



Assemblymember  
**RODNEYSE BICHOTTE**  
Brooklyn Democratic County Leader

## COVID-19 Updates

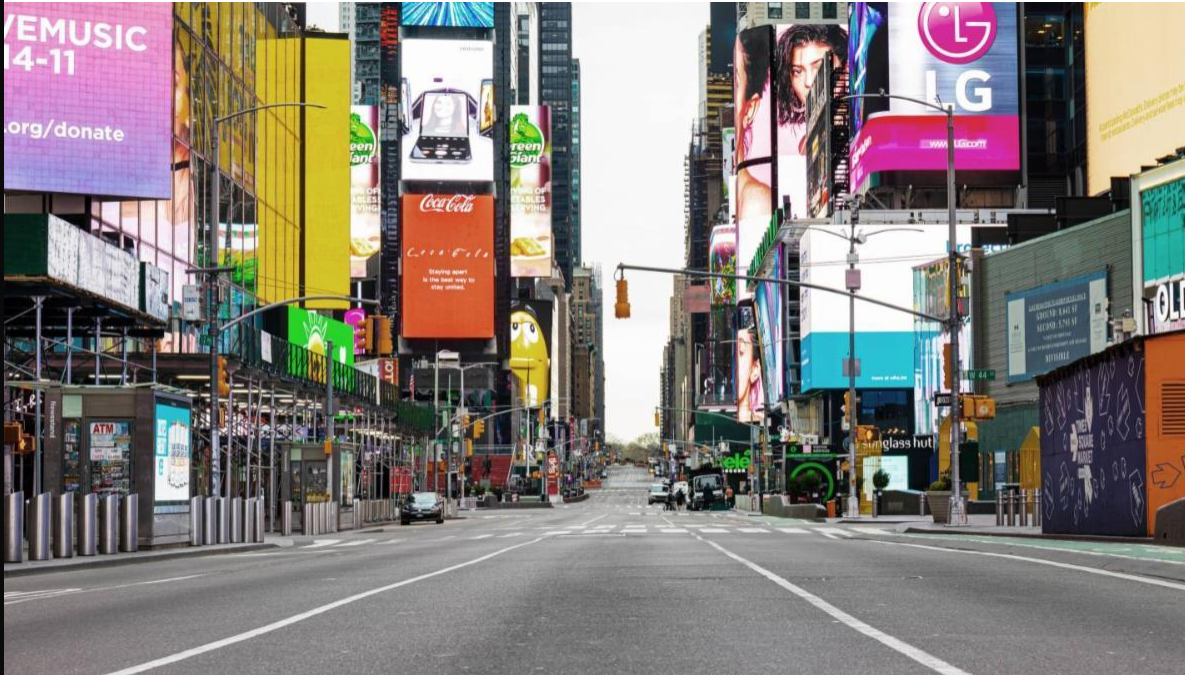


Photo Credit: John Hopkins University

**APRIL 26, 2020**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **NYC Mayor Launches Recovery Taskforces to Plan Reopening**

*Amid Coronavirus Pandemic*

L Train Tunnel Project is Complete; NYC Mayor Launches Sector Advisory Councils; Taskforce on Racial Inclusion and Equity; Fair Recovery Taskforce; Paycheck Protection Program; and more!

**NYS Confirmed: 288,045**  
**NYS Deaths: 16,966**  
**NYC Confirmed: 158,258**  
**Brooklyn Confirmed: 42,487**

**NYS: GOVERNOR CUOMO**



Photo Credit: Governor Cuomo

Today, Governor Cuomo announced that NYS will follow **CDC guidelines** for reopening:

- CDC reopening guidelines indicate that the state and regional hospitalization rate must be in decline for **14 days** before reopening.
- The Governor announced 2 reopening phases:
  - **Phase 1:** Construction and Manufacturing businesses with low risk
  - **Phase 2:** More essential lower risk businesses
  - Leave **2 weeks** between phases to monitor effects
- Governor announced that re-opening will be done in a **Multi-State Coordination**.
  - Once State begins to reopen the caveat is to not have attractions/openings that would draw a large number of visitors from outside the local area.
  - The State is consulting with local leaders to formulate re-opening plan. Team includes healthcare professionals, business leaders etc.
- The **L train** tunnel project is complete today.

**NYC: MAYOR BILL DE BLASIO**



Photo Credit: (Karsten Moran, The New York Times)

- Today the Mayor announced the creation of **Sector Advisory Councils** to address specific challenges around reopening:
  - Large businesses
  - Small businesses
  - Public Health and Healthcare
  - Labor
  - Arts, Culture and Tourism
  - Nonprofits and Social Services
  - Faith-based Organizations
  - Education and Vocational Training
- The Mayor also announced the creation of a **Task Force on Racial Inclusion and Equity** to:
  - Engage hard hit communities affected by COVID-19.

