



**April 28, 2023**

Greetings –

The Governor announced last night that she and legislative leaders have reached a handshake agreement on the State budget, but members have not seen any budget bills and I am not aware of all of the specifics, so I will give a more comprehensive update on the details of the full budget next week when I am able to review the budget bills.

### **The Suburbs Not Doing Their Fair Share on Transit funding**

The handshake agreement notwithstanding, one of the many critical issues I'm concerned about is funding for the MTA. We can't give up on the vision of an even better public transportation system and we must invest in the system to make it more efficient, reliable, and safe. However, while ridership is rising it has still not returned to pre COVID levels and the MTA is facing large operating budget deficits. The Governor proposed an increase to the existing Payroll Mobility Tax dedicated to the MTA from .34% to .5% for companies in New York City and communities served by the LIRR and Metro North with annual payrolls over \$1.75 million. I supported this sensible proposal, but in response to opposition from some of my suburban colleagues in the Senate and Assembly, the Governor and legislative leaders have now agreed to increasing the Payroll Mobility Tax (PMT) from .34% to .60% on New York City businesses **only**. New York City businesses should not have to pay additional taxes to support the commuter rails while the suburbs do not. I have been very vocal with leadership on this issue and published an op-ed in Streetsblog today making the case for why the NYC only tax is bad policy. I will continue to advocate for fair funding for the MTA and improved service.

# STREETSBLOG NYC

**Assembly Member Carroll:  
When It Comes to Transit,  
Everyone Must Pay Their  
Fair Share**

By Assembly Member Robert  
Carroll

Apr 28,  
2023



## **Build Public Renewables Update**

One of the most important matters that is still being negotiated is how to accelerate the State's transition to renewable energy. I remain confident that significant aspects of my bill, [The Build Public Renewables Act](#), (BPRA), will be included in the final budget. The BPRA would authorize the New York State Power Authority to play a pro-active role in ensuring that we meet the goals of the New York's landmark Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, while including strong labor and environmental justice provisions. **Please call the Governor at (518) 474-8390. Press 3 then 2 to skip the menu and speak to a person.**

## **Other Legislative Developments**

I am proud to have co-sponsored [The Birds and the Bees Protection Act](#), which passed the Assembly this week. This legislation would restrict the use of neonicotinoid pesticides, which are banned in the European Union and studies have shown to be toxic for birds, bees, and other animals. It is an important step forward in preserving biological diversity and a healthy ecosystem in New York State.

I also would like to highlight that two bills of mine have also recently gained support from good government groups. [A6542](#) would require political campaigns to collect and disclose the employer information of contributors. You can read a memo of support from a coalition of groups [here](#). The second bill [A4043](#) would improve public access to information about MTA capital projects. You can read a memo of support for it from Reinvent Albany [here](#).

### **Assembly Redistricting Maps Passed**

The legislature voted this week to approve Assembly District lines that were proposed by the State's Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC). New Congressional and State Senate lines were approved last year and remain unchanged. My district, AD 44, also remains largely unchanged from the lines that took effect this January. The initial IRC proposal cut Windsor Terrace in half at the Prospect Expressway and removed large parts of Kensington that have been a part of AD 44 for decades dividing multiple communities of interest. Thanks to efforts of many of you who offered testimony to the IRC either online or in person, **we beat back this foolish proposal and were able to largely restore the current lines**. I look forward to continuing to represent all the neighborhoods in the district and working with all of you on policy and quality of life matters.

### **Spring Clean and Green SUNDAY – RAIN OF SHINE - RSVP**

I am hosting my annual Spring Clean and Green event on April 30<sup>th</sup> at Machate (aka Park) Circle in Prospect Park! We'll have electronic recycling, paper shredding, textile recycling, kid's stop n' swap, and more. There are also giveaways, special services, information and demonstrations to help you have a greener and cleaner Spring 2023. See full details on the flyer below:



# ROBERT CARROLL

ASSEMBLYMEMBER // 44<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT



# Spring Clean & Green



**Sunday, April 30**  
**10 am - 2 pm**

**At Park Circle in Prospect Park**

*(entrance to Prospect Park on Prospect Park Southwest & Parkside Avenue, across from TD Bank)*



Plus these NYC agencies & organizations will provide FREE giveaways, signups, updates, special services, and demonstrations!



