

Betsy McCaughey Committee to Save Our City Fmr. Lt. Governor of New York E: betsy@saveourcitycommittee.org

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## SAVE OUR CITY URGES NEW YORKERS TO MAKE THEMSELVES HEARD

LONGEST SERVICE NYPD COMMISSIONER RAY KELLY, FORMER LT. GOVERNOR BETSY MCCAUGHEY, FORMER US ATTORNEY GENERAL MICHAEL MUKASEY, JUNIOR'S CHEESECAKE CEO ALAN ROSEN, DEMOCRATIC STRATEGIST HANK SHEINKOPF, SALOMON BROTHERS CEO CHIP DANIELS, HOMELESSNESS EXPERT HENRY BUHL, WAI WAH CHIN OF THE CHINESE AMERICAN CITIZENS ALLIANCE

## And a growing list of civic and business leaders

October 16, 2024 – As New York City faces its worst crisis in decades, a bipartisan group of civic-minded business people, public policy experts, and community leaders are announcing **Save Our City**. Join us on Wednesday, October 16, from Noon to 1 pm, on the steps of New York City Hall for our official launch.

Longest serving NYPD Commissioner Ray Kelly says, "New York City is in trouble! Save Our City can help get it back on track with some of the best minds I know."

"New Yorkers don't want ideology," says former Lt Governor Betsy McCaughey, an organizer of the Committee. "They want a safe ride home on the subway, good schools, and order instead of chaos."

Save Our City's message is: "It doesn't have to be this way."

This is an educational 501c(3) nonprofit formed to inform the public about the challenges confronting New York and encourage grass roots participation in turning New York around.

The recent difficulties facing the Mayor are creating a distraction from solving the city's problems. Politicians are worried about what job *they'll get* next, instead of addressing the public safety, quality of life, and economic challenges facing the city. The Committee's goal is to engage the public and help provide an agenda for the city's future.

The Committee sees the following as key issues:

- Stop the exodus of businesses, tenants, and taxpayers from NYC
- Deter crime, restore bail requirements, and improve safety on the streets and in the subways
- Restore civil order
- Protect city services without raising taxes
- Permit local law enforcement to cooperate with Immigration authorities
- Protect New York's Jewish community, the largest in the world

These are the most important issues candidates for mayor must address, whether in a temporary election or the 2025 regularly scheduled election. What, for example, will the mayor do to fortify the NYPD and meet the challenge of migrant gangs from Venezuela terrorizing our neighborhoods? What should be done to restore order on our streets, and clear them of prostitution, reckless electronic bikers, and muggers?

It's also critical that the next Mayor have a pro-growth agenda to ensure jobs, prosperity and tax revenue for the city.

Numerous other cities, from San Francisco to Washington DC, are reassessing and revising their policies in response to popular demand. It can be done.

Save Our City also wants to increase public engagement and give voice to those who feel unheard. The SaveOurCityNY.org website, launched this week, offers a way for all New Yorkers, not just the professional pols, to express their concerns and solutions. We will urge the candidates for office to listen and respond.

Unfortunately, too many New Yorkers have simply thrown in the towel. In last November's municipal election, fewer New Yorkers actually went to the polls and voted (578,877) than the number who voted with their feet over the last three years, fleeing the city instead.

Participation in last November's local election was a pathetic 12.8% of registered voters, compared with 60% in the 2020 national election.

The Committee will use digital and billboard advertising to encourage more New Yorkers to stay and get involved.

Here is a list of people who have offered their policy expertise and insights so far: (Founding Members of the Committee in formation)

Henry Buhl, Founder, ACE Programs for the Homeless

John Burnett, Managing Director, 1 Empire Group

Wai Wah Chin, Founding President of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance of Greater NY

John Dalsheim, Partner, Shelter Island Ventures

Chip Daniels, Executive Chairman, Salomon Brothers Group, Inc.

Robert Dilenschneider, CEO, Dilenschneider Group

Jeffrey Eilender, Co-Managing Partner, Schlam Stone & Dolan

Stanley Goldstein, Knickerbocker Financial Group

David Hochberg, Concerned Citizen

Gerard Kassar, Chairman of the Conservative Party of NYS

Commissioner Ray Kelly, longest serving NYPD Commissioner

George Lee, Founding member of Chinese American Citizens Alliance of Greater NY

Steven Levy, Kamber Management Company, LLC.

Heather Mac Donald, Fellow, Manhattan Institute

Stephen Mann, Former Finance Chairman for Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan

Betsy McCaughey, Former Lt. Governor of New York State

Michael Mukasey, Former Attorney General of the U.S.

Deroy Murdock, Columnist

Pamela Newman, CEO of PJN Strategies

Alfredo Ortiz, CEO, Job Creators Network

Liz Peek, Financial Analyst and Columnist, Fox News and The Hill

Andy Puzder, Former CEO of CKE Restaurants Inc.

Walter Raquet, Chairman, Matrics2

Alan Rosen, CEO, Junior's Restaurants & Bakery, "The World's Most Fabulous Cheesecake"

Hank Sheinkopf, Ph.D., Sheinkopf Communications

Mrs. Barbara Tober, President, The Acronym Fund

David Weild IV, Chairman & CEO, Weild & Co., Former Vice Chairman of NASDAQ