- Monitor response and recovery efforts across neighborhoods.
- Identify unique needs within MWBEs, community-based healthcare and essential workforce.
- Work with City officials and agencies to address racial and economic disparities.
- Furthermore, the Mayor announced a **Fair Recovery Taskforce** to help restart the economy:
  - According to the Mayor, the goal is to confront structural **economic and racial inequality** and improve the quality of life.
  - The **Fair Recovery Taskforce** will include diverse civic leaders who will focus on recovery efforts to "build a stronger, safer, fairer economy and society."
  - The Taskforce will create a "preliminary **road map** by **June** to guide" recovery efforts.
  - Members of the Fair Recovery Task Force include:
    - **Patrick Gaspard**, President, Open Society Foundation
    - **Jennifer Jones Austin**, CEO, Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies
    - **Richard Ravitch**, Former Lieutenant Governor of New York State
    - **Carl Weisbrod**, Senior Advisor, HR&A Advisors
    - **Henry Garrido**, Executive Director, DC37
    - **Maria Torres Springer**, Vice President for US Programs, Ford Foundation
    - **Liz Neumark**, CEO, Great Performances
    - **Fred Wilson**, Partner, Union Square Ventures

- Mayor announced that he plans to appoint a **Charter Revision Commission**.

## SMALL BUSINESSES



Photo Credit: Startupnation

On Friday, the President signed a **\$484 billion** stimulus package which provides additional funding for **small businesses** through the **Paycheck Protection Program** (PPP).

- The bill allocates an additional **\$321 billion** for the PPP. The PPP package includes:
  - **\$30 billion** for insured depository institutions and credit unions with assets between **\$10 million** and **\$50 million**.
  - **\$30 billion** for community financial institutions, insured **depository institutions** with less than **\$10 billion** in assets, and **credit unions** with less than **\$10 billion** in assets.

- Funds are available through **fiscal year 2021**. The **U.S. Small Business Administration** will resume accepting PPP applications tomorrow, **Monday, April 27, 2020** at 10:30 a.m. For more information [visit here](#).
- The package also provides **\$60 billion** in **loans and grants** for **economic disaster assistance**.
  - **Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs)** provide "low-interest, fixed-rate loans to help small businesses and private nonprofits pay immediate expenses during an emergency." The package increases the EIDLs from **\$10 billion** to **\$20 billion**. It also expands the eligibility criteria to include "certain agricultural enterprises with fewer than 500 employees."
  - The bill also provides **\$50 billion** for the **Disaster Loan program**.
- The stimulus package also provides:
  - **\$75 billion** for hospitals.
  - **\$25 billion** for COVID-19 testing.

## COVID-19 TESTING IN DISTRICT



Photo Credit: John Hopkins Medicine

There is both a **drive-through** and **walk-in** COVID-19 testing site in the **42nd Assembly District**. To make an appointment for either testing sites you **must** contact the NYS Department of Health at **888-364-3065**.

**PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM  
APPLICATION TRAINING**





*Senator James Sanders Jr. &  
Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte*

*Presents*



**PPP Application Training  
Line by Line**



**For All Faith-Based & Non-Profit Organizations  
Monday, April 27, 2020 • 12:00 p.m.**

**Learn How to Fill Out the PPP Application Line By Line  
Monday, April 27, 2020 • 4:00 p.m.**

**Facebook Live**

[Facebook.com/StateSenatorJamesSandersJr/](https://www.facebook.com/StateSenatorJamesSandersJr/)

*Speakers & Presenters*

- **Brian Gurski**, Vice President  
*TruFund Financial Services, Inc.*
- **Ricardi Calixte**, Deputy Director,  
*Queens Economic Development Corporation*
- **Ed Hummel**  
*Economic Development Representative*
- **U.S. Economic Development Administration**
- **Financial Planning Association**

*Featured Panelists*

- **Beth L. Goldberg**, District Director  
*New York District Office of  
The U.S. Small Business Administration*
- **Harry Wells**, Director  
*Small Business Development Center York College*
- **Linda MacFarlane**, Chair  
*NYS CDFI Coalition*
- **Financial Planning Association**

*Community Partners*

- Gateway JFK, Sutphin Blvd. BID • Merchant Association of Rosedale
- Laurelton & Springfield Gardens (MARLS) • REMA4US
- Blaque Resource Network • Rockaway Business Alliance

For more information about this or any state or local issue, contact  
Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte's office: 1312 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11210, 718-940-0428,  
Email: [bichotter@nyassembly.gov](mailto:bichotter@nyassembly.gov), [www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte](http://www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte)

Join **Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte** and **Senator James Sanders Jr.** on Monday, **April 27th** at **12:00 p.m** and **4:00 p.m** to learn how to fill out the Paycheck Protection Program application line by line. To view the training on Monday, visit [here](#).

## THANK YOU ESSENTIAL WORKERS

They are on the front lines protecting our health.

*Thank you*  
health care  
workers!



During these unprecedented and difficult times, **we thank our essential workers** who are serving on the front lines. Today, we thank our **Health care workers** for protecting our health.

## AVOID SCAMS



Photo Credit: Pixabay/CDC

- Notify NYC: Beware of COVID19 scams!
- Report **price gouging** to 311 or [NYC.gov/dcwp](https://www.nyc.gov/dcwp). You can also file a complaint to the Attorney General's office, fill out a [complaint form](#).
- **NYS Price Gouging Hotline**: 800-697-1220.
- CDC staff will **NOT** go door-to-door. If you experience this, call 911.

