

Rebecca Seawright



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

This week on January 9, 2019 marked the 242nd Legislative Session for the State Legislature. As we begin this session with a supermajority in Albany, we are carefully making our “to do” list to push for legislation that has been stalled in sessions passed and a “wish list” of actions to help move New York forward by leaps and bounds. We are now more energized than ever to be a part of the year of major reforms.

It is an historic year. In the Assembly, we elected Crystal Peoples- Stokes as the first woman and African-American woman to serve as Majority Leader. Congratulations to Senator Jose Serrano, my colleague in representing Yorkville and Roosevelt Island, for being elected Chair of the Senate Majority Conference.

On Tuesday, it was an honor and privilege to see Letitia James officially become the 67th Attorney General for the State of New York. James’ inauguration is historic as she is the first African-American and the first woman elected to this office. She will be missed as the NYC Public Advocate, but she will serve us all effectively in the highest law enforcement office in New York State. This means that we will have a special election for the office of the NYC Public Advocate, taking place on Tuesday, February 26. The Public Advocate acts as an ombudsperson for all New Yorkers – a government official who champions the public and ensures government is responsive to their needs.

As the federal government continues its attempt to rollback protections for our country, New York has the opportunity to set an example for appropriate protections for its residents in the face of hostility and intolerance. In the Assembly, I will continue to cosponsor and push for the passage of my Election and Gun Reform Legislative packages; the Reproductive Health Act to codify Roe v. Wade into state law; secure a dedicated stream of funding for the MTA; the Gender Expression Non-Discrimination Act (GENDA) to end discrimination based on gender identity or expression; the DREAM Act to ensure that the children of immigrants are able to receive quality affordable higher education; reformation and strengthening of the rent laws; the New York Health Act to provide for a single-payer system in New York State; the Climate and Community Protection Act to protect our environment; and the Child Victims Act to bring justice to the victims of child abuse.

I believe we have a unique opportunity to advance the interests of the communities as never before. Please keep in touch to hear updates on our progress in Albany. If our office may be of service, remember that we are just a call, email or visit away!

Onward and Upward,



Seawright stands with Crystal Peoples- Stokes, the first woman and African-American woman to serve as majority Leader in a meeting about her State Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) legislation.

In Albany

Opening Session 2019: Seawright Assumes Leadership Role as Secretary of the Majority Conference

THE NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY CONVENES FOR THE 242ND LEGISLATIVE SESSION

January 9, 2019



Seawright and Reproductive Health Act Sponsors and Cosponsors, Health Advocates Attend Rally to Codify Roe v. Wade



Congratulations to UES Senator Liz Krueger on being named Chair of the Senate Finance Committee

This week, the issue of the Reproductive Health Act (RHA) which will codify Roe v. Wade into New York State law was addressed. Assembly Member Seawright is proud to be a cosponsor on the legislation, sponsored in the Senate by Liz Krueger. As the federal government seeks to rollback protections for women, action on the RHA has become critical and has earned the support of the Assembly, Senate, and the Governor. There has been a commitment from leadership to pass the RHA and accompanying contraceptive coverage bills in the first 30 days.

Abortion law has not been updated in New York State since 1970, falling short of the protections defined by the Supreme Court in Roe v. Wade in 1973. The Reproductive Health Act will accomplish the following:

- Legalize abortion up to 24 weeks of pregnancy, or after that point if a woman's health or life is at risk or if the fetus is not viable. Currently, discrepancies between state and federal law often force critically ill pregnant women to leave the state in order to get the care they need.
- Repeal outdated and unconstitutional criminal statutes prohibiting abortion, and moves the regulation of abortion into the public health law ensuring that New York State law treats abortion as health care, not as a criminal act.

- Revise the abortion law to incorporate current medical standards of practice.

With the passage of the Reproductive Health Act, New York State will be a national leader in protecting abortion access, ensuring that complex and personal decisions about reproductive healthcare are the sole responsibility of a woman and her medical providers.



New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo said Monday that he will seek to codify Roe v. Wade, the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision recognizing a constitutional right to terminate pregnancy, into the state's Constitution.

The pledge was made during a press conference in Manhattan at Barnard College, where former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton joined Mr. Cuomo to lend support to his initiatives.

