



Greetings---

I hope you had a wonderful Fourth of July holiday and had an opportunity to celebrate with family and friends.

As I suspected and as I am sure you read, Governor Cuomo called an extraordinary session last week to extend mayoral control over New York City schools. Ultimately, the Legislature and the Governor agreed upon a bill that includes a two year extender for Mayoral Control of NYC schools, which would have expired on June 30th, a three-year extension of local taxes and the renaming of the new Tappan Zee Bridge after former Governor Mario Cuomo.

While it was important for us to have the special session to deal with the critical issues of Mayoral control and local tax extenders, it is unfortunate that an issue like mayoral control was crammed into the very end of the session. The legislature was unable to have both a reasoned debate about how to ensure there is accountability and efficient management in our NYC Public Schools and to empower parents, communities, and educators in shaping their local schools.

This session the Assembly passed a range of important bills, such as the [Women's Reproductive Health Act](#), [New York Health Plan](#), [Child Victims Act](#) & the host of electoral reforms that are badly needed in New York State – unfortunately none of these bills were even brought to the floor in the State Senate. I hope you will join me in urging Senator John Flanagan (631) 361-2154 and Senator Jeff Klein (718) 822-2049 to call a special session of the State Senate to have a simple up or down vote on these important pieces of legislation. This legislation is too important to wait until next January.

MTA Issues

Over the last month my office has received more calls and complaints about the MTA than any other issue. As a person without a car and someone who almost exclusively uses our buses and subways to get around I feel your anger and frustration because I am angry and frustrated. That is why in the coming weeks my office will be releasing our own ideas on how our Governor and Mayor can address this transportation nightmare. It's critical that we all raise our voices to fight for better transit, so I invite you to continue to send me emails and to call my office to share your experience riding our subways and buses and to offer your ideas for how we can fix it.

Prospect Park Alliance Connective Project

I am happy to have joined the Prospect Park Alliance today for the unveiling of [The Connective Project - a large-scale public art installation in Prospect Park on the occasion of the Park's 150th Anniversary](#). The Connective Project will transform Prospect Park's Rose Garden—a little known landscape in the Park's northeast corner—into an immersive, engaging and ever growing field of thousands of pinwheels—on view from July 7-17, 2017.



The installation features artwork submitted by emerging artists, notable Brooklynites and the diverse communities that consider the Park "Brooklyn's Backyard." During the installation, the public will make additional pinwheels to add to the display. It's truly a sight to behold, so I hope you are able to take a few moments to check it out.

GetOrganizedBK's Civic Festival

I am proud to be working with Councilmember Lander's office and Get Organized Brooklyn to co-sponsor a civic festival in the Prospect Park band shell on July 25th. The event will celebrate all the wonderful activism that has taken place this year and it's going to be a lot of fun. Special guests who will be performing include folk musician [Natalia Zukerman](#), and noted humorist and writer [Isaac Oliver](#). Please see details below and join us for a great evening in Prospect Park!

• FREE, OPEN TO ALL! •

#GETORGANIZEDBK'S
CIVIC
FESTIVAL

RESISTANCE & COMMUNITY BUILDING

Tuesday, July 25

PROSPECT PARK BANDSHELL
STARTS 5 PM UNTIL 8 PM

• **WWW.GETORGANIZEDBK.ORG** •



As always, if you have any legislative ideas or community concerns, please reach out to my office at (718) 788-7221 or email me at carrollr@nyassembly.gov.

See you around the neighborhood,

Bobby