

Assemblymember

DAVID I. WEPRIN



Reports to the Community

Winter 2022

Serving the partial or entire communities of:

Briarwood, Bellerose, Fresh Meadows, Hillcrest, Hollis Hills, Holliswood, Jamaica Estates, Jamaica Hills, Oakland Gardens, Queens Village, Richmond Hill, South Richmond Hill, and Utopia

A Message From DAVID I. WEPRIN



Dear friend,

I hope this message finds you and your loved ones happy, healthy, and well. As we begin the new year, I want to share some updates from the past few months.

I've been honored to host and participate in many community events across the 24th Assembly District – both in my current lines and the revised lines that will take effect on January 1st, 2023. This year we've come together to celebrate great achievements like groundbreaking, business openings, and the commemoration of happy anniversaries; we've also mourned losses and worked together to find compromise and positive resolutions to many challenges. While the aftermath of the COVID19 Crisis and its lingering effects continue to test us, I believe that we are firmly on the path to building a better and stronger community than before. Everyone is a partner in this process, and I'm counting on your continued advocacy to help me represent you to the best of my abilities.

Both of my District Offices will continue to operate 5 days a week, 9 am to 5 pm at 185-06 Union Turnpike in Fresh Meadows (718-454-3027) and 111-12 Atlantic Avenue in Richmond Hill (718-805-2381). We would love to hear from you, so please don't hesitate to stop by or reach out to us by phone or email (weprind@nyassembly.gov) – one of my helpful staff will be happy to assist you. We currently have supplies of PPE like KN95 masks, hand sanitizer, and COVID19 Testing Kits so that you and your network can stay healthy.

During this holiday season, when we celebrated Chanukah, Kwanzaa, Christmas, and the festivals of many faiths, I was deeply moved to live in Queens – “the World's Borough” – where we respect one another's beliefs and uplift our common dignity. As I begin my next term of office and look to the important decisions that will be made during the 2023 Legislative Session, I want to thank you deeply for your continued support. It is my honor to serve you in the New York State Assembly, and I hope you celebrated a joyous holiday season and I wish you a very happy new year!

Sincerely yours,

David I. Weprin
Member
New York State Assembly

Queens Civic Congress Luncheon

I was honored to join the Queens Civic Congress for their annual luncheon. Our many civic associations and community organizations are crucial to making Queens the best borough in New York, and the best place in the country to live, raise a family, or start a business. The Queens Civic Congress is a volunteer organization, and I am so grateful for their efforts toward the betterment of every neighborhood in Queens. It is with great fondness that we celebrated the successful conclusion of Former-President Kevin Forrester's tenure and welcomed Warren Schreiber to the role. I was deeply honored to join New York State Attorney General Letitia James on the dais with these and other distinguished leaders. Keep up the great work!



Ashook Ramsaran, Newly-Elected President Warren Schreiber, Attorney General Letitia James, Judge Jerry Iannece, and Assemblyman David Weprin.

TSINY Miele's Opening

Housing is an essential need for all New Yorkers, and we are facing an affordable housing crisis across our city. I was proud to join Transitional Services for New Yorkers (TSINY) for the grand opening of their new building, named in honor of the Miele Family. I toured The Miele's, a 70-unit facility in Jamaica built to provide services for formerly homeless individuals and seniors. TSINY has been a great partner in the community, and I'm very happy to have The Miele's joining the neighborhood.



Queens Borough President Donovan Richards, TSINY CEO Dr. Larry Grubler, and Assemblyman Weprin cut the ribbon and officially open “The Miele's.”

