



Assemblymember
RODNEYSE BICHOTTE
Brooklyn Democratic County Leader



COVID-19 Updates



Photo Credit: Curbed NYC

MAY 15, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**UPDATE: NYS P.A.U.S.E EXTENDED TO
MAY 28TH**

(Policies That Assure Uniform Safety For Everyone)

Amid Coronavirus Pandemic

Free Air Conditioners for NYCHA Residents; Beaches Open Memorial Day Weekend; Tennis Courts Open; Dial-A-Teacher Services; National Grid; Operation Ward Speed; And More!

NYS Confirmed: 345,813
NYS Deaths: 22,304
NYC Confirmed: 190,357
Brooklyn Confirmed: 51,581

NYS: GOVERNOR CUOMO

To help slow the spread of coronavirus,
certain regions of New York State are on

PAUSE

– Policies Assure Uniform Safety for Everyone –
until at least May 28.

- **5** New York State Regions reopened today.
 - The NYS on **PAUSE** order is extended to **May 28th** for regions that did not reopen. If a region hit

its benchmark at anytime, regardless of pause order, they can reopen.

- The New York State of Emergency order has been extended to **June 13th**
- Phase One of reopening includes the following rules for:
 - Indoor and outdoor Residential/Commercial Construction
 - Masks must be worn within **6** feet of another worker
 - Employer must provide masks
 - No congregate meetings
 - Retail Business/ Curbside pick up
 - Employee and purchaser in vehicles must wear a mask. Gloves preferred
 - In-store pickup where curbside is not practical
 - Requires ordering ahead
 - Social distancing required in-store
 - No more than **50%** maximum occupancy
 - Customers must wear mask
 - Store employees must wear masks. Gloves preferred
 - Hand sanitizer available
 - Individual behavior
 - Individuals must wear mask within six feet of another person in public
 - Store owners should prohibit the entrance of any customer without a mask (unless under two years of age or for medical reasons)
 - Local officials/control center responsibility
 - Enforce business compliance and social distancing
 - Daily morning meeting of regional control center to review and monitor infection, testing and hospitalization rates.

- Beaches for Memorial Day
 - New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Delaware in coordination will open State and local beaches the Friday before Memorial Day Weekend. Beaches must oblige by the minimum conditions:
 - Mandating no more than **50%** capacity, ensuring controlled exits/entrances, limiting parking
 - Prohibiting group contact activities, including sports (ex. volleyball, football)
 - Keeping areas of social gathering closed (ex. designated picnic areas, playgrounds, pavilions, arcades and amusement rides)
 - Enforcing social distancing measures for both employees and visitors
 - Requiring masks to be worn on all employees and visitors when social distancing is not possible
 - Closing concessions
 - Ensuring staff capacity can handle crowd control
 - A city, town, county beach can open on the same conditions. If local government does not enforce minimum rules, beach will be closed.
 - Locals must publicly notify State by Wednesday, **May 20** to open local beach.
 - **30,000** test a day secured for nursing home staff

NYC: MAYOR DE BLASIO



Photo Credit: Altamed

- Today, Mayor de Blasio announced the **COVID-19 Heat Wave Plan**. The goal of the plan is to:
 - Keep vulnerable New Yorkers cool and safe at home;
 - Create safer summer cooling options; and
 - Prevent and respond to power outages
- Ensuring that New Yorkers are cool and safe at home
 - **\$55 million** to purchase over **74,000 air conditioners**. **\$20 million** from New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
 - Provide air conditioners to all low-income seniors
 - **22,000** air conditioners will go to NYCHA residents
 - Installations start next week
 - Eligible New Yorkers will be identified by NYCHA, DFTA, HRA and HPD. City caseworkers will conduct direct outreach
 - City will request that NYS seek reimbursement from the federal CARES Act for summer relief
- Providing Summer Utility Bill Assistance
 - City petitioning the **Public Service Commission** to **double** their current commitment

to subsidize summer bills, increasing customer benefit by **\$160** over summer

- Currently **45,000** New Yorkers receive a subsidy on summer utility bills
- Creating safe cooling options
 - City is identifying cooling centers in high risk and hard hit communities
 - Will develop appropriate social distancing plan and provide PPE
 - City will create non-traditional cooling centers
 - Alternative sites include sports venues, auditoriums and other large venues.
 - More outdoor cooling and hydration
 - Parks will create misting “oases” and spray showers for kids in low income neighborhoods
 - Department of Environmental Protection will create plan for scheduled hydrant openings
 - GetFood to deliver hydrating beverages (such as Gatorade and Pedialyte)
- Prevent and respond to power outages:
 - **Con Edison** has made major upgrades to Flatbush network, an area that had major issue last summer
 - The **New York City Emergency Management Department** leadership will host monthly interagency meetings with Con Edison to prepare for the summer
 - **60** portable generators are ready for emergency deployment
 - NYC is acquiring **22** more for stockpile
 - The Mayor is encouraging NYS to mandate generator hookups at adult care facilities
- **Pediatric Multi-System Inflammatory Syndrome**
 - There are now **110** cases in NYC

