

# SMALLER SAFER FAIRER

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

### SMALLER

2018 ended with the number of people in New York City jails below 8,000 for the first time since 1980. This marks a 30% decline since the Mayor first took office with the number of people entering jail down 46% during that same period. NYC remains the safest large city with the lowest rate of incarceration.

### SAFER

The Justice Implementation Task Force continued work on culture change and safety, wellness, and training for staff, announcing the newly implemented additional two weeks of on-the-job training for uniform staff recruits.

### FAIRER

The City announced the locations for the first two drop-off diversion centers. Health diversion centers will offer short-term, stabilizing services for individuals with mental health and substance use needs, giving police officers an alternative to arrest or hospitalization. The centers will serve an anticipated 2,400 people per year.



### BOROUGH-BASED JAILS PLAN

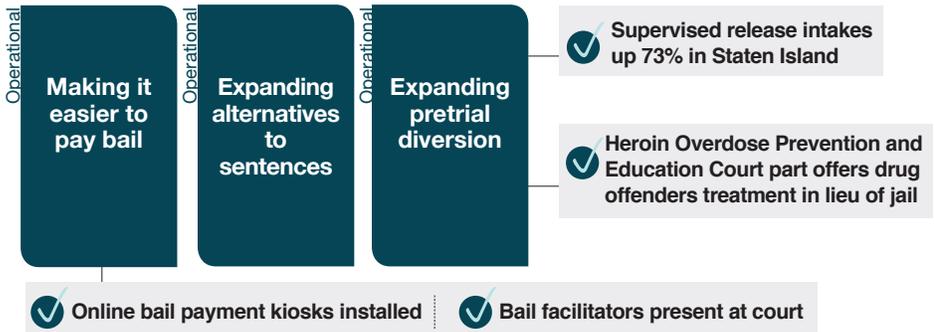
The City is committed to creating a network of modern and humane borough-based jails. Right now, the City is in the midst of a robust community engagement process. The City has convened [Neighborhood Advisory Committees \(NACs\)](#) in each of the four boroughs to address community concerns and advise on the borough-based jails plan. The NACs are comprised of community leaders and each one will make a list of recommendations (“Guidelines and Principles”) identifying key opportunities for community investments and ways to improve how these facilities will be integrated into the surrounding neighborhood. Additionally, the City has been meeting with the organizations that provide services to women in custody as well as conducting focus groups at the women’s facility on Rikers Island (Rose M Singer) to inform how women can be best served in the context of closing Rikers.

**HIGHLIGHTS OF STRATEGIES IN THE CITY'S ROADMAP TO CLOSING RIKERS ISLAND:**

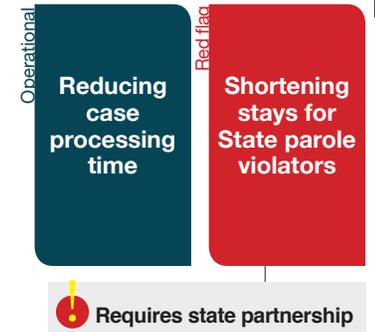
**1 SMALLER — SAFELY REDUCING THE SIZE OF THE JAIL POPULATION**

■ In planning ■ Recently launched ■ Implementation underway ■ Operational ■ Red flag

Reduce number of people who enter jail



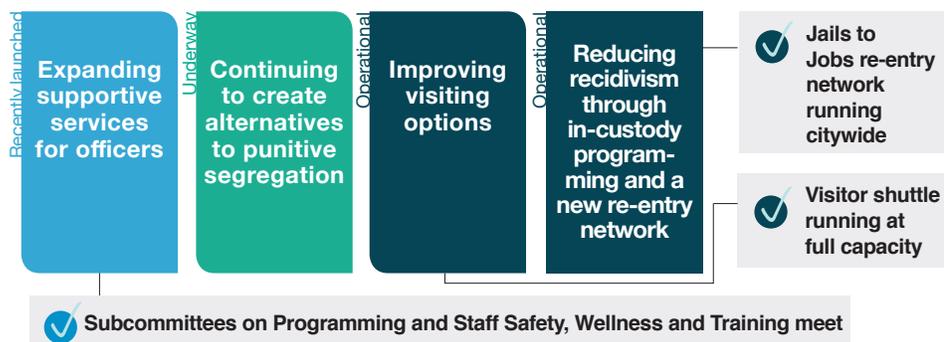
Reduce length of stay



**2 SAFER — CREATING SAFE AND HUMANE ENVIRONMENTS**



**3 FAIRER — CHANGING THE CULTURE AND PURPOSE OF JAILS**



**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.

“Conventional wisdom used to say that you can only imprison your way to a safer city. Wrong again. Wrong again. Today the population in our Corrections system has dropped to less than 8,000 people for the first time in almost 40 years. The era of mass incarceration did not begin in New York City, but it will end in New York City. And we are getting closer every single day to that great day when we will close Rikers Island for good.”

Mayor Bill De Blasio from State of the City Address