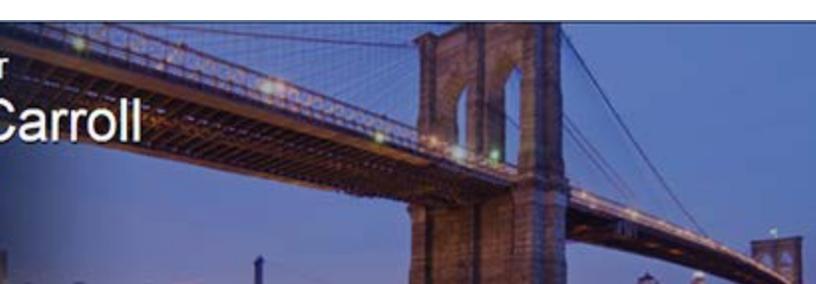




Assemblymember  
**Robert C. Carroll**  
Assembly District 44



**June 8, 2018**

### **Greetings –**

As the end of the legislative session quickly approaches on June 20<sup>th</sup>, there are 4 bills on which I am the prime sponsor that I am hoping to pass:

### **Clean Energy Incentives**

[A10150](#) would extend and strengthen an existing incentive program to encourage the installation of solar electric generating systems in New York City. That bill is through committee, ways and mean and rules and I expect a floor vote shortly. [A10410](#) is a new bill I am sponsoring that would add a tax incentive on electric energy storage equipment, allowing for the expenditures related to running more energy efficient systems to be more affordable. It is especially important as New York tries to reach its goal of 50% renewable by 2030 that we provide incentives for clean energy investment. In the early phase of local energy storage market development, a temporary property tax abatement to defray upfront costs for adopters would help catalyze energy storage deployment in New York City. It would also drive down unit and installation costs and accelerate the realization of public benefits. This bill is currently before the Ways and Means committee and I hope to have a vote next week and get it to the floor before the end of session.

### **MTA Legislation**

Over 300 people attended my town hall on the MTA with MTA NYC Transit President Andy Byford last week. It was a great opportunity to discuss the MTA's new [“Fast Forward” plan](#) and hear directly from Mr. Byford about the plan, which would speed up the rollout of a new signal system from an estimated 40 years to 10 years.



The plan promises to bring much needed signal upgrades on 5 lines benefiting over 3 million subway riders, and will introduce over 650 new subway cars and 1,200 Communications-Based Train Control (CBTC) modified cars into service. These improvements will impact the 4, 5, 6, A, C, E, R, F, M, and G lines. The proposed plan would keep weekday service intact, with lines being taken out of service during overnight and weekend hours for up to two and a half years each. Also included in the plan's first 5 years are improvements to buses and Para transit, including installing elevators at 50 subway stations over the next five years to improve wheelchair accessibility, and the redesign of bus routes in all five boroughs, adding more than 2,800 buses. Also included are upgrades to station management, maintenance, and a new fare payment system which includes tap and go and smart cards purchasable with cash. [You can read the outline of the plan in its entirety here.](#)



While I think that the plan is a great start, the elephant in the room is the \$19 Billion price tag. The Assembly, Senate and Governor must come together and establish the dedicated funding source necessary to pay for it. As you know, I have been an outspoken advocate for a congestion pricing plan in the style of the Fix NYC advisory panel report released earlier this year. With this in mind, the third bill that I am pushing for at the end of this session is [A11094](#), which would change the deadline for the MTA to submit its capital program plans to the Capital Program Review Board (CPRB) from October 2019 to January 2019. This will mean, starting with the upcoming 2020-2024 plan, the MTA will submit its capital plan during the legislative session, allowing a longer period for the public to voice concerns and enabling the legislature to have more constructive input into the MTA's five-year capital plans going forward. Restoring the MTA is a priority for the millions of riders who rely on public transportation and this bill is an important step that will provide oversight as we work to improve our failing transit system in the long term.

