



ASSEMBLY MEMBER AL TAYLOR



71ST ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

HARLEM - HAMILTON HEIGHTS - WASHINGTON HEIGHTS - INWOOD

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MARCH 2024

MONTHLY UPDATE

Bills Passed:

- A1476 –** *Co-Sponsor – Directs the superintendent of banks to promulgate rules and regulations requiring licensed cashers of checks to file suspicious activity reports*
- A1645A –** *Co-Sponsor – Requires a reading proficiency level assessment and dyslexia screening for certain incarcerated individuals*
- A8494 –** *Co-Sponsor – Requires owners and agents of multiple residencies and multiple dwellings to provide names and contact information of residents to emergency personnel*
- A8495 –** *Co-Sponsor – Requires the division of housing and community renewal to provide an annual report on the New York access to home programs*



Legislative Housing Budget Hearing

On Feb 14, 2024, I was able to join my fellow Assembly Members and Senators to engage in a dialogue with Governor Hochul's Commissioner of New York State Homes and Community Renewal, RuthAnne Visnaukas, to discuss the 2025 Executive Budget. The hearing touched on several subjects that impact our district, including but not limited to proper oversight of capital funding, with special emphasis on Esplanade Gardens, the increased production of permanent affordable housing, independent of mixed-use buildings with Wilson Major Morris Community Center, Inc., as well as the expansion of voucher issuing and individual voucher budgets. The hearing also addressed recent legislation (A8494/S8035), the Multiple Residence Law that requires owners and agents of multiple residences and multiple dwellings to provide names and contact information of residents to emergency personnel.

Transportation Update

This month, fruitful discussions were held between MTA, DOT, and the A. Philip Randolph Senior Center regarding proposed transit zone changes for a new "no standing" area and addition of a loading/unloading section in aims to elevate existing congestion.

ADA Accessibility will be coming to subways near you, with the addition of a wheelchair accessible ramp at the 3-Line Harlem–148th Street Station and proposed elevators for the 145th Street A/B/C/D Station located on Saint Nicholas Avenue.

Lastly, the 3-Line will be suspended March 11-12 from Monday 11:45 PM to Tuesday 5:00 AM. 2 trains will be making 3 stops between 135th Street and Times-Sq-42 St. A free shuttle bus will be making stops between 135th Street and Harlem 148th Street.

Stay tuned as we keep you updated on these crucial developments!

Education

In February, I was able to make tremendous strides in education advocacy. At the start of the month I was able to touch base with Manuel Ramirez, the Community School District 6 Superintendent to discuss NYC Kids Rise, a NYC Scholarship program that promotes the enrollment of NYC Students in Kindergarten - 2nd grade into the Save for College Program. For more information please visit our QR code.

Lastly, I was able to meet with Anthony Munroe, President of Borough of Manhattan Community College, to discuss CUNY's Black Male Initiative program ensuring ongoing collaboration to introduce more programming in the 71st Assembly District.

Dominican Heritage



In honor of Dominican Independence Day, I held our 5th Annual Dominican Heritage Celebration where I was able to honor Dominican Hero, Sergeant Aquilino Gonell who fearlessly protected the Capitol on the January 6th Insurrection. Sergeant Gonell served our country in the Iraq War and has continually proven his commitment to serving our country and is an exemplary member of our community.

2 Saint Nicholas Place Fire

With a heavy heart, I must share news of the tragic incident at 2 Saint Nicholas Place on Friday, February 23rd. Currently, the American Red Cross is providing assistance to 24 displaced families, including 45 adults and 9 children, who require housing, mental and physical health support, and basic necessities. Some of these individuals have found temporary shelter at the Aloft hotel on 125th Street.

In addition, we mourn the loss of a beloved member of our community, Fazil Khan, a dedicated Data Journalist. It is always devastating to lose members of our community, and our deepest condolences are extended to his family. The cause of the fire is reported to have originated from a rechargeable lithium-ion battery, underscoring the critical importance of meeting safety standards to prevent further tragedies. My office remains committed to collaborating with the FDNY and will be holding our first **Fire Safety Seminar** on **Saturday, May**. We hope to see you there!



For more information including, event information, articles, newsletters, resource guides, and more, visit my linktree!

1199 SIU Workers Demand Medicaid Equity



I joined forces with 1199SEIU Medical Workers at NewYork-Presbyterian to champion the reassessment of budget cuts. It's crucial that our healthcare institutions receive sufficient funding to guarantee adequate support and resources for the well-being of our community. We advocate for Medicaid Equity in the budget, aiming to secure funding that fully covers the costs of care for our patients and residents, mirroring the coverage provided to those with private insurance. This measure is vital for stabilizing our healthcare system and ultimately, preserving lives.

6th Annual Black History Celebration



In February, a month of celebration for all identities, we honor Black History and its profound impact on our nation. I am deeply humbled by the remarkable work of our 6th Annual Black History Month Honoree, Reverend Maurice Winley, and his organization, Living Redemption Community Development Corporation. Every day, Reverend Winley and his team reshape and empower the lives of Harlem youth through vital programming, including job preparedness, mental health services, and mentorships. Their dedication inspires us all, you can learn more about Reverend Winley's work via my QR code.

Upcoming Events:

Friday, March 22nd, 2024

5th Annual Women of Distinction Celebration
898 Saint Nicholas Ave, New York, NY, 10032

Saturday, April 6th, 2024

Juice Worx Meet and Greet
908 Saint Nicholas Avenue,
New York, NY, 10032

Saturday, May 4th, 2024

Fire Safety Seminar
P.S. 210 Twenty First Century
Academy for Community
Leadership

Wednesday, May 8th, 2024

Fire Safety Seminar