#### Federal Reserve Bank of New York Second District Advisory Council Meeting Virtual Friday, February 2, 2024

#### AGENDA

3:00 p.m. – 3:05 p.m.	Welcome Remarks, Shawn Phillips, Head of External Engagement
3:05 p.m. – 3:10 p.m.	Introductory Remarks, John Williams, President & CEO
3:10 p.m. – 3:20 p.m.	National Economy Update, Jonathan McCarthy, Economic Research Advisor
3:20 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Regional Economy Update, Jaison Abel, Research Department Head, Household and Public Policy
3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Member Q&A with President Williams and Economists
4:00 p.m. – 4:55 p.m.	Member Insights, Shawn Phillips, Head of External Engagement Moderator
4:55 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Concluding Remarks, John Williams, President & CEO

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#### **Discussion Questions**

- 1. How has your business fared over the past several months?
- 2. How have business or economic conditions stayed the same, improved, or worsened (e.g. recruitment or retention of workers, access to capital, and other supply-side pressures)?
- 3. What are your projections for 2024?

#### Second District Advisory Council Meeting Friday, February 2, 2024

#### Attendee List - Virtual

#### **SDAC Members** <u>Virtual</u> Donnel Baird

Founder & CEO BlocPower

Kelly Bliss President, U.S. Group Health Teladoc Health

Jaswinder Chadha President & CEO Axtria, Inc.

Wetteny Joseph Executive Vice President & CFO Zoetis

Sarah LaFleur Founder & CEO M.M. LaFleur

Jonathan Rose President Jonathan Rose Companies

Anthony E. Shorris John Weinberg/Goldman Sachs Visiting Scholar & Senior Advisor Princeton University, McKinsey & Company

Federico Stubbe, Jr. CEO PRISA Group

Federal Reserve Bank of New York

#### **Federal Reserve Bank of New York**

Jaison Abel, Research & Statistics Andrew Haughwout, Research & Statistics Tiffany Hewlin, Corporate Secretary Andrea Grenadier, Communications & Outreach Jack Gutt, Communications & Outreach Eric Lewin, Legal Jonathan McCarthy, Research & Statistics Shawn Phillips, Communications & Outreach John Williams, President & CEO

### FEDERAL RESERVE BANK of NEW YORK

## **U.S. Economic Conditions**

Jonathan McCarthy, Economic Research Economist, Research and Statistics Group Second District Advisory Council: February 2, 2024

The views expressed here are those of the presenter and do not necessarily represent those of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York or the Federal Reserve System.



- As it was throughout 2023, real GDP growth was robust in Q4.
- Labor demand and supply continued to move into better balance, but the labor market remains tight.

 Inflation slowed significantly in 2023, but it continues to run above the FOMC goal.



# **GDP growth was strong in 2023Q4**



- Real GDP grew at a robust pace in 2023Q4.
- Expenditures were more resilient in 2023 than anticipated.

3

Since October, private forecasts moved higher.

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## **Robust consumption growth in 2023**





Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis via Haver Analytics.

- Consumption increased solidly through December.
- Saving rate was 3.7% in December, well below pre-pandemic levels.
- Goods spending is still well above prepandemic levels.
- Services expenditures are moderately above pre-pandemic levels.
- Little change recently in balance between goods and services.

## Housing market stabilizing at subdued level



Sources: Census Bureau, National Association of Realtors via Haver Analytics

- With mortgage rates still high, affordability is strained.
- Also hindered by limited supply, existing home sales are very weak.

- Single-family home building moved up over 2023, as new home sales held up fairly well for the year.
- Multi-family building activity fell from high levels over the course of the year.

## **Business investment composition shifted in 2023**



Sources: Census Bureau, National Association of Realtors via Haver Analytics

- Real spending on business equipment rebounded strongly after the pandemic.
- But equipment spending has been flat since mid-2022.

- After weakness following the pandemic, real spending on business structures has risen strongly since mid-2022.
- A surge in manufacturing structures is a factor in that rise.

## Financial and credit conditions have eased recently



 Long-term Treasury yields and mortgage rates have eased recently but are still above year-ago levels.

 The net percentage of banks stating that they are tightening standards for C&I loans to firms has fallen some, but it is still elevated.

Sources: Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Federal Reserve Board, Moody's, U.S Treasury, Senior Loan Officer Opinion Survey via Haver Analytics. Note: Shading shows NBER recessions. Bottom chart shows net percentage of respondents tightening standards for loans.

## Better balanced, but the labor market remains tight



- Unemployment rate was 3.7% in December.
- Participation somewhat below pre-pandemic levels.
- Job growth still solid: 3month average was 165,000 in December.
- Even with easing, there are more job openings than people looking for work.
- Wage growth moderated over 2023 but is still above pre-pandemic rates.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics via Haver Analytics. Note: Shading shows NBER recessions.

## Inflation slowed in 2023, but it remained above 2%



- Core goods prices fell in 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2023, as supply chain issues improved.
- Core services inflation slowed in 2023 but is still elevated.

- Ex-food & energy (core) inflation thus slowed in 2023 but it remained near 3%.
- Headline inflation was a little lower than core in 2023, reflecting a fall in energy prices over the year.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics via Haver Analytics.

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## **Concluding observations**

- Economic activity increased robustly in 2023.
- The labor market was resilient over the year.
- Inflation remains above 2 percent.
- Supply and demand in goods and labor markets are in better balance, but some imbalances are still evident.

### FEDERAL RESERVE BANK of NEW YORK

### **Economic Conditions in the Region**

Jaison R. Abel

SDAC Meeting – February 2, 2024

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### **Overview**

Businesses report sustained weakness in the regional economy.

• Job growth remains solid in much of the region.

• Price increases by regional businesses have slowed to a more modest pace.



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### **Sustained Weakness in the Regional Economy**

**New York Fed Regional Business Surveys** 



Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York; indexes shown as a 3-month moving average.



### Solid Job Growth in Much of the Region

Year-Over-Year Percent Change, Dec 2023



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## New York City Back to Pre-Pandemic Employment Levels

Total Employment, 2020 to 2023



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and Moody's Economy.com.

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### Jobs Gained in New York City Different from Jobs Lost

Change in Number of Jobs by Sector, Feb 2020 to Dec 2023



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### **Price Increases Have Slowed to a More Modest Pace**

**New York Fed Regional Business Surveys** 



Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

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# **Reference Slides**



### **Recent Job Growth by Local Area**

Year-Over-Year Percent Change, Dec 2023



8