

NEW YORK COMMUNITY CAPITAL TRUST VI  
Form S-3ASR  
July 03, 2008  
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As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 3, 2008

Registration No. 333- •

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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### FORM S-3 REGISTRATION STATEMENT

*UNDER*

*THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933*

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New York Community Bancorp, Inc.	Delaware	6-1377322
New York Community Capital Trust I	Delaware	16-6531027
New York Community Capital Trust II	Delaware	16-6531026
New York Community Capital Trust III	Delaware	16-6531025
New York Community Capital Trust IV	Delaware	16-6531024
New York Community Capital Trust VI	Delaware	51-6553441
(Exact name of registrants as specified in its charter)	(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)	(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

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615 Merrick Avenue

Westbury, New York 11590

(516) 683-4100

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrants principal executive offices)

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**Joseph R. Ficalora**

**Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer**

**New York Community Bancorp, Inc.**

**615 Merrick Avenue**

**Westbury, New York 11590**

**(516) 683-4100**

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone numbers, including area code, of agent for service)

---

*Copies to:*

**Eric S. Kracov, Esquire**

**Victor L. Cangelosi, Esquire**

**Edward G. Olifer, Esquire**

**Kilpatrick Stockton LLP**

**Suite 900**

**607 14th Street, N.W.**

**Washington, D.C. 20005**

**(202) 508-5800**

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**Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public:** From time to time after the effective date of this registration statement as determined by market conditions and other factors.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box.

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment Filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

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If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated  
filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Smaller reporting  
company

(Do not check if a smaller reporting  
company)

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**CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE**

(See next page)

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Title of each Class of	Amount to be Registered (1)	Proposed Maximum Offering Price  Per Unit (1)	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price (1)	Amount of Registration Fee (1)
<b>Securities to be Registered</b>				
Debt Securities of New York Community Bancorp, Inc. (2)				
Common Stock, par value \$0.01, of New York Community Bancorp, Inc., (3)				
Preferred Stock of New York Community Bancorp, Inc. (4)				
Warrants to purchase securities issued or guaranteed by New York Community Bancorp, Inc. (5)				
Depositary Shares of New York Community Bancorp, Inc. (6)				
Stock Purchase Contracts of New York Community Bancorp, Inc. (7)				
Stock Purchase Units of New York Community Bancorp, Inc. (8)				
Preferred Securities of New York Community Capital Trust I (9)				
Preferred Securities of New York Community Capital Trust II (9)				
Preferred Securities of New York Community Capital Trust III (9)				
Preferred Securities of New York Community Capital Trust IV (9)				
Preferred Securities of New York Community Capital Trust VI (9)				
Guarantees by New York Community Bancorp, Inc. of the above-referenced preferred securities (10)				
Junior Subordinated Deferrable Interest Debentures of New York Community Bancorp, Inc. (9)(10)				
Units (11)				

- (1) An indeterminate aggregate initial offering price or principal amount or number of the securities of each identified class is being registered as may from time to time be issued (i) at indeterminate prices, (ii) upon conversion, exercise or exchange of other securities offered pursuant to this Registration Statement, and (iii) as shall be issued to prevent dilution from stock splits or stock dividends or similar transactions. In accordance with Rules 456(b) and 457(r) under the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrants are deferring payment of all of the registration fee, except, pursuant to Rule 457(p), \$35,157 that has already been paid with respect to \$298,726,000 aggregate initial offering price of securities that were previously registered by the Registrants pursuant to registration statement No. 333-129338, initially filed on October 31, 2005 and declared effective on December 21, 2005 (the "Prior Registration Statement"), and not sold thereunder. Under the Prior Registration Statement, the Registrants registered an aggregate amount of \$1,000,000,000 of securities and paid an aggregate filing fee of \$117,700 for the securities registered under the Prior Registration Statement. Of the \$1,000,000,000 aggregate amount of securities registered under the Prior Registration Statement, \$298,726,000 remain unissued, which unissued securities are hereby deregistered. Accordingly, pursuant to Rule 457(p) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the Registrants are entitled to offset, against the filing fee due for this Registration Statement, that amount of the Prior Registration Statement filing fee paid with respect to the unissued securities under the Prior Registration Statement, such amount being \$35,157 (calculated at the rate in effect at the time the Prior Registration Statement was filed).
- (2) There is being registered hereunder an indeterminate principal amount of Debt Securities as may be sold, from time to time, by New York Community Bancorp, Inc. ( "NYCB" ).
- (3) An indeterminate number of shares of Common Stock may also be issued upon the exercise of Warrants or settlement of the Stock Purchase Contracts or Stock Purchase Units.
- (4)

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There is being registered hereunder an indeterminate number of shares of Preferred Stock as may be sold, from time to time at indeterminate prices, by NYCB. An indeterminate number of shares of Preferred Stock may also be issued upon settlement of the Stock Purchase Contracts or Stock Purchase Units.

- (5) There is being registered hereunder an indeterminate amount and number of Warrants, representing rights to purchase Preferred Stock, Depositary Shares or Common Stock registered hereunder.
- (6) There is being registered hereunder an indeterminate number of shares of Depositary Shares to be evidenced by Depositary Receipts. In the event the Registrant elects to offer to the public fractional interests in shares of Preferred Stock registered hereunder, Depositary Receipts will be distributed to those persons purchasing such fractional interests and the shares of preferred stock will be issued to the Depositary. An indeterminate number of Depositary Shares may also be issued upon settlement of the Stock Purchase Contracts or Stock Purchase Units.

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- (7) There is being registered hereunder an indeterminate number of Stock Purchase Contracts under which the holder, upon settlement, will purchase or sell an indeterminate number of shares of Common Stock, Preferred Stock or Depositary Shares. No separate consideration will be received for such Stock Purchase Contracts.
  - (8) There is being registered hereunder an indeterminate number of Stock Purchase Units. Each Stock Purchase Unit consists of (a) one or more Stock Purchase Contracts, under which the holder, upon settlement, will purchase or sell an indeterminate number of shares of Common Stock, Preferred Stock or Depositary Shares and (b) a beneficial interest in either Debt Securities or debt obligations of third parties, including U.S. Treasury securities. Each beneficial interest will be pledged to secure the obligation of such holder to purchase such shares of Common Stock, Preferred Stock or Depositary Shares. No separate consideration will be received for the Stock Purchase Contracts or the related beneficial interests.
  - (9) There is being registered hereunder an indeterminate number of Preferred Securities of New York Community Capital Trust I, New York Community Capital Trust II, New York Community Capital Trust III, New York Community Capital Trust IV and New York Community Capital Trust VI (collectively, the Trusts ) and an indeterminate principal amount of Junior Subordinated Deferrable Interest Debentures of NYCB. A like principal amount of Junior Subordinated Deferrable Interest Debentures may be issued and sold by NYCB to any of the Trusts, and Junior Subordinated Deferrable Interest Debentures may later be distributed for no additional consideration to the holders of the Preferred Securities of such Trust upon a dissolution of such Trust and the distribution of the assets thereof.
  - (10) Includes the rights of holders of the Preferred Securities under the Guarantees and certain back-up undertakings, comprised of the obligations of NYCB under the Declaration of Trust of each Trust as borrower under the Junior Subordinated Debentures, to provide certain indemnities in respect of, and pay and be responsible for certain costs, expenses, debts and liabilities of, each Trust (other than with respect to the Preferred Securities) and such obligations of NYCB as set forth in the Declaration of Trust of each Trust and the Subordinated Indenture, in each case as amended from time to time and as further described in the Registration Statement. The Guarantees, when taken together with NYCB's obligations under the Junior Subordinated Deferrable Interest Debentures, the related Indenture and the Declaration of Trust, will provide a full and unconditional guarantee on a subordinated basis by NYCB of payments due on the Preferred Securities. No separate consideration will be received for any Guarantees or such back-up obligations.
  - (11) There is registered hereunder an indeterminate number of Units including securities registered hereunder that may be sold from time to time. Any of the securities registered hereunder may be sold separately or as Units with other securities registered hereunder.
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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This registration statement contains three forms of prospectus: (a) one to be used in connection with the offering and sale of debt securities, common stock, preferred stock, warrants to purchase other securities, depositary shares, stock purchase contracts, stock purchase units or units consisting of a combination of two or more of these securities; (b) one to be used in connection with the offering and sale of preferred securities issued by any of the Trusts, the common securities of which will be owned by NYCB; and (c) one to be used in connection with the offering and sale of units which are comprised of preferred securities issued by any of the Trusts and warrants to purchase common stock of NYCB.

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**PROSPECTUS**

**Debt Securities**

**Common Stock**

**Preferred Stock**

**Warrants**

**Depositary Shares**

**Stock Purchase Contracts**

**Stock Purchase Units**

**Units**

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We may offer and sell from time to time, in one or more series, our unsecured debt securities, which may consist of notes, debentures, or other evidences of indebtedness; shares of our common stock; shares of our preferred stock; warrants to purchase other securities; depositary shares; stock purchase contracts, stock purchase units; or units consisting of a combination of two or more of these securities. The debt securities and preferred stock may be convertible into or exchangeable for other securities of ours. This prospectus provides you with a general description of these securities. Each time we offer any securities pursuant to this prospectus, we will provide you with a prospectus supplement and, if necessary, a pricing supplement, that will describe the specific amounts, prices and terms of the securities being offered. These supplements may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. To understand the terms of the securities offered, you should carefully read this prospectus with the applicable supplements, which together provide the specific terms of the securities we are offering.

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**These securities are not deposits or obligations of a bank or savings association and are not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency.**

This prospectus may be used to offer and sell securities only if accompanied by the prospectus supplement for those securities.



**Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined that this prospectus or the accompanying prospectus supplement is accurate or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

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**The date of this prospectus is July 3, 2008**

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**IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT INFORMATION PRESENTED IN THIS  
PROSPECTUS AND THE ACCOMPANYING PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT**

We may provide information to you about the securities we are offering in three separate documents that progressively provide more detail:

this prospectus, which provides general information, some of which may not apply to your securities;

the accompanying prospectus supplement, which describes the terms of the securities, some of which may not apply to your securities;  
and

if necessary, a pricing supplement, which describes the specific terms of your securities.

If the terms of your securities vary among the pricing supplement, the prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, you should rely on the information in the following order of priority:

the pricing supplement, if any;

the prospectus supplement; and

the prospectus.

We include cross-references in this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement to captions in these materials where you can find further related discussions. The following Table of Contents and the Table of Contents included in the accompanying prospectus supplement provide the pages on which these captions are located.

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Unless indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we have not taken any action that would permit us to publicly sell these securities in any jurisdiction outside the United States. If you are an investor outside the United States, you should inform yourself about, and comply with, any restrictions as to the offering of the securities and the distribution of this prospectus.

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**ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS**

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, the SEC, utilizing a shelf registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may from time to time offer and sell the debt securities, preferred stock, depository shares, warrants, stock purchase contracts, stock purchase units, common stock, or units consisting of a combination of these securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings. We may also sell other securities under the registration statement that will reduce the total dollar amount of securities that we may sell under this prospectus. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities covered by it. Each time we offer these securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of the offer. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with the additional information described under the heading *Where You Can Find More Information*.

Unless otherwise indicated or unless the context requires otherwise, all references in this prospectus to NYCB, we, us, our or similar references mean New York Community Bancorp, Inc. References to the Community Bank mean New York Community Bank, references to the Commercial Bank mean New York Commercial Bank, and references to the Banks mean New York Community Bank and New York Commercial Bank, collectively.

**WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION**

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement under the Securities Act of 1933, the Securities Act, that registers, among other securities, the offer and sale of the securities that we may offer under this prospectus. The registration statement, including the attached exhibits and schedules included or incorporated by reference in the registration statement, contains additional relevant information about us. The rules and regulations of the SEC allow us to omit certain information included in the registration statement from this prospectus. In addition, we file reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Exchange Act.

You may read and copy this information at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549-0213. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for more information on the SEC's Public Reference Room.

You may also obtain copies of this information by mail from the Office of Investor Education and Advocacy of the SEC, 100 F Street, N.E., Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549-0213, at prescribed rates.

The SEC also maintains an Internet world wide web site that contains reports, proxy statements and other information about issuers like us who file electronically with the SEC. The address of that site is:

<http://www.sec.gov>

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference information into this prospectus. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document that we file separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be a part

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of this prospectus, except for any information that is superseded by information that is included directly in this document or in a more recent incorporated document.

This prospectus incorporates by reference the documents listed below that we have previously filed with the SEC.

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<u>SEC Filings</u>	<u>Period or Date (as applicable)</u>
Annual Report on Form 10-K	Year ended December 31, 2007
Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q	Quarter ended March 31, 2008
Current Reports on Form 8-K	May 20, 2008
	May 21, 2008
	May 22, 2008
	May 23, 2008
	June 11, 2008
	July 1, 2008
The description of NYCB common stock and preferred stock set forth in the registration statement on Form 8-A (No. 1-31565) and any amendment or report filed with the SEC for the purpose of updating this description	December 12, 2002

In addition, we also incorporate by reference all future documents that we file with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date of our initial registration statement relating to the securities until the completion of the distribution of the securities covered by this prospectus. These documents include periodic reports, such as Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K (other than Current Reports furnished under Items 2.02 or 7.01 of Form 8-K), as well as proxy statements.

The information incorporated by reference contains information about us and our financial condition and is an important part of this prospectus.

You can obtain any of the documents incorporated by reference in this document through us, or from the SEC through the SEC's Internet world wide web site at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). Documents incorporated by reference are available from us without charge, excluding any exhibits to those documents, unless the exhibit is specifically incorporated by reference as an exhibit in this prospectus. You can obtain documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus by requesting them in writing or by telephone from us at the following address:

Investor Relations Department  
 New York Community Bancorp, Inc.  
 615 Merrick Avenue  
 Westbury, New York 11590  
 (516) 683-4420

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In addition, we maintain a corporate website, *www.myNYCB.com*. On our website, we make available, our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and any amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such materials with, or furnish it to, the SEC. This reference to our website is for the convenience of investors as required by the SEC and shall not be deemed to incorporate any information on the website into this prospectus.

We have not authorized anyone to give any information or make any representation about us that is different from, or in addition to, those contained in this prospectus or in any of the materials that we have incorporated into this prospectus. If anyone does give you information of this sort, you should not rely on it. If you are in a jurisdiction where offers to sell, or solicitations of offers to purchase, the securities offered by this document are unlawful, or if you are a person to whom it is unlawful to direct these types of activities, then the offer presented in this document does not extend to you. The information contained in this document speaks only as of the date of this document unless the information specifically indicates that another date applies.

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**SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This prospectus and the other documents we incorporate by reference in this prospectus may include forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act), and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act).

Forward-looking statements, which are based on certain assumptions, and describe our future plans, strategies, and expectations, are generally identified by use of the words believe, expect, intend, anticipate, estimate, project, plan or future or conditional verbs such as will, should, could, may or other similar expressions. Although we believe that our plans, intentions and expectations, as reflected in these forward-looking statements are reasonable, we can give no assurance that these plans, intentions or expectations will be achieved or realized. Our ability to predict results or the actual effects of our plans and strategies are inherently uncertain. Actual results, performance or achievements could differ materially from those contemplated, expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from our forward-looking statements are set forth under the heading *Forward-Looking Statements and Associated Risk Factors* in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K, and in other reports we file with the SEC.

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 the forward-looking statements. These factors include, but are not limited to: general economic conditions, either nationally or locally in some or all of the areas in which we and our customers conduct our respective business; conditions in the securities markets or the banking industry; changes in interest rates, which may affect our net income, prepayment penalty income or other future cash flows or the market value of our assets; changes in deposit flows, wholesale borrowing facilities, and in the demand for deposit, loan, and investment products and other financial services in our local markets; changes in our credit ratings; changes in the financial or operating performance of our customers' businesses; changes in our customer base; changes in real estate values, which could impact the quality of the assets securing the loans in our portfolio; changes in the quality or composition of our loan or investment portfolios; changes in competitive pressures among financial institutions or from non-financial institutions; the ability to successfully integrate any assets, liabilities, customers, systems, and management personnel we may acquire into our operations and our ability to realize related revenue synergies and cost savings within expected time frames; potential exposure to unknown or contingent liabilities of companies we target for acquisition; our ability to retain key members of management; our timely development of new and competitive products or services in a changing environment, and the acceptance of such products or services by our customers; any interruption or breach of security resulting in failures or disruptions in customer account management, general ledger, deposit, loan, or other systems; any interruption in customer service due to circumstances beyond our control; the outcome of pending or threatened litigation, or of any 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; changes in estimates of future reserve requirements based upon the periodic review thereof under relevant regulatory and accounting requirements; changes in legislation, regulation, and policies, including, but not limited to, those pertaining to banking securities, tax, environmental protection, and insurance, and the ability to comply with such changes in a timely manner; changes in accounting principles, policies, practices, or guidelines; changes in legislation and regulation; operational issues 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 the monetary and fiscal policies of the U.S. Government, including policies of the U.S. Treasury and the Federal Reserve Board; war or terrorist activities; and other economic, competitive, governmental, regulatory, and geopolitical factors affecting our operations, pricing, and services. Additionally, the timing and occurrence or non-occurrence of events may be subject to circumstances beyond our control.

In addition, it should be noted that we routinely evaluate opportunities to expand through acquisition and frequently conduct due diligence activities in connection with such opportunities. As a result, acquisition discussions and, in some cases, negotiations, may take place at any time, and acquisitions involving cash or debt or equity securities may occur.



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You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which reflect our expectations only as of the date of this prospectus. We do not assume any obligation to revise forward-looking statements except as may be required by law.

### **NEW YORK COMMUNITY BANCORP, INC.**

We are a registered bank holding company whose principal business is conducted by our wholly-owned subsidiaries, New York Community Bank and New York Commercial Bank. At March 31, 2008, we had total assets of approximately \$30.9 billion, total deposits of approximately \$13.5 billion, and total consolidated stockholders' equity of approximately \$4.2 billion.

