



### Dear Neighbor,

*I have heard from many of you about concern over the direction that the new Federal Administration wants to move our country. I want you to know that I share many of these concerns. I have voiced my opposition to harmful proposals and federal appointments by attending marches, rallies, town halls, and in private and public meetings and I will continue to do so as long as it is necessary. As your State Representative, I will continue to focus my energy on ensuring your State government does*

*everything possible to protect vulnerable New Yorkers, especially those most under threat.*

*Under the system of federalism set forth by our Founding Fathers, states are charged with governing many of the affairs that most directly affect citizens, including law enforcement, health care provisions and education. State governments attract less attention than the federal government, but they are arguably even more important when it comes to the day-to-day lives of ordinary people. My colleagues in the Assembly Majority and I have recently taken several steps to directly combat attacks on New Yorkers. Some examples include:*

- The President recently issued guidance on immigration enforcement that would deputize local law enforcement to enforce cruel and punitive deportations. In response, the New York State Assembly passed "Sanctuary State" legislation which would, among other provisions, direct local law enforcement not to cooperate with federal authorities to deport undocumented immigrants except in cases of violent felonies, terrorism, or previous deportation.*
- The President has nominated a Supreme Court Justice who appears prepared to weaken or overturn Roe v. Wade. To counter this, the State Assembly has overwhelmingly passed the Reproductive Health Act, which is a bill I sponsored, to codify Roe v. Wade and enshrine a woman's right to autonomy over her body in New York State, even if current protections under Roe v. Wade are eroded.*
- Despite failure of the President and Congressional majority to overturn the Affordable Care Act and leave millions of elderly and low-income people without health insurance, the New York State Assembly is working on passing the New York Health Act. This legislation would make New York a single-payer health care state. Long before the Affordable Care Act was passed, insurance companies in New York State covered the cost of contraception thanks to passage of the Women's Health and Wellness Act, a bill which I sponsored.*
- In the 2016 general election, the President was elected by a mere 26% of eligible voters. This is embarrassingly low voter participation. Our elected officials need to represent the whole constituency, not just a handful who show up on Election Day. In New York State, we are in desperate need of legislation to make it easier for people to vote. I am proud to co-sponsor several bills to make voting easier including the Voter Empowerment and the Modernized Voter Registration Acts of New York, which would provide for the automatic registration of eligible, consenting citizens at designated government agencies, allow for online and same-day voter registration and increase access to early voting and absentee ballots. I also co-sponsor a bill to close the loophole that allows shady LLCs to spend limitless funds on influencing elections.*

*In order for any of these measures to become law in New York State, the State Senate must pass them and then Governor Cuomo must sign them. It is imperative that the Senate and Governor know that New Yorkers expect them to act quickly on behalf of a progressive agenda. I urge you to call on Senate Majority Leader Flanagan and Independent Democrat Conference (IDC) Leader Klein and tell them to protect vulnerable New Yorkers.*

*I have spent my career in Albany focusing on issues of concern to women and families, students, immigrants, and the LGBTQ community and my commitment to justice and human rights does not waver, no matter who is President. I hope you will join me in the local-level effort to push progressive policies, and show the nation what an engaged democracy looks like.*

Sincerely,

Deborah

### Communicating with Your Elected Officials

I went into public service in order to help address the needs of our local communities. In order to do so, getting a clear message from constituents is imperative. My office has certainly seen a recent increase in communication from constituents. This is great! Here are some of my tips on how to most effectively communicate with your elected officials:

- Hard copy letters tend to get more attention than email.
- Personalized feedback resonate more than a form letter.
- If sending a postcard or letter, make sure to write your name and address legibly. This not only confirms that you are a constituent, but it also allows representatives to respond in a manner that respects the time you took to reach out.
- If you call, it is unlikely that you will be able to speak to your representative directly, but that is why we have staff.
- That said, staff may not always be able to answer all questions on specific topics immediately. Leave your name and phone number and ask for a call back if you want a dialogue with the most appropriate person.
- Most offices log all calls and pass along opinions to the representative even if you are just leaving a simple message of support or opposition.
- If you have specific questions or want information on a topic, ask for a response.