- **54%** tested positive for COVID-19 or antibodies
- **1** Fatality
- **PMIS Case Statistics:**

Age:

- 0-4: 35%
- 5-9: 25%
- 10-14: 24%
- 15-21: 16%

Borough:

- Bronx: 37%
- Queens: 33%
- Brooklyn: 20%
- Manhattan: 7%
- Staten Island: 3%

Gender:

- 57% male
- 43% female

Race:

- African American: 24%
- Hispanic: 14 %
- Asian: 10%
- White: 9%
- Other: 5%
- Unknown: 38%

- **NYPD**
 - Mayor de Blasio announced that the NYPD will not take action against people for not wearing face coverings, unless there is a serious danger to the public
 - NYPD limiting access to Sheep Meadow in Central Park and Hudson River Park Piers 45 and 46, monitoring Domino Park
 - **2,260** Social distancing ambassadors and supervisors deployed
 - Enhanced Parks patrols this weekend in the Rockaways, Coney Island and Orchard Beach
 - Dedicated car in each precinct to respond to 311 distancing complaints

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT



Photo Credit: The Times

- The President announced today that the United States Department of Agriculture's **Family and Farmers Food Box Program** is buying **\$3 billion** worth of food
 - This initiative is part of the **\$19 billion** COVID-19 farmer's assistance program included in the CARES Act to purchase food from small farms and provide it to non-profits and faith-based groups
- The U.S. is conducting **350,000** tests per day
- The President announced that the federal government is working on the development of a vaccine.
 - **\$10 billion** invested towards medical research effort
 - This fast vaccine development effort is named **Operation warp speed**
 - Identified 14 vaccine candidates

- Federal government is investing to manufacture vaccines and deliver it when it is ready

NYC DAILY COVID-19 INDICATORS



Photo Credit: Wired

Mayor de Blasio's report on NYC COVID-19 indicators are:

- **Hospitalizations:** up from **59 to 78**
- **ICU Admissions:** down from **517 to 506**
- **COVID-19 Positive Tests:** up from **11% to 12%**

DIAL-A-TEACHER

Dial·A·Teacher



Photo Credit: Dial-A-Teacher

Students grades **K through 5** can receive **homework help** from classroom teachers using Dial-A-Teacher. Fill out this [form](#) to get a call from a teacher. The hours of operation are Monday through Thursday, 4 p.m to 7 p.m. Due to limitations, the current subjects that are available are **English and Math**. Dial-A-Teacher is hoping to expand their services to include other subjects, grades and languages soon. For more information, [visit here](#).

NATIONAL GRID

nationalgrid

Photo Credit: National Grid

National Grid will **not suspend services** for non-payment and **will not charge late payment fees**. If you are unable to pay your bill, you can call National Grid to **set up a flexible payment plan** and discuss payment options. Furthermore, National Grid developed an option for individuals to help others in need.

If you know someone struggling to pay their National Grid bill and you want to financially help them, call **(718)643-4050** . You must have the person's name, service address and phone number to allow National Grid to verify the account. "National Grid will not be able to share the account balance with you, so please have an amount in mind. You can let the recipient know of your gift or stay anonymous. The payment will appear on their next bill."

TENNIS COURT



Outdoor

**TENNIS
COURTS**



can now open statewide

but social distancing
measures remain in effect.

HAITIAN UNITY DAY

Virtual Celebration of

HAITIAN UNITY DAY

Join the Haitian-American Legislative Caucus
for a live celebration of Haitian culture with
special musical performance:



Monvelyno Alexis & Riva Nyri Précil



Monday, May 18, 2020

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.



Watch live on Facebook or Register in
advance for Zoom Meeting:

<https://bit.ly/HaitiUnityDay>

Watch live on each Assemblymember's Facebook:

@SolagesNY

@RodneyseBichotte

@AssemblywomanKimberlyJeanPierre

@nysamclydevanel

@FrontusAD46

@JaffeeNY



Join **Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte** and the **Haitian-American Legislative Caucus** on Haitian Flag Day, **Monday, May 18th, from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.**, for a virtual celebration of Haitian culture. To register in advance, visit [here](#). You can watch the video on Monday, [here](#).