The Community Bank is a leading producer of multi-family loans in New York City and the fourth largest thrift depository, based on deposits, in the New York/New Jersey metropolitan area. The Community Bank serves its customers through six community divisions with a total of 180 banking offices throughout New York City, Long Island, Westchester County, and New Jersey. Our newest division, Garden State Community Bank, was established in December 2007 to reflect our expansion in New Jersey through our acquisitions of PennFed Financial Services, Inc. and Synergy Financial Group, Inc. in 2007. Of the 54 branches we operate in Essex, Hudson, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, and Union counties, 35 now operate through the Garden State Community Bank division and the remaining 19 branches will commence operations under that name early in 2009. At present, these remaining branches operate under the Synergy Bank name. New York Commercial Bank has 38 banking offices in New York City, Westchester County and Long Island.

In New York, our four divisional banks include Queens County Savings Bank, with 34 branches in Queens County; Roslyn Savings Bank, with 57 branches on Long Island; Richmond County Savings Bank, with 23 branches on Staten Island; and Roosevelt Savings Bank, with eight branches in Brooklyn. We also have two branches each in the Bronx and Westchester County that operate directly under the New York Community Bank name.

The Commercial Bank franchise includes 11 former branches of Doral Bank, FSB that were acquired on July 26, 2007, and ranks 13th among all commercial bank depositories in the six counties it serves. Of the 38 branches that now comprise this franchise, 19 operate through the Atlantic Bank division of New York Commercial Bank.

Our common stock trades on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol NYB.

The Banks are subject to comprehensive regulation, examination and supervision by the New York State Banking Department, (the NYSBD), and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, (the FDIC). As a bank holding company NYCB is subject to regulation, examination and supervision by the Federal Reserve Board, (the FRB), as a bank holding company.

Our principal executive offices are located at 615 Merrick Avenue, Westbury, New York 11590, and our telephone number is (516) 683-4100.

Additional information about us and our subsidiaries is included in documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus. See *Where You Can Find More Information* on page 4.

**CONSOLIDATED RATIOS OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES**

Our consolidated ratios of earnings to fixed charges were as follows for the periods presented:

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>	<b>Year Ended December 31,</b>				
	<b>March 31,</b>					
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges:						
Excluding Interest on Deposits	1.72	1.75	1.74	2.15	2.74	3.69
Including Interest on Deposits	1.43	1.42	1.41	1.76	2.35	2.99

For the purpose of computing the ratio of earnings to fixed charges, earnings consist of income before income taxes and extraordinary items plus fixed charges, excluding capitalized interest. Fixed charges consist of interest on short-term and long-term debt, including interest related to capitalized leases and capitalized interest, and one-third of rent expense, which approximates the interest component of that expense. In addition, where indicated, fixed charges include interest on deposits.

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**USE OF PROCEEDS**

We intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the securities for general corporate purposes unless otherwise indicated in the prospectus supplement relating to a specific issue of securities. Our general corporate purposes may include repurchasing our outstanding common stock, financing possible acquisitions of branches or other financial institutions or financial service companies, extending credit to, or funding investments in, our subsidiaries and repaying, reducing or refinancing indebtedness.

The precise amounts and the timing of our use of the net proceeds will depend upon market conditions, our subsidiaries' funding requirements, the availability of other funds and other factors. Until we use the net proceeds from the sale of any of our securities for general corporate purposes, we will use the net proceeds to reduce our indebtedness or for temporary investments. We expect that we will, on a recurrent basis, engage in additional financings as the need arises to finance our corporate strategies, to fund our subsidiaries, to finance acquisitions or otherwise.

**REGULATION AND SUPERVISION**

Our principal banking subsidiary, New York Community Bank, is a New York State-chartered savings bank and its deposit accounts are insured under the Deposit Insurance Fund (the "DIF") up to applicable legal limits. We also have a wholly-owned commercial bank subsidiary, New York Commercial Bank, a New York State-chartered commercial bank with deposit accounts also insured by the DIF up to applicable legal limits. Both the Community Bank and the Commercial Bank are subject to extensive regulation and supervision by the NYSBD, as their chartering agency, and by the FDIC, as their insurer of deposits. Both institutions must file reports with the NYSBD and the FDIC concerning their activities and financial condition, in addition to obtaining regulatory approvals prior to entering into certain transactions such as mergers with, or acquisitions of, other depository institutions. Furthermore, the banks are periodically examined by the NYSBD and the FDIC to assess compliance with various regulatory requirements, including safety and soundness considerations. This regulation and supervision establishes a comprehensive framework of activities in which a savings bank and a commercial bank can engage, and is intended primarily for the protection of the DIF and depositors rather than for the protection of security holders. The regulatory structure also gives the regulatory authorities extensive discretion in connection with their supervisory and enforcement activities and examination policies, including policies with respect to the classification of assets and the establishment of adequate loan loss allowances for regulatory purposes. Any change in such regulation, whether by the NYSBD, the FDIC, or through legislation, could have a material adverse impact on us, the Community Bank or the Commercial Bank and their operations, and our shareholders.

As a registered bank holding company we are required to file certain reports with, and otherwise comply with, the rules and regulations of the FRB, the NYSBD, and the SEC under federal securities laws. In addition, the FRB periodically examines us.

Because we are a holding company, our rights and the rights of our creditors, including the holders of the debt securities and common stock we are offering under this prospectus, to participate in the assets of any of our subsidiaries upon the subsidiary's liquidation or reorganization will be subject to the prior claims of the subsidiary's creditors, except to the extent that we may ourselves be a creditor with recognized claims against the subsidiary.

In addition, dividends, loans and advances from the Banks are restricted by federal and state statutes and regulations. Under applicable banking statutes, at March 31, 2008, the Community Bank and the Commercial Bank could have declared additional dividends of approximately \$117.4 million and \$21.8 million, respectively, without further regulatory approval. The FDIC, the FRB and the NYSBD also have the authority to limit further the Banks' payment of dividends based on other factors, such as the maintenance of adequate capital for each subsidiary bank.



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In addition, there are various statutory and regulatory limitations on the extent to which either bank subsidiary can finance us or otherwise transfer funds or assets to us or to our nonbanking subsidiaries, whether in the form of loans, extensions of credit, investments or asset purchases. These extensions of credit and other transactions involving the Bank and us or a nonbanking subsidiary of ours are limited in amount to 10% of each Bank's capital and surplus and, with respect to us and all our nonbanking subsidiaries, to an aggregate of 20% of each Bank's capital and surplus. Furthermore, loans and extensions of credit are required to be secured in specified amounts and are required to be on terms and conditions consistent with safe and sound banking practices.

For a discussion of the material elements of the regulatory framework applicable to bank holding companies and their subsidiaries, and specific information relevant to us, you should refer to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007, and any other subsequent reports filed by us with the SEC, which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus. This regulatory framework is intended primarily for the protection of depositors and the DIF that insure deposits of banks, rather than for the protection of security holders. A change in the statutes, regulations or regulatory policies applicable to us or our subsidiaries may have a material effect on our business.

Changes to the laws and regulations can affect the operating environment of bank holding companies and their subsidiaries in substantial and unpredictable ways. We cannot accurately predict whether those changes in laws and regulations will occur, and, if changes do occur, the ultimate effect they would have upon our or our subsidiaries' financial condition or results of operations.

## **DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES**

We may issue senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities. Senior debt securities will be issued under an indenture, the senior indenture, between us and Wilmington Trust Company, as senior indenture trustee. Subordinated debt securities will be issued under a separate indenture, the subordinated indenture, between us and Wilmington Trust Company, as subordinated indenture trustee. Copies of the form of each of these indentures are exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

The senior debt securities will be unsecured and will rank equally with all of our other senior unsecured indebtedness. The subordinated debt securities will be unsecured and will be subordinated to all of our existing and future senior indebtedness and other financial obligations, as described under *Subordinated Debt Securities Subordination* beginning on page 17.

The following describes the general terms and provisions of the debt securities to be offered by any prospectus supplement. The particular terms of the debt securities offered by a prospectus supplement and the extent, if any, to which these general provisions may apply to the debt securities so offered, will be described in the prospectus supplement relating to those securities. The following descriptions of the indentures are not complete and are subject to, and qualified in their entirety by reference to, all the provisions of the respective indentures.

### **General**

The indentures permit us to issue the debt securities from time to time, without limitation as to aggregate principal amount, and in one or more series. In addition, indentures do not limit or otherwise restrict the amount of other indebtedness which we may incur or other securities which we or our subsidiaries may issue, including indebtedness which may rank senior to the debt securities. Nothing in the subordinated indenture prohibits the issuance of securities representing subordinated indebtedness that is senior or junior to the subordinated debt securities.



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We may issue debt securities if the conditions contained in the indentures are satisfied. These conditions include the adoption of resolutions by our board of directors and a certificate of an authorized officer that establishes the terms of the debt securities being issued. Any resolution or officer's certificate approving the issuance of any issue of debt securities will include the terms of that issue of debt securities, including:

the title and series designation;

the aggregate principal amount and the limit, if any, on the aggregate principal amount or initial issue price of the debt securities which may be issued under the applicable indenture;

the principal amount payable, whether at maturity or upon earlier acceleration;

whether the principal amount payable will be determined with reference to an index, formula or other method which may be calculated by using, among other measurements, the value of currencies, securities or baskets of securities, commodities, or indices to which any such amount payable is linked;

whether the debt securities will be issued as original issue discount securities (as defined below);

the date or dates on which the principal of the debt securities is payable;

any fixed or variable interest rate or rates per annum or the method or formula for determining an interest rate;

the date from which any interest will accrue;

any interest payment dates;

whether the debt securities are senior or subordinated and, if subordinated, the terms of the subordination if different from that summarized in this prospectus;

the price or prices at which the debt securities will be issued, which may be expressed as a percentage of the aggregate principal amount of those debt securities;

the stated maturity date;

whether the debt securities are to be issued in global form;

any sinking fund requirements;

any provisions for redemption, the redemption price and any remarketing arrangements;

the minimum denominations;

whether the debt securities are denominated or payable in United States dollars or a foreign currency or units of two or more foreign currencies;

any restrictions on the offer, sale and delivery of the debt securities;

information with respect to book-entry procedures;

the place or places where payments or deliveries on the debt securities will be made and may be presented for registration of transfer or exchange;

whether any of the debt securities will be subject to defeasance in advance of the date for redemption or the stated maturity date;

whether and how we may satisfy our obligations with regard to payment upon maturity, any redemption, required repurchase, any exchange provisions or interest payment through the delivery to holders of other securities, which may or may not be issued by us, or a combination of cash, securities and/or property, referred to as maturity consideration ;

the terms, if any, upon which the debt securities are convertible into other securities of ours or another issuer and the terms and conditions upon which any conversion will be effected, including the initial conversion price or rate, the conversion period and any other provisions in addition to or instead of those described in this prospectus; and



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any other terms of the debt securities which are not inconsistent with the provisions of the applicable indenture.

The debt securities may be issued as original issue discount securities which bear no interest or interest at a rate which, at the time of issuance, is below market rates and which will be sold at a substantial discount below their principal amount. If the maturity of any original issue discount security is accelerated, the amount payable to the holder of the security will be determined by the applicable prospectus supplement, the terms of the security and the relevant indenture, but may be an amount less than the amount payable at the maturity of the principal of that original issue discount security. Special federal income tax and other considerations relating to original issue discount securities will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Please see the accompanying prospectus supplement or pricing supplement you have received or will receive for the terms of the specific debt securities we are offering.

You should be aware that special U.S. Federal income tax, accounting and other considerations may apply to the debt securities. The prospectus supplement relating to an issue of debt securities will describe these considerations.

## **Registration and Transfer**

Holders may present debt securities in registered form for transfer or exchange for other debt securities of the same series at the offices of the applicable indenture trustee according to the terms of the applicable indenture and the debt securities.

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the debt securities will be issued in fully registered form, without coupons, and in denominations of (1) \$1,000 or integral multiples of \$1,000 for any senior debt security, and (2) \$100,000 or any integral multiple of \$1,000 in excess of \$100,000 for any subordinated debt security.

No service charge will be required for any transfer or exchange of the debt securities but we may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection with any transfer or exchange.

## **Payment and Place of Payment**

We will pay or deliver principal, maturity consideration and any premium and interest in the manner, at the places and subject to the restrictions set forth in the applicable indenture, the debt securities and the applicable prospectus supplement. However, at our option, we may pay any interest by check mailed to the holders of registered debt securities at their registered addresses.

## **Global Securities**

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Each indenture provides that we may issue debt securities in global form. If any series of debt securities is issued in global form, the prospectus supplement will describe any circumstances under which beneficial owners of interests in any of those global debt securities may exchange their interests for debt securities of that series and of like tenor and principal amount in any authorized form and denomination.

### **Events of Default**

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the following are events of default under the senior indenture with respect to the senior debt securities:

default in the payment of any principal or premium on senior debt securities when due;

default in the payment of any interest on senior debt securities when due, which continues for 30 days;

default in the delivery or payment of the maturity consideration on senior debt securities when due;

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default in the deposit of any sinking fund payment on senior debt securities when due;

default in the performance of any other obligation contained in the applicable indenture for the benefit of that series or in the senior debt securities of that series, which continues for 60 days after written notice;

default in the payment of any of our other indebtedness or the indebtedness of any principal constituent bank (as defined below) (whether currently existing or created in the future) having an original or principal amount of \$5,000,000 or more which results in acceleration of that indebtedness and such acceleration has not been rescinded or annulled within 30 days of the related declaration;

specified events in bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization of us or any principal constituent bank; and

any other event of default provided with respect to senior debt securities of any series.

If an event of default (other than an event of default arising from specified events in bankruptcy of us or any principal constituent bank) occurs and is continuing for any series of senior debt securities, the senior indenture trustee or the holders of not less than 25% in aggregate principal amount or, under certain circumstances, issue price of the outstanding debt securities of that series may declare all amounts, or any lesser amount provided for in the senior debt securities of that series, to be due and payable or deliverable immediately.

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the following are the events of default under the subordinated indenture with respect to the subordinated debt securities:

specified events in bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization; and

with respect to a particular series of subordinated debt securities any other event of default provided with respect to that series.

If an event of default occurs and is continuing for any series of subordinated debt securities, the subordinated indenture trustee or the holders of not less than 25% in aggregate principal amount or, under certain circumstances, issue price of the outstanding securities of that series may declare all amounts, or any lesser amount provided for in the subordinated debt securities of that series, to be due and payable or deliverable immediately. The subordinated indenture trustee and the holders of subordinated debt securities will not be entitled to accelerate the maturity of the subordinated debt securities in the case of a default in the performance of any covenant with respect to the subordinated debt securities, including the payment of interest and principal or the delivery of the maturity consideration, unless such default is an event of default with respect to the subordinated debt securities of the applicable series.

If a default occurs and is continuing under the subordinated indenture, the subordinated indenture trustee may, in its discretion and subject to certain conditions, seek to enforce its rights and the rights of the holders of the subordinated debt securities by appropriate judicial proceedings. The following are defaults under the subordinated indenture with respect to subordinated debt securities of any series:

any event of default with respect to subordinated debt securities of that series;

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default in the payment of any principal or premium on subordinated debt securities of that series when due;

default in the payment of any interest on subordinated debt securities of that series when due, which continues for 30 days;

default in the delivery or payment of the maturity consideration on subordinated debt securities of that series when due;

default in the performance of any other obligation contained in the subordinated indenture for the benefit of that series or in the subordinated debt securities of that series, which continues for 60 days after written notice; and

any other default provided with respect to subordinated debt securities of that series.

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At any time after the applicable indenture trustee or the holders have accelerated a series of debt securities, but before the applicable indenture trustee has obtained a judgment or decree for payment of money due or delivery of the maturity consideration, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount or, under certain circumstances, issue price of outstanding debt securities of that series may rescind and annul that acceleration and its consequences, provided that all payments and/or deliveries due, other than those due as a result of acceleration, have been made and all events of default have been remedied or waived.

The holders of a majority in principal amount or aggregate issue price of the outstanding debt securities of any series may waive any default with respect to that series, except a default:

in the payment of any amounts due and payable or deliverable under the debt securities of that series; or

in an obligation contained in, or a provision of, an indenture which cannot be modified under the terms of that indenture without the consent of each holder of each series of debt securities affected.

The holders of a majority in principal amount or, under certain circumstances, issue price of the outstanding debt securities of a series may direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the applicable indenture trustee or exercising any trust or power conferred on the indenture trustee with respect to debt securities of that series, provided that any direction is not in conflict with any rule of law or the applicable indenture. Subject to the provisions of the applicable indenture relating to the duties of the indenture trustee, before proceeding to exercise any right or power under the indenture at the direction of the holders, the indenture trustee is entitled to receive from those holders reasonable security or indemnity against the costs, expenses and liabilities which it might incur in complying with any direction.

A holder of any debt security of any series will have the right to institute a proceeding with respect to the applicable indenture or for any remedy under the indenture, if:

that holder previously gives to the indenture trustee written notice of a continuing event of default with respect to debt securities of that series;

the holders of not less than 25% for any senior debt security, or a majority for any subordinated debt security, in aggregate principal amount or, under certain circumstances, issue price of the outstanding debt securities of that series also have made written request and offered the indenture trustee indemnity satisfactory to the indenture trustee to institute that proceeding as indenture trustee;

the indenture trustee will not have received from the holders of a majority in principal amount or, under certain circumstances, issue price of the outstanding debt securities of that series a direction inconsistent with the request; and

the indenture trustee fails to institute the proceeding within 60 days.

However, any holder of a debt security has the absolute right to institute suit for any defaulted payment after the due dates for payment of principal and interest under that debt security.

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We are required to furnish to the indenture trustees annually a statement as to the performance of our obligations under the indentures and as to any default in that performance.

