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91st Assembly District
Larchmont - Mamaroneck - New Rochelle - Port Chester - Rye Brook and Rye

August 5th, 2020

Dear Friends,

The most time sensitive announcement is that the deadline for applying for the Covid-19 Rental Assistance Program has been extended to Thursday, August 5th.

This update also includes a link to regularly changing updates on mandatory quarantine information for individuals traveling to New York from other states. Jurisdictions are added and dropped from this list based upon increases and decreases in Covid-19 in those states.

Other announcements:

- The State's new **Covid Rental Assistance program** is for renters impacted by the pandemic and aims to keep New Yorkers in their homes. **Important update:** The deadline to apply for assistance under the COVID Rent Relief Program has been **extended to August 6th, 2020** for online and paper applications. The program application is available [HERE](#).
- New York continues to test more than any state in the country. To find a **testing site near you**, click [HERE](#)
- Updated **guidance for travel** and the list of restricted states with mandatory quarantines are available [HERE](#).
- **Statewide guidelines** for all areas are available [HERE](#).

I hope the information included here is helpful. The issues you bring to my attention help frame changes in state policies as we move through this crisis.

My staff and I have been able to **help many unemployment insurance applicants** process their claims. We continue to assist residents who call our office with issues accessing and getting through the online system. Please contact my office at 914-939-7028 or OtisS@nyassembly.gov, if I can be of assistance on any issues that arise.

Warm regards,

Steve

Important Phone Numbers

- NYS Department of Health State Hotline: 1-888-364-3065
- Find a testing site [HERE](#) . Online screening and appointment [HERE](#)
- Westchester County COVID-19 Information: Call 211
- 2020 Census help: 844-330-2020
- Domestic violence helpline: 800-942-6906

Mental Health Support
For FREE emotional support, consultation, and referral: 844-863-9314

Access the NYS Health Dept, County Health website or the CDC website

Governor Cuomo daily press conferences can be accessed live or on file at: <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news>

REOPENING UPDATES [CLICK HERE](#)



School Re-Opening Guidance

Last month Governor Cuomo outlined the [school re-opening guidelines](#) that included areas for consideration by school districts and an area remaining in Phase IV with less than 5% infection rate over a 14-day average. Schools will close if regional infection rate rises over 9% after August 1st. Finalized DOH and Reimagine Education Advisory Council guidance is available [HERE](#).

School districts have now submitted their re-opening plans to the State Education Department and are awaiting their decision. More details for each school district in my district can be found below.

[Blind-Brook](#)

[Mamaroneck](#)

[New Rochelle](#)

[Port Chester](#)

[Rye](#)

[Rye Neck](#)



2020 Census – Stand Up and Be Counted

Census 2020 Operations Have Been Shortened By One Month

The U.S. Census Bureau will be halting Census 2020 efforts one month early, with operations concluding on September 30. With the new timeframe in place, it is more important now than ever that all Westchester County families fill out their Census forms.

During a normal Census, the Census Bureau recruits thousands of people across the country to do field work beginning in mid-May through July 31, a total of 2 ½ months. With the 2020 Census timeframe being cut short one month early, Census workers will now only have 1 ½ months in the field.

There are an estimated 370,000 housing units in Westchester from single family homes to accessory apartments, to multi-family buildings. At the current reporting of approximately 64% of households already counted, there are still over 130,000 housing units that have not yet had their residents counted. The impact of this is significant because the Census Bureau estimates that every resident not counted is a loss of approximately \$2500 per year to local governments. This translates to a \$1 Million loss for every 400 households each year. It really is crucial that all Westchester County families participate in the Census.

Most recently, with funding for COVID-19 relief based on Census population data, the County needs accurate numbers to ensure funding for health care, schools, road repairs and many other programs. The Census Bureau will not ask for any citizenship information and you can complete the Census in just minutes.

To help ensure an accurate count, the Census Bureau will have staff knocking on doors of households that have not yet responded to the Census, beginning Thursday, August 6. Please ask to see the official ID badge of any individual who knocks at your door, or you can confirm a Census taker's identity by calling <1-844-330-2020>. The Census enumerators will follow all Center for Disease Control COVID-19 protocols, including wearing masks and will keep a safe distance, but can assist any household with completing the Census.

To find out more, visit www.2020Census.gov

MTA Funding Press Conference July 31st



Key officials at a socially distanced press conference to support federal Covid-19 funding for mass transit organized by US Senator Kirsten Gillibrand. Pictured here are (L-R) Senator Gillibrand, Metro-North President Cathy Rinaldi, MTA Chairman Pat Foye, NYS Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart Cousins and Assemblyman Otis. With Covid-19 dramatically reducing mass transit ridership around the country, federal aid is needed to keep these systems operational and solvent until ridership returns



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