

# Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz Reports to the People of Wakefield FREE NOTARY SERVICE AT OUR DISTRICT OFFICE

District Office: 3107 Kingsbridge Avenue, Bronx, NY 10463 • (718) 796-5345

Office Hours are Monday-Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Appointments are strongly preferred and will be outdoors only.

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Serving the communities of Kingsbridge, Kingsbridge Heights, Norwood, Riverdale, Van Cortlandt Village, Wakefield, and Woodlawn

#### Dear Neighbor:

As we move into the fall season, I'm excited to update you on recent legislative milestones and community events that reflect our district's commitment to transparency, safety, environmental stewardship, and quality of life.

First, I am proud to share that Governor Hochul signed my bill (A.2188) into law, a crucial step toward improving transparency and care quality in nursing homes across New York. This law mandates that nursing homes prominently display specific health inspection and staffing ratings, providing families with critical insights to make informed decisions about their loved one's care. It's a meaningful improvement designed to help ensure dignity and high standards for our senior community members.

In public safety news, I am pleased to report that Governor Hochul signed my bill (A.5259A), which expands New York City's red-light camera program from 150 to 600 intersections. Red-light cameras have proven effective in reducing severe injuries at intersections, and by quadrupling the number of cameras, we are taking significant steps to protect pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers. This measure aligns with our dedication to safer streets, supporting Vision Zero's goals to reduce traffic violence in our communities.

Environmental sustainability is another area in which we continue to lead. The New York League of Conservation Voters (NYLCV) awarded me a perfect score, which recognizes my consistent support for climate-focused legislation, including my Climate Change Superfund Act (A.3351). This bill, awaiting the Governor's signature, would create a \$75 billion fund to address climate adaptation and pollution. Our district's leadership in environmental justice demonstrates our commitment to future generations and a healthier New York.

It was also wonderful to join many of you at recent events around the district, from the grand opening of the Van Cortlandt Older Adult Center to our annual paper shredding event. These gatherings remind us of the strength of our community and our shared commitment to supporting one another.

I remain committed to serving our community and addressing the issues that matter most to you. If you have any questions, concerns, or ideas you'd like to share, please don't hesitate to contact our district office at 3107 Kingsbridge Avenue. Thank you for your continued support. We can achieve great things for our community and ensure a better future for all.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Dinowitz

Jeffrey Dinowitz Member of Assembly

# Dinowitz Bill A.2188 Signed into Law

Governor Hochul has signed my bill (A.2188) into law, a crucial step toward improving transparency and accountability in New York's nursing homes. This law requires nursing homes to prominently display their latest CMS star ratings for health inspections, staffing, and quality measures on their websites and in their facilities.

Previously, only overall ratings were required; now, families and caregivers can access detailed, specific metrics to make more informed decisions. With nearly one in three nursing homes cited for potentially harmful violations, this law ensures families can quickly assess care quality when choosing a facility.

By expanding public access to comprehensive ratings, A.2188 empowers families to secure the best care for their loved ones and reinforces our commitment to dignity and high standards in long-term care.

#### Governor Hochul Signs My Bill A.2882 into Law, Strengthening Firearm Safety Warnings in New York State

Governor Kathy Hochul has signed my bill, A.2882, into law, a critical step toward enhancing public safety by raising awareness of the risks associated with firearm ownership. The law requires firearms dealers to display and distribute clear warnings about the heightened risks of suicide, domestic violence fatalities, and accidental deaths, particularly in homes with children or individuals in distress.

Additionally, the notices will include information on the 988 National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, equipping individuals with resources to make informed decisions and protect their families. This measure follows successful Westchester and Albany Counties models and reinforces New York State's leadership in gun safety legislation.

The law mandates compliance from firearms dealers, with penalties for violations.



Pictured (from left to right): Former Bronx Community Board 8 Chair Laura Spalter, Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz, Bronx Community Board 8 District Manager Farrah Kule Rubin and Council Member Eric Dinowitz.

#### **September 11th Memorial**

I had the honor of attending the Riverdale 9/11 Memorial Garden, a poignant space dedicated to remembering the community members we lost on that fateful day. The garden serves as a solemn tribute to their memory, ensuring they will never be forgotten. A particularly moving feature of the memorial is a steel beam donated by the FDNY, salvaged from the World Trade Center. This beam is a powerful symbol of resilience and solidarity, connecting our present to the past and underscoring the enduring spirit of those who were lost.

#### **Fall Convocation at Lehman College**

I was honored to return to my alma mater, Lehman College, for the Fall Convocation at the Lovinger Theatre, where the community officially welcomes the 2024-2025 academic year. This special event celebrates the achievements of Faculty and Adjunct Faculty of the Year and present Service Honors to Staff. I am incredibly grateful to be recognized with a presidential award by President Fernando Delgado. This distinction holds deep personal significance as I reflect on my journey from student to this moment of recognition at the institution that helped shape my path.



(from left to right): Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz with Lehman College President Fernando Delgado.



(from left to right): Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz with Lehman College President Fernando Delgado.

