



71ST Assembly District
ASSEMBLYMEMBER
AL TAYLOR
REPORTS TO THE PEOPLE



Community Board 10
April 2018

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THIS MONTH IN ALBANY

New York State Legislature Passes Fiscal Budget for 2018-2019; Includes Funding for NYCHA, Education, Opioid Abuse Treatment Programs and More

The \$168 billion 2018-19 budget, what Gov. Andrew Cuomo called the toughest spending plan in his tenure, was passed on March 31st, 2018. The budget included tax reforms meant to protect New Yorkers from the effects of the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, increased education spending, funding for NYCHA and programs to fight opioid addiction and measures to prevent workplace sexual harassment. According to the state Division of the Budget, the budget keeps state operating funds at the 2% growth cap and continues the phase-in of the state's \$4.2 billion Middle Class Tax Cut. The budget also includes a voluntary payroll tax to replace the state's income tax and a measure that allows local governments to establish charity foundations that may be tax deductible. The two tax reforms are a response to a provision in the new federal tax law Congress passed at the end of last year, which only allows the deduction of state and local taxes up to \$10,000. For more information on how the approved budget affects our community, please refer to the attached NYS Caucus Highlights on the following page. Although the budget has passed ahead of the April 1st deadline, the Child Victims Act was not included. Assemblyman Taylor, a longtime proponent of the bill, will continue to fight for its passing and funding in the future.



Assemblyman Al Taylor and Assemblywoman Carmen De La Rosa Meet with MTA to Express Concerns Over 163rd Street Station

Assemblymembers Taylor and De La Rosa met with Tim Ellis, MTA Director of State Legislative Affairs in Albany this month to

SAVE THE DATE

The Assemblymember will be conducting a Round Table discussion with constituents on **April 26th, 2018** at Columbia University Hammer Building, Rm. LL103 from 6:30pm-8:30pm

SERVICES AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE

- **Tax Season:** Our staff is prepared to assist you with your tax forms 210 and 214.
- **Notary:** Our volunteer notary is available Mon, Wed, Fri from 11am-3pm and notary services are free of charge.
- **Legal Counsel:** Legal services are available via appointment only; please call the office to make an appointment.
- **Voicing Your Concerns:** The District Office is open to constituents from 9am-5pm; schedule an appointment to meet with the Assemblyman or his staff.

express their frustration at the improper dissemination of information regarding the closing of the C line at the 163rd Street Station that adversely and directly affects their constituents. Additionally, the station is being renovated without making it ADA compliant. The Assemblymembers will continue to meet with MTA representatives to ensure that their constituents will be properly informed and taken care of.

Assemblyman Taylor stands with the New York State Attorney General and Fellow Elected Leaders In Announcing the Legal Challenge to the U.S. Census Bureau

Seventeen states, the District of Columbia and New York State Attorney General (AG) Eric Schneiderman filed the lawsuit against the U.S. Census Bureau to block the Trump administration's demand for citizenship information in the upcoming 2020 census on Tuesday (April 3, 2018), saying a plan to add a citizenship demand to the census questionnaire is unconstitutional. Assemblyman Taylor will continue to support and fight for the immigrants in our great nation alongside AG Schneiderman.



INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Assemblymember Taylor is looking for qualified individuals to intern at his District Office

The internship typically runs throughout the year and offers flexible hours to accommodate student schedules, but is generally during office times (Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm). Though unpaid, the position offers invaluable work experience and mentorship. Please consider the following applicant requirements before you apply:

- Have a background in journalism, public relations, public administration or advertisement
- Possess general office etiquette and strong writing skills
- Be well-versed in using multiple social media platforms

Interested candidates can forward their resumes and cover letters to mathewa@nyassembly.gov for further instructions on how to apply.

Five-Alarm Fire at St. Nicholas Avenue Apartments

A five-alarm fire broke out March 22nd, 2018 around 11pm at 773 St. Nicholas Avenue. While the cause of the fire is still under investigation, I was notified of serious injuries sustained by many first responders and the death of firefighter Lt. Michael R. Davidson. I would like to take this moment to honor Lt. Davidson and pray for the speedy recovery of those injured. I thank Engine 69 and the other first responders for their services to our great city. It is with a heavy heart that I also say thank you to Lt. Davidson for his bravery and sacrifice. Funeral services for Lt. Davidson were held at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Manhattan on March 27th, 2018. We will continue to work with FDNY and NYPD to ensure that the residents are helped in any way possible.



