

# Assemblywoman Nily Rozic

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Dear Neighbor:

2021 may have started off with uncertainty, but we have made major strides in our recovery. Vaccines rolled out earlier this year, though it took a while to expand access to Northeast Queens. Over the last several months, I worked to identify partners ready to serve as vaccination sites and am proud to say we were able to set up temporary and permanent sites at locations including Queens College, Commonpoint Queens, Korean Community Services, and Flushing Library.

Meanwhile in Albany, we were once again tasked with the unexpected challenge of responding to the COVID-19 pandemic by passing a state budget and legislation providing fast economic relief.

With this year's legislative session complete and more opportunities to see each other in-person again, it's been thrilling to see so many of you around the district!

It's still important to maintain precautions adopted over the past year to ensure our COVID-19 positivity rate remains low – especially variants.

If you have yet to receive the COVID-19 vaccine and would like to do so, appointments are no longer required, and the City has an at-home vaccination program so it's easier than ever to get vaccinated.

Our collective effort got us this far and is still needed to keep everyone safe and healthy. Whether you need assistance with COVID-19 testing / vaccinations, unemployment benefits assistance, or have a 311 request for us to follow-up on, you can reach us as always by calling 718-820-0241 or emailing us at RozicN@nyassembly.gov.

Wishing you and yours all the best,

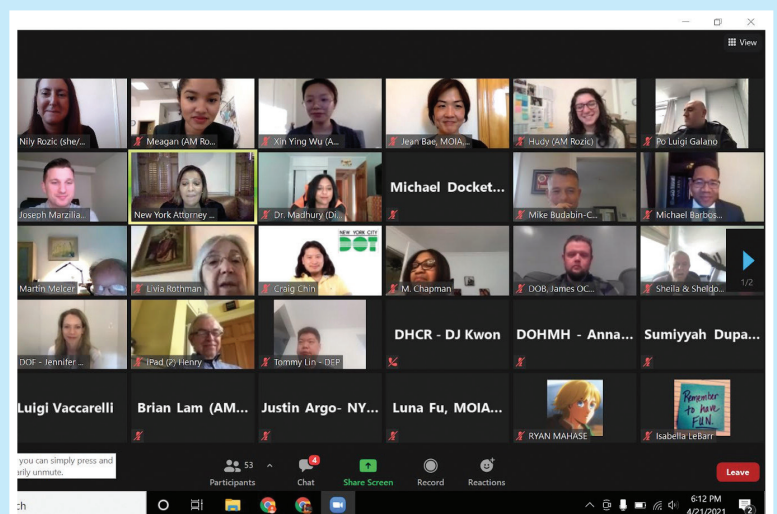
## Around the District



### Distributing Free Face Coverings

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, I have given out over 10,000 masks in our district to organizations on the front lines, at giveaways, and deliveries made to homebound residents.

My office still has face masks and hand sanitizer and continues making drop offs to anyone requesting supplies.



### Bringing City Agencies to You

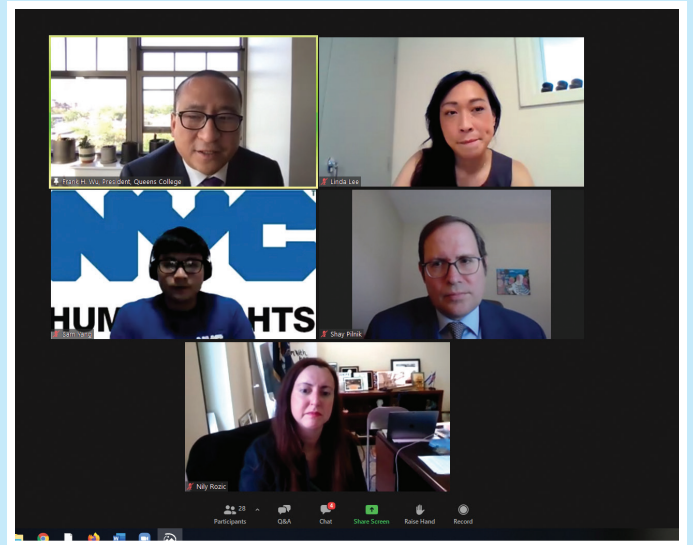
Like so many other virtual events you've attended over the past year, I hosted a virtual town hall with Community Board 11 featuring special guest NYS Attorney General Letitia James. We were also joined by various NYC agencies to answer questions about issues and concerns throughout the neighborhood. We'll be hosting more town halls before the end of the year so stay tuned!