### **Dangerous Driver Legislation**

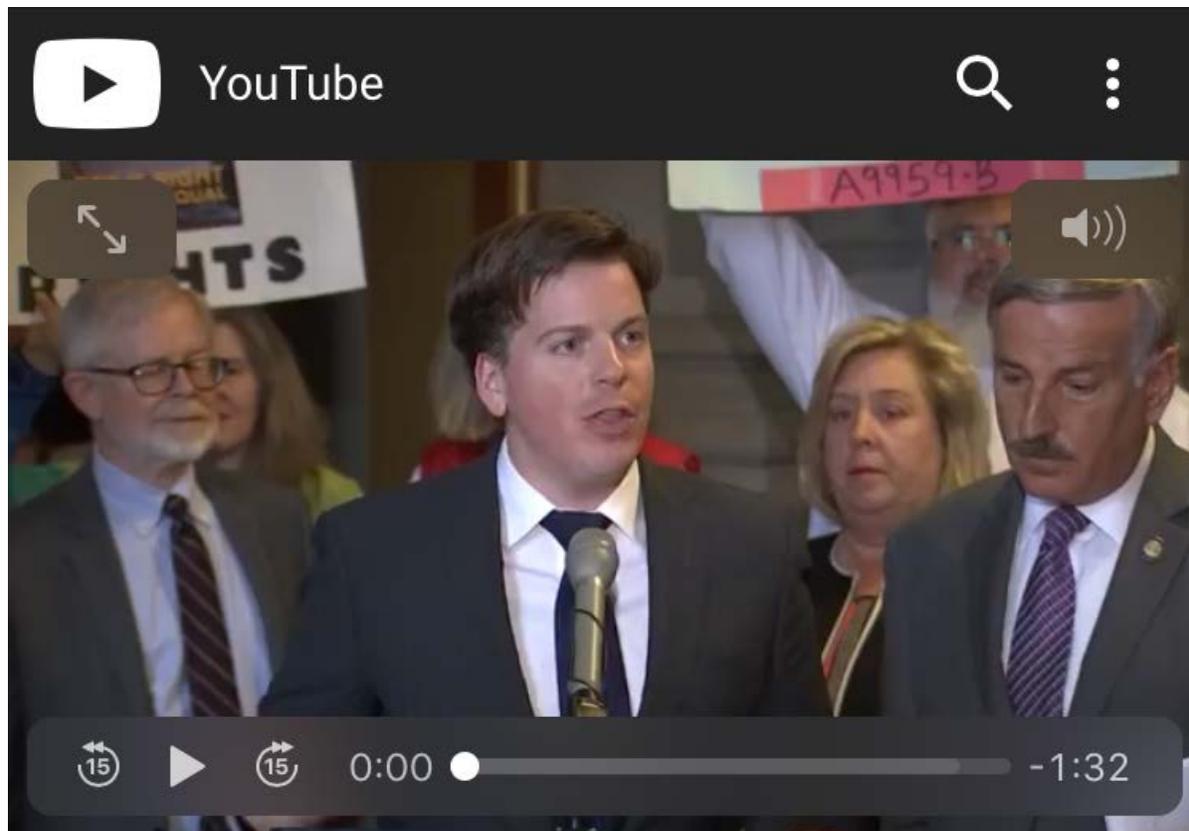
Also this week I introduced [A11121](#), which would authorize the commissioner of the DMV to require examination of any person involved in an accident caused by a loss of consciousness or awareness. It also directs the DMV to evaluate their existing medical review program regarding reexamination of drivers who may suffer from a chronic, ongoing condition that may cause loss of consciousness, loss of awareness, or loss of body control. After the devastating crash that took place in March, I introduced a bill similar to this one, but I think that [A11121](#) has a greater likelihood of passing by the end of session. It is clearer now than ever that there needs to be more accountability to ensure medically unfit drivers do not remain behind the wheel. This bill will require our state agencies to put checks in place that will take those drivers off the road and make our streets safer.

### **Fighting for Adoptee Rights in Albany**

This week in Albany I joined so many committed advocates and Assembly colleagues to fight for the passage of [A.9959B](#) – a bill that I am co-sponsoring in the Assembly that would allow for adult adoptees

to gain access to their original birth certificate. This bill gives adoptees the basic civil and human right that other New Yorkers have, which is to have unencumbered access to their own identifying documents. Currently, adult adoptees must petition a judge and show “good cause” to demonstrate why they should be granted access to their own birth certificate. This is much too burdensome and discriminates against hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers. I especially want to commend a constituent of mine, Tim Monti-Wohlpart who has been fighting for a clean adoption bill like A.9959B for decades. I hope that for the sake of Tim and adoptees all over the state that we can finally make this right.

