



Assemblymember
RODNEYSE BICHOTTE
Brooklyn Democratic County Leader

COVID-19 Updates



Photo Credit: REUTERS/Lucas Jackson

APRIL 27, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Lisa Derrick: derrickl@nyassembly.gov
718-940-0428

NYC Health + Hospitals To Begin Self-Swab COVID-19 Testing

Amid Coronavirus Pandemic

Alternate Side Parking Suspension Extended; Governor Announces Additional Funding For Food Banks; Presidential Primary Canceled; And More!

NYS Confirmed: 291,996
NYS Deaths: 17,303
NYC Confirmed: 160,489
Brooklyn Confirmed: 43,014

NYS: GOVERNOR CUOMO



Photo Credit: thenewstribune

- Today, the Governor announced that NYS has conducted **7,500** antibody survey test. The preliminary results show **14.9%** of the population have COVID-19 antibodies.

- NYS is expanding survey testing to test **1,000** FDNY workers, **1,000** NYPD workers, **3,000** healthcare workers and **1,000** transit workers today. This survey will help determine the COVID-19 spread among frontline workers and first responders.
- Due to the high demand of food banks, New York State is providing **\$25 million** from the State's Special Public Health Emergency Fund for food banks and providers.
 - Governor is asking for **Philanthropies** to help. If interested, please contact Fran Barrett, Director of Non profits at COVIDPhilanthropies@exec.ny.gov.
- Governor announced an Upstate NY project, named the **Nourish New York Initiative**, to purchase food and products from Upstate farms and direct it to food banks across the state.
 - Includes partnership with **NYS dairy producers** to process excess milk into products like yogurt, cheese, sour cream, and cream cheese to distribute to food banks in need.
- State is opening five new drive-through testing facilities in Monroe, Erie, Broome, Niagara and Oneida counties.
- The Governor announced that **two million** bottles of NYS Clean hand sanitizer have been distributed across all **62 counties** to date.
- NYS PAUSE regulations are extended until May 15th. Some regions may be able to reopen after that date. Localities have to prepare reopening plans to make sure necessary precautions are taken so that COVID-19 infection rate does not increase again.

NYC: MAYOR DE BLASIO



Photo Credit: Roger Rudick

Testing:

- The Mayor announced that **8** Community testing sites are now open.
 - **5,054** people have been tested since April 17th.
- There are **5** One Medical testing sites now open.
 - **2,621** people have been tested since April 20th.
- The Mayor also announced a new **self-swab test** at NYC Health + Hospitals testing sites.
 - This test will minimize contact between patients and healthcare workers to limit the risk of healthcare workers being exposed to COVID-19.
- NYC is hiring **1,000 contact tracers** to help trace, isolate, and support COVID-19 patients. For more information about the job requirement [visit here](#).

Alternate Side Parking:

- Alternate Side Parking suspension is extended through **Thursday, May 12th**.

Open Streets:

- The Mayor announced that he reached an agreement with New York City Council to open streets.
 - This means that certain areas will be closed from traffic to provide space for people to practice social distancing.
 - The City will open a minimum of **40 miles** of open street and the goal is to open **100 miles**.
 - The City will first focus on opening streets around parks and then sidewalks.
 - The Mayor also announced that the City plans to expand bike lanes.

IMMIGRANT RESOURCES



Photo Credit: Stephanie Keith/Getty

Mayor De Blasio announced a new partnership with **Open Society Foundations** to create a **COVID-19 Immigrant Emergency Relief program** to provide financial resources to immigrant groups regardless of immigration status. This will provide financial assistance to **undocumented workers** who were ineligible for the federal stimulus package.

The NYC **Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs** and the **Mayor's Fund to Advance** New York City will create a community based organizations network to reach up to **20,000** families who are facing financial hardship. The assistance will provide:

- **\$400** for individual
- **\$800** for couple or single parent with children
- **\$1,000** for family with multiple adults and children
- And/or ,where identified, increased additional supports.

For more information, [visit here](#).

HALAL FOOD PANTRY



PAKISTANI AMERICAN YOUTH ORGANIZATION

MUSLIMS FOR COMMUNITY **ICNA Relief**

PARTNERED WITH

PAYO'S HALAL FOOD PANTRY

FEEDING THOSE IN NEED EFFECTED BY COVID-19 ONE GROCERY BAG AT A TIME

EVERY THURSDAY: 4PM - 5PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
ATIF UL REHMAN- 631.612.7593
JAWAD SHABIR - 929.253.7515
HUMAYUN RIAZ - 718.679.5506
EMAIL : INFO@PAYOUSA.ORG

SPECIAL THANKS TO
COUNCILWOMEN FARAH N. LOUIS AND
COUNCILMAN CHAIM DEUTSCH
FOR THEIR SUPPORT

CALL TO PRE-REGISTER 718.415.9424
LOCATION : 1045 CONEY ISLAND AVE
BROOKLYN NY 11230

YouTube f
PAYOUSA1

The **Pakastani American Youth Organization (PAYO)** distributes food pantry items every **Thursday from 4 p.m to 5 p.m** in front of their office at 1045 Coney Island Avenue Brooklyn New York 11230. **To pre-register, call 718-415-9424.**

To find a food pantry near you, [visit here](#) . For Free Grab and Go meals, [visit here](#).

PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM



Today, **Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte** and **Senator James Sanders Jr.** hosted two live webinars on how to apply for the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) line by line. If you missed the webinar, you can view the recording for **Non-profits and Faith based organizations** [here](#) and the recording for **small businesses** [here](#).

- **Minority and Women Owned Businesses** are encouraged to apply. The PPP package includes:
 - **\$30 billion** for insured depository institutions and credit unions with assets between **\$10 million** and **\$50 million**.
 - **\$30 billion** for community financial institutions, insured **depository institutions** with less than **\$10 billion** in assets, and **credit unions** with less than **\$10 billion** in assets.
 - Funds are available through **fiscal year 2021**. The **U.S. Small Business Administration** is now accepting applications. For more information [visit here](#).

ELECTION UPDATE



PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION 2020

Photo Credit: thepavlovictoday

Today, the **NYS Board of Elections canceled the Presidential Primary** on June 23rd. However, Congressional and State elections will remain on June 23rd. Voters will have the option to vote by mail or in-person. Absentee ballot postage applications will be provided to all voters and poll sites will be open.

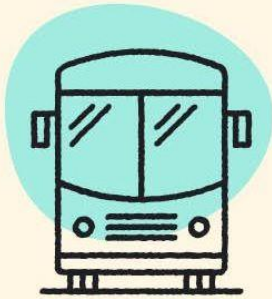
COVID-19 TESTING IN FLATBUSH



Photo Credit: John Hopkins Medicine

There is both a **drive-through** and **walk-in** COVID-19 testing site in the **42nd Assembly District**. To make an appointment for either testing sites you **must** contact the NYS Department of Health at **888-364-3065**.

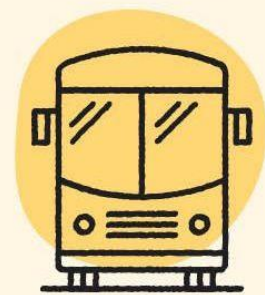
THANK YOU ESSENTIAL WORKERS



*You help us travel
safely and efficiently
during this crisis.*



**THANK YOU PUBLIC
TRANSIT DRIVERS.**



During these unprecedented and difficult times, **we thank our essential workers** who are serving on the front lines. Today, we thank our **Public Transit drivers** for safely and efficiently helping us reach our destination.

AVOID SCAMS



Photo Credit: Pixabay/CDC

- Notify NYC: Beware of COVID19 scams!
- Report **price gouging** to 311 or [NYC.gov/dcwp](https://www.nyc.gov/dcwp). You can also file a complaint to the Attorney General's office, fill out a [complaint form](#).
- **NYS Price Gouging Hotline: 800-697-1220.**
- CDC staff will **NOT** go door-to-door. If you experience this, call 911.

SERVICES AND RESOURCES



Photo Credit: Ansi.org

Due to the impact of COVID-19 on New York City's workforce, the City of New York has developed a list of resources for those who may be unemployed due to COVID-19 or are seeking additional assistance. The list below will be updated frequently.

It has information on the following categories:

- **Employment Resources**
- **Food Assistance**
- **Health & Medical Assistance**
- **Financial Assistance**
- **Rent Arrears and Public Assistance**
- **Emotional Support & Spiritual Care**
- **Other Assistance**

Visit this [website](#) for resources.

NYS Department of Health Hotline for people who want to be assessed and get appointment for test ([888-364-3065](tel:888-364-3065)). NYC residents should call ([844-692-4692](tel:844-692-4692)).

Volunteer to Support

Others: https://www1.nyc.gov/site/helpnownyc/resources/covid-19-relief.page#healthcare_workers.

Free Internet Services:

Charter is offering free spectrum broadband and WiFi access for 60 days to household with K-12 and/or college students who do not already have Spectrum broadband subscription. To enroll, **call 844-488-8395**. Until further notice, all Xfinity WiFi Public Hotspots are now open to everyone on the "xfinitywifi" SSID. For more information visit [here](#).

