

Rebecca Seawright



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

New York City is on track to begin the "Phase Two" reopening of New York City next week. We are all looking forward to enjoying outdoor dining and some in-store shopping. Hair salons, barbershops, real estate firms, and offices in the city will be back in business under the Phase Two guidelines. Playgrounds will also reopen. Remember, our progress depends on continued social distancing, wearing face coverings, and following restrictions on capacity. Please be safe.

Friday, June 19, marks Juneteenth, the annual holiday commemorating the emancipation of slavery in the United States. The day is the 155th anniversary of when Union soldiers landed on the beaches of Texas two months after the Civil War, to enforce the Emancipation Proclamation. But Juneteenth is different this year. It is accompanied by a moment of reckoning across our nation, with protests against systemic racism and police brutality following the death of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and too many others.

This Juneteenth, the 155th Juneteenth, reminds of historical discrimination and injustice Black Americans have endured and the unfinished work ahead to achieve true racial equality. I applaud Governor Cuomo's executive order to make Juneteenth an official New York State holiday. I will work to see that the day remains an official holiday for years to come.

June is Pride Month, and this week we held our Tuesday Virtual Town Hall on LGBTQ+ Activism and Advocacy. I am a proud ally standing up for the rights and visibility of the LGBTQ+ community and fighting bigotry of any kind. We celebrated a huge victory this week as the Supreme Court ruled that the 1964 Civil Rights Act applies to sexual orientation and gender identity, effectively outlawing discrimination against LGBTQ+ employees nationwide.

We are celebrating another victory in the Supreme Court with a 5-4 decision, saving DACA and protecting the hundreds of thousands of Dreamers who have made the United States their home. To protect this critical program, Congress

*must pass legislation to make DACA permanent. With its decision, the Supreme Court reaffirmed what we've always known here in New York: Diversity is our greatest strength. Rescinding the legal protections of DACA recipients, particularly during a global pandemic, would have been unconscionable. **Today** represents a victory for hardworking activists and the immigrant communities that make our country great.*

If you need information or assistance, please don't hesitate to contact our office. We regretfully have suspended in-person appointments and meetings, due to public health considerations. We are eager to continue assisting constituents by telephone and email. Please leave a message on our voicemail with your name, address, and phone number and our staff will return your call:

Phone: 212.288.4607

Email: SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov

Sincerely,

Rebecca



@seawrightforNY



facebook.com
/RebeccaASeawright



instagram.com
/seawrightforny



NY Assembly Website

**NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY MEMBER
SEAWRIGHT JOINED ANIMAL ADVOCATES TO
CALL ATTENTION TO MAJOR SHORTAGES OF
ANIMAL FOOD IN SHELTERS ACROSS NYC &
NATION DUE TO COVID-19 HARDSHIP**



Seawright Stands Up For Shelter Animals Facing Food Shortages

LOCAL PHILANTHROPIST TO KICK OFF \$1 MILLION EFFORT TO FEED ANIMALS IN NEED ACROSS THE COUNTRY

Animal rights activists led by New York State Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright joined together this week to fight the chronic food shortages at animal shelters and announce a \$1 million national funding effort to feed animals in critical need. Americans are struggling to maintain and feed their pets during the COVID-19 pandemic. Shelters and animal nonprofits are struggling to keep doors open as contributions have slowed amid widespread unemployment in New York and across the nation.





Coronavirus News: Shortage of pet food at NYC shelters...

NEW YORK CITY (WABC) -- There is a shortage of pet food at animal shelters across New York City and the nation. Advocates say shelters and nonprofits are struggling to keep their doors open due to a lack of funding from donors because of the...

[Read more](#)

abc7ny.com

ASSEMBLY MEMBER
REBECCA SEAWRIGHT



VIRTUAL TOWNHALL TUESDAYS

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) UPDATES

TUESDAY, JUNE 23 @ 7:00PM
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

MARIO BRUNO

**ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER,
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS, NYC
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION**