Scenes from Albany



Letitia James Sworn In As New York State Attorney General

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins opens 2019 Senate Session as first woman to ever lead New York State Legislative Chamber



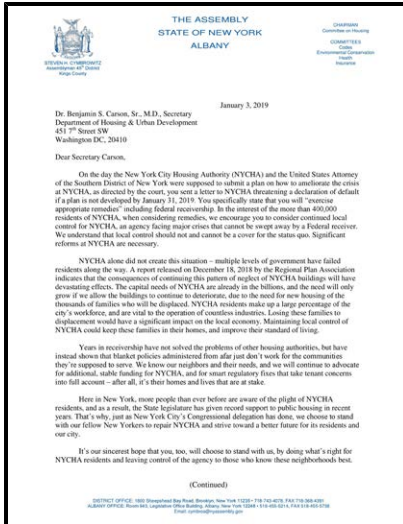
Seawright discusses higher education issues with SUNY Chancellor Dr. Kristina Johnson

Seawright visits with Daniel Dornbaum, former Community Board 8 Member, now staffer to Gov. Cuomo



Seawright Supports Assembly Housing Committee to Oppose the Federal Takeover of the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA)

Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright signed onto a letter in response to Dr. Ben Carson, head of the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Carson, of the federal agency, sent NYCHA a letter demanding a plan to fix the authority or declare default if a plan is not developed by January 31, 2019. Receiverships have not worked for other housing authorities in the past. The



letter asks for consideration of continued local control for the agency in order to restore operations for the more than 400,000 NYCHA residents.

In Our Community

Nominations for 2019 Women of Distinction Awards Now Open!



Assembly Member Seawright is seeking nominations for the 2019 Women of Distinction Awards, an annual ceremony to honor women in our community who are making a difference everyday. Please email SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov with your nomination of a woman who lives or works in the 76th District (Upper East Side, Yorkville, and Roosevelt Island).

Please take the time to nominate a woman you know who is deserving of this distinction by January 31, 2019. The awards ceremony and reception will take place on a date to be determined in March.

Update from HRA Regarding Unaffected Programs

AN UPDATE ON SNAP BENEFITS FOR FEBRUARY 2019

This just in: if you currently receive SNAP benefits and there are no changes to your case, your benefits will continue through the end of February 2019.

The following benefits also remain unaffected at this time:

- SSI
- Medicaid
- Cash Assistance

Please visit nyc.gov/hra or call HRA's Infoline at **718-557-1399** for more information. We will continue to provide updates to New Yorkers as we receive them.

Upcoming Events

January 2019 CB8M Calendar



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1/01 New Year's Day – Board Office Closed	1/02	1/03	1/04	1/05
1/07 <u>Small Business Committee</u> Marymount Manhattan College 221 East 71 st Street (Second- Third) Regina Peruggi Room 6:30PM	1/08 <u>Street Life Committee</u> Hunter College (West Building) 904 Lexington Avenue, Room West 714 (7th Floor Lecture Hall) 6:30PM	1/09 <u>Transportation Committee</u> New York Blood Center 310 East 67 th Street (First-Second) Auditorium 6:30PM	1/10 <u>Parks and Waterfront Committee</u> Hunter College (West Building) 904 Lexington Avenue, Room West 714 (7th Floor Lecture Hall) 6:30PM	1/11	1/12
1/14 <u>Landmarks Committee</u> Marymount Manhattan College 221 East 71 st Street (Second- Third) Regina Peruggi Room 6:30PM	1/15	1/16	1/17	1/18	1/19
1/21 <u>Martin Luther King Day – Office Closed</u>	1/22	1/23 <u>Land Use and Full Board Meeting</u> New York Blood Center 310 East 67 th Street (First-Second) Auditorium 6:30PM	1/24 <u>Health, Seniors, & Social Services</u> Lenox Hill Hospital 130 East 77 th Street, Bruno Conference Room 6:30PM	1/25	1/26 <u>Mental Health First Aid for Veterans Event, Hosted By The Roosevelt Island and Veterans Committees</u> Lenox Hill Hospital 130 East 77 th Street, Carmel Conference Room 9:00 AM
1/28 <u>Youth, Education, & Libraries Committee</u> Ramaz School 125 East 85 th Street (Park-Lexington) 6:30 PM	1/29 <u>Charter Revision Task Force</u> CB8 Board Office 505 Park Avenue, Suite 620 6:30 PM	1/30 <u>Housing Committee</u> Stanley Isaacs Neighborhood Center 415 East 93 rd Street (First-York) Dining Room A & B 6:30PM	1/31 <u>Community Dog Forum, Hosted by Parks and Waterfront Committee</u> New York Blood Center 310 East 67 th Street (First-Second) Auditorium 6:30PM		

ASSEMBLY MEMBER
REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT



HOUSING LEGAL CLINIC

TUES. JANUARY 22

**EVERY OTHER TUESDAY
AT 4:00 PM
ATTORNEYS FROM THE LAW
OFFICES OF GRIMBLE &
LOGUIDICE, LLC WILL PROVIDE
ADVICE ON HOUSING-RELATED
MATTERS FOR CONSTITUENTS OF
THE 76TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT**

Get help navigating the housing court process, responding to notices, dealing with threat of eviction, getting repairs from negligent landlords, and advocating for your rights as a tenant in New York City!