Please join the Assemblyman in his efforts to bring the community together and engage the residents of Polo Grounds and Rangel Housing to clean up the neighborhood. The day will begin at 8:30am and will give you a chance to interact with elected officials and your fellow community members. For more information, please call the office to speak us or email the contact for this event, Adrianna, at mathewa@nyassembly.gov

CAUCUS MEMBERS HIGHLIGHT BUDGET VICTORIES ON 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF DR. KING'S LAST SPEECH

ALBANY, NY (April 3, 2018) – It was 50 years ago, today, that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. declared to the world that “we, as a people, will get to the promised land.” As the Members of the New York State Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic and Asian Legislative Caucus endeavor to move New York towards that goal, we seek to highlight various FY2018-2019 budget victories that recognize that New York State cannot move forward if families and communities are left behind.

Each year, the Caucus releases [*The People's Budget*](#), a publication that details the many priorities the legislators will be advocating for throughout the budget process. This session, through the support of our members—and legislative leadership from Speaker Carl E. Heastie, Senate Minority Leader Andrea Stewart Cousins, and Chairman N. Nick Perry—the Caucus points to various budget initiatives that will directly benefit the communities in which we represent; moving us closer to realizing Dr. King's vision.

“On every issue—education, housing, transportation, health, criminal justice, civil rights—New York must increase our efforts to protect our citizens and guard against policies that disadvantage hard-working Americans on the basis of race, gender, orientation, zip code, or any other factor,” said Chairman N. Nick Perry (D-Brooklyn). “While much more work is needed to achieve the goals that remain on the table, the advances in this budget take us further forward.”

Education Investments

The FY2018-2019 budget included several education investments that will directly benefit our communities:

K-12

- \$50 million increase for community schools
- \$15 million increase to expand pre-K
- \$2 million to create safe and supportive school environments that prevent bullying
- \$1.5 million for adult literacy education
- \$500,000 for teacher diversity pipeline pilot
- \$500,000 English Language Learner Class size reduction pilot program

Higher Education

- \$32.2 million for the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP)
- \$35.5 million for the Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP)
- \$15.8 million for Science and Technology Entry Program (STEP)
- \$11.9 million for Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP)

Child Welfare

The enacted budget includes \$17 million to restore the proposed cap on the City of New York's Child Welfare Services funding stream, which is used to fund preventive services, child protective services, adoption subsidies and other programs that help keep children out of foster care and New York's families united.

NYCHA Funding

In order to help facilitate much-needed repairs and ensure that residents are living in healthy, habitable, and comfortable conditions, the Caucus advanced a budget that included \$250 million in new funding for the New York City Housing Authority.

Reparative Justice

To continue the Caucus' efforts to repair harms caused by a punitive—rather than healing—approach to drug abuse in the past, the approved budget establishes the Opioid Stewardship Fund to provide \$100

million in funding for heroin and opioid treatment, prevention and recovery services. The plan also restores \$2 million to fund the Substance Abuse Prevention and Intervention Specialist (SAPIS) program in New York City through the Department of Education. An additional \$1.5 million is allocated to establish a behavioral health ombudsman program to assist insured enrollees with coverage issues related to mental health or substance use disorders. The budget also includes \$1.5 million for various programs related to substance use disorder treatment, prevention and recovery.

Maternal Mortality

This year, the Women of Color Subcommittee of the Caucus established a priority of increasing our efforts to reduce maternal mortality—an epidemic that disproportionately impacts women of color. “The budget allocates \$250,000 towards the Safe Motherhood Initiative that works to develop and implement standard approaches for how to deal with emergencies related to childbirth,” said Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner (D-Bronx). “We celebrate this important first, and remain committed to working towards the creation of a statewide maternal mortality board.”

Gun Violence

“In too many areas, gun violence is an epidemic,” said Assemblywoman Diana C. Richardson (D-Brooklyn). “As a result of our hard work and persistent advocacy, this budget includes an increase in funding for Operation SNUG—a top priority that allows us to continue curbing violence and saving lives.” The State’s FY2018-2019 budget agreement also includes legislation that will keep guns out of the hands of convicted domestic abusers. The legislation will require domestic abusers to surrender all guns, including both handguns and long guns, closing a loophole in New York State law.

Public Transportation

“With this budget, we consider the present and long-term needs of the state's transportation systems but also ways to reduce congestion and improve performance across the board,” said Assemblyman David Gantt (D-Rochester). The state and City of New York commit to jointly fund the \$836 million Subway Action Plan to address safety, service reliability and other necessary capital investments for the MTA. To provide a long-term revenue stream to support transportation sustainability, the enacted budget includes a per-trip surcharge on for-hire vehicle, yellow taxi, and pooled rides within a newly designated travel zone in New York City.