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Hurricane Ida Resiliency with Mayor Adams

Last September 1st, Hurricane Ida devastated our city. Communities throughout Queens were particularly hard hit, and 13 of our neighbors died as a result of the storm. With the enormous threats of climate change growing, we must be better prepared for these super storms. I joined Mayor Eric Adams, Department of Environmental Protection Queens Borough President Donovan Richards, City Council Speaker Adrienne Adams, City Council Members Joanne Ariola and Bob Holden, and Assembly Member Nily Rozic for a briefing by Chief Climate Officer Rit Aggarwala from the New York City Department of Environmental Protection. Together we mourned the lives lost and committed our efforts to resiliency and flood mitigation systems, including the 2,300 new Rain Gardens that have been installed across the city. These Rain Gardens can collect over 600 gallons of rain per hour, making them an important part of our resiliency efforts.



Queens Borough President Donovan Richards, Council Member Bob Holden, City Council Speaker Adrienne Adams, Assemblywoman Nily Rozic, Council Member Joanne Ariola, Assemblyman Weprin, and Mayor Eric Adams.

Rain Barrel Giveaway

Like clockwork every year, we host our Rain Barrel Distribution in partnership with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the New York City Parks Department. This year our distribution was in Alley Pond Park, and I was so thrilled to distribute 100 Rain Barrels to members of the community. We gave everything out in about an hour – we'll see you next year for Rain Barrels, Leaf Bags, PPE supplies, and many other supplies that our office distributes. Many thanks to all who attended and to the Alley Pond Environmental Center.



Assemblyman Weprin helps distribute Rain Barrels to constituents at Alley Pond Park.

Dominican Day and Puerto Rican Day Parades



As a member of the Assembly Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force and the son of a Cuban immigrant, I am deeply committed to celebrating the heritage of our neighbors from the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico. Dominican Americans are one of the largest growing populations in New York City, and I was overjoyed to march in the Dominican Day Parade, with our city and state's executive leadership all in attendance, from Mayor Adams to Governor Kathy Hochul. I stood alongside Lt. Governor Antonio Delgado to march behind the Governor's banner through Manhattan. I joined Assemblywoman Maritza Davila, Chair of the Assembly Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force, for the Knickerbocker Avenue Puerto Rican Day Parade through Bushwick, Brooklyn.



Left - Assemblyman Weprin marches alongside Lt. Governor Antonio Delgado in the Dominican Day Parade; Right - Assemblyman Jonathan Rivera, Assemblywoman Catalina Cruz, Assemblyman Weprin, and Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force Chair Maritza Davila.

Indian Independence Day



City Council Member Shekar Krishnan, Rockland County Legislator Aney Paul, Assemblyman Weprin, Assemblywoman Jenifer Rajkumar, State Senator Kevin Thomas, Governor Hochul, Consul General Randhir Jaiswal, Borough President Donovan Richards, and District Attorney Melinda Katz.

I joined Governor Kathy Hochul for her celebration of the 75th Indian Independence Day at the Queens Museum in Flushing Meadows Corona Park. My district is home to a large population of Southeast Asian Americans whose cultures have become important parts of the character of our community. Queens is truly "the World's Borough" and I'm always excited to honor the national holidays and celebrations of our citizens who trace their heritage around the world. We welcomed Indian Consul General Randhir Jaiswal and other members of India's Diaspora Community. I was a Co-prime sponsor of the legislation to have Governor Hochul officially proclaim August 15th as India Independence Day in New York State.

Yeshiva Har Torah Graduation and Groundbreaking

I was very honored to attend and speak at Yeshiva Har Torah's groundbreaking this year for their new early childhood educational center on Little Neck Parkway. After the graduation ceremonies for all the grades, I presented a proclamation commemorating the groundbreaking ceremony for their new school building. This state-of-the-art facility will be constructed over the next five years and I look forward to continuing my partnership with all our educational institutions throughout my district, eastern Queens, and beyond!



Dr. Beata Schulman, Eli Schilowitz President of Yeshiva Har Torah, Rabbi Gary Menchel, and Assemblyman Weprin.

Sikh Cultural Society Parade

I joined the leadership and members of the Sikh Cultural Society, the largest gurdwara in New York, for the yearly parade following the installation of the Sikh Holy Texts Guru Granth Sahib Ji. I am always deeply honored to join my friends at the Sikh Cultural Society for their celebrations and community outreach events. The parade is a tradition I look forward to every year!



