

Dear Friends,

First and foremost, I hope that this New Year has treated you and your loved ones well. As always, my dedicated staff and I are here to service the needs of the residents of Claremont, Concourse, Highbridge, Mount Eden and Morris Heights communities of The Bronx.

The New York State Legislature is back in session and I am working diligently and fighting in Albany every week to expand access to affordable housing, protect the most vulnerable in our community, ensure access to quality education and health care, and address quality of life concerns.

In this upcoming year please look out for the many events hosted by our office for the enrichment and progress of our community!

Sincerely,

Hon. Latoya Joyner

Member of Assembly

77th Assembly District, Bronx County



Assemblywoman Joyner in the New York State Capitol Assembly Chamber, also known as the "Peoples House."

Visit My Community Office

910 Grand Concourse, Suite 1JK, Bronx, NY, 10451 718-538-2000

Mon - Thur: 10am-6pm Friday : 10am-5pm

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Assemblywoman Joyner Hosts SPEAK OUT

Community Voices Transportation and Parking Concerns



BRONX, N.Y. - Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner hosted a transportation and parking Speak Out session which allowed the community the opportunity to have their concerns heard.

Issues mentioned at the Speak Out include the traffic congestion at the intersection of 161st Street and Grand Concourse, the recent reduction in parking on 168th Street between Teller Ave. and Findlay Ave., the potholes on University Ave. between 167th and 168th streets and on Gerard Ave. between 159th Street and 161st Street.

"Bringing agencies and decision makers into the community assures that residents are heard and respected. Residents are key and play the most important role in ensuring that our city is taken care of," said Assemblywoman Joyner.

All concerns shared at the Speak Out have been forwarded to their respective agencies for review.

A Life of Art

A memorial service was held to honor and remember the impassioned life and work of The Bronx Museum of the Arts Director, Holly Block. Known for her successful efforts to make art accessible to all Bronxites, Ms. Block led the Museum eliminate its admission fee.

Assemblywoman Joyner presented a proclamation to recognize the extraordinary work Ms. Block accomplished during her tenure as Director. Ms. Block dramatically transformed the Bronx Museum of the Arts by making it inclusive to local residents and making it a place to develop our very own Bronx artists.

"Holly, thank you for your years of service in the world of the arts; your love and passion still persist in the lives of the those you've inspired," said Assemblywoman Joyner.



Assemblywoman Joyner Supports Education For All

Assemblywoman Joyner Fighting to Preserve our Community Schools

BRONX, N.Y. — Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner supported the children and parents in their fight to keep M.S. 325 Urban Science Academy open. The New York City Department of Education announced its proposal to close the school less than a year after the closure of J.H.S. 145.

"The future of this school is not just about statistics and numbers on a page, it is about what is best for the children and for our community" said Assemblywoman Joyner. (Continued on page 4)



Assemblywoman Joyner Supports Expanding Educational Opportunities For All

BRONX, N.Y. — "Expanding access to a college education for New Yorkers from all walks of life is a critical priority and I am proud to have joined many of my Assembly colleagues in passing the New York State DREAM Act," Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner said. "This legislation (A. 9605-A) will help more hardworking students earn a college degree, begin successful careers and give back to their communities."

The DREAM Act would provide expand access to a college education for students who meet certain eligibility requirements – such as attending high school in New York – but are undocumented. The bill also establishes a scholarship fund with private donations — the DREAM Fund – and expands access to the New York State College Tuition Assistance Savings (529) Program so that children of undocumented immigrant parents with a valid taxpayer identification number can set up tuition savings accounts.



"That is why I firmly stand with Dreamers and to all I say: 'You are New Yorkers, you are valued and you are worthy'," said Assemblywoman Joyner.

Assemblywoman Joyner Supporting Community Schools

Assemblywoman Joyner Fighting to Preserve our Community Schools (continued)



The closure of MS. 325 will cause a major disruption to children and their families, both academically and emotionally. Just one year ago, there was skepticism about the Renewal School initiative and the elected officials did their best to help the community cope with the changes while also encouraging them to have faith in a system that promises to afford their children a great education in order to succeed. Now, these same schools – in a program meant to help and support growth for the community – are the first ones on the chopping block.