AL APPLETON

**INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANT ON
SUSTAINABILITY, WATER, INFRASTRUCTURE**

RICHARD KASSEL

ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP LEADER

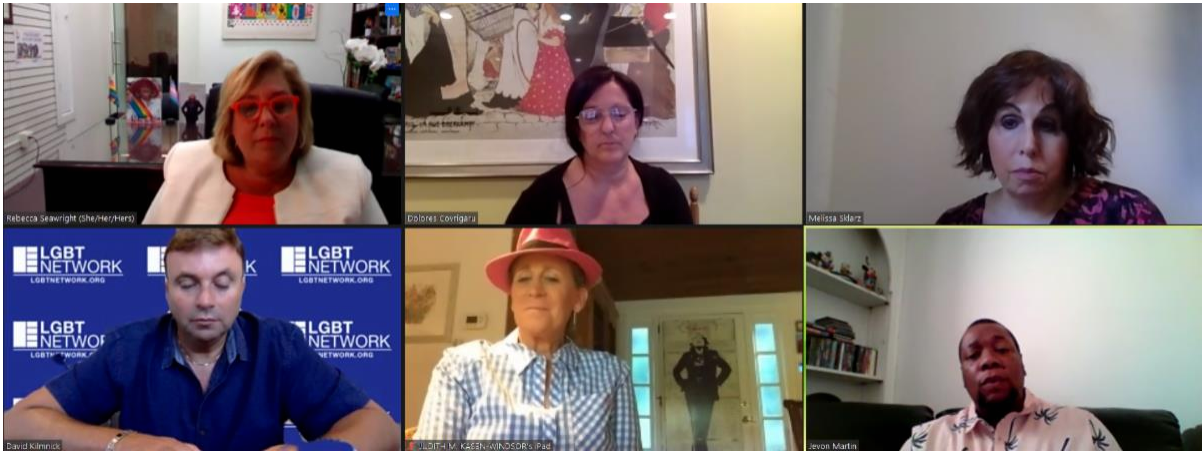
JOIN US! WATCH LIVE ON FACEBOOK:
www.facebook.com/RebeccaASeawright/

REGISTRATION REQUIRED: CALL 212.288.4607
EMAIL SEAWRIGHTR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV

REGISTER TO THE TOWN HALL HERE!

CLICK HERE TO WATCH ON FACEBOOK LIVE @ 7 PM
ON 6/23

In Case You Missed It (ICYMI): This Week's Tuesday Town Hall on LGBTQ+ Activism and Advocacy



