

# ASSEMBLY MEMBER REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT Assembly District 76

# 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment Anniversary





**Ratified on Aug. 18, 1920**, the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment gave American women the right to vote after a long-fought battle for women's suffrage. Today, we celebrate that milestone as we keep fighting for full equality.

#NYSAssemblyMajority #19thAmendment #WomensSuffrage #WomensRights

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Last weekend's tragic events in Charlottesville, Virginia were horrifying, showing the darkest side of our nation and the bitter reality that White Supremacy and anti-Semitism are still very much present in our country. We must unequivocally condemn and combat these acts of terrorism. Our nation and the great State of New York must rise above the destructive presence of any vicious and hateful ideology.

On a more positive note, today is a monumental day in the history of our country-- when the 19th Amendment gave American women the greatest privilege that a citizen can have-- the right to vote. The women's

suffrage movement began in New York and was pivotal in the pursuit of women's rights and equality. I am proud to have introduced the Equal Rights Amendment resolution and legislation in the Assembly in efforts to remove obstacles for women and girls, so that we may achieve the equality and justice we rightfully deserve.

Locally, we have been working to bring you the presentation on Wednesday, August 23 at 6:30pm about the ferry on Roosevelt Island and preparing to bring you resources this Sunday, August 20 at the Second Avenue fair.

*Stay in touch with my office about any issues that are important to you. As always we are just a visit, call or email away.* 

In Solidarity,

Kebecca Q Seaus

1485 York Avenue New York, NY 10075 212-288-4607



# **IN OUR COMMUNITY**

Seawright Environmental Score: 100%



#### 2017 Scorecard Rates Legislators Performance on Key Environmental Issues

On Thursday, August 17, the New York League of Conservation Voters (NYLCV) released its **2017 State Environmental Scorecard**, which highlights the performance of every State Legislator on this year's key environmental issues. Assembly Member Seawright earned a 100% score for addressing the key environmental issues in our state. She is one of a few members to receive a perfect score out of 150 members in the Assembly.

> "It is important that we give a voice to the most critical environmental issues impacting my district of the Upper East Side, Yorkville, Roosevelt Island and beyond. I fought and secured passage of a bill to require the New York State Department of Health to conduct an asthma study and to prepare a remediation plan due to the poor air quality and high incidence of asthma surrounding the East 91st Street waste transfer station. I understand the critical importance of advocating for the preservation of our environment through legislation and I will continue to fight for environmentally friendly legislation for our community, city and state." said **Assembly Member Rebecca A. Seawright.**

## Seawright Examines Disparity Study with MWBE Task Force

On Wednesday, August 16, Assembly Member Rebecca A. Seawright and colleagues met with Governor Cuomo's office to discuss the recently released 2016 Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprises (MWBEs) study to determine if any race or gender-based disparity exists in New York State contracting.

Article 15-A of the Executive Law requires the State to complete the disparity study in order to increase participation of MWBEs in state contracts and to identify ways to improve the MWBE program through identifying best practices for the contracting process, increase the number of bidders on the State's contracts and lower the State's procurement costs.

"As a member of the Assembly MWBE taskforce, I understand the importance of equal opportunities for minorities and women in doing business with the state. I have examined the study and am committed to working with my MWBE Taskforce colleagues to implement measures that will increase representation on all fronts for minorities and women in our community, city and state," **said Seawright.** 

Key findings of the 2016 identified that although MWBE participation in state contracting has increased significantly since the 2010 study, utilization of available MWBEs is lower than that of their availability in each industry. The greatest disparity was seen in the state's market for prime contractors; particularly MWBEs providing construction-related services, such as architects and engineers.

The Study was released publicly by Empire State Development in June of 2017; to download the Study and the FAQ sheet, visit: <u>https://esd.ny.gov/doing-business-ny/mwbe/mwbe-reports</u>. To register for meetings, visit: <u>bit.do/MWBEDisparityStudyMtgs</u>.

If you have any questions about the MWBE certification process, please contact our office.

**Construction Begins on New Penn Station Grand** 

## Moynihan Train Hall



On Thursday, August 17 Governor Cuomo announced the completion of the first significant milestone in the construction of the transformative Penn-Farley Complex. This accomplishment - five months ahead of schedule - will enable Related Companies, Vornado Realty LP, and Skanska USA, the developer-builder team, to begin full construction of the train hall, including the one-acre skylight.

To date, Skanska has removed more than one acre of concrete and steel flooring to increase the vertical space underneath Moynihan Train Hall's future skylight. This process entailed the demolition of 6,000 tons of concrete and the removal of approximately 800 tons of steel, as well as an additional 400 tons of hazardous materials. Skanska has also made significant progress in the interior demolition of all five floors of the Farley Building.