"I've come to know the families that makeup this school and how important M.S. 325 is to them. Having gone through this process before, I know uprooting these families have significant affects on their wellbeing" said Assemblywoman Joyner.

There has been a growing trend of charter schools occupying spaces within public schools. That co-location makes public schools susceptible to closing and hurts the future development of District 9. Consecutive school closures would leave the district with the stigma of failure. A second closure would have a substantial negative impact upon the educational experience of the students and reduce their overall quality of life.

Assemblywoman Joyner argued that "with continued support and better investment from the Department of Education, this school can close the achievement gap and raise test scores. Believe in our students the way our parents believe in our students"

Proposing to close M.S. 325 after its third year of operation undermines the commitments made under the Renewal School program. This decision does not seem to represent the best interests of these Bronx children and their families.

New Drug Court Coming To The Bronx

Assemblywoman Joyner On The New Drug Court Coming Bronx

BRONX, N.Y. — A new drug court is coming to the Bronx that will be the first of its kind to coordinate drug treatment for nonviolent misdemeanor offenders.

During a budget hearing on the addition of the new Bronx Drug Court, Assemblywoman Joyner pointed out the important role the new drug court will play in improving the lives of Bronxites, but indicated there is room for improvement.

The new drug court will provide a much needed and progressive step in our criminal justice system.





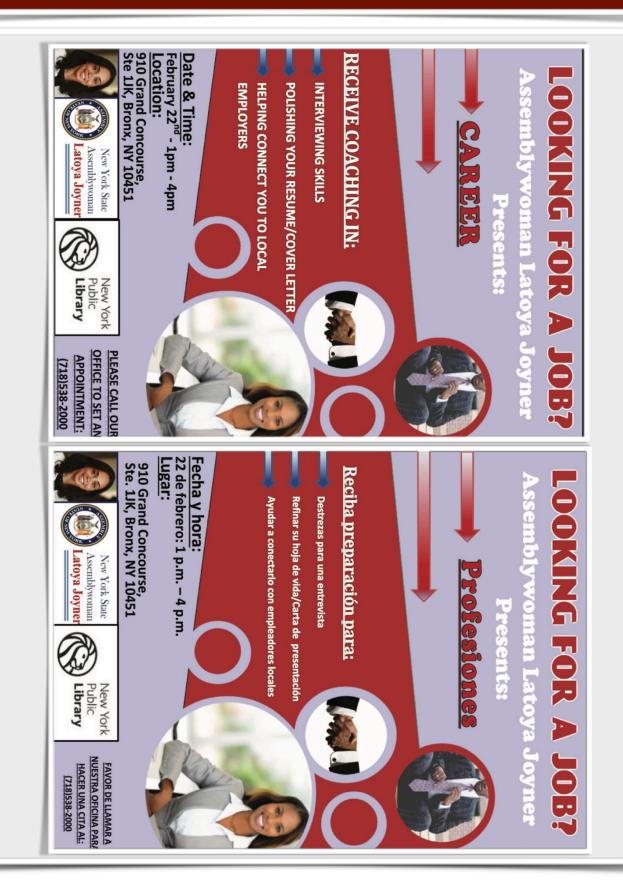
"We are happy to hear about the new drug court coming to Bronx, but I think that if it is a true drug court it should cover all drug use offenses and not just only those involving opioid abuse,"said Assemblywoman Joyner.

EVENTS





EVENTS



Joyner Resources

<u>Every 3rd Thursday, Tenant Support Services are available in Assemblywoman Joyner's Community</u>
Office

In coordination with <u>New York City's Tenant Support Unit</u>, tenant support specialists are on hand every 1st and 3rd Thursday, from 11 AM-3 PM. This effort will focus on helping tenants with concerns and issues related to harassment, purposeful denial of essential services, overcharges and possible eviction.

