



# Assemblymember Robert Carroll

## 2018 Legislative Session Recap



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## 2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION RECAP

*At the time of writing this, the New York State Senate has still not passed the renewal of the New York City school zone speed camera program, on which I am a co-sponsor in the Assembly. Due to the Senate's inaction, all speed cameras were turned off on July 25th. The State Senate is playing politics with our children's lives and it is unacceptable.*



*Assemblymember Carroll speaking at a press conference at MS 88 calling on the Senate to return to Albany to pass life-saving speed camera legislation.*



critical to help meet and exceed our goal of using 50% renewable energy by 2030.

### *Safer Streets Legislation*

I am proud that both houses of the legislature passed one of my many street safety bills. A.11121 authorizes the commissioner of the DMV to require examination of any person involved in an accident caused by a loss of consciousness or awareness. The bill also directs the DMV, along with New York State Department of Health and New York State Division of Police, to undertake a review of their existing medical review program regarding reexamination of drivers who may suffer from a chronic, ongoing condition that may cause loss of consciousness, loss of awareness, or loss of body control.

This bill will require our state agencies to put checks in place that will take those drivers off the road and make our streets safer. I am advocating for the Governor to sign this bill before any more lives are lost.

### *Judicial Referees and Hearing Officer Pilot Program*

A.10365 passed both houses of the legislature and will extend the chief administrator of the courts authority to allow referees to determine certain applications to the Family Court for orders of protection. This bill also makes permanent the judicial hearing officer pilot program in the Family Court of the seventh and eighth judicial districts. This bill will allow for quicker relief for victims in highly vulnerable situations.

### *Legislation to Manage our Fisheries*

In the last two years, I have passed two bills, A.10857 and A.8276, relating to the Department of Environmental Conservation's management of our fisheries and to conserve the habitat of North Atlantic lobster and scup. As a member of the Environmental Conservation Committee, it is important to make sure that we properly maintain and regulate our waterways.

### *Legislation to Move the Primary Date*

In March, the Governor signed my bill (A.8917-A), which requires that the 2018 fall primary be held on Thursday, September 13, 2018 because it would have otherwise fallen on the anniversary of September 11th and Rosh Hashanah. By moving the primary date, we ensured that all New Yorkers were able to participate in the electoral process while respecting the significance of the 9/11 anniversary and the religious traditions of Jewish New Yorkers.

## *Six Legislative Accomplishments*

*While I am unhappy that the Senate did not take up nearly enough of the legislation that we passed in the Assembly this year, I am pleased that I was able to pass six pieces of my own legislation through both houses of the legislature.*

### *Clean Energy Bills*

A.10410 and A.10150, passed both houses of the legislature and encouraged the adoption of solar energy in New York State. A.10410 provides a property tax abatement to individuals who purchase and install electric energy storage equipment. This is especially important now because as we try to reach New York State's goal of 50% renewable energy by 2030, and in the early phase of local electric energy storage market development, a temporary property tax abatement to defray upfront costs for adopters would help catalyze electric energy storage deployment in New York City. A.10150 extends an existing incentive program to encourage the installation of solar panels in New York City. These bills together encourage more investment in solar energy and are



### *MTA Transparency Bill*

My bill, A.11094, which passed the Assembly but not the Senate, would have changed the deadline for the MTA to submit its capital program plans to the Capital Program Review Board (CPRB) from October of the year before the plan is to be enacted to the January before the capital plan is to be enacted. This nine month difference would mean that starting with the upcoming 2020-2024 capital plan that the MTA will submit its capital plan during the legislative session, thereby allowing for a longer period for the public to voice concerns and for the legislature to have more constructive input into the MTA's five-year capital plans before the Legislature passes its budget.

Bringing our buses and subways into good repair is a priority for me and all riders who rely on public transportation. This bill would have been an important step in providing some of the necessary oversight to improve our failing transit system.