**E-Cycling by Lower East Side Ecology Center:** computers, monitors, printers/scanners, keyboards, mice, cables, TVs, VCRs and DVD players, phones, audio/visual equipment, cell phones and PDAs. <https://www.lesecologycenter.org/programs/ewaste> (No Batteries or media such as disks, DVDs, VHS tapes, cassette tapes, etc.)



**KIDS Stop 'N' Swap by GrowNYC:** Bring your clean, reusable and portable children's items such as clothing, car seats, strollers, gear, games, books, & toys that you no longer need and take something you do need home for free! <https://www.grownyc.org/swap>



**Paper Shredding by NYC Department of Sanitation:** Stay one step ahead of identity thieves and shred your paper documents. (No magazines or cardboard, remove ALL staples, No plastic or metal of any kind) Shredding truck will stay on-site for the time scheduled or until full.



**Textile Recycling by Wearable Collections:** Bring used, freshly laundered clothing as well as shoes, sneakers, accessories, hats, belts and handbags plus household linens such as sheets, curtains and towels. (No rugs, bath mats, comforters, pillows, large luggage, or insulation materials).

For more details call or email my office at 718-788-7221 [carrollr@nyassembly.gov](mailto:carrollr@nyassembly.gov)



South Midwood Pollinators



It is helpful for us to know what services people plan to take advantage of, [so please RSVP here to let us know!](#)

### **Round Up of Other Events in the District this Weekend**

\*\*\*\*April Showers are likely in the forecast for this weekend, but these events are on rain or shine!

*Saturday, April 29*

**[PS 321 Spring Carnival](#)** - A kid favorite, Spring Carnival sees the school completely transformed into a magical place for kids with games, food, crafts, cotton candy, prizes and an enormous 2nd hand book sale. This event is open to the public and takes place at PS 321 - 180 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue from 10am-4pm.

### **Park Place Underhill Avenue Block Association Spring '23 Clean Up**

Everyone is welcome to join PPUABA and other Prospect Heights block associations in a neighborhood-wide spring cleanup day. Tabling and free mulch. 10am – 12pm. Meet at 302 Park Place. See the [Growing Our Community](#) page for further information.

### **Ditmas Park West/David Ford Memorial Arbor Day Tree Planting**

Join the Ditmas Park West Neighborhood Association as they plant 5 new trees in their lovely leafy neighborhood as part of the David Ford Memorial Arbor Day celebration. Starts at 10:30am in front of 504 Marlborough Road. Three trees will be planted on Rugby Road between Ditmas and Dorchester and two trees on Ditmas between Rugby and Argyle. For more information contact Roisin Ford at [RoisinDPWNBA@gmail.com](mailto:RoisinDPWNBA@gmail.com).

*Sunday, April 30*

### **Assemblymember Robert Carroll's Spring Clean and Green**

E-cycling, Kids Stop and Swap, Shredding, and Textile Recycling plus bicycle etching, seed giveaway, signups for rain barrels, leaf bin-building demonstration and more! 10-2pm at Machate (aka Park) Circle -across the street from the TD Bank.

### **PS 130 Flea Market, Plants and Used Book Sale**

Donations of gently used baby/children's clothes, books, games and puzzles, sporting goods and accessories will be accepted between 9-11, and then the event is open to the public from 1-4.

If you have any concerns about these or any other legislative or community matter, please email me at [carrollr@nyassembly.gov](mailto:carrollr@nyassembly.gov) or call (718) 788-7221.

-Bobby

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