

February 21, 2025

Greetings -

This past week the Assembly continued moving forward developing its response to Governor Hochul's Fiscal 2025-26 Executive Budget while events at the national and City level posed more challenges.

### For the Good of the City Mayor Adams Must Resign

I have repeatedly called for Mayor Adams to resign, and with the departure of four more of his Deputy Mayors, it is abundantly clear that he cannot effectively govern the City. Now more than ever, New York City needs a Mayor who will stand up for federal policies that are good for the City, and at this juncture, the Mayor appears either unable or unwilling to do so. Governor Hochul announced yesterday that she will not use her authority to remove the Mayor and instead proposed measures that will increase oversight of the Mayor by other State and City authorities. I will review these proposals, but I believe a new Mayoral administration is the only way out of the current predicament.

### Congestion Pricing is Working and Trump's Attempt to Disrupt it is Wrong

The Trump Administration, through a letter from the Transportation Secretary to Governor Hochul, announced its intention to withdraw federal approval for New York City's congestion pricing program. This move is likely illegal and is bad policy, and the MTA immediately filed legal challenges to block it. For now, congestion pricing will continue. I have long advocated that a well-designed and implemented congestion pricing program will make our City more livable and prosperous. It is in no one's interest to have traffic-clogged streets, bridges, and roadways, and New York City's vibrancy and that of the entire metropolitan region depends on a high-functioning mass transit system. Without the funding congestion pricing will provide for the MTA's capital program, crucial maintenance and upgrades will not occur, and the MTA will be even harder pressed to provide quality service. The early evidence is clear: congestion pricing is working. It is leading to faster drive times for those coming into Manhattan and moving through the congestion zone, and more people are getting out of their cars and riding mass transit.

### **Budget Advocacy for Libraries and Literacy**

Trump's assault on public services means it is even more important that we work on the State and City level to strengthen our local civic institutions. As Chair of the Assembly Committee on Libraries and Education Technology, I will strongly advocate that the State's budget meets the moment regarding funding for libraries and literacy. Our public and school libraries need enhanced support for operating costs and capital needs so they can continue serving as centers for learning and personal growth. I also see an opportunity for libraries to play a role in moving the State to fully embrace evidence-based and scientifically based instructional practices for teaching literacy and want to see funding allocated so libraries can enhance their collections with decodable readers. Updates on these and the many other pressing issues that must be addressed in the State's budget will be coming in the weeks ahead.

### Park Slope Library Science in the House Event

Locally, the Park Slope Branch is hosting a special event for teens next Tuesday 2/25 from 5pm to 6pm in person and on zoom. See details on the event below:

Teen Time: Science in the House: Meet an Atmospheric Scientist!

In the Science in the House series teens get a chance to meet with all kinds of interesting scientists and other people. Hear their stories and learn more about their lives and their work. Discover what life as a scientist is like! This week, the series features Kristina Pistone, an atmospheric scientist currently based at NASA Ames Research Center, near San Jose, CA.

Register for the event at their Web site.

### NYC Department of Finance One on One Appointments March 6th

On Thursday March 6th, NYC Department of Finance staff will be at my district office for one-on-one appointments with constituents. If you need assistance on topics related to DOF, including SCRIE/DRIE, How to Lower Property Tax, benefit programs for homeowners, notice of property value, and more, please call my office at (718) 788-7221 to schedule your appointment.



# One-on-One Appointments with NYC Department of Finance

## Thursday, March 6th, 10 am to 1 pm Appointments are recommended. Drop-Ins if slots are available. Call (718) 788-7221 to make an Appointment

Conveniently held in Assemblymember Carroll's District Office 416 7th Avenue (between 13th & 14th Streets) - Park Slope, Brooklyn



## Get help on:

- How to lower property taxes.
- SCRIE/DRIE
- Benefit programs for home, condo, coop owners
- Notice of Property Value
- How to submit questions to the Department of Finance
- And much more

#### Call 718-788-7221 to make your appointment

### Central Brooklyn Job Fair March 18th

Along with neighboring Assemblymember Phara Souffrant-Forrest, I am co-sponsoring a Job Fair with the New York State Department of Labor at the Central Library at 10 Grand Army Plaza on March 18th. The event will begin at 10am and <u>you can register here if you would like to attend.</u>

Additionally, Brooklyn Public Library will be hosting two Job Fair Readiness Workshops leading up to the fair:

In-Person Workshop Thursday, March 6 | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Central Library, Business & Career Center You can register for this workshop at the Brooklyn Public Library Web site.

Virtual Workshop Tuesday, March 11 | 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM You can register for this workshop at the Brooklyn Public Library Web site.

### Save the Date – District Office Service Event - March 31st

### MTA METROCARD VAN

Get assistance with all your MetroCard related issues including reduced fare MetroCard applications; transferring balances; lost, stolen or damaged cards; questions about OMNY and more. **From 10am to 2pm** 

### NYPD CRIME PREVENTION UNIT

Meet the Crime Prevention Officers from the 72nd and 78th Precincts and hear how you can better safeguard your property and ensure your personal safety and security. **From 10am to 2pm** 

### UNCLAIMED FUNDS WITH THE NYS COMPTROLLER

Learn about the types of funds that are held by the NYS Comptroller and see if you're eligible to file a claim to get your money back. **From 10am to 12:30pm** 

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

-Bobby

DISTRICT OFFICE 416 7th Ave Brooklyn, NY 11215 (718) 788-7221 ALBANY OFFICE LOB 557 Albany, NY 12248 (518) 455-5377

Assembly District 44 | carrollr@nyassembly.gov