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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SUSPENSIONS

Amid Coronavirus Pandemic

Alternate Side Parking Suspended, Ban on Uber Pool, State Debt Collection
Ban, and more

Health Care Experts Needed Now

COVID-19 Vaccine Trial

Brooklyn Hospital Opens Pre-screening Tent

New York: Mayor Bill de Blasio signed an executive order today

- **Suspending Alternate Side Parking (ASP) rule tomorrow, Wednesday, March 18 through Tuesday, March 24.** Meters will remain in effect. Suspension may be extended based on street cleanliness &

workforce availability. New Yorkers who have received tickets can appeal to the Department of of Finance.

- **Banning carpooling with For Hire Vehicles:** Uber, Lyft. This is an effort to emphasize social distancing among strangers. Couples, Partners, and Families are excluded from this ban.

There are **814** confirmed cases of coronavirus in New York City, and **7** deaths. Here is a breakdown by each Borough

- 248 Queens
- 277 Manhattan
- 157 Brooklyn
- 96 Bronx
- 36 Staten Island

New York: Governor Andrew Cuomo orders:

- Effective immediately, New York State Attorney General Letitia James and Governor Cuomo is **suspending state debt collection** for at least 30 days for the following:
 - student debt,
 - medical debt
 - and other state-referred debt
- New York State will open **Drive-Thru Coronavirus testing facilities** in Nassau County, Suffolk County, Staten Island and Rocky County. **Nassau Testing Facility will open today.**

Con Edison Update:

- Con Edison **will not shut off electric, natural gas or steam service due to payment difficulties resulting from the health crisis**; and are waiving new late-payment charges for all customers. Furthermore, they are suspending the fee usually charged to a customer who is unable to grant access to their property. In

addition they we will continue to shut off service when there is a safety issue. If you have any questions, please click [here](#) to contact Con Edison.

Department of Education Schools are Providing **grab and go** food packages (breakfast/lunch) in all public school facilities

Coordinating food sources for food delivery to students in the 5 boroughs

Creating Hospital Capacity: **Looking for Healthcare Expertise** ; Mayor is Looking at Medical License Reserve Corp to seek volunteers

BROOKLYN HOSPITAL UNVEILS CORONAVIRUS PRE-SCREENING TENT



Photo Credit: Kevin Duggan | Brooklyn Paper

First Trial of COVID-19 Vaccine Administered

By KAISER PERMANENTE
WASHINGTON HEALTH RESEARCH INSTITUTE



For more information click [here](#)

Closure Announcement from Yesterday

New York: Governor Andrew Cuomo orders: Starting at 8pm Monday, March 16th until further notice,

- **restaurants** and **bars** statewide will be **delivery and takeout ONLY**.
- **gyms, casinos** and **movie theaters** will all be closed.

Mayor Bill de Blasio also signed an executive order on Monday, suspending

- all visits to **correctional facilities** & requiring all **hospitals to suspend elective surgeries** within the next 96 hours
- suspends upcoming **City Council hearings, land use procedures** and suspends **procurement rules** in order to speed up contracting with certain businesses

Click [here](#) for more Information

You can stop the spread of coronavirus

- Wash your hands regularly
- Cover your cough or sneeze
- Avoid touching your face

The best preventative steps you can take are the tried and true ones:

- frequently wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- avoid touching your nose, mouth and eyes
- cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or your elbow^[10]
- try to avoid coming in contact with someone who is sick
- disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces at work and at home.^[11]

If you can't wash your hands with soap and water, be sure to **use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol**.^[12] If you're at a **higher risk** of getting seriously ill from COVID-19, such as the **elderly** or those with **underlying medical problems**, you should also try to avoid crowds and touching high-touched surfaces such as door handles, hand rails and elevator buttons.^[13] In order to better

protect yourself, those who smoke should cut back or try to quit as smokers are at higher risk of getting respiratory infections and twice as likely to develop pneumonia than a non-smoker. ^[14] It's also important that you stay home if you're feeling sick to prevent germs from spreading.