## *Legislation That Passed in the Assembly But Not the Senate*

*Unfortunately, the speed camera bill is far from the only piece of legislation that the Assembly passed and the Senate failed to bring to the floor. Here is an abbreviated list of a number of other important pieces of legislation that passed the Assembly, but did not pass the Senate:*

### *Reproductive Health Act & Comprehensive Contraception Coverage Act*

RHA (A.1748) would update state law with protections recognized by the courts under the NYS Constitution and U.S. Constitution, acknowledging that pregnancy termination is a lawful procedure and eliminating undue burdens on women seeking to exercise the right to make reproductive decisions. The CCCA (A.1378) would codify the requirement under the Affordable Care Act that all health insurers provide cost-free contraceptive coverage as a part of their insurance policies.

### *New York State Climate and Community Protection Act*

CCPA (A.8270) would establish the New York State Climate Action Council and require the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to report, regulate, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. It would also establish a Climate Justice Working Group to identify disadvantaged communities for the purposes of co-pollutant and greenhouse gas emissions reductions and the allocation of certain investments.

### *The New York State DREAM Act*

The DREAM Act (A.9605-A) would allow undocumented students who live in New York and know no other home to be eligible for state financial aid programs and personal savings programs for their higher education.

### *Gender Expression Non-Discrimination Act (GENDA)*

GENDA (A.3358) would prohibit discrimination on the basis of gender identity or expression in considerations of employment, education, and in consumer credit and housing. The bill would also add offenses motivated by gender identity or expression to the hate crimes statute.

### *MTA Town Hall*

As you know, improving our public transit system has been among my top priorities in my time in the legislature. I remain committed to advocating for a plan that will establish a dedicated funding stream to fully fund the MTA's capital needs so that we can upgrade our signals and switches, update our fleet of subway cars and buses, and increase the capacity of substations so that trains can run in more rapid succession. Toward that goal, I held a Town Hall event with Andy Byford, the new President of MTA New York City Transit on Tuesday, May 29th in Park Slope where he unveiled in public his "Fast Forward" plan for the very first time.

In his Fast Forward Plan, Andy Byford, the President of MTA NYC Transit, promised to bring much-needed signal upgrades on 5 lines benefiting over 3 million subway riders. His plan would introduce over 650 new subway cars and 1,200 Communications-Based Train



*Assemblymember Carroll speaking to MTA NYC Transit President Andy Byford at Assemblymember Carroll's Town Hall on the MTA.*

Control (CBTC) modified cars into service. These improvements will impact the 4, 5, 6, A, C, E, R, F, M, and G lines. The proposed plan would keep weekday service intact, with lines being taken out of service during overnight and weekend hours for up to two and a half years each. Also included in the plan's first 5 years are improvements to buses and Para transit, including installing elevators at 50 subway stations to improve wheelchair accessibility, and the redesign of bus routes in all five boroughs, adding more than 2,800 buses. Additionally, the plan includes upgrades to station management, maintenance, and a new fare payment system which includes tap and go and smart cards purchasable with cash.

While I think that the Fast Forward plan is a great start, the Assembly, Senate and Governor must come together and establish the dedicated funding source necessary to pay for it. As you know, I have been an outspoken advocate for a congestion pricing plan in the style of the Fix NYC advisory panel report released earlier this year.

On June 28, I was glad to stand with colleagues in government and advocates and call for more MTA Funding. As I said at the press conference "Congestion Pricing is the progressive plan to fund the #MTA!" If we want to stop seeing our subways deteriorate, we need to direct \$1.5 billion per year towards capital improvements and the way to do that is to implement a comprehensive congestion pricing plan. No other plan raises the amount of revenue nor does any other plan improve our quality of life, air quality or environment.



*Assemblymember Carroll speaking at a press conference pushing for more funding for the MTA.*

### No Cause Absentee Voting

This bill (A.7623) would amend the State Constitution to allow for any voter to request an absentee ballot without having any reason or cause.

### Early Voting

This bill (A.9608-B) would make New York the 38th State to establish an early voting period. Under this bill, New York would establish a seven-day early voting period prior to every primary, special, or general election.