### **Modification and Waiver**

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable indenture supplement, we and the applicable indenture trustee may amend and modify each indenture with the consent of holders of at least a majority in principal amount or, under certain circumstances, issue price of each series of debt securities issued under that indenture affected. However, without the consent of each holder of any debt security issued under the applicable indenture, we may not amend or modify that indenture to:

change the stated maturity date of the principal or maturity consideration of, or any installment of principal or interest on, any debt security issued under that indenture;

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reduce the principal amount or maturity consideration of, the rate of interest on, or any premium payable upon the redemption of any debt security issued under that indenture;

reduce the amount of principal or maturity consideration of an original issue discount security issued under that indenture payable upon acceleration of its maturity;

change the place or currency of payment of principal or maturity consideration of, or any premium or interest on, any debt security issued under that indenture;

impair the right to institute suit for the enforcement of any payment or delivery on or with respect to any debt security issued under that indenture;

reduce the percentage in principal amount or, under certain circumstances, issue price of debt securities of any series issued under that indenture, the consent of whose holders is required to modify or amend the indenture or to waive compliance with certain provisions of the indenture;

make any change relating to the subordination of the debt securities in a manner adverse to the holders of those debt securities or, in the case of subordinated debt securities, in a manner adverse to holders of senior indebtedness, unless the holders of senior indebtedness consent to that change under the terms of that senior indebtedness; or

reduce the percentage in principal amount or, under certain circumstances, issue price of debt securities of any series issued under that indenture, the consent of whose holders is required to waive any past default.

The holders of at least a majority in principal amount or, under certain circumstances, issue price of the outstanding debt securities of any series issued under that indenture may, with respect to that series, waive past defaults under the indenture, except as described under *Events of Default* beginning on page 11.

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we and the applicable indenture trustee may also amend and modify each indenture without the consent of any holder for any of the following purposes:

to evidence the succession of another person to us;

to add to our covenants for the benefit of the holders of all or any series of securities;

to add events of default;

to add or change any provisions of the indentures to facilitate the issuance of bearer securities;

to change or eliminate any of the provisions of the applicable indenture, so long as any such change or elimination will become effective only when there is no outstanding security of any series which is entitled to the benefit of that provision;

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to establish the form or terms of debt securities of any series;

to evidence and provide for the acceptance of appointment by a successor indenture trustee;

to cure any ambiguity, to correct or supplement any provision in the applicable indenture, or to make any other provisions with respect to matters or questions arising under that indenture so long as the interests of holders of debt securities of any series are not adversely affected in any material respect under that indenture;

to convey, transfer, assign, mortgage or pledge any property to or with the indenture trustee securing the debt securities; or

to provide for conversion rights of the holders of the debt securities of any series to enable those holders to convert those securities into other securities.



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### **Consolidation, Merger and Sale of Assets**

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we may consolidate or merge with or into any other corporation, and we may sell, lease or convey all or substantially all of our assets to any corporation, provided that:

the resulting corporation, if other than us, is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the United States of America or any U.S. state and assumes all of our obligations to:

- (1) pay or deliver the principal or maturity consideration of, and any premium or interest on, the debt securities; and
- (2) perform and observe all of our other obligations under the indentures; and
- (3) we are not, or any successor corporation, as the case may be, is not, immediately after any consolidation or merger, in default under the indentures.

Neither of the indentures provides for any right of acceleration in the event of a consolidation, merger, sale of all or substantially all of the assets, recapitalization or change in our stock ownership. In addition, the indentures do not contain any provision which would protect the holders of debt securities against a sudden and dramatic decline in credit quality resulting from takeovers, recapitalizations or similar restructurings.

### **Regarding the Indenture Trustee**

The indenture trustee provides trust services to us and our affiliates in connection with certain trust preferred securities that we currently have outstanding.

The occurrence of any default under either the senior indenture, the subordinated indenture or the indenture between us and the indenture trustee relating to our junior subordinated debentures, which may also be issued under this registration statement, could create a conflicting interest for the indenture trustee under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, the Trust Indenture Act. If that default has not been cured or waived within 90 days after the indenture trustee has or acquired a conflicting interest, the indenture trustee would generally be required by the Trust Indenture Act to eliminate that conflicting interest or resign as indenture trustee with respect to the debt securities issued under the senior indenture or the subordinated indenture, or with respect to the junior subordinated debentures issued to certain Delaware statutory trusts of ours under a separate indenture. If the indenture trustee resigns, we are required to promptly appoint a successor trustee with respect to the affected securities.

The Trust Indenture Act also imposes certain limitations on the right of the indenture trustee, as a creditor of ours, to obtain payment of claims in certain cases, or to realize on certain property received in respect to any cash claim or otherwise. The indenture trustee will be permitted to engage in other transactions with us, provided that, if it acquires a conflicting interest within the meaning of Section 310 of the Trust Indenture Act, it must generally either eliminate that conflict or resign.

**International Offering**

If specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, we may issue debt securities outside the United States. Those debt securities will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. In connection with any offering outside the United States, we will designate paying agents, registrars or other agents with respect to the debt securities, as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

We will describe in the applicable prospectus supplement whether our debt securities issued outside the United States: (1) may be subject to certain selling restrictions; (2) may be listed on one or more foreign stock exchanges; and (3) may have special United States tax and other considerations applicable to an offering outside the United States.

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**SENIOR DEBT SECURITIES**

The senior debt securities will be our direct, unsecured obligations and will rank equally with all of our other outstanding senior indebtedness.

**Restrictive Covenants**

***Disposition of Voting Stock of Certain Subsidiaries.*** Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we may not sell or otherwise dispose of, or permit the issuance of, any voting stock or any security convertible or exercisable into voting stock of a principal constituent bank of ours or any subsidiary of ours which owns a controlling interest in a principal constituent bank. A principal constituent bank is a bank subsidiary that has total assets equal to 30% or more of our assets. Any designation of a banking subsidiary as a principal constituent bank with respect to senior debt securities of any series will remain effective until the senior debt securities of that series have been repaid. As of the date of this prospectus, New York Community Bank is our only principal constituent bank and no other banking subsidiaries have been designated as principal constituent banks with respect to any series of debt securities.

This restriction does not apply to dispositions made by us or any subsidiary:

acting in a fiduciary capacity for any person other than us or any subsidiary;

to us or any of our wholly-owned subsidiaries;

if required by law for the qualification of directors;

to comply with an order of a court or regulatory authority;

in connection with a merger of, or consolidation of, a principal constituent bank with or into a wholly-owned subsidiary or a majority-owned banking subsidiary, as long as we hold, directly or indirectly, in the entity surviving that merger or consolidation, not less than the percentage of voting stock we held in the principal constituent bank prior to that action;

if that disposition or issuance is for fair market value as determined by our board of directors, and, if after giving effect to that disposition or issuance and any potential dilution, we and our wholly-owned subsidiaries will own directly not less than 80% of the voting stock of that principal constituent bank or any subsidiary which owns a principal constituent bank;

if a principal constituent bank sells additional shares of voting stock to its stockholders at any price, if, after that sale, we hold directly or indirectly not less than the percentage of voting stock of that principal constituent bank we owned prior to that sale; or

if we or a subsidiary pledges or creates a lien on the voting stock of a principal constituent bank to secure a loan or other extension of credit by a majority-owned banking subsidiary subject to Section 23A of the Federal Reserve Act.

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***Limitation upon Liens on Certain Capital Stock.*** Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we may not at any time, directly or indirectly, create, assume, incur or permit to exist any mortgage, pledge, encumbrance or lien or charge of any kind upon:

any shares of capital stock of any principal constituent bank, other than directors' qualifying shares; or

any shares of capital stock of a subsidiary which owns capital stock of any principal constituent bank.

This restriction does not apply to:

liens for taxes, assessments or other governmental charges or levies which are not yet due or are payable without penalty or which we are contesting in good faith by appropriate proceedings, so long as we have set aside on our books adequate reserves to cover the contested amount; or

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the lien of any judgment, if that judgment is discharged, or stayed on appeal or otherwise, within 60 days.

**Defeasance**

We may terminate or defease our obligations under the senior indenture with respect to the senior debt securities of any series by taking the following steps:

- (1) depositing irrevocably with the senior indenture trustee an amount, which through the payment of interest, principal or premium, if any, will provide an amount sufficient to pay the entire amount of the senior debt securities:

in the case of senior debt securities denominated in U.S. dollars, U.S. dollars or U.S. government obligations;

in the case of senior debt securities denominated in a foreign currency, money in that foreign currency or foreign government obligations of the foreign government or governments issuing that foreign currency; or

a combination of money and U.S. government obligations or foreign government obligations, as applicable;

- (2) delivering:

an opinion of independent counsel that the holders of the senior debt securities of that series will have no federal income tax consequences as a result of that deposit and termination;

if the senior debt securities of that series are then listed on a national or regional securities exchange in the United States, an opinion of counsel that those senior debt securities will not be delisted as a result of the exercise of this defeasance option;

an opinion of counsel as to certain other matters;

officers certificates certifying as to compliance with the senior indenture and other matters; and

- (3) paying all amounts due under the senior indenture.

Further, the defeasance cannot cause an event of default under the senior indenture or any other agreement or instrument and no default under the senior indenture or any such other agreement or instrument can exist at the time the defeasance occurs.

**SUBORDINATED DEBT SECURITIES**

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The subordinated debt securities will be our direct, unsecured obligations. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the subordinated debt securities will rank equally with all of our outstanding subordinated indebtedness that is not specifically stated to be junior to the subordinated debt securities.

### **Subordination**

The subordinated debt securities will be subordinated in right of payment to all senior indebtedness, as defined in the subordinated indenture. In certain circumstances relating to our liquidation, dissolution, winding up, reorganization, insolvency or similar proceedings, the holders of all senior indebtedness will first be entitled to receive payment in full before the holders of the subordinated debt securities will be entitled to receive any payment on the subordinated debt securities.

If the maturity of any debt securities is accelerated, we will have to repay all senior indebtedness before we can make any payment on the subordinated debt securities.

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In addition, we may make no payment on the subordinated debt securities in the event:

there is a default in any payment or delivery with respect to any senior indebtedness; or

there is an event of default with respect to any senior indebtedness which permits the holders of that senior indebtedness to accelerate the maturity of the senior indebtedness.

By reason of this subordination in favor of the holders of senior indebtedness, in the event of an insolvency, our creditors who are not holders of senior indebtedness or the subordinated debt securities may recover less, proportionately, than holders of senior indebtedness and may recover more, proportionately, than holders of the subordinated debt securities. Unless otherwise specified in the prospectus supplement relating to the particular series of subordinated debt securities, senior indebtedness is defined in the subordinated indenture as the principal of, premium, if any, and interest (including all interest accruing subsequent to the commencement of any bankruptcy or similar proceeding, whether or not a claim for post-petition interest is allowable as a claim in any such proceeding) on:

(i) all indebtedness, obligations and other liabilities (contingent or otherwise) of NYCB for borrowed money (including obligations of the Company in respect of overdrafts, foreign exchange contracts, currency exchange agreements, interest rate protection agreements, and any loans or advances from banks, whether or not evidenced by notes or similar instruments) or evidenced by bonds, debentures, notes or other instruments for the payment of money, or indebtedness incurred in connection with the acquisition of any properties or assets (whether or not the recourse of the lender is to the whole of the assets of the Company or to only a portion thereof), other than any account payable or other accrued current liability or obligation to trade creditors incurred in the ordinary course of business;

(ii) all obligations and liabilities (contingent or otherwise) in respect of leases of the Company required or permitted, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, to be accounted for as capitalized lease obligations on the balance sheet of the Company;

(iii) all direct or indirect guaranties or similar agreements by the Company in respect of, and obligations or liabilities (contingent or otherwise) of the Company to purchase or otherwise acquire or otherwise assure a creditor against loss in respect of, indebtedness, obligations or liabilities of another Person of the kind described in clauses (1) and (2); and

(iv) any and all amendments, renewals, extensions and refundings of any indebtedness, obligation or liability of the kind described in clauses (1) through (3).

Senior Indebtedness does not include:

(i) any indebtedness in which the instrument or instruments evidencing or securing the same or pursuant to which the same is outstanding, or in any amendment, renewal, extension or refunding of such instrument or instruments, it is expressly provided that such indebtedness shall not be senior in right of payment to the Securities or expressly provides that such Indebtedness is pari passu or junior to the Securities; or

(ii) trade accounts payable in the ordinary course of business.

The subordinated indenture does not limit or prohibit the incurrence of additional senior indebtedness, which may include indebtedness that is senior to the subordinated debt securities, but subordinate to our other obligations. Any prospectus supplement relating to a particular series of subordinated debt securities will set forth the aggregate amount of our indebtedness senior to the subordinated debt securities as of a recent practicable date.

The subordinated debt securities will rank equally in right of payment with each other.

The prospectus supplement may further describe the provisions, if any, which may apply to the subordination of the subordinated debt securities of a particular series.



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### **Restrictive Covenants**

The subordinated indenture does not contain any significant restrictive covenants. The prospectus supplement relating to a series of subordinated debt securities may describe certain restrictive covenants, if any, to which we may be bound under the subordinated indenture.

## **DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK**

### **Company**

NYCB, which is incorporated under the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, is authorized to issue 600,000,000 shares of its common stock, \$0.01 par value, of which 343,655,696 shares were issued and outstanding as of July 1, 2008. NYCB is also authorized to issue 5,000,000 shares of its preferred stock, \$0.01 par value, of which none have been issued as of July 1, 2008. NYCB's board of directors may at any time, without additional approval of the holders of preferred stock or common stock, issue additional authorized shares of preferred stock or common stock.

### **Voting Rights**

The holders of common stock are entitled to one vote per share on all matters presented to stockholders. Holders of common stock are not entitled to cumulate their votes in the election of directors.

### **No Preemptive or Conversion Rights**

The holders of common stock do not have preemptive rights to subscribe for a proportionate share of any additional securities issued by NYCB before such securities are offered to others. The absence of preemptive rights increases NYCB's flexibility to issue additional shares of common stock in connection with NYCB's acquisitions, employee benefit plans and for other purposes, without affording the holders of common stock a right to subscribe for their proportionate share of those additional securities. The holders of common stock are not entitled to any redemption privileges, sinking fund privileges or conversion rights.

### **Dividends**

Holders of common stock are entitled to receive dividends ratably when, as, and if declared by NYCB's board of directors from assets legally available therefor, after payment of all dividends on preferred stock, if any is outstanding. Under Delaware law, NYCB may pay dividends out of surplus or, if there is no surplus, out of our net profits for the fiscal year in which declared and/or for the preceding fiscal year. Dividends paid by our subsidiary Banks are the primary source of funds available to NYCB for payment of dividends to our stockholders and for other needs. NYCB's board of directors intends to maintain its present policy of paying regular quarterly cash dividends. The declaration and amount of future

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dividends will depend on circumstances existing at the time, including NYCB's earnings, financial condition and capital requirements, as well as regulatory limitations and such other factors as NYCB's board of directors deems relevant. See *Regulation and Supervision* on page 8.

On a stand-alone basis, NYCB's principal assets and sources of income consist of investments in our operating subsidiaries, which are separate and distinct legal entities.

### **Liquidation**

Upon liquidation, dissolution or the winding up of the affairs of NYCB, holders of common stock are entitled to receive their pro rata portion of the remaining assets of NYCB after the holders of NYCB's preferred stock, if any, have been paid in full any sums to which they may be entitled.

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### **Certain Charter and Bylaw Provisions Affecting Stock**

NYCB's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws contain several provisions that may make NYCB a less attractive target for an acquisition of control by anyone who does not have the support of NYCB's board of directors. Such provisions include, among other things, the requirement of a supermajority vote of stockholders or directors to approve certain business combinations and other corporate actions, a minimum price provision, several special procedural rules, a staggered board of directors, and the limitation that stockholder actions may only be taken at a meeting and may not be taken by unanimous written stockholder consent. The foregoing is qualified in its entirety by reference to NYCB's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws, both of which are on file with the SEC.

### **Restrictions on Ownership**

The Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, the BHC Act, generally would prohibit any company that is not engaged in banking activities and activities that are permissible for a bank holding company or a financial holding company from acquiring control of NYCB. Control is generally defined as ownership of 25% or more of the voting stock or other exercise of a controlling influence. In addition, any existing bank holding company would need the prior approval of the FRB before acquiring 5% or more of the voting stock of NYCB. In addition, the Change in Bank Control Act of 1978, as amended, prohibits a person or group of persons from acquiring control of a bank holding company unless the FRB has been notified and has not objected to the transaction. Under a rebuttable presumption established by the FRB, the acquisition of 10% or more of a class of voting stock of a bank holding company with a class of securities registered under Section 12 of the Exchange Act, such as NYCB, could constitute acquisition of control of the bank holding company. New York law generally requires the prior approval of the NYSBD's banking board before a person, group of persons, or company may acquire 10% or more of the voting stock of NYCB or otherwise exercise a controlling influence. Generally under New York law, an existing bank holding company that controls 10% or more of the voting stock of two or more banking institutions located in New York would need prior NYSBD approval before it acquired 5% or more of the voting stock of NYCB.

## **DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED STOCK**

The following summary contains a description of the general terms of the preferred stock that we may issue. The specific terms of any series of preferred stock will be described in the prospectus supplement relating to that series of preferred stock. The terms of any series of preferred stock may differ from the terms described below. Certain provisions of the preferred stock described below and in any prospectus supplement are not complete. You should refer to the amendment to our Certificate of Incorporation or the Certificate of Designation, with respect to the establishment of a series of preferred stock which will be filed with the SEC in connection with the offering of such series of preferred stock.

### **General**

Our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation permits our board of directors to authorize the issuance of up to 5,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$0.01, in one or more series, without stockholder action. The board of directors can fix the designation, powers, preferences and rights of each series. Therefore, without stockholder approval, our board of directors can authorize the issuance of preferred stock with voting, dividend, liquidation and conversion and other rights that could dilute the voting power of the common stock and may assist management in impeding any unfriendly takeover or attempted change in control. None of our preferred stock is currently outstanding.