Also, legal professionals from the <u>Neighborhood Association for Inter-Cultural Affairs</u> are available every 2nd and 4th Thursday from 3 PM-6 PM to assist with your legal housing issues. <u>Please call to set up an appointment.</u>

For more information, please see flyers or call the Assemblywoman's Community Office at 718-538-2000







Affordable Housing for Rent



EAST 162nd STREET COURT 88 NEWLY CONSTRUCTED UNITS AT 294 East 162nd Street, Bronx, NY 10451 East Concourse-Concourse Village

Amenities: 24-hour attended lobby, on-site resident manager, landscaped community courtyard, fitness room, community & computer room and on-site laundry facility.

Transit: Trains - D/4/B, Buses - BX6, BX32, BX1, BX2, BX41

No application fee • No broker's fee • Smoke-free building • More information: www.east162stcourt.com

This building is being constructed through the Extremely Low and Low Income Affordability (ELLA) program of the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development and Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program through New York State Homes and Community Renewal.

Who Should Apply?

Individuals or households who meet the income and household size requirements listed in the table below may apply. Qualified applicants will be required to meet additional selection criteria. Applicants who live in New York City receive a general preference for apartments.

- A percentage of units is set aside for applicants with disabilities:
 - Mobility (5%)
 - Vision/Hearing (2%).
- · Preference for a percentage of units goes to:
 - Residents of The Bronx Community Board 4 (50%)
 - Municipal employees (5%)

AVAILABLE UNITS AND INCOME REQUIREMENTS

Unit Size	UNITS	Monthly Rent ¹	Units Avail- able		House- hold Size ²	Annual Household Income ³ Minimum – Maximum ⁴	UNITS	Monthly Rent ¹	Units Avail- able		House- hold Size ²	Annual Household Income ³ Minimum – Maximum ⁴
Studio	60% AREA MEDIAN INCOME (AMI) U	\$864	28	→	1 person	\$ 31,509 - \$ 40,080	MEDIAN INCOME (AMI) U	\$1,048	2	→	1 person	\$37,817 - \$ 53,440
1 bedroom		\$928	32	→	1 person	\$ 33,771 - \$ 40,080		\$1,319	2	→	1 person	\$ 47,177 - \$ 53,440
					2 people	\$ 33,771 - \$ 45,840		\$1,519			2 people	\$ 47,177 - \$ 61,120
2 bedroom		\$1,121	3	→	2 people	\$ 36,446 - \$ 45,840			9	→	2 people	\$ 56,503 - \$ 61,120
					3 people	\$ 36,446 - \$ 51,540		\$1,590			3 people	\$ 56,503 - \$ 68,720
					4 people	\$ 36,446 - \$ 57,240					4 people	\$ 56,503 - \$ 76,320
3 bedroom		\$1,287	6	→	3 people	\$ 46,697 - \$ 51,540	80% AREA N	\$1,829	6	→	3 people	\$ 65,280 - \$ 68,720
					4 people	\$ 46,697 - \$ 57,240					4 people	\$ 65,280 - \$ 76,320
					5 people	\$ 46,697 - \$ 61,860					5 people	\$ 65,280 - \$ 82,480
					6 people	\$ 46,697 - \$ 66,420					6 people	\$ 65,280 - \$ 88,560

Rent includes gas for cooking.

How Do You Apply?

Apply online or through mail. To apply online, please go to nyc.gov/housingconnect. To request an application by mail, send a self-addressed envelope to: East 162nd Street Court, Triborough Finance New, PO Box 2014, New York, NY 10035. Only send one application per development. Do not submit duplicate applications. Do not apply online and also send in a paper application. Applicants who submit more than one application may be disqualified.

When is the Deadline?

Applications must be postmarked or submitted online no later than January 17, 2018. Late applications will not be considered.

What Happens After You Submit an Application?

After the deadline, applications are selected for review through a lottery process. If yours is selected and you appear to qualify, you will be invited to an interview to continue the process of determining your eligibility. Interviews are usually scheduled from 2 to 10 months after the application deadline. You will be asked to bring documents that verify your household size, identity of members of your household, and your household income.

