

June 2, 2023

Greetings -

This week two significant pieces of my legislation passed the Assembly.

Solar Tax Abatement Expanded

My bill (A.6113) passed the Assembly on Wednesday, it will improve New York City's property tax abatement program for solar panels and electric energy storage systems. The bill extends the current property tax abatement, which was also authorized by legislation I sponsored but set to expire at the end of this year, to 2035, better aligning it with federal solar tax credits. It allows buildings to use the solar abatement and storage abatement in conjunction when previously they had to choose between technologies, and it makes solar parking canopies eligible for the program opening up parking lots as spaces for clean energy. In addition to helping the City and State meet its climate goals this legislation will create thousands of jobs and save New Yorkers an estimated \$800 million on their utility bills in the first five years of the program. In terms of reducing carbon emissions, the impact is estimated be the equivalent of taking 173,000 cars off the road for one year.

Flood Disclosure "Right to Know" for Homebuyers

While we make every effort to transition away from fossil fuels we also must prepare for and take steps to mitigate the consequences of climate change. Last year, I passed legislation regarding flood disclosure requirements for renters. This year, my bill (A.1967), which passed the Assembly yesterday, establishes a flood risk "right to know" for homebuyers. New York already

has a flood disclosure requirement for homebuyers, but there is a major loophole: sellers can opt that the buyer get a \$500 credit at closing and the disclosure requirement is waived. New York is the only State among the thirty that have flood disclosure requirements that has such a mechanism. This bill eliminates the "credit provision" and requires the disclosure of information concerning flood risk, flood history, and flood insurance on real property transactions. Homebuyers will now be empowered to have the information they need to protect their home and their families. This bill was supported by Rise to Resilience, a broad coalition of groups working on climate change issues and spearheaded by the Waterfront Alliance.

Sammy's Law Impasse

While I am proud of these accomplishments, there is still much needed to be done before the end of session. <u>I am especially frustrated by the inaction</u> on Sammy's Law (<u>A.7266</u>), which would give New York City more authority to lower speed limits on its streets. Lower limits and better street design will save lives and this bill should be passed. I will continue to forcefully advocate for this legislation and many other issues in the days ahead.

Free Flood Barriers and Rain Barrel Sign Up

In response to reports of flooding in my district, my office received 6 and 12 foot <u>flood barriers from DEP</u>. Stop by the office and pick up one or two for your basement doors or other trouble spots prone to flooding.

As in years past, I am working with DEP to distribute free rain barrels. This year, the supply is delayed and we won't be able to distribute them until later in June or July. We will let you know as soon as they are available, but in the meantime, get your name on the list so you will have one <u>reserved when they do arrive</u>.

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

Have a nice weekend and stay cool,
Bobby

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