

# Myrtle Avenue Brooklyn Business Improvement District

# **2015 Annual Report**

# About the Myrtle Avenue Brooklyn BID

#### **BID BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Dr. Thomas F. Schutte, *Chair* John Dew, *Vice Chair* Larry Esposito, *Treasurer* Juliet Cullen-Cheung, *Secretary* Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams Council Member Laurie A. Cumbo Comptroller Scott Stringer NYC SBS Commissioner Gregg Bishop Doug Bowen, Property Owner Gurvan Duncan, Property Owner Larry Hoy, Property Owner Gerry Rooney, Business Owner Kevin Shirley, Property Owner Valarie Taveras, Property Owner

#### MYRTLE AVENUE BROOKLYN PARTNERSHIP STAFF

Meredith Phillips Almeida (BID & MARP) Executive Director

Shaquana Boykin (MARP) Program Manager, Healthy Community Initiatives

Dan DeSoto (BID) Graphic Designer

Chad Purkey (BID & MARP) Director, Planning & Economic Development

Raome Quinones (BID) Streetscape Manager

Rebeca Ramirez (BID & MARP) Director, Sponsorship & Communications

David Rose (BID & MARP) Program Manager, Public Space Initiatives

Shadonae Stanley (MARP) Fresh Pantry Coordinator

Jennifer Stokes (BID & MARP) Director of Business Services



### THE BID AT A GLANCE

- **10** YEARS IN SERVICE
- **31** BLOCK FACES, SPANNING 1.2 MILES
- \$425,000 ANNUAL ASSESSMENT
- **172** BUSINESSES IN THE DISTRICT

### **KEY CONSTRUCTION STATS**

Construction activity along Myrtle is hard to miss. Here's what's underway: 9 BUILDINGS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

**70,000** SQ FT OF NEW RETAIL SPACE

- 1,181 NEW RESIDENTIAL UNITS
- 2,650 NEW RESIDENTS (PROJECTED)



#### **CONTACT US**

Myrtle Avenue Brooklyn Partnership BID | MARP LDC 472 Myrtle Avenue, 2nd Floor Brooklyn, NY 11205 (718) 230-1689 hello@myrtleavenue.org





### **BUSINESS SERVICES**

Improving the retail mix along Myrtle Avenue in order to attract more shoppers and meet the needs of local customers is critical to elevating Myrtle's competitive advantage. The Partnership provides technical assistance to existing avenue merchants, helps entrepreneurs to find appropriate retail space on the avenue, and attracts established businesses to open new locations where appropriate. The Partnership also encourages local hiring, by matching young people with summer employment and mentoring opportunities.

### **BUSINESS RETENTION & ATTRACTION**

- **16** NEW BUSINESSES OPENED
- 7% RETAIL VACANCY RATE (COMPARED TO 15% IN 2005)
- 77% OF BUSINESSES ARE MINORITY AND/OR WOMEN OWNED
- 86% OF BUSINESSES ARE INDEPENDENTLY OWNED

### YOUTH ENTREPRENEUR MENTORSHIP PROGRAM (YEMP)

**17** LOCAL YOUTH MENTORED & TRAINED BY 13 BUSINESS OWNERS

### STOREFRONT IMPROVEMENT

\$8,887 IN MATCHING GRANTS DISBURSED TO MERCHANTS

**7** BUSINESSES RECEIVED STOREFRONT GRANTS









# **MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS**

Drawing attention to Myrtle Avenue's independently owned businesses, both longstanding and new, is a principal part of our mission. By promoting businesses, maintaining an avenue-wide shopping and dining guide, and by spearheading marketing campaigns like *Age-Friendly Myrtle Avenue*, we aim to draw new shoppers, increase foot traffic, attract new businesses, and spur local investment. This year we rebranded by creating a new logo and establishing a brand image for the district. The *Myrtle Ave Bklyn* identity is now implemented in street banners, social media, and all promotional materials.

### BRANDING

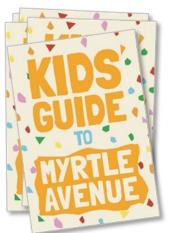
70,000+ MYRTLE AVENUE LOGO IMPRESSIONS

**30** STREET BANNERS INSTALLED

### **DISTRICT PROMOTION**

- 5,500 SOCIAL MEDIA FANS
- **15,250** NEW WEBSITE VISITORS
- 20,000 SHOPPING & DINING GUIDES DISTRIBUTED
- 40,000+ PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED
- 7,000 SENIOR RESOURCE GUIDES DISTRIBUTED FEATURING 26 BUSINESS SPECIALS









Artwalks, art installations and other events—like the Fort Greene Park Holiday Tree Lighting— help make Myrtle Avenue a destination. Our signature arts & culture program, Black Artstory Month, is presented in conjunction with Black History month and is a month-long series of free events. In the Spring and Summer we collaborate with businesses and local artists to co-present and promote events like Make Music NY and SONYA Artwalk. In addition to this, we work to strengthen our connection with Fort Greene Park to enhance community programming in the neighborhood, increase awareness of Myrtle Avenue, and support small business by driving foot traffic to the commercial corridor.