Remember, our offices work on individual constituent issues, budget, legislation, community issues and many other things. Most of us are doing our best to get you answers in a timely fashion, but just like you have your specific area of concern, so might all your neighbors. You have the right to a response, but understand it may not always be immediate.



***I am proud that the Assembly once again passed the Reproductive Health Act. This is a bill which I have sponsored for many years, and would guarantee a woman's access to a safe, legal abortion in New York State. It is regrettably stalled in the State Senate.***

## State Budget Update

In New York State with divided government, our budgets include uncomfortable compromises along with successes, and this year is no different.

In this budget, we made an historic change in criminal justice by raising the age of criminal responsibility from 16 to 18. North Carolina was the only other state treating these young people as adults. No one should be under the misimpression that 16 and 17 year olds who commit crimes won't be subject to prosecution, but it will be in the more appropriate family court and they will not be incarcerated with adult criminals.

The millionaire's tax was extended, but we were unable to advance the Assembly's proposal to add new higher income tax brackets to make the tax code more progressive. Our capital budget includes \$2.5 billion for water system improvements around the state, and \$2.5 billion for affordable and supportive housing. This includes \$1 billion for the creation of 6,000 units of supportive housing and directs

\$125 million for senior housing and \$100 million for 100% affordable housing in New York City among many other housing programs. Regrettably, this budget also includes a renewed 421a program.

Despite the Governor's proposal to eliminate foundation aid, which is back-pay the State owes school districts, the final budget includes these payments and adds \$700 million for education. For higher education, the Excelsior Scholarship program was altered to make the program more accessible while eliminating some of the Governor's proposals that would have hurt charitable donations to SUNY and CUNY foundations.

Compromise is never easy, but it is the essence of government, especially when there is an ideological split between the two houses of the Legislature. My office will provide a more detailed overview of what is included in this budget in an e-newsletter. You can also reach out to my office for an update: [glickd@nyassembly.gov](mailto:glickd@nyassembly.gov) or 212-674-5153.

## Exceptional Public Higher Education

While high school seniors are anxiously awaiting news of acceptances to college, juniors are beginning to think about what schools they will want to consider. As the school year winds down, many parents are likely organizing campus visits to determine the best college fit for their children. As that process moves forward, it is important to remember that our public university systems—SUNY and CUNY—offer extraordinary opportunities. Some campuses may be particularly well known for some courses of study, but in addition may have unique hidden gems that are important to explore.

As the Chair of the Assembly Higher Education Committee, I have had an opportunity to visit most—though not all as of yet—of our fine Higher Education campuses. I may have known that SUNY Plattsburgh has a strong business program, but I was surprised to see its extremely impressive arts program. I knew that SUNY Cortland has a vigorous teacher education program, but it is also known for a sports program that is wide ranging. Cortland has a robust Kinesiology Department that offers studies in athletic training, coaching, exercise science, fitness development and more

leading to professions in occupational therapy, physical therapy and sports medicine to name a few.

For students interested in careers that are often overlooked, SUNY Delhi has a construction management degree program as well as a veterinary technician degree program. If students wish to remain in or come to New York City, which is a great college town, CUNY offers an enormous number of campuses with programs ranging from criminal justice at John Jay College, a program of study at Brooklyn College's Conservatory of Music, focused on composition, performance or music education. If students wish to pursue architecture, engineering or medicine, City College offers these degree programs.

I could catalog a long list of individual programs throughout the State, but my point is that as students are reviewing their options for college, students and their parents, should be aware of the comprehensive array of programs offered at SUNY and CUNY colleges.