ROOSEVELT ISLAND SENIOR MEAL DELIVERY





SEAWRIGHT SIGNALS PHASE 2 OF NYC REOPENING EFFORT WITH LOCAL PERSONAL PROTECTIVE FACE COVERING AND HAND SANITIZER KITS

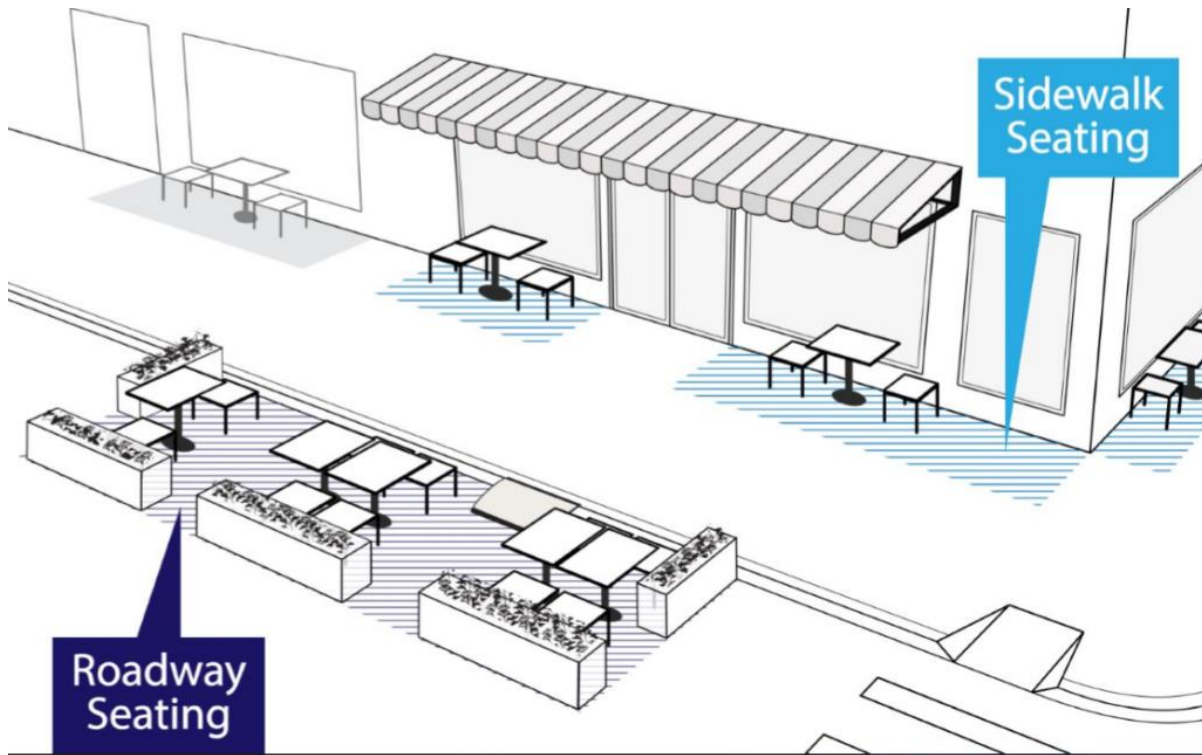


New York State Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright continues to hold giveaways of personal protective face coverings and hand sanitizer out of the local York Avenue storefront community office. The first giveaway of the series was held on Thursday, May 21 and was attended by over 200 constituents where she gave away over 1,000 face coverings and hundreds of bottles of hand sanitizer. The second event was held today, June 18. As our region including the Upper East Side and Roosevelt Island in Manhattan, Assembly Member Seawright is working to ensure that all constituents have access to protective face coverings and hand sanitizer, both proven tools to lower the risk of transmission of infection. This giveaway is in addition to Assembly Member Seawright's ongoing commitment to the COVID19 crisis response including meal deliveries to homebound seniors, Virtual Town Hall Tuesdays, securing PPE for healthcare workers, and continuing a robust virtual constituent services operation.



OPEN RESTAURANTS: AS NEW YORK CITY PREPARES FOR PHASE 2 OF REOPENING, MAYOR DE BLASIO ANNOUNCES OUTDOOR DINING GUIDANCE FOR RESTAURANTS

Qualifying restaurants can use sidewalk, roadways and other outdoor space to allow for social distance among customers



Guidance for the City's Open Restaurants program, released today, allows qualifying restaurants and bars to expand outdoor seating on sidewalks, curb lanes, backyards, patios, plazas, and Open Streets as New York City begins Phase 2 of reopening. The City has established an expedited approval processes by allowing restaurants and bars to self-certify their eligibility for curb lane and sidewalk seating using a new, streamlined application process at [NYC.Gov](https://www.nyc.gov), which will be available starting [Friday, June 19th](#). The mayor codified the guidance by signing Executive Order 126.

"Opening our sidewalks and streets to outdoor dining is a critical milestone in the ongoing war on COVID-19. I am thrilled that our restaurants and diners will be bringing staff back to work to begin the process of rebuilding businesses. Most importantly, we can all celebrate -- safely-- these first steps toward normalcy and enjoy the glorious outdoors with a drink or meal," said **Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright**.

Open Restaurants gives dining establishments five new options. Beginning in Phase 2, restaurants can implement seating in curb lanes and sidewalks. Phase 2 allows reopening and use of as of right outdoor space in backyard and patios. Restaurants can also work with their local Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) to establish seating in plazas. Beginning in July, restaurants can offer seating on [Open Streets](#) on nights and weekends.

Sidewalk seating will be in effect until the end of October. Curb lane seating will last through Labor Day. DOT will work with community groups and partner agencies to identify additional seating within full streets closures in July. Restaurants can work with their local BID and DOT to request additional seating in plazas by emailing Plazas@dot.nyc.gov.

The Department of Small Business Services (SBS) will work to ensure that the most up-to-date guidance and materials needed by small business owners for a safe phased-in reopening

are readily available. The information will be housed on a centralized resource page with guidance and best practices for the restaurant industry across all five boroughs. SBS will also launch a reopening supplies [marketplace](#) for easy access to wholesalers selling PPE, gloves, sneeze guards and other equipment. Business owners can call a hotline at 1-888-SBS-4NYC to ask questions about this process.

Rules for compliance include:

Outdoor seating on sidewalks may not exceed the business' frontage width. Seating cannot extend past the eight feet depth of the curb lane, and it cannot block:

- Bus stops
- No Standing/No Stopping Anytime zones
- Doorways
- FDNY access (e.g. within 15 feet of a fire hydrant)

There must be an eight-foot clear path free of obstructions between the seating and the curb.

- Social distancing, hygiene and other health guidance must be followed.
- Restaurants must provide their own tables, chairs and traffic barriers.
- Restaurants must adhere to all local, state and federal requirements relating to accessibility for people with disabilities, including path of travel, minimum table heights, and clearance requirements.

Customers are not permitted to gather outside of establishments. Businesses that repeatedly fail to comply will have their Open Restaurant authorization revoked by DOT, and will be referred to the SLA.