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The preferred stock has the terms described below unless otherwise provided in the prospectus supplement relating to a particular series of the preferred stock. You should read the prospectus supplement relating to the particular series of the preferred stock being offered for specific terms, including:

the designation and stated value per share of the preferred stock and the number of shares offered;

the amount of liquidation preference per share;

the price at which the preferred stock will be issued;

the dividend rate or method of calculation, the dates on which dividends will be payable, whether dividends will be cumulative or noncumulative and, if cumulative, the dates from which dividends will commence to accumulate;

any redemption or sinking fund provisions;

any conversion provisions;

whether we have elected to offer depositary shares as described under [Description of Depositary Shares](#) ; and

any other rights, preferences, privileges, limitations and restrictions on the preferred stock.

The preferred stock will, when issued, be fully paid and nonassessable. Unless otherwise specified in the prospectus supplement, each series of the preferred stock will rank equally as to dividends and liquidation rights in all respects with each other series of preferred stock. The rights of holders of shares of each series of preferred stock will be subordinate to those of our general creditors.

As described under [Description of Depositary Shares](#), we may, at our option, with respect to any series of the preferred stock, elect to offer fractional interests in shares of preferred stock, and provide for the issuance of depositary receipts representing depositary shares, each of which will represent a fractional interest in a share of the series of the preferred stock. The fractional interest will be specified in the prospectus supplement relating to a particular series of the preferred stock.

## **Rank**

Any series of the preferred stock will, with respect to the priority of the payment of dividends and the priority of payments upon liquidation, winding up, and dissolution, rank:

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senior to all classes of common stock and all equity securities issued by us, the terms of which specifically provide that the equity securities will rank junior to the preferred stock (the junior securities);

equally with all equity securities issued by us, the terms of which specifically provide that the equity securities will rank equally with the preferred stock (the parity securities); and

junior to all equity securities issued by us, the terms of which specifically provide that the equity securities will rank senior to the preferred stock.

### **Dividends**

Holders of the preferred stock of each series will be entitled to receive, when, as, and if declared by our board of directors, cash dividends at such rates and on such dates described, if any, in the prospectus supplement. Different series of preferred stock may be entitled to dividends at different rates or based on different methods of calculation. The dividend rate may be fixed or variable or both. Dividends will be payable to the holders of record as they appear on our stock books on record dates fixed by our board of directors, as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Dividends on any series of the preferred stock may be cumulative or noncumulative, as described in the applicable prospectus supplement. If our board of directors does not declare a dividend payable on a dividend

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payment date on any series of noncumulative preferred stock, then the holders of that noncumulative preferred stock will have no right to receive a dividend for that dividend payment date, and we will have no obligation to pay the dividend accrued for that period, whether or not dividends on that series are declared payable on any future dividend payment dates. Dividends on any series of cumulative preferred stock will accrue from the date we initially issue shares of such series or such other date specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

No full dividends may be declared or paid or funds set apart for the payment of any dividends on any parity securities unless dividends have been paid or set apart for payment on the preferred stock. If full dividends are not paid, the preferred stock will share dividends pro rata with the parity securities. No dividends may be declared or paid or funds set apart for the payment of dividends on any junior securities unless full cumulative dividends for all dividend periods terminating on or prior to the date of the declaration or payment will have been paid or declared and a sum sufficient for the payment set apart for payment on the preferred stock.

Our ability to pay dividends on our preferred stock is subject to policies established by the Federal Reserve Board.

## **Rights Upon Liquidation**

If we dissolve, liquidate, or wind up our affairs, either voluntarily or involuntarily, the holders of each series of preferred stock will be entitled to receive, before any payment or distribution of assets is made to holders of junior securities, liquidating distributions in the amount described in the prospectus supplement relating to that series of the preferred stock, plus an amount equal to accrued and unpaid dividends and, if the series of the preferred stock is cumulative, for all dividend periods prior to that point in time. If the amounts payable with respect to the preferred stock of any series and any other parity securities are not paid in full, the holders of the preferred stock of that series and of the parity securities will share proportionately in the distribution of our assets in proportion to the full liquidation preferences to which they are entitled. After the holders of preferred stock and the parity securities are paid in full, they will have no right or claim to any of our remaining assets.

Because we are a bank holding company, our rights, the rights of our creditors and of our stockholders, including the holders of the preferred stock offered by this prospectus, to participate in the assets of any subsidiary upon the subsidiary's liquidation or recapitalization may be subject to the prior claims of the subsidiary's creditors except to the extent that we may ourselves be a creditor with recognized claims against the subsidiary.

## **Redemption**

We may provide that a series of the preferred stock may be redeemable, in whole or in part, at our option, with prior Federal Reserve Board approval, if required. In addition, a series of preferred stock may be subject to mandatory redemption pursuant to a sinking fund or otherwise. The redemption provisions that may apply to a series of preferred stock, including the redemption dates and the redemption prices for that series, will be described in the prospectus supplement.

In the event of partial redemptions of preferred stock, whether by mandatory or optional redemption, our board of directors will determine the method for selecting the shares to be redeemed, which may be by lot or pro rata or by any other method determined to be equitable.

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On or after a redemption date, unless we default in the payment of the redemption price, dividends will cease to accrue on shares of preferred stock called for redemption. In addition, all rights of holders of the shares will terminate except for the right to receive the redemption price.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement for any series of preferred stock, if any dividends on any other series of preferred stock ranking equally as to payment of dividends and liquidation rights

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with such series of preferred stock are in arrears, no shares of any such series of preferred stock may be redeemed, whether by mandatory or optional redemption, unless all shares of preferred stock are redeemed, and we will not purchase any shares of such series of preferred stock. This requirement, however, will not prevent us from acquiring such shares pursuant to a purchase or exchange offer made on the same terms to holders of all such shares outstanding.

Under current regulations, bank holding companies, except in certain narrowly defined circumstances, may not exercise any option to redeem shares of preferred stock included as Tier 1 capital without the prior approval of the Federal Reserve Board. Ordinarily, the Federal Reserve Board would not permit such a redemption unless (1) the shares are redeemed with the proceeds of a sale by the bank holding company of common stock or perpetual preferred stock, or (2) the Federal Reserve Board determines that the bank holding company's condition and circumstances warrant the reduction of a source of permanent capital.

## **Voting Rights**

Unless otherwise described in the applicable prospectus supplement, holders of the preferred stock will have no voting rights except as otherwise required by law or in our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation.

Under regulations adopted by the Federal Reserve Board, if the holders of any series of the preferred stock are or become entitled to vote for the election of directors, such series may then be deemed a class of voting securities and a holder of 25% or more of such series, or a holder of 5% or more if it otherwise exercises a controlling influence over us, may then be subject to regulation as a bank holding company in accordance with the Bank Holding Company Act. In addition, at such time as such series is deemed a class of voting securities, (a) any other bank holding company may be required to obtain the approval of the Federal Reserve Board to acquire or retain 5% or more of that series and (b) any person other than a bank holding company may be required to obtain the approval of the Federal Reserve Board to acquire or retain 10% or more of that series.

## **Exchangeability**

We may provide that the holders of shares of preferred stock of any series may be required at any time or at maturity to exchange those shares for our debt securities. The applicable prospectus supplement will specify the terms of any such exchange.



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**DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES**

**General**

We may, at our option, elect to offer fractional shares of preferred stock, which we call depositary shares, rather than full shares of preferred stock. If we do, we will issue to the public receipts, called depositary receipts, for depositary shares, each of which will represent a fraction, to be described in the prospectus supplement, of a share of a particular series of preferred stock.

The shares of any series of preferred stock represented by depositary shares will be deposited with a depositary named in the prospectus supplement. Unless otherwise provided in the prospectus supplement, each owner of a depositary share will be entitled, in proportion to the applicable fractional interest in a share of preferred stock represented by the depositary share, to all the rights and preferences of the preferred stock represented by the depositary share. Those rights include dividend, voting, redemption, conversion and liquidation rights.

**Dividends and Other Distributions**

The depositary will distribute all cash dividends or other cash distributions received in respect of the preferred stock to the record holders of depositary shares in proportion to the numbers of depositary shares owned by those holders.

If there is a distribution other than in cash, the depositary will distribute property received by it to the record holders of depositary shares, unless the depositary determines that it is not feasible to make the distribution. If this occurs, the depositary may, with our approval, sell the property and distribute the net proceeds from the sale to the holders.

**Withdrawal of Stock**

Unless the related depositary shares have been previously called for redemption, upon surrender of the depositary receipts at the office of the depositary, the holder of the depositary shares will be entitled to delivery, at the office of the depositary to or upon his or her order, of the number of whole shares of the preferred stock and any money or other property represented by the depositary shares. If the depositary receipts delivered by the holder evidence a number of depositary shares in excess of the number of depositary shares representing the number of whole shares of preferred stock to be withdrawn, the depositary will deliver to the holder at the same time a new depositary receipt evidencing the excess number of depositary shares. In no event will the depositary deliver fractional shares of preferred stock upon surrender of depositary receipts.

**Redemption of Depositary Shares**

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Whenever we redeem shares of preferred stock held by the depositary, the depositary will redeem as of the same redemption date the number of depositary shares representing shares of the preferred stock so redeemed, so long as we have paid in full to the depositary the redemption price of the preferred stock to be redeemed plus an amount equal to any accumulated and unpaid dividends on the preferred stock to the date fixed for redemption. The redemption price per depositary share will be equal to the redemption price and any other amounts per share payable on the preferred stock multiplied by the fraction of a share of preferred stock represented by one depositary share. If less than all the depositary shares are to be redeemed, the depositary shares to be redeemed will be selected by lot or pro rata or by any other equitable method as may be determined by the depositary.

After the date fixed for redemption, depositary shares called for redemption will no longer be deemed to be outstanding and all rights of the holders of depositary shares will cease, except the right to receive the moneys payable upon redemption and any money or other property to which the holders of the depositary shares were entitled upon redemption upon surrender to the depositary of the depositary receipts evidencing the depositary shares.

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### **Voting the Preferred Stock**

Upon receipt of notice of any meeting at which the holders of the preferred stock are entitled to vote, the depositary will mail the information contained in the notice of meeting to the record holders of the depositary receipts relating to that preferred stock. The record date for the depositary receipts relating to the preferred stock will be the same date as the record date for the preferred stock. Each record holder of the depositary shares on the record date will be entitled to instruct the depositary as to the exercise of the voting rights pertaining to the number of shares of preferred stock represented by that holder's depositary shares. The depositary will endeavor, insofar as practicable, to vote the number of shares of preferred stock represented by the depositary shares in accordance with those instructions, and we will agree to take all action which may be deemed necessary by the depositary in order to enable the depositary to do so. The depositary will not vote any shares of preferred stock except to the extent it receives specific instructions from the holders of depositary shares representing that number of shares of preferred stock.

### **Charges of Depositary**

We will pay all transfer and other taxes and governmental charges arising solely from the existence of the depositary arrangements. We will pay charges of the depositary in connection with the initial deposit of the preferred stock and any redemption of the preferred stock. Holders of depositary receipts will pay other transfer and other taxes and governmental charges and such other charges as are expressly provided in the deposit agreement to be for their accounts.

### **Resignation and Removal of Depositary**

The depositary may resign at any time by delivering to us notice of its election to do so, and we may remove the depositary at any time. Any resignation or removal of the depositary will take effect upon our appointment of a successor depositary and its acceptance of such appointment. The successor depositary must be appointed within 60 days after delivery of the notice of resignation or removal and must be a bank or trust company having its principal office in the United States and having a combined capital and surplus of at least \$50,000,000.

### **Notices**

The depositary will forward to holders of depositary receipts all notices, reports and other communications, including proxy solicitation materials received from us, which are delivered to the depositary and which we are required to furnish to the holders of the preferred stock.

### **Limitation of Liability**

Neither we nor the depositary will be liable if either of us is prevented or delayed by law or any circumstance beyond our control in performing our obligations. Our obligations and those of the depositary will be limited to performance in good faith of our and their duties thereunder. We and the depositary will not be obligated to prosecute or defend any legal proceeding in respect of any depositary shares or preferred stock unless satisfactory indemnity is furnished. We and the depositary may rely upon written advice of counsel or accountants, on information provided by persons presenting preferred stock for deposit, holders of depositary receipts or other persons believed to be competent and on documents

believed to be genuine.

**Inspection of Books**

Any record holder of depositary shares who has been a holder for at least six months or who holds at least five percent of our outstanding shares of capital stock will be entitled to inspect the transfer books relating to the depositary shares and the list of record holders of depositary shares upon certification to the depositary that the holder is acting in good faith and that the inspection is for a proper purpose.

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**DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS**

We may issue warrants to purchase debt securities, preferred stock, depositary shares or common stock. We may offer warrants separately or together with one or more additional warrants, debt securities, preferred stock, depositary shares or common stock, or any combination of those securities in the form of units, as described in the appropriate prospectus supplement. If we issue warrants as part of a unit, the accompanying prospectus supplement will specify whether those warrants may be separated from the other securities in the unit prior to the warrants' expiration date. Below is a description of certain general terms and provisions of the warrants that we may offer. Further terms of the warrants will be described in the prospectus supplement.

The applicable prospectus supplement will contain, where applicable, the following terms of and other information relating to the warrants:

the specific designation and aggregate number of, and the price at which we will issue, the warrants;

the currency or currency units in which the offering price, if any, and the exercise price are payable;

the date on which the right to exercise the warrants will begin and the date on which that right will expire or, if you may not continuously exercise the warrants throughout that period, the specific date or dates on which you may exercise the warrants;

any applicable anti-dilution provisions;

any applicable redemption or call provisions;

the circumstances under which the warrant exercise price may be adjusted;

whether the warrants will be issued in fully registered form or bearer form, in definitive or global form or in any combination of these forms, although, in any case, the form of a warrant included in a unit will correspond to the form of the unit and of any security included in that unit;

any applicable material United States federal income tax consequences;

the identity of the warrant agent for the warrants and of any other depositaries, execution or paying agents, transfer agents, registrars or other agents;

the proposed listing, if any, of the warrants or any securities purchasable upon exercise of the warrants on any securities exchange;

the designation and terms of the preferred stock or common stock purchasable upon exercise of the warrants;

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the designation, aggregate principal amount, currency and terms of the debt securities that may be purchased upon exercise of the warrants;

if applicable, the designation and terms of the debt securities, preferred stock, depositary shares or common stock with which the warrants are issued and the number of warrants issued with each security;

if applicable, the date from and after which the warrants and the related debt securities, preferred stock, depositary shares or common stock will be separately transferable;

the number of shares of preferred stock, the number of depositary shares or the number of shares of common stock purchasable upon exercise of a warrant and the price at which those shares may be purchased;

if applicable, the minimum or maximum amount of the warrants that may be exercised at any one time;

information with respect to book-entry procedures, if any;

the antidilution provisions of the warrants, if any;

any redemption or call provisions;

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whether the warrants are to be sold separately or with other securities as parts of units; and

any additional terms of the warrants, including terms, procedures and limitations relating to the exchange and exercise of the warrants.

**DESCRIPTION OF STOCK PURCHASE CONTRACTS AND STOCK PURCHASE UNITS**

We may issue stock purchase contracts, including contracts obligating holders to purchase from us, and obligating us to sell to holders, a specified or varying number of shares of common stock, preferred stock or depositary shares at a future date. Alternatively, the stock purchase contracts may obligate holders to sell to us, a specified or varying number of shares of common stock, preferred stock or depositary shares. The consideration per share of common stock, preferred stock or depositary shares may be fixed at the time that the stock purchase contracts are entered into or may be determined by reference to a specific formula set forth in the stock purchase contracts. Any stock purchase contract may include anti-dilution provisions to adjust the number of shares to be delivered pursuant to such stock purchase contract upon the occurrence of certain events.

The stock purchase contracts may be entered into separately or as part of units ( stock purchase units ), consisting of a stock purchase contract and debt securities, trust preferred securities or debt obligations of third parties, including U.S. Treasury securities, other stock purchase contracts or common stock, in each case securing holders obligations to purchase, or to sell, as the case may be, common stock, preferred stock or depositary shares under the stock purchase contracts. The stock purchase contracts may require us to make periodic payments to holders of the stock purchase units, or vice versa, and such payments may be unsecured or prefunded and may be paid on a current or on a deferred basis. The stock purchase contracts may require holders to secure their obligations thereunder in a specified manner.

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**DESCRIPTION OF UNITS**

We may issue units consisting of one or more debt securities or other securities, including our common stock, preferred stock, stock purchase contracts, depositary shares, warrants or any combination thereof, as described in a prospectus supplement.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe:

the designation and the terms of the units and of the debt securities, preferred stock, common stock, stock purchase contracts, depositary shares and warrants constituting the units, including whether and under what circumstances the securities comprising the units may be traded separately;

any additional terms of the governing unit agreement;

any additional provisions for the issuance, payment, settlement, transfer or exchange of the units or of the debt securities, preferred stock, common stock, stock purchase contracts, depositary shares or warrants constituting the units; and

any applicable United States federal income tax consequences.

The terms and conditions described under Description of Debt Securities, Description of Preferred Stock, Description of Common Stock, Description of Stock Purchase Contracts and Stock Purchase Units, Description of Depositary Shares, Description of Warrants and those described below under Significant Provisions of the Unit Agreement will apply to each unit and to any debt security, preferred stock, common stock, stock purchase contract, depositary share or warrant included in each unit, respectively, unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

We will issue the units under one or more unit agreements, each referred to as a unit agreement, to be entered into between us and a bank or trust company, as unit agent. We may issue units in one or more series, which will be described in a prospectus supplement. The following descriptions of material provisions and terms of the unit agreement and units are not complete, and you should review the detailed provisions of the unit agreement to be filed with the SEC in connection with the offering of specific units for a full description, including the definition of some of the terms used in this prospectus and for other information regarding the units.