# **SUNY Higher Education in Prison Roundtable**



I attended SUNY's Higher Education in Prison roundtable discussion along with SUNY Chancellor John B. King, New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (NYSDOCCS) Acting Commissioner Daniel F. Martuscello, Lieutenant Governor Antonio Delgado and fellow legislators. Education is critical to rehabilitation



SUNY staff.

legislators and attendees of the

SUNY Higher

Event.

Education in Prison

(from left to right): Assembly Member Scott Gray, Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz and Assembly Member Patricia Fahy.

Education is critical to rehabilitation and programs like this are crucial in transforming lives.

### New York League of Conservation Voters (NYLCV) Perfect Score Rating

I earned a perfect score from the New York League of Conservation Voters (NYLCV) by championing solid environmental legislation and urgent climate action. As New York marks five years since the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), I've advanced measures to combat climate change, improve air quality, and protect public health.

In the 2024 session, I supported critical initiatives like the RAPID Act for clean energy transmission (A.7981), the Suffolk County Water Restoration Act (A.8993) and the Food Donation and Scraps Program expansion (A.5906). My advocacy extended to clean transportation with the Electric Vehicle Charging in Public Lots bill (A.3780) and sustainable urban infrastructure through the NYC Green Roof Tax Abatement (A.6901). I also prioritized flood mitigation, replacing lead service lines, and aligning with CLCPA goals.

A highlight of my efforts is the Climate Change Superfund Act (A.3351), now awaiting the Governor's signature. This landmark bill will require polluters to contribute \$75 billion over 25 years to fund climate change mitigation and adaptation, ensuring accountability and advancing environmental justice.

My perfect NYLCV score reflects my unwavering commitment to tackling climate change and securing a sustainable future for all.

#### Bronx Climate and Environmental Justice Town Hall

I spoke at the Bronx Climate & Environmental Justice Town Hall at Bronx Bethany Church about my Climate Change Superfund Act (A.3351)



and the need for Gov. Hochul to sign it into law. This legislation is vital for holding polluters accountable and protecting our environment.

Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz addresses the attendees of the Bronx Climate and Environmental Justice Town Hall.

# Restoring a Stop Sign at West 238th Street and West Putnam Avenue

Our office successfully facilitated the replacement of a crucial stop sign that had been removed at the busy intersection of West 238th Street and Putnam Avenue, right by BJ's. This intersection saw significant pedestrian and vehicle traffic, and the missing stop sign posed a severe safety risk to the community. By working swiftly with city officials, we ensured the installation of a new stop sign, reinforcing our commitment to keeping our streets safe for drivers and pedestrians alike.



Before and After of the Stop Sign being replaced.

# Fort Independence Houses Back-to-School Supplies Giveaway

I attended the Back-to-School Resource Fair at the Fort Independence Houses. Thanks to Community Board 8 and the NY Yankees, we helped provide backpacks, school supplies, and other essentials to families and children in our community. I am ready for a fantastic school year ahead.

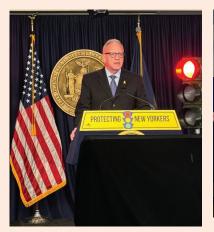


Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz, Council Member Eric Dinowitz and Bronx Community Board 8 District Manager Farrah Kule Rubin giving out school supplies to residents of Fort Independence.

# Red Light Camera Expansion Bill (A.5259A) Signed into Law

Governor Kathy Hochul has signed my bill (A.5259A) to expand NYC's red-light camera program from 150 to 600 intersections, enhancing road safety and reducing collisions. Since 1994, the program has cut severe injuries by 58% at camera-equipped intersections (according to NYC DOT), with strong public support (85% per a 2020 Siena poll).

This legislation addresses rising traffic fatalities, supports Vision Zero's safer streets goals, and allows law enforcement to focus on other priorities. From December 22, 2024, through 2027, this expansion will save lives and make NYC streets safer for all.



Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz talking about the need for his Red-Light Camera Expansion Bill.



Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz with many of his colleagues in government, including Senate bill sponsor Senator Andrew Gounardes, while Gov. Hochul signs his bill A.5259 to quadruple the number of intersections with red light cameras in NYC.

# **KRVC's "For the Birds" Mural Ceremony**

I participated in the ribboncutting for KRVC's mural For the Birds! by artist Nicky Enright and local students. The mural features 15 largerthan-life local bird species and highlights their beauty and the environmental threats they face. Inspired by Enright's work with his sixth-grade students, the project symbolizes a call to action: "The birds are talking; are we listening?"

Enright collaborated with artists Nils Folke Anderson and

Olugbala Williams and student interns "The Goldeneyes." Sponsored by KRVC, Studio Delaj, and the National Audubon Society, the mural reflects art's power to inspire environmental awareness in the Bronx.

Pictured (from left to right): Sokol Delaj (owner of Studio

Delaj), Council Member Eric Dinowitz, KVRC Executive Director Laura Levine-Pinedo, Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz,

Artist Nicky Enright and teacher Nils Folke Anderson

# **Grand Opening of the Van Cortlandt Older Adult Center**

I attended the grand opening of the Van Cortlandt Older Adult Center on West 231st Street with Bronx Borough President Vanessa L. Gibson! I am excited about the valuable services this center will offer our older adults and strengthen our community. Here's to a bright future.



