



New York State Assembly Weekly Report

From Assistant Speaker

FELIX W. ORTIZ

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FelixWOrtiz



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Ortiz has invited New York State Transportation Commissioner Matthew Driscoll to participate in a Sunset Park Town Hall Meeting to discuss community issues with local residents.

Sunset Parkers need to know more about the work underway to rebuild and improve the Gowanus Expressway in Brooklyn. Poor lighting on 3rd Avenue and trash dumped by passers by happens too often, making the need for better coordination with the New York City agencies necessary.

Residents also need to learn how the state plans to work with New York City agencies as plans move forward to rebuild the South Brooklyn Marine Terminal. Rumors are circulating throughout Sunset Park about an increase of 55,000 more trucks every year in the neighborhood as a result of reopening the Marine Terminal. Ortiz opposes any unreasonable increase in traffic unless community members participate in the state and city decision making processes.

More information on the DOT Town Hall will be made available as soon as it is scheduled.



Please continue to monitor my Facebook Page for updates on Winter Storm Jonas clean up efforts, transit changes and closings.

Ortiz continues to support the efforts of Sunset Park residents who have been subject to unscrupulous landlords. Working with community-based organizations such as "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" and city agencies, Ortiz is helping take action against landlords at 553, 545 and 557 46th street. Tenants deserve fair and safe living conditions and services. Landlords are responsible for more than a business investment.

Renewable energy programs in the state budget have increased incentives for residents to take advantage of solar installations and alternative energy solutions. This year the Governor has announced a \$15 million Clean Workforce Opportunities Program, which will train a new generation with skills needed to put alternative energy systems in place. As new opportunities for Brooklyn residents to use solar energy are developed, we will share the information. Assistant Speaker Ortiz met with the owners of Monolith Solar in Albany to discuss their ongoing and growing business across New York.



Charter school families visited Albany this week. Ortiz had an opportunity to meet some remarkable young students and talk about their experience at Success Academy charter school



As a former Chair of the Mental Health Committee and as the only sponsor of legislation to require guidance counselors and social workers in every school, Ortiz reiterated his longstanding conviction that educators should receive continued training to identify and address mental health issues in our children at an event in Albany. Ortiz supports and will co-sponsor new legislation to ensure school staff are adequately trained to help our students maintain the healthy mindset needed for learning.