Assemblyman Weprin marches with Sikh Cultural Society President Jatinder Singh Boparai and Harpreet Singh Toor.

Community Town Halls

This summer I hosted Town Hall meetings in Richmond Hill and Fresh Meadows. I believe that accountability is crucial for our government to function, and as public servants we must have dedicated facetime with our constituents. Representatives from multiple government departments joined me, including representatives from the Department of Transportation, Department of Environmental Protection, etc. Many thanks to all who attended and participated!



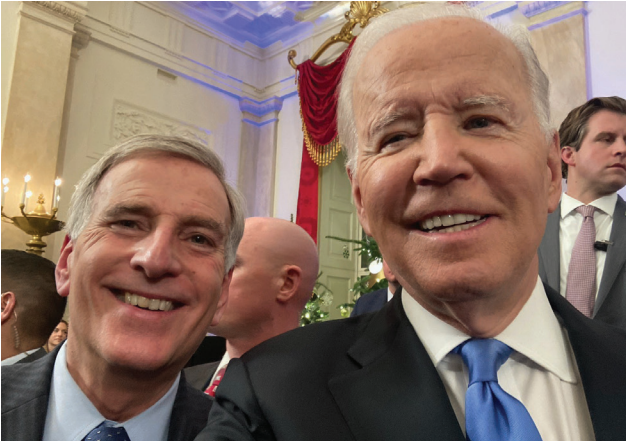
Assemblyman Weprin, Assemblywoman Rajkumar, and Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz address questions and concerns from the public.

Veterans Day

I was deeply honored to attend multiple Veterans Day ceremonies across my district and eastern Queens to honor our city's veterans. Queens is home to more veterans and their families than any other borough, and I wish to express my deep gratitude for their patriotism, love of country, and service to uphold the common good. Many thanks to St. John's University, the Jamaica Estates Civic Association, and all the organizers across Queens who helped us commemorate Veterans Day this year and every year.



Happy Chanukah!

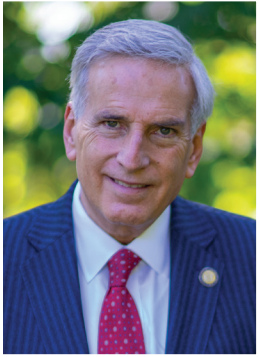


This Chanukah I was deeply honored to attend President Joe Biden and Dr. Jill Biden's Chanukah Reception at the White House. This was an immense privilege that I shared with a number of Jewish leaders from around the nation. President Biden is a real pro at taking selfies, and I gladly allowed him to take the lead in snapping our picture. On the first night of Chanukah I joined Council Member Linda Lee, Rabbi Yerachmiel Zalmanov, and members of Chabad of Eastern Queens to light the large (and small) menorahs in Hollis Hills. This was the location of an incident of vandalism last year, which makes our return to light the menorah so important - we will always strive to drive out the darkness with the light. Chag sameach to all who celebrate, and I wish a peaceful and joyous holiday season to everyone around the world!



Left - Assemblyman Weprin and President Joe Biden pose for a selfie at the White House Chanukah Reception; Right - Council Member Linda Lee, Assemblyman Weprin, and Rabbi Yerachmiel Zalmanov light the Menorah in Hollis Hills.

New York State Assembly, Albany, New York 12248



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Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway with APAG



I joined the American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) Cares for their 3rd annual Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway! In just under an hour, they distributed over 200 halal turkeys and chickens to the community. I'm always honored to stand with community organizations who are on the front lines in the fight against hunger. APAG Cares has been an enthusiastic and consistent ally in this fight, showing up consistently even during the darkest days of the COVID19 Crisis. We cannot allow our neighbors to go hungry, and I look forward to sponsoring and participating in many more distributions throughout Queens.

Assemblyman Weprin with APAG President Ali Rashid, and several college interns to distribute Halal Turkeys in Richmond Hill.