### Eliminate LLC Loophole

This bill (A.9758) would require that Limited Liability Corporations (LLCs) no longer be treated like individuals and instead be capped at the same \$5,000 contribution limit that exists for all other corporate entities. Furthermore, this bill would require all contributions made to a campaign or political committee by an LLC be attributed to each member of the LLC in proportion to the member's ownership interest.

### Lobby Day for the Young Voter Act

In April, I welcomed 80 high school students from 11 schools around the state to lobby on behalf of the Young Voter Act (A.6839/A.6840), my bill to lower the voting age to 17 for state and local elections. In addition to lowering the voting age, the bill would require all pupils in the ninth grade or higher to receive at least eight full class periods of civics education and mandate that every New York high school provide each student with a voter registration form in the year that they turn 17. There are now 31 co-sponsors and 2 multi-sponsors on the Young Voter Act and so much of that is due to the hard work and commitment of these students.



Assemblymember Carroll speaking at a rally in support of The Young Voter Act (A.6839/A.6840).

### Rising Star Recognition from Leading Environmental Conservation Group

For the 2nd consecutive year, I earned a perfect 100% rating on my environmental record from both environmental advocacy groups who released scorecards. The scorecards track the voting records of legislators during Albany's legislative session. I am especially proud to have earned the distinction as the "rising star" in the Assembly. In today's national political climate it is critical that New York lead the way on environmental issues.



Assemblymember Carroll presenting a citation to the Bangladesh Institute of Performing Arts in honor of their 25th Anniversary.



Assemblymember Carroll with members of the Boro Park Jewish Community Council taking a tour of their new office space.



Assemblymember Carroll speaking at the PS 230 Graduation ceremony.



Assemblymember Carroll with a student from MS 890 judging exhibits for their Science Fair.

# FALL EVENTS SPONSORED BY ASSEMBLYMEMBER CARROLL'S OFFICE

## *Electronic Recycling Event*

*Sunday, October 21  
10:00 am – 4:00 pm*

*Flatbush Food Coop  
1415 Cortelyou Road*

*Sponsored by Assemblymember Carroll, the Flatbush Food Coop, Lower East Side Ecology Center, and PS 139. As of January 1st, 2015, NYC residents are required to recycle electronic items. We accept working & non-working computers, monitors, printers/scanners, keyboards, mice, cables, TVs, VCRs & DVD players, phones, audio/visual equipment, cell phones & PDA's. Home appliances and personal grooming devices will not be accepted.*

## *Free Flu Shots*

*Sunday, November 4  
10:00 am – 1:00 pm*

*District Office: 416 7th Avenue*

*Contact our office to make an appointment; the shots will be administered from 10am to 1pm at 416 7th Avenue between 13th and 14th Streets. Children under 18 must be accompanied by a parent. Call 718-788-7221 or email [carrollr@nyassembly.gov](mailto:carrollr@nyassembly.gov).*

## *Free Mammograms by Appointment*

*Friday, November 9  
9:00 am – 12:30 pm & 2:00 – 5:00 pm*

*District Office: 416 7th Avenue*

*The American-Italian Cancer Foundation's Mobile Care Clinic provides no-cost mammograms and clinical breast exams. The Mammogram Bus will be parked in front of my office for your convenience at 416 7th Avenue between 13th and 14th Streets. Please call the American Italian Cancer Foundation to make an appointment in order to minimize patient wait times and ensure that the screening day runs as efficiently as possible: 1-877-628-9090. Walk-ins are accommodated whenever possible. Eligibility Criteria: Women, aged 40 or older, NYC mailing address, no mammogram in the past 12 months.*

## *MetroCard Van*

*Thursday, November 29th  
10:00 am – 3:00 pm*

*District Office: 416 7th Avenue*

*Take care of all your MetroCard business at the MetroCard Van: Apply for or refill a regular or reduced-fare card; ask MetroCard related questions and get prompt, attentive service. The van will be parked in front of 416 7th Avenue between 13th and 14th Streets, no appointment is necessary.*

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