



Rebecca Seawright



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

This coming Monday we will be observing Labor Day and honoring the advocates who came before us to fight for workers rights.

To all of those who will be celebrating Rosh Hashanah this Monday I wish you Shana Tova!

It is my esteemed privilege and honor to be appointed Chair of the Assembly Majority Steering Committee by Speaker Heastie. I am committed to being a strong voice to unify the conference and continue to work diligently for the benefit of my constituents on the Upper East Side, Yorkville, Roosevelt Island and for all New Yorkers to defeat the effects of COVID-19 and beyond. Together with Governor Kathy Hochul it is a new day in Albany and we can rise to meet the challenges of today and make a stronger New York State.

This week the legislature was called into "extraordinary session" to conference the issues of the expiring eviction and foreclosure moratorium, allocate additional funding to the Emergency Rental Assistance Program, and to small landlords. Critical emergency rental assistance program funding has not been distributed to all the households in need. The legislation passed makes allowances for individuals who continue to claim a financial hardship defense in court for non-payment eviction proceedings. We are still facing the unprecedented consequences of a global scale pandemic. There have been drastic changes since the onset of COVID-19 but there is still so much uncertainty for the unemployed or underemployed who need to be safe and to stay in their housing.

Another safety measure debated and passed in the Assembly is the allowance of virtual meetings. An additional item for the Senate was the appointments of Tremaine Wright, a former Assembly Member of Brooklyn to be Chair of the Cannabis Control Board and Christopher Alexander of Queens to be Executive Director of the Office of Cannabis Management. We are closer to opening the regulated cannabis industry for business in New York State.

This week on August 30th the last American soldiers left Afghanistan ending the recent military evacuations and the 20 year military mission. Our thoughts are with the families of the 13 brave service men and women who died on August 26th in the two explosions near the Kabul airport. Recently, Governor Hochul announced that New York is prepared to welcome Afghan refugees. I join our Governor and many of my other colleagues in the state legislature in supporting the resettlement of Afghan refugees in our state.

Please join us for one of the events we are pleased to sponsor:

- *Thursday, September 9 from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm at the District Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets) - **No-Cost Face Covering Giveaway.** [RSVP here.](#)*
- *Thursday, September 9 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm on Zoom - **Virtual Knitting Social.** [RSVP here.](#)*
- *Saturday, September 11 at 6:45 am at Carl Schurz Park on the John Finley Walk - **Twentieth Remembrance: 9/11 Sunrise Ceremony from Darkness to Light.** All community members are invited to this community commemorative event showcasing music, poetry and reflections at dawn.*
- *Tuesday, September 14 at 2:00 pm by telephone - **No-Cost Housing Legal Clinic.** [RSVP here.](#)*
- *Wednesday, September 15 from 10:00 am-12:00 pm - **Metrocard Sales Bus** stops in front of the District Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets) ***Cash sales only****
- *Thursday, September 16 - **No-Cost Screening Mammograms for Eligible Women at the Mobile Scan Van** in front of the District Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets) by appointment. Call 646-415-7932 to schedule an appointment. **This event was rescheduled from a prior date due to unforeseen circumstances with the mobile van.***
- *Thursday, September 23 - **No-Cost Flu Vaccine Clinic** at the District Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright. Call 212-288-4607 or email seawrightr@nyassembly.gov to schedule an appointment between 10am and 4pm.*

Please don't hesitate to reach out to our community office if we can be of assistance.

Phone: 212.288.4607

Email: SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov

Sincerely,



Speaker Carl Heastie Quote on Seawright Appointment as Chair of the Assembly Majority Steering Committee

"I am proud to name Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright Chair of the Steering Committee," said Speaker Carl Heastie. ***"Assembly Member Seawright is a true champion for her community and all New Yorkers, and she continues to be a valuable asset in the Assembly Majority leadership. I look forward to seeing her take on this new role."***

Seawright Votes to Approve Continuation of Essential COVID-19 Safeguards During "Extraordinary Session" Declared By Governor Kathy Hochul

Landlord and Tenant Relief Funding Increased by \$300 Million

Eviction and Foreclosure Moratorium Extended

Amendment to Open Meetings Law Extends Virtual Meetings

Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright announced the New York State Assembly approved the extension of the eviction moratorium, suspension of mortgage and tax foreclosures and small-business commercial eviction moratorium until Jan. 15, 2022, providing people more time to apply and benefit from available assistance programs (A.40001/A.40002).

