MIKE TO WORKERS: BECOME A CITIZEN

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Body

MAYOR BLOOMBERG wants immigrant city employees to become citizens.

Hizzoner used his weekly radio show yesterday to announce a new program to help city <u>workers</u> who have green cards trade those in for citizenship papers.

"There are lots of benefits to **becoming** a **citizen**," the mayor said on WOR. "If you're working for the city and you want to do it, we'll certainly help."

A Bloomberg spokeswoman later explained that the city has lined up volunteer immigration lawyers to advise eligible employees and their family members who need legal assistance for their applications. An email went out Thursday alerting employees to the opportunity.

The city plans to hold a special swearing-in ceremony for workers who complete the process.

About 165 city employees have inquired about the program, and so far 65 have signed up for the first session on Oct. 19, Bloomberg spokeswoman Evelyn Erskine said.

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