





Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I hope you enjoy time with your families, watch football or the Thanksgiving Day parade that is back in full. Catch the helium-filled Baby Yoda and other new balloons, floats and performers joining the route. Shop local on Small Business Saturday! Let us know about your favorite local shops to feature in our Small Business Spotlight. Have a safe and happy Thanksgiving holiday!

For those who will be celebrating the Festival of Lights on Sunday, have a healthy and happy Hanukkah!

*The follow-up to our Assembly Judiciary Committee r eview of the report by Davis Polk & Wardwell, LLP on the investigation into former Governor Cuomo is now* <u>*publicly available.*</u>

I am distressed by the vote yesterday made against our community by the City Council by 43-5 in favor of the Blood Center project. Ahead of the vote, I wrote to New York City Council Speaker Corey Johnson to do everything in his power to act against the resolution. The passage of this resolution sets a new and dangerous precedent of overriding existing zoning and the practice of "member deference" for issues impacting local districts. Council Members who sided with our community urged holding over this matter until January for the newly elected City Council. However, the vote went forward despite resounding community and local elected leaders' opposition.

We proudly broke ground on the PS151 Yorkville Community School rooftop playspace that I have funded with \$125, 000 in Assembly grants funding.

The expiration of the eviction moratorium is coming up in January and many constituents have not yet received the rent relief to which they are entitled. We are pushing for Governor Hochul to extend the eviction moratorium significantly past January until rent relief is distributed. To that end, more emergency relief funds are also being requested by our leadership in Albany.

Please join us for one of the events we are pleased to sponsor:

- Our district community office will be closed in observation of Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 25 & Friday, November 26 for a legal state government holiday and will re-open on Monday, November 29 at 9:30 AM.
- Thursday, December 2 from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm at the District Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets) No-Cost Face Covering Giveaway. <u>RSVP here.</u>
- Tuesday, December 7 from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm at the District Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets) No-Cost Housing Legal Clinic. RSVP by calling 212-288-4607.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to our community office if we can be of assistance.

*Phone*: 212.288.4607 *Email*: SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov Sincerely,

Rebecca Q Security

### Statement from Assembly Judiciary Committee Member Rebecca Seawright



"We have a report that is credible, transparent and now in the hands of the public.

The facts and evidence as presented are compelling and deeply disturbing. The authors thoroughly reviewed the many challenges raised by the former governor and noted, "Nothing in his voluminous submissions can overcome the overwhelming evidence of his misconduct."

I absolutely agree with that finding.

Throughout this entire sad episode, I have insisted on due process for all. Thanks to the leadership of Speaker Heastie, Assembly Judiciary Committee Chairman Lavine and my colleagues on the committee, due process has been served.

I commend the brave women who stepped forward as witnesses to tell their stories in the face of risk and reprisals. I am disappointed that the former governor declined to be interviewed and cooperate with the Assembly Committee investigators.

The report, related materials and the full cooperation of the committee are now available

to federal and state prosecutors and those at the Joint Commission On Public Ethics (JCOPE) who are reviewing their prior authorization of the former governor's most recent book. We look to them to carry out their respective duties, including restitution, and the prosecution of any criminal activity to the full extent of the law."

### Seawright Makes Urgent Plea **Against City Council Blood Center Resolution** to Council Speaker Corey Johnson

In an urgent plea to Council Speaker Corey Johnson, Seawright urged him to do everything in his power to act against the Blood Center project. Ultimately, the resolution passed the Council by 43-5.

She said in the letter, "Our own city and its leadership are betraying constituents who fought for the existence of R8B residential zoning restrictions. The applicant's paltry concessions hardly make up for the irreparable harm to our community...It is distressing that for the first time in our city's land-use history, our local Council Member was not given "member deference," and the Council bypassed his objections setting a dangerous precedent....The building of this behemoth tower will mean the breakdown of trust between New Yorkers and City Hall."

Click here to read Assembly Member Seawright's letter to Council Speaker Corey Johnson.

