

# SMALLER SAFER FAIRER

## Monthly Progress on New York City's Roadmap to Closing Rikers Island

### ACCOMPLISHED IN THE LAST MONTH:

#### 1 SMALLER

Supervised Release, the City's primary pretrial diversion program, has prevented over 9,500 people from entering jail. This month, Supervised Release was named a finalist for the 2018 [Innovations in American Government Award](#), an award for public-sector programs that make government more efficient, creative, and effective at addressing social problems.

#### 2 SAFER

The City released its [plans for the borough-based facilities](#) to replace the jails on Rikers Island. The modern facilities will be designed to be integrated into surrounding neighborhoods and promote safety and support for the people who work and are incarcerated within them.

#### 3 FAIRER

People detained in city jails will now be able to make phone calls for free thanks to legislation passed by the City Council and signed by the Mayor. New York is the first major city in the nation to make phone calls in city jails free.

#### 4 TASK FORCE

This month, a subcommittee of the Population Reduction Working Group finalized recommendations regarding parole reform strategies. The Design and Culture Change Working Groups continued to discuss strategies to improve visit experiences.

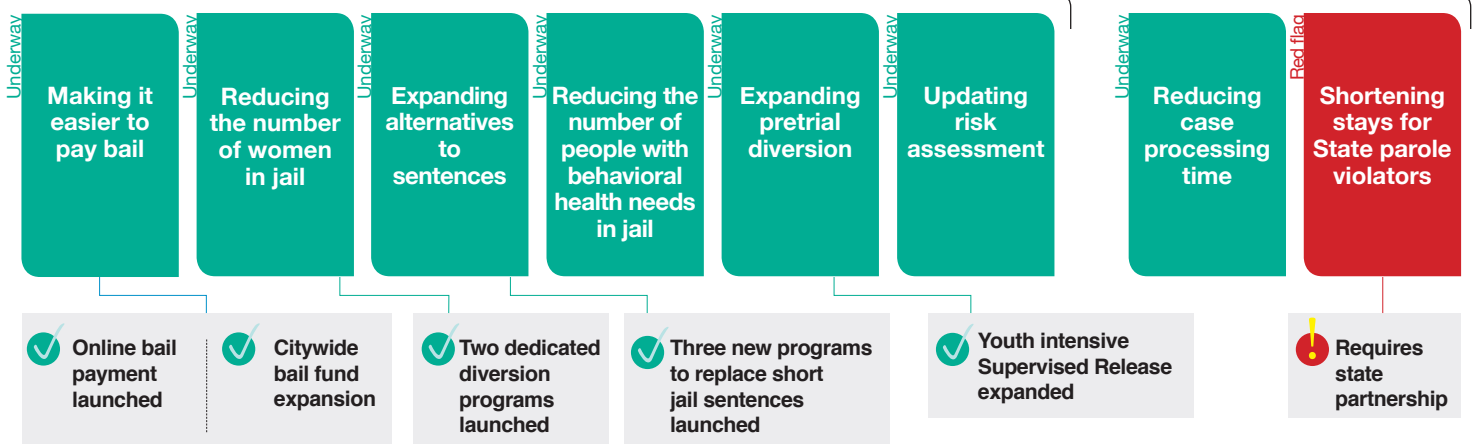
### UPDATES ON THE STRATEGIES IN THE CITY'S ROADMAP TO CLOSING RIKERS ISLAND:

