



Bradley Jacobs <bradley.jacobs.sigesmund@gmail.com>

Daily Read: Mike Bloomberg to Give Harvard \$150 Million for Program for Mayors — U.S. Vaccinating 2 Million a Day as NY Variant Draws Concern

1 message

Kevin Sheekey <dailyread@mikebloomberg.com>
Reply-To: Kevin Sheekey <dailyread@mikebloomberg.com>
To: bradley.jacobs.sigesmund@gmail.com

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March 2, 2021

Breaking: [Bloomberg to Give Harvard \\$150 Million for Program for Mayors](#) (Wall Street Journal)

Just minutes ago, Bloomberg Philanthropies and Harvard University announced the creation of [The Bloomberg Center for Cities at Harvard University](#), a \$150 million investment that will strengthen the capabilities of mayors and support a new generation of public servants as they encounter unprecedented challenges — and lead the people in their communities through the pandemic and into a post-Covid world.

"The gift is the latest in a long line Bloomberg has made to universities over many years and comes as cities are stressed by the Coronavirus pandemic and related revenue shortfalls," writes the [Wall Street Journal](#).

"The pandemic has driven home just how important mayors are to the everyday lives of billions of people," Mike said.

The Center builds upon the success of [The Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative](#), established in 2017, which has supported 159 mayors and their 800 top advisors from 153 cities — and which convened city leaders on a weekly basis during the Coronavirus pandemic to provide up-to-date public health information and guidance.

“The Center will be a place where mayors will not only learn from each other, but from a wide range of expertise in practice, governance, and research from across Harvard and across disciplines,” write Mike and Harvard University president Lawrence S. Bacow in a [Boston Globe Op-Ed](#) today headlined, 'Mayors Play a Leading Role in the Shaping of America — Empower Them.'

The announcement comes on the second day of [Bloomberg CityLab](#), the world's leading global summit for urban innovators.

As Mike [tweeted](#) this morning, "The pandemic has shown just how important mayors are to the health of our communities."

Bloomberg CityLab Summit Continues Today.

Tune In Today: [Bloomberg CityLab](#) continues at 1:25 pm EST.

Pete Buttigieg, the U.S. Secretary of Transportation, will be interviewed by Bloomberg CityLab's Laura Bliss.

Patti Harris, CEO of Bloomberg Philanthropies, will deliver closing remarks.

Among the panels you can livestream [here](#):

Trust & Resilience in the Age of Covid-19

- **Dr. Alfred Sommer**, Dean Emeritus & Professor, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health; Board Member, Bloomberg Philanthropies
- **Mayor Ras Baraka**, Newark, New Jersey
- **Dr. Kelly Henning**, Public Health Program Lead, Bloomberg Philanthropies
- **Dr. Vivek Murthy**, Nominee to be the 21st Surgeon General of the United States *WITH* Mia Birdsong, Senior Fellow, Economic Security Project

The Case for the 51st State

- **Mayor Muriel Bowser**, Washington, District of Columbia
- **Interviewer: Tiffany Cross**, Host of MSNBC's "The Cross Connection with Tiffany Cross"

Don't miss out: See the full speaker lineup [here](#) and watch the livestream [here](#).

Read more: [Even With Covid's End In Sight, Mayors Shouldn't Abandon Bold Ideas That Made Recovery Possible](#) (Bloomberg — James Anderson)

Bloomberg CityLab Summit: Day 1

Highlights.

U.S. Vice President [Kamala Harris](#):

"City leaders have responded to Covid-19 with innovation. They've created outdoor clinics, so residents can safely get the care they need. They've redesigned public spaces, so families can be distanced while outside. We want cities to have the resources they need to innovate and replicate the best ideas."

Dr. David Kessler, Chief Scientific Advisor, COVID Response Task Force:

Asked by interviewer Judy Woodruff when the world would be fully vaccinated, Dr. Kessler said, "We can have orders of magnitude of vaccines certainly in the billions of doses by the end of this year, and into next year. It is a very tall order, but I think we can get there."

Mike Bloomberg:

"The most innovative ideas almost always start at the local level. Eventually they reach the world stage, but only after city leaders share and spread them. That's what CityLab is all about."

The Return to 'Normal.'

Speeding Up Jobs: **JPMorgan, BofA, Citi Give Time Off For Workers to Get Vaccines** (Bloomberg)

Returning to the Office, Safely: **How Deutsche Bank Is Using Contact Tracing to Bring Its 90,000 Employees Back to Work** (Business Insider)

Future of WFH: **Tech Companies Wrestle With Thorny Work-From-Home Issues Like Pay Cuts, Taxes, Child Care** (Wall Street Journal)

Discussions about the future of work, such as whether to reduce the

salaries of employees who have left high-cost cities, are priority items in board meetings and senior executive sessions across industries, according to chief executives, board members and corporate advisers.

Companies say there is much at stake, from the happiness and productivity of employees to regulatory consequences, if they get these decisions wrong.

[Click here](#) to get the latest on *The Return to 'Normal.'*

What I'm Reading.

Concerns for New Strains: [New York Covid-19 Variant Drawing Concern From Fauci, CDC](#) (Bloomberg)

It is one of five concerning variants now being tracked nationally by health officials.

Momentum Regained: [U.S. Ramps Up Vaccinations to 2 Million Per Day Since Friday](#) (Bloomberg)

Re-Order That Peloton: [CDC Traces Covid Outbreaks in Gyms, Carelessness about Masks, Symptoms to Blame](#) (New York Times)

AMLO Latest: [Mexico, With Less Than 2% Vaccinated, to Ask Biden for Help](#) (Bloomberg)

Talk of Paris: [Ex-French President Sarkozy Found Guilty of Corruption, Unlikely to Serve One-Year Prison Sentence](#) (Bloomberg)

Hyatt Hotels Under Fire: [How A Nazi Symbol At CPAC Turned Into Massive Hyatt Public Relations Disaster](#) (Forbes)

Uniting the U.S.: [This Rural Liberal Set Out to Talk to His Pro-Trump Neighbors. It Didn't Go Well — Until It Did](#) (Washington Post)

Tech Today: [All 270 U.S. Apple Stores Now Open a Year After Covid Closures Began](#) (Bloomberg)

Future of Travel: [Round-the-World Cruises Are Selling Out More Than a Year in Advance](#) (Bloomberg)

Out of This World: [Construction on the First-Ever Space Hotel, Voyager Station, Will Begin in 2025](#) (Yahoo)

Photos: Orbital Assembly Corporation

Best of Late Night.

"NASA's newest rover Perseverance successfully landed on Mars last week. So apparently, yeah, I am jealous of any travel."

-- [Seth Meyers](#)

"Since the pandemic has made it difficult for musicians to perform, a German rock band has started holding concerts in their van for just one fan at a time. It's a German band named 'Das Awkward.'"

-- [Jimmy Fallon](#)

"I read yesterday that a thief here in New York City stole almost \$60,000 of cigars. Right now the suspect is said to be armed, dangerous and brutal to ride in an elevator with."

-- [Jimmy Fallon](#)

"Don't worry, police have already narrowed down the suspects to every dad in Staten Island."

-- [Jimmy Fallon](#)

Thank you for reading!

If you live in [New York](#) or [New Jersey](#), download your state's Covid-19 exposure notification app. The more people who use the app, the more effective it will be.

Please forward my email to anyone you think should read it. They can [sign up here](#).

Follow me on [Twitter](#) for more updates. And get the latest updates from Mike on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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