

July 28, 2023

Dear Friends,

This newsletter includes updates on heat wave guidance. Extreme heat is a serious public health risk. NYC hospitals reported a quadrupling of heat related hospital admissions on Thursday.

The NYS Department of Health offers guidance, <u>links to additional information</u>, and to cooling centers in Westchester or any part of the state.

I have also included information from Con Ed.

Extreme heat is no accident. It has been reported that July has been the hottest July globally since records have been kept. Numerous surveys report that the trend towards a warmer planet and extreme storm events has grown steadily over the past fifteen years.

I also highlight state programs to assist in purchasing or charging an electric vehicle as well as an update on the state grant application deadline extension. As electric vehicle prices start to become more affordable, and rebate programs

expand, you may want to consider an EV for your next vehicle.

Below you will find:

- Con Ed Resources
- NYS EV Programs
- Indigenous Peoples presentation at Jay Heritage
- Clean Water & Resiliency Grants
- Mamaroneck Health Care Fair
- New Rochelle Affordable Housing Info Session
- Free Smoke Alarms

As always, do not hesitate to contact me on issues in this e-mail or any matter in which I can be helpful. My office number is 914-939-7028.

Warm regards,



Con Edison is closely monitoring the heat expected to impact our region.

Con Edison is prepared to respond to any resulting power outages, and ensuring the availability of critical personnel, equipment and supplies.

Customers can report power outages or service problems by calling 1-800-75-coned or online at <u>www.coned.com</u>. Outage map and service restoration information listed there.

Con Edison customers can sign up for text notifications at <u>www.conEd.com/text</u>.

Customers can also text REG to OUTAGE(688243) and follow the prompts.

New York State Expanding Electric Vehicle Programs to Make EV Ownership and Charging Infrastructure More Accessible

A variety of state agencies are expanding their programs to make buying or charging an electric vehicle more affordable and accessible. There are now 150,000 electric passenger vehicles on the road in New York State. The forecast is that most car manufacturers are ramping up their EV offerings, improving their access to needed batteries, and increasing the number of available vehicles, on a road to lowering prices.

NYS has a number of programs to assist in this effort. Governor Hochul has announced expanded funding for state programs to support EV use through the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). The agency runs two of those programs that are being expanded.

The Charge Ready NY 2.0 program is designed to support EV charger installation at workplaces and multifamily buildings statewide as well as public facilities located in disadvantaged communities.

This program can help eligible entities save up to 50 percent on installation costs for Level 2 chargers, which are ideal for locations where a car will be parked for a few hours and can provide up to 25 miles of electric range for each hour charged. The program has \$12 million available for charging station installations at workplaces and multifamily buildings with an incentive of \$2,000 per port and \$2,500 per port in a disadvantaged community.

Publicly owned facilities in a disadvantaged community are eligible for \$4,000 per port. In addition, \$3 million is dedicated for workplaces and multifamily buildings that hold educational "ride and drive" community events, purchase electric fleet vehicles, or offer free charging. The Charge Ready 2.0 program also continues to accept new equipment and network eligibility applications from EV charger vendors until program funds are exhausted.

Drive Clean Rebate Program supports consumers seeking cleaner driving options. The Drive Clean Rebate, also administered by NYSERDA, helps reduce upfront costs on the purchase or lease of a new EV. The point-of-sale rebate ranges from \$500 to \$2,000 on one of more than 60 models currently eligible through a participating car dealership in New York State. Learn more here.

NYSERDA also offers additional information on electric vehicles here.

Through the Assembly Science and Technology Committee, which I chair, I have been an advocate for expanded state assistance for electric vehicle use and charging infrastructure. In addition to NYSERDA, numerous state agencies are playing an elevated role in growing New York State's commitment to EV rollout. Other agencies involved include the Office of General Services (OGS), the Department of Public Service (DPS), the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), Department of Transportation, and the NYS Thruway Authority.