Top picture (from left to right): Associate Program Officer Anissa Cabrera for NYC Department of Aging, JASA Seniors Chief Program Officer Alan Cohen, Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz, Bronx Borough President Vanessa L. Gibson, and NYPD 50th Precinct Community Affairs Officer Mercedes Coneio.

# Huge Turnout for Paper Shredding Event on West 235th Street and Johnson Avenue



A big thank you to everyone who came out to our free paper shredding event with Council Member Eric Dinowitz and Congressman Ritchie Torres' teams on Johnson Ave and West 235th St! It was a huge success, and all attendees' documents were securely shredded. Thank you to KRVC for helping coordinate the event.

Pictured (from left to right): Congressman Ritchie Torres' Constituent Outreach Representative Joseph McManus, Council Member Eric Dinowitz and Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz.

# **Bronx Community Board 8 Public Safety** Meeting on My Mask Ban Bill (A.10057)

I spoke at Bronx Community Board 8's Public Safety Meeting to discuss my bill, (A.10057). The bill's purpose is to prevent people from concealing their identities by wearing masks unless for health or religious reasons.



Attendees of Bronx Community Board 8's Public Safety Meeting, includ Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz (far left).

Some people feel emboldened to performed acts of violence and intimidation because they have been able to conceal their identity. My legislation will ensure that they don't have the luxury of concealing their identity while performing those horrendous acts.

# **Forum on Proposal 1** (The NY Equal Rights Amendment) **Sponsored by the Women of Reform Judaism**



I attended the Women of Reform Judaism event at Riverdale Temple to discuss Proposal 1, the NY Equal Rights Amendment on this year's ballot. I am proud to advocate for equal rights for all and continue the fight for justice and equality in our state.

Pictured (from left to right): Council Member Eric Dinowitz, President of Riverdale Temple Lydia Schorr, Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz and President of the Women of Reform Judaism Joanne Heyman.

#### **MET Council Goldman Mobile Pantry Food** Drive at the Riverdale Y



(from left to right): Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz, Bronx Borough President Vanessa L. Gibson and Dinowitz each posing with the food they were handing ncil Member Eric Dinowitz

I was glad to join Council Member Eric Dinowitz and Bronx Borough President Vanessa L. Gibson at the MET Council Goldman Mobile Pantry Drive at the Riverdale Y. Together, we helped distribute much-needed food to the community and supported our neighbors in need.

out from the mobile pantry

# **SAR High School Food Drive**

I had the opportunity to attend the SAR High School Food Drive, sponsored by the MET Council. The event brought together students, faculty, and community members to collect and distribute essential food items to those in need. It was inspiring to see the dedication and generosity of the SAR High School students as they worked tirelessly to help fight food insecurity in our community. The MET Council's commitment to addressing hunger and providing vital resources continues to make a significant impact, and I am proud to support such an important initiative. I joined my colleagues in government Council Member Eric Dinowitz, Bronx Borough President Vanessa L. Gibson, and Council Member Rafael Salamanca Jr. to lend a helping hand.



Students and Faculty of SAR High School and the MET Council, along with Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz, Council Member Eric Dinowitz, Bronx Borough President Vanessa L. Gibson and Council Member Rafael Salamanca Jr.



(from left to right): SAR Food Pantry Organizer Danny Kroll, an SAR High School Student, Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz, Bronx Borough President Vanessa L. Gibson, Council Member Eric Dinowitz, and Council Member Rafael Salamanca Jr.

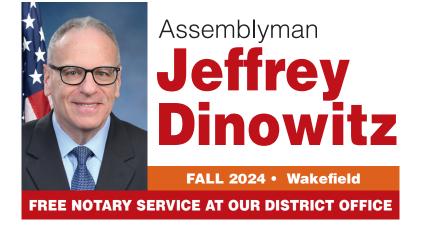
# **Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway**

I joined Council Member Eric Dinowitz in giving out turkeys, generously provided by the Carpenters Union for Thanksgiving! Together, we visited P.S. 16 in Wakefield to support families across our community. We wished everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving.



Council Member Eric Dinowitz and Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz giving out turkeys at P.S. 16 in Wakefield.

Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz 3107 Kingsbridge Avenue • Bronx, NY 10463



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#### **Community Board 12 Meeting**

At the Bronx Community Board 12 meeting, I addressed various local community issues and shared essential updates on my mask ban legislation, A.10057. The bill aims to prevent individuals from hiding their identities by wearing masks. I am working with my colleagues and advocates to amend the bill and ensure proper protection, including for health, religious reasons, and other situations. Historically, people have been emboldened to commit acts of violence and intimidation because they could conceal who they were. My legislation aims to remove that anonymity, ensuring they cannot hide their identity while carrying out terrible actions. I also highlighted upcoming events in the district to ensure everyone stays informed and involved.



Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz talking to Bronx Community Board 12.