



Assemblywoman

Alicia L. Hyndman

REPORTS TO THE PEOPLE

SUMMER 2018

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Dear Neighbors,

Though we faced challenges this year, we have achieved goals which will move our community forward. Your support enabled me to complete another productive legislative session.

We passed a budget of \$168.3 billion which included a record \$26.7 billion investment in education, a sustainability plan to improve our public transit system, protected funding for Medicaid and school-based health centers, and incorporated anti-sexual harassment measures. We were also successful in passing legislation that will have a positive impact on small businesses, protect women and children, and improve the quality of education.

I was thrilled to announce earlier this year that the NYPD began installation of the thirty Argus Cameras, which I allocated funding for during my first year in office. My colleagues in Southeast Queens and I were also successful in introducing the Atlantic Ticket, offering commuters an alternative and affordable means of travel. We have made strides this session, and I look forward to progress in the next legislative session.

As summer begins, I hope to see many of you at block parties, barbeques, and other events around the district. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to stop by or contact my office. Have a safe and healthy summer!

Yours in Service,

Alicia Hyndman
Assemblywoman 29th District

Security Cameras

During my first session, I allocated \$1.1 million to install security cameras throughout the 29th Assembly District. Earlier this year, I was happy to announce that the NYPD began the installation of these state of the art Argus cameras. The safety of my constituents is always a top priority and this tool will allow the NYPD to monitor hot spots and deter crime. Thank you to Commissioner O'Neil, Chief Barrerre, Inspector Fortune, Inspector Schiff, Inspector O'Sullivan and our local civics, including Addisleigh Park Civic Organization, Brinkerhoff Action Association, and Rosedale Civic Association for your advocacy and support. This was truly a collaborative effort and now our neighborhoods will benefit from this technology that is already in use in other parts of Queens.



With local leaders, civic organizations, and Commanders of the 105th and 113th Precincts during my announcement regarding the installation of security cameras in the 29th District.

Legislative Updates

Sickle Cell

For the first time, I initiated a collaborative effort with the Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic, and Asian Legislative Caucus to support a statewide focus on Sickle Cell Anemia. This venture consisted of bringing advocates, medical professionals, patients, and stakeholders together to begin focusing on securing funding for research, new medications, and most importantly a cure for this disease affecting minorities across the world; especially in my district. Sickle cell disease is a health topic that I am committed to advocate for, among many. I was able to restore \$170,000 to this cause in this year's budget. Though it was not the initial request, with the help of the BPHA Legislative Caucus and the advocates across the state, I am dedicated to securing more funds for this cause.



The BPHA Legislative Caucus came together to bring statewide Sickle Cell Advocacy groups to the Capitol. Patient advocates, medical professionals, and those in government relations attended this important forum to discuss the fiscal and legislative needs of this global disease.

Center for Family Representation (CFR)

CFR is a groundbreaking nonprofit organization that provides low-income parents with social work support and free legal representation in Family Court, Housing Court, and Criminal Court. Through their services, children are able to stay with their families safely, or CFR helps to minimize the time any child spends in foster care. In my attempts to understand this active agency in the community, I attended court cases in Queens Family Court. As an advocate for this organization, I was able to add almost \$150,000 into the Fiscal Budget this year for CFR.



Before the legislative session, I met with representatives from CFR to discuss the needs of the program, how it operates, and their plans for expansion of services.



Below are some key pieces of legislation that I introduced this session, which have passed in the Assembly and Senate.

A8995 - Relates to opportunities in the city of New York for minority and women-owned business enterprises. This legislation raises the maximum contracting amount for Minority and Women Business Enterprises from \$30,000 to \$150,000. MWBE's can now apply for city contracts that were either out of reach or financially impractical for qualified firms. **Passed in NYS Senate S7293.**

A10574 - Failure to pay for services of a barber, hair, or beauty stylists will be considered a theft of services. This bill was drafted for the purposes of helping those whose livelihood are earned rendering these services, but have no advocates when clients do not pay for the service(s) received. This bill will make it an infraction of the law for first-time offenders and a misdemeanor for second-time offenders. **Passed in NYS Senate S6343-A.**

A10864 - Modifies requirements for eligibility for the state Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) program to include students who enroll in a public or private institute of higher education. This will help support our students to be stronger and more competitive in these fields of study. **Passed in NYS Senate S8727.**



Delta Day

My Sorors of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. flooded the Capitol in a sea of red for their annual advocacy day. They met with legislators to discuss important issues affecting their communities.

Around the District



Unveiling the Lena Horne Stamp

I had the honor of being the guest speaker at the Lena Horne Stamp Unveiling. Ms. Horne was a legendary performer and civil rights activist, whose work impacted the lives of thousands.