#### 1 SMALLER

#### SAFELY REDUCING THE SIZE OF THE JAIL POPULATION

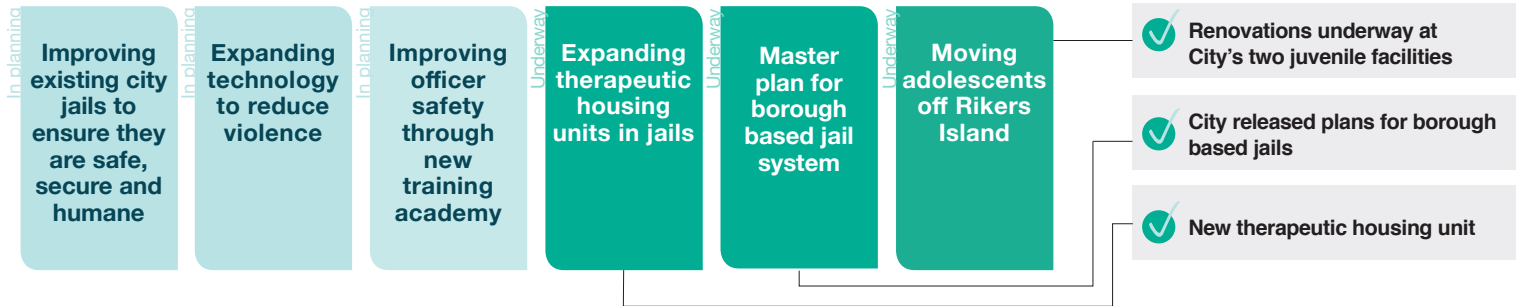
Reduce number of people who enter jail

Reduce length of stay



## 2 SAFER

## CREATING SAFE AND HUMANE ENVIRONMENTS



### CITY RELEASES PLANS FOR NEW BOROUGH-BASED JAILS

The City released its plans for the new jails in Brooklyn, the Bronx, Manhattan and Queens. The modern facilities will be integrated into the surrounding neighborhoods and provide safer environments for people who work and are incarcerated within them. The [innovative plan](#) envisions facilities with community space, ground-floor retail and parking. The [planned facilities](#) will also provide a safer environment to work and allow people in jail to remain closer to their loved ones, as well as offer quality health, education, visiting and recreational services that will help people reintegrate once they return to their communities.

### PERSPECTIVES FROM OUR PARTNERS

“By leading the movement to close Rikers Island for good, our City is setting a roadmap for comprehensive criminal justice reform through the creation of a borough-based system that will be more safe, humane and integrated with the surrounding community, and I commend Mayor De Blasio, Speakers Johnson and Mark-Viverito and all the advocacy groups for their tireless work to reach this moment.”

Council Member Margaret Chin

### Sketches of street-level views at each facility



[Brooklyn](#)



[Manhattan](#)



The Bronx

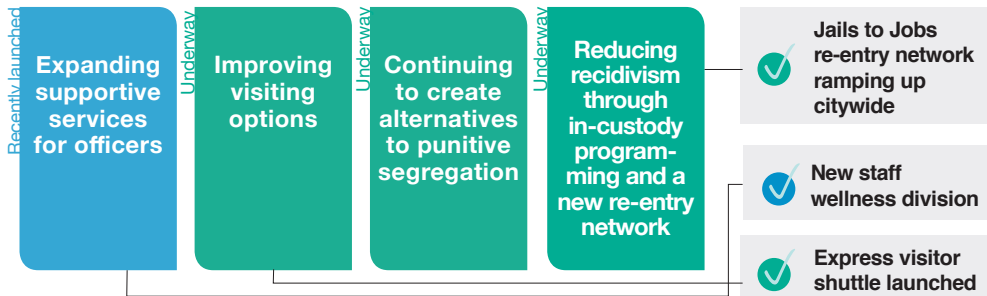


Queens

To view more information about the City's plans, visit:  
<https://rikers.cityofnewyork.us/nyc-borough-based-jails/>

## 3 FAIRER

## CHANGING THE CULTURE AND PURPOSE OF JAILS



### PERSPECTIVES FROM OUR PARTNERS

"Families and friends of incarcerated individuals should not have to choose between hearing from their loved ones and paying their bills just because these individuals cannot afford to pay for phone calls. [This bill] guarantee[s] that individuals who are in custody in our jails do not have to pay to stay in touch with the people who support them."

City Council Speaker Corey Johnson

### CITY PASSES LAW FOR FREE PHONE CALLS FROM CITY JAILS

The City Council passed [a law](#) that was signed by Mayor de Blasio that will eliminate the cost of making calls from city jails. People detained in city jails will be able to contact their families, loved ones and lawyers free of charge, allowing them to maintain ties to their communities. Currently calls from Rikers Island cost 50 cents for the first minute and 5 cents for each additional minute, other than in limited circumstances such as the provision of three free calls a week for indigent people and two free calls a week for sentenced inmates. When [the law](#) goes into effect in May 2019, all calls from city jails will be free. New York City is the first city in the country to make all phone calls from city jails free.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The progress towards closing Rikers and building a smaller, safer, and fairer justice system is only possible with the partnership of individuals and organizations dedicated to making this change. Click [here](#) for a list of partners.