The Farley Building was designed by McKim, Mead and White as a sister to the original Pennsylvania Station. Five decades after the loss of the original structure, the Moynihan Train Hall will once again provide New Yorkers a grand entrance in a McKim, Mead and White architectural marvel. The Farley Building's train hall will bear the name of one of its great champions - the late Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

The Farley Building's Moynihan Train Hall will feature a new, spectacular 92-foot high skylight that will rest upon the building's historic and architecturally-dramatic steel trusses. All LIRR and Amtrak trains will be served by the nine platforms and 17 tracks that will be accessible from the Train Hall, serviced by eleven escalators and seven elevators. The Train Hall will provide a direct connection to the Eighth Avenue Subway and create direct access to the train station from 9th Avenue for the first time, bringing unparalleled regional transportation options within convenient reach of the booming Hudson Yards and Far West Side areas.



In addition to the demolition and removal of existing materials, work has begun on many new features of the Penn-Farley Complex, including:

- Restoration of the exterior façade on 31st Street and the interior courtyards;
- Creation of new openings to accommodate escalators carrying passengers to platform level;
- Shielding three of six underground train platforms for demolition and construction operations; and
- Installation of 100 tons of new steel.

The \$1.6 billion project is being funded with \$550 million from the State, \$420 million from Amtrak, the MTA, the Port Authority and a federal grant, and \$630 million from the joint venture developers. The new Train Hall is targeted for completion by the end of 2020.

The Moynihan Train Hall is part of the \$2.5 billion transformation of the Pennsylvania Station-Farley Complex announced by Governor Cuomo in January 2016 to dramatically modernize, upgrade and redesign America's busiest transit hub into a worldclass facility for the 21st century. The complex also includes a comprehensive redesign of the LIRR's existing 33rd Street concourse at Penn Station and an extensive renovation to the adjacent Seventh and Eighth Avenue subway stations. The plan will include nearly tripling the width of the 33rd Street Corridor, which is among the busiest sections of Penn Station and stretches along the station's lower level from Seventh to Eighth Avenue. Other improvements include upgraded lighting and wayfinding and digital screens to convey information and create a modern passenger experience.

## **Grant Program for Private Property Owners**

Eligible projects include blue roofs, rain gardens, green roofs, porous pavement and rainwater harvesting on private property in New York City. DEP will host four workshops in 2017 to explain the eligibility requirements of the program and guide users through the online application. Workshops will be held at Civic Hall located at 118 West 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, 12<sup>th</sup> floor, unless otherwise noted in the event registration form. Please find information on upcoming workshops and the criteria for the grant here: http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/stormwater/nyc\_green\_infrastructure\_grant\_program.shtml

"Green projects are critical to building smart, clean and efficient infrastructure for generations to come. I awarded PS/IS 217 in my district with a \$500,000 grant for their intuitive plan to have a greenroof for students to learn about planting and conservation. I encourage private property owners in my district to participate in a Green Infrastructure Grant Workshop to learn about their eligibility," **said Seawright**.

## **Chapin School Construction Updates**

On Friday, August 11, 2017, while drilling for new crane supports, the Chapin construction team made contact with a waterline. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) was notified and began work to identify the location of the leak. It was at first thought that the pipe was not connected to any local water service. That determination was later revised and water service was disconnected so that the city could identify the location of the leak.

After completing diagnostic testing, DEP determined that one building was affected, and when DEP workers left the site at 2:30am, water service was restored to the street with the exception of the affected building. As the determination had been made that a water main was not involved, the DEP turned the repair work over to licensed plumbers working for JRM. Water service was returned at approximately 1pm on Saturday.

Work on the project is stopped until the subsequent planned work and repair actions can be reviewed and approved. JRM met with the Department of Buildings to review upcoming project work and plans for the installation of supports for the crane (drilling and securing the additional caissons).

On Tuesday morning, August 15 the repairs made to the waterline were inspected by the Department of Buildings plumbing division. The waterline was re-routed to ensure that future drilling will not impact the same line.

Please feel free to contact the Chapin School with any questions surrounding the project at <u>Project@chapin.edu</u> or by calling 212-606-3225. We will continue to provide updates regarding the project as we receive them.

# **ROOSEVELT ISLAND**

## **Transportation Updates**

**The Tram-** platform renovations are predicted to last until February 2018. Both Manhattan and Roosevelt Island platforms will be reconstructed and during the construction, one tram will be in service in both directions, according to the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation (RIOC).

**The Red Bus Shuttle-** service to Manhattan will be in operation Monday through Friday starting at 3pm The buses will depart from Roosevelt Island to Manhattan on the half hour and return to Manhattan on the hour. The last bus of the day will leave Manhattan at 8:30 p.m. The pick-up spot is outside the Manhattan Tram Station on 59th Street and 2nd Avenue.

**The New York City Ferry-** service on Roosevelt Island will begin on Tuesday, August 29. The ferry will connect Astoria, Long Island City, Roosevelt Island, 34<sup>th</sup> Street, and Wall Street.