**DISTRICT COMMUNITY OFFICE OF
ASSEMBLY MEMBER
REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT
1485 YORK AVENUE
(78/79 STREETS)**

**BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
CALL: 212-288-4607
EMAIL:
SEAWRIGHTR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV**

The legal clinic is solely to provide guidance and advice from attorney's experienced in landlord-tenant law. The clinic does not guarantee a desired outcome and does not establish an attorney-client relationship. Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright does not represent or advise constituents in any legal matters.

1/12 - Public Comment on the Roosevelt Island Library Outdoor Reading Space

RIOC is seeking public comments and usage ideas for the Roosevelt Island Library's outdoor reading space. Join us at 10 a.m. this Saturday, Jan. 12 at 504 Main Street.

This Weekend is the Last Chance for Christmas "Tree-cycling" in NYC



The New York City Department of Sanitation will begin its annual curbside collection of Christmas trees on Wednesday, January 2, 2019. Collection runs through Saturday, January 12, weather permitting.

On the final weekend of Mulchfest, January 12 and 13, at 31 chipping sites across the city, visitors can pick up mulch to take home. Please remember to remove all lights, ornaments, decorations and netting from trees.

For more information on Christmas tree collection and recycling or MulchFest, visit www.nyc.gov/dsny, www.nyc.gov/parks or call 311.

1/14 - Martin Luther King Day Serve-a-thon

Hunger Free America is sponsoring a Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Serve-a-Thon. Help honor Dr. King's legacy as a civil rights and anti-poverty leader and activist by volunteering to help advance food security in our communities. To sign up visit <https://www.hungervolunteer.org/hv/volunteers> or email


1/14 - ACC Animal Welfare in NYC: Issues, Solutions and Conversations

On January 14th, in conjunction with PetSmart Charities, ACC is hosting "Animal Welfare in NYC: Issues, Solutions and Conversations."




Dr. Roger Haston (Chief of Analytics at PetSmart Charities) will be presenting from 6 to 8 pm at the SVA Theatre, 333 W. 23rd Street. The event is free for the public, but registration is required: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/animal-welfare-in-nyc-issues-solutions-and-conversations-tickets-54309844206>.

1/16 - Community Education Council District 2 Meeting

A collage of various school supplies including pencils, pens, markers, scissors, paper clips, a ruler, a protractor, and an apple.

If you are having trouble viewing this email, [click here](#) to display in your web browser.

Wednesday, January 16 at 6:30 PM
Join us for the CECD2 January Meeting
333 Seventh Ave * 12th Floor Conference Room * Between 28th and 29th Streets

A photograph of school supplies on a wooden desk, including a pencil holder with colorful pencils, a red apple, and several colorful books standing upright.

CECD2 January Meeting

Run for Your Community Education Council!

2019 is an election year for New York City's Education Councils. Parents across the city have an opportunity to run for a council and help shape policies and priorities for NYC schools. There is one council for each of NYC's 32 community school districts, plus four citywide councils.

Learn more about Education Councils on the [Education Councils](#) page.

1/16 - The Metro Card Sales Bus Stops at the District Community Office!

1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets)



METROCARD BUS STOPS HERE: WED. 1/16, 2/6 11:00AM- 1:00PM

REFILL YOUR
METROCARD

APPLY FOR
REDUCED FARE

CASH ONLY

The full mobile MetroCard schedule is available at <http://mta.info/metrocard/mms.htm>.

1/17 - Historic Preservation on Roosevelt Island and Beyond

Architect Thomas A. Fenniman, AIA, has completed work on the Visitors Center Kiosk and the slate roof and narthex restoration of the Chapel of the Good Shepherd, as well as a Condition Study of the Renwick Lighthouse. Fenniman will speak on these projects and others completed in Manhattan and Brooklyn at a lecture presented by the Roosevelt Island Historical Society at the New York Public Library Branch on Roosevelt Island, on Thursday, January 17, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

The event is FREE and open to the public. It is the third in the Society's annual series of fall lectures, which is supported by funds provided by Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation's Public Purpose Fund and New York City Council Member Ben Kallos, with funding from the New York City Department of Youth and Community Development.

For more information, please visit www.rihs.us.

1/20 - E-Waste Recycling Event

Electronics Recycling Collection Upper East Side



Sunday, January 20

10:00 am-4:00 pm

10am-4pm, 92nd Street Y

1395 Lexington Ave

On Sunday January 20th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm the Lower East Side Ecology Center is hosting an E-Waste recycling event at the 92nd Street Y, 1395 Lexington Avenue at 92nd Street. They will accept working and non-working computers, monitors, printers, scanners, keyboards, mice, cables, TVs (all sizes), VCR & DVD players, land-line and cell phones, audio/visual equipment, and video games. For more information on the event, visit <https://www.lesecologycenter.org/programs/ewaste/ewaste-faq/> or call 212-477-4022.