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November 23, 2021

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STUE ASSEMBLY

Honorable Corey Johns NYC Council City Hall Office New York, NY 10007

es to an end. I want to take this opportunity to than the City Council. I write to you urgently as a last minute a from my legislative district representing Yorkville, the Upp and in strong opposition to City Council Res 1815-2021 LL 351 ZMM), the approval of the

to fought for the existence of R8B re to know that our City has brokered d subsidize the Blood Center with a st

's paltry concessions hardly make up for the irr nat will be subject to further out-of-scale overde housands more people to the area, limiting access to light and air, and have tial safety threats of a biosafety level 3 lab with dangerous pathogens.

support the Blood Center's mission, but this proposal is antithetical to the needs of a sidential neighborhood. The Upper East Side does not need commercial real estate pecially given the city's commercial vacancy rate of 19%. Furthermore, his project ould move forward in a part of the city under appropriate zoning, all while maintainin protrant union jobs.

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## Seawright Breaks Ground on PS 151 Rooftop Playground



PS 151 Yorkville Community School is finally getting its wish for a rooftop playground as construction is starting with the help of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright and an enabling state grant of \$125,000 to assist the completion of the project.

Seawright joined Principal Samantha Kaplan, parent leaders, and other elected officials for a groundbreaking event at the K-5 school located at 421 E. 88th St. on Monday morning.

Assembly Member Seawright said: "As a member of the Assembly Education Committee, proud public school parent, and former PTA activist, I was pleased to award PS 151 Yorkville Community School \$125,000 for the construction of this rooftop play space and garden. Our students deserve a safe place to learn and play. I commend Principal Samantha Kaplan, school leadership, and the PTA for seeing this through for the Yorkville Community School community."

Also on hand were Rep. Carolyn Maloney and City Council Member Ben Kallos, who arranged additional funding for the rooftop green space from the New York City Council. PTA Presidents Kate Hrobsky and Nancy Mark were singled out for praise. The project is scheduled for completion next summer in time for the 2022 academic year.

Principal Samantha Kaplan said: "This team effort helped to educate our community in regards to the specific needs this project would fulfill for our school and how their voice mattered through the process. Thanks to the community support, our students will now be able to enjoy a much-needed outdoor play space and educational garden."

The Yorkville Community School opened its doors in 2009 in temporary space in a local parochial school after a long community campaign to locate a new public elementary school in the neighborhood. It moved into its current building, a renovated, former city high school, in 2011. Until now, the school was without a serviceable play area for the children.



PTA Co-President Kate Hrobsky, Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney, Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, and PTA Co-President Nancy Mark check out the book fair before the groundbreaking ceremony.

### Seawright Pushes for Extension of Rent Relief Application Deadline

Seawright authored a letter to Governor Hochul on Tuesday to urgently request the extension of the eviction moratorium significantly past the January 15, 2022 deadline.

On November 17th, Senate Democratic Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins and Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie formally requested an additional \$996 million from the Federal Reserve for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP). These funds would help New York meet the demands of constituents still in need of aid due to COVID-19 hardships.

<u>Click here to read Assembly Member</u> <u>Seawright's letter to Governor Kathy</u> Hochul.

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	November 23, 2021	
The Honorable Kat Governor of New Y NYS State Capitol Albany, NY 12224	ork State	
Dear Governor Ho	chul,	
housing insecurity, eviction moratoriur following the anno	susands of New Yorkers who are currently at risk f or face becoming unhoused, I write to you to urge n significantly past the January 15, 2022 deadline. Incoment made on November 12, 2021 that New Y ications under the Emergency Rental Assistance Pr	you to extend the This request comes ork State would
who are in arrears approximately \$1 b arrears, it is impera	using Improvement Society (CHIP) estimates that tatewide have not applied for help and that they sti illion. With ERAP currently closed and 100,000 re tive we extend the eviction moratorium so we can p orkers first and save lives during this deadly global	I owe nters still in out the health and
more deaths, and co Indigenous househousehousehousehousehousehousehouse	t act, this will undoubtedly lead to the increased sp mmunity wide trauma, especially in Black, Latino, Ids. Data collected from the Census Bureau House mographics are at heightened risk of eviction witho	Asian, and hold Pulse Survey
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Seawright Shred-a-thon Tears Record: 10,000 Pounds of Old Documents Shredded For Recycling



Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright and Upper Green Side's Sarah Gallagher at the Shred-athon.