Retirement Savings

A Caucus-supported effort to provide employees of small businesses the ability to safeguard their economic stability was included in the budget. “The Secure Choice Savings Program will provide much needed access to retirement plans that can prevent poverty later in life and get New Yorkers on track to financial stability,” said Assemblyman Robert J. Rodriguez (D-Manhattan). “New York State has taken a big step today in addressing the retirement crisis and found a progressive solution that will help ensure that everyone can save for retirement. I thank my colleagues for standing with me and helping to pass this important measure in this year’s budget.”



#RENTFREEZENYC

RENT FREEZE HOUSING EVENT

SENIORS AND PEOPLE WITH

DISABILITIES, KEEP YOUR RENT FROM

INCREASING, IF YOU:

- Are 62 years or older, 18 years old if disabled;
- Have a household income of \$50,000 or less;
- Live in a rent regulated apartment; and
- Spend more than 1/3 of income on rent.



ENROLL IN THE NYC RENT FREEZE PROGRAM

APPLICATION ASSISTANCE WILL BE AVAILABLE AT:

MOBILIZATION FOR JUSTICE

100 WILLIAMS STREET, 6TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10038

FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 2018

FROM 2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

TO RSVP AND FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:

JOHN BART (212) 417-3766

To request ADA accommodation please contact the Disability Service Facilitator at <http://nyc.gov/contactofeeo> or by calling 311 at least 72 hours in advance.

Visit and connect with us on our social media platforms: Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn: @nycfinance



DOCUMENTATION NEEDED TO APPLY

for #RENTFREEZENYC (SCRIE and DRIE)

It will help to expedite the process if you bring a copy of all documents in addition to your originals.

Proof of Age: Please bring one of the following: birth certificate, NYCID, US passport, driver's license, non-driver's identification, or other state or local document with date of birth on it.

Proof of Income: For all household members, including yourself and co-tenants, for the calendar year 2017. Proof of income includes but is not limited to:

- 2017 Federal and State Income tax returns (if filed)
- 2017 W2's and 1099's
- Social Security benefit award letter/statement (SSA/SSI/SSDI)
- VA Disability Pension or compensation
- Disability-related Medicaid
- Pension statement
- IRA or Annuity statement
- Signed letter from boarder stating amount of monthly rental payments
- Public assistance benefit letter
- Signed letter from friend/family stating amount of monetary assistance to household

Rent-Stabilized Apartments—Bring in all that apply: prior and current lease signed by both you and your landlord; preferential rent rider; or Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) or 80/20 rider or 60/40 rider (if applicable).

Rent-Controlled Apartments—Bring in a copy of each of these: Notice of Maximum Collectible Rent (form RN-26) for prior year and current year and the Certification of Fuel Cost Adjustment (form RA3310) for prior and current year.

Rent-Regulated Hotel Units—Bring in a copy of one of these: DHCR rent history or DHCR annual apartment registration for prior and current year and signed letter from the Management or Owner indicating current and prior rent.

Mitchell-Lama or HDFC Cooperatives—Visit the HPD website for a list of documents needed and for more information at: <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/hpd/renters/resources-subsidies.page> or call (212) 863-8494.

For more information on SCRIE or DRIE, go to NYC Department of Finance website: nyc.gov/rentfreeze.

JOIN THE WORKFORCE

STARBUCKS STRIVE COFFEE AND CAREERS YOUTH FAIR

APRIL 21, 2018
11AM TO 3PM

TAINO TOWERS GYMNASIUM
240 EAST 123RD STREET
NEW YORK, NY 10035

** YOU MUST BE 16 - 24 YEARS OLD TO ATTEND **

FOR MORE DETAILS VISIT:
WWW.STARBUCKSSTRIVEYOUTH2018.EVENTBRITE.COM

STARBUCKS
STRIVE
PREPARED
FOR WORK
SCHEDULED
TO SHEDDING

TO DO:
Register for the
Starbucks/STRIVE
Youth Fair

Fight Back Against Fraud!



Join us for a free shredding event

Every two seconds someone's identity is stolen. Shredding confidential documents you no longer need is one good way to protect yourself, and the AARP Fraud Watch Network wants to help. Bring any confidential documents to our Operation Stop Scams event, and we'll shred them for free. It only takes a few minutes and can save you lots of headaches later on!

Free Residential Shredding Event

When:
Saturday, April 28, 2018
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
(or until the truck is full)

Where:
Esplanade Gardens
2569 Adam Clayton Powell,
Jr. Boulevard
Between 148th & 149th Streets
New York, NY 10039

There will be an on-site shredding truck available from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
PLEASE NOTE: The site may close early if the truck fills up. Limit 3 shopping bags of shredding materials per person. Paper only and no magazines or newspapers.
Shredding services are free of charge and open to the public.
Questions? Call 1-866-227-7451 or visit www.aarp.org/nyc.