## STEM Scholarship

The New York State Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Incentive Program provides full tuition scholarships to students who:

- graduate from a high school located in New York State;
- are ranked in the top ten percent of their class;
- enroll in full-time STEM study each term in an approved undergraduate program at a SUNY or CUNY college;
- earn a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher each term after the first semester; and
- work full-time in a STEM field and reside in New York for five continuous years upon completion of said degree.

Students receiving a STEM scholarship are entitled to an annual award for up to four academic years of full-time undergraduate study, or five academic years if the program of study normally requires five years. If a scholarship recipient fails to complete his or her degree in STEM or does not work in New York State for five continuous years upon graduation in a STEM field, the scholarship would be converted to a student loan, plus interest.

To apply for this scholarship, or learn more about the STEM Incentive Program, please visit the financial Aid section of the Higher Education Services Corporation website.

## Unclaimed Funds

You may be receiving a letter from my office alerting you that you have unclaimed funds at the New York State Office of the Comptroller. Unclaimed funds could be the result of anything from overpayment of a utility bill to un-cashed checks, dividends, settlements, or refunds for undelivered goods. Billions of dollars that belong to New Yorkers

remain unclaimed each year, which is why I have partnered with the Office of the Comptroller to let constituents know how to find and access their money using a free, easy, and secure online tool. You can also look this up yourself by going to <http://www.osc.state.ny.us/ouf/> and filling in some basic information.

## Do You Suspect an Illegal Hotel is Operating in Your Building?

As peak tourist season begins, it is important to understand the laws surrounding short-term rentals and how to report suspected violators. In multi-family buildings, a sublet of an entire unit for fewer than 30 days is illegal in New York City. Additionally, posting the rental on websites like Airbnb, Homeaway, or VRBO is illegal. Most of these short term rentals are also a violation of leases, coop/condo rules, fire code and/or other City ordinances.

The constant flow of tourists into a building creates a difficult situation for neighbors who often feel less safe and have their quality of life negatively affected. The Mayor's Office of Special Enforcement (OSE) is charged with the investigation and enforcement of laws governing short-term rentals. If you suspect a unit in your building is being rented illegally, you can file a complaint to 311 by citing an "illegal conversion in a residential space" either over the phone or through the online 311 complaint system. Or you may email OSE directly at [ose@cityhall.nyc.gov](mailto:ose@cityhall.nyc.gov) and provide information about the location, including specifying the unit if known.

# Hudson River Park

## Stalled Development at Pier 55

As you may have heard, following a lawsuit, a Federal judge has revoked the permits issued by the Army Corps of Engineers, thereby halting the development of a new Pier 55. The law requires all new development in the water to be of a water dependent use. The judge's decision is based strictly on the Clean Water Act and the Hudson River Park Act, and the fact that Pier 55 is certainly new development, and not water dependent.

I have always believed that a new pier would require a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and was shocked when that was not the path taken during the application by the Hudson River Park Trust. While the State approved changing the footprint of what was Pier 54 (and would become Pier 55), it did so under misleading information provided by the Trust. Since the original State legislation creating the Hudson River Park Trust, which is an Authority, there have been numerous changes to the waterfront and more planned. It is therefore appropriate to conduct a full EIS whenever new incursions into the water are proposed.

Manhattan Community Boards 2 & 4 have the least amount of park space in the City. Westside taxpayers deserve the same consideration as other New Yorkers who enjoy local parks without major commercial development eating up park open space. Hudson River Park is regularly cited as providing this open space, but the City has not provided its share of financial support to develop or maintain the open space. The former bus depot at Pier 57 was originally designated as public park, but once use of the depot ended, it will be mostly developed with commercial activity, although there will be open space on the roof. This further erodes open space promised to our community.

## Pier 40 Working Group

As we work hard to ensure the future of open and active recreational space, especially within Hudson River Park, Manhattan Community Board 2 has created Pier 40 Working Group. The purpose of this working group is to have a community driven discussion about what Pier 40's future should be and how we can preserve our open space. Meetings will likely be the last Thursday of each month for the duration of the year, and are all open to the public. To confirm meeting and location, visit the Community Board 2 calendar on the website. All input is welcome.

