

THIS IS HOW NEW YORK WORKS  
**CAPITAL** BETA  
ONLINE

January 14 2013

<http://www.capitalnewyork.com/article/politics/2013/01/7175125/imagine-what-i-can-do-joe-lhota-makes-quasi-announcement-mayor>

**‘Imagine What I can do’: Joe Lhota Makes a Quasi-Announcement for Mayor**

By Dana Rubinstein

"I would not have left the M.T.A., a job and position that I loved, if I was not going to run for mayor of New York," said Joe Lhota today, in his strongest statement to date that he's running.



*Lhota at the Mandarin Oriental. Dana Rubinstein*

He made his remarks at the New York Building Congress's annual membership meeting, which was sponsored by real estate players like Forest City Ratner and Lend Lease Construction, just the sort of people whose deep pockets would come in handy in a mayoral campaign.

Lhota, a former deputy mayor under Rudy Giuliani, won positive reviews during his truncated chairmanship of the M.T.A. But he has a number of serious institutional challenges as a candidate, beginning with the fact that he's a Republican without significant name recognition or the means to self-finance.

He ended his prepared speech, deadpan, with the following line: "Imagine what I can do in my future with a much more complex organization."

In a scrum with reporters afterward, Lhota said he plans to file by the end of the week.