Executive Order 126 directs the New York City Department of Transportation (DOT) to establish and administer the program. The Order temporarily suspends select provisions of the City's Administrative Code, Rules of the City of New York and the New York City Zoning Resolution, including: the prohibition of the consumption of alcohol on streets, specific sidewalk café regulations, and relevant building code provisions. All suspensions are only applicable to the program.

Rent Freeze Approved for New Leases



Relief for New York RENTERS

The Rent Guidelines Board
approved a rent freeze
for New Yorkers who live in
rent-regulated apartments.

The Rent Guidelines Board voted on June 17, 2020 to approve a rent freeze for rent-stabilized apartments in NYC. The RGB passed the proposal by a 6-3 vote.

Rents are now frozen on one-year leases and the first year of two-year leases. During the second year of two-year agreements, landlords can bump rent up 1%. The changes will go into effect for leases beginning between **October 1** and **September 30, 2021**.

Apartment Rent Stabilization Guidelines

Annual adjustment for leases for apartments will be:

For a one-year lease commencing on or after October 1, 2020 and on or before September 30, 2021: 0%

For a two-year lease commencing on or after October 1, 2020 and on or before September 30, 2021: 0% for the first year of the lease and 1% for the second year of the lease.

Rent Stabilized Loft Guidelines

For one-year increase periods commencing on or after October 1, 2020 and on or before September 30, 2021: 0%

For two-year increase periods commencing on or after October 1, 2020 and on or before September 30, 2021: 0% for the first year and 1% for the second year.

Upcoming Events

ASSEMBLY MEMBER

REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT



HOUSING LEGAL CLINIC

TUES. JUNE 23

**EVERY OTHER TUESDAY
AT 4:00 PM ATTORNEYS FROM
THE LAW OFFICES OF GRIMBLE
& LOGUIDICE, LLC WILL
PROVIDE ADVICE ON HOUSING-
RELATED MATTERS AT NO-COST
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!

**DUE TO THE COVID-19 CRISIS, A
VOLUNTEER ATTORNEY WILL
HOST A ONE -ON-ONE PHONE
SESSION WITH ATTENDEES.**

RSVP REQUIRED:

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.

[SIGN UP FOR THE LEGAL CLINIC HERE](#)

Community Board 8 – Youth, Education & Libraries Committee
Monday, September 22 – 630-8PM

ZOOM Session: Link [Paste in the Zoom Link]

AGENDA

Getting Real on Racism—
Learning from NYC Students as our Teachers

Featured Speakers:

Anthony Green, President, Laguardia High School Student Association
Arielle Clark, President, Laguardia Activist Club
Jerett Benjamin, Laguardia Student Equity Leader

New Business: Proposal on the Internet

To Ask Major Internet Providers: Make Internet Free for all NYC Students in this Era of COVID

Suggestion to Attendees: If you have time, listen to Laguardia HS Town Hall from June 11, 2020

The Link:

www.laguardiahs.org/apps/news/show_news.jsp?REC_ID=643865&id=0

Peter Patch, Chair
Rami Sigal, Committee Member

Composting Is Essential To NYC

With the new budget, Mayor Bill de Blasio is about to end all composting in NYC for at least the next fiscal year.

There are short term and long term consequences to this.

Short term, for as long as composting is suspended, NYC will send more waste to landfills and incinerators.

Currently, NYC composts 308,600* pounds per day. With composting suspended, these 308,600 pounds will instead need to go to landfills and incinerators, where they will release greenhouse gases.

Long term, it likely will take years for our composting programs to recover. We have a precedent for this.

After 9/11, NYC temporarily stopped recycling glass and plastic to save money. It reintroduced plastic recycling in 2003 and glass in 2004, but it took years for the capture rates to rebound to pre-9/11 numbers.

Composting is essential to our environment and community. We cannot afford to regress.

If you care about composting in NYC, please let Mayor Bill de Blasio know.

Stay informed about the CORONAVIRUS



NYC COVID-19 Self-reporting Portal: [Link here](#) or call 311
DOHMH FAQ: [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)
Face Covering Distribution: [Face Coverings](#) [Face Coverings](#)
Face Covering Tips: [helpful videos](#)
DACA Renewal Assistance: Call ActionNYC at 1-800-354-0365
Ferry Schedules: [Staten Island Ferry](#) / [NYC Ferry](#)
H+H Visitor Policy: [Policy to Reduce the Spread of Coronavirus](#)
Mental Health Hotline: 1-888-NYC-WELL or text "WELL" to 65173. [NYC Well](#)
Mental Health Online: [Support New Yorkers Can Access While Staying Home](#)
OATH: [Hearing Online](#)
Online English Classes: [We Speak NYC](#), [Register Here](#) or [for information: click here](#)
Online Marriage Licenses: [nyc.gov/Cupid](#) or [cityclerk.nyc.gov](#)
Animal Welfare FAQ: [COVID-19 and Animals FAQ](#)
COVID-19 Pet Owner Hotline: 1-877-204-8821
Pet Planning: [Get Prepared - Pets & Service Animals](#)
Map of Essential Construction: [Essential Active Construction Sites Map](#) / [FAQ](#)
Report Price Gouging: [DCA - COVID-19 Complaint](#)
Resource Guide for Immigrants: [Resources for Immigrant Communities](#)
Virtual Friendly Visiting Program for Seniors: Call 212-AGING-NYC