## **Saving Townsend Harris' Bridge Year Program**

After learning about the NYC Department of Education's decision to eliminate funding for The Bridge Year Program at Townsend Harris High School, I secured \$500,000 in funding to sustain the program.

For 36 years, this collaboration between Townsend Harris and Queens College has allowed students to earn college credit, providing them with advanced standing at their selected college or university. Any attempt to shutter the program would undermine efforts to expand access to higher education and be an incredible disservice to incoming seniors. I am proud to have advocated and delivered new state funding and continue urging the City to renew this contract and restore full funding of the program for years to come.



## **Keeping Our Communities Safe**

Over the past year there has been an alarming surge of anti-Semitism and violence toward Asian Americans causing widespread fear that no one deserves to experience. This increase in hate crimes across New York requires that we do all that we can for all communities to feel safe and secure.

In this effort, I hosted a community conversation with Frank Wu, President of Queens College, and Dr. Shay Pilnik, Yeshiva University's Director of Holocaust and Genocide Studies, to discuss how we can come together and root out hateful rhetoric. Concluding our discussion, the NYC Commission on Human Rights led a bystander intervention training to share effective tools and resources on how to safely assist when witnessing a hate crime.



## **Expanding Access to Social Services**

Non-profit organizations all throughout Queens have been on the front lines of the pandemic providing critical resources and delivering meals to homebound residents. South Asian Council for Social Services is a shining example of these efforts under the leadership of Sudha Acharya. Since the pandemic, they've had to grow and serve thousands of our neighbors.

I'm thrilled to provide state funding to help make their expansion a reality.



## **Urging the City to Deliver on Overdue Repairs**

Last year's Tropical Storm Isaias exposed serious shortcomings in storm preparation and recovery efforts, and it is past time that the City invests in structural improvements – not hazardous patchwork repairs. It is unacceptable that nearly a year later, damaged sidewalks across Queens have been left untouched despite repeated requests from our community. Together with my colleagues, I'm urging the City to make these critical, overdue repairs.

## Representing You in Albany



### **Protecting Consumers as Chair of Consumer Affairs & Protection**

*This year I have had the exciting opportunity to serve as Chair of the Assembly's Committee on Consumer Protection! I previously passed laws to eliminate the pink tax on consumer goods and end price gouging of essential medical supplies. I also authored the new pandemic mortgage forbearance law that gives homeowners options to catch up on their payments without financial strain, fear of foreclosure, or damage to their credit.*

*As Chair, I have taken up new legislation and held hearings to educate and protect consumers across the state on issues such as broadband access and data privacy. If you have any ideas of what issues to tackle next, contact us at [consumeraffairs@nyassembly.gov](mailto:consumeraffairs@nyassembly.gov).*



### **Passing Legislation in Albany**

*Below is a roundup of bills I passed this year:*

- A399B – Creates remote online notarization to ensure consumers have access to safe and convenient notary services
- A5698A – Establishes a set grace period for the use of credit card reward points and notice before points expire
- A7368 – Extends the deadline for the filing of applications and renewal applications for real property tax abatement programs
- A479 – Promotes cricket in New York as part of the state athletic commission
- A465A – Ensures the confidentiality of voter registration records for domestic violence survivors
- A6466 – Expands language access services for workers compensation proceedings
- A476 – Requires that commissioners of the Public Service Commission that oversee utilities have certain education and training

*2021 in Albany may have looked different than years past, but we still got lots done!*

## Representing You in Albany (Continued)

### Advocating for Elections Reform

*Last year, to ensure no one had to risk their health to make their voice heard, I helped pass legislation allowing easier access to voting by mail and allowing absentee ballots to be postmarked by Election Day, rather than the day before. These changes have been vital to voters throughout the pandemic, but election reform is far from complete!*

*New Yorkers need a transparent and reliable board overseeing their elections which is why I have introduced legislation to reform and professionalize the NYC BOE. If you have any voting issues, please email me!*



New York State Assembly • Albany, New York 12248



Assemblywoman

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Rozic**

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## Let us know how we can help you!

*My office can assist you with any questions or concerns. We offer services in English, Mandarin, Spanish, and Hebrew and are happy to assist with additional language needs. To reach us, please call 718-820-0241 or send inquiries to [rozicn@nyassembly.gov](mailto:rozicn@nyassembly.gov).*

