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"Citizen involvement is the cornerstone of our democracy. *I want to hear directly from Western New Yorkers* about the issues that matter the most to their communities as the state looks forward to economic recovery in 2022 and beyond."

- Assemblymember Jon D. Rivera



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Assemblymember Jon Rivera
65 Grant Street
Buffalo, NY 14213

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clip and mail ✂

2021-22 Buffalo community survey inside
**Assemblymember Jon Rivera
needs your input**



Look inside to
find Assemblymember
Jon Rivera's
2021-22 Buffalo
community survey

**Make your
voice heard**

65 Grant Street
Buffalo, NY 14213

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Dear Neighbor,

I hope this finds you and your family well. My first year as your Assemblymember has been one filled with invaluable lessons, vital coalition building and productive legislative headway that will build a better state for all New Yorkers.

As a state, we've made substantial gains and progress this past year as we continue our economic recovery from Covid-19. The New York State Assembly Majority took great strides to ensure that residents receive the support and resources they need to weather the storm.

Through the legislative funding process, I am proud to have secured \$30,000 for the Massachusetts Avenue Project, \$32,000 for the Belle Center, \$65,000 for the Stop the Violence Coalition, and \$3.8 million for the construction of the Hispanic Heritage Cultural Institute.

This year's state budget provides more than \$814 million in school aid from New York State, and included in that is a \$43.3 million increase in Foundation Aid, totaling \$5875 million, along with \$16.5 million for Universal Pre-K. This record level of funding will provide Buffalo Public Schools with the resources they need to return all students to full-time, in-person education, and will facilitate an increase in graduation rates as we prepare our next generation to be workforce-ready.

Two bills that I helped to pass will protect homeowners and renters from the dangers of lead-based paint. Currently, the Department of Financial Services allows insurance companies to write general liability policies that specifically exclude lead poisoning claims from their coverage. Bill A.7488 requires that liability coverage includes injuries or damage caused by exposure to lead paint.

Bill A.6608A, or the "Lead-based Paint Disclosure Act," requires property owners to conduct lead paint tests and provide the reports of such tests before selling or leasing the property. This bill will also give state health officials the knowledge of which properties do and do not have lead paint hazards.

In order to safeguard health care workers and improve nursing homes, legislation passed this session focuses on quality improvement, oversight and transparency, and enforcement. Additional bills passed (A.108-B, A.7119) will set and enforce safe staffing ratios in nursing homes and hospitals across the state.

To bolster resettlement opportunities for refugees, Sen. Sean Ryan and I helped secure \$3 million in funding for refugee resettlement agencies through the New York State Enhanced Services to Refugees Program (NYSESRP). This funding is \$2 million more than last year's allocation of \$1 million for the program.

Now, I'm asking for your feedback on key issues so that I can continue to advocate for our community in the coming year. Please take a moment to fill out my 2021-22 survey, and as always, should you have questions or concerns, feel free to reach out to me at 716-885-9630 or riverajd@nyassembly.gov.

Sincerely,

Jon Rivera
Member of Assembly
149th District

65 Grant Street • Buffalo, NY 14213 • 716-885-9630 • riverajd@nyassembly.gov



Buffalo Community Survey

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

- How strongly do you feel about the Clean Slate Act, in which those who've served their full sentence and waited a certain period of time would have their conviction sealed, meaning it wouldn't be available to the public but would still be accessible to certain parties, like courts and gun sellers? Those ineligible would include convictions for most sex offenses, all violent crimes, and Class A felonies. *(Circle one)*
 - Strongly support
 - Support
 - Neutral
 - Oppose
 - Strongly oppose
- How strongly do you feel about the Elder Parole bill, which would provide a chance at a parole hearing for all inmates ages 55 and older who have served at least 15 years? *(Circle one)*
 - Strongly support
 - Support
 - Neutral
 - Oppose
 - Strongly oppose
- Which of the following do you believe are the most important issues facing our district? *(Circle all that apply)*
 - Creating jobs
 - Holding the line on property taxes
 - Increasing access to affordable health care
 - Protecting our environment
 - Speeding up Covid-19 economic recovery
- Would you support the New York Health Act, that would essentially create a "Medicare For All" health insurance system in New York that would provide coverage to all residents regardless of pre-existing conditions or ability to pay? *(Circle one)*
 - Strongly support
 - Support
 - Neutral
 - Oppose
 - Strongly oppose
- What community concerns are not currently being addressed by the New York State Legislature?

- The Climate and Community Investment Act would put a fee on carbon emissions and other pollutants. It would raise an estimated \$15 billion to be invested in renewables, weatherization, support for disadvantaged communities and rebates for low-income consumers. How strongly do you support such a proposal? *(Circle one)*
 - Strongly support
 - Support
 - Neutral
 - Oppose
 - Strongly oppose
- How often do you utilize your closest park? *(Circle one)*
 - Often
 - Occasionally
 - Not at all
- On a 1-5 scale, how would you rate the city's transportation system? *(1 being the best and 5 being the worst) *(Circle one)* 1 2 3 4 5

- How often do you utilize Buffalo's art and historical amenities, such as the Albright-Knox and the Buffalo History Museum? *(Circle one)*
 - Often
 - Occasionally
 - Not at all
- How often do you visit the city's waterfront recreational areas, such as Canalside and the Outer Harbor? *(Circle one)*
 - Often
 - Occasionally
 - Not at all



You can also complete this survey online at: nyassembly.gov/mem/Jonathan-Rivera or by scanning the QR Code above.

For questions or concerns, call 716-885-9630 or email riverajd@nyassembly.gov