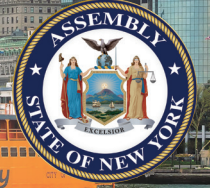




# Assemblyman CHARLES D. FALL



## Legislative and Community Report - 61<sup>st</sup> Assembly District - Winter 2023



Dear Neighbors,

*It continues to be my pleasure and honor to serve as your New York State Assemblyman for the 61st District. This year has been particularly special as I was appointed Assistant Majority Leader, a role I am deeply honored to hold. My interactions with thousands of Lower Manhattan residents, attendance at various community events, and visits to our local public schools have been immensely fulfilling.*

*As your Assemblyman, I am dedicated to enhancing our community's living and working environment. I firmly believe in the power of collaboration between public servants, community- and faith-based leaders, and residents in bolstering the economic vitality of our borough, city, state, and country. My commitment to improving public safety, enhancing transit services, ensuring the safety and resource availability in our public schools, and advocating for youth and senior programs and services, remains a priority. In addition, I firmly believe in continuing to advocate for youth and senior programs and services, as well as collaborating with the Battery Park City Authority to address the needs of our residents in Lower Manhattan.*

*As I take on this new leadership role, I am even more dedicated to working with you on matters related to Lower Manhattan while representing your interests in Albany. I am excited about what we can accomplish together in the coming year.*

Charles D. Fall  
Member of Assembly  
61st Assembly District

### Revitalizing Lower Manhattan: Affordable Housing at 5 World Trade Center

Immensely proud to have supported the Public Authorities Control Board's approval of the transformative mixed-use development at 5 World Trade Center. This project represents a significant milestone for Lower Manhattan, not only as a symbol of resilience but also as a beacon of hope for affordable housing in New York City.



The development, which includes approximately 1,200 housing units with a third designated as permanently affordable, caters to a broad spectrum of income levels. This is crucial for a community like ours, which has witnessed rapid loss of affordability over the years. Particularly heartening is the allocation of a portion of these units for individuals impacted by the 9/11 tragedy, acknowledging their sacrifices and the community's enduring spirit. This project stands as a testament to what we can achieve when government, community advocates, and the private sector collaborate effectively.

The \$65 million in public funding, including contributions from the State Legislature and the Battery Park City Authority, underscores our collective commitment to not just rebuilding but revitalizing Lower Manhattan with inclusivity and sustainability at its core. The inclusion of community spaces and a connection to Liberty Park further enriches this project, making it a comprehensive model for urban development. As an Assembly Member, I feel a deep sense of accomplishment in being part of this initiative, which will significantly benefit our residents by providing affordable housing options and fostering a more vibrant, diverse community. While this is great news and progress, we will still work to identify more funding sources for additional housing units. Special thanks to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senator Brian P. Kavanagh, Council Member Christopher Marte, and the Coalition of 5 World Trade Center, including Honorable Vittoria Fariello.

### Electrifying NYC Skies

Proud to have joined Mayor Adams and NYC EDC in announcing a groundbreaking step for NYC! This strategic upgrade not only aligns with our environmental goals but also demonstrates a commitment to improving the quality of life for our residents. As someone who has actively engaged with EDC on this issue, I am proud to see this effort come to fruition, paving the way for reducing urban noise pollution and enhancing the living standards of every New Yorker. The Downtown Manhattan Heliport is on track to be the world's first with infrastructure for electric flight, marking a leap in sustainable transportation and quieter, more eco-friendly city skies.



### Enhancing Community Representation: Welcoming J. Kelly McGowan to the Trust for Governors Island Board

Our dedication to making Governors Island a dynamic, accessible public space for all New Yorkers is reinforced by having board members who truly reflect the diverse communities we serve. I was proud to have appointed Mr. J. Kelly McGowan to the Board of the Trust for Governors Island. His expertise and deep community ties will be invaluable as we continue to develop this extraordinary public place, ensuring it remains a vibrant, sustainable, and inclusive space for generations to come. His role will be crucial in guiding and expanding public participation and maintaining accessibility for all New Yorkers. I am excited to have him on board and look forward to the perspectives he will bring to the table.





## Current Legislative Focus and Future Outlook

As we enter the new legislative session, I am focused on several key bills that address critical issues affecting our community. These bills represent my commitment to improving the lives of our residents in Lower Manhattan and ensuring a brighter future for all New Yorkers.

**Paul's Law (A7516):** Named in memory of a child who faced congenital heart defects, Paul's Law seeks to enhance the information provided to maternity patients. This legislation requires hospitals and birth centers to include information on congenital heart defect births in the informational leaflets given to maternity patients. By raising awareness about these conditions and their treatment requirements, we can better support families facing these challenges. This bill underscores our commitment to maternal and child health.