ALTERNATE SIDE PARKING



Mayor De Blasio announced that **Alternate Side Parking** will be **suspended** through Sunday, **May 17th**. Alternate Side Parking will **resume Monday, May 18th to the Sunday, May 24th** to allow for a week long cleaning sweep of the City. Alternate Side Parking will be **suspended again from Monday, May 25th to Sunday, June 7th**.

COVID-19 TESTING IN FLATBUSH



Assemblymember
Rodneyse Bichotte
42nd Assembly District



FLATBUSH AVENUE WALK-IN COVID-19 TESTING SITE

*This testing site is **by appointment only**.*

You **must** contact the
NYS Department of Health
at **1-888-364-3065** to
schedule an appointment.

Brookdale Family Care Center

1095 Flatbush Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11226

For more information about this or any community concern,
contact Assemblymember Bichotte's district office

718-940-0428 | bichotter@nyassembly.gov | www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte

We have a **drive through** and **walk-in** COVID-19 testing site in the **42nd Assembly District** . **You must make an appointment before visiting the center or you will be turned away.** To make an appointment you **must** contact the NYS Department of Health at **888-364-3065**.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte
42nd Assembly District



Sears Parking Lot

2307 Beverley Road
Brooklyn, NY 11226

Testing site is BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

For appointment call 888-364-3065

*If you experience symptoms or have been exposed
to someone with the virus, call your doctor*



For information on this, or any other matter, please call Assemblymember Bichotte's district office at
718-940-0428 | bichotter@nyassembly.gov | www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte

PEDIATRIC MULTI-SYSTEM

INFLAMMATORY SYNDROME

11alive.com

PEDIATRIC MULTI-SYSTEM INFLAMMATORY SYNDROME

Photo Credit: 11alive

Governor Cuomo announced that a new investigation is under way regarding potential COVID-19 related **cases in children**. Symptoms can be compared to Kawasaki disease and toxic shock-like syndrome. The Department of Health issued an advisory of what's called the “**Pediatric Multi-System Inflammatory Syndrome**,” and now **requires** healthcare providers to **immediately report** all related cases. The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene released a [health advisory](#) detailing current findings.

- New Yorkers should **seek immediate** care if a child has:
 - Prolonged fever (more than five days)
 - Difficulty feeding (infants) or is too sick to drink fluids
 - Severe abdominal pain, diarrhea or vomiting

- Change in skin color - becoming pale, patchy and/or blue
- Trouble breathing or is breathing very quickly
- Racing heart or chest pain
- Decreased amount of frequency in urine
- Lethargy, irritability or confusion

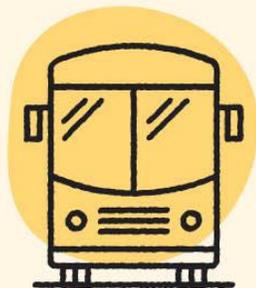
THANK YOU ESSENTIAL WORKERS



*You help us travel
safely and efficiently
during this crisis.*



**THANK YOU PUBLIC
TRANSIT DRIVERS.**



During these unprecedented and difficult times, **we thank our essential workers** who are serving on the front lines. Today, we thank our **Public Transit drivers** for safely and efficiently helping us reach our destination.

AVOID SCAMS



Photo Credit: Pixabay/CDC

- Notify NYC: Beware of COVID-19 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 by filling 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.

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](tel: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](#).

IMMIGRATION

- If you or a loved one is in need of free Immigration assistance, please call **CUNY Citizenship Now** at 646-664-9400 or text at 929-334-3784, Monday to Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Visit their [website](#) for more information.
- **Open Society Foundation** has established the **Immigrant Emergency Relief Program** which is a \$20 million fund that will provide 20,000 undocumented immigrants with a one-time monetary emergency relief.
 - \$400/individual
 - \$800/couple or single parent with children
 - \$1,000/family with multiple adults and children
 - for more information, click [here](#).

SMALL BUSINESS

- The Federal Government is offering programs to support small businesses:
 - **Paycheck Protection Program** a loan that will be forgiven if employees are retained on payroll for a period of time. For more information, click [here](#).
 - **Economic Injury Disaster Loan** is a low interest loan to cover expense beyond payroll costs. For more information, click [here](#).
- New York City Small Business Services has a host of other services for small businesses including grant and loan opportunities. For more information, click [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

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

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](#)

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

STAY CONNECTED

