

Riders Respond Tour

As someone who doesn't own a car and rides the subway on a daily basis, I know how infuriated New Yorkers are about the consistently poor service that we experience each day as we try to go to work, school, and just live our lives. New Yorkers depend on our subway, and when it is in disrepair and constantly delayed it directly impacts our pocket books and quality of life.

I was excited to join Assemblymember Jeff Dinowitz, Councilmember Ydanis Rodriguez and many other elected officials at a press conference on Monday to announce the first ever #ridersrespond tour, where many of my colleagues in government and community leaders would ride the subway for 12 straight hours over a two day period and speak directly to riders about their concerns, hear their complaints, and work to come up with solutions.



I was excited to join the tour today to bring attention to our subways with the hope of finally convincing the Governor and the Mayor to work together to actually address the transportation needs for all of us.



Weeks ago, I released my six point plan to fix the MTA because we need a comprehensive solution to address overcrowding and decaying infrastructure. The MTA's capital budget is underfunded. We have to find places to add money for newer trains, modern stations, and efficient equipment. I look forward to continuing to advocate for a better transit system for all of us, and hope that you will join in the chorus to call on the Governor and Mayor to put this issue first.

School Based Health Centers

Late last month, it was brought to my attention by the school leadership at MS 51, a school that serves many students within my district that their vital school based health center was slated to be cut. School-Based Health Centers (SBHC) **provide free health services** at schools across New York State. According to the NYC Department of Education, SBHC serve over 345 schools citywide. Many SBHC are located in neighborhoods with limited access to health services and provide an important safety-net for immigrants and the uninsured.

SBHC now face severe underfunding and instability which may force many of these critical health centers to close, including 4 within Community Education Council District 15.

The State Department of Health has proposed changing how SBHC are reimbursed which could cost \$16.3 million, according to the Children's Defense Fund. This is in addition to budget cuts that have already happened.

In addition to other efforts, I have joined with State Senator Daniel Squadron, Councilmember Brad Lander & Assemblymember Jo Anne Simon to ask New Yorkers to sign this petition to urge Governor

Cuomo and the New York State Department of Health to keep SBHC open by stopping \$16.3 million dollars in cuts and keeping SBHC reimbursements the same.

I will be joining a rally to save our School Based Health Clinics on Wednesday August 9^{th} at 11am at 610 Henry Street (btw 3^{rd} & 4^{th} Place).

Please join us if you can!

National Night Out Against Crime

I had a wonderful time on Tuesday evening attending National Night Out Against Crime events across my district. In my short time as an elected official, I have been incredibly impressed with the professionalism of the officers of the NYPD and appreciate the hard work they do for the communities of the 44th Assembly District.



It was a lot of fun to share in a community celebration with the officers of the 78th, 70th, and 66th Precincts as well as the hundreds of community members who came out to celebrate.

Senior Center Visits

On Wednesday, I spent the lunch hour visiting three Senior Centers in my district. As an elected official one of my top priorities is to ensure that our Seniors are able to enjoy a vibrant quality of life. Our senior centers are a wonderful resource that offers a friendly community atmosphere, activities and events, as well as a nutritious and delicious meal every day. I am lucky to have some of the best senior centers in all of Brooklyn and some of the great senior center directors, too! I am proud to support these wonderful places and look forward to continuing that support in the years to come.





If you have any community concerns or legislative ideas, please reach out to my office by responding to this email or by calling my office at (718) 788-7221.

See you around the neighborhood,

Bobby