**Battery Park City Authority Board Membership (A8030):** In an effort to ensure that the Battery Park City Authority's Board of Directors represents the interests of our community, I am proposing an expansion of the board from seven to nine members. Additionally, this bill would require that a majority of board members be primary residents of Battery Park City. By increasing local representation, we aim to have a more diverse and community-focused board that can effectively manage the Authority's assets and investments while addressing the needs of residents and businesses in Battery Park City.

**Congestion Surcharge Exemption (A7697):** Recognizing the unique challenges faced by residents of Lower Manhattan and Staten Island, this bill seeks to exempt them from congestion surcharge pricing. Our goal is to alleviate the financial burden on Lower Manhattan residents while promoting a more equitable approach to congestion pricing.

These bills reflect my commitment to addressing the specific needs of our community, whether it's improving healthcare information, enhancing local representation, or providing financial relief to residents. In the upcoming legislative session, I will continue to work tirelessly to ensure that the voices of Lower Manhattan are heard and that our community's priorities are addressed.

Together, we can build a stronger and more resilient future for all. I look forward to working with my colleagues in the legislature to advance these important initiatives and to continue advocating for the well-being of our community. Your support and engagement are crucial as we strive to make positive changes for Lower Manhattan and the entire State of New York. Thank you for your continued trust and partnership.



### Celebrating Diversity at Bowling Green

As a proud Guinean-American serving in the New York State Assembly Majority, it was a profound honor to join Mayor Adams, Commissioner Castro and the Bowling Green Association to celebrate the 65th Anniversary of Guinea's Independence. The people of Guinea and immigrants alike truly exemplify resilience & the promise of the American Dream. Their stories of resilience, success, and community service are inspiring examples of the American Dream in action, reminding us of the crucial role immigrants play in shaping our nation's identity and future. Together, let's continue to embrace and celebrate our diverse roots, fostering a community where every voice is heard and every dream has the chance to become a reality.

## Unveiling the New York Climate Exchange: A Groundbreaking Initiative on Governors Island for a Sustainable Future



As we mark a pivotal moment in New York City's journey towards sustainability and innovation, we were thrilled to announce the development of the New York Climate Exchange on Governors Island. This ambitious project, a 400,000 square-foot campus, is a significant leap in positioning our city as a global frontrunner in climate change solutions. With an investment of \$700 million, this climate research, education, and job creation hub, led by a consortium spearheaded by Stony Brook University, is not just a testament to our city's commitment to environmental stewardship but also a catalyst for economic growth. The Climate Exchange is anticipated to generate a remarkable economic impact of approximately \$1 billion for New York City, creating thousands of permanent green jobs in the process.

The New York Climate Exchange, set to open in 2028, is the cornerstone of the NYC Center for Climate Solutions

Initiative. It will serve as a vibrant educational nucleus for 600 postsecondary students, 4,500 K-12 students, 6,000 workforce trainees, and 250 faculty and researchers annually, fostering a new generation of climate experts and innovators. This initiative is a blend of public and private collaboration, with funding from the City capital, the Simons Foundation, and Bloomberg Philanthropies, alongside additional fundraising efforts by the Exchange consortium, which includes eminent partners such as Pace University, Pratt Institute, and IBM.

This project is more than just an academic or research center; it's a symbol of our city's resilience and forward-thinking approach to tackling the climate crisis. The introduction of regular, ecofriendly ferry service to Governors Island starting in summer 2024 is a testament to our dedication to sustainable transportation. The New York Climate Exchange on Governors Island is not just an investment in environmental research and education; it's an investment in our city's future, ensuring that New York City remains at the forefront of global efforts to create a more sustainable, resilient, and equitable world. The future of climate innovation and education is here, and it's happening right in the heart of NYC.





## Academic Horizons

I've had the honor of visiting numerous schools across the 61st district and I am continually reminded of the vital role education plays in our community. Each classroom visit renews my commitment to ensuring that our education system receives the support it needs to thrive. Witnessing the bright, inquisitive eyes of students eager to learn, the dedication of teachers who go above and beyond, and the involvement of parents and community members has reinforced my belief that education is not just a priority, but the foundation of a prosperous society. As I continue to serve, I am devoted to advocating for policies and resources that will provide our children with the quality education they deserve, because our future depends on their success. Education is more than a priority; it's a responsibility that I hold close to my heart, and I am committed to nurturing the potential of every young mind in our district.



## 9/11 Community and Neighborhood Commemoration



Standing on the hallowed grounds of the 9/11 Memorial Glade, we remember the innocent lives lost in that fateful day's tragic events. It is here, amidst the solemnity and reverence of this sacred space, that we are reminded of the profound sacrifice made by the community members and first responders and their

families. Their unwavering courage and selflessness in the face of unspeakable adversity continue to inspire us.