"We must turn the tide and get the tens of thousands of New York households facing eviction or foreclosure back on their feet. The first step is to keep them in their homes and as safe as possible throughout the COVID-19 pandemic," said Seawright.

Tenants have bitterly complained about bureaucratic gridlock in the state's \$2.7 billion in the Emergency Rental Assistance Program. Last week, the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) had approved more than 46,427 applications for assistance out of 176,113 total applications.

The U.S. Supreme Court on August 26 refused to extend the Biden Administration eviction moratorium, saying if a federally imposed eviction moratorium is to continue, Congress must expressly authorize it. That ruling allowed thousands of eviction cases to move forward unless the New York State Legislature acted.

The new legislation will also provide landlords with funding adding \$150 million, for a total of \$250 million, to a program helping small, struggling landlords. Commercial tenants and building owners are also protected from eviction and foreclosure

City tax lien sales and tax foreclosure are also suspended until January 15, 2022. In addition, lending institutions are prohibited from discriminating or seeking a negative credit report because the property owner is in arrears and has filed a hardship declaration.

Additionally, state and local government entities will be able to temporarily resume meetings remotely as a public health and safety measure.

"Our local Board 8 in Manhattan has seen record attendance since the start of remote meetings," Seawright said, who noted that constituents, including the elderly and disabled, will have greater opportunities for participation.

Seawright noted that at the onset of the pandemic in March 2020, her office live-streamed more than 50 "Town Halls" via Facebook and Zoom to communicate with constituents and report on the response to the COVID 19 pandemic.

An additional \$300 million is available for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP)
to provide rental and utility assistance to low- and middle-income households impacted by COVID-19.

To learn more or apply, visit:

<https://otda.ny.gov/programs/emergency-rental-assistance>

Hurricane Ida Information and Resources

This week, the remnants of Hurricane Ida poured record rain into New York City, creating flooding in all five boroughs and causing the tragic loss of at least 13 lives in New York City. We are grateful for the heroic efforts of our emergency responders and every day New Yorkers who were on the scene and continue to assist residents and businesses in the aftermath of the storm.

Governor Kathy Hochul announced that President Biden has approved an Emergency Disaster Declaration for New York following the devastation caused by Tropical Depression Ida and its unprecedented, historic rainfall. The counties covered by the declaration include: Bronx, Dutchess, Kings, Nassau, New York, Orange, Putnam, Queens, Richmond, Rockland, Suffolk, Sullivan, Ulster, and Westchester.

Under an Emergency Declaration, up to \$5 million in immediate federal funding is made available to impacted counties to support ongoing response and rescue operations prior to issuance of a traditional Major Disaster Declaration.

In the Upper East Side almost all of the flooding witnessed was on the FDR Drive. This is the second storm in less than the 30 days where rain records were broken in Central Park for the levels of rain recorded in a single hour. These are reminders that we must take actions to protect our environment and prepare for the increased severity of storms.

The New York City Department of Sanitation, announced that trash and recycling collection service for Monday, 9/6/21, which had previously been suspended in observance of the Labor Day holiday, will take place across the City.

Residents who normally receive Monday trash or recycling collection may place their material at the curb between 4 p.m. and midnight Sunday evening as usual for collection beginning on Monday.

The Department will continue to collect storm debris throughout the weekend. Residents can place storm debris out at the curb for collection immediately and do not need to wait for their regular collection day. While not required, we encourage residents to report storm debris locations to 311. It may be several days for Sanitation to complete debris removal operations

For those in need of assistance, please note the following resources:

- [NYC Emergency Management has published a list of Post-Storm Resources](#) including locations of service centers offering resources in person today from 12-6pm.
- [NYC Department of Small Business Services](#) has a hotline for businesses impacted by the storm: 888-SBS-4NYC (888-727-4692).
- New Yorkers are encouraged to report damage to their property by calling 311 (212-639-9675 for Video Relay Service, or TTY: 212-504-4115) or by accessing the Damage Assessment Tool online. The [Damage Assessment Tool](#) allows the City to immediately collect damage information from New Yorkers to assess the impact upon affected areas. (Note: Reporting damage with this form is for tracking purposes only. You will not be provided a confirmation number.)
- NYC Department of Buildings has a list of [important post-flooding safety guidance](#)
- Information about federal assistance is available on the [FEMA](#) and [U.S. Small Business Administration](#) webpages for resources. (Note: On the evening of September 2, [President Biden declared](#) that an emergency exists in the State of New York and ordered Federal assistance for all New York City boroughs. Federal webpages are being updated with new material, so continue to check them for information about assistance to New York residents and businesses.)
- All New Yorkers are encouraged to sign up for [Notify NYC](#), the City's free emergency notification system, to receive phone calls, text messages, and/or emails alerts about traffic and transit disruptions and other emergencies. To sign up for Notify NYC, call 311, visit [NYC.gov/NotifyNYC](#), or follow @NotifyNYC on Twitter.

Parent Activists and Assembly Member Seawright Win Back Honors Math for Wagner Middle School

Students and parents at Wagner Middle School have something to cheer about at the start of a new academic year. After months of uncertainty, intensive honors math courses will be offered again following demands by activist parents and strong support from Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright.

"Families contacted our office reporting that the honors track was eliminated during the

COVID-19 pandemic as a result of remote learning," said Seawright, who wrote to the principal of the school.

"The families of these students want to maintain the rigor that the honors option would provide. It is critical that we enhance spaces that foster learning for students who excel and have interest in a subject."

Reports circulated that the school had decided to eliminate the honors math program for seventh graders because too many students wanted to enroll. *"We were specifically told that the new curriculum won't be at the Honor's level,"* said parent Nikos Papageorgiou.

Family advocates gathered more than 700 signatures calling on District Superintendent Kelly McGuire to restore the honors course.

"We urge you to restore the honors mathematics track," said Seawright in her letter.

McGuire wrote back last week that *"the school leadership at Wagner will be sharing orientation information with families in September and will indicate that the honors math curriculum that had previously only been available to some students in the SP program, will be provided for all students in the SP program."*

In response to McGuire, Papageorgiou said that the parents see *"a genuine change of heart"* by school officials following their actions and the support of Seawright and expect a complete restoration of the honors program at the start of the new semester.

Small Business Spotlight: Eva's Garden Flowers



This week we are highlighting Eva's Garden Flowers, a local business at 1506 1st Avenue between 79th and 78th Streets. They are a full service florist, specializing in wedding, holiday, bar and bat mitzvahs, anniversaries, birthday and funeral, and everyday designs. Eva's Garden Flowers are proud to say they have been family owned since 1978. You can reach the florist by calling (212) 744-8710.

Upcoming Events

ASSEMBLY MEMBER

REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT



HOUSING LEGAL CLINIC

TUESDAY SEPT. 14

**EVERY OTHER TUESDAY
AT 2:00 PM ATTORNEYS FROM
THE LAW OFFICES OF GRIMBLE
& LOGUIDICE, LLC WILL
PROVIDE ADVICE ON HOUSING-
RELATED MATTERS AT NO-COST
FOR CONSTITUENTS OF THE
76TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT**

Get help navigating the housing court process, responding to notices, dealing with threat of eviction, getting repairs from negligent landlords, and advocating for your rights as a tenant in New York City!

**DUE TO THE COVID-19 CRISIS, A
VOLUNTEER ATTORNEY WILL
HOST A ONE -ON-ONE PHONE
SESSION WITH ATTENDEES.**



**SCAN ME TO
RSVP!**

RSVP REQUIRED:

CALL: 212-288-4607

EMAIL: SEAWRIGHTR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV

The legal clinic is solely to provide guidance and advice from attorney's experienced in landlord-tenant law. The clinic does not guarantee a desired outcome and does not establish an attorney-client relationship. Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright does not represent or advise constituents in any legal matters.

RSVP to the Legal Clinic



METROCARD BUS

STOPS HERE (79/York):

WED. 9/1, 9/15

10:00AM- 12:00PM

REFILL YOUR
METROCARD

APPLY FOR
REDUCED FARE

CASH ONLY

ANNOUNCEMENT



Twentieth Remembrance 9/11 SUNRISE CEREMONY: From Darkness to Light

John Finley Walk at Carl Schurz Park
Saturday, September 11, 2021 at 6:45 a.m.