**Significant Provisions of the Unit Agreement**

The following terms and conditions of the unit agreement will apply to each unit and to any debt security, preferred stock, common stock, stock purchase contract, depositary share or warrant included in each unit, respectively, unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement:



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*Obligations of Unit Holder.* Under the terms of the unit agreement, each owner of a unit consents to and agrees to be bound by the terms of the unit agreement.

*Assumption of Obligations by Transferee.* Upon the registration of transfer of a unit, the transferee will assume the obligations, if any, of the transferor under any security constituting that unit, and the transferor will be released from those obligations. Under the unit agreement, we consent to the transfer of these obligations to the transferee, to the assumption of these obligations by the transferee and to the release of the transferor, if the transfer is made in accordance with the provisions of the unit agreement.

*Remedies.* Upon the acceleration of the debt securities constituting any units, our obligations may also be accelerated upon the request of the owners of not less than 25% of the affected purchase contracts, on behalf of all the owners.

*Limitation on Actions by You as an Individual Holder.* No owner of any unit will have any right under the unit agreement to institute any action or proceeding at law or in equity or in bankruptcy or otherwise regarding the unit agreement, or for the appointment of a trustee, receiver, liquidator, custodian or other similar official, unless the owner will have given written notice to the unit agent and to us of the occurrence and continuance of a

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default thereunder and in the case of an event of default under the debt securities or the relevant indenture, unless the procedures, including notice to us and the trustee, described in the applicable indenture have been complied with.

If these conditions have been satisfied, any owner of an affected unit may then, but only then, institute an action or proceeding.

*Absence of Protections against All Potential Actions.* There are no covenants or other provisions in the unit agreement providing for a put right or increased interest or otherwise that would afford holders of units additional protection in the event of a recapitalization transaction, a change of control or a highly leveraged transaction.

*Modification without Consent of Holders.* We and the unit agent may amend the unit agreement without the consent of the holders to:

cure any ambiguity;

correct or supplement any defective or inconsistent provision; or

amend the terms in any other manner which we may deem necessary or desirable and which will not adversely affect the interests of the affected holders in any material respect.

*Modification with Consent of Holders.* We and the unit agent, with the consent of the holders of not less than a majority of all series of outstanding units affected, voting as one class, may modify the rights of the holders of the units of each series so affected. However, we and the unit agent may not make any of the following modifications without the consent of the holder of each outstanding unit affected by the modification:

materially adversely affect the holders' units or the terms of the unit agreement (other than terms related to the three clauses described above under *Modification without Consent of Holders*); or

reduce the percentage of outstanding units the consent of whose owners is required for the modification of the provisions of the unit agreement (other than terms related to the three clauses described above under *Modification without Consent of Holders*).

Modifications of any debt securities included in units may only be made in accordance with the applicable indenture, as described under *Description of Debt Securities Modification and Waiver*.

*Consolidation, Merger or Sale of Assets.* The unit agreement provides that we will not consolidate or combine with or merge with or into or, directly or indirectly, sell, assign, convey, lease, transfer or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of our properties and assets to any person or persons in a single transaction or through a series of transactions, unless:

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we shall be the continuing person or, if we are not the continuing person, the resulting, surviving or transferee person (the surviving entity ) is a company organized and existing under the laws of the United States or any State or territory;

the surviving entity will expressly assume all of our obligations under the debt securities and each indenture, and will, if required by law to effectuate the assumption, execute supplemental indentures which will be delivered to the unit agents and will be in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the trustees;

immediately after giving effect to such transaction or series of transactions on a pro forma basis, no default has occurred and is continuing; and

we or the surviving entity will have delivered to the unit agents an officers certificate and opinion of counsel stating that the transaction or series of transactions and a supplemental indenture, if any,

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complies with this covenant and that all conditions precedent in the applicable indenture relating to the transaction or series of transactions have been satisfied.

If any consolidation or merger or any sale, assignment, conveyance, lease, transfer or other disposition of all or substantially all of our assets occurs in accordance with the indentures, the successor corporation will succeed to, and be substituted for, and may exercise our rights and powers under the indentures with the same effect as if such successor corporation had been named as us.

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**PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION**

We may offer and sell these securities in any one or more of the following ways:

to the public through a group of underwriters managed or co-managed by one or more underwriters, or through dealers;

through one or more agents;

directly to purchasers; or

through a combination of such methods of sale.

The distribution of the securities may be effected from time to time in one or more transactions:

at a fixed price, or prices which may be changed from time to time;

at market prices prevailing at the time of sale;

at prices related to those prevailing market prices; or

at negotiated prices.

Each time we sell securities a prospectus supplement will describe the method of distribution of the securities and any applicable restrictions.

The prospectus supplement with respect to the securities of a particular series will describe the terms of the offering of the securities, including the following:

the name or names of any agents, dealers or underwriters included in the offer and sale of the securities;

the public offering or purchase price and the proceeds we will receive from the sale of the securities;

any discounts and commissions to be allowed or paid to the agents or underwriters;

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all other items constituting underwriting compensation;

any discounts and commissions to be allowed or paid to dealers; and

any exchanges on which the securities will be listed.

We may agree to enter into an agreement to indemnify the agents and the several underwriters against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act or to contribute to payments the agents or the underwriters may be required to make.

If so indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will authorize underwriters or other persons acting as our agents to solicit offers by certain institutions to purchase debt securities from us pursuant to delayed delivery contracts providing for payment and delivery on the date stated in the prospectus supplement. Each contract will be for an amount not less than, and the aggregate amount of securities sold pursuant to those contracts will be equal to, the respective amounts stated in the prospectus supplement. Institutions with whom the contracts, when authorized, may be made include commercial and savings banks, insurance companies, pension funds, investment companies, educational and charitable institutions and other institutions, but will in all cases be subject to our approval. Delayed delivery contracts will not be subject to any conditions except that:

the purchase by an institution of the debt securities covered under that contract will not at the time of delivery be prohibited under the laws of the jurisdiction to which that institution is subject; and

if the debt securities are also being sold to underwriters acting as principals for their own account, the underwriters will have purchased those debt securities not sold for delayed delivery. The underwriters and other persons acting as our agents will not have any responsibility in respect of the validity or performance of delayed delivery contracts.

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If underwriters or dealers are used in the sale, the securities will be acquired by the underwriters or dealers for their own account and may be resold from time to time in one or more transactions, at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed, or at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, or at prices related to such prevailing market prices, or at negotiated prices. The securities may be offered to the public either through underwriting syndicates represented by one or more managing underwriters or directly by one or more of such firms. Unless otherwise set forth in the prospectus supplement, the obligations of underwriters or dealers to purchase the securities offered will be subject to certain conditions precedent and the underwriters or dealers will be obligated to purchase all the offered securities if any are purchased. Any public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid by underwriters or dealers to other dealers may be changed from time to time.

The securities may be sold directly by us or through agents designated by us from time to time. Any agent involved in the offer or sale of the securities in respect of which this prospectus is delivered will be named, and any commissions payable by us to such agent will be set forth in, the prospectus supplement. Unless otherwise indicated in the prospectus supplement, any such agent will be acting on a best efforts basis for the period of its appointment.

To the extent that we make sales to or through one or more underwriters or agents in at-the-market offerings, we will do so pursuant to the terms of a distribution agreement between us and the underwriters or agents. If we engage in at-the-market sales pursuant to a distribution agreement, we will issue and sell shares of our common stock to or through one or more underwriters or agents, which may act on an agency basis or on a principal basis. During the term of any such agreement, we may sell shares on a daily basis in exchange transactions or otherwise as we agree with the underwriters or agents. The distribution agreement will provide that any shares of our common stock sold will be sold at prices related to the then prevailing market prices for our common stock. Therefore, exact figures regarding proceeds that will be raised or commissions to be paid cannot be determined at this time and will be described in a prospectus supplement. Pursuant to the terms of the distribution agreement, we also may agree to sell, and the relevant underwriters or agents may agree to solicit offers to purchase, blocks of our common stock or other securities. The terms of each such distribution agreement will be set forth in more detail in a prospectus supplement to this prospectus. In the event that any underwriter or agent acts as principal, or broker-dealer acts as underwriter, it may engage in certain transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of our securities. We will describe any such activities in the prospectus supplement relating to the transaction.

Offers to purchase the securities offered by this prospectus may be solicited, and sales of the securities may be made, by us of those securities directly to institutional investors or others, who may be deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act with respect to any resales of the securities. The terms of any offer made in this manner will be included in the prospectus supplement relating to the offer.

If indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will authorize underwriters, dealers or agents to solicit offers by certain institutional investors to purchase securities from us pursuant to contracts providing for payment and delivery at a future date. Institutional investors with which these contracts may be made include, among others:

commercial and savings banks;

insurance companies;

pension funds;

investment companies; and

educational and charitable institutions.



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In all cases, these purchasers must be approved by us. Unless otherwise set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, the obligations of any purchaser under any of these contracts will not be subject to any conditions except that (a) the purchase of the securities must not at the time of delivery be prohibited under the laws of any jurisdiction to which that purchaser is subject and (b) if the securities are also being sold to underwriters, we must have sold to these underwriters the securities not subject to delayed delivery. Underwriters and other agents will not have any responsibility in respect of the validity or performance of these contracts.

Subject to any restrictions relating to debt securities in bearer form, any securities initially sold outside the United States may be resold in the United States through underwriters, dealers or otherwise.

Each series of securities other than common stock will be new issue of securities with no established trading market. Any underwriters to whom offered securities are sold by us for public offering and sale may make a market in such securities, but such underwriters will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time.

The anticipated date of delivery of the securities offered by this prospectus will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to the offering. The securities offered by this prospectus may or may not be listed on a national securities exchange or a foreign securities exchange. No assurance can be given as to the liquidity or activity of any trading in the offered securities.

If more than 10% of the net proceeds of any offering of securities made under this prospectus will be received by Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ( FINRA ) members participating in the offering or affiliates or associated persons of such FINRA members, the offering will be conducted in accordance with FINRA Conduct Rule 2710.

We may enter into derivative or other hedging transactions with financial institutions. These financial institutions may in turn engage in sales of our common stock to hedge their position, deliver this prospectus in connection with some or all of those sales and use the shares covered by this prospectus to close out any short position created in connection with those sales. We may also sell shares of our common stock short using this prospectus and deliver our common stock covered by this prospectus to close out such short positions, or loan or pledge our common stock to financial institutions that in turn may sell the shares of our common stock using this prospectus. We may pledge or grant a security interest in some or all of our common stock covered by this prospectus to support a derivative or hedging position or other obligations and, if we default in the performance of our obligations, the pledges or secured parties may offer and sell our common stock from time to time pursuant to this prospectus.

We also may enter into derivative transactions with third parties, or sell securities not covered by this prospectus to third parties in privately negotiated transactions. If the applicable prospectus supplement indicates, in connection with those derivatives, the third parties may sell securities covered by this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement, including in short sale transactions. If so, the third party may use securities pledged by us or borrowed from us or others to settle those sales or to close out any related open borrowings of stock, and may use securities received from us in settlement of those derivatives to close out any related open borrowings of stock. The third party in such sale transactions will be an underwriter and, if not identified in this prospectus, will be identified in the applicable prospectus supplement (or a post-effective amendment). In addition, we may otherwise loan or pledge securities to a financial institution or other third party that in turn may sell the securities short using this prospectus. Such financial institution or other third party may transfer its economic short position to investors in our securities or in connection with a concurrent offering of other securities.

Certain of the underwriters and their associates and affiliates may be customers of, have borrowing relationships with, engage in other transactions with, and/or perform services, including investment banking services, for, us or one or more of our affiliates in the ordinary course

of business.

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**LEGAL OPINIONS**

The validity of the securities offered hereby will be passed upon for us by Kilpatrick Stockton LLP, Washington, D.C.

**EXPERTS**

The consolidated financial statements of New York Community Bancorp, Inc. and its subsidiaries as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2007, and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2007, have been incorporated by reference into this document in reliance upon the reports of KPMG LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, which are incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

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**Debt Securities**

**Common Stock**

**Preferred Stock**

**Warrants**

**Depository Shares**

**Stock Purchase Contracts**

**Stock Purchase Units**

**Units**

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**Prospectus**

**July 3, 2008**

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**PROSPECTUS**

**New York Community Capital Trust I**

**New York Community Capital Trust II**

**New York Community Capital Trust III**

**New York Community Capital Trust IV**

**New York Community Capital Trust VI**

**Preferred Securities**

**fully and unconditionally guaranteed, as described in this prospectus and the  
accompanying prospectus supplement, by**

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**The Trusts:**

The trusts are Delaware statutory trusts. Each trust may:

sell preferred securities representing undivided beneficial interests in the trust to the public;

sell common securities representing undivided beneficial interests in the trust to New York Community Bancorp;

use the proceeds from these sales to buy an equal principal amount of junior subordinated deferrable interest debentures of New York Community Bancorp; and

distribute the cash payments it receives on the junior subordinated deferrable interest debentures it owns to the holders of the preferred and common securities.

**Distributions:**

For each preferred security that you own, you will receive cumulative cash distributions on the liquidation amount of the preferred security. The rate at which cash distributions will be paid and the liquidation amount per preferred security will be set forth in the accompanying prospectus supplement.

**New York Community Bancorp:**

New York Community Bancorp will fully and unconditionally guarantee the payment by the trust of the preferred securities as described in this prospectus.

This prospectus provides you with a general description of the preferred securities each trust may offer. Each time a trust offers preferred securities, we will provide you with a prospectus supplement that will describe the specific amounts, prices and terms of the preferred securities being offered. A prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. To understand the terms of preferred securities offered by a trust, you should carefully read this prospectus with the applicable prospectus supplement, which together provide the specific terms of the preferred securities.

**These securities are not deposits or obligations of a bank or savings association and are not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency.**

This prospectus may be used to offer and sell securities only if accompanied by the prospectus supplement for those securities.

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**Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus or the accompanying prospectus supplement is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

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**The date of this prospectus is July 3, 2008**

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**IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT INFORMATION PRESENTED IN THIS  
PROSPECTUS AND THE ACCOMPANYING PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT**

We provide information to you about the securities we are offering in three separate documents that progressively provide more detail:

this prospectus, which provides general information, some of which may not apply to your securities;

the accompanying prospectus supplement, which describes the specific and final terms of your securities; and

if necessary, a pricing supplement, which describes the specific terms of your securities.

If the terms of your securities vary between the pricing supplement, the prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, you should rely on the information in the following order of priority:

the pricing supplement, if any;

the prospectus supplement; and

the prospectus.

We include cross-references in this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement to captions in these materials where you can find further related discussions. The following Table of Contents and the Table of Contents included in the accompanying prospectus supplement provide the pages on which these captions are located.

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Unless indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we have not taken any action that would permit us to publicly sell these securities in any jurisdiction outside the United States. If you are an investor outside the United States, you should inform yourself about, and comply with, any restrictions as to the offering of the securities and the distribution of this prospectus.



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**ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS**

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, the SEC, utilizing a shelf registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may from time to time sell the preferred securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings. We may also sell other securities under the registration statement that will reduce the total dollar amount of securities that we may sell under this prospectus. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we offer securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offer. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with the additional information described under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information**.

Unless otherwise indicated or unless the context requires otherwise, all references in this prospectus to NYCB, we, us, our or similar references mean New York Community Bancorp, Inc. References to the Community Bank mean New York Community Bank, references to the Commercial Bank mean New York Commercial Bank, and references to the Banks means New York Community Bank and New York Commercial Bank, collectively and references to the trusts mean New York Community Capital Trust I, New York Community Capital Trust II, New York Community Capital Trust III, New York Community Capital Trust IV and New York Community Capital Trust VI.

**WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION**

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement under the Securities Act of 1933 that registers, among other securities, the offer and sale of the securities offered by this prospectus. The registration statement, including the attached exhibits and schedules included or incorporated by reference in the registration statement, contains additional relevant information about us. The rules and regulations of the SEC allow us to omit certain information included in the registration statement from this prospectus. In addition, we file reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Exchange Act.

You may read and copy this information at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549-0213. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for more information on the SEC's Public Reference Room.

You may also obtain copies of this information by mail from the Office of Investor Education and Advocacy of the SEC, 100 F Street, N.E., Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549-0213, at prescribed rates.

The SEC also maintains an Internet world wide web site that contains reports, proxy statements and other information about issuers like us who file electronically with the SEC. The address of that site is:

*<http://www.sec.gov>*

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference information into this prospectus. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document that we file separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be a part

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of this prospectus, except for any information that is superseded by information that is included directly in this document or in a more recent incorporated document.

This prospectus incorporates by reference the documents listed below that we have previously filed with the SEC.

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<u>SEC Filings</u>	<u>Period or Date (as applicable)</u>
Annual Report on Form 10-K	Year ended December 31, 2007
Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q	Quarter ended March 31, 2008
Current Reports on Form 8-K	May 20, 2008
	May 21, 2008
	May 22, 2008
	May 23, 2008
	June 11, 2008
	July 1, 2008
The description of NYCB common stock and preferred stock set forth in the registration statement on Form 8-A (No. 1-31565) and any amendment or report filed with the SEC for the purpose of updating this description	December 12, 2002

In addition, we also incorporate by reference all future documents that we file with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date of our initial registration statement relating to the securities until the completion of the distribution of the securities covered by this prospectus. These documents include periodic reports, such as Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K (other than Current Reports furnished under Items 2.02 or 7.01 of Form 8-K), as well as proxy statements.

The information incorporated by reference contains information about us and our financial condition and is an important part of this prospectus.