## Enjoy your waterfront safely

The Hudson River Park Trust wants to ensure that park patrons know the best ways to report safety issues and other types of concerns within the park. We are taking a number of steps to make it easier for visitors to report problems or concerns. Recently there has been some confusion in regards to reporting safety or other concerns within Hudson River Park. Below are some guidelines for security protocol and who to call for various situations.

- In all cases of emergency, or to report a potential crime, **immediately call 911**. Describe the nature of the emergency, and indicate that you are in Hudson River Park. Provide the closest cross street or pier location, and any landmarks to help identify your location.
  - Hudson River Park Trust (HRPT) recommends calling 911 first for all emergencies because NYPD and other NYC emergency response personnel may be able to reach you faster than Park officers.
  - If you are able to do so safely, next call Hudson River Park Public Safety at the Park's 24/7 Operations Desk: 212-242-6427 (add this number to your phone for convenience). An officer from Park Enforcement Patrol (PEP) will answer the call. Indicate that you have already called 911, give your location, and state the nature of the emergency. PEP will coordinate with NYPD.
- Of course, many issues are not emergencies. You may wish to report graffiti, an overflowing trash can, the need to clean a comfort station, or alert PEP to an electronic bike on the bikeway (e-bikes are illegal in NYC). For these non-emergency situations, please call Hudson River Park Public Safety at the 24/7 Operations Desk (212-242-6427).
- Whenever a call is received at the Operations Desk, a PEP officer will log your call, this allows HRPT to track issues, notice trends, and keep track of complaints until they are resolved.

Over the summer, HRPT will be rolling out permanent new park-wide signage that will assist visitors with identifying their specific locations within the park. Signage with the 24/7 Operations Desk number will also be posted on park vehicles, in display cases, at park concessions, and on many park signs. Tenants and concession operators will also be provided with information on how and when to report problems to 911 or the 24/7 Operations Desk.

HRPT welcomes any additional feedback about how to improve communications for park users. Call 212-627-2020 during regular business hours or email [info@hrpt.ny.gov](mailto:info@hrpt.ny.gov).

## Apply to be an Assembly Intern

If you are a college student, or know one, who might be interested in spending a semester as an Assembly intern in Albany, visit: <http://assembly.state.ny.us/internship/> for more information. The program is open to Juniors, Seniors and Graduate students for the January – June semester. During the semester, students are assigned to a Member's office where they participate in meetings, policy and legislative discussions and research. There is a strong academic component which includes attending a class, a research project and the semester culminates in a mock session on the floor of the Assembly. They receive college credit from their schools and receive a stipend. To participate, students must apply to their home school in the Fall.



*Pleased to work with the ASPCA and other organizations on the creation of the Companion Animal Capital fund in this year's budget. As more animal shelters become no kill shelters, there is a need to expand and upgrade facilities. This year's budget creates a matching grant program, where shelters can apply for a share of the cost.*

## Upcoming Loft Building Registration Deadline

In 2015, the New York State Legislature passed a revision of the Loft Law that extended the deadline for owners of IMD Loft Buildings to register with the New York City Loft Board and for tenants to register their Coverage Application. That deadline is fast approaching. In order to maintain coverage with the Loft

Law owners must register their buildings with the Loft Board, and tenants must submit a Coverage Application on or before June 15, 2017. Registration forms can be found at [www.nyc.gov/loftboard](http://www.nyc.gov/loftboard) or you can call the Public Information Officer at 212-393-2616.