All Community Members are Invited (COVID-attentive event)

(CARL SCHURZ PARK ENTRANCE 86TH & EAST END AVENUE—WHEELCHAIR ACCESS 84th, 87th STREETS--MANHATTAN)

A community commemorative event showcasing music, poetry and reflections at dawn on September 11th. The Ceremony reawakens a tradition from the first years after 9/11 that drew together people from across the community and city.

PROGRAM

7:00 a.m. Sharp. Program begins at John Finley Walk sign, top of stairs in Carl Schurz Park

Colors will be presented.

Musical interludes will include Native American drummer/ chanter George Stonefish (Lenape) and Trumpeter Eganam Segbefia

Introductory Comments: Howard Teich, Julie Menin

Reflections: Reverend Al Sharpton; Col. Gerald York (US Army-Retd); Dr. Paul Devries

Readings: Elected officials--Former Governor David Paterson; Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney; Borough President Gale Brewer; State Senators Liz Krueger and Brian Benjamin; Assemblymember Rebecca Seawright; City Councilmember Mark Levine

9/11 Experiences: Federation of French War Veterans President, Alain Dupuis; Past New York Rescue Workers Detoxification Center Director, Jim Woodworth; First Responders; Emergency Workers

Further readings: Brig Genl Loree Sutton (US Army - Retd); John Phillips; David Williams; Mark Jaffe; Col. Terrance Holliday (USAF_Retd)

Closing - Moment of Silence and Musical Interlude

7:40 a.m. Program ends

Community Supporters (in formation): Howard Teich; Julie Menin; The Howard Teich Network; NYC Dept of Parks and Recreation; New Democratic Dimensions; Greater New York Chamber of Commerce; Sergeant York Patriotic Foundation; National Action Network; The Mansion Restaurant; Borough President Gale Brewer; State Senator Liz Krueger; Audrey Tannen; Ann Meschery; Cameron Koffman; David Williams

Rebecca Seawright

ASSEMBLYMEMBER

NO-COST SCREENING MAMMOGRAMS FOR ELIGIBLE WOMEN

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 16, 2021
APPOINTMENTS STARTING AT 9 AM

MOBILE SCANVAN
DISTRICT OFFICE
1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets)

BY APPOINTMENT: PLEASE CALL 646-415-7932

FOR WOMEN 40 AND OLDER WHO HAVE NOT HAD A MAMMOGRAM IN THE PAST YEAR

ALL insurance plans accepted
Co-payments and deductibles are waived
No-cost for uninsured women 40 and older

Funded by:
CANCER SERVICES PROGRAM OF
MANHATTAN & JUDGES and LAWYERS
BREAST CANCER ALERT



SCANVAN





**Rebecca
Seawright**
ASSEMBLY MEMBER



**NO-COST Flu
Vaccinations Available**

**Thursday,
September 23
10 AM - 4 PM**

In Partnership with:

DUANEreade
Walgreens

**Community Office, 1485 York Avenue
(78/79 Streets)**

**Appointments required:
Call 212-288-4607 or email
SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov
to reserve your appointment**

ROOSEVELT ISLAND

FALL FOR ARTS FESTIVAL 2021

THE FUTURE THROUGH YOUR EYES



Saturday, September 25, 2021
9:00am-5:00pm

Live Mural Painting • Arts & Crafts Activities
Live Music • Food Trucks & More

Special Evening Music Performance at
Good Shepherd Community Center

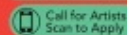
SOUTHPOINT PARK (South of Cornell Tech)
MEDITATION LAWN (501 Main St.)



Roosevelt Island
Operating Corporation

212-832-4540 | rioc.ny.gov

Follow us @rooseveltislandrioc for updates



Call for Artists
Scan to Apply

ASSEMBLY MEMBER

REBECCA SEAWRIGHT

PROTECTIVE FACE MASK

& HAND SANITIZER

GIVEAWAY



**THURSDAYS
12:00PM - 2:00PM**

**COMMUNITY OFFICE
1485 YORK AVENUE
(78/79 STREET)**

**OFFICE OF ASSEMBLY MEMBER
REBECCA SEAWRIGHT
PHONE: 212.288.4607
EMAIL:
SEAWRIGHTR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV**

SCAN ME TO RSVP!





NO-COST NOTARY

1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets)



[View as Webpage](#)



[@SeawrightForNY](https://twitter.com/SeawrightForNY)



facebook.com/RebeccaASeawright/



instagram.com/seawrightforny

