

[EDC confident on future of manufacturing in New York City, despite closures](#)

By Mazin Sidahmed

2:56 p.m. | Apr. 6, 2016

The City's Economic Development Corporation is not deterred by manufacturing layoffs in Brooklyn, said EDC executive vice president Carolee Fink.

"We still see a future for manufacturing in New York," Fink said, after a panel on "non-core" markets hosted by the Urban Land Institute New York. "We're making sure that we provide that real estate and stability for manufactures so that they can stay in New York."

Crain's New York [reported](#) this week that 3D printer manufacturer MakerBot shed 65,000 square feet of its Industrial City property in Brooklyn. It also vacated the lease on another 25,000 square foot property and let some workers go.

This comes only a few months after the Brooklyn-based manufacturer of Sweet N'Low [shrunk its operation](#) and laid off employees.

The de Blasio administration has invested heavily in reviving manufacturing in New York City, including putting \$100 million into renovating 500,000 square feet of the Brooklyn Army Terminal in Sunset Park to lure manufacturers. After almost fifteen years of steady manufacturing decline, the industry saw a slight uptick in 2011. According to the Center for Urban Future, the industry grew gradually from 2011-2014. Food manufacturing has been a major driver of that growth.

"We're seeing a lot of food manufacturers that need space right now," said Fink.

Clare Newman, chief of staff at Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation, and Toby Moskovits, CEO of Heritage Equity Partners, were also on the panel with Fink. All three expressed confidence in the current state of manufacturing in Brooklyn.

Newman discussed the opportunities in "New Manufacturing," a term used to describe advanced manufacturing operations that hire a highly trained workforce, at the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

"When folks go to massive scale it's unlikely that they're going to site in New York anymore," Newman said. However, there is a lot of manufacturing that happens at the more advanced stages of manufacturing that require more specialities, she added.

You've received this POLITICO Pro content because your customized settings include: Real Estate (all articles) or one of the following Real Estate, City Hall topics: Real Estate.

To change your alert settings, please go to your [Pro settings page](#).

POLITICO