## Fighting Against Climate Change

The evidence of climate change is everywhere-- the melting ice caps, rising of sea levels, frequent heat waves and the extreme and unseasonable weather patterns. The far reaching consequences are impacting our daily lives, natural habitat and food crops. In order to sustain our future, we need to do all we can to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

But instead of focusing on protecting our planet, under leadership appointed by the new President, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is denying the scientific evidence that climate change is real and affecting our planet. In addition to funding cuts, the President also issued an Executive Order to roll back protections through a withdrawal from the Clean Power Plan policy which was created to reduce our carbon footprint by decreasing coal pollutants from power plants and encouraging more renewable energy sources. Although the President has not formally opted-out of the Paris Change Agreement which specifies how nations are collectively working towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions, this Executive Order puts our prior climate change policy commitments in jeopardy. But working together, outside of the Federal Government, we can still achieve some of these goals.

As a State Legislator, I will continue to fight for an expansion of renewable energy and to make sure that our water and air quality remains free from pollutants. I am a co-sponsor of the bill that bans hydrofracking in New York State and will continue to push that it be passed. While I appreciate the Governor's Executive Order to prevent fracking in New York State, we are all too aware of how fragile and temporary Executive Orders can be. Therefore, it is crucial to enshrine a permanent ban on fracking in our State law. And it's not just States that have power.

Businesses and individuals are essential partners to protecting our planet as well. Fortunately, many businesses have and will continue to make commitments to reduced environmental impacts. For these companies, reducing their carbon footprint is driven by economic realities and they base their business strategy on them. Additionally, many initiatives are underway in cities, where most people live, to reduce our carbon foot-print.

While we all hope to be advancing Federal policies forward, our collective work on all levels can still have a huge impact. Despite the Federal Administration's position, the scientific and environmental community has taken it upon themselves to preserve data so that it is not lost for future generations. We must reduce our dependence on toxic over-the-counter pesticides. Consistently, research has shown that glyphosate, found in these products, is not only toxic but has contributed to the drastic decline in the monarch butterfly population. Butterflies and bees, which are also threatened, are essential to the survival of some food sources. Late last year, I wrote to the EPA to request these products be banned, as they are in other countries.

We can all pitch in by recycling and disposing of waste in proper receptacles, using reusable bags at the grocery store and turning off appliances when not in use and not running water when washing dishes or brushing our teeth. While we no longer have a Federal Administration that will be fighting along beside us, we must continue to do what we can to fight these bad policies, while impacting the changes we can individually. We are strongest while working together.

## Join Our Email List

While I am thrilled to be able to mail out these newsletters a few times a year, I also send out a monthly e-newsletter. In addition to updates from my office, news about community events or initiatives, I also send occasional emails with critical information

about city services and safety concerns. Please visit my website, <http://nyassembly.gov/mem/Deborah-J-Glick/enews> to sign up for my e-newsletter and start receiving regular updates.

853 Broadway, Suite 2007, New York, NY 10003

*Deborah Glick's*



## NEIGHBORHOOD UPDATE

ASSEMBLYMEMBER  
66<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT  
NEW YORK CITY

*HOW TO REACH US:*  
Call 212-674-5153 or  
email [glickd@nyassembly.gov](mailto:glickd@nyassembly.gov)

PRSR STD.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Albany, New York  
Permit No. 75

## Paper Shredding Event

It's Spring Cleaning time! I know it's often difficult to dispose of documents with personal or financial information, which is why I'm thrilled to partner with AARP to offer a free, secure shredding event.

Properly disposing of sensitive documents helps prevent thieves from using your data to open false accounts or lines of credit. Some examples of things you might want to dispose of include: bank and credit card statements or account information, contracts, employee/applicant information, medical records,

budgeting/accounting information and junk mail (with name and address such as credit card applications).

The event will take place on **Friday, April 28, 2017 from 1-4 p.m.** A truck will be parked outside of Morton Williams on the corner of Bleecker Street and LaGuardia Street to collect your documents. You can drop by at any point and deposit your papers. They will be shredded and disposed of securely. There is no limit to how much you can drop off.