#) for more information on the Preliminary Citywide Racial Equity Plan.

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