

For the purpose of this Annual Report on Form 10-K, the words “we,” “us,” “our,” and the “Company” are used to refer to New York Community Bancorp, Inc. and our consolidated subsidiaries, including New York Community Bank and New York Commercial Bank (the “Community Bank” and the “Commercial Bank,” respectively, and collectively, the “Banks”).

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS AND ASSOCIATED RISK FACTORS

This report, like many written and oral communications presented by New York Community Bancorp, Inc. and our authorized officers, may contain certain forward-looking statements regarding our prospective performance and strategies within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. We intend such forward-looking statements to be covered by the safe harbor provisions for forward-looking statements contained in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, and are including this statement for purposes of said safe harbor provisions.

Forward-looking statements, which are based on certain assumptions and describe future plans, strategies, and expectations of the Company, are generally identified by use of the words “anticipate,” “believe,” “estimate,” “expect,” “intend,” “plan,” “project,” “seek,” “strive,” “try,” or future or conditional verbs such as “will,” “would,” “should,” “could,” “may,” or similar expressions. Our ability to predict results or the actual effects of our plans or strategies is inherently uncertain. Accordingly, actual results may differ materially from anticipated results.

There are a number of factors, many of which are beyond our control, that could cause actual conditions, events, or results to differ significantly from those described in our forward-looking statements. These factors include, but are not limited to:

- general economic conditions, either nationally or in some or all of the areas in which we and our customers conduct our respective businesses;
- conditions in the securities markets and real estate markets or the banking industry;
- changes in real estate values, which could impact the quality of the assets securing the loans in our portfolio;
- changes in interest rates, which may affect our net income, prepayment penalty income, mortgage banking income, and other future cash flows, or the market value of our assets, including our investment securities;
- changes in the quality or composition of our loan or securities portfolios;
- changes in our capital management policies, including those regarding business combinations, dividends, and share repurchases, among others;
- our use of derivatives to mitigate our interest rate exposure;
- changes in competitive pressures among financial institutions or from non-financial institutions;
- changes in deposit flows and wholesale borrowing facilities;
- changes in the demand for deposit, loan, and investment products and other financial services in the markets we serve;
- our timely development of new lines of business and competitive products or services in a changing environment, and the acceptance of such products or services by our customers;
- changes in our customer base or in the financial or operating performances of our customers’ businesses;
- any interruption in customer service due to circumstances beyond our control;
- our ability to retain key personnel;
- potential exposure to unknown or contingent liabilities of companies we have acquired or may acquire in the future;
- the outcome of pending or threatened litigation, or of other matters before regulatory agencies, whether currently existing or commencing in the future;
- environmental conditions that exist or may exist on properties owned by, leased by, or mortgaged to the Company;
- any interruption or breach of security resulting in failures or disruptions in customer account management, general ledger, deposit, loan, or other systems;
- operational issues stemming from, and/or capital spending necessitated by, the potential need to adapt to industry changes in information technology systems, on which we are highly dependent;
- the ability to keep pace with, and implement on a timely basis, technological changes;
- changes in legislation, regulation, policies, or administrative practices, whether by judicial, governmental, or legislative action, including, but not limited to, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, and other changes pertaining to banking, securities, taxation, rent regulation and housing,