F Train- No F service at 21 St-Queensbridge, Roosevelt Island, Lexington Av/63 St and 57 St.

# **EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## Meet us at these Upcoming Community Fairs and Events!

### Sunday, August 20th

Second Avenue Community Benefit Festival- Visit our table between 79th and 80th Streets!

Second Avenue, 66<sup>th</sup> - 86<sup>th</sup> Streets

### Saturday and Sunday, September 9th and 10th

### **Gracie Square Art Show**

Carl Schurz Park (86th Street and East End Avenue)

10 am - 5 pm

### Sunday, September 10

### Third Avenue Community Benefit Festival

Third Avenue, 66th - 86th Streets

10 am - 5 pm

# **Upcoming Voter Registration Deadlines**

### September 12, 2017 State & Local Primary Deadlines

<u>Mail Registration</u>: postmarked by August 18th & received by August 23rd. <u>In Person Registration</u>: August 18th <u>Change of Address</u>: August 23rd <u>Absentee Ballot</u>: Postmark <u>application</u> by September 5th or apply in-person by September 11th. Postmark <u>ballot</u> by September 11th (received by September 20th). Deliver in-person ballot by Sept. 12 (someone other than voter).

### November 7, 2017 General Election Deadlines

<u>Mail Registration</u>: postmarked by October 13th & received by October 18th. <u>In Person Registration</u>: October 13th <u>Change of Address</u>: October 18th <u>Absentee Ballot</u>: Postmark <u>application</u> by October 31st or apply in-person by November 6th. Postmark the <u>ballot</u> by November 6th (received by November 15th). Deliver in-person ballot by November 7th (someone other than voter).

Change of Enrollment: An application to change one's party enrollment for 2018 must be received by October 13th.

**To register to vote,** you may pick up a voter registration form at our district office, or go to the <u>BOE website</u> to download the form and explore other registration options. For more information and additional details on absentee and military voter ballots, visit the <u>Board of Elections website</u> or call 1-800-FOR-VOTE.

The NYC Department of Small Business Services' (SBS) <u>Immigrant Business Initiative</u> recently created a valuable resource for immigrant entrepreneurs entitled <u>Building Your Business in New York City: A Guide for Immigrant Entrepreneurs</u>.

This guide provides step-by-step advice for immigrant entrepreneurs planning, launching, or growing a small business. It covers a series of key business topics, such as signing a commercial lease, navigating government, and understanding immigrant New Yorkers' rights, and will soon be available in hard copy in Spanish, Chinese, Russian, Korean, Haitian Creole, Bengali, and Arabic. Contact our office to request your copy.

**TRANSPORTATION UPDATES** 



To find subway service advisories, as well as travel directions during a diversion and a listing of all bus and subway service changes, visit <u>www.mta.info</u>

## **CONSTRUCTION UPDATES**

## **91st Street Waste Transfer Station Project**

For the E91st Street Marine Transfer Station project, there will be work this Saturday, 8/19. From Monday, 8/21 through Friday, 8/25, there will be *After Hours* work starting from 6:00 AM.

### TWO WEEK LOOK-AHEAD

Monday, August 14 - Sunday, August 27 2017 East 91st Street Marine Transfer Station

	X Scheduled													
	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
Deliveries - including concrete with pump at all Zones	8/14 X	8/15 X	8/16 X	<b>8/17</b> X	8/18 X	8/19 X	8/20	<b>8/21</b> X	<b>8/22</b> X	<b>8/23</b> X	8/24 X	8/25 X	8/26 X	8/27
ZONE 1: Ramp Work (Along field) & York Ave/91st Street														
Install utilities Install gas meter assembly	x x	X X	X X	X X	X X			X X	X X	X X	X X	X X		
ZONE 2A: Ramp Work (Along field) Install utilities	X	X	X	X	X			Х	X	X	X	Х		
ZONE 2B: Ramp Work (Asphalt Green back door) Install utilities including hangers and piping	Х	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X		
ZONE 2C: Ramp Work (FDR overpass & Esplanade) Install utilities	X	X	Х	Х	Х			Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		
ZONE 3: Marine Work MTS building interior walls and stairs Mechanical, electrical and plumbing installation	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X		X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	
Building envelope including metal & translucent panels & roof	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	

Notes: <sup>1</sup> Asphalt Green Summer Camp started on Thursday, 6/29 and is over on Friday, 8/18.

## MEMORIAL SLOAN KETTERING CANCER CENTER & CUNY/HUNTER COLLEGE

#### East 73rd/74th Street and FDR Drive site

Necessary construction activity will take place at the site on <u>Saturday, August 19th and Sunday, August 20th, 7:00 am -</u> <u>6:00 pm</u>.

Please call the project's Construction Information Line at 212-639-4444 with any questions or comments.