**SERVICES AND RESOURCES**



Photo Credit: Ansi.org

Due to the impact of COVID-19 on New York City's workforce, the City of New York has developed a list of resources for those who may be unemployed due to COVID-19 or are seeking additional assistance. The list below will be updated frequently.

It has information on the following categories:

- **Employment Resources**
- **Food Assistance**
- **Health & Medical Assistance**
- **Financial Assistance**
- **Rent Arrears and Public Assistance**
- **Emotional Support & Spiritual Care**
- **Other Assistance**

Visit this [website](#) for resources.

**NYS Department of Health Hotline** for people who want to be assessed and get appointment for test ([888-364-3065](tel:888-364-3065)). NYC residents should call ([844-692-4692](tel:844-692-4692)).

**Volunteer to Support**

**Others:** [https://www1.nyc.gov/site/helpnownyc/resources/covid-19-relief.page#healthcare\\_workers](https://www1.nyc.gov/site/helpnownyc/resources/covid-19-relief.page#healthcare_workers).

**Free Internet Services:**

Charter is offering free spectrum broadband and WiFi access for 60 days to household with K-12 and/or college students who do not already have Spectrum broadband subscription. To enroll, **call 844-488-8395**. Until further notice, all Xfinity WiFi Public Hotspots are now open to everyone on the "xfinitywifi" SSID. For more information visit [here](#).

**In-District Businesses open/closed** : Provided by **Flatbush Avenue BID and Church Avenue BID** : Visit Flatbush Avenue Business Directory [here](#) and Church Avenue Business directory [here](#). Businesses open/closed: Provided by **Flatbush Development Corporation** : Visit Flatbush Business Corridor Directory [here](#). Includes businesses located in:

- Cortelyou Road (Coney Island Ave - Ocean Ave)
- Coney Island Avenue (Cortelyou Road - Foster Ave)
- Newkirk Plaza
- Newkirk Avenue (Coney Island Ave - Ocean Ave)
- Foster Avenue (Coney Island Ave - Ocean Ave)
- Ditmas Park

**Small Businesses:**

For resources on **business** grants and loans, [visit here](#).

**WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE SICK WITH COVID-19**



# What to do if you are sick with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

If you are sick with COVID-19 or suspect you are infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, follow the steps below to help prevent the disease from spreading to people in your home and community.

## Stay home except to get medical care

You should restrict activities outside your home, except for getting medical care. Do not go to work, school, or public areas. Do not use public transportation, ride-sharing, or taxis.

## Separate yourself from other people in your home

As much as possible, you should stay in a specific room and away from other people in your home. Also, you should use a separate bathroom, if available.

## Call ahead before visiting your doctor

If you have a medical appointment, call the healthcare provider and tell them that you have or may have COVID-19. This will help the healthcare provider's office take steps to keep other people from getting infected or exposed.

## Wear a facemask

You should wear a facemask when you are around other people (e.g., sharing a room or vehicle) and before you enter a healthcare provider's office. If you are not able to wear a facemask (for example, because it causes trouble breathing), then people who live with you should not stay in the same room with you, or they should wear a facemask if they enter your room.

## Cover your coughs and sneezes

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw used tissues in a lined trash can and wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, immediately clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol, covering all surfaces of your hands and rubbing them together until they feel dry. Soap and water should be used preferentially if hands are visibly dirty.

## Clean your hands

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol, covering all surfaces of your hands and rubbing them together until they feel dry. Soap and water should be used preferentially if hands are visibly dirty. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

## Avoid sharing personal household items

You should not share dishes, drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, towels, or bedding with other people in your home. After using these items, you should wash them thoroughly with soap and water.

## Monitor your symptoms

Seek prompt medical attention if your illness is worsening (e.g., shortness of breath or difficulty breathing). **Before** seeking care, call your healthcare provider and tell them that you have, or are being evaluated for, COVID-19. Put on a facemask before you enter the facility. These steps will help the healthcare provider's office keep other people from getting infected or exposed.

Ask your healthcare provider to call the local or state health department. Persons who are placed under active monitoring or facilitated self-monitoring should follow instructions provided by their local health department or occupational health professionals, as appropriate. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/risk-assessment.html>.

## Discontinuing home isolation

Patients confirmed to have COVID-19 should remain under home isolation precautions until the risk of secondary transmission to others is thought to be low. The decision to discontinue home isolation precautions should be made on a case-by-case basis, in consultation with healthcare providers and state and local health departments. Current information on COVID-19 is limited; home precautions are conservative and based on general recommendations for other diseases, like Middle Eastern Respiratory Syndrome (MERS).



For more information: [www.cdc.gov/COVID19](http://www.cdc.gov/COVID19)

**STAY INFORMED**

**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.*

New Yorkers Can Sign Up for Email Updates [Here](#) and Ask Questions About COVID-19 [Here](#)

New Yorkers Can Find More Information About the New COVID-19 Paid Sick Leave Law [Here](#)

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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 websites:  
<http://nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte>  
and [www.rodneysebichotte.net](http://www.rodneysebichotte.net)

STAY CONNECTED