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You can obtain any of the documents incorporated by reference in this document through us, or from the SEC through the SEC's Internet world wide web site at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). Documents incorporated by reference are available from us without charge, excluding any exhibits to those documents, unless the exhibit is specifically incorporated by reference as an exhibit in this prospectus. You can obtain documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus by requesting them in writing or by telephone from us at the following address:

Investor Relations Department  
 New York Community Bancorp, Inc.  
 615 Merrick Avenue  
 Westbury, New York 11590  
 (516) 683-4100

In addition, we maintain a corporate website, *www.myNYCB.com*. On our website, we make available, our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and any amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such materials with, or furnish it to, the SEC. This reference to our website is for the convenience of investors as required by the SEC and shall not be deemed to incorporate any information on the website into this prospectus.

We have not authorized anyone to give any information or make any representation about us that is different from, or in addition to, those contained in this prospectus or in any of the materials that we have incorporated into this prospectus. If anyone does give you information of this sort, you should not rely on it. If you are in a jurisdiction where offers to sell, or solicitations of offers to purchase, the securities offered by this document are unlawful, or if you are a person to whom it is unlawful to direct these types of activities, then the offer presented in this document does not extend to you. The information contained in this document speaks only as of the date of this document unless the information specifically indicates that another date applies.

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We have not included separate financial statements for each of the trusts in this prospectus. We do not believe that holders of the preferred securities would find these financial statements meaningful because:

all of the voting securities of each of the trusts will be owned, directly or indirectly, by NYCB, a reporting company under the Exchange Act;

each of the trusts has no independent assets, operations, revenues or cash flows and exists for the sole purpose of issuing the preferred securities and investing the proceeds in junior subordinated debentures issued by NYCB;

NYCB's obligations described in this prospectus and in any accompanying prospectus supplement constitute a full and unconditional guarantee of payments due on the preferred securities; and

the trusts do not file reports with the SEC.

## **SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This prospectus and the other documents we incorporate by reference in this prospectus may include forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act), and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act).

Forward-looking statements, which are based on certain assumptions, and describe our future plans, strategies, and expectations, are generally identified by use of the words believe, expect, intend, anticipate, estimate, project, plan or future or conditional verbs such as will, should, could, may or other similar expressions. Although we believe that our plans, intentions and expectations, as reflected in these forward-looking statements are reasonable, we can give no assurance that these plans, intentions or expectations will be achieved or realized. Our ability to predict results or the actual effects of our plans and strategies are inherently uncertain. Actual results, performance or achievements could differ materially from those contemplated, expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from our forward-looking statements are set forth under the heading *Forward-Looking Statements and Associated Risk Factors* in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K, and in other reports we file with the SEC.

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 the forward-looking statements. These factors include, but are not limited to: general economic conditions, either nationally or locally in some or all of the areas in which we and our customers conduct our respective business; conditions in the securities markets or the banking industry; changes in interest rates, which may affect our net income, prepayment penalty income or other future cash flows or the market value of our assets; changes in deposit flows, wholesale borrowing facilities, and in the demand for deposit, loan, and investment products and other financial services in our local markets; changes in our credit ratings; changes in the financial or operating performance of our customers' businesses; changes in our customer base; changes in real estate values, which could impact the quality of the assets securing the loans in our portfolio; changes in the quality or composition of our loan or investment portfolios; changes in competitive pressures among financial institutions or from non-financial institutions; the ability to successfully integrate any assets, liabilities, customers, systems, and management personnel we may acquire into our operations and our ability to realize related revenue synergies and cost savings within expected time frames; potential exposure to unknown or contingent liabilities of companies we target for acquisition; our ability to retain key members of management; our timely development of new and competitive products or services in a changing environment, and the acceptance of such products or services by our customers; any interruption or breach of security resulting in failures or disruptions in customer account management, general ledger, deposit, loan, or other systems; any interruption in customer service due to circumstances beyond our

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control; the outcome of pending or threatened litigation, or of any 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; changes in estimates of future

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reserve requirements based upon the periodic review thereof under relevant regulatory and accounting requirements; changes in legislation, regulation, and policies, including, but not limited to, those pertaining to banking securities, tax, environmental protection, and insurance, and the ability to comply with such changes in a timely manner; changes in accounting principles, policies, practices, or guidelines; changes in legislation and regulation; operational issues 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 the monetary and fiscal policies of the U.S. Government, including policies of the U.S. Treasury and the Federal Reserve Board; war or terrorist activities; and other economic, competitive, governmental, regulatory, and geopolitical factors affecting our operations, pricing, and services. Additionally, the timing and occurrence or non-occurrence of events may be subject to circumstances beyond our control.

In addition, it should be noted that we routinely evaluate opportunities to expand through acquisition and frequently conduct due diligence activities in connection with such opportunities. As a result, acquisition discussions and, in some cases, negotiations, may take place at any time, and acquisitions involving cash or debt or equity securities may occur.

You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which reflect our expectations only as of the date of this prospectus. We do not assume any obligation to revise forward-looking statements except as may be required by law.

### **NEW YORK COMMUNITY BANCORP, INC.**

We are a registered bank holding company whose principal business is conducted by our wholly-owned subsidiaries, New York Community Bank and New York Commercial Bank. At March 31, 2008, we had total assets of approximately \$30.9 billion, total deposits of approximately \$13.5 billion, and total consolidated stockholders' equity of approximately \$4.2 billion.

The Community Bank is a leading producer of multi-family loans in New York City and the fourth largest thrift depository, based on deposits, in the New York/New Jersey metropolitan area. The Community Bank serves its customers through six community divisions with a total of 180 banking offices throughout New York City, Long Island, Westchester County, and New Jersey. Our newest division, Garden State Community Bank, was established in December 2007 to reflect our expansion in New Jersey through our acquisitions of PennFed Financial Services, Inc. and Synergy Financial Group, Inc. in 2007. Of the 54 branches we operate in Essex, Hudson, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, and Union counties, 35 now operate through the Garden State Community Bank division and the remaining 19 branches will commence operations under that name early in 2009. At present, these remaining branches operate under the Synergy Bank name. New York Commercial Bank has 38 banking offices in New York City, Westchester County and Long Island.

In New York, our four divisional banks include Queens County Savings Bank, with 34 branches in Queens County; Roslyn Savings Bank, with 57 branches on Long Island; Richmond County Savings Bank, with 23 branches on Staten Island; and Roosevelt Savings Bank, with eight branches in Brooklyn. We also have two branches each in the Bronx and Westchester County that operate directly under the New York Community Bank name.

The Commercial Bank franchise includes 11 former branches of Doral Bank, FSB that were acquired on July 26, 2007, and ranks 13th among all commercial bank depositories in the six counties it serves. Of the 38 branches that now comprise this franchise, 19 operate through the Atlantic Bank division of New York Commercial Bank.



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Our common stock trades on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol NYB.

The Banks are subject to comprehensive regulation, examination and supervision by the New York State Banking Department, (the NYSBD ), and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, (the FDIC ). As a bank

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holding company NYCB is subject to regulation, examination and supervision by the Federal Reserve Board, (the FRB ), as a bank holding company.

Our principal executive offices are located at 615 Merrick Avenue, Westbury, New York 11590 and our telephone number is (516) 683-4100.

Additional information about us and our subsidiaries is included in documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus. See *Where You Can Find More Information* on page 4.

## THE TRUSTS

Each of the trusts is a statutory trust formed under Delaware law pursuant to a declaration of trust, each an initial declaration, executed by NYCB, as sponsor for the trust, and the NYCB capital trustees, as defined below, for the trust, and the filing of a certificate of trust with the Delaware Secretary of State.

Each trust exists for the exclusive purposes of:

issuing preferred securities and common securities representing undivided beneficial interests in the assets of the trust;

investing the gross proceeds of the preferred securities and the common securities, together the trust securities, in junior subordinated deferrable interest debentures, referred to as junior subordinated debentures, issued by NYCB; and

engaging in only those activities necessary or incidental to the activities described in the previous two bullets.

All the common securities will be owned, directly or indirectly, by NYCB. The common securities of each trust will rank equally, and payments will be made pro rata, with the preferred securities of that trust, except that upon an event of default under the declaration (as defined below), the rights of the holders of the common securities to payment in respect of distributions and payments upon liquidation, redemption and otherwise will be subordinated to the rights of the holders of the preferred securities. NYCB will, directly or indirectly, purchase common securities of each trust in an aggregate liquidation amount equal to at least 3% of the total capital of each trust.

Each trust's business and affairs will be conducted by the trustees, the NYCB capital trustees. Unless an event of default has occurred and is continuing, as a direct or indirect holder of all the common securities, NYCB will be entitled to appoint, remove or replace any of, or increase or reduce the number of, the NYCB capital trustees of a trust. The duties and obligations of the NYCB capital trustees will be governed by the declaration of that NYCB capital trust. One or more of the NYCB capital trustees will be persons who are employees or officers of, or persons affiliated with, NYCB, the administrative trustees. One NYCB capital trustee of each trust will be a financial institution which will be unaffiliated with NYCB and which will act as property trustee under the declaration and as indenture trustee for purposes of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, the Trust Indenture Act, pursuant to the terms set forth in a prospectus supplement. In addition, unless the property trustee maintains a principal place of business in Delaware, and otherwise meets the requirements of applicable law, one NYCB capital trustee of each trust will have its principal place of business or reside in the State of Delaware, the Delaware trustee.

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Each NYCB capital trust has a term of approximately 55 years or such other term as may be specified in the accompanying prospectus supplement, but may dissolve earlier as provided in the applicable declaration.

NYCB will pay all fees and expenses related to the NYCB capital trusts and the offering of trust securities.

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Wilmington Trust Company will be the property trustee and the Delaware trustee for each trust. Wilmington Trust Company's office and principal place of business is Wilmington Trust Company, Attention: Corporate Trust Administration, Rodney Square North, 1100 North Market Street, Wilmington, Delaware 19890. The principal place of business of each trust will be c/o New York Community Bancorp, Inc., 615 Merrick Avenue, Westbury, New York 11590.

**CONSOLIDATED RATIOS OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES**

NYCB's consolidated ratios of earnings to fixed charges were as follows for the periods presented:

	Three Months Ended	Year Ended December 31,				
	March 31,					
	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges:						
Excluding Interest on Deposits	1.72	1.75	1.74	2.15	2.74	3.69
Including Interest on Deposits	1.43	1.42	1.41	1.76	2.35	2.99

For the purpose of computing the ratio of earnings to fixed charges, earnings consist of income before income taxes and extraordinary item plus fixed charges, excluding capitalized interest. Fixed charges consist of interest on short-term and long-term debt, including interest related to capitalized leases and capitalized interest, and one-third of rent expense, which approximates the interest component of that expense. In addition, where indicated, fixed charges include interest on deposits.

**USE OF PROCEEDS**

Each trust will use the proceeds of the sale of the trust securities to acquire junior subordinated debentures from NYCB. NYCB intends to use the net proceeds from the sale of the junior subordinated debentures for general corporate purposes unless otherwise indicated in the prospectus supplement relating to a specified issuance of preferred securities. NYCB's general corporate purposes may include repurchasing its outstanding common stock, financing possible acquisitions of branches or other financial institutions or financial service companies, extending credit to, or funding investments in, its subsidiaries and repaying, reducing or refinancing indebtedness.

The precise amounts and the timing of NYCB's use of the net proceeds will depend upon market conditions, its subsidiaries' funding requirements, the availability of other funds and other factors. Until NYCB uses the net proceeds for general corporate purposes, it will use the net proceeds to reduce its indebtedness or for temporary investments. NYCB expects that it will, on a recurrent basis, engage in additional financings as the need arises to finance its corporate strategies, to fund its subsidiaries, to finance acquisitions or otherwise.

**REGULATION AND SUPERVISION**

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Our principal banking subsidiary, New York Community Bank, is a New York State-chartered savings bank and its deposit accounts are insured under the Deposit Insurance Fund (the DIF ) up to applicable legal limits. We also have a wholly-owned commercial bank subsidiary, New York Commercial Bank, a New York State-chartered commercial bank with deposit accounts also insured by the DIF up to applicable legal limits. Both the Community Bank and the Commercial Bank are subject to extensive regulation and supervision by the NYSBD, as their chartering agency, and by the FDIC, as their insurer of deposits. Both institutions must file reports with the NYSBD and the FDIC concerning their activities and financial condition, in addition to obtaining regulatory approvals prior to entering into certain transactions such as mergers with, or acquisitions of, other depository

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institutions. Furthermore, the banks are periodically examined by the NYSBD and the FDIC to assess compliance with various regulatory requirements, including safety and soundness considerations. This regulation and supervision establishes a comprehensive framework of activities in which a savings bank and a commercial bank can engage, and is intended primarily for the protection of the DIF and depositors, rather than for the protection of security holders. The regulatory structure also gives the regulatory authorities extensive discretion in connection with their supervisory and enforcement activities and examination policies, including policies with respect to the classification of assets and the establishment of adequate loan loss allowances for regulatory purposes. Any change in such regulation, whether by the NYSBD, the FDIC, or through legislation, could have a material adverse impact on us, the Community Bank or the Commercial Bank and their operations, and our shareholders.

As a registered bank holding company we are required to file certain reports with, and otherwise comply with, the rules and regulations of the FRB, the NYSBD, and the SEC under federal securities laws. In addition, the FRB periodically examines us.

Because we are a holding company, our rights and the rights of our creditors, including the holders of the securities we are offering under this prospectus, to participate in the assets of any of our subsidiaries upon the subsidiary's liquidation or reorganization will be subject to the prior claims of the subsidiary's creditors, except to the extent that we may ourselves be a creditor with recognized claims against the subsidiary.

In addition, dividends, loans and advances from the Banks are restricted by federal and state statutes and regulations. Under applicable banking statutes, at March 31, 2008, the Community Bank and the Commercial Bank could have declared additional dividends of approximately \$117.4 million and \$21.8 million, respectively, without further regulatory approval. The FDIC, the FRB and the NYSBD also have the authority to limit further the Banks' payment of dividends based on other factors, such as the maintenance of adequate capital for each subsidiary bank.

In addition, there are various statutory and regulatory limitations on the extent to which either bank subsidiary can finance us otherwise transfer funds or assets to us or to our nonbanking subsidiaries, whether in the form of loans, extensions of credit, investments or asset purchases. These extensions of credit and other transactions involving New York Community Bank and us or a nonbanking subsidiary of ours are limited in amount to 10% of each Bank's capital and surplus and, with respect to us and all our nonbanking subsidiaries, to an aggregate of 20% of each Bank's capital and surplus. Furthermore, loans and extensions of credit are required to be secured in specified amounts and are required to be on terms and conditions consistent with safe and sound banking practices.

For a discussion of the material elements of the regulatory framework applicable to bank holding companies and their subsidiaries, and specific information relevant to us, you should refer to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007 and any other subsequent reports filed by us with the SEC, which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus. This regulatory framework is intended primarily for the protection of depositors and the DIF that insure deposits of banks, rather than for the protection of security holders. A change in the statutes, regulations or regulatory policies applicable to us or our subsidiaries may have a material effect on our business.

Changes to the laws and regulations can affect the operating environment of bank holding companies and their subsidiaries in substantial and unpredictable ways. We cannot accurately predict whether those changes in laws and regulations will occur, and, if changes do occur, the ultimate effect they would have upon our or our subsidiaries' financial condition or results of operations.

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**DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED SECURITIES**

Each trust may issue only one series of preferred securities having terms described in the accompanying prospectus supplement. Each series of preferred securities will be issued pursuant to the terms of an amended and restated declaration of trust, a declaration. Each declaration will be qualified as an indenture under the Trust Indenture Act. Wilmington Trust Company will act as trustee under the declaration for purposes of compliance with the provisions of the Trust Indenture Act.

The preferred securities will have those terms, including distribution, redemption, voting, liquidation rights and such other preferred, deferred or other special rights or such restrictions as will be set forth in the declaration or made part of the declaration by the Trust Indenture Act. The terms of the preferred securities will mirror the terms of the junior subordinated debentures of NYCB in which the applicable trust invests the proceeds from the sale of preferred securities. The terms of the preferred securities and the junior subordinated debentures are described in the accompanying prospectus supplement and may include:

the distinctive designation of the preferred securities;

the number of preferred securities issuable by the trust;

the annual distribution rate, or method of determining that rate, for preferred securities and the date or dates upon which those distributions will be payable;

whether distributions on preferred securities will be cumulative, and, if so, the date or dates or method of determining the date or dates from which distributions on preferred securities will be cumulative;

the amount or amounts which will be paid out of the assets of the applicable trust to the holders of preferred securities upon voluntary or involuntary dissolution, winding-up or termination of that trust;

the obligation, if any, of the applicable trust to purchase or redeem preferred securities issued by that trust and the price or prices at which, the period or periods within which, and the terms and conditions upon which, preferred securities issued by that trust will be purchased or redeemed, in whole or in part, pursuant to that obligation;

the voting rights, if any, of holders of preferred securities in addition to those required by law or described in this prospectus supplement, including the number of votes per preferred security and any requirement for the approval by the holders of preferred securities, or of preferred securities issued by one or more other trusts, or of both, as a condition to specified action or amendments to the declaration of the trust;

the terms and conditions, if any, upon which NYCB can redeem the junior subordinated debentures prior to the first optional redemption date, if any;

the terms and conditions, if any, upon which the junior subordinated debentures owned by the trust may be distributed to holders of preferred securities;

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if applicable, any securities exchange upon which the preferred securities will be listed; and

any other relevant rights, preferences, privileges, limitations or restrictions of preferred securities not inconsistent with the declaration or with applicable law.

All preferred securities will be guaranteed by NYCB to the extent set forth below under Description of the Preferred Securities Guarantees.

Certain United States federal income tax considerations applicable to any offering of preferred securities will be described in the prospectus supplement relating to the offering.