**View my full remarks at the rally in Albany below:**



### **Statement on Specialized High School Admission Test Proposal**

This week I have received hundreds of emails about [A.10427-A](#), the proposal from the Mayor and Chancellor which would change the admissions process at New York City's specialized high schools by phasing out and completely eliminating the Specialized High School Admissions Test. The timing of the introduction of this proposal and the manner in which it was introduced was ill-conceived and I do not support the legislation. Creating a rubric which allows for greater access and diversity in some of our top schools is admirable and necessary, but trying to reach that goal without a single hearing and 3 weeks before the legislature goes on recess is not the way to create sound legislation. I am glad that Speaker Heastie has assured the New York State Assembly that he will not bring A.10427-A to the floor of the Assembly for a vote.

This issue demands debate, input from a broad cross section of parents and educators, and careful consideration before a long established system is changed. Making sure all students have a pathway towards some of our best public schools is essential in any public school system. I believe any legislation we pass to change the SHSAT or augment the admission process must also include ways to improve our elementary and middle schools so more of our students are prepared for demanding academic environments. Furthermore, it is misguided to place so much emphasis on eight specialized high schools that only admit 5,000 freshmen per year. We must not let this small fraction of students dominate our discourse on how we bring high quality education to all students no matter the need or the neighborhood.

Finally, it is regrettable that during this debate there has been no mention of students with learning differences or disabilities, who by some estimates make up 20% of our public school population and are consistently some of the most underserved. I look forward to discussing the issue in greater detail and taking the time to hear from educational experts, students, teachers, administrators, and parents about this topic and our public schools in general, so we can better serve all NYC Public School students.

### **Community Meetings in the Week Ahead:**

#### **Community Board 14 Monthly Meeting**

Murrow High School

1600 Avenue L

Monday, June 10

7:30pm

Open to community members. The [CB 14](#) board meeting is typically scheduled on the second Monday of

the month at different locations during the year.

### **70<sup>nd</sup> Precinct Sector B NCO meeting, Midwood area**

IS 152

1087 Ocean Avenue

Tuesday, June 12

7:00pm to 8:00pm

[Neighborhood Coordination Officers](#), or NCOs, are your local problem solvers. They spend all their working hours within the confines of their assigned sectors, actively engaging with local community members and residents. They get to know the neighborhood, its people, and its problems extremely well. PO Rakhmanov and PO David Yegros, the NCOs for the Sector B, will provide a neighborhood update and respond to questions and concerns from residents.

### **72<sup>nd</sup> Precinct Community Council**

Marien-Heim Senior Center

4520 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue

Tuesday, June 12

7:30pm

Open to community members. The [72<sup>nd</sup> Precinct Community Council](#) meetings typically take place on the second Tuesday of each month.

### **D15 CEC Town Hall with NYC School Chancellor Richard Carranza**

PS 24

427 38th St

Wednesday, June 13

6pm (doors open at 5:45pm)

Don't miss this excellent opportunity share your concerns and ideas with new School Chancellor. Issues and concerns for District 15 will be addressed. Children are always welcomed to attend CEC15 meetings. RSVP is not necessary but would be greatly appreciated [CEC15@schools.nyc.org](mailto:CEC15@schools.nyc.org) . If you are not able to attend, you can email your question (please include in your email your name, school, number of children attending public schools and their grade level).

### **Community Board 6 Monthly Meeting**

John Jay High School

227 7th Avenue, between 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Streets

Wednesday, June 13

6:30pm

Open to community members. The [CB 6](#) monthly meeting is typically scheduled on the second Wednesday and the location moves around during the year.

### **72<sup>nd</sup> Precinct NCO meeting, Windsor Terrace area**

PS 10

511 7th Avenue

Thursday, June 14

6:30PM - 7:30PM

[Neighborhood Coordination Officers](#), or NCOs, are your local problem solvers. They spend all their working hours within the confines of their assigned sectors, actively engaging with local community members and residents. They get to know the neighborhood, its people, and its problems extremely well. Det. McGrath and PO Ghanney, the NCOs for the Windsor Terrace neighborhood, will provide a neighborhood update and respond to questions and concerns from residents.

### **FDNY's 4th annual citywide Open House**

Local Firehouses

Saturday, June 16<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, June 17<sup>th</sup>

Hours vary- see below

On Saturday and Sunday, the FDNY will host its 4th annual citywide Open House program. More than 200 Firehouses and EMS Stations will open their doors to the public from 11:00am – 1:00pm and 1:00pm – 3:00pm. [Days and times by Firehouse](#)

See you around the neighborhood,

Bobby

**Assemblymember Robert Carroll**

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