Responsibly recycle unwanted or broken electronics (no appliances such as microwaves or refrigerators) with the Lower East Side Ecology Center.



1/24 – Community Board 8 Special Forum on Preventing Elder Abuse

6:30pm at Lenox Hill Hospital, Bruno Presentation Room

130 East 77th Street (Lexington & Park Avenue)

On the agenda is a presentation by Leslie Mantrone of Weill Cornell Medicine on the Services of the New York City Elder Abuse Center. Weill Cornell Medicine recently launched the NYC Elder Abuse Center called the [“Concerned Person’s Helpline.”](#) The Helpline is a free service designed to assist individuals concerned about an

elder neighbor, or loved one's potential abuse. The live program operator triages concerns and connects individuals to the appropriate services directly in their community (across all five boroughs).

1/28 - Sector B Neighborhood Police Meeting for Lenox Hill & Upper East Side



NYPD

BUILD THE BLOCK Neighborhood Policing & Safety Meeting

19th PRECINCT - SECTOR B Lenox Hill & Upper East Side

Build the Block is committed to building mutual respect and stronger lines of communication between police officers and the communities they serve through neighborhood policing.



Neighborhood policing is a new direction of the NYPD to ensure police have real relationships and accountability in the neighborhoods where they work each day. Each neighborhood in the program is assigned a new type of police

officer known as **Neighborhood Coordination Officers (NCOs)**.

These officers are hosting Build the Block safety meetings to jumpstart the dialogue between cops and community members to create real working relationships.

That's where you come in—by attending these meetings and joining the conversation, you can help contribute to a safer, stronger New York.

Neighborhood safety meetings are essentially strategy sessions between local cops and the people they serve. They can vary broadly in size, but will always have two simple goals: to identify the public safety challenges of your specific neighborhood – big or small – and give everyone an opportunity discuss potential solutions together.

These meetings are one important step to improve trust, collaboration, and safety through neighborhood policing. It is an effort that can only succeed with the commitment of all New Yorkers to use these opportunities to encourage accountability, and collaborative problem solving with the individual officers serving in their community.

Meeting Date: Monday, January 28, 2019

Meeting Time: Doors open at 6:30 PM for refreshments Meeting starts at 7:00 PM

Meeting Site: Holy Trinity Cathedral 337 East 74th Street, New York, NY 10021

Sponsored By: NYC Council Members Keith Powers and Ben Kallos

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD COORDINATION OFFICERS Police Officer Tarik Hunter Police Officer James Cebulski



1/31 – Community Dog Forum

6:30pm at the Blood Center, Auditorium

310 East 67th Street (First & Second Avenue)

Join your neighbors in a discussion about park rules related to dogs, resources for pet owners, and ways to ensure our parks and open spaces can be enjoyed by all!

Construction Updates

Work Notice from School Construction Authority (SCA) Regarding PS158 Bayard Taylor School

Dear Parents, Staff and Neighbors of the Bayard Taylor School – 158 // Yorkville East Middle School - M177

The New York City School Construction Authority (SCA) wishes to advise you that a construction project will soon begin at the Bayard Taylor school in the school's playground. The project will be a playground soil stabilization & redevelopment. At this time, protective measures will be installed around and in the schoolyard and construction will begin. The project will have a level of noise, as there will be breaking up of the asphalt and excavation of the soil under the asphalt as well as compaction of the subsurface when they install the new asphalt. The SCA will also be installing new infrastructure improvements to the playground as well as new play equipment for the schoolchildren.

A licensed asbestos abatement contractor performs the asbestos removal work, when the school is unoccupied. An environmental consulting firm manages the abatement work. This work is being done under a Department of Environmental

Protection permit. Representatives of the environmental consulting firm will be on site for the duration of the project to ensure that the contractor adheres to all the proper regulations. The consultant will also monitor the air in the immediate area to ensure that the removal is taking place properly. Test results will be available to the school for all interested parties.

The contractual time line for this project began May 2018 and the bulk of the work will be done over the summer of 2019. During the school year, regular project work will start after school hours. During the summer months, work will occur during regular construction hours. Thank you for your cooperation during this important work at the Bayard Taylor School – M158 & M177. Please call (718)752.5226 with any questions for the School Construction Authority throughout the duration of this project.

MEMORIAL SLOAN KETTERING CANCER CENTER

&

CUNY/HUNTER COLLEGE

CONSTRUCTION ADVISORY

East 73rd/74th Street and FDR Drive site

- Necessary construction activity will take place at the site on **Saturday, January 12th, and Sunday, January 13th, 7:00 am– 6:00 pm.**