



May 3, 2024

Greetings –

The recently enacted State Budget included many significant policy initiatives ranging from housing to healthcare. A snapshot of some of the highlights of the budget is below and you can read a [recap here](#).

BUDGET OVERVIEW

- Significant support for the Brooklyn Museum.
- The passage of Sammy's Law enabling lower speed limits in NYC.
- Significant increases in education funding to a record \$35.9 billion in school aid statewide.
- \$2.4 billion in funding to address the migrant crisis – a \$500 million increase from last year.
- Support for SUNY Downstate Hospital to prevent its closure.
- Standards for and investments in evidence-based literacy education for grades K-3.
- Incentives for housing production with affordable units and protections for tenants in unregulated apartments.
- First in the nation mandatory leave for pre-natal care.
- The elimination of co-pays for insulin prescriptions.
- The establishment of a dedicated fund to expand and ensure abortion access.
- Expansion of eligibility for the Tuition Assistance Program and an additional \$100 million for SUNY and CUNY.
- New law enforcement tools making it easier to shut down unlicensed cannabis shops.
- Funding to the MTA to improve service on 7 express routes and 13 local routes spanning all five boroughs as part of the Assembly's efforts to improve public transportation in tandem with the implementation of congestion pricing.

“There’s still much more I want to accomplish, but we won some major fights for the people of Brooklyn.”

I am proud of what was accomplished in the budget, but there is still much unfinished business to address between now and the end of the legislative session in June.

As well as many important bills introduced by my colleagues, I will be pushing for several pieces of legislation for which I am the prime sponsor. Some of these bills are: my Dyslexia Diagnosis Access Act ([A.2898](#)), that would require insurance companies to cover neuropsychological exams for the purpose of diagnosing dyslexia, my Right to Read Act ([A.2897](#)), which would establish policy changes that promote the use of evidence-based practices for all kindergarten through fifth grade students in schools throughout that state, my Wildlife Crossing bill ([A.4243](#)), which would establish a framework for wildlife crossing planning and implementation in New York State, my Helicopter Tax bill ([A.7638](#)), which would impose a noise tax on non-essential helicopter flights in NYC, my Contingency Management bill ([A.6674](#)), which would establish guidelines for a statewide program for the use of contingency management in treating substance use disorders, and my Same Day Registration bill ([A.181](#)) for a constitutional amendment which would remove the ten-day advance voter registration requirement from the NYS Constitution.

Regarding my Helicopter Tax Bill, I submitted testimony for a recent City Council Economic Development Committee Hearing on non-essential helicopter flights over the City, which you can [read here](#). Also, transportation expert Charles Komanoff wrote a piece about my bill in Streetsblog – he estimates that the bill would reduce flights between thirty and fifty percent.

Shredding/Rain Barrel/MTA Van Friday 5/31

Thanks to all of you who joined us for our Spring Clean and Green event in Prospect Park on April 21st. On May 31st I am hosting a service event at my District Office featuring shredding, rain barrel giveaway, and the MTA Metro Card Van. See full details on the flyer below and [reserve your free rain barrel here](#).

FULL SERVICE FRIDAY

Friday
May
31

- ◆ **PAPER SHREDDING**
- ◆ **MTA METROCARD VAN**
- ◆ **FREE RAIN BARRELS**

All services will be provided on the sidewalk
in front of my district office at
416 7th Avenue in Park Slope
(between 13th and 14th Streets)



9am-12pm: NYC Department of Sanitation's paper shredding truck, no reservation is necessary, just walk up to the truck with your paper to shred. (please remove all plastic or metal including staples and binder clips, and NO cardboard)



10am-2PM: MTA Metrocard Van for all your MetroCard related issues including reduced fare applications; transferring balances; lost, stolen, or damaged cards and more! No reservation is necessary, walk-up service at the van window.



Rain Barrel only QR code



9am-3pm: FREE rain barrels from NYC Department of Environmental Protection. You must reserve your rain barrel in advance using the QR code below, the rain barrels will be delivered to my office by 9am. (If there any are left-over, we will offer them on a first come first serve basis after 3pm, if you cannot use the QR code, please call the office to reserve your FREE rain barrel)

If you have any concerns about any legislative or community issue, please email me at carrollr@nyassembly.gov or call (718) 788-7221.

-Bobby

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