² Household size includes everyone who will live with you, including parents and children. Subject to occupancy criteria.

³ Household earnings includes salary, hourly wages, tips, Social Security, child support, and other income. Income guidelines subject to change.

⁴ Minimum income listed may not apply to applicants with Section 8 or other qualifying rental subsidies. Asset limits also apply.



Affordable Housing for Rent



491 GERARD AVENUE APARTMENTS

130 NEWLY CONSTRUCTED UNITS AT 491 GERARD AVENUE, MOTT HAVEN, BRONX

Amenities: community room, bike storage, roof deck, shared ground level recreation space, card operated laundry room*, security cameras (* additional fees apply)

Transit: Trains - 2/4/5, Buses - BX1/BX2/BX13/BX19/BX32/BX33

No application fee • No broker's fee • Smoke-free building

This building is being constructed through the Mix and Match Program of the New York City Housing Development Corporation (HDC) and the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD)

Who Should Apply? Individuals or households who meet the income and household size requirements listed in the table below may apply. Qualified applicants will be required to meet additional selection criteria. Applicants who live in New York City receive a general preference for apartments.

- A percentage of units is set aside for applicants with disabilities:
 - Mobility (5%)
 - Vision or hearing (2%).
- · Preference for a percentage of units goes to
 - Residents of Bronx Community Board 1 (50%)
 - Municipal employees (5%).

AVAILABLE UNITS AND INCOME REQUIREMENTS

60% AREA MEDIAN INCOME (AMI) UNITS	Unit Size	Monthly Rent ¹	Units Avail- able		House- hold Size ²	Annual Household Income³ Minimum – Maximum⁴	INCOME (AMI) UNITS	Monthly Rent ¹	Units Avail- able		House- hold Size ²	Annual Household Income ³ Minimum – Maximum ⁴
	Studio	\$865	18	→	1 person	\$31,543 - \$40,080		\$1,049	26	→	1 person	\$37,852 - \$60,120
	1 bedroom	\$929	21	→	1 person	\$33,806 - \$40,080		\$1,320	28	→	1 person	\$47,212 - \$60,120
					2 people	\$33,806 - \$45,840					2 people	\$47,212 - \$68,760
	2 bedroom	\$1,121	10	→	2 people	\$40,423 - \$45,840	ž			→	2 people	\$56,538 - \$68,760
					3 people	\$40,423 - \$51,540	MEDIAN	\$1,591	14		3 people	\$56,538 - \$77,310
					4 people	\$40,423 - \$57,240					4 people	\$56,538 - \$85,860
	3 bedroom	\$1,289	5	→	3 people	\$46,732 - \$51,540	AREA I	\$1,831	8	→	3 people	\$65,315 - \$77,310
					4 people	\$46,732 - \$57,240					4 people	\$65,315 - \$85,860
					5 people	\$46,732 - \$61,860	%06				5 people	\$65,315 - \$92,790
					6 people	\$46,732 - \$66,420					6 people	\$65,315 - \$99,630

Tenant responsible for electricity

How Do You Apply?

Apply online or through mail. To apply online, please go to nyc.gov/housingconnect. To request an application by mail, send a self-addressed envelope to: 491 Gerard Avenue Apartments c/o The Wavecrest Management Team, 87-14 116th Street, Richmond Hill, NY 11418. Only send one application per development. Do not submit duplicate applications. Do not apply online and also send in a paper application. Applicants who submit more than one application may be disqualified.

When is the Deadline?

Applications must be postmarked or submitted online no later than March 9, 2018. Late applications will not be considered.

What Happens After You Submit an Application?

After the deadline, applications are selected for review through a lottery process. If yours is selected and you appear to qualify, you will be invited to an interview to continue the process of determining your eligibility. Interviews are usually scheduled from 2 to 10 months after the application deadline. You will be asked to bring documents that verify your household size, identity of members of your household, and your household income.

² Household size includes everyone who will live with you, including parents and children. Subject to occupancy criteria.

³ Household earnings includes salary, hourly wages, tips, Social Security, child support, and other income. Income guidelines subject to change.

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