#### **SPECIAL EVENTS & PROGRAMMING**

- **20** SPECIAL EVENTS ORGANIZED IN THE DISTRICT
- **35** PARTICIPATING ARTISTS
- **20** PARTICIPATING MYRTLE AVENUE BUSINESSES
- **20** PRESS ARTICLES GENERATED
- 1<sup>st</sup> NEW YORK TIMES FEATURE (ARTS & CULTURE)



### **PUBLIC SPACE**

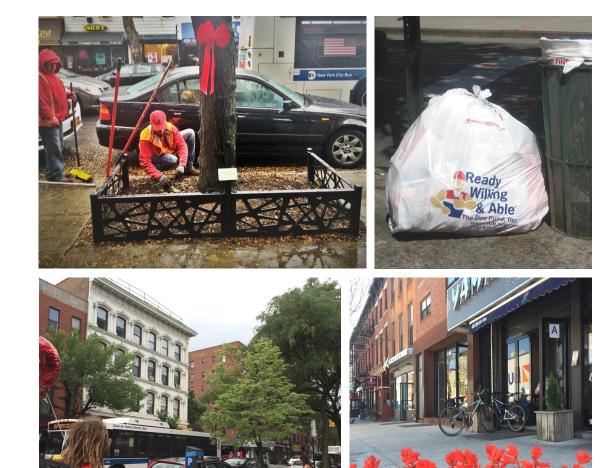
We enhance public space in our district through sanitation and beautification initiatives. We care for all the trees in the district, helping to create an inviting environment for visitors and shoppers. The Doe Fund performs daily sidewalk sweeping, empties corner trash bins, removes graffiti, maintains street furniture, and waters trees and plants.

### **CLEAN & GREEN STREETS**

- **35,400** BAGS OF TRASH COLLECTED FROM STREET BINS
- 6,240 HOURS OF SANITATION SERVICES PERFORMED
- **262** STREET TREES NURTURED
- 254 TONS OF TRASH REMOVED FROM THE BID
- **16** GRAFFITI TAGS REMOVED
- 87 TREE GUARDS & BENCHES MAINTAINED
- **44** TREE BEDS WATERED
- **68** TREE BED FLOWER PLANTINGS

### **MYRTLE AVENUE PLAZA**

Construction is underway between Hall and Emerson for the new Myrtle Avenue Plaza, with the opening projected for late spring 2016.



Myrtle Avenue Brooklyn DMA, Inc. (BID) – Balance Sheet, 7/1/14-6/30/15 (Draft Audited Statements)

Total Assets	\$144,802	\$99,196	Total Liabilities	\$144,802	\$99,196
Assets	34,733	40,319			
NON-CURRENT ASSETS Street Furniture Initiative	0.1.700	40.010			
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	110,069	58,877	Unrestricted	111,959	70,44
Prepaid Expenses	0	0	NET ASSETS		
Accounts Receivable	5,490.00	40,374			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$104,579	\$18,503	Accounts Payable	\$32,843	\$28,751
			CURRENT LIABILITIES		
ASSETS	FY15	FY14	LIABILITIES	FY15	FY14

Myrtle Avenue Brooklyn DMA, Inc. (BID) – Income & Expenses, 7/1/14-6/30/15 (Draft Audited Statements)

25,000
33,000
502

Total Income	\$455,706	\$458,502
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\$414,191 \$41,515	\$496,684 (\$38,182)
\$414,191	\$496,684
31,306	45,422
382,885	451,262
7,063	9,522
24,925	33,591
	122,752 42,785
	121,998
115,335	120,614
	102,118 96,848 36,596 24,925 7,063 382,885

# **FY16 BUDGET**

Myrtle Avenue Brooklyn DMA, Inc. (BID) - FY16 Operating Budget, 7/1/15-6/30/16

INCOME	
BID Assessments	525,000
Payment In Lieu	
Contributions	30,000
Sponsorships / Other	3,500

### Total Income \$558,500

EXPENSES	
Salaries	214,862
Payroll Tax Expenses	19,338
Health Benefits	14,064
Retirement Fringe	3,413
Youth Employment/ Mentorships	15,000
Professional Fees	10,000
Consultants	7,000
Rent	21,900
Utilities	2,000
Insurance	5,500
Phone / Internet / Web	
Hosting	3,400
Office Supplies / Printing	4,500
Payroll Processing	2,000
Computer Equipment	1,500
Postage	1,800

Dues / Subscriptions / Memberships	3,200
Meeting Expenses	3,000
Bank Fees	500
Travel / Local Transportation	500
Professional	
Development	3,000
Street Sweeping/Sanitation	96,000
Graffiti Removal	500
Tree Care & Horticulture	15,000
Plaza Maintenance	25,000
Street Furniture Maintenance	7,000
Streetscape & Capital Improve-	
ments	5,000
Storefront Improvement Grants	12,000
Advertising/Sponsorships	6,000
Events/Programming	26,700
Promotional Materials	13,000
Public Art Installations	10,000

### Total Expenses \$552,676

### Income in Excess of Expenses \$5,824