



Assemblymember
RODNEYSE BICHOTTE
Brooklyn Democratic County Leader

COVID-19 Updates



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Photo Credit: Eve Edelheit/ The New York Times. Medical workers organizing tests in Orlando, Florida, where cases of the virus are surging.

July 2, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NYC Mayor Says School Will Reopen in September

Amid Coronavirus Pandemic

NYC Indoor Dining Postponed, Outdoor Dining Expanded; the U.S. Hits a New Single-day Record of 50,000 New Coronavirus Cases; and more.

NYS Confirmed: 394,954
NYS Deaths: 24,877
NYC Confirmed: 215,902
Brooklyn Confirmed: 59,855

NYS: GOVERNOR CUOMO



Photo Credit: Office of Governor Cuomo

- On Tuesday, Governor Cuomo signed the **Tenant Safe Harbor Act** into law. The [bill](#), co-sponsored by **Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte**, prohibits certain evictions during the COVID-19 pandemic. Read about the legislation [here](#).
- Ahead of the **July 4th** holiday, the governor's office announced that state police will conduct **sobriety checkpoints** statewide and target reckless and distracted drivers.
 - The campaign will begin tomorrow, **July 3rd** and run through Sunday, **July 5th**.
- **Governor Cuomo** issued a **hate crimes** investigation after swastikas and other hateful symbols were painted on a building in the town of **Perinton**, upstate. The graffiti upstate is just the latest anti-Semitic and racist vandalism in the state.
- In the face of rising COVID-19 cases across the nation, the governor called out **President Trump** for denying the severity of the pandemic "from day one".
- In yet another foray into city politics, the governor - after declining to give NYC the authority to borrow money to cover operating costs - said he was confused by the recently passed **NYC Council budget** and that he "doesn't know what it means".
- **Dani Lever**, the Communications Director for the governor, issued a statement saying that state law governs

school and business closings and openings, and not local government; contradicting an earlier statement made by **Mayor de Blasio**, who said that schools would be opening in September.

- The governor's office said it is too early to issue a decision on schools.

NYC: MAYOR DE BLASIO



Photo Credit: Alba Vigaray/Shutterstock

- Today, **Mayor de Blasio** announced that **schools** will reopen in **September**. The plan will include:
 - required face coverings;
 - social distancing; and
 - deep cleaning of classroom
- The mayor said earlier this week, that **indoor dining** will be postponed *indefinitely*, in light of rising cases around the country.
- However, **outdoor dining** will be expanded in all five boroughs. Read more [here](#).
- The mayor reached an agreement with **City Council** on the **FY21 budget** earlier this week.
 - The budget includes **\$1 billion** in cuts to the **NYPD**. The cuts include:
 - A reduction in overtime expenditures totaling **\$352 million**;
 - Cancellation of the July class of recruits; and

- Scrapping plans for a new 116th Precinct stationhouse.
- Under the new plan, the city's operating budget will remain the same, but funds will be reallocated to fund **summer youth programs, educational and social services, and housing initiatives**. Among the services that will be funded under the new budget are:
 - **\$8.4 million** for senior centers, **\$6.5 million** for Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities, and **\$4 million** to support Holocaust survivors to help preserve our seniors' quality of life;
 - **\$8.6 million** to further support food initiatives (on top of **\$25 million** already approved);
 - **\$16.6 million** for the New York Immigrant Family Unity Project;
 - **\$20.2 million** for cultural programs and Cultural Institutions Groups, **\$14.3 million** for the CASA initiative;
 - **\$34.3 million** to fund the CUNY Accelerated Study in Associate Programs (ASAP) to help students obtain an associate degree;
 - **\$100 million** in Fair Student Funding; and
 - **\$115.8 million** for the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP); Work, Learn, Grow; COMPASS; Beacon, Cornerstone and SONYC summer programs.
- The city is soliciting proposals from **Community-Based Organizations** (CBOs), including **Faith-Based Organizations** (FBOs) to promote the new **Community Engagement Initiative** of the **NYC Test and Trace**. Activities will include conducting outreach and educating the public on:
 - Testing and tracing;
 - Benefits of wearing a mask;
 - Physical distancing, COVID-19 prevention; and
 - Safe reopening practices
- To apply to be a community or faith-based partner, visit [here](#).