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### **Deferral of Distributions of Preferred Securities**

NYCB may, on one or more occasions, defer payments of interest on the junior subordinated debentures as described under Description of Junior Subordinated Debentures. In the event NYCB elects to defer interest payments on any series of its junior subordinated debentures, the applicable trust will also defer distributions on its preferred securities. During this deferral period, distributions will continue to accrue at the rate specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. If NYCB elects to defer interest payments on the junior subordinated debentures, it will be restricted from making payments on its capital stock and other capital instruments as described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

### **Voting Rights**

Except as required in this prospectus, under the Delaware Statutory Trust Act and the Trust Indenture Act, and as described under Description of the Preferred Securities Guarantees Modification of the Preferred Securities Guarantees; Assignment in this prospectus, and in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to the issuance of a series of preferred securities, and as otherwise required by law and the applicable declarations, the holders of the preferred securities will have no voting rights.

The holders of a majority in aggregate liquidation amount, in a specified series, of the preferred securities will have the right to direct any proceeding for any remedy available to the property trustee so long as the property trustee receives the tax opinion discussed below. The holders will also have the right to direct the property trustee under the declaration to:

- (1) direct any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee of the indenture under which the junior subordinated debentures will be issued and purchased by the applicable trust, or exercising any trust or power conferred on the debenture trustee;
- (2) waive any past indenture event of default that is waivable under the indenture;
- (3) exercise any right to rescind or annul an acceleration of the maturity of the junior subordinated debentures; or
- (4) consent to any amendment, modification or termination of the indenture or the junior subordinated debentures where that consent is required.

If there is an event of default on the preferred securities, and that default is a result of a payment default under the junior subordinated debentures, the holders of the preferred securities may also sue NYCB directly, a direct action, to enforce payment of the principal of, or interest on, junior subordinated debentures having a principal amount equal to the aggregate liquidation amount of the preferred securities of the holder on or after the due date specified in the junior subordinated debentures.

Where a consent or action under the indenture would require the consent or act of holders of more than a majority in principal amount of the junior subordinated debentures, called a super majority, then only a super majority may direct the property trustee to give that consent or take that action. Where a consent or action under the indenture would require the consent or act of holders of more than a majority in principal amount of the junior subordinated debentures, then only a majority may direct the property trustee to give that consent or take that action. Where a consent or action under the indenture would require the consent or act of individual holders of the junior subordinated debentures, then only those individual holders may direct the property trustee to give that consent or take that action. If the property trustee fails to enforce its rights

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under the junior subordinated debentures, to the fullest extent permitted by law, any record holder of preferred securities may directly sue NYCB to enforce the property trustee's rights under the junior subordinated debentures. The record holder does not have to sue the property trustee or any other person or entity before enforcing his or her rights.

The property trustee is required to notify all holders of the preferred securities of any notice of default received from the indenture trustee. The notice is required to state that the event of default also constitutes a

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declaration event of default. Except for directing the time, method and place of conducting a proceeding for a remedy available to the property trustee, the property trustee will not take any of the actions described in clauses (1), (2), (3) or (4) above unless the property trustee receives an opinion of counsel, experienced in such matters stating that, as a result of that action, the trust will not fail to be classified as a grantor trust for United States federal income tax purposes.

If the consent of the property trustee under a declaration is required under the indenture for any amendment, modification or termination of the indenture, the property trustee is required to request the direction of the holders of the trust securities. In that case, the property trustee will vote as directed by a majority in liquidation amount of the trust securities voting together as a single class. Where any amendment, modification or termination under the indenture would require the consent of a super majority or an individual holder, however, the property trustee may only give that consent at the direction of the holders of the same super majority of the holders of the trust securities or that individual holder, as applicable. The property trustee is not required to take any such action in accordance with the directions of the holders of the trust securities unless the property trustee has obtained a tax opinion to the effect described above.

A waiver of an indenture event of default by the property trustee at the direction of the holders of the preferred securities will constitute a waiver of the corresponding declaration event of default.

Holders of the preferred securities may give any required approval or direction at a separate meeting of holders of preferred securities convened for that purpose, at a meeting of all of the holders of trust securities or by written consent. The administrative trustees will mail to each holder of record of preferred securities a notice of any meeting at which those holders are entitled to vote, or of any matter upon which action by written consent of those holders is to be taken. Each such notice will include a statement setting forth the following information:

the date of the meeting or the date by which the action is to be taken;

a description of any resolution proposed for adoption at the meeting on which those holders are entitled to vote or of the matter upon which written consent is sought; and

instructions for the delivery of proxies or consents.

No vote or consent of the holders of preferred securities will be required for a trust to redeem and cancel preferred securities or distribute junior subordinated debentures in accordance with the declaration.

Despite that holders of preferred securities are entitled to vote or consent under the circumstances described above, any of the preferred securities that are owned at the time by NYCB or any entity directly or indirectly controlling or controlled by, or under direct or indirect common control with, NYCB, will not be entitled to vote or consent. Instead, these preferred securities will be treated as if they were not outstanding.

Holders of the preferred securities generally will have no rights to appoint or remove the administrative trustees. Instead, the administrative trustees may be appointed, removed or replaced solely by NYCB as the indirect or direct holder of all of the common securities.

**Common Securities**

In connection with the issuance of preferred securities, each trust will issue one series of common securities having the terms (including distributions, redemption, voting, liquidation rights or such restrictions) as will be set forth in the prospectus supplement. Except for voting rights, the terms of the common securities will be substantially identical to the terms of the preferred securities. The common securities will rank equally, and payments will be made on the common securities pro rata, with the preferred securities, except that, upon an event of default, the rights of the holders of the common securities to payment in respect of distributions and

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payments upon liquidation, redemption and otherwise will be subordinated to the rights of the holders of the preferred securities. Unless an event of default has occurred and is continuing, the common securities of a trust carry the right to vote and to appoint, remove or replace any of the trustees of that trust. All of the common securities of each trust will be directly or indirectly owned by NYCB.

### **DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED SECURITIES GUARANTEES**

Set forth below is a summary of information concerning the preferred securities guarantees which will be executed and delivered by NYCB for the benefit of the holders from time to time of preferred securities of a trust. Each preferred securities guarantee will be qualified as an indenture under the Trust Indenture Act. Wilmington Trust Company will act as the guarantee trustee for purposes of the Trust Indenture Act. The terms of each preferred securities guarantee will be those set forth in the preferred securities guarantee and those made part of the preferred securities guarantee by the Trust Indenture Act. The summary of the material terms of the preferred securities guarantees is not intended to be complete and is qualified in all respects by the provisions of the form of preferred securities guarantee which is filed as an exhibit to the registration statement which contains this prospectus, and the Trust Indenture Act. Each preferred securities guarantee will be held by the guarantee trustee for the benefit of the holders of the preferred securities of the applicable trust.

#### **General**

NYCB will irrevocably and unconditionally agree, to the extent set forth in the preferred securities guarantee, to pay in full to the holders of the preferred securities, the guarantee payments, as defined below, except to the extent paid by the trust, as and when due, regardless of any defense, right of set-off or counterclaim which the trust may have or assert, other than the defense of payment. The following payments, which are referred to as guarantee payments, will be guaranteed by NYCB, without duplication:

any accrued and unpaid distributions that are required to be paid on the preferred securities, to the extent the trust has funds available for distributions;

the redemption price, plus all accrued and unpaid distributions, to the extent the trust has funds available for redemptions, relating to any preferred securities called for redemption by the trust; and

upon a voluntary or involuntary dissolution, winding-up or termination of the trust, other than in connection with the distribution of junior subordinated debentures to the holders of preferred securities or the redemption of all of the preferred securities, the lesser of:

- (1) the aggregate of the liquidation amount and all accrued and unpaid distributions on the preferred securities to the date of payment; or
- (2) the amount of assets of the trust remaining for distribution to holders of the preferred securities in liquidation of the trust.

The redemption price and liquidation amount will be fixed at the time the preferred securities are issued.

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NYCB's obligation to make a guarantee payment may be satisfied by direct payment of the required amounts by NYCB to the holders of preferred securities or by causing the trust to pay those amounts to those holders.

The preferred securities guarantees will not apply to any payment of distributions except to the extent a trust will have funds available for those payments. If NYCB does not make interest payments on the junior subordinated debentures held by a trust for any period, the trust will not pay distributions on the preferred securities for the corresponding period and will not have funds available for those payments.

The preferred securities guarantees, when taken together with NYCB's obligations under the junior subordinated debentures, the indentures and the declarations, including its obligations to pay costs, expenses,

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debts and liabilities of the trusts, other than those relating to trust securities, will provide a full and unconditional guarantee on a subordinated basis by NYCB of payments due on the preferred securities.

NYCB has also agreed separately to irrevocably and unconditionally guarantee the obligations of the trusts with respect to the common securities to the same extent as the preferred securities guarantees, except that upon an event of default under the indenture, holders of preferred securities will have priority over holders of common securities with respect to distributions and payments on liquidation, redemption or otherwise.

## **Certain Covenants of NYCB**

NYCB will agree that, so long as any preferred securities of a trust remain outstanding, if any event occurs that would constitute an event of default under the preferred securities guarantee or the indenture related to that trust, or if NYCB has exercised its option to defer interest payments on the junior subordinated debentures by extending the interest payment period and that period or extension of that period is continuing, then:

NYCB will not declare or pay any dividend on, make any distributions relating to, or redeem, purchase, acquire or make a liquidation payment relating to, any of its capital stock or make any guarantee payment with respect thereto and will not make any payment of interest, principal or premium, if any, on, or repay, repurchase or redeem any debt securities issued by NYCB which rank equally with or junior to the junior subordinated debenture other than:

- (1) repurchases, redemptions or other acquisitions of shares of capital stock of NYCB in connection with any employee benefit plans or any other contractual obligation of NYCB, other than a contractual obligation ranking equally with or junior to the junior subordinated debentures;
- (2) as a result of an exchange or conversion of any class or series of NYCB's capital stock for any other class or series of NYCB's capital stock; or
- (3) the purchase of fractional interests in shares of NYCB's capital stock pursuant to the conversion or exchange provisions of that NYCB capital stock or the security being converted or exchanged.

NYCB will not make any payment of interest, principal or premium, if any, on or repay, repurchase or redeem any debt securities issued by NYCB which rank equally with or junior to the junior subordinated debentures.

## **Modification of the Preferred Securities Guarantees; Assignment**

The preferred securities guarantees may be amended only with the prior approval of the holders of not less than a majority in aggregate liquidation amount of the outstanding preferred securities. No vote will be required, however, for any changes that do not adversely affect the rights of holders of preferred securities in any material respect. All guarantees and agreements contained in the preferred securities guarantees will bind the successors, assignees, receivers, trustees and representatives of NYCB and will be for the benefit of the holders of the preferred securities then outstanding.

**Termination**

The preferred securities guarantee will terminate upon:

full payment of the redemption price of all preferred securities of the trust;

distribution of the junior subordinated debentures to the holders of the trust securities; or

full payment of the amounts payable in accordance with the declaration upon liquidation of that trust.

The preferred securities guarantee will continue to be effective or will be reinstated, as the case may be, if at any time any holder of preferred securities must restore payment of any sums paid under the preferred securities or the preferred securities guarantee.



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### **Events of Default**

An event of default under a preferred securities guarantee will occur upon the failure of NYCB to perform any of its payment or other obligations under the preferred securities guarantee.

The holders of a majority in liquidation amount of the preferred securities have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the guarantee trustee in respect of the preferred securities guarantee or to direct the exercise of any trust or power conferred upon the guarantee trustee under the preferred securities guarantee. Any holder of preferred securities may institute a legal proceeding directly against NYCB to enforce the guarantee trustee's rights and the obligations of NYCB under the preferred securities guarantee, without first instituting a legal proceeding against the relevant trust, the guarantee trustee or any other person or entity.

### **Status of the Preferred Securities Guarantees**

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the preferred securities guarantees will constitute unsecured obligations of NYCB and will rank:

subordinate and junior in right of payment to all senior indebtedness of NYCB as that term is defined in the indenture for the junior subordinated debentures;

equally with the most senior preferred or preference stock now or hereafter issued by NYCB and with any guarantee now or hereafter entered into by NYCB in respect of any preferred or preference stock of any affiliate of NYCB unless made subordinate; and

senior to NYCB common stock.

The terms of the preferred securities provide that each holder of preferred securities by acceptance of those securities agrees to the subordination provisions and other terms of the preferred securities guarantee.

The preferred securities guarantees will constitute a guarantee of payment and not of collection. This means that the guaranteed party may sue the guarantor to enforce its rights under the guarantee without suing any other person or entity.

### **Information Concerning the Guarantee Trustee**

Prior to the occurrence of a default relating to a preferred securities guarantee, the guarantee trustee undertakes to perform only those duties as are specifically set forth in the preferred securities guarantee. After default, the guarantee trustee will exercise the same degree of care as a prudent individual would exercise in the conduct of his or her own affairs. Provided that the foregoing requirements have been met, the guarantee trustee is under no obligation to exercise any of the powers vested in it by a preferred securities guarantee at the request of any holder

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of preferred securities, unless offered indemnity satisfactory to it against the costs, expenses and liabilities which might be incurred thereby.

The guarantee trustee provides trust services to us and our affiliates in connection with certain trust preferred securities that are currently outstanding.

### **Governing Law**

The preferred securities guarantees will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York.

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**DESCRIPTION OF THE JUNIOR SUBORDINATED DEBENTURES**

NYCB may issue junior subordinated debentures from time to time in one or more series under an indenture, between NYCB and Wilmington Trust Company, as trustee, the debenture trustee. The terms of the junior subordinated debentures will include those stated in the indenture and those made part of the indenture by reference to the Trust Indenture Act.

Set forth below is a description of the general terms of the junior subordinated debentures in which the trusts will invest the proceeds from the issuance and sale of the trust securities. The particular terms of the junior subordinated debentures will be described in the prospectus supplement relating to the particular preferred securities being offered. The following description is not intended to be complete and is qualified by the indenture, the form of which is filed as an exhibit to the registration statement which contains this prospectus, and by the Trust Indenture Act.

**General**

The junior subordinated debentures will be unsecured debt of NYCB. The junior subordinated debentures will be fully subordinated as described in the accompanying prospectus supplement under Description of the Junior Subordinated Debentures Subordination. The indenture does not limit the aggregate principal amount of junior subordinated debentures which may be issued and provides that the junior subordinated debentures may be issued from time to time in one or more series.

The prospectus supplement relating to the particular junior subordinated debentures being offered will describe the terms of those securities, which may include:

the designation of the junior subordinated debentures;

the aggregate principal amount of the junior subordinated debentures;

the percentage of their principal amount at which the junior subordinated debentures will be issued;

the date or dates on which the junior subordinated debentures will mature and the right, if any, to shorten or extend the maturity date or dates;

the rate or rates, if any, per annum, at which the junior subordinated debentures will bear interest, or the method of determination of the interest rate or rates;

the date or dates from which interest will accrue and the interest payment and record dates;

any right to extend the interest payment periods and the duration of that extension;

any provisions for redemption; and

any other specific terms of the junior subordinated debentures.

**Additional Interest**

If, at any time, a trust is required to pay any taxes, duties, assessments or governmental charges of whatever nature, other than withholding taxes, imposed by the United States, or any other taxing authority, then NYCB will be required to pay additional interest on the junior subordinated debentures. The amount of any additional interest will be an amount sufficient so that the net amounts received and retained by the trust after paying any such taxes, duties, assessments or other governmental charges will be not less than the amounts that the trust would have received had no such taxes, duties, assessments or other governmental charges been imposed. This means that the trust will be in the same position it would have been in if it did not have to pay those taxes, duties, assessments or other charges.

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### **Form, Exchange, Registration, Transfer and Payment**

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, NYCB will issue the junior subordinated debentures in registered form only, without coupons and in denominations of \$1,000 and multiples of \$1,000. No service charge will be made for any transfer or exchange of the junior subordinated debentures. However, NYCB or the debenture trustee may require a holder to pay an amount sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection with a transfer or exchange.

NYCB will pay or deliver principal and any premium and interest in the manner, at the places and subject to the restrictions set forth in the indenture and the prospectus supplement. However, at NYCB's option, it may pay any interest by check mailed to the registered holders of junior subordinated debentures at their registered addresses.

### **Global Junior Subordinated Debentures**

The indenture provides that NYCB may issue junior subordinated debentures in global form. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe any circumstances under which beneficial owners of interests in any global junior subordinated debentures may exchange their interest for junior subordinated debentures of that series and of like tenor and principal amount in any authorized form and denomination.

### **Subordination**

The junior subordinated debentures will be subordinated and junior in right of payment to other indebtedness of NYCB as described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

### **Certain Covenants of NYCB**

If junior subordinated debentures are issued to a trust or a trustee of a trust in connection with the issuance of trust securities and:

an event of default has occurred and is continuing;

NYCB is in default relating to its payment of any obligations under the preferred securities guarantee; or

NYCB has given notice of its election to defer payments of interest on the junior subordinated debentures by extending the interest payment period and that period, or any extension of that period, is continuing;

then, NYCB may not:

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declare or pay any dividend on, make any distributions relating to, or redeem, purchase, acquire or make a liquidation payment relating to, any of its capital stock; or

make any payment with respect to any guarantee by NYCB of the debt securities of any subsidiary of NYCB if such guarantee ranks on a parity with or junior in interest to the junior subordinated debentures and will not make any payment of interest, principal or premium, if any, on or repay, repurchase or redeem any debt securities issued by NYCB which rank equally with or junior to the junior subordinated debentures other than:

- (1) repurchases or acquisitions of shares of capital stock of NYCB in connection with any employee benefit plans or any other contractual obligation of NYCB;
- (2) dividends or distributions in capital stock (or rights to acquire capital stock) of NYCB;
- (3) payments under the preferred securities guarantee;

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- (4) any declarations of a dividend in connection with the implementation of a stockholders' rights plan, or the issuances of stock under any such plan in the future, or redemptions or repurchases of any rights pursuant to a rights agreement;
- (5) repurchases of capital stock of NYCB in connection with the satisfaction by NYCB of its obligations pursuant to any acquisition of business made by NYCB (which repurchases are made in connection with the satisfaction of indemnification obligations of the seller of such businesses);
- (6) as a result of an exchange or conversion of NYCB's capital stock for any other class or series of NYCB's capital stock; or
- (7) the purchase of fractional interests in shares of NYCB's capital stock pursuant to the conversion or exchange provisions of that NYCB capital stock or the security being converted or exchanged; and

So long as the junior subordinated debentures remain outstanding, NYCB will covenant to:

directly or indirectly maintain 100% ownership of the common securities of the trust, unless a permitted successor of NYCB succeeds to its ownership of the common securities; and

use its reasonable efforts to cause the applicable trust to:

- (1) remain a statutory trust, except in connection with the distribution of junior subordinated debentures to the holders of trust securities in liquidation of the trust, the redemption of all of the trust securities of the trust, or mergers, consolidations or amalgamations, each as permitted by the declaration which established the trust; and
- (2) otherwise continue to be classified as a grantor trust for United States federal income tax purposes; and

use its reasonable efforts to cause each holder of trust securities to be treated as owning an undivided beneficial interest in the junior subordinated debentures.