For Families

Activity Book for Kids: [Animals of NYC - Physical Distancing Activity Book](#)
Remote Learning: [NYC DOE Info Hub](#)
Fun at Home for Kids: [nyc.gov/funathome](#) or text "Fun" to 97743
School and Childcare for Essential Workers: [Regional Enrichment Centers](#)

How to Help:

How to Help: [Help Now NYC](#)
Companies with Supplies on Hand to Donate or Sell: [NYC Suppliers Page](#)
Companies Ready to Begin Producing Supplies: [COVID-19 Emergency Supply Sourcing & Manufacturing](#)
Donate PPE: [NYC Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\) Donation Portal](#)
Donate Plasma: [New York Blood Center](#)

Food and Non-medical Donations: [DonateNYC](#), or call 833-NYC-0040

For Constituents in Need:

Benefits Available for New Yorkers: [AccessNYC](#)

Services for Folks in Need: [Assistance for Individuals](#)

Domestic Violence: [NYCHope](#)

Family Justice Centers: [Family Justice Centers](#), 24-hour DV Hotline: 1-800-621-4673

Financial Empowerment Guidance: [DCA - Free Financial Counseling](#)

Food Finder: [Food Bank NYC](#)

Grab & Go Meals for All: Location: [Free Meal Sites](#), or text “NYCFOOD” or “COMIDA” to 877-877

Hotel Isolation Referral Program: [nyc.gov/covid19hotel](#)

Peer-Peer Wellness Check for Veterans: [Mission: VetCheck](#).

People with Disabilities: @NYCDisabilities, 311 or visit <http://nyc.gov/disability> or via video phone: 646-396-5830

SNAP: [SNAP Benefits](#)

Student Loan Debt Tips During COVID-19: [NYC Consumer Affairs](#)

Unemployment Benefits: [NYS Department of Labor](#) + [NYC FAQ](#)

Businesses & Nonprofits:

Stop the Spread: [Stop the Spread of Coronavirus Flyer](#)

Facebook Grants for Small Businesses: facebook.com/grantsforbusiness

Guidance for Employers & Employees: [Update about Workplace Laws](#)

Non-Profit Providers: [FAQ for Nonprofit Businesses](#)

SBS Webinars for Small Businesses: [Register here](#)

Small Businesses: [Assistance & Guidance for Businesses](#)

Workers:

Citibike Free Year Membership for First Responders: [Critical Workforce Membership](#)

Freelancers in NYC: [File Workplace Complaint](#)

Hotels for Healthcare Workers: [NYC & Company](#)

Labor Issues: Call 311, or AG’s office: (212) 416-8700 or Labor.Bureau@ag.ny.gov

Paid Sick Leave: DOHMH [Frequently Asked Questions](#) / or call: 855-491-2667 or 311

State List of Essential Business/Services: [Governor Cuomo Guidance Under 'New York State on PAUSE'](#)

SBS: [Virtual Workforce One Center](#) or call 718-960-2458

TLC Driver Jobs: [NYC Food Delivery Driver Portal](#)

TLC [Driver Resource Center](#): legal services, financial counseling, and other referrals

Buildings & Residents:

NYCHA Residents: [NYCHA’s journal](#) + [Hardship Rent Reductions](#) + [NYCHA COVID-19 FAQ](#) + [City Harvest Mobile Markets](#) + [Mayor de Blasio Announces New Plan to Combat COVID-19 at NYCHA](#)

Property Tax issues: [Department of Finance Benefits](#)

Tenants/Landlords: [COVID-19: FAQ for Residential and Commercial Buildings](#)

ICYMI: In Case You Missed It

Previous Editions of Our COVID-19 Special Report

JUNE 2, 2020 SPECIAL REPORT

JUNE 5, 2020 SPECIAL REPORT

JUNE 9, 2020 SPECIAL REPORT

[View as Webpage](#)