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT



Photo Credit: Samuel Corum/ The New York Times

- Unemployment fell in June, with the U.S. gaining **4.8 million jobs** back, but the surge in infections in the midwest and south could derail the recovery.
 - The Wall Street Journal reports that black Americans could be left even further behind as a result of unemployment. Read more [here](#).
- **President Trump**, now months into the pandemic, announced that he is "all for masks". Vice President Mike Pence also said that masks were "a good idea".
- In 2018, the president's administration disbanded the **National Security Council's** pandemic response office.
 - Today, the council hosted an interagency meeting to discuss plans for a new, similar office. Read more [here](#).
- **Dr. Fauci** warned the U.S. that an even greater outbreak is ahead.
 - The warning came as the U.S. hit a new single-day record of more than **50,000** new coronavirus cases.

MTA BARRIERS



Photo Credit: Matthew McDermott/NY Post

- The **MTA** announced that polycarbonate sliders and vinyl curtains will be installed on city buses to protect drivers.
 - By the fall, **4,800 local buses** will be fitted with the curtains and sliders; and
 - By August, **1,000 express buses** will be fitted with the protective gear.
 - These sliders and curtains will allow the MTA to **resume boarding passengers from the front** of the bus and allow more space for social distancing.

EVENTS

JUNETEENTH



A PBS video with Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte providing a statement at Grand Army Plaza in celebration of Juneteenth.

Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte speaks at a **Juneteenth** celebration at **Grand Army Plaza** with other elected officials. The governor and mayor declared **Juneteenth** an official holiday this year, making **June 19th, 2020** the first official statewide celebration of the holiday.

BROOKLYN BOROUGH HALL

- **Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte** spoke at the unveiling of a '**Black Lives Matter**' mural initiated by **Mayor Bill de Blasio, Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams** and **Council Member Stephen Levin** last week.
- Speaking about the slate of police reform bills passed by the Assembly and voted into law, **Assemblymember Bichotte** said, "In just a few months, we have turned our outrage over the murder of **George Floyd** into action. ...I know that this public representation of our struggle and achievements will one day be a part of the history of Brooklyn too. A more progressive history than we have ever seen before."



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte delivers a speech at the unveiling of the 'Black Lives Matter' mural on Joralemon Street in front of Brooklyn Borough Hall.



Photo Credit: Staff photo



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte with Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams.



Left to right: District Leader Edu Herelyn, Assemblymember Jo Anne Simon, and Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte (left) and Council Member Farah Louis (right)

EVANGELICAL CHURCH FOOD DISTRIBUTION



Photo left to right: First Lady Pastor Faride Nicolas, City Council Member Farah Louis, Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte, Food Czar/DSNY Commissioner Kathryn Garcia, District Leader Edu Hermelyn, and Pastor Sam Nicolas.



Photo left to right: Senator Kevin Parker, Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte and Food Czar/DSNY Commissioner Kathryn Garcia.

PASWO - FOURTH OF JULY EVENT



Photo left to right: Council Member Farah Louis, President of PASWO Atia Shahnaz, Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte and Muhammed Adeen.



Photo of the PASWO July 4th event.

COMMUNITY FAIR



ALL ARE WELCOME!

Evangelical Crusade Christian Church **COMMUNITY FAIR**

JOIN US FOR FREE

ADULT & CHILDREN
SCREENING
BLOOD PRESSURE
CHECK
DIABETES &
NUTRITION
COUNSELING
MENTAL WELLNESS
& MUCH MORE!