As we gathered at this solemn site for the community 9/11 ceremony, we are not only paying our respects but also reaffirming our commitment to forging a future of unity and resilience. The memory of that day serves as a poignant reminder of the strength of our collective spirit, our ability to come together in times of crisis, and our resilience as a community and a nation. In honoring the past, we pledge to work tirelessly towards a brighter and more inclusive future, where the values of compassion, solidarity, and mutual support guide our path forward. The legacy of those we lost on September 11th compels us to build a world where hope triumphs over despair and where unity prevails in the face of adversity.

## Connecting with our Neighbors in Battery Park City



A privilege to engage with the remarkable individuals of the Gateway Plaza Tenants Association. Working closely with these passionate residents has not only allowed me to better understand the unique challenges we face, but also to collaborate on effective solutions that benefit our entire Lower Manhattan community. Their insights and active involvement are invaluable in shaping a vibrant and inclusive future for Battery Park City.

## Strengthening Public Safety

Public Safety is a priority that resonates deeply with my commitment to serve the community, as safety is the foundation upon which all other aspects of a healthy society are built. Whether it's through supporting law enforcement, advocating for effective crime prevention programs, or engaging in community outreach, my focus on public safety is driven by the conviction that every individual deserves to live in a secure and peaceful environment. Enhancing public safety in Lower Manhattan is crucial for protecting its dense population, preserving its economic and cultural significance, ensuring the efficiency of its transportation systems, maintaining community well-being, supporting tourism, preventing crime and terrorism, and enhancing emergency response and resilience. Public safety remains a paramount priority because it forms the bedrock of a stable and prosperous community. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to NYPD 1st Precinct's recent outgoing Commanding Officer Tommy Smith for his years of dedicated service and unwavering commitment to the safety of Lower Manhattan's residents. With enthusiasm and optimism, I look forward to a continued partnership with Commanding Officer Joel Rosenthal, ensuring a secure and thriving Lower Manhattan for all.



## Paul Magnus Foundation



So happy to support the Paul Magnus Foundation which offers families of children with Congenital Heart Defects or families who have children awaiting a heart transplant reimbursement of housing expenses.

To learn more on how you can support this amazing foundation, please visit their website.

## Blue Card Reception



It was a pleasure to stop by and support the Museum of Jewish Heritage for their annual BlueCard summer reception. I look forward to continuing to support their ever-growing list of programs and initiatives that serve Holocaust survivors and advance Holocaust education.



## Building a Sustainable Future: Lower Manhattan Resiliency

I stand firmly in support of both the Battery Park City Resiliency (BPCR) projects and the Lower Manhattan Coastal Resiliency (LMCR) Project, recognizing their pivotal roles in safeguarding our communities against the pressing challenges of storm surge and sea-level rise. These projects, carried out under the correct measures, serve as vital lifelines to protect our neighborhoods and infrastructure while preserving the essential green spaces that are integral to our quality of life.

The BPCR projects, comprising the South BPC Resiliency Project (SB-PCR), the BPC Ball Fields & Community Center Resiliency Project, and the North/West BPC Resiliency Project (NWBPCR), are a testament to our commitment to addressing these challenges comprehensively. SBPCR, for instance, encompasses an array of initiatives, including an integrated flood barrier system, stormwater drainage improvements, enhanced waterfront access, and expanded community and green spaces. It's essential to highlight that these projects prioritize the preservation of our green spaces, ensuring that our communities continue to thrive amidst the changing climate. The recent announcement of a substantial increase in planned green space for Wagner Park in response to community feedback underscores our dedication to this cause.

Similarly, the LMCR Project, encompassing a range of coastal protection initiatives along the Lower Manhattan coast, seeks to increase resilience while preserving access to the waterfront and integrating with public spaces. This approach, grounded in community and regulatory input, reflects our commitment to the principles of inclusion and sustainability. It is vital to emphasize that these projects are not merely about infrastructure but also about reimagining our waterfront to better serve all New Yorkers for generations to come.

Ultimately, my support for these projects is rooted in the belief that resilient communities can only be built through collaborative efforts that prioritize community input, preserve green spaces, and integrate public spaces seamlessly into our urban fabric. These initiatives represent a commitment to a sustainable and vibrant future for Lower Manhattan, where we can navigate the challenges of climate change while enhancing our quality of life.

## Lower Manhattan Historical Association's 8th Annual Independence Day Celebration



An honor to join the July 4th festivities this year with the Lower Manhattan Historical Association for their 8th Annual Independence Day Celebration. Happy to have taken part in the flag raising ceremony led by Veteran Corps of Artillery of the State of NY and their Annual Salute to the Nation.

New York State Assembly, Albany, New York 12248



## Assemblyman **CHARLES D. FALL**

Legislative and  
Community Report

Winter 2023

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U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Albany, New York  
Permit No. 75



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