New York City officials are asking that anyone who is able to avoid public transportation do so, or if a bus or subway car is packed, wait for one that has more room. ^[15]

Experts have recommended ensuring you have basic home supplies – food staples, laundry detergent, over-the-counter medicine and pet food. You should also try to have at least a 30-day supply of any prescription medication. Go over any emergency plans you may have with every member of your household and make sure you keep up-to-date with any information from your child's school district.

Meanwhile, the governor has said the state would institute new cleaning protocols in heavily used public areas, such as bleaching surfaces on public transportation and in schools. ^[16] Local health departments will notify school districts if and when they need to close and when they can reopen. ^[17]

STAY INFORMED

about
coronavirus



Health officials are working tirelessly to protect public health and contain this virus. And, as your representative in Albany, I am working to ensure that our state is putting the health and safety of our families first.

Remember COVID-19 can affect any community and we must stand by one another during this time, not alienate, threaten or discriminate against others.

For questions you can also reach out to the New York State's novel coronavirus hotline at **1-888-364-3065**. For continuous updates, you can visit the following websites:

- [Center for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)
- [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)

The CDC also now has the option for you to sign up for weekly updates on COVID-19.

RECAP

CORONAVIRUS: Q & A

What are the symptoms?

Symptoms range from mild to severe and include fever, cough and shortness of breath. Symptoms often appear two to 14 days after exposure.

How does it spread?

Health officials are studying how the virus spreads, but it's believed to spread from person-to-person via respiratory droplets that are released when an infected person coughs. Individuals are believed to be most contagious when they're the sickest.

When should I see a doctor?

If you develop a fever and symptoms of respiratory illness such as a cough or shortness of breath, call your health care provider before seeking treatment in person and tell them you may have the novel coronavirus so they can take proper precaution

Resources:

[10] [who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/q-a-coronaviruses](https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/q-a-coronaviruses)

[11] health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/coronavirus

[12] [cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/home/cleaning-disinfection.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/home/cleaning-disinfection.html)

[13] [cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/high-risk-complications.html#who-is-higher-risk](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/high-risk-complications.html#who-is-higher-risk)

[14] [bbc.com/news/health-51703892](https://www.bbc.com/news/health-51703892)

[15] [nbcnewyork.com/news/local/nyc-issues-new-commuter-guidelines-to-combat-coronavirus-spread/2317584](https://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/nyc-issues-new-commuter-guidelines-to-combat-coronavirus-spread/2317584)

[16] [nytimes.com/2020/03/02/nyregion/coronavirus-new-york.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/02/nyregion/coronavirus-new-york.html)

[17] [democratandchronicle.com/story/news/politics/albany/2020/03/10/schools-ny-now-required-close-when-coronavirus-diagnosed/5006842002](https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/politics/albany/2020/03/10/schools-ny-now-required-close-when-coronavirus-diagnosed/5006842002)

[18] crainsnewyork.com/small-business/small-businesses-get-loans-wake-outbreak

[19] cnbc.com/2020/03/09/nyc-mayor-urges-new-yorkers-to-work-from-home.html

[20] <https://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/education/ny-cuny-suny-classes-coronavirus-20200311-f65rooi5vrflphblcun5y7yuym-story.html>

[21] nytimes.com/2020/03/10/nyregion/coronavirus-new-york-update.html

Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte represents the 42nd Assembly District in Brooklyn covering Ditmas Park, Flatbush, East Flatbush and Midwood. She is currently the **Chair of the Subcommittee on Oversight of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBES)**, and serves on the following committees: **Housing, Government Operations, Education, Banks, Health, and Higher Education**. She is also a member of the Task Force on Women's Issues and sits on **Governor Cuomo's Domestic Violence Advisory Council and Mayor De Blasio's MWBE Task Force**.

As a current Assemblymember, District Leader, and Chair of Brooklyn Democratic Party, Rodneyse Bichotte has been an outspoken advocate on issues concerning **immigration, education, economic development, unemployment, education reform, health care access, senior citizen centers, affordable housing, school safety, women's and LGBTQ rights**, as well as other issues affecting the quality of life in the community.

Learn more about
Rodneyse Bichotte by visiting her website:
<http://nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte>

STAY CONNECTED