COVID ANTI-BODY TESTING



**FOOD BOXES, MASKS &
HAND SANITIZERS
WILL BE
DISTRIBUTED**

MUSIC & MORE

FRIDAY, JULY 3, 2020

10:30AM-6PM

EVANGELICAL CRUSADES CHRISTIAN CHURCH
557 East 31st Street Bk NY 11210



**Sponsors: Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams, Advanced
Cardio Medical Dr. Perry Franckel, Haitian American Alliance
Covid 19 Task Force, Healthfirst**

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

FRESH FOOD DISTRIBUTION



**Every Saturday, starting June 20th
11AM – While supplies last
Flatlands Reformed Church
Community Center
3931 Kings Highway (near Flatbush Ave.)**

**Fresh food boxes will be distributed on a
first come first serve basis and one box per household.
Please wear your mask/face covering!**

Flatlands Community Partnership is committed to proactively developing a better quality of life for the residents of Flatlands, East Flatbush, Flatbush, Canarsie, Georgetown through stewardship of resources, creative partnerships and ensuring a dynamic framework for personal and communal growth.

GrowNYC's emergency feeding program is made possible with the generous support of many valued partners including the City of New York, New York City Council, NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets, NYC COVID-19 Response & Impact Fund, Bank of America, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, FJC, and our fellow New Yorkers. If you need additional support, visit nyc.gov/getfood to find services near you.

Interested in volunteering? Call 718-252-5540 or info@flatlandsreformed.org

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



GROW
NYC

East Flatbush
Community Partnership

ROBIN HOOD

www.hccinc.org
www.flatlandsreformed.org



NYS SENATOR
KEVIN S. PARKER



ASSEMBLY MEMBER
HELENE WEINSTEIN



COUNCIL MEMBER
FARAH N. LOUIS

Funding for the food distribution program is made possible by the additional support of Robin Hood Foundation.

FIREWORKS



REWARD



Up to **\$1,000** for information leading to the arrest and conviction of persons possessing or distributing fireworks.

Fireworks
are
Illegal

**The New York City Police Department
urges you to celebrate safely on July 4th**

If you use fireworks, you or someone else can get seriously hurt.
If you have fireworks we can ARREST YOU, your car can be confiscated
or your business can be closed.

Concerned citizens can anonymously report the delivery, sale or storage of fireworks.

CALL: 911 for crimes in progress
311 to provide information

A Public Safety Message from The New York City Police Department, Community Affairs Bureau

SP 14-CAB (06-08)

ALTERNATE-SIDE PARKING



Photo Credit: Pix11

Alternate Side Parking Schedule (through July 12th):

- **July 3 - July 4:** ASP and meters are suspended for Independence Day. Stopping, standing, and parking are also allowed, except in areas where these rules are in effect 7 days a week.
- **July 5:** ASP and meters are not in effect; all other parking rules are in effect.
- **July 6 - July 11:** ASP suspended; meters and all other parking rules are in effect.
- **July 12:** ASP and meters are not in effect; all other parking rules are in effect.

The City may extend the suspension past **July 12th** based on street cleanliness and workforce availability.

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 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**.

**MULTISYSTEM INFLAMMATORY SYNDROME IN
CHILDREN (MIS-C)**



Photo Credit: Norton Children's

Governor Cuomo announced that a new investigation is underway 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 Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children, or MIS-C, and now **requires** health care 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



During these unprecedented and difficult times, **we thank our essential workers** who are serving on the front lines. Today, we thank our **rideshare services** for getting us where we need to go during this crisis.

COMPLETE THE 2020 CENSUS



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte

As we face unprecedented challenges in the fight against COVID-19, we must remember to complete the **2020 Census** . The census asks just 10 simple questions that can be answered in just a few minutes online by visiting [here](#) or by calling [844-330-2020](tel:844-330-2020).

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](#).

FreshDirect meals:

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams in partnership with **FreshDirect** is providing free food packages. Each box contains the following:

- Rice, 2 bags, 16oz
- Pasta, 2 boxes, 16oz
- Canned beans, 2 cans, 10-16oz
- Canned Meat/Fish, 2 cans, 3 to 5 oz
- Canned Vegetable, 2 cans, 8 to 15 oz
- Raisins / Dry Fruit, 4 boxes, 2 oz per box
- Cereal/Oatmeal, 1 Box, 10 to 20 oz
- Milk / Milk Substitute, 1 container, 32 oz
- Corn, 2 ears
- 2 Potatoes
- 1 Onion
- 1 Carrot
- Orange / Apple, 2 in total

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** provides 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 list 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 (MWBs)** , 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

