



## Greetings –

Eid Mubarak!

I was honored to spend this important day with the Brooklyn Islamic Center community at the Parade Grounds, joined by Mayor Zohran Mamdani. Celebrating together with so many families and neighbors was incredibly meaningful and a powerful reminder of the strength, diversity, and unity of our borough.

Mayor Mamdani’s words were especially powerful, speaking to the importance of community, compassion, and standing together—values that define both Eid and our city.

A special thank you to Saiful & Maruf Alam for the invitation, and it was great to see so many friends, including Ali Najmi and Sakib Mowla.

Wishing everyone celebrating a joyful and blessed Eid.



## Assembly One House Budget Proposal

Last week I voted with my colleagues to approve the [Assembly’s One House Budget for Fiscal 2026-27](#), which is the Assembly’s official response to Governor Hochul's proposed Executive Budget.

The Assembly’s revenue proposals align with Mayor Mamdani’s advocacy for increases in taxes on individuals and corporations that can best afford to pay – households and businesses making over \$5 million annually. The revenues generated through these measures would put in place sustainable funding that will help the City and State provide

the level of services and investments in human and physical infrastructure that New Yorkers need and deserve.

As Chair of the Assembly Committee on Libraries and Education Technology, I strongly advocated for increased funding for libraries and am pleased to see the Assembly propose a significant increase in library construction aid from \$34 million to \$70 million and a more modest but still much needed increase in library operating aid from \$104.7 million to \$109.3 million.

As the prime sponsor of the nation leading Build Public Renewables Act, which passed in 2023, I was also glad to see the Assembly propose a \$200 million allocation to help the New York Power Authority in its work towards meeting the goals of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) through the development of renewal energy projects. We must stay the course and implement the CLCPA with fidelity. The environmental, economic, and political costs of continued reliance on fossil fuels become more and more evident every day.

The Assembly's "One House" also includes an additional \$200 million for the Housing Access Voucher Program (HAVP), for a total of \$250 million. HAVP is a rental assistance program that helps individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness to secure permanent housing and transition out of shelters or unsustainable housing situations.

Another critical component of the Assembly One House budget is the adjustments proposed to the Foundation Aid Formula, the primary source of state funding for schools, which would help to better address the needs of New York City. These measures include accounting for students in foster care and in temporary housing in the aid formula and weighing English language learners more heavily in the formula. All told, the Assembly proposal for state funding for school aid would total \$39.4 billion, an increase of \$905.6 million over the Executive Budget. This includes a \$630.6 million increase to fund Foundation Aid over the Executive, which would be a \$1.4 billion increase over School Year 2025-26.

The Assembly's and Senate's One House Budgets serve as a point of departure for negotiations with the Governor and many issues remain to be resolved. Among them is how best the State can act to protect immigrants in the face of ICE's egregious and often unlawful conduct. I will be working alongside my colleagues in the weeks ahead to achieve good outcomes on this and many other aspects of the budget.

### **My Electronics Repair Score Act Passes the Assembly**

This week my bill ([A.3058/S.6438](#)) requiring repair scores for digital electronic equipment such as smart phones and appliances passed the Assembly. This legislation calls for the New York Department of State to develop a repairability scoring criteria and that repair scores be displayed on product packaging and on the original equipment manufacturer's website. This first of its kind in the nation legislation is a major step in aligning the United States with international best practices such as standards adopted by the European Union. Not only will this legislation help consumers make informed choices on the purchase of electronic products, it is also an important step with regards to reducing electronic waste, which is a major environmental issue. The organization USPIRG, a leader in the "right to repair" movement, is a strong supporter of this legislation. You can read what they say about the bill [here](#).

## Enter Brooklyn Public Library's Annual Teen Writing Contest!

Teens are eligible to submit up to two entries of poetry or prose between now and March 31. [For more details about the contest, cash prizes and publishing opportunities click here.](#) The Teen Writing Contest and the Ned Vizzini Teen Writing Prize are made possible by the Ned Vizzini Fund.

## Help Ease the City-Wide Crossing Guard Shortage

Many schools are having to operate without the assistance of NYPD Crossing Guards. If you or someone you know is looking for work close to home with healthcare benefits [click here for more details and to complete an application.](#)

## Gender Expansive Families Propaganda Party

Parents of Gender Expansive Kids (POGEK) is again hosting its annual art-making party in advance of Trans Day of Visibility. And they are inviting the community to take part!

It's taking place on Sunday, March 29th from 12-5, at Interference Archive on 7th St and 5th Ave in Park Slope.

[You can see more details here:](#)



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

-Bobby

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