Laurelton Community Library's Re-Chartering Ceremony

Supported the volunteer efforts at Laurelton Library. Civic involvement is a key component to building a strong community. I encourage you all to volunteer at your local library!



MARLS Community Health Fair

With local business owners and members of the Merchants Association of Rosedale, Laurelton, and Springfield Gardens at their Community Health Fair.



Easter Egg Hunt

My office hosted an Easter Egg Hunt, where children enjoyed fun activities in the park, took pictures with the Easter Bunny, and received giveaways from local organizations.

Constituent Highlight

Constituent Services is the non-legislative advocacy conducted by our office to assist citizens of this district. We serve as an intermediary between city and state agencies and interact with different levels of government to resolve issues in the community. Many people have come to our office for help with utility bills, tenant/landlord complaints, development of potential legislation, and to get information. We are here to help and have had great success advocating for our constituents.

Earlier this year, a Jamaica resident contacted my office regarding an issue of flooding in front of her home. Whenever it rained, water would pool from her front porch to the side of her house, causing an immense inconvenience and was especially dangerous in the wintertime. She would often have to climb over a neighbor's porch to leave her own home. With two small children and another on the way, these conditions put her and her family's safety at risk.

After months of not hearing back from city agencies regarding this matter, she sought help from my office. We quickly reached out to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and forwarded them a video demonstrating the hazardous conditions caused by the flooding. We were told that the local civic association had previously requested a catch basin in that area, but were denied because DEP does not handle such requests. We remained persistent and insisted that something had to happen as this family's quality of life and safety was being jeopardized. We are happy to report DEP finally agreed to our request and installed THREE catch basins on the block with one right in front of the constituent's home.

If you are experiencing a similar situation or need help with a different matter, please contact my office at 718-723-5412 and someone will be available to assist you.

Atlantic Ticket



As many residents probably know, Southeast Queens is a "transportation desert." With the lack of a subway system and limited bus service, it is difficult for commuters to travel throughout the boroughs. Over the past several months, my colleagues and I have worked diligently with the MTA to provide riders with a more affordable and convenient means of mass transit. The Atlantic Ticket offers a low-cost fare for customers traveling between LIRR stations in Jamaica, Rosedale, Laurelton, Hollis, Queens Village, St. Albans, and Locust Manor to the Atlantic Terminal in Brooklyn. Commuters will have the option of purchasing a one-way ticket from any of these stations for only \$5 or a weekly pass that includes unlimited transfers to NYCT buses and subways for \$60. This pilot program will be a catalyst for change in how we view and use public transportation in Southeast Queens. Go for a ride today! For more information, visit <http://web.mta.info/service/atlantic-ticket.htm>.

Legislation Passed in the Assembly

Child Victims Act (A.5885): This session, I helped pass legislation to enable more victims of childhood sexual abuse to face their abusers in civil or criminal court. Child sexual abuse is a traumatic experience and can take years for victims to file charges. By extending the statute of limitations, victims would be afforded the opportunity to finally seek justice.

Domestic Violence Escalation Prevention Act (A.10272): As we continue to see headlines of mass shootings and rampant violence throughout the nation, I am proud to have supported a bill that aims to reduce the number of fatalities caused by gun violence. This bill prevents individuals with domestic violence convictions from purchasing or possessing firearms. Research has shown that there is a clear link between domestic violence and mass shootings. By revoking their access to weapons, we are a step forward in protecting our communities.

Gender Expression Non-Discrimination Act (A.3358): Every person deserves the right to be protected, regardless of his or her gender identity or expression. This act serves to include gender identity and expression as a protected class in the state's human rights and hate crime laws. It prohibits discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations and other areas, and lists the offenses subject to treatment as hate crimes.



Gun violence has been a growing problem in our country and we need to create better policies to keep guns out of the wrong hands. I stand with Speaker Heastie and my colleagues in government to demand stricter gun control laws and protect our citizens.

New York State Assembly, Albany, New York 12248



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Families Belong Together



We have all heard the cries of young children and have seen the images of families being pulled apart at the border. This cruel and unreasonable policy of separating migrant children from their parents is an affront to our fundamental values.

As an immigrant and mother of two, I can only imagine what profound damage has been done to these children. This is not a means for border protection, but rather an inhumane political tactic used to instill fear and hate.

Families who left everything behind for their safety and wellbeing should not reach the border and have to lose each other as well. I stand in solidarity with my colleagues in the New York State Assembly Majority to keep families together and denounce this heartbreaking and unethical policy. "Familia significa que nadie se queda atrás o se olvida -- Family means nobody gets left behind or forgotten."