**Consolidation, Mergers and Sales of Assets**

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, NYCB may consolidate or merge with or into any other corporation, and may sell, lease or convey all or substantially all of its assets to any corporation, provided that:

the resulting corporation, if other than NYCB, is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the United States of America or any U.S. state and assumes all of our obligations to:

- (1) pay or deliver the principal or maturity consideration of, and any premium, or interest on, the junior subordinated debentures; and

- (2) perform and observe all of our other obligations under the indenture; and

neither NYCB nor any successor corporation, as the case may be, is, immediately after any consolidation or merger, in default under the indenture.

The indenture does not provide for any right of acceleration in the event of a consolidation, merger, sale of all or substantially all of the assets, recapitalization or change in our stock ownership. In addition, the indenture does not contain any provision which would protect the holders of the junior subordinated debentures against a sudden and dramatic decline in credit quality resulting from takeovers, recapitalizations or similar restructurings.

#### **Events of Default, Waiver and Notice**

The indenture provides that the following are events of default relating to the junior subordinated debentures:

default in the payment of the principal of, or premium, if any, on, any junior subordinated debenture when due;



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default in the payment of any interest on any junior subordinated debenture when due, which continues for 30 days; *provided, however,* that a valid extension of an interest payment by NYCB will not constitute an event of default;

default in the performance of any other covenant or obligation in respect of the junior subordinated debenture, which continues for 90 days after written notice; and

specified events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization of NYCB or, with certain exceptions, the applicable trust.

If an indenture event of default occurs and is continuing, the debenture trustee or the holders of not less than 25% in aggregate principal amount of the junior subordinated debentures of that series then outstanding may declare the principal of all junior subordinated debentures of that series to be due and payable immediately.

The holders of a majority in aggregate outstanding principal amount of that series of junior subordinated debentures may annul the declaration and waive the default if the default has been cured and a sum sufficient to pay all matured installments of interest and principal due other than by acceleration has been deposited with the debenture trustee. The majority holders may not waive a principal payment default on the junior subordinated debentures which has become due solely by acceleration.

The holders of a majority in principal amount of the junior subordinated debentures of any series affected may direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the debenture trustee under the indenture or exercising any trust or power conferred on the debenture trustee with respect to that series, provided that any direction is not in conflict with any rule of law or the indenture. Subject to the provisions of the indenture relating to the duties of the debenture trustee, before proceeding to exercise any right or power under the indenture at the direction of the holders, the debenture trustee is entitled to receive from those holders reasonable security or indemnity against the costs, expenses and liabilities which it might incur in complying with any direction.

The indenture requires the annual filing by NYCB with the debenture trustee of a certificate as to the absence of certain defaults under the indenture.

The debenture trustee may withhold notice of any event of default from the holders of the junior subordinated debentures, except in the payment of principal, interest or premium, if the debenture trustee considers it in the interest of those holders to do so.

## **Distribution of the Junior Subordinated Debentures**

Under circumstances discussed more fully in the prospectus supplement involving the dissolution of a trust, after satisfaction of liabilities to creditors of the trust, junior subordinated debentures may be distributed to the holders of the trust securities in liquidation of that trust. See Description of the Preferred Securities in the accompanying prospectus supplement.

If the junior subordinated debentures are distributed to the holders of the preferred securities, NYCB will use its best efforts to have the junior subordinated debentures listed on the New York Stock Exchange or on such other national securities exchange or similar organization on which the preferred securities are then listed or quoted.

**Modification of the Indenture**

Modifications and amendments to the indenture may be made by NYCB and the debenture trustee with the consent of the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the junior subordinated debentures at the

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time outstanding. However, no such modification or amendment may, without the consent of the holder of each junior subordinated debenture affected:

modify the payment terms of the junior subordinated debentures; or

reduce the percentage of holders of junior subordinated debentures necessary to modify or amend the indenture or waive compliance by NYCB with any covenant or past default.

If the junior subordinated debentures are held by a trust or a trustee of a trust, the supplemental indenture will not be effective until the holders of a majority in liquidation amount of trust securities of that trust have consented to the supplemental indenture. However, if the consent of the holder of each outstanding junior subordinated debenture is required, the supplemental indenture will not be effective until each holder of the trust securities of that trust, has consented to the supplemental indenture.

We and the debenture trustee may also amend and modify the indenture without the consent of any holder under certain circumstances described in the indenture.

## **Defeasance and Discharge**

The indenture provides that NYCB, at its option:

- (1) will be discharged from all obligations in respect of the junior subordinated debentures of a series, except for obligations to register the transfer or exchange of junior subordinated debentures, replace stolen, lost or mutilated junior subordinated debentures, maintain paying agencies and hold moneys for payment in trust; or
- (2) need not comply with specified restrictive covenants of the indenture;

in each case if NYCB deposits, in trust, money or U.S. government obligations in an amount sufficient to pay all the principal of, and interest and premium, if any, on, the junior subordinated debentures when those payments are due.

To exercise any such option, NYCB is required to deliver an opinion of counsel that:

the deposit and related defeasance would not cause the holders of the junior subordinated debentures of that series to recognize income, gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes and, in the case of a discharge pursuant to clause (1) above, the opinion will be accompanied by a private letter ruling to that effect received by NYCB from the United States Internal Revenue Service or a revenue ruling pertaining to a comparable form of transaction to that effect published by the United States Internal Revenue Service; and

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if listed on any national securities exchange, the junior subordinated debentures would not be delisted from that exchange as a result of the exercise of the defeasance option.

### **Governing Law**

The indenture and the junior subordinated debentures will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York.

### **The Debenture Trustee**

The debenture trustee provides trust services to us and our affiliates in connection with certain trust preferred securities that are currently outstanding.

The occurrence of any default under either of the indenture or the senior or subordinated indentures between NYCB and the debenture trustee relating to NYCB's senior and subordinated debt securities, which may also be

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issued under this registration statement, could create a conflicting interest for the debenture trustee under the Trust Indenture Act. If that default has not been cured or waived within 90 days after the debenture trustee has acquired a conflicting interest, the debenture trustee would generally be required by the Trust Indenture Act to eliminate the conflicting interest or resign as debenture trustee with respect to the debt securities issued under the senior indenture or the subordinated indenture or with respect to the junior subordinated debentures issued under the indenture. If the debenture trustee resigns, NYCB is required to promptly appoint a successor debenture trustee with respect to the affected securities.

The Trust Indenture Act also imposes certain limitations on the right of the debenture trustee, as a creditor of NYCB, to obtain payment of claims in certain cases, or to realize on certain property received in respect of any cash claim or otherwise. The debenture trustee will be permitted to engage in other transactions with NYCB, provided that if it acquires a conflicting interest within the meaning of section 310 of the Trust Indenture Act, it must generally either eliminate that conflict or resign.

### **EFFECT OF OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE JUNIOR SUBORDINATED**

### **DEBENTURES AND THE PREFERRED SECURITIES GUARANTEES**

As set forth in the declaration, the sole purposes of the trusts are to issue the trust securities and to invest the proceeds from that issuance and sale in the junior subordinated debentures.

As long as payments of interest and other payments are made by NYCB when due on the junior subordinated debentures, those payments will be sufficient to cover the distributions and payments due on the trust securities. This is due to the following factors:

the aggregate principal amount of junior subordinated debentures will be equal to the sum of the aggregate stated liquidation amount of the trust securities;

the interest rate and the interest and other payment dates on the junior subordinated debentures will match the distribution rate and distribution and other payment dates for the trust securities;

under the indenture, NYCB will pay, and the trusts will not be obligated to pay, directly or indirectly, all costs, expenses, debts and obligations of the trusts, other than those relating to the trust securities; and

the declaration further provides that the NYCB capital trustees may not cause or permit the trusts to engage in any activity that is not consistent with the purposes of the trusts.

Payments of distributions, to the extent there are available funds, and other payments due on the preferred securities, to the extent there are available funds, are guaranteed by NYCB to the extent described in this prospectus. If NYCB does not make interest payments on the junior subordinated debentures, the trust will not have sufficient funds to pay distributions on the preferred securities. Each preferred securities guarantee is a subordinated guarantee in relation to the preferred securities. The preferred securities guarantee does not apply to any payment or distributions unless the trust has sufficient funds for the payment of those distributions. See Description of the Preferred Securities Guarantees.

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The preferred securities guarantees cover the payment of distributions and other payments on the preferred securities only if and to the extent that NYCB has made a payment of interest or principal or other payments on the junior subordinated debentures. The preferred securities guarantees, when taken together with NYCB's obligations under the junior subordinated debentures and the indenture and its obligations under the declaration, will provide a full and unconditional guarantee of distributions, redemption payments and liquidation payments on the preferred securities.

If NYCB fails to make interest or other payments on the junior subordinated debentures when due, taking account of any extension period, the declaration allows the holders of the preferred securities to direct the

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property trustee to enforce its rights under the junior subordinated debentures. If the property trustee fails to enforce these rights, to the fullest extent permitted by law, any holder of preferred securities may directly sue NYCB to enforce these rights without first suing the property trustee or any other person or entity. See Description of the Preferred Securities Book Entry Only Issuance The Depository Trust Company and Voting Rights in the accompanying prospectus supplement.

A holder of preferred securities may institute a direct action if a declaration event of default has occurred and is continuing and that event is attributable to the failure of NYCB to pay interest or principal on the junior subordinated debentures on the date the interest or principal is otherwise payable. A direct action may be brought without first (1) directing the property trustee to enforce the terms of the junior subordinated debentures or (2) suing NYCB to enforce the property trustee's rights under the junior subordinated debentures. In connection with that direct action, NYCB will be subrogated to the rights of the holder of preferred securities under the declaration to the extent of any payment made by NYCB to that holder of preferred securities. Consequently, NYCB will be entitled to payment of amounts that a holder of preferred securities receives in respect of an unpaid distribution to the extent that the holder receives or has already received full payment relating to that unpaid distribution from a trust.

NYCB acknowledges that the guarantee trustee will enforce the preferred securities guarantees on behalf of the holders of the preferred securities. If NYCB fails to make payments under the preferred securities guarantees, the preferred securities guarantees allow the holders of the preferred securities to direct the guarantee trustee to enforce its rights thereunder. If the guarantee trustee fails to enforce the preferred securities guarantees, any holder of preferred securities may directly sue NYCB to enforce the guarantee trustee's rights under the preferred securities guarantees. The holder need not first sue the trust, the guarantee trustee, or any other person or entity. A holder of preferred securities may also directly sue NYCB to enforce the holder's right to receive payment under the preferred securities guarantees. The holder need not first (1) direct the guarantee trustee to enforce the terms of the preferred securities guarantee or (2) sue the trust or any other person or entity.

NYCB and the trusts believe that the above mechanisms and obligations, taken together, are equivalent to a full and unconditional guarantee by NYCB of payments due on the preferred securities. See Description of the Preferred Securities Guarantees General.

## **PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION**

NYCB may sell the junior subordinated debentures and any trust may sell preferred securities:

directly to purchasers;

through one or more agents;

to the public through a group of underwriters managed or co-managed by one or more underwriters, or through dealers; or

through a combination of such methods of sale.

Offers or sales of those securities may include secondary market transactions by affiliates of NYCB.

Offers to purchase preferred securities may be solicited directly by NYCB and/or any trust, as the case may be, or by agents designated by NYCB and/or any trust, as the case may be, from time to time. Any such agent, who may be deemed to be an underwriter as that term is defined in the Securities Act, involved in the offer or sale of the preferred securities in respect of which this prospectus is delivered will be named, and any commissions payable by NYCB to that agent will be set forth, in the prospectus supplement. Unless otherwise indicated in the prospectus supplement, any such agency will be acting on a best efforts basis for the period of its appointment which is ordinarily five business days or less. Agents, dealers and underwriters may be customers of, engage in transactions with, or perform services for NYCB in the ordinary course of business.

If an underwriter or underwriters are utilized in the sale, NYCB will execute an underwriting agreement with those underwriters at the time of sale to them and the names of the underwriters and the terms of the



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transaction will be set forth in the prospectus supplement, which will be used by the underwriters to make releases of the preferred securities in respect of which this prospectus is delivered to the public.

If a dealer is utilized in the sale of the preferred securities in respect of which this prospectus is delivered, NYCB and/or any trust, as the case may be, will sell those preferred securities to the dealer, as principal. The dealer may then resell those preferred securities to the public at varying prices to be determined by that dealer at the time of resale. The name of the dealer and the terms of the transaction will be set forth in the prospectus supplement. Agents, underwriters, and dealers may be entitled under the relevant agreements to indemnification by NYCB and/or any trust, as the case may be, against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

Underwriters, agents or their controlling persons may engage in transactions with and perform services for NYCB in the ordinary course of business.

Certain of the underwriters may use this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement for offers and sales related to market-making transactions in the securities. These underwriters may act as principal or agent in these transactions, and the sales will be made at prices related to prevailing market prices at the time of sale.

## **LEGAL MATTERS**

Certain matters of Delaware law relating to the validity of the preferred securities and the formation of the trusts will be passed upon by Stevens & Lee, P.C., Wilmington, Delaware, special Delaware counsel to NYCB and the trusts. The validity of the junior subordinated debentures and the preferred securities guarantee and certain United States federal income tax matters will be passed upon for NYCB and the trusts by Kilpatrick Stockton LLP, Washington, D.C.

## **EXPERTS**

The consolidated financial statements of New York Community Bancorp, Inc. and its subsidiaries as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2007, and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2007, have been incorporated by reference into this document in reliance upon the reports of KPMG LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, which are incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

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**New York Community Capital Trust I**

**New York Community Capital Trust II**

**New York Community Capital Trust III**

**New York Community Capital Trust IV**

**New York Community Capital Trust VI**

**Preferred Securities**

**fully and unconditionally guaranteed, as described in this prospectus and**

**the accompanying prospectus supplement, by**

**New York Community Bancorp, Inc.**

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**Prospectus**

**July 3, 2008**



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**PROSPECTUS**

**New York Community Capital Trust I**

**New York Community Capital Trust II**

**New York Community Capital Trust III**

**New York Community Capital Trust IV**

**New York Community Capital Trust VI**

**Units**

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**The Units:**

Each unit being offered consists of:

a preferred security issued by New York Community Capital Trust I, New York Community Capital Trust II, New York Community Capital Trust III, New York Community Capital Trust IV or New York Community Capital Trust VI ; and

a warrant to purchase shares of common stock of New York Community Bancorp, Inc.

**The Trusts:**

Each of the trusts is a Delaware statutory trust that:

sells preferred securities representing undivided beneficial interests in the trust to the public;

sells common securities representing undivided beneficial interests in the trust to New York Community Bancorp;

uses the proceeds from these sales to buy an equal principal amount of junior subordinated deferrable interest debentures of New York Community Bancorp; and

distributes the cash payments it receives on the junior subordinated debentures it owns to the holders of the preferred and common securities.

#### **Distributions:**

For each unit that you own, you will receive cumulative cash distributions on the liquidation amount of the preferred security. The rate at which cash distributions will be paid and the liquidation amount per preferred security will be set forth in the accompanying prospectus supplement.

#### **New York Community Bancorp:**

New York Community Bancorp will fully and unconditionally guarantee the payment by the trusts of the preferred securities as described in this prospectus.

This prospectus provides you with a general description of the units we may offer. Each time we offer securities, we will provide you with a prospectus supplement that will describe the specific amounts, prices and terms of the securities being offered. A prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. To understand the terms of securities offered by a trust, you should carefully read this prospectus with the applicable prospectus supplement, which together provide the specific terms of the securities.

**These securities are not deposits or obligations of a bank or savings association and are not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency.**

This prospectus may be used to offer and sell securities only if accompanied by the prospectus supplement for those securities.

**Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus or the accompanying prospectus supplement is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

**The date of this prospectus is July 3, 2008**

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**IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT INFORMATION PRESENTED IN THIS  
PROSPECTUS AND THE ACCOMPANYING PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT**

We provide information to you about the securities we are offering in three separate documents that progressively provide more detail:

this prospectus, which provides general information, some of which may not apply to your securities;

the accompanying prospectus supplement, which describes the specific and final terms of your securities; and

if necessary, a pricing supplement, which describes the specific terms of your securities.

If the terms of your securities vary between the pricing supplement, the prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, you should rely on the information in the following order of priority:

the pricing supplement, if any;

the prospectus supplement; and

the prospectus.

We include cross-references in this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement to captions in these materials where you can find further related discussions. The following Table of Contents and the Table of Contents included in the accompanying prospectus supplement provide the pages on which these captions are located.

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Unless indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we have not taken any action that would permit us to publicly sell these securities in any jurisdiction outside the United States. If you are an investor outside the United States, you should inform yourself about, and comply with, any restrictions as to the offering of the securities and the distribution of this prospectus.

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