In-District Businesses open/closed : Provided by **Flatbush Avenue BID and Church Avenue BID** : Visit Flatbush Avenue Business Directory [here](#) and Church Avenue Business directory [here](#). Businesses open/closed: Provided by **Flatbush Development Corporation** : Visit Flatbush Business Corridor Directory [here](#). Includes businesses located in:

- Cortelyou Road (Coney Island Ave - Ocean Ave)
- Coney Island Avenue (Cortelyou Road - Foster Ave)
- Newkirk Plaza
- Newkirk Avenue (Coney Island Ave - Ocean Ave)
- Foster Avenue (Coney Island Ave - Ocean Ave)
- Ditmas Park

Small Businesses:

For resources on **business** grants and loans, [visit here](#).

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE SICK WITH COVID-19



What to do if you are sick with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

If you are sick with COVID-19 or suspect you are infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, follow the steps below to help prevent the disease from spreading to people in your home and community.

Stay home except to get medical care

You should restrict activities outside your home, except for getting medical care. Do not go to work, school, or public areas. Do not use public transportation, ride-sharing, or taxis.

Separate yourself from other people in your home

As much as possible, you should stay in a specific room and away from other people in your home. Also, you should use a separate bathroom, if available.

Call ahead before visiting your doctor

If you have a medical appointment, call the healthcare provider and tell them that you have or may have COVID-19. This will help the healthcare provider's office take steps to keep other people from getting infected or exposed.

Wear a facemask

You should wear a facemask when you are around other people (e.g., sharing a room or vehicle) and before you enter a healthcare provider's office. If you are not able to wear a facemask (for example, because it causes trouble breathing), then people who live with you should not stay in the same room with you, or they should wear a facemask if they enter your room.

Cover your coughs and sneezes

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw used tissues in a lined trash can and wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, immediately clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol, covering all surfaces of your hands and rubbing them together until they feel dry. Soap and water should be used preferentially if hands are visibly dirty.

Clean your hands

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol, covering all surfaces of your hands and rubbing them together until they feel dry. Soap and water should be used preferentially if hands are visibly dirty. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Avoid sharing personal household items

You should not share dishes, drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, towels, or bedding with other people in your home. After using these items, you should wash them thoroughly with soap and water.

Monitor your symptoms

Seek prompt medical attention if your illness is worsening (e.g., shortness of breath or difficulty breathing). **Before** seeking care, call your healthcare provider and tell them that you have, or are being evaluated for, COVID-19. Put on a facemask before you enter the facility. These steps will help the healthcare provider's office keep other people from getting infected or exposed.

Ask your healthcare provider to call the local or state health department. Persons who are placed under active monitoring or facilitated self-monitoring should follow instructions provided by their local health department or occupational health professionals, as appropriate. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/risk-assessment.html>.

Discontinuing home isolation

Patients confirmed to have COVID-19 should remain under home isolation precautions until the risk of secondary transmission to others is thought to be low. The decision to discontinue home isolation precautions should be made on a case-by-case basis, in consultation with healthcare providers and state and local health departments. Current information on COVID-19 is limited; home precautions are conservative and based on general recommendations for other diseases, like Middle Eastern Respiratory Syndrome (MERS).



For more information: www.cdc.gov/COVID19

STAY INFORMED

STAY INFORMED

about
coronavirus



Health officials are working tirelessly to protect public health and contain this virus. And, as your representative in Albany, I am working to ensure that our state is putting the health and safety of our families first.

Remember COVID-19 can affect any community and we must stand by one another during this time, not alienate, threaten or discriminate against others.

For questions you can also reach out to the New York State's novel coronavirus hotline at **1-888-364-3065**. For continuous updates, you can visit the following websites:

- [Center for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)
- [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)

The CDC also now has the option for you to sign up for weekly updates on COVID-19.

New Yorkers Can Sign Up for Email Updates [Here](#) and Ask Questions About COVID-19 [Here](#)

New Yorkers Can Find More Information About the New COVID-19 Paid Sick Leave Law [Here](#)

Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte represents the 42nd Assembly District in Brooklyn covering Ditmas Park, Flatbush, East Flatbush and Midwood. She is currently the **Chair of the Subcommittee on Oversight of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBES)** , and serves on the following committees: **Housing, Government Operations, Education , Banks, Health, and Higher Education** . She is also a member of the Task Force on Women's Issues and sits on **Governor Cuomo's Domestic Violence Advisory Council and Mayor De Blasio's MWBE Task Force.**

As a current Assemblymember, District Leader, and Chair of Brooklyn Democratic Party, Rodneyse Bichotte has been an outspoken advocate on issues concerning **immigration, education, economic development, unemployment, education reform, health care access, senior citizen centers, affordable housing, school safety, women's and LGBTQ rights** , as well as other issues affecting the quality of life in the community.

Learn more about
Rodneyse Bichotte by visiting her websites:
<http://nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte>
and www.rodneysebichotte.net

STAY CONNECTED