New York's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act has established the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions 85 percent by 2050, and we have targeted that all new passenger cars, pickup trucks, and SUVs sold in the state be zero emission by 2035.

The expanded funding Charge Ready NY 2.0 and the Drive Clean Rebates comes through the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative and the State's 10-year, \$6 billion Clean Energy Fund and NYSERDA.

<u>'The Original New Yorkers were Indigenous'</u> <u>Presentation at the Jay Heritage Center</u>

The Jay Heritage Center in Rye hosted historian Heather Breugl's for a

presentation that traced how the populations of Indigenous Peoples in America – and more specifically the Native Tribes of New York had changed over the centuries due to removal from their homes. Ms. Breugl detailed how the Indigenous population had plummeted from a high of an estimated 10 million in 1300 to a staggering low of 237, 196 in 1900, and has regained strength and was estimated in 2021 to be 6.79 million. Learn more about the event on their Web site.



Pictured above President of the Jay Heritage Suzanne Clary, Heather Breugl, Rye Councilwoman Lori Fontanes and Steve Otis.

Application Deadline Extension for State Grants Including More Than \$500 Million in Clean Water and Resiliency Programs

Governor Hochul has announced the deadline extension for the 2023 round of NYS Clean Water Grant programs and the other state grant programs included in the annual <u>Consolidated Funding Application (CFA)</u> offerings.

As is my longstanding practice, I have been working with local officials on their grant applications and with support letters to help bring state funding to

Westchester projects.

Given the recent storm damage in many parts of the state and the importance of many of the related water infrastructure grant programs and other resiliency-related programs being offered this year, the Governor wisely pushed back the application deadlines. <u>The new deadline will be Friday, August 11th</u>. The extension provides communities impacted by the storm damage and flooding that has occurred across the state additional time to apply for state resources to address water quality and storm mitigation projects.

This year a record level of funding is available for the clean water grant programs, which makes this a good year to submit an application. The grants are awarded on a competitive basis. The larger funding commitment is made available through a combination of existing state resources and the voterapproved Environmental Bond Act passed in November of 2022.

The water grant programs that will be extended from July 28th to August 11th include the following:

- <u>Water Infrastructure Improvement (WIIA)</u> and Intermunicipal Grants (IMG) \$425 million
- <u>Water Quality Improvement Projects (WQIP)</u> \$75 million
- <u>Green Innovation Grant Program (G(GP)</u> \$15 million
- Engineering Planning Grants (EPG) \$3 million
- Non-Agricultural Nonpoint source Planning and MS4 Mapping Grant \$3
 million

WIIA and IMG applications are due no later than 5:00 pm on Friday, August 11th.

Applications for WQIP, GIGP, EPG, and MSR planning grants are due no

later than 4:00 pm on Friday, August 11th.

The Governor's announcement with additional information regarding these programs is available <u>HERE</u>.

As always, I am eager to help local groups access these or other funding opportunities that can help fulfill the needs of Westchester communities. My office is available to provide assistance throughout the application process for grants our other state support. Please contact me or my staff at my District Office at 914-939-7028 with any questions.



New Rochelle Meeting on New Affordable Housing Opportunities

There will be an informational session held on Tuesday, August 1 at 6:00 pm at St. Catherine AME Zion Church (19 Lincoln Ave) regarding affordable housing opportunities at Renaissance at Lincoln Park, the new building at 117 Guion Place. You can find information for the informational meeting and the income eligibility guidelines can be found <u>HERE</u>.



SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES!

Working smoke alarms can cut the risk of death from home fires in half.

That's why we're rallying volunteers, fire departments and partners to *Sound the Alarm.*

Together, we're installing **FREE** smoke alarms in your community. Request a smoke alarm installation today!

Learn more at SoundTheAlarm.org/MNYN or call 845-673-1198 or scan the QR code.





In Partnership with

Senator Shelley B. Mayer Assembly Member Steven Otis





359801-04 03/23

