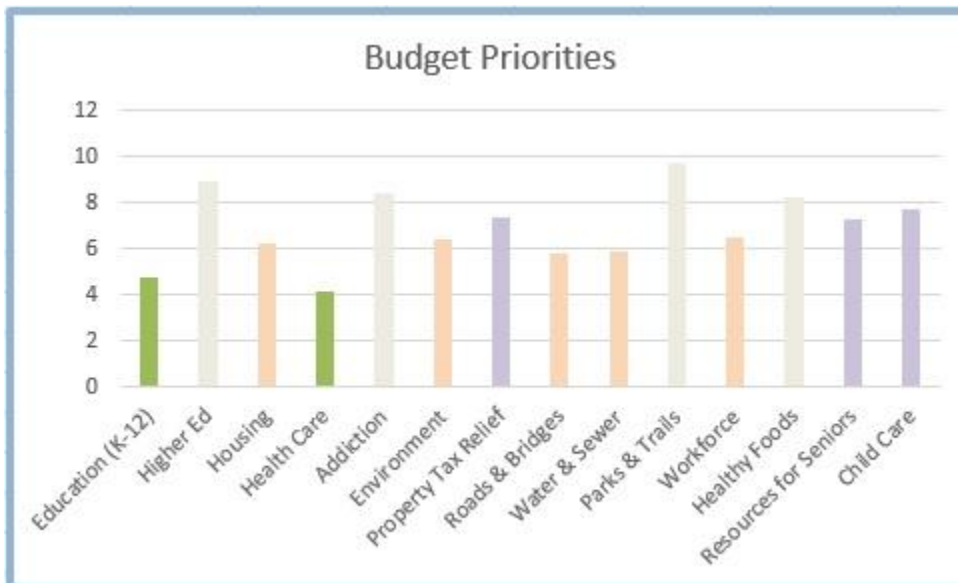




ASSEMBLYWOMAN CARRIE WOERNER Assembly District 113

Dear Friends,

We are mid-way through the budget process and the Assembly released its budget proposal last evening, and the resolution to adopt the proposal will be taken up on the floor of the Assembly on Thursday. This proposal, along with the Senate's budget proposal, will then form the basis for negotiation with the Governor on a final budget.



Through this year's budget season, I'm guided by the priorities I heard from you in your responses to my annual Constituent Surveys. You told me that your highest priorities in the budget are healthcare and education (K-12), followed closely by environment, housing, workforce development, and

infrastructure. *(The scale was 1= highest, so the lower number priorities are the highest rated.)* While there are some things in the Assembly budget proposal that are not priorities in our district and for which there is not consensus support, I believe the overall proposed spending plan addresses the funding priorities of our communities.

The Assembly's proposal includes a proposed 10% increase in Medicaid funding for our nursing homes and other long-term care facilities, coupled with additional funding for distressed nursing homes, and this is a step in the right direction. I will continue to push for the full increase the nursing homes have said they need in order to continue to provide the quality care our elderly New Yorkers depend upon. Also, proposed are significant investments in the Environmental Protection Fund, including farmland and open space conservation, in water and

sewer infrastructure, and in workforce development programs. And this year's budget will deliver historic levels of Foundation Aid to our children's schools.

I applaud the amendments that the Assembly proposal is making to the executive's plan regarding housing. We don't need to solve our state's housing crisis by running roughshod over local zoning laws. The Assembly's plan would stimulate housing growth by working with municipalities, not dictating what must be done. The proposal provides \$500 million in total funding for cities, towns and villages in need of housing. Municipalities would receive initial payments for submitting a housing plan and secondary payments once they meet housing growth targets within the target period starting January 1, 2024. This funding will ensure that New York will build the next generation of attainable housing that we need to keep New York moving forward.

During budget negotiations and throughout the rest of the year, I'll do everything I can to ensure the voices of our communities are heard in Albany.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Carrie WZ", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

P.S. There is still time to submit your nomination for a Woman of Distinction. Please take a moment to recognize a woman in our community who is doing extraordinary things: <https://nyassembly.gov/mem/Carrie-Woerner/story/104981>