Over 200 constituents attended the Sunday Shred-a-thon organized by Upper Green Side and sponsored by the Office of Assembly Member Seawright. With over 10,000 pounds shredded, the average weight of paper shredded by each shredder was 50 pounds.



Judge Jim Clynes, Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright and Sarah Gallagher.

The Assembly Majority championed a new law to

# make the Nourish New York program permanent.

Implemented as part of New York's pandemic response, the program addresses food insecurity by connecting farmers with surplus products to food banks across the state.

Legislation supported by Seawright and now signed into law is helping farmers get surplus products to food insecure families - Nourish New York is now a permanent state program! To learn more, visit: <u>www.agriculture.ny.gov/NourishNY</u>

## Thanksgiving Advisory

#### No Trash, Curbside Composting, or Recycling Collection on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 25, 2021

The New York City Department of Sanitation announced that in observance of Thanksgiving Day, there will be no trash, curbside composting or recycling collection on Thursday, November 25, 2021.

- Residents who normally receive **Thursday trash or curbside composting collection** may place their material at the curb between 4 p.m. and midnight Thursday evening, however there will be collection delays, as is common after holidays. We appreciate patience as we work to collect the backlog of material.
- Residents who normally receive **Thursday recycling collection** should place their material out at curbside between 4 p.m. and midnight on Wednesday, December 1, for pickup on Thursday, December 2.

Additionally, all Sanitation Department administrative offices will be closed on Thursday, November 25, in observance of the holiday.

For questions about Sanitation services and holiday schedules contact 311 or visit nyc.gov/sanitation.

# **COVID-19 Updates**

### Additional COVID-19 Related Updates

**New Yorkers who are 18 and older can get their COVID-19 booster dose.** This includes individuals who received their Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna initial vaccine series at least six months ago or the Janssen/Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine at least two months

ago. New Yorkers may feel at increased risk of COVID-19 because of their occupational or institutional setting – meaning where they work or live. Individuals who have questions about their risk are encouraged to consult with their primary health care providers.

*The CDC has approved the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 5-11* and it's free for everyone. Together we can all do our part to stay healthy and protect ourselves and those around us. Visit <u>www.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov</u> to learn more.

Vaccines and booster shots:

NYC COVID-19 and Flu Vaccine Finder: Call 877-829-4692 or schedule here

City-run vaccine sites: Call 877-829-4692 or schedule here

State-run vaccine sites: Call 833-697-4829 or schedule here

CVS Pharmacy: Call 800-746-7287 or schedule here

Rite Aid Pharmacy: Call 800-748-3243 or schedule here

Walgreens Pharmacy: Call 800-925-4733 or schedule here

Testing is available to all New Yorkers statewide, *find a test site near you.* 

Excelsior Pass provides a free, fast and secure way to present<u>digital proof of COVID-19</u> vaccination or negative test results.

#### Free Transportation and In-Home Vaccinations

City residents 65 and older can get free transportation to and from a vaccination appointment. This service is also available for those with disabilities who have no other way to get to a vaccination site.

**To schedule free transport by either ambulette or taxi** (including wheelchair accessible vehicles), call 877-VAX-4NYC (877-829-4692). If you are younger than 18, you must have your parent or guardian call to book the trip on your behalf.

## Upcoming Events

# ASSEMBLY MEMBER REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT

# HOUSING LEGAL CLINIC

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!

SCAN ME TO

RSVP!

# TUESDAY DECEMBER 7

EVERY OTHER TUESDAY AT 3:30 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

A VOLUNTEER ATTORNEY WILL HOST A ONE -ON-ONE SESSION WITH ATTENDEES.

DISTRICT OFFICE OF ASSEMBLY MEMBER REBECCA SEAWRIGHT 1485 YORK AVENUE (78-79 STREETS)

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 landlordtenant law. The clinic does not guarantee a desired outcome and does not establish an attorneyclient relationship. Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright does not represent or advise constituents in any legal matters.



# METROCARD BUS STOPS HERE (79/York): WED. 12/I, 12/I5 IO:OAM- 12:OOPM

# Rebecca Seawright ASSEMBLYMEMBER

# NO-COST NOTARY 1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets)



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<u>instagram.com</u> /seawrightforny

